



FOCUS

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Chapman Wins Top Academic Award at Honors Day

David L. "Junior" Chapman, an agricultural education major from Jasper, was named the top academic student at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College at Wednesday's Honors Day ceremony.

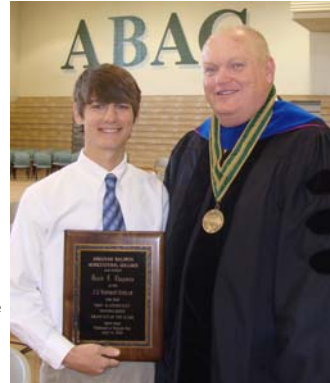
Chapman received the J. G. Woodroof Scholar Award, given annually to the student who is recognized in a proclamation by the Georgia General Assembly. Woodroof was president of ABAC from 1933-34. Each of the 35 units of the University System of Georgia selects a top student as the Academic Recognition Day Student of the Year.

Chapman served as the Georgia State FFA President during his senior year of high school. At ABAC, he has been a member of the FFA organization, served as freshman class president and chairman of the Student Affairs Committee for the Student Gov-

ernment Association (SGA), tutored with the Student Success Center, and was named Mr. ABAC 2009.

Academically, Chapman made the Dean's List in the fall of 2008 and the President's List in the fall and spring of 2009. He also earned the Divisional Discipline award in agricultural education during the Honors Day ceremony. He is currently running for a national FFA officer's position.

Also during the ceremony, Awards of Distinction were presented to the students with the greatest overall positive impact in each school of study, both academically and through college ser-



vice.

Award of Distinction winners for each school included School of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Arthur Neal Torley, a turfgrass and golf course management major from Orange Park, FL; School of Business, Anna E. Hancock, a business administration major from Ocilla; School of Human Sciences, Haley L.

Janousek, a family and consumer science major from Tifton; School of Nursing and Health Sciences, Whitney L. Conner, a nursing major from Abbeville; School of Science and Mathematics, Andrew N. Kicklighter, a biology major from Sycamore; and School of Liberal Arts, Jessica M. Gandy, a rural studies major from Adel.

George Scott Day Festivities Coming Up On Thursday

George Scott Day, an annual Celebration of the Arts, and the 32nd annual ABAC Jazz Festival will take place on Thursday on the campus of ABAC.

The event, sponsored by the ABAC School of Liberal Arts and the ABAC music program, is held each year as a tribute to George Scott, an associate professor of English at ABAC, who passed away in 1994.

The George Scott Day festivities will feature performances by high school jazz bands from throughout Georgia from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. in an area near ABAC's Donaldson Dining Hall. All these performances are free of charge to ABAC students and the public.

Screven County kicks off the day at 10 a.m. followed by Tift County at 10:30 a.m., Northside (Warner Robins) at 11 a.m., Colquitt County at 11:30 a.m., Val-



ABAC Jazz Ensemble

dosta at noon, Thomas County Central at 12:30 p.m., Lanier County at 1 p.m., Savannah County Day at 1:30 p.m., Henry County at 2 p.m., Peach County at 2:30

p.m., Riverdale at 3 p.m., Crisp County at 3:30 p.m.; and Lowndes at 4 p.m.

In addition to the jazz band performances, there will be giveaways, spotlights on club activities, art displays, and great food. Bring your own lunch or purchase one from Sodexo dining services. In the event of rain, the Jazz Festival will take place in the Donaldson Dining Hall.

Other events will kick off in the Music Building at 10 a.m. with the Pegasus awards, poetry readings, and art exhibit. Short story and poetry readings by ABAC faculty and staff will also be

held in the same location from 11:30 a.m. - noon. An ABAC art exhibit will be in The Meadows next to the dining hall from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m.

To culminate the Jazz Festival, a special Arts and Entertainment Series performance by the ABAC Jazz Ensemble with guest jazz artists Michael Philip Mossman, trumpet; Kenyon Carter, tenor saxophone; and Andrew Hill on trombone will take place in Howard Auditorium at 7 p.m.

Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for students to this event. ABAC students will be admitted free. For additional information, call the ABAC music program office at (229) 391-4945.

In addition to the annual George Scott Day, the Tifton-Tift County Chamber of Commerce will hold its monthly meeting on the Subconnection patio from noon-1 p.m. on Thursday.

Make sure you give all of our visitors a warm ABAC welcome!

Top Faculty, Staff, Administrator, and Advisor Honored at ABAC

The top faculty member, staff member, administrator, and academic advisor for the 2009-2010 academic year were recognized during Wednesday's Honors Day ceremony at ABAC.

Melanie Partlow, Assistant Professor of Mathematics, received the W. Bruce and Rosalyn Ray Donaldson Award for Teaching Excellence. Judy Perry, Senior Administrative Assistant for the School of Agriculture and Natural Resources, was honored with the Roy R. Jackson, Sr., Award for Staff Excellence. Dr. Chrystle Ross, Chief Information Officer, received the E. Lanier Carson Leadership Award for administrators, and Dr. Shelley Fandel, Instructor of Education, received the W. Bruce and Rosalyn Ray Donaldson Excellence in Advising Award.

Partlow earned her bachelor's degree in mathematics from Radford University and her master's degree in mathematics from the University of West Florida. During her time at ABAC, she has taught summer review courses for pre-algebra and algebra; presented seminars on study skills, test anxiety, and more; developed and instructed Math Gone Wild sessions; and served as seminar developer and speaker for the Adult College Entry (ACE) program. She also serves as the Quality Enhance-

ment Plan coordinator, working to improve student success in all math classes. Partlow joined the ABAC faculty in 1998. She received a plaque and a check for \$2,500.

Perry received her A.S. degree from ABAC in Business Administration. She was hired at ABAC in 1985 as a payroll clerk. She moved to the fiscal affairs office in 1988 as a senior accounting assistant, and then to Agriculture and Forest Resources in her present position in 2006. She is an active participant in the Baldwin Woman's Club, the Tift County Saddle Club, 4-H mentors, and FFA Award sponsors. She received a plaque and a check for \$1,250.

Ross earned her bachelor's and master's degrees in Business Administration from Valdosta State University. She then went on to attain a doctorate from Florida State University in Higher Education. At ABAC, she has climbed the ranks from temporary instructor in 1981 to her current position, which she assumed in 2000. She has also served as co-advisor for the ABAC Cheerleaders



Award winners at Wednesday's ABAC Honors Day ceremony included (l-r): Judy Perry, Dr. Shelley Fandel, Melanie Partlow, and Dr. Chrystle Ross.

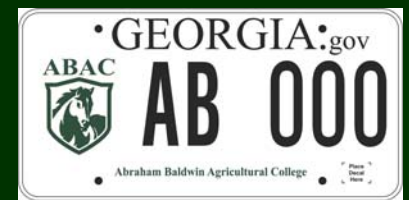
and received the Student Government Association President's Award in 2007. She is an active member in the community as well, participating in the Tift County

Recreation Department and Love Affair events annually through the Tifton Optimist Club. She received a plaque and a check for \$1,250.

Fandel obtained her associate's degree in Political Science from ABAC, a bachelor's degree in History from Georgia Southwestern State University, her master's degree in History from Valdosta State University, and has recently completed coursework for her Ed.D. in Education from Walden University. She joined the ABAC faculty in 2007. She currently serves as Instructor of Education in the School of Human Sciences. She received a plaque and a check for \$1,250.

Show Your ABAC Pride!

Sign up today for your ABAC License Plate. For more information visit the tag website at ww.abac.edu/tag. We must have 500 applicants by July 31!



Presidential Scholarships Awarded To Six Students at Honors Day

Six Presidential Scholarships were awarded to Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College students during Wednesday's Honors Day ceremony. The awards were based on a number of criteria such as leadership ability, character, academic excellence, and financial need. Recipients of the Presidential Scholars scholarships from the ABAC Foundation for a third year of study were Colton Farrow, an animal science major from Pitts; Jessica Kalina, a pre-veterinary medicine major from Williamson; and Tanner Newhouse, a rural studies major from Bonaire. Recipients of the Presidential Scholars scholarships from the ABAC Foundation for a second year of study were Andrea Sweeney, an animal science major from Eatonton; Michael Arena, a pre-pharmacy major from Fitzgerald; and Kayla Davenport, a business administration major from Hazlehurst.





Schmeisser Receives SGA Impact Award

Hans Schmeisser, Instructor of Political Science, was named the Impact Award winner by the Student Government Association at the annual Leadership Banquet Wednesday. The Impact Award is given to the ABAC employee who has made the most significant impact on the students during the year.



McGriff Presented President's Award

SGA President Katie Andrews awarded Van McGriff, administrative assistant to the VP of Student Affairs, the President's Award for the countless hours she devotes to assisting SGA members.

Agri-Business Named Club of the Year At Student Leadership Banquet

The Agri-Business Club was named 2009-2010 Club of the Year Wednesday at the Leadership Banquet. Club of the Year is awarded to the club that participates in the most community service, campus activities and presents the most creative scrapbook of the year's events. The Agri-Business club sponsored the annual Ms. ABAC pageant this year as well as various career connection workshops to prepare students for the job search process after graduation. The group leaves this week to compete in Kansas City to present the "Georgia Sweet Potato" at the National Agri-Marketing Association's annual conference. Dustin Bass is the advisor.



Stallion Day Brings Crowd To ABAC

One hundred and thirty-five high school juniors and seniors and 165 guests visited the ABAC campus Saturday. The day was a great success thanks to the assistance of faculty, staff, and students from every part of the campus. Student Life and Housing gave away two housing waivers to high school seniors during lunch. The winners were Austin Thomas from Alpharetta and Kelly Polk from Leesburg. Enrollment Services awarded two application fee waivers, and those winners were Justin Grayson from Tampa, Fla., and Taylor Martin from Stone Mountain. Thanks to everyone who made the day a success!

Campus Newspaper Selects ABAC Pacesetters

Eleven Pacesetter awards and one Superior Pacesetter award from the campus newspaper's editorial board and staff were presented at the recent Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College Student Leadership Banquet.

The institution's award-winning student newspaper, "The Stallion," extends Pacesetter recognition annually to those who have worked for ABAC through their actions and exemplary service. Pacesetters are chosen from the student body, the administration, the faculty, and the staff who, through their hard work, talent, and devotion, embody the spirit of the college.

A Superior Pacesetter Award was presented to **Sara Ervin**, a Rural Studies major from Commerce. Superior Pacesetters are presented to those persons who have received a Pacesetter in the past.



Pacesetter award winners at ABAC's Student Leadership Banquet included (front, l-r): Hans Schmeisser, Rebecca Cofer, Ramonda Holton, and Randi Walden. (back, l-r) Don Coates, Jordan Cofer, Erlencia Mumphrey. James Galt-Brown, and Cain Thurmond. Not pictured: Olga Contreras-Martinez, David Hall and Sara Ervin.

This year's faculty and staff Pacesetter recipients included **Don Coates**, Associate Professor of Music; **Jordan Cofer**, Assistant Professor of English; **James Galt-Brown**, Associate Professor of History; **Hans Schmeisser**, Instructor of Political Science; **Rebecca Cofer**,

Student Development Specialist; **Ramonda Holton**, Records Coordinator for Enrollment Services; and **Olga Contreras-Martinez**, Coordinator for the High School Equivalency Program.

Student Pacesetter award recipients included **Cain Thurmond**, an agricultural business and agricultural economics major from Jefferson; **Randi Walden**, an agriculture business major from Stockbridge; **Erlencia Mumphrey**, a music major from Albany, and **David Hall**, an English major from Killeen, Texas.



ABAC Sweeps State Tennis Titles

Coach Alan Kramer's Fillies and Stallions made it a clean sweep on Saturday at the NJCAA Region XVII tennis championships at the Red Hill Athletics Center. The Fillies won the women's title for the 17th consecutive year with 16 points followed by Georgia Perimeter (GPC) with nine, and Young Harris with two. The Stallions won the men's crown with 18 points followed by Young Harris with six, and GPC with one. ABAC's Rasid Winklaar was the MVP for the men, and Mary Claire Slade from GPC was the MVP for the women. Kramer was named Coach of the Year for the men and women.

Fillies Final Home Game Tuesday; Golfers To Albany

Coach Donna Campbell's softball team will play its final home game on Tuesday with a 3 p.m. twin-bill against Georgia Military. Coach Herb Hendrix and the ABAC golf team will travel to Albany Thursday for the start of the NJCAA Region XVII golf tournament.

ABAC Pool Now Open

The ABAC swimming pool is now open. Pool hours are from 3-7 p.m. Monday through Thursday and from 1-6 p.m. Friday through Sunday. The pool will remain open through Sept. 30.

ABAC employees and their immediate families who live in the house with them can get free pool passes from Gay Ann Hodge in the Student Financial Services Office on the second floor of the J. Lamar Branch Student Center. These passes must be presented each time you or your family members visit the pool.

If you have visitors, you can buy a pass for them for \$4 per visit per person. For more information on the pool regulations, visit www.abac.edu/PE/pool/. Enjoy the pool this summer!



ABAC Birthdays

- 19 Maggie Martin
- 22 Kim Scarborough
- 23 Rolando Martinez

ABAC Family

Dr. Shelley Fandel gave a presentation at the National On-Course Convention in Raleigh, N.C., on April 9-10. It was titled "Reflective Thinking as an Integral Part of Teaching."

The FOCUS is a weekly electronic publication produced by the ABAC Public Relations Office.

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Please submit any information to Ashley Williamson at awilliamson@abac.edu by **Thursday at noon** for inclusion in the next FOCUS.