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For Immediate Release

Grand Opening of the Auburn University Student Union

AUBURN, Ala. (Sept. 11)— Auburn University is kicking of the opening of a new student union on Sept. 30, 2007. This will mark the end of a \$50 million project that will add 182,000 square feet of student-friendly facilities to Auburn's campus.

Guest speakers such as Gov. Bob R. Riley, Charles Barkley, Cadillac Williams, and Olympic Gold Medalist Rowdy Gaines have been invited by the Office of Campus Planning and the Office of Communications and Marketing to speak about Auburn's traditions and their individual experiences with the university.

The grand opening of the student union will be a large event combining efforts from UPC, the Office of Campus Planning, the Office of Communications and Marketing and Dr. George Jay Gogue, president of the university.

UPC will host a concert the day of the opening featuring country music artist Tim McGraw, as well as the Dave Matthews Band, starting at 9 p.m. in the amphitheater. Students can pick up tickets in the Foy lobby prior to the day of the event.

The construction of the building began in the spring of 2006. Since that time, there have been many additions to the once vacant parking lot. A food court on the first floor will allow students to eat from restaurants such as Chick-fil-a, Sbarro, Momma G's, Subway, Veggies To Go and Buffalo Wild Wings. On the second floor, students will find 1,000 over-stuffed chairs. This will give them ample room to relax and be with friends between classes. Ten 60-inch televisions will be installed for student use as

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well as a 24-hour coffee stand. The third floor will house study rooms, complete with sound-proof booths for optimal studying. A masseuse will be available if students need further relaxation.

For more than 150 years, Auburn University has been the front-runner for the state, providing thousands of jobs and funding more than \$7 billion of research and development for both science and aerospace engineering efforts. With more than 23,000 undergraduate students and 300,000 alumni, Auburn has established itself as the largest university in Alabama.

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