

SPOTLIGHT

Summer/Fall 2014

On South Georgia State College



AN HONORED TREASURE

Frankie Snow recognized for work in archaeology

SGSC Launches Second Bachelor's Degree



South Georgia
State College

SPOTLIGHT

Vol. 1, Issue 2 Summer/Fall 2014

SPOTLIGHT is produced for alumni and friends of South Georgia State College by the Office of External Affairs.

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Greetings, alumni and friends of South Georgia State College!

Welcome to the second issue of SPOTLIGHT, your source for everything that's happening at SGSC! It's my pleasure to once again serve as editor, and I thank you for the positive feedback we received from our first issue.

A LOT has happened in the past year, and this issue is jam-packed with exciting news and photos! A new bachelor's degree in biological sciences officially launches this fall, and the first bachelor's degrees in nursing were awarded this past spring. Speaking of nursing, students can now take advantage of a new simulation lab, which is a valuable tool that further prepares them for a rewarding career. Our own Frankie Snow was presented with a prestigious national award from the Society of American Archaeology. Finally, SGSC's men's and women's swim teams captured third place at the NJCAA Swimming and Diving Championships for the first time in school history.

I could go on and on, but I think it best that you see for yourself how SGSC is making an impact locally and throughout the region. As always, I welcome your feedback so that SPOTLIGHT can be the best source of what's happening on campus and in the lives of our alumni. Don't hesitate to give me a call, send me an email, or drop an old-fashioned note in the mail.

Enjoy the magazine!

Sincerely,
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From the Editor

It's always exciting to share with our alumni, friends, and supporters important updates in relation to the many successes SGSC has experienced. In fact, sometimes it's hard to believe so much has been accomplished in one year.

The choice was difficult to make, but the most significant accomplishment for the 2013-2014 academic year was the approval of the new bachelor's degree in biological sciences. The impact of this program will not only benefit students but also help to provide an additional qualified workforce and an increased economic impact on our region. Thus, this new academic opportunity enhances SGSC and helps make the College better poised for the future.

Partnerships are always important. This year, we have relied more than ever on support from a variety of sources, including donors as well as educational, industrial, and governmental groups. These valuable partners helped bring to fruition the new bachelor's degree and other significant achievements featured in this issue.

As always, we are also delighted to brag on some of our students and alumni who represent us well in the classroom, in athletic competition, or in their respective careers and communities.

SGSC is excited about 2014-2015 and the initiatives currently underway as the creation of a baccalaureate culture continues. We hope you will share the SGSC story with others, including the many ways your alma mater is transforming to serve students now and in the future.

With your help, we can continue to build upon the tremendous progress from this past year and enjoy another fruitful year of serving our students and our region.

Sincerely,



Virginia M. Carson, Ph.D.
President
South Georgia State College



Helping the people of SGSC is our passion. Let it be yours, too.

The Foundations of South Georgia State College provide financial assistance to students, faculty and staff in Douglas and Waycross through scholarships, grants and other initiatives not funded by the State of Georgia. By making a tax-deductible gift, you, too, can impact the SGSC community. Contact a Foundation representative to learn about the many giving opportunities available through The Foundations of South Georgia State College.

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Interior renovation slated for Davis Hall

Governor Nathan Deal has approved a \$2.5 million interior renovation of Davis Hall, one of three legacy buildings on SGSC's Douglas Campus. The building was included in the 1906 creation of the Eleventh District Agricultural and Mechanical School, which later became a founding member of the Georgia Board of Regents as a two-year college in the 1920's. The building has been used as a student and faculty residence hall, including the President and his family, with the last renovation occurring in 1974. According to SGSC officials, the renovation could begin as early as spring 2015. Davis Hall is named for Charles Wesley Davis, the Eleventh District Agricultural and Mechanical School's first principal.



Dining Hall receives award from The Georgia Trust

The Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation has presented its Excellence in Rehabilitation Award to SGSC for the renovation of the Douglas Campus dining hall. The building was originally constructed in 1927 and served in its initial capacity until the 1970's. The \$6.5 million renovation now includes over 15,000 square feet of space. It features cafeteria-style dining, which includes a pizza bar, grill area, soup and salad bar, quick service counter, and other features and services.

Pictured are (L-R) Georgia Trust President and CEO Mark McDonald, Gita Hendessi Gardner, president of Hendessi & Associates, LLC., SGSC President Dr. Virginia Carson, Jackson Kane of LAS Architects, SGSC Foundation President Barry Bloom, and Georgia Trust Vice Chairman Bill Peard.



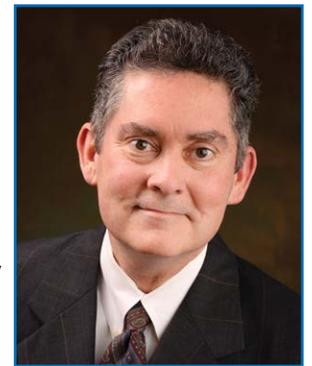
School of Nursing adds new simulation lab

SGSC's School of Nursing has added a lab featuring new learning simulators. The SimMom is a full-body birthing simulator that helps facilitate obstetric training of delivery management. The SimJunior provides realistic pediatric training. Each simulator has many features including the ability to talk, breathe, make heart and lung sounds, and produce pulses throughout the body. The ability to manipulate blood pressure, heart and respiratory rates, and oxygenation is also

available. Each simulation experience is digitally recorded, allowing for a debriefing or reflection of the performance. According to Dean Dr. Scott Thigpen of SGSC's School of Nursing, the simulation lab gives students the chance to handle different situations in a safe environment while developing critical thinking and decision skills.

Dr. Robert Page is SGSC's new VP for Academic Affairs

Dr. Robert Page was appointed in January 2014 as SGSC's new Vice President for Academic Affairs. Page is the former Dean of Social Sciences, Business, and Education and Professor of History at Georgia Highlands College (GHC). During his 16-year tenure at GHC, Page led institutional assessment efforts, oversaw the core curriculum revision process, and served in various other leadership roles. He is a graduate of the University System of Georgia's (USG) Executive Leadership Institute and Accelerated Leadership Academy. Page earned his Ph.D. in history from Georgia State University in 1996 and holds both master's and bachelor's degrees in communication from the University of Central Florida.



SGSC, Swamp Park enter into educational partnership

An educational partnership between SGSC and the Okefenokee Swamp Park (OSP) in Waycross has been labeled a "win-win" by SGSC

President Dr. Virginia Carson and OSP Board Chair Dr. William Clark. SGSC science faculty can utilize the Park's resources as an outdoor laboratory, further enhancing the classroom experience of SGSC students. A benefit to the OSP, Clark said, is the ability of the OSP to bring educational resources to the world through the use of technology. The Okefenokee Swamp Park opened its doors in 1946 as a non-profit organization that has attracted visitors from around the world to the "Land of the Trembling Earth." The SGSC-OSP partnership was officially created in December 2013. *Pictured are Dr. Carson (seated, left) and Dr. Clark (seated, right) at the signing ceremony officially launching the partnership.*





Terry Childers Day honors former baseball coach

Over 20 former players, as well as a large group of family members and friends, honored the memory of former

South Georgia College baseball coach Terry Childers in a pregame ceremony March 1. Childers coached at SGSC in the 1970's. He led his 1978 team to the Region 17 NJCAA State Championship, earning Coach of the Year honors. Childers passed away in November 2013 after a long battle with cancer. Among the many presentations were a replica #16 jersey presented to Childers's wife, Lynn, and a commemorative banner to hang at Crider Field. Childers's five children threw out the ceremonial "first pitch" prior to the start of SGSC's game against St. John's River Community College. *Pictured are SGSC President Dr. Virginia Carson with Lynn Childers and her family after the pregame festivities.*

Three SGSC students named to All-Georgia Academic Team

Nicole Spivey (far left), Paige Smith (second from left), and Michael D'Ambrosio (far right) were named to the All-Georgia Academic Team for the 2013-2014 academic year.



They joined SGSC President Dr. Virginia Carson at a recognition luncheon in Atlanta, Ga. during spring semester. Smith (Nicholls, Ga.) and Spivey (Pearson, Ga.) served as officers of the Kappa Sigma Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society (PTK) on the Douglas Campus. D'Ambrosio (Blackshear, Ga.) served as an officer of the Alpha Rho Omega Chapter of PTK on the Waycross Campus and as President of the Georgia Region of PTK. The three students were among 23 selected for the team from nine University System of Georgia institutions.

SGSC's dual enrollment program doubles

SGSC's dual enrollment program doubled in number from fall 2013 to spring 2014. In addition to the high school students who take classes at SGSC's locations, the College has partnered with a number of area school systems to offer college credit courses in the high school setting. The dual enrollment program is open to

qualified high school juniors and seniors, giving them an opportunity to earn college credit while saving money at the same time. SGSC President Dr. Virginia Carson is pleased with the program's expansion, describing dual enrollment as "very beneficial to students and their families."

African-American Male Initiative focuses on mentor training

A group of Douglas Campus students is the first to participate in the African-American Male Initiative (AAMI), a University System of Georgia grant awarded to SGSC to recruit, retain, and graduate African-American male college students. The students are being trained to serve as mentors for the fall 2014 freshman class.



The goal of the program is to "perpetuate itself" so that the freshmen being mentored during the 2014-2015 academic year will return to SGSC as sophomores to mentor the next class of freshmen. Among their many activities, the students attended a leadership retreat at Albany State University during spring semester. *(L-R) Claret Iwuogo, Aaron Esson, Modou Jagne, Chris Gibson, Albert Williams, Michael Bush, Quinton Cummings, and Logan Carpenter.*

SGSC hosts PTK Spring Regional Conference

SGSC's Phi Theta Kappa chapters hosted the annual Spring Regional Conference for the Georgia Region of PTK. PTK chapters from across the State of Georgia attended, including representatives from PTK Headquarters in Jackson, Miss. The conference featured keynote presentations as well as breakout sessions. Students and advisors also participated in a regional service learning activity at Second Harvest of South Georgia in Douglas. *Pictured are (L-R) Austin Manges, Paige Smith, Michael D'Ambrosio, Ms. Melissa Price (PTK Representative), Ms. Courtney Lange (PTK Representative), Chelsea Burke, Lindsie Peace, Siddhant Gandhi, Felton Baker, and Joseph Harris.*



AN HONORED TREASURE

Archaeologists present SGSC's Frankie Snow with prestigious national award



Above: Frankie Snow, learning services coordinator at SGSC, is shown with the 2014 Crabtree Award he received from the Society of American Archaeology. On the table are hand-drawn re-creations of designs created by the Swift Creek people who “stamped” the designs on their pottery approximately 1,400 years ago. The designs are housed in a special artifact room on SGSC’s Douglas Campus. **Right:** Frankie Snow (right) speaks with Dr. Wayne Clough, secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, about Snow’s Swift Creek design reconstructions. (Photo courtesy of John Gibbons, Smithsonian Institution)



Frankie Snow, learning services coordinator in the Division of Natural Sciences, Physical Education, and Mathematics at SGSC, has been selected as the 2014 recipient of the Crabtree Award from the Society of American Archaeology (SAA). Snow received the award at the SAA's Annual Business Meeting and Awards Ceremony in Austin, Texas.

"I was rather shocked to learn that I would receive this award," Snow said modestly while sitting in his office on SGSC's Douglas Campus. "I had no idea I had been nominated. As this is a national competition, I really couldn't understand why I was selected. I am extremely grateful to Dr. Keith Stephenson and the others who made this possible."

According to the SAA's website, the Crabtree Award was established in 1985 to honor the work of the late Don E. Crabtree who was famous for "flintknapping,"

• which is the process of making stone tools. The
 • award recognizes "significant contributions to
 • archaeology in the Americas made by an individual
 • who has had little if any formal training in archaeology
 • and little if any wage or salary as an archaeologist."

• Snow said his interest in archaeology began as a
 • teenager in the 1960's when he began to survey
 • archaeological sites in the southern Georgia region.

• Under the guidance of Chris Trowell, a retired
 • history, anthropology, and geography teacher at the
 • former South Georgia College, Snow's passion for
 • archaeology grew, and he has devoted most of his
 • time to the study of artwork of the Swift Creek period
 • (AD 200 – AD 700).

• According to Snow, the Swift Creek people carved
 • designs into wooden paddles, which were then



Above: (L-R): Chris Trowell, retired history, anthropology, and geography teacher at the former South Georgia College; Dr. Dennis Blanton, assistant professor of anthropology at James Madison University and alumnus of the former South Georgia College; and Frankie Snow outside Thrash Hall on SGSC's Douglas Campus.

“stamped” onto clay pots as the pottery was being formed. By locating fragments of the pots, Snow has been able to reconstruct the artwork in a “jigsaw puzzle” manner. He has re-created over 400 of the designs by hand, which include masks, flowers, birds, serpents, and insects.

Snow’s work on the Swift Creek designs garnered a return visit to campus in March from Douglas native Dr. Wayne Clough, secretary of the Smithsonian Institution and former president of the Georgia Institute of Technology.

“Dr. Clough is a childhood friend of mine and came to campus to see the designs,” said Snow. “He and I had a great visit, and he enjoyed looking through the Swift Creek material.”

In addition to his Swift Creek work, Snow has worked with Dr. Dennis Blanton, assistant professor of anthropology at James Madison University and alumnus of the former South Georgia College, at a site dating back to 1540 with possible ties to the Spanish

explorer Hernando De Soto. De Soto explored Florida and the southeastern United States.

“This site has national significance in terms of where De Soto might have gone,” Snow said. “We believe the artifacts we have found at this site are from De Soto and his group.”

Along with his actual archaeological work, Snow has published 30 articles, written and presented 40 papers, and provided guidance to other archaeologists on various projects. He has also received many awards and recognitions from the Douglas Kiwanis Club, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, The Nature Conservancy of Georgia, and the Society of Georgia Archaeology.

Even with all of the recognition Snow has received, he maintains a modest lifestyle devoted to discovering treasures from the past.

“I don’t campaign for awards. Archaeology is just something that I do,” he said.

New Bachelor's Degree In Biological Sciences Launches This Fall



The University System of Georgia's Board of Regents approved a new bachelor's degree in biological sciences for SGSC during its April meeting, and the first cohort of students is scheduled to begin classes this fall. The new degree expands academic offerings at SGSC, which already offers the Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing (RN-BSN) as well as a number of Associate of Arts and Associate of Science programs designed for transfer to other bachelor's degree programs.

"This is a landmark moment for our institution," said SGSC President Dr. Virginia Carson. "This new degree program will not only help our students be well-positioned for success in a number of growing fields, but it will also provide highly qualified professionals to support the workforce needs of industries throughout our region."

The biological sciences degree offers two tracks designed with student interests in mind. The nature and ecology track is geared towards individuals who may seek advanced graduate study or employment in a variety of governmental or private sector jobs, such as ecotourism and natural resource management. The pre-professional track prepares students for entry into a number of professions such as dentistry, pharmacy, or other health-related fields. Curriculum in both tracks is aimed to cultivate personal responsibility for the environment and foster the importance of stewardship. SGSC offers top-notch field experiences and hands-

on learning opportunities through partnerships with several unique ecological sites in southern Georgia, such as the Okefenokee Swamp Park and the Nature Conservancy's Broxton Rocks Preserve.

"SGSC's geography and partnerships with area ecological sites make our program very beneficial to students," said Dr. Charles Johnson, chair of the Division of Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Physical Education. "Plus, our faculty are well-credentialed and can provide one-on-one attention, which helps boost student success in a four-year degree program."

In addition, SGSC offers a variety of support services such as free tutoring, advising, and counseling. Students can also take advantage of on-campus housing in modern residence halls and participate in various student organizations. Plus, tuition for the program is affordable compared to bachelor's degree programs at other institutions. Financial aid and scholarship funds are also available, including a portion of designated funds from the SGSC Foundation for the first cohort of students. Prospective students include individuals who currently hold an Associate of Science degree and have completed all required prerequisite courses. Applicants must also have an incoming GPA of 2.5 or higher.

For more information about the new bachelor's degree in biological sciences or to apply, visit www.sgsc.edu or call 912-260-4461.

First bachelor's degrees awarded at 2014 commencement

Douglas, Waycross graduates encouraged to discover their future



Dr. Scott Thigpen, dean of SGSC's School of Nursing, delivered the Waycross Campus commencement address.

Over 140 members of the Class of 2014 at South Georgia State College were encouraged to discover the future that is before them, thanks to inspiring and creative remarks from two well-known keynote speakers.

Dr. Dennis Blanton, assistant professor of anthropology at James Madison University and an alumnus of the former South Georgia College, challenged the graduates to find their passion and use it to inspire others. Blanton delivered his remarks during the May 7 ceremony on the Douglas Campus.

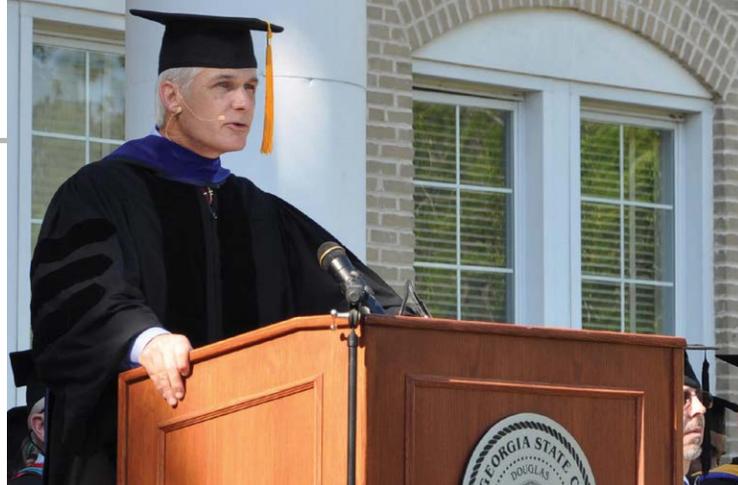
"My homework assignment to you is to search out that personal passion and act upon it," Blanton told the graduates. "If you can do that, everything else will fall into a healthy perspective. Don't be selfish with your passion. Use it to inspire others."

Following Blanton's remarks, degrees were conferred upon the graduates, which included the first cohort of 24 students to receive a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing.

SGSC President Dr. Virginia Carson recognized seven retired Douglas Campus faculty and staff during the ceremony with emeriti designations. Those honored included Peggy Clemons, Associate Professor of Nursing Emerita; Wanda Lloyd, Vice President for Business Affairs Emerita; Dr. Lori Seward, Professor of Speech and Theater Emerita; Scott Sims, Assistant Professor of Health and Physical Education and Head Baseball Coach Emeritus; Dr. Leonard Steverson, Associate Professor of Sociology Emeritus; Dr. Doug Tarver, Professor of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation Emeritus; and Dr. George Wingblade, Director of Physical Plant Emeritus.

Other recognitions during the Douglas Campus ceremony included the retirements of Dr. Randy Braswell, interim director of enrollment services, and Melissa Peacock, LPN-RN coordinator and associate professor of nursing. Braswell served the Douglas Campus for 26 years, while Peacock served both the Douglas and Waycross Campuses for 24 years.

Dr. Scott Thigpen, dean of SGSC's School of Nursing and an alumnus of both the former Waycross College and South Georgia College, addressed the Waycross Campus graduates May 9 with a mixture of serious thoughts and creative humor.



Dr. Dennis Blanton, assistant professor of anthropology at James Madison University, delivered the Douglas Campus commencement address.



Seven retired faculty and staff from South Georgia State College's Douglas Campus were honored during the May 7 commencement ceremony with emeriti designations. (L-R): Dr. George Wingblade, Director of Physical Plant Emeritus; Dr. Doug Tarver, Professor of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation Emeritus; Scott Sims, Assistant Professor of Health and Physical Education and Head Baseball Coach Emeritus; Wanda Lloyd, Vice President for Business Affairs Emerita; SGSC President Dr. Virginia Carson; and Dr. Lori Seward, Professor of Speech and Theater Emerita. (Not pictured): Peggy Clemons, Associate Professor of Nursing Emerita; and Dr. Leonard Steverson, Associate Professor of Sociology Emeritus.

"Life happens very fast, and there's no dress rehearsal," Thigpen told the graduates. "You need to surround yourself with people that are going to help you succeed. There are a lot of people that don't want you to succeed. One of my friends told me, 'Let your haters be your motivators.'"

Life has a "final exam," Thigpen said, and he encouraged the graduates to consider the exam's three components.

"I'm very proud of you for your achievements, and I'll leave you with a final exam called life – where I'm at, where I'm going, and how I'm going to get there," he said.

At the end of Thigpen's address, he encouraged the graduates and audience to dance at their seats to the popular song "Happy" by Pharrell Williams.

Howard Potts, associate professor of history/political science, and Sandy Keeler, assistant professor of history, were also recognized during the ceremony for their respective retirements. Potts served the Waycross Campus for 20 years, while Keeler had 10 years of service.

Enjoying Life Kaleb Wilkes ('09)

By Amy Hancock

The road to success for Kaleb Wilkes has been one of focus, determination, and hard work. Becoming an accountant was a career goal, but Wilkes is not one to sit around after work crunching numbers and reading articles on fixed assets. His life is a healthy balance of work, family, church, and a great deal of fun.

After graduating from Citizens Christian Academy in Douglas, Ga. in 2007, Wilkes chose to stay close to home and begin his college journey at the former South Georgia College (SGC). Deciding to start at SGC was easy for him. He says, "I knew I simply wanted to stay near home during my first two years of college. I was sure I could receive an excellent education at SGC and gain valuable work experience at the same time. Going to South Georgia College turned out to be a great decision." Wilkes majored in business administration and obtained an associate's degree in 2009. He graduated with a bachelor of business administration degree in accounting from the Michael J. Coles College of Business at Kennesaw State University (KSU) in 2011.

While at SGC, Wilkes became involved in many aspects of student life and was also seen by college administrators as a leader among the student body. He was instrumental in the growth of the Baptist Collegiate Ministries (BCM), serving as president for the organization. He participated in campus activities to encourage student involvement and was a spokesman for recruiting students during his time as a Tiger senator. Wilkes used his time at SGC to expand his reach to others and be a good example to those around him. He says, "A good education opens doors and provides opportunities that otherwise wouldn't be presented. I knew I had to get the best education I could. College wasn't a time to goof off. I knew I must accept responsibility for my learning, be proactive, and be serious about my future and at the same time be involved."

While in Douglas, Wilkes worked at One Stop CPS as a sales representative and at First National Bank of Coffee County as a teller. Both positions were extensions of what he was learning in the classrooms at SGC. Wilkes said, "Working in Douglas, and especially at the bank, complemented my education very well. I was able to see a side of business that I wouldn't otherwise have seen until after graduation."

While attending events sponsored by the Georgia Baptist Convention, Wilkes gained a love of working with youth in order to share the gospel with them. While working as a seminar leader for several church camps throughout the south, Wilkes met Jordan, the person who would become his life partner. After recently getting married, the couple has started their life together in the Atlanta area.

Following graduation from KSU, Wilkes was offered a position by one of the "big four" accounting firms in the world but turned it down to work for Ronald Blue & Co. in Roswell, Ga., a full-service wealth management firm offering a variety of services. The company has a 30-year history of delivering financial counsel by applying biblical wisdom with an eternal perspective. Based on the company's principles, Wilkes knew he could be passionate about his work and turn it into his mission.



TOP: Kaleb (as "Homer The Brave") and members of the Atlanta Braves "Tomahawk Team" pose with a young Braves fan at the studios of an Atlanta television station. Bottom Left: Kaleb Wilkes Bottom Right: Kaleb and his wife, Jordan

During his spare time, Wilkes continues to be involved in church work, enjoys playing golf, and enjoys spending time with Jordan, his family, and his friends. Wilkes' importance as an alum of South Georgia State College extends to this day. SGSC President Dr. Virginia Carson recently attended an Atlanta Hawks game where the College's chorus performed. Wilkes and Jordan attended as Dr. Carson's guests. Upon returning to Douglas, Dr. Carson said, "I am proud to see the graduates of our College doing so well in their chosen professions and making an impact not only in the business world but for the greater good of those around them. Kaleb is a fine example of the caliber of students who attend SGSC, and I am very proud to claim him as one of our own."

With all of his work, family, and church responsibilities, one may think Wilkes would not be able to do anything else. Thanks to his time as "Scrappy the Owl" at KSU, Wilkes now works the baselines as "Homer the Brave" during Atlanta Braves baseball games at Turner Field. Wilkes can be seen in costume taking pictures with Braves fans, running through the stands to garner enthusiasm for the team, and dancing on the big screen.

Wilkes says of his life at this moment, "It's a great feeling to look back and see how God has provided. I'm married to the love of my life, surrounded by people I love, doing a job I went to school for at a company that is in line with my beliefs, and I get to have fun in my spare time. What more could I ask for? Much of my success in my professional life stems from the lessons I learned at South Georgia (State) College and from the people there that made an impact on my life on a daily basis. I'm grateful for my start at such a great college and will always be proud to be among its alumni."

Wilkes is the son of Marty ('75) and Karen Wilkes. In addition to his wife Jordan, Wilkes' family includes sister Kaley June ('11) (fiancé Jameson), brother Andrew (wife Kristy), and his precious niece, Addie.

SGSC Swim Teams Place Third At Nationals



In only the fourth year of competition, South Georgia State College's men's and women's swim teams returned to campus with two third-place finishes in the NJCAA Swimming and Diving Championships held March 5-8 in Ft. Pierce, Fla. Both teams topped previous best finishes of fifth for the men and sixth for the women.

Indian River State College's men's and women's teams won the meet, while Iowa Lakes College's women's team finished second. Darton State College's men's team placed second on the strength of 111 points in the diving competition.

"We fell one spot short of our second-place goal, but with no diving points, third is a very big accomplishment for our student-athletes," commented head coach CM Jenkins.

The Hawks had a record-breaking meet, placing 28 swimmers on the podium for top 8 finishes and resetting 13 school records on the way to their bronze finish. Leading the SGSC women with three top 8 finishes were Kelsey Taliaferro and Bonnie Brown. Brown was fifth in the 50 freestyle and 200 backstroke and sixth in the 100 backstroke. Taliaferro placed sixth in both the 400 individual medley and 200 breaststroke and seventh in the 200 individual medley.

On the men's side, Ryan Hinojosa had a fifth-place finish in the 200 individual medley and 200 backstroke while placing sixth in the 400 individual medley. Christian



Marchionne placed fifth in the 100 freestyle and seventh in the 50 freestyle and 100 butterfly.

Clara Moody and Johannes Johnston had two, fourth-place finishes and set school records in their events. Moody placed fourth in the 100 and 200 butterfly, while Johnston placed fourth in the 100 and 200 breaststroke.

Also breaking a school record and placing fourth in the 200 breaststroke was Danny Hogan.

SGSC had two relay teams finish second in the meet behind Indian River. The men's 400 medley relay team of Marchionne, Johnston, Andrew Maley and Ben Marshall earned a runner-up finish. The women's 200 freestyle relay team of Brown, Moody, Lianne Bagaoisan and Ariel Pillipow also placed second.

"This meet was a true team effort. Every one of our 24 swimmers placed and earned points in their individual events," said Jenkins. "A record-breaking performance at nationals was a great way to end a fantastic season for our team."

Jenkins said he is already recruiting for next season and wants to keep the program's momentum going.

"We are looking forward to hopefully repeating as region champions and placing even higher at nationals," he said. "We have recruited a full women's team of 12 swimmers for this (upcoming) season, which is a first. We will also have 13 swimmers on our men's team."

BASEBALL

The Baseball Hawks clinched the sixth seed in the GCAA Conference Tournament, the third time SGSC has reached the tournament under head coach Jeff Timothy. The Hawks lost to Middle Georgia State College and Gordon State College in the tournament to end the 2014 campaign. Philip Hart led the Hawks with a .359 average, and Brooks Calvo led the Hawks on the mound (6-2, 2.96 ERA, 59 strikeouts). Hart and Blake Chaney were both named to the GCAA's All-Region second team.



SOFTBALL

The Softball Hawks will welcome a 12-player freshman class this fall, including four new pitchers and several position players. Catcher Karleigh Clements and third baseman CeeJay Ham return for the 2014-2015 season. Head coach Nicki Levering said she looks forward to the contributions Clements and Ham will make as sophomores. While the 2014-2015 team will be young, Levering believes her players are poised to move the program in the right direction.



BASKETBALL

The Basketball Hawks clinched a berth in the GCAA Conference Tournament for the fourth consecutive year and lost in the quarterfinals. Jovante' Spivey was named to the GCAA's All-Region second team and runner-up for GCAA Freshman of the Year. Spivey, Ty Bull, DeAndre Holmes, Colin Cotter, Cody Helgeland, Daniel Peace, and TJ Rines received All-State awards from the Georgia Basketball Coaches Association. Eleven players return for the 2014-2015 season, including three starters.



CROSS COUNTRY

In 2013, the Cross Country Hawks had one of the best seasons in the history of the program. The women's team finished second in the GCAA and the men had a third-place finish. Three runners – Samantha Arroyo, Jose Castanon, and Tori Irvin – were named to the GCAA's All-Region second team. New head coach Corey Pye and the Cross Country Hawks begin the 2014 season this fall.



SOCCER

The Soccer Hawks had a successful 2013-2014 season, finishing fourth in the GCAA but falling short in the GCAA Conference Tournament. With attention now turned to the 2014-2015 season, the Soccer Hawks welcome a roster of national and international players from Georgia, Florida, Louisiana, Scotland, and the Cayman Islands. Head coach Ben Horner said his team is excited about returning this fall and looks forward to building on the success achieved last season.

Classes of 1950's Reunion

The alumni classes of the 1950's enjoyed a great time on Friday evening, April 11 at a "meet & greet" held at the Hampton Inn of Douglas. The group gathered again on Saturday, April 12 for lunch at the Clower Center on SGSC's Douglas Campus and enjoyed a wonderful time of memories and fellowship.



Classes of the 1950's enjoyed a luncheon and fellowship in the Clower Student Center during their Alumni Reunion on April 11.



Classes of the 1950's Alumni Committee (L-R): Mr. Wendell Durrence, Ms. Pat Milhollin, Ms. Ruth Esmonde and Ms. Beverly Hyers.

SOBU Scholarship Reception

The alumni classes of 1973-1976 gathered for a reception in Engram Hall April 24 to announce the 2014 recipient of the Student Organization for Black Unity (SOBU) Scholarship. The recipient, Mr. Quinton Cummings, plans to pursue a degree in communications. Cummings has also been chosen to be SGSC's Douglas Campus Student Government Association President for 2014-2015. The SOBU Scholarship was established through the generosity of members of the classes of 1973-1976 who were active members of the SOBU organization during their time on the Douglas Campus.



Back row (L-R): Mr. Sammy Edwards and Mr. Allen McArthur. Front row (L-R): SGSC President Dr. Virginia Carson, Ms. Candace Edwards, Ms. Brenda Blue, Mr. Quinton Cummings, Ms. Edwina "Penny" Fields, and Mr. Joe Pope.

Coach Bobby Bowden Alumni Reunion

Former South Georgia College football players along with Coach Bobby Bowden had a wonderful weekend filled with golf, food, fun, and fellowship. Events included a round of golf at Beaver Creek Golf and Country Club in Douglas, a June 6 cookout in the Douglas Campus Clower Center, a June 7 reception in the newly renovated Alumni House, and a banquet in Engram Hall. Coach Bowden was given the Key to the City during the banquet by Mr. Dennis Josey, Mayor Pro Tem of Douglas. Mr. Josey also read a proclamation declaring June 7 Coach Bobby Bowden Day.



(L-R): Mr. Win Lavender, Ms. Jackie Alvarez, and Mr. Jim Alvarez.



(L-R): Ms. Sue Hall, Dr. Virginia Carson, Ms. Ann Bowden, Mr. Dennis Josey and Coach Bobby Bowden prepare for the Saturday evening banquet in Engram Hall.

Class Notes

1968

James Dennis of Douglas, Ga. was the 2014 recipient of the Boy Scouts of America South Georgia Council's Distinguished Citizen of the Year Award for Douglas-Coffee County.

2001

Jennifer Hess is a doctoral candidate in the wildlife biology program at the University of Wyoming.

2003

Karl Enchelmayer of Jacksonville, Fla. recently returned home after completing work for the Peace Corps.

2006

Mark Carter is an economic analyst for the Federal Reserve in Atlanta, Ga.

2008

Taylor Drake Morgan is product manager at NCR in New York, N.Y.

2011

John Isom, Jr. has published a motivational book, "Graduating With Honors: If I Can, U-Can!"

Megan Shook Solomon and her husband Ryan welcomed a new child, Syndal Brooke Solomon (7 lbs., 7 oz., 20 in. long), on May 10, 2014.

Hannah Wilson is assistant children's program director at Youth Haven in Rives Junction, Mich.

2012

Grace Jeffords will begin teaching World History and American Government this fall at Pierce County High School in Blackshear, Ga.

David Medders will begin teaching fifth grade science this fall at Satilla Elementary School in Douglas, Ga.

Patty Palmer is working in Nephrology in Baltimore, Md. and plans to pursue her Masters of Science degree in Nursing.

In Memoriam

Alumni

Roger "Poncy" Deleon (SGC Class of 1959) – June 23, 2014

Wilma Lee McCook (SGC Class of 1956) – January 10, 2014

SGSC

Helen Bradley, wife of late E. R. Bradley, Emeritus Professor, SGC – April 10, 2014

Dr. Wendell Duncan, Dean of Students (retired), SGC – February 2, 2014

Robert "Bob" Johnson, Registrar (retired), SGC – July 18, 2014

Robert L. Odum, Trustee Emeritus, James M. Dye Foundation – June 28, 2014

Ann Packer, Trustee Emeritus, James M. Dye Foundation – July 3, 2014

Coming Soon

Classes of 1974-1975
Brotherhood of the Tiger Paw Reunion
September 5 - 6, 2014
SGSC's Douglas Campus
For more information: (912) 260-4269

Classes of 1970-1971
Baseball Team Reunion
October 3 - 4, 2014
King & Prince
St. Simons Island, Ga.
For more information: (912) 260-4269



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