# Clayton State Customer Service Plan Gears Up for Third Initiative

Clayton State University is on a mission to not only provide great service, but to exceed students' expectations. After notable successes in improving the academic advising process and reducing registration holds, Clayton State University's Customer Service Project Team is gearing up for a new initiative in the spring of 2008 – call center customer service training.

According to Team Chair/Customer Service Champion Carolina Amero, Clayton State's Director of Auxiliary Services, the next phase in the University's part in Governor Sonny Perdue's statewide "Customer Service Improvement Initiative" will kick off in May 2008 with customer service training sessions for the University's primary telephone call centers — Admissions,

Financial Aid, the Registrar's Office, Continuing Education, and the HUB. This comprehensive program will emphasize a common approach to the delivery of exceptional customer service, and it is anchored in five key commitments to our customers: Helpful – Courteous – Accessible – Responsive – Knowledgeable. The call centers will also focus on identifying ways in which to take advantage of the new SWAN Luminis Web Portal to meet students' needs by providing call center information in a convenient, user-friendly way.

The state's Customer Service Improvement Initiative dates back to the summer of 2006, when Perdue launched the program in which all state agencies

Customer Service, cont'd., p. 4

### President's Message

### Customer Service is Part of Clayton State's Strategic Plan



President Harden

Student success has been one of Clayton State University's strategic planning themes for the past couple of years, and customer service is a part of that theme. So, Clayton State wholeheartedly

supports Governor Perdue's Customer Service Initiative and Chancellor Davis' clear vision of this initiative as an opportunity to ensure

Message, cont'd., p. 13

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# Clayton State to Hold Eighth Annual MLK Commemoration on January 24

Clayton State University has scheduled its Eighth Annual Martin Luther King, Jr., Commemoration Day for Thursday, Jan. 24, 2008. Appearing as the keynote speaker for the event will be Atlanta educator and media personality Billye S. Aaron.

The theme for the event will be, "Civil Rights in Atlanta: A Personal Reflection Featuring Billye S. Aaron." The keynote address will be given at 7:30 p.m. on Jan. 24 in the University's world-famous Spivey Hall, and will also feature a performance by the Clayton State Gospel Choir. Prior to the keynote, a reception for Aaron will be held at 6:45 p.m. in the Spivey Hall lobby.

As part of the Commemoration Day, Aaron will also moderate a dialogue for Clayton State students on "The Value of Education" at 1:30 p.m. on Jan. 24 in room 132 of the Arts & Sciences Building. Seating will be limited for the Student Dialogue, so come early.

Other Clayton State MLK events will include the Sixth Annual



Billye S. Aaron

Freedom Run 5K and 10K, starting and finishing on the Clayton State campus on Saturday, Jan. 19, plus the Clayton State Office of Student Conduct is offering courses for Clayton State students in Conflict Resolution and Mediation

MLK, cont'd., p. 8

# Dr. Rodger Bates Named Dean of College of Professional Studies

Clayton State University Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs Dr. Sharon Hoffman has announced that Dr. Rodger Bates has accepted the position of dean of the University's College of Professional Studies, beginning Feb. 1, 2008.

Presently special assistant to the vice provost for University Outreach at New Mexico State University, Bates is the former president of New Mexico State University at Alamogordo, where he supervised 110 full time faculty and a staff of 65. During his time at Alamogordo (2000-2006) he secured special funding for capital projects totaling more than \$4.5 million dollars.

A long-time educator and administrator, Bates served as department chair and professor of Sociology at Lambuth University in Jackson, Tn., from 1976-1992. He was vice president of Academic Affairs at Dakota Wesleyan University from 1992-1994 and dean of the faculty at Pikeville College from 1994-1996.

The holder of a B.A. in Sociology from the College of William and Mary, Bates returned to his alma mater in 1996, as provost, dean of faculty and professor of Sociology at the Richard Bland College of William and Mary. He also holds an M.A. in Sociology from the University of Memphis and a Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Delaware.

In addition to serving as dean of the College of Professional Studies, Bates' Clayton State faculty appointment will be in the Department of Social Sciences in the College of Arts and Sciences.

The Clayton State University College of Professional Studies consists of three departments that were previously in two different schools at Clayton State: the Department of Administrative and Technology Management, formerly Technical Studies in the School of Technology; the Department of Dental Hygiene, formerly in the School of Health Sciences; and the Department of Healthcare Management; formerly in the School of Health Sciences.

### Dr. Diane Prince Named Associate Dean of Business

by John Shiffert, University Relations

Dr. Diane Prince has joined the Clayton State University School of Business as associate dean, completing the School's recent leadership transition initially brought about by the recent retirement of long-time dean Ernest "Bud" Miller.

After directing the School of Business for 10 years, Miller retired from Clayton State in December 2007 to return to private business, opening the way for long-time Associate Dean Dr. Jacob Chacko to move into the dean's position of the AACSB-accredited School. Prince officially joined the Clayton State faculty on Jan. 2, 2008, in Chacko's former position of associate dean.

Prince was formerly program chair at Troy University's Augusta, Ga., site, where she administered all undergraduate business programs; created the schedule for full and adjunct faculty; credentialed faculty; recruited and advised students; and implemented assessments. Prior to her time at Troy, she served as MBA

director and recruiter at Claflin University in Orangeburg, S.C.

"This position is of extreme interest to me since it would involve many aspects of my various experiences over the years and enable me to provide leadership in strategic planning, as well as future goal and vision setting for Clayton State University and the School of Business," said Prince in her letter of application to Chacko. "I work extremely well with a wide variety of individuals and seek collaboration with people across disciplines and external constituencies. These qualities help me to be an innovative leader and change agent."

"In my opinion, Diane Prince is a great addition to the School and University. She will help take our School to the next level," says Chacko.

Prince holds a Ph.D. in Business Administration with emphases in Strategic Management, International Business and Management Science, from the Uni-versity of Tennessee; a Master of International Administra-tion from Southern Vermont University's School for Interna-tional Train-ing (where she also served as a program administrator); and a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics from the Uni-versity of Wiscon-sin Milwaukee. She has also earned a Marketing Teaching Credential, with 18 hours in graduate Marketing courses at Brenau University, Claflin and Tennessee.

Her professional background also includes serving as dean of the School of Business and Mass Communications at Brenau, several faculty and administrative positions at the University of Wisconsin Superior, seven years as an assistant and associate professor of Business at the University of Maine, serving as the assistant to the dean at the College of Business Administration at Northeastern

Prince, cont'd., p. 10

# Dr. Julia Spinolo Announced as Interim Director Of Nurse Managed Clinic at Clayton State University

by Erin Fender, University Relations

Dr. Julia Spinolo (McDonough) has accepted the position of interim director for the Nurse Managed Clinic at Clayton State University. Spinolo officially began her new position on Jan. 2, 2008.

"I have been getting acclimated and organized since starting this new position, but it has not been a difficult transition," said Spinolo. "Everyone here at Clayton State has been so supportive in welcoming me and helping me in my transition into the clinic full time."

The clinic was without a director for several months, but Latrice Barlow, who is the clinic office manager, did an excellent job keeping the clinic afloat and is a very valuable member of the team, explained Spinolo.

Spinolo is no stranger to the Nurse Managed Clinic. While she was a full time assistant professor in the School of Nursing; as a board certified family nurse practitioner, Spinolo also provided patient care on Fridays at the clinic. She will continue to see patients on Fridays in addition to her new role.

School of Nursing Dean Dr. Lisa Eichelberger approached Spinolo about taking on the director's position of the clinic as a joint appointment position so that she will still be able to teach a few classes in addition to supervising the clinic.

"This is a great opportunity because I'm able to enjoy what I love to do, teaching and nursing, and I'm adding to my professional growth with my new administrative duties. It's very exciting," Spinolo expressed.

Her main goal as director is to promote and increase awareness of the clinic and its services.

Spinolo plans to work on increasing the patient load and customer service.

"I want the Clayton State community and the surrounding areas to know that we



Dr. Julia Spinolo

have an excellent clinic that offers highquality health care," she stated.

Spinolo, cont'd., p. 11

### **Clayton State Prepares for Winter Weather**

Let's see... Georgia just had its driest year since the days of Elijah, and there hasn't been any significant snow in the Atlanta area since Sherman came through town (maybe a bit of an exaggeration.)

Still, Clayton State University is getting ready for any winter weather that might occur over the next few months.

In case of a weather-related closing, or any other type of emergency closing, Clayton State will contact the following media outlets that provide listings of emergency weather closing. However, the first media outlet to be contacted, and the best source for information of this type, is WSB-AM radio.

During emergency weather situations, information about Clayton State's plans will also be available on the University's web page (www.clayton.edu) and through the University's main telephone number (678-466-4000).

### Media Outlets Providing Emergency Weather Closings

WSB-AM 750 WMXV-FM
B-98.5 FM WPCH-FM
KISS 104.1 FM WSTR-FM
97.1 The River WXIA-TV
95.5 The Beat WSB-TV
WGST-AM WAGA-TV
WKLS-FM WGCL-TV

# ASA President Bryan LaBrecque Develops Airline Management Course for Clayton State – Fayette

Bryan LaBrecque is retiring as president of ASA at the end of January 2008 after 30 years in the business. However, he's not leaving aviation entirely, he's developed Clayton State University – Fayette's first airline course.

Clayton State now offers a bachelor's degree with a track in Airline Management. The program is

LaBrecque, cont'd., p. 9

### Free Tax Prep

### **VITA Returns for Another Year**

The Clayton State University Accounting Club will once again be providing free volunteer tax preparation assistance.

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program will be held four times in February and March. Each session will run from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the School of Business' Conference Room in the Administration Building. The dates are Saturday, Feb. 9, Saturday, Feb. 23, Saturday, Mar. 15, and Saturday, Mar. 29. The VITA program is held on a first come, first serve basis.

Participants in the VITA program will need the following information to have their tax returns prepared:

- · Photo identification
- Social Security Cards for you, your spouse and dependents
- Birth dates for primary, secondary and dependents on the tax return
- Current year's tax package, if you received one
- Wage and earning statement(s) Form W-

- 2, W-2G, 1099-R, from all employers
- Interest and dividend statements from banks (Forms 1099)
- A copy of last year's Federal and State returns if available
- Bank routing numbers and account numbers for direct deposit
- Other relevant information about income and expenses
- Total paid for day care; day care providers identifying number
- To file taxes electronically on a married filing joint tax return, both spouses must be present to sign the required forms.

Are you eligible for assistance? Yes, if you make under \$36,000 a year and wish to have help with your personal income taxes.

VITA only assists with the current year's personal income taxes. VITA does not assist with small business returns or those who are self-employed, or with out-of-state returns.

### Customer Service, cont'd. from p. 1

were to unite in an effort to make Georgia the best-managed state in the country, saying, "each Georgia citizen who walks through our door for a government service is an opportunity. It is my intention that Georgia government employees will take advantage of those opportunities, showing citizens that we respect and value their time."

University System of Georgia (USG) Chancellor Erroll B. Davis Jr., quickly responded to the Governor's challenge, asking the 38,000 faculty and staff employed by Georgia's 35 public colleges and universities to provide faster, friendlier, more efficient service to the USG's "customers," including more than 253,500 students.

"The campus-based customer service improvement plans will begin to create a culture that places more emphasis on customer service," Davis stated in 2006. "In line with the Governor's goal of achieving the best-managed state government, we intend to provide a model of service unparalleled in public higher education. Many of our faculty and staff already

Customer Service, cont'd., p. 13

### President Harden Receives Prestigious Award from Epsilon Pi Tau

by Erin Fender, University Relations

Clayton State University President Dr. Thomas K. Harden has received the Prestigious Service Award from the International Honor Society for Professions in Technology, Epsilon Pi Tau (EPT), the premier academic and professional honors group for technology programs in higher education, workforce development programs, and professionals in practice.

According to the service award citation, Harden is recognized for his achievements and contributions to the progress of the educational technology profession, as well as his response to dream, plan, and help deliver new ideas to develop a powerful future direction for EPT.

He is also acknowledged by the award for his exemplary contributions, a consistent record of membership demonstrating meritorious character, scholarship, and leadership.

Harden received this honor at the recent American Technical Education Association Conference. He serves on the EPT advisory group as well as being a member.

In January 2006, Harden was awarded the highest honor bestowed by EPT, the Distinguished Service Citation. A member of EPT since 1978, Harden was also awarded the society's Laureate Citation several years prior to receiving the Distinguished Service Citation.

Epsilon Pi Tau recognizes academic excellence of students in fields devoted to the study of technology and the preparation of practitioners for the technology professions. EPT also extends the honor of membership and advancement activities to outstanding practitioners in the technology professions, scholars with exemplary research interests in technology in society and/or persons who have significantly supported or advanced technology professions.

# Clayton State Begins Spring 2008 Visiting Writers Reading Series, January 28

by Lauren Graves, University Relations

Clayton State University welcomes two poets in conjunction with its spring 2008 Visiting Writers Reading Series.

The series begins on Monday, Jan. 28 with a reading by poet Dr. Brigitte Byrd in room 322 of the Clayton State James M. Baker University Center (UC) at 12:30 p.m.

A native of France where she was trained as a dancer, Byrd is the author of "Fence above the Sea" (Ahsahta, 2005) and "The Dazzling Land" (Black Zinnias, 2008). "Song of a Living Room" (Ahsahta) is scheduled for publication fall 2009.

Her work has appeared in anthologies such as "Shade 2006" (Four Way Books), "Like Thunder." and "American Diaspora" (both from University of Iowa Press), and in literary magazines including "Mississippi Review," "WSQ" ("Women Studies Quarterly"), "Bitter Oleander," "Fourteen Hills," "Columbia Poetry Review," "CAB/NET Magazine," "LCR" ("Lilies and Cannonballs Review"), "Coconut Poetry," "Dragon "Pindeldyboz," "Denver Quarterly," "ACM" ("Another Chicago Magazine"), "Spoon River Poetry Review," "Laurel Review," "New Orleans Review" and "New American Writing," among others. She is the first-prize poetry winner of the St. Petersburg, Russia, Summer Literary Seminar 2000.

Byrd received a Ph.D. in Creative Writing from Florida State University in 2003. She currently lives in Atlanta and teaches Creative Writing at Clayton State University. She is a board member editor for Circumference: The Journal of Graduate Liberal Studies.

The second poet scheduled to speak is 2007 Poetry Pulitzer Prize winner Natasha Trethewey who will read from her work on Tuesday, Feb. 26 at 7 p.m. in UC 272.

Trethewey is author of "Native Guard" (Houghton Mifflin 2006), for which she



Dr. Brigitte Byrd



Natasha Trethewey

won the 2007 Pulitzer Prize, "Bellocg's Ophelia" (Graywolf, 2002) which was named a Notable Book for 2003 by the American Library Association, and "Domestic Work" (Graywolf, 2000). She is the recipient of fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation, the Rockefeller Foundation Bellagio Study Center, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Bunting Fellowship Program of the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study at Harvard. Her poems have appeared in such journals and anthologies as "American Poetry Review," "Callaloo, Kenyon Review," "The Southern Review," "New England Review," "Gettysburg Review," and "The Best American Poetry" 2000 and 2003. Currently, she is Phillis Wheatley Distinguished Chair in Poetry at Emory University.

Her first collection of poetry, "Domestic Work" (2000), was selected by Rita Dove as the winner of the inaugural Cave Canem Poetry Prize for the best first book by an African American poet and won both the 2001 Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters Book Prize and the 2001 Lillian Smith Award for Poetry. In her introduction to the book, Dove said,

"Trethewey eschews the Polaroid instant, choosing to render the unsuspecting yearnings and tremulous hopes that accompany our most private thoughts—reclaiming for us that interior life where the true self flourishes and to which we return, in solitary reverie, for strength."

In addition to the poetry readings by Byrd and Trethewey, the spring 2008 Visiting Writers Reading Series also includes a reading by Clayton State University Creative Writing students on Mar. 26 at 12:30 p.m. in UC 322 and the annual Poetry Palooza/"Cygnet" Literary Magazine Launch on Apr. 17 at 7 p.m. in UC 272.

Copies of the authors' work will be available for purchase, and a question/answer and book signing will follow each reading.

The Visiting Writers Reading Series is funded by Clayton State's Lyceum and is free and open to the public. For directions to the campus, visit www.clayton.edu. For additional information on the series, contact brigittebyrd@clayton.edu. ■

### Across the Campus

#### **Athletics**

In action since the Christmas break, the Clayton State men's basketball team defeated St. Augustine and then lost to Arkansas-Monticello, Augusta State and Columbus State. The women's basketball team defeated Lenoir Rhyne and Fayetteville State and then also lost to Augusta State and Columbus State.

### **Auxiliary Services**

Does a low-fat Caramel Latte sound good? How about a Wild Berry or Banana Smoothie, a Chai Tea, or just a good cup of French Roast Coffee? If so, you'll soon be able to get your coffee fix right here on campus! Jazzman's Café offers a variety of hot and cold coffee drinks, plus fruit smoothies and teas, muffins and pastries, as well as, sandwiches, salads, and soup. Jazzman's will be located in the Baker Center, near the entrance to the Library. Hours of operation will be the same as the Library hours. Visit the Jazzman's Café website for more information regarding menu items.

### **Campus Life**

Campus Life began strictly enforcing the University Posting Policy on Jan. 7. Campus Life had permitted the University to become acclimated with the policy during the Fall semester. Now that everyone is aware of the adjustments, it will be strictly enforced. Please visit the website: http://adminservices.clayton.edu/campuslife and click on Campus Postings and Announcements and then University Posting Policy.

#### **CIMS**

Children from all over Georgia will be coming to Clayton State tomorrow from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. for the Second Annual Lego Robotics Competition of the First Lego League. Dr. Cherie Long, associate professor of Information Technology in the College of Information and Mathematical Sciences is the organizer of the competition for kids aged nine to 12. The public is invited to attend free of charge.

### **Clayton County**

Clayton State retiree Dr. Helen Brown reports that Dr. Frank McCamey, 88, who

worked with Judge Reynolds to establish Reynolds Preserve, died recently. "When Dr. McCamey first came to Clayton County, he met with Pat Perry and me on the land, then with O.C. Lam and Dr. Harry Downs," says Brown.

#### **Clayton State University Foundation**

Clayton State University Foundation Chairman Steve Boswell suffered a stroke Jan. 7 and is in the intensive care unit at Piedmont Hospital. He has since had surgery on the equilibrium part of his brain. His speech and memory was not affected by the stroke. Through rehab it is very optimistic that he will recover. He will be in hospital for at least two weeks. Since he is in ICU, he can not receive cards and flowers at this time.

### **Fayette County**

The Fayette County NAACP, in collaboration with Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., and the Fayette County Board of Education, will host the Fifth Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Parade on Saturday, January 19. The parade will line up at the Fayette County High School parking lot and will begin at 11 a.m. Immediately following the parade a brief program will be held at F.A. Sam's auditorium to observe the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King and showcase the talent of Fayette County youth.

#### **Human Resources**

The Employee Self Service Paycheck only contains YTD (Year to Date) balances for the most current paycheck. As a result, your 2007 YTD balances shown on your last 2007 paycheck will only be available until your first 2008 paycheck has been confirmed. Your 2007 YTD balances will only be available for a limited time in the event that you would like to print your paycheck stub information to keep a record of 2007 YTD balances in advance of receiving the W2. For hourly employees, the first 2008 paycheck will be confirmed on Jan. 4, 2008 and for monthly employees, the first 2008 payroll will be confirmed on Jan. 14, 2008.

#### Library

The two Library Display Cases are awaiting your hobbies, interests, travels, etc. If you would like to reserve one or both of the display cases for a month, please email gordonbaker@clayton.edu. Display cases are currently available for February through December 2008.

#### **Procurement**

Effective Feb. 1, 2008, all employee checks requested through Accounts Payable will be mailed. This will include all flex spending, travel and any other employee reimbursement requests. Checks to vendors may still be picked up by department if requested. We are encouraging all employees to complete a direct deposit form with Accounts Payable. The direct deposit form can be found at this website http://adminservices.clayton.edu/procurement/acctpayforms.htm. Please submit this form to Wanda Bunn or Row Anderson.

#### **Public Safety**

The Office of Public Safety is receiving complaints regarding careless driving on campus. Acting Director of Public Safety Rex Duke would urge faculty, staff, students and visitors to use due caution when navigating the campus, especially at cross walks and entering or exiting parking lots. "I have instructed the Police Officers to issue state traffic citations to anyone caught speeding or driving carelessly on campus," he says.

### Spivey Hall

A regular guest at Spivey Hall, the Atlanta Percussion Trio returns with two performances on Thursday, Jan. 17 (9:45 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.) which include music from Africa, Asia, Europe, and North and South America played on a wide array of percussion instruments. This program, of global scale, has become one of the trio's most popular with audiences of all ages. All Clayton State faculty, staff and students may attend this educational performance for free. The fee for additional guests is \$1 per person. For more information, contact bonitaclark@clayton.edu or call ext. 4491.

# Pat Barton Named Director of Financial Aid

Long-time Clayton State University staff member Pat Barton is returning "home."

One of the key people in the University's Office of Financial Aid from 1993 to 2006, Barton will be returning to Clayton State on Jan. 14, 2008 as director of Financial Aid.

Over the past few years, Clayton State has "lost" several key staffers to the offices of the University System of Georgia (USG), not the least of whom was former president Dr. Richard A. Skinner, who left in 1999 to run the USG's Georgia Globe initiative. Barton was another case of the USG recognizing a talented individual – she has spent the last year plus as the USG's program manager for Student Information Systems.

A resident of McDonough, Ga., Barton has some 20 years experience in education; including 14 years in post-secondary education. During her previous tenure at Clayton State, Barton started as a financial aid software support specialist in the

Office of Financial Aid, and was promoted over the years to financial aid representative, VA coordinator, and technical support specialist in the Financial Aid Office, the Student Enrollment Services Division, and the Office of Information Technology.

Prior to coming to Clayton State in 1993, Barton worked as an assistant to the instructional coordinator at Perry High School in Perry, Ga., and as a secretary at Robins Air Force Base in Warner Robins. Ga.

### Clayton State's Student Navigator Steers the Path in the School of Nursing

by Erin Fender, University Relations

Dr. Lillian Davenport Parker, an assistant professor of Nursing at Clayton State University, is creating a supportive environment as the School of Nursing's student navigator, a position funded through a Nursing Workforce Diversity Grant (NWD).

Through the NWD grant, the School of Nursing developed a faculty/student mentoring program that began during the fall 2007 semester. Pre-nursing students are paired with a faculty mentor to assist them academically in their efforts to enter the nursing program.

Parker fulfills the student navigator role in which she works with pre-nursing students, as well as those already accepted into the program. She helps students navigate the educational process, as well as provide a support network.

"I have the opportunity to help those who will someday aid others and just maybe, their experience with me will facilitate their desire and willingness to help someone else," she explains.

Her ultimate goal is to help students with needed resources that will facilitate their being successful in entering and graduating from the School of Nursing and completing the state licensure exam.

Parker meets one-on-one with students to access (and identify potential and existing barriers that may interfere with their academic progress) their needs which, she says, can be financial, academic or simply the need for childcare while the student is in class. She is currently working on a resource data base for everything from childcare to scholarship information to aid the students.

"I act as a resource for students that provides assistance with any problem, both personal as well as professionally," she says. "My degree in counseling allows to me utilize my skills to guide the students with non-academic issues and initiate appropriate referrals."

Parker actually has graduate degrees in counseling as well as nursing and a doctorate degree in nursing.

Parker hopes to create a strong support system for pre-nursing and nursing majors in the School of Nursing, similar to the support her family and colleagues have provided for her. "My mother is very caring and always doing for others and has inspired me to do the same," says Parker, who adds that her family and several faculty members have been very supportive and helpful in her endeavors.

"I like working at Clayton State University because the school is just the right size, there is a mixture of cultures and an atmosphere that promotes learning," states Parker.

When Parker is not working, she loves traveling to gain different cultural and world views. She also loves working with older adults because, she explains, they have so much wisdom to pass on.

"I love recreational reading, but I have been a student my self the last few years which did not leave much time beyond my studies and I look forward to getting back to that," she says Parker.

### **Counseling Services presents**

### Food for Thought

### Have You Taken Your First Step?

The beginning of a new year is a wonderful time to take an inventory of your life. Look at your personal, career and/or academic goals and ask yourself the question, "Am I on course to fulfilling my goals?" If your answer is "no", now could be the time to take the first step in getting on the right track.

Here's something to think about?

- What parts of your life have you just "fallen" into (out of habit, lack or resistance, or just not being able to say "no")?
- If you were to think about the life you WANT to be living, what would that look like?
- How would it be different from the life you are living now?

Many times we focus on the long path towards our goal instead of taking the first step. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., reminds us to "Take the first step in faith. You don't have to see the whole staircase, just take the first step."

If you want to explore your next step, contact Counseling Services for more information

Office: Student Center 245 Hours: 8 a.m. – 5: p.m., M-F Phone: (678) 466-5406

http://adminservices.clayton.edu/counseling/

# Sixth Annual Freedom Run Scheduled for January 19

by Maggie Shiffert, University Relations

The Southlake Kiwanis and Clayton State University are coming together to present the Sixth Annual Freedom Run 5K and 10K Run/Walk.

The races will be held, rain, snow or shine, on Saturday, Jan. 19, with registration starting at 7:30 a.m. and the races at 9 a.m. Race Director Mike Mead, Clayton State track and cross country coach, says both races will start and finish on the Clayton State campus. The 5K will con-

sist of one loop, and the 10K will be two loops. Each loop has two gradual hills that are approximately 300m each in length. Both races will take place in the neighborhoods within the cities of Morrow and Lake City and will be marked by the mile.

The post race refreshments will feature Waffle House waffles and drinks. Other race sponsors include State Farm

Run, cont'd., p. 10

### Clayton State to Offer Conflict Resolution and Mediation Training in Conjunction with MLK Commemoration

The Clayton State University Office of Student Conduct is offering courses for students in Conflict Resolution and Mediation Training in conjunction with the University's upcoming celebration of the Martin Luther King holiday.

"As we advocate for the goal and spirit of nonviolence, and foster opportunities for peacebuilding in our community, the Office of Student Conduct is offering several training programs for students to enhance their skills in the areas of Conflict Resolution and Mediation," says Associate Dean of Students Jeff Jacobs.

Introduction to Conflict Resolution will be held on Friday, Jan. 25 from 12:30

p.m. to 2 p.m. Peer Mediation Training for Students is a three session course meeting on Feb. 1, Feb. 8 and Feb. 22 from 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Clayton State students completing this course will be eligible to serve as a part of a new Student Peer Mediation Team.

The training is being held in collaboration with Associate Professor of Accounting Dr. Judith Odgen from the University's School of Business. Like Jacobs, Ogden is a member of the Alternative Dispute Resolution team on campus, and she has a background in conflict resolution and mediation.

On-line registration is available for students at http://adminservices.clayton.edu/campuslife/workshops/htm.

For more information, contact Jacobs at (678) 466-5422 or jeffjacobs@clayton.edu.

### MLK, cont'd. from p. 1

Training. Introduction to Conflict Resolution will be held on Friday, Jan. 25 from 12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m. Peer Mediation

Training for Students is a three session course meeting on Feb. 1, Feb. 8 and Feb. 22 from 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Clayton State

students completing this course will be eligible to serve as a part of a new Student Peer Mediation Team.

### OITS Announces Important Email and WebCT Changes

The Office of Information Technology and Services (OITS) is pleased to announce a new Exchange email system for students and the implementation of the Luminis Web Portal (SWAN) for 2008. These changes will occur incrementally.

The new student email system will happen first. Beginning in January 2008, students will get a new email address that will include their name. Currently, the Student WebCT login is the numeric portion of the student's email address. Since the student email address is changing, the WebCT username will also change. To simplify the usernames that students must remember, OITS has created a common username that students will use with most Clayton State systems--the new Exchange email system, the new SWAN Luminis Portal, and WebCT.

The new username for students will be their first initial followed by their full last name. In the event that this username is already used by someone else, a sequence number will be appended to the username. We have provided a Lookup Page where students can get their new username. A

link to the Lookup Page is on the Clayton home page, or may be accessed directly from: https://duck.clayton.edu/pls/ban-prod/ID LOOKUP.BuildForm.

The old student webmail system will continue to operate during the transition to the new system. In order to use the new student username, students must first activate their account from the following web site: https://mail.clayton.edu/misc/stupass.aspx.

The WebCT usernames and passwords have changed. Further instructions will be provided on the WebCT login page.

For faculty, the WebCT usernames should not change, unless the WebCT username is NOT the network username.

The procedure used to change the WebCT usernames also resets the password. The new WebCT password has been reset to the DUCK PIN as of Dec. 21, 2007. WebCT and Network passwords will not be automatically synchronized so if either of them is changed by the user, then they will no longer be the same. ■

# New Student Email System Cuts Over January 14

The University will cut over to the new student Microsoft Exchange server at 7 a.m. on Monday, Jan. 14. At this time, all student email will be sent to the new student Exchange server, and students will need to login to Exchange Webmail to read email sent after the cut over.

Faculty and staff who use Banner Mailing Lists to communicate with students will not have to make any changes after the cut over. OITS will update the Banner student email lists, and the email change should be transparent to Banner community. Faculty and staff will still be able to continue to communicate with students using the same Banner class email distribution lists as before. The

actual student email addresses will change, but single class mailing list, such as CITZ1001-80Spring07@lists.clayton.edu, will continue to function.

The new Clayton State student email address will consist of the first initial from the first name appended to the last name, followed by a number, if there is a conflict. For example, John Smith's new student email address will be jsmith5@student.clayton.edu.

To prevent the loss of any important message, old student email addresses, like CSU12345@mail.claytonstate.net, will

Email, cont'd., p. 10

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

designed for individuals who already hold an associate's degree – an AA, AS, AAS or AAT -- or who have completed the core curriculum. Depending on the student's prior credits, they can enter either the Bachelor of Science in Integrative Studies or the Bachelor of Applied Science in Administration or Technology Management.

LaBrecque's contribution to the program is Management in the Airline Industry (TECH 4800), which will be offered 100 percent online to students in the project starting in January 2008.

"He wants to give back to the community by teaching for us," says Ginny Bass of Clayton State's Academic Outreach Department, whose office is located in the Clayton State – Fayette facility at 1200 Commerce Dr., in Peachtree City. Bass is also director of Clayton State's Degree Completion programs, which are designed for working individuals who have completed at least two years of college.

### Life's Transitions...

After spending 12 days in Russia, Pat Keane's (daughter-in-law and son) Mary Kay and Ned McCauley arrived home around 6 p.m. on Dec. 29 with new daughter Julia.

"Julia is a doll and we are so thrilled to have her join our family. Matthew, her new big brother, is helping her get adjusted. All is well at the McCauley household," says Keane. "We have truly been blessed!"



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#### Email, cont'd. from p. 9

continue to function until the end of the spring semester 2008. That is, until June of 2008, emails sent to either old or new student email addresses will appear in Exchange.

All Clayton State students have been added to Exchange, and students will appear in the Outlook Global Address List. Therefore, faculty and staff can look up and find new Clayton State student email addresses in both Outlook and Outlook Webaccess. To make it easy to find just students or employees, OITS has added STUDENT and EMPLOYEE categories in the SHOW NAMES FROM dropdown window from SELECT NAMES. ■

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

University, and serving as a program manager for CARE in Belize.

"I was excited about the AACSB accreditation, not to mention the MBA program and the new School of Business building," says Prince. "I'm already certain that Jacob and I will make a good team." ■

#### Run, cont'd. from p. 8

Insurance, Georgia Power, Poss Produce, Allied Healthcare Clinics, Inc., the Clayton County Water Authority and the City of Morrow. Awards will be given to each age group - 12-under, 13-19, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60+.

Entry fees (by Jan.11) are \$10 without a t-shirt, or \$18 with a long sleeve shirt. Shirts are guaranteed to those who pay before Jan. 11. For more race information, go to www.rungeorgia.com. On-Line Registration is available at www.active.com.

For more information, contact (678) 466-4679 or mikemead@clayton.edu. ■

### **Clayton State Welcomes Louise Bedrossian as the New Director** For the Disability Resource Center

"I would like Clayton

State's DRC to be an

locally and nationally. I

think we will have the

talented staff to do so,

and I am very excited

- Louise Bedrossian

about our future."

program

exemplary

by Erin Fender, University Relations

Clayton Sate University welcomes Louise Bedrossian as the new director for the University's Disability Resource Center (DRC). Bedrossian officially began her position on Dec. 1, 2007.

"I would like Clayton State's DRC to be an exemplary program locally and nationally. I think we will have the talented staff to do so, and I am very excited about our future," said Bedrossian.

One concept Bedrossian would like to work on is universal design; a concept that is a broad range design that helps everyone. Examples are ramps, which help not only help those in wheelchairs, but faculty pulling carts full of the course materials or students with wheel style book bags. It is a physical access that will assist everyone.

"I would like to raise campus awareness of universal design principles, which will assure that our campus is a welcoming environment for everyone the community," explained Bedrossian.

Bedrossian adds a wealth of knowledge and experience to the DRC. In July 2007, a book she coauthored entitled "College Students with Asperger

Syndrome" was released. She is also in the process of writing a book addressing policy and procedure for disability service providers.

Bedrossian was the founding president of the Georgia Association of Disability Service Providers in Higher Education (Now known as Georgia AHEAD). She held the presidency position twice, has held other key offices and served in an advisory capacity.



Louise Bedrossian

She is also a regular contributor to a professional newsletter, "Disability Compliance for Higher Education," and served on the Board of Regents

> Administrative Committee on Learning Disorders. She is a frequent presenter at professional conferences and for the local commu-

> "I love to be out in nature and enjoy traveling, especially visiting new

places," said Bedrossian who also ran a floral business full time for more than six years.

Bedrossian holds a Ed. S.

degree and she is a licensed professional counselor. She has been married three years to her husband, Robert Thompson. Bedrossian has two children and four grandchildren.

"There is a different attitude at Clayton State, the campus is very inviting and is much more supportive for students," expressed Bedrossian.

### **Portal Implementation Update**

The implementation of a world-class intranet portal at Clayton State University is well underway. Clayton State will be the first university in the USG system to implement the new Version 4 Luminis Portal from SunGard Higher Education of Malvern, Pa.

According to the SunGard website (www.sungardhe.com), "the Luminis Platform gives individuals personalized, 24x7 access to information and services previously limited by location or hours of operation. It integrates with Banner, so users can access the information and services they need through a single sign-on. The Luminis Platform functions as the foundation of a unified digital campus through a combination of portal features, enterprise applications, and infrastructure."

In conjunction with the new student email conversion, the portal will serve as a pivotal communications vehicle. Students will now be able to access Exchange email, Banner, and the DUCK via a single sign-on – using one Network ID and password. WebCT will use the same username, but it will not have single sign-on initially. Faculty and staff can also access email, Banner, and more through the portal.

Dr. John Bryan, vice president of the Office of Information Technology and Services and the Project Sponsor for the portal implementation, anticipates that the SWAN (Secure Web Access Network) Portal will go live in early March 2008. The Luminis Portal was selected to link real-time Banner student information into the portal on Clayton State's web site.

"A portal will enable Clayton State to build a dynamic site that can provide students, faculty, and staff with realtime, personalized communication and information," explains Bryan.

Since the two-day kickoff event in September 2007, SunGard personnel have been on campus frequently to assist the project team in planning and preparation. The first step was a series of focus groups in October which included individuals from numerous campus departments. These discussions enabled the creation of a planning document which focused upon achieving specific objectives cited by each constituency group.

Led by SunGard's Jeff Handa, subsequent meetings continued the planning and documentation process for the organizational units. Three days of content planning sessions in October resulted in a draft layout for each major tab within the portal and included extensive examination of key personnel who would be involved with development and maintenance of content areas. In November, three days of Content Administrator Training were held to familiarize those who will be the primary users of the portal with the creation of channels and the addition of content. The Organizational Planning phase in December addressed issues such as policy, procedures, and promotion of the Luminis Portal.

Also serving on the project team is Tom Marshall, director of Administrative Systems for OITS, as the technical lead. Marshall and at least one other Administrative Systems staff member will be traveling to Salt Lake City for intensive SunGard technical training in mid-January. Dolores Cox, communications coordinator in the Office of University Image and Communications, is serving as the organizational lead to assist with departmental liaisons, foster a smooth connection with the University's public website, and to incorporate portal policy and procedure elements into the Image Book.

During January, the project team will be making presentations to various campus councils and is available to answer any questions about the upcoming implementation. ■

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

Also, with student housing opening soon (August 2008) on campus, she is in the process of increasing staff and service hours of the clinic as well as initiating a 24 hour call service for students.

"We want to give them the assurance that they have access to information, resources, and support for their health care needs at all times," said Spinolo.

She says she is looking forward to seeing the clinic grow and hopes that her plans and goals will strengthen the clinic.

Spinolo obtained her B.S.N. from Georgia State University, her M.S.N. from Kennesaw State University, and her D.N.P. from the Medical College of Georgia. She also freelances as a Legal Nurse Consultant, in which she received her certificate from Kaplan College.

She grew up in the metro Atlanta area and is a Morrow High School graduate. She currently resides in McDonough with her husband of three years who is a physician with Georgia Cancer Specialists. She also acquired three "bonus sons" when she and her husband married.

"They're truly amazing young fellows. I'm very proud of them, "she says.

Spinolo has three cats, who she lovingly calls her furry four-legged children. She likes to read when she has time and has become a self-taught knitter. She enjoys traveling with her husband and spending time with her family.

"I love pop culture and trivia; it's my guilty pleasure," expresses Spinolo. ■

### Got News?

Send your campus news to johnshiffert@clayton.edu

# Fulbright Scholar from New Zealand Teaching at Clayton State this Spring Semester



A.G. (Sandy) Stewart

Clayton State
University is hosting Professor A.G.
(Sandy) Stewart, a
Fulbright Scholar
in Residence (SIR)
from New Zealand
for the spring 2008
semester. Stewart is
head of the Center
for Maori
E d u c a t i o n.

Research and Development at Bay of Plenty Polytechnic in Tauranga, New Zealand. He is being accompanied to the U.S. by his wife, Iryna Stewart.

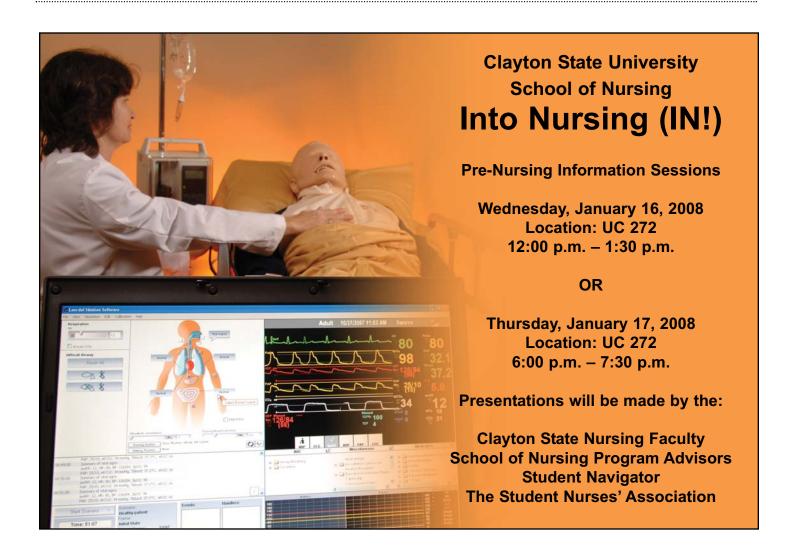
After completing his B. A. degree from Victoria University of Wellington (1977), Stewart received his Master of Arts (with

Honors) and Doctor of Education degrees from the University of Auckland (2001 and 1992). In addition to winning a Winston Churchill Fellowship to the United Kingdom and serving as a visiting professor in Bilingual Education at the University of London, he was twice previously a recipient of Fulbright Scholarships to the United States (in 1993 and 2000).

His fields of expertise are improvement of teaching and student learning with an emphasis on policy analysis and evaluation. A speaker of te reo Maori - the indigenous language of New Zealand, Stewart has taught such courses as Maori Culture and Language, Social Studies, Music, and English as a Second Language. In connection with his profes-

sional work, he has also traveled in Scotland, Germany, Italy, Ukraine and Malaysia.

The purpose of Clayton State's current Scholar in Residence program is to infuse various aspects of Maori and South Pacific culture and society into various courses. Stewart will be teaching two courses in the Teacher Education Department at Clayton State and will also give guest lectures to various social science, humanities and education classes. Guest lectures can be arranged through Dr. Larnell Flannagan, chair, Department of Teacher Education at larnellflannagan@clayton.edu or Dr. Robert Welborn, director of International Education at robertwelborn@clatyon.edu. ■



### Customer Service, cont'd. from p. 4

place our students' needs first, but we need to institutionalize this practice and really own it."

Naturally, Clayton State responded just as quickly to the Chancellor's challenge, creating its first customer service initiative that focused on academic advising; clearly delineating the important roles played by the Dean of Retention and Student Success, the Director of the Center for Academic Success, the Director of the Center for Instructional Development, and the academic advisors.

"Some of our initiatives include a newly created Academic Advising Council, and the expansion of the Academic Advising role to include referrals to a variety of student support services," said Clayton State President Dr. Thomas K. Harden at that time.

The end goal of the Academic Advising Initiative was to improve the process' overall performance so that advising would be faster, friendlier and provide easier access to students. Looking at individual benchmarks such as courteousness,

helpfulness, accessibility and responsiveness, a Student Advisement Survey taken in June 2007 found that the initiative had indeed been a success, based on the percentage of student respondents who agreed or strongly agreed that the advisement process was; courteous (82.7%), helpful (65.3%), accessible (72%) and responsive (82.2%).

Customer Service at Clayton State next tackled the issue of reducing registration holds. Under the direction of Dean of Retention and Student Success Dr. Mark May, holds dramatically decreased (by 59.6% overall) in the period between November 2006 and November 2007. This initiative focused on the types of holds in the below chart.

Amero's Customer Service Project Team includes representatives from the following departments: Student Affairs, Retention and Student Success, Auxiliary Services; Admissions; Financial Aid; Bursar's Office; Registrar; Client Support Services; Continuing Education; and Telecommunications Services. ■

<b>Selected Holds</b>	Nov. 06	Nov. 07
Bursars	168	120
Final Transcript	87	38
Immunization	884	342
Advisor	2388	924
Total	3527	1424

#### President's Message, cont'd. from p. 1

excellence in customer service through the development of consistent benchmarking tools.

As part of the University System's initiative, and as part of some programs we had already been developing, Clayton State initially focused on our academic advising. The feedback opportunities incorporated in this initiative allow us to continually improve the service we offer to our students and to track the effectiveness of each implementation phase.

Dr. Mark May's efforts to reduce student holds, our second Customer Service

Initiative, have also produced excellent results and I am confident that Phase Three, our Call Center Training, will be equally successful. Remember that first impressions are of great importance and, in many cases, the first personal contact an individual has with a member of the Clayton State faculty or staff is when you pick up your telephone. I urge everyone on campus to support this third initiative as part of both our focus on student success and our overall role in serving the citizens of the State of Georgia.

# Clayton State Hosting Lego Robotics Competition Saturday

by John Shiffert, University Relations

School children from all over Georgia will be coming to Clayton State University tomorrow.

Now, that's not an unusual circumstance, since the University has numerous programs – many of them in conjunction with Spivey Hall that bring young people, ages nine to 12, to campus throughout the year. However, the event being held in the James M. Baker Center from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 12 is a little bit different. It's the Second Annual Lego Robotics Competition of the FLL. For those of you not familiar with Legos those ingenious little interlocking hard plastic building blocks that can be used to construct anything from the Star Wars "Millennium Falcon" to a Viking ship – the FLL is the First Lego League. As explained on the FLL website, www.firstlegoleague.org/, FLL is a result of an exciting alliance between FIRST and the LEGO Company. Guided by adult mentors and their own imaginations, FLL students solve real-world engineering challenges, develop important life skills, and learn to make positive contributions to society.

How big a competition is tomorrow's Lego Robotics tournament, officially designated the Clayton State Qualifier? It will take up the first three floors of the largest building on the Clayton State campus, with registration activities (first floor), programming (Main Street on the second floor), research papers, skits and interviewing by the FLL judges (third floor). Dr. Cherie Long, associate professor of

Lego, cont'd., p. 14

### Spivey Hall Education Presents

### Atlanta Percussion Trio Global Beat

Thursday, Jan. 17, 2008 9:45 a.m & 11:15 a.m.

A regular guest at Spivey Hall, the Atlanta Percussion Trio returns with a performance which includes music from Africa, Asia, Europe, and North and South America played on a wide array of percussion instruments.

This program, of global scale, has become one of the trio's most popular with audiences of all ages.

All Clayton State University faculty, staff, and students may attend this educational performance for free.

The fee for additional guests is \$1 per person.

For more information, contact Bonita Clark at bonitaclark@clayton.edu or call ext. 4491.



### Lego, cont'd. from p. 13

Information Technology in the Clayton State College of Information and Mathematical Sciences is the organizer of the Clayton State Qualifier.

The public is invited to attend free of charge to check out the ingenuity of the young entrants in not just building elaborate Lego creations, but Legos that indeed move under their own power. May the force be with you. ■

# **University Bookstore Shows its Appreciation to Faculty and Staff**

On Tuesday, Dec. 4, 2007, the University Bookstore at Clayton State University showed its appreciation for the University's faculty and staff by holding a special 15 percent off sale accompanied by Sodexho catered hors dourves and beverages.

"We wanted to hold a holiday event for the faculty and staff to foster good relations with the campus community," says Bookstore Manager Walter Moore, who joined the campus in May 2007.

"We hope to do this on a yearly basis not only to show appreciation, but

also to act as a time where people can get to know people they haven't met yet," adds Moore.

Moore reports that the appreciation day attracted many faculty and staff, and says he plans to offer other events and sales throughout the year.

For the latest on University Bookstore sales or promotions, visit the website at http://auxiliaries.clayton.edu/bookstore.htm.

### Earned Income Tax Credit Day at Clayton State University

\$

Jan. 31, 2008

\$

1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m., Room UC 416 And 6 p.m. - 7 p.m., Room UC 272

Are you eligible to take the Earned Income Tax Credit?
Who can you claim as your dependent?
Will you be able to take the Educational Credits?

In celebration of Earned Income Tax Credit Day, accounting students will offer presentations open to the entire campus on several important tax topics such as Earned Income Tax Credit, Claiming a Dependent, Head of Household Status, Child Tax Credits and Educational Credits.

#### Track, cont'd. from p. 16

The Laker women's team will be led this weekend by returning veterans Jon Taylor, Keisha Etienne, Natasha Gass and Terrica Hamilton. Taylor, a junior, made steady improvement in the long jump last season, and will be aiming for the Division II provisional mark of 18-1. Gass, a sophomore, will complement Taylor in the long and triple jumps.

Etienne, a sophomore, will primarily run the 200-meter and 400-meter

dashes in preparation for outdoors. Hamilton, a senior, is on the comeback trail from an injury last outdoor track season that hindered her during cross country. Hamilton and Etienne made up half of the team's distance medley relay last indoor season that ran 12:12.09, bettering the provisional time by more than 14 seconds but missed making it to the national meet.

### Clayton State's Geathers, Madegwa Selected NSCAA Division II All-Region for Men's Soccer

by Lee Wright, Sports Information

The Clayton State Laker men's soccer team placed two players on the 2007 NSCAA (National Soccer Coaches of America) Division II All-Southeast Region team, and both players were first team selections.

Selected first team All-Region was forward Jamal Geathers, and forward Tonny Madegwa for the 2007 Peach Belt Conference regular season and tournament champion Lakers. This is the second All-Region selection for both Geathers and Madegwa, as they were both also selected to the Daktronics Division II All-Southeast Region squad as well.

Geathers, a freshman from Aiken, S.C., was selected both All-Peach Belt Conference and the Peach Belt Conference Freshman of the Year. He led the Peach Belt in both goals scored (18) and points (39). He averaged just under a goal a game with three multi-goal games and one hat-trick.

In addition, Geathers also led the conference in game-winning goals with six, including the game-winner for the Lakers

in the thrilling 3-2 victory over Lander in the Peach Belt Tournament championship. Geathers finished the season ranked 16th in the nation in goals scored and 21st in the nation in points scored.

Madegwa was the senior leader of the Peach Belt's highest-scoring offensive team for the 2007 season. A native of Nairobi, Kenya, Madegwa was selected both All-Peach Belt Conference and Peach Belt Conference co-Player of the Year. He ranked second in the Peach Belt in assists with 10 and is also ranked 14th in the nation in assists. In addition, Madegwa has also scored 13 goals with 36 points to rank second in the conference behind Geathers.

Clayton State finished the season 14-4-2 overall and a final ranking of 22nd in the NSCAA Division II Top 25 Poll. The Lakers also won their third straight Peach Belt Conference regular season championship and their second Peach Belt Conference Tournament championship in the last three seasons under fourth-year head coach Pete Petersen.

## Department of Recreation & Wellness Announcements

Groups Exercise Classes begin Jan. 14 at 5 p.m. A variety of styles is offered Monday – Thursday evenings in the mat room. Register today at SmartBodies. Semester Rate: Students - \$15; Employees - \$20.

Dodge Ball Tournament – Round One. C'mon, you know you want to throw a ball at someone! Open to the entire campus! Friday, Jan. 18, 7 p.m. at the gym. FREE.

SmartBodies' "Choose 2 Lose" Contest starts Jan. 16 and continues through Apr. 8, 2008. Contest registration deadline is Jan. 25. The rules are available at the front

desk. Not a SmartBodies' member? No problem. Call SmartBodies today to schedule your appointment.

The SmartBodies 2007 "Calorie Slam" Contest winners were: First Place: Phalla Ou, Second Place: Leslie Moore, Third Place: Christine Smith. We would like to acknowledge the generosity of our sponsors: Medieval Times, Big Peach Running Company, and the New World of Coca-Cola.

For more information about any of our events or programs, please call (678) 466-4974. ■

### Trivia Time

## Swearngin Takes Initial Eddins Trophy

by John Shiffert, University Relations

Clayton State has a new trivia champion, and the winner of the First Tom Eddins Trivia Trophy.

It's former Clayton State Alumni Association President (and current Masters of Nursing student) Dina Swearngin. Readers will recall that, back in October 2007, upon the retirement (just from the Clayton State faculty, not from trivia) of two-time trivia champion Tom Eddins, a decision was made by the Campus Review Editorial Board to name the yearly trivia trophy after the old trivia master himself.

Indeed, Swearngin isn't only the winner of the Eddins Trophy, but a runaway winner, scoring 41 trivia points throughout the 2007 calendar to easily outdistance the second place finisher... who happened to be Eddins himself, who clearly has not retired from trivia. Swearngin thus joins previous trivia winners Eddins (2003, 2006), Lou Brackett (2001, 2002), Terry Penn (2002 – tie with Brackett), Jean Myers (2004) and Rob Taylor (2005).

The 2007 Top Six in Trivia present a veritable Who's Who of this demanding sport...

Dina Swearngin – 41

Tom Eddins – 30

Robert Caine – 27

Todd Birchfield – 26

Rob Taylor – 26

Kurt-Alexander Zeller – 20

To start the new year off right... how would you characterize the song referenced in the headline of the lead sports story in this issue of Campus Review? Send your answers, melodically or otherwise, to johnshiffert@clayton.edu.

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### **Sports**

# Indiana Wants Me... Lakers Trek to Indoor Tracks in Hoosier State

by Lee Wright, Sports Information

The New Year is over a week old and the Clayton State Laker track & field teams open their fourth indoor season this weekend with a road trip to Indiana for two meets in two days. Beginning Friday night, both Laker squads open at the Rose-Hulman Collegiate Open in Terre Haute, and then go to Bloomington on Saturday to run at the Indiana Open at Big Ten Conference member Indiana University.

This weekend's meets will be the first of four scheduled indoor meets for the Lakers this indoor season. The Rose-Hulman Collegiate Open begins at 6 p.m. on Friday while the Indiana Open starts Saturday at 11:30 a.m.

Both squads will be gunning for several team records this season while also seeking qualifiers to the NCAA Division II national meet in mid-March. Since 2005, the Clayton State men's team has had representation at the NCAA Division II

Indoor Track & Field Championships. Last season, both teams had representation at the indoor championship meet in seniors Allison Kreutzer and Eric Simmons.

Kreutzer, a two-time outdoor track Division II All-American and a two-time cross country Division II All-American, is sitting out this week's trip since she is still coming back a foot fracture that sidelined her in cross country this past fall. Simmons, a two-time NCAA Division II indoor qualifier, as well as a three-time outdoor qualifier, will be seeking his third straight trip to the Division II indoor championship meet in the 400-meter dash.

Last season, Simmons, as well as juniors Ahmad Rolle and Lawrence DeShields, hit provisional marks in five individual events during the season, with Simmons the only one advancing to the D-II indoor meet. Besides qualifying in the 400-meter

dash (47.72), Simmons also hit a provisional time in the 200-meter dash (21.77), while Rolle hit marks in the long and triple jumps, and DeShields did so in the 60-meter hurdles.

This season, the trio will be striving to advance and are also gunning in the 4x400-meter relay with freshman Chris Pigue on the foursome.

Track, cont'd., p. 14

Campus Review January 11, 2008

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**CLAYTON STATE UNIVERSITY** 

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