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University of Alabama in Huntsville

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Campus housing: Where should students live?

Erik R. Templeman
News Writer

Occupancy at the Central Campus Residence Hall (CCRH) has declined nearly 15 per cent from last year’s full inhabitancy. Southeast Campus Housing (SECH), however, is operating at an unusual level of near capacity, according to Daniel Kaufmann, resident director at CCRH.

“We even have a waiting list if you want a single bedroom at the Southeast Campus Housing,” says Kaufmann. But while “CCRH was full last year; this year we’re at about 85 per cent.” He attributes the decline at CCRH to mere yearly fluctuation.

Jannita Owens, assistant director for resident’s life, concurs that 385 students at CCRH is not an unusual number. But she attributes the decline from last year to the fact that freshman enrollment “may be down.” In addition, according to Resident Adviser Marty VanderNoot, some sophomores who are members of Greek organizations have moved from CCRH to SECH because they “wanted to be by their charter houses.”

The Greek organizations to which VanderNoot refers include not only Delta Chi, long-time inhabitants of SECH, but three sororities (Chi Omega, Delta Zeta, and Kappa Delta) and two fraternities (Alpha Tau Omega and Phi Kappa Alpha) who are residing on campus for the first time. These organizations, states the adviser, are the reasons SECH is almost full.

Assistant Director Owens explains that the Greek move on-campus is essentially an audition by the university administration:

“They want Greek housing; they want a fraternity row. This is a stepping stone to that. [They want] to show they can live together harmoniously.”

Students affiliated with SECH as well as CCRH seem to be pleased with their respective occupancy situations.

Computer science major Ryan Waldrop, junior, and member of Delta Chi, believes the new and exciting atmosphere at SECH will make a delight to the eyes. This year, they’re pleased with their respective occupancy situations.

University of Alabama in Huntsville
Library Training Sessions
Fall Term 1996

Monday, September 9
11:00 a.m.-noon
Library Systems
First Search

Tuesday, September 10
11:00 a.m.-noon
Library Systems
First Search

Wednesday, September 11
11:00 a.m.-noon
Library Systems
First Search

Thursday, September 12
11:00 a.m.-noon
Library Systems
First Search

Friday, September 13
11:00 a.m.-noon
Library Systems
First Search

Monday, October 1
11:00 a.m.-noon
Library Systems
First Search

Tuesday, October 2
3:00-4:00 p.m.
Library Systems
First Search

Wednesday, October 3
3:00-4:00 p.m.
Library Systems
First Search

Thursday, October 4
3:00-4:00 p.m.
Library Systems
First Search

Friday, October 5
3:00-4:00 p.m.
Library Systems
First Search

General orientation sessions each Tuesday, 4:00-5:00 p.m. from September 17 through November 30.

All sessions will be held in Room 202 of the Library. Call 890-6529 for information.

On the street: A Cross Section of Community Opinion

How do you like the dorms at UAH?

Kris Kilroy
Physics Major

“I really like the dorm rooms here at UAH. I think they’re furnished well. They are comfortable and safe.”

Scooter Brown
Computer Engineering

“The dorms are pretty nice. Compared to what I was at... these are great.”

Bobby Koenig
MIS Major

“I really enjoy living in this residence hall. I think it gives students the chance to meet lots of different kinds of people and interact.”

Toby Evans
Secondary Education Major

“I like the dorms. They are really nice and clean. There are a few minor problems but they should be fixed soon I hope.”

Tequila Stewart
Nursing Major

“The dorms are really nice. I've had a lot of fun so far. It is a good way to meet people.”

Emma

Tennis Coach
Page 9

Page 10

Tennis Coach
Page 10
Driving from page 1

Please Recycle

Campus News

Foundation awarded $4,000 grant

The Alabama Humanities Foundation (AHF), the state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), has awarded a $4,000 grant from the NEH to enhance the AHF's World Wide Web site, according to Sheldon Hackney, chairman of the NEH, the purpose of the grant is "to extend the Endowment’s efforts to reach broad audiences and to provide comprehensive and current information about the Endowment and the humanities at both the national and community levels."

The Web site was created during the spring of 1996, and made its debut during the Southern Regional Humanities Conference, which was hosted by the AHF June. Visit the AHF site, on the World Wide Web at http://www.bham.net/ahf for information on a variety of programs, including finding Theatre in the Mind, SUPER, Speaker's Bureau, and the Resource Center. The Matrix, a Birmingham internet provider, is providing the site for the Foundation. The Alabama Humanities Foundation is funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the State of Alabama and by contributions from corporations, foundations, organizations and individuals. For more information, call (205) 930-0540.

Kingdom foundation to accept used vehicles

If the time has come to replace your current car or truck, here's an idea worth considering. Join many other Alabamians who have elected to "retire" their vehicles for a good cause by donating them to the National Kingdom Foundation of Alabama's Kingdom Cars Program. Vehicles are either resold at an auto auction or recycled for valuable parts, scrap metal, or plastic. The donor becomes eligible for a tax deduction.

All proceeds from the sale of the donated vehicles go to the National Kingdom Foundation of Alabama to fund patient programs, services, and research supported by the National Kingdom Foundation. This voluntary health agency relies solely on a caring, concerned public for its funding. It is very easy to donate a vehicle. Interested contributors can call 1-800-488-CARS (2277) and the Kingdom Foundation will send them an information packet, complete with a self-addressed envelope, in which the vehicle owner can mail back the signed title and odometer statement. Once the packet is received, the Foundation contacts donors to arrange for a free vehicle pick-up. More than 20 million Americans have kidney and urinary disease, and nearly 90,000 die each year. In the state of Alabama alone, over 3,500 people are on life sustaining dialysis, and approximately 650 await kidney transplants. The National Kingdom Foundation helps Americans prevent, treat, and cure kidney and urinary disease as an equal opportunity health agency. The Foundation's ultimate goal is to take kidney disease from treatment to cure. Do something you can feel good about. Be a part of a great idea.

For more information about the Kingdom Cars Program or to donate your vehicle, call 1-800-488-CARS (2277).

Breast cancer fund raiser launched

On Saturday, October 5, 1996 more than 10,000 stylists from Regis Hair stylists will participate in the Sixth Annual Clip for the Cure fund-raising event. Regis stylists volunteer their time to provide haircuts to mall customers. These dollars, as well as 10 percent of Regis product sales during two weeks in October, are donated to breast cancer research. To date, Regis stylists have raised $1.5 million for this cause.

The Clip for the Cure takes place in October, National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, in 800 mall locations throughout North America and the United Kingdom. "We are very proud of our stylists for volunteering their time to this event. Their enthusiasm and commitment to finding a cure for breast cancer is remarkable," said Paul Finkelstein, president of Regis Corporation. "This cause is especially important because we recognize that a woman's health is inherently more important than her physical appearance."

Money collected from the Clip for the Cure is distributed through the Regis Foundation for Breast Cancer Research and the National Breast Cancer Foundation. Regis Hair stylists is also a national sponsor of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation Race for the Cure series. These 5K runs and one-mile walks are held in 65 cities across the country to help fund breast cancer research, education, screening and treatment.

To locate the nearest Regis salon, call 800-777-4444, interested supporters of the Clip for the Cure should verify the location and time with their nearby Regis salon.

Friday, August 30
All Day: UAH Volleyball, East Texas Tournament, Commerce, Texas. For more information contact the Athletic Department at 890-6144.
3:00 p.m.: Basketball Ministry Square Dance, UC Exhibit Hall. For more information contact Marsha Buford at 837-9140.
Saturday, August 31
All Day: UAH Volleyball, East Texas Tournament, Commerce, Texas. For more information contact the Athletic Department at 890-6144.
1:00 p.m.: UAH Men's Soccer vs. Bellarmine, Charger Field. For more information contact the Athletic Department at 890-6144.
Sunday, September 1
4:00 p.m.: UAH Women's Soccer vs. Carson-Newman, Home, Charger Field. For more information contact the Athletic Department at 890-6144.
7:00 p.m.: UAH Women's Basketball vs. Mississippi College, Southern Indiana, St. Leo, Mississippi-Women, King College, Southern Indiana, Alabama A&M. For more information contact the Athletic Department at 890-6144.
Wednesday, September 4
1:30 p.m.: Co-op Orientation, UC Room 126. For more information contact Marsha Buford at 837-9140.
10:00 a.m.: UAH Library Training Sessions, UAH Library, Internet, Email. For more information contact the Athletic Department at 890-6144.
11:00 a.m.-noon: UAH Library Training Sessions, UAH Library, Internet, Email. For more information contact the Athletic Department at 890-6144.
10:00 a.m.: UAH Women's Soccer vs. Jacksonville State, Charger Field. For more information contact the Athletic Department at 890-6144.
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.: UAH Women's Cross Country, East Texas Tournament, Commerce, Texas. For more information contact the Athletic Department at 890-6144.
4:00 p.m.: UAH Women's Soccer vs. Carson-Newman, Hance, Charger Field. For more information contact the Athletic Department at 890-6144.
5:00 p.m.: "The Exponent" look-back party at Minnie's, 601 N. Washington, Tuscaloosa. For more information contact the Athletic Department at 890-6144.
Sunday, September 8
Noon: UAH Women's Soccer vs. Tuscalum, Away. For more information contact the Athletic Department at 890-6144.
3:00 p.m.: ET: UAH Men's Soccer vs. Lincoln Memorial, Away, Gulf South Conference game. For more information contact the Athletic Department at 890-6144.
4:00 p.m.: 5:00 p.m.: UAH Library Training Sessions, UAH Library Training Sessions, UAH Library, Internet. For more information contact the Athletic Department at 890-6144.
9:00 a.m. (M), 9:00 a.m. (M): UAH Cross Country, Alabama A&M. For more information contact the Athletic Department at 890-6144.
1:00 p.m.: UAH Women's Soccer vs. Jacksonville State, Away. For more information contact the Athletic Department at 890-6144.
1:00 p.m.: UAH Men's Soccer vs. Carson-Newman, Away. For more information contact the Athletic Department at 890-6144.
4:00 p.m.: UAH Women's Soccer vs. Carson-Newman, Hance, Charger Field. For more information contact the Athletic Department at 890-6144.
PUZZLE UAH01

Hints: The following clues contain anagrams. Across 13 and 34. Down 1, 5, 10 and 27. Yes! There is such a word as "ELEMI." Look it up in the Webster's!

ACROSS
1. Assistant Professor Emeritus of Education, (5)
2. Dr. Riley will tell you it's not A to G or P to Z, (5)
3. Ornaments fashioned in concrete, (5)
4. Female sheep, (3)
5. The size of A1 Capp's Abner, (3)
6. 628 Beltline Rd., (6)
7. Assistant Professor of History or one who made history in WW II. (6)
8. To be unwell. (3)
9. To get free. (6)
10. Assistant Professor Emeritus of Education. (5)
11. Associate Professor of Art, mysteriously shrouded, (6)
12. Understanding. Barbie's friend. (3)
13. Fervent. (6)
14. Texas mission that became a massacre. (5)
15. Little, tiny, hot dog. (5)
16. Fragrant resin. (5)
17. Assistant Professor of Marketing. (4)
18. Assistant Professor of ECE. (5)
19. History professor seen best in rewoven lisle. (5)
20. Nest for ME Professor. (5)
21. Understanding. Barbie's friend. (3)
22. Resume. (5)
23. Assistant Professor of ECE. (5)
24. Chemistry Chair. (5)
25. Associate Professor of Art, mysteriously shrouded, (6)
26. Fragrant resin. (5)
27. Assistant Professor of Marketing. (5)
28. Assistant Professor of ECE. (5)
29. Assistant Professor Emeritus of Education, (5)
30. Threads of stories or stories of threads? (5)
31. King of Alaska. (5)
32. Understanding. Barbie's friend. (3)
33. Assistant Professor of Marketing. (5)
34. History professor seen best in rewoven lisle. (5)

DOWN
1. Prize will only be awarded to students
2. As certain as death in ACC 313. (5)
3. He could be a swell Assistant Professor of ECE. (5)
4. Computer operating system for managing the... (5)
5. Increase in salary. (5)
6. Unit of magnetic induction introduced in PH112 (5)
7. Hot, Oven Baked Subs Made to Order with Fresh Ingredients!
8. Made to Order with Fresh Ingredients!
9. Maidens, (5)
10. Assistant Professor of ECE. (5)
11. Assistant Professor of ECE. (5)
12. Assistant Professor of Marketing. (5)
13. Assistant Professor Emeritus of Art, mysteriously shrouded, (6)
14. Assistant Professor Emeritus of Art, mysteriously shrouded, (6)
15. Assistant Professor of Marketing. (5)
16. Assistant Professor Emeritus of Art, mysteriously shrouded, (6)
17. Assistant Professor Emeritus of Art, mysteriously shrouded, (6)
18. Assistant Professor Emeritus of Art, mysteriously shrouded, (6)
19. Assistant Professor Emeritus of Art, mysteriously shrouded, (6)
20. Assistant Professor Emeritus of Art, mysteriously shrouded, (6)
21. Assistant Professor Emeritus of Art, mysteriously shrouded, (6)
22. Assistant Professor Emeritus of Art, mysteriously shrouded, (6)
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30. Assistant Professor Emeritus of Art, mysteriously shrouded, (6)
31. Assistant Professor Emeritus of Art, mysteriously shrouded, (6)
32. Assistant Professor Emeritus of Art, mysteriously shrouded, (6)
33. Assistant Professor Emeritus of Art, mysteriously shrouded, (6)
34. Assistant Professor Emeritus of Art, mysteriously shrouded, (6)

NEWS

Mathematics: The hammiest act in the College of Science

Graeme Duthie
Special to The Exponent

Before my mathematician friends got too upset let me assure them that the above headline has a significance only in the context of crossword puzzles as you will see below.

I first became interested in crossword puzzles, when as an undergraduate, I took a summer job in London. A regular topic of discussion during tea breaks would be the crossword puzzle in the Daily Telegraph. It did not take long before I tried my hand and became an addict to these peculiarly British forms of the crossword puzzle. Today, thanks to the World Wide Web, I can download the latest Daily Telegraph puzzle every evening and test my skills at the challenge.

I believe crossword puzzles, as a daily feature of newspapers, began in this country. In the mid 1920s they began to appear in British newspapers. Since then, the style of puzzles has evolved differently on the two sides of the Atlantic. In the United States the most common puzzles use clues that are simple word substitutions. In many respect these are more difficult than their British counterparts in that you don't know you have the correct solution until you have completed all the adjacent words and everything fits just so. I seldom do an American crossword in pen, preferring to have the option of using the eraser.

In Britain, the clues are usually plays on words using anagrams, phonemes, hidden words or other other plays. The clues are always followed by the number of letters in the word or words of the solution. For example the clue for the 11 letter word MATHMATICS might be "The hammiest act in the College of Science, (11)." The point being that "hammiest act" is a rearrangement of the eleven letters of the word you are looking for. Yet another clue might be "Leader initially found Radium and Nickel. (5)" This clue does not mean that Dr. FRANZ scooped Madame Curie and that he is a creative mettallurgist but rather that the word "initially" should lead the solver to examine the leading letters of the subsequent five words in the clue. An example of a

See Crossword page A-4

Rescue Drop is September 5 & 6 Candidates selected for interviews will be contacted the week of September 16, 1996.

Career Information Day
Tuesday, September 24, 1996
9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
University Center Exhibit Hall
Dress professionally, bring resumes and be prepared to talk with employers about career opportunities.

Fall Interview Day
Wednesday, September 25, 1996
University Center

Resume Drop is September 5-6 at UC 212
To participate, please bring additional resumes on Thursday or Friday for the companies with which you would like to interview.
Candidates must be registered with OCS. The last day to register and still participate in Fall Interview Day is September 4, 1996.

Career Information Day
Tuesday, September 24, 1996
9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
University Center Exhibit Hall
Dress professionally, bring resumes and be prepared to talk with employers about career opportunities.

Fall Interview Day
Wednesday, September 25, 1996
University Center

Resume Drop is September 5 & 6
Candidates selected for interviews will be contacted the week of September 16, 1996.

UAH OFFICE OF CAREER SERVICES, UC 212, 890-6612
“Military Mail” needs you

Special to The Exponent

The 1996 Military Mail campaign is now underway! This year’s program continues the efforts begun in 1965 when a group of patriotic Americans joined to form “Vietnam Mail Call” in support of our forces in and near Vietnam.

Morale-boosting cards and letters from every part of the U.S. are inter-mingled, then made up into packages ranging in size from a few to several thousand, which are sent via priority mail to more than 1,000 locations all across the U.S. and around the world. (Neither processing nor mailing is at taxpayer expense.) Many “thank you” letters have been received from chaplains, unit commanders and NCOICs, ships, hospitals and independent morale agencies such as affiliates of the Armed Services YMCA.

“Military Mail” is a terrific project for students and campus groups (as well as everyone else). To learn how to take part in this unique, exciting program, interested readers should send their name and address, along with a first-class stamp for return postage (please—NOT a self-addressed, stamped envelope—just the stamp) to: MILITARY MAIL, P.O. BOX 339, SOLDIER, KY 41173, and mention where this was read.

Crossword from page 3 hidden word clue might be “This country can be found in lira negotiations. (4)” The solution is IRAN which appears in the sequence of four letters within the words “lira negotiations.” You can see that the British, or cryptic crossword’s clues may be a bit more challenging but when understood leads to a solution that can be written with confidence in ink.

The crossword puzzle on page 3 contains a mixture of American and British style clues. Many of the words have UAH connections like faculty names or course names. You may need a UAH catalog and Schedule of Classes handy. I hope you will enjoy the challenge and perhaps learn something new about UAH. Steve Bruce has kindly offered a prize of two tickets to the Big Springs Jam to be awarded for the first correct solution submitted to the office of the Dean of Science in MSB C207 before September 6th. I look forward to hearing from you.

You could advertise in The Exponent
Call 890-6090

Looking for more out of your college experience than the classroom? Kappa Sigma will visit the University of Alabama in Huntsville looking for men interested in setting a new standard of excellence on campus. Kappa Sigma, as one of the largest and strongest college fraternities, wants to be your Gateway to a better, more meaningful college experience. We emphasize academics, involvement, leadership, service and brotherhood.

What you learn, the people you meet, and the brothers you make for life in Kappa Sigma can open the doors to your future success.

For More Information
Contact Jeff Vaala or Tom Taratsas
at the Tom Bevill Center or call 721-9428 or e-mail JeffVaala@aol.com
Check our our website at: http://www.kappasigma.org/
EDITORIALS

Blaming yourselves for other’s screwups

I hate bureaucracies. Oh, I suppose they have some sort of purpose — the need for man to control his environment, maybe, or the need to have people organized to get things done. But I still hate them.

What was it science fiction writer Robert A. Heinlein said? “A committee is a life form with six or more legs and no brain.” (from the notebooks of Lazarus Long)

I could add to this, I think. How’s this — “A committee, or any other supervisory red tape, is a life form with six or more legs and no brain,” possessed of the remarkable inability to accomplish anything that should be done with relative speed and efficiency. For example, consider the bookstore here on campus.

Before we go further, let me state for the record that I deal with the bookstore on a regular basis through my own office and as a member and employee of the bookstore, and I have been a customer of the bookstore for years. People are good, and they always do their best to oblige me. I have no beef with them.

But... I needed a book for a nursing class, OB-GYN. Like every other nursing class, the books and workbooks are indispensable. We have a lot of work to do in these books before they let us actually touch patients. If you think about it for a minute, this is a comforting fact. You want somebody who hadn’t even read the book to perform a procedure on your body? I think not.

Anyway, the bookstore is out of the books, apparently through a computer error apparently at the university or the College of Nursing. They weren’t expected in until September 6. I have a clinical August 27. Obviously, things aren’t going to be just peaches that day. Now, the Off Campus College Bookstore has a supply of these books. O.K., you say, your problem is solved. Why not go buy your book there and be done with it?

Well, it’s not quite that simple. See, I receive financial aid. Now, in case you aren’t familiar with this, it works like this: the government loans you money, which it sends directly to your school. Your school deducts tuition, fees and so forth from this money. The rest is yours, and the school cuts you a check for whatever the amount may be. This usually takes place three weeks after school starts.

Now, if you want to buy books and such before you get your financial aid, the school will credit you an amount and put this on your ID card. Then you go to the bookstore, buy an enormous expensive amount of books which could be an entire column in itself, and use your ID card like a credit card.

I did this as soon as my loan was approved, estimating the cost of my books at $450. (Nobody said nursing was cheap, O.K.,?) I bought what the bookstore had in stock, leaving about $200 on my ID card.

Now, my problem begins. “A committee, or any other dispensers of red tape, is a life form with six or more legs and no brain, possessed of the remarkable inability to accomplish anything that should be done with relative speed and efficiency.”

I come to a dead end.

There is a bright spot. I have a friend who’s highly connected who says he will help me if the financial aid stuff doesn’t work. By the time you read this, I probably will have my book.

What would make sense here is for the university to cut a deal with the off-campus place so ID vouchers could be honored both places. This won’t happen, though, because I’m sure UAH has a contract with Follett, the on-campus people, and Follett probably knows upon collusion with the financial aid people that this won’t work.

That way, if anything messes up, I’ll know exactly who to yell out — me.

From the Editor’s Desk...

That week I'd like to thank all of you who helped us get the order out for those new computers

There were two people, however, who were instrumental and who gave us the answers we were looking for at that moment. One of them was, our friend and vice-president of Student Affairs, Dr. Jeanne Fisher. She took the time to explain to me the status of the order, how long it would take for the computers to arrive, and how long the order was placed — two weeks ago as of this Tuesday.

It wasn’t until late Tuesday that Dr. Fisher called me to let me know the order had been already placed. By then, my column and the paper pages were already done. That is the reason it was published the way it was. I’m in no way apologizing for what was published last week, I just want those of you who are reading this column to know how quickly things can turn around. I would not have published it otherwise. I’m glad Dr. Fisher knew about it beforehand. She understood it was too late, at that moment, to change the pages and opinions expressed there. I also want others to know our reasons, just for the record.

The other person who’s had to listen to my concerns was Sandy English, from the Purchasing Office. She was very helpful and gave us the good news about the computers. Thank you Ms. English for taking the time to inform and explain things to us. I’d also like to thank all of you who, one way or the other, made it happen.

In addition, I wanted to reiterate our desire and willingness to give students an opportunity to write for us. We have all the staff we need now, but that doesn’t mean we won’t give you a chance to publish. They have to fit the doesn’t mean either that we will over look your readiness to work. On the contrary, we welcome anyone to help us out any time. In return, you could be published and perhaps start a career that could last a lifetime. Give us a try.

Finally, I wanted to renew our commitment to bringing you the news, and informing you the best way we can. As always, if you think you can add to this or help us improve, please write to us. We do have the time and possibly a section to address those concerns. The “Letters to the Editor” section, on the editorial page, is there for your to voice your comments and concerns. We can’t wait to hear from you.

Of course, I can buy a book from the off-campus place and sell it to me? Nope, I’m told, we only do that with the locally printed manuals and syllabi.

O.K., I can say, can you give me $100 cash and credit it to my card? Nope, I’m told, you have to do that through financial aid.

Now understand, I think the people at the bookstore would help me, if they could. But they can’t, their hands are tied by the bureaucratic red tape procedures and policy of how long ago the order was placed — two weeks ago.

It would make life simpler if the Financial Aid Office would give cash in stead of credit, but this won’t happen either. Those folks have to be responsible for federal money, and the feds have the tightest bureaucracy of all.

I’d be angry, but I don’t know who to blame at all. On second thought, I think I’m angry at me. I’m the one who counted on the feds and UAH to take care of me, and that was just silly, wasn’t it?

See, the problem with a bookstore would not make it doesn’t work; actually, they can be quite efficient when everything goes according to plan. The problems occur when anything goes wrong — then you see a bureaucracy for what it is: “A life form with at least six legs, no brain, and the inability to accomplish anything with relative speed and efficiency.”

Next semester, I’m going to have enough cash at the beginning to pay for any books the bookstore might not have.

That way, if anything messes up, I’ll know exactly who to yell out — me.

The Exponent

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The Exponent editorial and business staff may be contacted by phone at (205) 890-6500, or by fax at (205) 890-6506. Send mail to: The Exponent, UAH, Box 124, Huntsville, AL, 35899. The Exponent welcomes letters to the editor con cerning any topic. Letters should be typed and should not exceed 300 words. The Exponent reserves the right to edit letters for errors, punctuation, clarification, and to conform to length and style requirements. Letters concerning students, their status, address, phone number and background will not be published. Opinions expressed in columns or letters are those of the authors and not necessarily that of The Exponent, its staff or management.

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NASA prepared to send "armada" to Mars

David Hewitt
Sci. & Tech. Writer

Mars Global Surveyor and Mars Pathfinder recently completed the most nerve wracking part of their journey, transport from their builders in Denver, Colo., and Pasadena, Calif., respectively. These two wonder machines are the first installment of NASA's plan for long term study of Mars using faster, better and cheaper missions.

Both are part of NASA's Discovery Class Missions, which is a class of space probes being sent into the solar system. All of the probes are built in less than three years and for less than 100 million dollars. The first of the probes, Near Earth Asteroid Rendezvous (NEAR), was launched in February aboard a Delta II launch vehicle.

Mars Global Surveyor is the first of a series of Mars orbiting missions being built by Lockheed Martin Astronautics in Denver, Colo.

The first launch will be this November aboard a Delta II, and the next three will launch every 26 months afterward during the optimum Mars launch windows in 1998, 2001 and 2003.

Mars Global Surveyor weighs in at only 1,050 kilograms, and it was built in just over 24 months.

Mars Pathfinder will use a set of four airbags to help reduce the touchdown shock on the lander. The petals on the craft will then open, exposing the solar arrays and providing a microrovers access to the Martian surface. — Photo courtesy of NASA

It duplicates most of the payload that was lost aboard the $1 billion Mars Observer which disappeared just before Mars orbital insertion in August of 1993. The minimum mission for Mars Global Surveyor is 26 months, or one Martian year. That's just enough time for the next orbiter to arrive, but it is expected to last longer than that. Mars Pathfinder is set to launch in December aboard a Delta II, and will become the first lander in 20 years to land on Mars.

The lander weighs 360 kilograms and contains a very special payload, the 10 kilogram Sojourner Truth, a mini rover that will be able to drive around the Martian terrain close to the lander and sample soil and rocks.

At launch the lander will be encapsulated in a protective aeroshell, decontaminated of earth organisms, and be ready for Martian atmospheric entry.

Once Pathfinder enters the Mars atmosphere, it will discard its aeroshell, and the parachute will deploy. During landing, the lander will be folded into a tetrahedral box and protective airbags will inflate, encapsulating the lander and protecting it upon landing.

About 50 feet from the ground, the parachute will cut loose and the lander will fall and bounce around on its airbags until it comes to a stop. It will then deflate the airbags in a certain sequence to upright itself, and it will open up like a flower. Its petals are solar panels, and at its center is the rover.


There are also international missions scheduled for launch in 1998: the European Mars Balloon which will drift around in the Martian winds taking pictures and collecting data, and the Russian Mars98 orbiter.

Plans for any other future Mars Missions are in the works, and excitement is abound in light of the recent discovery of Martian micro-fossils in a meteorite.
Local cavers turn on to underground radio

C. L. Smith
Sct. & Tech. Writer

The Tennessee-Alabama-Georgia (TAG) region is one of the most cave-rich areas in the country. It provides many recreational and scientific opportunities for cavers to try out new methods and devices to explore the world underground.

Members of the National Speleological Society's Huntsville Grotto (group) have been busy designing a new method to assist rescue efforts.

Local grotto members John French, Paul Meyer and John Van Swearingen III are testing a system that uses extremely low frequency radio waves. They have achieved communication at distances up to around 100 meters so far.

While low frequency radio waves have the ability to penetrate earth, they cannot carry voice and wideband data. According to electronic communications theory, the carrier signal must be several times the highest frequency being communicated.

At a carrier frequency of 874 Hz, this version of the cave radio cannot carry a voice communications channel (approximately 100-2500 Hz). But using Morse code, the system can be adapted to provide communications during critical cave rescue operations.

Last May, the group tested their radios at Three Caves on the west side of Monte Sano in Huntsville. One unit was placed inside a cave and was set to transmit as a beacon. The other unit was set to receive. The cavers took the receiver above ground and used its directional antenna to locate the precise spot below the beacon.

Two different users pinpointed the location within one meter of each other, about 30 meters above the beacon.

"That's pretty good," said Meyer. "So, will radio replace the traditional compass-and-tape method of surveying caves?" "No, but this will be an augmentation to it," said Meyer.

The radio can pinpoint an underground location with accuracy "better than topographic maps, in fact better than GPS," he said, referring to the satellite-based Global Positioning System. The radios are not quite ready for routine use. The antenna loops are bulky, weighing about 30 pounds. A new lightweight antenna is currently being built and tested with the transmitter/receiver units.

The group is also considering raising the carrier frequency to a point where wider-band data can be transmitted without losing too much signal strength.

British cavers are also experimenting with radio communication. The Cave Radio and Electronics Group (CREG) of the British Cave Research Association has conducted two-way tests between stations above and below ground, and even from cave to cave. Their work was described in a recent issue of the amateur radio magazine QST.

The British are also developing a "caver pager" system to warn explorers of potentially hazardous conditions.

If it began to rain heavily in an area where caves are prone to sudden flooding, a station on the surface could signal the explorers to move to safety.
Behind the X-Files lurks hard work

Janet Singleton
College Press Service

"Yes, it is unglamorous."

That news may come as a surprise to viewers of the X-Files, but it's how cast and crew members describe life on the set of the popular series, where alien abductions and paranormal experiences are the norm.

In the drafty old Salvation Army Hall where X-Files is shooting on this cold wintery day in Vancouver, B.C., there are layers of crew people in layers of clothes executing their various jobs. Stars Gillian Anderson (Scully) and David Duchovny (Mulder) are just two more faces in the mob.

Still, one can't help but notice crew and cast exactly working at an insurance office. The set houses a mock police station and a morgue, complete with shiny instruments and autopsy table. A forgotten coffin from a past day's filming stands in the back of a room.

"You want to talk about the crew?" asks Duchovny, who claims he's no friend of fame. Duchovny says he harbors mixed feelings about the success of the series and subsequent celebrity status it has brought him. "Fame is meaningless," he says, wearing his conservative navy blue "agent coat" for a scene. "It's what you do that matters. The main fact of being known is not a pleasure at all to me."

Depending upon the enthusiasm of the observer, Duchovny could be described as anywhere from a nice man with nice enough looks to drop-your-drawers gorgeous. The 35-year-old major in English literature at Princeton University. He went to graduate school at Yale, where he dropped out of the literature program to pursue acting. From there, he played a transvestite detective on the macabre series Twin Peaks, and did a complete turnaround for his role as a fundamentalist Christian in the movie The Rapture. But it wasn't until the X-Files that Duchovny became a familiar face to millions of Americans.

"Nobody ever gets famous slowly. Fame always comes suddenly," he says. But if celebrity status seemed to have come quickly to Duchovny, it hit 27-year-old Anderson like a bolt of lightning. "It takes eight days of main unit work at the set's only visible hint of chicness. A low, low monthly service fee of just $1.00! Free Achiever's Visa*
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See X-Files page 9

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Emma is pleasant but insubstantial

Daniel Schenker
English Department

One of the features of Jane Austen's fiction is that her heroines do not always impress the reader as likeable or attractive characters. As with people out there in the real world, first impressions can be incomplete, and the true nature of a person must be discerned over time. This is especially the case with the title character of the novel Emma.

Although she has a lot of things going for her — intelligence and beauty not the least among them — it is also apparent from the outset that Emma Woodhouse is an egotistical and manipulative young woman with an appalling lack of self-knowledge.

For example, having decided that she was instrumental in arranging the marriage of her governness with a local widower, Emma undertakes the task of marrying off her best friend Harriet Smith, whose lack of social standing in the community makes her some­thing of a matchmaking challenge. Harriet would be perfectly happy to accept the proposal of a local farmer, but Emma doesn't think he's good enough for her and so puts in motion a series of strategies that lead to heartache for Harriet and most everyone else in Emma's circle.

Of course, eventually Emma does show herself worthy of the attention the novelist lavishes upon her, as she learns from her mistakes how to navigate the pas­sage from foolish adolescence into mature womanhood. And in retrospect, we come to feel that beneath all the pettiness there always was a person of high moral character.

A successful screen adaptation of an Austen novel will capture this sort of ambiguity, as her people set about doing the right things for the wrong reasons, and vice versa. Unfortunately, Douglas McGrath, the former Saturday Night Live writer and Woody Allen collaborator who both wrote and directed this adaptation of Emma, does not quite achieve this objective.

There is something oddly two­dimensional about this work, as though we are looking at a series of beautifully painted tableaux rather than the film version of a narrative fiction. My quarrel here is more with the director than with the actors, whose talents seem insufficiently exploited.

In this film, each scene seems to have a single purpose, when in fact there need to be a lot of things going on at once. Many of the early scenes, for example, are dominated by objects as much as people, I suppose to establish that Emma's is a world of great wealth. While Austen's story is concerned with the upper class, the camera's fascination with these sumptuous settings leads us to think that everyone here must be super-rich, when in fact the novel is quite sen­sitive to all sorts of subtle gradations of social class within the landed gentry.

I was also bothered by certain heavy-handed cinematic devices. For instance, one problem with the novel from a directorial standpoint is that there's not always a lot of action in the narrative. Much of the book is simply people talking to one another. To inject a little ac­tion into one early scene of a conversa­tion between Emma and Harriet, McGrath has the camera move about 90 degrees around the five people, but in fact the novel is quite sen­sitive to the way the characters as each one speaks her lines. After half a dozen exchanges between the two, this becomes very distracting.

While McGrath remarked in a recent interview that Austen is re­ally one of the great dialogue writers of all time and that he tried to preserve as much of her actual language as he could, this sort of device makes one wonder whether he really had faith in the intrinsic power of her language. Or is it true that McGrath thinks a modern American audience can't be trusted to get the point?

Another sometimes annoying feature is the use of snippets of interior monologue at obviously significant moments. We know by the look in his eyes that Mr. Knightley is really quite in love with Emma; why, then, when she accepts his invitation to dance at a party, noting that they have long been friends despite a recent falling out, do we need to hear Knightley's inner voice express the hope that she will be more than just his friend?

I don't mean to suggest that this is a bad movie. It's really very good — three out of four stars — anyway. But it does suffer by comparison with the other films making up the current Jane Austen boomlet. Sense and Sensibility generates far more tension between the fiery passions of its principals and the restraints im­posed upon them by society; Clueless, which transposes the story of Emma to modern-day Beverly Hills, actually gives us a much more convincing portrait of a young woman who recognizes that despite her considerable tal­ents she's not quite the person she thought she was. Both of these movies somehow leave the novel behind and become works of art in their own right. With Emma, there's still the sense of someone looking over his shoulder at Austen's text to make sure he got it right. In sum, this is in often more a film about the novel rather than of it.

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X-Files
From page 8

dabs a powder puff under Duchovny's eyes to make him look tireless through the eight-day shoot on their home set at North Shore Studios, Anderson estimates. Most work shifts they're out and about: downtown, in the woods behind the studio, on the West End, at the University of British Columbia, all around the city and suburbs. A young clerk at a coffee shop in Vancouver's Harbour area comments that the show filmed recently in his neighbor­hood. X-Files is a way of life here," he adds.

"Vancouver is a fabulous place to shoot," Anderson says. Film companies rely on the city's ability to mimic every place from Hong Kong to Seattle to New York city. "And the locations up here haven't been seen 1,000 times, by audiences, like the ones in L.A.," she says. As the sun goes down outside, the shooting stops as the crew re-groups. More film­ing will come later; cast and crew are nowhere near finished for the day, says Henricksen.

It looks like it's going to be another 11 p.m. lunch day.

A "DELICATE PLANT" AND FRIENDS — From left to right, Alan Cumming as Mr. Elton, Gwyneth Paltrow as Emma and Jeremy Northam as Mr. Knightley in Douglas McGrath's version of Jane Austen's Emma. — Photo by David Appleby.
Fauteux named UAH Head Tennis Coach

Michael Napier
Sports Writer

The University of Alabama in Huntsville athletic department has named John Fauteux as the interim head men's and women's tennis coach. He replaces Matt Holaday, who will teach and coach tennis as well as ninth grade basketball and football at Guntersville (Ala.) High School.

Fauteux was the assistant coach for the Chargers the last two seasons, helping with game practice and coaching, recruiting and administration. He is the head professional at Hampton Cove and a part-time professor of UAH's College of Administrative Science.

"We wish Coach Holaday much success at Guntersville," UAH Athletic Director Jim Harris said.

We are very fortunate to have a quality person like John Fauteux as an assistant in the wings to take over the program this close to the opening of school and another season. John is very

See Fauteux page 12

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GETTING ORIENTED — Athletic Director Jim Harris welcomes UAH student-athletes of both fall and spring sports last Tuesday afternoon. Each athletic team with their respective coach was recognized. — Photo courtesy of Neil Brown

Climbing the walls at UAH

Peter Slater
Math Department

Students, staff and faculty might have different reasons for doing so, but now we can literally do wall climbing. Vertical Reality has opened in Huntsville, and it offers excellent wall climbing opportunities for beginners through advanced level climbers. Wall climbing is a fun way to develop balance, agility, flexibility, endurance and strength. It is extremely safe. Virtually anyone can master the lower level climbs and enjoy overcoming ever more difficult and different challenges. If you are interested in climbing with others from UAH or forming a UAH Wall Climbing Club, please contact Professor Peter Slater at Madison Hall in Room 338.

Delta Chi
The Best Fraternity allowed by Law!

Well, fall semester is upon us again and we hope everyone is enjoying their classes. Congratulations to all the Sororities and all their pledges/new members.

Tomorrow is Squeal Night and we look forward to meeting all of you at the House! Saturday night is our Stairway Party so come on out, it is sure to prove interesting!

Full Rush is still in full swing, so guys if you’re looking to join a Fraternity, stop by the House at 606-C Southeast Housing to meet some of the guys. Or if you have any questions about Delta Chi or Rush, give the House a call at 722-0103, or call Jason “Zeke” Niemczyk at 864-2794. — Just one word, “BUH!”

Image of Christ
The Image of Christ Bible Study is resuming the regular Thursday night Bible study at 8:00 p.m. in UC 127.

To start off the fall semester, we are studying God’s word on the topic of RELATIONSHIPS. This exciting series will delve into a lot of topics.

A lot of us busy UAH students are interested in finding and pursuing relationships with our “significant others.” Minister Flint will not only share on this aspect, but also on God’s word for guidance with other relationships we have in our lives as well — the relationships we have with school, family, work, friends, etc. and most importantly our relationship with God.

For those who don’t know us … ICM is a non-denominational student ministry and student organization of UAH.

Our purpose — the lifting up of Jesus Christ. We desire to promote the spiritual maturity of believers and non-Christians by the uncompromised teaching of God’s Word to reveal the true image of Christ. All are welcome. Be on the lookout for information on the fall revival coming up!

All are invited. For more info call 707-3703. On line at http://www.icm.org/

Kappa Sigma
Kappa Sigma is excited to be the newest fraternity on campus!

We have begun our rush effort this week and are enjoying the hospitality of the students and faculty at UAH.

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Chargers Comeaux, Mittelstaedt compete in national tournament

Michael Napier
Sports Writer

Forward Ross Comeaux and defender Matthew Mittelstaedt of the University of Alabama at Huntsville men’s soccer team were selected to the Under-20 Memphis Football Club this summer. It was the opportunity that took them to a national tournament and two exhibition games against the Croatian Olympic Team.

The games gave the two Chargers added experience that should benefit UAH this season. "It was a learning experience and has helped us become better players," said Comeaux, who led UAH in scoring in 1995. "I think this will bring a lot to the team on how they play upper level soccer. It also helped us personally with our careers."

The Memphis soccer team consisted of 16 college players, including 10 from NCAA Division I schools.

MATTHEW MITTELSTAEDT
Most of the players on Memphis FC have received offers or are expected to play professionally in Europe.

Memphis FC won the Tennessee U-20 state tournament and placed second in the regional tournament in Baton Rouge, La. Memphis then earned a wild-card berth in the national tournament in Indianapolis. They lost to the eventual national champion, FC Westchester (N.Y.), 2-1 and defeated Scottie Gallagher out of St. Louis, Mo., 4-1 to finish third.

Comeaux, a native of Lafayette, La., is a junior majoring in accounting at UAH. Mittelstaedt, a native of Little Rock, Ark., is a junior

Two years ago, he came to UAH as a transfer student from Jefferson Davis Junior College (Brewton, Ala.) where he was named to the all-region team and was the Alabama state junior college doubles champion in his freshman season. In 1991 and 1992, he was a participant in the National Junior College Athletic Association national tournament.

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Water polo coming to UAH

**Dr. Joe Manjone**
Sports and Fitness

This Fall 1996 semester will mark the third time UAH will be offering Water Polo as a Sports and Fitness course. Instruction will be provided by Dr. Mike Cain who is the Founder and President of the Madison Water Polo Club. He is also a certified official within the South Eastern Region and a Certified National Championship Official within U.S. Swimming.

The Water Polo is for interested men and women over the age of 13 who can swim at least 100 yards and tread water for ten minutes. Fundamentals such as ball handling skills, shooting techniques, strategies and tactics, and FINA rules will be stressed. The course is offered from August 22 - December 3, 1996, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 8:30 - 9:45 p.m. The course number is SFDO199-09 and the fee is $149.

For more information contact the Sports and Fitness Office at 890-6007.