

Outdoor Club Takes A Stand Against State Park Litter

STEPHA TERESE POULIN & CIERA NESTOR
BATTLER COLUMNS REPORTERS

The abundance of beautiful outdoor scenery is what draws many students to ABU, but are students taking a toll on what nature has to offer? Audra State Park has been one of West Virginia’s treasures since 1948. Students from multiple colleges, and locals alike, have enjoyed the surrounding swimming holes for decades.

At the more popular destinations along the Tygart, it is obvious that students have visited recently, and they have left more than just footprints. An abundance of trash, including solo cups, juice packs and beer cans, cover the ground.

These popular hangout spots are where Brandon Cavanaugh, the leader of the AB Outdoor Club, saw the most waste. “Arden is a growing weekend hangout for the students at AB. I have noticed the increase [in litter] since the end of last semester,” said Cavanaugh.

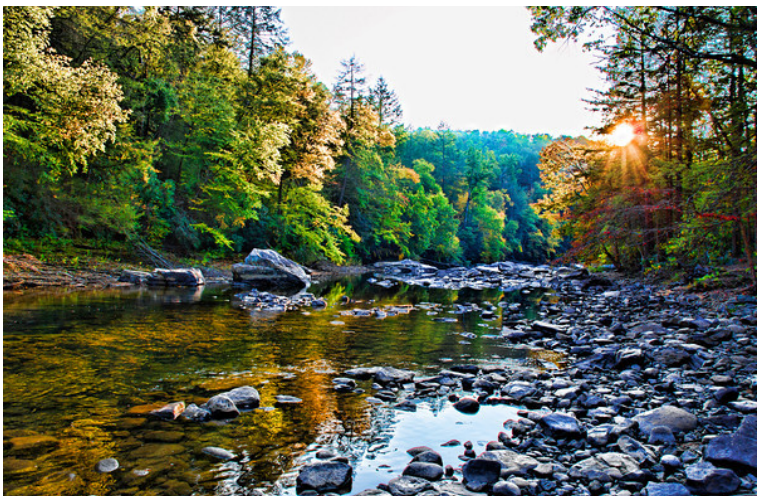
These parks are considered home to many of the locals around Barbour County, and many of their warm weather recreational activities revolve around the Arden and Audra area. When locals of Barbour County were asked their thoughts on the

issue, most had not so surprising answers.

“Anytime we go to the river for the day, it’s almost certain we will find piles of trash around the rocks and in the river at some point in the day”, says one Barbour county resident. “The majority of the time we spend at the park consists of cleaning up the messes left behind

popular spots for having fun.”

ABU’s Outdoor Club has also recognized this issue. On Saturday, September 19th, the club held a cleanup of Arden. From 1-5PM, students from AB cleaned up the mess that other students presumably left behind. The Outdoor Club plans on making this event an annual occurrence.



Audra State Park

rather than enjoying a beautiful day on the river, because we just can’t stand to see our beautiful home in such terrible shape.”

When another local was asked about the issue, it was stated that, “things just seem to be going downhill for the park. To maintain its beauty, we really need to take the time to clean up after ourselves and respect the area. I love living here, and I want my children to enjoy the parks and create wonderful memories here just as I did growing up. We need to take pride in our beautiful county and work as a community to take care of and appreciate one of our most

gest that if anyone goes out to Arden or a state park in the area, that they'd be mindful of the environment. If you're going out to one of these places, bring a trash bag for your litter. Leave no trace.”

If you would like to join the cause, the Outdoor Club is rapidly growing and always welcomes new members. On October 10th the group will be going on zombie paintball ride, and on October 17th they will go horseback riding and cave exploring. Students who are not members of the club may also go on group outings, and count participation as community service hours.

ABU Allows Freedom in Housing Selection

MAKENZIE ROSE
BATTLER COLUMNS REPORTER

Benedum, Priestly, Kincaid, Blue, Gold, University and Battler are all residence halls on AB’s campus. In past years, Benedum and Priestly have been considered freshman dorms. Benedum allows new, incoming students to have a classic freshmen living experience. But this year has seen changes in living as all residence halls were open to all students, including incoming new students.

Dave Falletta, Director of Residence Life, located in the Office of Student Affairs, says that the primary reason for the change is that this year there were more freshmen than could fit in Benedum and Priestly. The incoming first year student classes are increasing, but this also in-

creases the size of graduation classes, but there will always be overflow. This year max capacity was almost reached in the residence halls. AB’s max capacity is 969. This number is “defined by the physical number of beds we have”, after coaches, RAs, and rooms for medical needs. “There is not a lot of wiggle room,” said Falletta. “You can’t put a student in a bed that doesn’t exist.”

Alternate plans for housing such as tripling rooms, doubling up RAs and lastly, making common areas into rooms, were possible this fall to house all students. Max capacity on campus creates a room freeze that prevents students from moving until after add-drop week.

Housing Selection continued on page 3



ABU's Battler Residence Hall

MRSA Outbreak In Coliseum Causes Weight Room to Close

DOMONIQUE JOHNSON
BATTLER COLUMNS REPORTER

Alderson Broaddus University experienced an outbreak of MRSA in September 2015 that hit the heart of the university in the coliseum weight room.

Due to the outbreak, the weight room was closed for cleaning, to prevent more students from getting the infection.

Student-athlete, Gaige Evans, expressed his concerns about the issue. “I was afraid I was going to get MRSA. I didn’t want to get sick and not be able

to function daily as well as play baseball,” he said.

Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus, better known as MRSA, is a type of staph bacteria that causes infections in different parts of the body. The symptoms of the infection depend on where it is on the body.

Most often, MRSA can consist of sores or boils on the skin. However, the infection can affect surgical wounds, the

blood stream, the lungs, or the urinary tract.

Causes of the infection are hard to pin-point since most people carry staph already but are not infected by it. Staph becomes a problem once it enters the body potentially through a cut.

MRSA is difficult to treat due to the infection’s ability to restrain most antibiotics. This makes the infection potentially life-threatening; however, most

cases are not serious.

MRSA inhibits many antibiotics making it hard for researchers to keep up and develop new medications for the infection.

To prevent getting the infection wash your hands regularly, keep cuts covered until healed, and do not share personal items such as towels, tweezers, and razors. Alderson Broaddus University is no longer in threat of a MRSA outbreak.

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Campus News

THE
BATTLER
COLUMNS

*The student-run
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University*

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Submission
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All articles sent in will be considered for publication. However, the paper does reserve the right to refuse publication due to any reasonable editorial objections. Furthermore, all articles will be edited for factual accuracy, spelling, writing style, and grammar. All articles and letters to the editor can be sent via e-mail. Photos can be sent via e-mail as well.

Alderson Broaddus University Gets Ready for Homecoming '15

School to Celebrate September 24-27th

PHILIPPI, W.Va. - Alderson Broaddus University will be hosting a variety of events for the public as part of their Homecoming celebration "There's no place like Homecoming" September 24-27. A Pep Rally and Bonfire will be held Friday evening at 9 p.m. on the old soccer field. All students, alumni, and friends are invited to this spirit-filled, student-lead event. Immediately following, everyone on campus and in the community is invited to a FREE concert by rising star Jared Mahone at 9:30 p.m. on the old soccer field. An alum-

nus of Alderson Broaddus, Mahone sings a wide-range of music and is one of the most booked performers in the college market with 500+ shows across the country in the last four years. He is the winner of Verizon's Indie Icon Competition and has appeared on the Katie Couric Show in NYC. All community organizations are invited to participate in the annual parade, which takes place on Saturday, Sept. 26 at 11 a.m. along Main Street. It will start near Subway and conclude at Sheetz. Spectators can set up chairs

along the sidewalks and watch the 40+ units march down Main Street.

Wilcox Chapel will be full of music Saturday evening, Sept. 27 at 8 p.m. as the School of Music hosts its annual homecoming concert. The cost for the concert is \$10 and is payable at the door only.

Join the AB Community on Saturday to cheer on the Battlers! First, Battler football kicks-off against Central International University at 1:30 p.m. at the Multi-Sport Performance Stadium. During half-time, the 2015 Home-

coming Court will be recognized and the 2015 King and Queen will be announced. Then, later that evening the women's soccer team will compete against Salem International University at 5 p.m. followed by the men's soccer team at 7:30 p.m. along with a 50 Years of Soccer Tailgate!

On Sunday morning, Sept. 27, the annual Homecoming Worship Service will take place at Philippi Baptist Church located at 69 Church Street in downtown Philippi. Worship begins at 10:30 a.m. and all are welcome to attend.



ABU Hosts Distinguished Lecture Series During Homecoming

Community Invited to Presentations Sept. 23 through Sept. 25

PHILIPPI, W.Va. - Alderson Broaddus University is hosting the Dr. Robert V. Digman Distinguished Lecture Series during homecoming Wednesday-Friday, Sept. 23-25, 2015.

Wednesday, Sept. 23, our speaker is Rev. Jim Stinespring who will be presenting on the History of ABU Mission Trips beginning at noon in Crim Dining Hall.

On Thursday, Sept. 24, Dr. Ken Yount will be speaking about the History of AB Football, beginning at noon in Crim Dining Hall.

The lecture series will conclude on Friday Sept. 25 with Mr. Lewis Hall discussing the History of Funkhouser Auditorium. This will

take place at the Auditorium and a ribbon cutting will be held outside to celebrate the recent renovations and installation of new seats. This ceremony will take place at 11; the lecture series will begin at 11:30, and a FREE picnic will take place at 12:30 outside Picket Library.

The Dr. Robert V. Digman Distinguished Lecture Series honors Dr. Robert V. Digman for his outstanding service to Alderson Broaddus University. He has devoted his life to the institution, its students, and continues to support the growing campus. Dr. Digman is "honored and humbled" to be recognized in this way.

Students Get Involved in Homecoming Activities

STEPHA TERESE POULIN
BATTLER COLUMNS REPORTER

Alderson Broaddus University celebrated one of its earliest homecoming celebrations on September 24-27.

In the preceding weeks, students from a variety of fraternities, sororities and other activities began preparations. Multiple fraternities and sororities participated in the penny wars, and also sidewalk decorating to fit the theme: "There's No Place Like Homecoming."

On Friday evening, the annual homecoming bonfire kicked off a weekend of festivities. AB alumni, Jared Mahone, performed at the bonfire, putting on a show with a wide-array of songs. The bonfire was a great opportunity to unwind after a week of classes and get students ready for an exciting weekend.

Saturday was a day packed full of activities. Although the football game got to a late

start, the Battlers brought home a win.

Later in the evening, men's soccer continued the winning streak. During half-time, homecoming King and Queen, Kalen White and Nicole Goldsby, were announced. White and Goldsby represented Power of Women, and helped earn a win for their organization.

Later that evening, the School of Music held its annual homecoming concert. It featured the West Virginians, Brass Choir and Brass Quintet, as well as the University Chorale. A special tribute was paid to retiring professor, Judson Bracey. The School of Music hopes to see him back again for next fall's homecoming concert.

Despite homecoming's early start, it still proved to be a very exciting and successful weekend. There really is no place like our home - AB.

Campus News

ABU Welcomes New Professors

MAKENZIE ROSE
BATTLER COLUMNS REPORTER

In recent months, AB has seen an influx in retired professors and new hires. One department that has felt the most dramatic change is the Humanities department and most specifically, the English department. This fall Daniel Propst, Dr. Kayla McKinney, and Jessica Spruill, became a part of the AB community as English professors.

Daniel Propst attended West Virginia Wesleyan College and received a degree in Masters of Fine Arts in Creative Writing. He is currently teaching Freshman Composition, Advanced Composition, Language Skills, and Forms of Literature: Fiction.

Dr. Kayla McKinney, a graduate of Bethany College in Bethany, WV, acquired her undergraduate degree in English literature, with minors in history and religious studies. She attended WVU for her MA and PhD. Her PhD is in English Literature and she specialized in Victorian literature.

“When we read literature, I think it gives us a sense of what it is to be human - to love and hope and fear and struggle - and I feel very privileged to get to share those readings with my students.” Dr. McKinney said.

Dr. McKinney is teaching English 200 and British Literature II this fall semester. When asked why she likes British Literature, Dr. McKinney answered, “I love science fiction and fantasy and I think some of those great (often early) stories come from British writers; there's Beowulf, the Victorian fascination with the fairy world, Lord Dunsany, Tennyson, Tolkien....”

Jessica Spruill, a former student at AB, also joined the AB staff this fall. She received a BA in English with an emphasis in Creative Writing from AB in 2011 and received her Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing from West Virginia

Wesleyan College's low-residency program in 2015.

“When I was still an undergraduate student at AB, I knew that one of my career goals was to eventually return to my alma mater as an English professor,” said Spruill. “This beautiful hilltop campus has felt like home to me for nearly a decade, so I can honestly say that returning to AB was like coming home.”

This fall semester finds Spruill teaching two sections of Composition I, Language Skills, and Appalachian Literature as well as serving as the faculty advisor for AB's literary magazine InFlux.

Spruill's fascination with Appalachian literature is well-known to her students. She mentions that she did not choose what classes, although when Appalachian literature was on her schedule she did do a happy dance around her kitchen. “My interest in Appalachian literature is very self-indulgent: Appalachian writers are my people,” said Spruill.

She goes on to say that before her grad school days, her knowledge of Appalachian literature was limited. As her studies progressed, Spruill was introduced, by literature and some in person, to the authors of Appalachia. “I realized that there were writers who understood what it is like to grow up in this region and to struggle with an ambivalent attitude toward being raised here. Because Appalachia is so misunderstood and misrepresented, it is a great comfort and pleasure to find novels, stories, and poems that not only hold their own in the literary world, but also portray the Appalachian region as the beautiful, diverse place that it is,” said Spruill.

As each of these new professors joins the AB community, as returners or for the first time, they all have something to share with their students in the realm of English studies.

Geiger Receives Shearer Myers Keenan Award

DOMONIQUE JOHNSON
BATTLER COLUMNS REPORTER

Tricia Geiger, physician assistant, an understanding and caring attitude toward patients and those in need, and the exemplification of Christian values and lifestyle. Applications were due by July 1, 2015 along with a recommendation letter from the student's clinical rotation site regarding those criteria. A committee made up of two current

known as the Shearer-Keenan Award, Dr. Richard E. Shearer established the award to provide \$500 each year to a physician assistant graduate of the Alderson Broaddus College of Medical Science, School of Physician Assistant Studies. To be eligible for the award students must have a GPA of at least a 3.25, competence as a future physi-

cian assistant, an understanding and caring attitude toward patients and those in need, and the exemplification of Christian values and lifestyle.

The award

originated in the 1960's by former AB president, Dr. Richard Shearer, along with local physician Dr. Hu C Myers who made contact with Terrance Keenan, Grants Officer of the Commonwealth Fund in New York City who later became the Senior Grants Officer for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation in Princeton, NJ. It is fitting that Dr. Richard Shearer and Dr. Hu C Myers be recognized as the on-campus founders and Mr. Terrance Keenan as the original funding supporter by the annual presentation of this award.

Resident Assistants Settle into New Year

EMILY PORTER
BATTLER COLUMNS REPORTER

A Resident Assistant is someone who goes above and beyond the duties of a student. They focus on their studies, participate in various organizations on campus, compete in student athletics, and ensure the comfort, safety, and happiness of their residents.

Being a part of Residence Life is a huge responsibility to take on, but the staff this year seems to be handling the responsibility just fine.

Domonique Johnson, junior RA in Priestley Hall, says, “This is my first year as an RA in Priestly Hall. I was an RA last year, but Priestley feels so much more like home, especially now that upperclassman can live in the building. It really adds to the diversity of the building and makes Priestley a fun place to work and live.”

Like Domonique, many RAs have settled into their residence halls and started

programming to their residents. Other than programming, RA's also have other duties they attend to as part of their job.

One night a week, an RA is on duty from 8 o'clock p.m. to 12 o'clock a.m. On the weekends, the RAs are on duty until 2 a.m.

During this time, an RA is either in a residence hall lobby or in the RA office just in case a resident needs any help. This help can range anywhere from needing homework help to just needing to talk to someone about personal issues. RAs are not allowed to disclose any information, so when they are told secrets, the secret is safe with them.

Aside from being on active duty, an RA has to complete a variety of building programs throughout the semester. These programs include a variety of categories including social, educational, and diversity. An RA can come up with any activity

that a resident may enjoy, ranging from learning how to cook using Nutella all the way to having a Halloween party.

Tyler Benner, Assistant Resident Director of Priestley Hall, says, “Programming is important because it allows students to be exposed to new information or experiences in a fun and educational way. I enjoy programming to our building with my RAs because it challenges us to combine our interests and extend that to our residents. We're able to teach them something, as well as have fun.”

This year, the residence life staff has settled into the growth in population at AB. This growth has only not only created a more diverse campus for RAs to plan events for, but it has given the staff the opportunity to get their residents involved and make students see just what AB has to offer.

Housing Selection Continued from page 1

The room freeze is necessary because some students decide not to come to campus, some are commuters, and still some others come at the last minute. “Numbers are pretty much what they are,” Falletta said, referring to student numbers after add-drop week.

With the freedom for students to choose where they live, there are fewer restrictions on designated buildings and a reduction in unnecessary pressure on students to live in the new dorms if they do not wish to. “If a freshman really likes University and wants to live in University and there's a space open in University, why not let them live in University?” asks Falletta.

Most of AB's peer institutions, campuses that are the same size, same environment, and in the same area as AB, do not specify where new students have to live. AB is now part of a group that provides students with more freedom to choose their residence halls.

The only dorm that upholds residential restrictions is Benedum. “Benedum Hall is only available for first-year students as it is the First-Year Experience Living-Learning Community,” said Falletta.

When asked what he thought of students having the ability to choose their residence halls, Senior, Michael Perry, a

resident of Priestly, says, “I believe it's great to have students choose where they live.”

First time student, Stephanie Poulin, a resident of Kincaid, has a similar opinion. “I think it's a great idea,” said Poulin. “By allowing all students to choose their own housing, more opportunity opens up for upperclassmen who may want cheaper housing options.”

When asked if letting first time students choose where they live makes them miss out on the “freshman experience”, Poulin said, “Not particularly. I think the ultimate “freshman experience” is being thrown into a completely new environment. It doesn't matter where I get housed to experience that.”

“I don't anticipate a time when we run out of rooms,” Falletta said. But the high occupancy rate is moving forward and there will be less flexibility, less single rooms outside of Blue and Gold, and fewer options to change during year. Falletta also mentions that, not any time in the near future, but as graduate programs expand local housing for the grad students may be a point of conversation.

But for the time being, Falletta says that they will always do his best to let students pick their housing and live where they want to.

Campus News

Alderson Broaddus Receives \$773,750 Grant From U.S. EDA

U.S. Economic Development Administration Invests Nearly \$774,000 to Create New Employment Opportunities in West Virginia Coal Community

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Commerce Department’s Economic Development Administration (EDA) today announced a \$773,750 grant to Alderson Broaddus University in Philippi, West Virginia to establish an incubator facility that will focus on spurring and supporting rural entrepreneurship. It is estimated that this project will create 180 jobs and generate more than \$14 million in private investment over the next nine years.

“EDA understands that a great idea can happen anywhere, and the agency is committed to supporting innovation and entrepreneurship in rural communities,” said U.S. Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development Jay Williams. “The EDA investment announced today will provide new opportunities for the people of rural West Virginia and support local efforts to diversify the economy to become more competitive in the global economy.”

EDA’s investment will help fund the construction of a business incubator facility on the first floor of the former Broaddus Hospital on the campus of Alderson Broaddus University. The new Center for Rural Entrepreneurship (CenRE) will serve the seven rural counties of Barbour, Braxton, Randolph, Upshur, Lewis, Gilmer, and Tucker.

“I am excited and extremely thankful for the EDA’s commitment to Alderson Broaddus University as shown by this extraordinary grant,” said Alderson Broadus Univer-

sity President, Dr. Richard Creehan. “This investment will also help jumpstart the entrepreneurial heartbeat inside our students as well as innovative job creators in the region and across West Virginia. CenRE will change the entrepreneurial culture of our great Mountain State, providing low cost state-of-the-art incubator space for budding rural entrepreneurs.”

The incubator space will offer highly professional conference space with teleconference capabilities and technology efficient for 21st century businesses.

“Alderson Broaddus thanks everyone involved in supporting our vision for the Center for Rural Entrepreneurship especially Senators Joe Manchin and Shelly Moore Capito and Congressman David McKinley who have supported and continue to support our vision for economic development in West Virginia,” said Creehan. “I also want to thank Bob Gittler, EDA Economic Development Specialist; the Region VII Planning & Development Council, specifically Shane Whitehair, Executive Director, and Bob Jacobus, Community Development Specialist for their assistance and partnership in this project.”

Alderson Broaddus University is deeply engaged in job creation and business formation. Today’s announcement comes exactly two years to the day in which Congressman McKinley held his Economic Summit on ABU’s campus in 2013. At this town hall meeting, leaders from the private sector,

government and economic research discussed how to develop an approach to economic growth strategies and policies to benefit the Mountain State moving forward for the next decade. Last year, the University held a round-table discussion with 33 local business owners of Barbour County where they discussed economic development, strategies and tactics. Current West Virginia House of Delegates Minority Leader Tim Miley was also present and spoke of the importance of small businesses for economic development.

President Creehan has been very active with economic development groups in Barbour County including the Chamber of Commerce, Barbour County Economic Development Authority, and Region VII Planning and Development Council, just to name a few.

CenRE will be a state-of-the-art facility, providing incubation space to tenants and services to resident companies and other companies across the seven county area. CenRE will allow the university to provide a "semi-virtual" business incubator facility to provide additional and alternate job opportunities in a region devastated by the loss of coal-related employment. Additional EDA resources are available for communities impacted by changes to the coal industry through the Obama Administration’s Partnership for Opportunity and Workforce and Economic Revitalization (POWER) initiative.

This is just one among many efforts EDA is undertaking to promote entrepreneurship in rural regions. EDA recently announced its 2015 Regional Innovation Strategies program, which, in an effort to promote and support inclusion, is expected to award up to \$2.5 million of a total \$8 million to projects that provide services to rural areas, and applicants who create specific outreach plans to populations and communities that are underrepresented in innovation and entrepreneurship.

About the U.S. Economic Development Administration (www.eda.gov)

The Economic Development Administration marks 50 years of public service, leading the federal economic development agenda by promoting competitiveness and preparing the nation’s regions for growth and success in the worldwide economy. An agency within the U.S. Department of Commerce, EDA makes investments in economically distressed communities in order to create jobs for U.S. workers, promote American innovation, and accelerate long-term sustainable economic growth.

ABU is confident this incubator will generate excitement throughout the community and is hopeful that support for this initiative will grow and inspire those interested in rural entrepreneurship. Alderson Broaddus University will make more announcements regarding the Center for Rural Entrepreneurship in the next few weeks.

Funkhouser Auditorium Undergoes Renovations

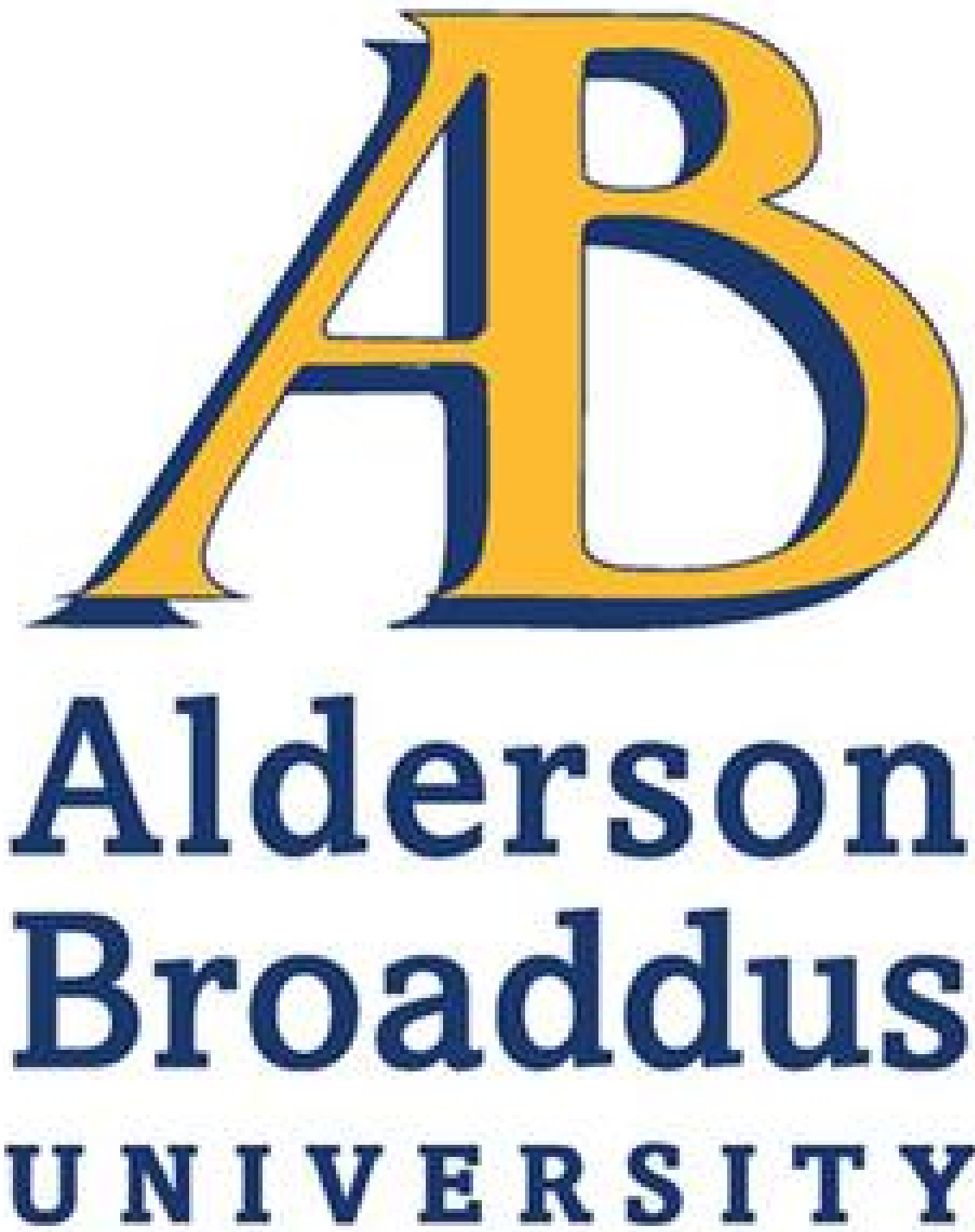
BRITTANY PACE
BATTLER COLUMNS REPORTER

The great resource for seeing the renovations taking place over the summer. New renovations are helping to transform the campus and give it a fresh, new, modern day vibe.

Although many people are excited about the renovations to Funkhouser Auditorium, some believe that other renovation projects should have had priority over this one. Such as the Withers Brandon building, which is in need of restructuring. “I don’t understand why the Funkhouser was next on the to-do list, with WB about to fall. It just doesn’t make sense why we wouldn’t invest in that first, a building we are in everyday verses a rarely used auditorium.” says junior, Alia Nolan. Many other AB students, faculty and alumni were also concerned about this project’s timing.

The renovation process consisted of removing the wooden chairs and replacing them with new modern day cushion seats. New lighting and carpet were added in addition to fresh paint improvements in the sound booth. “I believe these changes will bring the Funkhouser back to life with a modern day feel”, said Arianna Cash, a junior at AB.

The ABU facebook page has been a



Features

7 Hidden Treasures that Welcome the Fall Season

EMILY PORTER
BATTLER COLUMNS REPORTER

It's that time of year again. Classes are in full swing, students are pulling boots and sweatshirts out of their closets, and leaves are beginning to cover the sidewalks around Alderson Broaddus' campus. The adventures of summer may be over for ABU students and money may be tight, but that doesn't mean the fun has to end. West Virginia, the surrounding area, and even right here on campus have plenty of fun-filled activities for students on a budget to enjoy during the fall season.

1. Cooper's Rock State Forest

Cooper's Rock State Forest has over twenty hiking trails for students to enjoy. Only around a thirty-five minute drive from campus, Cooper's Rock overlooks the Cheat River Gorge, where the mountains seem as if they go on for miles. There are plenty of picnic areas, a gift shop, and even a playground for those young at heart. For more information on Cooper's Rock, visit coopersrockstateforest.com.

2. Movies.ab.edu

Not much of an outdoorsman? ABU offers free movies for students readily available in their residence halls. Genres include drama, family, scary, action, and more. Simply go to movies.ab.edu, download the plug-in, and watch away!

3. Greyskull Manor

With fall comes Halloween, and what would Halloween be without Haunted Houses? Clarksburg, WV is home to the closest haunted house to ABU. Greyskull Manor offers all the jumps and screams students look for during the Halloween season. Admission is \$20, and Greyskull is open now until Halloween. For more information, call (304)-623-9184 or visit their Facebook page, Greyskull Manor.

4. Seneca Rocks

Seneca Rocks, located in the eastern panhandle of WV, is a rock face many hikers enjoy. It is one of the most popular hiking areas in West Virginia and enhances the fall colors of the state! For more information, visit senecarocks.com.

5. Campus Activities Board events

Every Thursday, Campus Activities Board (CAB) hosts events for students to attend. When students pay their tuition bills at the beginning of the school year, part of student fees go to CAB. The board plans events such as foam parties, free giveaway events, and much more. For more information, follow CAB on Twitter at @AB_CAB1.

6. Trans-Allegheny Lunatic Asylum

The Trans-Allegheny Lunatic Asylum has several activities they offer each year. This year, they are offering Zombie Paintball all season long for \$15 a person. A Haunted House, themed "Hysteria," is \$20 per person, but on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Sundays, admission is only \$15. The asylum is also offering a fall festival for those who do not like things that go bump in the night. For more details and more events through the season, visit trans-alleghenylunaticasylum.com.

7. Arden River and Audra State Park

ABU upperclassmen can say some of their best memories are from Arden River or Audra State Park. Nestled in the hills of West Virginia, Arden offers swimming and hiking in the summer but in the fall, it offers a great place to camp with friends. Audra State Park has plenty of hiking trails to enjoy with friends, and also offers different camp sites.

Fall may mean summer has come to an end, but with a little sense of adventure, Alderson Broaddus University is surrounded with plenty of treasures to help welcome in sweater weather.



Cooper's Rock State Forest



Trans-Allegheny Lunatic Assylum

AB Students Begin Young Americans For Freedom Chapter on Campus

LEAH RUSSO
BATTLER COLUMNS REPORTER

Young Americans for Freedom (YAF) is a nationwide organization that was founded in 1960 by young conservatives. It is a chapter of the larger organization Young America's Foundation.

The goals of YAF are to bring together students to advocate for the ideas of limited government, individual freedom, free enterprise, traditional values and a strong national defense. It is the group's goal to increase conservative knowledge and ideas at schools across the nation.

A group of Alderson Broaddus University (ABU) students came together and presented YAF to the administration as an organization they would like to add to the school. Senior AJ Stapp gathered a list of 15 names of people interested in becoming a YAF leader, but he is still waiting to hear back on the final decision from administration.

Stapp said his goals and hopes for YAF are "to spread conservative ideology and to better educate people who have little political knowledge about the conservative movement."

"People are more than welcome to

come and see what we're all about, but to be considered a full member of YAF they have to believe in the Sharon Statement," Stapp said.

The Sharon Statement is the founding statement of principles adopted by YAF



members when it was first created. Those who embrace principles in the Sharon Statement, which include timeless conservative values, will find a home in YAF. Another important feature of YAF is that the organization supports the idea of capitalism.

Socialism and communism are two areas that YAF strongly disagrees with and they are often common topics that YAF speaks out against.

Other than being a conservative activist organization, YAF has a couple of interesting facts about it. The organization owns the Ronald Reagan Ranch in Santa Barbara, California, which previously belonged to Reagan and his wife, Nancy and was also the western white house for eight years. The ranch is open to students who attend YAF programs for touring and provides an insight on who Reagan was and what he did during his life outside of his presidency. YAF members are also frequently invited to political events for a chance to sit on real politics, and the events are usually of little to no cost to the members.

If Young Americans for Freedom sounds interesting, Stapp encourages students to stop by during one of their meetings to see what they're all about, as well as determine if it's something students agree with and would be interested in joining.

Stapp wants to encourage people to "take the right step in the right direction."

Features

Literary Magazine Gears Up for 27th Year

AMORETTE HUGHES
BATTLER COLUMNS REPORTER

InFlux is Alderson Broad-
dus University’s annually pub-
lished literary magazine. Each
spring, a news edition of InFlux
showcases the poetry, prose,
and artworks of AB’s students,
alumni, and faculty/staff.

Influx has been a staple
at AB for the past 26 years. In-
Flux also hosts an annual con-
test which is open to all
students. Winners are awarded
cash prizes in both the poetry
and prose categories.

InFlux is also a class
which meets once a week. Stu-
dents of the class make up the
editorial board, which is used to
determine whichworks will be
published.

In an interview with Pro-
fessor Spruill, the head of the
class and adviser of InFlux this
year, she talks about the edito-
rial board, “This year Emily
Porter will return as the Editor-in-
Chief, and I am very excited to

welcome the following Lexi Kin-
caid as the Art Editor, Amorette
Hughes as the Poetry Editor,
and Bryton Fegley as the Prose
Editor.”

Professor Spruill plans to
make changes to Influx. She
says, “during my senior year, I
was the Editor-in-Chief of InFlux.
That responsibility was one of
the most important and instruc-
tive experiences of my under-
graduate education. I gave the
utmost respect for InFlux and in-
tent to honor its tradition whole-
heartedly, but I do think it is time
for the literary magazine to get a
little makeover, so to speak. The
university’s literary magazine is
a wonderful platform for con-
tributing writers to showcase
their writing and art, but there’s
only a small fraction of our cam-
pus community that seems to
even be aware of its existence. I
intend to promote and distribute
InFlux more widely as well as

host events and reading that will
establish a creative literary outlet
on our campus. I don’t necessar-
ily plan to change anything, I just
want to see InFlux live up to its
potential.”

“I am thrilled, honestly.”
Professor Spruill said in her in-
terview, “I believe that InFlux is
a wonderful publication that has
the potential to be a recogniza-
ble and reputable literary maga-
zine.” Professor.

Spruill is eager to see the
submissions writers send in.
Submission opens on November
1st. “I have a feeling that the
2016 edition of InFlux is going to
be the best one yet!” she said.

“I have watched AB
change and grow so much in the
past four years, I see so much
potential for InFlux to catch up.
We have to adapt our ways of
thinking and challenge ourselves
to find new ways to engage with
the world,” Spruill said in her in-

terview.
She hopes to create an
excitement about the magazine
and encourage students to cre-
ate art and develop writing.
Professor Spruill went on to talk
about how see can see so much
talent on our lively campus, “I
know that there are plenty of
writers and artists on our cam-
pus who deserve to have their
works printed and proudly dis-
played in the pages of Influx.”

“One of the traditions that
I started as a student, which we
will continue, is the Used Book
Sale. It’s coming up soon, so I
am happy to accept any used
book donations from our cam-
pus and the community.”

Used books can be
dropped off at Professor Spruill’s
office (Withers-Brandon 203C)
or she will even pick them up,
you can “give her a ring” at (304)
457-6359 or send her an e-mail
at spruillja@ab.edu.

Students Face Fears To Donate Blood on 9/11

AMORETTE HUGHES
BATTLER COLUMNS REPORTER

On September 11th,
Alderson Broaddus Univer-
sity’s Phi Kappa Delta Sorority
held a blood drive in the lobby
of Burbick Hall. Phi Kappa
Delta hosts a blood drive
every month during the school
year to benefit their philan-
thropy, The American Red
Cross.

For Corianne Jenkins,
a Sophomore Elementary ed-
ucation major with certification
of special education, it was a
nerve-wrecking experience. It
was Corianne’s first time giv-
ing blood in her life. “I chose to
give blood because I come
from a family with a dad as a
veteran and he has always
been about helping others,”
Corianne said, “The day I
chose to give blood was on
9/11 and I saw no better time
to give blood so I decided this
would be the time to do it.”

Corianne went on to
say “the experience was scary
because I don’t like blood and
seeing the blood made me
nervous, and I was a little light
headed afterwards but was
given some juice and felt bet-
ter.”

She was glad her
friends and the ladies working
the drive were there for her

during this experience, but she
will probably not do it again
since she was so nervous. Co-
rianne’s words of advice for
those thinking about giving
blood is to “think about the
people you are doing it for.”

Allyson Frost, a senior
Elementary Education major,
is a professional at giving
blood. She has given blood
twice a year since she enrolled
at AB. Allyson said, “I wanted
to give blood because it was
September 11th and it was the
least that I could do. I am ac-
tually really afraid of needles
and everything that deals with
blood but I always feel like this
is an easy opportunity to give
back.”

Even though Allyson
gives blood often, she still gets
nervous. Her words of wisdom
for those thinking about giving
blood are, “the fear is all in
your head! The needle does
not hurt at all! Just know that
you are saving lives and if
something were to ever hap-
pen to you personally, you
would want people to do this
to help you!” Allyson jokingly
added that even though she is
always nervous to give blood
she is “still alive so it has al-
ways gone well so far”.

*Get out and do
something in the
wild and wonderful!*

Local West Virginia Abounds in Outdoor Activities

MICHAEL HOTT
BATTLER COLUMNS REPORTER

As a student here, I
constantly hear other students
complaining about having
nothing to do and how boring
it is. The truth is that every-
thing is only as fun as you
make it.

If you take a look out-
side, it is easy to see the
beauty and luxury West Vir-
ginia has to offer. You might
have to take a little trip but the
result is nothing less than
stunning.

The closest and most
convenient location for stu-
dents to relax is Arden, WV.
While students enjoy time
there swimming in the river,
many have no clue what the
dangers are beneath the
water.

Arden is a very danger-
ous stretch of the Tygart River
claiming around 5 lives a year.
The dangers lurking beneath
the surface are jagged and
large rocks and very strong
and powerful undertows.

Fortunately, there are
other safe and fun alterna-
tives. If you want to relax,
Audra State Park is just a few
miles down route 119 towards
Buchannon. The park offers
safe and designed swimming
holes as well as picnic tables
and open grass area for activ-
ities. The park also has multi-
ple trails that have been
designed to showcase the
beauties of the stream and the
forest.

The park attracts stu-
dents from surrounding col-
leges such as Alderson
Broaddus, Davis and Elkins,
and West Virginia University.

If you enjoy the out-
doors, Pleasant Creek Park on
route 119 towards Grafton of-
fers just about anything an
outdoorsman could want. The
park has a reservoir at the en-
trance which is prime for large
mouth fishing during early fall
and in the spring. The park
has a campground where you
can set up tents camp and
enjoy a campfire.

The park connects to
the beautiful Tygart Lake,
where visitors can swim and
enjoy fish.

If you’re willing to take
about an hour and fifteen-
minute drive to Davis, West
Virginia you can see the na-
tionally famous Black Water
Falls. The view along the trail
to the falls and the falls itself
can only be described as
breath taking.

The park offers a beau-
tiful trail to the falls, offering
amazing views of the land-
scape as well as historic infor-
mation about the area and the
construction of the park. The
park has a lodge for vacation
goers as well as a gift shop at
the beginning of the trails to
the falls. The falls offer trails
that make it handicap accessi-
ble, so anyone can enjoy the
beautiful scenery.



Athletics

Treadway Named GMAC Women’s Cross Country Athlete of the Week

JOE SMITH
BATTLER COLUMNS REPORTER

Alderson Broaddus Women’s Cross Country athlete Taylor Treadway (Ravenswood, W.Va.) was honored by the Great Midwest Athletic Conference (G-MAC) as their Women’s Cross Country Athlete of the Week for the week of Aug. 31-Sept. 6, after her record setting performance at Davis & Elkins Forest Festival Invitational on Sept. 5. The announcement came from the G-MAC conference office on Monday, Sept. 9.

Treadway, a freshman, was competing in her first collegiate meet while running at Davis & Elkins. Her 6K time of 24:39 not only earned a first place finish for the event, but also set a new course record. Her victory, alongside a top

ten finish from fellow freshman Battler Ashleigh Martin (Capon Bridge, W.Va.), earned the women’s cross country team a third place finish in the invitational with 71 points overall.

Such accolades are old hat for the Ravenswood High School graduate, as the former Red Devil was All-Little Kanawha Conference and a state qualifier during all four years of her high school career (2011-2014), and also earned all-state honors during her senior year. Treadway will look to follow-up on her successful run throughout the final five races of the season, including a return to Davis and Elkins for the G-MAC Women’s Cross Country Championship on Sat., Oct. 24.

FCA Welcomes All Student-Athletes to Worship

JOE SMITH
BATTLER COLUMNS REPORTER

“I love the gospel and I love ministry. I will never turn down the opportunity to potentially help spread the news about Jesus,” responds Jordan Butler, a senior Christian Studies major and starting placekicker for the Alderson Broaddus University (ABU) football team, when asked why he wanted to lead ABU’s chapter of Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA). FCA is an international, non-denominational ministry designed to impact the world for Jesus Christ through the influence of sports.

FCA has been a featured organization at ABU for four years. Its main goal is to spread Christianity for the genuine love of God and the students on campus. The group began as a student-athlete led bible study, and has grown into one of the largest organizations on campus. “The last two years, we have averaged 20-30 people per meeting,” mentions Butler. These numbers rival any other organizational meetings and weekly events on campus. “FCA, like any other form of fellowship with other Christians, is an awesome way for spiritual growth,” says Butler. “For me, growth always seems to come from it.”

Although the FCA chapter at Alderson Broaddus has experienced rapid growth from its small beginnings, there is still much to be desired for the organization. The group is always looking to bring new members to its ministry. “To anyone who is just curious about the gospel, or has no clue what Jesus is about, don’t hesitate to come give FCA a shot,” says Butler. The organization meets weekly at 8:30 P.M. on Thursday nights in Myers Lecture Hall on campus.

ABU Hosts Villers Disc Golf Tournament

CIERA NESTOR
BATTLER COLUMNS REPORTER

Over the past several years ABU has become nothing short of diverse. With a wide variety of new sports and activities on campus, ABU is now considered home to students from all over the globe.

Numerous opportunities are available to students with different interests, to ensure that ABU not only feels like home, but also feels like a place to express oneself. Recently, campus has made a new addition to appeal not only to students, but to the community of Barbour County and surrounding areas.

Several netted poles have been placed around campus, creating ABU’s very own disc golf course. This course was built thanks to the hard work of Pastor Johnathan Villers and Profesor Lara Foster. Since first coming to Philippi, Villers has had the vision of bringing disc golf to Alderson-Broaddus in hopes to, “provide opportunities that don’t require driving somewhere else, a place that can be enjoyed on campus by all.”

Along with the assistance of Lara Foster and former student and intramural director, Sean Burdette, his dreams were able to become a reality.

Once funding was pro-

vided, Villers and his team immediately went to work to create a full 18-hole course around campus. Now that the course is close to completion, the team, along with a group of Sports Management students from Foster’s class, are working diligently to put together the very first annual Villers Disc Golf Tournament.

The tournament will be held Sunday, September 27, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. This event has been made open to the public to play as well as students and faculty, to showcase the additions to the Alderson-Broaddus campus and what hopes there are for the future of ABU.

The cost will be \$60 per foursome, and \$20 per individual for the two round event. This cost covers the greens fee, disc rental, the lunch being provided, and two drinks during the match.

When I asked what his expectations were for this new course, Villers stated that, “my hopes for this course are to create a network and become a part of the rotation of events held by the West Virginia Disc Golf Association. We want to create an opportunity to allow the community and campus to interact together and enjoy what disc golf has to offer.”



AB Women’s Soccer Team Optimistic for Fall Season

LEAH RUSSO
BATTLER COLUMNS REPORTER

The Alderson Broaddus University women’s soccer team opened their G-MAC play on September 10th with a 3-2 double overtime win at home against the Trevecca Nazarane Trojans. Excitement and adrenaline were at an ultimate high for both the players and the coaches following the win, and it seemed like this game would set the pace for the remainder of the season.

Those high expectations fell short just two days later when ABU dropped a 3-2 regulation loss at home against the Kentucky Wesleyan Panthers.

Women’s Soccer Coach Cristian Materazzi said, “The huge home win against Trevecca should’ve set the tone for our season, but we failed to continue with that form for the next game on Saturday.”

ABU vowed not to let this loss affect any other games, but they followed up with a two game losing streak on the road against the Cedarville Yellow jackets and the top-seeded Ursuline Arrows.

“Our bad form from Saturday’s game continued at Cedarville, where we struggled. Hopefully we turned the page at Ursuline. Even though the Ursuline game resulted in a loss, we played extremely well and maintained good form throughout the game, and we actually dominated the Arrows for the majority of the game. This is the most talented group I’ve ever coached, but now it’s about playing together and playing for the same goals. We have three upcoming games to turn our record around. Our ultimate goal is to be hosting games in the post season, and

that goal is still well in reach,” Materazzi said.

Women’s soccer team members matched a majority of what Materazzi said. Freshman Emily Kennell said, “My hope for the season is to not only finish with a ring on all of our fingers, but also for the team to grow and keep improving as the season continues. I think we need to learn from our losses and take accountability for our mistakes as a team. We have the heart and the desire, so now we need to execute and keep our momentum going for our remaining games.”

Junior captain Caitlin Forest said, “Although we’ve had a rough start to the season, I am more confident than ever in the teams’ ability after the way we played against Ursuline. I’d love

to be able to bring the G-MAC tournament home to AB and to come out as conference champions with my team. If we stay positive and work as a family I know we will prevail and stun the rest of the G-MAC. Winning our next three games will remind everyone that we are still the team to beat.”

ABU returns to home to face the Ohio Valley Fighting Scots on Thursday, September 24 and follows with a home match against the Salem Tigers on Saturday, September 26. The Lady Battlers will continue a three year tradition by wearing warm-up jerseys in support of the fight against childhood cancer as well as breast cancer. Come out and show support as the women’s soccer team fights for a G-MAC championship.