Gays and Friends Chartered by SGA Legislature

by Marian Delaney Sampson editor

On Thursday, April 11, the Student Government Association agreed to charter a new UAH club, Gays and Friends. In making the decision, the SGA had to worry about how to go about this as new business. Vice President Ed Ditto asked Williams, "Is their paper work in order?"

"There are at least ten students on campus that see a need for this organization, therefore they have a right to be recognized like any other organization." Dasher said.

"If anyone has problems with the way that the SGA operates, I encourage him or her to run for office in May," Ditto said.

"It is just another special interest group on campus. They have fulfilled all of the requirements for charting."

"Just because I may or may not agree with a group's position does not enter into my decision when I vote."

"There are at least ten students on campus that see a need for this organization, therefore they have a right to be recognized like any other organization."

"Gays and Friends jumped through all of the tedious paper-work hoops that we of the SGA require. They were treated no differently than any other club."

"The members of the group worked closely with the Appropriations Committee chair when writing their constitution. I informed them of our requirements and they complied with them. I would do the same for any other group on campus," she concluded.

Concerning the SGA's actions, Patrick Haden, president of the new UAH club, said, "I am very impressed. It shows that many discriminatory barriers have already fallen."

The vote was quickly taken and was 10-0 for approving the charter (with two abstentions). One of the abstainers, Jim Masters, said. "I can see no legitimate reason for refusing to charter this group. "It is my obligation to sign this charter. I would be doing a disservice to a sector of our student body if I did not sign," Haden continued, "There is also a need from members of the heterosexual community at large."

Haden, president of the new UAH club, Art, is the faculty advisor for the new group. "Since it [Gays and Friends] is just getting started, I have only been involved on the periphery. I have encouraged them to go through the process as any other club would. I think it is important that they be viewed no differently than any other organization."

"Since there has been such a controversy on campus, I hope this does not focus undue attention on this group," Dasher said. "Their goals are to build bridges in the community through sharing and education."

"It is my obligation to sign this charter. I would be doing a disservice to a sector of our student body if I did not sign," Haden said. "I hope to learn something ourselves."

"We would like to host the public about the homosexual community at large," Masters said. "We would like to offer several open discussion forums."

"The students who wished to form this organization went through the process that all student groups must go through in order to be chartered," Masters said. "GA President Ben Masters, who was not present at Thursday night's meeting, responded later that he would sign the club's charter."

"If this University meets the national standards of one in ten, there are probably more gays than Greeks on this campus," Masters said.

"Gays and Friends" Chartered by SGA Legislature

Tuition and Fees Revenues FY 1991-92

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Some anonymous walls left these signs on the defunct ATM in front of the University Center this week

Next week: a more detailed analysis of the tuition increases

by Mary Wallace, exponent news editor
The Homeless Want To Talk To You!

by Monica Simmonds

assistant-news editor

The homeless people of Huntsville are in need of help and are looking to students for it.

Around 10am Thursday morning under the Governor’s Drive Bridge surrounded by concrete, the sound of passing cars and the odor of mold and urine, Huntsville’s homeless talked with the exponent about their problems. “There was worms in the beans,” said one black male in reference to the food available to him at the Salvation Army.

According to these homeless men, those who live out on the street receive the same food daily from the Salvation Army food truck while those fortunate enough to live in the Salvation Army compound receive a variety of food. “I’ve had nothing but pork and beans for three years while the others get something different everyday,” according to another homeless man. The first food available to those living on the street does not come around until 1pm. “I’m starving by that time,” responded one man.

Susan Wood, the administrative assistant at the Salvation Army, commented that those living on the street receive pinto beans daily. “We are funded by the government and are restricted in what we have to offer those on the street due to limited funds and staff,” she said. “We are currently working on introducing some vegetables into their menu, but for now it’s not possible,” according to Wood. In reference to why those living in the Salvation Army compound receive a more varied and balanced menu, she said, “That’s a different program altogether. Those living here have made a commitment to rehabilitate themselves. They are attending work therapy where they learn job skills. They’ve committed themselves to Bible study and attend church every Sunday.”

One of the complaints from the homeless concerning the church attendance policy that both the Downtown Rescue Mission and the Salvation Army employ was that they felt they were being treated like children. Woods commented on this by saying, “Most of our success stories come from those who have found strength and support from a higher power. We feel that the Christian atmosphere is a good way to go about giving them the guidance and support they need.” The last comment Wood wanted to make was, “It’s important to bring these people into a structured environment. The homeless don’t like rules, but they’re not going to be accepted back into society without learning how to go by the rules.”

As to their living conditions, they consist of a corner under the bridge, a few deteriorated mattresses, and couches cramped under steel beams which they must crouch to get to.

Big Earl, one of the black residents there, had collected all the accessories under the bridge and openly shared them with other homeless men. “They come and go every day, some stay some don’t,” said Big Earl.

“We want to have barrel fires, and one of those toilets. In Washington the people who even have a basketball hoop set up for them, and we can’t even get a toilet,” he said. These were just a few of the needs the homeless want students to help them satisfy.

The Downtown Rescue Mission offers the homeless a place to stay, but due to financial problems, only a few are benefitting from it. “They wanted me to pay $269.00 a month to live in the mission,” said Big Earl.

According to Big Earl that would take almost his entire disability check. Big Earl suffers from a non-contagious skin disease that causes his skin to literally fall off and can not work due to it. He is by trade a concrete worker and said, “I could get a job working concrete but then they would take away my disability check and if something happened where I couldn’t work anymore it would take over six months to get my disability check again.”

“It’s not worth living at the mission because they take almost all the money you make from you,” said one of the homeless who had just recently left the mission. The mission program requires that you pay to live there. Those who do not receive any disability are required to work there to earn their stay.

“So how are we supposed to go out and get an outside job if we have to work for them,” said another man explaining how inhibiting the atmosphere is. Those who stay at the mission and have an outside job are required to give the mission a certain amount for every hour they work at that job. “So in the end we’re making about $1.50. It’s not worth it,” said another in reference to the mission.

According to Roberta Tatom the Mission director, “The mission only takes $.50 from those living and working at the mission. That includes room and board. Those who live here but work outside are charged a dollar out of each working hour. The money we take out includes a lot of things like places to sleep, food, laundry, and bath facilities. We also offer transportation to and from health care appointments.” Tatom also remarked, “People are free to stay here as long as they like as long as they are working full time, whether here or somewhere else.”

In reference to church requirements, Tatom commented, “That is the biggest complaint those on the street have about the mission. People on the street want all the advantages the mission offers without any restrictions being placed on them.”

Health care can be received free at Huntsville Hospital, “but you have to get there to get help and that’s not easy,” said another of the homeless.

There did not appear to be much enthusiasm either about the new detoxification program that Melissa Hiley has worked to get started. “One problem is there’s nowhere to take them once they are sober, and we are in desperate need of volunteers. I’m doing almost all the transporting and administrative work by myself, and I’m physically wearing out,” said Hiley.

“Take me to your school and I’ll talk to your class,” said one of the men. “You can’t just go out there and get a job. It’s not as easy as everybody thinks. When you don’t have an address or a car to get to work, no one wants to hire you,” said one man.

Hiley explained, “Lots of the guys stand on ‘watchout’ corner waiting for contractors to give them a job for the day. Some pay good, some don’t. With all the rain lately, not many contractors are picking them up now.”

“She have got involved, just a week ago would really help,” said Hiley in reference to what students can do to help. Hiley added, “It’s always the people that have nothing to give that want to give. If everyone gave, we wouldn’t have this problem.”

The homeless people of Huntsville want to talk to students and Huntsvillians, “We want the students to understand what it’s really like,” said one of the men.

Steps are currently being taken to try and set up a conference with the homeless here at UAH. Details will not be available until next week’s edition.

For those interested, contact, Melissa Hiley, Dr. Mary Lynne Dittmar in the Psychology Dept. or Dr. Nancy Finley in the Sociology Dept.

“We really need help,” said Hiley.

Herring Receives Award

Congratulations to exponent advisor Susan Herring, assistant professor of Library, for receiving The Outstanding Professional Publication of the Year Award from ESBO Corporation. This award was for her book *From the Titanic to the Challenger: An Annotated Bibliography on Technological Failures of the Twentieth Century.*

Herring received the honor last week at the Alabama Library Association Annual Conference in Tuscaloosa.

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Dr. Wilson to Lecture at UAH
1991 Social Issues Symposium:
Understanding The Underclass

by Dr. Glenn Colebaugh for the exponent

The 1991 Social Issues Symposium is very proud to bring William Julius Wilson, Professor of Sociology at the University of Chicago, to speak on \textit{Social Isolation in the Inner-city Ghetto}. This address will begin at 12:30 p.m., on April 22, in the Administrative Science Auditorium.

Wilson is a distinguished sociologist who has authored and coauthored several books, articles and book chapters; held a variety of positions in scholarly associations; and received many awards for his academic work. His two most recent books, \textit{The Declining Significance of Race and The Truly Disadvantaged: The Inner City, The Underclass, and Public Policy}, have both received wide acclaim.

Wilson adopts an economic approach to understanding the history of race relations in the United States. In his most recent book, he cites current economic transformations and the resulting joblessness of many black males, as largely responsible for maintaining an underclass of blacks in urban ghettos, dislocation black families, and breeding dysfunctional behaviors among those experiencing these effects. An emerging middle class of blacks has been able to escape the plight of their sisters and brothers, in part, by taking advantage of opportunities that developed as a result of the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960's. The result is that while economic polarization is occurring throughout American society, it is nowhere more apparent than within the black community.

Wilson also offers a number of policy approaches which are both unique and controversial.

His lecture should provide a provocative alternative to many commonly-held assumptions and interpretations of race relations and conflicts. All students, staff, faculty, administrators, as well as the public are urged to take advantage of this opportunity to hear this eminent sociologist.

The symposium has received university-wide support with sponsors including the Daedalus XXI Humanities Project, Multicultural Services, the Honors Program, the Office of the Vice President for Research, and the Department of Sociology.

Events for Science Week

Science Week, sponsored by the College of Science, begins Saturday, April 20, and will continue through to the following Saturday, April 27.

On Saturday, April 20, the week's events will begin with the Fourteenth Annual UAH Science Contest and a College of Science Open House.

On Monday, April 22, a special opening celebration honoring the late Dr. Harold Wilson will be held at 3221 Mastin Lake Road in the school cafeteria from 9 am to 11 am. Wilson, former Dean of the College of Science, died in January of this year.

Later that day, Dr. Eugene Urban, ASTRO-I Mission Scientist of Marshall Space Flight Center will speak on \textit{ASTRO-I: Astronomy and the Classroom in Space.} This event will be held in room 106 of the Administrative Science Building at 2 pm.

Dr. Charlie Bugg, Director for the Center of Macromolecular Crystallography at UAB will speak on \textit{Protein Crystallography: the Key to Rational Drug Design} on Tuesday, April 23, at 12:15 pm in the auditorium of the Administrative Science Building.

The event will be sponsored by the Honors Program and the Chemistry Club.

On Wednesday, April 24, Dr. David Shealy, professor and chair of the department of physics at UAB, will speak on \textit{Soft X-Ray Microscopy and Projection Lithography.} The event will be held in room 106 of the Administrative Science Building at 2 pm. This event is sponsored by Sigma XI.

On Thursday, April 25, Dr. John Christy, research scientist at UAH's Johnson Research Center, will speak on \textit{Measuring the Global Temperature from Satellite Data.} The event will be held in room 106 of the Administrative Science Building at 2 pm.

UAH Public Forum

The ethical issues involved in funding technological research will be examined today in the last of three public forums sponsored by the UAH Philosophy Program and the Alabama Humanities Foundation.

The forum will begin at 8:15 p.m. and will be held in Room 141 of the Science Building. It will look at "Agricultural Technology: Ethical Aspects of Technology Development and Use," with Dr. Larry Busch, Michigan State University sociology professor.
SGA Meeting of April 11

by Marian Delaney Sampson

In other business Thursday, April 11, the Student Government Association selected a T-shirt design for Save-a-Heart Saturday (which has been rescheduled to May 25). Debbie Cabanniss told the legislators that the kick-off for this event would be May 4.

Dennis Miller reported on his investigations concerning the vacant Automatic Teller Machine (ATM) in front of the University Center.

Miller said according to UC Director Steve Bruce, the ATM was established about three years ago. Bruce said that the bank needed about $300 transactions a month to break even and the teller on campus averaged about $300 per month. Bruce told Miller that the Alabama Credit Union was planning on putting a branch on the south end of the UAH campus. He said that the SGA could ask them to put an ATM on north end. The legislators discussed the need for such a facility when the new residence hall begins operation in the fall of 1991.

Cheryl Williams reported that the Umbrella Committee had met and discussed the hours that the Bookstore, the Charger Cafe, the University Center and the computer labs were open during exam week. She said they were scheduled to meet and discuss what hours would serve students better.

The legislature approved two gift requests. Circle K International (CKI) received $200 for registration fees and the Society of Women Engineers (SWE) received $360 towards airfare for a conference in San Diego June 21-29. Prior to the vote, Jim Puckett asked, “What are we going to do for the Society of Male Engineers?” (SWE is trying to raise $2150 for the conference. They have raised approximately $1000).

Stephanie Gilmore asked why the bookstore did not stock drugstore items. She was asked to join the Umbrella Committee. The legislators discussed the need for a “quick-stop type of market” on campus. Finance Officer Joey Ceci said that there had been one scheduled for the new residence hall but that it was “scrapped due to the cost.”

Lab fees were discussed briefly. Williams said that art students were “hicked-off because they were paying huge amounts of lab fees that were not going towards labs.”

Ceci said that this was re-explained by Vice President for Finance Jerry Quick. According to Ceci, Quick explained that the lab fees go into the general fund, then they go back to the colleges where the deans distribute them. He added that Professor John K. Vost had displayed “disgust” with the system and “is going on record about it.”

Several legislators mentioned that they had not liked the current system and felt that they were having to pay for the deficit.

Puckett talked about the SGA club cards for next year. Discussions are being pursued with a company that would include twenty places to eat.

Non-legislators were asked to leave the meeting while an appointment was being discussed. After the closed-door discussion, Joseph L. Thomas was elected to fill a vacancy.

The exponent is hiring computer operators and ad sales representatives. For more information come by UC Room 104 or call 895-6090.

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Honors Program

Honors Forum is a set of lectures and activities that are designed to complement the students' education. Interdisciplinary Seminars let students approach a problem from viewpoints of different disciplines and in the process understand the disciplines themselves. Honors Project is an in-depth study of a particular subject in which the student is interested. 

Boucher explained that UAH takes students into the program at two stages. The program takes freshmen who qualify and also the students who are already at UAH if they satisfy the eligibility requirements. The program director can assist all students interested.

Currently, there are about 55 students in the program. Kevin Lash, a freshman engineering student, said, “It’s going real well! It presents discussions with interesting speakers who are very open to questions.”

When asked what made the program so interesting for him, he said, “Engineering students get different perspectives about problem solving. It’s not very technical. It’s different and interesting.”

Ani Ralph, a sophomore mechanical engineering student, said she is happy with the program. The program will recite his own poetry in the UC at 12:15 pm. Pam Freeman, a sophomore majoring in Accounting, at 12:15 pm in room 106 of the Administrative Science Building.

Thursday, May 2: Jon Silkin of the University of Iowa’s Creative Writing Program will speak on their historical research at 4:00 pm in room 106 of the Administrative Science Building.

Thursday, May 9: “The New South: Why It Never Became the North,” with Dr. James Cobb, history professor at the University of Tennessee in the UC Exhibit Hall at 12:15 pm.

May 16, 21, and 23: A series of lectures concerning space as an area of study for many disciplines.

May 16: Gwen Garratt, former SkyLab astronaut, now with Teledyne Brown Engineering, will speak about his experiences at 12:15 pm in room 126 of the UC.

May 21: Dr. Andrew Dunar and Stephen Waring of the UAH history department will speak on their historical research of the Marshall Space Flight Center at 12:15 pm in UC 126.

May 23: Ms. Susan Smith, General Counsel for the MSFC, will speak at 12:15 pm in UC 126.

THE ROCKET CITY CHAIN GANG PRESENTS A BENEFIT DISC GOLF TOURNAMENT FOR THE AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION

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For Additional Information, call Paul Galloway @ 205-553-1214 after 6:00 P.M.

American Society of Women Accountants

Awards UAH Student Accounting Scholarship

The Huntsville Chapter of the American Society of Women Accountants offers their congratulations to Amy Miller on her selection as this year’s recipient of their scholarship. Miller is a junior at UAH and works full time for The Belk Group. The scholarship is awarded annually to a student majoring in accounting and is based, in part, on scholastic achievement and community involvement.

Scheduled meeting

The Huntsville U...uper of the American Society of Women Accountants will hold their regular monthly dinner meeting on Monday, April 22, 1991. The meeting will be at the Holiday Inn at Madison Square Mall and will start at 6:00 pm. Guest speaker will be Glenn McCott, Tax Manager of SCI, whose topic will be How to Handle an IRS Audit. Women in all areas of accounting, including industry, government and education, are invited to attend.

For further information, call Deborah Dzienski, 922-9200.

Mandatory Meeting*

May 3 at 5:00 in UC 131

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*Mandatory Meeting*

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**May 3 Deadline for S.G.A. Application at noon at UC Info Desk

GET INVOLVED! Show School Support!
MOT Lecture

by Vandana Sharma
reporter

On April 9, Dr. Charles E. Gearing of Georgia Institute of Technology lectured on the importance of management of technology (MOT), which requires the collaboration of technology and business in the world market. Gearing listed three major trends that have produced the need for managers of technology: internationalization of economic activity, sophistication of intermediate markets, and the rapid pace of technological change.

"How should the institution of MOT come about in our corporations?" questioned Gearing. He stated three possible phases for the transition: a strong school of engineering and science, a culture that encourages the cooperation of business and engineering, and industrial ties between a university and the surrounding corporations.

In a questionnaire for corporations done by Taskforce on the MOT, one of the most important questions asked was, "To what extent are institutions teaching courses that the corporations are asking for?"

So far, only three institutions offer a Ph.D. in MOT. Most corporations accept applicants with a B.S. in engineering and a certificate in MOT or a masters in MOT. A panel also discussed their views on MOT. The panel consisted of W.C. McCorkle of AMSMI-RD, MICOM; J.E. Kingsbury, director, Advanced Civil Space System, Boeing; Jerry Moore, vice president, Technology, Adtran; Richard Holloway, senior vice president, SCI; and John Y Kost, provost, UAH. UAH students and the surrounding community were all ears at the second of a three part lecture series on ethics and technology held April 10.

"The Dream of the Secret Weapon: Public Policy and Arms Research and Development," given by General Harold Nelson, Chief of Army Military History, included information on government spending and funding of the military for its high-tech weaponry.

Nelson explained that society is determined and regulated by the need for weaponry. This need is funded by the tax-payers each year. Nelson estimated that approximately 22% of the national revenue goes to military research and development. This percentage may fluctuate based on government need for innovation, research, and development, said Nelson.

Also estimated that the military may receive an increase in funding this year as a result of the Gulf War. Since the army now knows which weapons work, they can spend more time on development and improvement, which means more money for the military.

When speaking of his opinions on the Gulf War, he stated that it is not certain that the U.S. won the war. He thought that the U.S. could have lost the war as easily as they could have won.

The third lecture in the series will be held in the Science Building on April 17, in room 141. Dr. Larry Busch, professor of sociology at Michigan State University, is scheduled to speak on agricultural technology.

Attention Non-Profit Organizations

The North Alabama Chapter of the Public Relations Council of Alabama (PRCA) in cooperation with the UAH chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) is offering public relations assistance to non-profit organizations in North Alabama.

Any non-profit organization is invited to apply by completing a project proposal.

Proposals can be obtained by writing: Karen Schoening, PO Box 2619, Huntsville, AL 35804, or by phoning Karen at 880-4054.

Project proposals must be received by June 7.

General Nelson lectures on ethics and technology

by Marlon Trone
reporter

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The need for managers of technology is held annually in various parts of the country. This year's conference was held in Los Angeles.

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The International Center for Advanced Studies--COSMOS--is organizing the 3rd Aerospace Summer School on the campus of the Moscow Aviation Institute (MAI). Students majoring in ASTRONAUTICS and AERONAUTICS and other related areas from the U.S. and several other countries will be participating in this summer school.

PURPOSE of the school is the study of advanced topics of spacecraft design and construction. Participants will have an opportunity to attend courses in the following disciplines:

- Spacecraft System Engineering and Design
- Trajectory Optimization
- Guidance and Control
- Aerodynamics and Rarefied Gas Dynamics
- Heat and Mass Transfer
- Behavior of Fluids in Zero-g
- Strength of High Temperature Structures
- Life Support Systems
- Testing of Launch Vehicles and their Subsystems

IN ADDITION, students will take part in one of several projects related to the design and construction of unmanned and manned spacecraft and lunar bases. These design projects will be carried out together with engineers and students of the MAI Space Design Bureau. PLUS students will have the opportunity to visit Soviet industrial facilities, the Mission Control Center, and the Astronaut Training Center; to take part in various cultural programs, and to improve their knowledge of the Russian language with emphasis on the fields of their professional interest.

LECTURES and WORKSHOPS will be carried out primarily in English, and afterwards primarily in Russian.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS: Participants should have completed at least 2 years of undergraduate study with not less than 1 1/2 years of Russian language at the university level. DATES: July 1 until August 17, 1991. COB: $3,500. This figure includes tuition, room, board, the cultural program and travel expenses within the country. The fee does not include round trip airfare (estimated at $900-1000) or other incidental costs. FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. John R. Pottenger at 895-6835.
Atlantis Deploys GRO

by Sean Chenoweth
reporter

Space Transportation System (STS) 37 blasted into orbit on schedule after a morning of cloudy skies. Their were four males and one female astronaut. Onboard the shuttle Atlantis was the Gamma Ray observatory and several protein crystal growth experiments.

Two astronauts made the first U.S. space walk since December 1985. They used a monorail inside the shuttle cargo bay to demonstrate how equipment could be moved around the exterior of a space station. On Flight Day 2 shuttle pressure was lowered from sea level to 10.2 psi. This helps prevent "the bends" in astronauts Roos and Apt who participated in the space walk. Bends is the formation of nitrogen bubbles in the blood stream.

The Gamma Ray Observatory (GRO) is the heaviest unmanned spacecraft ever put into orbit. GRO was built by TRW for a total cost of $551 million. Its dimensions are 15 feet by 24 feet and weighs 35,000 pounds. To maintain its orbital altitude and maneuver GRO has 4,200 lbs. of hydrazine rocket fuel onboard.

The system is designed to be refueled. A two year program is planned for the first phase, followed by another two or four year useful period. GRO is the second in a series. Its dimensions thus make it difficult to study.

Gamma rays are at the highest end of the electromagnetic spectrum. Objects that emit gamma radiation include: neutron stars, pulsars, quasars and black holes. Neutron stars are composed of closely packed nuclear particles resulting from the collapse of a large stellar body. Pulsars are celestial bodies pulsating radio waves at a consistent rate. Black holes are a theoretical intense gravitational field thought to be the result of a collapsed star. Earth's atmosphere prevents the study of gamma rays from the ground. GRO offers an overwhelming opportunity for new and exciting discoveries because so little is known about gamma rays.

The Compton Telescope aboard GRO will for the first time explore the middle energy range of gamma rays.

The Energetic Gamma Ray Experiment Telescope (EGRET) will explore the upper end of gamma ray energy 20 to 30,000 MeV. EGRET will be scanning for high-energy bursts which are associated with the collapse of black holes.

Another interesting device on GRO was developed at MSFC. The Burst Transient Source Experiment (BATSE) will observe a very specific set of gamma ray bursts. Gamma ray bursts occur randomly about one hundred times per year. BATSE will attempt to determine the source of the gamma ray bursts. They do not appear to repeat in succession thus making them difficult to study until now.

Linda M. Godwin, mission specialist, got her Ph.D. in physics from the University of Missouri in 1976. STS-37 is her first space flight. (sources: Countdown, April '91 & Glen Haulenbeek)

NOTICE!!!!

The Madison County Board of Registrars will be on UAH campus Tuesday, April 23rd, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

All eligible persons who desire to register to vote may do so at this time.

Qualifications for registering are:

Citizens of the United States
18 years of age or older
Not legally declared mentally incompetent
Resident of Madison County, Alabama
Free of conviction of a felony

Registration will be held in the lobby of the University Center. All persons applying for permanent voter registration will need to know their Social Security Number and will need the names, addresses and phone numbers of two persons who live in Madison County, Alabama (other that those living at the same address as the one registering) who can confirm that they live in the county.

Ancient Society Banquet: A Big Success

by Pat Newcomb
for the exponent

The first annual Convivium Veris or Banquet of Spring of the Society for Ancient Languages (SAL) was held Saturday, April 6 at the home of Dr. Richard Gerberding, professor of History and Latin at UAH. A large turnout enjoyed dinner and entertainment of a variety not readily accessible to the Huntsville community.

The evening began with hort d'oeuvres and wine served on the veranda overlooking the Elk River. A sumptuous dinner followed, organized and prepared by Kris Coulter.

After dinner the Master of Ceremonies and Vice President of SAL, Ken Swaim, welcomed everyone to the event and read a passage from Virgil's The Aeneid in Latin. He explained some of the intricacies of the meter of the poetry and gave an English translation.

A reading in Ancient Greek of the Iliad was given by Art Nunez as well as a brief lecture about the pronunciation of Ancient Greek poetry. David Burns closed the readings with a recitation of the "Lord's Prayer" in Anglo-Saxon.

Following the readings, a rather less dignified presentation of a passage of Horace's poetry was given. Ben Masters, swathed in a toga, portrayed Horace as other

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Health Check
by Donna K. Thompson, MSN, CRNP
UAH Wellness Center

Q. What does SPF on suntan lotion mean?
A. SPF stands for sun protection factor. The SPF range is dependent on your hair color, eye color and complexion. Below is a chart to help you determine how much protection you need:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Eye Color</th>
<th>Hair Color</th>
<th>Complexion</th>
<th>You Are</th>
<th>SPF Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Blue</td>
<td>Blonde</td>
<td>Very Fair</td>
<td>Likely to burn</td>
<td>15-29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green</td>
<td>Lt. Brown</td>
<td>Fair</td>
<td>May burn</td>
<td>8-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gray Hazel</td>
<td>Brown</td>
<td>Black</td>
<td>Likely to burn</td>
<td>4-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dark Blue</td>
<td>Brown</td>
<td>Olive/Black</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Q. How can I keep from getting a bladder infection?
A. A bladder infection (or an infection in the urinary tract) is usually caused by a bacteria. Some of the symptoms may include pain during urination, frequency in urination, lower abdominal pain, or back pain. Simple hygiene can reduce your chance of developing a urinary tract infection—wiping from front to back. Other habits will also reduce your risk: drink plenty of fluids to keep the bladder flushed, urinate before and after intercourse, and urinate when you feel the urge. This infection is usually treated with an antibiotic, such as Sulfa.

Q. What is Gout?
A. Gout is a recurrent acute arthritis that develops as a result of crystal deposits in joints from high uric acid levels. It appears without warning. It is precipitated by minor trauma, over indulgence in certain food and alcohol, surgery, fatigue, stress, infection or administration of certain drugs. The pain is acute and occurs in a joint and is worse at night. The pain is described as severe, throbbing, crushing, or excruciating. Elimination of the affected joint reveals warmth, swelling, redness, and tenderness. The overlying skin is intense, hot and shiny. Diagnosis is based on clinical features and a serum uric acid level of greater than 7mg/dl. Management is based on diet, anti-inflammatory drugs, and a high fluid intake of at least 3 liters per day.

For more information visit the University Bookstore in the University Center or call 895-6600

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BCM

Hey! We’ve changed our name! We are no longer the Baptist Student Union... Our new name is Baptist Campus Ministries. They say it’s a better name, but I think, however, you don’t have to be Baptist to come and join in the fun!

Every Tuesday at 8:15 p.m., we have “Celebration,” which is a weekly meeting with a guest speaker who speaks on very new and interesting topics. In addition, we have our first home match on Wednesday at 12:15. The cost is only $2.00. Your First Time Is Free!!!

Thursday nights we have a Bible Study that meets at 8:15 p.m. here at the Baptist Student Center. Otherwise you can just drop by anytime for a look around.

We’d enjoy introducing you to all the folks at the center located on the corner of Sparkman and Holmes.

Circle K

International

This past weekend, the C.K.I. club hosted the 1991 Leadership Development Conference held at the Executive Inn. There were ice breakers, a pool party, banquets, many educational workshops, an outing up in Monte Sano provided by our generous Kiwanis sponsor, and many Circle K’s from all over Alabama. Thanks to Donna Thompson and Cheryl Werten, Bacchus advisor and president respectively, for bartending the mocktails, donated by our wonderful Dr. Biller, at the awesome Bacchus Toga Party. Special thanks to all the guest speakers and to all the members that attended. Great work you guys!!

Wednesday, April 17th is the Circle K International Open House at 8:15 p.m. in the Noojin House. We have planned many activities along with prizes and refreshments. Come find out what C.K.I. is all about. Any questions, please call our President @ 883-7464. Everyone is welcome!

This Friday night, we are planning to take the Children’s Home kids to see Saturday Night Fights on the TV. We are also planning to discuss. Be prepared to voice your opinions and ideas.

Psi Chi

This month’s meeting, scheduled for Tuesday, April 23, at 12:15 pm in MH 101-B, will include the selection of officers for the upcoming year. All members are especially encouraged to attend this meeting.

New members among us: though your formal initiation is scheduled for May, you are eligible to participate, so plan to be there! After the elections, next month’s initiation meeting will become the topic of discussion. Be prepared to voice your opinions and ideas.

P.S. Happy trails to the group that’s going to the conference!!!

PRCA

The Public Relations council of Alabama (PRCA) student chapter would like to announce a Portfolio Workshop, sponsored by the UAH student chapter, to be held on Thursday, May 9, from 2:00pm until 6:00pm. Anyone who is a Communication Arts major, or will need a portfolio when the job hunt begins, will want to mark this date on their calendar! Alabama professionals will be displaying their portfolios and giving instruction on how to put a good portfolio together. The workshop will be held on campus. Registration cost is $5.00 in advance and $6.00 at the door. For further information, contact UAH Chapter President Rita Graham at 830-2764.

The UAH chapter of PRCA will hold its first meeting for the spring quarter this Thursday, April 18, 1991, at 12:15pm. The meeting will be held in Morton Hall in the conference room adjacent to the Communications Arts Department on the third floor. If you have had a Communications class, we invite you to come and see what PRCA is all about.

Pulse deadline is 5:00 p.m. Friday. There is a 150 word limit. This announcement page is provided free by the exponent.
Photo Essay: What do you like most about UAH?

April 17, 1991, Wednesday

Becky Lovvorn
Junior/ Engineering
I like it because we’re a small school.

John Habimana
Senior/ Electrical Engineering
The competitiveness. The teachers challenge students to do their best. The students all want to do good, to excel. But, there is also cooperation and support.

Heather Weaver
Senior/ Biology
The people here.

Veronique Wu
Sophomore/ Biology
I’ve enjoyed the Greek system here at UAH. I’m a Kappa Delta here and it gave me a chance to meet a lot of new friends and people.

Renee Laney
Sophomore/ Chemical Engineering
UAH is a well-respected engineering school, and it is located so that its graduates can find jobs easily.

Tina Scott
Sophomore/ Psychology
I like it because it’s an institution of higher learning. Plus, an added bonus, I get to meet new people from all walks of life and I find that fascinating.

Steve Brooks
Senior/ English
I do think the quality of teachers here is pretty good. In the five years I’ve been here, I’ve been impressed with the teachers I’ve had in Liberal Arts. I believe they deserve more credit than what they are getting at this point.

Margie Leimberger
Sophomore/ Music
In the music program we have a lot of teachers very concerned about my progress. In the other GER classes they’re also very concerned about my progress. I feel that I can go to them whenever I need help.

Ed Ditto
Senior/ Russian & International Business
It’s a very open campus. You can do pretty much whatever you want. There is not a political machine controlling everything on campus.

Steve Brooks
Senior/ English
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EDITORIALS

In Honor of Science Week: Confessions of a true believer

by Marian Delaney Sampson

There are two topics I wish to address in this space today:

The first topic is the presence on campus next Monday of a superstar. If you do not know who William Julius Wilson is, or if you have never read The Declining Significance of Race or The Truly Disadvantaged, you are not as well-educated as you think you are.

I would like to thank the Annual Social Issues Symposium for bringing him to campus. I urge students, staff and faculty to take an early lunch on Monday, April 22, and then brighten it to the Administrative Science Auditorium at 12:30 to hear him speak. I guarantee that you will not be bored.

My second topic is anniversaries:

Yuri Gagarin — first man in space, April, 1961: Alan Shepherd — first American in space, May, 1961: Columbia — first shuttle in space, April 12 -14, 1981 — In this time of anniversaries and commemorations, I have a confession to make. I am a fan of science fiction.

Not only that, but I have been a fan of science fiction for approximately four decades. I did not learn most of my science and math in the 20 + semesters of instruction in high school — I learned science and math from Asimov, Bradbury, Dickson, Heinlein, Herbert, et al.

I am also a fan of science fact. I know where I was in June of 1969 when "Houston, the Eagle has landed" echoed from our nearest solar neighbor. I have sat through televised launches and real launches and been thrilled with the incredible ingenuity of scientists, engineers and technicians.

The one thing I never imagined, looking back from this perspective, was that we would gain the capacity to explore space and then choose not to do it. I could envision that we might not be able to overcome some of the technical problems, but never once did I think that we would gain this remarkable capacity to learn about our universe and then not use it.

I watched in dismay as the Apollo team was disbanded. I have grieved over the cutbacks in the shuttle program. And I am appalled by the cuts in the space lab.

This is 1991. My 21- almost 22-year-old daughter was a six-week-old nursing infant when man first stepped on the moon. My soon-to-be 30-year-old daughter was a few days old when Shepard went up.

I truly believed when they were born that my children would have an option about which planet they wanted to live on.

I believed they would be living in homes where drudgery was eliminated by robotics — do you know the first three laws? I do.

I believed that death and age and disease would have been pushed aside by the miracles of science and by a people dedicated to the eradication of all that limits the human lifespan.

I believed that people would be living lives freed from the toil that had locked previous generations in place, and that they would be free to develop all of their innate creativity.

I believed that we would be interacting with extraterrestrial cultures and learning the secrets of the universe.

I believed that in mastering space technology we would begin to master ourselves.

I believed that war and poverty and all of the ills of this world could be conquered by rational human beings who had the technology and the time and the energy to do so.

I believed that the space program has been a vehicle for many people to climb out of poverty and to feed their families.

I personally would rather pay taxes for people to explore space, truly the last frontier, than to pay taxes for peanut farmers not to plant peanuts. Does it not seem obscene to you that we pay farmers not to plant while famine stalks whole continents?

My father used to say, "What can you do when you are dependent on 335 senile old men for funding?"

My response is, "We can do a lot — we elect them!"

We can let Congress know how we feel about the latest cuts in the Space Lab. We can let state legislators know how we feel about education pro-ration and underfunding this important part of our society.

We can lobby and push our space administration agency that is funded over the long haul and not subject to reduction and revision each year. It is ridiculous to have a space budget dependent on what congressmen have left over after they have raised their own salaries, increased staff, and made sure their constituents have all of the pork they want.

One of the reasons I am delighted to be a UAH student is that pieces of the dreams of [us] Sci-fi freaks of the '50s are being translated into reality at this university.

Notes from the Undergrad

by Doug Brewer

associate editor

When I was 12, I had my first paper route in Russellville, Arkansas. The Daily Courier-Democrat rolled off the presses usually about 3:30 in the afternoon, and I chronicled them all over the north side of Russaville. One night, when all of the carriers were scheduled to attend a banquet at the Old South Restaurant, I got a phone call. The circulation manager told me I had a kick. In our lingo, a kick was a form filled out when them all over the north side of Russaville. One night, when all of the carriers were scheduled to attend a banquet at the Old South Restaurant, I got a phone call. The circulation manager told me I had a kick. In our lingo, a kick was a form filled out when

When a carrier got a kick, the carrier was fully expected to get out to the house and rectify it, pronto. On this particular night, a thunderstorm had rolled into Russaville, and was pouring out goats of rain. I was already dressed for the banquet and neither of my parents had gotten home from work yet.

About 2:30 Thursday, I enlisted the aid of young Mr. Whipple, of the expanant staff, and we headed off to Athens to look through the Arbitron book and speak with the folks at WZYP. We carried notebooks and a vague idea about where Athens was located.

Since my parents still had not arrived, I donned a raincoat and climbed on my bike to take care of my kick. The house in question was a couple of miles from my house, and before long I was pretty much waterlogged.

Steve and I drove for a while, both of us convinced we had passed Athens some miles back. But the road was familiar and friendly, and he had a cassette of Dueling Banjos, so we settled in to enjoy the trip.

I rode north, up Arkansas avenue. The rain was making a grand racket on my slicker. The canvas bag slung over the handlebars became saturated, and its weight wobbled my bike. I knew the woman I had called in the kick. She was pretty nice; she always tipped me well at the end of the month, and seldom kicked me.

We finally stopped and asked directions to the studio. We had gone past it. The clerk at the convenience store told us it looked like a new house back there on the left.

For some reason I got really mad at my folks. With my bike swinging to and fro down the sidewalk and the rain blowing in my face, I unzipped silent curses at them for coming home later than usual. They probably don't even remember the banquet, I thought.

They made us sit in the lobby a few minutes. We examined the gold records on the walls and mumbled about the rest of the staff getting us into this mess. I replayed the earlier phone calls in my head. The receptionist ignored us and read Sir Gawain and the Green Knight.

At the corner across from Rush Sporting Goods, at the place where the sidewalk detours around a huge old oak and comes close to the road, there was an oceanic puddle of run-off. I arrived at that spot at exactly the same time a truck drove through the puddle.

We stood and introduced ourselves to a tall, thin man who had emerged from a hall. He thanked us for coming while leading us to his office. There was a print on the wall. It depicted a pack of wolves dashing through the snow.

The water hit me from the left, just as I leaned the bike right to follow the curve of the sidewalk. I had not heard the truck's approach, and the wave caught me unprepared.

The small talk soon petered out. I thumbed through the Arbitron book with no idea where to find anything. He pointed out a few things in it, then said he basically just listened with one sentence in Monica's editorial. I didn't know what to say.

I hit the sidewalk a glancing blow with the side of my head. The handlebars caught me in the ribs, and the papers I had in the bag scattered. Somehow I tore my pants across one knee. I still didn't know what hit me.

We waited while he went to check on some numbers being faxed from Atlanta, then told him we needed to go to class. He apologized for not being able to provide the numbers, and thanked us for coming.

When I arrived, muddy, soaked and bleeding, the woman met me at the door and said she had found her paper under the porch swing. I stared at her. I apologized for not being able to call before I left, and thanked her for coming.

All the way back to Huntsville we wondered why we went all the way to Athens. Nothing had been accomplished. We had no story, other than we had made a trip to Limestone County.

I didn't deserve to be kicked. I had done my job the way it was supposed to be done. We didn't deserve to drive to Athens to find out people were reading our paper over there. We had done the job the way it was supposed to be done.

I didn't get "Paperboy of the Month." But I did get a column out of all this. See you next week.
SIMMONDS SAYS

by Monica Simmonds
assistant news editor

There I was lying flat on the operating table with my stomach cut wide open. I was waiting for the doctor to tell whether I had a boy or a girl. My husband was beside me offering all the support a man can possibly offer at a time like this. He was excited; I was scared. Being the brave man that he is, he decided to stand up and look across the sheet they had strategically placed over me to hide the disturbing sight of my stomach cut open, and take a look.

"You wouldn’t believe it,” he said to me.

“What? Can you see the baby”? I asked.

"No, but the layer of fat in your stomach is this thick,” and proceeded to show me by widely extending his middle finger and thumb.

At this time I turned to the nurse and said, ”Get him the hell out of here.”

You must understand that I was in my 27th hour of labor. I had been experiencing pain beyond belief for much of that time and now was only hanging on for a few more minutes to find out what my child looked like. The last thing I needed at this time was to know that I had something that no woman in a sexist society should have—FAT. However I quickly recovered and decided I would let him stay as he really didn’t mean any harm by the comment. Well, my son was born and we were ecstatic beyond belief. He was perfect.

They closed me up and wheeled me out to the recovery room, at which time I was beginning to feel pain and was anxiously demanding anesthesia when the doctor came to tell me how the baby was doing. Approximately 45 minutes had passed since my child was born. The doctor informed me he was as healthy as a horse. My baby was fine too. Before leaving, the doctor asked us if we had any last questions.

"Yes, one more thing,” said my husband. “How long ‘til she can have another baby?”

At this time I screamed, “ANESTHESIA!” To my relief the doctor told him it was probably not the best time to discuss that particular topic.

Now it’s almost four years later and I have two beautiful boys that I wouldn’t trade for the world. I’ve taken all the steps within my power to bring them up to be happy healthy toddlers. I thought the infant years were the toughest to get through and that the older they got the easier it would get. But the other day I was shocked.

My first born was playing with an airplane and I asked him if maybe a little girl was flying it. He responded, “No, only men can fly planes.” Thinking he meant that only adults could fly planes, I insisted, “Women can fly planes too.”

“No, only men can fly planes,” he repeated. Now I know that a three-year-old can’t be sexist, but where the hell did he get this idea? I sure didn’t give it to him.

To clear things up for him, I took the plane and said, "Here’s a woman flying a plane,” and swiftly glided it acrobatically through the air and landed it safely. Then I said, "Here’s a man flying a plane," then proceeded to take off and crash it into the wall. A little unfair? Yes, but the idea of a sexist opinion developing in my child’s mind terrified me. I later composed myself and showed him that occasionally a man can safely land a plane.

So where did this child of mine get this idea? I thought these were the day of equality. But obviously they’re not. Otherwise my child would have never conceived in his mind that only men could fly planes.

Please don’t think me a radical feminist; I am not. I still believe there’s something to say about women staying home with their children and a few generally stereotyped roles we play. There are a few stereotypes that do, however, bother me profusely. It concerns our appearance. Society has told us women that we have to be thin and beautiful. I’m sure that this is the reason my husband was so shocked at the sight of fat in my stomach. Otherwise the blood or maybe my guts would have made a bigger impression.

I am thrilled we’re in an age that women do indeed fly planes and become chemists, but it’s still unacceptable to be fat, especially if you’re a woman. The truth be known, we are born with more fat than are men. So why is society asking of us the impossible? Give us a break. I find myself now tormenting myself about how to teach my children to look past the physical. I myself have a hard time looking past the physical sometimes. I struggle constantly with my weight because I don’t like myself when I’m fat. Society has invaded my own self pride by making me want to live up to its expectations.

The solution is however, in our hands. It’s in all our hands. It is time that we stop nourishing the sexist society that restricts us by meeting its demands. I’m not saying let’s all get fat. I’m saying that it’s time we accept ourselves as totally competent human beings whether we’re fat or not. By changing our own perception of ourselves, society will eventually have to change.

So the next time you see me dieting, which is quite often, it’s not because I’m trying to fit in. I’ll diet for my health, which is the reason any of us who diet should diet in the first place. Yes, it’s easy to say, but it’s hard to believe. If we believe, however, eventually so will society.

YEAH, RIGHT!

Well we have to start some time, and now is the time!

Silence usually not golden

by David Rogers
reporter

Journalism is a funny business. If the subject being covered is interesting, the story will most likely be interesting, too.

And, if the subject is a yawner, there’s only so much a writer (of measurable integrity) can do.

The last article I wrote for the exponent was a pleasure, thanks to the subject, David Swann.

David, as the story noted, is The Huntsville Times’ full-time cartoonist/graphic illustrator and is also a (long time) UAH history major.

If the gods are willing, David will bid au revoir to this brain-twisting, nerve-snapping institution this fall.

I don’t admire many people.

But I do admire David Swann.

Why? Because he isn’t afraid to take a stand. Is that it, you say?

That’s enough, I say.

Too often, people will let others tell them what to think and how to act.

Everyday, words of anger, ignorance and hatred are thrown about with careless abandon.

My first born was playing with an airplane and I asked him if maybe a little girl was flying it. He responded, “No, only men can fly planes.” Thinking he meant that only adults could fly planes, I insisted, “Women can fly planes too.”

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YEAH, RIGHT!

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The View From the Right

by Ronald Byrd

The Democrats have not wasted any time in losing the 1992 Presidential Election. Former Governor Sam Nunn has lost all credibility with the American people as a moderate by supporting the war in the Persian Gulf. The war is an anti-Democratic disaster as Senator Albert Gore (D-Tenn.), who voted for the war, has now become the leader. Americans are now advocating joining involved in Iraq's civil war. It seems that the Democrats who were shouting "No More Vietnams" in the 1982 elections have been replaced by the forces of high school graduation. The Democratic Party's policies are now self-defeating with the American people.

In fairness to both Senator Gore and Senator Nunn, they have had enough intelligence to realize that this is probably not their year and neither of them has an announced candidacy officially. When one takes a look at the people who have announced officially, once cannot help being astounded at the line-up. Former U.S. Senator Paul Tsongas (D-Mass.) was the first Democrat to announce his candidacy publicly. George H.W. Bush also has an official Democratic ticket from Massachusetts! Does this sound familiar? Several weeks ago Richard M. Daley (D-Ill.) formally announced his campaign for the Democratic nomination.

Other likely Democratic contenders are Governor Douglas Wilder (D-Va.) and Governor Mario Cuomo (D-N.Y.). Governor Cuomo is the type of politician that would pose a serious threat to President Bush even if they did win the Democratic nomination. If the Democrats continue their trend towards the liberal left then I think they will find themselves out of touch with mainstream America that will cease to exist as a legitimate voting bloc. This has already happened on the national level; the last Democratic Governor was Jimmy Carter. The conservative Democrats like Senators Helms and Shelby in their efforts to raise the bar to gain the support of Ted Kennedy's Civil Wrongs bill, that specified hiring quotas, they will lose the support of their constituents and they will be left with a few very liberal members. The Democrats have lost touch with mainstream America.

I was talking the other day to a friend of mine who stated that she did not like President Bush. It looks as though the 1992 election will be a pivotal year for her and for others like her. Bush may not be their choice, but for the rest of America he is the only choice.

Triumph and tragedy. In the last week and a half Bush has brought both joy and sorrow to the space community. The joy was provided by the highly successful STS-39 mission. But there was also sorrow to the mission crew deployed the Gamma Ray Observatory, which will make observations of the heavens for years to come. Another highlight of the missions was the success of the spacewalks that were made. The first EVA (a trans-atmospheric Vehicular Activity) was to deploy a stuck antenna on the shuttle's belly. The second EVA was to test equipment and procedures that will be used on the space station. The two EVAs' were known as the Jay and Jerry Show, named after the two astronauts who performed the EVAs. Jay Apt and Jerry Ross. The shuttle mission had to stay in orbit a day longer than scheduled due to high winds at the primary landing site, Edwards Air Force base in California. The shuttle landed at dawn Thursday with Commander Steven Nagel making a perfect landing.

The space community mourned the loss of astronaut Manley Lantner "Sonny" Carter who died in the crash of the space shuttle Columbia. Sonny Carter was the last to leave our orbit. A. Heinlein in his 1982 novel "Stranger in a Strange Land" lamented the loss of astronauts. The death of Sonny Carter hit me really hard personally because he was one of my heroes. He also had the pleasure of meeting him in person shortly after he returned from his top secret STS-33 mission in November of 1988. I was delighted to hear he had a humble Sonny was. He did not fit the stereotype of the obnoxious fighter pilot. Sonny was a guy who had a lot to brag about. He played professional soccer while attending medical school. After becoming a surgeon he became an officer in the United States Navy where he served as a flight surgeon before going to basic flight training. After earning his wings he attended and graduated from the Naval Test Pilot School. He was selected as an astronaut in 1984. Sonny Carter flew two STS missions. He lived with his lovely wife and two children. Former U.S. Senator John Tower (R-Texas) was also killed in the same crash.

The View From the Right

Mini-Quarter

by anonymous

June 11 - 17, 1991

Due to the desire of many students to utilize their extra time during Mini-Quarter to get ahead in their coursework, the following courses will be offered during an experimental "mini-quarter," provided there is enough interest.

MIL 108 Intro to Military Analysis
Military studies with an emphasis on Middle East geopolitical ramifications. Must be healthy, tolerant of warm weather.

Prerequisites: Arabic 103, Saudi visa, or approval of instructor.
Lab Fee: prepaid

MA 127 Special Studies in Probability
Focuses on practical applications. Must be 21 years old and able to attend late night classes.
Prerequisite or parallel: MA 385 Intro to Probability, HPE 215 Intro to Las Vegas
Lab fee: $500.00

PSC 628 Studies in Soviet Politics
Survey of Soviet politics, with emphasis on reform and confrontation themes.
Prerequisite: PSC 527 Studies in Chinese Politics
Lab Fee: $2000.00

HPE 112 Intro to Beaches
Covers basics of seaside vacationing, including tanning, swimming, and dune running. Over license required.
Prerequisites: Freshman standing.
Lab Fee: $400.00

BUS 561 Special Business Project
Detailed study and practical study of budget-based decision making, with special emphasis on academic community. Students will produce a viable 5-year plan for higher education.
Prerequisites: ACC 211, 212 Principles of Accounting I, II
Lab fee: $1.6 million

EE 367 Control System Symposium
Detailed study and practical study of recent technological tools. Israeli visa required.
Prerequisite: EE 605 or approval of instructor.
Lab Fee: $2550.00

Will California Universities Become Diploma Mills?

by Rick Henderson

A populist California economist discovers that college granting millions of degrees to those who have only a high school diploma. The state has eased access to its schools by providing vouchers or even an open enrollment plan for public school students to attend any university. The University of California campuses recruit from only the top-one-sixth of high school graduating classes; the California State system seeks students from the bottom one-fourth. Community colleges are open to everyone with the ability to profit from education.

For three consecutive years the legislature has conditioned funding on educational equity for those in the state's poorest secondary institutions. The legislation—which may pass this year—is designed to increase educational opportunities for "underrepresented" ethnic and socioeconomic groups. But it doesn't seem to make any attempt to improve the education these students receive. Instead it increases the education officials to meet a target—racially balanced graduation rates. Affirmative action officers may delight in the legislature's goals. Yet students of all races and economic classes who seek academic excellence—and the taxpayers who foot their bills—will suffer.

Instead of addressing the causes of lower minority student achievement, the state is pursuing three goals in higher education: access to quality education, diversity in academic composition rather than on improving the education these students receive. Instead it increases the educational achievements of all students. Instead of addressing the causes of lower minority student achievement, the state is pursuing three goals in higher education: access to quality education, diversity in academic composition rather than on improving the education these students receive. Instead it increases the educational achievements of all students.
by Lynne V. Cheney
chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities

So much of what has happened in the world during the past two decades has demonstrated the long-term wisdom of being what is called "politically incorrect." One of the tenets of that position, I think most people would agree, is an affirmation of the importance of Western civilization. Now, of course, the history of the West is not a narrative of unbroken progress. We have monumental failures to our credit; and indeed, bringing those failures to light, highlighting them, looking at them this way, is integral to one of our finest traditions. The West is not perfect, but we do have on our record some glorious accomplishments.

In 1898, before Tiananmen Square, Fang Lizhi, scientist and dissident, spoke of the sins of China's democracy movement. "What we are calling for is extremely basic," he said, "namely, freedom of speech, press, assembly and travel. Concepts of human rights and democracy," he went on, "although the founding principles of the U.S. government should not be viewed as something exclusively Western. Actually, they are a legacy to the world."

These ideas are no small gift to have brought to humankind. They are gifts of such worth that people who go into exile and prison for them. They are gifts of such great worth that people die for them, as they did less than two years ago in Tiananmen Square, as they did last month in Vilnius and Riga. But concepts of human rights and democracy, though they embody longings buried deep in every soul, can be suppressed. As Charles Krauthammer has observed, the will to freedom is a constant of human nature, but so is the will to suppress. People rise up before a tyrant and they will rise again, ruthless despots bent on substituting their ambitions for the rule of law. Today brave Americans in the Persian gulf, joined by courageous men and women from more than two dozen nations, are engaged in battle with such a despot.

There was an inescapable irony about being in the Soviet Union and hearing again and again about the importance of de-politicizing and de-ideologizing the study of culture when so often in the United States I read or hear about the importance of using the arts and the humanities as instruments of politics. I understand that the people advancing the totalitarianism — and indeed, the West has seen a resurgence of totalitarianism in the past few years — that the people advancing the totalitarianism are the ones who want to advance good ones; but, however well-intentioned, using the arts and humanities in this way limits vision. It is putting on blinders, and what a tragedy for us to have art and inquiry as free as possible of political bias and influence? Of course, we are political creatures, but understanding that, shouldn't we try to raise ourselves up and acquire a broader perspective? If we insist that all literature, all art, be run through any single political prism, whether it be Marxist or capitalist or feminist or European or Third World, aren't we creatures of diminished vision? Indeed if we insist, as has become fashionable in some quarters, that culture and all its creations are everywhere congruent with political struggle, isn't that the most diminished and diminishing perspective of all?

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The book does have a lavish sprinkling of Latin and Indian phrases, italicized for impressive effect. For example: "At times, we managed to scrape a living in the Atilopano and didn't go down to the finca." Through this sort of exotica, Rigoberta becomes an object of reference for the seekers of "cultural diversity." But a chapter called "Rigoberta Renounces Marriage and Motherhood" reinforces doubts about her claim to represent the Guatemalan people; the rejection of marriage be the norm for Indian Women of Latin America, and if so, how has the community managed to survive? At this point the reader begins to wonder if these are Rigoberta's thoughts at all, or whether they have been foisted on her by her translator, the feminist Burgos-Debray.

If it is Rigoberta whom we hear, she is remarkably sophisticated in the lingo of Western oppression theory. She maintains that she is a simultaneous victim of quadruple persecution. She is a "person of color," and thus a victim of racism. She is a woman, and thus a victim of sexism. She lives in Central America, which is a victim of North American colonialism. If this were not bad enough, she is an Indian, victimized by Latin culture on the continent. Her greatness seems to derive entirely from her victim status. She is the modern Saint Sebastian, pierced by the arrows of North American heterosexuality. Now it is her turn to be canonized — quite literally, for her to enter the Stanford canon of required books.

What is going on here? Non-Western countries have certainly presented a challenge for Marxism, and great interest. But the modern activists are not interested in a serious study of the Bhagavad Gita, of Confucius, of the Koran. Sun Tzu is too militaristic, Rabindranath Tagore is too spiritual; Jorge Luis Borges is too conservative. Besides, what does this mean for these Third World leaders say about colonialism, about women's rights, about racism, about homophobia?

McGrievance

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