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The Exponent

The Student Newspaper of UAH

Volume 41, Issue 22

April 28, 2010

NEWS BRIEFS

The name Betty Cole brings an instant smile to the face of every student who knows her. She has been the Honors Program assistant since 1993. This year, she is retiring after a full 17-year career. Cole graduated from the University of Tennessee at Martin with a Bachelor of Science in education as an English major and history minor.

See COLE on Pg. 2

ARTS & LEISURE BRIEFS

May 6 marks the 59th annual National Day of Prayer. The holiday will be observed from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. at the Baptist Student Center, with lunch served at noon. The event is hosted by Moms in Touch International Prayer Ministry, the Baptist Campus Ministry, and the Christian Faculty and Staff Network of UAH. The event is open to the public.

See PRAYER on Pg. 4

SCIENCE & TECH BRIEFS

On May 25, 1961, President John F. Kennedy made a speech declaring a goal to reach the moon within the decade. Now 49 years later, an artist, Jennifer Marsh, is preparing for her largest project, The Dream Rocket. This project will cover the Saturn V rocket, located at the Space and Rocket Center, in quilting squares.

See SATURN V on Pg. 6

SPORTS BRIEFS

The baseball and softball teams have completed regular season play and are ready to begin the Gulf South Conference Tournament this weekend. Both teams have played well this season and have good shots at extending their season in the tourney. The baseball team ended the season with back-to-back losses versus North Alabama in their three-game series.

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Interview with the New Dean of Business, Dr. Caron St. John

SALOME SALIASHVILI
Staff Writer

The new dean of the college of business took over the post this semester. Dr. Caron St. John came in ready to lead UAH's College of Business Administration into the future.

Her extensive experience, extensive research and remarkable 30-year career made her an excellent choice. She has been featured in over 30 publications, including *The International Journal of Production Research* and *The International Journal of Purchasing and Materials Management*. She has given over 30 presentations and has received numerous grants and contracts.

St. John graduated from Georgia Tech with a Bachelor of Science in chemistry and from Georgia State with a master's and a Ph.D in business administration. Her teaching interests include technology entrepreneurship, strategic management, while her research interests are multi-level, multi-the-

oretical explanations of competitive, technological, and operative strategies of new and established manufacturing and high-technology firms.

What most attracted you to UAH? Initially, it was the Huntsville community. I've known about the Huntsville technology and business community here for a very long time, and I find that area very attractive. After I was asked to interview for this position, though, I was able to learn more about UAH and the College of Business Administration specifically, and I was just very impressed with what I saw.

What are your main responsibilities? I'm responsible for the entire college. This means, I'm responsible for the faculty, the students, the financial resources and the strategy of the college as a whole.

What would you like to accomplish at UAH? I want to see us position our programs as distinct programs to raise our reputation, not only in the region, but in

the nation. What we are doing here is extraordinary. I also want to grow the enrollment, as well as to improve and extend the academic offerings.

What event in your life had the biggest impact on your career? I graduated initially from Georgia Tech with a degree in chemistry, and I worked in industry for five to six years in product and new business development. Chemistry didn't change, but the business environment did, and so it was very clear to me that I needed to augment education with business studies. At that time, the company I worked for was very willing to pay science and engineering staff to get an MBA, which would prepare them for management.

I took advantage of that, but



Photo courtesy of UAH

it also set me on a completely different career, because ultimately I chose to get a Ph.D in business. So much of what I was seeing was so interesting to me. Through my academic studies, I saw that there

See DEAN on Pg. 2

UAH Student Running For State House Representative

RAYMOND GILSTRAP
Editor-in-Chief

On June 1, UAH student David Pinkleton will challenge incumbent Republican Howard Sanderford and fellow Republican Frances Taylor for State House District 20 in the Republican primary.

A senior majoring in Spanish, with a minor in political science, Pinkleton plans to work diligently as a state legislator and bring excitement to the Alabama political arena.

Pinkleton believes that the younger generation should have an active voice in politics. He also believes that the government should do more with less.

"The forecast is gloomy for Alabama," Pinkleton said. "The governor is hedging on stimulus money to balance the state's checkbook at a time when my generation will have to live with the consequences of the state budget."

Pinkleton has new approaches to several issues, including the Huntsville Housing Authority, the state budget, education, and the PACT program.

The HHA under Housing and Urban Development purchased Stone Manor Apartments in south Huntsville. Tenants occupying the apartments did not find out about the transaction until after it was made. Pinkleton wants the HHA to notify districts when property purchases will be made.

He also believes the HHA

should be held responsible for its actions by Huntsville citizens. Pinkleton demands greater transparency from the HHA and will work alongside South Huntsville Civic Association, an organization concerned with the behavior of HHA.

For the state budget, Pinkleton believes in getting rid of unnecessary government spending. Since tax receipts had roughly a 10 percent decrease last year, Pinkleton wants to decrease spending by 10 percent across the board in the budget. Pinkleton feels it is inappropriate for the government to allocate financial resources to pointless spending projects; he advocates downsizing the state government.

To address education issues, Pinkleton proposes that Alabama adopt a program to provide students in failing schools the opportunity to transfer to another school with better academic credentials. The quality of education is important to Pinkleton; he feels that students who are willing to learn should have access to an improved education.

Pinkleton's solution is to offer tax credits to low-income families, which will make charter or private schools financially accessible to those families. Pinkleton also believes that employers should have a well-trained work force, and during budget cuts he wants to cut ad-

ministrative personnel before reducing the number of teachers.

With the recent PACT crisis, Pinkleton wants to phase out the program completely after all current participants receive their promised tuition payments for four years' worth of college courses. As a legislator, Pinkleton is also willing to assist PACT enrollees with locating alternative college saving plans.

Pinkleton was born and raised in Huntsville. He graduated from Grissom High School in 2005 and has attended Birmingham Southern, where he was a member of College Republicans. After graduating from UAH, he plans to obtain an advanced degree in public affairs. Pinkleton is also a member of the UAH Political Science Club.

For more information about David Pinkleton, visit www.new-conservativeenergy.com.



Photo courtesy of David Pinkleton

A Personal Perspective on Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD)

AMBER RAUSCHKOLB
Business Manager

Inflammatory Bowel Disease refers to two chronic inflammatory diseases, Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis. Affecting nearly every aspect of a person's life, it frequently occurs at ages 15 to 30, sometimes at earlier or later ages.

You might know someone afflicted, because one in every 200 people suffer from IBD. I am one of 10 who attend or have attended UAH.

The cause is still unknown. Symptoms can be physical: abdominal pain, diarrhea, vomiting, fever and weight loss. Other health problems resulting from the disease affect other places in the body, such as the joints, eyes, skin and liver.

Because the disease affects the bowels, it can impair nutrient absorption and delay growth in children, especially in puberty. Some patients also suffer from high anxiety, depression and other emotional issues resulting from dependency on family, physicians and the healthcare system. Symptoms, known as flares, come and go.

See IBD on Pg. 3

Betty Cole, Honors Program Staff Assistant, to Retire

SALOME SALIASHVILI
Staff Writer

The name Betty Cole brings an instant smile to the face of every student who knows her. She has been the Honors Program assistant since 1993. This year, she is retiring after a full 17-year career.

Cole graduated from the University of Tennessee at Martin with a Bachelor of Science in education as an English major and history minor. After a few years spent teaching high school, she transitioned to the university level. Cole worked at the University of Tennessee at Nashville, Tennessee Tech and Auburn University at Montgomery until finally arriving at UAH.

The first director of the Honors Program appointed Cole assistant; since then, she has been the only one to hold the post. She was here when the first graduates walked for their diplomas, and even now, she can remember all of the 198 graduates the Honors Program has produced.

"I'm going to really miss her knowing every single one of our past honor students," Dr. Harry Delaguch, current director of the Honors Program, said. And many will agree. Such familiarity is rare.

Her many years at the university gave her the advantage of immense experience and an insight into the functioning of the program. She managed the Honors office and the Honors lounge, advised students who needed help, proofread everything for the program, kept track of all the students, managed the budget and organized the Honors Convocation.

This year, she wrote down all her activities and duties performed



Photo by: Salome Saliashvili

by day, week, semester and year as a way to ease the transition for the new assistant.

It is hard to imagine a campus without her. Those who call the Honors office asking to speak to her will hear that she is unavailable.

"Betty Cole is without question one of the kindest, most thoughtful and caring people at UAH," Sarah Fisher, a senior, said. "Her reassuring voice soothes any problem and helps makes the Honors Program a great place to be."

Cole received recognition during the 2010 Honors Convocation, and the very first director came back for the occasion. It was a surprise, which in itself was an achievement, since she is the one who put the convocation together. Yet the sentiment was felt.

Her advice to all students is simple and poignant: "Enjoy where you are in life and make the most of it, because it changes every

day." She also reminds students to smile a lot—something she has perfected.

She looks forward to spending much more time with her daughters as well as with her two grandchildren. She also hopes to devote time to her interests, which extend to painting, sewing, antiques and yoga.

As we say goodbye in spring 2010, we can remember all her contributions and be grateful.

From DEAN on Pg. 1

were patterns that were associated with problems that an individual firm thought were unique to them, and that some of the problems could have been anticipated and planned for in an effective manner, if they had had a proper education and background. That decision to go back to school and study business revealed a whole new world to me and put me in a completely different path in my career.

You have worked in the private sector, how does it compare to academia? Also, how does teaching compare to administrating? That would be two different stages of my life. The difference between private and academic positions for an individual is that in private industry, someone at the introductory level is for the most part responsible for executing the strategy someone else has designed. You have some flexibility in how you might do that, but most of the time, you have to agree, support, follow, the strategy of the organization.

As a faculty member, at a university, your research agenda is your own. You develop the content for the courses yourself, and you are the one who guides your

own life experience. I think that's what's particularly attractive about an academic career; it's sort of like being an entrepreneur. I still do some research; it's the first semester in 25 years that I haven't taught, so I anticipate I'll be teaching in the future.

I see the academic career as a balance of all those things. I teach a little less and do a little less research to accommodate administrative aspects of the career. I still value teaching and research as the two most important things that any faculty member does. More of my days concern money and strategy, but it's all in order to advance research and education.

Speaking from experience, what can you tell our current students? The decisions you make right now are not cast in stone. You are trying to decide the next best step for yourself, the one that creates the most future options for you. The decision you make is not one that is irreversible for all time. You are not trying to decide what you will do for rest of your life. The best thing is to develop the self-confidence, the education, the preparedness to make the choices to come, but you don't have to plan it all.

The Exponent

Editor in Chief: RAYMOND GILSTRAP
Copy Editor: KATE BLAKE
Managing Editor: LISA BARBELLA
Layout Editor: HONOKA EGUCHI
Advertising Manager: TAITO EGUCHI
Business Manager: AMBER RAUSCHKOLB

Senior Science & Tech Writer: MATT SAYAR

Staff Writers:

ERIC MORGAN ZACH POPE
PIERRE NELSON ANNA SHAVERS
DAVID DANIELS ASHLEY TROMBA
JULIE RAMHOLD JESSICA ROBINSON
JONATHAN KEENUM SALOME SALIASHVILI

Staff Photographer:
MICHAEL BARNES

Circulation:
KELSEY THACKER

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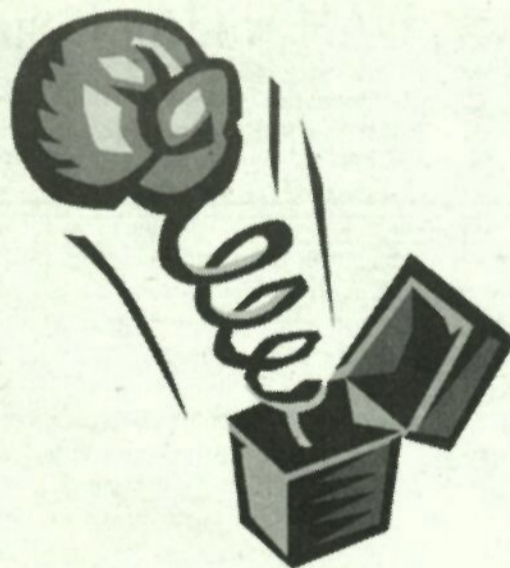
E-mail: exponent.editor@gmail.com

Website: <http://exponent.uah.edu/>

Post: University Center #104, Huntsville, AL 35899

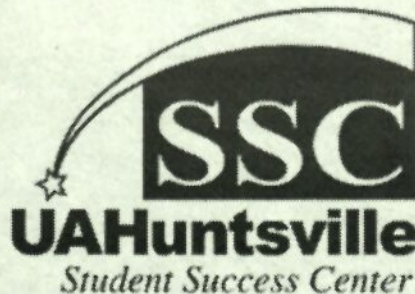
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Students Share Tips for Passing Finals

SALOME SALIASHVILI
Staff Writer

The phrase "finals week" chills many students. Students' anxiety and depression levels can increase, and self-esteem can decrease during this stressful time.

These side effects can be difficult to avoid, unless you are prepared to tackle the test through good old-fashioned studying. For those whose days look gloomier as the tests approach, here are some useful tips advocated by fellow students to help you get that "A":

- **Rewrite notes:** A big one that professors as well as students highly encourage. Not only do you refresh your mind, you re-learn information, re-imprinting everything in the brain.
- **Don't procrastinate:** This can still be managed, depending on when the exam is.
- **Manage your time:** No staying up through the night. Sleep deprivation actually decreases performance and proper recall.
- **Form a group:** As long as you stay on topic, even Socrates is on board for good discussions.
- **Study in sections:** Do not get bogged down until your mind turns to mush. Instead, keep moving on from one subject to another so your mind stays alert.
- **Flash cards:** This technique has been proven time and again. It's simple and effective. You can also group them into small chunks of categories and quiz yourself.
- **Read the textbook:** Skimming over the important things is always helpful.

When you are studying, simulate the environment you will be in when you take the exam. Sitting at a desk instead of in bed is a good start.

Now, some may suggest caffeine and other ways to increase alertness, but they will not help you learn anything; a good night's sleep will increase alertness just as well.

When the fateful day arrives, avoid bringing beverages to the

exam, since it becomes a distraction. Your eyes will keep darting toward it, and you will sip it continuously.

After the exam, relish the feeling of relief. Maybe a night out unwinding with friends to clear and calm yourself before the next exam would be best.

Finally, congratulate yourself for finishing everything, and after this year's experience, you will only improve your performance.

Meeting With Sodexo Promises Change

RAYMOND GILSTRAP
Editor-in-Chief

On April 26, student Antonio Mazza continued his quest to make the mandatory meal plan an easier transition for UAH students next fall. He met with representatives from Sodexo, including General Manager Suresh Parameswaran and Operations Manager Joe Fox. Leigh Kamm, the director of the Charger Card office, also attended, along with student Ravi Patel, who is a SGA engineering senator.

Mazza presented student suggestions for changes in the cafeteria, such as including more fruit on the salad bar, providing meat substitutes, and having fish options on Fridays.

Parameswaran promised that some of these suggestions would be incorporated over the next few weeks while school remains in session. Parameswaran also said that Sodexo is willing to hear more student suggestions and that all suggestions will be taken in consideration. There is currently a comment card station inside of the cafeteria.

He stated that the company will do all that it can to provide a variety of dietary options for students.

"Sodexo is willing to meet with students, and they back up what they say," Kamm said. "For that I applaud them."

In the past, Sodexo has had open forums at which students had the opportunity to pitch ideas to the company. It will continue to host such events. The forums are held at least twice a semester, but Mazza addressed the complaint that not

too many students knew about the forums in past.

Resident assistants previously organized meetings between Sodexo and a limited amount of students. Mazza suggested that the forums be available to more students, so that international students not used to eating American food can offer suggestions based on cultural or religious needs.

Parameswaran addressed questions about offering more food in the Charger Café Express, displaying nutritional facts in the cafeteria, and providing summer meal plans. He stated that Charger Café Express would be improved. He also said that nutrition charts are displayed in the cafeteria above each selection in the buffet line. The charts provide information about ingredients and nutrition facts such as calories, fat grams and cholesterol.

As far as the possibility of summer meal plans, Fox does not believe that UAH will ever offer meal plans from May to August.

"The cafeteria operation hours are geared toward camps during the summer, which is most of our business," Fox said. "There are only 30 to 40 students eating at any given time, and that's why there are not meal plans for the summer."

During the summer, the cafeteria remains open for breakfast and lunch while summer classes are available. Flex accounts are only available to students during the summer. Dining Dollars and Charger Bucks carry over from the fall semester; however, those fi-

See SODEXO on Pg. 6

Arbor Day

JULIE RAMHOLD
Staff Writer

Formed in 1972, the Arbor Day Foundation is now the largest non-profit membership organization dedicated to planting trees.

Their mission statement reads, "We inspire people to plant, nurture, and celebrate trees." The Foundation has multiple programs that give volunteers an opportunity to help out—everything from the Arbor Day Farm to Nature Explore and Rain Forest Rescue. Use the links on their Web site (<http://www.arborday.org>) to get in touch with opportunities for replanting and volunteering.

The shop at <http://www.arborday.org/shop/index.cfm> offers everything from trees, shrubs and "shade-grown organic coffee" to various kinds of apparel to show support for the Foundation. They also offer a program called Give-A-Tree; when someone purchases a card, the Foundation plants a tree in honor of the recipient. It is an easy way to contribute if you do not have time to volunteer and literally get your hands dirty planting a tree yourself.

For those who wish to become members, the Foundation will send them 10 trees that grow well in their area.

Each state also has its own Arbor Day organization. The Web sites for each state note which membership packages grow well in those areas. Alabama's Web site is <http://www.arborday.org/states/?state=AL>. This site contains in-

See DAY on Pg. 4

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From IBD on Pg 1

Medications are available to help control flares; however, when patients become unresponsive to medications, surgery is the default option. Though this doesn't cure the disease and only improves some individuals' quality of life, it does not stop the recurrence of the disease itself.

After my diagnosis, I participated in three fundraisers. Then, due to my unfortunate circumstances, I underwent my first surgery at the University of Alabama in Birmingham in May 2006 to remove my colon and rectum. After having numerous failed reconstructive surgeries of my bowel in order to give me something of a normal life, I was left with a permanent ostomy during finals of spring 2008. And I continue to undergo surgeries from multiple infections that resurface. My next, and it is hoped, last, surgery is this May.

After all the disease has made me endure, I still support Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America. It's been a debilitating situation; I try to stay optimistic and keep a smile on my face every day, but some days are harder than others. I consider myself fortunate to have support from my family, friends,

co-workers and fellow students, without whom I wouldn't be here.

Some suffer in silence, afraid of rejection from peers. But I will probably be the loudest person you will ever meet, and I am unafraid to be heard. My hope is that with continuing education and research, we will find the cause and cure for IBD.

This past year across the country, CCFA has pushed for the fight with its Take Steps Walk, which includes 80 walk sites. Our goal is to enable patients' families to join together with their local communities to build visibility, raise awareness and increase critical funds needed for research.

Last year's walk, other participants and I raised \$18,000; let's see if we can do better this year. Donations are tax deductible! More than 80 cents of every dollar raised goes directly to fund research and patient programs in your local community.

How can you be heard? Come out Saturday, May 22 at 5:30 p.m. We will meet on the UAH campus for Huntsville's second annual Take Steps Walk. Visit www.cctakeste.org/huntsville to register as a walker or choose to donate to a walker/walking team.

Cheap Summer Activities Around Huntsville

JESSICA ROBINSON
Staff Writer

With summer right around the corner and finals coming to an end, students will have more free time on their hands. Huntsville is full of cheap summer activities that include more than just lying around by the pool.

Hiking: Hiking is an exciting free activity sure to keep you on your toes. The Land Trust of Huntsville and North Alabama, incorporated in 1987, is home almost 6,000 acres of preserved land.

The Land Trust maintains three nature preserves and over 36 miles of trails open to the public. The trails range from easy to difficult, each promising amazing scenery. Many events are held at the Land Trust, including guided hikes and concerts.

Be sure to pack plenty of water and trail mix. For more information about the Land Trust and map trails, visit <http://landtrust-hsv.org>.

From DAY on Pg. 3

formation about how the Foundation helps Alabama.

Some states celebrate Arbor Day on a different day than the national holiday. For Alabama, the Arbor Day celebration falls during the last full week in February.

Your browser may not support display of this image.

Picnic in the Park: Big Spring Park, located in downtown Huntsville, is an excellent place to have a picnic. The park contains a lagoon filled with ducks and fish. Paved walkways are perfect for running or leisurely strolls, and trees provide shade to picnic table areas. It is an ideal place to bring a picnic and enjoy the surroundings (don't forget bread for the ducks).

Monte Sano State Park off of Governor's Drive is another fantastic location to have a picnic in the park.

Patio Party at Humphrey's: Humphrey's Bar and Grill hosts Mojo's Patio Party every Wednesday. Located downtown on Washington Street, Humphrey's is a great place to enjoy live music while taking advantage of drink specials. The party is from 4:30-7:30 p.m. and is free to those 21 and older.

However, many celebrate both the national and state day. Every year, the national day falls on the last Friday in April. This year, the national Arbor Day is April 30.

For ideas on how to celebrate, visit the Web site at <http://www.arborday.org/index.cfm>.

What's in the Food? Part 3: High-Fructose Corn Syrup

ANNA SHAVERS
Staff Writer

Recently, in response to the negative press high-fructose corn syrup (HFCS) has received, the Corn Refiners Association began airing commercials stating that HFCS is healthy.

The association claims that HFCS is natural, derived from corn and good in moderation. According to the Food and Drug Administration, the term "natural" can be applied to any food product that is derived from a "natural" source, in this case, corn.

The Corn Refiners Association claims that HFCS is not unhealthy because it is derived from corn. What it doesn't explain is that most corn grown in the United States is commodity corn, which cannot be eaten unless processed. There are mass quantities of this commodity corn, because higher yields equal government subsidies.

The corn produced, however, is sprayed with pesticides and herbicides and is genetically modified to have higher yields. The process of using that corn to produce HFCS is not natural. The corn is processed so much it is difficult to even know that the product comes from corn.

HFCS is created by processing

corn starch to make glucose. The glucose is then processed to produce fructose. While the procedure sounds easy, the whole process uses three different enzymes.

Footage from the movie "King Corn" demonstrates how HFCS is made. According to the film, the process begins by boiling corn with water and a small amount of sulfuric acid in order to separate the corn fiber from the starch.

Next, the corn starch is treated with an enzyme called alpha-amylase. This enzyme breaks down the corn starch into shorter chains of sugar called polysaccharides. Then, another enzyme called glucoamylase is used to break down the sugar chain into the simple sugar glucose.

The last enzyme to be added is glucose-isomerase, which converts the glucose to a mixture of fructose and glucose. However, that is not the final step. The mixture is then made into 90 percent fructose, then blended with the previous mixture to create the concentration of fructose and glucose the industry wants.

According to a study reported at <http://www.princeton.edu/main/news/archive/S26/91/22K07/>, a research team at Princeton University found that HFCS is contributing to the rising obesity rates. Not only is

HFCS relatively new to the human diet, but it is also found in many sweet and unhealthy foods.

The amount of sodas in the United States grew 135 percent between 1977 and 2001. When the change from cane sugar to HFCS took place, the price of sodas fell, allowing for the trend of "super-sized" sodas.

Obesity has been related to excessive calorie intake, among other causes. Increasing the consumption of soda with HFCS results in an increase of calorie intake per person.

Those fighting against the rise in obesity have tried passing the Farm Bill, which would raise the price of corn. A rise in the price of corn would lead to a rise in the price of HFCS.

Lastly, the Corn Refiners Association's main argument for HFCS is that it is good in moderation. But how can this be accomplished if almost all foods contain HFCS? For example, sodas, candy bars, cookies, ice cream, tomato sauces, soup and even bread contain HFCS. Therefore, eating it "in moderation" is not as simple as the association makes it out to be.

Next time you visit the grocery store, read the labels on your food and see if HFCS is an ingredient.

Correction from the Exponent Staff:

In the April 14 edition, in the article entitled Student Meets with President to Discuss Meal Plan Issues, Fox College Funding should say Fox College Funding blog.

Event Calendar

April 28

- The Moon Folk Festival, featuring live music by Mosied Posies, A Shack and a Shanty, and Or the Children's Crusade, will be held at sundown at Lowe Mill. Bring drums and instruments for jamming. \$5
- Austin Jennings performs at Mellow Mushroom. 7 p.m.
- Coffee Tree Books and Brew hosts its weekly songwriters' open mic night. 7 p.m.

April 29

- Slip Jip plays at Finnegan's Pub, located downtown. 8 p.m.
- The Flatwoods perform at Humphrey's Bar and Grill. 9 p.m.
- Moon Taxi performs at Crossroads Music Hall with special guest The Bridge. 9:30 p.m. \$10

April 30

- The Handshake Promise performs at The Station. 8 p.m.
- Local Orbit performs alongside special guest Time Bomb at Olivia's Bar and Grill. 8 p.m.

May 1

- The Recycled Art Show starts at noon and lasts until 4 p.m. at the Flying Monkey. Free.
- Wrong Way, a Sublime tribute band, performs at Crossroads Music Hall. 8 p.m. \$10
- Toy Shop performs at the Voodoo Lounge located downtown on the square. 9:30 p.m.

May 2

- Red Headed Step Child performs at Bandito Southside. 8 p.m.
- The weekly Sunday Blues Jam hosted by Freddy Earl and the Blues Mercenaries will be held at the Kaffeeklatsch. 8 p.m.

Huntsville Whistlestop Festival Features Food, Music

ERIC MORGAN
Staff Writer

Huntsville's 10th Whistlestop Festival takes place from 4-11 p.m. April 30 and from 10 a.m.-11 p.m. May 1 at the historic Huntsville Depot on Church Street.

The annual event features live entertainment and lots of food. This year's festival features a headline performance by country music artist Rodney Atkins. Various other live artists will perform as well.

One of the most anticipated events of the festival is the barbecue competition. Last year, more than 60 contestants competed in the competition, cooking chicken, pork, pork ribs and brisket.

This year's festival features a new competition called the ShadeTree Competition. It is another barbecue contest, but for amateur cooks.

Tickets to the Whistlestop Festival are \$30 at the gate. They can also be bought online until April 29 for \$20 plus a \$5 service fee (\$25 total). Bulk orders of 15 tickets or more are available at a discounted rate.

To buy tickets or check out the list of slated artists, see the Web site at <http://www.thewhistlestop-festival.com>.

Fifty-Ninth Annual National Day of Prayer

JESSICA ROBINSON
Staff Writer

May 6 marks the 59th annual National Day of Prayer. The holiday will be observed from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. at the Baptist Student Center, with lunch served at noon. The event is hosted by Moms in Touch International Prayer Ministry, the Baptist Campus Ministry, and the Christian Faculty and Staff Network of UAH. The event is open to the public.

Congress introduced the National Day of Prayer in 1952. In 1988 the law was amended to move

the holiday to the first Thursday in May. There has been recent controversy surrounding the day, and on April 15 U.S. District Judge Barbara B. Crabb (Wisconsin) ruled the holiday unconstitutional.

However, events for the holiday have been planned in major cities across the U.S., including Washington, D.C., Kansas City, and Nashville.

For more information contact Marilyn Merkel at 256-679-7912 or visit their Web Site at <http://www.nationaldayofprayer.org>.

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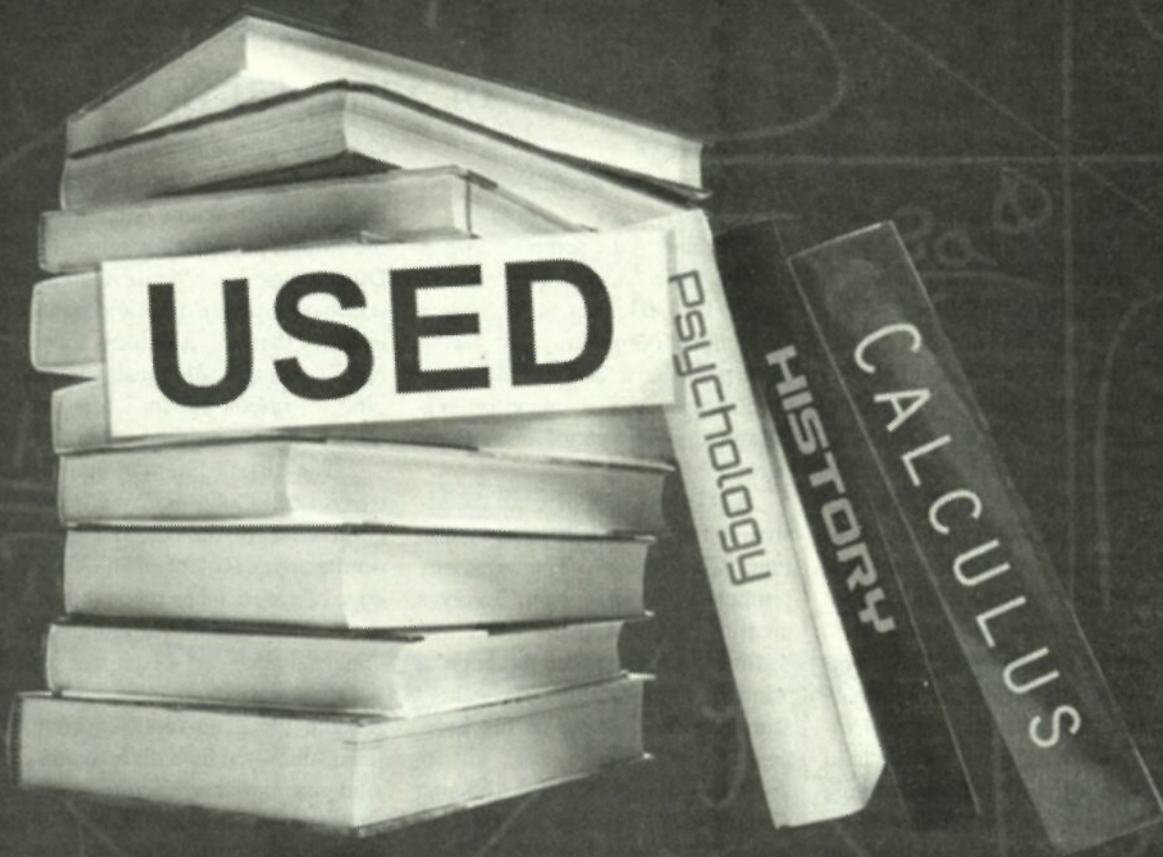
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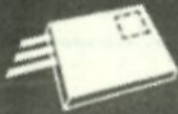


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UAH Hosts Chemistry Lecture

JULIE RAMHOLD
Staff Writer

On April 28, 2010, UAH, in conjunction with the North Alabama section of the American Chemical Society, hosts a lecture titled "Hydrogen Economy: The Good, The Bad, The Ugly."

Dr. Gerald Meyer from the University of Wyoming will lead the lecture. Meyer earned his degrees from both Carnegie Mellon and the University of New Mexico. He worked as a laboratory chemist for the U.S. Bureau of Mines and again in the U.S. Naval Research Laboratory as a naval officer during WWII.

In 1963, he was appointed professor and dean of arts and sciences at the University of Wyoming. In 1976 he was appointed vice president of research. He retired in 1990.

Since then, he has served as state science advisor, as president of the Council of Colleges of Arts and Sciences of the Associated Western Universities, and on the Laramie Regional Airport Board. He is the past president of the American Institute of Chemists, the past chair and councilor of the ACS Wyoming Section and has served on the ACS national committees.

He continues to serve on those

national committees and chairs the ACS Rocky Mountain Regional Meeting. He is listed in several Who's Who editions, including in the world, in America, in France, in Industry and in Science and Technology.

The lecture turnout is expected to be large. Between 250 and 300 local high school students plan to attend, in addition to chemistry students and chemists from local industries. Both UAH and the ACS look forward to showcasing the different opportunities for students within the college of science.

With so many high school students planning to attend, the hosts wish to convey how important science is and that a career in that field can be fulfilling. So many college freshmen are undecided about their majors, and it is important for them to see all the opportunities out there.

Because UAH tends to focus heavily on engineering, the hosts wanted to take at least one evening to showcase the importance of science. They have found the perfect speaker to inspire students to look further into a major they might not have otherwise considered.

A social hour precedes the event at 6:30 p.m. The event begins at 7:00 p.m. Both the lecture and the social hour will be held in the Chan Auditorium.

Saturn V Is Getting Wrapped

ASHLEY TROMBA
Staff Writer

On May 25, 1961, President John F. Kennedy made a speech declaring a goal to reach the moon within the decade. Now 49 years later, an artist, Jennifer Marsh, is preparing for her largest project, The Dream Rocket.

This project will cover the Saturn V rocket, located at the Space and Rocket Center, in quilting squares. The project was originally planned for this coming May, but has been postponed to give Marsh and her team more time to prepare for the project and to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Kennedy's speech.

Marsh has already acquired approximately one thousand fabric pieces for the project from all over the world, including Kenya and Poland. Her team still needs about seven thousand more pieces to be able to complete the project.

The Saturn V rocket stands at 363 feet tall and has 36,000 square feet to cover. Marsh has to approach this project carefully and has many things to consider and figure out before she will be allowed to begin. The Dream Rocket Team first has to figure out how the fabric can be attached to the rocket without damaging Huntsville's precious icon. The amount of weight the fabric will add also has to be calculated before anything can actually be done. The last thing that

must be done is to figure out how to complete this project safely.

In a little more than a year, Huntsville's rocket will become a beautiful piece of art. It will have taken almost two years to get everything together and actually finish the project. It will connect the United States with many other countries in this global attempt at mixing education with art.

MATT SAYAR
Senior Science & Tech Writer

The end of the semester brings exciting news for ongoing research at UAH. UAH won the Alabama Launchpad competition; it has a large presence at a reputable space conference; and it recently celebrated the first year of a beneficial partnership.

UAH won first place in the Alabama Launchpad 2010 Business Plan Competition. The Alabama Launchpad competition involves creating business plans for actual business ventures, with the hope of winning monetary awards to help stimulate the growth of the business.

"The purpose of the Alabama Launchpad Governor's Business Plan Competition is to promote and reward marketable, high-growth, innovative ventures that have the potential to grow rapidly, transform an industry, attract future funding, and add to the diversity of Alabama's economy," the Alabama Launchpad Web site (www.alabamalaunchpad.com) states. "The competition is for new, independent ventures in the seed, start-up or early growth stages, or for the expansion of an existing business into a new high-growth market."

Students and alumni associated with any university in Alabama are allowed to

compete, meaning UAH edged out the University of Alabama and the University of South Alabama for the win. The winning team, SLP Diagnostics, Inc., "is developing a product for the medical and biotech industry that will provide a simple, rapid, accurate diagnosis of specific infectious agents." The team won \$100,000 for their efforts.

The 61st International Astronautical Congress, the largest conference in the world focusing on the advancement of the knowledge of space, takes place this year in Prague, Czech Republic. The congress accepted 14 papers from UAH, which is an unprecedented amount for a university. The papers, submitted by a diverse mix of students, staff and faculty, will be showcased at the conference, and the authors will be in attendance.

UAH recently celebrated the first year of a partnership with

Oak Ridge National Laboratories, located in Tennessee. Oak Ridge National Labs was a research force behind the Manhattan Project, much like the Marshall Space Flight Center was a force behind landing a man on the moon.

The partnership benefits both companies equally. ORNL can now more effectively communicate with local entities such as Marshall. UAH, in turn, has access to ORNL's world-class technology, such as the most powerful supercomputer dedicated to scientific research.

"The [partnership] will facilitate intensive, on-going collaborations in academic and research programs in a number of areas vital to national security and economic development," President Williams said on his blog at the inception of the partnership last year.



The official logo for the Oak Ridge Huntsville Partnership Office. Photo courtesy of the ORHPO

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financial options end after the spring semester, whether all the money is used or not.

Beginning in the fall, Dining Dollars and Charger Bucks can be used at the cafeteria, the Charger Café Express, Jazzman's Café, Charger Brew, the restaurant inside of the Beville Center, Papa John's,

Chik-fil-A, and the convenience store/deli located in the new dormitory.

For older and independent students, exemption waivers for the mandatory meal plans are also available. Students who are the head of a household with dependents can qualify for an exemption. Students with particular individual needs will also be considered for

exemption. Kamm handles all of the exemption waivers personally and will look into each notarized document received.

Cafeteria prices will increase for the 2010-11 school year. Lunch will be \$8 and dinner will be \$9 plus tax. For more information on UAH dining services, visit the official Web site at www.uah.edu/dining.



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Baseball, Softball Prepare for Conference Tournament

JONATHAN KEENUM
Staff Writer

The baseball and softball teams have completed regular season play and are ready to begin the Gulf South Conference Tournament this weekend. Both teams have played well this season and have good shots at extending their season in the tourney.

The baseball team ended the season with back-to-back losses

versus North Alabama in their three-game series. They came off one of their more impressive wins of the season, a 25-3 romp on UNA in the first game of the series. They finish the regular season with a 26-16 overall record, with a conference record of 6-9.

This is the Chargers' second straight appearance in the GSC tourney. UAH will be up against a very tough opponent in Southern Arkansas. The Muleriders won

the GSC West Division, and are ranked No.1. The game opens the double-elimination tournament and is scheduled for 4:15 p.m. May 1 in Millington, Tenn.

The softball team ended the season in dramatic fashion against UNA. The team started off great as usual, but allowed UNA to creep back into the game. Kelli Long hit a clutch walk-off home-run to seal the victory 10-9.

The Chargers had no problems

in the second game, winning easily 8-0 and ensuring a joyful senior day. The wins allowed the Chargers to finish 37-9 overall and 22-3 in the conference. Due to weather, a double-header against UNA to finish the season was postponed until Monday, but since the games were not necessary for determining seeding in the tournament, the GSC decided to cancel the games.

The wins also clinched the GSC East Division title and the

No.1 seed in the East for the Chargers. UAH will play in Southaven, Miss., in the GSC tourney starting this Friday.

This tournament is loaded with talented teams, such as No.2 ranked Valdosta State (the No.2 seed in the East) and No.23 Arkansas-Monticello (No.1 seed in the West). The ladies also look to continue their season in the NCAA South Region Tournament starting May 14.

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