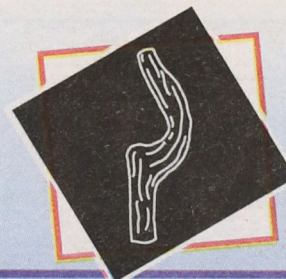


THE BENT TREE



Volume 43 Issue 1

Clayton State University

www.thebenttree.org

Aug 2009

CSU WELCOMES

DR. THOMAS HYNES CLAYTON STATE'S INTERIM PRESIDENT

by Gary Reddish

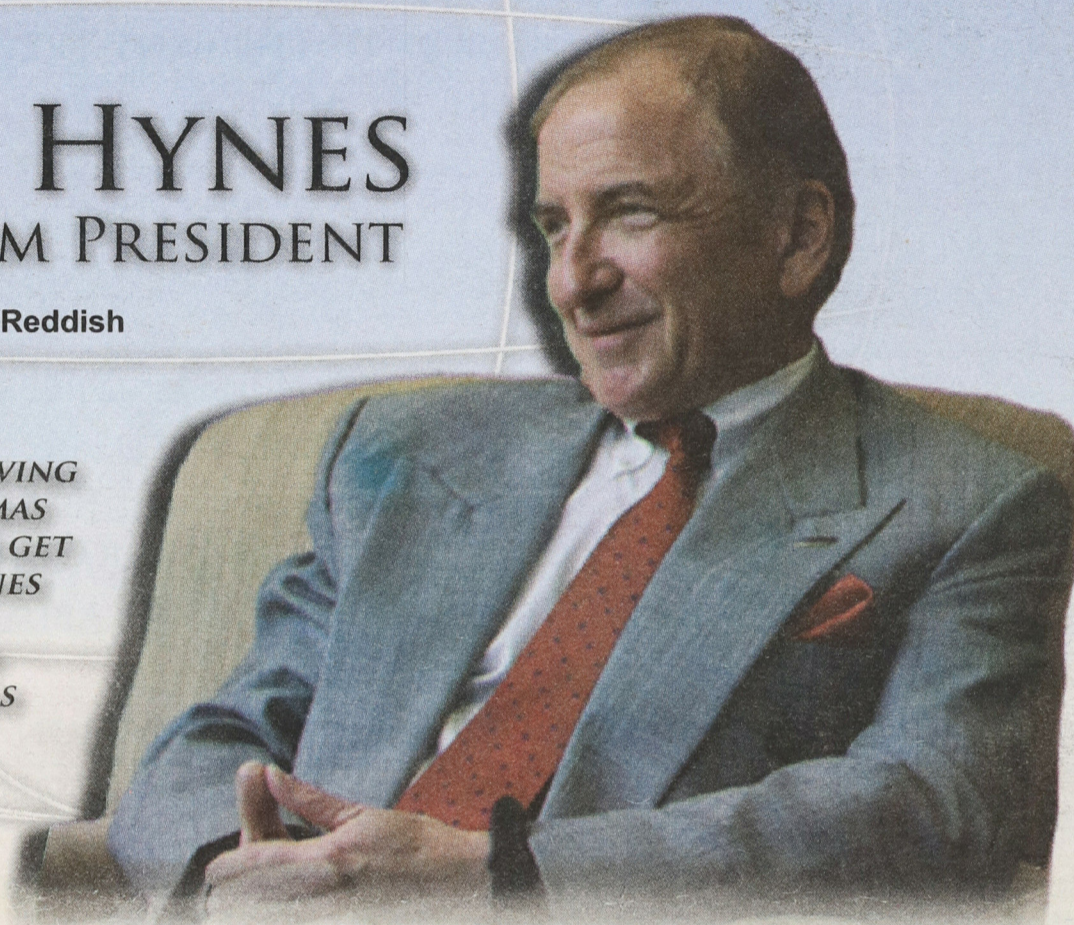
RECENTLY, I HAD THE DISTINCT PLEASURE OF HAVING A CHAT WITH OUR INTERIM PRESIDENT DR. THOMAS J. HYNES. DURING OUR INTERVIEW I WAS ABLE TO GET A FEEL FOR THE PASSION AND LOVE THAT DR. HYNES HAS FOR EDUCATION. HE HAS A GENUINE DESIRE TO SEE CLAYTON STATE CONTINUE TO GROW AND PROSPER BOTH DURING HIS TIME HERE AS WELL AS AFTER HIS TIME HAS COME TO A CLOSE.

WHAT ARE SOME OF YOUR GOAL FOR CLAYTON STATE AS THE NEW INTERIM PRESIDENT?

"I think the president of any institution proudly shares the stories of success of the institution. They proudly share the stories of successful students, faculty, and staff. We do it mostly through education. My first task is to learn and to share the stories of success. There little things that we lose sight of. Spivey Hall, which I attended before I came to Clayton State University, is without a doubt the premiere small music performing venue in the south. I think there are some people who know about that and I think a few more people should know about that. We happen to share space with both the national and state archives which tell the stories of the people of Georgia and the people of the United States. We have academic programs which partner with our federal archives and I'll be telling some more people about those stories. We have a lot of instances of students who come from backgrounds not that dissimilar from mine, without parents who had college degrees who worked very hard to become part of the American dream. The second goal of course, beyond making sure individuals get a sense of who we are, is to help reflect with the institution where we want to go. We won't accomplish that statement in the course of a single year but we will work strategically to take advantage of who we are and who we might be an institution. Leading that is the second very important thing that must be done. The third goal is to have a set of community conversations on how we can attract and retain more successful student at Clayton state. We have some really excellent academic programs, again I hope we can attract a larger number of students to get excited and to succeed in those academic programs. Once you get past two or three goals things get a little thin. My job is to focus on those and to support where we can support the good work of our student and our staff."

AS YOU ARE AWARE OF, CLAYTON STATE HAS THE REPUTATION OF BEING A "STARTER SCHOOL." STUDENTS USUALLY GET THEIR TWO YEARS DONE HERE AND THEN TRANSFER TO ANOTHER SCHOOL TO FINISH OUT THEIR COLLEGE CAREER. WHAT ARE SOME OF THE IDEAS AND POLICIES THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE IMPLEMENTED DURING YOUR STAY HERE THAT WILL INCREASE STUDENT BODY RETENTION AND NEW STUDENT GROWTH?

"Well, you're still here right? What we wish to do is to have good students like you who are excited about certain academic programs. There are some



programs in which beginning at Clayton state and transferring out is sensible. The university recently completed an agreement with Georgia Tech, where students would begin here in pre-engineering programs and would be allowed entrance to engineering programs at Georgia Tech. Clayton state is not likely in my lifetime, to get an engineering program. So we should offer opportunities for students to come get a great background in science and technology and then have an opportunity to attend one of the premiere engineering schools in America if not the world. But for other programs I think you will find that we will be competitive in the humanities, communicative arts for example. We have individuals who are as good as any. Again a wide array of our programs, our distance programs, our nursing programs, will be such that a growing number of students will finish what they start. We have one of the highest pass rates of the nursing students in the state, and so we think this is a place where many of our students can start and finish."

RECENTLY, CLAYTON STATE OPENED UP ITS FIRST EVER ON CAMPUS RESIDENT'S HALL, WHICH WAS SPECIFICALLY TARGETED TOWARDS FRESHMAN STUDENTS. NEEDLESS TO SAY, THIS WAS A BIG SUCCESS AND A BOOST THAT THE COLLEGE NEEDED IN ORDER TO GAIN MORE RECOGNITION AROUND THE METRO ATLANTA AREA AND THE STATE. WITH THAT BEING SAID, DO YOU HAVE ANY INTENTIONS ON BRINGING THAT MOMENTUM TO UPPER CLASSMEN BY MEANS OF AFFORDABLE ON-CAMPUS HOUSING?

"The university had developed before I arrived, a long term housing plan that included discussion of more housing on campus. Those plans were developed before the dramatic change in the economy that we experienced. One of those things that we will be looking at in the very near future will be those plans and the degree to which we may or may not have to modify them based on the economic conditions. A residential institution is quite frankly the kind of institution that I have been associated with my whole professional career and for that matter my time as a student."

[CONT'D ON PG 4]

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Health Care Reform
Substance Abuse on Campus

p. 5
p. 8

Think Greek
Cartoons

p. 6 & 7
p. 10-11

**THE BENT TREE
STAFF**

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Sunita Caton

**GRAPHICS &
PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR**
Jamal El-Amin

**ASSISTANT
PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR**
B. Carzo

STAFF ILLUSTRATOR
Alicia Johnson

CREATIVE DIRECTOR
Chelauna Davidson

THIS ISSUE

CONTRIBUTORS:

Sunita Caton
B. Carzo
Andrew Crib
Alicia Johnson
John Koryan
Ray N
Melanie Prism
Zaab Para
Edith Patta
Malley Pendergrass
Gary Reddish
Courtney Reid
Tristan Santiago
Laurinda Wilson

Alpha Kappa Alpha
Alpha Kappa Lambda
Alpha Phi Alpha
Kappa Alpha Psi
Sigma Gamma Rho
Theta Phi Alpha

Campus Life
Career Services
CEC
Recreation & Wellness

**SPECIAL THANKS
TO FACULTY ADVISOR
DR. RANDY CLARK**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ON THE COVER

DR. THOMAS HYNES: CSU'S INTERIM PRESIDENT
[PHOTO BY BENT TREE STAFF] CONT'D ON PG 4

GET BENT: THE BENT TREE VENT 3
TAKE MY ADVICE 3

HELPING THE CLAYTON STATE COMMUNITY 5
HEALTH CARE REFORM 5

THINK GREEK: GREEK SOCIETIES AT CSU 6-7
FRATERNITIES & SORORITIES

BEYOND A BACHELOR'S 8
SUBSTANCE ABUSE ON CAMPUS 8

STUDENT ORGANIZATION SPOTLIGHT 9
WHAT A NEW CSU STUDENT NEEDS TO KNOW 9

CARTOONS 10-11

CALENDAR 12
ADVERTISEMENTS 12

PHOTOS & CLIPART, UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED, ARE TAKEN BY CSU BENT TREE STAFF

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.

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.

TWITTERBOOK

I really don't want to know what time you woke up, what you ate for breakfast or what you did after. "I just brushed my teeth, Yaye!" Really? I thought Facebook was for connecting with your friends not turning people into stalkers.. Please keep the tweeting to twitter (for the over sharers).

- Too much Information

How many pictures of yourself in the bathroom mirror or you going to post then tag all your friends in? Yes, you have nice abs, we saw that twelve bathroom pictures ago.

- Overloaded

I though spam was limited to email. Stop sending me chain notes on Facebook! I am not going to post 100 things about myself or the ABC's of me.

- Spammed Out

STUDENTS

I think some students should have more respect for the professors. I'm a student and it annoys me that others feel they have the right to address professors anyway they want. They have something to teach you, sit down and listen.

- R.E.S.P.E.C.T.

TUITION

Thank you, I really needed to have to cope with a failing economy an uncertain job market and a raise in tuition. What's next getting \$20 for a \$150 book? Oh wait, we already have that.

- Empty Pockets

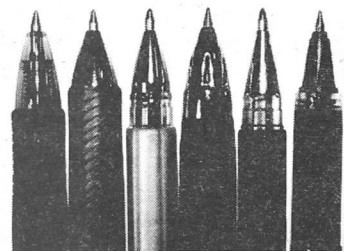
CAMPUS LIFE

Have you seen the stuff they have planned for the year? It's like amazing fun! Does this qualify as a vent? Do you think they'll hire me as a student worker?

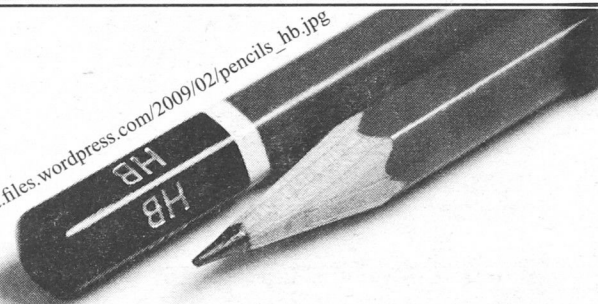
- Hyper

(From The Bent Tree to Hyper: With that enthusiasm, we are sure they will be pleased to have you. Stop by the SAC and find out. Let us know how it goes.)

www.randsinrepose.com/assets/pens.jpg



http://2pat.files.wordpress.com/2009/02/pencils_hb.jpg



Dear TMA
My best friend is dating a rat, well a human rat; she's with this guy who doesn't work, just goes to school and lets her support him. She is struggling to raise their son and go to college at the same time. He uses her, he's never there when she needs him and his excuse is that he's looking for a job. I went to this new club with my boyfriend and he pointed him out on the dance floor with this girl who looked barely out of high school giving her a tonsil exam. I wanted to confront him but I didn't think it was my place. I want to tell her but she's so blinded by him I don't want to break up our friendship if she doesn't believe me. I'm not sure what to do.

- Concerned Friend

Dear Concerned Friend,
I can tell that you want to tell your friend badly about her so called "man" but you are trying to be considerate of her feelings. That is what true friendship is all about. I believe a true friend would indeed let her know but it all depends on how long you have been friends and how open she will be to that kind of information. If she might lash out if you tell her, just catch him in the act if that's possible. Another thing you would need to do is to make sure that you are absolutely sure about this "man" being a rat. Take him down and she'll thank you for it! I can tell that you want to tell your friend badly about her so called "man" but you are trying to be considerate of her feelings. That is what true friendship is all about. I believe a true friend would indeed let her know but it all depends on how long you have been friends and how open she will be to that kind of information. If she might lash out if you tell her, just catch him in the act if that's possible. Another thing you would need to do is to make sure that you are absolutely sure about this "man" being a rat. Take him down and she'll thank you for it!

Dear TMA,
I have a friend I met during a philosophy class last semester. We have very intellectually stimulating conversations, which I enjoy immensely. I would like to ask him out but I'm not sure if that is a good idea. I don't want to spoil what we have and I have not the slightest idea if he shares my interest. I do not want him to think me too forward either. Should I leave it to him to ask me out?

- Worried Philosopher

Dear Worried Philosopher,
If you like him, tell him. But you don't want to be pushy about it or desperate. See if there are any signs or anything that makes it seem that it can be more than just friends. Telling someone how you feel should never change the course of your friendship. Be honest with him and let him know how you feel and ask him if he feels the same way. You can always be cute and romantic about it by asking him out. It isn't against the law for a girl to ask a guy out. Don't put yourself out to be that way! The type of person who believes all men should be the dominant one and take over. You can do it but remember: Have Fun!!

Dear TMA,
My boyfriend thinks we should break up because I'm doing a study abroad for a year. He says he can't deal with me leaving. I'll be back on vacations but he says that's not enough. I thought we really had something but I'm confused and a little hurt. I don't know if I should just break up with him or if it's worth trying to save. What should I do?

- Hurtful Lover

TAKE MY ADVICE

by Melanie Prism advice@thebenttree.org

Dear Hurtful Lover,
If your boyfriend truly loves you, he should understand completely and be able to have a year long distance relationship with you. It seems to me he's acting like he would not be able to live without you, like he's pulling out the victim card. He has to understand that you will be studying abroad and will be able to visit him occasionally. I understand entirely since the same has happened to me since mine has left for the army. Let him not forget there are always writing letters and instant messaging even with video cam. There are tons of ways to stay in full communication with each other even though it isn't physically. If he knows how you feel about him, he should have nothing to worry about and will be happy for you on your journey. Good Luck Abroad! And Have Fun!

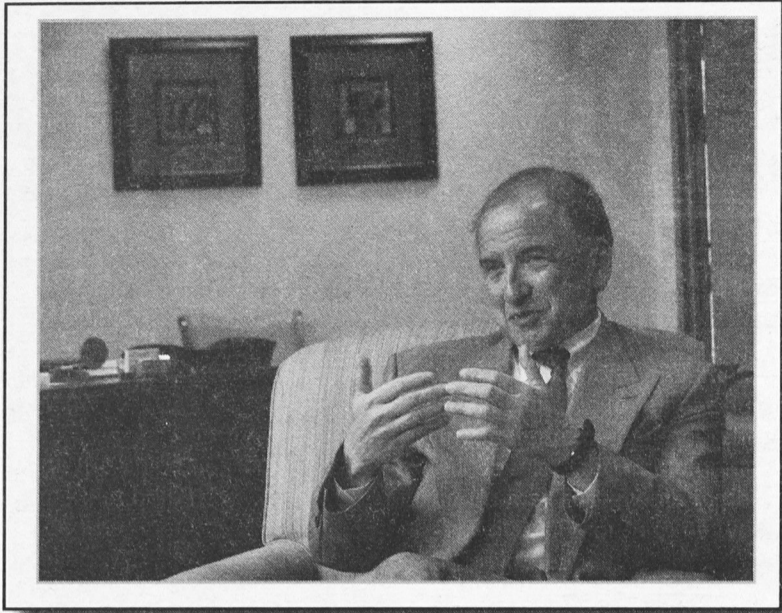
Dear TMA
My sister is like totally wasting her time with this guy. They met at a concert and had like a real date once. Now he just texts her at like 3 a.m. when he's back from a night of partying and she drives all the way from Peachtree city to Atlanta to be with him a 4 a.m. They don't hang out, they don't even chat on the phone. He texts and she starts driving. I think she could do better but I'm not sure how to get that across to her. Any Advice?

- Worried Sister

Dear Worried Sister,
I am truly sorry to say it but all your sister is to this so called guy is a "Booty Call" or in proper terms "Booty Text". She is truly wasting her time with this person. I can't even call him a man because no man should treat a woman such a way. Let your sister know "there are more fishes in the sea" and there is no reason she should let him treat her in such a way. If this guy was really into her, he would take her out or hang out at his apartment or hers or even talk on the phone for hours to get to know each other. Usually texting someone at 3am to come over after a night of partying only means one thing and I know you know what that is. He is basically using her and he is succeeding because I bet she drops everything like a drop of a hat when he texts her. Lay it down to her gently because she may have gotten attached to him already and since you're her sister, she will need someone to comfort her. Good Luck and it will work out just fine!

CAMPUS

[CONT'D FROM PG 1]



... There is something really exciting about resident life. We have to look at those plans and see how those can continue again under some changing economic conditions... They don't give the buildings away and so you have to figure out a plan in which you can competitively pay for those facilities. Resident's halls are facilities in which state dollars simply aren't available anymore, there was a time in which the university system and state bonding agency would provide dollars for residents' halls the same way in which they would provide dollars for other buildings on campus.

That just stopped being the case 10 to 15 years ago. And so the good news is that we can work with our students and develop plans to build residents hall, if we have the space to do it, and we are ok there, but we also have become part of a market. So the prices have to be such that they give value to the students the programming has to be such that it allows the university to compete with the private housing market. So that makes us part of the economic system."

SEEING AS HOW YOU ARE NEW TO THE CAMPUS AND TO THE STUDENT BODY, WHAT ARE SOME OF YOUR IMPRESSIONS OF CLAYTON STATE AND ITS STUDENTS, FACULTY, AND STAFF?

"The people are just really nice. The word I would use is gracious, independent of any rank of status or association, individuals at Clayton state have been uniformly gracious, have been uniformly welcoming, and have been uniformly proud of the good things that are happening on this campus. To use a metaphor, they are thirsty for someone to listen to the stories of the good things that are happening and together try to find some ways to share those to a broader audience... that's a good place."

CSU HAS ONE OF THE HIGHEST PHD TO STUDENT RATIOS IN THE STATE. OUR TEACHERS ARE SOME OF THE BEST AND BRIGHTEST MINDS IN THE COUNTRY, AND EVERY LAST ONE OF THEM HAS A GENUINE DESIRE TO SEE EACH STUDENT SUCCEED.

HOW DO YOU PLAN ON IMPROVING ON THE GREAT BASE OF PROFESSORS AND BUSINESS PROFESSIONALS ALREADY WORKING HERE AT CSU AND HOW DO YOU INTEND TO BRING IN NEW AND BETTER PROFESSORS TO THE COLLEGE?

"I'd love to take credit for that phrase, that we have some of the best faculty around, it's true. It's no surprise that we face challenging economic times. This institution went through the process of painful reductions over the past year. One of the things that this institution did was to make some of the very hard decisions of experiencing reductions in a single college. And therefore while

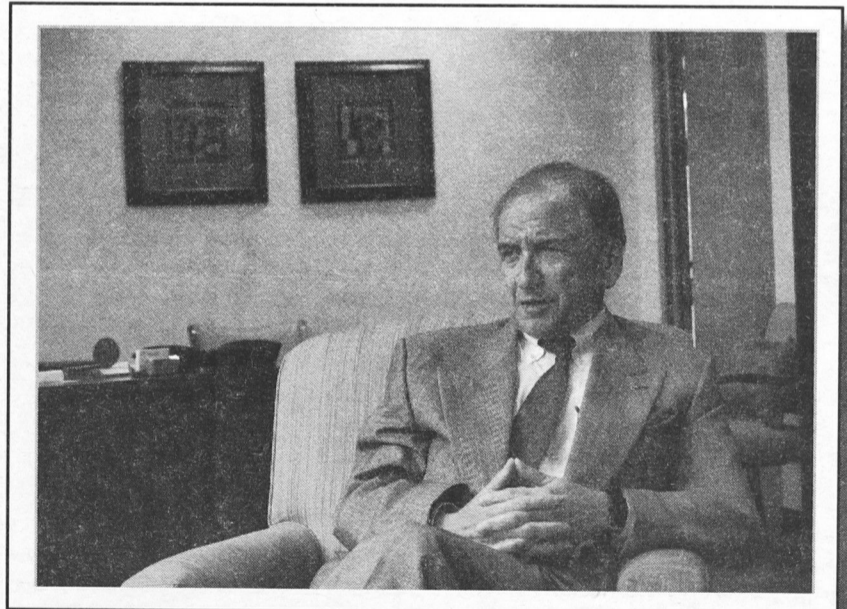
creating a good deal of pain for the institution; hope to create the foundation for recovery. So that once resources become available and the institution is prepared to make investments in faculty and staff resources that will help continue to advance the success of the institution in ways that are similar to those that have already been well developed at this institution. Again in the coming years we are all going to face some serious economic times, as an institution we are going to have to protect and preserve the excellence that has been developed over the last several years under Dr. Hardin's leadership."

STARTING THIS FALL SEMESTER, CLAYTON STATE WILL START IS NEWEST DEGREE PROGRAM IN COMPUTER SCIENCE WITH A CONCENTRATION IN GAME DESIGN. WITH THAT BEING SAID, DOES THE COLLEGE HAVE ANY INTENTIONS ON DEVELOPING NEW DEGREE PROGRAMS IN THE FUTURE? IF SO WHAT KINDS AND HOW MANY?

"The university has demonstrated over the last several years through the office of academic affairs that it is very much prepares to develop programs that both respond to current needs and anticipates future needs, and so the degree program that was recently developed in the School of Business dealing with supply chains is a reflection of both reflecting need and anticipating needs, the same can be said with our graduate programs in archival studies. On the other hand the same has been true in the expansion of core academic programs in mathematics; chemistry and biology that respond to current needs and that will continue to be the case. The new programs that are developed will reflect, as they have in the past, some real assessment of needs lead by academic affairs... the good thing about either anticipating needs or responding to academic needs is that such programs tend to attract more students and attract resources that allow us to continue to gain new levels of success in those fields."

WHERE DO YOU SEE THE COLLEGE GOING IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS?

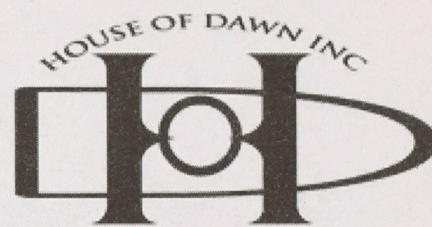
"I think that the university is poised to become one of the most outstanding comprehensive publicly supported institutions in the south east. We've got a lot of work to do, the students the faculty, the staff, and the administration alike. However, one doesn't move forward without sensing the goals of this community. This community has worked very hard to create the conditions for outstanding educational activities happening on this campus. I hope that people outside of this campus will begin to recognize that great things are happening and that great things will happen in the future. Those are my goals. We won't get there in a day or a year but we will get there."



CLAYTON STATE UNIVERSITY

HELPING THE CLAYTON COUNTY COMMUNITY

by Andrew Cribb, John Koryan, & Tristan Santiago



With Barack Obama's historical campaign, community service has become a major initiative among college students. His grass-roots method of gaining support showed the world that small efforts can lead to monumental changes, especially within our respective communities. And with his proposed \$4,000 tax credit to college students in exchange for community service, it is even more important to help out in your community. To this end, Clayton State University offers students a number of opportunities for engaging with their community, including work with local non-profits.

For the past three years, Dr. Horn, a professor in the Language and Literature department, has offered a "Writing for Non-Profits" class. Popular among

English majors (and expanding to the Humanities at large), this class offers students a chance to practice serving their community by working with a non-profit organization through writing grants, developing literature, or enhancing the quality of their promotional materials, among other activities.

Each semester two organizations are chosen to be a part of this project, and the students break into groups to work with them for the entire semester.

This semester, two of the groups in Dr. Horn's class are working with House of Dawn, a local non-profit organization which takes in teenage mothers who are, for a number of reasons, unable to live at home. House of Dawn currently houses four girls, teaching them life skills and ensuring that they continue with their education. Given the number of teenage pregnancies in Georgia, though, simply working with four families is not enough.

Georgia currently has the 8th highest teen pregnancy rate in the United States, and Clayton County is within the top ten counties for high teenage birth rates in Georgia. In 2002, 477 unwed teenagers gave birth in Clayton County, with 47 of these teenagers giving birth for the second time. House of Dawn addresses this demographic, focusing on reducing subsequent births and

preventing harm to the children through ignorance, but needs to expand their facility in order to address these issues.

House of Dawn's current facility has an extra, unfurnished room that could be turned into a bedroom if they had the money. Our project is to find adequate funds through grants and donations to facilitate this expansion. By setting up an extra bedroom, House of Dawn will not only expand their project to another family, but also be able to secure additional funding from governmental organizations, which will ensure a consistently high level of achievement.

Although House of Dawn does not have the money to hire any additional staff, they are always happy to accept volunteers. Given the amount of work required to keep the facility running smoothly, even a couple hours a day could help them out, and they may even offer an internship for Clayton State students. This is a great way to help out the community, and can not only give you valuable experience, but also make you eligible for President Obama's tax credit.

If you would like to learn more about these opportunities, you can contact Dawn Murray, the founder and program manager, at 770-477-2385.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

"We can't kick the can down the road any longer... Deferring reform is nothing more than defending the status quo." -President B. Obama

Recently, the media has been consumed by the passing of many of the world's greatest actors, singers, and generally adored celebrities. Sadly this has redirected the focus of the population at large away from issues that will affect them and their children for years to come. Mainly the growing issue over Obama's health reform plan and the controversy over how to fund such an aggressive proposal.

Both Blue Dog Democrats and many Republicans are up in arms about the so called "unnecessary taxation" proposed in the bill that was created in the House. Many of the conservative democrats are threatening blocking the health reform bill unless they see many of the changes that they want.

Representative Mike Ross of the Blue Dog Democrats said that "We remain opposed to the current bill, and we continue to meet several times a day to decide how we're going to proceed and what amendments we will be offering..." The biggest issue that this bill faces is that many believe that it lacks sufficient regulations and reforms to control costs in the new health care system.

Regardless of whether the bill passes or not, many special interest groups will be affected either for good or bad. One group in particular is the beverage industry. Many companies are airing TV ads that oppose the proposed legislation that would, if passed, tax the soda and juice manufactures in order to partially pay for this reform. The ad warns that the government needs not put taxes on the pleasures that we all enjoy. The tag line from the

commercial is "Taxes never made anyone healthy." Which most would agree is a true statement. However, looking at the state of America's health care system today, the bigger question arises of can we afford to leave things as they are? President Obama says, "no."

Along with President Obama, there is another who is for passing this health care reform. Hers is a name that you may not have heard of unless you have been keeping up with the back and forth between Republicans and Democrats over this health care reform. Hilda Sarkisyan may be the biggest advocate for this drastic reform due to her daughter's ordeal with insurance agencies as they are now. Back in 2007 Hilda's daughter Nataline was denied a life-saving liver transplant procedure when her insurance company Cigna refused to cover the costs. Upon countless appeals Cigna finally reversed their decision, however it was too late. Nataline had died hours before the operation was approved. Hilda says, "The insurance companies are not going to decide who is going to live and who is going to die."

When asked to comment on these topics many students here at Clayton State agree with Hilda. Most if not all of the student body has some form of insurance and they expect that if anything unexpected happens, their insurance will step in and pay for any medical care that is needed. Many students have been in situations similar to Hilda and Nataline, where insurance companies have refused to pay medical costs.

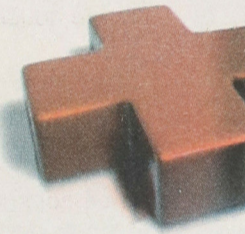
One student who wished to remain nameless, said, "I think insurance companies are one of the biggest scams out there. We pay them all this money every

by Gary Reddish

month and then when something terrible happens, or we come up with an illness that requires years and years of high medical cost then they want to drop us like a hat. It's just not fair!"

Truly, insurance companies have a reputation of dropping coverage on clients who have proved to be too costly to the bottom line, but the government run insurance plan created under the health care reform bill will help remove that stigma. The government plan will run alongside the private plans already in place. With this new competition in place private plans will have to offer their customers more security in terms of coverage costs, premiums, and extended care.

This move will no doubt keep the industry from running wild. While no one knows the outcome of this heated battle one thing is for certain, if left unchecked more and more stories like Hilda and Nataline Sarkisyan will become common place and that is something that this country cannot afford.



THINK

Greek

Δ Delta Ε Epsilon Ζ Zeta Η Eta Θ Theta Ι Iota Κ Kappa Λ Lambda Μ Mu
 (day-tah) (ay-tah) (zay-tah) (ay-tah) (thay-tah) (eye-o-tah) (cap-pah) (lamb-dah) (mew)

GREEK SOCIETIES ON THE CAMPUS OF CLAYTON STATE UNIVERSITY

fraternity *fra-ter-ni-ty* (frə-tūr'nī-tē)

1. A body of people associated for a common purpose or interest, such as a guild
2. A group of people joined by similar backgrounds, occupations, interests, or tastes
3. A chiefly social organization of men students at a college or university, usually designated by Greek letters
5. The quality or condition of being brothers; brotherliness



ALPHA PHI ALPHA Fraternity Incorporated, the first intercollegiate Greek-letter fraternity established for African-Americans, was founded at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York on December 4, 1906 by seven college men who recognized the need for a strong bond of Brotherhood among African descendants in this country.

Alpha Phi Alpha develops leaders, promotes brotherhood and academic excellence, while providing service and advocacy for our communities. The objectives of this Fraternity are to stimulate the ambition of its members; to prepare them for the greatest usefulness in the causes of humanity, freedom, and dignity of the individual; to encourage the highest and noblest form of manhood; and to aid down-trodden humanity in its efforts to achieve higher social, economic and intellectual

status. Alpha Phi Alpha has seen many prominent members such as: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; W.E.B. Dubois; Keenan Ivory Wayans; & Jesse Owens. The Tau Epsilon Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha was founded here at Clayton State on January 23, 1999. Since its founding, the Tau Epsilon Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha has continued to set the standards for others to follow, by upholding the principles of... Manly deeds, Scholarship, and Love for all mankind.

For additional information about the Tau Epsilon Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. please contact Ereno Cooper-Chapter President at ecooper3@student.clayton.edu, or J'Maica Hunter- Chapter Intake Coordinator at jhunter13@student.clayton.edu. Or visit www.APA1906.com.



KAPPA ALPHA PSI Fraternity, Inc. was founded on January 5, 1911 on the campus of Indiana University. The fraternity was founded by ten astute men. The fundamental purpose of Kappa Alpha Psi is achievement. The Clayton State chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi was chartered on August 12, 2005 and was named Omicron Omega. The chapter is still young, but has continued to grow since the date of the charter. The

Omicron Omega chapter has given back to the community in various ways. The organization recently participated in the Sunday for Hope for St. Judes Hospital. As the year goes on the Fraternity has more community service events coming up and hopes that our service projects will somehow inspire, not only the people in the community, but also our campus in a positive way.



Ninety-five years ago, 11 men at the University of California had an idea to form the first fraternity on the West Coast, the Fraternity of **ALPHA KAPPA LAMBDA**. Since that time, more than 23,000 members have joined the ranks of ΑΚΛ as "Men of character committed to making a difference." A member of the Clayton State Greek Community since August 2008, the Fraternity of Alpha Kappa Lambda unites men with different backgrounds but similar ideals with a common purpose: to foster excellence in scholarship, leadership, individual growth, and involvement in community service. ΑΚΛ teaches its men that the commitments outlined in the Fraternity's Ritual are not merely remote ideals, but areas of discipline for daily life. ΑΚΛs support, and in turn have the support of, their brothers in living these principles.

Proudly sponsoring philanthropy programs such as

These Hands Don't Hurt (providing education on stopping domestic violence), Adopt-A-School, and the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, ΑΚΛ maintains their commitment of making a difference not only in their personal lives but also in the lives of others.

Do you have what it takes to be a Man of Character?

Letters today, Leaders tomorrow...ΑΚΛ

If you would like more information on becoming an ΑΚΛ, please visit our website at www.aklclayton.org. There you will find information on ΑΚΛ at Clayton State as well as a link to our national homepage. For recruitment information, please contact recruitment chairman Todd Dearing at jdearing@student.clayton.edu.



sorority so·ror·i·ty (sə-rôr'î-tē, -rôr'-)

1. A chiefly social organization of women students at a college or university, usually designated by Greek letters
2. An association or a society of women associated for a common purpose or interest



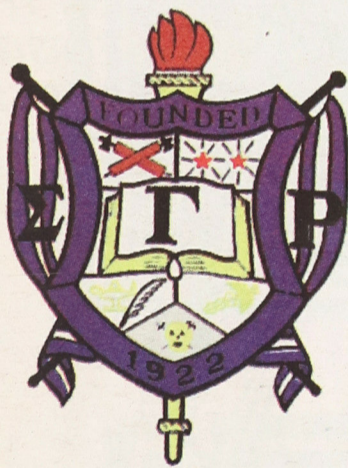
ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA Sorority, Incorporated is the first Greek-lettered sorority established and incorporated by African American college women. The sorority was founded on January 15, 1908, on the campus of Howard University in Washington, D.C.

On April 24, 2005, this dynamic sisterhood was chartered on the campus of Clayton State University. Sigma Sigma Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated has grown and strives to recognize the importance of the individual and the strength of the organization.

Sigma Sigma has hosted many programs on campus and in the community as well as educational, technological,

entrepreneurial and mentoring workshops throughout the year. Several annual events include, the Mr. Pink & Green Pageant, the American Cancer Society's Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk, and the Into the Streets program, where Sigma Sigma provides food and essential survival items to the homeless in the Metro Atlanta area.

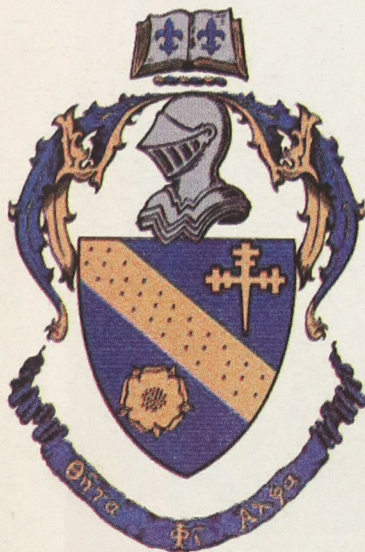
The purpose of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated is to cultivate and encourage high scholastic and ethical standards; To promote unity and friendship among college women; To study and help alleviate problems concerning girls and women; to maintain a progressive interest in college life and to be of Service to all Mankind.



SIGMA GAMMA RHO Sorority, Inc. was organized on November 12, 1922 in Indianapolis, Indiana by seven young educators. Soaring to greater heights of attainment around the world, Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc., as a leading national service organization, has met the challenges of the day and continues to grow through Sisterhood, Scholarship and Service. Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority's aim is to enhance the quality of life within the community. Public service, leadership development and education of youth are the hallmark of the organization's programs and activities. Sigma Gamma Rho addresses

concerns that impact society educationally, civically and economically.

The Rho Lambda chapter of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc was chartered at Clayton State University on November 9, 2007. Our annual events and programs include Operation Big Book Bag, Sigma Sweets, and Rhomania Week. This year be ready to come out and get involved with the Radiant Ladies of Rho Lambda Chapter of Sigma Gamma Rho!!



Clayton State Greek history has been made! The Gamma Tau Chapter of **THETA PHI ALPHA** Fraternity, Inc. is the first National Panhellenic Sorority to be founded on the campus of Clayton State University. It is also currently the largest Greek organization on campus at thirty-one members.

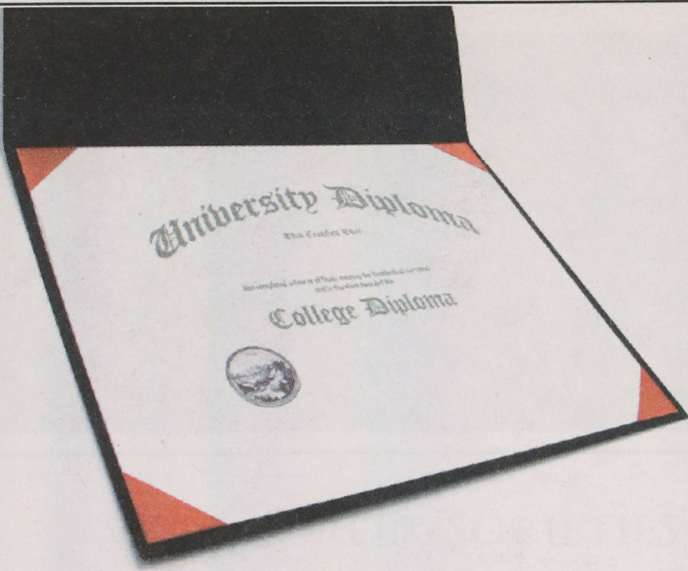
From August 2008 to May 2009, the thirty-one founding sisters of the chapter fulfilled nineteen National Fraternity mandated requirements as well as numerous University requirements. These National requirements included

philanthropic, academic, and social activities to build a strong foundation of sisterhood and understanding of Fraternal values. The colony petitioned for installation in May of 2009 and was then founded as the Gamma Tau Chapter on July 26, 2009. The chapter now looks to a busy and exciting fall semester as they prepare for formal NPC recruitment on September 8-11.

For more information on Theta Phi Alpha and formal recruitment, please contact NatashaHutson@clayton.edu or <http://thetaphialpha.org>.

by Edith Patta

BEYOND A BACHELOR'S



For those of who believe a Bachelor's Degree is not the end of the road, there are many options available to continue education after the undergraduate level. Clayton State is a growing school. From being a college to a university to being a graduate school for those who wish to extend their education. Clayton State University has Master's Program with a broad range of degrees for everyone.

The Master's Program has many degree programs of study. As a matter-of-fact, it has six different degree programs so almost anyone can find the right major for them. To get a better glimpse of the Master's Program in Clayton State, I interviewed Mr. Tom Eaves, who is the Dean of the school of Graduate Studies here at Clayton State. When asked if the Master's Program would increase any programs he said, "We've been increasing programs regularly for the past three years." Clayton

State's Master's Program has increased by nine programs in three years and still continues to rise.

The six programs available to students right now are the master of arts in liberal studies(MALS), master of science in nursing, master of science in healthcare administration and master of business administration(MBA), and master of arts in teaching math, as well as one in teaching English. The other three programs are awaiting approval by the board of regents. Those programs are Master of Science in dental hygiene master of science in psychology and Master of Science in archival studies. What is the most popular program? Mr. Eaves states, "The most popular program in the Master's Program is the MBA with a hundred students admitted. The average is fifteen to sixteen admitted a major."

How long does it take to complete these programs? Well, each one is different and each student takes their own time to complete them. Most programs such as the MBA require thirty-three hours and can take up to 18months to complete. Other programs require thirty-six to forty-five hours. These usually include a thesis. All in all, depending on the program chosen, it could take two years full time or four years part time.

Now what does it take to get into the Master's Program in Clayton State? The school takes into consideration student's undergrad GPA and standardized test scores on the GRE and GMAT. For full admittance, they require a 3.0 GPA from undergrad and a 950 common score with a 3.5 in analytical writing on the GRE. The school may also admit on provisional status which looks at the GPA plus the GRE or GMAT score which for GMAT must be 450 common and 3.5 analytical writing.

There are study abroad opportunities for those who like to stretch their learning bounds but they are limited to certain majors and programs. The road is long and hard but Mr. Eaves says the benefits are plenty. "[The many benefits] of getting a Master's degree are that learning becomes more narrow as you concentrate on a particular subject and you become more and more expert as you isolate on a particular field. What are the values? There are financial values. People with a bachelor's degree earn much more than people with a high school diploma and the same thing can be said about a Master's degree [versus a bachelors].

SUBSTANCE ABUSE ON CAMPUS

by Zaab Para

Substance abuse. These two words permeate all aspects of society. It affects families, the workplace, recreation, the entertainment industry, and the court system. When watching the nightly news, we are bombarded with a plethora of substance names. Alcohol, marijuana, ecstasy, methamphetamine, and cocaine are just some of the most well-known. Even the educational system is affected by substance abuse. From elementary school, through high school and college, people inevitably come into contact with substance abuse in some shape, form, or fashion. Alcohol and drug abuse have become a common, ugly feature of the American college scene.

Some of this abuse is due to pre-college addiction problems of individual students. Other student's abuse substances, believing it will help them study or to deal with the stress of college life. Yet another factor of campus substance abuse is the alleged hazing rituals of many fraternities and sororities. Some of these "rituals" require pledges to perform juvenile, bizarre, and degrading tasks in order to be granted "membership". Many of these "pledge" activities involve alcohol and drugs and thus are illegal and dangerous. Yes, illegal and dangerous according to the college code of conduct for all students and the criminal code of that state. Still, yet another source of student substance abuse is the "party" mentality that is unique to each school. This is especially true concerning student activities before, during and after school athletic events. Some students harbor a mentality that they just have to be

under a mind altering influence ("blasted") to properly cheer their favorite team.

Regardless of the source, grim incidents of students being seriously injured or killed due to substance abuse continue to occur nationwide.

What are the policies of Clayton State University regarding substance abuse? A portion of the official policy of Clayton University regarding alcohol and substances is found below, including the website where the full text can be found.

"It is the policy of the university that illicit drug use, including their manufacture, sale, distribution, dispensation, possession, or use is prohibited in the workplace, on the campus, or as part of any university activities. Sanctions imposed for violation of this policy are indicated below."

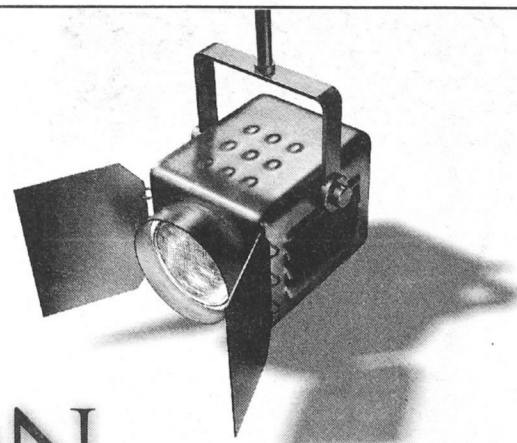
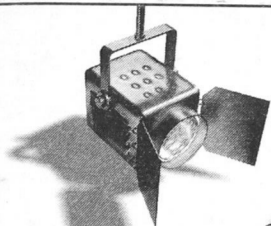
<http://adminserves.clayton.edu/studentconduct/Prevention%20Policy%20Text%20Doc.doc>

I interviewed some of the persons at Clayton State whose direct duties involve the substance abuse policies. They are Captain Dukes, of the Clayton University Police Department; Mr. Andre Clanton, Assistant Director of Student Conduct; and Mr. Jeremy Bidy, the former Director of Housing and Residence Life. Regarding school policy at Laker Hall, Mr. Jeremy Bidy stated, "Clayton University policy bans all substances (alcohol, drugs, etc.) from Laker Hall, the campus residence for Clayton students. All alleged violations of this are referred to the Office of Student Conduct".

"IT IS THE POLICY OF THE UNIVERSITY THAT ILLICIT DRUG USE, INCLUDING THEIR MANUFACTURE, SALE, DISTRIBUTION, DISPENSATION, POSSESSION, OR USE IS PROHIBITED IN THE WORKPLACE, ON THE CAMPUS OF AS A PART OF ANY UNIVERSITY ACTIVITIES."



MS Office Photo



ORGANIZATION SPOTLIGHT

The mission of the Gamma Beta Mu Leadership Society, Inc. is to foster education, life, and the sustenance of leadership. Our members will develop and implement national initiatives, programs, and events for leadership, service, and diversity through networking and meritorious achievement.

In order to acquire membership to this organization

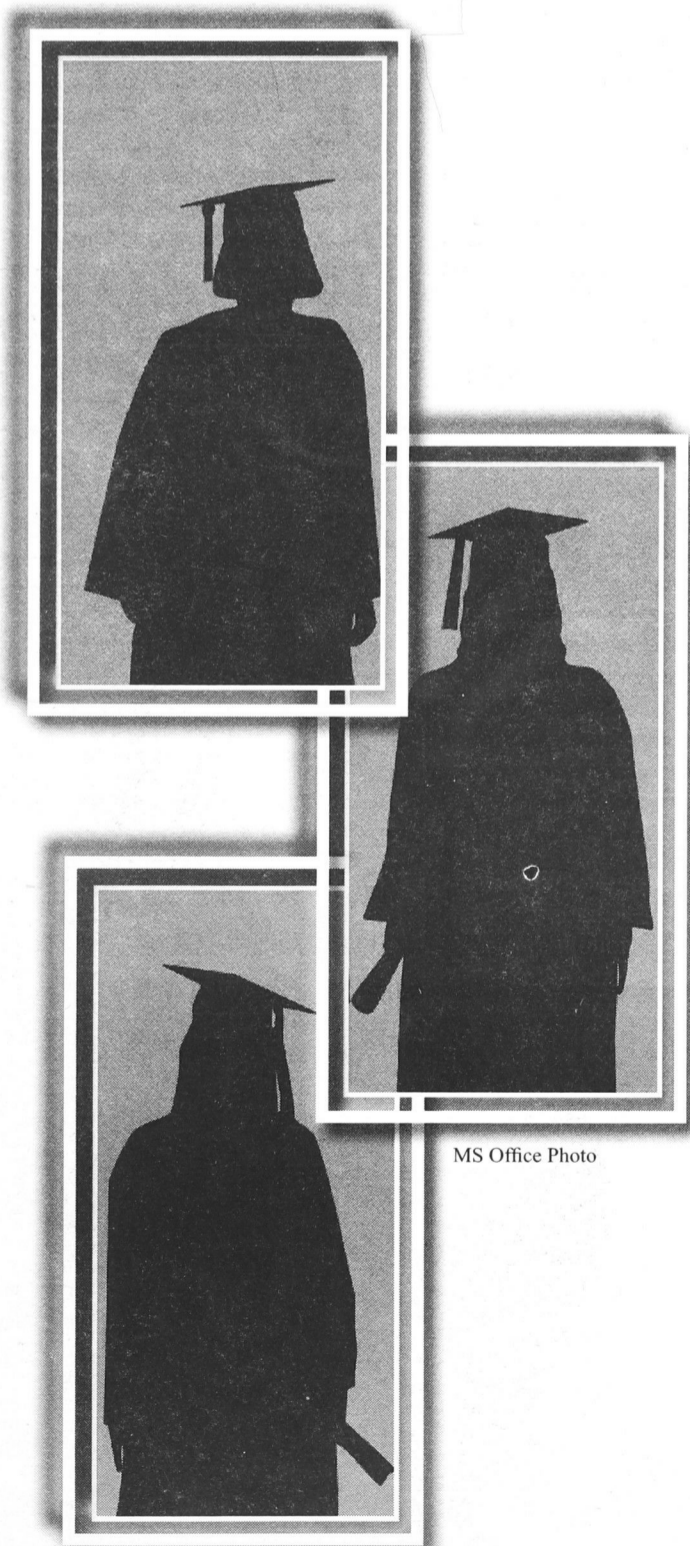
at the undergraduate level, the interested student needs to be attentive as to when the organization decides to have intake. The intake process usually commences at the beginning of the fall and spring semesters. Information about the organization can be found on their national website at www.Gammabetamuinc.org Gamma Beta Mu Leadership Society, Inc. is an organization that focuses highly on education and therefore some of

if not all of our programming incorporates the idea of educating our campus community.

Programs such as "How to Raise your GPA", "Meet your Advisor", "Crashing Stereotypes" etc are all to educate fellow peers on campus. GBM is highly known for their signature "funnel cakes" sale, so be on the lookout.

WHAT A NEW CSU STUDENT NEEDS TO KNOW

by Malley Pendergrass



MS Office Photo

When I came to Clayton State in the Fall of 2008 I wasn't really excited. All of my friends got accepted to Georgia State, UGA, SCAD, All the places I've always dreamed to go. Though, I got accepted to Georgia State, I just could not afford Atlanta life. So Clayton State was basically my only option. However, it turned out to be one of the best experiences of my life. There are so many things you need to know about Clayton State, especially those who plan on living in the dorms. However, the three most important things you need to know about Clayton State are Friends, Food, and Campus information.

The Most important thing you need to know about Clayton State is MAKE FRIENDS! One recent study showed that having friends may even be as important as regular exercise. They help your heart, in more ways than one and they can enrich and extend your life. When I started at Clayton State I knew no one except my roommate Stephanie, who I went to middle school with. The night I moved in I must have met 20 people who I'm still friends with today. Having friends around me all year long really made the year much easier. I always had someone to study with, someone to eat with, someone to go to the mall with, it was really great. I am so thankful for all of the people I met; they created a new chapter in my life that I will never forget.

Food is possibly the second most important thing you need to know about Clayton State. Food is a substantial building block in any college students' life. First let us start with the Dining Hall; the food is alright, It's a good choice if you're broke because it's already paid for! Other than the dining


hall there are TONS of places to eat around campus. There is a little hole in wall Mexican food restaurant across the street from Wal-Mart, a Place called Rocky's Pizza on Lake Harbin road in the same shopping center as the Dollar General, and at least ten different fast food restaurants within only two miles of campus.

Lastly, become aware of your surroundings. Become familiar with all of the buildings on campus before you start your first day of class. During orientation you have a walk through tour, but it's rather brief. If you're living on campus go with your roommate a few days before class. I promise it'll pay off when you know where all of your classes are. Seeing as how the campus is small you can imagine that the walk to class isn't that bad. The worst building to walk to by far is either the Music building or the SAC. Rarely are classes scheduled in these buildings (unless of course music is your major), so you probably won't have to worry about it. Parking is a little wishy washy. You're safe if you're a resident because you have your own parking lot, but the best place to park is probably behind the Arts and Sciences building.

Clayton State is a fun and life changing experience. You will meet people you never thought you would become friends with, you will do things you never thought you would do, and you will certainly never forget it. Do the best to make your years at Clayton State as enjoyable as possible. Not only will this help with your social development but it will make you and overall happier person.

CARTOONS


FACT/MYTH




MYTH:
A part time job isn't a real job.
*you don't make much
*you have no benefits

copyright Alicia Johnson 2009

FACT:
A part time job is just as real as a full time job. *the tax man comes for you first.
*the work is often boring and repetitive much like many full time jobs




All My Ponies



Hey, Cheerilee!

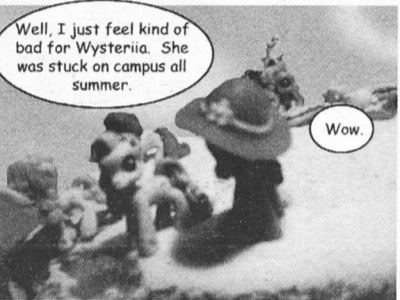
Hey, Rainbow Dash.



I'm glad I took summer off, aren't you?


Of course, what kind of question is that?

copyright alicia johnson 2009



Well, I just feel kind of bad for Wysteria. She was stuck on campus all summer.

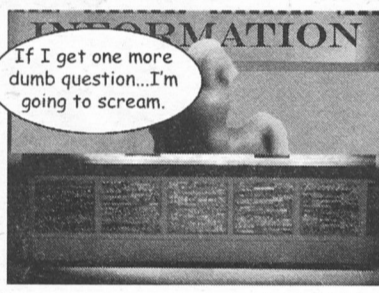
Wow.



I can't imagine being in school for 12 months and going to work without some kind of break.

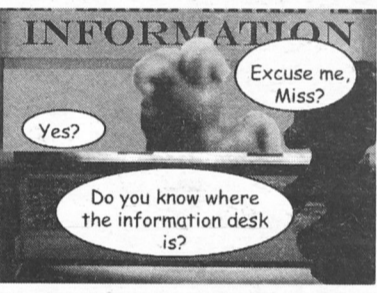
Me either. But you do what you have to do.

Meanwhile on campus during the break...



INFORMATION

If I get one more dumb question...I'm going to scream.



INFORMATION

Excuse me, Miss?

Yes?

Do you know where the information desk is?

break up, with apologies to stephenie meyer comic by ray n.

EDWARD, I'M BREAKING UP WITH YOU.

YOU CANT DO THAT! YOU LOVE ME! I'm A VAMPIRE... I WONT LET YOU GO SO EASILY!





OH-- NOOOO!!!

I'M SORRY--!!

CARTOONS

HTTP://THERAYNEXPERIENCE.WEBS.COM/

HELLO BOYS AND GIRLS! I'M RAY N. AND TODAY WE'LL GO ON A FIELD TRIP! WE'LL BE HEADING TO WASHINGTON D.C. IN SEARCH OF...



The Lost Tapes of Richard Nixon!

RICHARD NIXON, FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND PARANOID SCUMBAG, WAS KNOWN FOR TAPING HIS OWN CONVERSATIONS.

I AM NOT A CROOK!



BUT, THERE WERE THE "LOST TAPES"! WHAT WAS CONTAINED IN SAID TAPES AND WHERE WERE THEY?

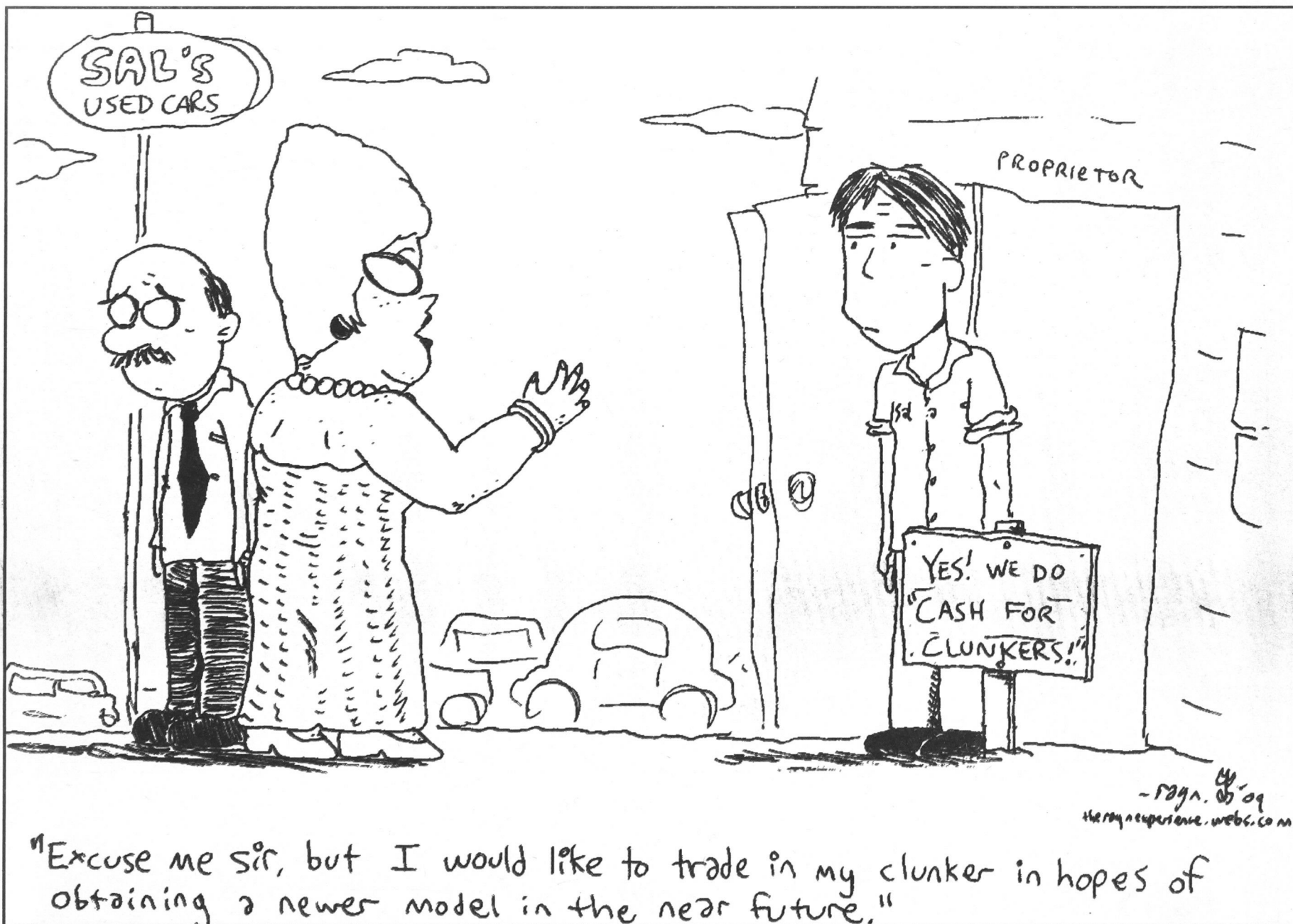


TODAY, WE'LL FINALLY KNOW.

DISCOVERED LAST THURSDAY UNDER THE BED AT LINCOLN'S BEDROOM, THE LOST TAPES ARE NOW FOUND! WHAT'S IN THOSE TAPES? SECRETS OF WATER-GATE? BOHEMIAN GROVE STRANGENESS? THE COLONEL'S SECRET RECIPE OF 11 HERBS AND SPICES? LET'S PRESS PLAY.



YO YO YO! THIS IS MC TRICKY D, WITH SOME FUNKY RHYMES! I'M Badder THAN DA REST CUZ OF MY WAR CRIMES! PASS DA COURVOISER, KISSINGER!



"Excuse me sir, but I would like to trade in my clunker in hopes of obtaining a newer model in the near future."

- Ray N. 05/09
theraynexperience.webs.com

CSU CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SPONSORING UNITS: CL - CAMPUS LIFE; CEC - CAMPUS EVENTS COUNCIL; CS - CAREER SERVICES; IS - INTRAMURAL SPORTS

- 17-21 Welcome Week
- 18 Photo Door Hangers - UC Quad, 11am - 2pm
- 19 Personalized Fleece Throw - Main Street, 11am - 2pm
- 21 2nd Annual Block Party: Wet n' Wild Edition - SAC Green, 5pm - 9pm
- 25 Kickin It Back in Shape - SAC Ballroom, 6pm - 8pm

AUGUST

SEPTEMBER

- 9 Cultural Connection - SAC Cafe, 6pm - 8pm
- 10 Poetic License - SAC Cafe, 6pm - 8pm
- 18 Lakers After Dark - SAC Green, 6pm - 10pm
- 24 "Hey, Who Told You It was Cool to Sleep Around" - UC 272, 6pm - 8pm
- The Sign Shop - Main Street, 11am - 2pm

ADVERTISEMENTS

OFFICE OF CAREER SERVICES

Opportunities Discovered. Professionalism Developed. Careers Launched!
Upper Level Student Center, Suite 250

Walk-in Resume Review
(first come, first served)

Every Wednesday starting Sept 2, 2009
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

For assistance call (678) 466-5400
<http://admins-services.clayton.edu/career>

Services Offered Include:

Online Job & Internship Postings
Workshops & Club Presentations Individual Career Coaching
Resume Critiquing Four Annual Job Fairs
Job Search Assistance Internship and Co-op Assistance
On-Campus Interviews & Recruiting
Graduate School Information

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.

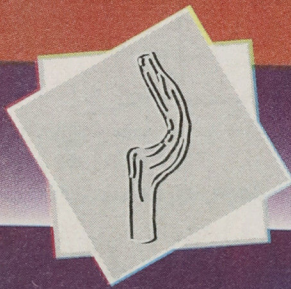
Classes will require weekly sessions with a member of the executive staff and monthly general meetings.

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



THE BENT TREE