

Ammons gains national academic recognition

As he heads off to pursue his dream of a medical degree, Billy Joe Ammons Jr. of Red Level first made his national debut while a student at LBW Community College.

The 2012 graduate was named one of LBWCC's All-Alabama Academic Team members, then Alabama's New Century Scholar, and finally, he was one of only 20 in the nation to be named to the All-USA Academic Team in Orlando, Fla., at the American Association of Community Colleges' national convention.

Presented by *USA Today* and Phi Theta Kappa National Honor Society, the program recognizes exceptional students among the nation's two-year colleges.

"This dedicated student has certainly left his mark on the faculty, staff, and students at our College," said LBWCC President Dr. Herb Riedel. "We are excited about his future."

He was also one of only 20 students in the nation to be named as a Phi Theta Kappa Guistwhite Scholarship recipient.

Sanders named 'Gold Scholar'

Brooke Sanders of Coffee Springs is one of 50 in the nation named as a 2012 Coca-Cola Foundation Community College Academic Team Gold Scholar. The award is administered by Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society.

She is a 2012 summa cum laude graduate of LBWCC and plans to continue her studies toward obtaining a radiology degree.

"I am very grateful for the



Ammons is the first in his family to complete college and says he values his educational experience at LBWCC.

"I am grateful for the sound academic foundation provided by LBW's faculty and staff," he said.

"I want to encourage people to pursue their educational dreams. Even though they may think it's not possible, I'm proof that it is possible."

wonderful experience at LBW. I appreciate all the support and encouragement of faculty and staff," she said.

LBWCC President Dr. Herb Riedel said Sanders deserves recognition of her hard work and dedication to her college education.

"We are proud of her accomplishments and wish her only the best as she continues her educational career."

LBWCC wins Level One Award

Lurleen B. Wallace Community College was recognized in December as a Level One Alabama Quality Award winner in the education category.



"This recognition results from a commitment made by the College to pursue the path of Quality," said LBWCC President Dr. Herb Riedel. "We are constantly looking for ways to implement continual improvement efforts in the classroom, student services, physical plant, and administrative operations."

Modeled after the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award and administered by the Alabama Productivity Center in Tuscaloosa, applications are reviewed by members of a trained Board of Examiners.

It recognizes and honors organizations with past or recent innovations in areas of production, service or management that have resulted in increased productivity and quality.

LBWCC is using information from the program's feedback report to make further improvements.

Plans are to apply for the next level of the AQA award at the appropriate time.



Andalusia Campus



MacArthur Campus



Greenville Campus



Luverne Center

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P.O. Drawer 1418
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Martha and Solon Dixon Center for the Performing Arts

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As you can see from the articles in this newsletter, LBWCC is truly an award-winning college! The success of our students is our success, and I am so proud of their accomplishments.

The College has been able to make progress over the last few years. Some of this is visible in the form of numerous small improvements to our three campuses and the Luverne Center.

In Andalusia, we are nearing the completion of a \$240,000 Pedestrian Safety and Campus Enhancement plan, which has changed the parking on Dannelly Boulevard to angled parking, created a more beautiful streetscape, built a patio outside the Student Center for outdoor seating, and instituted traffic calming measures. All of this was accomplished through a private-public partnership that did not utilize institutional state funding.

Equally as important are the advances that are not visible: Our progress instituting continuous quality improvement measures, an exciting new honors program, and the Math Emporium, which



Dr. Herbert H.J. Riedel
LBWCC President

helps students with a weaker math background develop necessary math skills for success.

Despite these successes, there can be no mistaking that LBWCC is now experiencing a very challenging period due to five years of repeated funding cuts.

In 2007, LBWCC received allocations of \$9.9M from the state and the projected amount for 2012 is only \$6.7M, constituting a reduction of 32.4%.

During the same period, many costs have increased, including utilities, gasoline, educational supplies, and the College's share of employee benefits. Decreased state funding necessitated a substantial tuition increase last fall, but not nearly enough to make up the difference in funding.

The burden is heavier now than it ever has been on our students – who generally struggle just to make ends meet. This is a time when donor support can really make a huge difference in a student's life.

Please consider supporting the annual Margin of Excellence campaign – and make a difference for excellence!

Upward Bound grant renewed

LBW Community College will continue providing services through the Upward Bound program, thanks to a five-year, \$1.46 million Federal TRIO Programs grant from the U.S. Department of Education.

"We are thrilled to learn our program is being refunded," said Bridges Anderson, program director. "For 36 years, we have helped students with the skills needed and motivation necessary to complete high school and succeed in postsecondary education."

LBWCC's Upward Bound program serves 65 students each year from nine high schools in Butler, Covington and Crenshaw counties.

Students entering their freshman year are recruited for the program and receive help in math, English, history, science and foreign language.

Students are also counseled about career options, college choices, college majors, financial aid and scholarship opportunities. Throughout the four-year program, students are exposed to many educational and cultural activities.

"LBWCC has sponsored the Upward Bound program with great success from participants and we are excited to be able to continue," said Anderson.

The new grant begins in September.



Dr. Charles A. Kemp
LBWCC 1993 Graduate

Charles A. Kemp pursued his dream of becoming a pharmacist after he graduated from Andalusia High School in 1990. On a tennis scholarship, he attended LBWCC and completed an associate degree in pre-pharmacy course work in 1993.

On Dec. 17, 2011, he was one of 69 pharmacists from around the country who were declared doctors of pharmacy at the University of Florida.

"My initial pre-pharmacy education at LBW, I believe, played a very important role in establishing a foundation," said Dr. Kemp.

After some work at the University of South Alabama, he transferred to Auburn University where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in pharmacy in 1996.

"After 13 years of practice in the pharmacy profession, I decided to pursue the Doctor of Pharmacy Program," he said, which was completed in nine consecutive semesters.

While in the program, he did work in Tampa, Fla., Jacksonville, Fla., and Las Vegas, Nev. In Gainesville, Fla., he worked extensively with the gold team at Shands Hospital.

He has nine years of experience in an administrative/ managerial role, with the last two years as the Director of Pharmacy services at D.W. McMillan Memorial Hospital in Brewton.

Dr. Kemp is a member of the American Society of Health System Pharmacists, Florida Society of Health System Pharmacists, and the Florida Pharmacy Association.

He resides in Pace, Fla., with his wife and two daughters. He is the son of James and Brenda Kemp of Andalusia.

"I am thankful for the opportunity to have started my college coursework at LBW and believe it has helped me tremendously in my career."

Tell Us Your News!

LBWCC alumni are encouraged to submit information for accomplishment recognition. Contact the Alumni & Friends Newsletter Editor by calling (334) 881-2320 or send an email to rlemaire@lbwcc.edu



LBWCC sees 321 students succeed

Among the 321 students completing program requirements Fall, Spring or Summer terms in the 2011-2012 academic year, there were:

- 70 Associate of Science Degrees
- 22 Associate of Art Degrees
- 111 Associate in Applied Science Degrees
- 118 Certificates

2012 Outstanding Alumna

Debbie Ferguson Marcum, a 1985 LBWCC graduate, was recognized at the 2012 commencement program as "Outstanding Alumna."

After completing Straughn High School, she attended LBW on an academic scholarship and was a member of the Lady Saints Basketball team.

She completed her graduate and undergraduate studies at Troy State University and gained employment in 1988 at PowerSouth as a general accountant.

Continuous work promotions led to positions of market planner, market research and planning coordinator, and marketing support manager.

Currently she fills the role of member



Debbie Ferguson Marcum
LBWCC 1985 Graduate

services manager and is responsible for providing marketing support services to the PowerSouth member systems in the residential, commercial and industrial market segments to enhance the relationship of the company with its 20 distribution systems in central and south Alabama and northwest Florida.

Marcum is very involved in the community, including serving as a board member for the Andalusia Country Club and LBWCC

Foundation, president of the City of Andalusia Recreational Youth Sports Board and the Andalusia Chamber of Commerce, and volunteers with the First Baptist Church Youth Council and the Andalusia Elementary PTO.

CONTRIBUTORS

Recognizing President's Circle and Dean's Club donations made between June 1, 2011 and May 31, 2012

President's Circle (Donations of \$1,000+)

AIA Recycling Corporation
Alabama Aerospace Manufacturing
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Andalusia Rotary Club Foundation
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Donation Form

Gifts are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

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I wish to remain anonymous.

Yes, I/we would like to make a gift to help the college and students. Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$_____ made payable to:

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- LBWCC Foundation [501(c)(3) nonprofit]
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Please cut on the dotted line above and send this form with your gift to:
LBWCC Foundation Specialist,
P.O. Drawer 1418, Andalusia, AL 36420

SkillsUSA Gold Medalist



For the second year in a row, a student at LBWCC in Opp walked away with a SkillsUSA first-place win in heating, ventilation, air conditioning and refrigeration.

This year, it was Zach Ludmun of Florala who took the gold medal.

“To have students from

our HVACR program win two consecutive years speaks to the level of training received at our institution,” said LBWCC President Dr. Herb Riedel.

SkillsUSA is a partnership of students, teachers and industry leaders working together to ensure the country has a skilled workforce.

The competition includes a written exam and tests brazing skills, refrigerant component services, air measurement and troubleshooting, refrigerant recovery and electrical troubleshooting.

Ludmun’s score was higher than any other postsecondary student in Alabama, and he will compete at the national level in June.

Top two ACETA awards



LBWCC students took this year’s top two writing awards from the Association of College English Teachers of Alabama (ACETA).

Olivia Fleming of Kinston, pictured left, and Jessica Williamson of Andalusia impressed literary judges in a statewide essay contest, winning the Mary Evelyn McMillan Undergraduate Writing Award first and second place respectively.

Nominations were made by LBWCC English faculty Shannon Graham in Opp and Dr. Steve Hubbard in Andalusia.

“We are very proud of our award-winning students. They are an inspiration to us all,” said LBWCC President Dr. Herb Riedel.

These essays competed against submissions from students across the state in both community colleges and four-year universities.

Virtual welder adds practice time for students

A new machine inside the welding shop at LBWCC in Opp provides a learning opportunity without the waste.

This virtual reality welder is green technology and gives students substantially more practice time without using metal or consumables.

“With computer generated data, students ‘see’ a virtual welding job through the helmet’s internal monitors,” said David Brawner, welding instructor.

“The virtual weld is simultaneously displayed on the screen and the computer pro-

vides real-time technique feedback.”

The equipment was purchased through a workforce development grant and is adaptable for training basic welding students to advanced welders.

Because there are no metal, shielding gas, rods, or other welding consumables with this type of training, students have increased practice time.

“What would take several hours to prepare, students now get in just a few minutes. The system saves energy, reduces the use of costly materials, and avoids creating waste.”



Alumni & Friends NEWS

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