Jacksonville State University Friends of Houston Cole Library presents

TED M. DUNAGAN



Thursday, October 13, 2011 - 7:00 p.m. Houston Cole Library - Room 1103 B

Award-winning author Ted Dunagan will speak on his three books about growing up in the rural south, near Grove Hill, Alabama. Dunagan has appeared previously at Jacksonville State University as part of the On the Brink conference of emerging writers of the South. This event will coincide with the publication of the third book in his series that traces the friendship between twelve-year-old Ted Dillon, his fictional self, and Poudlum, a fictional black youngster based on Dunagan's real-life friend.

The titles in sequence are: A Yellow Watermelon, Secret of the Satilfa, and Trouble on the Tombigbee. The first two books have won numerous awards, including Georgia Author of the Year in the Young Adult category. Preachers, bootleggers, bank robbers, and questionable lawyers populate his suspenseful plots. The issue of civil rights for blacks appears as a recurrent theme as Ted and Poudlum integrate the cotton fields and promise they will one day eat ice cream together, despite the prejudices of the owner of the drug store. Those new to the South, or those who grew up here in more modern times, will be mesmerized by Dunagan's meticulous descriptions of cane syrup making, hog butchering, church gatherings, and the nitty-gritty existence of everyday life in 1948 South Alabama.

In addition to his novels, Dunagan writes features and columns for *The Monticello News* in Monticello, Georgia, where he lives with his wife.

Copies of Mr. Dunagan's books will be available for purchase and signing, and refreshments will be served after the presentation.

This event is free and open to the public.