In this Issue...
AU is under construction...
New Student Village
Also...
Safe Harbor builds ties with community and Auburn morns for students who died this year

Special: AU Goes to War

Auburn Marines await instruction during morning physical training which is held five days a week.

Until Feb. 17, Cpl. William Strom was worried about tests and what to do on Friday nights. Now he’s in Iraq after spending a month in California receiving desert training.

Among the members of the Armed Forces deployed to the Middle East are Auburn University students who traded their pencils for packs and tests for tanks. Student Affairs and Auburn University have helped approximately 50 students who had to leave school for military service.

Along with Strom, Auburn University students Samuel Kobliska and Andrew Sherman, Marine Corps reservists stationed at Montgomery, were sent overseas.

Strom is a rifleman and senior in mechanical engineering, Sherman is a Marine team leader and a senior in economics. Kobliska is an automatic rifleman and a freshman in aviation management. All three were deployed only three weeks after notice from the Marine Corps, on Mar. 5.

“They’ve been warning us for two years,” Sherman said. “I didn’t want to believe it, they’d been telling us for so long.”

Strom was only one semester away from graduating. “I have put it behind me,” Strom said. “I wanted to graduate, but it’s a way of life I’ve chosen.” All three have plans to return to Auburn once they return from the Middle East. However, it will be as few as six months and many as 12 before they return to the United States.

Auburn University’s policy for
Continued on next page
There are approximately 500 students enrolled at Auburn who are a part of either Army, Navy or Air Force ROTC.

Approximately 50 students had to resign their enrollment at Auburn University because of orders to go to war.

Roosevelt Drive and Duggar Drive will be closed to traffic all Summer Semester.

East Samford and South College Ave. Parking Lot will be closed from 12 a.m. until 12 p.m. all Summer Semester.

For more road closure information call 844-9441.

Auburn Under Construction

Planning for the new student village will continue through the summer of 2004 and construction will begin in the fall, said Laura McDonald, design project manager at Facilities.

This will cause some disruption for Student Affairs personnel as parking may get harder to come by and traffic may become difficult due to construction.

Debbie Shaw, former building committee co-chair until her move to the Auburn Alumni Office in May, warned employees that they should be prepared for a certain level of disruption.

“We’ll be doing all we can to keep it at a minimum,” said Shaw. “But with construction, that is to be expected. Our goal is to keep Student Affairs and students informed every step of the way.”

The Foy Student Union building is over 50 years old and it has structural problems. A 1998 engineering structure study projected renovation costs at approximately $10 million.

“So did we want to raise money for repairs or raise a little more and build a new student union?” asked Shaw.

The student village concept was developed by committees of students and faculty with a little help from a consulting firm, International Design and Entertainment Associates.

“I’ve always tried to keep student input at the forefront,” Shaw said. “Not only are they paying for it but they are also our primary users.”

Shaw pointed out that the new student village will be important to Student Affairs employees because the students are Student Affairs customers.

Shaw used surveys and student committees to help determine the new features that the student union should include.

“We involved user groups—people who are using the building,” Shaw said. “They relayed their needs, then we took their needs and analyzed the space.”

Some of the goals that the committee had to work with include providing an indoor and outdoor gathering area for students, faculty, and staff. Another goal that provided a framework for the planning process was to provide a location that would encourage student involvement in staff, operations, organizations and activities. There was also concern expressed that the building would be environmentally-friendly and that it would be updated with the latest technology.

The new student village will consist of three buildings. One will be located on the corner of Thach Avenue and Mell Street, another east of Haley Center and one on the present Foy Union site.

The new student union will
cost the university approximately $50 million. This figure includes planning, construction and furnishing the new student union. The new student village will be funded in part by a $5 student fee increase that went into effect fall quarter 1999.

One of the biggest changes will include the paving over of Thach Avenue and turning Auburn University into a pedestrian campus. This makes the issue of parking a million dollar question Shaw said. “The beauty of a pedestrian campus is that our students can walk to class in safety” Shaw said.

In order to make the concept of a pedestrian campus work, Shaw said it would require a lot of cooperation on both the students and faculty. She also said that it would involve an enhanced transit system.

The cluster of three red buildings represent the future location of the new student village buildings.

### Mike Reynolds named Interim Director of Foy Union

Mike Reynolds, director of Financial Aid and Scholarships, has been named interim director of Foy Student Union.

On May 15, Debbie Shaw accepted the position of Assistant Vice President of Alumni Affairs, leaving her position as director of Foy Student Union.

Reynolds comes with a high recommendation from Vice President of Student Affairs Wes Williams.

“Mike has done an exceptional job motivating and encouraging his staff,” Williams said.

Reynolds was the director of financial aid and scholarships prior to becoming interim director at Foy Student Union. Prior to his work at Auburn, Reynolds worked with the Alabama Student Loan program and the Alabama Commission on Higher Education. Reynolds is also a graduate of Auburn University.

“I’m looking at it as a learning experience,” Reynolds said. “It’s almost like an internship. I’m looking forward to the challenge.”

Reynolds will not only be working with the student groups, but he will as be working on the new student village.

“There are three strong coordinators here, which makes the director’s job a lot easier,” Reynolds said.

Reynolds hopes to learn something new about a different aspect of Student Affairs, but intends on returning to financial services as soon as a replacement is found.

### Student Affairs in Short

The Student Success Center has had a busy semester, holding three different career-oriented events. A job fair was held on Feb. 13, a career expo on Feb. 25, and an education interview day on March 18. Total student participation near 2,000 students said Anne Stewart in the Student Success Center. “Great facilities, food, decorations and staff and student support contributed to the success of these programs,” Stewart said.

### Fall 2003 enrollment projections:

- 23,200 total
- 3,700 incoming freshmen

### “In Touch” Staff

Dr. Wes Williams
Pete Pepinsky
Jamie Rae Whiteley

If you have any questions, comments, concerns or corrections, please contact Pete Pepinsky at pepinpr@auburn.edu
One in six women will be sexually assaulted in their lifetime.

Women are most at-risk between the ages of 18 and 24 as well as during the first six weeks of college.

Nationally, almost 60 percent of reported rapes that took place on college campuses occurred in the victim’s residence.

Last year, 65 rapes were reported to East Alabama Medical Center.

Every two minutes, somewhere in America, someone is sexually assaulted.

Approximately 66 percent of rape victims know their assailants.

Safe Harbor provides counseling services, victim advocacy (helping victims get in contact with medical and law enforcement personnel), awareness education and self-defense classes for credit.

Safe Harbor can be contacted at 844-5123.

As of April 3, rape victims will no longer have to endure typically long emergency room waits and treatment.

Thanks to Safe Harbor, a SANE (Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner) room was opened at East Alabama Medical Center. In the past, rape victims were treated like all other emergency room patients. According to Paula Carnahan this was traumatizing for the victim.

Carnahan has been working on the SANE room project for three years and was thrilled when it finally came together. She said that it took a lot of cooperation and a lot of training for community members and staff to make the SANE room a reality.

“We are very lucky,” Carnahan said. “We have professionals here willing to work with us. We have our community support.”

“We had two purposes, to make it be for the survivor a better place and the other is to get the person out of the emergency room,” said Lori Marine, director of the Emergency Department at East Alabama Medical Center. The room was designed to be private and nondescript. There isn’t even a sign indicating the room’s use.

According to Marine, having the rape victims in the emergency room was stressful for the nursing staff. They were forced to leave the rape victim alone when emergencies arose and try to deal delicately with the victim while still attending to other medical emergencies.

Melissa Rogers, manager of the emergency services nursing staff said that the SANE room will cut down on the wait for victims and will establish a set protocol for collecting evidence. It will make going to the hospital as a rape victim less traumatic.

Auburn University’s connection with the SANE room and community is unique. Carnahan said that Student Affairs employees should be proud of the relationship that Auburn University has developed with the community through the SANE room.

“We brought the community up to a standard we wanted, rather than endorse what was already there,” Carnahan said. She pointed out that the University’s liability ends at the property lines and that most students live off campus, making it important to parents and important to the community to provide the kinds of services that will ensure the safety and well-being of everyone.

While the student population is transient, the SANE room will be a continuous program benefiting both the community, students and future students. Carnahan emphasized that the SANE room was a good allocation of resources and reflected well on Auburn University.
Memorial Program celebrates life

On April 25, 2003, Auburn University Student Affairs held two memorial programs for eight students who died this past year.

David Williams, father of Ashley Williams, a freshman in business who died of a heart attack last year, said, “We’re Auburn people from way back.”

Williams’ feelings were echoed by the other parents during the programs. The families of the eight students were each given a certificate thanking them for sharing their sons and daughters with Auburn, as well as an Auburn flag flown over Samford Hall.

Lonn Spencer, father of Charles Spencer, a junior in education who died of congenital heart failure, said “I want to thank AU for everything. I think he (Charles Spencer) bled blue and orange.”

The other four students memorialized were Jeannine Hendon, a junior in biology; Rebecca Norvell, a sophomore in business; Jeremy Simmons, also a sophomore in business and Anthony Upchurch, a freshman in engineering.

Wes Williams, Vice Provost and Vice President of Student Affairs, summed everyone’s feelings when he said, “Each had two families, their own families and the Auburn family.”

Since the beginning of the school year in 2002, Auburn has lost 10 students. Another memorial program will be held by Student Affairs for the other two students sometime summer semester.

Student Affairs sends staff members to attend funerals, visitations or memorial programs to show support for the families and students at these events.

Nancy Engle, mother of Matthew Engle, a junior, took a moment from preparation for her son’s funeral to thank Pete Pepinsky of Student Affairs for making the 210-mile drive to visit with the family.

“We are overwhelmed that Auburn would think to do this,” she said. “Matthew is a member of our family too,” Pepinsky said.

Williams commented on the meaning of Auburn’s funeral representation policy. “It’s the right thing to do,”

Charlie Spencer’s father, Lonn, talks to members of the track team. Charlie was an avid runner and was found dead in the woods during a run.

Photo by Jamie Rae Whiteley

Students who died during the 2002-2003 school year:

Blair Dejan: March 30, 2003 from Tuskegee, Ala.

Mathew Engle: March 24, 2003 from Hartselle, Ala.


Scott Johnson: Jan. 18, 2003 from Largo, Fla.


Ceddrick Mack: Jan. 23, 2002 from Greenville, Ala.

Charles Spencer: Nov. 26, 2002 from Mobile, Ala.


Ashley Williams: Aug. 23, 2003 from Andalusia, Ala.

Student Affairs in Short (cont’d)

Student Affair’s recruitment materials won awards given by Admissions Marketing Report, a national magazine printed for admissions marketing.

Auburn Plains Truth Project received a $98,000 grant from Gov. Bob Riley, which will be used to expand the program. The program discourages underage drinking and promotes responsible decision-making skills.

Academic Support Services has been busy encouraging students to participate in a learning communities program sponsored by the Liberal Arts, Business and Agriculture departments. Learning communities are “a cohort of freshman who travel together, taking similar classes,” said Kathryn Jarvis, head of academic support services.

The program has been operating for the last five fall semesters and consists of about 50 students. After registering at Camp War Eagle, students receive an application to join a learning community. The students are enrolled in classes together to discourage isolation and to encourage students to work together academically.

Students are selected based not on GPA or ACT scores, but instead on timeliness in turning in application and depending on location and potential benefit that the learning community may bestow on the student.

In the next issue...
Camp War Eagle update and spring admissions numbers
Profile of the Study Partners program

Katherine Cooper Cater Hall has been nominated to the National Registry of Historic Places. Keep an eye out for information on the progress Student Affairs is making in getting this beloved landmark much-deserved recognition.

Wreck Tech parade returns to Auburn in September

In 1987, a 91 year-old Auburn tradition died. This year, Auburn is reviving the second oldest football rivalry in the South when the Tigers face the Yellow Jackets of Georgia Tech after a 16-year hiatus. Along with the football face-off another tradition that will be given new life is Wreck Tech parade which will resume at 6:30 p.m. on Sept. 4.

“We would like this event to be a combination of the parade, a pep rally, Tiger Talk and a possible back-to-school concert set up by UPC,” said Debbie Shaw, assistant vice president of Alumni Affairs.

The Student Affairs Wreck Tech Committee has been meeting since April and has planned a media blitz as well as put together ideas about what needs to be a part of the parade. The plan is to “promote widespread participation” and community involvement in reviving this famous Auburn tradition.

In 1892, Auburn and Georgia Tech were the two premier engineering schools in the South. The night of the first match-up between the two football teams, Auburn students snuck down to the train depot and applied grease to the tracks. The next day when the train carrying the Georgia Tech team tried to stop, it slid 10 miles down the track, forcing the Tech team to walk to the game. Tech lost that game, 45-0. Even though college officials demanded that students no longer grease the tracks or face expulsion, Auburn students continued to hold a parade in their pajamas commemorating the event.

In the 91 games between Auburn and Georgia Tech, Auburn won 47, lost 39 and tied four. When Georgia Tech took Auburn off of its schedule, citing a need to focus on its Atlantic Coast Conference games, the parade died with the football match-up.

SGA President Jonathan McConnell said, “I talked to (Auburn) Mayor (Bill) Ham about trying to get (the parade) downtown, trying to get the community involved.” McConnell says he is optimistic that the parade will be approved.