



# FOCUS

## ABRAHAM BALDWIN AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

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### Kilgore Named Head Coach of ABAC Baseball Team

Jeff Kilgore has been named head coach of baseball team at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College. He will also serve as an academic support counselor.

After three seasons with ABAC, Kilgore will be entering his first year as the head coach of the Stallions. He served the past six months as interim head coach for the stallions after

he had served as assistant coach for the stallions for two and a half years. The team finished up this season with a 21-27 record, 14-18 in conference. After winning only 6 conference games in the previous season the Stallions were able to tally 14 conference wins in 2013.

"I am proud of the effort and hard work our guys put in over the past season and believe the future is bright for ABAC Baseball, Kilgore said. "With a solid core of returning sophomores and



Kilgore

a talented freshman class the Stallions are primed to continue to move forward and make an impact in the always tough GCAA."

Kilgore comes to Tifton from Gainesville, Ga. where he attended and played baseball at Johnson High School. After graduating from Johnson he accepted a baseball scholarship to Emmanuel College in Franklin Springs, Ga. Kilgore was a middle infield-

er and helped lead the Lions 3 GACC (NAIA) conference tournament appearances, 3 NCCAA regional tournaments and one trip to the NCCAA World Series. During his junior season he garnered All-Conference honors batting .394 with 14 HR's and 20 stolen bases.

This season will mark Kilgore's sixth season in the coaching ranks. His coaching career began at his alma mater Emmanuel College where he was an assistant under Aaron Brister for two

years. From Emmanuel he moved on to West Hall High School for an opportunity to Coach alongside Pete Allen, one of his former High School Coaches. His first Head Coaching duties were with the Athens Pirates of the Great South League. He spent two summers coaching college players from all parts of the east coast.

In 2004, Kilgore earned his B.S. in Business Administration from Emmanuel before moving on and finishing his Masters of Education in HPE from North Georgia College and State University. Coach Kilgore and his wife Meredith (Milford) Kilgore, formerly of Carnesville, reside in Tifton with their new born son Boston William.

In addition to his coaching duties, Kilgore will work as an academic support counselor. He will assist and guide students through all areas of the academic process. This includes various processes from acceptance through graduation.

### White Named Head Coach of ABAC Tennis Teams

Dale White, former assistant tennis coach, has been named head coach of the men's and women's tennis teams at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College. He will also serve as an academic support counselor.

White has been at ABAC since August 2008 where he served as the men's and women's assistant tennis coach and physical education instructor. White assisted as the men's team finished the 2012-13 season ranked 9th in the country with Oliver Snaider All-American in singles and doubles and Ricky Syman-ski All-American in doubles. The Fillies finished the year ranked 16th in the country.

"I am excited to move into the head coach position having been here five years as the assistant," White said. "It will be a great opportunity for me to become the coach of one of the top jun-

ior college programs in the country and work to bring a national championship back to ABAC."

White, originally from Boston, England, came to the U.S. when he was eighteen to play tennis at Armstrong Atlantic State University (AASU). He played four years at AASU from 2001-2005, where he achieved All-American honors three of his four years. He was National Doubles Champion in fall of his senior year. White continued his education at Georgia Southern University (GSU) to earn a master's degree in Sports Psychology. He spent two years at GSU between 2006-2008, where he also taught PE classes and was the assistant coach for the men's tennis team.

As an academic support counselor, White will assist and guide students through all areas of the academic process. This includes various processes

from acceptance through graduation.

Alan Kramer, former coach of the ABAC tennis teams, will be missed as head coach, but he will continue as Athletic Director. In addition, on July 1 he will assume duties as Assistant Dean of Students, working with Dean Bernice Hughes to provide leadership for SGA and student activities.

"Dale has excelled as assistant coach and will do great as he takes the reins," Kramer said. "I am excited about my new responsibilities at ABAC and look forward to the opportunities that lie ahead."



White

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Kramer has been coaching tennis at ABAC since 1993. He has compiled a career record of 339 wins and 207 losses (191-110 Fillies, 148-98 Stallions). The Golden Fillies have won the Region XVII Championship 19 straight years. Kramer has won 25 Region XVII Coach of the Year awards and has led ABAC's tennis teams to 15 Fillies' and 10 Stal-

lions' Georgia Collegiate Athletic Association (GCAA) Championships. Kramer's women's teams have finished in the top 10 nationally ten times and men's teams have finished in the top 10 nationally twelve years. Highlighting these strong finishes include a women's National runner-up in 1999 and men's National runner-up in 2002 and 2003 as well as third in 2006, 2008 and 2009.

Kramer has coached 58 All-Americans (22 women, 36 men), including five national champions (Milena Stanoytcheva, Monica Lalewicz, German Dalmagro, Arya Vafaei and Matthew Holland).

The tennis season will kick back up in the fall, but ABAC will offer a tennis camp this summer June 24-27 for middle school and high school tennis players. Sign up today by calling 229.391.4937.



### Relay for Life Father's Day Raffle

Tickets are \$1 each OR 6 tickets for \$5 and can be purchased at the Branch Student Center Building at ABAC, 2nd floor, Enterprise Data Services/Office of the Registrar. You may also send your payment through campus mail to EDS - ABAC Box 7. Checks need to be made payable to American Cancer Society and Memo "ABAC EDS Father's Day Basket". The drawing will be held on Friday. This basket is valued at \$200.

### First Day of Classes

Full Summer: June 3 (today)

Session A: June 3 (today)

Session B: July 1

Fall: August 14

### Camp Wiregrass Sessions Still Open for Registration

Looking for something fun and educational for your child to do this summer? Don't forget about Camp Wiregrass summer sessions at the Georgia Museum of Agriculture! ABAC employees receive a \$10 discount on registration. Visit our website, [www.abac.edu/museum/kids-camp](http://www.abac.edu/museum/kids-camp), or e-mail [kscott@abac.edu](mailto:kscott@abac.edu) for further information.



### Orientation Information

The time for us to orient and welcome our new students for Fall semester is upon us. The 2013 Orientation Dates: June 7, June 21, July 12, July 19, August 9. The schedule for Orientation can be found at [www.abac.edu/future-students/orientation](http://www.abac.edu/future-students/orientation). Numbers and minor lab changes for registration will be communicated to Deans and Department Heads to share with the appropriate faculty. Beginning with the June 7 Orientation, faculty and staff who assist with Orientation are invited to have lunch in the dining hall after registration. Contact the Academic Support Center at 229.391.4995 with questions.

## Peavey Receives Lisa Purvis Allison Spirit of Nursing Award

Brandy Peavey, a recent graduate of the nursing program at ABAC, was selected as the recipient of the Lisa Purvis Allison Spirit of Nursing Award during the program's pinning ceremony.

"It was a surprise to me that I was selected," Peavey, a Fitzgerald resident, said. "I was shocked to receive the honor. There were six people nominated within both the traditional and bridge nursing programs. They are all such a good group of students. I did not think I was going to be chosen."

Faculty members in the School of Nursing and Health Sciences choose candidates for the award based on grades, dedication to the field of nursing, and a written essay. Members of Allison's family then read the essay and help to decide on the recipient.

"I was told after receiving the award that this was the first time the Allison

family had been unanimous in their decision," Peavey said. "That really touched me."

Peavey has worked in Fitzgerald as a licensed practical nurse since 1994 and came to ABAC under the bridge program to earn her degree as a registered nurse.

"The bridge program is fast-paced because it is only one day a week but it allows you to keep working while earning your degree as an R.N.," said Peavey. "I loved ABAC's nursing program. It was tough but that is why ABAC has the best nursing graduates. And the instructors are amazing."

Now that Peavey has received her degree, she plans to take the state boards and spend time with her daughters, Mallory and Cassidy, and her husband, Barry, assistant vice president of Community Bank of Fitzgerald.

Lisa Purvis Allison began the nursing program at ABAC as the single parent of two children following the accidental death of her husband. While completing the last year of the program, she was diagnosed with colon cancer. Although she was very ill with cancer and the treatment for the disease, Allison graduated from the nursing program. She successfully passed her state board exam and was licensed as a registered nurse before she passed away.

The Lisa Purvis Allison Spirit of Nursing Scholarship Fund was initiated by Allison's family and the ABAC nursing faculty as a way to honor her memory. The scholarship is awarded twice a year to a nursing student meeting qualities set forth by Allison. The fund is used to assist graduating students to fulfill their dream of becoming a registered nurse.

# Museum of Agriculture Partners with Nashville for Rhythm & Roots

The Georgia Museum of Agriculture and Historic Village at ABAC, Nashville Better Hometown, and the Berrien County Historical Foundation is now presenting "Rhythm & Roots: Southern Music Traditions" in Tifton and Nashville.

"Rhythm & Roots" is a traveling exhibit dedicated to the musicians of the South. It is accompanying the Georgia Humanities Councils' and the Smithsonian Institute's New Harmonies tour through Georgia. The Georgia Museum of Agriculture has partnered with Nashville Better Hometown and the Berrien County Historical Foundation to bring a taste of the New Harmonies exhibit to Tifton and Nashville. The exhibit runs through June 29.

The "Rhythm & Roots" exhibit will be held at the Georgia Museum of Agriculture in Tifton, and the "American Roots" music will be held in Nashville at the Nashville Community Center. The exhibit encompasses the wide variety of

music and instrumentation that came together to create the unique Southern sound.

"Rhythm & Roots" features Southern musicians highlighting the themes that have shaped their musical traditions and the ways in which their communities have inspired them. Visitors can learn about several early innovators of Southern music including Thomas A. Dorsey, known as "Georgia Tom" and often referred to as the "Father of African-American Gospel"; Charley Patton, called "Father of Delta Blues" for his bluesman artistry and lifestyle; and Arnold Schultz, the acclaimed Kentuckian thumb-picker and guitar player.

Native American music also is highlighted by Cherokee musician Walker Calhoun and the music of the corn dance in the American Indian Voices section. Rhythm & Roots also celebrates the increasingly multicultural flavor in our region including the transplanted musical sounds from flourishing Asian,

Caribbean, and Latino communities.

Originally designed and developed by South Arts' Exhibits Program, the New Harmonies tour is a partnership between South Arts, the Georgia Humanities Council, and the Smithsonian Institute. South Arts is a non-profit regional arts organization focused on presenting and promoting Southern art and cultural programming.

Working in partnership with the nine state arts agencies in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee, South Arts builds on the South's unique heritage and increases the public value of the arts in our communities by promoting and supporting the arts in the South. South Arts also enhances the artistic excellence and professionalism of Southern arts organizations and artists, while serving the diverse population in its states.



## ABAC Bass Fishing Team Finishes Fourth at Lake Lanier

Charles Conger (right), a biological and agricultural engineering major from Chula, and Hunter Copolino, a wildlife technology major from Fayetteville, represented the ABAC College Bass Fishing Team with a fourth place finish at the recent Georgia Southern Bass Series Finale at Lake Sidney B. Lanier on May 18-19. Launching from Van Pugh State Park, the ABAC duo reeled in 23.88 pounds of fish, finishing only 1.1 pounds out of first place.



**Celebrate Independence Day July 3 at the Georgia Museum of Agriculture**  
Enjoy fireworks, music by Clovers & Co., watermelon and all the other activities offered at the Museum and celebrate Independence Day! More information about the specific activities that day are to follow.

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](mailto:amock@abac.edu) for inclusion in the next FOCUS.

## Dining Hall Summer Hours

The Donaldson Dining Hall opens today and will begin operating on the summer schedule. Breakfast will be 7:30 until 8:30 a.m., lunch will be from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. and dinner will be from 5 until 6 p.m. (times might vary slightly depending on camps) The Aggie C-store will be open from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m.



## Save the Date

Plan to attend an Alumni and Recruiting Event

July 20  
Murray County Ag Center  
1006 Green Rd  
Chatsworth, GA 30705  
11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

More info to come

## ABAC Birthdays

- 3 Steven Cox
- 5 Theresa Ryan
- 5 Trey Davis
- 8 Howard McCrary
- 12 Earl Denham
- 12 Brian Ray
- 18 David Bridges

