

Campus Review

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We're Number One!

Clayton State Women at Top of Division II Basketball

by Lee Wright, Sports Information

After weeks of build-up, the Clayton State Laker women's basketball team has reached a new pinnacle – number one in the nation.

The USA Today/ESPN Division II Top 25 Coaches' Poll was released on Tuesday, Feb. 15, with Clayton State as the top-ranked team in the nation in Division II. The Lakers (25-0, 14-0 Peach Belt Conference), the nation's lone remaining undefeated team in Division II women's basketball, earned 717 points and 26 first-place votes in this week's poll.

Overall, there are only seven other undefeated NCAA basketball teams, including just West Liberty University (W.Va.) and



This is the first number one ranking in the nation for Clayton State, not just for women's basketball, but in any sport.

“While we are flattered and honored to be the number one-ranked team in the nation at this moment, we realize that we haven't won anything,” says Clayton State head coach Dennis Cox. “It just means we have to work a little harder because the target just got a little bigger.”

Ranked behind Clayton State are Peach Belt rival and previous top-ranked Lander University, Delta State, Fort Lewis and Arkansas Tech. Northeastern State, Western Washington, Michigan Tech, Wayne State and Grand Canyon round out the Top 10. ■

Lincoln Memorial University (Tenn.) among Division II men's squads. The other five are all in Division III. With Ohio State's loss to Wisconsin last week, no Division I basketball teams remain undefeated.

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Number Two Clayton State vs. Number One Lander Lives Up to the Build-Up

by John Shiffert, University Relations

Rarely does an undefeated number one play an undefeated number two in college basketball, especially when it's an intra-conference game in February. And, even when it does happen, there's no guarantee that the game on the floor will match the build-up beforehand.

Yet, that's what happened at Clayton State University's Athletics & Fitness Center on the evening of Feb. 10, 2011, when the second-ranked (NCAA Division II) Lakers defeated the top-ranked Lander University Bearcats 83-81 in as heart-stopping a women's college basketball game as you'd ever want to see.

Played in front of the largest crowd to

somehow squeeze into the Lakers' gym (the official estimate of 1157 – which included a good contingent from Lander -- was probably a couple of hundred too low), it was racehorse basketball, a frenetic game played at a breakneck pace, for 40 minutes, with only the last-second heroics of Laker junior forward Tanisha Woodard preventing another five minutes of overtime that would have left everyone present ready for the ER. Indeed, in a game filled with heroics on both sides, Woodard and teammate Teshymia Tillman took center stage. Woodard bookended the dramatics, hitting a three-point basket to start the game (on an

Lander Game, cont'd., p. 4

Clayton State Dedicates “The LAB” on a “Great” Day

by John Shiffert, University Relations

Clayton State University took another step in its pathway to greatness on Wednesday, Jan. 26, when the University’s administration, faculty, staff and students joined with numerous partners from throughout the Southern Crescent in the dedication of the Laboratory Annex Building (or, The LAB).

Located adjacent to the Business and Health Sciences and the Arts & Sciences buildings, The LAB was dedicated in a 10 a.m. ceremony by led by Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences Dr. Nasser Momayezi. Following an indoor ceremony in the Business and Health Sciences Building, the ceremony briefly adjourned outside to the south entrance of The LAB for the ribbon cutting, after which a reception was held in the Psychology conference room of The Lab.

In his remarks prior to the ribbon-cutting, Momayezi noted that, while the new, 18,000-square foot building adds research space and four much-needed new laboratories to the University’s previous seven, 40-year old labs, The LAB is the first step in a larger, longer process that will hopefully include an entirely new science building.

“By dedicating this building, and hopeful-



Left to Right; Clayton State University President Dr. Thomas J. “Tim” Hynes, Jr., Dr. Michelle Furlong, chair of the Department of Natural Sciences at Clayton State, and Clayton County Commission Chair Eldrin Bell wield the scissors for the ribbon-cutting for The LAB. (Ciji Fox photo)

ly a new science building in the near future, we look forward to reaching even greater heights,” he said. “Indeed, this is only the first step. A new science building is an absolute necessity.”

The dedication program also featured comments by the S/L/A/M Collaborative (SLAM) of Atlanta’s Joseph C. League,

Further Comments By Clayton State President Tim Hynes On the Dedication Of “The LAB”

Clayton State University President Dr. Thomas J. “Tim” Hynes, Jr., took the opportunity of the dedication of the Laboratory Annex Building (The LAB) to comment on the significance of the new building in terms of the University’s present and future.

Speaking to a packed house in the Business and Health Sciences Building, Hynes thanked a wide variety of people and organizations for helping make The LAB a reality. Foremost among these were University System of Georgia Chancellor Erroll B. Davis, Jr., the entire Board of Regents (BOR) of the University System, and the BOR staff (who were represented at today’s event by Sharon Ferguson Brittain, assistant vice chancellor for Design and Construction).

Hynes, cont’d., p. 8

Jr.; Ben Garrett, president of RA-LIN and Associates; Sharon Ferguson Brittain, assistant vice chancellor of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia; and Clayton State President Dr. Thomas J. “Tim” Hynes, Jr. SLAM served as the general contractor for the building, and Ra-Lin as the architect.

Hynes’s remarks focused on the partnerships that the University enjoys with various entities, many of which were instrumental in making The LAB a reality. Hynes particularly singled out the Clayton County legislative delegation, Clayton County Commission Chair Eldrin Bell, the Clayton County Chamber of Commerce, University System of Georgia Chancellor Erroll B. Davis, Jr., and the Board of Regents of the University System, for their efforts and support.

LAB, cont’d., p. 8

Clayton State Sets Enrollment Record

Although the numbers are preliminary and as-yet unofficial, Clayton State University’s enrollment for the spring 2011 semester has reached an all-time high for the University’s 41-year history.

According to Interim Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management Dr. Mark Daddona, as of Saturday, Jan. 22, 2011, Clayton State’s enrollment stood at 6,785, a 1.5 percent increase over the spring 2010 enrollment of 6,687 (the previous single semester record), and the highest enrollment ever at Clayton State. Enrollment for the fall 2010 semester was 6,603.

Due in part to the weather-mandated week-long delay in the start of classes for the spring 2011 semester, Daddona cau-

tions that there will be a few minor, last minute adjustments in the total enrollment figure.

“The numbers will increase slightly as we process a few reinstatements for students, and the numbers will also drop slightly due to no-show reports,” he explains. Daddona also notes that these figures are unofficial. The official enrollment figures for the entire University System of Georgia (USG) will be released later in the semester by the Board of Regents of the USG.

Clayton State first opened its doors to 942 students as Clayton Junior College on Sept. 30, 1969. The University achieved four-year status in 1986 with just over 3,000 students and University status in 1996, with 4,687 students. ■

Homecoming 2011 Shows Plenty of Love

by John Shiffert, University Relations

Clayton State University celebrated Homecoming 2011 from Feb. 7 to Feb. 12, and in the spirit of Valentine's Day, the theme was, "I love Clayton State: Show Your Love."

According to Alumni Director and co-chair of the Homecoming Committee Gid Rowell, a lot of love was shown for Clayton State throughout the week.

"Homecoming 2011 was a great success," he says. "All of the events were well attended and there was plenty of spirit and enthusiasm for Clayton State throughout the week.

"It was great to reconnect with a lot of alums who returned for the basketball games and to feel the excitement on campus. In my 10 years at Clayton State, it was the best homecoming that we've had. Our thanks to the Homecoming Committee and all the students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends who participated in this year's activities."

While the highlight of the week was unquestionably the women's basketball

The Clayton State cheerleaders entertain at the Homecoming Pep Rally. (Ciji Fox photo)



team's ascent to the number one ranking in NCAA Division II with wins over previously top-ranked Lander and a very good Francis Marion team, the rest of the week's events were also a success. Also in sports, the men's basketball team matched the women in a sweep of Lander and Francis Marion, and the revived Homecoming Road Race drew its largest field ever, more than 130 runners entered in the 5K and 10K.



About the only athletic event that wasn't a total success was the Heritage Cadillac Saab Mitsubishi Halfcourt Shot Contest, held at half-time of the men's game on Saturday, Feb. 12. Clayton State student Simeon Payne won a free throw shooting contest to get his chance with a single shot from halfcourt with a 2011 Mitsubishi Outlander Sport as the prize. Sadly, he hit the backboard, but close doesn't count.

The rest of the week's events were more successful, notably the Annual Alumni Breakfast again drawing a big crowd to the Downs Center. As Rowell noted, the student-centered events; the Rock the Lake Walk, the Pep Rally, the Jazz Mixer, the Student Choice Awards, and the

Homecoming, cont'd., p. 5

Greg Kordecki Honored as Recipient of Georgia Society of CPAs 2010 Outstanding Accounting Educator Award

The Outstanding Accounting Educator Award of the Georgia Society of CPAs (GSCPA) is a prestigious annual award which recognizes individuals who have exhibited leadership in professional and civic organizations as well as writing, speaking and curriculum development and research. For the calendar year 2010, the winner was Dr. Gregory S. Kordecki, associate professor and coordinator of accounting, business law and taxation for the School of Business at Clayton State University.

The award was presented to Kordecki on behalf of the 3,000-member GSCPA by fellow Clayton State Associate Professor of Accounting Dr. Maria L. Bullen on Friday, Feb. 4, at the Georgia Association of Accounting Educators Annual Meeting Banquet in Dahlgonega.

The GSCPAs' Outstanding Educator

Award is a big, prestigious award, received annually by one of more than 400 Georgia accounting instructors. It traditionally involves recognition three separate times at different venues, notes Bullen, who also nominated and recommended Kordecki for the award more than year ago. Kordecki was first honored for the award last fall by the Educational Foundation of the Georgia Society of Certified Public Accountants, at the Annual Meeting/Banquet of the Board of Directors and Educational Foundation of the Georgia Society of CPAs.

The recognition Feb. 4 among his colleagues at the Georgia Association of Accounting Educators marks the second recognition ceremony. Kordecki will be recognized a third time at the Clayton State University School of Business' Honors Day and Beta Gamma Sigma initiation on Apr.

1, 2011. Dr. Kel-Ann Eyler, associate professor of accounting at Wesleyan College, and chairman of the GSCPAs Outstanding Educator Committee, will visit the Clayton State campus to honor Kordecki on that occasion.

The 2010 Outstanding Award plaque now resides in the School of Business lobby. In addition the School of Business received a monetary award for the Accounting Development Fund.

"As did the other supporters from their interactions with Professor Kordecki, I know first hand from many personal interactions and observations that Professor Kordecki is extremely well deserving of this prestigious award," says Bullen. "I know personally that he is an individual of

Kordecki, cont'd., p. 16

Social Media, Immigration and Tax Breaks; Oxford Gives Guidelines on Entrepreneurship at Clayton State Dean's Distinguished Lecture Series

by John Shiffert, University Relations

The initial presentation in the Clayton State University School of Business Dean's Distinguished Lecture Series featured guidelines on and for entrepreneurship from W. Cliff Oxford, CEO of Entrepreneur Advisors.

Speaking to an almost full house in Spivey Hall on the evening of Thursday, Jan. 27, Oxford, the founder (in 1995) of STI Knowledge, Inc., and Entrepreneur Advisors ("We're trying to find the next Google" he said by way of explanation of his current firm, which creates, produces and delivers entrepreneurial education through monthly symposiums), noted some strategies for entrepreneurial success during his address.

Perhaps not surprisingly to anyone who hasn't been hiding under a rock for the past few years, Oxford noted that social media is changing America, and that there was a message there for entrepreneurs... and universities as well.

"Social media has fundamentally changed how we buy stuff," he said. "People buy today when they see them on Facebook or Twitter they bought something and liked it."

"Colleges should get 50 students out there on Facebook to say they like their college."

While Facebook may be a valued tool for present entrepreneurs, Oxford was maybe more concerned about the future of entrepreneurship, speaking at some length on the topic of what entrepreneurs need to do to not have their bubble burst. Most memorably, he pointed to a need for immigration and tax breaks to keep the entrepreneurial bubble intact.

"What entrepreneurship needs in this country is immigration... people willing to risk their lives and come here," he said, using as examples his ancestors who arrived in America in 1640, and the

founder of Google, who's from Russia. "The differences brought into this country by immigration produce challenges of thought; differences make it (America) stronger."

"The new creativity isn't coming from similarities."

When asked during the Q&A session that followed his presentation what entrepreneurs need from the government, he advocated, in addition to a change in immigration policy ("Business is very concerned with immigration policy, it's working behind the scenes"), tax breaks, specifically tax breaks for startups, plus second and third generation level entrepreneurs.

Oxford's presentation was the first in what is planned to be a yearly series of distinguished lectures under the direction of the dean of the Clayton State School of Business, Dr. Alphonso Ogbuehi. ■

Lander Game, cont'd. from p. 1

assist from Tillman) and then finishing the scoring with 5.7 seconds left on a short in-bounds play jumper in the lane that gave Clayton State only its third lead of the second half.

On her part, Tillman did what great players do... she took over the game when it mattered the most; with nine points, three rebounds and an assist in the final six minutes. Tillman, the Lakers' leading scorer throughout an undefeated season that has now stretched to 25 games, finished with 24 points on 11 for 17 shooting.

Lander University, the top-ranked D2 team for the past month, looked very much like the best team in the nation for most of the game, three times pulling out to double-digit leads behind the play of nearly unstoppable center Shannon McKeever, who matched Tillman with 24 points, and added 12 rebounds, four steals and three blocked shots. Not sur-



prisingly, it was to McKeever that the Bearcats looked for the final shot following Woodard's in-bounds basket that made the score 83-81. However, she lost the handle on a long pass under the basket as time was expiring, leading to a wild celebration all over the court for the Lakers and their fans.

Denied the easy baskets that the Laker press typically generates against lesser opponents, Clayton State struggled for much of the game, missing a lot of inside shots (something McKeever may have had a hand in) and falling behind by 13 with less than five minutes to go in the first half. Still down by 10 with 1:34 to go in the half, Clayton State ran off the final 10 points of the period, tying the game at 41 with three seconds left on a banked-in, three point toss by, that's right, Woodard, who finished the game with 14 points, eight assists, six steals and four rebounds, plus

Lander Game, cont'd., p. 7

Homecoming, cont'd. from p. 3



LEFT: Runners finishing the 5K in the Freedom Run Homecoming Road Race. (Ciji Fox photo) RIGHT: Race sponsor Waffle House serves up waffles, eggs and bacon at the Annual Alumni Association Breakfast during Homecoming. (Ciji Fox photo)



Caribbean Cruise-themed Casino Night were also popular.

Of course, no Homecoming is complete without a Homecoming King and Queen. For 2011, the student body chose Rico Lee as king and Kearia Smith as queen. Lee is a senior from Wrens, Ga., majoring in Technology Management. Smith is a senior from Waynesboro, Ga., majoring in Business Management. The runners-up were Christy Childs, a senior from LaGrange, Ga., majoring in Nursing, and William Parks, a sophomore from McDonough, Ga., majoring in Biology.

Rowell also notes that Homecoming would not have been the success it was without the Homecoming sponsors. He offers special thanks to the following Homecoming sponsors:

- K&G Fashion Super Store** – Homecoming Coronation Ceremony sponsor
- Waffle House** – Alumni Breakfast sponsor
- Royal Cup Coffee** – Alumni Breakfast sponsor
- Liberty Mutual Insurance** – Alumni Breakfast & Laker Club Hospitality Room sponsor

- General Produce** – Alumni Breakfast sponsor
- Heritage Cadillac Saab Mitsubishi** – halfcourt Shot Contest sponsor
- Clayton State University Bookstore** – Homecoming Coronation Ceremony sponsor ■

Across the Campus...

Academic Affairs

Clayton State University has announced its official Dean's List for the fall 2010 semester. Students must enroll in a minimum of nine credit hours and maintain a grade point average of 3.6 or higher to be eligible for the Dean's List. For the just-concluded semester, a total of 814 students made the Dean's List. This represents just over 12 percent of the total fall student enrollment of 6603 students. In all, 43 distinct geographic entities were represented -- the most for a Clayton State Dean's List. These included 33 Georgia counties and seven other states; Texas, Illinois, Indiana, Arizona, Louisiana, North Carolina and Washington. In addition, three Dean's List students came from other countries; Canada, Slovakia and the Republic of Georgia -- Mariami Chubinidze of Tbilisi, Georgia, one of Clayton State's two fall 2010 foreign exchange students. Although the majority of the Dean's List students came from Clayton (217), Henry (208) and Fayette (112) counties; Fulton (83), DeKalb (56) and Coweta (27) counties were also strongly represented.

English

The Clayton State University Visiting Writers Reading Series will return for the spring 2011 semester on Thursday, Feb. 24 with poet Andrew Zawacki reading in room 265 of the James M. Baker University Center at 6:30 p.m. All of the Visiting Writers reading Series events are free and open to the public. Zawacki is the author of three poetry books, "Petals of Zero Petals of One" (Talisman House), "Anabranche" (Wesleyan) and "By Reason of Breakings" (Georgia). For more information on the spring series, please visit <http://a-s.clayton.edu/bbyrd/Homepage.htm>.

International Programs

Clayton State Director of International Programs John Parkerson was sworn in as a new board member of Arts Clayton on Friday, Jan. 7, 2011.

Library

The Clayton State University Library is accepting book donations. The library staff is asking for gently used or new books. Specially-marked boxes will be

placed in the library for small donations. Larger donations are encouraged as well. For larger donations, please contact Jennifer Duke at jenniferduke@clayton.edu. The books that are not added to the library collection will be used for the annual spring book sale to raise money for library supplies.

The Clayton State University Library has new hours for the spring 2011 semester... Monday – Thursday: 8 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Friday: 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday: 1 p.m. to 10 p.m. For more information and holiday closing information, go to www.clayton.edu/library.

The Clayton State Library is seeking individuals or groups interested in using the display areas within the Library. Displays may range from hobbies to materials relating to Georgia, Clayton County, the region or to the University. Display areas include two lockable glass display cases in the lobby of the Library, a bookcase unit near the Baker Center entrance of the Library, and a large bulletin board. If you are interested in using one of these areas, please contact Dean Gordon Baker at gordonbaker@clayton.edu or (678) 466-4325.

National Archives

The National Archives at Atlanta (NARA) has just launched a new Twitter account: <http://twitter.com/#!/atlantaarchives>. NARA will be using the account to promote public programs, events and exhibits at our regional office.

NTSO

NTSO will be holding a panel discussion, "Let Your Voice Be Heard," on the morning of Tuesday, Mar. 15, from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in room UC 265 of the Baker Center, and again from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. in room UC 268 of the Baker Center. NTSO has invited representatives from the various offices and departments on campus to participate in a panel to address questions and concerns.

Some of the departments/offices participating are: Career Services, Center for Academic Success, Counseling and Psychological Services, and Public Safety.

Philosophy

The Fourth Annual Southeast Philosophy Congress was held at Clayton State on Feb. 18 and Feb. 19. The keynote speaker was James C. Doig, Clayton State University professor emeritus, speaking on "Reading Thomas Aquinas."

Psychology

Dr. Donna Wood McCarty was selected as chair elect for the Association of Heads of Departments of Psychology (affiliated with the Southeastern Psychological Association) at the November 2010 annual meeting.

SBDC

As an authorized provider of the "Fast Trac" program, an initiative of the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation of Kansas City, the Clayton State University Small Business Development Center (SBDC) is hosting a series of seminars for area small business owners in partnership with the Georgia SBDC Network. The 10, half-day sessions will be held beginning on Tuesday, Mar. 1, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Henry County Chamber of Commerce at 1709 Highway 20 West, McDonough, Ga. Henry County will be hosting all of the remaining seminars on succeeding Tuesdays. For further information or to register, contact the Clayton State University SBDC at (678) 466-5100.

Student Media

Several representatives of Clayton State's student media recently appeared on CNN. Go to http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kluXeImKCcM&feature=player_embedded to see them. ■

Lander Game, cont'd. from p. 4

the award for “Best Dramatic Performance by a Laker.”

The second half was a see-saw affair for the first eight minutes, until Lander once

Bearcat lead to three with just under three minutes to go, whereupon Brittany Hall (14 points) tied it with a three (assist to Tillman) from way out on the left wing at the 2:08, as pandemonium reigned.

Neither team scored for the next minute,

It was a measure of the quality of play by both teams that, despite McKeever's presence inside, the Lakers still shot 50 percent for the game and from three point range, while the Bearcats, despite Clayton State's pressure defense, also shot 50 percent for long



again took control, finally building their lead to 10 points (79-69) at the 4:14 mark on the fifth three-pointer of the night by Jasmine Judge. The Bearcats' three-point specialist (she seldom takes a shot from anywhere else on the floor) went five for nine from the distance for 15 points on the night.

From that point on, however, it was a Clayton State game, as Coach Dennis Cox' quick and athletic team shut the door on the Bearcats (outscored them 14-2), who would only attempt three shots from the field after Judge's basket, and would score just two points on foul shots.

A layup and a three-point play by Tillman, sandwiched around a layup by Breanna Fort (10 points on the night) cut the

whereupon Brittini Johnson hit a free throw to return the lead to Lander. Hall then gave Clayton State its first lead (at 81-80) since the 19 minute mark with a short jumper at the 49 second mark. Mukia Myrick tied it at 81 with a free throw with 36 seconds to go, but Hall grabbed Myrick's miss of her second attempt. Although Tillman missed a layup in heavy traffic (read: McKeever) with 12 seconds left, Lander's Tasheba Butler fumbled the rebound out of bounds, setting up Woodard's winning basket (assist Latonda Bruce) on the in-bounds play.

range, and 52 percent overall. In the end it was, quite simply, a game that lived up to all the expectations. Or even the hype. ■

Clayton State's Theme for Black History Month -- "Yesterday Was Changed, Can We Change Tomorrow?"

by Lauren Graves, University Relations

Clayton State University's 2011 Black History Month celebration is themed "Yesterday Was Changed, Can We Change Tomorrow?" In all, the University will present eight events designed to honor the heritage, culture and contributions of Black Americans. All events are free and open to the public, unless otherwise noted. Upcoming events include...

The Refined Class: Etiquette Course on Tuesday, Feb. 22, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., in the Student Activities Center Ballroom C. Participants will take part in a social graces and table etiquette refresher course and will also receive a free ticket to attend Clayton State's Walk of Dreams event on Thursday, Feb. 24. This event is sponsored by the Campus Events Council. For more information, email cec@clayton.edu.

On Wednesday, Feb. 23, from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m., in the Student Activities Center Ballroom A, participate in "Refined Attitude: My Blackitude," a dialogue regarding the current state and challenges of the Black community. This event is sponsored by the Campus Events Council. For more information, email cec@clayton.edu.

The Second Annual Walk of Dreams, a banquet open to students, faculty, staff and friends of the University, will be held Feb. 24, at 6 p.m., in the Student Activities Center Ballroom. Participants will partake in a plated dinner and listen to music and a motivational message inspired by this year's theme. This event is free for Clayton State students; \$10 for non-Clayton State students. Tickets must be picked up or purchased in advance from the Department of Campus Life located in the Student Activities Center. Ticket disbursement and sales will begin on Monday, Feb. 7. This event is sponsored by Campus Life, the Campus Events Council and DEEP Peer Educators. Call Campus Life at (678) 466-5433 for more details.

The Refined Ball: The Black Tie Affair, a formal event designed to celebrate the refinement of Black History through dining and dancing, will be held on Friday, Feb. 25, from 7:30 p.m. to 11 p.m. in the Continuing Education building Atrium. The event, which features a live band and musical entertainment by DJ Tay, is free for Clayton State students and \$10 for non-Clayton State students. Tickets must be picked up or purchased in advance from the Campus Events Council. Ticket disbursement and sales will begin on Feb.

7. The ball is sponsored by the Campus Events Council and the Tau Epsilon Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated. To learn more, email cec@clayton.edu.

Bringing the 2011 Black History Month Celebration to a close is the Saturday, Feb. 26 Black History Month Trip. This all day event will be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., is limited to Clayton State students, and will include a visit to the Tubman African American Museum and the Georgia Music Hall of Fame in Macon, Ga. Applications will be available in the Department of Campus Life beginning Feb. 7. Free admission will be offered to 25 Clayton State students. If you are a Clayton State student interested in participating, contact Campus Life at (678) 466-5433 for more details and to find out how your trip could be free.

A special thanks to the Department of Campus Life, the University's DEEP Peer Educators, Appointed Generation Gospel Choir, Campus Events Council, Clayton State Internet Radio, and Tau Epsilon Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated for their roles in organizing and sponsoring the 2011 Black History Month Celebration events. ■

LAB, cont'd. from p. 2

"It is important that we succeed through strategic partnerships," Hynes noted. "These partners' contributions, large and small, to a disaggregate set of activities taken together allow us to achieve great things. We have a willingness and a passion for strategic partnerships."

In a similar vein, Brittain expressed the Board of Regents' appreciation to former Governor Sonny Perdue and the legislature for their support of The LAB project.

Ground was broken for The LAB on Mar. 19, 2010, and the Certificate of Occupancy was issued to Clayton State on Nov. 15, 2010. In addition to adding four new natural science laboratories, The LAB also contains faculty offices, a 48-seat classroom and a Psychology lab. ■

Hynes, cont'd. from p. 2

Hynes made it clear that Davis and the Regents were partners with Clayton State in this endeavor from the beginning and, without their support, and their work with the legislature and former Governor Sonny Perdue, The LAB would not have been built.

Hynes' remarks in general focused on the subject of the University's strategic partnerships with a number of organizations in the Southern Crescent, noting that, on the bottom line, strategic partnerships work.

"There are goals we can reach with our partners," he said, speaking of the future, notably the proposed new science building, currently in the design phase. "We seek and encourage strategic partnerships in learning."

Hynes also spoke of the future, a future he says is a bright one, thanks in to the University's partners, and the people of Clayton State.

"People here are pulling more than their weight," he said. "We have an opportunity to find excellence in our own terms. Excellence can be defined in our terms." ■

“Doing What’s Right,” Clayton State and NARA Commemorate Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

by John Shiffert, University Relations

It could well be said that the National Archives at Atlanta (NARA) did the right thing on the night of Jan. 20, 2011. Certainly that phrase was much in evidence during the evening’s program, wherein NARA and Clayton State University jointly celebrated the life, legacy and works on Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Since January 2001, Clayton State University has celebrated the anniversary of King’s birth with a special commemorative event that celebrates both his life and the Civil Rights movement. For 2011, the University was pleased to partner with the National Archives at Atlanta for the annual event, which was hosted at the NARA facility at 5789 Jonesboro Rd., Morrow.

The event’s theme, “In Step with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and the Civil Rights Movement” was brought home in the spoken word, in song, and in an exhibit from the National Archives’ collections, “Revisiting the Mississippi Civil Rights Movement Through an Activist’s Lens” by Dr. Doris A. Derby, the director of African American Student Services and Programs at Georgia State University. Perhaps coincidentally, or perhaps because it was true, a second theme emerged during the evening – that taking part in the Civil Rights Movement was “doing the right thing.” The two Clayton State faculty members taking part in the evening’s program, Professor of Sociology Dr. Rodger Bates, and Assistant Professor of Theatre and Communication Shontelle Thrash, both referenced that thought in their separate presentations.

James McSweeney, regional administrator of the National Archives at Atlanta, and the evening’s master of ceremonies, also underscored knowing right from wrong, or maybe accurate from inaccurate, when he concluded the evening by summarizing how the truth is known.

“The unadulterated truth is here in the documents held in sacred trust by the National Archives,” he said.

After viewing the exhibit of Derby’s evocative black-and-white photography

from 1968, attendees heard reflections on the Civil Rights Movement from Bates, Derby, and Emma Davis-Hamilton, vice president of the Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society.

Bates, a participant in both the Aug. 28, 1963 March on Washington and King’s 1968 campaign in support of sanitation workers in Memphis, spoke of his personal experiences in those historic events. He

concluded his address by telling of his experiences in Memphis in March and April of 1968, when he was a graduate student in Sociology at Memphis State University. He told of being maced by a police officer on Mar. 28, and of being present on Apr. 3, when King said in Clayborn Temple that he “had been to the mountain top and had seen the promised land.”

Right, cont’d., p. 13

Center for Continuing Education, the National Archives at Atlanta Present a Series Of History Related Courses

by Tarrica Madison, University Relations

Clayton State University’s Center for Continuing Education (CEC) and the National Archives at Atlanta will host a series of three history-related courses; from Stories of Civil Rights Era to World War II, from Feb. 22 to Apr. 26.

The specific courses will start with “Stories of the Civil Rights Era,” and will include original documents and actual historical family stories from the period. The series will also provide insight into life during the U.S. Depression, and “Stories of the Home Front and Tales from Two Theatres” about World War II, the stories of soldiers abroad in Europe, the South Pacific, and how they acted as catalyst for how Americans aided soldiers at war in response to D-Day.

Each of the courses is offered at the National Archives at Atlanta. Cost for each is \$20:

Stories of the Civil Rights Era

National Archives, Tuesday, Feb. 22; 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Using the wealth of the Civil Rights holdings within the National Archives at Atlanta, this session will combine an overview of the “long” Civil Rights Movement while using original documents and shared family stories.

Stories of the Great Depression

National Archives, Tuesday, Mar. 22; 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

A defining time of family struggles and attitudes towards government, this session will explore how the 1930s changed our nation and shaped family outlooks.

World War II: Stories of the Home Front and Tales from Two Theatres

National Archives, Tuesday, Apr. 26; 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

With war in Europe and in the Pacific, America pulled itself out of the Great Depression and took center stage in the world. Everyone seemed to play a part from the soldiers on D-Day to the marines on Iwo Jima to those building ships, making uniforms, and purchasing goods with ration stamps.

For more information on the course offerings and the National Archives at Atlanta, 5780 Jonesboro Rd., adjacent to the Clayton State campus. For more information, visit their website at <http://www.archives.gov/southeast/>. To register for the series visit the website <http://conted.clayton.edu/> or call the CEC office at (678) 466-5050. ■

Third Annual Helen Ruffin Reading Bowl At Clayton State a Success

by Tarrica Madison, University Relations

Clayton State University hosted the Third Annual Helen Ruffin Reading Bowl for Metro Atlanta schools on Saturday, Feb. 5. The success of the event was due in part to the students who came out to read for recognition and this year's championship. Another factor in the successful event was, in the midst of reading and competing, 24 Clayton State students, staff, and faculty came out to volunteer and show their support. Plus, more than 500 parents, participants and volunteers from the community came out to show their support of the event.

The Ruffin Reading bowl was started in DeKalb County by Library Media Specialist Helen Ruffin in response to the decline in reading by local students. The bowl began in 1985. The triumph of the bowl has been warranted by the participation of local schools including this year's 32 Metro Atlanta schools ranging from grades K-12.

This year's bowl held on Clayton State's Morrow campus began at 9:30 a.m. By noon, the winners were chosen and awarded this year's grand prize. The winners were as follows:

Elementary: 1st Shadow Rock
2nd Honey Creek
3rd Ashford Park
4th Timber Ridge

Middle School: 1st: Union Grove
2nd Henderson
3rd Miller Grove
4th Eagle's Landing

High School: 1st Ola
2nd Alcovy
3rd Woodland
4th Cross Keys.

Before the regional bowl held at Clayton State, students read this year's Ruffin-approved book lists for each grade level including books such as Kimberly Angle's "Hummingbird" and "Burn... A Novel" by Kristine Phillips. On bowl day the student competitors were grilled in game format to test their knowledge of their grade levels' selected books. This

format was chosen by Ruffin in her creation and vision for the competition.

The success of the bowl is in part to the many area schools that participate from year to year. The number of metro area schools that participate has grown since the bowl's conception and continues to grow every year. The following schools made it to the regional bowl because of their tenacity and dedication to learning this year's booklists as well as capturing the win in the school to school competitions. Those teams that were triumphant in the school-to-school tournaments made it to the regional bowl at Clayton State.

The following schools had teams participating in the Third Annual Helen Ruffin Reading Bowl Metro Tournament:

Elementary Schools:

A. Philip Randolph Elementary (Fulton County), Ashford Park Elementary (DeKalb County), Honey Creek Elementary (Rockdale County), Live Oak Elementary School (Newton

County), Lorraine Elementary (Rockdale County), Morris Brandon Elementary (Atlanta Public Schools), Ola Elementary (Henry County), Parkside Elementary (Atlanta Public Schools), River Eves Elementary (Fulton County), River's Edge Elementary (Clayton County), Shadow Rock Elementary (DeKalb County), Swint Elementary (Clayton County), and Timber Ridge Elementary (Henry County).

Middle Schools:

Eagle's Landing MS (Henry County), Henderson MS (DeKalb County), Indian Creek MS (Newton County), Miller Grove MS (DeKalb County), Mundy's Mill MS (Clayton County), Parks MS (Atlanta Public), Sequoyah MS (Clayton County), Sutton MS (Atlanta Public Schools), Union Grove MS (Henry County), and Veterans MS (Newton County).

High Schools:

Alcovy HS (Newton County), Alpharetta HS (Fulton County), Buford HS (Buford City), Carver HS (Atlanta Public), Centennial HS (Fulton), Cross Keys HS (DeKalb), Douglas HS (Atlanta Public), Lithonia HS (DeKalb), Newton HS (Newton County), Ola HS (Henry County), and Woodland HS (Henry County). ■

Life's Transitions



Leah Audrey Graves

Leah Audrey Graves was born on Jan. 31, 2011 at 1:27 p.m. She was 6 lbs, 6 oz, 19.5 in. The Office of University Relations congratulates parents Lauren and Levi, and brother Logan.

Elizabeth Rice

Former Clayton State Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs and Professor of History Brad Rice's mother, Elizabeth, passed away Jan. 31, 2011 in Edmond, Ok. Brad and his two brothers were with her at the end. She had been in failing health.

Richard James Sears

Jill Sears' first grandchild, Richard James Sears, was born Saturday, Jan. 29, at 10:35 p.m., weighing 9 lbs., 12 oz. to Richard and Kim Sears. (Kim is a Clayton State graduate of the School of Business.)

"Woohoo! I'm a grandma!" ■

Arts Page

Spivey Hall Young People's Concert Celebrates Black History Month

by Lauren Graves, University Relations

In celebration of Black History Month, Spivey Hall's Young People's Concert series invites you to learn about the musical heritage of African Americans through secular folk songs with Dr. J. Robert Adams, associate professor of vocal studies and operatic productions at Clark Atlanta University. Adams will speak on Monday, Feb. 28 at 11:15 a.m. in Spivey Hall on the Clayton State University main campus in Morrow. This event is free and open to the public.

"I wanted to schedule an artist that had a particular interest in the culture and tradition of African American music for

Black History Month and found a wonderful educator and musician who had just such a program already created! We are happy to open this program to the entire public, in addition to students, as it is culturally relevant to all age groups," shares Spivey Hall's Education Manager Catherine Striplin.

Striplin explains that Adams will trace the history of African American music from work songs to ballads. During the presentation, recorded examples will be used to demonstrate the myriad of genres

Concert, cont'd., p. 15

Alumnus Kalani Fraser and the Clayton State Theatre Join Together with Stately Oaks for "Swamp Gravy"

by John Shiffert, University Relations

A Clayton County version of "Swamp Gravy" is coming to Clayton State University and Stately Oaks.

The Clayton State Theatre, recent Clayton State graduate and theatre major Kalani Fraser, and the Stately Oaks Plantation in Jonesboro are joining together to produce a theatrical production that will debut next fall in the Clayton State Theatre. Fraser, a 2010 graduate of Clayton State, has been commissioned by Stately Oaks in the person

of Historical Jonesboro's Barbara Emert to create what Clayton State Theatre Director Phillip DePoy describes as a "Swamp Gravy-style theatrical production" that will serve as the theatre's fall 2011 production.

What's a "Swamp-Gravy-style theatrical production?" DePoy, who is also one of the foremost Georgia folklorists, knows...

Swamp Gravy, cont'd., p. 14

Southern Crescent Chorale Featuring Alumna Andrea Caldwell to Perform in Spivey Hall

The Southern Crescent Chorale will be making its seventh appearance at Clayton State University's world-famous Spivey Hall on Sunday, Feb. 27 at 3 p.m., with a concert featuring *Mozart's Requiem*.

The concert will be accompanied by Rick Massengale at the organ. Tickets for the concert are \$15 for adults and \$7 for students and may be purchased from any Chorale member or from Spivey Hall, go to www.spiveyhall.org or call (678) 466-4200.

The Chorale will be joined by four soloists for this performance, including mezzo soprano, Andrea Caldwell, a Jonesboro, Ga., native and a 2000 Bachelor of Music in Voice Performance graduate of Clayton State. Caldwell later earned a Master's Degree in vocal performance from Austin Peay State University. In the summers of 2002 and 2003, she studied and performed in

Chorale, cont'd., p. 15

Redd Goes to Vegas

by Ciji Fox, University Relations

Already one of the more accomplished graduates in the distinguished history of the Clayton State Theatre, Clayton State University 2006 graduate Redd Horrocks was recently hired as an assistant stage manager for LOVE, the Cirque du Soleil Beatles project in Las Vegas.

Horrocks (her given name is Melanie, but not even her mother calls her that) is originally from southeast England.

"I came to the U.S. in 2001, originally just for six months, but I really liked the education system here for undergrads, so I decided to remain and continue my schooling," she says. "I loved being at Clayton State University. I was very involved on campus and had a wonderful time serving on the student government and working as the associate editor for The Bent Tree. I was lucky enough to have fantastic professors, especially Phillip DePoy, who continues to be my mentor to this day.

"I also made many great friends who I continue to be close with even though our lives have taken us to different places."

"It's a huge deal," says DePoy, director of the Clayton State Theatre. "It's the most 'pro' gig any of our students has ever gotten."

Originally journalism major, she discovered theatre by accident.

"I was taking it as a random elective with a friend and realized that technical theatre was a great fit for me," Horrocks explains.

Horrocks is enthusiastic about her exciting future.

"Working for Cirque du Soleil has been my dream job for many years,"

Redd, cont'd., p. 15

Nine Ways the New Health Law May Affect You in 2011

Opponents of the new health care overhaul law are threatening to repeal, defund and kill it in court, but that isn't stopping Washington from implementing a number of important provisions in 2011. While many people will welcome the new benefits, some will face higher costs as a result of the law.

Seniors are affected by several of the provisions. They will get big discounts on prescription drugs and free preventive care, but some in Medicare Advantage plans may lose coveted extra benefits such as vision and dental coverage. Everyone will be able to count calories when dining at chain restaurants or sidling up to vending machines. But forget about using pre-tax income in popular flexible spending accounts to pay for over-the-counter medications, unless you get a prescription.

These changes follow a handful of early benefits that debuted in 2010. Already, adult children are allowed to remain on their parents' policies until the age of 26, for example, and insurers can no longer cancel coverage when people get sick (except in cases of fraud).

The following are nine health law changes to take note of this year.

Will you get an insurance rebate?

Starting this year, health insurers must spend at least 80 percent of their premiums on medical care, or face the possibility of giving rebates to consumers. The rule applies to policies purchased by individuals who don't get coverage through work, and for many policies offered by employers. For policies sold to large employers, insurers must hit an 85 percent spending target. Self-insured employers are exempt from the rule. The goal is to pressure insurers to restrain profits and administrative costs, such as overhead, marketing and executive salaries.

But insurers probably won't be issuing too many rebates, which would go out in 2012. Of the 75 million people who have insurance that is covered under the rule, the government estimates that 9 million will be eligible for a rebate in 2012. That's because many insurers reach those target levels now, and the ones that don't may adjust so



they meet the spending limits. Other insurers may drop out of the market.

Under another part of the law, regulators have proposed that beginning July 1 premium increases of 10 percent or more be subject to additional review by states and the federal government. Insurers would have to publicly disclose some of the data supporting their requests – such as how much they're paying for medical services. The review would determine if the increase is considered unreasonable. Some state regulators have authority to deny an increase, but the law does not grant that power to the federal government. The proposed rule would affect policies sold to individuals and small businesses.

Lower Rx costs for seniors

Prescription drug costs could shrink \$700 for a typical Medicare beneficiary in 2011, as the law begins to close the notorious doughnut hole – the gap in prescription coverage when millions of seniors must pay full price at the pharmacy – according to the seniors group AARP. The National Council on Aging estimates the savings could reach \$1,800 for some. Starting in January, drug companies will give seniors 50 percent off brand drugs while in the gap, excluding those low-income people who already get subsidies. Generics will also be cheaper. "It's quite significant," said AARP's John Rother. "People stop filling prescriptions when they hit the doughnut hole." The National Council on Aging estimates that about 4 million Medicare beneficiaries will face the gap this year.

It has how many calories?

How many calories are in that Outback Steakhouse's blooming onion? (1,551) Or Pizzeria Uno's individual-size Chicago style deep-dish pizza? (2,310). Beginning soon after the Food and Drug Administration finalizes rules in 2011, chain restaurants with 20 or more locations, and owners of 20 or more vending machines, will have to display calorie information on menus, menu boards and drive-thru signs. Restaurants must also provide diners with a brochure that includes detailed nutritional information, like the fat content of their dishes. Consumer advocate Jeff Cronin of the nonprofit Center for Science in the Public Interest says it will put "eating into context."

Higher Medicare Premiums

Medicare premiums in 2011 will take a bigger bite from wealthier beneficiaries. Since 2007, this group has paid more than the standard premium for Part B, which covers physician and outpatient services. But the income threshold was indexed to prevent inflation from moving more people into the affected group. The health law freezes the threshold at the current level: incomes of \$85,000 or above for individuals and \$170,000 for couples. With that step, beneficiaries paying higher premiums will rise from 2.4 million in 2011 to 7.8 million in 2019, according to an analysis by the Kaiser Family Foundation. (KHN is part of the foundation.) Their monthly premiums this year will be between \$161.50 and \$369.10, while the standard premium will be \$115.40. Also, premiums for Medicare Part D, which covers prescription drugs, for the first time will be linked to income. The thresholds will be the same as those for Part B and will not be linked to inflation. About 1.2 million beneficiaries will pay the income-related Part D premium this year, rising to 4.2 million beneficiaries in 2019.

Restrictions on medical savings accounts

Consumers with flexible spending accounts (FSAs), in which pre-tax income can be used for medical purchases, can no

Law, cont'd. from p. 12

longer spend the money on over-the-counter drugs, including ones that treat fevers or allergies and acne, unless they have a doctor's prescription. The new restrictions, which lawmakers included in the health overhaul to raise more revenue, also apply to health reimbursement arrangements (HRAs), health savings accounts (HSAs) and Archer medical savings accounts (MSAs). Starting this year, those with HSA or MSA accounts who spend money inappropriately will not only owe taxes on it, but also face a tax penalty of 20 percent, double what it was. For all pre-tax accounts, medical devices such as eyeglasses and crutches, and co-pays and deductibles still qualify for the accounts. Insulin obtained without a prescription is also eligible.

Bolstering seniors' access to primary care

Medicare is bumping up payments for primary care by 10 percent from Jan. 1 through the end of 2015. It's an incentive for doctors and others who specialize in primary care – including nurses, nurse practitioners and physician assistants – to see the swelling numbers of seniors and disabled people covered by the program. Health practitioners will qualify for the bonus only if 60 percent or more of the services they provide are for primary care. General surgeons also will receive an increase if they're practicing in areas where there are doctor shortages. Experts agree there's a growing shortage of primary care providers, a big problem considering that the health law is expected to expand cover-

age to 32 million more Americans by 2019. The bonus won't cure the problem, but many see it as a start. "It's significant, but it's not the end all," said Dr. Roland Goertz, president of the American Academy of Family Physicians, emphasizing that the bonus will end in 2015.

Staying healthy

Several provisions of the law promote prevention of disease, especially for seniors. Medicare enrollees will be able to get many preventive health services – such as vaccinations and cancer screenings – for free starting in January. Specifically, the law eliminates any cost-sharing such as copayments or deductibles for Medicare-covered preventive services that are recommended (rated A or B by the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force). Also starting in January, Medicare beneficiaries can get a free annual "wellness exam" from their doctors who will set up a "personalized prevention plan" for them. The plan includes a review of the individuals' medical history and a screening schedule for the next decade. The law also eliminates any cost sharing for the "Welcome to Medicare" physical exam, which previously included a 20 percent co-pay. And people working for small employers will get some help. The law authorizes the federal government to issue grants totaling \$200 million for companies with fewer than 100 workers that start wellness programs focused on nutrition, smoking cessation, physical fitness and stress management.

Trimming Medicare Advantage

The health law puts the squeeze on private health plans that provide Medicare coverage to about a quarter of beneficiaries. Payment for these Medicare Advantage plans is being restructured. Rates this year will be frozen at 2010 levels and lower rates will be phased in beginning in 2012. Medicare says the reductions are fair because the plans are paid \$1,000 more per person on average than the traditional fee-for-service program spends on a typical senior. Dan Mendelson, president and CEO of Avalere Health, a consulting firm based in Washington, says some plans will respond by cutting ancillary benefits, such as vision and dental care. But he calls this "a transition year" and says more significant changes will come in 2012, when in addition to the rate reductions, the government begins offering bonuses to top-performing Advantage plans based on quality measurements.

Fighting hospital infections

About 1.7 million patients pick up life-threatening, but preventable, infections at hospitals, according to a study earlier this year in the Archives of Internal Medicine. In July, Medicaid will say "enough." The federal government – which shares the cost of this program for the poor with states – will stop paying for treatment of some hospital-acquired infections. The Medicare program for the elderly and disabled and many private insurers already ban payments for treating many of these infections. ■

Right, cont'd. from p. 9

"His warning that he might not live to actually see the day of a new beginning stunned most of us in attendance," added Bates. "The next day, on Apr. 4, 1968 he was assassinated by James Earl Ray, while standing on the balcony of the Lorraine Motel.

"From 1963 through 1968, I was privileged to have had the opportunity to participate in a "Tale of Two Cities, Washington to Memphis. It was 'the best of times and it was the worst of times,' but it was the right thing to do."

In a similar fashion Thrash, leading a per-

formance by four of her Clayton State Theatre students, echoed Bates' thought. During the course of a special dramatic reading/singing using John Lewis' testimony from the Selma to Montgomery march, Thrash quoted King, "a man dies when he refuses to stand up for what is right."

Derby, who followed Bates to the podium, told of some of her experiences with the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, another example of doing what was right. Her efforts on behalf of the Civil Rights movement, in addition to her photography on behalf of Southern Media, included: teaching a literacy program in Jackson, Ms., so her students could qualify to vote; taking part in the

Free Southern Theater, that brought plays about black issues to Mississippi; and taking part in the first Head Start program in the United States.

"We were documenting everything that was going on in Mississippi, providing photos to the media to show what people, ordinary people, were actually doing," she explained of the Southern Media effort.

The evening also featured opening remarks by Clayton State University President Dr. Thomas J. "Tim" Hynes, Jr., and two performances by the Clayton State University Gospel Choir, under the direction of Clayton State student Colby Wilson. ■

Employee of the Quarter – Cedric Jackson

On Dec 30, 2010, Cedric Jackson was named the Employee of the Quarter for Facilities Management at Clayton State University for the period from October 2010 through December 2010.

Jackson is employed with the Building Services Department and serves as a Custodian II for the department from 10 p.m. to 7 a.m., Sunday night through Friday mornings. The expectations of the Building Service Department are very challenging due to a high demand of customer service, quality of service, and priorities of work.

He services and maintains the office space, primarily in Clayton State -- East and Huie Hall. He also conducts intermediate and restorative carpet maintenance throughout the entire campus. He is often asked to fill in wherever needed when there are personnel shortages. He is a quiet individual, who takes a great deal of professional pride in all that he does. This is reflected by the high state of cleanliness and attention to detail that is found throughout the areas in which he services.

Jackson is a consummate team player, and can be depended upon to accomplish any tasks that he is assigned. He is easy-going, approachable, and fosters a great relationship with peers and superiors alike. The department can always depend on him.

He has proven that he can balance the demanding workload with quality service and provide great results every time. It takes a special individual to meet the stringent requirements of Employee of the Quarter, but Jackson has met and exceeded the challenge. He is the type of employee any manager would love and appreciate having on his or her team. ■

Swamp Gravy, cont'd. from p. 11

“Around 20 years ago, the town of Colquitt, Ga., commissioned a play about local stores, folklore, family histories and the show went very well. It's now become a kind of cottage industry for that area,” he explains. “Since then, many small towns have decided to create their own projects of this sort.”

Clayton County's version of Swamp Gravy will, after its initial showing at Clayton State, go on to be presented to the public, possibly the following summer or thereafter, says DePoy, who also thanks, in addition to Stately Oaks, Clayton State President Dr. Thomas J. “Tim” Hynes, Jr., College of Arts & Sciences Dean Dr. Nasser Momayezi, and Visual and Performing Arts Chair Dr. Susan Tusing for their support of the project.

“This is a great project and a very nice collaboration between our theatre division, our alumnus, this fine local historical entity, and the community at large,” he adds. ■

ISSO Awarded NAFSA Grant

by Ciji Fox, University Relations

Clayton State University's International Student Services Office (ISSO) was recently awarded a \$500 grant from Region VII of National Association for International Education (NAFSA) to support participation in Advocacy Day 2011. Advocacy Day will consist of colleges from across the nation meeting with their members of Congress and their staffs to advocate for policies that promote international education.

“I applied for the grant knowing this opportunity was unbudgeted,” says Brett Reichert, associate director, International Student Services Office. “As a result, I'll get to travel to Washington this March to strategize with other constituents who work in the field of international education, and ultimately meet with congressmen who represent our state and district. Our

participation will mark the first time Clayton State University has participated in this event. The establishment of ISSO was key in being awarded this funding and will provide an historic opportunity early in 2011 for a Clayton State staff member to dialogue with members of the new Congress about the needs of our diverse international student population.”

Reichert is enthusiastic about the benefits Clayton State University will reap as a result of participating. Clayton State will gain exposure through representation in a select group of "international advocates" from around the country; including personal dialogue with Representative John Lewis, as well as staff from Georgia's two senators, he says.

“My job will be to present the key issues and consequences set forth in my grant

application, notably; transparency of process, public transit, and immigration reform,” he explains.

Reichert also explains that receiving the grant is significant because it will be a first for Clayton State University, a first for ISSO, and a first on behalf of the international students enrolled at the University.

“The program provides the opportunity to meet and strategize with colleagues from around the country, and to ultimately meet our congressional delegation to discuss relevant issues,” he says. “Advocacy Day, though brief, will help take Clayton State University from ‘outside the perimeter’ of Atlanta to ‘the middle of the beltway’ in D.C. It's a trip that would not have been possible without the grant.

“I intend to thank my college English teachers by letting them know strong applied writing ability does still pay-off!” ■

Clayton State University Archives Building Nursing Program Collection

by Rosemary Fischer, Clayton State Archives

The Clayton State University Archives is building a collection about the history of the nursing program at Clayton. We need the help of our faculty, staff, alumni, and retirees to help us create a complete picture of this program.

We have been busy searching academic catalogs, news clippings, campus publications, photographs, slides, and other collections to discover information about the nursing program. If you have any information or any of the following items to contribute (or let us scan), we would love to talk with you.

- Photographs
- Graduation Programs
- Pinning Ceremony Programs
- Faculty and Staff information
- Graduation and Pinning Ceremony Invitations

- Nursing Caps
- Nursing Pins
- Brochures, Flyers, Promotional literature, etc.
- Videos of Pinning Ceremonies
- Videos of Events or Other Activities associated with the nursing program
- Any other item you may have that pertains to the nursing program at Clayton State

The Archives always needs your help in identifying people in photographs. We have lots of photographs of nursing students but no years, names, or events associated with the photos.

If you would like to help, please contact the University Archives, at (678) 466-4333 or email rosemaryfischer@clayton.edu. ■

Chorale, cont'd. from p. 11

Salzburg, Austria where she had the opportunity to work with opera singer Grace Bumbry and Sylvia Plyler. In the fall of 2003, she moved to Cincinnati to fulfill a position as a private instructor of voice.

Also appearing at the Feb. 27 concert will be Grammy-winning American tenor Richard Clement, who has performed with most of America's major orchestras and music directors. Clement is currently an assistant professor and artist-in-residence at Georgia State University.

Two other local educators will also be performing: soprano Jennifer McLean Stadelmeyer, a National Board Certified teacher in early and middle childhood music who was recently honored as Teacher of the Year at Peeples Elementary School and who performs regularly in the Metro Atlanta area; and bass-baritone John LaForge, the coordinator of music education for Fulton County schools. ■

Concert, cont'd. from p. 11

found among vocal music, and live music will display how various composers utilized uniquely African American musical elements in their compositions.

In addition to his position at Clark Atlanta University, Adams is the founder/artistic director of Adams Opera of America, Inc. He has performed more than 15 complete opera roles and more than 15 characters in numerous opera scenes programs. In addition, he was pro-

fessor of Voice, and chair of the Department of Music at Elizabeth City State University, N.C. He served as head of the Division of Arts and Humanities, professor of Voice, and chair of the Department of Fine Arts at Knoxville College, Tn., where he also directed the college choir. Adams has also served as president/registrar of the Alabama Chapter of the National Association of Teachers of Singing.

Adams has presented lecture recitals for the College Music Society's

Southern Chapter Conferences in Jackson, Tn., and Tampa, Fl., on topics including African-American sacred and secular folk music. He has also authored an article titled "Black Music," published by the Missouri Cultural Heritage Center, Columbia, Mo. Adams holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Voice from the University of Illinois and a Master of Arts in Ethnomusicology and Bachelor of Arts degrees from the State University of New York at Buffalo. ■

Redd, cont'd. from p. 11

she says. "Cirque du Soleil is one of, if not the best, production company in the world. It really doesn't get bigger than this for me in my field. Being able to do this, to work with this company, is an opportunity that I have worked incredibly hard for. I consider myself very lucky to get this shot."

Although Horrocks is excited by the move from Atlanta to Las Vegas, she

admits the transition is somewhat intimidating.

"It's a scary transition. Atlanta is very different from Las Vegas," she says. "Here, I see mountains everywhere that I look. The weather is very consistent... dry and sunny. Las Vegas is a very active town, and the strip is flamboyant and colorful. A friend of mine described it very well by saying, 'Las Vegas is like living inside a pinball machine.' It's tough to move away from my friends and my support network, but if ever I was going

to drop everything and chase my dreams, or run away and join the circus... which is what I'm technically doing, now was definitely the time."

Horrocks also looks forward to working in a creative and professional environment.

"Cirque du Soleil is so well respected, it makes me very proud to be a part of it," she says. "I get to work with people who are some of the best in the world at what they do. It's a wonderful, nurturing environment and I really love it here." ■

Kordecki, cont'd. from p. 3

the utmost integrity who does his best to instill the highest sense of integrity and ethics in his students, as well as the best accounting knowledge.

“In a number of ways Professor Kordecki has worked tirelessly to motivate students to excel in their academic and professional careers. He has actively participated in and played leadership roles in professional organizations such as the Georgia Society of CPAs. Over and over I see that he gives far more than 100 percent to his accounting profession, his university and to students — not just his but all that he can reach.”

Kordecki received his Bachelor of Arts from Marquette University in 1970, a Master of Professional Accountancy in 1976 from Georgia State University, and his Master of Decision Sciences from Georgia State University in 1981. He received his Georgia CPA certification in 1988. His profession in academia began in 1976 at Clayton State University. His career to date includes 34 years at Clayton State University, including two years on leave to work in public accounting. He also worked six years in industry prior to joining Clayton State University. Kordecki has also received numerous academic awards from Clayton State University, including Teaching Professor of the Year in 2001, Outstanding Service Professor in 2006, Faculty Fellowship in Accounting in 2007, and, most importantly, tenure.

“For many years, Professor Kordecki has worked to develop the best accounting curriculum for his students at Clayton State University,” adds Bullen. “Through his continued work in the CPA profession, he is able to remain knowledgeable of current developments. His ongoing awareness and involvement in the accounting profession and innovative classroom techniques are intended to motivate accounting students to a high level of excellence and professional performance.

“He encourages students to become CPAs and take the CPA exam, and makes a point of communicating the relevant information to students on the CPA exam and license requirements. As a result of his work to foster an awareness of the opportunities in accounting, students have received internships, CPA mentors, scholarships and careers.”

Outside of the classroom, Kordecki has actively participated in and taken leadership roles with professional organizations including the Georgia Society of CPAs. He is currently the vice chair of the Assurance Services section and participates in the Society’s Leadership Council. He was one of the team members that presented the Society’s first webcast, and has contributed more than 30 years of service and leadership on the task force for Annual Accounting and Auditing Conference, including as former chair. His affiliations with other professional organizations include The American Institute of Certified

Trivia Time **A Happy Ending**

by John Shiffert, University Relations

There was the World According to Garp, and then there’s the Word According to Pasch, as in Dr. Bill Pasch, former Clayton State professor of English.

And, according to what Dr. Pasch taught in the MALS “Great Books” course in 2006, the difference between a Shakespearean comedy and a tragedy is most simply that a comedy, while not necessarily funny, has a happy ending.

It would be nice to report that this question had a happy ending, but all it did was confuse the readers, who were apparently looking for a far more complex definition. However, we’ll give Norman Grizzell credit for a correct answer, and Kurt-Alexander Zeller and B.D. Stillion credit for knowing far more about Shakespeare than your humble scribe.

Having made a thorough hash of this question, the only course to take is to ask what international organization is known as “The Hash?” Send your answers, not the Stratford-on-Avon, but to johnshiffert@clayton.edu. ■

Public Accountants and the Georgia Association of Accounting Educators, often presenting at various meetings.

Professor Kordecki has published numerous refereed journal articles and proceedings, and presented at both academic and professional conferences. Over and above these tasks, he also regularly writes in trade journals that are targeted towards practitioners. He maintains an active consulting practice that continues to keep him current in industry practices. As Associate Professor of Accounting and Coordinator of the Business School’s Discipline of Accounting, Business Law, and Taxation, he proactively assists the administrative leadership of Clayton State University.

“He inspires his students to work hard and dream big,” adds Bullen. “The entire Clayton State community is certainly very proud of Professor Greg Kordecki.” ■

New Vehicle Immobilization Policy

On Mar. 1, 2011, campus police officers will begin enforcing parking rules and regulations by implementing the policy below (which is included in the Parking Rules and Regulations on the Public Safety website).

Notice is being provided at this time to the campus community, to give those who have unpaid parking tickets an opportunity to pay the tickets. If unsure if you have any unpaid tickets, the Department of Public Safety staff will be glad to research and advise. Just call (678) 466-4050 or stop by the office in the Student Center.

Vehicles are subject to immobilization when they are illegally parked, or it is determined that either the registered driver or the vehicle has accumulated three unpaid parking citations. An administrative fee of \$50 will be assessed in addition to the payment of existing fines, prior to the removal of the immobilization “boot.”

Removal of the “boot” may be arranged by contacting the Department of Public Safety at (678) 466-4050. Removal of the “boot” without the authority of the Department of Public Safety may result in criminal prosecution. Vehicles immobilized may be removed from the campus at the owner’s expense 24 hours after immobilization. ■

Sports

Tillman Selected PBC Women's Basketball Player of the Week

by Lee Wright, Sports Information

Laker forward Teshymia Tillman was selected Peach Belt Conference Player of the Week for Feb. 6 to Feb. 12. This marks the first time since the 2005/06 season that a player from Clayton State has received a weekly Peach Belt Conference honor in women's basketball.

Tillman, a 5-foot-9 senior from High Point, N.C., was the fire that ignited the fire for Clayton State (24-0, 13-0 PBC) last week in two big Laker victories. For the week, she averaged 25.5 points and 4.5 rebounds a game and shot a whopping 71 percent from the field.

She scored 24 points on 11-for-17 shooting from the field in Clayton State's 83-81 thriller over Lander in a battle of the top two-ranked teams in Division II. In that game, Tillman also had four rebounds and three steals as the Lakers became the only remaining undefeated team in the nation in Division II.

Tillman followed that performance with a season-high 27 points on 11-for-14 shooting from the field with five rebounds and five assists in Clayton State's 80-60 rout over visiting Francis Marion on Saturday.



Teshymia Tillman

For the season, Tillman is averaging 15.3 points and 5.3 rebounds a game, while shooting 52 percent from the field. She is currently fifth in the PBC in field goal percentage, sixth in scoring and 10th in steals. In addition, Tillman is also only 108 points shy of 1,000 for her Clayton State career. ■

No. 9 Clayton State Women Open Mason Era With 8-1 Victory

The debut was a successful one for first-year Clayton State women's head tennis coach Le'Trone Mason on Sunday as the No. 9-ranked Lakers opened the 2011 season with an 8-1 victory over visiting Georgia Southwestern in Peach Belt Conference action at Laker Courts.

The Lakers swept all three doubles matches and won five of the six matches in singles. Picking up singles victories without losing a game was Ivana Krommelova (No. 2) and Marie Cercelletti (No. 3), while Viktoriya Semyrodenko (No. 1) and Charlotte Fabricius (No. 6) each also won straight sets. The dramatic victory in singles for Clayton State was at No. 4, where freshman Martina Dedaj won a 7-6 (7-3), 6-1 thriller over Georgia Southwestern's Mollie McGowan.

Picking up the lone victory for Georgia Southwestern was Melinda Vansant, who downed Clayton State's Jessica Budd (7-6 (7-5), 4-6, 10-3 at No. 5.

Semyrodenko and Krommelova won at No. 1 doubles for the Lakers, as did Cercelletti and Katie White at No. 2 and Budd and Dedaj at No. 3. ■

Clayton State Tabs O'Sullivan as New Laker Women's Head Soccer Coach

Throughout his soccer coaching career, Gareth O'Sullivan has built a strong reputation when it comes to developing teams into championship-caliber programs. He proved that with an NCAA Division II national championship at Christian Brothers and aims to bring that same desire to the Clayton State Laker women's soccer program.



Gareth O'Sullivan

the hiring of O'Sullivan as the new women's soccer head coach at Clayton State. O'Sullivan is the fourth head coach in the history of women's soccer at Clayton State. He replaces T.O. Totty, who stepped down after 13 seasons at the Laker helm.

"After a long process that involved a very accomplished pool of applicants and candidates, we felt that Gareth had the chemistry of experiences that fit our needs here at Clayton State,"

said Barfield. "His direction in leading Christian Brothers to an NCAA Division II national championship gives him the experience to understand what it takes to accomplish such success.

"We are pleased to have someone that has accomplished such success."

A native of Ballina, Ireland, O'Sullivan most recently was the head coach of the Atlanta Beat of the WPS (Women's Professional Soccer) this past spring and summer. He was also a professional head coach in the Icelandic Premier League for three seasons. However, it's at the NCAA Division II level where

Clayton State Director of Athletics Mason Barfield announced on last week

O'Sullivan, cont'd., p. 18

Sports

No. 1-Ranked Clayton State Women Triumph At Columbus State

by Lee Wright, Sports Information

Fresh off being ranked number one in the nation in Division II, the Clayton State Laker women's basketball team put that ranking to the test on Wednesday and passed with a 64-54 Peach Belt Conference victory at in-state rival Columbus State.

The victory keeps Clayton State undefeated on the season at 25-0 overall and 14-0

in the Peach Belt. Columbus State falls to 14-9 overall and 7-7 in the Peach Belt.

Despite the victory, Laker head coach Dennis Cox was frustrated somewhat his team's play.

"Make no doubt about it – I am elated with the victory and we did what we had

to do to beat a good team in their floor," said Cox. "But I was frustrated with the fact that we built big leads both halves and didn't finish either half. The pressure may have got us a little, and I don't want to get into the habit of playing when we need to play."

Teshymia Tillman, this week's Peach Belt Conference Player of the Week, paced the Lakers with 22 points and eight rebounds. Tanisha Woodard added nine points and 10 rebounds. ■

O'Sullivan, cont'd. from p. 16

O'Sullivan has made his mark, serving as head coach at Gulf South Conference programs Christian Brothers and West Georgia.

O'Sullivan was head coach for both the men's and women's teams at Christian Brothers from 1997 to 2002. He posted a record of 87-19-3 with the Christian Brothers women, leading the Lady Bucs to three straight Gulf South Conference championships, an NCAA Division II national runner-up finish in 2001 and the NCAA Division II national championship in 2002.

As the men's head coach, O'Sullivan went 61-49, leading the Bucs to the 2000 Gulf South Conference championship and advancing to the NCAA Division II "Sweet 16."

From Christian Brothers, O'Sullivan started the women's program at West Georgia. After the inaugural season in 2004, he helped pace the Wolves to a 13-7-1 mark in 2005, advancing to the Gulf South Conference Tournament semifinals. Overall, O'Sullivan has a 174-82-12 record at the NCAA Division II level, including 105-26-5 as a women's head coach. ■

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