

3 SAD? There are ways to feel better

6 Guide to the fall Election



11 Halloween holiday fun

# Whale Song

Nov. 6 - Nov. 20, 2006

Vol. 28 No. 2

27

The new student voice of UAS

Juneau ♦ Sitka ♦ Ketchikan

## Tuition rises

By John S. Sonin  
*Whalesong*

At the 2006 hourly rate, undergraduate enrollment at UAS will mean \$127.50 per credit hour, according to Kevin Meyers, Director of Marketing and Public Relations. This rate applies only if students are already Alaskan residents. If you want to school here but live somewhere down-south or out of the country, it'll cost you \$406.50/hour—unless you're from one of the other 11 Western states participating in the Western Undergraduate Exchange, making you eligible for 1.5 times the in-state fee or \$181.75. That doesn't include your room and board which could run you, based on a 15-hour semester and whether you live on- or off-campus, up to \$200/hour more.

Student Government President William Andrews and others in the UA Coalition of Student Leaders would like to make that a reality. And University of Alaska President Mark Hamilton, in accord with the UA Board of Regents, is working toward codification of such a freeze.

With costs continuing to soar, students do have alternatives to the increasing financial strain. Of course,

the first objective for all students would be the completion and submission of a federal application for financial aid or FAFSA. But many of us have found we have extenuating circumstances that preclude us a sufficient award to make college affordable. Nonetheless, Lisa Bogert, UAS Financial Aid/Enrollment Advisor implores that students complete and submit this application before doing anything else. It is the first-step that must be taken in order for students to receive public assistance of any kind.

Where this may prove insufficient, there are some other academic "life-saving" options, but very few. Negotiation with the Business Office may enable students to meet 50 percent of their obligation, after the other 50 percent has been certified up front, over a two or three month installment plan that includes a \$20 surcharge. If that course of action proves insufficient, Tuition Management Systems at [www.afford.com](http://www.afford.com), or 1-800-356-8329, can help by spreading installments over an 8-10 month period, but this will also include a \$55 enrollment fee.

See TUITION on page 4

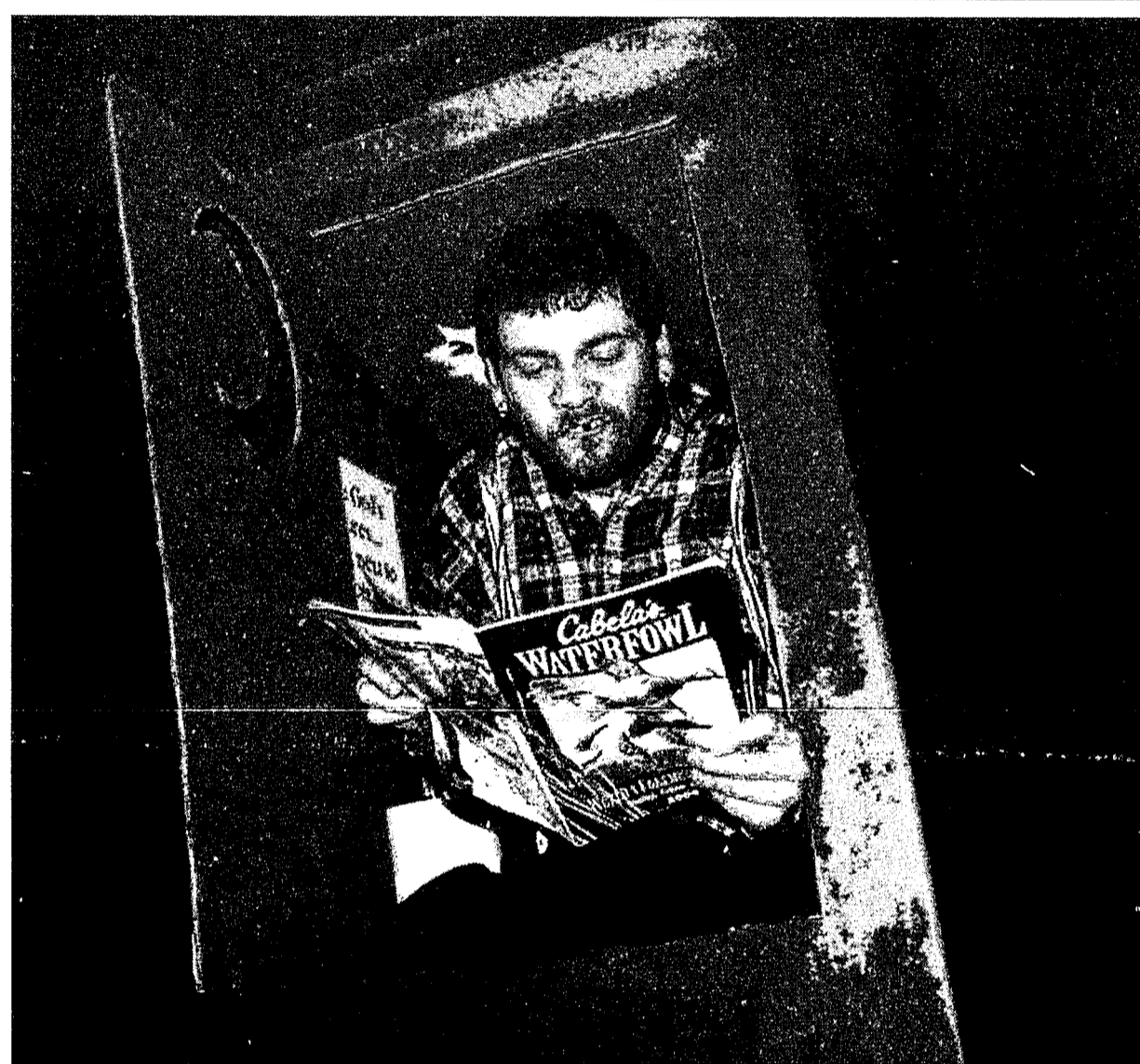


Photo By Cody Bennett / Whalesong

**Open door policy:** UAS student Sterling Silver takes a break at the Halloween dance. See more Halloween photos on page 11.

## Drunk at school, but not for fun

Six students show the effects of alcohol to a peer audience.

David Asti  
*Whalesong*

Six UAS students guzzled Jagermeister, Crown Royal Whiskey, wine, and assorted beers in front of a crowd at the Recreation Center on October 12.

Normally drinking alcohol is illegal at the REC, but the point of this school funded event, correctly named 'Boozin' and Losin', was to educate

students on the effects of alcohol on the body and the dangers of driving under the influence.

Blue Ross, Brenda Bruggeman, Erin Gora, Andrew Olsen, Kellen Kraft, and Krisa Huges-skandijns put on a public display of drunkenness in front of about 120 fellow students. Tish Griffin Satre, the director of student activities, tended the bar.

The event was overseen by the

Juneau Police Department's Officers Blaine Hatch and Chris Burke.

At the beginning of the evening the drinkers sat up straight on tall wooden stools, making eye contact with the audience and smiling. Occasionally one of them blurted out a sentence fragment.



Photo By David Asti

**Following his finger with her eyes:** student Erin Gora cheats during a sobriety test

See Booze on page 12

LH  
1  
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## Monday - 6

Priority registration for program students starts

### Shaping Desire

The Alaska State Museum presents a solo exhibition of recent works by Anchorage ceramic artist Carla Potter. Exhibit open until Nov. 28  
Contact: (907) 465-2901

**Dancing Light Within the Ice**  
Open Tuesday-Saturday, 12 p.m. to 4 p.m.

The Juneau-Douglas City Museum presents an exhibit of the photography  
Admission is free  
Contact: (907) 586-3572

### Marine Biology Club

5 p.m.  
Every second Monday  
Learning Center

### Juneau International Folk Dancers

**6:00pm-8:00pm**  
The Juneau International Folk Dancers meet every Sunday at the downtown JRC Alaska Club . No charge for instruction and partners are not required.  
Contact: (907) 364-2334

## Tuesday - 7

**General Election, Remember to Vote!**

### UAS Health Fair

7:30 a.m.  
Affordable basic blood testing to check cholesterol, blood sugar, hemoglobin, liver and kidney functions, and blood counts. Testing for Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA) and Thyroid function (TSH) will also be available.

Basic tests are \$40; PSA is \$25; TSH is \$35  
Contact: 796-6260

**Spring Registration begins**

**Don Sineti, Sea Chanteyman** will perform with banjo, a family event  
6:30-7:30pm  
Downtown Library

## Wednesday - 8

### Etiquette and Networking Diner

6-9 p.m.  
Student Alumni Preparing for Life After College Series  
Mourant Building Lake Room  
Contact: saa@uas.alaska.edu or 796-6569

**Noises Off preview performance**  
**You're an actor. You don't know your lines. You just lost a contact lens. And you open tomorrow night...**

Evening at 7:30 p.m.  
Matinees Sunday at 2 p.m.  
Perseverance Theater  
Check [www.perseverancetheatre.org](http://www.perseverancetheatre.org) for listings of dates.

## Thursday - 9

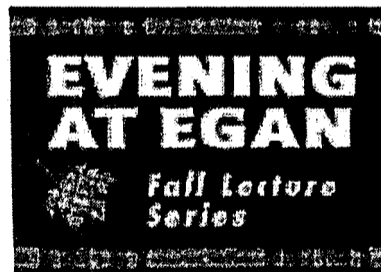
### Edible Sunlight

Snack and a blast of sun  
11:30 a.m.  
Native and Rural Student Center  
Contact: nrsc@uas.alaska.edu

### Juneau Contra Dance

7:30-9:30 p.m.  
Dance to live music with a caller at the Terry Miller Legislative Office Bldg. Gym (6th & Main Street). New dancers always welcome; partners not required. Each dance is taught and prompted. \$3 donation.  
Contact: (907) 586-1787

## Friday - 10



### Blonde Indian: An Alaskan Memoir Evening at Egan

7 p.m.  
UAS Assistant Professor Ernestine Hayes will present a reading and lecture on her new book.  
Egan Lecture Hall

### Anomaly - The Early Worm Gets the Bird

7 p.m. and 9 p.m.  
JEEP presents a Ski & Snowboard film by Teton Gravity Research as a benefit for the Southeast Alaska Avalanche Center. Tickets \$10 at

the Juneau Ski Sale (Nov. 4) or \$12 at the door.  
Centennial Hall Convention Center, 101 Egan Drive  
Contact: (907) 586-5283

## Saturday - 11

### Dinner and a Movie

Contact: saa@uas.alaska.edu or 796-6569

### "Prime for Life" Alcohol and Drug Use Education

An interactive national substance use education program covering biological, social, and psychological considerations that affect one's alcohol and drug use, as well as indicators and risks that contribute to addiction and substance abuse. All day, starting at 8:30 a.m.  
Contact: wellness@uas.alaska.edu or 796-6443

### Dancing With the Stars

8 p.m.  
Join professional ballroom dancers, Rachel Lidskog and Jay Gilberg and local celebrities for a fun-filled evening of dance. Tickets available at local bookstores and the JAHG office.  
Centennial Hall Convention Center  
Contact: (907) 586-2787

### Veterans' Day 8K

10:00 a.m.  
The last race of the season.  
Brotherhood Bridge parking lot.  
Contact: (907) 789-9116

## Sunday - 12

**Bookmark Awards Ceremony**  
6 p.m.  
Downtown Library

## Wednesday - 15

### Ice Cream Social

3 p.m.  
Mourant Cafeteria  
Free  
Contact [housing.activities@uas.alaska.edu](mailto:housing.activities@uas.alaska.edu) or 796-6528

## Thursday - 16

### Edible Sunlight

Snack and a blast of sun.  
11:30 a.m.  
Native and Rural Student Center  
Contact [nrsc@uas.alaska.edu](mailto:nrsc@uas.alaska.edu) or 796-6454

## Friday - 17

### Gaming

6-9 p.m.  
Downtown Public Library

### Coffee 101

7 p.m.  
Holiday coffee specialty drinks at no-host bar.  
Hangar Ballroom  
Free to UAS Alumni & Friends Assoc. members, \$10 general admission

### Punjabi Party

9-11 p.m.  
The Lodge

### Egan Lecture Series

#### How the World Really Works

7 p.m.  
UAS Assistant Professor of Accounting Anselm Staack will explain how the public financial and fiscal process affects every Alaskan. He will examine the effects that political  
Egan Lecture Hall  
Dance  
9 p.m. - ?  
Student Activity Center

## Saturday - 18

### Dance

9 p.m. - ?  
Student Activity Center

### Fine Art Sale

The 2nd Annual Fine Art Sale will be held in Ballrooms 1 & 2 at Centennial Hall. For information or booth space, call the number shown.  
Contact: (907) 364-2880

### Native History Month Celebration

4 p.m.  
A family cultural event  
Tlingit and Haida Community Council  
Free  
Contact [jywe@uas.alaska.edu](mailto:jywe@uas.alaska.edu) or 796-6454

## Sunday - 19

### Dinner and Movie

4-7 p.m.  
Rec Center  
Contact [nrsc@uas.alaska.edu](mailto:nrsc@uas.alaska.edu) or 796-6454

## Monday - 20

Open registration begins

## Tuesday - 21

### Turkey Bowl

2 p.m.  
Mourant Courtyard

## Ongoing / Recurring

**Ketchikan student government**  
Meets Mondays, 9:45 a.m.  
Ziegler Building at UAS Ketchikan

**Juneau student government**  
Meets Fridays, 2:30 p.m.  
Lake Room, Mourant Building at UAS Juneau

**Sitka student government**  
Meets Saturdays, 1:15-2:30 p.m.  
Room 106 at UAS Sitka

### Writer's Workshop

7 - 9 p.m. Mondays  
Downtown Public Library  
Contact Kristan at 789-9489

## Calendar submissions

Events entered into the UAS Campus Calendar may also be included in the Whalesong. Enter events one of three ways:

- 1) Faculty with access to the CMS system can follow the instructions at <http://www.uas.alaska.edu/cms/content/calendar.html>
- 2) Fill out the Web form at <http://www.uas.alaska.edu/calendar/submit.html>

Please include the event name, date, time and place, any cost and contact information. If there is a photo or logo associated with the event, submit as an attachment.

Non-campus events may be e-mailed directly to [whalesong@uas.alaska.edu](mailto:whalesong@uas.alaska.edu), att: Calendar. Please include the event name, date, time and place, any cost and contact information. If there is a photo or logo associated with the event, submit as an attachment.

All events will be included at the editor's discretion. To guarantee space in the Whalesong for your event, contact the Whalesong advertising manager, David Asti at [jsda@uas.alaska.edu](mailto:jsda@uas.alaska.edu).



# SAD: Beating the Wretched Darkness

By David Asti  
*Whalesong*

Many students get the winter blues during the dark months.

"I would say the majority of the people feel some effect of loss of light," said Susan Wylie, the disability services coordinator at UAS.

Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD) is caused by seasonal variations of sunlight that have the ability to change our circadian rhythm, or biological internal clocks. During the night, the body secretes melatonin, but the body halts this process during daylight hours. Too much melatonin in the body causes SAD, which cre-

ates feelings of melancholy, isolation, homesickness, and overall despondence.

Wylie said, "increases in eating and changes in sleeping habits are com-

**"Not getting treatment can lead to a more severe depression,"**

**- Susan Wylie**

mon effects of SAD found with UAS students."

"A person can go into a state of depression before they know it hits them," said Wylie.

Frequent use of alcohol and marijuana can intensify the effects of

SAD.

Still, there is hope for the student writing papers in the wee hours of the winter months. Several different methods exist to combat the disorder.

The most common treatments are light boxes, exercise, meditation, regular sleep, and good nutrition. Light boxes can be found in the Peer Support Office downstairs at student housing lodge.

Kolene James, who runs the Native and Rural Student Center, puts on a

program called Edible Sunlight most Thursdays at 11:30 a.m.

The student recreation center brings multiple possibilities for exercising when it's dark outside. Wylie points out that there is the option of taking antidepressant pills if SAD leads to severe depression.

"Not getting treatment can lead to a more severe depression," said Wylie.

Even on the many cloud covered days in Juneau, it is possible to reap the benefits of the sun's rays through the clouds. Wylie's simple advice to combat SAD is to go outside during daylight at least 20 minutes each day. For students living on campus, this is easily done on your walk to class.

**Edible Sunlight  
Native and Rural Student  
Center**

**Thursdays at 11:30 a.m.**



## Halloween's origins rooted in ancient times

By Russ Slaten  
*Whalesong*

Costumes and candy have not always been the highlight of Halloween.

The Samhain (pronounced sow-in) festival was celebrated by the Celts more than 2,000 years ago. It was the end of the year for the Celts and the beginning of the dark, cold winter. Samhain, the Lord of the Dead, was thought to have assembled the spirits of the dead on this night.

The Celts held large bonfires to sacrifice animals and crops to the dead in order to make Samhain more moderate. The Celts also wore masks during the festival to disguise themselves as spirits to bring less attention to themselves.

Druids, pre-Christian priests of the Celts, thought the festival was also the best time to foresee the future of the tribe and to make magic. Druid practices are closely linked to witchcraft, which might explain why witches are associated with Halloween today.

The Roman festival of Pomona — for the goddess of orchards and the harvest — was celebrated on Nov. 1, after the harvest was stored for the winter. This celebration of the harvest coincided with the Samhain festival.

The combination of the Celtic and Roman festivities happened around the first century A.D., when the two cultures lived in the same villages in Europe and most of the

British Isles.

When Christianity spread across the Roman Empire and further from the first to the fourth century, the church leaders assimilated pagan rituals to become Christian ceremonies. Nov. 1 was known as All Saints' Day or All Hallows, and Nov. 2 was known as All Souls' Day. The eve of All Hallows, All Hallows itself and All Souls' Day were referred together as Hallowmas. All Hallows Eve later became Hallowe'en, then Halloween, which is where we get the name we call it today.

In colonial America, only some regions celebrated All Saints' Day, and every colony understood the pagan rituals associated with the holiday.

After the American Revolution, Halloween parties were a common occurrence among the citizens. Although parties were popular among citizens of the U.S., there were too many variations in the time and types of celebrations to make Halloween an annual national holiday.

Famine in Ireland in the mid 19th century caused a flood of Irish immigrants to come to America. They did not bring many belongings, but they did bring their traditional Oct. 31 celebration.

At the turn of the 20th century, Halloween finally became a nationwide family celebration on the same scale as the Fourth of July or Thanksgiving.

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## UA In Brief

### UAS staff member suffers heart attack

Dave Behrends is back at work in the UAS-Juneau cafeteria after suffering a mild heart attack on Oct. 10.

"I'm feeling all right," said Behrends, 49, who was diagnosed with angina and advised to alter his diet and get more exercise. Now actively avoiding trans-fats and playing football, he placates those concerned with his health. Behrends said he was prepping lunch when the symptoms began. "I got sweaty and felt clammy," Behrends said. "The back of my neck, my jaw and my back hurt before I started to get pain in my arm."

Concerned, he went to the university nurse, Colleen Stansbury. She advised Behrends to call his doctor immediately. Upon doing so he discovered the physician was out-of-town but the doctors staff advised Behrends to call 911. Not wishing to create a scene, Behrends ignored the advice and returned to the cafeteria. His heart continued to race and Behrends finally accepted a ride to Bartlett Regional Hospital from his co-worker, Wayne Maston. The emergency room doctors treated the arrhythmia with a dose of nitroglycerin.

After a six-day convalescence, Behrends returned to work, declaiming his foolishness for refusing emergency attention that day. When he told his sister about the incident, she reminded him of another family tragedy on that date.

"She reminded me it was October 10, 2004 when our father died," Behrends said. His father was 88. "I'd forgotten what day (that) was."

- John S. Sonin, Whalesong

### Campus Brewing Legal

Home brewing is now a legitimate campus activity at UAS-Juneau.

Student Government has agreed to sanction Zymurgy Club, which is named for the branch of applied chemistry dealing with fermentation. The UAS Zymurgy Club will receive monetary and liability support from the university contingent on strict enforcement of an age-discrimination policy and success in fundraising of its own.

Student Government will supply a \$400 grant contingent on the club being able to fundraise another \$200.

Matt Heavner advises the club, which student Lou Hoock started last year. Hoock said there are 11 registered members.

- John S. Sonin, Whalesong

## ... Soaring Tuition

TUITION from page 1

Addressing the University's mission to educate Alaska, even when a student may feel economically weak, John Pugh, chancellor at UAS speaks of a needs-based program in the works for "students across the system." He says the earnings from a Post-Secondary Loan Program could possibly end-up being available for aid to qualifying students on a needs-based

basis.

Many students already making ends meet, and future pupils, however, will be interested to know that UA President Hamilton's office has Vice President of Student and Enrollment, Saichi Scichiora, working-on the details of freezing UA tuition costs for students on a declared major sequence, at the initial rate at UA enrollment.

## Go anywhere, do anything with NSE

By Rachel Trapp  
Whalesong

During my freshman year, I decided to look into National Student Exchange (NSE). There was one simple reason why I decide this - I wanted to get out of Alaska. Born and raised in the 49th state, I had little opportunity to travel, and now I was itching to see the rest of the country.

I completed the NSE application process. The next fall I was off to Johnson State College (JSC) on the advice a teacher gave me (my teacher had spent a few years of his life in Vermont and told me that I would probably like it). He was right! Looking back on my experience in Vermont and at JSC, I am overcome

with amazement and wonder.

It is hard to believe that only a year ago I was a small town girl who had never been outside Alaska. The NSE program gave me an opportunity to learn more about myself than I would have ever imagined. For example, I was able to participate in the National Break Away program, a non-profit student run organization that takes students on trips across the country to assist in community volunteer projects. I participated in the sustainable agriculture trip, which went to Tennessee to work on a sustainable farm. I learned about environmental friendly farming, building techniques, and met amazing people that I will remember for the rest of my life.

Along with this adventure to Tennessee, I had an opportunity to go to New York City, Boston and other wonderful locations along the east coast. I'm now back at UAS and working on a study abroad option through AustraLearn.

The NSE program offers an opportunity to take part in an amazing experience that will enrich and expand the life of anyone who is willing to get out of their comfort zone. I encourage you to visit Marsha Squires, in the Academic Exchange office (Mourant 107) to find out details.

A good life is about the experiences one takes and the places, people, and sights along the way. "Get out of here".....NSE can make that happen.

## Alaska fails to improve affordability of education

By Toben Shelby  
The Northern Light, UAA

Receiving an F can be devastating for a college student. But what happens when the college itself receives failing grades?

The National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education recently released "Measuring Up 2006: The National Report Card on Higher Education." The report gives grades reflecting how a state's higher-education system stacks up nationally in six categories: preparation, participation, affordability, completion, benefits and learning. Alaska received two F's in affordability and completion and has only shown improvement in two categories since 1992: preparation and completion. The report grades all higher-education institutions and is not specific to UAA.

Measuring Up states that Alaska has made "no notable progress in making higher education affordable." The report measures affordability by whether students and their families can pay for higher education, given income levels, financial aid, and all types of colleges and universities in the state. Of note is Alaska's low in-

vestment toward need-based financial aid; Alaska invests only six percent of the available need-based aid money given to its student, each year. The other 93 percent is federally funded. Comparatively, top-ranked states had a reported 89 percent investment in need-based aid in the early 1990s.

Alaska also requires a high share

oil revenue to fund higher-education needs. According to Gara's sponsor statement, an estimated \$88 million would have been generated. The bill was not passed.

"Whenever you give a letter grade to anything as massive and conceptual as some of these issues, it's going to boil down complex topics down to the lowest common denominator.

"K-12 education is under funded, and higher education could be funded at a substantially better rate

**"Five years ago, back when tuition was lower and the state was scrapped for cash, we could get away with it. Now we can't get away with not having need-based financial aid,"**

**- Rep. Les Gara, D-Alaska.**

of family income to pay for higher-level education. A public four-year university, such as UAA, on average requires 24 percent of a family's income compared to 16 percent in top performing states.

"Five years ago, back when tuition was lower and the state was scrapped for cash, we could get away with it. Now we can't get away with not having need-based financial aid," said Rep. Les Gara, D-Alaska.

Gara sponsored House Bill 340 earlier in 2006 in an effort to boost need-based financial assistance in the state. The bill would have implemented a two-percent income tax on

too. People in Alaska really do want to see education succeed; it's important, so it needs to be funded appropriately," Snyder said.

University Provost Mike Driscoll of UAA said the methodology looks at the whole state.

"If a person takes one class for their job but isn't seeking a degree, that's not a bad thing," he said.

Driscoll thinks that assessing what students know before they begin classes is something that can help with completion of higher education.

"If a student walks into English 111 without the skills for it, they are set up to fail," Driscoll said.

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## Whale Song

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Since 1981 The Whalesong has been the student newspaper for the University of Alaska Southeast. Published every other Monday during the semester, it is a free publication with a circulation of 1000 copies per issue. The Whalesong's primary audience includes students, faculty, staff, and community members at the three UAS campuses - Juneau, Ketchikan and Sitka.

As a student publication, the Whalesong encourages participation and contributions from students. Anyone interested in contributing to the Whalesong can contact the editor or adviser.

The Whalesong strives to inform readers on news pertinent to the college community and to serve as a public forum for the free exchange of ideas. The staff of The Whalesong values accuracy. If an error is printed in the Whalesong, please notify the staff so it can be corrected. The Whalesong also values freedom of expression and encourages reader response through letters to the editor. The views and opinions contained in this paper in no way represent the University of Alaska, and reflect only those of the author(s).

## One person's trash is not another's treasure

Laura Lemire  
*Whalesong*

Alaska is home to some of the best hiking in the world. Backpacker Magazine had a whole feature issue on Alaska, the final frontier. An ad in the magazine prompted me to transfer from Norwich University, a conservative military college in Vermont, to the University of Alaska Southeast. I believed I was journeying to an outdoor paradise, a new playground with new challenges, and I have.

My morning walks to class are serene. I usually walk alone to have time to myself in the fresh air. The path to the school cuts through the woods. The trees towering above me seem unreal. Moss drapes their branches and carpets the forest floor. I appreciate the glimpses of the lake through the forest. Everything seems to co-exist, but

much to my dismay, a week into regular classes I started to notice a jarring human presence surrounding the trail.

Soda cans. Candy wrappers. Plastic foam cups and scraps of paper. I counted four Otter Pop wrappers left alongside the trail. Litter makes me sad. It says to me that a good many students have a disregard for the natural world around them. I experienced the same dismay at the base of the tram up Mount Roberts when I discovered garbage scattered around the area. My friend and I picked up trash as we saw it.

It disappoints me that people toss their trash out in the woods. Do they think nobody will see it? Throwing trash on the ground is disrespectful to the environment, which is something that should be appreciated. The beauty of the trail down to the campus is tarnished with every piece of

trash that is discarded to the ground.

I'm asking students to please be considerate of the environment around them and to think next time before carelessly discarding unwanted baggage. It wouldn't be a major inconvenience to pocket any miscellaneous garbage until a trash can is reached. The nearest trashcans are located on campus both in Egan and in Mourant. It isn't going to burn a hole through a coat pocket or book bag and work its way to the ground on its own. Students could even carry a plastic bag in their packs to serve as a trash bag. The school could invest in trash barrels to put alongside the path to school and perhaps this might deter people from tossing their trash on into the woods. Do your part to help preserve the beauty of the natural world around us.

## Letters to the Editor

The *Whalesong* staff encourages letters to the editor.

Letters may not exceed 300 words and may be edited for length, clarity, and grammar. Letters must be signed and include a means of contact for verification.

Send your letters to: 11120 Glacier Highway, Juneau, AK 99801, or to [whalesong@uas.alaska.edu](mailto:whalesong@uas.alaska.edu), or by fax to (907) 465-6399, or bring them to Room 102, Mourant Bldg.

## Corrections

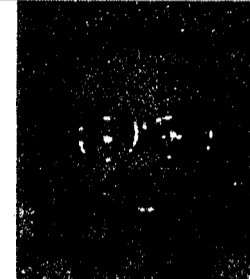
In the Oct. 23 issue of the *Whalesong*, a photo on page 6 was incorrectly identified. The photo was of Wayne Matson working in the cafeteria. The *Whalesong* regrets the error.



"I do not truly pardon error."  
-Voltaire

## Whalesong Student Poll

Will you vote in the statewide election and if so, what issue(s) are most important to you?



Grandill Mark: Yes, always have and never have missed an election since I was 18. I want to see a successful outcome to the



Shane Brown: "Yes, but I'm not up on the issues just yet."



Katelyn Thomson: "Yes! The Juneau access road, abortion issues and same sex marriage."



Gabe Meachum: "Yes! The gas pipeline, a new high school and the road out of Juneau."



On Nov. 7, voters in Alaska will be responsible for creating, or confirming, leadership for the next two years in our one U.S. House seat and the next four years with our state gubernatorial selection. The Whalesong asked the following questions of the candidates:

## U.S. House Race

**Don Young, Republican incumbent**

**Diane Benson, Democrat**

**Bill Ratigan, Independent**

**Alexander Crawford, Alaska Libertarian**

### What do you think about the state of education in the U.S.?

We are moving in the right direction in establishing standards for our educators and education systems to achieve. However, I believe we can do more to improve the responsiveness and flexibility of these education systems, and allow more innovation by our educators themselves. We also need to be more responsive to regional needs. For example, educating students in Rural Alaska brings unique challenges that very different from urban areas in the Lower 48. Finally, we need to account for growing special education needs, for home schooling, and for advances in technologies that will also advance the quality of our education.

There is a large gap in our educational system. There are the "Haves" and "Have Nots." Of course the "Haves" are those that benefit from better school systems at the local level. The "Have Nots" are relegated to over-crowded and under-funded public schools. This gap is not closing. We also need to reevaluate our stance on access to our public universities. With tuition rising and Congress reducing financial aid to those students and families in most need, access to those lower-income families to the best education is limited.

I think K-12 public education is badly broken. The dropout rate, especially among minorities, is simply unacceptable. Just as bad – or worse – is a curriculum dedicated exclusively to successful test taking, rather than important skills like critical thinking."

I think that kids could be taught in 5 years of school the same things they are now being taught in 12 if their time was being spent on reading writing and arithmetic rather than social engineering and political control. But what else do people expect from government schools?

I have a 2 year old that can sing his ABCs and a three year old who can identify every letter visually and make out many basic words. My 2 year old can count to 10. My 3 year old can count to 20 (but then skips to 40, 50 or 60). And I'm somehow supposed to think it will do them good to send them to a public school at the age of 6 to learn the same things they already know?

Basically what I'm saying is that the "state of education" in the US is a direct and personal responsibility for each and every parent and not something that government should be concerned with, especially if government is going to want MY money to spend on other people's children.

### What would you do to improve higher education in the U.S.?

Our colleges and universities are doing a fantastic job today - they have to! There are so many sources of evaluative and comparative information about our nation's colleges. In competing for your dollar, institutions must demonstrate that their curriculum, their campus, their sports programs, and their history opportunities and success will fit a student's expectations. Students today have a choice - and institutions must continue to evolve and improve or they will not attract enough students.

I want to improve access to the very best education to all of our students no matter what income level they happen to be. The Federal government must support the state government in funding higher education in our country. Statistic after statistic tells us that those with a higher education earn more and contribute in many more ways to our society."

College costs should be reduced drastically and based on income. All students, regardless of race or income, should be guaranteed full support – economic, educational, and counseling – in pursuing a career in education or other meaningful work. College teachers should be treated with the dignity commensurate with the importance of their work, not as second-class "adjuncts" in the education process. They should receive just compensation and health and pension benefits."

The reason it costs so much to attend university is because the universities know that students today have a tremendous ability to borrow. In fact I think it is fair to say that higher education in the US today is one of the biggest financial scams going.

Why should we be asking young people to mortgage their futures when all they want is to learn how to do something useful? That is why I think we should begin to recognize the value of apprenticeships as opposed to professional schooling."

I would trust a lawyer who had practiced in a law office for seven-years more than I would trust one who had spent seven-years in "higher education." And I would trust a doctor who had practiced under a professional physician for eight-years more than I would trust one who had spent the last 8 years behind a desk.

### College costs continue to rise and students often leave with huge debt. How much should the federal government be subsidizing higher education??

In today's tight fiscal environment, we often have to make tough choices. However, I continue to support an increase in the funding of programs such as Pell grants and Stafford loans to help students pay for college. I also support federal tax incentives to help families save for college. Finally, I think there is much that the private sector can do to foster a win-win by helping their employees attain higher education goals, while serving and benefiting the corporation.

The purpose of our youth to strive for higher education is to attain a better life for themselves in the future. This directly relates to our success as a country. By having our college students racking up huge debts that must be paid off only puts them in a hole from the beginning of their careers. We need to set up students for success, not failures.

See previous answer

The government should not be involved in the education business. More involvement by the government will only allow things to get worse.

### The last few months have seen a spate of violence on school grounds? Would you suggest any changes to improve safety on school grounds?

I absolutely deplore the violence that has taken the lives of America's youth - not just in the past months, but that we've seen over the past years. As a grandfather, I want my grandchildren to be able to attend school and not have to worry about their safety. But I believe that there are ways and processes that can be put in place, and emphasized, that will help raise the right flags when the potential for a violent action exists. The best measure of protection is paying attention. Counselors, students, teachers, parents all need to pay attention - have we made them aware of what to look for - what the indicators could be? Are call-in lines in place? We all have an interest in protecting our beloved children.

It is important for our teachers to be the eyes of our community in our schools. Our teachers need to be trained to see warning signs in our children and teenagers. If we can prevent these actions from beginning, then we can reduce the acts of violence.

The recent spate of violence in schools reflects a pathological alienation among a segment of the population, rather than a problem of schools. Reversing the "culture of violence" and easy availability of lethal weapons would be a good start.

I have always said that none of my children will ever go to school anywhere where at least every teacher and the principle carry handguns.

Why do 'school shootings' happen at schools and not police stations: because no damn fool wants to walk in somewhere where people might be shooting back. As long as our schools are advertised as 'gun free safety zones' they will remain the #1 target for losers who can get a hold of guns.

## Governor's Race

**Tony Knowles, Democrat**

**Sarah Palin, Republican**

### What do you think about the state of education in the Alaska?

The need to improve K-12 education is urgent. Current studies show only 60 percent of our high school students graduate and only 27 percent of those graduates are academically prepared for college.

The cornerstone of success will be the fiscal discipline to invest oil & gas surpluses in education by fully funding yearly educational needs and creating a trust account for education excellence with remaining surpluses. Earnings from this fund would be dedicated to K-12 schools, the university, vocational training and ensuring that Alaska's children are prepared and healthy to learn from the earliest years.

My priority as governor is to bring Alaskans together to fight for and achieve this birthright. There is no more worthy calling and our children deserve nothing less.

### What would you do to improve higher education in the State?

The University of Alaska – with the right support and the right vision – will lead this state into the future. This university, and its campuses around the state, can and should play a major role in Alaska. The university can fulfill a vital role as a skills center, a professional incubator, an Alaska research center to help guide our decision-making and policies to real-world success in Alaska's future. In a sense, the University of Alaska can be considered a permanent fund for the future.

We need to better prepare Alaska students to enter college and succeed, and we can do this by promoting education partnerships between the university and high schools that raise high school graduation rates and encourage enrollment in UA academic, vocational or technical programs.

Improved facilities like the new Integrated Science Building on the UAA campus and reducing the deferred maintenance list are additional ways to improve the UA system. Projects like that can transform UAA into a world-class research institution. And successful professional training programs like the School of Nursing will provide skills and professional training for Alaskans that reduces the need to recruit out-of-state workers and professionals.

And, as always, we must ensure that we deliver the funds necessary for the operation and improvement of our Universities.

### College costs continue to rise and students often leave with huge debt. How much should the federal government be subsidizing higher education??

I won't speak for the feds, but I certainly have some ideas for Alaska to make college more affordable. The first thing we should do is open Alaska's successful University Scholars program to the top 15 percent of high school graduating seniors (from the current top 10 percent) to make our University more attractive to the best and brightest graduating seniors. Next, create a need-based scholarship program so that every qualified Alaska high school graduate can attend the University of Alaska. Alaska is one of only two states in the country without a need-based program. I support the request by UA President Mark Hamilton for \$6 million for an annual need-based grant program.

As a mother of four children attending public schools, the state of education in Alaska is something that I live and breathe every day. I envision a world class educational system founded upon the principles of safety, quality, social responsibility, parental involvement and fiscal accountability.

Education is a service the state is mandated to provide. I strongly believe in providing an adequate level of funding to ensure high quality public schools. However, it will take more than money alone to pave the way toward better schools – it's also going to take commitment and collaboration with all school districts to raise student performance and achievement.

We need vision in our state right now. There are many people across the state exclusively focused on big issues – important projects like the natural gas pipeline – but it is critical that we pay attention to many other opportunities in front of us today.

Alaska needs a highly skilled and trained workforce. We have the jobs and opportunities right here and right now. Our University system in Alaska, with the proper support and resources, can expand technical and vocational programs. This can address shortages in the workforce right now in the areas of health care workers, computer technicians, teachers, engineers, and others.

In addition, the University needs state assistance in improving its capital infrastructure. There were too many years in the past when maintenance was ignored. Now we need to help the University catch up.

I also support the University Scholars program as a way to attract and keep the best and brightest of our own Alaskan students. Alaskan kids need to know that we want them to stay here, work here, and live here.

### The last few months have seen a spate of violence on school grounds? Would you suggest any changes to improve safety on school grounds?

The key to making Alaska's cities safe is to adequately fund and staff the criminal justice system, with additional prosecutors, judges and other essential public safety employees. Fighting violence isn't just a police problem – it's a community problem where parents, religious, civic and business groups need to step up to better guide our young people.

Safety is the most basic requirement of a functioning education system and a civilized society. I support grant programs through the Department of Education that will make sure all schools have the tools and the resources to ensure day-to-day safety as well as emergency response plans. An example of an effective and safe school is Kodiak's KIDSS Program. In this school parents and community give input into the development of a school safety program. They are engaged in the ownership of the program and take responsibility for the prevention of violence.



## Adventurer finds sanctuary at UAS

Laura Lemire  
Whalesong

Forest Wagner must be one of the few people who have moved to Juneau for the weather.

The aptly named coordinator of the Outdoor Studies Program (ODS) grew up in Fairbanks, in one of the most intense temperature regimes in the world.

The continental climate of the interior swings from hot summers, topping out at 99 degree Fahrenheit, to frigid winters, bottoming at 65

the corner of the bed of the truck, he built a shield to make the smoke stack a little more inconspicuous to passers-by.

"That thing got so warm, it was like a sauna. I had to sleep almost completely nude in there," Wagner said.

Leaving a bit before the end of the semester, Wagner drove back home to Fairbanks to fight forest fires as a Hot Shot for the Alaska Fire Service. The Hot Shots are a federally funded group and Wagner had the opportunity to travel, touring the Mountain



Photograph taken from: [www.uas.alaska.edu/ods/program/faculty.html](http://www.uas.alaska.edu/ods/program/faculty.html)

**Adventurous Spirit:** Forest Wagner ODS Coordinator

"That thing got so warm, it was like a sauna. I had to sleep almost completely nude in there."

- Forest Wagner

below.

"It is dark enough and wet enough that you have to find ways to stay active and you get a lot of that seasonal affective disorder," said Wagner, who got fed up with the cold and dark early in his college career. On a whim he moved to Juneau in search of a more temperate winter.

Compared to the extreme of Fairbanks winter, the maritime climate of Juneau felt more like northern Seattle, Wagner said. Instead, it's the landscape that's dramatic.

This place is pretty extreme. The mountains kick up there is not a lot of wind in between," Wagner said. The temperatures seemed mild, the humidity seemed harsh. Realizing that Juneau was more expensive than he budgeted for, Wagner spent a semester living out of his trusty pickup truck on Eagle Beach.

He had a little woodstove in the back and I built a little bed," Wagner said.

He ordered the Shepard stove out of a magazine. Rigging the stove in

West of the lower 48.

Being active outdoors comes naturally to Wagner, whose parents encouraged and fostered a strong connection with nature and the outdoors. Family activities included backpacking trips, fishing, skiing, rafting and hunting.

Using the money he earned fighting fires, Wagner enrolled in a sailing class. The tall ship sailed on the Gulf of Nicoya, from Costa Rica to Tahiti. Through the class Wagner earned 17 credits for his eventual bachelor's degree.

Wagner returned to UAS in 2002 and completed the ODS program, earning his certificate as one of the program's first graduates. The program attracted Wagner because it follows a different approach than a normal four-year degree program.

Although he only left Alaska a handful of times before age of 14, at the age of 25, Wagner is a well-traveled individual. He has lived in both Portland, Oregon, where he

held a job as a dry-waller, and Silver City, New Mexico, where he worked as a carpenter. "I went down there, banged nails for five months and moved back up north," Wagner said.

Both choices of location were heavily influenced by the presence of a woman he met in Fairbanks who has a continuing relationship with, Wagner admits.

Recently, Wagner ventured to Yosemite National Park in California to climb. The trip, was also a survey trip, Wagner said, as he plans to return to Yosemite next October.

"We climbed about 80 pitches down there in Yosemite," Wagner said. "Climbing there is pretty hard. It's traditional grading and the birthplace of, certainly, modern rock climbing techniques in the west of the United States."

This is not the first time Wagner has climbed in California; he went to Joshua Tree for three weeks. "If you're in Fairbanks, you have to figure out ways to go climbing," Wagner said. "I really got turned on to the whole California sun thing,

there was a whole load of people down there but are lots of beautiful places and an amazing amount of resources for people to go and recreate on."

Wagner has climbed outside of the states too. He and a group of friends took a climbing trip to Nepal in the fall of 2003.

"I go down to places like that, get humiliated basically and set new goals for myself," Wagner said. "I come back and I feel like I have more energy and focus for my job with the ODS program and also just energy in general."

Wagner tries to plan a trip every three months. He says it helps him continue to be excited about the work he is doing. Others may call it escapism, but Wagner calls it rejuvenation.

"Any number of different dreams, if ten percent of them come true... I feel like I've been pretty fortunate," Wagner said. "That's generally how I feel about my life."

Despite his restless spirit, Wagner said he will remain in Southeast Alaska until the end of his contract

## Incident Report

By Andrew Hall  
Humor columnist

Three knocks and two rings are the first indications authority has tracked the scent of the suspect, Matty Oulette, a 10-month-old, 46 pound, pure breed black Labrador retriever. Her current residence, Deharts Auke Bay market. She's seen leashless daily throughout the Auke Bay area, rolling in dead fish, chasing Frisbees and eating grass.

On the second ring, the suspect enters the closet beneath the stairs. Mullen consults dog. Dog responds, "Washko has a cat and Joel's dog, Bear, was my uncle. Dude, answer the door."

Dog shuts door and hides in closet. Mullen proceeds to answer door whereafter Olsen and Gora enter.

"So you can really tell me if there is a dog, right?" states Gora.

"No dog," Hall responds.

"No dog? Mind if we look around?" Gora replies.

Advisers Gora and Olsen continue searching upstairs while below, Mullen and Maguire proceed to panic.

Mullen hisses to Maguire, "Talk to that little brat of a dog and see how she's going to talk her way out of this!"

While Mullen and Maguire secretly consult the suspect, Hall accompanies Gora and Olsen through the upstairs.

"So you are sure?" asks Gora.

"No dog," answers Hall.

After searching the bathroom and continuing down the stairs, Olsen asks Gora, "Did you check the closet beneath the stairs?"

Upon hearing this, Hall, Mullen and Maguire bite their knuckles and move toward the closet. The suspect buries her nose in the darkness, attempting to avoid detection. Olsen opens the closet door. The suspect, seen, is summoned from the closet. To the surprise of advisers, as well as Hall, Mullen and Maguire, an accomplice emerges behind the dog from the far corner of the closet. The new accomplice, the dogs owner, proceeds leashless with Suspect A out the front door.

Olsen and Gora inform Mullen, Maguire and Hall that they didn't need to go to such measure, but because they did they are newly assumed accomplices and may get a letter.

Outside, realizing the change in housing order since the departure of Uncle Bear, Suspect A, Matty Oulette, finds a bush and proceeds to discharge.



Lucas Baranovic runs the ball for his team as opponents follow in chase during the flag football final game on Oct. 15.

Photo By Cody Bennett/Whalesong

## College football at UAS involves a lot of flag

By Laura Lemire  
Whalesong

While football dominates many colleges in the Lower 48, the University of Alaska Southeast is too far from the contiguous United States to make it practical to field a team. Students at UAS who enjoy football play Intramural Flag Football.

Flag football is played like standard football without the physical contact. A tackle is made by

pulling a player's flag, which typically hangs at waist level and is attached to a belt with Velcro.

By taking away the physical contact, new challenges arise. The player's ability to dodge and use running-back techniques such as the fake becomes much more important. Speed and the ability to outrun the opposing team are also emphasized. The league held games at Adair-Kennedy throughout the fall semester with the final game played on Oct. 15.



Players square-off on the field at Adair-Kennedy Park.

Photo By Cody Bennett/Whalesong

## Rock and Roll: Mountaineering 101

By Laura Lemire  
Whalesong

Students gathered in the Rec. Center on Oct. 20 to participate in a Rock-climbing contest, carabiners and a harness among other prizes were up for grabs. Approximately 20 students participated in the event, which took

place in the climbing room, and challenged themselves with the difficult surfaces of the hardest of the paths that the room has to offer. Beverages, to keep the climbs hydrated, and food were provided. For anyone interested in climbing, there is a climbing club on campus. For more information call the Rec. Center at 796-6544.



## SPORTS CALENDAR

### Monday - 6

**Intramural Volleyball**  
7 p.m.  
Every Monday until Nov. 20  
\$5 for the season, or \$3 per game

**Fencing club**  
3:45 - 5:15 p.m.

### Tuesday - 7

**Floor Hockey Tournament**  
7 p.m.  
No skill or equipment required  
Free to Rec members, guests \$3

**Billiards Tournament**  
7:00 p.m.

**Open Gym Lacrosse**  
8:30 p.m.

### Wednesday - 8

**Weightroom Orientation**  
5 p.m.  
Every Wednesday

**Fencing club - see above**

**Soccer Open Gym**  
7 p.m.  
Every Wednesday  
Bring a white and dark shirt and gym shoes.  
Free to Rec members, guests \$3

### Thursday - 9

**Co-ed Intramural Soccer**  
Every Thursday  
7:00- 9 PM  
\$5 for season or \$3 for guests

All events are held at the Rec Center and free unless otherwise noted.  
Contact [rec@uas.alaska.edu](mailto:rec@uas.alaska.edu) or 796-6544

ONLY YOU can help the Whalesong be all it can be. E-mail [whalesong@uas.alaska.edu](mailto:whalesong@uas.alaska.edu).



# Vegas atmosphere invades UAS

By Laura Lemiure  
Whalesong

Ivi Wanstall shuffled his chips nervously at one of the Texas Holdem tables at the UAS Lodge while he waited for the last two cards of the hand.

"I heard about it through the flyers that are all around campus and I came because I can't gamble legally with real money," said Wanstall, 19, a sophomore majoring in Pre-Radiology from Juneau. "I might as well try it with fake money."

He pushed his chips all-in, a maneuver in poker where a player decides to put all his remaining stack into the pot. The opponent on his left pushes her chips into the pot, he's put her all-in and because she has a smaller stack than he does, he will still be in the game if he loses.

"Since there are prizes, (the participants) know they are really playing for something. Some of their prizes are insane; it's pretty cool that they are just giving them away for fake money," Wanstall said. Among the prizes up for grabs, which were paid for with housing money, were a DVD player, movies, towels, frozen pizzas, bed linens, and bulk toilet paper from Costco.

Wanstall was a big chip leader at the table, but when the cards were turned over the player to his left has two pair, King high and his pair of Kings can't hold up. He lost the chip lead, but he was still in the game.

Texas Holdem is a popular game among college students across the United States, and the game is heavily represented at the college's annual Casino Night, put on by the Residence Life staff using funds from housing Oct. 26 from 9 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Darren Austin, 22, a junior majoring in Construction Technology from Juneau, has poker on his brain all the time. He has it for his X-Box, on his cell phone, watches it on TV, plays locally, and owns a set of chips that he breaks out for weekend and occasional weekday play.

The Community Advisors are each responsible for hosting an event to be put on for housing. Casino Night was Erin Gora's event to organize. The advisors and a few staff, including Chris Washko and Kenner Barnes, Banfield Hall Director, served as dealers for the games.

The dealers were given a prior tutorial in dealing specific games and the proper way to do so, according to Barnes.

"I saw sides of residents that I had



Will Flynn / Whalesong

Hold 'em or fold 'em: Levi Wanstall sits contemplating his next move.

never seen before," Barnes said. "It was kind of an intriguing experience." Everyone has their own poker face, which you wouldn't see away from the table, and Holdem often brings out the competitor in the player.

"I think it's really good because I think it gets people acquainted with gambling. I know it's not real money, but I think that people who just go out gambling who have never gambled

before, gambling with real money, they are going to lose a bunch," Wanstall said. "This kind of gets people acquainted with it, gets people knowing how to bet."

This year 40 to 80 students attended, but some of the players thought there would have been more if it were an University event held at the Rec center again.

Loud music filled the Lodge main

lobby and golden streamers hung in the doorways. Each student was given 40 chips and automatically entered into the raffle, which took place at the end of the night after students cashed-out their chips for tickets, said Christopher Washko, Residence Life Manager for UAS.

"You make it last as long as you can as you play the tables and then at the end of the evening, every five dollars that you have left worth of chips you get another coupon to put your name in the drawing," Washko said. "Even if you lose, your name is in there at least once, and it's not based on how much you win."

"The purpose of any housing social is to give people an activity to come together," Washko said. "They're good mixers - to mix everyone up and hopefully they meet one another and feel some sense of community."

The event is completely free of charge, according to Washko. Like all housing sanctioned events, it is alcohol-free. Upcoming in the housing events scheduled is the Thanksgiving Potluck on Nov. 23 at 3 p.m. in the Lodge.

"It's a fun atmosphere," Washko said, "and it's a way to go and play those games without having to

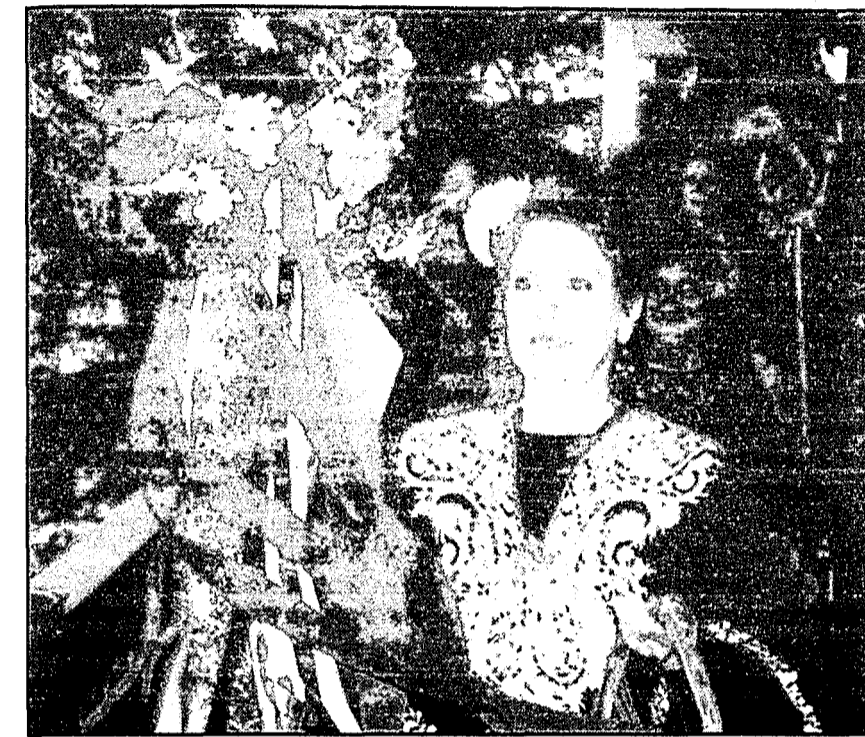


Photo by Cody Bennett / Whalesong

Deadly delights: Jean Linthwaite, assistant to the provost, leads the Dia de Los Muertos procession through UAS campus.

## Dressed to deceive

John S. Sonin  
Whalesong

Faculty and staff had more fun than the students on Halloween.

Creating a ruckus worthy of fourth-graders in Willie Wonkas "oompa-loompa" land, costumed employees paraded through the UAS cafeteria.

Campus employees donned costumes ranging from ghoulish garb to nursery rhyme characters, brothel attendants, feral animals, Italian paisanos made-up as chefs or gangsters. Amused spectators enjoyed

the menagerie that paraded around the lunchroom.

Members of Administration and Records won the Best Group award. The Provost Office won for Best Department. Information Technology member Gloria Merry won Best Individual. Student Government President William Andrews awarded UAS book store certificate prizes to the winners.

Merry came dressed as a bowl of spaghetti and meatballs promoting the "Spaghetti Feed" which followed this fracas in the computer lab of the Whitehead Bldg.



Photo by Cody Bennett / Whalesong

Trick or Treat: Chancellor John Pugh may have been reading a bit too much Harry Potter lately.



Photo by Cody Bennett / Whalesong

Queen of the Dance: Student Anna Danilova strikes a pose during the Halloween dance.

## Ballroom dance puts chancellor in the spotlight

UAS students have the chance to see who dances better: the chancellor or Juneau fifth graders.

UAS Chancellor John Pugh is one of six local celebrities chosen to take dance lessons from local instructors and then show off what they've learned at an event based on the television program "Dancing with the Stars."

They'll have the challenge of following a performance by the youngest student of UAS ballroom dance instructor Shane Wirtz. Besides his college class, Wirtz teaches third to fifth graders at Juneau's elementary schools. About 30 of these young dancers will demonstrate fox trot, meringue, tango, swing and line dance at 8:15 p.m.

"It's just so off-the-wall entertaining it melts your heart," Wirtz said.

The semiformal dance, starting at 8 p.m. Nov. 11 at Centennial Hall, will raise funds to benefit local artists. After the demonstrations, the floor will open to all dancers with Thunder Mountain Big Band performing.

The dance will also include demonstrations of tango, chacha and waltz by professional ballroom dancers Rachel Lidskog, Jay Gilberg, and Andrew Hamilton.

Wirtz began teaching elementary students several years ago. Though he was unsure at first, the students were enthusiastic and quickly learned not only the steps, but the etiquette.

"You've got to see them bow to

their partners," Wirtz said. Wirtz also has to watch his manners with the younger students. "I've had a few of my university students say, 'I notice you're not cussing as much' and I say, well, my elementary students are taking a toll on me," Wirtz said.

Those who haven't taken a class yet, or who want further instruction, can take workshops in foxtrot, swing, waltz, rumba night club two step and tango over the weekend. Because the semiformal dance includes a no-host beer and wine bar, attendees must be 21 or with a parent or guardian.

Tickets are \$35 at Hearthsides Books and from Juneau Arts and Humanities Council board members.

1		6	3	8				
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SuDoku Answers in next Whalesong

## CLASSIFIED ADS

For sale

Refurbished Gateway laptops, \$250-\$475 with DVD. Military discount available. (907)279-0220

World of Warcraft PC Game for sale. MMORG \$10 for the game, book and box. The game is in great condition. Please someone buy this game from me. I have too much homework. Email jsda5@uas.alaska.edu to set up transaction time.

Truck for sale. 1989 Ford F150. Good condition. Low mileage. Contact 957-0779 for info.

Misc.

Table spaces available at the Public Market Annex, ANB Hall, November 24 & 25. For application, contact the Alaska-Juneau Public Market, P.O. Box 21145, Juneau, AK 99802. metcom@gci.net 586-4072

Need Money For Christmas? Let me sell for you on my Alaska Woman eBay Store. Give me your unused items and I'll take care of the rest. No Sale, No Fee. View my listings at: stores.ebay.com/Alaska-Woman. Contact Cristina: Alaska\_Woman@gci.net or 790-3175

Whalesong classifieds are free to students. Everyone else gets the first classified free, then pays \$5 for subsequent classifieds. E-mail classifieds to whalesong@uas.alaska.edu or fax to 796-6399 or drop off for the Whalesong in the basement of the Mourant Building.

Next classified ad deadline is Tues http://www.dailysudoku.co.uk/sudoku/png/2006/10/2006-10-15\_solution.png day Nov 14.

SudDoku Answers From Last Whalesong

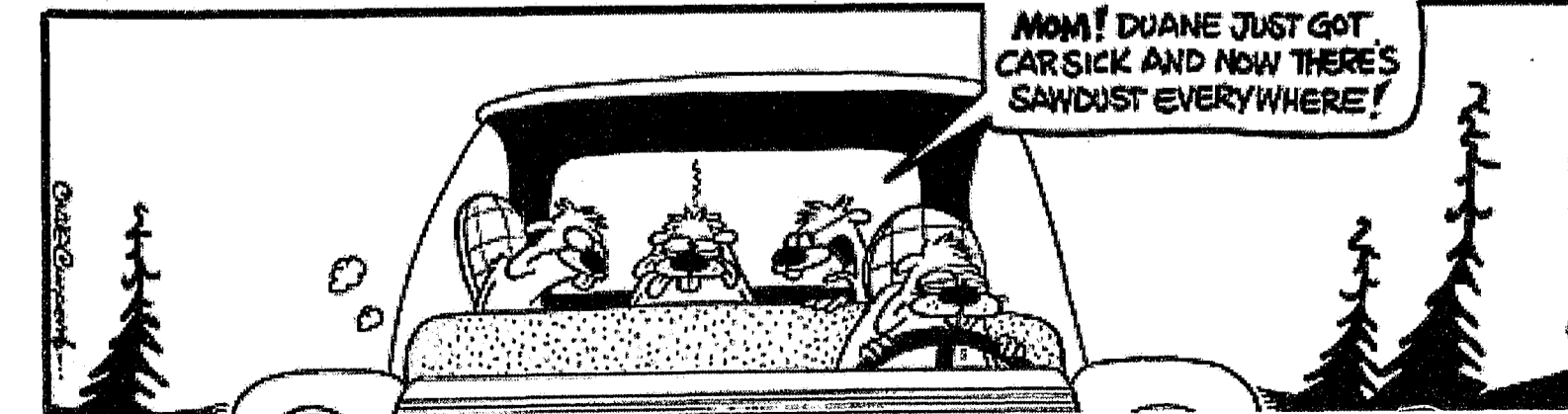
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3	2	4	7	9	5	6	1	8
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## Brain Twist

Can you bivee this is auctaly radelbae? Pserahecs at Ombargide Usivntresy hvae dcoosvreed that, scnie the mnid rades wrdos and not Itreets, this crazy mhis-msah can raley aapepr sbneislaee. It wdoln't be vrey fctonul in a snliepbg bee, but as Inog as all the creort Itretes are ilcnden and as Inog as the fsirt and Isat Itreets are in the crrcot pcale, the mnid dcedoes the jlbmue.

Pttery tsteiwd, hcd? - John S. Sonin - Whalesong

## TUNDRA



To submit comics: E-mail to whalesong@uas.alaska.edu or drop off for the Whalesong in the basement of the Mourant Building.





# New editions drive textbook prices sky high

By Toben Shelby  
*The Northern Light*

Nothing sucks the fun and excitement out of a new semester faster than handing over hard-earned cash for textbooks of often dubious usefulness. What is the thrifty student to do?

It is no secret that textbook prices are on the rise. Joyce Colajezzi, director of the UAA Bookstore, helped to clarify why textbooks cost so much. New editions, software, study packages, online companions, and even shipping costs all contribute to the higher prices of books.

"Shipping costs to Alaska are very expensive," said Colajezzi. "It's about 3 percent higher to ship up here."

She said that new editions of textbooks come with newer pictures, or different homework problems, but

for the most part the content stays the same.

"It's outrageous," said junior Kelly Lanzarone. "Students pay enough for

**"Of the sticker price of a textbook, 65 percent goes to the publisher, 12 percent to the author, 3 percent goes to freight cost,"**

**- Joyce Colajezzi**

their education; books should be the least of their worries."

Lanzarone, who no longer purchases her textbooks at the UAA Bookstore, said she paid about \$250 for books for her five fall semester classes.

"I bought them at half.com," Lanzarone said. "It's run through eBay. I

sell them back there as well."

The Half.com Web site is one of many online used textbook retailers. Amazon and eCampus also offer

used textbooks for a discounted price. For example, "College Algebra," is listed at the UAA Bookstore's Web site \$124 new and \$93 used. The Half.com Web site offers the book ranging in prices from \$69.99 to \$114.73, depending on condition. All three Web sites share a similar layout,

which allows shoppers to search for textbooks by author, title, keyword, or International Standard Book Number.

"Publishers hate the used-book market," Colajezzi said. "Textbooks have limited shelf life, and the publishers receive no royalties on used books."

Colajezzi said the bookstore does make efforts to save students money.

"To make costs lower we buy wholesale and buy back used books to resell," she said.

In fact, Colajezzi said, the bookstore does not make much money from textbook sales and relies on the sales of other items.

"Of the sticker price of a textbook, 65 percent goes to the publisher, 12 percent to the author, 3 percent goes to freight cost," she said. "Whatever is left over goes to the bookstore."

Colajezzi offered several sugges-

tions for students looking to save money.

"Buy used books when possible or e-books," she said. "Check items that are in bundled sets, such as study guides. Sometimes there are extra things that are not used."

She also suggested going to class before purchasing textbooks to see what the professors will actually be using and which texts are optional. Holding on to receipts is recommended as well.

"Classes change, professors change, and books change," Colajezzi said. "The first week of school sees a lot of book-order changes."

"Sometimes professors don't assign (homework) out of the book," she said. "Books ordered for class should be used. Students want value out of the books they buy."

## Proclamation boosts booze awareness for college students

By Molly Carver  
*The Northern Light*

Every year, alcohol-related incidents rank highest according to the University Police Department's crime statistic Web site. In 2006 there were 84 alcohol-related arrests on UAA's campus, down from 133 in 2005.

On October 12, Anchorage Mayor Mark Begich, Chancellor Elaine Maimon and USUAA President Anthony Rivas joined with student leaders across the country in creating and signing a proclamation in support of increased awareness regarding alcohol abuse on campus. The proclamation is part of National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week.

"I think it's important any time you create an awareness of alcohol and what can happen if you abuse alcohol," Begich said. "I think what the students are doing here - because it's a student-driven effort ... that's what's going to make this a powerful message."

Maimon said she wants students to know there is a fine line between responsible drinking and abuse.

"Responsible or irresponsible use of alcohol is very simply a matter of peer pressure, and what I admire about our student body leaders is that they want to exert pressure for the responsible use of alcohol," Maimon said.

Rivas agreed with Maimon in thinking the proclamation will bring a powerful message to students.

**"I think it's important any time you create an awareness of alcohol and what can happen if you abuse alcohol,"**

**- Mark Begich**

"We need to make sure people are aware that the problem is out there and make sure everyone knows that the university takes a serious stance against alcohol abuse," Rivas said.

Students, however, have mixed opinions on whether or not UAA has problems with alcohol abuse.

"I am absolutely for alcohol-abuse

awareness - but I'm not for programs that are anti-alcohol and try to teach that alcohol is a dark, dangerous substance," said sophomore psychology major Candace Lewis. "I agree with teaching that responsible drinking is good and that it's not the worst thing in the world - it can be a great thing if used responsibly."

Freshman electrical engineering major Jordan Bunker said he supports the proclamation.

"I would have to agree that there's an alcohol-abuse problem on campus - I don't think a school should be involved with that - if they are, they should be fighting it, not encouraging it. School is not a place for alcohol, basically," Bunker said.

Despite its publicity, many students either weren't aware of the event or thought a proclamation wouldn't have much of an effect.

"We've been drilled and drilled about the evils of alcohol all through school, and that hasn't seemed to have an effect," said undeclared freshman Ivan Winslow.

## Boozin' and losin' educates UAS students on drinking and abuse prevention

**Booze from page 1**

Satre began filling clear plastic cups from the small bar set up next to the stage and passed drinks out to the student panel. After more than a few drinks, Kraft slouched on the stool and his baseball cap drifted lower, shading his eyes. The plastic cups kept filling and emptying.

"I'm not drunk," the largely built Ross proclaimed to the audience, a claim he issued repeatedly through the night even as his face reddened.

The panel's intoxication was quickly brought to attention by the presiding officers from the Juneau Police Department. Officer Hatch

administered the standard sobriety tests of walk and turn, one leg up, and Horizontal Gaze Nystagmus (the involuntary jerking of the eyes). Unsurprisingly each person wobbled, jerked and laughed through the tests. Gora continually swore that she would pass the test perfectly with just

one more try.

As the drinking continued, Kraft made repeated walks to the restroom, each with a little more weave and wobble. The slaphappy Gora interrupted the officers' lecture, high-fived other panel members, and frequently led the audience in a, "Whoop!

Whoop! Officer Hatch," cheer.

The audience continued to respond to Gora with enthusiasm through the evening, even as her jokes became less coherent. Those who stuck around after the program bore witness to Kraft "losin'" it into a trash can outside the Rec Center.