Stallion Day Brought Almost 400 Visitors to ABAC Saturday

Stallion Day brought about 400 prospective students and family members to campus this weekend. Participants braved the cold for tours from the ABAC Ambassadors, visited the Stallion Marketplace in Gressette Gym and attended many information sessions. Thanks to everyone that participated in making the event a success!

Fillies Pancake Breakfast
Feb 25 at Applebee’s

Support the ABAC fillies softball team at their annual Pancake Breakfast at Applebee’s. Contact Donna Campbell or a softball player for tickets. Breakfast consists of pancakes, sausage, and a variety of drinks. The cost is $6.00 per ticket..

Science Fair Friday at ABAC

The School of Science and Mathematics at ABAC will host the Regional Science and Engineering Fair on Friday in Thrash Gym.

Students in grades 6-12 who have participated in a local science fair in their county or school and have been chosen to participate at the regional level will be involved. Projects will be entered in one of 16 different classifications such as behavioral and social sciences, physics and astronomy, animal sciences, plant sciences, and chemistry.

Displays will be available for viewing by the public from 3 – 4 p.m. The awards ceremony will be held at 3:30 p.m. in Howard Auditorium. Awards will be given to the top two finishers in both the junior and senior divisions.

For more information, interested persons can contact Dr. Ray Barber, Dean of the ABAC School of Science and Mathematics, at 391-5100.
Events Abound for Black History Month at ABAC

Black History Month events at ABAC are in full swing and the college will offer a variety of activities throughout the month. Events will include a number of speakers and activities for student participation. All events are free to ABAC students, but some require ABAC ID.

Tonight an open dialogue session will be held at 7 p.m. in the Howard Auditorium. Dr. Scott Butler will speak on “Sex in the College Years” at 8 p.m. on Wednesday in Bowen Hall, Room 100 and a Soul Food Extravaganza will take place in the Donaldson Dining Hall, featuring music by Intune.

Students can take part in the open dialogue session focusing on the Black Greek Panel on Feb. 20 at 7 p.m. in Howard Auditorium and on Feb. 21 attend Cathy Robinson-Pickett’s lecture on AIDS at 7 p.m. in Bowen Hall, Room 100. A Unity Social will take place on Feb. 22 from 9 a.m. – noon in the Lakeside Grand Lobby prior to the Martin Luther King Jr. Remembrance at noon in the Chapel of All Faiths. Jonathan Blanchard will take students on a ‘Musical Journey through History’, celebrating African-American music from its inception on Feb. 23 at 9 p.m. in the Chapel of All Faiths.

The week will conclude with the Feb. 27 Black History Celebration at 7 p.m. in Howard Auditorium followed by an Ol’Skool Talent Show on Feb. 29 at 8 p.m. in Howard Auditorium. Any song used during a performance must be recorded before 1999. Contact Jazmin Thomas at jthomas24@stallions.abac.edu for more information on the talent show.

For more information on any of these events, contact Dean of Students Bernice Hughes at bhughes@abac.edu.

ABAC To Induct 1962 Class into Golden Alumni

Graduates of the 1962 class of ABAC will be inducted as members of the Golden Alumni during the ABAC Awards and Recognition program on March 3 as a part of the Celebrate ABAC Weekend.

Each classmate will be recognized with a gift honoring their induction into the Golden Alumni. In addition, Class of 1962 members may elect to purchase a personalized medallion, which will also be presented at the ceremony.

This awards ceremony will take place from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on March 3 at the Georgia Museum of Agriculture and Historic Village. A delightful brunch prepared by ABAC’s executive chef and entertainment provided by talented students of the ABAC Music Program will be a part of the event. A private preview of the Museum’s Gallery will be offered to those attending the awards and recognition program just prior to the brunch. Advance tickets are required, and are available for $25 if purchased by February 17. Tickets purchased after February 17 will be $35 each. All registrations must be received by the ABAC Alumni Office by February 24. This is a catered event and no tickets will be sold at the door.

To purchase tickets for this event, Class of 1962 members and their families are urged to go to www.abac.edu/celebrateabac. Tickets are also available for purchase by calling the ABAC Alumni Office at (229) 391-4895.

Rogers Signs With ABAC Golf Team

Terrell Academy golfer Chris Rogers, front row, center, signs with ABAC on Friday. He is joined by, front row, from left, mother Beth and father David, as well as back row, from left, Terrell Academy Athletic Director Keith Jones, ABAC golf coach Herb Hendrix and Terrell golf coach Rundy Foster. When asked by the Albany Herald of what led to his decision to attend ABAC Rogers said, “I just really liked the coach, the players and the school. They were very hospitable to me when I visited and made me feel at home. Plus, going from a town the size of (Dawson) to one like Tifton is a nice step up — a little bit bigger, but not too big.” Rogers plans to major in physical therapy.
Five students at ABAC have been selected to participate in the Near Peer Service Learning Program, which allows ABAC students to serve as mentors to Colquitt County High School (CCHS) students.

The five ABAC students include Carrie Carnes, an early childhood education major; Candace Jackson, a nursing major; Hannah Saunders, a pharmacy major; Natalie Sconiers, dentistry major; and Tevores Sumlin, a middle grades education major. All the peer tutors are from Colquitt County.

“The hope is that high school students will be more receptive to hearing about the process of applying for college and the transition to college from peers closer to their own age,” said Dr. Darby Sewell, Dean of the ABAC School of Human Sciences and Project Director of the Near Peer program. “ABAC completed a Near Peer project at Tift County High School last fall that was successful and resulted in students applying and being accepted to college. We have the same expectation for CCHS.”

ABAC and CCHS will work together on the Near Peer project from January to May. The ABAC students will meet with students every Thursday at the high school during the advisory period. During this time students will focus on topics including how to select a college, expectations for college course work, and important information on applications and financial aid. The class will involve the Near Peer mentors of ABAC, a group of 11th grade CCHS students, CCHS counselor Ms. Cathy Nobles, and Executive Director of ABAC on the Square and Early Admission Programs Dr. Gail Dillard.

The ABAC students will take an educational service learning class during the spring semester. In the class, the mentors will become well versed with the application and financial aid processes, along with other important aspects of gaining entrance into college so they can help CCHS students with their applications.

Funding for the Near Peer program is provided through Georgia’s College Access Challenge Grant funded by the U.S. Department of Education. The University System of Georgia directs this statewide grant in collaboration with the Governor’s Office and Alliance of Education Agency Heads.

For more information on the Near Peer Service learning program, interested persons can contact Dillard at (229) 891-7235 or via e-mail at gdillard@abac.edu.
Celebrate Georgia Arbor Day Friday at ABAC
You are cordially invited to attend a tree planting ceremony on Friday at noon between the Ag Sciences and Yow Buildings as the campus celebrates Georgia Arbor Day. During the ceremony we will plant a Nuttall Oak, which was selected as Georgia’s Gold Medal Tree winner species for 2011.

History Made in Gressette Saturday Night
ABAC hosted the GISA basketball tournament last week, where Gordy Gruhl captured his 1000th career win Saturday night. Gruhl’s Deerfield Windsor Knights beat Sherwood, 55-31, for the Region 3-AAA title. Over 500 people came to the ABAC campus for the tournament games.

ABAC Birthdays
15  Christina Dent
18  Doug Waid
19  Sherin Nixon

ABAC Bass Team Takes First Place in Fishing Tourney
The ABAC Bass Fishing Team captured a first place win at Logan Martin Lake, AL. Matt O’Dillon (2nd from the right) and Jake Holloway (far right) are pictured with their trophy. ABAC beat Young Harris, which placed second and third place went to Georgia College and State University.

“The Tea For Three” Exhibit Open at the Georgia Museum of Agriculture and Historic Village
The “Tea For Three” exhibit will remain open until March 21. Exhibit hours are 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

The FOCUS is a weekly electronic publication produced by the ABAC Public Relations Office. Please submit information by Thursday at noon to Ashley Mock at amock@abac.edu for inclusion in the next FOCUS.