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The name Aeolian derives from Aeolus, appointed by the mythological god Zeus to be the keeper of the winds — both to calm and to arouse them. He was the King of the Aeolian Islands.

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Continuing its mission begun in 1906, Georgia Southwestern State University serves traditional and non-traditional students across the state, the nation, and the world.

GEORGIA SOUTHWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY
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(Photo by Stephen Jones)
HOMECOMING 2001

RESTORATION, RENEWAL AND REDEDICATION

GSW major donors recognized
Millard Agerton wins philanthropy award

At the President’s Recognition Reception on Feb. 16 during Homecoming Weekend, the newly updated “Wall of Honor” was presented in the Rotunda of the Administration Building.

Hosted by the GSW Foundation, the event recognized the members of the President’s Circle of donors who contributed $1,000 or more in 2000; Patrons, with contributions of $25,000 to $100,000; Partners who gave $100,000 to $250,000; and Founders who donated more than $250,000.

A highlight of the evening was the announcement of the Excellence in Philanthropy Award, which went to Assistant Professor Emeritus Millard Agerton. An alumnus of GSW, who went on to receive his bachelor’s from Mercer University and his master’s and doctorate from the University of Georgia, Agerton then taught in public schools and other colleges and universities. He returned to GSW in 1968 to teach in the Chemistry Department until his retirement in 1979. In 1997, he established and endowed a scholarship for English majors in honor of his sister Agnes Agerton, a GSW alumna who died in 1994. She had taught from 1966 to 1976 on the GSW English and humanities faculty. In 2000, Millard Agerton donated $25,000 to assist in the renovation and restoration of the campus observatory and has pledged additional financial assistance in the future.

In announcing the Excellence in Philanthropy Award, Rick Whaley, vice chairman of the Foundation, said, “Dr. Agerton epitomizes loyalty and dedication, both to family and profession.”

Because Agerton was not present at the event due to illness, the award, a crystal bowl, was accepted by Alumni and Development Director Ron Hill, who delivered it to the award winner.

A Special Thank You

Dear Alumni Office Staff,

Thank you once again for the outstanding job all of you do for us each year. I look forward every year to my return to campus, seeing old friends from college years and walking the campus, which is almost holy ground for me!

Every year you make that weekend so special for me. I’m well aware of all the preparation, time and effort it takes because our daughter worked in the Alumni Office at Mercer when she was a student there.

I did not meet a single student that did not speak and welcome me back in the gracious manner I always brag about when Georgia Southwestern is discussed with others.

I am so excited about the new facility for the Nursing School and will certainly be there the day that dedication takes place!

Again, my appreciation for all you do to keep this special “Home Place” the wonderful institution it is in the memory of all of us graduates and in reality when we visit.

Sincerely,

Sandra Griffin Wardell
1956 Diploma-2 years
1959 Nursing- 3 years

On the front row of the Newman Alumni Center dedication ceremony on Feb. 17 were Jerry and Marjorie Newman, former GSW President Henry King Stanford, Dolores Capitan, former GSW President William H. Capitan, Vivian King and former GSW President William B. King. At right is Nelle Prance Walker, GSW Class of 1926, who lived in what was then the President’s Home on campus, when her father, John M. Prance was the head of the school, which was an agricultural college in those days.
Cheerleaders and ‘Hurri’ the Hurricane show their spirit during the Homecoming Game against Life University. Pictured left to right: Courtney Bean, India Fessenden, Hurri, Heidi Beamon, and Kristen Evans.

The 2001 Homecoming Court was presented at halftime festivities. Pictured left to right: first runner-up Katrina Workman, Homecoming Queen Thkisha McCorvey, Homecoming King Patrick Farmer, and first runner-up Tiwa Aganga-Williams.

Mary Hill and Ginger Starlin stop to bid on some of the more than 40 interesting donations at the silent auction held prior to the Alumni Luncheon.

Drs. Michael Hanes and Madlyn Hanes lead the parade through downtown Americus.

Three former presidents of Georgia Southwestern, Henry King Stanford, William B. King and William H. Capitan were honored during Feb. 16-17 Homecoming events, with the theme, “Restoration, Renewal and Rededication.” They each received a commemorative plaque following their introductions by Earl Gammage (Class of 1950), Benny C. Phillips (Class of 1971) and Rob Whaley (Class of 1989).

Alumni and benefactor Jerry Newman greets longtime friend Rudy Hayes and his wife, Charlene Hayes, at the Homecoming luncheon.

Student organizations competed in several spirit events throughout the week. Chi Phi fraternity placed first in the float competition.

Alumni database coordinator Dorothy Crimes enjoys lunch with special guest, actor John Amos.

Other “Spirit Week” activities included a field day at the lakehouse with games such as relays, sack races, and more. Shown above, Burt Parham and Rebecca Wilhite compete in the canoe race.

Alumni and benefactor Jerry Newman greets longtime friend Rudy Hayes and his wife, Charlene Hayes, at the Homecoming luncheon.