

# The Exponent

The Student Newspaper of the University of Alabama in Huntsville

January 27, 2000

Vol. 31, No. 16

## Homecoming 2000 starts this Monday

By Amy Beth Lloyd  
News Editor

Homecoming 2000 begins January 31. This week-long celebration of spirit and UAH sports will kick off Tuesday night at 9 pm. Guitarist Keller Williams will perform at Mom's in the University Center. Wednesday night, also at 9 pm, Mom's will welcome comedian Mitch Fatel to the stage.

A bonfire and pep rally will be held at Southeast housing Thursday night at 9 pm. There will be plenty of pizza and after the pep rally the movie *American Pie* will be shown in the UC Exhibit Hall. The movie will start at 10:30.

SGA, ACE, and the UAH Cheerleaders will sponsor a tailgate party on Friday, February 4 at 5 pm. Spragins Hall will come alive with car decorating, free hotdogs, chips, and drinks. T-shirts will be given out to UAH students.

Also on Friday before the hockey game,

TGIF will take place in the Bevill Center. This event also begins at 5 pm and a donation of five dollars will be collected at the door.

The Homecoming hockey game versus Bemidji State starts at 7 pm at the Von Braun Center.

An alumni hockey game will be played Saturday at 2 pm, also at the VBC. Returning players include Kevin Caputo, Gus Morard, and Tom Dailey.

Other events Saturday include men's and women's Charger basketball against Valdosta State University. The women play at 1 pm and the men tip off at 3. The 2000 Homecoming Court will be presented at the men's basketball game. Crowning of the king and queen will take place at the hockey game, which begins at 7 pm, between the second and third periods.

The week will wrap up Saturday night with a chili supper prior to the hockey game. The supper begins at 5 pm and is free to UAH students. There is a five-dollar admission charge to the public. The supper will take place in a tent near Spragins Hall. Music and Children's games will add to the festive atmosphere at Spragins Hall.

The annual spirit banner competition is

open to all SGA recognized clubs and organizations.

Rules and regulations for the competition can be picked up in the SGA office in room 106 of the University Center. Banners must be completed and delivered to room 100 of the UC

by 2 pm on Thursday, February 3. The first prize banner will gain the winning group seventy-five dollars. Second place receives fifty.

Another competition open to campus groups is the "Homecoming 2000 Spirit Contest."

Points will accumulate based on each organization's attendance at the Homecoming events. The group with the most points wins five hundred dollars.

For more information about Homecoming week, contact the Alumni Relations of-

vice at 890-6085 or visit the website at [www.uah.edu/alumni](http://www.uah.edu/alumni).

In-depth information about the sporting events can be obtained at the athletic department website at [www.uah.edu/athletics/homecoming.html](http://www.uah.edu/athletics/homecoming.html).

## The new SGA Constitution passes despite low turnout

By Amy Beth Lloyd  
News Editor

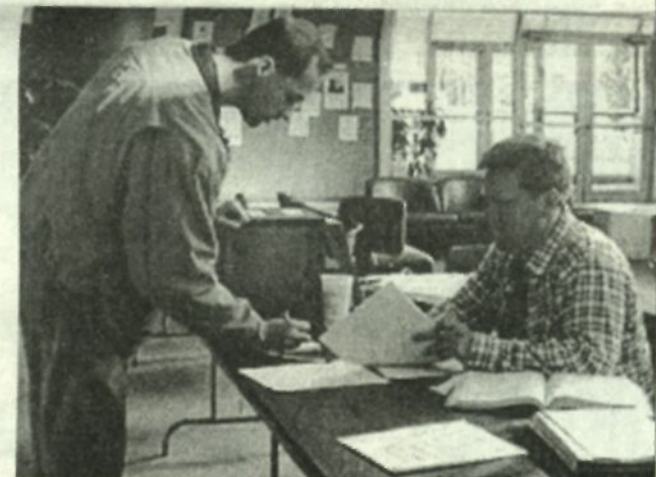
Despite a turnout of only one hundred and sixty nine voters, the proposed SGA constitution passed by ninety-one percent. One hundred and fifty four students were in favor of the constitution's ratification. Only fifteen, a mere nine percent, voted against the passing.

The next step in the process is administrative approval. The president of the university and the vice-president for student affairs will now decide whether or not to sign the newly passed constitution. If signed, the constitution will go into effect immediately.

SGA legislator, Geoff Morris, does not anticipate any

problems with the signing by the administration. "With the vote count being so overwhelmingly in the majority, I don't anticipate that there will be any problems. We have had a somewhat low voter turnout. That is the one disappointing thing and it may cause university administration to think about it a little bit. It is very much similar to the previous constitution, at least in the wording and the powers granted to the student government. It's just a reorganization of how the student government takes those powers."

Once the constitution is signed and put into effect people will be moved into their new positions. The current legislators will become members of the house and with that move comes the opening of six new positions.



UAH student votes as legislator Cameron Rodgers looks on (Photo by Amy Beth Lloyd)

Spring will see the election of the twenty-member house and all officers. Appointed positions will also be filled at this time. In the fall, either late September or early October, the senate elections will take place. The senate will be presided over by the SGA vice-president. Senate members will be elected by class, freshman through graduate students while the house will continue to be elected based on college.

How will responsi-

bility be divided amongst the two parts of SGA. Morris comments, "The senate will primarily concern itself with governmental things, they have the responsibility of appointing non-elected officials such as publications board. They are to focus more on the long-term goals of the students. They would be the group that would consider the housing problem on campus."

See Constitution, page 2

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# Earn points for your organization at Spirit 2000

**By Amy Beth Lloyd**  
*News Editor*

The annual homecoming spirit contest charges up Tuesday, February 1. Mom's at 9 pm will be the site of the first event featuring guitarist, Keller Williams.

Wednesday night at 9, and also in Mom's, comedian Mitch Fatel will appear. Other events clubs and organizations can attend to earn points include the bonfire, tailgate party, men's basketball game on Satur-

day afternoon, the chili supper, and the Saturday night hockey game. Spirit points can also be obtained by participating in the banner competition.

Points will be accumulated on the following basis. One hundred points will be given for each event that ten people from the club attend. Fifteen points will be awarded for every additional person.

Bonus points can be won in several ways. Fifty bonus points will be given to each club that has ten

or more people at the bonus events. Bonus events are the Friday night hockey game and the women's basketball game. Ten bonus points will be given for each additional member attending bonus events.

Fifty bonus points will be awarded for performing an original cheer at the bonfire. Cheers should be performed spontaneously throughout the event. There will be no designated time.

Displays of Charger spirit will also get points. There are 100 bonus points maximum per event for groups showing noticeable spirit. Two bonus points per person per item will be given for wearing UAH paraphernalia, such as hats or t-shirts.

To receive points for event attendance,

each group member will need to sign up at the "Spirit 2000" table. Each member may only sign up once and sign up will

end thirty minutes after the event starts. Groups must stay for the entire event. Vulgar or inappropriate actions are subject to

disqualification.

For more information contact ACE President, Nancy Thomas at 890-6428 or 890-7730.

## Recycling gets a boost

**By Dauphne Rogers**  
*Editor-in-chief*

On January 18, 2000 Governor Don Siegelman awarded 13 grants totaling \$190,000 throughout the state of Alabama in order to assist in the creation and expansion of local recycling programs.

The ARC of Madison County received \$5,000. Madison County was awarded \$10,000 separately. Other counties receiving funds include Birmingham, Clay, Geneva, and Jefferson. All were awarded \$10,000 each. Cities that received assistance are Montgomery, Sylacauga, and Tallassee; all were allotted \$10,000 each.

The University of Alabama Project R.O.S.E. (Recycling

Oil Saves Energy and the Environment) was awarded \$75,000. Project R.O.S.E. promotes the recycling of used motor oil and provides listings of recycling locations.

The Purchasing Division of the State Finance Department received \$15,000 to assist in promoting the purchase of energy efficient and recycled content products to state and local purchasing officials. State Correctional Facilities and other State Agencies also received \$10,000.

"Providing a recycling program that is convenient is vital to the program's success," Siegelman said. "Because of this effort, more people will become involved in recycling. I am pleased to provide funds for this program."

The expenditures

for these sites are intended to be used to establish drop-off centers. The goals are to promote participation in communities and to purchase needed operations equipment.

Being willing to recycle supports the health of individuals, since we all live on the planet. Taking responsibility for ourselves and the world we share contributes to the well being of our global community.

**Constitution, continued from page 1**

The house will manage more day-to-day functions of the university such as club appropriations. How can a student decide whether to run for the house or the senate?

Morris explains that "For people who want to be more out front doing stuff, the house is more for them. For people that are worried about where is UAH and where are we going the Senate is more for them."



The senate will have more power but less people. There will only be ten members to the senate.

If the administration signs the constitution the next several weeks will mark the beginning of many changes for the SGA, the first being the filling of these six new positions.



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**Spring 2000 Phonathon**  
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Contact the Office of University Development at  
**890-6505**  
for more information or to schedule an interview



# Nicholson's new weekly column from A.C.E

**By Anthony Nicholson**  
News Writer

Hello and welcome to what's going on with Campus Entertainment. I am Anthony Nicholson, one of the six lovely directors of the Association for Campus Entertainment (A.C.E. for short) for the Fall 1999/ Spring 2000 school year, and I will be your guide. As most of you know, A.C.E. tries to provide the widest variety of entertainment possible to all of you on campus. This entertainment is selected by the six directors, and a handful of committee members based on what we all feel will provide the most entertainment for the largest portion of the student body. Why just a handful of committee members you ask? Well it's simple, they are the only ones interested enough to come to the meetings, which happen to be every single Friday at around 4:30 (shameless plug, sorry). If you are interested PLEASE attend one. We could really use your opinions. We already have many BIG things planned for this spring including the biggest homecoming this school has ever seen and there is talk of a major act coming to campus (more about that in future articles). Enough organizational propaganda, on with the upcoming events!

Here is what we have planned for your enjoyment this month. By the time this article is printed, the student body may or may not have missed out on the

National Comedian of the year, Buzz Sutherland, the musical talent of Huntsville Native, John Rush (the man practically knows every song under the sun), and up and coming comedian Bryan Tucker. However, there is plenty of time to experience "A Night Of Alabama In-

dependent Films", which will be at Chan Auditorium on Thursday, January 27 at around 9:00pm. This is a selection of film shorts from film students down at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa. These are people you may just end up hearing a lot about in the future (and I am not

just saying that because they are life-long friends).

On Friday, January 28, we welcome the first ever Slam Poetry Contest hosted by nationally renowned Slam Poet, Steve Coleman. You may have seen him on B.E.T. He will conduct the contest and will then perform. If

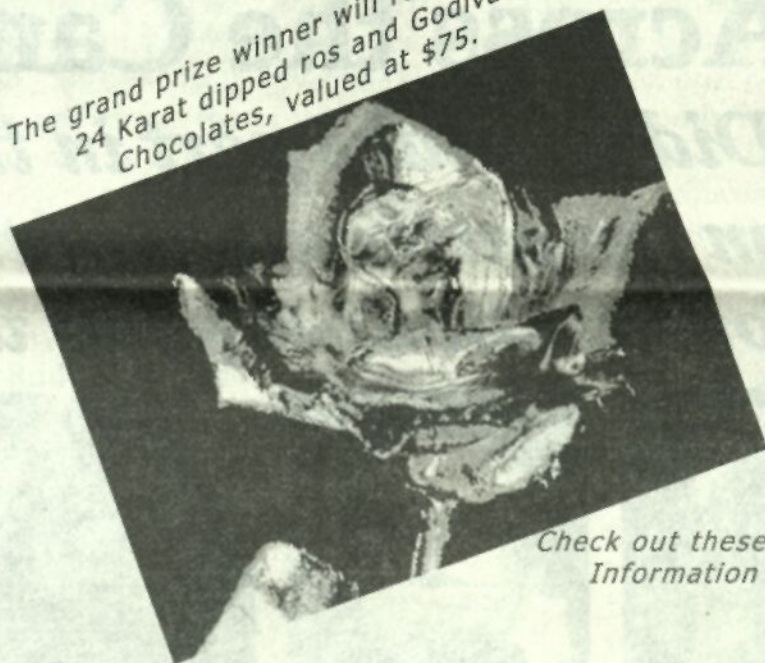
you have interest in being a part of the contest, stop by U.C. 106 F and see a director (or two).

For the first week of February, A.C.E. wants you to come and enjoy the soothing sounds of guitarist Keller Williams on Tuesday night at 9:00 pm in MoM's. Then, on Wednesday night

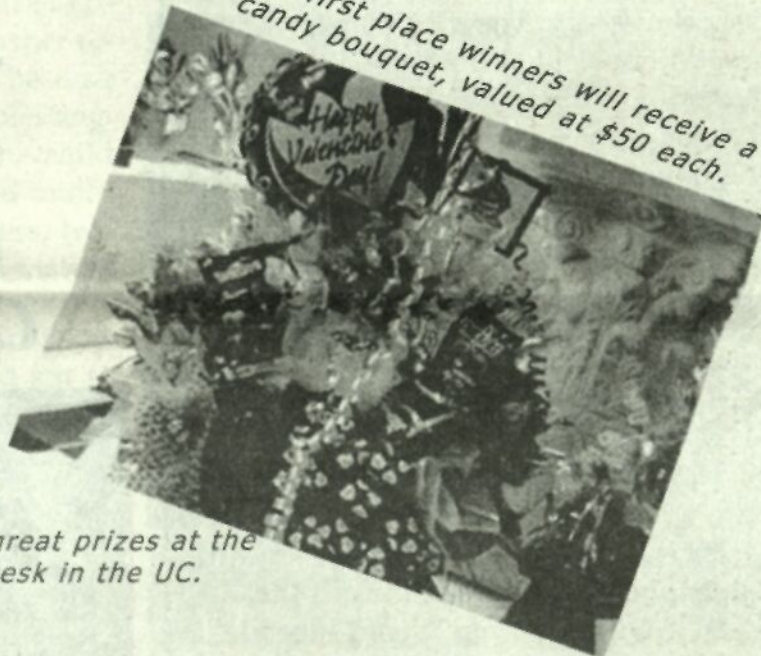
at 9:00 in MoM's also, come laugh with comedian Mitch Fatel (He's so talented). Come get a piece of pie Thursday night in Chan Auditorium as we present *American Pie*. All of these events are in support of Homecoming 2000. Have a good week and I will see you at the events!

## THE EXPONENT'S VALENTINE SPECIAL

The grand prize winner will receive this 24 Karat dipped rose and Godiva Chocolates, valued at \$75.



Two first place winners will receive a candy bouquet, valued at \$50 each.



Check out these great prizes at the Information Desk in the UC.

**Want to express your love and win free prizes too?**



**Send your Valentine a message in The Exponent!**

**Submit entries to: [duggara@email.uah.edu](mailto:duggara@email.uah.edu) or University Center, room 104.**

**15-25 word entries will be eligible for prize drawings.**

### Prizes Include:

**Grand Prize:** 24 Karat dipped rose and Godiva chocolates, valued at \$75 (One winner)

**1st Prize:** Candy Bouquet, valued at \$50 each (Two winners)

**2nd Prize:** A Pair of Movie Tickets, valued at \$15 (Two winners, one pair each)

**Entry deadline is Friday, February 4th at noon!**



# Motivated To Make A Difference

By Jennifer Roberts-Toews  
SGA meeting (1-24-99)

The Student Government Association began their meeting of January 24<sup>th</sup> by making their nominations for Homecoming Queen and King. The SGA's nominees are Liberal Arts legislator Amy Beth Lloyd and Legislator-At-Large Kodi Kodrowski, respectively.

The second order of business—the weekly Committee Reports—was presented by Appropriations Chair Cameron Rodgers. First, the Institute of Industrial Engineers (IIE) requested \$500 from the SGA budget. The request was made for the purpose of sending select IIE students to their regional conference at Louisiana Tech University. The IIE will be spending an additional \$400 from their own budget for the conference. The SGA granted the additional, requested funding from their budget. Secondly, the National Society for Black Engineers (NSBE) requested \$153 from the SGA budget in order to send their president to their Spring Regional Conference in Nashville. This funding request was also granted from the SGA budget.

Next, legislator Geoffrey Morris reported that the proposed SGA Constitution, which was passed by the SGA last semester, was also passed last week by the student body. In spite of the fact that the turnout was just over 2% of the student body, 91% of those who did vote favored the new Constitution. The new Constitution, which has been proven to be popular among UAH students, including the SGA, is now awaiting approval by UAH Administration.

In other business, legislator Dale Jobs announced the meeting of the Higher Education Partnership, which was held on January 25<sup>th</sup> in the UC. Participating students met with a guest speaker from the above organization who will be working with the SGA on S.T.A.R.S. (Student Teams Advocating Realistic Solutions), which is a project that focuses on acquiring—via statewide legislation—more money for education in Alabama schools.

Next, President Nathan Bowen discussed Homecoming events, which will take place from February 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>. The SGA will be distributing detailed information about Homecoming activities to all UAH clubs. Also, on Friday, the 4<sup>th</sup>, the SGA will be sponsoring a tailgate party at Spragins Hall at 5pm where students can

See Motivated, page 5

# Annual video contest for students

By Amy Beth Lloyd  
News Editor

The Christophers have announced their thirteenth annual video contest for college students. Cash awards of \$3,000, \$2,000, and \$1,000 will be given to the top three entries.

The winning works will also be featured on a syndicated television program called *Christopher Closeup*.

Entries must interpret the theme "One Person Can Make a

Difference." A variety of genres from documentary to comedy to music have been used by past winners.

Father Thomas McSweeney, The Christophers' Director says, "As a college professor for some twenty-five years, I know that college students have the enthusiasm and creativity to make the world a better place. The millennium is a unique time for them to express their vision and ideas."

Entries may be created using film or

video but they must be submitted on VHS tape and be five minutes or less in length. All currently enrolled college students, both undergraduate and graduate, are eligible to enter the competition. Students are also able to enter more than once, however, an official entry form must accompany each entry.

Deadline for entries is June 16, 2000.

Entry forms are available by writing to: College Video Contest, The Christophers, 12 East

48<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, NY 10017, or by calling 212-759-4050.

Entry forms can be accessed online at [www.christophers.org/vidcon2k.html](http://www.christophers.org/vidcon2k.html).

The Christophers are a non-profit organization that was founded in 1945.

They use print and electronic media to encourage individuals to recognize and use their abilities to better public life.

This ideal is expressed in their motto "It's better to light one candle than to curse the darkness."

## Across the Campus Did you take part in the vote on the ratification of the SGA Constitution? Why or why not?



**Jeremy Millich**  
Sophomore  
History

"No, I did not know about it. I don't vote."



**Amir Jalia**  
Graduate Student  
Computer Science

"Yes. More students should participate."



**Alissa Hogan**  
Sophomore  
Management Information Systems

"No I did not. It wasn't convenient."



**Mina Moghis**  
Junior  
Finance

"No, I just did not know about it.."

Photos by Amy Beth Lloyd

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# The moral dilemma of an abortion decision

**By Seth Worrell**  
*Religion Writer*

In recent years, I have witnessed many social issues debated on campus and within the confines of *The Exponent*. Feeling the need to respond to such moral dilemmas, I shall, over the next few weeks, look at biblical perspectives on contemporary ethical issues. College is a place of critical thinking. In keeping with the ideals of collegiate life, I implore you to read with an open mind the following weeks' columns. Let us first turn our attention to the issue of abortion. Keep in mind that I write not from my own point of view, but the views we find in God's Word. Every argument that I will present can be thoroughly extracted from the Bible, a Christian's guidebook for living. Enough said. Let's move on.

Any student of the

Bible knows that the Scriptures say nothing directly about abortion. So why do most Christians oppose abortion? What biblical principles can be used to come to a pro-life perspective on the issues? Is an unborn baby of equal value to a child that is born? These questions must be addressed.

First, why doesn't the Bible say anything about abortion? The answer is simple. Abortion was so unthinkable to an Israelite woman that there was no need to even mention it in the criminal code. First, children were viewed as a gift from God (Ps. 127:3). Second, God opens and closes the womb and is sovereign over conception (Gen. 29:33, 30:22; 1 Sam. 1:119-20). Third, childlessness was seen as a curse (Deut. 25:6; Ruth 4:5). Therefore abortion was so abhorrent to the Israelite mind that it was not necessary to have

a specific law to deal with it.

One of the key passages giving a biblical view of the sanctity of human life is Psalm 139, the record of David's praise to God. "For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well...When I was woven together in the depths of the earth, your eyes saw my unformed body." Here David wrote of God's relationship with him before he was born. Many other verses found in the Bible show divine involvement in the formation of the unborn baby. Jeremiah 1:5 says, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations."

Human beings are

created in the image and likeness of God (Gen. 1:26-27; 5:1; 9:6). Bearing the image of God is the essence of humanness. And though God's image in man was marred at the Fall, it was not erased. Thus unborn babies are made in the image of God and therefore are fully human in God's sight. Take a look at Luke 1:41-44 and notice John the Baptist's reaction to Jesus even before he was born!

Pro-abortion advocates often argue, "Abortion is the best solution to a crisis pregnancy." Often an unplanned pregnancy seems like a crisis, but on further reflection it can become a wonderful blessing. But even if the child was conceived under stress or duress, two wrongs don't make a right. The Bible teaches that it is wrong to add sin to sin (Isa. 30:1-2). If a mother cannot care for the child, she can give it to those who will care for him or her. Adoption is a better option than abortion. There are now more crisis-pregnancy centers in the U.S. than there are abortion clinics.

A woman facing a crisis pregnancy often feels the only solution

to her problem is abortion, and she fails to see the potential implications, including infertility and emotional scars. In the Bible God says He will make a way when there seems to be no way out. We have a firm promise that if we call on Him, He will answer us. Please don't give up

on life.

Perhaps you've already had an abortion. It's all right. God's love is still just as strong. Perhaps you are considering an abortion right now. Please pray, look in God's word and seek counsel. God's view is clear: Choose Life.

But don't take my word for it. Take His.

## Motivated, continued from page 4

decorate cars, receive free t-shirts (if carrying a proper, validated id card), and enjoy hot dogs, chips, and drinks.

Following Homecoming announcements, Bowen addressed the issue of student complaints regarding the lack of internet access at SE Hall. Although no action can currently be taken until further information is obtained, Bowen expressed concern on behalf of residents of SE Hall and asked for assistance from other SGA members in investigating the matter.

Lastly, Bowen

nominated graduate student Bala Marimuthu to represent the College of Graduate Studies as a legislator in SGA, the position that was recently vacated by

Pankaj Bavishi. The SGA reviewed Marimuthu's qualifications and quickly passed a motion to elect Marimuthu as the newest SGA legislator.

**Read *The Exponent's* stories online at [exponent.uah.edu](http://exponent.uah.edu)**

## Pregnant?

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# Sports

## Charger Sportsline

A QUICK UPDATE FROM UAH ATHLETICS

### Hockey

Record: 9-6-4

Niagara 4, UAH 3 (OT)

UAH 2, Niagara 2 (tie)

Bowling Green 4, UAH 3

Bowling Green 5, UAH 1

### Men's Basketball

Record: 13-2

UAH 78, West Florida 65

UAH 78, Montevallo 76

UAH 86, West Alabama 75

### Women's Basketball

Record: 5-11

West Florida 74, UAH 64

Montevallo 66, UAH 50

West Alabama 67, UAH 57

#### THE UAH TRACK CLUB

is looking for members! Runners at all skill levels are invited to join. If you are interested, call Coach David Cain in UAH Athletics at 890-6144.

### Homecoming ruined for Ross

Courtesy UAH Sports Information

Adam Ellinger's goal with less than two minutes left, broke a 3-3 tie and gave Bowling Green a dramatic come-from-behind 4-3 victory. It also ruined coach Doug Ross' return to his alma mater, where he was a standout in the 70's. The Chargers (9-5-4) are now winless in their last three games since sweeping Army at the Von Braun Center.

The Chargers jumped out to a two-goal lead behind scores by Ryan McCormack and Darren Curry. McCormack's goal, his fourth of the season, came at 7:46 in the first period off of assists by Marc Lalonde and Ron Baker. Curry put the Chargers up 2-0

with his sixth goal of the season less than seven minutes into the second period. Nathan Bowen and Mike Funk combined for the assist on the play.

The Falcons cut the lead to one at 8:36 on a power play goal by Tyler Knight. Then, in the third period, both offenses turned up the heat. A power play goal by Ellinger tied the score at 5:07 in the third period. UAH snapped back when Jessi Otis put the Chargers back on top with a goal at 14:20.

However, the UAH defense couldn't hold it. Ryan Fultz tied the game again at 16:14, setting the stage for Ellinger's heroics down the stretch.

## Lady Chargers drop the ball against Gulf South rivals

By Susan Irby  
Sports Writer

On January 18, 2000, UAH's Lady Chargers fell 66-50 to the University of Montevallo's Lady Falcons on the road.

The Lady Chargers and the Lady Falcons swapped the lead in the first 5:43 of the first half. Freshman Katie Caldwell gave a three point lead with 14:17 remaining in the half for the Lady Chargers. In order for the Lady Falcons to gain control, they went on an 11-2 run. Lady Falcons managed to maintain control in the game and took a 29-23 lead into the locker room after the first half.

UAH managed to bring Montevallo's eleven-point lead down to two with 6:59 remaining in second half. Montevallo could not stand UAH to trail closely behind. Montevallo decided to go on a 22-8 run to

take their first win in the Gulf South Conference this season.

The leading scorers for the Lady Chargers were senior Jennifer Whitley with a 24 point and 11 rebound performance and freshman Katie Caldwell with 13 points. Caldwell had 9 points from the three-point range.

The leading scorers for the Lady Falcons were Erica Harris with 15 points, Nicole Bejaran with 14 points and Bridget Hollis with 14 points. Harris added 13 rebounds for the Lady Falcons.

On January 22, the University of West Alabama's Lady Tigers knocked off UAH's Lady Chargers to 67-57. The Lady Chargers fell to 5-11 overall with their sixth straight loss (0-5 in the Gulf South Conference).

The higher points of the evening for the Lady Chargers: the ten-minute rain delay

because of a leaky roof and a concessions vendor nailed by freshman Katie Caldwell going for a save, which sent drinks flying.

The Lady Tigers led the entire game against the Lady Chargers. The Lady Chargers trailed by ten points within seven minutes of the game. With 8:58 remaining in the first half, the Lady Chargers cut the lead down to one point.

The Lady Tigers finished the half with a 16-3 run which gave a 34-20 halftime advantage. The Lady Chargers nailed 25% of their field goals (5-20), while the Lady Tigers maintained 53% of their field goals (17-32).

During the second half with 13:32 remaining, the Lady Tigers led 51-29. The Lady Chargers were not ready to throw in the towel, cutting the lead down to seven

points with 7:43 left in the game.

The lead scorers for the Lady Chargers were senior Jennifer Whitley with 24 while freshman Katie Caldwell added 13. Whitley scored 24 points in 38 minutes and was sent to the free throw line 21 times scoring 14.

The lead scorers for the Lady Tigers were Tori Johnson with 18, Staci Elder with 14, Kim Cooper with 12 while CaMeshia Pete added 10. Elder contributed 10 rebounds to the Lady Tigers throughout the game Saturday night.

The Lady Tigers outscored the Lady Chargers 40-18. The Lady Chargers were outrebounded by 35-25 and were only 0-1 from the freethrow lane during the entire game and won.

Don't forget that all games are broadcast on the internet via Live On The Net ([www.liveonthenet.com](http://www.liveonthenet.com)).

## Bowling Green batters UAH hockey

Courtesy  
UAH Sports  
Information

The Chargers trip to Bowling Green will be remembered as a painful experience for a couple of reasons. First, the Falcons come back to beat the Chargers in the first

game in the series. Then, with three Chargers out of the lineup after suffering injuries in that game, Bowling Green laid a 5-1 loss on their southern guests.

Without centerman Kevin Ridgeway, and defenders Darren Curry and Marc Lalonde, who were all

relegated MASH unit status, the Charger lines were seriously damaged. Jay Woodcroft was suffering from a sore shoulder, but remained in the lineup.

Bowling Green took advantage of the gimpy Charger lineup early, putting three goals on the board in the first period. Then in the second period, the Falcons added two more

goals to take a 5-0 lead. Also in the period, goaltender Steve Briere had to leave the game after he took a shot to the shoulder.

The Chargers avoided the shutout in the third period when Ryan McCormack scored at 6:08. It was McCormack's fifth goal of the season.

Bowling Green outshot the Chargers 53-19 for the game.

[exponent.uah.edu](http://exponent.uah.edu)



# McNair leads Titans to Super Bowl

By Percy Allen  
*Knight-Ridder  
Tribune*

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — For Steve McNair, his fate has always seemed to be determined by others trying to judge his ability. He was not good enough to play big-time college football. Or smart enough to quarterback an NFL team. Or the most recent criticism: He couldn't throw the ball with enough efficiency to lead Tennessee to a third straight victory against Jacksonville at Alltel Stadium.

McNair heard it, he said and it hurt.

But to beat a Jaguar defense nicknamed "Dare McNair," he would have to prove his critics correct. McNair couldn't win by passing, but he needed to sprint past Jacksonville and carried Tennessee to a 33-14 victory that gave the franchise its first AFC championship and trip to Super Bowl.

On third-and-one, McNair rolled to his left, stopped for a moment and took off upfield.

He was tackled at the 1-yard line, but scored on the next play. It was McNair's second rushing touchdown, and he ran for almost as many yards as he had passing.

Afterward, the performance nearly made him blush. He can throw the ball, he insists. He's got the records and videotape to prove it. But to see him now, running into the Super Bowl is a side of McNair that he'd rather not reveal. He prefers to stand in the pocket and fire passes the way he used to.

Again, McNair was outpassed by his counterpart.

Early in the third quarter, Hardy broke free on a blitz but missed McNair who spun away and passed to George for a 15-yard gain. On the play, the defensive tackle was penalized 15 yards for roughing the passer, which pushed Tennessee to the Jacksonville 35.

McNair scored on a 1-yard run four plays later, giving the Titans their first lead, 17-14.

In the first half, both teams played evenly and the Jaguars led by four points at intermission. When it seemed Jacksonville would blow out the Titans, Tennessee countered every scoring drive. Jacksonville scored quickly, needing just two minutes to cover 62 yards before Brunell connected with tight end Kyle Brady for a 7-yard touchdown pass.

Tennessee responded with a nine-

play, 51-yard drive that took 5:50 minutes. McNair hadn't been sharp on many passes, but was able to throw a 9-yard touchdown pass to receiver Yancy Thigpen.

Both teams traded interceptions before Jacksonville took the lead in the second quarter on James Stewart's 33-yard touchdown run through the middle.

It wasn't until both teams traded fumbles late in the third quarter that the game was decided.

The Jaguars began on their 1-yard line, but struggled to advance the football. Running back Fred Taylor (19 carries, 110 yards) was nearly caught in the end zone, but managed to escape a flurry of Titans and avoid a safety.

On the next play, however, defensive tackle Josh Evans broke through the middle and caught Brunell by the ankle

and defensive tackle Jason Fisk drove the Jacksonville quarterback into the turf for a safety.

Momentum clearly shifted toward Tennessee and all the air seemed to be sucked out of the stadium when Derrick Mason returned the ensuing punt 80 yards for a touchdown to give the Titans a 26-14 advantage.

Jacksonville had two drives stopped in the fourth quarter because of turnovers and was unable to mount a serious scoring threat. The Titans played ball control and relied on the running of McNair and George, who finished with 86 yards on 25 carries.

Afterward, the two joked about the game and their performance.

To this, McNair smiled. Again, more labels.

© Knight-Ridder Tribune, 2000

## Fantasy Sports Tip of the Week

By Danny Parker  
*Sports Writer*

Fantasy basketball owners should start to prepare for a shake-up in league standings with the influx of star players returning from injury.

As I stated a couple of weeks ago, Hakeem Olajuwon, Tim Hardaway and Eddie Jones are all back. The only question that remains is how many games it will take for these players to get back into the swing of things.

Jones has returned as a force in the Charlotte starting lineup already. Consider yourself lucky if you still have him on your team after talk of his elbow injury potentially ruining his season. Jones provides scoring, assists, rebounds, 3-point shooting and steals all from the guard-forward position.

Tim Hardaway is back running the point for Miami. He is yet to play over 30 minutes, but likely will be back to his old self before mid-season.

Olajuwon has had three or four average games. However, with Carlos Rogers now out with a torn ligament in his thumb, Olajuwon is the only legitimate low-post threat for Houston. Look for Olajuwon's minutes and scoring to go up quickly.

There has been an Anfernee Hardaway sitting in Phoenix recently. Hardaway returned to the court last Saturday and had 12 points, three rebounds, and six assists in 28 minutes.

Tom Gugliotta should now warrant consideration for a return to your starting lineup if he is on your roster. In his last two games, Gugliotta has averaged 18 points and 12 rebounds per game in around 40 minutes of play.

Detroit's Grant Hill and Boston's Paul Pierce have both gone down with injuries as of late. Hill went down with a severely bruised tailbone. Pierce is having hamstring trouble. Neither player is likely to sit very long.

If you have Zydrunas Ilgauskas on your roster, it is now time to let the Cleveland center go. Ilgauskas is having surgery to correct a fractured navicular bone in his left foot and should miss the entire 1999-2000 season. This news further proves the fact that if you have a stellar player at the center position, then consider yourself lucky.

Good news has hit the San Antonio Spurs' camp recently. The *San Antonio Express-News* is reporting that Sean Elliott has received medical clearance to begin

See Parker, page 14

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# Entertainment

## Humor Me

### Celebrities that break the law... and the public who loves them

By Emily Gaither  
Entertainment Editor

I was just reading yet another story about Puff Daddy, or Puffy Combs, or whatever the hell his name is, and it struck me how incredibly often we hear about celebrities breaking the law, and how it affects our perception of them.

For instance, remember Hugh Grant's little run-in with the oldest profession in the world? Okay, when Hugh Grant picked up Divine Brown and got caught, many things were running through our heads. First of all, yeah right, like Hugh Grant really needs to go see a prostitute..Second of all, isn't he living with Elizabeth Hurley..oooh, he is SO dead, and third of all, WHAT? Yet when his movie *9 Months* came out, it actually did better than it should have because of his little skirmish.

Then, there have been the inevitable child stars, like Gary Coleman and the entire cast of *Different Strokes*, who just can't seem to avoid getting arrested.

Their reasoning, of course being that if they're in the news for getting arrested, maybe we won't forget who they are. "What you talkin' 'bout, Willis", just may not be enough anymore...

Lest we forget the older and less famous stars whose legal battles have NOT helped their careers at all. For instance, Christian Slater may as well kiss any hope of a career goodbye. He wasn't all that famous in the first place.

Yes, Christian, you once reminded us of Jack Nicholson, but you also made movies like *Gleaming the Cube* and *Kuffs*, so if you don't get hired because of your drug problems, we're not likely to care.

In Christian's similar category, there is Robert Downey, Jr. When I was about 11, I had the biggest crush on him. I can't quite remember why. I think it was when he was in *Weird Science*.

He's been in rehab A LOT.

I think he may actually have spent more time in rehab in the last 3 years than he's

See Gaither, page 9

## Don't stop believing in dreams

By Balamurugan Marimuthu  
Entertainment Writer

Three students at UAH have embarked on a mission to etch their names in the annals of cyber history. Gone are the days when you needed big bucks, a celebrity to promote your product, and competition among well established companies.

We live in an age where a brilliant idea supported with facts and figures can give the software giants a run for their money. This is exactly what Vijay Ganesh (EE), Rajiv Jayaraman (CS) and Ramanan

Rajagopalan (EE) ventured upon some time back and have been pursuing their dream ever since.

They earnestly began creating their web page two months ago, and much hard work has been done. They have developed a premier portal on India that will act as an ultimate destination for anyone interested in knowing about the largest democracy in the world [www.virtuaal-india.com](http://www.virtuaal-india.com), as the name suggests, will offer the users a feeling of virtually visiting India. E-Commerce, free e-mail, auctions, chat and information channels

are the main contents of this site.

It gives the users a wealth of information on topics ranging from arts to automobiles in India. This innovative attempt is attracting praise from all over the place and is catching the attention of people from all over the world. The web page offers users a rich experience by providing them with both visual content and commerce related topics.

One of the highlights of this site is a special section for students. This site offers exciting travel deals for students, discussion forums and expert columns. Spon-

sorship has been promised. Though in its embryonic stages, the site does foresee a great future ahead. They were unanimous in saying that in about 3 weeks the site would be fully developed and raring to go.

Having visited their web site, I would like to add as a parting comment that to fulfil their dreams they need to add some features that are unique and also update more regularly.

For these three young dreamers, to say that the sky is the limit would be an understatement. I hope you join me in wishing these budding students all the best.

## Outrageous research projects collected for Hot AIR website

By Cathy Kearney  
Entertainment Writer

Topics: "Research team discovers elevator music may prevent the common cold," a meteorological report on "Chicken Plucking as a Measure of Tornado Wind Speed." Sound like a headline in the *National Inquirer*? Hardly.

These were actual projects that were funded and scientifically conducted by various institutions of research and educa-

tion. You can read the documents and see for yourself at [www.improbable.com](http://www.improbable.com). This web site contains numerous (and humorous) articles on what scientists with unusual ideas are up to.

Hot AIR, which stands for Annals of Improbable Research, is the name of the group that compiles the information from all parts of the world. AIR awards the "Ig Nobel Prize" for those outstanding in imaginative research. Among the recipients are a scientist's study of measuring people's

brainwave patterns as they chewed different flavors of gum, a man who did his doctorate thesis on Canadian donut shops, and University of Bergen, Norway's study on the effect of ale, garlic and sour cream on leeches used for surgery.

Know what they found out? "After being exposed to beer, some of the leeches changed their behavior, swaying their fore-bodies, losing grip, or falling on their backs". I could have told them that.

One I considered most interesting was the award given to the president of the Safety Detection Agency in Osaka, Japan who

helped develop something called "S-Check".

This is an "infidelity-detection spray" that wives can apply to their husband's underwear to check for any hanky-panky going on.

Yikes! This is serious research!

Improbable.com is sponsored in part by Harvard University and its computer society and is managed by Cybercom. Navigation of the site is easy and links provide access to lots of "improbable" information.

And you thought that research paper on the mating flights of swallow-tail butterflies was a dumb idea.

[exponent.uah.edu](http://exponent.uah.edu)



# MP3: The new face of music for the year 2000

By **John Dawkins**  
*Entertainment  
 Writer*

Over the last few years musicians and music lovers have been introduced to a new way of distributing and getting music over the web. MP3 has been the force driving the explosion of downloadable music. MP3 is a near CD quality compressed audio file that allows for reasonable download times of music that sounds like it came right from a CD. The proliferation of downloadable music sites have allowed small bands and independent labels to showcase their work and give away promotional music for free without the cost of producing CDs as well as reaching a larger audience.

Major record companies are beginning to view having an Internet presence, especially downloadable music, as an integral part of their business structure. One major example is the merger between Time-Warner and America On-line. With the advent of portable MP3 players and CD burners on home computers becoming more

and more common, the listener is no longer confined to listening to MP3s on the computer, instead having the portability and convenience of tapes, CDs, or dedicated MP3 players at their disposal. The sweetest perk to emerge is from the MP3 explosion is free music, something the major record company labels are reacting to with mixed feelings.

Legitimate free music sites abound on the web. MP3.com is the pre-eminent example, showcasing largely new and undiscovered artist in many music genres, as well as offering numerous free songs to download. MP3.com also has links and downloads to inexpensive or free software that allows the user to convert CD tracks into MP3 files, among other things, and listen to them on their computer or distribute them to others. It is the latter that concerns the major record labels.

Illegal MP3 sites abound on the web distributing copyrighted music, often for free, without record company con-

sent. A person with a C.D. "burner" (rewriteable CD-ROM drive) on their computer can download these songs and, with the right software, burn their own C.D., or multiple copies of a C.D., while portable MP3 players cut out the need for CDs at all. This cuts the record companies and retailers out of their share of the profits, understandably upsetting them.

The Music Industry has reacted by cracking down going after college students at the University of Oregon, as well as other schools in the U.S., shocking some students who never considered the legal ramifications of trading music over the internet. Jeffrey Levy, a twenty-two year old senior at the University of Oregon became one of the first to be criminally prosecuted for distributing illegal MP3s. He ended up being sentenced to two years probation in November 1999. Some schools are beginning to cover distribution of illegal MP3s in their computer use policies.

MP3 is impacting the Music industry in

less legally contentious ways as well. MP3s available from legitimate sites such as CDNow.com offer songs by the track. This allows users to pick and choose which tracks they want, and paying only for those songs. Prices vary from site to site but a dollar a track would be a fairly typical price to expect to pay for a well-known artist. This is causing some analysts to predict the genesis of a sort of digital version of the old forty-five records, were consumers will gravitate towards singles rather than albums.

MP3, though it has been around for a few years, has just recently exploded into mainstream popular-

ity as an audio format. Advances in hardware are making MP3s players an attractive alternative to CD players, because they hold many more tracks and take less space than CD players. C.D. "burners" are allowing those who don't feel the need for an MP3 player to make their own CDs from downloaded music, converting MP3 into CD format.

MP3s allow con-

sumers more freedom to choose which songs they wish to purchase and si... promoting independent artist and alternative genres all for exposure to greater variety of musical styles. Wh most don't believe that downloadable music will completely replace record stores, the MP3 format certainly looks to stand on an equal footing with CD in the very near future.

## Gaither, continued from page 8

spent reminding people who he is.

Sadly (or not), I don't see his career making a huge leap back to his 80's glory.

However, you also have people like Matthew Perry from *Friends*, who went to rehab a few years ago and returned to the same popularity. Kelsey Grammar has been repeatedly involved with drugs without a dent in his ratings, and Tim Allen

who has been involved in accidents due to drunk driving, and well...actually *Home Improvement* got lame, but I don't think it's because of Tim Allen's drunk driving, maybe drunk writers...

Anyway, as the Puff Daddy case becomes more prominent, maybe we can see in action just what I'm talking about.

Jennifer Lopez (ugh) is also heavily

involved in this case, so we can see how both of their popularity is affected.

However, if it were up to me, Puff Daddy would be arrested for stealing decent songs and making them suck, and Jennifer Lopez would be arrested for selling out under the guise of her Latin American persona.

She's more Americanized than I am.

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# Play it to the Bone has no marrow

By Juli Cross  
Entertainment  
Writer

Ron Shelton has given us great flicks—think *Bull Durham* and *White Men Can't Jump*—however his talent is lost in his newest film *Play It to the Bone*. Shelton wrote and directed this piece of cinematic scrap. Unfortunately, we are aware of his potential to delve into the heart of the sport's machismo, see past the hype, and find the heart of the athlete—the struggle for success and the fear of failure. With this knowledge, it can only be assumed that Shelton has temporarily lost sight of that character development we all love so dearly in his films and has given us some of the most underdeveloped, overdramatic heroes to hit the silver screen in quite some time.

Banderas are loveable as two thugs preparing to step into the ring to battle—who else—each other. However, by the time the movie gets around to the big fight—which has spectacular editing and painfully realistic brutality—the audience simply does not care anymore.

The movie opens with a pretty sweet first round. Two failed fighters are offered a second chance of a lifetime—to fight in Las Vegas. Cesar (Banderas) and Vince (Harrelson) are each offered \$50,000 and the winner will have a chance at the middleweight title (a contractual agreement sloppily negotiated in one of the movie's better scenes). The only catch is they have to be in Vegas by that afternoon. No problem. They simply call on Cesar's girlfriend Grace for a ride.

Woody Harrelson and Antonio Grace (Lolita Dovidovitch) and the



Photo courtesy of Play it to the Bone official web site.

boys hop in her ride (a beautiful apple-green Oldsmobile convertible) and head to Vegas. From this point on, the movie begins to drag.

The characters each begin to develop before our eyes, yet it is so hallow it feels over-acted. Banderas is loveable as the prize-fighter from Madrid who has lived several years with a crippling memory of a lost fight at Madison Square Garden. Harrelson is in his usual wild-boy role, though this wild-boy has visions of Jesus (yes, Jesus does appear several times to Vince). The failure in the roles is no fault of the actors, they simply didn't have the script.

Shelton does offer a headstrong, confident female in Dovidovitch's Grace, however. Not only

does she have some of the best lines in the flick, she also delivers the punches to back up the bad-girl attitude. Unfortunately, Lucy Liu's character Lia is a money-hungry, stereotypical tart. It makes you wonder what Shelton was thinking when he created her. Luckily, her role is small, comparatively speaking.

If you can stomach the drawn-out trip to Vegas, the fight will make up for your suffering.

While you probably will have figured out the outcome before you even buy your ticket, it is visually amazing.

The emotion of the actual fight between the best friends mixed with their individual memories and hallucinations create one of the best boxing scenes on the big screen.

**If you have any comments on the articles or the Entertainment section in general, please contact Emily Gaither at [egaither@cs.uah.edu](mailto:egaither@cs.uah.edu).**

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# Dear Layla: a new weekly advice column

**Dear Layla,**  
I really have trouble finding decent people to date. I always seem to meet total losers. How do I find someone that I don't want to kill and could have a decent relationship with?

**Miss Lonelyhearts at UAH**

This is a very common problem for many women. There are at least two possible explanations for this dating phenomenon depending upon your own psychological standpoint. First, and probably most common, is that you may have low self-esteem and "losers" can really pick up on that. Low self-esteem is like a pheromone for these types of guys (i.e. they can smell victim all over you). Many are simply co-dependent, but some are abusive and dangerous. If you have any acting skills, the remedy to this problem is simple. Pretend that you are confident, and these guys won't be interested in you at all. Do a lot of introspection, give yourself a lot of "me time", stand up straight and tall, and maybe even take a martial arts class or something. In short, do whatever you must to complete the image of an assertive, independent woman. You may find that you have fewer dates, but those

guys who do take on an independent, self-fulfilled woman are usually stable and well adjusted. There is an added bonus to this strategy as well; as you act independent and strong, you may actually become more assertive and independent through practice and through the realization that you deserve decent men.

If you do not fit the profile of the victim then this second explanation may help. You may simply have very high standards for the men you date. You may go through a lot of guys, and feel that finding "the one" is hopeless; however, unlike many women, instead of settling for a guy with only some of the right qualities, you will wait for the guy with all of the right qualities. If this is your situation (i.e. you know that you don't have a low self-esteem) then I say bravo. You keep weeding out those imperfections and eventually you will find the man that really floats your boat!

**Dear Layla,**  
I just transferred to UAH from a college in California, and I had to leave my girlfriend of 4 years. We've been through so much together, but we're so far apart that it's hard for us to remain as close as we were. I've been thinking about saying that we should date other people, but I don't know if that's what I really want. What should I do?

**Confused at UAH**  
Long distance relationships are a very common and often painful problem for college students. On the one hand we are incredibly lucky to have very advanced communication opportunities in this day and age which enable us to better maintain relationships with those who may live across the continent, as in your case. E-mail, chat rooms, and even that dinosaur, the telephone, have kept many relationships afloat.

On the other hand you can't hug your computer, your phone can't keep you

warm on a cold January night, and some people just aren't that into cybersex. If you are entertaining the idea of dating other people, then that may be your best option. I am assuming that you have very strong feelings for your girlfriend in California since you were together for so long, and that makes it much tougher to break up due solely to your geographical incompatibilities (i.e. if she were here then you'd be happier than two pigs in slop).

So here is my suggestion: see how she feels about the situation. She may be having the same feelings as you are having. I think that once you start an open discourse about how you

feel about one another in conjunction with your situation, your decision will be a lot easier to come to. If you are truly in love and you are meant to be together, even if you date other people while you are apart, you will wind up with each other in the end. So put your faith in the gods and goddesses of love, keep the lines of communication open with your California girl, and do what your mind, body, and soul tell

you to do.

*Have questions? Need advice? Just ask Layla! Write to Layla at skinnel@uah.edu or drop your letters by The Exponent office in UC 104. Layla will offer smart, witty and honest advice on anything from people to pets, and she's Y2K Compliant! Letters will be answered in the order in which they are received, and will be printed in The Exponent. Everything is, of course, anonymous if you wish.*

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# Editorial

## Be sure to lock up

By Dauphne Rogers  
Editor-In-Chief

You may be relatively safe on campus at UAH.

But your personal property sure isn't.

Thanks to the Federal Crime Awareness and Campus Security Act of 1990, and Campus Police's compliance with that act, *The Exponent* received a copy of the incident/offense report for November 1 through November 30, 1999.

At first glance, the report looks pretty good. No murders and only 2 arrests.

Robbery—0.

But wait a minute, 3 burglaries and 16 theft of properties.

And how many days was class in session that month? 20.

So, out of the 20 days school was going on, there were 19 theft-related incidents on campus.

Wait, wait. In all fairness, I should mention that there are students who live on campus.

Some of these incidents could have happened when school wasn't in session. But most people went home for four days at Thanksgiving. That leaves 26 days when these offenses could have taken place.

Even if we look at the whole 30 days for that month, there was still more than one theft every other day on average.

Anyway you look at it, there was a lot of stealing going on around campus last November.

I know that theft happens everywhere, not just at UAH.

And maybe I was naïve, but I didn't realize that so much stealing was happening on the campus of UAH.

As a matter of fact, I need to go check my car. I don't think I locked it this morning.

God forbid anyone swipe those expensive art supplies I had to run all over town looking for!

## Offense or albatross?

By J. Caleb Clanton  
Opinion Writer

Occasionally, I like to respond to particular printed letters to the editor; and I do so with all due respect. In the January 13, 2000 edition of *The Exponent*, there was a certain letter signed, "Name withheld for personal security" (Ms. No-Name, for future reference) which very much provoked my interest. In this letter, the author voiced her "gut feeling...that a student newspaper should not promote or be promoted by special interest groups" in reference to a pro-life advertisement that was printed in *The Exponent*.

The truth of the matter is this: any time and any place there is advertisement, there are special interest groups getting involved in the situation. Unfortunately, *The Exponent* is not any different in this respect. Consequently, every time we print an edition of *The Exponent*, we are forced to look to those special interest groups, be it Joe's

Dinner or Sav-a-Life, in order cover the necessary expenses. We have to pay bills, so we sell ads.

And, each advertisement carries with it a suggestion and a message - buy this, wear that, go here, eat there. Make no mistake about, every Gap or Varsitybooks.com or abortion service ad you've seen is promoting someone's special interest. Yet, Ms. No-Name does not seem to be objecting to the promotion of those special interests.

As such, the real issue seems to be that, despite the said reality concerning the nature of advertising, Ms. No-Name wants to contend that we ought not run paid advertisements for the Human Life Alliance of Minnesota, a pro-life organization, because the material presented was "graphic" and "very offensive," especially during the stressful exams.

Really? I don't understand.

On the one hand, Ms. No-Name has personally experienced the most graphic and offensive

nature of her own admitted abortion procedure. In fact, Ms. No-Name considers that abortion to be "one of the better decisions [she] made at the time." Yet, she becomes offended by an advertisement that merely describes the very same process she so boldly condones by her very actions.

Come now, Ms. No-Name. Are you offended? Or, are you convinced, perhaps, that you had made a selfish and cruel decision, having considered your past actions?

My point is not to condemn or to further "offend" Ms. No-Name by suggesting the immorality of her past actions. We've all made immoral decisions at one time or another. But, you can learn from those mistakes that you've made and at least seek . Or, you can hide from them in attempt to justify/rationalize them, blaming someone else for the graphic offense you feel at the cued thought of your own actions.

If that be the case, don't blame *The Exponent*.

## Legislating manners?

By Amy Duggar  
Staff Writer

Let me begin by saying, I voted for him. I supported the lottery and I even hosted a little "Fob's Gone" victory party when he was elected. This time, however, Governor Don Siegelman has gone too far. On Tuesday, January 18, Siegelman announced plans to introduce Character Legislation. That's right - now we're going to legislate manners in Alabama. The new bill would require students at school to address teachers and other adults by courtesy titles, such as

"sir" and "ma'am."

Siegelman rationalized, "Some kids have forgotten what it is to show respect for others, and some less fortunate were perhaps never taught this virtue at all. By requiring this sort of good conduct in schools, we will improve the way students interact with others and it may make a difference in each child's life."

Okay, first of all, I know we don't live in the most courteous society in the world. It would definitely be nice if others said "thank you" for holding the door or "excuse me" as they trample on top of you

on the stairs, but GET REAL. Manners just aren't a huge part of today's world.

Though we often forget that poor manners can really ruin someone else's day, to legislate the titles by which we address people is not realistic. I'll admit, I consider myself to be respectful of others, but I don't necessarily address all of my professors as "ma'am" or "sir" or even "Doctor", but that does not reflect any lack of respect on my part. I was taught manners as a child, perhaps to

See Manners,  
page 14

## The Exponent Staff

Editor-In-Chief: Dauphne Rogers

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Entertainment Editor: Emily Gaither

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# Opinion

## Letters to the Editor

Included on the Opinion page in your January 20, issue was a letter from a UAH student/employee who had been rejected for a loan, and was upset about it.

While I will not discuss an individual member's account, I would like to address our credit union's ongoing commitment to serving faculty, staff and alumni of UAH—and since January 1999, students, as well.

Certainly, our credit union is eager to fulfill its mission of saving members money and improving their financial circumstances. Consistent with that philosophy—and supported with our own research—our products and services and competitively priced and as conveniently accessible as possible to our members. Our loan policies, shaped with the needs of our 16,000 members in mind, are designed to provide qualifying members with an economical source of credit for worthwhile needs. Our loan policies are also designed to allow an acceptable amount of risk for *it is the members' savings that fund these loans*. We try very hard to make every loan, an effort beyond that typically exerted by most for-profit financial institutions (i.e., banks). Sometimes, however, borrowers come to us with problems we simply can't resolve.

Suffice it to say our loan approval percentage of almost 95

percent is witness to our commitment.

Extending service to students was a large step for our credit union, and the UAH students have responded enthusiastically by accepting our various services at rates and prices that couldn't be duplicated elsewhere. Many students have verified they save from \$25 to \$146 per month compared to using comparable services at another financial institution. And yes, we have made loans to many students when their credit history and ability to repay allowed us to do so.

I invite all members—students, faculty, staff, alumni and family members of those persons—to apply for loans and to take advantage of Alabama Credit Union's strong commitment to quality personal service. I can assure you that you will be treated with respect, and if our credit union can find a way to assist you within our policies and guidelines, we will be delighted to do so.

**Kayce M. Bell**  
Vice President/  
Marketing and  
Compliance  
Manager, Huntsville  
Office

This letter is in response to J. Caleb Clanton's editorial on the "correct" name for carbonated beverages. First of all, why is this "the topic of much debate" in your life, Caleb? Do you have nothing more important to talk

about? Who made it your job to "publicly reprimand and ostracize" those who do not call carbonated beverages "coke"? If someone calls their mother "mom" instead of your name for your mother do you strike them down with your omniscient power as well?

Secondly, why are you so close-minded? Had the thought never crossed your mind that in other places people had different names for things? In the north, the popular phrase is "pop". Here, it is "coke".

Basically all you are doing is telling people that they have to conform to the ways of the land. I believe in personal freedom and that people should be able to think and do how they please. Obviously, you don't. Maybe you'd be happier in a dictatorship rather than a democracy...? Do you also think people are wrong for being of a different race, religion, or sex than you?

Lastly, I would like to challenge you. Give me a philosophically sound argument for why people should call things the name you give them and I will accept your term. If the argument is not sound, I will continue to laugh at you.

**Daniel Cockrell**  
University of  
Alabama  
JDC101@  
hotmail.com

I have always found UAH to be a university comprised

of very intelligent and open-minded individuals. It is primarily for this reason that I was shocked to read that one of the Charger Café menu items is veal parmesan. Although I am a vegetarian and an animal rights activist, these personal facts do not cloud my judgment in this issue.

While I do not morally condone unnecessarily eating animals, I believe that veal is even *more* offensive than more traditional kinds of meat. For example, my father is an avid hunter, but even he boycotted veal at least fifteen years ago because, in his words, "It's the *cruelest* thing in the world." For those who do not know what makes veal so cruel, let me explain.

Veal calves are taken from their mothers at birth and confined—for the rest of their lives—to 22" x 54" crates that prevent any movement, including *the ability to lie down*. This is done to cause atrophy of the muscles, by preventing them from exercising, thus tenderizing their "meat" for what was—in "the dark ages"—considered gourmet food. Please let the Charger Café know that we are both well educated and kind, and would like them to remove veal from their menu. For further information regarding this issue or for related animal welfare, contact me at [chihuahua\\_woman@yahoo.com](mailto:chihuahua_woman@yahoo.com).

## The President's Corner

By Nathan Bowen  
SGA President

Good day!

I walked outside today and told a friend I was cold to which she replied "Why? You are from the North." I would just like to clear up the misconception that people from Canada never get cold. After being spoiled by the weather here for the last 4 years, yes it has been cold the last few days!

On to business. The SGA had the week off due to Martin Luther King Jr. Day on Monday. However, no meeting does not mean no work was accomplished. The SGA handed out blue and white spirit shakers at the basketball game on January 15, and these will be passed out at future games in an effort to show our support for UAH athletics.

On Wednesday and Thursday of last week, the referendum was held for the new SGA Constitution. We would like to thank all the students who went out to vote, and we are proud to announce that the Constitution was passed by 91.1% of those students who voted. Many hours of hard work have been poured into this Constitution in an effort to better serve the student body. I would like to personally thank Geof Morris, James Kodrowski, Nick Hughes, and the rest of the SGA for their time and effort concerning this venture. The constitution will now go to the administration for review.

HOMECOMING is not far off, and a tremendous amount of work has been done to insure an enjoyable time for all in attendance. Look for the scheduled events in this week's issue of *The Exponent*. Clubs should be sure to check their mailboxes for information regarding the spirit contest. A \$500 scholarship will be awarded to the organization that demonstrates the most spirit during HOMECOMING week. I would like to thank Steve Bruce, April Harris, Nancy Thomas, Sheila Ray, Juanita Owens, Liz Tanner, and all the rest of the HOMECOMING committee. Your work is greatly appreciated.

Well, be sure to take advantage of the upcoming events. Many free giveaways will take place at the HOMECOMING events.

Have a great week!



**Parker, continued from page 7**

practice with the team. Elliott, last year's starting small forward for the NBA champions, has been sidelined all season after undergoing a kidney transplant in August.

Expect Elliott to be back in the Spurs lineup sometime

around the All-Star break in mid-February.

Exercising patience is an important tip to

consider when a key player returns from an injury. Often, it will take a few games before a star can re-

gain his or her place as a legit threat. In other words, if you have a player that has been filling in nicely

while you star has been injured, do not be in a rush to make a roster move. Check the box scores fre-

quently around the star's return and wait for the numbers to get back to usual before starting him or her.

**Manners, continued from page 12**

the extreme. I do feel lucky to have been raised in a home where my parents tried hard to instill

values and morals that they felt were important; I know not everyone has that advantage.

The problem remains that even if courtesy is enforced at school, it won't necessarily be added to the list of values enforced at home. In short, just because it's a school rule, doesn't mean it will be a rule at home (especially if it has never been an issue of importance).

Secondly, Siegelman's notion

that referring to adults within the school as "ma'am" or "sir" will improve student interactions seems weak. With all of the school violence that has occurred in the last couple of years, I would think that top priority regarding any changes in student interactions should be directed toward elimi-

nating such problems. I seriously doubt that any of the violent outbreaks that have happened across the nation could have been avoided by addressing faculty and staff with so-called courtesy titles. Furthermore, I can think of other issues in Alabama education that should take priority.

**Editor's Note: The Exponent reserves the right to edit letters to the editor for errors, punctuation, clarification, and to conform to length and style requirements. Please try to limit your letters to 250 or less. Opinions expressed in columns or letters are those of the authors, and not necessarily that of The Exponent, its staff or management.**

# Campus Club Wire

*If you would like to post your Greeks or club's announcements, please send your information to The Exponent office. You may bring it to room 104 of the University Center, or you can fax it to our office at 890-6096. All Campus Club Wire announcements should be turned into Amy Duggar*

### An Evening with H.E. Francis

The UAH Humanities Center and the UAH English Department are proud to present "An Evening with H.E. Francis," Friday, January 28 at 7:30pm in the Union Grove Meeting Hall. Mr. Francis, Professor Emeritus of English at UAH, and recipient of a Doctorate in Humane Letters from the university, is author of several volumes of short fiction. His work has been awarded O. Henry and Pushcart Prizes, and has appeared in *Best American Short Stories*. He has most recently published a novel entitled, *Goya, Are You With Me Now?* This event is FREE and open to the public. Don't miss this rare opportunity to hear one of the masters of contemporary fiction read from his work.

### TVHA Handbell Festival

The Tennessee Valley Handbell Association will hold its 17<sup>th</sup> annual festival in the North Hall of the Von Braun Center on February 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>, and will culminate with a free public concert on Saturday, the 19<sup>th</sup> at 1pm. More than twenty choirs from area churches will participate, and will be directed by conductor, Arnold Sherman, the Music and Arts Director at First United Methodist Church in Henderson, Texas.

### UAH Mathematical Sciences Colloquium

Katherine O'Dell of the Mathematical Sciences Department will host "Laser Doppler Velocimetry as a Low Altitude Wind Shear Detection Technique" on Friday, January 28 from 2:30 to 3:30pm in Madison Hall 202. Cookies and coffee will be served at 2pm.

### Association of Nursing Students

There will be a meeting of the Association of Nursing Students on February 14 at 11:40am in room 106 of the Nursing Building. Elections will be held for president and treasurer for the next year. Following the meeting, pizza will be served in support of the junior-senior buddy mentoring program. The current president of ANS is George Lucas, [lucasg@email.uah.edu](mailto:lucasg@email.uah.edu).

### Student Nurses Christian Fellowship

There will be a meeting of the Student Nurses Christian Fellowship on February 14<sup>th</sup> from 7:30 to 8:00am in room 404 (LRC) of the Nursing Building. There will be a brief prayer service and discussion of a community service project for the spring semester. The president is Jenifer Cretul.

### American Association of University Women

The American Association of University Women will meet Tuesday, February 1 at the new location of Victoria's Café at South Parkway and Byrd Spring Road, at 5:45 pm. A panel of librarians from three Huntsville City Schools will present information about censorship in our public schools and libraries. For more information about AAUW or this meeting, please call Pam Smith at 882-2422.

### National Space Society

The National Space Society will sponsor "Our Expanding Universe and Other Theological Anomalies" by Mr. George McKay, Aerospace Engineer and Bible historian, on Thursday, February 3 from 8:00 to 8:30 pm in the Huntsville-Madison County Public Library auditorium, 915 Monroe Street in Huntsville. The event is open to the public and admission is free. For more information, contact Ellen Cozelos at 726-6387 or 883-4873.

### Tennessee Valley Jazz Society

The Tennessee Valley Jazz Association will host the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Jazz and Black History Celebration from Thursday, February 3 through Saturday February 6. Activities will include a jazz history workshop, book signings, guest singers, concerts and a black history stamp unveiling. For more information, contact the TVJS at 858-0409 or email at [tvjs@aol.com](mailto:tvjs@aol.com).



# Weekly Horoscope

By Linda C. Black Tribune Media Services

**Aries** (March 21-April 19). Be careful traveling on Monday. Watch the fluid levels in your vehicle, especially. From Tuesday through Thursday, you're pressed to accept more responsibility. You can handle it, especially with the help of your friends. On Friday and Saturday, group activities and parties are quite successful. Save Sunday for quiet contemplation.

**Taurus** (April 20-May 20). Hold onto your money on Monday, no matter how good a sob story you hear. From Tuesday through Thursday, your more apt to make good financial decisions. Friday and Saturday could be tough, but if you accept a challenge, you'll grow much stronger. On Sunday, relax in the company of friends with whom you can talk freely.

**Gemini** (May 21-June 21). Hold off on your travel plans the first part of the week. On Monday, confer with your partner in private. From Tuesday through Thursday, get your money together. On Friday and Saturday, launch new enterprises, journeys and scholastic adventures. On Sunday, the lesson is subtle. Watch and listen carefully, or you'll miss it.

**Cancer** (June 22-July 22). Work hard for your money on Monday, even if it means you have to do something different. From Tuesday through Thursday, confer with your partner. The two of you need to make up your minds on a big purchase. Friday through Saturday is your best time to make the decision and to sign the contract for appliances, computers or any kind of machinery. Take Sunday off and relax. Travel's OK then, too.

**Leo** (July 23-Aug. 22). Monday's good for getting married or for making another romantic commitment. Evening's better than morning. From Tuesday through Thursday, you'll have plenty of work. Don't plan anything else those days. On Friday and Saturday, do whatever your partner wants. Arguing is pointless. Sunday's good for buying gifts. You and your mate would have a lot of fun doing that — together.

**Virgo** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Watch out for accidents involving liquids on Monday morning. Use the plastic cups then. From Tuesday through Thursday, you're way too busy. Romance is compelling, but your work has to get done, too. Don't worry; you'll find a way, especially on Wednesday. Friday and Saturday are better for work than for play. On Sunday, listen to your mate. He or she has a great idea that's still in the development stage. Be supportive.

**Libra** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). On Monday, get together with friends or close relatives to learn something interesting. Don't let it interfere with your work, however. From Tuesday through Thursday, your attention is required at home. Making your place more beautiful will actually help you think more clearly. Romantic commitments are apt to happen on Friday and Saturday, so be in the right place with the right person then. Your creativity is likely to flourish on Sunday. Make the most of it.

**Scorpio** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Take care of your money

on Monday. Spend in haste and repent at your leisure. From Tuesday through Thursday, you'll learn best by practicing. Get somebody who already knows to show you how. Stick close to home on Friday and Saturday. Those are also good days to buy domestic appliances or computers. Let your sweetheart or the kids push you around on Sunday. You'll love it, and so will they.

**Sagittarius** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You feel great on Monday, but take care. Haste could make waste — or cause an accident at home. From Tuesday through Thursday, focus on finances. Draw up a budget that you can live with. On Friday and Saturday, you're absolutely brilliant. Tackle your most difficult assignment then. On Sunday, relax at home with somebody who pushes you to be more sensitive. It'll be good for both of you.

**Capricorn** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You could discover a buried treasure on Monday. Hunt for it. From Tuesday through Thursday, the moon's in your sign. That always makes you more confident, so do something that will bring in more money. Count it on Friday and Saturday. You'll be in the mood to make financial decisions then, too. On Sunday, a visit with neighbors could be interesting, if somewhat confrontational. All in good humor, right?

**Aquarius** (Jan. 20-Feb 18). Don't waste your money on Monday, even if your friend has fallen on hard times. Don't let somebody else's mistake get you into trouble. From Tuesday through Wednesday, keep your own counsel. You have a few things to think over in private. Then, on Friday and Saturday, you can make

your big decisions, knowing you've done the homework. Buy yourself a special treat on Sunday.

**Pisces** (Feb. 19-March 20). Entertain an unexpected request on Sunday. Don't do it until you've thought it over carefully, though. From Tuesday through Thursday, a social outing could lead to a lasting friendship, especially Wednesday. Practice your affirmations on Friday and Saturday and convince yourself they're true. If you can do that, you'll take off like a rocket, creatively, on Sunday.

**If You're Having a Birthday This Week:**

**Jan. 31:** Playing with a new team works well this year. You're an idea-generating machine.

**Feb. 1:** A secret passion could become public this year. Persevere, even when things look hazy.

**Feb. 2:** Some work is required, but most of it's already been done. Listen to the voices in your head.

**Feb. 3:** You're full of new ideas this year, but it's your experience that really pays.

**Feb. 4:** You may think you know it all this year, and you may be right! Put the puzzle together, for starters.

**Feb. 5:** You have all the facts you need to be right. Add compassion, and you'll be perfect.

**Feb. 6:** Logic is important, of course, but this year it's your intuition that leads you best. Put your dreams into words.

*Linda explains what's going on in greater detail at (900) 950-9000, for 99 cents per minute. To leave a message, call (888) 522-9533 for free.*

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## Homecoming 2000 Feb. 1-Feb. 5

<p><b>TUESDAY</b> Guitarist Keller Williams 9:00 pm MoM's Admission FREE</p> <p><b>WEDNESDAY</b> Comedian Mitch Fatel 9:00 pm MoM's Admission FREE</p> <p>King &amp; Queen Voting 9:00 am -6pm UC Lobby</p>	<p><b>THURSDAY</b> Bon Fire and Pep Rally 9:00 pm SE Housing Pizza will be served after presentation of Hockey and Basketball teams.</p> <p>Movie <u>American Pie</u> 10:30 pm Chan Auditorium</p>
<p><b>FRIDAY</b> Tailgate Party Car Decorating, T-Shirt giveaway, hotdogs, chips and drinks 5:00 pm Spragins Hall</p> <p>Hockey Game 7:00 pm VBC vs. Bemidji State Beavers</p>	
<p><b>SATURDAY</b></p> <p>Women's Basketball 1:00 pm Spragins Hall vs. Valdosta St. Blazers</p> <p>Hockey Alumnis Game 2:00 pm VBC</p> <p>Men's Basketball 3:00 pm Spragins Hall vs. Valdosta St. Blazers *Homecoming Candidates introduced at halftime of the men's game</p> <p>College of Nursing Open House 3:00pm</p>	<p>Chili Supper 5:00 pm Spragins Hall Music &amp; Children's Games</p> <p>(Bad weather site is the University Center. It is free to UAH Students, faculty &amp; staff with valid I.D. \$5.00 general admission)</p> <p>Hockey Game vs. Bemidji St. Beavers VBC 7:00 pm *King and Queen crowned between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> period.</p> <p>Alumni Reception immediately following the game.</p>

FREE FOOD!

FREE T-SHIRTS!!

**HELP WANTED!**  
The Exponent is now hiring for the position of assistant layout editor and assistant sales associate. Contact us at 890-6090 or send email to Dauphne Rogers, editor-in-chief at rogersc@email.uah.edu; Jennifer Sharp, layout editor at sharpjl@email.uah.edu; or Aletha Pardue, advertising manager at above number. Applicant for assistant layout editor must have experience with either Adobe PageMaker or QuarkXPress. Hours for assistant layout editor and assistant sales associate will be discussed upon application.



# Classifieds

### HELP WANTED

**EARN EXTRA CASH ONLINE \$\$\$**  
New! No Selling or Buying  
www.expage.com/page/kash4u

Girl Scout troop #313 looking for individual to help send postcards, letters, etc. Also information on other Girl Scout troops in area is requested. Please send letters to Union County Girl Scouts,

PMB 114 15741 Us 36 East, Marysville, Ohio 43040, C/O Troop #313. Must include a return address.

Needed--temporary help in the mornings. Runner/receptionist for Law office. Please fax resume to 536-2713, ASAP.

### FOR SALE

Console piano with bench by Weber, like new condition, piano lamp, music, etc.

\$ 1 , 4 0 0 call 880-9414

1997 Jeep Wrangler, black. CD player, alarm, custom rims and tires, 48,000 miles, never driven off road, \$14,000 o.b.o. Call 722-8606 (hm); 890-6375 (wk).

### FOR RENT

One bedroom condo for rent at Willow Pointe. Washer, Dryer, all appliances. Pool and tennis. \$425/month; available Jan.

1-800-846-9829, ask for Hardwick.

### TRAVEL

Go Direct! #1 Internet-based Spring Break company offering WHOLESALE pricing! We have the other companies begging for mercy! All destination! Guaranteed lowest price! 1-800-367-1252; www.springbreakdirect.com

### HELP WANTED!

*The Exponent* is now hiring for the position of assistant layout editor and assistant sales associate. Contact us at 890-6090 or send email to Daupne Rogers, editor-in-chief at rogersc@email.uah.edu.; Jennifer Sharp, layout editor at sharpjl@email.uah.edu; or Aletha Pardue, advertising manager at above number. Applicant for assistant layout editor must have experience with either Adobe PageMaker or QuarkXPress. Hours for assistant layout editor and assistant sales associate will be discussed upon application.

## Crossword 101

"Free At Last"

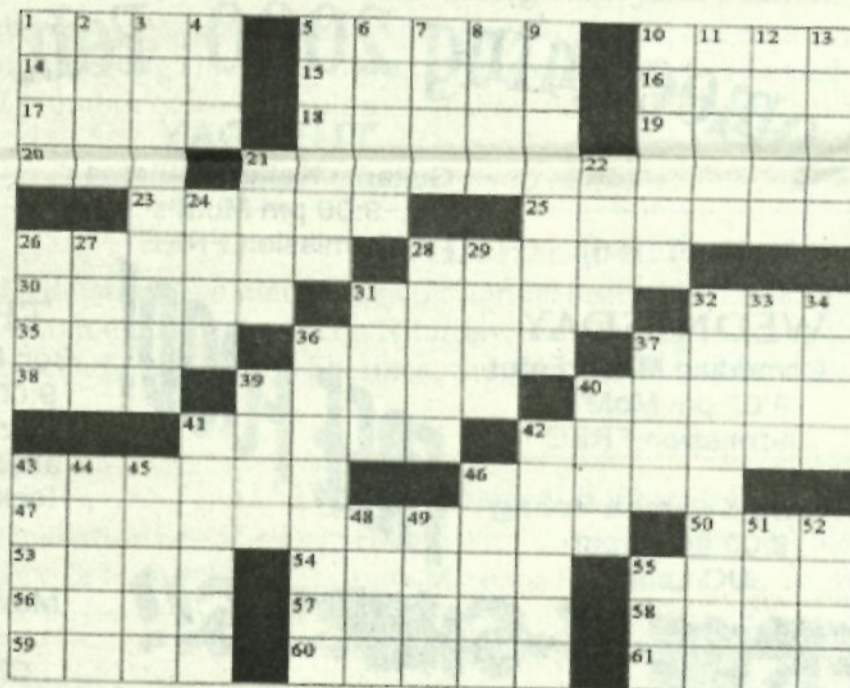
By Ed Canty

#### ACROSS

- 1 Great composer
- 5 Arrives
- 10 Large letters
- 14 Willing's partner
- 15 Ghana's capital
- 16 Man or Wight
- 17 Wild mountain goat
- 18 Movie czar De Mille
- 19 Carla of "Cheers"
- 20 Pave
- 21 King's famed speech
- 23 Donated
- 25 Pub buys
- 26 Fashions
- 28 Ames and Bond
- 30 NY paper
- 31 More bashful
- 32 TV network
- 35 Periods
- 36 Shoe types
- 37 Greek portico
- 38 Enclosure
- 39 Mountain tops
- 40 Puts in order
- 41 Know-how
- 42 Underwater finders
- 43 Madison for one
- 46 Emergency sound
- 47 King's quest
- 50 Bill
- 53 Stumble
- 54 Ancient Greek colony in Asia Minor
- 55 Wiseman
- 56 Stare at
- 57 Drummer Ringo \_\_\_\_\_
- 58 Writer James \_\_\_\_\_
- 59 Diana \_\_\_\_: Singer
- 60 Despises
- 61 Pub projectile

#### DOWN

- 1 Fisherman's need
- 2 Swedish rock group
- 3 King's profession



- 4 Curse
- 5 Computer memories
- 6 Indian, e.g.
- 7 1,205, to Nero
- 8 Pennsylvania port
- 9 Wages
- 10 High cloud
- 11 Pale
- 12 Beg
- 13 Fashion lines
- 21 Singer Burl
- 22 Go getter
- 24 Small islands
- 26 Stair part
- 27 Spare part
- 28 Unstable
- 29 Cherry stones
- 31 Serbian, e.g.
- 32 King's birth place
- 33 Dutch colonist
- 34 Mama \_\_\_\_: rock singer
- 36 \_\_\_\_ pace: Fast
- 37 Math term

- 39 Pope John \_\_\_\_
- 40 Pros
- 41 "Major League" actor
- 42 Ravi Shanker's Instruments
- 43 Nicholson for one
- 44 September born
- 45 Sins
- 46 British horse breed
- 48 Greek letter
- 49 Pesky insect
- 51 Teen follower
- 52 Borscht ingredient
- 55 Blue

#### Quotable Quote

"Freedom is never voluntarily given by the oppressor; it must be demanded by the oppressed."

... Martin Luther King, Jr.

By GFR Associates E-Mail: EDC9432@aol.com  
Mail: GFR, P.O. Box 461, Schenectady, NY 12301

The answers for the crossword puzzle will be printed in next week's issue.

### ADVERTISEMENT INFORMATION

Advertisement information can be obtained by contacting Aletha Pardue, advertising manager at *The Exponent* by phone, fax or email.

Telephone: 890-6090

Fax: 890-6096

Email: exponent@email.uah.edu

### CLASSIFIEDS ARE FREE!

Classified ads in *The Exponent* are free for all UAH students, faculty, staff and alumni. Contact *The Exponent*, attention Jennifer Sharp at 890-6090 for more information or bring your ad by our office in room 104 of the University Center. You can also contact *The Exponent* office by fax at 890-6096, or by email at sharpjl@email.uah.edu. (All free classifieds will run for two weeks unless otherwise specified.)

Answer for 1-20-00 crossword.

### WINTER WONDERLAND

C	U	B	S		P	E	D	A	L		T	S	A	R	
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E	T	O	N			O	R	E			S	P	A	M	
N	E	W		S	C	R	O	D		M	E	E	S	E	
D	S	M		K	E	E	N			P	O	N	D	E	R
				O	B	I	E	S		N	E	R	D		
R	O	B	E	S			R	E	B	A		T	W	O	
O	B	I	E		S	N	O	W	B	L	O	W	E	R	
M	E	L	T		E	A	S	E	L		L	I	L	T	
A	Y	E	S		P	E	A	L	E		E	N	D	S	