



# FOCUS

## ABRAHAM BALDWIN AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

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### ABAC Concert Band Performing Tuesday at 7 p.m. in Howard

The Concert Band at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, under the leadership of Director of Bands Woody Leonard, will present an evening of music on Tuesday at 7 p.m. in Howard Auditorium on the campus of ABAC. This concert is open to the public at no charge.

Jesse Walker, a veteran band leader with over 40 years of middle, high school, and college teaching experience in South Georgia, and currently serving as director of music education at Albany State University, will serve as guest conductor.

The program begins with the "Star Spangled Banner", adapted by Henry



shadowing even the likes of "Stars and Stripes Forever". Walker will conduct this classic selection. Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky's, "Cossak Dance", a new transcription for

band by Colonel John R. Bourgeois (ret.), is drawn from "The Slippers", the only comic opera ever written by Tchaikovsky. The concert will close with "Tranzendental Danse of Joi", a musical invention written for wind orchestra by James Bonney and featuring Kwame Paige from Valdosta on alto saxophone.

For more information, contact Leonard at (229) 391-4944.

Fillmore for band in 1934. Immediately following will be "Flourish for Glorious John", a fanfare written by Ralph Vaughan Williams for concert band in 1957. "Fanfares and Alleluias", written by noted contemporary composer James Barnes, will follow.

Next to be performed is one of John Philip Sousa's most famous marches, "Semper Fidelis." This march was considered by Sousa to be his best, over-

### OITS Works All Night To Combat Computer Glitch

ABAC fell prey to a nationwide computer virus on Wednesday that infected almost all of the 700 computers on the campus. The virus was caused by a bad update file from the McAfee anti-virus program, which is installed on all ABAC computers.

Dr. Chrystle Ross, Chief Information Officer at ABAC, said the virus inaccurately identified a core Windows file as infected, secluded it, and then shut down the computers, making them totally inoperable.

"Everyone with Windows XP who has their system set up to automatically update through McAfee had a computer that was infected," Ross said. "Within hours, McAfee had removed the faulty update file."

The ABAC Office of Information Technology and Services (OITS) began working immediately to remedy the problem. Teams of two to three people

fanned out across the campus to begin fixing the infected systems. The first priority was employee computers, specifically in the Office of Enrollment Services.

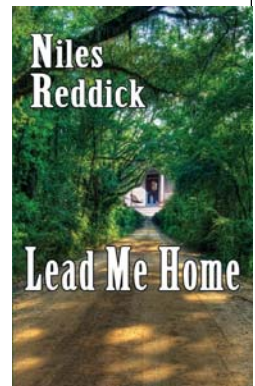


The team consisted of Ross, Mike Williams, Howard McCrary, Ernest Kelly, Jeremy Dye, Cindy Barber, Dr. Amy Willis, and Todd Daunhauer. Two spouses actually assisted and played a vital role in helping the OITS staff. The last group left at 3:30 a.m. Thursday morning. By the end of the long night, about 90 per cent of the ABAC employee systems were up and functioning.

"I applaud the OITS team for their dedication to the college and their help with this problem," Ross said. "I would also like to thank everyone on campus for their quick response in shutting down their systems so that we could repair them efficiently."

### Reddick Reading From New Novel Thursday at 5 p.m.

Please join the "Pegasus" and the English Reading Group for a literary reading by Vice President for Academic Affairs Niles Reddick on Thursday. He will be reading from his new novel. "Lead Me Home" and signing copies on Thursday at 5 p.m. in Conger 319. Copies of his books will be available for purchase. Light refreshments will be served.





### New President and Vice President of SGA Elected

Jazmin Thomas and Stephen Aaron have been elected as the new president and vice president of the Student Government Association at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College for the 2010-2011 academic year.

Thomas is a freshman agricultural communications major from Perry. She competed in the 2010 Ms. ABAC pageant, where she won the interview portion of the competition. She is a member of the ABAC Turf Club, Collegiate FFA, the ABAC Choir, and a disc jockey for WPLH radio station. She is the daughter of Paula Thomas.

Aaron is a freshman political science major from Ellijay. He participated in the 2010 Mr. ABAC contest. He is the son of Alan and Mary Aaron.

The election results were announced at the Student Leadership Banquet.

## ABAC's Ag Business Club Named #1 in Nation

The Ag Business Club at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College was recently honored as the National Outstanding Student Chapter by the National Agri-Marketing Association in Kansas City, MO.

This recognition is the most prestigious award in the nationwide competition. ABAC was up against over 50 accredited chapters including the University of Florida, University of Wisconsin, Illinois State, Iowa State, Virginia Tech, and more.

"This was definitely unexpected," said Dustin Bass, the club advisor. "Last year we were in the top nine, and this year we worked a lot harder. But we are still the smallest school in the conference so it was a huge feat."

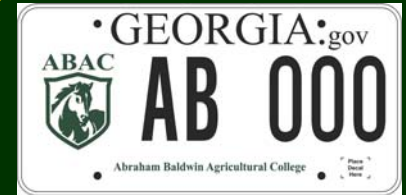
As a part of the recognition, the ABAC Ag Business Club received a first place plaque and a larger traveling plaque that stays with the current year's winner. ABAC's Ag Business Club also received individual awards in Chapter Management and Member Recruitment.

"The conference is a phenomenal event for students to attend," said Bass. "It offers them a variety of experiences and opportunities."

The Ag Business Club will hold its final meeting of the year on Tuesday at 6 p.m. in the Ag Sciences building where it will present the marketing plan that was submitted for the national competition. This meeting is open to all who would like to attend.

## Show Your ABAC Pride!

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



## ABAC Students, Faculty, and Staff Go Shamrock for Relay

The ABAC exhibit at the Relay For Life event for the American Cancer Society on Friday night focused on Shamrock, Texas. Hats, foam fingers, tiaras, and sunglasses all carried the green shamrock theme. Many ABAC faculty members, staff members, and students played a role in the success of the exhibit. Shown here are (l-r) JoAnn Le, Bernard Green, JoAnn Brannen, Donna Webb, and Bernice Hughes. Webb was the overall coordinator of the entire Relay for Life.



# ABAC Retirees Honored, Service Awards Presented

Seven retirees were honored and 44 other faculty and staff members received awards at the recent service awards recognition at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College.

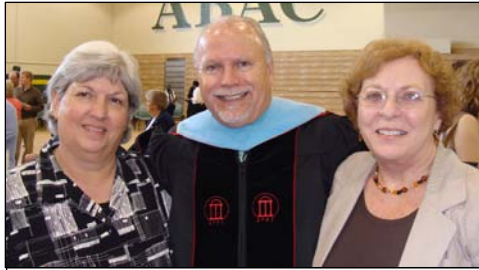
Retirees honored included Lee J. Hodges, Wasdon

Graydon, Billy Purcell, Bertha Williams, Diane Kilgore, Brenda Bailey, and Dr. Eddie Seagle.

Hodges had been a staff member in the School of Agriculture and Forest Resources since 1990. Graydon was the Director of Student Support Services who joined the administration in 1973. Purcell was the Assistant Chief of Police for the Police Department whose first day on the job was Aug. 17, 1990.

Williams was Director of Human Resources who joined the college as a faculty member in 1991. Bailey was the Accounts Payable Clerk in the Business Office who joined the staff in 1994.

Kilgore was the Director of the Public Service and Business Outreach Center (PSBOC), who joined the college in 1992. Seagle serves as professor of agriculture and environmental horticulture in the School of Agriculture and Natural Resources. He joined the fac-



Brenda Bailey, Dr. Eddie Seagle, and Diane Kilgore were among the retirees honored.

Patricia Barber, Associate Professor of Nursing and Bobby Mathis, golf course employee at Forest Lakes Golf Course.

Others recognized at the ceremony for years of service included: **25 Years:** Randy Carter, Senior Mail Clerk; Van McGriff, Administrative Associate; Sherin Nixon, Student Financial Aid Assistant II; and Judy Perry, Senior Administrative Associate; **20 Years:** Bam Pirkle, Administrative Associate; Dr. Gail Dillard, Vice President for Student Affairs; Stephanie Holcombe, Associate Professor of Mathematics; Cathy Rogers, Associate Professor of Humanities; and Abul Sheikh, Associate Professor of Business Administration.

Recognized for **15 Years:** Vonda Fenn, Program Coordinator for the PSBOC; Anita White, Clerk I; Rita Wade, Coordinator of Education Affairs; James May, Support Specialist; Dr. Maggie Martin, Director of Student Development; Donna Campbell, Assistant Pro-

ulty on Jan. 1, 1978 and will retire on Aug. 1.

Ken Newkirk, Director of the Upward Bound program, was recognized at the event for 35 years of service to ABAC. Recognized for 30 years of service were

professor of Education and softball coach; Geoff Clement, Associate Professor of Mathematics; Mary Beth Thornton, Assistant Professor of Science and Mathematics; and Jean Oliver-Burks, Upward Bound Coordinator; **10 Years:** Donnie Thompson, Administrative Associate; Debra McCrary, Registrar; Annie Sims, Career Evaluation Counselor; Dr. Erin Campbell, Assistant Professor of Humanities; Donna Hatcher, Associate Professor of Communication and Fine Arts; and Dr. Joseph Njoroge, Professor of Political Science and History.

Recognized for **Five Years:** Tracy Dyal, Bookstore Manager; Elizabeth Wilcox, Housing Assignment Coordinator; Clayton Riehle, Administrative Associate; Susan Thompson, Registered Nurse; Amanda Lundy, Mail Clerk; Raymond Lundy, Mechanical Superintendent; Jimmy Ballenger, Associate Professor of Education and soccer coach; Diantha Ellis, Assistant Professor of Business Administration; John Farrar, Assistant Professor of Science and Mathematics; Dr. Brian Ray, Assistant Professor of Humanities; Billy Reynolds, Jr., Associate Professor of Humanities; Donna Sledge, Instructor of Education; Amy Williams, Assistant Professor of Business Administration; Reina Patel, Library Assistant III; Amanda Bridges, Chief Accounting Officer/Controller from College Advancement; and Christopher Kinsey, Assistant Director of Student Housing.

## ABAC Fillies Aim For National Title in Tucson, Arizona



The NJCAA Region XVII champion tennis Fillies of Coach Alan Kramer are headed to Tucson, Ariz., for the NJCAA national tennis tournament. Team members include back row (l-r) Lauren Smith, Keri Huett, and Alejandra Gamboa. Front row (l-r) Jahyna Pope, Marley Myers, and Beatriz Miranda.

## ABAC Places Second In National Hispanic Quiz Bowl

Five students representing Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College placed second in the nation in the recent Hispanic College Quiz Bowl competition.

The team was comprised of Felipe Pedraza, an agricultural

education major from Sylvania, Karina Guerrero, a business major from Omega, Juan Rico, an engineering major from Adel, Katia Arevalo, a pre-medicine major from Dalton, and Leandra Gonzales, a computer science major from Pearson. Gabby Ramirez, the ABAC Retention Counselor for the Goizueta Scholarship Program, served as the coach of the team.

ABAC was one of only eight college and university teams chosen to participate in the competition, which was sponsored by the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) and Central City Productions. Participating schools were provided with the book, "Hispanic Firsts", by Nicolás Kanellos and a list of categories to study. The categories were split among the team members, and the team trained for three weeks prior to the competition.



Pictured are host Zoryida Sambolin, and members of the Hispanic Quiz Bowl Team (l-r) Karina Guerrero, Leandra Gonzales, Katia Arevalo, Juan Rico, Gabby Ramirez, and Felipe Pedraza.

ABAC's team competed against California State University of Los Angeles, CA; Arizona Western College from Yuma, AZ; and Trinity University, in San Antonio, TX.

"It was an honor to be selected among HACU institutions across the country to participate in this event," said Javier Gonzalez, Director

of the College Assistance Migrant Program (CAMP) and High School Equivalency (HEP) program at ABAC. "As the school with the smallest Hispanic student enrollment in the competition, they represented ABAC extremely well in accomplishing what they did. Ms. Gabby Ramirez did an excellent job in preparing these students to take on students from colleges and universities from California, Arizona, and Texas."

The team won the first round with 300 points and proceeded to the semifinals, answering all of the questions in that round correctly. In the championship round, the team lost to Trinity University. ABAC was awarded \$5,000 in scholarship funds for its second place finish.

"We are excited about the second place finish and look forward to winning it all next year," said Gonzalez.

## Stallions Baseball Team Advances to State Tourney

The Golden Stallions of Coach Steve



Janousek will advance to the first round of the Georgia Junior College Athletic Association (GJCAA) state playoffs this weekend as the number seven seed in the tournament. The Stallions wound up with a

regular season record of 21-31. ABAC will play the second-seeded team, probably South Georgia College, in Douglas in a best-of-three series.

Coach Donna Campbell and the ABAC softball team wound up its season last week with an overall record of 10-28. The Fillies will not make the state tournament this season for the first time in many years.

The Stallions' golf team finished second in the NJCAA Region XVII tournament held in Albany over the weekend. Coach Herb Hendrix and his golfers fell short against Darton, which won the title for the eighth consecutive year. Darton will move to NJCAA Division I next season, and the Stallions should be a strong contender for the Region XVII title without Darton in the mix.

The Fillies' tennis team and the Stallions' tennis team are both preparing for national tournament play. Both claimed NJCAA Region XVII titles on April 17.

## ABAC Birthdays

28 Leah Sutton

30 Adrian Salter

## ABAC Family

Mike Chason was the guest speaker for the annual Administrative Professionals Luncheon at the State Museum of Agriculture on April 21.

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

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Writer and Layout     Writer & Editor

Please submit any information to Ashley Williamson at [awilliamson@abac.edu](mailto:awilliamson@abac.edu) by **Thursday at noon** for inclusion in the next FOCUS.



## President Bridges Tags The Tifton-Tift County Chamber of Commerce

ABAC President David Bridges was the featured speaker at the April meeting of the Tifton-Tift County Chamber of Commerce on Thursday at the Donaldson Dining Hall outdoor pavilion. He talked about the ABAC tag, the front campus project, the State Museum of Agriculture, and the new state budget. This marks the second year in a row that the Chamber has met on the campus during the George Scott Day activities. Ashley Williamson, left, helped to coordinate the event.