Festivities early next year will mark Auburn’s 150th birthday

On Jan. 1, AU will begin a year-long observance of its sesquicentennial. Although events throughout the year will be linked to the University’s celebration of its 150th birthday, major activities will begin on Feb. 1, the 150th anniversary of the date when Alabama Gov. John A. Winston signed the charter establishing the East Alabama Male College. The men’s liberal arts college that began with 80 students in 1856 was the forerunner of today’s 23,000-student Auburn University.

For the past year, a sesquicentennial committee has been planning various observances of AU’s 150th birthday. “Auburn has seen many accomplishments and advances in its first 150 years,” said interim AU President Ed Richardson. “The sesquicentennial events will be an opportunity for the Auburn family to gather and celebrate those achievements and, at the same time, commit to working together toward the University’s prosperous future.”

Although the schedule is still tentative, planned events include:

- Feb. 1: A luncheon ceremony in honor of Founders Day on the Samford Hall lawn. The ceremony will include a presidential presentation, proclamations, ringing of the bells, music and refreshments.
- Feb. 4: AU Birthday Bash and City Block Party in partnership with the City of Auburn.
U.S. Endocrine Society, the Berthold Memorial Award from the German Endocrine Society, the Discovery Award from the Center of American History, Foundation of Oregon, and the John A. Resko Faculty Excellence in Research and Mentoring Award.

He holds several U.S. patents and has published more than 100 scholarly papers, including articles in Newton, Nature and Cell.

Hansen book makes best-seller list

First Man, the recently published biography of Neil Armstrong by History Professor Jim Hansen of the AU College of Liberal Arts, was listed last week at No. 27 on the hardcover nonfiction best-seller list of The New York Times. It was first on the CSPAN’s “Book TV” program. His book was earlier cited on the CBS program “60 Minutes” and in The New York Times Book Review.


AU Report is published by the Office of Communications and Marketing at Auburn University, 4 p.m., Overton Auditorium, College of Veterinary Medicine.

CONCERTS: AU Singers at 6 p.m. and 8 p.m., Telfair Peet Theatre; tickets $10, purchase at Goodwin Hall or call 844-4194

Goodwin Lecture “The Remarkable Physiology of the Melanocortin System,” Roger Cone of Oregon Health and Science University, 4 p.m., Overton Auditorium, College of Veterinary Medicine.

EXAM DATES: Thursday, December 15, through December 18.

Public reading on Wednesday
Auburn historian takes fresh look at WWII hero Eddie Rickenbacker

World War I flying ace Eddie Rickenbacker, one of the pioneers of American aviation, is profiled in a new biography by Distinguished University Professor David Lewis of Auburn. Lewis, a nationally prominent authority on the history of aviation, recently wrapped up nearly 15 years of research and writing with publication of Eddie Rickenbacker: An American Hero in the Twentieth Century.

The Feb. 4 activities will include a special reading from his book from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. in Overton Auditorium, College of Veterinary Medicine as part of the Joy Goodwin Lecture Series.

The evening will conclude with a special tour of historic areas on campus.

For more information on sesquicentennial activities, see the Web site www.auburn.edu/150.

Heathexpert to present Goodwin Lecture

Roger Cone of Oregon Health and Science University will speak Tuesday at AU’s College of Veterinary Medicine as part of the Joy Goodwin Distinguished Lecture Series.

He will present “The Remarkable Physiology of the Melanocortin System,” a complex set of neural circuits that regulate energy homeostasis.

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Band directors from Auburn and Ohio State University will lead the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade for 2006 in New York.

The Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade through the streets of New York City is one of the oldest and largest annual parades in America and will be televised live by NBC. Organizers begin planning for the next parade immediately after Thanksgiving each year.

Organizers of the 2006 Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade have named Richard Good of AU and Jon Woods of Ohio State University to lead the 204 musicians of the Macy’s Great American Marching Band. Good is director of the AU Marching Band and an associate professor in the Music Department, where he has been a member of the faculty in the College of Liberal Arts since 1995.

The Great American Marching Band, comprised of four students from each of the 50 states and the District of Columbia, will lead the dozens of other bands and floats in the 80th installment of the annual parade. The band will be joined by approximately 50 flag-carriers and dancers in a specially choreographed performance.

How Auburn Stacks Up

Number of employees at Auburn by type

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Faculty</td>
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<td>Student</td>
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<td>Support</td>
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<td>1,511</td>
</tr>
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<td>Total</td>
<td>11,882</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Source: Institutional Research and Assessment, 2004-05 data, latest available, exclude hourly student employees and part-time workers

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. The Office of Management and Budget has determined the AU Report is exempt from its charging provisions, except mailing for copies mailed by other units.

December scene

This picture of the tree of lights in front of the AU President’s Home illustrates the transformation that comes over the University and the city every year at this time. This is the scene for the month of December in Auburn’s 2006 calendar, “Echoes Strong and Clear,” which is on sale at area bookstores and at AU Photographic Services in the L Building. The calendar features the photography of Jeff Etheridge and Trice Megginson of Photographic Services.

India honors AU graduate student for work in her homeland

Purve Gujar, a building science graduate student in AU’s College of Architecture, Design and Construction, has been awarded the Roada Memorial Gold Medal Award from the University of Pune in India.

The award, given to final year bachelor of architecture students, is the highest honor a student in India can achieve in an undergraduate curriculum.

Gujar graduated from the University of Pune in 2004 in architecture ranking first in her class out of approximately 500 students.

She enrolled in Auburn’s building science program in August.

Engineering professor receives grant for research linked to future generation of portable electronics

Pradeep Lall of AU’s Samuel Ginn College of Engineering has received a $300,000, three-year grant from the Semiconductor Research Corp. for studies related to the continued reduction in size of portable electronics.

Lall, an associate professor of mechanical engineering, will use the research funding to study simulation tools, modeling and test methodologies for electronic packaging under conditions of shock, vibration, temperature and assembly.

SRC is a leading management consortium for university research and is funded by major electronics companies, including IBM and Texas Instruments.

The project’s long-term goal is to develop a multi-disciplinary focus and broaden graduate-student research experiences in traditional mechanical engineering areas. Lall said the studies are vital to the development of fundamental knowledge for the design of the next generation of portable electronics.