



# FOCUS

## ABRAHAM BALDWIN AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

VOLUME XLVIV

ISSUE 26

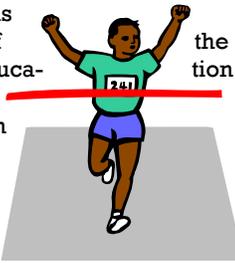
JANUARY 18, 2011

### Fitness 5K Scheduled For This Saturday

A Fitness 5K race and one-mile fun run will be held at ABAC on Saturday. Registration is at 7:45 a.m., and the race begins at 9 a.m. Proceeds benefit community and campus service projects of ABAC Physical Education Majors Club.

To participate in the 5K, there is a registration fee of \$20. Family registration is \$45 for up to a family of four (parents and their children only). High school teams wearing school colors will receive a special group rate if pre-registering as a group. Registration forms are available at [www.abac.edu/club/fhc/abac%205K%20sign%20up%20sheet.pdf](http://www.abac.edu/club/fhc/abac%205K%20sign%20up%20sheet.pdf)

For more information on this event, interested persons can contact ABAC Soccer Coach Jimmy Ballenger at 391-4939 or Joe Wilson at 392-6587.



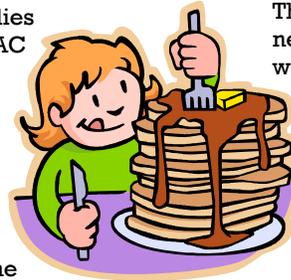
### Don't Forget Stallion Day February 12

### Fillies Annual Pancake Breakfast On Saturday

The Fastpitch Fillies softball team at ABAC will hold its 10th annual Pancake Breakfast at Applebee's on Saturday from 8 - 10 a.m. Take-out orders will also be available. Tickets for the breakfast are \$6 each.

Interested persons can purchase a ticket from Coach Donna Campbell or any Fillies' softball player. Menu items will include pancakes and a choice of beverage.

For more information or to purchase a ticket, contact Campbell at 391-4929 or via e-mail at [dcampbell@abac.edu](mailto:dcampbell@abac.edu).



### Baldwin Players Auditions Start Today

The Baldwin Players at ABAC will offer a new twist on this spring's production with "An Evening of Storytelling" directed by Dr. John Galyean, Associate Professor of Humanities in the School of Liberal Arts.

Auditions will be held tonight and Wednesday at 7 p.m. in Conger Hall 319. All ABAC students and citizens of the area are welcome to try out. Auditioners are asked to perform a brief one to two minute interpretation of a story or portion of a story of their choice.

Production dates for "An Evening of Storytelling" are March 3 - 5 so the rehearsal period will be short and intense. For more information on auditions, contact Galyean at 229-391-4960 or via e-mail at [jgalyean@abac.edu](mailto:jgalyean@abac.edu).

### ABAC Student From Nashville Wins \$3,000 William Zimmer Prize

Matthew Keen, a rural studies major at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, has received the \$3,000 top award for the William Zimmer Prize in Art Criticism. The Nashville native was notified via e-mail that his critique on artist John Kingerlee's "Recent Works" exhibition won him the honor.

Kingerlee is an Irish artist whose mediums include painting, collages and pottery created in the abstract form. His works are influenced by masters such as Dali, Pollock, and Picasso.

The national contest is named after the late art critic William Zimmer. Zimmer was credited with discovering many of the major artists of the 1980s. The competition was open to

graduate, undergraduate, and recently graduated students in 12 cities across the United States.

"I saw Kingerlee's exhibit at the Albany Museum of Art," Keen said. "I was encouraged to see the exhibit and enter the contest by Donna Hatcher, associate professor of art at ABAC."

Keen has taken some art foundation courses through Hatcher in areas including ceramics, drawing, painting, and two-dimensional design.

"He (Keen) is simply brilliant and has the opportunity to choose what he develops," Hatcher said. "He's just tops. There is no telling what he will do with his life."

"Matthew is an excellent student in many ways," adds Dr. Bobbie Robinson, Dean of the School of Liberal Arts. "He has been a role model to other students in the rural studies program."

Keen will receive an associate's degree in art and a bachelor's degree in rural studies with a focus on art and culture at the commencement ceremony in May. He plans to go to graduate school to pursue advanced courses in art and literature.

"I would like to use my education in noteworthy endeavors through an instructive setting and would eventually plan to develop this information to support more altruistic measures," said Keen.

## Ty Ty Student Benefits from New ABAC Technology

Thanks to some new technology from AT&T, Aja Webb from Ty Ty says she is a much better student at ABAC. The non-

traditional student utilized this technology when she took classes in Introduction to Algebra and College Algebra taught by Melanie Partlow, Assistant Professor of Mathematics.



"I was able to go back through the lecture while also going through my notes to see if I missed anything," said Webb. "It gives students who missed a class or are having trouble the opportunity to see the class again. It also serves as a great tool for test reviews, and I love how every class is archived so I can go back to it whenever I need a refresher."

Using funds from a \$48,297 grant from AT&T in 2009, ABAC uses Hello World technology to video the instructors in specific classes and archive all the lectures at a central site so students can go back and watch them at any time during the semester.

Webb, who is also a mother, sometimes has other priorities that have to come before homework. Because of this, the technology helps her focus on what she may have missed and keeps her on track with her studies. She has seen improvements in her grades and would definitely use this format in her other areas of study.

"A lot of students don't know that this is available to them or they hear about it at the beginning of the semester but don't know how to go about using the resources," said Webb. "They really need to take advantage of this and other resources the college offers."

Webb hopes that other faculty members will start implementing Hello World for their classes.

"If the faculty as a whole could use Hello World for all of their classes I think both the students and the faculty would benefit from the technology," said Webb.

## ACTIONS Team Provides International Support



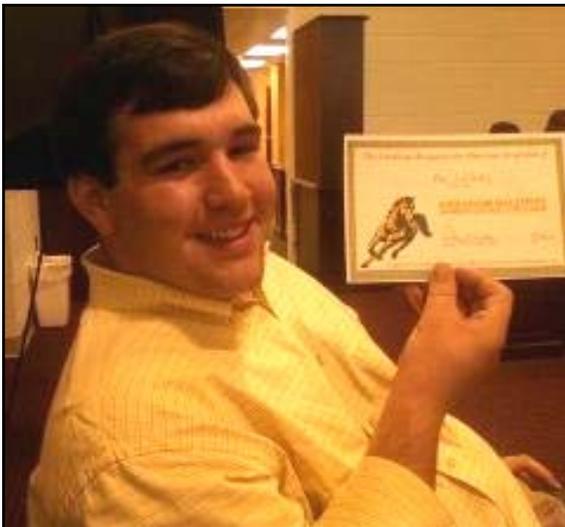
The ABAC ACTIONS team purchased a water filter that will provide a family with clean water for five years. The project is in connection with ERS�A, founded by ABAC alumnus Rodney McDonald ('84).

Rodney McDonald, ABAC alumnus and 2010 Outstanding Business Leader award recipient, founded the NGO Emergency Response Services for Latin America (ERSLA) in 2008. Based in Nicaragua, ERS�A works to create trained and equipped volunteer emergency and preventions system in Latin American countries. In addition to training and equipment projects, ERS�A works on community relationship building with the local volunteer firefighters. McDonald is currently soliciting donations for water filters to be distributed by local volunteer firefighters in rural Nicaragua. The filters are \$50 each and last for five years. The filters provide clean drinking water for families that would otherwise not have access to it.

If any of you are interested in supporting McDonald's project, ERS�A is still gathering tax deductible donations for the 2010 water filter campaign. This is a great opportunity for an ABAC club to get involved in community service internationally.

Should you choose to purchase a filter, you will be sent a photo of the delivered product with your name on it, as well as GPS coordinates of the home to which it was delivered.

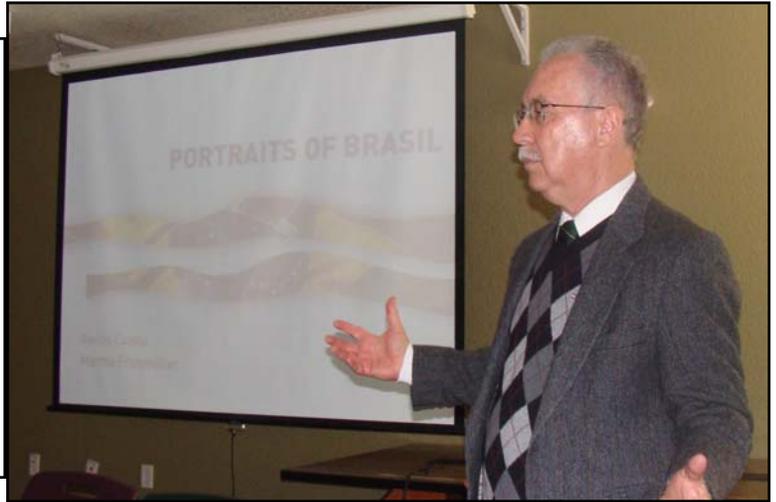
Go to [www.ersla.org](http://www.ersla.org) and click the "Donate Now" button to pay through PayPal. For more information contact McDonald via email at [rodney.mc@ersla.org](mailto:rodney.mc@ersla.org).



ABAC Offers On the Spot Admissions for Students Mac Leskosky from Stratford Academy in Macon proudly shows off his acceptance certificate. The Enrollment Services Office provides on the spot admission decisions for campus visitors who have submitted all necessary documents needed in order to make an admissions decision.

## Fulbright Scholar Brings Brazil To ABAC

Dr. Aercio Cunha, a visiting Fulbright Scholar from Brazil, lectured on Brazil to students at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College on Wednesday at ABAC Lakeside. Cunha, who is teaching classes in the School of Business Administration at ABAC this year, talked about the history, culture, customs, food, and music of the country. His wife, Maria, cooked some Brazilian delicacies to add to the event.



## Cofer To Speak Jan. 24

Rebecca Cofer will be the next speaker in the Center for Teaching and Learning Colloquium Series from 4-5 p.m. in Carlton 202 on Jan. 24. She will present "10 Must Have Tips for the New (And Not-so-New) Advisor."

The Colloquium Series provides faculty and staff opportunities to share their expertise with others on campus. This is an excellent chance for free professional development. For future dates, please visit: [www.abac.edu/ctl/ColloquiumSeries.cfm](http://www.abac.edu/ctl/ColloquiumSeries.cfm)



## Myers Receives Top Award From VSU Graduate Program

Janet Myers, ABAC instructor in the School of Nursing and Health Sciences, was the recipient of the Valdosta State University (VSU) College of Nursing, Outstanding Master of Science in Nursing Graduate Student Award for fall 2010. Myers was recognized for her superior academic achievement, professional leadership and strong ethical practice. She was awarded her MSN degree during the VSU Graduate School's commencement ceremony on Dec. 10, 2010. Please join the School of Nursing and Health Sciences as we congratulate Janet on her accomplishments. Dr. Nancy Redfern Vance (left), Academic Advisor, presents Myers with the award.

## McCrary To Become Bursar At VSU

Debra McCrary has accepted the Bursar position at Valdosta State University. Her last day at ABAC will be on Jan. 28. She joined the staff here in 2000. She will be greatly missed, and we wish her well.

## ABAC Birthdays

- 18 Mary Washington
- 20 JoAnn Brannen
- 20 Paul Willis
- 21 Don Allen

## ABAC Family

Dr. Shelley Fandel presented her research study on "The Impact of Teacher Training and Professional Development on Novice Teachers' Beliefs about Parental Involvement" at the Georgia Education Research Association (GERA) Conference in Savannah on Oct. 22-23. Students from Donna Sledge's CPR and First Aid class presented basic first aid and CPR Techniques to Eighth Street Middle School students on Nov. 3. ESMS students rotated through all stations and learned valuable lifesaving techniques. Students in Gene Fandel's Public Safety and Government class, as well as students from the physical education classes attended the presentation.

President David Bridges and Ashley Williamson spoke at the Ocala Lions Club Jan. 13.

Dr. Tim Marshall and Donna Webb recruited prospective students and networked with supporters at the National Farm Bureau convention in Atlanta Jan. 8-10.