

Clemson honors retiree

Friends of Almeda Jacks dedicated two University ballrooms.

LINDSEY ALBERTSON
STAFF WRITER

At a surprise ceremony on Feb. 17, members of Clemson's family dedicated Hendrix ballrooms A and B in honor of Almeda Jacks, retiring vice president of student affairs.

"Because she dedicated so much time and work for Clemson, we wanted to honor her in a lasting way. With the amount of students and events (the Hendrix Center) encompasses, we thought it was the perfect location," said Ashleigh Streeter, director of development.

In 1992, Jacks became the first female vice president for Clemson University when she was named vice president for student affairs. Jacks has been at Clemson since 1970 where she began as an undergraduate student. She graduated with both her bachelor's degree in secondary education and her Master of Education degree.

She became associate director, acting director and later, the director of University housing. Jacks became the associate vice president for student affairs and dean of students in 1986.

After 31 years of working at Clemson and 14 years of being vice president of student affairs, Jacks has decided to retire this March.

"When her retirement was announced everyone thought 'we need to do something big for her,'" said Ahmed Mohiuddin, president of student senate.

"She's just a very classy lady, always knows what to say and how to approach someone; she is very caring," said Joy Smith, associate vice president for student affairs and dean of students.

The planning for the dedication of the Hendrix ballrooms began last May.

"This particular place in the student center, to name

see **HENDRIX**, page A3

Candidates debate issues



BEN SHANNON / photo editor

VOTE FOR ME: Presidential and Vice-Presidential hopefuls discussed the recent tuition increase, proposed tuition cap and student-to-student government communication at last week's debate.

Student candidates discuss pertinent issues, field questions.

LAURA EVANS
JENNIFER SALANE
STAFF WRITERS

At the annual student government elections debate last Thursday, Clemson University's 2006 presidential and vice presi-

dential candidates answered and discussed questions fielded from a moderator, each other and the audience.

"Students need to be made aware of rights," said sophomore vice presidential candidate Amanda McDonald. "We can make Clemson University the best in the community and the best in the nation."

When an audience member asked how information between senators and organizations would be regulated, McDonald replied,

"While there are 300 organizations on campus, my job is to represent 14,000 students. I have done the research and I will bring my ideas to life."

Tyler Gailey, vice presidential candidate, a sophomore studying political science, said his vision of the campus is one "by the students and for the students."

Gailey, who plans to attend minority council meetings and other related organizational

see **DEBATE**, page A6

Police charge suspects

Clemson professor reportedly robbed in city parking garage

BILLY THOMSEN
STAFF WRITER

The Clemson City Police charged four young men last Thursday with the armed robbery and assault of a Clemson faculty member that took place Feb. 17 in the Clemson City Parking Garage.

The young men, who range in age from 14 to 18, have been charged with armed robbery after attacking Eric Fang, a researcher in the Clemson Genetics Department, according to Clemson City Police Chief Jimmy Dixon. If convicted, the men face up to a 30-year jail sentence.

Fang said he was retrieving a book from his car, which was parked in the city parking deck on College Ave. around 8 p.m. when the attack took place.

"After walking in, I noticed four men standing around the garage, but I ignored them and went to my car," said Fang.

According to Fang, by the time he turned around from his car, he found himself surrounded by all four men whom were now wearing masks.

"They told me to give

see **FANG**, page A6

Technology enhances new facility

Mannequins provide students with realistic patient-care practices.

HEATHER WHALEY
STAFF WRITER

The Pazden Smith architects began design of the Clemson's new nursing facility in the summer of 2003.

"Preplanning with nursing faculty and students and with the Architecture and Health studio faculty and students took approximately two years," said Pat Padgett, director of development for the college of Health, Education and Human Development.

Construction began in the

summer of 2004 and continued until the fall of 2005 when students and faculty began the use of the Clinical Learning and Research Center.

The new Clinical Learning and Research Center is set up like a hospital with multiple rooms.

"Each room is different because each hospital is different," said associate professor Deborah Willoughby, who leads many of these simulations.

"Before they even enter the room, (students) are given history and physical of the patient, initial lab results, initial chest x-rays and admission orders. They are then assigned positions such as Charge Nurse, Patient Nurse, Nursing Assistant and Ward Secretary."

The room accommodations include wall hook-ups for sources such as oxygen and power, vari-

ous fully functional state-of-the-art hospital beds donated by HillRom, and complete IV systems. The new media allow the students to watch

and records themselves, hold video-conferences between differ-

see **CLRC**, page A3



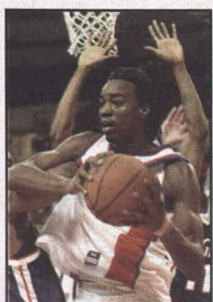
courtesy of nursing department

PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT: Students use new computers to chart their patients as part of the new research facility.

HIGHLIGHTS

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SPORTS

The Tigers took two conference victories from Virginia teams in the last week, B1.

OPINIONS

Congressmen exploiting Dubai port deal for election year political posturing, C1.

TIMEOUT

The 40-Watt in Athens hosted the most electric air guitar contest ever, D5.



WEEKEND FORECAST

FRIDAY: Sunny



SATURDAY: Sunny
60/32

SUNDAY: Partly Cloudy
60/40

Weekly World Update

World Report

■ **Bomb outside of mosque kills four:** Two bombs exploded Monday evening outside a Sunni mosque in Baghdad, killing four people in the ongoing sectarian attacks that have come since a bomb destroyed a Shiite shrine in Samarra last week. At least 18 people were wounded in the blasts, which occurred in a mostly Shiite neighborhood, according to Baghdad emergency personnel. Two police commandos were killed and five others were wounded in the fighting. Another commando is missing, police said. Monday morning, a mortar attack targeted a gas station and a high school for girls in the northwestern neighborhood of Shulla. Four people were killed and 17 others were wounded, Iraqi police said. The violence — much of it sectarian — has killed more than 200 people since the bombing of the gold-domed al-Askariya Mosque on Wednesday.

■ **Thieves steal millions in London bank robbery:** British police say thieves stole \$92 million (£53 million) during last week's heist at a security warehouse — the biggest cash theft in British history. Warehouse owner Securitas had confirmed the total after an audit, Adrian Leppard, assistant chief constable of Kent Police told reporters on Monday afternoon. Leppard also confirmed that an additional five men had been arrested in connection with the robbery at the depot in Tonbridge, southeast of London. Police said Sunday they had found weapons and \$2.3 million (£1.3 million) in a van they believe the gang used. Police said the dumped money was discovered in black sacks in a white van found parked outside a hotel on Friday. Police are continuing forensic tests on weapons, vehicles and money recovered since the heist.

■ **Miscellaneous items aid jailbreak:** Soccer balls, broomsticks and pieces of a broken fan were used to dig the tunnel through which 23 Yemeni fugitives, including members of al Qaeda, escaped prison this month, according to a report by the Yemeni government. The report said the prisoners might have gotten the idea for the tunnel from a similar escape tunnel discovered last year at Camp Bucca, Iraq, where Iraqi detainees are being held by the U.S. military. The report confirmed that three of the 23 escapees surrendered last week but did not name them. The report said the tunnel went down three meters below the prison cell in the Political Security Headquarters in San'a, Yemen and then continued for 44 meters before ending in the women's bathroom of the nearby al-Awaqaf Mosque. The Yemeni government report said digging tools included four soccer balls and shovels made from broomsticks and fan parts.

National Report

■ **Fights break out in Florida:** Fist fights broke out, and police made more than a dozen arrests Saturday at a neo-Nazi rally and march in a predominantly black neighborhood. Most of the arrests came after fights between supporters of the National Socialist Movement and angry counter-demonstrators, who were upset with the group's anti-minority message. About 30 members of the neo-Nazi group wore khaki uniforms, black boots and red armbands with swastikas during the march through the Orlando neighborhood of Parramore. Some 300 officers patrolled with K-9 units and on horses, while police helicopters circled above the march route. Those arrested were charged with disorderly conduct, battery on a law enforcement officer and wearing a mask, said Barb Jones, an Orlando police spokeswoman. During the march, the neo-Nazis held signs with slogans such as "White People Unite" and statistics claiming that crime is mostly committed by blacks.

■ **South Dakota bans abortion:** Legislation meant to prompt a national legal battle targeting the landmark 1973 U.S. Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion was approved by the South Dakota Senate, moving the bill a step closer to final passage. The measure, which would ban nearly all abortions in the state, now returns to the House, which passed a different version earlier. The House must decide whether to accept changes made by the Senate, which passed its version 23-12 on Wednesday. The bill, carrying a penalty of up to five years in prison, would make it a felony for doctors or others to perform abortions. Supporters noted that the recent appointment of Justices John Roberts and Samuel Alito make the Supreme Court more likely to consider overturning the 1973 Roe v. Wade decision legalizing abortion.

■ **New Jersey sues administration:** New Jersey sued the Bush administration Thursday in an effort to block a company based in the United Arab Emirates from taking over operations at the Port Newark container terminal until the federal government investigates possible security risks. The owner of the shipping center, the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, said it also has security concerns about the takeover and plans to file a lawsuit Friday to terminate the firm's lease at the port. New Jersey's action was filed in U.S. District Court in Trenton but was expected to be transferred to the federal court in Newark, said Roger Shatzkin, a spokesman for the state attorney general's office. Port Authority Chairman Anthony Coscia said his agency would file a lawsuit Friday in New Jersey state Superior Court in Essex County.

Last week's issue of The Tiger included a graphic entitled, "Energy Wasted by Clemson University in the last fiscal year." The information should have represented the amount of energy used by Clemson, not wasted. The Tiger staff sincerely apologizes for the error.

30 seconds with...

Mandy Baker
Editor in Chief of TAPS

Jenny Mason: What is the one word that makes you cringe?

Mandy Baker: When "cute" is used over and over.

JM: Do you prefer to waste your time Facebook stalking or chatting on AIM?

MB: Probably Facebook stalking.

JM: What is the most stressful part about your job?

MB: The deadlines.

JM: What's your favorite aspect of working at TAPS?

MB: Getting the book at the end of the year and hearing people's reaction to it.

JM: What's the one thing you have left to do before you graduate?

MB: Play Frisbee on Bowman field. I think I'm one of five people who has never done it.

JM: What is your favorite place in Clemson?

MB: President's Park.

Students, lecturer protest

Journal says entering into drawing without donation is not fair.

CAROLINE STONE
STAFF WRITER

This past Tuesday the Tiger Town Observer cut short accepting tickets for their drawing of an AK-47 style rifle.

Andrew Davis, editor-in-chief of the Observer and the other staff members began accepting \$5 donations in return for chances to win the semi-automatic rifle last Monday.

According to South Carolina law, raffles are prohibited. To comply with SC Code Section 16-19-10 the Observer staff structured the give away as a drawing. In accordance with the law and University policies, no purchase was necessary to enter.

The drawing sparked the interest of the Clemson community.

English lecturer John Longo's English 103 students brought the drawing up in a class discussion.

As part of English 103, each class section is required to complete a community based writing project as one of their four major assignments.

"This semester, I wanted to give them more freedom," Longo said.

He said the students suggested protesting the drawing for their community based writing project. Longo's other section of English 103 is currently planning to work with Helping Hands of Clemson for their project.

"(The protest) got the class fired up; they really took off with it," he said.

Longo's class decided to print flyers to educate community members that they were not required to make a purchase to enter the drawing. Longo and his students set up a table alongside the Observer's

table on the Cooper Library bridge. They distributed flyers and displayed signs. Other undergraduate and graduate students from outside of the class also furthered the students' efforts to protest the drawing.

According to Longo, one student signed approximately 40 forms for the drawing. He said the members of the Observer heckled his students as they signed up for the drawing.

"They called us anti-American. They said we hated free speech," he said. "However, these students were exercising their free speech and engaged in the democratic process."

Davis said that the publication ended the entry period to protect the interests of the people who legitimately entered the drawing.

He said that if the publication allowed an unlimited number of people to enter, he feared it would ruin the nature of the drawing.

"It's not fair that someone who donated \$5 or \$50 dollars has to compete against someone who has entered 70 times without donating any money," Davis said.

Longo said the class has suggested donating the rifle to an artist who would melt it down into sculpture if one of the students wins the drawing. The class also discussed the possibility of donating the firearm to the University police department.

Longo declined to comment about his feelings toward the Observer's drawing; however, he said that he did not fill out a form to be entered in the drawing.

"I'm trying to keep my political bias out of it," he said.

He said that he asked his students repeatedly if anyone felt uncomfortable with the idea of protesting the drawing. While no students chose to abstain from protesting, he said the students had the opportunity to participate in alternate

activities. "It's just about taking a stand, he said."

Meanwhile, one Clemson student who is unaffiliated with Longo's class said he is planning to pursue legal action against the Observer after he was not able to turn in a high number of forms. The Observer cut its drawing short before the student was able to finish filling out and turn his forms.

Davis said the drawing protests have furthered the interest in the drawing.

After the publication stopped offering chances to win the rifle, the publication continued to accept donations. Wednesday afternoon, Davis said the paper has received hundreds of dollars in support.

Write for
the Tiger!

E-Mail
Jenny at
news@TheTiger
News.com

News By Numbers

1 Psycho Path Pvt. in Michigan ranked No. 1 in an online poll of the nation's wildest, weirdest and wackiest street names.

10 number of years whisky connoisseurs will have to wait to taste an age old whiskey recipe that's so strong, two spoonfuls could be lethal.

15 weight, in pounds, of a newborn baby girl in California.

In the Books

Campus Arrests

The following were arrests made by the Clemson University Police Department between Feb. 22 and March 1.

Feb. 24

9:49 p.m., Samantha Szatek, public disorderly conduct, Tillman, officer: Salisbury

March 1

2:26 a.m., Robert Canin, public disorderly conduct, Frat Quad, officer: Cassell

Crime Report

The following calls were among those that Clemson University Police responded to between Feb. 22 and March 1.

Feb. 22

2:24 p.m., motor vehicle accident, Ave. of Champions, officer: Demaio

4:21 p.m., larceny, Student Union, officer: Henriksen

8:09 p.m., motor vehicle accident, Hwy. 93, officer: Ashley

5:29 p.m., motor vehicle accident, Hwy. 93, officer: Henriksen

Feb. 23

1:38 a.m., motor vehicle accident, Old Stadium Road, officer: Cassell

6:19 p.m., simple larceny, Norris, officer: Ashley

11:49 p.m., skateboarding, Hendrix Center, officer: Hughey

Feb. 24

2:24 a.m., minor in possession, Cope, officer: Cassell

12:48 a.m., financial card fraud, Campus, officer: Demaio

5:17 p.m., motor vehicle accident, Hwy. 93, officer: Zagorski

Feb. 25

12:32 a.m., auto break in, Botanical Gardens, officer: Schutt

1:51 p.m., hit and run, STI, officer: Marzolf

6:33 p.m., stolen motorcycle, Calhoun Courts, officer: Marzolf

9:41 p.m., damage to property, Byrnes Hall, officer: Marzolf

Feb. 26

5:07 p.m., damage to property, Lot 13, officer: Clark

Feb. 27

2:25 a.m., auto break in, Benet, officer: Hughes

6:57 p.m., vehicle break in, Botanical Gardens, officer: Zagorski

7:57 p.m., breach of trust, Hendrix Center, officer: Zagorski

6:14 p.m., larceny, Fike, officer: Cheeks

March 1

4:05 a.m., simple assault, Cope Hall, officer: Salisbury

8:46 p.m., damage to vehicle, Fernow, officer: Schiraldi

Fire Report

The following calls were among those that Clemson University Fire Department responded to between Feb. 22 and March 1.

Feb. 22

8:18 p.m., fire alarm, Clemson House, CUFD

Feb. 23

9:33 a.m., fire alarm, Littlejohn, CUFD

11:33 p.m., fire alarm, Hendrix Center, CUFD

CLRC: Nursing building offers real hospital training for students *from page A1*

ent campuses and conference tables that also work as dry-erase boards.

The new facility is focused around mannequins made by Laerdal called SimMan. The new facility has both male and female mannequins and one that can even give birth.

Laerdal's SimMan has a realistic airway that allows for intubation, bag/valve mask ventilation and nasal airway placement. SimMan can have various airway complications including obstructions, decreased lung compliance, stomach distension and pneumothorax decompression.

SimMan also has a variety of cardiac functions including an ECG library that contains more than 2,500 cardiac rhythm variants.

CPR with both ventilation and chest compression can be performed with ECG and heart rate displayed on the simulated monitor. Bilateral carotid, brachial, radial and femoral pulses can be taken with their strength dependent on the blood pressure and anatomical position.

The right arm serves as the intravenous training arm with replaceable skin and veins.

SimMan can have lung, bowel, coughing, vomiting, moaning and vocal sounds, simulating the

patient's voice. Both male and female genitalia allow for catheterization procedures. The systems event log automatically records with stopwatch function and can be saved or printed.

The new research center "acts as an extension of the hospital," said Abigail Cox, a junior nursing major. "It allows you to get more comfortable with the procedures before you actually have to perform them. I like the set up, how it looks like a hospital. When I get here I feel like 'I'm at work, let's go.'"

Jessie Cowzan agrees. "It's like what you really encounter in the hospital, the same equipment — so it makes you more comfortable when you actually get there," she said.

"It is good to practice when you know someone's life isn't in your hands," said Casey O'Hanlan.

Willoughby administers a Stressful Situation Inventory of each student before then simulation and then after their next rotation of clinicals in the actual hospital. The new technology aims to help students deal with being in an emergency situation, in a new environment and physical contact with a stranger among others.

The Department of Nursing hopes to raise more money to further the technology in the near future.

HENDRIX: Ballroom dedication reminds future generations of legacy *from page A1*

a ballroom, is perfect because she has always tried to make student life better here at Clemson," Smith said.

The cost to name a Clemson ballroom after someone is \$150,000. Letters were sent out to all student affairs supporters and employees, to the 1974 graduating class of Clemson and boards she is on in the community. With more than 200 donors that committed to more than \$150,000, the Hendrix Center's ballrooms A and B are officially called the Almeda Jacks ballrooms with a sign over the ballroom's double doors.

During all of the planning

and raising money, Jacks was unaware. At the surprise ceremony more than 200 guests attended, including 30 family members. Under the impression that she was scheduled to speak at the opening of a luncheon for the student affairs boards, Jacks was a little confused when she got up to speak.

"She got up there and said, 'I'm supposed to open this program, but I'm not sure what the program is,'" Smith said.

Neill Cameron, vice president for University Housing, then asked Joy Smith and a few of her colleagues to come up, at which point Smith unveiled the dedication.

"(Jacks) was crying and saying how much this and Clemson meant to her. She thanked her family, and especially her mom, who was there also," Mohiuddin said.

While the ceremony was celebration, Jacks will be sincerely missed.

"It is hard to imagine the division of student affairs without Almeda being a part of it," Smith said. "We wanted to ensure that future generations of students would remember Almeda every time they walk by this room, because all the hard work she has done to make Clemson a better place for them to work, play and live."

ONE with ONE Parking Services

Faculty, staff and students are prohibited from parking in visitor spaces from 7:00 am to 9:00 pm. Removing your hangtag will not prevent receiving a parking citation.

27-3002: Visitor Parking Areas

A. Visitor parking areas shall be designated by sign(s) and/or pavement markings. These areas are reserved for bona fide visitors. Motor vehicles bearing a current university decal shall not park in these areas between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m.

B. Visitors must display a valid guest parking permit to park on campus except when parked:

For a period of time less than three (3) hours in areas specifically designated as visitor parking, unless otherwise indicated by sign or pavement markings.

In areas designated as public parking for a special event

In undesignated spaces

C. Visitors may not park in service vehicle parking areas or in parking areas posted as "Reserved for employees 24 hours."



Avoid Tickets, Park Stress Free.

www.stuaff.clemson.edu/parking/

STUDENT



AMANDA
MCDONALD

Amanda McDonald is a sophomore studying political science with a history minor. Last year McDonald served on Freshman Council, the Campus Events Committee as well as the Alcohol and Other Drug Task Force. At the end of the year McDonald was voted most outstanding member by her peers. McDonald has served in the president's cabinet as executive assistant to the student body president. As executive assistant she was the chairman of the Excellence in Teaching award selection and banquet. McDonald also established the first Assistants' Cabinet and helped with many of Clemson's student government projects such as philanthropy events and the Miss Homecoming Pageant. McDonald is an active member in the Student Alumni Council and Alpha Delta Pi sorority. As student body vice president McDonald would like to improve security for students and service for Clemson. McDonald hopes that her goals prove that she is here to directly serve the students and the University by meeting the urgent needs on this campus and by making sure these goals all pinpoint areas that lay the foundation for a greater vision.



TARA
HARRINGTON

Tara Harrington is a junior double-majoring in psychology and management. Harrington has served student government for the past three years as a member of Freshman Council as well as assistant director of Freshman Council during her sophomore year. Harrington is currently serving on the President's Cabinet as the organizations director, by which she acts as a liaison between all student organizations and the student government. If elected, Harrington would like to embrace tradition, enhance academics, expand campus communication and expand experiencing opportunities by providing realistic learning experiences for students. Harrington plans to create a Council on Traditions and a Tiger Traditions Day. "I am passionate about Clemson University, the students, and I am passionate about serving," Harrington said. "My distinct experience will provide the means to express this passion through dedication and service."



TYLER
GAILEY

Tyler Gailey is a sophomore studying political science. Gailey's experience includes undergraduate Student Senate representative for two years. During Gailey's freshman year he served on the Academic Affairs Committee. Gailey is currently serving as the chairman of the Health and Human Services Committee. Gailey hopes to create a campus environment where Intramurals are a campus wide event, not just a division. He also hopes to create a voice and a link between organizations and the student government through each representative senator. Lastly, Gailey hopes to create a week-long event called Clemstock that encompasses every aspect of the Clemson University campus. "I want people to remember how passionate I am for Clemson, and that I will work as hard as I can for every student on this campus," said Gailey. "It is my belief that together we can make a change, together we can make a difference, and together we can IMPACT CU!"



JOSH
LEE

Josh Lee is a senior studying industrial engineering and has been involved with student government for the past four years. He has served on Freshman Council, undergraduate Student Senate and on the President's Cabinet for two years. Lee said he understands fully what the job of student body president entails from his experience and interaction with 2004 President Adam Hammond and current President Katy Bayless. "It is definitely a day and night job, both on campus and off," said Lee.

Lee's platform focuses on University academics, collaboration and tradition (ACT). Academically, he plans on improving Clemson's career fairs and faculty advising for students. Lee said he will work through collaboration efforts to help students find a way to become more involved in campus activities and organizations. To preserve and promote Clemson tradition, Lee plans on coordinating away football game viewings for fans in Littlejohn Coliseum as he did this past year before ESPN decided to broadcast the Clemson-Carolina game.

"Clemson University has changed my life, and now I strive to make sure that it can have that same impact on each student here in some manner," said Lee. "I will ACT for you, and you will see the benefits."



WILLIAM
BEAMAN

William Beaman is a senior majoring in management. This past year he served on the Presidential Cabinet as the governmental affairs director, where he was responsible for not only representing Clemson students while on campus, but at the state level in Columbia as well. He also serves on the Council on Community and Diversity.

Beaman's platform revolves around promoting Clemson student voices through advocacy, communication and celebrating tradition (ACC). He plans to achieve these goals through the creation of a student advocacy group, which would function to strengthen the voice of the students in Columbia. He will also communicate with students to find out what they would like to see change on campus. Beaman said he would work to voice students' feelings on a personal level as well, through the celebration of tradition.

"I truly enjoy serving others; it is who I am," said Beaman. "My passion for serving others coupled with my leadership experience makes me ready to serve you all as your next student body president."



KATIE
SPEARMAN

Katie Spearman is a junior studying in civil engineering and has been involved with both the legislative and judicial branches of student government. She has also been very active in other organizations including Panhellenic Council, athletics and community service organizations. "I feel that I am very qualified and have the enthusiasm it takes to be student body president," said Spearman.

As president, Spearman hopes to refine the judicial system to ensure that the student code of conduct is both clear and accessible to Clemson students. Spearman also wants to create a University SafeRide Program that would provide transportation from downtown to local apartment complexes during the weekends after 2 a.m. If elected, she plans on decreasing the student body president personal stipend and redirecting that money back to the students and campus organizations, which would help to increase student organization involvement.

"Not always wrapped up in a pinstriped suit, I am just a small town girl from Saluda, S. C.," said Spearman. "I want to represent the common Clemson man and woman who loves Schilleter grilled cheese and wakes up at 8 a.m. to find their perfect tailgating spot on game days."

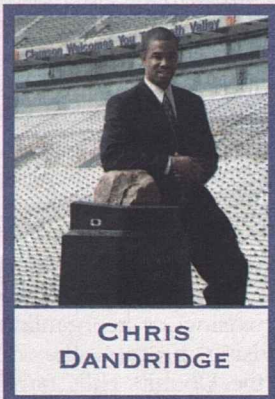
VICE PRESIDENT

PRESIDENT

GRADUATE
REPRESENTATIVES

ELECTIONS

LAURA EVANS
JENNIFER SALANE
STAFF WRITERS



CHRIS
DANDRIDGE

Chris Dandridge is a junior civil engineering major. Currently, Dandridge serves as the regional coordinator for the National Society of Black Engineers, which he said leaves him in charge of chapters in North Carolina and South Carolina. As regional coordinator, Dandridge arranges conferences for chapters in both states, and he said the demanding job has left him with enhanced leadership abilities and a deep understanding of determination, the importance of a vision and networking. As student body president, Dandridge plans to build a strong International Council in order to aid international students with their transition and "infusion" into campus life. He also hopes to have exams moved back a day in order to provide Saturday as a day for study. He also wants to increase benefits for resident assistants. Other aspects of Dandridge's platform include impacting the community, revitalizing student organizations and empowering students and faculty through more assistance in 300- and 400-level classes and professional development workshops.



STEPHEN
GOSNELL

Stephen Gosnell is a junior studying biological sciences and has served student government for the past three years. Gosnell has been involved with Freshman Council, Student Senate and is the current student body vice president. Over the past year, he has worked alongside current student body president Katy Bayless through the selection process of presidential cabinet members. Through his work Gosnell said he has gained invaluable experience and knowledge about what it means to be student body president. Gosnell said that he has fulfilled all campaign promises he made while running for the office of student body vice president last year.

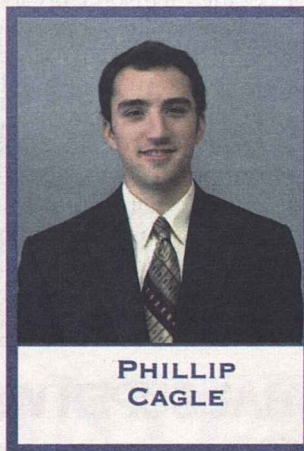
Gosnell's platform revolves around community service and changing the way student government reaches out to and serves the University's students daily. He plans on achieving this goal by increasing student communication and access to services by ensuring that each and every student's voice is heard. "My vision is one of service," said Gosnell.

Gosnell said he hopes that students will remember that student government exists to serve the students in all areas campus life and that he will work hard to preserve that function. "I have the most experience for the position, and this year's accomplishments show I keep my promises," said Gosnell.



ERECIA
HEPBURN

Erecia Hepburn, a second year policy studies graduate student, is running for president. She currently serves as the vice president of GSG as well as the acting president; the current president of GSG is in Washington for an EPA fellowship. Hepburn knows she is running for a position that requires dedication and commitment. Some of her goals include working with Graduate Students Living in Family Housing (GSLFH) to find suitable solutions for graduate students with families, and strengthen the relationship between advisors and students by taking surveys and to enhance the graduate student orientation through the use of video clips from personal experiences and a Web site.



PHILLIP
CAGLE

Phillip Cagle, a first year public administration graduate student, is running for vice president. His graduate program requires commuting to Greenville for class, which he says provides him with the opportunity to hear the concerns of others. In addition to this, Cagle's assistantship requires him to live on campus, enabling him to interact with other graduate students outside his program.

When elected vice president, Cagle sees this as an opportunity to "enhance the experience of students through encouraging improved coordination between the different departments, providing a mechanism for students to understand their peers' perspective concerning courses and instructors." Another issue he would like to address is to assist students facing challenges with local housing.



XIAOLI
LI

Xiaoli Li, a first year rhetoric, communication and information design graduate student, is running for treasurer. She currently serves as the treasurer for the International Students Association. Other experience includes sitting in at the University Budget Committee for two consecutive years when she worked on her master's in Ohio.

"I am willing to serve and I promise to strive for unity among graduate students, graduate students' involvement on campus and diversity," said Li.



ABHIJIT
KENJALE

Abhijit Kenjale, a first year transportation civil engineering graduate student, is running for secretary. He participates in various organizations such as the Institute of Transportation Engineering, the Rotaract Club, Awareness for India's Development and the Clemson Indian Students Association.

When elected secretary, Kenjale said he hopes to "encourage different programs which provide participatory learning experiences that allow for the enhancement of graduate students' academic, civic, social and professional development." Being an international student, he will be able to provide a platform for all the International students at Clemson and encourage more graduate student participation in the University process.

Yearbook 'TAPS' into recognition

TAPS staff looks toward upcoming competition.

TIFFANY VOSS
STAFF WRITER

The yearbook staff recently received national and state recognition for this year's TAPS.

Jostens Inc., a supplier of yearbooks, graduation products, class rings and school photography, featured TAPS in their publication, the "Gotcha Covered Look Book." This publication showcases yearbook covers, endsheets, spreads and photographs from yearbooks around the country. Jostens recognized the TAPS staff for their 2005 yearbook display cover.

The American Scholastic Press recently named the same edition of TAPS "Best University Yearbook." The association also awarded the yearbook "First Place with Special Merit."

Only publications with exceptional design and content receive the "First Place with Special Merit" award. According to TAPS' editor-in-chief Mandy Baker, the scoring rubric adds up to equal 1,000 points, and TAPS received 970 of them.

TAPS also entered the same 2005 edition in the Columbia Scholastic Press Association's Crown Awards. This association plans to announce the winners at the College Media Advisers' 82nd Annual Scholastic Convention on March 17.

Eight members of the staff

will attend this conference. During their stay, the staff members will have the opportunity to learn more about the "latest technology available to produce quality campus media, as well as opportunities to network with other students and advisers from around the country," said Baker.

The eight staff members also hope to hear TAPS announced as a winner as they review more than 500 newspapers, magazines and yearbooks that entered the competition. The TAPS yearbook and the other publications will be displayed at the convention.

"We are excited about the awards the 2005 Taps has already received and hopeful that the CMA conference will bring more awards," said Baker.

"The sophistication and quality of the work produced by yearbook staffs is remarkable," said Gary Lundgren, senior program manager. "The design, photography, reporting and journalistic quality of many school yearbooks approach the work of professionals." "The Jostens 'Gotcha Covered Look Book' features the best of the best," he said.

These accomplishments affect not only the students working with TAPS, but it is a source of pride for the faculty and students purchasing the yearbook benefit as well.

According to the American Scholastic Press's Web site, "Many studies have shown that the school yearbook is the one single item most often saved by graduates and can be located by most people even 10 years later."

DEBATE: Candidates explain organized plans for upcoming year *from page A1*

meetings, said that he wants to improve diversity issues on campus. "We're in this together; we're not separate," he said.

Tara Harrington, a junior studying psychology and management, is the third vice presidential candidate. Harrington coins her platform as "A Tradition of Progress."

Harrington said she hopes to create a committee to work "hand-in-hand with the organizations director." She said she hopes to build "that one Clemson that we all hear about."

William Beaman, Chris Dandridge, Stephen Gosnell, Josh Lee and Katie Spearman, running for the presidency, discussed a variety of issues beginning with the University's differential tuition plans.

Lee said that student government recognizes the impact it has on students like members of the College of Business and Behavioral Sciences, who received an increasing tuition this past year. He said that he wished student government could have worked closer with the administration before the differential tuition system was

put in place, but that he would do everything he could to make sure that it would never happen again. "No student should be paying more for education that another student could be receiving at the same price," said Lee.

"I'm a firm believer in one Clemson," said Spearman. "I think if Business and Behavioral Science needs that extra money, we should do it together. Let's raise all of our tuition 50 cents if we have to bring that money back."

Each candidate discussed what they thought was the main concern for students.

"I feel that the number one concern that student's have is communication," said Gosnell. "Communication is a very broad issue, and when you think about the problems we have had in the past year, it kind of embodies everything."

Dandridge said he felt that student's biggest concern was parking, while Lee, Beaman and Spearman all agreed with Gosnell, that communication was the main concern for students.

In a reply to Gosnell, who

asked if Dandridge's inexperience would hinder his ability to serve, Dandridge said, "I would not call it necessarily a lack of experience. I would call it more training in other areas."

The candidates also discussed their views on South Carolina Governor Mark Sanford's proposed tuition cap on in-state tuition.

Gosnell said that he did not support the tuition cap because it would cause Clemson to lose ground after so much progress has been made to the University.

Beaman said that through his position as the Governmental Affairs Director he and other student advocates were in the process of fighting the tuition cap and trying to stop the proposal before it is passed by the State Senate.

Other issues the candidates discussed during the debate included Barker's stance on land use, increasing or reorganizing the advising process, the closure of the Douthett Hills family housing and the involvement of students lobbying in Columbia for the increase of state-funded tuition.

FANG: Victim of armed robbery warns student body about night safety *from page A1*

them all my money," said Fang. "When I hesitated one of the men showed me a gun."

Before Fang could turn over his wallet, he said he was attacked by the men. According to Fang, he was beaten about his head and face and knocked unconscious. When Fang awoke, he said the men and his wallet were gone.

Though Fang suffered no serious injury, Fang worries that his

mugging might signal the start of more crime in Clemson.

"I think that as the city and University grow it is inevitable that more of a criminal element is attracted," said Fang. "In my 10 years at Clemson my family and I have never felt unsafe, but now we make sure to lock the door every night."

Clemson Mayor Larry Abernathy described Clemson as a safe place to live and raise a family in his State of Clemson address on Feb. 9, and disagreed with Fang's assertion that Clemson is becoming unsafe.

"I truly regret the trauma Mr. Fang had to experience," said Abernathy. "But I do not see it as an indicator that crime is going to increase or that there are worse things to come. The quick apprehension of the criminals that assaulted Mr. Fang sends a message to not try crime in

Clemson."

The four men, all local high school students, were identified using the new video surveillance system in the parking deck, according to Abernathy.

Abernathy said that since all four arrested were local youth, the incident hardly suggests a growing criminal infrastructure in Clemson.

Abernathy also referenced Clemson's 80 percent rate of clearing criminal cases as evidence that crime is under control in Clemson. He said, in comparison the national average for clearing criminal cases is approximately 20 percent.

"I don't think the growth of Clemson is going to increase crime," said Abernathy. "The majority of development is low impact with no detrimental effect. It just improves the quality of life and enhances the tax base."



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SPORTS

SECTION
B

ROY WELSH

staff writer

O'Neil belongs in HOF

On Monday, twelve baseball writers had the chance to vote a number of old Negro League players into the Hall of Fame. Seventeen people were voted into the hall, and somehow, the most deserving of all the names was inexplicably left off of the list — the name of John "Buck" O'Neil.

Buck O'Neil, along with Josh Gibson and Satchel Paige, was one of the three most famous players of the Negro Leagues. O'Neil's influence on baseball didn't stop with the Negro Leagues — he has spent a lifetime loving and affecting one of the most important aspects of Americana. Born in Carabelle, Fla., in 1911, O'Neil grew up in times of racism, not realizing the extent of the contribution he would one day make on America's pastime. While few from mainstream America know his name, his impact as an ambassador of the game of baseball has been indescribable.

He spent the duration of his career with the Kansas City Monarchs, leading the Monarchs to the 1942 Negro League World Series title over the Homestead Grays. He never played in the Major Leagues as a player, but when O'Neil was signed by the Chicago Cubs as a scout, he went on to impact the North Side franchise. O'Neil scouted hall-of-famer Ernie Banks for the Cubs, and became the Cubs' (and the Majors') first black coach in 1962.

Interviewed countless times for Ken Burns' documentary "Baseball," O'Neil told story after story about his experiences, bringing his love of the game to light. O'Neil still reminisces upon stories of how much he loved to hear the crack of the bat when Babe Ruth or Josh Gibson crushed a ball out of the park. The joy

see **BUCK**, page B3

Hoopsters sweep Virginia teams

Tigers beat Virginia and Virginia Tech in consecutive games.

KRISTEN MCKENNA
STAFF WRITER

Shawan Robinson scored 22 points and Vernon Hamilton tied Clemson's single-season record for steals, leading the Tiger basketball team to a huge 90-64 victory over Virginia last Saturday at Littlejohn Coliseum.

Clemson gained an early double-digit lead in the first half of the game and at one point led the Cavaliers by as many as 25 points. The Tigers scored 18 points in the first half of play due to 16 turnovers by the Cavaliers. Virginia had previously been averaging 14 turnovers a game; however, after Saturday's game the team had racked up a season-high 28 turnovers.

The teams went into the locker rooms at the half with Clemson leading 46-35.

With 11:16 remaining, the Tigers went on a 17-5 run to make the score 66-45, with Akin Akingbala scoring 14 points and center Steve Allen scoring 11

of his own. Clemson had five players score in double-digits against the Cavs.

Vernon Hamilton had five steals in the game, which tied the single-season record held by Chris Whitney since the 1992-93 season.

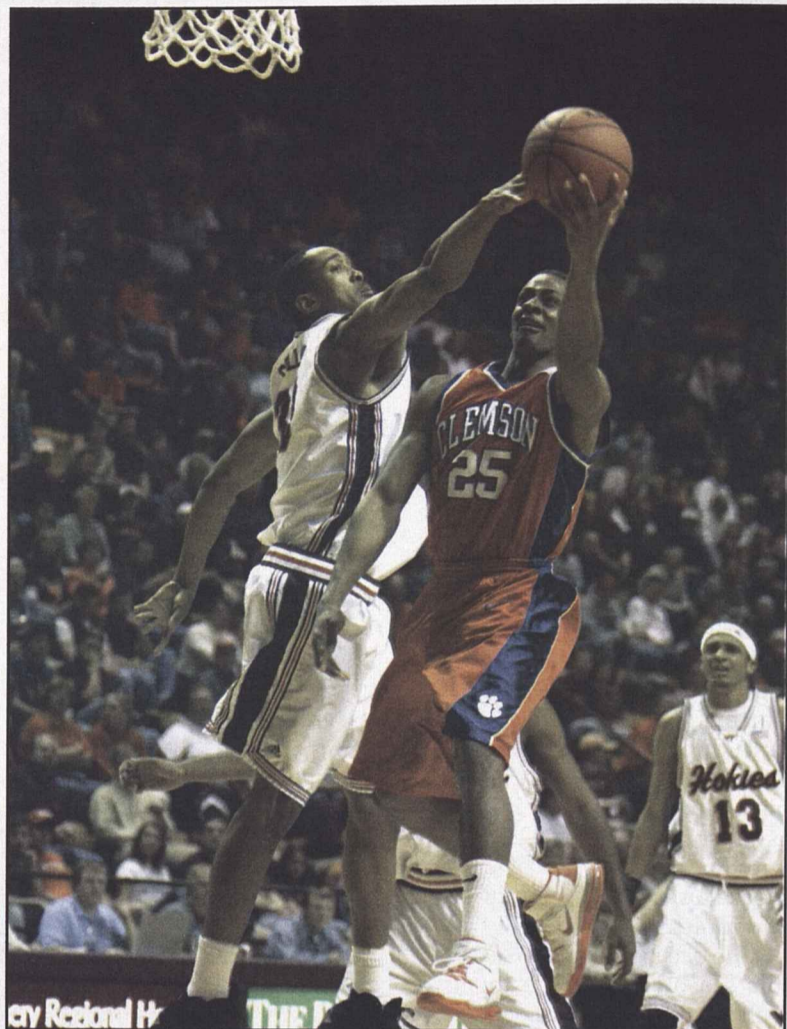
Sean Singletary led Virginia in scoring with 25 points, and J.R. Reynolds had 11.

Virginia's Jason Cain, who normally averages 32 minutes of playing time each game, lasted only nine minutes total after he yelled at the Cavaliers' assistant coach Steve Seymour.

Clemson's 25-point victory over Virginia was the team's largest since beating Florida State 84-58 in the latter part of the 1999-2000 season.

On Wednesday night the Tigers traveled to Blacksburg, Va., to take on the Virginia Tech Hokies in an ACC match-up. The Tigers came away with the win after the lead changed hands several times down the stretch. In the end, Clemson's luck finally went for the better as the Tigers went on a 14-2 run with just under four minutes left to come away with an 86-81 win.

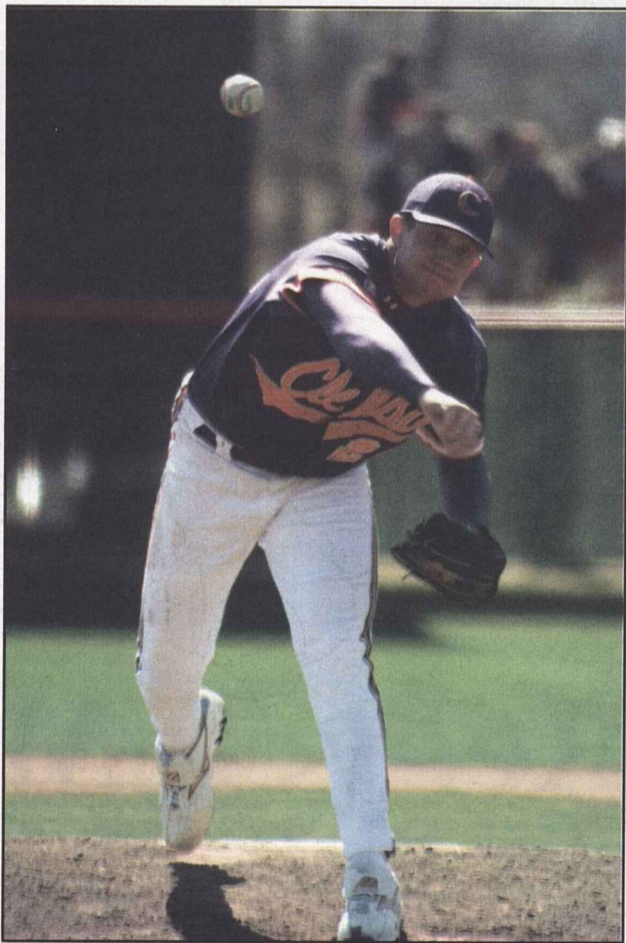
Akingbala continued his

see **WINS**, page B3

COURTESY JAMES LANG

UP AND UNDER: Clemson sophomore Cliff Hammonds goes up for a shot in the Tigers' 86-81 victory over Va. Tech Wednesday.

Tigers take two of three from Bears



BRIAN SCHNEIDER/staff

HURLER: Clemson pitcher Stephen Faris delivers a pitch to the plate against Mercer last weekend.

Tigers win Friday, lose first half of Sunday double-header, but win series finale.

ZACK MAULDIN
SPORTS LAYOUT EDITOR

Despite losing their first game of the season last weekend to the Mercer Bears, the Clemson Tiger baseball team is No. 1 in two of the three major national polls.

The Tigers sit atop the Baseball America poll for the fourth straight week and moved into the No. 1 spot on the Collegiate Baseball poll after former top-ranked Florida lost two games last week. Clemson is No. 3 in the ESPN/USA Today poll, behind conference foe Georgia Tech and Rice.

The Tigers opened the Mercer series last Friday with a 5-1 victory at Doug Kingsmore Stadium.

Junior transfer Marquez Smith and senior Travis Storrer led Clemson offensively, as they knocked three-run doubles in the third and seventh innings, respectively. In the fifth inning, junior Tyler Colvin hit his fourth home run in as many games this season.

Jason Berken got the win for the Tigers, despite getting in only four

innings of work. The junior, who returned this season from Tommy John surgery to be Clemson's No. 1 starter, struck out three and gave up five hits.

The Bears' lone run came in the top of the ninth when Sean McCahill hit a sacrifice fly that scored Steve Karwatt. Mercer stranded 10 base runners and grounded in three double plays.

The game scheduled for Saturday afternoon between the Bears and the Tigers was rained out, so the two teams played a double-header beginning at noon on Sunday.

Mercer plated three unearned runs in the eighth inning to take a 3-2 win at Kingsmore Stadium, the first loss of the year for Clemson and first in the last 12 games played in Tigertown, dating back to last season.

It was Mercer's second win of the season over a team ranked No. 1. Earlier in the year the Bears beat Florida while they were the top-ranked squad in the Collegiate Baseball poll.

Once again, Colvin was the catalyst from the batter's box for the Tigers, going 3-for-4 with a double, an RBI and a run scored. Colvin's offense was not enough to lead Clemson past Mercer's three-run eighth.

Colvin singled to score Herman Demmink on only the third pitch of

see **DIAMOND**, page B3

TIGER SCHEDULE

FRIDAY 3/3

Men's Tennis

vs. Georgia St. — Atlanta, Ga. — 2:30 p.m.

Baseball

College of Charleston — Mt. Pleasant, S.C. — 5 p.m.

Women's Track

Iowa State Invitational — Ames, Iowa — All Day

Women's Track

Alex Wilson Invitational — South Bend, Ind. — All Day

Women's Track

Virginia Tech Qualifier — Blacksburg, Va. — All Day

Men's Track

Iowa State Invitational — Ames, Iowa — All Day

Men's Track

Notre Dame Invitational — South Bend, Ind. — All Day

SATURDAY 3/3

Women's Rowing

vs. Eastern Michigan — Clemson, S.C. — 9 a.m.

Women's Tennis

vs. Harvard — Boston, Mass. — 1 p.m.

Men's Tennis

vs. Miami — Clemson, S.C. — 1 p.m.

Baseball

South Carolina — Columbia, S.C. — 1:30 p.m.

Men's Basketball

Georgia Tech — Clemson, S.C. — 2 p.m.

INSIDE



Cliff Hammonds and the Tigers will return to Littlejohn Coliseum tomorrow for Senior Day against GT, Page B5.

Seniors ready for last home ACC contest

Shawan Robinson, Akin Akingbala and Steve Allen will leave lasting impression

ERIC SPROTT
STAFF WRITER

With March Madness right around the corner, Clemson will be playing their final regular-season game tomorrow when they host the Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets. While the main goal for the Tigers is to pick up a win to secure a better position in the ACC Tournament, this game also provides the opportunity to honor the three Tiger seniors: Akin Akingbala, Steve Allen and Shawan Robinson.

Akingbala, who backed up former Tiger center Sharrod Ford for three seasons, has really come into his own during his senior season. After starting 17 games during his first three seasons, Akingbala earned a reputation for the big play. He led the team in dunks as a sophomore in 2003-2004 with 26. He also had at least 20 blocked shots in his sophomore and junior years.

He became a full-time starter this season and has responded well to the challenge. Entering the final week of regular season play, Akingbala averages 11 points per game, 7.3 rebounds per game and 37 registered blocks. His field goal percentage is outstanding at 57 percent, which is surprisingly his career low. Entering this season, he was a 60 percent career shooter.

His play has noticeably improved during the home stretch of the season as he has had to carry the load for the Tigers after the loss of starting forward James Mays. In February he recorded double-doubles against North Carolina, Virginia Tech and Maryland. He also scored a career high in points with 21 at Boston College on Feb. 11.

His backup, Steve Allen, has been on campus longer

than any other Tiger. He played sparingly his freshman year (2001-2002) under former coach Larry Shyatt, as he learned from former Tiger big men Ray Henderson and Chris Hobbs. He redshirted the next season and had been a small-time player for most of his career.

Allen, who had not seen the court for more than 80 minutes in a season coming into this year, has seen his playing time increase dramatically this season. He has played more than 350 minutes this season and has easily set career highs in all areas of play.

Like Akingbala, Allen's play has improved since the ACC season got under way. His best game came last week in the run-away win against Virginia. He tied his career high in points, 11, while blocking a pair of shots.

The final Tiger senior, Shawan Robinson, has had the longest lasting impact for the Tigers. Known as a tee-shirt wearing sharpshooter, he has averaged more than 10 points every year since his sophomore year. Being a part-time starter most of his career, he has given the Tigers solid bench play and has responded well in his starting opportunities.

Robinson's trademark during his four years has been his ability to hit the three point shot. With 51 percent of his points coming on three point shots, he has moved himself into the top 25 all-time scoring list for Clemson. He is also third on the Tiger's career list for three point shots.

Additionally, he is the only Tiger that had consistent success from the free-throw line. Entering the year shooting 78 percent for his career, he has exceeded that and is shooting .913 percent, which is the fourth best single season free throw percentage in ACC history.

Although the Tigers could find themselves with a home game in the NIT, make sure to come show your appreciation for their hard work over the years on Saturday. Tip off is scheduled for 2 p.m.

Tigers face tough weekend

Tigers travel to face C of C, then play home and home against South Carolina

ERIC TABONE
STAFF WRITER

The Tigers (5-1) travel this weekend to take on the College of Charleston (7-2) on Friday and in-state rival South Carolina (8-1) on Saturday and Sunday. Clemson ranked number one in both major polls.

After six games the Tigers lead the ACC with a 0.83 ERA, 51 strikeouts and 17 walks. Juniors Stephen Faris and Jason Berken remain lethal weapons, both with an ERA of 0.00.

Facing two offensive driven clubs, the Clemson bullpen will need help from their offense. Tyler Colvin, batting .450 with

four homeruns in only six games will have his hands full against a good pitching staff at C of C and a blazing one in Columbia.

The Cougars are currently 6-0 at home and riding a four-game winning streak. The Tigers face a very stout Cougar offense on Friday. The Cougars are currently swinging bats of fire with three players batting more than .400 and five batting more than .300. Phillip Cocker leads the way with a team high average of .439.

While their bats are smoking, the Cougars only have three team homeruns in nine games.

After Clemson's one night stand against College of Charleston, they'll make their way back up Interstate 26 to face the number nine Gamecocks, once in Columbia and then back home to Clemson for game two. South Carolina is riding a seven game winning streak.

The offensive threat is not as apparent in Carolina as it will be

against College of Charleston, but unlike the Cougars, the Gamecocks tend to go yard more often, hitting 10 homeruns in their first nine games. The Gamecocks leading batter Neil Giesler is out to make it tough for Clemson with a .462 batting average. Other notable Gamecocks include Justin Smoak, who is hitting .333 and carries a team high four doubles, and Robbie Grinstead, who leads the team with four homeruns and 14 RBIs. South Carolina also carries a very marketable pitching staff with a team ERA of 1.63 with 91 strikeouts. Arik Hempy remains nearly perfect on the year with a 0.00 ERA, 10 strikeouts and one walk after eight innings pitched.

The College of Charleston game will begin at 5 p.m. today. The first pitch for Saturday's game in Columbia is scheduled for 1:30 p.m., with the last of the two game series starting at 2 p.m. at Doug Kingsmore Stadium.



BRIAN SCHNEIDER/staff

HERMINATOR: Clemson's Herman Demmink swings at a pitch on Sunday afternoon against the Mercer Bears. The Tigers will take on the College of Charleston and USC this weekend.

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BUCK: Negro Leaguer deserves Hall bid *from page B1*

the man brings to his story-telling takes Americans back to when they were children and viewed their favorite players as heroes. Buck O'Neil was the type of man you wanted to look up to, the kind of person who is becoming rarer and rarer in sports today. He was always happy; he played because he loved the game, not the money — and he was a good ballplayer.

O'Neil's most admirable quality is his optimism and joy for life. And despite the fact that he lived through a period of segregation that kept him from playing in the Major Leagues, he is somehow free of bitterness. When one suggests that segregation cheated him out of playing in the Major Leagues, O'Neil is quick to disagree.

While players' worthiness (or unworthiness) for the entrance to the Hall are often based on numbers, O'Neil's contribution to baseball transcends any stat sheet or scorecard. The 94 year old still brings the joy to game that he had as a poor kid growing up in rural Florida. The old

man who loves the sport more than anyone on the planet may never get to see himself in Cooperstown, but that still doesn't bother him. After his snubbing by the Hall voters, O'Neil still seemed excited about speaking at the ceremony to honor the accomplishments of his fellow African-American ballplayers. Leave it to Buck O'Neil, baseball's greatest living ambassador, to treat the occasion with dignity and class.

So when I see another Pete Rose interview featuring Charlie Hustle's whining about being banned from baseball, I'll try not to laugh. I'll remember that Buck O'Neil was banned from playing in the Majors because of the color of his skin.

I'll remember that he forgave the wrongdoings of society and I'll remember that he loves the game more than anyone alive. I'll remember that he should be in the greatest baseball fraternity next to players like Jackie Robinson, Josh Gibson and Satchel Paige.

Here's to you, Buck, you're the greatest we've got left.

WINS: Tigers beat UVA, Va. Tech *from page B1*

scalding hot play with 21 points and 16 rebounds. It was the seventh time in the last eight games that Akingbala has scored in double figures. The senior center was 7-12 from the field and 7-11 from the charity stripe.

Cliff Hammonds chipped in 18 points and was 3-5 from three-point land in 32 minutes of play. Also scoring in double figures was senior Shawan Robinson who had 17 points and was an amazing 5-8 from long range. The last Tiger in double figures was the ever-energetic Sam Perry who scored 10 points to go along with four rebounds.

Junior Vernon Hamilton completed the minimum one steal requirement and eclipsed the single-season record held by Whitney. Hamilton also had seven points, three assists and one rebound.

As a team, Clemson continued to improve on their free-throw shooting 77.8 percent on the night. The Tigers were an impressive 59.1 percent on three-pointers and out-rebounded the Hokies 34-31.

With the win, the Tigers improve their record to 17-11 overall and 6-9 in conference play. Virginia Tech falls to 14-14 overall and 4-11 in ACC play.

The Tigers will next be in action tomorrow against the Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets. The Jackets bring an overall record of 11-15 overall and 4-11 in conference play into the contest. Tip-off is scheduled for 2 p.m. at Clemson's Littlejohn Coliseum. Tomorrow is Senior Day, and three Tigers (Robinson, Allen and Akingbala) will play their last conference game on their home court.

DIAMOND: Clemson beats Mercer *from page B1*

the game and give the Tigers a 1-0 game in the first inning.

Jason Lowey singled to left-center to score Josh Thompson, and Karwatt knocked a two-run single to give the Bears a 3-1 lead in the top of the eighth.

Colvin then beat out an infield single in the bottom of the eighth and later scored on a fielder's choice to cut the Bears' lead to 3-2. The Tigers left the bases loaded, however, when Ben Hall struck out.

Mercer's Andrew Urena forced Clemson to go three up, three down in the ninth to get the save. Shawn Barrett got the

win for the Bears, while Daniel Moskos took the loss for the Tigers.

In the third game of the weekend set, Clemson bounced back for a big 9-4 win.

Junior first baseman Andy D'Alessio provided the spark offensively in this game, finishing 3-for-4 with two doubles, three RBIs and two runs scored.

After the Bears got on the board in the first inning with an RBI groundout from Barrett to score McCahill, Clemson scored three in the bottom of the first and never looked back.

Senior right-hander Josh

Cribb gave up three runs and five hits in six innings of action to take the win for the Tigers. Mercer's Hunter Abercrombie gave up eight runs and 10 hits in only 4.2 innings to get the loss.

Today, the Tigers will take on the College of Charleston at 5 p.m. in Mount Pleasant, S.C.

Clemson will play a home and home series with South Carolina this weekend as well, taking on the Gamecocks at 1:30 p.m. tomorrow at Sarge Frye Field in Columbia, then returning to play host at Doug Kingsmore Stadium at 2 p.m. on Sunday.

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Several Tigers set career bests at ACC's

True freshman Thomas Niemeier qualifies for NCAA in 200-meter freestyle.

ALEX SERENO
STAFF WRITER

The Clemson Men's Swimming and Diving team had a very important week last week. The men's team competed in the ACC championships from Feb. 22 through Feb. 25 in College Park, Md.

The Tigers finished seventh in the ACC, scoring 293 points, Virginia won their eighth straight ACC title, edging Florida State by just 8.5 points (694 to 685.5).

Individually, several Tigers had impressive performances with sophomore Mark Vahle recording a Clemson record 19.66 second time in preliminary rounds of the 50-meter freestyle and earning an automatic NCAA bid.

Joel Johnson, a junior from North Augusta, recorded a 49 second time in the 100-meter backstroke, which was good enough for fourth all time in Clemson history and a silver medal.

Jonathon Mengerling, a six foot-eight senior from Rockville, Md., recorded a career best time of 15:24.85 in the finals of the 1650-meter freestyle.

This time kept him in the

top eight swimmers and was good enough to qualify provisionally for the NCAA tournament.

Brian Regone posted a qualifying time for the NCAA provisional round, as well, finishing eighth in the 100-meter freestyle with a time of 44.64. Regone is a junior from Houston, Texas.

Attila Ruzsika also qualified for the NCAA provisional round with a time of 55.43 in the 100-meter breaststroke. Other Tiger swimmers who recorded career best times last week were Steven Russell, Charlie Dillon, Greg Middleton and Thomas Niemeier.

The Tigers' Thomas Niemeier set a personal record in the 200-meter butterfly. Niemeier also qualified for the NCAA tournament with a time of 1:50.23.

That figure was good enough for ninth all-time among Clemson swimmers. The future should pay dividends for Nermeier as he is a true-freshman.

The Tigers' 400-meter freestyle relay team, consisting of Vahle, Russell, Matt Balderston and Regone, made the NCAA provisional cut with a combined time of 2:59.18.

The Tigers will next compete in the Men's Last Chance Meet, Mar. 4 in Athens, Ga., which will be the last meet of the regular season for the Tigers. The NCAA tournament starts March 23, also in Athens, Ga.

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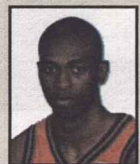
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LEAST ONE DOZEN

IN the PAINT

This Saturday, the Clemson Tigers will host the Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets for Senior Day at Littlejohn Coliseum. The Tigers are looking for their third straight ACC victory. Tip off is at 2 p.m.

KEY PLAYERS



Akin Akingbala
Senior
Center - 6'9"
11 PPG, 7.3 RPG



Ra'Sean Dickey
Sophomore
Center - 6'9"
13 PPG, 6.3 RPG

MATCHUPS

OFFENSE



Georgia Tech is consistent with three players averaging in double figures.

DEFENSE



Clemson forced 27 turnovers when the teams met in Atlanta earlier this year.

WHO'S HOT



Akin Akingbala has scored in double figures in seven of his last eight games.

WHO WILL WIN?



The Tigers and their senior trio will not dissappoint on a special day.

WILD CARD ♣ ♠ ♥ ♦

The Tigers will need to keep their free throw percentage up if they intend to avoid another tight finish and wrap up their 18th win.

KEY S.T.A.T 3.3

Clemson has a turnover margin of +3.3 for the season. This is the third best single season turnover margin in school history. Turnovers have been a huge reason for the Tigers' success this season.

OVERTIME

Clemson is on pace to break the school record for steals forced in a season. They average 11.11 per game, which will easily break the record if the pace continues.

Georgia Tech is next to last in turnovers in the ACC. They average -2.93 turnovers per conference game.

Georgia Tech has one of the youngest teams in the ACC with just one senior, five sophomores and eight freshmen overall.

If this Senior Day is anything like last year's, the Jackets should prepare to have their hearts broken. Clemson defeated Virginia Tech last season at the buzzer on an Olu Baballola pass to Sharrod Ford for a slam dunk with no time left to beat the Hokies 66-64 on Senior Night. Both were seniors.

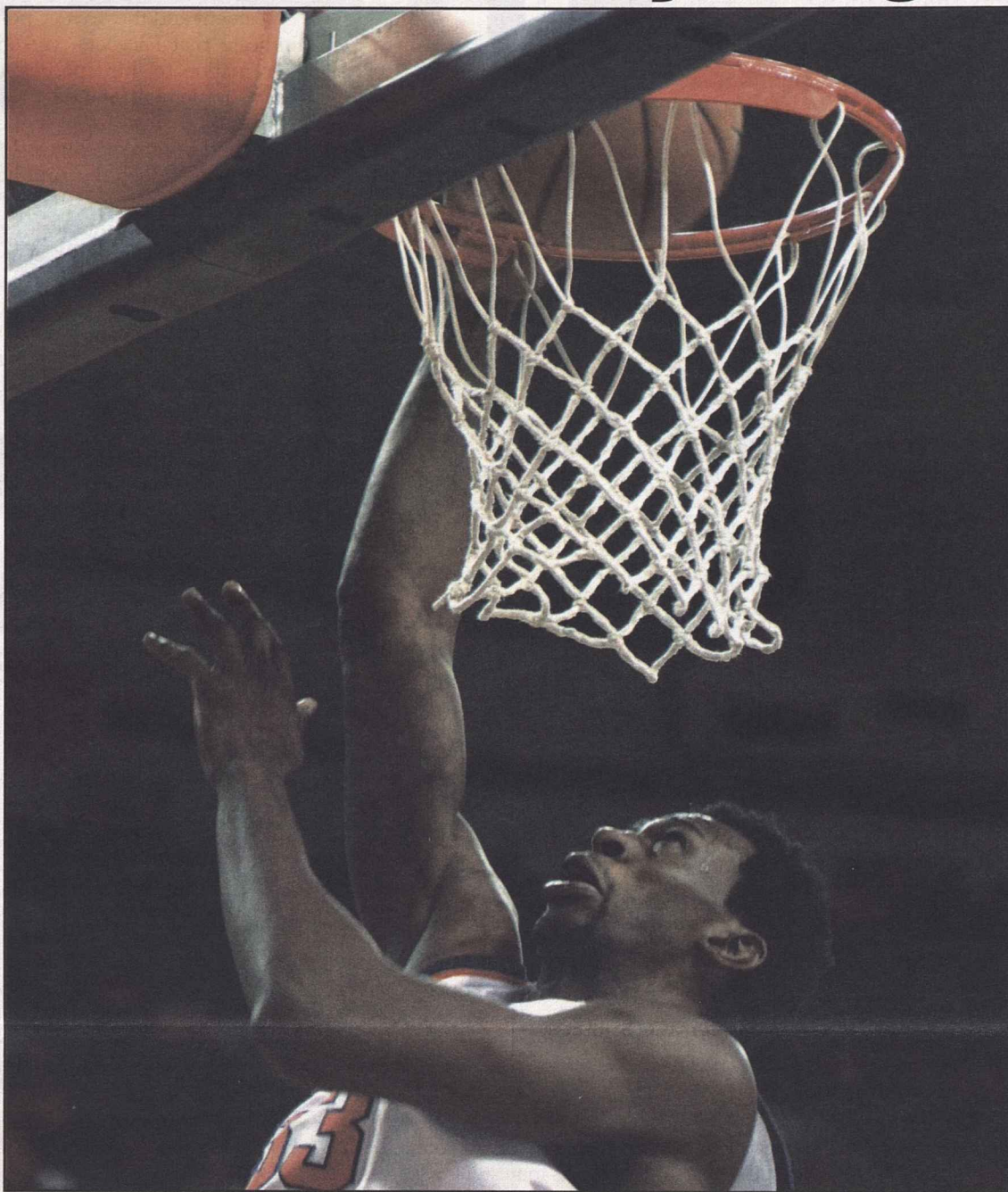
FullCourtPRESS

Tip-off: Saturday, 2 p.m.

TV: RJ

Radio: Clemson Sports Network

Seniors ready to go



LIZ HUNTER/staff

JAMMIT: Clemson center Akin Akingbala slams the ball home. Tomorrow, Akingbala and the other two seniors on the Tiger squad play their last ACC game in Littlejohn Coliseum.

Tigers try to win third consecutive conference game on Senior Day in Littlejohn Coliseum.

SARAH PORRI
STAFF WRITER

After traveling to Blacksburg, Va., on Wednesday, the Tigers will be set to face the Yellow Jackets of Georgia Tech. They will play at the Tigers home court of Little John Coliseum on Saturday at 2 p.m. Going into this game, the Tigers have 16 overall wins and five ACC wins, matching the win total that they had last season. The Jackets have 11 overall wins combined with four ACC wins before heading up to Clemson.

Last year in Atlanta, Ga., the Tigers fell to the Jackets 64-56. This was not a good game for the Tigers, as it ended their three game winning streak. That night the Tigers made only nine of 24 attempted free throws. The Jackets are coming to Clemson with a chance to improve their rank before the ACC tournament, which begins March 9 in Greensboro, N.C. The Tigers are

also looking for a way to cap off their season with their last game being in front of the Tiger faithful.

Key players for the Yellow Jackets include Anthony Morrow and Ra'Sean Dickey. Both players had 16 and 15 points, respectively, in the win last week over Wake Forest, 76-61. Another highlight from that game was freshman Lewis Clinch's career-high of 20 points. On the flip side, the Tigers will send out Shawan Robinson and Akin Akingbala to try and stop the Jackets.

Robinson had 22 points and Akingbala scored 14 points in the 90-64 win over Virginia last Saturday. That win marked an ACC high-point margin of 26, the largest since an 84-58 win over Florida State in the 1999-2000 season.

Adding to the mix of Clemson players is Vernon Hamilton, set the Clemson single season record against Virginia Tech on Wednesday night.

Along with this being the final home game for the Tigers, it also marks Clemson's Senior Night.

Steve Allen, Shawan Robinson and Akin Akingbala (wearing jersey numbers 4, 22 and 33, respectively) will all be honored for the devotion they have shown in advancing the Clemson men's basketball program to the next level.

It will be a memorable moment as these three seniors play their final game in front of the home crowd at Littlejohn Coliseum. Tip off is scheduled for 2 p.m.



Standings

Team	Conf.	Overall
Duke	14-1	27-2
UNC	11-4	20-6
BC	10-5	23-6
NC State	10-5	21-7
FSU	8-7	18-8
Maryland	7-8	17-11
Virginia	7-8	14-12
Miami	7-9	15-14
Clemson	6-9	17-11
Va. Tech	4-10	14-13
Ga. Tech	4-11	11-15
Wake	2-13	14-15

ACC Schedule

Saturday

Va. Tech at BC, noon
Ga. Tech at Clemson, 2 p.m.
NC State at Wake, 4 p.m.
UNC at Duke, 9 p.m.

Sunday

Florida State at Miami, 1 p.m.
Maryland at Virginia, 3:30 p.m.

Thursday

ACC Tourney, Opening Round

Friday

ACC Tourney, Quarterfinals

Saturday

ACC Tourney, Semifinals

AP top 25

1. Duke (65)
2. Connecticut (6)
3. Memphis (1)
4. Villanova
5. Gonzaga
6. Texas
7. George Washington
8. Pittsburgh
9. Ohio State
10. Illinois
11. Tennessee
12. Boston College
13. North Carolina
14. Washington
15. UCLA
16. West Virginia
17. Florida
18. Kansas
19. Oklahoma
20. Georgetown
21. LSU
22. N.C. State
23. Iowa
24. Nevada
25. Michigan State

The Numbers Game

.8

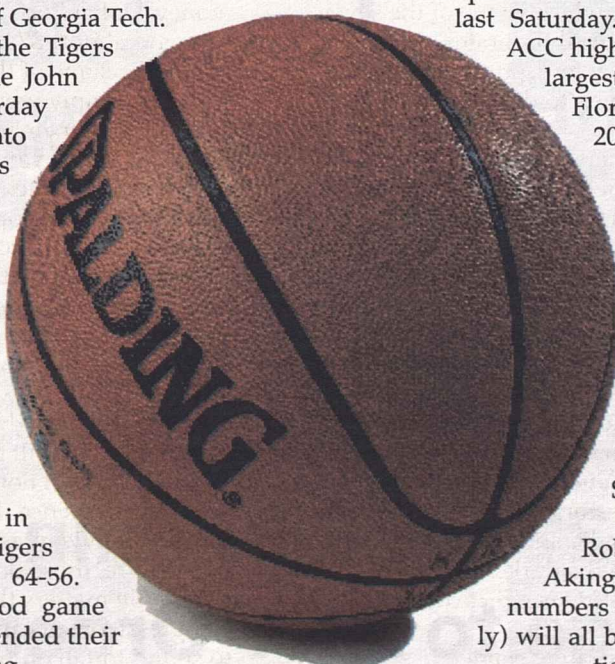
Difference in points per game between National Player of the Year front-runners Adam Morrison of Gonzaga (28.8) and J.J. Redick (28). The high-scoring guards are also close friends.

69.8

Field goal percentage for the NCAA leader, Birmingham Southern Panthers forward/center Sredrick Powe. Powe is averaging 10.5 points per game for his squad in the Big South Conference.

99

Sports teams at 65 Division I colleges and universities that will lose scholarships for poor scholastic performance by their student-athletes. That is less than 2 percent of 6,112 Division I sports teams nationwide. Only seven teams from the six power conferences received sanctions.



CLEMSON
Georgia Tech vs.

PERSPECTIVES

SECTION
C

Beware what you post on Facebook

Authorities in Colorado arrested a 16-year old boy for the possession of a handgun by a minor. The arrest was based on photos the boy posted on his MySpace profile. The pictures showed him posing with handguns and rifles. Some of the boy's friends saw the photos and showed them to their parents, who in turn informed school officials and the police.

This may be an extreme scenario, but it highlights some of the dangers associated with relatively new social networking Web sites such as MySpace and Facebook. Information that is meant only for friends becomes instantly accessible by all sorts of people.

This incident is by no means an isolated one. Connecticut authorities are investigating reports that seven girls were sexually assaulted by older men they met on MySpace. Perhaps of more relevance to college students, reports circulate of college police breaking up parties or arresting people based on evidence found in Facebook profiles. Some employers have even taken to examining potential employees' Facebook profiles as a component of the final job screening process.

These and other incidents all point to a disparity between who students think accesses their profiles and who actually can and does view information about them. The Internet has long been associated with anonymous and freewheeling communication. The current college generation grew up during the advent of chat rooms and instant messaging, two highly anonymous and transitory methods of communication. That anonymity does not transfer to Facebook, though. Anything posted to a Facebook profile essentially becomes part of a permanent and publicly available record.



Once information has been posted onto Facebook, plenty of people not anticipated by the poster will have access to it. Faculty and staff at Clemson can create profiles and can look students' information. So, anything posted on Facebook might be viewed by your department chair. University police officers can also get on Facebook. While there are probably more effective ways to enforce the laws than by skimming through profiles, information in a profile can be used in the investigation of a crime, like the Colorado police did in the case of the 16-year-old boy.

Additionally, as graduates retain their Facebook accounts, employers are increasingly able to use Facebook as an evaluation tool when making hiring decisions.

Just as companies sometimes incorporate social functions into their interview processes to see if potential hires can handle themselves responsibly, they may also check out a student's Facebook account to see how the student chooses to present his or herself. This may seem shady and underhanded, but one must understand that social networks are not anonymous; whatever one chooses to post will be available to all. Even if someone

goes to great pains to keep an employer-friendly profile, his or her friends may still tag pictures of his or her which will be available to whoever wants to see them.

Not only can unexpected Facebook members get information by viewing one's profile, but a user's personal information can

also leak out by merely registering for the service. Both the user agreement and the privacy policy indicate that Facebook can give information to third parties and can supplement its data with information from newspapers, blogs and instant messages.

Facebook does of course have tremendous upsides. It allows individuals to communicate with more people than would ever be possible 10 years ago, and college friends will undoubtedly stay in touch much more than any previous generation. But by making information so readily available, it also creates opportunities for misuse that most people will not appreciate until too late.

All these factors make clear the importance of two principals: Responsibility and caveat emptor. First, people should be responsible about how they portray themselves and their friends, and employers, authorities and the owners must approach this information reasonably and fairly. Second, "let the buyer beware" applies to all parties involved. Facebook users need to understand the potential consequences of the information they share, and outside viewers need to understand that the material on Facebook is often only a humorous, lighthearted presentation of one aspect of a person. Facebook is an incredibly valuable communications tool that will link the college generation more tightly than any before it, but users have to understand that, like anything good in life, they have to be aware of the downsides.

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
ACCESS TO INFORMATION
ON FACEBOOK POSES
PRIVACY PROBLEMS FOR
USERS.
OUR VIEW
USERS SHOULD BE AWARE
THAT INFORMATION THEY
POST OFTEN BECOMES
PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE.

Congressmen politicize Arab buyout



BRANDON HATHAWAY
Columnist

Good news, everybody: The buyout of Peninsular and Oriental Steam Company (or P&O) by Dubai Ports World is going to be delayed for 45 days so that Congress can get sound bites for election season about Arabs and port security. So not only is our government meddling in business affairs, but we get to hear about this non-story for another month and a half.

You may find it ironic that I am writing about a topic that I just dismissed as a non-story. The buyout itself is, but all the political stuff surrounding it is quite significant in its lack of substance. This is a fascinating time right now because every member of the House of Representatives is up for re-election and one-third of the Senators are too. George Bush won his second term in 2004 by beating a weak democratic candidate while stressing the strength of his administration's security credentials. Democrats in Congress are taking this as an opportunity to appear harder on security than the White House, while Republicans in Congress are beginning to distance themselves from the unpopular adminis-

tration, leading to the joint opposition to a business deal involving our ports. This sort of thing happens during the midterm election of every lame duck president.

The brouhaha centers on the fact that Dubai Ports World is headquartered in, well, Dubai. Since most of the folks who live in Dubai, which is one of the seven of the United Arab Emirates, are Arabs, it makes it easy for Congressmen and Congresswomen to draw a big target on them.

This is where the non-story becomes important. The president is exactly right when he says that Congressional legislation blocking this sale would be a disastrous PR move for the United States when it comes to Arab relations. We, like every other nation, need foreign investment to maintain our economy. Especially right now, since our deficit is so high, we need to maintain an inflow of foreign capital. Turning away a moderate Arab company because they are Arab will effectively shut out an entire region of investors when there are plenty of places in India and China who definitely will not mind the darker skin of the folks from Dubai. P&O is a British company, by the way.

The comparative change in security risk is insignificant compared to the economic consequences. For ports as large as the six in question (New York, Newark, Baltimore, Miami, New Orleans and Philadelphia) most of the containers are loaded in foreign countries. These hypothetical terrorists still have to load the containers with their hypothetical bombs somewhere. The secu-

urity issue is not the nationality of the corporation that is managing the port structure. The security issue is making sure that the cargo being unloaded is investigated properly — which by most accounts, it is not, even under the current management.

The objective of businesses is to make money. Dubai Ports World is not going to spend almost \$7 billion to do a bad job managing some of the busiest ports in the world. It simply would not be profitable to do so. The members of Congress know that. This year, everything that they say will be in the context of the coming elections. The Arab people are, unfortunately, a politicized concept at the moment, especially when coupled with port security. It is an unfortunate tactic to employ, but it will probably be effective. They will get their two minute sound bites that they can play in Maryland or New Jersey and they can say they were tough on port security. But the transaction will most likely proceed, and nobody will notice a bit of difference.

However, since this posturing is all for show anyway, as most of the security policies are, those details do not really matter. It only matters that Congressmen and Congresswomen can appear on television to sound tough on physical security while potentially endangering our economic security. I wonder what we would be talking about this week if this were 2007 instead of 2006.

BRANDON HATHAWAY is a graduate student in mechanical engineering. E-mail comments to letters@TheTigerNews.com.

SPEAKING

Will you continue to use Facebook in light of privacy concerns?



Trey Moore
biochemistry
senior

"No, I think that Facebook is the spawn of Satan that is ruining America's youth."

"I did it because my girlfriend is on there, so if we're still together in 15 years then I can't really complain."



Jason Clark
construction science and
management
junior



Brittany Triplett
English
graduate student

"If I had realized that Facebook shared some of my private information, I probably wouldn't have joined."

"I don't mind because I don't put anything on there that I would mind people seeing."



Katie Reeder
secondary education
sophomore



Mitchel Cooper
civil engineering
sophomore

"I don't put anything incriminating on my Facebook. It doesn't matter to me."

"As long as people are responsible with their information it shouldn't be a problem."



Patrick Brownson
engineering
freshman

Minor fixes could have big impact on parking



LUCY BEAM HOFFMAN
Columnist

An ongoing source of loud complaint for commuter students is the parking situation at Clemson University. On occasion, I feel somewhat like a stalker as I cruise the lot, watching parking-lot-bound students, a vulture ready for her last swooping, metallic meal. And when I spot a person seemingly headed to her car, I speed through the lot with my turn signal on to alert any other driver that this one is mine. Don't even. It is an act of driver desperation as the clock ticks closer to class starting time, and I know how far I have to walk to make it. But I un-embarrassingly stamp my claim on that space by hovering just far enough away to allow her to pull her car out, and I stare down any other driver who dares to think he or she will take it from me.

Last year, an e-mail was sent from parking services (I assume) to question students about their habits and the likelihood of utilizing, bus services, train services and carpooling (I think) in regards to the parking situation. I responded to this questionnaire immediately as I am

daily impacted by the parking situation, and I watch with keen interest any information I get that might alleviate this situation. Nothing yet.

Because of this ongoing frustration, I decided to do my own research about other institutions, concerning how they handle this growing car problem. I was particularly interested in looking for institutions with assigned parking as opposed to random parking, as well as any that had graduated costs that would enable those willing (and able) to pay more for better parking.

What I discovered is that Clemson is no better or no worse than most schools. With an approximate 13,000 parking spaces (as stated on the CU Internet parking website), that seems like a relatively large number of spaces. Unfortunately for me, it feels like at least 7,000 are vying for "my" lot at any given time. I couldn't locate any kind of standard student ratio to available spots, still 13,000 seems reasonable. Why does it never feel reasonable when it is class time?

In my research, I found several Web pages were a bit more "welcoming" perhaps than the CU parking page. At the University of Illinois at Springfield, they are very polite about explaining carefully the systems of lots, who can park in each and when. Their parking fees are \$48 per year and \$24 for carpooling. Also, they list a comparison of the other Illinois schools, which of course shows them in a favorable light. I have no idea how

they compare academically to the other schools, but it is much cheaper to park there. Miami University is just initiating parking fees for the first time in 2006. I wonder how they managed to do without fees for so long? As expected, they have gotten some flack about it. They also have parking garages in which they charge \$1 per hour. As attractive as that would be on rainy days, I would hate trying to get out of one if others were leaving at the same time.

Cornerstone University in Grand Rapids, Mich. has a very official PDF on their regulations and lot availability. However, I felt as if I would have to have my attorney read it first before I parked there. At Indiana University Northwest, they charge \$2.10 per credit hour, which I thought was an interesting way to do it. I would guess that their thoughts are the more hours you take, the more you will be using the lots. Odd, but interesting. At the Texas Woman's University, they spend a lot of space on infractions, violations, fines and penalties. So much for women being the less criminally minded. Southern Illinois University at Carbondale makes no apologies for the difficulties of parking there. If you are used to big city parking and you don't mind walking, then don't complain.

The one that caught my eye was A&S Magazine University of Virginia. I won't make any friends with freshmen on this one because they eliminated decals for the first year student at this institution. The freshman year can be tough enough

as it is, but this does seem to have some validity in reducing the growing car problem.

At this point, the only strong suggestion I can offer is better lighting on the walkways to the lots. If I am forced to park behind the football stadium (that is on a very bad parking day), the walk is long and dark when I head back there at 7:30 p.m. The large triangular signs in front of Death Valley are great places for people and monsters to hide, and I am highly alert when I head there alone in the dark. I am not a paranoid person normally, but there are some situations that do make my nerves tingle. Yeah, I know about the CAT buses, which I use on occasion, but I like to get the exercise too. Additional lights along that route would be greatly appreciated. Similarly, if I am parked in C-2 (or the gravel parkway across Cherry Road), it is a long dark walk after the sun goes down. The whole stretch from Cooper and especially beyond McAdams Hall would greatly benefit from increased lighting.

I would certainly appreciate better parking. I understand the "green" concerns of CU and likewise appreciate them. I don't want to be part of a concrete campus and apparently the costs are high (and getting higher) when building new lots. Lighting would provide a comfort zone that I don't feel I have now.

LUCY BEAM HOFFMAN is a senior history major. E-mail comments to letters@TheTigerNews.com.

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.

Student leaders express regret concerning cartoon controversy

To our fellow students, our staff, our faculty, our administration, our respected alumni, our Board of Trustees, our visitors, our fellow South Carolinians and Americans — we're sorry.

We're sorry that several students from The Tiger Town Observer and The Clemson Forum have decided that flexing the muscles of the First Amendment is more important than the establishment of an accepting, Clemson family.

We're sorry that these newspapers purposely offended members of the Clemson family with sacrilegious images, hateful rhetoric and false quotation (Citing the three most trusted translations of the Qur'an, there is no quotation close to what is featured on the cover of the Tiger Town Observer).

We're sorry that valued members of the Clemson community have felt outcast by these incidents and have had to question their standing as members of the Clemson family.

We're sorry that a specific religion and groups of people were attacked, not specific policies or governments.

We're sorry that ethics and

journalistic responsibility have not been considered by these newspapers.

We're sorry for the negative press Clemson University is receiving from this incident and for having to witness coverage of this incident in the variety of media outlets across the nation.

We're sorry that these newspapers couldn't come up with a more respectful way to exercise free speech and generate discussion on this campus.

Finally, on behalf of the students, we're sorry that these newspapers aren't sorry.

Katy Bayless
Undergraduate Student Body President
Ahmed Mohiuddin
Undergraduate Student Senate President

Avid hunter expresses concerns regarding gun raffle

I am a recent graduate, and just recently learned about the Tiger Town Observer's "raffle" for an assault rifle. At first, I thought about writing to comment about how I am an avid hunter and gun owner and want to express concern about how bad this makes the university appear and the potential for the danger it represents.

Then I realized that given the track-record of the Observer, any arguments or concerns one might express will have no impact whatsoever. Some people clearly lack any logical mental capacity when it comes to expressing their extreme political or social beliefs (either that or these guys really don't believe the stuff they are saying and only want attention to make up for the fact that they got picked on too much in middle school). Therefore, I have simply decided to make fun of them because, after all, in some circumstances all we can do is laugh. I hereby declare that we begin a new contest! Grand prize will be one complimentary abortion that will be administered by a godless homosexual with Dixie Chicks music playing in the background.

Second prize is a free screening of Brokeback Mountain ... and some pot.

Chuck Ivey '05
Greensboro, N.C.

President's e-mail apology for publication of controversial cartoons misses the point

President Barker is a man I deeply respect. I think he genuinely cares for this school. However, he simply got it wrong this past week when he condemned the Observer and The Forum running the controversial cartoons. Those items have proven to be more than adequately relevant and newsworthy. The cartoons have sparked much debate and controversy all over the Western world. Is not the job of a newspaper to report newsworthy items? If so, the cartoons are certainly worth running.

Barker, like so many others, has given himself over to some Utopian idea of "diversity at any cost," where we cannot call a spade a spade, or engage in honest intellectual discourse if it offends the politically correct crowd.

Matt Moore
junior
secondary education

Alternative student newspaper clarifies purpose of printing offensive cartoons

The staff of the Clemson Forum appreciates President Barker's concern for Clemson's community and diversity, and understands the concerns raised by those who were offended.

Our purpose in printing the cartoons was never to work against these principles, and we feel that any reasonable analysis of our article makes this self-evident. The Clemson Forum stands with the University in championing "the transmission of knowledge, the pursuit of truth, the development of students, and the general well being of society." We, like the University, recog-

nize that "free inquiry and free expression are indispensable to the attainment of these goals." We printed the cartoons to educate our readers on a controversial issue, and to responsibly exercise and celebrate the freedom of speech, in a way that was civil and respectful.

We therefore regret that President Barker, among others, draws no distinction between our treatment of the issue and that of our peers. We vehemently disagree with The Tiger Town Observer for printing the cartoons in a manner designed to offend, inflame and incite, and condemn the racist and factually incorrect article that accompanied them.

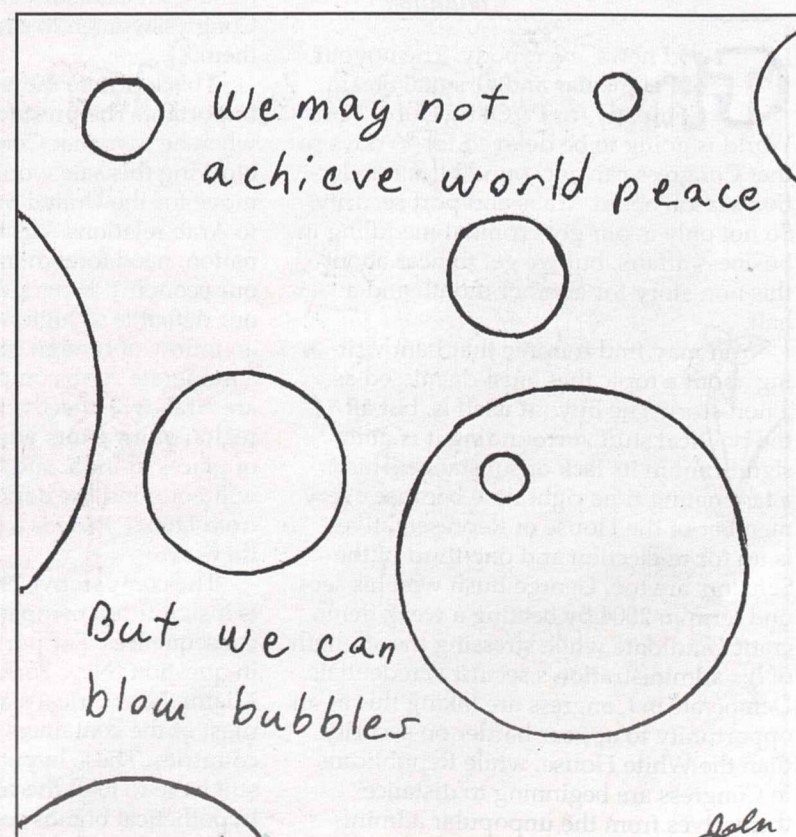
Mohamad Melhem, a Greenville imam, said that "people should be sensitive to other people's religion or beliefs, no matter what their beliefs, even if they don't agree with it." We hope that everyone abides by that statement in their everyday lives. Mr. Melhem also highlights the

"need for better dialog between Muslims and non-Muslims," a point with which we also completely agree. But the way to achieve that dialog is not by acquiescing to radicals or by limiting a fundamental right of expression for fear of offense or violent reprisal. Censorship and encouraging an open dialog are incompatible principles.

As student journalists, we carefully questioned if the offense of publishing the cartoons overrides our duty to provide the public with the information that sparked riots, caused deaths and the burning of embassies, and a call for war against the Western world. We hope our paper, and this statement, reflect our unequivocal answer.

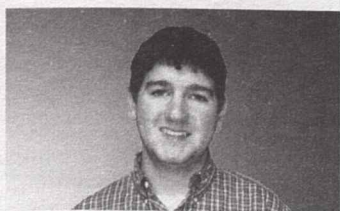
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CARTOONS



COMMENTARY

Inmate delaying fate



BRANDON JONES

Columnist

One of the more hotly-debated topics over the past twenty plus years has been capital punishment. Of the 50 states, 38 of them actually sanction capital punishment. And, out of those 38, 37 of them use lethal injection as the means of capital punishment (including California). In recent days, the execution of a California death row inmate, Michael Morales, has been postponed due to possible violations of the Eighth Amendment to the Constitution. Morales, convicted in 1983 for brutally murdering 17-year-old Terri Winchell, has argued that California's lethal injection procedure characterizes cruel and unusual punishment because the possibility exists that he might suffer an amount of pain during the procedure.

Well, who can argue with that? I, along with many others, agree that needles can hurt. We have all dreaded going to the doctor to get immunizations. It is natural for Morales to consider this painful. However, under the circumstances, he simply has no leg to stand on. It seems as though Morales and his attorneys are just delaying the inevitable.

A huge task lies before Morales' attorneys in trying to define his punishment as unconstitutional. In the U.S. Supreme Court case Gregg v. Georgia (1976), the decision was held that "a punishment of death did not violate the Eighth and Fourteenth Amendments under all circumstances. In extreme criminal cases, such as when a defendant has been convicted of deliberately killing another, the careful and judicious use of the death penalty may be appropriate if carefully employed." I would say that lethal injection constitutes this careful and judicious use of the death penalty. In keeping with the Court's strict use of precedent in deciding cases, it will be extremely difficult for Morales to reverse the lower court's sentence.

But, does Morales really think

he will win his battle, or is he just stalling? Death can be a very scary and sobering thought for most people. Who can blame him for trying to delay his death? I know that I would try everything in my power to stay alive as long as humanly possible. However, I choose not to put myself in Morales' shoes. I want to show the utter ridiculousness of this situation: This man murdered 17-year-old Terri Winchell by beating her with a hammer, stabbing her, and leaving her half-naked in a field. Such a heinous crime is certainly not above one's right to appeal; Morales, along with every other criminal, possesses the right to appeal at least once. But, such a heinous crime is deserving of lethal injection. In fact, I would say that lethal injection is the very antithesis of cruel and unusual punishment. Other forms of capital punishment around the country include death by electrocution, firing squad, gas chamber and hanging. Morales should actually be grateful of the fact that California does not employ any of those methods. He should also be grateful of the amount of time he has been alive since his conviction. California has only executed 13 inmates in the last 30 years, while 647 inmates still remain on death row in the state. Compare that with Texas, which has the highest rate of inmate execution (359 since 1976). Morales should be thanking himself for not committing the crime in Texas.

I know that this case is extremely ambiguous and I know that Michael Morales is entitled to his right to appeal, especially on the grounds of constitutionality. However, when I read about the crime he committed, I did not have any sympathy for him. Also, as an American citizen, Morales must have a punishment that is not cruel or unusual. As a convicted felon, Morales must pay for his actions, and a California court decided that would be done by lethal injection. Cruel and unusual punishment? I think not. If Morales was up against a Utah firing squad, then he might have a case. Until then, Morales needs to face the facts. A woman is dead because of his actions. He must own up to his mistakes and face the consequences.

BRANDON JONES is a junior majoring in political science. E-mail comments to letters@TheTigerNews.com.

COMMENTARY

Selfish athletes spoil Olympics for U.S.



DAMON ANDREWS

Columnist

As the Olympics unfolded after a couple weeks of intense competition on the ice and snow of Torino, spectators from all over the world have seen the globe's finest athletes go head-to-head in every event from curling to snowboarding. Although gold medals are usually the focus in the American media, other headlines have made their way back across the Atlantic Ocean that don't portray Americans so well.

Last weekend the bickering started for the Americans in the men's speed skating competition when Shani Davis became the first African American athlete to claim a gold medal in Winter Olympic history. All Americans should be happy and proud — all but his teammates, whom he "abandoned" in the team event. Davis skipped the relay event in which he was expected to play a key role, forcing the American team to replace him with a weaker skater, which some say is the reason that the United States lost to Italy.

Despite understanding both sides of Davis's choice — racing for individual gold and racing for team gold — I find it embarrassing that the American team would let tempers and words fly in front of the press while still in Italy rather than settling their differences on our own soil and out of the limelight. Our Olympians have been chosen from among the finest athletes in our country, and besides being the best at their sport, they also need to be good representatives of the American people and our nation as a whole. The selfishness displayed both on Davis's side and the side of his teammate Chad Hedrick, a member of the relay team, does not do anything to improve the already infamous reputation Americans

have as being stuck-up and spoiled.

While Hedrick and Davis had their differences inside on the rink, outside on the slopes was American downhill skier Bode Miller — or at least that's where he was when he was not in the bars and clubs of Torino. The American hopeful was expected to medal in five different downhill alpine events this Olympics, but will return home with nothing (except maybe a slight hang-over). Many blame Miller's lack of medals on his extremely active night life of drinking and partying, which he didn't leave behind at home. When interviewed, he commented nonchalantly, "I just did it my way ... I just want to go out and rock. And man, I rocked here. I got to party and socialize at an Olympic level."

I hope that the representatives from our country would recognize their position — they are on an international stage with the world watching — and would make better decisions. And if these athletes cannot, the United States Olympic Committee should implement a system of curfews to some extent. Although American athletes are neither under contract nor paid, the very fact that they have been selected as the face of America should carry enough weight to force them to engage in proper behavior while abroad. Olympians act as ambassadors of their nation, a standard by which others may judge the rest of the country.

Despite being individuals, Olympic athletes are representatives of the team, a nation. The Olympics are not only competitions between athletes in each event, but countries as a whole. Although Miller might not have cared how well he did for himself, the United States was counting on his performance, and had he done better we might not be behind in the medal count to the Germans. Although I am proud of our athletes and their accomplishments, a few bad eggs have spoiled the whole dozen.

DAMON ANDREWS is a sophomore in mechanical engineering. E-mail comments to letters@TheTigerNews.com.

CARTOONS



PAWS UP, PAWS DOWN

U.S. curlers were not intimidated by an Olympic stalker; they didn't think a naked man could make it to them across the slick ice.



Theives stole a tractor-trailer filled with nearly 38,000 bottles of beer. That's a half case each for 3,000 people (but stealing is still wrong).



A Michigan man shot his hunting companion in the elbow after mistaking it for a squirrel. Vice Presidential candidate for 2008?



Stanford's mascot, a tree, was caught pulling from a flask during a game when her uncoordinated halftime routine aroused suspicion.



A Tenn. student was given a ticket for honking at a police officer who used his siren just to avoid stopping at a red light.



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Step Up to Nutrition & Health

KIMBERLY RAPP
MS, RD, LDN
Registered Dietitian

Okay, it's March 3rd and spring break is in two weeks! And believe it or not, summer break is only nine weeks away! So how many of you are rushing to lose that last extra pound to fit into that bathing suit for spring break or maybe beginning to think about your plan to fit into that bathing suit in May? Well, I have good news and bad news. The bad news is that most likely if you are trying to lose the extra pounds in two weeks you probably aren't providing your body with the best nutrition and if you do lose some weight, it most likely will come back. But don't give up hope; all good things come to those who wait! If you start now looking at your nutrition and physical activity then you have a very good chance to fit into your bathing suit come May 6th. If this sounds like something you are interested in then here is some help for you!

Every March is National Nutrition Month® and is sponsored by the American Dietetic Association. The purpose is to provide nutrition education including improving eating habits and increasing physical activity to the general public as well as to promote the American Dietetic Association as a reliable source of food and nutrition information.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

National Nutrition Month Health and Nutrition Fair will be Thursday, March 30 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Hendrix Student Center Multi-Purpose Room

The theme this year is "Step Up to Nutrition & Health" and the key points behind it are perfect for those of you who are wanting to fit into that bathing suit in May or just improve their overall nutrition and health. These key points are based on the new Food Guide Pyramid and the Dietary Guidelines for Americans. So if you are looking to improve your overall health and nutrition, apply the following key points developed by the American Dietetic Association and the Dietary Guidelines for Americans to your daily routine and reap the benefits of a healthier, happier you in time for summer and definitely for a lifetime!

- "The food and physical activity choices made today – and everyday – affect your health and how you feel today and in the future. Eating right and being physically active are keys to a healthy lifestyle."
- "Make smart choices from every food group. Give your body the balanced nutrition it needs by eating a variety of nutrient-packed foods every day. Just be sure to stay within your daily calorie needs."
- "Get the most nutrition out of your calories. Choose the most nutri-

tionally rich foods you can from each food group each day – those packed with vitamins, minerals, fiber and other nutrients but lower in calories."

- "Find your balance between food and physical activity. Regular physical activity is important for your overall health and fitness plus it helps control body weight, promotes a feeling of well-being and reduces the risk of chronic diseases."

- "Play it safe with foods. Prepare, handle and store food properly to keep you and your family safe."

If you would like to "Step Up to Nutrition & Health" and learn more information about National Nutrition Month® or how to improve your overall health and nutrition, please join us for the National Nutrition Month® Health and Nutrition Fair sponsored by Clemson Dining Services.

The fair will be held at the Hendrix Student Center in the Multi-purpose Room on Thursday, March 30th from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. You will have a chance to learn more about improving your nutrition and health through nutrition education from several organizations as well as food demonstrations, fun and prizes.

We hope to see you there!



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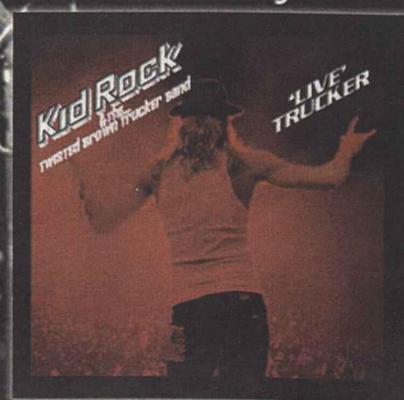
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TimeOut has its own collection of golden statues

ON THE PROWL

BY ORSON SWELLES



One complaint that I get from a lot of people who read this column is that I'm not PC. I frequently throw around names for penises and vaginas that would make Ron Jeremy's greasy trouser pork-link blush. Luckily, for the politically correct few, this column will focus primarily on the PC.

Unfortunately, PC happens to stand for pubococcygeus, the muscle responsible for stopping urine and flinging things from an erection like a catapult. Many women have already heard of this wonder muscle that can be strengthened through the wonderful art of Kegel exercises. Men may have been notified of this female phenomenon if their woman knows how to tighten her grip without using hands.

Kegels may seem mythical to many. Is there really a vagina muscle that can be squeezed at will? Well, yes, but luckily, women aren't the only ones blessed with a sex muscle. Little do most guys know, they also possess this muscle that may just change the way you have sex all together.

The first step is recognizing where this little guy has been hiding all of these years. The next time you make a trip to tinkle town, try to put a kink in the hose mid-stream.

If you can't stop your pee for a few seconds, then please work on the training regiment laid out in this article. For those of you that were able to stop it at all, you just successfully inched your way toward becoming a sex god.

You may already be familiar with Mr. PC from the more practical use of the muscle: The Erection Hop. Don't kid yourself and say that you've never gotten an erection and made him jump up and down. And don't lie to me and claim that you've never made your penis prance to amuse your lady friend. And definitely don't tell me that you've never put a gummy bear on your penis tip and tried to use your PC muscle to launch it into your mouth. If you are a complete freak who hasn't done all three, then at least try the first one out during your next weekend trip to Boneroo. This little test will help you identify this muscle and isolate it for the sake of making it stronger.

Let's say that you can put your pee on hold and that your erections jump higher than Mugsy Bogues wearing Moon Shoes. What does all of this have to do with becoming a sex god? Men who have a stronger PC muscle last significantly longer in bed and have much more

intense orgasms. Not only that, but men who are extremely talented can have an orgasm without ejaculating, allowing them to keep on truck-

in' through another session. This is extremely rare, and I heard that it took porn star Peter North a year of doing PC exercises every day to get it to work. Lastly, guys who "workout" more get additional range on their "fire extinguisher" sprays (the necessity of this is debatable, but gosh darned if it doesn't make a good party trick).

With the benefits all in line, just how do you work up to being a urine-stopping, penis-hopping, semen-sopping maniac? The best thing about this little workout is that it can be done at any time. Flexing the PC muscle involves no other movements in the entire body. I can be having a conversation with President Barker, and all the while I'm training myself to be able to shoot my seed an extra two feet.

Start off simple just like any weight training and gradually increase your reps. The nice thing is that your PC is such a small and quick-healing muscle that you can work out every day with no adverse side affects (unless your girlfriend hates having sex for longer periods of time). Start by squeezing and letting go

rapidly for a little while. Do a few reps of this and then move into squeezing for five seconds and releasing for five seconds. Go back to the quick sets and then rest. After doing these sets a few times, try and hold for as long as possible three times.

Each day, increase the length of time you do a quick squeeze and release and the length of time you do the slower squeeze. The goal is to be able to squeeze and hold for more than two minutes and to be able to do reps for 20 straight minutes. Just as other muscles, the PC benefits from different styles of workout, so if you want to get a well rounded workout, be sure to do reps sitting, standing and lying down. This way you can strengthen the muscle from all angles so that no sexual position will be powerful enough to conquer all of your hard work.

The best part is that this same exercise works for men and women, so if you and your girlfriend are just hanging out and watching TV, go to the pelvic gym together and try this out. If you both are on the workout plan, wait a couple of weeks and then have the most PC-sex of your life. Just insert and both of you take turns flexing. Should you both be strong enough, the newly discovered muscle could take care of all the work by itself.

I used to do these exercises in early high school, but unfortunately, I wasn't having any sex. All it allowed me to do was hit the back of the sock a lot harder with my sperm and stop peeing whenever I

wanted. I am going to start back this strict regiment and see how it improves my sex life, and I will report back in a few weeks with any results. If you have any success with this program, send in a letter to the editor so that I can spread the good word. Next time someone asks you to be a bit more PC, you can smile at them and say that you're practicing as you speak.

Give into temptation ...

Write for TimeOut!

E-mail Michael at Timeout@thetigernews.com



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Sudoku puzzles coming soon! Stay tuned to TimeOut for more details in the near future!

Last Week's Crossword Solution

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RUNES	REAM	ETUI
ONSET	ONTO	CORN
PST	EBBS	ELOPED
MERE	BTU	
SCHEMA	CRAMPON	
AROSE	FLUE	BYE
NOMAD	ION	SMELT
WE	ENDS	MASON
DYNAMOS	HELENA	
UTE	YELL	
SADDER	YAWL	TAI
PRIG	AGAR	IDYLL
ACRE	LEWD	NEPAL
SHED	DENS	GLENS

THE TOP 5

WORST POPULAR MOVIES

EMILY PRICE
Staff Writer

Theses movies were total box-office smashes and I cannot figure out why. I am sorry I even wasted my money renting them. For those that I spent about \$10 to see, it is a pity because now the people involved with these movies might actually think they are good since they managed to trick innocent viewers like me into paying to see them. Then they might make even more atrocious sequels.

5. **"Spiderman:"** Before you really start to hate me, I will admit that "Spiderman" is a fairly entertaining movie. But do you honestly think that Spiderman should be played by the same actor that plays a 90-pound horse jockey? I thought Spiderman was supposed to be able to beat up dangerous enemies. The original Spiderman was edgy, dark and flawed, like any other half-mortal would naturally be. Tobey Maguire just doesn't really do the trick, and neither does Kirsten Dunst as his love interest. Spiderman spends his time kicking sub-human toosh and taking names, and the best he can do is Kirsten Dunst? She doesn't even have any cleavage. I guess the casting director had to pick a dorky girl to kiss the dorky guy they chose to sport the Spider mask.

4. **"War of the Worlds:"** I really had hope for this one, regardless of my intense hatred for Tom Cruise. I figured out in the first five minutes that this movie was not for me when I witnessed Tom Cruise acting ultra-cool and bad in a leather jacket, zipping around over the speed limit in a motorcycle and sports car. While I am totally up for New Jersey being destroyed, I wasn't convinced that the gigantic alien tripods emerging from the Earth's mantle were right for the job. Apparently I was right, since at the end of the movie, Cruise and his daughter, played by Dakota Fanning, become reunited in the most disgustingly predictable cinematic fashion ever with his son who disappeared during the alien attack. Not only did those three characters survive, but so did Fanning's mother (Cruise's ex-wife) and stepfather, so everyone was touchingly reunited at the end of the movie amidst a street of debris and dead bodies. Ugh! Why couldn't those aliens just have zapped Tom Cruise? That's all I would have needed to have left the theater in elation.

3. **"Titanic:"** Whoever can make a love story out of two people that have only known each other for a couple of days and then have sex for the first time in the backseat of a car deserves some props, as well as for managing to drag out the sinking of a ship for three hours. Nevertheless, "Titanic" was an incredibly cheesy movie, whether it be Leonardo DiCaprio as Jack shouting out, "I'm the king of the world!" or Rose touching

our hearts with her line, "I was screaming inside, and nobody cared." Obviously, we all could foresee the ship sinking at the end, but did they really have to add the tired romance between aristocratic Rose and working-class Jack? Oh, how sweet! Rose doesn't care about Jack being ostracized from her family and entire social circle because it's really true love when she gets knocked up in the back of a car. I guarantee I can go to the bookshelf at the grocery store, close my eyes and any of the trashy romance novels I grab will have the same mundane love story in its pages. Maybe the writers for this movie used Danielle Steele as inspiration — it's so nice when artists collaborate.

2. **"The Matrix:"** What's worse than "The Matrix?" The soundtrack. What's worse than the soundtrack to "The Matrix?" The people that actually liked the movie. Any movie where the coolest part is watching Keanu Reeves fly through the air in slow motion during a fight scene should have never been produced. The entire movie is a bunch of over-hyped digital and special effects to drown out a transparent plotline. The script for this movie is about as philosophical as a fifth-grader trying to read Nietzsche. In addition, if you have a weak plot with even weaker dialogue, the person to cast in the main role shouldn't be an actor who is incapable of making facial expressions like our friend Keanu. He didn't do much to add any interest to the script, but my guess is that elementary scripts are the only ones Keanu can read in an audition without seeming autistic. And my note to the writers: Pretentious names like Neo and Trinity do not hide the fact the script is stupid.

1. **"Top Gun:"** For a movie that aims to appeal to the male gender with its focus on fighter jets and pumped up aviator jocks, there sure is a lot of homosexuality going on here. In fact, there is so much gay innuendo in this movie that Kelly McGillis is not even needed to play Maverick's love interest. She's brought in because Goose dies and the love story in the movie has to end up in a positive manner to please the audience. However, just because Maverick and "Charlie" Blackwood fall in love, it is not enough to keep me from hating this movie. There are way too many high fives, shower scenes and sexual tension between Goose and Maverick to keep me from taking this movie seriously. The shirtless volleyball scene is extreme overkill. I mean, we get it already. These guys are hardcore and so are their planes. But come on, was anybody else really fooled by Tom Cruise? Is he even tall enough to fly an aircraft? At least everyone is finally figuring out he is a total loser — just a couple decades too late since we have already seen him play the same pseudo-bad mamajama with a cheesy grin in 20-plus movies.

Found Sound: Orange Juice good for heart, ears

TYLER MILLS
Art Director

I thought of you readers today while thumbing through the new National Geographic, which featured a fabulous article on the sub-level primates that evolved into the modern Homo sapien. "What's the point of teaching these hebetudinous people when Van Gogh had a better ear for music than most of them?" I asked myself. After much deliberation and soul-searching, though, I've come to accept the fact that my mission is to inculcate you dunce readers in the exquisite subject of music which falls beyond many of your obtuse comprehension levels. I knowingly accept this crown of thorns and will offer my assistance to you Grammy-following tomfools who can't even tell me the difference between Château Cheval Blanc 1999 St. Emilion and a Delas 2001 Hermitage Les Bessards.

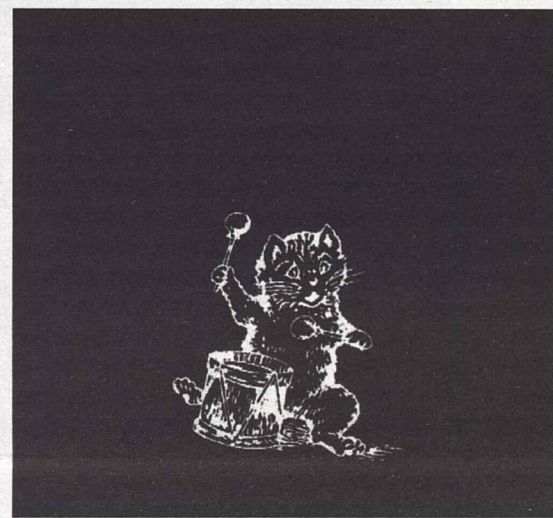
Some of you reading this are probably thinking, "Wow, Tyler Mills is so smart. We need an article like this to help those people who don't know anything about music and get them listening to good bands like Franz Ferdinand and Belle & Sebastian." Well I'm here to inform you mooncalves that you have some learning to do as well. Yes, I do have extraordinarily high intellectual prowess, but if you list a band like Franz Ferdinand or Belle & Sebastian as good music without making mention of Orange Juice, then you are criminally ignoring one of their primary influences and some of the most fantastic musicians to hail from Glasgow, Scotland.

Orange Juice began in the 1979 as a response to the elevated machismo found in punk rock. The group took a totally different approach in crafting a more straightforward, dance-oriented sound that borrowed equally from disco and the underground proto-punk bands of the early-'70s, essentially becoming one of the first bands of the New Wave before that genre became a paltry excuse for the overuse of synthesizers. The jangled guitars and heart-on-sleeve lyrics carry more romantic weight than one of Richard Lovelace's odes to Lucasta does to a single,

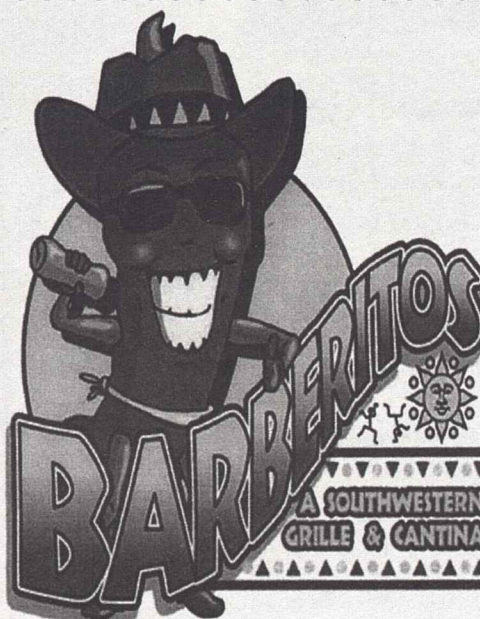
undersexed English professor on Valentine's Day.

In their lifetime, Orange Juice released three proper albums, the most prominent being their 1982 Polydor debut "You Can't Hide Your Love Forever." While you may be hard-pressed to find a copy of this (it is available right now as an import-only), you could buy their compilation entitled "The Glasgow School," released just this past year on Domino Records. The album features a collection of early singles nestled alongside other odds and ends, but the songs tend to have a rawer and less glossy quality about them, making them more screwdriver than orange juice. Either way, it's an excellent starting off point.

Don't fret readers; I know that most of you feel like sheepish bromides when trying to comprehend my greatness, but that is to be expected. I've said it before, and I'll say it again: I was fortunate enough to have been bestowed with golden ears from the great King Midas himself, so I have a distinct advantage over all of you. What you can do is learn from me, and then one day when your kids ask how you have such good musical taste, you can tell them that your ears were touched by the great music critic Tyler Mills.



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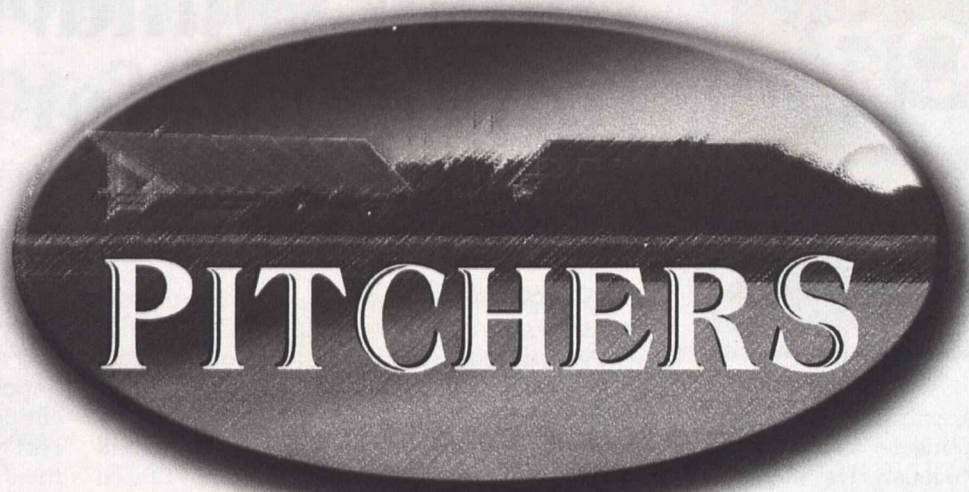
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Big 10-4 is an energetic rock quartet from Orlando, Florida. They have signed with Universal Records (3 Doors Down/Jack Johnson/Godsmack) and recently wrapped a new album release with Matt Wallace (Maroon 5/Train).

Josh Jones & Company is an up-and-coming acoustic rock group from Greenville. JJ&C plays original songs as well as covers from Dave Matthews Band, Ben Harper, The Killers, The Beatles, and Guns n' Roses.

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Competitors rock out with air guitars

MARGAET D. FARISH
Staff Writer

I knew as soon as I saw the advertisement for an Air Guitar Championship that I had to go. Air guitar? The only people that play air guitar are drunk people who tend to get a little overexcited when certain '80s songs come on (and, well, to be honest, sometimes that's me). I could not imagine an actual structured event. Who could take that seriously? Well, two Wednesdays ago, I dragged two friends to the 40 Watt Club in Athens, Ga., to find out.

We got to the club a little early so I could talk to the Boss, Carmen Workman.

"This is the first collegiate contest," she said. "We're completely self-promoted."

According to Carmen, the winner that night in Athens would go on to compete at the South Padre semi-finals during Spring Break. They would then go to New York City, followed by the World Championships in Finland, the birthplace of the first air guitar competition. Some of the prizes from the Championships of yore? Ironically, an actual Fender guitar.

It started to get quiet in the club as the emcee for the night, appropriately dressed in shredded jeans, made her way to the mic. I had fought my way through the surprising amount of people to get a spot up front. The emcee began to explain the rules. There were going to be two sets of participants. The pre-registered contestants would go first and were allowed to jam out for the entire length of a song of their choosing. The walk-on contestants had only 60 seconds to impress the judges, who picked the songs for them. The rules of the night?

Contestants, walk-on and pre-registered, would be judged on style and "airness." And then, it was time to start. "Give it up for Uncle Gordon!" the emcee yelled.

The lights went out and the first strains of an AC/DC song started playing. All of a sudden, Uncle Gordon came catapulting onto the middle of the stage, decked out in sweatpants and a white button-down. With deafening cheers from the crowd, he ripped off his sweatpants to reveal bulging AC/DC boxers. He was one crazy performer. He threw himself all over the stage, showering us with picks that he had taped to his shirt. I was especially impressed (although a little disgusted) by the amount of sweat that was flying off of his body. When the song was done, Uncle Gordon walked to the stage and spread out his arms. Gracefully, he fell forward like a true rocker, and then, as the crowd tried to hold his somewhat stout body and failed, he ungracefully plummeted to the floor. There was a moment of silence. Then Gordon jumped up, yelled "Rock and Roll!" and limped away.

I thought for sure that Uncle Gordon would be the

clear winner. Then it started. "Jace, Jace, Jace, Jace, Jace, Jace!" the crowd started chanting. I turned around to see all sorts of homemade signs reading, "What Would Jace Do?" and "Jace, Have My Child." In true groupie fashion, one guy had painted a big red "Jace" on his chest. "OK, guys," the emcee said. "Give it up for Jace Zombie Rainbow Esquire! He'll be playing to 'Welcome to the Jungle.'"

Jace came hurling through the curtain and started rocking to — whoops, not Guns and Roses. Some techie had fouled up in a big way and accidentally played a different song. Ever the rock and roll star, Jace just tuned his "guitar."

"Can I borrow a guitar from the crowd?" he asked when the tuning was finished. Some obliging groupie "tossed" him a guitar. Jace screamed and threw it back. "I've always wanted to do that," he said smiling. And then Guns and Roses came on! I've never seen anything like Jace. First he had the craziest, curliest long hair — all the better to head bang with. Next, he was wearing skintight Keith Richards-esque jeans, an American Flag tank top and a denim vest.

Jace's song ended all too soon. The emcee came back on stage and anticlimactically said that it was time for the walk-ons. I wanted more pre-registered guys! I was worried the walk-ons would, well, suck.

Unfortunately I was right. Although the names were somewhat interesting (Eddie the Wheel, Yellow Cookie Monster, Kitchen Lizard Heart) the performances were not even worth mentioning. Finally, it was time to call out the results. No surprise: Jace would be going on to South Padre Island.

It was hard to peel Jace away from his adoring fans, but I managed in the end. I had to know how long he had been doing air guitar, since, clearly, he was a natural.

"Since childhood," he said casually, flexing his be-gloved hands in front of him. "Basically, these two stoner friends of my mom's were like, 'This is Black Sabbath, and this is how you head bang.'"

And he does it so well. "This is my first time performing, though," he said. I didn't believe him. "Yep, I've been waiting for a contest like this all my life," he said. With that, Jace went to enjoy his newfound, if somewhat miniature, brush with fame.

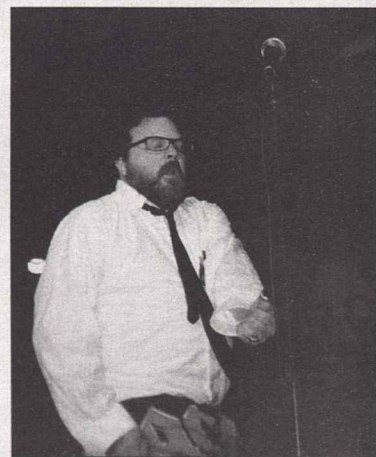


PHOTO COURTESY MARGARET D. FARISH/STAFF
STILL ROCKING: Athens hosted an air guitar contest.

"King Kong" wins and loses

ADAM STEINBERG
TimeOut Layout Editor

"King Kong" couldn't please its critics this winter. Not the film critics that love the film, but the box office critics that declare "King Kong" a disappointment.

With a budget more than \$200 million, the hottest director in Hollywood, great reviews and one of the most iconic film figures of all time, "King Kong" seemed like it would challenge "Star Wars: Revenge of the Sith" as the year's highest-grossing movie.

Practically all thoughts of this dream were shot when "King Kong" opened to a not-so-spectacular \$66 million during its first five days. "King Kong" then went on to have a typical movie run, as it lost approximately 40 to 57 percent of its audience each week. As it stands now, "King Kong" has eaten up \$216 million in the United States and \$325 million overseas. Assuming that half of theater revenues contribute toward profits, "King Kong" is already seeing black. The DVD release will provide Jackson and company huge rewards, though.

With such great riches in their eyes, why are box-office critics taking such great blows at everyone's favorite ape?

The truth is, "King Kong" just isn't as profitable in the theater as many other films were this year. "The Chronicles of Narnia," "Star Wars," "Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire" and "War of the Worlds" were all more profitable than "King Kong." When compared to these other blockbusters, "King Kong" certainly looks like a disappointment. But what about when "King Kong" is compared to films of similar budgets?

Using an arbitrary sample of films that had budgets around or more than \$100 million, I computed return of investments (ROI) and profitability based on data supplied from the Web site www.boxofficemojo.com. Not surprisingly, "Star Wars: Revenge of the Sith" led 2005 blockbusters with a ROI of about 3.7 (\$848 million world-wide gross). "Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire" clocked in with a 2.9 ROI, "Chronicles of Narnia" with a 1.8

and "War of the Worlds" with a 2.23. "King Kong's" ROI of 1.3 is certainly less than these other films, but that doesn't mean it is a failure by any means.

Compared to "Sahara's" ROI of 0.45, "The Island's" ROI of .63 and "Stealth's" .28, "Kong" looks mighty good. In fact, when one considers that the mean ROI for blockbusters in 2005 was around 1.6, "King Kong" certainly doesn't look too bad. Also, "Kong's" ROI of 1.3 is the return on more than \$200 million, which comes out to around \$80 million in profit already; not too shabby at all.


Additionally, "Star Wars," "Harry Potter" and "Chronicles of Narnia" all had huge built-in fanbases that "King Kong" did not possess. Also, "King Kong" has a longer running time than these movies. Jackson's film runs at 187 minutes, 30 minutes longer than "Harry Potter." Those 30 minutes mean that "King Kong" was shown on screens significantly less than "Harry Potter," which made it harder for moviegoers to attend a screening.

While "King Kong" certainly isn't the smash-hit that "Lord of the Rings" was, it also isn't the failure that is "The Adventures of Pluto Nash." The monkey movie certainly isn't going in the record books anytime soon, and it won't be winning any major critical awards, but it's safe to say that almost any investor would be happy with the return that Peter Jackson has provided.



PHOTO COURTESY UNIVERSAL
NOT CURIOUS GEORGE: "King Kong" brought home more than just bacon.

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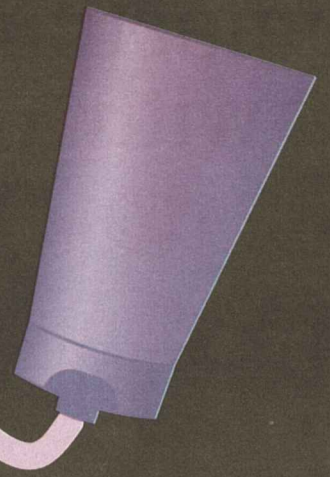
Women's Teams

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Interview with Tucker Max

Interview by Jay Kyser
Graphics by Ann Marler



Perhaps you are unfamiliar with Tucker Max, but you might be surprised by the large number of your friends and classmates that help contribute to his growing fan base. The infamous Max is behind tuckermx.com, a site where he pens his escapades (usually those of a drunken and/or sexual nature). Despite the fact that you may find his content offensive, you cannot deny his ability to tell stories that are typically of the "Dude, you just had to be there" variety. The mere fact that over a million people are visiting his site each month further prove that Max has created something awesome.

Max has become a growing phenomenon among the college crowd, and has yet to break into mainstream America. His recent book, "I Hope They Serve Beer in Hell," has made an unprecedented climb onto the New York Times Best Seller list without the aid of major media coverage or advertising. When we were given the opportunity to interview Tucker Max, he answered some of our burning questions and rid ourselves of misconceptions about sexual promiscuity.

Jay Kyser: If you had a stripper name, what would it be?

Tucker Max: I don't know ... I'd have to think about that. Well, my favorite stripper name is Destiny, just because that always makes me laugh. Because I think, did your grandfather give that to you when you were eight? Did he decide that your stripper name is going to be Destiny because you're destined for stripping after he abuses you? I don't know.

JK: What question do you get asked most?

TM: Probably, "What do your parents think about this?"

JK: And what would the answer to that question be?

TM: My mom just cries a lot and asks me why I'm not a better person and my dad, like, didn't really get it at first, but now that, I'm making money and he has reporters calling him about me, he's starting to understand.

JK: Do you get more revenue from advertising on your website or from the book?

TM: (laughs) I make 10 grand a month off the web site, so, yeah, I make substantially more from the web site than the book.

JK: What bookstores are carrying your book?

TM: Every single bookstore in the country: Barnes and Noble, Borders, Books-a-Million, Walden Books — everyone.

JK: In your opinion, what was the biggest catalyst for your site's growing popularity?

TM: Good content. Honestly ... there's a whole lot of stuff on the Internet and not many roses. And if you have a rose, and it's actually good, people will find you. No, seriously ... it only took six months for my site to break. It's obviously much bigger now than it was three years ago. But, you know, I started my site three and half years ago and six months after that, I had MTV calling, I had producers ... publishers ... and so on, and it's just gotten bigger since then.

JK: How many visitors do you average a month?

TM: About a million ... a million and two last month.

JK: Do you ever see yourself attaining a level of celebrity that allows you to sell your underwear on eBay?

TM: I can already sell my underwear on eBay.

JK: So who do you like to read — current and non-current?

TM: Currently, of course, I love Maddox — he's a genius. I read Mark Cuban's blog. I read Stephen Levitt's blog. I read me. I also read all of the sites I administer: Bunny Blog, Drunkasaurus Rex. My literary idols are guys like John Kennedy Tool, Chuck Palahniuk, P.J. O'Rourke and Malcolm X — all the people I write about on my site.

JK: What's the worst response your book has gotten; have there been any protestors, etc.?

TM: Well, first off, no major media outlet has done a review of my site



TUCKER MAX

or my book yet. None of them will do one, but it's funny, I made the New York Times' best seller list regardless. No one did a review and I still made the best seller list. But, OK ... I don't mind people ... I mean, I've never been upset by haters. The only thing that really bothers me is people calling me misogynistic, because that's just stupid, and I hate that. It drives me nuts. I would say about 40 percent of my fans are women, and so I think that if I was a misogynist, I don't think I would have 40 percent of my fans being women. I don't mind people hating on me for what I do or who I am, but I don't like being hated on for what I'm not. I'm not a misogynist, and it drives me nuts.

JK: What's the best advice anyone has ever given you?

TM: Wow ... umm (pauses).

JK: We're trying to get real deep here, you know.

TM: Well, no, the reason that's hard for me is that I don't know if I can nail it down to just one thing. Alright, I can't remember ... I was doing something in junior high that people didn't like or my parents were mad at, whatever, and my grandfather said, "Tucker, what do you think about what you're doing?" And I said, "Well, I think I'm right," and he said, "Well have you looked at the issue closely and examined it?" I said "Yeah," and he told me, "Well, you know, you're probably wrong, because you're too young to know what the you're talking about. But let me tell you something — if you've truly examined the issue, and you've been honest with yourself, and you still think you're right, then screw 'em. Be yourself, do what you think is right, that's the only way you're ever going to get anywhere. I can fill your one hand with crap and the other hand with advice, and I can tell you which hand is going to fill up faster. Just follow what you think is right, and you'll be alright."

JK: Where do you see yourself in 10 years?

TM: I don't know. Only gods and fools are dumb enough to think they can predict the future.

JK: Along the same lines, but if your web site hadn't become such a huge success, where would you be?

TM: I don't know. I'd be a success at something. I don't know what it would be. I have no idea, but honestly, I don't believe in fate or destiny in the supernatural sense, but I do believe in destiny in the sense that certain people are imbued with a certain skill set or personality type that just fits with certain activities. I just think that entertainment was where I was supposed to be. I've fought it my whole life. Think about it: I went to University of Chicago and majored in economics and pre-law. Then went to law school, then ran my father's business. I got as far away from the entertainment business as I could, but it just kept drawing me back. I think it was just inevitable.

JK: Last question: if a young lady was interested in a Tucker Max hookup, how would she go about arranging it?

TM: It's pretty easy: e-mail me, send me pictures, come visit me, whatever.

Interview with Frank Thompson, creator of the famous

blind date bubbles

By Chris Cantrell
Graphics by Lauren Epps

My governor
can kick your
governor's butt

Frank Thompson is an author, filmmaker, comedic writer and film historian. He has been a writer for several television shows such as "Blind Date," "The Fifth Wheel" and, most recently, "The Bachelor: Paris." Thompson has written more than 37 books and served as a historical advisor for television and film. I recently had a chance to speak with Thompson in a transcontinental telephone pow-wow to learn more about his diverse résumé.

Chris Cantrell: First off, from what I hear, you are a native South Carolinian, but you currently live in California. What made you decide to secede from the Palmetto State?

Frank Thompson: Well, I graduated high school one day, and I was gone the next day, believe me. I was born in Aiken and grew up in several places around the state. I lived in Belton, Anderson and lived most of my teenage years in Jonesville, which is in Union County. I would say that it's not the most thrilling little town, but suffice it to say, I was more than eager to get out.

CC: What is your educational background?

FT: I went to college in Boston at the Berklee College of Music. I always intended to be a musician. All through high school I was in bands and played with a lot of local rock and soul bands. I really intended that it was going to be my life's path, but once I got to Boston and actually got around really good musicians, I realized how mediocre I was. That was

kind of a rude awakening, but I guess a necessary one.

CC: Could you familiarize our readers with some of the work you have done in the past?

FT: The TV shows, most of them would probably not be that well known to a wide audience. If they were, I'd be much

better off than I am now. But I was on "Blind Date" for five seasons and then moved over to its sister show, "The Fifth Wheel," and then went back to the "Blind Date" offices to work on a spin-off show. Then I spent the last few months working on "The Bachelor: Paris." In terms of books, it depends on how you count them, but the basic total is 37 books, mostly on film history. I also had a thing for Texas, so I've done five on the history of the Alamo.

CC: The pop-up bubbles that you wrote on "Blind Date" are notorious for mocking the show's guests. Have you ever received any anger from a former guest of the show after it aired?

FT: I don't believe the show ever got in trouble for mocking people. You know, you'd have to be fairly sick-witted to come on a show like this and expect not to be mocked. However, that being said, there were an incredibly large number of sick-witted people on that show, so who knows what they were thinking? To come on and subject yourself to do that stuff on television does not speak of a great mind. So I guess they didn't really think it through. I think that a lot of people that came really thought they were

coming to have a blind date, meet somebody and get a relationship. I don't know what they thought — but when you come on the show, you get nothing except the vague possibility that you'll get along with the person that you go on the date with or that you'll be completely humiliated on national television. That seemed to be a gamble a lot of them liked to take.

CC: What is the most outrageous thing you have seen during your career on the show?

FT: I've seen many things that you could not print in the Clemson paper, no matter how liberal your editorial policies might be (laughs and begins to tell stories not suitable for children) You know, they put together several tapes of this "Too Hot for TV" stuff, and I could think of a dozen instances of things we couldn't put on those tapes.

CC: You mentioned that you are also an author and that you specialize in the history of the Alamo. Are there any things that you have learned in your research that could be applied to surviving a bad blind date?

FT: Just like with "remember the Alamo," you just have to stand bravely and expect the worst. Maybe that's it, maybe being on a blind date is like being under siege in a crumbling fort.

CC: You played a role in 2004's "The Alamo;" what was your experience like on the set?

FT: That was one of the greatest times of my life. I was one of the first historical advisors they brought in when Ron Howard was directing, and so we spent a whole day in Austin talking. The set was not only enormous, but incredibly thorough, and for an Alamo geek, it was really like being there in many ways. There's a close-up of me in the movie, but I don't have any lines or anything, I'm just sitting there.

CC: Are there any projects that you have done recently or plan to do that you would like to mention?

FT: Right now, like every human on earth, I am writing a script, a feature script. My next book is a novel based on the "Lost" TV series. The book is called "Lost: Signs of Life."

CC: If you could put a pop-up bubble over this interview, what would it say?

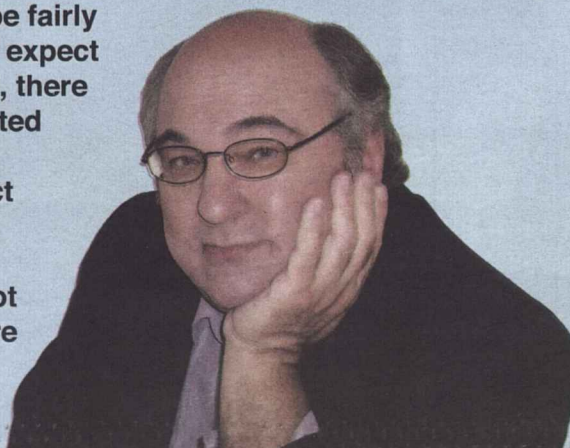
FT: It would say, "Poor writer doesn't know what he's getting into trying to transcribe this garbage."

I highly recommend visiting Thompson's web site, FrankThompson.tv, which contains more information on his works and several comedic pieces he has written. His latest book, "Lost: Signs of Life," hits bookshelves March 1.

What about surviving
an interview gone
bad?

DORK!

Poor interviewee talks
about the Alamo and
can't find signs of life



“Testify” uplifts



AMANDA GURGANUS
Assistant TimeOut Editor

P.O.D. (Payable on Death) is releasing their refreshing fourth CD, “Testify.” Since their appearance on the music scene six years ago, P.O.D. has soared in the charts. “Testify” displays the band’s fiery sound and uplifting power of rock.

“Testify” is named after the act of expressing a strong belief and letting that belief guide you through the good and bad times of life. “To us, that word speaks for itself. It’s powerful,” Sonny (P.O.D. front man) says of the one-word album title. P.O.D. uses music as their voice to express their faith and thus their own hearts.

P.O.D. continues their

traditional positive rock-out energy with songs like “Lights Out,” “This Time” and “Say Hello.” These songs distinguish P.O.D. from other bands. The band explores a love of genre in two reggae tracks featuring upcoming reggae star Matisyahu: “Strength of My Life” and “Roots in Stereo.”

The band also includes an inspiring message with their first single, “Goodbye for Now,” a song about the hope for a better tomorrow. Every song is different, which keeps you entertained throughout the entire album.

In my opinion, “Testify” is their strongest album yet. It is not flawless, but it is positive. P.O.D. stays to their roots and keeps their own sound instead of conforming to the mainstream success cases. “Testify” may not top the charts, but it is an honest and uplifting effort that sets an example that rock is possible without crude or vulgar lyrics.

Forecast partly cloudy for Cage



BRAD SMALLING
Staff Writer

As weatherman David Spritz gestures to digital images of giddy little suns, dismal frowning clouds and dancing glittery snowflakes, there is a sense of forecasting to events later in the newly released DVD “The Weather Man.” In fact, the movie plays out like a weekly forecast — seven or so mini-symbols making up one large image of the week’s weather.

Nicolas Cage, who plays David, has many “mini-moments” in his life that forecast the direction it follows. As corny as it sounds, he has moments influenced by both low and high pressure, which impacts the way his life precipitates. The analogy between the story and weather prediction is all too easy, but film director Gore Verbinski obviously chooses to fully utilize this connection and feeling of corniness.

The humor is clever, yet centers on dirty language and petty insults. The moment which captures this quality of humor best has to be when David calls his ex-wife’s fiancé a dildo completely out of the blue. Nicolas Cage consistently portrays David with this ridiculous humor element — awkward and out of place. Conversely, David’s father, played by Michael Caine, is a solid person

with a naturally strong demeanor. The Spritz family tree is completed by David’s two children — a 12-year-old daughter and a 15-year-old son. Each child has issues they deal with while trying to cope with their parents’ divorce. David cannot connect with his children, his ex-wife or his father, though it is apparent he loves them very much.

The movie is about the uncertainty of life. It should not be hard to parallel that with the “science” of weather prediction. Though the filmmakers do a good job not to spoonfeed audiences the message, certain scenes clearly present the case that David Spritz is a man who desires a forecast into his future. His father is able to dispense advice about life, compromise and satisfy periodically through the movie until his departure late into the film.

The scenes between Cage and Caine are very well done. A strong chemistry (or anti-chemistry as the case may be) can be sensed between the two characters from the beginning. To facilitate such chemistry, the filmmakers set up scenes in which the feeling is congruent with the dialogue. For instance, every time David takes his father to the hospital, they are alone in the waiting room for long periods of time. The scenes scream awkward. Unfortunately, Cage’s chemistry with the other supporting roles does not scream much of anything. His daughter, son and ex-wife all interact well with Cage’s character, and the acting is decent enough; however, the scenes lack spark.

The mundane feeling throughout the film may have

been a purposeful choice on the part of the writers, who develop the story much like a book. The dialogue and narration create the aura of a novel, which makes sense because Michael Caine’s character is a Pulitzer Prize-winning author. David Spritz, though a very successful weatherman, lives in the shadow of his father’s success and even has his own ill-fated attempt at writing.

This “book feeling” the movie exudes is effective as far as storyline goes, but I believe it is also the reason why audiences’ opinions the film are so wishy-washy. Almost everyone I have discussed the film with have the same response: “It’s alright.” It just doesn’t hold film enthusiasts’ attention long enough. As a novel, the story would probably be much more successful. The symbolism of David Spritz’s obsession with archery, his unfortunate encounters with “fast food throwers” (see the movie to understand that) and his job in general would have more impact on paper.

I enjoyed the natural artistic nature of the film and the ability to express complicated feelings through seemingly insignificant dialogue such as the fight over tarter sauce (by far the best scene in the movie). It is important to recognize the superb acting and well developed story inherent in the film; however, I believe the film tried to symbolize too many elements of the movie and, thus, sacrificed excitement for philosophy. Don’t get me wrong, philosophy is great, but it creates a bit of a cold front over the entire film.

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“Players” help laugh night away

LINDSAY BRASINGTON
Staff Writer

The Late Night Players kept the audience laughing in Tillman auditorium last Saturday night. They are a group of five guys fresh out of Brandeis University from Boston, Mass., who travel to different colleges and comedy festivals doing sketch comedy shows.

Each show they do is slightly different, as the comedians incorporate information about their audiences, as well as current events, in all of their shows.

The Late Night Players graduated from Brandeis in 2002, and most of them have degrees in sociology or politics.

They got started as a sketch comedy group in 2000, selling out shows around their campus, and have decided to make it their full-time job. The comedians were actually on their way to a midnight festival in Athens, Ga., immediately following Saturday night's show.

From the moment the Late Night Players walked out onto the stage the audience knew they were in for a laugh. For the most part, the comedians were dressed like typical college students, except for one guy wearing a colorful shirt which read “Hi, I’m Seth,” coupled with bright purple pants. Another of the comedians wore three “pigtales” in his curly hair.

Overall, the show was very humorous. The jokes were intelligent and involved political references, as well as jokes directed at Clemson University students.

The audience received the comedians very well. The audience laughed at the majority of the jokes, and if they did not, the comedians would bow dramatically, causing the audience to laugh again.

One of the comedians did a rap sketch. He rapped about being stopped by a cop while riding around on his bicycle. The outrageous scenario combined with gangster-like death threats was very smartly done.

The Late Night Players often made fun of Clemson. Before their show, they had researched the school’s Web site and picked up a copy of The Tiger. From the Web site, they composed a new fake alma mater, in which they used direct quotes out of context.

I have been reading those phrases for years, and I have never heard them sound quite like that.

They also did a sketch from The Tiger, in which they read an article one of our writers did about dirty ice, followed by throwing ice into the audience. Clearly these guys had done their homework, because they also made references to some of Clemson’s favorite legends.

The best part of the hour-long performance was the surprisingly skillful “Dance

Off” at the end of the show. Two of the comedians, with the words “Dance” and “Off” on the backs of their shirts, took turns doing crazy and hilarious moves. The audience laughed and cheered through nearly the entire final sketch.

All together, the performance was very well done. My biggest complaint was that the show was too short. The entire show was slightly less than an hour long, and I certainly would have enjoyed seeing more of it.

The show was very clever, and the Late Night Players obviously put a good bit of time not only into their performances as a whole but into each individual show and its audience.

If you missed this particular show, and even if you did not, be sure to check out their Web site for other shows around the region at www.latenightplayers.com.

Fantasy DVD mesmerizes



ADAM GRIFFIS
Staff Writer

Henson productions went to Dave McKean and Neil Gaiman (author of the cult hit comic “Sandman” and fantastic books “American Gods” and “Anansi Boys”) with a proposal: make a children’s story in the vein of “Labyrinth” for \$4 million. They agreed, provided they had complete artistic control. The result is “Mirrormask,” a fantastic voyage through a young woman’s psyche that is visually stunning and intellectually challenging.

“Mirrormask” is about a young girl, Stephanie Leonadis, whose parents run a circus where she performs as a juggler. Leonadis wants to run away to have a real life, and in a heated argument with her mother, Leonadis says she

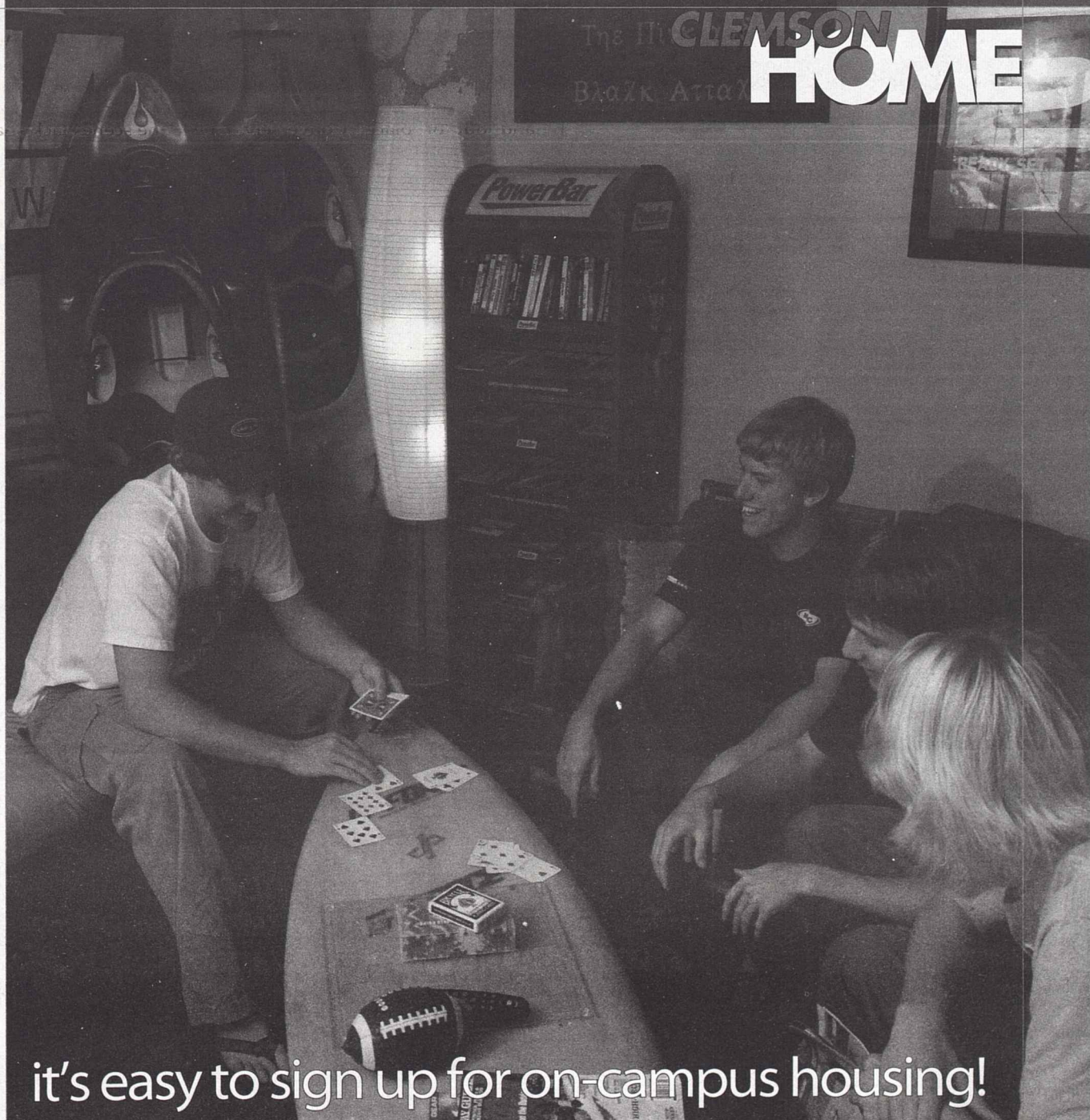
wishes her mother would die. As in any moralistic fable, her mother immediately falls ill following this exclamation. Dealing with her grief, Leonadis retreats into the fantasy world she created in her drawings. This world is populated by sphinxes that eat books and pose old riddles to travelers, flying giants and towers, gliding gorillas with beaks and other fantastic images all beautifully portrayed in a style that evokes the feeling of being sketched out on paper.

It is through this bizarre mix of CGI, animation, puppetry and live action that “Mirrormask” really shines. The story is good, especially for something that’s ostensibly for children. The film is, at once, terrifying, dazzling, confounding and hilarious. Every scene, especially near the beginning, is so overpopulated with the feverish visions of Gaiman’s imagination that you’ll need to watch it several times to appreciate everything. A glimpse into the imagination of a fantasy genius is worth the price of admission alone.

“Mirrormask” is not without its foibles, however. The sound is mostly great, with an unusual jazz-fused interpretation of circus music. Sometimes the mixing leaves a little to be desired, as it’s hard to hear some of the dialogue over the music. Also, the story occasionally makes weird leaps, with characters gaining understanding that the audience lacks. This can be confusing considering the nature of the movie’s reality, where comprehension can lead to huge effects like transportation across time and space, creation of new landscape and the appearance of creatures for ill or good. Watching again helps to solve some of these issues, but they do mar the first viewing and subsequent ones to a lesser degree.

I’m willing to consider the possibility that “Mirrormask” isn’t everyone’s cup of tea, in which case it still warrants at least a rental. Otherwise, the fact that repeat viewings are almost mandatory and certainly welcomed makes it well worth the price of the DVD.

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"Seven Sorrows" inspires more than predecessors



ADAM GRIFFIS
Staff Writer

The original "Gauntlet" was the consummate arcade game. It was easily beatable if you were willing to sink the quarters, but the real scores came from adding as few coins as possible. The best fun was to be had with a few friends playing together, working as a team through the hordes of enemy goblins, skeletons and ghosts.

With "Gauntlet Legends" for the N64, and "Gauntlet: Dark Legacy" for the Xbox, PS2 and Gamecube, the series never really regained its former glory.

"Gauntlet: Seven Sorrows" regains some of that arcade feel with Xbox Live play, but falls short of any other redeeming qualities.

The graphics in "Seven Sorrows" are average. They're decidedly worse than "God of War" or any of the "Lord of the Rings" action games, yet significantly better than "Gauntlet: Dark Legacy" or "Dungeons and Dragons: Heroes."

Each level has a consistent theme that works together well, but there's no real pat-

tern for each style.

One minute you'll be in a plague-stricken town, with a ravaged, fallow field-type of feel, and the next you'll be in an abandoned pirate town, which looks like a carnival, with no explanation for the transition of setting.

These themes would be significantly more meaningful if there was some pathos behind them.

Which brings us to the atrocious story of "Gauntlet: Seven Sorrows." Apparently, the original heroes from the previous games were betrayed by the King and his six ministers (I don't remember any previous mention of these characters), and in doing so, the ministers went mad and turned into monsters torturing the countryside.

Your job is to kill these monsters and their minions.

The story is more than just generic; in its execution, it's incoherent and inconsistent. You'll jump from level to level, fighting differently themed enemies in differently themed locals with no explanation, and the puzzles are not challenging at all, there's no rhyme or reason for each.

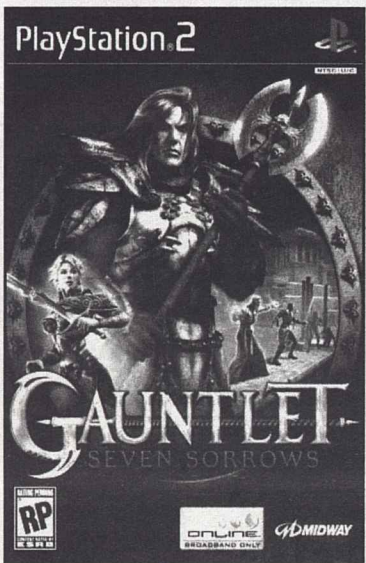
What's redeeming about "Seven Sorrows" is that it recaptures the old, fun, cooperative play of the arcade classic with play on Xbox Live. It's smooth, easy, lag-free and fun.

It really recaptures the

pick-up and play feel of the arcade. The problem is that the game is so easy, quick and mindless that you can cut your way through the entire game yourself in five to six hours simply by tapping the same button over and over. With three friends helping you out, it's even quicker.

Where "Seven Sorrows" succeeds is in playing to its strength: arcade-style action gameplay. However, it falls flat in trying to tie on a weak, watered-down story which only detracts from the experience.

"Seven Sorrows" is probably worth a rental if you want to have some quick, mindless action online, but there are many other better choices otherwise ("God of War," "LOTR: The Two Towers").



Band rocks Edgar's

DAN UBILLA
Staff Writer

It's not often that a touring punk band makes its way to Clemson, but whenever one does, it usually makes for a good night.

This past Saturday, the Nashville-based punk quintet Bullets to Broadway came to Edgar's for a free show put on by WSBF, Clemson's student-run radio station.

The Last Chucks also came to start the night off. The Atlanta trio opened up the night with a furious instrumental number. The group has a sound that is very rooted in the pop-punk of the mid-'90s; it's not too far-fetched to imagine them starting out playing Lagwagon covers in a basement.

The opening band got the place rocking, but the members themselves didn't throw a lot of energy into their live set. So, while the tunes were fast and kicking, the band members were pretty statuesque. They didn't come off as bored, though, which is one of the seven sins of the live show — instead, they came off more as professionals.

This vibe is weird for a punk band, but again, the songs were bright, spunky and kept the mood of the evening high.

The bassist got the bass line walking and the guitarist threw in more than enough riffs to keep things creative. The drummer was solid, and everybody sounded fairly tight. The trio shot gunned through their set of 11 songs

with little banter in between.

Bullets to Broadway was up next, and they did not disappoint. As soon as they kicked in, the place came to life. It was the last night of the tour for the band, but their live show didn't dare let that on. They played as though they had been together for years, even though they only released their first album, "Drink Positive," late last year. Their set consisted of the EP in its entirety, as well as a new song that could have easily fit in with the quick, punky rhythms of their debut album.

Vocalists Kevin and Heather, both formerly of the Teen Idols, showcased their contrasting vocals with perfect harmonies. Kevin also managed to keep things interesting in between songs and kept the audience laughing. The best part of the show was that the whole band seemed thrilled to be playing Edgar's, and every chord and note was struck with such urgency it was as though the Nashville-based band drove all the way just to play a one-off show at Clemson. Their energy transferred straight to the crowd, and there were mosh pits and fist pumps galore. It was a beautiful sight for a Saturday night in Clemson.

After the show, everybody seemed to realize they were a part of something special that night. Hopefully, WSBF can bring more punk bands around, and the experience can be more of a regular event. Until then, it's best to soak it up whenever Edgar's is transformed into a big-city club.

Play needs burial

CARA ALLEN
Staff Writer

Last Thursday, the Clemson Players opened their new play, "The Burial at Thebes," at the Brooks Center. I have enjoyed many past productions by the Clemson Players, but this one fell short of my expectations.

This was the first play directed by Alexander Harrington. He became a faculty member at the Brooks Center last semester. The production was a huge undertaking for Harrington's first at Clemson.

Harrington and the players had to master the already difficult elements of theater such as lighting, set and costume, as well as write music, direct an orchestra, and learn and choreograph songs.

Carman Moore came in to write music especially for this production. The music was more modern than I had originally expected, but it fit within the context of the play. Being a musician myself, I always find it is better to use live music rather than recorded when possible, so I was pleased to see a live pit orchestra perform.

Unfortunately, I was not as pleased to hear the singing. Throughout the night, pitches were flat, sharp — basically not what they should have been.

The Performing Arts department is split two ways: music and theater. And

although the two do not mix often, maybe it should stay that way. With so much of the play being centered on "musical numbers," the singing should have been stronger. Many times the chorus was noticeably out of tune and not together, making this Greek tragedy only more tragic.

After seeing the play and talking with a few friends I learned that the actors were not cast with singing in mind. To think that actors were not required to sing beforehand is crazy. Just because someone can act does not mean they can sing, too.

But not everything in the play was as bad as the singing.

The acting was great. The main characters, Antigone (played by Elizabeth Colson) and Creon (played by Chris Bellinger) were amazing. Bellinger brought the play to life and kept the audience's interest all night.

Another actor that stood out was Nadirah Shabazz, who played Tiresias, a blind prophet. Shabazz took her small role and made it one of the most memorable.

This definitely was not the strongest performance for the Clemson Players, but I know they can bounce back. They are all so gifted and talented — I hope no one judges them too harshly off of this one show. I look forward to seeing what they have next in store for Clemson.

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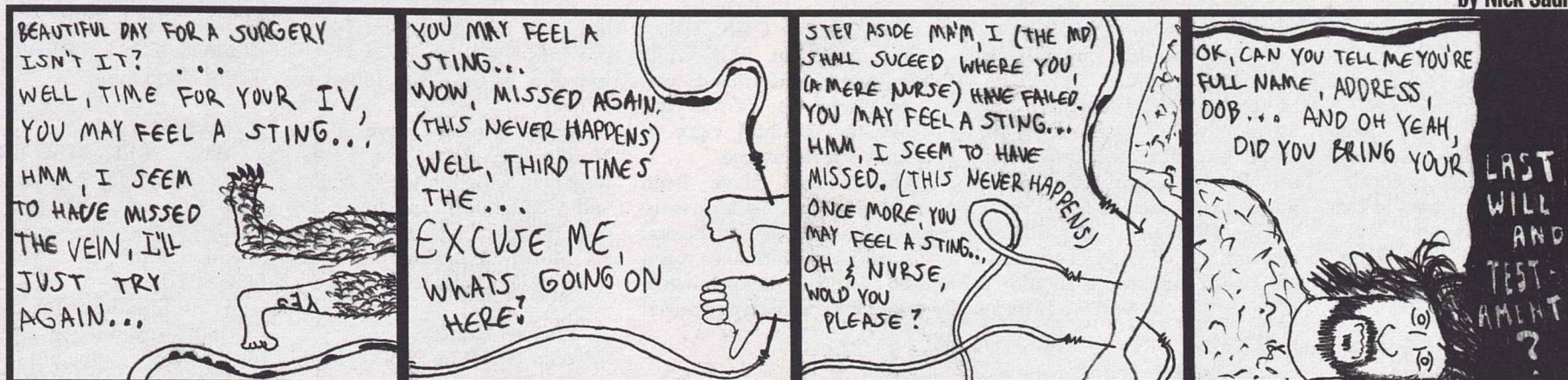
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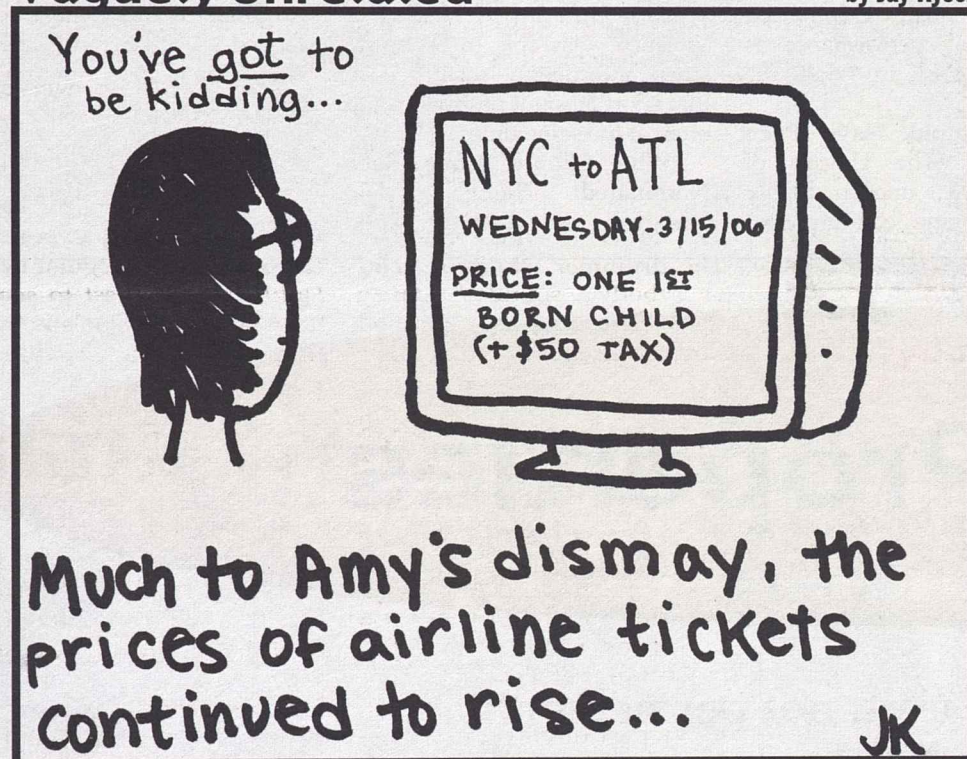
Ha ...

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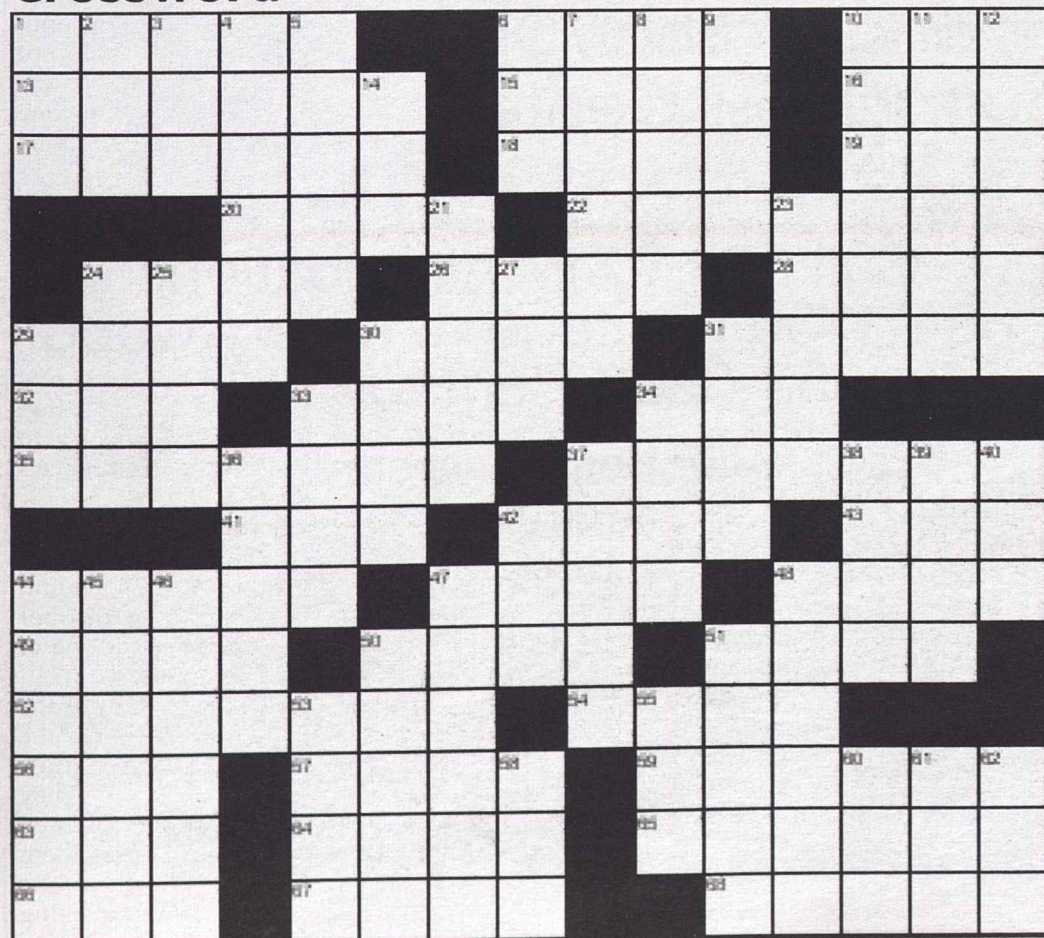


Vaguely Unrelated

by Jay Kyser



Crossword



Clues

ACROSS

- 1 Soap operas
- 6 Captain (abbr.)
- 10 Pole
- 13 Musical productions
- 15 Haul
- 16 Bard's before
- 17 Make arrangements
- 18 Dress
- 19 Peanut butter brand
- 20 Adjudicate
- 22 Sasquatch
- 24 Filthy film
- 26 Aegis
- 28 Small brook
- 29 Rating
- 30 Afloat
- 31 What bees make
- 32 Sickly
- 33 Cain's brother
- 34 Goof
- 35 Hoard
- 37 Enigma
- 41 Goddess
- 42 Two good friends
- 43 Luau dish
- 44 Mr. O'Brien
- 47 Shoshonean
- 48 Skip
- 49 On top
- 50 Sob
- 51 Told a tall tale
- 52 Mid semester test
- 54 Flightless birds
- 56 Chassis
- 57 Harvard's rival
- 59 Thespians
- 63 Compass point
- 64 Level
- 65 Embroidery yarn
- 66 Crimson
- 67 Adore
- 68 Fo

DOWN

- 1 Distress call
- 2 Gorilla
- 3 Receive
- 4 Round Table King
- 5 Witch hunting city
- 6 Discs
- 7 Saudi
- 8 National capital
- 9 Branch
- 10 Reply
- 11 Lark
- 12 Gracefully
- 14 Ocean
- 21 Start over
- 23 Not back
- 24 Farm building
- 25 Jail room
- 27 Stiffen
- 29 Facial twitch
- 30 The alphabet
- 31 Boo
- 33 Long time
- 34 Monetary unit
- 36 Sprung
- 37 Syrup tree
- 38 Dueling sword
- 39 Street
- 40 Shriek bark
- 42 Captured soldier
- 44 Slight upward arching
- 45 Worthless
- 46 Gestured "hello"
- 47 Character of Shakespeare's
- 48 Concentrate
- 50 Well done!
- 51 Bread
- 53 Leered
- 55 IBM Competitor
- 58 East northeast
- 60 IOU part
- 61 Rock group
- 62 Cunning

TimeOut predicts Academy Award winners

MICHAEL HUNLEY
TimeOut Editor

ADAM STEINBERG
TimeOut Layout Editor

BEST PICTURE

Adam Steinberg:

Who Will Win: Critics just can't quit "Brokeback Mountain," and it seems almost inevitable that Oscar voters will reward the film that many consider not to be just the best film of the year but a film that will eventually be mentioned among the best in history.

Who Should Win: There's no clear-cut winner here, but I am going to go with the McCarthy-era-recreation "Good Night, and Good Luck." It's a fresh and taught 90 minutes of film featuring a mesmerizing performance by David Strathairn.

Who Should Have Been Nominated: "The Constant Gardener," the most politically-complex tragedy to hit the big-screen in recent memory. Weisz and Fiennes are the best acting pair of 2005.

Michael Hunley:

Who Will & Should Win: "Brokeback Mountain" was such a groundbreaking film and pop culture phenomenon that it'll easily pick up the top statue. The fact that it's such an amazing film and deserves to win makes it even better.

Who Should Have Been Nominated: My favorite film of the year was "A History of Violence," but, alas, Oscar voters didn't feel it deserved to be

a nominee. When it didn't get nominated, I have to confess, I cried a little (but just inside).

BEST ACTOR

Adam Steinberg:

Who Will Win: I'm not convinced that Philip Seymour Hoffman's win is as much of a lock as most people do, but I'll go with the common knowledge here and pick Hoffman over Heath Ledger.

Who Should Win: The last ten minutes of "Capote" are some of the most electric on film, and I'll certainly be pleased if Hoffman wins. But David Strathairn's embodiment of Edward R. Murrow's intense yet subdued characterization kept me captivated for 90 minutes.

Who Should Have Been Nominated: Fiennes and Viggo Mortensen have been discussed for months, but everyone seems to be forgetting the proverbial son, Russell Crowe. His performance in "Cinderella Man" is no less great than any in his past. Just because he's so good every time out doesn't mean we shouldn't reward this ill-tempered thespian.

Michael Hunley:

Who Will & Should Win: Philip Seymour Hoffman gave such a commanding performance in "Capote," and his role transcended pure imitation. Undeservedly snubbed by the Oscars for years, it's about time he gets some recognition.

Who Should Have Been Nominated: Sure, Rachel Weisz got all the attention in "The

Constant Gardener," but what about star Ralph Fiennes, who gave a subdued, subtle performance that made the film even more heartbreaking?

BEST ACTRESS

Adam Steinberg:

Who Will Win: It's down to three here: Reese Witherspoon, Felicity Huffman and Keira Knightley. Huffman's film doesn't have the buzz to help her pull a Helen Hunt, and Knightley would only squeeze in if Huffman and Witherspoon split the vote. But this won't happen, so Witherspoon is the deserved winner.

Who Should Win: Witherspoon managed to outshine Johnny Cash, which is no small feat. But while Witherspoon's performance was the most solid one of the year, I'll take the youthful vigor of Knightley's performance.

Who Should Have Been Nominated: This is a toss-up between Joan Allen and Naomi Watts. Allen's performance was a middle-aged tour-de-force, while Watts made us love an over-sized ape.

Michael Hunley:

Who Will & Should Win: Sadly overlooked for her excellent role in "Election," Reese Witherspoon finally got noticed for her lovely performance as June Carter Cash in "Walk the Line."

Who Should Have Been Nominated: "The Upside of Anger" was an uneven, highly flawed dramatic comedy that

proved successful thanks to star Joan Allen, who gave a hilarious, touching performance as a scorned wife. But where's the nomination, yo?

BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR

Adam Steinberg:

Who Will Win: This is the closest category to call, as all of the nominees have a significant shot at winning. The conventional wisdom would point to George Clooney or Paul Giamatti, but I'm going to go out on a limb and say Jake Gyllenhaal takes the win after garnering the youth vote.

Who Should Win: Giamatti is great in "Cinderella Man," and he should have won Best Actor last year. However, Matt Dillon provides the most layered performance as the sleazy officer in "Crash."

Who Should Have Been Nominated: Ray Wise is the forgotten actor in "Good Night, and Good Luck," but he is the most memorable from the film. As Murrow's understudy, Wise brings tragic depth to the film.

Michael Hunley:

Who Will Win: Paul Giamatti will finally score the ever elusive statue for "Cinderella Man."

Who Should Win: Despite only 10 minutes of screen, William Hurt in "A History of Violence" was able to be funny, scary and deeply disturbed in that short amount of time — and often at the same time.

Who Should Have Been Nominated: Though David Strathairn got most of "Good

Night, and Good Luck's" attention, Frank Langella's small, truly effective role as a TV network chief went sadly unnoticed.

BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS

Adam Steinberg:

Who Will Win: This is going to Weisz, hands down. No one even comes close.

Who Should Win: Weisz is the deserving winner, but I'll give Catherine Keener the silver medal as Truman Capote's moral compass in "Capote."

Who Should Have Been Nominated: I'm not going to say Maria Bello here, as she was good but not better than any of the nominees. I honestly can't think of anyone I would rather have nominated, and I don't think that's a good thing.

Michael Hunley:

Who Will Win: Rachel Weisz's haunting, pivotal role in "The Constant Gardener" will finally get this British actress the attention that the "Mummy" films failed to.

Who Should Win: Despite the film's low budget and relative obscurity, "Junebug's" Amy Adams gave perhaps the best performance of the year. Hopefully Oscar voters thought so, too.

Who Should Have Been Nominated: Did I mention that I loved "A History of Violence?" Well, don't make me mention how much I loved Maria Bello in the film who is so wonderful as a strong-willed wife trying to understand her husband's mysterious past.

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