

August 18  
2003

## Inside

Page 2

HR office cuts  
paperwork for  
new hires

Page 3

Trustee names  
may go to Senate  
in September

Page 4

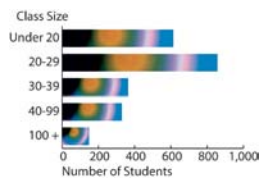
Transit head says  
new look not  
just skin deep

Page 6

Interim head  
named for Raptor  
Rehab Center

### How AU Stacks Up

Range of Class Sizes  
at Auburn in 2002



Source: Office of Planning & Analysis

Updates between issues  
@

[www.ocm.auburn.edu/  
au\\_report/aureport.html](http://www.ocm.auburn.edu/au_report/aureport.html)

# AU report

For the faculty and staff of Auburn University

Vol. 36 No. 16



### Find the tiger

Can you find the tiger's face on the side of this bus? If not, look on page 4 for another perspective. Auburn's Tiger Transit has a new look and commitment to go with its new routes and schedules. Changes during spring semester led to a ridership increase of 50 percent, and students, faculty and staff will see more changes this semester.

## Web sites show impact of tax vote on faculty, staff, students, others

As they approach a Sept. 9 referendum on Gov. Bob Riley's tax and accountability package, Alabama voters face one of the most complex and potentially far-reaching decisions in the state's history.

The package would increase state revenues by \$1.2 billion through a mix of new and increased taxes that would fall heaviest on the state's wealthier citizens, corporations and others who have benefited the most from the state's existing tax structure. The state's poorest citizens would see their tax bills reduced under the shifting tax structure.

Riley says most of the package would go toward long-delayed improvements in K-12 education and shoring up a near-bankrupt state budget to avoid drastic cuts in law enforcement, corrections and basic social services. Benefits to Auburn University would be indirect, such as better-prepared students from Alabama high schools and reduced pressure for large budget cuts to higher education.

Auburn students, meanwhile, would gain from a

tuition assistance program similar to the HOPE scholarships in Georgia.

Other than the possibility of increased funding for salaries and programs from more stable state education budgets, the package would impact Auburn faculty and staff the same as it would other Alabama residents. Those with the highest incomes would pay more, and many of those in the lowest pay grades would see their income taxes decrease.

The Legislature will meet in special session in September to address a \$675 million budget deficit.

(See *Referendum*, page 5)

### Riley to speak at AU on Aug. 26

Gov. Bob Riley will speak to the public at 3 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 26, in Broun Hall auditorium at a meeting hosted by the University Faculty. The governor will discuss the tax and accountability package that will go before Alabama voters on Sept. 9.

**Road work**

Returning faculty and students are finding detours on two of AU's busiest streets, Samford Avenue and Mell Street, as contractors lay new infrastructure lines in the southeast quadrant of campus. At times during construction, half of Samford will be a one-way street running west to east. Contractors are also detouring traffic around Mell Street at times.



## HR conducting training for next step in new online employment process

The Office of Human Resources will soon implement the next phase of an online employment process that will permit unit hiring managers and HR liaisons to submit recruitment and selection documentation electronically, reducing paperwork for staff positions.

This will be the third and final stage in converting the entire employment process to a Web-based environment. The change will streamline the recruitment process and enable university staff with responsibilities in these areas to track the progress of their recruitments with just a few key strokes, said Angela Erlandson, system administrator in Human Resources.

Phase One began last November with conversion of the application process from paper to the new Web site. Units posting positions since then have been able to view their applications by accessing the system with unique guest user codes and passwords provided to them by the employment unit. Also,

information justifying selection decisions is recorded electronically in the new system by the employment unit staff in conference with hiring supervisors and their liaisons. This information forms the basis for documentation required by Affirmative Action for jobs having affirmative action goals.

Phase Two began in February with a pilot group of HR liaisons using the system to submit the electronic forms to Human Resources and recording their justifications of selection decisions. Affirmative Action also reviewed and approved information documented in the system by these pilot liaisons via the Web site, Erlandson said.

Phase Three will be implemented on Oct. 1. Human Resources this month organized two training sessions for designated HR liaisons throughout campus. HR liaisons will work with the Director of Employment Services to arrange for training of the hiring managers within their units during September.

## General Counsel Emeritus Tom Samford dies

Thomas D. Samford III, general counsel emeritus of Auburn University, died Aug. 8 at his home in Opelika after a lengthy illness. Interment was at Rosemere Cemetery in Opelika on Aug. 11.

Samford served as general counsel to the university from 1961-95 and continued to assist on legal matters for AU until shortly before his death. The Opelika native represented AU in legal matters while maintaining a law practice in Opelika during much of his career. In his later years, he devoted most of his practice to representing the university. He also served as a municipal judge in Opelika for more than two decades.

A former member of the U.S. Marine Corps, Samford held a bachelor's degree from Princeton University and a law degree from the University of Alabama. A descendant of Gov. William J. Samford, namesake of Samford Hall, he became a prominent advocate for Auburn across Alabama in academics and athletics as well as the courtroom.

"He had a brilliant legal mind," said Lee Armstrong, Samford's former colleague and successor as AU general counsel. "But more importantly, he had a warm and compassionate heart. He loved Auburn dearly and was, in every way, a truly admirable person."

## City agency, AU Nursing win award

The city's Auburn Housing Authority has won a national award for a cooperative effort with the AU School of Nursing.

The city agency received the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials' 2003 Merit Award for Program Innovation in Resident and Client Services, which recognizes outstanding achievement in housing and community development programs throughout the nation.

In the city housing authority's program, "AHA & AUSON: Neighborhood Health Care Partners," student nurses monitored by AU's Nursing Outreach instructor Linda Byrd, provide weekly health care screening, assessment and chronic condition management to low income families. The clinic rotates among four neighborhood sites bringing nursing care to residents.

## AU Horticulture professor earns national award

Joe Eakes, a professor of horticulture at AU, has received the American Nursery and Landscape Association's 2003 L.C. Chadwick Educator's Award.

The award recognizes outstanding landscape horticulture instructors for teaching quality and effectiveness in motivating students.

## Public Safety mails forms for hangtags

The AU Department of Public Safety began mailing vehicle registration forms for 2003-04 to faculty and staff last week.

The mailing, originally scheduled for the first week in August, was delayed by printing problems at the vendor's plant in Arkansas, said David Vedder, manager of parking services at the Department of Public Safety.

With the current hangtags due to expire on Aug. 31, Vedder said Parking Services is encouraging faculty and staff to complete and return the forms quickly. "We hope that most people will return the forms within a week," he said.

The 2002-03 hangtags will be good through the first 11 days of the new academic year, and DPS will start checking for the 2003-04 hangtags on Sept. 1. "We may need to provide a little extra time for some drivers while we are distributing the new hangtags, but expect to get them distributed quickly," Vedder said.

New faculty and staff face a greater hurdle than other employees because they must register their vehicles at the Dawson Building at the corner of Donahue and Thach. Thousands of students will also be in the area to register their vehicles.

**Brick by brick**

Delayed by unseasonably heavy rains, crews for Stone Building Co. of Birmingham rush to replace brick on the front of the AU Hotel and Dixon Conference Center during the last days of summer. Once the front is complete, the crews will move to the back of the building, providing easier access for the crowds expected for this football season. The work will raise the facility from commercial to institutional building standards.



## Nominations for AU Board positions may go to State Senate in September

Gov. Bob Riley says he expects the names of three nominees for seats on the AU Board of Trustees to go to the Alabama Senate during a special session in September.

If confirmed by the Senate during the special session on state finances, the new members will take office immediately and will serve until January 2010.

A five-member selection committee headed by Gov. Bob Riley selected the nominees two weeks ago. The nominees are Sarah Newton, a Fayette elementary school principal; Charles E. Ball, Gadsden city planner; and Dwight Carlisle, state revenue commissioner.

If confirmed by the Senate, Newton will succeed Charles Glover of Cullman. The committee nominated Ball to succeed State Sen. Lowell Barron of Fyffe, who is president pro tem of the Alabama Senate, and Carlisle to succeed Rep. Jack Venable of Tallahassee. The board members whose terms expired last January will serve until the positions are filled or until January 2004, whichever comes first.

Ball, 42, was senior planner for the City of Auburn from 1992-95 before becoming city planner for Gadsden. He has a bachelor's degree from Birm-

ingham-Southern College and received a master's degree from Auburn in 1995.

Newton, 50, has been an elementary school teacher since 1974. She became an assistant principal in 1998 and a principal last year. She has a bachelor's degree from Auburn and master's degree in education administration from the University of Alabama.

Carlisle, 67, who graduated from Auburn in 1958 with a degree in textile engineering, retired in 1991 as president and CEO of Russell Corp. If the Senate confirms his nomination, Carlisle would have to resign as state revenue commissioner because state law prohibits the commissioner from holding any other post.

Members of the search committee were Riley, AU trustees Earlon McWhorter and Bobby Lowder and Alumni Association representatives Andy Hornsby and Owen Brown.

Earlier this year, two nominees were rejected by the Senate confirmation committee, which asked the search committee to add minority and female candidates to the nominations. If confirmed, Ball will become the second African American member of the AU Board and Newton would become the second female member.

## Magazine wins award in regional print, design competition

Auburn Magazine and Craftmaster Printers have been honored for the fourth consecutive year in a major regional print and design competition.

Auburn Magazine and its Auburn-based printer received an Award of Excellence in the Printing Industry Association of the South 2003 awards competition. Winners are selected on the basis of excep-

tional printing and graphic design. The association includes printers from across the region.

Since its inception in 1994, Auburn Magazine, published by the Auburn Alumni Association, has won 20 regional and national awards for content, design and print quality.



### New look

Outside Haley Center, Jennifer Mengelt, center, a senior in communication, was one of the first students last week to see Tiger Transit's redesigned buses. The system's route supervisor, Sharon Holland, left, and Driver Eric McCollum, right, discuss other aspects of the transit system upgrade with her. Buses with the new design go into service on campus routes this week. The transition is scheduled to be complete by Aug. 28.

## Director says new look to Tiger Transit is more than skin deep

Tiger Transit, AU's transit system, is starting the new academic year with a new look that David George, interim director of parking and transit services, says is more than skin deep.

"We have a new logo and new look to go with the improvements that Tiger Transit has been making since last January," said George. "We made a commitment to provide reliable, timely transit service to Auburn students, and we have made great progress in meeting that commitment."

George said the shorter routes, briefer stops and quicker, more reliable service resulted in a 50 percent increase in ridership during spring semester. The Transportation Services office is working with Groome Transportation to make sure that riders avoid long waits and arrive quickly at their destinations.

The transit system that greets students, faculty and staff for the 2003-04 academic year is nothing like the old system it replaced, said George. "Tiger Transit is much more responsive to the needs of riders and much more reliable, and we wanted a logo that let folks know this is different," he said. "The

new look is our way of saying that if you haven't ridden the bus lately, you need to give it a try."

Al Eiland of the Office of Communications and Marketing designed the logo. To the casual observer, the logo is simply an artful arrangement of orange and blue arrows that convey motion. Discerning viewers will see the face of a tiger.

George said the logo will also appear on signs across campus to help riders identify bus stops. With the change of routes and philosophy last January, riders should be able to catch a bus every few minutes and get to their destinations in seven to 10 minutes in most cases, he said.

In addition to the signs, the system has added a shelter at the Hill Dorms' Terrell Dining Hall and is completing construction of a shelter at the system's transit hub behind Haley Center. The central shelter will also feature a snack bar and a dispatcher's office.

George said all the changes should be complete by Aug. 28, when Tiger Transit will celebrate the improvements with a ceremony at the new transit hub.

## Veterinary Medicine residents earn board certification

Three clinical residents at the College of Veterinary Medicine recently earned board certification by the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine. They are Michele Cohen in oncology, Garek Galle in neurology and Jill Lurye in internal medicine.

Having previously passed the qualifying examinations, they passed the certifying examinations earlier this year.

Also passing the qualifying examination this year were Allison Boozer, Undine Christman and Jennifer Taintor.

## Upcoming Events

Wednesday, August 20

- First day of classes for fall semester, 2003-04 academic year.

Monday, August 25

- Next AU Report.
- Seminar: "How to Apply for a Small Business Loan," 152 Lowder Business Building, 6 p.m. Contact: Small Business Development Center, 844-4220.

Tuesday, August 26

- Special Meeting: University Faculty, 2:30 p.m., Broun Hall auditorium. Discussion of electronic voting in faculty elections.
- Public Address: Gov. Bob Riley, 3 p.m., Broun Hall auditorium. Discussion of tax and accountability package in Sept. 9 state referendum.

Monday, September 1

- Labor Day holiday. No classes; offices closed. No AU Report.

Monday, September 8

- AU Report.

Tuesday, September 9

- Meeting: University Senate, 3 p.m., Broun Hall auditorium.
- Health Insurance: Blue Cross-Blue Shield representative available for consultation, 10 a.m.-11:45 a.m., Ingram 212. No appointment necessary.

Monday, September 15

- AU Report.

Tuesday, September 16

- Annual Fall Meeting: University Faculty, 3 p.m., Broun Hall auditorium.



AU Report Editor: Roy Summerford. Contributing Writers: Charles Martin, Veterinary Medicine, Jamie Creamer, Agriculture-AAES, and Jim Langcuster, ACES. Photography by Jeff Etheridge and Trice Megginson, AU Photographic Services.

Assistant Vice President for Communications and Marketing: John Hachtel.

The AU Report is published by the Office of Communications and Marketing at Auburn University. Issues appear each Monday during academic terms, except for weeks on which major holidays fall. Issues are every two weeks during summer term. Copies are distributed free by campus mail to fulltime faculty and staff at campus offices. Deadline for delivery of items for publication is 4 p.m. on Wednesday before publication date.

Direct inquiries, suggestions and news items to AU Report, 23 Samford Hall, Auburn University, AL 36849-5109. Telephone 334/844-9999. E-mail: summero@auburn.edu

## ACES to present programs examining issues in referendum on tax changes

With Alabamians going to the polls on Sept. 9 to vote on a complex tax and accountability plan, the Alabama Cooperative Extension System is producing a set of one-hour, satellite videoconferences to inform voters about the plan.

The nonpartisan, informational videoconferences, "Proposed Tax Changes for Alabama — The Facts," will air next week, with experts from Extension, AU's School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences and the AU College of Agriculture providing an overview of the plan.

The first videoconference, "Session 1: Income Tax, Residential Property Tax and Accountability," will air at noon Tuesday, Aug. 26, and will address the impact of the proposed new tax measures on income and residential taxes.

The first session will also include an examination

of the accountability provisions in the proposed plan.

ACES will also air Session 1 at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 28.

The impact of the proposed plan on forestry and agricultural property will be the subject of the second videoconference, "Session 2: Forest and Ag Land Property Tax and Accountability." That program will include a discussion of the accountability provisions outlined in the plan.

Session 2 will air at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 26, and again at noon on Thursday, Aug. 28.

All four telecasts will be downloaded at County Extension Offices, carried over the Auburn University cable system, Channel 17, and streamed electronically from the Extension System's Web site, [www.aces.edu](http://www.aces.edu)

## New residents must register by Aug. 29 to vote in referendum

For new residents and first-time voters in Alabama, the deadline for voter registration before the Sept. 9 referendum is Friday, Aug. 29.

Lee County voters may register at the Voter Registration Office at the Lee County Courthouse, 215 South 9th St., Opelika.

Voter registration cards are also available at Auburn City Hall at 144 Tichenor Avenue. The com-

pleted forms must be mailed or delivered to the county office.

For local information on voter registration, contact the county office at 737-3635.

Information about the referendum and voter registration, including a downloadable, mail-in form, is also on the the Alabama Secretary of State's Web site at [www.sos.state.al.us/election/2003/](http://www.sos.state.al.us/election/2003/)

## Referendum

(continued from page 1)

If voters reject the tax package, the Legislature will have to cut services and education funding by that amount, increase revenues through an additional 1-cent sales tax (currently 8 percent in Auburn) or other means, or use a combination of budget cuts and tax increases that are not subject to voter approval.

With polls showing many Alabamians opposed to the package and unaware of its contents, the governor has posted his arguments in favor of the package on the Web at [www.governor.state.al.us](http://www.governor.state.al.us)

The Alabama Partnership for Progress has issued a more detailed account in favor of the governor's plan at [www.abetteralabama.com](http://www.abetteralabama.com)

Among opposition views are those posted at Web sites for the Alabama Farmers Federation, [www.alfafarmers.org/issues/amendment\\_one.html](http://www.alfafarmers.org/issues/amendment_one.html), and the Alabama Forestry Association, [www.alaforestry.org/](http://www.alaforestry.org/)

More objective than the proponents and opponents, the nonpartisan Public Affairs Research Council of Alabama at Samford University, a private institution, has posted detailed descriptions of the

package at <http://parca.samford.edu>. According to the PARCA study, a single parent with gross adjusted income of \$20,000 a year and with one child would save \$283 in state income taxes, and at that income, a married couple with two children would save \$216.

At \$50,000, a single parent would pay \$261 more, and the married couple with two children would pay \$98 more, but a couple with three children would get a tax cut of \$61.

At \$100,000, a single parent would pay \$1,341 more, and a married couple with two children would pay \$862 more.

Property taxes would also follow the same pattern, with homeowners, in general, seeing their taxes drop when the property is appraised at less than \$50,000, rising slightly for property valued at \$50,000-\$100,000 and more sharply with each additional \$100,000 in property value.

The Legislative Fiscal Office has posted the enabling legislation for the tax and accountability package online at [www.lfo.state.al.us](http://www.lfo.state.al.us)

## Armstrong picked to lead group in international Wildlife Society

James B. Armstrong, an associate professor in the School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences and Alabama Cooperative Extension System wildlife specialist, has been elected chairman-elect of the Wildlife Damage Management Working Group of The Wildlife Society.



Armstrong

With more than 9,000 members worldwide, The Wildlife Society is the professional and certification organization for wildlife biologists around the world. The society also publishes the Journal of Wildlife Management and the Wildlife Society Bulletin, both peer-reviewed publications.

The wildlife damage management working group, with more than 300 members, is the largest of several working groups comprising the society.

As chairman, Armstrong will plan The Wildlife Society's annual meeting. He will also plan and host an international symposium on wildlife damage management sponsored by the working group.

Armstrong also will coordinate international edu-

cational efforts on wildlife damage issues with citizens and leaders in all levels of government.

A rapidly growing facet of wildlife sciences, wildlife damage management is concerned with helping people deal with conflicts between humans and wildlife, which are becoming more prevalent as both human and wildlife populations expand. It is a problem that has grown even more acute in recent years as many species have learned to adapt to human activity, Armstrong said. Likewise, larger numbers of humans are encroaching into areas that were once pristine wildlife habitats.

Armstrong and other members of the working group are involved in research to mitigate the effects associated with wildlife damage and to educate individuals about better wildlife management techniques.

Wildlife damage management has been the major focus of Armstrong's Extension and research-related efforts throughout his 13-year tenure at Auburn.

## Interim head named for Raptor Center

Veterinary Professor Ron Montgomery has been appointed interim director of the Southeastern Raptor Rehabilitation Center at Auburn.

Montgomery, who is also a surgeon in the AU College of Veterinary Medicine's Department of Clinical Sciences, will oversee the day-to-day operation of the center.

In announcing the appointment, Veterinary Medicine Dean Timothy Boosinger said, "Dr. Montgomery's leadership skills, expertise in surgery and background as a faculty adviser to the center in the past will help us take positive steps toward getting the Raptor Center back to full strength."

As part of an agreement with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the SERRC has neither received nor released birds of prey since July 9 while veterinarians investigate the deaths of 12 birds in the center's education collection. Veterinarians suspect that the organism *Mycoplasma gallisepticum* played a role in the deaths.

"I look forward to working closely with the staff of the Raptor Center and the Fish and Wildlife Service," said Montgomery. "This is an opportunity for us to move forward and focus on the center's mission of health care for raptors and educate people about them."

Montgomery succeeds former Director Joe Shelutt. The interim director will work with Jill Heatley, the primary veterinarian for the SERRC, to provide care for the birds of prey at the center.

Boosinger also announced the creation of a steer-

ing committee to review Raptor Center policies and procedures and recommend changes as needed. Kenneth Nusbaum, an infectious disease specialist in the department of pathobiology, will chair the committee.

The committee, comprised of faculty members from the College of Veterinary Medicine and the School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences, will also set long-range goals for the Raptor Center.

Boosinger said the search for a permanent director will start after the USFWS approves reopening the Raptor Center's rehabilitative and outreach programs.

"The Southeastern Raptor Rehabilitation Center has an exciting future and, in cooperation with the Fish and Wildlife Service, we are moving quickly to restart our programs," Boosinger said.

"These programs provide wonderful learning opportunities for both veterinary and wildlife students. A natural extension of these activities is an education program that reaches out to school children and other groups interested in wildlife, specifically birds of prey."

The Auburn center opened in the mid-1970s and treats about 500 birds of prey annually from an average of 21 species, including bald eagles, golden eagles, peregrine falcons, great horned owls and red-tailed hawks.

## ACES' Morgan selected for office in ACE

Virginia Morgan, co-leader for communications for the Alabama Cooperative Extension System, was recently elected vice president of the Association for Communications Excellence.

After completing her term as vice-president, Morgan will serve as the organization's president-elect from 2004 to 2005, then as president from 2006 to 2007.



Morgan

ACES, formerly known as Agricultural Communicators in Education, is a professional organization of more than 640 print and electronic communicators and information technologists serving in land-grant universities, government agencies and research organizations in the United States and throughout the world.

As vice-president, Morgan will focus on working with the organization's 13 interest groups and serving as their liaison to the ACE board of directors.

## Payroll Office offers option for deposits

A few years ago, Hurricane Opal forced the closure of the university for several days. If the next storm comes on payday, will your bills wait until the campus reopens?

The Office of Payroll and Employee Benefits provides automatic, direct deposit of paychecks to your bank on payday even when the university is closed.

For more information on automatic deposit or to have forms mailed to you, call 844-4183.

## Limited number of AU Reports available for units to mail

A limited number of extra copies of the AU Report are available for departments, schools, colleges and other units that agree to hold or forward copies for retired faculty or staff or advisory board members.

For a unit to receive extra copies, a representative should notify the AU Report at [summero@auburn.edu](mailto:summero@auburn.edu) or 844-9999.

The Office of Communications and Marketing reminds units that they are responsible for postage for copies of the AU Report they mail or forward through the U.S. Postal Service. Each unit mailing copies of the AU Report off-campus must include its return address as well as the address of the recipient.

## In remembrance

Student Affairs regularly holds ceremonies to remember recently deceased students. At a recent ceremony Vice President Wes Williams, left, presents a boxed Auburn flag to Wanda and Charles Johnson, parents of a student who died in January.



## Parents visit Auburn for ceremony remembering students who died

Scott Johnson gave up a scholarship to study engineering at a university near his parents' home in Largo, Fla., because he wanted to earn an engineering degree from Auburn University.

Matthew Engle planned to be a walk-on for the Auburn baseball team. His two Hartselle High School baseball state championship rings for 1999 and 2000 lent credence to his catching and hitting abilities.

Johnson, a junior, died in a traffic accident in January. Engle died in his sleep in March. Their families and friends visited Auburn this summer at the invitation of AU's Student Affairs Division to honor the students.

Such ceremonies, Student Affairs officials say, are quiet and dignified but far too frequently repeated.

"Since last fall, we have lost 13 students," said Wes Williams, vice president for student affairs and associate provost. "One is too many. We represent the university at most funerals, and we visit with the families there, but we felt in our hearts that something was missing. Our students have two families: their own and the Auburn Family."

After allowing families several months to begin the healing process, Student Affairs invites the parents to visit campus for a simple program.

In the ceremony, members of the War Eagle Girls and Plainsmen, official student hosts of the university, read "The Auburn Creed" and "What is Auburn?" The Student Government Association president speaks briefly. Williams introduces deans, department heads and Student Affairs administrators, then presents each family with an AU flag that has flown over Samford Park. The AU contingent then invites family members and friends to share memories.

"We try to make each program uplifting, not sad but a celebration of each student's life," Williams added.

"I am so appreciative that Auburn would do this for our family and other families," said Nancy Engle as she and her husband Kenneth accepted their flag. Their other son, Daniel, will be coming to Auburn to study graphic design next fall. Their daughter, Leigh, a rising sophomore at Hartselle High, plans to study foreign languages at Auburn as well.

## Association honors Poultry Science faculty for research, extension, success in recruiting

Faculty of the Poultry Science Department recently received honors at the annual meeting of the Poultry Science Association in Wisconsin.

The department's undergraduate student recruiting team of Roger Lien, John Blake, Joseph Hess, Robert Voitle and Frank Dillman received the association's Student Recruitment Award.

The association's selection committee noted their success in bringing about an increased and stabi-

lized student body at a challenging time for the agricultural disciplines.

Hess also received the American Feed Industry Award for his research and extension efforts in poultry nutrition. Also, the department's S. F. Bilgili received the 2003 PSA Poultry Products Research Award for improving broiler processing procedures and in recognition of his role as a leading international authority on broiler processing and products.



**Where are they, Part III**

In the third installment of our series on campus landmarks, we challenge our readers to identify these six landmarks. These have graced campus for years but many people walk past them daily without noticing. How many can you identify? Answers are below at right. If you missed the two previous quizzes, they are on the AU Report Web site at [www.ocm.auburn.edu/au\\_report/aureport.html](http://www.ocm.auburn.edu/au_report/aureport.html). At the Web site, look under AU Report Archives for the July 21 and Aug. 4 issues.

## Veterinarians say health concerns take priority over eagles' flights

AU veterinary officials say health concerns will prevent either of Auburn's eagle icons from flying before home football games this fall.

The university retired its 14-year-old golden eagle, Tiger, at mid-season last year, when arthritis hampered the bird's ability to fly and navigate in less than ideal conditions. Tiger's replacement, the younger bald eagle Spirit, is recovering from surgery, and both eagles have tested positive for *Mycoplasma gallisepticum*, an organism connected to an infectious disease outbreak that killed 12 birds this year at AU's Southeastern Raptor Rehabilitation Center.

The organism was not the direct culprit in the deaths, but it opens the door for diseases that can kill birds.

"Even though Spirit and Tiger have tested positive, they are active and alert," said John Saidla, director of the AU veterinary teaching hospitals. "However, we are not letting any raptors in or out of the center right now."

"Spirit's health has been up and down for several months after abdominal surgery for small rocks ingested," said Timothy Boosinger, dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine. "It is in her best interest

not to subject her to the stress which could cause more problems."

AU veterinarians say *Mycoplasma gallisepticum* is common in birds, but they note that raptors are now reacting to it differently from other birds.

Wild birds at the center that test negative for the organism will be released later, but those that test positive are being euthanized. Permanent educational birds housed at the center that test positive will remain isolated and undergo further diagnostic tests.

The College of Veterinary Medicine is working with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Wildlife Health Laboratory to contain and study the outbreak, and veterinary officials say they hope to begin readmitting and releasing birds within six months. All birds of prey at the university are housed at the Raptor Center by permission of the Fish and Wildlife Service.

The Southeastern Raptor Rehabilitation Center opened in the mid-1970s and annually treats about 500 birds of prey from more than 20 species.

*See related story, page 6*

### AU Report starts weekly publication with this issue

Starting with this issue, look for delivery of the AU Report each week rather than bi-weekly during fall and spring semesters. The next issue will be Monday, Aug. 25.

The AU Report will go into campus mail for distribution each Monday except for weeks in which the university is closed for holidays and between semesters.

Holidays for fall semester are Labor Day on Sept. 1 and Thanksgiving week on Nov. 24-29.

Publication dates for fall semester are Aug. 18, Aug. 25, each Monday from Sept. 8-Nov. 17, Dec. 1 and Dec. 8. Fall semester classes end on Dec. 10.

Publication will be suspended between semesters. In spring semester, issues will be published weekly, except for the Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday and spring break.

The AU Report will be published every two weeks during the summer.

- Answers to photo quiz**
1. Fisheries Auxiliary.
  2. O.D. Smith Hall.
  3. University chapel.
  4. South end of Jordan-Hare Stadium.
  5. Student Activity Center.
  6. Lowder Building.

The AU Report is an official publication of Auburn University. Each unit mailing copies of this document to off-campus addresses must include its return address. Communications & Marketing will not accept billing for copies mailed by other units.