Tests of new brain cancer drug therapy show promise

A new intravenous therapy targeting brain tumors has shown promise in a Phase I trial at UAB and provides researchers new hope for treating a very deadly form of brain cancer known as gliomas.

TM-601, a synthetic version of chlorotoxin, a naturally occurring peptide derived from scorpion venom, was developed by scientists at UAB and TransMolecular, Inc. It binds with certain receptors on malignant tumor cells and delivers a targeted dose of radiation that kills them without affecting nearby healthy cells. The drug has been applied directly to tumor cells through the skull in previous studies, but the latest study evaluated its effectiveness when delivered intravenously.

“This Phase I study provides important data demonstrating that TM-601 can cross the blood-brain barrier, which is an obstacle in the development of drugs for brain cancer,” said John Fiveash, M.D., associate professor of radiation oncology.

University officials have selected Heritage Hall as the name for the new 95,000-square-foot academic building that will open for classes with the spring semester.

Located on the northwest corner of the Campus Green on University Boulevard at 14th Street, Heritage Hall is the first academic building to be built on that part of campus in approximately 30 years. It will house the School of Social & Behavioral Sciences programs, plus labs for mathematics and communication studies and faculty offices.

The new name was chosen with due respect to the former SBS home, the A.

Chelsea Umbach would rather be anywhere but here: A 12-by-12-foot hospital room where, for some 70 days, she’s been awaiting a desperately needed heart and lung transplant. Her 21-year-old body has fought pulmonary hypertension for almost as long as it can.

One of Umbach’s professors, Flowers Braswell, Ph.D., remembers what it’s like to be in such a situation. Her husband John had a kidney transplant 13 years ago after an agonizing wait of more than six months.

“The wait is just a feeling of total helplessness,” she says.

Braswell, a professor of arts and humanities, and Umbach crossed paths a few months ago when the student enrolled in Braswell’s research seminar. When Umbach informed her professor she would be entering the hospital to await her transplant after the first class meeting of the year, Braswell sprang into action.

Thanks to Braswell’s efforts, Umbach, an English literature major, is continuing to take the professor’s Bibliography & Research Seminar through videoconferencing from Sterne Library.

Tuesday afternoon Umbach fires up her laptop and enters a Web site address—then up pops a picture of the classroom. She puts on the headset attached to her telephone, calls into the classroom a la teleconference, and instantly becomes a student in the class.

“We can’t see her, but we can hear her and she can see us,” Braswell says. “Really we just walk into class and everyone says ‘Hello, Chelsea’ and she says ‘Hello.’ Chelsea makes comments and we respond to her comments. It’s just like Chelsea’s here. She’s just another student in this class, which is very enriching for all of us—and I think for her as well.”

Old grant still pays off

Braswell actually got the idea to try videoconferencing because she still had some old equipment remaining from a grant she received from the Office of the Provost several years ago.

The grant resulted in a program called “Eureka!” (eureka.mhsl.uab.edu), which was geared toward local 12th grade teachers. Before the program ended,

Jean Ann Linney, dean of the School of Social & Behavioral Sciences, stands in front of Heritage Hall — the name for the new 95,000-square-foot academic building that will open for classes next semester. The building will house SBS programs, as well as other labs and offices.
New voluntary insurance plans for UAB employees

UAB will be changing its voluntary life insurance and accidental death and dismemberment (AD&D) programs effective Feb. 1, 2008. There will be a special sign-up program for these programs, which will be administered by MetLife, Nov. 26-Dec. 21.

Plan details will be mailed to employees’ homes from MetLife over the next few weeks – please be on the lookout for these materials. During the enrollment, which will be conducted by MetLife, employees will have the option of choosing new term life insurance coverage for themselves and their eligible dependents. In most cases, the new term life premiums will be significantly lower than the pre-existing investment options. In addition, employees can take advantage of lower rates under the voluntary AD&D program.

Thanksgiving holidays are Nov. 22, Nov. 23

Thursday, Nov. 22 and Friday, Nov. 23 are official holiday according to university policy.

Although most campus operations will be suspended on this day, essential services – such as maintenance, some designated units receive 11 personal holidays instead of eight paid employees who are required to work on a designated holiday will be paid double time (their normal straight time rate for work plus straight time for the holiday) for no more than eight hours.

Because eligible employees of UAB Hospital, the UAB Police Department, the UAB Call Center and other designated units receive 11 personal holidays instead of eight designated and three personal holidays, employees in such units are not subject to the above policy and should check with their supervisors regarding staff requirements.

UAB’s holiday schedule and more are available online in the Human Resources section of www.uab.edu. Holiday policies are outlined in the UAB handbook for administrative, professional and support personnel.

Discussion Book essay contest deadline is Dec. 20

Employees and students can enter the Discussion Book essay contest for a chance to win $200 for the best essay on one of the two topics centered on Rick Bragg’s All Over But the Shoe. The topics, submission requirements and selection process are outlined on the Web site at http://main.uab.edu/Sites/DOE/discussionbook/34749/. Help us recognize outstanding women

The UAB Women’s Center and UAB Women’s Studies are looking for outstanding women. Do you know a woman who has made it easier for other women to achieve? Taken a courageous stance? Provided significant service to the community? Or seeking to enter the work force? The UAB Commission on the Status of Women and the YWCA’s My Sister’s Closet are partners in the drive.

Nominations are due no later than 5 p.m. Friday, Jan. 4, 2008. Nomination forms are available. Mail or bring to the UAB Women’s Center in the Holley-Mears Bldg Room 150, ZIP 2100. You also can fax them to 934-5833. If you have any questions, call 934-6946.

A reception for the honorees will be Thursday, March 20, 2008, from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. in the Green & Gold Room.
Civic engagement course teaches civic responsibility

Norma-May Isakow is the director of the new Office for Service Learning. Service learning is a component of UAB’s Quality Enhancement Plan and the Core Commitments Initiative. For more on service learning and how the Office for Service Learning can aid faculty, staff or students, visit www.uab.edu/service-learning or contact Isakow at nmisakow@uab.edu.

“Civic engagement empowers students to believe in their ability to do things and the importance of seeing themselves connected to social issues outside of themselves,” she says. “Internships primarily focus on developing professional skills. What we are doing in our service learning courses is focusing on service as it enhances academic learning, while at the same time raising students’ awareness for future civic participation.”

Service-learning projects Students in the Civic Engagement class are engaged in a wide range of service-learning activities, including working with Jones Valley Urban Farm, the 1917 HIV/AIDS Clinic, Jefferson County Family Court, the Hispanic Interest Coalition of Alabama and The Crisis Center and The Women’s Fund.

Anastasia Brown is engaged in service learning with the Jefferson County Family Court, where she observes and participates in various proceedings relating to juvenile justice. Most of the families are from low-income areas who don’t have much social capital,” Isakow says. “The social capital available to them might be as part of a gang or other subculture, rather than as part of a social unit conducive to advancement in mainstream culture.”

Service learning is a component of UAB’s Quality Enhancement Plan and the Core Commitments Initiative. For more on service learning and how the Office for Service Learning can aid faculty, staff or students, visit www.uab.edu/service-learning or contact Isakow at nmisakow@uab.edu.

Grants & Contracts Awards Report moves to the OGCA RESADM listserv

The UAB Reporter no longer publishes the Office of Grants & Contracts Administration’s Awards Report. The Awards Report will continue to be available via the OGCA Research Administration listserv. The Web link for joining the listserv is: http://main.uab.edu/show.asp?durki=100993

The UAB Reporter will continue to feature breaking news and in-depth stories on research conducted by members of the UAB community.

BRAIN CANCER

CONTINUED from page 1

at UAB and primary investigator of the trial. “TM-601 may emerge as a promising new therapeutic drug for glioma patients, a community with significant unmet needs due to the current lack of drug treatments.”

“We intravenously administered TM-601 to five patients with recurrent gliomas,” Fivush said. “All five demonstrated specific uptake of the drug, indicating that it had successfully crossed the blood-brain barrier.”

“Additionally, one patient showed a reduction in the volume of enhancement of the tumor on a MRI scan, suggesting possible tumor response to treatment,” he said. “Since the drug was safe at the tested dose, we anticipate a larger dose may be adequate to bring a high level of toxicity.”

Glioma is a particularly invasive form of brain cancer that does not respond well to current surgical or medical treatment options. There are 36,000 primary brain tumors reported each year, and nearly half are high-grade gliomas. Half of those with high-grade gliomas die within the first year.

The discovery that scorpion-based chlo- rotin bound with certain malignant cells in brain tumors was first reported in 1996 by a UAB team led by Harald Sontcheim, Ph.D., professor of neuro- ology and director of the UAB Civitan Research Center. TransMolecular, Inc. is a privately held, venture-capital-backed biotechnology company committed to discovering, developing and commercializing novel and proprietary products to diagnose and treat cancers that have inauspicious treatment alternatives.
Sarah Grostick (left) and Shannon Houser were honored by the American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA) for achievement in health information management at the AHIMA’s 79th Convention in Philadelphia in October. Grostick received the 2007 Educator award and Houser received the Research award.

There is nothing Sara Grostick enjoys more than seeing one of her Health Information Management Program students graduate from UAB and do great things. So imagine her joy in watching one of those students be recognized for her work “up close and personal.”

Grostick was afforded that opportunity recently when both she and Shannon Houser, Ph.D., were honored by the American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA) for achievement in health information management at the AHIMA’s 79th Convention in Philadelphia in October.

Grostick, an associate professor of health information management, is the recipient of the 2007 Educator award. Houser, assistant professor of health information management, received the 2007 Research award.

“It is wonderful to see her receive the research award,” says Grostick, who recently retired but still works part time at UAB. Houser says receiving her award with Grostick was special.

“To receive my award at the same time as my mentor was a great honor,” Houser says.

Grostick and Houser, who work in the UAB School of Health Professions, have blazed an impressive trail through the health information management field. Grostick was honored for her leadership in transitioning UAB’s traditional HIM program into an online/distance program that met the needs of students. Houser is well-known within and beyond the HIM profession. She serves the profession as a scholar and professor in UAB’s program and is co-investigator of research projects related to HIM methodologies and patient follow up for various diseases and conditions.

Grostick says the Department of Health Services Administration secured funding to develop online courses in 1999 from an Office of the Provost grant submitted by Donna Slovensky, Ph.D. That enabled them to purchase the needed equipment and hire a technical person to help faculty adapt their courses for online instruction.

“Teaching courses online is totally different from teaching in the classroom,” Grostick says. “I think the biggest challenge was transitioning the courses to the online format. We had the hardware and the software to develop interesting and appealing courses, but at that time some of the students we wanted to attract did not have the hardware to support advanced audio and video techniques.

“One of the things we had to make sure was that the course was accessible to all students. Now our courses are more sophisticated as current students have more advanced computer hardware and applications.”

Grostick also has played a key role in developing a graduate-level program in health informatics. AHIMA wants entry-level positions for HIM programs to be at the master’s level by 2016. Kay Clements, program director for UAB’s Bachelor’s of Science HIM program, and the BSHIM faculty are developing goals this year to position the program in line with AHIMA requirements.

“This will open opportunities to recruit students nationally and internationally at the graduate level,” Grostick says.

Scholar, professor

Houser is a principal investigator for a grant funded by AHIMA titled “Improving HIM practice standards: Releasing health information under the HIPAA Privacy Rule,” and also examined the potential impact of HIPAA on delay or denial of patient information from healthcare facilities in another study. The study examines barriers and problems that are emerging in release of health information under the HIPAA Privacy Rule from healthcare facilities – an issue affecting HIM professionals daily. Houser examined the impact of the rule on release of patient information among HIM professionals from 1,300 health care facilities nation wide.

“We have found that there are new barriers and problems related to release of patient information under the privacy rule that need to be addressed and corrected,” Houser says.

“HIM professionals hold a central role in the HIPPA implementation as a function to their involvement in the development of policies that affect all healthcare professionals within their organizations relative to patient information,” Houser says. “With authorization and within the confines of existing laws, they have released that information to third parties ranging from health professionals, other health care organizations, families and to other members of the public.”

The HIPPA Privacy Rule attempts to address deficiencies in these processes. In doing so, there were problems in implementation and interpretation of the intent of the law.

“This research is attempting to document some of the natural and unintended consequences of making this change,” Houser says. “The findings suggest there is need for more clarification of the law, and more specific standardized instructions for access to department provable, and public communications. This information can in turn be used to encourage changes in both the law and regulations related to the law to enhance the efficient and effective release of patient information authorized by patients.”

Houser is a three-time UAB graduate, receiving her Ph.D. in Health Behavior in 2004. She began working in Preventive Medicine in 1995 as a clinical data analyst involved in research studies. She accepted her faculty position in 2004, enabling her to combine knowledge for all of her degrees to teach courses in research methods, statistics and epidemiology to undergraduate and graduate students in health information management and health sciences.

The position also has enabled her to be more involved with AHIMA and be involved in research studies related to HIM issues. She says her colleagues have been an invaluable resource for her every step of the way.

“I am very fortunate to work with a group of HIM professionals at UAB who have been afoot for several decades,” she says. “Their dedication and commitment to the HIPAA field has helped me in my research and teaching work.”
P oison control centers are a vital compo-

tent of the United States health care system, providing free 24-hour
cost-efficient access to emergency poison information.

But now threats to federal and state fund-

ings are sources having a material impact on how the centers deliver and promote
these services.

Perhaps no one knows that better than

Erika Liebelt, M.D., director of medical
toxicology services in UAB's School of Medicine. She recently was appointed
chair of the American Association of Poison Control Center's (AAPCC) Committee for Certification for Poison Information Specialists and sees the chal-

lenges facing her group on a daily basis.

"Many organizations are under attack when it comes to funding these days," Liebelt says. "That's why it's important for the public to know that poison con-

rol centers save money in the health care arena. We can prevent unnecessary hospital and emergency department vis-

its. We can help streamline evaluation of patients."

More than 480 specialists in poison informa-
tion (SPIs) work in the 61 poison centers in the United States and Puerto Rico. The Committee for Certification for Poison Information Specialists is responsible for certifying the specialists, and Liebelt serves as the editor of the examination. She also oversees the develop-

cement of the exam and requirements for credentialing.

Liebelt says the examination is extensive, and she expects some revisions in the way it will be developed and administered:

"We go through a rigorous process in developing the yearly examination."

Liebelt says. "I've developed a proposal that takes the examination process to a

much higher level and brings the exami-
nation up to date in terms of credential-

ing. It's a new initiative for delivering the examination and how the exam is devel-

oped."

Many of the SPIs are emergency depart-

ment nurses, critical care nurses or phar-
macists.

"Being an SPI is a very unique niche." Liebelt says. "It's not like moving to a dif-

ferent floor in a hospital where you can take some of your skills with you. It's a whole new skill set."

It also takes intensive training, which can last up to six months. An SPI has to
demonstrate 2,000 hours of experience and have handled or accumulated 2,000
cases of telephone-poisoning consultation before he or she can take the exam.

"It's pretty stringent and it's a big invest-

ment to train people," Liebelt says. "We give an exam every year for recertifica-

tion."

Out with the old

Liebelt says poison control is like any other medical field -- treatments can change from time to time based on new research information.

One example is in the use of Ipecac syrup -- a medicine that causes vomiting. In the past it was used to empty a person's stomach

after a poison was ingested. Now it is rarely recommended.

"We found that it doesn't change outcome at all," Liebelt says. "Most poisoning in children doesn't result in serious out-

comes, and the ones we worry about we will refer to the hospital anyway."

Children who go to the hospital due to poisoning may receive activated charcoal. Liebelt says. The charcoal, which is made of wood pulp, can absorb poison.

"If we feel the ingestion is serious enough, then we will give the charcoal," Liebelt says. "But it depends on each individual circumstance."

Exposures increase

According to 2004 poison center survey results, the number of calls placed to poi-

son control centers continues to increase each year, as does the population that each center serves. Human exposure cases increased by 3.7 percent over 2002, and the average population served by all centers increased by almost 300,000.

The reduction of funding for the over-

whelming majority of Poison Control Centers threatens the quality of service the centers are able to provide to both the public and other health care profession-

als, according to the AAPCC.

The average cost expenditure per human exposure declined from $44.91 in 2002 to

$40.01 in 2004 -- a decrease of 11.1 per-

cent. The percentage of certified call cen-
ter staff has increased slightly since 2002, however, the same percentage at non-
certified centers has dropped by nearly half during the same time. The amount of public education that PCCs are able to conduct is decreasing, dealing a blow to a key service the AAPCC provides.

"We do a lot of outreach and education to the public and provide a much-needed public health service," Liebelt says. "We aid the public and health-care industry in so many areas. I think we do an incredible service to the public in decreasing emer-
gency department visits, especially when it comes to unintentional exposures in young children.

"We are always trying to push our ser-

vices and make ourselves available to the public. The parent has to know to call us instead of rushing the child to the emer-
gency department."

Call 1-800-222-1222 to be connected to your nearest poison control center, which can aid in helping humans and animals.

You can also visit www.aapcc.org to learn more.

LIEBELT ready to enhance U.S. poison control centers

BRAZSWELL

CONTINUED from page 1

Brazswell was videoconferencing with a class at Oak Mountain High School. Oak Mountain teacher Linda Martin would teach a high-school class on Chaucer one day, and Braswell would “come into” the classroom the next day via videocon-

ferencing and teach Martin’s students a

hands-on class.

"One day I had the students pull several
documents they are discussing.

Umbach. And if something comes up in
class at Oak Mountain High School. Umbach says she’s happy to have the

chance to continue her education through the help of her professors. Besides,
she’s got big plans once she leaves UAB Hospital.

"Getting to do this means I’m not wast-
ing my life away," Umbach says. "I will be educated and able to continue my life once I get out."

"Really, I can’t thank Dr. Braswell enough because she totally jumped on the ball. She knows what’s going to happen through a transplant and be in the hos-

pital."

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Sister’s Christmas Catechism at Stephens Center Dec. 14-15

The Alys Stephens Center presents Sister’s Christmas Catechism, “The Mystery of the Magi’s Gold,” at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 14, and at 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 15. Tickets are $35, $25 and $20; student tickets are $10. Call 975-2787 or go to www.AlysStephens.org.

Sister is back in the habit again and at the Alys Stephens Center, so sit up straight and pay attention. Help Sister solve the mystery as she uses techniques from her favorite television show, “Forensic Files,” and creates a living nativity using audience members dressed as the Holy Family, Magi, shepherds, sheep and, of course, a donkey. Members of the Magic City Actors’ Theatre will perform as the choir.

Sister is played by Mary Zentmyer. The show was written by Marzipan Donovan, who originated the role of Sister in “Late Night Catechism.”

Special lectures

Monday, Nov. 19
3 pm Foreign Languages & Literatures/UAB International Studies Program. Globalization, minority groups and religious pluralism, Professor Saban Ali Duzgun, a Fulbright Visiting Specialist from Turkey. Duzgun directs the Department of Theology at Ankara University in Turkey. He also is chief editor of the online publication Journal of Theological Research. Hill University Center Alumni Auditorium. Free and open to the public.

Tuesday, Nov. 20, Nov. 27
10 am International Women’s Group. Smolian International House. 4-1205/awowens@uab.edu; 5:25 pm Power Yoga; UAB Marshall Conference Center. For more info, call Fran 967-5003.

Wednesday, Nov. 21, Nov. 28
9 am New parent support group (birth-2 years); WP-Conf Ctr. Questions? Call Freda 5-2337/lfcentor@uabmc.edu.

Meetings

Monday, Nov. 19, Nov. 26
Noon Foreign Language & Literatures. Language Tables. Arabic conversation table; HB3-3rd Fl The Hub. For more info, lazajz@uab.edu or foreignlangs@uab.edu.
5:25 pm Power Yoga; UAB Marshall Conference Center. For more info, call Fran 967-5003.

Tuesday, Nov. 20, Nov. 27
10 am International Women’s Group. Smolian International House. 4-1205/awowens@uab.edu; 12:10 pm Stress Management through Meditation; The UAB Resource Center. Call 934-2281 or visit www.uab.edu/eadp for more info.
3 pm Foreign Language & Literatures. Language Tables. Spanish Conversation Table; HB3-3rd Fl The Hub. centeno@uab.edu or foreignlangs@uab.edu for more info.

Wednesday, Nov. 21, Nov. 28
9 am New parent support group (birth-2 years); WP-Conf Ctr. Questions? Call Freda 5-2337/lfcentor@uabmc.edu.
10 am Conversational English classes. levels 1-4; Smolian International House. 4-1205/awowens@uab.edu.

Noon Foreign Language & Literatures. Language Tables. Arabic conversation table; Smolian International House. Book for the French flag. For more info, danielo@uab.edu or foreignlangs@uab.edu.
5:25 pm Power Yoga; UAB Marshall Conference Center. For more info, call Fran 967-5003.
7 pm Conversational English classes, levels 1-4; Smolian International House. 4-1205/awowens@uab.edu.
8 pm Foreign Language & Literatures. Language Tables. Italian conversation table; Rast Hall-3rd Floor Study Lounge. For more info, Belita Faki at belita@uab.edu or foreignlangs@uab.edu.

Thursday, Nov. 29
12:10 pm Tai Chi – Stress Management through Movement; The UAB Resource Center. Call 934-2281 or visit www.uab.edu/eadp for more info.

3 pm Foreign Language & Literatures. Language Tables. Medical Spanish Conversation Table; Humanities Bldg 3rd Fl The Hub. centeno@uab.edu or foreignlangs@uab.edu for more info.
5 pm Foreign Language & Literatures. Language Tables. Chinese Conversation Table; Humanities Bldg 3rd Fl The Hub. maximin@uab.edu or foreignlangs@uab.edu for more info.
6:30 pm SMART recovery group meetings; not a 12-step or religious program. Any addiction or habit can be helped. Southside Baptist Church. WL Fal彻775-7755 for details.
8 pm Stammtisch conversation table, for anyone who speaks German; Giuseppe’s Cafe, 925 8th Street South. For more info, agresti@uab.edu.

Friday, Nov. 30
7 am Falun Dafa exercises; UAB Mini Park, 4-8295.
12:30 pm Foreign Language & Literatures. Language Tables. Russian Conversation Table; Humanities Bldg 3rd Fl The Hub. marina.lysenko@uab.edu or foreignlangs@uab.edu for more info.

Religion

Tuesday, Nov. 20, Nov. 27
Noon Medical Center Christian Fellowship Meeting. West Pavilion-B. All welcome. Mark 647-5177 or Blair 951-3826.

Wednesday, Nov. 21, Nov. 28
Noon Employee-led Bible study; Interfaith Chapel-West Pavilion.
12:15 pm Latter-day Saints Student Association. Scripture study and discussion; Hill University Center-413. All welcome. For more info, Andrew 822-9338.

Sunday, Nov. 25, Dec. 2
10 am Catholic Mass; St Stephen Church, 1515 S 12th Ave. 933-2500.
5 pm Catholic Mass; St Stephen Church, 1515 S 12th Ave. 933-2500.
5 pm UAB Hindu Student Council. We will have a service or singing and feasting the Hare Krishna way where everyone is welcome to join. For more info, Varadaraj Prabhu 383-9805. 1501 15th Ave S, Apt 20, Birmingham.

Exhibits

Mervyn H. Sterne Library. Alabama Illustrated. The exhibit features original drawings and illustrations by UAB students of this fall’s Advanced Drawing class taught by Douglas Baulos. The exhibit is located on the first and second floors of the Mervyn H. Sterne Library and will be available through December 2007. Library hours: 7:30 am-11 pm Mon-Thurs; 7:30 am-7 pm Fri; 9 am-5 pm Sat; 1-11 pm Sun.

The Samuel Ullman Museum. Home of prominent Birmingham civic leader and poet. Open by appointment only, 4-3328.

Alabama Museum of the Health Sciences. Anatomical Theatre, through Dec. 7. LHL-3rd Fl. For info, call 4-4477.

Visual Arts Gallery, Annual UAB Juried Student Exhibit, the best works of art created by students in the UAB Department of Art & Art History. This year’s juried student exhibition was selected by Tom Eccles, executive director of the Center for Curatorial Studies at Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, and the director of the Hessel Museum. Gallery hours are 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday and 1-5 p.m. Saturday. The gallery is closed on Sundays and holidays. The gallery will be closed for Thanksgiving Nov. 21-Nov. 24.

WBHM-FM, 90.3

Fresh Air with Terry Gross can be heard 3-4 pm daily on 90.3 WBHM-Birmingham, and 91.5 WSGN-Gadsden, your station for NPR News and classical music. Fresh Air is NPR’s Peabody Award-winning weekday magazine of contemporary arts and ideas. It offers some of the most intelligent interviews, reviews and commentary heard on radio, and features interviews with prominent cultural and entertainment figures, as well as distinguished experts on current events.

Special events

Monday, Nov. 19
7 pm Music. UAB Gospel Choir Fall Concert, conducted by Kevin Turner. The UAB Gospel Choir recordings “Live!” and “Lessons for Life” are available for purchase. Advance and group tickets available. Call 5-2787 for ticket information. Jimerson Concert Hall.

Tuesday, Nov. 20
8 pm UAB Foreign Film Series. The Life of Others, a German film with English subtitles. This political thriller is set in 1984, before Glasnost and the fall of the Berlin Wall. Free and open to the public. Hulsey Recital Hall.

Tuesday, Nov. 27
8 pm Music. UAB Jazz Ensemble, conducted by Steve Roberts. Free admission. Call 5-2787. Jimerson Concert Hall.

Friday, Nov. 30
3:30 pm Music. UAB Jazz Ensemble, conducted by Steve Roberts. Free admission. Call 5-2787. Jimerson Concert Hall.

Saturday, Dec. 1
3 pm Music. UAB Middle School Honor Bands Concert. Free admission. Call 5-2787. Jimerson Concert Hall.

Sunday, Dec. 2
3 pm Music. UAB Piano Ensembles Concert. Free admission. Call 4-7376. Hulsey Recital Hall.

UAB Sports

Nov. 24: UAB Men’s Basketball against Jacksonville, Bartow Arena. 7 pm

Dec. 1: UAB Men’s Basketball vs Cincinnati, Bartow Arena. 5 pm
Quinlan honored as “Star of the South” by Irish America Magazine

UAB English Professor Kieran Quinlan, Ph.D., is one of 12 Irish Americans named as one of the “Stars of the South” by Irish America Magazine. The award, which recognizes the best and brightest Irish Americans in the Southern United States, was presented Oct. 27 at the Commerce Club in Atlanta. In addition to the award, Quinlan and the other winners are featured in the October/November issue of Irish America Magazine.

Quinlan, who was born in Dublin, teaches in the UAB Department of English specializing in modern American and Irish literature with a special emphasis on writers from the American South.

He has published three books, including John Crowe Ransom’s Secular Faith, Walker Percy: The Last Catholic Novelist and Strange Kin: Ireland and the American South. He also has published essays on W.B. Yeats, T.S. Eliot, Seamus Heaney and Donald Davidson.

UAB Social Work Program wins reaccreditation from CSWE

The UAB Social Work Program has won reaccreditation from the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE). The reaccreditation covers social work education for the next eight years.

“This is joyful news for our program and for our students,” said UAB associate professor Tyrone Chang, Ph.D., CSWE, program director for the UAB Social Work Program. “It is a testament to our successful program.”

The CSWE is a non-profit national association that represents more than 3,000 individual members as well as graduate and undergraduate programs of professional social work education.

The council’s Commission on Accreditation is responsible for developing accreditation standards that define competent preparation and ensuring that social work programs meet those standards. The CSWE is the sole accrediting agency for social work education in the United States.

The Bachelor of Social Work program at UAB prepares students for entry-level, generalist practice with diverse populations. The program is housed within the School of Social and Behavioral Sciences.

Radiation Safety Refresher Course offered Dec. 6 at Spain Auditorium

A Radiation Safety Refresher Training Course will be offered Thursday, Dec. 6 at 2:30 p.m. at the Margaret Cameron Spain Auditorium.

This course is intended for radioactive materials licensees, alternate licensees and authorized users who have not successfully completed either the UAB Radiation Safety Training Course, or the UAB Licensure and Management Course, within the last five years. Failure to complete refresher training every five years is now a citable item.

All personnel using radioactive materials and radiation equipment who have not successfully completed either course within the last five years can attend either a section of the regularly scheduled UAB Radiation Safety Training Course held quarterly or the Radiation Safety Refresher Training Course.

Registration for the Radiation Safety Refresher Course is required no later than Wednesday, Dec. 5 To register for the refresher course, call 934-4751 or 934-2487.

Campus Rec offers employees ‘12 Days of Fitness’ in December

UAB’s Campus Rec Center wants to help you stay motivated and stress-free during the holiday season by offering the “12 Days of Fitness” to employees.

All you have to do to participate is pick up a “12 Days of Fitness” card at the Campus Recreation’s weight room every day you work out from Dec. 1-12. After working out, fill out the card and have it validated by a weight room staff employee or UFit Instructor. Then drop the card off in the “12 Days of Fitness” basket in the weight room and you will be eligible to win a prize.

“We’re doing this to encourage individuals to stay fit as the holidays approach.” says Wendi Stanley, assistant director of fitness. “It’s a fun and easy way to win prizes for working out.”

You must be a member of the Rec Center to take part in this program. Participants who complete all 12 days of workouts will be entered into a drawing for a yet-to-be-determined prize. Physical activity can include running, swimming, lifting, attending a UFit class, intramurals, playing racquetball, basketball, soccer or badminton.

For more information on the “12 Days of Fitness” contact Wendi Stanley at wstanley@uab.edu.

UAB doctors called the “best”

UAB faculty-physicians comprise more than 60 percent (277) of all Birmingham metropolitan-area medical specialists (460) on the latest list of “Best Doctors in America.”

Best Doctors is an independent, knowledge-based medical referral service located in Aiken, S.C. Its surveys ask peer physicians, “If you or a loved one needed a doctor in your specialty, to whom would you refer them?” Only about 1 to 5 percent of all specialists worldwide make the list, which currently contains the names of about 50,000 physicians.

Nominations for the list are anonymous, and doctors’ evaluations are confidential, according to the company. The system of review, based on methodology invented in 1992, includes a method of catching and correcting bias, for or against partic-

ular physicians or groups of physicians. Listings cannot be purchased.

More information is available at www.
bestdoctors.com.

UAB Eye Care is conducting eye screenings Nov. 29 at the School of Business, Dec. 6 at the Campus Rec Center and Dec. 13 at The Kirklin Clinic.

UAB Eye Care conducts three vision screenings on campus

The number of Americans with major eye diseases is increasing, and vision loss is becoming a major public health problem—especially with the aging of the population.

But vision loss often doesn’t have to occur: UAB Eye Care is on the front line when it comes to diagnosing and treating eye disease, frequently holding eye screenings throughout the state.

That is why it is hosting three screenings on campus over the next month, giving the campus population an opportunity to receive a free vision screening and get a clearer picture of their eye health.

The screenings are Nov. 29 at the School of Business, Dec. 6 at the Campus Rec Center and Dec. 13 at The Kirklin Clinic.

“Those screenings are designed to let you know if you are seeing as well as you think you are,” says Felton Perry, O.D., an associate professor at the UAB School of Optometry and director of Community Eye Care, an outreach program that provides vision screenings throughout Birmingham. “We will mainly be checking for visual acuities and conducting pressure checks. If someone is having a problem we will refer them along to their eye doctor or they can come see us for a complete examination.”

Blindness and low vision can lead to loss of independence and reduced quality of life, but many diseases that lead to blindness and low vision can be treated successfully with early detection. UAB Eye Care recommends that healthy adults ages 18-60 have eye exams every one to two years. Those 61 and older should have an examination every year.

“It’s important to note that different eye conditions require different frequencies of follow-up, so it’s important for the patient to follow his or her optometrist’s recommendations since it is specific to their eyes and vision,” Perry says.

“No matter who you are, regular eye exams are important for seeing more clearly, learning more easily and preserving your vision for life.”

Blindness or low vision affects 3.3 million Americans age 40 and over, according to the National Eye Institute. This figure is projected to reach 5.5 million by 2020.

Advanced age-related macular degeneration, glaucoma, cataract and diabetic retinopathy are the most common eye diseases causing visual impairment in Americans.

Signs and symptoms of eye problems that need immediate attention include sudden blurred vision, sudden loss of vision, sudden decrease in floaters, red eye, discharge from the eye, eye injury or eye pain.

If you would like to schedule an appointment for an eye exam with UAB Eye Care, call 975-2020. Appointments are available Monday through Friday between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. For more information, you can also visit the UAB Eye Care Web site, www.uab.edu/uabeycare.
Rob Bryant saw the look on the student’s face and immediately felt sympathy for her. The student was transferring to UAB this past spring after spending time at three other universities and wanted to know if she would really, as she had been told, have to start her entire academic career over. Bryant investigated the matter, thoroughly looking into the classes the student had taken and comparing their course descriptions to the same or similar courses at UAB, trying to determine what courses were compatible and which ones weren’t.

“We actually found out she had completed her core, meaning she could start taking classes in her major immediately and should be able to finish in two years if she took full loads,” Bryant says. “She was an older, non-traditional student, and she said getting that news was the best 30th birthday present she could have gotten.”

Bryant, a program manager in Academic Programs and Policies, is November’s Employee of the Month. Each month, UAB recognizes an outstanding employee for their dedication, hard work and contributions to our success. If you would like to nominate someone, e-mail Jason Turner at jturner@uab.edu.

Robin Bryant aids university by developing new transfer procedures

Robin Bryant, a program manager in Academic Programs and Policies, is November’s Employee of the Month. Each month, UAB recognizes an outstanding employee for their dedication, hard work and contributions to our success. If you would like to nominate someone, e-mail Jason Turner at jturner@uab.edu.

Smith, Manning honored by Board of Trustees

The University of Alabama Board of Trustees appointed UAB Professor William M. Smith, Ph.D., as professor emeritus in the UAB School of Engineering’s Department of Biomedical Engineering (BME). Retired UAB Professor Maryann M. Manning, Ed.D., was recognized as Distinguished Service Professor Emerita for her many contributions to the UAB-School of Education and the state of Alabama. Both were honored at the Nov. 9 board meeting.

Smith joined the BME faculty at UAB in 1994 and served as interim chair from 2001-2005. His pioneering work in cardiac electrophysiology is published in more than 180 peer-reviewed publications and numerous scientific presentations, conferences and book chapters. Smith also provided leadership in the department’s efforts to establish an undergraduate program.

Manning is a renowned expert in reading and writing instruction and integrated curriculum. She has written and co-authored more than 10 books, has been a columnist for Teaching K-8 and Childhood Education magazines and is a member of the International Reading Association’s board of directors.

Manning initiated and organized the Young Authors Conference and the MidSouth Reading and Writing Conference, held annually at UAB. In 2002 she became the first recipient of the Ellen Gregg Ingalls/UAB National Alumni Society Award for Lifetime Achievement in Teaching. She has received numerous other honors, including the Distinguished Service to Alabama Schools Award from the Alabama Association of Elementary School Principals in 2006, and in 2007, she was presented with a resolution from the Alabama Senate for her years of service to education. She retired from UAB in August.

Healthy children aged 11-17 needed for a research study of an investigational herpes vaccine. Must have neither a history of genital herpes nor have any symptoms. Single appointment includes questionnaire and blood work. Call Dr. Park 996-7340/914-3159/rain@uab.edu.

Are you an overweight woman age 40-60 who has been previously diagnosed with diabetes? You may be eligible for a study evaluating new treatment options for the disease. Call 996-7340/914-3159/rain@uab.edu.

Are you a woman age 40 or older? Are you currently participating in a Care Team you are currently participating in or would like to be? You may qualify for a neurological exam. Compensated $50/visit. Call 996-6639 for a follow-up visit. Alexander 4-2022/866-706-5545.

Are you a woman age 60 or older? Are you currently participating in a Care Team you are currently participating in or would like to be? You may qualify for a neurological exam. Compensated $50/visit. Call 996-6639 for a follow-up visit. Alexander 4-2022/866-706-5545.

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For Sale

104 Ponder Grand QT2, fully loaded, paid off, 2 BR, 2 BA, 3635/sqft, $795/mo. 229-336-7757/335-1030.

110 UAB Personal health clinic

Appliances & Electronics

Other

Automobiles
1995 toyota Previa minivan w/2 remotes, $50. 410-6197.

Miscellaneous

For Sale

Furniture

Professional services

Services

UAB Career Development Services. UAB Employment Services. Need help finding a job? All services are complimentary, need only the contact information and designed only for UAB employees. We provide: career counseling, personal and career assessment, resume coaching, identification and support, and spouse/partner relocation. Call 4-5745 or e-mail uabcareers@uab.edu.

The Resource Center. Did you know UAB provides free confidential counseling to employees and their dependents, 8–5 weekdays? Need help with job or personal problems you can get help in finding a new job. All counselors are professional counselors and licensed managed and family therapists. 4-2351.

Hardware, software, and engineering: the university division of the Center for Biophysical Sciences and Engineering in the development of the hardware and software all was used in research laboratory. The group is ISO 9001:2001 certified for the full range of products and services it provides from concept to component to finished products. We design, fabricate, test, and manufacture systems and software devices for spaceflight, research, development, and military work. Our software systems, databases, and space systems for spaceflight, including flight engineering, simulation, and post flight analysis are used in our laboratory, service, and commercial environment. Systems developed by the group are used in research and development. For more information, visit the website www.cs.uab.edu or contact Mike 3-2857, or Le-2 5711.

Do you have computer problems or questions? Need your computer moved or additional hardware installed? You are a UAB employee, or an employee of a UAB affiliate? Then you have come to the right place. Our service offers software support solutions, general networking and troubleshooting of all flavors and sizes, from Windows to Linux and Macintosh. For more information, contact 4-1168.


Typing: $1.50/page. Max 4-1168.

Heating & cooling: licensed, bonded, honest & reliable; residential & light commercial; all work guaranteed; references, 349-6790/482-2073.

Professional videoigraphy: we specialize in capturing the essence of events and key moments for every type of event, from a wedding to a corporate event. We can create photo montages with your old pictures set to music: 450-793-6065.

Have a backyard place called ‘shape in shell’? It also come to your home for a one-on-one session. Contact 257-2197.

We will design & maintain your lawn, cut & trim, prunes, trim trees, manage hedge, plant, etc. Call 219-8880.

Master electrician: state licensed electric contractor specializing in residential/commercial work. Offering a full array of services. For more information contact his office at 9-7671 or 4-4982.

Creative coupons: give your sweetheart coupons designed to generate a lot of love, excitement, fun and passion. Barbara Randali 431- 2875/3745.

Flush top: receive help with homework or learn basic conversational Spanish for your child. 310-9780-480.

Authentic burrito: want a burrito & Salvadoran/Chinese/Italian food? Come on in. We serve authentic burritos with rice & beans.

Family physician: specializing in internal medicine and providing care for all ages, from children to adults and their families? Whether you’re dealing with heart conditions and blood pressure issues or complex issues, we can help you find a satisfying career. All services are complimentary, offer the best treatment and therapy available. All services are complimentary, offer the best treatment and therapy available.

The UAB Continence Center offers a wide range of services for adults and children – help you find the best treatment and therapy available. 1-870.

UAB Orthodontic Department provides services to adults, children and adolescents. We are here for you, for their families, for their future. We offer comprehensive care of the mouth and provide care for adult and children's oral problems and other facial disorders. Call and let us evaluate your condition and offer the best treatment and therapy available. 1-870.

The UAB Center for Neurological Care specializes in confidential and expert care of T1 and vagi- ners. Screening for genital herpes infection also available. Call for appointment. 6-2780.

Intercampus Telecommunication System. The UAB ISDN infrastructure that facilitates T1 Internet connec- tions for UAB employees, students, and visitors throughout the nation. For more info, see http://www.infrastructure.ua.edu/IITS%20main.htm/ Jan 7/35/2004.
Video tape conversion & transfers: PAL/NTSC/ SECAM, 8mm, VHS & VHS-C. Fast ser- vice. 5-909-973-4613. 

Relax and leave the cleaning to me! I houseclean on a 1-weekly, 2-weekly or bi-monthly basis; also do one-time clean- ings. Call Megan at 412-324-7474 or mdglennx@yahoo.com. 


Interested in starting a new career? Tried of working 8-5? Or do you just need some extra money? You have always wanted to be your own boss but may not know where to start? 

- Interested in starting your own business? 
- Want to make more money? 
- Want to do something creative for a living? 

Call 935-3521 or by dylbox@bellsouth.net. 

DJ: all types of music, R&B, jazz, rock, hip-hop, talk, funk, soul. Reasonable prices. Matt 611- 6211 

Wedding photography and portraits by Hardy Mom. High quality, reasonable rates. 

Will clean your house at a reasonable price and will provide cleaning supplies. 854-3197/86-8077. 


All about carpet cleaning: restore, don't buy more $68-$578, 24-hour emergency service. Apartments & residential. Mention the UAB Reporter and get 10% off your overall cleaning. 

Video tape conversion & transferring: NTSC/SECAM, 8mm, VHS & VHS-C. Fast service. 

Dale 648-0912/238-1546. 

Home improvement and repairs: carpentry, painting, drywall, painting, over 100 years experience. 352-0656. 

Specializing in all your catering needs: weddings, bar mitzvahs, mitzvahs, bar mitzvahs, mitzvahs, bat mitzvahs, bat mitzvahs, bat mitzvahs, bat mitzvahs. Call for free estimates. John 216-924-2741. 


Artist: Life is more than your “honey do” list of chores or just purchase skin care products for your own use. 

- I can help get all your errands done. For more details, call 972-728-0633. 

Licensed homebuilder/remodeler: all kinds of small and large jobs, room additions, decks, etc. certified homebuilder. References. Chris 337-0552/880-0121. 

Imagery That... They’re just not your everyday anymore! Painting and decorative painting from children’s rooms, to formal living areas. 

- Professional videography: Garvin Phillips has more than 18 years experience in capturing wedding events and other special occasions. 

- Professional quality, cheap rates. David 5-0269. 

- Affordable notary fees. 914-383-9793. 

- Water damage repairs and painting. 

- Computer & network servicing for residential and commercial.

- Plumbing, floor work, heating, mineral, electrical work, and more. 

- Experienced university-trained solo clas- sic violin and Irish fiddles. 

- Competitive rates. 566-1603/833-5185/garvin@comcast.net. 

- All types of music, R&B, jazz, rock, hip-hop, talk, funk, soul. Reasonable prices. Matt 611-6211. 

- We are specializing in framework, carpentry, plumbing, driveways, decks, patios, repair work and添麻烦。 

- High quality, reasonable rates. Matt 611-6211. 

- Professional quality, cheap rates. David 5-0269. 

- Comfortable home for that special occasion. Everyday bandanas, 

- I will also put your photos on ceramic tile, etc. 

- Trading in or buying video tapes from low to high end. 

- Call Jeff, 519-952-362 for wedding videography services. 


- Large & small jobs, 

- 10% discount for UAB employees. 

- Home & business computer repair/virus cleaning, 

- Home inspections: State licensed and fully insured, 

- Home & business computer repair/virus cleaning, 

- We offer pasture boarding, 

- My name is looking for teens 

- Want to be a concerned parent? 

- If you are tired of being overweight? 

- Are you tired of being overweight? 

- I am looking for teens 

- Items that are not just four walls but imagine that they are a family to a special needs or too small. Indoor/outdoor residential or commercial. 

- Elderly & housekeeping. 

- We offer pasture boarding, 

- Horse boarding: We offer pasture boarding, 

- We are specializing in framework, carpentry, plumbing, driveways, decks, patios, repair work and添麻烦。 

- Want to be a concerned parent? 

- In the home? We are specializing in framework, 

- Cleaners are available to join your team to train in health and fitness. 

- I am looking for teens 

- My name is looking for teens 

- We are specializing in framework, carpentry, plumbing, driveways, decks, patios, repair work and添麻烦。 

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- Want to be a concerned parent?
See the USA...

Scenic overlooks abound on the annual trip series from the UAB Outdoor Pursuits center. These expeditions are not for armchair travelers — destinations are chosen for their adventure potential, ranging from Hawaiian volcano treks to scuba diving in the Florida Keys.

There is also a strong local flavor, with many opportunities to explore Alabama’s own wilderness sights. The Outdoor Pursuits program is based out of the university’s Campus Recreation Center and is open to all. To learn more, visit studentaffairs.uab.edu/CampusRecreation/outdoor/html.