Abagnale has fascinating history

If you cherish a sneaking doubt that the laxity and gullibility of those in authority have improved since P.T. Barnum proclaimed that a swindler was born every minute, the upcoming lecture, sponsored by the Symposium & Lecture Series tonight at 8:15 in the Union, will confirm that it hasn’t.

Would you think it possible that a personable young man barely out of his teens with a glib tongue could pass himself off as an airline pilot, a supervising doctor in a general hospital, a lawyer attached to the staff of a state Attorney-General—and get away with it? Frank W. Abagnale did.

Born in Bronxville, New York, he began forging his father’s name on checks with which to satisfy his inordinate fondness for young women. One faked check led to another until his father suddenly found himself saddled with debts incurred by his son with forged checks. The usual scene followed between father and son, but by the time young Frank, a big lad for his age, had discovered that having money, even other people’s money, was better than having no money.

This is hardly news, but what is news was the way Frank set about conning large corporations out of cash. He acquired an airline pilot’s uniform in a manner he will describe in detail, plus the necessary papers, flew without charge all over the country, signing checks that bounced after he had departed. The law was beginning to look for him, but young Frank always managed to remain a step ahead.

The most dangerous of his impersonations was as a supervising physician in an Atlanta hospital, a status he acquired with forged documents. Fortunately, he was not required to perform brain surgery. For that matter, he didn’t even know how to examine a newborn infant. All this, mark you, in a man who confesses he couldn’t stand the sight of blood. The nurses were good company, however, especially after hours. His medical career came to an abrupt end after one year when he was called upon to deal with a “blue baby,” a term Frank regarded as descriptive rather than physiological.

Abagnale’s story becomes more and more incredible as he goes along. Now committed to a career of conning, he taught sociology in a college campus and joined the Attorney-General’s staff.

It had to end of course. It was the French who finally nabbed Abagnale and he served six months in a prison that sounds like something out of Alexandre Thumas. His next cell, in Sweden, was palatial by contrast. The Swedes goodnaturedly deported him to the United States, with two dozen countries still after him. Our young con artist is not years in the U.S., served four, was then paroled, after which he had the bright idea of becoming a public speaker.

The Exponent
Vol. 15, No. 3
Wednesday, Oct. 1, 1980
“Let us dare to read, think, speak, and write.” — John Adams

Troy State paper revived

The Troy State University student newspaper, which was kicked off campus last year following the controversial firing of its editor, has now been reinstated, with university funding and a new charter.

The Troy State Trojan now has "as much editorial freedom as any newspaper can be expected to enjoy in a college setting," says new adviser Boyd Campbell, a journalism instructor. Interim Trojan Editor Lorraine Booth agrees that the new charter, drawn up by a reorganized publications board this summer, give the students editorial control and clarifies the role of the publications board.

There was confusion over that role last spring when the board voted to fire Editor David McFarland, saying his grades were too low. The newspaper staff protested the firing, saying there were no clear grade standards and that McFarland was being fired for running articles critical of the administration. In response, the board terminated the university’s relationship with the paper, giving the staff two weeks to leave the journalism department office.

With the backing of the student government, however, the student newspaper staff remained in that office and continued to put out a paper without university funding. The university president then decided to allow them to remain on campus and by summer, discussions were under way on restoration of university funding, says Booth.

The final version of the new publications board charter must still be approved, but the paper’s first issue is now out and its prospects look bright.

In addition to new, larger office, Booth says more freshmen and sophomores are applying for staff position. "I don’t know if it’s because of all the trouble last spring or not," she says. "But they all seem to know about it."

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**OUTLOOK**

**editorials - letters**

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**Put the money where we want it**

To the Editor:

After reading Mr. Shoffner's rebuttal to Stan Smith's editorial, I was struck by the fact that, as a full-time student at UAH, I am forced to pay $8.90 per year for a yearbook if I don't buy one. If I do, it will cost me $20.30. Since one can't register without paying for this, it seems logical that I be put to a general vote to see if the majority of students want one.

If the majority of students at UAH would rather not pay for a yearbook, it is not necessary to do away with it entirely. Let those who want one pay for it.

The sale of 200 yearbooks over a two year period doesn't seem to be an overwhelmingly enthusiastic student response. (By the way, what ever happened to the ones that didn't sell?)

I don't think gripes about the lack of student participation will be valid this year. The Exponent is widely read. "Being There" and the first Cabaret played to full houses. Why not put the money where the students' interests appear to lie? Afterall, we're paying for it.

Patricia Kussmann Kirstein

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**Conflict useless**

To the Editor:

All this bickering over whether the yearbook is a good idea or not is beginning to be ridiculous. Dissension is getting everyone nowhere. I am personally in favor of a yearbook.

No, I'm not connected to a sorority, a fraternity, Millie Schofner or any other group. I would just like to be able to look back a few years from now and ask who went to school with me and when.

As it was so pointed out in The Exponent, it is my money and this is what I desire it to be spent on. It would be so much better if all parties concerned would pull together and make this university a great place to go for everyone concerned instead of making it a battleground.

Mary Scott

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**Students need right to choose**

To the Editor:

The front page in last week's Exponent contained an article explaining how the student publications board divides the money for publications. It seems presumptions of the board to decide what the student interest is as to whether a yearbook is even desired by a majority. Without support these funds will be squandered.

Just who compiles the board anyway? Why wasn't a survey taken? Whose stated interest is threatened by a school-wide survey? In my opinion it would be better to spend some of the $10,000,000 that has been appropriated to find out what the students do want.

Where is our voice? When do we, the students, have the opportunity to indicate our preferences? The administration has already determined that we will pay an activity fee.

Now the publications board has decreed that opinion is the most important. It is too late to take an independent survey to seek a consensus on this issue. Give us back our right to choose how our own funds are spent.

Michael Nickels

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**Students were alienated**

To the Editor:

In response to Larry Davis' letter in the September 17th Exponent, I would like to make the following observations. Mr. Davis correctly suggests that when UAH's athletic programs and its administrators left the Union Building, the Division of Student Affairs' interest in the facility left also.

According to Mr. Davis this occurred in 1977. Mr. Davis also correctly asserts that planning for the Union renovations were made from 1977 to 1979. But what about the condition of the Union during these years? Many of the conditions I described (dirty floors and walls, tasteless food, etc.) could have been corrected before the renovation project was being completed.

I must remind Mr. Davis that two years represents fifty percent of the average student's college time. To make renovating the Union, but that he performed poorly in the position.

I would like to acknowledge Mr. Davis' assertion of the sovereign right of the Office of Student Affairs to control "space allocation and key security." I challenge Davis to show where in my editorial I stated or implied that Student Affairs had usurped this or any other official management responsibilities of the SGA. I have no quarrel with the Department of Student Affairs playing a role in student life, i.e. Union management; however, and this is the point of my editorial that Mr. Davis has apparently failed to understand, when Student Affairs exercises its responsibilities in a manner whichalicates the representatives of those exist to serve, I find their involvement irritating.

Davis' reflections on the canons of journalism are admirable, but I find his letter the quintessential example of special logic.

Stephen May
Dungeons & Dragons prove popular

College students act out fantasies

(CPS) There will be people on campus this fall—ordinary looking souls—who fear they’re being hunted by assassins, challenged by dragons and beguiled by magicians. Daily living for them will be an exercise in dodging the enemy and pursuing illusions of glory.

But the ostensible outbreak of paranoid schizophrenia is really just part of a fantasy game fad that has risen to peak popularity in the last half decade. The best-known variety revolves around Dungeons & Dragons and its derivatives. The other goes by names like "Assassin" and "Killing As An Organized Sport."

"Assassin" and its name-sakes bombed into prominence last winter, when bizarre reports of students hunting one another spread from midwestern campuses to the University of Florida, UCLA, and points in between.

Most frequently called "Killing As An Organized Sport," it has its roots in the sixties. It takes its acronym, KOAS, from the "Get Smart" spy spoof television series, though the game’s theme was plagiarized from other media.

It is roughly based on The Seventh Victim, a 1953 science fiction novel by Robert Sheckley that evolved into a 1965 film called "The Tenth Victim." As the story would have it, a futuristic society eliminates war by allowing its most aggressive citizens to commit legalized murder. The killer’s goal is to down ten victims before someone else kills him (or her). If the killer succeeds, he or she becomes a hero, is given luxuries and wealth, and never has to work again.

The story was translated into a game played with toy weapons. It enjoyed a brief vogue at Oberlin College in the late sixties before it was replaced by other fads, and was largely forgotten.

In 1976, some University of Michigan students revived the game, using plastic dart guns for weapons. From there, it slowly began to spread to other campuses until it became a definable national phenomenon last spring.

Dungeons & Dragons is the better known and more complex role-playing game, but can be just as consuming as the games, he discovered, "tend not to be the sorority or fraternity types. These are intense people."

Eighty-five to 95 percent of them are male because, Fine speculates, the game involves "typical male fantasies like picking up a princess and carrying her off."

The reason for the campus interest in role-playing fantasies is, according to University of Minnesota sociologist Gary Alan Fine, tied to a desire "to move away from passive intellectual activities, notably television."

Fine spent 18 months researching D&D and four other fantasy games, and found the appeal in the "science fiction sub-culture" was the opportunity to live out fantasies they would ordinarily experience passively.

The people who participate in the games, he discovered, "tend not to be the sorority or fraternity types. These are intense people."

Eighty-five to 95 percent of them are male because, Fine speculates, the game involves "typical male fantasies like picking up a princess and carrying her off."

Of the simulated violence in KAOS and D&D, he says, "Maybe somewhere in the human or male spirit, there is a need for war, a need to put one's life on the line."

But the sociologist thinks it futile to guess why those games should become popular at this time in our history.

He notes, "There have been studies about 'why the hula hoop', 'why the Beatles,' Why "All in the Family.' They did not come up with anything. Maybe the answer is because it was thought up now."

KAOS. There are tales of students flunking out of school because of D&D.

"It's fun," explains Will Niebling, a vice president with Tactical Studies Rules, a game production company in Geneva, Wisconsin.

And profitable. Niebling says sales of the D&D equipment his firm produces and markets have doubled annually each year since 1974, and have quadrupled in the last 12 months.

D&D, of course, involves an array of unearthly characters, derived from Tolkien books about the Middle Earth. Each player assumes the identity of one of the character, and take direction from the Dungeon Master, a combination of referee and spontaneous playwright. He creates fanciful, demanding situations to which the characters must respond.

He may say, "You are crossing a bridge over the Valley of the Serpents, when it suddenly collapses, hurling you into a sea of reptilian monsters."

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UAH student commits suicide

Marie Myers, a sophomore, at UAH, was found dead Thursday night, a victim of suicide. Funeral ceremonies were held on Friday.

Marie had done volunteer work for the SGA Springfest committee and the yearbook. She was a former student of Bob Jones High School.

The Exponent

**ADVICE**

Death is always plural, he said.
Who dies takes herself plus
those we knew through her.
Who dies multiplies absence
by the number of names no one will hear again.
Who dies finds cemeteries in her basket,
sequences crowds under her shroud.
So compound your sorrow, he says,
factor your grief, think big.
It takes all the pain you can muster
to reach the unsuspecting dead.

Gustavo Perez-Firmat

**NOW to hold meeting Oct. 19**

NOW, the largest civil rights organization for women, will hold a meeting October 19 at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Room, First American Federal, 4008 University Drive.

Ms. Dale Armwood will speak on "Sexual Harassment in the Work Place." The public is invited to attend the lecture free.

**Tasting luncheon set**

A Tasting Fair Luncheon, sponsored by the Baptist Student Union, will be held at Friday from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the First Baptist Church. Admission cost is $2.50.

**Carpooling services available here**

Tired of looking for a parking space? Are you looking for a way to save gas? Well, if the answer to those questions is yes, then carpooling may be the answer. According to Katherine Orr, General Information Officer, UAH will now be providing a new service for the students. Ms. Orr will provide a list of those students interested in carpooling. All the student BSU welcomes all

The BSU is located at 4311 Holmes Avenue and is a place where you can meet new friends, play ping pong or cards, study in privacy and eat home cooked meals on Wednesdays. There are no fees or hassles. All that is asked is your participation. All persons are welcomed. The purpose of the BSU is to help students with spiritual growth and service to others.

Welcome to all.

**BSU welcomes all with fellowship**

The United States Navy Band, under the direction of Cmdr. Joseph Phillips, officer in charge and leader, will appear in concert at the Von Braun Civic Center Concert Hall on Tuesday, November 4 at 8:15 p.m.

One of the band's many stops during its annual Fall Tour, the Huntsville appearance is co-sponsored by The University of Alabama in Huntsville Wind Ensemble and the Sertoma club. Ticket information will be announced at a later date.

**Cercle Francais first meeting held**

Le Cercle Francais held its first meeting of the year Wednesday, Sept. 17.

Officers for the 1980-81 year are: President, Karen Middleton; Vice President, Emerald Jackson; Vice President, Helen Worthington; Secretary, Kathleen Johansen; Treasurer, Beth Cooper; and Membership Chairman, Vickie Banks.

The club is planning an active year which will include a French cuisine supper prepared by members, films, French cooking demonstration, a trip and a Christmas and a Mardi Gras party.

The October meeting will feature a film.

**Radio buffs read!**

The UAH Amateur Radio Association will hold its first meeting of the new school year on October 1, 1980, at 8 p.m. in room E-5 of Research Institute.

All old and prospective members are urged to attend. For further information contact: Bob Hill at 895-6429 or Dr. Robert Brown at 895-6256.
Get well Cindy

Due to an automobile accident last Wednesday, Cindy Norton will be unable to fulfill the duties of Arts & Entertainment Editor of The Exponent for the next several weeks. Danny Johnson will temporarily assume the position. The entire staff of The Exponent wishes Cindy the best and collectively hopes that she gets well soon.

Cabaret a blast!

"Changing the pace from the previous week's Hatterfolds rock and roll music, Cabaret presented Joe Mamma in concert last Saturday night. Their easy-listening guitar uos were widely appreciated by the audience.

This week the rock and roll band "Rage" will be presented.

Exponent photos by Greg Warren.

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Film Series

Once upon a time, there was a miracle known as Hollywood. They made movies in Hollywood, and if one of them can be said to incarnate the miracle, that movie is "Casablanca.

"Casablanca," starring Humphrey Bogart, Ingrid Bergman, Peter Lorre, and Paul Henreid will be playing at the Union 8:15 on Thursday, 7:00 and 9:00 on Friday, and 7:00 on Saturday.

You are invited to:

Bible Talk

An informal, Bible-discussion group for students, staff, and faculty of UAH.

Thursdays - 4:30 p.m.

Thursdays - 4:30 p.m.

Room 129 - Morton Hall

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Graduating seniors--'the first step is to come and register'

be time is now for students who anticipate graduation by August 1981 to register with the Alumni Affairs and Job Placement Office in the Continuing Education Building, says Don Blaise, director. The office is prepared to offer a number of important services concerned with professional career plans, locally and statewide, and it is gearing up for the recruitment season which will begin in September. "The time from September through Thanksgiving is the heaviest recruitment period, and the best time students will have all year to talk to company representatives on campus," Blaise said.

The first step is to come in and register. There will be forms to fill out, but no fee for anything, not even transcripts. Then you will receive the kind of practical help every job seeker needs: advice and written materials on resume writing and interview techniques including how to dress and the type of questions you should be prepared to answer. If you wish, your resume will be reviewed before you submit it with job applications.

Once you are on the register, you will receive a newsletter every two weeks during the recruiting season, from September through April, detailing the companies that will be on campus, the times representatives will be available, their degree and other requirements.

The Placement Office maintains a library in room 143 of the Continuing Education Building containing information from every company and agency that recruits at UAH. Blaise encourages students to come by prior to their appointments and become as well informed as possible about the company with which they intend to interview.

The office is also moving into summer internship services, Blaise said, working with federal, state and private agencies. He cautions students not to wait until spring to apply for the premium, highly competitive jobs offered. Anyone seriously considering summer placement should plan to sign up in January or February, he said.

Perry gets honor

Nena L. Perry, a senior medical student at The University of Alabama in Huntsville School of Primary Medical Care, has received a Medical Perspectives undergraduate fellowship for 1980 from the National Fund for Medical Education (NFME). She is one of 31 medical students in the U.S. and the only student at a medical school in this state to receive a NFME Medical Perspectives fellowship for the 1980-81 academic year.

Perry received her NFME fellowship to research the life of a prominent 19th century Alabama physician, Dr. Thomas Fearn, who was a pioneer in the control of infectious diseases, particularly malaria. He is assumed to have been the first person in either North America or Europe to discern the true nature of quinine and to use it in treating malaria.

Perry received her B.A. in history cum laude from Duke University in 1970 and took her first two years of medical school at the Birmingham campus of The University of Alabama School of Medicine. She is a resident of Huntsville where her father, Dr. William J. Perry, is a family physician. Dr. Perry is a preceptor in the UAH School of Primary Medical Care Community Medicine Rural Preceptorship Program.

Perry's award of $3,085 is the first award given in the Medical Perspectives fellowship program for an historical study. She plans to use her award primarily for several trips to the National Library of Medicine in Bethesda for research on the effects of Dr. Fearn's life and work on the history of American medicine.
Cross Country race held on Saturday

This past Saturday the Intramural Sports Program sponsored a cross-country race. With the temperature in the low 60’s, the participants were provided with ideal running weather.

The event featured a one mile, a four person/ four mile relay and the most popular five mile race. 18 the one mile race, Mike Dickerson posted the winning time of 5:55 minutes with Ralph Heusinger, Gary Bell, and Pete Banholzer rounding out the top four.

The four person/four mile relay featured the winning team which, under the engineering of Earl Jacoby, came in with a time of 24:13 minutes. Milt Harris, Clyde Riley, and Gary Bell comprised the remaining members of the squad.

Wren Brick, who had just returned from a UAH crew practice, showed no mercy and completed the five mile race in 32:41. Long before most of the field began even their last mile. The top eight runners finished in this order; Don Evans, Ralph Heusinger, Gary Bell, Earl Jacoby, John Rohling, Marilyn Evans (the lone female runner), and Michael Neighbors. Michael who said he just “wanted to finish” came in with a decent time of 41:57.

The race coordinators for the day were Tom Bolt, Terry Light, Anne Moore, Derrek Weeks, Jerry Robinson, David Cunningham, Laurel Hecht, and Laura Jeriowski.

The next intramural event, besides the ongoing flag football season, will be basketball. Remember that the deadline for sign-ups in October 8th. For further information contact the Department of Student Life.

By Jerry Lassiter

Bowling team won

The team’s next match will be October, 4th at 1:00 at Parkway Lanes against Auburn-Montgomery.

The team is still looking for more members for the Women’s Bowling Team. Any girls interested should call Robert Herndon (534-1106) or Jerry Lassiter (539-8557) or come by Room 207 on the second floor of the Union. The team practices Tuesday and Thursday at 6:00.

By Jerry Lassiter

Soccer team undefeated

By Jerry Lassiter

The UAH Men’s Bowling Team recently returned from Birmingham where they bowled in the SIBC-Alabama Division Kick-Off Tournament.

Alabama, Auburn and Auburn-Montgomery were also represented in the tournament. This was the team’s first tournament and the result was a UAH victory.

UAH came out on top with a score of 3755, with Auburn-Montgomery being the nearest threat, with 3741. Auburn & Alabama finished 3rd and 4th with scores of 3625 & 3571, respectively.

Steve Mitchell also received an individual high game award for a 254 game.

UAH was represented by Bob Hancock, Robert Herndon, Jerry Lassiter, Steve Mitchell, Mike Pollak and Eddie Thompson.
Black Student Organization

BSA plans for the year ahead

By Minnie Tunstall

The UAH Black Student Association is an organization designed with the interest of the UAH black student. BSA's first responsibility is to the black student in terms of perpetuating an atmosphere of belonging, of helping and most of all, of learning.

BSA's schedule for September 1980 to May 1981 is as follows:

January: Observation of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday
February: Ethnic Night (Affair) and Recognition of Black History Month
March: Participation in Springfest Activities
April: Senior Citizens and Underprivileged
May: Black Student Association Annual Banquet

The BSA hopes that its name, THE BLACK STUDENT ASSOCIATION, does not hinder your joining, because, regardless of what our name implies, we are not a discriminatory organization.

The BSA welcomes every student to become productive members, and to feel comfortable in doing so.

The officers for 1980-81 are:
- President-Andrew Dawkins
- Vice President-Lynora Delk
- Corresponding Secretary-Beatrice Scroggs
- Parliamentarian-Robert B. Thomas and
- Treasurer/Budget Head-Minnie Tunstall.

The BSA committees include:
- the Special Relations Committee; Publicity Committee, and Service and Cultural Committee. The faculty advisor is Willie Brown.

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