

## Clemson hosts SSREC

Students from around the southeast visit campus for energy conference.

**JENNY MCCALISTER**  
STAFF WRITER

Some 300 students from college campuses across the Southeast plan to attend the third annual Southeast Student Renewable Energy Conference (SSREC) at Clemson University this weekend, Feb. 16 through Feb. 19.

The SSREC began in 2003 when UNC-Chapel Hill and Duke University students came together to implement student driven renewable energy initiatives. Students wanted to share their ideas with other schools in the Southeast so the first conference was held in 2004 in Raleigh and Durham, N.C. In 2005, the conference was held at the University of Tennessee.

The mission of the SSREC is to create campus initiatives that reduce campus greenhouse gas emissions by aggregating four levels of campus community (student, faculty, staff and administration) towards comprehensive campus climate action plans.

Laura Ceva, a senior studying philosophy and environmental science and policy, is the chairwoman of the SSREC this year.

"Because our generation has such a huge influence on policy makers, I believe education and awareness is crucial for the environmental movement's success," she said. "If we can rally students to be fully knowledgeable and excited about environmental issues, then we can truly create a difference in our future."

The conference, taking place mostly in Tillman Hall, will consist of speakers, workshops and breakout groups that focus on climate change, renewable energy on campuses and taking the challenge beyond campus life.

Allen Thompson, assistant professor in the philosophy department, will be holding a workshop at the SSREC titled, "Responsibility for the end of nature (or How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love Global Warming)."

Thompson teaches the course Introduction to Logic and Environmental Ethics and is very concerned with global warming. The topic for the SSREC workshop

see **SSREC**, page A4

## Student recovers after accident



LIZ HUNTER/assistant photo editor

**INCIDENT INVESTIGATION:** The CAT Bus remains unmoved as freshman Jonathan Bacaoat steps forward to discuss what he saw take place in the CAT Bus accident with S.C. Highway Patrol officers.

Fort Hill Road was closed to traffic following an incident involving a CAT bus.

**JENNIFER SALANE**  
NEWS EDITOR

A Clemson student is recovering after being hit by a Clemson Area Transit Bus (CAT Bus) on Tuesday. After she was hit,

Freshman Kellie Jureka, 18, was treated by Clemson's EMS personnel and transported to Bowman Field by ambulance. From Bowman Field, Jureka was airlifted to the Greenville Hospital System University Medical Center.

Joshua Smith, a senior studying business management, was riding the CAT Bus on the Orange Route when the accident occurred.

"We were coming up Fort Hill Drive and there was a University van in the left-hand lane unloading stuff," Smith said. "Since the van was there, we had to slow

down to let a car come into our lane to go around the van."

At this point, Smith noticed Jureka getting ready to step onto the road in order to cross the street.

"She was at least 20 yards in front of the bus when I saw her step out," Smith said. "I thought to myself that the bus driver is going to have to slow down a little to avoid her. I really didn't think much of it since I've seen people walk out closer to the bus than that before."

see **ACCIDENT**, page A4

## March promotes unity

President Barker says ONE Clemson is easier to say than be.

**CAROLINE RASH**  
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

While many people were making plans for their Friday evening, a few Clemson students and administrators gathered in the Hendrix Ballroom to discuss appropriate responses to the MLK party.

The dialogue centered on what the administration and students should do to make a positive effect come from a negative event.

Gail DiSabatino, vice president for student affairs, Dean of Students Joy Smith and several Clemson Area Psychological Services (CAPS) workers, were familiar faces from previous forums. Before the discussion, Desabatino relayed the message from President James Barker

that "we want to be thoughtful and not rush this."

On that note, people began to suggest everything from mandatory diversity classes to personal efforts by students in their daily interactions.

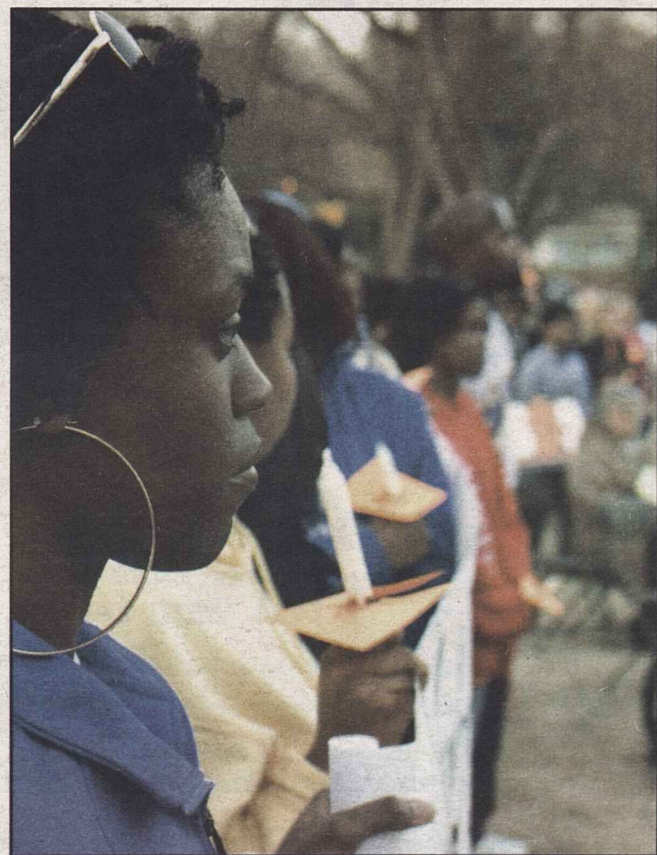
One student-led effort that came together quickly was the Unity March on Monday, Feb. 12.

The event began with two songs about change and hope performed by Thomas McCoy and Tiffani Johnson. The lyrics to the first song reflected the crowd's attitude: "It's time to change, we need to change; we all can change."

Ranniece MacDonald, a sophomore studying engineering, addressed the people gathered at Tillman, thanked them for their support and directed the walk's start.

Alex Bushroe, a sophomore studying communications, lives on the same street as MacDonald

see **UNITY**, page A4



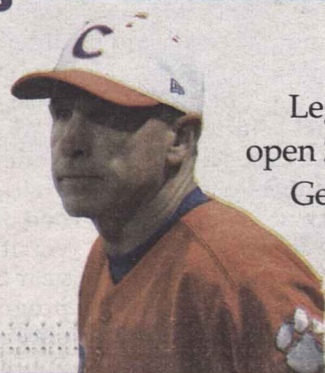
CHRIS CANTRELL/staff

**GATHER 'ROUND, MARCH!:** Students and faculty hold candles while listening to speakers.

## HIGHLIGHTS

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### SPORTS

Leggett, Tigers open 2007 against George Mason today, C4.

### OPINIONS

US should push for U.N. military intervention in Darfur, B1.

### TIMEOUT

John Mayer brings down the house in Columbia, D1.



### WEEKEND FORECAST

FRIDAY: Partly Cloudy



SATURDAY: Rain/Snow 48/29

SUNDAY: Partly Cloudy 44/22



# Tuition details pose questions about salaries

University Provost  
defends e-portfolios and  
creative inquiry program

STEPHAN CAREK  
STAFF WRITER

Over the years, Clemson University has experienced a rise in the ranks amongst the nation's top public colleges. But Clemson's goal of becoming a Top 20 public university has come at a major cost to those who pay tuition.

Some are becoming critical of the University for adding layers to the administration that governs Clemson affairs.

"I've watched the amount of administration that we've got just increase," said Clemson professor Richard Saunders. "In the old college of liberal arts, we used to have just one dean and he had administrative assistants who ran the whole thing. Well now, the colleges are reorganized and it's a different college."

Saunders said three assistant deans and numerous administrative assistants have been added to the staff.

"These are all expensive people," he said.

Since 2001, Clemson's in-state tuition has gone from \$3,590 to \$9,400, a 162 percent increase, and the out-of-state tuition has risen from \$9,784 to \$19,824, an increase of 103 percent.

But according to Provost Dori Helms, this increase in tuition has mostly gone to paying for the faculty's salaries.

"We've gone from a 17-to-1 teaching load at this University to a 14-to-1 teaching load over the past five years," Helms said. "Student tuition is primarily

going into facilities, upgrades in facilities, laboratory innovations and things like that."

According to Helms, the administration is very lenient compared to other universities in neighboring states.

"A lot of administrative positions that have been developed have actually been internal," Helms said. "We're not bringing in somebody from the outside and adding on."

Helms also said that the administration at Clemson has not significantly increased in a number of years.

"In all of the deans' areas, we have either two or three associate deans, and all of them are faculty," Helms said. "We have decreased the number of department chairs, brought in a new CIO ... and the number of vice presidents and upper administrators hasn't changed in the last six years."

Additionally, Helms said that Clemson's administrative costs are significantly less than those of other universities.

"Clemson has a lower administrative cost compared to other institutions in neighboring states," she said. "For instance we are 57 percent of the administrative costs that it takes to run a similar institution in Georgia and we are 61 percent of the costs of a neighboring institution in North Carolina."

Since 1995, Clemson's research funding has increased from \$50 million to almost \$130 million and Clemson has expanded its outreach program to such off campus developments as the International Center for Automotive Research and the Renaissance Center in Greenville.

But, Saunders feels that the administration has gone too far with their influence over the

Clemson community.

"We (the faculty) are the scholars and the administration is the caretaker, they get the bills collected and keep everything on the rails," Saunders said. "It seems to me, at other institutions, the administrations have taken on the air that they are the university, that they run the show, and set their own salaries very high."

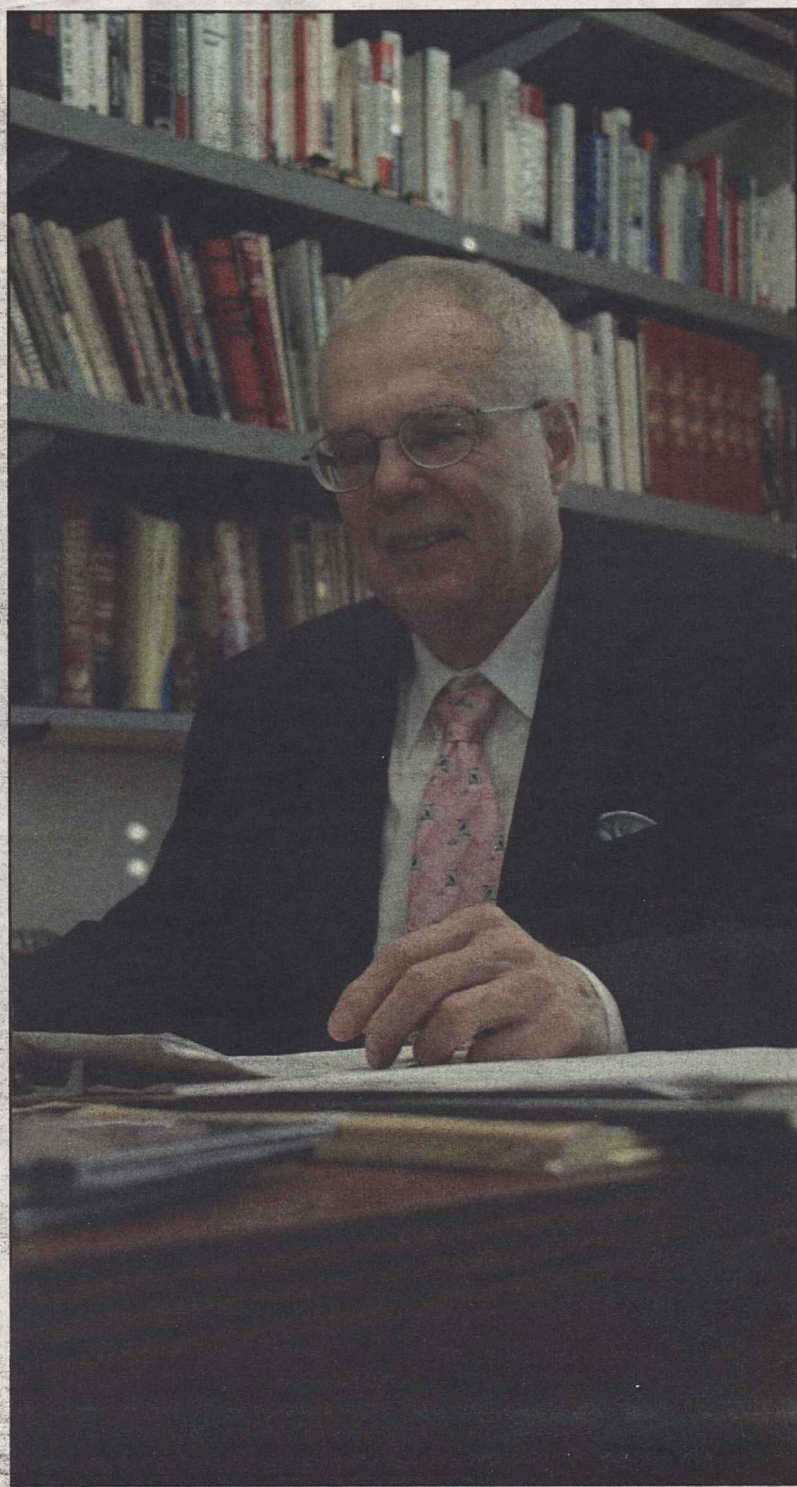
Saunders also feels that the creation of such programs as the "e-portfolio" and the creative inquiry project, a form of undergraduate research, may look good on paper but are "half thought out."

"At a research university such as Clemson, we're supposed to be publishing, bringing in grants and doing research," Saunders said. "You simply just can't add an assignment like (the e-portfolio) and just say well, the faculty should just do this for free."

According to Helms, the e-portfolio and creative inquiry programs cost very little to the University and help students gain experience and knowledge for their future occupations once they graduate from Clemson.

"The e-portfolio is serving as our accountability piece for accreditation," Helms said. "It gives us the ability to have the evidence that our students are learning what they need to learn, its serving as a way for our students to reflect on what they have learned at Clemson and it is a good piece that can be given to an employer who may be looking at you as a prospective employee."

Other than the costs of infrastructure that come with advancing technology, Helms said that there are no real costs to using the e-portfolio and the creative inquiry program is paid for by private donations and grants from the state.



MAX THOMASON/staff

**SKEPTIC:** History professor Richard Saunders questions the value of administrative growth, "half thought out" projects.

## TIGER BRIEFS

**Jazz Ensemble:** The Clemson University Jazz Ensemble will play in a free concert on Tuesday, Feb. 27, at 8 p.m. in the Brooks Center for the Performing Arts. "The concert will feature tunes from the dance band era," said ensemble conductor Brian Sproul. "From the late 1920s through 1950s, a key element of jazz was dance music. The 20-member ensemble will feature songs including 'In the Mood', popularized by Glenn Miller, songs by the Dorsey Brothers, 'Roll Em,' as performed by Benny Goodman and his Orchestra and Duke Ellington's hit 'Cottontail.'"

**Kimmel selected to lead packaging science department:** Clemson University has chosen Associate Professor Robert M. Kimmel to lead the packaging science department. Kimmel

who joined the staff in 1999, currently directs the campus Center for Flexible Packaging, in which he emphasizes discovery-based learning and innovative packaging materials. The department leader-elect has 30-plus years of experience in technical, marketing and business development at Hoechst Celanese. He impressed his Clemson peers with an extensive background in strategic planning and a vision to continue the department's success. "My goals for the department focus on balanced growth of our academic, research and public service areas," said Kimmel. "A priority will be to encourage undergraduate and graduate students to pursue this exciting field." Clemson is one of six American universities offering a four-year bachelor's degree program in packaging science.

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# Stepping into History

by Blaire Kobliski  
photos by Brian Schneider

Step big, step small, step like you mean it ... or don't rep your step at all.

With the recent emergence of the lyrical blastings from members of the hip hop community such as Ciara wanting to see your one-two step and Unk telling you to walk it out, or Young Dro letting your shoulder lean, coupled with the release of the new movie, "Stomp the Yard," more and more people are becoming enamored with the long-standing tradition of stepping.

But there is much more to the tradition of stepping than just the final product of a coordinated series of stomps, claps and shouts that anyone who witnesses a step show sees. Stepping is rich in history as well as meaning and purpose.

Stepping, or step dancing, is a dancing tradition that emerged through the assemblies of young black students in traditionally black college fraternities and sororities around the middle of the 20th century.

Stepping was popularized by the National Pan-Hellenic Council, (NPHC), whose primary purpose and focus is community awareness, action through education and economic and cultural service activities. NPHC is now home to nine established members that have a student base in colleges and universities across the nation. Alpha Phi Alpha, Kappa Alpha Psi, Omega Psi Phi, Phi Beta Sigma, Alpha Kappa Alpha, Delta Sigma Theta, Sigma Gamma Rho and Zeta Phi Beta are the chapters represented here at Clemson.

Step dancing was originally derived from the African Welly boot dance. The Welly boot dance is an African dance that is performed by dancers wearing Wellington boots, more commonly known as gumboots. These boots were used during periods of flooding to keep the feet warm and dry.

The boots are embellished with bells, so that they ring as the dancers move about and stomp on the ground. Many of the movements for the Welly boot dance were created to be parody of the officers and guards who controlled the mines and workers' barracks in Zimbabwe mining camps. From the Welly boot dance, stepping evolved into a sophisticated art form that usually consists of choreographed dances performed at celebrations, ceremonies, performances and athletic events. Stepping is often performed at these events to create a presence, boost morale, group togetherness and pride, entice new recruits and communicate to the audience and other stepping groups something the members value or represent.

Rhymes or chants have become intertwined with stepping. Some of the stepping has become very advanced, integrating acrobatics and gymnastics as well as the use of canes, handguns, swords, knives, fire, explosives and sometimes the wearing of masks.

Lakeena Alexander, a member of Delta Sigma Theta said, "Stepping to me is a form of art. It allows you to get out of your everyday element and show others the unique side of you." Alexander is a seasoned stepper. "I have always been the captain

of a step team or step master in any organization which I was dedicated to."

"It's not the step itself, but how you convey yourself in doing the step that really matters," Alexander said. Her opinion is shared by a multitude of steppers and in essence sums up a lot of what stepping is about: having fun. "I felt the need to always stress the importance of allowing yourself to have fun and show your true talents while stepping," said Alexander.

There are many well-known steps dances such as the James Brown, Stomp the Yard, The Angry Pterodactyl, and the most common step, the Tok. Stepping is a tradition shared among all black fraternities and sororities so no one organization can lay claim to starting the stepping tradition; it was more a movement conjoined between them.

While many of the steps are shared between fraternities and sororities there are some certain steps, hand gestures and calls that are unique to individual Greek organizations, and are not allowed to be displayed by others.

Two big occasions where stepping takes center stage in the fraternity or sorority activities is during step shows or probates. While in both of these events stepping is highlighted, the events are very different.

Step shows are events where groups gather and compete either inter or intra collegiatly. At shows, groups bring their best routines and steppers with the goal of establishing themselves as the best. Step shows can happen a number of times during the year and there are many competitions and conferences in which members can compete. Probates are a bit different than step shows because they are more personal to the stepper as well as to the audience. Probates happen around campus twice a year: once after fall rush and once again after spring rush.

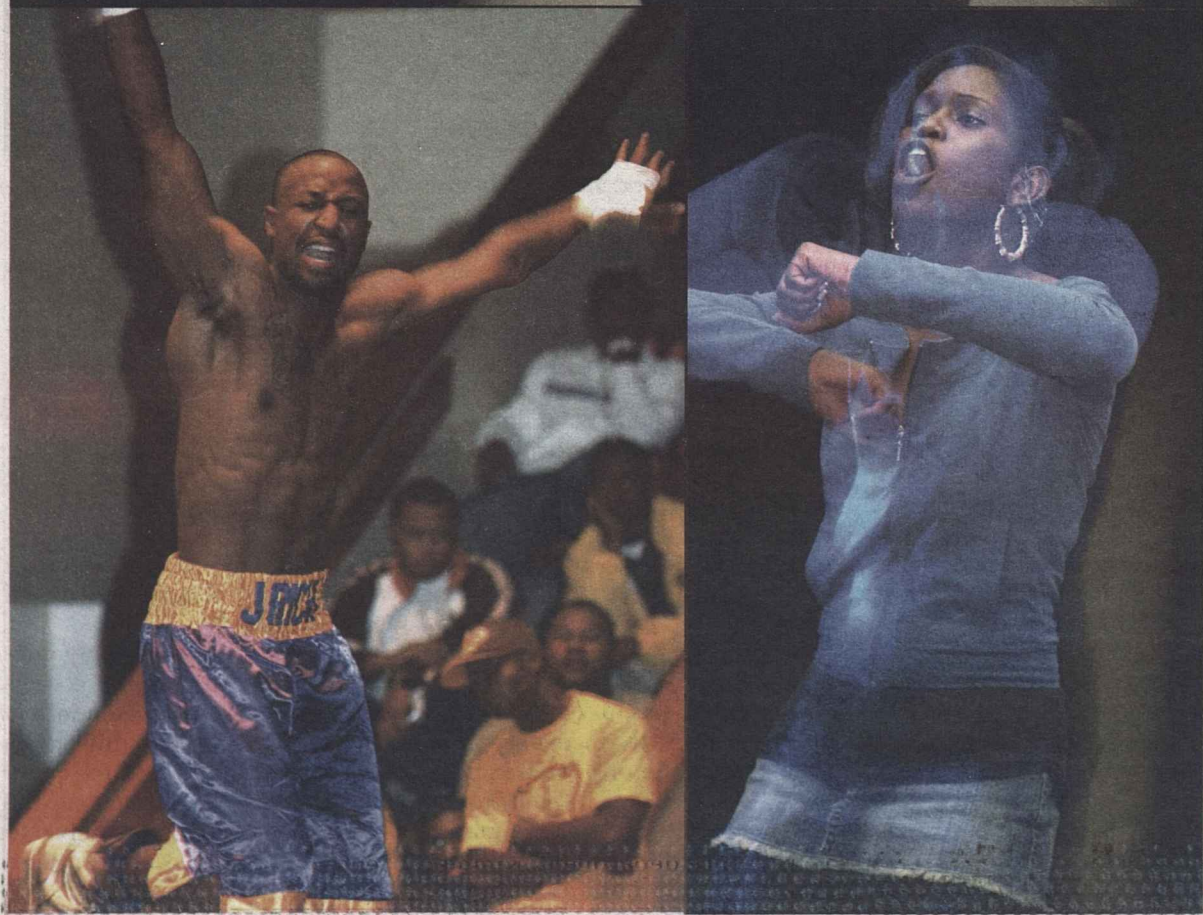
A probate is a special occasion in which new inductees announce where they have found a home and who they are in the corporation. "Crossing over," as it has been coined, is the term used when someone goes through the pledging process. In the NPHC organizations, this is a very difficult, special and private process. Many inductees are not allowed to tell anyone their selected affiliation until the day of the probate when they reveal themselves to the community as a member of a certain incorporation.

This event is the first time that the new members are allowed to perform the steps that are unique to their fraternity or sorority. The new members perform the steps and chants in front of the audience, representing themselves as individuals in the group as well as a proud representative of their incorporation.

While stepping has come a long way since its start in Zimbabwe, its heart and meaning has lasted through generations; stepping ties people together. It is an art of culture and movement that has evolved generation after generation, leaving each person involved; performer and audience, get ready to step up and get to stepping!

*"Stepping to me is a form of art. It allows you to get out of your everyday element and show others the unique side of you."*

*- Lakeena Alexander*





## Weekly World Update

### World Report

■ **Nigerian minister claims staged kidnapping, CNN denies allegation:** After three weeks, unidentified gunmen released 24 Filipino hostages in good condition, according to a spokesman for Baco-Liner, the hostages' employer. Nigerian Minister of Information Frank Nweke Jr. insists that the kidnapping was staged by Jeff Koinange, CNN's Africa correspondent. CNN and Koinange denied the allegations and said that the Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND) is responsible. The MEND is a terrorist organization opposed to the unequal distribution of oil wealth in Niger. Since 2005, the militant group has abducted many people, but always released them unharmed. Nweke has not showed any evidence to support his claims, and CNN has requested that he bring forth credible facts.

■ **North Korea agrees to "denuclearization":** After two years of stalled talks, North Korea agreed to a deal. North Korea has 60 days to shut down its Yongbyon nuclear complex and readmit nuclear inspectors. In return, it will get 50,000 tons of fuel oil or equivalent financial aid. If it takes inventory of its plutonium stores and other measures to denuclearize, North Korea may receive another 950,000 tons of fuel oil or \$300 million in aid. Not everyone in the know thinks the deal is positive. "It sends exactly the wrong signal to would-be proliferators around the world: If you hold out long enough and wear down the state department negotiators, eventually you get rewarded," said John Bolton, former U.S. ambassador to the United Nations.

■ **African Union organizes troop deployment to Somalia:** Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni plans to send two battalions, totaling 1,500 troops, to Somalia within the next two weeks. The initial six-month deployment is part of an effort by the African Union (AU) to raise 8,000 peacekeepers in the area. The extremists have attacked official buildings and Ethiopian troops who arrived in December. Mogadishu residents despise the Ethiopian troops, so the AU wants to replace those soldiers, though it is unclear whether the new troops would be more welcome. The deployment of troops is important to the whole region because of the horizontal proliferation of small arms out of Somalia into east Africa. Somalia has not had a stable government since 1991, when the country was thrown into anarchy by competing warlords.

### National Report

■ **Flipper guards nation from underwater terrorists:** Dolphins and sea lions may follow bees as part of the United States homeland security. The plan involves 30 sea lions and dolphins from the Navy's Marine Mammal Program. The Navy has trained dolphins since the 1960s and used them to hunt for underwater mines in the Iraqi harbor of Umm Qasr in 2003. Sea lions can carry handcuffs connected to long ropes and attach cuffs to "rogue swimmers" so that the potential terrorist can be reeled in for questioning. Spokespeople for People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals say that marine mammals do not provide reliable defense and should not be enclosed in small spaces. Lapuzza says the Navy wants to replace the animals with machines, but the technology is not available yet.

■ **Monday night shootings occur on both coasts:** Two separate shootings killed 10 people earlier this week. Monday evening, an 18-year-old man began shooting indiscriminately in a Utah shopping mall, killing six people. He roamed the mall in a trench coat, wielding a shotgun until police arrived and killed him in a gunfight. That same evening, a gunman killed four people before taking his own life at the Philadelphia Naval Business Center. The shooter may have been a disgruntled investor interrupting a board meeting to seek revenge, according to Philadelphia Deputy Police Commissioner Richard Ross. When the police arrived, the gunman opened fire on police, and then ducked behind a door where he was later found dead of a self-inflicted gun wound.

■ **Ex-CIA Foggo indicted, Rove revealed, in separate corruption cases:** Federal prosecutors indicted former "No. 3" in command at the CIA Kyle "Dusty" Foggo on Tuesday as part of an ongoing investigation into the awarding of secret Pentagon contracts. As CIA executive director, Foggo managed the day-to-day operations of the agency. Foggo resigned last year after questions arose about his relationship with defense contractor Brent Wilkes, who was linked to the bribery case of Rep. Randy Duke Cunningham, R-Calif. Robert Novak wrote that Karl Rove was a "confirming source" in ex-CIA operative Valerie Plame's classified identity. Officials on Capitol Hill have denied Rove's involvement for the past two and a half years, and Novak decided to talk now because prosecutors assured him the case was concluded. Special Counsel Patrick Fitzgerald said he did not anticipate seeking charges against Rove.

## ACCIDENT: Highway Patrol continues to investigate incident *from page A1*

The CAT bus driver started to slow down and Jureka appeared to be out of harm's way, according to Smith.

"All of a sudden, the bus turned to the left and she reappeared directly in front of the bus and the bus was still turning," he said. "By the time the bus made contact with her, she was on the right side of the front of the bus."

The CAT bus driver and the passengers on board were "in shock," according to Smith once they realized what happened.

"My roommate was next to me and I saw him immediately pull out his cell phone and dial 911," he said. "All of the people in the front of the bus started coming towards the back holding their hands over their faces and panicking."

Confused passengers won-

dered if there was something they should be doing, according to Smith.

"I saw a guy that was running towards the side of the bus and I thought, 'I have to do something to help,'" he said. "I pushed my way to the front of the bus. As I stood there, I started feeling helpless, because I knew there wasn't anything that I could do for her."

The South Carolina Highway Patrol is investigating the accident. As of late Tuesday afternoon, Jureka was in stable condition.

The faculty and students of the University and the Clemson community continue to support Jureka and her family through her treatment and recovery.

"The thoughts and prayers of the Clemson Family go out to Kellie, her family and friends at this time, and we will be here

for her as she recovers from this unfortunate accident," said Clemson Dean of Students Joy Smith in a Tuesday press release.

According to investigators, it could be several days before anything else is released about the incident.

Eric Harkins, a junior studying forestry and business, remains by his girlfriend's side during her recovery.

Harkins and Jureka's family do not wish to speak about the incident, but offer a few words to the Clemson community.

"Her family and I thank everyone at Clemson and around the area for the outpour of support, prayer and well wishes" Harkins said. "Any donations of any kind would be greatly appreciated since Kellie's family will be away from home for a while."

## UNITY: Students voice opinions about punishment from University *from page A1*

and McCoy. He says that while he empathizes with the party participants, "there's a line" where people should understand the implications of their actions.

Several speakers, including students, a representative from the NAACP and Barker addressed the crowd upon its arrival at the president's lawn.

Barker talked about his process for dealing with the party. He sought counsel from students, faculty, the Board of Trustees and many black leaders, including Frank Matthews, the head of IPTAY, and Lonnie Randolph, state NAACP president.

"It's important to talk, more important to listen and even more important to act," said Barker.

Philip Lindsay, a senior studying business management, represented the Omicron Lambda Chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity at Clemson. Lindsay offered the following desires: the creation of a committee that promotes "ONE Clemson" by opening lines of communication to discuss inclu-

sion, an increase of diversity on all levels (faculty, administration and students), and the push for an environment in support of diversity in campus literature (such as the undergraduate announcements, etc.).

Meanwhile, a slightly broader range of opinions surfaced at the MLK forum. Some students at that event thought that the University should do nothing punitive and institute no mandatory changes for the general student body.

Representatives from the Gantt Intercultural Center have compiled a list of more than 70 suggestions presented in the forums. A general consensus from Barker to faculty and students is that the "reaction" part of this situation needs to be carefully thought out, but no one is quite sure where the University will arrive.

The Unity March ended with attendees lighting candles and hearing a final song performed by Johnson and McCoy. The twilight was filled with candles raised in peace and hope of unity, but some wonder: how long will they stay lit?

## SSREC: Speakers, workshops focus on climate change, renewable energy *from page A1*



PHOTO COURTESY OF LAURA ELIZABETH CEVA

**GO GO GREEN POWER!** The SSREC workshop, which begins on Feb. 16, will focus on human-caused global warming. Registration for the event is \$30.

originated because he is trying to better understand the nature of his worrying using the tools of philosophical analysis.

The workshop will focus on the idea of human-caused global warming and how we are morally responsible for the environmental crisis. According to Thompson, the talk can be summed up by the slogan, "you break it, you own it."

"I believe that part of the anxiety associated with global warming is our apprehension about being collectively responsible for what used to simply be called 'natural events' or 'acts of God' like hurricanes," Thompson said. "We don't want to own it, so we don't want to believe we broke it; we fear a loss of innocence."

"The sooner we come to terms with this, I believe, the sooner we mature in the ways that will be required for the well-being of all life on Earth," he said.

The registration for the SSREC is \$30 and includes the conference activities, food and housing with students in Clemson. Students and

faculty can register all the way up to the conference on Feb. 16.

Jed Hewitt, a 2006 graduate of Clemson University, is in charge of the housing committee for SSREC. The committee is responsible for finding hosts for the 300 attendees for the weekend.

According to the Hewitt, they are asking friends, campus organizations and local churches for any available space or extra beds, futons or sofas where attendees can stay. He also says that camping is a great option this year, given the clear forecast for the weekend.

"I wanted to be a part of the SSREC organizing crew ever since I heard about this conference because I believe that clean and renewable energy needs to be promoted in the Southeast as well as here on Clemson's campus," said Hewitt. "This conference will continue to establish the large grassroots organization between universities of the Southeast, students, faculty, and local citizens."

## News By Numbers

44

age of a Chewbacca impersonator who shouted "No one tells this wookie what to do" before head butting the tour guide.

211

weight, in pounds, of a bear that watched a woman make coffee through her kitchen window, then climbed a tree in fright after the woman screamed.

3,000

amount, in dollars, that a man paid to propose to his girlfriend on local TV, falling short of his original plan to raise \$2.6 million for a Super Bowl ad.



# Students explore entrepreneurship

Starting a business draws more interest in learning about self-employment.

**CATE RAFF**  
STAFF WRITER

Ryan Smith is like many other students at Clemson. In his free time he enjoys biking, running and spending time with friends.

As a junior studying health science, he works hard in school and is hoping to attend medical school after graduation.

And, like most Clemson students, Smith understands the common situation that people on a college campus are infamous for: the lack of money.

But, as a full-time student, getting a job with demanding hours and little flexibility did not appeal to him.

He decided to do something about his lack of money and started his own business a little over a year ago.

Smith now sells rare, collectable and out-of-print books on Ebay through a company he calls "Clemsonbooker," which is also his Ebay seller ID. Though he has experienced stresses that come with starting a small business (mailing out packages at the post office two to three times a week, to mention one), Smith said he is glad he decided to do it.

"It took an initial investment of some money I had saved and quite a lot of time to get the whole process up and running, but the returns have made it worth it," he said.

The idea of starting a business is attractive to many college students.

"There has always been interest by some students in starting or running businesses while in school," Caron St. John, director of the Spiro Institute for Entrepreneurial Leadership and MBA Programs, said. "In the last five years, there has been a significant increase in student interest in entrepreneurship courses."

Bobby McCormick, professor of economics and BB&T Scholar, agrees with St. John. "I think there is a continuing interest in entrepreneurial activity at Clemson in many dimensions," he said.

Many students do not know where to begin when starting a business. Smith said he was fortunate to have a friend who was an experienced Ebay bookseller who could help him. But even for students without connections in the business world, starting your own company is a goal that is very attainable.

"There are hundreds of books available on starting business ventures," St. John said. "Read everything you can find, interview or meet other entrepreneurs in the same type of business, learn how to model your business with a spreadsheet so you really understand the costs involved."

One of the hundreds of books out there geared specifically toward college students is Randal Pinkett's new book "Campus CEO: The Student Entrepreneur's Guide to Launching a Multimillion Dollar Business."

"Randal is the CEO of a multimillion dollar business, the first African American winner of the 'Apprentice' (season 4) and he was a Campus CEO himself (at Rutgers, MIT and Oxford)," said Victoria Grantham of Kaplan Publishing.

"Pinkett shares his insights and profiles other successful Campus CEOs, including current students and legendary leaders like Bill Gates, Russell Simmons and Michael Dell, who established their companies while in school," according to a recent press release.

St. John recommended thinking about three questions before starting a new company. "First, ask yourself: Who is the customer and why will they buy this product or service?" she said. "Second, who else is doing this and will my product or service be better?"

Third, will the potential revenue exceed the investment and operating costs so that I make money for my efforts?"

Finally, one of the most promising ways to gain business success is getting help from others who have gone before you.

"After giving it a great deal of thought and analysis, seek out the advice of experienced business people to critique the ideas," St. John said.

McCormick agreed that learning through others' experience is invaluable. "Hang out with other people who have tried and failed or succeeded," he said. "There is nothing like practice to hone a skill."

## In the Books

### Campus Arrests

The following were arrests made by the Clemson University Police Department between Tuesday, Feb. 6 and Wednesday, Feb. 14.

#### Feb. 9

2:25 a.m., Ashley Hechler, public disorderly conduct, Post Office, officer: Cassell

11:33 a.m., Patrick Glomski, vehicle tampering, R-2, officer: Moore

#### Feb. 10

1:49 a.m., William Horr, public disorderly conduct, Highway 93, officer: Lehmann

2:30 a.m., James Swan, public disorderly conduct, Calhoun Courts, officer: Tiller

11:37 p.m., Adam Jacobs, minor in possession, Holmes, officer: Lehmann

#### Feb. 14

2:33 a.m., Adam Hudacek, public disorderly conduct, Harcombe, officer: Tiller

## Crime Report

The following calls were among those that Clemson University police responded to between Tuesday, Feb. 6 and Wednesday, Feb. 14.

#### Feb. 6

9:43 a.m., handicap violation, Clemson House, officer: Moore

5:22 p.m., damage to vehicle, C-2, officer: Zagorski

5:39 p.m., vandalism, Lightsey Bridge, officer: Zagorski

#### Feb. 7

6:29 p.m., assault/battery, Stadium Suites, officer: Henriksen

#### Feb. 8

6:36 p.m., suspicious person, Klugh Avenue, officer: Dozier

#### Feb. 9

3:08 p.m., harassment/stalking, Sirrine, officer: Gibson

9:56 p.m., suspicious person, Douthit Hills, officer: Henriksen

#### Feb. 10

7:22 p.m., damage to vehicle, R-2, officer: Marzolf

## Fire & Rescue

The following were among those that the Clemson University fire department responded to between Tuesday, Feb. 6 and Wednesday, Feb. 14.

#### Feb. 6

9:31 a.m., smoke detector, Tennis Center, CUFD

#### Feb. 7

1:58 p.m., elevator entrapment, Lee Hall, CUFD

#### Feb. 8

5:18 p.m., fire alarm, Johnstone, CUFD

#### Feb. 10


1:13 a.m., fire alarm, parking deck, CUFD

#### Feb. 13

9:08 a.m., elevator entrapment, FHS, CUFD

#### Feb. 14

4:54 a.m., fire alarm, Stadium Suites, CUFD




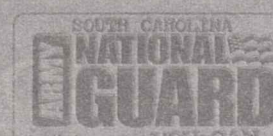
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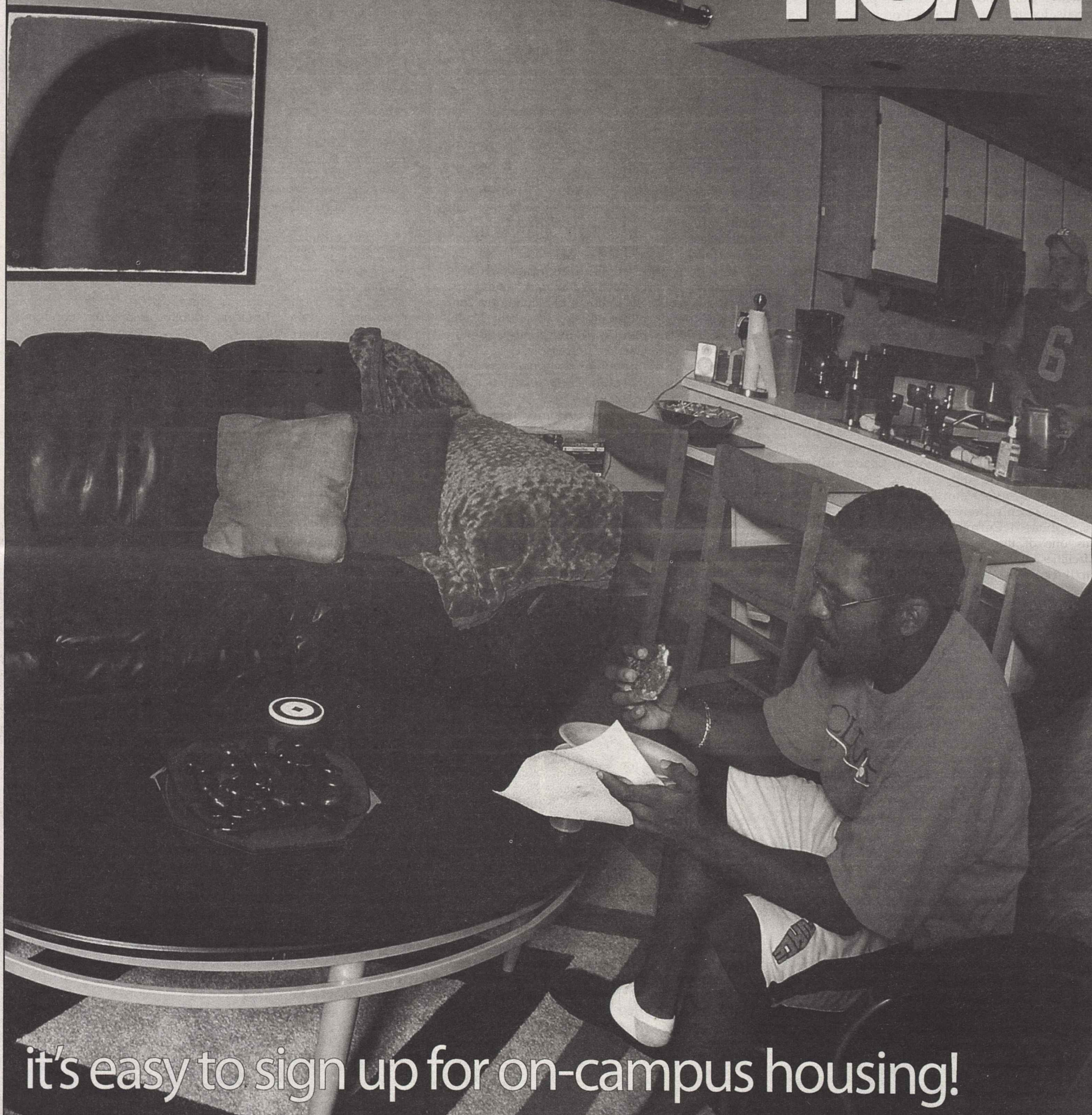
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# Up 'til Dawn raises money for St. Jude's Hospital research

Students help keep health-care charity's national status.

**MELISSA WHITSON**  
STAFF WRITER

Every year Clemson University students find themselves involved in countless charitable endeavors, ranging from collecting canned goods for the hungry to advocating awareness for Mothers Against Drunk Driving. With such a variety of opportunities to give back to the community, it comes as no surprise that a group of students dedicated their attention to raising money for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

The event, officially dubbed the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital Up 'til Dawn All Team Meeting, was held last semester on Thursday, Nov. 2 at the Hendrix Student Center. The event brought together the efforts of several of the university's student organizations.

For the third year in a row, Clemson's St. Jude Up 'til Dawn Executive Board, a group comprised entirely of students, organized the event. In addition to the 15-member board, the fundraising endeavor was assisted by an advisor, a representative from the philanthropy efforts of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and Clemson University Student Government (CUSG).

Located in Memphis, Tenn., St. Jude Children's Research Hospital is renowned throughout the world as one of the leading medical facilities for children. According to the hospital's Web site, St. Jude

is "unlike any other pediatric treatment and research facility anywhere." While St. Jude's predominant focus is to treat children with life-threatening illnesses, a major portion of money given to the hospital goes toward funding the facility's innovative research efforts.

"One of the things that is unique about St. Jude Children's Research Hospital is that they share their research," said Ryan Sanders, the executive board's assistant director. "So if you had a child living in Greenville and you didn't want to go all the way to Memphis, St. Jude would share their protocol and they could be treated right here in the Upstate."

Despite being the nation's third-largest health-care charity, however, its daily running cost of one million dollars leaves the hospital relying on events like Clemson's Up 'til Dawn to fund its medical bills and research facilities.

Sarahann Callaway, the Executive Board's Public Relations Assistant, understands the importance of raising money for the hospital. "So many people are affected by childhood cancer," she said. "In some way or sense, I'm sure everyone at Clemson has a connection with St. Jude."

Over the past three years, Clemson has continually doubled the amount of money raised. After bringing in \$16,000 the first year, the team raised \$37,000 last year and raised more than \$70,000 this fall, with money still being collected. Logistics Chairperson Suzanne Weaver has been helping with Up 'til Dawn since its first year at Clemson. "It's been incredible to see it grow so much," she said. "And it's only going to get bigger."

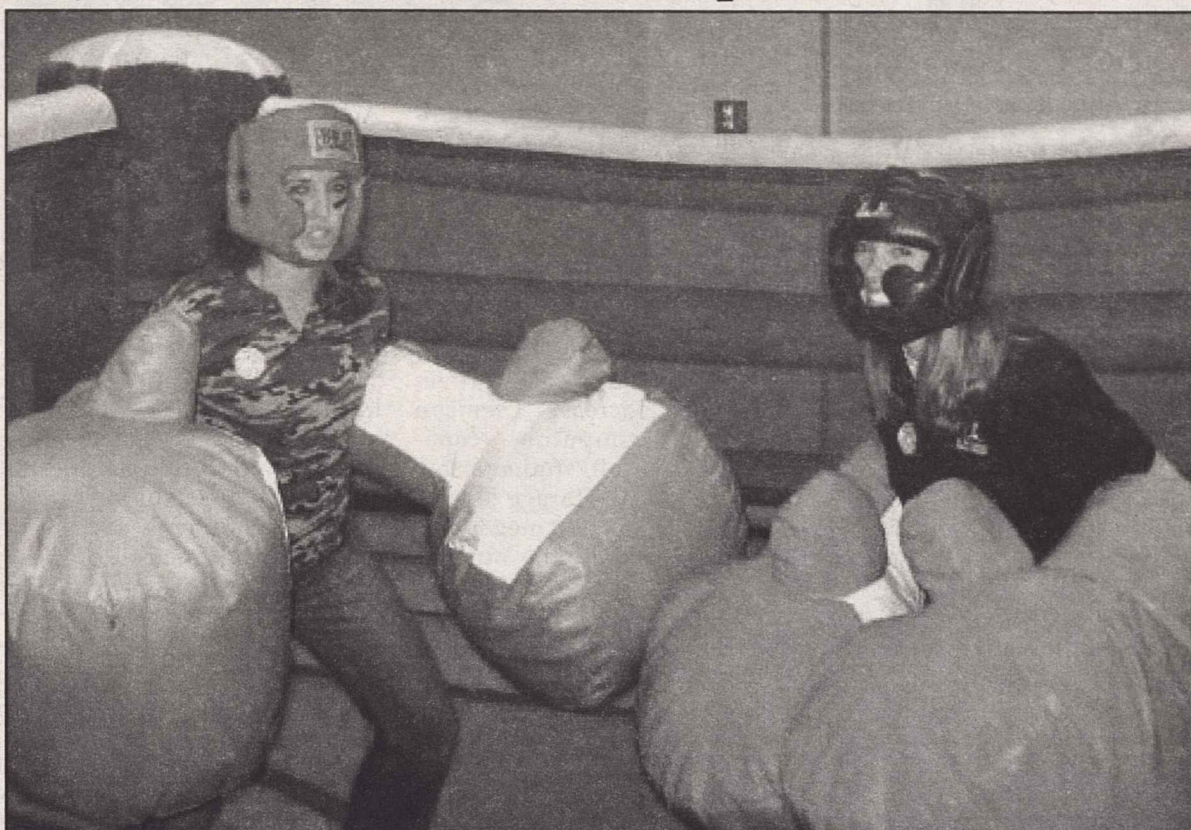


PHOTO COURTESY OF ERIN LLOYD

**PUT 'EM UP, PUT 'EM UP!** Two Up 'til Dawn volunteers participate in one of many activities to help stay awake and entertain those who watched.

In order to raise such large amounts of money, the Up 'til Dawn committee relied on communicating with others the necessity of donating to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. On Nov. 2, students participating in the fundraiser were asked to write letters to at least 50 people encouraging them to make a monetary contribution to the hospital.

Officially, Up 'til Dawn began at 7 p.m. Thursday evening and continued through the night until 7 a.m. the next morning. With the help of several Clemson chorus groups, a DJ and food from local restaurants, students had no trouble staying awake. For those who stayed until 4 a.m., a video

Ipod was raffled.

Among the 300 to 500 students assisting in the letter campaign were members from the Student Personnel Association, the fraternities Sigma Chi and Pi Kappa Alpha and sororities like Gamma Sigma Sigma. Like his companions, Sanders is confident in the accomplishments of Up 'til Dawn. "Our numbers say it all," he said. "Hopefully we can double it next year."

With this year's notable success, the executive board has decided to make a special presentation of the money raised thus far. On Feb. 18, during half time at the basketball game against Maryland, a check for all the money raised

this year will be presented by President Barker and the executive board to one local child who received treatment from St. Jude. Also recognized will be the teams of students who showed the most spirit and brought in the most money at Up 'til Dawn.

In spite of their recent accomplishment, Sanders, Callaway, Weaver and the rest of the event's planners have already begun looking to the future. This semester, the team hopes to raise even more money for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital by possibly holding events such as a basketball, an ultimate frisbee tournament, a car wash or even a concert.

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# IT lacks funding, could affect Top 20 ranking

DCIT encourages students to speak up for technology problems.

**MARGARET FARISH**  
STAFF WRITER

The Division of Computing and Information Technology (DCIT) conducted its first Student Internet Technology (IT) Town Hall meeting Tuesday night in an effort for students to voice their opinions about Clemson IT services.

According to Stephen Lareau, the chair of the University Services Committee, students previously have not had a say in DCIT's decisions and changes, although they are the group most affected.

"We pay a technology fee already," Lareau said. "It's time to give students a voice."

DCIT's new Chief Information Officer Jim Bottum agreed.

"In a nutshell, we would like to develop a dialogue and a relationship with Clemson's students," he said.

Bottum explained the past difficulties that students encountered with DCIT stem from a lack in funding. According to Bottum, Clemson's IT program has \$15 million less funding than most universities, a factor that negatively affects Clemson's place as a Top 20 university.

This lack in funding manifests itself primarily in a staff shortage, with 50 percent less Clemson IT staff than at the

University of South Carolina. Bottum said that another major staff problem is student employees' lack of professional and technical training.

"Our staff has produced a nice set of services with limited resources," he said. "However, we're working hard at getting the right level of funding to fix our staff issues."

In the past semester, DCIT already made several improvements to increase Clemson students' computing capabilities. Last fall, students saw their personal storage e-mail increase from 100 megabytes to two gigabytes, the number of wireless access points on campus increase to 450 and the Internet connection time extended from four to eight hours.

For future IT projects, Bottum said DCIT staff and faculty have many works in progress. Next fall, DCIT will institute multi-platform support, which means that there will be on-campus support for Macintoshes as well as IBMs.

A new centralized IT building is currently being designed and will be hopefully be finished in three years, according to Bottum. The most immediate and necessary project is to stabilize Clemson's online Blackboard, which 90 percent of Clemson students use.

With future changes, however, Bottum wants to use the student IT Town Hall meetings to determine what improvements can most benefit students.

At Tuesday's meeting, several students spoke up about

on-campus printing difficulties relating to the number and length of student print jobs. According to Bottum, DCIT has already recognized this problem and has calculated that 5.2 million pages are printed on campus each semester. Bottum said a possible recourse for excessive printing could be to establish individual student quotas based on course loads.

"In other schools, quotas have decreased printing output by about 50 to 80 percent," Bottum said. "A quota doesn't even have to actually charge money if students exceed it; just keeping record of how much they're printing would help."

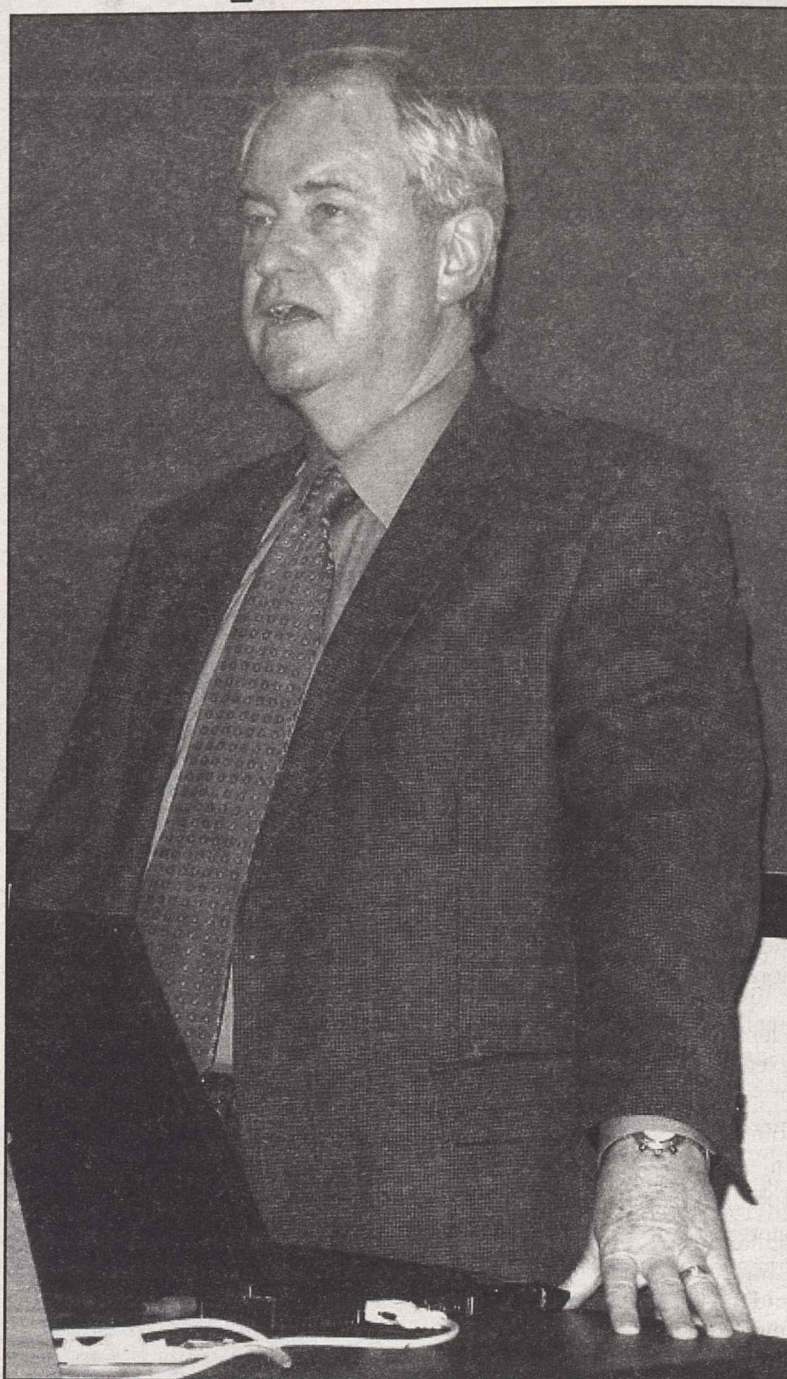
Another printer-related problem that students had was the location and availability of campus printers.

Because of recent student feedback, more printers will soon be moved into Sirrene. DCIT will also invest in new printers for Cooper Library, Brackett Hall and the Hendrix Center.

"We're asking ourselves where the most popular places to put the most printers are," Bottum said.

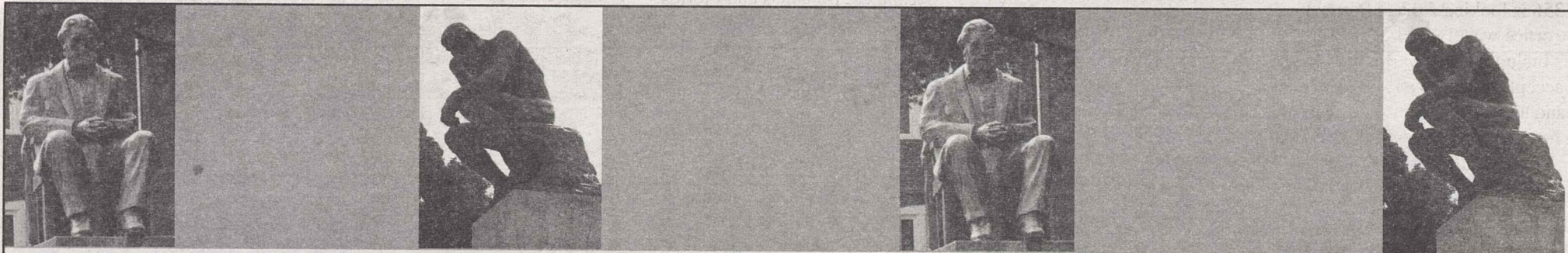
The student feedback on Tuesday was the first step to DCIT's transformation. According to Bottum, DCIT's current staff members and faculty members are working hard to benefit Clemson students. Student input, however, is crucial to future success.

"If we are going to fix problems," Bottum said, "you are going to need to help us help you."



SARAH EDWARDS/staff

**STEP UP AND TALK:** Jim Bottum informs an audience of students, faculty and staff about IT's upcoming plans.



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SECTION  
**B**

# PERSPECTIVES

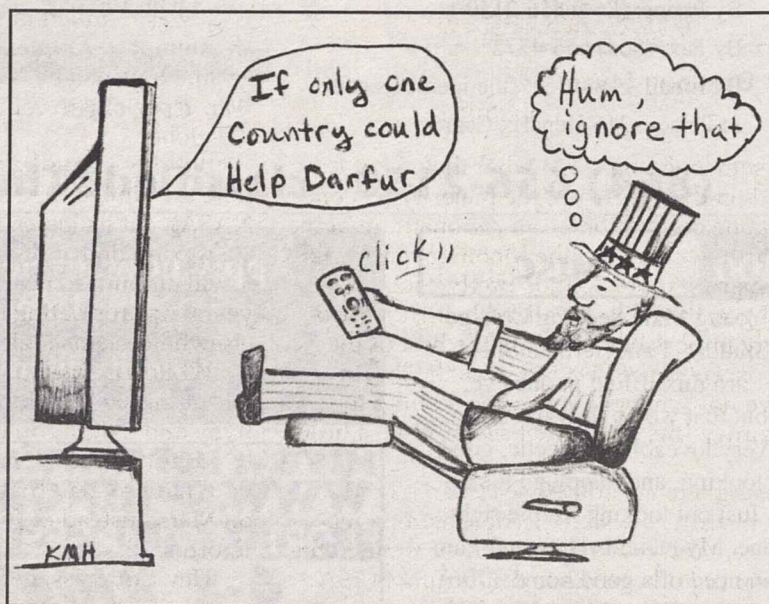
## Darfur needs U.N., not U.S., military

The genocide in Darfur has elicited much attention and little action. While many are aware of the situation and appalled by the bloodshed, the world, for all intents and purposes, has been nothing but a spectator in the conflict.

In early 2003, the Sudanese government took military action to quell rebellions incited by two groups, the Sudanese Liberation Army/Movement (SLA/SLM) and the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM). The two groups were formed in an attempt to "compel the government of Sudan to address underdevelopment and the political marginalization of the region." The Sudanese military and a government-backed militia, "Janjaweed," entered the Darfur region of the Sudan and engaged not only both groups but the civilian population whence they drew their support.

In the ensuing years, a whole range of humanitarian crimes have been committed, primarily against the Fur, Masalit and Zaghawa people of the Darfur region. Women have been raped, towns pillaged and burned, 400,000 people killed and more than 2 million Darfurians forced to escape the violence to "displaced people" camps elsewhere. President Bush has formally acknowledged the atrocities in Darfur as genocide and the United Nations (U.N.) has stated that the situation is one of the worst humanitarian crises in the world today. Politically correct speakers stay away from any allusions to Rwanda or the Holocaust when discussing Darfur, because such references would underscore the historical impact of non-involvement. Everyone seems to understand the gravity of the situation, but only mild, tentative steps have been taken.

In May of last year, a peace accord was agreed upon by both sides at the insistence and accom-



modation of international authorities. No enforcement mechanism has been implemented, however, so the situation has yet to be assuaged.

The only third-party troops in the area are those of the African Union, an under-funded and understaffed entity attempting to monitor and divert regional tensions. Last Aug. 31, the U.N. voted to send a peace-keeping mission to Darfur, but has seen few results.

The growing consensus worldwide is that drastic military and humanitarian aid is needed as soon as possible to stem the violence in Darfur. Recently, New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson, a former U.N. Ambassador, visited Darfur and concluded that immediate intervention is necessary. When Hillary Rodham Clinton

questioned U.S. Defense Secretary Robert Gates about the issue earlier this month, he replied that the U.S. had no plans in the works for taking any action in the Sudanese conflict.

As a member of the world, it seems almost inexcusable that the United States is not ready to step in and come to the aid of genocidal victims. In a pragmatic sense, however, U.S. forces are already spread thinly throughout the Middle

East and other locations around the world. Beginning another military endeavor unaided would be irresponsible and impractical. At this point, it is doubtful that enough support could be gathered from the American people to approve the entrance into another international conflict, even for an issue as drastic as genocide.

Simply put, the U.S. is not in a position to militarily enter Sudan and stop the hostilities because of previous decisions to engage in conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. Ironically, U.S. intervention in the Middle East is primarily for humanistic reasons, yet serves as a prohibitive measure for protecting humanitarian rights more immediately challenged elsewhere. In a nation with divided views on current military endeavors, the situation in Darfur has proven to be much more universal. Everyone is upset at the travesty occurring in Sudan, but few see any practical means of intervention.

Even those in support of military involvement generally feel as though the U.N., not the U.S., should take the initiative. Not only would this require fewer U.S. troops, but would probably elicit more international support.

The effort would be deemed more legitimate than if the United States acted alone, especially because of the recent animosity created by America's independent engagement of the Middle East.

The United States, however, should do its best to encourage U.N. action. Whatever diplomatic influence the U.S. can muster should be thrown behind the effort to intervene in the Darfurian travesty.

While the United States does not have the resources to immerse itself in Darfur because it has chosen poorly in terms of international involvement, the least it can do is push for international military forces to step in and stop the genocide in Darfur.

*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.*

**THE ISSUE**  
**DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS TO**  
**END THE GENOCIDE IN**  
**DARFUR HAVE NOT BEEN**  
**EFFECTIVE IN STOPPING THE**  
**BLOODSHED.**  
**OUR VIEW**  
**THE U.S. SHOULD PUSH**  
**FOR U.N. MILITARY ACTION**  
**IN THE REGION BUT NOT**  
**TAKE INDEPENDENT ACTION.**

### COMMENTARY

## "Freshman 15" becomes "freshman 20"



CAITLIN BAKER

Columnist

Prior to coming to college, every freshman is warned of the phenomenon known as the "freshman 15." Supposedly, on average, incoming freshman gain about 15 pounds during their first year while living on a college campus. In recent studies, however, the "freshman 15" has become the "freshman 20." Colleges are now offering more dining hall options high in fat and carbohydrates than in previous years. America is already known as a country that prides itself on indulging in fast food, so colleges are trying harder to please students and base their dining halls on this fast food profile. Another problem with the dining halls that causes this five-pound increase in weight gain in some freshman is that the hours are restricted to certain times which force students to eat three large meals a day instead of allowing them to graze and eat small portions whenever they please.

One way of solving the dining hall dilemma is to offer grilled entrees. On

Clemson's campus, Clemson House Dining Hall provides sautéed pasta and stir-fry for lunch which proves to be a healthier selection in comparison to greasy burgers and fries. Another option would be to bring your own salad dressing to Schilleter, Harcombe or Clemson House because the selections provided in the dining halls are not fat free and therefore defeat the purpose of eating a healthy salad.

The "freshman 20" isn't solely the fault of university food services. Alcohol is another culprit. Each alcoholic beverage contains 100 to 200 calories (sugary liquors have a higher caloric intake) and, let's be honest, everyone knows that a typical college student consumes more than one or two alcoholic beverages in one sitting. The pounds we put on from going to a bar downtown tend to add up over the course of a few Thursday nights.

Stress is another factor that can lead to weight gain. Depending on each person's body and metabolism, stress can cause students to gain weight, especially when anxiety over tests or assignments causes students to indulge in late-night snacks or forgo working out for studying.

Clemson students are somewhat lucky and many of us often become exempt from the "freshman 20." Perhaps this is because we have to walk uphill at least twice a day to get to and from class. Clemson is also a very large campus, so we are forced to walk further to reach our destination than other

smaller campuses across the nation. We also have Fike, which is packed every time I walk through the door, so maybe we take pride in our health and try to stay fit. Even for those of us who don't exercise regularly, keep in mind that we pay a Fike Recreation fee along with our tuition, so we might as well use the facility to our advantage.

America is falling into a trap of becoming a statistic of obesity. We're considered one of the most obese country in the world because of our eating habits and sedentary lifestyles. Scientists and nutritionists say that college is where obese lifestyles begin. The "freshman 20," however, is not what is causing America to fall into a trap of being fat. Having a sedentary lifestyle is almost impossible for a college student, especially at Clemson, because we are forced to be active even if we just get exercise by walking to class or to the dining hall. Sometimes it almost seems as though the rest of the country is blaming us college students for other Americans' weight issues. They seem to justify obesity by coming up with statistics for college kids such as the "freshman 20." We don't have to be a statistic. And we don't have to fall for the phenomenon known as the "freshman 20." Keep that in mind next time you go through the line at Harcombe; maybe you'll opt for grilled chicken and asparagus instead of a burger and fries.

CAITLIN BAKER is a freshman in pre-business. E-mail comments to [letters@TheTigerNews.com](mailto:letters@TheTigerNews.com).

## SPEAKING

Should the U.S. take military action to end the genocide in Darfur?



Luke Gledhill  
engineering  
freshman

"Genocide is evil, but America should not be militarily involved."

"I think the U.S. military should go into Darfur as long as it frees people and does not start excessive warfare."



Mirenda Alexander  
English  
junior



Seabass Knapp  
computer engineering  
senior

"Yes, but not yet. Troops are still in Iraq; we don't want to make a global presence. We've done similar situations in Bosnia."

"Yes, I think we should. These African tribes need to stop hiding behind their politics and be tried to the fullest extent."



Angelo Dinkov  
business  
junior



Kyle Bennett  
technology and human resource  
development  
senior

"Yes, I believe that local governments should work out the conflict, but in the meantime those people need to be protected by any nation that can protect them."

"No, U.S. forces are already spread too thin fighting in two foreign conflicts."



Sarah Saulnier  
accounting  
senior



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters should be no longer than 400 words. Feedback from our website may also be considered for publication. Submissions must include the author's name and phone number (or E-mail address) and optionally hometown, class and major. All submissions will be checked for authenticity and may be edited for clarity and grammar. Space considerations may result in submissions being held for later publication. THE TIGER reserves the right to print or edit all submissions. Send letters to our U.S. Mail address or e-mail them to [letters@TheTigerNews.com](mailto:letters@TheTigerNews.com).

CLEMSON, SC  
17 JANUARY  
2006

## Women must work to dispel unfair stereotype

The commentary, "Let genetics win out" in the Feb. 9 issue of The Tiger greatly upset me ... even moreso by the fact that it was written by a female. Of course there is more of a difference in men and women than solely their anatomy. So, since most women are genetically predisposed to be emotional, it means that every woman should take a step down for a supposedly "more-qualified" man? I don't know about you, but Hilary Clinton does not look like the kind of woman that lets her emotions get in the way (she stayed with Bill, didn't she?). Since the stereotype exists (and it is a stereotype) that all women are predisposed to act in a way less credible for a presidential position than a man, shouldn't we as members of a supposedly "equal" society try to change that stereotype? What makes the author believe that women cannot learn abilities that will be able to "match her male counterpart's?" Most importantly, what makes the author believe that a male's genetics are better or more effective at leading than that of a female's when we have not even had a female president? This is a big reason that women are not as unified as men: They have less power because they believe they have less power. This, therefore, tears them apart and you have the advocates for change and the disbelievers.

Christina Winters  
Damasus, Md.

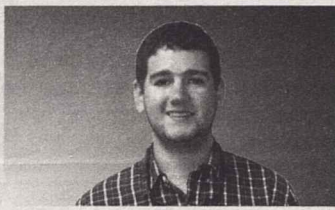
## Potential of female president is underestimated

I can only assume that the column, "Let genetics win out" was an attempt at a satirical commentary on people who seriously hold those views about the capabilities of men versus women. It would really disturb me to think that a well-educated woman who was admitted into this University would give credence to the ideas presented in the article. Ideas and opinions of that nature are what continue to hold women back. How can you possibly indicate that you admire and are supportive of women's rights? I could go on for days but am too awestruck that something of this nature was printed and worse yet, written by a woman.

Denise M. Anderson  
Clemson, S.C.

## COMMENTARY

## NASA a waste use of taxpayers' money



BRANDON JONES

Columnist

When someone asks a kid what they want to be when they grow up, the majority respond with one occupation — an astronaut. Imagine orbiting the Earth, walking on the Moon or spacewalking outside a space station. Sounds pretty cool.

The older I got, the more I realized being an astronaut was nearly impossible. They are the best of the best (with the exception of Lisa Nowak), the cream of the crop. I've now changed my plans, hoping to become an attorney (the job market seems to be a little better).

Nevertheless, there are still those children (and adults) who will always wish to become astronauts. And, as they age, I can only hope that they come to the same conclusion that I have made concerning NASA — it is one of the most impractical and idiotic governmental agencies within the United States.

Who really cares about trying to find life on Mars? The most important question is: Who is paying for NASA to continue a frivolous space program? You and I are.

For the 2007 fiscal year, Congress has appropriated just more than \$10.65 billion to NASA. That is a huge chunk of change — I would even say too much change. Congress needs to make a complete overhaul of NASA. It is important that we have the capabilities to send satellites up for recon missions and for weather purposes. However, the arm of NASA that explores the depths of our solar system and the universe needs to be cut off. Everyone agreeing say, "I."

Last year, the White House released a report which predicted that the deficit would fall to \$188 billion in 2008. Seems like an enormous number at first, but when compared to years past, 2008 projections are awesome. The deficit reduction surpasses President Bush's original projection of cutting the deficit in half by 2009. However, \$188 billion is still huge.

Whether you are a liberal or a conservative, everyone should agree on the fact that government spending has gotten out of control. Regardless of ideology, politicians spend a ton of money — if not on welfare programs and taxes, then defense and military. Spending on NASA seems to pale in comparison to that of say, education.

I chose to single out NASA because of the recent scandal involving former astronaut Lisa Nowak. By now, most people are aware of her escapade throughout the South. But we won't get into the stupidity of that situation. The story got me thinking about how and why NASA exists in the first place.

It was founded in 1958 by President Eisenhower in an attempt to counter an influential Russian space program. Now, maybe NASA was crucial during the Cold War, especially in countering Communist influence on the globe.

But those days have come and gone. I think it's time the United States evaluate its agencies (especially NASA), cut its losses and use the money to reduce the staggering deficit. If spending on NASA stays constant, it will amount to nearly \$100 billion over the next 10 years. Appropriating some (or a lot) of that money elsewhere seems logical and necessary.

While looking on NASA's Web site, I found that recent missions include another trip to Mars, a Jupiter flyby and a little trip out to the former planet, Pluto (God rest its soul). Now, there are some priorities for you! I am so glad that we can focus on finding water on Mars, instead of funding much-needed educational reforms.

Hey Congress, get a clue! The majority of us do not give a rip about the fact that the Mars Rover completed a 10K journey. What did it give us? Some pretty sweet photos and maybe some information about a cloud or two. Sure is money well spent.

For those avid proponents of NASA, I apologize. I never meant to offend you in any way. I only wish to bring to light the utter absurdity that is government spending and the misappropriation of funds.

To all the kids out there that still strive to become astronauts, go for it! Live your dream. But remember this — one day, you too will come to the realization that your job might be a bit insignificant and somewhat of a waste of taxpayer dollars.

Maybe one day, the U.S. government will heed my advice. Mars missions will stop, Pluto will be completely dead to us and pictures of Planet PEME-8 (not a real planet) will cease to be taken.

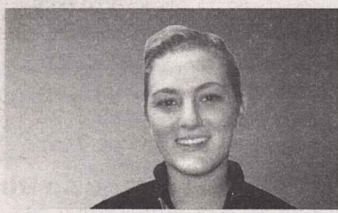
Maybe Congress will even, one day, attempt to consolidate the massive amount of other agencies and commissions that we seem to have little use for. Such committees and boards include the Indian Arts and Crafts Board, the Arthritis and Musculoskeletal Interagency Coordinating Committee and the National Invasive Species Council.

Start putting the money to good use or stop taking it out of my paycheck.

BRANDON JONES is a senior majoring in political science. E-mail comments to [letters@TheTigerNews.com](mailto:letters@TheTigerNews.com).

## COMMENTARY

## Technical slang may have a place in language



JULIE GERDES

Columnist

I recently read that middle school students are beginning to use more and more slang in their schoolwork. And by slang, I mean words that are not real. That is, instant messenger (IM) slang. How ludicrous! Preposterous!

Do you mean to tell me that kids who spend 70 percent of their free time making electronic googly eyes (those ridiculously oversized smiley faces) with the kids that sit next to them in math class might allow for the very same terms to creep into the writing that they spend maybe 5 percent of their time working on?

Give me a break; it's to be expected. Growing up under the roof of digital media that continuously replaces traditional writing, kids these days just don't understand the art of writing anymore.

Or do they?

Although it is counterintuitive to think that writing with slang IM terms might benefit writing, it may be true. Words can be weapons, but certainly there is a difference between technology allowing for the slippage of slang words

into formal writing and Grand Theft Auto increasing the numbers of kids waving guns around.

In fact, the slang terms that have found their way into our daily language and work could speed communication and increase grammatical awareness in a society that is so very concerned with speed. In addition, this language created by kids but becoming more commonplace for all ages, plays the important role of providing a comprehensive medium with which all persons working with digital media can operate. Because the terms stand for common words and are not difficult to decipher, they allow readers to understand the language without compromising speed of explanation.

Clearly, slang has its place. But there is something unique about this particular language that stands apart from certain lingo. Understanding the dialect of multiple situations and audiences can be extremely helpful in developing one's writing and education. However, it is possible that "BRB" and "LOL" (IM-speak) could become more commonplace as literary terminology and complex structure become reserved for certain educational attempts. This would allow for literature and language teachers in elementary education to truly teach the art of the English language. That way, students will not get away with simply using their common language and slang in formal writing. For, if one's slang consists of symbols and strings of letters placed adjacent to one another (or,

my personal favorite, the letter/number combo, i.e. Avril's "sk8r"), he will have to make more of an effort to avoid informal semantics in formal settings, thereby learning the core of literary rules and usage.

Besides, English dictionaries and language handbooks grow and change every year. The Oxford English Dictionary now includes "bling-bling" in its "B" section. Grammar guidebooks now OK the use of nonparallel structure, as in using "their" in reference to "everyone" for informal writing. Perhaps IM-speak could just become another aspect of informal writing that is alright by particular standards. If nothing else, it certainly serves a purpose in the technical and digital world. Without common knowledge of computer slang, masses of people would be lost both in personal and professional realms. That is, computer technicians, Web site designers and even the online help guy would all be lost without the ability to communicate informally with other techno-savvy people.

Look at Shakespeare; people estimate that he added somewhere between a few hundred and 10,000 words (with most-likely 1,500 being approximately the closest) to the English language. And Shakespeare was not even most famous for these particular additions to the language but rather for the "slang" and phrases that he contributed to our everyday speech. However, we celebrate the bold moves that he took to include new

language in his plays and literary works. At the time, I'm sure that no professor would applaud his seemingly outrageous mastery of the English language, but without it, we may not be able to express humor with puns and aphorisms so well today. Who knows — perhaps IM-speak will replace Shakespearian dialect.

Language is both an art form and a necessary medium for communication. I like to think of it like fashion. We can go with trends and follow basic changes that at times scream "less is more!" Or, we can be stuffy sticklers to tradition. In other words, we must make the choice to wear jeans and T-shirts in informal settings or to don the ankle-length plaid skirts with ruffled conservative button-up blouses of prior generations. I advise that we stick with what seems logical and practical. Who wants to wear long bathing dresses to the beach (when smaller suits will let us actually swim) just because it is the politically correct and conservative thing to do? By the same token, why should we continue using drawn-out terms when what we really mean is "l8r?" I'm not implying that we should all begin throwing numbers into the middle of words in our upper-level literature final essays, but rather, we should not be so quick to dismiss a movement that is not entirely bad news. Well, I might write more, but I g2g — ttyl!

JULIE GERDES is a sophomore in English. E-mail comments to [letters@TheTigerNews.com](mailto:letters@TheTigerNews.com).



## COMMENTARY

# Educate students on history of Civil Rights

AHMED MOHIUDDIN

Guest Columnist

This may not be my first column. But it is my first as an alumnus. I am writing at the risk of being one of those alumni who can never leave their school. But I'm going to take that risk. I can't put those years behind me. I will never leave my school (at heart), and I will not stand by while the school I love is losing a fundamental understanding of its own identity.

There are actually two reasons why I'm writing this column, and they both have to do with Facebook. I have witnessed two instances of blatant and hurtful perpetuation of racial stereotypes. I need not go into details about the MLK debacle. However, I can detail another episode I witnessed about six months ago.

Soon after our loss to South Carolina, dozens of rivalry Facebook groups spawned for the sole purpose of propagating the most enjoyable part of a rivalry — talking trash. The conversations started innocently enough, Clemson acknowledging its academic and athletic superiority, and Carolina making fun of Clemson's agricultural roots.

But it soon became malicious. An Arab student at South Carolina was part of the argument, and the argument turned from innocent fun to heartlessness. A current Clemson student no longer referred to his Columbia rival by name; rather, in his furious tirades, the Clemson student began referring to this obnoxious, yet innocent Carolina student as "Osama," "terrorist" and "suicide bomber." The Arab student left the argument.

The recent events held near Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday inspired me to write this column. It is coming to my attention that we, as Clemson Tigers, are missing something. In between First Friday parades and affirmations of the Clemson Family lay deep divisions in our student body. I used to think that the Greek/Non-Greek division was the single-most dividing influence on our campus. However, recent events have led me to believe that we have racial, ethnic and religious divisions that temper our pursuit to become a "high seminary of learning."

What bothers me most about this incident is the refusal of some

Americans to see the inherent wrong in the party. Maybe this bothers me because I have personal experience. As I sat there, reading these comments on a Facebook group from a Clemson student I didn't know to a Carolina student I never met, I realized why these incidents are so wrong.

I consider myself a proud member of the Clemson family. I gave my heart and soul to Clemson for four years and will continue to do so as long as I live. But sitting there in front of my computer, hundreds of miles away, I felt for a brief instant that I wasn't part of the Clemson family. I wondered if I only felt like I belonged for those four years, if every time I turned my back, disparaging comments were made. I wondered if the only reason why I was welcomed at Clemson was to fulfill some quota, to add to our "diversity" and raise our ranking one notch from the U.S. News and World Report. For that instant, I felt alone.

Now, 1,100 students feel the same way. African-Americans in this country, in the South and at Clemson have fought for respect. The celebration of Dr. King's birthday was a hard-fought battle. The party was a slap in the face of individuality, a mockery to the Clemson family.

But the feeling passed. I took a moment, remembered everything that Clemson stands for and awaited our school's reaction.

The apology was a start. It was necessary for our campus' healing and rebuilding. But we must go further. Like many, I call for required Civil Rights education in the freshman curriculum. The class can focus upon the history of Civil Rights in America, the South and Clemson specifically. Every Clemson student should understand why Harvey and Lucinda Gantt, R. C. Edwards and others challenged the system and why they made Clemson a better place.

Racial insensitivity is a problem in our world today. It is no worse at Clemson than the rest of the South, but it is up to us to take a stand, make an example and as President Barker has said, "aid students in finding the greatness they have within themselves."

AHMED MOHIUDDIN is a 2006 Clemson University alumnus. E-mail comments to [letters@TheTigerNews.com](mailto:letters@TheTigerNews.com).

## COMMENTARY

# Pop made political



WALT ROBERTS

Columnist

The Dixie Chicks cleaned up at the Grammy Awards Sunday night, taking home wins in five different categories.

Of course, there were other winners: Mary J. Blige, Carrie Underwood, Red Hot Chili Peppers and Justin Timberlake also received awards in front of the millions of viewers who tuned in to watch. Undoubtedly, loyal J.T. fans must have rejoiced when they heard that Mr. Timberlake won Best Dance Song. Certainly, it was his time: Justin Timberlake deserved to be recognized for that holy talent he possesses, the one that resides in his feet and hips and that specific area of his brain that allows him to keep a beat. Certainly, it was "right" that he won. Certainly.

But ask people what they think about the Dixie Chicks' special honors that night, and you will likely see a very different use of the word "right" in their answer. Suddenly, "right" ceases to call attention to the Dixie Chicks' talent or their undeniable stage presence, to their flashy albums or their catchy lyrics. "Right" is no longer the fluffy word that appears in conversations about "how right it was" that someone won best album. When referring to the Dixie Chicks, the word "right" often becomes a more serious assessment, gaining weight and moral meaning. Whether "It was right" or "It was not right," people are ready to pass some sort of moral judgment on the Dixie Chicks.

Why does this happen? The special investment that ordinary people are willing to make in this band is astonishing. People usually believe something about the Dixie Chicks, and often they believe it passionately. Why? Natalie Maines, one of the band's members, let slip these fateful words in 2003: "Just to let you know, we're ashamed the President of the United States is from Texas." Immediately afterwards, terms like "anti-American" and "unpatriotic" were on the lips of anyone dis-

cussing the band. It seemed the whole nation had an opinion.

With a single deprecatory sentence, Maines appeared to have captured the unified praise of one political party and the unified condemnation of the other. Democrats and opponents of President Bush embraced the band as champions of free speech. Indeed, much of the Dixie Chicks' success at the Grammy Awards on Sunday has been attributed by Republican and conservative pundits to this political embrace from "the Left." However, Democrats and liberals are not the only ones who have rallied: Republicans and conservatives have taken a similarly united position toward the Dixie Chicks, if only in the opposite direction. After the band's London concert in 2003, it seemed that the entire Republican and conservative movement ran against the Dixie Chicks. The Dixie Chicks' country following evaporated. No one bought their records; no one played their songs.

Though laughable, the separate reactions to the Dixie Chicks' political candor are telling. There is something disturbing in the unified responses to Maines' flippant words. Individuals were moved to passionate opinions about the band as two entire political parties were rallied, drawing lines and picking sides simply over the off-hand comments of three country musicians. Three country musicians ... it should sound ridiculous. In its essence, however, this knee-jerk reaction by Democrats and Republicans alike is one of the most unsettling aspects of our contemporary political climate. Overreaction reigns. Logic is at times pushed aside and clumsy loyalty to a particular party seems to skew the decisions made by both voters and elected officials. In this loyalty, we only see the partisan rift widening. With the intense polarization of Republicans and Democrats and the defensiveness accompanying stances that cannot always be defended logically, it is no wonder that the number of independent voters has risen steadily in the past decade. People are deciding to think for themselves. Thank ... the Dixie Chicks?

WALT ROBERTS is a sophomore in English. E-mail comments to [letters@TheTigerNews.com](mailto:letters@TheTigerNews.com).

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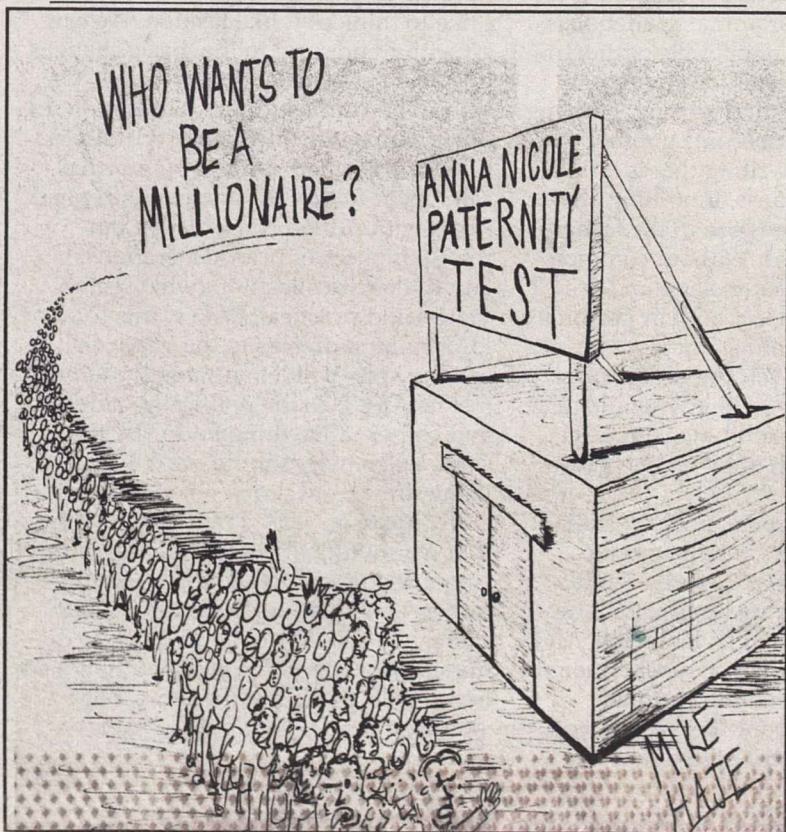
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## CARTOONS



## PAWS UP, PAWS DOWN

A New York cab driver returned a bag containing 31 diamond rings to a passenger who had tipped him 30 cents on a \$11 fare.



That's loyalty: A Bears fan pledged to change his name to "Peyton Manning" if his team lost the Super Bowl. They lost, so he did.



A Massachusetts woman is suing for \$4,000 worth of dental work because she broke a tooth eating candy from a dish in town hall.



Idaho: "Urinetown: The Musical" is sponsored by an Urology center. Play-goers will receive yellow dessert served in specimen cups.







# Trans Fat-Free

Aramark, the dining services provider for Clemson University, is proud to announce that students can now enjoy healthier meals all across campus. While the majority of our recipes use fresh ingredients, you may still be concerned about fried products, prepared oils, margarines and shortenings. In response, we've been working with suppliers, dietitians and chefs to identify a non-hydrogenated corn and sunflower oil that provides great taste with zero grams of trans fat. So now, when you eat on campus, you can make smarter decisions about healthy eating while enjoying the foods you love so much.

For more information about trans fats and healthy eating, visit [www.clemson.edu/dining](http://www.clemson.edu/dining). Nutrition information is also available in any of our dining halls.

**CLEMSON**  
DINING SERVICES

# Trans Campus



## SPORTS

SECTION

C

## Lady Tigers trounce VT Hokies at Littlejohn



**NOTHING TO IT:** Lady Tiger Lele Hardy shoots a layup in action earlier this year against Kennesaw State at Littlejohn Coliseum.

After Wake game last night, Tigers travel to Atlanta to face the Yellow Jackets.

**SHAKEETA FEASTER**  
STAFF WRITER

The Lady Tigers put another "W" in the win column with their victory over the Lady Hokies of Virginia Tech this past Sunday with a final score of 73-69.

This win helped to improve the Lady Tigers to 11-14 overall and 3-7 in the ACC. The Tigers were led by D'Lesha Lloyd, Tasha Taylor and Lele Hardy who all posted impressive numbers on the night.

Lloyd posted 17 points on the night while Taylor and Hardy entered themselves into the Clemson record books.

Hardy (15 points) grabbed her 83rd steal of the season which puts her at fourth all-time and four steals away from the all-time record set in the 1979-80 season by Sheila Cobb.

Taylor dished out six assists, making her career total 320, placing her in the top 10 in Clemson history.

Taylor also had 14 points, a blocked shot, seven rebounds and two steals.

Susan Yenser also hit dou-

ble digits with 10 points in her first start of the season.

The Lady Hokies were led by Brittany Anderson with 18 points and Nare Diawere posted her first career double-double with 12 points and 14 rebounds, tying her career high in rebounds.

Guard Kirby Copeland also had 17 points on the way to her 100th career point.

Anderson and Copeland had a combined nine of 14 from the field while the rest of the team had only three of 14 and barely broke into the scoring column.

In the first half, the Tigers used a full-court press to force 13 VT turnovers. Overall, VT had 24 turnovers which led to 23 of the Tigers' points.

Despite this, the two teams were neck and neck throughout the half and were tied six times. At the 6:54 mark, tied at 25-25, the Lady Tigers went on a 10-3 run to get six points in the next two minutes.

The Hokies answered back by bringing the Tigers' lead down to 38-34 with 2:35 remaining in the half.

The Tigers, not to be outshined, returned with baskets by Whitehurst and Taylor. Brittany Anderson of VT hit a jumper with 27 seconds left to bring the Tiger lead down to six at halftime with a score of 42-36.

The second half proved a fire had been lit under the Lady Hokies as they scored the first four points of the second half leading to a tie score of 44 at the 14:16 mark.

Yenser broke the tie with a three which helped the Tigers maintain the lead for the next eight minutes before Anderson hit another field goal to tie the score again at 58.

The Hokies took their first second half lead with 60-58 with a two-pointer and then taking the lead again with 62-61 at the 3:08 mark.

Lloyd answered back with another two-pointer to secure the Tigers lead and impending victory at the 2:36 mark.

The next Hokie possession was turned over by Hardy to put the Tigers up 65-62. In the closing minutes of the game, Whitehurst sank a three, Lloyd scored a point and Taylor scored four points (including the final point) to give the Tigers the 73-69 victory.

The Lady Tigers were in action against the Wake Forest Demon Deacons on Thursday night, but the results were unavailable at press time.

The Lady Tigers will, however, be in action on Monday against when they travel to Georgia Tech.

The game is scheduled to tip-off at 7 p.m. and will be televised by RSN.

## Tigers fall on the road to lowly Wake Forest

Tigers' late collapse puts dark cloud over team's hope of the NCAA Tournament.

**TYRONE GAYLE**  
STAFF WRITER

In what's becoming a tragic trend, Clemson lost another last-minute-thriller-turned-heartbreak game on Wednesday night. This time it was to the lowly Demon Deacons of Wake Forest who currently sit in last place in ACC.

From the opening tip, the game went back and forth like a game of checkers with both teams going basket for basket. Clemson and Wake were deadlocked at 37 heading into the locker rooms for halftime. The second half began with three "ESPN Top Plays" worthy moments including a block by Clemson's Cliff Hammonds in which he chased down a Wake Forest player from half court and sent his shot packing into the stands.

A banked shot three pointer here from Vernon Hamilton, a

blocked shot there from Trevor Booker, and Clemson was looking like they were going to finally end their 15 game losing streak in Lawrence Joel Veterans Memorial Coliseum. Alas, it was not meant to be as the game began to slip through the Tigers' fingers when Wake Forest's Kyle Visser hit a reverse layup to knot the game up at 62-62 with 4:10 remaining.

After two K.C. Rivers' missed three point attempts, Forest's J.D. Williams gave them their first lead since the closing moments of the first half with a two point jumper. Clemson's failed last minute execution plagued them in this game as it did against Duke and UVA. James Mays used two free throws to tie the game up at 65 a piece with 34.9 seconds remaining.

Wake Forest then decided to burn out the shot clock as Ishmael Smith brought the ball down the court and drove to the hoop but missed. Kyle Visser, a pain in the Tigers' side all night with a team leading 21 points, missed the putback. But teammate Michael Drum was there to back him up.

Drum's stick back with

three seconds remaining put the Demon Deacons up 67-65.

After taking a quick inbounds pass, sophomore K.C. Rivers raced furiously up the left side of the court in hopes of playing

the hero, but fell short when his desperate close-range shot was partially deflected by Visser.

In a losing effort, senior guard Vernon Hamilton put up a strong 21 point, 10 rebound

double-double performance, and backcourt mate Cliff Hammonds chipped in 16 solid points. The loss dropped Clemson's record

see **HOOPS**, page C2



**SLAMA LAMA DING DONG:** Raymond Sykes jams one home at Littlejohn Coliseum in action earlier this season. Sikes and the Tigers will look to rebound quickly following their latest loss.

## TIGER SCHEDULE

**MEN'S BASKETBALL**  
Sunday 2/18  
vs. Maryland  
4 p.m.  
Clemson, S.C.

Thursday 2/22  
vs. Duke  
9 p.m.  
Clemson, S.C.

**WOMEN'S BASKETBALL**  
Monday 2/19  
vs. Georgia Tech  
7 p.m.  
Atlanta, GA  
Thursday 2/22  
vs. Florida State  
7 p.m.  
Tallahassee, FL

**SWIMMING & DIVING**  
Friday-Saturday 2/16-17  
ACC Championships-Women  
All Day, Chapel Hill, N.C.

**BASEBALL**  
Friday 2/16  
vs. George Mason  
4 p.m.  
Clemson, S.C.

Saturday 2/17  
vs. George Mason  
2 p.m.  
Clemson, SC

Sunday 2/18  
vs. George Mason  
12 p.m.  
Clemson, SC

Wednesday 2/21  
vs. High Point  
4 p.m.  
Clemson, SC

## INSIDE



Check out our baseball season preview, page C4



# Men's track, women's tennis teams continue to succeed

Jacoby Ford earns ACC weekly honor for his performance in Arkansas.

**WILL MCCAMERON**  
STAFF WRITER

While Tiger men's sprinters Jacoby Ford and Travis Padgett burned up the track, Mitch Greeley took care of business in the pole vault last Saturday at the Tyson Invitational host by the University of Arkansas. Greeley, a junior from Rock Hill, S.C., headlined the Tigers' efforts on the second day of competition. He was runner-up in the pole vault competition and was able to improve upon his high school record by jumping 17'8.5" on his first try at the event, which is also the best clearance ever for the 2006 indoor All-American. His jump just might qualify for the

NCAA tournament. Ford, also a standout wide receiver on the football team, ran a 6.61 in the 60 meter preliminary run and a 6.60 to secure the title for the 60 meter dash. The run also helped him earn a share of this week's ACC performer of the week honors. The time is the third best behind former Tiger Olympic sprinters Shawn Crawford and Michael Green. Padgett, a sophomore hailing from Shelby, N.C., was invited to race in a special race featuring professionals including Shawn Crawford and another former Clemson Tiger sprinter, Jacey Harper. Padgett finished only fifth in the eight man race but also posted a very impressive 6.71 time in the 60 meter race.

During the Lady Tigers' Tiger Classic last weekend, Coach Marica Noad's team was able to capture three titles. Polly Hardy took control of the track and Della Clark took charge of

the weight throwing events. Hardy was able to run an 8.49 in the 60 meter high hurdle race on Friday, which is simply astounding. The time was her personal best and the school's third best. On Saturday, three lady Tigers were able to grab titles in the Tiger Classic. Clark, a senior and team leader, had a toss of 66'7", which bested her previous career long toss of 66'1.75" that was thrown earlier this season. Thea Dix, captured the 400 meter dash title by posting a team best time of 57.19 seconds.

On Saturday, Feb. 10, the Lady Tigers tennis team posted an upset over 12th-ranked Virginia Commonwealth University and moved up a position in the Fila/ITA Tennis poll to claim the 13th position. Clemson is one of six teams from the ACC that is ranked in the polls. They return to action against a very tough Furman squad today in Greenville.

# NBA readies for All-Star game at midseason break

Western Conference continues trend of dominance over Eastern Conference.

**HOKE HILL**  
STAFF WRITER

As the NBA reaches the midpoint of the 2006-2007 season this weekend with the All-Star game in Las Vegas, it's time to determine which teams have separated themselves as contenders for the league finals. The most powerful teams lie in the Western Conference, while the Eastern Conference is wide open for a surprise team to make a run to the finals.

While the Detroit Pistons and Cleveland Cavaliers have established themselves at the top of the Eastern Conference over the past few seasons, they are joined by the newly-arrived Washington Wizards.

**Detroit Pistons:** The Pistons have not been as dominant this year as they have been in the past five seasons, but they are still the team to beat in the Eastern Conference. They are currently 32-19 and lead the Central Division, the best division in the conference, by two and a half games. Despite losing center Ben Wallace to Chicago through free agency, the Pistons still have a core of talent in All-Stars Richard Hamilton and Chauncey Billups, as well as Tayshaun Prince and Rasheed Wallace.

**Cleveland Cavaliers:** Cleveland has followed All-Star LeBron James to a 30-22 record for second place in the Central Division. James currently leads the team in points (26.2 per game), steals (1.6 per game) and assists (6.0 per game). James has benefited from the improvement of his supporting cast this season, especially from Drew Gooden, who leads the team in rebounding at 8.6 per game.

**Washington Wizards:** Washington is currently on

top of the Southeast Division standings with a 29-21 record. Most of the Wizards' success this season can be attributed to Gilbert Arenas, although he has received some help from his teammates.

Arenas, who leads the team in scoring at 29.0 points per game, is joined on this year's All-Star team by Caron Butler, who has added 20.5 points and 7.8 rebounds per game. Antwan Jamison has also contributed 7.9 rebounds per game to lead the team.

The Western Conference, on the other hand, will require a struggle to win for a berth in the finals but the Dallas Mavericks, Phoenix Suns and Utah Jazz are poised to come out of the conference on top.

**Dallas Mavericks:** Dallas has compiled the best record in the NBA so far at 43-9 and leads the Southwest Division by eight and a half games.

The Mavericks are led by two All-Stars, Dirk Nowitzki and Josh Howard. Nowitzki leads the team with 25.2 points and 9.5 rebounds per game, and Howard contributes 19.4 points and 1.2 steals per game. Jason Terry leads the team with 5.4 assists per game.

**Phoenix Suns:** The Suns, with a 39-13 record atop the Pacific Division, led the NBA with three All-Star selections, Steve Nash, Shawn Marion and Amare Stoudemire. Nash leads the NBA with 11.8 assists per game and adds 19.3 points per game. Marion leads the team in rebounds (10.3 per game), steals (2.2 per game) and blocks (1.4 per game). Stoudemire adds 9.4 rebounds per game and a team-high 19.9 points per game. These three helped Phoenix lead the NBA in scoring at 110.7 points per game.

**Utah Jazz:** The Jazz have been a surprise this year, moving to the top of the Northwest Division standings with a 35-17 record. All-Star Carlos Boozer has had a breakout season so far, averaging 22.1 points and 11.8 rebounds per game to lead

the team, well above his career average of 15.5 points and 9.6 rebounds per game.

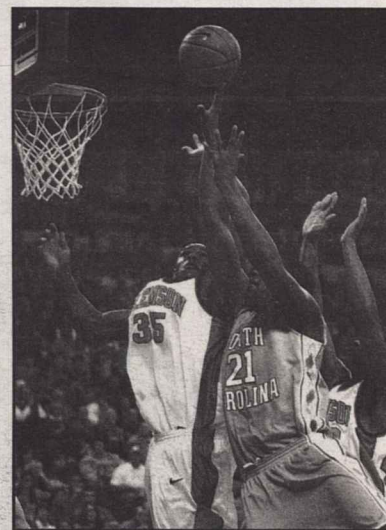
Second-year player Deron Williams has also contributed to the team's success, leading the team with 9.1 assists and 1.2 steals per game.

The 2007 All-Star game can be seen at 8:30 p.m. Sunday on TNT.

# HOOPS: Tigers lose *from page C1*

to 19-8 (5-6 ACC) and denied Coach Purnell's chance at earning his first 20 win season here in Tigertown.

It also put a damper on the Tigers' NCAA tournament hopes as most analysts have the Tigers marked down now as a "bubble team" in need of a couple more signature wins. With home games against Maryland and Duke up next, those signature wins may be coming sooner rather than later. Clemson will return to Littlejohn Coliseum this Sunday against the 19-7 Maryland Terrapins who handed Clemson their first defeat of the season back in mid-January.



LIZ HUNTER / assistant photo editor

**REJECTED:** Trevor Booker rejects a shot against UNC.

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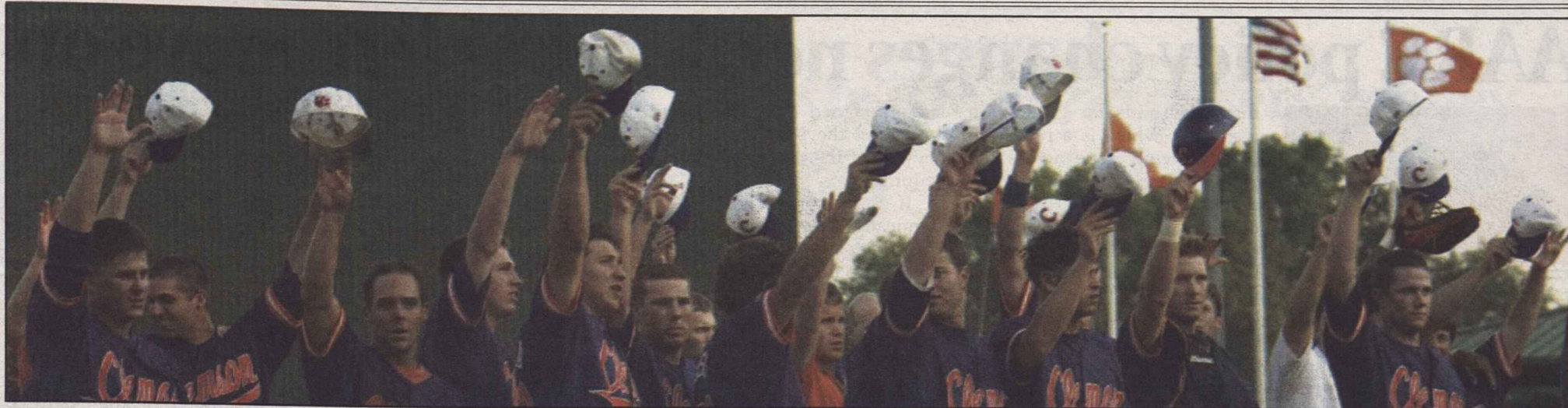
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BRIAN SCHNEIDER / staff

# Tigers enter season atop the polls once again

Clemson will begin the road to Omaha this weekend against George Mason.

**ALAN SMITH**

ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR  
**JOSH FORT**  
STAFF WRITER

After weeks of much-filled anticipation since the preseason rankings came out, baseball season has finally arrived in Clemson. The Tigers head into the weekend series against George Mason with a new No. 1 ranking and fans are anxious to see the team try to build on a memorable 2006 season.

Coach Jack Leggett enters his 14th season with the Tigers and has goals of capturing the school's first College World Series title.

Clemson finished 2006 with a 53-16 record, which included an ACC championship and a College World Series appearance. With a wealth of talent returning this season, many are expecting the Tigers to match, if not surpass, last season's success.

## Infield

Adrian Casanova's vacated spot behind the plate will likely be filled by Columbia, S.C., native Doug Hogan. In 97 chances, Hogan has yet to have a passed ball or an error and has shown a strong arm when tested behind the plate. Some drop-off is expected in calling pitches during the game, as that was a particular talent of Casanova, but Hogan should bring more offensive power to the lineup. Hogan, a red-shirt junior, should make an appearance in the lower third of the lineup, which is usually the case for a catcher. Depending on his recovery from a leg injury suffered in the fall, sophomore Alex Burg could compete with Hogan for the starting spot at catcher.

The most powerful spot on the Tigers' lineup this season should come from first baseman Andy D'Alessio. D'Alessio decided to return to Clemson University for his senior year, after being drafted in the 10th round by the

Los Angeles Dodgers. In 2006, D'Alessio batted .312 with 23 homeruns and 85 RBIs. D'Alessio's big frame (6'4", 220 pounds) allows him to play solid defense. His .995 fielding percentage was incredible considering he was involved in more than 660 chances and committed just three errors. He is a preseason All-American by the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association (NCBWA) and Collegiate Baseball. D'Alessio will likely bat cleanup for the Tigers.

Second baseman Taylor Harbin returns to the Tigers' lineup for his junior campaign. Harbin was named a co-captain along with D'Alessio for 2007 during the preseason and for good reason.

Harbin has been called the best second baseman in the country by Leggett and has shown leadership and tremendous ability throughout his career. He is a second-team All-American by Baseball America and third team by Collegiate Baseball. During 2006, Harbin hit .319 with 20 doubles and 47 RBIs. Look for Harbin near the top of the batting order this season.

Returning for 2007 at shortstop is Hurst, Texas, native Stan Widmann. Widmann hit .307 last season, was a perfect 15-15 in stolen base attempts and was involved in turning 47 double plays.

For his career, Widmann has started each game at shortstop in both his freshman and sophomore years, and all evidence suggests that he will do the same in 2007. Widmann will also bat near the middle of the lineup.

Losing a third baseman that batted more than .300 for his career and consistently showed intangible leadership characteristics would be a frightening thought for most teams.

The Tigers lost Herman Demmink to graduation and the Major League Draft, but Jack Leggett and company are fortunate enough to have a star like Marquez Smith waiting in the wings. Smith batted .291 last season, slugged 10 round-trippers, drove in 48 runs and scored 53 in just his first year with the Tigers. But in addition to his talent at the plate, it could be

argued that Smith is an even better fielder. Smith committed just five errors in 76 chances last year (.950 fielding percentage) and turned eight double plays. Smith should hit in the five or six spot for the Tigers and give them a considerable fielding improvement at third base.

## Outfield

Clemson returns only one starting outfielder this season after losing Tyler Colvin and Travis Storrer. While those are huge shoes to fill, the Tigers are looking to quickly reload with a preseason All-American returning and some talented freshmen coming in.

Speedy junior Brad Chalk, a two-year starter, was named a preseason All-American by Baseball America and is the top returning hitter for the Tigers after batting .353 last season.

Chalk, a centerfielder, is considered to be an ideal leadoff hitter. Last season, he led Clemson in on-base percentage (.467), runs (67) and walks (41). In addition, he stole 18 bases in 19 attempts and had a school-record 21 sacrifice bunts.

After entering Clemson as the 2004 South Carolina Player of the Year out of Riverside High School, Chalk has lived up to every bit of his lofty expectations with a .350 career batting average in his first two seasons. With the departures of Colvin and Storrer, Chalk will be the unquestioned leader of the outfield this season.

Sophomore D.J. Mitchell joins Chalk as the only other outfielder who has seen playing time with the Tigers and is expected to start in right field. Mitchell saw playing time in the earlier part of last season as a pinch runner and defensive replacement. However, he started 19 games after Storrer went down with an injury, including all 13 postseason games.

Mitchell was a pleasant surprise after filling in for Storrer, batting .289 on the season, including a .311 average during the postseason.

His speed and throwing arm strength made him a valuable defensive asset as well. Big things

will be expected out of Mitchell this season after his successful freshman debut.

Three freshmen will battle it out for the final starting spot in the outfield. Wilson Boyd, who red-shirted with the Tigers last season, is the leading candidate after a solid season in the Coastal Plain League last summer.

Talented true freshmen Addison Johnson and Alex Lee will see plenty of playing time as well and are likely to compete for a starting spot.

## Pitching

Clemson's most difficult task this season will be replacing all three weekend starting pitchers from last season; Jason Berken, Josh Cribb and Stephen Faris. The trio had a combined 27-6 record and was a major reason Clemson won 25 out of 26 heading into the College World Series.

Juniors David Kopp and P.J. Zocchi and sophomore Ryan Hinson are the leading candidates for the weekend starting rotation this season. All three have seen a significant number of innings and have some starting experience, but much more will be asked of them this season.

Kopp has the most pitching experience of the three with 14 career starts and a number of long relief appearances. Kopp has a 10-5 career record and has shown flashes of brilliance, most notably in the win over South Carolina last April and in the CWS-clinching win over Oral Roberts in the Super Regional.

However, Kopp showed little overall improvement last season from his freshman year and has a 4.48 career ERA.

Fortunately, according to Leggett, Kopp had a very strong offseason, giving Tiger fans reason to believe that he could be on the verge of a breakout season with his new leadership role.

Zocchi appeared in 18 games last season, including seven starts, and compiled an impressive 6-0 record with a 2.81 ERA in 67 innings. He really came on strong late in the season, compiling a 1.24 ERA over 36 innings in his last

eight appearances, including six innings of relief in Omaha.

If Zocchi's late season surge in 2006 is any indication, he could become one of the ACC's top pitchers as a full time starter this season. He is now being counted on to team up with Kopp as the team's premier pitching duo.

Hinson doesn't have as much experience as Kopp and Zocchi, but played well as a freshman last season. He appeared in 19 games, including one start against South Carolina, and had a 4-0 record and 3.82 ERA in 30 innings.

Hinson can expect to see significantly more action this season thanks to his new starting role. Despite his limited experience, he throws a terrific fastball and the coaches see a lot of potential in him.

While the Tigers have a brand new weekend starting rotation, reliable junior Daniel Moskos will return as the closer. Baseball America has named Moskos, who recorded 10 saves and a 2.52 ERA last season, a preseason second team All-American.

Moskos was a member of Team USA at the World Championships last summer, where he was brilliant. In 21 innings, Moskos recorded six saves and a 0.86 ERA, giving rise to his high expectations this season.

Senior Stephen Clyne enters the season as Clemson's top middle reliever, with sophomores Matt Vaughn and Alex Martin likely to see substantial playing time as well.

Seven newcomers will join the Tiger pitching staff this season.

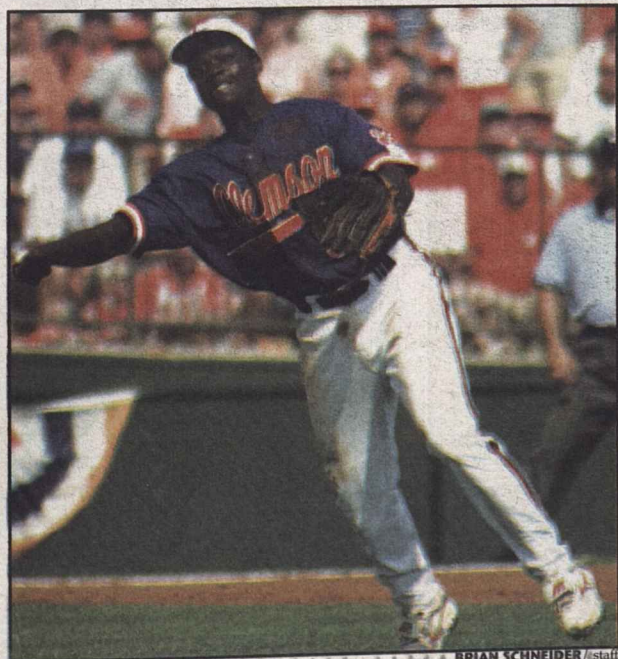
Junior college transfer Alan Farina will be looking to compete for a starting role, while freshman Josh Thrailkill and junior college transfer Brock Schnabel could see immediate playing time as well.

## Newcomers

Coming to the Tigers from Polk Community College is relief pitcher Brock Schnabel, who figures to see plenty of action this season.

Outfielder Addison Johnson is also projected to have an impact.

Right hander Josh Thrailkill might also contribute early.



BRIAN SCHNEIDER / staff

**ON A LINE:** Marquez Smith will play a big role.



BRIAN SCHNEIDER / staff

**FRIENDLY CONFINES:** The Tigers traditionally perform well at Tiger Field.



BRIAN SCHNEIDER / staff

**LASER ARM:** Taylor Harbin guns down a base-runner last season.



# AARC policy changes needed, but let's move on



ERIC SPROTT

sports editor

Since head coach Tommy Bowden's signing day press conference last Wednesday, there has been endless talk and debate about the relationship between academics and athletics here at Clemson. It has been the constant talk on Internet message boards and was a major issue at the IPTAY National Meeting last Thursday in Columbia. Even entire classes around campus have spent time discussing the issue.

The athletic department's athletic admissions review committee, which was actually created in 2001 but hadn't been in the limelight until last week, notably refused potential scholarships to several high-profile athletes. Those athletes, one of whom scored a whopping 670 on his SAT, were denied admission to Clemson because the board came to the conclusion

that their odds for graduation were low, which is a reflection of a growing issue across the country. The NCAA has raised academic standards greatly over the past few years and are now enacting hard-hitting regulations that focus on graduation rates.

Some of the prospects that the Tigers were forced to pass on ended up signing letters of intent at schools like Florida State, South Carolina and even UNC. A common complaint associated with this situation is that 'If he's good enough for North Carolina, a top ten college, why is he not good enough for Clemson?'

The thought that Clemson is holding itself to a higher standard is quite troublesome for fans, who feel that the administration is handicapping the football team's effort to become a bigger factor on the national scene. The fact of the matter, however, is that if a player can't get into Clemson, there's almost no way he'll get into UNC.

What has been often overlooked because of the anger and feuding around the situation is that that in no way have these players been accepted to their respective schools; they have

merely signed letters of intent to attend the school assuming they meet the proper eligibility requirements.

If they don't qualify academically, they most likely be placed at a junior college or preparatory school where they will try to get their grades up and hopefully move up to Division I after one or two seasons.

Should Clemson have given these kids, a Dwight Jones for instance, a chance to raise their grades over the summer or place them at a prep school? Undoubtedly, I say yes. If a regular student doesn't have the grades to get into Clemson after high school, like myself and thousands of students here now, the school tells you to attend another institution and apply again after a year or two.

If Clemson had strung out all of their applicants in this fashion, actively telling them how great they'll be at the school and promising financial aid on the way to a bright future, only to tear it away from them at the last minute, the word of mouth that would go along with Clemson would be less than thrilling.

I'm afraid that the notoriety from this event could give the

school a bad reputation that could actually deter prospective student-athletes from even considering Clemson in the future. If I felt as though I may not have a chance at enrollment at the school, and I possessed the athletic abilities that I can only dream of, I would obviously shop my talents around to other schools.

So now we find ourselves where we may miss out on a couple of great players every now and again. While I hate that we are missing out on great opportunities on these players, there is no certainty that they will ever even pan out as college athletes. A quick look back over Clemson history, including the Bowden era, will show a number of great players we recruited who were in decent academic standing that just never lived up to their hype.

Over the past few days, President James Barker, Athletic Director Terry Don Phillips and head coach Tommy Bowden have all issued statements on the matter which has helped to calm some of the restless Tiger fans. Those statements should have come earlier as the long period of silence contributed to the frustrations felt by the Tiger

faithful.

Through it all, I do not have a major issue with the idea of the AARC. I think that these advisory boards are the way of the future in the NCAA and we may be ahead of the curve. However I think they should take junior college opportunities into greater consideration before completely pulling the plug on their chances of being a Tiger. I also take great issue with the timeliness of the AARC's actions, which should be the first thing to change to be fair to the incoming freshmen.

Promising so much to these kids only to pull the rug out from their feet on signing day is probably the worst part of the whole ordeal in my mind.

Policies and protocol need to be put in place so that paper work can be reviewed well in advance of national signing day to prevent situations similar to those of Jo Jo Cox, who has now been left without a school after banking on Clemson for so long.

The Tigers are still trying to get him into school, but his future is still very much up in the air.

In the end, after a few years pass, hopefully nobody will be talking about the actions taken by the AARC in 2007. Bowden still notched himself a solid recruiting class, which was ranked among the top 20 in the country by multiple services.

Some of the players he signed will go on to be fan favorites and some you might not hear from again - just as one would expect from any other recruiting class.

A quick look back on some media guides over the past decade or so will show you all of the recruits that time has forgotten.

But for one reason or another, these players lack a work ethic or have personal problems that prevent them from ever having a serious impact on the program.

While hoping for reform, I also hope Clemson fans can move on from recruiting talk, at least for a little bit, and get back to getting behind the other Tiger teams that are being forgotten during this frustrating time.

The basketball team, following their loss to Wake Forest on Wednesday, will be coming home this week to face both Maryland and Duke which will likely make or break the teams' chances at the NCAA Tournament.

Then there's Jack Leggett's baseball squad who is entering the season ranked No. 1 for the second consecutive year.

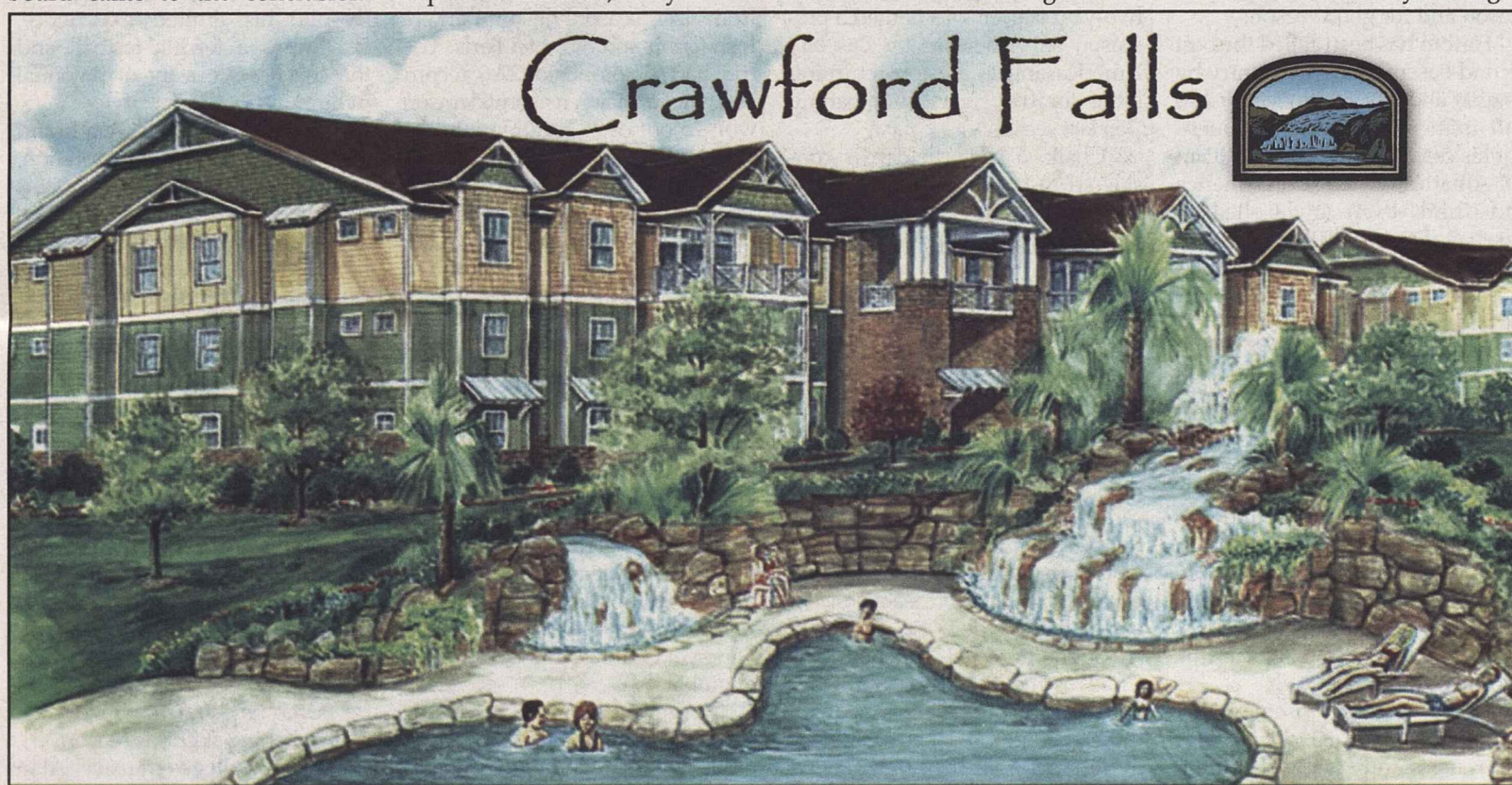
For the football nuts, spring practice is right around the corner, and five of the new recruits will be on display during the spring game in April.

Maybe seeing some of the new recruits in a Clemson uniform will help Tiger fans forget the ones that Clemson missed out on.

If nothing else, time will alleviate these pains and the thought of a Dwight Jones, Jo Jo Cox or Markish Jones will be nothing more than a distance memory.

For now, all Tiger fans can do is keep coming and supporting their players.

Even if the coaching staff and fans didn't get all of the recruits that they wanted, they should just focus on what they've have gotten, because these kids are all right.



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# College basketball season beginning to heat up

NCAA Tournament picture beginning to take shape as regular season winds down.

**ALAN SMITH**

ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The first half of February has now passed, so college basketball fans know what that means. March Madness is right around the corner. With Selection Sunday less than a month away, the time has come to begin speculating about who will be appearing in the NCAA Tournament.

For the first time in years, Clemson finds itself in the discussion for a tournament bid, but the Tigers are now in big trouble after a devastating loss to Wake Forest. With a 5-6 ACC record, Clemson likely needs to win their next two home games against Maryland and Duke to have any chance of going dancing.

The ACC is looking much stronger this season after sending just four teams to the tournament last year. Boston College, Virginia Tech and Virginia join North Carolina as locks after recent strong performances.

The middle tier of the ACC is a logjam, though, with four other schools battling it out with Clemson to try to gain an edge on the others. Surprisingly, Duke dropped to bubble status after four straight losses, but came up with a big win at Boston College on Wednesday

to even their record at 6-6. The Blue Devils aren't out of the woods yet, though, with a tough remaining schedule.

Florida State appeared to be in good shape after knocking off Duke in Cameron, but have lost three straight since to drop to 5-7.

Georgia Tech and Maryland have been playing much better recently and have both joined the middle of the pack with 5-6 records. The ACC most likely will get six or seven teams into the tournament, but the question of who will grab those last few spots is up in the air.

In the Big East, Georgetown, Pittsburgh and Marquette are locks at this point, with several other teams on the bubble. West Virginia is making a strong case after defeating UCLA last weekend, while Louisville suddenly looks like a tournament team after a huge road win over Pittsburgh on Monday. Villanova, Notre Dame and Syracuse are in decent shape, but still have a lot of work to do.

In the SEC, the East is in much better shape than the West. Kentucky and Tennessee will likely join Florida in the tournament at this point, while Vanderbilt and Georgia are making things interesting as well. The West division may not get a single team in at this point, with Alabama struggling, but surprising Ole Miss is sneaking into the picture.

The Pac-10 is probably the nation's best conference, as five teams are virtual locks to make the tournament, including UCLA, Washington State,

Oregon, Arizona and USC. Stanford is also in good position, while Washington has been playing better and could make a case with a strong finish.

Kansas and Texas A&M are locks out of the Big 12, with Texas, Oklahoma State and Kansas State looking like good bets as well.

Texas Tech and Oklahoma are still in the mix, but appear to be long shots at this point.

Wisconsin and Ohio State are dominating the Big Ten, with Indiana looking like the

only other tournament team at this point.

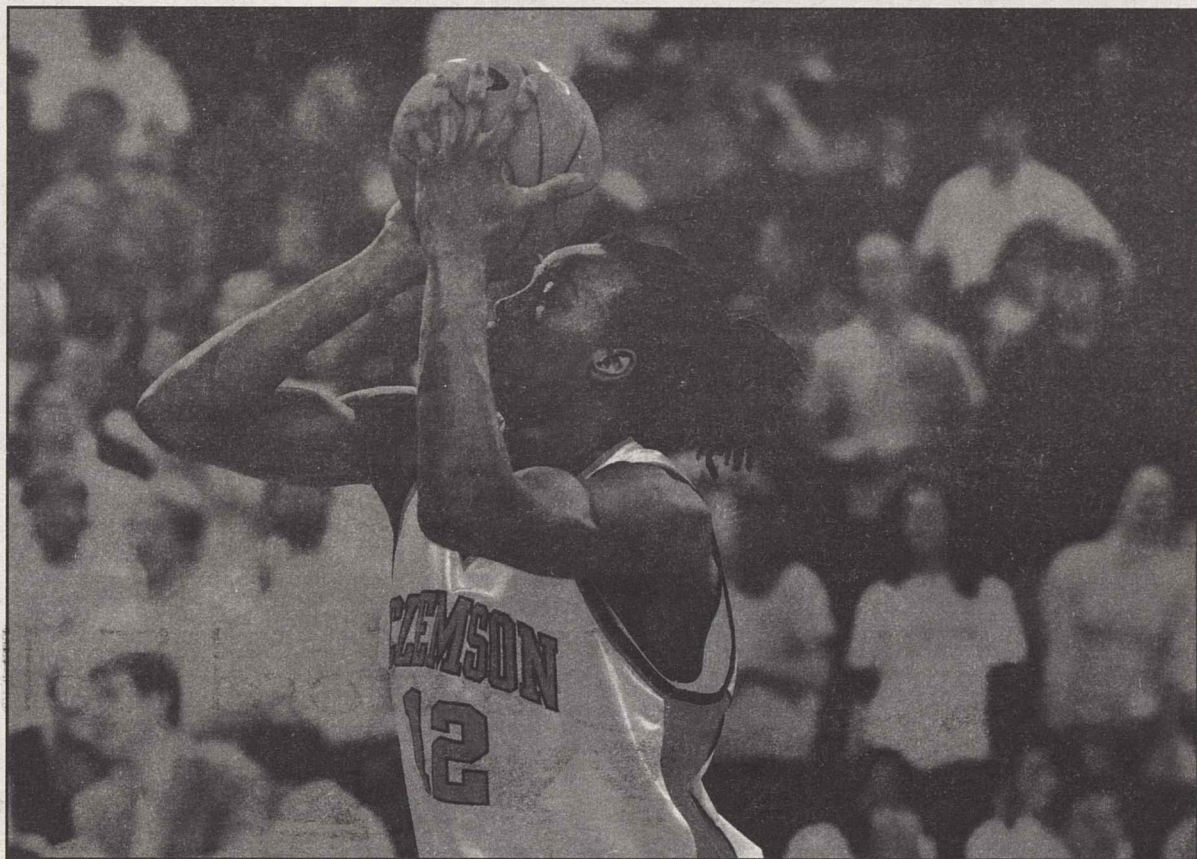
Unless Illinois or Michigan State makes a late-season run, the Big Ten will probably send just three teams.

As for the mid majors, the Missouri Valley and Mountain West are likely to send three teams apiece. Southern Illinois, Creighton and Missouri State, out of the Missouri Valley, and Air Force, UNLV and BYU, out of the Mountain West, are the leading candidates.

Butler, Nevada and Memphis

are mid-major locks, while Xavier, Virginia Commonwealth and Old Dominion are making strong cases for at-large consideration as well. Gonzaga, a tournament regular, is on the bubble this season and may not get in if they don't win their conference tournament.

There is still a lot of basketball left to be played and many things will change in the next few weeks leading up to Selection Sunday, but that is part of what makes college basketball so much fun to watch.



BRIAN SCHNEIDER / staff

**ON THE BUBBLE:** The Clemson basketball team is looking for a strong finish to the season in hopes of earning an NCAA Tournament berth for the first time since the 1997-1998 season.

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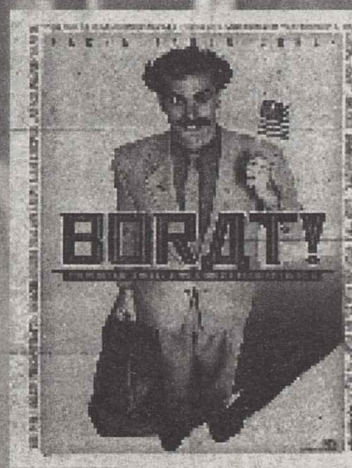
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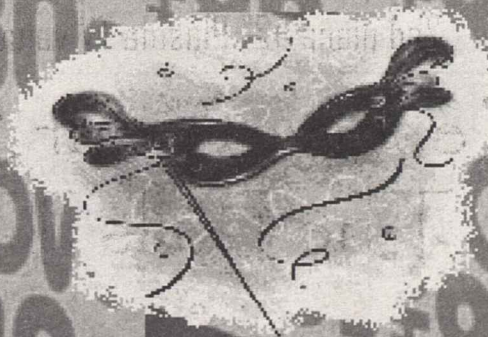
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# Tigers hope to bounce back against Terps

Clemson looks for win against Maryland to save season following Wake loss.

**DANIEL TAYLOR**  
STAFF WRITER

With the 2007 ACC schedule coming into its final turn, the standings in the conference appear to have sunk into a pit of confusion. Despite the domination that tobacco road normally has in Clemson's league, Boston College sits atop of the hill with a 9-2 conference record. Another ACC newcomer, Virginia Tech, is tied for second in the standings. Virginia, who started at 9-6, has shocked the media with a midseason turnaround and joins the Hokies behind Boston College. North Carolina is perennially expected to be among the elite, and they are surprising no one with an 8-3 ACC record. Their archrival Blue Devils, who are typically mentioned with the same grace as the Tarheels, have a losing record (5-6) in the ACC. Many experts suspect Coach K's Dookies might not even make it in the NCAA. These peculiar aspects are only made more prevalent by Clemson's remarkable season.

After a devastating skid in which the Tigers dropped five of six games and bumped outside of the Top 25, Coach Oliver Prunell has applied a

tourniquet to the season that seemed to be slipping away. A convincing win against a strong Florida State team was the first step. Now with five conference wins under their belts, the Tigers are stuck among the crowded mass of teams that are jockeying for position in the middle of the ACC. While Clemson at 19-6 (5-6) has a good opportunity for making the NCAA tournament - only a .500 record in conference will assure them a spot. Clemson only needs three more victories to obtain that goal, but nine other ACC teams have a reasonable shot of finishing with a winning conference record as well. With so many teams on the verge of a March Madness bid, the competition should be brutal in the final stretch of the season. Four of the Tigers' last five games involved teams that are at least on the bubble.

Two days from now Clemson will play one such team. On Sunday at 4 p.m. the Tigers will play host to Maryland, who is as desperate as a team can get. Maryland has enjoyed a wealth of success under head Coach Gary Williams, including a recent national title. After a 14-2 start this year, fans anticipated another stellar season. However, after a surprising loss at home to Miami, the year has taken a terrible turn for the Terrapins. Dropping five of their last 11 games, Williams' club is just trying to keep its head above water. Unlike the Tigers, Maryland's fall from

glory has featured a win-loss-win-loss pattern, adding to the frustration of fans. Now with a 4-6 ACC record, they are expected to go to the NIT. But Coach Williams is a fiery competitor and will not allow his team to lay down and die. The Terrapins handed the Tigers their first defeat in a 92-87 win earlier this year, and one more victory could right the ship for Coach Williams. The clash this Sunday should be a fierce one between two teams that require a critical win.

Maryland is led by its senior guard D.J. Strawberry. Some may recall D.J.'s father, Darrell, as he was a teammate of Homer Simpson on Monty Burns's championship softball team. D.J. has attempted to separate himself from his addiction-troubled father, competing in a completely different sport.

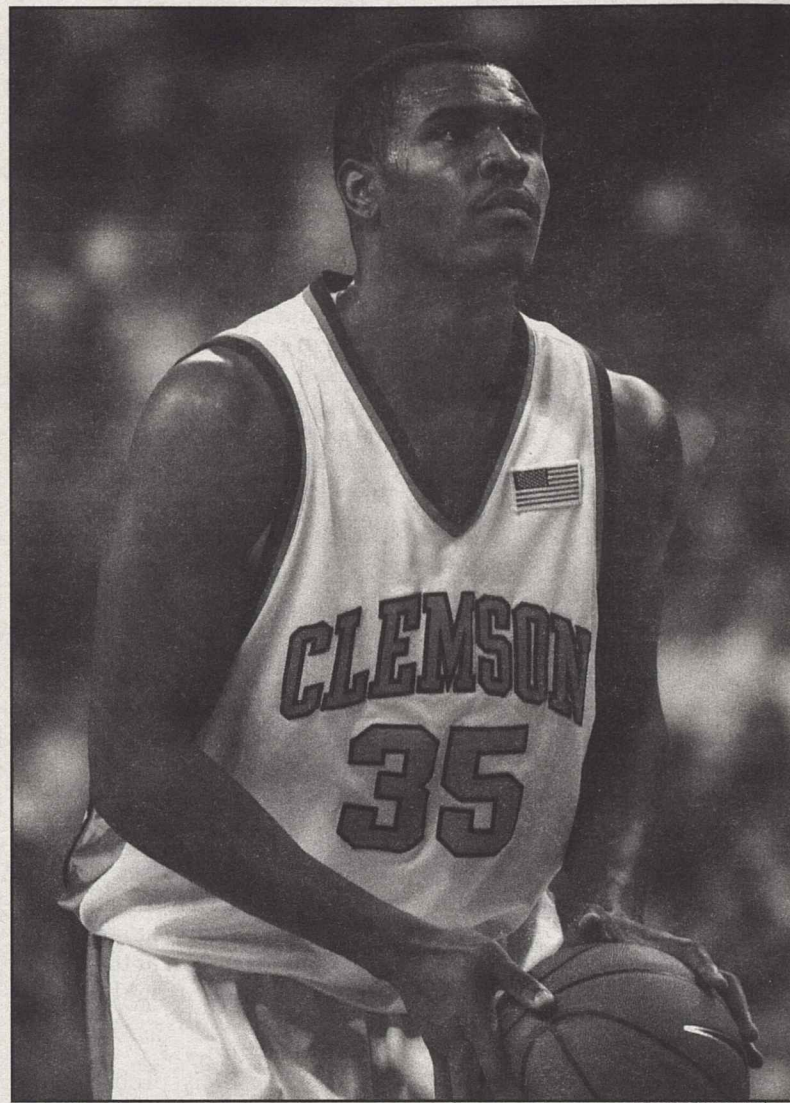
Maryland fans are glad he did, as the 6'5" guard is the leader in minutes, points and steals. Shutting down Strawberry should be a focus in Clemson press. However, Maryland's attack features a lot of players much like Clemson's. Five players average close to 10 points a game. Mike Jones is the team's downtown threat. Throwing down 58 baskets from behind the arch this year, he and K.C. Rivers (56) should put on a show in that category.

Depth will not be a problem for either team, as both have forwards and guards that can produce off the bench. Since

both teams can afford to see a player go down and both need the win, expect this game to be an all-out brawl to the buzzer.

The remainder of Clemson's schedule features a "should

win" versus Miami. Should Clemson win at home versus Maryland, they would only need two more wins to likely secure their spot in the big dance.



**AT THE CHARITY STRIPE:** Freshman Trevor Booker looks to hit a free throw at Littlejohn Coliseum in action earlier this season.

## TAPS AT THE ROCK

Did you miss the TAPS pictures at the Rock last Friday?  
Well, we are doing them one last time.

Come out Friday, February 16, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and have your picture taken at Howard's Rock (please enter the stadium at Gate 1). TAPS will be taking pictures of individuals or groups of people at the Rock, a place of great pride and tradition for Clemson University. So, get your friends together and come for your last chance to be featured in the TAPS yearbook.

Photos will be \$2 per person and we will send you the file so you can use it any way you like. Also, every picture taken will be featured in the 2007 TAPS yearbook.

Please come support TAPS and show off your Clemson Pride at the Rock.

TAPS is also still accepting quotes about your pride for Clemson, your favorite Clemson memory, or why you chose to come to Clemson. Please email all quotes to [rachell@clemson.edu](mailto:rachell@clemson.edu)



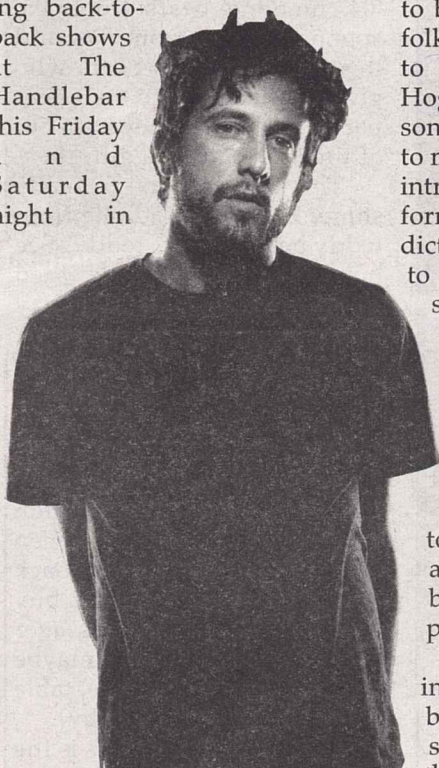
## Hoge performs at Handlebar

JOSH MORRIS  
STAFF WRITER

The first two lines of Will Hoge's song "Not That Cool" catch your attention and draw you in, "Excuse me? Do you have the time?" He continues with the entrapment as the striking lyrics go on, and the strumming of the guitar punctuates while a pounding drum beat captivates the audience.

His voice echoes in your mind with a fervor that you won't hear on any radio station or MTV music video; this is real, passionate and heartfelt rock-and-roll straight from Nashville, Tenn. This is Will Hoge.

Not tied to one particular song or specific sound, Hoge has steadily built a legion of loyal fans who love his music and the passion he puts into it. Luckily, he's headlining back-to-back shows at The Handlebar this Friday and Saturday night in



COURTESY Josh Morris

Greenville. No stranger to South Carolina, Hoge has played numerous shows at The Handlebar in Greenville, The Windjammer in Isle of Palms and St. Pat's in Five Points in Columbia.

When Hoge comes to Greenville, he will have Dean Tomasek on bass, Jefferson Crow on keyboards, Sigurdur Birkis on drums and Greenville's own Adam Fluhrer on guitar.

The five of them together put on a show that is not only awesome, but is also something you will remember for years to come. Hoge is not your average musician; he is a renaissance man of the microphone, bringing soul back to the music industry, one performance at a time.

"I don't wanna be the band that has the one hit, and people don't care about the rest," Hoge said. "A desire on our part is to be a band that can entertain folks without having to pander to playing the 'radio hits.'" Hoge's goal is to make every song as memorable as the last, to make a concert amazing from introduction to encore. He performs not with a set-list of predictability, but with an intention to play a completely different show every time.

Growing disenchantment with the music industry and his record labels' idea of what he should sound like, he asked for and was released from his contract. Since then, Hoge has been touring, recording and living as an independent artist. He books his own shows and plans his own tours.

"The thing that is the most inspiring is the people who believe in this band," Hoge said. "It all comes down to the fans."

## Mayer presents new album

MEREDITH HUMPHREY  
STAFF WRITER

On Feb. 8, John Mayer gave an unforgettable performance at Columbia's Colonial Center. Mayer performed a confident, exciting show that should erase all doubts as to whether he has arrived as one of the decade's greatest guitarists. While that may seem like a bold statement, Rolling Stone has recently named him as one of the "New Guitar Gods," he was nominated for five Grammy's and his concerts only scratch the surface of his talent.

Mayer entered the stage with his seven-man band and picked up one of the at least 10 guitars surrounding him to begin playing "Belief." Hanging above the band were giant panes in alternate shapes so that there seemed to be a Tetris game constantly changing colors with the mood of the song as the concert progressed. From the moment Mayer got on stage, his presence was unapologetic and he seemed generally excited to share his sound.

"John Mayer proved that he has the future of music history in his hands," said Clemson junior Justin Sims.

With this new "Continuum" album, Mayer appears more comfortable with where his sound is going and his ability to take his shows in any direction. Before, he seemed to look to the microphone and guitar for security as he sang or as he hunched over his strings as though he were practicing in his room. On Thursday, Mayer's eyes hardly left the audience as he strutted across the stage and let the crowd see his every emotion.

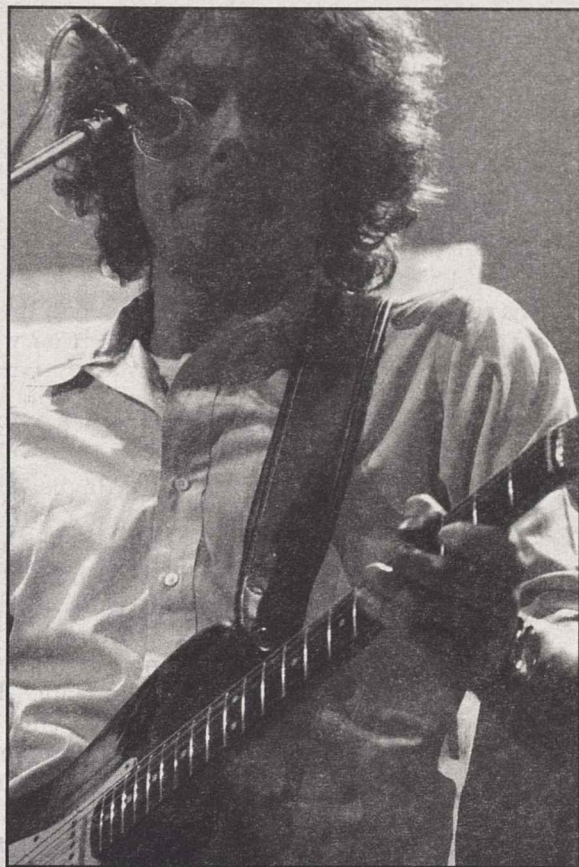
"Between songs he asked the audience if anyone had been to one of his concerts back in the day when he had to get in the back of a van afterwards and a good bit of crowd cheered," said sophomore Hannah Cameron.

"He was much more confident on stage. He was cracking jokes and dancing, which I don't think he had the confidence to do when he first started out. You could tell he was having as much fun as the audience was, and he didn't act nervous at all."

Mayer played many songs from his new album "Continuum" but also played songs from "Room for Squares," "Try," "Heavier Things" and even "Any Given Thursday." He took his new songs "Slow Dancing in a Burning Room" and "Gravity" as golden opportunities to get lost in impressive solos that were further evidence of his growth as an artist.

"In 'Room for Squares' he sings about running through the halls of his high school, and in 'Continuum' he talks about much deeper issues like faith and politics," said Cameron. "He's much more open to talk about real issues in this album and takes more chances with his lyrics."

"Gravity" definitely seemed to be the climax of the performance with a ridiculous jam session between Mayer and his band. A giant spotlight lit up Mayer from the back of the stage so his silhouette was framed as he sang the lyrics, "Just keep me



DIA ZAFEROPULOS/Photo Editor

**CONTINUE TO ROCK:** John Mayer rocked the Colonial Center in Columbia.

where the light is ... just keep me where the light is." He ended the performance with "Your Body is a Wonderland," only to return for an encore and play "Covered in Rain" and finally "Neon."

"I couldn't pick a favorite song because they were all pretty amazing. I've been a John Mayer fan for a while, so seeing him that close was surreal," said sophomore Amber Lee. "As for musical talent, he's amazing. It amazes me that someone can be that good live."

John Mayer is not going anywhere. If his music progresses the way it has been over the past few years, the music industry will have a force to reckon with and audiences will continue to be awed by his performances.

"John Mayer will go down as one of the greatest musicians of our time," said Eric Murphy.

## PREVIEWS

MICHAEL HUNLEY  
STAFF WRITER



### MOVIES

"Music and Lyrics," Feb. 14  
Opening on Valentine's Day, the latest Hugh Grant romantic-comedy extravaganza co-stars Drew Barrymore as a young songwriter helping compose a new hit for Grant, a no-talent singer who had faded into obscurity after heading the '80s group Pop! And dare TimeOut say that romance is in the air for these two mismatched individuals? Nevertheless, the film has a nice supporting cast of comedic actors like Brad Garrett, Kristen

Johnston and Campbell Scott.

"Breach," Feb. 16  
Director/writer Billy Ray follows his excellent debut "Shattered Glass" with another in-depth expose of corruption and deceit, this time set around a real security breach in the FBI. Ryan Phillippe is up-and-coming Agent O'Neill who is assigned to shadow veteran Robert Hansen (played by Chris Cooper), who Phillippe suspects of having sold information to the Soviet Union. And that's a very, very bad thing.



### DVDs

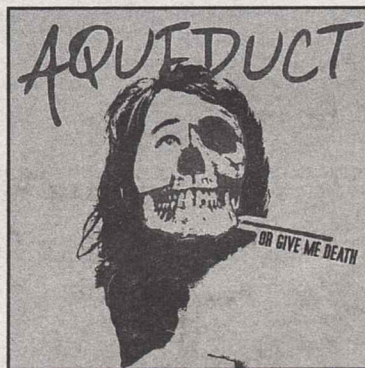
"Babel," Feb. 20  
Nominated for seven Academy Awards, the highly acclaimed "Babel" hits shelves

just in time for the Oscar ceremony on Feb. 25. Spanning several continents and four intertwined stories, this intimate drama follows a couple vacationing in Morocco, where two young boys acquire a gun, leading to an unexpected tragedy. While in America, the couple's Mexican maid finds herself in trouble after attending her son's wedding. Oh, and there's also a deaf-mute girl in Japan trying to get over her mother's death. It'll all make sense in the end, and it's a very effective film, thanks in particular to the fine performances from Adriana Barraza (as the maid) and Rinko Kikuchi (as the Japanese girl), who both earned Best Supporting Actress nominations.

"For Your Consideration," Feb. 20

From the evil geniuses behind "Waiting for Guffman" and "Best in Show," this improvised comedy pokes fun at the hysteria that surrounds the Oscar nominations each year, highlighting a washed-up group of actors on a cheesy independent film who suddenly find themselves acquiring some award buzz. It's a well-observed,

hysterical satire, thanks in part to the fine performances by Fred Willard, Jennifer Coolidge, Parker Posey and especially Catherine O'Hara, who is devastatingly funny as Marilyn Hack (best known for her role as a blind prostitute).

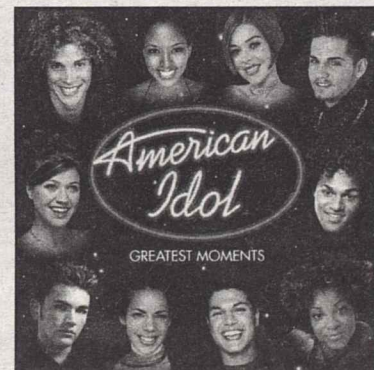


### CDs

"Or Give Me Death," Aqueduct, Feb. 20

This Seattle-based band, which loves them some synch-heavy music, is one of the indie music scene's most inventive, though overlooked groups. Their third album, "I Saw Gold," gained some attention in 2005, as well as some welcome comparisons to Flaming Lips and Modest Mouse. Hopefully their latest album, "Or Give Me

Death," will give the up-and-comers some much deserved attention ... or, at the very least, some shout-outs on Facebook and MySpace.



### TV

"American Idol," FOX (it's on ALL THE FRIGGIN' TIME)

Hey, have you heard that the sixth season of "American Idol" is on? No? Then America banishes you! Shun the nonbeliever! But if you have been watching, you'll know that this has been a pretty boring season thus far, and that, yes, it is possible for Ryan Seacrest to become even more annoying and for Paula Abdul to still make as much sense as your alcoholic grandma on Christmas. But that won't stop you from watching, will it?



# ON THE PROWL

by ORSEN SWELLES

I told myself I was not going to do this. Weeks prior to this day I swore off writing an article about Valentine's Day. I felt it would be a cliché article about a fake holiday, and I knew every other paper would have enough Valentine's Day fluff to tide everyone over. Plus, after avoiding the topic last week, it would be stupid to have a belated V-Day article that would come out two days after the holiday. Right?

Well, belated as it may be, I am sure that there are enough couples waiting for the weekend to celebrate that this article doesn't reach total obsolescence even before it goes to print. To those couples who already had their day of corporate and capitalistic loving on Wednesday, feel free to implement some of these strategies next Valentine's Day (or on any other made-up holiday of your choice).

One of my qualms that

really drove me into Valentine's Day Dementia is that V-Day is completely resistant to holiday evolution. Every year people make suggestions to have a unique 14th of February, and every year Hallmark Gold Crown store owners spend the latter half of February drinking vintage wines while soaking in tubs filled with hundred dollar bills.

Maybe it's me, but I can't understand how girls aren't sick of receiving chocolates, flowers, teddy bears and pre-written cheese-ball cards with nothing more than their man's John Hancock stamped on the inside. This year (or next) I dare you to resist cookie-cutter temptation and do something creative. I'm going

to offer some suggestions to get those creative juices flowing, but keep in mind that most of these recommendations are for more intimate couples. If Valentine's Day is your first date, still avoid the mass-market appeal, but it may be best to avoid some of my options as well.

First, I don't think that any gift irks me in the way chocolate does. The following are your options when buying chocolate. You can buy the overpriced heart-shaped box of chocolates that don't taste all that great and show your partner that you put about five seconds of thought into

a gift (even Nirvana thought this gift was tacky enough to sing about it). You can make your own sampler of candy she actually likes which shows you care, but it's also better done as a stocking stuffer or a Halloween treat. Lastly, you

can drop massive amounts of cash on extravagant looking Godiva treats and I guess prove to your partner that you have too much money.

Maybe candy is your thing, but why be limited to the above options that can be bought at shopping mall kiosks and drug stores? Create an event out of the candy you give her. Dim the lights, put on some music that you both like, melt some chocolate chips and take turns picking out items to dip in the homemade fondue. Who knows? Three or four pieces of fresh fruit later you two may be dipping more than just edible treats into the chocolate. This small twist says that you want to spend time with your partner instead of saying that you want your partner to sit alone with her Grishams and console herself with a thoughtless mish-mash of chocolates that all taste a lot worse than they look.

If you are really rebellious and find the fondue a bit too trite, skip the dips and go straight to the body coverings. One quick Google search for "body chocolate" will land you hit after hit of Web pages who sell entire chocolate art

kits. Create your own Picasso and then pull a Steve Wynn and ruin it with your body.

Flowers happen to be another gift that I think are overdone and used incorrectly. To me, flowers are like Steve Buscemi. They are both great supporting acts, but you never really want to see them as the star of anything. Flowers should be in the background of another more thoughtful gift. Say for example that you planned a romantic dinner of which you are performing chef duties. Buy some flowers, set them in a vase on the table, and don't even mention them. Your date will likely notice and will be much more impressed with the subtlety of the enhanced setting than you shoving a bouquet in her face and expecting her pants to wilt away.

Teddy bears are stupid. Everyone is trying to reinvent the teddy bear these days with hilariously similar results. I'm sorry, but no matter what cute/unique outfit you slap on a bear, it's still just a stuffed animal. What is a grown woman going to do with five to 10 years of Valentine's Day teddy bears? Your attic, trash-can or storage unit will be the only thing that keeps up with your kissing bears from '04, hugging bears from '05, spooning bears from '06, and this year's famous bears who give smaller bears to their bear partner because they ran out of time to think of a gift.

This is your time to really shine. Why not graduate from teddy bear to a lace teddy? See how your date responds when you tell her just how sexy you noticed she's been looking lately and how you think she'd look extra hot in her new lingerie. Go out on a limb and try to give her something unique, but tie in the fact that you've been paying attention to her lately. If she has been complaining about her back aching for the past week, buy or make her a back massager and promise to use it (maybe even set up a massage table with some flowers nearby).

You may say that this is the least sexually oriented article I've written in a while, but let me assure you that this is some of the best sex advice I can give. All the cheap Wal-Mart hackneyed presents in the world may make you feel like you've done your part, but all it does is make your partner feel as though she is as special as a mass-produced Hershey's candy. Just letting her know that you want to invest time into the relationship (and into her well-being), instead of just investing \$15, will increase your sex life more than anything I or Hallmark could ever tell you.

In the Feb. 9 issue of The Tiger, the article entitled, "Virtual worlds replace reality" was written by Chris Cantrell. The Tiger regrets this error.



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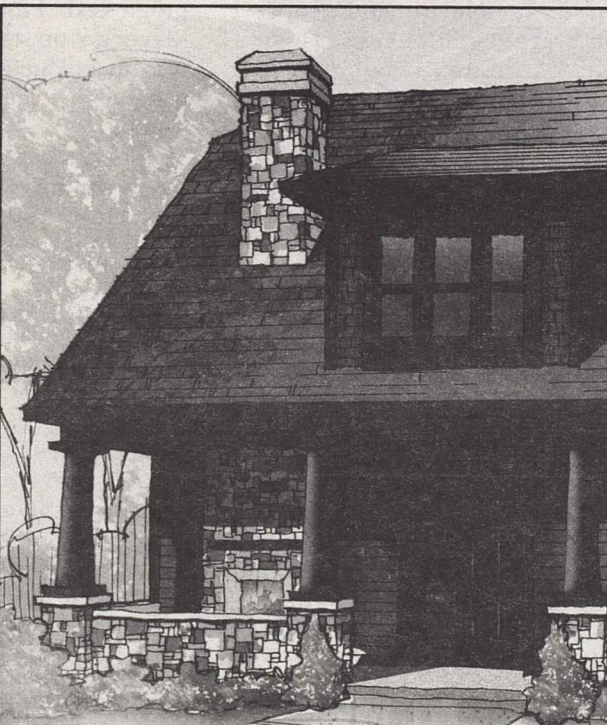
THE HOMES at

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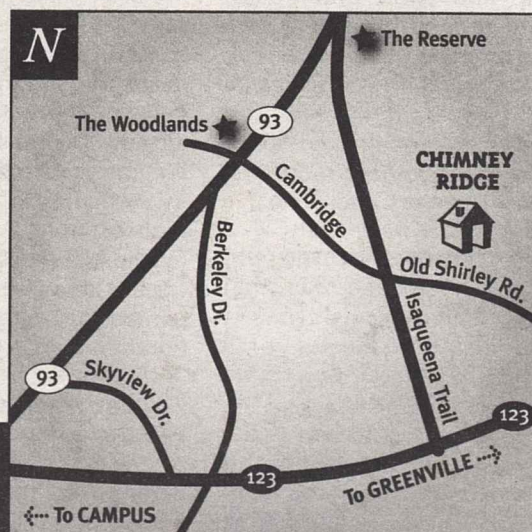
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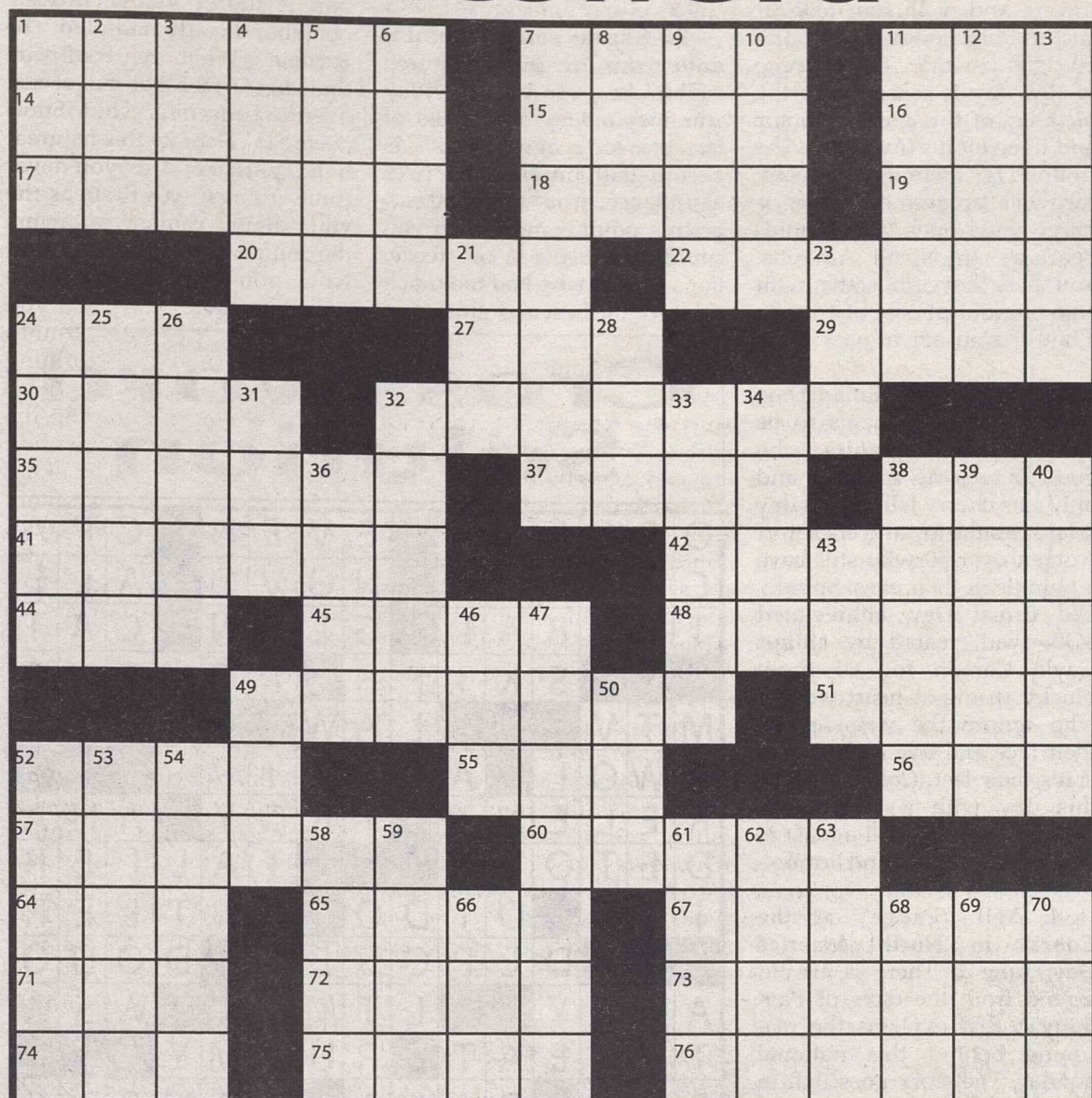


Carolina  
Home





## Crossword



Look for the solution to this week's puzzle on page D4.

## Clues

## ACROSS

- 1 Preoccupy  
7 Tied  
11 Accountant  
14 Cushioned liquid container  
15 De \_\_ (from the beginning)  
16 Both  
17 Clannish  
18 Dale  
19 Pet  
20 Snow slider  
22 Italian cheese  
24 I want my \_\_  
27 Jurisprudence  
29 Decays  
30 Truant  
32 Things to be done  
35 Yield  
37 Helen of \_\_  
38 Expression of surprise  
41 Alternate route  
42 Not as short  
44 \_\_ A Small World...  
45 Trick  
48 Branched horn  
49 Ousts  
51 Extinct bird  
52 Absent  
55 Long-term memory  
56 Compass point  
57 Warning  
60 Card game  
64 Scarf  
65 Indonesian island  
67 Verse meter  
71 Loose gown worn at mass  
72 Alliance  
73 Roman statesman  
74 Affirmation  
75 Pituitary hormone  
76 Winged

## DOWN

- 1 Fall mo.  
2 Prohibit  
3 \_\_ Lanka  
4 Tides  
5 Souze  
6 GS  
7 Implant  
8 Volume (abbr.)  
9 Always  
10 Taboo  
11 Chocolate tree  
12 Factory  
13 Singing parts  
21 Imp  
23 Mr.'s wife  
24 \_\_ Gras  
25 Baby bird sound  
26 Electric current measures  
28 Fight  
31 Sign of the zodiac  
32 A vacation (2 wds.)  
33 Tiny amounts  
34 Baseball's Nolan  
36 Bare  
38 Yield  
39 Listens  
40 Indian weapon  
43 Type of partnership  
46 Pain unit  
47 Head hiding bird  
49 Tinct  
50 Flightless bird  
52 Treed (2 wds.)  
53 Intact  
54 Mid-Eastern dwellers  
58 Syrian bishop  
59 Baby powder  
61 Mineral  
62 Send  
63 Young Men's Christian Association  
66 Dozens  
68 Gamblers placement  
69 Wrath  
70 Common fish



CHRIS JAYNES  
STAFF WRITER

Too many things are inconveniences to Americans: long lines, walking further than 200 feet and missing American Idol, and the list is even longer for college students. Roommates, 8 a.m. classes and drinking ages that are too high inconvenience us. But should the truth be inconvenient?

The truth may be harder to face than an 8 a.m. class, but that is what the truth has become. The aptly named, Oscar nominated, documentary "An Inconvenient Truth" is an unsettling look at why global warming is a truth, and not the myth people make it out to be. Al Gore, the former Vice President, provides a scholarly, yet entertaining account of how we have polluted our planet and the consequences we can expect within the next 50 years. The documentary follows Gore around the world as he gives "the slide show," which creates an unnerving feeling that maybe the "Day After Tomorrow" could happen.

I first saw this movie in a little art house theatre in post-Katrina New Orleans. My

friends and I had just walked past the convention center, where many presented heart breaking stories and images. Earlier in the day, we had also seen the still ravaged communities months after the storm. The film became immensely personal. When you are looking into the face of a 4-year-old child who has lost her parents to a storm, that we more then likely caused to be stronger than it should have been, it becomes very personal. It should outrage you.

Katrina didn't become a Category 5 until it hit the warmer-than-usual temperatures of the Gulf. Gore looks at how we are shaping the weather. The facts can seem overwhelming but the pictures shown speak louder than the numbers. Gore couldn't fit it all in the main movie, but he does an update segment in the special features.

We were fortunate this past hurricane season not to have had any make land fall, but countries like China, Australia and Japan all experienced Katrina-esque storms last year. Wasn't there a huge storm in "The Day After Tomorrow?"

Gore spends the length of the film seeming frustrated

that he is being met with such resistance to the facts that he has been seeing for more than 25 years. Any minute it seems like he could yell, "You idiots!" In one of the film's nostalgic flashbacks, which helps to break up the lecture aspect of the film, Gore talks to one of his professors, Revelle.

The film shows Revelle's results of studying the increase of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere since WWII. In 1950, Revelle hypothesized that carbon dioxide was increasing dangerously in our atmosphere because of the increasing population. Revelle showed his findings to Gore and his classmates more than 20 years ago, and Gore has been fighting for them every since.

Since Revelle's prophetic insight, scientists have been measuring the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. Gore shows footage from his expedition to Antarctica where they do core drillings in the ice to get the data on carbon dioxide, for which they can go back 650,000 years. It's startling. The results show that at no time has the level of carbon dioxide risen above 300 ppm,

until recently when it topped

380 ppm. Carbon dioxide is rising at an unabated rate, which will reach upwards of 500 ppm within 50 years.

Gore asks, "If carbon dioxide levels get that high, what will the temperatures do?" If the trend of carbon dioxide rising and temperature following then the only logical answer will be that the temperatures will rise. But the real question is: how high? When these graphs were shown on the theatre screen, the audience I viewed the film with actually gasped.

This trend can be chalked up to nature, but since carbon dioxide levels have never been higher until recent years, it should make us suspect that something besides nature is causing the increase. Hummers maybe? Think about this: The people born in 1950 are the first and only generation to see the population double in their lifetime. In 1945, the population was 2.3 billion, now the estimate is close to 6.5 billion. In less than 60 years we have almost tripled the population, which took thousands of years to reach 2 billion.

It's like being at a party in a very small apartment. What happens when the number of guests suddenly double? The room gets hot, the beer runs out and it no longer becomes fun standing next to 30 guys. Easily solved, right? You can just crank up the AC, run to the store to restock the dwindling beer supply and call a sorority to even out the ratio of guys to girls, hopefully in the guys' favor.

The last time I checked, the earth doesn't have thermostat

on a wall, Mars' convenience store is fresh out of supplies and only on Star Trek have they found a planet full of women.

We can "turn the thermostat down," but only by slowing down the amount of pollution we dump into the air. If we don't, temperatures will continue to rise and the problem will be exacerbated. The film isn't about proving that global warming exists, but using it to look into the future. Gore is very interested in what consequences we are going to have because of rising temperatures. You have to believe one to fear the other, and Gore masterfully blends both together for even the most ardent doubters.

This article, like the film, is not an infallible source on global warming. "An Inconvenient Truth" is not going to make you an expert on global warming, but it will force you to think about choosing a side. You might not agree with what Gore is saying, but he makes a convincing case while creating an entertaining film. We are all going to have to face our actions sooner or later when it comes to the environment. Unfortunately, we are apathetic — at best — and it is going to take something drastic for people to realize the damage we have caused, and more than likely it will be too late.

Chris Jaynes is a senior studying in Computer Science. He loves eating granola with soy milk and wearing Birkenstocks. Send comments to [timeout@thetigernews.com](mailto:timeout@thetigernews.com).



# THE TOP 5

RANDOM HOLIDAYS

CORRINA MILLER  
STAFF WRITER

America has its standard holidays. There is Christmas, 4th of July and even a few Hallmark created for marketing such as Grandparent's Day. But then there are also some other, not quite so common holidays. There is National Fruitcake Toss Day conveniently celebrated on Jan. 6 for the millions who received but did not consume that Christmas fruitcake. There's also Robin Hood Day, National Tooth Fairy Day, National Chocolate Covered Raisins Day and many, many more. Since you should not be without the knowledge of these fabulously random national holidays, we have composed a list of the Top 5 for your enjoyment.

**1. Bubble Wrap® Appreciation Day; Jan. 29:** This day was started by "Spirit 95" Radio, the FM radio station in Bloomington, Ind. The first official Bubble Wrap® Appreciation Day was held in 2001, along with the radio stations first annual Bubblympiad which consisted of events such as a Bubble Wrap® popping

relay, Pop-a-Mole (similar to a well-known carnival game) and sculpture and fashion design contests. Bubble Wrap has certainly evolved from when it was first accidentally created in 1957 by two men who were trying to create a new type of wallpaper. The men recognized the packaging potential of what they had and together created Sealed Air. Today Sealed Air is a leading worldwide manufacturer of numerous protective and specialty packaging materials with annual revenues exceeding three billion dollars. This fantastically fun product also now comes in colors such as lime green, purple and neon orange.

**2. Ferris Wheel Day; Feb. 14:** Who didn't love to ride the Ferris wheel as a child? Remember how whenever you got on you'd cross your fingers and secretly hope that you'd stop at the top? It's no surprise that the first Ferris Wheel was the highlight of the 1893 World's Fair. It was created by Pittsburgh, Pa. bridge builder, George W. Ferris. The wheel was 264 feet high with 36 cars that could hold 60 people each. It was the largest piece of

forged steel at that time, supported by two 140 foot steel towers and a 45 foot axle. It cost the high price (in 1893) of 50 cents per ride. The purpose of this day is to celebrate the birthday of this great inventor and to enjoy his invention. The trouble is, there aren't many carnivals, amusement parks or fairgrounds operating in mid-February in North America. You may have to settle with enjoying old photos of trips to a fair or amusement park.

**3. Spunky Old Broad Day; Feb. 19:** No one wants to be one of those grannies who goes 35 on the freeway and only eats cherry Jell-o. This day celebrates the joy and energy of women over 50 who still have a twinkle in their eyes. Spunky Old Broad Day, abbreviated SOB, was created by author Gayle Carson for all those plucky young at heart women who ignore the wrinkles on their face and live each day as if it's their last. Commemorate this day with a viewing of "Calendar Girls" and a toast to never growing old and cranky.

**4. Yell "Fudge" at the Cobras in North America Day; June 2:** There is an old legend from the days of Paul Bunyan that explains the reasoning behind this national holiday. The story goes that in order to keep poisonous cobra snakes out of North America, all citizens are asked to go outdoors at noon local time and yell, "fudge." This is because fudge makes cobras gag, and the mere mention of it makes them "skedaddle." It seems

to be working so far because I haven't seen a cobra yet.

**5. Sneak some zucchini onto your neighbor's porch night; Aug. 8:** This holiday was inspired by the habits of farmers long ago. Squash is a crop that produces in over abundance. You will end up getting pounds more than you could possibly eat or freeze. For a farmer who had too much produce the best and most gen-

erous thing for him to do was to give it away to their neighbor. It didn't matter if their neighbor already had plenty of zucchini. What mattered was that the farmer got rid of the overflow zucchini. Now, if you decide to celebrate this national holiday, make sure you have three things: your sneakers, your digital camera to record the moment and the zucchini. Now you're ready to sneak some zucchini.

## Crossword Solution

O	B	S	E	S	S		E	V	E	N		C	P	A
C	A	R	B	O	Y		N	O	V	O		A	L	L
T	R	I	B	A	L		G	L	E	N		C	A	T
			S	K	I	E	R		R	O	M	A	N	O
M	T	V					L	A	W			R	O	T
A	W	O	L			A	F	F	A	I	R	S		
R	E	L	E	N	T		T	R	O	Y		A	H	A
D	E	T	O	U	R						T	A	L	L
I	T	S				D	I	D	O		A	N	T	L
						D	E	P	O	S	E	S		D
A	W	A	Y			L	T	M				W	S	W
T	H	R	E	A	T		R	U	M	M	Y			
B	O	A				B	A	L	I		I	A	M	B
A	L	B				B	L	O	C		C	I	C	E
Y	E	S				A	C	T	H		A	L	A	T

From Page D3

# The Robert J. Rutland Institute for Ethics

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## MORAL RESPONSIBILITY IN THE EXERCISE OF LEGAL RIGHTS

*When, if ever, would it be morally irresponsible to exercise a legal right?*

Essays must be typed (double-spaced) using a twelve-point font. The title page should include the author's name and contact information. Essays must not exceed 1,500 words (a word count should be included on the title page). Winners will be notified by Mid-March, 2007.

Essays should be submitted in hard copy and electronic form on a diskette (or CD). Both copies should be delivered to the Department of Philosophy and Religion, 126 Hardin Hall. Early submissions, for example, during the fall semester, are welcome.

Instructions and resource materials are available at the Rutland Institute website: <http://www.clemson.edu/caah/rutland/barton2006.html>

The Rutland Institute is committed to Clemson University's academic integrity policy.

For additional information send email queries to [RutlandCenter@clemson.edu](mailto:RutlandCenter@clemson.edu)



# RED ROUTE

## 24/7

CLEMSON TO CENTRAL		
CHARLESTON AVENUE	:00	:30
CREEKSIDE APARTMENTS	:02	:32
STERLING WOODS APARTMENTS	:04	:34
LEMANS APARTMENTS	:10	:40
CLEMSON POST OFFICE	:13	:43
DOWNTOWN CLEMSON	:15	:45
SIKES HALL	:18	:48
HENDRIX CENTER	:20	:50
NEWMAN ST. @ McMILLAN RD.	:21	:51
TILLMAN PLACE APARTMENTS	:24	:54
WINN-DIXIE / BI-LO SHOPPING CENTERS	:26	:56
BERKELEY PLACE APARTMENTS	:30	:00
INGLES SHOPPING CENTER	:32	:02
ISSAQUEENA TRAIL	:34	:04
THE RESERVE APARTMENTS	:36	:06
CENTRAL POST OFFICE / UNIV. VILLAGE	:37	:07
RECREATION CENTER / LIBRARY	:38	:08
DOWNTOWN CENTRAL	:41	:11

### RED ROUTE

#### Fall & Spring Semester Schedules:

HOURLY Bus Service = 24 hrs/day - 7 days/wk  
1/2 HOURLY Bus Service = the following times:

##### Monday - Thursday

6:00am - 9:00pm = 1/2 HOURLY Bus Service

##### Friday

6:00am - 12:00am (midnight) = 1/2 HOURLY Bus Service

##### Saturday

8:00pm - 12:00am (midnight) = 1/2 HOURLY Bus Service

#### Summer & Holiday Schedules:

##### Monday - Friday

6:00am - 7:00pm = HOURLY Bus Service

"RED" times = HOURLY bus service.  
"BLACK" times = added times to make 1/2 HOURLY bus service.  
Times in the table are minutes after the hour.

CENTRAL TO CLEMSON		
SOUTHERN WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY	:48	:22
DOWNTOWN CENTRAL	:52	:25
RECREATION CENTER / LIBRARY	:55	:27
CENTRAL POST OFFICE / UNIV. VILLAGE	:57	:28
THE RESERVE APARTMENTS	:58	:30
ISSAQUEENA TRAIL	:00	:32
INGLES SHOPPING CENTER	:02	:33
BERKELEY PLACE APARTMENTS	:07	:37
BI-LO / WINN-DIXIE SHOPPING CENTERS	:09	:39
TILLMAN PLACE APARTMENTS	:14	:44
NEWMAN ST. @ McMILLAN RD.	:18	:48
HENDRIX CENTER	:20	:50
SIKES HALL	:22	:52
DOWNTOWN CLEMSON	:23	:53
VICTORIA SQUARE	:25	:55
COLLEGE AV. @ CALHOUN	:27	:57



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# 'Hannibal' lives again

LENA WRIGHT  
STAFF WRITER

Hannibal Lecter is the definition of Renaissance man. He's well-versed in almost every discipline. He is a manic genius who is so nuanced and complex that he always keeps himself one step ahead of everyone. But, his absolute control over himself and his environment is what makes him the superhuman bank-busting powerhouse that he is. Hannibal Lecter inspires fear, but also perverse admiration. However, he is not pitiable. The Hannibal Lecter seen in "Hannibal Rising" is a mimicking, emo pansy in comparison. Hannibal the cannibal lost his bite.

"Silence of the Lambs" has fluidity and grace that perfectly highlights the brutal, calculated cruelty of Hannibal's murders. The movie is subtle, which makes it more than a typical horror movie, but something that is able to probe the deepest darkest places in the human psyche. "Hannibal Rising," on the other hand,

tries so hard to be subtle that it ends up beating viewers over the head with it.

The dialogue is sparse in hopes that the scenery and cinematography can carry across the somber tone of the movie. This is partially because making a movie with fewer words often is considered more artistic. In this case, it comes across as poorly written dialogue. It also contradicts Hannibal's character. He was a master of words. People were warned against listening to him for fear he would bend them to his will. Whenever young Hannibal (Gaspard Ulliel) spoke, it seemed forced and contrived.

Young Hannibal has no more personality range than a 4x4. He's the kind of guy you're glad that you get to see from a distance, but you wouldn't sit next to him on the bus. The "I'm a psycho-killer" red flag warning is all over him. Hannibal Lecter was so dangerous because he fit into society so well. He could change identities and professions and be completely

accepted without the blink of an eye.

Also, the directed killings that Hannibal makes in this movie do not in any way explain how they changed from revenge to murder on a whim. The rise and fall of activity in this movie also was not packed enough. The murder of the butcher was given as much screen time as the murders of the war criminals. There was no peak moment of suspense. There was some curiosity about how he'd kill the next guy, but it didn't bring you to the edge of your seat.

A few good moments. Gong Li as Lady Murasaki was believable. Rhys Ifans and Dominic West as Grutas and Inspector Popil did the best job overall. They were both very convincing as the war criminal/sex slave trader and the just and compassionate detective, respectively. Lastly, the costumes and sets were lovely in a dark and foreboding way. But, all things considered, the movie was a waste to see in the movie theater.

# 'Sleep' revives indie markets

MICHAEL HUNLEY  
STAFF WRITER

Hipster movies (those of the independent, sensitive, emo-tastic variety) are a dime-a-dozen nowadays, what with the immense popularity of "Garden State" a few years ago spurring on a flurry of pretty crappy imitators. (Did America really need "The Last Kiss?" No, we did not.) So when a really good hipster film like "The Science of Sleep" is released, there is definitely a need for celebration, because it means there'll be a long drought until the next great one comes along.

Directed and written by Michel Gondry, the Oscar-winning auteur of the fantastic "Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind" and dozens of endlessly imaginative music videos for Bjork and the White Stripes, "Sleep" (which was recently released on DVD) follows aspiring

artist Stéphane (Gael García Bernal) who returns to his Paris home to console his recently widowed mother, only to end up falling in love with his aloof neighbor Stéphanie (the wonderful Charlotte Gainsbourg).

Timid and anxious, Stéphane settles for a small job in an office making calendars; he slowly begins to lose himself in his elaborate daydreams, where water is made out of cellophane and he is able to become the confident person he's always wanted to be. Soon, though, the line between dreams and reality is blurred, particularly when Stéphanie constantly turns down his advances. In the same vein as "Eternal Sunshine," the film is a love story at heart, but unlike the artificial, bland romantic comedies of today, there's a heartbreaking, hard-edged core — much like real love.

The plot is admittedly nothing new, but Gondry's visual style is the true attraction here. With low-budget, purposely cheesy special effects, "Science" has a hokey, charming quality to it — Stéphane's brain is structured like a makeshift TV studio, made almost entirely out of cardboard, and he gallops along on a stitched-up, cotton-filled horse. The film's imagination is limitless, and unlike recent indie films such as "I Heart Huckabee's," it never turns overly pretentious or offbeat. It's simply a film about the difficulties in communicating one's affection and feelings (ironically, the film features dialogue in French, Spanish and English) and the maddening efforts that go into achieving true love.

Mexican superstar Bernal and British actress Gainsbourg are both wonderful and have a caustic, seductive chemistry together — visually speaking, they are far from the Hollywood image of sex symbols, which makes their odd relationship even more realistic and effective.

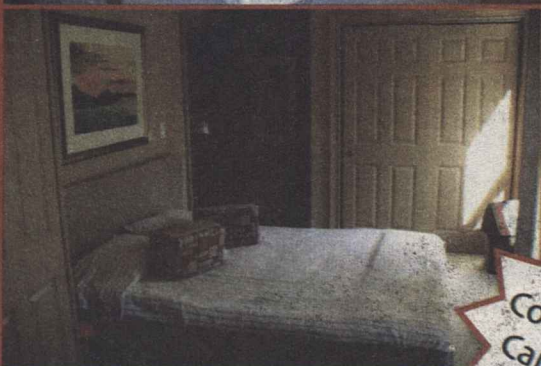
The DVD includes a nice variety of special features, including informative commentary by cast and crew, a lovely music video and several featurettes that delve into the creative aspects of the film (there are many allusions to Gondry's music videos, and the low-budget effects were used as a way of never allowing the character's personalities to be dwarfed by the visuals) and the artist who made many of the kitschy animal toys in the film. The DVD's extras are nothing terribly special, but the film itself is reward enough without the extra features.

In a world where audiences are subjected to films like "Ghost Rider" and computer-animated remakes of "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles" and "Transformers," it's always refreshing to find a low-key, effortlessly charming film to enjoy like "The Science of Sleep."



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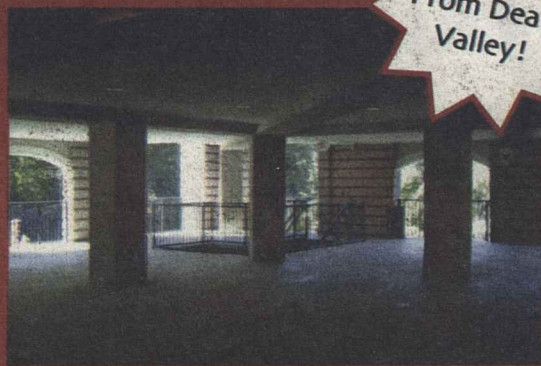


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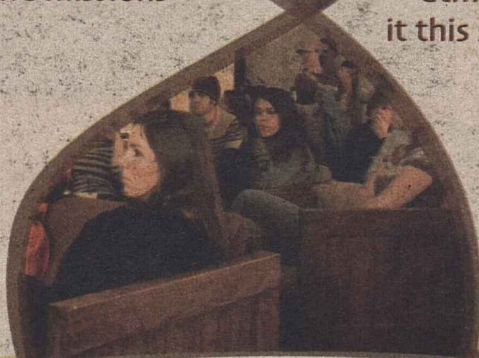
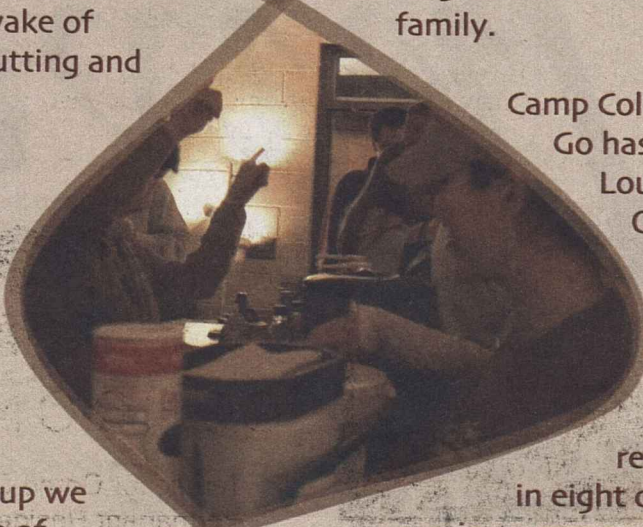
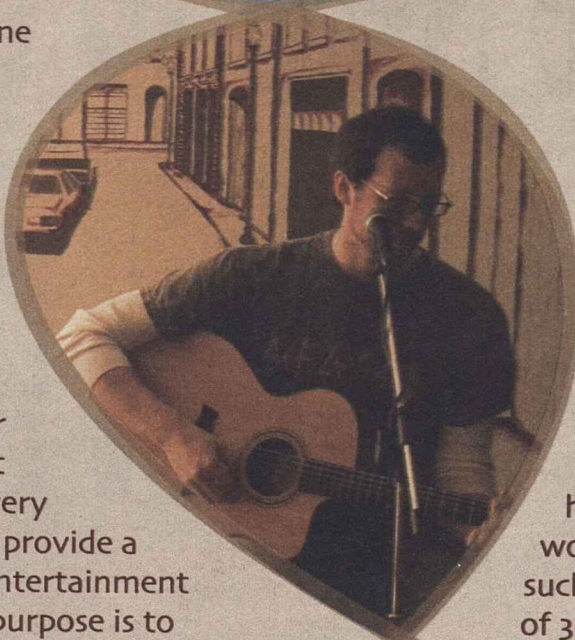
By Ashley Crisp • Photos By Rachel Glenn

A majority of college students rely on caffeine to help them get through the daily grind of attending class, studying and simply staying awake. Coffee shops both on campus and off provide students with the beverages they need to maintain a decent energy level. However, one coffee shop, Familiar Grounds, goes beyond serving students to serve other communities as well.

Located downtown behind Beezers, Familiar Grounds takes on the role of a local hangout as well as a volunteer organization. Open every Thursday and Friday nights, the coffee shop provide a multitude of non-alcoholic beverages, live entertainment and community for all who enter. Its other purpose is to send relief to those who need help the most in the wake of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Volunteers help with gutting and cleaning flooded homes.

Employees at Familiar Grounds are students who generously volunteer their free time to the effort, with the benefit of free coffee. The profits so far from the coffee shop total around \$2,500. "First of all, the coffee we use is Rainforest Alliance certified, which means that no rain forest was cleared to harvest it and the workers received fair wages for their work," said Charity Turner, major events director for Tigers Go. "Also, the flavoring syrup we use supports Coffee Kids, which means that a portion of the purchases go toward providing medical care for kids with medical needs."

Familiar Grounds functions on a donation-only basis in association with Tigers Go, a local volunteer organization. It began after Hurricane Katrina devastated the Gulf Coast. Five college students created Tigers Go after spending an abundance of time helping families of New Orleans pick up the pieces. The profits from the coffee shop go directly to fund missions and efforts along the Gulf Coast.



Tigers Go already provided for three rounds of students during the fall semester and winter break to help with the rebuilding efforts in Louisiana parishes, and a return trip is planned spring break to aid in construction. "Tigers Go ministry that seeks to help people who are in whether we have to travel minutes, hundreds or even over oceans to help them," said Chris the executive director of Tigers Go.

However, Tigers Go has another approach help those who need it most. On top of the or more relief trips to the New Orleans area year, the organization is also starting a project home. Tigers Go: Home Edition concentrates on working within the Clemson community on repairs such as roofing and plumbing. On Jan. 27, a group of 30 volunteers replaced a roof for a Clemson family.

Camp Collide is another program Tigers Go has created to continue efforts in Louisiana. Situated outside of New Orleans, this particular mission is a youth and adult Christian camp. With plans to host 750 youth, college students and adults, Camp Collide's purpose is to allow others to participate in rebuilding and sharing in fellowship in eight one-week sessions throughout the coming summer. "The first camp starts in June, and we're currently seeking college students to serve on the summer staff for this camp," Manley said.

In addition to its other endeavors, Tigers Go plans to keep Familiar Grounds open as long as volunteers and visitors walk through the door. The coffee shop has scheduled several performers for the next few weeks, including Lee McDerment on Feb. 16 and Richard Reams on Feb. 23. Other events in the future may include the hosting of another exam week cram. During the fall semester, this event allowed students to take a break from the tedious task of studying to hang out and enjoy the atmosphere. Take a break from the weekly grind, and try it this spring.





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