



# FOCUS

## ABRAHAM BALDWIN AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

VOLUME LI

ISSUE 6

AUGUST 26, 2013

### Fillies Win Season Opener Against Wesleyan College

With the all-time single season goal scorer back in the saddle for the Fillies and freshman talent, the soccer team at ABAC started the season with a win over Wesleyan College.

ABAC won 3-0 Friday against Wesleyan with Jodie Corless scoring all three goals (a hat trick). Katie Martin, freshman keeper, played a fantastic game with four great saves earning her a shutout.

Nikita Morris, a sophomore from Norfolk, England, scored 34 goals for Coach Jimmy Ballenger's 2012 team, which rolled up a 12-8 record and lost in the semifinal round of the state tournament.

"We are excited to have Nikita back this year, and we've added some other components to the team who will take some pressure off her so she won't have to carry the entire scoring load on her back," Ballenger said. "She'll be the first to tell you that soccer is a team sport, and she can't do it alone."

Morris, a physical education major, became the first ABAC player ever to be named the Georgia Collegiate Athletic Conference Player of the Year last season. She was also named first team all-conference and a member of the National Junior College Athletic Association All-America team.

"I am very excited about this season coming up," Morris said. "We have a great team and a good bunch of girls."

Morris is only 15 goals short of the ABAC career record of 49 goals set by



Katrina Duncan-Marshalleck in 2008-09.

"Hopefully, I can break that record but mainly I want the team to score a lot of goals so we can win," Morris said. "We are trying to go all the way this year."

Ballenger will mix six returnees with 15 freshmen to try to come up with a winning combination in a tough league that features always strong Darton and Georgia Perimeter.

"We want to have double digits in wins every year," Ballenger said. "That puts us in a good position for the playoffs which puts us in a good position to win state and go to the national tournament. Our ultimate goal every year is to win the national championship."

Ballenger started the women's soccer program at ABAC in 2006. His Fillies have had a winning record every year and have advanced to the state playoffs six times in seven years.

Besides Morris, key players on this year's squad will include Jodie Corless, Kerry Newman, and Katie Sills, all from England.

"Jodie is a striker, and she'll give some support to Nikita when it comes to scoring," Ballenger said.

Developing contacts all over the world has been one of Ballenger's goals since he began developing the ABAC soccer program. Those contacts have certainly paid off with the international flavor of the squad.

"Our contacts come across women's soccer players who want to come to the States to play and get a great education," Ballenger said. "We have been fortunate to get some outstanding players. But we also have some good players from Georgia and Florida this year."

Ballenger said Kayla Goodwin from Green Cove Springs, Fla., Hanna Wilkes and Sydney Humphrey from Houston County, and Jasmine Johnson from Warner Robins must play huge roles if the Fillies are to attain a successful season this year.

ABAC plays four games on the road before its **first home contest at 5 p.m. on Sept. 3** against Andrew College. Eight home matches are on the regular season schedule.

"We are so blessed because we get to play at one of the nicest facilities in the state," Ballenger said. "It's an excellent field, and we get great fan support from the students and the community."

### Scholarship Milk & Cookies Event Tuesday



The ABAC Foundation is hosting the first every Scholarship Milk & Cookies event Tuesday, from 2 - 5 p.m. at the Alumni House. All students who received a scholarship from the ABAC Foundation are encouraged to come write thank you notes to ABAC donors and enjoy some homemade cookies. It is vitally important our donors feel appreciated, but it is also imperative our students realize money doesn't fall from the sky and personal sacrifices were made for each student. Please remind all your students that received a Foundation Scholarship to swing by on Tuesday and show their appreciation!

## Summer Apprentices Gain Experience at Georgia Museum of Agriculture

From learning to crochet to exploring the intricacies of the print shop, twenty young people had the time of their lives this summer as a part of the Museum Apprentice volunteer program at the Georgia Museum of Agriculture and Historic Village at ABAC.

Lynn McDonald, the Museum's Volunteer Coordinator, said the program offers 13-18 year-olds in the Tifton area an opportunity to learn about history, gain work experience, and prepare to take an active role in volunteering at the museum.

First time apprentices were Allie Brooks, Colton Gibbs, Zach Golden, Savannah King, Lindsey O'Quinn, Betsey Rakestraw, Mikayla Robinson, Karmen Tovar, Emily Walker, and Jonathan Webster. Returning for the second year of the program were Sara Auger, Kaycee Aultman, Annabelle Branch, Alana Griffin, Justin Harper, Elizah Huff, Ashley Jensen, Katy Johnson, Michaela Lubbers and Annabelle McEachin.

Each of the students agreed to work four weeks during the summer for a total of 30 hours. They also committed to volunteering throughout the rest of the year, particularly during special events, for a total of 60 hours.

During the summer the apprentices worked side-by-side with historical interpreters to learn details about each of the buildings and areas in the village and dressed in period-appropriate clothing, which they provided themselves. Other activities during the summer included group research on select-



Apprentices at the Georgia Museum of Agriculture and Historic Village include first row (l-r): Jonathan Webster, Annabelle Branch, Allie Brooks, and Savannah King. Second row (l-r): Sara Auger, Betsy Rakestraw, Emily Walker, Lindsay O'Quinn and Kaycee Aultman. Third row (l-r): Elizah Huff, Zach Golden, Karmen Tovar, Katy Johnson, and Mikayla Robinson.

ed topics, communications workshops, and field trips.

The apprentices will be volunteering for several special events in coming weeks beginning with Fall Frolics each Saturday in October, the Veterans Day Celebration on Nov. 9, Cane Grinding on Nov. 16 and 23, Victorian Village by Candlelight on Dec. 8, Wiregrass Christmas on Dec. 14, and North Pole Express on Dec. 19-20.

"They will help with children's activities, train loading/unloading, historical interpretation, wool dyeing, preparing meals, and cane grinding," McDonald said. "Some of the apprentices will also provide musical entertainment."

To be considered for an apprentice's position, the students completed an application and submitted a letter of recommendation. Each applicant also went through an interview process before being selected. Upon being accepted into the program, students underwent an orientation to the Georgia Museum of Agriculture and Historic Village.

During orientation the apprentices previewed the village with Billy Hayes and learned about artifacts and artifact care from former curator Johnny Johnson. McDonald gave them guidance on working with the public, and Wiregrass Kids Camp Coordinator Kelly Scott provided tips on working with children. Deputy Chris Strickland from the Tift County Sheriff's Office provided tutorials on drug prevention, and Captain Dennis Reese enlightened the

apprentices about the importance of internet safety.

Regarding the summer apprentice work, one parent commented, "It was great that the students were made to sign in and out every day – the basics of every job."

"By the end of the summer, the apprentices had received instruction and showed dramatic improvement in their communication skills, teamwork, guest interaction, and Georgia history," McDonald said.

McDonald said she is always looking for quality applicants for the apprentice program. Interested persons can contact her at 229.391.5223 or e-mail her at [lmcdonald@abac.edu](mailto:lmcdonald@abac.edu).

### Staff Forum Changes and Fall Semester Meetings Scheduled

The first two meetings of fall semester have been scheduled, notice that the time for October's meeting is a little different. All staff members are eligible to participate in Staff Forum. Dr. Chris Kinsey, Staff Forum Chairman, hopes to lead a Staff Forum that reaches out to each of the staff members and provides the resources and support that is needed. The agenda this year will include some new things so don't miss the meeting.

**September 4th (3:30 p.m.)** – Health Science Building, Room 237 [Guest Speaker- President David Bridges]

**October 9th (11:30 a.m.)** – Bowen, Room 100 [Guest Speaker – Human Resources Presentation] – Food Provided  
Topics: Benefits open enrollment - many changes for 2014, shared leave program and employee cookouts  
*Please RSVP by September 25 for the October Meeting.*

Please take a minute to complete the online survey to help improve Staff Forum.

<http://www.emailmeform.com/builder/form/pd6ms166fVb10r>

# ABAC Ag Classic Scholarship Golf Tournament October 7

The 13th Annual Ag Classic Golf Tournament at ABAC will be held on Oct. 7 at ABAC's Forest Lakes Golf Club. There will be an 8 a.m. flight and a 1 p.m. flight. A complimentary lunch will be served between flights.

The event is hosted by the ABAC Ag Alumni Council and the School of Agriculture and Natural Resources to provide scholarship funds for students in that area of study.

Sponsorship levels range from \$250 to \$5,000, which include a designated number of golfer fees per sponsorship. A Century Level sponsorship is



available at \$100 which does not include player fees. Sponsors should register by Sept. 24 to be recognized at the tournament. The tournament is open to the first 100 golfers who register.

The tournament will be a four-man scramble with a shotgun start.

There is an entry fee of

\$125 per person or a \$500 entry fee for each four-person team that includes lunch, cart, greens fees, and an embroidered golf shirt with tournament logo.

Prizes will be awarded to the first, second, and third place teams in each flight. Prizes will also be awarded for the longest drive, hole-in-one, and clos-

est shot to the pin on designated holes. A silent auction in the clubhouse during the tournament will also be a part of the Ag Classic events. Items up for bid include outings to prestigious courses throughout the state, golf clubs and other merchandise.

For more information, interested persons can contact tournament coordinator Vonda Fenn at (229) 391-5067 or e-mail her at [vfenn@abac.edu](mailto:vfenn@abac.edu). To register for the Ag Classic, interested persons should go to [www.abac.edu/academics/schools/ag-natural-resources/outreach/ag-classic](http://www.abac.edu/academics/schools/ag-natural-resources/outreach/ag-classic). Mail the form and check to ABAC Ag Classic, ABAC 8, 2802 Moore Hwy., Tifton, GA 31793-2601. All checks should be made payable to ABAC Foundation, Inc.



## ABAC Intramurals Begin Sept. 3

Faculty and Staff are eligible to compete in intramurals. Contact Stoney Hart at [shart@abac.edu](mailto:shart@abac.edu) or 391. 4935 if you have any questions.

Sign up today at:

<http://www.imleagues.com/Default.aspx>



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.

## Town and Gown Event

The 6th Annual Town and Gown Connection was a success despite the rain. 34 businesses and churches turned out to show students what the community has to offer.



## ABAC Birthdays

29 Emily Cheek

September

2 Teri Mathis

2 Jo Njoroge

2 Mouyyed Hassouna



## EDS Donates to Fire Department

EDS employees at ABAC came together to donate 37 cases of water for the Tifton-Tift County Fire Department's second annual water and Gatorade drive. Thanks to all of those who donated.