

# The Bent Tree

Monday, November 13, 2006

Visit us online! <http://studentorg.clayton.edu/benttree/>

## Diversity Dialogs

By TONY J. BERRY JR.

Wednesday, October 18, the Sigma Pi Fraternity hosted the first Diversity Dialogues, a series of meetings to discuss the issues of diversity, intolerance, and racism at Clayton State University. At meeting's open, host Ben Hopkins greeted the eight others present. A lower number than expected considering the subject discussed.

Mr. Hopkins opened the evening by defining several terms including "stereotypes" and "diversity". He then followed up by asking, "What does diversity mean to you?"

"Diversity is variety," stated Iván Segovia, president of the Gay Straight Alliance on campus.

"Diversity is something that I never really focused on. I look at individuals," added Young Gilmer.

"When we embrace diversity, we are able to look past skin color," continued Ben Hopkins.

"Do you stereotype?" This question was posed to the group

**"Finding someone that you care about is hard enough and then people want to throw in the problem of race."**

as a whole.

"I think that everyone tends to stereotype a little," said Josius Thomany, reflecting the consensus reached by the group.

Hopkins then showed a clip from *Do the Right Thing*, a movie set in the Bedford-Stuyvesant district of Brooklyn during the late 80's. The clip was filled with racial and ethnic slurs.

"Is this us?" ventured Hopkins. "I would like for everyone to share one of their own experiences with discrimination, if you don't mind."

Reece Johnson, recalling her own experiences at her high

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**Reminder**  
**Pre-Registration**  
**ends December 1!!!**



Auzelle Epenter/The Bent Tree

Cody Wilson, left, Kelly Foresman, Wyatt Lowe, Heather Hale, and Andrew Hubbard presenting the radio play, *Dracula*, directed by Tim Hand, produced by Phillip Depoy for Clayton State Theatre on October 19.

## Hard Questions Asked at Student Forum

By TONY BERRY

On Friday, October 1st the Student Government Association (SGA) held a Student Forum with Clayton State University President Dr. Thomas K Harden serving as guest speaker.

At the forum's start, few students filled the seat in front of the podium. Fewer still responded to SGA President Adetoke Adetayo, along with various Senators and Officers of the SGA, scrambled to find students willing to fill the vacant seats...to little avail.

SGA Student Affairs Chairperson Dwayne Braithwaite opened the meeting. "SGA is a medium for students to express their opinion...to cultivate leadership in others...to enhance learning in others," he said.

Adetayo took the stage and gave acknowledgements to attending faculty.

Dr. Harden began the program in front of the stage so he could "stay closer" to the students.

He began by mentioning six themes that he intends to continue pursuing at CSU you over the coming years.

The first theme; to continue measuring success based on CSU students' accomplishments. He stated that "we measure our success by the positive influence we have on your life. We want you to be outstanding successes." He emphasized that he asks himself "is this best for students?" as a guiding principle.

He concluded by outlining the opportunities for help and various services available to students.

His second theme: the ever advancing position of Clayton State within the Georgia University System as well as in the nation and the world. He stated that he felt that this reputation was growing daily.

The third theme: improving degree programs. CSU has tripled the number of degree programs offered

over the last three years. He mentioned the addition of graduate level courses.

His fourth theme: maintaining the level of efficiency on campus. "There is very little waste here. We take what we do very seriously here and we will work hard to generate more benefits through outside resources such as gifts, grants, and other resources," Dr. Harden explained.

The fifth theme: improving campus life. One that has continuously been very important to him over the past six years. He affirmed that plans were in place to continue improving campus life at CSU. Commenting on their work ethic, Dr. Harden stated, "We're planting seeds, seeds will grow, and under those trees we will never sit. We continue to advance and create new programs."

The sixth theme: outreach and community development. CSU would not be here if, 37 years ago, Clayton County had not helped build this area. CSU has many communities represented and has a connection to at least eight other counties and hopes to continue working with these communities to build resources, avenues, and opportunities.

"One more issue that I feel I need to mention, we are developing plans to build student housing on campus. We are working with the CSU foundation to build student housing here on campus. We have Clayton Place as well as other housing but, we need our own housing here on campus. It is one step further to provide more resources for students here on campus. We are trying to get housing on our campus by Fall of 2008," he added.

Dr. Harden then opened the floor to questions which were mediated by SGA members.

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# The Knight has Risen

By TIFFANY V. BUTLER

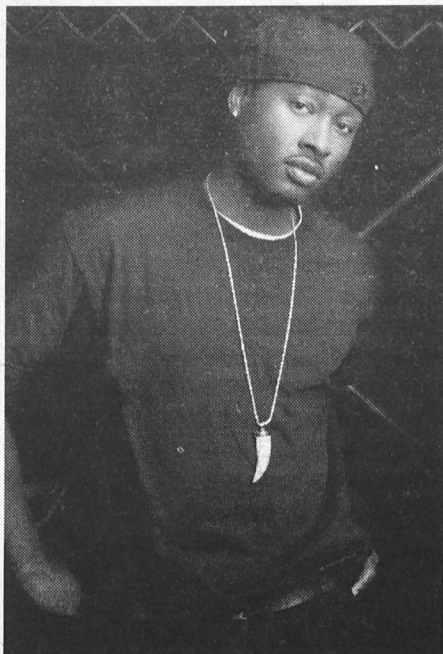
Okay, maybe Atlanta's Michael Knight didn't win *Project Runway's* big prize, but he did rise to the occasion.

The pinnacle of any designer's career is New York Fashion Week: seven days in Bryant Park. Knight, a 28 year-old self-proclaimed army brat, has traveled throughout the United States and some parts of Europe (he was born in Germany) before settling in Atlanta, GA.

He graduated from Georgia Southern University with a major in Apparel Design and Merchandising, and he made a name for himself in the Atlanta music scene, dressing such stars as Jagged Edge and Queen Latifah.

Knight, the youngest to make it to Bryant Park, showed a range of skills while keeping with the trends; everything from bold prints to belted waists and crisp white fabrics adorned his models.

Unfortunately, the "street safari" collection wasn't enough to win over the judges, who were looking for more and found it in the collection of Jeffery Sebelia. Jeffery's rocker collection inspired the judges and swept the competition.



Mark Abrahams/NBC Universal Photo  
Atlanta fashion designer Michael Knight

Still, Knight, an innovative designer with a goal of establishing Atlanta as a fashion district, has continued on in his quest for Tom Ford status or more simply put, to become the Mike Jordan of fashion. *Project Runway* allowed Knight major visibility in the fashion world. His famous commercial

line, "Fashion is my life," embodied the dedication he proved throughout the competition.

I still get chills from that fuchsia, Pam Grier inspired outfit; the hot pants were amazing. His attention to details and styling make Knight one to watch in the coming year for collections that will push the envelope, and as he continues to grow as a designer, he can only get better. Yes, we can all say that during the show, Knight did not have a particular aesthetic. Sexy – definitely, but still nothing that can put him into a box, like the other contestants. Jeffery - the rocker, Uli - the beach babe, and Laura - the glamorous sophisticate, all stayed within their fashion safety nets. Knight, keeping the sexy, still didn't show his point of view clearly and left us all wanting more.

Again, as he grows, I'm confident that he will be the face of Atlanta fashion. On October 12, the Art Institute of Atlanta held a reception to kick off the school's new Bachelor of Arts degree in Fashion and Retail Management, and the guest honoree was Michael Knight.

He discussed his start in the fashion world as well as the impact that *Project Runway* has made on his life. By helping Atlanta make a name for itself in the fashion industry, Knight is be-

coming a fashion phenomenon, being chosen to design a table for Macy's Elle Décor's dining event, recently showcasing a lingerie line at AmericasMart, and participating in a host of other events.

Knight's a busy man that sees the big picture in the industry - branding, being available, and seizing the opportunity at every corner. So, what can we expect from Knight within the next couple of months? The answer is simple: EVERYTHING!

He will continue building his clientele and working on pieces for boutiques. He will also continue working on his signature ready-to-wear line, lingerie, and his own fragrance. In his exit interview on *Project Runway*, he discussed a possible album, a fashion magazine, and a pattern making company.

Focusing his sights in Atlanta, Knight has summed up the fashion scene here, telling Atlanta Magazine, "People in Atlanta like to dress and pull out all the stops....They really love looking good, they know designer pieces, and have great taste levels. Dressing like you want to be seen—that is the Atlanta look."

Check out Michael Knight's collection at [http://www.bravotv.com/Project\\_Runway](http://www.bravotv.com/Project_Runway) and get the style that you deserve.

# Idlewild: An Outkast Masterpiece or Flop?

By: J. LEE JONES

*Idlewild*, a long-awaited prohibition-era movie has proven to be a rather confusing musical, hip-hop, crime drama, attempting to mix the 1930s with 2006.

Prominent actors were given scenes that last a mere 10 seconds. Patti LaBelle, Bruce Bruce, Cicely Tyson, and Terrence Howard were among the talents making such brief appearances; for these cast members, the movie proved to be a waste of their talents indeed.

*Idlewild* has some breathtaking moments, with André 3000 and Big Boi playing lifelong friends, Percival and Rooster, respectively. Like many other clichés in movies, however, they are total opposites; Percival is the somewhat shy romantic, while Rooster is the more charismatic hustler with five daughters.

The connection between the men appears to be haphazard, but they are presumed, on some level, to be brothers. Nevertheless, what musical numbers! The dance moves defy gravity, OutKast's music has never been more thrilling, and Paula Patton is as gorgeous as a young Whitney Houston—a star is discovered indeed.

We lined up around 5:30pm on the debut at the AMC Cinema 24 in Morrow and finally got into the movie theater around 8:00pm. Unfortunately, moviegoers had no way of knowing that the movie would be all over the place with no focus.

The movie is about many things, and



Andre Benjamin and Antwan A. Patton of Outkast Star in *Idlewild*.

Universal Pictures

some of them are even good things, but this movie makes viewers wish they had a remote control to skip through some of the beautiful mess. Although the crowd was excited about this movie by the end, one could sense their disappointment as well. The soundtrack to this movie will achieve success that the movie itself may not; with its disjointed script and lack of focus, the film is unworthy of the talents involved.

## IDLEWILDE CRITIC'S REVIEW ROUNDUP

SOURCE	RATING	THE GIST
POSITIVE REVIEWS FOR IDLEWILD		
<i>Entertainment Weekly</i>	A-	"... madly soulful and enjoyable ..."
<i>TV Guide</i>	2 1/4 stars/4	"... a hip-hop Moulin Rouge ..."
<i>Variety</i>	N/A	"... achieves magic ..."
<i>The Village Voice</i>	N/A	"... a sober, loving respect for history ..."
<i>Washington Post</i>	N/A	"Moments of such pure cinematic fabulousness ..."
MIXED REVIEWS FOR IDLEWILD		
<i>L.A. Weekly</i>	N/A	"... fleeting lively moments ..."
<i>Los Angeles Times</i>	N/A	"... has a lot in common with Prince's first film flop."
<i>New York Post</i>	2 stars/4	"... eccentric vanity project."
<i>The Onion's A.V. Club</i>	C	"... boasts too much personality around the edges ..."
<i>Rolling Stone</i>	2 stars/4	"... a big, beautiful mess."

## Best Food in CSU Area

By WILFREIDO MORALES-PRINCE

Recently, I set out on a mission to find the best restaurants in the Clayton State area. Because of the population growth of the area, including Southlake Mall, many restaurants of different cultural tastes have found their niche. The stretch of Mount Zion Road, from Southlake Mall to Mount Zion Boulevard, offers at least ten quality "sit down" restaurants, including Joe's Crab Shack and Moe's Southwestern Grill.

So, what are some of the best restaurants in the Clayton State area? We have to take into consideration four major roads: Jonesboro Road, Mt. Zion Boulevard, Mt. Zion Road, and Tara Boulevard.

Deoundra Wynn, 21, is a student at Clayton State who enjoys the variety of restaurants in the area. "La Taqueria Oaxaquena is a good place to eat because it's small, quaint, and the food is great...food that you can't get anywhere else." La Taqueria Oaxaquena, on Tara Boulevard, is known for its authentic Mexican cuisine.

"I also like [T.G.I.] Fridays because

### "it's small, quaint, and the food is great"

the selection is very large and the atmosphere is fun," says Deoundra. David Owiredu of McDonough is also a student at Clayton State. "Quizno's food is great and healthy... but it's expensive." A Quizno's sandwich costs anywhere from \$5 to \$8. David also enjoys eating at the Atlanta Bread Company on Mt. Zion Road, saying that "the food is great but expensive."

After a few more interviews, the results were tallied. Gecko Grille on Mt. Zion Road is one of the most delicious options, and it's moderately priced to fit a college student's budget.

According to the student poll, T.G.I.Fridays seems to be one of the better places to eat because of its menu selection, which includes everything from pasta to burgers (and even the surprisingly tasty fried green beans).

Many people also enjoy Happy Garden Chinese Restaurant on Mt. Zion Road because it is good Chinese food in large portions for a good value.

Ultimately, it seems that value is the most important thing when college students want to find great food without succumbing to fast food.



## Club Corner

# Sigma Tau Delta

Sigma Tau Delta is an international English honor society whose central purpose is to confer honor upon students of the English language and literature and to recognize the accomplishments of professional writers who have made contributions to the field of language and literature.

To be eligible to join, a student must be an English major or minor with a 3.0 GPA and must have completed two courses in English above the 1102 level.

Our organization has general meetings each month in the Arts & Sciences building. This semester, we partnered with the School of Arts & Sciences, the Department of Language and Literature, and other departments on campus for the Clayton State University Writers' Harvest, an event that worked with the Atlanta Community Food

Bank to harvest canned goods as well as monetary donations.

The event featured readings by Dr. Brigitte Byrd, Phillip DePoy, and John Shiffert. Signed copies of their books were auctioned at the end.

We also attend readings and festivals, participate in fundraisers, and generally act like bibliophiles.

Perks to our organization include the opportunity to present academic/creative papers at conference, wear a stole at graduation, and apply for scholarships and awards.

Students may also seek publication through the society's magazines and apply for internships with Regnery Publishing.

It looks excellent on an English student's résumé and is a good chance to get to know other students within the major.

## The Accounting Club

The Accounting Club is a career enhancing organization. Our events are geared to provide opportunities for its members to network with:

- Professionals: through scheduled events and our relationship with the GSCPA, club members get to talk with accountants from many areas of accounting. This allows students to get information about scholarships, internships, jobs, and the CPA exam.

- Other accounting students: other students can offer great advice about goals, schedules, classes, professors,

and internships through their experiences.

- Faculty: professors can offer more personalized advice and instruction you just can't get in the classroom. We do not have a scheduled meeting time. We have opportunities like networking events, GSCPA student opportunities, and speakers.

There will be a networking event with local and regional firms on November 9th.

There is no cost to join and students can email [emailcsu23884@mail.clayton-state.net](mailto:emailcsu23884@mail.clayton-state.net) for an application.

## Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. is a private, non-profit organization with a purpose of providing assistance and support through established programs in local communities throughout the world. A sisterhood of more than 250,000 college educated women, the Sorority currently has over 950 chapters located in the United States, England, Japan (Tokyo and Okinawa), Germany, the Virgin Islands, Bermuda, the Bahamas and the Republic of Korea.

The major programs of the sorority are based upon the organization's Five Point Thrust of:

- Economic Development
- Educational Development
- International Awareness and Involvement
- Physical and Mental Health
- Political Awareness and Involvement

The Tau Epsilon Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. was chartered on the campus of Clayton State University on April 22, 2000. It became the 936th chapter of Delta Sigma Theta and the first Pan-Hellenic Greek organization to be established on the campus of CSU.

The chapter has been involved in such public service activities as: HIV and STD seminars for students of Clayton State along with offering 20-minute HIV testing, giving out Goody Bags to promote abstinence and safe sex, encouraging voter registration, and collaborating with the Nurse Managed Clinic for the promotion of Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

For further information, please access our national web site at [www.deltasigmatheta.org](http://www.deltasigmatheta.org). For local inquiries, you may email us at [dstccsu@yahoo.com](mailto:dstccsu@yahoo.com).

## AMERICAN MEDICAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION

We invite you to the Clayton State University chapter of the American Medical Student Association.

The purpose of this chapter is to educate undergraduates about our healthcare system and all aspects of medicine, while facilitating the progress of undergraduate students through health-related majors.

Any student who is interested in medicine or healthcare, or who plans to enter a healthcare-related program of study such as Medical School, Dental school, Pharmacy School, Veterinary School, Physician Assistantships, or other related fields would find this organization helpful.

Some of the many things that we do include: tour medical colleges, attend National AMSA Annual Convention, get assistance with finding physicians to shadow, participate in events related to healthcare professions, attend meetings with guest speakers and dedicated CSU science faculty where we discuss financial aid, share testing strategies, prepare for the MCAT/PCAT, discuss important tips on getting into professional school, and socialize with fellow students of related majors.

An additional benefit is that you can list membership in AMSA on your application for a professional school.

Any undergraduate student currently enrolled in CSU and fulfilling the basic student responsibilities is eligible and welcome to join; however, the association is geared toward students planning to enter medical school or other professional health-related programs.

General meetings are held in U327 on the first Wednesday of each month from 12:30-1:30pm. Any other meetings or guest speaker presentations will be announced at the general meetings and via a group email.

To learn more visit our website at <http://studentorg.clayton.edu/amsa/>.

## Attention Club Leaders,

If you would like your organization to be included in Club Corner please send us a description of your club. For now, we would like for you to tell us the 5 "W"s. Who are you? Where and when do you meet? What does your club/organization do? And Why would a student want to be involved with your organization. Please try to limit your description to 250 words. Send all articles as an attached word document or plain text to [btsubmissions@yahoo.com](mailto:btsubmissions@yahoo.com).

Have a favorite place to eat, see a new trend or think a movie is horrible (or great)? Send a review to [btsubmissions@yahoo.com](mailto:btsubmissions@yahoo.com)



## PAN-AFRICAN FORUM TACKLES ISSUES

### Professor Nuru Ackinyemi Speaks

By TONY BERRY

On Friday, October 20, the Pan-African Forum Organization welcomed guest speaker Professor Nuru Ackinyemi. A native Nigerian, Ackinyemi is a Political Science professor at Kennesaw State University. He went to Ghana this past summer with Dr. Victoria Pasley, a History professor here at Clayton.

"My perspective of Africa is the perspective of someone that was born there as well as the perspective of someone that has experienced other cultures. I bring the perspective of some-

one that is looking at Africa from the outside. "That is not geographically limited. It doesn't matter where you're from...you're an African. As long as you are a black man...you are African. Being an African is more than just being located in Africa. It is more than a race thing. Anyone that fought for or believes in the dreams of the African's people...is an African," began Ackinyemi.

He continued by asking the purpose of CSU's Pan-African Forum.

Forum member Alexis Hill answered that it is a way of "looking back at Africa before the

Atlantic slave shipment."

Lonnie Richards, president of the PAF, added that it is "a way of looking at and having an Afro-centric view...it is a way of looking at the way events in Africa affect the world."

Ackinyemi then stated his desire that the forum be more of a discussion than a lecture. He then proceeded to bring up topics to stimulate that discussion.

He explained that the African de-colonization movement and the American Civil Rights movement here were closely related. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. traveled to Africa during this time. Also, many college students, American and African, began to share knowl-

edge and experiences on Apartheid and Civil Rights.

This began a grassroots campaign that very quickly spread from campus to campus and from there, town to town. Many began to boycott goods and petition companies to stop dealing with South Africa until Apartheid ended. Furthermore, presidential campaigns began to focus on Apartheid issues.

Ackinyemi then asked, "[H]ow do we explain the absence of Africa in American Foreign Policy?"

Northern African nations have always been considered important due to their oil deposits. Without mineral interests to motivate them, the United States appears to neglect other areas.

"When was the last time that something negative came out in a newspaper and automatically there was a response?" he asked.

Usually, when we hear press about Africa it is "Africa needs our help" but rarely "What do African's want?"

"You have to educate yourself. You have to ask your legislature, your congressman, your neighbors, your friends, and anyone that has a stake in voting. You have a direct stake in these issues.

"What do you plan to do in your Pan-African Forum?" inquired Nuru Ackinyemi.

"To educate the world...to get the word out all over campus, and from this campus we intend to spread the word to other campuses," responded Richards.

"What would you think would be the number one issue, be it political or what have you, that is not in the media? What issue is not being discussed," asked Krystina Lucas.

"There is no one issue," returned Ackinyemi. "Poverty is an issue. The issue of conflict resolution is a problem and then, of course, the issue of healthcare. We hear about HIV/AIDS but we rarely hear about the spread of malaria. It's not that these things are not covered; it is that they are only covered when there is a crisis."

They continue the discussion, saying that this gives the impression that only negative things happen in Africa. The rest of the world begins to think about only the problematic aspects of the continent. It's the consistency and breadth of coverage.

The media never covers the countries that are making economic headway. They only cover the countries in conflict. The issue is not if the media covers these issues. The problem arises when they cover only these topics.

Unfortunately, when CNN goes into an African country, they are not actually invited. Moreover, that country has no influence over what CNN chooses to show.

"The media tends to focus on the negative aspects of things that they cover. I could do good things all day, but that one small mistake is exactly what the media would focus on," added Richards.

"Unfortunately, there is also this misconception that all descendants of Africa were kings and queens. There were kings and queens, but there were also those people that did not enjoy the lifestyle of being a king or queen.

"There is also this misconception that investing in Africa is the equivalent of throwing your money away. People invest in Asian countries, but no one wants to invest in Africa. They fear that if you even visit Africa you will be killed, or get a disease. Go there. Visit. Interact with real Africans. Africans are no angels. They are good and bad just like anyone else," Ackinyemi concluded.

# Cygn·e·t

art poetry prose

#### call for submissions

*Cygn·e·t*, Clayton State University's student journal of art and literature, is seeking art, poetry, fiction and creative nonfiction for its fourth annual issue.

#### submission guidelines

Submit four copies, Times New Roman, 12 point, single spaced to Jill Sears (Arts & Sciences Building, G 210).

deadline: December 1, 2006

**poetry:** Three to five poems or a total of five pages maximum.

(All poetry will be entered into Poetry Palooza Student Poetry contest, unless otherwise specified, for a chance to win cash prizes. Select poems will be read at the Poetry Palooza and Cygn·e·t Launch in April 2007.)

**fiction:** One short story or a total of 3,000 words maximum.

**creative nonfiction:** One literary essay or a total of 3,000 words maximum.

Contact [BrigitteByrd@clayton.edu](mailto:BrigitteByrd@clayton.edu) for more information

CLAYTON STATE  
UNIVERSITY

## Homecoming 2006

By KIMBERLY GRAY

For those of my fellow Laker-mates that are new to the campus or have never experienced the events planned by Student Life Activities Committee (SLAC) during homecoming week I'm sure that you will join me in saying it was a very eventful week. For the veterans that attend on campus events regularly I know you will agree with me in saying that this year's homecoming was like no other.

The week began on Wednesday with the athletic pep rally that took place in the University Center quad area. The hour and a half was filled with games, food, cheers, along with the presentation of the athletic teams and this year's homecoming candidates.

Let me say in my three years as a cheerleader here at Clayton I have never seen a better turn out. However, I will say I hope to see more sophomores and freshman present and representing their classes in the future!

The following night was my personal favorite part of the week, Casino Night. I look forward to dressing up every year and joining my friends in a little gambling that myself and those under 21 would otherwise not be able to do.

This year was actually a little different the dress code changed from cocktail attire to casual dress excluding athletic wear. After talking with a few people in attendance the change in dress code was in fact favorable.

I had the pleasure to speak with homecoming candidate Ben Hopkins and he stated, "I recently went to Las Vegas and they did a good job of bringing the same games here."

For some, the gambling, food, and dressing up is not nearly the highlight of the night. Some people came with a specific agenda to get the most tickets and win the prizes. The awesome prizes included: a color television, a Playstation 2, and an MP3 player.

Most said that they look forward to upcoming events on campus as well as next years casino night.

Now, I'm sure that I saw most of my classmates Friday night at the Comedy Show for the best turn out ever for a comedy show here at Clayton. There were people everywhere to see the all-star line up featuring: host, Griff from Atlanta's radio station 107.9, Angelo Lozada, A.G White, Thea Vidale, and the headliner A.J Johnson.

It was definitely a night full of laughs. Comedy night was one of the amazingly free events to all Clayton student continently held here on campus.

Saturday topped the week off with events like the McElroy kids run, the Alumni pancake breakfast, the homecoming parade/carnival, the flag football championship game, and the men's and women's homecoming soccer matches.

I was glad to be a part of this year's Homecoming and I look forward to future on campus events and hope to see all of my fellow Laker-mates in attendance.

**WANTED!!  
IMMEDIATELY!!**

**Sports Photographer**  
If you attend games, enjoy taking photos and have the equipment, The Bent Tree needs your help. Your photos could be here. Please contact us. CSUGetBent@yahoo.com



## Sports

# W-I-N Lakers Let's Win

By KIMBERLY GRAY

With the Laker's basketball season right around the corner, Athletic Director Mason Barfield has to give these athletes a hand.

The women's team has been ranked 24th in the Division II's Top 25 Poll, and they are the only Peach Belt Tournament team to be ranked in the poll this season.

It has also been said that the CSU women's team has been favored to win the Peach Belt Conference again this year for the second consecutive season. With

Head Coach Dennis Cox leading the way, this team is sure to make it happen.

The team has eight returning members that are striving towards another conference win. They will open their season on November 17, 2006 at the Sleep Inn Classic at St. Leo Florida. The first home game will be on December 9, 2006 at 5:30pm.

The men's team has also been ranked in pre season polls as the Peach Belt Conference winners for the second consecutive season. Being favored to with the PBC is not all the Lakers have to be

proud of; they have also been ranked in two other pre season polls this year.

The Street & Smith Yearbook Division II Top 10 has ranked the Lakers 8th and the Division II Bulletin Preseason Top 25 has ranked them 12th. With seven returning players Head Coach Gordon Gibbons is ready to keep the expectations high.

The season will start on November 21, 2006 at 7:30pm against Southeastern. Please come out and support your award winning teams this season and share in the excitement of Division II Basketball.

## Cheerleading Site Coming Soon

In battle for recognition, cheerleaders use technology.

By KIMBERLY GRAY

After talking to Lee Wright, the new sports information director, Kimberly Gray and Kia Williams will soon play host to redesigning the Laker

Cheerleading Web Site. As of right now, the site only holds a picture of the 2005-2006 squad. It may be boring compared to the other athletic links, but all of that is going to be changing soon.

Kimberly Gray has cheered at Clayton State University for the past four years and has watched the program begin from the ground up. Kia Williams has cheered at Clayton State for the past three years and is very excited about becoming one of the new hosts of the site. Both of these young ladies have leadership roles as Captains on the team along with Meyundai Buckle for the 2006-2007 season.

The two new hosts would like to include things about the new squad and give everyone a bio-page that tells where they are from, their status and major in school, and their plans for the future.

The site will also include days that the CSU cheerleaders are going to be involved in volunteer work or performing fundraisers around the community.

There will be a separate page that outlines all of the necessary skills a person would need to cheer at CSU

the following year. There are going to be many new ground rules for the upcoming season.

There will now be a tumbling requirement which was not included in past tryouts.

The site will include a roster of this year's team,

pictures of squad stunts, and proper contact information if a reader is interested in being a part of the team. Elaina Chance, coach of the CSU Cheerleading squad, is very excited about the new page that is coming down the pipes.

The new site should be up and running with all information by mid November or early December.

Clayton State University Student Newspaper

# The Bent Tree

## Join Us!!

The Bent Tree is looking for dedicated individuals to join us for next Semester. If you want to learn more about student media in print and on the web, sign up now. You can get credit hours towards your degree and possibly earn a stipend as well. We need people in all positions: We need you.

## Sign Up Now

JOUR1011  
Journalism Practicum  
-or-  
JOUR3011  
Journalism Workshop

### Positions Available

*subject to change*

**Editor in Chief** - The Bent Tree's top student staff member in the newsroom. Responsible for the tone of the newspaper, as well as the direction of the news, sports, variety, photo, copy and opinions.

**Assistant Editor** - The No. 2 student staffer, along with the Web Editor. Responsible for the day-to-day operation of the print paper by coordinating the activities of each department, overseeing the mechanics of putting out the paper and helping to set the tone of the newspaper's coverage.

**Web Editor** - The No. 2 student staffer, along with the Print Editor. Responsible for the day-to-day operation of the web edition by coordinating the activities of each department, overseeing the mechanics of the web site, and helping to set the tone of the newspaper's coverage.

**News Editor** - Responsible for all news copy that appears in the paper. Oversees a department of up to 10 writers, coordinates

coverage with writers and photographers and presents stories in regular meetings.

**Sports Editor** - In charge of the coverage of University athletics, including everything from Soccer to intramurals. Also responsible for reporting any sports news, such as coach hirings/firings. Responsible for all sports copy that appears in the paper.

**Variety Editor** - In charge of covering the entertainment beat on the University campus and Metro Atlanta. Responsibilities include overseeing department's previews, reviews and features on music, film, drama, literature and fine arts, as well as informing readers about upcoming cultural events.

**Photo Editor/Chief Photographer** - Responsible for the visual content of The Bent Tree. Responsible for taking the bulk of photographs appearing in the paper, including a suitable image for the front page each day. Works with staff photographers and departmental editors to distribute photo assignments and is responsible for quality and composition of all photos appearing in the paper.

**Staff Writer** - The top writing position at the paper, charged with developing sources and covering a specific beat assigned by the news, sports or variety editor. Also works with younger writers to coordinate coverage when major investigative or enterprise pieces are developed.

**Copy Editor** - The staffer responsible for the overall look of the paper. Duties include recruiting and training copy editors, front-page design duties, and proofing and editing all copy, graphics, headlines and photo cutlines.

**Technical Web Editor** - Online equivalent of Copy Editor, responsible for the overall look of the website. Duties include web design, upkeep of the server, proofing and editing all copy, graphics, headlines and photo cutlines. The ideal candidate should be interested in computer graphics, advertising design, website layout and industry-standard software.

**Illustrator** - Part of the team that serves as the "eyes" of The Bent Tree news staff. Responsible for taking photos for various newspaper departments, including advertising. Also responsible for supplying information for descriptive and accurate photo cutlines.

**Business Manager** - The oil that makes the machine work, responsibilities include procuring advertising, maintaining accounts, creating media kits and managing the budget. Also responsible for distribution, coordinates with others to get the paper out to the students.

Contact your advisor or

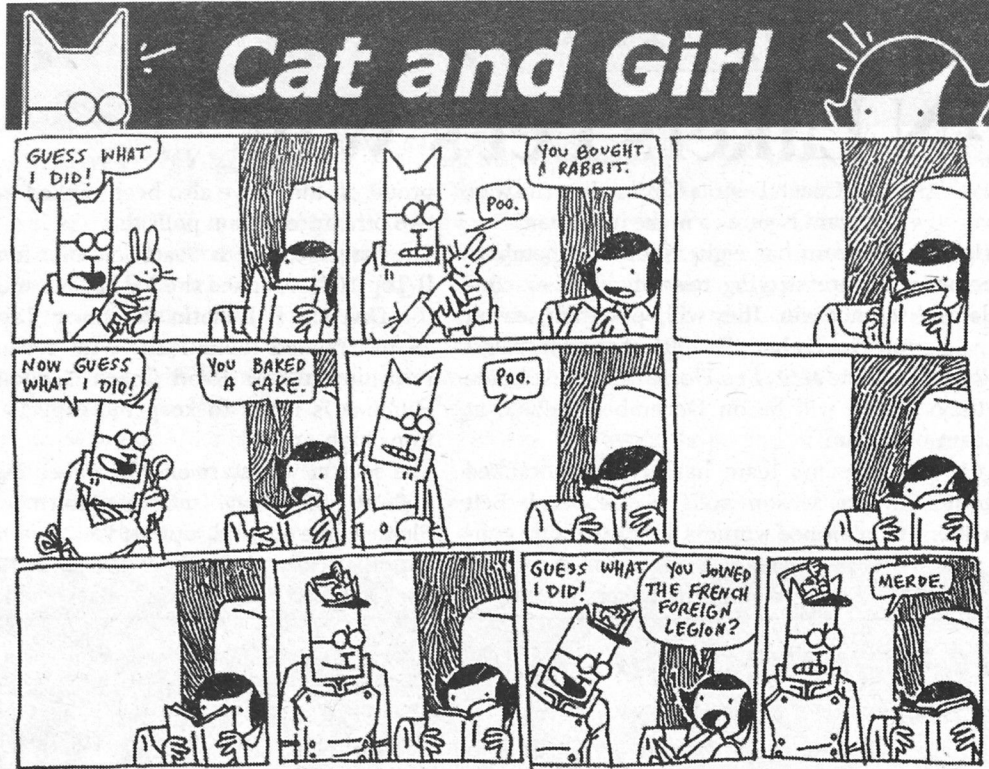
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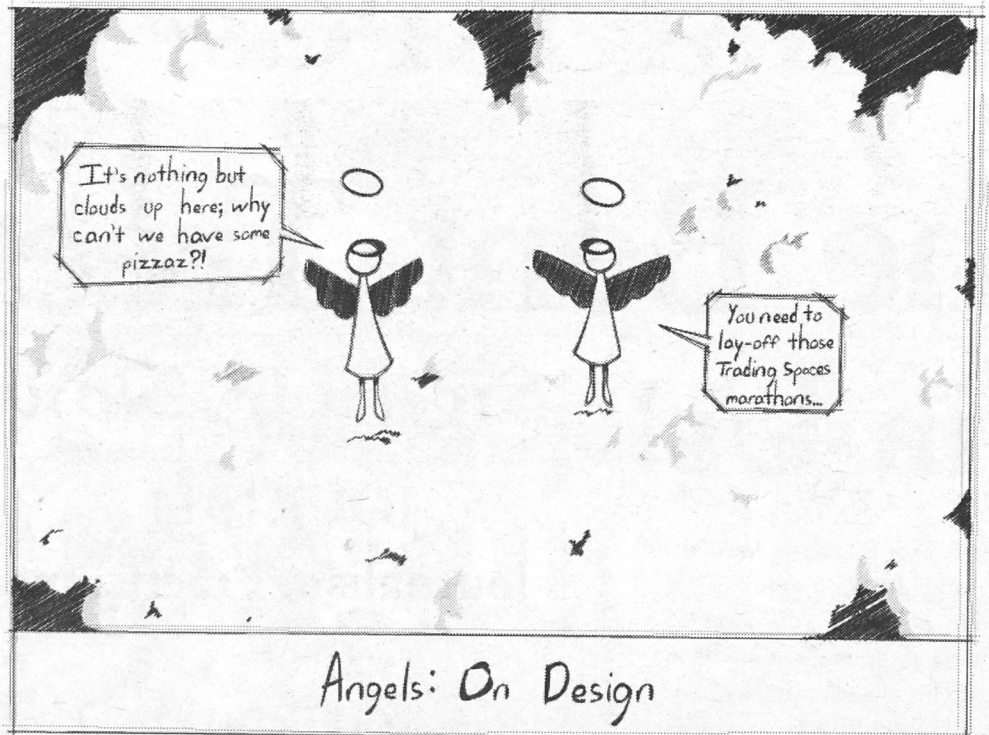
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Dorothy Gambrell



Andy Hayes

Cat and Girl is published twice a week at catandgirl.com.

Check out [www.jammer.net](http://www.jammer.net), a podcast by Andy Hayes.

# Sudoku

Complete the grid so that every row, column, and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusive

Puzzle 1 (Medium Difficulty)

			3					1
		3		6				4
6				1	2			9
5		1	6	9	8			
	8			3				1
			2	7	1	3		8
	4		7	2				9
	5			8			1	
2					4			

Puzzle 2 (Easy Difficulty)

		4						1
9	6		8		1			
	5		2			7	8	
		6	1	3			9	2
				6				
1	3			9	2	5		
	7	5			4		2	
			7		9		5	8
	2					6		

# Diversions

## Crossword

By KEVIN PRATT

**Across**

- 1. MAD doctrine tool
- 6. Queen Gertrude couldn't
- 13. Small slow creek
- 14. Pretty draft
- 15. Acidic or bitter taste
- 16. Chair, bed, table, etc.
- 17. Children of the \_\_\_\_\_
- 18. Leave stranded
- 19. Tease
- 20. Within Steve
- 22. Romeo does this
- 23. Lowest points
- 24. Windows \_\_\_\_\_
- 25. Cause combustion
- 26. Tammany leader
- 27. Live oak
- 28. Contender
- 29. Sleep \_\_\_\_\_
- 30. 10 year count
- 31. Shallow water
- 32. Away in a \_\_\_\_\_
- 33. Almost denomination
- 34. Symbolizes

38. Australian ratite

- 39. Egyptian lake
- 40. Silver Salmon
- 41. Stonehenge era
- 43. Brick flooring
- 44. Huckleberry Finn was
- 45. Cicero's action
- 46. \_\_\_\_\_ Shante (pl.)
- 47. Perfect

**Down**

- 1. Counting devices
- 2. Sir Francis
- 3. Deed inspections
- 4. Cutaway with tails
- 5. Hub-\_\_\_\_\_
- 6. St. John's Bread (pl.)
- 7. Floor coverings (slang)
- 8. Ancient Ireland name
- 9. Three \_\_\_\_\_ play
- 10. Mother does this
- 11. Runner
- 12. Brought us Hank the Hallucination

- 14. Craze
- 16. Tex-Mex staple
- 18. Islam's second best city
- 21. Lions' friend
- 22. Royal flush requirement
- 24. Ballroom dance
- 25. Harmless
- 26. Sewing innovator
- 27. Ephemeron (pl.)
- 28. Madagascan hedgehog
- 29. Agrees
- 30. Virus shell
- 32. Fine nets
- 34. Rodent like
- 35. Exploding stars
- 36. Zeta, Eta, \_\_\_\_\_
- 37. Young horse
- 39. 1492 boat
- 42. \_\_\_\_\_ Ti Do
- 43. Hawaiian dish

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
13						14							
15						16							
17						18					19		
20					21					22			
					23					24			
					25					26			
	27								28				
29								30					
31								32					
33						34					35	36	37
38						39					40		
41				42						43			
44										45			
46										47			

## Editorial

# When will Clayton State University get a Football Team?

By ALEXANDRA SHULAR

In May of 1985, Clayton Junior College officially became a four-year university, reinventing itself three times to become Clayton State University. What did this entail for the students and the community? More majors, more degrees, more social activities, a better reputation, and competitive sports.

The athletic department has won numerous awards for basketball, golf, tennis, soccer, track and field events, and cross country, but what about football?

Clayton State students have asked for years, "when are we going to get a football team?" and many students

wonder if a school can be complete without the football "spirit". Football is a communal sport that unites the school and brings the student community together.

For most larger colleges, on Saturday night, nothing else seems to matter besides the home team's victory. Everyone dresses in their school colors and attends tailgate parties to start the festivities.

Alan Fisher, 49, remembers his college football games at the University of Georgia. "I will be a bulldog until the day that I die; I have never missed a home game. Football is the only thing my children and I can relate to today. We love to get dressed in our red, black, and

white and head for the field. This is a great family bonding experience, especially since my son plays for the team."

How can Clayton State students have this experience if they lack a football team? And, what sport can become a substitute? Although soccer is an international sport, in the United States, football rules.

A major event like homecoming is generally centered around football season, but at Clayton State, homecoming is irrelevant to students. Instead, soccer is the host for this auspicious occasion.

How do the students feel about having soccer as the primary fall sport? Lindsay Green, 19, says, "I want to

transfer. Football gives schools life; nobody wants to see soccer or attend a fake homecoming."

Since the school is currently trying to change its image from the junior college it once was, the school is carefully considering students' concerns on how to improve the school. Major topics currently up for debate are the possible additions of dorms and a football team.

Maybe in a couple of years, Clayton State University will have the means to supply the school and the community with the football team they desire.

Alumni will be able to come back to their alma mater and participate in the sport they never had—football.

# The Future of MMORPGs?

By KEVIN PRATT

A few years ago, I designed a T-shirt that cleverly (at least I thought so) said "MMORPG / Reality is for the weak." Looking back, after giving World of Warcraft (WOW) ten months of my life I wonder if it was wasted time.

MMORPG stands for Massively Multiplayer (a bunch of people) Online (damn Chinese farmers) Role Playing (you get to be someone else) Game. These games offer a strange duality of isolation and social interaction at the same time.

Some of my old friends play together, often in the same house, and interact through the game. You meet people from all over the world, at least in WOW, and work with them to accomplish goals. You can feel a part of something.

However, you are usually sitting at home, alone, watching a screen and seemingly talking to no one.

I would often tell my friends I was busy because I had to help my guild slay a dragon, and I often felt guilty for it. I gained weight and lost motivation to leave the house. I woke up and got online.

It's not all bad though, I had to plan, play the market, talk strategy, build my character, defend against attacks from the Horde, gather resources and, the hardest part, work with 40 other people at the same time to slay dragons.

This teamwork aspect of the game is the most valuable perhaps. My guild would take hot-headed impatient teenage boys (and girls) and tame them, make them team players and eventually friends. I would hope that these lessons learned in game help them in real life (IRL).

I often felt a great sense accomplishment, belonging to a major guild that tackled some of the hardest challenges of the game and making it look easy. I played my character well and helped lead groups.

How I felt this about a mostly empty



"Reality" by Eran Cantrell

achievement, I'll leave to others to figure out. Nowadays, I focus on things that will last a little longer and make more of a difference in my life.

Gaming is fun and is just as valid a hobby as watching TV, collecting baseball cards or running around in the woods with potato cannons. Almost like cigarettes, MMORPGS are designed to be addictive.

You have to make time to play; you feel responsible to the others in the guild; there's always one more challenge being added.

Blizzard, the parent company of WOW, decided to suspend my account due to a billing error. I'm glad they did, but I still miss my level 60 Night Elf Hunter, he was L33t.

What do you think? Email letters to the Editor to [btsubmissions@yahoo.com](mailto:btsubmissions@yahoo.com).

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Dr. Randy Clark

## Student Forum

Continued from Page 1

A student, Krystina Lucas stated, "I understand a lot of money is going towards plans and activities that you all have. I have a question about book money. I know that goes through HOPE. But, why is the price of books continuing to go up? With student fees increasing, the \$150 provide by HOPE just isn't enough."

"The prices continue to go up. We don't make the books. The cost of the textbooks continues to go up due to increase cost from book publishers. Our markup is lower than the national average. But we have to increase the cost to cover the cost of keeping our bookstore open," answered Dr. Harden.

An unidentified nursing student stated that "universities such as Kennesaw State have an admissions priority list for nursing program students. Kennesaw State students first then other students next...Do you foresee a more concrete admission program here at Clayton State?"

"Criteria change all of the time. The nursing program always has a large amount of applicants. I will check into any inconsistencies in the program admissions," replied Dr. Harden.

"Will there be any extra student fee incorporated with student housing?" was given to one of the SGA facilitators.

"No, only students living in the student housing will have additional fees."

Krystina Lucas then posed another issue, "I noticed that there is a lack of a multicultural association in the Student Affairs [office]."

"I would have to refer you to Mrs. Greer to discuss this," answered Dr. Harden.

Mrs. Deborah Greer replied, "She knows where I am. I've been discussing the issue with her."

Next, there was a presentation by Jeff Jacobs and Dr. Matt Parrot providing a preview of the new student activity center.

Toke then opened the floor again for questions.

Alex Wiggins, President of SLAC, asked, "Why was the budget cut? And, I would like to see it on paper."

Dr. Harden replied, "Over the past several years as an institution we have had to cut our budget. After 9/11, we had to cut our budget. We have had to cut our budget five times over the next three years following that."

This fall we had a revenue shortfall of over \$800,000. All divisions had to cut budgets. Every dean...every department had to cut their budgets. Dr. Haynes could tell you exactly where those dollars came from to balance the budget."

Wiggins furthered his appeal, "If you've had those budget cuts, how would you approve the money for organizations?"

"The budget is a plan of how much money we expect to extend to all organizations. It is a planning tool, not a guarantee. We told you what we thought we could provide you, but due to shortfalls we couldn't meet that," retorted Dr. Harden.

"You just answered the last two questions with the same answers. That's a terrible way to do business," asserted Wiggins.

"We had fewer students paying fees than we originally anticipated. If the money is not there, it simply is not there," maintained Dr. Harden.

Dr. Harden then suggested that Wiggins follow up with Dr. Haynes before the Forum was called to close by the SGA.

President Adetayo stated later in the Friday SGA general meeting, that she felt that the Student Forum "was a great success."

Associate Dean of Students Jeff Jacobs, advisor for SGA, expressed the same sentiment. He felt that it was the best Student Forum in his 13 years at Clayton State.

However, SLAC President Alex "Stanza" Wiggins felt that it was "a bunch of bullshit."

## Dialogs

Continued from Page 1

school, said "they looked down on me. They acted like I just sat around eating burritos all day," referring to her being of Cuban and Chicano descent. "Also, because I'm a tomboy and I dress like a guy, I often get stereotyped as a lesbian."

"[T]hey talk about me like I'm this diehard white Liberal Democrat, when I'm really not," continued Donnie Morrell. "I appreciate how passionate they are about their beliefs, but I was raised to try to view everything from both sides."

Addressing speech stereotypes, Richard Bostick-Latham recalled encountering people who expect him to "talk a certain way." "I've had professors that I've spoken to that thought I was white when they first spoke to me over the phone."

"We should be able to talk openly about these issues," continued Hopkins.

As the night progressed, more individuals filtered in. The conversations became more open and frank and eventually turned towards interracial dating.

"You love who you love," said Bostick-Latham. This sentiment was repeated by all in attendance with a belief stemming from the difficulty in relationships. "Finding someone that you care about is hard enough and then people want to throw in the problem of race."

Hopkins then read a letter that was posted on Facebook.com. The letter, addressed to "black women," was signed "A White Girl." The letter detailed her alleged experiences with black women being a Caucasian woman in an interracial relationship with an African-American man.

She then began spouting several stereotypes directed at African-American Women as reasons why black men chose white women over black women.

"She probably did have some bad experiences. She was stereotyped and threw some stereotypes back out there," said Kimberly McCloud. "You just can't make generalizations about people."

"It seems to me that she thinks that she's an escape route," replied Segovia.

Hopkins then read a reply written by an African-American man. In his reply, the gentleman praised African-American women but continued on to list several stereotypes about Caucasian women.

"[T]hey're both jackasses. They are generalizing one aspect of a race," Donnie Morrell stated. "We tend to lose sight of who we are...people."

They are "trying to inflate their position by putting another [person's] position down," Christopher Wilkie added about the Facebook posting. "A part of being culturally diverse is respecting other people's culture."

A few more students filtered in, including Adetoke(Toke) Adetayo, SGA President.

"At the end of the day, it simply is...can we coexist?" asked Bostick-Latham.

The group then discussed issues that arise from attempting to integrate cultures.

Mr. Segovia suggested "lack of awareness of other cultures" as a possible problem.

"Lopsided telling of history causes part of the problem," added McCloud.

Other issues mentioned were stubbornness, lack of experience with other cultures, and each individual group seeming to be in competition with one another.

The group was then asked to volunteer ideas for solutions. "Equal Representation, people want to be represented. They want to see something of themselves on the screen," said Morrell, speaking of the media.

"You have to put everything into perspective," concluded Adetoke Adetayo. "You have to look at things from someone else's point of view."

When asked later about the event, Hopkins said it "was a success and we look forward to continuing the dialog with the campus in the near future."

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