

Campus Review

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Serving the CLAYTON STATE UNIVERSITY Community

February 10, 2006

Finlay Receives Sasakawa Fellowship in Japanese Studies

by Joey Rogers, University Relations

Dr. Nikki Finlay, assistant professor of Economics, is Clayton State University's first recipient of a prestigious Sasakawa Fellowship in Japanese Studies from the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU).

The aim of the fellowship is to educate professors on Japan and allow them to incorporate that information into the courses they teach. This is accomplished throughout three weeks of seminars, films, readings, and cultural activities. According to AASCU, faculty members leave the program with a foundation on the pre-modern history and culture of Japan.

"The more we can prepare all of our students for how the rest of the world thinks and acts, the easier it will be for our students to adapt to our shrinking world," says Finlay, who was also the first Clayton State faculty member to apply for the fellowship. "Exposure to other



(left to right) Ernest Miller, dean of the Clayton State School of Business; Dr. Nikki Finlay; Dr. Robert Welborn, Clayton State director of International Education.

Fellowship, cont'd., p. 7

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Three Professors Earn Chancellor's Awards for International Seminars

Three Clayton State University faculty members, Dr. Michael Deis, Dr. Sue Odom and Dr. Christie Burton, will be attending international faculty development seminars this summer, thanks in part to University System of Georgia (USG) Chancellor's Awards.

Each summer, two of the four World Regional Councils of the USG operate Faculty Development Seminars. For 2006, the European and African Councils will be holding a two-week seminar in Denmark and Sweden, and a three-week seminar in Nigeria and Cameroon. The USG Chancellor's Awards are for \$1000 each, and are designed help to defray the faculty member's cost for the program.

"These seminars are quite competitive and are designed to allow faculty members the opportunity to internationalize their courses," notes Dr. Robert Welborn, director of

International Education and professor of History at Clayton State. "This year, for the first time, Clayton State had three faculty members apply for these seminars. All of our applicants were not only accepted, but all three were awarded Chancellor's awards. There will be about 20 participants in each seminar and only 10 Chancellor's Awards are awarded for each seminar."

Deis, associate professor of Management in the School of Business, and the recipient last week of one of four 2005 Board of Regents' Teaching Excellence and Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Awards, will be going to Sweden and Denmark, as will Associate Professor of Nursing and Acting Department Chair of Nursing Odom. Burton, coordinator of the Bachelor's of Applied Science program and assistant professor in the School of Technology, will be going to Nigeria and Cameroon. ■

Clayton State Revises Honors Program Guidelines

Clayton State University has revised the guidelines for its decade-old Honors Program, while also adding additional upper level courses to the Honors curriculum. The net effect will be an enhanced Honors Program for more and better students.

According to Dr. Kevin Demmitt, interim director of the Clayton State Honors Program, the most important change has been to create non-scholarship membership in the Honors Program, allowing the University to accommodate more Honors students.

“The size of the Honors Program used to be limited by the availability of scholarships,” he explains. “We can now offer the benefits of Honors to students who do not receive an Honors Scholarship.”

All students in the Clayton State Honors Program will still receive the benefit of enhanced course sections reserved for

Honors students, eligibility for Honors Scholarships, priority registration, mentoring, and campus leadership opportunities, he adds, noting that the deadline for application for admittance for the fall 2006 semester is Wednesday, Feb. 15, 2006.

There will also be two exciting new changes in the Honors Program itself. For the first time, upper level courses have been added to the Honors curriculum. In addition, a regular study abroad opportunity, scheduled for May of each year, has been created exclusively for Honors students.

“For more than 10 years, Clayton State has offered Honors students an enhanced core curriculum... now we will be able to allow students to receive the benefit of Honors courses throughout their college career,” says Demmitt. “This will create unique opportunities for students to work closely with faculty in the classroom and on special research projects.

“This May, we will be offering the first study abroad opportunity designed exclusively for Honors students. We will be traveling to Chile to study the religion and culture of the region. A number of scholarships will be offered to make this one of the most affordable trips Clayton State has ever offered. The May study abroad experience will be a permanent feature and another benefit offered to students in the Honors Program.”

In addition to the program changes, the minimum high school GPA required for admittance to the Honors Program has been raised from 3.0 to 3.5 for students admitted for the fall 2006 semester.

“We have excellent Honors students now in our Honors Program. But this year, we have changed the entry criteria and process for awarding Honors Scholarship in the

Honors Program, cont'd., p. 7

Michael Deis has a "Whale of a Time" at USG Gala

Dr. Michael H. Deis, associate professor of Management in the School of Business at Clayton State University, was awarded the University System of Georgia (USG) Board of Regents' Teaching Excellence Award for Regional and State Universities at the annual USG Gala on Jan. 28. The system-wide award recognizes faculty and departments for a strong commitment to teaching and service to students.

Deis was one of only four USG faculty members cited during the second annual Regents Awards for Excellence in Education Celebration. The recipi-

ent of numerous Clayton State awards for teaching, research, faculty advising and service, Deis was recognized for preparing students for success by creating a caring, active learning environment that addresses the diverse learning styles of students.

The event was held in the Oceans

Ballroom of the new Georgia Aquarium, and was attended by Interim USG Chancellor Corliss Cummings, USG Chancellor-Designate Erroll B. Davis, Jr., and Board of Regents Chair J. Timothy Shelnut.

Deis says he had fun at the ceremony, as he and wife Sandra had “a whale of a time.” He also says the best part of his job is being able to always keep his office door open.

“There is nothing more refreshing than having a student stop by the office just to say ‘Hi’ or ask for assistance in some area,” says Deis. ■



Dr. Michael Deis and wife Sandra

Director of Evening Services Diane Burns Sends a Message to all Students

by Joey Rogers, University Relations

Diane Burns, Clayton State director of Evening Services, wants all students to know that help is available. Her campus role is to provide assistance to all students when most academic offices are closed.

Available by phone, email, or in person, Burns assists student with concerns about advisement or financial aid Monday through Thursday up until 9 p.m. If she can not provide the necessary help, she promises to get the students the help they need.

Working together with Dr. Mark May, Clayton State's dean of Retention and Student Services, Burns is looking to improve the university's student retention by encouraging non-traditional students to map out a graduation plan.

"Most students need to come to the university with a set date, instead of adjusting their school schedule to meet the demands of their personal schedule," she says. "They will benefit economically."

Burns seeks to educate students on receiving the help that they need throughout their academic endeavors at Clayton State. She notes that "most offices are willing to accommodate students after hours by way of an appointment."

Burns' next project is to develop a website that provides various resources for non-traditional students. She hopes to provide links to essential sources that will get them on the road to academic success.

Burns came to Clayton State in 1996 as director of Admissions, and was named Clayton State's director of Recruitment in 2001. During her time at Clayton State, she has instituted both the annual High School Counselor's Luncheon and the Clayton State Ambassadors outreach programs.

Burns holds a B.A. in Psychology from Stetson University, and a M.Ed. in Educational Administration and Supervision from the University of South Florida.

For any concerns or questions, non-traditional or not, contact Burns at DianeBurns@clayton.edu, or call (678) 466-4108. ■

Sherryl Nelson, Knight of the Order of the Arts and Letters



(photo by Almsay Visual Arts)

French Consul General Philippe Ardanaz kisses Spivey Hall's Executive and Artistic Director Sherryl Nelson after presenting the medal distinguishing her as a Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres (Knight of the Order of the Arts and Letters.) The ceremony, which took place at Spivey Hall on Saturday, Jan. 28, was witnessed by friends and family, campus and community leaders, and dignitaries from Atlanta's consular corps.



(photo by Almsay Visual Arts)

French Consul General Philippe Ardanaz, Clayton State University President Thomas Harden and Spivey Hall's Executive and Artistic Director Sherryl Nelson following a formal presentation, where Mrs. Nelson was presented the medal distinguishing her as a Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres (Knight of the Order of the Arts and Letters.) The ceremony, which took place at Spivey Hall on Saturday, Jan. 28, was witnessed by friends and family, campus and community leaders, and dignitaries from Atlanta's consular corps.

Arts Page

Spivey Hall Celebrates Festival of Mexican Music with Flutist Elena Durán

by Jared Morrison, Spivey Hall

Spivey Hall continues its 2005-2006 Festival of Mexican Music with a three-day residence by renowned Mexican flutist Elena Durán, which includes a recital, master class and educational concert. Durán will be making her Spivey Hall recital debut on Friday, Feb. 17 at 8:15 p.m. Her program includes a delightful mix of traditional flute favorites with music from Mexico.

In addition to Durán's activities, the Festival of Mexican Music – a collaboration between Spivey Hall, the Consulate General of Mexico in Atlanta and the Instituto de

México – has featured organist Hector Guzman and will present folk ensemble Tlen-Huicani this May.

Durán is considered one of the best-known musicians in the country, with an illustrious performing career, giving recitals throughout the world. Known as a true master of her instrument, Durán has appeared with the Royal Philharmonic, English Chamber Orchestra, Moscow Virtuosi, San Diego and San Antonio symphonies, and the National Symphony Orchestra of Mexico. The Mexican-American virtuoso has recorded Delius with Eric Fenby, Bach with Vladimir

Spivakov, two albums with the legendary jazz-violinist Stephane Grappelli and even a chart-topping single with Sir Paul McCartney.

An advocate for preserving Mexico's musical heritage, Durán founded the Mexican Flute Society and the annual Mexican Flute Festival. For the past fifteen years she has been artistic director of the International Flute Festival in Stratford-upon-Avon, the largest annual flute festival in Europe.

In addition to her recital, Durán will perform a concert as part of Spivey Hall's Young



Flutist Elena Durán

People's Concert series on Thursday, Feb. 16, and will lead a master class for amateur and professional musicians on Saturday, Feb. 18. Details on Elena Durán's educational events may be found on Spivey Hall's website at www.spivey-hall.org/education. To order tickets or reserve your seats for any of these events, please phone the Spivey Hall box office at (678) 466-4200. ■

Southerners and Their Ways: Clayton State Theater Director is "Turned Funny"

by Lauren Graves, University Relations



Celestine Sibley

Phillip DePoy may direct his fair share of humorous productions as artistic director of Clayton State Theater. But now he has "Turned Funny" at the request of Marietta's Theatre in the Square.

Theatre in the Square recently commissioned DePoy to write a play based on "Turned Funny," Celestine Sibley's memoir about growing up in the South. A beloved columnist and journalist for the Atlanta Journal-Constitution,

Sibley was more an artist than journalist. A long-running AJC column was her canvas and she painted Southern stories in newsprint for 50+ years.

DePoy, himself intrigued by telling the stories of Southern culture – he is well versed in Appalachian folklore – accept-

ed the offer to write a script that would bring Sibley's words off the page and into the theatre. Sibley had told her story the way she knew best; and DePoy has transferred her memoir from the private medium of the written word to the public medium of the stage.

"This play is written as much by Celestine Sibley as by me," shares DePoy, who wanted to preserve Sibley's candor and voice when he turned "Turned Funny" from memoir to script. "It has lots of her dialogue; lots of her words. It's as if Celestine Sibley is walking around on the stage."

Not only did DePoy enjoy the challenge of bringing Sibley's words to life, he also had fun seeing Southerners and their ways through Sibley's eyes. One of the better known stereotypes about the South – the concept of "Southern hospitality" – runs through Sibley's work, depicting a society that welcomes people rejected by other social structures.

What to know...

FUNNY YOU SHOULD ASK: Clayton State Theater Director Phillip DePoy was commissioned by Marietta's Theatre in the Square to write a play based on the memoir "Turned Funny" written by witty Southern journalist, columnist and author Celestine Sibley.

Turned Funny, cont'd., p. 5

Arts Page

"Fever Devilin" to Read at Clayton State, Feb. 21

by Lauren Graves, University Relations

Detective Fever Devilin's sleuthing draws him toward a restless spirit in "A Minister's Ghost" (available at Barnes & Noble), the third and latest novel in author Phillip DePoy's Fever Devilin detective series.

Audiences will hear a tantalizing tidbit of the mystery on Tuesday, Feb. 21 at 7:30 p.m. in Baker Center room 265 as DePoy reads from his work in conjunction with Clayton State University's free and ongoing Visiting Writers Reading Series, sponsored by the Department of Language and Literature and the University's Lyceum program.

"I've been reading from my novels for 10 years," says DePoy, author of nine published books, two published plays – including 2004's Edgar Award winning play "Easy" – and 37 theatre pieces. "My readings are more like theatrical performance readings – like performance art."

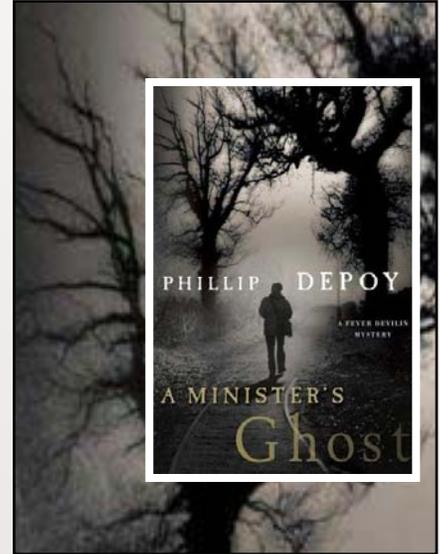
It comes as no surprise that DePoy's readings share a kinship with the stage. DePoy has a passion for theatre and currently serves as artistic director of Clayton State Theater, where he directs and produces plays and teaches theatre courses. To strengthen his ties to the theatre yet further, DePoy was recently approached by Marietta's Theatre in the Square to write a play based on famous Southern columnist Celestine Sibley's autobiography, "Turned Funny."

In addition to the Feb. 21 reading at Clayton State, DePoy will also read from "A Minister's Ghost" at Decatur's Java Monkey as well as in Atlanta, North Carolina and New York. And while DePoy enjoys sharing his unique blend of detective genre and folklore with audiences, he hopes his work is more than simply entertaining to the eye and ear.

"I want to write folklore that applies to every culture and religion," explains DePoy, who has a minor in folklore from Georgia State. Although "A Minister's Ghost" is a detective story, there is a good mix of Appalachian folk stories and songs carefully woven into the novel, including references to Hobo folklore, a dying tradition of folklore celebrating the culture of train riding vagabonds.

And in true detective fashion, DePoy wants to use his writing's cultural connections to pose "big questions" to get "big answers." Citing famous myth scholar Joseph Campbell as one of his inspirations, DePoy, like Campbell, believes that reading other people's myths – folktales from other cultures – helps us better understand who we are as humankind.

A Question/Answer session will follow the reading, and copies of "A Minister's Ghost" will be available for purchase. For directions to the Clayton State campus, visit www.clayton.edu and click on Maps/Directions.



Other works in DePoy's Fever Devilin Series include "The Devil's Hearth" and "The Witch's Grave." St. Martin's Press has offered DePoy an advance for two more Fever Devilin novels. He is also working on another novel, this one about the translation of the bible into the King James Version. ■

Still to come in the Visiting Writers Reading Series are authors Elizabeth Dewberry, Mar. 21 and Reginald Shepherd, Apr. 11. To learn more about the series, visit Clayton State's Department of Language and Literature at <http://a-s.clayton.edu/langlit/>.

Turned Funny, cont'd. from p. 4

"To Southerners, people aren't eccentric, insane or troubled, they're just turned funny," says DePoy, offering his take on the memoir's title. "Some people are turned funny when they are born, or turned funny later in life. The South has a great tradition of accepting people who would be ostracized in other societies."

A reading of DePoy's play "Turned Funny" will be held this spring at Theatre in the Square and will feature professional Equity actors. DePoy will also hold a private workshop on

"Turned Funny" at Clayton State on Thursday, Mar. 23 to use as an instructional tool in his playwriting course. Clayton State Associate Professor of Psychology Dr. B.D. Stillion will lead the workshop, and creative writing and introduction to theatre students are also encouraged to attend.

Once produced, "Turned Funny" will introduce a new audience to Sibley's Southern humor and her talent for spinning a yarn. In the medium of theatre, Sibley will live on each time an actor reads her words. ■

Across the Campus...

Arts & Sciences

Dr. Lawrence Smith, Jr., president of the Washington, DC-based Population Institute, made a presentation on "Breeding Insecurity: Global Security Implications of Rapid Population Growth" on Thursday, Feb. 9 as part of a brief speaking tour of the Atlanta area. His presentation was arranged by Dr. Gene Hatfield, chair of the Clayton State Social Sciences Department.

School of Business

IRS certified Clayton State business students from the Accounting Club will be conducting the University's annual Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program on Feb. 11, Feb. 28 and Mar. 18 from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. in room 222 of the University's Technology Building. Anyone with an annual income of \$36,000 or less qualifies for this free tax preparation assistance. For more information on Clayton State's VITA program contact Clayton State Accounting Club faculty advisor Judith Ogden at judithogden@clayton.edu or call (678) 466-4509.

SHRM

The February monthly meeting of Southern Crescent chapter of the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) will be held in the Harry S. Downs Center for Continuing Education at Clayton State University on Tuesday, Feb. 28. Industrial relations and management consultant Bradley L. Wilkinson will be the keynote speaker for the 7:30 a.m. meeting. Wilkinson will be addressing "Dealing With Same-Sex Relationships in the Workplace." Wilkinson's half-hour long presentation will include an update of existing laws relevant to the topic and sharing examples of organizations that do well in dealing with same-sex relationships. The cost of the meeting, which will run until 9:30 a.m. in room 101 of the Downs Center, is \$10 for SHRM members and \$15 for non-members. The cost includes a full buffet breakfast. RSVP by Feb. 24 to www.southerncrecentshrm.org or (678) 466-5074, or (678) 466-4283. Directions to Clayton State can be found at www.conted.clayton.edu/conf.shtml.

Spivey Hall

Sam Dixon won the gift basket raffle at Thursday's Campus Connect Social Hour in the Baker Center. (Naturally, gift basket guru Dolores Cox put it all together.) More than \$300 was collected by Staff Council's Special Events Committee.

University Bookstore

Graduation is around the corner. Those individuals participating in graduation who need Rental Regalia please come by The University Bookstore, and place your order (prepayment is required). Orders placed after Mar. 24 might mean another hood color. If you are going to be in the Honors Convocation, you need to come by and place your as soon as possible. Starting Mar. 27 orders will have an additional \$6 shipping fee and no guarantee on hood colors. May 2 orders will have an additional \$35 shipping Fee and no guarantee on hood colors.

Development/Alumni

Clayton State Alumna Volunteers at Georgia Aquarium

by Joey Rogers, University Relations

Twenty-nine year old Clayton State alumna Elizabeth Mayo of Stockbridge volunteers her time at the new Georgia Aquarium in Downtown Atlanta. Graduating from Clayton State University with a bachelor's degree in healthcare management, Mayo currently works as a manager at a dental office in Decatur, Ga.

An active scuba diver for the past eight years, she eventually hopes to rise to the top of a list of 200+ volunteers who want to dive into the six million gallon tank in the aquarium's "Ocean Explorer" gallery. This coveted position receives about 10 to 20 applications daily. Residents of this tank include hammerhead and whale sharks, along with more than 100,000 other ocean fish.

Currently in an interpreter position, Mayo answers visitors' questions about any particular exhibit for about four hours a day. The aquarium provides the necessary education and training for the position.



Along with her busy academic schedule at Clayton State, Mayo was a member of the first Clayton State basketball team to play in a national tournament, during the 1994-95 season. A four-year letterwinner, she held the school record for three-pointers and played in 92 games overall for Clayton State. She was also a four-year letterwinner in basketball at Meadowcreek High School in Tucker, Ga.

Although some may question why a healthcare professional would pursue a volunteer position at an aquarium, Mayo's favorite part of her assignment at the Georgia Aquarium is helping people experience connections with the ocean's marine life. Once that connection is made, perhaps they can then learn more about helping the environment that houses that life, she says. ■



Fellowship, cont'd. from p. 7

cultures should be a concern of all students, not just business majors.”

Though studying other cultures is common among college professors, Finlay came upon her interest in Japanese culture through a most unusual means. Her introduction to Japanese culture came about through her younger son's interest in the popular Japanese comic series “Dragonball Z.” From there she began to pursue studies on the Japanese language and economy.

The topic of this year's seminar is “Incorporating Japanese Studies into the Undergraduate Curriculum.” It will run from June 1 to June 23 at San Diego State University. The award will cover Finlay's transportation, tuition, housing, and a stipend for meals and other expenses.

The fellowship will be directed by a collective of scholars, business leaders, journalists, and artists.

The Clayton State Office of International Education received the announcement for the competition during early fall semester 2005 and all eligible faculty members were encouraged to apply.

“It is very gratifying for the institution and a real plus for Professor Finlay that our first applicant was accepted for this competitive fellowship,” says Dr. Robert Welborn, Clayton State's director of International Education. ■

A Word of Thanks...

Thanks to Faculty & Staff Participants in
The Counselor Information Program and Luncheon...

On behalf of the Clayton State Admissions office, I want to thank everyone who helped us with our Counselor Information Program and Luncheon on Friday, Feb. 3.

We welcomed and hosted 49 high school counselors and transfer advisors at the program and luncheon. We received event evaluation surveys from 32 counselors.

The counselor event evaluations were very positive. Our guests wrote that they found the academic updates, “Admissions Tips for Counselors” and packet materials very helpful. Among their comments, some appreciated hearing faculty presentations “from each school giving highlights, strengths and future aspirations.” For future programs, their requests include: more information on ACCEL and dual enrollment; information on the SAT/ACT writing section; and a DVD on Clayton State to take back to the school to share with small groups.

Special thanks to all the staff who helped us with the set up and physical plant arrangements and to Chef Tom and his staff who prepared and presented a beautiful and delicious luncheon, which our guests praised.

The Counselor Information Program was successful and will enable us to work more closely with these counselors. We look forward to refining our program and incorporating their suggestions in our next counselor program.

We welcome your feedback and suggestions on this event.

Thank you all for making this event a success.

-- Anne Meservey
Director of Admissions

Honors Program, cont'd. from p. 2

program,” says Clayton State Director of Admissions Dr. Anne Meservey. “Our new application deadline for this selective program is Feb 15. After students have been selected for the Honors Program, they can compete for the scholarships.”

Information about the program, instructions and the Honors Application form are on the Clayton State University Honors Program website at: <http://honorsprogram.clayton.edu/default.htm>. Admission to the program is competitive based on academic record and school or community involvement. Listed below are the minimum standards for consideration, although meeting these minimum standards does not guarantee admission to the Honors Program.

- 1) Recent high school graduate entering Clayton State University as a freshman
- 2) 3.5 academic GPA in high school
- 3) SAT combined score of 1,100 (or ACT composite of 24)
- 4) Significant involvement in school activities

As Meservey noted, those applicants who have been selected for the Honors Program by the February deadline will be in the initial pool of Honors Program students who will be considered for the Honors Program Scholarship. ■

Middle East Authority Robin Wright To Speak at Clayton State February 14

Journalist, author and Middle East authority Robin Wright will be speaking on "The Current Situation in the Middle East" from noon until 1:20 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 14, in room 272 of the James M. Baker Center at Clayton State University.

Wright's presentation is free and open to the public, however, seating is limited.

Currently covering U.S. foreign policy for the Washington Post, Wright has reported from more than 130 countries on six continents for The Washington Post, The Los Angeles Times, The Sunday Times of London, CBS News and The Christian Science Monitor. She has also written for The New Yorker, The Atlantic Monthly, Foreign Affairs, Foreign Policy, The New York Times, The Times of London, The Guardian, The International Herald Tribune and many others. Her foreign tours include five years in the Middle East, two years in Europe, seven years in Africa, and several years as a roving foreign corre-

spondent, including travels throughout Latin America and Asia. She has covered a dozen wars and several revolutions.

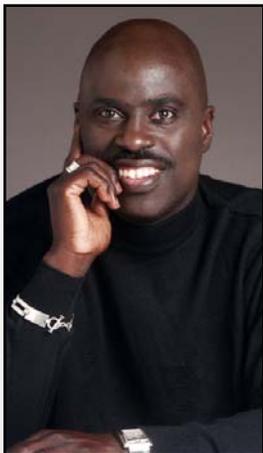
Wright won the 1989 National Magazine Award for her reportage from Iran in The New Yorker and the Overseas Press Club Award for "best reporting in any medium requiring exceptional courage and initiative" for coverage of African wars. She was also the recipient of a John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation grant. And in 2001, she won the Weintal Prize for "the most distinguished diplomatic reporting." In 2003, she won the United Nations' correspondents Gold Medal award for coverage of international affairs.

Besides a long career in journalism, Wright was a fellow at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Yale University, Duke University, Stanford University, the University of California at Santa Barbara and the University of Southern California. She also lectures extensively around the

United States and has been a television commentator on ABC, NBC, CBS and CNN news programs, including "Meet the Press," "Face the Nation," "This Week," "Nightline," the PBS Newshour, "Frontline," "Larry King Live," "Washington Week in Review," as well as many other American, European and Asian programs.

Among her books, "The Last Great Revolution: Turmoil and Transformation in Iran" was selected as one of the 25 most memorable books of the year 2000. Her earlier book "Sacred Rage: The Wrath of Militant Islam," was reissued in November 2001 with updated chapters from her travels in Afghanistan and running through the Sept. 11 attacks. She is also the author of "Flashpoints: Promise and Peril in a New World," co-authored with Doyle McManus, which has been translated into six languages, and "In the Name of God: The Khomeini Decade." ■

Black History Month Events... Poet Hank Stewart and "1001 Black Inventions"



Poet Hank Stewart

An evening of poetic history and a touch of romance is planned with spoken word poet Hank Stewart of Five Men on a Stool on Tuesday, Feb. 14 at Clayton State University.

"An Evening of History and Love!" promises to form a dialogue with your interests in pursuit of poetry in the University's James M. Baker Center, room 272, starting at 7 p.m. Stewart is also currently appearing on Atlanta's FOX 5 television station with Black History vignettes.

A week after Stewart's performance, on Tuesday, Feb. 21, Clayton State's Black Cultural Awareness Association and Lyceum/Tradition Cultural Programming will present the play "1001 Black

Inventions" by PIN POINTS Theatre of Washington, D.C.

Described as being in the Twilight Zone where a typical American family attempts to survive in a world without inventions created by Africans and African Americans, "1001 Black Inventions" will be presented in the Arts & Sciences Theater, room 132 of the Clayton State Arts & Sciences Building at 7 p.m.

Both Black History Month events at Clayton State are free and open to the public. ■

Key Dates in 2006 for Recruitment and Admissions ...with Financial Aid Deadlines

Feb. 15, 2006 Priority Admissions Deadline for Fall 2006 and Honors Program

Feb. 21, 2006 Question & Answer Admissions & Financial Aid Information Session
Admissions Conference Room
Tuesday night, 6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Mar. 11, 2006 Spring Open House - all campus
Saturday morning, 8:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Mar. 23, 2006 Non-Traditional & Transfer Student Admissions Forum
CE 101 (faculty and staff)
Thursday night, 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Apr. 1, 2006 Final Admissions Application deadline for Summer 2006

Apr. 4, 2006 Question & Answer Admissions & Financial Aid Information Session
Admissions Conference Room
Tuesday night, 6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Apr. 7, 2006 Financial Aid Application deadline for Summer 2006

Apr. 13, 2006 Non-Traditional & Transfer Student Admissions Forum.
CE 101 (faculty and staff)
Thursday night, 6:30p.m. - 8 p.m.

Apr. 25, 2006 Question & Answer Admissions & Financial Aid Information Session
Admissions Conference Room
Tuesday night, 6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

May 2, 2006 Non-Traditional & Transfer Student Admissions Forum
CE 101(faculty and staff)
Tuesday night, 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.

May 8, 2006 Question & Answer Admissions & Financial Aid Information Session
Admissions Conference Room
Monday night, 6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

June 15, 2006 Non-Traditional & Transfer Student Admissions Forum
CE 101 (faculty and staff)
Thursday night, 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.

June 27, 2006 Question & Answer Admissions & Financial Aid Information Session
Admissions Conference Room
Monday night, 6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

July 7, 2006 Financial Aid Application deadline for entry in Fall 2006 term

July 13, 2006 Non-Traditional & Transfer Student Admissions Forum
CE 101 (faculty and staff)
Thursday night, 6:30-8:00 p.m.

July 15, 2006 Final Admissions Application deadline for Fall 2006

For more information on Recruitment, Admissions and Financial Aid, visit www.clayton.edu

Jobs! Jobs! Jobs!

On-Campus Recruiting

UPS

Tuesday, Feb. 14
10 a.m. – noon
Baker University Center
Recruiting for: P/T Loaders/Unloaders
\$8.50 - \$9.50 per hour
www.upsjobs.com

Employer Information Sessions

US Dept. of State & Foreign Service

Learn about the many career opportunities with the US Dept. of State & Foreign Service
Tuesday, Feb. 14
noon – 1 p.m.
Location TBA
Reserve your seat with
joanmcelroy@clayton.edu
www.careers.state.gov

Primerica

Wednesday, Feb. 15
10:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Baker University Center Main Street
www.primerica.com

National Lending Corporation

Discover one of the world's best-kept secrets; the Mortgage industry
Thursday, Feb. 16
noon – 2 p.m.
Location TBA
Reserve your seat with
joanmcelroy@clayton.edu
www.mynlc.com

Upcoming Events

The IRC Sales Career Forum

Tuesday, Feb. 21
9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Embassy Suites Hotel – Perimeter Center
1030 Crown Pointe Parkway
Atlanta, GA 30338
www.ircdirect.com or call (866) 472-0432 X2438

The Career Expo

Thursday, Mar. 16
1 p.m. – 4 p.m.
Athletics & Fitness Center
<http://adminservices.clayton.edu/career/carereexpo.htm>

Business Etiquette Dinner/Effective Networking

Tuesday, Apr. 4
6 p.m. – 9 p.m.
Harry S. Downs Center for Continuing Education
Tickets on sale NOW in Technology 113
\$15 (cash or check)
Presented by Peggy Newfield, Personal Best
www.personalbest.net

College to Career Fair

Tuesday, Apr. 11
11 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Cobb Galleria Centre
Pre-registration required – details TBA

WalkAmerica To be Held at Clayton State

The 2006 March of Dimes South Metro WalkAmerica will be held on the Clayton State campus on Saturday, Apr. 22.

The South Metro Walk will start and finish at Laker Field, and cover approximately 3.5 miles. Registration for the event starts at 7:30 a.m. with the walk beginning at 9 a.m. Registration is also online at www.walkamerica.org or call (404) 352-WALK.

Jennifer Schrober, the South Metro WalkAmerica coordinator, has already visited the Clayton State campus to provide information for those who might wish to volunteer to be part of the event. Long-time Clayton Staters will remember the University's previous role in this event in the mid-1990's, including some huge Clayton State teams that got out and walked at Starr Park in Forest Park.

Representatives of student organizations are especially invited to contact Schrober about forming a team or participating as individuals. Several student organizations have already committed to take part in this most worthwhile event, and the March of Dimes has a national partnership with the American Humanics program. Schrober can be reached at JSchrober@marchofdimes.com. ■

Got News?

Send your campus news to
JohnShiffert@clayton.edu



Clayton State Atop NCAA D-II Stats in Field Goal Percentage Defense

by Gid Rowell, Sports Information

“De-fense ... de-fense ... de-fense” has been the battle cry for fifth-year head Clayton State men’s basketball coach Gordon Gibbons’ teams and earlier this month, the Lakers climbed to a spot that is a first for the program.

The Laker men’s squad entered the week as the nation’s top-ranked NCAA Division II team in the all-important category of field goal percentage defense. Through 18 games, the Lakers were holding opponents to a lowly 36.5 shooting percentage, just ahead of Adelphia, a school out of New York.

In addition to holding the top defensive spot, the Lakers also broke into the National Association of Basketball Coaches (NABC) rankings, coming in at 25th in the country among NCAA Division II teams.

“Both are superb achievements for our program,” said head coach Gordon Gibbons, one of the NCAA Division II winningest coach-

es. “We pride ourselves on defense, so leading the nation in field goal percentage defense is an especially satisfying stat. It is a compliment to both the hard work of our players and coaches.”

The national ranking is the first time in program history the Lakers have been nationally ranked this late in the season. Clayton State has been in the preseason rankings several times over the last few years and was ranked in December of 1998 after opening the season with an 8-0 record. Along with Clayton State, Columbus State is also in the national rankings at 20th and Armstrong State is receiving votes for the poll.

In addition to the number one ranking in field goal percentage defense, the team also ranks sixth in the country in points allowed, giving up 59.1 points per game. ■

Trivia Time

Stealing a Body... and an Election

by John Shiffert, University Relations

It has been said that the Republican Party, on behalf of Rutherford B. Hayes, stole the presidential election of 1876 from the Democrats and Samuel J. Tilden. Or, it may have been that all the electoral votes in South Carolina, Florida and Louisiana went mysteriously into the Republican column because southern Democrats cut a deal, in effect trading the presidency for an end to Reconstruction in the south.

Whatever happened, the 1876 presidential election was the nation’s most controversial (at least until history repeated itself in 2000). However, the biggest controversy on election night 1876 just might have taken place in Springfield, Ill., where a gang of counterfeiters broke into the tomb of Abraham Lincoln, intent on stealing the late president’s body and holding it for ransom.

“Big Jim” Kinealy’s gang was one of the best at making funny money. However, they’d run into a cash flow problem – their chief engraver, Ben Boyd, had been caught and had a subsequent 10-year engagement in Joliet prison. With their source of funds at an end, Kinealy, et al came up with the idea of stealing Lincoln’s body and holding it for a \$250,000 ransom, plus Boyd’s release. It was a clever plan... the election was keeping everyone else in Springfield occupied that night, and it wasn’t even against the law in Illinois to steal a body. Of course, this wasn’t just any body.

However, the Secret Service had infiltrated the gang, and waylaid the plan before they could get Lincoln’s coffin all the way out of his tomb. Kinealy and the rest of the gang eventually joined

Boyd in Joliet for a year... for conspiring to steal a coffin worth \$75!



The trivia titans knew about Big Jim and his gang. Kurt-Alexander Zeller was first, followed by Lou Brackett, Maria Johnson (“the whole thing sounds gross,” she says) and Kevin Dixon (who gets a bonus point for knowing the names of Kinealy’s co-conspirators, Terrence Mullen and Jack Hughes.)

If stealing a president’s body isn’t gross enough for you, in what movie was the ultimate villain the Stay-Puft Marshmallow Man? Bonus points are available if you know where he came from and what happened to him. Answer to johnshiffert@clayton.edu. ■

Sports Page

Basketball Men and Women 18-4 After Upset Losses to Augusta

Coming off big road wins at Peach Belt power Columbus State, the Clayton State men's and women's basketball teams were both upset at home by mediocre Augusta State squads on Wednesday, dropping both Laker quintets to 18-4 in the year.

The women (now 12-3 in the Peach Belt) lost 79-74 in overtime while the men (now 11-4 in the league) lost 66-56.

Two days earlier, against Columbus, the 18th-ranked Laker women defeated the Cougars on their home floor for the first time, 86-81, leading from wire-to-wire. Sharon Wiles (25 points) and Jasmine Patterson (21 points) paced the Clayton State attack. In the men's game, the 25th-ranked Lakers defeated the 20th-ranked Cougars, 89-81 behind five players scoring in double figures, led by Todd McLaurin and Michael Sloan with 16 each.

In earlier action, the Lakers also swept doubleheaders from Georgia College, Lander University and USC Upstate. ■

Tennis Opens With a Win Over Limestone College

The 16th-ranked Clayton State women's tennis team opened its season with a win, slamming non-conference opponent Limestone College 8-1 in NCAA Division II tennis action.

The Lakers swept through the doubles and won five-of-six single matches for the victory. Clayton State opens its Peach Belt Conference schedule today at USC Aiken.

In doubles, top-seeded Julia Chergova and Agnes Kozakow won 8-3 over Alexandra Gade and Jennifer Snaider. The second-seeded team of Daniela Petkova and Veronika Jasenovcova won 8-2 over Jessie Griffin and Melanie Kragl, while the third-seeded team of Elena Bondari and Lilia Tzvetanova defeated Nicole Piazza and Lee Cribb 8-5.

In singles, the Chergova won 6-1 and 6-3 over Gade, while third-seeded Kozakow prevailed in a third set super tiebreaker 10-8 after winning the first set 7-5. ■

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