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The Exponent

The Student Newspaper of UAH

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February 25, 2009

NEWS BRIEFS

UAH Provost Dr. Vistasp Karbhari attended the SGA meeting on Monday, February 23 to discuss the ending of M/W classes in favor of M/W/F. Many students, concerned about the changes and the impact that these changes would have on the entire campus body, attended as well.

See **PROVOST** on Pg. 2

ARTS & LEISURE BRIEFS

Tempted to skip class? Blame it on your biological make-up. This time of year, daffodils perk up, birds warble outside your bedroom window, flip-flops make a comeback, and your hormones make you want to skip a certain afternoon class in search of some rays and fresh air.

See **SKIPPING** Pg. 3

Theater at UAH opens this semester with one of the most popular off-Broadway musicals in America, Alan Menken and Howard Ashman's [Little Shop of Horrors]. When the play opens on Feb. 26, attendees will enjoy a pitch-perfect evening of gothic horror—but it's what theatergoers don't see that makes the difference.

See **THEATRE** Pg. 3

SPORTS BRIEFS

After suffering another losing season, with some rough patches along the way as well as some excitement and thrills, the 2008-2009 campaign is coming to end for the UAH hockey season next weekend. On March 6 and 7, the Chargers will travel to Niagara Falls, New York, along with a busload of eager fans, students from the university who are dedicated to supporting our hockey team, to take on Niagara in a highly anticipated rematch two-game series, a significant set of games for UAH.

See **HOCKEY** Pg. 6

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EXPONENT.UAH.EDU

Crime Wave Hits Campus: Computers Go Missing

BETH FAULK
Staff Writer

There has been an increase in computer thefts at UAH over the last several months. Several weeks ago, two computers were stolen out of the Exponent office. Last semester, the Audiovisual Department had several laptops stolen.

The computers taken from the Exponent Office include a Macintosh Mini, which was less than two years old and valued at about \$700. The other computer was about 5 or 6 years old. Records show that the computers have not been connected to the network as of January 18th. When the Exponent went to print, no serial numbers for these computers had been provided by the University.

"We attempted to contact the University several times in order to give the police the information that they needed and have received no reply," said Editor Karen Pullins.

"[The stolen Exponent computers] is the last reported theft from the UC we've received," said Chief of UAH Police Charles

Gailes. Over the year, there have been other items taken, but this is infrequent. Usually what is reported is unattended property."

Last fall, the Audiovisual Department had several computers stolen, as well. Last fall, a laptop set up for a presentation in the Shelby Center the next morning was stolen. "Somebody just came in there and got it. The room was locked up, so someone had keys to get in," said William Hall, the Audiovisual Coordinator.

A month later, another laptop belonging to the audiovisual department, this one brand new, was stolen from UC Exhibit Hall between 5 a.m. and 8 a.m. in the morning.

At the time, students on the audiovisual staff were suspected. "I didn't think that was the case," said Hall. "One, my students don't have key access to the Shelby Center. Two, in order to get into [the University Center] after hours and to steal a computer, there would be a card record where they came in the door. Third, why would my students steal a computer that they also

profusely begged me to buy so that we could use it? It's an integral part of what we do; it makes their lives easier. They bought the computer with what they wanted on it to accomplish the tasks that they wanted to try and accomplish, and to try and take this department to where they wanted to take it. And for them to steal that computer and limit their capability was just beyond me— I just didn't think that was the case."

The computer was signed onto the network system somewhere on campus using Hall's password. He believes that the password was saved on the computer when the computer was set up on the wireless network. "I told police that I



Only a monitor was left. (Photo by: Beth Faulk)

didn't even know what my password was," he said. "So I don't see how any of my students could have gotten it."

If you know anything or have any information about these thefts, please contact the UAH Police Department as soon as possible.

Construction on North Side of Campus Continues with Library Upgrades

AMBER RAUSCHKOLB
Staff Writer

The Salmon Library is receiving a facelift. Construction started on January 26th with a 90-day contract with Lee Builders Inc. The Project Superintendent, Paul Bergmann, is not only giving the outside a more modern look with an extended concrete wall lined with hedge plants and shrubs; but the company has also been contracted to ensure the longevity of the building. The price of this preservation project is around \$165,000.

Originally, Salmon Library was built in three phases—the first phase in 1969, phase two in

1978, and the last phase in 2001. Now, the maintenance workers are replacing the foundation from the initial phase built in 1969. "We had no choice," said Mike Finnegan, "there was cracking in the foundation and the support of the building needed to be modified and updated along with having e-glass put into the doors. The exits were not meeting code for the safety in case of an emergency; however, as a by-product the 'old entrance' was torn down." People who are unfamiliar with the library felt that the appearance of the steps on the west wall was a false entrance and would have to continue the search for the allusive front door.

There are no plans to make any of the four new exits into entrances to the building. "We would have to double the man power to those doors for security purposes and it would cost almost double to do so; its best we keep the front entrance the only entrance," remarked Dr. Luquire, Dean of the Library. Some students are frustrated that none of these doors will be accessible for an entrance; while others are more hurt that the original entrance was taken away. "It is disappointing to see that we cannot preserve our history," commented former President of Student Government Association, Samuel N. Parks.

Construction at the library continues. (Photos by Amber Rauschkolb)



SGA Road Trip to Niagara

LISA BARBELLA
Senior News Writer

The 2009 road trip to Niagara, New York to see the Charger hockey team take on the Niagara University Purple Eagles is set for March 5th through March 8th. The annual trip is sponsored by the SGA.

The trip will commence on March 5th at 7:00 pm when the buses leave UAH. The planned arrival time in Niagara is 2:00 pm on March 6th. The Chargers will play at 6:00 pm on the evenings of the 6th and the 7th. The buses will arrive back at UAH at 3:00 pm on March 8th.

Tickets can be purchased at the University Center information desk for \$100. A minimum payment of \$40 is required when the ticket is purchased and the rest of the payment must be made before March 3rd. A copy of your class schedule and a photo I.D. are required to buy a ticket. 120 tickets are available on a first come first

See **NIAGRA** Pg. 7

Oak Ridge Research Labs Coming to UAH

KELSEY THACKER
Staff Writer

Recently, President Dr. David Williams revealed that UAH is going to be partnering with Oak Ridge National Laboratory to do research here in Huntsville. The president intends for the collaboration between UAH and Oak Ridge to be beneficial for both the laboratory and UAH. Oak Ridge will be using UAH as a base for operations in Huntsville, working with the university and the surrounding technological agencies in the area, such as Marshall Space Flight Center and Redstone Arsenal.

Oak Ridge's prestige should be very beneficial for UAH's national profile. Oak Ridge National Laboratory was originally created in 1943 as part of the Manhattan Project, which was the American attempt at building an atomic bomb. Now, Oak Ridge does research for the Department of Energy as the largest science and energy laboratory for the DOE.

No new construction will be necessary to house the personnel from the laboratory. Oak Ridge researchers are already on the UAH campus in the Olin B. King Technology Hall. This is notable for UAH as it is the only university to have Oak Ridge offices on campus, likely helped by Huntsville's proximity to Oak Ridge, Tennessee where the lab is based. Because of Oak Ridge's connection to the Department of Energy, it may be useful in bringing in DOE dollars to the Huntsville area.

Oak Ridge's stay on campus should also be directly beneficial to UAH financially. UAH is renting the Tech Hall space to the Oak Ridge personnel, who will also be paid by Oak Ridge National Laboratory rather than by UAH.

Although specific research projects were never stated by the president, possible projects included work on nanotechnology, renewable energy sources, astrophysics, and data-mining using the laboratory's extremely powerful Cray XT Jaguar supercomputer.

MATT SAYAR
Staff Writer

Dr. James Horowitz, a physics professor who dedicated 25 years of his life to UAH, passed away recently at the age of 60.

Dr. Horowitz taught mostly graduate level plasma physics classes, and would occasionally teach intro physics classes. Much of his time was spent helping graduate students with their thesis or dissertation. Dr. Horowitz also helped edit a book titled "Particle Acceleration in Astrophysical Plasmas: Geospace and Beyond," prominently on display in the Optics Building. He even served as the Associate Director of the Center for Plasma and Aeronautics Research before he left UAH.

The University of Texas in Arlington had the pleasure of appointing Dr. Horowitz to the Physics Department Chair of their university in 2004.

"This is a sad event for all his friends and colleagues here at UAH," said Dr. James Miller, the Physics Department Chair. "We miss him greatly, and his passing was way too premature."



SGA Hears Provost on Class Changes

BETH FAULK
Staff Writer

UAH Provost Dr. Vistasp Karbhari attended the SGA meeting on Monday, February 23 to discuss the ending of M/W classes in favor of M/W/F. Many students, concerned about the changes and the impact that these changes would have on the entire campus body, attended as well.

"Monday/Wednesday/Friday seems to have hit a chord amongst a lot of people, and that is wonderful," said Dr. Karbhari. "Not because there is a big uproar about it but because people are really talking about it, and that's great."

Dr. Karbhari tried to put the issue at hand in perspective. He explained that a student generally has a certain schedule three days out of the week (in this case, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday),



Provost Dr. Vistasp Karbhari speaks at SGA meeting. (Photos by Amber Rauschkolb)

while they would be on a different schedule for the other two days of the week.

"The main challenge that we have here is that we have a variety of different schedules," he said. "We have a schedule that starts at 8 o'clock, we have a schedule that starts at 8:20, we have a schedule that starts at 9 o'clock, we have a schedule that starts at 12 o'clock, and that creates a major problem-a

major problem in terms of scheduling classrooms, a major problem in scheduling classes."

One of the issues raised was whether the changes would adversely affect the work schedules of those students that co-op or must work a full-time job while attending school.

"It's going to be impossible to come up with a schedule that everyone is happy with," said Dr. Karbhari. "But the purpose of doing something like this [is so that] we have a schedule that everyone can count on. You know when class is going to start, you know when class is going to end."

When asked why the University was not aiming for a four-day week (many have suggested that this would actually save the University more money than the current plan), The Provost pointed out that it is not realistic to squeeze everything into four days. "If we squeeze all classes into four days, we can't do it. If we had enough faculty [to teach] multiple classes in the same day (just keep in mind that faculty members get tired as well), if we had enough classrooms that could accommodate all the students who wanted to take them, if we could make sure that we didn't have clashes between classes, it would be an option. But it's not an option because of all that."

UAH Spring Job Fair

SARAH FISHER
Staff Writer

The UAH Spring Job Fair is March 10th and 11th from 9am-2pm in the UC Exhibit Hall. Representatives from more than 50 companies will be in attendance. Companies such as Boeing, Colson, Intergraph, Huntsville City Schools, and SAIC will be present. Whether you want to work at ADTRAN or Walt Disney, the UAH job fair will provide a great opportunity to meet with prospective employers.

So, dress up, polish off your resume, practice a nice firm handshake, and walk over to the Spring Job Fair on March 10th and 11th. UAH Career Services sponsors the job fair, and a full list of companies in attendance as well as more information is available at <http://www.uah.edu/careerservices/>.

The Exponent

Editor in Chief: KAREN PULLINS
Copy Editor: MATTHEW CALLIS
Online Editor: HONOKA EGUCHI
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Senior News Writer: LISA BARBELLA
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Staff Writers:
KATE BLAKE MANDY McDANIEL
BETH FAULK JENNIFER NYE
SARAH FISHER MATT SAYAR
TRISHA HANCOCK KELSEY THACKER

Staff Photographers:
TERI BERTULFO AMBER RAUSCHKOLB

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E-mail: editor@exponent.uah.edu
Website: <http://exponent.uah.edu/>
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Skipping Class Isn't Entirely Your Fault

ABIGAIL BROWN
Senior Arts & Leisure Writer

Tempted to skip class? Blame it on your biological make-up. This time of year, daffodils perk up, birds warble outside your bedroom window, flip-flops make a comeback, and your hormones make you want to skip a certain afternoon class in search of some rays and fresh air.

According to an article by the "Los Angeles Times," the shift in melatonin and serotonin levels marks the onset of Spring Fever. Melatonin is the hormone that governs your sleep cycles during winter and decreases as the days grow longer. Serotonin is the chemical which is thought to ante up your energy, giddiness, and the likelihood of being love-struck.

Though such symptoms are usually enjoyed, sometime they are downright agonizing. When the weather taunts us by dipping down to frozen temps and then jumps back up to unseasonable highs, it can take a toll on our mood.

If you suffer from this roller coaster ride, try tempering your reaction to the wavering weather with these helpful hints.

On chilly days, heading out to enjoy tanning bed, with proper eye protection, lotion, and knowledge, is great way to quell the ant-in-your-pants. Sunset Tanz has quite a few locations throughout the area and monthly packages start around \$40. Just close your eyes, pop in your iPod, and drift away to somewhere a little sunnier.

If the thought of exposing yourself to UV rays makes you even more uneasy than Spring Fever itself, plop down in front of the tube, click over to the Travel Chan-

See SKIPPING Pg. 7

Carnivorous Alien Plant Conquers UAH Theater!

KATE BLAKE
Staff Writer

Theater at UAH opens this semester with one of the most popular off-Broadway musicals in America, Alan Menken and Howard Ashman's [Little Shop of Horrors]. When the play opens on Feb. 26, attendees will enjoy a pitch-perfect evening of gothic horror—but it's what theatergoers don't see that makes the difference.

What they don't see is the months of preparation that goes into the show. Seven weeks into rehearsals for [The Little Shop of Horrors], choral coach Erin Colwitz starts rehearsals with vocal exercises for the eighteen cast members. Volunteer acting coach Patricia Kiley—herself a Broadway veteran—advises lead Ryan Pest, who plays Seymour Krelborn, on his pacing. Kiley is here to help students with choreography and movement. Meanwhile, director and production designer David Harwell dashes around the stage fine-tuning timing and offering motivation. It's all part of creating a flawless production of the UAH theater department's nineteenth play since 2005.

Harwell explains that he selected the musical because "the age range is right for college students." Plus, praising his cast, he says, "We had the students to fill the leads." The sci-fi spoof, originally written in 1982, tells the story of Mushnik's Skid Row Florist's employee Seymour Krelborn, who raises a mysterious, carnivorous plant he names Audrey II (voiced by Stephen Claybrooks). The unidentifiable plant, which is actually an alien species bent on conquering the Earth, brings him long-awaited fame and success as a "botanical genius." But what this plant needs to thrive is human blood—and Seymour, believing he will lose the girl of his dreams if "Twoie" dies, decides to bring it victims, with increasingly complicated results.

Harwell sums it up. "[The essence of the plot is that] shortcuts out of desperate circumstances never work." Kiley adds, "It's a macabre piece with tenderness."

Watching the cast rehearse, it's obvious that directing any production requires intense finessing of every detail. "Big finish," Harwell yells as the performers finish their third run-through of "Skid Row (Downtown)," a number he estimates they've spent thirty hours on alone. He knows the final performance has to be stellar, and runs through some scenes three or four times, correcting the placement of props and coordinating every gesture. Through it all he maintains humor and unflagging energy.

But that energy comes from his dedication to creating outstanding theater in Huntsville. He's enthused about getting out the word about [Little Shop of Horrors], as well as creating excitement about upcoming shows. "We want to make sure the school knows the theater is here," he explains.

For this production, UAH's second foray into musical theater, the cast features seasoned players and newcomers—"a cross-section of the campus," Harwell notes—as well as a five-member orchestra and a dozen-man technical crew. This,

See HORRORS Pg. 3

Intermodal Parking Facility Not Seeing Much Use... Yet

ABIGAIL BROWN
Senior Arts & Leisure Writer

"Intermodal Parking Facility" is a mouthful to say, but that's not much of a problem since most people are not using it, let alone talking about it.

Staff writer Honoka Eguchi surveyed 86 students and faculty in an effort to determine the use of the Intermodal Parking Facility. On most days, the garage is not filled to capacity and to find out why, Eguchi questioned students and faculty across all disciplines.

Of the 86 surveyed, only 13 people, or 15%, said they use the IPF. Those who do use the facility said they use it either because it is "convenient" (69%) or "always open/the regular parking lots are full" (31%).

Those who indicated that they do not use the facility have their reasons. Most people, 67% of them, said that the facility is "inconvenient," "too far," or that they have no classes nearby. The second most popular answer, at 16%, was that other parking lots were available. Seven percent said that they like to walk, ride bikes, or do not drive. The remaining 10 percent gave other reasons for not using the facility.

Though most of the people surveyed did not indicate their major, 13 did. Of the 13, ten are in the Science and Engineering fields. The remaining answers were Business (2) and Nursing (1). No Liberal Arts students or faculty said that they used the facility.

Ragav Yarasi, a freshman Physics major who lives on campus, said, "I don't even have a car. What I hear from my friends [is] that they say it is useful for them because they can bring their bikes in their car, park their car, and bike to their classes."

On the other hand, Sarah Bagley, a Senior English and Communications double-major, said that she has not used it.

"It looks pretty but it doesn't look functional."

Though the sample size for this survey reflects a small portion of the UAH community, it suggests that the facility benefits those who work and learn on the south side of Holmes Avenue. Data suggests that the facility may be a poor investment, but future endeavors will most likely verify its construction.

A new residence hall, which is projected to include "a dining facility supported by vendors in a "food court" type setting" will

See PARKING Pg. 7



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Balancing College, Kids and Life

SARAH FISHER
Staff Writer

As a Junior at UAH, Veronica Ferreira is double majoring in History and Sociology with a minor in Women's Studies. She is involved in numerous clubs and honor societies on campus including the History Club and Phi Alpha Theta. As if that isn't enough, Ferreira is also the happily married mother of four. So after a long day of classes, Ferreira, like many other college parents, goes home to four kids with which to contend.

Dawn McClure Suiter, Secondary Education Social Science major, is back at UAH for her second degree. Suiter is student teaching at Bob Jones this semester, finishing up class work, while taking care of two teenagers and a twelve year old.

And I think that I have busy days.

Ferreira, Suiter, and I talked about the challenges and rewards of being both a parent and a college student.

Why did you come back to school?

Ferreira: "I wanted to come back to school for two reasons - 1) I didn't want to be a hypocrite when I told my children how important it was for them to go to college and 2) I wanted to do something for me - the kids will only be with me for so long, and when they grow up, I wanted to have something left that was mine."

Can you give me an idea of a typical day?

Suiter: "On Monday, for instance, I'll be at Bob Jones from 7:10-4:00 or so, then I get home about 4:15, make something for dinner, then take my daughter to her flute tutor at 5:30. Tuesday it's Bob Jones from 7:10-3:25, UAH education seminar from 4-5, then I take her to her Girl Scout meeting at 6. I'm spending my weekend putting together lesson plans and trying to be a wife and mom. This semester is sort of easier than the previous ones since I don't have mass quantities of reading and writing to do, but it's stressful trying to keep everyone happy."

What is the hardest part of be-

ing a parent and a college student?

Ferreira: "Busy weeks at school are the hardest for me. Children don't understand, "Mommy needs to get this paper done" or "Mommy has a killer exam tomorrow." My first semester here, I was studying for Dr. Boucher's final, and my youngest had the flu. I had to hold her in my lap and try to comfort her and study the Reformation at the same time."

How do you do it? Really, how to you juggle family responsibility, class work, not to mention the extracurricular activities in which you are involved?

Ferreira: "I run the family like a corporation...everyone has their own jobs, and there are charts all over the place that tell each family member what their respective responsibilities are. I also rarely ever

"The best thing about being a parent and a college student for me is that I can show my kids what goes into a college degree and how and why all of that work is worth it. Plus, it feels fabulous to have your five-year-old say 'Mommy I am so proud of you!'"

~ Veronica Ferreira, a UAH Junior

do just one thing at a time. I have found that I can wash a load of laundry, listen to my daughter share all the gossip of her 2nd grade world, and write up a research proposal all at the same time."

Suiter: "I do feel frequent "mom guilt" because I am so busy. My kids are rather self sufficient, which is both a good and a bad thing. I hate that my 12-year-old has to let herself in the house at 3 and I can't get home until at least 4:15. My only consolation right now is that my son and I get to carpool to my student teaching assignment. I really hope that I'll get my middle child's school for the following seven weeks so I can spend a little extra time with her. I multitask, but really the only thing that I do very well is school-related, at least in my mind. Housework has to go on the back burner when I get

busy, and I don't have time to cook anything elaborate. Family dinner? As if."

Do you think that being a parent and a college student gives you a different perspective?

Ferreira: "Without insulting anyone else's character, I think I take college more seriously now. I went to school right out of high school and dropped out. Now, I know what's at stake on a level I couldn't comprehend before. I am a role model, and I'm on student loans, so I'm borrowing from our future (financially speaking). If I don't give it my all, those are the things I risk, and that's too precious to gamble with. This is not to say that others don't give their all, just that this is why I am motivated."

What is the best thing about being a parent and a college student?

Ferreira: "The best thing about being a parent and a college student for me is that I can show my kids what goes into a college degree and how and why all of that work is worth it. Plus, it feels fabulous to have your five-year-old say 'Mommy I am so proud of you!'"

Suiter: "Being a returning student is great. I love the mental challenge, my kids work a lot harder at their own education as a result of seeing how much I value it, and I don't take anything for granted now. When I got my first degree from UAH back in '93, I didn't really appreciate it the way I do now. I love learning, I feel confident in my knowledge, and I have concrete goals. When you're 39, your future isn't quite as wide open as it is when you're 20."

Despite the challenges, these women and other parents on the UAH campus succeed both academically and personally. Though both of these women could teach a time management course, they also exude a sense of pride in what they have accomplished thus far. Juggling school, homework, spouses, and a handful of kids is an accomplishment indeed.

Is Financing Your Education Giving You Grief? There is Help

BETH FAULK
Staff Writer

With the recent hikes in the cost of tuition, and more looming on the horizon, many students are left wondering how they will be able to continue paying for their education. If you feel like you have nowhere left to turn, then don't worry: there is help available.

"For a student who has a maximum need -they've applied for financial aid and their expected contribution is zero (meaning that they were not expected to pay any of their expenses based on their financial circumstances) depending on their grade level and dependency status, it is possible to cover all your expenses with a combination of grants and loans," said Andy Weaver, the Director of Financial Aid.

For some students, however, a student loan may simply not be enough. Perhaps the student is a single parent who is working a full-time job and raising a child while going to school, or the student receives no monetary assistance from parents, and must support themselves while paying for college at the same time. In this case, the Office of Student and Financial Services will work individually with students.

For example, if you are a dependent student (basically, you still exist on your parent's payroll) then one option is that the parents, as well as the student, can borrow. If, for whatever reason, the parents cannot borrow, the student loan can be increased to make up the difference, or the student can be treated as an independent, for which the limits are higher. Naturally, this will increase the amount that has to be paid back in the future-so think carefully about whether this is the right option for you or not.

If an independent student has maxed out their student loans, and still can't afford to live and pay for school, then they may be directed to private student loans. "That's a last resort, because the interest rates are higher, and more credit contingent. Students [may] have to

have a child or an income source, or a co-signer. There's a few more strings attached to those," said Weaver. "But UAH's volume with those alternate loans has increased exponentially in the last few years, because of course tuition has gone up higher than the inflation rate."

Students should also note that when the Financial Aid package is created, more than just tuition is taken into account. Other things such as housing, textbooks, and traveling expenses are taken into account too. "When we package financial aid, we take all those things into account we don't just look at what your tuition is going to be. We make allowances if you have dependents of your own, medical expenses, things like that," said Weaver.

There are also other private funding sources, such as Fastweb.com. In this case, you provide the necessary information, and the website will find scholarships that pertain to you and your needs. While this option may not work for all students, it is definitely worth doing, because it only requires a small amount of time-and could have big results.

However, Weaver cautions against some sites that charge for scholarship services. For example, FAFSA.com provides the same services as FAFSA.gov, except that FAFSA.com charges you a fee. "FAFSA stands for Free Application Federal Student Aid-and that's the reason that they put the word free on it- to remind that you shouldn't really have to pay for the FAFSA and you shouldn't really have to pay for scholarship searches," notes Weaver.

Scholarships are also available on the UAH Financial Aid Website. You only need to fill out one application-your information will be compiled into a database, and then you will be matched with every scholarship that you qualify for. The UAH scholarship application, as well as a need analysis form and a list of all UAH scholarships can be found at <http://finaid.uah.edu/scholarships.php>.

So no matter what your circumstances are, there are ways to pay for the education that you want and deserve. "My advice for the students is really, just be proactive. Students now have a tremendous advantage over [previous generations] with the internet. You can spend an hour at night searching for scholarship stuff, and it's worth 10 years what you can do manually."

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Student Suffers Trials and Tribulations of Multiple Jobs and School

LISA BARBELLA
Senior News Writer

The rise in cost to attend UAH combined with the hard economic times that are partially to blame for the tuition spike has effected every segment of the student population. However, for the many UAH students who are self-supporting, higher costs means facing difficult decisions about how to allocate their money. In some cases the education that students once took for granted has become a luxury that they can no longer afford.

Samuel Parks, a senior political science major, was forced to drop out of school during the Fall 2008 semester when he could no longer pay his tuition bills. Parks is completely self-supported and has paid all his own school expenses since his freshman year. After leaving UAH last fall he was able to return to finish his degree this semester.

Parks is employed both at the Defense Acquisition University where he works as a research assistant and at Smokey's BBQ. He spends a combined 55 to 60 hours a week at his two jobs. Although he had been a full time student for his whole college career, Park's busy work schedule required him to cut back to 8 credit hours this semester. In order to graduate with this abbreviated schedule he had to drop his second major, Spanish, and reduce it to a minor.

Parks is well known around UAH for his extensive involvement in student activities and organizations. He was particularly involved in the SGA where he served as President for two years. He significantly reduced his involvement on campus this semester in order to maintain his work and school schedule.

The classes that were once a priority for Parks have taken a back seat to more pressing financial concerns. "When you are worried about finances you can't concentrate on school," says Parks, "everything done in academics is just to meet the requirements."

Parks feels that taking on student loans is not the quick fix for struggling students. According to the Parks, this school of thought demonstrates "a fundamental lack of understanding about 21st century college students." Even for students willing to take on the debt, the floundering economy has made it much more difficult to get the money they need. "No one is giving loans to students with no credit



Student Sam Parks was heavily involved in student activities before times got tough.

to their names" claims Parks.

Unfortunately for students in Parks' circumstances, there is appears to be little relief in sight. An August 2008 estimate by the Legislative Budget Office predicts that the state budget deficit for this fiscal year will reach 800 million dollars. Although the magnitude of

influenced by the fact that UAH's tuition was below the Southern University Group average is particularly troubling to struggling students. "When tuition is arbitrarily raised to meet a quota or to not appear to be a cheap university we have lost site of our social responsibility" states Parks.

Parks points to the historical costs of attending college as evidence that values surrounding access to education have gone astray. When UAH offered its first classes 1950 it cost 20 dollars to take 12 credit hours. Adjusting for inflation 20 dollars in 1950 has

the same buying power as 175.22 dollars in 2009. So why then are students paying 2,604 to 5,715 dollars for the same credits in 2009?

Regrettably Sam Parks' story is a common one among university students faced with the unforeseen mounting costs of education. For those who must choose between paying their rent or their tuition, education often loses out. "Like Dr. Williams," asserts Parks, "states see students as personal bank accounts which enable them to raise money through tuition raises."

When you are worried about finances you can't concentrate on school, everything done in academics is just to meet the requirements."

"Like Dr. Williams, states see students as personal bank accounts which enable them to raise money through tuition raises."

-Sam Parks, a UAH Senior

budget cuts for education are still being debated, an increased deficit will almost certainly translate into even higher tuition increases next school year.

Higher education is often the first to be put on the chopping block when funds are cut because universities have other forms of income including tuition and endowments.

Many feel that despite the budget cuts coming down from the state legislature the tuition spikes have been unnecessarily high. The claim that the tuition increase was

Students Affected by Economy Choose School or Rent

HONOKA EGUCHI
Staff Writer

Midterms and papers aren't the only things that college students are worried about these days. Even with financial aid, many are struggling to keep up with the recent tuition hikes. "To pay for living expenses and schooling I currently work two part time jobs with a combined total of approximately 50 hours per week," says Jason Varnedoe, a sophomore double majoring in Physics and Computer Science. He not only works as much or more than the average American - he is also a single parent.

In many cases, students have lost their scholarships and funding due to working long hours with little time to study. "As one might imagine with two jobs and a child it impacted my schooling rather negatively and I lost my financial aid," said Jason. "I am currently taking steps to regain loans and grants, but that means I have to pay for school completely out of my pocket and have resorted to only taking one class per semester if I am lucky." According to Mr. Andrew Weaver, the Director of Student Financial Services, students requesting for financial aid has soared up by 11 percent.

Not being able to attend classes and receive an education is one thing, but being kicked out of school is another. Jonathan Smith, an engineer at UAH, had his summer classes canceled and was literally kicked out of school due to his lack of payment last year. "I spent most of the evening in the engineering lab catching up on lab homework until it closed, and the remainder of the night at the campus library until it closed at midnight." He also expressed his feelings toward other students with similar problems, "I will never want any student or person to experience what I went through, but as more and more students begin to experience financial hardship this will be a growing trend among UAH students."

So what do you do when you find yourself in financial trouble? First try visiting the Financial Aid office at the University Center for more help and counseling. "If it gets to the point where you're considering dropping out, come and talk to us to see if we have any options for you," says Mr. Weaver.

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Hockey Season Coming to a Close

RAYMOND GILSTRAP
Senior Sports Writer

After suffering another losing season, with some rough patches along the way as well as some excitement and thrills, the 2008-2009

campaign is coming to end for the UAH hockey season next weekend. On March 6 and 7, the Chargers will travel to Niagara Falls, New York, along with a busload of eager fans, students from the university who are dedicated to supporting our hockey team, to take on Niagara in a highly anticipated rematch two-game series, a significant set of games for UAH.

"It's obviously important to us with only a few points separating us from Robert Morris (RMU) in the standings," Senior Derek Conter expressed the importance of the Niagara games. "It is necessary that we give ourselves some breathing room."

The Chargers will be entering the last two games of the season with a 5-18-3 record overall and a 3-10-3 record in College Hockey America (CHA) action. This will mark the third two-game set against Niagara this season. The first two series took place at the friendly confines of the Von Braun Center and the Chargers have a 1-2-1 record against the Purple Eagles. Next weekend, they will be looking for two wins to not only end the season on a high note but also exact revenge against a CHA foe on the road.

"We've learned that we can beat anyone in our conference, but only when we play Charger hockey—fast paced and hard nosed," Conter added. "When we see teams so many times in the season, like we do in the CHA, we are able to easily pick up on the tendencies of teams which puts us in a good position to adjust our systems accordingly."

In the last two games against Niagara, the Chargers lost the first game 4-2 before taking the second game with a 3-1 victory. In the loss, the Chargers gave up three unanswered goals to the Purple Eagles in the second period after UAH had jumped ahead early in the game with a power play goal from freshman Cody Campbell, which was his sixth score of the season. Then, UAH made a two-score game when junior Kevin Morrison notched in the second first period

Basketball Winds Down

RAYMOND GILSTRAP
Senior Sports Writer

It is official; after a much needed win against Gulf South Conference (GSC) foe West Florida on Valentine's Day, the UAH men's basketball team is post-season bound. With the victory against West Florida, the Chargers clinched a spot in the GSC tournament, which will be held in Southaven, Mississippi on March 4-8. The huge win came a week before the Chargers fell out of first place in the GSC East Division with a lost to rival North Alabama (UNA), 74-60.

In the game that sealed the Chargers' fate came on the holiday that is famous for love. The Chargers traveled down to Pensacola, Florida to take on West Florida in front of a crowd that showed Alabama-Huntsville no love for the entire game. Despite playing before a tough crowd, junior center Cody Jones had 22 points and a career-high 16 rebounds. Luc Graves had 14 points while freshman Josh Magette had 13 points.

A week later, the Chargers fell to 0-2 on the season against that school from Florence, as the Lions roared in the second half of action. The game had been close throughout the first half and about midway through the second half until UNA went on a 13-0 run that left the Chargers unable to catch up. UNA's Kenny Johnson had a game-high 22 points as well as seven assists, while Jones led UAH with 13 points, the only Charger who scored in double digits, and grabbed eight rebounds.

After the loss to UNA, the Chargers are no longer a top of the GSC East Division and they find themselves in a tie for second place with UNA. Valdosta State has claimed first place with an 8-3 record in conference games. UNA and the Chargers both have a 7-4 GSC record.

The last game of the season for the Chargers is a non-conference match against Flagler at home on February 28, five days before the team will be gearing up for the start of the GSC tournament on March 4.

Senior Sports Profile

RAYMOND GILSTRAP
Senior Sports Writer

Name: Derek E. Conter
Sport: Ice Hockey
Number: 21
Position: Left Wing
Major: Industrial and Systems Engineering

What Derek likes most about UAH: "Seriously, I love the changes that are occurring on campus. It's sad that I won't be able to experience some of the changes, but I remind undergraduates to embrace and enjoy what is happening to our school. I, for one, am excited about coming back and seeing what UAH will become in the near future."

Why Derek enjoys playing hockey: "Hockey will forever be a part of my life. I can't even put into words how much I love the game."

Derek's hobbies: "Fun? I'm trying to graduate; what fun? LOL. I enjoy spending time with all of my friends on campus, especially my brothers on the hockey team and my brothers from Phi Beta Sigma. BLU PHI! YOU KNOW!"

Derek's plans after graduation: "Unless an NHL team comes knocking, I guess I'll settle with being an engineer. All joking aside, I'm excited about beginning my engineering career. Hopefully I will be able to work in the Huntsville area."

If you are a senior sports player and would like to be considered for a future Senior Sports Profile in The Exponent, then e-mail Raymond Gilstrap at rgilstrap61685@aol.com.



CHARGER SPORTS SCORES

Hockey
Record 5-18-3

February 13	Niagara/UAH	4/2
February 14	UAH/Niagara	3/1
February 20	Robert Morris/UAH	3/1
February 21	Robert Morris/UAH	6/3

Women's Basketball
Record 7-19

February 12	Valdosta State/UAH	61/47
February 14	UAH/West Florida	76/73
February 21	North Alabama/UAH	80/71

Men's Basketball
Record 16-9

February 12	Valdosta State/UAH	81/63
February 14	UAH/West Florida	67/61
February 21	UAH/North Alabama	74/60

Baseball
Record 8-2

February 14	UAH/KY Wesleyan	3/0
February 15	UAH/KY Wesleyan	14/2
February 15	UAH/KY Wesleyan	8/1
February 15	UAH/KY Wesleyan	5/1

Softball
Record 6-0

February 20	UAH/Truman State	9/1
February 21	UAH/S. Indiana	8/1
February 21	UAH/Wayne State	16/20
February 22	UAH/Barry	5/4
February 22	UAH/Lewis	7/6
February 22	UAH/N. Georgia	3/1

Tennis
Men's Record 3-0
Women's Record 1-2

February 15	UAH/Ala A&M	9/0
February 15	Ala A&M/UAH	6/2
February 22	UAH/Christian Bros.	9/0
February 23	UAH/Christian Bros.	6/1
February 23	UAH/Delta State	3/0
February 23	Delta State/UAH	9/0

CHARGER SPORTS CALENDAR

Hockey
Record 5-18-3

Date	Opponent	Site	Time
March 6	Niagara	Niagara, NY	6:05 pm
March 7	Niagara	Niagara, NY	6:05 pm

Men's Basketball
Record 16-9

Date	Opponent	Site	Time
February 28	Flagler	Home	7 pm
March 4-8	GSC Tourney	Southaven, MS	TBA

Track and Field

Date	Event	Site
February 28	Tiger Indoor Invitational	Sewanee, TN

Baseball
Record 8-2

Date	Opponent	Site	Time
February 28	AK Tech (DH)	Russellville, AK	1 pm
March 1	AK Tech (DH)	Russellville, AK	12 pm
March 7	Stillman (DH)	Tuscaloosa, AL	12 pm
March 8	Stillman (DH)	Tuscaloosa, AL	12 pm

Softball
Record 6-0

Date	Opponent	Site	Time
February 26	KY Wesleyan (DH)	Owensboro, KY	12 pm
February 28	Indianapolis (DH)	Home	12 pm
March 1	Indianapolis (DH)	Home	11 am
March 6-7	West Georgia Wolves Invitational	at Carrollton, GA	
March 6	Georgia College and State		10 am
March 6	Florida Southern		2 pm
March 6	Georgia Southwestern		4 pm
March 7	Indiana-Purdue-Indianapolis		12 pm
March 7	Augusta State		2 pm
March 7	Georgia Southwestern		4 pm
March 10	Miles (DH)	Home	12 pm

Tennis
Men's Record 3-0
Women's Record 1-2

Date	Opponent	Site	Time
March 8	Cumberland (M&W)	Home	TBD
March 8	Stillman (M&W)	Home	3 pm
March 9	W. Kentucky (M&W)	Home	2 pm
March 11	Martin Methodist (M&W)	Pulaski, TN	2:30 pm

See HOCKEY Pg. 6

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GREEK SPEAK

ΑΤΩ

Alpha Tau Omega's "Black and White" theme party was a huge success. The sea of well-dressed people packed into the chapter's house, the professional DJ turned the music to eleven, and everyone danced into the night. It was a lot of fun to throw this party for everyone on campus, and we would like to thank everyone for coming out and having a good time!

ATO took part in UAH's 13th Annual Chili Cook-Off, using a recipe perfected by a late brother, Paul Salmon, and his parents. Thanks to that delicious dish, we won "Best Campus Organization Chili." Thanks again to Mr. and Mrs. Salmon for making that possible!

In the coming weeks, ATO has some brotherhood events in the works, as well as plans to show up in force to support our university on Higher Ed Day. Quite a few of us are also going to Niagara to show support for our Chargers hockey team as they face the Purple Eagles!

Sudoku

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

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

From NIAGRA Pg. 7

served basis. The cost of the ticket covers transportation to and from Niagara, the hotel, and a t-shirt.

Students who wish to cross into the Canadian part of Niagara must bring either a passport or a driver's license and an original copy of your birth certificate.

For more information contact Samuel Parks at parkss@email.uah.edu.

From HOCKEY Pg. 7

goal for the Chargers.

Niagara retaliated with a power play goal on their own by blasting one past sophomore goalie Cameron Talbot late in the first period. Next, came the second period and Niagara secured the win with their three unanswered goals, coming from behind to shock the Chargers and the home crowd.

In the second game, the Chargers' fortune was reversed as they received their first win against Niagara this year by winning 3-1. The Chargers jumped out to a 3-0 lead and never looked back. Morrison, sophomore forward Andrew Coburn scored the goals, with Coburn striking twice. Sophomore Kyle Goodchild, senior center Joe Fedoroff, freshman defenseman Tom Durnie, junior Brandon Roshko,

senior Matt Sweazey, and Campbell all had assist in the contest. Talbot also had 21 saves in the game.

On Friday, March 6, the Chargers will head up to the Canadian border to try and make it two in a row against Niagara. The end of the hockey regular season is near.

From PROVOST Pg. 2

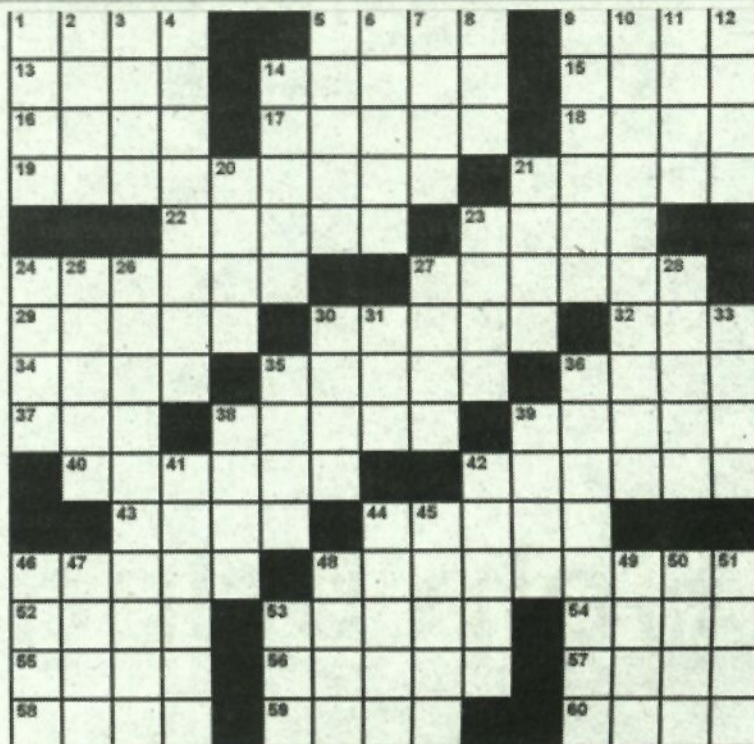
Dr. Karbhari is working hard to keep the communication lines open between students and the administration. "I would love to have a closer relationship with SGA," said Dr. Karbhari. He is meeting with multiple leaders of student organizations in the future to facilitate communication on campus. He encouraged students to talk with him about any concerns that they might have, including those not centered around the changing schedule.

From PARKING Pg. 7

be built next to the IPF. With the completion of this residence hall set for Fall 2010 and the requirement that all freshman and sophomore students living outside a 30-mile radius of UAH must live on campus, IPF usage will most likely increase.

Crossword

Spring Time



Across

1. Added conditions
5. Fig or fir
9. Give this for that
13. Damage
14. The mating game?
15. Bathroom liner
16. Biblical twin
17. Assists
18. Loads
19. '71 Rod Stewart hit
21. Road map units
22. Inquisitive
23. Certain iPod
24. Instant
27. Directed
29. Accumulate
30. Elegance
32. Folder's challenge
34. Florida _____
35. Looks for
36. Sugar source
37. Diva's problem
38. Tend to the turkey
39. Dubliners author
40. Chronicles
42. Neigh sayers
43. Survey choice
44. Nest noise
46. Hair twist
48. Washington hotel
52. Floral gifts
53. Military wear
54. Fair sight
55. Choice word
56. Anguish
57. It may be gray
58. Salon supplies
59. Blowout
60. Do banker's work

Down

1. Attention getter
2. Pioneer org.
3. Lug
4. Complacency

5. Motif
6. Meet event
7. Spot
8. Slalom part
9. Walnut and others
10. A giant?
11. It soothes
12. Favorites
14. Treasure holder
20. Charged particles
21. Pageant title
23. Patriots' Randy
24. Earn
25. Greek finale
26. Deli request
27. Make cake
28. High school event
30. Pool start
31. Rent
33. Supply center?
35. Realtor's goal
36. Radar was one
38. Chicago, for one
39. Piano Man singer Billy
41. Squeak and squeal
42. Substantial
44. Noel
45. Serengeti scavenger
46. Ran, as colors
47. Count (on)
48. Phone intro
49. Telegram
50. First place?
51. "___ my lips"
53. Baseball base

Quotable Quote

People ask me what I do in winter when there's no baseball. I'll tell you what I do. I stare out the window and wait for spring.

... Rogers Hornsby

From HORRORS Pg. 7

plus Harwell's professional attention to every detail, combines for extraordinary results. [Little Shop of Horrors] opens in Chan Auditorium on at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 26, and runs Feb. 27-28 at 7:30 p.m., with a 2:30 p.m. matinee on March 1 and a showing at 5:30 p.m. March 4. It ends its run March 5-7 at 7:30 p.m. Admission is \$6 for students and \$12 for the general public

From SKIPPING Pg. 7

nel or E! where you'll be whisked away shows such as feature exotic vacations, the largest yachts, most extreme trips, and even "Most Beautiful Beaches in the World."

Also, make sure that you let as much light in the room as possible. Open all your blinds and curtains to let natural light permeate the room. Sunlight shining in and warming up the room is definitely a mood booster.

Take shelter from tundra-like weather at Parkway Place or Madi-

son Square Mall where shopping for spring clothes or a bathing suit will have you forgetting the frigid temps and planning for flip-flops and tank tops. Leave the trip to Bridge Street until the weather warms up.

When the temps spike back up again, head outdoors and enjoy the break from the cold. Go to the Huntsville Botanical Garden to witness spring in its infancy, have a hand at disc golf, or check into the UAH Cycling Club's on-campus bike rides. You can even stop by the skate park or dog park under the overpass on the Parkway and University to watch others bask in the new season's offerings.

While your chemical composition can give you justice for skipping out on that history lecture, don't depend on it for every urge to forgo class. Just remember that it isn't your fault your mood fluctuates with the weather changes and take advantage of each twist and turn. It can only get warmer as the days go on.

Solutions to last issue's puzzles:

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

A	D	A	M	I	S	L	E	T	U	R	B	O			
L	O	C	I	S	U	E	Z	A	G	A	I	N			
S	I	N	S	S	C	A	R	C	L	I	N	E			
O	N	E	H	O	U	R	P	A	R	K	I	N			
E	P	E	E	S	A	L	E								
C	A	R	A	T	S	S	T	E	R	I	L	E			
U	T	E	R	I	C	L	U	E	D	E	L				
R	O	A	D	C	L	O	S	E	D	A	H	E	A	D	
E	N	D	O	D	D	S	C	E	A	S	E				
R	E	S	T	A	T	E	W	H	A	L	E	R			
A	N	T	A	A	H	E	D								
S	C	H	O	O	L	C	R	O	S	S	I	N	G		
S	O	L	I	D	E	U	R	O	E	V	E	R			
O	R	A	T	E	A	T	O	P	T	A	R	O			
L	E	W	I	S	D	E	W	S	S	N	O	W			

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