



Season Recap

Alabama's loss in the Sugar Bowl ended its championship hopes. The team finished the year 12-2 and won the SEC Championship, despite an early loss to Ole Miss.

2 Hard Freeze

With the temperature dropping into the low teens Wednesday night, the National Weather Service has issued a hard freeze warning for Tuscaloosa County.

Basketball

The Alabama men's basketball team defeated Texas A&M 65-44 in Coleman Coliseum on Tuesday night. Go to cw.ua.edu for full coverage.

ONLINE EDITION

NEWS | ADMINISTRATION

Bonner announces resignation

President Judy Bonner to step down this year

By Collin Burwinkle | Contributing Writer

University of Alabama President Judy Bonner announced over the semester break that she would resign from the presidency by Sept. 30. Bonner, the first woman to hold the University's presidency, has held the office since 2012.

In a letter sent to UA students, faculty and staff, Bonner wrote she was stepping down because she wanted to return to teaching, which she called her "first love."



President Judy Bonner
UA News

In a letter to Chancellor Robert Witt, Bonner indicated that

the Board of Trustees would open a search for a new president in January. Bonner wrote she would work with the new president to ensure a "seamless transition."

Some students were surprised by Bonner's resignation.

"It was a little bit of a shock to learn Dr. Bonner was stepping down as president, however, there is no question that she has helped the school in many different ways and has left a great legacy," said Dalton Robinson, a freshman majoring in criminal justice.

Sloan Lewandoski, a freshman majoring in communications, said she looks forward to seeing who the next president is going to be.

"It was stunning that she resigned so quickly after taking the presidency," Lewandoski said. "I look forward to seeing who the next president is

SEE BONNER PAGE 2

NEWS | SMOKING BAN



CW / Pete Pajor, Photo Illustration by Sloane Argett

SNUFFED OUT

Smoking ban takes effect on University of Alabama campus

By Katie Shepherd and Nick Privitera | CW Staff

As students return from their break and go back to class, a new smoking ban will be in effect across campus, including all facilities, grounds and parking areas.

The ban took effect on Jan. 1 and will remain indefinitely. According to the University's non-smoking policy, "Smoking is prohibited at all times and at all locations." The University also described smoking as "inhaling, exhaling, burning, carrying or possessing any lighted product, including cigarettes,

Smoking is prohibited at all times and at all locations.

— UA Non-Smoking Policy —

cigars, pipe tobacco, and any other lit products, and the use of electronic cigarettes or similar devices."

The Faculty Senate, the Professional Staff Assembly, the Office, Clerical and Technical Assembly, the Black

Faculty/Staff Association and the UA Association of Residential Communities all passed resolutions to ban smoking to try to make the community healthier as a whole.

This new policy makes The University of Alabama one of approximately 1,400 universities nationwide to go smoke free, though it is one of a few to include e-cigarettes as well.

Cathy Andreen, the University's director of media relations, said the policy was implemented out of concern

SEE SMOKING PAGE 3

Crimson White sees change at editor-in-chief

By Katie Shepherd | Assistant News Editor

This semester, The Crimson White will undergo some changes in leadership. In a letter sent to Chris Roberts, chairman of the Media Planning Board, on Monday, Dec. 22, Deanne Winslett, a senior majoring in journalism, announced her formal resignation from the position of editor-in-chief.

"Being their editor has been the highlight of my collegiate career," Winslett wrote of the Crimson White student staff. "I can't offer any words powerful enough to accurately describe just what it has meant to me."

Winslett said she made the difficult decision to resign as a result of ongoing health concerns in her immediate family.

"I think that my attention is just split too much, and so I think it just made sense to resign at this point in time," she said.

In her letter of resignation, Winslett expressed her appreciation for members of The Crimson White, and said she will continue to support the organization, though not in any official capacity.

"I am incredibly thankful for the opportunity to be editor-in-chief of The Crimson White, and I am thankful for the professional staff members who supported us during my term as editor," she wrote. "I will

continue to support our organization after my resignation, and I look forward to seeing what amazing things The Crimson White students will accomplish in the Spring semester."

Roberts said he was impressed by the success of The Crimson White under Winslett's leadership, and is sad to see her go.

"She did an excellent job," Roberts said. "The transition from a broadsheet to a tabloid is a pretty difficult thing and she pulled it off well, and obviously has put together a good staff."

With the position open, Winslett recommended Andy McWhorter, a senior majoring in English and history who previously held the position of production editor, to take over as editor-in-chief until his graduation in May.

He will step in and I think it will be a seamless transition.

— Chris Roberts —

"He has done a tremendous job this past semester and doing stuff he has to do to get the paper out," Roberts said. "He will step in and I think it will be a seamless transition."

McWhorter, who has been working with The Crimson White for two years, said his nearly five years of experience in professional journalism has prepared him for the job, and he is excited to take over for Winslett in order to continue The Crimson White's success.

"We've had a very successful semester, and while we are sad to see this kind of change in our staff in the middle of the year, I think we



Andy McWhorter. CW / Pete Pajor

are in a great position to capitalize on the success we've already had and really close up the year really strong and really find ways to serve our students and to be the best student news organization we possibly can," McWhorter said.

He said the next editor-in-chief will assume the position at the end of the publication cycle in April, and the Media Planning Board will make the decision of who to appoint as editor-in-chief at that time.

"The candidate pool is sort of working itself out. I think we've got a few good people who are really interested in the job," McWhorter said. "I will work with whoever the board selects as incoming editor-in-chief to get them acclimated to the job, and

at the end of the semester they will take over entirely."

McWhorter said one of his priorities as editor-in-chief will be to focus on The Crimson White's online presence in order to better serve the University of Alabama community.

"I think really making our online presence more complete, more consistent," he said. "Even when we are not in print, would go a long way to serving our students constantly, to giving them a service that they can do something with, to making them informed about what's going on in the community, and really making The Crimson White more of a robust, consistent presence, not only at The University of Alabama but in Tuscaloosa as a whole."

Smoking now prohibited on UA campus locations

SMOKING FROM PAGE 1

for students' health and safety.

"The health and well-being of our students, faculty and staff is one of the highest priorities for The University of Alabama," she said. "As a result, over the past two decades, the University has taken steps to help protect the campus community from the dangers of second-hand smoke."

There has been some questioning among students as to how this new policy will be enforced. As of now, the burden falls upon the UA community to hold each other accountable and ask those who disobey to comply with the policy.

"There are no current plans for a fine or other penalties," she said. "We expect the vast majority of people will comply with the policy as they do in most places that are designated as non-smoking."

Andreen said students can find out more about enforcement of the new policy at ua.edu/smokefree.

As it is addressed on the

website, Andreen said she encourages students to assist each other in implementing and enforcing the policy.

"If you witness someone smoking, we would ask that you make them aware of the policy and ask that they not smoke on campus," Andreen said.

"Our emphasis is not on penalties, but on creating a healthy campus environment."

In addition, Andreen said the University offers assistance to students who wish to kick the smoking habit.

"The University offers help to students who want to quit smoking through the Student Health Center and to faculty and staff through the Office of Health Promotion and Wellness," she said. "The University will offer two sessions of the QuitSmart smoking cessation program this month at no cost to students, faculty and staff who would like to start the new year as a non-smoker."

The health and well-being of our students, faculty and staff is one of the highest priorities for The University of Alabama.

— Cathy Andreen —

Andreen said students who wish to participate in the QuitSmart program can sign up through the Student Health Center tobacco page and faculty and staff can sign up through the Office of Health Promotion and Wellness.

Some students said they are satisfied with the new policy, while others said there are flaws in its implementation.

"I think the smoking ban is a good thing, but it doesn't seem completely fair to the smokers. The University should have put one designated smoking area," said Isaiah Byrd, a non-smoking freshman majoring in mechanical engineering.

Students said they believe making it more difficult to smoke on campus will give smokers a reason to quit and also protects others from second-hand smoke, creating a healthier community.

Steven Hood, interim vice president for student affairs, said he

WHAT TO KNOW

- As of now, the burden falls upon the UA community to hold each other accountable and ask those who disobey to comply with the policy.
- The University will offer two sessions of the QuitSmart smoking cessation program this month at no cost to students.
- Students who wish to participate in the QuitSmart program can sign up through the Student Health Center tobacco page and faculty and staff can sign up through the Office of Health Promotion and Wellness.

has received largely positive feedback from students since the announcement of this new policy.

"The feedback that I personally have received from students has been largely positive," Hood said. "It is our hope that students will hear the message about personal and public health that is being addressed through smoke-free campus policy."