Sporting Events @ Home This Week

Last week was a great week for ABAC Sports! As the Spring season begins to wrap up, make sure you come out and support the teams as they play at home.

Baseball: Friday @ 4 p.m. against West GA Tech and a double header Saturday beginning @ 1 p.m.

Softball: Saturday @ 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. against Darton College

Tennis: Fillies play today @ 2:30 p.m. against Albany State University and Wednesday @ 2:30 p.m. against Coastal Georgia

Bullfighting Tune on Tap for Band Concert Tues.

From a bullfighting tune to a beautiful ballad, the spring concert on Tuesday by the concert band at ABAC will feature something for everyone. Band Director Johnny Folsom said the event begins at 7 p.m. in Howard Auditorium. The concert is free of charge and open to the public.

Composer Ralph Ford’s “March: The Lion’s Gate”, a work that depicts the bridge that spans the bay at Vancouver, British Columbia, will open the concert followed by Claude T. Smith’s classic band work “Incidental Suite”.

The ABAC Band will welcome Miki Hutchinson as guest conductor for the evening. Hutchinson is the director of the Worth County High School Band. She will conduct Henry Fillmore’s march, “His Honor”.

The ABAC Concert Band will also perform the quintessential Spanish bullfighting song “La Virgen de la Macereña” featuring solos by three student musicians. The program continues with “Seal Lullaby”, a beautiful ballad by composer Eric Whitacre and concludes with Leroy Anderson's Irish work, “The Rakes of Mallow”.

Seating is limited for this event so concert-goers are encouraged to arrive early. For more information on this concert, interested persons can contact Folsom at (229) 391-4944.

Ag Awareness Day Wednesday in Meadows

The Second Annual ABAC Agriculture Awareness Day will be held on Wednesday from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the ABAC Meadows. This event is sponsored by the ABAC Cattlemen’s Association along with the efforts of clubs and organizations within the School of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Agricultural commodities will have display booths with educational materials on hand, along with food samples, explaining the role each commodity plays in supplying the world’s food. On display will be the two ABAC tractors with new implements and a mobile dairy milking cow demonstration trailer. Signs will also be displayed across the campus filled with facts about agriculture.

The event will also include prizes and a variety of food that participants can taste including beef jerky, pork sliders, peanuts, and popcorn.

For more information on the ABAC Agriculture Awareness Day, interested persons can contact Dr. Mary Ellen Hicks, professor of animal science, at (229) 391-4802 or at mhicks@abac.edu.

Deadline for the Donaldson Award is Friday! Don't forget to encourage an outstanding student to apply. This award recognizes students who have distinguished themselves through scholarship, leadership and citizenship.

Golf Team Hosts Tournament

Support the ABAC Golf Team as they host the Regional /State Tournament at the Golf Club of South GA (Sunsweet Hills) in Tifton this week. T-times for 18 holes begin at 8 a.m. Monday and Tuesday. The course will open at 7 a.m. Contact Chesley Gunn at 229-386-4653 for more information.
Dr. Douglas Jurs, assistant professor of piano and music theory, will perform in his first faculty recital at ABAC on Thursday at 7 p.m. in Howard Auditorium. This performance is free of charge and open to the public. Jurs will perform on piano three selections from composers Edvard Grieg, Sergei Prokofiev, and Franz Schubert. The first piece will feature Grieg’s “Notturno, Op. 54, no. 4”. Jurs will follow with Prokofiev’s “Sonata No. 7 in B-flat Major, Op. 83”, which includes Allegro inquieto, Andante caloroso, and Precipitato. The final selection will be Schubert’s “Sonata in A Major, D. 959” which includes Allegro, Andantino, Scherzo-Trio, and Rondo-Allegretto.

Jurs was appointed assistant professor of piano and music theory at ABAC in 2012, having previously served on the piano faculties at the University of Wisconsin – Madison and Edgewood College. He has performed solo and collaborative recitals throughout the U.S. and abroad and at festivals such as the Aspen Music Festival and Centre d’Arts Orford in Quebec. He won first prize at the 2004 Lee Biennial Piano Competition and was the winner of the University of Wisconsin Beethoven Competition in 2010.

He is the founder and artistic director of the Blue Horse Music Festival in Woodstock, Vt., a biannual winter/summer concert series that features acclaimed musicians performing in the intimate Blue Horse Inn music parlor. A committed teacher, Jurs has over 10 years of private piano teaching experience. His pre-college students have won competitions at the local, state and national levels. In past summers, he has worked as an artist teacher at Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp in Michigan.

As a long-time advocate for arts outreach, he has performed in correctional facilities, psychiatric hospitals and as a past associate artist with Cleveland Opera in over 100 public schools throughout Ohio. He was one of the first teachers to work with the University of Wisconsin Piano Pioneers program, an initiative that brings affordable music lessons to low-income students.

Jurs holds music degrees from the University of Wisconsin, Cleveland Institute of Music, and Indiana University’s Jacobs School of Music, where he was a Friends of Music Scholar, double major in piano and English literature, and rider for the Cutters cycling team. He lives in Tifton with his wife, Claire, a singer, choir director, and ABAC adjunct faculty member, and son Silas.

For more information on this concert, interested persons can contact ABAC’s music department at (229) 391-4945.

Piano Faculty Recital Thursday @ 7 p.m.

ABAC’s Wildlife Society to Host “Beast Feast” April 20

The ABAC Wildlife Society is hosting their first “Beast Feast” on April 20 at 6 p.m. at the Georgia Museum of Agriculture in the East & West Conference Room. The event is a fundraiser for the organization. The money raised will go towards expenses for natural resource management activities on campus and travel to professional meetings and conclave. The dinner will be comprised of a variety of game and non-game species and run the gamut from amphibians, to birds, to a few mystery meat delicacies for the adventurous patrons. The evening will also consist of door prizes and a raffle for items such as wildlife artwork, a shotgun and more. Tickets can be purchased in advance for $10 or at the door for $13 and children under the age of ten can attend free of charge. Due to limited space, it is recommended that tickets are purchased prior to the event. Contact Dr. William Moore (wmoore@abac.edu), Dr. Jason Scott (jscott@abac.edu), or Dr. Doug Waid (dwaid@abac.edu) in the Forest Resources Department for more information and to purchase tickets.
ABAC Birthdays
10 Bernice Hughes
10 Diantha Ellis
11 Yvonne Smith
11 Austin Lawton
13 Marvin Holtz
14 Elizabeth Wilcox
14 Donna Campbell

Welcome Willis To ABAC
ABAC is pleased to announce that Micah Willis was hired as an Instructor in the School of Nursing and Health Sciences and the Coordinator of the Health Center. Willis can be reached at micahwillis@abac.edu

Relay for Life Yard Sale Saturday from 7 a.m. Until 1 p.m. in Nickelodeon
The Annual Relay for Life Yard Sale is Saturday so while cleaning out those closets at home remember to bring the things you don’t want and donate them to the sale! Set-up will be in the Nickelodeon. Tables are $10 per table or 3 for $25. You pay the fee and you keep your money that you make or just donate items for the sale. Set-up on Friday from 3-8 p.m. with volunteer help. The sale is from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday. Contact bhughes@abac.edu

Turnin’ & Burnin’ Barrel Race
The brothers of Alpha Gamma Rho brought many people to campus with their Turnin’ & Burnin’ Barrel Race fundraiser on Sunday. Ninety-six riders competed in the barrel race for the jackpot prize and 19 riders competed in poles.

Education Majors Perform Child Abuse Prevention Puppet Show
ABAC Education majors prepare to deliver the Child Abuse Prevention puppet show to all 3rd graders in Tift County. April is Child Abuse Awareness month. The students will be performing this educational show at five elementary schools in town throughout the month of April.

The FOCUS is an 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.

NAMA Team Presentation Tuesday @ 6 p.m.
ABAC’s National Agri-Marketing Association (NAMA) Team will be headed to Kansas City for the National Agri-Marketing Student Competition April 15-19. As preparation for the competition the 2013 NAMA Teams will present the marketing plan for Bovi-HydrowPLUS on Tuesday at 6 p.m. in Ag. Science Room 139. Come support the team and grill them with questions about the product, market and plan. This is a learning opportunity for the students and will help to ensure they are prepared for their presentation in Kansas City.

Fun at Folklife Festival Saturday
The Georgia Museum of Agriculture and Historic Village had over 700 visitors Saturday at the Folklife Festival. Visitors could choose between a flower show, a quilt show, an exhibit in the Museum Gallery featuring quilt squares representing countries in the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta, square dancing, pony rides, sheep shearing, train rides, and the firing of the turpentine still.

ASSETS Scholar Seminar Series Thursday @ 4 p.m.
Bill Carreira, retired Senior Chief Electronics Technician Submarines ETCS(SS) will be hosting a seminar on Basic Submarine Theory and Operations Thursday at 4 p.m. in Health Sciences room 237. This seminar is sponsored by the National Science Foundation S-STEM Program and hosted by the School of Science and Mathematics.

Carreira, is currently the Information Technology Director for the City of Kingsland, GA and a Captain Firefighter/Paramedic Kingsland Fire Rescue. He is a retired Senior Chief Electronics Technician Submarines ETCS (SS). He joined the U.S. Navy while still in high school in 1980 in the delayed entry program and went on active duty in September 1981. He served on the USS Daniel Webster SSBN 626 Gold from 1983 to 1987, USS Maryland SSBN 738 Blue from 1990 to 1994, and the USS Rhode Island SSBN 740 Gold from 1997 to 2002 when he retired. Carreira is from Tiverton, RI so to serve on his namesake boat was a great way to retire. The last day of his last patrol was Sept 11, 2001.

Tifton/Tift County Relay for Life will be held on Friday, April 26 from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. at E.B. Hamilton. Come out and support the cause!