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2005

THE TIGER

C L E M S O N U N I V E R S I T Y



TIMEOUT: Jude Law ponders over the many facets of love in "Closer" **D9**
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Researcher acquires million-dollar grant

Bioengineering professor awarded a grant to continue his work with heart disease.

TIFFANY VOSS
Staff Writer

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) awarded a four-year, one million dollar grant to Clemson researcher Naren Vyavahare, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Bioengineering.

Vyavahare received this money and national recognition as a leader in the development of bioprosthetic heart valves and also for his work on the calcification of arteries.

In his research, Vyavahare hunts for the key to stopping America's

number one killer, heart disease.

This new grant was a continuation of a grant that the department had already received in 1999.

"Based on our research accomplishments over the last four years, and plans for future research, we received a grant for another four years," said Vyavahare. He also said that he was extremely pleased to have been recognized.

Most of the funding for this type of grant goes to larger, more prestigious medical schools, so it is an honor for a Clemson researcher to have been chosen.

In addition to the grant, NIH selected Vyavahare as a permanent member of a study section named "Bioengineering, Technology and Surgical Sciences."

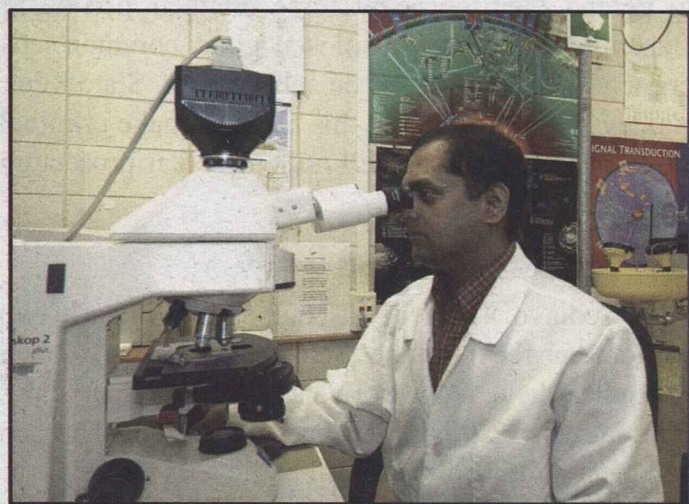
This study section "meets three times a year to review submitted proposals and look at the scientific merit of the proposed research," said Vyavahare.

As for the million dollars, Vyavahare plans to continue his extensive work on the development of bioprosthetic heart valves, as well as the calcification that occurs up in arteries.

This work may aid America more than most people realize, because "about 150,000 patients receive heart valve implants to replace their malfunctioned heart valves," said Vyavahare.

Not to mention, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention

SEE **RESEARCH**, PAGE A6



HEART ATTACK: Naren Vyavahare develops artificial heart valves and researches the calcification of arteries.

Annual race supports library



Profits expected to be in the tens of thousands for the sixth annual Presidential race.

JENNY MASON
Assistant News Editor (Interim)

Six years ago Clemson students in a senior-level parks, recreation and tourism management class faced a class assignment: to design a project that would raise money for the library to support the then-new Sport Management program. The product of that project was the Presidential Library Race, and this year marks the sixth anniversary.

Cathy Claussen, who taught the course at the time, designed the project to give her students real-life work experience. Six years later, students in the class, now lead by Bob Brookover, are still

in charge of the entire race production. They handle everything, including designing the t-shirts, registration and organizing parking, said Micki Reid, Publicity Coordinator for Clemson University Libraries.

The library has since been able to get enough materials for the Sport Management program, and the profits are now divided equally among the librarians. The librarians use the profits to buy new books and materials for their department, said Reid.

Brookover also sees the race as a way to support the goals President Barker has set to better our University.

"Clemson's library system is an important part of the plan to further the national recognition of the university," he said in a press release.

The race, which started at Cooper Library and ended at Death Valley, took place April 2. Few

changes have been made to the race over the years, but two years ago the race officials began using a ChampionChip timing system, which has "really improved the quality of race operations and [the] ability to get the results out instantaneously," said Brookover. Brookover said in years previous to ChampionChip it would take over an hour to get the results tallied.

This year has seen both the highest number of participants and the most money raised. Though the information has not yet been completed, 270 people pre-registered this year and approximately 400 other runners registered on the day of the race. In previous years, the top number of participants was just over 300.

Though it will take another week or two to pay the final bills, Brookover estimates that the race

SEE **RACE**, PAGE A6

Director visits campus

Peace Corps director visits Clemson to encourage new volunteers.

JULIE LEDBETTER
News Editor (Interim)

JENNY MASON
Assistant News Editor (Interim)

As part of International Awareness Week, Henry McKoy, the presidential-appointed Peace Corps regional director for Africa, came to Clemson to share the benefits of joining the Peace Corps.

McKoy's lecture, entitled "Peace Corps in the 21st century," was held in Tillman Auditorium on Wednesday. Mary Miller, the special assistant to the provost and personal friend of McKoy, introduced him.

"He seeks to represent and foster dignity in all of us," Miller said of McKoy. "He sees the value in every person; he sees the big picture," she added.

As regional director for Africa, McKoy is in charge of 2,500 volunteers in 62 different nations. He spends five months each year traveling and talking to local African officials to make sure volunteers are safe, healthy and doing their jobs.

McKoy said that America is seen as a compassionate group of people who care about the world, and that it is viewed number one economically in the world. Because of this, he says it is our duty and our responsibility to help our community.

"There is no better time than now

SEE **MCKOY**, PAGE A5



HENRY MCKOY

SPORTS



Can the baseball team come back from their two losses against the Georgia Bulldogs to beat Duke this weekend? To find out turn to page **B5**

WEATHER

FRIDAY: Showers



SATURDAY: Partly Cloudy
Hi **68** Lo **47**

SUNDAY: Mostly Sunny
Hi **68** Lo **47**

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NationalView

New law says Floridians can use force

A new law may soon come into effect in Florida, pending Governor Jeb Bush's signature. The bill, which has passed both in the state House and Senate, allows citizens the right to defend themselves with force in public without fear of prosecution. Under current law, Floridians are supposed to avoid the attack by retreating from the situation and only use forceful self-defense after attempting to leave. This bill will be an extension of a current law, which allows citizens to defend themselves by force on their private property. Bush told CNN that the bill is a "good, common sense, anti-crime issue" that focuses on self-defense. State Rep. Dennis Baxley said to CNN that this bill will make criminals think twice because citizens will no longer fear prosecution from using force.

Schiavo dies after long battle

Terry Schiavo, 41, died last Thursday after nearly two weeks without her feeding tube. Schiavo's parents, Bob and Mary Schindler, held a memorial service for their daughter in Florida, where at least 800 people attended. The Schindlers had been fighting a long legal battle with Schiavo's husband who had her feeding tube removed, saying his wife would not have wanted to be kept in a vegetative state. The Schindler's battle to have the tube re-inserted reached the U.S. Supreme Court in weeks leading up to Schiavo's death. Schiavo's husband plans to have a separate ceremony for his wife but has not yet announced when it will take place.

GlobalPerspective

Car bomb leaves U.S. soldier, Iraqi civilian dead

Two separate car bombs exploded in Iraq on Tuesday, one during a U.S. Army patrol in southern Baghdad and another in western Baghdad as an Iraqi military convoy passed. The first explosion killed one U.S. soldier and injured four others. The soldier, a part of the third Infantry Division, is the fourth American to die in two days, according to CNN. Two other American soldiers and an Iraqi soldier were killed in an all-day firefight between U.S. and Iraqi forces and insurgents Monday. The other American soldier to die this week, a U.S. Marine, died Monday in combat as well. The car bomb that exploded on the Iraqi military convoy killed an Iraqi civilian, injured two others and damaged the surrounding homes and vehicles, Iraqi police told CNN.

England goes to the polls May 5

Tony Blair, British Prime Minister, announced Tuesday the date of England's general election to be May 5. He delayed the much-anticipated announcement a day, following the death of Pope John Paul II. Blair, running again to represent the Labour party, plans to focus his campaign on health and education, said CNN's European Political Editor Robin Oakley. According to CNN, opinion polls show that the Labour party's biggest opposition, the Conservative Party, is gaining support and closing the gap between the two parties. This is in part to the public's dissatisfaction with the involvement in the Iraqi war and the general distaste for the Labour party, according to CNN.

NewsByNumbers

1.84

average price in dollars per gallon of regular gasoline in South Carolina

1.98

average price in dollars per gallon of regular gasoline in U.S.

1,578

American deaths in the war in Iraq as of April 5

Death of religious icon draws millions to mourn

Pope John Paul II died Saturday, ending his 26-year papacy.

JULIE LEDBETTER
News Editor (Interim)

On April 2, the world lost one of the leading and most influential figures when Pope John Paul II died at the age of 84.

The Pope's funeral was held this morning in St. Peter's Square. John Paul II will be buried beneath St. Peter's Basilica, as are the majority of popes. However, since the Pope was from Poland, he may have requested to be buried there.

Spokesman for the Vatican Joaquin Navarro-Valls told CNN that the Pope would be buried in the former grave of Pope John XXIII.

The Vatican announced on Sunday that the official cause of death was septic shock and cardio-circulatory collapse.

The pontiff's health began to quickly decline on Thursday after a urinary tract infection was spurred on by the septic shock and cardio-circulatory collapse.

John Paul II passed in his apartment Sunday.

"He had been sick for a long time, and he decided he would rather stay in his apartment. I thought it was a big decision for him," said Deanna Dever, a first year genetics student.

The Pope's death, however, was not unforeseen. According to the Vatican, the Pope had been ill for a while, suffering from several chronic illnesses including crippling knee and hip ailments and Parkinson's disease.

"I definitely don't think his death was unexpected. He knew that it was his time," said Jocelyn Zybert, a first year business student.

This year, for the first time during his 26-year papacy, the pontiff

was too ill to participate in Easter Mass.

"I think it's better that he passed because it was unfortunate that he was so sick and had to suffer," Zybert said. She added that she thought he was a good pope, despite his being sick.

CNN reported around 100,000 people attended Mass in St. Peter's Square the Sunday following the Pope's death.

More than four million mourners showed up to St. Peter's Basilica to pay their respects to the pontiff as his body lay in state.

People around the world, Catholic and others, mourned the loss of the Pope, and Dever said she was one of those people.

"I was sad. I made sure I went to church and said a prayer," she said.

Candidates for a successor have not been announced yet, but new popes are generally selected by the Sacred College of Cardinals.

The Vatican announced Wednesday that the cardinals will begin a conclave to choose a successor on April 18 because, according to Vatican law, the conclave must meet no sooner than 15 and no later than 20 days of the pope's death.

According to USA Today, the Vatican will signal the selection of the new pope with ringing of bells and puffs of white smoke.

"I'm excited to see who the new pope is going to be and see how the church will change because I have only known one pope in my lifetime," said Zybert.

Navarro-Valls said on Wednesday that the Pope never selected a secret cardinal. "I can confirm that the Holy Father, before dying, did not give a name for a cardinal, and this was also in 2003," he told CNN.

John Paul II, the 264th pope, was first elected in 1978 and was the first non-Italian pope in 455 years.

HIGHLIGHTS OF A LIFETIME

1920 - Karol Wojtyla is born May 18 in Poland.

1942 - Wojtyla decides to secretly study to become a priest, something that was prohibited under the Nazi rule.

1967 - Wojtyla is elected as a cardinal by Pope Paul VI

1978 - Wojtyla is elected Pope John Paul VII. At 58, he is the youngest pope for more than a century.

1981 - Pope is shot and seriously wounded by Mehmet Ali Agca while greeting a crowd in St. Peter's Square.

1983 - Pope visits Agca in jail. He later says his Christian teachings instructed him to forgive Agca.

1989 - Pope welcomes Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev. This is the first meeting between a Pope and a Kremlin chief at the Vatican.

2000 - Pope delivers an unprecedented public apology. He asks for forgiveness for the errors of the Roman church over the previous 2,000 years.

2002 - Pope hosts meeting with American Cardinals to create a process to "defrock" any priest involved with child molestation.

2005 - While overlooking St. Peter's Square from his studio in March, the Pope gives a silent blessing.

April - After developing a high fever, the Pope dies on April 2.

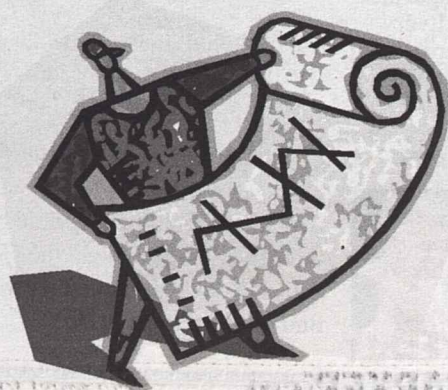
Construction Update

Parking Services, working with University officials from Athletics, Facilities, and Manhattan Construction have agreed upon extending the lay down area along Centennial Blvd.

This will be an area blocked off from the intersection of Press Road and Centennial Blvd. going southwest toward Perimeter Road. The use will be for additional construction materials storage and parking.

This additional use of Centennial Blvd. will only be until August 1, 2005 at which time Manhattan Construction will clean up the parking areas and return them to Clemson University for use in Fall 2005.

**Thank you,
Geary Robinson
Director of Parking Services**



Scientist claims link between alcohol, food

Researcher hypothesizes that humans evolved to associate alcohol with nutritional gain.

NAYLOR BROWNELL
Editor in Chief (Interim)

Humans have consumed alcoholic beverages for hundreds of years, and a researcher at the University of California at Berkeley thinks he may have stumbled upon a reason for the human race's love affair with alcohol.

Robert Dudley is a professor of integrative biology at U.C. Berkeley whose principal research interest is insect flight.

Through observation of other various animals, he has developed a few hypotheses that may one day explain why humans have a taste for ethyl alcohol, or ethanol.

Dudley hypothesizes that humans and our primate ancestors evolved to associate ethanol with food consumption.

"We evolved from a predominately fruit-eating lineage of primates," Dudley said.

Many fruits, he continued, contain ethanol — up to eight to 10 percent in the most concentrated varieties, depending on the age of the fruit.

Dudley believes that there may be a correlation between the condition of the fruit and an animal's willingness to ingest it.

To support his theories, Dudley explained the formation of ethanol in fruits and what that implies for animals that consume them.

According to Dudley, green (unripe) fruit usually has a high starch content, as well as a number of chemicals that can be toxic to the fruit's consumers.

"As it ripens, the fruit intentionally converts the starches to sugars," Dudley explained. The sugars

make the fruit more attractive to consumers, which can include insects, mammals and birds.

Yeasts present in the fruit gradually ferment the sugars in it to kill off competitive bacteria. The fermentation of sugar produces alcohol, about 80 percent of which is ethanol, the variety that humans enjoy. Another side-effect of fermentation is that the fruit gradually ripens until there is little sugar left, and it is rotten.

In addition to killing bacteria, the ethanol can cause other things to happen. Ethanol molecules are very light and can spread easily throughout the air. Wind can carry the molecules over a moderate distance and attract the attention of predatory animals.

"An animal can smell that alcohol and fly upwind and localize that fruit more easily," said Dudley. "We know that fruit flies do that to find the fruit on which to lay their eggs."

He added that birds and mammals can also detect ethanol from great distances and hinted that an association could have been formed over millennia.

"Maybe other animals can do that as well," he said. "They associate alcohol with nutritional reward, and it's sort of a localization mechanism."

According to Dudley, once the animal arrives at the fruit, the ethanol can stimulate eating and consumption of the fruit and the ethanol contained within. Dudley said that in tropical forests, animals compete fiercely for the ripest fruits.

Therefore, the animal that finds and consumes the fruit first will get the most nutritional benefit. If an animal could sense an indicator like ethanol, and it stimulated the animal to consume it faster, that animal would have an advantage over its peers.

Dudley has noticed a parallel trend involving ethanol and food consumption in humans.

"We know in humans that if you have an aperitif before a meal — people have done this under controlled conditions — alcohol actually increases your overall rate of eating," Dudley said. "That is well-established."

The second part of Dudley's hypothesis concerns the psychological effects of ethanol. In nature, he said, ethanol is only consumed in conjunction with sugars and fruits.

This is why animals associate ethanol with nutritional benefit. The concentration is low enough in many fruits that it does not necessarily make many animals drunk. There are exceptions, however.

Edward Pivorun, a professor of zoology at Clemson pointed out that at least one species of bird will consume overripe fruit and then appear to be drunk, flopping around on the ground.

Pivorun wonders why this particular animal has this particular psychological response to ethanol, while primates do not appear inebriated. He suggested that perhaps the primates used the alcohol in different physical way than the birds.

Dudley attempts to address this in his third hypothesis, that a coevolution with low levels of alcohol stimulated the evolution of biological machinery to metabolize it — that is, animals that consume alcohol had to slowly evolve the organs and tissues necessary to digest it.

Even with the proper pathways present in the body to digest alcohol, it remains a highly toxic substance; it would be even deadlier if these organs had never evolved.

According to Pivorun, this coevolution would cause one of two responses.

"The body would need to either develop a need or a tolerance for

alcohol," he said.

Pivorun said that though alcohol can be toxic, it still contains energy and can be used to nourish the body, to some extent.

Dudley said that metabolic machinery has been identified in many groups of animals, as well as positive effects of alcohol consumption.

In fruit flies, for example, exposure to a low-concentration ethanol vapor increases life span and reproductive output. No exposure or too much exposure is detrimental.

Dudley said that similar effects have been observed in humans — low levels of alcohol consumption have been shown to be beneficial to the heart and circulatory system.

Some doctors even recommend a small amount of alcohol consumption each day. The mere fact that humans have enzymes that can break down alcohol, he said, is indicative of past consumption during evolution.

Dr. Linda Fulton, the associate university veterinarian at Clemson, agrees.

"There has to be a biological reason for those enzymes and receptors to be there," Fulton said.

Dudley says that insects, birds, humans and other primates all have genes that control the production of such enzymes.

What may not be genetic is each organism's behavioral response to alcohol. He believes that further study of man's evolution may produce some answers to the source of human behavior in relation to ethanol.

"Most of the time we drink when we're eating food, and I don't think that's an accident," Dudley said. "We may have inherited this tendency to associate intake of ethanol with nutritional reward."

The manner in which humans consume alcohol now differs greatly from animals in the wild,

however.

"The concentrations we produce through distillation are so much higher than what occurs by natural parameters," Dudley said.

In addition, alcohol is much more readily available. It no longer needs to be consumed with fruit but can be consumed in a concentrated form by the handle.

It is much easier to go to the store and buy large quantities and drink than to get enough ethanol from fruit to feel any effects.

Dudley believes that his research may one day have an effect on the way alcoholism is viewed as a disease.

He postulates that it may be another form of the root of diabetes and obesity — what is known as the "disease of nutritional excess."

Not until fatty and sugary foods were available in abundance did humans start having blood sugar and weight problems.

Fats and sugars can be healthy for a person if consumed in moderation. Modern society tends to over-consume, and these problems start to crop up.

"It's a mismatch between our historical evolved environment, and what we have created technologically," Dudley said.

Alcoholism is also extremely hard to pair with a concrete definition.

"It's like the tendency to drive quickly," Dudley mused.

Clinicians deal with alcoholism on a case-by-case basis, and treatments can vary from case to case. Dudley hopes that his research may help to find an explanation for alcoholism.

"It's kind of like obesity. It's clear that people are suffering, but it's not clear what the mechanism is," Dudley said.

"In any case, it's better to ... understand the historical substrate from which our behavior derives."

Graduate programs rate among top in the nation

Engineering departments rank in the top 50 public and private universities.

KATHERINE DUPRE
Staff Writer

The Clemson graduate engineering programs have been nationally recognized, with five engineering and science departments now ranked as part of the Top 50 in the nation by U.S. News and World Report.

The magazine releases a guidebook to graduate programs each spring. This year, Clemson's environmental science program is placed 20th in the nation, industrial engineering is ranked 33rd, biomedical/bioengineering received 46th, civil engineering is 48th and material sciences placed 50th.

Tom Keinath, dean of the College of Engineering and Science, said that he was very proud of the program. "This is really quite something," he said.

The rankings are based on a survey of engineering department chairs across the country. The chairmen rank other engineering colleges on a scale of one to five. The scores are then averaged, ranked and listed in the national magazine.

Every graduate engineering department was ranked by the publication, though only five were placed in the Top 50. The rest placed in at least the nation's 75 best programs.

This honor is significant for several reasons. The main impact, Keinath said, will be a boost in the value of each Clemson diploma awarded.

Keinath added that the rankings also help the Clemson admissions department "to recruit better and better students."

"We are ratcheting upward," he said.

The magazine ranked all American colleges, both pri-

"We have outstanding faculty members; we've had some great hires in the last decade, and our quality of students is outstanding."

TOM KEINATH

Dean of Engineering and Science

vate and public. This means that Clemson was ranked in the same category as such private colleges as MIT, Stanford, and Duke, all of which draw in significantly more annual funds than Clemson does.

Keinath sees being ranked above many private programs as possibly the best honor of all. "It would be one thing to compare oranges to oranges, but now we're comparing oranges to apples," he said. "Stanford and Duke have very good programs, but they also draw in a whole lot more money than we do."

Clemson fared even better when compared to other "oranges." Environmental sciences, ranked

20th overall, was placed 11th among all national public universities. All departments were placed in at least the Top 40 of the public school list.

This spring's directory, which is currently available on newsstands, only ranks graduate programs. Another version of the list will be printed this fall with rankings for undergraduate departments. Keinath said that he expects very similar results.

"We have outstanding faculty members, we've had some great hires in the last decade, and our quality of students is outstanding," he said.

Students accepted into the College of Engineering and Science have an average score of 1,250 on their SAT exams. With increased national recognition, many expect admissions standards to rise.

Keinath explained how this would help the school. If the standards change, Clemson will see a parallel rise in the quality of students admitted.

This will bring more National recognition, allowing the standards to increase again and the cycle to continue. Keinath feels that he has seen the quality of students rise in the past six to seven years, and he expects the trend to continue.

The engineering department has several goals in mind. They would like to see the value of every diploma climb, for more departments to reach Top 50 levels and for more Americans to recognize the amount of work that Clemson students complete.

In addition to these goals, the rankings may also help Clemson meet President Barker's goal of becoming a Top 20 University.

Campus honors life of founder

Community takes time to celebrate the life of Thomas Green Clemson.

JULIE LEDBETTER
News Editor (Interim)

Every year on April 6, the anniversary of Thomas Green Clemson's passing, the local community celebrates his life.

Around 35 students, faculty and members of the community gathered on Tuesday at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Pendleton, where Thomas Clemson is buried, to hold a memorial service honoring the 117th year of his death.

Revered Melvin Gray held an open church service, and then President Barker placed a wreath on his grave site.

He told attendees that this was a time to reflect on Thomas Clemson, his life and his idea of a school that could help the economy of the South.

On Thursday, President Barker allowed the flag in front of Tillman Hall to fly at half-staff out of respect for Clemson.

When Thomas Clemson passed, he left the majority of his estate to establish an agricultural and mechanical science college in South

Carolina.

The University was officially founded in 1889.

Amit Toprani, a fourth year mechanical engineering student contributed to the ceremony.

"Without his vision, none of us would be here, and we wouldn't have the Clemson experience; we wouldn't have the Clemson family," he said.

Toprani said that the attendance at past ceremonies has not been high, but he hopes that in the future more students will attend.

"Something we are definitely going to continue to do is to get more students to come out and show support and participate," he said.

He added that they hope to hold the ceremony in Tillman next year so that more students will be able to attend.

Toprani said that it is important for students to remember Thomas Clemson because it is part of the campus's history.

"There are so many things that we as undergraduates see as an integral part of our lives ... none of that would be possible without him. It's something we need to reflect on," he said.

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**WEEKLY
BARKERism...**

"We must touch the heart as well as the mind to be a great university." December 12, 2002

Driving the community

HOLLY RICHARDS
Staff Writer

We have all done it at some point. And if you haven't done it, then you are not really a Clemson student. It's especially annoying in the rain, in the wind or when you are late. We all ride the CAT buses.

We curse them as we troop onto a crowded bus; we zone out along the rocking swell of the ride to campus; we chat with the drivers that we know, and we mutter angrily when we are left at the curb because the bus is full. Almost everyone who graduates from Clemson has ridden the CAT bus at least once.

For most of us the CAT bus is a necessary evil and as unnoticeably ubiquitous as the color orange. For those without personal transportation, it can be a life saver.

CAT officially began ten years ago as a collaborative effort between the university and the surrounding community, the product of many years of focus groups and area transportation studies. Before CAT, Alpha Phi Omega had been providing a nighttime transportation service to the exterior lots and around campus. The service was limited primarily to the University.

Now, Clemson Area Transit system is the largest free fare public transit system in the country. It serves Clemson University and the cities of Clemson, Central, Pendleton and Anderson. According to the executive director of CAT, Al Babinicz, "CAT boasts the most modern bus fleet east of the Mississippi."

Last year CAT transported over a million riders and covered half a million miles of roads around the greater Clemson area.

But CAT is more than just a ferry from the exterior parking lots to the Library or Hardin. In recent years Clemson Area Transit system has begun to affect campus life in ways that go largely unnoticed by the University family at large.

"The needs of the University have always been a very important part of the programs and mission of CAT," Babinicz said.

Several years ago, CAT began running a weekend night service called NightCAT. The idea was to provide safe transpor-

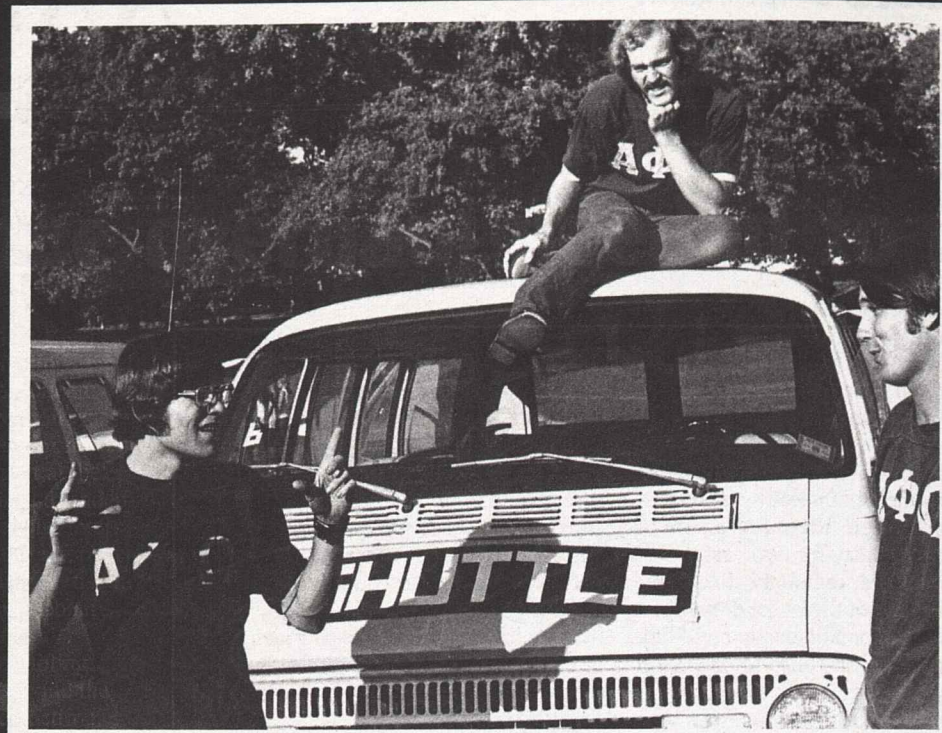


PHOTO COURTESY OF ALPHA PHI OMEGA

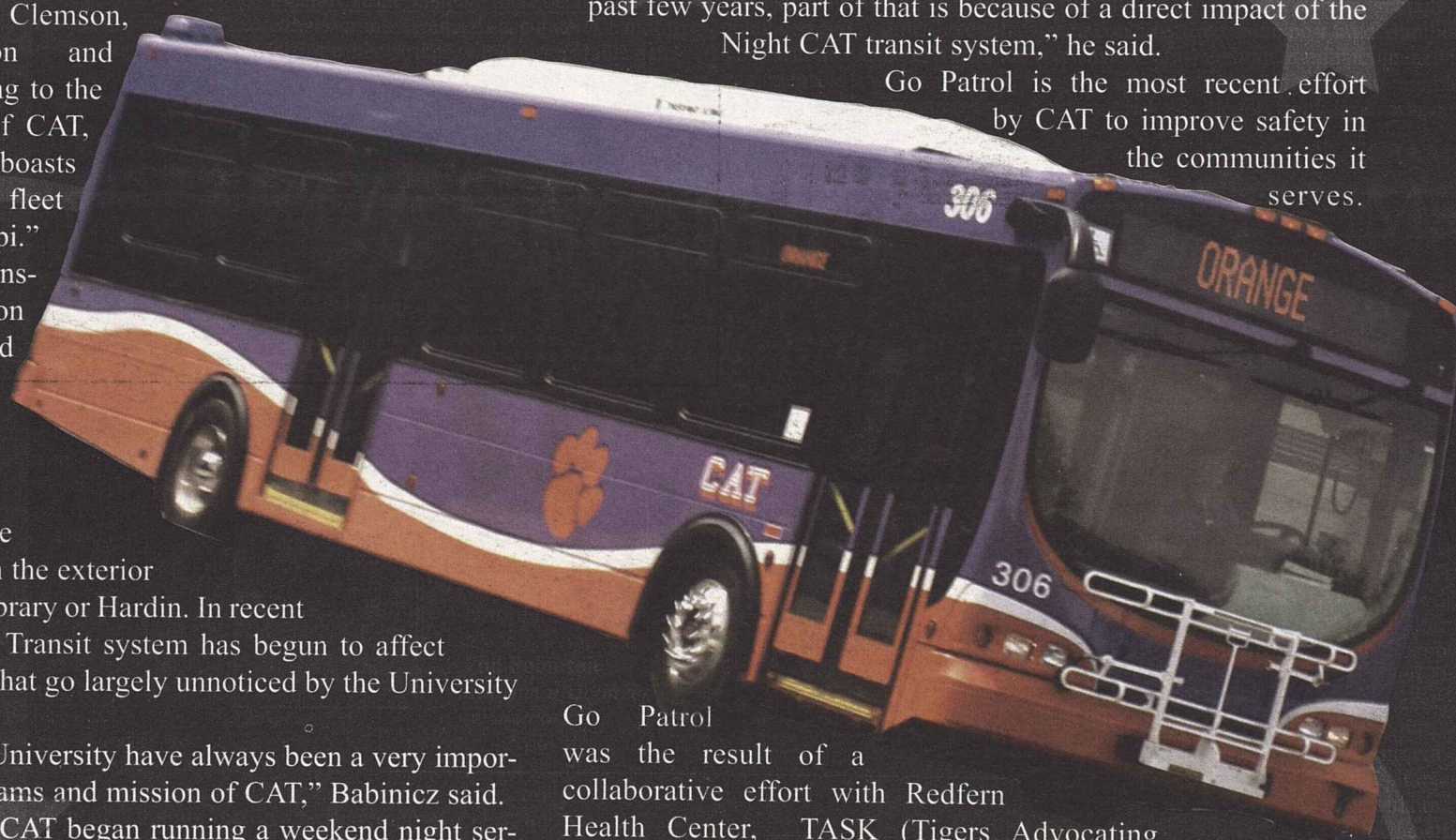
tation to the surrounding apartment communities and residence halls from the downtown area during high risk times.

The project was initially funded by Budweiser and the Student Affairs Office. Budweiser has been a primary supporter ever since, and NightCAT has continued to grow since it started in the '99-'00 school year.

Babinicz is proud of the work they have done. "I'm not saying that we are all that is responsible, but DUI arrests have gone down 45 percent in the past three years. And we are a part of that."

Police Chief Dixon acknowledged the effect of NightCAT in a 2003 statement to the Clemson News Service. "Our cases of driving under the influence have significantly decreased over the past few years, part of that is because of a direct impact of the Night CAT transit system," he said.

Go Patrol is the most recent effort by CAT to improve safety in the communities it serves.



Go Patrol was the result of a collaborative effort with Redfern Health Center, TASK (Tigers Advocating Safety and Knowledge), CAT and the Clemson Community Coalition.

The collaborative effort won a grant award for their recommendations to the university's Division of Student Affairs.

For Babinicz, Go Patrol is like "sixteen pairs of eyes traveling through the community monitoring lost kids, accidents, fires, crimes and suspicious activity in conjunction with area police departments."

Hopefully as the program grows, it will be expanded to include other community members besides the bus drivers. People like nighttime convenience store workers, bartenders and the CAT drivers will be able to take advantage of special training that will allow them to be of help to students and community members who are in trouble.

The program is not trying to replace existing services, like 911 or the police departments. They are more like a mobile neighborhood watch.



BEN SHANNON photo editor

MCKOY

FROM PAGE A1

Because of this, he says it is our duty and our responsibility to help our community.

"There is no better time than now to have people engaged in service," he said.

Right now there are 7,500 Peace Corps volunteers in 70 different countries. Of those 7,500, 18 are Clemson alumni.

Since former President Kennedy started the program in 1961, there have been 165,000 volunteers.

To join the Peace Corps, students must have already graduated from college. Volunteers serve for a 27-month period. Three of those months the volunteers spend training, and then they serve in an assigned country for two years.

John Eaves, regional office manager for the southeast, said that they are looking for students in any field, but especially in those in education and agriculture.

He added that most students who

graduate from Clemson meet the intellectual requirements.

Miller agreed, saying that what students study at Clemson helps them face challenges that they may encounter while volunteering.

Volunteers are chosen by a process that involves an application, interview and a medical evaluation. The process takes about six to nine months in all.

Volunteers are not able to choose which country they will work in, but they can make regional preferences.

Eaves said placement decisions are based on the needs of the country and the applicant's background, strengths, interests and passions.

Volunteers are only assigned countries that are politically stable because keeping the volunteers safe is the highest priority, said McKoy.

He said he recently had to evacuate two countries, Madagascar and the Ivory Coast, because of political conflicts.

AASCU conducts study to show graduation rates

Clemson's graduation and retention rates capture national attention.

LATRICE LARY
Staff Writer

Clemson University's high retention and graduation rates have captured the attention of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU) to the extent that Clemson took part in The Graduation Rates Outcome Study on March 8-9.

The Graduation Rates Outcome Study is a national partnership between the AASCU and The Education and the National Association of System Heads.

The objective of this study is to understand the success achieved by the study campus with regard to rate outcomes.

The study focused on 12 public campuses that have much higher than average reported graduation rates or much higher than average reported improvements in graduation rates.

The study was conducted by a group of 96 higher education profes-

sionals who were nominated by their campus presidents or system head to participate in the study.

A national report was developed based on the information gathered during the study campus visits. The report will be distributed among campus chief executives and chief academic officers, as well as state and federal higher education policy and oversight officials.

Among the freshmen who entered Clemson in 1998, 72.4 percent graduated within six years. Of the first-time freshmen in 2003, 88 percent returned the second year.

Generally, for four year institutions, the rate is about 60 percent, but more selective research institutions have higher rates.

According to President Barker, no plan was developed to increase graduation and retention rates because high graduation and retention rates are factors that have been instilled in Clemson's culture.

Up to 40 percent of Clemson's student body is made up of legacies (a relative has graduated from the school), which also contributes to the high rates.

"The students here see the value of having a degree from Clemson," Director of Institutional Research, Catherine Watt said.

Women's graduation and retention rates at Clemson average about 80 percent. These are mainly women who are involved in some type of organization.

More often than not, there is a big difference between the graduation rates for white students and the rates for non-white students. While Clemson's minority graduation rates vary, Clemson remains above the national average. Surprisingly, the course of study played no significant role in the study's results.

Watt said that it was really a good opportunity for Clemson to shine because several of the other schools worked rather diligently to increase their rates, and Clemson was the only institution "that had done this as part of its culture."

Clemson students told researchers that they loved the other students and loved being a part of the community. "Clemson had an opportunity to show the best of what it does, and we did an excellent job," Watt said.

IN THE BOOKS



Campus Arrests

The following are arrests that were made by the Clemson University police department from Wednesday, March 30 to Wednesday, April 6.

No arrests were reported this week.

Fire & Rescue

The following calls were among those that the Clemson University fire department responded to from Wednesday, March 30 to Wednesday, April 6.



March 31

4:30 a.m., fire, Cambridge Dr., CUFD

Crime Report



The following calls were among those that Clemson University police responded to from Wednesday, March 30 to Wednesday, April 6.

March 31

1:05 a.m., four minors in possession, Lightsey Bridge, officer: Busha

April 2

12:45 a.m., open container, E-1, officer: Hughes

April 3

1:06 a.m., reckless driving, officer: Hughey

April 5

4:59 p.m., simple larceny, Lever, officer: Gray

2:39 a.m., two minors in possession, Calhoun Courts, officer: Reidenba

Officer Tracker

★ 5 arrests
★ 1 arrest

These are the running tallies of each officer's arrests since January 18, 2005.

Durham ★

Gowan ★

Hughes ★★

Hughey ★★

McGill ★★

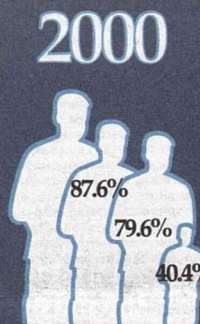
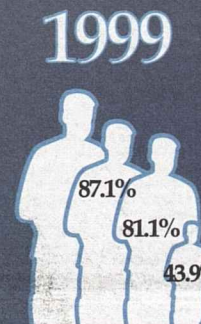
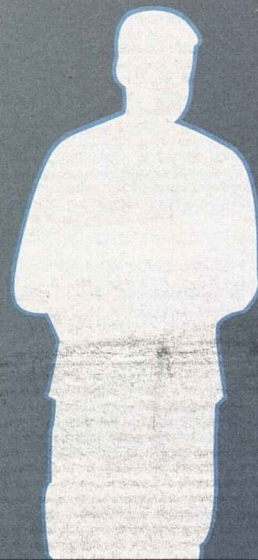
Lyle ★★

Schutt ★★

Simpson ★

Reappearing Students

The Increasing Rate of Return among Students



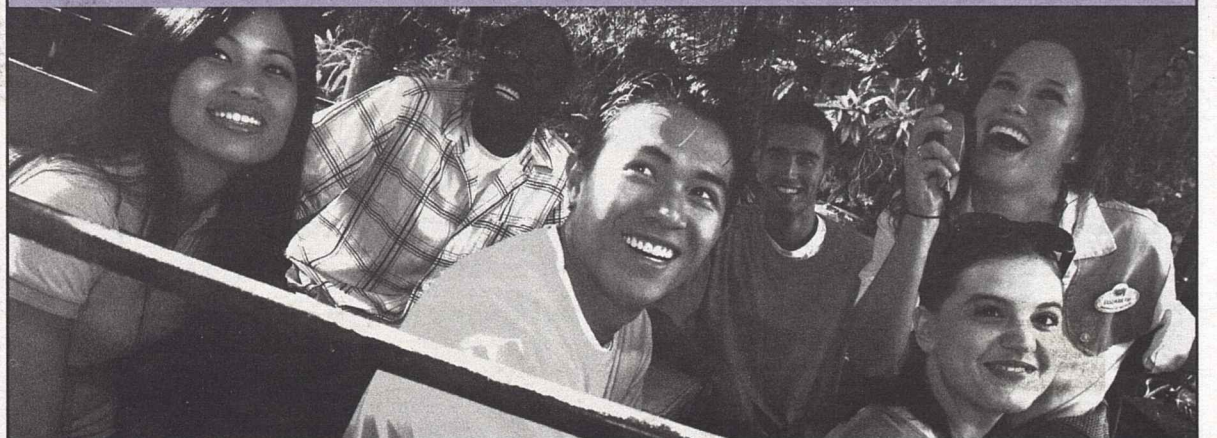
Freshman Year
Continued to Second Year
Continued to Third Year
Graduated in Four Years

SOURCE: Dr. Ronnie Chrestman

TYLER MILLS/graphix

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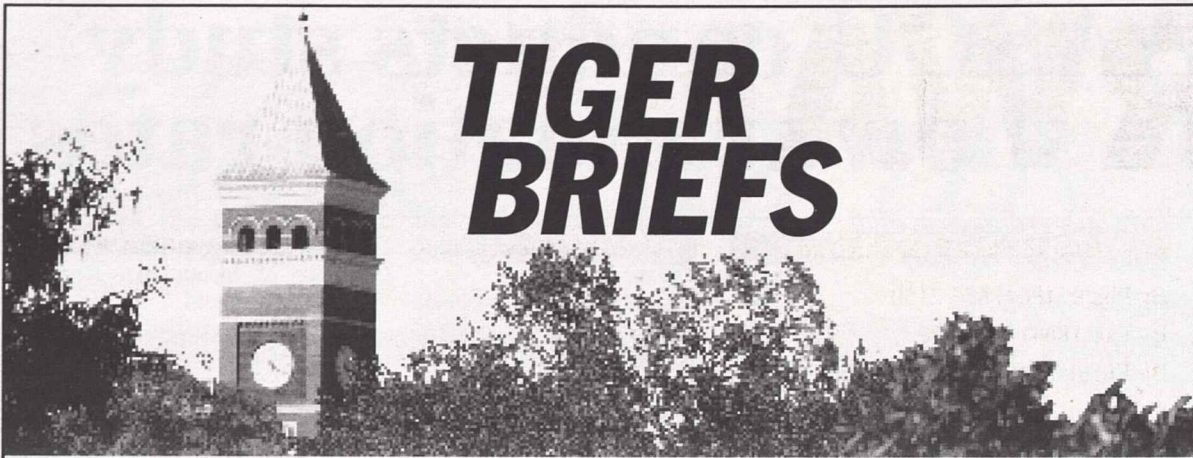


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TIGER BRIEFS

Scientists discuss future of genetic research

The University Center in Greenville held a bioethics conference on Wednesday. The conference, addressed by Aristides Patrinos, head of the Office of Biological and Environmental Research at the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Science, gave scientists and researchers the chance to discuss the relationship between genetics and race and common health diseases, like cancer. The conference also included a panel discussion of topics ranging from health disparities and minority groups, and what is in the future for genetics research. Clemson University, Voorhees College EXPORT Center and the National Educational Foundation of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority sponsored the conference, which lasted all day and was open to anyone who was interested in attending.

Southern staple industry gets help from Clemson researchers

With the influx of inexpensive imported shrimp into U.S. markets, Southern shrimpers are feeling the pangs of a reduced market demand. The federal government has allocated \$5.6

million for South Carolina harvesters out of a total \$35 million for the entire south Atlantic. The South Carolina Shrimp Fishery Assistance (SCSFA) project has been created from this money in hopes of sustaining South Carolina's shrimp industry and increasing its profits, according to a press release. Clemson University is one of the many organizations that has joined in to collaborate on this project. Also, Jason Groins, a Clemson graduate, will work out of Charleston with the South Carolina shrimp industry on management techniques to help them meet the new industry standards, according to the press release.

Miss Clemson pageant raises money

Tillman Auditorium will be the place to be Friday, April 15. Starting at 7 p.m., some of Clemson's finest girls will compete for the Miss Clemson University Title. Tickets will go one sale this coming week for \$4 in the Hendrix Center, and can be bought at the door the night of the pageant: \$5 for students, \$7 for non-students. All of the proceeds will be donated to the Anderson Sunshine House, an organization that supports homeless men, women and children. In

place of cash, donations will also be accepted for admittance. Can openers, spiral notebooks, legal pads, ink pens, accordion file folders and \$5-\$10 phone cards are just a few of the items that would be greatly appreciated.

Clemson hopeful for new honor society

Last month, the University progressed in its bid to obtain a local chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, the national liberal arts and sciences honor society. Phi Beta Kappa is the oldest academic honor society in the nation. As part of the selection process, representatives from the organization visited and toured the University early last month. "The visit seemed to go very well," said Jens Holley, department chair of Cooper Library and the Fant Scholar in charge of establishing a Phi Beta Kappa chapter at Clemson. "They seemed to be pleased with our facilities. We're waiting to see what their recommendation is." Holley said the selection process is far from over, with the selection committee making recommendations in May, and a final decision coming in October. Establishing a Phi Beta Kappa chapter at the University is one of President Barker's goals for the year 2011.

RESEARCH

FROM PAGE A1

(CDC) reports somewhere around 950,000 Americans die of cardiovascular disease each year, amounting to one death every 33 seconds.

The CDC also notes that approximately one-fourth of America's population, around 61 million people, has some type of cardiovascular disease.

"Dr. Vyavahare's research has the potential of significantly impacting the lives of all us. Cardiovascular disease, including heart valve disease, affects the life of millions of Americans; with aging, all of us are at risk," said Martine LaBerge, Ph.D., Professor and Chair of Bioengineering.

In order to discuss Vyavahare's work, one must get a small understanding of what is currently going on and what needs to be fixed.

Four main valves lie within a normal human heart. Each valve helps to make the blood flow in one, uniform direction.

If one of the heart valves fails, one of two different types of valves can be used to replace it.

"One is made up of pyrolytic carbon," said Vyavahare. However, the "patients who receive these valves need to undergo daily anticoagulation drug therapy to prevent acute thrombosis that can lead to stroke and other complications," he added.

The second type of valve is prepared from a pig heart valve, but these valves fail over the years due to calcification and slow degeneration, said Vyavahare.

For these reasons, Clemson researchers work on developing newer, more durable heart valves that can last for longer periods of time.

A portion of the grant also funds different, yet in some ways similar, research that does not involve heart valves. Vyavahare works on both of these.

This chunk of the million dol-

lars goes towards understanding and possibly even curing the calcification of cardiovascular tissues.

The amount of calcium in your cardiovascular tissue often times causes stroke and heart attacks.

Atherosclerosis, which is also called coronary artery disease, or simply heart disease, is the No. 1 killer in America, affecting more than 12 million Americans, according to the informational web site, WebMD. The site states that atherosclerosis is when the arteries become clogged and narrowed, restricting blood flow to the heart.

This is a serious problem because a heart without fresh blood, which contains oxygen and nutrients, could cause a person to go into cardiac arrest.

"We still do not fully understand the mechanisms of this calcification process, (but) we have developed animal models for looking at this process," he said.

These animal models allow researchers to see exactly what changes are occurring before serious problems really start to show.

"If we can pinpoint the exact mechanisms, then we can block the progression of calcification by blocking genes that involved in calcification or delivering drugs to inhibit this process," says Vyavahare.

With any luck, researchers like Vyavahare will help Americans' heart problems by means of their hard work and perseverance. Large grants like these help to put Clemson on the map, keep scientists motivated and make the American people healthier and happier.

"The Department of Bioengineering is very proud of [Vyavahare's] accomplishments; it is the result of many years of dedicated work and exemplary innovation," says LaBerge.

RACE

FROM PAGE A1

generated between a \$10,000 and \$12,000 profit, which far exceeds the profits from previous years. According to Brookover, about \$8,500 was raised last year and somewhere around \$5,000 was raised in previous years.

With numbers like these, Brookover has high hopes for the race in future years. "I would like to see this grow into a premier event," he said. Brookover attributes the growth to trying new things and continually creative marketing. The entry fee for the race is \$20 dollars. In addition to paying the bills, this money also pays for the prizes for the winners. There were three options for compet-

ing in this year's race: the intramural competition, the team competition and the departmental competition. The overall male and female winners from the intramural competition received \$50 cash, as well as a medal. This was the first year the orange and purple medal was designed for the race. Eighty dollars in Tiger Town gift certificates were given out to the other winners in nine age groups and the team and departmental competitions. The runners got the chance to run down the Hill in Death Valley to the awards ceremony. "You would be hard-pressed to find a race with better prizes," Brookover said.

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M/W/F 11:15-12:05 (Jr./Sr.)

**Register to Sing
in the Fall**

Football team gets new uniforms

Fresh Nike jerseys are lighter, tighter and shed water more easily.

JOSH FORT
Sports Editor

When the Clemson football team takes the field in September for its home opener against the Texas A&M Aggies, things will seem a little different. In addition to some new names that will be on the field, Clemson will be wearing a new type of jersey.

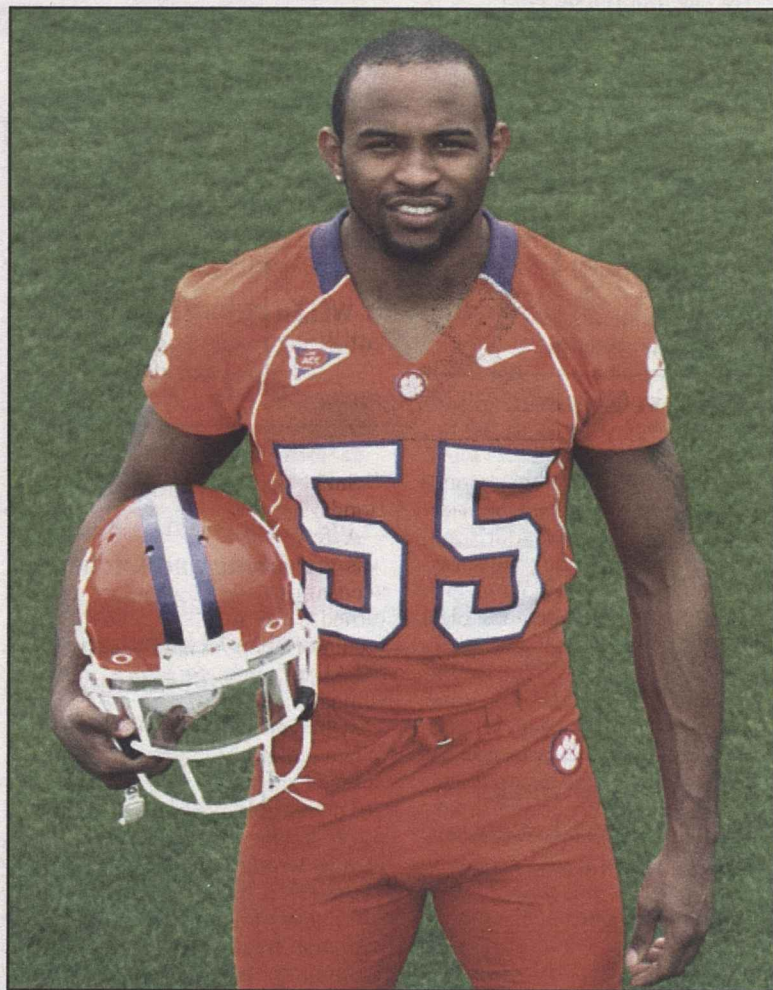
The jerseys will once again be manufactured by Nike and they will be made of a new fabric called Cordura Stretch. The fabric will be tighter while not restricting movement.

The tight fit should also prevent opponents from grabbing loose cloth, which was common with the old jerseys. In addition to the tighter fit, the new fabric will be approximately 30 percent lighter with the ability to wick away water quickly in both the pants and the jerseys.

Despite their lightweight and improved comfort, the jerseys are supposed to have the same durability of jerseys in the past.

As far as looks go, the change on the jerseys is nothing too drastic. A small Tiger paw will still be at the bottom of the neck, with large Tiger paws at the shoulder area in order to keep with the traditional Clemson jersey design. Two thin stripes will run from each side of the neck to the hips where they will continue to go down the sides of the pants.

The pants have not changed



LOOKING SHARP: Cornerback Tye Hill models the all-orange version of the Tigers' new football uniforms unveiled on Tuesday.

much either, as they will continue to have a Tiger paw on the upper left side with a Nike swoosh on the upper right side. The only noticeable change on the pants will be the thin stripe that will run down the leg. The stripe will match the jersey color.

In other football news, Head

Coach Tommy Bowden told reporters on Saturday that running back Duane Coleman had been suspended from the team indefinitely.

Bowden told reporters that "The suspension is the result of a violation of team rules that is not related to academics, drugs or an

arrest." He said that he will re-evaluate Coleman's status at the end of this semester.

Coleman is a senior from Naples, Fla. He was second on the team in rushing last year with 284 yards on 83 carries and led the team in rushing in 2003. Coleman is well-known by Clemson fans because of his trademark dreadlocks that hang out the back of his helmet. Many also remember him because of his actions prior to Clemson's 27-14 Peach Bowl victory over No. 6 Tennessee in 2003. ESPN cameras caught Coleman slapping a Volunteer player in the side of the helmet.

Bowden has been hinting about moving players to new positions since spring practice started. He finally gave fans a name earlier this week when he said that one possible move could be Steven Jackson moving from fullback to either defensive end or middle linebacker when the team returns for fall practice. While playing for East Tennessee State, Jackson was named a member of the Southern Conference All-Freshman team for his performance at defensive end. He transferred to Clemson his sophomore year after the Buccaneers cut their football program.

Bowden also said that after last Saturday's scrimmage battles for several positions are beginning to shape up. The Tiger defense dominated the two and a half hour scrimmage on Saturday. Clemson will scrimmage again tomorrow in Death Valley, but it will be closed to the public. The annual Orange and White Spring Game will be Saturday April 16, and it is as always open to the public.

Tigers continue tradition of sending players to the majors

Clemson players in MLB include Greene, Benson, LeCroy and Baker.

CHASE ELDRIDGE
Staff Writer

Clemson baseball has a rich tradition of excellence and has produced numerous professional baseball players. This segment provides a look at several Tiger greats in both the Major and Minor Leagues.

Khalil Greene, 1999-2002, perhaps the most decorated Clemson baseball player in history, is in his second season at shortstop for the San Diego Padres.

Greene batted .273 with 15 home runs and 65 runs batted in and won the 2004 Baseball America Rookie of the Year award.

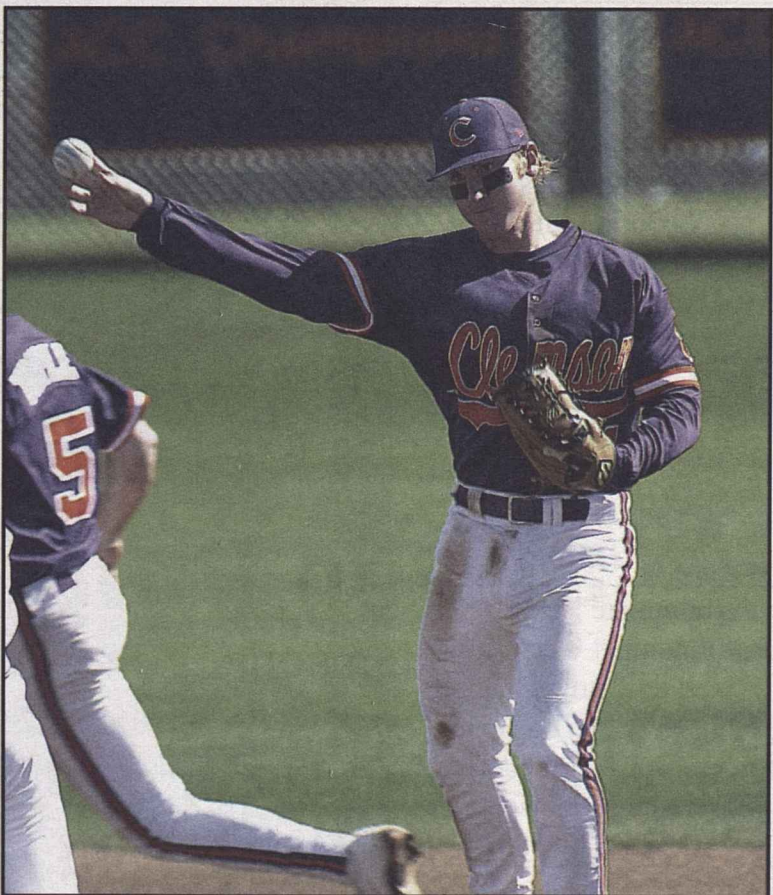
The Padres selected Greene with the 11th overall pick in the 2002 draft.

Greene was named National Player of the Year in 2002 by every service after hitting .470 with 27 homers and 91 RBIs.

He finished his career first in ACC history and second in NCAA history with 403 hits. He also hit 95 doubles over his career, the most in NCAA history.

Matthew LeCroy, a native of Belton, S.C. played for the Tigers in 1995-1997.

LeCroy, who currently plays catcher for the Minnesota Twins, was named to Baseball America's Freshman All-American team in 1995. LeCroy also played for Team USA in 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta.



PADRE: Former Tiger All-American Khalil Greene was Rookie of the Year according to Baseball America last season for the San Diego Padres.

Pitcher Kris Benson, who played for the Tigers in 1994-1996, is currently a member of the New York Mets starting rotation. Benson was a highly coveted free agent last season.

After going 14-0 with a 1.40 ERA as a junior, Benson was named Baseball America's College Player of the Year in 1996. He

was a first-team All-American at Clemson, the Atlantic Coast Conference Player of the Year and a first-team All-Atlantic Coast Conference selection.

Benson also joined former Tiger Matthew LeCroy as a member of the 1996 United States Olympic Team.

Pitcher Billy Koch also starred

for the Tigers from 1994-1996. He is currently not on a Major League team, but is expected to be soon. Koch has spent several seasons with the Toronto Blue Jays as a closing pitcher.

Third baseman Jeff Baker, who starred for the Tigers from 2000-2002, started on opening day this season for the Colorado Rockies and had a tremendous performance. Baker went 2-for-5 with a home run in his major league debut.

Pitcher Collin Mahoney is in the Detroit Tigers farm system. Mahoney, a former catcher who pitched just one season for the Tigers, was drafted in the fourth round.

Former Clemson first baseman Michael Johnson, who graduated in 2003, is currently with the San Diego Padres.

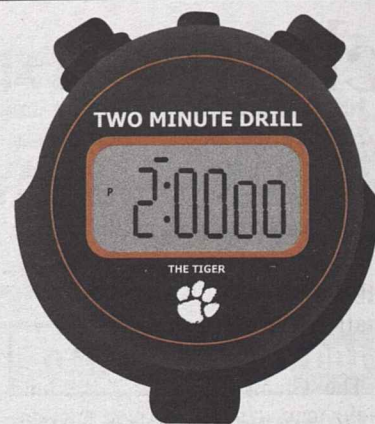
Former Tiger pitcher Tyler Lumsden, who was drafted in the first round in the 2004 draft by the Chicago White Sox, has been assigned to their Class A affiliate in Winston-Salem, N.C.

Former Tigers Brad McCann and Patrick Hogan, who play third base and pitcher, respectively, are both in the Florida Marlins organization.

Catcher Lou Santangelo, who was a fourth-round selection in last year's draft, is playing in the Houston Astros farm system.

A side note is that there are many, many more former Tigers in professional baseball, but their locations could not be confirmed.

Clemson also produced other notable major leaguers such as Jimmy Key, Bill Spiers, Bill Schroeder and John Curtis.



TIGER SCHEDULE

FRIDAY 4/8

Baseball vs. Duke - Clemson, S.C. - 7:15 p.m.

SATURDAY 4/9

Women's Tennis vs. Miami - Clemson, S.C. - 10:30 a.m.

Men's Tennis at Maryland - College Park, Md. - 12 p.m.

Baseball vs. Duke - Clemson, S.C. - 7 p.m.

Men's Track - Clemson Invitational - Clemson, S.C. - TBA

Women's Track - Clemson Invitational - Clemson, S.C. - All Day

Women's Rowing at Windermere Crew Classic - Redwood Shores, Calif. - TBA

SUNDAY 4/10

Women's Tennis vs. Florida St. - Clemson, S.C. - 12 p.m.

Baseball vs. Duke - Clemson, S.C. - 2 p.m.

Women's Rowing at Windermere Crew Classic - Redwood Shores, Calif. - TBA

SPORTS SHORTS

• NFL Commissioner Paul Tagliabue said Wednesday that an investigation into ticket-scalping has revealed that Minnesota Vikings head coach Mike Tice violated league policy. Tagliabue also said that he would discipline Tice for his improper handling of Super Bowl tickets soon. The investigation focused on Tice for heading a ticket-scalping operation within the Minnesota organization that included some assistant coaches and players.

• Baylor beat Michigan State 84-62 on Tuesday night to win the Women's NCAA Tournament. The Lady Bears got their first national championship in their first appearance in the title game. Baylor also beat three No. 1 seeds on the way to the championship. North Carolina, LSU and Michigan State were all top seeds when the Bears defeated them. It was the second-largest margin of victory ever for a women's national title game.

• Tampa Bay Devil Rays outfielder Alex Sanchez became the first major leaguer suspended for testing positive under the league's new drug policy earlier this week. Sanchez was suspended for 10 days for the violation. Commissioner Bud Selig said on Tuesday that Sanchez's suspension proves that the new system will work. Also, on Monday 38 minor league baseball players were suspended for violating drug policies.

Two Tigers qualify for NCAA regional championships

Richards qualifies in 100-meter while Gilson makes regionals in shot-put.

RICH CACCIATO
Staff Writer

The Clemson Men's Track and Field team battled through inclement weather at the Yellow Jacket Invitational this past Saturday on the campus of Georgia Tech.

Two Tigers qualified for the NCAA Region Championships, as Ronald Richards and Derek Gilson each turned out extraordinary efforts in the 100-meter race and shot-put, respectively.

Richards posted a season-best time of 10.24 seconds in the 100-meter race, good for a second place finish in the event.

Richards, a senior, is a vital part of the 400-meter relay team that has won five consecutive ACC titles.

Gilson, a junior from Red Bank, N.J., had a season-best toss of 55'3" in the shot put event.

He was the ACC Champion and an NCAA qualifier in the shot-put last season.

Gilson also led Clemson in the discus event with a throw of 160'9," good enough for a seventh place finish.

In other events, Darius Acker was the top Tiger finisher in the

200-meter dash, posting a time of 21.90 seconds. Michael Bolling led Clemson with an eighth-place finish in the 400-meter race, crossing the finish line with a time of 48.04 seconds.

In the 1500-meter event, Matt Clark led the Tigers with a ninth place finish, recording a time of 3:56.62.

In the 110-meter hurdles, Roy Cheaney posted a season best time of 14.24.

The time should have qualified Cheaney for the East Region Championships, but his opportunity to qualify was negated due to the wind speed being above the allowable limit in the high hurdles.

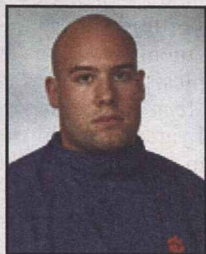
Also in hurdles, Rashad Gardner gave the Tigers a top-ten finish in the 400-meter event with a time of 54.15.

Sean Reilly, competing in the 3000-meter steeplechase, finished fifth, with a time of 9:40.90.

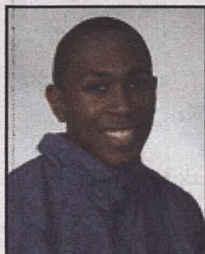
The Clemson 400-meter relay team consisting of Cheaney, Richards, Robert Ibeh and Mickey Sheats finished fourth with a time of 41.15.

In the long jump, Sheats improved his day, placing fourth with a mark of 22'9.25." Danny Alge recorded a mark of 177'5" in the hammer throw.

The Clemson Tiger Track and Field team will be back in action tomorrow when they host the Clemson Invitational.



Derek Gilson



Ronald Richards

From the PRESSBOX

San Francisco Giants slugger Barry Bonds, while currently injured, is standing on the doorstep of baseball's most pursued record, the career home run mark of 755 dingers held by Henry Aaron.

I have had many conversations with other baseball fans over the years about how viciously Roger Maris was treated by fans and the press alike when he chased and broke Babe Ruth's single-season home run record of 60 in 1961. Maris had an asterisk placed beside his name in the record books because the regular season was longer than the season in which the Babe originally set the home run record. I recently asked myself whether Bonds has been the subject of the same undeserved wrath that Maris suffered in that unforgettable season 44 years ago. After looking over Bonds's career, it becomes clear that he has suffered the wrath of the media, but it has come on his own account.

I could compare Bonds' stats to the stats of the two greatest sluggers in baseball history, Babe Ruth and Josh Gibson, and make a perfectly legitimate case to show that the San Francisco behemoth has not had a career as prolific as Ruth or Gibson, but that is not the point.

The question is not whether Bonds is the greatest slugger of all time; rather, is he at fault for the wrath directed at him by the media? Does Barry Bonds deserve the media criticism that Maris suffered without good reason, and will Bonds be at fault if his legacy is tarnished because

of his lowly treatment of baseball media over the years? The answer is yes, without question.

Bonds has had an icy relationship with the media from the word go, painting himself as a victim from his days as a Pittsburgh Pirate. Bonds was known for banishing reporters from interviews, was caught once flipping off a cameraman and his immaturity and dislike of the media did not decrease with age.

Bonds recently appeared at a press conference with his son

Nikolai and accused the media of bringing his family into his problems. The issues brought up by the media have been questions concerning Bonds's integrity, not his son's.



ROY WELSH
Staff Writer

Such is the nature of Barry Bonds.

A few weeks previous, Bonds was growing tired of the media's accusations of dishonesty and turned them around, accusing the media of being liars themselves.

"All of you lied. All of you said something wrong," Bonds said. "All of you have dirt, all of you. When your closet is clean, then come clean somebody else's."

The problem is, Bonds has never come clean or admitted to any wrongdoing on any issue whatsoever, whether it be concerning his alleged steroid use or his harsh treatment of the media, teammates or managers. With Bonds it is always a blame game, and Barry always comes up with new ways to deflect accusations of wrongdoing from himself. Bonds wants us to think he is suffering greatly because of a media that is out to get him.

Few question that Babe Ruth

was a more prominent slugger than Maris or Aaron, two men who broke his most coveted records. Maris and Aaron are held in high esteem in the minds of baseball fans, but not because they are regarded as better sluggers than Gibson or Ruth. It was because they represented humanity in a kind and honest way. There is no reason to believe Bonds has done those things to the same degree.

Is Bonds a better hitter than Maris and Aaron were? Probably. Was he a better slugger than Gibson or Ruth? While I would argue not, some say that is debatable. But Bonds' character, or lack thereof, will forever haunt him and his legacy until he quits blaming others for the problems he faces.

There is no reason for "old-school" baseball fans to want to put Bonds on the same pedestal as Aaron, who faced racist threats as he approached and broke Ruth's record.

There is no reason for these same fans to feel sorry for Bonds the same way they regret that Maris was booed at stadiums during his greatest season in his great career.

There is no reason for them to put him on the same pedestal as a man like Gibson, who played in the days of segregation, a wrongful system which denied him the chance to play in the Major Leagues.

All of these men faced the kind of adversity Bonds has portrayed himself as having had to face. In contrast, Bonds' situation has been one he created. Until Bonds takes responsibility for the situation he has made for himself, he will continued to be chastised, regardless of the records he may or may not break.

Roy Welsh is a junior in secondary education. E-mail comments to sports@TheTigerNews.com.

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Golfers close out regular season

Clemson finishes 12th out of 18 teams in Augusta State Invitational.

DANIEL TAYLOR
Staff Writer

Conditions were terrible last weekend as the Clemson golf team finished its regular season in the Augusta State Invitational at the Forest Hills Country Club in August, Ga. Gusts of up to 40 miles an hour were recorded on Saturday, and golfers from all schools were affected. Not one of the 90 collegiate golfers finished better than par. The Tigers' struggles continued as they placed 12th out of 18 teams with a team score of 937.

The opening day put Clemson in a hole early. The severe conditions caused the Tigers to shoot a team score of 329, the highest total ever for round one in Clemson's history. With calmer winds the following day, Clemson shot 304 the next two rounds. Only three other schools bettered that feat in both rounds. But the Tigers' comeback on Sunday was not enough, and they finished 73 over par. Augusta State won the event with a team

score of 896—only one stroke better than Georgia.

Freshman Tanner Ervin had the best weekend for Clemson. He shot a 233 in the three rounds (17 over par). His 25th place was the best in his Clemson career.

Martin Catalioto had a 79 in the first round, best on Clemson's team. However, he was disqualified, costing Clemson 8 strokes. Catalioto had a 79 in the final round, but the first round disqualification ended up costing Clemson three positions. Catalioto would also have finished in the top 25, had his 79 counted.

The lowest scores for Clemson in any round were recorded by Jack Ferguson and Brent Delahoussaye. Both Tigers shot a 74 in round three, after shooting career highs on Saturday. Ferguson shot an 82 and Delahoussaye had an 87 in the opening round. Delahoussaye finished 49th, tied with fellow Tiger and Greenville native Brian Duncan. Duncan finished 80-80-77 and with a total of 237.

Georgia's Chris Krik won the event finishing one over par (217).

Clemson will next compete April 15-17 at the Old North State Club in Uwharrie Point, N.C., for the ACC tournament.

Harvick wins Food City 500 despite starting in last spot

Johnson continues to lead NASCAR Nextel Cup points standings.

DANIEL BLACKMON
Staff Writer

While the Richard Childress Racing team may have lost a battle this past weekend, they certainly won the war due to the driving of Kevin Harvick.

NASCAR recently completed the fifth race out of its 36-race calendar at the Bristol Motor Speedway for the Food City 500.

Harvick, who was initially slated to start 13th in the race, started last in the race after a power steering fluid leak caused an immediate, unapproved repair prior to the race and moved him all the way back to 43rd. Despite the setbacks, he made it to the front of the pack with 66 laps to go and never looked back.

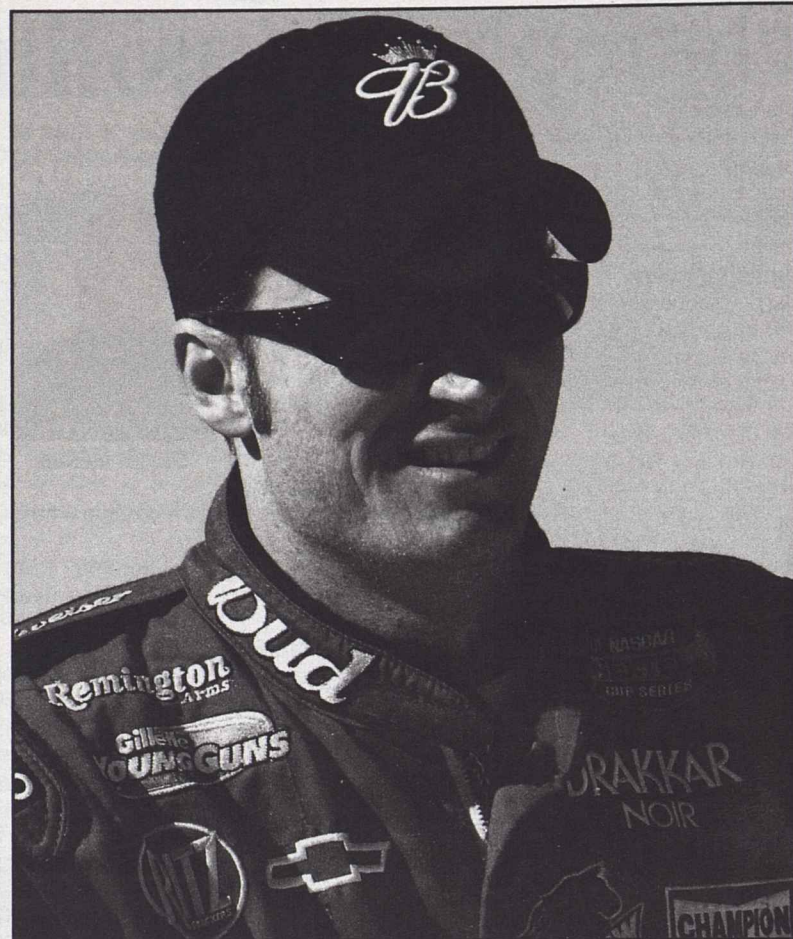
Interestingly, Harvick's crew chief Todd Berrier was unable to witness the victory, as he had to stay at home after he was caught cheating on March 13.

This embarrassing ordeal cost Harvick 25 points in the standings and Berrier \$25,000 as well as a four-race suspension.

Elliot Sadler finished a distant second, with Chevrolet drivers Tony Stewart and Dale Earnhardt Jr. finishing third and fourth, respectively. Dale Jarrett finished fifth. Jimmie Johnson, Travis Kvapil, Kyle Petty, Greg Biffle and Scott Riggs rounded out the top 10.

Currently, Johnson is leading over Biffle in the Nextel Cup Series standings with 835 points compared to 741. Tony Stewart is third, 156 points behind Johnson, with Carl Edwards and Sadler making up the top five.

Harvick is now sixth, with Kurt Busch, Jarrett, Rusty Wallace and Mark Martin comprising the top ten.



LITTLE E: After faltering early in the season, Dale Earnhardt, Jr., is trying to work his way back to the top of the NASCAR Nextel Cup Standings.

Other notables include Jeff Gordon at 12th, and Earnhardt and Jeremy Mayfield who stand at 17th and 18th, respectively.

The next race in the Nextel Cup Series will be Sunday in Martinsville, Tenn., at the Martinsville Speedway for the Advance Auto Parts 500. Veteran driver Wallace won last season's race. That race is followed by the Samsung/Radio Shack 500 on April 17 at the Texas Motor Speedway in Fort Worth, Texas. April finishes with Subway Fresh 500 in Phoenix, Ariz. on April 23.

The Busch Series standings include many of the same faces as

the Nextel Cup.

Carl Edwards (fourth in Nextel) leads the Busch Standings with 1106 points. He is followed by Reed Sorenson, Clint Bowyer and Harvick.

Harvick had a clean sweep in Bristol, as he won both the Nextel race as well as the Busch Series race on Monday, which was originally scheduled for Saturday but had to be rescheduled because of rain. He narrowly edged out teammate Jeff Burton by 0.159 seconds to win the Sharpie Professional 250. Ironically, he came from the back-of-the pack to win this race as well.

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Phi Kappa Phi is the oldest and largest collegiate honor society that inducts scholars from all academic fields. The Clemson chapter invites for membership juniors in the top 7.5 percent of their class, seniors and graduate students in the top 10 percent, and a limited number of faculty who excel in their fields. Clemson's chapter was founded in 1938.

Club sports compete in national contests

KEVIN M. BARNES

Assistant Sports Editor

Club Rowing

The Clemson University Rowing Association hosted the 15th annual Clemson Sprints Regatta on Saturday, March 26, 2005. Crews from all over the nation competed including Wake Forest, Georgia, Duke, Tennessee and South Carolina. Also, two international teams attended.

Eighteen teams and hundreds of boats competed, concluding with Gold medals in the Varsity Men's Eight and the Novice Men's Four. The Men's Varsity Light Weight Four and the Novice Men's Eight earned silver medals, while the crews of the Varsity Women's Eight, Varsity Men's Open Four, Novice Women's Eight and two of the Mixed Eight events earned bronze.

The Clemson Crew Men won the overall points trophy for a men's squad.

The John Hunter Regatta (hosted by Georgia Tech and Saint Andrews Rowing Clubs) was held on Saturday, April 2, 2005. The Clemson Crew team traveled to Oak Ridge, Tenn. to start competing as early as 7:45 a.m. The weather was unsuitable for rowing, with temperatures near freezing, sleet and wind gusts up to 25 mph. The Varsity Men's Eight and Varsity Women's four both took fourth place, while the Varsity Men's Lightweight took the Silver medal and the Novice Men's four took home the gold.

The Southern Intercollegiate Rowing Association Championship Regatta is being held on April 16 and 17 in Oak Ridge, Tenn.

If you are interested in joining the Crew Team or would like to see what they are all about, please check out their website at www.clemsoncrew.org.

Paintball

The Clemson Paintball team will be attending the National Collegiate Paintball Championship presented by Xbox on April 16-17.

The Tiger paintballers are currently in 10th place out of over 60 teams in the nation.

Rugby

The Tigers will travel to Colorado Springs, Col. to take on the US Military Academy "Army" on April 15th. The sixth-seeded Black Knights will be the toughest opponent Clemson has faced this year.

Clemson, as the 11th seed, will travel to pool host, Air Force Academy, for the first round of the national championship tournament on April 15 and 16.

The team trained hard during their spring break to prepare for the competition at altitude.

Only weeks before, Clemson ran into a determined Bulldog team that wreaked havoc all over the field. The score of 61-6 may not reflect how well Georgia played and how much work Clemson has yet to do.

A modified line-up saw several players in new positions and a couple of first-time starters took the field.

"The strength of a team is how well it can adapt," Coach Gaine commented. He went on to say "Georgia's players were aggressive at each breakdown which led to untimely turnovers. We tested some players today and they adapted to the game a bit slower than expected."

Seminoles take series

Tiger baseball team wins last game of three to avoid being swept.

CARISSA DONGES

Staff Writer

This past weekend Clemson traveled to Tallahassee to play a three-game series against the Florida State Seminoles.

In the first game of the series, the Seminoles showed off on their homefield winning 3-1.

Clemson pitched junior Josh Cribb against the Seminoles Barret Browning. Browning showed tremendous talent on the mound pitching 7.2 innings, only allowing three hits and one unearned run to clench the win. Cribb pitched four innings, allowing three runs on nine hits before reliever Stephen Faris took the

mound. Although Cribb suffered the loss, Faris pitched four scoreless innings and improved his ERA to 0.33.

The Tiger reliever allowed only one hit and struck out six. Clemson's Andy D'Alessio had two of the Tigers' four hits and scored his team's lone run.

In the second game of the series, the Tigers looked promising as Herman Demmink scored after a two-out double off the wall hit by Tyler Colvin.

Kris Harvey started at the mound for Clemson and managed to keep the Seminoles at bay until the third inning when FSU loaded the bases with no outs.

Freshman David Kopp relieved Harvey but got himself into his own jam when he threw his first pitch wild, allowing Seminole's Chapman to score.

Although the Tigers put up a great fight, their defense in the

bottom of the ninth diminished.

Stephen Clyne came in at a tight spot for Kopp and threw a strike to record the force out at third base.

Unfortunately, the Tiger infield was not paying attention as Robinson stole third. Cheesman finished off the Tigers with a bunt, bringing home Robinson to end the game 5-4.

Just when No. 6 Florida State seemed out of reach, the Tigers answered back by winning the series finale 7-3.

The Tigers looked like a new team as they totaled 16 hits and ended Shane Robinson's 40-game hitting streak. Jeff Hahn earned his first save of the year by pitching three scoreless innings.

Junior Robert Rohrbaugh earned the win by pitching six innings, allowing three runs on six hits. Demmink started the game off right with a lead-off home run to right field.

SPORTS briefs



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Covering the bases



Tigers prepare for ACC series with Duke

Clemson comes into the series after losing two midweek games against the Georgia Bulldogs.

ZACK MAULDIN

Sports Layout Editor

The Clemson Tigers, fresh off a two-game set with the Georgia Bulldogs, will play host to ACC opponent Duke this weekend.

The Blue Devils come into the game with a week's rest after being swept last weekend by Wake Forest.

Clemson is No. 20 in the latest RPI listing at WarrenNolan.com, which includes games played through April 5.

The Tigers have the second-toughest schedule in the nation, according to the same Web site. The RPI does not take into account margin of victory or site of the game.

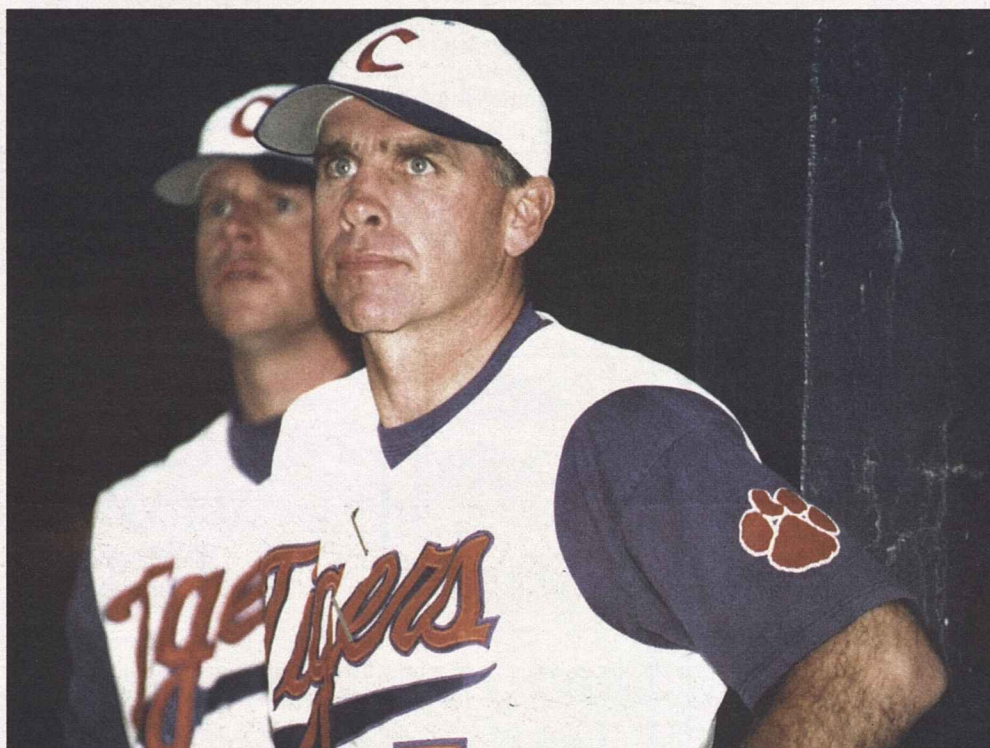
The Tigers (15-13, 6-3) have been hot of late, winning 10 of their last 17 contests, including sweeping a two-game series against a top-25 team in Coastal Carolina, taking two out of three games against top-10 North Carolina and beating Florida State, another top-10 squad, in the last game of a three-game series.

Duke (9-23, 1-11), on the other hand, has not fared so well this season. They are last in the Atlantic Coast Conference, with their only victory being an 8-7 win at Florida State on March 26.

In Athens on Tuesday, the Tigers allowed a one-run eighth inning lead to slip away, losing 11-10 to Georgia.

The Bulldogs only had 10 hits in scoring their 11 runs, while the Tigers had 17 base knocks.

Clemson left the bases loaded with their last chance for victory in the ninth inning



EYE OF THE TIGER: Clemson head coach Jack Leggett watches over his team. Leggett, in his twelfth season at the helm of the Tigers, looks to sweep Duke this weekend.

when pinch-hitter Doug Hogan lined out to end the game.

Against the Bulldogs at home on Wednesday, a ninth inning Clemson comeback attempt was snubbed as Andy D'Alessio struck out swinging to end the game in the bottom of the ninth with two runners on base.

Georgia completed the two-game sweep with the 4-1 win. The Tigers once again outthit the 'Dogs, with six hits to their five.

In the Devils' recent series against Wake

Forest, Duke lost all three games by the slimmest of margins, with comeback attempts falling just shy in an 11-10 loss on Friday and a 6-5 defeat on Saturday. In a pitcher's duel on Sunday, the Demon Deacons pulled out the 3-2 win at home.

Taylor Harbin, a freshman from Travelers Rest, leads the Tigers offensively.

Prior to the game versus Georgia on Wednesday, Harbin had a .378 average and 25 RBIs. The freshman also leads the team with 42 base hits, including 16 doubles.

Although Kris Harvey is third amongst starters with a .340 batting average, the junior leads the Tigers with 29 RBIs.

He also has the most round-trippers on the season with six, ahead of Andy D'Alessio's five and Harbin's four.

For the Devils, a freshman is also the offensive pacesetter.

Brett Bartles is the most important part of Duke's batting game, as he has a .360 average and 20 RBIs.

The freshman has no home runs, but he does have 40 hits, including six doubles and a triple.

Junior Adam Murray is right behind Bartles with a .358 average and 16 RBIs.

Murray also has 43 hits, with 10 of those being doubles. The junior is also the only Duke player to start all 32 games.

On the mound for the Tigers, all six pitchers in the starting rotation have lower ERAs than the best Duke pitcher.

Harvey, Josh Cribb and Robert Rohrbaugh, Clemson's three most frequent starters, have an earned run average of 3.93.

Harvey and Rohrbaugh both have 3-1 records, while Cribb has a 2-4 win-loss mark. In 27.1 innings pitched, sophomore

Stephen Faris has an astounding 0.33 ERA. Cribb leads the team in strikeouts, with 41, while Jeff Hahn has 34.

Duke pitching has been woeful this season. The Devils' entire pitching staff has a 6.18 ERA.

Sophomore Danny Otero leads the starting rotation with a 4.61 earned run average, ahead of Greg Burke's 5.02 and David Torcise's 6.53. Burke's 52 strikeouts in 61 innings pitched is the team's best.

First pitch in the series is scheduled for 7:15 p.m. on Friday night at Doug Kingsmore Stadium. Saturday's game begins at 7 p.m. and Sunday's starts at 2 p.m.

ON THE DIAMOND MATCHUPS

FIELDING

The Tigers' impeccable fielding this season has earned them a .974 fielding percentage, limiting their errors to only 28.

The Blue Devils have committed 57 errors and have a .954 fielding average. Duke's opponents have stolen base 49 times on 63 attempts, which Clemson will certainly take advantage of.

Expect Clemson to produce an extra run or two through hard base running and a slip up or two by Duke's inexperienced infield.

The Tigers have turned 26 double plays and will certainly make plays against the Blue Devils.

Advantage: Clemson

PITCHING

The Tigers have a team ERA of 3.50. Clemson pitchers have struck out 217 batters in 27 games and only given up nine home runs.

Stephen Faris has an ERA of 0.33 in 27.1 innings pitched, making him the best on the Tigers' entire staff.

He is holding opponents to only a .159 batting average when he is on the mound.

Duke's team ERA is 6.18 and the struggling staff has given up 118 walks, 360 hits and 24 home runs.

Greg Burke has seen the most action on the mound for the Blue Devils with 61 innings pitched, a 4-4 record and a 5.01 ERA.

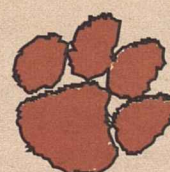
Advantage: Clemson

FIELDING ADVANTAGE

PITCHING ADVANTAGE

BATTING ADVANTAGE

CLEMSON VS. Duke



(15-13, 6-3)



(9-23, 1-11)

BATTING

Clemson has a team batting average of .294 and the Tigers have hit 23 home runs in 27 games.

Taylor Harbin leads the team with a .378 average, while Kris Harvey has the most home runs with six.

Duke has a batting average of .272 and has only hit 13 homers in 32 games. Ron Causey is a strong point of the Devils' offense with his .515 slugging percentage.

Advantage: Clemson

Series Prediction: A Tiger Sweep

The Blue Devils are overmatched in this series, and the Tigers should put some runs on the board this weekend.

Clemson has fought some tough games in the past week against Georgia and Florida State and will take their frustration out on Duke.

The Blue Devils will put up a fight, but the longer bats and hotter fastballs of the Tigers will come out on top.

With Duke sitting in the Atlantic Coast Conference cellar, Clemson will finish out this weekend's homestand against the Blue Devils strong, and add three more to the win column.

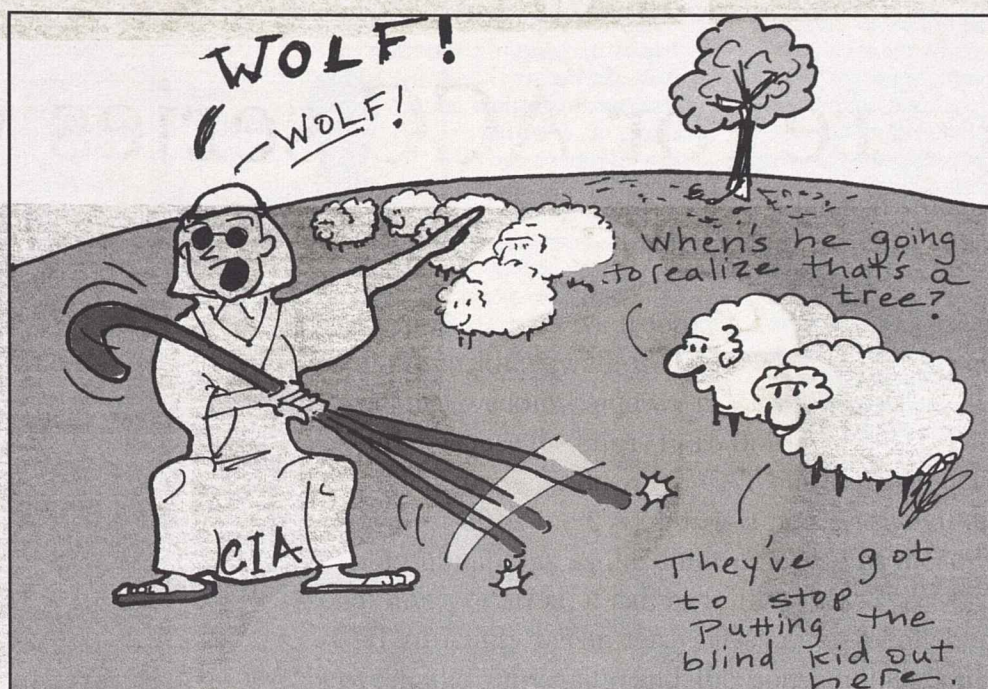
[STAFF EDITORIAL]

Intelligence overhaul needed to maintain credibility

The recent findings by President Bush's intelligence commission confirmed what many had long suspected: American intelligence leading up the Iraq invasion was woefully inadequate and often dead wrong. The commission, which released its report at the end of March, cited problems such as a tendency toward group think, turf wars among intelligence agencies, an archaic structure left over from the Cold War and insufficient expertise in the Middle East as some of the key problems that led to faulty intelligence.

These findings are particularly troubling given the constant threat of terrorism and the administration's pre-emptive strike doctrine. The terrorist threat is asymmetrical and very diffuse, so a traditional military is poorly situated to counter it. Strong intelligence coupled with covert actions and Special Forces are our nation's greatest protection against terrorism. Similarly, the pre-emptive strike doctrine must be backed by solid intelligence; otherwise America loses credibility and resolve with each strike.

The pre-emptive strike doctrine itself has often come under strong attack, but in light of the grave threat posed by lightning fast terrorist acts, we must find some way to regain the initiative. We will no longer see our enemy coming as he masses tanks and rolls across the battlefield. Instead, he will pull into a parking lot and trigger a car bomb, or worse. The best way to fight back is to prevent these strikes from happening in the first place by taking the battle to our enemies. However, to be able to confidently strike first, we must be absolutely sure that our intelligence is accurate. A handful of misinformed strikes will do irreparable damage to our international reputation, destroy our credibility and alienate our allies.



That is where the intelligence report comes in. It cites a number of flaws within the intelligence community that directly degrade its ability to prepare the type of quality intelligence required to carry out a responsible war on terrorism through pre-emptive actions.

Obviously, intelligence is an imperfect business under even the best circumstances. Mistakes will be made, subtle clues will slip by unnoticed and at times, even the wrong conclusions will be reached. That is the risky nature of intelligence. However, there are steps we as a nation can take to minimize those inherent risks

and increase the chances of all the little fragments of daily intelligence being assembled to form the right picture.

One step we can take almost immediately is simply to increase funding for the intelligence agencies. Granted, every government agency probably is asking for more money, but the intelligence community, as our vanguard against terrorism, actually needs it. We can have the best funded military in the world, but without good intelligence a military is purely a reactive force. If we are placing intelligence at the forefront of our war on terror, we had better

fund our agencies appropriately.

Each individual intelligence agency, and we have more than a dozen, can be well-funded, but operating alone they are only as good as the best individual agency. Compartmentalized intelligence was a problem on September 11 and continues to be a problem today. Our intelligence agencies must share knowledge and resources better. Better coordination will require both a cultural and organizational change to become a reality. The old turf battles left over from the Cold War must be ended once and for all by whatever means necessary. Then an organizational structure must be established to facilitate the free flow of information across the agencies. The Director of National Intelligence will hopefully establish the framework for this coordination, but it will not be easy. Incentives must be realigned properly and carefully to ensure that all agencies will contribute to the general intelligence pool, and that credit will be shared when appropriate.

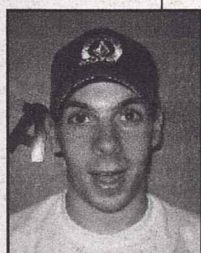
Another cultural problem that must be addressed is a phenomenon known as group think. The agencies must create a culture where the dissenting view is encouraged without punishment, and where public policy does not drive intelligence analysis.

These changes are certainly not easy and would undoubtedly be only the tip of the iceberg but are absolutely crucial if we are to foster the intelligence necessary to ensure our security in this new century. We built our intelligence community from scratch in the last century; certainly we can fine-tune it now.

The opinions expressed in this 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.

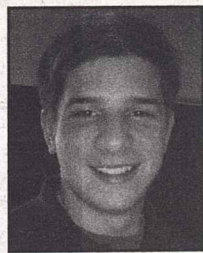
“speaking out”

Should the U.S. stop pre-emptive strikes?



"I think we should keep the policy because people would just complain and turn it against us if we didn't do something before it happened."

Phil Robinson
industrial engineering
sophomore



"I believe all elected officials currently within the US Government should be replaced by opinionated Hollywood celebrities, and they should be the ones making the decisions for our country."

Matt Maglielnicki
English
junior



"We should keep the policy because the benefits outweigh the tragedy that may possibly lie in our future if we remain stagnant."

Sarah Shelton
genetics
freshman



"No, we shouldn't keep the policy because if the wrong info is obtained and acted upon, innocent lives may be affected. I think this policy causes more damage than it does good."

Lauren VanMeter
English
freshman



"We should keep the policy, it's the safe thing to do. It's always better to be safe now than sorry later."

Courtney Cranford
fine arts
freshman



"The policy isn't bad, but the focus should be on utilizing accurate information. I know this is difficult to determine, yet I believe that we can protect our country if we follow the appropriate steps."

Kate Wright
business
sophomore

COMMENTARY

Make an effort to embrace the challenge that is college

I distinctly remember a particular September day that I went to my English 101 class. This was the first semester of English that I had encountered during the first year of my college experience. We were assigned to read Part One of Henry David Thoreau's "Civil Disobedience." For those not up with the philosophical times, "Civil Disobedience" is the essay that questions the purpose of our government. Thoreau, a literary genius, explains that our governing power holds the influence it does because of the strength it obtains and not the level of legitimacy pertaining to their viewpoints.

I don't mean to confuse you, this piece is not at all about Thoreau's opinion of our government, but instead the lack of motivation the students of this university are willing to exert. Allow me to finish the tale I previously began. I walked into class having read Thoreau's work and was ready to discuss, debate and argue. I was downright excited to do whatever was necessary to engage my mind by means of the day's discussion to come. I took my seat in the second to front row, my highlighted manuscript before me, only to be greeted with massive disappointment. I mean, we are talking huge let down here.

If anyone else present that day had read the essay, they certainly didn't speak up and say so, and those who spoke only emitted the phrase, "I didn't get it." A bitter taste crept into my mouth. Silently, I was scanning each of my fellow students with severe disdain, perhaps a great misunderstanding as to why they felt that they were worthy of the timeless cop-out, "I didn't get it." With my writing utensil in one hand and a fiery passion for knowledge fueling the other, I shot my arm into the air in response to my

professor's common open-ended question, "What are you thinking?" Oh, I told my class what I was thinking.

"I'm sorry," I began, "Why are you guys in college?" There was no response. I continued, "I came to college looking for a challenge, expecting a challenge. This is supposed to be a place that introduces you to new aspects

of your life through exposure to fresh information. You shouldn't be paying thousands of dollars in tuition to go to a class and say, 'I didn't get it.' There are resources out there for you so that you CAN get it. The very least you can do is go to Spark Notes and find a summary, but to me it's downright disgusting to walk into a classroom knowing that you gave up a chance to broaden your horizon before you even tried."

I'm definitely not kidding when I say that this was my lecture to my freshman English class. Apparently I scared a few classmates from speaking up for the rest of the semester, but to be honest, I don't regret that speech at all.

Why do students come to college? Perhaps to get away from home and discover whom they truly are, yet how can they adequately do so when they explore themselves in a secluded way? The purpose of college is to branch out, to push your mind and journey throughout intellectuality. This, in turn, matures you and helps you grow as a human being. I mean, hey, a little Thoreau didn't hurt anybody.

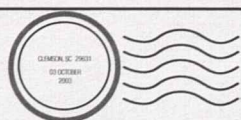
Dia Zaferopulos is a sophomore in packaging science. E-mail comments to letters@TheTigerNews.com.



DIA ZAFEROPULOS
Assistant
Photo
Editor

Letters

to the EDITOR



Campus organizations were just as shocked by the CLAW incident as the rest of campus

I am a former member of the Observer staff and I submitted my resignation soon after the CLAW rally. My resignation was brought on by other circumstances besides the rally's fallout.

Although I no longer am associated with the Observer, I take offense at the stance taken in many of the letters to the editor which were printed in the April 1 Tiger. One of these letters described how Andrew Davis' friends had planned the pro-troops rally so that they too could mock liberals along with him. While it is true that the College Republicans had mocking liberals at the heart of their protest, they did not know that Davis was "Dr. Claw." Indeed, the College Republicans have expressed dismay over the potential embarrassment caused to their organization by Davis' actions. As a member of the Observer staff at the time, Davis was adamant about the staff being involved in the pro-troops rally, and only the newspaper's senior staff knew of his plans.

Whether or not you agree with Andrew Davis, you must see that he acted alone. Neither the staff of the Observer nor the College Republicans were involved in his rally planning. Please do not add to any detriment they may have already received as a result of this controversy. Get your facts straight.

John Robbins
junior
political science

effort and really make a difference.

Starting April 11, Students for Organ Donation will have a table on the library bridge with donor cards, pamphlets, candy and other free stuff to give away. Also, there is going to be a competition between the on-campus organizations to see which has the greatest percentage of new or current donors, so stop by the table to fill out a donor card, represent your organization and find out how you can save the lives of up to 8 other people. The organization that wins the competition will win a prize that is yet to be announced.

Another event that is planned for National Student Donate Life Week is a guest speaker who is a heart transplant recipient. Jimmy Moore, who is a patrolman here at Clemson, is going to give a talk about his experience with his transplant. He will be sharing his story in Brackett 214 at 7 p.m. on Wednesday April 13. Everyone is invited to come hear his inspirational speech!

The goal that Students for Organ Donation has set for the week is to sign up 500 new organ donors. They need your help to reach this goal! Please stop by the tables in front of the library to get some information. This is a great cause with the potential to save so many lives, but your support is needed. Email me at nswavel@clemson.edu for more information. With Students for Organ Donation, you can really save a life and be a hero!

Nicole Swavel
junior
psychology

Students for Organ Donation seeks to bring students to save lives

On the week of April 11 through April 15, Clemson University will experience an event that has never been here before. Students for Organ Donation, a new organization on campus, is sponsoring the First Annual National Student Donate Life Week. The goal of the week is to spread awareness and to educate students here at Clemson about organ donation. Students for Organ Donation is a student-run nonprofit national organization that was founded in the summer of 2003 by Richard and John Ludlow of Yale University and U.C. San Diego, respectively. There are now chapters at more than 50 campuses throughout the United States and in Canada.

The statistics about organ donation are shocking. Over 87,000 Americans are currently in need of a life-saving organ transplant and in the past three days, 54 of these people have died because they did not get the organs that they needed. The vast majority of Americans support organ donation, but less than half of eligible donors actually donate their organs at death. This is a problem that can be solved by spreading awareness and educating people. Here at Clemson, we can take part in this

Let your voice be heard!

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Guest columns of either 600 or 800 words on a topic of the author's choosing may be submitted for publication.

Point Counterpoint responses should be 400 words and may be written for either side of an issue. There will not be a Point Counterpoint next week.

Submissions must include the author's name and phone number (or email 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.

COMMENTARY

Fix social security now, before it's too late

Social Security. Right now it isn't a big deal to most of us students; we won't draw benefits for another 40 years or more. Unfortunately, the problems plaguing the system will affect some of our grandparents and parents. Oh yeah, that's right; if they use all the money there won't be any left for us.

Hmmm, then perhaps it is a big deal. So before you put this article down or turn off the television the next time the topic of social security comes up, remember that your benefits will depend on someone's tax money 40 years from now, someone who hasn't even been born. And they may never be born, which is the cause for so much concern.

I hate to do it, but we must start off with a little bit of history before we move on. The Social Security Act was signed by Roosevelt on Aug 14, 1935, and monthly benefits were scheduled to begin in 1942. An amendment in 1939 changed that date to 1940 and acknowledged that "it is impossible ... to provide ideal security for every individual. The practical objective is to pay benefits that provide a minimum degree of social security." This amendment extended benefits to dependents of deceased, disabled and retired workers; another amendment came in the fifties to increase benefits for the elderly. It is important to note that benefits are not guaranteed by law; Congress can "alter, amend, or repeal" any part of the Social Security act, including who gets benefits, the amount, when they are paid, etc.

Up until 1950, there were always at least 15 people paying into the system for each recipi-

ent who drew benefits. In 2004, the number had dwindled to three and by 2050 it is expected that each recipient will be supported by only two workers. This doesn't mean that the system won't run into a problem until 2050. In approximately 15 years, Social Security will have to draw off of its surplus in Treasury bonds.

Surplus? Well, technically there is a surplus. The same baby boomers who will begin causing problems did pay in some extra taxes while the numbers were still closer to 15 to 1. The problem with the "surplus" is that the Treasury bonds are nothing more than loans to the government. The sad truth is that Social Security has been making our deficit smaller for more than 20 years. This means that drawing them out to pay benefits will mean more taxes somewhere or a loss of some kind of benefit. It is just flat out economically impossible for anything else to happen. I defy you to make the numbers add up.

According to the estimates used by the Social Security trustees, almost \$3.7 trillion is scheduled to be paid in benefits over the next 75 years. There are several solutions to the Social Security problem. One solution is to raise the cap on taxable income above the current \$90,000. Payroll taxes, currently at 12.4 percent, could be raised as little as 1.5 percent and completely eliminate the problem. Considering that one's employer pays half of your payroll tax, a 1.5 percent increase to save many people's only means of survival doesn't seem so bad. If nobody wanted to pay more money, benefits could be cut by

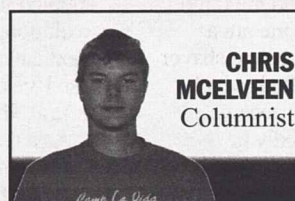
approximately 13 percent immediately or 30 percent in 40 years.

Many mention President Bush's private account plan when the Social Security crisis is discussed, but it is not actually a solution, just an "add-on." Despite my misgivings about Bush, I still think he is on to something here.

The private accounts are designed to allow individuals to divert up to 4 percent of their payroll tax into privately managed investments. The program would be similar to a 401(k), including contribution caps, restricted investment and limited or no early withdrawal. It won't fix the problem. In fact, the diverted money means less in the social security; however, it gives people a choice if they don't trust the system. It also leads to a reduction in an individual's benefits, and rightly so; however, with earnings greater than 3 percent per year, you would end up with more money than someone receiving full benefits. And it is all voluntary; none of this would even be mandatory if passed into law.

The problem seems to be with Congress. The math doesn't add up and it is clear that something will have to be done. There are only two options, get more money from somewhere or don't give out as much. The issue at hand is really quite simple, but everyone is worried about offending or alienating supporters. Well, in 40 years you won't have any supporters, Mr. Senator. They will all have passed away because they couldn't afford food and medicine without full Social Security benefits. Somebody has to pay. Don't put that burden on the disabled and elderly.

Chris McElveen is a junior in graphic communications. Email comments to letters@TheTigerNews.com.



CHRIS
MCELVEEN
Columnist

COMMENTARY

Do sunbathers need a change of scenery?

So on my spring break, (the week after most Clemson students') I did nothing spectacular. In fact, I was where most of you were — here in Clemson. The only difference was that I wasn't in class. It was fun and sad all at the same time. I got to sleep in, pig out, stay up late, go downtown and watch endless hours of television. I also got to do something that I haven't had the opportunity of doing since last semester: I walked around campus.

As I said a few months ago, I am student teaching and I don't have the privilege of enjoying the campus like the majority of Clemson students. Last semester, I never even ventured beyond Brackett Hall—I parked behind the stadium, rode the CAT bus to the Trustee House, walked to Tillman, and then when class was over, I walked back to the Trustee House, caught the CAT bus again, and rode it back behind the stadium. Yeah... so if you are thinking of changing your major to elementary education and you are a sight-seer or really enjoy getting hounded by groups selling or offering things near the library, you might want to think again.

Anyway, while enjoying the freshness of spring and the great warm weather during my stroll around campus, I came to notice something that I bet lots of y'all never even think twice about — the exorbitant amount of tanning that goes on around here. When Clemson kids aren't outside tanning, they are in the tanning bed (these individuals are the ones who tend to be orange and crispy at the beginning of February).

Don't get me wrong, I am not trying to bash you sunbathers. But honestly, as a black individual, I can't really appreciate it. However, a friend of mine who attends Mary Baldwin College in Virginia is black and she was telling me about how she can't wait until it gets warm enough so she can skip class and go tan. When I assured her that her skin resembles Halle Berry's, her reply was, "She's pale!" So, there are even members of the African-American community who bask in the glorious rays of the sun.

What I'd like to propose, however, is a new place for Clemson students to do this. During my stroll around campus, I noticed timeless Bowman field, full of Ultimate Frisbee players and individu-

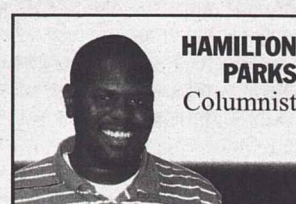
als baking on the grass. It's not nearly as full as it was when I was a freshman and Johnstone still stood behind Holmes Hall. Now that it's gone, it has opened up a whole new area for sun bathers to bask. Still, this place is not the best place to sunbathe. Neither is Lever Beach, the grassy slope between Lever Hall and Hendrix. I do think that it is better than Bowman and the former Johnstone lot. It serves a purpose for more people. Not only does it provide a place to tan and play around, but it also provides a distraction for people who may be studying in that big open room at the back of the second floor of Hendrix. Yes, distraction for students.

This leads me to the best place on campus to tan. I call it, "The Library Layout." Duh! Why has no one figured out that the big grassy area behind the library is PERFECT for laying out? It's completely flat, and void of anything that would obstruct the rays of the sun. Also, for those who like to people watch, it is a great area to watch people traveling from one side of campus to the other (however the people who walk behind the library are usually the ones who are trying to avoid those library bridge hounders, so they might not be very sociable). And then for the people who like to people watch, but are inside the library, it provides lots and lots of great distraction.

Think about it... You're in the library, chompin' down on your lunch of Cheetos, studying for that test you have been studying for since last Tuesday. You're bored. You're tired. The two guys in front of you playing "Magic: The Gathering" have been annoying you for the last 45 minutes and the last time you flipped the page in your book was 20 minutes ago when you wanted to look busy so that annoying girl from your lab last semester wouldn't talk to you. Wouldn't the sight of some tanners on the lawn outside be a pleasant interruption? The plethora of bronzing beauties catching the sunlight would invigorate you and enliven you, psyching you up for that test you have to take in 30 minutes. It just makes sense.

Besides, my roommate works at the library and he would love the change of atmosphere.

Hamilton Parks is a senior in elementary education. Email comments to letters@TheTigerNews.com.



HAMILTON
PARKS
Columnist

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COMMENTARY

Engagement leads to plate selection, awkward stares

I don't know about you, but the word "marriage" has long given me the shudders.

To me, marriage has always been an institution for the old and unattractive, a system for insuring companionship and a means of culturally acceptable reproduction. I swore I would never tie the knot.

I planned to spend my life traveling the globe, wealthy and spouseless, no nagging wife or kids to take my money or my freedom. I pledged that I'd die cold and alone before submitting to sex with the same woman for the rest of my life. I would never succumb to "the old ball and chain."

But then the right one came along. I broke the news to her a few weeks ago. It was the romantic scene girls dream about — a proposal she will undoubtedly recap for the rest of her life. I slyly handed her the ring box and said those words girls long to hear:

"Hold this."

We were in the dark on my porch, and I couldn't find my apartment key because the ring box was taking up too much room in my pocket. She realized what she was holding when we got inside my apartment, and it was at that magic moment that I began my descent to one knee. It was at that same magic moment that my roommate, his face a muddle of sleepy confusion, walked into the room and stared at us. (Thanks, Lucas.)

I never did get down on one knee, but she still said "yes" anyway, which was better than other possible responses such as: "Are you out of your mind?" "Only if you want 25 children" or "What's your name again?"

I quickly discovered that after getting engaged, there isn't even time for the ring to settle on her finger before decisions must be made. Right away, people wanted to know the date of the event:

Me: "We have to check the football schedule first."

Her: "September 17."

And then they wanted to know the location:

Me: "Death Valley."

Her: "Texas."

We spent several days over spring break addressing these concerns and others, such as save-the-date cards, invitation designs, wedding cakes, reception location ("Anywhere that has booze," I said) and gift registries.

If there's any fun part to the wedding planning blitz, it's gift registries, right? After all, how could it not be fun to pick out loads of essentially free stuff? I'll tell you how: registries are typically done at stores that don't sell a lot of guy-friendly merchandise — like chainsaws and dual overhead

cam engines. (The closest items I could find were their selection of stainless steel toasters.)

We listed more than 200 items on our registries at two stores, and the only ones for me are a tent, a cordless shaver and an iPod, which I will not receive

because it will undoubtedly be removed from the registry while I am not looking.

Meanwhile, the gifts for "us" include exciting items such as bedding, pots and pans, silverware and, of course, dishes. You may not know this, but dish selection is a huge, monumental, even life-altering decision that requires nothing less than agreement between bride and groom, congressional majority vote, alignment of the planets and divine intervention. Our search went like this:

Me: "Look at these plastic plates — they're only a dollar!"

Her: "Look at this fine china — it carries a designer name and is etched in platinum!"

After much deliberation, we selected very attractive dishes with a nice modern pattern: blue. She is now extremely excited about the blueness of our dishes. Meanwhile, call me simple-minded, but I don't understand why dishes have patterns at all when they spend most of their time covered in food.

Just when I thought the worst was passed, I discovered that there were still crucial decisions left to be made! We were asked by one of her family members if we had decided on our "colors," i.e. the colors to use for household decoration:

Me: [Stunned silence.] "I guess whatever colors are already there."

Her: "Khaki, slate blue and sage green."

I never realized it before, but apparently color schemes — not eternal love and devotion — are the most critical marriage decision.

Probably the most important issue was settled during a conversation with my future in-laws on the subject of grandchildren:

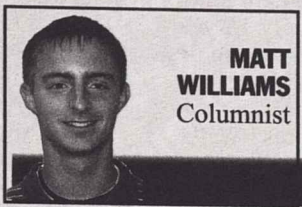
"What if we didn't have kids and spent the money traveling abroad instead?" I asked.

"We'd rather have grandchildren," her dad said. "Girls."

"Matt says he only makes boy sperm," my fiancée replied.

And with that statement, my future in-laws gave me a warm, loving look as if to say, "Where did she find you?" and made it clear that my continued existence depends upon timely delivery of grandchildren.

Matt Williams is, sorry ladies, no longer eligible. E-mail comments to letters@TheTigerNews.com.



MATT WILLIAMS
Columnist

COMMENTARY

from the EDITOR'S desk

Normally, I would never, ever write a column related to a news article I have written. I think that maintaining the readers' trust is one of the more important aspects of running a newspaper; that would be much more of a challenge if I gave you my opinion coupled with issues like evolution, presidential candidates or anything else I've covered in my time at The Tiger.

As a result, none of my columns have ever coincided with a news story I have written.

So much for that.

This week, I wrote a story about Robert Dudley, a scientist at U.C. Berkeley who believes he may have found an evolutionary cause for alcoholism in humans.

I must confess to you that I knew Robert before I wrote this article. I met him in the rain forest over spring break, in a lab called the Amazon Conservatory for Tropical Studies. He was there with a colleague studying insect flight, and they were coincidentally staying at the Conservatory the same night that we were there.

As a biological sciences major, I was excited at the opportunity to meet two faculty members from one of the top schools in the country.

In Peru, my friends and I got to meet about six or seven top dogs in the biological field, and I think that was one of the best parts of the trip.

Naturally, this got me to wondering if everyone at Clemson has had the opportunity to have such a fantastic experience as my trip to the Amazon.

Supposedly anyone could have gone with us, regardless of major, and I know similar trips exist in our department as well as others.

So why don't more people use their college time to travel abroad?

Maybe it has something to do with the arm, leg and entire bank account that I had to sacrifice to go on the trip.

Thankfully I had enough — just enough — money saved up to go on this trip; I had been anticipating it for years. Others might not be so lucky, but why should they be denied the chance of a lifetime simply because their financial situation isn't exactly secure?

That's one problem I have with college. Shouldn't there be money set aside so that people can have an amazing out-of-the-classroom learning experience?

Before I get a lecture on responsible usage of the school's money and how it should be spent on real causes and whatnot, I'd like to point out the school's desire for encouraging international education.

I know the school's financial situa-

tion is dire and the state isn't helping, but this seems like something that should be factored into the budget.

I mean, my trip was for a class — tropical biology — and even the professor teaching the course had to

pay to go. You would think they would cover a little bit of his cost, at least. Nope.

In fact, another faculty member going on the trip was told that she couldn't go because of money

and other issues. Thanks to a nice bit of string-pulling by Provost Helms, said faculty member was allowed to go.

I believe that if the rest of the University cared as much as Provost Helms did, or heck, even the people who make the major decisions — if they really cared about our Top 20 ranking and international educational experiences, they'd support them more.

This is the second year in a row that Dr. Helms had to clear a faculty member to go at the last second. Obviously, someone lower-down doesn't want us to benefit from this faculty member's vast experience in the area.

Not even all of the people who could afford to get to Peru could stay the whole time; four had to leave before the trip was over because they couldn't afford to stay.

This frustrates me to no end. Sure, these students were privileged since they could afford to go on the trip in the first place, but to have it cut short?

So, alumni, Trustees, Clemson Family: Do you really support study abroad programs at Clemson? It really seems like we lack some vital support from you guys.

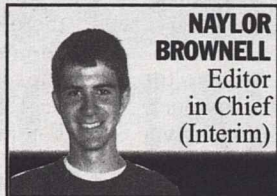
Don't get me wrong; Bill Hendrix personally pays one of my scholarships (thanks again...). I just think there are better ways that some of our money can be spent.

It's not just small trips like this, either. We have students going to countries all over the world — Chile, South Africa, Kenya, Italy, Japan and many more. I even know students who have gone through other universities because these institutions would pay for their experience when Clemson would not.

How does that make us look? "Here, pay for these students to go on a life-changing experience, because we don't support them enough ourselves."

Do we really want to be known as a school that doesn't care about international education? It's up to you.

Naylor Brownell is a sophomore in biological sciences. E-mail comments to letters@TheTigerNews.com.



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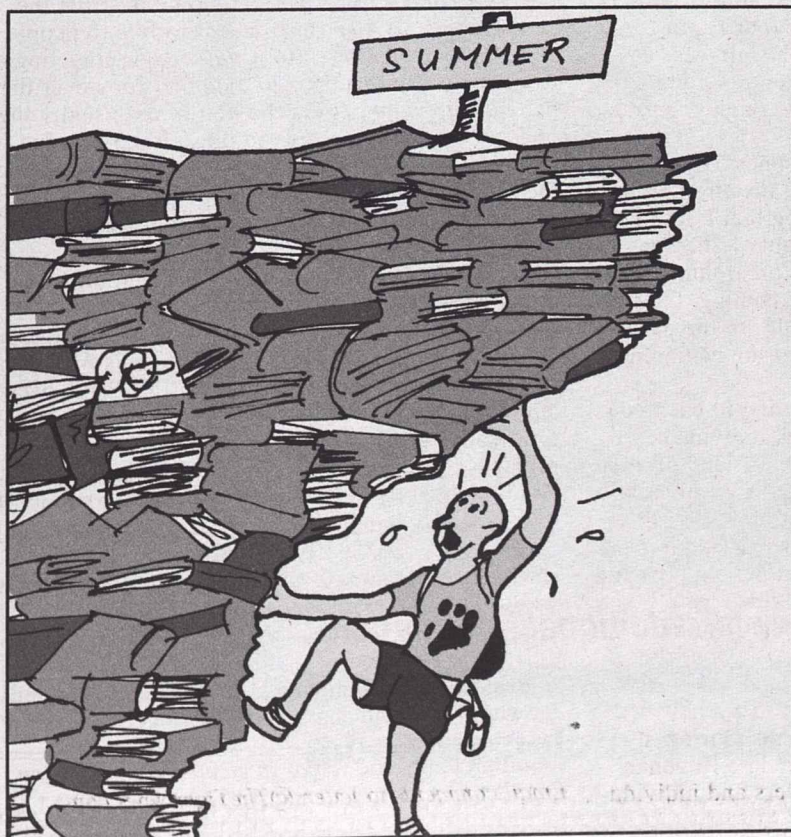
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BRIEF PAWS

A Shanghai computer gamer stabbed a friend to death after the friend sold a sword their jointly-controlled character had won in the online game "Legend of Mir 3."

Public access television viewers in the state of New York got a surprise when Cablevision accidentally televised a striptease contest instead of a local meeting.

Clemson's College of Business and Behavioral Sciences received Microsoft's Excellence in Education award for its innovative classroom use of computer software.

In an effort to stop the traditional destruction of East Lansing following any athletic event, riot police used tear gas to disperse a crowd of students after Michigan State's loss to UNC.

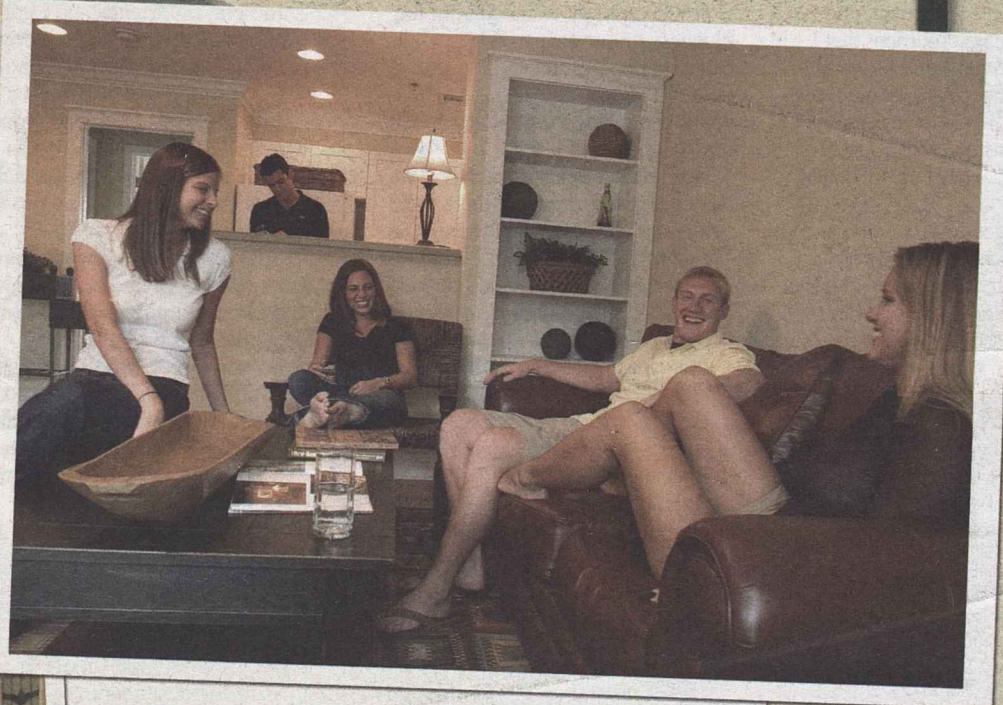
In a further display of ACC superiority, the University of North Carolina won the NCAA basketball championship. Plus, that means Clemson gets a nice check.

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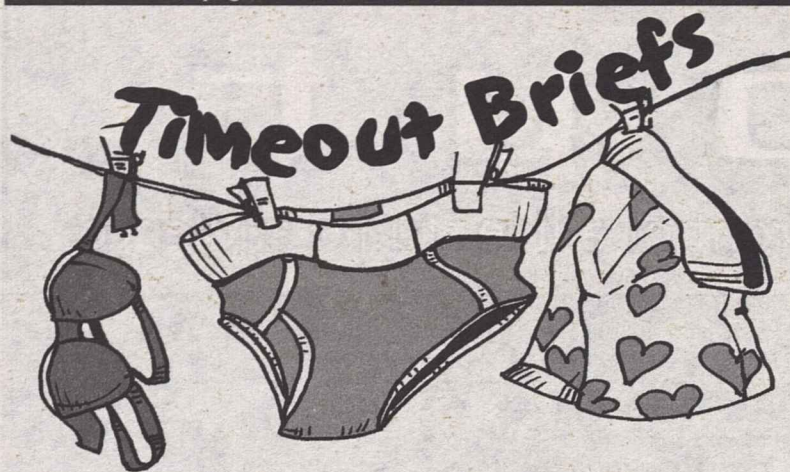
"Produced in front of a live studio audience"

"Aida" sings for Clemson
Page D8

**Crossover show
spectacular!!!**

Page D6

Travel to "Sin City"
Page D10



Wanna be charitable while still rocking out? Make sure and go to the Esso Club on April 13 at 5 p.m. to see **Point O Eight, Entropy, The Sheriff's Daughter** and **Barney's Jive Band**. The cost is 10 dollars for entry with a free raffle ticket and Chic-Fil-A coupon included. All proceeds go to TigerAid for the Tsunami Relief. **Tift Meritt** will bring her brand of alt-country to the Variety Playhouse in Atlanta tonight. **Iron and Wine** will provide tears and depression galore at the Variety playhouse on Wednesday. At the Tabernacle in Atlanta on Saturday is **Lenny Kravitz**, followed by **Muse** on Sunday and **Moby** on Tuesday. This week

in movies, get ready to warm up with Jimmy Fallon and Drew Barrymore in **"Fever Pitch."** Matthew McConaughey and Penelope Cruz get sexy and hot in **"Sahara."**

In a relatively tame CD week, Mariah Carey belts out the tunes this week on **"Emancipation of Mimi."** Mindless Self Indulgence also contributes with **"You'll Rebel to Anything."**

If staying in Clemson is your bag, then go check out **Mock Turtle Soup** tonight and Saturday at 8 p.m. (it's improv so it will be different each night) in 111 Lee Hall. Become a computer elitist and support the cute penguin on Saturday by attending the **Clemson Linux Users Install Fest**.

ON THE PROWL

BY GABRIELLE LAHATTE

Attending a university driven by athletics, everyone is familiar with the concept of games in the athletic sense. The object is to win by outplaying, outsmarting and outmaneuvering the opponent. If only the same logic could be applied to dating.

Try to imagine how entertaining it would be if two girls had a slugfest to determine who gets the guy. Alas, humans are too artful and too cunning to use such primitive methods! However, do we overemphasize the need for diversion and strategy? Instead of playing the game, is the game playing us? In a perfect world, at least my version of it, there would be no games whatsoever.

If I found someone attractive I could just go up and say, "Hey, do you want to grab lunch sometime, because I'd like to get to know you better." I would never have to consider every little detail from my dress, to my mannerisms, to safe conversation topics before each date. Despite my wildest dreams, relationship games are firmly entrenched in our culture.

Perhaps our need for games stems from the fact that we have a hard time being honest with ourselves, so how can we be honest with others? If you asked people to describe themselves, they probably could not, and if they tried, you would want to add "arrogant" to the list because they would probably only rattle off their stellar qualities and neglect to mention their faults.

To be fair, though, why would anyone want to be honest in our society? The lack of understanding is deplorable; if someone is not like you, well, then something is wrong with them. The use of games has evolved from our need to be partially but not completely honest with each other.

When was the last time you played a dating game? Now, think about the last time you weren't completely honest with someone that interested you. Did you come up with a different answer? Our negative perception of games prevents us from realizing that the simplest gestures and remarks are just as deceiving as those methodically planned first dates.

We have all heard about the standard ones:

being busy, not returning phone calls right away, bringing up other people of the opposite sex in conversations and playing hard to get. Games do allow us the luxury of testing the waters without fully committing to something and add spice to our sometimes dull existence. Yet is creating these false perceptions in your date's mind wise to do?

For example, take this scenario: You are out with your new guy and he receives a call from his ex-girlfriend, who happens to be in town and wants to get together. He promptly ends the call and then gives a brief explanation of the break-up. His irritated voice makes you question what happened there.

From this incident, you believe that he had a serious break-up, but his ex-girlfriend still wants him; there must be something about him that makes women want to come back for more.

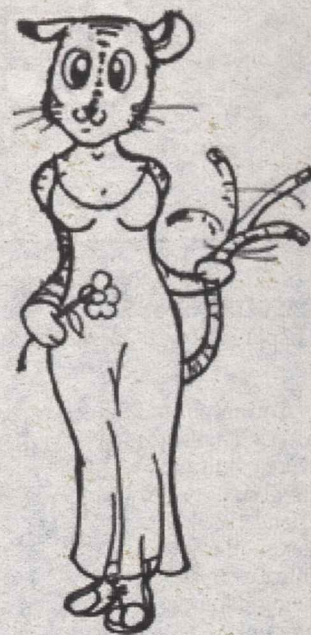
On the other hand, you could think that this girl was a complete witch, and you might try desperately not to be like her.

You find out later that the phone call was a setup, a ploy to make you think he was a hot item. His plan might have worked, or you might have tortured yourself trying to be the model of perfection, hoping not to be like his last girlfriend.

With any game, you put yourself at risk. You could successfully "win" and continue the charade, or your manipulations could prove to be too much.

The consequences are not always steep, but playing games can be a slippery slope. Once you start, it is hard to stop. Sometimes things go your way, but there always has to be a loser.

Any comments, questions or suggestions for *On The Prowl* can be emailed to timeout@thetigernews.com.



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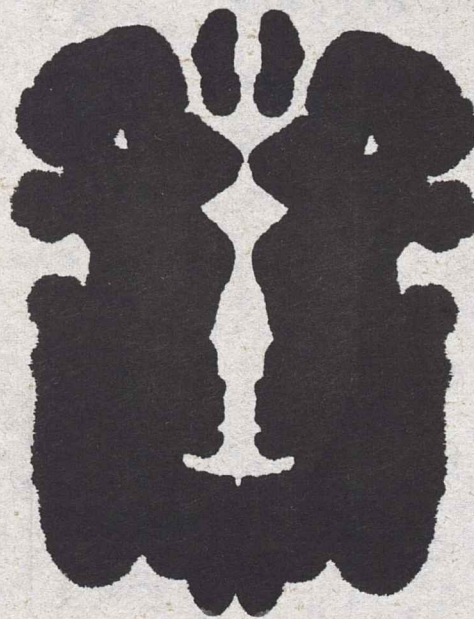
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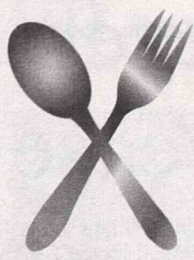
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WORLDWIDE



Kitchen Korner: Turkey adds spice to menu

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You might have discovered that after Thanksgiving Day, there were a multitude of possible recipes involving our triptophan-carrying friend. Well, I recently discovered yet another way to integrate turkey into everyday cooking; besides being delicious, it will also cut the amount of fat and calories in your recipes.

In any recipe that calls for ground beef, I substitute ground turkey breast. You can find the ground turkey breast next to the other poultry products.

About once a month, I love to make meatloaf muffins. Compared to a regular meatloaf, these muffins take about half the time to bake.

You will need about one pound of ground turkey, three-fourths of a cup of spicy barbeque sauce, a small package of crushed walnuts (about a quarter of a cup), one egg, about a cup of bread crumbs, half of a Vidalia onion finely chopped, garlic salt, one fourth cup of ketchup, Worcestershire, Dijon mustard, salt and pepper, Texas Pete and dried parsley.

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Combine the meat, barbeque sauce, ketchup, bread crumbs, walnuts, onion and egg.

Then add several shakes of Worcestershire, about a teaspoon of Dijon mustard, two teaspoons salt, several shakes of pepper, about four shakes of Texas Pete and two teaspoons of parsley.

Then grease your 12-cup muffin tin with some extra barbeque

sauce and use an ice cream scoop to divide the mixture. Bake the muffins for 25-30 minutes until they are brown and crispy on top and register 170 degrees with a meat thermometer.

With the walnuts that add a little crunch and the spicy barbeque flavor, this recipe is a new twist on an old favorite and is sure to be a hit.

The next ground turkey recipe is a great choice when you're having multiple people over for a casual dinner.

Frito salad requires little preparation and only a few ingredients. You will need about one pound of ground turkey, a packet of Ortega taco seasoning, one box Rice-A-Roni Spanish rice, a small can of black olives, a small carton of fat free sour cream, shredded lettuce, half of a cup of diced onions, shredded reduced fat Mexican cheese, diced tomatoes and a small bag of chili cheese Fritos.

First start the Rice-A-Roni according to the directions on the package. Then brown the ground turkey on medium high heat until no pink coloring remains. Add the taco seasoning and three quarters of a cup of water and let the mixture thicken over medium heat for about ten minutes.

Each guest should combine on a large serving plate a bottom layer of Spanish rice, topped with some Fritos, ground turkey, cheese, lettuce, tomato, onions, sour cream and black olives.

The ground turkey is especially good with the taco seasoning, and with plenty of fat and calories coming from the other ingredients, you'll never miss it in the turkey.

Fashion Misadventures

KELLS HILDEBRANDT
Staff Writer

Once a year, I consider moving to a Taliban-run country and wearing a burqa for the rest of my life. The time of year in reference is when the weather gets warm, and I head to the department store to shop for a swimsuit. There are few things in life that are as humiliating as swimsuit shopping, but a list of them might include yearly physicals and parents showing baby photos to your date. In considering my list of humiliating things that have happened to me, none of the other items are as sadly voluntary as swimsuit shopping.

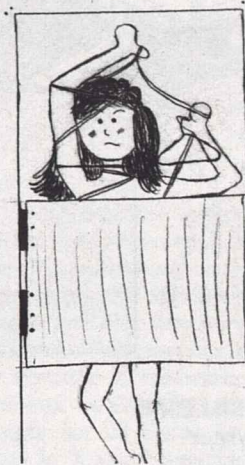
So I went shopping for a new swimsuit with a new attitude because this year was going to be different than all the other years. This year would be different because I was in shape. I've been dieting, I've been doing crunches, and thanks to Meredith's and Ginny Lynn's amazing dance classes, I'm in the best shape of my life. So with toned abs and buoyant spirits, I entered the swimsuit department.

As I shuffled through racks of overpriced, handkerchief-sized pieces of Lycra, I found that the swimsuits were also eerily similar to last year. Evidently women's swimsuits still only come in three styles: Retired in Florida (complete with ruffles and large flowers), Skimpy n' Skeezy (complete with neon sparkles and too much padding) and For Swimsuit Models Only (complete only if you're five-foot-eleven and weigh 98 pounds). I picked out a few suits in the last category, remembering that this year would be different than all the other years. Standing in the dressing room five minutes later, I realized this year was no different than any of the other years. My pasty white skin radiated out from under the suit like I

had spent the winter in Chernobyl, and the abs that I had previously thought were so toned punched out like I had never done a sit-up. At first, I thought it was just that swimsuit, but as I tried on the next five swimsuits, a panicky feeling that this year would not be different began to settle in my flabby stomach. Sensing my panic, one of the salesgirls hinted that tanning has a slimming effect. Of course tanning causes cancer, but let's focus on what's really important here: looking good in a swimsuit. I immediately headed to the tanning bed and turned myself four shades darker.

Back in the dressing room, I found that the tanning effect was only minimal. I also found that I had sat in the bed slightly too long and was now slightly burnt, which only added further discomfort to the swimsuit fitting process. In desperation, I turned my back on looking cute and headed to the Speedo racing suit section. I figured I could just look sporty, because "sporty" trumps "cutesy" whenever sporty creates a slimming effect.

The Speedo racing suit completely flattened my abs. It was amazing — my abs were flat! The suit also flattened other things. This would not do. Freddie Mercury never sang any songs about flat-bottomed girls making the rockin' world go round.



The last swimsuit I tried on was a cute bikini, which fit moderately well, but when I went to change, I got stuck ... seriously stuck. The clasp was tangled in my hair, one of the straps was wrapped around my neck, another was wrapped around my arm and I had no idea where the straps began and ended to untangle myself. I desperately flopped around the dressing room like a seagull caught in one of those six-pack can holders, but the swimsuit still wouldn't come off. Finally, I had to press the Call Attendant button for help getting untangled.

Getting stuck in a swimsuit was really the last straw. I just decided to leave without buying one, as shopping for bathing suits has now replaced public speaking as my number one phobia. So I went home and nursed my sunburn with aloe vera. It's too bad they don't make aloe vera for self-esteem burns ...

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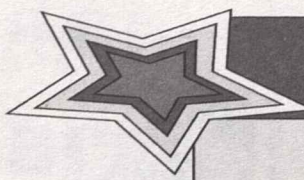


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THE TOP 5

Reasons It's Time to Graduate

KELLY GILLESPIE
Staff Writer

While some of us are suffering from the contagious spring fever, others suffer from what is known as senioritis. If you have done your four to five years right — taking advantage of every great thing Clemson has to offer — then you should feel ready to leave and begin a new chapter. This especially applies to all of us fifth years that are left.

So, here are the Top Five Reasons It's Time to Graduate:

1. Your dating pool, which at one point was overflowing with prospects, has sunk to a level close to the concrete floor. Ouch ... Even worse, maybe after talking with that cute boy that frequently catches your gaze in class, you discover he's a freshman. At this point, at least, you may have inspiration to move on to bigger and better things — men and cities, or perhaps divulge in a

little outsourcing. Take advantage of your resources — your friends that have graduated. While spending quality time with them, you may meet that special someone (that's also in your age group).

2. You begin taking up new hobbies, some you never thought would interest you. This could consist of politics, current events, novels or cooking and the Food Network, my personal favorite. After eating dorm food (microwaveable meals) and cafeteria food, maybe you have realized cooking great meals can be a new way to socialize and get your mind off school — rather than having a beer, maybe enjoy a good glass or bottle of wine. Are we slowly becoming our parents?

3. Thinking of living in a dorm literally makes your skin crawl. You could never imagine having to share a room, much less a restroom and shower with five plus people. Eventually, you realize how wonderful it is

to have "me" time and not have someone in your room constantly. You dream about living in a fabulous studio apartment in a big city far away from here ... or, at this moment, having your own place is motivation enough to graduate.

4. Everyday on campus you realize more and more how many faculty/staff members you know. This could amount to just as many undergrad friends you have (the ones left that haven't graduated). Walking down the halls of your major's building, you may find yourself popping in to a professor's office just to shoot the breeze. You have come to appreciate the value of getting to know your professors; they can be some of your greatest resources and just as entertaining to talk to.

5. Going out is different. When going out, it is for a different purpose, not to get hammered, but to have social drinks. You intend to have conversations that you will remember the next day — ones that hopefully do not lead to drunken dialing. Maybe you allow TV to control certain nights, as an excuse to get out of the same repetitive downtown scene or because it is relaxing for you. Or even worse, maybe you realize the downtown scene isn't the same. Going out to certain locations reminds you of the past; all you can think about are the times with your friends that have graduated — the ones you laughed the most with, the ones that you spent late nights with, cried with; you remember all the memories that will never leave you or them.

Yes, it is time to finish this article and Clemson undergrad.

Never odd or even: Graduate with ease

SHARON ERYL
Staff Writer

What does the familiar saying "Give it the ole college try!" actually mean for us, the undergraduates of Clemson? These four years are the times to try anything and everything that opportunity presents. Frisbee golf? Sounds exciting! Two a.m. trips to Waffle House? Wouldn't miss it!

While I encourage you to try your hand at any activity or interest that prevents you from studying, your peers may tempt you to participate in an exploit that you feel in your gut just isn't right. As a senior that has faced these temptations, I am here to prevent you from doing anything that may result in a health risk or late graduation.

Clemson is a place steeped in legend, like strong, historical tea. The lessons learned by former Clemson students have evolved into the myths that permeate our campus. You may have heard rumors of certain activities that may prove harmful or incredulous stories that your common sense denies. Yet the voice from somewhere in your head cries, "Could it be? What if it really IS true? Is Harcombe closed already, because I'm hungry?"

Well, fear no more, for I am here to fill you in on the Truth Behind the Legends. We've all heard that entering the Calhoun Mansion as an undergraduate results in failure to graduate on time (... if ever!). Successful graduation is the point of being here, so why would anyone flirt with danger? Don't listen to the staff who claim that entering through the front door and exiting through the back door of the aforementioned Mansion will cause this terrible fate! I have it on good authority that with the current budget crisis, this claim is just part of an evil plan to keep you here paying tuition.

While avoiding admission to the Calhoun Mansion at all costs, you may notice the gated entry to

a stone cavern beneath the house. Though you probably haven't seen him, there is an actual Clemson tiger that embodies our school spirit. If you're looking, you just might find him behind those gates. But shhh! Don't wake him, and especially don't try to feed him: He only eats chicken.

Just because you stay out of the Calhoun house, don't think you're safe! No, my friends, there are still more ways to thwart a timely graduation. Reading the plaque on Thomas Greene Clemson's statue in front of Tillman is a lesser-known threat to eventual graduates. Naïve friends of mine have unknowingly examined the plaque. Come May, we will comprehend how the hands of fate will punish my poor friends.

A short walk from the statue presents another hazard. The serene Carillon Gardens are no place for cautious students. You may be tempted to ring the gi-normous bell, but resist! For such a sin will cast you into the lot of fifth-year seniors. Legend also tells of a devious Clemson tour guide who ruined the chances for many high school seniors by telling them it was "good luck" to ring the bell ... of doom!

Since you wary students will avoid the Carillon Gardens, you may think that a romantic walk through President's Park with a significant other is a safe alternative. But if you hold the hand of your lover, beware that you will join them in the eternal bond of matrimony! Depending on your choice of walking partner, this fate may be more or less ominous.

Though these words of wisdom are based on legend, I have less mythical advice to share that will ward off an extra semester or seven. If you skip class more than you go, you will not graduate on time! If you never enter the library, your chances of academic success are slim. And if you are too distracted by springtime and its siren call to play instead of prepare for exams, beware the Ides of May!

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- Avoid Caffeine six hours before bedtime
- The use of alcohol disrupts sleep patterns, so keep alcohol use to a minimum before bedtime
- Avoid exercising and eating a heavy meal within 2 hours of bedtime
- Try to establish a regular sleeping pattern

If you are experiencing sleep problems regularly, come by the Health Education Office or consult a doctor!

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IN THEATRES EVERYWHERE APRIL 8

New Scottish band rocks with superb songs, infectious lyrics

EMILY MIXON
Staff Writer

This past weekend while I was in Philadelphia, I got a chance to see an amazing Scottish band, Dogs Die In Hot Cars, at the Theatre of Living Arts. Although they didn't play for very long — they have only released one album — it was quite a lively set.

Hailing from Fife, Dogs Die In Hot Cars formed in their mid-teens and once they graduated high school, they began playing in local pubs. Eventually they moved to Glasgow and recruited female keyboardist Ruth Quigley.

They have since signed to V2 records, the same label as the White Stripes, and released their major label debut, "Please Describe Yourself," in the fall of 2004. They blend 80s new wave bands such as XTC, Madness or Talking Heads with 90s Brit-pop.

Dogs Die In Hot Cars are in the same vein as other great British bands that have emerged this past year such as the Futureheads or Scottish brethren Franz Ferdinand and their songs are some of the catchiest songs I have heard in the past couple of years.

I must admit though that I am one of the biggest suckers for great sugar-coated hooks and melodies, so I may be a bit

biased, but this band unquestionably has great potential.

The concert opened with a great French band, Phoenix, whose songs are very accessible and danceable.

Then Dogs took the stage and while not conversing very much with the audience (sadly enough, a good portion of the audience came to see Phoenix and left after their set), they let their songs lead the way.

Because their songs are so upbeat and hook-laden, it was very easy to sing, dance and be merry at the show.

They played their whole debut album and also sang an unrecognizable acoustic

song. I am assuming it was a newly penned song, although they never clarified this fact. The Dogs' set was only about 45 minutes long, but that was to be expected.

I had picked up their CD a few months before I went to see them live. On my first listen, I think I was already singing the songs — they are just that catchy.

If the album has a theme (it is by no means a concept album), then it is to love life and have fun before you die.

The CD is very light-hearted with few serious lyrics about doing what makes you happy and trying to conform to unattainable standards of society in a very open-forum sort of way.

A particularly amusing song is "Celebrity Sanctum," in which they sing about their admiration for Lucy Liu, Angelina Jolie and Catherine Zeta-Jones. The song proved incredibly catchy and fun, sporting some very comedic and creative lyrics.

They also have another entertaining song called "Paul Newman's Eyes." In this song the chorus repeats, "I wish I had Paul Newman's eyes," and in the song the singer calls himself a nothing and elaborates on that subject with comparisons to other types of more "important" people; the song also has a pretty cool, albeit way too short, keyboard solo.

Some other highlights on, "Please Describe Yourself," for me, were "Somewhat Off The Way," "Godhopping," "Apples And Oranges" and "Lounge," which is a great slacker song.

While this is their debut album, they released the single/EP "Man Bites Man" in February 2004. There are four songs on that single, and actually only one managed to make it on the Dogs' debut. However, this EP is just as good as their first album and is a must if you are decidedly a fan.

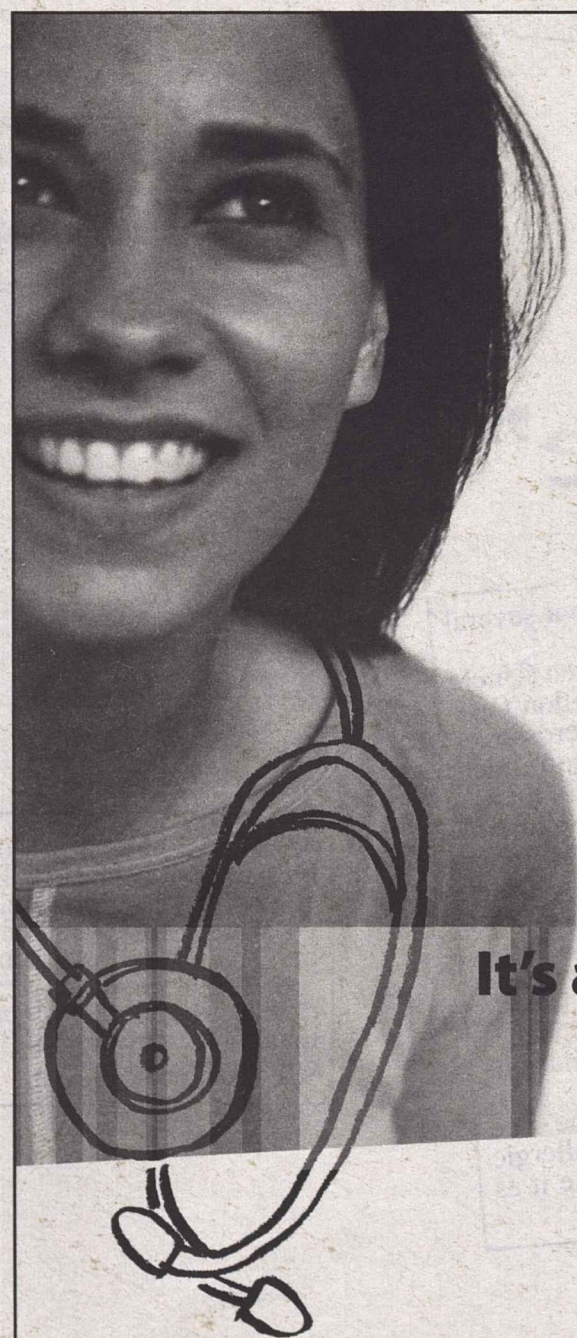
While Dogs Die In Hot Cars are far from original (but who is really?), they are fun and don't take themselves seriously.

It is great to see people who just enjoy writing and singing great and exciting pop tunes without the obnoxious egos plaguing the songs.

I undoubtedly know you will love them if you like the new wave of British music, 80s pop or American bands like The Killers.

In the words of my second favorite television star, this up-and-coming Scottish band is sexy and definitely worthy of a spin on your player.

DOGS DIE IN HOT CARS PLEASE DESCRIBE YOURSELF



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Students perform "Simple" play for local art program

MICHAEL HUNLEY
TimeOut Editor (Interim)

The Brooks Center for the Performing Arts will present a new play this weekend that is performed and directed completely by students from Clemson University.

Written by playwright Jordan Harrison, "Kid Simple: A Radio Play in the Flesh," features the lead character Moll (Dorothy Camak), a young girl who designs a machine that is able to pick up noises that are normally impossible to hear.

When her invention is stolen, she, along with her friend Oliver (Jeff McClaren), go on an expedition through mysterious lands in order to save the world from catastrophe.

The play, directed by Jim

Breitmeier, is being described as an adult fairy tale and features elaborate production designs and special effects, as devised by Suzy Simpson.

"Kid Simple" will be performed tonight at 8 p.m. in the main stage theatre, with additional showings on Saturday, April 9 at 8 p.m., with a matinee showing at 3 p.m.

Tickets will be \$3 for students and \$5 for adults.

Once expenses are taken out, proceeds from the performances will be given to the South Carolina School for the Deaf and Blind's new art program.

Tickets can be purchased at the Brooks Center box office Monday through Friday from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., and the box office can also be contacted at (864) 656-7787.

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Crossing Over

"Queer Eye for the Sopranos Guy"

Articles by Brandon B.
Michael Hunley.

Photo Illustrations by T

Everyone's favorite mobster gets a complete makeover when the Fab Five stop by New Jersey to make Tony Soprano into the most fabulous gangster he can be.

In the new special "Queer Eye for the Sopranos Guy," Tony's wife Carmela calls the Fab Five in to make her slobby and brutish husband into a better man. Grooming Guru Kyan is first to talk to Tony, advising him about the beauty of moisturizing ("Your skin looks so flaky and rough!") and conditioners ("I do believe I saw dandruff in that episode where you chopped that guy's head off!"). Tony's response to Kyan giving him a bottle of Organic Face Cream: "What the &*\$ is that?"

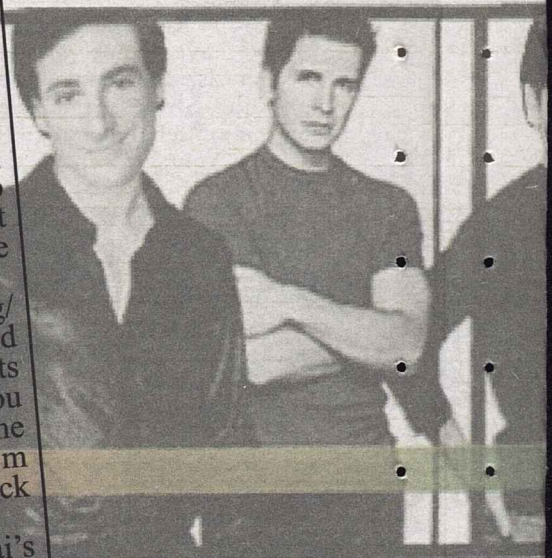
Next up is Food and Wine expert Ted, who is not happy with the contents of their refrigerator — "Italian food has its place, but too much of it can lead to bad digestive tracts and a nasty little pot belly ... try something more festive, like Chinese every once in a while, or even just a simple salad? Ooh, do you like French food?" Tony's response to the list of recommended food: "What the &*\$ are prosciutto-wrapped shrimp and stuffed mushrooms?"

Fashion Savant Carson is next up to work with Tony, and he immediately takes him to the Big and Tall department of the clothing store. "I looked through your closet, and can I tell you, I think you have enough golf shirts and khaki pants. Let's try something more festive — some fantastic new couture will bring out the cuddly teddy bear in you." Carson also teaches him about wearing expensive jewelry ("Bling — even if it is stolen or extorted like yours — will look good, just as long as it isn't tacky!") but to beware of wearing gold necklaces ("They can get caught in your chest hair — that's basically a bikini wax accident waiting to happen, honey"). Tony's response: "Who the &*\$ is Polo Ralph Lauren?"

Self-proclaimed Culture Culture Jai sits Tony down and talks to him about getting closer to Carmela. "Now, I've been noticing recently that you and Carmela haven't been really close," Jai said. "This may have to do with the fact that you cheat around all the time, or even that you kill people regularly, I don't know. But I want you to make her feel special. Ooh! I know! Write her a poem. Tell her how much you love her and appreciate her ... in poetic form." Tony's response: "&*\$ you and your poem!"

Last, but not least, is designer Thom, who sets his sights not on Tony's house, but on his business building/strip joint, The Bada Bing. First, Thom paints the walls red, to accentuate the blood that has been sprayed across the floor. He adds floral decorations to give it that homey feeling that only strip joints/mobster hangouts can give, and he also adds low-watt lighting to create a peaceful and seductive ambiance. "Now, I want you to think about maybe making The Bada Bing a family place — you know, have families come in and see the funny mobsters and whatnot. But the strippers have got to go — they tend to clash with my décor anyway. I'm thinking, replace them with Cirque de Soleil! They are fantastic!" Tony's response: He begins to pop back some Prozac and makes an emergency phone call to his therapist Dr. Melfi.

The episode, however, does not air, due to the sudden and mysterious disappearance of the Fab Five. Jai's body shows up a month later in a dumpster in Soho.



queer
as Full

"Queer as Full House"

For those who have never seen the Showtime drama "Queer as Folk," it is, basically, about several gay men and the copious amounts of sex they have.

And for those who have never seen the old ABC comedy "Full House," it is about three men (Uncle Jesse, Danny and Uncle Joey) and the three children (D.J., Stephanie and Michelle ... please don't ask me why I know all this information) they raise together. So what happens if there was a crossover episode between the two (aptly titled "Queer as Full House")? Well, for those who read too much into TV shows, like we do at TimeOut, one had a sneaking suspicion that those three "Full House" guys were a bit, you know, queer as folk themselves. Yep, they were gay — Uncle Jesse had an odd infatuation with Elvis, father Danny was a prissy neat-freak (and he preferred to live with two other men) and Uncle Joey had a puppet named Mr. Woodchuck — need I say more?

We feel that "Queer as Full House" would be a revamped version of "Full House" but just with a lot more of the blatantly sexual material found in "Queer as Folk" (it would be rated TV-MA, of course, and probably play on FX).

The basic format:

Stephanie wants a puppy but can't get one because Uncle Joey's "longtime companion" Javier is allergic to dogs. Cut to two men making out in a corner — the precocious Michelle makes a hilarious comment about playing safe.

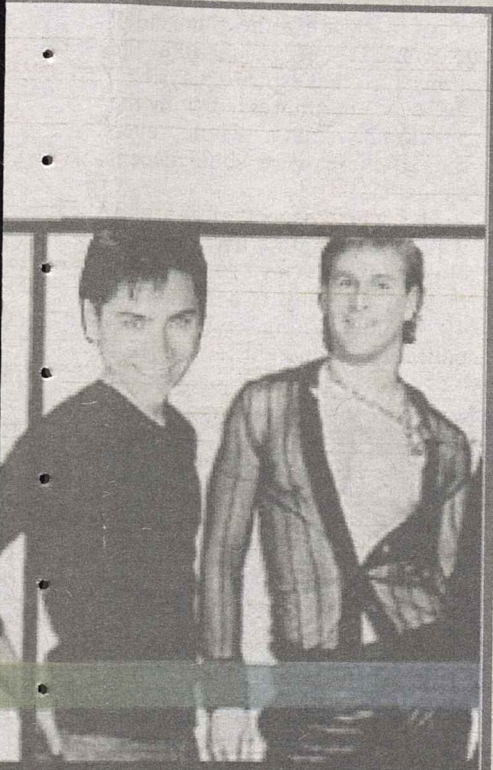
Despite being told not to get one, Stephanie goes ahead and buys a dog but doesn't tell anyone. She hides the puppy in the house's bondage room, but Javier eventually finds out and has a horrible allergic reaction. Lessons are learned, sentimental music is played and two Chippendales dancers shake it as the credits roll.

TimeOut hearts crossover shows, where hit series appear (usually quite random). Who could forget when Ally McBeal was on "Happy Gilmore" (a personal favorite), when the Flintstones crossed over with "The Simpsons"? In order to continue our love for the crossover, we've devised four crossover episodes of our favorite shows that TV executives will take note and make come true.

er With TimeOut

on Bilinski and

by Tyler Mills.



er
LL HOUSE

"The OC Housewives"

Everyone's two favorite nighttime soap operas — that would be "The OC" and "Desperate Housewives" — combine forces (for sweeps, of course) and create a one-hour special, "The OC Housewives," full of sex, skinny people and more sex.

The episode finds the anal Bree from "Housewives" finding out that her long-lost sister is "The OC's" Kirsten Cohen. She and her friends (Susan, Lynette, Gabrielle and Edie) fly over to the sunny lands of Newport Beach, where they are accepted into the Cohen household with Kirsten's husband Sandy, son Seth and adopted son Ryan.

Of course, it doesn't take long for the sex to start and more skinny people to show up (after one commercial break, actually). The melodrama flares up when Gabrielle decides she needs more youth-oriented escapades (following her headline-grabbing affair with her teenage gardener) and decides to try out Ryan.

The stressed-out Lynette, who is thankful to be away from her bratty kids for a few days, finds her maternal instincts kick in when she spots "OC"-er Marissa Cooper, who weighs the same (and is the same circumference) as a number two pencil and immediately gets the girl to finally eat something (and also tells her to pick a sexual orientation and stick with it — no one is buying the bisexuality thing).

Summer and Seth are fighting yet again, and Susan, who prides herself as a good mother of a normal teenage girl, tries to sooth the tensions between the two. She gets confused, however, by their pop-culture-laden banter and their frequent references to obscure alternative rock bands and ends up falling in the pool like her other frequent pratfalls — no one notices, though, because catfights in "The OC" often lead to falling in the pool.

Uber-slut Edie sets her sights on hapless Sandy Cohen, and the two share a brief kiss, which is witnessed by his wife Kirsten. After telling her frustrations to Bree, her new sister decides to take matters in her own hands. She then slips drugs in his briefcase and alerts the police that he is a suspected drug addict and has Sandy arrested for drug abuse (Bree is, in fact, evil enough to do such a thing, for those who don't watch the show).

As the "Housewives" get ready to head back to Wisteria Lane after an eventful week, Gabrielle finds out that she is pregnant ... but who is the father? Is it Ryan, whom she finally had a one-night-stand with, or the local yard guy D.J.? Tune in to the next "The OC Housewives" to find out ... or buy the DVDs when they are released.

"Pimp My Wedding Story"

"Hey, MTV. My name is Karen, and I'm about to get married. My problem is that my church is soooo old and boring. I want my wedding to be the talk of the strip mall where I work, but I have a feeling that it is destined to be doomed. Help me pimp my wedding!"

"Yo, this is X to the Z Xzibit here, and you know my motto: If the wedding ain't blinging, the chapel bells won't be ringing. That's right; I'm here to pimp your wedding."

In this new iteration of a reality show conglomeration, MTV has decided to bring the pimpitude to a sanctimonious ceremony. Forget sacred bonds; Xzibit and the West Coast Clergy are out to make your wedding banging!

"Alright, Karen, first of all, I noticed that your church is old. Mad Mike here decided the candle lighting was so 18th century, and he took it into his own hands to install Xenon bulbs in pews and strobe lights in the altar. Plus, he decked out the runway with black lights so your wedding dress shines like my platinum teeth. Our paint expert painted over that ugly wooden T in the back so that now it's got flames and a wicked skull holding a rose on it."

"I had a chance to meet with your choice for reverend, Father Adam Michael. That boy didn't know the Soul Bruthas from the Gospel Gangstaz, so I appointed a new high priest. Say 'I do' to the Rev. Snoop Dogg!"

"Do you take this laid-back pimp to be your baby's daddy until he gets gunned down in an alley for starting beef with the wrong homies?" Rev. Dogg said.

"Thanks, Snoop. I took the liberty of taking that lame one-carat thing you called a ring, and I installed two 15-inch monitors on your wedding band. This way you can watch this show and many others, including: 'Pimp My Straight Guy,' 'Pimp My American Idol' and 'Pimp My Episode of Pimp My Ride.'"

"I gave that little girl who was littering the aisle with dead plants a new Lincoln Navigator and my new album and told her to have a good time. In her place are nine Hawaiian Tropic models who toss off their clothing as they go down the aisle. The pews all have hydraulics to provide maximum bump when the subwoofers installed in the century-old paintings thump."

"Finally, since you work in a strip mall, I decided to rent out sections of the church to The Gap and Abercrombie so you can shop and wed simultaneously."

"Oh, my God," said Karen, although she actually said "OMG!" "Thanks for all the secular editions to my ceremony. Hopefully this will be a wedding that my friends will be jealous of for years."

"Pimp My Wedding Story" agrees that the sanctity of marriage is being destroyed in our country and will be coming back for a second season to mend this tear in the moral fabric of society.

ws, when characters from one randomly) on another show. Beal went to "The Practice?" "Happy Days?" Or even (our ntstones met the Jetsons? re for these shows, we have of our favorite series, in hopes and make our wildest dreams

EA's "MVP 2005" scores in newest edition of game

MVP BASEBALL 2005
Electronic Arts
RELEASE: Out Now

ADAM STEINBERG
TimeOut Layout Editor
(Interim)

With the Major League Baseball season roaring up to start, Electronic Arts (EA) recently released its newest version of "MVP Baseball."

Previous editions of the game have been lauded for their realistic and innovative gameplay and enjoyable dynasty mode. "MVP Baseball 2005" manages

to live up to the expectations of its past successes and still improve in many aspects over the 2004 game.

The first thing one will notice when playing "MVP 2005" is that rosters have been completely updated for the 2005 season and are accurate as of a few months ago. Tim Hudson and Mark Mulder are on the Braves' and Cardinals' rosters, respectively. Adrian Beltre will be hitting bombs for the Mariners, just as in real life, and Edgar Renteria will be gobbling up ground balls for the Red Sox.

There are a few recent signings and trades that are not accounted for in the stock version of "MVP 2005," including the trade of Sammy Sosa to the Orioles and the Tigers signing Magglio Ordonez. Luckily, EA has included a utility with the game that allows the user to update rosters via Xbox Live.

The standard and always excellent gameplay features from past "MVP" versions remain in 2005's. The game provides a feature known as the "Pure Swing System," which allows the player to dictate what type of hit to go for by simply using a control stick on the controller. This means Albert Pujols can go for that monster homerun by pointing the joystick upward, and Ichiro Suzuki can get his single by pointing the joystick downwards and hitting a groundball. Moving the joystick left or right also allows the batter to pull the ball down the line or go the other way. It's a great little feature that, if used properly, can help the batter produce some great hits.

A new feature included for "MVP 2005" is the "Hitter's Eye." This is a system which gives the batter the opportunity to pick up what kind of pitch the pitcher is throwing. Each type of pitch is given a specific color, which will show on the baseball right as the pitcher throws the ball. For instance, when Randy Johnson throws a fastball, the ball will be white. When Keith Foulke throws a change-up, the ball will be visibly green at

Foulke's point of release. It's easier to pick up pitches on some pitchers than others, but if the batter is able to see the pitch before it is released, it provides the opportunity to really rack up the runs.

There are even more interesting little features that make batting probably the best part of "2005." Batters can now move in the batting box, which prevents pitchers from targeting your cold zones, and pitch histories for the current game are now available for all players when they bat.

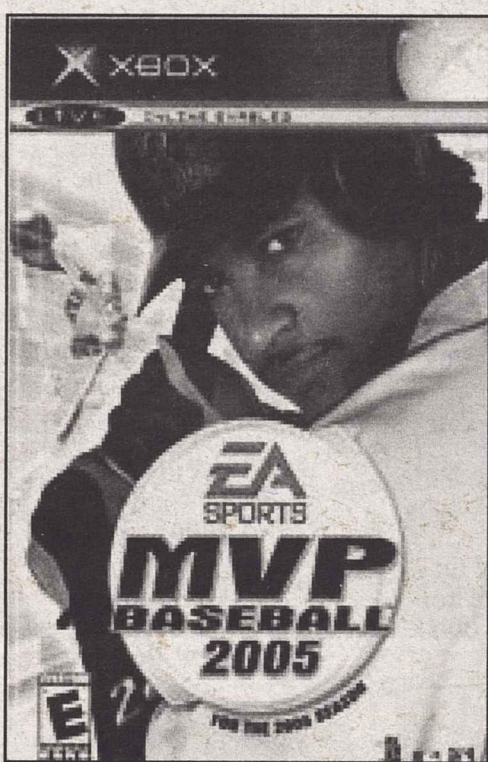
Pitching is relatively unchanged from earlier versions of "MVP." The swing meter is still in use, which pitchers can use to select the strength they use on each pitch. However, it is

harder in "2005" to make a perfect pitch every time, and pitches will be in noticeably different locations if not done correctly. Make one mistake and that low-and-away slider might just turn into a home run.

Sure the gameplay in "MVP 2005" is great, but how long is the game's life? EA has included enough options that one could conceivably go on forever playing the game. One of the two long-term gameplay options is the dynasty mode, which allows a user to play as a single team for up to 120 seasons. A user can play games with his or her team, as well as act as the manager and general manager by making personnel and in-game decisions. "MVP 2005" allows users to actually play all the games with the team, or they can choose to simulate some or all the games if they wish. The new "Owner" mode provides all the options that the "Dynasty" mode allows, but it also lets the user make financial decisions for its team and ballpark. It could be very useful for those interested in income statements, but it doesn't provide much more depth to the game.

Fortunately, the game is enabled for Xbox Live play. This is sure to be great for those Red Sox and Yankees fans who will want to duke it out for bragging rights. I did notice that the game has a significant lag when played online via my system, but it just may have been my terrible Northland Cable modem.

"MVP Baseball 2005" is a terrific baseball game worthy of any gamer's collection. All upgrades made from the 2004 version serve to improve the game, and they certainly make it valuable to buy the new version if you own the 2004 game. Unfortunately, this year's edition will be the last "MVP" game produced, as Take-Two Interactive has purchased exclusive rights for all MLB properties from Major League Baseball. At a retail price of \$30, "MVP Baseball 2005" is one of the best buys of the year.



"Aida" disappoints audiences

AIDA
Brooks Center
March 29, 2005

AMANDA GURGANUS
Staff Writer

An opera, according to Merriam-Webster, is a drama set to music and is made up of vocal pieces with orchestral accompaniment, orchestral overtures and interludes. It sounds really interesting, doesn't it?

People view operas in different ways, each bringing a unique perspective to the show.

In "Pretty Woman," Richard Gere tells Julia Roberts that either you love operas and they will always be a part of you, or they will never do anything for you.

Unfortunately, I am the latter who is not often moved by operas, but that does not mean that I am unable to appreciate an exceptional performance. On the contrary, the talent of the vocalists in a play amazes me.

This particular opera, "Aida," is a tragedy, a bittersweet love story in which the main characters love each other so much that they die together, isolated from the rest of the world.

Last Tuesday night the Brooks Center for the Performing Arts hosted "Aida." Starting at 8 p.m., the lights dimmed and the orchestra began the extravaganza conducted by the brilliant Nayden Todorov, with the Opera Verdi Europa performing under the direction of Ivan Kyurkchiev.

The opera is set in the time and place of the Ancient Egyptians. A young officer,

Radamès (Rumen Shterionou), learns that Thebes will soon go to war with Ethiopia.

After hearing this, he desires to be a commander so he can achieve victories. By naïve faith, Radamès falls in love with an Ethiopian slave, Aida (Silvia-Sorina Munteau), and he decides to attempt to free her from the overconfident Princess Amneris (Petia Zoneva).

The catch is that Amneris is in love with Radamès and becomes jealous when she finds out that he is in love with a servant.

Once alone, Aida is conflicted by the love of Radamès and love for her native land where she is the daughter of the King of Ethiopia.

When Radamès returns, he brings Ethiopian captives, among them is Aida's father, Amonasro (Biser Georgiev).

Aida dreams of her homeland while waiting for Radamès, while Amonasro takes the opportunity to convince Aida to find out where the Egyptian army intends to enter Ethiopia.

At that moment, the couple is found. Aida manages to get away with her father, but Radamès surrenders as a traitor to the high priests.

Amneris offers to save Radamès by way of marriage, but Radamès coldly refuses the proposal, causing Amneris' pride to dissolve. Radamès sentence is

death by being buried alive in a tomb. To Radamès' surprise, Aida is awaiting him there to share his fate. The lovers bid farewell while Amneris prays for peace.

The ability of opera singers always amazes me, especially since I cannot sing at all.

However, in this performance of "Aida," acting was nonexistent. The actors were extremely stiff and brought no emotion to the stage, making it impossible to capture the audience.

They sing about how they are dying and that they miss their true love while standing with an arm outstretched the same way you pick up a book at the library (and with about the same amount of enthusiasm, too).

There were two ballet dancers in the production. The two girls did a very good job conveying the message and emotion of the play, more so than the actors themselves did.

As a whole, they provided a comic relief much like the clowns in Shakespeare plays.

I was not impressed with the performance as a whole, even though there were some decent elements.

The worst aspect of the play was the length. The curtain closed finally at 10:40 p.m., making the play two hours and 40 minutes long, which was entirely too long.



WHICH FAT LADY WILL SING?: The cast of "Aida" performs a scene from the recent production of the opera at the Brooks Center.

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"Republic" commands attention

REPUBLIC COMMANDO
LucasArts
RELEASE: Out Now

ADAM GRIFFIS
Staff Writer

LucasArts has recently started to really capitalize on the rich backdrop of the "Star Wars" license. "Star Wars: Battlefront" let us relive the battles of the "Star Wars" universe on an epic scale, "Knights of the Old Republic II" allowed us to explore the morality of the Jedi Order and now "Republic Commando" has totally shifted perspectives of the "Star Wars" universe. The big difference between "Republic Commando" and any other game is that it's the first story-based "Star Wars" game in which the player is not a Jedi.

Kyle Katarn, the lead character in "Dark Forces," started out as a mercenary, but discovered he was force-sensitive in the sequel. In "Republic Commando," you're not one of the few who have proved powerful; you're literally identical to millions of other clone troopers, save special training in small group tactics.

In "Republic Commando," it's not inordinate for the player to face several incredibly tough enemies dwarfing him in power. Despite an impressive arsenal of futuristic ordinance, you'll be forced to play "Republic Commando" slowly, picking sniping, grenade and anti-armor positions for your men. The game isn't purely in this tactical style though. You'll play short solo sections that are much more action-based, and even though you're playing slowly and carefully, the enemies will be coming fast and furious. The pace grows frenetic as you try to hold off hordes of attacking aliens and droids or advance into rooms holding untold terrors, full of pure aggression bent solely on your destruction.

Graphically, "Republic Commando" only adds to this immersion. "Commando" is the first Star Wars game to adopt the concept of the "used future" heart and soul—the idea that the future should look used and dirty, like people (and we use the term loosely) actually live, work and fight in it. The weapons you'll use, both those of the clone army and those of your opponents, look like real military hardware, used regularly on the battlefield in violent conflict. The game even has a visor element, a la "Metroid Prime;" your visor will be splattered with rain, alien blood and, in the case of robots, oil before an electronic wiper removes the offending liquids.

The story behind "Commando" is solid, if not particularly stellar; it takes place during the end of "Episode II," some period in between Episodes II and III. It includes a little bit of "Episode III," although there aren't any spoilers, save one of locality that had already been revealed in "Star Wars Battlefront." There have been a lot of complaints about the fact that your clone brothers have different accents, but it's a necessary evil in order to establish each trooper's unique personality so that you have to feel real concern about their fate. Also, Penny Arcade has submitted an explanation for this discrepancy based on the "Star Wars" books, if you're the type to care about such things. Supposedly the clone troopers were trained/raised by experts in their field, each from different parts of the galaxy, giving each special trooper their own accent.

Save this defect, which is unlikely to bother those of us without TIE Fighter bed sheets, the sounds of "Commando"

are great. The soundtrack is the orchestral score of John Williams, and it fits the game well. The voice acting is great; the commandos act with a gruffness that is appropriate, but with some really amusing one-liners such as, "These are the droids we're looking for."



There are some complaints that can be lodged against "Republic Commando." The multiplayer is a simple capture the flag mode that is both superfluous and unable to compete with any of the other major Xbox Live titles out there.

Moreover, the game is somewhat on the short side, with playtime averaging between six and ten hours. Finally, the game holds your hand with the strategy element.

That's not to say the strategy is easy. It'll be difficult at times, but the strategy consists of choosing trooper placements among options that the game gives you, rather than those you choose for yourself. It's understandable that this option was included for the sake of mass market appeal, but there's no excuse for precluding players from turning the option off.

"Republic Commando" is a great example of a mass market tactical shooter done right. Although deeper strategy and a longer game would have been nice, the terrific use of the "Star Wars" license makes it a game to pick up, although if you have ten hours free within a week, you might consider just renting it.

"Closer" provokes

CLOSER
Columbia Pictures
RELEASE: Out Now

STACY BROGAN
Staff Writer

I do not believe Natalie Portman, Jude Law and Julia Roberts could get any hauntingly closer. Adapted from the hit play of the same name, "Closer" is a grievously eerie representation of what happens when relationships go awry.

The movie begins with Jude Law saving a frisky American stripper's life (Natalie Portman). After the rescue, Law and Portman become a couple; however, Law does not remain faithful after sharing an evocative moment, and later a relationship, with Julia Roberts. The sensual moment between Roberts and Law sets the movie in motion for whirlwinds of unending lies, deception and relationship conundrums in this bizarre yet lucid love story.

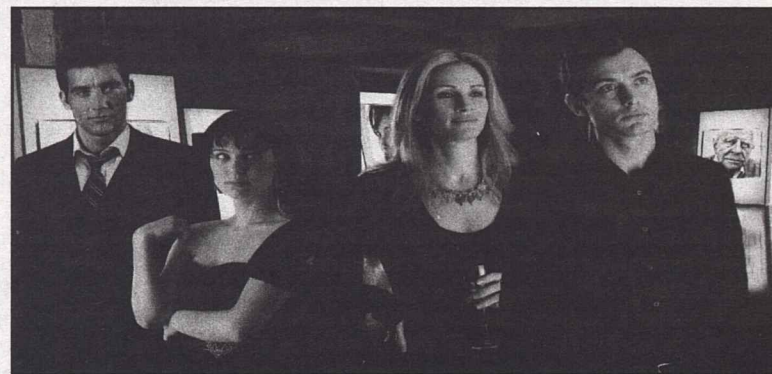
For the movie's duration, the characters are twisted in a wicked four-way love quadrangle. The movie's tone is somber, as everyone's feelings are hurt and lives are shattered. Long-term relationships crash, hearts

shatter and honeymoons disintegrate. Be careful what you ask for because in "Closer," the characters just may get it.

All of the actors' performances in "Closer" are noteworthy. Their characters' personal obsessions and desires were portrayed flawlessly. Julia Roberts and Jude Law may headline, but Natalie Portman's innocent stripper depiction is irresistible, multifaceted and undoubtedly should have brought her an Oscar. Overall, the actors in "Closer" stunningly portray the characters' complex relationships.

Upon discussing this movie with my neighbor who watched the movie with me, we came to the conclusion that "Closer" is a good adult love story and should not be watched with parents or on a first date, as it has a fair amount of nudity and sex scenes. Despite the lascivious content, "Closer" was refreshingly non-typical, provoked serious thought and could be perplexing if one does not pay close attention.

"Closer" is a brave movie going beyond the stereotypical "chick-flick" genre and deserves blockbuster consideration. "Closer" is entertaining and thought-provoking. It will not leave you feeling romantic; rather, it may spark intelligent conversation with your significant other that most movies aren't able to do.



WHAT ARE YOU LOOKIN' AT?: Clive Owen, Natalie Portman, Julia Roberts and Jude Law get together on the DVD of "Closer."

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"Sin City" benefits from artistic approach, unique action-packed sequences



BRANDON BILINSKI
Assistant TimeOut Editor
(Interim)

"Sin City" is a gory, seductive, violence-filled romp through the tales of a comic book that glorifies killing with an eye-for-an-eye mentality; I loved every minute of it.

This movie was honestly one of the most visually stunning films to come out since "The Wizard of Oz." In place of Dorothy and the gang was a group of characters who were incredibly stylized, beautifully cast and wonderfully sinful. I mean when your feature good guy takes drugs, gets with hookers and drags a man down the road by his face to get answers, you know that this isn't your standard buddy-buddy superhero comic.

Frank Miller wrote the "Sin City" illustrated book series and Robert Rodriguez, the director, was so intrigued by this popular and dark series that he decided to integrate three of the seven novels into one full-length (and very deservedly) R-rated film.

To all the naysaying critics and potential viewers, I only have this to say: yes, the film is raunchy; Yes, the strong women in the film are strippers and prostitutes; and yes, there are many references to the male member. But this only enhances the grit of the movie and makes the setting, Basin City, feel like it is an evil place.

Many viewers were referencing the evil deeds and overdone violence, and based on this they were saying that the movie had no morals. This is far from true.

The protagonists and antagonists are both a part of the seedy underbelly of the city, but the way we as viewers can tell the difference between the two is based on morality.

In the first tale, Marv (Mickey Rourke), is out to avenge the death of a hooker who died the night he was with her.

On his quest for revenge, tons of people are brutally beaten and killed to get information about

the murder of Marv's one love.

While some squeamish viewers may think this movie is distasteful, I think that the violence is cheesy and comic enough to be seen as artsy instead of classless.

I hate to gush as though I work for Dimension Films, but this movie was just amazing to watch.

The entire film was shot against a green screen like "Sky Captain and the World of Tomorrow," but that is where the similarities end. I thought that "Sky Captain and the World of Tomorrow" tried too hard to be noir, and in turn ended up looking cheap. "Sin City" on the other hand looks exactly like a comic book brought to live-action should.

There are some really cool effects that I don't want to spoil here, but as a general overview, the entire film is in black-and-white except for splashes of color wherever Frank Miller thought it appropriate to add.

The first time you see someone's eye color against black and white, your jaw will drop. It is simply gorgeous filmmaking.

It is amazing that something as simple as a shadow in a dark alley and rain or snow can blow your mind like they did in this flick.

The list of actors in this movie is overwhelming, but the acting is actually one of my only gripes. The A-list actors perform exceptionally well, including the fantastic Clive Owen and Mickey Rourke giving the performances of their lives. My problem is the

secondary actors just don't really understand how the film is supposed to flow. They under-act to make it seem like a "comic" feel, but it seems out of place when compared to the convictions of all of the main performers.

Rosario Dawson was a little disappointing as the leader of the prostitutes in Old Town. She seemed to have taken Shatner Acting School with the hammed up nature of all of her scenes.

On the contrary, Brittany Murphy, who usually acts at about a level six on the Affleck scale, did a fantastic job at creating a distraught and fiery vixen bartender.

One of the acting elements that I thought was extremely well done was the narration by the protagonists.

In comic books, having been an avid reader in my day, one necessary element is the inclusion of square text boxes for narration. In this movie, they just have a voice-over done by the actor, which adds a cool undertone to the movie.

"Spiderman 2" or "X2: X-Men United" may have been the best movies based on comic books in recent history, but "Sin City" is the most faithful comic book-to-film adaptation ever. If you have ever enjoyed comic books, but thought that Marvel and DC movies weren't up to their maximum potential, go see this film.

Not only is it the coolest movie since the "Kill Bill" series, but it is the best film I have seen during this Oscar year.

Here's hoping for a sequel.



BRING IT, ASHTON: Brittany Murphy, co-star of the new action-mystery film "Sin City," shows off her new knife.

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Solutions to last week's crossword puzzle:

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O	L	E	O		L	A	D	E	N			D	A	L
N	E	R	O		I	D	E	A	S			I	C	E
			F	O	B		A	U	T	O	G	I	R	O
G	O	D		D	I	S					M	I	S	T
E	X	E	G	E	S	I	S			M	A	T	T	
M	E	M	O			S	T	E	R	N				
S	N	I	T		H	A	U	L	S			O	R	B
				T	I	L	D	E				L	O	O
		P	T	S	D		S	C	H	E	D	U	L	E
O	P	E	R	A				T	E	N			T	O
C	A	T	A	R	A	C	T			M	E	N		
H	E	A	D			C	R	E	A	M			A	F
R	A	R	E			R	A	N	G	E			P	I
E	N	D				E	N	D	E	D			S	T



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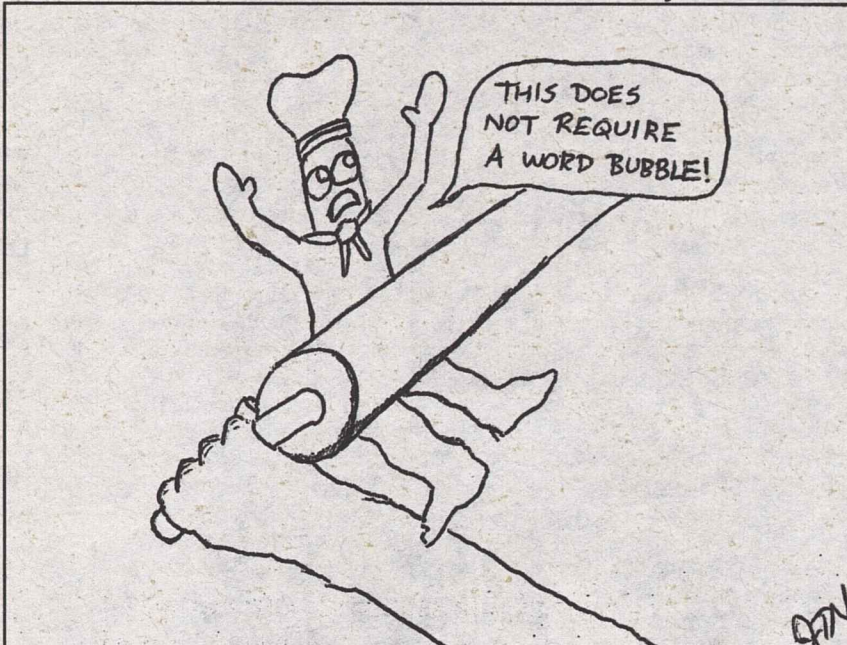
The Doom Squad

by Alex Lay



Spectacular Views

by Jackson Nichols

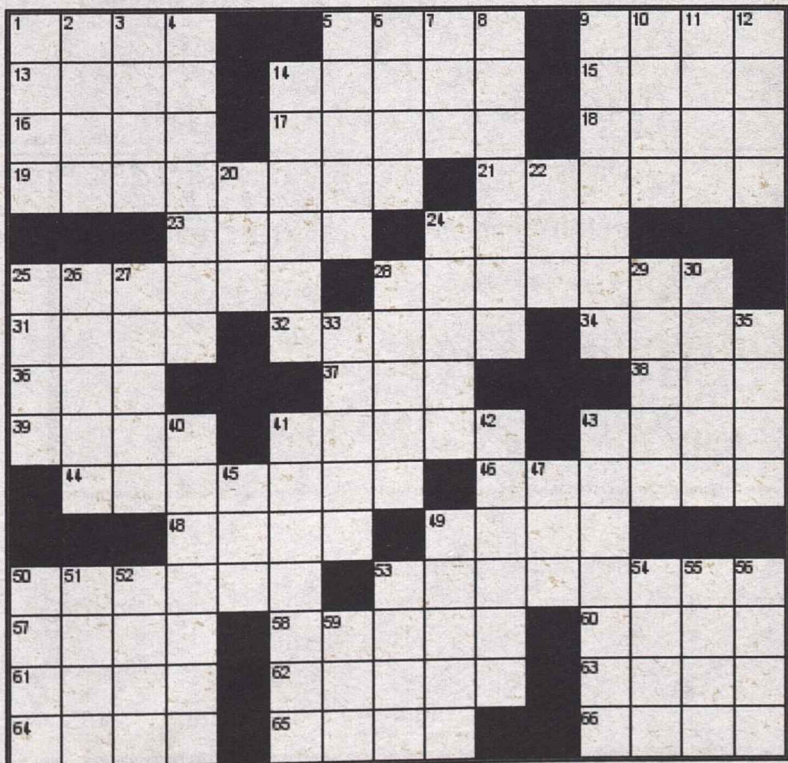


Social Commentary

by Jackson Nichols



Crossword



Across

- 1 Wrangle
- 5 Cluster
- 9 Sound
- 13 Double-reed instrument
- 14 Root beer brand (3 wds.)
- 15 Demonic
- 16 Layoff
- 17 L
- 18 Transgression
- 19 Unclog (2 wds.)
- 21 One less than a dozen
- 23 Sheet of matted cotton
- 24 Russian ruler
- 25 Revile
- 28 Sewing needs
- 31 Excited
- 32 Fear
- 34 Song by the Village People
- 36 Exercise place
- 37 April (abbr.)
- 38 Automobile
- 39 Hurried
- 41 Hit
- 43 Time in office
- 44 Digit shell
- 46 A way out

- 48 Ear part
- 49 Swerve
- 50 Residential district
- 53 Fetid
- 57 Did well
- 58 Adios
- 60 Leg joint
- 61 Fun
- 62 Indian pole
- 63 Economics abbr.
- 64 Beach stuff
- 65 Bottom
- 66 Citizen of Denmark

Down

- 1 Meat alternative
- 2 Wading bird
- 3 Forward
- 4 Horse's bowl
- 5 Soil
- 6 To
- 7 Popular president's initials
- 8 Plucked out hair
- 9 Hills, Calif. city
- 10 Tel (Israel's capital)
- 11 Kind
- 12 Valley
- 14 Winged
- 20 Gnawer
- 22 Male
- 24 Shreds
- 25 Purses
- 26 African country
- 27 Juliet's boyfriend
- 28 Asian nation
- 29 Master of ceremonies
- 30 Old wounds
- 33 Synthetic fabric
- 35 Limbs
- 40 Misled
- 41 Sunday
- 42 Elemental gas
- 43 Journeyed
- 45 Neither's partner
- 47 Ammo. holder
- 49 Brace oneself
- 50 Droops
- 51 Ca. University
- 52 Was
- 53 Building lot
- 54 S.A. Indian
- 55 Element
- 56 Heredity component
- 59 Buck's mate

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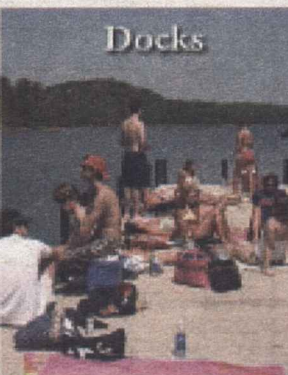
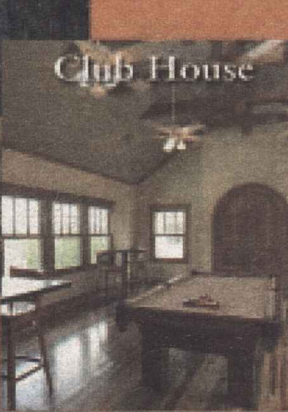
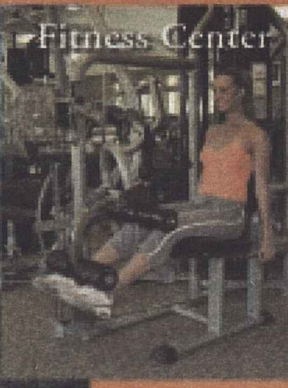
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