Clayton State Celebrates the Official Conclusion of its 40th Anniversary Year

by John Shiffert, University Relations

Clayton State University celebrated the official conclusion of its 40th Anniversary year on Saturday, May 8, 2010, with the Spring 2010 Commencement. The dual ceremonies, the first for Dr. Thomas J. "Tim" Hynes, Jr., as the University's fourth president, featured a record 509 graduates taking part, and two singular honors.

Clayton State, which first opened its doors to students on Sept. 30, 1969, marked the occasion of its 40th Anniversary Commencement to bestow a special honor on Dr. Harry S. Downs, the University's first and founding president, who received an honorary Doctorate of Arts and Letters.

"His dedication has made it possible for these graduates of Clayton State to be here



today," commented Hynes in introducing Downs during the noon ceremony.

Clearly the individual most identified with Clayton State over the University's first

40 years (Clayton State's second president, Dr. Richard A. Skinner, referred to Downs as, "the father of Clayton State.") Downs

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Clayton State Preparing to Roll Out Master of Science in Psychology

Clayton State University's recently-approved eighth graduate program, the Master of Science in Psychology, is preparing for its official start with the fall 2010 semester in August.

The Clayton State Department of Psychology will offer two distinct tracks of study. The Applied Development Psychology track is the first of its type in the State of Georgia and is accepting applicants for the fall 2010 semester; the Clinical Psychology track is slated to begin accepting students for fall 2011. Both of the tracks lead to professional masters degrees designed to serve community needs and therefore include field experiences in the form of internships or clinical supervision so that graduates are prepare for employment.

For more information on the M.S. in Psychology at Clayton State, go to the

Department of Psychology's special website for the program, http://as.clayton.edu/MSP/. The website includes application information, degree requirements, courses, payment information, academic policies, important dates, class schedules, contact information, and FAQs.

According to Dr. Donna McCarty, chair of the Department of Psychology, both tracks of Clayton State's M.S. in Psychology will benefit from a strong and diverse faculty as well as a carefully planned and innovative curriculum that is designed to ensure that students are well-prepared to serve the needs of clients from varied populations. Clayton State's student body has been named the most diverse in the Southern United States no less than six times by "U.S. News & World Report."

Psychology, cont'd., p. 12

2010 Alice Smith Award Winners

Dr. Todd Janke, Faculty



Recognition by one's peers is one of the highest honors that can be bestowed in academia. At Clayton State University, that recognition comes in its highest form in the annual Alice J. Smith Awards.

As part of the Apr. 27 Faculty/Staff Awards Ceremony at Clayton State, Professor Associate Philosophy Dr. Todd Janke received that special recognition as the winner of the 2010 Alice J. Smith Faculty Award. Although, as he stated from the podium, he makes a living speaking to groups of people, Janke was somewhat at a loss for words to describe how he felt.

"I love teaching and to be acknowledged for doing something you love is a tremendous honor," he finally said.

An annual event since 1995, the Smith Awards are presented to the Clayton State faculty member and staff member ranked most outstanding as determined by committees of their peers. The two, \$1000 awards were established by local philanthropist Joseph Smith in honor of his wife, Alice.

An associate professor of Philosophy at Clayton State since 2004, Janke is originally from Minnesota. He received his B.A. from St. Olaf College, and his M.A. and Ph.D. from Georgetown University. Janke is also currently a nominee for the Clayton State College of Arts & Sciences Teacher of the Year Award.

When asked about his profession as part of the Smith Award nomination process, Janke said that the most rewarding part of his time at Clayton State is making philosophy come alive for students, and that he enjoys watching students transform each semester and really learning how to grapple with really dense text.

When he's not transforming students, Janke is an avid collector and restorer of antique typewriters.

The other finalists for the 2010 Alice Smith Faculty Award were: from the College of Arts & Sciences, Dr. Susan Copeland; from the College of Information and Mathematical Sciences, Dr. Kelli Nipper; from the College of Health, Dr. Charlene Romer; and from the School of Business, Dr. Margaret Thompson.

Gid Rowell, Staff



Clayton State University Director of Alumni Relations Gid Rowell had two reasons to celebrate on Tuesday, Apr. 27. One of the University's most respected staff members, Rowell was recognized early in the 2010 Faculty/Staff Awards Ceremony with a certificate for his 10 years of service to Clayton State.

However, that was just a prelude to a much more significant honor. A three-time nominee for the highest award Clayton State can give to a staff member, Rowell found out that the third time was indeed the charm as he was named the winner of Clayton State's Alice J. Smith Staff Member of the Year Award for 2010.

"I will try to live up to the standard of all of the past Smith Award winners," he said with typical modesty in accepting the award.

"Being nominated by your peers is especially rewarding, and I very much appreciate the support that I receive from the University community. Clayton State has and will always be a great place to work because of the people. There has always been a collegial atmosphere on campus, where everyone works

together and supports each other," he adds.

A native of Bremen, Ga., and a graduate of the University of West Georgia, Rowell now lives in downtown Atlanta. Prior to being appointed Director of Alumni Relations at Clayton State in 2006, he spent six years as the University's Sports Information Director. One of the best parts of his current job, he says, is that it connects him to Clayton State alums and he enjoys hearing all the positive comments former students have about their university.

"Hearing alums reminisce about how things were when they went to school here is always interesting, and it most rewarding to hear stories of how Clayton State gave them a start and how a college education has changed their life," he says.

In addition to his work for the Clayton State Alumni Association, Rowell is a devoted sports fan who remains close to the Clayton State Athletic Department. An active member of the Rotary Club of Clayton County, he received the "Service Above Self" award from the club in 2008.

The other finalists for the University's 2010 Alice Smith Staff Award were: from University Health Services, Latrice Barlow; from the Center for Academic Success, Dr. Mark Daddona; from the office of Budget and Finance, Sonya Holtzclaw; and from Athletics, Pat Keane. ■

Jeannie Springfield Named Outstanding Alumnus for 2010

Alumni Association Honors its Best at Annual Dinner

The Clayton State University Alumni Association recognized its 2010 class of Outstanding and Distinguished Alumni at its recent Annual Dinner at the Fox Theatre's Egyptian Ballroom.

In celebration of the University's 40th Anniversary, the Annual Dinner featured a star-studded program in addition to the presentation of the 2010 Outstanding Alumni Award winners. Peachtree City resident Jeannie Springfield, who graduated in 1977 with an Associate Degree from the then-Clayton Junior College, was named the University's Outstanding Alumnus for 2010

"This is the 10th year that the Alumni Association has recognized our alumni with Outstanding and Distinguished Awards," noted Clayton State Director of Alumni Relations Gid Rowell at the dinner. "The awards are based on an individual's achievement in their career area, leadership and community involvement.

"As you can imagine, every year the process of choosing Alumni Award winners gets tougher and tougher as our growing graduate base develops into leaders all over the world. Being recognized is a wonderful accomplishment, as this year's winners were chosen from a field of approximately 15,000 graduates."

The vice president/owner of General Produce, Inc, the family-owned business where she has worked since graduation, Springfield is also active in the communi-

ty. She has been a long time contributor and past board member of the Good Shepherd Clinic, which provides medical care for the uninsured in Clayton County, and is also active in the Daughters of the American Revolution. In addition, she has been responsible for keeping General Produce active in the Partners in Education program with the Clayton County Schools.

Jeannie and her husband, Victor, live in Peachtree City, but remain active at First Baptist Church of Morrow, where she has taught Sunday School for some 25 years and serves on the Finance Committee. They have two grown children, Rex and

Alumni Dinner, cont'd., p. 11

Clayton State Selects its First Presidential Scholars

by John Shiffert, University Relations

Clayton State University has named its first round of Presidential Scholars.

This new program consists of six, fouryear presidential scholarships that continue annually so that in four years Clayton State will have 24 honors students on presidential scholarships. The Presidential Scholars will supplement the existing University Honors Program.

The first six recipients of Clayton State Presidential Scholarships are as follows:

Tawan Holmes

Westlake High School, Atlanta

Sotheavy Vann

Riverdale High School, College Park

Angelique Green

John S. Davidson Fine Arts School, Augusta

Kathleen Barbosa

Chattahoochee High School, Alpharetta

Kirk Muse

Whitewater High School, Fayetteville

Khalea Crowe

Miller Grove High School, Lithonia

As part of the application process for the Presidential Scholarships, each applicant submitted an original essay on the subject, "What I Wish to Accomplish with My College Education." Perhaps indicative of their accomplishments are their choices for their major field of study at Clayton State. Green and Crowe plan to major in Business. Holmes has his future set on Computer Science. Muse, who is already a Dual Enrollment student at Clayton State, is planning on majoring in Liberal Studies with a focus on computer programming and gaming. Vann and Barbosa are future Biology majors.

As Presidential Scholars for the 2010-2011 Academic Year (encompassing the fall and spring semesters), each student will receive; an annual university grant, a housing and meal plan grant, and a bookstore award, for a total annual value of approximately \$12,000. These scholarship awards are in addition to any HOPE Scholarship funds for which the students would be eligible.

"These students represent the academic best of our incoming freshmen. They are very talented academically, they wrote competitive essays, and they chose Clayton State," says Clayton State President Dr. Thomas J. "Tim" Hynes. Jr. "This is an exceptional start to this program, and I believe we will build a long term cadre of honors program participants."

In addressing the recipients in their acceptance letters, Hynes wrote, "to be named a Presidential Scholar is a unique honor, based upon your outstanding scholastic achievement to date as well as Clayton State's confidence that you will continue to demonstrate successful performance throughout your higher education. You and your family should be very proud of your accomplishment."

Alan Xie Honored by Museum of Contemporary Art of Georgia

by Ciji Fox, University Relations

Alan Xie, instructor of Art at Clayton State University, was recently a winner of The Museum of Contemporary Art of Georgia's (MOCA) 2010/2011 Working Artist Project.

The MOCA GA Working Artists Project Award provides an unparalleled level of support during the year for three visual artists, and includes:

- Exhibitions beginning in April 2011
- A stipend for each artist in the amount of \$12,000
- A paid studio assistant for up to 300 hours during the year of the project
- The opportunity to interface with collectors, other artists, and the general public through programming and studio visits
- Documentation of the artists' history and work in MOCA GA's Oral History Project, as well as the Museum's Education/Resource Center
- Presentation of their work in a solo

exhibition at MOCA GA at the end of the project's term

- Inclusion of one work of each artist in the Museum's permanent collection
- An accompanying full-color catalogue documenting the exhibition of all three artists

"To be a recipient of this award means a lot to me," Xie says. "First of all, it means my art is accepted by the Atlanta art community. Second, I'll have the experience of working on a solo exhibition on a museum scale. It is also a very good opportunity that will let me introduce the art program of Clayton State University to the Atlanta art community, and it will promote the University's image in the Atlanta art and culture scene."

The MOCA program is supported by a major grant from The Charles Loridans Foundation with additional funding from the National Endowment for the Arts.

Allison Unruh, assistant curator of Contemporary Art at the Indianapolis Museum of Art, served as this year's guest juror.

Xie is enthusiastic about his experience at the University, where he has been a faculty member for seven years.

"I love to share my art with my students and colleagues. To exchange ideas with my students is very important to me," Xie says. "It is part of my teaching philosophy."

Originally from the People's Republic of China, Xie has been teaching and working as a painter in United States since 1999. He received a BFA from the China Academy of Art in sculpture and a MFA from the Savannah College of Art and Design in painting.

Clayton State's Dental Hygiene Clinic Takes the Cake (Really...)

Mansour Touti, a patient of the Clayton State Dental Hygiene Clinic, recently bought a large cake to the dental hygiene students and faculty as a "thank you" for the years of dental hygiene service he received.

"If it wasn't for the Clayton State University Dental Hygiene Clinic, I wouldn't have any teeth," Touti says.

In 2002, Touti learned that he was diabetic and lost a kidney. At that time, a friend brought to his attention that the health of his teeth was extremely important. However, Touti didn't have health insurance. After learning about the dental hygiene services the University offered to the community, Touti decided come into the Clinic. During his appointment, Touti learned that he had some tooth erosion.

"My appointment lasted all day because there was so much work to do," he recalls. "I was open to letting the students take pictures of my teeth, and use my case for their graduate paper."

At his appointment Touti was also informed that he may have acid reflux, which could have been causing the damage to his teeth.

"The service I received was awesome, and I have been coming to the clinic for eight years now," Touti says. "I believe what the clinic offers reflects the humanitarian side of the University."

The dental hygiene clinic has provided dental hygiene services to patients from the surrounding community for the last 40 years, says Dr. Susan Duley, department head of Dental Hygiene.



"Mr. Touti's recognition of the value of the program is one example of the continual gratitude expressed by the community to the dental hygiene students and Clayton State University," she adds. "The thank you cake from Mr. Touti was a total surprise. Without patients like him our program would not be able to educate our graduates at the level of excellence we continually maintain. Thank you, Mr. Touti."

CIMS Honors Faculty

by Erin Fender, University Relations



Dr. Kelli Nipper, Excellence in Contributions to Instruction

Dr. Cathie Aust, Excellence in Service

Dr. Junfeng Qu, Excellence in Scholarship

Excellence recently. The awards were established to recognize the excellent work of the faculty in the areas of contributions to instruction, service, and scholarship.

"When I came to Clayton State and CIMS, I discovered that we had a number of dedicated faculty with strengths in many different areas, but no mechanism in place to recognize and reward outstanding achievements of our faculty. I am proud to be able to make these first awards to some of our talented and dedicated faculty members," says CIMS Dean, Dr. Lila Roberts.

Dr. Cathie Aust is the first recipient of the CIMS Award for Excellence in Service. Aust has excelled in service not only to CIMS but to the entire campus community for almost as long as there has been a

Clayton State. As the University's senior faculty member, she currently serves as faculty marshal for Graduation. Aust has also served as president of the Clayton State Women's Forum and has served on many supportive committees over the years. Aust will retire in December 2010 after 35 years of outstanding service to Clayton State.

Dr. Junfeng Qu was recognized as the recipient of the CIMS Award for Excellence in Scholarship. In the last two years Qu has been published in two prestigious refereed journals and seven selective peer-reviewed conference proceedings. Another journal article is accepted and soon to be published in the Internal Journal of Computational Science. All of his publications are in the core areas of computer science research.

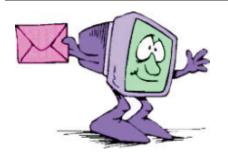
Dr. Kelli Nipper, the 2010 CIMS Alice Smith Award nominee, is the recipient of the CIMS Award for Excellence in Contributions to Instruction. Nipper consistently receives high ratings from her students and is well-respected by her colleagues. She excels in her outreach efforts to in-service teachers in the public school systems in the Atlanta Metro area and has been instrumental in establishing partner-ships for enhancement of teachers' mathematical content and pedagogy.



Clayton State Library Director Dr. Gordon Baker (center), Archivist Rosemary Fischer, and library staff Heidi Benford and Jennifer Duke participated in the Georgia Student Media Festival in April. The Media Festival recognizes outstanding live action video, website design, animation and photography made by elementary, middle and high school students across the state.

Got News?

Send your campus news and event information to johnshiffert@clayton.edu



Campus Review May 18, 2010

Across the Campus...

Athletics

Clayton State's Wade Binfield concluded his men's golf collegiate career on with one of the more successful postseason runs for a Laker golfer. The senior from Fayetteville, Ga., fired a 3-over-par 74 for the second straight day in the final round of the NCAA Division II South/Southeast Super Regional. That gave him a 10-over 223 for the three-round event, putting him tied for 66th overall in the 108-player field at Wilson Golf Club. Binfield concludes his Clayton State career as only the fourth Laker player ever to compete in three NCAA Division II postseason events.

In the final meet of the 2010 men's track and field season, the Clayton State Lakers recorded three Top 10 finishes at the Georgia Invitational. All three Lakers placed in the men's 800-meter run. Shelby Russell led the trio with a time of 1:57.58 for an overall sixth-place finish, winning his heat. For the second straight meet, Ricky Fort ran a career-best time, finishing eighth with a time of 1:58.25. Rounding out the Laker trio was Ayrton Azcue in 10th place in 1:58.70.

The Clayton State University summer athletics camps will run from Wednesday June 2 through Friday, July 30 and are designed to provide the highest quality instruction in a safe, fun and socially enriching environment for children ages six to 17. The primary goal is for all campers to enjoy themselves while learning and improving their skills. This year's individual sport full-day and half-day camps include; cheerleading, boys and girls basketball, soccer, speed development. The cheerleading, soccer, and speed camps are co-ed. Separate camps are held in basketball for both boys and girls. A 10% discount is offered to all Clayton State faculty, staff & students. For more information, please contact the Clayton State Department of Athletics at (678) 466-4678, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. For specific camp details and profiles on each head coach, go to http://athletics.clayton.edu.

Financial Aid

In an effort to assist students and families in applying for financial aid, the Clayton State University Office of Financial Aid, along with the Office of Recruitment and Admissions, is hosting "FAFSA Day" at Clayton State on Saturday, June 5. FAFSA Day will run from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in room 327 of the James M. Baker University Center and is open to the public as well as current and potential Clayton State students. Clayton State financial aid administrators will be available to help families complete and electronically submit their Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) forms for the 2010/11 academic year. Representatives from the Office of Recruitment and Admissions will also be available for campus tours and to assist students who wish to apply for admission to Clayton State University. With the exception of the \$40 admission application fee assessed for those individuals actually applying for admission, this event is free.

Human Resources

Effective July 1, 2010, the TRS employer contribution rate will increase from 9.74 percent to 10.28 percent. The employee contribution rate will increase from 5.25 percent to 5.53 percent.

This is a reminder to all Clayton State employees who have not completed the 2010 mandatory Ethics Training. This training is due no later than June 30, 2010. In an effort to remain compliant with both state and federal mandates, The University System of Georgia's Ethics Policy requires all Clayton State employees to log into the Training University and complete a 15-minute online ethics training module. Clayton State University and other USG member institutions must demonstrate on an annual basis that all faculty and staff complete this and future Ethics training. This includes fulltime/part-time faculty, fulltime/parttime staff and student employees.

Library

Castellanos' entry was chosen as the win-

ner of the Clayton State Library's Best Book Contest. He chose the book "Walden" by Henry David Thoreau as his inspiration because of the message of Carpe Diem. "I have found it to make my life more enjoyable when I realize the big picture of my life, slow down and enjoy everything," he says. The library faculty and staff had a difficult time choosing just one entry. Some of their favorites will be on display later this month in the library.

SBDC

Garrett Massey, president and founder of Eyesore Inc., has been selected the 2010 Young Entrepreneur of the Year for Georgia and the Southeast Region by the U.S. Small Business Administration. He was nominated for the statewide SBA award by the Clayton State University Small Business Development Center (SBDC). Since taking part in the Maximum Marketing course offered by the Clayton State SBDC, Massey has been actively working with the Clayton State SBDC in other areas for the past two years. Maximum Marketing is five-week program developed by Clayton State SBDC Director Kyle Hensel that teaches entrepreneurs how to be innovative in a crowded market place.

Spivey Hall

There are all types of summer camps. Scout camps, baseball camps, day camps, overnight camps, educational camps, etc. However, it's safe to say that no summer camp is as musical and as educational as the Spivey Hall Summer Music Camp. A fun, week-long day camp for students entering fourth through seventh grades, the Spivey Hall Summer Music Camp is directed by Craig Hurley, director of the Spivey Hall Young Artists. Students will work with members of the Spivey Hall Children's Choir Program staff to develop correct vocal technique, choral musicianship, ensemble singing, and more. This year's camp will run from Monday, June 14 to Friday, June 18 and will engage students in singing, sight-reading and music theory, playing Orff instruments and tone chimes, folk dancing, and, yes, performing in Spivey Hall. The camp will run daily from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Cost is

Across the Campus...

\$150 per student by the early registration deadline of May 14, \$175 per student for late registration after May 14. For complete information, including the registration materials, please download the Summer Music Camp Packet at www.spiveyhall.org/education/summercamp, or call (678) 466-4491, or email EducationManager@SpiveyHall.org with questions.

University Bookstore

Pick-up dates for pre-packs are as fol-

lows: May 18-20 (8 a.m. – 5 p.m.), May 21 (8 a.m. – 3 p.m.), May 24-25 (8 a.m. – 7:30 p.m.). All orders must be picked up by May 25.

The Clayton State University Bookstore has created a Facebook page. Be a fan... get updates on Bookstore sales and events at... Clayton State University Bookstore.

The campus community, several retirees, past and present HUB staff, and family and friends gathered to say farewell to Debye Baird, long-time director of Client Support Services, who retired this month. Congratulations on your retirement and best wishes for your future, Debye! You will be missed.

Last of a Four-Part Series

What Can Faculty Do to Help the Cost Of Textbooks?

Part of the University Bookstore Advisory Council's communication plan for the spring semester is to increase awareness about what's causing the increases in textbook prices, and what the Bookstore is doing to help control these costs. It's also about collaborative efforts, and working together with students and faculty. And, it's about a lot of things neither the Bookstore nor Auxiliary Services has any no control over... notably, publishers' practices in the textbook market.

The Advisory Council includes faculty, staff, and students, and is chaired by Dr. Donna McCarty. The current communications campaign is about doing as much as is possible with matters the Bookstore can control. In that regard, the Advisory Council has created a booklet with an overview of this information and the new textbook ordering process which helps the faculty make better textbook ordering decisions (the booklet is available from the Bookstore). The Advisory Council also recently met with SGA and is planning a meeting with textbook coordinators to share information with that group and faculty.

As part of the Council's communications plan, Campus Review is featuring a four part series of articles on "The Facts About Textbook Pricing." In this final installment, we look at what faculty can do to help.

Meet textbook requisition deadlines. This helps to get books here in time for classes, and to keep costs down for students by allowing more used books to be ordered, allowing students to take advantage of book buy back, and reducing overall shipping costs.

Re-use current textbook editions (when the quality of the course content is not

Bookstore, cont'd., p. 13

Kamille Rigsby Elected Student Government President

by Ciji Fox, University Relations

Clayton State University senior political science major Kamille Rigsby was recently elected as the University's Student Government Association (SGA)

President.

Rigsby was initially inspired to run for presidency by the organization's mission.

"The Student Government Association is a way to advocate for students rights and an opportunity for the voices of the student body to be heard," Rigsby says. "SGA provides me with the chance to reach out to my peers and make sure they have a positive experience in their time at Clayton State University.

"This will be my fourth year serving in SGA. I started in the fall of 2007 as a freshmen senator, and then progressed to secretary, and vice president. Being the student body president is the next step for me in my leadership and service the student body."

Rigsby looks forward to accomplishing the many goals she has for SGA.

"The Student Government Association has come a long way in the past two years, however, there is still much to be done,"

she says. "My first goal for the organization is to expand the role of our internal affairs so that the organization can run more smoothly. I also plan to provide more information to the student body about the University committee meetings on which SGA representatives stand.

"In an effort to reach a greater variety of students,

the Student Government Association should correspond and survey other student organizations to find out their needs and how SGA could possibly assist them in accomplishing their initiatives. These student organization surveys would ensure that the SGA gets a better idea of what students really need. The results would be a guideline for our semester goals and initiatives."

Being president of SGA does come with challenges.

"One of the main challenges is finding a way to engage more of the student body in SGA events," Rigsby says. "I strongly believe that the Student Government



Association is only as strong as the student body makes it. Next year, I would like to see a more participation in SGA surveys and student forums."

Despite a few challenges Rigsby's experience with SGA has been rewarding.

"The most rewarding aspect of working with the Student Government

Association is that I have had the opportunity to work with amazing student leaders who are truly dedicated to providing for the general welfare of the students of Clayton State University, she says."

In addition to serving as SGA's president, Rigsby also serves as a resident assistant (RA) in the University's student residence hall, Laker Hall.

"I actually had the privilege to serve as one of Laker Hall's first resident assistants," she says. "This will be my third year as an RA, and I can honestly say that

SGA, cont'd., p. 12

Malika Pen Wins Barnett MALS Award

Clayton State University graduate student Malika Pen recently won the inaugural Thomas V. Barnett Award for being the outstanding graduate student in the Master of Arts in Liberal Studies (MALS) program for the academic year 2009/2010. Pen's will be the first name on a perpetual plaque hanging in the Clayton State College of Arts and Sciences.

"I feel extremely honored to be the first recipient of this award. All of my continuous effort, hard work, and dedication have been recognized with this outstanding honor," Pen says. "I've enjoyed my classes at Clayton State University because they have been challenging and mind expanding. My professors have also been very helpful and supportive."

Pen admits there have been some challenges.

"One of my challenges has been juggling school and a full-time job," Pen says. "Time management is key. It was difficult in the beginning, but I have learned to better manage my time so that I can be more efficient and productive in both my studies and my job."

Despite a few challenges Pen's experience has been rewarding.

"My future goal is to be able to utilize the knowledge I have obtained throughout the program to advance my future career goals in my area of study, which is English," Pen says. "I've enjoyed my classes at Clayton State University because they have been challenging and expanding. My professors have also been very helpful and supportive.

"I've enjoyed the class discussions and critical examinations of the text because I have learned and gained so many different perspectives on culture, history, and literature, as well as the relationship

MALS, cont'd., p. 13

School of Nursing to Offer Special Opportunity Through ICAPP

by Erin Fender, University Relations

Clayton State University's School of Nursing (SoN) will be offering two BSNprepared nurses a special opportunity as part of Georgia's Intellectual Capital Partnership Program (ICAPP) with the University System of Georgia's (USG) economic development program.

Two BSN-prepared nurses who are interested in a Master of Science in Nursing education (MSN) will be selected to receive full tuition and be sponsored to attend one conference. The two selected individuals will be employed by Clayton State and work 20 hours per week in the

SoN lab and in SoN clinicals. The students must enroll full time in the Clayton State MSN program. They will be paid \$35,000 a year for this two-year period. Upon graduation, they will be required to teach within the USG for two years.

Those interested in applying must have at least a 3.0 grade point average and a Georgia registered nurse license. Students will need to meet admission requirements for the Clayton State MSN program.

The application deadline for this ICAPP program with Clayton State University's

SoN is July 2, 2010. The application deadline for the MSN graduate program is July 15, 2010. Interested individuals should send a cover letter and resume to Dr. Sue Odom, SoN director of undergraduate program, Clayton State University, 2000 Clayton State Blvd., Morrow, Ga. 30260. For further information or questions, Odom may be reached at SueOdom@clayton.edu or by phone at (678) 466- 4959.

Nursing Student Patrick Pierre Returns from Haiti

by Ciji Fox, University Relations

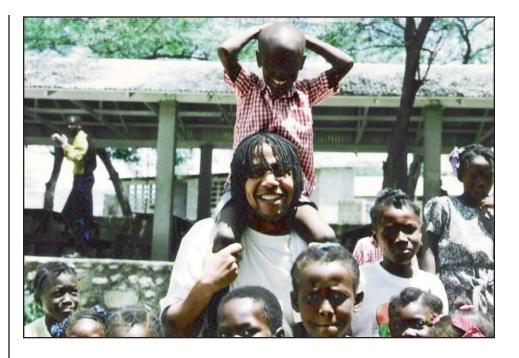
Patrick Pierre, a native of Haiti who currently resides in Decatur, Ga., was accepted into the Clayton State University B.S.N. program for the spring 2010 Semester, and was beginning his first week of classes, when the earthquake struck Port au Prince, Haiti.

"I go to Haiti every year to visit family and friends, but this was the first time I looked at Haiti very critically with my MBA 'hat' on," Pierre says. "I concluded that Haiti was in trouble before the earthquake and the same troubles still plague Haiti now after the quake."

Pierre, who already holds a B.S. in Sociology and an MBA in organizational behavior, recently returned from his homeland, having kept a journal of his experiences there.

"It is going to be very hard work to right the country up onto its own two feet," he says. "Fortunately, all the damage is located in the Port au Prince metro area. The rest of Haiti is business as usual I think this is one of the factors why Haiti is still functioning. Also, the international aide organizations are doing an incredible job with the relief efforts."

The following is an excerpt from his journal.



Day One – Thursday March 11, 2010

I am determined to go to Haiti. I go every year and this year is to be no different. I chose March because my grandmother's birthday is on the fifteenth. Like last year, and I think every year from now on, I will be in Haiti in March to celebrate her birthday. The quake will make things a little different but I don't suspect by much. Just as a precaution however, I have been beefing up my workouts at the gym and taking

in a couple extra cycling classes. That's when it happened. I dropped the weight on my foot and bruised my ankle.

American Airlines was very nice about letting me travel with a wheelchair. I figured I would bring it along and leave it for someone in need. In Port au Prince I was

Haiti, cont'd., p. 15

Eagle's Landing High School Wins Clayton State Student Business Competition

Eagle's Landing High School won the first annual High School Student Business Competition hosted by the School of Business at Clayton State University on Apr. 30 and May 1. Sandy Creek High School placed second.

The theme of the competition was "Strategic Management in a Competitive Environment." The high school teams, from Eagle's Landing, Forest Park, Morrow, and Sandy Creek high schools, each managed a manufacturing company in a web-based simulation for a virtual

four-year period. The four teams competed for sales, profits, and market share, and earned points for financial performance.

The students learned how to plan a business strategy, analyze competition, make decisions on product design, marketing, production, and finance, read financial statements, and work effectively as a team.

Each of the high school students involved in the business competition are currently Honor Roll juniors who were selected by their respective school's faculty coordinators and who are interested in majoring in business in college. Each team was coached by a Clayton State student mentor.

"We were impressed with the quality of the students. They were totally engaged in the learning and had a lot of fun too," notes Dr. Gary May, project leader and a professor of Management in the School of Business.



Eagle's Landing – First Place: First row: Dwanda Brew -- faculty coordinator, students Raul Rosales, Samantha Aviles, Kelli Bray, Ariel Hall. Second row: Gary Hendley – Clayton State student mentor, Dr. Gary May, Professor of Management



Sandy Creek – Second Place: First row: Students Nakoreya Roberson, Ana Franklin, Christina Van Dross-Ransby, Sarah Reid, Sumner Blanton. Second row: Melanie Duncan -- faculty coordinator, Kim Blackburn -- Clayton State student mentor, Dr. Gary May, Professor of Management.

Dress for Success a Success for School of Business

The Society for Advancement of Management (SAM), a professional organization of the Clayton State University School of Business, recently sponsored a "Dress for Success" campaign.

The effort, initiated by Interim Dean of Business Dr. Diane Prince, came about because many local teachers, through contact with the Business and Information System Advisory Council of the Clayton County School system, stated that their students to do not have the funds to purchase a business suit or other appropriate clothing accessories for job interviews.

The Dress for Success campaign at Clayton State ran through the month of

April, with SAM requesting new or gently worn suits for men or women, accessories for professional dress gift cards, and cash donations from Clayton State faculty, staff and students.

Prince and SAM faculty advisors Drs. Michael Deis and Dr. Reza Kheirandish report that the School of Business successfully donated more than 50 suits/ensembles and accessories to the Clayton County Schools. They also especially note the help during the campaign provided by Clayton State students and SAM members Dana Sweatt, Pam Rickels and Nicholas White. The actual donation was arranged by Associate Professor of Finance Dr. Chen-Miao Lin in conjunction with Herbert Dunbar at Morrow High



Dean Diane Prince (right) and SAM students show the results of "Dress for Success."

School. Dunbar will divide the contributions among the local high schools at their monthly business teacher meetings.

Alumni Dinner, cont'd. from p. 3

Megan. General Produce is the largest full-line wholesale produce house in the southeast and employs more than 225. The business now has four divisions: wholesale, retail, a full service repacking operation and GenPro, a trucking and logistics division.

Rowell also unveiled a new award for 2010 -- the Outstanding Future Alumnus Award. The award recognizes a Clayton State student who has demonstrated ambassador-like qualities on behalf of the University and who has excelled in one or a number of the following: leadership, academic success, community service, university service, athletic or artistic achievement, faculty recognition or other areas worthy of recognition.

The winner of the first Outstanding Future Alumnus Award is a native of Macon, Ga., Darius Thomas. Currently in his fourth year at Clayton State, and serving a two-year term as president of the Student Government Association (SGA), Thomas' involvement on the Clayton State campus is unprecedented.

"If there has been an important meeting that needed student representation on the Clayton State campus over the last four years, it's more than likely that Darius was there," says Rowell. "Whether it's the Student Activities Center Implementation Committee, the Facilities Master Planning Committee to the Student Fee Work Group, Darius has been involved in the shaping of our University."

"Clayton State University has become a family to me, one that is full of support and encouragement," says Thomas. "I am proud to have become woven into the fabric of Clayton State."

Each of Clayton State's schools and colleges had their own individual award winners. From the College of Arts & Sciences, the 2010 Distinguished Award winner was Fredrick Hicks, who holds bachelor's degree in Integrative Studies and graduated in 1999. The founder and president of the Hicks Evaluation Group, a Florida-based firm that focuses on public affairs, communications and consulting, Hicks is active in the local communi-

ty, serving as a volunteer coach for the YMCA and as a sub-committee board member for Holy Comforter Episcopal School in Tallahassee, Fla.

During his time as a student at Clayton State, he served as vice president for the Student Life Activities Committee, a member of the Honors Program, and was elected both homecoming king and SGA president. In that role, he worked with the University on the layout and use of the future James M. Baker University Center. One of his other lasting legacies was the creation of the International Student Annual Thanksgiving Dinner.

The Distinguished Award Winner in the School of Business was Ken Ellis, who holds a Bachelor's Degree in Marketing and graduated in 2003. He currently is employed by the Oracle Corporation in Alpharetta, Ga., as a systems design engineer and has been recognized by both Oracle and Sun Microsystems for his outstanding work.

While at Clayton State, he was a member of Delta Epsilon Chi and won both state and national awards representing the organization. He and his wife, Charmain, have two daughters, Kari and Erin, and are very active in their community.

The Distinguished Award Winner in the College of Health for 2010 was Margie Hunter, who graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree in 1993.

Hunter is the director of Women's and Infant Services at DeKalb Medical Center. She is responsible for administrative, clinical, fiscal, quality management and regulatory operations for the Women's Services Division. Her scope of responsibility includes labor and delivery, high risk antepartum, neonatal intensive care, mother/baby and OB community education, and the Lactation Center. She supervises more than 250 full-time employees.

One of her many accomplishments is her leadership in the construction of DeKalb's Women's and Surgical Center. She was the team leader for the design, planning and construction of the state of the art, free standing, \$55 million, 163,000 square

foot facility. The project was completed on schedule and under budget opening January 2007.

Prior to working at DeKalb, she was the director of Women's Services at Southern Regional Medical Center in Riverdale. She began her nursing career in 1979 as staff nurse. She and her husband, Bob, live in Atlanta.

The Distinguished Award Winner from College of Information Mathematical Sciences is a Clayton State staff member, Tom Marshall. A 2004 graduate of the College of Information & Mathematical Sciences, Marshall holds a Bachelor of Information Technology degree. He is currently the director of Administrative Systems for the Office of Information and Technology Services at Clayton State, providing critical support on the Banner system, which contains all student records, as well as Recruitment Plus, an admissions database. Recently, Marshall served as the technical lead on the University's Luminis Portal project.

In addition, he regularly serves as a mentor for new employees and Clayton State students who aspire to become IT professionals. He is the proud father of a young son and daughter. Continuing the family tradition, his wife, Mila, is enrolled in the Master of Science in Nursing program at Clayton State.

Also in attendance at the Annual Dinner were four previous award winners; Dr. Benita Moore (Most Outstanding Alumnus, 2003), Joan McElroy (Distinguished Service to the Alumni Association, 2007), Dennis Martino (Most Outstanding Alumnus, 2008), and Tim Crawford (Most Outstanding Alumnus, 2009).

Entertainment for the evening also had a Clayton State angle. Acclaimed comedy ventriloquist and alumnus Mark Merchant '77, performed along with Clayton State's own "Appointed Generation" student choir.

Alumni Dinner, cont'd., p. 13

SGA, cont'd. from p. 8

residence life is fundamental in the success of students. My co-workers and I have witnessed the growth of our first-time freshmen students. It is amazing to see the changes of students from one semester to another. Life in Laker Hall is never boring, and I have enjoyed my time here as well."

Rigsby says that her overall experience with the University has been positive.

"I have enjoyed my time here at Clayton State University," she explains. "I am honored to have witnessed the significant growth and maturation of this institution. I enrolled in Clayton State University with the intention of transferring after a year. After my first year, I found myself so involved on campus that I could not leave. I love Clayton State University!"

Rigsby says she is inspired and lives by the words of Alex Noble.

"If I have been of service, if I have glimpsed more of the nature and essence of ultimate good, if I am inspired to reach wider horizons of thought and action, if I am peace with myself, then it has been a successful day."

2010 Chancellor's Customer Service Awards - Nominations Due by June 18

We are ready to receive nominations for the 2010 Chancellor's Customer Service Awards. The website is available and nominations can be submitted at http://customerfocus.usg.edu/recognition/chancellor_award/ The deadline for submissions is June 18, 2010. The nominations website provides all of the information you will need: award category descriptions, eligibility, and even tips on how to write a successful nomination.

The following are the award categories:

- Customer Service Excellence Award Individual
- Customer Service Excellence Award Team
- Outstanding Customer Service Leadership Award
- Call Center/Service Desk/Help Desk Excellence Award
- Outstanding Customer Service Process Improvement Initiative Award
- Customer Service Institution of the Year
- Champion of the Year

We have made some changes to the nomination form and criteria for this year.

Nomination description:

•The nomination description questions are separated into two sections. The first section should describe the normal duties of the nominee. The second section should describe the nominee's customer service activities that were over and above their job responsibilities.

Two new criteria:

- •Additional information to include in the nomination: any internal customer service performance that resulted in improved employee satisfaction for other state employees and/or facilitated their internal customers' ability to provide improved service to their own customers.
- •The Outstanding Customer Service Leadership Award has changed to recognize leaders at the institutional leadership level such as presidents or the equivalent

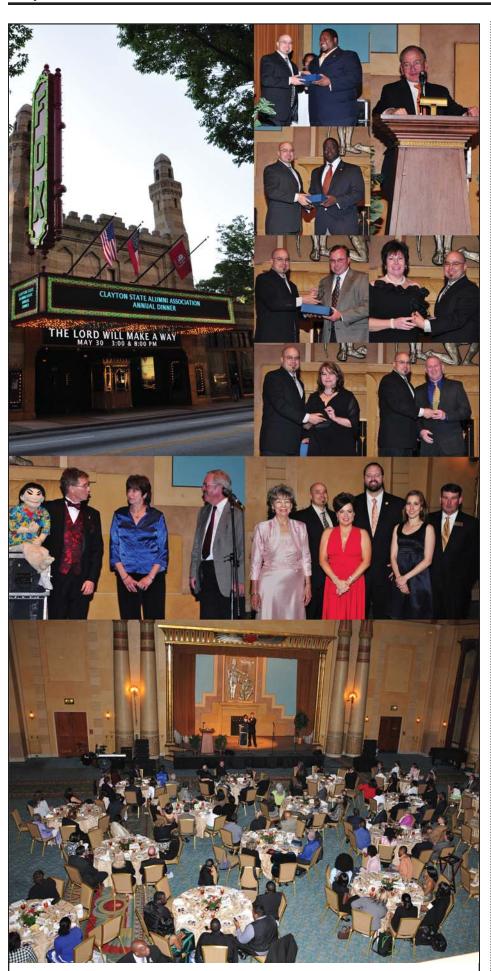
If you have any questions, please contact Carolina Amero, Associate Vice President. Auxiliary & Administrative Services, and Clayton State customer service champion. ■

Psychology, cont'd. from p. 1

The Master of Science in Psychology degree program is designed as a terminal or professional master's degree, combining a community-oriented training model with extensive research preparation. The Applied Development Psychology track is designed specifically for students who seek a professional career working with children and adolescents in varied settings including government and non-profit agencies, research centers, and parent education programs. The program offers an emphasis on the application of knowledge in community settings and will also prepare students who wish to pursue doctoral training in applied developmental, developmental, clinical, or educational psychology.

The Master's program in Clinical Psychology will prepare students to be competent, ethical practitioners of psychological services in the community. The program emphasizes learning to consider the uniqueness of each individual and the influence of culture and ethnicity when providing services to people from diverse backgrounds. Students will be prepared to work in a broad range of mental health settings as well as to pursue doctoral level training in clinical or counseling psychology.

The Psychology Department has been one of Clayton State's great success stories since the B.S. in Psychology degree was officially rolled out in August 2001. For the 2009/2010 academic year, Clayton State has 505 declared Psychology majors, the third largest single degree program at the University, behind the University's two oldest undergraduate programs, the Pre-BSN (Basic Licensure) and Pre-Business.



Alumni Dinner, cont'd. from p. 11

With a 30-year career in comedy ventriloquism, Merchant has traversed from cruises to casinos and corporate events all over the world. Atlantic City Magazine awarded him "Best Variety Act" for his performance, and he has received Crystal Cruises award for "Entertainer of the Year." When not entertaining on Crystal Cruises or corporate events, Merchant enjoys time at home in Stone Mountain, Ga., with his wife Cindy.

To commemorate the University's 40th Anniversary, "Appointed Generation" sang a montage of songs ranging from the University's founding in 1969 to 2009.

"In celebration of the University's 40th Anniversary, we had a goal to have our best Annual Alumni Dinner, and I think we accomplished that tonight," said Alumni Association President Jamey Hicks. "The dinner was excellent, and we had the opportunity to recognize some of our many outstanding alumni. The student choir and ventriloquist Mark Merchant did a great job, providing entertainment. The choir was awesome, and Merchant had everyone laughing during his entire performance."

MALS, cont'd. from p. 8

between each, from my professors and classmates."

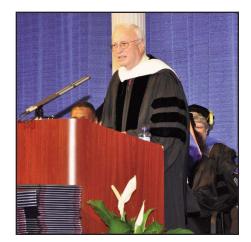
The award is named in honor of Dr. Thomas V. Barnett, the first director of the MALS program at Clayton State. MALS was the University's first graduate-level program, beginning in 2006. ■

Bookstore, cont'd. from p. 7

sacrificed). The Bookstore can then buy back and resell the used book.

Include only essential items in textbook bundles. Bundles cannot be sold back to the Bookstore, so consider ordering the book separately so it can be bought used and sold back.

Direct students to the Clayton State Bookstore and educate them on the benefits of spending their money on their home campus.



Founding president Dr. Harry Downs after receiving his honorary doctorate.

Commencement, cont'd. from p. 1

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also had the opportunity to address the graduates, and did so in a fashion that indicated his feelings for Clayton State, more than 16 years after his retirement.

"I praise you for your wisdom in choosing this great institution of higher education," he said. "I will be honestly celebrating every name that is read today."

In addition to Downs' honorary doctorate, the University also presented a posthumous Bachelor of Arts degree to Sergeant First Class (SFC) John C. Beale. A Clayton State history major and an employee of the Clayton County Water Authority, SFC Beale was one of three Georgia Army National Guardsmen killed in action in Kapisa Province in northeast

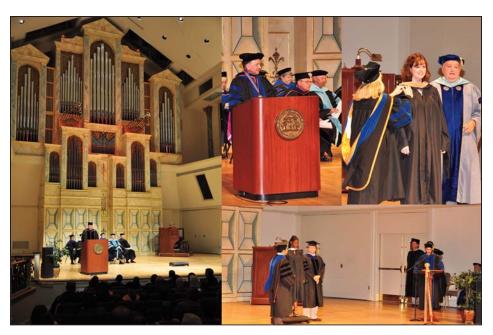
Commencement, cont'd., p. 17



President Dr. Tim Hynes presents a posthumous Bachelor of Arts degree to Crystal Beale, wife of Sergeant First Class John C. Beale.



Spring Commencement 2010



Hooding Ceremonies

Clayton State's 20th Year of "VITA" Serves a Record Number of Taxpayers

For the 20th consecutive year, Clayton State University's accounting students have provided free volunteer tax preparation assistance during February and March.

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program is hosted each year by the Clayton State School of Business. A national program that provides tax support to low-to-moderate income taxpayers, this program, which has been in existence for 37 years in all, provides volunteers with extensive IRS training to ensure that taxpavers receive the tax credits for which they qualify such as the Earned Income Tax Credit and the Child Tax Credit. Students also benefit from this program as preparers are trained in the recent changes to the credits available for tuition and other school-related expenses. The VITA program also prepares state income tax returns and provides free e-filing options to ensure clients receive their refunds as soon as possible.

Clayton State University is proud to be the only university in the state of Georgia that has successfully participated in the VITA program for 20 years running. On average, the student volunteers provide assistance to at least 100 people each year. However, 2010 proved to be VITA's biggest year at Clayton State, helping 195 taxpayers total.

"The program will be receiving a grant from the Atlanta Prosperity Campaign due to the number of returns filed," notes Dr. Judith Ogden, assistant professor of Business Law. "Even more might have been helped, but a sixth Saturday was cancelled due to snow. Sixty-two of the taxpayers identified themselves as students or employees of Clayton State. At least 20 said they had come last year. The other taxpayers said they had learned about the program in a variety of ways; newspapers, through friends, at work, and even on TV.

"It gives our students hands-on experience, and provides a valuable service to the public."

Ogden also notes that many of the taxpayers VITA served in 2010 reported that last year they had paid preparers to have simple returns done. However, the economy drove many to a free service this year. Among the services Clayton State students were able to provide included; the first-time homebuyer credit, the making work pay credit, education credits, filing returns electronically, and having refunds quickly deposited in their bank accounts.

"Taxpayers repeatedly praised the students for their expertise, enthusiasm, and patience," she adds. "Although at times the wait was long, the School of Business provided refreshments for the waiting taxpayers, and there were books and toys to keep the children entertained."

Clayton State students may participate in the VITA program as part of a forcredit course. After the tax season ends they must write a memorandum addressing an ethical issue faced by tax preparers. Students taking the VITA class this year included: Richard Armstrong, Tamela Brewer, James Caggiano, Danielle Chapman Joshua Clark, Jimmy Dihn, Marshall Hall, Velrica Jn Louis, Sandra Lohnes, John Maimo, Dana Martin, Crystal Murphy, Au Nguyen, Ebenezer Oppong-Peprah, Benita Perkins, Trieu Trong, and Victoria Williams.

Michael Draize, Carly Also. Hutchinson, Kristal Leverette, Martin Sanz (a Clayton State graduate), Gigie Thrower (another Clayton State graduate), and Marcia Blane (an IRS employee who lives in Clayton County) volunteered their time. Clayton State Accounting Club members and students from the Legal Environment of Business class served as greeters. Rose Schultze (a Clayton State graduate) volunteered as co-coordinator, and attended all coordinator meetings, and helped with training volunteers at other VITA sites. Several VITA students have indicated that they want to return next year as volunteers.

Haiti, cont'd. from p. 9

greeted by my transporter with his wheel-chair in tow. His name was Lewis Pierre, no doubt a distant cousin. He rolled me through the new gate area and before I knew it we were at customs and immigration. Lewis handled everything. I sailed through and he parked me on the side lines to watch the show called "baggage claim." He fascinated me. Lewis restored my faith in the industrious Haitian.

"I traveled to Haiti with a wheelchair I had in my attic. I figured I would meet someone there who could use it," Pierre says. "I asked God to show me who He wanted me to give it to."

Pierre admits that there were some challenges.

"My hat goes off to all the non-profits providing relief to Haiti. The United Nations, the Red Cross, and the like are doing an unbelievable job providing medical care, food, and shelter," he says. "I actually went to Haiti and gained four pounds. No one in Haiti is hungry. But now as the rebuilding phase is beginning, there is a real danger of throwing good money after bad. The challenge in Haiti now is not to continue the same mistakes of past years. Fallen walls are being put back up the same way as before. Ineffective aid is back on the rise. I am afraid if this continues no real change will ever come to Haiti, and the opportunities that the earthquake could have brought to the poorest country in the west will be lost."

Despite some challenges Pierre's experience was rewarding.

"The most personal rewarding part of my trip was the realization that there is a lot of love in the world for Haiti," he says. "I never knew this was the case, even with being Haitian-American. In a personal way now, I claim this love for myself, too. There are people all around me that want to see me succeed even though sometimes I'm not aware who they are.

"My most memorable moment was when I met the young woman whose back was broken by wall collapsing onto her. She is a paraplegic now, and the owner of a new wheelchair."



Snap shots from Clayton State University's 2010 Service Awards



Women's Forum Annual Scholarship Luncheon, Apr. 29 featuring guest speaker Mary Frances Bowley

Trivia Time

Graduation

by John Shiffert, University Relations

As Clayton State finished off its 40th Anniversary year with spring graduation, Trivia Time remembered a time when Clayton State graduation was small enough to be held once a year, and in a single outdoors ceremony.

Typically, the venue for Graduation (as opposed to the certificate ceremonies, which were held in both Spivey Hall and the Downs Center) was adjacent to the Library, either over by the Bent Tree, or in front of the Library, by Swan Lake. With a trivia question directed at the University's "old timers," it's not surprising several long-time faculty or staff members remembered what Todd Birchfield characterized thusly... "Those were the days."

Indeed, Birchfield had the first correct response, followed by Lou Brackett, Tammy Wilson, and a couple of retirees, Rob Taylor and Tom Eddins.

While you may not follow Pennsylvania politics very closely, it is worth noting that Senator Arlen Specter is in a tight race for the Democratic nomination for the 2010 election. What probably won't be mentioned was Specter's first national claim to fame, something he came up with long before he was a U.S. Senator, t hat is now a part (albeit a controversial part) of American history. What was it? Send your answers to johnshiffert@clayton.edu.

Sports

Clayton State Falls 5-1 to Third-ranked BYU-Hawaii In NCAA Division II Women's Tennis "Sweet 16"

by Lee Wright, Sports Information

Just like in the regular season, the Clayton State Laker women's tennis team gave third-ranked and undefeated BYU-Hawaii all it could handle on Wednesday in the NCAA Division II "Sweet 16." However, the Seasiders had too much firepower once again and defeated Clayton State 5-1 at Sanlando Park in Altamonte Springs, Fla.

The defeat concludes 10th-ranked Clayton State's season at 18-8 overall. However, this is the second time in program history that the Lakers have advanced to the Division II "Sweet 16," and the 18 victories are the second-most in a season by a Clayton State team.

The Lakers' lone victory was in singles. Sophomore Marie Cercelletti won a straight-set 6-0, 6-2 victory over the Seasiders' Shawni Porter at No. 4 singles. However, Clayton State dropped two matches in singles as Katie White fell to

Yuan Jia 6-3, 6-2 at No. 1, and Evelin Csizi dropped a 6-0, 6-0 defeat to Jenny Chin.

In addition, the Lakers fell in all three doubles matches. Vicktoriya Semyrodenko and Ivanna Krommelova fell 8-2 at No. 1 against the nation's toprated doubles team in Jia and Elwen Li from BYU-Hawaii, while Cercelletti and White dropped a close 8-6 decision at No. 2 against Porter and Ayako Ikeda. At. No. 3, Csizi and Jessica Budd fell 8-0 against the BYU-Hawaii team of Chin and Salina Aranda.

BYU-HAWAII 5, CLAYTON STATE 1

Singles:

- 1. Yuan Jia (BYUH) d. Katie White 6-3, 6-2
- 2. Elwen Li (BYUH) vs. Viktoriya Semyrodenko (CLS), unfinished
- 3. Ivana Kommelova (CLS) vs. Ayako

Ikeda (BYUH), unfinished

- 4. Marie Cercelletti (CLS) d. Shawni Porter, 6-0, 6-2
- 5. Jenny Chin (BYUH) d. Evelin Csizi 6-0, 6-0
- 6. Sophia Simmons (BYUH) vs. Jessica Budd (CLS), unfinished

Doubles:

1. Li/Jia (BYUH) d.

Krommelova/Semyrodenko 8-2

2. Porter/Ikeda (BYUH) d.

White/Cercelletti 8-6

3. Chin/Salina Aranda (BYUH) d.

Budd/Csizi 8-0 (CLS) ■

Commencement, cont'd. from p. 14

Afghanistan on Thursday, June 4, 2009. Accepting his degree was his wife, Crystal Beale.

The two ceremonies, held before capacity crowds in the University's Athletics & Fitness Center, featured C. D. Moody, Jr., founder and owner of C.D. Moody Construction Co., and Dr. Jamil Zainaldin, president of the Georgia Humanities Council, as the Commencement speakers.

"I'm here to inspire, motivate, and give you hope for a bright future, because you have an unbelievably bright future," said Moody. "If there is one thing I can leave with you, it's to believe you can do whatever it is you want to do.

"Give to your school. You're going to help somebody else sit where you are

today. You'll be blessed beyond your wildest dreams. Every successful person started with a dream and a vision. Why not you?"

Zainaldin told the graduates that they were entering a world where personal values will be more important than ever, and that three personal values in particular would help determine success... integrity, empathy, and positive social values.

Campus Review May 18, 2010

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