

THE TIGER

EST. 1907, SOUTH CAROLINA'S OLDEST COLLEGE NEWSPAPER ROARS FOR CLEMSON

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An in-depth look at Clemson's 2011 recruiting class.

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Fergie receives a failing grade for her Super Bowl performance.

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"Shining Lives" shines on

Cast takes historical production from Brooks stage to Daytona Beach in national festival.

JACOB WEBB

ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

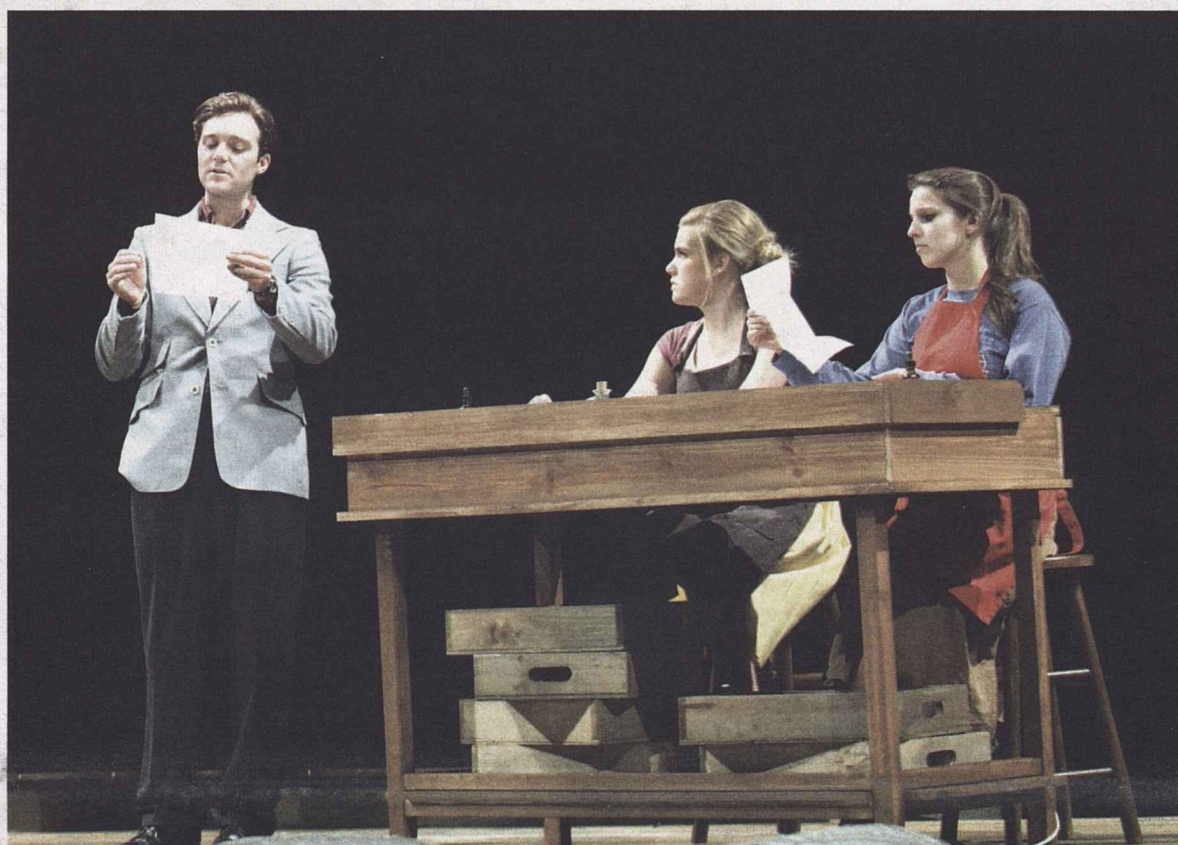
Last week, the Clemson Players reprised their performance of "These Shining Lives" at the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (KCACTF) in Daytona, Fla., with great success.

The KCACTF is an annual festival that showcases the work of college theatre artists. Clemson belongs to Region IV of KCACTF, a region that encompasses most of the southeast, according to Professor Kerrie Seymour.

The play, which was originally performed in October at the Brooks Center for the Performing Arts, was highly recommended by two respondents from the festival. "These Shining Lives" was one of five plays selected from a group of 50 recommended plays to be performed at the Region IV festival.

The cast and crew, along with director Dr. Mark Charney, prepared for the festival by rehearsing the play and rebuilding the set, something Charney said was challenging for the crew. "At the festival, we only have four hours to load in everything, including our light and sound design, so we had to practice that," he said. "Additionally, we only had two hours to unload the truck afterwards, so we had to prepare for that as well."

Charney said that to prepare for



Cast members Chris Onken, left, Kaylee Gonzalez, center, and Hillary Porter rehearse a scene from "These Shining Lives." The cast and crew had to rehearse and rebuild the set weeks after the curtain call of their final fall performance.

the festival performance, he and the cast "revisited the play, deciding what we'd like to change and how we would like to grow."

The majority of the cast remained

from the October performances, with the exception of the chorus roles played by Erin McDonnell, who was replaced by freshman Meredith Kidd. "There was a great audience response, and the

judges gave us great feedback as well," Kidd said. Charney agreed, saying the judges praised "the beautiful execution of the set and the professionalism of the cast and crew. They were especially

impressed with the load in and load out," he said.

Several individuals performing with Clemson were honored as well. Charney said actors Kaylee Gonzales and Will Pope, playwright Daniel Bjork and dramaturge Susanne Parker were recognized in their respective categories.

Parker won the national dramaturgy award and will be paid by the Kennedy Center to represent Region IV in dramaturgy.

Seymour said that, of Clemson's four actors competing, two advanced to the semi-finals and one made it to the final round.

"This is a real honor, as the preliminary round is about 250 actors," Seymour said.

"Only 32 make it to the semi-finals, and only 16 make it to the finals." Additionally, Clemson had more students nominated in playwrighting than any other school, according to Charney.

Charney, who is the National Coordinator of Criticism and Dramaturgy, said the festival was a great experience for all the students. "They get to meet 1,000 students from a ten-state region, meet professionals in their field, network, take workshops and illustrate their talents," he said. "We all had a great time learning and practicing our craft."

Students to lobby

Group will join students from USC, CofC in Columbia.

TEDDY KULMALA

NEWS EDITOR

A group of Clemson students will travel to Columbia to address state legislators on funding higher education.

The group, led by Undergraduate Student Body President Ryan Duane, will head to Columbia on Feb. 15 and join students from the University of South Carolina and the College of Charleston.

"There's a direct correlation between how much money the state gives us and what tuition looks like for students," Duane said. "So we think the investment in time and telling the people in charge in Columbia about the great things we have going on here at Clemson...we think it's important they hold Clemson in high regard when they're considering the budget cuts we've all become so familiar with."

Duane said every year state universities are appropriated with E&G (educational and general) funds, which he said go toward maintaining the university, paying salaries and running the university. "The more the state cuts our funds, the more we have to rely on private donations and tuition to make up that difference," he said, adding that such presentations by students have a great impact on lawmakers.

"When a legislator asks an administrator what their thoughts are on tuition, they take it one way," he said. "But when a student

see LOBBY page A2

Tiger and hero honored

Purple Heart recipient injured during grenade attack in Afghanistan.

MADDIE BLAIR

STAFF WRITER

A Clemson graduate and Air Force captain was honored for his heroic actions after his base came under attack, giving a new meaning to the Tigers' motto, "All in."

On Wednesday, Jan. 19, Clemson alumnus Capt. Gil Wyche received a Purple Heart from the Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz at Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan (AFNS).

"The Purple Heart is the oldest medal still given today in the military," Wyche said. "It is not a medal to strive for but one that I humbly accept as recognition for the hazardous duty that my team collectively engages in voluntarily."

Wyche, a Security Forces officer for the 966th Air Expeditionary Squadron, was assigned to Forward Operating Base Fenty in Jalalabad, Afghanistan for his third deployment. On Nov. 13, a swarm of insurgents armed with small arms and grenades rushed the base perimeter. During the three-hour firefight, Wyche was injured as a result of blast pressure from an RPG round and received shrapnel wounds from a hand grenade

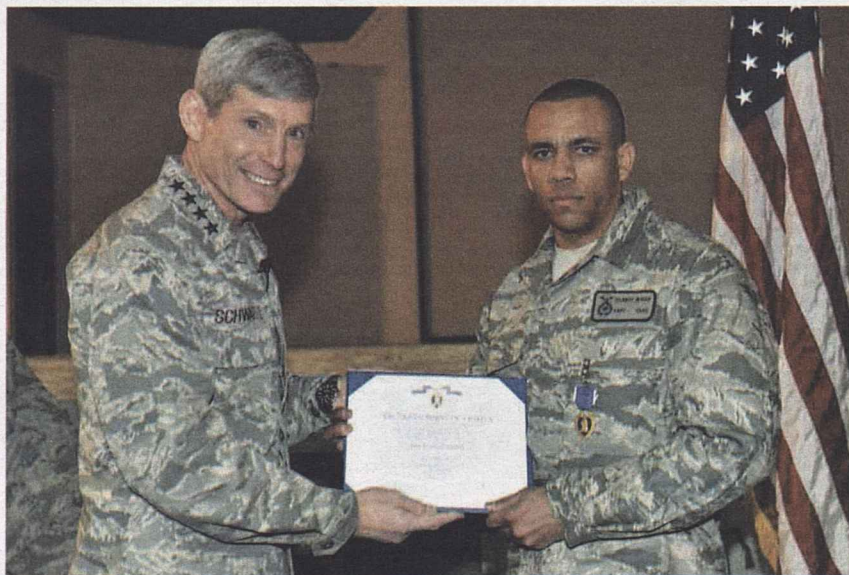
thrown by an enemy fighter. Despite his injuries, Wyche and his team continued to defend the base and were successful in holding off the assault.

"Together we assist, protect and defend... we can save a life or we can take a life... whatever the mission or situation dictates," Wyche said, reciting the defining motto he and his team

chant together. "During the attack, my team's actions illustrated our motto and validate the title of hero and warrior in its truest definition."

Wyche continues to receive treatment targeted at both mental and physical recovery, neither of which will stop him

see HEART page A4



Capt. Gil Wyche, right, is awarded the Purple Heart by Gen. Norton Schwartz.

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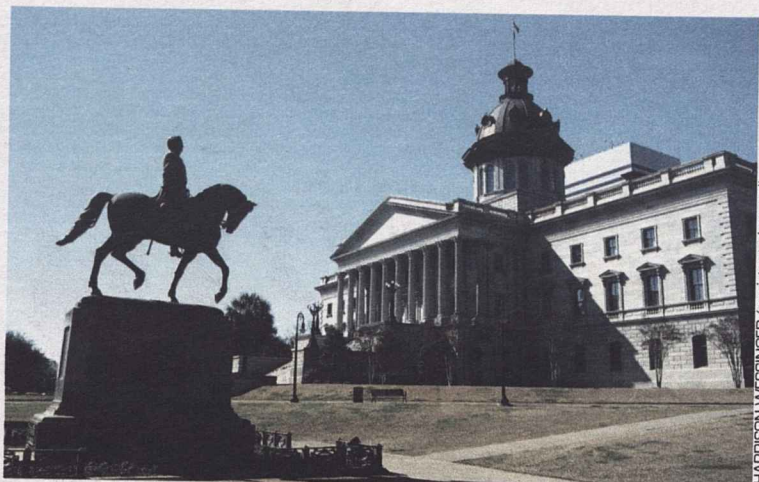
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Students will meet with legislators at the Capitol and on USC's campus.

LOBBY from page A1

looks a legislator in the eye and says, 'I don't want my tuition to be raised, but I also care about the quality of my education,' they take you with a little more seriousness... after all, we are the customers, and we are the future of this state and of the country."

Dustin Atkins, director of governmental relations for CUSG, agrees. "I think students are aware of the gravity of the situation our state is facing with regard to our budget, and it is in times such as these where it is important for students themselves to become involved in the decision making process," he said. "Granted, President Barker, the Board of Trustees and our Governmental Affairs team do an excellent job of keeping Clemson's interests well-represented in the state legislature, but the input and opinions of individual students are invaluable when it comes time for lawmakers to make final budget decisions with regard to our state's higher education institutions."

The trip culminates approximately four months of planning, which began as only student body presidents gathering in the capitol. Two years ago Clemson took a group of students to make a similar presentation, which

Duane said "was received warmly by all the legislators in Columbia."

Most of the crowd will be from USC, and College of Charleston is bringing between 60 and 100 students. Duane offered advice on what students may want to say in their presentations to legislators. "Over 90 percent of our students are on some sort of scholarship money from the state," he said. "The first thing I would tell [students] to say is thank you, because honestly, that makes our education so affordable in this state; we get a great product for the dollars we pay."

He also suggests students tell legislators about their experiences about Clemson. "If you think Clemson is not doing the right thing for you, tell them," he said.

"But I think in the majority of cases, you're going to hear students talk about Creative Inquiry, you're going to hear them talk about undergraduate research or internships they've held, organizations they've been part of. I think just hearing the experiences of the students here will paint the picture legislators need to see."

To learn more about the trip or to inquire about the availability of class excuses, e-mail Duane at jduane@clemson.edu, or Atkins at dustina@clemson.edu.

Pass the dip, please

According to creative inquiry, "double dipping" may leave you with a mouthful of bacteria as well as salsa.

KATIE SPECTOR
STAFF WRITER

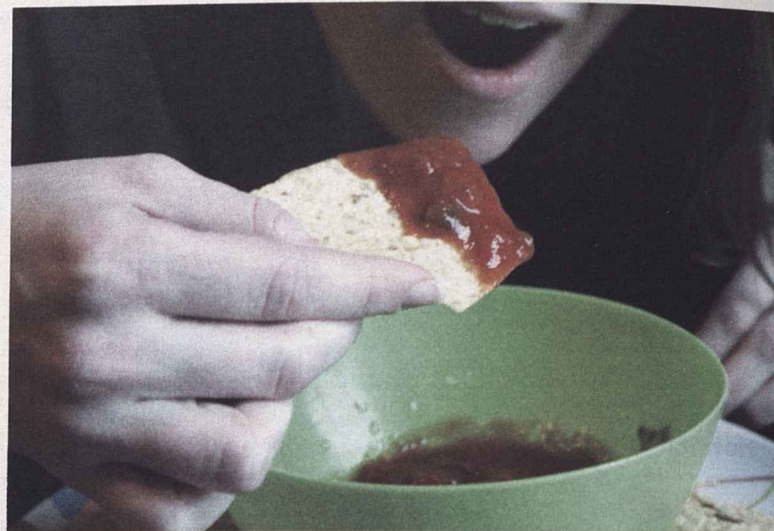
Go to a Super Bowl party last Sunday? You may have gotten more than just dip on those chips you ate. A creative inquiry team led by Dr. Paul Dawson tested if a bacterium transfers from a person who double dips a chip to a chocolate, cheese or salsa substance in a recent experiment.

Seen in a Seinfeld episode, George Kasanza was caught double dipping at a party, causing a comical dilemma between him and another guest. This spurred the double-dipping experiment into motion.

The experiment began with students double dipping a single chip, then either biting into it or keeping it soaked in one of the three solutions. Immediately afterward, they placed their chips in a Peptone-covered plate. The results of the experiment appeared 48 hours later and revealed extenuating amounts of bacteria ranging from 1,000 to 10,000 cells and varying from person to person.

"I equate it to kissing someone on the lips," Dawson said, adding that the number of bacteria isn't a hazardous problem, but it can cause a passing of viruses from person to person. The flu and common cold are examples of possible interchanged viruses.

In retrospect, it's food mishandling. "If people go to a party, people get exposed to double



"Double dipping" could transmit viruses from one person to another.

dipping. People don't care," Dawson said.

Most people realize an illness is settling into their systems but don't think a simple chip dipping could've caused the infirmity. At Redfern Health Center, doctors are able to take DNA tests that track the instance back and get a hold of the bacteria causing the illness.

Dawson and his team proved double-dipping causes food-borne illness but concluded people have a choice and control in this matter.

Dawson believed the successful experiment has a positive reflection on the university. He not only gave students resume material, but as the creator of the experiment he gained notoriety from CNN, Fox News and National Geographic.

Several members of the double

dipping team include Jacklyn Dejonckheere, Mark Phillips, Danielle Dimitroff, Samantha Dana, Rachel Yost, Judith Traveno and Genevive Harris.

The food science professor generates experiment ideas that are fun and interesting, but nevertheless are properly done and have application. "These have more public interests," Dawson said. "An average person is not interested in science."

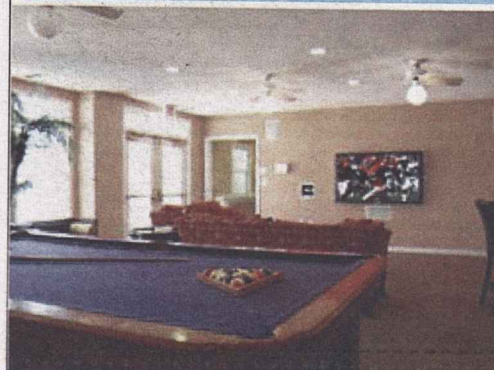
A couple of his other prominent experiments include a five-second rule and beer pong bacteria trial.

All in all, his inquiry team's double-dipping research brings media and professional appeal. "It makes people aware of what they're doing," he said. "It brings attention."

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BE MY honey pie

Campus couples share the sweetness of their relationships with The Tiger.

KEVIN KEITH
STAFF WRITER

Thomas Moore and Caroline Addington

Graduate student in bioengineering

and senior in bioengineering

How long they've been together: Just over one year

How they met: "We met at Poly-Med, Inc. She helped me design a cardboard slip-and-slide to go down the stairs at my apartment," Moore said.

What they like most about each other: "I like her knowledge of regenerative medicine and Japanese culture," Moore said. "I like how much he enjoys watching squirrels, and [how] his hair always smells good," Addington said.

What they dislike about each other: "Nothing," Moore said. "Ditto," Addington said.

Plans for Valentine's Day: Dinner and a movie, "Black Dynamite"



EDEN ARMSTRONG/photographer

Josh Downey and Kristen Bouchillon

Sophomore in food science and

junior in health science

How long they've been together: Since Jan. 29, 2011

How they met: Through Fellowship of Christian Athletes in August 2010

What they like most about each other: "I love Kristen's loving and caring heart, as well as her encouraging nature," Downey said. "She truly walks by faith and is constantly following Jesus above everything else."

"I love Josh's passionate pursuit of the Lord as well as his willingness to go out of his way if I need anything," Bouchillon said. "And he is always encouraging me."

What they dislike about each other: "She is cooler than me," Downey said. "His love for elephants," Bouchillon said.



KEVIN ERTTEL/staff

Cam Bloomquist and Ashley Sewell

Junior in chemistry and

*junior in secondary education
concentrating in math*

How long they've been together: Four years and four months

How they met: In high school marching band; he was on the drumline, and she was a twirler

What they like most about each other: "I know I can trust her to be there when I need her. She would drop anything she is doing to help me if I asked her," Bloomquist said. "He always sees the best in everyone, including me," Sewell said.

What they dislike about each other: "She gets cranky when she doesn't get her naps," Bloomquist said. "When I am mad for some irrational reason, he tries to rationally explain that I'm being irrational," Sewell said.

Plans for Valentine's Day: Dinner either the day before or of.



CONTRIBUTED BY CAM BLOOMQUIST

Brian and Delphine Dean

Professor of Computer Science and

Professor of Bioengineering

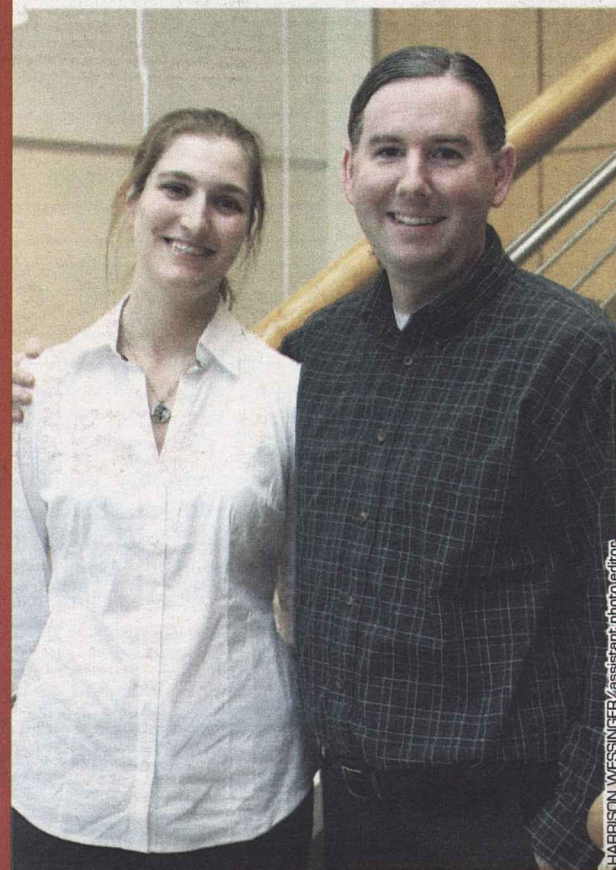
How long they've been together: Together for 14 years, married for 10

How they met: "We lived in the same dorm in undergrad at MIT, and we first met walking to the sodium drop," Brian said. "It's an annual event before the start of the semester in which someone drops a lump of a highly-reactive group 1 alkali metal into the Charles River. Things go boom; it's fun."

What they like most about each other: "I like the fact that she appreciates my sense of humor," Brian said. "I like the fact that he is a goofy romantic," Delphine said.

What they dislike about each other: "She has so many positive qualities that I can't find something bad to say," he said. "He can be a bit cheesy sometimes," she said.

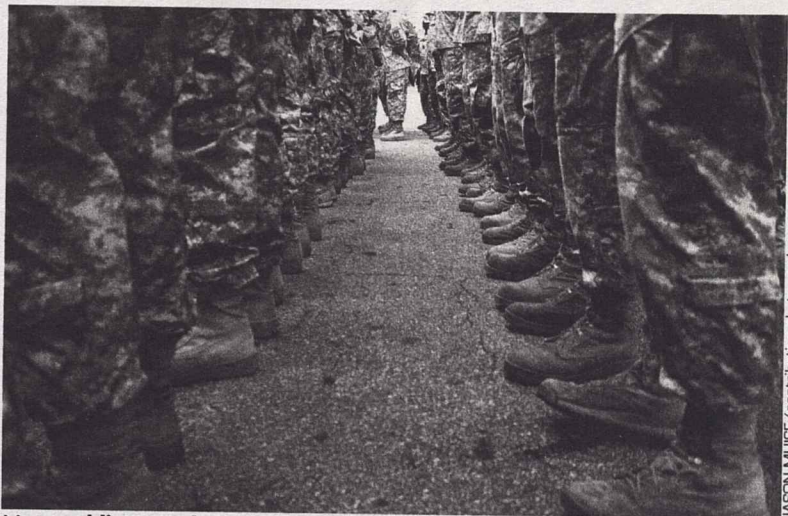
Plans for Valentine's Day: Brian is going to make a romantic dinner, and Delphine will be making a chocolate concoction for dessert.



HARRISON WESSINGER/assistant photo editor

Grant aids troop research

Psychological health a concern.



Many soldiers need psychological help after combat but don't seek it.

PAUL BOTELLO
STAFF WRITER

War pushes soldiers to face horrors that are otherwise unseen in any other arena, and for some soldiers these horrors stay with them after the war ends. The U.S. Department of Defense has invested large sums of money to help aid these soldiers after they serve their country.

The Department of Defense Psychological Health Research Program has awarded Clemson University professor Dr. Thomas Britt a \$1.5 million grant. Britt, who served as a research psychologist for five years during the peace-keeping mission in Bosnia, will be using this grant to study why soldiers may not seek psychological help and how to get help to the soldiers who need it.

"Although a lot of attention has been paid to a stigma-preventing treatment, recent research shows it is more that the soldier has a negative attitude toward treatment," Britt said.

The research of this topic will take multiple steps, according to Britt. First they will interview soldiers who have decided to get treatment to inquire about what types of stigmas and barriers they faced. Next, focus groups of six to eight soldiers of different ranks will be formed to see how they view soldiers who get help. Then, quantitative data will be formed from these studies to show correlations.

"The ultimate goal is to give an intervention to soldiers who need help and to change the attitude toward treatment," Britt said.

Sergeant Matthew Davis, a senior in political science, served in Iraq as a machine gunner in an infantry battalion from July 2004 to February 2005. He worked on a mission to stabilize the

regions of Diwaniyah, Karbala and Najaf and fought in heavy combat during August 2004 in Najaf.

According to Davis, psychological help was available to those who needed it in Iraq, but that did not mean those who needed help always utilized it.

"There's not any spoken stigma toward seeking psychological help, but I'd definitely say it's there," he said.

However, Davis points out that the problem may lie more within the individual soldier than the unit.

"For most that need help and don't seek it, it's probably more of a pride thing," Davis said.

Britt also pointed this out and the difficulty in reaching these soldiers to get help.

"We need to show them there is a point where they can't handle [their psychological problems] alone anymore," he said.

Britt believes his study should be helpful in helping progress the U.S. Army's handling of this issue in the future.

"I see the intervention we develop being incorporated into training by the army," he said.

Davis also spoke of the benefits that psychological evaluation could bring to soldiers.

"I don't think that evaluating returning servicemen's mental state is a bad idea, because some are too proud to admit that they are having problems," he said.

"A large majority of soldiers who go into a high-combat zone come back with mental disorders, and part of soldiers being resilient is getting psychological help," Britt said. "So, we need to change the current mindset on mental health problems."

HEART from page A1

from serving his country.

Wyche graduated and commissioned as an officer from Clemson's Air Force ROTC Detachment 770 in May 2006. With a degree in sociology concentrated in criminal justice, Wyche's career goal was to become a Security Forces officer. He was selected to be Cadet Wing Commander his senior year and also received the Clemson Corp scholarship. He worked 30 to 40 hours per week at the campus police department to help pay for his education. During their time at Clemson, Wyche and his wife, Jessica, met and are now going on five years of marriage.

"Any success of mine can be directly correlated to those individuals who have sacrificed their time for my benefit, and this list is very long," Wyche said. Among the many are his parents and wife, Maj. Tom Childress USAF (ret), Col. Lance Young USAF (ret) and many CUPD officers.

Young spoke fondly of Wyche's character. "I'm very proud of Gil; he is a true hero, and it is amazing how much he has done in his short career in the military," he said. "I know he will continue to represent our nation, the Air Force and Clemson as a proud officer and alumnus."

As former Commander of Clemson's AFROTC program, Young selected Wyche as Wing Commander based on his hard work, integrity and selflessness toward his fellow cadets and the Air Force mission.

Wyche's passion for Clemson University lies in his experiences with the AFROTC program, the education he received and Clemson football. Among the items on his required packing list, a Clemson flag accompanies Wyche even to the war zone.

"Pride and giving one's 'all' are central values for many military members, especially my team," Wyche said. "We are prideful in defense of our country, and we are steadfast in our commitment to be 'all in.'"

Bill requires photo ID

State legislature debating costs of new IDs; Democrats and Republicans split as interest groups condemn bill.

TEDDY KULMALA
NEWS EDITOR

KELLEY NEWMAN
STAFF WRITER

The South Carolina legislature has just introduced a new bill that would require voters to show photo identification at the polls.

In South Carolina, it is currently up to the counties to run their elections, meaning they vary dramatically with their intensity. Some locations require only a voter registration card, whereas others prefer a driver's license.

"I can't imagine in South Carolina there would be any speak-up about it," said Dr. David Woodard, professor of political science. "It would be standardization across the counties and trying to legitimize something that is intuitively obvious."

Republican state Representative Eric Bedingfield said other states such as Pennsylvania use signature matching rather than photo matching, and he called the ability to cast a vote "the bedrock of our society."

"The goal is simple," he said. "We just want people to be able to cast a vote, and we want to know that vote is protected and sacred to that individual, and that folks don't have the ability to go in and cast a ballot that's erroneous."

The bill is taking heat from interest groups such as the National Association for the Advancement of Colored Persons (NAACP) and the Association for the Advancement of Retired Persons (AARP), which claim the bill would disenfranchise some voters.

Democratic state Representative Paul Agnew, who voted against the

bill, said some 175,000 citizens statewide would be affected. Agnew said in most cases it would require a trip to the Department of Motor Vehicles, which would inconvenience people in rural areas as well as the elderly or disabled who may have to stand in lines at the DMV.

According to political science professor Dr. Bruce Ransom, that claim doesn't hold much water, as the bill doesn't require voters to pay a tax or fee to obtain the required photo identification. "It merely imposes an inconvenience," he said.

"There are partisan charges and counter-charges about the justification for voter identification by a photo and the discriminatory effects on prospective voters in South Carolina," he said, "but the United States Supreme Court has given its blessing to such laws, if they follow the Indiana model."

In the 2008 Indiana case of Crawford vs. Marion County of Education, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that such photo ID laws in Indiana — similar to the one being considered in South Carolina — "do not impose excessively burdensome requirements on any class of voters, to include the elderly, poor, disabled, etc.," Ransom said.

"However," he added, "the Court's opinion did leave open the door for possible successful challenges to the law if [there was] sufficient evidence of burdens being imposed on voters' rights during implementation."

Woodard said the state wants to make sure "people are who they say they are as a way of trying to legitimize voters, because there's always some voters' fraud, machines break or people vote twice, or people show up

on election day and think they can vote without being registered."

Agnew said such claims of voter fraud are unfounded. "There have been no prosecuted cases of voter fraud in South Carolina, nothing that we can point to that caused us to have to pass legislation like this and has some bad consequences," he said.

Agnew said that over the next three years the bill could have a financial impact of \$5 million, which will cover the cost of the machines as well as the training of employees. Thus far, he said, the bill has passed the House and is headed to the Senate, where it will undergo committee hearings before being voted on by the full Senate.

"It's important people who don't agree with the bill get involved and talk about it," he said. "On its surface it looks good, as bills often do. Why not require an ID? But this is a very particular type of ID that will require difficulty in accessing the ID and the associated costs."



The proposed bill would require a photo ID to vote in elections.

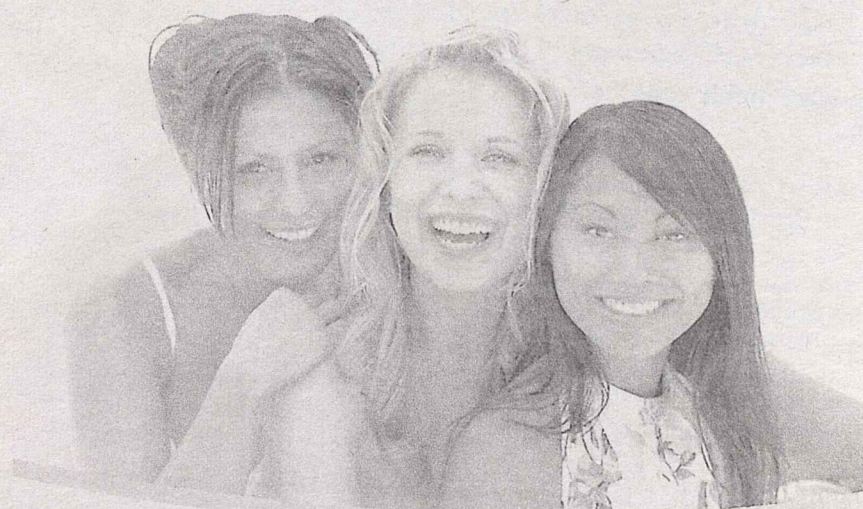
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National signing day in college football is a circus. Every year on the first day college letters of intent can be signed, hundreds of football players commit to go to different schools to play football. Signing day is featured on ESPN and hundreds of websites. While this day is important to the future of football programs, it puts too much pressure on student athletes and can even contribute to a prima donna attitude.

If you have never watched a commitment on national signing day, it is pretty similar every time. Usually a player is choosing between his favorite three schools, and he has their three hats set up in front of him. With TV cameras rolling, the recruit then announces his decision and puts on a hat from one of the three schools. It can be nerve-racking for fans, and the commitments are watched nationwide depending on the prestige of the player.

There can be signing day surprises. For example, Clemson beat out Florida State for five-star linebacker Tony Steward last week, and C.J. Spiller's decision to put on the paw hat was met with surprise nationwide back in 2006.

This signing day wave of commitments is the most visible part of recruiting and the only contact most casual fans have with the process. The full process of recruiting is long and arduous, and it can wear on kids still trying to graduate from high school.

When examining the problems with signing day and recruiting, it is first important to put yourself in the shoes of the football recruits. These are kids that are in some cases not even 18 years old. Some of them have had the spotlight on them since they walked on the football field for the first time in high school; in some communities, football players are the pride of the town.

It is also important to note how recruiting has changed over the last 15-20 years. With the creation of the Internet, recruiting has become much more mainstream and third-party oriented than it was pre-1990s. Recruiting used to be something that each school did independently. They would have many scouts that would evaluate players, and the school would make offers based on the scouts' opinions.

Now recruiting is a much different affair; recruiting websites now hire their own scouts to look at recruits nationwide and assign them a "star" ranking, one through five. Sites like Rivals and Scout release lists of the top players and also rank recruiting classes based on these stars.

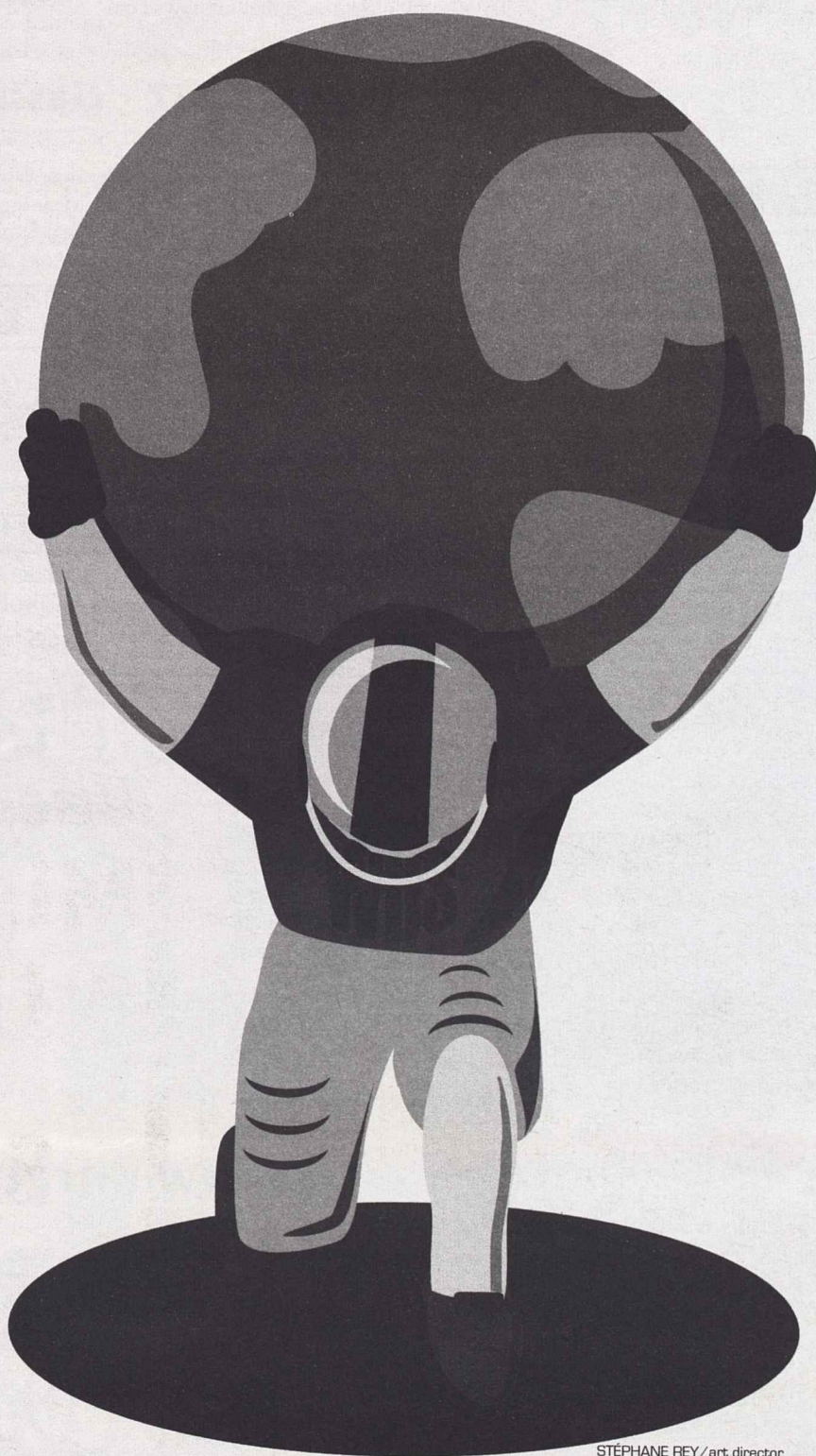
The star system and the Internet have created several aspects to recruiting that are detrimental to athletes.

With the Internet and the star system, football recruits get national press much earlier than they did in the past. This has several effects. First, there is too much pressure placed on the decision of a high school student, which in the end is his decision alone. Do you remember what it was like to choose a college your senior year of high school? It is a tough time, and there are hundreds of factors that weigh into a decision.

There is also too much pressure on good recruits to perform to their star level. Recruiting services are not perfect, and there are hundreds of examples of lower-star players, such as Gaines Adams (three star), having productive college careers and going high in the NFL draft. There are also many four- and five-star players that never pan out because they simply do not work hard enough. But can some of these four- or five-star players simply be caught up in their own hype?

There are also examples like Willy Korn, who was

SIGNING DAY CIRCUS



STÉPHANE REY/art director

dubbed as the savior of Clemson football when he was recruited to Clemson. But due to injury and other circumstances, Korn never contributed much to Clemson and ended up transferring out of the university. There are still some fans to this day that will bash Korn because he was supposed to be the savior.

This hype can have other consequences as well. Quarterback Terrelle Pryor from Pennsylvania was one of the most heavily-recruited players in 2008. Instead of committing on national signing day, he prolonged his recruitment to go on visits to colleges nationwide. Fans followed his every move, and his announcement to attend Ohio State was broadcast nationally on all ESPN channels. This is an example of a prima donna attitude that is facilitated by recruiting services, the Internet and extensive coverage of high school athletes by ESPN.

Sometimes the heavy pressure on high school athletes to commit to different schools can cause a student athlete to crack. Also in the 2008 recruiting year, Kevin Hart, a

small-town football player from Nevada, picked up a Cal hat on signing day instead of the Oregon hat and committed to the University of California. The only problem was they had never recruited him. As the pride of his community, Hart felt pressured to be the first player from his high school to sign a letter of intent with a major Division-I program. He lied to friends, family, officials and even his school newspaper. A major college never recruited Hart, but he felt the pressure to be part of the national signing day atmosphere.

This is an extreme example, but it shows how insane the fixation on the college choices of 17 and 18 year olds is. It is even more insane that these kids choose colleges on national television. These young players do not need the extra pressure that ESPN provides.

Rabid fan bases are also an issue in recruiting. Football fans aren't known for being reasonable, and this shows up in the recruiting process. Facebook now makes it easy for fans to contact and talk to recruits before they commit. Personal attacks from rival schools and even death threats are not uncommon when a player selects a school. This is becoming such a problem that many recruits delete their Facebook pages and change phone numbers.

While it is true the decision to have a Facebook is the player's decision, the recruiting process shouldn't open them up to verbal assault and death threats. Fans should be better than that. The fact that 50-year-old men can be so upset over what a 17 year old decides is out of control; let the recruits have a little privacy. To say it is creepy to follow a recruit on Facebook is an understatement.

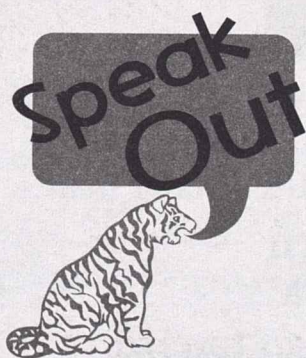
It is also true that these players know what they are getting into when they enter the recruiting process. When these players go to college, they are scrutinized the same way they were as recruits and are open to threats as well. But there is a big difference between a high school kid and a college student. High school students should not be under the intense pressure, and the spotlight shouldn't shine so brightly on them.

Some athletes want the attention, but it is the media attention that allows them to become prima donnas as high school seniors. Without the media attention, recruits would be able to choose schools with less pressure and without threats from rival fans.

We shouldn't be so wrapped up in what high school recruits do on national signing day. Many of these recruits pan out, but a good many also don't. The star rating system makes kids into celebrities when they are very young, which can be bad for their psyches. Not to mention it creates the potential for fans to flood their Facebook pages with threats and negative language.

These are kids we are talking about. Choosing college is a hard enough decision; there are many factors that go into the decision, and these same factors apply to football players. Let recruits choose their colleges in peace; the pressure on them is high enough as it is.

The opinions expressed in the above editorial are written by the opinions editor and represent the majority opinion of The Tiger editorial board. In representing the majority view, the staff editorials may not represent the individual view of any particular member.



Is there too much pressure put on college athletic recruits? Why?

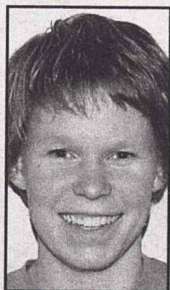
Emily Haile



ELEMENTARY EDUCATION
junior

"Athletes face ample pressure in their day-to-day lives and should be protected from pressure to sign with certain teams to the maximum extent possible."

Claire Miller



NURSING / junior

"College athletes have a lot of pressure from fans — not only from coaches but from fans. There is pressure to do well and be able to keep up their academics."

Tim Bristow



MANAGEMENT / senior

"Yes, the pressure is outrageous. These are 17-year-old kids making monumental life decisions, what did you have to do at 17?"

Julia Schmidt



PARKS, RECREATION AND
TOURISM MANAGEMENT
senior

"There shouldn't be such intense pressure on people who are only 20, 21, or 22 from the general public. They should be able to make their own decisions in peace."

JaCory Cleveland



BUSINESS MANAGEMENT
senior

"Yes, it should come down to where the athlete feels is the best place for him or her. They should never be threatened to do anything they don't want to do."

Comic heroes never die... No, seriously.

EDUARDO HERNÁNDEZ

Columnist



It was recently revealed that Marvel made the decision to kill a major character in one of their major comic book series — Johnny Storm will be bumped off, leaving the Fantastic Four in search of a new name (by the way... SPOILER ALERT). New comic fans will be shocked, loyal fans will be outraged, non-fans won't really care and probably stop reading this article, but those savvy in the world of comics will have a completely different reaction: they will make bets on how long it will be until Marvel decides to bring him back.

You see, the thing is that when comic book heroes die, they don't ever stay that way. Comic books don't understand that when a character is dead, they're supposed to, you know, stay dead (as in passed on, no more, expired, meeting his maker). The writers find a way to bring them back even if it's completely ridiculous and mind-boggling, like when Superman died.

Yes, there was a comic book where Superman was killed. And the writers decided that he actually wasn't dead and brought him back. Captain

America, as iconic as he is, was once killed by a sniper in a particularly shocking issue. The Marvel Company held a funeral for him and everything until it was decided that he wasn't killed but instead time traveled... or something (I don't get it, either). This would be one long article if I listed them all. Hell, this isn't the first time one of the Fantastic Four has died either. And guess what? He came back.

My bet for this instance is a year and a half, personally.

Isn't the point of killing a fictional character that they're, you know, dead (albeit fictionally so)? Yes, Gandalf came back from the dead, but anyone who has actually read Tolkien's work realizes it was kind of a one-time thing and that Gandalf is an angelic-level being.

Yes, I keep reading comics, but my favorite comics are usually the ones where the dead characters stay, you know, dead (except for Hellboy, though when the dead come back, it's always seen as a bad thing).

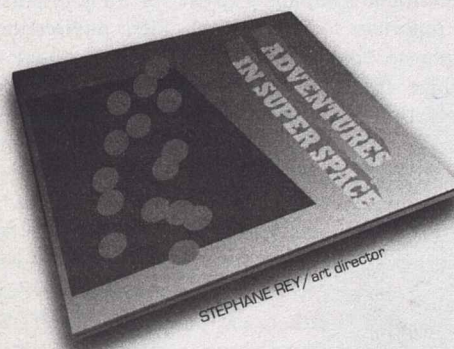
It just comes across as kind of lame that the comic book writers make a huge deal out of an icon being killed when a year later the character will be revived instead of sticking with the decision of killing them.

The impact their death had on the story and other characters is completely erased and made

obsolete, and this has the same effect on readers. What's supposed to be a shocking and heart-rending plot twist is turned into a recycled and predictable storyline that's usually seen as a ploy to sell more comic books. The sad thing is this: it works. People buy them and sales soar.

In the end, no one's going to remember that Captain America died at all because the significance it had in his story is nonexistent. I would not be at all surprised if that became the case with the Human Torch.

EDUARDO HERNÁNDEZ-CRUZ is a freshman majoring in English. E-mail comments to letters@TheTigerNews.com.



TIGER RANTS

Sometimes in life we get to a point when we need to take a break from morals.

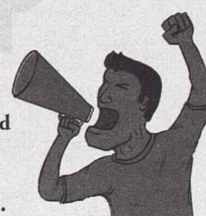
I have a structured settlement, and I need cash now.

I hate seeing random, extremely attractive guys on campus that I know I'll never see again.

There's a difference between hating the Steelers and being a true Packers fan. Get off the bandwagon.

Fergie, you suck.

Want to rant? Send your rants to letters@thetigernews.com.



Paws up

A 12-year-old girl from California was shocked to find the phrase "Nice Tits" written on a candy heart, the popular Valentine's Day candy.



Drug smugglers in Mexico were caught while trying to use catapults to hurl marijuana into the United States.

A sex toy store in Alabama is offering a deal for Valentine's Day: trade your guns for "romance-inspiring gifts."

Paws down

Pharmacists in Ft. Lupton, Colo., accidentally gave a woman who is six weeks pregnant an abortion drug instead of the antibiotic she had been prescribed.



A new app for the iPod and iPad is designed to help Catholics keep track of their sins.

Fort Wayne, Ind., leaders have decided not to name a new government center after a four-term mayor because of his embarrassing name. His name? Harry Baals (pronounced "balls").

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By its right name

ZAK JAMES

Columnist



Most days of the week I don't have a lot of respect for the Associated Press (AP). In fact, if someone were to ask me to what I would contribute the rapid degeneration of American society, I would have him or her look no further than any national publication or syndicated news program. But after reading an article late last year, I want to commend the AP for standing up for something I believe to be highly countercultural.

The article in question highlighted a request by the diversity committee of the Society of Professional Journalists (SPJ) for all journalists and reporters to delete from their publications the phrase "illegal immigrant" in an attempt to sensitize the American people to its pejorative connotation in regard to individuals of Latino heritage. Instead, the committee's preferred addition to the popular lexicon would be "undocumented worker."

"This is not about being politically correct but about aiming to 'minimize harm' when reporting," SPJ diversity committee chairman George Daniels said. Further, the committee expressed that the Constitution reserves certain rights for all people, documented or not, and that the only way to remain faithful to that document is to drop the phrase in question altogether. However, when the request was submitted to the AP, they responded with a simple and resounding "no."

Now, I believe language that is offensive and detrimental to the social wellbeing of any group in this nation should be called into question. But to say the undocumented 11-million-person Latino population in America is being done an injustice by the repeated usage of the phrase "illegal immi-

grant," I'm going to have to call B.S.

You see, "illegal immigrant" isn't just a popular colloquialism; rather, it is the preferred neutral term to describe such individuals as outlined in the AP Stylebook. Instead, it seems to me that "undocumented worker" is far more politically-loaded than anything currently in use, which begs the question, what is all this really about?

I don't think SPJ is covering up any sort of agenda. I honestly believe this is a matter of one group believing that the popular expression has been born out of racial aggression and that its use in contemporary media is politically incorrect despite their statements to the contrary. To that I ask: so what if it is?

"Today's illegal immigrant is tomorrow's undocumented worker, and both are racial slurs next week."

Don't get me wrong, the debate surrounding illegal immigrants, amnesty and constitutionality is complex and highly controversial. But that is not what this is about; I am not concerned with the nature of border security in this article. What I am concerned about is our society's continued practice of the failed idea of political correctness.

I'm not the biggest fan of PC. Certainly I think that people should attempt to avoid bias at all levels of communication, whether that bias be concerned with age, gender, religion, culture, etc. But we have arrived at a point in this process where communication is no longer being enhanced by this careful curtailing but restricted to the point that it is becoming more and more difficult to simply express oneself. Not only that,

but it seems the more politically correct we get, the more proud and defensive people become, typically without justification.

"Illegal immigrant" may offend some people. Yet it is the most neutral term able to be expressed for the definition concerned, and it is the definition, not the word, that offends. If the definition is the guilty party, then eventually any term used to describe it will itself become anathema. Today's illegal immigrant is tomorrow's undocumented worker, and both are racial slurs next week. And if the definition itself is not something we would objectively consider offensive, like most racial slurs, then I think we need to decide on a word to pair it with and leave it alone. For, "what's in a name? That which we call a rose by any other name would smell as sweet."

If one is of Latino heritage and is also a legal citizen of the United States, then to label that individual as an illegal immigrant is unjust. Instead of marginalizing cultures with our words, we need to be a nation that recognizes the need to embrace rather than exclude. But to simply be a legal Latino citizen and to take umbrage at the idea that your fellow ethnicity has often, justifiably, been paired with the problem of illegal immigration, then you are twisting the arm of political correctness in a direction it's not supposed to bend.

Sometimes life really is cut and dry; let's not overcomplicate things to the point that we jump the borders of reason. Pasternak scribed that we are here on Earth to grasp at its enchantment, and so are we to call each thing by its right name. There are times when we have to bite the bullet and accept that political correctness is not fool-proof; it does fail. And when it fails, its Orwellian grasp often snatches more than I personally am willing to release.

ZAK JAMES is a junior majoring in health science. E-mail comments to letters@TheTigerNews.com.

Transfer tales

BENJAMIN CHILDES

Columnist



Change can be intimidating. Whether it is a different location, unfamiliar people, new challenges or all of these at once, moving from one situation to another without preparation can be detrimental. Currently at Clemson University, there are thousands of transfer students who have made the switch from another school, and although a new campus presents daunting trials, it also presents an exciting opportunity to those who are willing to work to make it happen.

As a transfer student from Greenville Technical College, I made the switch from a very small, simple college atmosphere to a large and seemingly complicated one. The hardest adjustment I have had to make is the adaptation to a four-year university social and academic lifestyle.

While I am sitting here writing this, I can look out my window and see Bowman Field, and beyond that, Tillman Hall. I am on campus. I study, eat, exercise and socialize on campus. This differs greatly from my past life at Greenville Technical College, and it required a definite acclimation at the beginning, because at Greenville Technical College, life was much simpler.

For instance, I would be sitting in my bedroom writing this if I still went to Greenville Tech. All of my friends would not be from my school, and I would be commuting from home or an off-campus apartment. Other than the location, there is a drastic difference in general academics. The purpose of academia at Greenville Technical College was to get in, get credits, get them cheap and get out.

It served its purpose. I studied

under professors whom I both enjoyed and respected, and the majority of my time there was in no way wasted. However, what I got out of the program at Greenville Tech was entirely up to me. In a sense, I created my own college experience.

Clemson, on the other hand, is completely different. The university has taken the student experience entirely upon itself. The faculty takes responsibility for ensuring that your experience is the best it can be in every sphere of life. All you have to do as a student is decide which direction you want to pursue in life and, as they say, "get involved."

The faculty believes it can simulate everything you need to succeed. This is true in some instances, but in other cases it can be very inefficient and ultimately unproductive. There is more available on campus than any student could possibly appreciate. Sacrifices must be made in order for students to pursue the things most relevant to them.

What people must realize is that no faculty-constructed college experience is ever going to complete an education. It has nothing to do with what Clemson requires of the student but everything to do with what the student requires of his or her self. Schools and life in general are always going to be demanding, and while it is necessary to understand and complete these demands, it is even more essential to understand the goals, convictions and standards that students set for themselves and to discover the perseverance to follow them through. This holds true regardless of whether you're at a small, simple technical college, a medium-sized school like Clemson or the largest university in the country.

No matter where you are, you have to be driven to succeed as a student.

BENJAMIN CHILDES is a sophomore majoring in packaging science. E-mail comments to letters@TheTigerNews.com.

Solid Green or Solid Mean?

PERRY ROGERS

Columnist



The efforts of Clemson's sustainability campaign, Solid Green, have been commendable for many years now. The campaign has helped increase recycling, lower electric bills, get litter picked up and has made the Clemson campus a more environmentally friendly place overall, something a modern hipster would be proud of.

I agreed with all their efforts until recently when I found a tag hanging from the showerhead in the Byrnes dorms. It simply reads, "Please limit your showers to five minutes." This request sounds simple enough, but have you ever tried to take a full shower in five minutes? It's basically impossible if you actually want to get clean.

I wasn't extremely perturbed about this at first; I could easily ignore it and continue on my merry way. What I am perturbed about is that along with this hangtag, the university has decided to lower the water pressure in all the dorms without consent of its residents, not even the hall councils that run them.

It's hard enough to take a shower in five minutes without low pressure, but now it's

basically a futile task if you plan on using shampoo or conditioner. Because of the lowered pressure you also have to spend more time in the shower, leading you to use more water anyway. The low pressure has also affected the toilets. As bad as this sounds, you pretty much always have to flush twice now.

Solid Green seems to be overstepping their boundaries with its campaign and is turning into an environmental goon squad bent on saving the university money no matter the discomfort to its students.

"If I plan on spending \$4000+ a year to live on campus, I would at least like to have simple amenities provided to me, or at least be told about changes when they are made."

If I plan on spending \$4000+ a year to live on campus, I would at least like to have simple amenities provided to me, or at least be told about changes when they are made.

Granted, some think this isn't actually a big deal, and many of you probably didn't even notice that the water pressure has been lowered. This measure is probably saving the university thousands of dollars in the long run, but I'm cautious of what could come next. Lowering the heat in the showers? Mandatory power meters for every dorm room? Turning the A/C off when they feel it's the right temperature to survive? Whatever the next "green" measure is, I just hope Solid Green takes a more open approach and doesn't instate it behind our backs, hoping we don't notice.

PERRY ROGERS is a freshman majoring in communication studies. E-mail comments to letters@TheTigerNews.com.

Packers win Super Bowl: They're cheeseheads, y'all are just cheez whiz. Page C3

Last day improvement: Golf team finishes fifth at Jacksonville Invitational. Page C3

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Georgia @ 11 a.m.
Clemson, S.C.

MEN'S TENNIS

Friday 2/11
DePaul @ 2:30 p.m.
Clemson, S.C.Sunday 2/13
College of Charleston
@ 1 p.m.
Clemson, S.C.

TRACK & FIELD

Friday 2/11-12
Tiger Paw Invitational
@ 5 p.m. & Noon
State College, Pa.Friday 2/11-12
Tyson Invitational
All Day
Fayetteville, Ark.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Saturday 2/12
North Carolina @ 1 p.m.
Clemson, S.C.Wednesday 2/17
North Carolina State
@ 7 p.m.
Raleigh, N.C.

LADIES' BASKETBALL

Monday 2/14
Virginia Tech @ 7 p.m.
Clemson, S.C.Thursday 2/17
Georgia Tech @ 7 p.m.
Atlanta, Ga.TIGER
SCORES

SWIM & DIVE

2/5 • Emory
Tigers 153-138 Eagles

MEN'S BASKETBALL

2/5 • Georgia Tech
Tigers 65-56 Yellow Jackets2/8 • Boston College
Tigers 77-69 Eagles

LADIES' BASKETBALL

2/6 • Boston College
Tigers 49-78 Eagles

Tigers stop Tech, run by BC

Clemson takes two-game winning streak into Saturday showdown against North Carolina

KEVIN THOMAS
STAFF WRITER

The Clemson men's basketball team came into last week knowing they had some work to do if they wanted to earn a spot in the NCAA Tournament. The Tigers took a big step in the right direction by taking down Georgia Tech and Boston College in a span of four days.

Clemson started off the two-game stretch last Saturday with a road game at Georgia Tech in the "Thriller Dome." The game started out with the Tigers digging themselves a deep hole early, something that has become a common theme this season. The Yellow Jackets came out hot and surged to a 19-8 lead fueled by six points from Mfon Udofia. Clemson responded with a 22-0 run that began with a Jerai Grant jumper and ended with a Tanner Smith free throw. Grant had 10 points during the stretch, and Andre Young chipped in with six points to put Clemson up 30-19. The teams traded baskets in the last few minutes of the half, which ended with Clemson leading 33-25.

Georgia Tech came out of the locker room ready to play, and star guard Iman Shumpert had six quick points to start the half. A Glen Rice, Jr. free throw finished off a 16-7 run for the Yellow Jackets, which gave them the lead at 41-40. Clemson answered with a quick six-point spurt that saw them regain a lead they would not relinquish. The Tigers were solid down the stretch, going 8-for-9 on free throws in the last few minutes to secure the victory 65-56.

Shumpert led Georgia Tech with 17 points and eight rebounds. The Yellow Jackets shot 41 percent from the field and only 13 percent from beyond the arc. Grant led Clemson with 20 points and seven rebounds.

Demontez Stitt added 16 points and Young chipped in 14 points of his own, including four 3-pointers. The win over Georgia Tech was the first road conference win of the season for the Tigers.

"I'm glad we were able to finally get this next thing done," head coach Brad Brownell said. "We needed to prove that we were good enough to do this. We have two seniors that are good players that should enable us to compete on the road, and we have,

but it's good to put it behind us; we've got a lot more work to do, though."

Next up for the Tigers was Boston College on Tuesday night. Clemson went away from its norm to start the game and came out on a 10-3 run. However, the Eagles answered back with a 17-5 run keyed by two Corey Raji 3-pointers to take a 20-15 lead. Andre Young, who didn't start the game because of being late to a

see TIGERS page C2



Devin Booker had five points and six rebounds as the Tigers moved to 6-4 in the ACC with Tuesday's win over Boston College in Littlejohn Coliseum.

Brownell's
Instant
ImpactJay
Ingles

sports editor



When Oliver Purnell shocked Clemson nation last spring by leaving for DePaul, most Tiger fans panicked. What would happen to the basketball program without the savior who had brought Clemson back to relevance? Would our basketball teams begin to resemble those of the Larry Shyatt era, when Clemson was the perennial doormat of the ACC? I shudder just thinking about it.

When Clemson hired Brad Brownell, most of the fan base was indifferent. "Yeah, the guy had some good teams at Wilmington and Wright State, but the ACC is a different world" seemed to be the prevailing attitude. People wanted an exciting hire after having their hearts ripped out by Purnell, and frankly, they didn't get one.

To me, though, the Brownell hire was intriguing.

I remembered watching his team at UNC-Wilmington go toe-to-toe with one of the great Maryland teams of the early 2000s in the NCAA Tournament and fall short only because of a miraculous fade-away three by the Terps' Drew Nicholas. Little did I know the mentality of that tough Seahawk team would be the same one taken on by Clemson in 2011.

Most expected Clemson to suffer a drop off this year. The ACC media picked the Tigers to finish seventh in the conference, which seemed reasonable considering the expected success of the ACC this season. Others projected the Tigers to finish lower in the conference, with one "expert" even picking them to finish dead last. I won't say any names (Jay Bilas), but this meant Clemson would finish behind

see IMPACT page C6

EUROPE'S INVADING
(and they are a bunch of divers)ROBBIE TINSLEY
STAFF WRITER

In our great country, there will only be one dictionary entry under the term "football." It will always be a sport played with an elongated ball, thrown, carried and occasionally kicked up and down a 100-yard field by men wearing enough padding to survive a drop from a second-floor window.

However, there are plenty of reasons to believe that America is finally starting to warm to the global definition of "football"—a game where a circular ball is kicked, dribbled, headed and occasionally thrown up and down a 120-yard field. The caveat is the majority of Americans are following European leagues over their domestic one.

The best tangible proof of this occurrence is the increasing viewership of international soccer matches on ESPN and ESPN3 and the subscription boost for Fox Soccer Channel and GOL TV. Legal viewership has skyrocketed since the World Cup last summer, when ABC and the ESPN family of networks covered every match live and on the Internet.

Aided by a great showing in the Group Stage by the Yanks, the United States caught World Cup fever. Despite

an extra-time loss to Ghana, it appears that soccer has finally caught a foothold in the one country that denied it for so long.

Imagine if every high school in South Carolina was also a professional sports organization; that's a pretty good idea of how many professional soccer teams there are in Europe and how congested they are. You think the Yankees and the Red Sox hate each other? Celtic FC and Rangers FC are both in Glasgow and separated by that great divider: religion. Celtic is the Catholic sect while Rangers is Protestant. Most people revel in the proximity of UNC and Duke, separated by eight miles of Tobacco Road. Everton and Liverpool are separated by a park. The Merseyside derby crosses Stanley Park in Liverpool as Goodison Park (Everton) and Anfield (Liverpool) are separated by half a mile.

The point is there is plenty for the casual observer to like about soccer, especially abroad, because the quality of the play is so high, there are so many teams to follow, and it's never been easier to keep up with the foreign leagues. My father came to Clemson in 1979 from Wolverhampton, England, in order to play for Coach Ibrahim. In order to keep up with his (and now my)

beloved Wolves, he had to go to the library every Sunday and look at the league tables in the New York Times. Nowadays there are countless sites on the Internet to get the latest news, talk to fans from around the world, listen to fan-driven podcasts and watch games and highlight clips from other countries, both legally and illegally.

If you are trying to find a team to follow, there are plenty of ways to do it. The one that might create the most authentic passion is if you find a team that has a connection to your family or a place you might have been on vacation. If that isn't an option, there are a lot of alternatives. Choose based on style of play, which has the most success, which is the most fun to play with on FIFA, which has the coolest uniforms, which sings the coolest songs, which has the most Americans—whatever works.

With that in mind, next Tuesday marks the beginning of the Champions League Knockout Rounds. The Champions League is comprised of the winners of all of the domestic leagues in Europe plus several teams who finished near the top of the toughest leagues, such as the English Premier League, La Liga (Spain), Serie A (Italy), Bundesliga (Germany) and Ligue 1 (France).

The qualifying rounds and the group stages have set the stage for 16 teams to face off in a home-and-home series where the aggregate number of goals determines who advances and the number of goals scored on the road is the tiebreaker. Until the quarterfinals, teams from the same country cannot be drawn against each other.

If you don't have a team to follow already, here is The Tiger's official "Pick a Champion's League team for our unbelieving readers" [yes we worked really hard on that name].

AC Milan (Italy): One of the traditional powers of the Champions League, i Rossoneri, has fallen on hard times in this competition since winning it 2007 and not qualifying in 2009, sandwiched around exits to English powers Arsenal and Manchester United. They have the help of Zlatan Ibrahimovich, owner of nearly 200 career club goals and easily one of the world's largest noses.

Tottenham FC (England): The north-London-based Spurs are newcomers to this competition but announced themselves with a 3-1 home

see SOCCER page C3



WOMEN'S TENNIS

ADVANCES TO ITA CHAMPIONSHIP

EMSLEY LEWIS
STAFF WRITER

Last weekend, Clemson's women's tennis team competed in the ITA Division 1 women's kick-off weekend. There were 15 different sites around the country, and at each site, four different teams faced off against each other. The first day, the No. 1 seed played the No. 4 seed while the No. 2 seed played the No. 3 seed. The two winners and two losers faced each other the next day. The fifteen schools that won both of their matches were invited to play in the ITA National Team Indoor Championship Feb. 18-21.

The Tigers went up against No. 61 Dartmouth first. Clemson started strong with Nelly

Ciolkowsky and Klara Vyskocilova taking the first doubles point 8-3. Then Josipa Beck and Keri Wong snatched the second doubles point at 8-4. The ladies also cleaned out in the singles round. Vyskocilova upped her season record to 5-0 with a 6-0, 6-1 win against Ryan Reichel. Wong then defeated Melissa Matsuoka 6-2, 6-0 for her fourth win of the season. Beck, who is ranked No. 12, clinched the match with a 6-4 win in the third set. The teams finished out the singles matches with the Tigers' Maria Belaya, Nelly Ciolkowsky and Caroline Magnusson all coming through with wins.

The next day, Clemson faced its toughest opponent of the season, No. 19 Vanderbilt. Vanderbilt, who had just beaten No. 9 Northwestern earlier in

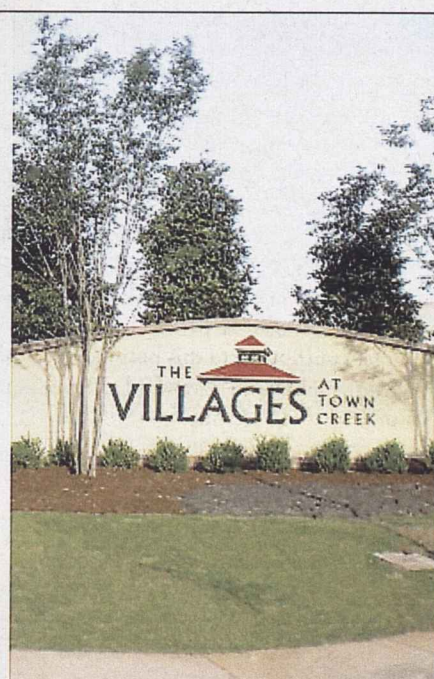
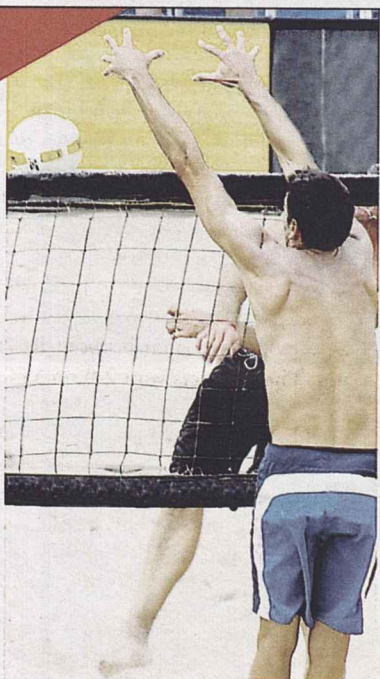
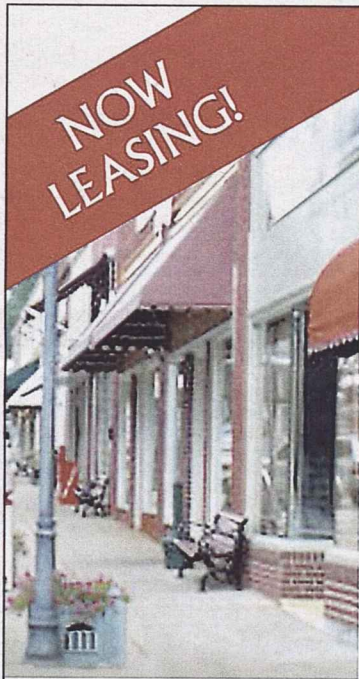
the week, pulled ahead early and became the first team of the season to take the doubles point from Clemson.

In singles, Vyskocilova, who was fighting illness, lost her match to No. 89 Chelsea Preeg 7-5, 6-2, which gave Vanderbilt a 2-0 lead. Then at flight one, Beck earned the first Tiger win in her 7-6, 6-0 match against No. 83 Jackie Wu, which featured an impressive between-the-legs return by Beck. Ciolkowsky evened the score with her 7-5, 6-4 win against Rachael Dillon, and Wong brought Clemson into the lead with her 7-5, 6-4 win against Vanderbilt's highest-ranked player, Alex Leatu. Belaya won at flight five, and Magnusson ground her way to a nail-biting victory at flight six, clinching the match for Clemson.

"Vanderbilt was a big challenge, 'cause it was our first tough match of the season, and even though we lost in doubles, our singles really came through," Belaya said. "It was a big confidence booster for us because they had just beaten the No. 9 team."

The Tigers' win against Vanderbilt means that they will head to Virginia for the ITA Indoor Championship Feb. 18-21.

"We're really excited about going to Virginia," Belaya said. "With this current team, we think we have a good chance of passing the round of 16, which Clemson tennis hasn't been able to do yet. We just want to take it one round at a time and see how it goes. We're excited to take on the top 16 teams in the country, and we're ready to show what we can do."



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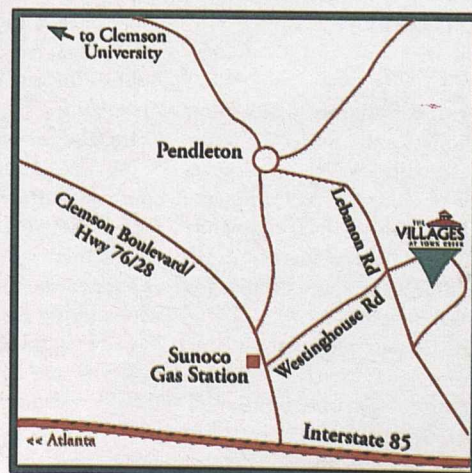
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TIGERS from page C1

team2walk-through, gave the Tigers a spark late in the half, helping them take a lead into the locker room.

Young hit a 3-pointer, and then a minute later got a steal, dribbled behind his back and dropped off a sweet no-look pass to Tanner Smith for a dunk on the fast break.

Young then closed the half by running an old-school pick-and-roll with Jerai Grant, who sliced down the lane after receiving the pass and threw down a two-handed jam.

Clemson came out hot to start the second half and began with a 20-7 run fueled by seven points from Grant and 3-pointers from Young and Bryan "B-Nice" Narcisse. The teams traded baskets for a few minutes until Demontez Stitt hit a trey to extend the lead to 59-42, and the Tigers looked poised to rout Boston College with 8:22 remaining in the game.

However, the veteran Eagles squad would not go away, and behind 3-pointers from Reggie Jackson and Biko Paris and a three-point play from Joe Trapani, they trimmed the Clemson lead to 59-54 with less than five minutes to play. But Smith got a quick layup off a turnover and Young hit a short jumper to put the Tigers back in the driver's seat, and they held on to win 77-69.

Jackson led Boston College with 27 points, seven rebounds and four assists. Trapani did his part for the Eagles as well, scoring 22 points and grabbing eight boards. Grant, who scored 17 points, pulled down five rebounds and had three blocks, led Clemson once again. Stitt did his part with 16 points, five boards and four assists. Young also helped out with 15 points and five assists. Stitt and Young took over in the second half, scoring 26 of their combined 31 points in the period.

"We played our best game of the year," Coach Brownell said of the win. "We played a good opponent that was playing really well. I am pleased with the way our guys approached this. There were not too many bad spots. For the most part, we played pretty good basketball tonight." The Tigers have now won four out of five games and sit at 17-7 overall and 6-4 in ACC play.

Clemson takes the court again on Saturday when it hosts the No. 21 North Carolina Tar Heels. The game is set to tip at 1 p.m. in Littlejohn Coliseum and will be televised on Raycom Sports.

TIGERS FINISH FIFTH AT JACKSONVILLE INVITATIONAL

WYATT STEPHENS
STAFF WRITER

The Clemson golf team opened up its spring season this past Tuesday, posting a total score of 888 for a strong fifth-place finish at the Jacksonville Invitational.

Hosted on the prestigious TPC Players Stadium Course in Ponte Verda, Fla., the Jacksonville Invitational included a field of 15 teams, including No. 3 Florida and No. 23 Wake Forest.

Sophomore Corbin Mills led the Tigers with his two-under score as he carded a 71-73-70, posting a career-best third-place finish. Mills was only three shots back from individual tournament winner, Bank Vongvanij of Florida, who shot a five-under 211.

Head coach Larry Penley said Mills' outstanding performance was based on his putting. "He made a point starting late last fall that he realized he needed to get better," Penley said.

It seemed that Mills made Penley's point, posting four birdies in each of the three rounds. "His putting was just average, but now I can honestly say that he is turning into a very good putter," Penley said.

Mills was not the only Tiger to post an under-par score for the tournament. Junior Jacob Burger posted a one-under 71 during the second round of play, posting three birdies on the back nine and one on the front. Burger went on



Jacob Burger and David Dannelly are veterans on the Clemson golf team, which finished fifth at the Jacksonville Invitational.

to card a 77-71-73, finishing with a 14th-place 221. Redshirt junior McCuen Elmore also had a standout performance as he finished in a 24th-place tie, posting a 77-76-73 and finishing at 226.

On the final day of play, the Tigers collectively shot a 288, the lowest score of any team for that round. Mills and Burger contributed to this posting, but it was sophomore Crawford Reeves who made a drastic improvement, taking off nine shots from his first round 81 to post an even-par 72. "I didn't putt very well the first day, but the second day I was able to hit the ball better and make some putts. That really got the momentum going," Reeves said.

When asked about the team's final round 288, Reeves said little modification was made. "That final round was just us playing golf like we know how to play golf, and hopefully we can build

upon that for the rest of the spring."

The team will be traveling in three weeks to Puerto Rico to compete in the Puerto Rico Classic hosted by Purdue. Last year the Tigers placed third overall in a highly-competitive field that included Texas, Oklahoma State, Georgia and Georgia Tech. Penley hopes to have better results this year after the team was in contention to win the tournament. "We were neck and neck with Oklahoma State through the last day. We were right there, and we had a chance," Penley said.

The Tigers want to improve their chances by increasing both their consistency and putting. "We have 54 holes, and we need to put that together and take one shot at a time," Penley said.

The University of Florida, led by Bank Vongvanij, went on to win the Invitational with a final six-under score of 858.

SOCCER from page C1

thrashing of last year's winners Inter Milan in the group stage. Tottenham supporters, the Yids, are hoping that their dynamic midfielders Luka Modric, Rafael Van der Vaart and Gareth Bale can continue the English trend of dispensing Milan in the Knockout Phase.

Arsenal FC (England): The Gunners appeared to be cruising through the Group Stage when they were tripped up twice away from London and only squeaked through. Their prize might not be very rewarding, but Cesc Fabregas and Robin Van Persie will look to avenge last year's quarterfinal loss when both were injured for the return leg at the Nou Camp.

Barcelona FC (Spain): One of the world's most prestigious sides, Barca faces a stiff test in a side that mirrors their playing style. Star player Lionel Messi had a field day with a depleted Arsenal side last year, but with a supporting cast like Andres Iniesta, David Villa and Xavi Hernandez, one could argue that Josep Guardiola coaches the favorite for this tournament.

(If you can watch only one soccer match this round, watch the first leg of the Arsenal-Barcelona series, as both teams play a fluid, crisp style of football that is very amazing to watch.)

Shakhtar Donetsk FC (Ukraine): Let's just get this out of the way: if you can locate Donetsk on a map, or you are just a big fan of Ukraine in general, the Miners might be for you. Most are calling for an early exit in the Knockout Round, but one thing Shakhtar has in its favor is an unblemished home record, where they have not lost or drawn all season.

AS Roma (Italy): After a rough start to both the domestic and international season, i Giallorossi has come on strong to qualify for the Round of 16. Fernando Totti has captained the biggest team in Rome since 1997 and is nearing his 500th appearance with the club. Roma will need a strong showing at the Stadio Olimpico on Feb. 16, as Donetsk has not lost or even drawn at home all season.

Valencia CF (Spain): If you have a soft spot for Spain but don't want to feel like too big of a bandwagoner, Valencia is a safe pick. Constantly living in the shadow of Real Madrid and Barcelona since the turn of the decade, forward Roberto Soldado, the team's top goal scorer, is hoping to take Los Che back to the finals for the first time since 2001.

FC Schalke 04 (Germany): Winners of Group B, Schalke will probably need to make the best of this opportunity, as a return to the Champions League looks unlikely since the Royal Blues sit 11th in the Bundesliga. The only other thing to say about Schalke is that they have an awesome stadium that is sponsored by a beer company, but what do you expect out of a German side?

Games take place at 2:45 p.m. on either Tuesday or Wednesday of next week. The Milan-Tottenham match on Tuesday and the Arsenal-Barcelona match on Wednesday are on Fox Sports South (Ch. 29 on campus) while the other two matches are available on a multitude of online streaming sites.

If you are not of a fan of soccer on principle, all that I ask is that you give it a chance. If you are abroad and you get a chance to go to a match, take it; go and root for the home team, even if you have to bet on them to create an incentive. You will feel the momentum of the game shifting with the loudness of the dueling fans' songs, the disgust of the home fans when a chance is squandered, and the explosion in the ground when a goal is scored.

Last spring my dad and I went to England and, on our last night in London, we attended a match between Arsenal and West Ham United at the Emirates. The Gunners won 2-0 on a great goal by Denilson and a Cesc Fabregas penalty kick. Denilson's goal came out of nothing early in the match, and the sound when the ball got past keeper Robert Green can only be compared to the sound made when Clemson scores a touchdown on a Saturday in the fall.

Even watching on TV you can hear the chanting when the momentum is on the home team's side and see the fans behind the goal jump out of their skins when the ball beats the opposing keeper.

Yes, the game can get a bit dull if a team is really sitting back and defending or time-wasting, but if this country can romanticize defensive struggles and pitchers' duels, I'm sure we could see the good in watching one team trying to break another down.

Next week we'll break down the remaining matches that will take place on the following Tuesday and Wednesday. Until then, "Be champions."

PACKERS EDGE STEELERS IN SUPER BOWL XLV

RYAN DONNELLY
STAFF WRITER

People love to watch the Super Bowl for many reasons. Some want to see hilarious commercials, some want to see the celebrities, some want to see the halftime show, and some just watch for the football alone. I love the Super Bowl for one specific reason, and I am glad to report that this year's version of America's greatest game didn't disappoint.

To me, the Super Bowl is an opportunity. It is an opportunity for some of the greatest athletes in the world to play on the highest level of competition that our country has to offer. The participants have been dreaming about this moment since childhood and finally have the chance to cement their legacy as a football player. And whether you're the starting quarterback, the second string corner or an unknown fifth-string wide receiver (David Tyree, anyone?), you have a chance to do something an entire fan base will never forget. In other words, it's some pretty intense stuff.

The Green Bay Packers seized the opportunity on Sunday. Aaron Rodgers, the game's MVP, went from a rising star still somewhat stuck in Brett Favre's shadow to easily a top-five NFL quarterback and a Green Bay legend. He threw for just over 300 yards, three touchdowns and zero interceptions, joining Joe Montana and Steve Young as only the third quarterback to ever do so in the big dance. Even more impressive about Rodgers' stellar performance was that he suffered through seven crucial drops by his wide receivers but continued to keep fighting.

But Rodgers and the Packers could not have won without other huge contributions, and some of them came from unexpected places. Cornerback Charles Woodson, the defensive player of the year a season ago, and standout rookie Sam Shields left the game just before halftime due to injuries. This forced the Packers to call on fourth-stringer Jarrett Bush, who

mostly plays on special teams, to play a larger role defensively in the second half. Bush responded by playing shut down defense and even brought in an interception that led to a Packers touchdown. Jordy Nelson, the young third-string wideout for the Packers, was also forced into a larger role with veteran Donald Driver leaving because of injury. He finished the game with nine receptions for 140 yards and a score.

Safety Nick Collins and linebacker Clay Matthews, more mainstream players that were both selected to this year's Pro Bowl, also made a big impact on the game. Collins intercepted Steelers' quarterback Ben Roethlisberger and returned it for a touchdown in the first quarter, and Matthews made a crucial play in the fourth quarter by stripping Steelers' running back Rashard Mendenhall and halting a Steelers drive.

For Pittsburgh, it was a game of costly mistakes. The Steelers turned the football over three times and came up short with the game on the line. The play of Roethlisberger, linebacker James Harrison and safety Troy Polamalu, this season's defensive most valuable player, left something to be desired. This was incredibly surprising, considering all three had outstanding performances the last time the Steelers played in the Super Bowl, when they won in 2009.

Roethlisberger started the game cold and had some brilliant moments in the second half, but he could not lead the Steelers down the field when given the ball down six with just over a minute left. Harrison made a couple of nice plays but was generally quiet considering the impact he usually makes. You might recall the play he made in Super Bowl XLIII, intercepting Kurt Warner of the Cardinals just before halftime and racing 98 yards down the field for a score as time expired. Polamalu simply was a ghost, recording three tackles, two after gains of over 30 yards, with no passes defended and no sacks. The speculation is that Polamalu must have been playing through an injury because he simply never has that type of game.

While Super Bowl Sunday is perhaps the most exciting day of the year for sports fans, Super Bowl Monday might be the least. After you wake up on Monday morning and walk off that completely non-alcohol-related headache, it hits you — no more football until next fall. This fact is unavoidable, but perhaps an early look at next year's NFL can provide some solace.

Top 5 Teams Heading into 2011

1. Green Bay Packers — Aaron Rodgers has the championship belt, and there's no reason to think this team will be any weaker next season.

2. Pittsburgh Steelers — The Steelers played a poor first half, turned the ball over three times compared to the Packers' zero, yet still had the ball down six with a chance to win at the end of the game. How? They're really good.

3. New England Patriots — The Patriots were the team to beat all season long, finishing 14-2 and featuring a seemingly unstoppable passing attack led by NFL MVP Tom Brady. However, their championship hopes were crushed in the playoffs by the Jets and Rex Ryan's defense. Finding players who match up better against that team will be Bill Belichick's focus this offseason.

4. New York Jets — The Jets have a bunch of key players that are no longer under contract (Braylon Edwards, Antonio Holmes, Antonio Cromartie, David Harris), but Rex Ryan's relentless pursuit of a championship will keep this team in the running for years to come. Whether or not they can win will depend on the play of quarterback Mark Sanchez.

5. Philadelphia Eagles — The Eagles have an elite offense but have to improve the personnel on the defensive side if they want to compete for a championship next season. With players like Nnamdi Asomugha, David Harris, Antonio Cromartie, Albert Haynesworth, Champ Bailey and others due to become free agents this offseason and a draft class full of stud defensive lineman, the potential for an upgrade is there.



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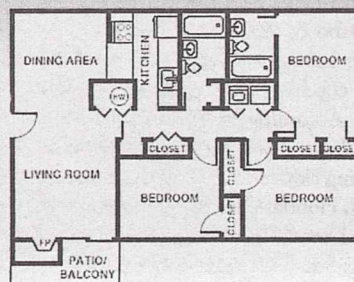
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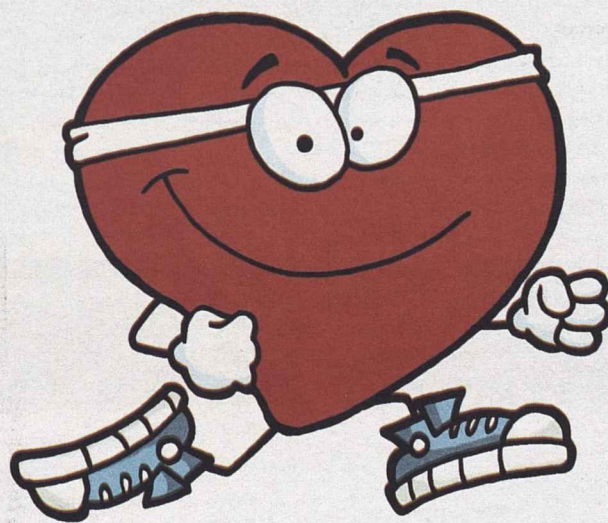
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TIM WENDEL
STAFF WRITER

*Where the Blue Ridge yawns its greatness
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Let me first start off by acknowledging the unparalleled efforts of the Clemson coaching staff on the recruiting front. With college football's "win or go home" mentality, the recruiting trail is more competitive than ever. Coaches go to the absolute extremes to get a "verbal" commitment from young men who have just started shaving. Texts are sent, in-home visits are made and commitments are solidified.

Nowadays, a "verbal" commitment is taken with a grain of salt, as many high school seniors flip-flop from team to team throughout the recruiting process. And when I say, "recruiting process," I mean from the day National Signing Day 2010 ends to National Signing Day 2011, not when the recruits put on their cute hats and smile big for the cameras.

Following a 6-7 season, the success that Dabo & Co. had is remarkable to say the least. It's almost as though the whole coaching staff majored in marketing. According to ESPN and Rivals.com, Clemson bolsters the nation's No. 8 recruiting class, ahead of big names such as LSU, Florida, Oregon, Oklahoma and Notre Dame (something worth mentioning: South Carolina only has the No. 24 class). Clemson's 2011 recruiting class features seven ESPNU 150 players and is full of talent, size, speed and athleticism. Without further adieu, at 29 and possibly counting (Jadeveon Clowney), here are your new Clemson Tigers.

Tony Steward, ILB, ESPNU 150

When Steward, the 6'1", 225-pound playmaker from St. Augustine, Fla., announced on ESPN that he would become a Clemson Tiger, all of Tigertown rejoiced. This was arguably the biggest signing of the day for the Tigers as they lured him away from nearby Florida State. Steward is a five-star player and is the No. 1 inside linebacker in the 2011 recruiting class. When watching film on Steward, it almost looks as though he isn't trying, it's just that easy for him. His big playmaking ability and freakish athleticism make him a prime candidate for early playing time come fall.

Charone Peake, WR, ESPNU 150

Standing at 6'3" and weighing 190 pounds, Charone Peake has the word "playmaker" written all over him. A five-star player out of Roebuck, S.C., and the No. 2 wide receiver in the 2011 recruiting class, Peake held offers from the likes of Georgia, Florida, USC and Notre Dame. Don't let his size fool you, though, as he runs a 4.4 40-yard dash. With a lack of a big play threat in last year's wide receiving corps, look for Peake to push for early playing time.

Mike Bellamy, RB, ESPNU 150

Clemson's next C.J. Spiller? We'll have to wait and see, but the quickness and sudden change of direction are all there. Hailing from the Sunshine state, this explosive running back can rip off a touchdown anytime he is handed the ball. Although he lacks ideal size (5'10", 175 pounds), a college weight room will do wonders for Bellamy. What he lacks in size he makes up for in speed, as evidenced by his 40-yard time of 4.4 seconds. Despite both the Gators and Seminoles wanting Bellamy, the Clemson staff did a tremendous job of getting down to Florida and gaining a commitment from the blue-chip recruit.

Sammy Watkins, WR, ESPNU 150

Yet again the Clemson staff was able to go into Florida and receive a commitment from a five-star player. At 6'1" and 185 pounds, Watkins is a premier talent. Rated as the No. 4 wide receiver in the 2011 recruiting class, Watkins possesses blazing speed, soft hands and tremendous quickness. After a week of practicing for the Under Armour All America Bowl, Watkins was recognized as one of the top surprises and was noted as one of the hardest receivers to defend. With Charone Peake and Sammy Watkins lining up opposite each other in the future, opposing defensive coordinators will have their hands full.

Stephone Anthony, OLB, ESPNU 150

National Signing Day turned into Linebacker Signing Day for the Clemson faithful. Just hours after Tony Steward announced he would be coming to Clemson, Stephone Anthony made the day even sweeter when he put on a Clemson hat signifying his decision. Weighing in at 220 pounds and standing at 6'2", this No. 1 outside linebacker from North Carolina has tremendous upside. With a 4.5-second 40-yard time and running back experience in high school, Anthony possesses the speed and athleticism an outside linebacker needs nowadays in college football. Look for Anthony to contribute early and often.

Martavis Bryant, WR

Just catching sight of the 6'4" 200 pounder, you know he will be special. Due to being ineligible, Bryant was unable to come to Clemson last year and attended Hargrave Military Academy instead. The former ESPNU 150 recruit dominated the prep school scene and was ranked as the No. 3 prep school player in the nation by 24/7sports.com. Now the Anderson, S.C., native can play in his own backyard.

Corey Crawford, DE

Also ineligible last year, Corey Crawford attended, you guessed it, Hargrave Military Academy. Standing at 6'5" and weighing 275 pounds, Crawford is a prototypical defensive end. Ranked as the No. 1 prep player in the nation by 24/7sports.com, Crawford punished opposing quarterbacks into submission. Don't be surprised if you see him around campus, as the Georgia native is already enrolled in classes.

Lateek Townsend, OLB, ESPNU 150

Overshadowed by Tony Steward and Stephone Anthony, Lateek Townsend could push for playing time just as well. Wanted by South Carolina, Florida, LSU and USC, Townsend possesses the explosiveness and game-changing ability every coach drools over. His 6'2", 200-pound frame enables him to beat blockers when blitzing as well as run down running backs from behind. With Steward in the middle and Anthony and Townsend on either side, this trio has the potential to get Death Valley rocking.

Spencer Region, OG, ESPNU 150

Unlike the NFL, whichever team outrushes its opponent in college football wins a good amount of the time. With that said, it doesn't hurt to have a 6'6", 340-pound offensive guard. This is exactly what Clemson is getting in Spencer Region. The Alabama native is rated as the No. 9 offensive guard in the 2011 recruiting class. His size, strength, flexibility and "nasty" mentality will enable Region to become a force to be reckoned

with.

Cortez Davis, S

Ranked as the No. 12 safety in the 2011 recruiting class, Davis was also plucked from Florida. Wanted by Florida State, West Virginia, LSU and Miami, Davis' size and speed will make opposing quarterbacks think twice about throwing the football. With a whole offseason in the weight room, this four-star recruit projects to be a strong safety.

Eric MacLain, TE/OT

When the receivers are covered and the quarterback is losing time, to whom does he look? Well his best friend of course, the tight end. Eric MacLain will give whoever is starting a giant target to throw at, standing at 6'5" and weighing in at 260 pounds. MacLain has the ability to both catch passes efficiently and be solid with his blocking in the run game. Although he played tight end at his North Carolina high school, some believe MacLain will move to the trenches full time and become an offensive tackle.

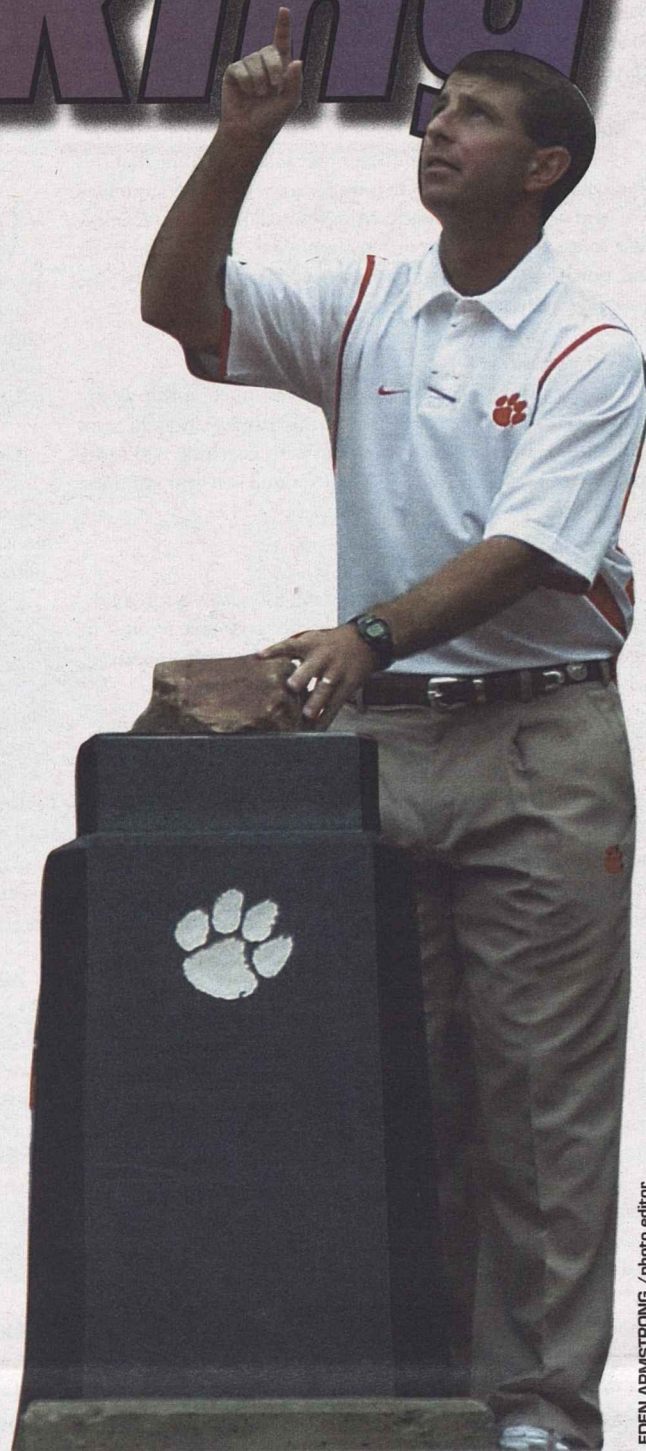
Shaq Anthony, OT

After considering South Carolina and Georgia, Anthony made a wise choice in choosing Clemson. He is known for his excellent pass protection and quick feet. The South Carolina native has the height for offensive tackle, but because of his flexibility on the line, he could play multiple positions up front.

Isaiah Battle, OT

The defensive ends in the ACC can be

see **CLASS** page C6



EDEN ARMSTRONG / photo editor

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CLASS from page C5

very hard to control. With Battle's physical attributes (6'7", 260 pounds) and long reach, those ends could be in for a long day. Battle possesses raw talent and huge potential. With top-notch coaching and an offseason in the weight room, Battle will better his technique and gain strength.

Roderick Byers, DE

From Rock Hill, S.C., it doesn't take long to assume that this "kid" plays football at the Division I, excuse me, FBS level. He's 6'4" and weighs 260 pounds. Most football players don't know how to use their size, but not in Byers' case. With a long reach and quickness, Byers can beat the tackle to the edge on one down and then bull rush him into the ground the next.

Kevin Dodd, DT

Coming from Greer, S.C., Dodd has as much upside as any of the prospects. Not having played the game of football until his junior season, he has raw talent. With coaching and more experience, Dodd and his 6'5", 280-pound self will continue to get better.

B.J. Goodson, OLB

Also hailing from the Palmetto state, Goodson is a remarkable athlete having played both linebacker and wide receiver in high school. His tough-nosed mentality did not go unnoticed, as he received offers from both Tennessee and LSU.

Tony McNeal, QB

The South Carolina commits just keep on coming. Excelling at Chester High School, McNeal received offers from Maryland, N.C. State and Kentucky. He lacks ideal size, only standing at 6'0", but makes up for it with accuracy, arm strength and a 4.6-second 40-yard time. Don't let his size and speed fool you, though; he is not a scrambler and would rather drop back and play to the style of a pro quarterback.

DeShaun Williams, DT

Weighing in at 300 pounds and standing at 6'1", Williams is accustomed to clogging up the middle. His size and quick get-off enables him to have the advantage and control the line of scrimmage. Other schools that took notice of his talent include Oregon, North Carolina and LSU.

Ryan Norton, C

Offered a chance by many top-notch ACC and SEC programs, this three-star recruit comes to Tigertown standing at 6'4" and weighing 275 pounds. Hailing from Mauldin High School, Norton shows good accuracy in his shotgun snaps and shows good lateral movement.

Ammon Lakip, K

Clemson fans' frustration with Clemson's kicking game are

duly noted. Watching Lakip's highlight video, one can tell this kid knows what he's doing. He has hit multiple 50-yarders in his high school career and is consistent on extra points.

Grady Jarrett, DT

If anybody wants to know if Grady Jarrett knows what it takes to be successful in football, look no further than the fact that his uncle is NFL future Hall-of-Famer Ray Lewis. Jarrett visits Florida to workout with Lewis and talk football. The three-star recruit also held an offer from Mississippi State.

Cole Stoudt, QB

With the ideal size, 6'4" and 200 pounds, of a pocket passer, Stoudt held offers from Arizona State, Cincinnati and South Florida. He attended the same high school in Ohio as former Notre Dame standout Brady Quinn. Stoudt has a good arm and has plenty of room to grow and learn more about the quarterback position.

Colton Walls, ILB

Walls has every bit of the size and athletic ability needed to be a productive player at the college level. What he needs to work on is his coverage skills and lateral movement. This North Carolina native could make an impact on special teams next fall.

Jerome Maybank, OG

Size is always good at the offensive guard position, and Maybank has size. The 6'4", 320-pound guard is easily noticeable on film. He possesses strength and could possibly see a position change to defensive tackle.

Stanton Seckinger, WR

This three-star wide receiver out of Charleston, S.C., is a possession target if there ever was one. At 6'4" and 200 pounds, Seckinger could easily be moved to tight end after putting on some pounds and getting after it in the weight room.

Adam Humphries, WR

Looking at Humphries, thoughts of Wes Welker come to mind. A prototypical slot receiver in college, Humphries lacks size (5'11", 175 pounds), but he makes up for it with good instincts and the ability find holes against the zone defense.

Robert Smith, ATH

A dual threat quarterback in high school, Smith possesses quickness and tremendous athleticism. He is undersized for a quarterback at the college level and many project him to be a defensive back at Clemson.

Morgan Roberts, QB

Like Stoudt and McNeal, Roberts is also a pro-style quarterback. He stands at 6'4" and possesses adequate arm strength. North Carolina, Wake Forest and Vanderbilt also looked at this three-star recruit.

IMPACT from page C1

even the catastrophe-on-hardwood that is Wake Forest. If conventional wisdom was correct, the Tigers were in for a long season under their new head coach.

In mid-December, it was hard to disagree. Clemson was 5-4 and had lost three games in a row, and it seemed we would have to wait for Brownell to get "his players" into the program before success would be a possibility.

In early February, however, the mood has changed drastically. Clemson has won 12 of its last 15 games and has put itself in good position, 6-4 in the conference, to make a run at a fourth straight NCAA Tournament bid. Two months ago, that possibility seemed little more than wishful thinking. Brownell already has the most ACC wins by a first year coach in Clemson history.

So what changed? The Tigers finally bought into Brownell's philosophy of tough defense and patient offense. Demontez Stitt and Jerai Grant are making the most of their respective senior years, and as Brownell says, "When they're good, we're good."

Stitt is finally playing to his full potential and is now one of the premier guards in the ACC. He is averaging 13.7 points per game and is chipping in 4.2 rebounds and 3.5 assists per contest. He seems to have recovered nicely from his knee surgery earlier this season.

Grant's improvement from last year has been stunning. The big fella is scoring nearly 13 points and pulling down seven rebounds per game. The advancement in his offensive game in just one year's time is nothing short of miraculous. Grant's improved confidence has him knocking down perimeter jump shots and attacking the basket with reckless abandon. He is also shooting over 70 percent from the free throw line and blocking 2.4 shots per game.

There's no question that the play of these two seniors, especially Grant's, can be attributed to the encouragement of Brownell and his staff.

But defense is the name of the game for Brownell. Coming into the Boston

College game, Clemson was on pace to have the ACC's second-best scoring defense since the beginning of the shot clock era (about 60 points allowed per game), and it's undoubtedly Brownell constantly pushing his team to get after it on that end of the floor. The Tigers also lead the ACC in defensive rebounding. But don't take it from me — ask Boston College coach Steve Donahue.

"They just play so hard," Donahue said after his team's 77-69 loss to Brownell's Tigers. "Every possession, they play hard. They're unselfish and aren't afraid to pass. They share the ball. They guard the ball. He's doing a great job there." That's high praise from a coach who took a team to the Sweet Sixteen less than a year ago.

So, can Brownell take Clemson back to the Big Dance? The North Carolina game on Saturday will go a long way in determining the Tigers' tourney chances. The Tar Heels have the nation's No. 16 RPI, and in a conference where there are few good wins to be had, a win on Saturday could do wonders for Clemson's computer profile.

But even with a win Saturday, the Tigers would likely still need to finish 10-6 in the conference to feel confident on Selection Sunday. While playing in the ACC is usually helpful for a team's RPI and at-large tournament resume, that is not the case this year. A 9-7 conference record was good enough to earn Clemson a No. 7 seed in each of the past two NCAA Tournaments, but this year it would likely leave the Tigers filling out brackets with the rest of us spectators.

A 10-6 record is not out of the question, however. All it would take is Clemson winning out at home against North Carolina, Wake Forest and Virginia Tech and stealing one game on the road against either N.C. State, Miami or (God forbid) Duke.

Do Brownell's boys have what it takes to make it to the Dance? We'll find out soon enough. But for now, we can rest assured that Clemson basketball will not take a step back under Brownell.

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INSIDE: The Reserve isn't just an apartment complex, D5

More Hibachi, D2

TIMEOUT

SECTION
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Book on Fire

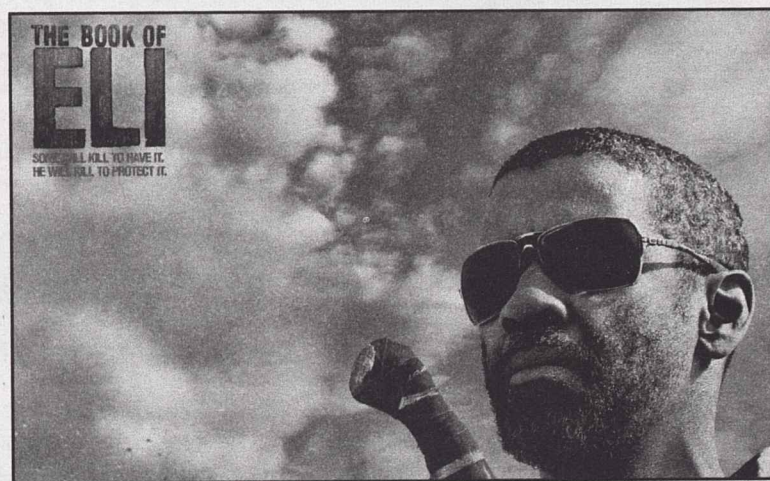
JORDAN BRANCATO

In case you missed them, "The Book of Eli" and "Man on Fire" are two of Denzel Washington's best movies of all time.

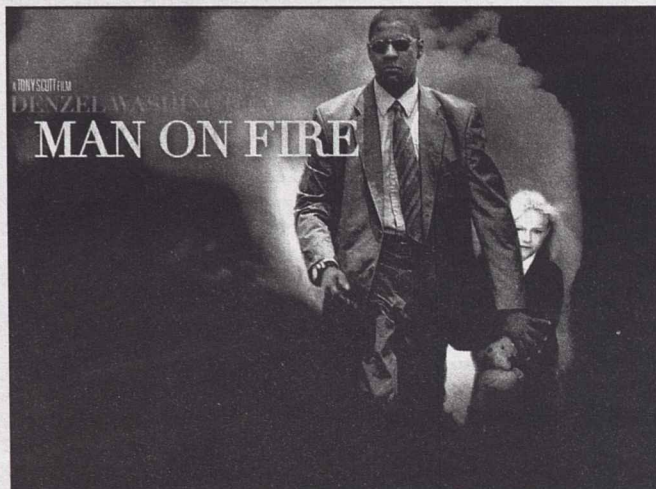
The "Book of Eli" is based in a post-apocalyptic world where every luxury that humans once took for granted is now nonexistent. Even common resources, such as water, are a rarity. Eli is on a journey to the Western United States to deliver something very important, and he encounters many interesting characters on the way. Some are good and others are sinister; however, they are well-written and realistic. The end of the movie has an unusual twist, which makes this

film truly a classic for both plot and character building. The structure of the movie makes the viewer feel like they are actually experiencing what Eli is going through.

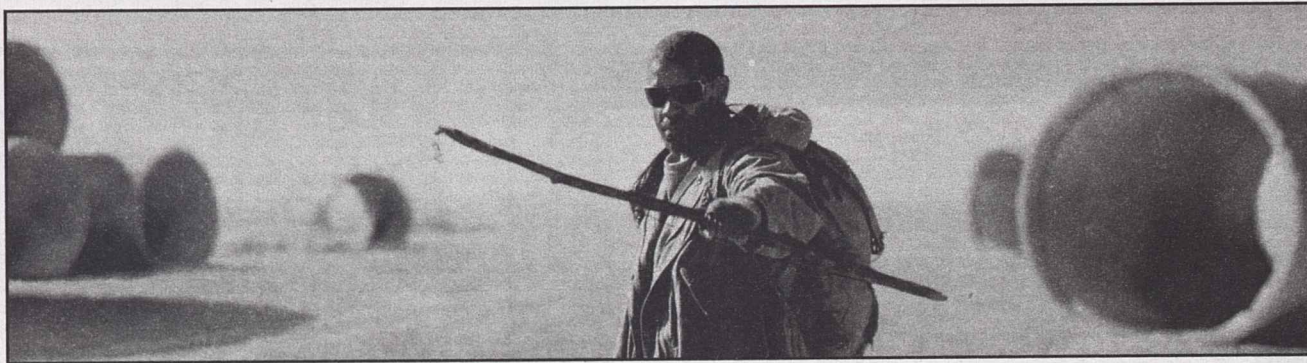
"Man on Fire" is about John Creasy, a washed-up assassin-turned-bodyguard. He receives a job protecting a little girl, and this makes his life worth living again. The setting is Mexico, where the threat of kidnappings is ever-present. The parents of 9-year-old Pita Ramos are so worried that they hire a bodyguard. Pita's parents' worst nightmare is realized when their daughter is kidnapped; Creasy is relentless in his attempt to get Ramos back. The movie is a thrill ride, beginning to end.



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SUPERBOWL XLV REVIEW

JORDAN GRANT



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Like many others, I watch the Super Bowl for the pure entertainment value. The commercials and halftime show are the only parts I actually care to watch. This year provided a lot of wonderful celebrity busts; yet, Christina Aguilera's wonderful butchering of the national anthem didn't even begin to compare to the horrific singing at the halftime show courtesy of the Black Eyed Peas.

Don't get me wrong. I like the Black Eyed Peas just as much as the next person... true, they're overplayed on the radio, but they make some great hits. But some bands should stay in the studio, as Fergie so kindly demonstrated to us.

The light suits were an entertaining idea, if not completely original. The Beijing Olympics opening ceremony did the light suit idea on a much larger scale a couple years back. Placing a square lampshade over the dancers' heads seemed somewhat strange. Perhaps it was the Black Eyed Peas' master scheme to blind the audience with flashing lights and induce seizures so people everywhere would not experience the horrific show to come.

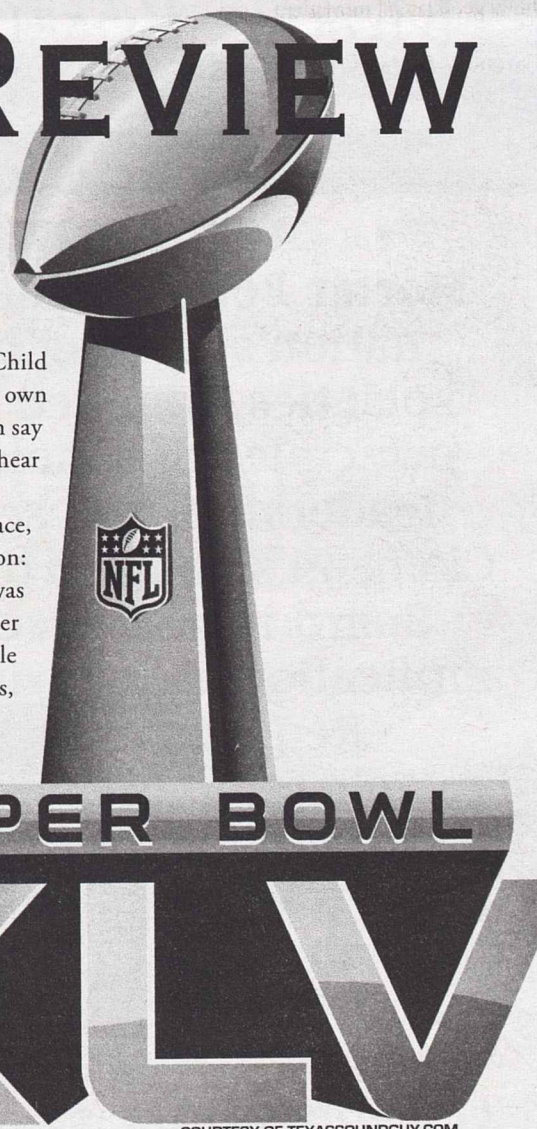
Auto-tune is a wonderful invention for tone-deaf rappers, yet it didn't seem to help the Black Eyed Peas at all. Yet I preferred the dull performance of Will.I.Am to the horrendous performance that Fergie gave. She confirmed why

the band needs her — sex appeal. Nobody would care about their music if it was not for the tall blonde in high heels and a short skirt who's best at strutting around the stage and grinding up against Slash.

Which brings me to Fergie's rendition of "Sweet Child o' Mine" and how she managed to not only ruin her own songs but also a well-known classic rock song. All I can say is I can go the rest of my life without ever wanting to hear another Fergie cover.

Usher came into the performance as a saving grace, like an angel from heaven to save the show. My question: why was he not the headliner the whole time? Who was it that decided the Black Eyed Peas would make a better halftime show with millions upon millions of people watching when Usher was available? Whoever it was, they should be fired before the next Super Bowl.

At first I thought the show was a severe disappointment, but then I realized the show was so awful that it proved to be more entertaining than a good show could've been. So thank you, Fergie, for providing me with enough comic relief to make it through the next semester — finals week included.



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Hachi Express

KATIE QUEEN PHOTOS BY NICK BELLOWES

A few weeks ago, I overheard some people raving about this new hibachi place called Hachi Express. Located in downtown Central, people were very quick to say that this new restaurant could rival or even be better than... Osaka (gasp!) and Atami (double gasp!). I knew that Hachi needed to be on my review list to see if these claims could possibly be true.

First of all, when I pulled up, I was a little iffy because "Hachi Express" was in neon lights. As in, NEON lights. But the atmosphere of the entrance seemed harmless enough and was actually kind of cute with little Asian lanterns hanging by the door.

When I went to Hachi, it was absolutely pouring rain, so I decided to do something different and go through the drive-through to see the quality of their service, especially since we'll all be needing quick meals as the first round of exams and projects come up.

The lady at the window was there quickly, so fast I almost didn't have time to glance at the menu. They have a pretty impressive (albeit typical) menu, and I thought it was unique that you could order sides of various teriyaki and hibachi meats, including steak

and chicken. I decided to order my typical dish: hibachi steak. Again, the service was very prompt, and I barely had time to pay before it was ready.

From what I could see, the restaurant looked very bright and cheerful, and the part of the kitchen I could see looked very clean and sanitary, which made me very happy. The food smelled absolutely amazing when I got it, and I couldn't wait to tear into it.

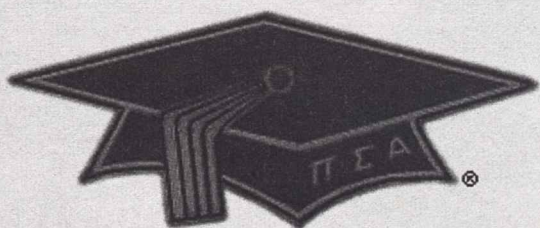
As for the food itself, the steak was some of the most tender I've ever had at a hibachi restaurant. The mushrooms were really fresh, and the sweet carrots were yummy. My only complaint was that I wish there had been more carrots. The rice was excellent, and when combined with the shrimp sauce, was indeed competitive with Osaka and Atami rice. The shrimp sauce may have even edged out the sauce in both of those restaurants.

My final verdict is Hachi Express has quickly jumped to the top of the leader board in terms of quick hibachi restaurants. With some of the most tender steak and the best-tasting rice and shrimp sauce combination, Hachi Express is a definite win in my book, and it will be in yours. I highly recommend that you try this restaurant the next time you get a hankering for some Japanese food.



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CLEMSON UNIVERSITY

PUNCH BROTHERS

An Interview with Bassist Paul Kowert

JACOB WEBB

After spending 2010 relentlessly touring behind their second record, "Antifogmatic," the bluegrass group Punch Brothers is readying itself for another run of dates across North America. The Tiger caught up with bassist Paul Kowert on the eve of the Southeastern leg of their upcoming tour to discuss the new record, the new tour and what lies in store for the band.

The Tiger: Your new record, "Antifogmatic," has an interesting title. Can you explain to me what exactly it means?

Paul Kowert: Antifogmatic is a 19th-century alcoholic drink that was meant as a cure for the effects of fog and other inclement weather. We heard about it from our banjo player Noam's brother, who came across it when we needed a record title, and it seemed to sound right but also sound relevant. Even though it's an older word, people often use music as an antifogmatic — something to kind of brighten up their day. Also, it sounds cool.

The Tiger: You've toured with the group since 2008, but this is the first album that you've recorded with the Punch Brothers. Can you tell me about that experience?

Paul Kowert: Joining the Punch Brothers was such a thrill for me. I've been listening to (band leader and former member of Nickel Creek) Chris Thile since I was 15 years old, and I've been such a huge fan of his work for such a long time. The last record, 2008's "Punch," had some songs that were composed collectively, but a large part of the record was filled by Thile's "The Blind Leaving the Blind" suite. "Antifogmatic," however, was completely composed by all five of us. This style of collaborative writing has lent itself more to shorter form and concise songs.

We wrote "Antifogmatic" after moving to New York so we could be in the same town to live together and write. It was a

luxury that the band hadn't had until that point. All of those songs were written while we were together in a room, which was great. Usually there would be an idea that one of us would bring in that we all thought sounded cool, and then we would go from there. A lot of the music for "Friends or No More?" came from Noam's banjo ideas. Thile brought a fast sixteenth mandolin part that became "The Woman and the Bell." Sometimes Thile would come in with complete sections of songs and the band would flesh it out. It was a fun process, and I feel like I learned a lot.

The Tiger: "Antifogmatic" was produced by Jon Brion, who's produced all kinds of artists, from Fiona Apple to Kanye West. What was it like working with him?

Paul Kowert: Jon Brion is something of a hero for all of us. He's such a great musician and performer himself. As far as getting great sounds in the studio, you can't beat him. It was a real thrill to have him on board with us. He's a real pro. Thile has known Brion for years, and the idea of him producing the record came about over time.

The Tiger: You've been touring behind "Antifogmatic" since last summer. When should your fans expect a new record?

Paul Kowert: We've got some new songs that we're playing on tour, and so far the songwriting process feels similar to what made "Antifogmatic." We're hoping to have 12 weeks of writing and recording done by August. We'd really like to have a new record out by January of next year. We haven't thought too much about a producer, but I would love to work with Jon Brion again. He's a busy guy though, so we'll see what happens.

The Tiger: One last question — did Jon Brion have any interesting Kanye West stories?

Paul Kowert: (After a long pause) There were some good stories. That's all I can say. (Laughs)



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EL QUIZ

- Does a woman or a man hold the record for the longest time in space?
- Whose face is referred to in the quote "The face that launched a thousand ships"?
- Which Latin phrase, often used in law, means "way of working"?
- Which poet wrote the famous line "Fools rush in where angels fear to tread"?
- What is the most widely grown vegetable in the world?

RECIPE

Blueberry Brunch Bake

Ingredients:

1 loaf (one pound) French bread cut into cubes
 1 1/2 - 2 cups blueberries (fresh or frozen)
 12 oz. softened cream cheese
 8 eggs
 1/2 cup plain yogurt
 1/3 cup sour cream
 1 tablespoon vanilla
 1/2 teaspoon allspice
 1/2 cup milk
 1/3 cup maple syrup
 Powdered sugar for dusting
 Optional: blueberries & maple syrup for serving

Directions:

- Beat softened cream cheese until smooth. Beat in eggs, yogurt, sour cream, vanilla, cinnamon and allspice. Gradually add milk and 1/3 cup syrup until blended. Place 1/2 of the bread cubes in greased 13 x 9 inch pan. Sprinkle blueberries over. Pour 1/2 the liquid mixture on top. Top with remaining bread, then the rest of the liquid.
- Cover with foil and refrigerate OVERNIGHT. In the morning, bake at 350 degrees, covered, for 30 minutes. Remove foil and bake additional 25 minutes.
- Serve with blueberries, maple syrup and a dusting of powdered sugar.

ANSWERS

1. A woman, Shannon Lucid										2. Helen of Troy										3. Modus operandi										4. Alexander Pope										5. Potato																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																											
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HOROSCOPES

Aries

March 21 - April 20



A new job promotion might keep you tethered to the place you least expected to be staying.

Taurus

April 21 - May 20



Next time, pre-order your text books — one of the paperbacks you forgot to pick up is out of print. Enjoy bidding for it on eBay.

Gemini

May 21 - June 21



A stranger by the name of Leaf will ask you to dance in the future; take him up on the offer.

Cancer

June 22 - July 22



Use great caution when Skyping in the future; you never know who's laughing at you off-screen.

Leo

July 23 - Aug. 23



Tonight is not a good night to take your roomie to see that new film "The Roommate."

Virgo

Aug. 24 - Sept. 22



Unexpected money, love and luck will be coming your way soon. What a week!

Libra

Sept. 23 - Oct. 23



Get a hobby and stop complaining already.

Scorpio

Oct. 24 - Nov. 21



Don't take cupcakes from strangers; the sentimental value may cause impromptu breakdowns.

Sagittarius

Nov. 22 - Dec. 21



Call your mom this week. She's worried.

Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 19



Check your mailbox this week — an unexpected gift from a long-forgotten relative is headed your way... and no, it's not fruitcake.

Aquarius

Jan. 20 - Feb. 19



Remember: Wikipedia is not a valid source for research — this goes DOUBLE for professors.

Pisces

Feb. 20 - March 20



Keep on the lookout for a small miracle this week.

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14					15					16		
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68					69					70		

Across

- Eventually become
- Extent
- Compass dir.
- People and places, e.g.
- Claw
- Loss leader?
- Monastery
- Single things
- Strike
- Brief appearance
- Functional
- "Old Ironsides" was one
- Large sandwich
- Kitchen utensil
- Robbery
- Greek peak
- Tempest
- Kiln for drying hops
- Abstruse
- Jackie's second
- Receiver Jerry
- Grounded fleet
- Praying figure
- Mideast gulf
- Speed
- Church instruments
- Alloy of copper and zinc

Down

- Person to whom property is transferred
- Raccoon-like carnivore
- You ___ mouthful!
- Large cask
- 2, 4, 6, 8, etc.
- Back streets
- ___ see it...
- Birth-related
- Attempts
- Meadow
- Declare
- Old card game
- Bambi's aunt
- San Francisco's ___ Hill
- Name
- Article in Le Monde
- Human mind
- Stub
- Bamboo stem
- A dish with many ingredients
- Cooking container
- Follows
- Indian form of address
- Subway turner
- Consumed
- Broadcasts
- Custody
- Tree covered land
- Church areas
- Adjust to zero
- Photograph
- Edge
- Goddesses of the seasons
- "___ Brockovich"
- Fruit-filled pie
- Actor Quinn
- Part of an act
- Keyed up
- Columbus sch.
- Tattled
- Foreigners
- Theater district
- The number system with base 8
- Awaken
- Craze
- Bridal path
- Bristle
- Med school subj.
- Large container
- Chair part
- Penpoint
- Shoobox letters
- Georgia, once: Abbr.

fact

OF THE WEEK

The very first bomb dropped by the Allies on Berlin during World War II killed the only elephant in the Berlin Zoo.

You have to take a birth control pill at the same time everyday or it won't work.

Truth or Myth??

Find out!

Tuesday, February 15th

"Secrets & Myths: Everything You Wanted to Know About Sexuality and Reproduction"

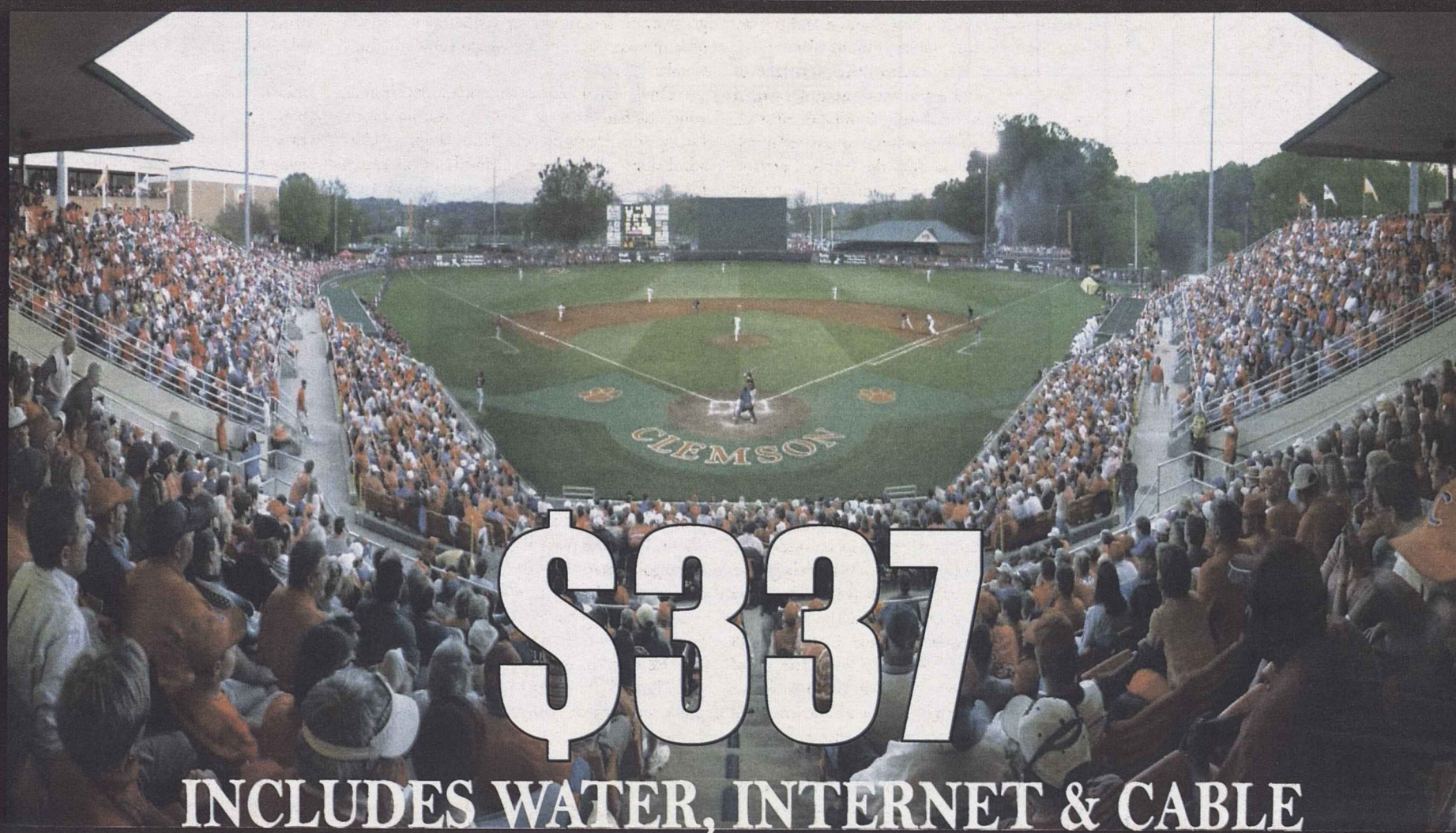
7 p.m.

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The Reserve hits Clemson

FARRIS JOHNSON

The Reserve's Self-Entitled Debut Album:

1. Tron Illuminations
2. Man on the Moon Hallows
3. Before It's Too Late
4. I'd Agree with You... If You Were Right
5. San Diego vs. South Carolina
6. Speed of Light
7. A Brief History in Time
8. Tech Support... It's a Nightmare
9. Discovery

Album Review:

The Reserve makes good on their promise to "bring something fresh and interesting" to Clemson. The band finds its original roots in angst-driven, juvenile pop-punk bands such as Blink-182, but in their debut album they demonstrate growth by blending fun, electric synth with pop rock while still maintaining the shadow of those early punk years. The self-titled album "The Reserve," released in mid-January, does an excellent job of not allowing a single lull for the listener. The track "Before It's Too Late" serves as a classic example of how effortlessly The Reserve is able to blend electronic, pop and punk influences. With this fast-paced combination, The Reserve builds an intense and catchy album with two well-placed electronic interludes. Perhaps the most impressive aspect of this album is that the local artists recorded it themselves. Check out The Reserve at <http://www.facebook.com/thereservemusic> or download their new single "Discovery" on iTunes.

Artist's Picks:

Pete's Favorite Track: "Tron Illuminations"
Gavin's Favorite Track: "San Diego vs. South Carolina"

A Conversation with The Reserve

Clemson's newest musical addition, The Reserve (a project from the minds of Peter Catalano and Gavin Kette), has been welcomed into the local scene largely due to their ability to provide a new sound and convey an energy that, at its heart, is simply fun.

Roughly three years ago, Peter Catalano of Long Island started a musical project that would later bring him to South Carolina's upstate; however, his musical beginnings originated much earlier. Over coffee at Spill the Beans, Catalano explained his early interest in music to TimeOut, describing his first drum kit that he received in third grade and how he felt after listening to his older sister's Blink-182 album "Enema of the State" for the first time in early grade school.

"Blink is still a major influence for me today. Their music taught me not to care about what anyone thinks. I grew up in a preppy town, and Blink really taught me how to be myself," Catalano said.

After his first taste of Blink, Catalano indulged in the quintessential punk experience — skateboarding, listening to Green Day, learning to play guitar — all in defiance of his cookie-cutter hometown, Garden City, N.Y. During these formative years spent under the influence of early pop-punk, Catalano began to pursue his own career in the form of his early collaborative effort, The Reserve.

"The band actually started in early 2008 with four members, all really good friends of mine from back home. We really had a lot of fun writing music together as a band and traveling around the tri-state area playing shows. We even got to do a few short tours together as a four-piece, which was very rewarding. Things just also seemed to get really complicated; we had a studio session that was a complete bust," Catalano said.

With the high-stress aftermath of a failed first CD, The Reserve faced a rocky emotional period that would eventually drive the band apart.

"After all the money we spent on a product we weren't happy with, things just got heated up between everyone since we just did not know what to do next. After a while, some members left, some stayed and then left — it just got really crazy. After about six months of not knowing what was going to happen next, I decided to go away to school after my freshman year was over and see what options would come my way," Catalano said.

Catalano left Long Island for South Carolina, which he had fallen in love with during a tour. Lucky for Clemson, Catalano laughs, "USC admissions was less than helpful" in his search for a Southern college, so he ended up in Tiger Town as a philosophy major.

"I spent about six months just laying low and writing songs, then I met Gavin (Kette), and everything has been smooth sailing since then. Gavin reminded me of why I fell in love with rock in the first place," Catalano said.

Kette hails from Cincinnati, Ohio, and chose to move to Anderson after being offered a job opportunity. The energy and friendship between Catalano and Kette is tangible, making it easy to see how they could make a formidable music duo. Although it's just the two of them, Catalano jokes about trading off the responsibilities of a four-man band. Both play guitar and provide vocals, Catalano plays the synthesizer, and Kette is the go-to marketing guy. By playing off of each other's strengths, the pair has found balance.

Catalano's move to the South and partnership with Kette brought a new sound to The Reserve. In earlier EPs, "This Revolution" and "Ignite," it's easier to hear the catchy, pop-punk sounds that both Catalano and Kette cite as their major influences. However, The Reserve's new CD is alternative electronic, produced and recorded by The Reserve musicians themselves, and the change in style originates in Catalano's personal growth.

"The change of sound really just came from growing as a song writer and writing music that meant something to me. I got really sick of the mainstream pop that was coming out of Long

Island, because every band that was starting out was doing it. A lot of really great bands were doing a great job, but it just got very saturated," Catalano explained. "I am really proud of our second EP 'Ignite' — those songs were a lot of fun to write and record with the band. I still listen to those songs every day and try to incorporate those influences into new songs as well as reworking some of the older ones. It is rather funny to listen back to some of those songs and remember being 16 while writing songs about my high school sweetheart and now be five years older dealing with real world problems and seeing them come through the music. Five years may not seem like a long time, but the transition from being a kid in high school to getting those graduate school applications ready for sure has an impact on your life."

Through the fusing of rock and electronic, The Reserve was able to put their creativity to the test and truly bring a new sound to Clemson. Kette claims that Clemson has been a welcoming environment for The Reserve's experimental sound. A defining aspect of the transition from youthful days of pop-punk inspired ballads to electronic power-anthems was whether or not Catalano and Kette could pull off a two-piece live show.

"I really want people to come to our shows and experience something different. People ask us all the time how we do this as a two-piece while listening to our music, and we feel now our live show has finally been figured out. Come to a show, witness art in a different way, grab a drink and have a great time! Even if you hate our sound, we will probably act like fools to at least entertain you a little bit," Kette said.

In the same vein as their early-punk influence, The Reserve has a special commitment to playing high-spirit house shows and truly reaching out to the Clemson community.

Although their CD was just released roughly a month ago, The Reserve is already back in the studio and in the process of recording a full-length album that is projected to be complete by this summer.

REVIEWS

Cut Copy, "ZONOSCOPE"

JACOB WEBB

Although it may seem counterintuitive, Cut Copy has done exactly what it needed to do on its third record "Zonoscope" by ripping everything up and starting over again. Despite making an incredible record in 2008's "In Ghost Colours," the Australian dance-rock band has eschewed the cutting guitars and bouncing bass that defined that album for vibrant keys and bubbly synth sequences. It's a risky move for a band that's still relatively young, but does it pay off?

It doesn't take long to realize that "Zonoscope" is very different than its predecessor. It's almost as if the band had made a list of their strengths and then worked in the complete opposite direction. In many ways, "Zonoscope" is the polar opposite of "In Ghost Colours." Where "In Ghost Colours" was a more organic record based on the "feel" of the music, "Zonoscope" aims for a more textural approach. "In Ghost Colours" was built as an album of ups and downs, so for every dance banger like "Lights and

Music" or "Hearts on Fire," there was a short, ambient interlude to allow the listener to prepare for the next barrage of synth hooks and echoing vocals. "Zonoscope" is a more cohesive album, with each track building off the last one, not only in the sense of transition but also in how it maintains a smooth, continuous atmosphere. The list of contrasts between the two albums could fill up at least another two paragraphs, but at the heart of it all, the true question lingers — is it good?

Yes, Zonoscope is a good record, but it shows a band in transition rather than one playing to their strengths. "Take Me Over," "Blink and You'll Miss a Revolution" and "Alisa" are just as good as anything else in their catalogue, but "Where I'm Going" feels incredibly out of place, and the 15-minute closer "Sun God" is about 11 minutes too long. Cut Copy know what they're good at, and maybe that's why they made such a different record, not unlike what the Arctic Monkeys did with 2009's

"Humbug." They're no longer a rock band trying to be a dance band; they're a dance band playing dance music.

In an interview last summer, lead singer Dan Whitford told Pitchfork that the band had been asked by Lady Gaga to open for her on tour, an experience he described as "one of those weird moments where you're not sure whether to burn the letter or frame it and put it on your wall." Oddly enough, that's how "Zonoscope," the band's third album, comes across. It's a daringly new approach for fans of the band, and it's going to have some polarized opinions. Some are going to continue to wear out their copies of "In Ghost Colours" while some are going to flock to "Zonoscope," saying that it's a better record than its predecessor. Either way, Cut Copy's new direction is a tradeoff; the band may have made a better record if they'd stuck to what they knew, but it also shows that they're looking forward stylistically, which is quite an exciting prospect.



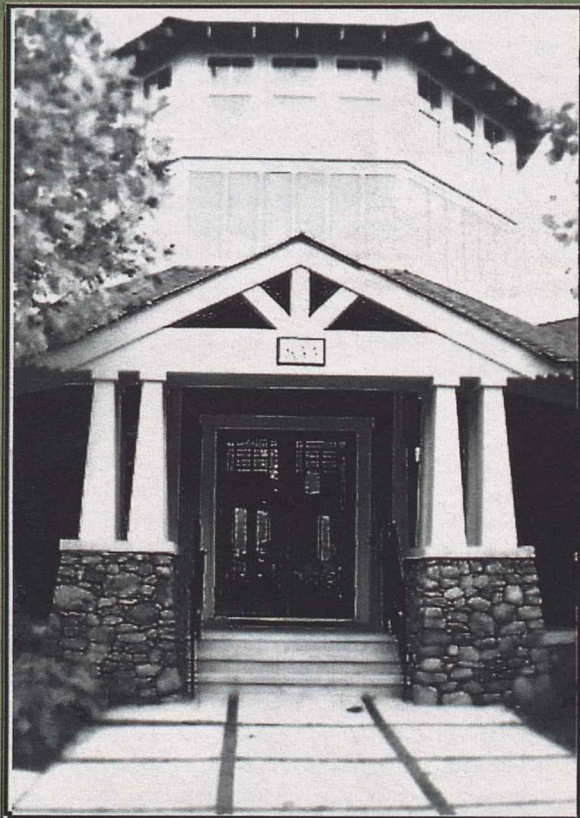
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