

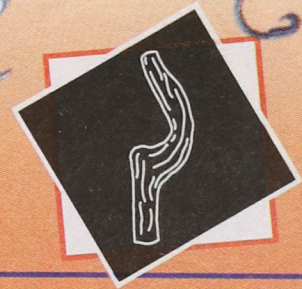
THE BENT TREE

Volume 43 Issue 2

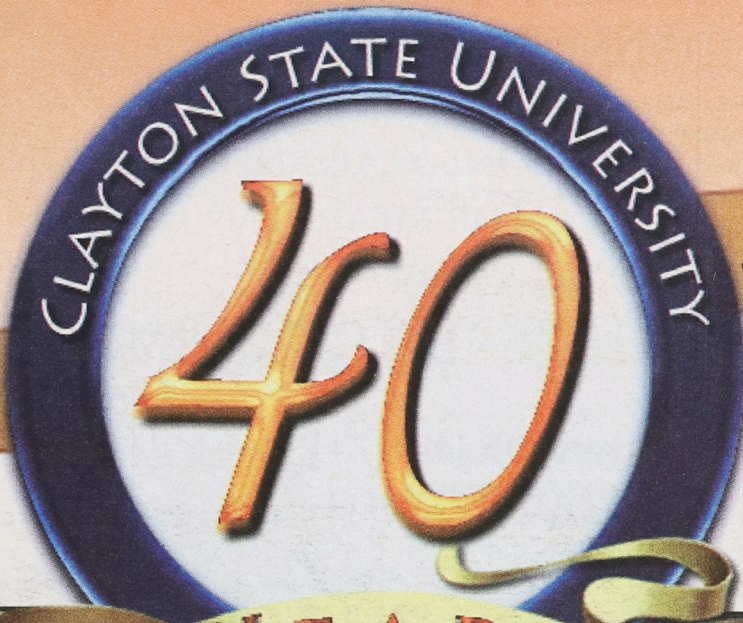
Clayton State University

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Oct 2009



CELEBRATING

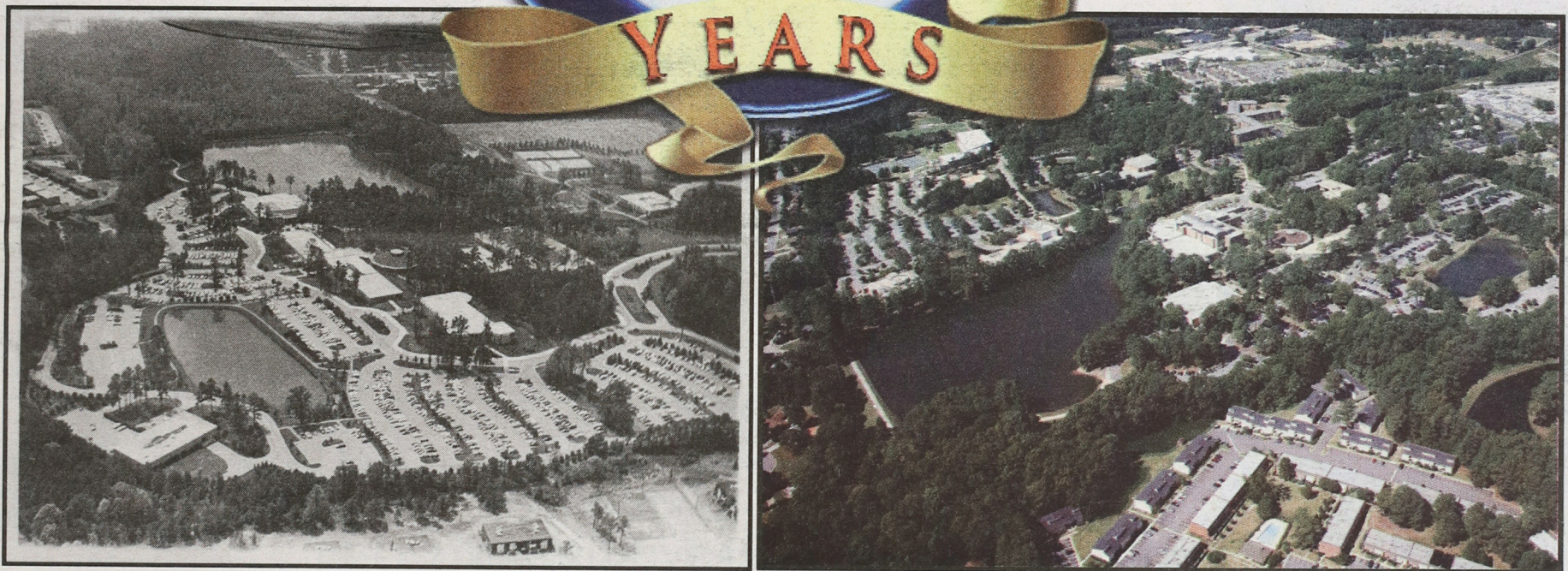


1969

2009

YEARS

by Sarah Martin



Photos of Clayton State University through the years. [From Left to Right], Clayton State in 1969, Current Photo taken by Paul Bailey.

The youth of America have often been criticized for their reluctance to acknowledge the past. When asked how old Clayton State University was many students answered, "twenty-or-so years," often questioning their own answers. Despite the lack of confidence in their answers, the students of Clayton State are nonetheless proud of their school. After all, the resounding successes that Clayton State has enjoyed have their foundations in the bonds fostered between the student body, faculty, administration, and the community. These relationships were created within the foresight of both the founders of the school and the Clayton State's current leaders.

For many across campus, whether it be faculty, staff, or students, it is hard to fathom that forty years have passed since the school began its arduous journey that would make it the Atlanta Southern Crescent's premier university. The decision was made to create several college campuses across metro Atlanta to help make continuing education accessible to all. The school's name was to be Clayton State Junior College but due to the acumen of the school's first president, Dr. Harry Downs, it would not remain a junior college for long.

Dr. Downs knew how important it was for south metro Atlanta to have a four-year university. His accomplishment of this feat can be largely attributed to the importance he placed on continuing education. In fact, the Clayton State University Continuing Education building is named after Dr. Harry Downs as the school's means of paying tribute to this incredibly gracious visionary.

In a recent interview with the Clayton State University magazine *Laker Connection*, Dr. Downs sat down to discuss his development of the nascent university as the campus's first president. During his time with Clayton State, Dr. Downs knew finding the right faculty members was crucial to the future success of the university. He explains, "My experience facilitating the opening of two-year colleges told me that the primary effort of a president preparing to open a new college was the recruitment of faculty. That effort proved to be unusually successful." Dr. Downs was keenly aware of the significance of hiring strong faculty members as he notes that most of the faculty that were brought to the school worked at Clayton State until their respective retirements.

As the school began to grow, Dr. Downs announced the new programs of dental hygiene and nursing to the list of Clayton Junior College programs. As we see today, the campus of Clayton State has greatly benefitted from Dr. Downs' implementation of these programs. Additionally, Dr. Downs saw that Clayton Junior College made use of the up and coming technology of computers that would forever change the face of society and how we communicate with one another. Partnering with Delta Air Lines, Dr. Downs says, "When computers arrived, the college provided thousands of student hours of instruction in how to use computers. Delta Air Lines became a major user of computer instruction." The use of the computers and the partnerships with Delta and other companies in south metro Atlanta quickly led to the campus being recognized as second in the state for its Continuing Education program.

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

ON THE COVER

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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.

DINING HALL

Why don't I get service in the dining hall? I mean if I want to get a signal I have to sit by the window and eat like I'm an animal at the zoo. I don't remember things being like that when it was just the bookstore.

- Dead Zoned

Why does my Internet connect slows to a stop every twenty minutes? I thought we had gigabit Internet or something? Well do I have to keep waiting on this video to load? And then why I try to reconnect it takes forever! I haven't moved my laptop from this spot so how come I get disconnected?

- Dial-up Days

OFFICE UPDATES

Why did all the professors have to start using the new Microsoft Word and stuff? Wasn't the old one just fine? Now I have to get the new one just to open the syllabus and now I have to learn where all the buttons are all over again. Go back to the old word.

- Technophobe

SAC GAME ROOM

Ever since they opened more and more things cost extra money to play. Ok so I was fine before because all I wanted to do was play video games, I could do without the pool table. Now I have to pay a dollar to play rock band? What is this place an arcade now? Oh and what's the explanation? People are breaking the equipment? Well why don't you make that person pay for it!

- Pay-per-play

FACEBOOK

I'm tired of getting messages from events. I never said I was going, why do they get to send me a message? Oh and it isn't just one, its three of the same message from each event. I've tried everything I've made myself private to all events, I even deleted the event app and it still doesn't stop. This is worse than spam in my email at least that goes straight to the junk box.

- Spammed

ELEVATOR

Why is it necessary for people to catch the elevator from the 1st floor to the 2nd floor... pregnant or rolling backpacks are understood, but come on.

- Aggravated

LAKER HALL

The walls in Laker Hall are too thin. I can hear everything coming from my roommates' rooms, EVERYTHING, every breath, sneeze, giggle, and other intimate activities. The same goes for the ceilings and floors I wake up whenever the person above me has their alarm go off, that just isn't cool.

- TMI

SMART PRINT

Can someone please create a PowerPoint on using the smart print system? The line was full of people that should have been spectators. Hurry up... did you forget your name?

- Pissed



http://www.modoc.k12.ca.us/Staff/images/school_books.jpg

"I like a teacher who gives you something to take home to think about besides homework."

- Edith Ann



<http://www.sirreadalot.org/images/SchoolBooks.gif>

Dear Ask Me,
My best friend's boyfriend is fine. And I think that he and I would make a better couple. My best friend treats him really bad by disrespecting him and talking to other guys. What should I do?

- Flirty Friend

Dear Flirty Friend,
First, you need to be a friend and stay out of their relationship. If this is really a friend, leave your best friend alone; keep your friendship by not over stepping your boundaries. Secondly, what does it say about you that you need to prey upon the carnage of someone else's relationship? Finally, Look in the mirror and like what you see, love who you are, and be proud. Go get your own man!

Dear Ask Me,
Can you really get a STD from the toilet seat? - Shy Seat Sitter

Dear Shy Seat Sitter,
This is not very likely. Most STDs are "only transmitted during sexual contact, either by skin to skin contact or through body fluid exchange. Crabs, or pubic lice, may be transmitted through sexual contact, sleeping in infested bedding, sharing infested clothing and possibly through sitting on an infested toilet seat. However, lice cannot survive away from the human body for longer than 24 hours. So contracting pubic lice from a toilet seat is possible, but it's unlikely."(CDC)

Dear Ask Me,
I am infatuated with my best friend. He is straight and I am bi and we have been bros for almost five years. My question is that I want to tell him I am bi to test the waters. Depending on how he handles that, I then want tell him how I feel about him. What should I do?

- Confused Confessor

Dear Confused Confessor,
The most important piece of advice that I can give you is that you need to live an authentic life. That begins with first being honest with yourself and those around you. You don't test the waters with honesty. Truth is the truth morning, noon, and night. Your friend aside, if are willing to own your dignity, your pride, your truth. Then you stand on that truth.

ASK ME!

by Marteece Lockhart
advice@thebenttree.org

Dear Ask Me,
There is this person in one of my classes that I have seen over the past few semesters cheat in various classes. Now he is asking me to help him, what should I do?

- Questioning Conscience

Dear Questioning Conscience,
CSU has a policy against dishonesty and cheating. You worked hard for your grades why would you expect and or accept less from any or your classmates. You need to report this to your professor or to the dean.

Dear Ask Me,
My bro is serving in the Army in Iraq. He is engaged to a girl who is like a sister, and he asked me to look after his fiancé while he was gone. The other day I ask her if I could borrow her flash drive. Upon attempting to upload my paper I saw pictures of her and another dude on what look like a vacation on the beach. What should I do?

- Inquisitive Borrower

Dear Inquisitive Borrower,
The first thing that you need to is "mind" your own business. You violated her privacy. Why were you snooping around the contents of her flashdrive? What were you fishing for? My mama always told me, "when you go fishing you may not catch what you want; but, you will catch something". The problem here is that you got caught up. Now you are going to have to decide whether or not to break your brother's heart. Not Me.

CAMPUS

by Sarah Trousdale

A COLLEGE OF 1ST'S OF ITS OWN

Every school has its firsts. The first building built. The first degrees are offered and there are first graduates. The first sports teams, the first losses, and the first wins. With a 40th anniversary upon Clayton State University this year, people in the community around the school, people who were involved, and people who attended school in the beginning can reflect on many of the school's firsts.

Even the school's very first Athletic Director can remember a lot of the firsts. He was hired as the Athletic Director and the Women's Basketball coach. He served four years as the coach, laying a foundation for the next coach, Jim Hebron. Hebron served 6 years building a foundation to be followed by the present coach, Gordon Gibbons. Following men's basketball came women's basketball, and then came what we know today as Clayton State athletics. And we can thank the man himself for that, Clayton State's first and present Athletic Director, Mason Barfield. I had the privilege of sitting down with Mr. Barfield and asking him a few questions.

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN CLAYTON STATE'S ATHLETIC DIRECTOR?

"Twenty-one years this year. I came in when there was no athletics, as the

Athletic Director and men's basketball coach. That was when we were a part of the NAIA, the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics. We did not have any sports yet, we did not have a mascot, and we did not even have any colors. We had no clue what we were going to call ourselves, so I had my work cut out for me. Our actual first season was 1989-1990. Men's basketball was followed by women's basketball in 1991 and then men and women's soccer in 1992. By 1995, five sports had been added along with CSU's entrance into the NCAA. 1995-1998 was the school's probation period, which means they could participate and compete in NCAA games with a schedule and roster, but the school could not enter into a national championship until after the probation period was over."

WHAT PROGRESS DID YOU SEE AS A COACH WITH THE BASKETBALL TEAM AS WELL AS THE OTHER TEAMS?

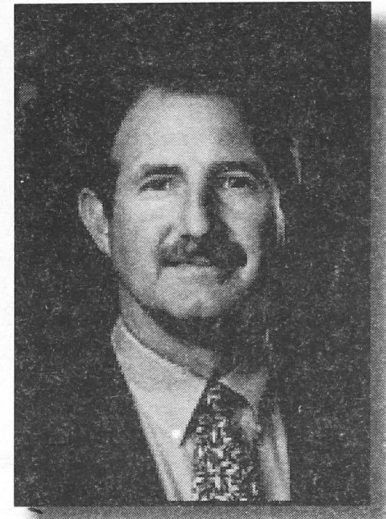
"Well, the first year was a learning year. We won only 3 games. The next year we only won 9 games. When CSU started out, Music and Business degrees were the only degrees offered, so it made recruiting student athletes a little difficult. There were no student dorms, let alone any student athletic dorms and the surrounding area was not the most appealing for young college

students. But we were able to recruit some people who had faith in us as an institution and in the program. We found the right students with the right prospective who became the pioneers of the CSU athletics. They were our firsts as student athletes. By the fourth year, we were 25-7 in the NAIA, finishing as conference champions. We won the conference the next year. The women's basketball team did the very same, by the fourth year they had a winning season and on their way to conference notoriety.

Every step CSU sports has taken has been dramatic. The first goal was just to win a game. With that accomplished, okay, let's win a season. Then let's win a conference. Then let's get ranked in the NCAA. Every step has been taken and more will come. The next is to get a National Championship, which we are well on our way.

WHEN WAS THE LAST YEAR A SPORT WAS IMPLEMENTED AT CSU AND WHAT DO YOU FORESEE TO BE IMPLEMENTED NEXT?

In 2000, we brought in men and women's indoor and outdoor track and field. We had to add four more sports to keep updated with requirements of the NCAA. We would like to implement another women's sport, volleyball or



softball, then men's baseball. We have been tracking student enrollment in order to anticipate the implementation of these sports. We have seen a 3-4% increase in enrollment this year and if we can maintain that over a period of time, within 5 years we can see two new sports implemented, which will be followed by men's tennis and women's golf in the future.

Clayton State's Athletics has seen the worst and has yet to see its best, but the athletics are surely on their way to the top. With the addition new universities in the region of who seem to be quite the competition for the Lakers, CSU seems to be able to hold its own and will continue to do so. To come from a season of three wins by only one team to having several teams make rank in most sports, the Lakers definitely have made each step dramatically.

TESTING YOUR KNOWLEDGE

by Sarah Trousdale

So, what do you know about your college? What do you know about the walls in which you are confined in for an hour and fifteen minutes per class? Do you even know when Clayton State was founded or even how many names it went through? Thanks to anniversaries and the history of colleges from NCAA.com students can find anything out. Well, almost anything. For example, did you know that it took four years and the funding of just 4.9 million dollars to issue a bond for Clayton State University? Did you know that it took 3.3 million dollars of that for building and equipment? And the main issuers of that bond were the Board of Regents. And you thought the Board of Regents were only put on the campus to make your life miserable with those horrid regent's tests! But, no the Board of Regents is one of the main reasons why Clayton State University is the university it is today and we can celebrate 40 years of growth.

In 1965, the Board of Regents authorized three new junior colleges, one to serve the south metropolitan Atlanta. Later that year, the northern part of Clayton County was designated for the general location of this college, though not yet named. In 1968, Clayton Junior College was named as a two year college. Construction began in October 1968, and by August of 1969 the campus opened its doors to the college staff. In February 1969, Harry S. Downs was named the college's first president. By September 1969, 942 students were accepted. Two years later, accreditation was received by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. The new birth of the Classroom Building occurred in 1974, followed by the library opening in 1979. The gym, dance studio, and the Division of Technology or School of Technology buildings were built in 1981.

A government grant was received in '83 and then in '85 Clayton went from being a two year college to a four year college. In less than a decade the college grew tremendously.

So, where and when did Spivey Hall come into play? Well, Spivey Hall was a gift from an Atlanta dentist by the name of Dr. Walter Spivey and his wife Emilie. They were both lovers of music and Mrs. Spivey was known to love the school. It had the potential they were looking for in order to give back to their community. So in 1985, the Spivey family gave a \$1 million dollar gift to construct and design a music recital hall on campus. The music hall has become known as a world class performance hall with an impressive 4,413 pipe organ designed in Italy. The building was finally opened in 1990 followed by the inset of the organ in '91 and Bachelor of Music degrees were developed.

In 1986, Clayton State College was coined and by 1987 the college branched off in Jonesboro with an Aircraft Mechanics Program and facility. 1988 brought in the Nursing program, followed by the first Bachelor of Business Administration degrees. In 1990, the first Bachelor of Science degrees in Nursing were issued as well as the first Associate of Applied Science in Aviations Maintenance Technology degrees.

The 90's brought even more growth to Clayton State as the school entered the inter-collegiate athletic competition with its first team, men's basketball. In 1991, Women's basketball was added. 1994 brought in the college's second president, Dr. Richard A Skinner. Turning around in 1995, Clayton joined the NCAA Division II and the Peach Belt conference. The school also added five more sports: women's tennis and soccer, cross country and golf. Track and Field came

along in 1998 as the 9th and 10th sports for men and women's NCAA sports.

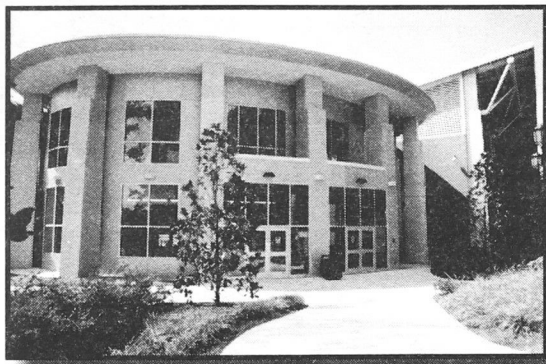
So where did the Dental Hygienists, IT, Education, Arts and Science, and Music majors come in? Music Education was added in 1991, followed by the BellSouth foundation donating \$150,000 to implement a baccalaureate degree program for teacher education in 1992. In 1995, the first of the teacher education students graduated. In February of 1996, the Board of Regents approved the Bachelor of Applied Science degrees to Technology Management, Administrative Management, Allied Health Administration and Dental Hygiene Practice and Administration. Later that year, the college changed its name to Clayton State University. 1997 gave CSU its first Arts and Science majors and 1998 CSU welcomed its first IT degrees. The 1998-1999 school began in a semester system. This came after thirty years of being a quarterly college, WOW!

In the last ten years, the school has expanded physically and academically with the addition of the Music building. This building is located on the north part of the campus, with construction that began in 1998. The University Center was completed in 2004. The 40,000 square-foot Student Activities Center opened in 2007, with its state of the art free weight area, fitness machine area, and an upstairs cardio fitness area. Clayton Place paved the way for college dorms, being more accommodating and inviting for outside students. Every inch of the university is being used to its fullest which is overwhelming and rewarding, making a student proud to be a Laker!

**HAPPY 40TH ANNIVERSARY
CLAYTON STATE UNIVERSITY!!!**

by Gary Reddish

ONE YEAR AND COUNTING IN THE SAC



The Student Activities Center, or "SAC" as it is more commonly referred to, has recently become the heart of student involvement and activity on the Clayton State campus. Opened in September of 2008, the Student Activities Center has grown from an idea to the hub of social and community involvement in the Clayton County area. Housing events ranging from the Student Involvement Fair to the upcoming Miss Black and Gold Pageant, the SAC has truly earned the title of "The Home of Student Involvement." It is also home to many departments and student organizations including the Department of Campus Life, the Clayton State Fitness Center, the Department of Recreation and Wellness, Student Government Association, Clayton State Internet Radio, and the Fraternity and Sorority Council. Out of the organizations and departments located in the SAC, several group leaders were kind enough to offer their views on the usage, features, and future of the SAC.

Based on the sheer number of events held at the SAC, the argument has been made that the level of student involvement among all organizations on campus has drastically increased. Audreianna Smith, the President of the Fraternity and Sorority Council, stated that one reason for this change is due to the fact that, "students finally have a place to call their own. They don't have to worry about being in the way of classes that may be held in the UC, since the ballrooms and organizational suites are available for meetings and events."

This freedom from strict time constraints and limited space had also increased the desire for more events among the members of her organization. Ms. Smith was able to hint at some future events that will be sponsored by the FSC including a Thanksgiving Dinner where they will sponsor between one and three needy families to have dinner in the ballrooms. Through community involvement and hard work, the FSC has made great use of the space and resources at their disposal.

During the first semester of operation for the SAC, the building did not get the usage that was expected. This was due to the fact that many students didn't know where the building was located. However, with the growing popularity of the game room and fitness center, building usage is at an all time high and can only increase in the coming months and years. One person who can attest to that statement is the President of the Student Government Association, Darius Thomas. The SGA President believes that with the start of the new year, there has been a great increase in the popularity of the building among students. Mr. Thomas told me, "You see more students in their offices in the organizational suites, the usage of the fitness center has increased, and the amount and types of events has gone up as well." He has also ensured that the building will become synonymous with SGA by moving all of the general body meetings and major events to the SAC, thus leading the way for other organizations to follow.

In order to have a balanced view of the total impact of the SAC, we need to look to the professional staffs' perspective.

Cindy Lauer, the Director of Recreation and Wellness shared this: "Since moving from Smart Bodies to the Fitness Center there have been a lot of changes in the programs offered and the overall clientele that uses the facilities. The biggest change has been the implementation of the group exercise classes.

Response from those who attended the classes last semester has been nothing short of spectacular, with enrolment increasing daily. The biggest challenge that the Fitness Center and SAC face is the lack of knowledge about the facilities and the programs. Many students still do not realize the amount of events and programs that are offered from the department of Recreation and Wellness including intramural sports, outdoor adventures, hikes, paintball, white water rafting, group exercise classes, and so much more. Needless to say, as a student you are already paying for the facilities so you might as well get your money's worth".

The Director of Campus Life shares that sentiment as well. Eric Simon, the Director of the Student Activities Center and the Department of Campus Life oversees the day-to-day operations of the SAC. He also oversees the campus events managed by the Assistant Directors of Campus Life Ms. Natasha Hutson and Ms. Lakiesha Cantey. Mr. Simon has watched student involvement grow over his years serving here at Clayton State and has first-hand experience dealing with how different organizations have changed their approach to certain on-campus events. "The S.A.C. has given students more space to do things, versus just being focused in the UC," says Mr. Simon. Before, students were limited in the types of events that could be held in the UC commons or main street areas, but now the possibilities are almost endless. When asked about the plans for the future of the building Mr. Simon stated that there will be events ranging from outside parties renting out the ballrooms in order to keep revenue up, to more student hosted events, as well as a variety of other events for the year. One thing that can certainly be said is that student involvement is key for the future of the building.

It is safe to say that the Student Activities Center is becoming the true heart of student involvement. It is loved and admired by everyone who sets foot inside, and is used for work, play, and everything in between. To any and everyone who attends CSU and has not made the walk over to the SAC, one thing is for certain—you truly do not know what you are missing.

THE MEAL PLAN OR PLAN TO FAIL

by Erica Boswell

Last year I had the pleasure of becoming one of the first students to stay in Clayton State's brand new residence hall. The residence hall is a very convenient place to stay especially for students like me who live more than 20 minutes away from the campus. I was able to sleep a little longer, not have to worry about the crazy Georgia traffic, save gas and time. The only problem I had with staying in Laker Hall was the meal plan. Aside from being a full time student I also had a full time job and did not have time to eat in the dining hall on a daily basis.

According to Clayton.edu under the campus housing section, every student living in the residence hall is required to purchase the meal plan. The website also states that the meal plan is very flexible and designed to meet the wide variety of class, work, and weekend schedules of Clayton State Students. However, they only offer three different plans that all add up to \$1,489.

The first plan they offer is the Platinum plan, which allows unlimited meals in the dining hall and \$50 dining dollars (dining dollars can be used at any of Clayton's

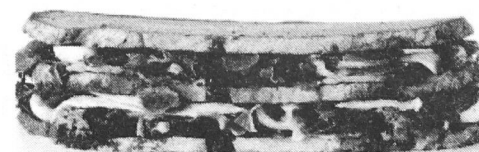
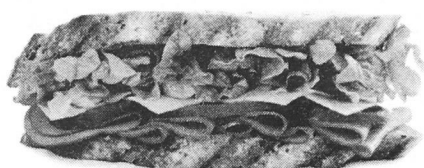
dining locations).

The second plan is the gold plan, which gives you 14 meals per week and \$250 dining dollars. The last one plan is the silver plan, which gives you 10 meals and \$400 dining dollars. You would think that the best plan for a working person living in the residence hall would be the silver plan, but I know from experience it is not. Not only did I not use all 10 of my meals from week to week, I also finished off the spring semester with over \$200 dining dollars. This would have been great if I were able to keep whatever I did not use, but no, my money went down the drain. I'm scared to even calculate how much money I really lost using the meal plan.

This year I've noticed more than just a few students that lived in the residence hall last year are now living in Clayton Place or have moved back in with their parents. I'm not saying this is solely due to the meal plan, but I know for sure that was my main reason for moving back home along with a few other students that I have spoken with.

"It is more cost efficient for me to stay away from the dorms versus staying in the dorms based on the meal plan. Groceries are cheaper and the cost of living is cheaper," says sophomore Marcus Hyde. There are a few students that are focused strictly on school or have the luxury of not working who felt differently about the meal plan but still agreed some things needed to be altered.

Jasmeen Sapp, who is a returning resident from last year, says she thinks the meal plan is good but needs to be tweaked." It is very expensive," she says, and continues to go on about how she wishes the dining hall was at least open until 10pm. Although the mandatory meal plan for Laker Hall may be good for those students who do not have other obligations, it's not flexible enough for the working students. Students who choose to take advantage of Laker Hall should have the right to decide if they want or can even afford to eat off a meal plan. I know for a fact my bank account was hurt greatly not only from the meal plan but also from the outside food I had to buy because I didn't have time to stop at one of the dining locations in the UC before heading to work! Just a little food for thought!



CAMPUS

CONT'D FROM PG 1

COVER STORY

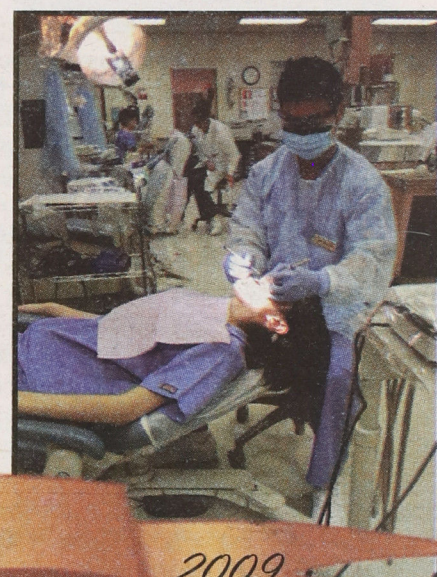
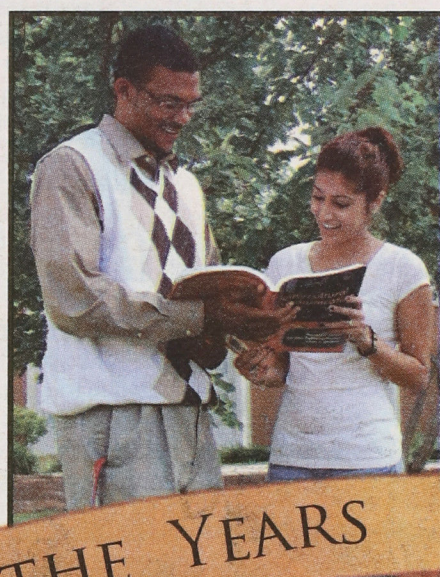


CLAYTON STATE UNIVERSITY

CELEBRATES 40 YEARS OF SERVICE & EDUCATION



1969



2009

THROUGH THE YEARS

It was an honor that would become the hallmark of the school as it became a university.

Though Dr. Tim Hynes, Clayton State University's interim president, has only been on campus for a few months, the school has made a great impact upon him. Dr. Hynes sat down with *The Bent Tree* for our anniversary edition and said that one of his favorite things about our campus is its people. He discusses the "gracious" nature of the people on campus by saying, "This is an unbelievably gracious place. The students, faculty, and staff alike are clearly excited and committed to not only to their success but the success of the institution. In order to start talking about Clayton State, I must start with the people."

Dr. Hynes also talks about how important the placement of the campus was in terms of location to the city of Atlanta and its suburbs. "The location here, of this site, was a result of some of the founding mothers and fathers finding beauty in this location to trump a location that might have been a few miles down the road. The approximate distance from Atlanta...continues to be important today,"

Dr. Hynes continues.

He further explains the value of our campus's area in terms of the ability for faculty and staff to reach out to local businesses. "Partnerships also continue to be very important to our university," Dr. Hynes says. He also mentions how important our partnerships with local community members has become throughout the years and how these relationships will continue to grow and prosper throughout the coming years. Dr. Hynes also says, "This is still one of the most beautiful campuses I have ever seen!" He states that between the people, the community partnerships, and the beauty of the campus, Clayton State is sure to enjoy many more years of success.

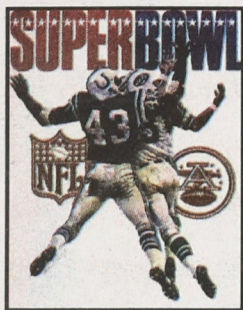
When asked about a particular message he wanted to convey to the students, Dr. Hynes said he would share, "...the same sort of advice as President Obama shared with public high school students..." during the month of September. He summarizes the President's speech by stating that it is imperative for students to take charge of their own education in order to succeed. "By making commitments in areas in which they (students) can excel and by discovering areas in which they can excel, to achieve that level of excellence...students have responsibilities to take advantage of this level of excellence that we both hope and need to create on behalf of the students of Clayton State University."

Dr. Harry Downs had a similar message to the students, "Thank you students for studying at Clayton State University. You have selected a college where your faculty have two essential characteristics: they teach exceptionally well and care about students. In addition you have an opportunity to make new friends, many of whom will become life-long friends. Most importantly, please study every day." In a rare moment, Clayton State University students not only have the ability to hear a message from their current president but also from the first president of the university, who helped to found the school forty years ago.

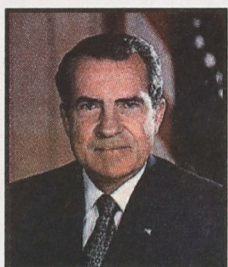
Whether or not you are a student of history, and though forty years ago may seem very distant, it is important that we understand the beginning of our school in order to respect the opportunities it has given each and every one of us. Without brilliant leadership, adept students, and distinguished faculty, many lives in the Southern Crescent of metro Atlanta would not have been able to achieve their educational goals while ensuring the future success of generations to come.

CAMPUS

IN 1969



January 12
SUPERBOWL: NY Jets beat Baltimore Ravens (16-7)



January 20
Richard Nixon made 37th US President



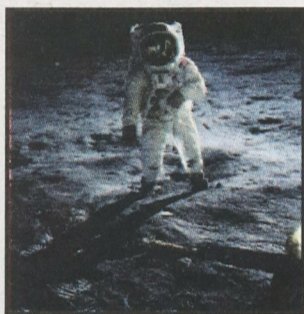
January 30
The Beatles last public performance on the roof of Apple Records



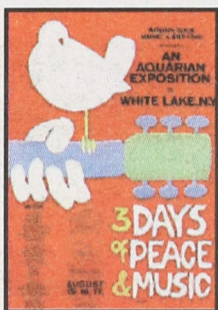
March 28
Dwight Eisenhower dies (34th US President)



June 22
Judy Garland dies (Actress, Singer)



July 20
APOLLO 11
Commander Neil Alden Armstrong & Pilot Edwin Eugene "Buzz" Aldrin are the first humans to land on the moon, while Pilot Michael Collins orbited above.



August 15-18
WOODSTOCK
Original festival, "An Aquarian Exposition: 3 days of Peace & Music" was held in White Lake, New York for 500,000 concert-goers.



October 21
Jack Kerouac dies (Author, Poet, Painter)

October 31
Walmart incorporates as Walmart Stores, Inc.



1969 - [Actual Awards presented on April 7, 1970]

Best Picture: *Oliver!* John Wolfe, producer
Best Actor: Cliff Robertson, *Charly*
Best Actress: [TIE] Katherine Hepburn, *The Lion in the Water*, & Barbra Streisand, *Funny Girl*



November 18
Joseph Kennedy Sr. dies (44th US Ambassador to UK)



November 10
SESAME STREET (longest running children's television program to date) makes its television debut on PBS.

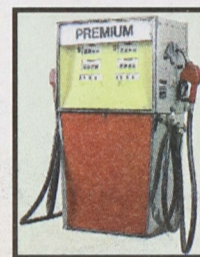


1969 - [11th Awards recognizing accomplishments of 1968]

Record of the Year: "Mrs. Robinson", Simon & Garfunkel
Album of the Year: "By the Time I Get to Phoenix", Glen Campbell (Capitol)
Song of the Year: "Little Green Apples", Bobby Russell



1969
Stamp 8 cents



1969 - Gas/Gallon 35 cents



1969 - Large Eggs- 49 cents/dozen

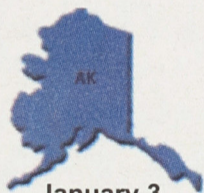


1969 - Movie Ticket \$1.00



1969 - Bread 69 cents

IN 2009



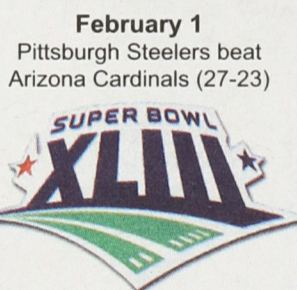
January 3
Alaska celebrates 50 years as official US States



January 20
Barack Obama made 44th US President



January 27
John Updike dies (Novelist, Short Story Writer Literary Critic)



February 1
Pittsburgh Steelers beat Arizona Cardinals (27-23)



February 8
Record of the Year: "Please Read the Letter", T Bone Burnett
Album of the Year: "Raising Sand", T Bone Burnett
Song of the Year: "Viva la Vida", Coldplay



February 22
Best Picture: *Slumdog Millionaire* Danny Boyle & Loveleen Turner, producers
Best Actor: Sean Penn, *Milk*
Best Actress: Kate Winslet, *The Reader*



March 9
Barbie (Mattel) turns 50



June 25
Michael Jackson dies (Singer, Songwriter, Dancer, Choreographer, Producer)



June 25
Farrah Fawcett dies (Actress)



July 20
Longest Total Solar Eclipse in 21st Century & most widely observed eclipse in human history



August 12
Les Paul dies (Innovator, Inventor, Musician, Songwriter)

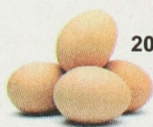
August 21
Hawaii celebrates 50 years as official US States



August 25
Edward "Ted" Kennedy dies (Democratic Senator for Massachusetts)



September 18
Guiding Light (Guinness Book longest running Soap Opera) is cancelled after 57 years on TV & 72 years on Radio



2009 - Large Eggs - \$2.89/dozen



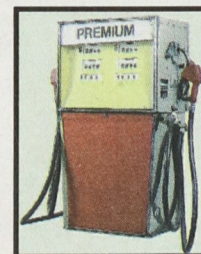
2009 - Bread \$2.02 +



2009
Stamp 44 cents



2009 - Movie Ticket \$7.30 +



2009 - Gas/Gallon \$2.35 +

by Joseph Brown

THE MARKET OF HEALTH CARE REFORM

Over about the last 40 years, health care costs have skyrocketed. Insurance costs have gotten so expensive that many have decided to risk going uninsured. Reform is obviously needed. However, in order to have good reform - to get rid of what is corrupt and defective while also lowering costs - the source of the problem must be correctly determined. Some fail to even consider the question and only demand that government do something to fix the problem. This has been called politician's logic; "Something must be done. This is something, therefore we must do it." The question is what caused the problem, too much government intervention or too little?

The truth is that the problem stems from government intervention and so can only truly be fixed by getting government out of health care. I agree with Anthony Gregory, who recently stated, "In the 1960s, more than 80% of Americans had health insurance, and most of those who didn't saw no need for it, since health services were quite inexpensive. Doctors did house calls. Medications were affordable. A hospital visit cost a few days' pay, not a month's or year's pay. This superior system could be restored, if only the government got out of the way. Phase out Medicare, Medicaid, subsidies, licensing, and the FDA and we'd be a much healthier nation."

No one knows for sure what health care reform will be enacted, but don't expect that! In Bill Huff's words, "If you want the best and least expensive anything, get the government out of your equation." Any health care reform that is not in the direction of a free market will be destined for failure, and will be used as an excuse for further government involvement. Many politicians have openly stated on video that their goal is getting legislation through that will lead to a single payer system.

Some people say the problem with the health care system is a failure of capitalism. Quite frankly, these people don't know what they're talking about. I can't put it any better than Irwin Schiff did in his book *The Biggest Con*: "The American public must wake up and realize that we are now living under a system that is a combination of socialism and fascism." And that was written in 1976!

The reason prices have been rising over time is because the government's partner in crime, the Federal Reserve, creates money out of thin air. This inflation makes prices rise, but not equally across all sectors of the economy. Areas where government

spends the most, like health care, see much higher price increases.

There are many reasons why more government involvement in health care is a bad idea. It is all unconstitutional, contrary to the propaganda you hear. Of course, almost everything the federal government does is unconstitutional, so it's a moot point. End all the government's unconstitutional activities and with the trillions saved people would be able to fill the gaps in health care with private charity.

Another reason not to have more government involvement in health care is because the country is bankrupt! The national debt including unfunded liabilities is at least \$70 trillion. Don't believe the absolute nonsense that the government plan will save money so it won't end up costing anything. Walter Williams notes, "At its start, in 1966, Medicare cost \$3 billion." The Federal government predicted Medicare would cost an inflation-adjusted \$12 billion by 1990. "In 1990, Medicare topped \$107 billion. That's nine times Congress' prediction. How much confidence can we have in any cost estimates by the White House or Congress?"

Besides being unconstitutional, it is immoral. French economist Frederic Bastiat described it like this: "But how is this legal plunder to be identified? Quite simply. See if the law takes from some persons what belongs to them, and gives it to other persons to whom it does not belong. See if the law benefits one citizen at the expense of another by doing what the citizen himself cannot do without committing a crime."

"Then abolish this law without delay, for it is not only an evil itself, but also it is a fertile source for further evils because it invites reprisals. If such a law - which may be an isolated case - is not abolished immediately, it will spread, multiply, and develop into a system.

"The person who profits from this law will complain bitterly, defending his acquired rights. He will claim that the state is obligated to protect and encourage his particular industry; that this procedure enriches the state because the protected industry is thus able to spend more and to pay higher wages to the poor workingmen.

"Do not listen to this sophistry by vested interests. The acceptance of these arguments will build legal plunder into a whole system. In fact, this has already

occurred. The present-day delusion is an attempt to enrich everyone at the expense of everyone else; to make plunder universal under the pretense of organizing it."

We have failed to heed Bastiat's warning, but he was hardly the only person to warn us. Thomas Jefferson said,

"To preserve independence we must not let our rulers load us with perpetual debt...If we run into such debts as that we must be taxed in our meat and in our drink, in our necessities and our comforts, in our labors and our amusements, for our callings and our creeds, as the people of England are, our people, like them, must come



to labor sixteen hours in the twenty-four, give the earnings of fifteen of these to the government for their debts and daily expenses, and the sixteenth being insufficient to afford us bread, we must live, as they now do, on oatmeal and potatoes, have no time to think, no means of calling the mismanagers to account, but be glad to obtain subsistence by hiring ourselves to rivet their chains on the necks of our fellow-sufferers."

Choose the market for health care reform. You have nothing to lose but your chains.

MANAGE YOUR WEIGHT WHILE YOU RELIEVE STRESS

by Charsity Johnson

As school started, many people have been heading to the Fitness Center. Each new semester presents students and faculty with a brand new set of challenges to overcome. New challenges ultimately lead to higher levels of stress.

The director of Recreation and Wellness, Cindy Lauer, recommends regular physical exercise to relieve stress. She says that something as simple as getting up and walking around to clear the mind goes a long way in maintaining good health. We all know that college work can weigh us down and drive us crazy. So working out can lift the weights off our shoulder.

Freshman biology Major Alexis Corley works out three to five times per week, the average of Clayton State students. Alexis stated, "I want to lose the freshman fifty and not gain the freshman fifteen."

According to researchers by Health Choice the infamous freshmen fifteen is real.

A recent study indicates that nearly one of four freshmen gain at least 5% of their total body weight, an average of 10 lbs during their first semester

However, most college students simply want to "bring sexy back." Sophomore James Lawrence loves playing basketball. He said, "Mentally, working out makes me a better person and makes me feel good so I can look good." James, like other male students, enjoys being in good physical shape because of the attention he gets from females. Junior English Major Colbi Sirmons stated, "I just motivate myself to become slimmer and be a healthy individual."

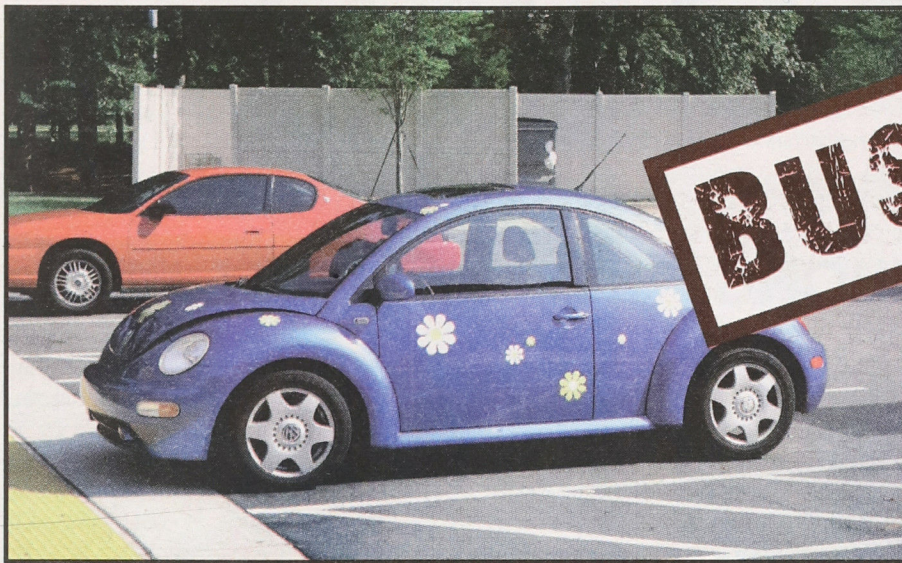
Motivation determines how hard you work to reach your exercise goals and the level of benefit you gain from the entire process. Often, it takes discipline to get through rough times and to get a little work out done. Sophomore Business major Deja Black, challenges herself to get a fair work out completed. She stated, "I never been skinny, I just want to fit in all my clothes. And also working out keeps me alerted in class and I discipline myself to eat healthy." Sometimes people take that extra mile and do what it takes to become interactive. Mentally, exercising relieves stress and relaxes your body.

If you have health issues such as such as schizophrenia, muscular dystrophy, or obesity, exercising may be your answer to maintaining a healthier body. Try it!



PARKING LOT PREDICAMENT

by John Zinko



Have you ever been driving through the Clayton State parking lot and seen every parking spot taken by someone else's car? Have you been driving for what seems like forever and noticed there is a handicap spot open and no one around? I mean 'how many handicap students go here anyways? Well you may have found a parking spot, but chances are it's going to cost you way more than you originally bargained for.

I was allowed the privilege of talking with Deputy Chief, Rex Duke of the Clayton State Public Safety Office. Officer Duke informed me that the police and parking patrol on CSU campus are always patrolling and writing tickets on campus for minor infractions, like students parking in administration parking or students not properly placing their parking decal on their rear windshield. "Most people abide by the rules but there is always the occasional instance involving a visitor on campus," said Duke. There was an instance last fall when students were parking on the grass and a few vehicles were towed, but Officer Duke assured me that the patrol units make an attempt to contact the owner before a

towing occurs.

Now you may be wondering why there are so many handicap spaces available, but never any vehicles to fill them up. The truth is that there are laws set by the American Disabilities Act. They set the standard on how many spaces are to be handicap accessible in each parking lot. Now if you are still adamant about parking in one of these spots without proper credentials then I have to warn you: your actions will not come cheap. First you will be administered a parking ticket with the minimum fine. Then a state citation can be issued which will cost several hundreds of dollars which I'm sure you don't have that kind of scratch to be throwing around. You could appeal at the Morrow Municipal Court or the State Court in Clayton County but then you might end up having to pay state fines or city fines or county fines which aren't fine at all. Luckily, not a lot of violations have been issued so it's a safe bet that we are all adhering to the rules.

The construction in the parking lot beside the

Arts and Sciences building is devastating to all students. The entire lot has been blocked off causing even more shortages in spaces available for students but even more of a problem for those unable to get around as well as the rest. The assembly crew is installing IT connections for the East Campus but don't cheer just yet because there is another project about to start in the same section. There is also talk that the site is the location for the expansion of the campus but there are no concrete details on the matter at this time.



THE DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER

Clayton State University, 255 Student Center, www.clayton.edu/drc, 678-466-5445
DisabilityResourceCenter@clayton.edu

The mission of the Disability Resource Center, in partnership with the university community, is to create an accessible, inclusive campus where students with disabilities have an equal opportunity to fully participate in and benefit from all aspects of the educational environment. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1990, we provide

accommodations and related services to CSU students with documented disabilities to fulfill our institutional commitment of equal access to courses, programs, and activities. The Disability Resource Center serves as a resource for students, faculty, staff and the community regarding disability issues.

admission using the same criteria as other students. Once admitted to CSU, students with disabilities seeking accommodations should consult the DRC website as early as possible and follow the posted instructions for registering with the office.

Students with disabilities are considered for

Common Accommodations

- Extended time for testing
- Permission to audio record lectures
- Distraction-reduced testing environment
- Sign language interpreter services
- Assistive listening devices
- Alternate text formats
- for textbooks and other printed materials
- Use of computers with assistive technology
- Housing modifications
- Captioned videos
- Volunteer notetakers
- Priority registration
- Physical access

Other Services

- Referral to campus, community and other resources
- Recommendations for appropriate assistive technology and limited basic training
- Coaching services
- Assistance with *Learning and testing strategies, Self-advocacy skills, Employability skills, Career planning, Time management strategies*



DIRECTOR
Louise Bedrossian

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
Tameeka Hunter

SUPPORT SERVICES COORDINATOR
Karen Blackburn

Disabilities that **MAY** qualify for accommodations include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Learning Disabilities
- [ADHD] Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder
- Blindness/Low Vision
- Deafness/Hard of Hearing
- Chronic Medical Conditions
- Psychological/Psychiatric
- Disabilities
- Motor/Mobility Impairments
- Brain Injury
- Other conditions that limit a major life function
(seeing, hearing, walking, moving, breathing, learning, etc.)

S P R T S

4-2-0 LAKERS COMING OUT STRONG The 1st 6 game recap of the 2009-2010 Season

by Sarah Trousdale

As of September 12, 2009, the Clayton State Men's Soccer team has pretty much dominated the field, though not without some obstacles to overcome along the way. The season started out with a trip to the Sunshine State as the CSU men took on Nova Southeastern in Fort Lauderdale on August 27th and Barry in Miami Shores on August 29th. By starting the season off right and counting their lucky sunshine rays, they took home victories in 1-0 wins in both games. The sunshine seemed to have stayed in the southern hemisphere as the Lakers returned home for a Labor Day blow out from Tampa and the elite footwork of Lynn University. Lynn University vomited amounts of calculated precision within their passing and ball handling. Amidst such foot-kissing, there was much gnashing of cleats and gnawing of egos between undefeated Lynn University and Clayton. However, Clayton handled the first to upsetting goals by Lynn University junior, #8 Kyle Conrad. Frustration kicked in with only 20 minutes left of the game when a penalty kick was made to make an upset of 0-3.

As the full moon rose over the campus up behind the trees to Laker Field, 1 minute left a 5th attempt made but to no avail. Flagrant fouls seemed to have been boosted up a notch by both teams as the end came near. "You suck, Ref!" was shouted from the stands as an upset Laker fan lamented. It seemed CSU couldn't wake up from their loss that night against another top ranked PBC Tampa. A week off might be what the Lakers needed to recover from two disappointing losses. It seemed to have been exactly what the Clayton State men needed to shut out Alabama-Huntsville with a 3-0 win and an intense 3-2 win over Newberry. Clayton State seemed to have pulled it out of the ground last minute, literally, to tie the game 2-2 with nine seconds left in the night. Newberry was in no way a comparison to Lynn University, but still became a challenge deep into the game.

The night started out with the most attendance thus far in the season with a recorded 211 people in the stands and elsewhere on the campus. As the players were called by digits and names, the anthem to the flag was sung, and

the team had a small pre-game huddle. CSU began the game with a nudge of the ball from midfield to Roger Boniface. Faublas, who was rocking some Laker orange cleats, at 42:22, in the air and in the veins of CSU fans as the game quickly, escalated excitement into a score. Was it the cleats or skill of Faublas? That is to be determined, but CSU rode on the magic carpet ride throughout the night. CSU seemed to have more accuracy with their passes and foot-kicking as compared to not even a week prior when they faced undefeated Lynn University. Body action and aggressive behavior was evident in both teams on September 12th. They both thirsted for a win, though CSU was no contest to Newberry's seemingly young team with few veterans. Within the last few minutes of the first half in play, Newberry surprised the Lakers with a direct top middle kick from freshman Colt Priest.

The second half began uneventfully, but not for long as CSU planned for the kill. 17:58 into the second half, CSU's Jonathan Ray assisted Leighton Fredericks in the team's second goal. It was an exciting kick at the top of the penalty box of the left cross. As the second half came to a close, it seemed it was a given that CSU would walk away from this victorious as the last minute played on. With just 20 seconds left of the game, Newberry's goalkeeper came out of his box to assist the team with a last chance play at scoring. No way on earth was it expected but the soccer fairies were on Newberry's side as an incoming pass-assist from Colt Priest to the prepared head of junior Marvin Torvic off the incoming middle pass. The surprise attempt was a success for Newberry, tying the game 2-2. Strategy was at its peak for Clayton as a sudden death tie-breaker was set in play. Ten minutes for preparation was enough time for the shock of the last minute goal to wear off and help Clayton declare themselves victorious. With not a second to lose, the breaker began aggressively from both schools. Six minutes into the breaker, Jonathan Ray gave yet another assist to teammate Jonathan McKeever, scoring the game-ending. With only one yellow card and one offside call, Clayton State came out victorious against southern duos.

CAMPUS LIFE ACTIVITIES

FALL SEMESTER LEAD the WAY SEMINAR SCHEDULE

Nov. 3, 2009 Focus on: Hunger and Homelessness

Ms. Lindy Wood, Hunger and Homelessness Educator, Atlanta Community Food Bank Educates community members, service and student groups about societal poverty and homelessness.

All LEAD the Way seminars will be held in the Student Activities Center Ballroom C at 6:00 PM

The Clayton State University Service Learning Series was developed to expand civic engagement to include not just opportunities to volunteer, but also opportunities to connect concepts and theories learned in the classroom with practical application in student life on campus and beyond.

The Service Learning Series will confront a different critical community need each month and induce students to think constructively about

social injustices from a scholarly perspective prior to actually engaging in community service that addresses the issue.

Each month, students will have the opportunity to interact with faculty members who will facilitate thought-provoking conversation on the monthly community need topic. Faculty facilitators will provide students with background on the problem, legislation/policies enacted to address the problem, and pedagogical solutions to the problem for students to critically analyze and debate. Students will then take a hands-on approach to addressing the issue by volunteering on the Saturday following each discussion.

Intended outcomes for these sessions include:

- 1) Exposing students to faculty members who share common interests in community and social issues;
- 2) Challenging students to use knowledge learned in the classroom to address social issues of concern in the community; and
- 3) Encouraging students and faculty to champion these issues together as one Clayton State University community.

SERVICE LEARNING SERIES SCHEDULE

OCTOBER 2009

Child & Environmental Safety
October 15, 2009 at 11:00 AM
Lecture Hall B-12

October 17, 2009
Clayton Co. River Clean-Up

NOVEMBER 2009

Hunger & Homelessness
November 19, 2009 at 11:00 AM
Lecture Hall B-12

November 21, 2009
St. Francis Soup Kitchen

DECEMBER 2009

December 14-18, 2009
Alternative Winter Break
Give Kids the World,
Orlando, Florida

CULTURE CONCLAVE CSU

by Michael Ratti

The American Idol stage was set, with five speakers facing the audience boasting tunes from every artist ranging from Frank Sinatra to the Backstreet Boys, overlapped by the voices and melodies from over 48 international college student voices in front of the scrutiny of the ever-famous panel of judges. No, it may not have been the real American Idol, but it was none the less exciting and authentic as the Georgia Rotary Student Program (GRSP) participants took control of the Clayton State University gymnasium on September 12 weekend, for the annual Georgia Rotary Student lock-in.

The night was just beginning as the GRSP Idol competition went underway, followed by a dance party, basketball matches, and plenty of socialization to go around, to make it a truly special and memorable event. The highlight of the evening however was definitely the Idol competition complete with "celebrity" judges from the local Henry County Rotary, Lisa "Paula Abdul" Kinchen, Latavius "Randy Jackson" Powell, Karen "Cara" Pierce and Andy "Simon Cowell" Davis, as well as Jeff "Ryan Seacrest" Cooper as MC.

Students from Fiji to Pakistan and Denmark to El Salvador performed solo, in duets, and quartets and by the half dozen at a time. A total of 10 acts passed by the judges table, some more than once, with all being ceremoniously sent on to the fictitious "next round" in spite of good natured criticisms ranging from "Dog, it was a bit pitchy" to "Is that a dish towel you're wearing as a dress?" to "You are beautiful" from the ever introspective, extremely quirky but entertaining Lisa "Paula Abdul" Kinchen.

What is Rotary and what exactly is GRSP anyway and why were 48 international students on our campus, only one of which actually attends Clayton State University? The slogan of Rotary "Service Above Self" sums up nicely the mission of this worldwide civic organization that was founded in 1905. Rotary, found in over 200 countries and geographic areas is an organization of business, professional, and community leaders who provide humanitarian service, promote high standards in all vocations and promote goodwill and peace in the world.

At a recent Clayton County Rotary meeting I attended, our own Dr. Tim Hynes, Interim President of Clayton State University and also Rotarian, was present. I recently asked him his impressions of the GRSP program. He said, "The Ga. Rotary Student Program reflects the commitment to service that is at the heart of Rotary. At Clayton State University, our university and our students annually benefit from great students who participate in this program, and who contribute to the diversity of experiences essential to our learning."

At the conclusion of every meeting, members stand and recite the four way test: "Is it the truth? Is it fair to all concerned? Will it build goodwill and better friendships? Will it be beneficial to all concerned?" While the Rotary participates in hundreds of worthwhile endeavors locally and across the world, they pride themselves on a major initiative to eradicate polio.

For over 60 years, Rotary Clubs all across Georgia have been providing scholarships to around 80 students for up to one scholastic year as they pursue undergraduate studies in colleges and universities throughout the state. The scholarship covers tuition, books, meals, and a dorm or college apartment. When not on campus, students reside with host families

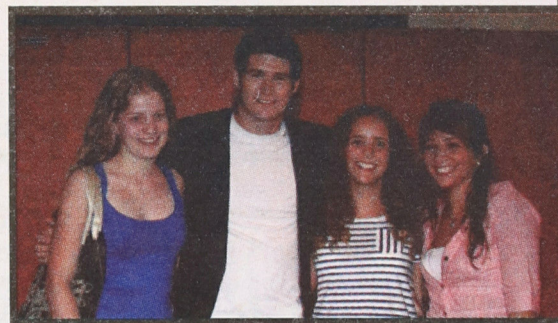
all of whom are Rotarians. As stated on the GRSP web site, "Georgia Rotarians believe Peace is Possible and through GRSP promote international goodwill through the bonds of friendship and understanding." To be eligible to participate, international students must be single, between 18 and 25 years of age, and have not previously studied in the United States. This school year, of the 71 total students, there are 40 students from various countries in Europe, 11 from Asia, 1 from Australia, 1 from Africa, 17 from South and Central America and 1 Canadian.

The Clayton, Henry and Lake Spivey Rotary Clubs ensured that the students who participated in the weekend's events had great fun and fellowship while learning about customs and activities of other countries. A highlight of the weekend for me personally was the opportunity to assist my family in hosting three lovely students: Andrea from Columbia, Emily from Scotland and Louvisa from Sweden. It was also an honor for me to be one of the sponsors of the t shirts (pictured) provided to each of the students as a memento of their weekend in Clayton County.

This year's Clayton and Henry County Rotary Clubs sponsored student is 19 year old Michael Campbell from Edinburg, Scotland. Michael attends Clayton State, lives in Laker Hall, and is taking classes in general studies including math, history and critical thinking with his eye on pursuing a degree in business. Along with three fellow countrymen, in a group they dubbed The Scottish Lads, Michael and others took on the Idol Judges with their rendition of "How to Save a Life" by The Fray. Michael had the following to say about the events at Clayton State on Sept 12: "We had karaoke, dancing, chatting, basketball and even Frisbee!

All in all it was an experience I shall never forget. I'm pretty sure my ribs won't either! It was the first opportunity for us to all get to know each other properly. The conclave back in August was very structured. We had few opportunities to just sit down and talk to each other and on Saturday night we were all locked in so it gave us the perfect chance to do just that. All in all, I feel that it was a very successful evening."

Though the lock-in has come and gone, we may rest assured that we will see the GRSP Conclave yet again. Who knows, maybe next year we'll witness an emerging star from the next GRSP Idol competition--or not. Either way, the GRSP provides students of all varieties an experience of a lifetime. For those interested in becoming involved in rotary, please visit www.grsp.org.



[From Left to Right] Emily from Scotland, Michael Ratti, Lovisa from Sweden, and Andrea from Columbia.



GRSP Students performing for the Judges.



[From Left to Right] Latavius Powell, Karen Pierce, Lisa Kinchen, Andy Davis, Jeff Cooper



Michael Ratti and GRSP Student Michael Campbell



GRSP Students

Letters to the Editor

HEALTHCARE REFORM

The longstanding political divisions and debates about America's healthcare system articulate one thing for sure. The time is now!

Decades have seen congressional attempts at changing the system's flaws, years have gone by as the focus remained on making universal healthcare coverage a thing of the past.

The 90's saw an anxious Clinton administration fail to achieve such a promise. But for the 21st century, the United States of America is in socio-economic crisis and things have a new sort of meaning.

We are faced with tremendous problems both institutional and constituted by our own individual actions.

With deficit spending at an alarming rate, the focus shifts toward fiscal responsibility. With an overwhelming number of uninsured and underinsured citizens, the issue takes a moral stance.

In the midst of an affluent society, the time to question whether access to affordable & quality healthcare is a privilege or a right is time much better spent understanding this outside of politics.

We don't thoroughly know what the current proposals might bring. Honestly many of us haven't demanded that Congress begin to understand the bills themselves.

We have seen the uproar and we've watched town hall meetings become a conjugation of furious and frustrated men and women. Leading to nowhere fast, this widespread amount of misinformation and the unfortunate number of uninformed creates a great bit of irony.

Do we really know what is going on? For many the answer is a resounding no!

But before we try to reform, must we first realize where the current system stands, what must be done, and finally decide the most effective and efficient way to reach that goal? I believe that this is a great start. By knowing the realities of America's healthcare system, producing achievable means to reform such a system, and understanding the need for serious change, we can come to a compromise.

I can understand the anxiety. Some individuals are disillusioned by what they see as an ineffective stimulus plan. Some people feel frightened that somehow life as they know it will be drastically deranged.

Others are more optimistic, hopeful that the possibility of a public option for health insurance would eradicate the most significant flaws.

The end might find itself somewhere in between.

Healthcare and overall wellbeing is something much more complex than being able to diagnose, treat, and prevent illnesses, injuries, and disease. It's far more serious than having a primary care provider to advise your health concerns.

Healthcare is a matter of economics, a part of social concern, and constituent to an industrialized nation.

Respectfully Submitted,
Vincent Smith

COLLEGE & UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS & INSTRUCTORS

How can they become better teachers: from a student's perspective

Teaching is one of the most difficult and yet rewarding professions. In modern society, people encounter many kinds of teachers. From elementary to high school and into college, a person is exposed to a wide range of teachers. Intelligent, competent, happy, pleasant, helpful, kind, rough, inconsiderate, uncaring, or incompetent are words that describe some of the teachers that I have seen. Throughout my education, I have discovered that no two teachers are exactly the same. However, there are certain characteristics that many teachers, whether good or bad teachers, possess.

I'll begin by discussing bad characteristics of some teachers I've encountered.

The first is teachers who complain about their low pay to students. This sends a message that a teacher is teaching just to cash a paycheck. It is a well known fact that teaching is not the best-paying profession. Nonetheless, to be an effective instructor in the classroom necessitates a higher motivation than money. To a degree, some students who hear this may sympathize with the teacher. Other students may get the impression that the only thing the teacher is concerned about is money, and not educating them. Though it may be a legitimate complaint that a particular teacher is "underpaid", the classroom is not the place to air out one's financial status.

Secondly are teachers who are unprofessional. This category includes things like excessive lateness, missing class material, and mistakes or forgetfulness when presenting the material to the students. This behavior sends the impression that the teacher is not truly serious, prepared, or disciplined. Students in turn lose respect and question the teacher's competence. The ultimate result is the students suffer academically from not receiving an adequate level of instruction.

The following are good characteristics of some teachers I have encountered.

Teachers who go above and beyond their call of duty. These teachers do everything in their power in the classroom to ensure their students learn and make good grades. This includes taking time to learn each student's name, allocating time to review material for struggling students, and allowing students who have verifiable emergencies to make up missed assignments. These teachers have attained a high level of stewardship by demonstrating that they care about the academic well-being of their students.

Here is my list of suggestions for college and university professors and instructors to improve their performance in the classroom.

1) The first is continue to advance academically in their vocation. Simply put, teachers could benefit by studying refresher courses, taking higher education courses and pursuing advanced degrees. Many teachers experience professional lethargy. Many times this is due to the chronic redundancy of their duties without new goals. Teachers who further their education will be updated on new, innovative, and possibly better methods of teaching in addition to new information in their field. The continual acquisition of new skills by teachers refreshes their interest and inspires teachers to push themselves and their students to new heights of excellence.

2) Institute anonymous student polls at the beginning, middle, and end of the semester. The benefits of this type of surveying are numerous. Assuming that the students' suggestions are valid, these surveys allow a teacher to quickly assess, modify, and enhance any part of their presentation in the classroom. Also, this information shows a teacher what range of the students are successfully or unsuccessfully learning the information. By this, teachers can better tailor any counseling to students who need assistance in the class.

3) Attend the classes of other teachers that are getting good results. This is a woefully underutilized, but effective approach to improving teaching skills. By sitting in another teacher's class, teachers are able to survey the whole landscape and interaction in a classroom. As an outside observer, visiting teachers can see various useful methods and they can then add to their teaching style. The obvious benefit is that they can see other teachers techniques in action before deciding to whether to employ them in their class.

4) Be creative, flexible and not stuck in one way of doing things. Stagnancy, boredom, and lethargy are the bane of the teaching profession. Concurrently innovation, ingenuity, and creativity are teaching's revitalization. Inevitably, when teachers seek to improve and better their ways of doing things, they discover new ideas that were previously unseen. Through constant improvement teachers are able to never become jaded or resigned to any form of stagnancy. This ensures they rediscover and relentlessly pursue the joys, thrills, and pleasure of learning. By always looking for fresh ways of doing things, a teacher can fulfill their true role of being a creator of education and not simply an administrator.

Finally, I would like to emphatically thank some of my instructors and professors at Clayton State University. They have helped me become a better student and are sterling examples of the teaching profession. I will always be in their debt. Thank you.

Respectfully Submitted,
Zaah Para

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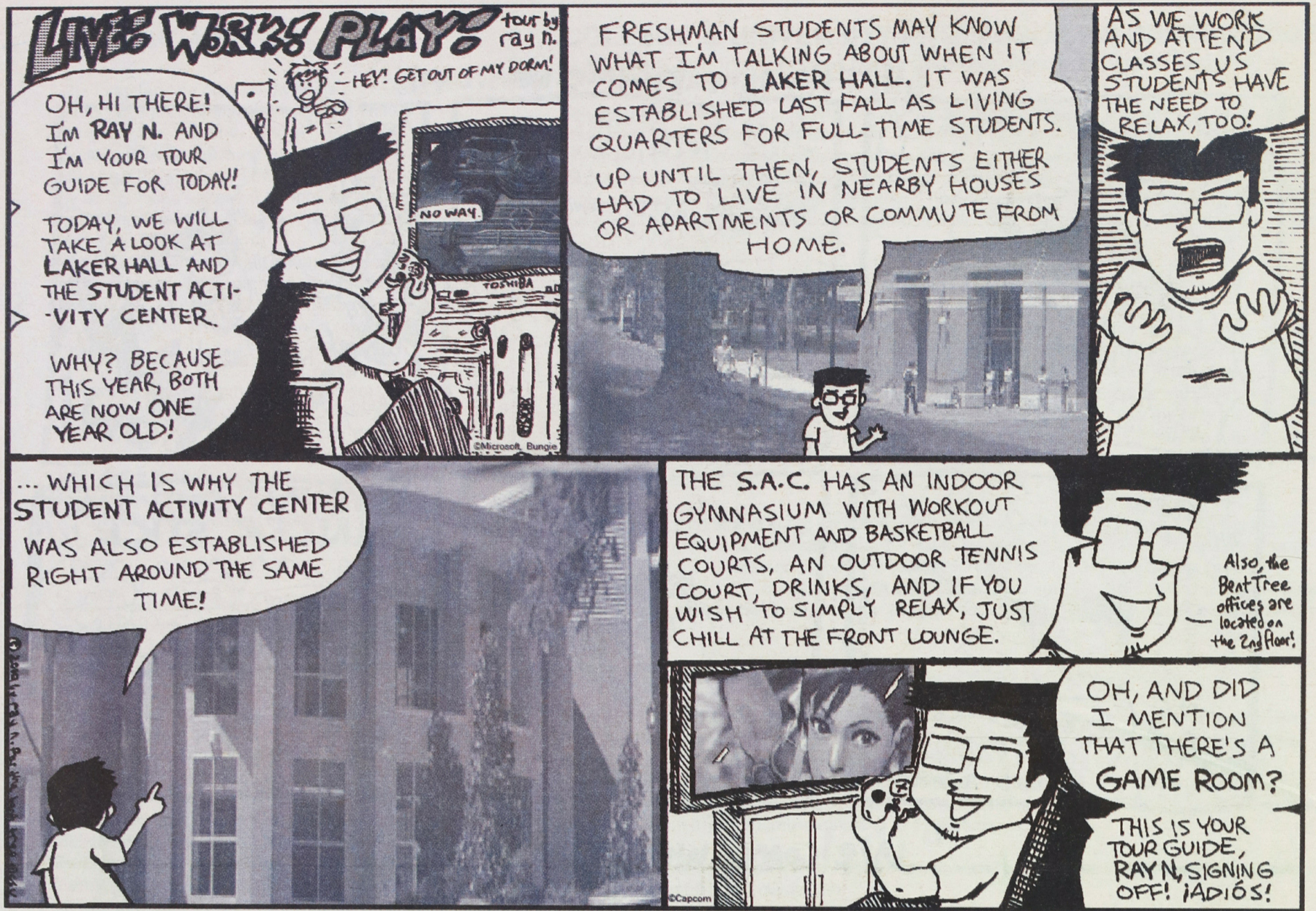
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"Unreasonable"
(Or, you can't please everybody.)

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THE DEPARTMENT OF CAREER SERVICES

The Federal Government is Hiring

by Nicole Diggs, Senior

According to the most recent posting on the Georgia Department of Labor website, the national unemployment rate is 9.7% and Georgia's unemployment rate is 10.2%. What does all of this mean, and how will it affect the students graduating from Clayton State University?

Clayton State's Career Service Center has an open door to address your concerns. In fact, the government will have 273,000 positions available in the next three years, according to a report from the Partnership of Public Service.

That's right, Dr. Hayes' "Secrets to Getting a Government job" workshop held on September

17, 2009 for day and evening students, exposed students to another employment opportunity.

Students had the opportunity to ask significant questions such as substituting education for experience; what is knowledge, skills, and abilities also known as KSAs; how are the applications selected; what are supporting documents; and how to navigate the USAJobs website.

Handouts were distributed with good information such as:

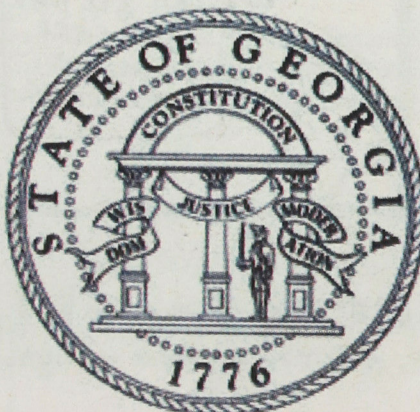
- Government employment websites
- How to write KSA's
- 15 Tips for Acing Federal Job Applications

- Security Clearances in the Federal Government
- Federal Student Programs
- And more!

If you missed out on this event, brace yourself. Dr. Hayes stated Clayton State career services offer the "Secrets to Finding and Getting Government jobs" workshops every fall and spring semester.

Visit career services online at:
<http://adminservices.clayton.edu/career/>

Student Center suite 250, Phone: (678) 466-5400
 Fax: (678) 466-5468 Email: career@clayton.edu



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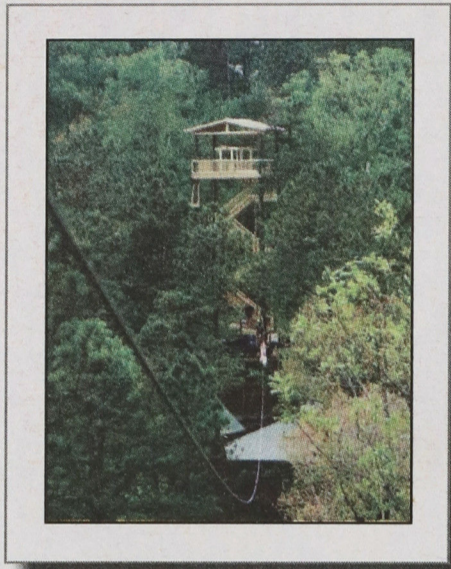
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THE DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION & WELLNESS
Outdoor Adventure & 2009 Calendar of Events

The Outdoor Adventures program is dedicated to providing fun and engaging outdoor educational experiences for the Clayton State University campus. Our goal is to create opportunities for student to connect with each other in a challenging, fun, and safe recreation activity for the purpose of embracing new challenges, cultivating new skills, and learning about the environment. See what we have planned for you! C'mon – Get Out There!



CANOPY TOUR (ZIP LINES!)

Description: Take approximately 5 hours out of your day to experience 2,400 foot Zip-line with one of the world's highest timber pole towers looking down at Snake Creek almost 300 feet below. A WORLD CLASS Eco-Tour Zip line and an Experience of a Lifetime, which SCREAMS Adventure! Bring a water bottle, wear long pants and sturdy shoes.

Date: Saturday, November 7, 2009, 1 pm – 7 pm
 Destination: Whitesburg, Georgia – Banning Mills
 Includes: Transportation, gear, and motivational support
 Rating: Beginner - Moderate
 Cost: \$60 / \$110 / \$120
 Limit: 10 people
 Registration Deadline: Wednesday, October 28



HIKE BLOOD MOUNTAIN

Description: Blood Mountain is the highest peak on Georgia's portion of the Appalachian Trail and the state's sixth highest mountain. At 4,461 feet, it overlooks an area rich in streams, hiking trails, and scenic recreation spots. The Blood Mountain Wilderness is the first designated wilderness area along the Appalachian Trail as the hiker heads north toward Maine. Bring: snacks, sturdy shoes, water bottle, small backpack, and layers for changing temperatures

Date: Saturday, November 21, 2009, 11 am – 5 pm
 Destination: North Georgia Mountains
 Includes: Transportation
 Rating: Beginner - Moderate
 Cost: \$15 / \$20 / \$25
 Limit: 12 people
 Registration Deadline: Wednesday, November 11, 2009

DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INCORPORATED



Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated was founded on January 13, 1913 by twenty-two collegiate women at Howard University. These students wanted to use their collective strength to promote academic excellence and to provide assistance to persons in need.

Delta Sigma Theta was incorporated in 1930. Delta's Public Service programs are centered

around Delta's Five Point Thrust: Economic Development, Educational Development International Awareness and Involvement, Physical and Mental Health, Political Awareness and Involvement.

Tau Epsilon Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. was chartered at Clayton State University on April 22, 2000.

The illustrious chapter has met every challenge with fervor and dedication. The chapter currently holds the highest cumulative grade point average of all social greek-letter organizations on campus. In addition, the chapter always strive to serve our community diligently.

For additional information about the Tau Epsilon Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. please contact Tamika Shannon, Chapter President at dstccsu@yahoo.com.

