

InsideASU

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Dr. Everett J. Freeman

A second chance

By now you've probably heard the story of Ted Williams, a homeless man in Columbus, Ohio. A life of drugs, alcohol and bad choices landed Williams panhandling near a busy street. On a piece of cardboard he scribbled the words, "I have a God-given gift of voice." The rest of the cardboard Williams filled with a plea for help.

Doral Chenoweth III, a multimedia producer for The Columbus Dispatch newspaper in Ohio, saw Williams' sign. Chenoweth stopped to give the homeless man money and [videotaped](#) Williams speaking.

Williams' rich, smooth voice stood as testament to his past life as a radio personality. The baritone vocals stood in stark contrast to his disheveled outer appearance.

For five weeks Chenoweth held onto the video before posting it on YouTube. Chenoweth's actions have been compared to that of the Good Samaritan in the Bible. He insists that his faith obligated him to stop and talk with Williams.

Now Williams has received job offers and has appeared on national TV and radio shows. His story of a second chance is nothing short of a miracle. Williams' 90-year-old mother said she's prayed for such to happen in her son's life.

Williams is counting his blessings. He already turned away from drugs and alcohol. Now he's looking forward to a brighter future.

We can learn a lot from this true modern-day tale.

First: Never judge someone from their outside appearance. Williams certainly didn't look like someone with such an amazing talent.

Second: No matter how many wrong turns you take in life, there's always hope. It doesn't matter how many bad choices you make, you can always choose to turn your life around and find the help you need to do so.

Any of us can end up in Williams' situation. All it takes is a few bad choices to lead us down such a road. The important thing is that Williams never lost sight of his dream. He never lost faith in his gift. He



Dr. Kenneth L. Miller

ASU to hold King Day Convocation on Jan. 13

By Cindy Gambill
Executive Editor

Albany State University will honor the memory of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. with its annual King Day Convocation set for Thursday, Jan. 13, at 10 a.m. in the ACAD Auditorium.

The keynote speaker for the event will be Dr. Kenneth L. Miller, command chaplain for the Marine Corps Logistics Base, Albany, Ga. The theme of his presentation will be "I May Not Get There With You: Pursuit of the Promise."

"Albany State University was an integral part of the Civil Rights Movement here in Albany," said Sherrell Byrd, event organizer and coordinator of the ASU First and Second Year Experience Program. "It is imperative that we continue to pay honor to the students that joined Dr. King in the fight for civil rights. This time-honored tradition is important because we must keep our current students connected to Dr. King's vision and dream of equality for humankind. As Dr. Miller's theme indicates, even though Dr. King has long since passed from this life, it is up to us to continue to pursue the promise of making this world a better place for all mankind."

Miller was commissioned in the U.S. Navy in May 2001. He graduated from the Naval Chaplain School in Newport, R.I., in August 2001, where he received the school's first Readiness for Ministry Award.

Miller began public ministry in January 1993. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Biblical education from Beulah Heights University in Atlanta in May 1997; a Master of Divinity Degree in church administration and leadership from Morehouse School of Religion, Interdenominational Theological Center, Atlanta, in July 2000; and a Doctor of Philosophy in management of nonprofit organizations from Capella University in April 2008.

Before being commissioned as a naval officer, Miller worked as an administrator for the World Christian Training Center, project director for Morehouse School of Medicine's Imani Project and served eight years as an enlisted member of the U.S. Air Force.

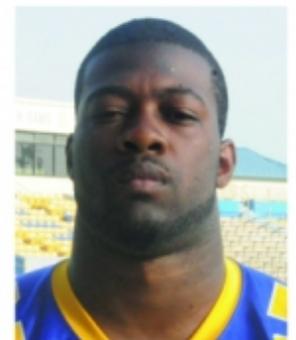
Miller lives in Albany with his wife, Dorothy, an ASU nursing professor.



Robert Welton



LiRonnie Davis



Jacob Hardwick

ASU football stars to play in 2011 Cactus Bowl

never lost hope.

Thanks to Chenoweth, a man who chose not to ignore another homeless man, Williams' hope turned into blessings and a second chance at life.

UpcomingEVENTS

Albany State University will hold its **King Day Convocation** at 10 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 13, in the ACAD Auditorium in memory of the late civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

ASU will present an interactive performance by the **Dance Theatre of Harlem Ensemble** at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 1, at the Albany Municipal Auditorium. Tickets are \$5, \$10 and \$20. Tickets are available at the Albany James H. Gray Sr. Civic Center Box Office. For more information, contact the ASU Department of Fine Arts at (229) 430-4849 or (229) 430-4832. This event is made possible in part by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts.

ASU will be closed on Monday, Jan. 17, to observe **Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day**.

ASU's Marching Rams Show Band will perform in the **Honda Battle of the Bands** at the Georgia Dome on Saturday, Jan. 29. ASU band is one of only eight chosen from 45 HBCU bands to perform in the showcase.

ASU Center for the African-American Male will hold its fourth annual Winter Youth Summit for sixth-grade boys in Dougherty and surrounding counties from 9:50 a.m. to 12:40 p.m. Friday, Jan. 28, in the HPER Gym. For more information, contact [Antonio Leroy](#), interim director at (229) 430-1821.

*By Edythe Y. Bradley
Sports Information Director*

Three Albany State University football players have been selected to play in the 2011 Cactus Bowl, which will be held today at Texas A&M-Kingsville's Javelina Stadium. Kickoff is set for 7 p.m. (CST).

Running backs Robert Welton and LiRonnie Davis and linebacker Jacob Hardwick are among the 88 football players that will participate in the Division II senior all-star game.

Hardwick, who's from Virginia Beach, Va., led the SIAC and was ranked fifth in the nation with 13.5 sacks. He was second in the SIAC and tied for sixth in the nation with 22 tackles for loss. He recorded 56 tackles, including 28 solos, five forced fumbles and five pass breakups. He was named to the SIAC's All-Conference First Team. Hardwick also played in the Second Annual Russell Athletic HBCU Senior Bowl in December 2010.

Welton, who's from Macon, Ga., rushed for 886 yards on 161 carries for 10 touchdowns, averaging 73.8 yards per game during his first season as a Golden Ram. Welton was named to the SIAC All-Conference Second Team.

Davis, also from Macon, Ga., rushed for 596 yards on 103 carries and scored five touchdowns for the Golden Rams. He also caught 19 receptions for 297 yards and seven touchdowns.

Welton, Davis and Hardwick helped the Golden Rams to the 2010 SBN National Black College Football Championship, the 2010 SIAC Championship title and a berth in the NCAA Division II playoffs.

Fans can watch a [live webcast](#) and follow [live stats](#) of the game. The game will be broadcast on radio by Sports Radio Corpus Christi 1230 AM and streamed at [www.sportsradiocc.com](#)

The all-star game has been named the Cactus Bowl and played in Kingsville, Texas since January 2001. It was previously known as the Snow Bowl and played in Fargo, N.D. All profits of the Cactus Bowl are donated to Shriners Hospitals for Children throughout the United States, Mexico and Canada.



Ronnie Childs

Albany State's Ronnie Childs named to All-America team

*By Edythe Y. Bradley
Sports Information
Director*

Albany State University wide receiver Ronnie Childs has been named to the 2010 Bowtorow.com/BASN All-America team. Childs, a senior from Manchester, Ga., was one of four SIAC star athletes to be named to the team.

Four other Golden Rams, including offensive lineman Michael Mavromichalis and defensive lineman Jacob Hardwick as well as defensive backs Prathon Wilkerson and Mario Fuller, received honorable mention recognitions.

Childs led the SIAC with 1005 receiving yards and 12 touchdowns. The 6-3 senior led all wide receivers with 45 receptions while averaging 22.3 yards per catch. He was a first-team All-SIAC selection.

Hardwick and Wilkerson, both seniors, led the SIAC with 13.5 sacks and seven interceptions, respectively. Wilkerson also finished tied for the league lead in passes defended with 16. Fuller, also a senior, was ASU's fourth leading tackler with 58 stops while Mavromichalis, a junior, was a leader on the offensive line, helping the Golden Rams lead the SIAC with 4,386 yards of total offense.

Other SIAC players named to the team include Fort Valley State University tight end Tony Davis, Morehouse College defensive lineman Derrin Nettles, and Stillman College punter Ronnie Partridge.

In its fourth year, The BoxToRow.com/BASN HBCU Football All-American team is a collaboration between DWCommunications, LLC, the parent company of the nationally syndicated sports talk show "From the Press Box to Press Row" and [www.boxtorow.com](#) along with The Black Athlete Sports Network, the leader in the coverage of African-American athletes in the world of sports. The voters are comprised of some of America's top writers and media members who cover Black College Football.



Conservation Tip of the Week

Teach your children to turn off faucets tightly after each use.

(Source: Water – Use it Wisely www.wateruseitwisely.com/100ways/se.shtml)

For additional information about The Flint River Water Planning & Policy Center or waterSmart, contact: Linda Means, P.O. Box 345, Albany, GA 31702-0345
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InsideASU

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Coach Mike White

Albany State's Mike White is candidate for national coaching award

By Edythe Y. Bradley
Sports Information Director

Albany State University head football coach Mike White is a nominee for the Heritage Sports Radio Network's (HSRN) National Division II Football Coach of the Year Award. White is one of two nominees for the football fan poll award, which will honor the most outstanding NCAA Division II coach for the 2010 season.

In his 11th season as head coach, White led to the Golden Rams to impressive 11-1 overall and 10-0 perfect regular season finishes. White and his Golden Rams captured the 2010 SBN National Black College Football Championship, the 2010 SIAC Championship title and a berth in the NCAA Division II playoffs. The Golden Rams received a first-round bye in the playoffs and defeated Wingate University 30-28 in the second round. The Rams lost 28-7 in the quarterfinals round to national runner-up Delta State University. Under White's leadership, the Rams finished second in the nation in rushing defense and scoring defense, and third in total defense and pass efficiency defense.

Football fans across the country can cast their votes for White as the HSRN National Coach of the Year by visiting www.HSRN.com. Voting will be available on the HSRN.com home page (Fan Poll) until Monday, Jan. 10, at 2 p.m.

The other nominee for the HSRN Coach of the Year Award is Morgan Faison, head coach at Virginia State University.



Albany State University staff members answer questions during the orientation session for new students held Tuesday in the ACAD Building.

New student orientation program attracts more than 200 students for spring semester

*By Joseph West
Publications Specialist*

According to ASU officials, the University successfully completed one of its largest spring new student orientation programs Tuesday.

Sherrell Byrd, coordinator of the First and Second Year Experience Program, said new student orientation activities went smoothly in spite of the increased numbers of student participants.

"We usually get between 100 and 150 students," Byrd said. "This year we had about 225, but everything went well. The large numbers are a sign that we are growing. It was a great day."

Calvin Sr. and Connie Harris of Milledgeville, Ga. parents of Calvin Harris Jr., a transfer student from the University of the Cumberlands in Williamsburg, Ky., said the New Student Orientation program helped answer all of the questions they had about their son's enrollment at ASU.

"Orientation was thorough and informative," Connie Harris said. "I was able to get most of the information I wanted though I would liked to have gotten more details about his financial aid package.

This semester's orientation followed the same format as the fall program and included sessions on academic affairs, the University Police Department, judicial affairs, financial aid, housing and other student services.

The university conducts a new student orientation session before each semester to help new students and their parents become familiar with the campus prior to the start of classes. The first day of classes for spring semester was Thursday.

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