

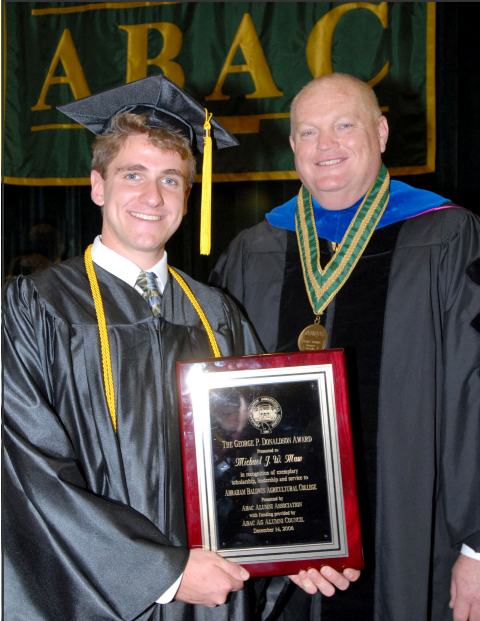
## ABAC Public Relations

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# FOCUS

## Maw Receives Donaldson Award at Fall Graduation



President David Bridges congratulates Donaldson Award recipient Michael Maw.

Michael Maw of Tifton, a double major in agronomy and agricultural communication, received the highest honor presented to a graduating student from ABAC at Thursday's graduation ceremony. On behalf of the ABAC Alumni Association, ABAC President David Bridges presented Maw with the George P. Donaldson Award for outstanding scholarship and leadership.

Maw's award included a plaque and a check for \$500 from the ABAC Ag Alumni Council. The award is based on a combination of academics and extra-curricular activities. Donaldson served as ABAC president from 1947-61.

A total of 162 students participated in the Gressette Gym ceremony, which featured a speech by the Honorable John Ellington, Judge for the Court of Appeals of the State of Georgia. Ellington graduated from ABAC in 1980.

While at ABAC, Maw has been involved in a variety of campus activities,

ranging from news editor for *The Stallion student newspaper*, to the ABAC Ambassadors and the Baptist Collegiate Ministries while maintaining a perfect 4.0 grade point average.

He was named the J.G. Woodroof Scholar at Honors Day, received the Discipline Award in journalism and the Divisional Award of Distinction in Agriculture. He has also received the James and Joyce Kirk Scholarship two years in a row. He is a former State FFA vice president and has been awarded an American FFA degree and received the Star Agri-Science Award from the National FFA.

Following graduation, Maw will attend the Focus on the Family Institute in Colorado Springs, Colo., for one semester before enrolling at the University of Georgia in the fall of 2007 to pursue double baccalaureate degrees in crop and soil resources and agricultural communications. He is the son of Bryan Maw and Jeanne Tyson of Tifton.

## Clemens Selected As Fiscal Affairs Vice President For ABAC

John Clemens has been selected as the new Vice President of Fiscal Affairs at ABAC, according to an announcement today by President David Bridges. The appointment is pending approval by the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia.



John Clemens

"In John Clemens, we have hired an individual with broad fiscal and administrative experience," Bridges said. "I'm personally looking forward to him joining our administrative team in January."

Clemens said it was Bridges who

really sold him on the position.

"Dr. Bridges really got me interested in coming to ABAC," Clemens said. "He has some a vision and a commitment to making ABAC one of the best colleges in the Georgia system, and I want to be a part of that effort."

Clemens also admits that he "fell in love with the Tifton community. I felt right at home there," he said.

Clemens presently serves as Director of Public Service Activities Accountability for the College of Agriculture, Forestry, and Life Sciences at Clemson University. His previous work experience includes assistant accounts payable supervisor, assistant to the Dean and College Chief Financial Officer, and assistant to the Chief Financial Officer of the Public Service Activities Division at Clemson.

Clemens earned an Associate of Arts degree in Business Management from

Anderson College; a Bachelor of Science degree in Management and a Master's in Technology and Industrial Education from Clemson. He is currently studying for his Doctorate of Education from Clemson to be completed in 2008.

Clemens takes over on Jan. 1, 2007 for Floyd Wright, who retired from the college earlier this year but has been assisting the fiscal affairs office on a temporary basis.

## College To Close For Holidays



ABAC will close for the holidays at 3 p.m. on Dec. 22. The college will reopen on Jan. 2 at 8 a.m. Evening registration for the spring term is on Jan. 2, and regular registration is on Jan. 4.

# Seventeen ABAC Students Awarded Foundation Scholarships

Seventeen students from across south Georgia were awarded ABAC Foundation Scholarships for the 2006-07 academic year through the ABAC Foundation Scholars Program.

The program provides scholarships to the top three honor graduates from eight local counties: Ben Hill, Berrien, Colquitt, Cook, Irwin, Tift, Turner, and Worth. The scholarships cover tuition and fees for two semesters of full-time enrollment provided the students maintain a 3.0 grade point average each semester.

They are funded by the ABAC Foundation.

Students selected included **Shelley Downs** from Sycamore, an early childhood education major; **Laura Eidson** of



*Foundation Scholars and their guests include l-r: Betty Turner, member of the Foundation Board of Trustees; Betty McCorvey, Assistant Director of Development; Laura Eidson, Sandra Tinajero, Justin Willingham, Heather Gilman, Julie Hunt of the University System Board of Regents, Tammy Nhu, ABAC President David Bridges, and Shelley Downs.*

Fitzgerald, a veterinary medicine major; **Heather Gilman** of Sylvester, an early childhood education major; **Tammy Nhu**, a pharmacy major from Tifton; and **Sandra Tinajero**, a business admini-

stration major and **Justin Willingham**, an engineering major, both from Wray.

Other Foundation Scholars included **Elizabeth Alberson**, a pharmacy major from Sycamore; **Jessica Barber**, a nursing major from Lenox; **Brittany Bowden**, a nursing major from Ocilla; **Jonathan Hester**, an information technology major from Fitzgerald; **Carly Junkins**, a pre-veterinary medicine major from Warwick; **Kellie Peele**, an undeclared major from Eastman; **Whitney Phillips**, a nursing major from Ocilla; **Jolie Pope**, a nursing major from Norman Park; **Sarah Sickling**, an

undeclared major from Sylvester; **Leigh Tyus**, an allied health major from Moultrie and **Kayla Willis**, an allied health major from Sycamore.



## Ambassadors Spread Christmas Cheer

*ABAC Ambassadors Ben Howard, Jill Dunn, Matthew Harrell, and Jacob Forehand bought and wrapped presents for a needy family on the last day of final exams. Spring term classes begin at ABAC on Jan. 8.*

## Next **FOCUS** Jan. 8

The next edition of the **FOCUS** will appear on your e-mail on Jan. 8. If you have information for this issue, please email items for the next edition by noon on Jan. 4 to [pleonard@abac.edu](mailto:pleonard@abac.edu).

# FOCUS ON

## Judy Perry

Judy Perry is the Senior Administrative Assistant in the Division of Agriculture and Forest Resources. She began her ABAC career on Oct. 5, 1985.

She received an A.S. in Business Administration from ABAC. She is a member of Phi Theta Kappa and Alpha Beta Gamma honor societies, as well as the Baldwin Woman's Club, Tift County Saddle Club, and Deep Dixie Horseman's Association.

Her hobbies include riding horses, barrel racing horses, sewing, and reading.

She is married to Bobby, who is the branch manager for Linde Gas LLC. They have two children, Chad and Brittany, and four grandchildren, Leslie, Wesley, Caroline, and Alexis.



## Welcome Back To ABAC!

President David Bridges recently hosted a breakfast in the dining hall for all ABAC retirees. Over 50 took him up on his offer including (left to right) Newell "Sarge" Dorsey, Worth Bridges, Joe Day, and Donald Massey. Bridges told the group of the many exciting projects underway on the campus including ABAC Lakeside, the Soccer Complex, and State College status.

## Peer Educators Receive \$10,000 Grant

The Risky Business Peer Educators at ABAC have been awarded a \$10,000 grant from the Georgia Governor's Office of Highway Safety (GOHS) for the fifth consecutive year.

Through the grant, peer educators are able to help the fight against impaired driving. This program is determined to help college students stay safe on the roads and highways across the state.

The grant will be used to educate the college community on traffic safety and to implement programs that inform students about seatbelt safety, cell phone use, driving under the influence, and alcohol/drug use and abuse. Two of the nationally recognized programs through GOHS are Operation Zero Tolerance and Click It or Ticket. All programs are designed with the goal of reaching every motorist.

## ABAC Clubs, Students Plan Humanitarian Effort in Kenya

The Political Science Club and the Baptist Collegiate Ministries At ABAC have planned an 11-day trip to Nairobi, Kenya in May of 2007 to provide food, medicine, and shelter for those in need.

The students will go to orphanages, medical clinics, and farms for what they hope turns into an annual humanitarian trip.

"The Stara Rescue School is one of the places we will go," Chris Wogan, Political Science Club president, said. "Stara has 470 children, and 410 - 420 are AIDS-related orphans."

The students also plan to go to clinics in Nairobi to help with vaccinations and distribution of medicine and supplies. "The medicine and supplies are coming from within the country, which means it will get to the clinics faster," Terry McStott from Baptist Collegiate Minis-

tries, Inter-Group Planning Director of the project, said.

"We hope to have representatives from both the nursing and agriculture divisions joining in on this trip," Wogan said. "Representatives from the nursing division would go to the clinics while those from the division of agriculture could talk to the farmers in Nairobi."

"Habitat for Humanity is also helping us," McStott said. "For every \$1,000 we raise, they will build a shelter in Nairobi."

The clubs plan to have some fundraisers in order to achieve their monetary goal of \$50,000. They have also set up an account for tax-free donations through the ABAC Foundation.

Those interested in contributing to the Kenya Project can donate funds to the ABAC Foundation by check or credit

## Moore Receives Doctorate Degree

Dr. William Moore, an ABAC instructor in the Division of Agriculture and Forest Resources, has just completed his Ph.D. in Forest Resources (Wildlife Biology) this semester at Clemson University. Congratulations, Dr. Moore!

## Speech Students Showcase Talent

Twenty-three of the top speakers from each of the Communications 1000 and 1100 classes at ABAC participated in the recent Lew Akin Speech Showcase. Named for former ABAC professor Lew Akin, the Showcase was established in 1969. Akin served as division chair of Humanities from 1975-1991.

Those who participated were Susan Adkinson from Fort Valley, Jamie Brooks from Cairo, Abby Bullard from Moultrie, Jeci Crane from Midway, Jill Dunn from Tifton, Marshall Faircloth, from Norman Park, and Lisa Frazier from Coffee County.

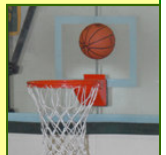
Other participants included Heather Gilman from Sylvester, John Michael Hall from Moultrie, Kim Hooks from North Augusta, SC, Erica Johnson from Alapaha, Tabinda Maqsood from Chula, Terry McStott from Tifton, and Tammy Nhu from Tifton.

Other speakers included Alex Patrick from Henry County, Channing Paulk from Ocilla, Tiffany Salaam from Albany, Takevia Sawyer from Ashburn, Daniel Shippey from Tifton, Zach Tomberlin from Tifton, Mikell Toms from Moultrie, Leslie Williams from Kingsland, and Ashli Wilson from Ocilla.

card. For more information on the trip, go to [www.abac.edu/polisci/kenya.htm](http://www.abac.edu/polisci/kenya.htm).

## Stallions, Fillies Roll Into Holidays

The Golden Stallions and the Golden Fillies rolled up impressive records heading into the holiday break. The Stallions of Coach Todd Sheppard are 11-2 on the season, and the Fillies of Coach Julie Conner are 7-2 overall.



The Fillies next home game is on Jan. 3 at 8 p.m. against Fort McPherson in Gressette Gym. They will also play Santa Fe on Jan. 4 at 8 p.m. at Gressette. The Stallions will not return home until a 7:30 p.m. game against South Georgia Tech on Jan. 17.



## Santa's Helpers

ABAC Turf Students donated over 125 sports balls to Santa's Helpers and the United Way for Tiftarea Children's Christmas 2006.

## Thank You

To my ABAC Family:

*I would like to take this time to thank you all for your cards, phone calls, words of encouragement, and most importantly, prayers during my time of illness. Your thoughtfulness was greatly appreciated and made my recovery a speedy one. I wish you all a happy and safe holiday season.*

*Tonya Hamm*

*I would like to thank all of the ABAC faculty and staff for the cards and kind words that you have sent my way. It is truly a privilege to be surrounded by such a great group of people, especially during difficult times.*

*Heather R. Vaughn*

## Congratulations!



Erin Campbell and Eric Cash are the proud parents of a baby girl born on . Elizabeth Alden Cash weighed 6 lbs, 4 oz. and was 18 3/4" long. Mother, baby, and Dad are all doing great. Congratulations to Erin and Eric!

## Crumley Honored

Robin Crumley, lab assistant for the Division of Nursing and Health Services, recently received the Most Outstanding Graduate Student Award from the School of Nursing at Valdosta State University. She is pursuing a Master of Science in Nursing degree.



## 'Tis the Season!

The ABAC Jazz Choir was just one of the highlights of the Christmas Concert held last week in the Chapel of All Faiths. The celebration culminated with refreshments from President and Mrs. Bridges.

## Celebrating Birthdays

### December

- 18 Thomas Cravey
- 18 Daniel Dell
- 18 Bam Pirkle
- 19 Kris Chason
- 19 Doris Roundtree
- 23 Raymond Luke
- 24 Kip Hall
- 24 Susan Thompson
- 26 Herbert Shippey
- 28 Alton Hudgins
- 29 Nancy Coleman
- 29 Ellen Resta
- 30 Avijit Kar
- 30 Linda Underwood

### January

- 2 Abul Sheik
- 3 Vickie Wilson
- 5 Ray Barber
- 5 Bobby Mathis
- 5 Laura Padgett



## Care & Concern

Dr. Rosemary Johnson, ABAC retiree and former Director of Student Development, has been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. Please keep her in your prayers.

## Note of Sympathy

Bill Massengale, retired ABAC Admissions Director, passed away on Dec. 10. Please keep his family in your thoughts and prayers.

## Positions Open

### ABAC:

- Administrative Assistant, Music & Arts Connection) Closing date Jan. 8 Salary \$16,660 - \$19,000.
- Instructor/Asst Professor of English & Instructor/Asst Professor of Speech Communications Deadline Feb. 15 Salary: \$34,000 - \$38,000 More Info: ABAC Div of Humanities

## Calendar of Events

### Wednesday, January 3

8 p.m.—Basketball: Fillies vs. N. Florida (Gressette Gym)

### Thursday, January 4

Today—New Student Orientation  
8 p.m.—Basketball: Fillies vs. Santa Fe (Gressette Gym)

### Friday, January 5

8 p.m.—Yaw/Wilkinson Wedding Rehearsal (Chapel)

### Saturday, January 6

2 p.m.—Yaw/Wilkinson Wedding (Chapel)

### Sunday, January 7

12:30 p.m.—Day Luncheon (Magnolia Room)

### Monday, January 8

Today—Spring semester classes begin  
8 a.m.—Ga. Dept. of Corrections Class (Cordell Conf. Room C)  
6 p.m.—Basketball: Fillies vs. N. Florida (Gressette Gym)