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THE METER

The Measure of Student Opinion and Sentiment

NASHVILLE, TENN.

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SEC WEEK SPECIAL EDITION

Find out why these three received our stamp of approval. Pg. 3

SEC revises apps

By April Wilson
STAFF REPORTER

TSU's Student Election Commission revised the SGA candidate application process for the 2010-2011 school year to further ensure applicants were qualified for their positions.

In contrast to previous years, the SGA candidate application included a recommendation form to be filled out and completed by a faculty, or staff member.

"This year we wanted to get more of a feel for the candidates," said SEC Chairperson Robert Horton, a senior from St. Louis. "We wanted to know their relationship with professors and others they interact with on campus."

The recommendation form is based on a ranking scale, ranging

from one to five.

The form asks faculty members to evaluate a student's integrity, ability to work with others, as well as their written and verbal communication skills.

Another concern of SEC was the academic standing and sincerity of applicants, due to the removal, and resignation of eight members of SGA last year.

"We want to weed out candidates that want the title, but for all the wrong reasons," Horton said.

Students seeking a position completed an essay on their grounds for running, and one project they would like to see incorporated during their period in office.

Students are also advised to read TSU's student handbook on duties and responsibilities of each position, Horton said.◦

Convention starts week

By Rechelle Jackson
COPY DESK CHIEF

TSU's Student Election Commission kicked off a week of campaigning with a nomination convention in the forum of the Floyd Payne Campus Center on Sunday, April 4.

"It is no accident that (the convention) was held on Resurrection Sunday," said Danny Glover, a senior political science major from Macon, Ga., accepting his nomination for SGA President - a position he seeks unopposed.

In addition to Glover, many other candidates enjoyed the luxury of running unopposed. Some included sophomore class queen candidate Adrienne Harris and Mr. TSU candidate Tyler James.

The convention also marked an unusual amount of absences

and vacancies. Senior, junior and sophomore class officer positions, including secretary and treasurer were all vacant.

Candidates created clever themes to grab voter's attention and express their platforms. Themes this year included a NASCAR inspired campaign by SGA Vice President candidate Blake Nathan, a "Sweet Tea" campaign for Miss Senior by Tamerah Marable and movie theater themed campaign for Miss TSU by Ashanti Mason Chambers.

Some campaign teams camped out along the Hale Stadium fence as early as 1:30 a.m. Sunday morning in hopes of receiving a great spot to post banners, cups and other campaign materials.

After the rally ended Sunday, campaign teams broke out across campus to begin posting literature for their respective candidates.◦

THIS WEEK ON CAMPUS EVENTS CALENDAR

SUNDAY

53° 41°
HI LO

SEC Week

Nomination Convention
FPCC Forum
4 p.m.

SGA Conference Room
8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

77° 51°
HI LO

SEC Pageant
Kean Hall Gymnasium
7 p.m.

MONDAY

63° 44°
HI LO

SGA Debate
FPCC Forum
6 p.m.

THURSDAY

75° 52°
HI LO

Voting at
Avon Williams Campus
AWCAtrium
3-8 p.m.

TUESDAY

63° 44°
HI LO

SEC Candidate Rally
Genty Center Complex
4 p.m.

SGA Meeting

FRIDAY

78° 55°
HI LO

Voting at Main Campus
FPCC Atrium
10 a.m.-6 p.m.

BREAKING NEWS

VP candidate shot downtown

By Marshall A. Latimore
LAYOUT EDITOR

As of press time, TSU student and SGA vice presidential candidate Blake Nathan is in stable condition at the Vanderbilt Medical Center, following injuries sustained after being shot at the Atlantis night club in downtown Nashville last night.

Nathan, a junior aeronautical and industrial technology major from Stone Mountain, Ga., was celebrating with other TSU students at an after-party his campaign sponsored at the Third Avenue club.

Details about the shooting are still emerging; however, witnesses say an unidentified man opened fire on Nathan and a crowd of other students after being denied entry in the club party, which was free for TSU students.

Nathan was struck once in the

chest by a bullet that also wounded two others.

Students on the scene rushed Nathan to the Vanderbilt Medical Center in a cab, where he was admitted to the intensive care unit and prepared for surgery.

A number of Nathan's friends and Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity brothers gathered outside the hospital, where they formed prayer circles and comforted each other.

A few of Nathan's close friends were allowed to accompany him inside the hospital.

On social media outlets, Twitter and Facebook, students shared emerging details and started a tweeting topic, titled "prayforblakenathan."

Additionally, student leaders have organized a noon prayer service today for Nathan in the Amphitheatre on the main campus.

Campus administrators and TSU Police officers also arrived to the hospital to notify Nathan's family.◦

Stay tuned to tsumeter.com for more updates to this story.



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The Meter's mission is to accurately and responsibly report the "highlights and lowlights" of Tennessee State University and its community so that we may foster positive results while reflecting the university's multicultural student body.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The Meter invites submission by all members of the Tennessee State University community.

Timelines and clarity are factors in selecting material for publication. Materials must adhere to the following guidelines:

- All contributions must be typed and sent by e-mail.
- Opinions and letters should not exceed 400 words.
- The Meter reserves the right to reject letters, articles or ads without explanation and to edit others as necessary.

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What We Think

The Meter endorses three

As Student Election Commission Week began with the Nomination Convention Sunday, April 4, *The Meter* staff interviewed and deliberated over which of the candidates we would endorse for their respective positions.

We have chosen to endorse Shawn Montgomery, Danny Glover and Blake Nathan for the positions of Miss TSU, Student Government Association President and SGA Vice President respectively.

The endorsements come as a result of interviews conducted by *The Meter* staff of the perspective leaders and are merely our informed suggestions on who best exemplifies the ideals and goals established for the positions.

While we could only endorse one candidate from each category, it should be noted that most interviews were admirable and the candidates were polished, prepared and capable of carrying out their duties.

This year's interviews had a distinction that no other SEC Week has possessed in prior years. Three of eight "ousted" individuals from last year's controversial SGA removals have returned and two have even earned endorsements.

Miss Tennessee State University

Of all the candidates interviewed, we were most impressed with Miss TSU candidate Shawn Montgomery.

The junior speech communications major from New Orleans answered each question with poise, sincerity and tact - qualities our future queen should possess.

One major component that impressed us with Montgomery was her ability to clearly and confidently articulate her platform, which is Together Reaching Unity Through Hope (T.R.U.T.H.).

The staff members could all tell the platform had more substance than being a cute acronym.

Each letter represented a program Montgomery would like to implement if elected. The only aspect that may prove to be negative for Montgomery's her

lack of experience in SGA.

Montgomery's became the favorite, but her opponents should not be taken lightly.

Both Brittany Brooks, a junior biology major from Charleston, SC, and Ashanti Mason-Chambers, a junior speech communications major from Pontiac, Mich., are both prepared to also wear the crown and be announced as Miss TSU 2010-2011.

Brooks seemed more prepared than Mason-Chambers. Her answers were direct and clear while Mason-Chambers fumbled over some questions and attempted to avoid others.

We also appreciated Brook's straightforwardness and her ability to remain professional during the interview; however, she was not as relatable.

SGA President

For SGA President, we chose to endorse Danny D. Glover, a senior political science major from Macon, Ga.

Running unopposed does not always guarantee an endorsement from *The Meter*, but we chose to do so because of Glover's passion for his position and Big Blue Country as a whole.

Although Glover will ultimately be named the winner, he encouraged students to hold him accountable and not allow him to be complacent in his position.

Glover's only downfall is ensuring his passion seems sincere. Many of his answers were rehearsed and well thought out, however, that could be interpreted as his campaign and reign being all show.

SGA Vice President

Blake Nathan impressed *The Meter* staff during his interview with his dedication and confidence. It is apparent that he has done this before and regardless of circumstances which left him without a position last year, we believe he is more than fitting to the task he desires.

In response to his removal from office last year, the aeronautical and

industrial technology major from Stone Mountain, Ga., adamantly said, "My GPA does not determine my leadership ability."

While we did choose Nathan as our representative, it was close between he and Zachary Joyner, a junior speech communications and theatre major from Gary, Inc.

In fact, our choice for endorsement was so close, either candidate may be worthy of your vote.

Joyner was surprisingly well prepared and intelligently answered each question. In the end, Nathan proved a better candidate for our endorsement.

Mr. Tennessee State University

We did not choose to endorse a Mr. TSU candidate thought there is only one individual running for the position.

While Tyler James, a senior biology major from Cincinnati, Ohio, possesses kingly qualities and experience, he was unable to sell us on his platform and his desire to truly work in the role of Mr. TSU.

In contrast to unopposed yet-still endorsed candidate Glover, James seemed more comfortable in the fact that he was unopposed.

His answers, campaign and overall demeanor seemed to reflect cockiness and a lack of appreciation to the campus that would choose him.

He too will automatically receive his desired position, but we challenge him to connect more seeing as daily interactions with students is a must.

Students should take these endorsements as recommendation to whom they should consider, but also take the time to make your own choice when voting for future leaders.

It is important to form your own opinions about each candidate. Be sure to go deeper than the catchy campaign slogans and free food.

These elected officials will be in office long after this week so votes should be determined by the character of the candidate and not by what they can offer.

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Match passion with competence



Carmen Williams
ADVERTISING
MANAGER

FROM WHERE I STAND

TSU was founded on leadership and excellence in the hopes of continuing on leading legacies.

With the help of SEC week, one thing has become apparent. Many students on this campus share a true passion to better TSU.

They have a willful want to bridge the gap of the university. Students who hold positions within SGA or wear the crown as Mr. and Miss TSU and class queens, are contributing factors to the overall experience of the student body, faculty/staff and administration.

Though all positions hold major responsibilities, there has been a major lacking of dedication and commitment to the positions that these candidates run for voluntarily.

Personally, I find it disappointing and simply hard to understand how one can promise their time and efforts to serving our university but later choose to neglect their duties beyond campaign promises and becoming elected.

I acknowledge and appreciate the courage students who run for positions, however, it is only when those promises are kept that I gain respect for those in that position.

Last year's elections gave a ray of hope to fill the void of leadership from candidates who unfortunately were unable to maintain their respective positions.

This is not to assume those candidates were or are not capable of

bringing change to the table.

In fact, I found these "ousted" candidates to be an example of their platforms. They, like average TSU students, are human and make mistakes.

However, I feel a student running for a position in SGA should have a clear and concise understanding of what is asked of them before and during their campaign as well as once elected.

I commend particular candidates that were ousted but are now running

for a second time this year.

These candidates have overcome obstacles giving a sense of relatability and accountability despite the opinions of others.

It is not simple to persevere through an academic struggle in the public eye.

It fills my heart with joy to see students who are involved with TSU willing to help shape the big blue country back to its original state.

I'm so glad I go to TSU. Are you?*

"A student running for a SGA position in SGA should have a clear and concise understanding of what is asked of them."

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Name: Danny D. Glover
Position Seeking: SGA President
Classification: Senior
Major: Political Science
Hometown: Macon, Ga.
Platform: One Student Body, One Mission, One Tennessee State University
Prior Leadership: President of Collegiate 100 Black Men, SGA Speaker of the House, Representative At-Large



Name: Blake Nathan
Position Seeking: SGA Vice President
Classification: Junior
Major: Aeronautical/Industrial Technology
Hometown: Stone Mountain, Ga.
Platform: Developing Recruitment by Increasing Visibility through Executive
Prior Leadership: Representative At-Large, President of GEM



Name: Zachary Joyner
Position Seeking: SGA Vice President
Classification: Junior
Hometown: Gary, Ind.
Major: Speech Communications & Theatre
Platform: It's About Time
Prior Leadership: SUBG Governor, Community Service Chair of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc.



Name: Ashanti Mason-Chambers
Position Seeking: Miss TSU
Classification: Junior
Major: Speech Communications & Theatre
Hometown: Pontiac, Mich.
Platform: Embracing and Challenging the Star Within
Prior Leadership: Vice President of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc.



Name: Brittany Brooks
Position Seeking: Miss TSU
Classification: Junior
Major: Physical Therapy
Hometown: Charleston, S.C.
Platform: Developing Recruitment by Increasing Visibility through Empowerment
Prior Leadership: Miss Sophomore, Interim SGA President, SGA Speaker of the House



Name: Shawn Montgomery
Position Seeking: Miss TSU
Classification: Junior
Hometown: Marrero, La.
Major: Speech Communications & Theatre
Platform: The New TRUTH (Together Reaching Unity Through Hope)
Prior Leadership: Freshman Class Secretary



Name: Tyler James
Position Seeking: Mr. TSU
Classification: Junior
Major: Biology
Hometown: Cincinatti, Ohio
Platform: Black Ty Affair
Prior Leadership: SEC Co-chairperson, New Student Orientation Volunteer



Name: Vincent Gartin
Position Seeking:
 Representative At-Large
Classification: Junior
Major: Commercial Music
Hometown: Indianapolis
Platform: Rock with the campus, Rock with the organization, Rock with the staff, Rock with ME
Prior Leadership: Chairperson of National Academy of Recording Artists and Science



Name: Marcus Johnson
Position Seeking:
 Representative At-Large
Classification: Junior
Major: Economic and Finance
Platform: Leading a Listening Par by Rising Financial Empowerment
Prior Leadership: Freshman & sophomore class representatives and junior class president



Name: Brandon Wright
Position Seeking:
 Representative at Large
Classification: Sophomore
Major: Speech Communications and Theatre
Hometown: Indianapolis
Platform: CopyWright Me
Prior Leadership: Freshman class representative



Name: Malik Hagens
Position Seeking:
 Representative At-Large
Classification: Sophomore
Major: Business Administration
Hometown: St. Louis
Platform: Keep Your Coins, Keep Your fame, I Won't Change



Name: Jeremy Frye
Position Seeking:
 Representative At-Large
Classification: Sophomore
Major: Political Science
Hometown: Memphis
Platform: Creating Reform in Housing and Campus Security
Prior Leadership: President of Gentlemen's Academy



Name: Rachel Rogers
Position Seeking:
 Representative At-Large
Major: Health Care
Hometown: Lorain, Ohio
Administration and Planning Platform: The missing recipe to a better tasting Tennessee State University
Prior Leadership: Secretary of SEMAA



Name: Myah Lipscomb
Position Seeking:
 Representative At-Large
Classification: Freshman
Major: Animal Science
Hometown: Adelphi, Md.
Platform: S.O.A.R. (Supporting Opportunity Achievement, Responsibility)
Prior Leadership: Miss Freshman.



Name: Justin Ellis
Position Seeking:
 Representative at Large
Classification: Sophomore
Major: Business Information Systems
Hometown: Indianapolis
Platform: A True Visionary for TSU
Prior Leadership: Freshman Class Historian, Student Coordinator for Coronation



Name: Kenneth Dorsey II
Position Seeking: Representative At-Large
Major: Engineering
Hometown: Houston, Texas
Platform: Approachability, Connection and Effectuation
Prior Leadership: Freshman Class President, Vice President of National Society of Black Engineers



Name: Ashley Wheatley
Position Seeking: Representative At-Large
Classification: Sophomore
Major: Mathematics
Hometown: Detroit
Platform: Revitalizing TSU
Prior Leadership: Miss T. E. Poag Players Guild, Co-Captain of Sophisticated Ladies dance troupe



Name: Jaraad Teagle
Position Seeking: Representation At-Large
Classification: Junior
Major: Business Management & Marketing
Hometown: Atlanta
Platform: Reaching out while changing problems to solution
Prior Leadership: Collegiate 100 Black Men Parliamentarian.



Name: Michael McGaha
Position Seeking: Representative At-Large
Classification: Junior
Major: Business Administration
Hometown: Nashville
Platform: Approachability, Communication, Execution
Prior Leadership: President of Collegiate 100 Black Men



Name: Ashley Harrison
Position Seeking: Senior Class President
Classification: Junior
Major: Chemistry
Hometown: Belleville, Ill.
Platform: The Final L.A.P. (Leadership Accountability Purpose)
Prior Leadership: Junior class queen and sophomore class treasurer



Name: Joslyn Jordan
Position Seeking: Senior Class Vice President
Classification: Junior
Major: Art Education
Hometown: Nashville
Platform: Outside the Box



Name: Kristan Taliaferro
Position Seeking: Miss Senior
Major: Speech Communications & Theatre
Hometown: Detroit
Platform: A New Episode for TSU, No More ReRuns
Prior Leadership: Miss Love You Like A Sister, Vice President of National Broadcasting Society, Tiger News Anchor



Name: Tamerah Marable
Position Seeking: Miss Senior
Platform: Refresh your Vote with Sweet T, Make the 'Sweet T'ransition from undergraduate to post-graduation
Prior Leadership: Freshman class representative, sophomore class representative and junior class president



Name: Brittany Williams
Position Seeking: Miss Senior
Classification: Junior
Major: Accounting
Hometown: Atlanta
Platform: Painting a New Blue for TSU
Prior Leadership: Miss Georgia Club, New Student Orientation Volunteer



Name: Ty Banks
Position Seeking: Miss Senior
Classification: Junior
Major: English
Hometown: Memphis
Platform: Got P.R.I.D.E. (Promoting, Royalty In Demonstrating Excellence)?
Prior Leadership: Representative At-Large, L.Y.L.A.S., International Affairs Society,



Name: Whitney Campbell
Position Seeking: Senior Class Representative
Classification: Junior
Major: Criminal Justice
Hometown: San Diego, CA
Platform: Making your future brighter by preparing you for post graduation life, while making your last year memorable.



Name: Kalisa Sampson
Position Seeking: Senior Class Representative
Classification: Junior
Major: Psychology
Hometown: Atlanta
Platform: Keeping Alive, Legacy, Intelligence, Sophistication & Achievement
Prior Leadership: Representative At-Large, SUBG Governor



Name: Rachel Brock
Position Seeking: Miss Junior
Classification: Sophomore
Major: Psychology
Hometown: Detroit
Platform: Building On Personal Image While Moving Toward Professionalism
Prior Leadership: Student Election Commission Treasurer



Name: Crystal Armstrong
Position Seeking: Miss Junior
Classification: Sophomore
Major: Physical Therapy
Hometown: Birmingham, Ala.
Platform: Catch 2012-- Financial Empowerment



Name: Renetra Gist
Position Seeking: Junior Class Representative
Classification: Sophomore
Hometown: Memphis
Major: Chemistry
Platform: Pushing our Purpose, Think, Work, Serve



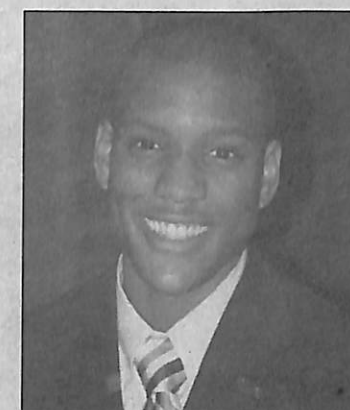
Name: Shelby Rogers
Position Seeking: Sophomore Class President
Classification: Freshman
Major: Secondary Education
Hometown: Chicago
Platform: R.A.T.E.D R
Prior Leadership: Freshman Class Vice President



Name: Quintin Ficklin
Position Seeking: Sophomore Vice President
Classification: Freshman
Major: Health care Administration and Planning
Hometown: Little Rock, Ark.
Platform: Are you looking for a better college experience while here at TSU?
Prior Leadership: Freshman Class Representative



Name: Adrienne Harris
Position Seeking: Miss Sophomore
Classification: Freshman
Hometown: Charlotte, NC
Major: Health Care Administration & Planning
Platform: Accelerate TSU by providing mentoring programs for incoming classes & creating leadership opportunities



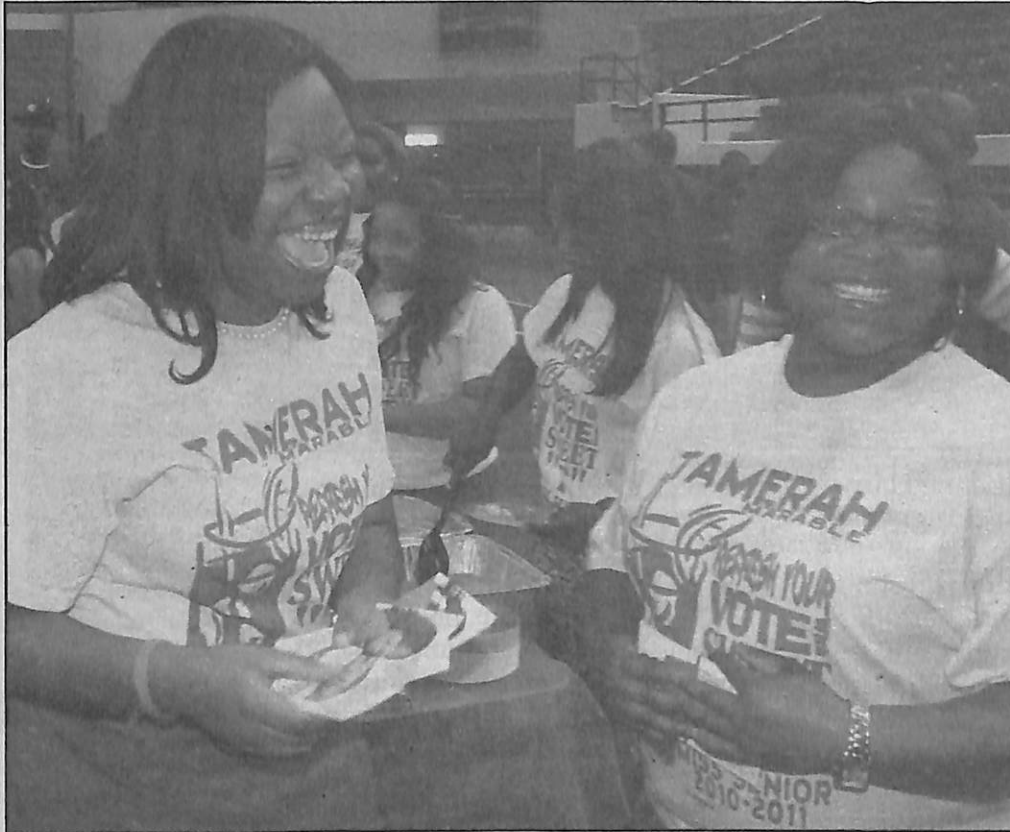
Name: Sidney Johnson
Position Seeking: Sophomore Class Representative
Classification: Freshman
Major: Business Administration
Hometown: Memphis
Platform: B.O.W (Bringing students together, Obtaining Substance, While working towards a Brighter TSU
Prior Leadership: Freshman Class President

CAMPAIGN KICK-OFF



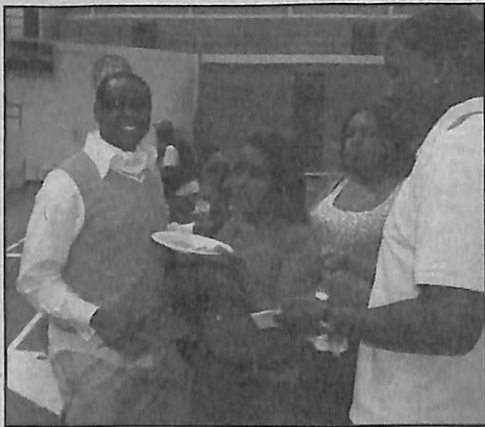
Campaign vounteers scramble in a myriad of directions trying to get their chosen candidates' fliers, posters and banners up all over campus.

PHOTOS BY MARSHALL A. LATIMORE



(Clockwise from below) Hundreds of students pack the floor of the Gentry Center to meet candidates and sample tasty treats; SGA vice president candidate Blake Nathan dishes out a hearty soul food meal at his station; Miss TSU candidate Ashanti Mason-Chambers poses for a quick frame; Shelby Rogers, lone candidate for sophomore class president, meets with some of his supporters; Tamerah "Sweet T" Marable share a laugh with one of her campaign supporters.

PHOTOS BY MARSHALL A. LATIMORE



CANDIDATES RALLY WITH FOOD, FUN

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ASHANTI MASON CHAMBERS

MISS TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

2010 - 2011

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