



FOCUS

ABRAHAM BALDWIN AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

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Spring Semester Begins Wednesday—Welcome Back

Spring semester classes begin on Wed. at ABAC. Spring semester classes are listed on the ABAC web site at www.abac.edu. Dates of the events below are subject to change.



Show at the Georgia Museum of Agriculture and Historic Village and other activities for both students and alumni. First Tuesday Concert Series performances for

the spring term include A Music Faculty Concert on Feb. 4, A Night of Chamber Music on Feb. 11, A Night of Classical Guitar on March 4, and A Night of Broadway Music on April 1. All First Tuesday performances are held at the Chapel of All Faiths on the campus of ABAC at 7 p.m. The concerts are open to the public at no charge. Other performances during the spring term include the Spring Band Concert on April 8, the Spring Choral Concert on April 10, and the Spring Music Recitals on April 28-29.

Homecoming Weekend on April 4-5 will feature the Alumni Awards Luncheon, the 2014 ABAC Athletics Hall of Fame induction ceremony, the Gee Haw Whoa Back Rodeo, a Spring Flower

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The "ABAC Presents! Performing Arts Series" will offer a wide variety of entertainment beginning with the Azalea

Quartet on Feb. 18, the Fisk Jubilee Singers on March 29 and jazz saxophonist Roger Pemberton on April 17. Tickets are required for each of these events and can be purchased online at www.purplepass.com/abac or by phone at (229) 391-4895. The Baldwin Players' spring production of the musical "Smoke on the Mountain" will take place at the Georgia Museum of Agriculture and Historic Village on March 6-8.

Athletic events include softball and baseball games, tennis matches, and golf tournaments as five of the six intercollegiate sports teams at ABAC swing into action.

Classes will continue through April 30 with final exams set for May 1-2 and May 5-6. The spring commencement ceremony will be held at 6 p.m. on May 9. The only time during the term when the entire campus will be closed is on Jan. 20 for the Martin Luther King, Jr., holiday. Faculty and students will be away for spring break on March 17-21.



Agrium Donates \$10,000 for ABAC Scholarship

Kevin Owens ('09), Terminal Supervisor of Agrium Tifton, presents a \$10,000 check to Dr. Tim Marshall, Dean for the School of Agriculture and Natural Resources. The donation was made possible by Agrium U.S. Inc. through their Community Investment Program and will be used for student scholarships in agriculture. Pictured (L-R): Dr. David Bridges, ABAC President, Betty McCorvey, Director of Sponsored Programs, Marshall, Owens, Jodie Snow, Chief Operating Officer for the ABAC Foundation, and Paul Willis, Vice President for External Affairs.

Fillies Softball Hosts 13th Annual Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser January 25

The Fillies softball team at ABAC will hold its 13th annual Pancake Breakfast at Applebee's on Jan. 25 from 8 - 10 a.m. Tickets for the breakfast are \$6 each. Menu items will include pancakes and a choice of beverage. Take-out orders will also be available for those who purchase tickets in advance.

Tickets can be purchased from Coach Donna Campbell or any Fillies' softball player. For more information or to purchase a ticket, interested persons can contact Campbell at (229) 391- 4929 or via e-mail at dcampbell@abac.edu.



Deadline for Athletics Hall of Fame Nominations Jan. 15

Nominations are now being accepted for the Athletics Hall of Fame at ABAC. The deadline for nominations is Jan. 15.

ABAC Athletics Director Alan Kramer said any individual, living or deceased, can be considered for induction into the ABAC Athletics Hall of Fame.

Individuals are nominated in one of three categories: Athlete, Coach, or Contributor.

The induction ceremony for the 2014 class is scheduled for April 4 as a part of the ABAC Homecoming weekend.

The inaugural Hall of Fame class in 2008 included Thomas Cheney, Bruce V. Gressette, Norman "Red" Hill, Orion Mitchell, Philip Simpson, and Milena Stanoytcheva.

The Hall of Fame class of 2009 honored the 1984 national championship men's tennis team, Ellen

Vickers, Dorsey Brooks, Cook Holliday, P.W. Bryan, Jr., and Newell "Sarge" Dorsey.

The 2010 Hall of Fame class included the 1991 national championship women's softball team, Harley Klepfer, Jim Sparks, Joseph Grist, and Thomas "Boo" Weekley.

The 2011 Hall of Fame class included the 1995 ABAC national championship women's softball team; Kyle Farnsworth, Benny Dees, Harley Stewart, and A. B. Malloy.

The 2012 Hall of Fame class included Greg Tanner, Donnie Veal, Jean Francoise Lagloire, William E. Batton, and the 1996 national championship women's softball team.

The 2013 Hall of Fame class included the 1999 national championship men's tennis team, Henry Will Jones, Julie

Conner, Z.B. Hamilton, and Derrick Racine.

Kramer said athletic achievement as well as integrity, sportsmanship, and character will be considered. He said the college is also looking for individuals who may have been good athletes while at ABAC, but who went on to coach high school or college teams to state or national titles.

Alumni as well as the general public are encouraged to nominate individuals for this honor. Hall of Fame criteria and a nomination form can be found at www.abac.edu/wp-content/uploads/2012/11/ABAC-Nomination-Form-2014.

For more information on the 2014 Athletics Hall of Fame, interested persons can contact Shirley Wilson in the athletics' office at (229) 391-4930.



AT&T Donates \$2,500 for Scholarships

Courtney Brinson, Regional Director External Affairs for AT&T Georgia, presents a \$2,500 check to Lynn Lovett, Vice-Chair ABAC Foundation. The money will be used to support Student Scholarship and Retention Programs at ABAC. AT&T has supported ABAC for more than 15 years. Pictured (L-R): Dr. David Bridges, ABAC President, Brinson, Lovett and Sam Watson ('99), Georgia House of Representatives District 172.

Forget your breakfast? You're in luck! Subconnection is serving breakfast sandwiches from 7:30 to 10:30 a.m. Monday through Friday.

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.

ABAC Birthdays

- 9 Bryan Golden
- 9 Donna Hatcher
- 10 Wayne Jones
- 11 Diane Owens
- 12 Anita White



Auditions for 'Smoke on the Mountain' Jan. 13-14

Auditions for the Baldwin Players' production of Connie Ray and Alan Bailey's off-Broadway musical "Smoke on the Mountain" will be held at ABAC on Jan. 13-14 at 6:30 p.m. in Conger Hall, Room 319. Auditions are open to all ABAC students, faculty, staff, and the community. The play will run from March 6-8 at the Georgia Museum of Agriculture and Historic Village's Wiregrass Opry Stage.

"Smoke on the Mountain" is musical that revolves around the Sanders family, a group of country/bluegrass gospel singers that present a Saturday Night Sing at the small, rural Mount Pleasant Baptist Church in the hills of western North Carolina. The play is set in the 1930s.

Parts are available for Burl Sanders, 40s, baritone, plays guitar and/or banjo; Vera Sanders, 40s, alto, plays piano; Stanley Sanders, 40s, bass, plays string bass; June Sanders, 20s, soprano/alto, plays tambourine; Denise Sanders, late teens, soprano, plays guitar and/or fiddle; Dennis Sanders, late teens, tenor, plays guitar and/or fiddle; and Mervin Ogleshorpe, 30s, tenor.

Persons interested in auditioning should prepare a song to perform. This should be one verse of a country song or one verse of a traditional church hymn. Selections from this musical should NOT be selected. This vocal selection will be performed a capella or by accompanying yourself on an instrument of your choice - a piano will be available, but you can bring a guitar or banjo or fiddle. There will not be an audition accompanist. Recorded accompaniment is acceptable, but there must be no vocal tracks on the recording. In addition to the music audition, each individual will read selected passages from the script. These will be "cold readings" and do not need to be prepared.

The production will run from March 6-8 at the Georgia Museum of Agriculture and Historic Village's Wiregrass Opry Stage at 7 p.m. each night. Admission is free to ABAC faculty, staff and students. There is a \$7 admission fee for the general public.

For more information, interested persons can contact Ray at (229) 391-4969 or at bray@abac.edu.