

Soundings

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Noted scholar to speak on campus

Not counting the Garden of Eden, the two most famous apples in all of history are probably the ones associated with William Tell and Sir Isaac Newton. The first apple was split with an arrow as it rested atop the head of Tell's son by Tell himself, the Swiss archer turned folk hero. The second apple, surrounded by as much myth as the first, is reported to have fallen on Newton's head while the young scientist was napping beneath a tree, thus providing the inspiration for Newton's forthcoming laws of gravity and other scientific observations.

Science and history will mix Wednesday, Sept. 23, when Dr. Alan Shapiro, professor and director of the Program in History of Science and Technology at the University of Minnesota, comes to UAS to deliver two separate lectures as part of the 1992-1993 History of Science Society's Dibner Visiting Historians of Science Program. The History of Science Society is based in Worcester, Mass.

Shapiro's first lecture, to be held in the Hendrickson Theatre at 8 a.m., will be

titled "A Scientific Revolution and the 18th Century World View." The lecture will be followed at noon by a brown bag lunch with Shapiro in the Mourant cafeteria.

Following the lunch, Shapiro will meet informally with students in the UAS student lounge. All campus events are free and open to the public.

On Wednesday evening, Shapiro will appear at The Alaska State Museum for a 7 p.m. presentation titled "The Arts, Science, and Color Theory in the Scientific Revolution." That appearance is also free and open to the public.

Shapiro is a nationally-acclaimed scholar in the field of science history whose forthcoming book, "The Investigation of Difficult Things: Essays on Newton and the History of Exact Sciences," will be published by the Cambridge University Press.

Shapiro's visit is being jointly sponsored by UAS, Associated Students of UAS, The Alaska State Museum, History of Science Society, and The Dibner Fund.

Nominees for honorary degrees sought

Recommendations for candidates to receive honorary degrees and meritorious service awards at 1993 UAS commencement ceremonies are being solicited by the UAS Honorary Awards Committee. The committee will make a preliminary evaluation of recommended candidates before forwarding a list of names to Chancellor Marshall L. Lind. The chancellor will then nominate candidates whose names will be forwarded to the board of regents for final selection in December 1992.

Candidates for honorary degrees must have made a significant and lasting contribution to the university and/or the State of Alaska. General criteria used by the selection committee are: the individual's contributions in the areas of research or academic experience over an extended period of time; the individual's contribution to the community, state or country which merit recognition through award of an honorary doctorate degree.

For a meritorious service award, the candidate must have provided outstanding service within the state and must have provided a significant and lasting contribution to the university, state or nation.

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UAS student writers earn plaudits

Two UAS students received recognition over the summer in a statewide creative writing contest sponsored by the Anchorage Daily News and University of Alaska Anchorage. The contest was held in three categories: fiction, poetry and non-fiction.

Kelley Bryant won an Honorable Mention in Fiction for his story entitled "The Old Truck's Burden," a tale of an adolescent boy earning his father's respect. Kelley wrote and revised his story last school-year in English 262: Creative Writing. Kelley also had a short piece published in "Explorations '92," the UAS literary magazine.

Nicole von Gaza won an Honorable Mention in Non-Fiction for her essay "The Farm," a humorous account of her Southern California family visiting relatives on a Canadian farm. Nicole wrote and revised her essay last school-year in English 461: Writers' Workshop in Autobiography.

Bryant and von Gaza are the latest in a series of success stories among UAS student writers who have captured first prize in the UA Statewide Archie Shiels Freshman writing contest five of the last seven years.

Quote of the week

“ If you pick up a starving dog and make him prosperous, he will not bite you. That is the principal difference between a dog and a man. ”

-Mark Twain

from "Pudd 'n head Wilson's Calendar"

Debbie Penrose-Fischer
delivers baby...

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Tuxedo Junction
needs your help...

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Pension Plan! Pension Plan!
Pension Plan!

Page 4

UAS staffer dedicated, poised in maternity room

Debbie Penrose-Fischer, student activities administrative assistant, gave birth to a baby girl, Alyssa, on September 13. Mother, daughter, and father Brent are all in good shape.

Alyssa weighed 5 pounds, 8 ounces at birth and arrived four weeks early, providing another UAS employee with an opportunity to display the type of grit and valor not witnessed since the Second Battle of the Marne.

"Debbie was so concerned with the way she left her desk that during labor she had someone take a pile of papers down to her so that she could put directions on them with little, yellow stickies," according to a startling report from Student Activities Director Tish Griffin.

A shower for Debbie will be held Friday, Sept. 18 at 3 p.m. in the School of Business and Public Administration conference room. Everyone is invited.

\$24,000 fellowships for future teachers

The James Madison Memorial Fellowship Foundation, a federally-endowed program designed to strengthen instruction about the U.S. Constitution in the nation's schools, will award generous fellowships in 1993 for graduate study of the framing and history of the U.S. Constitution. Outstanding college seniors and recent college graduates who intend to become secondary school teachers of American history, American government and social studies are eligible for awards.

Through nationwide competition, James Madison Fellowships will be awarded to at least one legal resident of each state. After completing study under a fellowship, James Madison Fellows are required to teach in a secondary school for a minimum of one year for each year of graduate assistance they receive. Fellowships carry a maximum stipend of \$24,000.

Details about the program may be obtained on campus from Dr. Bob Warren at ext. 404, or from the James Madison Memorial Fellowship Program, P.O. Box 4030, Iowa City, Iowa, 52243-4030.

Poundstone, picnic kick-off school year

September 11-12 was a busy weekend for the student activities office. In addition to Debbie Penrose-Fischer delivering her baby four weeks ahead of schedule, the annual welcome picnic was held at Sandy Beach and comedienne Paula Poundstone performed at Centennial Hall.

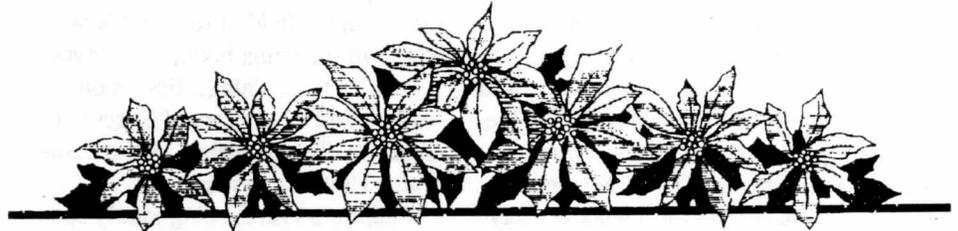
The Saturday picnic, highlighted by brisk but beautiful weather, was attended by about 150 students, staff and faculty according to Tish Griffin. Events included beach volleyball, an egg toss and a licorice race (If you don't know what that is, show up next year). The alumni association pitched in to help cook and serve hot dogs and hamburgers, and the Sound Boys provided music.

The beautiful people mingled. Chancellor Lind was spotted deep in conversation with student George Campbell, and various staff and faculty took the opportunity to trot out spouses and attachments.

On Sunday evening, nationally-renowned comic Paula Poundstone hit the stage for her second Juneau appearance. Centennial Hall was the site of the sold-out show co-sponsored by UAS student activities, Northstar Productions and KSUP-FM. Poundstone is famous for her ability to ad-lib and she didn't let the local crowd down, turning her sarcastic wit on topics including the Red Dog Saloon, salmon fishing and Juneau's small-town neighbors.

"She was real impressed with the Juneau audience," said Griffin after speaking to Poundstone following the show. Poundstone gladly signed autographs after the show and was warmly received by all.

The show gave UAS the chance to bring a major talent to the Juneau community and also raise funds for student activities.



Third Annual Holiday Card Design Contest

The UAS Chancellor's Office is looking for an original student design or photograph to use for the Chancellor's official holiday greeting card, and is awarding \$150 for the best entry.

Due date: October 12, 1992
Where: Chancellor's Office
Contact: Shirley Andersen, 789-4509

Art should reduce well and lend itself to production by offset lithography printing methods.

Notification of award will be October 16, 1992.



Classified Association news

UAS classified employees are gearing up for another busy year.

President Donna Chantry and Vice President Margaret Fenton have recently returned from Sitka where they conducted the first on-site meeting of the year. Guest speakers at the meeting were Chancellor Marshall L. Lind, who discussed a number of topics of interest to classified employees and responded to questions from members. Administrative Services Director Carol Griffin discussed UAS' position classification committee and progress in the area of standardized position classification across the university system.

Other topics discussed at the meeting included a review of the survey sent to legislative candidates by the general assembly - survey results will be distributed across the university after Oct. 15. The review of most common responses to the survey circulated to classified employees and chancellor's cabinet members was also presented. The purpose of the survey was to discern strengths, weaknesses, areas for development and goals for the Classified Association. Copies of the survey are available from Margaret Fenton

Irene DeLand's going-away party

Join the Administrative Services staff Friday, Sept. 18, at 2 p.m. in the Chancellor's Conference Room to say goodbye to Irene DeLand. Bring a snack to share.

Nominations

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Honorary degrees and awards were given in May to Thomas Stewart, Carl Heinmiller and Walter Shuham.

The committee will not consider individuals who are currently in an elected political position or campaigning for office.

Recommendations for nominations should include a one-page biography and review specific activities that merit either award. Nominee recommendations should be sent to Professor Wally Olson, ext. 420. Deadline for submissions is Oct. 10.

at ext. 505 or JNMEM on E-mail.

A review of the governance handbook being prepared for distribution to new and continuing employees was presented. Committees on staff development and staff recognition are being formed to work on those important areas. A preview of issues and plan of work for the general assembly was presented so members can decide if they want to participate.

Classified Association goals for this year include:

1. Preparation and distribution of a governance handbook.
2. Focusing on issues of importance to classified employees in Southeast.
3. Focusing on compensation.
4. Working to establish an employee recognition program for outstanding contributions by classified employees.
5. Working to establish a staff development program using resources and experts available in Southeast.
6. Establishing and maintaining open communications with classified employees in Anchorage, Fairbanks and statewide.

Classified Association meetings are open to anyone who cares to attend.

TJ prize committee seeks contributions

The Tuxedo Junction prize committee has put out a call for prize donations.

"We need everyone's help and support," says Rita Bowen, prize committee member. "Last year we had over 200 gift selections that ranged in value from \$5 to \$1,400. No donation is too small."

Bowen said that home-made items are always popular and welcomed.

Tuxedo Junction will be held Nov. 7 in Centennial Hall and gifts will be displayed throughout the evening and available for purchase after 11 p.m. Most of the prizes are purchased by casino winners with gaming chips.

"Elegance and Romance" is this year's theme.

If you would like to volunteer to help on any of the Tuxedo Junction committees, including the prize committee, contact Tish Griffin at ext. 528.

*Tell the
candidates
what you
think!*

*Talk to
local candidates
for school board
and assembly...
and hear what
they have to say
in a public
Q&A forum*

*Saturday,
September 26
10 a.m.
Mourant Building
UAS*

*FREE
coffee, teas
and morning munchies*

*Sponsored by the Juneau League of
Women Voters in cooperation with
UAS Student Activities Office*

NOTES FROM PERSONNEL

And the workshops just keep on coming

If you haven't chosen a Pension Plan fund sponsor from the four new fund sponsors or if you have questions about your Pension Plan account, you won't want to miss the Pension Plan Workshops on Wednesday, Sept. 30.

Three workshops (approximately 60 minutes in length) will be held that morning. You can choose an 8 a.m. session, a 9:30 a.m. session or an 11 a.m. session. Representatives from all four of the new fund sponsor companies and Equitable Capital will present a short, informative seminar about the Pension Plan, followed by a short question and answer session.

Why all this fuss about the Pension Plan? In July of this year, the University of Alaska expanded the Pension Plan, adding four new fund sponsors, in order to give employees more options for investing in their future. Prior to July, university employees could choose between only the university Fixed Fund and the Equity Fund (managed by Equitable Capital). Now employees can also choose Fidelity Investments, Lincoln National, TIAA/CREF or VALIC to manage their investments.

Each of the fund sponsors has different investment plans that provide a variety of opportunities and considerable flexibility in designing a retirement investment program that fits your personal financial situation and lifestyle. For example, you can direct your contributions to a low risk/return potential, a high risk/return potential account or an account that falls somewhere in between. You can also choose between several "social awareness" funds or direct your contributions toward a fund that invests in specific industries, bonds, or money-market accounts that interest you.

Your decision about who will manage your money and how it will be invested may depend on many factors. Some of the things you may want to consider include:

- Your family circumstances.
- The balance of risk and return you are comfortable with.
- Your anticipated income needs at retirement.
- Your financial objectives.
- Your ability to save outside of the Pension Plan.
- The number of years until you plan to retire.

The decision to direct your investment can be made anytime, but the workshop should give you a chance to get started with making a choice that is perfect for you.

Remember, though, that the university Fixed Fund and the Equity Fund will only be available through Dec. 31, 1993. After this date all contributions will have to be directed to one of the fund sponsors. There is a possibility, however, that Equitable Capital will be added to the plan as an additional fund sponsor.

If you have questions about the 1992 Pension Plan Workshops, contact Jan Marie Dell in Personnel Services at ext. 473 or JNJMD.

Everything you ever wanted to know about PEQs

Classified PEQ (Position Evaluation Questionnaire) Committee meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at 10 a.m. in Personnel Services. The committee meetings are open to the public and attendance is subject to supervisor approval. The committee members are Scott Clark of the Chancellor's Office and Denise Blankenship on the Sitka campus. Robin Quinn-Dowling is currently facilitating the committee. PEQs to be evaluated must be received in Personnel on the first and third Mondays of the month to allow time for initial review.

Bed and Breakfast discount offered

Pearson's Pond, a local, luxury bed-and-breakfast operated by Steve and Diane Pearson, has announced a 10-percent discount on rates for UAS staff, faculty and part-time students. Full-time students (12+ credits) will receive a 20-percent discount. AAA approved Pearson's Pond, located at 4541 Sawa Circle in Juneau, features a hot tub, duck pond, VCRs and laundry. For more information call 789-3772.

Benefits fair offers information, guest speakers, prizes, nachos

Did you know that you can use a Health Care Reimbursement Account to cover the cost of your medical deductible with tax-free contributions you make each pay period?

Permanent UAS employees are fortunate to have an excellent benefits package; unfortunately, few employees take advantage of the many opportunities the package affords them.

Wednesday, Sept. 30, UAS Personnel Services will sponsor the 1992 Benefits Fair in the Maurant Cafeteria from 2:30 until 5 p.m. Representatives from national and local firms will be on hand to answer your questions about TSAs, Workers' Compensation, the Pension Plan, TRS, ORP, PERS, Reimbursement Accounts, Tuition Waivers, U.S. Savings Bonds, C.O.B.R.A., life insurance, automatic deposit, etc.

Employees who attend the Benefits Fair will be treated to a tasty nacho bar while they chat with the representatives. A door prize drawing will also be held at 4 p.m., so be sure to drop your invitation in the bowl in the cafeteria.

Ketchikan and Sitka employees can phone the representatives anytime during the fair on a special line which has been set up for the Benefits Fair, 789-6358.

Many of the representatives will have traveled quite a distance to meet with UAS employees. Let's make the trip worth their while. The more we make use of the expertise of these guests, the more likely they are to continue their travels to Southeast Alaska.

If you have any questions about the 1992 Benefits Fair, contact Jan Marie Dell in Personnel Services at ext. 473 or JNJMD.

Soundings is published by the UAS Office of Public Information. It is distributed to UAS employees each pay period, and to others upon written request. The deadline for submissions is Tuesday noon prior to that Friday's publication. Send submissions to 11120 Glacier Highway, Juneau, Alaska 99801, 789-4530.