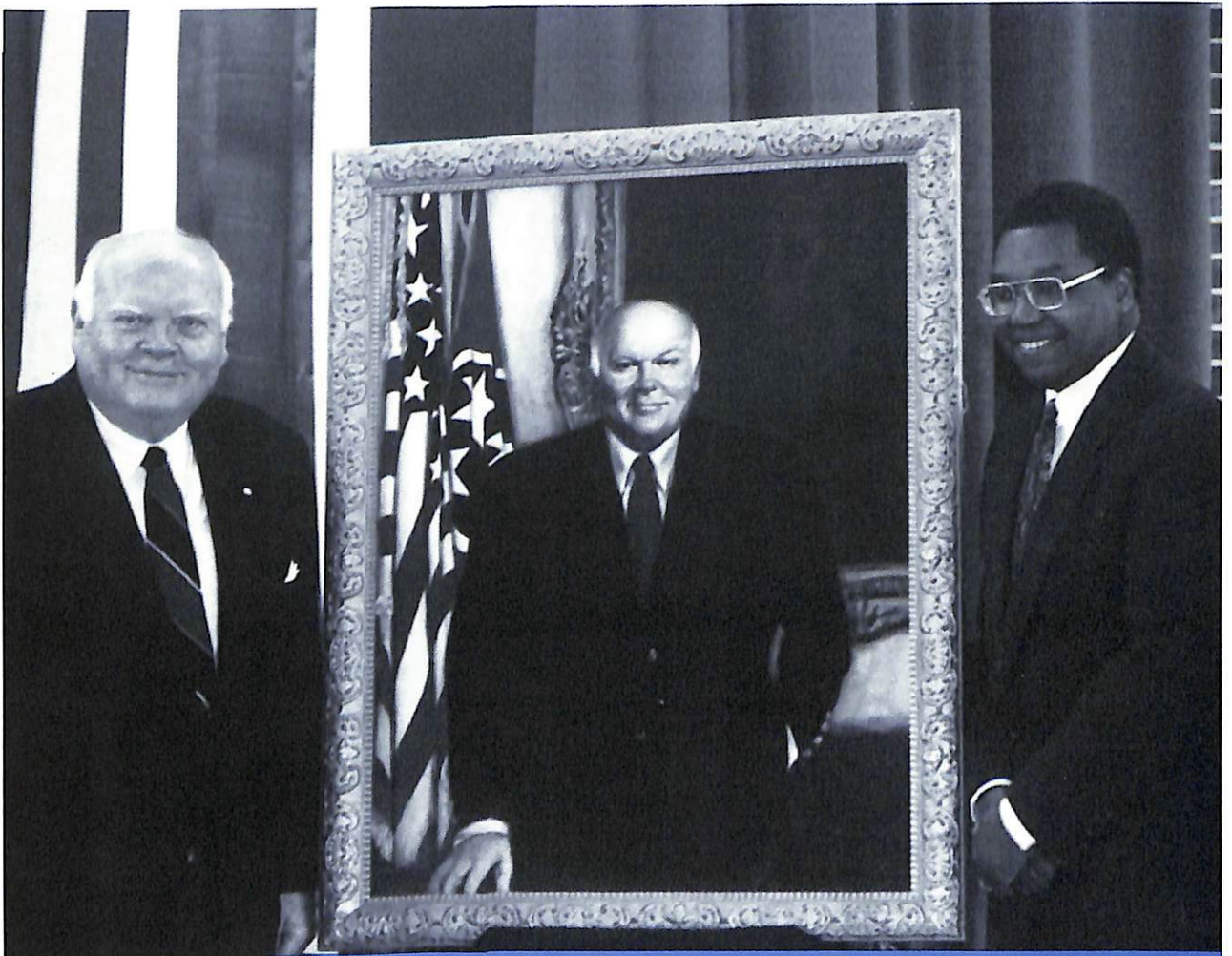


ACCENT

TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

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The Honorable Ned McWherter and TSU President James Hefner with a portrait of the former governor, namesake of the new administration building.

 **TENNESSEE**
STATE *University*

IN THIS ISSUE:

Homecoming photo recall ... dedications of the administration building and hall of fame room ... growth in giving to the University ... a look at learning disabilities

ACCENT

TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

An administration building for an education governor

TSU recently dedicated the Ned Ray McWherter Administration Building, named for the former Tennessee governor who led efforts to improve K-12 and higher education in the state through equity mandates and increased funding.

"When you get to be on the dark side of 65 years, every day the good Lord lets you be on this earth is special, but as I look around this beautiful campus, I can tell you today is better than most," McWherter said.

The dedication gave the former governor occasion to recall another day, approximately 10 years prior, when he was speaker of the house. Four young men were milling around outside his office "looking awfully lost" and "like they sure needed some help."

"They were looking for anyone who would take an interest in their university," said McWherter. "They convinced me to come to their campus and see the conditions they were living and learning in.

They wanted me to understand that the education which was taking place on their campus was happening in spite of the facilities they had and only because of the dedication of the faculty, staff and students."

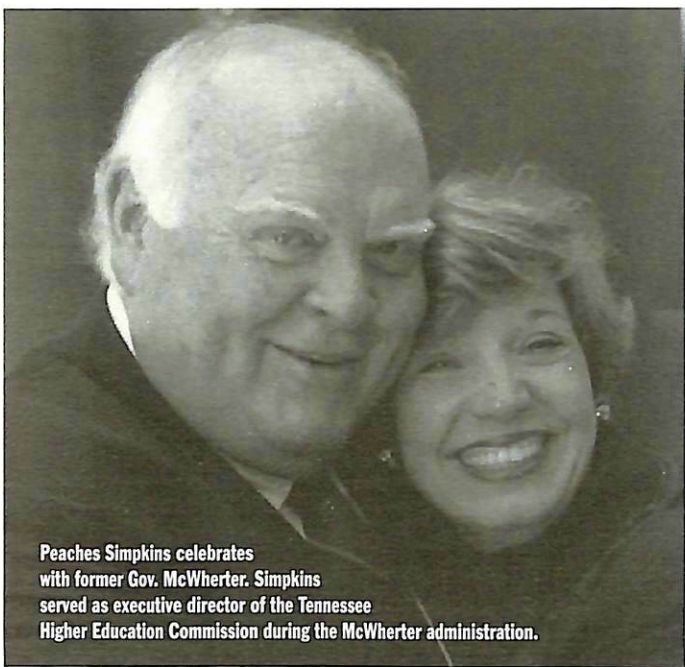
The students were Greg Carr, Gus Macedo, Tony Spratlen and Fred Brown of TSU. The visit was a success.

"They convinced me that day that what had happened to TSU was not right," said McWherter, who also praised former Tennessee Board of Regents Chancellor Otis Floyd, who launched the \$112 million capital improvements project while he was president at TSU.

"As I look across the way and see one of the most attractive and functional student centers on any campus in this country, I can't help but think of my friend Otis Floyd. He loved this campus. He gave it his heart and soul. He would have been proud of the building we dedicate today. He might even enjoy the fact that his building is a little bigger than the one behind me, but I'm pretty proud of this one.



Brian Harris, president of the Student Government Association, greets guests. On the platform are (l to r) Augustus Bankhead, vice president for academic affairs; James Hefner, president; former Gov. Ned McWherter; State Sen. Thelma Harper; U.S. Congressman Bob Clement; State Rep. Edith Taylor Langster; Bryant Millsaps, former executive director, Tennessee Higher Education Commission; and Peaches Simpkins.



Peaches Simpkins celebrates with former Gov. McWherter. Simpkins served as executive director of the Tennessee Higher Education Commission during the McWherter administration.

"Otis Floyd and all the other 45,000 graduates of TSU accomplished something that Governor Ned McWherter will never accomplish. They all got college degrees."

Raised the son of sharecropping parents in Northwest Tennessee, McWherter had to go to work after high school because he could not afford to go to college, but he spent his extensive political career giving young people the opportunity to learn. During his administration, Gov. McWherter launched the 21st Century Schools Plan, which provided for equalization of funding and higher performance standards for K-12 schools and released a flood of support for Tennessee higher education. For TSU, that meant millions of dollars to support the campus master plan — funding unprecedented in state higher education. That \$112 million meant eight new buildings, renovated facilities and a campus with unparalleled beauty and technology.

TSU President James Hefner said, "Only Ned Ray McWherter could have done something no other governor could have done — convince a legislature to commit millions of dollars to a historically black institution. His move was unprecedented and praiseworthy.

"Tennessee State University is the only institution of higher education to receive more than \$100 million at one time for construction and renovation. Only a governor who was

a man of the people and held in the highest esteem could have accomplished this task."

In typical humor, McWherter concurred. "The truth is, this building deserves my name. We built this building out of scraps and leftovers. We took some out of this account and some out of that until we had \$4 million. Scraps and leftovers . . . I'm proud to be associated with it in that way."



Tennessee Board of Regents Chancellor Charles Smith



The state Otis L. Floyd

Sundquist continues the course for TSU

Gov. Don Sundquist has continued the work of Gov. McWherter by putting TSU at the top of the priority list for capital projects for the state's higher education system, ensuring that TSU will have funding to complete its master plan. Deputy Gov. and Chief of Staff Peaches Simpkins, who represented Sundquist at the dedication, said, "In this bicentennial year, we are creating a state of opportunity, with no ceilings. For many, that begins with TSU.

"We appreciate the inspiration this campus gives. A new era is opening for TSU and we look forward to a continuing partnership with TSU."

Chancellor calls TSU "now" campus

Praising governors McWherter and Sundquist, Tennessee Board of Regents (TBR) Chancellor Charles Smith said, "You saw the need. You said 'Let's do it,' and you backed it with the money to make it happen." He also complimented the leadership of TSU president

James Hefner and former TSU president and TBR chancellor Otis Floyd.

"Dr. Hefner, the political leadership of this state has given you a tremendous jump into the 21st century. You are the 'now' campus of the Tennessee Board of Regents," Smith said.

SHE MARSHALLS GOLD

At age 19, Wyomia Tyus won gold in the 100-meter dash at the 1964

Olympics in Tokyo. She was the first Olympic athlete to successfully defend her sprint title in a subsequent Olympiad by claiming the gold again at the 1968 games in Mexico City, when she was 23 and — in the days before the Carl Lewises and Jackie Joyner-Kersees appeared — supposedly too old to win.



Tyus receives her award at a pregame reception.

“People thought I was washed up,” Tyus told *People* magazine, but she proved them wrong by repeating her championship — and taking home another gold from the 4x100-meter relay. The dynamic sprinter returned to her alma mater as grand marshal of the 1996 Homecoming Parade.

True to her belief that “life is bigger than sport,” Tyus has spent years serving others in the fields of education, politics and public service. Currently, she is a naturalist at an outdoor education camp run by the Los Angeles Unified School District.



Wyomia Tyus, Ed Temple and Edith McGuire Duvall

news

Enrollment climbs again

At a time when many colleges and universities are experiencing static or decreasing enrollments, Tennessee State University's enrollment continues to rise. The number of students attending the University is up again this year, climbing to 8,643. Enrollment for the same period last year was 8,448. Graduate enrollment this fall reached a high of 1,641.



TSU President James Hefner said that as the University's reputation for academic excellence becomes more widely recognized, more students are selecting TSU to achieve their educational goals.

He said, “As our reputation expands, we will continue to build our academic programs to help students excel in the 21st century.”

Augustus Bankhead, vice president for academic affairs, said, “I believe it is a combination of providing students with the best possible learning opportunities; with a caring, yet stimulating faculty; and with programs, tools and facilities that students need to compete in the marketplace that has allowed Tennessee State University to emerge as a pacesetter.”

College of Education earns NCATE accreditation

The TSU College of Education has earned 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.

According to Franklin Jones, dean of the College of Education, “The College was fully accredited, with all standards met and no weaknesses cited, a rarity in the



teacher accreditation arena.” Jones indicated that only 40 percent or so of teacher education programs in the country are accredited, and of those, no more than 2 to 3 percent have no weaknesses specified.

The TSU College of Education is one of 66 schools of education that received either initial or continuing accreditation by NCATE's Unit Accreditation Board in its most recent round of decisions.

Schools seeking NCATE accreditation under its redesigned system must meet high standards in areas including quality of faculty and graduates and program excellence. On-site visits, document reviews and accreditation decisions are carried out by professionals from the education community, including teachers and teacher educators, as well as education policymakers and school specialists.

NCATE is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education and the Commission on Recognition of Postsecondary Accreditation as the only accrediting body for schools, departments and colleges of education.

Speech pathologist receives \$700,000+ for program

Tempii Champion, assistant professor in the Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology, recently was awarded funding for her proposed project, “Preparing Graduate Students and Providing Specialty Training for Professionals in Speech Language Pathology to Serve Minority Populations.” The U.S. Department of Education will provide \$708,000 over a four-year period. During that time, 18 full-time and 20 part-time master's degree students in speech language pathology will complete a specialization in multicultural literacy. To acquire the specialization, students will complete both academic coursework and supervised clinical training.

Champion said graduates of the program will possess much-needed skills for serving a diverse clientele competently. She adds,

“Because graduates of this program will receive

comprehensive practical training in multicultural

education, they also can

expect to enhance the understanding and

appreciation of cultural diversity of their co-workers

and administration. They

will engage in ongoing

research and learning in

multicultural education,

develop valuable leadership

skills and know about

numerous multicultural resources available to educators, speech language pathologists and other professionals.”

“This grant will allow us to continue to provide people with services that embrace different cultures,” said Andrew Bond, dean of the School of Allied Health Professions. “TSU needs to lead the way in teaching professionals innovative and progressive ways through which they can offer clients the best, most specifically applicable, treatment for their speech language needs.”



Tempii Champion

Avon chooses TSU as place to establish first scholarship

In an unprecedented move, representatives from Avon Products Corporation have presented \$10,000 to TSU officials to establish a scholarship in memory of Sylvia Collier Coleman, a 1974 graduate of the University.

“This is the first time Avon has done this type of thing (establish a scholarship in the name of an employee), but we wanted to perpetuate the legacy of this remarkable woman,” said Avon representative John Fleming.

“We've always felt strongly about Sylvia Collier Coleman's contributions both as an employee of Avon and an alumnus of Tennessee State University. Avon has always felt that education was the first step along the road to success and we are pleased to be a part of this scholarship program.”

continued on page 3



John Fleming, vice president for sales, Avon South and West, presents a check to President Hefner to establish the corporation's first scholarship at a college, in memory of TSU alumna Sylvia Collier Coleman. Also on hand were (l-r) Toledia DeGraffenreid-Davis, general manager, Avon South; William Coleman, husband of the late Sylvia Collier Coleman; Margaret Whitfield, director of alumni relations; and Delorse Lewis, director of development and executive director of the TSU Foundation.

The late Sylvia Collier Coleman, who resided in Atlanta, became an Avon sales representative after she decided to stay home when her second son was born. She soon achieved such sales success that she earned The Circle of Excellence Award in eight of her 14 years of service, and she was featured in several national magazines for her skills. Prior to joining Avon, Coleman worked for Fulton County Government, Coca-Cola and Brown & Williamson Tobacco Company. In 1981, she began working for Avon and soon earned a position as district sales manager, through which she motivated hundreds of sales representatives to achieve success. In addition to winning a number of awards, she served on the National Avon African-American Council.

Agriculture and Home Economics Hall of Fame names first inductees

Fourteen former faculty members, administrators and alumni recently were inducted into the Tennessee State University Agriculture and Home Economics Hall of Fame. They include Mattye Flowers, the first state advisor to the Tennessee New Homemakers of America Association and department head of home economics; Sam Jones, whose gift of land recently established the University's first charitable trust; and Fred Westbrook, former head of the Department of Plant Science, Agronomy and Horticulture.

Inducted posthumously were Walter Davis, TSU's second president; Walter A. Flowers, the first director of field services at Tennessee A&I College (now Tennessee State University); Wilfrid Lawson, first director of agriculture; James E. Farrell, first administrator of the Cooperative Extension Program; David Hamilton and



Being inducted into the Agriculture and Home Economics Hall of Fame is a family affair for Fred Westbrook (holding picture), former head of the Department of Plant Science, Agronomy and Horticulture.

Major Spaulding, former deans of the School of Agriculture and Home Economics; and Bessie Walton, home demonstration agent for extension.

Others inducted posthumously were Gilbert W. Senter Sr., who served as farm manager and instituted the first 4-H programs in Davidson and Williamson counties, as well as the state summer 4-H camp for African Americans; Geraldine Fort Hale, former professor of textiles and clothing; Henry L. Taylor, former professor and head of the Department of Agriculture Education; and Christine Alexander, former professor of food and nutrition.

Ivory Lyles, administrator for TSU's Cooperative Extension Program, said, "Since TSU was designated a land-grant university, many individuals have labored tirelessly to carry out the University's mission and have contributed greatly to the growth of the agriculture, home economics, research and extension programs.

"Without these people and their efforts, we would not be where we are today — a major international university which supports educational activities throughout the world."

Encouraging minorities to become engineers

The math is simple: Fifteen percent of the United States population is African American, but fewer than four percent of African Americans are engineers.

To ensure that more qualified minority engineers enter the nation's workforce, Tennessee State University hosted the Advancing Minorities' Interest in Engineering (AMIE) Conference earlier this fall. The conference brought together representatives from Fortune 250 companies and engineering deans from historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) to offer solutions for increasing the numbers of minorities in engineering.

Decatur Rogers, dean of the College of Engineering and Technology at TSU, said, "It is imperative that business leaders and educators work



Decatur Rogers, dean of the College of Engineering and Technology, meets with corporate executives at the national conference for Advancing Minorities Interest in Engineering. TSU hosted this year's conference.

together to encourage minorities to choose engineering as a career. If America is to continue to compete in a global marketplace, we must effectively use all of our human resources and foster diversity as an essential business strategy for the 21st century."

"We're good. We don't have anything to apologize for," Carolyn Meyers, dean of the College of Engineering at North Carolina A&T University, said of HBCUs in her address to the AMIE Conference.

TSU is one of nine HBCUs nationwide which offers programs in engineering. These programs combined educate approximately 30 percent of the country's African-American engineers. In addition, TSU has been listed in *Black Issues in Higher Education* as one of the nation's top producers of African-American engineers.

Initiatives for agriculture

"Making America strong depends on continued support for agriculture research," said TSU President James Hefner. To that end, the University recently hosted the USDA/1890 Task Force Meeting, during which USDA officials met with administrators from TSU and 16 other historically black colleges and universities, which comprise the land-grant institutions supported by the Second Morrill Act, passed in 1890 to provide funding to black schools. Participants discussed initiatives which could lead to additional agriculture research, increased funding and university improvements.

Several new programs and facilities at the University have resulted from initiatives cultivated in earlier USDA/1890 Task Force meetings. They include the Otis L. Floyd Nursery Research Center in McMinnville, Tenn., and the USDA Scholars Program, which allows recipients to study agriculture and related sciences at TSU and provides the USDA with graduates for its 28 agencies.

Research projects conducted by the TSU Cooperative Agricultural Research Program include studies on the effect of fertilizers on soybean growth, genetic engineering of American elms for enhancing disease resistance and the improvement of soybean for food and feed uses, as well as other areas that directly affect the economic growth of Tennessee's agriculture.

A WOMAN OF ACHIEVEMENT

"I never thought that as a girl growing up in Watertown, Tenn., I would have conversations with mayors, governors and presidents," said Inez Crutchfield, honoree for Homecoming 1996. But Crutchfield



Inez Crutchfield gets a Homecoming hug from friend and colleague Carrie Gentry.

has always believed that women deserve a voice in politics. Because of her convictions, she has become a leader in the Democratic party, on both local and state levels. She was the first African-American president of the Democratic Women's Club of Davidson County, and the first African-American female to represent the State of Tennessee at the Democratic National Convention.

"It is important for women to be involved. People refer to women as minorities, when in reality, they are the majority. We need [women's] expertise in the political arena," Crutchfield said.

In addition to her political service, Crutchfield taught at the University for 37 years in the Department of Health, Physical Education and Recreation. Last year, the Nashville YWCA inducted her into its Academy of Women of Achievement.



Inez Crutchfield, noted for her dedication to politics, with Jesse Russell, notable engineer of cellular phone technology.

LIBRARY GIVES SPACE FOR ART'S SAKE

On October 17, the Brown-Daniel Library opened its Art Corner, a portion of the first floor which will display the works of area artists. The Art Corner features the works of R. Lafayette Mitchell, Larry Lebron Scott, Vivian Walker, William Johnson and Greg Ridley, many of whom have donated their works to the library or the University. The artists were



honored by James Threaskill, an artist and representative of Nashville Mayor Phillip Bredesen's office.

Those wishing to view the artworks in the library may do so during regular library hours: Monday - Thursday, 7:30 a.m. - 11:45 p.m.; Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; and Sunday, 2 - 11:45 p.m.

"I just wanted to lower your blood pressure and make you glad for the world God created," said Vivian Walker, a local artist known for her nature scenes.

"As we move rapidly into the 21st century, we must not only celebrate that science and technology advance society but that the arts sustain and preserve it," said TSU President James Hefner.

"Art is alive, and if you adopt a piece of art, you will take home a part of the artist's imagination, [his or her] feelings come to life," said Loretta Divens, curator of the Art Corner.



Art Corner guests enjoy the paintings.

news

Nursing professional leads menopause support groups

"If menopause is to become an integrated part of life rather than the separated crisis it now is, women must define and share their own experience," said Paula Weideger. TSU nursing professor Mary Pleas agrees and is forming a "sharing support group" for women to address the issues that accompany perimenopause and menopause.

Pleas said, "Many women have anxiety when they do not know what to anticipate or how to cope with some of the changes of perimenopause and menopause." For that reason, she invites women on the Tennessee State University campus and surrounding community who want to learn more about menopause or express their feelings about going through this stage to join the support group. The group will discuss such topics as signs of perimenopause; normal reproductive changes; coping with hot flashes or flushes; the importance of a calcium-rich diet; coping effectively with lifestyle changes; the importance of exercise, rest and relaxation; life after menopause; and facts on hormone replacement therapy.

"According to the literature, most women enter perimenopause around their mid- to late-forties. However, the range is from 40 to 60 years of age," said Pleas.

There is no age requirement or fee for the group, which will meet in the TSU School of Nursing for four to six sessions during the academic year. The exact number of meetings will depend on the needs of the participants. Persons interested may contact Pleas at 963-5262.

Phi Delta Kappa asks, "Do we still need public schools?"

Earlier this fall, Phi Delta Kappa, a professional education fraternity, launched a national series of forums on the question "Do we still need public schools?" The first session was held at Tennessee State University. Participants from Metro Nashville/Davidson County Schools discussed and answered questions about the purposes of public education, took a standardized achievement test, and decided what they would keep and change about public schools.

For those attending the forum, the most important purpose of public schools is to prepare people to

become responsible citizens and to help them become economically self-sufficient. Other priorities for public schools include improving social conditions, promoting



John Seigenthaler, director of the Freedom Forum First Amendment Center at Vanderbilt, who spoke at the Phi Delta Kappa Forum, and Vera Owens, academic advisor at TSU and co-director of the forum

cultural unity, and enhancing individual happiness and enriching individual lives. Participants said schools need public funding to dispel inequities in education and ensure a basic level of quality among schools.

Participants said they favored increasing the amount of time children spend in school and believe people of different races and ethnic groups should be represented in the student bodies of public schools. A high percentage of participants thought high school students should be required to perform community service and that wearing uniforms would help maintain order in schools.

In the middle of the discussion, participants took an achievement test similar to one given to high school students. The group average of those attending the forum (6.68 out of 10) fell below the group average for the students (7.4 out of 10).

To conclude the forum, participants offered their suggestions of what changes should be made in public schools and what activities and qualities should remain with public schools. Some recommended changes include improving teacher education, retraining of underperforming teachers, improving public awareness of public schools, encouraging more parental involvement, securing more funding, increasing the role of technology, implementing more effective channels for communication, and expanding curricular options so they are more meaningful.

Participants thought their public schools should keep creative and dedicated teachers, caring administrators, and a commitment to inclusion and "success for all." They applauded efforts to give students as many choices as possible for learning, decrease dropout rates, maintain

diversity, continue site-based character education and "keep public schools public."



Yildiz Binkley, director of libraries and media, Murle Kenerson, reference librarian, and Mary Bess Dunn, associate professor of teaching and learning, review the agenda for the forum, "Do we still need public schools?"

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

19th Annual University-wide Research Days March 24-25, 1997

Abstract Deadlines

Oral Presentation: January 15, 1997

Poster Presentation: February 1, 1997

For more information, contact Carolyn Caudle,
Research Day Chairperson, Department of Biological Sciences, 963-5787.

Ralph Boston:

OLYMPIC CHAMPION COMES HOME

During the opening ceremonies of the Centennial Olympic Games, Tennessee State University alumni and friends looked for former TSU Olympic champions, many of whom live in the Atlanta area. TSU athletes have won 29 medals . . . more than most countries. Who would appear in the spectacular show?

It was Ralph Boston who appeared, helping to carry the Olympic flag, hair graying, but still slim as any athlete grown older would like to be. And he wore that smile — the humble, yet glowing smile of the athlete who broke the record of the once unbeatable Jesse Owens. Perhaps he smiled not only for the power and beauty of the moment, but also for the memory of Olympic games past.

Ralph Boston set a world's record for the long jump at the 1960 Olympic Games in Rome, breaking the record of Jesse Owens, one of his heroes. His record jump was 26 feet, 7 3/4 inches, toppling Owens's 26 feet, 5 1/2 inches, which had stood for 24 years. How did that feel?

"I know I'm not that good with words. I'm not sure Shakespeare could paint that picture," said Boston. "When you win the gold medal, the world is looking at you."

The world record for the long jump belonged to Boston from 1960 to 1967; he was superseded by Bob Beamon in 1968. During those years, he was selected as a World Athlete of the Year and as the North American Athlete of the Year. He won a silver medal at the 1964 Olympics in Tokyo and a bronze in the 1968 Olympics in Mexico City.

After leaving Olympic sports, Boston earned his master's degree from the University of Tennessee. He served as a consultant to the U.S. Olympic team and as a sportscaster for ESPN before becoming a general partner in a Knoxville, Tenn., television station. Currently, he directs customer relations for the emergency radio division of Ericsson, Inc., a leading telecommunications firm.

The honors have continued to flow for Boston: He belongs to the Helms Hall of Fame in Los Angeles, the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame, the U.S. Track and Field Hall of Fame and the Olympic Hall of Fame. In 1985, he received the NCAA Silver Anniversary Award, which honors athletes who have gone on to become successful in other areas.

Boston brings the gold-medal edge to his work. "You want to be the best," he said. "In that corporate board room, when you are swaying people to use your product, the impetus, the fight, is the same." The Olympic champion seems to have always demonstrated a propensity toward success. For example, he came to Tennessee State University when he heard that "75 percent of black engineers had

passed through TSU, and I was interested in chemical engineering or chemistry."

It was his mother's insistence that football was too violent, his track coach's knowledge that Tennessee State needed to build its track team, and his own perception that his body was built more for the track than the gridiron that brought Boston to TSU. His family and other mentors have brought him through life with self-confidence, strength, peace, and ability to control his destiny — character traits of all the winners he has met or known.

Boston's list of role models would stretch farther than his longest jump, but his parents are at the top. His father, born in 1883, was the grandson of a slave and remained in school only until the third grade. His mother, born in 1896, finished the sixth grade.

"Here are two people considered not well educated, but who raised 10 children to adulthood. You have to be proud about that," said Boston.

The list also includes his brothers and sisters who supported him, including Peter, whom Boston deems "the best athlete I ever saw." On the list as well are Boston's high school coach ("He forced me to run and brought me to TSU"); Jesse Owens; Joe Lewis; Jackie Robinson; Greg Bell ("He was a long-jump medalist in 1956; he took me under his wings"); Herb Douglas (1952 medalist and TSU coach); the other TSU track-and-field athletes; Fay Waddleton (the long-term president of Planned Parenthood who shares common roots with Boston and whose "strength makes its presence known"); and Leontyne Price ("She went to my high school. I thought, 'If she can do it, I can.' She never knew [how she influenced me]").

Ralph Boston recently was honored by his alma mater when TSU dedicated the Ralph Boston Hall of Fame Room in Kean Hall on the University's main campus. The room will contain tributes to more than 100 inductees, as well as a computer with megabytes of information on the TSU athletes in the hall of fame.

"Naming the hall of fame after Ralph Boston signifies the University's belief that no name other than Boston belongs on

the place that holds the reminders of our athletic prosperity," said TSU president James Hefner.

Ralph Boston carried the Olympic flag, bore Olympic gold and now motivates the world through his legacy. As he said, "A championship is forever," and so are a champion's ways.



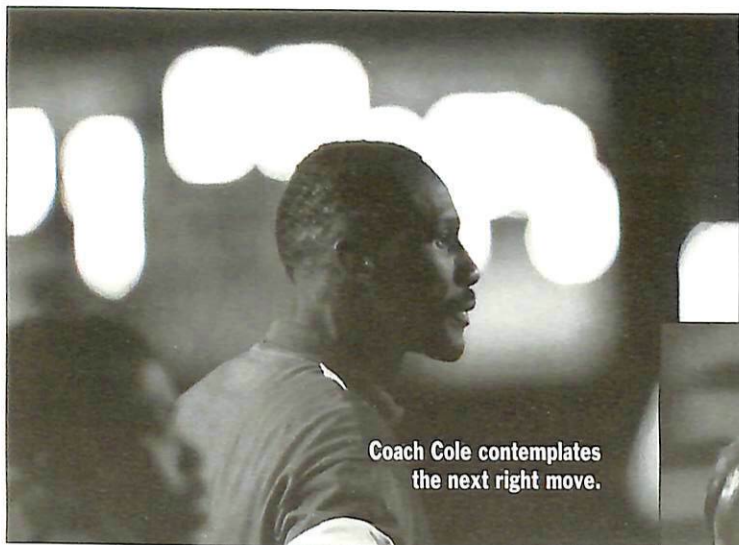
Olympic champion to Olympic champion, Ralph Boston greets Wyomia Tyus.



Athletic Director Howard Gentry (right) introduces Boston at the dedication ceremony of the Hall of Fame. TSU First Lady Edwina Hefner looks on.

Homecom

Running Flame of Pride

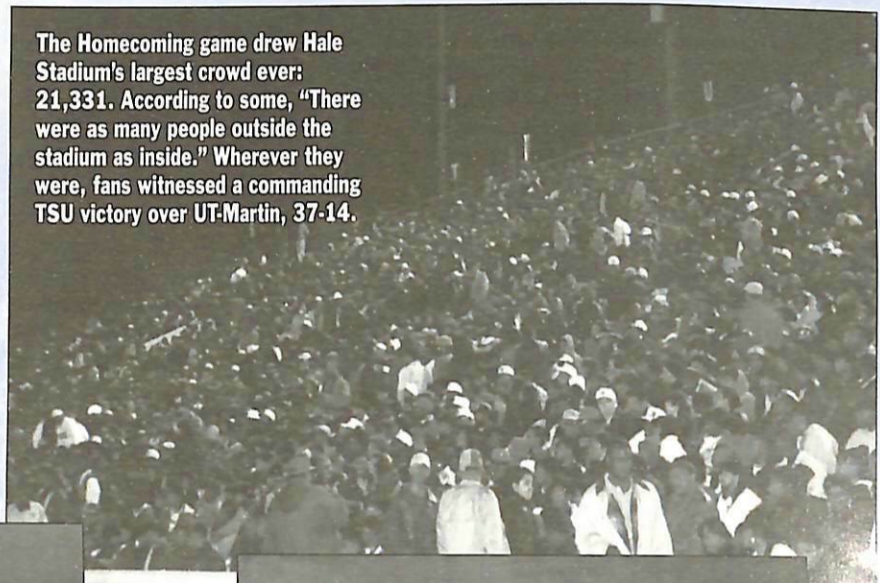


Coach Cole contemplates the next right move.



Offensive line coach Kirk Heidelberg shares winning strategies with his players.

The University inducted four individuals and one team (below) into the Sports Hall of Fame during Homecoming: **Bruce Bradford**, a swimmer who now teaches health and physical education and aquatics at H.D. Woodson Senior High in Washington, D.C. and is a five-time district (seven states) coach of the year . . . **David Davis**, a football player who ranks ninth on TSU's all-time receiving yards list with 1,364 yards and played for the Green Bay Packers, Pittsburgh Steelers and New Orleans Saints . . . **Billy Dixon**, football player and all-conference performer, who coached at Lane College and later taught health and physical education for 30 years in Cleveland, Ohio and was inducted posthumously . . . **Eleanor Montgomery**, former Tigerbelle, Olympian and Pan American champion, who was the nation's top high jumper from 1963 until 1969 . . . and the **1956 football team** (below at the Florida A&M game), which won the Black College National Championship by defeating long-time rival Florida A&M under the direction of head coach Howard Gentry Sr.



The Homecoming game drew Hale Stadium's largest crowd ever: 21,331. According to some, "There were as many people outside the stadium as inside." Wherever they were, fans witnessed a commanding TSU victory over UT-Martin, 37-14.

Bruce Bradford



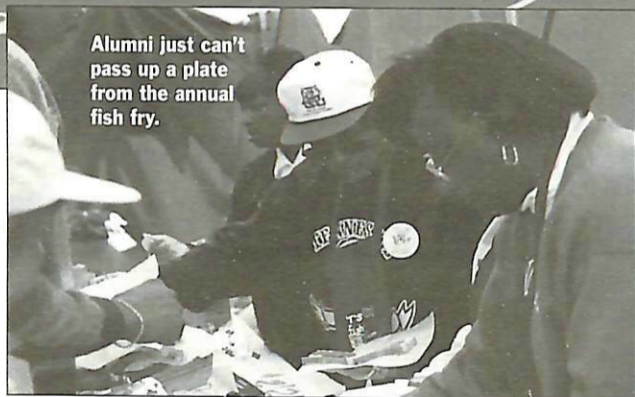
David Davis



Billy Dixon



Eleanor Montgomery



Alumni just can't pass up a plate from the annual fish fry.



Looking like a blast from the past, these students show off at the Greek Step Show.



The competition was stiff, but after it was over these winners of the Ninth Annual Robert N. Murrell Oratorical Contest emerged: Othell Miller (first place, upperclassmen) and Montez Ross (first place, freshmen). All the winners, faculty sponsors, and President Hefner (right) appear above.

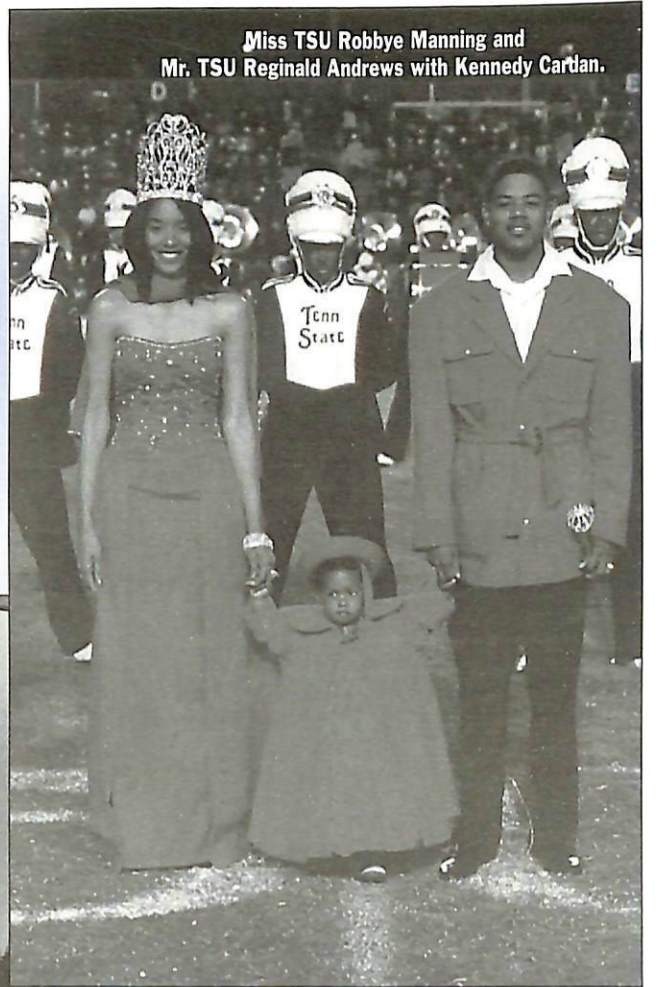


Student officers pose at their inauguration ceremony. (inset photo) Keri Floyd, SGA vice president, and Brian Harris, SGA president

The Student Government Association, led by Brian Harris, and the Student Union Board of Governors, led by Jami Burnett, honored TSU graduates who serve in the Tennessee political arena at their Distinguished Alumni Reception during Homecoming 1996. The honorees were State Senator Thelma Harper, Edith Taylor Langster and Mary Pruitt, members of the State House of Representatives, Jo Ann North, assessor of property for Davidson County, and Melvin Black, Frank Harrison Jr. and Willis McCallister, members of the Metro-Nashville Council.



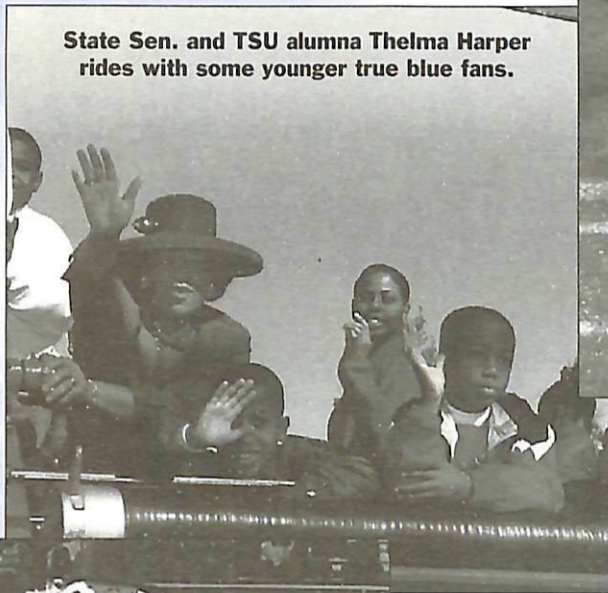
oming 1996: with the e and Tradition



Miss TSU Robbye Manning and Mr. TSU Reginald Andrews with Kennedy Cartan.



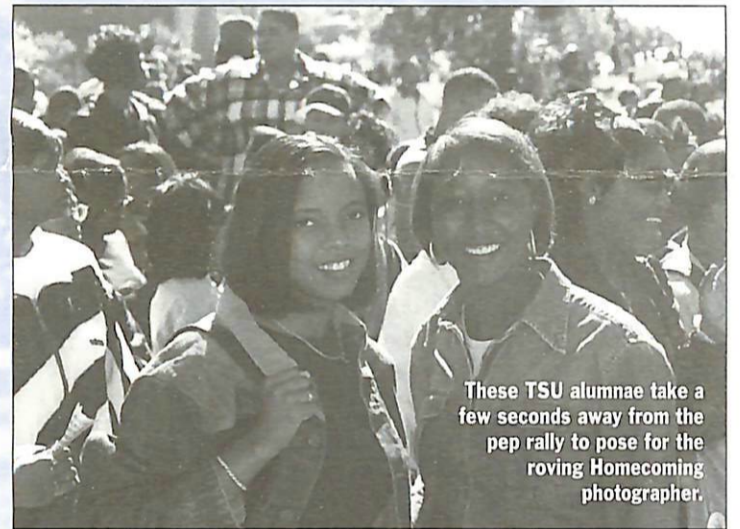
This Sophisticated — and happy! — Lady dazzles thousands during halftime.



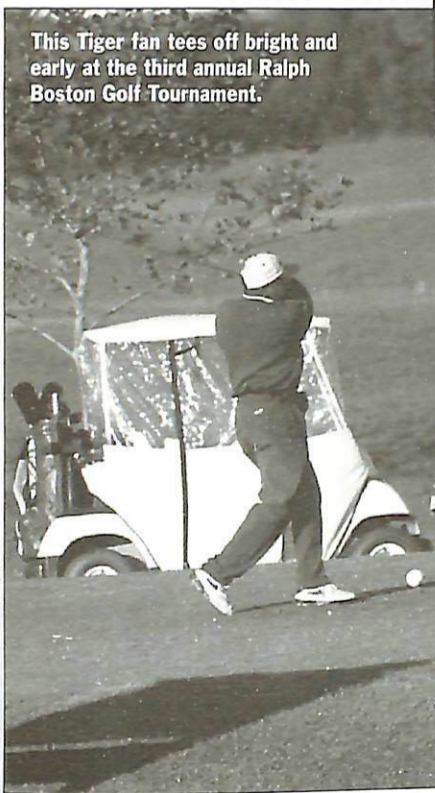
State Sen. and TSU alumna Thelma Harper rides with some younger true blue fans.



1-2-3 Tigers!



These TSU alumnae take a few seconds away from the pep rally to pose for the roving Homecoming photographer.



This Tiger fan tees off bright and early at the third annual Ralph Boston Golf Tournament.



Miss TSU Robbye Manning (fifth from right) surrounds herself with former queens.



Engineering graduate Beverly Williams Lockhart receives her alumna of the year award from Farouk Mishu, head of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering.

Learning more about LEARNING DISABILITIES

According to LeAnn Kelly, TSU's coordinator for learning disability services, college students with learning disabilities exhibit the following characteristics:

- weakness in one or more of the following areas: math, reading, writing, oral language, spelling, handwriting
- low self-esteem
- inappropriate social behavior
- impulsive behavior
- attention disorders
- poor listening skills
- inconsistent performance
- poor recall
- inability to memorize basic number facts
- test anxiety
- disorientation with time
- disorganization
- poor notetaking and study skills
- passive learning styles
- difficulty following directions
- poor vocabulary
- confusion of mathematical symbols
- difficulty shifting from one task or operation to another
- poor handwriting, letter and number formation
- difficulty aligning numbers
- ineffective strategies for monitoring errors



Open doors and understanding minds are the tools of the staff in Disabled Student Services. They are (l-r) Sanita Spurlock, LeAnn Kelly and Don Holt.

Disability. It's been hailed as the new avenue for civil rights, but how much attention is the issue given? An estimated 20 percent of the U.S. population — 49 million people — have disabilities.

So, what can colleges and universities do to accommodate? Physical changes — automatic doors, more ramps, new elevators — bring much-needed improvements, yet there remains a significant segment of the population, 10 percent to 15 percent, who suffer from a disability people don't always seem to understand: learning disabilities.

Here are the facts. Most people with learning disabilities have average to above-average intelligence. But they also have a neurological disorder that makes learning difficult, because their minds process information differently. These people usually have trouble with oral language-based

problems, reasoning or memory.

"Their problems run a wide gamut," said LeAnn Kelly, coordinator for learning disability services at Tennessee State University. "They may have dyslexia, trouble reading math problems, retention and comprehension problems, difficulty organizing things, and much more."

Don Holt, TSU's director of services for students with disabilities, said research shows that tutoring, proper

guidance in planning courses, and use of computer-assisted equipment can help students with learning disabilities succeed. Because the majority of students with disabilities at TSU have learning disabilities, the University received a grant from Tennessee Vocational Rehabilitation last year to open a tutoring and counseling center for these students.

Holt also said that TSU opened an office specifically for serving students with all types of disabilities out of its "strong commitment to do something" to improve its services for people with a range of needs. While the campus becomes a pedestrian-friendly campus, Holt is working to make

it more accessible than ever, with such services as Metro bus routes that come to the center of campus and the continual upgrade of buildings to make them more user-friendly for persons with disabilities.

Likewise, he and Kelly have worked to set up computer stations with magnified screens, and computers that scan texts and voice them back to the user. More basic and important than that, Kelly and Holt offer training sessions for professors and sessions for students on college survival skills to help them become more comfortable asking for accommodations.

Reasonable accommodations for students with learning disabilities include out-of-class testing; extended time for taking tests; reduced course loads; preferential classroom seating; taping of textbooks; and taking tests

by computer, on tape recorder, or as scribed by a tutor.

"We're here to help in any way possible, to provide support at this level so students can graduate and become advocates for themselves," said Kelly.

America is stronger when all of us take care of all of us.

Christopher Reeve

an actor who was paralyzed in an equestrian accident last year, in a speech at the Democratic National Convention

Campus resources for persons with disabilities

Office of Disabled Student Services963-7400
(located on the first floor of the Floyd-Payne Campus Center, near the Department of Athletics and Kean Hall Gymnasium)	
Learning Disabilities Tutoring/Counseling Center963-7872
(located in the basement of the Floyd-Payne Campus Center, near the game room)	
University Counseling Center963-5611
Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD)	
Office of Disabled Student Services963-7440
Brown-Daniel Library963-7579
Advisory Committee for the Office of Disabled Student Services	
Samuel Shannon, chairperson963-5517

university notables

Tennessee State University has enrolled students from 50 countries for the 1996-97 academic year. The countries with the most students represented, ranked in order, are India, Kuwait, China, the Bahamas, Saudi Arabia, Canada, Jordan, Nigeria, Thailand and Pakistan.

Gifts, grants & resources

The **Center of Excellence for Research and Policy on Basic Skills** has received continued funding of approximately \$1 million for its Early Head Start Program. The program is under the direction of **Barbara Nye**.



Baqar Husaini, professor of sociology and director of the Center for Health Research, recently was awarded a two-year grant of nearly \$200,000 to study the utilization of mental health services among the elderly in Tennessee.

AT&T Bell Laboratories gave \$50,000 to the **TSU Department of Engineering and Technology** during Homecoming 1996, to be used for scholarships and faculty and staff support.

Departmental & organizational news

The **Department of History, Geography and Political Science** opened its annual lecture series with the presentation of "A Socio-Military History of African Americans in Civil War Tennessee" by **Bobby Lovett**, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. On November 6, **Derek Elliott**, assistant professor of history, presented "Space: The Final Frontier of the New Frontier," which explored President John F. Kennedy's interest in space exploration. The series continues through April 9.

The **Department of Social Work and Sociology** hosted its annual lecture and brown bag forum on social problems on November 6. Guest speaker Bernard Lafayette, president of American Baptist College, presented, "Religious Approaches to Social Problems." **Ernest Rhodes** (right) and **Levi Jones**, professors of sociology, coordinated the event.



The **TSU Office of Business and Economic Research's** Project DIANE (Diversified Information and Assistance Network), has been selected as a semi-finalist in both the community and telecollaboration categories for the National Information Infrastructure Awards Program. TSU was among the 190 out of a pool of 850 entrants selected.



The **TSU chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists (SPJ)** held its distinguished lectures for the fall, with **Clara Hieronymus** (right), theater critic for *The Tennessean*, and **Georganna Vines** (left), editor of the *El Paso Herald*



Post and former national SPJ president. Hieronymus received the chapter's Legacy Award and Vines received the Lifetime Achievement Award.

Two faculty members have been named to chair university-wide committees: **Diana Poe**, director of the TSU Showstoppers, has been appointed chairperson of the Cultural Affairs Committee, and **Oscar Miller**, assistant professor of sociology, now chairs the committee for the Edward S. Temple Seminars.

The **University Counseling Center** sponsored several programs during National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week, Oct. 20-26, including forums on the prevention and treatment of chemical dependency; AIDS; alcohol; abstinence and safe sex; and the dangers of driving drunk.

An estimated 1,000 TSU students attended the **1996 Graduate and Professional School Fair**, held earlier this fall. More than 70 schools nationwide participated in the fair. They included Yale, Boston and Tulane law schools; Duke, Emory and Cornell universities; the universities of Pennsylvania, Michigan, North Carolina-Chapel Hill, Arkansas-Fayetteville, Illinois-Urbana/Champaign, Georgia and Florida; and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. **Demetrius Greer** is coordinator of graduate and professional school placement.



A representative from Central Michigan University prepares a packet of information.

Approximately 1,500 students attended TSU's **1996 Career Fair**. More than 100 major corporations, social service agencies and government organizations set up booths at the fair. The visiting organizations included a number of TSU alumni as representatives: **William Scott** (Allstate Insurance Co.); **Monica Hill** (AT&T); **Willie Reynolds** (Dallas Fire Department); **Christi Roberts** (Ford Motor Co.); **Ruthina Hearn** and **Greg Jones** (General Motors-Delco Electronics); **Irvin Brown**, **Thayer Johnson**, **Renee McCleary** and **Marcus Shute** (Lucent Technologies); **Karen Peterman Oye** (Primus Financial); **David Simmons** (Raytheon Corp.); **Cedric Branch** and **Alisa Evans** (Saturn Corp.); **Derrica Peterson** (SunTrust Bank); **Clay Batts**, **Brian Egeston**, **Warren Russell** and **Cedric Stokes** (Thompson Consumer Electronics); and **Michele Anthony** (USDA). If you know of a company that should receive an invitation for the 1997 Career Fair, please contact **Tonya Fizer**, 615-963-7528.

Honors, awards & achievements

Barbara Brown, director of the master's in nursing program, received the Distinguished Lecturer Award from Sigma Theta Tau, the international honor society for nursing.



Dhananjaya Marparka, assistant professor of electrical and computer engineering, has been named to *Who's Who among America's Teachers*. Only .7 percent of the nation's engineering teachers and five percent of all teachers nationwide are included in the listing. Their nominations come from students who have been listed in *Who's Who among America's College Students*.

Vanessa Jones Briscoe, assistant professor of nursing, and James Pichert of Vanderbilt University received the 1995 J.K. Lilly Social Service Project Award from the American Association of Diabetes Educators' Education and Research Foundation. The two have made several presentations at annual meetings and have published several works and chapters on nursing and the church.

Cornell Lane, assistant professor of psychology, has been selected to serve on the board of visitors for the College of Education at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville.

Retired TSU and Olympic women's track coach **Edward S. Temple** was inducted into the National Black College Alumni Hall of Fame earlier this fall. In honor of Temple, the Coors Brewing Company gave a \$5,000 gift to the University.



Ed Temple receives hall of fame award as TSU President James Hefner receives gift from Coors.

Research, presentations & publications



Three faculty members from the College of Arts and Sciences presented papers at the 25th Anniversary Meeting of the Popular Culture Association of the South, held in Savannah, Ga. **Louise Watkins** (English) presented "Fantasy Men, Actual and Literal;" **Jo Helen Railsback** (English) presented "What Evil Lurks?: Theories of Evil in Crime Fiction"; and **David Broad** (sociology, right) presented "Sheena, Queen of the Jungle: White Goddess of the Dumont Era."

Sandria Godwin, assistant professor of family and consumer sciences, presented results of her cognitive study on "Validation of Portion Size Estimation Aids Used in 24-hour Dietary Recalls" at the Beltsville (Md.) Human Nutrition Research Center. Her research is sponsored by the United States Department of Agriculture.

Gary Linn, associate professor of nursing, has made two national presentations recently: "Coping Behaviors and Stress in HIV-Infected Black and White Males," at the Annual Meeting of the Disabilities Studies Association in Washington, D.C., and "Self-Perceived Health and Depression in African-American Adults with HIV," at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association in New York.

Marion Anema, **Christine P. Sharpe**, and **Gary Linn** of the School of Nursing, **Van Cain** of the Center of Excellence for Research and Policy on Basic Skills, and John Estrada of Meharry Medical College had an article entitled, "Self-Appraisal Health, HIV Infection, and Depression in Female Clients of AIDS Counseling Centers," published in the October 1996 issue of *AIDS Patient Care*.

Tiger hoopla

The TSU men's and women's basketball teams are ready for victory this season. Get ready to watch them win by ordering your season tickets today. Call 615-963-5841.

Barbara Brown, professor and director, and **Edwina Temple** and **Jeff Ward**, students, from the Master's in Nursing program, presented papers at the Seventh Annual International Critical and Feminist Perspectives Nursing Conference in Pittsburgh. Brown presented "Anger: Nurses' Hidden Secrets;" Temple presented "Anger: Betrayal of the African-American Nurse;" Ward presented "Anger: Male Nurses in the Feminist Workplace."

Daniel Gilbran, head of the Department of History, Geography and Political Science, recently had a book published entitled, *The Exclusion of Black Soldiers from the Medal of Honor in World War II*. His study was commissioned by the U.S. Army.

New to TSU



Everette Freeman will join the administrative staff as executive assistant to the president on Jan. 1. Freeman comes to TSU from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio, where he served as assistant professor of labor and human resource policy for more than four years. He has more than 20 years' experience in higher education, corporate America and the government and is an expert in conflict resolution. He earned a bachelor's degree in sociology from Antioch College, a master's in industrial relations from the University of Illinois, and a doctorate in education in educational foundations from Rutgers University.

Anita Jenious has joined the TSU administrative staff as director of equal opportunity and affirmative action. She came to TSU from the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, where she was executive director of the Office of Affirmative Action. She also served eight years at Vanderbilt University. Jenious holds a bachelor's degree from Vanderbilt University with a double major in political science and sociology, and a juris doctorate from the University of Tennessee College of Law.



David Beard has been named assistant director of financial aid. He served as financial aid/admissions coordinator at the University of Maryland University College in College Park for the past seven years. Beard received a bachelor of science degree in physical education and a master's of general administration from the University of Maryland University College.

Staff happenings

To maintain the highest standards of safety, officers in the TSU Department of Safety and Security undergo the same training as Davidson County and Nashville police officers. Earlier this year, the University's first female officer, **Karen D. Hodge**, completed her course with the Tennessee Law Enforcement Training Academy.



Student notes

Shawn Stewart and **Susan Smartt**, doctoral students in the College of Education, were selected to be researchers for the Appalachia Educational Laboratory, Inc. They will study Tennessee K-12 teachers who use the Internet in their classrooms.



Hamilton Brown, a senior architectural engineering major and TSU Foundation Honors Scholar, has been elected president of the National Society of Architectural Engineers' student organization. He is the first African American to be elected president of the organization.

Three students — **Kenetra Greer**, **Michael Gibson** and **Drexel Perry** — have been selected as Thurgood Marshall Scholars. The Thurgood Marshall Scholarship Fund recognizes students "of high academic achievements at the nation's outstanding public colleges and universities."

The following students won the campus Honda Bowl competition: **Justin Black**, **Reginald Ross**, **Robert Price** and **Amanj Alexander**. They and other academically talented students will travel to Alabama in December for a competition with Fisk, Alabama A&M and Talladega universities.

Quotes

You are the "now" campus of the Tennessee Board of Regents.

-Charles Smith
chancellor of the Tennessee Board of Regents, at the dedication of the Ned Ray McWhorter Administration Building

Truth is, this building deserves my name. We built this building out of scraps and leftovers, taking some from this account and some out of that account. I'm proud to be associate with it in that way.

-former Gov. Ned McWhorter
on having the new administration building named for him

It's about what you give of yourself rather than what you get paid to do.

-Inez Crutchfield
alumna, retired faculty member and 1996 homecoming honoree, on what it means to be a "woman of achievement"

I know I'm not that good with words. I'm not sure Shakespeare could paint that picture.
-Ralph Boston
alumna, Olympic medalist and namesake of the TSU Hall of Fame, on winning the gold medal at the 1960 Olympics in Rome

In our business, you want to be first with the news, and you want to be right. You can't have a "mañana" attitude.

-Georganna Vines
editor of the El Paso Herald-Post and former national president of the Society of Professional Journalist, during a lecture at TSU in October

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ACCENT
Ally Lawrence

Thank you for the copy of Accent. It is always good to hear from my friends at Tennessee State, and I applaud your efforts to help decrease violence among youth.

Fred Thompson
United States Senator and chairman of the Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee on Youth Violence in the last Congress

Thank you for sending us a copy of Accent. I was particularly pleased to read about the dedication of the Ned Ray McWhorter Administration Building, as well as the article on Johannna Grimes. We all should be extremely proud of her efforts to nurture the writing skills of her students.

John Tanner
United States House of Representatives

Congratulations on the birth of a new Accent. I enjoyed the feature articles, especially the ones highlighting our outstanding faculty. The new design brings the stories to life.

Katherine Bryant
director, Writing across-the-Curriculum

I think your new Accent is just great; it's excellent. This publication has "class" written all over it.

Sam Polk
director, Physical Plant



Loyal smiles and royal blues marked Homecoming '96, a highlight of fall semester.