

# Campus Review

Serving the CLAYTON STATE UNIVERSITY Community

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## Program Offers New Courses in Advertising and Public Relations

### Clayton State Launches New Minor in Corporate Communication

The Department of Visual and Performing Arts at Clayton State University recently announced the launch of a new program in Corporate Communication. Set to begin officially in Fall 2013 Semester, the new minor will offer courses in areas including advertising, public relations, and crisis communication.

Offered by the Communication and Media Studies Program, the Minor in Corporate Communication will offer a total of seven new courses, including Introduction to Public Relations, Introduction to Advertising, Principles of Project Management, Crisis and Change Communication, Digital Imaging, Media Industries, and Communication Technologies. In addition, the Communication and Media Studies program already offers courses that students can use toward completion of the

Corporate Communication minor, including: Public Relations Principles and Practices, and Organizational Communication.

“This is an exciting accomplishment for us, and we have already seen interest in this new minor from students and faculty in a range of disciplines,” notes Dr. Susan Tusing, department chair for Visual and Performing Arts. “Most fields and industries where there are corporations, institutions or causes require professionals who are skilled in the areas of publicity, advertising, media relations and image management.”

“The strength of this new minor is that it’s dual focused,” says Dr. Susan McFarlane-Alvarez, assistant professor of Corporate Communication. “We have developed these courses to give students a good bal-

ance between learning the theoretical concepts of corporate communication, while gaining practical experience in strategizing, writing and developing actual tactics like news releases, fact sheets, ads, brochures, newsletters, and social media messaging.”

The Visual and Performing Arts Department also has plans in place so that in the future, the Corporate Communication program will offer students the opportunity to work as part of a student agency, potentially serving actual community clients. In this planned advertising and publicity agency, students may work in professional roles including as account executives, creative and art directors, writers, production managers, media specialists.

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### Drameka Griggs – the Hometown Hero... And the Best Guard in the Country?

by John Shiffert, University Relations

Everybody loves a hometown hero. At the age of 22, Drameka “MeMe” Griggs has already achieved that status, and a lot more.

The leading scorer and, more importantly, the catalyst to the first-ranked, 25-0 Clayton State Lakers, Griggs is a graduate of nearby Jonesboro High School and a native of Ellenwood, Ga., just one town east from the Lakers’ Athletic & Fitness Center in Morrow, Ga.

In her three seasons at Clayton State (she spent her freshman year at Jacksonville University before finding her way back home) Griggs has established herself as a

**Griggs, cont’d., p. 13**



Drameka “MeMe” Griggs

## Dr. Mario Norman Wins Student Choice Faculty Member of the Year For Third Time

The Annual Student Choice Awards were an extreme success. Here's who the students voted for...

**Department of the Year**  
Campus Life

**Faculty Member of the Year**  
Dr. Mario Norman

**Staff Member of the Year**  
Atawanna Royal

**Student Organization of the Year**  
Student African American Sisterhood (SAAS)

**In the Community**  
Whitney Smith

**Alumnus of the Year**  
Kearia Smith

**Fraternity of the Year**  
Alpha Phi Alpha

**Sorority of the Year**  
Delta Sigma Theta

**Coach of the Year**  
Dennis Cox

**Athlete of the Year**  
Drameka "MeMe" Griggs

**LOL Award**  
Shyilik Adams

**Legacy Award**  
Christian Reynolds

**Ms. Fancy**  
Brenda Sengsavath

**Mr. Fresh**  
David Duot

**Power Couple**  
Aaron Harris and Jasmine Fuller

**Most Attractive**  
Brittany Moore

Dr. Mario Norman, associate professor of Psychology, was named the Faculty Member of the Year, having been awarded this honor all three years at this event.

**Awards, cont'd, p. 16**

## Students Pick Adeshigbin and Fuller As Homecoming King and Queen

The electorate – in this case, the Clayton State University student body – has spoken, and Wale Adeshigbin and Jasmine Fuller are the 2013 Homecoming King and Queen.

The King and Queen were crowned during halftime of last Saturday's men's basketball game against the University of Montevallo. Adeshigbin is a senior nursing major from Brooklyn, N.Y., with a special interest in giving back to the community. Fuller is a senior psychology major from Riverdale, whose interests include acting, dancing, and gymnastics. Having been voted to this honor during Homecoming Week by the student body, they will serve as King and Queen until Homecoming 2014. ■



Jasmine Fuller and Wale Adeshigbin

Photo Credit: Kevin Liles | kdphoto.com

## Clayton State Idol: A Hit for Homecoming Week 2013

The Office of Orientation & New Student Programs kicked-off Homecoming Week 2013 with a second time event, Clayton State Idol.

Clayton State Idol was held on Monday, Feb. 4, in the Student Activities Center Ballroom. The event featured the vocal talents of several Clayton State University students. Seven semi-finalists advanced from the audition call held on Thursday, Jan. 17 and Friday, Jan. 18: Tamara Austin, dual-enrollment; Trebony Dillard, junior psychology major; Brett Gosa, freshman undeclared major; Torrance Hill, freshman mathematics major; Bryson Manzy, sophomore music education major; Angelo Mirville, junior business major; and Raven Rabia, sophomore English major. Vocal coach, Brandon Cash, chorus director of Mount Zion High School worked with each of the semi-finalist throughout the process.

These seven talented students opened the event with a group selection of

Marvin Gaye's "What's Going On?" The crowd was amazed and the judges had an arduous task for the remainder of the event. The judges for the evening were Ciara Edge, Clayton State alumni and choral and drama director at Hampton Middle School, Candace Henry, Clayton State alumni, academic advisor at Georgia State University, and Jerryal Pettigrew, academic advisor in the First Year Advising & Retention Center.

"The elimination was tough and we had to make a hard decision", says Henry.

There were approximately 250 students and guests in attendance for the evening event. Program hosts, Joseph Echols, Admissions recruiter, and Jessica Horton, Clayton State alumni, kept the crowd entertained throughout the night. Audience members were wowed by renditions of Adele's "Rolling In the Deep" and "Somebody

**Idol, cont'd, p. 16**

# Clayton State Comes Together Quickly To Host Lego League Super Regionals

by Samantha Watson, University Relations

Clayton State University was able to host the 2013 First Lego League Super Regionals in January, having put together the competition in almost as little time as it took the North Clayton Middle School RoboTigers to build their robot. The Super Regionals were originally planned to be held at Georgia Perimeter College, but the school had to pull out in November 2012, leaving Clayton State the responsibility of planning the event in less than two months.

First Lego League (FLL) is a global program created to get kids excited about science and technology. FLL utilizes theme-based challenges to engage kids in research, problem solving, and engineering. The cornerstones of the program are its Core Values, which emphasize contributions of others, friendly sportsmanship, learning, and community involvement.

Each annual Challenge has two parts, the Project and the Robot Game. Working in teams of up to 10 participants and guided by at least one adult coach, team members have about 10 weeks to:

Build an autonomous robot that will, in two minutes and 30 seconds, complete pre-designed missions;

Analyze, research, and invent a solution for a given assignment;

Create a clever presentation about their solution to perform in front of a panel of judges.

The First Lego League theme for this year is "Seniors and Enhancing Living Conditions." Participants were given tasks that they had to complete by pro-

gramming their Lego robots to do them. The tasks would correlate to the senior theme and would consist of picking up a tipped over chair and other tasks a senior citizen may encounter.

The College of Information and Mathematical Sciences (CIMS) at

**LEGO, cont'd., p. 12**



# Clayton State Professor to Blog from China While on Fulbright Teaching Scholarship

by John Shiffert, University Relations

Clayton State University Associate Professor of Education Dr. Mary Hollowell and her family have arrived at the home of the Terracotta Warriors.

Hollowell will be teaching American Educational Policy and American Children's Literature in English to Chinese college students at Shaanxi Normal University (SNNU) in Xi'an, China, for the spring and summer of 2013. The capital of Shaanxi Province in central-northwest China, Xi'an is also home

to the famous Terracotta Warriors, a collection of sculptures that depict the armies of Emperor Qin Shi Huang. A form of funerary art, the 8,000 plus statues were buried with the emperor sometime around 210 B.C., to both protect him in the after-life, and to make sure that he still had subjects to rule over.

Of more recent significance, Hollowell is going to China on a Fulbright Teaching Scholarship. Clayton State faculty members have previously earned a half dozen

short-term Fulbright-Hays Grants, but this is the University's first Fulbright Teaching Scholarship. Journeying to Xi'an from Peachtree City with Hollowell will be daughters Kate and Sophie Mei. Husband Scott Hollowell, who has business commitments this spring, will join the rest of the family later in the year. The Hollowells have previously journeyed to China to adopt daughter Sophie Mei.

**Hollowell, cont'd., p. 14**



## Biology Students Present at 2013 Student Research Symposium

Clayton State University senior biology majors Jessica Grier and Brion Edwards recently made oral presentations at a 2013 Student Research Symposium held at the Morehouse School of Medicine.

According to Clayton State Associate Professor of Biology Dr. Jacqueline Jordan, Grier and Edwards were two out of 10 undergraduates selected to give oral presentations at the symposium.

The other oral presenters were all M.S., Ph.D., and M.D. students.

Grier and Edwards presented their research, performed at Clayton State and Emory University, related to the neurotoxicity of nanoparticles, examining the relationship between environmental exposure to small particles (nanoparticles) used in industry and released as part of car exhaust, and neurological disorders like Parkinson's Disease.

Jordan also notes that support for Grier's and Edwards' research came from a grant received from the American Society for Cell Biology, Minorities Affairs Committee, and from Dr. Gary Miller, associate dean of Research, Emory University, School of Public Health, Department of Environmental Health. ■

## Dental Hygiene Students Participate in GDHA Lobby Day

Clayton State University senior dental hygiene students participated for the second year in the Georgia Dental Hygienists' Association (GDHA) Lobby Day, held on Thursday, Feb. 7, at the State Capitol in downtown Atlanta.

Clayton State faculty members Joanna Harris, who coordinates this opportunity for the students as a part of her course, and Dr. Ximena Zornosa, also attended. GDHA Lobby Day is held to allow hygienists and students from across Georgia to participate in the legislative process and to discuss key issues with their legislators. Many of the key issues

discussed pertained to improving quality preventive oral health care for the patient and the practice of dental hygiene in Georgia.

This year's GDHA Lobby Day had record attendance with approximately 150 hygienists and students from five other dental hygiene programs in addition to Clayton State: Georgia Perimeter College, Georgia Highlands College, Lanier Tech, Fortis College and Central Georgia Tech. The attendees had a photo taken with Governor Nathan Deal, who proclaimed Feb. 7, 2013 as Georgia Dental Hygiene Day. ■



Photo op with Gov. Deal (Credit: <http://photos.gov.georgia.gov/>).

## Smith Staff Award Nominations

It is that time of year again to nominate staff members for the Alice Smith Staff Award. Eligible nominees are full-time, benefited staff members with at least one year of credible service to the University, who do not have faculty status.

The nomination form is available at [https://claytonstate.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV\\_8raVgKrr0Z4Ney9](https://claytonstate.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_8raVgKrr0Z4Ney9). You may complete the form and return via email to [heidibeneford@clayton.edu](mailto:heidibeneford@clayton.edu), or you may print the form and return via campus mail to Heidi Benford – Library Department.

The deadline to submit your nomination(s) is Wednesday, Mar. 6. If you have any questions, then please contact Benford.

The following Staff Council delegates are serving on the Smith Staff Award Committee and are ineligible to be nominated.

Latrice Barlow – Chair  
Laura Herndon  
Edmond Rainer  
Tiffany Robbins ■

### 2013 SMITH AWARDS

Tuesday, Apr. 23  
Spivey Hall | 2 p.m.  
(light reception to follow)

## Virtual Open House Visited by Individuals from 48 States and 36 Countries

The Clayton State University Office of Recruitment and Admissions' Virtual Open House on Thursday, Feb. 7, was a major success, and undoubtedly started many high school students towards having their dreams made real.

According to Penny Brooks, associate director, Recruitment and Marketing, the Virtual Open House attracted a total of 609 individuals from 48 states and 36 countries. Most (70 percent) of the visitors listed a 2013 graduation date, but 22 percent listed 2014, five percent listed 2015, and the remaining three percent were either high school grads or were younger than high school sophomores.

"We did a lot of email and phone-based marketing prep work in advance of this

event, particularly geared towards students who were high school-aged, and I think it was fairly effective," says Brooks. "We in admissions will follow up with all the event guests, with hopes that their virtual visit to Clayton State was enticing."

The Virtual Open House had five virtual booths (Admissions, Financial Aid, On-Campus Housing and Student Life, First-Year Program, Academics) with staff providing chat opportunities for participants throughout the event. Prospective students, their family members, and others were able to click into the booths and receive answers to their questions in real time. There were also live webcasts scheduled throughout the event with Clayton State faculty members speaking about their major programs, academic

opportunities available at Clayton State, and future career options. The admissions staff also discussed Clayton State in general and admissions requirements and policies in particular. Participants were also able to text questions to the presenters and get their answers in real time.

For prospective students and their parents who would like to see how their dreams can be made real by visiting the Clayton State campus in person, the next Open House on campus will be held on Saturday, Apr. 6, 2013. ■

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## Freshman Students & F.I.R.S.T. Step Peer Mentors Honored for Academic Achievement and Support

The Clayton State University's Office of Orientation & New Student Programs' F.I.R.S.T. Step Peer Mentoring launched the University's spring semester by recognizing the academic achievement of the those freshman students with mentors that earned a cumulative 3.0 GPA or higher during their first semester at Clayton State.

A Recognition Luncheon for those students was held on Friday, Jan. 25, in the Harry S. Downs Center. This was the first event sponsored by the peer mentoring program to honor those students for their academic success as freshmen at Clayton State.

The F.I.R.S.T. Step Peer Mentoring program is a new program at Clayton State that was launched the fall of 2012. This program worked with 215 selected incoming freshmen to assist them in their overall transition as college students through the aid of their assigned peer mentor and CSU 1022 instructor. This year, 88 students were recognized and received an academic medal of excellence.



Dr. Mark Daddona, associate vice president of Enrollment Management and Academic Success, opened the program with a wonderful welcome, followed by encouraging congratulatory remarks from University President, Dr. Thomas J. Hynes. A special video was shown in which the mentees shared how having a peer mentor was beneficial during their first semester. The students then were presented with their medals and photos were taken with their instructors.

The following students were recognized during the program:

Aaron Alberto  
Robert Andrews  
Talana Armstrong  
Sabrina Arnett  
Thanishia Baker  
Danethia Beckford  
Brittney Bowman

Peer Mentors, cont'd., p. 15

# Across the Campus...

## Academic Affairs

Clayton State University's Fifth Annual Academic Research Conference will be held on Friday, Mar. 15, from noon to 4 p.m. "It's 'Research. Made Real.'" says Academic Research Conference Committee Chair Dr. Sarah Stein, assistant professor of Criminal Justice. "Here's your chance to learn about research from all academic departments on campus as presented by the University's exceptional students." Poster presentations will be made from noon to 2 p.m., in the James M. Baker University Center. Oral presentations will be from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., in the Clayton State Lecture Hall. All Clayton State students have been invited to apply to take part in the Conference, which is free and open to the public.

## Athletics

The Clayton State women's track and field team competed Saturday in the JDL Fast Track Championship Tune-up and brought home two first place event finishes and had a new team record performance from the meet held in Winston-Salem, N.C. Freshman Jessica Matthews had the team's top performance, winning the triple jump and equaling her team record and NCAA Division II provisional mark for the national meet with a jump of 39-feet 9-3/4 inches. Matthews also placed third in the long jump at 16-8. Junior Breann Goodman set a new school record in the weight throw with a toss of 43 3-1/4 inches, placing third in the event. Clayton State's distance medley relay team of sophomore Racquel Valadez, junior Jozlyn Varnedoe, junior Gisele Javois and senior Paige Galvin won with a time of 12:50.11, running the team's second best relay time of the season.

## Chemistry

The Clayton State University Chemistry Club visited the Clayton County Water Authority on Friday, Feb. 22. "We wanted to organize the trip to give students some ideas of how it is to be a working chemist; what are their roles and duties," says Chemistry Club President Gloria Le. "We also want to help students learn about environmental sciences and help students learn how water is treated."

## Natural Sciences

Clayton State University partnered with YELL! (Youth Engaged in Learning and Leading) Academy to provide elementary, middle, and high school scholars with the opportunity to make their dreams real, and to explore fun, hands-on Science and math labs on Saturday, Feb. 23. From 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., in the Clayton State Natural and Behavioral Sciences Building, students rotated through a series of lab activities designed for specific age groups. Clayton State faculty participating in the event included Department of Natural Sciences Department chair Dr. Michelle Furlong, assistant dean of Undergraduate Advisement in the College of Informational and Mathematical Sciences Jarrett Terry, and Natural Sciences faculty Dr. Jacqueline Jordan (the program's organizer), Dr. Renee McFarlane, Dr. Jere Boudell, Dr. Fran Norflus, Dr. Paul Melvin, Dr. Boey Tan, and Clayton State alumnus Julie Morgan.

## Procurement Services

This fall the Department of Administrative Services (DOAS) revised the Georgia Procurement Manual to implement a change in state law that allowed State Purchasing Division to increase the competitive bid threshold from \$5,000 to \$25,000. This change will enhance our opportunity to do business with local small business owners, as well as continue to receive the quality service and the best competitive pricing available. Clayton State's Procurement Services has created new guidelines that explain the change and outline the new purchasing limits. We hope this information will help curtail the risk associated with the increase and provide guidelines to make the purchasing experience less complex and more efficient. Please contact Marcia Jones via email, [marciajones@clayton.edu](mailto:marciajones@clayton.edu), or at ext.4280, for information.

## Psychology

Dr. Celeste Walley-Jean of the Clayton State Psychology Department is conducting a research study on conflict in relationships. She is making a call for volunteers for young (ages 18 to 25) African-

American couples. In you are interested in taking part, please leave a message for the Psychology Research Lab at (678) 466-4889. Participants will be entered in a raffle for a \$25 gift card.

## Recreation & Wellness

Are you looking for a team-building-type opportunity for your employees or organization? Do you find that you are in need of greater communication, trust, and cooperation within the group dynamic? If so, Clayton State University's Department of Recreation & Wellness has an opportunity for you. The Department of Recreation & Wellness is pleased to announce the launch of a Low Element Challenge Course on the Clayton State campus. This outdoor facility will avail itself to the campus community as well as outside groups and corporations. Trust, communication, teambuilding and leadership are just a few of the skills that will be challenged and developed at the Low Element Course. For further information about scheduling and pricing, please contact Kilburg at (678) 466-4972 or email [NicholasKilburg@clayton.edu](mailto:NicholasKilburg@clayton.edu). Information can also be found at <http://www.clayton.edu/recwell/outdooradventure/challengecourse>.

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## New Courses, cont'd. from p. 1

Individuals interested in learning more about the Minor in Corporate Communication and the student agency should contact the Department of Visual and Performing Arts for more information, or visit <http://www.clayton.edu/vpa>. ■



# Winter Weather Safety

by Bobby Hamil, director of Public Safety

Although the 2012/2013 winter season has been relatively mild, we all know that it's just a matter of time before Old Man Winter will make a dramatic return. Slips and falls are some of the most frequent types of injuries that are reported during winter months.

## Walk Safely – Walk Like a Penguin!

No matter how well snow, ice and water are removed from parking lots, roadways, sidewalks and other surfaces, pedestrians may still encounter some slippery surfaces when walking outdoors in the winter. Here's how you avoid a fall and a potentially serious injury...

In cold temperatures, approach with caution and assume that all wet, dark areas on pavements are slippery and icy. During snowy and icy weather, avoid boots or shoes with smooth soles and heels. Instead, wear shoes or boots that provide traction on snow and ice; boots made of non-slip rubber or neoprene with grooved soles are best.

Use special care when entering and exiting vehicles; use the vehicle for support. Sit in your vehicle first; then bring your legs inside. This will help prevent you

from slipping and falling out of your vehicle.

Walk in designated walkways as much as possible. Taking short cuts over snow piles and other frozen areas can be hazardous. Look ahead when you walk; a snow or ice-covered sidewalk or driveway, especially if on a hill, may require walking along its grassy edge for traction or, worst case, if a sidewalk or road is covered in ice, walk in the snow – even ice-covered snow will give you some traction.

Never walk in streets that are icy and snow-covered. You could be struck by a skidding vehicle. If you have to walk in a roadway, walk against the traffic so you can see what's coming and stay as close to the curb as possible. In cold temperatures, approach with caution and assume that all wet, dark areas on pavements are slippery and icy.

Wear bright, reflective clothing even during the day so you stand out against the snow.

When walking on very slippery surfaces, point your feet out slightly like a penguin! This will increase your center of gravity.

Bend slightly and walk flat-footed with your center of gravity over your feet as much as possible. Extend your arms out from your sides to help balance you.

Keep your hands out of your pockets. Hands in your pockets while walking decreases your center of gravity and balance. You can help break your fall with your hands free if you do start to slip.

Watch where you are stepping and... GO S-L-O-W-L-Y !!

Take short steps or shuffle for stability.

Wear a heavy, bulky coat that will cushion you if you should fall and gloves so you don't scrape your hands on hard snow, ice and pavement.

If you feel yourself falling try to avoid landing on your knees, wrists, or spine. Try to fall on a fleshy part of your body, such as your side. Try to relax your muscles if you fall. You'll injure yourself less if you are relaxed. ■







# HOMECOMING







# WEEK 2013











# ING DAY 2013





## Women's Forum Spring Scholarship Luncheon

April 16  
12 noon – 1:30 pm  
Harry S. Downs Center, Room 101  
Guest Speaker: Ashley Vicos

A Clayton State alum, Ashley has been professionally decorating cakes for twelve years and owns Sweet Ashley's, a private baking studio. Her in-demand cakes have become so popular, she also travels around the country baking for high-profile events and top-tier clients. She has been featured on Food Network, TLC, CBS, and NBC, as well as in American Cake Decorating Magazine and Modern Baking Magazine.



Ashley Vicos



Former Atlanta Mayor Shirley Clarke Franklin, one of the Clayton State University School of Nursing's 2012/2013 Faculty Scholars, spoke at the University on Thursday, Feb. 14 and Friday, Feb. 15. Franklin's presentation was on, "Lessons in Leadership: The Power of One" and concentrated on men and women whose conviction and determination made a difference in our America.

### LEGO, cont'd. from p. 3

Clayton State was able to pull the event off as a true group effort with a lot of help from the Clayton State Honors Program, The Loch Shop – which donated a plethora of supplies -- and Clayton State's dining service, Sodexo, which provided food for 600 guests. The honors student volunteers, along with the co-event host and creator, Clayton State Assistant Professor of Mathematics Dr. Scott Bailey, were essential to the success of the event.

"Luckily we were able to work diligently to get things done," says CIMS Assistant Dean Jarrett Terry, "We definitely have Dr. Bailey to thank for gathering the support needed to make this event a success."

The competitors and their families were ultimately pleased with the super regionals, and hope that it will be held at Clayton State next year. They especially appreciated the venue of the James M. Baker University Center, with its open floor, and overarching hallways where they could have an aerial view of the robot competitions happening on Main Street.

Planning for next year's Lego League super regionals will begin in April of this

year. Terry hopes that early planning will help the event obtain more sponsorship, attract more merchants, and better train and prepare volunteers. He is confident that Clayton State can make the super regionals a success again, and is proud of this year's team.

"It's miraculous how faculty and students came together just a few days before the competition and were committed to making it an enjoyable event for the kids and their families," he states.

One team getting more than their share of enjoyment out of the super regionals were the North Clayton Middle School RoboTigers, who won the first place champion award in the competition. The RoboTiger team included; Dagm Behailu, Bailey Jordan, Jason Purce, Kendall Jordan, Ali Sesay, Terrance Dorsey, Victoria Haggwood and Camille Taylor. Nezetta Johnson, Mark Smith and Stacy Nelson coached the team and Zenobia Johnson and Sandra Caughman were the parent mentors.

The FLL regionals weren't the only event for secondary school children hosted by Clayton State this winter. The Clayton

State Library also welcomed more than 500 people for the Fifth Annual Metro Atlanta Helen Ruffin Reading Bowl Competition on Saturday, Feb. 2. On Feb. 23, CIMS hosted the MathCounts state regional competition and, on the same day, Clayton State partnered with YELL (Youth Engaged in Learning and Leading) Academy to provide elementary, middle, and high school scholars with the opportunity to explore fun, hands-on science and math labs. ■



**Griggs, cont'd. from p. 1**

unique talent on the court. One of the fastest players you'll never see until she picks your pocket with a steal on the Lakers' full-court press, Griggs already owns a place on the 2011 Elite Eight All-Tournament team, a selection to the 2011-2012 Peach Belt All-Conference team, four Peach Belt Player of the Week honors during the current season (she's the odds-on favorite to be the Peach Belt Player of the Year), and, most importantly, a national championship ring, earned in the Lakers' successive 23 point, 17 point, and 19 point beat-downs in the 2011 Elite Eight in St. Joseph, Missouri.

Thus, the 5-5 senior guard has made a home at Clayton State, a 7,000-student University outside of Atlanta known as the place where dreams are made real, having first come on campus as a high school freshman, attending the summer basketball camps run by Coach Dennis Cox. While part of Griggs' dream may have been to play collegiately for Cox, another part of her hometown experience is to play in front of her biggest fan, and her athletic hero while she was growing up, her mom, Waikeeta Flagg.

The secrets to the Lakers', and Griggs' success, are athleticism and speed, which Cox makes good use of in the Lakers' 40 minute, end-to-end press. While Griggs' hero is rightly her mother, it could also be Usain Bolt. And while she wears number 12 for the Lakers, it's been said that it looks like she's wearing 121212, because she's so fast, her number's just a blur. It's certainly fitting that she went to high school in Jonesboro, since that's the site of Tara in "Gone With The Wind," something that's happened to 23 other teams so far in the 2012/2013 season.

Combine speed, which helps her average a Peach Belt-leading 3.7 steals per game (ironically, she's a criminal justice major), with a picture-perfect jump shot, and Cox has an offensive and defensive weapon that can turn any game around in minutes. To put it another way, Griggs is the type of player who can dominate a game at the key moments.

"MeMe is such a dynamic player. Everything changes when she steps onto the floor," says Cox. "She is definitely playing at a very high level right now –



Photo Credit: Kevin Liles | kdjphoto.com

Drameka "MeMe" Griggs in action at the 2013 women's basketball Homecoming game.

the best basketball of her career. She is also a great teammate and leader, being a captain in her senior season. She has been fun to watch, and it is an added bonus that she has gotten to do it in front of her friends and family."

Family means a lot to Griggs, especially her hero and biggest fan.

"My mom is my everything. She is definitely my hero, my angel, my protector, my best friend, my biggest fan, and even my biggest enemy at times," she says. "Enemy you might ask? When everyone is walking about telling me how good I am or how great I played, she's telling me how bad I actually played or how humble I must remain. It seems a little harsh, but it motivates me. No one knows my true potential like my mom. Like any other parent, she knows her child better than anyone on this Earth.

"Growing up, I heard my mom was star softball player and really good basketball player, but she didn't have that driving force, or that extra push or even the parental guidance she has provided me with that I cherish so much. It's always a blessing to have her around. But now, more than ever, each day I step on the court I'm reminded through prayer that I do this all for her as a small token of appreciation in hopes of making her proud."

Griggs certainly made mom proud during the Lakers' 83-51 Homecoming win over the University of Montevallo, the second place team in the Peach Belt's western division. The Lakers ripped off two utterly devastating runs in the game, outscor-

ing the Falcons 21-2 and 21-3 respectively, with Griggs getting 16 of her game-high 23 points during those 12 minutes of play.

That performance didn't surprise Laker fans, since Griggs also took over the game, as great players will do, in Clayton State's two road wins over nationally-ranked teams. In the Lakers' 56-50 win over then-third-ranked USC Aiken, Griggs scored 20 points and added nine rebounds, five assists and three steals. Significantly, with the game tied at 50 in the last minute, she tallied two assists, two rebounds and the final two points of the game, personally accounting for the six points that made the difference at the end.

Then, in the Lakers' 67-54 win at 23rd-ranked Augusta State, Griggs scored 18 of her 23 points and added four rebounds, two steals and two assists in the second half, bringing the Lakers back to a 13 point win from an 18 point deficit with less than 18 minutes to play.

"MeMe Griggs – as she so often does – took over the game in the final minutes," said Cox after that one.

Her ability to take over a game, to carry her team, is extraordinary. When Griggs and the Lakers get rolling, it sometimes seems as if the other team is non-existent. However, Griggs says there's no secret to streaks like that, or to carrying a team.

"Anytime you see those spurts, we've more than likely gotten yelled at for being lazy or maybe I've somehow managed to

**Griggs, cont'd, p. 17**

**Hollowell, cont'd. from p. 3**

News of Hollowell's appointment has already appeared on the SNU website, <http://news.snu.edu.cn/bencandy.php?fid=1&id=8916>. An English version of the SNU website is available at <http://english.snu.edu.cn/>. Upon her arrival in China, Hollowell will also be blogging for the Clayton State Office of University Relations, through a link to her own China website.

From the SNU website, it is clear that the fit between SNU and Hollowell, one of the nation's most respected and well-known children's advocates, and one of Georgia's foremost teacher educators, is a good one.

"Shaanxi Normal University (SNU) is one of the key institutions of higher learning directly affiliated to Ministry of Education and it entered '211 Project University' in 2006. It is an important base of fostering teachers of higher education, middle school education and educational administrative cadres. It is regarded as 'the cradle of teachers' in Northwest China." reads the SNU homepage.

Hollowell's Fulbright award comes from the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board (FSB), the presidentially appointed 12-member board that is responsible for establishing worldwide policies for the Fulbright Program and for selection of Fulbright recipients. Hollowell's grant is made possible through funds that are appropriated annually by the U.S. Congress and, in many cases, by contributions from partner countries and/or the private sector.

"The U.S. Department of State describes the Fulbright program as, '...the flagship international educational exchange program sponsored by the United States Government,'" says Clayton State President Dr. Thomas J. Hynes. "Professor Hollowell's award recognizes her contributions as teacher and scholar, and brings praise for her and Clayton State University. We are honored that she is our colleague."

A former public school science teacher and museum director of education, and a member of the Society for the Study of

Social Problems, Hollowell was awarded the 2010 Equity & Social Justice Advocacy Award from the National Association for Multicultural Education (NAME), on the nomination by fellow Clayton State faculty member, Assistant Professor of Teacher Education Dr. Mari Roberts. ■



The Hollowell Family



Sixth Annual Southeast Philosophy Congress, held Feb. 15 and Feb. 16, featured Keynote Speaker Dr. Mark Risjord Professor of Philosophy, Emory College of Arts and Sciences; Professor of Nursing, Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing.



Peer Mentors, cont'd. from p. 5

Belinda Collins  
Antigone Constantine  
Desman Cook  
Ruby Corral  
Jessica Dearlove  
Osiris Dominguez  
Anslee Duff  
Ashley Dulaney  
Akiyah Dunlap  
Ciara Dunn  
Freda Ezeokonkwo  
Shelby Floyd  
Kenneth Forde  
India Foxworth  
Taylor Galvin  
Ajee Glasco  
Larry Golden  
Sarah Hardyway  
Kalicia Harris  
Javian Harris  
Kiren Hassin  
Jessica Hill  
Kendraviv Hinton  
Phai Ho  
Imana Holden  
Laura Huerta  
Emmanuella Ibekwe  
Jasmine Ivery

Dauria Jackson  
Christine Johnson  
Ashley Kekula  
Job Kemboi  
Marina Kondos  
Kendall Large  
Sally Le  
Beverly Lopez  
Davis Luu  
Karlie McCallum  
Kayla McTaw  
Sofia Medina Roman  
Nysha Moore  
Shante Mowry  
Danielle Neilly  
Allan Nguyen  
Mylinh Nguyen  
Augustine Obinali  
Cesar Orellana  
Carlos Pacheco  
William Paxton  
Abel Petros  
Chung Phan  
Rikesia Phillips  
Jenai' Polite  
Mychal Pope  
Alexander Ramirez  
Lyndsy Riddle

Esmeralda Rivera  
Lera Robinson  
Breonah Rockmore  
Ruth Rodriguez  
Jazmine Rodriguez  
Eric Russell  
Tiffany Sam  
Jesus Servin  
Ken'ya Shepherd  
Alexander Simmons  
Adam Singleton  
Saul Skepple  
Olivia Stilwell  
Aaron Taylor  
Jerelyn Thigpen  
Luke Torak  
Elaine Tran  
Nancy Valdez  
Shaakira Vogel  
Shanice Walker  
Tyler Wallace  
Taneshia West  
Michael White  
Steven Williams  
Makala Williams ■



# Shedrick Hits Last Second 3-pointer to Lift Lakers to 66-64 Win Over Montevallo on Homecoming

by Gid Rowell, Athletics

A 3-pointer by forward Charles Shedrick with three seconds remaining Saturday put the perfect ending on a perfect Homecoming at Clayton State University.

Shedrick's game-winning shot came after Montevallo's Danny Cummins missed two free throws, setting the play with 25 seconds left in the game. After a Laker timeout, Shedrick took a pass from guard Tony Dukes on the right wing, slipped a defender then drained a 3-pointer for the win.

Clayton State trailed by three points, 64-61, with 1:01 left in the contest before forward Omari Murray made a basket to pull the Lakers within one.

The win over Montevallo, the Peach Belt Conference's top team from the West, evens Clayton State's record at 11-11 and 7-8 in league play. The Falcons fall to 15-7 overall and 11-4 in the PBC. Clayton State will return to action on Thursday, traveling to face Georgia College in Milledgeville.

The game against Montevallo was tight throughout with nine lead changes and the scored tied on seven different occasions. Clayton State led 30-28 at halftime.

Murray led Clayton State with 14 points, hitting 6-of-9 shots from the field. Dukes finished with 13 points, six assists and three steals. Center Andrew Bachanov had 10 points and 10 rebounds. Forward Juron Dobbs finished with 10 points, hitting 4-of-6 from the floor.

Clayton State shot 46 percent (23-of-50) from the field and held Montevallo to 42 percent (23-of-55). The Lakers also shot well from behind the 3-point arc, draining 9-of-21 shots for 43 percent, while the Falcons only made 31 percent, making 5-of-16. ■



Charles Shedrick during the 2013 Homecoming game against Montevallo.

Photo Credit: Kevin Liles | kcalphoto.com

## Idol, cont'd. from p. 2

Like You," Monica's "Love All Over Me," and Stevie Wonder's "Superstition."

The three finalists of the competition were Gosa, Manzy and Mirville. Audience members cast their votes via text voting for their favorite performer. After the performance of a song entitled, "Flying Without Wings," the audience voted Manzy as the 2013 Clayton State Idol winner. He received a trophy, cash prize, and gifts and rewards from local businesses and the Loch Shop.

Program coordinator, Darius Thomas expressed excitement about the progress of Clayton State Idol.

"This year's event featured seven distinctive vocal styles and the attendance grew tremendously. I am looking forward to the success of next year show," he said.

The Office of Orientation and New Student Programs promote programs and services that support the university's mission of student retention and success. If you would like to learn about more programs and services, please feel free to visit the office's website: <http://www.clayton.edu/orientation>. ■

## Awards, cont'd. from p. 2

The Student Choice Awards is an annual event hosted by Clayton State Student Media and is held during the university's Homecoming week in and evening is filled with music, comedy, and the arts as the student body recognizes outstanding individuals and organizations in the Clayton State family.

In preparation for Homecoming each year, the entire student body is invited to

nominate their favorites in 16 categories and then vote on the top four nominations in each category. Some of the categories include; staff member of the year, student organization of the year, fraternity of the year, sorority of the year, and faculty member of the year.

Clayton State University Student Media includes the Bent Tree student newspaper, Clayton State internet Radio, and Clayton State Television. Clayton State University Student Media is a part of the Department of Campus Life. ■



## #3 Clayton State Women Cruise to 83-51 Win on Homecoming Saturday

by Gid Rowell, Athletics

The 3rd-ranked Clayton State women's basketball team shot well from the floor and forced 31 Montevallo turnovers on Homecoming to cruise to a 83-51 victory at the Athletics & Fitness Center.

Clayton State finished the game, hitting 48 percent (36-of-75) from floor, while the Laker defense, which ranks among the nation's best, held the Falcons to only 33 percent (18-of-55) from the floor.

The Lakers took control of the game in the final seven minutes of the first half. Up by three points with 7:20 remaining, the undefeated CSU squad went on a 21-2 run and took a commanding 22-point lead on a layup by forward Jessica Covington with 13 seconds remaining the period. Montevallo's Trena Moore-Smith drilled 3-pointer from just inside half-court to trim the Laker lead to 37-18 at intermission.

Senior guard Drameka Griggs keyed the Laker run with nine of her game-high 23 points in the run and also had three steals, setting up Clayton State baskets.

In the second half, Montevallo cut the Laker lead to 13 points but could come no closer. Leading 50-37 with 11:07 left, Clayton State went on 21-3 run over the



Jessica Covington during the 2013 Homecoming game against Montevallo.

Photo Credit: Kevin Liles | kdphoto.com

next the five minutes to seal the victory. Griggs capped the run with a steal and lay-up at the 5:50 mark to give the Lakers a 31-point lead, 71-40. The Lakers pushed the lead to as many as 36 points in final minutes of the contest.

"We played really well in spurts tonight," said head coach Dennis Cox. "We're still looking for consistency in our play but when we were good tonight we were very good. MeMe (Drameka Griggs) was dynamic as usual, our posts did a good defensively, and I thought Kayla Mobley played her best game to date as a Laker."

With the win, Clayton State improves to 22-0 and 15-0 in Peach Belt Conference play. The loss drops Montevallo to 13-10 overall and 8-6 in league play. The Lakers will return to action on Thursday, February 14th, traveling to face Georgia College in Milledgeville, GA.

Griggs' 23 points came on 10-of-16 shooting. Along with six steals, she also had four assists. Forward Kayla Mobley finished with a "double-double" with 15 points and 10 rebounds. She also added four assists and two steals. ■

### Griggs, cont'd, p. 13

turn on what I like to consider my little secret 'GO' button," she says. "I'm not sure there's a secret to carrying a team. As a senior leader, from the last game of your junior season to the last game of your senior season, you realize there is only ONE last chance to do something special. So in crunch times, I'm never called on to make those big plays. It's almost like an unwritten rule... it comes with being a leader and now it's just something I've learned to carry out. In those crunch moments, I think the only thing that goes through my mind is, 'I have got to step up and make a play. If I don't then, who will?'"

Remarkably, Cox brings his star off the bench – she's started just one game so far

this season, although as a player on the way to setting the single season scoring record for one of Division II's top women's basketball programs, and possibly also getting the career scoring record at Clayton State as well, she's hardly a secret weapon. Griggs currently stands 17th nationally in scoring at 19.4 points per game (no other Laker is in double figures) on 54 percent shooting (second among all guards nationally), with 4.4 rebounds and 3.5 assists per game, despite playing less than 29 minutes per game. Still, her statistics don't tell the complete story, because she does get the game going up and down, triggering outbursts where she leads the fast break on one end, and keys a suffocating defense on the

other end. One reason for Griggs' relative inactivity is that the Lakers, one of the best defensive teams in the country (their opponents are shooting 33 percent and averaging just 53 points), have a winning margin of 20.3 points per game, second in the nation.

When she is on the floor, MeMe Griggs is often the smallest player of the floor... she's also the smallest Laker. But, no one in the nation has a bigger effect on the game than this hometown hero, arguably the best guard in the country. ■



**Gibbons, cont'd. from p. 21**

team league and currently enjoy an 11-year streak of winning seasons, all accomplished during his tenure. Before his arrival, the Lakers had a combined four winning seasons in the 11 years of men's basketball.

Gibbons has led the Lakers to two NCAA Division II National tournaments, including a "Sweet Sixteen" Appearance, a Peach Belt Conference Championship and a Peach Belt Conference Tournament Championship title.

In his first season in 2000-01, the Lakers captured their first Peach Belt Conference Championship regular season title with a 19-9 record overall and a 15-5 mark in league play.

He led the program to arguably their best season ever in 2006-07, as the squad finished with a 24-8 overall record, advancing to the Peach Belt Conference Tournament championship game. The Lakers clinched their first NCAA Division II National Tournament bid that year and was ranked in the nation's Top-25 the entire season. The squad spent eight weeks ranked as the nation's No. 2 team.

Clayton State captured the Peach Belt Conference Tournament Championship in the 2007-08 season, sweeping through the tourney with four straight wins, capped off by an epic triple-overtime thriller over host USC Aiken in the title game. The win punched the Lakers' ticket to the NCAA Division II National Championships, where the squad advanced to the "Sweet Sixteen" for the first time in school history.

Gibbons won his 400th game in February of the 2008-09 season, becoming one of the fastest Division II coaches to reach the plateau. At the conclusion of 2006-07 season, Gibbons was honored as the John "Whack" Hyder State of Georgia Men's College Coach of the Year by the Atlanta Tip-Off Club, and last fall he was inducted into the Florida Association of Basketball Coaches (FABC) "Court of Legends" Hall of Fame.

Winning at the national level was not foreign to Gibbons and prior to his arrival at



Photo Credit: Kevin Liles | kdphoto.com

Coach Gordon Gibbons and the men's team following the 2013 Homecoming game.

Clayton State, he enjoyed an ultra-successful career at Florida Southern. During his 10-year career at Florida Southern, he had a 246-65 record (3rd winningest Div. II record) and posted nine 20-win seasons. His success on the national stage at Florida Southern included six trips to the NCAA Division II National Tournament, two appearances in the Elite Eight and one appearance in the Final Four.

Gibbons averaged a 25-7 win-loss record at Florida Southern and a .790 percent winning percentage. His top season came in the 1999-00 campaign when he led the Moccasins to a 32-2 record, a trip to the Elite Eight and a No. 1 national ranking in the final Division II poll. His Florida Southern teams were either the regular season or tournament champions in the Sunshine State Conference in eight of his 10 years and were ranked in the top 20 six times.

In addition to team accomplishments, Gibbons' players also excelled academically and athletically. In his 24 years combined as a head coach and an assistant coach, Gibbons has had nine All-Americans, two National Players of the Year and one player drafted into the National Basketball Association. He has also had nearly 30 players play professional basketball in the United States and Europe.

While at Florida Southern, Gibbons was a finalist for National Coach of the Year in 1999-00 by Basketball Times. He was

also selected the 1995-96 NCAA South Region NABC Coach of the Year and was a three-time Sunshine State Conference Coach of the Year.

A native of Tampa, Fla., Gibbons played his collegiate basketball at Springfield (Mass.) College (though after James Naismith was there), receiving his Bachelor's Degree from Springfield in 1968.

Clayton State will conduct a nationwide search for Gibbons' replacement. ■

**#1, cont'd. from p. 21**

The Clayton State women's basketball program is 89-5 (.947) over the last three years, the top winning percentage of any program at the NCAA Division II level. The Lakers have been ranked in the Top-25 in 72 straight national polls. The last time the Lakers weren't ranked among the country's Top-25 teams dates back five years ago in the Jan. 6th poll in the 2008-09 season.

Out of over 1,000 teams competing at the NCAA Division I, II and III levels, there are only two women's basketball programs that have fewer losses than Clayton State's five. Both Baylor University, at the NCAA Division I level, and Amherst College, at the NCAA Division III level, have four losses over the last three years. The Lakers will close its regular season on Saturday, traveling to play Peach Belt Conference rival Columbus State. ■



# CLAYTON STATE RETIREES ASSOCIATION GOURMET DINNER AND WINE PAIRING

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## Women's Tennis Defeats #45 Augusta State, 7-2

by **Gid Rowell, Athletics**

The Clayton State women's tennis team had another impressive performance last Tuesday, defeating its second straight nationally-ranked team and Peach Belt Conference opponent by a 7-2 margin.

The squad defeated 45th-ranked Augusta State at Laker Courts today after beating 44th-ranked USC Aiken on Sunday by the same score. The win improves Clayton State to 3-1 on the season and 2-0 in conference play.

Clayton State got off to a good start on Tuesday, winning two of the three doubles matches before taking five singles matches en route to the victory.

### Singles competition

1. Hannah Keeling (CLSW) def. Victoria Lindqvist (ASU) 6-0, 6-0
2. Ivana Krommelova (CLSW) def. Liv Pettersson (ASU) 6-3, 6-0
3. Zinnia Leamana (CLSW) def. Roberta Oliveira (ASU) 6-2, 4-6, 10-8
4. Maria C. Pimentel (ASU) def. Raluca Pavel (CLSW) 5-7, 6-1, 10-5
5. Jessica Budd (CLSW) def. Julie Fontaine (ASU) 2-6, 6-4, 6-3



Photo Credit: Kevin Liles | kdphoto.com

6. Charlotte Fabricius (CLSW) def. Lissa Murakami (ASU) 6-2, 6-2

### Doubles competition

1. Hannah Keeling/Ivana Krommelova (CLSW) def. Victoria Lindqvist/Liv Pettersson (ASU) 8-1
2. Roberta Oliveira/Julie Fontaine (ASU) def. Jessica Budd/Martina Dedaj (CLSW) 8-4
3. Raluca Pavel/Zinnia Leamana (CLSW) def. Lissa Murakami/Maria C. Pimentel (ASU) 8-6 ■

## Azcue Lowers NCAA Provisional Time in the Mile

Clayton State senior Ayrton Azcue continued his strong indoor track and field season last Saturday, lowering his NCAA Division II provisional time for the indoor national championships in the mile run, winning the event at JDL Fast Track Championship Tune-up in Winston-Salem, NC.



Ayrton Azcue

Photo Credit: Kevin Liles | kdphoto.com

Freshman teammate Job Kemboi also added his name to the Laker record book, breaking Azcue's 3,000m run record, finishing seventh in the event.

Junior Bryce Rauhof set the tone by opening with a win in the weight throw competition. He broke his own team record by more than two feet with a toss of 49-feet 5-1/2 inches. ■

Azcue, who already has an automatic qualifying time in the 800m, finished with a time of 4:13.85, breaking the school record set by Walid Berkhedle in 2009.

### Trivia Time

## Ellington Edges Former Champions

by **John Shiffert, University Relations**

The results are in for the 2012 edition of Trivia Time, and the winner of the Tom Eddins Virtual Trivia Trophy is Jill Ellington of the Registrar's Office.

A first time winner of the Eddins Trophy, Ellington (who was second last year) scored 59 points and defeated no fewer than three former champions; Rob (Zachary's Great Nephew) Taylor (56 points), four-time winner Lou Brackett (34) and the 2011 winner, Kurt-Alexander Zeller (33). Ellington also becomes the second staff member from the Registrar's Office to finish first, following Jean Myers' win in 2004.

The entire list of Trivia Time winners...

- 2001 – Lou Brackett
- 2002 – Lou Brackett and Terry Penn
- 2003 – Tom Eddins
- 2004 – Jean Myers
- 2005 – Rob Taylor
- 2006 – Tom Eddins
- 2007 – Dina Swearngin
- 2008 – Kelly Adams
- 2009 – Lou Brackett
- 2010 – Lou Brackett and Rob Taylor
- 2011 – Kurt-Alexander Zeller
- 2012 – Jill Ellington

To pick up in 2013, last issue's question asked what was so embarrassing about Jefferson Davis' post-Civil War capture in South Georgia by Union troops. Well, if you were caught wearing your wife's coat, that would be pretty embarrassing, although what was worse, as Zeller pointed out in his answer, was when northern editorial cartoonists got through with Davis, "he was apprehended trying to flee in full Scarlett O'Hara drag of hoopskirts and wig." Actually, Kathy Garrison had the first correct answer, followed by Brackett, Ellington and Zeller (who gets a Bonus Point for the Scarlett O'Hara line.)

In keeping with the former champions theme of this issue's Trivia Time, what do Brackett and Eddins have in common, other than the fact that they're both former multiple champions? Send your answers to [johnshiffert@clayton.edu](mailto:johnshiffert@clayton.edu). ■



# Sports...

## Gibbons to Resign as Head Basketball Coach at Season's End

by Gid Rowell, Athletics

Head men's basketball coach Gordon Gibbons, Clayton State's leader in victories and one of the all-time winningest coaches at the NCAA Division II level, has announced that he will resign his position as the Laker head coach at season's end.

"Over the past several weeks, I have had discussions with administration concerning my decision to step down at the end of the year," says Gibbons. "I have made it clear that I will not be talked out of it. They asked me to announce it now, and I have agreed with mixed emotions. Announcing it now will allow the process to begin, to bring in the next coach for our program. I will be pursuing new opportunities when we conclude the season."

In his 12th season at Clayton State, Gibbons has a 214-130 record, giving him more wins and a higher winning percentage than any coach in the program's history. In addition to his stellar accomplishments at Clayton State, he also amassed

over 246 wins at Florida Southern, making him the only coach in NCAA Division II history to capture 200 victories at two different schools with a winning percentage of over 70 percent.

Overall, in 22 seasons at the NCAA Division II level, he is 460-193 for a winning percentage of .704, which ranks fourth in the nation among the active head coaches with 15 years of experience.

"Coach Gibbons has been one of the top collegiate coaches in the country and has touched the lives of thousands of young men. He has worked diligently to bring the Clayton State men's basketball team into the national spotlight," says Clayton State Athletics Director Carl McAloose.

Gibbons had an instant impact on the Clayton State program from the moment he arrived in the spring of 2001, and through his leadership developed the men's basketball program into one of the nation's premier NCAA Division II pro-



Photo Credit: Kevin Liles | kdphoto.com

Coach Gordon Gibbons

grams and one of the elite programs of the Peach Belt Conference.

Under his leadership and since his arrival, the Lakers are 117-91 in Peach Belt play. Prior to his arrival, the Lakers' Peach Belt mark was 24-40 in four seasons. The Lakers have captured the second most PBC wins over the last 11 years in the 14-

**Gibbons, cont'd, p. 18**

## Women's Basketball Moves Up to #1

For the third time in the last three years, the Clayton State women's basketball team is ranked as the #1 team in the country.

The undefeated and Peach Belt Conference champion Lakers moved up to #1 in the latest edition of the USA Today Sports/ESPN Division II Top 25 Coaches Poll released today (Tuesday).

Clayton State (25-0; 18-0 PBC) moved up to the top spot after defeating Georgia Southwestern 91-43 and previous top-ranked team Bentley lost 73-66 to Stonehill on Saturday. The Lakers are now the lone undefeated team (women's or men's) at the NCAA Division II level.

The Laker women's program was also ranked #1 late in the 2010-11 season before capturing the NCAA Division II

National Championship that year with a 35-1 record. Clayton State opened the 2011-12 season as the nation's top-ranked team.

Clayton State received 30 first place votes and a total of 797 points in the poll, which is conducted by 33 NCAA Division II coaches. Bentley (24-1) dropped to No. 3 in the country and received 733 points, while Ashland (27-1) moved up to No. 2 with 757 points.

Along with Clayton State, the only other Peach Belt school in the rankings is USC Aiken (19-5) at No. 21. Besides the Lakers, the top squad from Clayton State's Southeast Region is Limestone, which is ranked ninth with a 22-2 record.

**#1, cont'd, p. 18**

<i>Campus Review</i> <i>February 26, 2013</i>	
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