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TENNESSEE STATE UNIV

Award-Winning Newsletter,
Tennessee College Public Relations Association

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Former Tigerbelle and Olympic Coach Ed Temple (right) escorts current Tigerbelle coach and Olympic champion Chandra Cheeseborough during an event that was part of the recent Tigerbelle reunion at TSU.

 **TENNESSEE**
STATE *University*

IN THIS ISSUE: how TSU technology has earned national recognition ... news briefs, including the College of Education's reaccreditation by NCATE... African-American History Month events ... Foundation Dinner photos and results ... city-wide convocation for King Day

ACCENT

TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

TSU TECHNOLOGY IN NATIONAL SPOTLIGHT TSU TECHNOLOGY

TSU advances from 55th to 27th in Yahoo's 'Top 100'

Yahoo! Internet Life has issued its fifth annual Most Wired Colleges Survey, placing Tennessee State University 27th among the nation's top 100 colleges and universities for 2001. TSU debuted at No. 55 on the list in 2000 and was the only college or university, public or private, in the state of Tennessee to be ranked in the top 100 by Yahoo, the Internet search engine. TSU ranked above Princeton and Harvard in the annual survey.

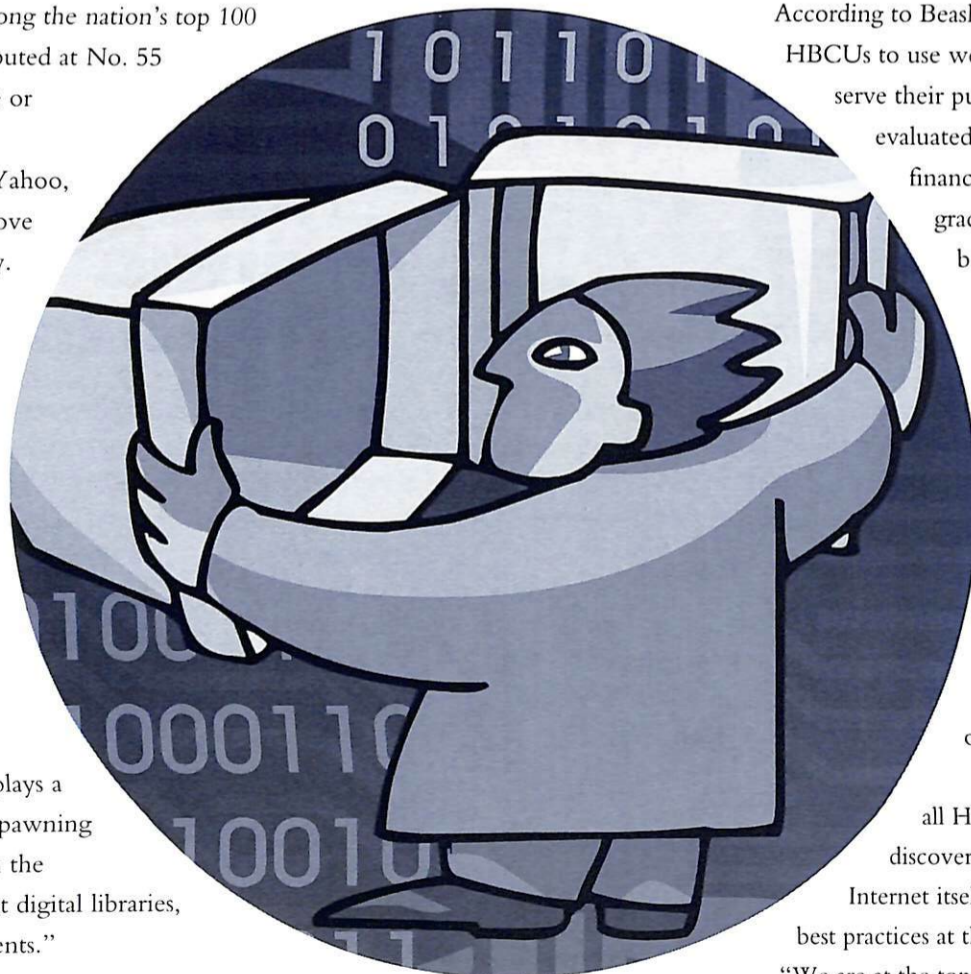
Yahoo! Internet Life conducted extensive research on 1,300 U.S. universities and colleges to examine how institutions of higher learning have incorporated network technologies into campus life. The survey looked at schools' computing power, integration of the Internet into curricula and classrooms, the availability of technical support for students, and numerous other criteria. According to a release by Yahoo! Internet Life, evaluating universities' "wiredness" is vital because "technology plays a crucial role in higher learning today. It's spawning powerful interactive tools for professors in the classroom, providing scholars access to vast digital libraries, and functioning as a social forum for students."

Tennessee State University tops list of black college web sites

Tennessee State University had the best web site in an October 2001 survey of 103 historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs), published in November by

the Howard University Digital Learning Lab's Archimedes Project.

Tennessee State "is No. 1, like Tiger Woods or Michael Jordan," Roy L. Beasley, director of the Digital Learning Lab, told *The Chronicle of Higher Education*. "TSU's first-place showing was well deserved. They do a lot of things 'the right way.'"



According to Beasley, the ratings are designed to encourage HBCUs to use web technologies more effectively and to serve their publics more efficiently. Schools were evaluated on 22 criteria, including admissions, financial aid, registration, housing, payments, grades, course notes, distance learning, benefits, jobs for faculty and staff, grants and contracts, alumni contacts, alumni news, alumni donations, campus calendar, directory, library, access to the Internet, and ease of navigation. A fast Internet connection and easy navigation were given twice the weight of the other criteria. The evaluations measured a site's usefulness rather than its aesthetic appeal.

Beasley plans to continue regular ratings of HBCUs in an effort to help all of them use their resources to the fullest.

"We will evaluate the performance of all HBCUs, identify the high performers and discover their 'best practices.' Then we will use the Internet itself to teach others how to implement these best practices at their HBCUs," Beasley said.

"We are at the top because we work together as a TSU family. The credit goes not only to the technical staff but also to all the faculty, staff and students who maintain their web pages and keep their information as current as possible," said Khalid Chaudhary, TSU's associate vice president for communication and information technologies.

Inaugural Gore convocation held

Tennessee State University held its inaugural George W. Gore Honors Convocation Nov. 8. Frederick S. Humphries, TSU's fourth president and the current president of the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education, was the guest speaker.

"Dr. Gore believed in quality academics," said Humphries. "He was impeccable in thought, speech and dress."

Humphries said he didn't know how people became "blessed academically," but those who were blessed "have special responsibilities to themselves and others."

"It's important that we be good for all of us in what we do," Humphries said. Then he raised the question, "What's so sacred about the college experience?" He said general education requirements "make you a human being, with purpose, justice, objectivity, taste and choice." He said students' major course of study teaches them self-respect and develops their expertise. He challenged students to go for the "good A," the grade that goes beyond the class assignments and the textbook, that requires "a personal level of commitment."

"You have to exhaust your brightness," said Humphries. "You owe that to the rest of us."

George W. Gore, a TSU faculty member and administrator from 1923 until 1950, founded Alpha Kappa Mu Honor Society at TSU in 1937 to create an honor society for African-American students.



Frederick S. Humphries

TSU and ETS are partners in a new computer-based testing facility

The TSU Computer-Based Testing Center has opened in room 220 of Tennessee State University's Avon Williams campus. This facility administers Educational Testing Service computer-based tests and is the only facility of this type in the Middle Tennessee region affiliated with a college or university. Students from TSU and other colleges in the area will be able to utilize the Computer-Based Testing Center to take the Graduate Record Examination (GRE), Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT), and the initial part of the teacher certification tests, the Praxis I, also known as the Pre-Professional Skills Tests (PPST). The testing lab also will offer the computer-administered Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL).

"TSU students will also be able to use the TSU Computer-Based Testing Center to take tests in information technology and computer fields such as Microsoft, Cisco, or Sun certifications," said center director Yancey Padgett. "It is also expected that the TSU CBT Center will add other computer-administered tests to meet the needs of TSU students as well as those of local businesses or professional organizations."

The TSU Computer-Based Testing Center features six computer workstations plus one adaptive workstation for ETS tests. To schedule an

appointment to take the GRE, GMAT, PPST, and TOEFL, candidates should call 615-963-7386. During the spring 2002 semester the TSU CBT Center is open Monday afternoons and evenings, Tuesday mornings, Thursday mornings and afternoons, and select Saturday mornings. The TSU CBT Center will be open five days a week beginning in July 2002.

Phi Kappa Phi president addresses honors conference

Wendell McKenzie, national president of Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society, was a guest speaker at the National Association of African-American Honors Programs Conference, hosted by the TSU Honors Program.

"You're all about honors, about supporting and encouraging excellence across all disciplines," he told the audience, which consisted of honors students and their sponsors from historically black colleges and schools (HBCUs).

Phi Kappa Phi is the oldest, largest and most selective honor society recognizing all academic disciplines. Phi Kappa Phi has nearly 300 chapters, including two at HBCUs. McKenzie encouraged other HBCUs present to consider applying for a charter. TSU's chapter was the 271st chartered. In closing, McKenzie said, "Each of us in honors has a golden opportunity to lead by example, to inspire, to empower."

Nader brings "Green" ideas to TSU

When Ralph Nader visited the TSU campus, he was asked the question, "Some say that the Democratic Party lost votes because you were in the presidential race in 2000. Considering how close the election was, why didn't you drop out?"

"Why would I drop out?" he responded. "No one's entitled to votes. I didn't run to get someone elected; my goal is to build the Green Party."

Such is the sum total of Ralph Nader's work for more than 30 years. His position is that the dual-party system prevents different ideas from being heard and a third party is the only way to give them a voice. His inspiration came from a similar setting he experienced while a young man at Princeton. Only, this time, he was asking the question of Norman Thomas, who represented the Socialist Party every four years from 1928 to 1948. The question Nader posed was, "What do you consider your greatest achievement?"

The answer: "Having a good part of my agenda stolen by the Democratic Party." Nader said that, if not for third parties, many social changes would not have come about. Abolition of slavery, for example, would not have taken place if not for a struggling third party—the Republican Party. Social Security and unemployment compensation were brought about when third parties made them election issues, as were women's suffrage, the farmers' progressive movement, and the establishment of trade unions.

What does Nader want to see take place today? Nationalized health care, an increased minimum wage, and progressive taxation. He very well may achieve his ambitions; he has an impressive resume. He is considered the primary force behind installation of seat belts and air bags in automobiles, items we take for granted today. He was instrumental in the formation of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, the Environmental Protection Agency,

and the Consumer Product Safety Commission, all regulatory bureaus that Americans depend upon for safety in the workplace and at home. Laws he helped draft and pass include the Safe Drinking Water Act, the Meat and Poultry Inspection Rules, the Air and Water Pollution Control Laws, and the Freedom of Information Act. He has been the force behind numerous citizen action groups, including the Center for Auto Safety, Public Citizen, the Pension Rights Center, and the National Coalition for Universities in the Public Interest.

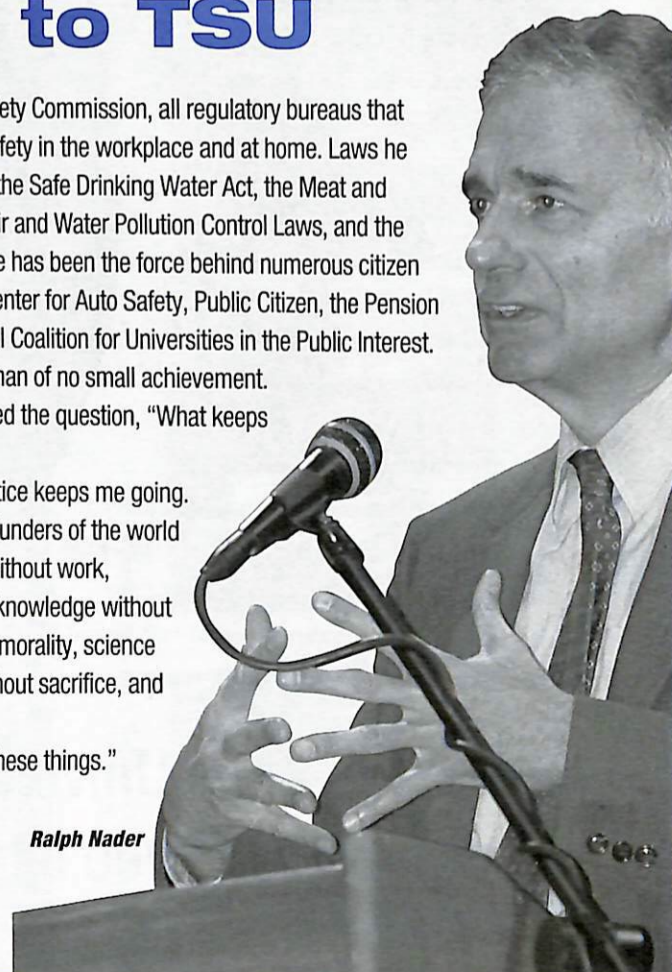
In other words, he is a man of no small achievement.

Nader also was asked the question, "What keeps you going?"

"Justice," he said. "Justice keeps me going. Gandhi said there are seven blunders of the world that lead to violence: wealth without work, pleasure without conscience, knowledge without character, commerce without morality, science without humanity, religion without sacrifice, and politics without principle.

"I'm working to rectify these things."

Ralph Nader



BRIEFS

TSU College of Education continues to meet rigorous professional standards; professional accreditation enhances services to students

Studies show that teacher quality is the most important factor in P-12 (pre-kindergarten through grade 12) student achievement. But how do we know that our children's teachers enter the classroom ready to help children learn? Professional



Leslie Drummond teaches a class in education.

accreditation is one way to ensure the public that schools of education are graduating well qualified teachers prepared for today's classrooms. Tennessee State University's College of

Education has proven its commitment to producing quality teachers for our nation's children by achieving accreditation under the new performance-oriented standards of the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE), the organization responsible for professional accreditation of teacher education.

TSU has one of 60 schools of education that received either initial or continuing accreditation from NCATE in its most recent round of decisions. TSU was one of 17 schools nationwide to be evaluated under NCATE's new standards. NCATE accredits 525 institutions, which produce two-thirds of the nation's new teacher graduates each year. NCATE revises its standards every five years to ensure that the standards reflect a consensus about what is important in teacher preparation today. It only accredits colleges and universities whose graduates earn good scores on tests of subject matter and teaching skills. And teacher candidates must provide NCATE evidence that they can teach effectively.

"We are pleased with the results from our latest accreditation visit, which highlighted our strengths in areas such as faculty qualifications and teachers' knowledge, skills and disposition," said Franklin B. Jones, dean of the TSU College of Education.

The TSU College of Education offers undergraduate and graduate courses on the main campus and at Volunteer State Community College in Gallatin; it offers graduate programs in Columbia, Hohenwald, Lawrenceburg, Waynesboro and Winchester—all in an effort to provide accessible education to teachers and educational administrators in Middle Tennessee.

"We want to make it easy for current and future education professionals to continue their progress toward their bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees," said Jones.

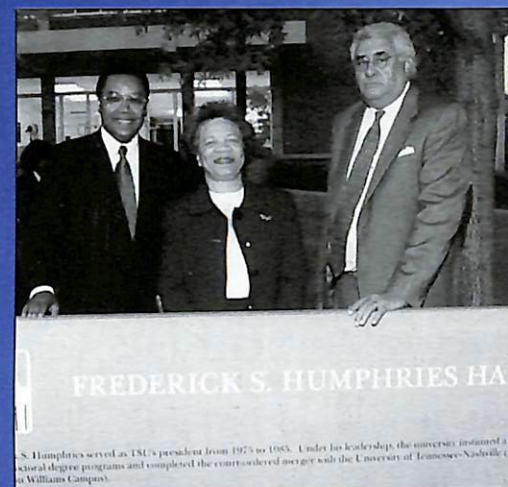
NCATE-accredited schools must meet rigorous standards set by the profession and members of the public. For example, candidates must be prepared to work with diverse student populations.

"We emphasize the multicultural aspects of education so our teachers are prepared to incorporate their understanding and appreciation of diversity into their teaching," said Leslie J. Drummond, associate dean of the TSU College of Education.

Humphries Hall dedicated at TSU

On Nov. 8, Tennessee State University performed the latest of its building dedication ceremonies on behalf of TSU's fourth president. Frederick S. Humphries Hall houses the School of Nursing, Department of Family and Consumer Sciences, Department of Hospitality and Tourism Administration, and TRIO Programs.

Humphries served as TSU's president from 1975 to 1985, during which the university merged with the University of Tennessee-Nashville. From 1985 through 2001, he served as president of Florida A&M University; he currently is president of the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education.



President and Mrs. Hefner, with Fred Humphries

Bernard Crowell, who served as TSU's vice president for academic affairs during Humphries's tenure, reflected on that part of TSU's history during the program.

"He [Humphries] was like Job: he had patience and waited for his time. He was like Solomon [too]. What made him wise was being a dreamer. He found joy in working," said Crowell.

"Nowhere did I labor harder than I did here at Tennessee State University," said Humphries. "Everything I learned at Tennessee State I took with me to Florida A&M. I learned you cannot walk around with a black cloud around your head. You've got to move forward, create momentum."

Humphries said the "supreme idea of a university is that the university is the vessel through which all things are possible. Now you have a chance to build, for there is only one university in Nashville and it is Tennessee State University."

PHOTO OP



The family of **Richard Enochs**, director of the health care administration and planning program, and **Peggy Enochs**, former assistant director of the TSU Honors Program, has received the Harold and Mary Love Family of the Year Award, given in honor of the late **Harold M. Love**, state house representative, District 54, and his wife **Mary Love**, director of TRIO Programs at TSU. The award recognizes contributions "to the community, the state of Tennessee and the human family ... and [the family] whose contributions, examples and achievements best exemplify a living model of what the Tennessee Black Caucus of State Legislators ... endeavors to make attainable for all citizens of the state." The Enochs were applauded for their educational attainments.

The Enochs family on the graduation day of Regina Enochs (left, bachelor's degree) and Peggy Enochs (second from right, doctorate in education). Other family members, from left, are Renee Enochs and Richard Enochs. Regine Lane, Regina Enochs's daughter, is in front.

TSU TECHNOLOGY IN NATIONAL SPOTLIGHT

continued from page 1

TSU-based Project DIANE receives \$1.1 million technology grant

Public schools, non-profit agencies among beneficiaries

A \$1.1 million equipment grant from PictureTel Corporation, a subsidiary of Polycom Corporation based in Milpitas, Calif., has been awarded to Tennessee's Diversified Information and Assistance Network (DIANE) Video Consortium, headquartered at Tennessee State University.

The corporate grant provides Project DIANE a minimum of 114 portable set-top and room-based videoconferencing systems that will significantly increase the number of schools and organizations able to participate in the 10-year-old nonprofit video network. The doubling in Project DIANE membership to almost 200 videoconference sites in Tennessee and other states is expected to generate a large number of new collaborative programs and community services in the areas of science education and literacy, inner-city school collaboration, faith-based community development, mental healthcare, services for the deaf and speech impaired, business consulting and assistance for minority firms, support for immigrant/refugee families and foreign-born workers, and general neighborhood empowerment.

"We'd like to express our most heartfelt appreciation to our corporate supporter for this generous technology donation. As we begin to put this new

equipment to use, I think we'll discover that the community benefits of this grant in bringing people and organizations closer together is several times greater than the simple dollar value of the technology," said Stephen Shao Jr., founding director of Project DIANE. Shao is receiving positive feedback from a variety of new Project DIANE member organizations, including St. George's Day School and the Tennessee Foreign Language Institute.

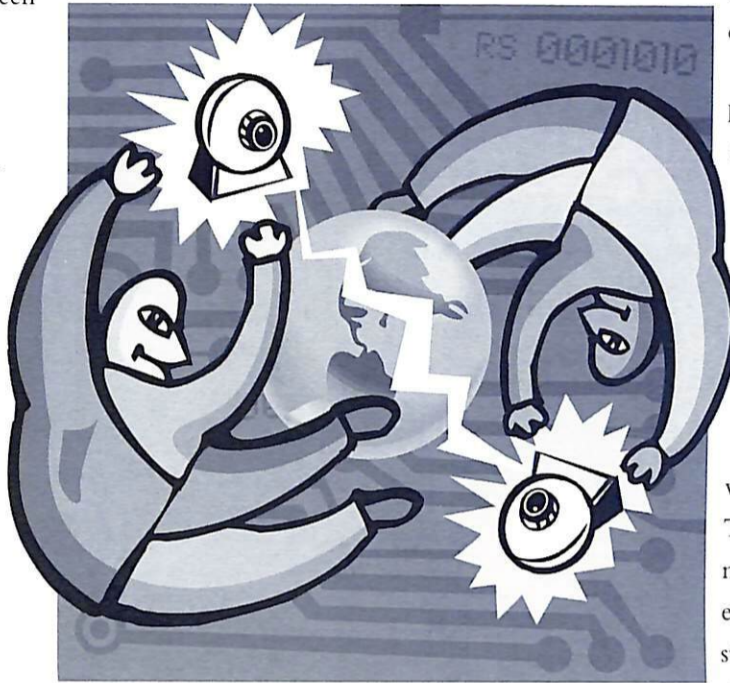
Julene Reed, director of technology at St. George's Day School, in Germantown, Tenn., said her school will be utilizing equipment at a new high school (grades 6 through 12) in Collierville, Tenn. "We see this opportunity as a great method of providing educational experiences and collaborative opportunities, some of which could provide our students college credits," said Reed. "Our students will be able to conduct real-time interviews with experts in many fields, including museum scientists and astronauts. We also hope to provide

videoconferencing topics and speakers for viewing by other participants."

"Thanks to the equipment donations, our Nashville and Memphis offices will be able to provide foreign language and culture services to many more schools, institutions and businesses throughout the state of Tennessee. This contribution to the education of our children is a wonderful example of helping the community," said Martin O. Deschenes, executive director of the Tennessee Foreign Language Institute.

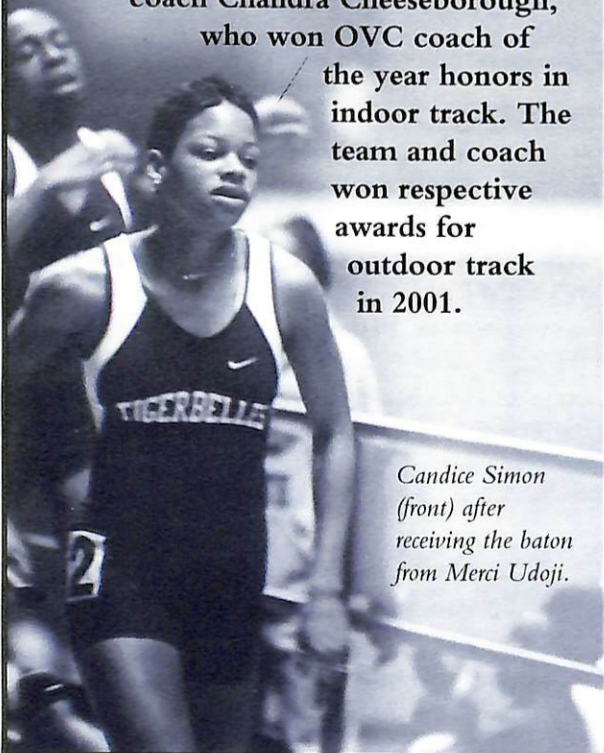
Project DIANE is the largest non-commercial videoconference network currently operating in Tennessee. One of the oldest community-based video networks in the nation, Project DIANE was originally established in 1992 by Tennessee State University with startup funding provided by the Tennessee Valley Authority. Current technical support, training, and

administrative services for Project DIANE are coordinated by the TSU Center of Excellence in Information Systems Engineering and Management, with additional resources and management provided by various member organizations, including the Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce and Vanderbilt University.



Track team takes honors

Congratulations to the Tigerbelles for winning their first Ohio Valley Conference track and field indoor championship this semester. Kudos to coach Chandra Cheeseborough, who won OVC coach of the year honors in indoor track. The team and coach won respective awards for outdoor track in 2001.



Candice Simon (front) after receiving the baton from Merci Udoji.

Another anniversary, accomplishment for the president

TSU president James A. Hefner began his 11th year at the university's helm April 1. Among his recent accomplishments has been his election as secretary of the board of directors of the American Council on Education. Founded in 1918, the American Council on Education is a comprehensive association of the nation's colleges and universities, dedicated to the belief that equal educational opportunity and a strong higher education system are essential cornerstones of a democratic society. Its approximately 1,800 member institutions include accredited, degree-granting colleges and universities from all sectors of higher education, and other education and education-related organizations.

Tennessee State University Foundation meets goal: more than a half million dollars raised

The Tennessee State University Foundation exceeded its goal of \$600,000 for its 21st annual fund-raiser for scholarships, with an additional \$200,000 in funds from alumni and the Tom Joyner Foundation. Delorse Lewis, director of development, and her staff spearheaded the event.

The annual TSU Foundation Dinner honored Sen. Fred Thompson at Opryland Hotel's Tennessee Ballroom. Previous honorees have been baseball legend Hank Aaron, former Tennessee Gov. Ned McWherter, former Nashville Mayor Phil Bredesen, and Tennessee Titans' owner Bud Adams. The past four years alone have garnered \$2 million in funds for scholarships.

"When I was preparing my remarks for tonight I wondered how I would make a connection between national security and contributing to scholarship funds," Thompson said, "and I realized I didn't need to make that connection, that what you're doing here tonight is a matter of national security. Education is the key to a strong national defense, to the technology we use in our weaponry and to the abilities of our armed forces on the front."

A highlight of the evening was the unveiling of a portrait by Nashville artist Malenda Trick, depicting the senator in his roles of statesman, attorney, and movie celebrity.

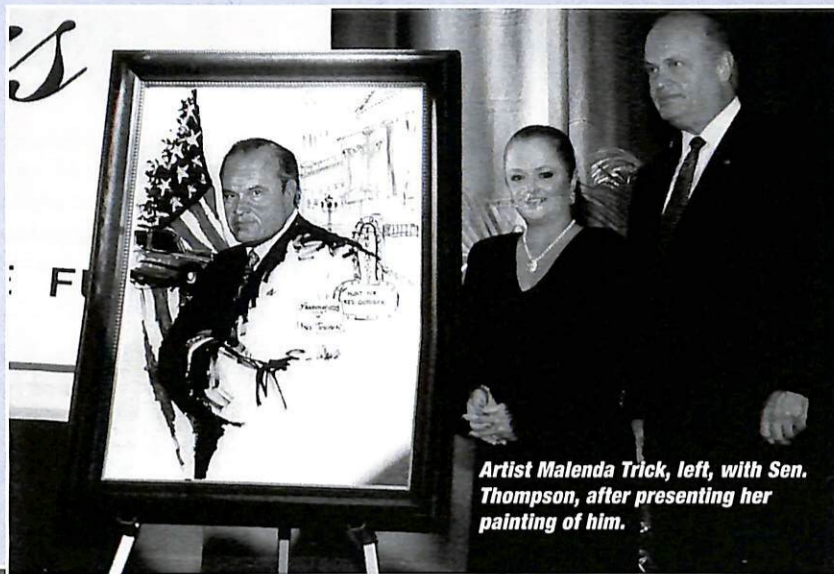
"I said earlier that you're the prototype of a self-made man, Senator, and I think those qualities have been captured on canvas," said TSU President James Hefner. "I present this portrait in thanks for all that you have done for Tennessee State University and its students."

Thompson, who worked his way through college and law school, drew a laugh from audience members when he remarked that teachers from his childhood home of Lawrenceburg, Tenn., would not have associated his name with "scholarship." On a more serious note, he reminded listeners to carry out two seemingly contradictory mandates in the face of new threats of terrorism: be ever vigilant and alert, yet go about business as usual.

"We experienced an unprecedented loss of innocent civilians on our home soil on Sept. 11," Thompson said. "We paid a price for the offense of being Americans or, as representatives of 60 nations did, for being the friends of Americans."

"The only way we will be able not to live in constant fear is to eradicate the problem," he said. "That's what our young men and women are doing in Afghanistan."

Additional pledges to the Tennessee State University "Celebrate Scholars" fund can be made through the TSU Foundation. Call Delorse Lewis, executive director of the TSU Foundation and director of development, at 615-963-5481 for more information.



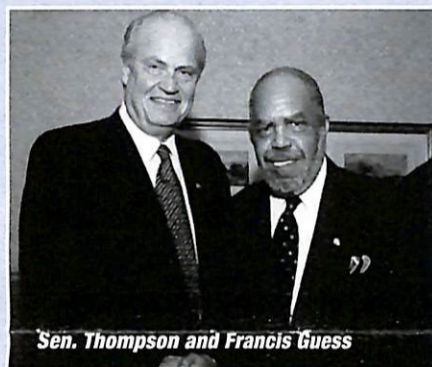
Artist Malenda Trick, left, with Sen. Thompson, after presenting her painting of him.



DeVan Ard, Sen. Thompson, President Hefner



Sen. Thompson greets dinner guests.



Sen. Thompson and Francis Guess



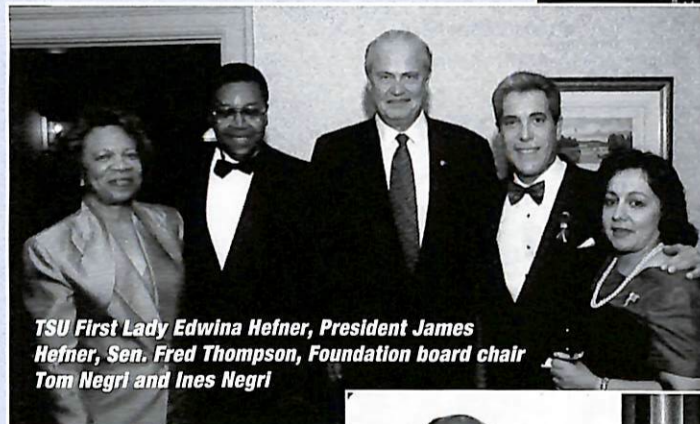
Fred Thompson, Eleanor Chippey Grier, Kenneth Blackburn



Miss TSU Mia Evans (left) and her court



TBR Chancellor Charles Manning, Sherry Manning, Sen. Thompson



TSU First Lady Edwina Hefner, President James Hefner, Sen. Fred Thompson, Foundation board chair Tom Negri and Ines Negri



Lady and Tom Jackson receive recognition for their support of TSU.



Homer Wheaton, Vesna Wheaton, Lillian Thomas, Edwina Hefner

university notables

Gifts, grants and resources

NASA Glenn Research Center has awarded the university the first installment, \$200,000, of a \$764,740 continuing award, bringing total funding to \$1.527 million over a two-year period for "The NASA Engineering and Science Collaborative." **Decatur Rogers** is principal investigator.

The **TSU Cooperative Extension Program** has received \$276,822 for the Small Farmer Assistance Program for the current fiscal year. It also received \$234,776 for the TSU Food Stamp Nutrition Education Program.

Lonnie Sharpe, principal investigator and Massie Professor of Engineering, has received \$100,000 from the NASA Marshall Space Flight Center for the project, "Inspiring Careers in Engineering, Mathematics and Science."

Mohamed Saleh Zein-Sabatto, principal investigator, has received \$147,000 from NASA Ames Research Center for the project, "Embodiment of Intelligent Behaviors on Mobile Robots - Phase II." The grant is a multiple-year award.

New faculty and staff, new appointments

Christon Arthur has been named assistant professor of educational administration.

Jessie Greer has been named power plant engineer in the Department of Facilities Management.

Joyce Maudie has been named softball coach at TSU. She formerly coached at Ole Miss.

Sangho Moon has joined the faculty of the Institute of Government as an assistant professor.

Natalie Norman has joined the Office of Admissions and Records as a recruiter.

Gary Smith has joined the staff of the Center of Excellence for Research and Policy on Basic Skills as an assessment unit coordinator for the Bureau of Evaluation and Research Services.

Xiaotong Zhu has been named academic computing specialist in the Department of Computer Information and Technology.

Departmental and organizational news

Officers for Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society are president **Millicent Lownes-Jackson**, associate dean, College of Business; past president **Clyde Chesney**, director of the Cooperative Extension Program; chapter director **Eric Vogel**, professor of hospitality and tourism administration; vice president **Chino Imediegwu**,

mechanical engineering student; treasurer **Lawrence James**, professor of communications; secretary **Pamela Harquail**, associate professor of educational administration; parliamentarian **Patricia Hull**, professor of physics; and public relations chair **Prem Kahlon**, professor of biology.

TSU's Small Business Development Center has opened a satellite office at 1227 Ninth Avenue North, just north of Jefferson Street. The staff will make twice weekly visits to the satellite office, offering counseling and seminars, as well as eight weeks of classes toward what William Latham, center director, calls a "street MBA." Classes include financial management, marketing, organizational management and financial statement analysis. Initially the center will be open on Monday and Thursday evenings and alternating Saturdays. For a complete schedule, call 615-963-7179.



Metro Councilman at-Large Leo Waters, TSU President James Hefner, Mayor Bill Purcell, Small Business Development Center Director William Latham and Dean of the College of Business Tilden Curry at the ribbon-cutting for the new TSBDC Satellite office.

Research, presentations and publications

Amiri YaSin Al-Hadid, chair of Africana studies, has co-authored a book with Lewis V. Baldwin, *Between the Cross and the Crescent: Christian and Muslim Perspectives on Malcolm and Martin*, published by the University Press of Florida and scheduled for release in this spring.

Denise Dunbar, assistant professor of educational administration, conducted a salary equity study for the Nashville Diocesan School; gathered, developed and disseminated data on teacher salaries for Nashville area Catholic schools; and chaired the strategic planning committee for Nashville Diocesan Schools.

Franklin Jones, dean of the College of Education, moderated a session, "Preparing Teachers and Staff to Work with Diverse Students," at the conference of the Council of the Great City Schools.

Yvonne Stringfield, director of the bachelor's degree program in nursing, completed the Management Development Program at Harvard University. She also spent two weeks in Manaus, Brazil, as part of a research

team to collect data on HIV and AIDS in indigenous populations in Brazil. **Gary Linn**, professor of nursing and principal investigator, also traveled to Brazil.

Maria Browning, animal specialist, and **Richard Browning**, animal scientist, served on a panel and spoke at the inaugural meeting of the Tennessee Goat Producers Association.



Maria Browning (right) receives a plaque in honor of her involvement with the Tennessee Goat Producers Association.

Three public administration faculty members represented TSU's Institute of Government to the Southeastern Conference on Public Administration. **Rodney Stanley**, assistant professor, presented a paper, "Measuring the Impact of Gaming Revenue on State and Local Per Pupil Expenditures in Mississippi." His article, "Can Students Enjoy the Benefit of State Lottery Revenues?," will be published in the *Social Science Journal*. **Arie Halachmi**, professor, received the Harold Lasswell Award for outstanding scholarship in "the substance and process of public policy" by the Policy Students Organization. He chaired two awards committees for the conference and also chaired the panel, "Performance Measurement: Applications and Practices" and delivered a paper, "Performance Measurement, Accountability and Productivity: What is Desired and What is Feasible." **Ann-Marie Rizzo**, department head, chaired and moderated the panel on "Ethics from the International and Global Perspectives" and served on a panel on "Moral Development and Ethics in Diverse Settings."

Almose A. Thompson, professor of educational administration, served as managing editor for the *Southeast Journal of Urban Education* and *Tennessee Black Health Care Commission Quarterly*.

John Williams, assistant professor of educational administration, published two articles on the Internet: "Why Ground Pledging/Hazing Continues in Black Fraternities" and "Hazing in Black Fraternities."

Honors, awards and achievements

Jane Asamani, Johnanna Grimes, Carol Helton, Ken Looney, Bobby Lovett and **Oscar Miller** received the Tennessee Board of Regents Online Degree Program's Trailblazer Award for their efforts to make the initial online degree program a success.

The **TSU College of Education** is a partner member with the University of Tennessee-Knoxville on the University Council of Educational Administration. The partnership is the first step toward full-fledged membership. TSU is the first historically black institution to have earned this distinction. TSU's College of Education also is the only one within an HBCU accredited by the American Psychological Association.

Pamela Foster, director of student publications and instructor in the Department of Communications, was named to the curatorial committee that is planning the 2003 Smithsonian Folklife Festival in Washington, D.C. In that role, she is responsible for ensuring that African Americans in country music are well represented at the annual two-week festival of American culture. Foster is the author of two books about African Americans in country music. The most recent one is *My Country, Too: The Other Black Music*.

PHOTO OP

Several TSU nursing students participated in a "Walk About" in North Nashville, part of REACH (Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health) at Matthew Walker Health Center. The students documented changes in the community, recording both assets and liabilities, which they reported to the appropriate local government agencies.



Edward Graves, director of university bands, served as a judge for the American Music Education Initiative, sponsored by the National Music Foundation.

Samuel Polk, director of facilities management, has been elected president of the Southeastern Regional Association of Physical Plant Administrators of Universities and Colleges. He is the first African American to be elected president in the organization's 50-year history. The southeast region includes the states of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, and the territories of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

Monetha Reaves, director of academic enrichment, has been elected president of the Tennessee Association for Developmental Education.

Alumni news

Toreaser A. Steele and **Edith P. Mitchell** have achieved the rank of brigadier general in the U.S. military, Steele in the Air Force and Mitchell in the Air National Guard. The advanced rank requires nomination by the President of the United States and approval by the Senate.

Leland H. Gregory III, a master's degree graduate, released his book, *What's the Number for 9-1-1 Again?* last fall, the latest in a series of similar books, including *America's Dumbest Criminals*.

Ralph Hill, class of 1975, has been named Lexmark's first corporate environmental attorney. Prior to being named to that position, he was corporate programs manager in the department of environment, health and safety.

Edward Stevenson, class of 1980, was named to the *Nashville City Paper's* "Top Ten to Watch 2002." The daily paper noted him for his entrepreneurship with Kijiji Coffee House on Jefferson Street and his planned development of a mini-mall at 12th Avenue North and Jefferson.

Deborah Stewart has been named case manager at Alive Hospice. She previously was a regional director at Tennessee Coordinated Care Network.

Tennessee State University honored **Lillian Dunn Thomas**, class of 1935, at the 21st Annual TSU Foundation Dinner for her contributions to the university and the community at large, including dedicated work with foundations, non-profit organizations, schools and her church.

Three TSU alumni were named to *The Tennessean's* "40 people under 40 who are making our communities better . . . today." They are **Mae Ruth Wright Banks**, class of 1997, assistant director at the Tennessee Technology Center; **Christopher Ricardo Buford**, class of 1992, an assistant district attorney; and **Jamye Marie Merritt**, class of 1985, a career placement specialist with Metropolitan Nashville-Davidson County Schools.

Student news

Sydika Banks, a chemistry major, has been selected as a recipient of the Pfizer Undergraduate Fellowship for 2002, a \$12,000 award that covers training in organic research.

Mary Downey, Cindy Thompson and **Dawn Woodall** served as delegates to the Tennessee Student Nurses Association State Convention. Thompson was elected vice president of the organization. TSU nurses received three awards at the convention: the 2001 Legislative Award for having more than 100 TSU nursing students at Capitol Hill Day 2001; the Tennessee State University 2001 Silver Medal Award for having 46 TSNA members, the second highest in the state; and the Tennessee Association of Student Nurses 2001 Outstanding Chapter Award.

The **TSU Forensics Team** won 11 awards at two recent national tournaments: the Georgia Mountains Laurel Tournament, hosted by the Georgia Intercollegiate Forensic Association, and the Autumn in the Mountains Tournament, hosted by Berry College.

Correction

The last issue of *Accent* reported incorrectly that Caron Peterson had been named program director of social work. She is director of the Families First grant program in the social work program. Vicki Gardine Williams serves as director of the TSU social work program. *Accent* regrets the error.

MLK Day 2002: FOCUSING ON THE FAIR

Once again, Nashville's celebration of Martin Luther King Jr. Day culminated in a convocation at Tennessee State University, following a city-wide march. The speaker, Bishop Vashti Murphy McKenzie, inspired the record crowd to maintain the spirit of the march and the "dream he deposited in our lives."

"One of the earliest lessons we learn is to play fair," said McKenzie, "to be gracious winners and good losers and to shake hands after." She then proceeded to talk about different aspects of living, using the word "fair":

- ◆ Fair-omics: Those who work should earn a fair wage. Everyone should participate [as] producers and consumers and have equal access to tools for economics.
- ◆ Fair-ism (the influence of "fair"): Whatever community you live in, you should have a say, vote your choice, run [for election] if you have the qualifications. Every child should have a chance to learn. One group does not have a right to have more than another—add water to the soup to feed everyone.
- ◆ Fair access: Exposes classist and racist tactics and causes. "Unfair" never liked "fair" in the first place.
- ◆ Fair-ology: The fair-mindedness of God. Coaches who make sure we play fair [include] Christ, as well as Moses, Ezra, Nehemiah, Deborah and David [Old Testament figures]. The Martin Luther King prophecy transcended the Civil Rights Movement to bring back the fair-mindedness of God. His congregation became the whole world."

McKenzie warned that in the wake of the Sept. 11 tragedy, Americans should "watch it or we will bring up a hate that will rise up against people who worship in a mosque." At the same time, she encouraged the audience to take positive action.

"Martin Luther King was a coach of fair play and justice. He became personally involved. How many of us are willing to become



Nashville Mayor Bill Purcell (left) and Chief of Police and alumnus Emmett Turner march through the TSU campus to the rally.

personally involved?" said McKenzie. She praised King for joining unlikely people, "those who had nothing to lose and those who had everything to gain." She spoke confidently of the attitude she suggested for facing tough times: "Every time the heat of the oven is turned up, the biscuits don't burn; they just rise a little higher."

Rev. James Thomas, president of the Interdenominational Ministers Fellowship, which plans and implements the city-wide march and the convocation along with TSU, estimated that 7,000 people attended the convocation. The program also included a processional by the Village Drum and Dance Ensemble; a flag ceremony by the Girl Scout Council of Cumberland Valley and Middle Tennessee Council of Boy Scouts of America; brief remarks by Nashville Mayor Bill Purcell, Rabbi Kenneth Kanter and John G. Corry, chaplain of Meharry Medical College and Metropolitan Nashville General Hospital; and musical selections by the PC Community Choir.



Bishop Vashti Murphy McKenzie, keynote speaker for King Day

"Our nation is at war, but we can live by the principles of Dr. King—principles that have become the cornerstone of our nation—and trust that justice will prevail and that 'we shall overcome,'" said TSU president James A. Hefner to the participants.



Representatives from Middle Tennessee Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts lead the Pledge of Allegiance.



Members of the Village Drum and Dance Ensemble share their talents with the audience.

Quotable QUOTES

Education is the key to a strong national defense.

—**Sen. Fred Thompson**
at the TSU Foundation Dinner

Nowhere did I labor harder than I did here at Tennessee State University.

—**Fred Humphries**
former TSU president,
at the dedication of the
Frederick S. Humphries Hall

Each of us in honors has a golden opportunity to lead by example, to inspire, to empower.

—**Wendell McKenzie**
national president of
Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society at an honors
conference hosted by TSU

Every time the heat of the oven is turned up, the biscuits don't burn; they just rise a little higher.

—**Bishop Vashti McKenzie**
keynote speaker for
Martin Luther King Jr. Day

**For information on the consent decree, see the following web site:
<http://www.tnstate.edu/coordinatingcommittee>**

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An aluminum mobile sculpture by Jane-Allen McKinney, assistant professor of art, recently was featured in the "Kentucky's Women Artists: 1970-2000" exhibition. The work is titled "Red Haired Dancer: Kinetic Cubism Comes Around" and is 60"x27"x27". Other works created by McKinney include the "Commitment to Excellence" mobile in TSU's McWherter Administration Building.

We remember

Alger V. Boswell, a 1962 TSU graduate and renowned teacher and actor, died Jan. 18 after an automobile accident in Indiana. He was the son of Nashville's Ethel Boswell and the late Alger V. Boswell, a former vice president at TSU. A resident of Gary, Ind., Boswell was a retired drama-speech teacher for Gary Community Schools and was the founder of the Gary Theatre Ensemble. He also wrote columns for various newspapers and played small roles in films and television shows, including *America's Most Wanted*.

Ed Martin, former TSU men's basketball coach, died Feb. 25 at age 76 of complications from back surgery. Martin won more than 500 games as a head coach at TSU and South Carolina State University. He left TSU to become an assistant basketball coach at Vanderbilt, where he served on the faculty until his retirement in 2001. Martin also pitched in the Negro Leagues until an arm injury shortened his career.

Roland Norman, retired dean of TSU's School of Agriculture, died Jan. 16 after a seizure in his home in Nashville. Norman's career at TSU spanned almost 40 years. He received many awards for his work in animal science, including the Distinguished University Ambassador Award in 1997 and the American Society of Agronomy's "Ag Man of the Year" Award in 1979. In 1997, Norman was inducted into the TSU Agriculture and Home Economics Hall of Fame.