

Campus Review

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Serving the CLAYTON STATE UNIVERSITY Community

September 9, 2009

Clayton State Faculty and Staff to Celebrate 40th Anniversary Sept. 24

Clayton State University first opened its doors to 942 students as Clayton Junior College on Sept. 30, 1969. In recognition of the occasion, the Clayton State University Foundation and the Alumni Association will be sponsoring a special 40th Anniversary event.

The Clayton State University campus will officially celebrate the University's 40th Anniversary on Thursday, Sept. 24 with a cake and champagne toast, followed by a "Shake, Rattle and Roll" Casino Night with live music.

The event for Clayton State faculty and staff will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the Student Activities Center Ballroom and will continue until approximately 9 p.m. A champagne toast to the University's 40th anniversary will be held at 6:45 p.m., followed by the casino night.



Additional anniversary events will be scheduled throughout the year, with the actual anniversary day being marked by the annual Hot Dog Rally held in conjunction with the Faculty/Staff Fund Drive.

Please RSVP by Sept. 17 for the 40th Anniversary Celebration at: www.clayton.edu/anniversaryrsvp. ■

Informational Forums on the Swine Flu, Sept. 9 And Sept. 10

Clayton State University is holding two informational forums/Q&A sessions on the Swine Flu on Wednesday, Sept. 9 and Thursday, Sept. 10. Both will be held in Spivey Hall and will feature presentations by Dean of the College of Health Dr. Lisa Eichelberger, University Health Services Director Dr. Julia Spinolo, and Vice President of Business and Operations Corlis Cummings.

The Wednesday session will run from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The Thursday sessions will run from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. All faculty, staff and students are invited. ■

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To Include 40th Anniversary Celebration on Sept. 30

Clayton State to Kick Off Annual Faculty/Staff Fund Drive on September 10

by John Shiffert, University Relations

The Annual Faculty/Staff Fund Drive at Clayton State University is set to begin on Thursday, Sept. 10 with what might at first seem to be an overly ambitious goal.

This year's campaign, tagged "Give a Little, Get a Latte," has just one goal – 100 percent participation among all full-time Clayton State faculty and staff members. Since a 75 percent faculty/staff participation rate at most colleges and university is considered an overwhelming success, the question might be asked... is this not just an ambitious goal, but an impossible one? Not really. Over the past nine years, an average of 98 percent of the faculty and staff have contributed to the Fund Drive for the Clayton State

University Foundation, supporting scholarships, awards and the various schools and departments on campus. In two of those nine years, the faculty and staff have indeed achieved 100 percent participation.

This year's campaign, which will award all contributors with a gift certificate for a latte at Jazzman's Café in the Baker Center (hence the tag line), will run for one month, from Sept. 10 to Oct. 9, and will be highlighted on Sept. 30 – the 40th anniversary of the day the University first opened its doors to students – with the Annual Hot Dog Rally for faculty, staff and students from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on the University Quad. ■

Clayton State University and NARA Partner for Constitution Week

by John Shiffert, University Relations

Clayton State University and the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) Southeast Region are once again joining together to celebrate Constitution Week.

The Fifth Annual Constitution Week celebration will be officially held from Monday, Sept. 14 to Friday, Sept. 18. However, Clayton State and NARA are getting an early start with NARA's traditional Constitution documents display in the University's James M. Baker Center. Starting on Friday, Sept. 11

(which is also Patriot Day) and running through Sept. 18, Constitution document reproductions, on loan from NARA, are on display on the second floor of the Baker Center. Also on display in the adjoining Clayton State Library are 18th Century women's clothing, Federalist vs. Anti-Federalist, and Women of the Revolutionary War displays.

Another Constitution Week-long event is the annual voter registration drive, which will also take place on the second floor the Baker Center. Flag pins will be given to all who register.



The keynote address for Constitution Week will be from noon to 1 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 14 in room 272 of the Baker Center. Clayton State is especial-

Constitution, cont'd., p. 7.

English Department Announces Visiting Writers Reading Series for Fall 2009 Semester

The Clayton State University Department of English's popular Visiting Writers Reading Series will feature three authors reading their works this semester.

The series will open on Thursday, Sept. 17 with Dr. Brigitte Byrd, Clayton State assistant professor of English, reading from her just-published third book of poems, "Song of a Living Room." (Ahsahta Press). Byrd will be reading from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in room 272 of the James M. Baker Center.



Byrd

"In writing 'Song of a Living Room,' my field of inquiry was a couple who step into a relationship as one steps into a magic circle -- more accurately in their case, they step into a Celtic knot -- which opens an imaginary world to them, a world they create, a world that also creates them, a world that forces them to create each other, a world that blurs time and space, a world in which they escape reality, a world in which they may lose themselves.," explains Byrd. "Because prose poetry is a form that is natural to me, a form I love, I wrote 'Song of a Living

Room' as a series of prose poems revolving around these two characters."

For more information, please visit her website: <http://www.brigittebyrd.com/>.

On Thursday, Oct. 8, Clayton State's foremost mystery artist, Clayton State Theater Director Phillip DePoy, will introduce the Visiting Writers Reading Series to "The King James Conspiracy," (St. Martin's Press) his acclaimed new novel that's, according to Atlanta Magazine, a dizzying mix of historical facts and figments of the author's imagination.



DePoy

Set in 17th Century England, the story centers on a group of scholars assigned by King James I to create a definitive English translation of the Bible, what has become known as the King James edition of the Bible. When one of the scholars is murdered and mutilated, DePoy leads the story into, not surprisingly, a conspiracy.

DePoy will be reading 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in room 200 of the Clayton State Library. For more information, go to <http://www.phillipdepo.com/>



Greenstreet

Finally, on Thursday, Nov. 19, in room 272 of the Baker Center, poet/photographer Kate Greenstreet will read from her latest work, also recently published by Ahsahta Press (<http://ahsahta-press.boisestate.edu/subscription.htm>), "The Last 4 Things." For more, go to <http://www.kickingwind.com/>. ■

VISITING WRITERS READING SERIES Fall 2009
11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

BRIGITTE BYRD
Sept. 17 | UC272

PHILLIP DEPOY
Oct. 8 | L200

KATE GREENSTREET
Nov. 19 | UC272

Look for posters around campus for more details

Look for posters around campus for more details

Caroline Clower Receives Initial Hatfield Teacher of the Year Award

by Ciji Fox, University Relations



Dr. Clower

On Tuesday, Aug. 11, the Clayton State University College of Arts and Sciences announced its first Gene Hatfield Scholar and Teacher of the Year Award winners.

Selected separately by faculty committee, each recipient received a plaque and a check for \$500. The awards are funded by Dr. Gene Hatfield, retired chair of the department of Social Sciences at Clayton State. Dr. Caroline Clower, associate professor of Chemistry and faculty advisor for American Medical Student

Association, received the first Gene Hatfield Teacher of the Year Award.

“It was truly an honor to receive this award for excellence in teaching at Clayton State University,” she says. “My colleagues here are some of the most talented and dedicated educators I have worked with, and it really means a lot to me to be recognized among them. I love teaching at Clayton State. It is important to me to teach at a University that values undergraduate education as much as I do. The students at Clayton Student University are wonderful, and I have enjoyed the opportunities I have had to teach a wide variety of science classes, both lower and upper level, advise science

majors on classes and career goals, and work with student organizations.

“Being honored with the Teacher of the Year award is certainly something I will remember for a long time! My most memorable and treasured experiences at Clayton State always involve the students. Anytime a student tells me that my class has made them think about something in a different way, appreciate something they previously did not, or changed some aspect of their lives, I know that this is exactly where I want to be.” ■

Anna King Earns MALS Degree

Anna King, a Clayton State University Master of Arts in Liberal Studies (MALS) graduate, recently defended her thesis, “Twilight at the Aegean.” As a result her degree has been conferred.

“My thesis was born from my experiences traveling in Europe and the Caribbean,” Kings says. “The majority of the work is influenced by Greek culture, but some of my thematics include death, relationships, childbirth, and adapting to new situations. The work is a collection of poetry that I have written in a variety of styles.

“I am more proud of this degree than of my B.A. because I finished my Master's degree on nights and weekends while I continued to work. I am a single parent, and rather than let challenging circumstances prohibit me from furthering my academic career, I chose to keep going. Because of my daughter Aralyn, I knew that it was my responsibility to set an example of hard work and of how to pursue goals. I haven't had much fun the past two years, but I also maintained a 4.0 and achieved a master's degree at 24 while working full time and raising a child.”

King further explains her challenges.

“The most obvious challenge is balancing a demanding career as a teacher with the expectations of being a graduate student. I did have to take several classes in which I was completely out of my area of scholarship and I had to work twice as hard to compensate for not knowing the full scope of background scholarship,” she says. “I know my family made many sacrifices to help me carve out time to study and write, even to take a nap after being exhausted from writing. I owe them the most.”

Despite the challenges King is enthusiastic about her experience.

“My experience has been thrilling and exhausting! For the past two years I've spent late nights and entire weekends reading and writing, but I have enjoyed every moment of it. If I did not love academics so passionately, what I call ‘wonderful’ might be named ‘dreadful’ by a less enthusiastic student,” King explains. “I was given many opportunities to develop my academic resume that I may not have had in a less intimate setting. I went to San Francisco and Virginia to present work at a literature conference, and I attended the Southeast Philosophy conference hosted at Clayton State.

“Every instructor I worked with in the program was excellent, and Clayton State University should be proud of our exceptional faculty. Dr. Brigitte Byrd has been my mentor since I was an undergraduate, and she has guided me from writing awful, rhyming poetry into becoming a published writer. Dr. Gwendolyn Jones Harold was also instrumental in encouraging my research on Ellen Glasgow, which was published on three separate occasions. Dr. Alexander Hall and Dr. Kathryn Pratt-Russell did excellent editorial work while serving on my thesis committee.”

“A very important moment in my career at Clayton State University has been when Anna King turned in her graduate creative thesis, which I directed, and I realized that by my working with her closely and guiding her from early on as an undergraduate student all the way through her graduate studies, I had helped her find her voice, a voice so strong that I was awed and knew that the quality of her work was of the best kind, the kind that would open the field of poetry to her,” says Byrd. “And it did. She already has published a few poems in rep-

Anna King, cont'd., p. 4

Across the Campus...

Athletics

The Clayton State Laker men's soccer team made it a clean sweep on its south Florida two-game swing last Saturday, pulling off another thrilling 1-0 victory over Barry at Buccaneer Field. The shutout, coupled with Thursday's 1-0 blanking over Nova Southeastern, makes it the second time in the last three seasons Clayton State has opened the season with two straight shutouts. Just like Thursday, the Lakers recorded their lone goal in the first half. This time, sophomore forward Ryan Pugh scored on a header in the 41st minute off a lone pass from the left side from sophomore defender Sam Bevan. For the game, Clayton State had 14 shots, including nine on goal, to nine and four on goal for Barry (1-1). Laker goalkeeper David Cristofoli recorded the shutout with four saves. Three of those saves came in the final three minutes of the game to preserve the victory for the Lakers.

The Peach Belt Conference released its first weekly honors for men's soccer on Tuesday, and the Clayton State Lakers earned two of the three weekly accolades. The Lakers' David Cristofoli was selected as PBC Goalkeeper of the Week, while Roger Boniface earned PBC Defensive Player of the Week. Both players stepped up big for the Lakers during their two 1-0 shutout victories last weekend at Nova Southeastern and Barry.

The Clayton State Laker women's soccer team opened its 2009 season on Tuesday, dropping a 4-1 decision at in-state rival West Georgia at Observatory Field. The game, played in a constant downpour, was Clayton State's season opener after the originally scheduled season opener at home against Spelman last Saturday was cancelled. Caitlin Clark scored the lone goal for Clayton State in the second half.

Clayton State Theatre

Theatre critic Burt Osborne's recent column in The Sunday Paper complains that one of the things wrong with this past the-

atre season was the absence of Shontelle Thrash. The main reason she was absent was that she was teaching for Clayton State. And the critics want her back. "Very unusual and very high regard for a great actor and professor," says Clayton State Theater Director Phillip DePoy.

CSiR

Clayton State University's student-run internet radio station, Clayton State Internet Radio (CSiR), and Black to Eden are presenting a "Meeting of The Minds Extravaganza," which will include the premier of the documentary, "The Rebirth of the HipHop Nation." The two showings of the documentary will take place on Friday, Sept. 18, at noon and 2 p.m., at the Clayton State University Student Activities Center, Ballrooms A&B. A question and answer forum will follow each showing. Admission is \$5, payable at the door. "The Rebirth of the HipHop Nation" depicts an in-depth perspective of the Black and Hip Hop cultures, featuring cameo appearances by Judge Mathis, Reverend Al Sharpton, KRS One and Minister Server Temple Of Hip Hop, Chuck D and Professor Griff of PE, Dres Black Sheep, Brother J of the X-Clan, Raekwon & The RZA Wu Tang Clan, Acey Alone Freestyle fellowship, Dialated Peoples, Stic Man Dead Prez, Afya Ibomu, Afeni Shakur, Dr. Taj Anwar, and other activists who are a part of the movement. Portions of the event will be aired live on CSiR, at www.claytonstat-radio.com.

Political Science

The popular "New York Times Talk" seminar series at Clayton State University will resume on Thursday, Sept 10 when Clayton State Assistant Professor of Psychology Dr. Deborah Deckner will facilitate a discussion on, "Children and the Recession: Thoughts on How Big Economic Changes Can Affect Little Worlds." This first "New York Times Talk" of the fall 2009 semester is free and open to the public and will run from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in room T152 of Clayton Hall. A free lunch will be provided to all attendees by the New York Times and the hosting American Democracy Project.

Student Veterans Association

The upcoming fall fundraiser for the Clayton State University Student Veterans Association (SVA) will proclaim their "Right to Bear Tongs." In other words, it's a lunchtime hot dog sale on the University Quad on Constitution Day, Thursday, Sept. 17. The "Right to Bear Tongs" Hot Dog Sale by the members of SVA will run from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., and will feature hot-off-the-grill dogs (both beef and chicken), chips, drink and dessert... all for the low price of \$3.25.

University System

A new issue of the University System of Georgia's The System Supplement is posted online: http://www.usg.edu/pubs/sys_supp/.

Anna King, cont'd. from p. 3

utable literary magazines and has been rewarded in a literary contest."

Currently serving as an adjunct English professor in the Department of English at Clayton State, King is excited to be on "the other end of the classroom."

"I'm going to keep publishing and writing, I've got another manuscript I'm working on now," she adds. "I will also pursue my Ph.D. in the next year or so in creative writing."

King says her favorite memory of working on her MALS degree was attending the conference in San Francisco, because, "I was given a chance to meet so many experts in my field. It was quite inspiring to be on a panel with names I'd studied in the past."

Not surprisingly, being published has been most rewarding for King who says, "I have published four of my poems that are in my thesis, and I've never been prouder." ■



Clayton State Interim President Dr. Tim Hynes (Above) and Interim Provost/Vice President of Academic Affairs Dr. Micheal Crafton (Right) get their flu shots on the Clayton State campus.

Above Right (L to R):
Caroline Richards and Julia Spinolo.

Clayton State Paper Recycling Program Looking for 100 Percent Participation

Clayton State University, in its commitment to be a good steward of the environment, has been further promoting its already-established campus-wide Paper Recycling Program.

Conducted through the services of American Recycling/Waste Pro Company, this is a once-a-week (Wednesday), campus-wide recycled paper service is responsible for picking up and emptying recycling bins at each building on campus.

In an email sent out last week in an effort to encourage 100 percent participation campus-wide, the University directed that each department on campus should designate an individual to:

1) Ensure that each desk, network printer, and copier has an individual cardboard recycle bin.

2) Encourage all employees to empty their individual paper recycling container, at their convenience when their container is full, into the larger recycling bins.

3) Ensure that the large rolling recycling bins are placed in the appropriate area each week for emptying.

4) Encourage and promote the paper recycling program.

In addition, each building on campus has a recycling coordinator.

Items being recycled include: white copier paper, colored paper, glossy paper (magazines), envelopes, including envelopes with plastic windows.

For additional information, contact Cindy Knight at (678) 466-4250. ■



Covenant Presbyterian Church to Host Second Annual Lynn Wheeler Benefit Golf Tournament

Covenant Presbyterian Church in Fayetteville, Ga., will be hosting the Second Annual Lynn Wheeler Benefit Golf Tournament at Durham Lakes Golf and Country Club in Fairburn, Ga., on Wednesday, Sept. 30.

The wife of Dr. Douglas Wheeler, music coordinator in the Department of Visual and Performing Arts at Clayton State University, Lynn Wheeler personifies determination and courage. Diagnosed with cancer in February 2005, she went into remission in September of that same year, only to suffer a serious spinal injury in an auto accident on Christmas Day, 2005, an accident that has confined her to a wheelchair and breathing with the help of a respirator.

Undaunted, the Wheelers have remained strong members of Covenant Presbyterian, and Lynn continues to serve in the church's children's ministry and to teach piano. On their part, the members of Covenant want to be able "to bless Lynn as she has blessed us." Thus, the church held the first benefit tournament in July 2008. This year's fund-raiser will tee off at 1 p.m. at Durham Lakes. Single players are \$85, four-member teams are \$340. Donations are also accepted.

For more information on the tournament, contact Joseph Starr at 678-637-2731. ■

Clayton State Biologists to Collect Fish Samples for Henry County Aquarium

Clayton State University Associate Professor of Biology Dr. Christopher Kodani is preparing to go on a fishing expedition... and he won't have far to go.



Dr. Kodani

Kodani, and some of his students, will be assisting James Moore of the Henry County Stormwater Management Department in putting together a traveling aquarium for the county. Moore was recently awarded a grant from North American Native Fish Association to showcase local non-game fish species, and since Moore and Kodani have been collabo-

rating in the Georgia Adopt-A-Stream program and Rivers Alive Cleanup events, he naturally asked for help from Clayton State's biologists and ecologists to populate the tank.



Turquoise Darter

Moore is currently in the process of procuring all the materials he'll need for the traveling aquarium, however, it won't be long before he's ready to start sampling local creeks, at which time Kodani and his students will get involved.

"One of the native fishes that James and our crew have encountered in Henry

County is the Turquoise Darter," says Kodani in anticipation of his fishing expedition. "It's small, but very pretty. It's the relatively unknown species like this that the aquarium display will try to bring attention to."

The aquarium will also include an educational display identifying the fish and explaining ways to prevent water pollution. It is expected that the aquarium will move between public spaces in Henry County, including libraries and schools. ■

Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration at Clayton State

Hispanic Heritage Month is the period to recognize the contributions of Hispanic Americans to the United States and to celebrate Hispanic heritage and culture. The observation started in 1968 as Hispanic Heritage Week under President Lyndon Johnson and was expanded by President Ronald Reagan in 1988 to cover a 30-day period starting on Sept. 15 and ending Oct. 15. The Sept. 15 date was chosen as

the starting point for the celebration because it is the anniversary of independence for five Latin American countries — Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua.

The term Hispanic, as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau, refers to Spanish-speaking people in the United States of any race. On the 2000 Census form, people of Spanish/Hispanic/Latino origin could identify themselves as Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, or "other Spanish/Hispanic/Latino." More than 35 million people identified themselves as Hispanic or Latino on the 2000 Census.

Clayton State's Hispanic Heritage Month events are sponsored by: Department of Campus Life; DEEP (Diversity Educational Experiences for Peers) Peer Educators; Campus Events Council (CEC); Hispanic Student Association (HSA).

Sept. 9

Cultural Connection: Salsa Dance Party
Come out and learn how to do the salsa from professional dance instructors and

win great prizes. Authentic Latin food will be served. Free Admission.

Time: 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Location: Student Activities Center (SAC) Ballroom C

Sponsored By: CEC and HSA

Sept. 10

Hispanic Student Association General Interest Meeting

Time: 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Location: James M. Baker University Center (UC), Rm. 267

Sept. 15

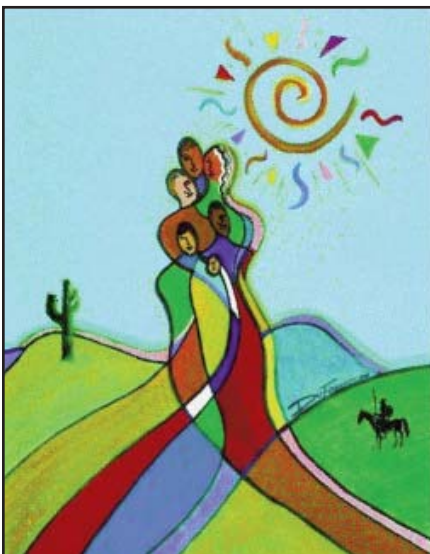
Lakers Fiesta

Clayton State University's official kick-off to the Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration. The event will feature live music from Tahino, the Latin band; authentic Latin food; and games. Free Admission.

Time: 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Location: UC Quad

Sponsored By: Department of Campus Life and DEEP Peer Educators



Hispanic Heritage, cont'd. from p. 6

Sept. 19

"Noche Latino" (Latin Night) at University of Georgia (UGA)

The Hispanic Student Association will travel to the University of Georgia to support their Latino Night. If you are interested in attending this event, contact Maria C. Morales at mmorales3@student.clayton.edu.

Time: 5:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Location: UGA/Athens, GA

Sponsored By: HSA

Sept. 20

Fiesta Georgia '09-Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration

Fiesta Georgia serves as the unofficial kick-off to Hispanic Heritage Month celebrations in Georgia. Fiesta Georgia will be a day-long celebration of Latino culture, music, and food featuring continuous live performances by national and local recording artists, vendor booths offering free product samples, arts and crafts, and authentic Latino foods. Free Admission. The Hispanic Student Association will travel to Conyers, Ga., to attend this event. If you are interested in attending, contact Maria C. Morales at mmorales3@student.clayton.edu. For more information about this event, view: <http://www.fiestageorgia.com/>.

Time: 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Location: Georgia International Horse Park/Conyers

Sponsored By: HSA

Sept. 23

HSA Nacho Fundraiser

The Hispanic Student Association will have its annual Nacho Fundraiser on September 23. All nachos will be \$2.

Time: 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Location: UC Main Street

"Paseo en un Mundo Latino" (Movie Night)

The Hispanic Student Association will be showcasing a movie in celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month.

Time: 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Location: SAC Ballroom C

Sponsored By: HSA

Sept. 29

"Baile Y Presentacion Cultural" (Hispanic Cultural Show)

The Hispanic Student Association is sponsoring a Cultural Show that will feature live performances showcasing various aspects of their culture. If you would like to learn more about the Hispanic culture, then come out and support this event.

Time: 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Location: SAC Ballroom C

Sponsored By: HSA

Oct. 7

Immigration: Helpful or Hurtful to America?

Hispanics in the United States are feeling a range of negative effects from the increased public attention and stepped up enforcement measures that have accompanied the growing national debate over illegal immigration. How do you feel about immigration? Is it helpful or hurtful to America? Come out and join in on this dialogue discussion regarding this controversial subject.

Time: 6 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Location: SAC Ballroom C

Sponsored By: Campus Life and DEEP Peer Educators ■

Constitution, cont'd. from p. 2

ly honored for 2009 to have long-time friend of the University James J. McSweeney, regional administrator of the National Archives Southeast Region, as the keynote speaker. Copies of the Constitution will be provided at McSweeney's presentation.

On Tuesday, Sept. 15, Constitution Week will move outside for a "Constitutional Drama" performed on the L. Jerry Eskew Stage at the Judge Eugene Lawson Amphitheater from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Passages from the Constitution will be read by members of the audience and the meaning of the passages will be explained by student actors providing commentary drawn from historical

sources. Discussion will follow and period and patriotic music will be performed by Clayton State University music students. Free copies of the Constitution will also be distributed at this event.

On Thursday, Sept. 17, NARA (5780 Jonesboro Rd., adjacent to the Clayton State campus) will host a naturalization ceremony, starting at 10 a.m. The ceremony will also be available via webcast. The color guard for the ceremony will be provided by the Clayton State University ROTC program with music by Lianna Wimberly Williams, mezzo-soprano, and Alexander Benford, piano.

On both Sept. 17 and Sept. 18, William

Temple, artist, musician, poet and re-enactor, will demonstrate aspects of the life of a colonial soldier at the National Archives facility while in period costume. Temple's demonstration, which is sponsored in part by the Georgia Humanities Council, begins at 11:30 a.m. on Thursday and at noon on Friday. In addition, Temple's artwork will be displayed in on second floor of the Baker Center.

All of the Constitution Day events are free and are open to the public, although the event schedule is subject to change. ■

Clayton State has Three Finalists for 2009 Chancellor's Customer Service Awards

by John Shiffert, University Relations

Clayton State University had three reasons to cheer recently when the University System of Georgia announced the finalists for the 2009 Chancellor's Customer Service Awards.

Among the seven programs and individuals nominated by Clayton State for consideration for the awards, three have made the final list of nominees. That's out of an initial total of 275 nominees and 34 finalists statewide.

The fact that three of Clayton State's nominations made the short list of finalists out of the 275 nominations submitted system-wide shows the continued emphasis that our employees are placing on providing exceptional customer service to the campus community," notes Carolina Amero, Clayton State's customer service champion and assistant vice president Auxiliary & Administrative Services.

Finalists were named in six categories. Most notable for Clayton State was the Improvement Initiative category, where two of the four finalists are from Clayton State, including Amero's own "Responding to Customer Needs in Dining Services" program.

In conjunction with the opening of Clayton State's first residence hall in the fall of 2008, Dining Services (which is part of Auxiliary Services) introduced the Lakeside Dining Hall, a newly-remodeled "all-you-care-to-eat" dining facility. Along with the introduction of the Lakeside Dining Hall, Clayton State also began offering a variety of meal plan options for residential students, commuters, and employees.

The other Improvement Initiative finalist is the Department of Campus Life's "Ask Me!" program, a student-focused initiative created and implemented by Campus Life and student volunteers to provide information, directions, and general customer service to new students as they attempt to navigate during their first days on campus.

Also making the final list in the Individual category was Darren Thomas, assistant director of Maintenance for the University's Facilities Management Department. As noted in his nomination, Thomas possesses unparalleled professional and personal skills and gives new meaning to the word dedicated. The Maintenance division is responsible for

maintaining Clayton State's physical resources and ensuring efficient operations of all buildings. This increasingly large area of responsibility includes 20 buildings located on nearly 700,000 square feet.

"In spite of the daunting responsibility carried by Darren, he is always knowledgeable, courteous, friendly, and helpful," notes his supervisor and nominator, Director of Facilities Management Harun Biswas.

Also included in Clayton State's original list of nominees were: Andrea Johnson, administrative assistant for the MBA program in the School of Business; the University's Building Services division assistant director, Donald West; manager of the Laker Card Center Ethel Lynn Keeton; and Clayton State's academic support center – the Center for Academic Success.

The System award winners will be announced on Sept. 15 at the office of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia. ■

Warren, Willock, Charles to Speak at Service Learning Series

Drs. Eunice Warren, Katherine Willock and Jennell Charles will speak at the September Service Learning Series on Thursday, Sept. 17 at 11 a.m. in room B-12 of the Lecture Hall.

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

Each month we will confront a different critical community need and induce students to think constructively about social

injustices from a scholarly perspective prior to actually engaging in a community service project that addresses the issue. Students will have the opportunity to interact with faculty members who will facilitate thought-provoking conversations on the monthly community need topic.

The month of September is dedicated to Community Health. Warren, Willock and Charles, all from the College of Health, will facilitate this month's discussion. All students, faculty and staff that are interested in the current health care issues and the proposed legislation and/or policies that affects the health and well being of the

greater community are welcome to come and participate in the discussion.

Then, on Saturday, Sept. 19 at 9 a.m., students will take a hands-on approach to addressing these community health issues by volunteering at the CHAMPS Community Health Fair and Summit taking place at the Georgia World Congress Center. This service project is open to all students from all majors.

To volunteer, contact the Department of Campus Life at (678) 466-5424 or email lashandahardin@clayton.edu. ■

Strong Showing for Clayton State Cross Country in 2009 Season-opening Meet

by Lee Wright, Sports Information

Clayton State head cross country coach Mike Mead had a lot of optimism about his two teams heading into the 2009 season. After Saturday's season-opening meet, that optimism grew even more.

Clayton State enjoyed a strong showing at the Strut's Season Opener at Jacksonville State as the Laker men placed third overall out of five teams, and Laker women finished fourth in its nine-team event.

Individually for the Laker men, juniors Fidelis Mutiso and Joey Chino each turned in strong finishes. Mutiso finished fifth overall in the 5K event with a time of 14:55, while Chino finished 15th in 15:31. Rounding out the Clayton State scoring included Jarrid Casimir finishing 22nd (15:52), Aryton Azcue placing 25th (16:00) and Stephen Bowers finishing 26th (16:01).

"It was a little tougher competition than I expected for our season opener, but we also ran much faster than I thought we were capable for our first meet," said Mead.

Other finishers for the Laker men were Ezra Mutai (30th – 16:14), Ricky Fort (34th – 16:42) and Cesar Valdovino (45th – 17:55).

The Laker women had two runners finish in the Top 10 overall. Chelsea Ellis placed seventh in the 3200 meter race with a time of 12:08, while Kourtney Aylor finished eighth in 12:09.

Overall, each of the Lakers' top six runners finished in the top-half of the field. Rene Mares placed 20th in 12:48, followed by Paige Galvin in 26th at 13:11, Megan Barnes in 27th at 13:12 and Tamara Marshall in 28th in 13:35.

"A solid start to a promising season," Mead said about the Laker women. "We got off to a fast start for the mile and faded in the end, but not bad for no speed work. I'm more optimistic about the season after seeing us in action."

Both Clayton State teams will be in action again next Saturday (Sept. 12) at the Berry Invitational in Rome, Ga. ■

Second Half Surge Lifts Clayton State Past Lees-McRae, 3-1

The Clayton State Laker women's soccer team came alive in the second half on Saturday and notched its first victory of the season with an impressive 3-1 victory over Lees-McRae at Converse College.

The victory evens Clayton State's record on the 2009 season at 1-1.

Despite out-shooting Lees-McRae 8-3 in the first half, Clayton State found itself trailing 1-0 at the intermission. However, the Lakers took control offensively in the second half behind the strong play of freshman Cherie Sayon and junior Maggie Mueller.

Sayon put Clayton State on the board in the 62nd minute with a shot from 18-

yards out from the left side the penalty box off a cross from Mueller. The duo hooked up again three minutes later as Mueller fed Sayon the middle. After a Lees-McRae defender committed too far up field, Sayon had a clear shot down the middle and out-maneuvered Lees-McRae goalkeeper Brittany Bolton for the go-ahead goal.

Mueller then put the finishing touches on the Laker attack in the 70th minute, scoring on a header in front of the goal off a corner kick from Rebekah Cook.

For the game, Clayton State dominated offensively, out-shooting Lees-McRae (0-3) 19-6. Laker goalkeeper Dominique Trappio recorded three saves in the victo-

Trivia Time

Who Ya Gonna Call?

by John Shiffert, University Relations

The plan originally was to call on John Belushi.

When Dan Aykroyd and Harold Ramis were writing the script for "Ghostbusters," they were writing the Peter Venkman role for Aykroyd's fellow Blues Brother, John Belushi. The original idea was for Belushi to play Venkman as a con man, however, the supremely talented actor died of an OD before the script was finished, so Aykroyd and Ramis re-wrote the part for another Saturday Night Live alum, Bill Murray. Essentially playing Bill Murray, he stole the movie and added perhaps the most memorable moment to his own movie career.

Kelly Adams was first to ID Belushi, followed by Rob Taylor, Lou Brackett, Wanda Zellars, Todd Birchfield and B.D. Stillion.

In further acknowledgment to Murray's comedic talents... how did he describe the vehicle in which he, in effect, invaded Czechoslovakia? Send your answers, not via Russian army, but by email to johnshiffert@clayton.edu. ■

ry, while Bolton recorded five saves for the Bobcats.

Clayton State is home again on Friday, playing host to Alabama-Huntsville at 5 p.m. at Laker Field. ■

Sports

Clayton State Drops 1-0 Decision Against Top-ranked Tampa

by Lee Wright, Sports Information

The stage was set for an epic showdown for the Clayton State Laker men's soccer team in its 2009 home opener.

Playing host to a No. 1-ranked team in men's soccer for the first time at Laker Field, the Lakers went toe-to-toe against top-ranked Tampa. However, the visiting Spartans rose to the occasion defensively and squeaked out a 1-0 victory over a determined Clayton State team on Friday night.

"In my six seasons, that's probably the best team we've ever played, next to Pembroke in '04," said Clayton State head coach Pete Petersen. "Our guys came to play and it reflected a couple of areas we need to work in going forward. Tampa was well-organized and dangerous on the attack.

"But it was a great game. Both teams played hard and it was well-officiated."

Both teams had stout defenses and it showed on the field throughout as neither

gave an inch. Tampa missed a couple of close shots in the waning moments of the first half, and the game was scoreless at halftime.

However, the Spartans got their needed break in the 53rd minute. On a breakaway, Tampa's Lister Warren ran down a long pass in the Clayton State penalty box and was slide-tackled by Laker goalkeeper David Cristofoli. On the play, Cristofoli was whistled for a yellow card, and the Spartans' Dan Ingvarsson converted the penalty kick.

Clayton State had some scoring opportunities down the stretch, but could not break through against the stellar Tampa defense.

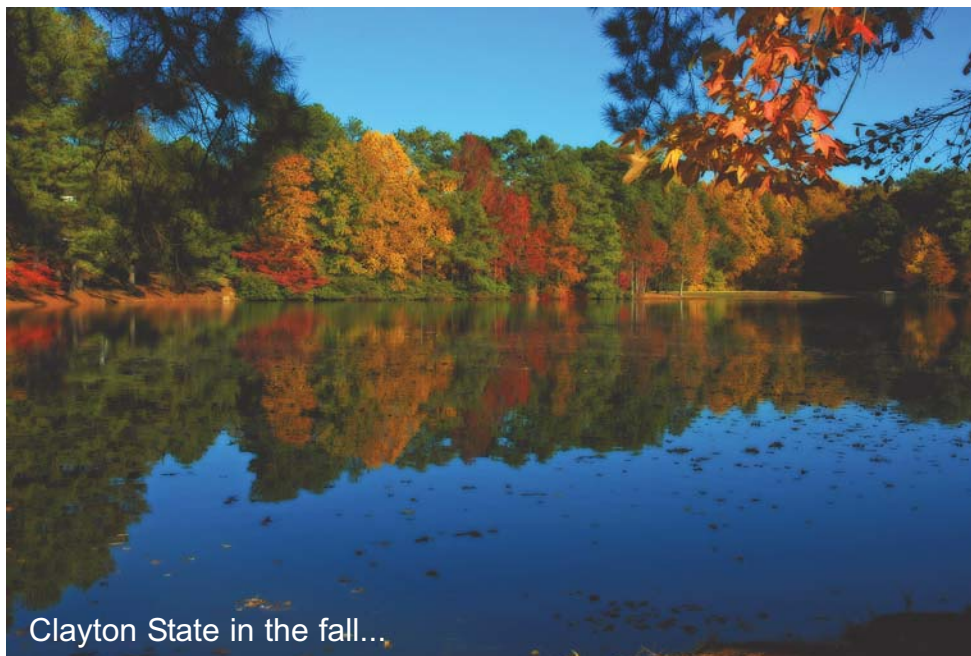
Cristofoli recorded two saves for Clayton State, while Spartan goalkeeper Ryan Thompson recorded one save. Tampa out-shot the Lakers 10-8.

On Sunday, seventh-ranked Lynn set the tempo early in the game and recorded a 3-

0 shutout victory over Clayton State at Laker Field. The defeat dropped the Lakers to 2-2 overall - all four of their games against the top four teams in the Sunshine State Conference. Lynn, who is coached by former Clayton State head coach John Rootes, improves to 4-0. ■

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Clayton State in the fall...

Clayton State is turning 40 this month! Look for a new masthead in the next issue of *Campus Review* to commemorate our anniversary.

For other anniversary celebration information, visit www.clayton.edu in the coming weeks.