

Campus Review

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Serving the CLAYTON STATE UNIVERSITY Community

January 28, 2008

Billye S. Aaron Shares Her Story of Martin Luther King

By John Shiffert, University Relations

Clayton State University's annual Martin Luther King, Jr., Commemoration Day has featured many noted Civil Rights figures over the eight years since University President Dr. Thomas K. Harden initiated the event in January 2001.

Andrew Young, Joseph Lowery, John Lewis, Julian Bond and many others have shared their thoughts over the past eight years as part of the living history of the movement. However, on the night of Thursday, Jan. 24, 2008, an audience in the University's Spivey Hall heard a different, more personal view of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. from this year's keynote speaker, Atlanta educator and media personality Billye S. Aaron.

The theme for evening was, "Civil Rights in Atlanta: A Personal Reflection Featuring Billye S. Aaron." And a person-

al reflection, a very personal history, it was. From 1959 until 1970 Aaron was married to the late Dr. Samuel W. Williams, professor of Philosophy and Religion at Morehouse College, and a colleague and contemporary of King. In fact, Williams was King's professor when the late Civil Rights leader was a student at Morehouse. And, as Billye Aaron's second husband (Williams died following a surgical procedure in 1970), Henry Aaron, noted in his autobiography, not only was Williams King's teacher, and "one of the giants of the civil rights movement in Atlanta," but King credited Williams for many of his ideas.

"Martin was in and out of our lives, and we were in and out of his life," noted Aaron during her address Thursday night. "I married Sam in May 1959 and that threw me into the Civil Rights movement."

Thus, Aaron's reminisces of King were both of the leader of the pre-eminent American social movement of the 20th Century, and a personal recollection of a friend.

Recounting her memories of King from the time she met him and his family during a weekend visit to the King home in Montgomery, Al. in 1959, Aaron told her story against the backdrop of her own experiences in the Civil Rights movement. A lifetime member of the NAACP and a passionate advocate of black higher education, Aaron taught on the high school and college level for some 12 years. For 14 years, she was one of the United Negro College Fund's (UNCF) premiere fundraisers -- retiring in 1994 as vice president of the Southern Region. She has also been a member of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund and Educational Board for more than 25 years.

"We live by liberties we did not secure. It is our responsibility to pass those along to



Billye Aaron during her speech at Spivey Hall

future generations," she said in opening her talk. "We are heirs to a great and noble legacy. We are the recipients of someone else's sacrifices."

"This generation needs to know who Martin Luther King was, what he stood for, and what he stood against."

Aaron told of her experiences in Atlanta, which she characterized as "a segregated city," in the late 50s and 60s, telling how she couldn't eat in the main dining rooms of Rich's nor walk in the front door of the Fox Theater. To overcome these prejudices, "Atlanta needed a lot of people to put their lives on the line," she said. Included among those people, in addition to Williams, she noted, were Atlanta mayors William Hartsfield and Ivan Allen.

While telling her story of the civil rights movement in Atlanta, Aaron skillfully interwove her memories of King, painting perhaps a somewhat different picture of King the man than the average individual's perception might include.

"Martin was a fun kind of guy. Fun to be around, fun to talk to, fun to exchange ideas with," she noted. "He loved a good joke, and he told a good joke."

It was clear that Aaron and her first husband had known King and his family well,

Aaron, cont'd., p. 9

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Clayton State Plans Black History Month Events

The Clayton State University Office of Campus Life has scheduled a total of seven events in February in conjunction with Black History Month. All the events are free and open to the public.

The Black History Month calendar will include a comedy show, two lectures, two musical events, a town hall meeting and a final event on Thursday, Feb. 28 that will feature a keynote speaker, dining and cultural performances. In addition, the Clayton State University Lyceum and the University's Language and Literature Department will sponsor 2007 Pulitzer Prize winning poet Natasha Tretheway as part of the Visiting Writers Reading Series on Tuesday, Feb. 26

The theme of Black History Month at Clayton State is "Carter G. Woodson and the Origins of Multiculturalism: Embracing our Past and Reaffirming our Identity." Woodson (1875-1950) was an African American historian, author and journalist and the founder of Black History Month. The month's events at Clayton State will kick off with a Wednesday, Feb. 6 comedy show at 7 p.m.

in the Baker Center Commons area, featuring Pat Brown, Lav Luv and Big Sean Larkins.

"The Trends and Development of African-Americans" lecture will take place on Wednesday, Feb. 13 at 12:30 p.m. in room 272 of the Baker Center.

The first of two musical presentations, a "Celebration of Expression," will also be held in the Baker Center Commons on Friday, Feb. 15 at 7 p.m. This musical showcase will trace the history of black music and pay tribute to its pioneers.

The month's second lecture, "The 'N' Word," will be given by Clayton State Assistant Professor of Psychology Dr. Mario Norman on Wednesday, Feb. 20 at 12:30 p.m. in room 272 of the Baker Center. Norman will lead a discussion on the use of the most controversial racial slur.

Room 272 of the Baker Center will also be the site, at 7:30 p.m. on the evening of Feb. 20, of a town hall meeting featuring an open discussion of the state of Black America. Topics of discussion will

include; Jena 6, economic inequalities, police brutality, and snitching.

Local choirs and artists from metro Atlanta will be featured at a "Gospel Choir Explosion" on Sunday, Feb. 24 in the University's world famous Spivey Hall, starting at 5 p.m.

Following Tretheway's poetry reading, Q&A session and book signing starting at 6 p.m. on Feb. 26 in room 272 of the Baker Center, Black History Month will conclude with the Feb. 28 finale, also in the Commons area of the Baker Center. Individuals who wish to take part in the 6:30 p.m. finale must RSVP to Clayton State Assistant Director of Campus Life Lakiesha Cantey at LakieshaCantey@clayton.edu.

Cantey is the contact person for all of the Black History Month events. She can also be reached at (678) 466-5433. For more information on Black History Month events at Clayton State, go to <http://adminsivices.clayton.edu/campuslife/bhm.htm>

■

Billye S. Aaron Speaks on Education to Clayton State Students

By John Shiffert, University Relations

Billye S. Aaron began her day at Clayton State University Thursday by conducting a student dialogue on the value of education in front of a standing room only packed house in the University's Arts & Sciences Theater.

Following an introduction by Clayton State University senior History major Karen Kopanezos, president of the University's History Society, Aaron immediately grabbed hold of her audience's attention by taking issue with the subject of the dialogue, "How the value of education has changed from the beginning of the Civil Rights movement to the present."

"Education has changed since the start of the Civil Rights movement, but not the value of education," she noted. "Its relative worth has not changed. Value remains constant."

"Education is the one thing that no one can take from you," she told her student audience as a way of emphasizing the value of education. "A most valuable tool. A tool that civilized people cannot live without.

"There is a perception that education has changed. It's the challenges and demands of education that have changed."

Aaron spoke on how the Civil Rights movement has, and has not, changed education, noting that the movement has imposed a need for greater preparation among African-American students, in part because the playing field has not yet been leveled, in part because of the long history wherein blacks were discouraged or legally prohibited from getting an education, and in part because getting an education has only been a priority in the black

community since the Civil Rights movement.

"It certainly is a privilege to introduce her," said Kopanezos, a Decatur native who will graduate from Clayton State this spring. "Of course, it is a bit intimidating

Aaron on Ed., cont'd., p. 10



Karen Kopanezos
during her introduction

Biology Student Receives \$15,000 Award from SEEDS

By Erin Fender, University Relations

Serge Alexander Farinas, a Clayton State University biology student, was recently awarded the \$15,000 Strategies for Ecology Education, Development and Sustainability (SEEDS) undergraduate research fellowship by the Ecological Society of America (ESA).

“Because of Serge's hard work and excellence within the field of ecology, and his involvement with the SEEDS program, I encouraged him to apply for the ESA SEEDS Undergraduate Research Fellowship,” explains Dr. Jere Boudell, assistant professor of Biology at Clayton State.

Farinas is a senior biology major with a concentration in environmental science. He is also the president of the Clayton State University Chapter of SEEDS and has worked on the Jesters Creek restoration project since 2006.

“This award is an unparalleled experience for undergraduates that pair them up with a research mentor to do a high quality research project in their field of interest. The award totals out to about \$15,000 and it is needless to say that I am very grateful for being chosen and very humbled at the opportunity,” expresses Farinas.

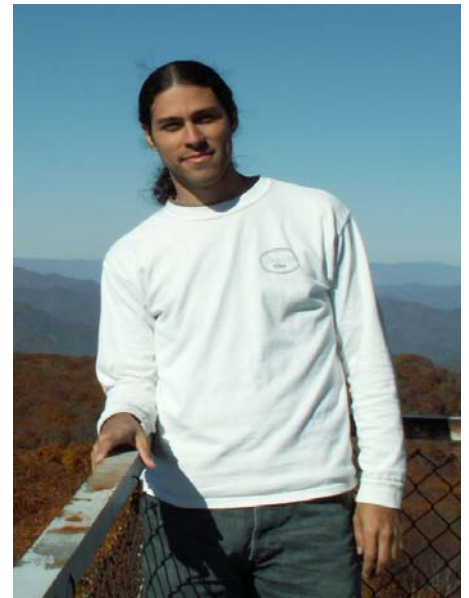
At the 2008 annual meeting for the Ecological Society of America, Farinas will be recognized as the SEEDS award recipient. He is still in the beginning stages of his fellowship and is not yet ready to announce what his research will be on, but looks forward to the work ahead.

“I'm very proud of Serge. This award is a testament to his hard work, dedication, and excellence in ecology; he has a bright future in front of him,” says Boudell.

Many people have been a system of support and encouragement for Farinas, including his wife and mother. Farinas feels they are a constant reminder to remain strong and believe in him self.

“This is a very rigorous biology program that we have at Clayton State and I feel that the professors are very committed to helping students do well; they have all led me to explore many new ideas and opportunities,” he says.

Farinas will graduate fall 2008. He plans to pursue a master's degree in ecology. He was born in Miami, but moved to Georgia as a child. He currently resides in Stockbridge with his wife, Laura. In his



Serge Alexander Farinas

free time, Farinas enjoys playing electric and acoustic guitar.

“Your goals can always change based on your experiences, but I really want to work for a government organization such as the U.S. Geological Survey or the Forest Service. I think they are great organizations that do a whole host of fascinating research,” he says. ■

Faculty/Staff Fund Drive Celebration was an Event to Remember

To conclude the successful 2008 Clayton State University Faculty/Staff fund drive, a celebration was held on Jan. 17 to thank all of those who contributed to the drive that wrapped up in the fall of 2007.

The 2008 drive successfully raised \$97,000 and had a 96 percent participation rate from the full time faculty and staff. This beat the goals of co-chairs Dr. James Braun, professor of Chemistry, and Keya Reed-Jones, of the Admissions office, both of whom were recognized along with all of the campaign coordinators for their commitment to success.

As has been traditional, trustee Robert Lee from SouthSide Seafood served his famous chili at the celebration. Contributions from Phillip Pence of

FirstBank Financial Services and Sam Patel of Boston's Gourmet Pizza also helped to make the event a success.

While Lee worked hard in the kitchen, Pence pitched in to serve food as well as helping Clayton State Director of Development Reda Rowell with door prizes.

Clayton State President Dr. Thomas K. Harden extended his sincere appreciation to; the faculty and staff for their giving nature, to those who lead the campaign, and everyone who attended to celebrate the successful fund drive.

Along with food and fellowship, the celebration was topped off with a DJ who provided music through out the event, which moved the crowd to the floor for some

line dancing. The DJ even provided some interactive entertainment for all to enjoy.

"Thanks to everyone who participated, and thanks to coordinators Jim Braun and Keya Reed-Jones for doing a great job," says Rowell. ■



Photo Credit: Erin Fender

Spivey Hall Concert Features Clayton State Music Professor in Brahms

Clayton State University's acclaimed Director of Keyboard Studies, Dr. Michiko Otaki, will perform at the University's Spivey Hall on Saturday, Feb. 2, with the José White String Quartet from Mexico, which will be making its Atlanta debut. Otaki will join the award-winning chamber music ensemble in the beloved Brahms Piano Quintet in F minor, one of the towering masterpieces of the Romantic repertoire.

Also on the program, which begins at 8:15 p.m., are Mozart's Quartet in D major, K. 575, and Five Pieces for String Quartet by the Czech composer Erwin Schulhoff, one of many talented artists who perished in the Holocaust. The concert is preceded at 7:15 p.m. by an informative pre-concert talk given by Clayton State University vocal director Dr. Kurt-Alexander Zeller, joined by Otaki. Atlanta's Instituto de México and The Friends of Spivey Hall will co-host a post-concert reception for the artists and the audience.

The José White String Quartet is on a major American tour taking it through nine states. For their 2004 debut in Cleveland they were praised by the Plain Dealer for their "world-class artistry ... Their collective energy set the magnificent music ablaze. Their well-balanced sonorities bloomed with richness and depth.... Their rhythmic intensity was exhilarating, their emotional involvement electrifying."

The Quartet takes its name from the late 19th-century Cuban violinist (also known as José White Lafitte) who was the first internationally successful black composer from the New World. The Quartet, three of whose four members are Cuban-born, is based in Mexico has been coached and mentored by Jerry Horner, the retired violist and chamber music teacher, formerly of the Fine Arts Quartet. Their first CD of all-Latino music, including a piece by José White, was released on the Quindecim label.

Tickets to this performance are \$30 (50 percent off for Clayton State faculty and staff); Clayton State students pay just \$10. For tickets and more information, call the Spivey Hall Box Office at (678) 466-4200. Full-price tickets only are available online at www.spiveyhall.org (a per-ticket service fee applies).

The 2008 American tour of the José White String Quartet is made possible in part through the support of the Cultural Institute of Aguascalientes and in part thanks to the financial support of the Consejo Nacional Para La Cultura Y Las Artes, in its program Mexico at Scene, which is a grant to Professional Artistic Groups of the Scenic Arts, summoned by the FONCA (2nd edition).

Otaki traveled to Aguascalientes in Central Mexico to rehearse with the

Brahms, cont'd., p. 5

Celebrated Woodwind Quintet Imani Winds to Make Spivey Hall Debut

The celebrated woodwind quintet Imani Winds will make its Spivey Hall debut with a two-day residency, Feb. 7 and Feb. 8, 2008. Imani Winds first appearance at the Southeast's premier small performance facility on the main campus of Clayton State University will include the world premiere of a commissioned work by Atlanta composer Alvin Singleton.

On Thursday, Feb. 7, the residency begins with an in-school performance at Fayette County High School (from 10:45 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.) for high school band students of band director Myra Rhoden. Later in the day, Imani Winds will give a reading session on stage at Spivey Hall from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., playing and critiquing works by the composition students of Dr. Christopher Arrell, the Clayton State Music Department's director of Theory and Composition. Singleton will join Imani Winds for both of these Feb. 7 events.

On Friday, Feb. 8, Imani Winds performs a Young People's Concert for students in

grades three through six at Spivey Hall at 11:15 a.m. This 45-minute "music-telling" performance, entitled "How Jeff Got His Groove Back," features all the Imani Winds, who play music and act out a story at the same time.

Some 15,000 students from 12 school systems and 18 counties, as well as home school families, attend Spivey Hall's Young People's Concerts each year. These concerts provide enrichment to the students' classroom curriculum as well as exposure to fine music in an acoustically superb recital hall. Tickets for this performance are \$1 each, available by calling the Spivey Hall Education Department at (678) 466-4491 (www.spiveyhall.org/education).

Imani Winds' residency concludes with a full-length recital at Spivey Hall beginning at 8:15 p.m. on Feb. 8, featuring the world premiere of Singleton's new work, "Through It All," commissioned by Spivey Hall and The ASCAP Foundation for Imani Winds. Spivey Hall welcomes

educators to this Teacher Appreciation Night with free admission to the Imani Winds' performance.

Each season, Spivey Hall expresses its gratitude to educators for their work by inviting them to attend Teacher Appreciation Night. Any educator may receive two free tickets (subject to availability) to the Imani Winds' performance by calling the Spivey Hall Box Office at (678) 466-4200, mentioning Teacher Appreciation Night, and naming his or her school. Tickets will be held at the box office, and recipients are cordially invited to attend a post-concert dessert reception with Imani Winds at Spivey Hall.

General admission tickets for the Imani Winds' Feb. 8 concert are \$30. Tickets are free to Clayton State music majors and students currently enrolled in Music Appreciation courses; all other Clayton State students pay \$10. Other students

Imani, cont'd., p. 10

Clayton State Opera Pays Tribute to Menotti

By Erin Fender, University Relations

Clayton State Opera presents a memorial tribute to Gian Carlo Menotti (1911-2007) in world renowned Spivey Hall on Feb. 22 and Feb. 23. The group will perform "A Hand of Bridge" with text by Menotti and music by Samuel Barber and Menotti's "The Medium."

Performances will be held on both Friday and Saturday nights at 7:30 p.m. The program will last approximately 80 minutes. General admission is \$10 and students may purchase tickets for \$5. Admittance is free for Clayton State students, faculty and staff with their valid LakerCard.

"Menotti died in February of 2007, so this production is presented as something of an anniversary memorial to this pivotal figure in American music," expresses Dr. Kurt-Alexander Zeller, Clayton State's director of Opera and Vocal studies.

Menotti emigrated from Italy to the United States as a teenager to study at the Curtis Institute of Music in

Philadelphia. According to Zeller, his career was long and productive and he was the first United States citizen to become internationally recognized as a successful writer of opera.

His work was both innovative -- he was among the first to adapt to new media, writing operas for radio, for television, and scores that incorporated electronic sounds and pre-recorded tape sounds -- and deeply conservative... his melodic and dramatic gestures are highly influenced by Puccini, explains Zeller.

"A Hand of Bridge" will open the night and is short curtain-raiser at just 10 minutes long. (Although Menotti wrote the words for this piece, the music is by Samuel Barber.) This piece is about two affluent suburban couples that regularly meet for a hand in bridge; however, it soon becomes obvious that no one's mind is actually on the game at hand.

"An unusual and interesting thing about this piece is that all the singers sing out loud both what they are actually saying

to the other people in the game, and what they're thinking to themselves, (thoughts) that the other three in reality wouldn't be able to hear, so the audience is let in on everyone's private thoughts," says Zeller.

"The Medium" is two acts; however the entire piece is just over an hour long. The title character, Madame Flora, is an older woman with a mysterious past filled with experiences she clearly does not want to remember and makes a questionable living staging fake séances.

"In a way, both pieces speak to the anxieties that lay underneath the surface of the outwardly happy and prosperous era in the United States in the decade following the Allied victory in World War II," states Zeller. "Both of these pieces really require performers who understand that singers are fully musicians and fully actors, 100 percent of each. This is certainly the kind of vocal performer that our department wants to be training and graduating." ■

Brahms, cont'd. from p. 4

Quartet over the Christmas break, and is performing with them at five concerts during their U.S. tour. She performed with violist Roger Chase at Princeton this past fall and will join him again for a tour of Canada in March and performances in Cleveland and Boston this spring. Their recording of works by Benjamin Dale will be released on the Dutton Epoch label next month.

Otaki toured the United States last spring with the Graffe String Quartet of the Czech Republic, including a memorable performance at Spivey Hall, and will tour with them again here in United States this coming fall; their new recording of Schumann and Martinu Piano Quintets has just been released and received "5 clefs" from Czech Radio's Rondo review program, its highest rating. ■

Clayton State Partners With Brenau University To Produce Spring Play and Opera

By Lauren Graves, University Relations

In a rare collaboration between the two institutions, Clayton State University in Morrow will partner with Brenau University in Gainesville to present an evening of theatre and opera, showing first at Brenau on Friday, Apr. 11.

The evening will feature two completely staged, one-act operas in English: Gian Carlo Menotti's "The Telephone," and "Riders to the Sea" by well-known English composer Ralph Vaughan Williams. The opera will showcase Brenau students and nationally known singers and will be staged and conducted by well-known Brenau Artist-in-Residence William Fred Scott.

The one-act operas will be preceded by a play performed by members of the

Clayton State University Theatre Department under the direction of Artistic Director Phillip DePoy. Following the Apr. 11 premiere at Brenau, the stage play and the opera will be presented a week later on the Clayton State campus. Further details are forthcoming.

To learn more about Clayton State's involvement in the collaboration, contact DePoy at phillipdepoy@clayton.edu or call (678) 466-4715. For further information on Brenau's production, please call (770) 531-3119. ■

Across the Campus...

ARCHE

The University of Georgia has released the results of a Peach State Poll on how Georgians view higher ed in our state. ARCHE collaborated with the Carl Vinson Institute of Government to develop the questions. Analysis of UGA's release and ARCHE's supplemental report are available at:

<http://www.atlantahighered.org/archereports/poll.asp> and at <http://www.cviog.uga.edu/> then click on Special Interest and follow next link labeled Peach State Poll.

Athletics

The Clayton State Laker men's indoor track and field season opened its fourth season with a pair of meets in Indiana, opening Friday night with four individual wins at the Rose-Hulman Open, and ending Saturday as one team record fell at the Indiana Open. Eric Simmons, Ahmad Rolle and Lawrence DeShields, along with freshman Tim Moran, led the Lakers Friday in Terre Haute at the Rose-Hulman Open. The foursome each came away with a win. The Lakers did not have any individual wins Saturday at Indiana, but set one team mark as junior Anthony Aguilar shattered the team's 600-meter run mark by more than eight seconds, running 1:30.03. Simmons had the highest individual finish for Clayton State on Saturday as he ran 22.39 in the 200-meter dash to finish fourth.

Using a 25-8 run in the final eight minutes of the game, the North Georgia Saints pulled off a stunning come-from-behind 68-64 Peach Belt Conference victory over the visiting Clayton State Laker men's basketball team on Wednesday at North Georgia's Memorial Hall. The defeat snaps a three-game winning streak for Clayton State, now 8-8 overall and 4-5 in the Peach Belt. Clayton State got 20 points on six 3-point baskets from Michael Sloan, including 14 in the first half when the Lakers shot 53 percent from the field to lead 38-30 at halftime. Sloan tied his own single-game school record for 3-point baskets.

Clayton State senior guard Michael Sloan reached a milestone by becoming the sixth player in Clayton State history to reach 1,000 career points when the Lakers defeated Lander University in a 65-59 Peach Belt Conference victory at Lander. Sloan scored 14 points in the game. His two free throws at the 1:56 mark of the second half put the Lakers up by six points, 59-53, and moved him over the 1,000 point milestone. "It's great for Michael Sloan," Gibbons said. "He's everything in a player that a coach could ever want. If there's anyone that deserves this milestone more, it's Sloan."

Bookstore

The University Bookstore would like to remind all faculty and staff that we will soon begin making preparations for our move to the Student Center this spring. Our University Center store hours will remain the same through this process until Spring Break (Mar. 3 to Mar. 9) at which time we will close and move operations to our new location on the first floor of the Student Center across from Financial Aid and Admissions. We urge everyone to make their final purchases before Spring Break commences (within the next three to four weeks) given all store merchandise will need to be packed up for our move and may be inaccessible. We thank you for your assistance in this matter and look forward to serving you at our new store.

Campus Life

Business hours for the James M. Baker University Center have changed. The facility will no longer stay open to midnight Monday through Thursday. The new hours are as follows: Monday - Friday - 7 a.m. - 11 p.m.; Saturday - 7 a.m. - 10 p.m.; Sunday - 10 a.m. - 10 p.m. For questions, comments or concerns, contact Campus Life at (678) 466 - 5433.

Clayton State University will start a colony for the Alpha Kappa Lambda fraternity during the 2008 spring semester. This will be Clayton State's first traditional, North Inter-conference, Non-NPHC fraternity on campus. Alpha Kappa

Lambda was founded in 1906. For additional information, visit: <http://www.akl.org/>. Clayton State is currently working with Alpha Kappa Lambda to schedule an information session with members of the fraternity. Students may contact Eric Simon, Assistant Director for Campus life, to receive additional information at (678) 466 - 5433.

On Wednesday, Jan. 30, the Student Government Association will host its annual "Student Forum." The forum will provide a platform for students to ask administrators key questions about the University and specific policies. The panel will consist of: Dr. Thomas Harden, Dr. Brian Haynes, Dr. Sharon Hoffman, Dr. Mark May, Dr. Elaine Manglitz, Dr. Thomas Eaves and Carolina Amero. The Student Forum will start promptly at 12:30 p.m. in UC 272. Direct all questions to SGA@clayton.edu.

Financial Aid

The Financial Aid Department at Clayton State is hosting "College Goal Sunday" on Feb. 10 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Volunteers will be available in room B10 of the University's Lecture Hall to assist prospective students and parents in completing the FAFSA (Financial Aid Application) for the upcoming school year. College Goal Sunday is open to the public, as well as any continuing Clayton State students. For specific details regarding the Clayton State event, contact Krystal Houston at (678) 466-4188 or Sabrina W. Williams at (678) 466-4185. Additional information can be found at the College Goal Sunday website, www.collegegoalsundayga.com.

Plant Operations

Clayton County is planning to start working on removal of the traffic island at the intersection of Clayton State Boulevard and Georgia 54 (aka Jonesboro Road) the week of Jan. 28, 2008. The large island is going to be removed and replaced with a raised concrete island for a pedestrian haven. The contractor is to maintain access to

Across the Campus...

Clayton State Boulevard at all times. There may be times when the right turn lane may be closed, however the other lane will be maintained open so people will be able to enter and exit the University at all times.

School of Business

On Wednesday, Feb. 20, Glenn Farris, CEO of Biomass Gas and Electric, will be speaking at the School of Business' spring 2008 Business Conference. Farris' address will begin at 6 p.m. and be held in room 101 of the Downs Center. His topic is, "Energy in Georgia in the 21st Century: Myths and Reality." Given the international energy crisis, this should be a hot topic.

University System

The first issue of the University System of Georgia's Legislative Update for 2008 is now available for downloading at <http://www.usg.edu/pubs/lu/>. Back issues of the newsletter are also available there.



Photo Credit: Erin Fender

Clayton State University's Dental Hygiene Program performed free oral health screenings as a service project in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day on Jan. 22, 2008. The services that were provided during the oral health screenings included: history taken on the patients past medical and dental treatments, assessment of patient's plaque removal, polishing of the teeth, dental and periodontal charting, education on proper home oral hygiene care, and the importance of maintaining this care and nutrition.

Jobs! Jobs! Jobs!

Graduate School Workshop

Why might you attend graduate school?
How do you research different schools?
What is the application process?
Date: Tuesday, January 29, 2008
Location: Student Center, Room 267
Time: 12:30 P.M. and 5:00 P.M.

Achieving Career Excellence Week (ACE)

Door prizes!
Attend all four ACE seminars and receive a leather portfolio!
All presentations in Library. Room L-200

ACE Your Resume

Monday, Feb. 4 - 12:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Feb. 5 - 5:00 p.m.

ACE Your Interview

Monday, Feb. 4 - 5:00 p.m.
Tuesday, Feb. 5 - 12:30 p.m.

ACE Your Job Search

Wednesday, Feb. 6 - 12:30 p.m.
Thursday, Feb. 7 - 5:00 p.m.

ACE the Job Fair

Wednesday, Feb. 6 - 5:00 p.m.
Thursday, Feb. 5 - 12:30 p.m.

Atlanta Area Career Fairs

(Information purposes only;
no affiliation with Clayton State)

THE AJC JOB FAIR

Saturday, January 26th 9am - 2pm
AJC Building - Marietta Street, NW,
Atlanta, GA. 30303

Offers will be made to qualified candidates

Job and Internship Search:

Clayton State University password:
SUCCESS

Part-Time Jobs:

<http://adminservices.clayton.edu/career/JobPostings.aspx>

Internships:

<http://adminservices.clayton.edu/career/LakerTRAK.htm>

Full-Time Jobs:

<http://adminservices.clayton.edu/career/LakerTRAK.htm>

(Post your resume for employers to see!)

Catalyst Technologies

Helpdesk Support Analyst
Full Time Entry Level

Georgia Department of Audits

Staff Auditor
Full Time Entry Level

Recruiter Solutions Group

Helpdesk Analyst
Full Time Experienced

Racetrac Petroleum, Inc.

Sales Associate
Full Time Entry Level Management

Standard Technology, Inc.

A variety of Full-Time positions in
Atlanta, GA.

Announcements:

The Annual Summer Undergraduate
Research Program (SURP)

(SURP) will be offered June 1 - July 31,
2008 UGA in Athens, Georgia. The appli-
cation deadline is Friday, February 1,
2008. The one page application form and
complete program details are available
on-line at

<http://www.grad.uga.edu/outreach&diversity/surp.html>

My Life at Clayton State

By Joan Murphy, Public Safety

When Tom (my husband) and I were planning for my retirement last year, Jan. 31, 2008 seemed very far away. However, now that the date is almost here, I feel panicky because there is so much left to do before my last day.

The Department of Public Safety had a surprise retirement party for me on Jan. 23. No one on campus said anything about a party and since Wanda Zellars had told me that a group from Public Safety was taking me to lunch, I was surprised. Many Clayton State folks, and even most of my family, attended the wonderful surprise party. How Public Safety, the campus, and my family kept this secret, I'll never know. Amazing!

My life at Clayton State began even before being employed. During the fall of 1981, I began taking freshman classes, just one or two per quarter, until I graduated in March 1985 with an associate's degree in Business Administration. During this time, I was on the Bent Tree staff and was awarded the Wall Street Journal Award from the School of Business. Since Clayton State was a Junior College at that time, I proceeded to Georgia State to get my B.B.A. in Marketing. While there, I received a marketing award from the Marketing Department.

In 1990, the first Clayton State Alumni Association was established and I was on the board from 1990 to 1997 and served as chairman of the Newsletter Committee for a while.

In August 1994, Jerry Atkins, Public Information officer, needed extra help during Dr. Richard Skinner's inauguration and Summerfest. This was just a temporary assignment. Then in January 1995, I was offered a job in Advancement as Special Events Coordinator. In this position I gained experience in marketing, publicity, printing, event planning, advertising in newspapers, radio, billboards, and television. While I gained lots of experience, it also was stressful and required more than 40 hours a week, but it was never dull and always exciting.

In December 1999, Bruce Holmes, director of Public Safety, hired me as administrative assistant. What an opportunity to have a less stressful job, work a normal 40 hours a week, and have a job that I loved. When I was young, I wanted to be a policeman, cowboy, or fireman, but back then a firewoman was unusual, a police woman usually worked school traffic, and a female cowboy had to wear a skirt. But looking back, I am pleased with all my life experiences at Clayton State.

Many people know me for two things: keys and University RideShare. Keeping track of all the keys on campus is never ending and full of challenges, but I even loved that part of my job. The University RideShare started in 2001 when the Atlanta Regional Commission awarded Clayton State with a grant. Public Safety has been able to apply for and receive a grant each year since then to continue the University RideShare Program. The department has also received three Clean Air Campaign PACE Awards in recognition of efforts to increase alternate transportation modes and to help the environment.

There have been many changes to campus since I started as a student; three presidents, new buildings, Spivey Hall, SmartBodies, offices moving all over campus and even moving back again, doing homework over a "Dumb Terminal" to having DSL, and physically registering for classes to registering from home. Athletics has expanded their sports from two to 12. The biggest changes probably will happen after I retire. With the School of Business building, student housing, activities center, and an amphitheatre being developed this year, our campus will really change.

Over the years, whether as a student, volunteer, or employee, one meets so many interesting people. I have been fortunate to have known so many wonderful people associated with Clayton State. Tom and I look forward to traveling, baby sitting our granddaughter, sleeping later than 5:30 a.m., and even having time to do the things we have looked forward to for a long time. It has been a great and memorable experience at Clayton State, no matter which hat I wore. ■



Joan Murphy's Surprise Retirement Party on Jan. 16, 2008



Clayton State Hosts Lego Robotics Competition

The Stampeding Rhinos, Ladybots & Friends, and Watt Warriors were just three of the teams competing at Clayton State on Jan. 12 in the Second Annual Lego Robotics Competition of the FLL.

For those of you not familiar with Legos – those ingenious little interlocking hard plastic building blocks that can be used to construct anything from the Star Wars “Millennium Falcon” to a Viking ship – the FLL is the First Lego League. As explained on the FLL website, <http://www.firstlegoleague.org/>, FLL is a result of an exciting alliance between FIRST and the LEGO Company. Guided by adult mentors and their own imaginations, FLL students solve real-world engineering challenges, develop important life skills, and learn to make positive contributions to society.

The FLL Clayton State Qualifier took up the first three floors of the Baker Center,

with registration activities (first floor), programming (Main Street on the second floor), research papers, skits and interviewing by the FLL judges (third floor). Dr. Cherie Long, associate professor of Information Technology in the Clayton State College of Information and Mathematical Sciences organized of the Clayton State Qualifier. ■

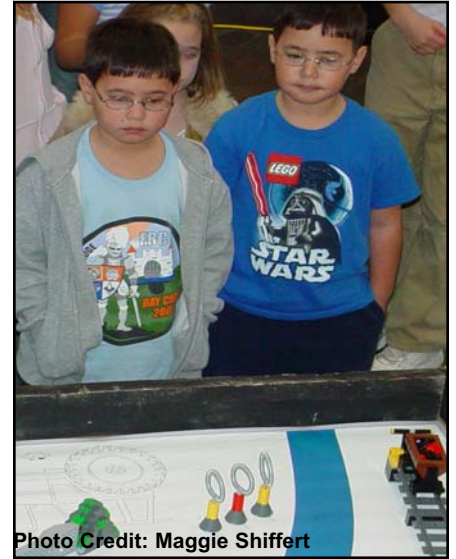


Photo Credit: Maggie Shiffert

Above: Joseph Shiffert (left) and Jared Shiffert (right) check out the robotic lego action.



Photo Credit: Maggie Shiffert

Left: The Ladybots & Friends team from Cumming, GA prepare their Legos for action.

Aaron, cont'd. from p. 1

a relationship that was more than professional within the movement. A close enough relationship that, on the evening of Apr. 4, 1968, upon hearing that King had been shot in Memphis, the Williams’ drove to the King house on what is now Martin Luther King Boulevard.

“We decided to stop by Coretta’s house. She was trying to make a flight to Memphis,” Aaron recalled. Aaron then followed Coretta Scott King to the airport, to a rest room off of an Eastern Airlines gate, where she found King and Allen gathered together with some others.

“Their faces told it all,” said Aaron. “And that’s how I learned that Martin Luther King had died.”

And with that, she walked off the stage, to a funeral silence, concluding as memorable performance as ever seen at Spivey Hall. ■

MLK
Celebration
Jan. 24, 2008



Photo Credit: Erin Fender

Imani, cont'd. from pg. 4

with valid ID may purchase tickets at a 50 percent discount (\$15). Tickets are available at the Spivey Hall Box Office by calling (678) 466-4200 or by visiting the box office from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Full-price tickets are available online at www.spiveyhall.org (a per-ticket service fee will apply).

Since 1997, the Grammy-nominated Imani Winds (www.imaniwinds.com), five unabashedly adventurous yet delightfully accessible musicians, have been enriching the traditional wind quintet repertoire with European, African, Latin American and American music traditions. Just as the name Imani denotes "faith" in Swahili, the ensemble has ardently pursued its mission for more than a decade, carving out a distinct presence in the classical music world with its dynamic playing, innovative programming and inspirational outreach programs. Outstanding soloists and educators, the members of Imani Winds perform extensively throughout the United States and Canada, from New York and Washington to Los Angeles and Vancouver.

Imani Winds is: Valerie Coleman, flute; Toyin Spellman-Diaz, oboe; Mariam Adam, clarinet; Jeff Scott, French horn; and Monica Ellis, bassoon.

The performance at Fayette County High School will include Imani Winds taking questions from the students and providing insights into their creative work, their lives as professional musicians, and their quest to attract audiences to the music they perform.

The Feb. 7 reading session at Spivey Hall will perform much the same function for Clayton State students Christel Vinot, Will Melton, Shaun Brooks, Cody Sisco, Martin Hardin and Salvatore LoCascio. Imani Winds will provide valuable technical and creative feedback to the young composers to assist them in their professional development.

Imani Winds wrote the story for the Feb. 8 Young People's Concert about a boy who plays the French horn, but loses his groove. Students will be transported to

the Crossroads, a world of wonder where music comes to life, as they watch the boy encounter magical characters and musical props in search of his groove.

A native of Brooklyn, Singleton attended New York University and Yale. As a Fulbright Scholar, he studied with Goffredo Petrassi at Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia in Rome. After living and working in Europe for 14 years, he returned to the United States to become Composer-in-Residence with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra (1985-88). Singleton has composed music for theatre, orchestra, solo instruments, and a variety of chamber ensembles, and his works have been performed by major orchestras in the United States and Europe, and by such outstanding ensembles as the Kronos Quartet and the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center.

In addition to Singleton's world premiere, the Feb. 8 Imani Winds program features works by composer, clarinetist and saxophonist Paquito D'Rivera, one of the most celebrated jazz and Latin musicians of his generation, and Imani Winds' own Valerie Coleman, whose suite, *Portraits of Josephine*, is taken from Imani Winds' biographical, full-length, multi-media program in honor of the legendary African-American chanteuse and dancer, Josephine Baker, who emerged as the epitome of "Le Jazz Hot" in Europe in the 1920s, and whose dedication to racial and religious equality motivated her to break barriers, aid the French resistance during World War II, and fight for civil rights across the globe.

Spivey Hall gratefully acknowledges the support of the Southern Arts Federation for the Imani Winds' residency; its season sponsors, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Georgia Council for the Arts, and The Atlanta Journal-Constitution; and its media partner Jazz 91.9, WCLK. For additional information about the Imani Winds' residency, please call the Spivey Hall Box Office at (678) 466-4200. ■

Aaron on Ed., cont'd. from pg. 2

to introduce someone with such numerous accomplishments and historical significance as Ms. Aaron."

"Education will serve our purposes, to do and be what we can be," noted Aaron. "Give thanks for Martin Luther King for the impact he had on the world. Pass on those values."

"Regarding Dr. King, as a history major who has decided on a career dedicated to remembering and studying historical figures, it is an honor to help remember someone so eloquent and prolific," said Kopanezos. "His ability to lead, to communicate, and to inspire has contributed immensely to the progress our society has made. His passion and perseverance were heroic and I am honored to be a part of this day."

Aaron concluded the dialogue with a lengthy question and answer session, fielding inquiries on everything from her own education to the difference between being educated and being an educator, a subject she is certainly well-qualified to speak on. ■



**Got
News?**

**Send your
campus news to
johnshiffert@clayton.edu**

Life's Transitions...

Announcing the newest
arrival!

He's a keeper!

Levi and Lauren Graves
announce the birth
of their new bundle of joy!

Logan Alexander Graves
was born on
January 17, 2008
at 10:38 p.m.
Weighing in at the trophy
size of 7lbs
and
19 inches long

Mom and baby are doing
well!



Free Tax Prep

VITA Returns for Another Year

The Clayton State University Accounting Club will once again be providing free volunteer tax preparation assistance.

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program will be held four times in February and March. Each session will run from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the School of Business' Conference Room in the Administration Building. The dates are Saturday, Feb. 9, Saturday, Feb. 23, Saturday, Mar. 15, and Saturday, Mar. 29. The VITA program is held on a first come, first serve basis.

Participants in the VITA program will need the following information to have their tax returns prepared:

- Photo identification
- Social Security Cards for you, your spouse and dependents
- Birth dates for primary, secondary and dependents on the tax return
- Current year's tax package, if you received one

- Wage and earning statement(s) Form W-2, W-2G, 1099-R, from all employers
- Interest and dividend statements from banks (Forms 1099)
- A copy of last year's Federal and State returns if available
- Bank routing numbers and account numbers for direct deposit



- Other relevant information about income and expenses

- Total paid for day care; day care providers identifying number

- To file taxes electronically on a married

filing joint tax return, both spouses must be present to sign the required forms.

Are you eligible for assistance? Yes, if you make under \$36,000 a year and wish to have help with your personal income taxes.

VITA only assists with the current year's personal income taxes. VITA does not assist with small business returns or those who are self-employed, or with out-of-state returns. ■

CNN is Coming to Spivey Hall, February 1

CNN will be filming a feature on Ladysmith Black Mambazo's sold out appearance at Clayton State University's Spivey Hall on Friday, Feb. 1 at 8:15 PM.

According to Spivey Hall Executive & Artistic Director Samuel C. Dixon, CNN will interview members of the group at Spivey Hall and film some of their sound check, scheduled for 5 p.m. on Feb. 1.

"They might also film some of the public performance," he adds. "It promises to be a very high-energy evening for Ladysmith Black Mambazo's Spivey Hall debut."

Twelve-time Grammy Award nominee Ladysmith Black Mambazo proudly represents the traditional culture of South Africa. Regarded as the country's cultural emissaries at home and around the world, they are "melding a tradition of Zulu harmony with imported gospel and soul" (The New York Times). Ladysmith, already blazing musical trails in South Africa, was brought to international prominence by Paul Simon, who famously included them on his mega-hit album, Graceland. ■

Clayton State Student Hopes to "Change the Future" in 2008

by Shavaun Brewer, University Relations

The Ovarian Cycle Inc., is hosting its fifth annual cycling event, The Ride to Change the Future, to raise money for Ovarian Cancer.

Clayton State student Julia Jones, a senior in the Integrative Studies program, has been interning with the organization for the past two semesters, and also lost her mother to the disease, hopes to "recruit riders, department teams, and volunteers from Clayton State for this year's annual event."

Over the past five years the organization has raised thousands of dollars to assist

in the research leading to an early detection test for ovarian cancer. Jones believes that not only women of Clayton State should get involved, but also men.

"Anyone who has a mother, daughter, sister, wife or aunt has a reason to support Ovarian Cycle Inc.," she says.

"Ovarian cancer is known as the 'silent killer,' the symptoms often go unnoticed and the disease is usually not diagnosed until the patient is in stage IV of their condition."

Event training will begin on Mar. 15, 2008 with the final ride on Apr. 26, 2008.

Training will take place at health and fitness clubs throughout metro Atlanta. There is a list of participating health clubs on the organization's website (www.OvarianCycle.org). The Ride to Change the Future on Apr. 26 will take place at Midtown Athletic Club.

If you would like more information or would like to participate in this year's Ovarian Cycling event, please contact Ovarian Cycle Inc. at (404) 271-6787 or on the World Wide Web at www.OvarianCycle.org. ■

Distinguished Alumni Award Nominees Sought

By Gid Rowell, Alumni Relations

The Clayton State Alumni Association Annual Dinner is scheduled for Saturday, Apr. 12, 2008 at the Georgia Aquarium. At the dinner, the Association bestows outstanding alumni awards to a worthy recipient of each school or college, and to an overall distinguished graduate.

The Alumni Association welcomes your participation in the nomination process. Your professional knowledge and expertise in recognizing excellence in a particular area or field make your nominations extremely valuable to our Association. Go to http://adminservices.clayton.edu/alumni/distinguished_alumni/nomination.html for an online nomination form.

This will be the seventh year we have recognized our graduates this way – our past winners are listed below. Completed nominations are due by Mar. 1. Please call (678) 466-4477 if you have any questions.

2007 Winners

Charles D. English
Overall Distinguished Alumni Winner
Stacey Y. Rivers
College of Professional Studies
Anna J. Gaissert
College of Arts & Sciences
Judith P. Conway
School of Nursing
Christopher A. Menard
School of Business
Sue Y. Dowling
College of Information and Mathematical Sciences
Joan E. McElroy
Distinguished Service to Alumni Association

2006 Winners

Thomas George
Overall Distinguished Alumni Winner
Dee Ann Turner
School of Technology
Judge Steve Teske
School of Arts & Sciences
Jocelyn Okoro
School of Health Sciences
David Lindley
School of Technology

2005 Winners

Kevin William Meckes
Overall Distinguished Alumni winner
Jerri Clay-King
School of Arts & Sciences winner
Lee Moore
School of Business winner
Lillie Farmer
School of Health Sciences winner
Rick M. Jeffares
School of Technology winner
Anou Southsavath
College of Information and Mathematical Sciences

2004 Winners

Dewayne Hobbs
School of Arts & Sciences
Ron Burdekin
School of Business
Nadine Thomas
School of Health Sciences
Greg Mitchell
School of Technology
Jim Baker
Overall Award

2003 Winners

Tina Marie Harper
School of Arts & Sciences
Mike Baird
School of Business
Vicki Kaiser
School of Health Sciences
Lydia Parker
School of Technology
Benita Moore
Overall Award

2002 Winners

Ben Studdard
School of Arts & Sciences
Doug Walker
School of Business
Shirley Freeman
School of Health Sciences
Bill Jones
School of Technology
Gail Buckner
Overall Award

■

Trivia Time

One Hit Wonders

By John Shiffert, University Relations

They're called "One Hit Wonders." Songs that rocket their artists up the charts with a bullet, have their 15 minutes of fame, and then are never heard from again.

Like, "In the Year 2525" (Zager and Evans), "Red Rubber Ball" (The Crykle), "Signs" (The Five Man Electrical Band), "Montego Bay" (Bobby Bloom), "Spirit in the Sky" (Norman Greenbaum), "In the Summertime" (Mungo Jerry), "Carolina On My Mind" (Crystal Mansion), and, yes, "Indiana Wants Me" by R. Dean Taylor.

Can you name the second biggest hit by Zager and Evans or the Five Man Electrical Band? Of course not, they didn't have any. Which doesn't explain the popularity of Taylor's 1970 One Hit Wonder, "Indiana Wants Me," a truly unmemorable opus best described by Trivia Time reviewers Todd Birchfield ("cheesy") and Lou Brackett ("depressing"). In fact, the only reason this author remembers it is because I went to college in Indiana at the time the song came out.

Just about all of the trivia experts took a shot at characterizing this dog, but only Trivia Time's resident musicologist, Dr. Kurt-Alexander Zeller, and renown Trivia Master Rob Taylor (who's also old enough to actually have heard it played in 1970) came up with the One Hit Wonder label.

So, if you're so smart, what One Hit Wonder tune became a One Hit Wonder for two completely different groups a couple of years apart in the early Seventies? The second version of this anti-war song was the better-known, because it was the title song to a truly awful Warner Brothers movie, despite the fact that the song had virtually nothing to do with either the movie, or the movie's title. At least the song itself was better than "Indiana Wants Me." Anyone who can answer this one to johnshiffert@clayton.edu deserves a bonus.

OITS Makes Changes in Network Account Expiration Notices

In an effort to expedite network account extensions, part-time faculty will begin receiving the following notice when it is time for their accounts to be extended:

Faculty Name, this is an automatic notification that your Clayton State network account will expire in 15 day(s).

If your account needs to be renewed, please contact Tammy Wilson (TammyWilson@clayton.edu).

This e-mail has been automatically generated. Please do not reply.

Action that should be taken by part-time faculty upon receipt of this notice: Not currently teaching – no action required, the account will be deleted and recreated when you are teaching for a current semester. This will prevent junk mail from building up in your mailbox and close access to network resources for security purposes. The notices will stop arriving when one of two actions takes place. 1) the account is extended or 2) the account is deleted when the notice hits 0 days.

Part-time staff will begin receiving the following notice when it is time for their accounts to be extended:

Employee Name, this is an automatic notification that your Clayton State network account will expire in 15 day(s).

If your account needs to be renewed, please have your current supervisor contact The Hub (TheHub@clayton.edu).

This e-mail has been automatically generated. Please do not reply.

Action that should be taken by part-time employee upon receipt of this notice: Not currently employed and not a student – no action required, the account will be deleted. If you will remain a student after your employment has terminated, it is essential that your current supervisor contact Human Resources in order for you to continue to receive student emails and to stop the delivery of departmental email. This will prevent junk mail from building up in your mailbox and close access to network resources for security purposes. The notices will stop arriving

when one of two actions takes place. 1) The account is extended or 2) the account is deleted when the notice hits 0 days.

When part time employees that are student workers are terminated, hiring managers and current supervisors should be sure to mark on the termination PAF in the comment field that they are current students of the University so that they will not have their email accounts deleted at the time of termination from the organizational unit.

If you have questions regarding this process, please call the HUB. ■



Photo Credit: Erin Fender

Clayton State Women Set Four Team Records at Indiana Open

By Lee Wright, Sports Information

The Clayton State Laker women's indoor track and field season got off to a strong start last weekend. Clayton State accumulated four school records and five individual victories during two days of competition at two different meets, beginning Friday in Terre Haute at the Rose-Hulman Collegiate Open and ending with the Indiana Open on Saturday afternoon.

"We got off to nice start in a low-key meet hosted by Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, but we also got a nice reality check at Indiana," says Clayton State head coach Mike Mead. "We competed as well as I can expect considering the fact we're coming off the holiday break. I think most our ladies are about right where they need to be at this point in the season."

Junior Jon Taylor led the Lakers at Rose-Hulman on Friday with a pair of records and first place finishes.

Taylor bettered her school record marks in the 55-meter dash and long jump. She won the 55-meter dash in 7.30 seconds, and won the long jump with a leap of 17-9.5 feet, beating out teammate Natasha Gass. Taylor's time in the 55-meter dash was .07 seconds off the NCAA Division II provisional mark for the event, while her long jump mark is just three inches off the provisional qualifying mark.

"Jon had a terrific start to the season and has picked up where she left off last season," says Mead. "She has a realistic shot at possibly qualifying for indoor nationals in at least two events, if she really wants it."

Teammates Keisha Etienne and Nyisha Nelson also bettered the team records in the 400-meter dash and shot put. Etienne, a sophomore, broke her own 400-meter dash record running 1:00.41 to win the race, while Nelson threw 31-10 feet in the shot to finish fifth in the event.

The Lakers also came away with wins from junior Kara Stokes in the 800-meter run (2:32.72) and freshman Chelsea Ellis in the mile run (5:35.13).

The Lakers were not as successful at Indiana University, running up against the likes of Division I teams Illinois, Dayton, Louisville, South Florida and the hosts. The best individual finish was seventh place finishes by Etienne in the 400-meter dash (1:01.35) and Ellis in the 800-meter run (2:28.28).

Clayton State will spend a few weeks of training before returning to action Feb. 2 at the Tennessee State University Invitational in Nashville, Tn. ■

Clayton State Men Hit Peach Belt Conference Milestone in 62-44 Victory Over Francis Marion

The Clayton State Laker men's basketball team reached an impressive milestone on Saturday, recording its 100th victory in Peach Belt Conference play with a solid 62-44 victory over visiting Francis Marion at the Athletics and Fitness Center.

Clayton State has now won four of its last five games to improve to 9-8 overall and 5-5 in the Peach Belt Conference. Since becoming a full-fledged member of the Peach Belt Conference in the 1997-98 season, Clayton State is now 100-80 in Peach Belt Conference play, including a 76-40 Peach Belt Conference mark under head coach Gordon Gibbons.

The defensive effort was stellar for the Lakers as Clayton State held the Patriots to only 29 percent shooting from the field in allowing the lowest single-game point total of the season. In the second half alone, Francis Marion shot only 5-for-22 from the field for 22 percent, and

the Patriots were 0-for-12 from 3-point range.

Still, Francis Marion stayed with striking distance, taking an early 12-5 lead on 12-1 run at the start of the game. The Patriots never let the Lakers get more than a six-point lead, and trimmed the Clayton State lead to 30-28 at halftime.

In the second half, however, Clayton State gradually pulled away. The Lakers increased their lead to 10 points on a 10-2 run over a three-minute span. Ricky Garrett scored the last five points of the rally, including a 3-point basket to give Clayton State a 44-34 lead with 13:47 remaining.

After Francis Marion cut the lead to seven points, Clayton State responded with a 9-0 run to take a 16-point lead. Brian Kelly started the rally with an alley-oop dunk off a Michael Sloan assist following a Francis Marion turnover.

Tracy Williams added a 3-point basket, and Sloan's running lay-up gave the Lakers a 53-37 lead with 6:47 remaining.

Williams scored a career-high 18 points for Clayton State, while grabbing eight rebounds with four assists. Garrett scored 13 points with eight rebounds, while Sloan scored 11 points for the Lakers. Clayton State shot 47 percent from the field, including 55 percent in second half.

Junior forward Ziyadah Carter scored 14 points for Francis Marion (8-7, 2-6 PBC).

Clayton State battles in-state rival Armstrong Atlantic in a key Peach Belt Conference showdown at the Athletics and Fitness Center on Wednesday night at 7:30 p.m. ■

Sports

St. Fort Shines as Clayton State Women Win 76-72 Thriller at North Georgia

By Lee Wright, Sports Information

Just when everyone thought the Clayton State Laker women's basketball was left for dead, they've stormed back.

Behind a career-high 22 points by junior guard Marie St. Fort, Clayton State made it four straight victories on Wednesday with a thrilling 76-72 Peach Belt Conference victory at in-state rival North Georgia. The victory improves the Lakers to 11-5 overall and 6-3 in the Peach Belt Conference.

"Since about two weeks ago, it's been like boot camp in our practices – we've gone at it hard," says Clayton State head coach Dennis Cox. "Now we're playing better and I won't change anything. To win this conference, you have to steal a few on the road, and we've been doing that lately."

With St. Fort scoring 12 points in the first half, Clayton State led by as much as 17 points and held a 40-31 lead at halftime. However, North Georgia came out on fire in the second half with a 17-2 run to wipe out the Clayton State lead.

"We've really been playing well lately in the first half and going in with leads,"

Cox adds. "The challenge is getting that intensity. The good thing about it is the opponent has to expend a lot of energy in coming back, and that has enabled us to finish strong."

Finish strong the Lakers did. Clayton State never let the Lady Saint lead get above six points, and the Lakers gradually whittled away at North Georgia. St. Fort's 3-point play tied the score at 60-60 with 5:03 remaining, and Shanrika Hardeman gave Clayton State the lead for good, 65-64 with 3:46 remaining on an assist by Shantel Ragin.

Trailing 74-72 with 19 seconds remaining, North Georgia had a golden opportunity to tie the game. But Singleton missed a point-blank lay-up with seven seconds remaining, preserving the victory for Clayton State.

In addition to St. Fort, Roberta Phillips scored 16 points for Clayton State. Over the last three games, Phillips has averaged 19 points. Hardeman scored 12 points and Lisa Jackson added 10 points for the Lakers. ■



Marie St. Fort, #22

St. Fort, a returning junior, had a career-high 22 points against North Georgia.

<i>Campus Review</i> <i>January 28, 2008</i>	
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