

Lakers Begin to Set Their "Rootes"

Clayton State's men's soccer team move to 7-0 as they sit atop the Peach Belt Conference

By Kevin Dixon

Clayton State is widely known as a very diverse college that allows students to excel in technology as a notebook university. However, there are a few guys on campus who are trying to add to that list of "knowns" for Clayton State. Those few guys are the men's soccer team who have quickly crept their way up in the NCAA standings and are now sitting atop their conference and at #4 in the nation.

For a program that is in its tenth year, the soccer that Clayton State has seen has rapidly developed in the past few years. A majority of Clayton State's accomplishments is in thanks to head coach John Rootes. Rootes who arrived here in 1998 began immediately to turn the soccer program around as he led the Lakers to an 18-3-1 record in his first season. Since then he has become the second all time winningest coach in Division II soccer. While he carried his winning ways from New Hampshire College down to Clayton State he has continued on that path this season. The Lakers are sitting comfortably atop the Peachbelt Conference with a perfect 7-0 record, but they are determined not to let their perfection get in the way of their play. "Most of the guys take the games as they come, but the rankings and our record is definitely great for our confidence," said senior defenseman Mikey Lynch. While the rankings seem to boost the confidence of the players it is lying on the mind of the coaches everyday. "The guys will say that the rankings don't bother them but it does because then you have to start playing to preserve your ranking and you're not taking it one game at a

Zuca Palladino takes aim before taking a free kick



(Middle Right) The Lakers celebrate after a thrilling overtime win.



(Middle Left) Warren van der Westhuizen hugs teammate after recording a victory.



Photos by Steven Straker

The Lakers threaten as they drive for a goal.

time. I would prefer to look at it as playing a game just for that game and not feeling the pressure to maintain the ranking," said Rootes.

With the pressure of a high rank labeled on them the Lakers have now become marked targets by every opponent they step on the field with. "Everybody on our schedule is strong, we have a real strong schedule, and anybody we play is capable of beating us if we're not prepared. And now those teams are more motivated to play against us because of our rankings, and we have to play up to our abilities every game," stated Rootes.

The Lakers have done more than just played up to their abilities this year as they have played several

close games but have also shown their offensive strengths as they have outscored their opponents 23-7 thus far. While their offense has been a bright light the Lakers play a very defensive game, and that defense remains to be the philosophy behind winning for Rootes' Lakers. "My philosophy has always been that you win on defense, and the focal point of the defense is the goalkeeper: you have to have a good goalkeeper. Warren (van der Westhuizen) is a very good goalkeeper, and our success over the last three seasons has been due to a large part in his success and playing so well," said Rootes.

Clayton State's defense has been tested to the limit this season, but a majority of the threats have come during home games, and a sense of

home field advantage is still a tinkering thought on the mind of Rootes. "We haven't really had the home field advantage that I'd like to have, and I feel that if we could have some bigger crowds that would help create a home field advantage. But that isn't the only factor, if we had lights I think we would attract more people to evening games rather than in the afternoon."

While the crowds have been small they have been steady and the Lakers have developed a good fan following here on campus. "I not only go to cheer for the team but I am enjoying learning about the game as the season goes along. I have had a chance to develop an appreciation for the sport, but beyond that I love how rough the game is and it kind of reminds me of my football playing days," said Sophomore Gerald Heavens.

With almost half the season gone the Lakers have a tough road ahead, and Rootes reminds his players everyday that they still have a lot to accomplish. "If I could sum up the season so far I would say that we have been very fortunate in that we have got a lot of young, new players and we have yet to play as well as I know we can and we're still winning. In one sense, we're happy that we're undefeated but at the same time I'm disappointed that we're not playing better, and if we start playing well there is no telling what we can do," said Rootes.

As the Lakers approach the crossroads of their season they still have a lot to look forward to, but still have that long road to travel. While they don't know what lies ahead of them they do know that it's going to be a heck of a ride getting there.

Thoughts Under Glass

Bush vs. Saddam (for the middle weight championship of the world)

By Jonathan Gillespie

Before I get into my problems with Bush's latest campaign, it's necessary to clarify a few things that I brought up in my last opinion article, which inspired more than a few people to come to me and try to clear up some questions I had with the way the campus was being run.

First came some thoughtful discussion with Ron Barden, director of this Campus' Client Services Department, which is, among other things, responsible for integrating technology purchases made by the school into the existing infrastructure. Mr. Barden assured me that the LCD monitors I spoke of were actually part of a package deal Dell offered the school. That's right, folks, we secured the monitors for virtually no cost over standard monitors. It wasn't even a blip on the school budget.

Several people also came forward and asked me to reassure the students that might be reading this article that the Campus is not responsible for the dismissal of several IT department faculty members earlier this semester. That infamous distinction falls squarely on the shoulders of an outside standards committee, whom were responsible for demanding the Campus release the faculty in question.

So there it is. As promised, people have responded and I have placed those comments here. I'd like to thank those who took the time to respond to my inquiries. Now, on to another issue, and one far more important.

Our nation, though sometimes I wonder if it should be called a kingdom, has taken Saddam to task. Yeah, that's right. Took us eleven years to decide it's time to knock Saddam out of power.

First of all, the obvious: Saddam is not a threat to the United States. Yes, you read that right. Saddam isn't coming after us anytime soon. Why is that? It's not his style.

Hussein idolizes Josef Stalin. He views himself as a sort of Middle Eastern Iron Man. Attacking the United States covertly isn't in his nature. He prefers a stand-up fight: hence the reason we pretty much kicked the tar out of him the last time we fought. I mean, this is the same guy that tried to build a super gun built on the side of a mountain in case he ever needed to shoot it in our general direction. Don't laugh—he actually finished building it. My point is, he's not for the subtle approach. He likes a big glorious military that he envisions trouncing the U.S. in a stand-up fight.

The first time we went in to Iraq, it was to secure the safety of our oil. It wasn't because "a defenseless Kuwait" was invaded—millions of people are oppressed daily, but the only time this country cares is when one of two things is involved: communism, or the almighty dollar.

This time I believe the aims are somewhat different. The Bush administration knows it can't ride the petticoats of 9/11 forever. Every policy George W. has ever enacted has been lambasted and lampooned. Terrorism is the one issue he's been able to garner public support for.

But the "War on Terror", which is as much an excuse for big government bullying as another politician's "War on Drugs", will succeed only in strangulating further the rights to privacy. It will be effective only in causing public complaint to increase. George knows he needs a new trump card. Might as well do what his dad did and pay a visit to the weakling on the playground. After all, we know we can beat Hussein. The resulting fervor and blind fanaticism of the American sheep-farm public will give the economy a nice shot in the arm.

Ignoring the fact that Bush is using the deaths of 9/11 to his own gains, one can still find fault with going to war with Iraq. Tell me, George, exactly who is going to take over after you axe Saddam? What happened to that "power vacuum" you were so afraid of? Does the prospect of leaving a permanent peacekeeping force of ten thousand troops behind sound too much like Vietnam for you to confront the issue?

Bush has also flicked off the UN, which means we could be going into this on our own. So far the only people willing to support us are our friends in Britain...and I'd feel bad as an American if they got dragged into a protracted war with us.

Two more years, everyone. Two more years. Then I'm voting this King off the throne. I encourage those of you who are aware that the U.S. Government is slowly moving from Common law to Roman law to take the same stand.

All the oil in Iraq isn't worth this.



Cartoon drawn by Tim Jordan

Saddam--- is he a
threat to the United
States?

Tell us what you
think, and we will
print your responses.

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Win the War on Drugs, Make Them Legal!

By Brian Gardiner csu10951@mail.claytonstate.net

I have never smoked marijuana, cigarettes or anything else. However, I do not believe that it is the place of government to decide whether or not an individual can smoke whatever he or she wants in the privacy of his or her own home or in any other non public setting. The primary reason for this belief is that the role of government, as constitutionally intended, is to provide the rule of law and to allow every American the right to the pursuit of happiness. Only when an individual's pursuit of happiness interferes with the rights of another individual should the government step in and pass appropriate legislation. In the case of marijuana, or any other drug for that matter, absolutely no one is harmed by the actual ingestion of that drug except for the user himself. Of course there are some who would argue that marijuana is not physically harmful for the user, I however do not agree, anytime a foreign substance is inhaled into the lungs on a regular basis there are undoubtedly going to be some negative physical side effects. Having saying that, I absolutely believe that if someone wishes to harm him or herself then they should be allowed to. But what about crimes that drug users commit while on drugs? In these cases criminals should be punished because of the harm that they cause to other innocent individuals, not because they happened to be a little high at the time. The core of this argument goes back to personal responsibility. All individuals should be expected to be responsible enough to decide what they should and should not do. Only when people make choices that ultimately harm others they should be punished. This is the true definition of freedom as intended by our fore fathers, everyone has the right to do whatever they want as long as it does not interfere with someone else's life or liberty. Beside this philosophical belief in freedom, the fact that drugs are illegal actually causes more crime than it prevents.

How often have you read headlines that say "Ten Killed in Gang War Over Marlboro Lights?" If you have ever read that headline I would absolutely love to see it because it would absolutely never happen. People are not shot over cigarettes because tobacco isn't worth hundreds of thousands of dollars per pound. People are shot over marijuana because they can make enough money selling marijuana in one day to pay their bills for a month. Why in the world would little Johnny quit his job making \$5,000 per week selling marijuana to work at Publix bagging groceries? If Johnny was making that same amount of money doing anything but selling drugs, and he quit to bag groceries everyone would think that he is absolutely crazy, but since drugs have been labeled as the root of evil in today's society people expect Johnny to take the moral high ground and to work his way to the top. The problem is that in many neighborhoods the biggest celebrity is the guy that makes \$5,000 per week selling drugs, and if he were to quit his peers would view him to be just as crazy as a person who quit their job as a pilot to wash windows. The reason that drugs have such an incredibly high profit margin is not because they are in short supply, but because if you get caught with them you will be put in jail for life. This fact has made cocaine worth \$1,000 per ounce (<http://www.mapinc.org/drugnews/v02/n397/a06.html>) while gold is only worth \$42 per ounce (Department of the treasury <http://www.fms.treas.gov/gold/>). Until that fact changes people will continue to sell drugs in order to provide a living for themselves. Let us take a moment to consider another prohibition in the history of The United States, the prohibition of alcohol. During prohibition drinking continued and the mystique of drinking actually rose. Also during that time gang warfare also ran rampant because of the insanely high cost of alcohol during that time. In this period there were daily accounts of gangs fighting over turf in order to protect their booze runs. Now the accounts are of drug dealers protecting their turf with a hail of gunfire. The reason is simple; the illegality of drugs has caused the market for drugs to fall into the hands of criminals (by definition a criminal is someone who breaks the law and drugs are illegal at this point) instead of into the hands of honest hard working entrepreneurs. Few people would actually call the executive boards of companies like Anheuser Busch immoral simply for selling a product that people want. The solution is; legalize marijuana and eventually all drugs. Once drugs have become legal it will be possible to set an age limit on using those substances and it will be extremely easy to regulate the actual consumption of drugs. Many of you who have just left high school can probably think of at least one person that you know of who can get any drug you want, and if not you ultimately know someone who knows a person that can get drugs. Only after drugs have become legal will it be possible to regulate the flow of drugs. Lets consider prohibition ended what happened? Well, alcohol slowly slipped away from the criminals who had controlled it into the hands of entrepreneurs who built vast empires. These empires created jobs and opportunities for thousands of people and no longer do you hear about turf wars over alcohol. The same would definitely happen with drugs, if they were to be made legal, crime over drugs would end, or at least be greatly reduced, and people would be granted the right to choose what to put into their own bodies.

Defense Spending---Is it worth our time?

By Ben Simpson csu16451@mail.claytonstate.net

Oh, the intelligent American government. Here is an issue that I think bears significant relevance because of the focus on patriotism in recent weeks. It must have occurred to the majority of citizens and politicians by now, that spending on the construction and maintenance of Nuclear weapons is probably the worst military decision since we decided to let Hitler occupy a few countries and get away with it. The US policy with nuclear weapons comes from an outdated time, when the Soviet Union was alive and well. This time has passed, and now the nation has come under attack. Nuclear weapons have not helped us yet, so why do we have them? A few points for you to crunch on:

First, the biggest reason to stop is the volume of tax dollars that goes into producing and maintaining nuclear weapons. It is not a few dollars here to slap steel around some plutonium, and some there to dust the cobwebs out the nuclear silos. Actually, the United States has spent 5.5 trillion dollars, with an annual maintenance cost of 25 billion dollars for its nuclear arms (Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists, 01/2002, *Joseph Cirincione*). Permission granted to close your mouth back, and push those cartoon eyes back into your skull. For every .30 something cents out of dollar the government "collects" from you, half goes directly into the military spending. We have spent all this and have we ever used a nuclear weapon in combat? The answer is no. The closest is when we leveled two cities in Japan 50 years ago, but actually those were atomic bombs. Nuclear weapons have more power than an atomic bomb many times over. What makes it more impractical is that the United States after the war changed its policy to against the attacking of civilians. So, here is a question: If we will not attack civilians, where could we possibly use a nuclear weapon in war?

Second, the weapons are extremely dangerous. The more weapons the United States produces, the greater the odds that one of them will fall into the wrong hands. If we are not going to use them because of our policy (which I support by the way) than these weapons are only waiting to be misplaced, accidentally triggered, or become the target of a terrorist attack. The United States has over 12,000 nuclear warheads, 10,00 more on the way. This is enough firepower to destroy every living inch of the earth multiple times. And I, for one, do not feel safe with people as idiotic as those in the United States government protecting that kind of power. They can't even count the votes to determine who won the presidential election for god sake, and they are holding the key to Armageddon! One of these missiles in particular, the US Trident, has more firepower than all of the guns fired, and bombs exploded in all the wars in history combined. Sure, maybe the United States has a bigger "ego" than China, or Iraq, but who cares? Have you ever heard the expression "When elephants fight, it is the grass that suffers"? Think about this a minute. If, and a big if, we ever fire a missile of that magnitude, all of the politicians, and the president and vice-president will be ten miles underground housed in a lead bunker with enough rations never to have to return to the surface again (which might actually be better for the world). Who takes the impact of a bomb like that? That's right, me and you, the taxpayers, vaporized into smoke by the very weapon we paid money to build.

Third, I think the most reflective reason for drastically reducing the nuclear program is because it sends out the wrong message to the world. Foreign countries could perceive us as bloodthirsty Mongols that they must obey or be obliterated because of our volume of weapons. I think a more positive approach would be to take the money from the weapons program and pay for humanitarian aide. Now this might seem touchy-feely to a lot of hardcore military people, but I think that it is a lesson-learned way before September 11th. The United States sits alone, guarding its weapons, while the rest of the world is in need of help. Our stockpile of nuclear weapons is responsible for our foreign policy going 180 degrees away from what we should be doing. People hate us because we have such a good life, but we never help anyone but ourselves. We should be out there supporting countries, feeding, educating, and establishing friendly relationships, instead of waiting in our missile silos. If the United States were to intervene in Afghanistan and explain our culture, and provide education to people, and demonstrate that we want to help them anyway we can, instead of threatening them with retaliation, Osama would have been hard pressed to find someone to fly airplanes into our buildings.

Nuclear weapons have no place in our world, and it angers me that I am forced to pay my money to help build machines to kill hundreds of thousands of people at the touch of a button, that will never be pressed. The idea is insane at best and the policy is too isolationist. So, the next time someone accuses you being a Clintonist-reducing the military budget, take it with heart, because it was a decent attempt from the government for once, to care for others.

Clayton College & State

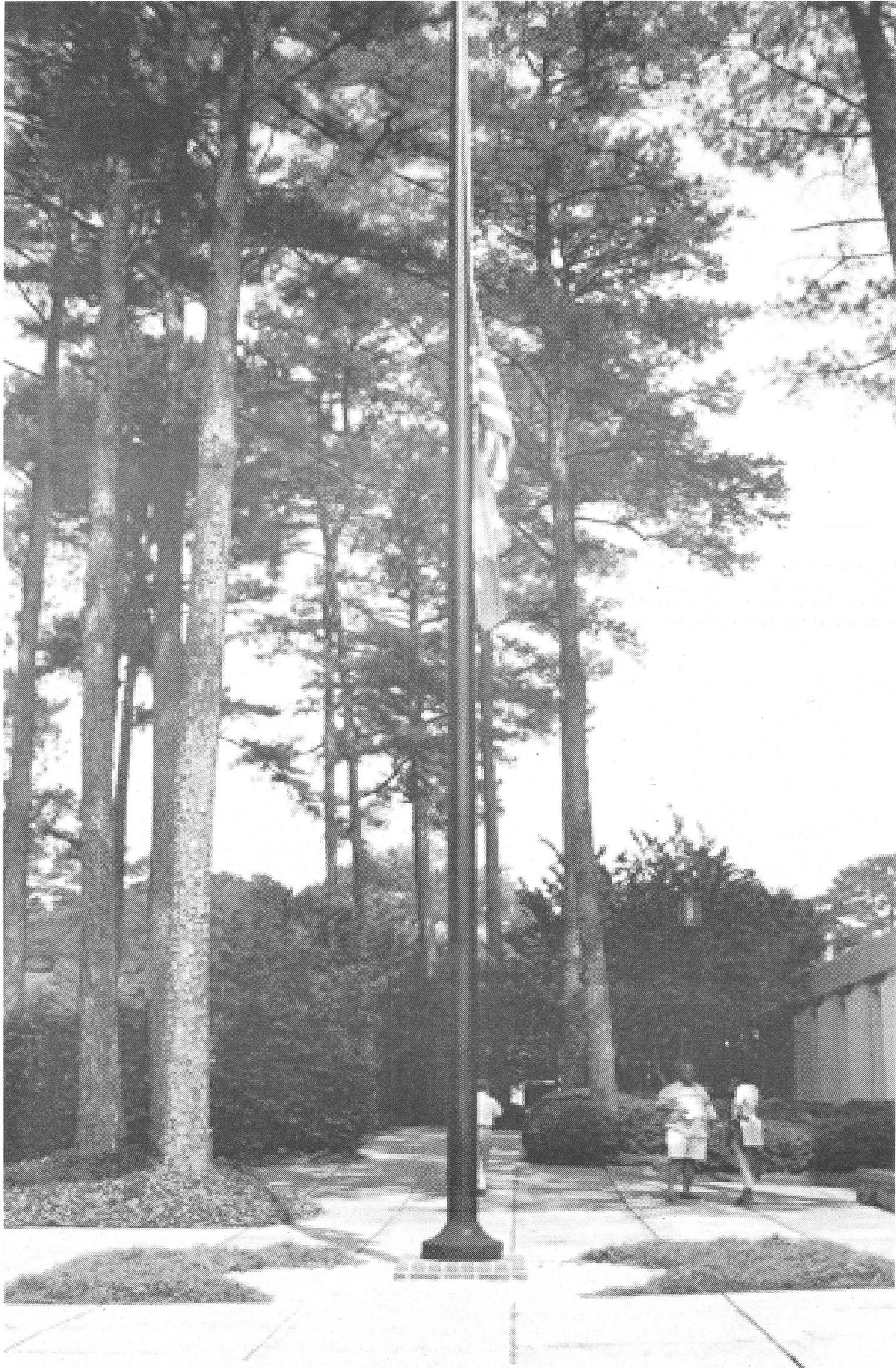


Photo by Sondra Landrum

Clayton State lowers its American flag to half mast in remembrance of those lost one year ago.

University Remembers

Picking up the Pieces: The Year After September 11th

By Ashley Spillers

On September 11th, 2002, at 8:46 in the morning, CCSU faculty and students gathered around an American flag to take a moment of reflection on the events that occurred exactly one year ago. Dr. Harden led the memorial, and all who were present took a moment of silence to contemplate the tragedy that took place on this day one short year ago. It was a solemn moment for all. Many people would have thought of this day as just another date on the calendar until that fateful morning. Americans woke up, believing this was a day like any other, with a routine schedule of rushing to make it to work on time and glancing at the news on their way out the door. On any other day, the news would be filled with the standard information about stock market drops and celebrity sightings. But September 11th was not like any other day. On this day, terrorism would strike America and change its people forever.

Before 9/11 many people held a belief that they were far removed from any sort of tragedy. It was difficult to comprehend that anything so devastating could happen to us. America's eyes, once blind to the hatred directed towards our country, were now painfully open to scenes of terror and destruction and loss. Television coverage at Ground Zero presented a new image of New York—one that would be unfamiliar to many people. It was a picture of New York without the World Trade Center. For some, it was a place they once visited; for others, it was a place they would never have a chance to visit. New York seems very empty without the Twin Towers.

Mixed feelings were in the hearts and minds of every American after the attacks. Some felt saddened by the loss of so many innocent people; others felt angry that someone could inflict this much pain and tragedy on our country. Others were in complete disbelief that an attack of this nature could occur in America. The most prevalent feeling, however, were the feelings of Americans that emerged in the weeks after the attacks. Americans now felt a sense of loyalty that had been lost in the last few decades. Dr. Harden remarked that, in the students, faculty, and staff of CCSU, as well as the society as a whole, he has noticed "a renewed patriotism, a pride and concern for our country, a vigilance we have not had in the past, an appreciation for what the generations have done before us." This "renewed patriotism" gave Americans the motivation to pick up the pieces and move on, creating an America that was much stronger, and much less naïve.

One might think that even though America has gained a sense of strength, there might still be a bleak future ahead. This is not the case. Donations poured in to various charities and organizations devoted to the families of 9/11 victims and the Red Cross. People also devoted their time to the cleanup of the attack sites. Even today, people are still devoting their time and money to the cause. On the CCSU campus, students, faculty, and staff donated their money to a fund for a tree that would represent the 9/11 tragedy and its victims.

Now, it has officially been a year since the day that changed America forever. Even as each day passes, there is still a memory frozen in our minds; it is the image of intruders using innocent Americans for their display of hatred towards America. People have banded together to fight back; some have done their duty in the Armed Forces, others have led the cheering section for their job well done. Others serve their country by honoring the victims. They do this by holding memorial services and by taking time to reflect on the senseless loss of lives. The memorial held at the CCSU campus brought many people together for one purpose: to reflect on the past year and to keep a solid memory in our minds of the events so that we will never forget what happened on that day. The large turnout, however, came as a slight surprise to some students. Student Wyatt Lowe noted that he "[was] amazed that after [the] year and going back to the normal life that we live, it's interesting to see this many people come out and join together for something like this... especially this early in the morning."



Photo taken by Toby Manolis

Two Clayton State students join hands during a moment of reflection on September 11, 2002.

September 11th Taught America: You Reap What You Sew

By Ben Simpson

What comes to mind when you think of Islamic Fundamentalists? Perhaps mislead, war-torn people without any knowledge of the world except what their leaders have taught them to hate, and destroy? Perhaps you think of them as some variant of Satan from President Bush's consistent word choices? You might change your conception of these extremists when you discover that the American government supported Islamic fundamentalism and violence only ten years ago.

Briefly, let me take you back to the early 1980's. The Soviet Union is alive and well throwing us back in the middle of the Cold War. The Truman doctrine stands (that nasty little paper that got us into Vietnam) and we must defeat the ultimate evil, Communism. The Russians have their own doctrines of the Marxism and Leninism ideals of Socialism. They state: "not one country in the world is not ripe for the onset of a Socialist government." So the USSR occupies Afghanistan. They attempt to impose foreign economic and social laws on the government and its people. The Afghans do not see this as an opportunity but as invaders in their country. They called the Russians "infidels" and "attackers of the Islamic faith."

The United States enters here. We know that the USSR is weakening internally and we deem this a good opportunity to demoralize and piss all over the Russians. Reagan signs a bill to secretly provide aid to the Afghans to oppose the Russians. We provide them with weapons and money to oppose a mutual enemy. As Afghanistan and its people are oppressed, Islamic Fundamentalism grows, resulting in war with Russia. It quickly grew into a *Vietnam*, with civilians taking arms, coalescing into a massive Civil War.

Did the US fight to stop the fanatical Islamic Fundamentalism when they were attacking Russia? No, we encouraged it. As long as they were killing Russians, we fueled the propaganda for this extremism by spending \$51 million dollars to create textbooks for children. In these books, children were taught to count using images of tanks, missiles, and land mines. "One page shows a resistance fighter with a bandolier and a Kalashnikov (a Russian made automatic rifle) slung over his shoulder," said the Washington Post. Above this picture was a verse from the Koran, and below, a tribute to the Mujahedeen. (Attackers of Russia) The passage explains that people like the one pictured above are obedient to Allah, and that such men will sacrifice their wealth and life itself to impose Islamic law on the Government. The intent of the these books was clearly to incite violence and hate in the minds of children in Afghanistan.

Stated in a 1998 interview with Zbigniew Brzezinski, the former National Security Advisor to Jimmy Carter, the decision to aid Afghanistan in this way was made without remorse. He also states that the decision to aid Afghanistan actually came months before the Soviets occupied the area. An excerpt from the interview: "According to the official version of history, CIA aid to the Mujahedeen began during 1980, that is to say, after the Soviet army invaded Afghanistan, 24 Dec 1979. But the reality, secretly guarded until now, is completely otherwise. Indeed, it was July 3, 1979 that President Carter signed the first directive for secret aid to the opponents of the pro-Soviet regime in Kabul." It was a set-up. We used the people of Afghanistan as pawns to kill the Russians for us. He claims that the we were the ones responsible for the Soviets attacking Afghanistan in the first place. But perhaps the most interesting thing revealed in that interview was Brzezinski's lack of concern that this would ever backfire. He was asked if he had any regrets having supported the Islamic

Lace 'Em UP!



fundamentalism, and having given arms and advice to future terrorists. And Mr. Brzezinski's response? "What is most important to the history of the world? The Taliban or the collapse of the Soviet empire? Some stirred-up Moslems or the liberation of Central Europe and the end of the cold war?"

Jump back to the present. By stirred up Moslems, he is now referring to the terrorist hi-jackers who took down both World Trade towers and killed 5,000 Americans sending us back into Afghanistan. So what was the United States decision about the textbooks now? The UNICEF has decided to destroy all of them. What amazes me is that the United States was so blinded by stupidity when fighting Russia that we could not see that the textbooks were a bad idea. Think about how many organizations and lawsuits would raise hell if we ever tried to release textbooks like that in the US school systems. If you were a parent, would you want teach your children to count tanks, rifles and other instruments of war? I think that I would go with the Sesame Street route, in favour of good ol' Big Bird instead of propaganda-inject textbooks filled with hatred and killing. Because of this, we are much to blame for the way things are in Afghanistan now.

Who's you

D U E L I N G

*Let's
Get
It
On!!!*

Terrorism Grows From Jealousy, Nothing More

By Brian Gardiner



side are
u on?

To me, the main concern on September 11, and every day since then has been when will the terrorists strike again? No one can be certain when or where it will happen but I think it would be folly to believe that it will not happen again. The fact of the matter is that extremists like the ones on September 11, fear and hate us because they are jealous and they cannot bear to think that a system has been created that is superior to anything that they could ever hope for. Anyone who would attempt to explain away the attacks of September 11, as anything but an outright attack from those who wish to see the United States completely destroyed is wrong. Those who would attempt to blame the policies of the United States for what happened that day do so out of fear and cowardice.

The reason some attempt to shed the blame on the U.S. rather than on those who perpetrated the attack is that these people know that if someone else is to blame, whether it be Al Qaeda, or Sadam Hussein himself, then we as a country have an obligation to strike back. Those people would rather tuck tail and run than face the possibility of fighting for ideals that people would have once been happy to die for. I for one have never been interested in pursuing a career in the military; however, if the day came that my country needed me to fight and die for it, I would do so gladly. If we do not take this stance then all the men and women who have fought and died for us will have done so in vein.

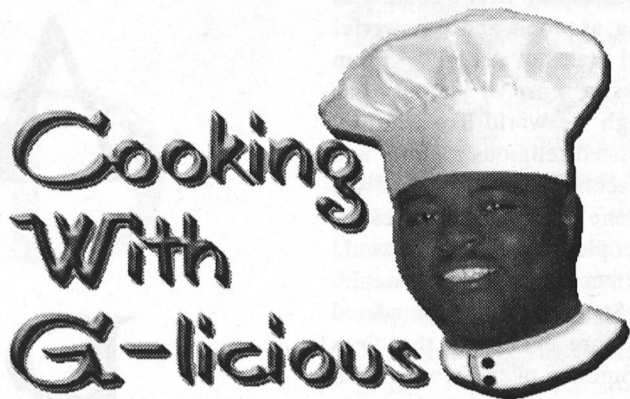
The United States since it's inception has been intended to stand as

a symbol of liberty, justice, and the right to the pursuit of happiness. Never in the history of man has there been a country as understanding, as proud, and as powerful as the United States of America. From that greatness, a sense of jealousy has spread through the world like wildfire, fueled by twisted religious rhetoric and promises of economic systems that will make everyone "equal." As a result, millions of people across the world would love nothing more than to see the wealth of the United States of America plundered and spread more evenly to the "less fortunate" countries of the world. You know what I say to those less fortunate countries: screw them. Hundreds of thousands of men have fought and died for the ideals represented in our country today, and we have absolutely no moral obligation to assist countries that have taxed themselves into the poorhouse or have chosen to follow systems that require no individual responsibility and instead require simple allegiance to a dictator.

Unfortunately, one year after September 11, many people have lost their feelings of fear and have once again begun to doubt the integrity of our great nation, and many people have argued that the terrorist attacks are our fault because of our Mid East policies. How could anyone argue that direct attacks on civilians, for the expressed purpose of killing those civilians, can be justified by any military or economic policy that we have anywhere in the world? Regardless of some of the idiotic decisions made on a regular basis by our government, we are still the richest, freest, most accepting nation in the world. No doubt there are problems, but that is the paradox of humanity: there will always be problems or we would have nothing to live for. Never will there be a perfect society because perfection is not in our nature, we are flawed and because of our flaws we are human. What value would life hold if we did not have challenges to overcome or goals to accomplish? But even with our flaws, the United States has come the closest that a society will likely ever come to being perfect, and because of that, other people will fear and hate us. That is the root of terrorism nothing more nothing less, pure unequivocal jealousy.

E-mail the Bent Tree and let us know what you think---If you have something good to say we might even print it! Contact us at btree@mail.clayton.edu

A
R
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D-bo's Stroganoff

1 lb of hamburger or Turkey or Tofu
 1 onion
 1 green pepper
 1 can of cream of mushroom soup
 4 ounces of sour cream
 1 garlic clove (crushed)

What's up Lakers! Now that you have begun your meal with a side dish of southern smothered potatoes, let's try a simple entrée'. Now, I know you might think that G'Licious comes up with all his recipes on his own, but those around me too have inspired me and one person in particular is D-Bo. D-Bo would be my older brother, and while he wasn't taunting me as a kid he was teaching me a few things here and there. One of the many ideas I got from him was his stroganoff. To begin this meal, start with a pot of water. Bring water to a boil then add noodles. While noodles are cooking, start browning the meat. Keep your eye on your noodles. Noodles should not be completely cooked. Rinse the noodles and place in cold water until it is time to put them in later.

Now back to the meat.... After the meat browns, drain it. Add one onion, green pepper, garlic clove, salt, pepper and any other seasonings you desire. Cook for about 5 minutes so that everything blends in well. Add one can of cream of mushroom soup with half a can of hot water. Cook uncovered for 10 minutes. Finally, add the noodles and sour cream. Let the dish simmer for five minutes and serve.

Reminder: This recipe is to my taste. If you like sour cream, than use more. If you do not cook with salt, than do not add salt. It will not alter the meal much (if any).

Experiment with things in the kitchen. You never know what things you may create. One last suggestion, this meal is for 3 to 4 people. If you are the only one eating, cut your ingredients.

"Even a clock that does not work is right twice a day."

Thrill of the Catch

By Jodi Holland

What's up with dating nowadays? It's more than 'I like you, you like me, lets fall in love and get married and live happily ever after' kind of thing. It's more complicated than that. Let me set up a typical scenario. A guy (or girl, this will work both ways) has a crush on you, or maybe you have a crush on somebody. Then you find out that that person likes you back. What happens next? More than likely ya'll start talking on the phone...go out with some friends... maybe go on a date... talk on the phone some more... send each other some e-mails and so on. This is when the girl starts to wonder what's going on between the two of you. Then the guy starts to remember that he has other responsibilities that are starting to get neglected because of this new 'friendship'. So the phone calls and other attention slow down. The girl is now wondering what happened, so she calls to find out (remember that nothing in this relationship is for sure yet). He says that he's just busy and he'll call her later. The girl finds ways to pass the time while she is waiting for the phone call. The guy finishes what he has to do but is now tired and not really thinking of calling this new 'friend' so he goes to sleep. The girl is now a little upset because he said that he would call but he didn't. The next day comes and he thinks about her but now he has to go to work. She is still wondering why he hasn't called so she calls him to see what's up. He says that he is at work and he'll call her when he gets off. Before he gets off work his best friend, which he hasn't seen in a minute, drops in and has a night planed with the guys and asks if he will be there. Of course he says yes, he hasn't gone out with the guys in ages (so it seems). The girl is still waiting for a phone call. She tells her friends about the situation and how much she likes him. They give her all kinds of advice ranging from "forget about him" to "call him again" to "just keep waiting for him to call". Things continue like this for a couple days or in some cases a couple weeks. When the guy finally gets a free moment he calls her and explains to her about his time issues. She now feels secure with the situation and goes off with him again. He is still thinking about the relationship the same as he did before the interference - deciding if he likes her or how much he likes her, also wondering if she likes him. As the date progresses they both feel like it is going well and the guy is just living in the moment thinking the girl is cool. This is usually when the girl messes everything up by telling him how much she thinks she likes him. How could that mess anything up? They can be a couple by now. They may not even know that it is messed up yet. Actually the girl is probably thinking that everything is going quite well. As for the guy he knows that he already has her and doesn't think that he has to spend any more time wooing her. This leads the girl into pondering more about the guy's feelings, which in turn leads to more phone calls which leads to irritation (for the person receiving all the phone calls). If a person is already irritated with the relationship it won't last much longer no matter how compatible the two of them are. I've seen this situation too many times. Girls need to realize that guys need to feel the thrill of the catch. Actually it works both ways, if a guy calls too much the same thing happens. I mean if it just falls in their lap they don't appreciate it. I'm not saying that there are no exceptions to the rule but most of the time in order to get the relationship to last that high point (the thrill of the catch) needs to be there. In short, people need to play the game in order to get a satisfying relationship. That's where I get the question "What's up with dating nowadays?" Why can't people just be people and not play each other the whole time? Since there is no answer to that question people just have to learn to play the game. Are you ready to play???

Madame Lentini's Horoscopes: She Knows All!!

Libra (Sept.22-Oct.22) Let everyone know what's on your mind. Holding your feelings in will not solve your problems. Always read between the lines to discover the true meanings.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.21) Don't stay trapped in the past. Focus on the future or you'll stay stuck in that rut. Speak up, or someone will steal your ideas.

Sagittarius (Nov.22-Dec.20) Your calendar will be booked! Your social skills will soar this month. Think before you talk so you don't create any hard feelings.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan.19) Use the weekend to calm your excitement and impatience. A stuffy event will need your spunk. Save your emotions for a friend in need.

Aquarius (Jan.20-Feb.17) Control your spending before your wallet is left dry and empty. Don't pick fights with your friends this month-all your battles are pointless.

Pisces (Feb.18-March 20) Your influence will be irresistible to others, but beware you could attract some very strange people. Watch out for those who want to blame you for their mistake.

Aries (March21-April19) There is no need to be discreet, your straightforwardness will benefit someone in need. Remember, honesty is always the best policy.

Taurus (April20-May19) Be sure to research before you spend the big bucks this month. Take time out for yourself, or you could find yourself suffering from the early winter blues.

Gemini (May20-June20) Even though you may feel like a star this month, your ego trip could leave you flying solo. If you feel overwhelmed, don't hesitate to ask for help.

Cancer (June21-July21) Be cautious of any false friendships, they could make a mess of your life. Even though your sense of equality could solve a disagreement, stay out of the drama.

Leo (July22-Aug.22) Considering a change? Using self-reflection will bring a clear mind and clear answers. Resist the urge to fulfill your wild side; it could be more trouble than it's worth. **This is for entertainment purposes only**

Virgo (Aug.23-Sept.21) Avoid emails and phone calls this month; try to make all contacts in person. Don't criticize your family; it will only make family problems worse.

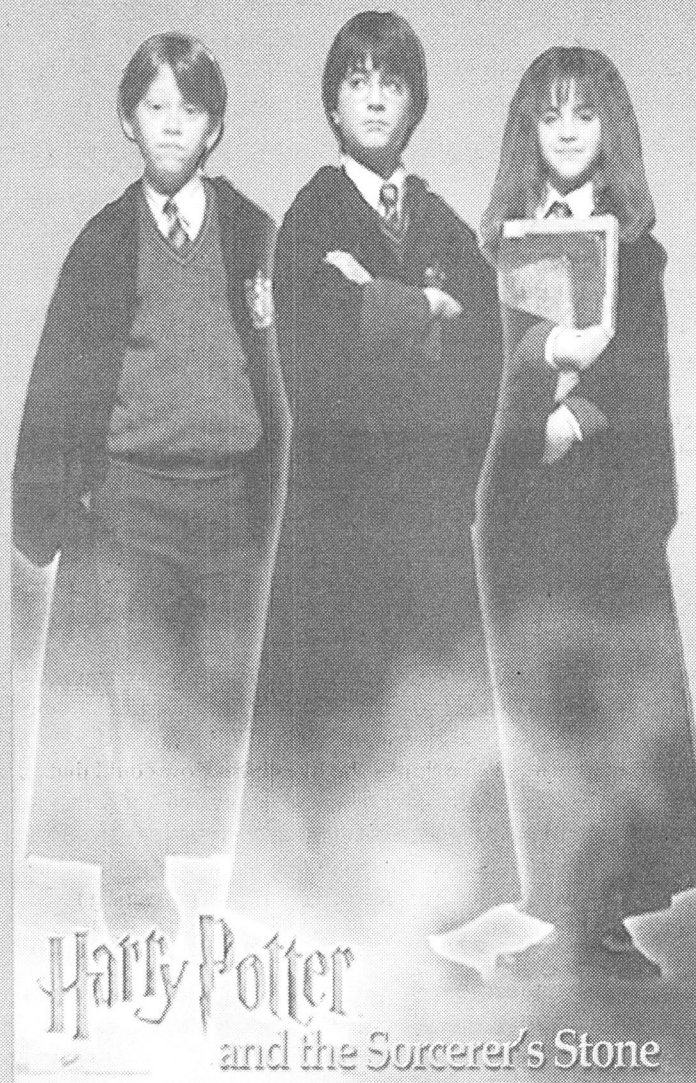
SLAC Presents

Family Dinner & Drive-in Double Feature

Friday, October 11, 2002

Dinner - 6:30 p.m. Movie - 7:30 p.m.

Rear Athletics & Fitness Lawn



Harry Potter
and the Sorcerer's Stone

Warner Bros. Pictures / RATED PG



SPIDER-MAN

Columbia Pictures / RATED PG-13



MENU:

Pizza Party

(Includes 2 Slices of Pizza and a Drink)

ADVANCE DINNER TICKETS:

\$2 w/ CCSU Student LINX card (limit 4)

\$3 w/ CCSU Staff LINX card (limit 4)

\$4 for additional tickets and non-CCSU participants

Dinner ticket sales:

Monday, Sept. 30 thru Thursday, Oct. 11

in the Office of Student Life, STC 226.

NO DINNER TICKETS SOLD AT DOOR

(Dinner is subject to cancellation if a minimum of 20 tickets is not sold.)

BRING YOUR OWN BLANKET

CCSU DRIVE-IN Presented by SLAC

Get to know your professors!

Featuring Dr. Donna McCarty



Dr. McCarty doing a little "pigging" around in her spare time!

By Michelle Lawrimore

There is a lot more to Dr. Donna McCarty than meets the eye. One who does not know her, might not ever guess that she loves backpacking for days at a time, that she knows how to perform on a trapeze, or that she enjoys the company of 16 pets in her home. Her optimistic outlook on life and determination to maintain a fresh point of view would never allow a stranger to realize the hardships that she has endured either. What is obvious though, is her devotion to her husband and daughter and her complete satisfaction with her career.

Dr. McCarty has been married to her husband, John, a software developer, for almost 25 years. They met one year when they had the same Christmas job but maintained friendship status for six years. During those years, she met and became engaged to another man. John had been in Africa taking a mountain climbing and survival course, so when he returned to visit her, she opened her door to find a tan, blonde, handsome version of her friend, and she also found that she wasn't satisfied with just being friends. She said to herself, "I can't get married if someone else makes me feel like this," so she called off her engagement to the other man, and he knew immediately that John McCarty was the culprit. Nine months later John and Donna were married.

Almost ten years into their marriage, Dr. McCarty gave birth to their only daughter, Hilary, now 15. Since Dr. McCarty has taught developmental psychology, she says it has been really fun to watch her daughter go through all of the different stages. "She's a really wonderful kid." Above all, she is most proud of her daughter's kindness. She also describes Hilary as very fun and adventurous, and she admits that her daughter is probably a Daddy's girl. "They're like two peas in a pod," she says of her husband and daughter. Hilary apparently takes after her mom, though, because her mom was also very close and very similar to her own father.

"Daring Don" was the stage name chosen by Dr. McCarty's father, a balloon ascensionist and wing walker. She inherited his adventurous streak and also his love for travelling. She admired him because he never got stale, never got in a rut. He was always eager to learn and try new things, and he was always open to new viewpoints. Her mom was more of a homebody, so she was able to bring balance to their relationship. "The two of them were really good together," says Dr. McCarty of her two extremely supportive parents. They always encouraged her to pursue her goals, even when times were difficult.

Donna McCarty earned her bachelors degree in English from UGA, and under the mentorship of a dean named Louise McBee, she decided that she wanted to become involved in career counseling for college students. She obtained her Masters degree in Counseling, and although she enjoyed working with the students, she wanted to be even more involved with them. At about the same time, a friend of hers at Clayton State College, Dr. Harvey Jackson, asked her to teach an Introduction to Psychology course. She accepted and discovered that she absolutely loved it. She then began working on her Ph.D. in Educational Psychology at Georgia State University.

The ten years that she spent working on her Ph.D. were the most challenging years of her life. Not only was she going to school, she was also teaching classes for Clayton State, trying to hold on to her tenure track position. She experienced the joy and challenges of becoming a new mother and enjoyed constant love and support from her husband. Also during that period of time, she found out that both of her parents had terminal cancer. On the night before she was supposed to collect the data for her dissertation, her father lost his battle with cancer and passed away. Of course, her mother told her that she had to go ahead and collect the data and that her father would have wanted her to do it. She did it. John went with her, and in between research conducting sessions, she would cry on his shoulder. She says, "that ten year period when the demands I had on me were close to the limit really made me find out how much strength I had." She said it forced her to get her priorities in order, to take a good look at herself, and to become an adult.

One might ask how all of this has affected Dr. McCarty's outlook on life. She says, "I believe that God has given us certain gifts, and we get challenges through life," but she feels that our purpose in life should be to handle everything that comes our way as ethically and graciously as we can. She believes we should not be motivated by the possibility of reward, but that we should be driven by the desire to do the right thing and to use our gifts to leave the world a better place. Dr. McCarty's definition of success has nothing to do with earning degrees or promotions or accolades. She says, "success is being able to make a difference in other people's lives, to connect with other people, to be there for them when they need you, and to be able to guide or shape when people need that." She also feels that she is successful as long as she does not become cynical or jaded and as long as she is able to view the world every day from a fresh perspective, to still see the beauty and pleasure in the small things. Dr. McCarty has three close girlfriends who help her maintain her fresh outlook on life. The four of them call themselves "The Magic Club," and they love to try new and crazy things. They have taken tap dancing classes together and circus arts in which they learned how to do the Spanish rope and trapeze. Dr. McCarty has also recently taken up horseback riding with her husband. John and Donna love to do outdoor activities, especially hiking, scuba diving, and jogging. They love to travel; three years ago they hiked from the south rim of the Grand Canyon to the north rim in two days. They like to go to the Virgin Islands, and they love to retreat to their cabin in north Georgia.

Of course, anytime they leave the house, it is challenging, because they have to make arrangements for all of their pets which include: 4 cats, 3 dogs, 3 birds, 2 rats, 2 aquatic frogs, a catfish, and a ferret. Many are rescued animals in need of a good home. Currently, Dr. McCarty is searching for a home for a small, affectionate, black cat with one eye. Luckily, her husband and daughter are incredible animal lovers and they do their fair share of taking care of them.

In her spare time, Dr. McCarty enjoys the animals' company among many other things. She loves to read, especially in the science fiction, fantasy, biography, and adventure genres. She loves music, particularly The Who, The Doors, Led Zeppelin, and the Beatles. Her favorite movies are those that celebrate the human spirit and have a degree of hope and value to them. Her favorite is *Chocolat*, and she loved the recent movie, *My Big Fat Greek Wedding*. Her overall favorite book and movie is *The Lord of the Rings*. She also happens to be a *Star Wars* and *Star Trek* fan.

Dr. McCarty hasn't had much spare time to enjoy these activities ever since she became the coordinator of the Bachelor of Science in Psychology and Human Services program. Her responsibilities also include teaching Introduction to Psychology, Human Growth and Development, Applied Psychology, and Introduction to Learning and Behavior. She has been at Clayton State since 1978, and she has had the opportunity to do many different things here, but above all others, working on the program has been her favorite. She says, "the students are unbelievable in this program! They are so dedicated to what they are doing and so excited about it." Working with these students and faculty members has been the most fun she has ever had career wise, and has just been "a dream come true."

It's Electric! Clayton State Department of Public Safety Gets Electric Vehicle

By Lauren Baker

Purchased thanks to the University's remaining year-end funds, the Clayton State department of Public Safety is the proud owner of a Ford electric "Think Neighbor."

The "Think Neighbor," comparable in size to a golf cart, is a roadworthy, electric vehicle capable of reaching speeds of 25 MPH. This two-seater vehicle comes complete with seat belts, blinkers, digital speedometer, windshield wipers, windshield wiper fluid, and many other standard automobile features. Unlike your family car, however, the "Think Neighbor" has no doors.

Clayton State and the Department of Public Safety plan to use the vehicle in a variety of ways. Because the vehicle is relatively small, Public Safety can drive the "Think Neighbor" into places inaccessible to larger vehicles. The electric car could access between-buildings emergencies in less time than a campus police car.

Secondly, although the "Think Neighbor" is not a police vehicle, it will play a role in providing an extra or back-up vehicle for campus police. Officers can, if the need arises, use the electric car to patrol Clayton State parking lots.

Plus, Public Safety hopes that the vehicle will be a mobile source of information, serving both students and campus visitors. "Decals are being designed for the 'Think Neighbor' to make the vehicle readily identifiable for help and directions," says Bruce



Photo courtesy of Joan Murphy

Holmes, Clayton State director of Public Safety.

Finally, the electric car will serve as a conversation piece at special events like University Rideshare and other campus gatherings.

"We can use this vehicle to show people what an electric vehicle is like," says Joan Murphy, coordinator of Clayton State's University Rideshare and administrative assistant in the University's department of Public Safety.

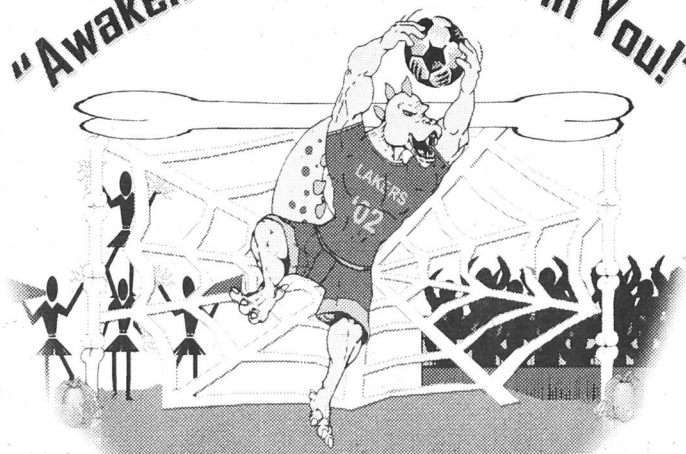
"It is definitely an environmentally friendly vehicle, and Public Safety is very conscious of the environment and the effects gasoline engines have in that environment." Murphy continues.

"Cheaper to operate because we don't have to buy gas" notes Holmes, the car can be charged by plugging into any 110 Volt 3-prong wall outlet. After charging for four to six hours, The "Think Neighbor" can travel 30 miles before its energy is depleted.

Public Safety Shows off their new ride!

Please remember to slow down on campus--the speed limit is 20 MPH

Hallo-Homecoming 2002
"Awaken the Laker Spirit in You!"



October 25 & 26
 Clayton College & State University

Hallo-Homecoming 2002

By Kevin Dixon

With fall taking its time approaching it's hard to imagine that Homecoming is nearly here again, and soon the campus will be alive with Laker Pride once again. It will be hard to top the festivities of last year as CCSU welcomed back the Fall Frolics and were graced with the presence of many talented faculty and staff members. With the great response it received last year the Fall Frolics will once again portray the many talents of those here at Clayton State. Kicking of the Homecoming party will be the Club Olympics, where student organizations get a chance to physically compete against one another for a chance to flex their athletic muscles rather than their brain muscles. On the eve of the Homecoming kick off the Drama Club is hosting a spirit party where all students, faculty and staff can come to enjoy a bit of music and delight. The party will continue on into Saturday, as CCSU will host its annual Alumni Breakfast, which will be immediately followed by the Homecoming parade. Come and see your fellow students march and represent their clubs as they walk from one end of the campus to the other. The day will conclude as the Lady Lakers take on UNC Pembroke at the soccer field and will be followed by the #4 nationally ranked Lakers as they battle UNC Pembroke.

So, as the Fall season approaches and the Homecoming spirit arises, remember the Laker Pride within you as Clayton State celebrates its spirit! See you there!

Homecoming Schedule

Friday, October 25, 2002

- 12:00 p.m. Club Olympics
- Retirees Luncheon
- 6:00 p.m. Alumni Social
- 7:00 p.m. Fall Frolics
- 9:00 p.m. Spirit Party

Saturday, October 26, 2002

- 8:30 a.m. Alumni Breakfast
- 11:00 a.m. Parade
- 1:00 p.m. Lady Lakers vs UNC
- 3:00 p.m. Lakers vs UNC

Clayton State/USCS tie 2-2 in Peach Belt women's Soccer

USC Spartanburg's Jamie Newman scored a goal with just six minutes remaining Saturday against Clayton State, knotting the score at 2-2, forcing overtime and eventually a tie for both Peach Belt Conference schools after two extra 10-minute periods at Laker Field in Morrow.

Newman took a pass from USCS Christine Pirinoli and slid a shot just past the outstretched arms of Clayton State keeper Judith Chime to tie the score in the 84th minute. Clayton State had a chance in the final minutes as Leah Pharr broke away and had a one-one-one but her shot was denied after a sliding save by USCS keeper Lauren Sperber.

The tie, Clayton State's third in four matches, keeps its unbeaten streak alive at 3-0-3, while USCS sits at 1-3-1. The Lakers will return to PBC action on Wednesday, traveling to Kennesaw State University, while USCS will play Wednesday at Converse.

USCS jumped out to an early 1-0 lead in the match on a goal by Pirinoli, off an assist from Tara Calirmi-Black. The shot came on an open goal at the 14-minute mark of the match.

Clayton State answered five minutes later as Laker leading scorer Nkiru Okosieme converted a penalty kick after being fouled in the box. The goal pocketed in the upper right of the net was her sixth of the season.

Okosieme added her seventh goal of the season at the 55-minute mark on an assist from Jessica Grenier. Okosieme slid a shot past the keeper from seven yards out after Grenier's cross. Neither team had a serious scoring opportunity in either of the overtime periods.

CCSU and USCS each had 16 shots in the match, while USCS led in corner kicks 3-2. Laker keeper Chime had five saves compared to 11 for Sperber.

#4 Clayton State edges Lees-McRae 3-2 in overtime

Clayton College & State University's Barry Casebeer struck lightning fast in overtime, scoring a goal in the first minute of the 10-minute extra period to lift the fourth-ranked Clayton College & State University men's soccer team to a 3-2 victory over Lees-McRae College Saturday at Laker Field.

Casebeer took a pass from CCSU's Zuca Palladino, ran with ball for approximately 25 yards on a breakaway, beat LMC keeper Isacc Unruh and then pocketed the game-winning goal in the lower right corner of the net. The goal was Casebeer's third of the season and second of the game, while the assist was Palladino's ninth of the season and second of the contest.

The Lakers will return to the field on Saturday, September 28, and put their unbeaten 7-0 record on the line against Peach Belt Conference rival North Florida in a 1:30 p.m. match.

Lees-McRae jumped out to an early lead in the match as Bobcat leading scorer Khano Smith converted a penalty kick 18 minutes into the match. The match remained scoreless until Casebeer scored his first goal of the match at the 64-minute mark to tie contest at 1-1. The score again came off a pass from Palladino, followed by Casebeer carrying the ball 20 yards before beating the keeper with a shot.

Clayton State took a 2-1 lead in the match as Jonesboro's Scott LeClerc served up an assist to Clayton State leading scorer Shaun Baddock. The goal, coming at the 68-minute mark was Baddock's sixth of the season. The Bobcats came right back, however, and knotted the score at 2-2 two minutes later as Smith scored his second goal of the match on a shot from 20 yards out on an unassisted play.

Clayton State outshot Lees-McRae 14-13 but only had one corner kick compared to eight for the Bobcats. Laker keeper Warren van der Westhuizen finished with three saves compared to four saves for Unruh.

The Lakers were whistled for offsides 13 times and 15 fouls, compared to five offsides and 14 fouls for Lees-McRae.

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Remaining Men's Schedule

Oct. 2	Morehouse Soccer Complex	Henry County 5 p.m.
Oct. 5	Longwood	Farmville, VA 2 p.m.
Oct. 12	*Francis Marion University	Florence, SC 4 p.m.
Oct. 16	*USC Spartanburg	Morrow, GA 3 p.m.
Oct. 18	SCAD	Morrow, GA 4 p.m.
Oct. 22	St. Andrews	Laurinburg, NC 4 p.m.
Oct. 26	*# UNC Pembroke	Morrow, GA 3 p.m.
Oct. 30	Tusculum	Greenville, TN 7 p.m.
Nov. 2	*USC Aiken	Aiken, SC 7 p.m.

Remaining Women's Schedule

Oct. 1	Spelman College GA	Morrow, 5 p.m.
Oct. 3	Thomas GA	Morrow, 4 p.m.
Oct. 6	*North Florida GA	Morrow, 2 p.m.
Oct. 12	*Francis Marion University SC	Florence, 1:30 p.m.
Oct. 16	Spelman College GA	Morrow, 5 p.m.
Oct. 19	*Lander University GA	Morrow, 12 p.m.
Oct. 26	*# UNC Pembroke GA	Morrow, 1 p.m.
Oct. 30	Tusculum TN	Greenville, 5 p.m.
Nov. 2	*USC Aiken	Aiken, SC 5 p.m.