



FOCUS

Mpunzwana Wins ABAC's Donaldson Award

Pippa R. Mpunzwana of Harare, Zimbabwe, received the highest honor presented to a graduating student from Abraham Baldwin College at Tuesday's graduation ceremony. On behalf of the ABAC Alumni Association, ABAC President Mike Vollmer presented Mpunzwana with the George P. Donaldson Award for outstanding scholarship and leadership.

Donaldson served as president of ABAC from 1947-61. Mpunzwana's award included a plaque and a check for \$500, provided with funding from the ABAC Ag Alumni Council.

A total of 145 students participated in the ceremony, which was presided over by Vollmer. Congressman Sanford Bishop was the guest speaker, and Mpunzwana presented remarks from the students' viewpoint.

A fashion merchandising major, Mpunzwana is the reigning Ms. Abraham Baldwin 2004.

While at ABAC, she served as the Student Union President during the fall of 2003 and as the Student Union Vice President during the spring of 2003. Earlier this year, Mpunzwana was selected as Ms. Baldwin 2002-03 in a campus-wide vote. She was a member of the Family and Consumer Sciences Club (FACS), the Student Government

Association (SGA), and Phi Theta Kappa (PTK).

Mpunzwana was also nominated to Who's Who at ABAC and Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges.

Mpunzwana worked as a writing tutor in the Academic Assistance Center and was a recipient of the GACS Scholarship and the SGA Senator Scholarship Award. She was also a resident assistant for four of the five semesters she was at ABAC.

The daughter of Philip and Chipu Mpunzwana, she plans to transfer to Georgia Southern University to earn a B.S. degree in fashion merchandising and apparel



President Mike Vollmer presents the Donaldson Award to Pippa Mpunzwana during the fall 2003 graduation ceremony

design with a minor in business and marketing. She hopes to open her own fashion business, focusing on African heritage.



Town Hall at ABAC Place should open in February, 2004

ABAC Place Opens January 7

Vice President for Student and Enrollment Services Tom Call said the ABAC Place apartments will open for business on Jan. 7 at 2 p.m. Approximately 200 students will move into the apartments that are ready at that time. The majority of

these students will be the females who lived in Chandler Hall during the fall term. Call said the Town Hall at ABAC Place is scheduled to be open sometime in February. ABAC Place is a \$32 million project conceived by the ABAC Foundation. The remaining 635 beds are scheduled to be completed by the time fall semester classes begin on Aug. 23, 2004.

Most of the units are fully furnished, four bedroom, two bath apartments.

Stallions & Fillies Return to Action

The Golden Stallions of Coach Todd Sheppard will return to hardcourt action at 6 p.m. on Jan. 5 at Gressette Gym against Parkland. The Stallions are currently 10-4 on the season. The Golden Fillies of Coach Julie Conner will return to the home-court at 2 p.m. on Jan. 10 against Fort Stewart. The Stallions will also play that day at home at 4 p.m. against Fort McPherson.

Kramer Wins Award



Athletics Director and Men's Tennis Coach Alan Kramer has received a USTA/ITA Campus Recreation Award for the Southern Region. The award honors an ITA coach

who has done an outstanding job of implementing recreational tennis programs on campus in an effort to grow tennis participation.



Late Autumn at ABAC

The ABAC trees have just now burst into their autumn splendor as the campus gets ready to close for the holidays ahead.

Apply Now for Spring Semester at ABAC

There is still time for students to enroll for spring semester classes at ABAC. Students interested in attending classes this spring must submit their applications immediately. ABAC will be closed for the holidays Dec. 24 - Jan. 4.

Orientation for new freshman students will be held Jan. 8 beginning at 8:30 a.m. in the J. Lamar Branch Student Center. Registration for new and returning students will take place Jan. 8 beginning at 2 p.m. Classes begin

Jan. 12 and end May 3.

Students who need assistance paying for their college education may still apply for financial aid, but they must be prepared to pay initially and perhaps be reimbursed at a later date. For additional information, contact the Financial Aid Office at (229) 386-3235.

For additional information, or to request an application, contact the ABAC Admissions Office at (229) 386-3230, or visit the ABAC web site at www.abac.edu.

Power Outage Ahead

There will be a power outage on the campus on Dec. 29-30. On Dec. 29, the dining hall will be without power, and on Dec. 30 the entire campus will be without power. Please make sure you have all computers shut down as well as any other electrical attachments which may be affected. Make sure all electric heaters are unplugged before leaving for the holidays.

Due to the power outage all systems will be down after 1 p.m. on Dec. 29. PeopleSoft, Email, Banner, Banner Web, and ABAC Gold Card will be back on line Dec. 31 after 10 a.m.

Cleaning Out Chandler

In preparation for Abraham Baldwin's new apartment housing, ABAC donated the furniture from Chandler Hall to Georgia Southwestern State University. Chandler will be torn down in January.

Valdosta Technical College provided a truck to transport the furniture to Americus.

Pictured from left to right: Bernice Hughes, ABAC's Director of Student Life and Housing, Chris Kinsey, Resident Life Coordinator and Hall Director at GSW, and Mike White, Commercial Truck Driving Program Coordinator at Valdosta Technical College.



Berry to Headline ABAC Scholarship Benefit May 14

John Berry will be the featured performer on May 14, 2004, at Dollars for ABAC Scholars, the annual scholarship benefit banquet and show, at Abraham Baldwin.

The event has featured a lavish buffet and top-quality entertainment from its first show in 1972. All proceeds

from Dollars for ABAC Scholars benefit the ABAC Foundation's scholarship program. Over the past 32 years, the annual event has generated over one million dollars in scholarships for ABAC students.

With multiple gold and platinum albums and nominations from the Country Music Association, the Academy of Country Music, and the Grammys, Berry has one of the most distinctive voices in country music. Born in Aiken, S.C., and raised in the Atlanta area, Berry grew up in an eclectic musical household. He gravitated toward both soul and

country music and began recording his own albums at home in 1979.

In 1992, Berry signed with Capitol Records, raising his profile from regional singer to national celebrity. He gained his first number one single in April, 1994 with his signature song, "Your Love Amazes Me." Other Top 10 releases included "You and Only You," "Change My Mind," "I Think About It All The Time," "She's Taken A Shine," "What's In It For Me," "Standing On The Edge Of Goodbye," and "Kiss Me In The Car."

Berry has also established an international presence for himself, with a trio of gold and platinum certifications in Canada and successful concert tours in Canada, Europe, and Australia.

This year, Dollars for ABAC Scholars will also feature an opening performance by Jennifer Moorman, a 1999 ABAC alumna. Moorman grew up in Tifton, where she was active in theater as well as the school and church choirs. Her debut album, *Who is this Woman*, has a life and personality of its own. From the catchy opening song "I Don't Know You" to the soulful title track "Who is this Woman," Moorman captivates her fans with her powerful voice and heartfelt singing.

Tickets to the event are \$125 each. A limited number of reserved tables for eight people are available for \$1,250 each. For additional information, contact the ABAC Foundation Office at (229) 386-3265.



John Berry (above) and Jennifer Moorman (right) are the entertainers for the upcoming Dollars for ABAC Scholars.



ABAC Offers Four-Year Degree Programs Here

Due to the increasing demand for four-year degree programs at ABAC, five colleges and universities have developed partnerships with ABAC and started programs in Tifton. These programs provide an opportunity for students to obtain a four-year degree without having to relocate and are especially convenient for students who have family and/or work obligations.

The University of Georgia (UGA) began offering a four-year degree in Agriscience and Environmental Systems during the Fall of 2003. UGA will also offer a degree in Agriculture Edu-

cation beginning in January, 2004 for the spring semester.

Donna Webb, Coordinator of Academic Programs, UGA Tifton Campus, said eight students are currently enrolled in the Agriculture Education program this spring.

"This major will provide an opportunity for students to take courses in the agricultural sciences and will enable them to qualify for certification by the State Department of Education as teachers of agriculture," Webb said. "I am very excited about the addition of this new major and the opportunities it will provide for students who want to study in south Georgia."

For additional information about the degrees offered by UGA, contact Webb at (229) 386-3528, or e-mail her

at dwebb@tifton.uga.edu. Prospective students can also visit www.dogsgonesouth.org for more information. Applications are currently being accepted for the summer and fall semesters. The deadline is April 1.

Four other colleges and universities are also offering undergraduate and advanced degrees at ABAC. Georgia Southwestern offers undergraduate degrees in accounting and management. Macon State offers a bachelor's degree in information technology. Valdosta State offers the complete degree in early childhood education, and Albany State has restarted its MBA program on the ABAC campus.

For more information about any of these programs, contact Dr. Gail Dillard at (229) 386-7154.

ABAC Public Relations

ABAC 30, 2802 Moore Highway
Tifton, GA 31793-2601
(229) 386-3264

Congratulations!

Tom and Judy Call are the proud grandparents of a new grandson. Coleman Thomas Call arrived on Dec. 9. He weighed seven pounds and two ounces. Congratulations!

Next FOCUS January 12

The next edition of this prized publication will be emailed to you on the morning of Jan. 12, 2004. If you have information for that edition of the FOCUS, please turn it in to the Public Relations Office by noon on Jan. 8.

Williams Leaving

Katrina Williams' last day at the PSBOC will be Jan. 5. We wish her well as she begins a new career in Macon.

Celebrating Birthdays



December

24	Kip Hall
26	Herbert Shippey
28	Alton Hudgins
29	Nancy Coleman
29	Garvy Nichols
29	Ellen Resta

January

1	Jimmy Lankford
2	Abul Sheikh
3	Vickie Wilson
4	Lisa Lewis
5	Ray Barber
5	Emory Johnson
5	Frank Landers
5	Bobby Mathis
9	Daniell Buehrer
9	Bryan Golden
9	Donna Hatcher
9	Lykourgous Vassiliou
10	Kirby Ireland
10	Wayne Jones
12	Hazel Purvis
12	Anita White

Notes of Thanks

Dear ABAC Family,

Thank you for all the flowers, cards, calls, visits, and prayers during the loss of my father. It's never easy to say goodbye, but having the love and support of my ABAC Family helps to ease the hurt. Continue to remember my family and me in your prayers.

Michelle Barton

Your thoughtfulness during the loss of Mike's mother was most appreciated. In difficult times, the caring actions of friends and family help us to realize the many blessings we have around us. Thank you all for the cards, the food, and for thinking of us.

Mike & Chrystle Ross

The National SAT was administered on Dec. 6 to 200 students from over 19 different school districts. Thanks to the following who helped to make the administration run smoothly: Ellen Bullington, Dr. Jonathan Harrington, Annie Sims, Arlene Bailey, Bernice Hughes, Debbie Riner, Margie Senkbeil, Rita Wade, Sherin Nixon, Ken Giager, Jack Larry, Scott Jackson, Bernice Corbin, and Kim Scarborough.

Dr. Maggie Martin

Positions Open

ABAC:

- Chair, Division of Social Science (deadline 2/14/04)
- Administrative Secretary, Academic Affairs; Internal Search

Georgia Southern:

- Director of Planned Gifts/Major Gifts Officer (deadline 1/5/04)
- Head Women's Soccer Coach
- Admissions Counselor (deadline 1/23/04)

Contact Jane Thompson in Human Resources for details.

ABAC Family

Dr. Maggie Martin, Dr. Jonathan Harrington, and Arlene Bailey administered the National ACT to 30 students from 13 communities on Dec. 13.

Dr. Maggie Martin gave an evening administration of the Institutional SAT at ABAC On the Square in Moultrie to seven students on Dec. 10.

Alan Kramer and Shirley Wilson attended the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) breakfast in Moultrie on Dec. 11. Bobby Bowden, head football coach for the Florida State Seminoles, was the guest speaker.

Official Holidays

ABAC will be officially closed for the holidays on Dec. 24, 2003 through Jan. 4, 2004. All offices are scheduled to reopen on Jan. 5.



Additional Testing

Beginning in January, 2004, the Student Development Center will begin administering the Test of Spoken English (TSE) and the California Aptitude Battery (CAT).

Note of Sympathy

The ABAC Family expresses sympathy to Ray Saxon whose sister passed away recently. Sympathy is also expressed to the family of retired ABAC faculty member Paul Tompkins who passed away on Dec. 8. Please keep these families in your thoughts and prayers.



Calendar of Events

Friday, January 2

6 p.m.-Tidd/Chandler Wedding Rehearsal (Chapel)

Saturday, January 3

Noon-Tidd/Chandler Wedding (Chapel)
1 p.m.-Tidd/Chandler Wedding Reception (Dining Hall)

Monday, January 5

8 a.m.-Police Academy Lecture (Cordell Conf. Room A)
5:30 p.m.-FFA State Officers Visit (Cordell Conf. Room)

6 p.m.-Basketball: Stallions vs Parkland (Gressette Gym)

Tuesday, January 6

9 a.m.-Institutional SAT
4 p.m.-Evening Orientation (Cordell Conf. Room/Dining Hall)

Wednesday, January 7

8 a.m.-Headstart Staff Development (Cordell Conf. Room A/B)

Thursday, January 8

Today-Orientation

Friday, January 9

Today-Orientation/Registration

Saturday, January 10

2 p.m.-Basketball: Fillies vs. Fort Stewart (Gressette Gym)
4 p.m.-Basketball: Stallions vs. Fort McPherson (Gressette Gym)

Monday, January 12

Today-Classes Begin
6 p.m.-Tifton/Tift Co. Arts Council Board Meeting (Cordell Conf. Room A)