

Student Government

Student Spotlight: Amber Wood A Real Live Cowgirl

By Kaci Hamilton
Whalesong Contributor

Student Government Profiles



Name: Kaci Hamilton
Position: Senator

Why did you join Student Government?

Because I think if I start small, in the little crevice organizations, I can enter the runnings to take over the world. That's right. My name is not Kaci, it's Brain!

What are your plans for Student Government this year?

To work with the legislative conference and be very incognito, so that I can attain world domination without people actually realizing it.

What is an issue that you firmly believe and why?

- Pro choice
- Freedom of Speech
- Children are our future; they are a priority
- Dictators Rock!

Why is voting important?

Because understanding leaders will not pull bull-shit strings and illegally get into office so that they can wage unnecessary wars on Iraq, North Korea and China. Stop allowing Morons to make your choices.



Name: Sean Smith
Position: Senator

Why did you join Student Government?

To be more involved with the university and to look out for the best interest of the students. I didn't think there was enough interest in the position and instead of letting the spot go vacant I decided I would fit nicely in the senator position.

What are your plans for Student Government this year?

To get more involved with activities and the students. I want to get more recycling involvement with the students. Also to get more volunteer work to continue to bridge the gap between the university and the community.

What is an issue that you firmly believe and why?

There needs to be some expanding on the housing facilities in order to accommodate more students. There is a NEED to do this in order to have UAS expand.

Why is voting important?

So you can complain. If you do not vote then you have no reason to complain because you didn't vote you opinion in the first place.

Recent Bills Passed by the Student Government

Compiled by Benjamin Nestler

1. \$1,000 has been allocated for the Legislative Affairs Fund this year. Once a year, student from all U of A campuses attend the Legislative Conference which is an opportunity for students to talk directly to the Alaska Legislature to advocate increased funding for the University system.
2. \$200 for the Student Government Retreat held last weekend.
3. \$2,000 for Recycling mugs to promote recycling on campus and to generate revenue.

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just couldn't help it.

"We open the door to the East," Heath intoned as he thunked three times with his staff. "The door to the East is open." *Thunk*

"Wwwaaaahhhh!!!" He groaned in tune to the circle.

"Eeccccsstttaaasssy....Eeeennneerrrrgggyyy..." the circled responded in a grand sway.

I started to crack up. I went inside before I burst out laughing. Heath had always been so gracious with me I didn't want to hurt his feelings.

Liberation is the sweetest relief, and there aren't enough greeting cards singing its praises. This year, be your own valentine.

MOOOOO! The average person who heard this noise at 7 a.m. would exclaim, "Holy crab toes, Batman, is that a cow?!" But not Amber Wood. Yes, Ladies and Gentlemen, step right up, no cost to look. You will not believe your eyes, but what we are about to show you is quite real, quite human. Feast your ogglers on a true phenomenon: A real live cowgirl! Amber Wood is truly one of a dying breed in jeopardy of having her existence wiped out by big corporations; she is one of the few left who still go out there, bail the hay and round up the livestock. Born and Raised in North Dakota, she has spent the past five years working for the Farmers Livestock Exchange, a dairy barn that auctions off between 2000 and 4000 cattle in a day; and we're talking those super fast-pace rambling auctions, where the guy sounds like he's plugged in. Amber wouldn't trade having cow dung on her pants for that cute desk-job, no sir. In fact, she says it's quite rewarding to come home after a day of selling a record 4000 cows, get undressed and have, as she charmingly calls it, one of the cows' 'dumplings' fall out of her boot!

However, when she's not up to her ears in cattle excretion, she's really in the thick of things. On a weekend she'll be up at 4:00 a.m. bailing hay during the season. Or she may start the week off branding the fall calves in the spring. On another day she gets to move sheep from the livestock trailers to the barn for auction, which is real pain in the you-know-where. Being such dumb animals, once one runs the wrong way, the whole flock follows that one and she has to start the process all over again! But she loves it. "You want to get upset and scream," she says, "but when they run, their little ears flop around and they're so cute." The best is when Amber and the other cowboys crash at her boss' house during calving season. Normally they try to schedule the births in the spring, but when the bull gets a little too previous, they just have to make do. This means they have to be in the barn waiting to catch the calf as it comes out, so that it doesn't freeze to the ground! Veal anyone? Along with all the fun that comes along with chasing sheep on four-wheelers (sorry, the romantic girl-on-the-horse-with-the-lasso image isn't the case here) and catching newborn calves, there is some danger. This is not a job for the weak at heart. According to Amber, the best way to escape a charging cow is to run up a fence. Unfortunately, sometimes she's just not quick enough. On one occasion, she got into a little scuffle with a 2200 pound Charlais bull that wanted to take her lights out. He knocked her down and proceeded to roll her across the ground with his

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