Exponent 1990-08-22

University of Alabama in Huntsville

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University of Alabama System Chancellor Philip E. Austin announced the appointment of Malcolm Portera as Vice-Chancellor for External Affairs for The University of Alabama System on Friday, August 3. Portera, 44, has been associated with The University of Alabama since 1972.

In his System-wide capacity, Portera will expand responsibilities he has executed on the Tuscaloosa campus since assuming the vice-presidency for external affairs at the Capstone in 1983. In making the announcement, Dr. Austin said, "This launches the next phase in our effort to insure cooperative and coordinated programs on behalf of 42,000 students and 17,000 faculty and staff on our campuses in Tuscaloosa, Birmingham and Huntsville as well as for the people of Alabama."

Austin cited the growing impact of the three research universities on Alabama's economy, which is measured in hundreds of millions of new dollars annually. He referred to efforts of The University of Alabama in California's Bay Area and North Carolina's Research Triangle, where universities serve as powerful magnets for economic growth. "With Mack Portera's broader involvement," the chancellor said, "these three campuses can actually expand the tax base by helping attract new business and industry to Alabama. And that will enhance the economic vitality of the state at a critical period in our history."

Dr. Portera, who received his Ph.D. from the Capstone in 1977, will be charged with overseeing activities of the Office of Economic and Community Affairs. He has also assigned to oversee activities among the campuses, various state agencies and the legislature.

Portera will be charged with helping bring industry leaders together with System faculty and researchers to build new partnerships and create joint ventures. Additionally, he will work with the campuses in developing and marketing new technology as well as broadening the scope of international programs.

In his comments Chancellor Austin, a vocal proponent of expanded partnerships between business and higher education, reiterated the basic role of Alabama's research universities. "The reason we exist is to disseminate and create knowledge through teaching, research and service. In the pursuit of excellence on our campuses, we hope that our faculty can also reinforce the strong impact on Alabama's economic future. With Mack Portera's contributions, as chancellor, I believe we take another important step in reaching that cooperative end."

The National Consortium for Graduate Study in Minority Issues in Engineering and Science, Inc. (CSEM) invites applications for its 1991 fellowship program for underrepresented ethnic minority students (American Indian, Black American, Mexican American, and Puerto Rican) in engineering and science. The goals of CSEM are to provide minority students with a fellowship to pursue graduate studies at the M.S. or Ph.D. level in engineering and at the Ph.D. level in the physical or biological sciences.

The M.S. engineering fellowship provides each participant with a practical engineering summer work experience through an employer and a one-year fellowship of tuition, fees and a $6,000 stipend through a University sponsored work-study program. Eighty-seven fellowships were awarded under this program.

The Ph.D. engineering fellowship (a post M.S. award) provides during the first calendar year of doctoral study, tuition and fees and a $12,000 stipend. Thereafter, the total cost of tuition and the $12,000 stipend is borne by the enrolling university. Ph.D. science awardees will intern somewhat more summers with a member employer.

At the time of application for either the M.S. engineering or the Ph.D. science program, applicants can be either junior or senior undergraduate or B.S. degree holders. The Ph.D. engineering applicants must be current M.S. students or already have an master's degree.

The deadline for submission of application materials is December 1, 1990. The awards will be announced on February 1, 1991. For detailed information on any of CSEM's programs and specific application requirements, write: THE NATIONAL CSEM CENTER, P.O. BOX 537, NOTRE DAME, IN 46556, (219) 287-1097.

Malcolm Portera

Portera appointed vice chancellor for system

Carpenter conducts research on personality, memory

Dr. Sandra Carpenter, Assistant Professor of Psychology, is currently investigating the relationship between personality and memory. "We know that some people have better memories than others," she says. "I'm trying to determine whether certain personality characteristics are related to good (and poor) memory. I am interested in studying people with a particular personality style to participate in my study."

Her study involves completing personality measures and taking some memory tests. Dr. Carpenter has already collected data from a sample of 100 female participants. But her sample of males is quite small. If you are interested in participating in this study, please stop by the Psychology Department office (Morton Hall 126) or call 895-6191 for more information.

Participation in the study takes 35 minutes and participants who qualify (who have the needed characteristic) will be paid $3. Dr. Carpenter concludes, "I need men with the right stuff. I hope to find enough men at UAH with the personality style I am studying to balance the sample of women."

High school teachers participated in computer training program

Six Alabama high school teachers recently participated in a unique supercomputing program designed just for them.

The UAH classroom occupied by the teachers was filled with the hum of computer terminals and the buzz of disk drives. What sounded like a computer symphony was the High Performance Supercomputer, the X-MP/24. It is a supercomputer, can become Portera's test. Application packets are available in the University Center Testing Office, Room 203.

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News

Elemetary school teachers taking part in PALS

It's 8:30 a.m. and 28 elementary school teachers are bouncing balls and clicking stop watches. It sounds odd but these teachers are learning science.

They are taking part in PALS (Physical Activities for Learning Science), a week-long session that teaches elementary school teachers about physical science through hands-on activities that can be used in their classrooms. Each teacher earns three graduate credits from the courses taught at University Place School in Huntsville.

PALS, funded in part by the University of Alabama in Huntsville and Western Kentucky University, was initiated by Dr. Marvin Russell, a professor of Western Kentucky University, who is on sabbatical at UAH. Russell worked closely with Dr. Michael Oliver, Director of Continuing Education at UAH, to make PALS a reality.

PALS offers a solution by showing teachers ways in which they can use simple, everyday illustrations and games in the classroom, on the playground, and in the gymnasium to teach children concepts of energy, force, motion, heat, light, and sound. Thus, the students learn through application.

Materials are limited and “teachers don’t teach physics because they are intimidated by it or simply don’t understand it,” says Bruce Prutt, a physicist contracted with UAH to work with the summer program.

The teachers use materials such as sponges of thread, pencils, pennies, balls, eggs and tape to illustrate the theory behind the wheel and axle, pulleys etc. For instance, one teacher taught her class anatomy and physiology and concepts of physical science, having the children reconstruct the skeletal system of a chicken using the bones from Sunday night’s chicken dinner.

But does this method work? “I’m not afraid of it anymore,” said Sharon Sauer, a teacher from Kentucky.

The teachers learn scientific concepts in the morning, and teach the concepts in the afternoon to participating elementary school students. After the teaching sessions, the teachers ask questions and give input. If they feel the methods do not work in the classroom this is discussed. If they have problems teaching the concepts, suggestions are given.

Martha Feld, a teacher at the Academy for Science & Foreign Language in Huntsville and a PALS assistant coordinator, says the program helps teachers illustrate physics through other disciplines such as language, math or art.

It takes teachers and students out of the textbook and into the world of science says Linda Berry, a teacher at Randolph High School in Huntsville and a PALS program coordinator. A 6-year old student participant in PALS brought his father’s college physics book to class to show that he was learning some of the same things that his father was learning, remembers Betty Boyd, a teacher from Gadsden, Al. and a PALS coordinator and instructor.

“We’re having science in my room instead of reading the questions in the back of the book!” Boyd said.

ASSE International is looking for volunteers for students

ASSE International Student Exchange Programs is looking for enthusiastic people in the community who like working with young people and learning about different cultures. When you become a volunteer ASSE Area Representative, you provide a valuable opportunity to outstanding high school exchange students who want to experience the American way of life for a year. By finding good homes for these students with local families, you bring an international flavor to the neighborhood and local school. Area Representatives are reimbursed for their time and expenses and enjoy friendship with people all over the world. ASSE invites you to join our family of Area Representatives. Please call to find out how your adventure can get started: 1-800-333-3802.

Farbman begins with achievements

Mark Farbman, a recent graduate of Lee High School, starts his college career this Fall with two career achievements under his belt. Farbman, an incoming UAH freshman majoring in vocal performance, was named the Outstanding Choral Student of the Year and won second place at the NATS (National Association of Teachers of Singing) Competition. The Outstanding Choral Student of the Year is a yearly competition open to high school seniors. Participants first compete at the district level and then advance to the state level. "I wanted to win this since 9th grade," said Farbman.

The National Association of Teachers of Singing is an organization whose voice instructors are affiliated with the organization. Under the direction of Dr. Paul Crabh, an associate professor in UAH’s Music Department, Farbman advanced from the preliminary competition to the finals placing second in the state competition.

When reflecting on the competitions, Farbman says he was not nervous while performing.

Margie Certain will be missed

No fanfare. No farewells. Only a cardboard box marked “Margie’s Things.” The box was filled with books, pictures and a copy of the poem “Don’t Quit,” the only tangible evidence of Margie Certain’s career in the Economics and Finance department at UAH. Quite an unfitting ending for such a vibrant young lady.

On August 6, 1990, Margie died of complications caused by treatments she received in her fight against Hodgkin's disease. Margie earned a BSBA degree in Marketing and graduated in December, 1989. She planned to enroll in the College of Liberal Arts this fall to pursue a second degree in art and interior design.

Margie leaves behind many friends and loved ones. We will miss her beautiful smile, her friendship, and her caring nature. She will live in our hearts forever. She fought a good fight, she finished her course, she kept the faith!
more NEWS

Scholarship awarded to Music student

Tina Jones, a sophomore music major at the University of Alabama in Huntsville, has been chosen as the 1990-91 recipient of the Bromberg Scholarship in Fine Arts.

"Tina is a tremendously talented person and she is making a great contribution to the Music Department," said Dr. David Graves, chairman of the Music Department at UAH. "I am pleased that she has been awarded the Bromberg Scholarship, and I'm happy she's a student here."

The Bromberg Scholarship, created in 1985 through the generosity of Frank Bromberg, Jr., is a $1,000 scholarship awarded each year to an outstanding student majoring in Art, Art History, or Music at UAH. This Fine Art Scholarship is available to entering and continuing-full-time students who exhibit outstanding creative or performing talent, potential for artistic growth, and who maintain an overall grade point average of 2.5 and a 3.5 GPA in their field of study.

Jones, who hopes to teach flute or piano, graduated from Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio, in 1977 with a B.A. in education, specializing in learning disabilities and elementary education. When reflecting on her decision to change her specialization, Jones says she enjoys teaching, but she also loves music. "When you do what you really love to do, you do your best work," Jones said. Now, she can have the best of both worlds.

Kidd wins history club award for paper

Sarah Kidd, a student here at UAH, received the "Best Undergraduate Paper" award at the regional meeting of Phi Alpha Theta, the international honor society for history. The meeting was held at Jackson State University in Alabama earlier this year.

"I was surprised that I won since I wrote on a controversial topic," said Kidd. Her topic was "The Ku Klux Klan versus Governor William Gannaway Brownlow in Reconstruction Tennessee, 1865-1869."

HPE offers variety of sports, fitness courses

by Jennifer Grace sports editor

UAH's Health and Physical Education (HPE) Department offers a wide variety of sports and fitness courses that are available for college credit or audit for no credit. A few courses to consider are Horseback Riding, Bowling, Fencing, Scuba, Karate, Tai Chi, and the Deep Water Workout. Consult the fall schedule of classes for a complete listing of the HPE courses you may choose from.

Depending on the number of elective credits you may have available, six credits of HPE courses numbered 200-500 may count toward graduation.

And now, if you are enrolled for 10 credit hours through the university, you can sign-up for one sports and fitness course for only the cost of the lab fee, which in most instances is approximately $6.00.

According to the new tuition schedule, the rates for 10, 11, 12, and 13 credit hours are the same: $673 for instate residents and $1,346 for non-residents. Since most HPE courses are one credit hour, you may earn an extra credit hour per quarter without affecting your tuition.

Also keep in mind that HPE courses numbered 100-199 are graded on a satisfactory/unsatisfactory basis and not by letter grades. This means that a satisfactory grade will not affect your grade point average but an unsatisfactory grade will be counted as an "F" in your GPA. Letter grades are awarded for professional HPE courses numbered 200-500.

A bit of general information; the HPE instructors at UAH are part-time faculty members who are totally committed to the courses they teach. They not only provide instruction in the necessary skills and techniques but also make the courses more interesting and enjoyable for you.

If you would like additional information on any HPE program at UAH, or if you have suggestions for new courses or present course improvement, contact Dr. Joe Manjone, Director of Personal Development at 895-6007, or come by Spragins Hall, room 101.

Farbman honored

continued from page 2
waiting for the judges to make their decisions was the nerve-racking part.

The competitions for him was singing in front of 2500 people at a concert held after the Outstanding Choral Student Competition.

Farbman is entering UAH in the fall in the Dean's Fine Art Scholarship and plans to have a double major.

Help requested for world record

UAH is participating in a humanitarian effort that has touched our hearts. A young man who has a brain tumor and is not expected to live has requested that we assist him in one of his last wishes. He desires to be listed in the Guinness Book of World Records for having received the most get well cards.

Send cards and letters to: Mr. Craig Evargol, 36 Shelby Rd., Carshalton, Surrey, SM51LS, England. Please get friends and acquaintances to do the same.
Features

Atmosphere, food of Spring City Cafe are good

by Susan Burnum
features reporter

"Young Einstein" has recently been released on home video, and with some success, thanks to the large amount of movie hype it received before being released in the movie theaters. The star of the movie, Yahoo Serious, plays the young Albert Einstein and also produces and directs this movie.

The plot of the movie, which is set in Tasmania, centers around the young Einstein as he discovers a method of splitting beer atoms to make bubbles in the beer. Einstein then seeks to patent his formula for this process: \( E=mc^2 \). Young Albert eventually winds up in a mental asylum, and saves the world from an atomic explosion by draining the bomb's radiation through his "musical wave instrument."

Mr. Serious should have taken the making of this movie more seriously, instead of using most of the movie to advertise himself to future moviemakers. He totally throws away the real history of Albert Einstein and rewrites his own version. Mr. Serious seems to try and make up for his lack of acting ability by behaving like a complete jerk in hopes that the audience will think he's funny and laugh. The movie drags on and on from one stupid scene to another like a Saturday morning kid's show. If there is one positive aspect to this movie, it's Yahoo's haircut. None of the comedy scenes are funny, but watching Mr. Serious and his hair fly around from scene to scene does raise a few chuckles. I would not recommend this movie, unless it's the last thing on the video store shelf.

Home video "Young Einstein" not recommended

by David House
features reporter

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Alternative music Radio Free Tuscaloosa returns for sixth year

Alabama's largest showcase of alternative music, Radio Free Tuscaloosa, returns for its sixth year. The all day event, featuring eleven of the area's best acts, will be held August 25th at The University of Alabama's Riverside Amphitheater. The sponsors: High Tide Productions, V-91 and Tuscaloosa Coca-Cola.

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"Murder in the Magnolias" is full of tired dialogue

by Susan Burnum
features editor

I attended the August 10 performance of the University Playhouse production of "Murder in the Magnolias." The play was billed as "a comedy/mystery spoof." The script itself was a pastiche of hackneyed puns and tired dialogue, with a plot short on imagination. The murder method, involving a black widow spider inside a gelatin capsule, was one I had seen a few years back on a television mystery episode, although the television version horses and not people were the victims.

The director and cast, however, did an admirable job of making the best of a bad script. The director, Anthony Argo, succeeded in instilling in each member of the cast a sense of the fun that can be had in the creative performance of a play, which is the most important thing that can be done to ensure a neophyte thespian's continuing support of and participation in the theatre. One example of his success is Nick Passino, who played Bubba Kamrowski. Nick's biography, which was posted in the foyer of the theater, stated that "Murder" was his first play, yet it seemed to be having no problems with stage fright. I suspect we might see him again in other productions. Strong performances in particular were given by Camille Driver (Thornbird Chickenwing III), Kip Scales (Amanda Chickenwing), Kip Driver (Thornbird Chickenwing III), and Lane Hosmer (Sheriff Billy Jerk).

"Arachnophobia" is best mass appeal thriller since "Jaws"

by David House
features reporter

No point in beating around the bush (web, in this case). "Arachnophobia" is terrific entertainment, the best mass-appeal thriller since "Jaws." From the opening—golden views of jungle rivers in Venezuela—to the California climax, in which spiders are bombed with brandy bottles, the movie purrs with well-crafted accomplishment. Director Frank Marshall and his colleagues, including about 200 spiders and their "wranglers," have made a summer kicker that startles the nerves, charms the eyes and flatters our tastes. But, make sure you aren't holding any popcorn during the movie because it will probably land in the person's lap in the seat behind you.

"Arachnophobia" (fear of spiders) is a comedy of anxiety. A mighty mean spider hitches a ride from Venezuela, hidden in a coffin, and causes a little town to have a nervous breakdown. It breeds with local arachnids to create small, deadly hunters with diverse appetites that can easily be imagined as living under your bed. Humans nailed by itsy-bitsy bites are going into toxic shock, and the sound of the cricket is no longer heard in the small town's woods. The human star of the movie is Jeff Daniels, who plays the town's new doctor, a pompous twit, played by Henry Jones. John Goodman, as Delbert the exterminator, plays the comic relief in glee: anticipation of the coming massacre.

This is not quite art, nor the bold plunge into a new realm of film tension that Spielberg achieved in the mysteriously spooky "Jaws." Spiders are too small and domestic to quite work on that level, but you wouldn't want to argue the point with the people coming out of "Arachnophobia," as they look around for spiders lurking, ready to drop on an unsuspecting victim's head.

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more FEATURES

"Die Hard 2" is mind-numbingly stupid movie

by David House

"Die Hard 2," the movie takes place during the Christmas season and again like the original, top-billed detective John McClane (Bruce Willis) is trying to get together with his wife (Bonnie Bedelia). This time he is flying in to Washington's Dulles Airport, but before she lands McClane will have a little work to do and soon. The airport is allegedly crack band of terrorists: their operation is not very cost-productive. Rarely, in the field of human conflict has so much ammunition been expended with so little result. Not since the Normandy invasion has there been an absolute wizard. So that's how it goes with "Die Hard 2," which may or may not be subtitled "Die Harder." From the credits it's hard to tell. A more apt subtitle would be, "Die, Please."

Burritt Museum hosting several ecological workshops

Burritt Museum and Park will be hosting several workshops this Fall for classroom teachers, school administrators, youth group leaders, other educators and anyone else with an interest in teaching about the environment. Several workshops will be offered on 4 different workshops for those interested in being trained to coordinate and conduct their own Project Wild or NatureScope workshops. Facilitators are an important "strand" in spreading environmental education to other schools, areas, groups and organizations.

The PROJECT LEARNING TREE (PLT) workshop will be held on Saturday, September 22nd from 9 am until 3 pm. PLT is an award-winning environment education program designed for teachers and other educators working with students in environmental education curricula. The Fall 1990 workshops include Project Wild and Project Learning Tree, as well as two NEW workshops programs, NatureScope and Nature's Way, In addition to the regular teacher workshops, this year Burritt is also offering "Facilitator's Training" kindergarten through high school teachers. Most of the workshops are action-oriented and can be used in science, social studies, language arts and other subject areas. Participants will receive instruction on philosophy, solving, critical thinking, evaluation, and research. Most activities are action-oriented and can be used in science, social instruction on philosophy, background information, research. Project WILD is based on the State Department of Conservation. The $5 fee of this workshop includes workshop, all handout materials, a boxed lunch and, upon completion of the workshop, participants will receive both the Elementary or Secondary level activity guide.

On Friday, October 12th from 9 am until 3 pm, the Museum will host a workshop on PROJECT WILD, an award-winning environmental education and conservation education program that includes workshops and supplementary curriculum materials for teachers of kindergarten through high school age youth which prepares students to be responsible decision makers and helps them develop skills in creative problem solving, critical thinking, evaluation, and research. Project WILD is based on the State Department of Conservation. The $5 cost of this workshop includes workshop, all handout materials, a boxed lunch, and, upon completion of the Facilitators workshop, participants will receive both the Elementary and Secondary level activity guide and the new Project WILD Aquatic Guide. The Nature's Way workshop will be held on Friday, October 26th from 9 am until 12 pm. The Nature's Way Series is an educational research project of the Center for Environmental Research and Service at Troy State University. The purpose of this program is to provide a science-based program which will enrich the existing Alabama science curricula. The Nature's Way Series offers teachers the opportunity to use hands-on activities with their students using the outdoors as a natural laboratory. The Series includes k-3 science awareness activities on observing natural patterns, colors and textures and includes 4-6 activities on nature works (fundamental of ecology). This workshop is FREE, but it requires pre-registration. Participants will receive sample activities, handouts and other materials.

The Museum and the Alabama A&M-UAH Teacher In-Service Center will be bringing the Workshop Coordinator from the National Wildlife Federation office in Washington, D.C. to conduct a training workshop on Friday, October 26th from 9 am until 12 pm. The Workshop Coordinator will be conducting a training workshop on Friday, October 26th from 9 am until 12 pm. The Workshop Coordinator will be conducting a training workshop on Saturday, November 3rd from 9 am until 3 pm. These workshops are for teachers and others interested in environmental education, and NatureScope in particular, to be conducted. The workshop on Saturday, November 3rd is FREE, but includes workshop, all handout materials, a boxed lunch and, upon completion of the workshop, participants will receive both the Elementary and Secondary level activity guide.

For those people interested in being able to conduct other Project WILD workshops, the Museum is hosting a PROJECT WILD FACILITATORS TRAINING workshop on Saturday, October 20th from 9 am until 3 pm. This two-day workshop will serve to train those who have already attended the basic Project WILD workshop to be facilitators. Project WILD Facilitators will then be qualified to conduct Project WILD workshops for their schools, scout groups, 4-H clubs, or other community groups and clubs with the assistance of veteran facilitators and the Project WILD Facilitator from the State Department of Conservation. The $5 fee of this workshop includes workshop, all handout materials, a boxed lunch, and, upon completion of the workshop, participants will receive both the Elementary and Secondary level activity guide.

Workshops are held at the Museum, Rain or shine. Pre-registration is required for all of these sessions have limited capacities. For information about any of the workshops, simply complete the registration form, contact Jeff Hughes at the Museum (536-2882).
Do YOU have what it takes?

The Exponent will be accepting applications for the following positions:

ASSOCIATE EDITOR
CIRCULATION REPORTERS

Applications for Editor, which will be up for reappointment in September, are also available. Applications are available and may be returned to the box located on the door of UC Room 104.
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