



INSIDE



Out of Africa

English Comp II instructor Janet Anokye, a native of Ghana, shares her perspective with ABC students. She's far from home, but she has a good support system here. *Page 4.*



Football Begins

Buffaloes start season with familiar faces at quarterback, on the offensive line and elsewhere. Coach Richard Wilson hopes for a winning season despite a tough schedule. *Page 5.*

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ABC Opens Pro Music Studio

A new ABC music business study program is preparing students for jobs in the entertainment industry with help from an on-campus professional quality music studio.

About 20-24 students are members of the program, which features two classes in studio techniques and two in music business.

The two studio classes teach students how to use a Digidesign Pro Tools digital audio workstation, an industry standard system whose quality would rival a major professional studio except in the amount of inputs, according to instructor Michael Carvell. While a major studio system might accept more than 100 microphones at once, ABC's \$30,000 setup can accept eight – enough for a drum set and keyboard.

The sound quality is comparable; it just means some of the instruments must be recorded separately and then mixed afterwards.

The studio was used to produce a CD by the ABC Choir that will be released later this year. It's available for use by faculty and students at one rate and by members of the community at another, with special discounts given to nonprofit organizations. According to Carvell, the studio already has been used to record gospel, hip hop, jazz, rhythm and blues and even poetry.

Carvell said students who took the two techniques courses will be able to work in the studio this upcoming semester. Several are prepared to engineer



STUDIO EXECS? ABC instructor Michael Carvell, left, and Rev. Henry Parker, right, with the college's new Digidesign Pro Tools digital audio workstation.

a session, and one should be ready to mix.

"That alone gives them tools to make money," he said. "They can go into any studio and engineer. After they take those two classes, they're pretty much ready to go as far as that goes."

Carvell said two of the students invested in their own smaller Pro Tools setup and are recording music out of their house. "The quality of the mix that they're getting compared to the music that they were putting out prior to the class starting is like light years," he said.

Meanwhile, students are taking music business classes that teach them

about subjects such as copyright law and royalties.

According to Rev. Henry Parker, chair of the Division of Fine Arts, the program is moving toward becoming an associate of arts degree if it can meet approval by the board of trustees. If that happens, the degree program will require 69 hours, including in courses as varied as accounting and events management.

Students who complete the program will be able to produce and market theirs and other people's music. They will be prepared to work through traditional routes as well as market their

Please see STUDIO, page 2

ABC Choir Cuts CD; Releasing Songs

The ABC Choir is releasing its first CD later this year and will soon be releasing its first single for sale online.

The single "This Morning When I Rose" was written and produced by Grammy Award nominee Derrick Starks. The as yet untitled CD will be distrib-

uted by a national distributor.

Starks, who is based in Atlanta, produced the music in ABC's new professional studio and wrote some of the other songs.

Other songs, including the second single, "My Soul Cries Out," were

written by Rev. Henry Parker, the ABC Choir director.

Starks played piano for that piece, while other members of the community played various instruments.

The proceeds from the music sales will benefit the ABC music program.

From the President ... At ABC, It's Springtime in August

Spring is supposedly the season for renewal, but at ABC, August is when the campus comes back to life.

Faculty and staff return from summer vacations, and students arrive to start the new school year. A campus that grows quiet during summer suddenly bustles with life.

It makes an old guy like me feel young again.

Our goal is to keep growing our student population and improving our retention. It's a big goal, but we serve a big God, and He is doing big things on our campus.

To reach our goal, recruiters have been traveling to high schools across the country looking for future Buffaloes. We'll take the straight-A students, of course, but we're especially looking for students who, for one reason or another, haven't yet reached their potential. At ABC, we're all about potential.

Bigger is not better; better is better. We aspire to touch each student, and we won't be treating any of them like a number. Like the flowers that burst forth from the ground in the spring, each student is a young (or not so young) life waiting to bloom. Each is unique and each is beautiful, even if some might seem only to be a stem sticking out of the ground.

I invite you to come to ABC's campus, step outside, and look around at the students making their way from class to class. Listen to the sounds of learning, laughter, music and prayer. Smell the fresh air, and run your fingers along the handrail leading up the steps to Old Main.

That's our garden. The flowers are blooming.



photo by C. Waynette Traub

Students Attend Meeting

Dustin Danzie and Veronica Sterley, both seniors in the Department of Business Administration, attended the Minority Serving Institution (MSI) meeting July 19 in Little Rock. They participated on the HBCU Student Leadership Panel with students from Philander Smith College and the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff.

The MSI is comprised of a group of funders interested in learning and supporting minority institutions. Howard O. Gibson, Ph.D., ABC interim vice president for academic affairs, dean of the School of Business and director of the Center



FUTURE BUSINESS LEADERS. Veronica Sterley and Dustin Danzie attended the Minority Serving Institution meeting July 19 in Little Rock.

for Entrepreneurship, also attended the meeting. The Winthrop Rockefeller and Wal-mart Foundations were sponsors.

Cox Attends Meeting to Fight Business Fraud

Stephanie R. Cox, MBA, CFE, chair of the Department of Business Administration, attended the Arkansas chapter of the Association of Certified



Fraud Examiners 2011 Fraud Conference July 28-29 at Pulaski

Technical College.

The main objective of the conference was to keep members informed concerning changes in the deterrence of business fraud locally, regionally and nationally.

The ACFE is the world's largest anti-fraud organization and premier provider of anti-fraud training and education. With more than 55,000 members, the ACFE is working to reduce business fraud worldwide.

Cox has been a certified fraud examiner (CFE) since 2009.

ABC Receives Award from Group Promoting Housing

Congratulations are in order to ABC for receiving the ACHANGE Community Service Award.

ACHANGE – The Arkansas Coalition of Housing and Neighborhood Growth for Empowerment – is dedicated to promoting quality, affordable housing for Arkansas' low-income and moderate-income families and fostering community economic development throughout Arkansas.

The group was formed in November 2004 after seven community development corporations from

across Arkansas met to discuss their needs and concerns as developers of affordable housing, providers of homebuyer and financial literacy education, and managers of nonprofit businesses.

ABC was notified of the honor by a letter from the office of Arkansas Sen. John Boozman. Sen. Boozman expressed his gratitude for the college's dedication to the community and to Arkansas and said the college's efforts in the sphere of public service are an inspiration to all mankind.

Assessment Day is Sept. 14

Assessment Day will be Wednesday, Sept. 14, from noon until 1 p.m. in the auditorium of Old Main.

All administrators, faculty, and staff are invited to participate in the day's proceedings.

"Assessment Day is when the campus comes together to discuss the assessment plans of departments and offices and the progress Arkansas Baptist College has made toward effectively assessing student learning and the tenets of the Student Learning Assessment Plan," said Dr. Howard Gibson, interim vice president for academic affairs and dean of the School of Business.

Greene to attend Grambling State



TeRon Greene, who earned an associate of arts degree in business administration in May, will attend Grambling State

University in the fall to obtain a degree in economics with an expected graduation date of May 2013.

After graduating, Greene plans to attend graduate school to pursue both a master of business administration and a juris doctorate degree.

Studio

Continued from page 1

work through online media. And they'll be ready for many other jobs in the entertainment field.

Internships are being set up around the city, and an agreement has been reached with Full Sail University, the industry leader in preparing students for work in the industry, that will allow students to earn a bachelor's degree in three years and a master's degree in four.

Summit to Be on Black on Black Crime



Davis

ABC will host an all-day Black on Black Action Summit Sept. 1 to highlight the problem of crime and the solutions offered by the O.K. (Our Kids) Program.

The summit, which is being held in conjunction with the Delta Classic 4 Literacy football game, will invite businessmen, pastors, parents, students and others to discuss how the program can reduce black on black crime.

The program was started by Donald Northcross, ABC's dean of men, while he was living in Sacramento. A partnership between ABC, the Little Rock Police Department and the Little Rock School District, it assigns mentors from the community to help young men in the sixth through eighth grades. Those students, along with students in high school, attend Saturday "KIC-It" (Kids Interacting and Communicating) sessions, where a curriculum stresses issues such as dealing with police, critical thinking, anger management, and relationship-building. The young men also travel to special events such as a free trip to an Arkansas Razorback game.

Sgt. Willie Davis, a police officer and the ABC program's full-time administrator, said ABC is hoping to use the event to draw attention to the program as a national model.

This is Davis' fourth year with the program. He said participants have shown increases in grade point averages.

Davis said the program's importance was magnified by recent homicides, including one where the victim was an ABC student and the father of an O.K. Program participant.

"Something has to be done, and I'm calling on the black community to be willing to address this issue," he said. "I don't see it necessarily as a police problem, that we're not doing what we're supposed to be doing. I think this is a community problem, and I think that it's going to take the black community to look and see what it is we can do as a whole to stop this madness, to get tired of the killing, to get tired of our young men not embracing life and not valuing life. We have to talk about this thing, and not just talk about it. We've got to do something about it."

Delta Classic Gearing Up

Game has helped tackle illiteracy in 13 Delta counties

The Sixth Annual Delta Classic 4 Literacy has a new team but the same mission.

The game, which kicks off at 5 p.m. Sept. 3 at War Memorial Stadium in Little Rock, pits the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff against Langston University of Oklahoma. Previous games featured UAPB against Grambling State University.

But the game's purpose hasn't changed: to raise money for adult literacy programs in the Delta and raise awareness about the problem of adult illiteracy.

The annual game was founded in 2006 by ABC's president, Dr. Fitz Hill. Previous games have raised a combined \$55,000, and grants of \$5,000 each have resulted in literacy programs in 13 counties: Randolph, Independence, Woodruff, Prairie, Phillips, Chicot, Ouachita and Calhoun. Meanwhile, grants have allowed existing councils to expand into five other counties: Fulton, Sharp, Greene, Lee and Ashley.

During this past fiscal year, those councils served 643 students learning basic literacy skills and 141 students learning English as a second language.

"A lot of these councils could never have started without the \$5,000 Delta Classic grant," said Jennifer Holman, executive director of the Arkansas Literacy Councils, the umbrella organization for the state's 42 literacy councils that serve 62 counties.



MAKING A DIFFERENCE. Literacy councils have been formed with proceeds from the Delta Classic 4 Literacy in the 13 counties shaded in ABC purple above.

Literacy councils have low overhead because they rely mostly on individual volunteers to tutor adults one on one. But certain expenses, such as office space and instructional materials, still have to be covered. According to Holman, literacy councils have faced the same fundraising pressures in this struggling economy as other nonprofits, so the \$55,000 raised by the Delta Classic has been invaluable.

According to Holman, one out of three adults in the Delta does not have adequate literacy skills.

Tickets are available at ABC at 501-370-4000. Sponsors are First Security, Power 92, and the Arkansas Minority Health Commission. Participating sponsors include Arkansas Literacy Councils, The Design Group, and ABC.

Golf tournament raises \$11K

Golfers raised \$11,000 for ABC during the college's 7th Annual Benefit Golf Tournament.

The tournament was held June 10 at Rebsamen Golf Course in Little Rock.

Detroit pro golfer Lindsey Mason was the special guest on hole #10. Players could pay him \$5 to hit their drive, with the proceeds benefiting ABC. The auction featured jerseys, photos and a basketball autographed by the Dallas Mavericks as well as three sets of boxing gloves and two corner jackets donated by boxers Jermaine Tayler and Otis Griffen.

The golf tournament committee was composed of Lee Jeffrey, chairman, Al Ashley, Larry Bone, Artis Boykin, Isadore Caldwell, Vincent Cox, Daniel Favors, Regina Favors, E. Carmichael Ford, Linda Gillam, Bill Lindsey, Estella Morris, Napoleon Phillips, Larry Shine, A.D. Washington, and Phanie Wicks.



GOLFING FOR ABC. Robert Turner lines up a shot at the 7th Annual Benefit Golf Tournament June 10 to raise money for ABC.

Design Group is Culturally Connected

Minority Business Spotlight

Telly Noel and Myron Jackson had more than three decades of combined experience in marketing and advertising in 2007 when they decided that a void existed in the Little Rock marketplace. Existing companies weren't effectively reaching African Americans, Latinos, urban neighborhoods and young people.

So the two former co-workers joined forces and started a full-service firm that fills that niche. "We hung our shingle by the name of The Design Group and forged on," Noel said.

The company, which employs seven counting Noel and Jackson, provides full service marketing, advertising, public relations and event marketing services.

The Design Group is the agency for the Delta Classic 4 Literacy and has worked with ABC on several programs.



ENTREPRENEUR. Telly Noel is a founder of and partner in The Design Group.

Other Design Group clients have included the Arkansas Minority Health Commission, which works

to eliminate health disparities, the University of Central Arkansas, and the Peabody Hotel.

The Design Group's "Rumors" marketing campaign for the Arkansas Regional Organ Recovery Agency is dispelling myths about organ donation and can be seen throughout Little Rock on billboards and the sides of buses.

According to Noel, an African-American-owned firm can reach parts of Little Rock's market more effectively than the traditional big advertising firms can, especially considering that a majority of the city's consumers are minorities.

"We don't just study the market," he said. "We actually live in the market. We eat; we sleep; we drink; we play; we attend the same churches. I mean, we are the target group. In most cases, it's hard for someone on the outside looking in to be able to go in, dissect and understand the frame of mind, the cultural nuances, the differences, the likes, tastes and preferences of a particular group or ethnic group until they've walked a mile in their shoes."

Ghana-born Professor Now Calling ABC Home

ABC Spotlight

Janet Anokye grew up in a village in Ghana without running water or electricity. Today she teaches English Composition II at ABC, and she uses her childhood experiences to reach her fellow students.

Anokye came to ABC in 2008, first as an adjunct professor and then a full-time professor. She teaches four English Composition II classes now and also has taught English Composition I, humanities and world literature.

She already has two master's degrees, one in English and the other in two-year college teaching, and is working on her third, in professional and technical writing.

But her education started in a little African village where students had to walk miles to school. It was a poor area, but it was rich in community, and children felt safe.

After about 10 years in that village, Anokye moved to Nsawam, a



PROFESSOR. Janet Anokye (pronounced "a-NO-chay") teaches English Comp II.

more modern city about 30 minutes from the capital of Accra. She later earned bachelor's degrees in political science and linguistics at the University of Ghana.

At first, Anokye struggled with the differences between her homeland and the United States. She said in Ghana there is a bigger gap between students and authority figures than

in America. It was an adjustment coming to terms with her spirited and less deferential students at ABC.

But she was able to use her experiences to reach them. One day in a discussion about narrative essays, she asked students to draw a picture of their neighborhoods and then describe them. She started by drawing a picture of her childhood home, and

she could tell they were connecting.

The students' descriptions of their own neighborhoods offered a new perspective to her as well – about poverty in America and about troubled neighborhoods where life in some ways is more difficult than the peaceful village where she grew up. "It's still different from where I am from, but I could relate to where they were also coming from," she said.

Anokye was a teacher in Ghana before coming to the United States with her husband, Thomas, a student at Harding University, in 2004. The couple had three children together before Thomas died in December from a seizure.

According to Anokye, being a part of ABC's family made the loss easier to handle.

"I think I was better off because I came back to work because I like my job, and my students, they are always keeping me going," she said. "They laugh, they play, they comment. Always being around people has really sustained me most of the time."

Buffaloes Have Experience, High Hopes

Coach: Winning season possible despite tough schedule

ABC's Buffaloes have been preparing for another tough football schedule, but Coach Richard Wilson is expecting big things, including a winning record, out of this year's squad.

"We showed signs, great signs in spring," he said. "Then we had a number of kids come back from summer, and they really progressed. So I really, really feel good about this year. We've still got a couple of things we've got to work out, but every team does."

The Buffaloes open the season at 1 p.m. August 27 at Quigley-Cox Stadium in Little Rock against Joliet Junior College.

The Buffaloes, who finished last year with a 3-7 record, return 58 players who stayed with the program through the spring and summer, including the entire starting offensive line. That group, led by Jordan Arthur from Monroe, La., and center Gary Artiste from Franklin, La., will be blocking for quarterback Terrall Robinson from Ft. Lauderdale, who played two years ago as a freshman but then redshirted last year. In other words, he practiced but did not play in games, thereby giving him a chance to improve without losing a year of eligibility.

The defense will be led by cornerback Michael Belin from Bearden and Rashad Bryant, a third-year inside linebacker from Ft. Lauderdale. "He's the type of guy who has shown in practice that when he plays well, the kids respond and they play hard with him," Wilson said.

ABC is a four-year academic institution, but it competes against two-year colleges.

This year will be the first that ABC has instituted what Wilson is calling the "Bigger, Faster, Stronger" program. The program, which may redshirt up to 70 student-athletes, will give young people a chance not only to improve their football skills but also their academics as well.

"Some of these kids really need training," he said. "They need enrichment courses, and a lot of times trying to get them on the field quickly is not conducive to really help them matriculate through and get a degree."

The Buffaloes play a difficult schedule against some of the best junior college programs in the country. On September 17, they play Blinn College, which two years ago was quarterbacked by Cam Newton, last year's Heisman Trophy winner from Auburn. Also on the schedule are traditional power Georgia Military College and Navarro College, one of the best programs in the country year in and year out. That's ABC's homecoming October 8.



GETTING READY. ABC linemen practice in August at Quigley-Cox Stadium in preparation for the upcoming season. The team returns its entire starting offensive line.

"It's a tough schedule," Wilson said. "It's tough. But I just like the quality of this team. We don't have an awful lot of depth, but we're good where you need to be."

Wilson said ABC's young program is proving competitive in the skill positions with schools like Blinn and Navarro but hasn't matched their size

and ability on the offensive and defensive lines. To address that, this year the team recruited 42 players, with a goal of 40 being linemen, and almost made its goal.

"We just feel like that's going to be the difference in our team is getting some trench guys," Wilson said.

Buffaloes' 2011 Schedule

Aug. 27	Joliet Junior College	Little Rock	1 p.m.
Sept. 3	Iowa Central CC	Fort Dodge, Iowa	Noon
Sept. 10	Lon Morris College	Little Rock	2 p.m.
Sept. 17	Blinn College	Royce City, Tex.	7 p.m.
Sept. 24	Georgia Military College	Milledgeville, Ga.	1 p.m.
Oct. 1	Trinity Valley Comm. Col.	Athens, Tex.	3 p.m.
Oct. 8	Navarro College (Homecoming)	Little Rock	1 p.m.
Oct. 15	Kilgore College	Little Rock	2 p.m.
Oct. 22	University of New Orleans	New Orleans	2 p.m.
Oct. 29	Northeast Oklahoma A&M	Miami, Okla.	3 p.m.
Nov. 3	Shephard Academy	Little Rock	6 p.m.



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Program at ABC Inspires Future Engineers

More than 20 young people participated in the National Summer Transportation Institute Program on ABC's campus this summer. Organizers hope the result will be more African-Americans entering the engineering field.

The program, funded by a federal grant, introduced the eighth- and ninth-graders to engineering through the transportation industry. All were African Americans who have shown an aptitude in math and science, and more than half were girls.

According to James Banks, an ABC business professor who led the three-week program on campus, students built rockets that they shot into the air and go-karts that they raced against each other. They made concrete and built computerized bridges.

Banks said that time management was stressed during the program to teach students good work habits and introduce them to the attention to detail required in the engineering field.



GREAT SUMMER. ABC instructor James Banks, bottom center, with assistants Oscar Dean, left, and Carlos Wilson along with students.

"You cannot say this strand of wire will hold this amount, and you put the wire up, and it doesn't hold it," he said. "It has to be exact."

Banks said he hopes to be able to serve up to 40 students next year. He said that several students expressed an interest in becoming engineers,

with money being only part of the motivation.

"The salaries raised a bunch of eyebrows, but to a lot of them, money wasn't the object," he said. "They were more interested in if this is something I'd like to do. If I like to do it, then I'm going to be OK."