Clayton State Included In Board of Regents’ Water Ban
by Gina Finocchiaro, University Relations

On Oct. 24, 2007, the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia declared that all system schools, including Clayton State University, are required to adhere to a system-wide outdoor watering ban. Even prior to the Board of Regents’ ban, Clayton State had voluntarily reduced its water usage for the campus landscape due to the state-wide drought emergency.

Clayton State’s irrigation system pulls on water from the campus’s lakes which are filled with rain water runoff and are essentially retention ponds. As a result, the University would normally be exempt from Governor Sonny Perdue’s state-wide watering ban.

In addition to the water ban, Clayton State has stopped all landscape projects, including the planting of new flower beds.

“We are at the mercy of the weather completely as it regards our flower beds,” says Alan Beasley, Clayton State grounds manager. “Hopefully, there will be enough rain along with the cooler temperatures to minimize the loss to our campus landscape.”

While less than 20 percent of Clayton State’s water usage is typically used outdoors, Clayton State has also taken steps to reduce water usage indoors. The Maintenance Department has already begun building-by-building checks to ensure that faucets, sinks and other plumbing are void of leaks. Anyone spotting a leak has been directed to report it location to Maintenance immediately.

“The biggest responsibility for water conservation, on campus and off, falls upon each individual person to be conscientious of their water use,” advises Beasley. “Anything that reduces the amount of time that water simply runs down the drain, like turning the faucet off while washing your hands or brushing your teeth, is important to this effort.”

Beasley has worked as the grounds manager for Clayton State since 2005. Prior to Clayton State, Beasley taught horticulture classes at the high school level, worked for commercial landscape companies and served as the grounds manager for Callaway Gardens.

For more information about Clayton State’s outdoor water conservation efforts, contactAlanBeasley@clayton.edu. To report a leak to Maintenance, contact Clayton State Plant Operations at (678) 466-4230.

Clayton State Concludes Successful Homecoming by Crowning King and Queen
by Gid Rowell, Alumni Relations

Homecoming 2007 recently concluded on the Clayton State University campus, as the University celebrated this year’s theme, “Catch Us If You Can.”

The highlight of Homecoming Saturday, Oct. 27, was the crowning of the 2007 Homecoming Court during halftime of the men’s soccer match. Takeeea Williams, sponsored by the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, was named this year’s homecoming queen, while Michael Ivie, sponsored by the Honors Society, was named this year’s king.

Along with Williams and Ivie, Leandra De Los Angeles, sponsored by Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, and Florencia Hernandez, sponsored by the Society for the Advancement of Management, were also finalists and members of the homecoming queen’s court, while Brian Kelly, sponsored by the Teacher’s Education Club and Darius Thomas, sponsored by the Gamma Beta Mu Leadership Society, were on the homecoming king’s court.

In addition to the coronation ceremony, winners of the “Spirit Competition,” the “Door Decorating Contest,” and the “Banner Competition” were also announced during the Laker Fest activities on Saturday.

The Teacher Education Club brought home the “Homecoming Spirit” trophy for the campus club or organization with the most spirit, while The Hub won the
University System Develops Strategic Plan

No organization can be successful over the long term without a sound strategy.

In this landmark 75th year of the University System of Georgia (USG), the System has developed a Strategic Plan that will guide and focus the actions of many toward continuing the great tradition of educating more Georgians to a higher level than at any time in history.

The Strategic Plan defines six broad goals designed to ensure that the investment the citizens of Georgia have made in their system of higher education continues to serve the needs and transform the lives of future generations.

**Strategic Goal One**
Renew excellence in undergraduate education to meet students’ 21st-century educational needs.

**Strategic Goal Two**
Create enrollment capacity to meet the needs of 100,000 additional students by 2020.

**Strategic Goal Three**
Increase the USG’s participation in research and economic development to the benefit of a Global Georgia.

**Strategic Goal Four**
Strengthen the USG’s partnerships with the state’s other education agencies.

**Strategic Goal Five**
Maintain affordability so that money is not a barrier to participation in the benefits of higher education.

**Strategic Goal Six**
Increase efficiency, working as a System.

The entire USG Strategic Plan can be found on the USG website at http://www.usg.edu/regents/strategic/.

School of Business Receives Two American Democracy Project Awards

The Clayton State University School of Business recently received two second-place awards at the American Democracy Project – South conference held at Kennesaw State University. Both of the honors include a $200 cash award and are sponsored by the New York Times and reflect civic engagement related accomplishments.

The Clayton State School of Business, and, specifically its Society for Advancement of Management (SAM) Chapter, received the Second Place American Democratic Project Institutional Award. The Institutional Award is given to campus-wide initiatives that include opportunities for leadership and significant social, moral, or economic impact of projects. Clayton State’s SAM chapter is the most active chapter in the country and has received the national first-place Campus Chapter Performance Program award for five of the past six years. It is also the most active organization on the Clayton State campus, receiving the 2005 and 2006 first and second annual Clayton State Organization of the Year Awards.

“This is quite an accomplishment, considering that there are more than 60 student organizations on the Clayton State University campus,” says Ernest “Bud” Miller, dean of the School of Business. “Advisors Dr. Lari Arjomand and Dr. Reza Kheirandish are doing an outstanding job with the SAM chapter. Clayton State SAM continues to advance the collegiate experience of Clayton State students beyond the classroom.”

In addition, the School of Business, and specifically, Dr. Margaret Thompson, received the Second Place American Democracy Project’s Curricular Award. Thompson, assistant professor of Management in the School of Business, actively uses civic engagement projects in both her Human Resource Management and Women in Leadership classes. Her students have undertaken many civic engagement projects, including:

- Analyzing educational programs and making recommendations for improvement for the Boys & Girls Club of America,
- Developing a disability access plan,
- Recruiting 50 volunteers for an Earth Day event,
- Identifying 10 major companies per major who would provide opportunities for internships,
- Customizing a National Resource Recruiting Guide to fit the needs of a local franchise
- Developing a mentoring program for aspiring high school males who volunteer in a hospital (the Southern Regional Medical Center) and who plan on attending medical school,
- Developing and administering a member survey for the Georgia Association of Women in Higher Education, and,
- Developing a mentoring in Clayton County for the Clayton County Chamber of Commerce Council of Women Business Owners.

Congratulations to Dr. Margaret Thompson who received the Second Place American Democracy Project’s Curricular Award. She donated the $200 to the Clayton State University Women’s Forum Scholarship Fund.
Carolina Amero Announced as New Director of Auxiliary Services at Clayton State
by Sara Wheeler, University Relations

Carolina Amero was announced the new director of Auxiliary Services at Clayton State University last week. She will be responsible for providing leadership and direction for the retail and hospitality services of the University.

Amero grew up in Canada and earned her Master of Mathematics and Computer Science at the University of Waterloo in 1992. She then earned her Masters in International Business from the University of South Carolina in 1994. She began a 13-year career with BellSouth in 1994, first as a strategic planning manager, and then in 2007 as director of Risk Management and Claims. Her areas of expertise include operations management, process improvement, strategic planning and project management.

After BellSouth merged as the new AT&T, Amero was looking for something in the operations management field and came across the Director of Auxiliary Services position open at Clayton State. She applied and was shortly offered the leadership position in Auxiliary Services. Amero is excited to be a part of the new changes occurring at Clayton State in the next year.

With the new student housing, and student activities center under construction and changes to the bookstore and dining services underway, she believes it will be important for her to make sure the new projects are running smoothly.

Dr. Russell Casey Appointed Executive Director of Marketing Management Association

Dr. Russell Casey, assistant professor of Administrative and Technology Management in the College of Professional Studies at Clayton State University has been appointed executive director of the Marketing Management Association (http://www.mmaglobal.org).

“I was elected to the board of directors in 2005 and was tasked on a committee to help the MMA to stay profitable,” explains Casey. “The committee created a proposal that will go before the members of the MMA to raise dues along with other changes.

“This is pretty exciting because this is a big organization and this also helps Clayton State be recognized as the wonderful institution it is.”

One of the main requirements of the executive director’s position is to take charge of the archives of the Association. This includes, but is not limited to: a selection of past journals; a selection of past proceedings; and archival papers, minutes, manuals, and procedures. Casey summarizes his new role by noting that the executive director position essentially handles the MMA’s record keeping, and keep tracking of the Association’s journals and conference materials.

Casey replaces the past MMA executive director, Dr. Charlie Pettijohn of Missouri State University. Founded in 1977, the MMA is an international association dedicated to developing more effective marketing educators and scholars. The association has grown to include more than 400 academic members from across the nation and around the world. MMA exists to provide educators a facilitative, supportive and stimulating environment that enhances scholarship, teaching and the practice of marketing through acquisition and dissemination of ideas and knowledge.

A native of Dover, Del., and a current resident of Ellenwood, Ga., Casey holds a B.S in Business Management from Wesley College, an M.B.A. from Delaware State University, and a Doctor of Business Administration from Nova Southeastern University. Prior to coming to Clayton State in 2003, he served as an adjunct professor at Wilmington College (1999-2002) and Delaware State University (2000-2002). He also has eight years of experience in retailing and television advertising sales in the Dover area.
Women's Forum
Clayton State University

Mark your calendars for the
Women's Forum
Online Auction & Chili Cook-Off

Wednesday, Nov. 14 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Online Auction

The goal of the Clayton State's Women's Forum is to award scholarships and to build the forum's Scholarship Endowment. To make this goal a reality, the Fundraising Committee is sponsoring an Online Auction from Nov. 1 to Nov. 14.

On Nov. 14, computers will be available in the University Center Commons for you to bid on your favorite items!

To view the items up for bid, visit the Women's Forum Website: http://adminservices.clayton.edu/wom_forum/news/onlineauction.htm

Chili Cook-Off

Come heat up and cool down with the best Chili in town! If you have a great Chili recipe, bring your best pot and compete!

Chili will be for sale during the Online Auction on Nov. 14. For only $5, you can choose your favorite bowl of chili, complete with chips, drink and a dessert!

To enter your chili in the Chili Cook-Off visit: http://adminservices.clayton.edu/wom_forum/default.htm

Arts & Sciences

Dr. Karin Ryan, director of the Human Rights Program at the Carter Center, will speak on “Human Rights in the Middle East,” on Monday, Nov. 12, in room 132 of the A&S Building. The program begins at 12:30 p.m. and concludes at 1:20 p.m. Please encourage students to attend. For more, visit http://www.cartercenter.org/ and click on Peace Programs, then Human Rights Program, then Program Staff.

Athletics

The Clayton State Laker men’s soccer team placed five players on the 2007 Daktronics Division II All-Southeast Region team, including three players selected first team and two more on the second team. The women’s soccer team was represented on the All-Southeast Region Team by Peach Belt Conference Player of the Year Olaitan Yusuf. Selected first team All-Region was forward Jamal Geathers, midfielder Hailab Habtom and defender Karl Haggon. In addition, forward Tonny Madegwa and midfielder Marijan Babic were both selected second team All-Region for the 2007 Peach Belt Conference regular season and tournament champion Lakers. This is the most representation on an All-Region team for Clayton State ever in a season.

The “USA Today” ESPN Division II Top 25 Coaches’ Poll has Clayton State’s women’s basketball team ranked seventh in the nation as voted on by a group of 29 head coaches at the Division II level - the highest preseason national ranking ever for a Laker women’s basketball team. In addition, Clayton State also received one of the possible 28 first-place votes. This is the second Top 15 national ranking of the preseason for Clayton State. Earlier this month, the Lakers were ranked 12th in the nation in the Division II Bulletin Top 25. The Lakers are coming off a banner 29-6 2006-07 season in which the Lakers won both the Peach Belt Conference regular season and tournament championships, and advanced to the “Final Four” of the NCAA Division II National Tournament.

What was to be a promising NCAA Division II South Regional men’s cross country meet turned out to be disappointing for the Clayton State Lakers on Saturday. One of a few prime contenders coming into the meet, Clayton State struggled to finish 16th in the 19-team field with 408 points in the 10K event. It was the lowest finish ever for a Laker men’s squad at a regional. It was doom for the Lakers after the first mile when Peach Belt Conference Runner of the Year and Freshman of the Year Walid Berkhelell had his calf muscles tighten up on him. One of the favorites in the race, Berkhelell finished 132nd with a time of 52:59 minutes. The highest finisher for the Lakers was from Joey Chino, who placed 44th overall with a time of 34:32.5. In the women’s race, Clayton State freshman Chelsea Ellis finished 65th overall in a 155-runner field with a time of 24:45.5 in the 6K event.

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Across the Campus...
Across the Campus...

Life’s Transitions...

George Brown, program coordinator for SmartBodies, announced the birth of his fourth grandchild last week. His newest little angel is named A’Niah Laren Farid. She was born Oct. 26, 2007 at 7:39 p.m. at Vicenza AFB, Italy. She weighed 7lbs, 7oz and was 21 inches long.

Having Gas Pains?

If the price of gasoline is hurting you in the wallet, here is one thing that might give you some relief.

Clayton State partners with 1-87-Ridefind to help you find a possible ridematch among other employees at Clayton State. You are not obligated to carpool, but it does make it easier to find someone who MIGHT want to carpool. If you submit a rideshare application to Public Safety, you can receive a free sign-up gift when you first sign up.

We also work with The Clean Air Campaign for Employee Programs, and they also use 1-87-Ridefind to find matches. Contact Joan Murphy in Public Safety (x4262 or x4050) for an application or look on the Public Safety web page for more.

The Blitz (Tutoring, That is), Dec. 5 and 6

On Dec. 5 and Dec. 6, from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., the Center for Academic Success will hold its Finals Tutoring Blitz. During this time, students may come into the Center on a walk-in basis to work with peer tutors, staff tutors, and faculty members.

If you are able to volunteer an hour or two (maybe during your office hours) during this event, please e-mail Kathy Garrison the times you will be available and the subjects in which you would like to tutor.

The University Bookstore cordially invites you to our Holiday Faculty/Staff Appreciation Day on Tuesday, Dec. 4, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Come join us for light refreshments and save 15 percent off all clothing and gift purchases (clearance items excluded) for those on your Holiday gift list. Complimentary gift wrapping will also be available. It’s our way of thanking you for working with us this academic year. Be sure to bring your Faculty or Staff ID to receive your discount.

City of Morrow

The City of Morrow needs volunteers for Christmas in the Park, Saturday, Dec. 1, 2007 from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Milton Daniel Park. To learn more, please contact Lauren Singleton at the Morrow Tourist Center at lsingleton@city-ofmorrow.com or (770) 968-1623.

Counseling Services

Counseling Services would really appreciate your taking a minute to answer three questions about the University’s counseling and consultation services at http://adminservices.clayton.edu/counseling/. It will not even take a minute, and consists of only three, yes/no questions. You will have the unique opportunity to experience completing perhaps the shortest survey in the history of surveys! (And help us capture some important information in the meantime.)

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Sign your child up today for Clayton State Cheerleading’s first Annual Cheer Clinic for ages five to 12 on Saturday, Dec. 1. Participants will learn a cheer, a short dance, jumps, and stunts. Registration is only $35 and includes a camp t-shirt. The clinic will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Jim Huie Aquatics Center. To sign up or to get more details, please contact elainachance@clayton.edu.

Payroll Services

As per the payroll schedule, you will notice that timesheets are due a few days early. In order for everyone to be paid before we leave for the Thanksgiving break, we will need to have timesheets turned in by Tuesday, Nov. 13. Thanks again and enjoy your holiday.

Public Safety

Are you tired of traffic congestion? Would you like to have better access to public transit? Are there areas where you would like to be able to walk or bike? Would you like better access to the airport? Could you use a park and ride lot near you? Join Clayton County representatives to learn more about the Clayton County Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP). The study team will be on hand at the Visitor’s Center and the Oakwood Café (the main restaurant) at the State Farmer’s Market for Connecting Clayton Day on Saturday, Nov. 17, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., to provide information about the study process and to hear about your transportation needs.

Staff Council

Staff Council would like to thank all of you for your support and sponsorships for our Staff Council calendar fundraiser. It proved very successful, and will help us serve you in many ways in the future. Unfortunately, there was a mistake on one of our important holidays, as the date was placed on the wrong Monday. The MLK holiday was placed on Jan. 14, when it should have been placed on Jan. 21. This was caught after the production and sales of our calendar. If you have purchased one of the calendars, please make a note of this. We will be more careful in the future as we plan to have a second calendar fundraiser next year. Thank you for your support and understanding.

University System of Georgia

A new issue of the University System of Georgia “System Supplement” now is available: http://www.usg.edu/pubs/sys_supp/.

Golden Star 91-40 in an exhibition game last Friday. For Clayton State, this will be a chance to build off the performance at Georgia, where the Lakers shot only 36 percent from the field, including only 14 percent (2-for-14) from 3-point range. Newcomer Bernard Fields paced Clayton State with 14 points, while Brian Kelly and Ricky Garrett each added 11 points. Clayton State routed the Golden Star 91-40 in an exhibition game last season at Clayton State.
Alumni Relations and Career Services Departments Offer First ‘Clayton Connect’

by Gid Rowell, Alumni Relations

The Clayton State University Office of Alumni Relations and the Office of Career Services teamed up Wednesday to sponsor a new Career Networking Series called “Clayton Connect.” More than 50 attendees, including 37 students, came for the inaugural event in the Harry S. Downs Center.

Attendees included students, alumni and faculty and staff. The first event in the series, which is free and open to all students, focused on School of Business students and graduates. Additionally, a trio of School of Business students from a Clayton State management class assisted in promoting the event as a project.

The format of the program involves having Clayton State alums to come back on campus and relate stories of how they progressed from Clayton State students to graduates and eventually to their current professional positions. Each alumni speaker has an opportunity to describe his or her career path, followed by answering questions from the audience.

In addition, Bridgette McDonald, associate director of Career Services, and Dr. Angelyn Hayes, director of Career Services, were on hand to explain some of the services of their department and field questions.

“Our plan is to invite Clayton State alums back to give advice and provide experiences on how they went from a Clayton State student to their current professional positions,” says Gid Rowell, director of Alumni Relations. “It is a wonderful opportunity for our office to reconnect with graduates and will be a wonderful resource for our students in their career aspirations.”

The five School of Business alums on the panel for the inaugural event were: Rhonda Blissit, Dexter Brown, Latoya Hubbard, Shawn Nelson and Sylvia Shy.

“Blissit is a 1998 Clayton State graduate with a B.B.A. in Accounting. She is a senior accountant at Cherry, Bekaert & Holland L.L.P. A 1994 Clayton State graduate with a B.B.A. in Accounting, Brown is the business support manager for the Central South Region with Bank of America. Hubbard is a 2001 Clayton State graduate with a B.B.A. in Management. She is an associate sales manager with Nationwide Insurance Sales. A 2004 Clayton State graduate with a B.B.A. in Marketing, Nelson is a sales representative with Liberty Mutual. Shy is a 2004 Clayton State graduate with a B.B.A. in Management. She is an organization development project manager at Acuity Brands Lighting.

“I was happy to have the opportunity to share my experiences with the students,” says Hubbard. “Clayton State gave me so much and prepared me well for my career. Having the opportunity to give back in this manner and help current students in their career goals is the least I can do.”

Afterwards, the Office of Career Services and the Alumni Association sponsored a networking reception with refreshments for guests.
“Homecoming Spirit” trophy for the campus department with the most spirit for the second straight year. The spirit trophies, the top homecoming recognition, are awarded to the groups involved in the most activities during Homecoming Week and based on a points system.

The Clayton State Science Association took home the top prize for the “Banner Competition,” followed by the American Medical Student Organization and the Honor’s Society.

In the “Door Decorating Contest,” the Center for Academic Success won first prize, followed by its neighbor, the Testing Center. The School of Nursing placed third in the contest.

The Clayton State Alumni Association welcomed more than 250 alumni and friends to its Alumni Brunch & Reunion activities, as many friends gathered for the Brunch, a School of Nursing Open House, a School of Business Reunion and a tailgate party/reunion for former HUB employees on Saturday afternoon.

Other highlights of the week were the first “Laker Walk” just before men’s soccer match on Saturday, the unveiling of the Clayton State “fight song” at the Friday Pep Rally, a faculty/staff versus student basketball game, where the students prevailed in the closing seconds, the Clayton State women’s basketball alumni game and the annual Clayton State Tip-off Party on Thursday evening.

A special thanks goes to the 2007 Clayton State Homecoming Committee for their work with this year’s event. They included: Barbara Dantzler, Dr. Michael Deis, Joseph Echols, Gerald Heavens, Mike Mead, Brandon Marshall, Marcus Dickerson, Gid Rowell and Eric Simon.

Sponsors for a number of activities and events this year were: the Clayton State Alumni Association, International House of Pancakes in Morrow, Dell Computers, Liberty Mutual Insurance, Chick-fil-a of Jonesboro and Heritage Bank. Southside Seafood, Rocky’s Café, Boston’s Restaurant and Sports Bar and H.J. Wing’s & Things sponsored this year’s Basketball Tip-Off Party.
Phillip DePoy’s Holiday Celestine Sibley Play Takes the Stage at Theatre in the Square

by Lauren Graves, University Relations

For those who helped make the Celestine Sibley memoir “Turned Funny” one of the best selling shows in the history of Marietta’s Theatre in the Square, get ready to spend the holidays with the witty and beloved AJC columnist.

Suzi Bass Award winning playwright Phillip DePoy’s latest Sibley play, “Christmas at Sweet Apple,” will make its world premiere on the Theatre in the Square Alley Stage on Nov. 11 and run through Dec. 30. For more information and directions, please visit www.theatreinthesquare.com.

Based on Sibley’s short stories published in “Christmas in Georgia” and “Especially at Christmas,” DePoy artfully brings Sibley’s candor to the stage to celebrate the most wonderful time of the year.

“Christmas at Sweet Apple” was first introduced to audiences in a reading held at Clayton State University where DePoy serves as artistic director of the Clayton State Theatre and teaches theatre courses.

“Celestine Sibley’s Christmas stories aren’t like reading Dickens where the characters make profound realizations about life,” comments DePoy. “Her stories are much more realistic. They are about finding great moments in an otherwise difficult path – something she did in her own life.”

In addition to telling Sibley’s stories of Christmas, “Christmas at Sweet Apple” also features original music written by DePoy paired with traditional Christmas favorites. Thom Jenkins, who often directs music for the Alabama Shakespeare Festival, will be the show’s musical director. Jay Frear will direct the production.

“Christmas at Sweet Apple” is the second Sibley play the Theatre has commissioned DePoy to write. His first play, “Turned Funny,” went on to win four Suzi Bass Awards, Atlanta theatre’s answer to the Tony Awards, in a ceremony held Nov. 5 at the Fox Theatre’s Egyptian Ballroom.

DePoy is a resident of Atlanta. His Flap Tucker series of mystery novels has been slated to become an HBO television production and has been nominated for the prestigious Shamus Award. His play “Easy” won the 2004 Edgar Award, the equivalent to the Oscar in playwriting. His play “Lamb on Fire” was produced in New York, and his play “Appalachian Christmas Homecoming” has been produced around the United States since 1991. DePoy’s latest novel, “A Widow’s Curse,” is the fourth novel in his Fever Devilin series published by St. Martin’s Press.

Get into the holiday spirit and reacquaint yourself with one of the areas most talented and beloved columnists.

For more information about DePoy and “Christmas at Sweet Apple,” contact DePoy at phillipdepoy@clayton.edu or (678) 466-4715.

Lianna Wimberly Sings for Clayton State

Clayton State sophomore Voice Performance major Lianna Wimberly recently returned from the annual fall meeting of the Georgia chapters of the National Association of Teachers of Singing and the Music Teachers’ National Association, where her audition, in the words of Clayton State Director of Opera and Vocal Studies, Dr. Kurt-Alexander Zeller, generated “great interest in... her future plans.”

A resident of Jonesboro, Wimberly performed in a public master class with the principal vocal clinician, Dr. Timothy Hoekman of Florida State University. The selection she performed was the aria “Lullaby” from Gian Carlo Menotti’s Pulitzer Prize-winning opera The Consul (1950).

“She represented Clayton State University extremely well,” says Zeller. “It is quite an honor just to have been selected by competitive audition as one of only a dozen singers statewide to be invited to sing for the master class.”

Wimberly’s performance earned her the runner-up spot in Georgia National Association of Teachers of Singing’s annual Cher Boyd-Waddell Award – an honor named in honor of the late Clayton State University Associate Professor of Music Dr. Cheryl Boyd-Waddell. The Boyd-Waddell Award is given annually by the Georgia chapter to the best performer participating in the fall master class.

“During the dinner conversation at the banquet after the master class, there was great interest in Lianna’s future plans from those teachers who teach at universities with graduate music programs,” notes Zeller.
**Arts Page**

### Jazz Combo to Perform
**“To Boots” Concert November 28**

Clayton State’s Department of Music presents the Clayton State University Jazz Combo in “To Boots,” a concert in memory of Boots Randolph (1927-2007), in Spivey Hall at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 28. Admission is free.

For the first time ever, the combo will include sounds of Country & Western Swing in its usual mix of traditional and contemporary jazz, as we pay special tribute to country-pop tenor saxophone icon Boots Randolph,” explains Director Stacey Houghton.

Houghton says Boots may have been the single most influential musician in American history when it comes to... Jazz Combo, cont’d., p. 17

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### “Supernatural Shakespeare” Remounted, November 29 and 30
**by Lauren Graves, University Relations**

“Supernatural Shakespeare,” an original production that unites Shakespeare’s most creepy characters into one frightful spectacle, returns to Clayton State University at 8 p.m. on Nov. 29 and 30 in the Clayton State Theatre, room 132 of the University’s Arts & Sciences Building. Admission is $5. Clayton State students are admitted free with their LakerCard.

Some 400 people attended the world premiere of “Supernatural Shakespeare” on Oct. 13 in Spivey Hall. Now the show is back – this time with an all-student cast and a slightly modified script. The spooky spectacle is well under an hour in duration and students in Clayton State’s English and Shakespeare courses are encouraged to attend.

“Seeing all the ghosts, witches, monsters and magicians together in one place seems irresistible,” says Clayton State Theatre’s Artistic Director Phillip DePoy, who conjured the idea for “Supernatural Shakespeare” with Clayton State’s Dr. Wendy Burns-Ardolino, Dr. Katherine Pratt and Dr. Greg McNamara. “The whole point is to scare the bejesus out of the audience with Shakespearean text... We hope the audience will have more fun than a barrel of witches. Or you know...”

“Supernatural Shakespeare” not only features an element of surprise in regards to which of Shakespeare’s characters will haunt the production, but it is also unique in that there is no playbook for the audience.

“Since there’s no program, it’s truly a guessing game,” says DePoy. “Audiences, especially those familiar with Shakespeare’s works, will have fun trying to identify the characters.” Not an avid reader of the bard? DePoy assures that the characters are not too difficult to match to their original script.

Special thanks to accomplished choreographer Nicole Livieratos who choreographed both the original Spivey Hall performance of “Supernatural Shakespeare” as well as the upcoming Clayton State Theatre performances.

For more information on “Supernatural Shakespeare” and its remount, contact phillipdepoy@clayton.edu or (678) 466-4715.

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**Spivey Hall November Events**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Ticket Information</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ysaÿe Quartet</td>
<td>Saturday, November 10</td>
<td>8:15pm</td>
<td>Spivey Hall Debut, Pre-concert Talk</td>
<td>$35</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nicole Cabell, Soprano</td>
<td>Sunday, November 11</td>
<td>3pm</td>
<td>Spivey Hall Debut, Pre-concert Talk</td>
<td>$35</td>
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<tr>
<td>Honor Chamber Orchestra</td>
<td>Friday, November 15</td>
<td>7:30pm</td>
<td>Clayton State University Jazz Combo</td>
<td>Free</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clayton State University Choral</td>
<td>Sunday, November 18</td>
<td>3pm</td>
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<td>$50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clayton State University Jazz Combo</td>
<td>Wednesday, November 28</td>
<td>7:30pm</td>
<td></td>
<td>Free</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shorter College Choral</td>
<td>Friday, November 30</td>
<td>8:15pm</td>
<td>Clayton State University Jazz Combo</td>
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Clayton State University students receive $10 tickets for any Spivey Hall event (limit two tickets per ID). These tickets depend on availability, are held at Spivey Hall Box Office until one hour prior to the performance, and require attendance by the purchasing student.

Clayton State faculty and staff receive a 50% discount for any Spivey Hall event (limit two tickets per concert, per ID). These tickets depend on availability and require attendance by the purchasing faculty/staff member.

Tickets are not required for the Clayton State Department of Music performances, except for the Clayton State Opera performances.
Visiting Writers Reading Series
To Feature Don Russ, November 12

The next author in the Clayton State University Visiting Writers Reading Series will be Florida-born poet Don Russ, who will be appearing on campus on Monday, Nov. 12.

Russ has taught writing, literature and film at Louisiana State University, Georgia Institute of Technology and Kennesaw State University. His poems have appeared in periodicals and anthologies throughout the United States and in Canada and England, and he is the author of the chapbook “Adam’s Nap” (Billy Goat Press, 2005) and “Dream Driving” (2007). Recently retired from teaching, he now lives and writes in Atlanta.

All readings in the current Visiting Writers Reading Series begin at 12:30 p.m. and will be held in room 200 of the Clayton State University Library. The Visiting Writers Reading Series is free and open to the public.

Following his public lecture, Russ will make a guest appearance in Assistant Professor of Literature Dr. Brigitte Byrd’s introduction to creative writing classes.

The Visiting Writers Reading Series is sponsored by Clayton State’s Lyceum and the Language and Literature Department. A book signing will follow each reading. Copies of the authors’ work will be available for purchase.

For additional information on the authors, or to learn more about the fall 2007 Visiting Writers Reading Series, please contact Byrd at BrigitteByrd@clayton.edu or call (678) 466-4556.
MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 31, 2007

TO: USG Employees

FROM: Erroll B. Davis, Jr., Chancellor

SUBJECT: Purchasing Card Audits

As you are aware from the extensive media coverage, a state audit of the widely used Purchasing Card, or P-card program, has uncovered improper or, in some cases, fraudulent use of these cards by state employees.

The University System audit office is currently conducting its own, even more comprehensive, review of all P-card transactions for the current year.

Our goal is to take appropriate action where instances of fraud have been clearly established, and, on a larger scale, ensure we have in place the policies, procedures, and oversight necessary to manage this important program. Ultimately we must ensure the right leadership culture in the System that understands and consistently applies effective risk management.

On Oct. 22, a House subcommittee held hearings on this issue, inviting various state agencies to present and respond to questions. The System’s Chief Auditor, Ron Stark, and I participated in those hearings, which have received the majority of the news coverage.

In order for you to have an accurate sense of exactly what was said on this important topic, attached are both my and Mr. Stark’s testimony.

If you have any comments, questions, or thoughts, feel free to drop a note to either myself at chancellor@usg.edu or Mr. Stark at Ron.Stark@usg.edu.
Submitted...

--- REMARKS ---
Chancellor Erroll B. Davis Jr.
P-Card - Heard Committee
Tuesday, October 23, 2007

Thank you Mr. Chairman.

In many ways, I regret that I am before you, but we nonetheless appreciate the opportunity to address the committee today. While Mr. Ron Stark, our chief auditor, will provide considerable details on the topic of today's hearing; the committee should feel free to address questions to either of us.

But before Ron makes his presentation, let me make a few opening comments. First, if you will allow me to make some broad, general observations. And then I will address the specific issue of the P-card program.

Our society works on the principle that people are honest. But, realism dictates that some individuals need to be provided the appropriate structure to remain honest. And that structure is one that creates the appropriate oversight of behavior and activity.

And when the structure is shown to allow inappropriate behavior, we tend to think of two courses of action: one is to correct and tighten the structure and two is to make examples of individuals who have deliberately misused the system for personal ends.

However, problems or failures can always be traced to one or a combination of three sources:

1. People;
2. Systems and procedures, and;
3. Leadership.

If there are failures, then we have a responsibility to identify where these originate, how and why. That may mean replacing leaders. It may mean changing, strengthening, replacing or even creating more effective systems. It will certainly mean censuring those who have knowingly transgressed.

These general observations certainly apply to the state P-card program, in which the University System participates. The idea behind the P-card program is a good one. It reduces the number of steps to purchase goods and services by 14 and reduces a single transaction process cost by an estimated $100.

That allows our campuses to be more responsive, and reduce costs. These are good goals for any business. And in the case of state government, it is good for taxpayers, who see less of the tax dollar go towards operational costs and more to direct programs and services.

But, as I noted, any program requires appropriate oversight to ensure that it is not misused or abused. As the audits of the state's P-card program have shown, there exists misuse -- statistically small at this point, but I take the position that any deliberate misuse is intolerable.

We have launched a full and complete investigation of P-card usage within the University System, in addition to what already has been done by the State Audit Department. The purpose of this investigation is to make sure what we saw is the result of the actions of a few people without either proper supervision or adequate procedures. Again, going back to my earlier statement, we are looking at leadership, systems and procedures. And that is where we all must direct our focus.

The P-card program may not the issue. The P-card program may be only a symptom of a problem. The issue and the problem is one of operations. As I noted earlier, the problem always will be a mix of

people failures, systems and procedures failures, and leadership failures. This is true whether we are looking at a P-card program or a paper record process.

What will be the positive outcome of our investigation? That is a question that is on the minds of this committee -- and it is where I want us to focus our efforts.

If we find bad people, they will be dismissed and prosecuted to the full extent of the law, if possible. If we find problems and gaps with systems and procedures, we will fix them, but we also will ask if these problems and gaps are symptomatic of a larger culture within the University System that may not appropriately value effective operational risk management. If that is the case, we will take all necessary steps to cure it and to create a more effective risk management culture within the University System. Ultimately, this is about leadership and creating a sense at every level of the organization that leadership means accepting the responsibility to manage risk on an ongoing basis.

Many of us come from organizations and businesses that may have centralized operations and/or few employees. In such organizations, it is somewhat easier to know where your risk factors are in terms of personnel. When you have employees in the tens of thousands scattered across the state, creating a leadership culture that manages risk is obviously more challenging. But it is crucial, critical, and necessary. And I am committed to creating that culture and managing these risks.

Now, there are those who make the case that when you look at the incidents and total dollar value of P-card misuse against the total program, the problem is statistically insignificant. There is validity in that argument, but it ignores what I feel is a more important point. And that is that in matters of public trust, one example of misuse ... one dollar misspent ... is one dollar too many. As stewards of public capital, we cannot accept any misuse of this program. The public's confidence in our ability to manage dollars and manage risk means we must have zero tolerance.

That's why we are conducting this investigation. And it's why we must use the results, if warranted:

1. To censure, if necessary;
2. To create new systems and procedures, if necessary; and
3. To train, retrain, or change out leadership, if necessary.

The P-card program is a good program. We would be crippled without it, but, it is incumbent upon us to change it in ways were we capture the benefits while controlling the risks. Thank you, and I'll now turn the presentation over to Mr. Stark.

-END-
October 23, 2007

Prepared remarks of Ronald B. Stark, CPA, Chief Audit Officer and Associate Vice Chancellor for the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia for delivery to the Special Projects Sub-Committee of the House Appropriations Committee on the topic of PURCHASING CARD ADMINISTRATION within the University System of Georgia.

Good morning Chairman Heard and the other honorable members of this committee. My name is Ron Stark and I am the Chief Audit Officer for the University System of Georgia. I oversee internal audits and investigations conducted by my staff and by campus-based internal auditors.

Let me begin by saying that we take inappropriate or fraudulent use of state funds very seriously. Every employee of the University System of Georgia holds a public trust and we are committed to ensuring that we live up to that trust. Please let me share with you today a little background on P-Card administration in the University System of Georgia, some of the concrete steps we have taken in response to the state auditor's report, and those steps we will take over the next few months.

The Business Procedures Manual of the Board of Regents provides guidance on business policies and procedures to all University System institutions. A copy of the Business Procedures Manual sections addressing P-Card usage has been provided to you. Please note that our policy incorporates the Department of Administrative Services requirements and clearly prohibits use of the P-Card for personal purchases and for some other purchasing categories. Each of our institutions is responsible for designing P-Card procedures for use on their campus. For example, the University of Georgia handles P-Card administration differently than South Georgia College due to the difference in size and complexity of these two institutions. The campus-specific procedures are intended to ensure that each campus implements the controls necessary to ensure effective and efficient purchasing while safeguarding the assets of the institution.

The System Office also monitors P-Card usage on campus through internal audits. My office regularly tests P-Card transactions as part of our review of purchasing at USG institutions. Additionally, in May of this year, the Board of Regents Audit Committee approved an in-depth review of P-Card usage at five of our institutions. Finally, we contracted earlier this year for a system-wide Ethics and Compliance hotline to be fully online by the end of calendar year 2007. This hotline is an anonymous reporting tool that any faculty, staff, student, or citizen may use to report suspected fraud, waste, and abuse, or to simply offer a recommendation for improvement at one of our campuses. This hotline will be monitored both at the campus level and in my office.

Nevertheless, the Department of Audit's analysis of P-Card transactions and internal controls reveals that there is still further work to do as part of our continuing efforts to improve P-Card administration. To that end, I was instructed by Chancellor Davis to oversee a System-wide P-Card review. This review will include both an in-depth analysis of the roughly 612,000 Fiscal Year 2007 P-Card transactions and an analysis of the internal controls over P-Cards at each of our institutions. We will expand beyond Fiscal Year 2007 if we detect patterns of inappropriate behavior or fraud on the part of any P-Card card holder. We already have distributed a modified P-Card internal control questionnaire and have requested documentation on the procedures each campus uses to administer their P-Card transactions. Most campuses have already submitted their campus procedures. Additionally, we have provided guidance...
to each of our institutions in preparation for our review. Copies of this correspondence and our modified P-Card internal control questionnaire have been provided to each of you as well.

Let me stress that this only the first step. My staff at the System Office and the campus-based audit staffs will be working at every institution within the System to both identify and root out past fraud as well as to provide management with recommendations on the additional steps they can take to mitigate the risk of fraud in the future. The auditors will conduct interviews, review P-Card transaction documentation, analyze internal controls, conduct investigations, and provide recommendations to improve P-Card administration. For your reference, I have also attached our general and detailed audit plan. These are our internal working documents that we will use to guide our audit. A short perusal of these forms should only emphasize the thoroughness and professionalism with which we are approaching this work.

We are conducting the initial analysis over the next few weeks and will be able to provide a preliminary status report by November 1, 2007. My audit team will start their on-campus reviews starting in November and these reviews will finish no earlier than January 2008. Of course, any malfeasance that we identify will be aggressively investigated and turned over to the Attorney General for prosecution. Let me thank you for the good work that you do on behalf of the citizens of Georgia and I would be happy to take any questions at this time.

—END—
Tom Eddins Honored By American Technical Education Association

Clayton State University Associate Professor of Drafting and Design Dr. Tom Eddins, though soon to be retired, is hardly the retiring type.

Eddins was recently honored for distinguished service to the American Technical Education Association (ATAE) at the organization’s regional conference held in Ft. Walton Beach, Fla. Eddins was honored, not only for his years of membership, but for serving on the ATAE Board of Trustees for 15 years.

He has also served as the chair of the ATEA regional representatives council and a member of the executive committee, and has served on many national and regional committees, in addition to being an instrumental part of several ATEA conferences, most notably having responsibility for the 2001 ATEA national conference in Atlanta.

A native of Frankfort, Ky., Eddins attended Eastern Kentucky University, attained his master’s at Virginia Tech, and later his Ph.D. at Georgia State University. He began his teaching career at Clayton State in September 1982, officially retiring this fall after 25 years, although like many loyal Lakers, he continues to be a regular on campus.

“Fond of Eddins, a regular at Clayton State’s Media Organizations, editor of "The GAIT Connection," the journal of the Georgia Association for Instructional Technology and chair of the Henry County Library System’s Board of Trustees. Prior to becoming Clayton State’s Director of Libraries in 2006, he was a long-time high school educator in Clayton and Henry counties.

In addition to Baker’s recognition, Mullen was one of five recipients of the GLA’s Paraprofessional Grants. The

Library Brings Home Awards from GLA Conference

by Gina Finocchiaro, University Relations

Clayton State University’s Library was in the spotlight at the recent Georgia Library Association (GLA) Conference, as two Clayton State staff members, Director of Libraries Dr. Gordon Baker and Administrative Assistant Kara Mullen, were presented with awards.

Baker was awarded the Bob Richardson Award, an award established in 2001 to honor individuals for significant contributions to the GLA. The Bob Richardson Award is named after the late Robert Richardson, the director of the library at Young Harris College.

“I was very surprised to receive this award,” says Baker. “Bob Richardson was a good friend of mine and someone who I looked up to as a mentor. I have always enjoyed my work with GLA, because it is so rewarding to work with my peers.”

In addition to Baker’s work with the GLA, he also holds positions as secretary of the Southeastern Library Association (SELA) and to the Chapter Relations Committee of the American Library Association (ALA), chair for the Trustees and Friends of the Library Section of SELA, chair for the Georgia Council of Media Organizations, editor of "The GAIT Connection," the journal of the Georgia Association for Instructional Technology and chair of the Henry County Library System’s Board of Trustees. Prior to becoming Clayton State’s Director of Libraries in 2006, he was a long-time high school educator in Clayton and Henry counties.

In addition to Baker’s recognition, Mullen was one of five recipients of the GLA’s Paraprofessional Grants. The
Clayton Community Big Band Performs “Blues by Basie” Concert December 3
by Lauren Graves, University Relations

Clayton State’s Department of Music presents the Clayton Community Big Band in “Blues by Basie,” featuring the sounds of the Count Basie Orchestra, on Monday, Dec. 3 at 7:30 p.m. in Spivey Hall. Admission is free.

“We presented a previous program of Basie music in 2003, and audiences responded so well that we decided to offer a similar show,” says Big Band Director Stacey Houghton. “The Clayton Community Big Band is pleased to present this collection of selections that emphasize the blues, a format which Basie regularly featured with his band to spotlight his many strong soloists.”

Performing in “Blues by Basie” are the following talented Clayton Community Big Band musicians: Houghton (Rex) on tenor saxophone; Amanda Chatham (Riverdale), David Smith III (Fairburn), Michael Terry (Meansville), Josh Jackson (McDonough) and Tara Adcock (Fayetteville) on saxophone; Michael Wheeler (Forest Park), Anthony G. Bailey (Decatur), Mike Lewis (Jonesboro) and Wilgens Pierre (Mableton) on trumpet; Doug Murray (Jonesboro), Mark Gladfelter (Ellenwood) and Amy Castillo (Jackson) on trombone; Mike Blackburn (Riverdale) on piano; Tony Terrell (Lake City) on bass; Court Tatum (Lovejoy) and Daniel Watts (McDonough) on drums; and Chris Odom (Lovejoy), Zach Orr (Social Circle) and Caleb Halstead (McDonough) on guitar.

In addition to playing trombone in the concert, Castillo will also perform as a vocalist.

For more information, please contact Houghton at HOUGHTONES@aol.com.
Dr. Susan Copeland Henry
Elected a Distinguished Fellow in ISETL

by Vicki Fair, University Relations

Clayton State University Assistant Professor of English Dr. Susan Copeland Henry was recently elected a Distinguished Fellow in ISETL, the International Society for Exploring Teaching and Learning, at the Society’s 37th annual conference in Atlanta. Henry is only the 13th professor to be elected for the honor in 37 years, giving this profound significance.

“We are well aware of her contributions,” says Emeritus Professor Dr. Joseph E. Habowsky, doctor of Biological Science and retired from the University of Windsor in Canada, a founding member of the organization, one of the two nominating professors and an ISETL Fellow. “She met the two criteria very well, applying or researching teaching alternatives, and making a proven contribution to the organization.”

In addition to Habowsky, the other nominating professor is Dr. Robert A. Stager, retired from the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of Windsor.

“She is very perceptive and dynamic, and quite systematic in implementing change,” continues Hobowsky. “Attesting to this, while president, she voluntarily undertook the task of digitizing the 37 years worth of ISETL’s archives of journals, texts, and other research and pedagogical materials. This will make the knowledge base available world-wide, for international online access.”

Accomplishing this has required collaboration between four schools: Purdue University, Pennsylvania State University, Clayton State and Virginia Tech. Henry first received the historical documents from Purdue University. Since then her work has involved organizing and digitizing the archives into PDF format.

Henry has coordinated with Dr. Jill Lane, an instructional designer at Penn State, who is creating an interface. The database will then be shipped to Dr. Peter Doolittle, professor of Educational Psychology at Virginia Tech and current president of ISETL, who will make the files accessible from ISETL’s server on that campus.

And how does Dr. Henry feel about all of this?

“I was stunned at the nomination and more stunned by the election,” she says. “I know that the archiving project that I have been working on for ISETL is important, and I didn’t realize how large it would be until I received the historical materials from Purdue University and some Distinguished Fellows, but I never thought I would be elected a Distinguished Fellow at my age and rank.”

At the beginning of ISETL’s conference each year, Henry makes sure that every attendee is invited out to dinner with the Board because she “hates anyone to feel anonymous.”

“We picked up on her real quick,” says Dr. Bruce Saulnier of Quinnipiac University, Distinguished Fellow and a past president of ISETL. “Besides her role model list of substantive performance, her contributions go beyond the things you can enumerate and check off a list.

“More than anything else, she increased the culture of inclusivism and kicked it up a notch.”

Also on the list of contributions Henry has made are serving on the ISETL Board for seven years, including serving as president from 2005 to 2007. She now serves on the Board as chair of the Photography and Publishing Committee. She has been on the conference organizing committee for three years and was instrumental in making Atlanta the site for the 2007 ISETL conference. Twenty-four Clayton State faculty members attended the conference, comprising the largest group of professors from any school.

“We should all be very proud of Dr. Henry, for her representation of Clayton State University and her accomplishments within ISETL,” says Doolittle. “ISETL is the largest and oldest scholarship society in the world that is ‘media–oriented’ and which continues to grow and act as a valuable resource for educators who want to improve the teaching and learning process. ISETL members, as educational reformers, continue to do research on topics relevant to instructional design, instructional technology, and instructional strategies.”

“I was stunned at the nomination and more stunned by the election. I know that the archiving project that I have been working on for ISETL is important, and I didn’t realize how large it would be until I received the historical materials from Purdue University and some Distinguished Fellows, but I never thought I would be elected a Distinguished Fellow at my age and rank.”

- Dr. Susan Copeland Henry
Yusuf Selected Peach Belt Conference Player of The Year for Women’s Soccer

by Lee Wright, Sports Information

Olaitan Yusuf’s illustrious Clayton State women’s soccer ended on a sour note in the Peach Belt Conference Tournament. However, that ending got a little sweeter afterwards.

Yusuf, a senior forward from Ilorin, Nigeria, was selected as the Peach Belt Conference Player of the Year on Thursday in conjunction with the All-Peach Belt Conference that was released for women’s soccer. Yusuf is the only Laker selected this season to the All-Peach Belt Conference team.

Yusuf becomes only the second player ever in Peach Belt Conference history to be selected Peach Belt Conference Player of the Year more than once. She also earned the honor in 2005, in addition to being selected 2004 Peach Belt Conference Freshman of the Year. Also, Yusuf is a two-time Division II All-American selection.

Overall, Clayton State has taken the Peach Belt Conference Player of the Year honor in three of the last four seasons. In addition to Yusuf’s two awards, former teammate and current Clayton State assistant coach Nkiru Okosie was the 2004 Peach Belt Player of the Year.

Yusuf leaves Clayton State as the all-time leading scorer at both Clayton State and in the Peach Belt Conference with 83 goals and 185 points. This season, she led the conference in scoring with 20 goals scored and had seven game-winning goals in the process. Yusuf is ranked third in the nation in goals scored and fifth in points scored. 

Thriller, cont’d. from p. 20

Lakers since winning 18 games in the 2000 season.

It was the fifth overtime championship game in the history of the Peach Belt Conference Men’s Soccer Tournament, which was first played in 1991.

The Lakers appeared to be left for dead, trailing 2-0 in the 62nd minute when Lander’s Aaron Brittian scored on a breakaway goal off an assist by Jamie Davison. However, three minutes later, Clayton State was back in the game when Geathers cut the lead in half with a header off a left cross from Hailab Habtom.

It stayed 2-1 until the 79th minute when Peach Belt Conference co-Player of the Year Tonny Madegwa tied on a header in front of the goal off a corner kick by Jarrid Nicholson.

The game went into the second overtime session when Geathers struck again. The flashy forward stole a Bearcat clear pass in the middle of the field and hammered home the game-winner from 35-yards out.

Lander took a 1-0 lead six minutes into the contest when Jamie Ramm scored on a header in front of the goal off a corner kick by Davison.

Clayton State goalkeeper Billy Hale recorded two saves, while Garrett Daum recorded two as well for Lander (13-4-3). Clayton State out-shot Lander 14-9.

Trivia Time

My Life and Hard Times

By John Shiffert, University Relations

There may be a certain degree of veracity to the above headline, but it’s really just a line stolen from the great American literary humorist of the mid-20th Century, James Thurber.

A complex, complicated author and cartoonist who battled failing eyesight throughout most of his professional life, Thurber turned out a marvelous collection of short stories and magazine pieces (mostly in The New Yorker), primarily in the 1930s, 1940s and 1950s.

Maybe his best work appeared in the book “My Life and Hard Times,” which included such classic pieces as The Night the Bed Fell, The Day the Dam Broke, The Night the Ghost Got In, The Dog That Bit People and The Car We Had to Push. This latter opus, detailing, as did much of Thurber’s work, his years growing up in Columbus, Ohio, prior to World War I, dealt with all sorts of odd vehicular catastrophes, most of which could only come from a mind as creative as Thurber’s. In the midst of a tale about The Car We Had to Push being demolished by a trolley car, Thurber throws in an unrelated story of his grandfather’s brother, Zenas, who, “returning after the (Civil) war had blown over, caught the same disease that was killing all the chestnut trees in those years, and passed away.”

That’s right. According to Thurber, his great uncle died of the Chestnut Blight… clearly a trivia moment for only the best. In this case, that would be Dr. Robert Caine and Dina Swearngin, the only two correct respondents. Looking for a bigger response about a smaller subject… what was the name of Thurber’s midget baseball player, and what happened when he went up to bat? Send your answers to johnshiffert@clayton.edu.
Clayton State Drops 1-0 Decision Against Lander at NCAA Division II Southeast Regional

by Lee Wright, Sports Information

Defeating a team twice during a season in soccer is quite an accomplishment. Imagine trying to beat the same teams three times in a season.

The Clayton State Laker men’s soccer team had that opportunity against Lander in the first round of the 2007 NCAA Division II National Tournament on Thursday at Lees-McRae. However, the Peach Belt Conference rival Bearcats used a stellar defensive effort to turn back Clayton State 1-0.

The defeat concludes 14th-ranked Clayton State’s season with a 14-4-2 mark. Nineteenth-ranked Lander (14-4-2) advances to the second round against the Lees-McRae/Queens winner on Saturday.

The Lakers had rallied from a 2-0 deficit to defeat Lander 3-2 in overtime in the Peach Belt Conference Tournament Championship last Sunday. This time, the Bearcats turned up the defensive intensity against the Lakers.

Lander scored the game’s lone goal in the 41st minute when Jamie Ramm converted a header off a corner kick by Adam Arthur.

In the second half, Lander packed in the defense on the Clayton State offensive end, limiting the Lakers’ offensive chances. Clayton State’s best opportunity to draw even came with five minutes remaining, but a shot by midfielder Johnny Lara from the left side of the penalty box sailed over the crossbar.

Lander goalkeeper Garrett Daum was superb with eight saves, while Clayton goalkeeper Billy Hale recorded one save. Clayton State out-shot Lander 16-6.

Clayton State Rallies for 3-2 Overtime Thriller to Win Peach Belt Crown

In what will go down as one of the “classics” in the history of Peach Belt Conference men’s soccer tournament championships, the Clayton State Lakers rallied hard for a thrilling 3-2 victory over Lander on last Sunday afternoon at Laker Field as Peach Belt Conference Freshman of the Year Jamal Geathers provided the game-winning goal in the 102nd minute.

The Peach Belt Conference tournament championship is the second in the last three seasons for 14th-ranked Clayton State, and the third overall for the Lakers in program history. The victory also improved Clayton State to 14-3-2 overall, the most victories in a season for the Lakers.

Thriller, cont’d., p. 19