

# FOCUS

## ABAC Place Getting Ready for Overflow

The largest two-year college apartment project in the United States is now filled to capacity. Vice President for Student and Enrollment Services Tom Call said all 835 private rooms in the \$32 million complex called ABAC Place are now filled.

"That doesn't mean we won't have a few no-shows," Call said. "Because of a variety of reasons, we expect a few of the students with their names on the list not to be here this fall. We can deal with that because we have now started a waiting list."

With two orientation sessions left before classes begin Aug. 23 at Abraham Baldwin, a limited amount of space has now been made available in Comer Hall for those students who meet the residency requirements for

living on campus.

Approximately 18 double-occupancy rooms (36 beds) will be available in Comer Hall. Until Thursday's orientation is completed, Comer will be reserved solely for those overflow students who are required to live on campus. The lease for Comer will stipulate that if an ABAC Place slot becomes available, Comer residents receive first priority.

The old double-occupancy rate of \$950 will apply to those living in Comer. Upon moving to ABAC Place, the unused portion will be credited to the student's ABAC Place account. Call said, "I believe Comer will be full for fall semester."

Incoming students meeting ABAC's residency requirement will still be

required to sign up for housing. Call said, "For the next week or so, only people who are residency-required will be registered for housing. If residency-required students choose not to live in Comer, the hold will be lifted, and they will be permitted to register without living on campus."

Local apartment owners who have rooms available can send listings to Bernice Hughes, Director of Residence Life, by calling (229) 386-3233 or via e-mail at [bhughes@abac.edu](mailto:bhughes@abac.edu).

"We want to accommodate everyone as much as we can, particularly those incoming students from outside the 50 mile commuter distance" said Call. "This will be the largest number of students we have ever had living on campus."



### Out With the Old, In With The New

President Mike Vollmer swings a gold-tipped ABAC sledge hammer at the old sign in front of Tift Hall and then poses with the brand new sign installed last week. The first phase of the directional sign project is now complete. The next phase will commence as soon as funding is made available.

## Saxon Appointed Admissions Director & Registrar at ABAC



**Saxon**

Vice President for Student and Enrollment Services Tom Call has announced that Beth Saxon will serve as Director of Admissions and Registrar at Abraham Baldwin. Call said the college will hire a Director of Student

Recruitment to handle all aspects of new student recruitment.

Saxon has served as Registrar for three years. Prior to that time, she was the Director of Learning Support for four years. She is a former interim chair of the Division of Developmental Studies. Saxon joined the ABAC faculty in 1993 as a math instructor.

In her new responsibility, Saxon gains some of the duties of former admissions director Angie Palmer, who resigned July 9 to become chief operating officer of Health Systems Management. Other duties will be shared with the new student recruitment director.

Combining the duties is not a new concept at ABAC. Former admissions director Garth Webb served for a time as registrar and admissions director during the presidency of Dr. Wayne Curtis in the mid-80s.

### ABAC in the Park Opens Tuesday

Worth County Commission Chair Dan Miller will cut the ribbon on the new ABAC in the Park location at 4 p.m. on Tuesday at the Worth County Governmental Building on Highway 82 in Sylvester. Everyone is invited to attend to tour the new classrooms which are located just across the street from the park in Sylvester.

Other speakers will include ABAC President Mike Vollmer, Dr. Gail Dillard, Diane Kilgore, Bill Boone from the Worth County Economic Development Authority, and Sylvester Mayor Bill Yearta.

One credit class and several continuing education classes will be offered at ABAC in the Park during the fall semester.



**Mandy Brooks (left) from the TRMC Foundation recently presented two AEDs to ABAC. Representatives from ABAC at the event included (L-R) Patricia Barber, Nursing; Shirley Wilson, Physical Education Division Secretary; Alan Kramer, Athletics' Director; Andrea Willis, Physical Education Division Chair; Mike Vollmer, President; Bryan Golden, ABAC Police; and Bernice Hughes, Student Services.**

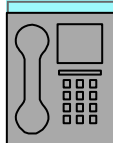
## TRMC Foundation Presents AEDs to ABAC

The Tift Regional Medical Center Foundation recently presented two Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs) to Abraham Baldwin. These AEDs are used to treat individuals who may be suffering from sudden cardiac arrest. As part of the Tift Regional Medical Center Foundation's "Heart Safe Community" program, personnel from ABAC have completed CPR training and AED operational instruction to serve as a "responder unit" for the col-

lege. The AEDs were purchased from the proceeds of the TRMC Foundation's annual "Hearts and Diamonds Gala" fundraising event held in February, which raised more than \$56,000 to begin the "Heart Safe Community" program. So far, the program has provided defibrillators for various public organizations in Tift, Berrien, Cook, Irwin, Turner and Worth Counties.

### Harrington to Mississippi

Dr. Jonathan Harrington is leaving ABAC to become Assistant Director for Employer Relations at the University of Mississippi. A search is now underway to fill his Director of Job Placement post. We wish him much success as he returns to his alma mater.



### Phones on the Way to Your Desk

Dr. Chrystle Ross says new phones should be on your desks in a matter of days. Keep in mind that your new phone can only connect with other new phones on campus at this time as negotiations on the new system continue in Atlanta. Ross said that upon finalization of the contract, the phones will have full service.

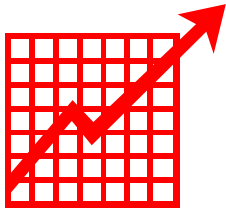
## SODEXHO Starts August 1 at ABAC

President Mike Vollmer has announced that an internationally known company called SODEXHO will begin managing physical plant operations, custodial services and grounds at ABAC on Aug. 1.

Vollmer said ARAMARK will continue to manage the dining hall operation, although it will change to a retail establishment, where students and other diners pay on an a la carte basis.

The dining hall is scheduled to select an interim manager this week after the departure of Kristen Popham last week.

Vice President for Fiscal Affairs Floyd Wright said SODEXHO has had contracts with Tuskegee, The University of Mississippi, Auburn, and Troy State. He said the company did \$5.7 billion in sales last year.



## ABAC Enrollment for Fall Running Ahead of 2003

Student enrollment numbers for the fall semester at Abraham Baldwin are running far ahead of last year's pace with another freshman orientation session coming up on Thursday. Director of Admissions and Registrar Beth Saxon said as of July 2003, 2,211 students had enrolled at ABAC for the fall term. The numbers have jumped by a large margin this year for a total of 2,702 already registered for this coming fall term.

There are a lot of contributing factors to this steady rise in ABAC's enrollment. "Returning students are seeing the value of early registration. Along with that, the early bird registration held in June played a big role," said Saxon.

Saxon said one demographic of the

student population that continues to grow is the number of female students. Currently, they represent the largest part of the ABAC population. This surge is partly due to the strong enrollment of the nursing program, currently the largest major on the campus.

A terrific draw that has helped ABAC continue its climb in enrollment is the ABAC Place Apartments. "The apartments have played a huge role in the appeal of ABAC," Saxon said. All rooms at ABAC Place are filled for the fall term..

Thursday's orientation begins at 8:30 a.m. in the J. Lamar Branch Student Center. The final orientation is set for Aug. 19. Evening program orientation will take place Aug. 18, and registration for ABAC on the Square in Moultrie is set for Aug. 16.

### Baseball Player Gains All-America Status

Stallions' baseball player LaVeasey Carter has been selected for the NJCAA All-America team. Carter hit .412 for Coach Steve Janousek's team this year and stole 44 bases. He was selected for the second team nationally and first team All-Conference.

Janousek said Carter, a Tifton product originally scheduled to play basketball for the Stallions, is his first All-America selection at ABAC in seven years as the diamond chief. Carter has signed to play for the State University of West Georgia this season.

### Nichols Leaving Farm

Garvie Nichols has resigned his position as Farm Manager at ABAC. A search is now in progress to fill the position. The deadline for applications is Tuesday. Nichols joined the ABAC staff in August, 1996. We wish him well in his new endeavor.

### Fitzgerald in New Office

New Social Science Division Chair Anthony Fitzgerald is now located in Bowen 205A. His new phone number is 3258.

### Senkbeil, Hightower High Five Winners



The winner of the High Five Award drawing for the week ending July 9 was Margie Senkbeil, and the winner for the week ending July 16 was Stefane Hightower. Margie is Senior Secretary in the Financial Aid Office. Her nomination says, in part, "...she is always willing to stay after hours and help with our work study students' work in order to make sure that all of our ABAC students' financial aid files are kept up to date."

Stefane is an Accounting Clerk in the Business Office and the Enrollment Services Office. Her nomination said, "Despite the fact that her mother had major surgery Wednesday evening and she spent Wednesday night and all day Thursday at the hospital, Stefane came to work on Friday and stayed until the checks were ready to hand out, which was 7:30 p.m."

Margie and Stefane will each receive a certificate of appreciation and a T-shirt from the ABAC Bookstore. Their names will also go into the monthly drawing for July. The monthly winner will receive a gift certificate for \$50, which can be used at a number of local merchants.

Submit your nominations for faculty and staff members who have gone above and beyond the call of duty for this week's High Five winner. Nomination forms are available on the Human Resources page of the ABAC website.

### "Roller" Reading This Summer

The reading faculty at ABAC invites you to read "Roller: A Dirt Road Sport" this summer.



Author Julian Morgan is a 1966 alumnus of the college who has crafted a story that takes place during south Georgia in the 50s. Morgan will lead a discussion of the book at the fall preview conference on Aug. 18.

Sharry Sackor said the book is available at the ABAC Bookstore and the Book Haven in downtown Tifton.



### Getting Their Attention!

*Fran Kinchen, Secretary to the President, delivers a stirring speech on goal setting, etiquette, and motivation to a group of Upward Bound students in the Nickelodeon recently.*

## ABAC Softball Player Killed in Accident

ABAC softball player Stefanie ten Hoop was killed in a car accident in Henry County July 13. Former ABAC student Dennis Clemons-Schmelz was also injured in the accident.

Fillies' Coach Donna Campbell had been leading a softball camp earlier in the day with ten Hoop and her sister, Elske. Ten Hoop was scheduled to fly back to her home in the Netherlands the following day.

"These girls are like my kids, and words cannot begin to express our loss," Campbell said in an interview in the *Tifton Gazette*. "Stephanie was a great person and a remarkable student-athlete."

Campbell is planning a memorial service for ten Hoop when classes resume for the fall term. Cards may be sent to Wim & Jose ten Hoop, Brem-park 64, Zoetemeer 2724 MW, The Netherlands.



### **You Are Here!**

*The new kiosk featuring the largest map of ABAC ever is now located in front of Weltner Hall. The Weltner lot will be converted to a visitors' parking lot beginning with the fall semester. Visitors can pull in and find their way.*

## Tips Every Parent & Student Should Know About College

With fall just around the corner, high school graduates begin to prepare for the next stage of their lives . . . college. There are many different aspects to college life that may be challenging for both parents and students. Dr. Maggie Martin, Director of Student Development at Abraham Baldwin, offered some guidelines to making the preparation and transition a little easier.

Most students should start thinking about college in their ninth and tenth grade years. "Parents can play a vital role in this time by teaching their child basic skills such as cooking, how to do laundry, and how to deal with credit cards," said Martin.

There are more important aspects to consider when starting the college preparation. "Let the students choose their own major," Martin said. "You may want your student to be a doctor when he wants to major in art. Students' perspectives change a lot in college. Let them find out what they want to do on their own."

Before students go away for the first semester, there are a few things both students and parents should do. "Students and their parents need to learn all they can about the institution," said Martin. Some ways of getting to know the institution are familiarizing students and parents with the catalog, going on the website, and making ap-

pointments with administrators to address any concerns that may arise.

"Also, get to know the area. If possible, have things like finding a bank done early. It will make the transition to college a lot less stressful," Martin said.

Sending your new college student off is a hard task to do. But there are some things parents really need to take into consideration and avoid doing in order to make the departure a positive one. "If parents are helping to move in, don't stay. Just move in and go. It makes the transition so much easier," Martin said. "It's also very common for grades to drop from high school to the first year of college, so don't have unrealistic expectations."

Once students have left home, they, along with their parents, have to adjust. Parents who feel the effects of the "empty nest" should get involved in activities they could not have done while the child was there. "It's like retirement," Martin said. "It's important to have something to retire to."

Students who are feeling homesick should get involved. "Join clubs, get to know roommates. Going away to college may be the biggest transition in your life, but by getting involved that transition doesn't seem so scary," Martin said.

Students also need to know what is

available to them as a college student. Take advantage of services such as free tutoring, the campus health center, personal and career counseling, and job placement. All activities, such as plays and live music, are usually free with campus ID.

Parents are sometimes surprised by "hidden" expenses once students begin their college career. One of the major "hidden" costs is activity fees. If a student joins a club or organization, there could be expenses for uniforms, dues, and other costs that parents do not become aware of until later into college life.

Some bigger fees that parents need to take into consideration are gas, car maintenance, and travel costs – for both parents and students. "Travel can be expensive, especially if your student lives out of state," said Martin. Also, having a cell phone can help cut costs of phone calls home.

For students who may have a difficult time adjusting to college, there are a few things to consider. First, look for signs such as drastic behavioral changes, running up expenses, and calling/e-mailing home three or more times a day. "All colleges have certified counselors ready to help with problems like adjustment to college," Martin said. Parents can help by keeping the lines of communication open with their students.

## ABAC Public Relations

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### Next FOCUS Aug. 2

The next edition of this prized publication will appear on your email on the morning of Aug. 2. Info for this edition should be sent to Pam Leonard at [pleonard@abac.edu](mailto:pleonard@abac.edu) by noon on July 29.

### Former Georgia Governor Passes Away July 16

Former Georgia Governor George Busbee passed away on Friday after an apparent heart attack at the Savannah airport. Busbee, 76, was an ABAC alumnus, Class of 1944, according to Director of Alumni Relations Nancy Coleman.

Busbee made history when he became the first Georgia Governor to serve two consecutive four-year terms from 1975 until 1983. According to an article in the *Atlanta Journal Constitution*, Busbee was born in Vienna, Ga., and attended ABAC, Duke University,

and was graduated from the University of Georgia in 1949. He received a law degree in 1952.

Busbee served 18 years in the Georgia House of Representatives. As Governor, he created the first statewide kindergarten program and created the Fair Employment Practices Office.

Busbee's public memorial service will be on Tuesday. His body will lie in state today in the Rotunda of the Georgia Capitol. All flags on campus should be at half mast in honor of this former governor.

### Notes of Sympathy

The ABAC Family expresses sympathy to Murray Fender whose father, Lloyd Fender, passed away on July 11.

Sympathy is also extended to Randy Carter whose father-in-law, Ray Green, passed away on July 12. Please keep both these families in your thoughts and prayers.

### Celebrating Birthdays

#### July

- 19 Keetra Branch
- 19 Wilma Knisel
- 23 Jeff Newberry
- 24 Patricia Buffaloe
- 24 Donna Miller
- 25 Buffie Edwards
- 25 Joy Godin
- 25 Pam Leonard
- 25 Lois Moon
- 26 Peggy Barrentine
- 27 Lani Burden
- 27 Betsy Leonard
- 27 Alan Murphy
- 28 Linda Horton
- 30 Melanie McDaniel
- 31 Larry Cannon
- 31 Frank Palmer
- 31 Darby Sewell

#### August

- 1 Jo Ann Paulk
- 2 Mary Brown



### Positions Open

#### ABAC:

- Director of Student Recruitment  
Salary \$53,000-\$58,000  
(deadline 8/2)
- Coordinator of Job Placement  
Salary commensurate with experience (deadline 7/23)
- Senior Secretary, Student Development Center  
Salary \$18,000-\$20,000  
(deadline 7/23)
- Farm Manager  
Salary \$30,000 (deadline 7/20)

[Contact Human Resources for details.](#)

### Note of Thanks

*Thanks to everyone for their prayers, cards, and kind words during the illness and death of my step dad. I appreciate everyone's concern.*

*Arlene Bailey*

### ABAC Family

**Dr. Rod Brown** and **Lee Hodges** accompanied students in the Forest Industries class on a June 30 tour of MeadWestvaco operations. Included was a tour of the Pulp and paper mill at Mahrt, Ala., followed by visits to three timber harvesting operations in Stewart County. The group also visited Langdale Industries on July 14. Included was a tour of the Valdosta sawmill, followed by a visit to the Langboard panel plant near Quitman.

### Congratulations!

Paul and Louise Foote are the proud parents of a new baby boy born on July 2. David Christopher weighed seven pounds, four ounces and was 19 1/2 inches long. Congratulations to all!



### Calendar of Events

#### Tuesday, July 20

9 a.m.-Institutional SAT

3 p.m.-Upward Bound (Chapel)

#### Wednesday, July 21

11:30 a.m.-Faculty/Staff Luncheon (Magnolia Room)

#### Thursday, July 22

Today-New Student Orientation

#### Friday, July 23

9 a.m.-Migrant STEP Graduation (Chapel)

6 p.m.-Womack/Marchant Wedding Rehearsal (Chapel)

7 p.m.-Upward Bound Awards Banquet (Dining Hall)

#### Saturday July 24

6 p.m.-Womack/Marchant Wedding (Chapel)

7 p.m.-Womack/Marchant Reception (Dining Hall)

#### Monday, July 26

Today-Last day of summer term classes

#### Tuesday, July 27

Today-Final Exams

#### Wednesday, July 28

Today-Final Exams

11:30 a.m.-Faculty/Staff Luncheon (Magnolia Room)

#### Thursday, July 29

8 a.m.-School Nutrition Conference (Cordell Conf. Room)

6:30 p.m.-Medical Coding (Cordell Conf. Room A)

#### Friday, July 30

6 p.m.-Bryan/Nichols Wedding Rehearsal (Chapel)

#### Saturday, July 31

8 a.m.-Ga. State Floral Association (Cordell Conf. Room A/B)

11:30 a.m.-Hutchinson Family Reunion (Dining Hall)

7 p.m.-Bryan/Nichols Wedding (Chapel)

8 p.m.-Bryan/Nichols Reception (Dining Hall)

#### Sunday, August 1

7 a.m.-Ga. State Floral Association (Cordell Conf. Room A/B)

Noon-Ga. State Floral Association Luncheon (Dining Hall)

4 p.m.-Upward Bound Banquet (Dining Hall)