



Athens State impacts North Alabama economy

Turning over a dollar

TOTAL ECONOMIC IMPACT



**60.8 MILLION
DOLLARS**

Athens State University produces within North Alabama an economic impact of \$60 million annually, according to a recently released economic report.

Prepared by Dr. Bill Wilkes, Associate Professor of Economics at Athens State, the report examines the university's 2001 financial resources and expenditures and how they turnover producing economic activity within the region. The report only addresses the University's actual financial expenses and the indirect impact of student spending.

"Higher education contributes greatly to the economic well-being of our area," said Athens State President Jerry Bartlett. "We are investing in people and this has an impact across our economy that can't fully be measured."

Athens State has an annual budget exceeding \$25 million dollars. Approximately \$9 million comes from state support. The remaining \$16 million comes from tuition, fees, grants, investments and auxiliary enterprises. In 2001, the University spent more than \$14 million or 70 percent of its budget on purchases and salaries. Approximately \$750,000 annually has been spent on construction costs primarily in the renovation of Founders Hall.

Wilkes also took into consideration indirect expenditures by students. Approximately 300 students attending Athens State University lived in Athens and Limestone County and contributed approximately \$3 million to the North Alabama economy. The 2,200 commuting

students were believed to add \$2.2 million to the economy through food, gasoline and other expenses.

"The essence is that a dollar spent circulated through our economy," said Wilkes. "We used a multiplier of three which is on the conservative side. The \$20 million explodes into \$60 million."

Athens State University employs 180 full-time faculty and staff. In addition, the University contracts with more than 100 adjunct faculty and numerous vendors each year.

The report didn't address the return on investment in education, the earnings of graduates or the economic impact of social and culture events and activities.

For instance, The Tennessee Valley Old Time Fiddlers Convention attracted 13,000 to 15,000 people to Athens and Limestone County in October. Many traveled from out of town, stayed at hotels, ate at restaurants and frequented local stores. The economic impact upon the area is significant. Other events like SoulStock, concerts, alumni events, and conferences all generate new dollars into the North Alabama economy.

"The report gives a glimpse of the wisdom of investing in higher education," said Bartlett. "Education truly affects the quality of life for all of us."

School of Education earns national re-accreditation

Athens State University's School of Education has proven its commitment to producing quality teachers for our nation's children by earning re-accreditation under the performance-oriented standards of the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE).

NCATE, the organization responsible for professional accreditation of teacher education, accredits 540 institutions which produce two-thirds of the nation's new teacher graduates annually.

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NCATE-accredited schools must meet rigorous standards set by members of the profession and the public. Teacher candidates must have in-depth knowledge of the subject matter that they plan to teach as well as the skills necessary to convey it so that students learn. Each institution must have partnerships with pre-school, elementary, middle and high schools that enable candidates to develop the skills necessary to help students.

In addition, candidates must be prepared to understand and work with diverse student populations. University faculty must model effective teaching practices. Each School of Education must have the resources, including information technology resources, necessary to prepare candidates to meet new standards.

"Re-accreditation is vital to our program at Athens State," said Dr. Mary Lou Maples, Dean of the School of Education. "It says to school administrators, parents and leaders that Athens State graduates must attain certain standards before they enter the classroom as a teacher. I am proud of our faculty and staff who have made the commitment to provide the best education possible to our future teachers."

"I am extremely proud of the dedication of our School of Education," said President Jerry Bartlett. "There is no better place for a student to be educated and prepared for the teaching profession than at Athens State."

The U.S. Department of Education recognizes NCATE as the professional accrediting body for schools, departments and colleges of education. On-site visits, document review, and accreditation decisions are all carried out by professionals from the education community, including teachers, school specialists and teacher educators.

Visit the Athens State School of Education website at:

www.athens.edu/education

Laura Baugher-Lovell Scholarship established



The Laura Baugher-Lovell Scholarship will be awarded to an education student next fall. From left are Angie Baugher, Linda Perry, Athens State President Jerry Bartlett, and Beulah Baugher (sitting).

appreciate the efforts of the Lovell and Baugher families to make this scholarship available in Laura's memory. We are grateful."

This year, the Athens State University Foundation awarded more than 72 scholarships to deserving students at Athens State. The scholarships are annual or endowed scholarships donated corporately or by individuals to the Foundation. Criteria vary for each scholarship but typically include one or more of the following: the student's grade point average, field of study, student involvement, and financial need.

A \$20,000 scholarship endowed in the memory of Laura Baugher-Lovell has been established to assist education students at Athens State University.

Ms. Lovell, who died in an automobile accident last year, was a senior at Athens State majoring in elementary education and was completing her student teaching at Clements. The Baugher and Lovell families hosted a charity golf tournament in August and used the proceeds to establish scholarships at Athens State and East Limestone High School. The Athens State scholarship will be awarded to students beginning next fall and will be established with the Athens State University Foundation. Earnings from the endowment will provide the annual scholarship.

"Scholarships are vital for our students," said Athens State President Jerry Bartlett. "We truly

McLin honored



Jerry Bradford spends a moment with Dr. Elva McLin, longtime University archivist and professor emeritus. Dr. McLin, who was endeared to thousands of alumni during her service to Athens State was honored at a faculty and staff reception this fall. She recently moved from Athens to Texas to be closer to her family. Dr. McLin – You will be missed!!

Founders queen crowned

Ishia Hampton, a junior at Athens State University, was selected the University's Founders Queen. Hampton, of Muscle Shoals, is majoring in business management and is the junior class president. Other members of the Founders Court included Kristin Brock, Christina Culberson, Susanna McMackin and Amy Ward.



New Design! New Look! License Plate!

Athens State University's new license plate will be available in early 2003. Request the Athens State plate from your local license commissioner when you renew your license plates this year. For an additional \$50 (\$48 goes to Athens State) you will be supporting student scholarships at Athens State.

Check out the new design at www.athens.edu/alumni

School of Education earns an "A"

The Athens State University School of Education received a top ranking for its teacher preparation programs in a statewide report card issued by the Alabama Department of Education today.

The Alabama Teacher Preparation Program Performance Profile used a series of quality indicators to determine whether teacher education programs were meeting standards developed under the Alabama Professional Education Personnel Evaluation (PEPE). Teacher education programs at every state university were evaluated. Athens State University programs were all rated clear.

"We are extremely proud of our students and the faculty and staff who work hard to insure a quality teacher education program," said Dr. Mary Lou Maples, Dean of the School of Education. "This evaluation confirms what we believe is a solid educational program that produces top teachers for our state and region."

Teacher education programs were rated on several indicators. Among the most important measures studied were performance reviews of new graduates, the local school system's satisfaction with the teacher and the graduate's satisfaction with the university's teacher education program.



Members of the Huntsville Chamber Symphony Orchestra performed a fall concert at Athens State featuring the music of Bach, Mozart and Haydn. The concert was the first in the University's Concert-Lecture Series performances this year. The concert was funded in part by the Alabama State Council on the Arts.



College Bowl team excels in first tournament

The Athens State University College Bowl team, competing in its first tournament, finished third behind champion Emory University and runner-up Georgia Tech.

The tournament, conducted at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, featured 16 teams from universities across the Southeast. Athens State University finished third in its division.

Lee Henry, the ASU captain and a language arts major, was named the Most Valuable Player for the entire tournament by answering more questions correctly than any other player. Captain Henry received the team's two trophies at an awards ceremony, where he was joined by teammates Angela Balch, Yvonne Dempsey, Andria Mucci, and Leah White.

After losing its very first match, the Athens State team reeled off six consecutive victories to win its bracket and qualify for the finals. During the preliminary rounds, Athens State defeated eventual champion Emory along with the University of the South and Tulane University. In the quarterfinals Athens State defeated University of Florida, then lost by a razor-thin five points to Division II champion Emory University.

The team was accompanied by Dr. Al Elmore of the English Department, who co-sponsors the team along with Dr. Eugene Shockley of the Library.

Team members from L-R are: Andria Mucci, faculty sponsor Al Elmore, Angela Balch, Yvonne Dempsey, Leah White and Lee Henry.

Summer graduation 2002

Dr. Mabry Miller, Class of 1937 and president of the Athens State University Alumni Association, addresses member of the 2002 summer graduation class during commencement ceremonies in front of Founders Hall.



Approximately 175 students were awarded degrees during the ceremony.

Tea ceremony gives glimpse of Japanese culture

Michiko Oda, an instructor at Otemae Women's College in Japan, exhibited the rituals of the traditional Japanese Tea Ceremony at Athens State. The event was hosted by the Athens State Art Club. Ms. Oda is a Uranske lecturer and also teaches at the Kobe International Plaza in Japan. She previously lived in Huntsville and has taught other aspects of Japanese culture including origami and the kimono.

'I truly thought I was going to die....'



Kim King, Class of 1994

Athens State alum Kim King was working in World Trade Center Tower One on September 11, 2001. This is her story.

Article reprinted with permission of **The Huntsville Times**

By Laranda Nichols

Kim King can't forget the burned woman walking down the stairs, the firefighter kneeling on one knee to catch his breath, the look in the eyes of an elderly man on a stretcher. The images flood over her now, some more vivid than just after the attack. Just 28 minutes after King got out of the building, World Trade Center Tower One collapsed.

Something had made her uneasy about accepting her company's assignment in early 2001 to work temporarily in New York City. Several weeks before, she had dreams about standing in front of a very tall building and watching it crumble to the ground.

King still sees the towers burning, then collapsing; the trail of blood she followed out of the building; a man screaming, "Run! Cover your head and don't look back!"

She still fights depression, still tries to answer why and what if, still struggles to get back on an airplane to go to work. She doesn't see an end to any of that soon. But she recently slept seven nights straight without nightmares.

Kim Fleming King, 32, grew up in Arab and went to high school there. Shortly after graduating from Athens State University with a major in math and a minor in computer science, she got a job with a software company, the Pinnacle Group. A life of travel to places far from her small hometown followed.

In 1998, she married Shannon King, also from Arab. They settled in Killen to be near Shannon's job as a metallurgical engineer at Nichols Wire in Florence.

Kim King got a job at Crestone in Alpharetta, Ga., in 1998. Three years later, that job took her to New York to install a software system for the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey.

"I'll never forget the day I found out that I was supposed to work in the World Trade Towers," King said. That was Feb. 23, 2001. Recalling the Trade Center bombing several years before, she told Shannon she was "a little scared to be working in the World Trade Center because if an attack was going to be made, it would be a major target."

The night before the attack, G.C. Kelly, a preacher in the Arab area and her husband's grandfather, had sensed that she was in danger and had prayed for her safety.

She flew out of the Muscle Shoals or Huntsville airport on Sundays to work Monday through Thursday on the 70th floor of World Trade Center Tower One.

On Monday, Sept. 10, King was stressed after putting in a long day to prepare for an important meeting that would make Tuesday more stressful.

Tuesday morning she followed her routine, chatting with the doorman at her apartment building about Alabama football and common interests before walking to Grand Central Station for the ride to work.

From their 70th floor office, King and two co-workers took an elevator to the 43rd floor for coffee and breakfast. She bought breakfast in the cafeteria there and chatted with the cook and his helper, as usual.

For the first time since she had started working in the building, she found herself alone in the elevator as she rode back to the 70th floor. With breakfast in hand, she got out and walked to her desk.

Twenty to thirty seconds later, American Airlines Flight 11 struck only floors above.

"Tower One instantly rocked from side to side...and you could see the ceiling trembling and hear the tower cracking apart," King said. The explosion seemed to have come about 10 seconds after the impact, magnifying the shaking, and things began to fall off her desk.

"At this point, I truly thought I was going to die" she said. She grabbed her purse and cell phone, leaving behind a lucky charm, a pink plastic heart, she had carried since she was a child. Her father had made it for her.

"Come on, we've got to get out of here," she told a co-worker.

King and two co-workers held hands as they went down a crowded stairway. She tried to call her husband in her cell phone but couldn't reach Nicholas Wire in Florence until she stepped into a corridor on the 44th floor while changing stairways.

A Nicholas employee told her that Shannon hadn't made it to work and that a plane had struck the tower. King thought it must be a small plane.

"I believe people would have trampled over others to get down, and more people would have died or been severely injured that day" if they had known what happened, she said.

The stairway on the 44th floor was more crowded. Their pace to safety slowed. That's when King met a British attorney who had been working in the tower only a few weeks. Mark Oliver proved to be a blessing. He calmed the women and pushed them on throughout their flight from the tower to an apartment nearby.

When the injured made their way down the stairway, the crowd would stand aside to let them go ahead. King remembers the smell as a badly burned woman passed.



Photograph of light memorial by Kim King. Due to low-ceilings, the clouds glowed when the lights hit them.

As they left the building, an officer told them, “Run to Broadway, duck and cover your head and don’t look back.”

Outside they got their first look at the destruction, but it was too hard to believe. Oliver urged them on, saying he had a friend with an apartment five blocks away. When they were safely inside the friend’s apartment, they stood in the window and watched the horror as it unfolded. The apartment had a perfect view of the towers, and King watched them burn for about 10 minutes. Then Tower Two collapsed.

“If we had been in that building we wouldn’t have made it out,” she said. “The 30 seconds it took the tower to fall seemed like an eternity.”

Eighteen minutes later, Tower One fell; a huge wave of smoke and debris drifted toward the apartment. “Tower One fell in one hour and 28 minutes,” King said. “We had only been out of the building 28 minutes when it fell.”

Later, King found out that Crestone’s other employees had gotten out, too. She finally reached Shannon to tell him she was OK, and she spent the night at a co-worker’s home on Long Island. She and Shannon decided to drive to meet in North Carolina the next day, and they returned back home on Thursday, Sept. 13, about 10:30 p.m.

“I had not had any nightmares at this point because I hadn’t slept enough to dream,” she said. But the bad dreams have haunted her since.

She “shut down” for a while after getting home, staying at home and watching only channels like HBO and the Cartoon Network that did not have intense coverage of the attacks.

She returned to work several weeks later in the fall, but avoided flying. She drove to the Alpharetta office in Sundays and came home on weekends. Three months after the attacks, on Dec. 11, her 32nd birthday, her company asked her to return to New York and the Port Authority job.

“I wanted to know where we would be and how tall the building was,” King said. She was relieved: the new location was a three-story building in New Jersey.

But taking the first flight out of Muscle Shoals was one of the most difficult things she has ever done. It didn’t help that a woman who was scared of flying sat next to her.

Flying gets easier every time she boards a plane, King said, but she still looks closely at the passengers. Tears remain close by—she cries when she hears songs like Lee Greenwood’s “God Bless the USA” and Alan Jackson’s “Where Were You When the World Stopped Turning.”

Crestone completed its Port Authority work in June, and King now has a job with the company in North Carolina.

On Father’s Day, her 80-year-old father, Burl Fleming, gave her another lucky charm, a new pink plastic heart he had made.

“I will never forget what my daddy told me when I told him I lost my heart,” King said. “He said my heart was still bringing me good luck because it helped hold up those towers until I got out.”

Recently, Shannon told her he was worried about her recovery. She has been seeing a therapist.

“It seems like I take two steps toward the finish line and six steps back,” King said. “Right now the finish line is so far out, I can’t see it.”

She still wonders why she survived and others didn’t. It’s like winning the lottery, she said, except that being with her husband, family and friends a little longer was better than any jackpot.

On the 30th floor they saw their first firefighters, dressed in heavy fire-resistant turnout suits and gear.

“All of them that passed by were telling us, “Stay calm, you’re almost out and you’re going to be fine,” King said. “Those firefighters are the real heroes. At that point they knew it was a terrorist attack, and they still didn’t show any fear in their faces.”

King watched a firefighter pull off his helmet and drop to a knee to catch his breath. Another firefighter asked if he was all right. The exhausted man said he just needed a second. Then he got up.

She thinks she will recognize him if she ever sees his photo. She doesn’t think he survived.

King, her two co-workers and Oliver finally made it to the second floor, where a police officer yelled to them. “Run, run and move it!” She realized then how serious the situation was.

The four took an escalator to the first floor, where other police officers urged them to run. An elderly man wearing an oxygen mask was being put on a stretcher.

“I remember seeing fear in his face, and we made eye contact,” she said. “There was blood all over the floor, and people were starting to panic.”

It's not too late!!!

**Join your
Alumni Association
And enjoy the benefits**



- Ten percent discount on regular-priced Athens State University merchandise (excluding books) from the University Bookstore;
- Student ticket/or discounted prices to Athens State University-sponsored arts and cultural events;
- Book checkout privileges at the Athens State University Library;
- Employment and career advancement assistance through the University's Office of Career Services.
- Discounted rental car fees through Enterprise Rent-A-Car. The discount is available through any Enterprise location nationwide.
- Discounted admission tickets to the U.S. Space and Rocket Center Museum in Huntsville. Home of Space Camp and Aviation Challenge. Also, a \$50 discount on registration to Space Camp and Aviation Challenge to anyone in your immediate family.

Annual membership:	\$25
Joint annual membership:	\$40
Lifetime membership:	\$250
Joint Lifetime membership:	\$500

Help by giving online: www.athens.edu/alumni

Alumni News

Cynthia Varnado, Class of 1999, is a supervisory accountant with General Services Administration in Fort Worth, Texas. She also was appointed to the Board of Directors of the National Organization for Albinism and Hypopigmentation.

Karen Ruth Owens, Class of 2000, recently passed CPA examination.

David William Poole, Class of 1981, is the administrator of the nation's third largest public assistance program for indigent persons living with HIV/AIDS in the state of Florida. The program serves over 20,000 people. He has been with the Florida Department of Health for 10 years.

Frederick Albert Feld III, Class of 1974, was elected secretary of the North Alabama Veterans' and Fraternal Coalition for 2003. He also is serving as public affairs director of the North Alabama Chapter of the National Association for Uniformed Services, and vice president for membership in the Air Force Association Chapter 335, Tennessee Valley Chapter.

Mark McDaniel, Class of 1972, was reappointed to the NASA Advisory Council for a second two-year term. The announcement was made by U.S. Rep. Bud Cramer.

The council provides the NASA administrator with counsel and advice on NASA's policies, programs, and strategies. The group of approximately 28 members generally meets four times annually in Washington DC.

Send us your current information and classnotes at: www.athens.edu/alumni

Alumni Association 2003 award winners

Distinguished Alumnus of the Year

Dr. Joe Slate, Class of 1962

Outstanding Alumnus Achievement Awards

Jeff Bass, Class of 1981

Annelle Craig, Class of 1965

Outstanding Commitment to Teaching

Dr. Diane Hudson, School of Education

Alumni Loyalty Award

Janet Newman-Smith, Class of 1968

**HOME COMING 2003
BANQUET TICKETS NOW! \$20.00
Available in Alumni Office in Brown Hall
or
Order by phone with credit card
Alumni Office: 256-233-8275
DEADLINE DATE: FEBRUARY 14, 2003**

Reliance Bank Scholarships established at Athens State

Three scholarships have been established by Reliance Bank to assist students attending Athens State University. The bank's board of directors approved the scholarships that were awarded to students in September. The scholarships are: The Mary Ann T. Woodroof Memorial Scholarship; The Homer F. Dunnivant Memorial Scholarship; and The J. Emmett McClary Sr., Memorial Scholarship.

Each scholarship is awarded through the Athens State University Foundation. The scholarships provide \$1,200 each academic year for tuition and books to students who are in good academic standing and demonstrate financial need. The three student recipients are: Mandy Flannagan, an accounting major; Jennifer Harris, a secondary education major; and Carrie Roberson, a secondary education major.

"We are grateful to Reliance Bank and its board of directors for its support of Athens State," said Athens State President Jerry Bartlett. "Mr. Dunnivant, Mr. McClary and Mrs. Woodroof were outstanding citizens who contributed greatly to the North Alabama community. This is a wonderful legacy that provides valuable assistance to our students."

"This is a great way for us to enhance the educational opportunities available in Athens and Limestone County and remember special people of the Reliance Bank family," said Steve Meagher, President and Chief Executive Officer of Reliance Bank. "Education is a priority for our community and we are committed to supporting it."

Tennessee Valley Old Time Fiddlers Convention

HUGE SUCCESS!!



The Tennessee Valley Old Time Fiddlers Convention attracted one of its largest crowds ever in October. People from 31 different states attended the convention and enjoyed a weekend of old time music. The convention, sponsored by the Athens State University Foundation and the Athens-Limestone Chamber of Commerce, has provided more than \$300,000 in scholarship support to the University and funded numerous projects across campus.

Janet Newman Smith, '68 and Louise Steele '41 (below) show their spirit at the Alumni Association tent at the annual Tennessee Valley Old Time Fiddlers Convention. Many alumni came by and said "hello" over the weekend. The Alumni Association hosts refreshments and information for Athens State alumni at the convention annually.



**ATHENS STATE UNIVERSITY'S
CONCERT/LECTURE EVENTS**

February African-American History Month – Various Activities
A series of events featuring African-American issues and culture.
No admission fee.

February 23 – Merling Trio – 2:30 p.m., McCandless Hall
This piano trio will feature the works of Beethoven, Piazzolla and Mendelssohn. Tickets: \$10 adults; \$5 students

March 10-13 Women's History Month
Four programs featuring women who have excelled in business, government, education and the arts. No admission fee.

**For ticket information on all events call 233-8215 or email:
Rmould@athens.edu.**

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!

Homecoming 2003
Saturday, February 22

Alumni Association Banquet

Honoring
Alumnus of the Year
Sandridge Student Center
5:00 p.m.

Men's Basketball
Brescia University
Carter Physical Education Center
7:00 p.m.

ASU BEARS BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Feb. 3	AUM	Montgomery, Al	7:00
Feb. 11	Campbellsville U.	Campbellsville, Ky 7:30EST	
Feb. 15	Faulkner University	Montgomery, Al	2:00
Feb. 20	UNA	HOME	7:00
Feb. 22	Brescia University	HOMECOMING	7:00
Mar. 1	Spaulding	HOME	3:00



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