



Alumni Association honors alums and supporters

Athletic accomplishments will be recognized

The Athens State University Alumni Association will honor several individuals including its Distinguished Alumnus of the Year as part of its annual Homecoming Banquet on Saturday, February 14. Tickets for the event are \$20 and may be purchased through February 7. Call the Office of Alumni Affairs at 256-233-8215 for ticket information.

The Alumni Association selects award winners who have contributed successfully to their professions, their communities and to the University.

The Alumni Association also will highlight the accomplishments of the University's athletic programs. All former athletes, cheerleaders and anyone associated with the athletic program are encouraged to attend. The Alumni Association will recognize those in attendance as part of the program. Please contact the Office of Alumni Affairs for further information at 256-233-8215.

The Honorees

Lydia Malvina Hammerly Distinguished Alumnus of the Year

Glenn Conner, Class of '77

Loraine B. Pabst Commitment to Teaching Award

Dr. Joe Brasher

Clio Lovin Alumnus Loyalty Award

Louise Steele, Class of '41

Outstanding Alumnus in Business Award

Chip Dobbs, Class of '95

Outstanding Alumnus in Arts and Sciences Award

Nelson Simmons, Class of '76

Outstanding Alumnus in Education Award

Diana Johnson, Class of '95

Outstanding Staff Award

Deborah Schaus, Class of '90

Jim and Dewese Beasley Award

Marion Allfrey and Dr. Robert Pitman

ASU alum wins \$1,000 for top Jam design

By Chris Welch, Entertainment Writer

Huntsville Times



With a son named Dylan, it should be no surprise that Jessica Coleman knows a little about music and decided to enter the Big Spring Jam XI poster contest.

Coleman, a 26-year-old graphic designer at Quantum Research International, contributed the top design in this year's contest. She won \$1,000 and four weekend passes for the Jam.

Coleman's winning design is a little different from years past. Last year there was a flag with music notes and the year and local businesses. And the year before a silhouette of a guitar player. This year, Coleman took a photo of an old microphone that musicians and disc jockeys used years ago-and probably still use on the Grand Ole Opry-used some artistic effects on that, including a blue color, and also gave the lettering a weathered look.

"It's music, so I thought a microphone would represent all types of music," Coleman said. "I also like old wooden signs and sort of gave it that weathered, eat-up look."

Coleman grew up in Birmingham and moved to this area with her family in eighth grade, attending Liberty Middle School and Bob Jones and Athens High schools. She graduated from Athens State University in 2000 with a bachelor of arts in art.

Photograph courtesy of Huntsville Times

McLin Scholarship established at Athens State

An endowed scholarship has been established in honor of former Athens State University faculty member Dr. Elva Bell McLin. The Elva Bell McLin/Sigma Tau Delta Scholarship shall be awarded to one or more students earning a degree in English or Language Arts, and the recipient(s) must be in good academic standing and demonstrate financial need. The student also must be an active member of Sigma Tau Delta. Earnings from the endowment will provide the annual scholarship.

Dr. McLin taught English at Athens State for 22 years. After her retirement, she actively worked in preserving the history and memorabilia of Athens State. She is the author of *The History of Athens State College 1821-1994*, and *Madame Childs: The Lady and the Legend*.

The Kappa Zeta Chapter of Sigma Tau Delta, International English Honor Society, raised funds for the scholarship. Faculty advisors Dr. Jenita Smith, Dr. Bebe Shaw, and student members raised \$10,000 to endow the scholarship. The funds were raised primarily through the group's work at the Tennessee Valley Old Time Fiddlers Convention.

"Scholarships are vital for our students," said Athens State President Jerry Bartlett. "There is no one more worthy to have a scholarship named in her honor than Dr. McLin. She impacted so many lives as a faculty member in the classroom. We are grateful to Drs. Smith and Shaw and Sigma Tau Delta for making this scholarship possible."

This year, the Athens State University Foundation awarded more than 40 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.



Athens State University President Dr. Jerry Bartlett accepts a \$10,000 check from Matthew Luallen, President of the Sigma Tau Delta, to establish the Elva Bell McLin/Sigma Tau Delta Endowed Scholarship. From left are Dr. Jenita Smith, Sigma Tau Delta advisor, Dr. McLin, Dr. Bartlett, Luallen, and Dr. Bebe Shaw, Sigma Tau Delta advisor.



David Joel Wilson III spends a moment with his grandmother Margaret Rosenau Wilson at the University's summer commencement in front of Founders Hall. Wilson received his business degree during the ceremony. His grandmother also is familiar with Athens State. Ms. Wilson earned her degree from Athens in 1934.

Athens State senior named Founders Queen

Amy Ward, a senior at Athens State University, was selected as the University's Founders Queen this fall.

Ward, of Madison, is majoring in Secondary Education/ Language Arts. She is a member of Sigma Tau Delta- English Honor Society and also plays softball for the Lady Bears. She transferred to Athens State from Beville State Community College. She is the daughter of Larry and Deborah Ward.

Five other women served on the Founders Court. They included:

Angela Balch, of Lexington, a senior majoring in Secondary Education/English; Jennifer Bunt, of Loretto, Tenn., a senior majoring in Elementary Education; Lori Nix, of Moulton, a junior majoring in Elementary Education; Amanda Suggs, of Russellville, a junior majoring in Elementary Education; and Alison Weinman, of Hartselle, a senior majoring in Elementary Education.

Join the Alumni Team!!



It is still not too late to join the Alumni Association for 2004. Your membership is important to us and we value your support. This year the Alumni Association is pleased to offer the following benefits to active members.

- 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 tickets to the U.S. Space and Rocket Center Museum in Huntsville. Home of Space Camp and Aviation Challenge.
- Alumni News – Newsletter featuring Alumni Association events and activities.
- Alumni Directory featuring a listing of Alumni Association members.
- *New!!* Reduced monthly membership fee to Athens-Limestone Wellness Center
- Satisfaction that you have helped many students by contributing to ASU!

Please fill out the membership card below and return it to: Office of Alumni Affairs, Athens State University, 300 N. Beaty St., Athens, AL 35611.



Odd creatures??? This year's Halloween costume contest brought many interesting entries. Dr. Gail Bergeron, as a cone-nosed bug, and Dr. Pamela Keller as Professor Vidalia Taterbaker, entertained faculty, staff and students during the fall cookout and contest in the courtyard.

**Mark your calendar:
Alumni Golf Classic
Canebrake Club
Friday, June 11
Shotgun start 1 p.m.**



ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Date _____

Name: _____ Class _____

Spouse: _____ Class _____

Mailing Address: _____ Home Phone () _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Email: _____

Please Check one of the following:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual (\$25.00) | <input type="checkbox"/> Joint Husband/Wife (\$40.00) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lifetime-Individual (\$250.00) or | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 Payments of \$50.00 each for 5 years. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lifetime-Joint-Husband/Wife (\$500.00) or | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 Payments of \$100.00 each for 5 years. |

I enclose:

Check Money Order Cash Visa Master Card

Account Number (all digits)

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Signature for Credit Card _____ Expiration Date ____/____

'Sister Act', Athens State graduates, follow dreams to support International Space Station



Photo: From left, Rita Sutton and Roxanna Sherwin (Story/Photo courtesy of NASA?MSFC)

Ever since they visited the Marshall Center's space museum as little girls, Rita Sutton and Roxanna Sherwin knew they wanted to be a part of the space program. Today, the two sisters work on the console support team for the International Space Station, reviewing and sending procedures to crews orbiting more than 200 miles above Earth.

When Gloria Cade Reiswig was single-handedly raising her two daughters in the 1960s, she didn't know she was contributing to the future exploration of space.

Rita Sutton and Roxanna Sherwin grew up along with America's space program, which was just beginning at NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center in their hometown of Huntsville, Ala.

"When I was a kid, my mother took us to visit the space museum with the rocket displays, pictures and history of Redstone Arsenal," Sutton said. "She made sure my sister and I watched when Americans landed on the Moon. When I saw Neil Armstrong take those first steps, I knew something special was happening and that Huntsville would be a big part of that history." And so did her big sister, Roxanna.

"Our mother encouraged our curiosity, so it was only natural that we wanted to be part of the greatest exploration of the 20th century," said Roxanna. "We know Mother is proud that we are now supporting research on the International Space Station that will help not only improve astronaut health in space, but also will provide fundamental knowledge that improves medical treatments on earth."

Both sisters are living their dream by working with the International Space Station - the orbiting laboratory being built by NASA and 15 international partner nations. Rita and Roxanna work in NASA's Payload Operations Center - the command post at the Marshall Center for all science activities onboard the Space Station.

To this day, the sisters claim "dual citizenship" in Huntsville, and in the small Alabama town of Opp, just south of Montgomery, where they spent their early childhood. In 1964, their mother decided to take her daughters to Huntsville for a better job with RCA and provide the girls with more opportunities. The sisters would return to Opp each summer to spend time with their grandparents, James and Wilma Cade.

"Being from a small town gives you certain perspectives and advantages. Opp is that sleepy kind of town that is the complete opposite of Huntsville," Rita recalled. "Opp offered security and Huntsville offered excitement, to young girls anyway. That bouncing back and forth gave you the best of both worlds."

They both went on to graduate from Butler High School in Huntsville, and Athens State University — Rita with a bachelor's degree in psychology and history, Roxanna with a bachelor's degree in business management.

Although they took different paths in getting to NASA, the "sister act" is now on the same "stage," working for the NASA support contractor Teledyne Brown Engineering. Rita develops procedures designed to help the Station crew operate a payload experiment and works on the console support team sending science experiment procedures to the astronauts and cosmonauts. Roxanna is the manager for the Operations and Integration team that supports Payload Operations Directors — the payload version of a Space Shuttle Flight Director.

Roxanna had moved to Houston, Texas, in 1978 to work with the Space Shuttle program at Johnson Space Center after getting her career started as a cooperative education student in mechanical engineering for the Army at the Redstone Arsenal. Rita got a later start, choosing first to home-school her three daughters before joining the space program in January 2000.

But don't think just because Rita's job is focused on the future and the unknown, she isn't interested in preserving the past. In fact, she spends her spare time quilting, crocheting and making her own fishing rods — not to mention enjoying life with her husband, Charles.

When she's not helping to support crews in space, Roxanna works as a hospice volunteer, helping families cope with end-of-life issues. This is near to her heart, since her mother suffers from pulmonary fibrosis — a progressive lung disease — and is under hospice care.

"Contributing is very important to our mother, and is a lesson we took to heart," Roxanna said. "Contributing to our family, our community and our society have always been in our background. You could look at our jobs as a method of contributing. The information being gathered from research on the Station is for us, for our families."

This family tradition doesn't stop at the sisters, though. It continues on with Roxanna's daughter Chrissy, and son-in-law, Scott Stinson, who both work at the Johnson Space Center. Chrissy supports the Astronaut office and Scott works to get all of the equipment required up to the Station. Rita's son-in-law, Scott Reeves, a hardware engineer at the Marshall Center, ensures that the Space Station Ground Systems are reliably designed, integrated, and collecting data.

Gloria Reiswig's dedication to family and education is even reflected in this second generation. Each grandchild has been told from childhood that an education is a privilege not a right, and that it must be earned and cherished.

Both sisters take pride in the way their mother has contributed to the space industry by directing her side of the family tree to grow toward the Sun — and reach for the stars.

Kappa Delta Pi three-time ACE winner



The Athens State Rho Gamma Chapter of Kappa Delta Pi did a three-peat receiving the Achieving Chapter Excellence (ACE) Award at the 44th Biennial Convocation in St. Louis, Missouri. Accepting the award are Trina Horton, Rho Gamma Chapter President, Dr. Michael Wolfe, KDP Executive Director, Dr. Joe Brasher, Rho Gamma Chapter Counselor, Dr. Blossom Nissman, KDP President, and Dr. Tina Sloan, Rho Gamma Chapter Associate Counselor.

The Rho Gamma Chapter of Kappa Delta Pi at Athens State University, the international honor society in education, has received its third Achieving Chapter Excellence (ACE) Award. The award was presented recently at the 44th Biennial Convocation in St. Louis, Missouri.

The ACE Awards program was established in 1995 to recognize outstanding chapter programming in a variety of areas. It has evolved into a recognition program that strives to provide standards for superior chapter operations. The goal is to assist chapters in offering creative programs in support of Kappa Delta Pi's mission and goals. The chapter submitted a portfolio that contained activities in the

following categories: Recognition; the Ideals; Practices, Inquiry and Reflection; Professional Leadership Development; and Fellowship. Dr. Beth M. Vinson, associate counselor, assembled the portfolio for submission.

The program noted that the Rho Gamma Chapter provided evidence that programming activities were well planned and executed. The chapter was also complimented on its mentoring program and RIF activities.

Accepting this award on behalf of the organization were Dr. Joe Brasher, chapter counselor, Dr. Tina Sloan, associate counselor and Trina Horton, current chapter president. Dr. Brasher praised the chapter officers and membership for supporting the varied chapter activities and recognized the leadership of Keith Hood who served as chapter president for the 2001-2003 period for which the award was given.



Zanna Brock was selected as the Athens State University's Ms. Merry Christmas. Brock, of Decatur, is a senior majoring in management. First runner-up was Chasity Waddell of Cullman, and second runner-up was Lori Nix of Moulton. From left to right are: Waddell, Brock, Athens State University President Jerry Bartlett, Nix and Alison Weinman, 2002 Ms. Merry Christmas.

"Employer of the Year" award

The North Alabama Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities named Athens State University **Employer of the Year** in Limestone County for 2003.

The award was given for Athens State's outstanding willingness and performance in employment of persons with disabilities. Athens State President Jerry Bartlett congratulated Maureen Chemsak, who oversees the University's efforts for disabled persons.

"The University is pleased to be recognized for its work to help those who need accommodations to reach their goals in the classroom and in employment," said Bartlett.

ASU BEARS HOME GAMES

| | | | |
|---------|------------------|------|------|
| Jan. 10 | Lee | HOME | 3:00 |
| Jan. 24 | Brescia | HOME | 2:00 |
| Jan. 31 | Mt. State | HOME | 7:00 |
| Feb. 14 | Tennessee Temple | HOME | 7:00 |
| Feb. 24 | Reinhardt | HOME | 7:00 |

Musical concerts, lectures and events to come to Athens

Athens State University Concert/Lecture Committee has several upcoming cultural events.

February - The University will celebrate **African-American History Month**. There will be a series of events featuring African-American issues, history and culture. These events are still in planning and the final date will be announced at a later time.

February 17 - Camilo Acosta, violinist, and Michelle Tabor, pianist, will be performing works by Beethoven, Bartok, Turina and Kreisler. This concert will feature light classical music including some written by South American and Spanish composers. Acosta, a native of Venezuela, is a featured violinist and has toured all over Europe, Latin America and the United States. Tabor, also from Venezuela, has published several articles on Latin American music and has addressed audiences at national and regional meetings about her research papers. This performance will be at 7:30 p.m. in McCandless Hall. Tickets may be purchased at the door.

February 28 - Full Moon Ensemble. This is one of two North Alabama performances the group will perform in 2004. The Full Moon Ensemble performs the music of Scotland, Ireland and early America. Irish music critic, John O'Regan has termed the group as "one of the finer American Celtic outfits." The band has recorded four critically acclaimed CDs that have received international airplay and performed in concert halls and at Celtic festivals and Highland Games throughout the United States and Canada. The concert begins at 7 p.m. in the Student Center Ballroom.

March - Women's History Month. There will be programs and lectures featuring women who have excelled in business, government, education and the arts. The times and dates will be announced closer to the event.

March 14 - Megan Meisenbach, flutist, and Mary Golden, harpist, will be performing at McCandless Hall at 3:00pm. These two musicians have traveled everywhere from Massachusetts to Mexico. They play everything from Bach to Debussy and have even premiered seven of their original pieces.

April 18 - The Athens State University Alumni Community Band will perform. The band is led by former Athens High School Band Director Dan Havely.

Alumni News

Dr. Mabry Miller '37 was elected National Federation of Music Clubs vice president in charge of the southeastern region, which consists of 13 states including Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, Louisiana, Florida, South Carolina, North Carolina, Kentucky, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland and District of Columbia.

Debra Stone '83 was promoted to manager in the auditing and accounting department at Providence Hospital in Mobile. She manages various accounting, financial reporting and tax engagements.

Gail Busbey '82 was honored by the National Conference for Community and Justice for her contributions to building better relations among all people. NCCJ is dedicated to fighting bias, bigotry and racism, and promoting understanding and respect among all races, religions and cultures.

We want to include you! Please email your promotions, awards and news to Rmould@athens.edu.



Athens State University's entry into the WZYP All Volunteer Christmas Parade was a winner. The float was named "Best" in the School Division. Congratulations to the ASU Art Department and the Student Government Association.

Get your ASU License Plate!

Athens State's new license plate is out.

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.

The prefix on the new license plate is "AMA" by state mandate. If you would prefer one with the "AS" prefix contact Betty Marks at 256 233-8242. There is a very limited number of these available.

Tennessee Valley Old Time Fiddlers Convention

HUGE SUCCESS!!



The Athens State University Alumni Association invited alums and friends back for the 37th annual Tennessee Valley Old Time Fiddlers Convention in October. The Alumni Tent had plenty of visitors during the two-day event. Make plans to visit during next year's convention on Oct. 1-2.



Fiddlers Committee names five scholarships

The Tennessee Valley Old-Time Fiddlers Convention Steering Committee has named five endowed scholarships in tribute to individuals who have made a significant impact on the annual event.

The scholarships are: The Randy Howard Memorial Scholarship: Randy was fiddle champion in 1982, '83, '85-86, '91-92, and '95-96. He frequently attended the convention and was known for his musical skill; The J.T. Perkins Memorial Scholarship: J. T. was one of the early fiddle kings who won his first title in 1972 and then in '76, '78, '80, '84 and '88; The Mike Dowell Scholarship: Mike has served on the Old Time Fiddlers Convention Steering Committee for 20 years and was the coordinator for stage activities during the convention for many years; The Jake Landers Scholarship: Jake is a talented musician and songwriter who has had his music performed by several well-known entertainers. Jake served as a member of the Old Time Fiddlers Convention Steering Committee since 1994 and was judge coordinator for three years; and The Vicki Johnson Scholarship: Vicki has served as secretary of the Old Time Fiddlers Convention Steering Committee for 20 years and has worked exclusively with the convention judges for many years recording scores. The steering committee selected the individuals for their contributions to the convention and in fostering an environment that encouraged the playing of old-time music.

The convention has provided approximately \$500,000 in scholarships and funds for programs at Athens State University. Currently, the convention has funded 12 endowed scholarships through the Athens State University Foundation.

**ATHENS STATE UNIVERSITY ALUMNI HOMECOMING CELEBRATION 2004
REGISTRATION FORM**

(DEADLINE DATE: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2004 (Banquet tickets cannot be purchased after this date.))

NAME _____ CLASS OF _____

SPOUSE _____ CLASS OF _____

ADDRESS _____ ZIP CODE _____

TELEPHONE (H) _____ (W) _____ (FAX) _____ E-MAIL _____

OTHER GUESTS _____

ADDRESS _____ ZIP CODE _____

Please reserve: ____ Banquet Tickets @ \$20.00 each TOTAL COST: _____

Make checks payable to: Athens State University Alumni Association

Please return this reservation form and your check to: Office of Alumni Affairs, Athens State University, 300 N. Beaty St., Athens, AL 35611

College Bowl Team earns top finish

Athens State University's College Bowl team has had a tremendously successful fall season, placing among the top teams in several competitions.

Athens State placed first among undergraduate teams in the Georgia Tech Heinrich Boll Invitational Tournament. The Athens State team defeated other university teams including Georgia Tech, Duke and the University of Tennessee.

Kivin Childers and Lee Henry were the top team members for Athens State. Childers, who was awarded a College Bowl Scholarship from Athens State this year, placed sixth overall in individual scoring in the tournament. Henry placed tenth in the tournament and won several awards last year for being a high scorer.

This marked the team's first time to win a tournament.



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