Clayton State University honored, and was honored by, Dr. Betty L. Siegel, recently-retired president of Kennesaw State University, at Clayton State’s eighth fall Commencement ceremonies on Thursday, Dec. 14.

The first woman to head an institution of the University System of Georgia, Siegel was presented with Clayton State’s Harmon M. Born Servant Leadership Award by Clayton State President Dr. Thomas K. Harden just prior to Siegel’s delivering the evening’s Commencement address.

The Born Award was created in 1996 by the Clayton State University Foundation as special recognition for Born’s 50 years of employment in, and service to, metropolitan Atlanta. The first chair of the Clayton State University Foundation, Born is acknowledged by his contemporaries to be an individual of extraordinary talents who chooses to put those talents to work in the service of simple but profound principles and people, and who does so with little concern for publicity or notoriety. In doing so, he exemplifies what Robert Greenleaf describes as the difference between the servant leader and other persons of goodwill -- the servant leaders act on what they believe. With the Born Award, the Board of Trustees of the Clayton State University Foundation honors Born, and also encourages individuals to similar lives of service.

Previous winners of the Born Award have been S. Truett Cathy, Thomas Clontz, State Senator Terrell Starr and State Representative Bill Lee.

When Dr. Thomas K. Harden became president of Clayton State in mid-2000, his initial vision for the University included establishing what he referred to as a “culture of giving” among faculty, staff and students.

As he explained in a recent interview, Harden’s desire was not to focus on any particular mechanism for giving, but moreso to help engender an attitude, a spirit, wherein members of the Clayton State community would feel free to both give and receive. That day has most certainly arrived, as typified by the Faculty/Staff Fund Drive.

Tuesday’s celebration of the success of the 2007 Clayton State Faculty/Staff Fund Drive was, itself, a success. A good time was had by all, thanks in large part to the generous contribution of Clayton State Foundation member Robert Lee. Working alongside with wife Shelby Lee (reputed to be the culinary queen of Lee’s Southside Seafood), the immediate past chair of the Foundation dished out gallons of his award-winning chili, to the delight of all in attendance.

The afternoon’s events also included recognition for the Fund Drive’s coordinators, most notably co-chairs Dr. Lari Arjomand and Bob Ward. And, in a special drawing by Harden, Dr. Randall Gooden, assistant professor of History won the raffle for the two Persian rugs donated by Arjomand.

The events of Dec. 12, and the success of the Faculty/Staff Fund Drive over the past five years has moved Harden to express
Additional Events to be Held Jan. 15, Jan. 16 and Jan. 25

Pulitzer Prize Winner Taylor Branch to Keynote Clayton State’s 2007 MLK Celebration

Pulitzer Prize winning author Taylor Branch will be the keynote speaker at Clayton State’s annual Martin Luther King, Jr., Celebration on Thursday, Jan. 18, 2007. Branch’s keynote address will highlight the University’s seventh annual observance of King’s birthday, which will also include special events held in conjunction with the National Archives and Records Administration’s (NARA) Southeastern Regional Archives, the annual Freedom Run 10K and 5K, and a literary contest for local middle school students.

This year’s celebration, themed “More than a Dream…” will center around Branch’s Spivey Hall keynote address at 7:30 p.m. on Jan. 18. The keynote event, which is free and open to the public, will also include a performance by Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church Choir and the presentation of the awards to three local middle school students for their MLK-themed essays.

Branch will also be appearing at a special dialogue for Clayton State students on the afternoon of Jan. 18, and a reception in Spivey Hall at 6:45 p.m. on Jan. 18, just prior to his keynote address.

Additional events will include the Monday, Jan. 15 Freedom Run, two special showings of the movie, “At the River I Stand” at noon on Tuesday, Jan. 16 at Clayton State and at 4 p.m. on Jan. 18 at NARA, and “Researching the Civil Rights Movement in the Records of the Southeast Region,” a workshop on Federal District Court cases relating to civil liberties, held at NARA for invited Clayton State classes at 3 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 25. NARA will also display various King-related documents in the Archive’s lobby during the month of January. These documents will include; civil cases filed in Federal Court related to King and his work, cases filed by the city of Memphis related to the garbage collector’s strike, and records of the MLK Holiday Commission.

Clayton State’s Professors Disguised as Angels

by Leigh G. Wills, University Relations

Clayton State University’s College of Information and Mathematical Sciences (CIMS) may seem like an innocent group of professors and professionals, but don’t be deceived by the pocket protectors and the argyle sweaters; this motley crew, holed up on the third and fourth floor of the Baker Center, is nothing better than a gang of angels in disguise!

It seems they’ve been involved in some covert activity for several years now. Not wanting to skew the stalwart image of the College, especially before their colleagues or their students, they’ve managed to keep the activity under wraps, but there’s a mole in the organization, a mole with wings, and the word is out; CIMS professors and staff – including the dean, are really angels in disguise and they have been giving generously from their hearts and their pocketbooks for the past two-plus years to an organization called Angel Tree, sponsored by the Salvation Army.

It all started seven years ago when the Math Department used to swap gifts and someone suggested putting the money spent toward a CIMS Faculty and Staff team up to get gifts of toys and much needed clothing to a family with six children. “It’s all about the kids,” says Mary Hudechek-Buswell, coordinator of the annual CIMS Angel Tree project.

Angels, cont’d., p. 10
Burns-Ardolino Contributes Article to “The Fat Studies Reader”

by Ashley Spillers, University Relations

Dr. Wendy Burns-Ardolino, assistant professor and coordinator of Integrative Studies at Clayton State, will have a chapter featured in a book entitled “The Fat Studies Reader.” The book is an anthology, including essays from scholars across the United States that focus on the topic of fatness in American culture. Articles will include fat studies in relation to gender, race, class, and also how those factors are portrayed in society and in the media. The book will be divided into sections, dividing the 45 essays that will compile the book.

After responding to a call for papers on a Women’s Studies list serve, Burns-Ardolino’s article, “The Jiggle in My Walk: The Iconic Power of the Big Butt in American Pop Culture” was chosen to be included in “The Fat Studies Reader.”

Burns-Ardolino’s article uses many cultural references to song lyrics, from Sir Mix-A-Lot to the Black Eyed Peas, to show perceptions of women with larger derrieres. These references serve as a critical analysis of what the general public accepts as the ideal female form and how the “big butt” on a woman can convey certain stereotypes, such as a lower class or sexual promiscuity.

The article also critiques advertisements, including (but not limited to) catalogs for Victoria’s Secret and Frederick’s of Hollywood, and how these portrayals of the “ideal” figure affect the mindset of American women, who in reality, may not even remotely resemble the models that grace the pages. Burns-Ardolino comments that, “too often, representations we see in advertising are not the women we know and who we see everyday.”

Advertisements and popular music are not the only inspirations for the article. Burns-Ardolino also references scholarly texts that provided ideas for the formulation of the article. She lists Body Outlaws, a feminist anthology about female issues with the body, as a source for inspiration, as well as the article “Brain, Brow, and Booty: Latina Iconicity in U.S. Popular Culture” (written by Isabel Molina Guzmán and Angharad Valdivia), which is referenced within the text of the article.

Burns-Ardolino states that her purpose in writing this article was to, “have people think about ideal bodies...and think critically when flipping through fashion magazines or the Victoria’s Secret catalog and recognize the disconnect between what is represented and what real women look like.”

The “Fat Studies Reader” is still being reviewed by various publishers, but has recently received attention from The New York Times, in a November 2006 article. The book will most likely be released in 2007.

Burns-Ardolino is also currently working on a book of her own that will also be released in 2007, entitled “Jiggle (Re)shaping American Women.” The book, says Burns-Ardolino, “provides a critical analysis of women’s relationships with their bodies as mediated by foundation garments.”

“Foundation garments” can be defined as anything that re-shapes the body, including (but not limited to) bras or body shapers and slimmers. The book is similar in format to Burns-Ardolino’s “Fat Studies” article in that it will draw on cultural references and feminist theory within its material.
Across the Campus...

Athletics

Clayton State’s Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) made the season bright for needy families in Clayton County. FCA collected cans and jars of food, pasta, and other non-perishable food items, as well as toys and clothing for Boxes of Love, an FCA service project supported by many area churches and schools. Team members passed out 87 boxes to roughly as many families.

“Through this opportunity, we were able to help many at their point of need, pray with them, and be Christ to them. The joy and excitement we experienced from being able to give was contagious and invigorating. Thank you again for your generosity!” says Lydia Vanderford, FCA faculty advisor.

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Clayton State Laker women’s cross country coach Mike Mead has added a runner for the 2007 season with the recent signing of Megan Barnes from nearby Eagle’s Landing High School. Barnes signed a National Letter of Intent during the recent early signing period. Barnes, from McDonough, Ga., guided Eagle’s Landing to a fourth place finish earlier this month at the Georgia State High School Championships in Class AAA. Barnes finished ninth in the meet to run a career-best 20:38.47.

In addition, head men’s golf coach Barry Harwell has already signed three newcomers both for this spring season and for next season. During the early November signing period, Will Wilcox, Kevin Duncan and Chris Cartwright signed to play golf at Clayton State. A transfer from Division I Alabama-Birmingham, Wilcox will enroll in January and play this spring for Clayton State as a sophomore, while Duncan and Cartwright will join as freshmen for the 2007-08 season.

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The NCSAA (National Soccer Coaches Association of America) Division II All-Southeast Region team includes Clayton State’s Nkese Udoh. A senior forward from River-State, Nigeria, Udoh was selected second team Division II All-Southeast Region. Udoh had a stellar season in 2006 for head coach T.O. Totty and the Lakers. With two-time All-American Olaitan Yusuf missing part of the season with an injury, Udoh took over some of the scoring load, leading the Lakers in with 10 goals and seven assists for 27 points. Her performance was key as Clayton State overcame a 1-6 start to the season to finish 10-8 overall and 7-2 in the Peach Belt.

For her career, Udoh finished third all-time at Clayton State in points scored with 70 and goals scored with 28, and fourth in assists with 14. She accomplished all this in two seasons after transferring from Lindsey Wilson.

Public Safety

Congratulations to our University RideShare Random Drawing winners for November 2006. These winners sent a copy of their Clean Air Campaign monthly report to Joan Murphy in Public Safety. Bernie Pascual; $20 Wal-Mart gift card. Tammy Wilson; $15 Wal-Mart gift card. JoAnn Quattlebaum; $10 Wal-Mart gift card. Employees do not have to carpool, telework, or take alternate transportation to be eligible for this program. For more information, contact Joan Murphy in Public Safety, (678) 466-4262 or 4050.

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Clayton State students and employees won great prizes for carpooling in November. See who one by going to http://adminservices.clayton.edu/ps/winners.htm. To collect your prize, stop by the Dispatch window in the Student Center and bring a photo ID. Public Safety is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Flyers are posted in Dining Services, the Library, the Laker Card Office, and are distributed to offices on campus. If you or you know of another student or employee who carpools but may not have registered yet, ask them to stop by Public Safety or call Joan Murphy at (678) 466-4262.

Another Successful Tutoring Blitz

To help students prepare for their last test of willpower and intellect, Clayton State’s Center for Academic Success, (CAS) once again sponsored the Finals Tutoring Blitz to help students prepare for final examinations. The Tutoring Blitz gives students a chance in a casual setting to get last minute help and advice from their professors and peers. The Clayton State professors volunteer their time to help students while CAS provides snacks and drinks to fuel their brains. The Finals Tutoring Blitz has become a tradition at Clayton State that started in 2003 and is offered at mid- and end-of-term throughout the academic year.
Siegell, cont’d. from p. 3

the largest number ever for a single Clayton State graduation ceremony.

Siegell presided over Kennesaw State from 1981 until her retirement in July 2006. Currently president emeritus and endowed chair of Leadership, Ethics and Character at KSU, Siegel has been recognized by a multitude of honors and awards over the years, including being named one of the 100 most influential Georgians nine times by “Georgia Trend” magazine.
Henry County Board of Education and Clayton State Create McDonough School Museum

by Leigh G. Wills, University Relations

Clayton State University Archivist Rosemary Fischer has been working on a project in Henry County for more than a year. An avid historian, she couldn’t wait for the opportunity to get her hands into this community project and to give some Clayton State University history majors the opportunity to get some real-life experience creating a museum from scratch.

The project began as the dream of Sylvia Burch of the Henry County Schools Community Development office. She wanted to preserve the history of the McDonough School, but didn’t know where to start. With the help of Dr. Preston Malcolm, administrator, she began to solicit donations and contacted Dr. Gordon Baker, director of Library Services at Clayton State. He put her in touch with Fischer and according to Burch, she and intern Amy Allen became “best friends” and helped her realize the vision she had for the museum.

Fischer sought the help of museum experts like Catherine Dixson of Avient Museum Services, Mary Evelyn Tomlin of the National Archives and Records Administration, and Arden Williams, Georgia Humanities Council and former Clayton State adjunct professor.

Interns who worked on the project were Paul Arnold, Mario Driver, Gia Gillies and Allen. According to Fischer, Allen, an honor student who graduated Clayton State in May 2006 with a B.A. in History and who has been hired part-time to serve as the museum’s first curator, instantly became dedicated to the project.

“She discovered and learned the software necessary to design the text panels used in the displays, researched the history of the school and the people involved, and conducted all the oral history interviews – 14 in six months!” says Fischer.

Fischer and Allen did an inventory of the small collection of artifacts, looking for items that could be used for display. They contacted former students, staff members and teachers for oral history interviews, to answer questions, and to solicit additional artifacts to add to the museum collection; something they hope will be on-going.

Burch has resided in Henry County since 1972, working with the Henry County Board of Education since 1993. Her husband and his parents graduated from the McDonough High School and both of her sons attended school in the same building before it was transitioned into an administration building in 2002.

“When the building was saved, we all knew there needed to be a place where the history of the school and the public school system could be preserved for future generations,” says Burch.

Burch calls the opening of the school room in the museum “Phase I” of the opening in hopes of getting support to preserve the school’s gymnasium, built by the community and donated to the HCBOE in the 1950’s.

“With the help of Arden Williams, we will write grants to help with the museum and to get funding,” says Burch. “We are also accepting donations from the community.”

“The project is far from over,” says Fischer. “We now have to do the nitty-gritty work of organizing the collection; transcribing the oral histories, editing oral history tapes and CD’s, acquiring more oral histories, building the collection, preserving and protecting the collection and designing and creating new exhibits.”

“I cannot tell you how proud I am of this museum room and it would not have been completed through this phase without the partnership of Clayton State University,” says Burch. “I am eternally grateful to Rosemary, Amy and Clayton State for a dream which holds such promise for our community and future generations. I can only say, thank you, thank you, many times over.”

This project is just one of many that the Clayton State University Library, Baker, and his staff, are involved with. Clayton State Public Services Librarians provide outreach services to local middle and high schools in Clayton, Fayette and Henry counties, showing students how to do research in an academic library.

Joan Taylor, PSL and Baker have volunteered as consultants to Creekside Christian Academy’s new library/media center and Baker has been appointed to chair the Henry County Public Library System’s Board of Trustees. Pat Brock, Macon State College’s Library Director and Robin Grant, Librarian are visiting Clayton State to learn more about how to create an archive, something Fischer does on a regular basis.
Janet Hamilton Returns to Every Child Counts School on Great Abaco

Clayton State Assistant Professor of Physical Education Janet Hamilton has made her yearly journey to the Every Child Counts Learning Centre (ECC) on the island of Great Abaco in the Bahamas.

Hamilton’s 2006 trip concluded in late October and included senior Clayton State Health & Fitness Management major Tanika Smit. Every Child Counts is a school for disabled children and serves a growing population of students with varying abilities and disabilities.

Every year, Hamilton raises money to take a team of rehabilitation professionals to the Bahamas donate a week of their time working with the students and teachers and family members to enhance the rehabilitation and learning of the students. This year’s team also included Stacy Koehler, an occupational therapist from Philadelphia, and Sr. Mary Adrian McLean – retired special education teacher from Cullman, Al., who now utilizes clay as her teaching medium. In addition, Hamilton utilized her own experience in physical rehabilitation to focus on the children with physical disabilities.

Smit, a Clayton State student from South Africa and a former member of the University’s cross country team, rounded out a truly international effort this year and had the chance to not only observe the teachers and professionals working, but also to get a little hands-on experience herself. In addition to learning some of the physical rehabilitation exercise techniques, she also was invited to teach a segment to the older students on her home country of South Africa. The older students were fascinated and asked questions about the topic for the rest of the week.

“The experience with Janet and her team was absolutely amazing. It was a unique opportunity to observe professionals working with physically disabled or cognitively impaired children in an underprivileged environment,” says Smit. “This fabulous learning experience exposed me to an area of health care to which I have very limited knowledge. I was able not only to observe the professionals teaching and helping the children but also to perform some ‘hands on tasks’ applying the skills I had learnt from coursework at Clayton State.

“Aside from the scholastic benefits, I also benefited by being exposed to a culture different to my own. I was able to observe and learn a lot about the Bahamian culture and see some differences in their approaches to healthcare and teaching.”

Hamilton notes that some students at ECC have physical disabilities like Down’s Syndrome or Cerebral Palsy, while others have cognitive or learning disabilities like Autism, Asperger’s Syndrome or ADD/ADHD. Although the school has been around only a few years, enrollment is climbing every year as the school’s reputation and word of its success gets out, she adds. With an enrollment of only a dozen students a few short years ago, this year some 75 students ranging in age from four to 21 are enrolled.

“It was a busy, but productive week, with time being spent adjusting walkers and wheelchairs to accommodate the growing children, exercise sessions, eye-hand coordination exercises, lessons in pottery and clay work, and learning the art of spinning yarn from wool,” recalls Hamilton. “Though academia is stressed at the school, each student is taught at their level of ability and some students are focusing more on vocational studies and life-skills than they are on the typical academic offerings. The goal of the school is to offer these special needs children a healthy and nurturing environment to learn not only basic academics but also important life lessons.”

Hamilton, in addition to her skills in education, rehabilitation, distance running and writing (her book in titled “Running Strong & Injury-Free”) is a “spinner” and has donated a spinning wheel to ECC.

On her 2004 trip to Abaco, Hamilton met five year old Saveion who suffers from Cerebral Palsy. Touched by the child’s condition, Hamilton and the team raised money and purchased Saveion a walker.

“Each year I learn something new here. The trips never turn out the way I envision – but they always exceed my wildest hopes and expectations. This is truly a magical learning environment,” she says.

“I gained a great deal of knowledge not only about the care, rehabilitation, and teaching of cognitively impaired or physically disabled children, but also learnt how I as a future healthcare professional am able to adapt and help those in different situations,” adds Smit. “It was definitely a life changing trip to which I will be eternally grateful to Professor Janet Hamilton. I met so many wonderful people and had a fabulous time at the school interacting with the students and teachers.”

Hamilton also credits ECC Administrator Lyn Major and her team of teachers for working miracles with limited resources.

For more information about ECC, please log on to their website at http://www.everychildcountsabaco.org.
Continuing Education Introduces New Personal Development Courses for Winter Session

Clayton State University’s Division of Continuing Education has announced its new Personal Development courses for the winter 2007 session that begins in January.

The hot new Personal Development courses include two writing courses, a course on scrapbooking and card-making, and “Staging your home to sell.”

“Creative Nonfiction: A Creative Writing Course” is designed to help students develop their writing skills with a focus on real-life stories: slice of life, memoir, personal essay, biography, book-length creative nonfiction, and other marketable areas of creative nonfiction. Each session is interactive and includes critique segments, always with an eye on the marketplace.

This course is taught by Sarah Anne Shope, an educator and author with publication credits in commercial, literary, and academia, and a wide range of experience in teaching of creative writing.

“Creative Writing: Fiction and Creative Nonfiction” is designed for the fiction or creative nonfiction writer to hone skills for making his or her writing compelling and engaging. The focus is on the craft of writing short or long narratives, essays, articles and poetry and should provide an outstanding learning experience for writers and aspiring writers. Sessions combine interactive instruction on issues of revision with high-level critiques for moving the manuscript toward publication. Shope is also teaching this course – and class size for both is limited, so register early.

“Scrapbooking & Card Making Made Fun” teaches everything from what materials to use to all the newest techniques to how to get the most out of your layouts while learning how to get the most for your dollars. This hands-on class requires students to purchase their own supplies.

“Staging Your Home to Sell” is a course for anyone who is ready to sell their home or who would you like to learn cost effective ways to spruce up a room or an entire house. The course teaches basic color schemes, floor plans, paint options and wall treatments to liven up living space.

For more information on these new personal development courses, view the winter 2007 course catalog online at www.conted.clayton.edu or call (678) 466-5050.

Giving, cont’d. from p. 1

that a “culture of giving” has indeed been established at Clayton State. And while the current campaign’s record-setting combination of a 99 percent participation rate and $99,000 raised is the most noticeable manifestation of this culture, Harden also points with pride to the contributions that have made through other giving mechanisms like the Laker Angel Club, the Clayton State Women’s Forum, the state Charitable Contributions, the Circle K Club and the Honors Program Blood Drives.

All these worthy efforts indicate a successful “mission accomplished” for Clayton State.

Above left: President Harden, Director of Development Reda Rowell, Co-chair Dr. Lari Arjomand, raffle winner Dr. Randall Gooden and Co-chair Bob Ward. Above right: Valerie Lancaster from the Office of the President and Joan Murphy from Public Safety enjoy the band. Below left: Robert Lee serves his famous chili. Below right: Valerie Lancaster from the Office of the President and Joan Murphy from Public Safety enjoy the band. Below left: Robert Lee serves his famous chili. Below right: Valerie Lancaster from the Office of the President and Joan Murphy from Public Safety enjoy the band.
Clayton State University is bidding adios to Peruvian Scholar Dr. José Sulla Torres as he heads home to Arequipa, Peru after spending the semester at Clayton State University. Sulla is returning the favor after Assistant Professor of Information Technology Jeffrey Chastine visited Peru this summer as part of an on-going intellectual exchange initiative through Clayton State University’s Office of International Education.

Torres is a Ph.D. in Computer Science and graduated from San Agustin University of Arequipa, Peru, where he currently teaches. He also holds a Master of Systems Engineering and is a member of the Peru Section IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc.) the world’s leading professional association for the advancement of technology.

While in Georgia, he lived with the Chastines, an experience enjoyed by both.

“We both got to practice our “second” language,” says Chastine. “He his English and me and my family, our Spanish!”

Torres met with Dr. Thomas K. Harden, Clayton State president along with, Sharon E. Hoffman, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, Dr. Charles Ford, dean of the College of Information and Mathematical Sciences, Dr. Robert Welborn, professor of History and director of International Education and Chastine, and was presented with a Clayton State paper weight to commemorate his visit.

Torres was joined by his family a few months ago and they will be leaving this week to return to Peru.

Clayton State Students Re-Try 1911 Wisconsin Murder Case

by John Shiffert, University Relations

“Why has the Annie Lemberger case never gone away? In part, because it has never been solved,” says Dr. Hamín Shabazz, assistant professor of Criminal Justice at Clayton State University. “This is a fascinating and subtle mystery.”

So fascinating and subtle that 30-some Clayton State students, as part of their CRJU 3410 class, conducted two Mock Trials at the Clayton County Superior Court on Friday, Dec. 15 to attempt to “solve” the case of State v. Johnson. Under the guidance of Shabazz and with the help of Chief Judge Daphne Walker and Magistrate Judge Richard Brown of the Clayton County Superior Court, the students re-tried the 1911 murder from Madison, Wi., wherein D.J. Johnson was accused of the kidnapping and murder of a little girl.

The two, 40 minute trials necessitated the students being divided into two groups with two defense teams, two prosecutorial teams and two teams of witnesses. Each group did the same trial, one after the other, in front of an actual judge and jury. Even the Criminal Justice students involved were interesting, including Clayton State Homecoming Queen Roodgine Rosemberg and NCAA Cross Country All-American Angela Cobb.

Perhaps not surprisingly, given the mystery surrounding the actual case, the two Mock Trials also failed to come to agreement. The first trial resulted in a not guilty verdict from the jury. In the second trial, the jury could not reach a verdict and the judge declared a mistrial.

“The Mock Trial was well attended and the court room was packed with numerous spectators,” says Shabazz. “All of the students’ performance was outstanding.”

Shabazz also specifically thanked Walker, who presided over both trials, and Brown, who arranged all of the logistics for the trials, including the jury and judge. Members of the jury included notables such as John Owens, Clayton County Prosecutor, R. Andres Marierose, Crystal Simmons, Clayton County Chief Public Defender and other Clayton County Superior Court staff members.
Men’s Basketball Wins First at West Georgia

by Lee Wright, Sports Information

The Clayton State Laker men’s basketball team put its No. 2 ranking in the nation on the line on Saturday against a familiar foe – the Wolves of West Georgia.

However, after having to scrape out a one-point victory in overtime against its in-state rival two weeks ago, the Lakers stayed in control this time with a 62-54 victory over West Georgia at the HPE Building. The victory improves Clayton State to 7-0 overall, tying the school record for consecutive victories to start the season.

In addition, it also marked the first victory at West Georgia in 13 attempts for the Lakers.

“Well we couldn’t win in the old version of the building, so now that it’s renovated, maybe the curse is over,” said Clayton State head coach Gordon Gibbons, who garnered his 350th Division II coaching victory in the process. “I think sweeping West Georgia; especially winning at their place, plus our other road victories makes a statement for us.

Clayton State broke open the close contest with a 13-3 run to start the second half. Brandon Kelley converted a three-point play and then six straight points from Rod Venner off the bench gave Clayton State a 40-27 lead with 13:42 remaining.

Kelley paced Clayton State with 14 points, while center Aristide Sawadogo scored 12 points and grabbed nine rebounds and Venner added eight points. Clayton State plays its final game before the holiday break on Tuesday, hosting Lee at 7:30 p.m. at the Athletics and Fitness Center.

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22nd-ranked Laker Women Win Two

Having won at home over Shaw only 15 hours before, the Clayton State Laker women’s basketball team overcame a long morning drive to south Georgia and came away with a hard-fought 78-71 victory at in-state rival Valdosta State on Saturday.

The victory was the second straight for 22nd-ranked Clayton State, which is now 8-1 overall on the season. In addition, the Lakers are now a perfect 5-0 on the road this season.

“I’m proud of these girls. They’ve been like road warriors this season, and we hung on to this one,” said Clayton State head coach Dennis Cox. “Playing last night with that emotional victory and then getting up this morning for the long trip down definitely played a factor. But Valdosta State is well coached and they never quit.”

Senior Sharon Wiles paced the Lakers with 20 points and six steals, while senior center Alecia Humphrey had her second straight dominant game inside with 16 points on a perfect 6-for-6 from the field. Over the last two games, the 6-foot-2 Humphrey has scored 39 points on a whopping 16-for-19 from the field.

With Alecia Humphrey and Crystal Brown both recording double-doubles, Clayton State had made a strong statement on Friday, winning convincingly 82-67 over visiting Shaw, which has won three straight CIAA (Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association) championships and advanced to the “Elite Eight” of the NCAA Division II National Tournament each of the last two seasons.

With Shaw pressuring the perimeter, the Lakers went with their inside attack and the duo of Humphrey and Brown responded. Humphrey had a career-high 23 points on 10-for-13 shooting from the field and grabbed a career-high 10 rebounds, while Brown, a senior forward, scored 16 points and grabbed a game-high 11 rebounds as the Lakers dominated Shaw in the paint offensively.

Angels, cont’d. from p. 2

more worthwhile cause. When the University reorganized and the College of Information and Mathematical Sciences was created in 2004, it is rumored the Information Technology angels couldn’t wait to climb on to the Angel Tree!

The way the Angel Tree works is quite unique… it’s not just about giving money and gifts. An organization literally “adopts” a local family and with the help of local retailers and the Salvation Army, that family’s “wish list” is filled and delivered in time for Christmas. This year, CIMS will be helping a family with six children, and they’re as excited as ever.

“The program here is voluntary and dona-
tions are made anonymously,” says Mary Hudachek-Buswell, our infamous mole and coordinator of the project for CIMS.

According to Hudachek-Buswell, Kohl’s in Fayetteville generously supports the project and for the past three years they have gotten items together and offered discounts on all the purchases.

CIMS faculty and staff raised $800 in cash last year in addition to items donated and this year they hope to raise even more. Several faculty and staff met on Friday to pack up the gifts for delivery to The Salvation Army. From there, the gifts are wrapped and secretly delivered to the family’s parents; the children don’t have a clue – a true Christmas miracle.

“As a college student at GSU, my family of seven received gifts and sometimes cash,” says Halemia Rabia, part-time instructor in the Department of Mathematics. “We were blessed by the generosity of others. I give because it makes me feel good; I pray next year I can do more.”

“We had so much fun sorting the clothes and toys into big black bags. We felt like Santa Claus had come to see us!” says Dr. Anita Hunt. “We were so excited just imagining the children’s reactions on Christmas morning. To me, that is the true spirit of Christmas… helping to fulfill the needs of those less fortunate than we are.”
Four Lakers Make NCAA Division II Provisional Marks

Clayton State University’s track & field teams had an extremely productive season opener at Clemson University. Combined, the Laker squads set eight team records, made four NCAA Division II provisional marks and came away with a first and two second place finishes during the course of the two-day meet.

The most production came on Friday night as six team records and three individuals set provisional marks (Note: Provisional marks are minimum times or distances for individuals to qualify for the NCAA Division II Championships). Newcomer Ahmad Rolle became the first provisional qualifier for Clayton State as he jumped 23-3¼ in the long jump to finish sixth in the competition and set the team record.

Cross country All-Americans Allison Kreutzer and Angela Cobb (aka “The A Team”) both ran qualifying times in the 5,000m run. Kreutzer set the team record in 17:36.99 to finish second while Cobb, in her first time ever racing on a track, ran 17:49.32 to finish fourth. The pair teamed up earlier in the evening with Terrica Hamilton and Jon Taylor to shatter the Clayton State women’s record in the distance medley relay. Their time of 12:29.48 (which included a 5:12 1600m by Cobb) earned them second place in the meet and bettered the previous record by more than 25 seconds.

The final NCAA provisional qualifier came during Saturday’s afternoon portion of the Clemson meet. Junior Eric Simmons, a track All-American, won the men’s 400m dash in 48.99 to best the field of 65 runners.

“To Eric’s credit, he ran in the fifth fastest heat and did so without starting blocks,” said Laker coach Mike Mead. “We had a terrific start to our third indoor season. To have four people already meet NCAA provisional marks is quite an accomplishment for our young program, especially considering that most of the records we set this weekend were set late last season. I’m excited with the prospect of others hitting provisional marks when we resume racing in late January. Our women’s DMR and men’s 4 x 400m relays are not too far off provisional times.”

Additional records set came from Taylor in the women’s 60m dash in which she ran 8.05. Taylor, along with Hamilton, Kara Stokes and Keisha Etienne bettered the team record in the 4 x 400m. Etienne also broke the 60m-hurdle record with a time of 9.93.

On the men’s side, Simmons teamed up with Rolle, Alfred Dixon and Nathan Hytower to finish 10th in the 4 x 400m in 3:24.28 to better the team record set in 2005. The final men’s team record came in the 60m hurdles as Lawrence DeShields finished ninth in 8.44.

The Lakers will resume their meet schedule on January 28 when they travel to Nashville, Tenn. to compete in the Tennessee State University Invitational.

Trivia Time

The Dick Van Dyke Fan Club
by John Shiffert, University Relations

It must be that the Dick Van Dyke Fan Club has a chapter at Clayton State, or at least among readers of Campus Review.

What other explanation can there be that seemingly everyone and their mother had the answer to the question as to how Mary Tyler Moore (aka Laura Petrie) got stuck in a hotel bathroom on the Dick Van Dyke Show, some 45 years ago? An obscure question? Apparently not. Norman Grizzell, who had the first correct answer, wasn’t even born when MTM got her big toe stuck in the faucet of their hotel room’s bathtub. Kathy Garrison and Vickie Fennell, both of whom declined to comment as to whether or not they’d seen the show in its original run, were second and third.

In all, 10 people had the correct answer and, even if everyone’s mother didn’t know about this most embarrassing moment, Anne Shiffert did, and that’s good enough for the author. Other correct respondents included a large collection of trivia experts, including Tom Eddins, Rob Taylor, Lou Brackett (there are three former Trivia Time champions right there), Robert Caine, Tammy Moore and Mike Mead.

To complete the 2006 Trivia Time sweepstakes, we’ll remain in television land. What was the denouement, the final plot twist, to the TV series “St. Elsewhere?” Send your answers to johnshifft@clayton.edu.
We’re Number Two!
Men’s Basketball Attains Highest-Ever Ranking
by Lee Wright, Sports Information

Each week of the 2006-07 season has thus far presented a new level of success for the Clayton State Laker men’s basketball team.

The NABC (National Association of Basketball Coaches) presented its latest Division II Top 25 Coach’s Poll on Tuesday, and Clayton State has reached a new all-time high. The Lakers are ranked an unprecedented second in the nation in this week’s poll, advancing two spots from being ranked fourth last week.

This week’s ranking is the highest-ever national ranking for men’s basketball at Clayton State. The Lakers advanced two spots after Tarleton State and Southern Indiana both dropped their first games of the season last week.

“The number two ranking in the nation is a nice honor for our team and our university,” said Clayton State head coach Gordon Gibbons. “However, it’s early in the season, and our squad is aware that there is a lot of basketball still to play. “Every game is a national game.”

The Lakers received 185 points in this week, trailing top-ranked and defending NCAA Division II Winona State by 15 points. Clayton State started the season ranked eighth in the preseason Division II poll, and then advanced two spots each week to its current position. Clayton State is only Peach Belt Conference team ranked in the Top 25.

Laker Women Ranked 22nd in USA Today/ESPN Division II Top 25 poll

The USA Today/ESPN Division II Top 25 Coach’s poll for women’s basketball was released on Tuesday, and the Clayton State Lakers retained their mention in the national rankings.

After splitting two games last week, the Lakers are ranked 22nd in this week’s poll, down one spot from last week. Clayton State received 112 points for their ranking, and the Lakers are the only Peach Belt Conference team to be ranked so far this season. In addition, Clayton State is one of two Georgia programs in this week’s poll. Fort Valley State is ranked 19th.

Clayton State was 6-1 overall at the time of the poll. The Lakers won their sixth straight road contest last Wednesday with a 60-56 victory at in-state rival West Georgia. However, in its home opener on Saturday, Clayton State dropped a tough 69-57 defeat to 11th-ranked Delta State.

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