Clayton State Graduates Hear of Leadership and Lessons Learned at Commencement

by John Shiffert, University Relations

S
ome 360 new graduates of Clayton State University continued their education Thursday, as they listened to the voice of experience, Harmon M. Born, at the University’s ninth annual fall commencement.

The first chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Clayton State University Foundation and the holder of the first honorary degree ever granted by the University, Born was the keynote speaker at both of the day’s graduation ceremonies. In choosing to speak on the subject of leadership, Born went with a subject on which he is an acknowledged expert, having been previously honored by the University (in 1996) with the establishment of the Harmon M. Born Servant Leadership Award, presented to individuals with a dedication to community service similar to its namesake.

Graduates at the 7 p.m. ceremony, including those from the Clayton State School of Business, had the opportunity to hear more words of wisdom from the retiring dean of the School of Business, Ernest M. “Bud” Miller. In recognition of his 10 years of outstanding service to the School and the University, Miller was asked to make some remarks at his final Clayton State graduation by President Dr. Thomas K. Harden. As befitting the man, Miller spoke on education and what he has learned at Clayton State.

Also addressing the graduates was the immediate past president of the Clayton State Alumni Association, Dina Swearngin, who told the newest members of the Alumni Association that, “the same path that leads you away will always lead you back home to Clayton State. I want to encourage you to take the path home often.”

Born told the graduates that they were now to be in the ranks of the leaders, and offered them five outstanding characteristics of inspired leaders.

1 – Be aware of opportunities
2 – Pay attention to detail – follow through
3 – Economic acuity – knowing and setting the right priorities for time and money.

“A Dream Come True…” Clayton State Dedicates Clayton State University -- Fayette

Welcome to Fayette County… this is a dream come true.”

Thus spoke Jack Smith, chairman of the Fayette County Board of Commissioners Dec. 4 at the dedication and ribbon cutting of Clayton State University -- Fayette. In officially welcoming Clayton State to Fayette County, Smith spoke for dozens of county elected officials, civic leaders and businessmen, many of whom were in attendance, and most of whom had waited more than 20 years for this day… the opening of a permanent higher education facility in the county.

“The dream [of higher education in Fayette County] has been alive for a long time and has passed through many hands,” Smith said in speaking to the more than 100 individuals who attended the late afternoon dedication and ribbon cutting at the Westpark Office Park, 1200 Commerce Dr., in Peachtree City. Clayton State University Fayette includes four classrooms, offices and 9,000 square feet, and will host its first classes in January 2008.

Smith’s comments were a highlight of the ceremony, wherein several prominent Fayette civic leaders had a chance to express their appreciation for the successful conclusion of an effort – bringing higher education to the county -- that began back in the 1980s.

“It’s been a dream and a desire of the Development Authority since I’ve been on the board,” noted Randy Hayes, chair-
Eighth Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemoration, January 24

Clayton State University has scheduled its Eighth Annual Martin Luther King, Jr., Commemoration Day for Thursday, Jan. 24, 2008.

The theme for the coming event will be, “Civil Rights in Atlanta: A Personal Reflection Featuring Billye S. Aaron.” Appearing as the keynote speaker for the event will be Atlanta educator and media personality Billye S. Aaron. The keynote address will be given at 7:30 p.m. on Jan. 24 in the University’s world-famous Spivey Hall. Prior to the keynote, a reception for Aaron will be held at 6:45 p.m. in the Spivey Hall lobby. As part of the Commemoration, Aaron will also moderate a dialogue for Clayton State students on “The Value of Education” on the afternoon of Jan. 24.

Bud Miller Looks Back on 10 Years of Change

by John Shiffert, University Relations

Ernest M. “Bud” Miller is concluding 10 years as dean of the School of Business at Clayton State University. A remarkable 10 years. A time filled with manifest accomplishments for both the University and the School of Business. A time of success. A time of change. And that seems appropriate, since Miller and change go together.

“The sense of collegiality. The willingness of people to help out when asked. The culture of helping at Clayton State,” he answers without pause. “These 10 years have gone by very fast because this is a great place to work, and the people are wonderful.

“The last 10 years have been a wonderful experience for my wife and me. After my family, I think of what we’ve achieved here at Clayton State to be the most significant accomplishment of my life.”

There is much significance in that last statement, both in the phrase “we’ve accomplished” and in the recognition of the significance of the accomplishments. First, if you know Bud Miller, then you know that he always, always, has credited the faculty and staff of the School of Business for the success the School has enjoyed over the past 10 years. It’s always “we” and not “I” with this dean. In fact, he wouldn’t even consent to be interviewed for this story without making sure that the

MBA program, and began construction on a new building to house the School. As he prepares to retire from Clayton State on Dec. 31, 2007 – what does Miller remember the most of the past 10 years?

“Bud’s addicted to the jazz of change,” says Mary Miller, his wife and partner in all that has transpired over the past 10 years.

Much has changed at Clayton State since Miller became an unconventional dean of the University’s School of Business in 1997. Even the University’s name has changed, from Clayton College & State University to Clayton State University. And one of the leading agents of change at Clayton State has been the individual who is now the dean of Clayton State deans. During that period, the School of Business has, to just hit the highlights; gained international accreditation through AACSB, started an already-successful

Life’s Transitions...

H.M. Barfield, 85, Father of Clayton State University Athletic Director H. Mason Barfield, died Wednesday, Dec. 5, 2007, at his home. Funeral services were held on Saturday, Dec. 8, at the Hahira United Methodist Church with burial following in Friendship Cemetery.

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From Pat Keane in Athletics… (daughter-in-law and son) Mary Kay and Ned have a court date to finalize Julia’s adoption. It’s Dec. 20. They will leave for Moscow on Dec. 17. They hope to be back by Dec. 31. We were hoping she would be with us for Christmas, but I can’t think of a better way to celebrate the new year. Please continue to keep them all in your prayers!
School of Nursing Accepts a Resusci Anne

by Erin Fender, University Relations

Clayton State University’s School of Nursing received a generous donation of a Resusci Anne, a cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) manikin, on Dec. 5, 2007.

Tim and Sabrina Crawford of Heritage Cadillac in Morrow helped to facilitate the donation from the National Automobile Dealers Association (NADA), along with Hunter Hopkins of the Georgia Automobile Dealers Association.

“NADA does many activities to give back to the community and the Resusci Anne program is just one of many available to automobile dealers to give back to their community and we knew we wanted to secure one for Clayton State’s nursing program,” explains Tim Crawford, a member of Clayton State University Foundation Board of Trustees and a Clayton State alumni.

Celena Milner has recently accepted the position of director of Orientation and New Student Programs at Clayton State University.

“I love working with students in higher education; helping and supporting them in realizing their academic and career potential is extremely fulfilling,” she says.

The Office of Orientation and New Student Programs will begin offering year round co-curricular programs for new students and continuing the mandatory orientation program. Currently the office programs include the New Student Convocation, StartSmart Summer Conference and First Year Success Series.

“Our office recognizes and values the significant role that we play in supporting the university’s mission towards student success and retention” explains Milner.

Food For Thought...

Finals and the holiday season can be very exciting, yet also very stressful. Stress is commonly defined as “our personal reaction to an event.”

It’s important to know that we can not eliminate stress from our lives. However, we can learn and utilize healthier ways of coping with stress, which can serve to make our finals and holiday season more productive and enjoyable.

The following management tips are from Dr. Allen Elkin, author of “Stress Management for Dummies.” Use these tips in the upcoming weeks to manage and cope with the stressors that may be coming your way.

- Relax your body and quiet your mind
- Eat right, get enough sleep, and exercise often
- Get organized to feel a sense of control over your environment
- Have and make use of a strong social support system
- Have a good sense of humor

Contact Counseling Services for more information on stress and stress management techniques.

Office: Student Center 245; Hours: 8:00 am – 5:00 pm, M-F Phone: (678) 466-5406
Web: http://adminservices.clayton.edu/counseling/

Happy Holidays!
Across the Campus...

Athletics
The Clayton State men’s and women’s basketball teams swept UNC-Pembroke on Dec. 1 at the Athletics and Fitness Center. The men broke a three-game losing streak, 76-45 and the women, despite having lost four of the last five games between the two teams, shook off the jinx in a big way with a 66-54 victory.

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The Lakers men’s basketball team won its third straight on Dec. 8, with a huge 67-58 triumph at 21st-ranked West Georgia, a milestone victory for Laker head coach Gordon Gibbons with his 125th victory at Clayton State. It was also a big measure of revenge for the Lakers, who suffered a humiliating 84-58 defeat to West Georgia back on Nov. 20 at the Athletics and Fitness Center. Bernard Fields paced Clayton State with 13 points off the bench, while senior guard Michael Sloan scored 12 points. In the first of two straight showdowns against fellow Division II Top 10 programs, the Clayton State Laker women’s basketball team dropped a 73-60 decision at second-ranked Delta State on Dec. 9. Shantel Ragin paced Clayton State with 13 points and eight rebounds, followed by Dominique Jennings with 11 points.

Criminal Justice
Clayton State University’s Mock Trial Association, along with students from the survey of criminal law and procedure course, performed a mock trial at the Clayton County Superior Court on Friday, Dec. 14.

FCA
The Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) is having a Chick-fil-A calendar sale to raise money to fund group activities. Calendars are $6 each. All orders should be in by Dec. 18. Please call ext 4975 or email Lydia Vanderford to purchase your calendar.

Human Resources
Each year we ask that every employee, full time, part time, student or temporary, verify their address. As we prepare the W-2s for mailing, this verification will cut down on the number of mailing errors that we encounter. It is very easy to do with the advent of Employee Self Service. Simply go to the HR webpage at http://adminservices.clayton.edu/ohr/ess/. There are links for training on setting up an account if this has not been done and on the use of the system.

Public Safety
Effective Jan. 1, 2008, the City of Morrow will assume primary responsibility for all calls for police services for Phase I of Clayton Place Apartments. University personnel will respond to calls at this location if assistance is requested by the City of Morrow. Any calls for assistance from Phase I of Clayton Place Apartments should be directed to 911, and the City of Morrow will respond. Calls placed to the University’s Public Safety Office will be redirected to the City of Morrow and may slow down the response time. The alarm system will be redirected from the University to the Morrow 911 Center. For non-emergency calls, the general number for the City of Morrow Police Department is (770) 961-4000.

Recreation & Wellness
Make your appointment now with Debbie Hoerner, dietetic intern, for a free nutrition consultation about your individual situation. You are strongly encouraged to keep a three-day food journal to get the most feedback from the consultation. Call (678) 466-4974 to schedule… Tuesday, Dec. 18 - 11 a.m., 11:30 a.m., noon, 12:30 p.m.; Thursday, Dec. 20 - 5 p.m., 5:30 p.m., 6 p.m., 6:30 p.m.

Staff Council
Staff Council is collecting donations to help with a couple of Clayton State families that may be in a time of need right now. For more information, or to donate, contact Bob Ward or Wanda Winfield.

Miller, cont’d. from p. 2

faculty and staff of the School of Business received proper credit.

As for the accomplishments of the past 10 years, they are part of the perspective of change for this former corporate CEO.

“Turning around companies and creating huge profits is noteworthy, but this will have a much longer implication. We make a huge difference in our students’ lives – we make a bigger difference in our students lives than the Harvards and Princeton,” he says... a claim of no small significance to Miller, since he holds an MBA from Harvard. “The difference that the faculty and staff make at this university is that they change forevermore the lives of our students.

“If we took the talent, dedication and hard work ethic of our faculty, and came up with some quotient to measure it, it would be as high as any other team or organization I’ve been around.”

In making a name for himself in the corporate world as a “re-engineer,” Miller has been around some of the nation’s top companies, most notably real estate giant Arvida Company, Sperry and Hutchinson and Penn Central. After making his a rep-
Rescusi Anne, cont’d. from p. 3

“We are very thankful that these groups thought of us and extend hearty thanks. We always need new equipment to keep the art and any donations are appreciated,” expresses Eichelberger.

The Crawfords have been involved with Clayton State for the last four years and have sponsored many events such as the Alumni Association breakfast, golf tournaments, and various programs for the Athletic Department.

“Supporting a program such as the School of Nursing is something that will have long term benefits and we hope that this donation will serve long term in that those who receive the CPR training might one day save a life,” says Tim Crawford.

The manikin will be on display for use in the nursing lab and will be used whenever CPR recertification programs are administered.

“CPR training is essential in the Health Care profession and this manikin will be very useful in allowing students to practice the correct way to perform CPR,” explains Eichelberger.

“Anne” works by actually simulating the mechanics of receiving CPR. Students are able to pinch the nostrils and perform the compressions at the rate needed by a lighted instrument that is audible as well as visible for the learning process.

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Four Present Senior Thesis at Spivey Hall

by Erin Fender, University Relations

Clayton State University’s Department of Language and Literature hosted its Senior Thesis Showcase in Spivey Hall on Dec. 5. Graduating seniors Marquita Cheeley, Jasmine Johnson, Megan Lawrimore and Scott Roberts made presentations.

“Each student chooses a topic based on his/her interests, and selects a thesis director who has published or taught in this area of the student’s interest,” says Dr. Gwendolyn Jones.

“Megan asked me to direct her thesis, and I’m very glad she did; it has been a privilege to work with her. She has agreed to let me use her thesis as a positive example for future students,” says Jones. Lawrimore’s thesis was entitled “Inviting the Soul to Wander.”

Dr. Brigitte Byrd is the thesis director for Cheeley, Johnson, and Roberts.

“Over the last two years, Marquita, Jasmine, and Scott took multiple creative writing classes with me, and I believe that their decision to write a creative writing thesis stemmed not only from their love of writing but also from their desire to craft a work in which they could apply the writing technique they have studied in these classes,” says Byrd.


“The senior thesis showcase is a great way for each graduating student to display their work, which is to me the result of years of study,” says Byrd. “And the showcase is above all a celebration of the mind, talent, and work of our students.”

Wilson works in the Cleaning Services Department which has begun to make a name for itself with the quality of service it now provides. The department currently cleans at a Cleaning Level III and a Cleaning Level II in the areas that Wilson is responsible for. The cleaning levels standards are established by the Association of Physical Plants Administrators which consists of Cleaning Levels I through V. Cleaning Level I is the best standard that can be achieved and Cleaning Level V being the worst. The department’s goal is to achieve a Cleaning Level II campus wide.

Wilson serves as a Custodian I and is solely responsible for the President’s Suite, Provost’s Suite, and the remaining areas of the first and second floors of the Baker Center. She has been complemented by the President and others on the outstanding service she provides. She works very hard each and every night ensuring all of her detailed cleaning assignments have been accomplished. She is a team player and has never hesitated to pitch in to help and motivate other members of the custodial staff.

A Custodian requires traits such as dependability, attention to detail, adaptability, initiative, and dedication to fulfill the duties in a demanding Cleaning Services Department; Wilson possesses all of these qualities. She is easy going and very approachable and this fosters a great relationship with superiors and peers alike.

“Delia is one of a kind, and I am proud that she is on our team,” says Custodial Manager Donald West.
4 – Appreciation of human values
5 – Spiritual depth – having good moral and spiritual character

Born concluded his address by challenging the graduates to, “have minds that think, hands that are willing to work, and hearts that love one another.”

Currently an emeritus member of the Board of Trustees of the Clayton State University Foundation, Born and his wife, Ruby, have two daughters, Deborah and Mary, and two grandchildren. A lifetime resident of Rex, Ga., Born has been previously honored many times by local, state and national associations for his public service and business expertise. He has also held many leadership positions in civic and religious organizations. A past director of the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce and has been involved with the Boy Scouts of America for most of his life.

Miller recalled that, when he was first offered the position as dean of the School of Business at Clayton State in 1997, his first thought was, “what a great way to give back what life has given me.”

And Miller did indeed “give back” to Clayton State, while also learning a few things himself.

“There are three lessons I’ve learned at Clayton State,” he said, in his final address at Clayton State. “First, the University’s faculty and staff are dedicated, talented, collegial individuals all with the goal of providing students with a quality education. Second, the School of Business faculty and staff are remarkable. They have re-invented the School of Business. Third, students, you are remarkable, you are incredible in juggling conflicting demands. You are committed, and tenacious in your drive for an education.

“To close, let me ask you one favor. Don’t forget the feeling of pride you have now.”

However, Miller is nothing if not a realist. He also told the graduates that there would be times when people would doubt them, or that they would be told that they couldn’t do something. He had an answer for that situation as well.

“Look naysayers in the eye and tell them, ‘the heck I can’t, I’m a graduate of Clayton State University.’”

No speaker at any Clayton State Commencement in the past 10 years has ever gotten a bigger response from the graduates.
At the time he left Arvida, Miller was quoted as saying that he hoped he would someday be “helping [another] company restructure.” Indeed, the Journal speculated that, “no one believes Mr. Miller – a former Marine with an M.B.A. from Harvard University – will be on the street for long.”

However, even the Journal couldn’t have anticipated the street Miller would take, bringing his re-engineering skills and passion for change to Clayton State University. Following a two-year search for a new dean for the School of Business, Clayton State made an unconventional choice, a Harvard MBA with an unconventional corporate background. Since universities typically look within the academic community for their leaders, some wondered why Clayton State chose a businessman who had spent 11 years (1980-84 and 1987-96) helping steer Arvida through a series of dramatic changes -- from a subsidiary of Penn Central, through a leveraged buyout, to an immensely profitable (1994 profits of $50 million) and completely restructured operation.

Miller, seeing an opportunity to effect change and do good in a field he knew was important, said it was a good fit all-around.

“Talking with the deans, the administrative council, the faculty and the staff, I saw Clayton State as an institution whose time has come,” he said in 1997. “It has reached critical mass... going into uncharted waters. They’re doing something that hasn’t been done before. To be a part of that was intriguing to me.”

Ten years later, Miller’s take on Clayton State is maybe the only thing that hasn’t changed.

“Clayton State is poised for greatness, we need to seize the opportunity,” he says. “We’ve created a demand. We can move forward boldly. This university can compete effectively because of the commitment of our faculty and staff. We care about the needs of our community. We respond to the needs of our community. That’s out niche. Accessibility and the caring nature of our faculty and staff are always mentioned by our students and our alumni. That’s our niche.”

When talking specifically about the School of Business, Miller, as is his wont, credits his team for making change happen.

“The team all came in with a commitment to teaching and remaining current in their fields... to serving their profession and their community,” he says of his faculty. “We set a high goal – re-invention through AACSB accreditation.

“Our curriculum is totally updated based on the input of the community. Our faculty have regular meetings with professionals in their fields to get input on what our curriculum should be. The faculty have reached out and embraced this concept. They’ve done a remarkable job.”

As Miller prepares to return to the corporate world his goal is to work 50 percent of the time and catch up with family (he and Mary have five grandchildren under the age of five) and friends and to travel the remaining time.

“I’m not leaving Clayton State – I’m going to another job. I’m going to work as a director on the boards of several companies and advise a couple of CEOs as their companies go through positive growth change. It’s possible but not probable that I would go back full time to take over a company. I wouldn’t do it for money, I’d do it if the jazz was enticing,” he explains as he prepares to turn the School of Business over to former Associate Dean Dr. Jacob Chacko, and as he reflects on the benefits of change.

“When we started what seems like 100 years ago, the reasons we talked about reinventing the school were: first, to better prepare our students for successful careers and lives, and, second, to insure the companies in our market would be able to hire graduates who had the necessary tools and skills to help those companies,” he says. “I take a lot of pride in my career in that the person to whom I passed the baton was able to do the job better than I. Jacob is going to take the school to a higher place than I ever could. The best is yet to be for the School of Business. Jacob with this team is going to go great places, and that makes me very proud. That’s Bud’s legacy.”

Upcoming plans include offering programs for international students, “move-in” day for on campus housing, a family welcome weekend and sophomore success initiatives.

“First impressions are lasting impressions; therefore, we strive for excellence in building and maintaining positive relationships with students and families as they enter the Clayton State University community,” expresses Milner.

Milner is an alumnus of the University of Illinois where she earned both her B.A. in speech and communication and her Masters of Education degree. Milner was a student athlete in track and field and was a 15-time All American at Illinois. She was also ranked as the ninth fastest sprinter in the world as a professional athlete for Nike Athletics, and was a gold medalist on the 1995 World Championship 4x100 relay team in Goteborg, Sweden.

“As Clayton State University continues to grow, the Department of Orientation and New Student Programs will successfully position itself to meet the challenges and opportunities that growth brings,” states Milner.
Tutoring Blitz Helps Students Reach Their Full Potential

by Erin Fender, University Relations

The Center for Academic Success at Clayton State University hosted a two day tutoring blitz on Dec. 5 and Dec. 6 to prepare weary students for final exams.

The tutoring blitz was set up for students to drop in with tables set up all around the center for different academic subjects. Peer, staff, and faculty members were on hand to help tutor during this event. The center saw hundreds of students searching for review and to cover areas of weakness prior to final exams.

“The Center for Academic Success has helped me to achieve my goal of bringing my knowledge up to my expectations and the tutoring blitz is a great help to everyone in preparation for final exams,” said student Eunice Banks.

Assistant Director Kathy Garrison and Administrative Specialist JoAnn Quattlebaum worked hard to coordinate the tutoring blitz. The event is a time for students to relax, receive free tutoring, and final exam study tips. The center hosted light refreshments both days and also free chair massages.

Peer tutors are a great help at this time and it is much appreciated. “Our peer tutors are students themselves who are donating their time and at the same time are prepping for their own final exams,” said Dr. Mark Daddonna, director of the Center for Academic Success.

“I see this as an opportunity to give back and to help them to academic success,” said Natalie Gilchrist a peer tutor who helps in areas of math and critical thinking.

Tutoring blitzes have been around Clayton State since fall 2003 and these have helped students to realize the Center for Academic Success is a place on campus that is available and wants to see students thrive.

“Our goal is to make the center a positive place and to help Clayton State Students reach their full potential,” said Daddona.
man of the Fayette County Development Authority.

“The process was in its embryo stage in the 80s,” added Pat Murphy, chair-elect of the Fayette County Chamber of Commerce. “This is the next big step. You’ll be surprised at the number of potential students out there.”

Actually, Clayton State officials might not be all that surprised at the number of potential students. The University has been directly involved with providing higher education in Fayette County since opening its first Fayette Center across the street from the Fayette County Courthouse in Fayetteville in 1995. And, a second temporary Fayette Center was opened in the Peachtree City Tennis Center in October 2002. In both cases, the University was providing continuing education courses, but Clayton State officials have long known of the demand for higher education in the county.

“We’ve offered classes in many venues in Fayette County,” noted Clayton State Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs Dr. Sharon Hoffman in her remarks during the dedication. “We’ve both been persistent from 1995, and today is just the beginning. We think we’ll outgrow this facility.”

Clayton State University – Fayette, Harden also referenced the University’s previous efforts in the county, saying, “This is bigger, this is grander, this is tremendously exciting to me.”

While the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia has initially approved degree programs in Psychology, Administrative Management, Technology Management and the Master of Business Administration for Clayton State

Fayette, cont’d., p. 10
University – Fayette, courses for all of the University’s undergraduate majors will be available starting in January, says Assistant Vice President of Academic Outreach Dr. Kevin Demmitt, a Fayette County resident, who also notes that Clayton State University – Fayette will provide students access to admissions and financial aid counselors, along with other student services.

“We’re targeting nontraditional students who have some college credits and high school juniors and seniors who are qualified to take joint-enrollment college courses,” he adds. “I relish this opportunity to bring this university I love together with my hometown.”

Bringing greetings from the University System to the dedication was M. Allan Vigil, chair of the Board of Regents of the

CIMS and Arts & Sciences Sponsor Local Families in Need

For several years, the College of Information and Mathematical Sciences (CIMS) has sponsored a large family in need during the holidays. When Assistant Professor of Mathematics Mary R. Hudachek-Buswell learned some 300 children went unsponsored last year, she, on behalf of CIMS, issued an “Angel Challenge” to the College of Arts & Sciences.

Together, the two colleges sponsored 14 children from seven families. Pictured at right are the many presents purchased from Kohl’s in Fayetteville. The presents were packaged for delivery last week, just in time for the holiday season.

Fayette, cont’d. from p. 9

University – Fayette, courses for all of the University’s undergraduate majors will be available starting in January, says Assistant Vice President of Academic Outreach Dr. Kevin Demmitt, a Fayette County resident, who also notes that Clayton State University – Fayette will provide students access to admissions and financial aid counselors, along with other student services.

Mack Watson, Monique Faulkner, Eric Simmons and Carol Parrish also presented to the Forest Park Street School on after school and Prevention PLUS programs.

“I have worked with lots of professionals and these students have the skills. The outcomes of the proposals are far above my expectations,” says Marybeth Leavell, executive director for the Forest Park Street School.

Leavell will choose from one proposal to present for a grant this January and plans to use the other two proposals later in the upcoming year. Leavell was very pleased with the students’ hard work that she has extended the offer for internships within her organization.

Kelley Atkinson, Sabrina Horn, Megan Lawrimore and Scott Roberts presented print materials and marketing aspects to the Kinship Care Resource Center.

Non Profit, cont’d. from p. 9

Patrina Knight, Kelly McClendon and Selamawit Mekonnen worked together to present a website as well as marketing materials to the Kinship Care Resource Center.

Kinship Care coordinator Angel Burda was pleased as well with the students’ hard work.

“It feels like Christmas,” she says excitedly. The two groups worked together to ensure fluidity through the print and web designs. The recreation room at the center had recently been painted and to keep a consistent look, the students chose those colors to use with their marketing design.

“I am so proud of what the students have accomplished for the Forest Park Street School and the Kinship Care Resource Center,” says Rashid Horn.
Three-Game Winning Streak Snapped
by Lee Wright, Sports Information

The Clayton State Laker men’s basketball team saw its three-game winning streak come to a halt on Saturday night as the visiting North Alabama Lions came into the Athletics and Fitness Center and took an 83-66 victory over the Lakers. The defeat evens Clayton State at 4-4 overall.

The Lakers came into the game with strong momentum following last Saturday’s nine-point victory at West Georgia, while North Alabama was reeling from a two-game losing skid. But the Lions shot 47 percent from the field in both halves and were an impressive 19-for-20 from the free throw line. In addition, North Alabama hurt Clayton State inside with 20 second-chance points.

Michael Sloan paced Clayton State with 11 points, while senior Armel Traore Dit Nignan scored 10 points with eight rebounds. Jerome Boyd and Bernard Fields both added nine points off the bench for the Lakers.

For North Alabama (8-4), Kenny Johnson scored 25 points on 10-for-11 shooting from the free throw line, followed by Isaac Gay with 21 points on 8-for-12 shooting from the field.

Clayton State is off for the holiday break. The Lakers return to action on Dec. 28, playing host to St. Augustine’s in the Heritage Bank Holiday Classic at the Athletics and Fitness Center.

Individually, senior forward Tonny Madegwa was the Peach Belt Conference co-Player of the Year, while freshman forward Jamal Geathers was the leading scorer in the Peach Belt and the Peach Belt Conference Freshman of the Year. Finally, Petersen was selected Peach Belt Conference Coach of the Year for the second time in the last three seasons.

Trivia Time
Eddie Gaedel
by John Shiffert, University Relations

His name was Eddie Gaedel, and he was three feet, seven inches tall and weighed 65 pounds. And he played in a major league baseball game.

The date was Aug. 19, 1951, and St. Louis Browns owner Bill Veeck was celebrating the birthday of his major radio sponsor, Falstaff Beer, with a birthday party in Sportsman’s Park. As part of the fun prior to the game, he presented Browns’ manager Zack Taylor with a huge birthday cake, out of which popped a real, live Brownie – Eddie Gaedel – dressed in the miniature Browns uniform (number 1/8) that belonged to the son of Browns’ VP Bill DeWitt.

What almost no one knew was that Veeck had also signed Gaedel to a legitimate major league contract prior to the game. So… to lead off the bottom of the first against pitcher Bob Cain of the Detroit Tigers, Veeck sent Gaedel up to bat. Naturally, he walked… which is what Pearl du Monville was supposed to do in James Thuber’s 1941 short story, “You Could Look it Up.” Veeck always insisted that he did not steal the idea from Thurber, but that he originally got it from John McGraw, a friend of Veeck’s father (who was president of the Chicago Cubs at the time) who used to insist he was going to send the Giants’ midget mascot up to bat some day. He never did, but Bill Veeck did.

Scott McElroy was first with the correct answer, followed by George Messer and Robert Caine (no relation to pitcher Bob Cain… although his uncle, Howard Caine, did play Major Hochstetter on “Hogan’s Heroes”). Rob Taylor and Dina Swearngin also had the correct answer.

Thus concludes “Trivia Time” for 2007. We’ll be back with the announcement of the first winner of the Tom Eddins Trivia Trophy in the first issue of “Campus Review” in 2008.

Congratulations Sara Wheeler!

Clayton State’s Office of University Relations congratulates Sara Wheeler on her recent graduation and thanks her for a job well done. Wheeler worked as an intern in University Relations for two semesters writing stories for the “Campus Review” and “The Laker Connection” magazine.

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University System, and a long time Fayette County resident and businessman.

“We’re making higher education more accessible in Fayette County, thanks to the Board of Commissioners, the Development Authority and the Chamber of Commerce,” he said. “This is a great day for Clayton State University and Fayette County.”
Lakers Fall to Defending National Champions

by Lee Wright, Sports Information

 Battling the frigid cold New England weather all weekend, the 11th-ranked Clayton State Laker women’s basketball team played its second straight Division II Top 10 opponent on Sunday. This time, Clayton State came up of the short end of a 79-67 decision at 10th-ranked and defending NCAA Division II National Champion Southern Connecticut State University.

The defeat drops Clayton State to 5-3 overall heading into the holiday break.

Clayton State had a strong game offensively, shooting 48 percent from the field and 82 percent from the free throw line. In addition, the Lakers also out-rebounded Southern Connecticut State 36-28. However, taking care of the basketball was Clayton State’s Achilles’ Heel as the Lakers committed 30 turnovers.

Marie St. Fort scored 21 points to pace Clayton State, followed by Lisa Jackson with 18 points and nine rebounds. Shantel Ragin scored 11 points and dished out five assists, while Dominique Jennings added eight points.

For Southern Connecticut State (8-2), Kate Lynch scored 23 points on the strength of 12-for-14 shooting from the free throw line. Kaylie Schiavetta scored 17 points.

Clayton State is off for the holiday break. The Lakers return to action with the Heritage Bank Holiday Classic on Dec. 29-30 at the Athletics and Fitness Center. Clayton State plays host to Lenoir-Rhyne on Dec. 29 and Fayetteville State on Dec. 30.

Clayton State Men Finish 22nd in Final NSCAA Division II Top 25 Poll

The NSCAA (National Soccer Coaches Association of America) released its final postseason Division II Top 25 poll for men’s soccer on Tuesday, and head coach Pete Petersen’s Lakers ranked 22nd in the nation, marking the second-highest national ranking to end a season. Two years ago, Clayton State was ranked 12th in the final Division II Top 25 national poll. Clayton State was one of two teams from the Peach Belt Conference to be ranked in the Top 25. Lander, whom the Lakers defeated twice in three games this season, finished 11th.

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