



YOU DECIDED! OBAMA WINS!



PRESIDENT-ELECT BARACK OBAMA

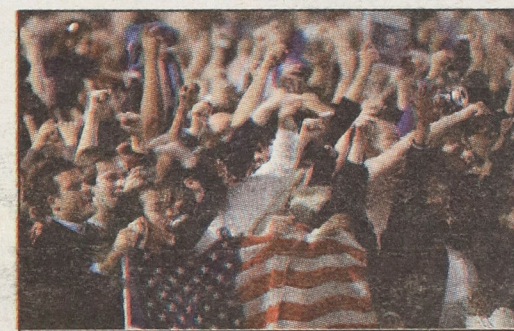
NOV 4, 2008 - "IF THERE IS ANYONE OUT THERE WHO STILL DOUBTS THAT AMERICA IS A PLACE WHERE ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE; WHO STILL WONDERS IF THE DREAM OF OUR FOUNDERS IS ALIVE IN OUR TIME; WHO STILL QUESTIONS THE POWER OF OUR DEMOCRACY, TONIGHT IS YOUR ANSWER."

Article on Page 4

OPENING TO PRESIDENT-ELECT BARACK OBAMA'S VICTORY SPEECH
PHOTO BY THE ANCHORAGE DAILY NEWS ASSOCIATED PRESS/MORRY GASH



Nov 4, 2008 - [www.kansascity.com]
President-Elect Barack Obama, First Lady Michelle Obama, Jill Biden & Vice President-Elect Joe Biden on stage at Grant Park in Chicago, Illinois after a Historical victory.



Nov 4, 2008 - [Doug Mills/New York Times]
An Excited crowd celebrates after hearing the election results.

Welcome to the STUDENT ACTIVITIES CENTER - 'S.A.C.'

by Nikita Haynie



Front view of the new Student Activities Center at Clayton State



Want to work out? Do your homework? Sip on some hot chocolate? Play games? Clayton State University's New Student Activities Center (SAC) is a great place for students, faculty and staff to experience fitness and fun, all in one place.

On September 12, 2008, Clayton State opened the Student Activities Center. General building hours are Monday thru Friday from 6 a.m. until midnight (specific office hours may vary). It is equipped with a two level fitness center, two basketball courts, and game room. It also offers a student lounge, a café and student organization offices.

One highlights of the SAC is the new fitness area that contains over 45 pieces of state-of-the-art equipment.

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**SPECIAL THANKS TO FACULTY
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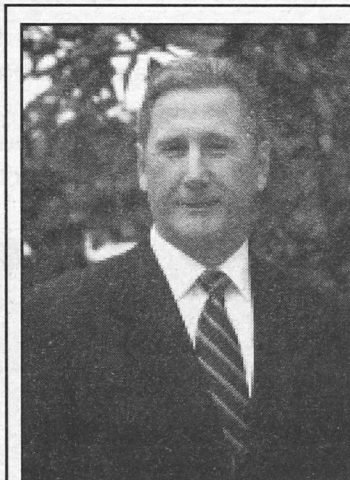
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a letter from the President

This past summer, Clayton State University has continued its emphasis on student success by upgrading services and facilities for our students.

The opening of new facilities on campus provides students with more opportunities to become connected with the University. The first on-campus residential facility, Laker Hall, provides students with the most technologically-advanced residence facility in the state. The new Student Activity Center (SAC) provides benefits for all students with a variety of features; including the fitness center, a ballroom, two multipurpose courts, offices for our student organizations, a game room, locker rooms, a "healthy" café, and meeting and studio rooms.



President Harden
Photo by Erin Fender

Although we have always prided ourselves on our safe and beautiful campus, Clayton State is also in the process of upgrading campus security. The opening of Laker Hall and the SAC has created new opportunities in many areas of life on campus, not the least of which is campus safety. The presence of students living on campus is a big change for the University and a part of the on-going transition that Clayton State has been making over the past several years to become an outstanding comprehensive metropolitan university.

Recently, several priority enhancements have been made to better address safety of the campus on a 24/7 basis. These include an increase in public safety resources, facility safety improvements, and an improved emergency alert system. The new emergency alert system is comprised of several components that will allow CSU students, faculty and staff to be aware of potential emergency situations in a very timely manner. The components of our system include a campus-wide public address system, instant voice and data to all digital phones on campus, e-mail and text messages, and messages posted to the CSU homepage.

I trust that these, and other upgrades in services and facilities, will make your experience at Clayton State University a more successful one in the coming year.

Dr. Thomas K. Harden
President

THE BENT TREE

MISSION STATEMENT

As a student run publication, our goal is to entertain, educate and inform the campus, while also providing an opportunity for students to develop and enhance their journalistic skills, both in print and on-line. We strive to promote balanced reporting, while offering a platform for students to share their opinions and concerns with the entire student body. Establishing and maintaining positive relationships with the entire campus community is vital to this process, therefore we have also made it our practice to network not only with the students, but with everyone contributing to the campus, to ensure responsible representation. We offer this to the University and its students in an effort to promote involvement with and awareness of the campus media as a whole.

YOU DECIDED! OBAMA WINS!

by Gary Reddish

Students and Faculty of Clayton State University, we have become a part of history this past Election Day. It is official; Barack Obama is the very first African American President of the United States.

Another student stated, "I'm scared of the tax breaks that Obama proposed during his campaign. It isn't fair that if I make more money than my neighbor, that I have to pay more taxes than they do."

Though many media outlets asked the question, "Is this country ready for a black president?" voters were not discouraged, and instead came out in record numbers to declare that they were indeed ready. With this new chapter in history being written, one can't help but wonder what trials will face the newly elected President.

ELECTORAL VOTES		
270 Needed to Win		
Obama	McCain	Undecided
364	163	45

Latest tally of electoral votes from www.electoral-vote.com



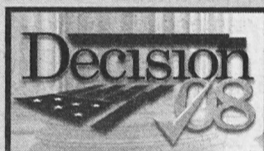
Nov 4-2008 - [WNYC Radio/93.9FM & AM820] Obama on stage with daughter Sasha in Grant Park, Chicago, Illinois before giving his 1st speech as President-Elect of the United States of America

Many reporters suspect that with the current situation leftover from the Bush administration, any good that Obama would do during his first four years will be overshadowed by the amount of work that will still be needed.

One student at CSU says, "The world would be a better place. Obama isn't just looking out for blacks, or democrats, but every group and people represented here in the U.S. ..."

Needless to say, many people have been very unhappy with the way the Bush administration has run the country over the past eight years. People around the world will have their eyes glued to the actions of President Obama and America for the next four years.

Obama has made it through the easy part of the battle, now he will be faced with endless scrutiny, comments and criticisms from every person who hoped he would fail. Not only that, he will be carrying the hopes, dreams and futures of an entire nation on his shoulders. Now all of America holds its breath as we wait to see what the man who defied the odds will do once he is inaugurated.



STUDENTS COMMENT

on the Election Results of 2008

DEVIN SIMMS: "A young man from Kenya and a young woman from Kansas produced a young man that pursued his dream and found the courage to face a challenge. As a direct result our country is going to be better for the next 8 years. 8 is the number for change!"

THEO SOFA-KING CELESTE: "I hope this opens doors for other minorities to be more

involved in politics not just for African-Americans, but also Asians and Latinos"

JAMAL EL-AMIN: "I knew when I heard the screams last night [Election Night] that my dreams had come true. I just hope that he does a good job, its going to be tough for him and I just hope that he can do a good job. Oh and he needs to come through on that \$6000 dollar credit for college students..."

B.CARZO: "So this Barack Obama character. He's black you say? Back in my day colored people couldn't run for President. We had to count Jelly Beans in a jar just to get a chance to vote. It's true... That's what my uncle said just last month. Now look, I'm... impressed that

America was actually able to elect someone who was no only part African-American, but not originally Christian either. It's good to see that America is willing to accept such a change... For now. Here comes the bad part. That's about all there is to celebrate. With the economy the way it is, we have quite the task on out hands as a country.... That will be the defining factor. Can we make it? Only time will tell.

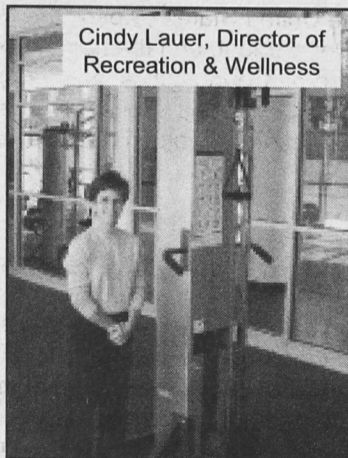
KEARIA SMITH: MY PRESIDENT IS BLACK!!!!

WILLIAMS AZUBIKE: "I haven't shed tears since 1997. I shed tears this morning when the effect of what happened last night hit me with full blasts!!!! I am still delirious right now!!!

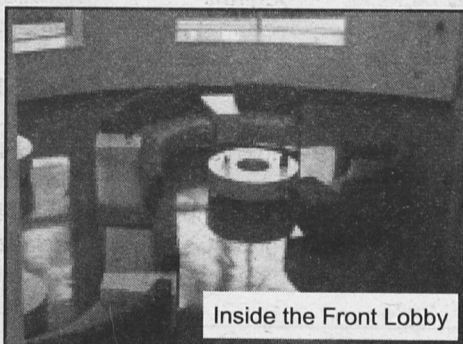
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Welcome to the Student Activities Center- 'SAC'

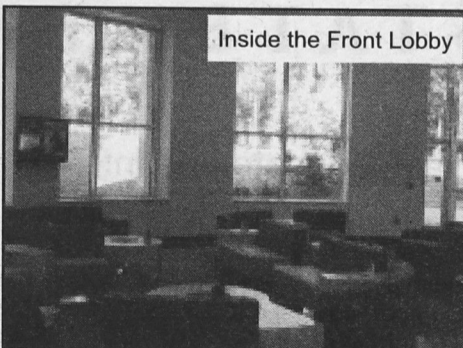
by Nikita Haynie



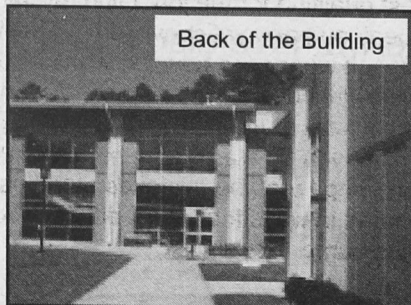
Cindy Lauer, Director of Recreation & Wellness



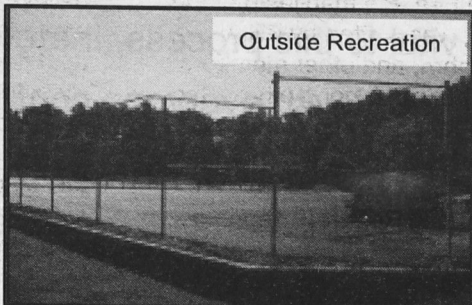
Inside the Front Lobby



Inside the Front Lobby



Back of the Building



Outside Recreation

This equipment includes a wide array of cardio and strength training equipment, as well as free weights.

An assortment of fitness classes are scheduled throughout the week to offer visitors alternate methods of exercise. They currently offer kick boxing, power yoga and spin classes.

The SAC is a convenient way to improve your fitness level while expanding your knowledge while on campus. Patrons are required to wear a full T-shirt (with sleeves) to enter the fitness area. In order to gain access to the fitness center and game room, patrons must present a current Laker ID.

When asked how she thinks the new Student Activities Center will contribute to Clayton State's campus, Lakiesha Cantey, Assistant Director of Campus Life, stated, "I think that Clayton State is expanding and growing rapidly. So there was a need to add more to the campus that could accommodate the students. I think the new Center is not just a form of entertainment but will add to the Laker experience."

Students and faculty can check out the new Student Activities Center located directly in front of the soccer field. Any additional questions or concerns can be answered at the Student Activities Center information desk.

Confessions OF A MCCAIN SUPPORTER

"My President is black."

In the aftermath of the election I've seen those words printed on T-shirts, in news articles, and broadcast over the radio. The night of the election one CSU student's Facebook status reflected Obama's victory when she exclaimed that her president was black, and to "take that, McCain supporters." In a post-election interview, African American poet Maya Angelou said that when visiting foreign countries, she no longer has to be ashamed of being an American because Barack Obama's ascension to the presidency is a symbol of our country's transcendence of racism.

The first oppressed people of the United States were inarguably Native Americans. Slavery epitomized the oppression of African Americans. Throughout the years immigrants have faced similar mistreatment. During World War II, Japanese Americans were held in internment camps. Currently, Hispanics, Asians, and Latinos experience discrimination similar to that of African Americans, and are underrepresented in our government. After congratulating fellow students on Obama's victory, another CSU student commented on Facebook that he hoped Asians and Latinos would experience similar victories. His statement represents a sentiment shared by many that one man's victory does not eradicate all the subjugation that persists in America.

Martin Luther King, Jr. said, "there is no place for misguided emotionalism," and yet in the same breath that African Americans claim victory in the election of Barack Obama, there is also a tacit accusation of racism toward those that voted for John McCain. Many McCain supporters, myself included, simply followed the advice of Dr. King when he implored that men "be judged on the basis of the content of their character, and not the color of their skin." As someone that is pro-life, believes in trickle down economics, lower taxes, and a smaller government, John McCain was the better choice for me, although it is worth noting he was not my first choice. Had John McCain been black, and Barack Obama been white, my vote would have still been for McCain. For me, this was not a race about race, but a careful decision about who was better qualified for the job.

Despite feminist leanings, I am staunchly pro-life, and John McCain took on a pro-life stance during his campaign. During his tenure as senator, Barack Obama voted against bills that would have provided medical treatment to babies that survived abortions. His reasoning was that there were already laws in place to protect babies that survive abortions. However, as an Illinois senator, the laws he voted against would have closed loopholes in the current laws. As a matter of conscience, I could not overlook his vote on this matter.

President-elect Barack Obama proposes one trillion dollars in new spending, and that money has to come from somewhere. He stated throughout his campaign that he would not raise taxes on the middle class. If he allows the Bush tax cuts to expire in 2010 (something he is expected to do), then he will not technically be raising taxes on the middle class. Nevertheless, the expiration of the Bush tax cuts will bring about an increase in taxes for middle class Americans. Obama's president-elect web site www.change.gov further explains his tax policies. He wants to eliminate income tax on the elderly. He also wants to give a tax credit of \$4000 toward tuition for college students that perform 100 hours of community service per year that they are in school. In 2006 there were roughly

20 million college students. If 20 million college students perform the required hours of community service, the total owed them in the form of a tax credit amounts to 80 billion dollars. Obama has stated he will simply tax the rich in order to pay for his proposals. When businesses (large or small) are taxed at higher rates they raise the cost of goods, and eliminate jobs, in order to cover the increase. So, while Obama has stated that he will increase taxes on the rich, it is average Americans that will pay the price.

On the matter of experience, with specific regard to foreign policy experience, Barack Obama has stated that he will meet with foreign leaders without pre-conditions. During a time in which anti-Bush Americans seem to place extraordinary importance on the opinions of foreign leaders, France's president, Nicolas Sarkozy, recently stated that Obama's views on Iran are "utterly immature," and, "formulations empty of all content." It seems only fair that Barack Obama be held to the same litmus test of world opinion as George W. Bush. That Obama has not yet taken office, and is already being criticized as having an "immature" view of a country that recently threatened to use suicide bombers against the United States, and that continues to try and develop nuclear weapons, is disconcerting to say the least. Vice President-elect Joe Biden was reportedly picked as Obama's running mate to boost his foreign policy credibility. In Joe Biden's debate with Sarah Palin, he claimed that the United States, with the help of France, drove Hezbollah out of Lebanon, a claim that is laughably false. At the beginning of the Iraq war, Biden inexplicably proposed that Iraq be divided into three smaller countries. Prior to Obama winning the nomination, both Hillary Clinton and Joe Biden stated publicly that Barack Obama lacked the experience necessary to lead this country, with Joe Biden going so far as to say that he would be "honored to run with John McCain." Hillary Clinton famously stated, "Senator McCain will bring a lifetime of experience to the campaign and Senator Obama will bring a speech that he gave in 2002. I think that is a significant difference."

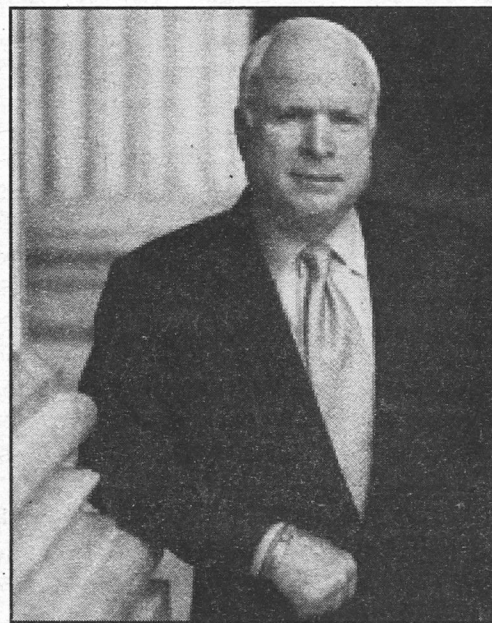
Barack Obama has a history of questionable associations, and as is the case with any president I think it only fair to question those associations. Bill Ayers, a member of the domestic terrorist organization, Weather Underground, is at minimum an associate of Barack Obama. Ayers is a self-confessed communist, and he participated in a series of anti-war bombings in the 60s and 70s. On September 11, 2001, Ayers stated that he had no regrets about his part in the bombings, and wished he had done more with regard to his violent anti-war movement. *Prairie Fire*, the manifesto of the Weather Underground, was written by Bill Ayers, his wife, Bernardine Dohrn, and other members of the Weather Underground. Among others, the manifesto is dedicated to "political prisoner" Sirhan Sirhan.

Sirhan Sirhan assassinated Robert F. Kennedy.

Barack Obama wrote a positive review for Bill Ayers' book, *A Kind and Just Parent: The Children*

of Juvenile Court, and served with him on The Annenberg Challenge Project, which sought to improve education. Ironically, the Weather Underground implored children to, "Bring the revolution home. Kill your parents." Obama not only associated with Ayers professionally, but also socialized with Ayers and his wife, which leads to another of Obama's associations, Rashid Khalidi. In addition to being a distinguished scholar, Rashid Khalidi is a known anti-Semite, and advocate for the PLO, at times speaking on behalf of the organization. Rashid Khalidi and his wife, Mona, held a fund raiser for Obama in 2000. Obama is on record as saying that he enjoyed Khalidi's company, and meals prepared by Khalidi's wife. Barack and Michelle Obama, along with Bill Ayers and Bernardine Dohrn, attended a party for Rashid Khalidi in 2003. In the last few weeks

of the presidential campaign, it was revealed that the LA Times had a tape which showed the events of the now infamous 2003 Khalidi party. When members of the press demanded that the tape be turned over for public consumption, the LA Times referenced an article published in May of this year, which described what was seen on the tape. When pressed further to hand over the tape, the LA Times said they couldn't because they were protecting their source.



Senator John McCain [Associated Press]

When asked about his associations with Ayers and Khalidi, Obama dismissed both by saying that neither Ayers nor Khalidi were advising him on policy decisions. Take

a moment and imagine a world in which John McCain frequently associated and socialized with Eric Robert Rudolph who, in his protest against abortion, bombed abortion clinics, or if McCain had befriended the authors of a book whose dedication included an assassin; imagine, for a moment, that John McCain ate dinner with, and attended parties for, someone that frequently denigrated Africa and her citizens. I doubt that McCain would be given the benefit of the doubt about those associations. One thing is for certain: If John McCain had socialized with a man that had (as Ayers did) bombed the United States Capitol, the Pentagon, the State Department, and the home of a United States Supreme Court Justice, and if McCain had befriended someone actively involved in the denigration of Israel, I wouldn't have voted for such a man.

Without sounding too cliché or token, I have fought against racism whenever I have encountered it. With great earnestness I have tried to learn and be compassionate about the very real tragedies and oppression that African Americans have faced in this country. And, yet, in the course of this election, and in its aftermath, I have been accused of being a racist simply because I supported the man I believe most qualified for the job. I find myself afraid to speak out, and yet convicted to speak up. I find myself wondering how the world would react to a "My President is white again" T-shirt after Obama's term or terms in office have expired, should a white man be elected. In the aftermath of this election I hope that the mistakes of the past will not be repeated in ways that seem different but are ultimately the same.

Where were You?

CSU's Reaction to the 2008 Presidential Election Results

by Denise West

The historic election of 2008 concluded with Barack Obama being elected the first African American President of the United States. While the polls were tallying results, a group of friends and I watched the outcome together, as we had done in previous elections. One friend who is a confident, manly, 32 year old black male silently cried as the final numbers were being tallied. My brother and I sat in jubilation.

One of the primary reasons that I am happy about the results is because my international travels over the last two years revealed that people in other countries are heavily entrenched in US politics. The questions and debates that I fielded from some residents of Jamaica and England actually made me come home and reevaluate and brush up on my political knowledge. So when it was announced that Barack Obama had become President elect I shed a few tears of joy for the future, for the possibilities, and for the people of other countries who were staunch Obama supporters.

This election has pulled out a chair for U.S. citizens of every race. If a person has the desire to serve in any political capacity, then at this time in history our society has opened its arms for CHANGE. I enjoyed seeing the crowds at Grant park in Chicago, and Times Square in New York city primarily due to the fact that those in attendance were of diverse economical, cultural and race backgrounds, which is one of the highlights of Obama's campaign. I was emotionally moved to see people from these diverse backgrounds publically crying with joy for this historical accomplishment.

I had an opportunity to speak with a few people on the Clayton State University campus the day after the election and I was in agreement with some, and also humored by some of their responses:

WHERE WERE YOU WHEN YOU 1ST HEARD THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION RESULTS?



Chevonder: [English Literature Major] I was amongst my peers at Clayton Place Apartments

Wesly: [Biology Major] Sleeping, because I was trying to get over a cold (my brother knocked on the door to tell me the results.)



Audreianna: I was with my sisters!



Jay: [CSU Employee] At home with my son...



Kelvin: [Education Major] Driving home from CSU ... thanks to Dr. Tate.



Gina: [Education Major] At home. My mom called with the results.



Bridgemon: [Political Science Major] At a club.



Naomi: [Education Major] At home with my family.



Huy: [Management Major] At home, glued onto CNN.

WHAT WAS YOUR REACTION TO THE RESULTS?



Chevonder: [English Literature Major] I was so overwhelmed. I started shouting "Obama Ya'll" with the residents of Clayton Place.



Audreianna: Screaming to the top of my lungs - "YAY, Obama is our President. He won."



Jay: [CSU Employee] Very shocked and happy.



Gina: [Education Major] I knew it was going to be Obama.



Bridgemon: [Political Science Major] I can't believe this is real.



Naomi: [Education Major] I was very happy and truly ready for the change Obama is going to bring.



Huy: [Management Major] Content and surprised by the landslide win by Obama.



Gene: [Middle School Education Major & veteran] Exhilaration.

WHAT TASK DO YOU THINK PRESIDENT OBAMA SHOULD HANDLE FIRST?

Wesly: [Biology Major] Economy



Jay: [CSU Employee] Economy



Bridgemon: [Political Science Major] Economy and Healthcare



Huy: [Management Major] The economy and Wall Street



Gene: [Middle School Education Major & veteran] The economy and tax breaks for the middle class

IF YOU WERE A CHILD GROWING UP IN THE WHITEHOUSE WHAT WOULD YOU WANT TO DO FIRST?



Gina: [Education Major] Go explore the Whitehouse!



Bridgemon: [Political Science Major] Carve my name on the wall.



Gene: [Middle School Education Major] Examine all the historical monuments and the past.

WHAT DO YOU THINK THIS ELECTION NOW TELLS THE REST OF THE WORLD ABOUT THE UNITED STATES?



Gene: [Middle School Education Major & veteran] Anyone can rise up from any situation, live an honest life, accomplish any dream, and accomplish anything in America.

WHO DO YOU THINK PRESIDENT ELECT OBAMA SHOULD IMMEDIATELY APPOINT TO HIS CABINET?

Wesly: [Biology Major] Colin Powell



Kelvin: [Education Major] Professor Shirley Mills, CSU education department.



Gene: [Middle School Education Major & veteran] Governor Richardson as Secretary of State, and Colin Powell as Secretary of Defense.

Get Bent

The Bent Tree Vent

We want to know what get's YOU bent! Send your comments and vents to: Vent@thebenttree.org

The views expressed below are not necessarily those of The Bent Tree and we accept no responsibility for the views or opinions expressed below, either directly or indirectly.

DUCK POOP

What is with all the duck poop? I sometimes feel like I am playing a game of "Dodge the Poop" as I walk from the Music Building to the UC. What are you people feeding these birds and how do we get them to go away? Have you seen the geese? They are just down right mean. It seems we have a good case of the survival of the fittest, featuring ... The Humans v/s The Birds.
- *Poop Dodgers*

Which part of don't feed the ducks can't people get. They put in signs.... in CAPITALS!
- *Read it and weep*

SPAM

O.k., I know there have been updates to our e-mail recently (supposedly for the better). But, has anyone else received 1,001 Spam e-mail soliciting funds/help overseas? I never had this problem before the efforts to improve our service. Apparently change is not always good. - *Disappointed Techie*

PARKING

It's like playing musical cars trying to get a parking space. Your only option is to journey to the other side of the lake and hope that a.) you get one and b.) you can survive the perilous trek back to civilization. - *I. B. Tired*

DINING HALL

Please Sir, may I just have some fries. Really, like we have time to sit down and eat all we care to everyday. I just want to run in grab some fries or a slice of pizza and run to class trying not to choke as I scarf them down.
- *On the Run*

Is it me or has the quality of the food degraded since they started mass producing?
- *Dis Satisfied*

There is not much healthy eating done in the Laker Dining Hall unless you're a rabbit and can survive on salads because even the soups look like a heart attack waiting to happen.
- *No Bugs Bunny*

JAZZMAN'S

I am sick and tired of standing in a line of 12 or more people waiting for my

mocha, with 10 minutes or less to get to class. Why do they only have one person cashing and preparing when there are 12 people in line at peak times, but 2-3 working when the place is almost empty?
- *Tired of Waiting*

When this place opened I had high hopes, but seriously they have no pastries that don't pay homage to the sugar deities. Even the banana nut muffins without the sugar top are uber sweet.
- *2 Sweet*

SUB CONNECTION

Having to pay \$1.29 more if I want to make my sandwich a wrap. I doubt wraps cost that much and are they subtracting the cost of the bread I'm not using?
- *Sub Dis-connected*

S.A.C CAFÉ

\$.99 cents for a bag of Doritos?
- *Broke & Hungry*

Caesar Salad, Caesar Wrap... Down with Caesar!!!! Give us more choices!
- *Brutus*

Wrap at Jazzman's \$4.59, wrap at S.A.C Café \$4.99... and what is priceless: you still have to pay \$.50 cents for your salad dressing. - *Dress This*

Soggy sandwiches... ick who puts the mayo on a sandwich, when you don't know when it's gonna be sold?
- *Soggy No More*

THE HUB

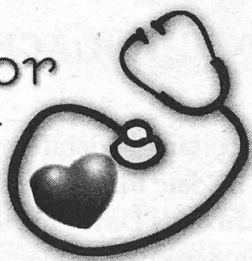
Having to wait 5 hours to hear, "We're sorry your problem can't be fixed."
- *Bad Connection*

Computer technology, minus the Mac!?! I thought this was the year of change.
- *Mac-Less*

SMOKING

Which part of 30 feet away from the building ya'll don't get? This is college, I'm sure ya'll should know how to count. Just cause ya'll into slow suicide don't mean I am.
- *Al B. Breathright*

The Love Doctor



The Love Doctor wants to help: email your questions to: LoveDoctor@thebenttree.org

Dear Love Doctor,
I like this guy but my friends call him a metro sexual and he has a man purse. I'm a pretty laid back girl and I'm more of a jeans and tee kinda person. I'm not sure what I should do, I think he's cool and smart but I'm afraid he won't be into a casual person like me. What should I do?

From Comfy gurl

Dear Comfy gurl,
Try to approach Mr. Metro and ask him to go to Waffle House for some breakfast. This way you can ask leading questions in a public environment and not feel so awkward. Start off with "are you dating anyone?"

Hey Love Doctor
I really dig this chick in my Critical Thinking class, she's got all the answers and makes A's and stuff on all our exams. I like a smart girl but I don't know how to approach her, she real cute too. What you think I should do?

From Back row brotha

Dear Back Row Brotha,
Critical Thinking is quite a challenging class. The first thing I would do is study what an implicit inferential claim is. Speak about it during class. This is sure to catch Ms. Critical's attention. Then try to setup a study session.

Dear Love Doctor,
I've been crushing on this soccer player for months now but he's like so cool and like really handsome. We have a class together and I like always stare at him, I think he might think I'm like stalking him or something. And I just like, like him but not like stalker like him, like he's hot like him. So like what do I do?

From Soccer Fan

Dear Soccer Fan,
Let's start off by not like staring at Mr. Soccer so much. It like really comes across as you being Ms. Stalker. Go to a game and like make up a cheer for him from the stands. If he doesn't respond to you the next day, like it just wasn't meant to be.

Love Doctor,
My boyfriend is a rat but I love him. He makes me so angry, It's like that song Beyonce sang he's always flirting with other girls whenever we go out. I tell him he's disrespecting me but he doesn't get it. He can be the sweetest guy but when we go to the club he turns into Mr. Rat. Should I leave him?

From Rat Tamer

Dear Rat Tamer,
Only you can decided if you want to leave Mr. Rat but I will tell you a couple things. Have you met Mr. Rat's parents? Is Mr. Rat disrespectful towards them. If Mr. Rat is not able to respect you when you go out to the club to shake a tail-feather, he doesn't sound like a winner. Are you willing to live with yourself being disrespected?

CAMPUS ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Dr. Deering Speaks on POST TRAUMATIC DISORDER

by B. Fortier

Dr. Catherine Deering, Professor of Psychology at CSU, was interviewed on August 20, for a new documentary about Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) in war veterans.

Dr. Deering is a clinical psychologist, working with patients of all ages who suffer from various psychological problems. For the last 20 years, she has been working primarily with combat veterans who have Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). 17 of those years, she was at the Atlanta VA Medical Center in Decatur.

One of her former doctoral students, who worked as an intern at the VA, recommended her to be interviewed by, independent film maker, John Clower. Clower, who has worked for over 36 years in broadcasting (at various locations such as Walt Disney, GA Power Co., and Lockheed) was interested in helping vets with PTSD, so he teamed up with long-time activist Reid Jenkins who has been affiliated with Greenpeace, Amnesty International, and the Vets for Peace chapter in Atlanta).

The untitled documentary will soon be completed and presented

to a viewing panel at GPTV for possible airing in the near future.

Dr. Deering feels that it was an honor for her to contribute to this documentary and says, "It is of utmost importance that the public be made aware of what the PTSD symptoms are. Once recognized, treatment can be sought and the healing will begin."

Dr. Deering has discovered PTSD symptoms unique to each war. Some of the veterans of WWII and Korea have had heavily delayed reaction. When these veterans first returned from war, they were met with a grand welcome home; then they fell back into their respective jobs on the farm or in the business world. It wasn't until their retirement, that many of them began to suffer from a flood of repressed memories, which caused severe depression.

Many of the veterans returning from Vietnam were "unwelcome" and became addicted to drugs. The drug use was an unrecognized symptom of PTSD that caused them to self-medicate with alcohol and other substances. This caused a cascading effect that led to job loss, homelessness, and further difficulties with their families, causing chronic PTSD. Dr. Deering sees special

differences between those veterans who had fought in the jungle, as with the Vietnam vets, and those who fought in the desert, such as Desert Storm, Afghanistan, and Iraq. She also notes differences between those who fought using guerilla warfare verses those who fought from a tank. She sees many Iraq and Afghanistan veterans who suffer from head injuries caused by Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) and amputees who would normally not survive the blast but do because of the strength of the body armor.

There had been no diagnosis for PTSD available for these veterans, until the 1980's. Even then, at times, the veterans were misdiagnosed.

Over the years, Dr. Deering has seen a tremendous change in the types of treatments that are now available to war veterans. Psychiatrists currently avoid prescribing anti-anxiety medications because it has been proven to be highly addictive. Antidepressants and psychotherapy are currently the treatments of choice for most

patients. Dr. Deering says, "The [veteran] needs to be allowed to talk about the horrors of their experience and discuss it in detail to someone who they feel is confident enough to be able to tolerate such descriptions."

When asked how she can handle such a tremendous task and responsibility she replies that is possible, "If you're dedicated and work hard at being present

"It is of utmost importance that the public be made aware of what the PTSD symptoms are. Once recognized, treatment can be sought and the healing will begin."

-- it is painful but it's important to heal." Then adds, "And I take care of myself." She has a supportive family and system within the psychology community. She walks her dog every morning, listens to music and meditates.

Dr. Deering urges, "Anyone who might suffer or know of anyone who suffers should seek help immediately because there is help available."

DR. HATFIELD PRESENTS



THE CONSTITUTION AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AT CSU

by B. Fortier

Dr. Gene Hatfield is a CSU professor of History who retired this Summer after contributing 32 years to the University. Dr. Hatfield returned on Monday, September 15, 2008 to address the

campus during "Constitution Week." He shared his thoughts about the celebration during his speech appropriately entitled, "The Constitution and Civic Engagement."

Dr. Hatfield opened his speech by telling his audience, made up of students and professors, that even though it is a difficult time for America, post 9/11, it is critical that we continue to develop together as a strong, healthy nation. To meet this challenge, it is each of our responsibility to engage ourselves with the constitution, on a personal basis, as the "living, breathing document" it was created to be, by our great Founding Fathers.

Dr. Hatfield described West Virginia's Senator Robert C. Byrd's proposal to implement a holiday to recognize the United States' Constitution. Senator Byrd hopes that the holiday will help American students learn how to keep the Constitution inextinguishable in each of their lives and advise them how to apply it toward the betterment of their grand nation. Senator Byrd has also recognized the fact that many Americans are not familiar with the nation's document.

In order to promote a regeneration of patriotism, in light of 9/11, he has proposed a program that would require all Federal Agencies,

receiving Federal funds, to "celebrate the Constitution".

The date that chosen to celebrate the Constitution is September 17, Citizen's Day. This holiday commemorates the day that our Founding Fathers affixed their signatures to the Constitution and submitted it for ratification. Here, at CSU, we join 230 other universities participating in a week long "Celebrate the Constitution" learning fest.

Dr. Hatfield reminded us that, "Our Founding Fathers were made up of young, energetic, experienced, educated men who... believed in a person's natural rights, not to have a monarchy, and to have limited government. This was a radical, new government, existing no where else in the world ... it was written and ratified at a critical period of history." Dr. Hatfield also stated, "It allowed risk-taking of a higher order. No one knew what this new government would be like."

In closing, Dr. Hatfield expressed his hope that even though the United States is currently experiencing tough times, that "this too shall pass." "We have a challenge," he said, "We must nurture the political process and believe again that politics are important. 9/11 reminded us of our interdependence with each other. It is [at] a time like this that we need a stable constitution in order to survive as a nation."

Dr. Hatfield was presented with a framed copy of the original document, the "Instrument of Ratification", executed by Georgia at the ratification convention.

NEW ON CAMPUS

Inside Laker Hall

by B. Carzo

Clayton State University is changing each and every day. One of Clayton's newest additions to its campus is Laker Hall, the university's first residence hall. The 431 bed facility houses CSU's freshmen population and a small number of transfer students and upperclassmen. Laker Hall also offers multiple amenities for student use such as a Game Room, a Theatre Room, and multiple study lounges for educational activities.

The new residence hall has a staff of 17 Resident Assistants that were chosen from over 500 applicants. These Resident Assistants were chosen because of their strong leadership skills. The residence hall itself appears to have much to offer students, but some have criticized it noting flaws that reveal the building's speedy development. One look at any of the stairwells will show large cracks, and a lack of polish due to rushed construction.

The building also lacks some of the amenities that it advertises in flyers and on its website. The "Convenience Store" which is located on the main floor of Laker Hall advertises it will provide midnight snacks and intercontinental breakfast items to students. However, it currently only provides an "Under Construction" sign with the completion time set for Spring Semester 2009. There is also a security station still under construction that is intended to house one of the members of Public Safety once it is completed.



Laker Hall, Clayton State's New Dormitory

Laker Hall is a new construction and is still undergoing multiple changes. With this, there is a certain amount of issues that are to be expected. We as the student body can only hope that these problems will be dealt with in an orderly fashion by the Laker Hall Management and Maintenance teams. Clayton State University is evolving as a school, and it is in the hands of the students, faculty and staff to assist it with this process.

CHOICES: Changes to Dining Services

Students and faculty now have a choice when dining at Clayton State with recent changes to the Lakeside Hall and the addition of Pizza Hut and Sub-Connection.

The Lakeside Dining Hall is now a place where students, faculty, and staff can enjoy an all-you-care-to-eat buffet. On the weekends, a person can enjoy a wide selection of hot foods, fruits, and pastries, during the breakfast and brunch times. Belgian waffles are a recent addition to the menu. The lunch and dinner menu items include a salad bar, brick-oven pizza, sandwiches and wraps, grilled items, the hot line, desserts, and beverages.

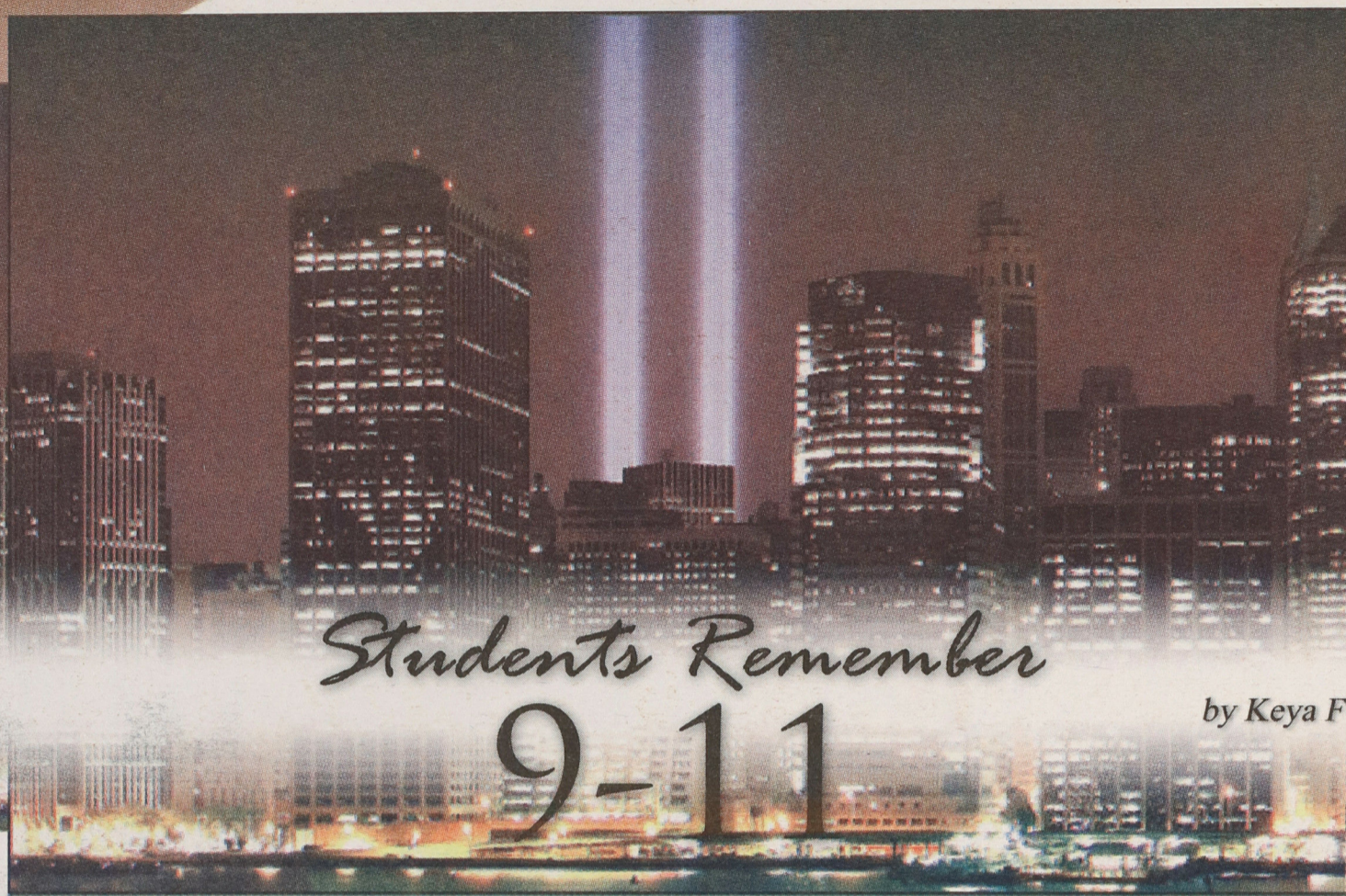
The dining hall offers meal plans for faculty and staff for five dollars or less per visit. Meal plans may be purchased in the Laker Card Center, which is located on the bottom floor of the University Center.

Pizza Hut and Sub Connection are located across from the Hub in the University Center. Their hours of operation are 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Chloe Wynn, a student at Clayton State says, "I'm glad about the change. I just wish it could've been sooner."

For more information about the Lakeside Dining Hall, meal plans, and other dining locations can be found at <http://auxiliaries.clayton.edu/diningservices.htm>.

by Renetta Watson

RECAPS



Students Remember 9-11

by Keya Fulton

Students joined together on the banks of Clayton State University's lake this past September 11 for a candle light vigil to remember those who lost their lives in the tragic events that occurred on that fateful day in 2001.

Students joined together on the banks of Clayton State University's lake this past September 11 for a candle light vigil to remember those who lost their lives in the tragic events that occurred on this same date in 2001.

Uplifting music filled the ears of those at the vigil as they focused on those who were affected most on that horrific day, seven years ago. Although most students were smiling, there was a certain somberness lurking in the air.

The vigil began with the Pledge of Allegiance and was followed by Avis Adams singing a beautiful rendition of the National Anthem. As students talked among themselves, they each recalled their whereabouts at the time the first tower was hit and of how the world as many new it was changed.

Many students felt honored to participate in this remembrance and were glad that so many others had taken time out to join them. This

was the second year the vigil had been put together to remember those who lost their lives on 9/11, and even though there was an intimate turnout, it had grown from the year before.

"I think it's a wonderful thing. I'm glad the school takes the time to pay homage to those who died in 9/11. Every year it gets better," explained Ashley Carlisle, a returning participant.

Sunita Canton was visiting New York when the attack took place and tried to give the students a feel of what the atmosphere was like on that tragic day. Before the vigil ended, everyone lit a candle and bowed their heads in silence for a moment of prayer.

Natalie Gilchrist made a wonderful comment when she said that the vigil was needed because "People should to take a few moments of their time to do nothing else but cherish life."

The CEC presents:

Poetic License



by Christie Jarrett

Clayton State's Campus Events Council presented Poetic License, a night that featured spoken-word poetry. The event took place on Wednesday, September 24, 2008 in the Student Activities Center Café.

"I always go to Apache, a cafe in Midtown, and it's cool that we tried something like this here," says Tamika Riggs, an audience member.

Poetry Night was a neo-soul, jam session for all Clayton State students and faculty. The event was the first of its kind that allowed students and faculty to showcase their personal poems.

Later in the evening, "Georgia Me", a professional poet and Atlanta native, lyrically

blessed the audience. She has been a regular talent on the cable television show "Russell Simmons Presents Def Poetry".

"We chose the name 'Poetic License', because it means 'a license to express oneself,'" says Nikita Haynie, a Special Events coordinator for the Campus Events Council.

The Campus Events Council is a programming board that develops educational, traditional and cultural events for the benefit of the student body.

"Although this is the first Poetic License Event, we hope to do this twice a semester ... There

were 10 students signed up to perform before the show," Haynie says, "hopefully once the audience sees the environment, that may spark [more people] to sign up."

The student body embraced the diverse culture on campus for Poetry Night. "This was better than I expected; I would come out again", says, Charlene Summers, a Junior at CSU and a member of the audience.

If you would like to recite poetry or have ideas on future events, contact Nikita Haynie at nkitaHaynie@mail.clayton.edu.

CULTURAL DANCE SERIES

presents

Salsa

by Nikita Haynie

Getting involved on campus is a significant part of the college experience; therefore, it is not surprising that students want to support the Campus Events Council and their activities.

The Campus Events Council is a student programming board that coordinates cultural, educational, and social events for the Clayton State University student body. The purpose of the Campus Events Council is to provide new and exciting events, while enhancing the quality of entertainment and activities. The council is broken into a variety of committees, one of which is the Cultural Awareness Committee.

The Cultural Awareness Committee provides the campus with a variety of events. The direct goal of the Committee is to promote diversity and awareness of other cultures, ethnic groups, and lifestyles.

This year the committee implemented its first

"Cultural Dance Series." The Cultural Dance Series is geared to teach the student body about different dances from around the world.

On September 17, 2008, the committee's first series took place in the new Student Activities Center. The session was a lesson in salsa dancing with over 50 students in attendance.

When asked why she chose a dance series, Devin Draggs, the Secretary and Cultural Awareness Chair, stated, "I wanted to bring something that could promote diversity for our campus. Clayton State is changing rapidly and becoming more diverse so I figured a dance series would be fun and exciting."

Students and faculty of Clayton State can look forward to a Cultural Dance Series every month in which there will be a different dance lesson to learn.



STUDENTS READ at JAVA MONKEY

by Frances Adame

On Sunday, November 2, 12 Clayton State students from Dr. Byrd's classes participated in the open mic poetry reading at Java Monkey in Decatur. In addition, Dr. Byrd closed out the show with some of her new poetry.

Every Sunday night at 8 p.m. Java Monkey hosts poetry readings. Most Sundays they have an open mic, except on the second Sunday of every month when they host a Poetry Slam in which contestants win cash prizes and the chance to participate in other poetry slams. Kodac Harrison, the next participant of Clayton State's Visiting Writers Reading Series, is the emcee at Java Monkey.

When the students arrived just after 7 p.m., they found that the list of readers was filling up quickly. At the start of the reading over 40 people were signed up, enough people to break the record for the most people to read in one night. However by 10:30 a few people had gotten too restless and left, leaving the audience with a tie for the record.

The feature poet was of Cuban descent, a

spoken word performer from Jacksonville, Florida, who performed five pieces for the audience. Each piece kept the audience members on the edge of their seats waiting for the next word. He used many images and some humor in addition to his performance techniques in order to captivate his audience.

The ten students from Byrd's Advanced Poetry class who read their well-written poems were Frances Adame, Kristina Bjorn, Timberly Brayboy, Tiara Ford, Christopher Jackson, Levi Jelks, Jason Joiner, Jennifer Navarre, Nyisha Nelson and Jasmine Sherrard.

Two other Clayton State students joined in on the fun too, John Koryan and Tim Hand. Other Clayton State students and faculty who came to support include Yemi Burdette, Dr. Joe Johnson, Dr. Elliot Krop, Stephanie Reid, Tristan Santiago and Dr. LaJuan Simpson.

It was a fun-filled night for both the audience and the participants, alike.



S P R T S

CLAYTON STATE WOMEN Rout Southern Polytechnic State 89-57 in Preseason Exhibition

Jennings paces 23rd-ranked Lakers with 17 points

by Lee Wright

NOVEMBER 11, 2008 – MORROW, GA – If Tuesday was any indication, the Clayton State Laker women's basketball team is a little ahead of the curve as the 2008-09 season is on the horizon.

Playing host to visiting Southern Polytechnic State in a preseason exhibition, the 23rd-ranked Lakers had five players reach double-figures in scoring in route to a rather easy 89-57 rout at the Athletics and Fitness Center. This is the first and only preseason exhibition for Clayton State prior to the start of the regular season this weekend.

Clayton State's full-court pressure proved to be a nightmare for the Hornets, holding Southern Polytechnic State to only 21 percent shooting from the field for the game and only a mere nine percent from 3-point range.

It was the Laker bench that provided the early spark as Clayton State wiped out a 3-point Hornet lead with a 21-4 run. Jene'e Jemison scored six points during the rally and Tanisha Woodard scored five points. Woodard's lay-up at the 11:29 mark gave the Lakers a 21-11 lead.

Southern Polytechnic State trimmed the lead to 10 points on a jump shot by Tiffany Scales with 8:17 remaining, but Clayton State answered with a 10-0 run. Dominique Jennings converted a 3-point play and then drained a 3-point basket to give the Lakers their largest lead of the first half, 37-17 with 6:36 remaining.

Clayton State's hounding defensive pressure limited Southern Polytechnic State to only five field goals in the second half and 16 percent shooting from the field. Meanwhile, the Lakers turned up the offensive intensity. They stretched a 15-point halftime lead to 27 points in the first eight minutes.

Marie St. Fort began the assault with a 3-point basket, followed by two straight lay-ups by Lisa Jackson. A jump shot by Nikkisha Pritchett as the shot clock expired gave Clayton State a commanding 63-36 lead with 12:49 remaining.

Down the stretch, Clayton State out-scored Southern Polytechnic State 15-3.

Jennings paced a balanced Laker attack with 17 points, followed closely by St. Fort with 15 points. Pritchett scored 13 points, while Jemison scored 12 points on a perfect 5-for-5 shooting from the field. Jackson added 11 points for Clayton State.

For Southern Polytechnic State, Crystal Davis scored 12 points, while Scales scored 11 points and Ray Donee' Jones, LaKiedra Harvey each scored 10 points

Clayton State officially opens the 2008-09 season this weekend in the Marriot Tip-Off Classic at Nova Southeastern.

CLAYTON STATE 89, SOUTHERN POLYTECHNIC STATE 57

SOUTHERN POLYTECHNIC STATE -- 31 26 57

Davis, Crystal 2-9 8-9 12
Randolph, Catrina 0-2 4-4 4
Morgan, Aurielle 0-1 0-0 0

Scales, Tiffany 3-9 4-6 11
Hanks, Chalescia 0-4 3-6 3
Henderson, Mar'Keisa 1-4 0-0 2

Jones, Ray Donee' 3-14 4-4 10
Parks, Dione 1-8 0-1 3
Walker, Jashawna 0-1 0-0 0

Harvey, LaKiedra 3-11 4-6 10
Harris, Akennia 1-3 0-0 2

Totals 14-66 27-36 57.

3-Point Goals [Southern Polytechnic State 2-22 (Scales, Tiffany 1-3; Parks, Dione 1-5; Jones, Ray Donee' 0-7; Randolph, Catrina 0-1; Harris, Akennia 0-1; Walker, Jashawna 0-1; Morgan, Aurielle 0-1; Harvey, LaKiedra 0-3)]

Fouled out [Randolph, Catrina]
Total Fouls [24]
Technical Fouls [None]

Rebounds [Southern Polytechnic State 43 (Davis, Crystal 8)]
Assists [Southern Polytechnic State 9 (Scales, Tiffany 3)]

CLAYTON STATE -- 46 43 89

Jennings, Dominique 5-12 5-7 17
Jackson, Lisa 4-6 3-8 11
Hall, Brittany 0-1 2-2 2

St. Fort, Marie 6-9 2-2 15
Hardeman, Shanrika 2-8 4-4 8
Stevens, Lesheria 1-2 0-0 2

Pritchett, Nikkisha 5-9 2-2 13
Woodard, Tanisha 2-7 1-2 5

Jemison, Jene'e 5-5 2-3 12
Brockington, Alex 1-6 2-2 4

Totals 31-65 23-32 89.

3-Point Goals [Clayton State 4-12 (Jennings, Dominique 2-5; Pritchett, Nikkisha 1-1; St. Fort, Marie 1-3; Brockington, Alex 0-2; Hall, Brittany 0-1).]

Fouled out [None]
Total Fouls [Clayton State 26]
Technical Fouls [None]

Rebounds [Clayton State 56 (Hardeman, Shanrika 8; St. Fort, Marie 8)]
Assists [Clayton State 21 (Woodard, Tanisha 4; Pritchett, Nikkisha 4)]

CLAYTON STATE'S POWELL AND TAMILOLA SELECTED ALL-PEACH BELT CONFERENCE FOR WOMEN'S SOCCER

by Lee Wright

CLAYTON STATE'S POWELL, TAMILOLA SELECTED ALL-PEACH BELT CONFERENCE FOR WOMEN'S SOCCER LAKER DUO WERE BOTH FOUR-YEAR STARTERS

NOVEMBER 7, 2008 – MORROW, GA– There wasn't a lot of positive moments this 2008 season for the Clayton State Laker women's soccer team, but of the few, one took place on Friday.

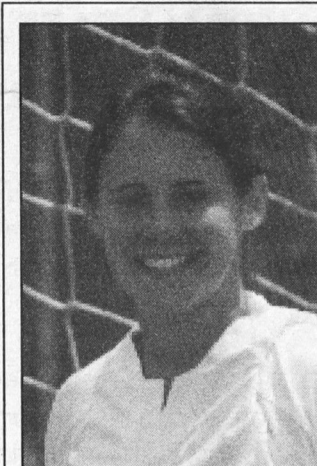
The Peach Belt Conference released its 2008 All-Peach Belt Conference team and the Lakers had two representatives get selected. Midfielder Jennifer Powell and defender Bose Tanimola were both selected second team All-Peach Belt Conference for Clayton State.

This is the second All-Peach Belt Conference selection for Powell, a senior from Rincon, Ga. She was also an All-Peach Belt selection as a freshman in the 2005 season. This

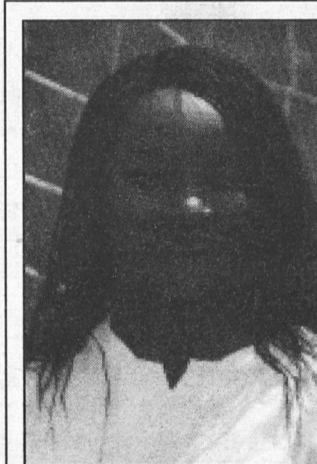
season, Powell became the anchor of the Laker midfield with two goals and three for seven points, ranking her third on the team in scoring.

For her career, Powell played 65 games, starting all but three.

Durability is the best way to describe Tanimola, a senior from Kigo-State, Nigeria. She started 15 games this season on the Clayton State defensive backbone, serving as the defensive leader most of the time. For her career, Tanimola started every game (68), including the first 56 straight games.



Jennifer Powell



Tanimola Bose

CLAYTON STATE MEN Play Host to Martinique Golden Star in First Preseason Exhibition - First of 2 Preseason Exhibition Games for Lakers prior to 2008-09 Season

NOVEMBER 6, 2008 – MORROW, GA – Clayton State men's head basketball coach Gordon Gibbons first visited the French Caribbean Island of Martinique in the summer of 1985 when he took an Under-15 American traveling team on a trip there.

It was a culture shock. There was no true gymnasium on the island, and soccer was head-over-heels the big sport in Martinique at the time.

However, as the old saying goes – "how times have changed."

"It's grown and you can feel the interest in basketball there," said Gibbons, who has had an association with basketball in Martinique over the last 22 years. "The sport has become extremely popular on the island."

Martinique will have a chance to show how far it's come on the hardwood when its top club organization – the Golden Star – squares off against Clayton State in a preseason exhibition on Friday night at 7:30 p.m. at the Athletics and Fitness Center. It will be the conclusion of a week-long tour for the Golden Star against area collegiate programs and prep schools.

It's also the first preseason contest of the 2008-09 season for Gibbons' Lakers. Clayton State is coming off a thrilling 19-15 season last season, winning its first Peach Belt Conference Tournament championship and advancing to the NCAA Division II "Sweet 16" for the first time in program history.

The season-ending momentum has carried over into the preseason, as Clayton State is ranked nationally in two preseason polls. The Lakers are ranked 20th in the Division II Basketball Times Top 20, and 22nd in the Division II Bulletin preseason Top 25. In addition, Clayton State has been picked third in the 11-team race in the Peach Belt Conference preseason poll.

Gibbons has had a long relationship with the Golden Star Club, located in the Martinique capital city of Fort-de-France. In addition to the American tour for the Golden Star Senior Men's team to the Atlanta area, he also runs a camp for the Martinique juniors during the summer both at Clayton State and in Fort-de-France.

In the last 17 years, three Golden Star players have been signed by Gibbons at both Clayton State and Florida Southern.

"The Golden Star organization is managed by an outstanding group that's made an impact on the lives of many young men and women," said Gibbons. "My association with the club has been a highlight of my career."

After Friday's contest, the Lakers will play another exhibition next Friday against Baseline USA, followed by the official start to the regular season on Nov. 20 at home against in-state rival West Georgia.

CLAYTON STATE ranked 23rd in USA Today/ESPN Division II Preseason Top 25 Coach's Poll
Lakers 1 of 2 Peach Belt Conference teams ranked in Preseason

NOVEMBER 5, 2008 – MORROW, GA – What is starting to become an annual event, the Clayton State Laker women's basketball team is once again getting national preseason attention.

After being ranked 21st in the Division II Preseason Top 25 for women's basketball last month, Clayton State is ranked 23rd in the USA Today/ESPN Division II Top 25 Coach's Poll, which was released on Wednesday. This marks the second straight season that Clayton State has been ranked in the Division II preseason Top 25 Coach's Poll.

Clayton State and head coach Dennis Cox is coming off a 2007-08 season in which the Lakers went 20-11 overall with a third Peach Belt Conference regular season championship in the last four seasons. In addition, the Lakers earned their fourth straight NCAA Division II National Tournament berth, advancing to the "Sweet 16."

"Obviously, we have not achieved anything this season," said Cox, who is 99-30 in four seasons at Clayton State. "However, it is a great honor to be mentioned in the preseason with other elite programs in the country. It is also noteworthy that there are two other ranked teams that appear on our schedule this year.

"It certainly gives us motivation, as we try to prove ourselves worthy of this recognition."

Clayton State is one of two Peach Belt Conference teams ranked in the Division II preseason Top 25. USC Aiken is ranked 21st, while another Laker opponent for this season – Wingate – is tied for 13th, respectively.

The Lakers return three starters and seven letterwinners from last season. Clayton State opens the 2008-09 season on Nov. 15 against Barry in the Marriot Tip-Off Classic at Nova Southeastern.

USA Today ESPN Division II Top 25 Coaches Poll

USA TODAY ESPN Division II Top 25 women's basketball poll, with first-place votes to the right, total points based on 25 points for first place through one point for 25th.

Rank	Institution – First Place Votes	Last Year's Final Rank	Last Year's Final Record	Points
1.	Northern Kentucky University (22)	1	28-8	625
2.	California University of Pennsylvania (1)	8	27-7	541
3.	Washburn University (Kan.)	5	26-7	506
4.	Franklin Pierce University (N.H.)	6	27-5	494
5.	University of Alaska Anchorage	4	30-5	479
6.	West Texas A&M University (3)	18	26-5	474
7.	Drury University (MO)	11	27-3	405
8.	Stonehill College (Mass.)	13	27-5	402
9.	Delta State University (Miss.)	3	33-1	376
10.	Holy Family University (PA)	9	32-1	335
11.	Indiana University of Pennsylvania	23	27-5	334
12.	Michigan Technological University	NR	23-8	298
t13.	Tusculum College (TN)	NR	26-5	280
t13.	Wingate University (NC)	10	26-8	280
t15.	Arkansas Tech University	16	26-6	223
t15.	Emporia State University (Kan.)	22	23-8	223
17.	Hillside College (MI)	NR	23-5	196
18.	University of West Georgia	NR	25-5	193
19.	University of Central Oklahoma	NR	24-8	185
20.	University of South Carolina, Aiken	NR	20-8	158
21.	Augustana College (SD)	NR	22-9	149
22.	Seattle Pacific (Wash.)	7	29-1	120
23.	CLAYTON STATE UNIVERSITY (GA)	24	20-11	104
24.	Anderson University (SC)	19	28-4	93
25.	University of Nebraska, Kearney	NR	27-7	85

Others Receiving Votes: Minnesota State University, Mankato - 83; Nova Southeastern University (Fla.) - 81; University of South Dakota, Vermillion - 72; California State University, Chico - 64; Fort Lewis College (Colo.) - 63; Shaw University (N.C.) - 55; Valdosta State University (Ga.) - 50; Lake Superior State University (Mich.) - 35; Concordia University (Minn.) - 29; Johnson C. Smith University (N.C.) - 27; Millersville University of Pennsylvania - 22; Northwood University (Mich.) - 22; Shepherd University (W.Va.) - 22; Assumption College (Mass.) - 21; Fairmont State University (W. Va.) - 21; Kentucky State University - 20; Saint Mary's University (Texas) - 18; University of Indianapolis (Ind.) - 18; Rollins College (Fla.) - 17; University of District of Columbia - 17; Fort Valley State University (Ga.) - 14; Texas A&M University-Commerce - 14; Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania - 11; Bentley College (Mass.) - 8; Francis Marion University (S.C.) - 8; College of Saint Rose (N.Y.) - 7; Ashland University (Ohio) - 6; Fayetteville State University (N.C.) - 6; Sonoma State University (Calif.) - 6; West Virginia Wesleyan - 6; Quincy University (Ill.) - 5; Gannon University (Penn.) - 4; Carson-Newman College (Tenn.) - 3; Dominican College (N.Y.) - 3; Abilene Christian University (Texas) - 2; Colorado State University, Pueblo - 2; Barry University (Fla.) - 1; Northwest Missouri State University - 1.

CLAYTON STATE 'S FREDERICKS Selected Peach Belt Conference Freshman of the Year for Men's Soccer - Lakers place 5 total on All-Peach Belt Conference

NOVEMBER 7, 2008 – MORROW, GA – For the second straight season, the Freshman of the Year in men's soccer for the Peach Belt Conference will be at Clayton State. Last season, the award went to Jamal Geathers. This season, it's going to Leighton Fredericks.

Fredericks was recognized on Friday as the Peach Belt Conference released its postseason awards for men's soccer, not to mention the 2008 All-Peach Belt Conference team. All totaled, Clayton State, which went 9-5-4 overall and 3-0-3 in the Peach Belt, placed five on the All-Conference squad.

Senior midfielder Johnny Lara was a first team selection for All-Peach Belt Conference for the Lakers, while Fredericks, junior midfielder Kyle Timm, junior defender Patrick Ahern and freshman forward Matty Phillips were each second team All-Peach Belt selections.

Fredericks almost immediately became Clayton State's top scoring threat, and he was at his best in the clutch. The forward from Johannesburg, South Africa is currently leading the Peach Belt Conference in scoring with 13 goals and is second in points scored with 27.

However, Fredericks also leads the Peach Belt in game-winning goals with five. Three of those game-winners came in overtime.

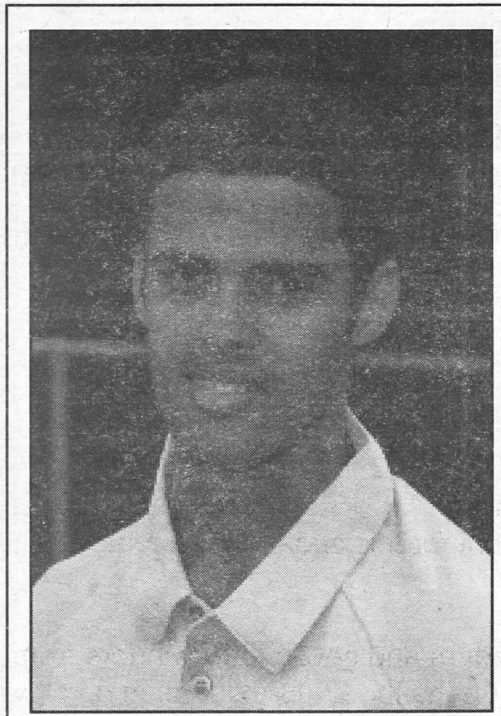
Lara's selection is almost unprecedented in that he becomes only the second player ever at Clayton State to earn All-Peach Belt Conference honors three years. Lara, from Lilburn, Ga., was also selected All-Peach Belt in both 2005 and 2006, and he joins former Laker goalkeeper great Warren van der Westhuizen as Clayton State's only three-time All-Peach Belt selections.

Lara finished the season with three goals and one assist for seven points, tying him for fifth on the team in scoring. For his career, Lara played in 74 games in a Laker uniform, tying him for third all-time at Clayton State.

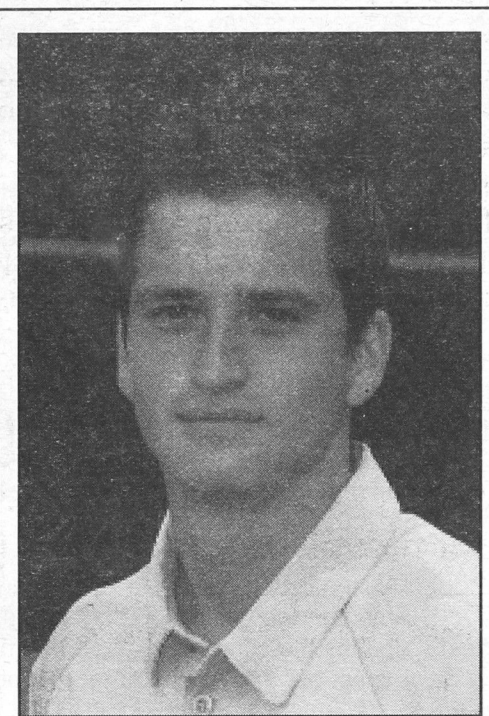
Timm, a junior from Johannesburg, South Africa, became the glue offensively for the Clayton State offensive attack. A former NJCAA first-team All-American at Tyler (Tex.) Junior College, Timm scored one goal with four assists for six points this season.

Ahern, from Duluth, Ga., became the main backbone to the Laker defense after transferring to Clayton State from Division I Memphis. He played in 15 games, starting the last 12 on the season, scoring two goals with three assists for seven points. Both of his goals came late in games and were game-tying goals in the process.

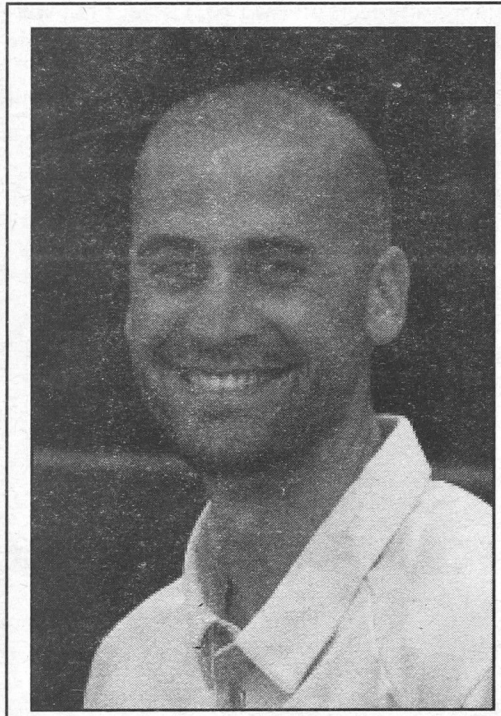
Phillips, from Swindon, England, developed into Clayton State's playmaker on the wing this season. He is currently tied for the Peach Belt Conference lead in assists with 10, becoming the fifth player in Clayton State history to have double-digit assist totals in a season.



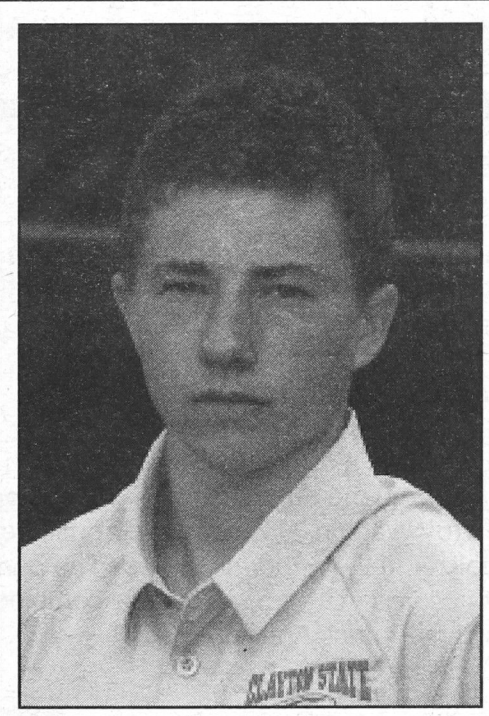
Leighton Fredericks



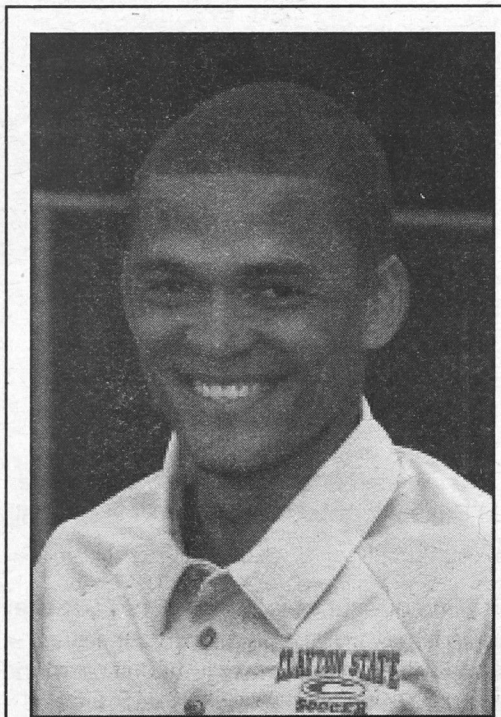
Johnny Lara



Patrick Ahern



Matty Phillips



Kyle Timm

CLAYTON STATE RUNNERS vie for Trip to NCAA Division II Championship Meet

NOVEMBER 5, 2008 – MORROW, GA – The Clayton State Laker men's cross country team will be among the top teams battling this Saturday for one of two qualifying spots to advance to the NCAA Division II Cross Country Championships later this month. The Lakers, along with Allison Kreutzer and Chelsea Ellis, will travel to Wingate to compete in the NCAA Division II Southeast Regional meet.

The men's team will be seeking to return to the national meet since its first appearance in 2005. It was also in 2005 that Kreutzer last ran at the Division II cross country championship meet in which she finished 11th.

Unlike in 2005 when they won the Peach Belt Conference title, this year's Clayton State team must get past Columbus State, which won its third straight PBC title two weeks ago, while Queens University is the pre-meet favorite. Meantime, the Laker women's team will not send a full squad to the region meet for the second straight year after a disappointing eighth place finish at the conference meet.

Instead, Kreutzer will be seeking her first region title to cap a stellar career and extend her unbeaten streak to seven meets, while Ellis looks to improve her finish at region from a year ago.

"Our men's season comes down to the region meet on Saturday," said Laker head coach Mike Mead. "These guys have worked hard throughout the season. They've put together our best season record of 36-4, but three of those defeats have come against Columbus State. The only edge we have going into Saturday is that we have run on this course and Columbus State has not.

"But it's going to come down to who wants to go to nationals bad enough."

Clayton State has been led throughout most of the season by sophomore newcomer Fidelis Mutiso of Nairobi, Kenya, who was named four times as the Peach Belt "Runner of the Week." But an ankle sprain a week before the conference meet took him out of the running for the meet's individual title. Meantime, sophomore Joey Chino from Eudora, Kan., stepped up to lead the Lakers at the muddy conference meet with a second place finish and his second All-PBC honor.

It will come down to the Lakers veterans in seniors Anthony Aguilar and Au

Nguyen, along with sophomore Walid Berkhedle, the 2007 PBC "Runner of the Year" to secure Clayton State's standing for a trip to the national meet.

Aguilar, from Glendale, Ari., was the top Laker in the season-opening meet and a steady No. 2 team finisher throughout most of the season. Nguyen, from Mesa, Ari., has been the Lakers' No. 5 finisher most of the season and set a career-best in the 8K back in September, while also the current 10,000m team record holder on the track; the latter distance that will be run at region and nationals. Berkhedle, from Scarborough, Ontario, has made steady progress after a slow start to the season, finishing fifth at the recent Peach Belt meet.

"Our Top five are as solid as we have ever had," Mead said. "And Jarrid Casimir has been showing tremendous improvement in the past month that gives us a strong six."

Casimir, a sophomore from Auburn, Ga. and Cesar Valdovino, a sophomore from Bell Gardens, Calif., will make up the remaining Top 7 who will represent Clayton State on Saturday.

Kreutzer will enter the meet as the one to beat for the individual region title. The Lilburn, Ga. senior will be seeking her first region title after finishing runner-up her freshman year in 2004 when Clayton State competed in the South Region. The two-time Division II cross country All-American will also be seeking her 16th career cross country title and her third trip to the national meet.

She may also be hard to beat on the Wingate course since she has never lost a race in four previous meets. Ellis, a sophomore from Port St. Lucie, Fla., will run in her second region meet after being the lone representative for the team in 2007.

"Allison is in top form and owns this course since she has run on it more than any other one in her career," Mead said. "Chelsea has had a good season up until the conference meet and needs to end the season on a good note. I expect her and Allison to represent us well."

Saturday's region championship will begin with the men's 10K race at 9:30 a.m. on Wingate campus course, followed with the women's 6K race at 10:30 a.m. Those teams and individuals who qualify for the national meet compete at Slippery Rock, Pa. on November 22.

Penalty kicks Advances USC Aiken past Clayton State Men in Peach Belt Conference Tournament Fredericks, Kalinov each score goals as Lakers conclude Season 9-5-4

NOVEMBER 4, 2008 – MORROW, GA – Overtime has been the name of the game this season for the Clayton State Laker men's soccer, and that was the case again in the first round of the Peach Belt Conference Tournament on Tuesday.

Playing host to rival USC Aiken, Clayton State went into overtime for a ninth time this season, and battled the visiting Pacers to a 2-2 tie. However, USC Aiken won 4-2 in penalty kicks and will advance to the upcoming Peach Belt Conference semifinals. It is the second time

in the last three seasons that USC Aiken has eliminated Clayton State in the Peach Belt Conference Tournament.

Clayton State's season concludes at 9-5-4. The Lakers had to overcome an early deficit as USC Aiken (5-10-1) took a 1-0 lead in the 24th minute on a goal from the right side of the penalty box by Troy Watson. However, the Lakers got the equalizer in the 42nd minute as Leighton Fredericks scored in traffic in front of the goal off an assist by Patrick Ahern.

Early in the second half, the Lakers took a 2-1 lead on a goal by Angel Kalinov in the 46th minute. But USC Aiken answered in the 50th minute, this time on a goal in traffic by John Lesko.

Clayton State goalkeeper David Cristofoli recorded three saves, while USC Aiken goalkeeper Milad Zareian recorded six saves. The game featured seven yellow cards and a combined 29 fouls.

COLUMBUS STATE blanks CLAYTON STATE women 4-0 in Peach Belt Tournament

NOVEMBER 4, 2008 – COLUMBUS, GA – Three early goals in the first half was all the Columbus State Cougars needed on Tuesday as they cruised to a 4-0 victory over the Clayton State Lakers in the first round of the 2008 Peach Belt Conference Women's Soccer Tournament at the Walden Complex.

The defeat ends Clayton State's season 1-14-2.

It is the most defeats ever in a season for a Laker women's soccer team.

Columbus State (17-3-1) took control in the game's fourth minute as Jessica Woodson scored on an assist by Gina Goforth. The Cougars then scored in the 15th and 16th minutes as Goforth scored both goals on assists by Kassy Bolvin and Kim Gaughan.

The Cougars got their final goal in the 71st minute as Melinda Bush scored unassisted on a loose ball in front of the net.

Columbus State out-shot Clayton State 26-3. Laker goalkeeper Whitney Jowers recorded four saves. Clayton State will now wait a week for its first round match-up in the Peach Belt Conference Tournament.

Homecoming

This years Homecoming Week was a whirlwind of Events and Fun. This year's theme was "Welcome Home." Here is a photo recap from some of this year's memorable events:



Surprisingly, there were many candidates in the race for Homecoming King and Queen 2008. Mmm... I love these events, so much free candy.



And of course, what is Homecoming without a great Pep rally with a colorful and intriguing golf cart float parade, flying cheerleaders (its a Bird! its a Plane! nope its Super Cheerleader..Brava!), Dancing Laker Girls, Our Amazing Athletes(GO LAKERS!), Loch (our mascot) hugging Dr.Manglitz and Loch(still our mascot) high fiving Dr.Haynes ...



The Comedy Show hosted by Mia Jackson and featuring comedians Deon Cole(was that really cranberry juice?), Nema Williams (the mic stand says, "You haven't called Mr.Nema..tsk, tsk") was well attended and Laugh out Loud Funny. If you missed it, go on bended knee to CEC (Campus Events Council) and promise to read all your Student Info emails if they will bring them back. Or, just ask someone who went about "Bubbles" ..lol.



They Came, They Stepped, Then Stepped some more. The Fall 2008 Greek Step show was an interesting interlude for many. Participants were: Alpha Phi Alpha, Alpha Kappa Alpha, Kappa Alpha Psi, Delta Sigma Theta, Phi Beta Sigma, and Zeta Phi Beta. The Deltas performed Death Becomes Her and The AKAs revised "The Greatest Show on Earth." The Alphas remembered Upper Classmen (We saw you Mr. Dickerson.). The Sigmas stepped High, while The Zetas kept on stepping despite a slight shoe loss. And of course the Kappas got their shimmy on (I heard the stage had a "cig" after), while the Laker Girls did their thing. The Winners were: Alpha Phi Alpha and Zeta Phi Beta (Congratulations!)



You Voted! Whether supporting friends or being gently convinced (* hiding the candy wrapper*) your vote counted and here are the results ... your 2008-2009 King and Queen.

Michael Ivie Homecoming King 2007, Antavious Thompson Homecoming King 2008 sponsored Alpha Phi Alpha, Melissa Tyson Homecoming Queen2008 sponsored by Alpha Kappa Alpha, Takeeia Williams. Homecoming Queen 2007.The Queens flowers were provided by Connors Florist and Gifts located on Lake Harbin Rd Morrow.

HOROSCOPE

AQUARIUS JAN 20 - FEB 18



This has been a difficult season for you. It is time to face the facts. Stop avoiding the questions and look deep within yourself for the answers. Don't repeat past mistakes; learn from them. It is only natural to get a bit discouraged in times of turmoil, but something you do with the right people is crucial to getting you through these difficult times.

PISCES FEB 19 - MAR 20



New opportunities are coming your way. Just be sure you are up for the task. Don't let previous mistakes hold you back. Don't be afraid to take a chance. You have plenty of resources available to you. USE them. When all else fails, phone a friend. Sometimes they are the best resources you have. Change can be scary, but it can also be rewarding.

ARIES MAR 21 - APR 19



This is a hectic season for you, but you are up for the challenge. Being your resourceful self, you find a way to work through things successfully, in spite of the odds. The rewards for you will be great this semester. Hang in there. Don't let others get you off track. The answers will reveal themselves to you, soon. It will all be worth it in the end.

TAURUS APR 20 - MAY 20



Look forward to positive change in your life, but don't expect this transition to be easy. It is not uncommon for others to mistake your efforts for something other than what they truly are. Don't sweat the small stuff, just take it all in stride. These misunderstandings will work themselves out in the end. Be patient. Watch and wait. The solution is closer than you think.

GEMINI MAY 21 - JUN 21



It is time for action. You have seen the signs and now it is time for you to face reality. Be open to the opportunities that are coming your way. Relieve yourself of any and everything that has been holding you back. Embrace the reality that you are capable of both happiness and success. Don't let nerves keep you from doing what you know you were meant to do. You have the ability to achieve greatness.

CANCER JUN 22 - JUL 22



Your student's side has shined this semester, but this may have caused you to isolate some important figures in your life. While this may initially cause relational problems, they will be resolved soon. Learn not only through your actions, but also through the actions of others. This is the time to let true friendships shine.

LEO JUL 23 - AUG 22



Patience is the key for you this month. Although things have been tight this semester, both at home and at school, your winning spirit will help you to weather the storm. Be careful not to get overly emotional. You must maintain a calm perspective in order to overcome your current difficulties. Relief is on its way.

VIRGO AUG 23 - SEP 22



Listen to the voices within and around you to provide you with the answers that you have been searching for. But remember that true objectivity is rare. While this semester has been a transitional time for you, things have not come as easily as they have in the past. Beware, this may be the trend for awhile. Learn from your mistakes. Make time for reflection.

LIBRA SEP 23 - OCT 22



The clouds are finally lifting and your future is staring you in the face. Don't let small setbacks get in your way. These setbacks will only allow you to more easily access your inner self and to obtain your goals. Express your thoughts and ideas with others. You will be highly valued and appreciated by those willing to listen.

SCORPIO OCT 23 - NOV 21



Don't be afraid to deviate from the norm this semester and look at things from a fresh perspective. It is o.k. to be confused, but be careful not to become complacent. You have the power to make a difference. Use your energy productively. Old habits die hard. Don't let them get the best of you.

SAGITTARIUS NOV 22 - DEC 21



The task at hand is great, but you are up for the challenge. While you are in tune with yourself, you may have unknowingly isolated others this semester. It is not too late to make amends, but do not sacrifice too much, for too little. Take a look at the big picture and coordinate your actions appropriately. Proceed with caution.

CAPRICORN DEC 22 - JAN 19

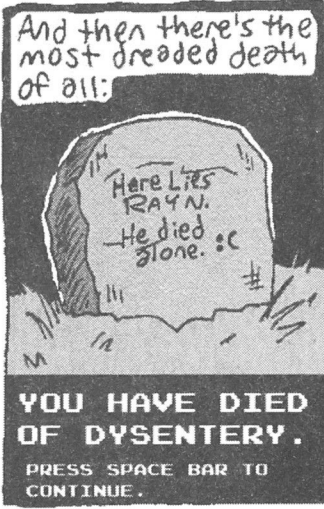
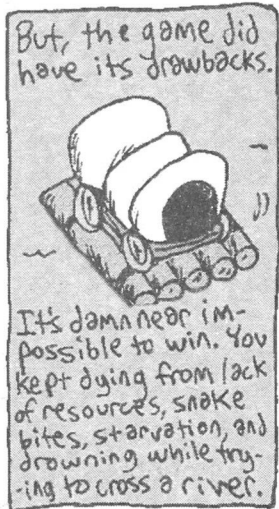
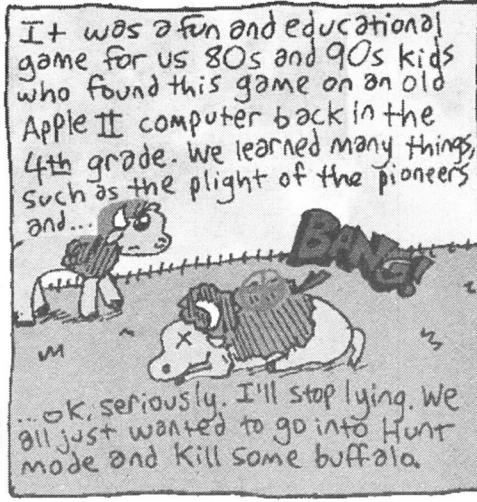
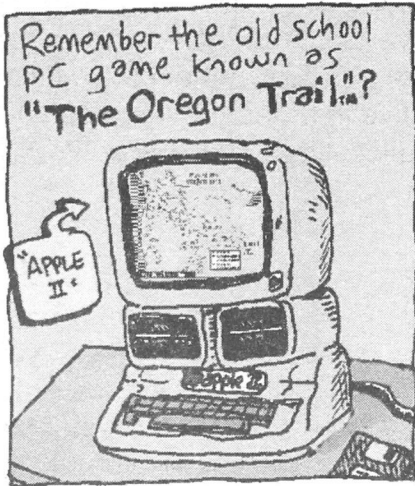


There are surprises in store for you this semester. Be sure to align yourself with others on the same path. This is a wonderful time of learning for you, but be careful not to become overwhelmed. You are used to helping others, but not use to accepting their help. Let others lighten your load a little. Don't forget to take care of yourself.

Cartoons

#002 - "THE OREGON TRAIL"

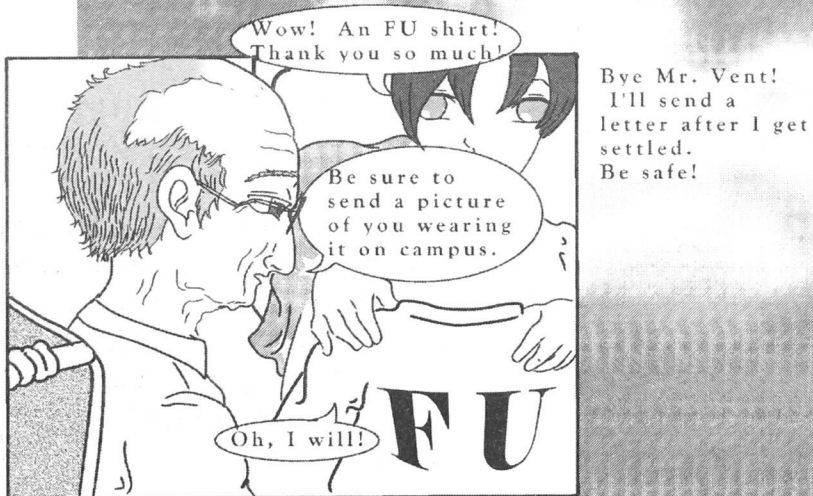
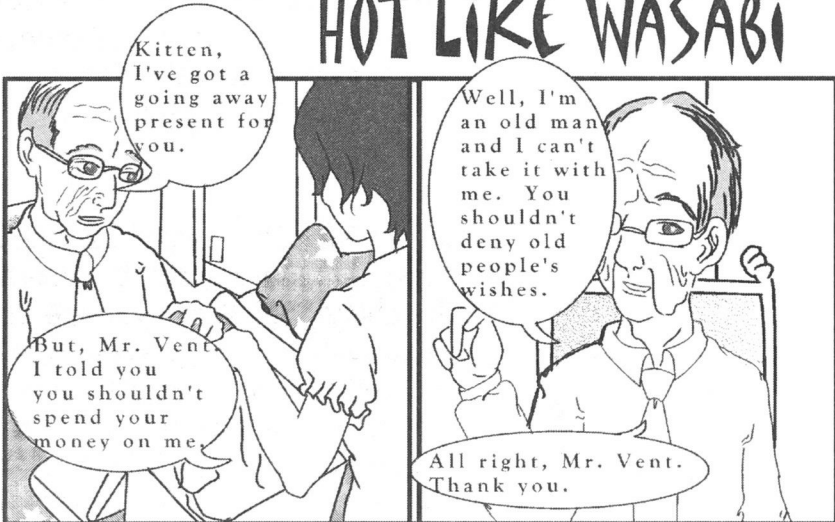
© 2008 BY RAY N.



<http://www.freewebs.com/theraynexperience/>
"The Oregon Trail" © MECC/Broderbund/The Learning Company.



HOT LIKE WASABI



Alicia Johnson

The Dream That Came True

They stood there. The young, the old the rich, the poor, the freedom fighters and their grandchildren...



Celebrating a new dawn in a nation whose past was riddled with hatred, pain, and confusion. They smiled, recalling the promise of a dream dreamt so long ago.

Alicia Johnson 2008

ADVERTISEMENTS

**EMERGING LEADERS CONFERENCE APPLICATION DEADLINE,
DECEMBER 12, 2008!!!**

The Emerging Student Leaders Conference will take place February 6 – 8, 2009 at The Ridges Club and Resort in the North Georgia Mountains of Young Harris, GA. The Emerging Student Leaders Conference provides Clayton State students with an opportunity to engage in an intense weekend of leadership application and theory. Students participate in a series of activities, workshops and discussions that challenge their understanding of leadership, team/group dynamics and diversity. The conference is a great way for students, both residential and non-residential, to network, team-up and engage in a number of fun and educational activities. Cost is free to all Clayton State University students (All inclusive travel and lodging)! For more information about the conference and to download and application, please visit the Campus Life website at <http://adminservices.clayton.edu/campuslife/>, but hurry, the application deadline is December 12, 2008!!!

ALTERNATIVE SPRING BREAK IS BACK!!

The Alternative Spring Break Volunteer program will take place during the week of March 9 – 13 in New York City and Orlando, Florida! Students may choose one of the two destinations to engage in community-based service projects during the University's designated Spring Break vacation. It will help students develop an understanding and appreciation of the issues people across the world encounter daily. Students will walk away from the experience with a deeper understanding of volunteerism and community service as well as activism and how to help create change!

Volunteers in New York will work with the New York Restoration Project to provide services in the organization's green initiatives including restoring community parks, planting trees, beautifying community gardens and horticultural and environmental education, especially in the underserved communities of the five boroughs.

Orlando volunteers will be assigned to a volunteer area in the Give Kids The World Village theme parks, a 70 acre, non-profit resort in Central Florida that creates magical memories for children with life-threatening illnesses and their families.

For more information about these events and to download applications, please visit the Campus Life website at <http://adminservices.clayton.edu/campuslife/>, but hurry, the application deadline for the Leadership Conference and Alternative Spring Break is December 12, 2008!!!

HURRY! IT'S NOT TOO LATE.

If you have ever wanted to write, photograph or work with a newspaper in some capacity, please act NOW.

The Bent Tree is a student run newspaper and is currently offering 2 courses that will allow you to work for the paper and receive college credit.

JOUR 3011 allows students to develop interviewing, reporting, writing and editing techniques that are essential to producing an informative newspaper.

JOUR 3012 allows students to develop skills related to photography, video, layout, and web design as well as becoming familiar with the day to day workings of the newspaper.

Classes will require weekly sessions with a member of the executive staff and monthly general meetings.

For more information please contact Dr. Randy Clark at RandyClark@Clayton.edu.

If you are interested in contributing but are not currently able to commit to a Journalism Class at this time we are accepting freelance work. For more information on freelance work please email Freelance@thebenttree.org

