



Breaking Barriers

African-Americans in public office over the years — pg.4

the Clarion

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Sports Feature

Riley Weng is the “athlete of the week” — pg.6



TVC speaker to discuss the science of homosexuality

Mark Fahey
News Editor
clarion@sinclair.edu

Elton Moose, founder and director of Springfield’s New Pathways, will be speaking at Sinclair on Feb. 23 “to give the science of same-sex attraction, from the secular point of view,” said Vickie Lair, the faculty advisor for Sinclair’s Traditional Values Club.

According to New Pathways’ website, it is “a Christian organization that helps individuals to overcome the power of homosexuality.” Moose said that although “faith plays a big part in it,” his talk on campus will be “only dealing with the psychological side” of his treatment.

Moose holds a bachelor’s degree in Theology and Arts from God’s Bible School and College in Cincinnati and a master’s degree in Science and Counseling from Evangelical Theological Seminary in Pennsylvania.

He has also been billed as having a doctorate in philosophy and psychology from Trinity Southern University in Texas. However, Trinity Southern is an unaccredited internet-based organization that was shut down in 2005 after granting a MBA to an assistant attorney general’s cat, according to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

New Pathways has been operating in Ohio for 24 years and specializes in the treatment of gender identity issues, same-sex attraction and sexual addictions, said Lair. Moose said that his average patient is in his or her 20s, and that the center does individual counseling with teenagers only with permission from parents.

Moose himself is a “former homosexual,” Lair said.

“It’s very hard to leave the homosexual lifestyle,” she said, “It took him eight years of counseling.”

“I’m not against people that choose to continue in the lifestyle,” Moose said. “I’m just there to help people that do want to bring about change, and I’ve been very successful at doing that.”

Therapies aimed at changing a patient’s sexual orientation (known as ‘reparative therapies’) are not effective and may harm patients, according to multiple resolutions adopted by the American Psychological Association.

“Same-sex attraction is a naturally occurring condition,” said Dr. Kip Alishio, director of student counseling service at Miami University. “If someone feels uncomfortable with their sexual attraction, therapy should be directed toward helping them feel more comfortable. The goal should be to help the person come to terms with this aspect of themselves.”

Bonnie Borel-Donohue, president of the TVC, sees the issue as a competition of paradigms.

“The gay identity paradigm believes that gay people can never become heterosexual...and they have then all these consequences that follow from that belief,” she said. “Their agenda is not innocuous, it’s not harmless to the rest of society. We want to address those implications and discuss rationally and calmly the evidence for and against their assertions and our assertions.”

Borel-Donohue and Lair said that homosexuals don’t necessarily have to become heterosexual, but they can stop engaging in homosexual behavior.

Alishio said that the scientific evidence shows that although people may change their behavior, the “basic underlying attraction does not change.”

“This is a place of education and awareness, not indoctrination,” said Lair. “We want to educate and make them [homosexuals and promiscuous heterosexuals] realize what they’re getting themselves into.”

Questions can be directed to ethel.borel-donohue@my.sinclair.edu or vickie.lair@sinclair.edu.

TVC presentation: “A Scientific Overview of Homosexuality”

- When: Feb. 23
- Time: 11 a.m. to noon
- Where: Library loggia

Accelerating success to help students graduate



The Developmental Education Initiative wants to boost graduation rates by reducing the need for developmental classes.

Talya Flowers
Editor
clarion@sinclair.edu

Taking Sinclair’s placement exam and then testing into pre-college courses can be a hindrance for students because it prolongs their goals of graduating or attaining a workforce credential.

Through the Developmental Education Initiative (DEI), Sinclair offers three alternatives to help students accelerate their education and become college-ready. These courses include the Math Academy, Accelerated English and Boot Camps.

“We are trying to reduce or eliminate the need for developmental education,” said Kathleen Cleary, project director for Completion by Design. “We want to help students accelerate their education as quickly as possible, so that they can be prepared for college level courses.”

The Math Academy course al-

lows students to work at their own pace, with one-on-one instruction.

Math Academy Coordinator Valerie Cope said that the class is ideal for students who get frustrated by sitting through lecture-based classes that cover material they already know, when they need more help with material they struggle with.

“With the Math Academy, students are able to work through the course at their own pace using one module at a time,” Cope said. “They can pretest out of a module if they receive a grade of 80 percent or higher. But the course allows students the opportunity to keep moving forward and not delay their education.”

Students in the course have to be motivated and work hard. The students can save time and money by fulfilling two course requirements in one term, Cleary said.

Another course offered with the goal of preparing students to be

college-ready is the Accelerated English Course.

The Accelerated English Course allows students who place just below college-level writing on the placement exam the opportunity for an intensive review of basic writing skills that is provided alongside the college-level writing class, said DEI Academic Advisor Amy Hartman.

“Students can take DEV 110 along with English 111,” Hartman said. “The student gets a leg up because they can complete two classes at one time in a small class setting.”

For students who need a quick refresher course, the Boot Camps are offered to help students brush up on skills they may have forgotten, Hartman said.

Students can complete math, English or reading courses during the Boot Camps. The Boot Camps will be offered during spring break from March 26 – 30.

Each course is one week for three hours a day.

“These alternatives help students complete their developmental classes quickly and graduate sooner. It is all about helping students build the skills they need to be successful as quickly as possible,” Cleary said.

The Developmental Education Initiative is made possible by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The goal of the Foundation is to dramatically increase graduation rates, according to the Foundation website.

“We know that to increase our graduation rates, one of the first things that we need to do is increase success in developmental education,” Cleary said. “We want to boost students to get them to college but do it in a way that is more supportive of their long term success.”

For more information contact Amy Hartman at 512-4749.

Rock on! Guitar Hero tournament presented by SLA is coming

Leah Baxley
Reporter
clarion@sinclair.edu

The Student Leadership Association (SLA) is hosting a Game Day event centered on the video game Guitar Hero at Sinclair Community College. “Bring your competitive spirit [and] win some prizes,” Jasmine Rogers, student event coordinator with SLA said.

The competition will take place on Thursday, Feb. 23 from 12 to 3 p.m. in the stage area of Building 8.

“Everybody loves Guitar Hero,” said Rogers.

This Game Day is intended to provide a way for students to take a break from homework, relieve stress and meet new people, she said.

Rogers said that she didn’t think that this game has been played in Building 8 before.

“I just thought it would be fun,” she said. “We welcome everybody.”

Besides wanting to provide a way for students to relieve stress, Rogers also wants to see new people visit Building 8 and encourage people to try something new.

“We are trying to provide a stress free environment during midterms,” Rogers said. “We also want to show people what SLA is really about so that they can come to our future events.”

“Be an active Tartan,” added Miesha Russell, student event volunteer for SLA.

The competition will begin with whoever



Students have a chance to ‘Rock on!’ like Jimi Hendrix on Thursday, Feb. 23 from 12 to 3 p.m. The SLA wants you to bring your competitive spirit and win some prizes.

picks up the guitars used in the game, said Rogers, adding these first players will be against each other from the beginning.

The game will be played on the Wii video game console, Russell said.

Rogers also said that “all skill levels are welcome” to play the game and compete for prizes.

Rogers is not saying what prizes will be given to winners at the tournament.

“You have to play to find out,” she said, smiling.

SLA offers different events monthly, Russell said.

“It may not be a game day,” said Rogers of these future events. However, every event offers to participants fun activities and “awesome stuff” to take with them, she said.

Students interested in the upcoming Game Day event can direct questions or comments to jasmine.rogers9909@my.sinclair.edu.

Students interested in receiving updates about upcoming events hosted by SLA can join the email newsletter, Rogers said. They can do so by sending an email to Kolita.Hollins@kolita.hollins@sinclair.edu.

campus calendar

Feb. 21

- Addiction Discussion Group** 12 p. m.-1 p.m. Building 10, Room 423

Feb. 22

- COPE Stress Management Workshop** 12 p. m.-1 p.m. Building 2, Room 334

Feb. 23

- Prepare for Math Exams Workshop** 12 p. m.-1 p.m. Building 2, Room 334

Feb. 29

- COPE Critical Thinking Workshop** 12 pm-1 pm Building 2, Room 334
- Kuumba (Creativity) Celebration** 5-9 p.m. Building 8, Basement, Leadership Development Center (Stage Area)
- Almost, Maine**, By John Cariani 10 a.m. Blair Hall Theatre, Building 2 Buy Tickets Online

Almost Maine Showtimes:

- Friday, February 24, 2012, 8:00 p.m.
- Saturday, February 25, 2012, 8:00 p.m.
- Sunday, February 26, 2012, 2:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, February 29, 2012, 10:00 a.m.
- Thursday, March 1, 2012, 7:00 p.m.
- Friday, March 2, 2012, 8:00 p.m.
- Saturday, March 3, 2012, 8:00 p.m.

March 2

- The last day to withdraw winter quarter Full term is Friday, March 2 by 5:00 p.m.**

March 6

- Four-Year College Transfer Fair** 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Building 7, Library

marketplace menu

Monday

- Turkey Chili
- Beef Vegetable Soup
- Potato Chowder
- Chicken Marsala
- Burger Bar - choose your Burger, Angus, Turkey or Veggie
- Boiled Red Potatoes
- Wild Rice
- Squash Blend
- Veggie Medley
- Beef and Broccoli
- Stir Fry over rice
- Calzone, Spinach, Ricotta
- Ciabatta Club Melt
- Southwestern Chicken
- Chipotle Wrap

Tuesday

- Turkey Chili
- Beef Vegetable
- Tortellini Soup
- Cinnamon Roasted Pork Loin
- Casserole, Primavera
- Potatoes, Mashed,
- Orange Sweet Potatoes
- Casserole, Green Bean
- Peas & Carrots

Wednesday

- Turkey Chili
- Pork Adobo Soup
- Tortellini Soup
- Meatloaf And Corn Mash
- Turkey Ranch Panini
- Mashed Potatoes With Corn
- Baked Beans
- Fresh Broccoli Spears
- Sauteed Green Beans & Peppers
- Teriyaki Chicken
- Italian Sub
- Turkey Bacon Ciabatta Melt with Chipotle Mayonnaise
- Southwestern Chicken
- Chipotle Wrap

Thursday

- Turkey Chili
- Pork Adobo Soup
- Sauerkraut Kielbasa Soup

- Sweet & Sour Chicken
- Flatbread, Turkey, Smoked
- Grilled Reuben
- Southwestern Chicken
- Chipotle Wrap

Friday

- Cajun Pasta Plate
- Lasagna, Mexican, Zucchini
- Mexirice
- Brown Rice
- Chipotle Corn Custard
- Green Beans Amandine
- Lemon Chicken over rice
- Jerk Chicken Caesar Salad
- Buffalo Blue Grilled Chicken
- Southwestern Chicken
- Chipotle Wrap

- Turkey Chili
- Cream Of Mushroom Soup
- Sauerkraut Kielbasa Soup
- Baked Fish
- Chef's Choice
- Rice Pilaf
- Dill Red Potatoes
- Roasted Corn & Tomatoes
- Steamed Veggies
- Closed on Friday
- Meatball Roma Round
- Roast Beef And Cheddar Ciabatta
- Southwestern Chicken
- Chipotle Wrap

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Do you know a member of the Sinclair community with an interesting or unique quality?

Send your suggestions to:
clarion@sinclair.edu.

Corrections

Beer was not served at last seasons Whiteout Wednesday. It was pulled at the last minute by Sinclair.

It is *the Clarion's* policy to correct all errors. If you notice any errors in *the Clarion* newspaper, please contact us through e-mail at clarion@sinclair.edu or by phone at (937) 512-2958. Write "Correction" in the subject line of the e-mail. All corrections will appear in this space.

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weekly sudoku

The objective of the game is to fill all the blank squares in a game with the correct numbers. There are three very simple constraints to follow. In a 9 by 9 square Sudoku game:

- Every row of 9 numbers must include all digits 1 through 9 in any order.
- Every column of 9 numbers must include all digits 1 through 9 in any order.
- Every 3 by 3 subsection of the 9 by 9 square must include all digits 1 through 9.

Every Sudoku games begins with some squares already filled in, and the difficulty of each game is due to how many squares are filled in. The more squares that are known, the easier it is to figure out which numbers go in the open squares. As you fill in squares correctly, options for the remaining squares are narrowed and it becomes easier to fill them in.

	5	3		8		1		
		2		6				5
			3		9		2	
		8			6			
			1	2	5			
			8			4		
	8		7		2			
6				9		3		
		4		3		2	7	

Sudoku Tips: Start by looking for numbers that occur frequently in the initial puzzle. For example, say you have a lot of 5's in the initial puzzle. Look for the 3x3 box where there is no 5. Look for 5's in other rows and columns that can help you eliminate where the 5 might go in that box. If there is a 5 in column's 1 and 2, then there can't be a 5 any-

where else in either of those columns. You know then that whatever leftmost 3x3 box that is missing a 5 must have it go in column 3. If you can eliminate all the possibilities in that box except for 1 square, you've got it down!

Answers on page 5

weekly crossword

Across

- Baseball's Hammerin' Hank
- Bad color for ink?
- Sunlight unit
- Vegetation
- Ward of "Sisters"
- Notion
- Airport security canine
- React to a whack
- "You're not the only one!"
- Ending for mass or pass
- Talking bird
- Thanksgiving serving
- Agenda details
- Cool-cucumber link
- Lake Mich. city
- Semana septet
- "Divine Comedy" poet
- Phlebotomist's target
- With 48-Across, shout at the station
- Byrnes of "Grease"
- Quake site
- Frothy citrus dessert
- Pothole's place
- Jimmy's successor
- See 38-Across
- Type of brandy whose name means "water of life"
- Women's swimsuit size factor
- Capri, for one
- Puppy bites
- Mascara problem
- Ring decisions, briefly
- Sample
- Sample

Down

- Langley and Travis: Abbr.
- Botanical skin treatment ingredient
- "Julius Caesar" setting
- Globes
- Bad guys
- Flag throwers
- Many a "Lord of the Rings" character
- Dogpatch gal
- Lion, for one
- Icelandic poetic work
- Really long time
- Star followers
- Begat
- It's darker than royal blue
- Dijon denials
- 22 Is compelled to
- __ wave
- Of practical value
- Domain
- Canadian rd. distances
- "Amazing" paranormal debunker
- Freeze over
- Spicy bean dish
- Kunta __: Burton's "Roots" role
- Morally degenerate
- Condition treated with Ritalin, briefly
- Car for a large family
- Most doting
- Takes the podium
- Standard
- Munich matrons
- Typical barbershop complement
- Slightly
- Perform on sidewalks, in London
- Scandinavian capital
- Glimpse
- Austen heroine
- Victory signs
- 1930s-'40s mystery film scene stealer
- Part of le visage
- To be, to Tiberius
- GPS determination

Answers on page 5

Contacts

Newsroom

Room 8027
(937) 512-4577
e-mail: clarion@sinclair.edu

Editor

(937) 512-2958
talya.flowers@sinclair.edu

Advertising

phone: (937) 512-2744 fax: (937) 512-4590

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the Clarion

Editor Talya Flowers
Sports Editor Giustino Bovenzi
News Editor Mark Fahey
Graphic Designer Jonathan Hammond
Assistant Graphic Designer John Swain

Reporters JonVelle McCray
Steve Schwerin
Leah Baxley

Advertising Representatives Chris Voudris

Adviser Sandy Hilt

Photographer

Jonathan Hammond

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tartan spotlight



photo contributed by Senior Vice President's office

meet Michael Carter

Mark Fahey
News Editor

Michael Carter is the Senior Vice President of Student Services and Marketing at Sinclair Community College. He supervises a "tree of services" that ranges from the school's academic resource center to marketing and pre-college programs.

What makes him interesting?

After graduating with a degree in History from Wittenberg University, Carter worked for three years as a juvenile probation officer. He describes the experience as "the best thing I could have ever done."

Carter taught social studies and coached basketball in Springfield, teaching middle school students for three years and high school students for three years. In 1991 he was hired as the head coach and social studies teacher at Trotwood Madison High School, and became the unit principle in 1997.

"I didn't take the typical route when it comes to leadership in higher Ed.," said Carter. "I've spent the majority of my career in K-12."

Carter first came to work at Sinclair to help run the Fast Forward Center, the county's school youth initiative to recover drop outs and encourage them to complete their high school diplomas.

"My background has been in working with students who have struggled academically or socially, students who have been in urban environments," Carter said. "They're the same struggles, they're just older, and so I have a pretty good concept of what they need in order to be successful."

Carter became the program manager of the Fast Forward Center, then the senior director of school linkages. He has worked at Sinclair for 11 years, and has been the Senior Vice President for two years.

"[Sinclair] is a wonderful place to work," Carter said. "There is a true desire for students to be successful... there are occasions when that's kind of cliché, but here I think the feeling is genuine."

Carter will be giving a talk about the old Negro Baseball League and showing students items from his collection of jerseys, bench coats, and hats this week, in celebration of Black History Month.

"You look at these players, they're wearing wool flannel in August," he said. "They look good, they're great conversation pieces, and they're part of history."

He says his favorite jersey is his Dayton Marcos 1920 road jersey, which he says is the only Dayton Marcos jersey in the world.

His second favorite is a jersey from the House of David, a team formed by a religious sect with a compound in Michigan. The members didn't shave or cut their hair, and played with the Negro League teams. They are credited with inventing 'pepper,' the tricks that players do before a game.

"It's an important part of our history, and a lot of history that many people don't know," he said. "Segregation, that's a fairy tale to [young people]. Not to relive it out of anger, but to relive it so you understand it and see it... I think that's what's really good."

Carter will be discussing the Negro League in the stage area in the basement of Building 8 on Feb. 22 from 12 to 1 p.m. His collection will be on display in his office on Feb. 23 and 24 from 12 to 5 p.m., and all students are welcome to visit and take a look.

"I guess the blessing of this job is also its curse," said Carter. "I've been blessed to be in this position, but the curse is you have less hands-on contact with students. I think at this point in my career, anything I can do as far as setting up policies and practices that will assist students, that's what I need to be doing."

Do you know a member of the Sinclair community with an interesting or unique quality? Send your suggestions to clarion@sinclair.edu.

Sinclair Theatre makes love bloom on stage in Blair Hall

Mark Fahey

New Editor
clarion@sinclair.edu

In the midst of the month of love, the Sinclair Theatre has a play planned that its producers expect will appeal to lovers of all types.

John Cariani's "Almost, Maine" is a comedic series of love stories set in a fictional town of Maine. The nine stories explore romantic relationships in various stages, with each of the scenes occurring at the same moment on a snowy winter evening, according to Kimberly Borst, the play's director and a faculty member at Sinclair.

The play was first considered for the Sinclair Theatre after students saw it performed at a regional festival last January, said Stephen Skiles, chair of the Theater and Dance Department and the show's producer.

"The student demand and popularity of the show was so high," Skiles said, "I would say that out of all the driving forces... this show was a direct result of student desire."

Not only is the play popular with Sinclair theater students, but it has also been successful with young audiences across the country and has become one of the most produced plays in America in the last several years, according to Skiles.

"There's a reason why



photo by John Swann

romance and love is the theme of 80 to 90 percent of stories and songs and movies, and it's because it's a universal theme: the need for love, the need to find that person who you can walk through life with and how painful it is when you lose that person," said Borst. "Students, as cynical as they try to be... they're romantics at heart."

"It's also damn funny; it's a really funny script," Skiles said. "It's got a heart to it."

The play will start less than two weeks after Valentine's Day.

"Everybody heads into Feb. 14 with either red in their eyes or black in their eyes," Skiles said. "There's going to be a part of this play that you're going to be able to relate to."

Skiles said he chose Borst to direct the play because of her personality and specific strengths as a director.

"I am a hopeless romantic," Borst said. "My personality

matches the play's personality... I fall in love with the script a little bit more every night in rehearsal."

The cast of "Almost, Maine" includes Jenna Burnette, Angela Dermer, Cameron Elliot, Chris Hahn, Amanda Hanisch, Michael Marvin, John Ray, Becca Seabee and Josh Smith. Several actors will be playing more than one character, a directorial decision that Borst said "speaks to the theme of universal connection" that is central to the play.

Although they don't want to give away too many details, the producer and director said that the play's special effects are expected to be extraordinary, and may involve the northern lights and "certain elements of winter."

"We try to yell from the rooftops as often as we can about our productions, we're the best theater at the best price in town," said Skiles. "My expectation is that we'll sell this baby out and have over 400 [attendees] a night for two weekends - at least that's the goal and the hope."

The production of "Almost, Maine" will take place in Blair Hall Theatre in Building 2 at Sinclair and will run from Feb. 24 until March 3. Tickets for the show cost \$10 for students and seniors and \$15 for adults.

For show times or more information, go to sinclair.edu/tickets or call the Sinclair box office at 937 512-2808.

For an in-depth look into the Theatre Department's new production, "Almost, Maine" check out next week's Life section.

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Join us for a President's Day Open House, February 17. Register online at admission.case.edu/visit.

Breaking barriers

Barack Obama is the first African-American president of the United States. Here's a look at other firsts for American blacks in politics and law:

EVENTS

1861 Civil War begins.

1863 President Abraham Lincoln issues the Emancipation Proclamation, freeing most slaves.

1865 to 1877 Reconstruction. Constitution amended three times to provide equal rights to black Americans.

1865 Civil War ends. The 13th Amendment ratified, outlawing slavery.

1868 The 14th Amendment ratified, granting citizenship to any person born or naturalized in the United States.

1870 The 15th Amendment ratified, guaranteeing black Americans the right to vote.

1896 Plessy vs. Ferguson. Supreme Court decides "separate educational facilities are inherently unequal."

1954 Brown vs. Board of Education. Supreme Court finds segregated public schools unconstitutional.

1964 Civil Rights Act prohibits discrimination based on race, color, religion or national origin.

— Karsten Ivey, *Sun Sentinel*

1860s	1865 J.S. Rock Lawyer admitted to practice before U.S. Supreme Court	1865 Rev. Henry Highland Garnet Give a speech in the U.S. Capitol	
1870s	1870 Hiram R. Revels U.S. senator (Miss.)	1871 Jefferson F. Long Speak in House of Representatives as congressman (Ga.)	1872 Charlotte Ray Female lawyer allowed to practice in Washington, D.C.
1880s	  		
1890s			
1900s			
1910s	1911 William Henry Lewis Appointed to a sub-Cabinet post		
1920s	1926 Violette N. Anderson Female lawyer admitted to practice before U.S. Supreme Court		
1930s			
1940s	1944 Harry S. McAlpin Reporter to attend White House press conference		
1950s	1955 E. Frederic Morrow Hold an executive position on a president's staff		
1960s	1960 Andrew Hatcher Assistant presidential press secretary	1966 Edward Brooke U.S. senator (first since Reconstruction) (Mass.)	1966 Robert C. Weaver Cabinet secretary (Housing and Urban Development)
1970s	1977 Patricia Harris Female Cabinet secretary (HUD*)	1977 Clifford Alexander Jr. Secretary of the Army	
1980s	1989 L. Douglas Wilder Elected governor of a state (Va.)	1989 Colin Powell Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff	
1990s		1992 Carol Moseley Braun Female U.S. senator (Ill.)	
2000s	2000 Donna Brazile Manager of a presidential campaign		2001 Condoleezza Rice National security advisor Colin Powell Secretary of State
			
			
			
			



1967
Thurgood Marshall
U.S. Supreme Court Justice

your voice

Q. "How do you feel about Black History Month?"

Photos by Giustino Boverzi



"I feel like it's not celebrated enough and more people should know about it. I think it's overshadowed by Valentine's Day and people don't take the time to realize what we've been through."

Erica Mathews
Nursing



Michael Soliman
Nursing

"It's an important part of culture that needs to be celebrated—but not overdone."



Josh Marshall
Business Management

"I'm glad we get some light but I think there should be more light shined on the subject. I feel like it's in the shortest month and we need more time to go over everything."



Melani Bailey
Nursing

"I don't think it's celebrated enough. They don't have that many events going on in Building 8 or anywhere else. I don't see any signs or anything up. I feel like it's just another month."

Clarion consensus

Black History Month

Throughout the month of February, the Clarion has been discussing Black History Month, attempting to gain a better understanding of the month while coming to an agreement about its significance on campus.

After much debate, a consensus has been reached.

Black History Month is losing its luster. Some students feel that the month is too short, or that it is being overshadowed by a certain romantic holiday. But the truth of the matter is, some of us just do not care.

African-Americans as an ethnic group suffered for entirely too long and thankfully, we as a society finally realized that and made the necessary changes.

But have we already forgotten the importance and reasoning behind the celebration?

Some think that the month is just a way of an informal apology, recognizing African-American leaders during their most heralded instances of rebellion and protest. But the fact of the matter is that setting apart an entire month for recognition is somewhat a form of segregation itself.

Why is black history not a part of general history? That question is still to be answered.

Black History Month is really emphasized during our

early years in life, most likely to entrench those significant events of history in our young minds. But after grade school, we become so busy and so caught up in our own lives that we devalue the significance of the month as a whole.

Sinclair does a good job of reminding us about the celebration. The MLK walk that was held on Jan. 16 is one good example (although it's not actually in February). Another is the presentation of the Authentic Negro Leagues baseball collection that will be held on Feb. 22 in Building 8. So we can't really accuse Sinclair of not trying to recognize the importance of the month.

Truely, we can only blame ourselves. By forgetting the true meaning of the month we inevitably regress as a society and show how little we truly care.

An old cliché goes, "You can't know where you are going, unless you know where you have been." And it applies very well to the devaluing of the celebration of Black History Month.

Black history not only happened in the past, but it happens every day and hopefully that is the message that everyone will learn throughout the month of February.



Black history – or current state of mind?

JonVelle McCray
Reporter
clarion@sinclair.edu

In my recent journey to gather the opinions of African-Americans regarding Black History Month, the most startling response I got was "No one asks 'what would you like to know about white history?'"

This statement brings up one viewpoint of many African-Americans. Black History Month is the only time of year where the history of African-Americans is celebrated. Is this because African-Americans history is overlooked, or because the history of African-Americans isn't a pleasant one?

It is understandable that because of the number of crimes and offenses we hear about daily, we would not want to dwell on unchangeable events of the past; even

events that formed our nation such as slavery. An argument against that idea, however, is that if we forget where we came from, it is possible that we might return.

The general attitude toward Black History Month is that black history should not be attached to one month and should be taught every day, as it is ongoing.

Black history is not only about the slavery, but the historical journey of a once brutalized ethnic group to obtain and maintain social validity in America.

It's important to know the history of violence that riveted our nation so that we may continue to learn and implement effective, less harmful methods of civilization than those of the past.

We should remember our history but also be moving forward. Interestingly enough, African-American's

ancestors fought 'together,' yet African-Americans have outwardly evolved into being the most divided of subcultures.

We've seemingly lost our appreciation for our forefathers.

Is being rushed to suddenly give importance to, and then overlook African-American history causing African-Americans to slip back into a slave mentality?

While I am not a fan of dwelling on unfortunate events of past or present times, I am a fan of knowledge; particularly the kind that has been shown to have the potential to create equality.

Some are offended that black history is only discussed for a short period of time, however; others argue that if we are given one month to educate people of this time in history — then we need to seize the opportunity with appreciation.

Raising a healthier generation of Americans

Tom Vilsack
U.S. Secretary of Agriculture
(MCT)

As the United States moves toward rebuilding its economy and ensuring the long-term strength of our middle class, we're mindful of the wise words of President Harry Truman: "In the long view, no nation is healthier than its children." By that measure, we have some work to do, and we're tackling it head on.

Over the last three decades, obesity rates have tripled. Today one in three children is at risk for preventable diseases such as diabetes and heart disease due to being overweight. If left unaddressed, health experts tell us that our current generation of children may actually have a shorter lifespan than their parents. To confront this, the U.S. Department of Agriculture has taken significant strides to help make sure America's children are eating better and leading healthier lives.

In December 2010, a coalition of parents, teachers, advocates, school lunch professionals, doctors and even retired military leaders worked with Congress to help pass the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act. The act is a huge win for millions of schoolchildren. It allows us to combat child hunger and obesity and improve the health and nutrition of the nation's children with the most comprehensive changes to school food in decades.

Recently, the department finalized the improvements to food served to 32 million American children every day in the school lunch program. The new standards based on the most up-to-date science will make the same kinds of practical changes that many parents are already encouraging at home. Students will be offered daily servings of fruits, vegetables and whole grains along with

portion sizes and calorie counts designed to maintain a healthy weight. We'll reduce the amount of saturated fat, trans-fats and salt in children's meals.

The Agriculture Department has also been pushing schools to reinforce healthy lifestyles. We've worked with schools across the country, recognizing more than 2,100 with honors for meeting tough standards to expand nutrition and physical activity opportunities. And soon we will bring healthy choices beyond the lunch line to all foods sold in schools including vending machines and the a la carte line so we make the healthy choice the easy choice for students.

The Agriculture Department is working with parents, teachers and others to encourage kids to lead healthy, active lifestyles. Through our Know Your Farmer, Know Your Food initiative and other similar work, we are working to make it easier for families to access healthy food in rural and urban communities that may lack a convenient supermarket. We are teaching kids about healthy foods through school and community gardens.

First lady Michelle Obama has been an important partner in this effort. Through her Let's Move! program, famous athletes are stepping up by renovating playgrounds and school gymnasiums; community activists are bringing farmers' markets to underserved areas; and food-industry leaders have agreed to participate in our work to raise a healthier generation of kids.

At the end of the day, the strength of our communities, our economy and our national security depends on the health of our children. The administration is committed to leading the way so that, together with leaders and partners from across the nation, we can help feed every American child the nutritious food they deserve to excel, thrive and succeed in their lives.

puzzle solutions

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Letters to the editor may be submitted to *the Clarion* in Room 8027 or email: clarion@sinclair.edu. All submissions are subject to editing without changing content.

No anonymous submissions will be accepted. Letters to the editor must be submitted with the author's name and phone number.

The Clarion reserves the right to edit all letters. *The Clarion* reserves the right to refuse any letters for publication, especially those that

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It is the policy of *the Clarion* to acknowledge errors in letters with published correction statements.

Deadline is noon Tuesday for the following Tuesday publication. There will be no exceptions to this policy. Submission does not guarantee publication. Space availability determines publication. When space is limited, articles

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The Clarion
c/o Sinclair Community College
444 W. Third Street
Dayton, OH 45402-1460
(937)512-2744
E-mail: clarion@sinclair.edu

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Sinclair men show Edison basketball 101

Giustino Bovenzi

Sports Editor
clarion@sinclair.edu

On Wednesday, Feb. 15, Sinclair faced Edison Community College in the second of the two Pink Zone games to raise funds for breast cancer awareness.

The game fitted to be an outstanding display of athleticism by both squads.

The leading scorer in the game was Edison's Lamont Cole with 31 points, but Sinclair had an answer to counter his high-scoring game.

Three Tartan Pride players scored more than 20 points as the Pride handled the Chargers 101-88.

Forward JaBriel Coaston led the Tartans with 26 points, with 16 coming in the first half. The 26 points are a season high for Coaston. Price said he was proud of the

way Coaston is playing.

"He's starting to become a dual-threat player," Price said.

Right behind him were point guard Charlie Byers and forward Jonathan Bibbs chipping in with 25 and 24 respectively. Price gave praise to both Bibbs and Byers, comparing Bibbs to a young Charles Barkley and crediting Byers for his clutch shooting.

"If we are in a slump we know we can lean on Charlie to get a bucket," Price said.

Free throws turned out to be a huge part of the game again as the team shot 84.8 percent on 28 of 33 shooting from the foul line. Price said the consistency comes from routine practice on a daily basis.

"We track how many free throws we've shot all year," Price said. "So far in practice we've shot over 26,000 free throws. It's like the old saying, 'Act like you've been there

before,' and well—we've been there 26,000 times."

Sinclair rests in sixth place in conference standing at 2-6 for the season. The standings are disappointing but Price still sees his team improving from game-to-game.

"We've been playing with a lot more confidence and a lot more continuity," Price said.

So much confidence in fact, even alley-oop attempts are going in as three-point passes. An attempted alley-oop from Byers to Gavin Schumann in the second half was sure to set the crowd into an uproar, but instead, Byers' pass went in as a three-point shot.

"I didn't even know it went in until the crowd went crazy," Schumann said.

Sinclair's next home game is Feb. 22 against Cincinnati State Community College at 7:30 p.m.



JaBriel Coaston catches an alley-oop pass from Gavin Schumann during the game vs Edison on Feb 15. Coaston and Schumann were teammates at Roger (HS) in Cincinnati.

Featured athlete of the week

— Riley Weng —



Sinclair guard Riley Weng comes from a long line of Sinclair basketball players.

Giustino Bovenzi

Sports Editor
clarion@sinclair.edu

Being the youngest of seven sisters has quite a few benefits. And for 19-year-old Riley Weng the biggest benefit of all was watching and learning the game of basketball.

"It was a bunch of girls and my dad," Weng said. "I was practically raised playing basketball."

Six of her seven sisters played for the Tartan Pride. She credits her oldest sister Beth as being her role model and inspiration to keep playing the game.

"She has a bunch of awards... and she's always been like a mom to me," Weng said.

Weng is in her first season for the Tartan Pride and is averaging 7.6 points and 4.6 rebounds per game. She is studying Business Information Systems (Medical) and would like to go to The Ohio State University after her time at Sinclair.

For Weng, having a large family always meant having a large cheering section at her games.

"I don't think my grandma, my mom or my dad have ever missed a game," Weng said.

During her junior year in high school, Weng had a child. Having her son could have been the end of her playing days. But thanks to the support from her family, she returned to the court.

She said that her two-year-old son Bronson is the motivation for everything that she does and she will always put him first.

The freshman guard said she enjoys the company of her teammates and that she loves how close-knit the group is this year and even though the women's team has a small roster, it doesn't bother her because everyone gets playing time.

Weng said that her role on the team has changed compared to the role she played at Bellbrook. She went from playing a more post-oriented position, to now playing a guard position.

Although music is commonly heard in the locker room before games, she doesn't necessarily listen to anything special to prepare for the game. However, the 5 foot 10 inch guard said she does pray with her teammates before each game.

When Weng is not playing basketball, she is working as a server part-time at Cracker Barrel, and works mostly on weekends.

She plans on returning to play next season for the Tartan Pride and hopes to improve her game while maintaining her positive attitude toward her classes.

You can see Weng and the entire Tartan Pride team take on Cincinnati State Community College on Feb. 22 in the gymnasium in Building 8 at 5:30 p.m.

Sinclair women lose at the line

Giustino Bovenzi

Sports Editor
clarion@sinclair.edu

On Wednesday Feb. 15, the Sinclair women's basketball team lost to Edison Community College 67-60.

Edison dominated the first half of play even though both teams shot poorly from the field.

The Tartan Pride faced an uphill battle in the second half down 39-26. The Pride stormed back to close the gap to only a three point deficit, but an untimely sequence of missed free throws gave the chargers the opportunity to stretch the lead and not let it go.

After the game, Head Coach Jeff Dillon said the team lost the game at the free throw line.

The team shot just 6 for 16 from the foul line leaving easy points off the board.

He said the team played their hearts out but just came up short.

"They always play hard," Dillon said. "With only seven people you obviously get tired."

The roster's already shortened depth shrunk even smaller with injuries to starters Danielle Forrer (ankle) and India Taste (eye). Both players returned to the game but were obviously affected by the injuries.

Leading scorers for the Tartan Pride were Brandi McDaniel with 17 points and Katie Von Lehmden with 14. Riley Weng added 10 points and 10 rebounds in the losing effort.

The loss drops the Pride's record to 13-9 and 4-4 in Ohio Community College Athletic Conference (OCCAC) play.

The game was the first of two Pink Zone games that

evening, a fundraising effort for breast cancer awareness.

At the game, volunteers from the men's and women's sports teams, as well as members of the athletic department, sold raffle tickets, T-shirts, bracelets and hats.

The proceeds from the fundraiser went to the Pink Ribbon Girls of Dayton and according to Athletic Director Jack Giambrone, the event raised close to \$500.

The crowd was larger than usual thanks to the Sinclair baseball team coming to support the basketball teams, wearing their own breast cancer awareness shirts sporting the phrase 'Saving Second Base' on their backs.

Sinclair will face Cincinnati State Community College on Wednesday, Feb. 22 in an attempt to remain in third place in conference.



Sinclair guard India Taste showing the team's emotion after the game vs. Edison on Feb. 15.

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