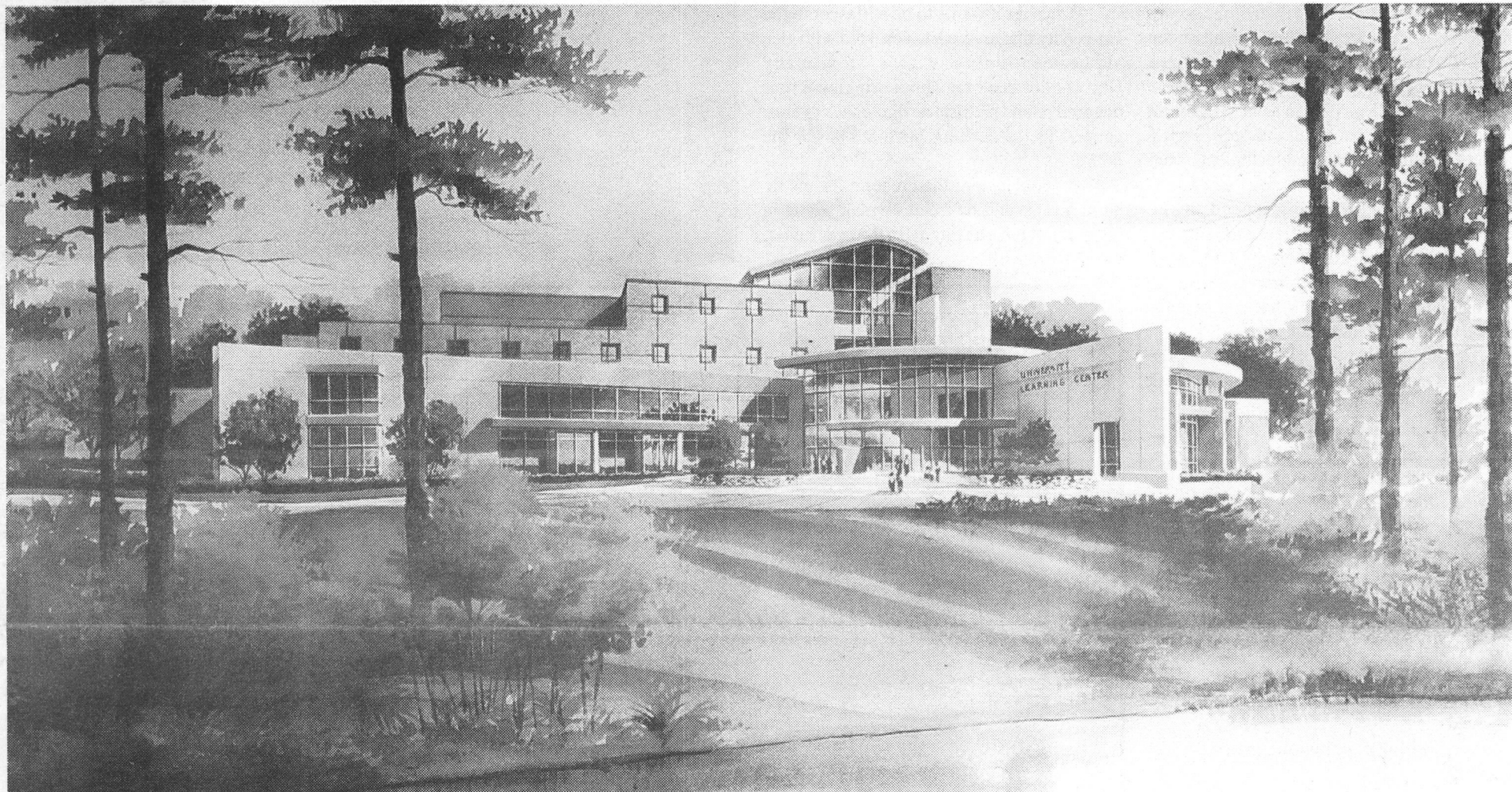




Please Excuse Our Progress...



A depiction of what the new University Learning Center will look like.

By Michelle Lawrimore
Assistant Editor

For those of you who do not know what is being constructed between the administration building and the library, you need only to look at your parking permit for the answer. Our campus is welcoming a brand new multi-purpose learning center, complete with a cafeteria, a bookstore, and plenty of new offices and classrooms.

The cafeteria and bookstore will be located on the first of four floors, along with a new office for the president, and a kiosk where students can find the answer to any question they may have regarding the school. Student Government members can either take the grand staircase, or one of the glass elevators, to the second floor, where they will be using offices designed specifically for the purpose of uniting the student leadership with the academic and student life leadership. Also, on the second floor, will be a new entrance to the library. The third and fourth floors will host faculty offices, seminar rooms, and theater-style classrooms—a gladly received change from the avocado, orange and gold of our current, 70's themed classrooms.

Aviation Construction Inc. is giving birth to the University Learning Center (ULC), and P.J. O'Hare, Vice President of

Operations, Planning and Budgeting, says, "This is absolutely the best contractor I have ever been involved with." Part of ACI's charm is that their bid came in at almost \$2 million under the originally budgeted \$20 million. They also intend to complete the building in less than the initially estimated 22 months. Unfortunately, an unexpected problem has arisen concerning the incompatibility of the new piping for the ULC with the archaic piping of the existing buildings. The old piping is no longer allowed and must be either removed or encased, causing more of the campus to be torn up— including an area of the courtyard between the Lecture Hall and the BHS building. This problem will delay the project by 30 days, but ACI and our administrators are still optimistic that the building will be finished in two years or less. The steel for the building has been delivered, and the pilings will be poured as soon as the underground work is complete. Besides, what's one month when we have been waiting three years for the state to grant us enough funding to begin construction? The building actually would have been delayed even longer if the Chancellor's office had not made a very appreciated \$1 million contribution, allowing the new building to have its own, separate air-handling system. The building was designed by the same

architects who designed Spivey Hall. The ULC will be connected to the administration building and to the library. The architectural notion is that there will be a boulevard running from the path that is over the lake, into the administration building, through the ULC, and out the library into the courtyard. The boulevard should be a straight visual sight, due to all of the glass in the new building.

While the contractor and the architects are very important in bringing this building to life, former president, Dr. Rick Skinner was key in the early development of the Learning Center. The unprecedented idea of having the president's office on the first floor of a very busy building was entirely in accordance with Dr. Skinner's style. However, there are many disadvantages to this idea. Our president needs privacy, peace and quiet, and just some legitimate think time. He often has important meetings with donors and dignitaries, in which noise levels are consequential. The new administrators discussed moving the president's office to the fourth floor, but found that the cost of such a design change at this late stage would be astronomical. Dr. Harden, being the kind, understanding leader that he is, agreed to that his office should stay where it was originally designed. While he is already very accessible to any students or faculty members in need of his assistance, this will make him

much more visible. So students, if you will still be attending CCSU in two years, remember to show the president a little consideration when you are near his office in the ULC.

Another decision made before Dr. Harden and Mr. O'Hare became CCSU administrators was the decision to cut down the bent tree, one of our school's favorite landmarks. Once aboard, O'Hare and other administrators discussed the possibility of demolishing the current administration building and constructing the new ULC on its foundation; but, that single change would have cost several million more dollars that the school did not have. Mr. O'Hare says, "Truth be known, pine trees die and fall down, particularly when they are misshapen...I don't like losing trees, I'll tell you that."

Much to many students' chagrin, we are definitely not scheduled to lose any trees due to the introduction of new parking lots. We have lost all of the administration parking lot, except for a few handicapped and visitor spots. Mr. O'Hare grants that students will have to walk further to their classes in the ULC, but assures that there is no parking problem. He says the premium areas may be congested, but there is plenty of parking available on the campus.

continued See Bent Tree on page 5

IMHO IN MY HUMBLE OPINION

Loch Nice: The Story of Clayton's Mascot

By Jonathan Gillespie
(student.claytonstate.net/~csu12323)

There's Champ, there's UFO's, there's even crop circles and Bigfoot. I imagine it's only a matter of time before someone comes up with the theory that bigfoot has been abducting people and forcing them to make crop circles as part of an alien effort to deprive us of our Wheaties. We can send Will Smith to dogfight the spacecraft, thereby saving one of Michael Jordan's endorsements from certain destruction.

Add another growing legend to the unknown, one that circulates among the darkened corridors after hours at CCSU, deep in the very recesses of the library's top-secret cryogenic lab. We know what you're up to down there, Dr. Hampikian.

Turns out the workers at the site of the new University learning center discovered something back in Summer—a force so powerful and so mysterious that it makes Wheatie removal seem trivial by comparison.

They won't talk about it, but I've heard stories...lots of stories.

They say it came in ice, a solid block of ice left behind deep in the bedrock after the glaciers that once covered Georgia slipped away. At first the details were sketchy...reptilian, massive fangs, massive height and inhuman strength. Breath that reeked of Ramen noodles, the creature's chief food source since...since whenever they revived it.

My initial conclusion: prime WWF material.

Turns out I was wrong though. I confirmed my misconceptions one night, when I donned black delta-force gear and infiltrated the deepest bowels of the Library. I was ready to have to search for the secret doorway to the inner reaches of the lab, but found the adjoining door where I would have least expected it: In the library's section of books pertaining to Quantum mechanics.

So deviously simple was the placement of the door. They knew no sane student would ever venture down that cursed aisle. Easily pushing aside the flimsy screen door, I advanced into the inner reaches of the lab. The specimens that I found there in cryosuspension were horrifying. I now know where the massive roaches on this campus come from, as well as that particularly aggressive goose that always picks fights with me lakeside.

Loch, as the thing called itself, was there. It was even more amazing in person: seven feet tall and looking somewhat like a dinosaur, with massive purple spikes along its back. It folded its arms and glared at me. Someone was letting it run loose!

I pointed the only defense I had—a bottle of "Off"—at the creature, but before I could it ripped the can from my hands, and swallowed it wholesale in one massive gulp.

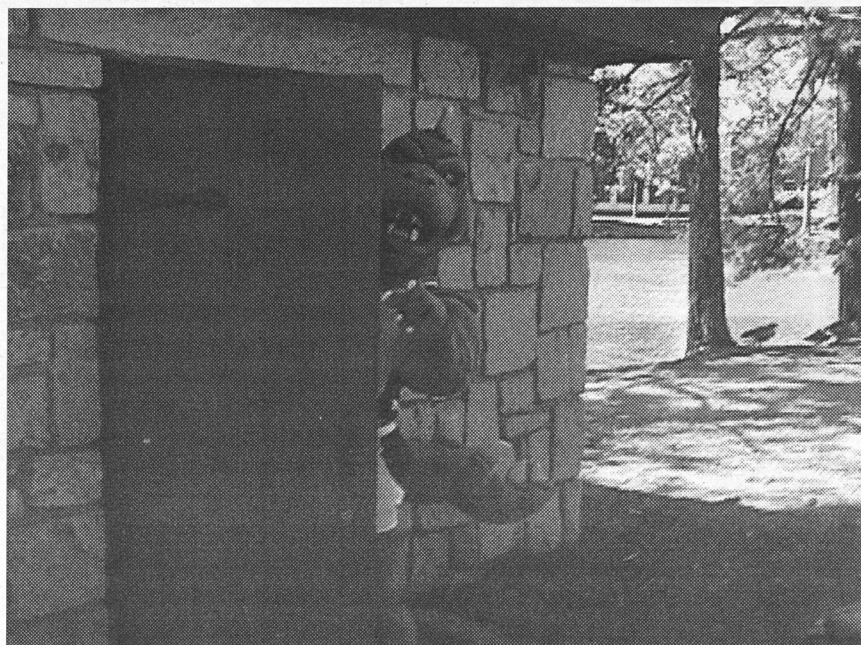
"That was good," it said in a booming voice, "But no Tabasco sauce?"

I was befuddled, blown away by the creature's capacity for proper English speech. So much for the WWF recruiters.

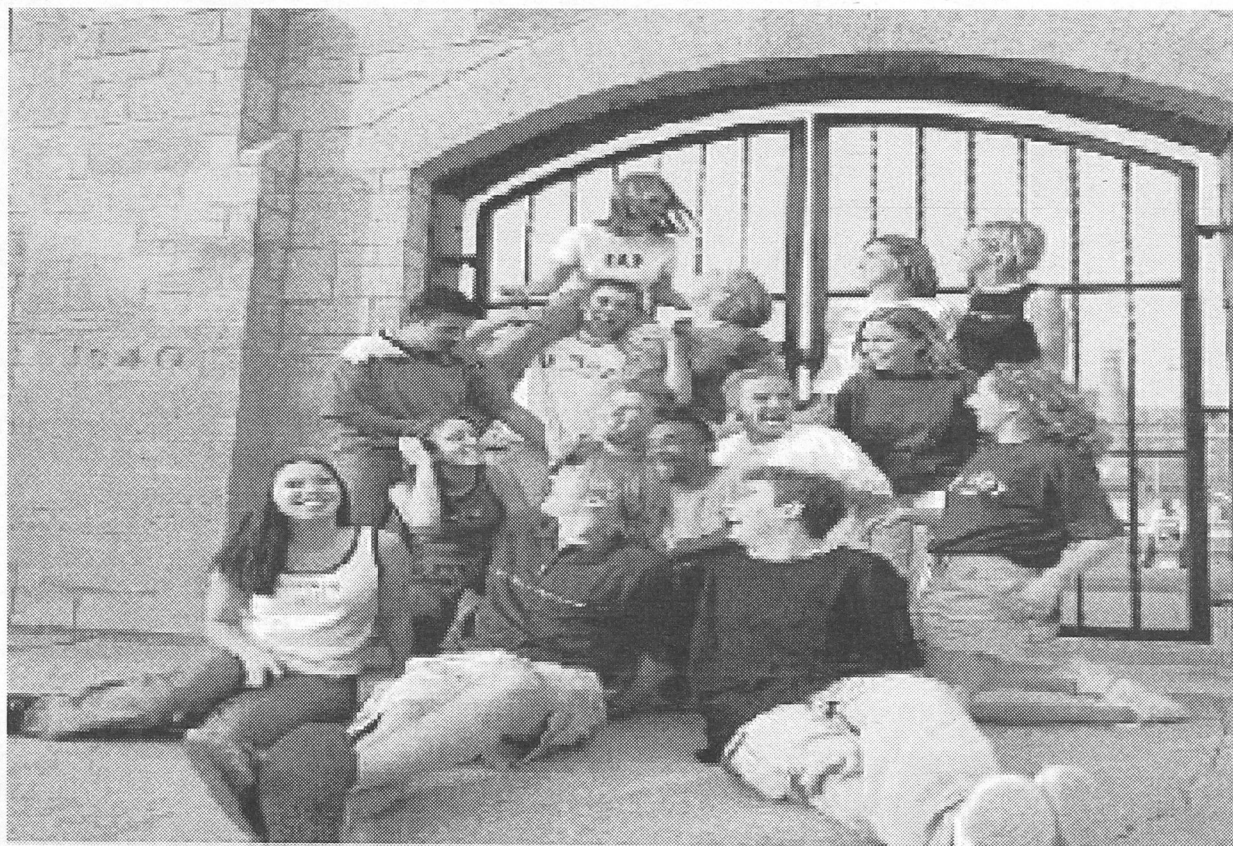
I sat down and talked with the thing for several more hours, growing continually amazed by its demeanor and intentions here on Campus.

Turns out it wants to be a Mascot to the University that revived it. I cackled with glee at the mentioning of that. How many Universities can brag about bringing a four hundred pound prehistoric throwback to their games? Well, Alabama, but that's beside the point.

My conclusion: the creature means no harm and should be free to wreak havoc in favor of our athletic groups in the near future. Long live Loch!



Loch peeks out of his house by the Lake.



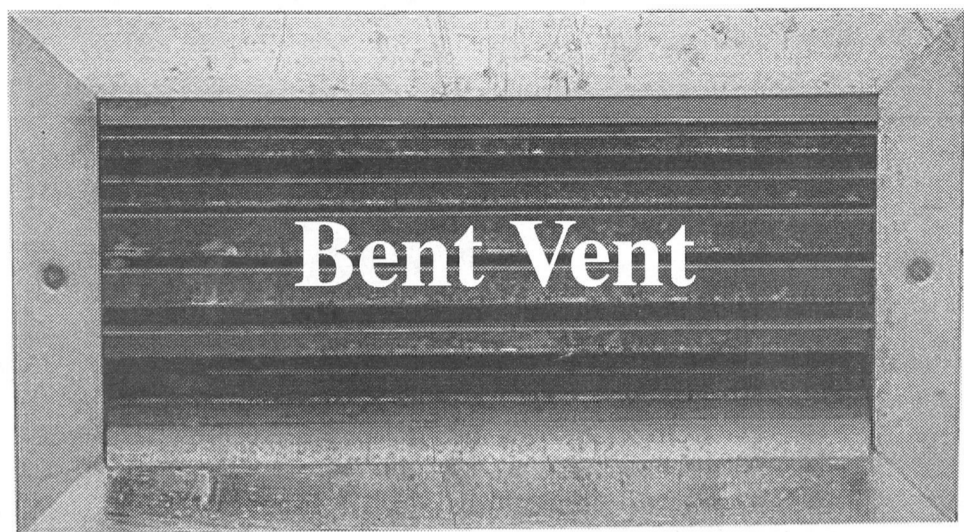
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Frustrated? Aggravated? Irritated? Do these words describe how you feel? Well, now is your chance to let your angst out! This column is dedicated to you, the students of CCSU, to express yourselves through words. This is the place to air your grief and beef with society and, of course, with our beloved campus.

When did CCSU become a farm?

Fight violence with violence, yeah that makes sense.

The Old Navy Girl has the best-arranged DNA I've seen in quite a while.

(Taken from the Atlanta Journal/Constitution)

We have color-coded parking stickers for a reason. Park in your designated area, not in mine.

Question-Why is it that students have to pay for their parking tickets, but faculty and staff do not?

If you are not going to participate in a group project, be upfront and forward with your group members. Tell them that you are lazy and will gladly take the group grade as your own, even though you will never come to group meetings and will not help with the project. Save the rest of the group from even having to deal with you.

Why can't people understand that you are supposed to come to a complete stop at stop signs? It is really not a hard concept to grasp.

If I have not graduated before the ULC is finished, I have decided to throw my body into the lake and offer it up to the geese and ducks as a sacrifice.

Editor's Note-Before you take this action, I encourage you to visit the Counseling & Career Services office. I am confident that they will be able to assist you in your time of need.

Will I ever graduate?

Why is "tolerance" a foreign concept?

Editor's Note-The opinions expressed in the Bent Vent are those of the student body and are not the opinions of the Bent Tree Staff.

Respectfully Submitted.

Heather Starr

Opinions Editor

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Dr. Seuss Lashes Out...

Opinions Expressed in this poem are not those of the Bent Tree

Every U down in Uville liked U.S. a lot,
But the Binch, who lived Far East of Uville,
did not.

The Binch hated U.S! the whole U.S. way!
Now don't ask me why, for nobody can
say,

It could be his turban was screwed on too
tight.

Or the sun from the desert had beaten too
bright

But I think that the most likely reason of all
May have been that his heart was two
sizes too
small.

But, Whatever the reason, his heart or his
turban,
He stood facing Uville, the part that was
urban.

"They're doing their business," he snarled
from his perch.

"They're raising their families! They're
going to church!

They're leading the world, and their empire
is thriving,

I MUST keep the S's and U's from
surviving!"

Tomorrow, he knew, all the U's and the S's,
Would put on their pants and their shirts
and their dresses,

They'd go to their offices, playgrounds
and schools,

And abide by their U and S values and
rules,

And then they'd do something he liked
least of all,

Every U down in U-ville, the tall and the
small,

Would stand all united, each U and each S,
And they'd sing Uville's anthem, "God
bless us! God bless!"

All around their Twin Towers of Uville,
they'd stand,

and their voices would drown every sound
in the land.

"I must stop that singing," Binch said with
a smirk,

And he had an idea-an idea that might
work!

The Binch stole some U airplanes in U
morning hours,

And crashed them right into the Uville
Twin Towers.

"They'll wake to disaster!" he snickered,
so sour,

"And how can they sing when they can't
find a tower?"

The Binch cocked his ear as they woke
from their sleeping,

All set to enjoy their U-wailing and
weeping,

Instead he heard something that started
quite low,

And it built up quite slowly, but started to
grow-

And the Binch heard the most
unpredictable thing...

And he couldn't believe it-they started to
sing!

He stared down at U-ville, not trusting his
eyes,

What he saw was a shocking, disgusting
surprise!

Every U down in U-ville, the tall and the
small,

Was singing! Without any towers at all!
He HADN'T stopped U-Ville from singing!

It sung!

For down deep in the hearts of the old and
the young,

Those Twin Towers were standing, called
Hope and

called Pride,

And you can't smash the towers we hold
deep inside.

So we circle the sites where our heroes did
fall,

With a hand in each hand of the tall and
the small,

And we mourn for our losses while
knowing we'll

cope,

For we still have inside that U-Pride and U-
Hope.

For America means a bit more than tall
towers,

It means more than wealth or political
powers,

It's more than our enemies ever could
guess,

So may God bless America! Bless us! God
bless!

By Anonymous Author

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Campus News

Student Government Association

Goals, Issues, and Objectives

- § Abolishment of the taxes on textbooks
- § Membership Drive
- § Anti-Stalking Campaign
- § Voter Registration
- § Parking Lot Issues
- § Reinstatement of the Activity Hour
- § Transportation System
- § Web Page Updates
- § Food Services Survey
- § Open Forums
- § Communication between Students and SGA
- § Student Memorial Garden
- § Library Services Issues

The SGA meets every Tuesday from 12-1 in Student Center room 206. Feel free to attend a meeting or contact us in the following ways.

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A Quick Correction

Please be advised of the following errors/corrections to the printed *Fall Semester 2001 Student Activities Calendar*:

Error: "Clayton State students may reserve two free tickets for Spivey Hall events by calling the Spivey Hall box office at (770) 961-3683."

Correction: "Clayton State students may reserve tickets for Spivey Hall events at 50% of the regular ticket price (two/ID/show) by calling the Spivey Hall box office at (770) 961-3683."

Error: "Fall 2001 Commencement Ceremony, Saturday, December 8, 9:00 a.m."

Correction: "Fall 2001 Commencement Ceremony, Thursday, December 13, 7:30 p.m., in the CCSU Gymnasium."

We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.



Picture courtesy of Paul Bailey.

from left to right: Heather Starr, SGA President, CCSU President Thomas K. Harden, Officer K. Phelps, and Officer M. Bellamy

American Flag Finds a New Home at CCSU

By Kevin Dixon
Editor-in-Chief

Just one week removed from arguably the most tragic day in American history, Clayton State is trying to return to a sense of normalcy. Students are getting back into the groove of classes and complaining about those classes, and faculty and staff are returning to their daily routines as well.

Last Friday, CCSU made its first step in returning to everyday life by adding a new member to its family. Standing tall and proud in the front of the Student Center is the college's new flagpole. The old flagpole, which used to stand beside the Administration Building, had to be removed due to the construction of the Learning Center. It's ironic that Clayton State replaced the old flagpole with a new one, just as the United States is beginning a new era of its own.

"It's good to see the new flag go up since we haven't had one flying due to the construction of the Learning Center, but now Clayton State can show their support for our

nation," said Student Government President Heather Starr.

A new era! It's hard to imagine just what exactly the United States experienced last week. For years and years students have studied attacks and wars such as Pearl Harbor and the Battle of Gettysburg. Fifty years from now our children will be learning of the Bush Doctrine and the attack on the twin towers. Such things as the National Anthem and the American Flag will never be looked at the same again. A new sense of pride and emotion builds in Americans now as they watch "Old Glory" being raised to the top of the pole. Seeing the overwhelming, outpouring of generosity in this country has been a sight so desperately needed for a long time. Americans tend to have short termed memories when it comes to patriotism, but this time it's personal.

So, everyday when you walk by the flag, and you know you will, walk a little taller and know that as long as she is flying there is still a chance for tomorrow!

continued ULC from page 1

"The pit," as many students call the parking lot behind the student center, will still be available for student parking, but will hopefully also be the lot most convenient to the Operations, Planning, and Budgeting employees. Mr. O'Hare hopes to turn the soon-to-be vacant bottom floor of the Student Center into the headquarters for all financial processes for the campus. As we all know, they are currently scattered. Mr. O'Hare's plan is to give students one-stop-shopping for organizing their financial aid and paying

fees. He expects the administration building to eventually become an academic building, and he does not expect the new offices or classrooms to cause any vacancy in the preexisting ones. The campus is growing; we are getting more degrees, which require more classrooms and more staff, and we are already short on offices and classrooms. Not only will the University Learning Center be a beautiful structure, it will also be a much-needed addition to house CCSU's growing family. ■

New Student Center Café is Leagues Beyond Former Vendors

By Brian C. Magill
Staff Writer

Every year, a new crew of freshmen enters the university, and every year the gripes and complaints about our cafeteria food become more recycled than the mashed potatoes slopped on your plate and the vegetables used to make the salads. But, in case you haven't noticed or haven't been around in a while, the Student Center Café has a new look and personality.

Gone are the drab faces and hair-net lacking employees who showed every customer that they didn't enjoy their job by moping around the grille, asking half-

heartedly if you wanted cheese and mustard on your overpriced sandwich that obviously included meats and veggies that weren't prepared fresh for that day's meal. The company that CCSU previously contracted to provide service and quality has gone to the curbside since the end of spring semester. Instead, the campus has decided to run it's own operation, assuring students and employees that they can have whatever they want on the menu, (within reason), as well as saving money in the process. The Student Government Association, along with other administrators on campus, wanted to put an end to what some students referred to as the "tyranny

of poor customer service" and the less than desirable quality and price of the foods previously offered in the cafeteria.

Several months ago, I spoke with Randy Harris, one of the consultants who helped CCSU make the switch to it's own operation. His first question to me was, "If you could create your own cafeteria and make it just like you wanted, what would it look like and what would it have in it?" Obviously, the university had taken a step in the right direction, questioning the consumer and customer interests, rather than leaving the decisions up to the savvy marketing strategies of the vendors.

If you look back on what the food court used to look and feel like, I think that you will agree that the café of today has changed drastically. The faces have changed to smiles, and the food actually tastes good when you eat it. The first changes were to the paint on the walls. The university wanted the cafe to look more appealing and brighter, choosing to repaint, rather than to keep the suicidal undertones of the cream corn yellow which used to plague the cafeteria. They changed some of the product placement around, made the café more thematic and even added umbrellas in the café area to make it more open and inviting to the patrons. Now, it seems as if you are in some stylish outdoor café in the city of your choice. Several new employees and

several professional chefs were hired, as well. Personally, I like the hats they wear, and I am demanding that every student who wants one should get one upon request. The café now has two cashiers instead of just one, eliminating those dreadful lines during the peak lunchtime hours. The staff is friendlier and more eager to help when you come in. Also, the menu has more than quadrupled, now including items you might only find in chic restaurants and places more eager to consume your hard-earned money. Plus, in case you haven't noticed, the prices have dropped significantly in some areas! What used to cost \$6.00 in the old "food court" is now \$4.50 in the new "café."

I know what you are thinking, why all of the fuss about a university cafeteria? Well, like I said before, if you remember what you had in high school or what CCSU used to provide, the new CCSU café is leagues beyond the rest. Yes, cafeteria food will always be cafeteria food. And, of course, you will always have those negative pre-assumptions based on what you are raised to believe and think about cafeteria food. But, if you actually sit back and sink your teeth into one of the delicious daily entrees on the chef's grill, you'll find that the food actually tastes and looks like what it is supposed to be. Imagine that, good food in a café setting. But don't take it from me; you've got to try it for yourself. ■

The NEW Spivey Hall: Deal or Bust?

Spivey Hall Changes Pricing Structure for CCSU Students

By Brian Magill
Staff Writer

Long gone are the days of free concerts and tickets to shows at Clayton State's very own performance facility, Spivey Hall. Starting fall season, 2001, Spivey Hall will be introducing new rates to CCSU students. The new rates will include half-price tickets to students who purchase tickets through the box office, giving those students a better chance to see artists who frequently sell out at the hall. Students will also have the chance to buy tickets thirty minutes prior to the beginning of a show for \$10, provided that are still tickets available for that performance. However, as predicted, this change has some students upset and others pleased.

According to statements released by Spivey Hall within the past few months, the change was necessary in order to keep the pace with other performing halls around the state. Also, the changes should help Spivey Hall continue to

produce the unparalleled quality of performing artists who have inhabited the hall over the past several years. This change will also most likely help bring bigger name artists to the hall and ultimately may increase tickets sales. But, there is some controversy over whether these changes were made due to other underlying and less publicly known reasons.

Spivey Hall has been under fire for some time for consuming the greater portion of the Student Activities Fees budget. This budget is also used to help fund clubs, organizations, and campus activity programming, such as coffeehouses, concerts, and variety acts on campus. Various cultural and diversity series on campus and a few staff positions related to these activities and events, are included in the budget, as well. Over the past several years, approximately \$75,000 of the annual

\$300,000 activities fee budget has been automatically given to the hall as a required amount, in order to help operate and maintain the hall. This use of funds has sparked student leaders in the past to seek answers and justification for this arbitrary amount, overturned and allotted by every CCSU president, with the exception of Dr. Thomas Harden this past year. This past March, after much debate in the SES committee, it was recommended that the hall receive the amount of \$45,000 to help fund their fiscal year budget.

The previous year, a similar amount was recommended, but overturned, by interim president, Mr. Michael Vollmer. Also in the recommendation, was the agreement that Spivey Hall would begin looking for alternative sources of funding. The suggestion was made in order to meet the concerns of those students demanding a change in the allotment, while trying to please others who enjoy having the opportunity to attend performances for free. The difficulty of this was the fact that if the hall had to incur a hit in the budget, coming from a sudden decrease in their planned yearly allotment, the free student tickets would definitely have to be the first perk to go. As we all know, in the game of life, you can't always have your cake and eat it, too.

The \$75,000 per year has helped tremendously with the efforts of Spivey Hall and it's exponential growth over the last ten years. But, it has also taken a toll on the potential growth of student life and collegiate living at Clayton. As a former member of the SES committee, member of the SGA, and Spivey Hall patron, I have seen both the pros and cons that the allotment has had on the campus. It has always been a great thrill to hear free, exceptional music in the hall. To their disadvantages, a multitude of concerned, non-traditional, part-time, and less involved students do not attend free concerts or other campus activities, due to various personal and work related reasons.

It will be interesting to see how the pricing structure changes will pan out with students, and to see what effects, if any, there will be on ticket sales at the hall. Music students who are required to attend concerts at the hall will most likely be upset with the changes, but many dedicated music lovers will now have a greater respect for the music that they enjoy hearing. If you enjoy music, I encourage you to come out and make a decision for yourself-do you think the price increase is worth it or not? I bet you will be pleased with your experience. ■

Entertainment

Behind Closed Doors: Tales of the "Boy Band" Repressed

By Isabel Lentini
Entertainment Editor

I listen to all kinds of music, everything from Mozart and Dwight Yokum to Nelly Fertado and Jimmy Eat World. But, I must not lie; I am a "Boy Band" junkie. Ever since New Kids on the Block and Boys to Men, I have been on the lookout for hot guys with melodic (at least somewhat) voices. Most girls I know listen to INSYNC, Backstreet Boys, and 98 Degrees. While the guys I know, are the first to diss these "Dude Divas." I'll set the humorous scenario to which this article is dedicated... my boyfriend (one of the so-called dissers mentioned above) and I are driving down the highway, and as usual, I am flipping through the radio. I shriek loudly as "Dirty Pop" fills the car. I am singing aloud with every word. I only have all the INSYNC cd's. Now, get this, as I glance out of the corner of my eye, I see my dear singing EVERY word too. He is officially "out of the closet." "Excuse me," I say. Listen, little Justin, where did you come from? For someone who criticizes ALL of the boy bands you sure are singing with such enthusiasm. He lowers his eyes and makes a stark confession; he wants to be in a boy band! Oh, honey, Justin, Lance, JC, Chris, and Joey have nothing on you. His eyes light up! May I add that this boy-toy of mine does not mind all the blond babe chanteuses. Someone please explain to me why it is okay for guys to drool all over Brittany, Christina, Jessica, and Mandy but find it all right to pick on the boys of pop. Hmm... am I picking up a sense of jealousy? Which is quite fine with me, because I cannot sing and I don't have blond hair. ■

DEAR DILEMMA,

I have a friend who is academically smart and who usually exercises good judgement, but recently she confided something in me that was a complete shock. I've always known that privately she has been somewhat wild, and that she tends to hang out with really sleazy guys, but I didn't know that when she is with these people she uses drugs. She said she has only smoked weed and dropped acid, but what makes it worse is that she drives while she's high. She even told me about a particular night when she ran two stop signs and ran up on several curbs. She's really lucky that she hasn't had an accident and injured herself or someone else. I also worry about what those shady guys might try to do when

By "The Flabby Girl"

So, I decided to change my life, mainly, my outward appearance. Ok, let's get serious- I wanted to be thin! It was summer, and everyone was wearing all those revealing summer clothes, and I longed to join them. I wanted to belong to that elite group of perfect people- the skinny people. You know the people I am talking about; these people are the ones who look great in everything from a ball gown to a burlap sac. So I did it. I did what every overweight person hates...I joined a health club. I was so proud of myself. I walked up to the lady in the polo shirt and said, "I want to join! Sign me up!" She looked at me, handed me the forms, and proceeded to interrogate me about my eating style. Suddenly, I no longer felt that this was what I wanted to do. I didn't want to answer questions about my caloric intake. Then the lady asked, "Why do you want to join?" I looked at her like she had suddenly grown six heads. I thought to myself, "Honey, take a look at me! My thighs are too big, my arms have a nasty, flabby quality to them, and I look less than perfect in my bathing suit." Instead of telling her what I was thinking, I smiled and told her it was for health reasons. She knew I lied, but I didn't care. So, I

she is alone with them while they are all high. I don't want to sound motherly or offend her and push her even further away, but I really wish that there was something I could say or do to make her see how stupid and dangerous that stuff is. Could you please help me help her?

Dear Fearful Friend,

In many cases, when people turn to drugs they are viewing the time that they are high as a break from reality. Their reality is usually spoiled by problems such as being pressured by peers, coping with family tension, feeling powerless, or feeling like a misfit. Even though she seems to only use drugs casually, I can

filled out the forms and signed up to meet with a personal trainer. A couple of days before I was to meet my trainer, I decided to do some pre-workout workouts. I walked a few miles, did a few push-ups and sit-ups, all the time thinking that my trainer would be so impressed with my determination. I did not take into consideration that a few days of exercise would not erase all the times I had been a couch potato. Anyway you look at it, I was ready for action! At least, that's what I thought I was ready for.

The day finally came. It was time for me to meet my trainer. I walked up to him and introduced myself; he seemed very nice and, quite frankly, very good-looking. He asked me if I was ready to begin. I thought smugly to myself that I was ready for just about *anything* this gorgeous man suggested! Little did I know what was in store for my poor, flabby body. We began with stretching, then moved on to balance and "how long can you hold your right leg up without holding on to anything" type stuff. That wasn't so bad. The tough stuff came when we went inside the gym and started working on the equipment. Just so you know, my trainer will now be referred to as Mr. Good Smile, Mr. GS for short. So, there I was, walking on the treadmill with Mr. Good Smile cheering me on, telling me how great I was doing. I was so fooled by him; I wasn't doing well by any standards! I was huffing, and puffing, and ready to fall off the treadmill and onto the floor. I would have gladly done it if I were given the chance. Then SHE came

tell by her choice of company that she has self-esteem problems, and she is one of the many drug users trying to escape from their misery.

The good news is that your friend has made it easier for you to help her, because she has already talked to you about her habit. You don't have to speculate about what she's doing, and you don't have to worry about her getting angry when you bring up the subject. However, you do need to be careful about *how* you talk to her. If you put her on the defensive by accusing her or lecturing her, she will lump you into the rest of her problems and will light her next joint in your honor. Talk to your friend about how her use of drugs makes you feel. Tell her that you are worried about her, and explain exactly why (the effects on her body and mind, the consequences that might follow a night alone with two or more intoxicated jerks, the potentiality of a fatal, or at least debilitating, car accident). Make sure to stay calm and to speak with genuine concern, not pity.

in. SHE is the girl that all the flabby people hate most. SHE is tall, thin, has long legs, and is completely perfect in everyway. SHE is wearing spandex, while I am wearing a big t-shirt and sweat pants. To my horror Mr. GS knew her! He left me standing on the treadmill in my own sweat and went over to her to cheer her on. He called back to me and told me to keep going. As they talked and laughed, I had a thought that will motivate me forever. I thought to myself "just put us on a track, and let me chase her around it; if I catch her, I get to rip her perfect hair off her perfectly sized little head." By this point in time, the treadmill was beeping at me to slow down; my heart rate had increased to a level that I don't think it had ever reached! Mr. GS came back to me and said, "WOW! You were really working hard. What inspired you?" All I could do was smile and say that I was just trying my best. SHE knew the truth, but didn't dare speak a word of it. SHE just smiled at me as I walked past. An hour later, I left my new gym. I was sweaty, stinky, and feeling miserable. I felt like someone had kicked me in the stomach and taken my breath away. I managed to drive myself home, take a shower, and crawl into my bed. I knew I had to go back in two days. I was going to have to face it all over again. I drifted off to sleep, still dreaming about that long track and me running on it. This is my story, one I have decided to share with you. I hope you will stand by me as I walk through this valley of weight management. ■

It will probably take more than one conversation. Be patient. One thing you can try to do is to spend more time with her. Knowing that you care about her and enjoy her company will help her feel better about herself. Plus, every hour she spends with you will be one less hour she spends acting recklessly. As her self-esteem is boosted by your constant acceptance and care, she will need that hiatus from reality much less often.

Unfortunately, despite your valiant effort, she still might refuse your invitations and blow you off as a prude or a goody-goody. If this is the case, you should inform someone who can help, like her parents, a counselor, a doctor, or a preacher. Maybe one of these people will have more influence over her. The truth is that the decision to quit is completely hers, and she cannot overcome this problem until she admits to herself that she needs to quit. ■

CCSU women's soccer team defeats Lenior-Rhyne 3-2

Morrow, GA— September 21, 2001

The Clayton College & State University women's soccer team notched another victory and Laker sophomore sensation Nkiru Okosieme broke another record in the process.

The women's squad defeated Lenior-Rhyne 3-2 Friday behind three goals from Okosieme, Onitsha, Nigeria. The three goals give her 15 on the season, breaking the single season record for goals scored of 12, set by Heather Roberson in 1998. Nkiru currently ranks second in the nation for points per game and is the nation's third leading scorer. She also leads the Peach Belt Conference in goals scored and points per game.

The win improves Clayton State to 5-2 on the season, while Lenior-Rhyne falls to 2-5-1. The Lakers will return to PBC action Sunday, traveling to the University of North Florida in Jacksonville, FL. Clayton State, 1-0 in conference play, will face conference favorite North Florida (3-3; 0-0) in a 2 p.m. match.

In Friday's contest, the Lakers jumped out to a 1-0 lead five minutes into the match as Okosieme scored the first of her three goals. The score was set up on a pass from junior Anya Heminger, Ontario, OR. Clayton State increased its lead to 2-0 at the 30-minute mark as Okosieme scored an unassisted goal.

Lenior-Rhyne trimmed the CCSU lead to 2-1 six minutes later as Julie Dodds, High Point, NC, fired a shot from 20 yards over the head of CCSU keeper Michelle Smith, Conyers, GA. The score was setup on a pass from sophomore Nikki Russell, Richfield, NC.

Okosieme gave the Lakers a 3-1 lead at the 65-minute mark, scoring her third goal of the game off an assist from Heminger, her fourth assist of the season. The three goals marked the fourth time this season that Nkiru has scored three or more goals in a contest.

LHC cut the deficit to 3-2 with five minutes remaining in the match, as sophomore Julie Isley, Snow Camp, NC, scored off an assist from senior Shelia Murphy, Asheville, NC, but that was as close as the Bears would come.

Clayton State outshot Lenior-Rhyne 17-13 and had five corner kicks compared to only one for the Bears. Okosieme led CCSU with eight shots, while sophomore Amy Westmoreland, Martinsville, VA, had five shots for the Bears.

Sophomore LHC keeper Julie Crosby, Cincinnati, OH, finished with seven saves for Lenior-Rhyne, while Smith finished with five saves for Clayton State.

The CCSU win avenges a 5-0 loss to Lenior-Rhyne last year and gives Clayton State a 2-1 edge in the series between the two clubs.

Clayton State women fall at North Florida 4-0

Jacksonville, FL— September 23, 2001

The Clayton College & State University women's soccer team dropped its first Peach Belt Conference match of the season, falling to conference favorite the University of North Florida 4-0 Sunday. The loss drops the squad to 5-3 on the season and 1-1 in the PBC. The women will return to action Thursday, Sept. 27, hosting Thomas University in a 4 p.m. match.

In Sunday's match, North Florida struck early as Lynn Erthal scored three minutes into the match on an assist from Erin Wiggins, followed by UNF's Diane Hemke adding two straight goals to give the Lady Ospreys a 3-0 lead.

Hemke's first goal came at the 34-minute mark on assists from Laura Hamilton and Sarah Macak, and her second goal came 24 minutes later on assists from Wiggins and sister Dana Hemke.

Terri Moo-Young capped off the scoring for the Lady Ospreys at the 67-minute mark, and Diane Hemke and Valerie McEvoy were credited with assists on the goal.

Clayton State's Nkiru Okosieme, the leading scorer in the Peach Belt, was held to only one shot in the contest. Offensively, UNF outshot the Lakers 21-4, while CCSU keeper Michelle Smith recorded nine saves in the game.

Okosieme named PBC Player of the Week

Morrow, GA— September 10, 2001

Clayton College & State University women's soccer player Nkiru Okosieme has opened the 2001 season shattering the CCSU record book, breaking marks for goals in game, points in a contest and shots in game.

On Monday, the Peach Belt Conference recognized Okosieme for her early season accomplishments, naming her the PBC Player of the Week. The honor is the first time ever for a Clayton State women's soccer player.



A sophomore forward from Onitsha Nigeria, Nkiru has sparkled, scoring 12 goals in her last four matches. She broke the school record Sunday for goals in game, pocketing four goals in the team's 4-1 win over the University of North Alabama and broke the school mark for points in game with eight.

With 11 games remaining, Okosieme's 12 goals already tie the school's single season record of 12 set in 1998 by Heather Roberson. She has also already tied the single season record for points of 25, set by Roberson in 1998. Okosieme leads the Peach Belt averaging five points and 2.4 goals per match.

The Clayton women's squad (4-1; 1-0) is off to its best-ever start and tied the school's longest winning streak of four Sunday with the win over North Alabama. The squad will have a chance to break that mark Thursday at home, facing Spelman College in a 5 p.m. match.

No. 14 Clayton State defeats No. 7 Lander in men's soccer action

Greenwood, SC— September 15, 2001

Clayton College & State University and Lander University, two of the top-ranked teams in the nation and two of the heavyweights of the Peach Belt Conference, met in a soccer showdown Saturday night, and the match lived up to all the hype.

With less than two minutes remaining, Clayton State junior Barry Casebeer broke a 2-2 tie, converting a penalty kick to give the 14th-ranked Lakers a 3-2 win over PBC foe and seventh-ranked Lander.

"It was a great match," said head coach John Rootes. "We showed a lot of character coming back in the second half. I didn't think we played our best soccer in the first half, but we hung in there and came back in the second half."

Clayton State improved to 6-0-2 and 2-0 in the conference with the win, while Lander dropped to 5-1 and 1-1 in the PBC. Before the match, the two teams were ranked No. 1 and No. 2 in the Southeast Region poll. The win also increased CCSU's unbeaten streak to 16 matches, dating back to last season. The Lakers will return to action Saturday, September 22, hosting Lenior-Rhyne College in a 4 p.m. match.

After a scoreless first half, Clayton State jumped out a 1-0 lead as freshman Des Martin, Benoni, South Africa, converted a penalty kick 53 minutes into the match. Lander bounced back to take a 2-1 advantage when freshman Peter Martisek, Bratislava, Slovakia, scored a goal at the 59-minute mark on an assist from junior Mikko Kotilainen, Lappeenranta, Finland, followed by senior Thomas Nupen, Kristiansand, Norway,

striking six minutes later for a goal on a double assist from Martisek and sophomore Thierry Decoud, Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Casebeer, Clayton State's leading scorer on the season, answered at the 74-minute mark on an unassisted goal, knotting the score at two apiece before converting the game-winning penalty kick 14 minutes later.

Lander outshot the Lakers, 13-8, and was led by Jamie Creaghan, Sheffield, England, with five shots, while Casebeer, Austin, TX, have five for Clayton State. The Senators also led in corner kicks 7-1.

Junior CCSU goalkeeper Warren van der Westhuizen, Johannesburg, South Africa, had four saves, while Lander's sophomore goalie Matthew Shirley, Greenwood, SC, had three.

The Clayton State win marked the first time the Lakers had ever won a match at Lander and tied the series between the two clubs at three apiece. Clayton State has won the last three meetings between the two teams.

VSU women & KSU men win at first-ever CCSU Cross Country Invit.



Atlanta, GA — September 22, 2001

The Valdosta State University women's squad and the Kennesaw State University men's squad captured team crowns in the first-ever Clayton College & State University Cross Country Invitational Saturday at Panthersville.

Valdosta State edged Kennesaw State University by two points with a team low 54 points and had five runners in the top 14 to

take the team trophy. Kennesaw State finished with 56 points and was led by two-time Division II national champion Marjo Venalainen, who took the women's title with a time of 17:54.85. Clayton State's Joni Guffey finished second in the women's race with a time of 19:10.6.

Clayton State finished third in the meet with 66 points, followed by Georgia College & State University fourth with 147 points and Oglethorpe University fifth with 162 points.

On the men's side, Kennesaw State swept the top four spots in the race to capture first place with a team low 17 points. KSU's Gediminas Banevicius won the 8K event with a time of 25:43.65 in front of teammate Ari Makiranta, who finished with a time of 26:03.76.

Behind KSU, the University of South Carolina Spartanburg placed second with 62 points, followed by host Clayton State with 84 points and Columbus State with 86 points. Valdosta State rounded out the top five with 153 points

Remaining Schedule for Sports at CCSU this Fall

Cross Country Schedule

| | | | |
|-------|----------------------------------|--------------------|--------|
| 9/29 | at USC Spartanburg Invitational | Spartanburg, S.C. | 9 a.m. |
| 10/6 | at GA Collegiate Championships | Decatur, Ga. | 9 a.m. |
| 10/11 | at Bobcat Invitational | Milledgeville, Ga. | 3 p.m. |
| 10/20 | *PBC Championships | Forest Park, Ga. | 9 a.m. |
| 11/3 | NCAA Division II South Regionals | Decatur, Ga. | TBA |
| 11/17 | NCAA Division II Championships | Slippery Rock, Pa. | TBA |

Women's Soccer Schedule

| | | | |
|----------|----------------------------|-----------------|--------|
| Sept. 27 | Thomas University | Morrow, GA | 4 p.m. |
| Sept. 30 | *UNC Pembroke | Pembroke, NC | 2 p.m. |
| Oct. 5 | Tusculum College | Morrow, GA | 5 p.m. |
| Oct. 9 | Spelman College | Morrow, GA | 5 p.m. |
| Oct. 13 | *Francis Marion University | Morrow, GA | 2 p.m. |
| Oct. 23 | *USC-Spartanburg | Spartanburg, SC | 4 p.m. |
| Oct. 27 | *Lander University | Lander, SC | 3 p.m. |

Men's Soccer Schedule

| | | | |
|----------|----------------------------|------------------|-----------|
| Sept. 26 | Berry College | Morrow | 5 p.m. |
| Sept. 29 | *North Florida | Jacksonville, FL | 7:30 p.m. |
| Oct. 1 | Thomas University | Henry Co. | 7 p.m. |
| Oct. 6 | Barry University | Miami Shores, FL | 7 p.m. |
| Oct. 7 | St. Thomas University | Miami, FL | 4 p.m. |
| Oct. 13 | *Francis Marion University | Morrow, GA | 4 p.m. |
| Oct. 19 | SCAD | Savannah, GA | 7 p.m. |
| Oct. 23 | *USC-Spartanburg | Spartanburg, SC | 7 p.m. |
| Oct. 27 | *UNC-Pembroke | Pembroke, NC | 7 p.m. |

Letter from the Editor

Returning to normalcy...

Is that what we really need right now? The past two weeks I have been speechless watching Americans unite and come together. For the first time in my life I have not worried about racism, profiling, stereotyping, or any other petty problems our country worries about. We seem to have a new sense of what the word "United" means, and that word is everywhere right now. It's not only written on billboards and signs, but you can see it in the flags and on the faces of those you pass on the street. So, do we really want to go back to the way we were? Do we really want to return to normal? Americans seem to have a short term memory when it comes to patriotism, but this is more than patriotism...it's our way of life. Returning to normal is the last thing on my mind, and I'm ready to begin the second phase of my life in a new phase of this country. I challenge all of you to uphold that pride and emotions you have right now, and carry it with you in a new light. As the nation mourns and grieves those that were lost, we should all remember that tomorrow is another day and that we all can make a difference. God Bless you all and God Bless America!

Kevin Dixon
Editor-in-Chief



Kevin Dixon
Editor-in-Chief



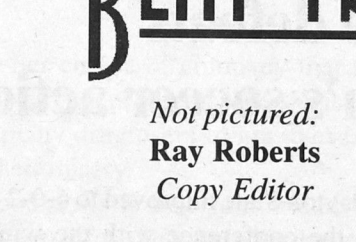
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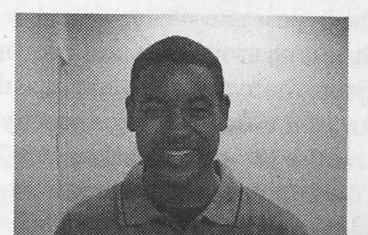
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