



Michael Jordan will be teaching a lot this NBA season.

Page 22



Lina visits TSU's main campus. See her album review in Compact DISCUSSIONS.

Page 12

The Measure of Student Opinion and Sentiment

Student leaders want discount tobacco signs removed

By Jennifer Mitchell
Community View Writer

Tennessee State University's chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the Student Government Association want the owner of the newly opened Discount Tobacco Outlet store on the corner of John A. Merritt Blvd. and 28th Avenue North to remove the large yellow and red Discount Tobacco Outlet signs that adorn the front and side of the building.

The organizational members, as well as various TSU students, say the signs negatively reflect on the school and they're prepared to take whatever action is necessary to see that the signs are removed.

NAACP President Jamie Riley said he is "highly disgusted" by the signs.

"We don't understand how anyone could build this type of store so close to our school," he said. "The SGA and NAACP have collaborated to take efforts to remove the signs from the building."

Charles Burse, a 20-year-old TSU student, supports the NAACP and SGA's efforts and believes that the signs could potentially damage the university's reputation.

"If they ask him to take it down, he

should take it down," Burse said. "It could send a false message about the school. I wouldn't want that sign being the first thing my grandmother saw when she came to visit me."

Laini Brown, a mother of two who, also believes the signs should be removed. "If people smoke they will find

and negativity of the community."

Andy Salem, owner of the store and a former TSU student, said he has heard complaints about the signs but believes "it's politics." He recalled being a penny-pinching college student and said he hopes to help students and community members by offering them merchandise

make my money and I want to be fair."

Salem contends that he would sell discount tobacco with or without the signs and has expressed an interest in advertising for his store in *The Meter* and offering students coupons and possible in-store credit cards. Salem also said that he never advertises to minors, but he has



PHOTO BY ILYAS MUHAMMAD

TSU student leaders say store signs for Discount Tobacco Outlet paint poor image of campus.

cigarettes; however, to blatantly advertise so big and boldly near a college campus is disrespectful and uncalled for. It sends the message to children that once you become of age, smoking is fine. Adding a discount tobacco store adds to the degra-

that "can not be found at other convenience stores for such a low price." This includes merchandise in the 99 cent section of his store. "I bought this building because I thought it would be a good location for business," he said. "I want to

two illuminated Budweiser signs above the alcohol section with the words "TSU Tigers" and "Go Big Blue" printed on them. *The Meter* has a policy of not accepting tobacco ads.

SGA Vice President Kevin Gilliam II opposes the school doing any business with Salem until he honors the SGA and NAACP's requests to remove the large

Discount Tobacco signs. "I don't think he should be able to advertise on the TSU campus until he decides to change the image of our university," Gilliam said. "In being that we don't want to associate any blatant nega-

See "Student leaders" on page 2

STD Haunted House tries to scare TSU's pants on

By Crystal J. McMoore
News Writer

This Halloween Tennessee State University hosted its third annual haunted house. There were no ghosts, ghouls, or goblins featured in the haunted house, just graphic pictures, facts and statistics pertaining to sexually transmitted diseases. The intent was to scare students into abstaining from unsafe sex.

The Haunted House was presented by the Metropolitan Health Department's Division of Health Promotion STD, Free Initiative, the TSU Health Center and TSU Pan-Hellenic Council, with the purpose of promoting health awareness.

It was set up in the TSU Student



PHOTO BY ZAKIYAH HOLMES

Students sign up to be tested for HIV at TSU's Haunted House.

Activity Center and when students walked in the first thing they saw were the warning signs of various STDs. They included abdominal pain, itching, foul odor, and sores, just to name a few. After walking through to the haunted house students were told of the risks that come with choosing to engage in sexual contact under the influence of alcohol or other drugs. Of course one of those risks was contracting a sexually transmitted disease.

Lined along the walls were very detailed pictures of the effects of sexually transmitted diseases. Underneath each picture was information about what could happen if the disease is left untreated. "The pictures were grotesque, but they

See "Pictures" on page 3

Anthrax scares, deaths across the nation spur fear and measures to treat bio-terrorism attacks

By **Raynata Y. Reed**
News Editor

Anthrax scares and deaths across the nation have heightened fears and security precautions as well.

Anthrax, an acute, infectious disease caused by the spore forming bacterium *Bacillus anthracis*, can cause respiratory failure and death within a week in humans when it is contracted.

Anthrax spores can be produced in a dry form and can be ground into particles and it is considered a potential agent for use in biological warfare. It can be contracted in three different ways; through touch (skin), inhalation and gastrointestinal. Side effects of Anthrax include skin infections, severe breathing problems, nausea, vomiting and severe diarrhea.

Within seven days after the infections, symptoms can appear and in inhalation cases of anthrax, death usually results in 1-2 days after the onset of acute symptoms. Intestinal anthrax results in death in 25 percent to 60 percent of the cases.

This freak outbreak of anthrax has prompted a number of speculations as to its origin.

There have been concerns that the recent influx of this disease is either an extension of the Sept. 11 attacks, or another attack along the lines of the terrorist attacks.

"(T)here have been a lot of theories out there," said Homeland Security Director Tom Ridge, "we just need some facts to turn a theory into a reality."

Thus far, there have been 15 confirmed anthrax victims, seven involving skin anthrax and eight involving the more deadly inhalation anthrax, since early this month. Most cases have involved people in connection with the mail service or the media.

The mail service was first hit on Tuesday, Sept. 18, when envelopes containing letters and granular substances were sent to NBC News in New York and the New York Post. Both letters were mailed from Trenton, N.J.

Some other businesses that have been sent documents containing anthrax or have had infected individuals in their vicinity include the supermarket tabloid *The Sun*, in Boca Raton, Fla.; the mail room of American Media, Inc.; NBC; ABC and CBS.

Anthrax has been detected on a letter opening machine that screens White House mail

and the Supreme Court building is ordered to shut down for anthrax testing.

There are treatments and precautions that can help in the fight against bioterrorism.

On the Arnot Ogden Medical Center Web site, www.aomc.org, it gives treatment for anthrax.

"Doctors can prescribe effective antibiotics. Usually penicillin is preferred...(an) anthrax vaccine is available for high-risk occupations."

The United States Postal Service has compiled a list of guidelines to follow if an anthrax threat is received by mail and what constitutes a "suspicious parcel."

The most basic advice given by the USPS if a suspicious parcel is received in the mail is to not open the parcel, isolate it, evacuate the area and call a Postal Inspector to say that you've received a parcel in the mail that may contain biological or chemical substances.

Governor Sundquist also has sent out a news release concerning the bioterrorism measures in Tennessee.

"We are working diligently to ensure that we are prepared to deal with a bioterrorist event should one occur," Sundquist said. "We have taken a series of actions to enhance our ability to detect

and respond to bioterrorism threats quickly."

Some steps that Tennessee has taken in order to increase readiness for a biological or chemical attack include purchasing state-of-the-art equipment and comprehensive training in laboratory methods, providing training for hospital laboratories to rule out bacterial agents and developing an emergency notification system for quickly disseminating fax health alerts to hospitals.

"We must all continue to work together to keep Tennesseans safe from possible threats," Sundquist said. "Federal, state and local officials as well as citizens share the responsibility of being aware and vigilant. We will continue to do all we can to ensure safety."

Tennessee State University's own President James A. Hefner also sent out a security alert memo, which concerned reporting any suspicious letter or package, or any letter or package that is stained or leaking to the campus post office and their personnel for further action.

"The post office will then implement the procedures required to inspect your mail and return it to you at the earliest possible time, assuring you of minimum personal risk."•

Freedom of speech is a right to be fought for, not a blessing to be wished for. But it is more than that: It is the essential vehicle for the exchange of ideas between nations and cultures. And without that exchange and interaction, there can be no true understanding or lasting cooperation.

-Washington Post
May 5, 1999

Student leaders speak out

Continued from page 1

tivity with our university, as long as he has the discount tobacco signs up the negativity will always remain."

Gilliam also said that a letter requesting that the signs be removed has been hand delivered to Salem. The letter begins: "We, the students of Tennessee State University, would like for the Discount Tobacco Outlet signs to be removed from the walls of your business in the interest of fostering a better relationship between the students of

Tennessee State University and the businesses that grace our borders."

If the owner does not comply with the letter's request, Gilliam said, the student activist groups plan to circulate a petition on campus asking students not to patronize the establishment until the signs have been removed. If an agreement still is not reached between the parties, the SGA and NAACP plan to meet to discuss further action.•

What We Think is a reflection of

The Aleter Editorial Board.

It

examines things going on at TSU,

in the community and in the world.

Pictures tell a thousand words

Continued from page 1

are a reality. A lot of young people fear getting tested for STDs. Hopefully after they see how the diseases can progress they will conquer their fears and get tested," said Mario Hughes, a sophomore, from Knoxville.

The gruesome pictures showed things such as canker sores, discharges, warts and abnormal growth on the genitalia of both males and females. Also there were pictures of sores that occur in the eyes and on the tongue, just to show that the genitalia is not the only area that can be affected by transmission.

The STD haunted house put forth an effort to explain the cause and effect of untreated sexually transmitted diseases. Some of the effects include paralysis, stroke, heart failure and even death.

"I think what they are

trying to do is not only admirable, but necessary," said Jicarra Patton, a senior, from Columbus, Ohio.

"STDs are no laughing matter, and they are something we need to be both afraid and aware of."

The haunted house featured several diseases, such as gonorrhea and genital warts, but it focused primarily on two in particular, HIV and syphilis, both of which are abundant in Nashville.

STDs are all too common nowadays. In fact 1 in 50 Blacks in Tennessee are infected with HIV. There are nearly 3000 cases reported in Davidson County alone, and the number is equally high for those infected with AIDS.

At the end of the haunted house there was a wall of abstinence that students were encouraged to sign. For those

who do not practice celibacy, a "Trick or Treat" bag was given out that included pamphlets full of need to know facts and condoms.

Some students chose to get tested for HIV and syphilis, which was also promoted by the haunted house. "The pictures kind of scared a lot of people into wanting to know what was going on with their bodies. Being sexually active is nothing to be embarrassed about, but not being safe is," Patton said.

TSU's third annual Haunted House was an activity that was given for the benefits of the student body. For more information call, STD! Free at 340-5352 or the TSU Health Center at 963-5291.

Got news?

If you have news

that affects

TSU,

contact

News Editor

Raynata Y. Reed

at

963-5649

TSU Security centers on sporadic ID card checks

By Dywuan Brown
News Writer

Tennessee State University has a security policy that asks all students who enter school grounds to show identification to the security guards located at various security booths near university residence halls.

Yet, students say that the campus police department that is responsible for their safety is not doing what it is supposed to.

"With all of the tragedies that have been happening in the past month, it seems that the police department would be more strict on the ID cards coming into the school," said Angela Street, a graduating senior from Milwaukee, Wis.

The security booths are located in the entrance between Boyd and Eppse Hall, at the entrance that leads to Hale Hall and the Rudolph Residence Center.

Students are required to have ID cards to withdraw refunds from their accounts or to eat if they are on a meal plan. In addition, the TSU police department is required to have guards in the security stations to check that TSU students have their ID. Guards are to stop all cars and check IDs before occupants come into the university, to ensure the safety of the students. Times usually for the checks are in the evening from about 6 p.m. until midnight. In the morning, there are normally no guards in the booths because of the constant traffic that

circulates in and out during the scheduled class hours.

"Every time I drive into the school, I see the sign to show the ID, but no one to check," said Carl Jones, a resident of Nashville. "So they might as well not post that."

The stations that have signs posted clearly state, "Please Show ID." During special events, police are in the security booths to check people's IDs and to keep unnecessary traffic from coming into the university grounds.

While some students want their ID cards checked, others feel that there is no need for security to check IDs.

"Many people come in and out of the school at different hours of the day," said Chris Gordon, a junior from Memphis. "That causes traffic itself for me or someone else to even reach in their pocket and find their ID card."

Many students at TSU have seen the lack of attention that the guards have given to checking IDs and are concerned for their safety.

In a memo sent by TSU President James A. Hefner to the university, he addressed the safety of the school in light of the recent anthrax scares and the Sept. 11 attacks.

"I assure you that the university administration has a high level of sensitivity to the dangers inherent in the situation," he said, "and measures are being taken to ensure our ongoing safety."

ATTENTION SENIORS!!!

Those who are graduating in May, August or December 2002 should see their department head immediately for advisement on graduation.

Plan ahead!

File if you intent to graduate in May, August or December now!

Only students who have met all graduation requirements will be permitted to participate in commencement ceremonies!

The Meter

The Measure of Student Opinion and Sentiment
Tennessee State University

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CIRCULATION **3,000**

The Meter capitalizes the letter "B" in the word "Black" when it refers to people of African descent in accordance with the Oxford American and other dictionaries.

What We Think

Have you ever wondered, why did I go to college? Every time a twenty-page paper, a two hundred-question test, or a severely warped group presentation is due, that question is often posed.

We all have our various reasons for attending college. For some it is the thrill of being away from home, for others it is the exciting possibility of actually gaining newfound knowledge, but for the majority of us it is the prospect of obtaining that ultimate dream job that keeps us in the long validation lines.

We come to college with high hopes of receiving the qualifications that will enable us to succeed in our chosen career path. However, is that what we receive? If we started with the premise that students come to Tennessee State University to obtain a job in their perspective career fields, then we were to look at the percentage of students who are actually working in their major field, one could unfairly conclude that Tennessee State University does not adequately prepare students for their perspective career fields.

There are some students at TSU who believe that this university does not prepare them to obtain work in their chosen careers.

The claim is that the Career Center and the various career fairs that come to TSU are geared toward computer science and engineering majors and that everybody else is left out in the cold to scramble and secure a job by their own means. This often produces frustration and hardship because many students don't know where to begin.

Various searches on Monster.com and Employment Weekly turn out to be a waste of time and energy. As graduation nears and fear mounts you may begin to wonder, why can't I find a job?

You find yourself searching

and searching for an answers and all you can come up with is, the university did not offer any real opportunities for me to interact with prospective employers.

Don't fret. With a combination of reflection and forward thinking *The Meter* is going to help you to avoid the jobless pit or, even worse, the stuck in a dead-end job pit.

Let us reflect before we start thinking toward the future. Why did you choose your major? Did you choose your major because it was the "hot job" of the year? Did you choose your major because of the fact that big salaries are associated with those that graduate with the same major? Or, did you chose your major because it was something that you genuinely have an interest in?

If you choose your major only because of the prospect of making dollars and you have no real interest in the subject, then chances are you are not going to do all that well in your classes.

If you don't perform well in your classes you won't be able to interview with the companies that the Career Center invites because you can't meet their required GPA.

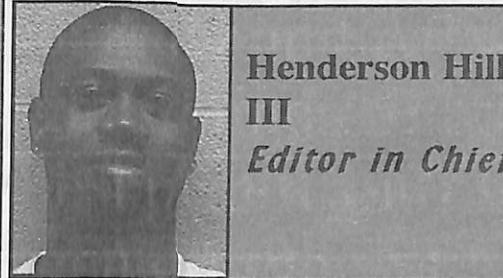
That brings us to our second point. If you see that you are not doing well in any of your major classes, get out of that major. Everyone cannot be an engineer; the world needs teachers, accountants, dancers, lawyers, and writers also.

It may not be the professors' fault, it just may be that your calling is in some other subject. Don't force yourself to stay in a subject that you are having no success with, unless you have sixty-five or more hours. In that case, just study harder and pray for direction.

Now that we have had a little reflection time let us look toward the future. The future begins right now. Although the university may

See "The pros" on page 7

From where I sit: The word Nigga



Henderson Hill
III
Editor in Chief

WARNING: THIS IS NOT FOR THOSE WEAK IN THOUGHT, AND WHO CANNOT HANDLE THE EXCESSIVE USE OF THE WORD NIGGA/NIGGER.

Merriam Webster's Collegiate Dictionary defines the word nigger, from which nigga is derived, as 1. a Black person -usu. taken to be offensive, 2. a member of any dark-skinned race and 3. a member of a socially disadvantaged class of persons.

The third definition that Merriam gives is so bogus. My people are far from being socially disadvantaged. We are unique and have been made strong through our convictions and misfortunes dealt to us by others.

Well, I'm about to keep it real, so hold on for an exploration of my analytical interpretation of the word nigga. This is not to offend anyone, it's simply my chance to the make anyone who is paying attention think. So here we go.

Since I come from a generation that is more privileged than the ones my great-grandparents, grandparents and parents are from, I could not understand why my mom got so upset when she heard Black people refer to one another as nigga.

She would always tell me that that word is nothing but a derogatory term that we have been programmed with by our white counterparts to demean our own people. Now, when my mom would tell me or my brothers about using the 'N' word, as she calls it, we would always come back with some flaky justification for using it. "It's our way to express ourselves as a form of endearment," would always be my best claim.

But now that I have begun to live my life as a Black man, I have begun to heed my mom's views on the word nigga.

The realization is that my elders came from a time where the word nigga was not used as something for Blacks to identify each other with, instead it was a lashing of their character by use of a word. My parents grew up in the Martin Luther King Jr. era.

Although I am guilty of slippin' up every now and then in using the 'N' word, I have slowly begun to re-program myself not to use the word. My reason for changing my immature take on the use of the word comes from the experiences that I have had in the "real world," and Corporate America.

At every job and internship that I have had, with the exception of one, I have been treated like and to referred as a nigger by white people who I have worked with. Yes, the stupidity and ignorance of racism still blissfully runs free in 2001.

But since I realized that I was there to take care of business and to learn whatever I need to get ahead, I would just brush it off. This made me feel my mom's frustration.

I know that I can sit in any given class on campus, or walk through the student center and hear the word nigga being thrown around as if it is a second-nature way to relate to one another. Now, the majority of you students here are at least 18 years old.

Therefore, you are adults. (Yeah, right. That remains to be seen. But, I digress.) This means that you can do what you want, when you want. So take a few Africana Studies classes, or African American Literature courses.

I bet if some of you were to take these classes, and actually pay attention, by the time you come out of the class two things will have happened: 1. You will be extremely hurt and disheartened by the stories of the hardships your ancestors went through, and 2. The word nigger will leave such a bad taste in your mouth after reading some of those slave narratives that you'll hate the sound of the word. [Note: This will only happen if you open your mind and actually attempt to learn something]

When I took Dr. Lynn Lewis for English 211, African American Novels and Short Stories, I was eager to get to class to learn more about my heritage and its richness, which was created by struggle. Dr. Lewis is truly a gifted teacher and thinker. If you have the opportunity to take a class from her, take it! Dr. Lewis, I thank you for making me hate the word nigga.

Now, if a minority student, instructor or faculty member were to call a Black student or staff member a nigga, there would be a riot on the grounds of Tennessee State University, and it would be all over the front page of *The Meter*. I hate to hear the stupid comment that the reason why whites can't say the word nigga, but we as Blacks can, is because they

See "Editor" on page 5

Letters to the Editor

A MESSAGE FROM THE POSTMASTER GENERAL

The U.S. Postal Service places the highest priority on the safety of our customers and employees and on the the security of the mail.

We want you to know we are doing everything possible to make sure mail is safe, and we need your help. Your security and peace of mind are paramount to us.

John E. Potter

What should make me suspect a piece of mail?

- It's unexpected or from someone you don't know.
- It's addressed to someone no longer at your address.
- It's handwritten and has no return address or bears one that you can't confirm is legitimate.
- It's lopsided or lumpy in appearance.
- It's sealed with excessive amounts of tape.
- It's marked with restrictive endorsements such as "Personal" or "Confidential."
- It has excessive postage.

What should I do with a suspicious piece of mail?

- Don't handle a letter or package that you suspect is contaminated.
- Don't shake it, bump it, or sniff it.
- Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water.
- Notify local law enforcement authorities.

Source: U.S. Postal Service

Editor in Chief examines the infamous 'N' word

Continued from page 4

can't understand our struggle.

I can empathize about the struggle bit, but the logic of why Blacks even use the word is far from any grasp of reality. Get a clue.

For those of you who are not English majors, realize that there is a lot of meaning in words and their use.

Why would you call someone in your own race a word that has been used to degrade them for years, just because of the color of their skin.

This may be a minute thing to some small-minded people, but the truth

is it makes you look like the village idiot in front of those who actually call you a nigger/nigga to put you down. i.e. racists who use the word as a source of power to pull themselves up and look down on us. This was just a little food for thought.

Attention All Members of the University Honors Program:

The National Association of Historically Black Colleges and Universities

Honors Programs

Conference will take place

Nov. 15 through 18 at the

Regal Maxwell House Hotel.

Your assistance and atten-

dance will be greatly

appreciated.

Come by the Honors Office

located in the basement of

the Learning Resource

Center for more

information.

The Meter

embraces

letters written

to the editor.

If you have

anything you

would like to

openly express,

feel free to

write us a

letter.

The Meter Mission Statement

The Meter's mission is to timely report the "highlights and lowlights" of Tennessee State University and its community so that we may foster positive changes in the world around us, while reflecting the university's multi-cultural student body.

Submission Requirements

The Meter is published biweekly and is available free to the Tennessee State University community. Opinions expressed herein are of the writer, not those of the administration, the Student Government Association or the faculty or staff of TSU. The submission deadline is the Wednesday before each issue comes out. No exceptions!

The Meter invites submissions by all members of the Tennessee State University community. Timeliness, clarity of thought, factual accuracy, and interest to the university community will be factors in selecting material for publication.

All materials must adhere to the following guidelines:

a) All contributions must be typed, double spaced (submitted on 3.5" disks and hard copy), and must include the writer's name, telephone number and P.O. Box.

b) Articles should not exceed 1,000 words, opinions should not exceed 500 words, and letters should not exceed 300 words.

c) Sources of factual material should be included. All claims of fact are subject to verification.

d) The Meter reserves the right to reject letters, articles or ads without explanation, and to edit those as necessary.*

News

Mass media should increase options not limit them.
 Choice must never be a burden.
 Simplicity should shape both product and process.
 Personal preferences must always be respected.
 Value can only be defined by the individual.
 Participation must never be obligatory.
 Access should be universal and free.
 The greatest goal technology can achieve is to increase human
 freedom.
 Don't listen. Choose.

Finance 1st



**Brandi
 Montgomery
 Financial
 Analyst**

card. Many expire within two to six months after purchase. This means any call time you have left will be lost.

So before you rush to the nearest gas station to buy a phone card remember to read the fine print. If you're interested in getting your money's worth, go to Sam's, Wal-Mart or Best Buy to purchase an AT&T phone card.

According to an AT&T customer care advocate, the phone cards have no hidden fees, meaning you get what you pay for.

For instance, if you purchase a 45-minute phone card for \$5 that's how many minutes you'll get. If you want to save more money, buy the cards in bulk at your nearest Sam's Club. The wholesale store also offers individual cards at a cheaper rate than Wal-Mart. If you recharge a Sam's Club card, you get more minutes for your money.

Another alternative to using a prepaid card is using your school identification card. The phone card feature can be accessed in two ways. You can use the number on the back of the card to reach the phone card feature. Money is deducted from your card balance to pay for minutes used. TSU students also can use the school telecommunications system.

The school's system provides an identification number used in conjunction with the number you're calling. You'll receive a monthly statement with a balance that shows how many minutes you used. The cost per minute rate is actually cheaper than many prepaid cards. You can access this feature by visiting the telecommunications center located in basement of the Humanities building.

For more information log on to www.ucan.org/watchdog/spring97/1973.htm. The site contains calling card rate comparisons and tells of any hidden charges as well as warnings. It also provides fee and rate information for 28 prepaid and billed calling cards.

Being away from home can have its hang-ups. You tend to miss those late night conversations with your friends and parents. If you have a long distance boyfriend/girlfriend it seems worse.

Because the dorms have no long distance service, phone cards can become costly over a semester's time. A good card can save you money, but might cost more. A bad card can make you feel as if you've been cheated and cost more in the long run.

Currently, there are two types of phone cards; prepaid and those that require monthly payments.

According to www.smartmoney.com, prepaid cards offer the best rates because the providers earn interest on your money until the time you make the calls.

If that isn't enough to make you think, there are even more charges to worry about.

For example, ever used a calling card from Amoco and wonder why your time seems to suddenly disappear after making a three minute call? It's because the card contains fees.

Here are a couple of things to look for on the back of the cards.

1. Activation fees (setup fees for prepaid cards)- These are one-time charges for setting up your card. They typically run between \$1 and \$2. Finding a card with no activation fee can be pretty easy, just make sure you're not paying a high monthly fee.

2. Per-call surcharges. Per call surcharges are fixed charges for each call you make. Some boast low 10 cent rates, but carry a surcharge of \$2 per call. Be sure to read the fine print.

3. Expiration dates. Before buying a calling card, make sure you find out when it will expire. Some prepaid phone cards automatically deactivate once you use the

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Agriculture and Home Economics Hall of Fame quietly recognizes merit in TSU's original discipline

By DeAndrea Witherspoon
 News Writer

The Tennessee State University Agriculture and Home Economics Hall of Fame was established in 1996 to recognize past and present faculty, staff, alumni and supporters for their achievements in agriculture, family and consumer sciences (home economics), and research and extension.

Reflecting the university's focus when it was founded in 1912 as Tennessee State Agricultural and Industrial Normal School for Negroes, the hall of fame consists of photographs and background information of inductees. Photographs of all thirty inductees are hung on a wall for the public to view. Many students are unaware that Tennessee State University has this remarkable display.

"I've been thinking about the Hall of Fame more than ever because so much has been mentioned about heroes during the New York ordeal," said retired teacher and Home Economics Coordinator Ola G. Hudson. "For the last six years we have paid homage to ordinary people who have done extraordinary things."

As a coordinator, Hudson plans all the activities that occur in the home economics department.

"It's a wonderful opportunity for us to recognize the success of the history of Tennessee State University

because the university has its roots in agriculture," said Extension Administrator Dr. Clyde E. Chesney.

Dr. Kieu Van Vo, Dr. Hazo W. Carter Sr., and Mr. Lewis J. Wiley are the 2001 Hall of Fame inductees. They were honored at the Hall of Fame banquet Oct. 12 during Homecoming. Vo was a professor at Tennessee State until his death earlier this year. Carter was a professor in the agriculture department. Wiley is a graduate of the university, who made substantial contributions to the agriculture department.

"It makes me happy to celebrate these individuals who have contributed so much to (the) Tennessee State University family," said Community Resource Development Specialist Angela S. Mayers.

Mayers is involved in various community projects, and she is one of 14 members on the Hall of Fame Committee. The committee, consists of the University's faculty, alumni and community leaders, is responsible for coordinating an annual Hall of Fame event. For the past four years, a Hall of Fame banquet has been held to celebrate former and present inductees.

"My role has provided me an opportunity to work with a diligent group of people," said committee member Albretha Jackson. "We have been very fortunate because the banquet is scheduled during our Homecoming, enabling us to renew. See "Committee" on page 7

News

The pros and cons of going to college

Continued from page 4

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Another tool that will help you in your career quest is research.

For example, there are certain career fairs that the university will pay for you to attend that are not held at the university. There are also citywide job fairs; Internet job fairs and various companies will sponsor their own job fairs to help them find employees. The opportunities are out there, it is just a matter of finding them and being persistent in pursuing them.

The bottom line is this: You get what you work for. The ultimate entity responsible for your future is you. You are the master of your own destiny and don't ever forget it. •

Free HIV Testing

Health Center

Rm 119 at 1 p.m.

Nov. 20

Do you love movies, music,
poetry or all of the above?

Then fill out an
application for the
A&E

section of
The Aleter

and leave it in the
mailbox of A&E Editor
Alan C. Beard

Committee sets guidelines for Hall of Fame inductee selection

Continued from page 6

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The Hall of Fame Committee has a selection criteria for all applicants. Individuals must meet all requirements under the category for which they are being recommended to qualify for consideration as an inductee.

Nominees are considered for induction based upon on selection criteria and a majority vote by members of the standing committee. Faculty and/or staff, alumni and donors are the categories used for recommending an individual as an inductee into the Hall of Fame. Individuals in the faculty category must meet three of the five standards.

One standard is that the individual should have coordinated innovative educational or com-

munity service programs for the university in one of these three eligible disciplines. Under the alumni category, donating more than \$10,000 for program enhancement is one requirement.

For donors, the individual or corporation recommended should have contributed \$50,000 in funds or equivalent assets to the university foundation, student scholarships or program enhancements. A nomination packet can be requested by contacting William Hayslett, associate professor of the Plant and Soil Sciences Department. Hayslett serves as chairman on the Hall of Fame Committee.

"I have been an adviser to the committee ever since it began," said committee member Will Nesby. "I am in 100 percent support of in continuing the banquets. It's a wonderful idea."

"The Hall of Fame is a good idea that should be extended to other departments," said, sophomore Rickenya Goodson, an engineering major.

The hall of fame display is on the first floor in the Agriculture Research and Extension Complex on John Merritt Blvd. and it is open to the public. •

2001 Yearbooks

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News

The pros and cons of going to college

Continued from page 4

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News

Yearbook photos cause problems for students and photographer

By Raynata Y. Reed
News Editor

Tennessee State University has rescheduled yearbook photo dates to accommodate students and the photographer after low student and faculty turnout and orders for recent photo shoots.

Yearbook photos were scheduled to be taken on Oct. 22, 23, 24, 29 and 30. Despite the use of mass e-mails, announcements in the Oct. 10 and Oct. 24 issues of *The Meter*, distribution of flyers and other methods, many students did not come out to take their photos. To rectify this situation, the yearbook has scheduled a second set of yearbook photo dates for March 11, 12 and 13 and plans to do more to advertise the dates.

"(We will) have a table in the student center and give out small flyers," said Dwedor Ford, editor in chief of *The Tennessean* yearbook.

However, students have different reasons for not taking yearbook photos.

"It didn't interest me to take my yearbook pictures because I knew I wouldn't purchase the book," said Shayla

Lewis, a senior from Detroit.

Pamela Foster, the director of student publications, stressed that the yearbook is a schoolwide effort.

"As is always the case, the quality of the yearbook for 2002 starts with student input," Foster said. "And that means not just the students on the yearbook staff. If few other students turn out for pictures, the yearbook will have few students in it. If many turn out, it will have many in it."

There were other reasons students didn't take their yearbook photos. It is the yearbook staff's responsibility to have all the materials ready for students when they come to take their pictures, such as robes, honors cords and sashes for seniors. Ford said that many seniors were turned away because they did not have the honors cords and sashes. The editor also said that many students were waiting to take their pictures on the last day and because the photographer canceled the last two October dates, they did not have the opportunity to get photos taken.

Katrina Coomer, the yearbook photographer, did not complete all of the scheduled dates for yearbook photos because of low turnout and because too

few students placed orders to buy pictures, she said.

Coomer added that it is the school's responsibility to have all the materials needed for student's to take graduation pictures and to inform students that payment is due on the day that the photo is taken.

"In three days, approximately 150 students came to take their pictures," Coomer said. "The way it works, the photographer gets paid by students placing orders. I had only received about \$300 for orders at the end of the first day. I can't work without being compensated and I couldn't continue working without getting paid and that's the bottom line."

Coomer's expenses for taking yearbook photos include the printing of a banner that hung outside the cafeteria, copies, an assistant, film, developing and yearbook prints. She asked that the university compensate her with a nominal fee for her services thus far in order to complete photo sessions and said she would deduct from that fee the amount of payments received by students at the end of the photo sessions. The university then would owe her the balance.

Some other measures that the year-

book will employ for the March photo sessions are to make sure that the honor cords, Greek scarves and caps and gowns are delivered before the photo sessions and to make sure yearbook staffers deliver flyers in useful and acceptable places in advance of the new photo times.

The new dates scheduled for pictures are March 11 and 12 on the downtown campus from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and March 13 on the main campus in 040 Kean Hall during the same times.

Despite all, Coomer said she appreciates the opportunity to do the yearbook photos for TSU and deeply regrets that there was a low turnout and low order placement.

"I enjoyed working with the students and people at TSU," Coomer said. For the rescheduled dates, Coomer hopes that "students can have the pictures that they want and I look forward to finishing up in March."

Foster also added, "faculty and staff also should keep in mind that it's their responsibility to get their pictures taken if they want to be in the yearbook....so, anyone who did not get a picture taken for last year's book should get one taken this year." •

Author Lawrence C. Ross speaks about Greek life at Tennessee State University as a part of Student Development Series

By Dywuan Brown
News Writer

Lawrence C. Ross, a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. and author of *The Divine Nine*, spoke at Tennessee State University on Oct. 23 about his latest book, and through wit and wisdom, discussed the intricate history of Black fraternities and sororities.

Ross was educated at the University of California at Berkeley where he studied African-American Studies and history. For the past two years, he has spoken at 88 colleges and universities throughout the United States. Before writing this book, nonfiction was his special interest when it came to writing.

Although he is a member of a fraternity, he began to wonder about the history of other fraternities' and sororities'. While researching for this book, Ross had extensive research on his hands. The full title, "*The Divine Nine: The History of African American Fraternities and Sororities*," consists of the National Pan-Hellenic Council African-American greek organizations. This includes Alpha Phi Alpha, Alpha Kappa Alpha, Omega Psi Phi, Kappa Alpha Psi, Delta Sigma Theta, Phi Beta Sigma, Zeta Phi Beta,

Sigma Gamma Rho and Iota Phi Theta

In taking account for writing such a broad book, Ross did not know who would be the readers of this particular book.

"A writer does not account for who would read the book," said Mr. Ross. An inspiration for writing his book was Fraternal Myopia. He realized that since he was a member of Alpha Phi Alpha, he only saw everything in the eyes of his fraternity and no one could tell him anything else about other fraternities. In researching the other NPHC organizations, he noticed that the different organizations had the same ideas, but just different founders.

"I have a difficulty understanding why some frats and sororities have disputes because they are for doing good no matter who the founders are," said Gabriel Sanderfur, from Chattanooga, TN. Gabriel also feels that organizations should let that past be the past and worry about the future, especially during this sensitive time in America. During his visit, Ross began to focus and tell the audience who the most important people are when it comes to Greek organizations. He said that the financial members are more important than the non-active members. Ross explained how members

pledge the organizations and decide to fall off after their process is over.

"I feel that it is very important to keep the oath that you made because if you don't pay dues or (anything) for your organization, you are lying to yourself and the Greek letters," said Jacqueline Amos, a member of Delta Sigma Theta, and alumnae of the University of Cincinnati.

Ross also discussed the mentality of members of fraternities and sororities. He feels that members of Greek organizations need to be put out of the 21st century and placed back into the 60's or whenever the founders started the organizations.

"I bet some of the founders of some of the organizations are turning over in their graves now," Ross said.

At the end of his speech, he described the difference between white Greeks and the African-American Greeks. He described the difference as a past tense, present tense conversation. He said that whites will say that "I was" while on the other hand African-Americans will say "I am," meaning they are lifetime members.

Since its publication in January of 2001, it has been a Blackboard best seller for four months, a two time *Essence*



PHOTO COURTESY OF
TSU PUBLIC RELATIONS
& DAVID G. LOWRY

Lawrence C. Ross

Magazine best seller and a *Los Angeles Times* best seller. His book also is number one among African-American college students.

"I enjoyed his book and look forward to another of his publications," said Oretha McGee, Bursar's counselor. •

Be sure to come out
and hear
consumer advocate
and
presidential candidate
Ralph Nader
speak on Nov. 13

News

21st annual Tennessee State University Foundation Dinner held at Opryland Hotel

By Michelle Denning
News Writer

The Tennessee State University Foundation, a program that among many things helps raise scholarships for students, held its annual fundraiser Saturday, Oct. 20, at the Opryland Hotel. The twenty-first annual fundraiser's theme was "A celebration of investing in our students for the future."

The event raised \$800,000 from alumni and other contributors, surpassing the foundation's goal of \$600,000. The foundation's four-year fundraising total now is more than \$2 million.

Over the years the honorees have been baseball great Hank Aaron and Tennessee Titans owner Bud Adams. This year's honoree was Sen. Fred Thompson.

"The Foundation Dinner was a wonderful event," said Thaddius Flowers, a senior political science major. "The foundation did a wonderful job of honoring Senator Thompson."

Nashville artist Malenda Trick unveiled artwork showing Thompson in his many roles,

which include statesman, politician, lawyer and actor.

Thompson said that with the recent terrorist tragedies in America, "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."

Thompson knows the value of a dollar, as he worked his way through both college and law school. This fortitude made him the natural choice for the 21st annual Foundation Dinner.

Delores Lewis, executive director of the TSU Foundation, said that the event provided a wonderful evening and without the help of four dedicated students the night would not have been as special.

"Thaddius Flowers, Lakeisha Woods, Jasmin White and Shaunda Smith went above and beyond the call of duty, when helping me plan for the Foundation Dinner," she said. "Their help along with the faculty and staff made the Foundation Dinner a roaring success."•

Honors

Week

2001

Nov. 5 - 9

News Briefs

NAACP FUND RAISER: A HUGE SUCCESS

By Tamika Jefferson

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), Tennessee State University Chapter, sponsored a fund raiser called "Project Toll Road". "Project Toll Road" raised money for the NAACP and to help start scholarship funds. This fund raiser consisted of 26 active members of the NAACP. These members stood in front of Fisk University on Jefferson Street and on Clarksville Highway by Walgreens and Tigermart and asked passing cars and pedestrians to donate money. The members were determined and focused and got the job done despite the cold, windy weather and their persistence paid off as the donations poured in like rain. The NAACP raised approximately \$847.72 between the hours of 4-6p.m., Friday, Oct. 26.

"Successful people do what unsuccessful people won't," said Brian Sexton, chairperson over "Project Toll Road". The NAACP paved the road for the advancement of Blacks today and this cycle is continuing with help from the community. All of the members agreed it was fun and got a lot of support from the community.

"I appreciate all of support TSU offers and in the near future, we'll be raising money continuously to start funds for scholarships to students," said Jamie Riley, President of the NAACP. "So please continue to support the NAACP and our future events". A big thanks for everyone who participated in "Project Toll Road". **Tamika Jefferson**

Payroll supervisor dies

Tennessee State University mourns the loss of Mildred Cater, payroll supervisor for 50 years at TSU, who died Oct. 18. The Nashville native attended TSU as a student in 1939 and graduated with a degree in business education. At She received her master's degree in business education at Columbia University in New York, and went on to teach business education classes at TSU. She was later asked to work in the payroll department by then president, Walter S. Davis, where she served for half a century. She is remembered for her dedication and persistence in making sure that TSU faculty and staff members were paid on time and TSU employees always were her top priority. Cater retired at the age of 75 on July 1. TSU hosted a special retire-

ment reception for Cater at 11:30 a.m., July 1, in the Agriculture Research and Extension Complex and Mayor Phil Bredesen proclaimed July 1 Mildred Cater Day. **Raynata Y. Reed**

Production of Nissan Maxima moves to Tennessee

Gov. Don Sundquist and Chief of Staff Alex Fischer join Emil Hassan, senior vice president of North American Manufacturing for Nissan, in announcing that Nissan will move production of its flagship Maxima sedan to Tennessee. The move is part of a \$1 billion expansion of Nissan's two Tennessee plants that the company announced last year. **News Release from the Office of Governor Don Sundquist**

Coca-Cola Corporate Intern Program

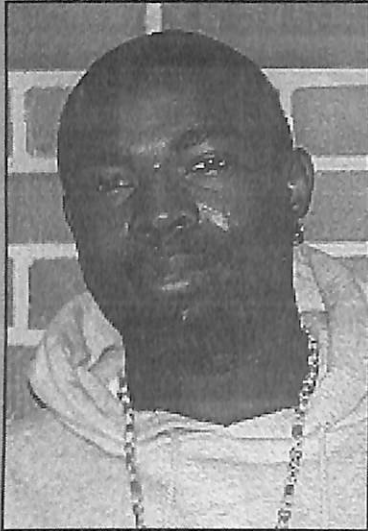
Coca-Cola announces its 2002 Corporate Intern Program open to minority college sophomores. 50 students are selected for an eight-to-ten week summer internship at the Coca-Cola headquarters in Atlanta. Students can intern in one of the nine areas of the company, including chemistry, communications, engineering, finance, human resources, journalism, information technology, marketing and business management. Housing and transportation are provided, and each student will earn a \$2,500 monthly stipend. For more information, contact TSU's Financial Aid Office, Career Placement Center or your Department Chair. Information also is available at www.coca-colaoncampus.com and www.uncf.org or call The College Fund at 1-888-671-7237. The deadline to apply for the Summer 2002 Internship is Nov. 15, so apply today! **Raynata Y. Reed**•

Community View

Dicks of the Pack

Religion

What role does religion play in your life? Has it changed since you have been in college compared with living at home?



Lee Steele
Chattanooga, Tenn.
Mechanical Engineering
Major
Freshman

"I'm not that religious, but I go to a Baptist church. I try to go to church whenever it is possible....here I go to the Gentry. I was in a seminar last week and they were talking about how rap has to do with religion, how it was giving off bad vibes and stuff...and I was cool with it."



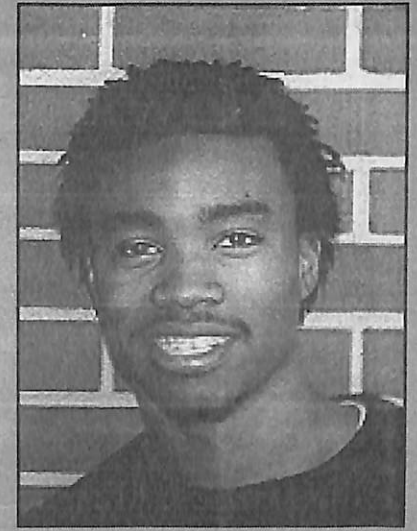
Tureah M. Kimble
Milwaukee
Social Work Major
Sophomore

"Religion plays a big part in my life. I was raised in the church, so it has helped me. It has instilled moral values in my everyday life. It has changed though....like going to church. I used to go to church every Sunday. When I go home on Christmas break or whatever break, I go to church. But when I came down here it was like, I'm free, so I fell off. I feel bad....but I feel that if I did go to church I would have more peace, and I would feel better about life."



Jaimyce McClinton
Chicago
Biology/Pre-Med Major
Junior

"I would say it plays a very strong role. Everything I do, I put God first and I know without him I can't accomplish anything. I mean, that has been proven a lot of times. I have had quite a bit of problems this semester and I've been trying to rush him for solutions, but I've always realized that they don't come when I want them to, they come when they're necessary and when they're needed. You know, he tells you he's not there when we want him to be, but he is always on time. I believe in that strongly. I put him first in everything. I feel I depend on him a little bit more. Right now I'm down here by myself. I have no family down here with me, and I put myself through college pretty much."



Kenneth Taylor
Atlanta
Psychology Major
Senior

"It's a very important part. I'm not very religious in the sense where I know a lot of Bible quotes, but I know that all that I do is done because of God. I do believe in God and I am a Christian. It has grown greater, I guess, because I realized that I really do need God. I haven't been able to have my parents backing me, so at least I know I have him as my back."

Do you have reliable transportation?

Are you interested in events that are going on in the Nashville area?

Well, now is your chance

to write for the

Community View section of *The Aleter*!

Call Community View Editor Tosha Jones

at

963-5555.

Community View

TSU Alumnus gives back to senior citizens at Hadley Park Towers

By Tosha Jones
Community View Editor

Tennessee State University alumnus George Thomas provides senior citizens at Hadley Park Towers with monthly entertainment and educational activities during "Happy Hour" through his newly founded organization, Education Equal Opportunity Group.

President and CEO of EEOG established in May of 2000, Thomas says the mission of his organization

were able to enjoy.

Mary Moore, another Hadley Park Towers resident, came from Chicago about 50 years ago to live in Nashville and said she always enjoys the fun at Happy Hour. "I like it. I like all of it," she said. "The dancing, the music, and laughing."

Volunteers are always needed and are welcome to attend the monthly Happy Hours.

Kirk Rhodes, an employee of Bell South in the advertising department, is a consistent volunteer at Happy Hour. "I decided to do community service because citizenship is something that I believe in,"

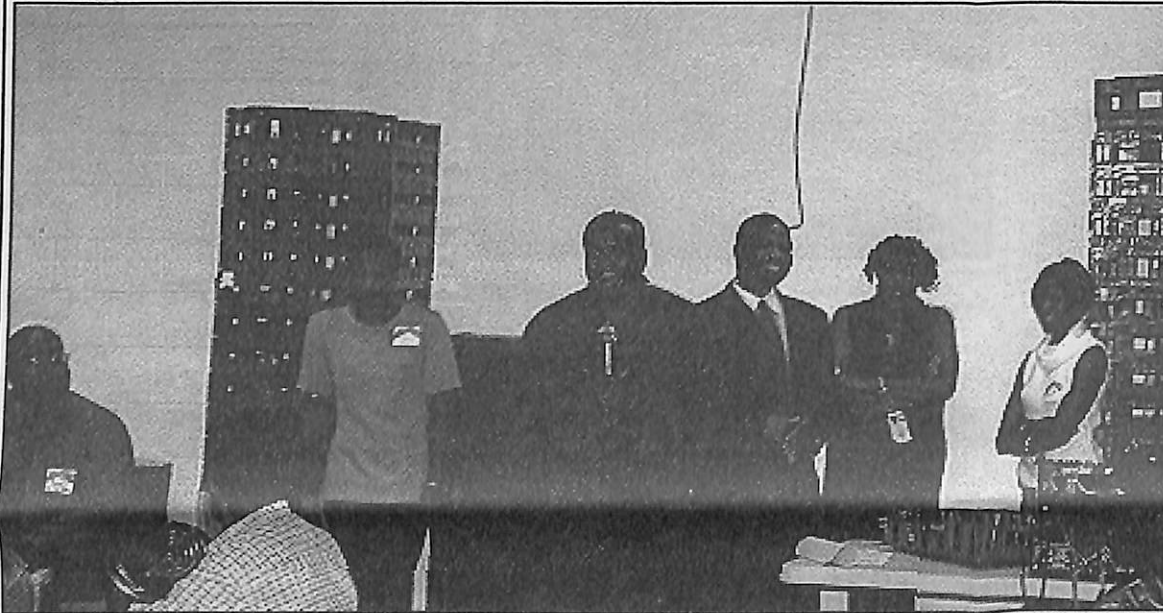


PHOTO BY ILYAS MUHAMMAD

Leland Statin speaking to senior citizens.

is to develop, design and implement projects that promote academic, social, cultural and professional development of students, senior citizens and people who are physically challenged, low-incomed and disenfranchised.

"We have adopted Hadley Park Towers," Thomas said. "I am an alumnus of Tennessee State and [community service] is one of the projects that my fraternity frequently participated in. We do this to increase the visibility of our organization and, ultimately, we are meeting an unmet need. These are the pioneers and this is our way of showing appreciation for our elders and giving back to our community."

Since February of this year, EEOG associates and volunteers have arranged several activities for the senior citizens at Hadley Park Towers every fourth Tuesday. At the Oct. 23 Happy Hour, Robert Catlin from the Matthew Walker Health Center Inc. spoke to the senior citizens about the dangers of tobacco and offered advice for adopting healthy diet habits.

Willie Jones, a resident of Hadley Park Towers from Columbia, Tenn., has been living in Nashville for the majority of his life and he appreciates the efforts of the EEOG to care for its elders. "It is really nice," Jones said. "It seems like you all are trying to help the community and I like that part about it."

Lelan Statom from NewsChannel 5 gave the attendees a short speech of encouragement, and other volunteers gave poetry readings. Bingo, card games and a dance contest were other activities the senior citizens

collaborate with different organizations to promote a more progressive outreach to the seniors in the North Nashville community. He says that he solicits support from fraternities and sororities as well as from different local agencies in the city.

James Walker, CEO of The Jefferson Street Cafe, has been participating in the Happy Hour since it started by donating food each month. "I love it," Walker said. "Anytime I can help senior citizens, it's no problem. I do what I can for them, because one of these days somebody's going to have to do it for me."

Kimberly Jordan, who works in the Commissioner's Policy Office at the Department of Environment and Conservation, recently has joined the volunteer services at Happy Hour and feels it is a great program that will continue to improve.

"A lot of what I do at work is organizational stuff, like facilitating meetings and putting things together," she said. "[Thomas] wants me to help him organize things a little bit better and think about how to work things out so that it will run a little smoother.

"Just looking at his program, I think the addition of some icebreakers would create a more dynamic situation where people can interact more and get to know each other a little bit better...but so far I really like what he has done here and I think it is a good program and I feel it has a lot of potential."◊

Campus Calendar

Nov. 1 - 23
Pan-Hellenic Clothing and Food Drive for Samaritan Ministries

Nov. 7
Oratorical Contest 8p.m. LRC Auditorium

Nov. 8
Honors Program Performance 6p.m. FPCC Rm 210

B.L.A.C.K. Informational Meeting 7p.m. FPCC Rm 319

Nov. 9,12,14,16,19,20
Pan-Hellenic-Alpha Phi Alpha, Alpha Kappa Alpha, Phi Beta Sigma, Zeta Phi Beta, Iota Phi Theta, and Sigma Gamma Rho will be collecting can goods in the Student Center

Nov. 13
Symposium and Presentations Series presents Ralph Nader, presidential candidate for the 2000 election 1:40p.m. Humanities Bldg. Auditorium

Jet Magazine "Care Package Give-away" 11a.m. FPCC Rm 210

Nov. 14
International Student Display 11a.m. FPCC Courtyard

Nov. 15
Jean Elliot Lecture Series 5p.m. FPCC Rm 210

The United Nations and International Education observe U.S. International Education Week. "Windows onto the World Atrium" seminar 12p.m.-2p.m. Avon Williams Campus

Nov. 19
Christmas Tree Program 6p.m. Courtyard

Nov. 20
"Free" HIV Testing 1p.m. in the Health Center Rm 119

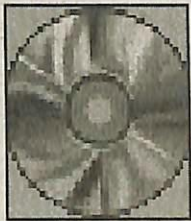
Community Calendar

Nov. 8
Tennessee Repertory Theatre opens a Broadway Series. Nashville premiere of Donald Marquies' "Dinner With Friends." A profoundly funny play that slowly works its way into an audience's bones.

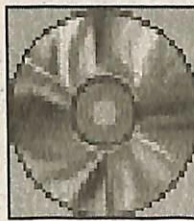
Nov. 10
Zeitgeist presents an opening reception for "Zero Withheld": New works by Tim Hussey and "Slices from the Image Stream": New works by Gene Wilken. 6p.m.-8p.m. 1819 21st Ave. S. in Hillsboro Village www.zeitgeist-art.com

Nov. 11
Open House Celebration at the Blair School of Music Vanderbilt University. 1pm-5pm.◊

Arts & Entertainment



Compact DISCUSSIONS



Lina - *Stranger On Earth* 4

Sick from the redundant state of music right now? Singer, songwriter and producer Lina has the remedy.

A talented singer who holds the capacity to sing in Latin, Italian, German and English. A native of Texas, Lina's sounds are reminiscent and inspired by the early 20th century sounds of Lena Horne, Cab Calloway, Bessie Smith and Duke Ellington. Laced with horn riffs and bass licks, the majority of Lina's songs have a swingy jazz feel to them encouraging listeners to snap their fingers.

It is hard to not be intrigued by the seductive soprano of Lina, especially on such songs as *I'm Not the Enemy* and *Playa No Mo'*. The singer's unique sound, that was mimicked by Blu Cantrell in her song *Hit Um Up Styles (Oops!)*, provides fresh sounds that emerge out of other music like a flower out of soil. *Stranger on Earth*, not only possesses varying big band sound, but varying song topics. In the compassionate *God Loves Me*, Lina sings *If you can't tell me why stars fall out the sky/ Then you can't tell me who or what I should be/ Just 'cause it's right for you don't mean it's right for me/ This is my life so I can only be me.*

In the sullen song *Waiting*, the cabaret sound is apparent with simulated audience noises, rich trumpet riffs and piano tones pleading to a loved one to come to her. Hip-hop fans may be enticed by a bonus track with Guru in the rugged *It's Alright (remix)*.

One would be able to listen to Lina's album and dance in the club to her respect anthem song, *Watch Your Mouth*, *It turn me on when you say my a** is fat/ I ain't feeling you just because your ride is new/ So you want to get pissed when I don't respond/ Want to call me a b*tch well I'm not the one/ Not for you not your crew you're all the same/ You ain't got no game.*

With vast knowledge of jazz music it is not a surprise that Lina revisited Dinah Washington's, *Stranger on Earth*. *I've been living the best that I can/ Lord knows ever since my life began/ The day's gonna come when I don't have to prove my worth/ And I won't be no stranger on this earth.* Keeping in mind that Lina was a child prodigy as a vocalist, the title *Stranger on Earth* seems to fit her the best. With tour experience

with Craig David, Joan Osborne and Gangstarr's Guru, it is obvious that Lina is planning a career of permanence in the music industry.

If Lina's music quality continues to become more advanced, many music fans will accept her with open ears for many years to come. **Jamarran E'mil Moss**

Usher - *8701* 2

The new Usher CD, cleverly entitled *8701*, because it was released on this date, is awful. This CD does not differ much from some of his past works.

It refers to the same old problems that a lot of us face in everyday relationships. With his smooth, sultry voice, Usher tries to prove that he is what women want.

He even expresses this in so many words. On the track, *If I Want To*, Usher sings *If I wanted I could take you from ya man/ please believe it! Wit my eyes closed/ I could have you eatin' out the palm of my hand/ and all your little girlfriends, too.*

Yeah right! I'm never convinced he even believes this. Another song on the CD entitled, *Good Ol' Ghetto* is sung from



PHOTO COURTESY OF ATLANTIC RECORDS

Lina

the typical male mind state.

This song talks about a guy who has a girlfriend, but keeps reminiscing about an old flame, which has that "good ol' ghetto." In other words, this guy is debating on whether or not to return to the "ghetto." Aren't the streets of the ghetto dirty?

It's a shame when the booklet, inside the CD case has more appeal to it than the album. Maybe Usher should channel

some of that energy, he uses at the photo shoots into his music (just a suggestion). The whole CD is not garbage. There are a few nice love songs on it like *Can U Help Me?*, *How Do I Say* and his latest single *U Got It Bad* (well at least he got the bad part right). All in all, the CD was a waste of my money and is not worth yours. I'd recommend that you don't even bother taking the time to download it either. **Angela Jefferson**

DISCUSS THIS! DMX/THE GREAT DEPRESSION 3

The ruffest of the Ruff Ryders has returned for the fourth time. DMX is back hitting the charts hard with his fourth album *The Great Depression*. This album has 15 tracks, two skits, along with two of X's trademark prayers. This CD, is what I call one of those must grow on albums.

The first time you listen to the album it is fast forward city but as you continue to listen, it eventually grows on you (Save your \$13.99 anyway and get the burnt copy). As far as the production is concerned DMX tested his sampling and mixing skills on a majority of the tracks and he left the rest for Damon "Grease" Blackman and the Key Board King Swizz Beatz to screw up.

The Dog kept it simple

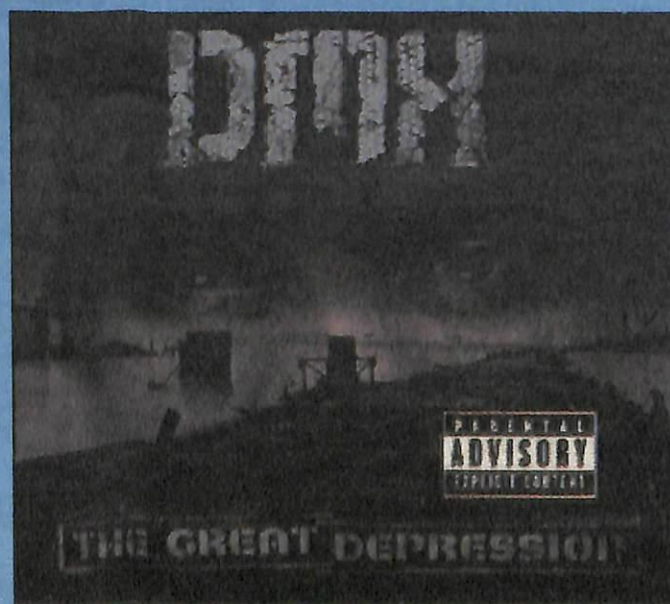


PHOTO COURTESY OF DEF JAM RECORDINGS & RUFF RYDERS

DMX's latest musical venture.

with only three featured guest, Stephanie Mills, Faith Evans, and Mashonda (who ever she is). Hands down the hottest track on the album was *I Miss You* which was vocally

laced by Faith Evans. In this song DMX expresses his thoughts of his late grandmother.

For some reason DMX did not come off as hard as he

has in the past. With tracks like *When I'm Nothing* featuring Stephanie Mills and *A Minute For Your Son*, X showed his sensitive side with yerses like, *"I'm so tired of trying to run Father/ I'm so sorry for what I've done Father/ It ain't my fault/ the Devil has been on my back Father he's like a hawk/."* He sounds like he is repenting for his sins.

X seems to have lost his touch with this album. Could the Dog, be letting the pressure of competing for the rap crown get to him? Not to worry X, the crown has already been unanimously handed to Jay-z.

Honestly this album won't last a month in my stereo. In short the title of this album, speaks for itself. **Thomas Thorps**

Arts & Entertainment

Redman And Method Man

Go To College

Universal Pictures Press Release

In *How High* multi-platinum rap super stars Redman and Method Man star as Jamal and Silas, two regular guys who smoke something magical, ace their college entrance exams and wind up at Harvard. Ivy League ways are strange but Silas and Jamal take it in stride - until their supply of supernatural smoke runs dry. That's when they have to start living by their wits and rely on their natural resources to make the grade.

Jesse Dylan, an award-winning commercial and music video director, makes his feature film debut with *How High*, a comedy written by Dustin Abraham and Brad Kaaya. This comedy is for everybody old enough to know that lighting up is not the key to higher test scores. Danny Devito, Michael Shamberg, Stacey Sher, Shauna Garr and James Ellis are the producers; Pamela Abdy, Louis G. Friedman and Jonathan Weisgal are executive producers.

How High has not yet been rated by the MPAA. This film contains adult themes, and moviegoers are urged to consult www.filmratings.com when making viewing choices. The film is scheduled for release nationwide on December 26th.



The Lyricist Lounge Submission Requirements

The Meter is published biweekly.
The submission deadline is the Wednesday before
each issue comes out. No exceptions!!!

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

Timeliness, clarity of thought, originality, and
interest to the university community will be factors in selecting material for publi-
cation.

All materials **must** adhere to the following
guidelines:

a) All contributions must be typed, double spaced (submitted on 3.5" disks and
hard copy), and must include the writer's name, telephone number and

P.O. Box.

b) Poems should not exceed 300 words.

c) Submit a portrait of yourself to be used if your
poem is published.

The Meter reserves the right to reject poems without explanation, and to edit sub-
missions as necessary, while still trying to adhere to the author's original vision.

For more information feel free to contact

A&E Editor Alan C. Beard at 963-5555

Arts & Entertainment

Keeping It Real

Reading TSU's Mind!!!



Alan C. Beard
A&E
Editor

It ain't what you say it's how you say it. It's jokes but it's also the truth.

- **Bernie Mac**, *The Original Kings of Comedy*

I'm getting old, my body's weary and I just can't take it anymore. Tennessee State University, you've gone and done it again. Something is fishy around here and it ain't tuna! I got some stories to tell you. You want to hear them? Here goes!

It was a rainy Homecoming weekend and things just got retarded around here.

The first act of shame took place after the parade on Saturday.

The Meter staff had an open house for any former staff members or alumni who wanted to come up and see how we get down. Well, we were in the office just chillin' and you wouldn't believe what the rain brought in.

Let me paint a picture for those of you who have never been up to our suite at 304 Kean Hall.

When you enter the office you have to walk down a corridor and you aren't seen until you turn the corner. It's kind of like walking toward that white light.

Anyway, we sat patiently as we always do and waited to see who was gracing us with their presence.

Then around the corner comes Daffy Duck, a.k.a. TSU President Dr. James A. Hefner. He wasn't alone. There was a family from North Carolina with him (They must have had a lot of money).

Now, immediately we were looking at him like, what do you want! Yeah, I said it! (I'm just saying what you can't say, but you feel the same way.)

He comes up here on a PR trip acting all fake like he comes up every week. Dr. Hefner only comes in The Meter office when it benefits him.

He doesn't return our phone calls

and the school newspaper has the worst computers on the whole campus. We don't even have a working printer. Now, how much sense does that make? The second we don't have an issue of the paper come out, everyone is going to be concerned (Don't hold your breath because the time is coming. We don't have enough money to print issues all year). How are we supposed to function as a newspaper without adequate equipment, i.e. new computers, a printer that works, the Internet? The next time you come up here, Dr. Hefner, bring my friend Mr. Computer with you.

We don't even have the Internet in the newspaper office. I shouldn't have to walk my toe nails off around this campus to use the Internet when we are supposed to be your best information source for news. Whew! I've gone off on a tangent. Let's get back to the story.

One of our former editors, Hillary S. Condon, who also happens to be a part of the minority (white) population, was visiting.

Well, when she attended TSU he wouldn't give her the time of day. (Someone must have slipped a mickey in his Wheaties that morning). When he came in he surveyed the room and gestured her to come here, like they were long lost cousins. Then the unthinkable happened, he gave her a hug. Huh? We laughed at him so hard, because it was so fake. He then began to praise us for our work thus far this year. He was stuttering the whole time and grinning like a Cheshire cat.

"He only comes up when it's suitable for him," Condon said. "When there are alumni visiting or parents who have kids who are interested in the newspaper. Then we have the greatest newspaper in

the world. But when I did my story where the students gave him a crapy score [based on his performance as president] we're just a bunch of kids trying to cause trouble. That's his job to be fake, you can't knock him for doing his job." How many of you out there believe that?

I've never been to the TSU oval office. I bet that will change after this comes out.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE METER ARCHIVES
TSU President Dr. James A. Hefner

not have associated with this university.

Well think about this. What if I told you to take off those thick glasses or tight suits because they don't reflect well on this university either. You'd be a little offended, right? Well, some will argue it's not the same thing, but it is. He wears them because they are fashionable and it's him, well that's why we wear do-rags. It's not because we're in a gang or thugs, we're in college, Dr. Hefner. There are no REAL thugs in college (loosen up them ties playa).

Now it's time to chat about the university as a whole. This is a university, a place for higher learning, correct? Well, why does it cater to one major more than others?

If people are supposed to be able to get an adequate education here, they shouldn't be shorted because of the university's failure to acknowledge they even exist.

My second beef is again with Dr. Hefner. Allow me to hip all the males on campus to what the president is up to. He plans to try to encourage us not to wear do-rags. You see, he thinks they reflect poorly on the school. I'm a grown man. (Once again I say what you're scared to say but you feel the same way!) He claims it portrays an image he would rather

Why specialize in just engineering or business. What about English, psychology or communications, which for the record is how people get things done on a daily basis.

Sure you're building a nice monument over there next to Hale Hall but what about some funding. Can the university radio station get a budget? Can the communication majors get help finding jobs, like the career fairs for all the other majors? Can we get some love?

We shouldn't have to do everything on our own, I mean no other majors do. Sure we'll be better prepared for the world outside of TSU, more so than any of the other students who are simply majoring in books 101 instead of experience 5000, but it won't be because of TSU. We are forced to do this, we have no other alternative.

A speaker came to talk to one of my classes and he is a TSU alumnus. He is the new co-manager of the R&B group Destiny's Child (let Dr. Hefner get a hold of this information and it'll wind up in one of his redundant speeches). He basically said he wouldn't dare give his money to the powers that be "here." I wonder why that is? The longer I'm here I begin to see why Oprah or a lot of people who attended TSU and have made it, aren't even looking our way.

You had better believe when I'm big time and somebody from TSU calls me up asking me to give some money it better be Dr. Donald Page, on the other end of the phone or they are going to meet my friend DT [dial tone].

And it's not just communication majors who are suffering, it's everyone. Imagine how much more TSU's campus radio could do with some money. Imagine how much better students' senior projects would be with better equipment. They would then have something to use to get them into film, design and art schools after graduation. When did school turn into such a stupid business? How many people have missed out? Too many!

We are suffering, but remember this administration, you will be old before we are and we'll be in charge. You better think about that when you short change us on the knowledge we deserve.

TSU students, you're not getting off the hook that easy. Last semester many of you came to me and said that we

See "TSU Administration" on page 16

Arts & Entertainment

The Princeton Review @ Tennessee State University Spring 2002 Class Schedule

GRE (Condensed Course)

www.gre.org

The discounted cost for the GRE is \$320 for TSU students and alumni. You must make a \$100 payment at the time of the practice test (2/18/02) and the remaining balance of \$220 is due on the first day of class (3/11/02).

TIME 6:30p to 9:30p	Monday 2/18 Practice Test	Monday 3/11	Monday 3/18	Monday 3/25	Monday 4/1	<u>Recommended</u> Computerized Test Date Monday, April 8, 2002
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GMAT (Condensed Course)

www.gmat.com

The discounted cost for the GMAT is \$320 for TSU students and alumni. You must make a \$100 payment at the time of the practice test (2/19/02) and the remaining balance of \$220 is due on the first day of class (3/12/02).

TIME 6:30p to 9:30p	Tuesday 2/19 Practice Test	Tuesday 3/12	Tuesday 3/19	Tuesday 3/26	Tuesday 4/2	<u>Recommended</u> Computerized Test Date Monday, April 8, 2002
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MCAT (Regular Course)

www.aamc.org

The discounted cost for the MCAT is \$600. The full payment is due on the first day of class (1/19/02).

Saturday 1/19 10:00a - 5:00p	Wednesday 1/23 6:30p- 9:30p	Sunday 1/27 1:30p- 5:30p	Wednesday 1/30 6:30p- 9:30p	Sunday 2/3 1:30p- 5:30p	Wednesday 2/6 6:30p- 9:30p	Sunday 2/10 1:30p- 5:30p
Wednesday 2/13 6:30p- 9:30p	Saturday 2/16 10:00a- 5:00p	Sunday 2/17 1:30p- 5:30p	Wednesday 2/20 6:30p- 9:30p	Wednesday 3/13 6:30p- 9:30p	Saturday 3/16 8:00a- 3:00p	Sunday 3/17 1:30p- 5:30p
Wednesday 3/20 6:30p- 9:30p	Saturday 3/23 8:00a- 3:00p	Sunday 3/24 1:30p- 5:30p	Wednesday 3/27 6:30p- 9:30p	Wednesday 4/3 6:30p- 9:30p	Saturday 4/6 8:00 a.- 3:00p.	Sunday 4/7 1:30p- 5:30p
Wed. 4/10 6:30p- 9:30p	Sunday 4/14 1:30p- 5:30p	Wednesday 4/17 6:30p- 9:30p	Saturday, April 20, 2002 MCAT TEST			

LOCATION

Classes are held on the TSU Main Campus. The actual building and classroom numbers will be assigned and posted in the Office of Graduate & Professional Opportunities at a later date.

REGISTRATION

If you would like to register for a Princeton Review Course, please sign up in the Office of Graduate & Professional Opportunities by the deadline date of **Friday, December 6, 2002**. No classes have been scheduled during mid-term week, spring break week or on any University recognized holiday. Please make checks payable to Princeton Review or you may use VISA, Mastercard, Discover or American Express. All payments are handled directly by the Princeton Review. If you have questions regarding a course or payment, please contact Mr. Wade McKinney, Director of The Princeton Review, at 615-269-5033.

UNIVERSITY SPONSOR

Office of Graduate & Professional Opportunities ♦ Floyd-Payne Campus Center -Suite 103 ♦ Telephone: (615) 963-5176
Demetrius L. Greer, Director and Angela M. Robertson, Assistant Director ♦ Website: <http://www.tnstate.edu/gpo>

Arts & Entertainment

Meter Minute:
Lina

By Jamarran E'mil Moss
A&E Writer

about their music. Singers like Sarah Vaughn, were more concerned with their talent in music rather than material possessions and money," Lina said. "I think legend Herbie Hancock and penning songs for Tyrese, it is obvious that Lina has longevity in mind and a true passion for music.

"That's what I hope to do, if

nothing else, I hope that my music will make the normal person think further than what they would of thought before listening to me." said the 25-year-old Texas native about the sound of her debut



PHOTO BY ILYAS MUHAMMAD

album on Atlantic records artist Lina signs autographs in TSU's Floyd-Payne Atlantic Campus Center on Wednesday, Oct. 24.

records, *Stranger on Earth.*

See album review on page 12. Being so young, one would think that Lina's influences would be of musical artist in the 1980's and 1990's, but that is not the case. Her influences are primarily from the big band era of the early 1900's. "I like the new stuff [contemporary music] like Mos Def and Jay Z, but I favor the older artist because they were more passionate

the change came about from then to now because we take a lot of things for granted. Back then, they went through and struggled through a lot more than what we [late 70's and 80's generation] went through and their values were stronger."

As she is increasingly gaining experience and recognition in the music industry from touring overseas with Craig David, GURU, performing with music

because there will always be people that will say that you can't do something, and be original, don't try to be someone that you are not for others."

The gorgeous songstress has wise advice for both males and females pursuing various endeavors throughout their life. "Always be careful of who you trust. Many people are not who they say they are," she said. "Don't sacrifice your integrity, believe in yourself

Do you know someone who is about to blow up?
If you answered yes, then let them have their minute in *The Meter*.
Contact A&E Editor Alan C. Beard at 963-5555

TSU administration and students must learn to be real with themselves, others if we're to soar

Continued from page 14

should have a poetry section in *The Meter*. Well I got your message and implemented the *Lyricist Lounge* in the A&E section. Well, don't ask me for anything else. That's right, out of all the students here at TSU, I don't get a single poem from 99.999 percent of you. I shouldn't have to hunt you down and beg you to submit your work.

Are you afraid to have your thoughts heard? I've given you a forum to share your views and you have given nothing back. There are submission requirements in every issue, read them and go from there, but until then, "Holla Back!"

This is supposed to be one of the great historically Black colleges and universities. Yeah right.

The only thing that's becoming historical around here is the fact that we have yet to learn one of the most important lessons of them all: Be real with yourself and then you won't have trouble being real with everyone else.

Oh yeah, just so everyone knows, TSU is trying to mess with *The Meter* editorial board's money/stipend. So if you don't see any more editions of the newspaper, you already know why. (Like the Memphians say, "I ain't going!")

Students here have been short changed on everything from education and money to respect. It's time that someone put it out there. Why? Because we're paying YOU and we want results.

Once again, I've said what you can't say, but you're all thinking the same thing.*

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experience:
experience:
experience:
jill scott

Grammy Nominated artist Jill Scott presents her LIVE musical experience!
2 Disc set with Live versions of her hits, plus 8 new studio tracks.
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Don't hesitate to send a scoop to
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A&E section
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the meter@hotmail.com
or
call 963-5555.
If it's entertaining then it's us!!!

Arts & Entertainment

Jay-Z to perform in Nashville on Dec. 1

By Leslie Doss
A&E Writer

Jay-Z, refusing to be shaken by terrorist acts, set performance dates in Nashville and Europe, while fear causes other big-name artists to cancel exist-

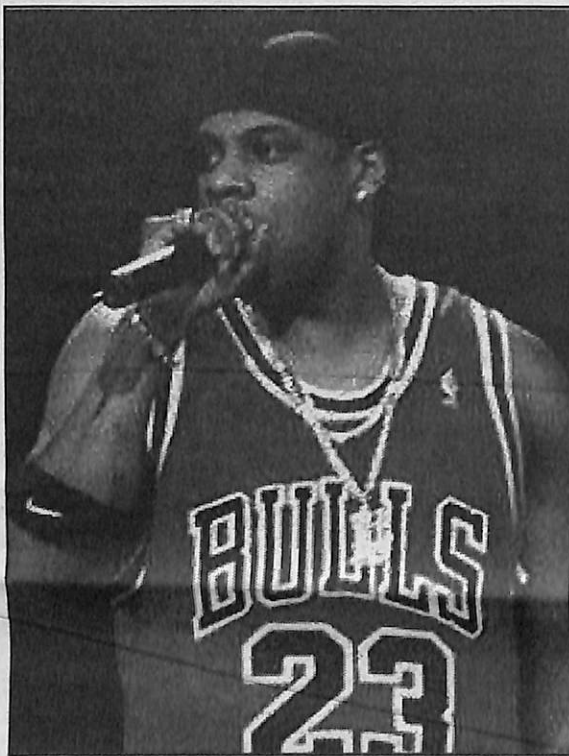


PHOTO COURTESY OF ANYCELEBRITY.COM

than 4,000 people. This is an idea that Jay-Z committed to prior to the Sept. 11 attacks in order to be closer to his fans.

These performances are just the latest in a series of actions taken by the artist in response to the attacks. Jay-Z, whose album was released on the day of the attacks, was one of the few artists to keep his tour dates as scheduled.

"Faith has to be in the right place," he said during an MTV interview. "I'm not gonna walk around every day in fear. It's just not me. It's just not cool . . . We're trying to show that we as Americans have to keep moving on and not harp on this. We really got to be strong. We have to keep on moving 'cause if we don't, it's not America. . . ."

Jigga will be back in Nashville Dec. 1.

ing dates and shy away from new ones.

Artists such as Janet Jackson, Destiny's Child and Luther Vandross are postponing overseas tours and some domestic performances indefinitely out of fear that gatherings of large crowds may draw terrorist violence. On the other hand, Jay-Z refuses to let threats of terrorism interfere with his life or career. The rapper recently signed contracts with MTV for its European Music Awards in November and Stalore Entertainment for a Nashville concert featuring Ludacris, Trina and Bubba Sparxx on Dec. 1.

The overseas date and the Nashville concert with its projected 40,000 turnout mark a decided change from the rapper's recent Blueprint Tour, which only included small domestic venues of no more

Nicknamed Jigga, Jay-Z began the last shows on his Blueprint Tour with a freestyle dedication to the victims, heroes and volunteers of the attacks. He donated a portion of the ticket sales as well as the proceeds from the sale of Roc-A-Wear shirts to the relief effort.

Despite his recent troubles with police, Jay-Z has taken a positive and encouraging attitude toward them.

"The police, they're always right there, and they're always in your face.," he said. "Then something like this happens and you see the real work that they do and you really have a whole different respect for them . . . Before, we only saw one thing in the hip-hop community because nothing like this has ever happened. So when you see them actually doing good for people and actually helping people out, you have to respect that."•



PRESENTS

The Meter N Your Ear



HOSTED BY

ALAN C. BEARD

TUESDAYS 8:00PM - 9:00PM



Forget What You Think You Know!!!



Arts & Entertainment

Reflections of a Shadow

I am the master of my own destiny
 Or so I thought!
 I can go anywhere without any cost
 Who am I kidding?
 I'm lost
 Still I follow closely behind
 Never thinking twice about where I'm going
 But I know where I've been
 I demand respect but seldom receive it
 When the lights go out I am still near
 You just see me disappear
 This is how my life has gone
 Each and everyday, of every year
 When I think about it, I am drawn to tears
 I begin to daydream about
 One of my greatest fears:
 In it I am merely a pawn
 Who sits in the corner waiting till dawn
 I dread the night, even though it is my elder
 brother
 I wish it would cease then I could be at peace
 So much pain, I have endured
 Running into things that you think obscure,
 But sure it seems as if I'm complaining
 At least I have no bills & monthly payments
 But I'd like to be acknowledged, once in a while
 Not just a reflection on the floor or the ceiling tile
 But that shadow that stands out in a crowd
 Visibly beaming
 I would no longer be needy
 But finally
 Proud to be
 Your **SHADOW!**

*The Lyricist Lounge
 Presents
 Two Verses*



Alan C. Beard
A&E Editor



Niya S. Hudson
Freshman

Invincible Poet

My poetry is rhythm in words you never hear,
 My words are violent, so why haven't you
 shed a tear?
 My tears tell stories all true yet sad,
 Why is it that when you hear my stories you walk away as if you
 were glad?
 I am living invincible, nobody can truly see,
 The pain I feel - honestly.
 My poetry is love and life, at times recognition and
 respect is the only thing worth a fight!
 Unlucky fortune I inherited that, all friends and
 loved ones seem to be magicians performing
 "Disappearing Acts".
 A perfect world is painted on foggy pages of children's books,
 You'll only understand me if you take a closer look.
 My words are tempting, yet unheard
 While others live there lives shielded and cold never again to be disturbed.
 Please prove to me that I'm not invincible and acknowledge my words.*

Arts & Entertainment

Up Close

Ray J and Nappy Roots have pre-Halloween concert at Municipal Auditorium

Brooke S. Weathersbee
A&E Writer

Hey wait a minute, was that Brandy's Brother rippin-up the stage on that Halloween tip for the young schoolers at the Municipal Auditorium on Sunday night? It sure was and lets not forget about those nappy-headed boys of Nappy Roots showing them how to be happy with their nappy.

Sunday, Oct. 28, 92Q and Pepsi's Halloween Bash kicked off with DJ Derrick Mason on the turntables setting the hip-hop, dance mode for the evening. Doors opened at 5 and closed at 9.

The 12 to 16 year olds began to rush in, full of excitement, but fakin-it by showing their cool side because they didn't want to look lame in front of their peoples.

Some of the young ladies were not even trying to front because the first thing they asked, while getting checked at the door was, "Where is Ray-J?"

Meanwhile the 92Q staff was present and proceeded to get the kids crunk while they waited for the much-anticipated Atlantic Records artists to come and entertain them.

Although, the crowd was already pretty crunk, throwing their sets up in the air. They began shaking their butts and bucking on folks who thought they were bout it.

It was hilarious to see these kids running around acting like they were going to do throw some bows, but for their safety, security was on the scene ready for action.

The young ladies were primarily waiting for Ray-J to come and fulfill their little dreams of probably just touching his hand.

The stage was empty, the lights were flashing, the crowd was live, but when these words sounded, accompanied with the spacey-funk tunes of the infamous Neptune's track: "Girl, what you doin to night, this is my formal invite, you should just come home with me, girl" the crowd went wild.

The young ladies especially went crazy over Ray-Js Formal Invite.

They piled at the front of the stage, pushing, shoving, cocking attitudes, hollering, screaming. Some even were

almost burned by the stage lights; all to get a drop of sweat to a smile from Ray J. Norwood. You and I both know that their mammas were not going to let them go anywhere anyway, but they enjoyed it. Ray-J sung Wait A Minute, unfortunately for the guys, Lil' Kim was not there (she probably would have been too

ladies were genuinely satisfied at the conclusion of Ray-Js performance as they danced during the intermission, teasing their girl-friends because they didn't get a sweaty towel or a hand shake from Ray-J.

After the intermission it was the guys turn to get rowdy when Nappy

fied Kentucky style of keeping it all natural.

The young schoolers were pretty satisfied, they had the chance to see two of Atlantic Records best and newest talents perform. They danced and talked trash with their peoples and definitely had something to talk about when they went to school on Monday.

The Halloween Bash was a success; even though the environment was not that festively enriched, there was one girl dressed in costume, but it was a very live party.

And you know a party ain't a party unless it concludes with the Cha Cha Slide and that's exactly how it ended: 92Q staff on stage and the crowd on the floor, moving right, back, with a hop, a stomp, a cha cha and turned it out.



PHOTOS BY METRA BAUGH

top: Ray J really gets into a song, while performing.

bottom: Members of the Kentucky based rap group The Nappy Roots keep the crowd hype.

explicit for that age group, (matter of fact any age group).

Ray J also sung a slow jam off of his self-titled album Ray-J.

After his performance the young

Roots (BIG V, Ron Clutch, Scales, R. Prophet, B. Stille, and Skinny Deville) showed their skills performing their well-known single Annaaw and two other selections displaying their countri-

In the next

Up Close:

The Aleter will look at Car Accessories i.e. car tint, rims, sounds etc. If you think you got the hottest ride on the campus and want it spotlighted in The Aleter, send the A&E section a picture of it and will be sure to showcase it.

Sports

Volleyball team getting closer to win

By Crystal McMoore
News Writer

Tennessee State University's Lady Tigers Volleyball team played one of their more competitive games on Saturday. Early in the season, Coach Dawn Reese said that she believed the girls needed to get use to the rallying system before they could exemplify the skills she knows they possess.

The rallying system is playing the best three out of five games until

win," said Danylle Fitzgerald, a junior Accounting major, from Birmingham.

The Gamecocks outside hitter, Jennifer Brenneman was able to get in a couple of spikes that were prepared for her by their setter, Meredith Duke.

But Brenneman's spikes were barely enough to generate a win the second time around because the Tigers were ready, as they blocked the rest of attempts. The Tigers lost the second game, but only by a mere three points.

The third game came as a



PHOTO BY ILYAS MUHAMMAD

#3 on TSU's volleyball team prepares to hit the ball.

the score reaches 30 points. Except for the few games they did win, the volleyball team never made it past three games. However, Saturday they showed the Gamecocks of Jacksonville State University as well as the rest of TSU that it's not going to be easy to stop the Lady Tigers anymore.

In the first game of the evening the Lady Tigers seemed dazed and confused as to which plays they should execute. The Gamecocks used this to their advantage. Their moves were quick and came as a surprise to the Tigers. They quickly made their way to 30 points, while the Tigers struggled to make it past 17.

After a brief break and obviously some stern coaching the Tigers were back and ready for the war that the Gamecocks started. "They were ready by the second game, and you could tell they were determined to

shocker to the fans. "I'm actually glad that I didn't leave early because they were on their game that third time around," said Shawn Hewlett, a Fisk University student who regularly attends the games. The Tigers weren't able to get a hold of the ball at first, but when it was finally turned over they refused to give it back. They triumphed in the third game and won 30-24. They showed the Gamecocks they were ready to play.

They played a fourth game for the first time in a while, and the Gamecocks could tell. The Lady Tigers were slower than they had been all night. They were only able to score a pitiful 16 points, their biggest loss all evening.

Writers Needed!!!

Are you interested in sports?

Do you like to write?

Are you always

commenting on what that team
should have done?

Well, join the sports staff of

The Meter.

If you are interested, come to

The Meter

office

in

Suite 304 of

Kean Hall

and get an

application

or

contact

Sports Editor

Marcus Norris

at

963-5652

Sports

TSU football team loses first game of season at hands of conference foe Eastern Illinois

By Marcus Norris
Sports Editor

As the ball traveled from the end of a toe, through the uprights, and back down to the ground, The Tennessee State Tigers saw hopes of clinching a share of the Ohio Valley Conference title go with the ball.

The Tigers lost, 52-49 for the first time this season in a game that could have signaled it's return to the championship football team of old.

They came into the game 6-0 on the season and 2-0 in the conference. The Eastern Illinois Panthers came in with an equally impressive record (5-1, 3-0 OVC), and a No. 9 ranking. More importantly with the season almost over the Panthers and the Tigers were the two teams generally favored to take home the conference championship.

In this scorefest between the titans, the visiting Panthers struck first scoring on a six yard touchdown pass by quarterback Tony Romo to running back J.R. Taylor. This was significant because it was the first time the Tiger defense had allowed a touchdown in the first half all season.

"If we had pressured [Romo] maybe some of those passes he completed wouldn't have gotten off," defensive end Desmond Scantling told the Tennessean. "I think that was the difference in the game."

The Tigers offense wasn't shaken though, as they proved by scoring on a 33-yard touchdown pass from Shannon Harris to C.J. Johnson to quickly tie the game at 7. Harris was the offensive star for the Tigers on this day throwing for 382 yards, the 12th-best total in TSU history. He was 29-of-43 on passes and was responsible for every single Tiger score, five passes and two rushes.

Unfortunately for the Tigers Harris was also responsible for one of the Panthers

scores, a 98-yard interception return by Panther defensive back Roosevelt Williams. In the crucial third quarter the Tigers went scoreless. The interception return was the longest against Tigers ever.

"The momentum changed a bit," said Harris. "We didn't overcome that well."

For the first time this season the Tiger defense was exploited by an opposing teams offense. They allowed 512 total yards and went over the half-century mark for the first time in a year allowing a season high 52 points.

"Our defense doesn't usually get handled like that," TSU sophomore Jamal Gilmer said. "I guess they just knew how to deal with us."

The Tigers all but lost their shot at winning the OVC title with this loss. The two remaining OVC games on the Panther's schedule are at UT-Martin and against visiting Murray State, both of whom they are heavy favorites.

The Tigers on the other hand play Murray State this weekend, but must travel to Tennessee tech and Eastern Kentucky to finish out the season.

The 13th ranked Tigers have their work cut out for them, but are still in the running for a I-AA playoff bid if they win the rest of their games.

"We can still make it to the playoffs," Harris said. "The OVC championship may not be there, but we can still make it to the national championship."

SPRING BREAK

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Sports

Talkin' I.S.H. (Intelligent Sports Humor)



**Marcus
Norris**
*Sports
Editor*

Let's get down to business. I'm gonna break down the power rankings for the "Nothin' But Africans" (I mean National Basketball Association) season. I've split all of the teams into four easy to understand divisions along with the good, bad and ugly for each of the top teams, and the skinny for the rest. So just put this in your 'lil pipe and smoke it.

Two Is Not a Winner and Three Nobody Remembers

Los Angeles Lakers

Good-Kobe and Shaq are getting along.

Bad-D-Fish is hurt (again) and will miss most of the season (again).

Ugly-In pre-game introductions the soundman plays track #1 off the Jay-Z dynasty album. "You're about to witness a dynasty like no other." Nuff said.

Orlando Magic

Good-T-Mac (Tracy was the name that they gave me) is doing big thangs.

Bad-Not much

Ugly-Backcourt of T-Mac, G. Hill and 'lil Mikey Miller will get them to the Eastern Conference finals off general principle.

Sacramento Kings

Good-C-Webb decided he wasn't leaving Sac-Town just to find some good soul food. (Sorry Detroit)

Bad-It just ain't the same without the white chocolate, Jason Williams.

Ugly-"And the winner for most gruesome nose on a European player in the NBA goes to...Hedo Turkoglu"

Milwaukee Bucks

Good-Trio of Jesus Shuttlesworth (Ray Allen), Big Dog (Glenn Robinson), and Alien Head (You know who) is among best in NBA.

Bad-Head coach, George Karl, still wants to see his team play defense. (Why?)

Ugly-Quit with the conspiracy theories on why ya'll didn't make the finals. Nobody put a gun to your heads and made ya'll play in Milwaukee.

Dallas Mavericks

Good-Nellie's boys made a huge leap into NBA elite last season.

Bad-Michael Finley and Dirk "Diggler" Nowitzki won't sneak up on anyone this season.

Ugly-The new "unis." Come on,

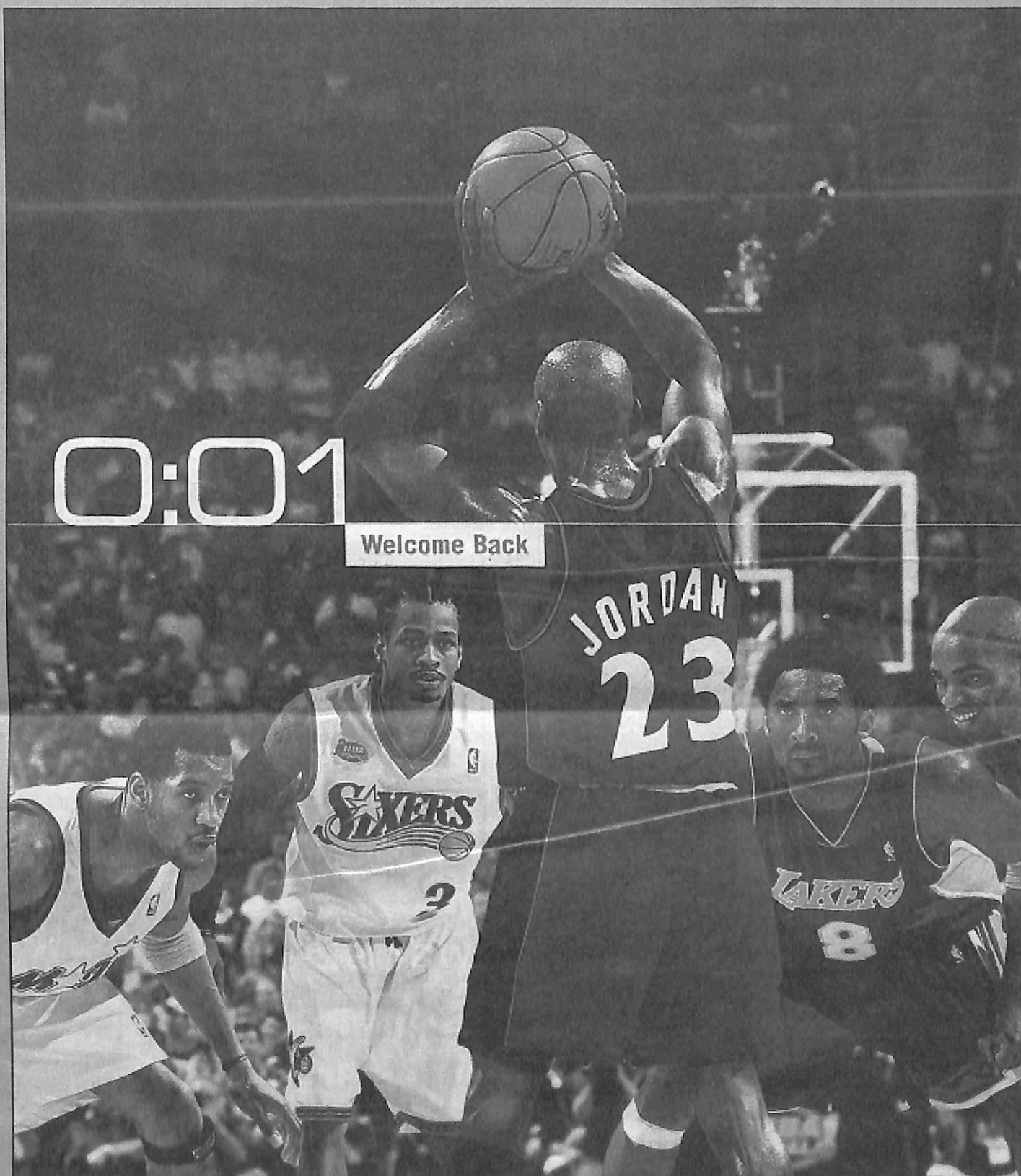


PHOTO COURTESY OF ESPN THE MAGAZINE

The young stars of the NBA are not about to bow down for "His Airness" Michael Jordan.

now. Real men don't play in the WNBA.

Philadelphia 76ers

Good-Allen "I'm a Thug" Iverson showed every one last season by winning Most Valuable Player and taking his team to the finals.

Bad-The Answer just had surgery and will be out for the beginning of the season.

Ugly-Trading for overweight Derrick Coleman shouldn't be your biggest off-season move.

Viagra Division (Up and Comers)

Toronto Raptors

Good-Vince Carter is finally surrounded by quality role players (Antonio Davis, Alvin Williams and Mo Pete)

Bad-New center Hakeem Olajuwon should have retired three years ago.

Ugly-Whoever dissed V-Dot's decision to graduate for his mama before game seven of the semi's last year should burn with gasoline drawers on.

Los Angeles Clippers

Good-The youngest team in the league seems geared to erase memories of past poor Clipper teams.

Bad-They still play in the tougher conference (west, west ya'll) and share the same arena with the defending champion Lakers.

Ugly-Just like Tupac Shakur or any girl walking out of Boyd Hall, all eyes are on them. Houston Rockets

See "The NBA" on page 23

Sports

The NBA this season will be a whole new ballgame

Continued from page 22

Good-Steve Franchise, Cuttino Mobley and Eddie Griffin are reppin' for H-Town.

Bad-Rudy T may not be ready to coach this much young talent.

Ugly-Last year's record (45-37) was best in NBA history not to make the playoffs.

Charlotte Hornets

Good-Jamaal Mashburn earned back his nickname of "Monster" after last year (20 points, 8 rebounds and 5 assists)

Bad-Losing small forward Eddie Robinson will hurt.

Ugly-As good as this team is it's a shame the players don't know where they'll be playing next year (St. Louis get ready).

Atlanta Hawks

Good-Shareef Abdur-Rahim is back in the Dungeon where he was raised. (ATL Shawty!)

Bad-'Reef was already a member of another young squad (the Grizzle my nizzle) that never gelled.

Ugly-Combo of Jason Terry, Theo Ratliff and 'Reef is best Atlanta has had since Dominique was dripping jheri curl juice on the Omni floor.

Indiana Pacers

Good-Jalen Rose has finally emerged as team leader. (Sorry Reggie.)

Bad-They won't reach full potential until Rose goes back to small forward and Travis Best starts at

point guard.

Ugly-The center position is manned by Zan Tabak, Bruno Sundov and Primoz Brezec. (Now close your eyes and spell out each of their names.)

Minnesota Timberwolves

Good-Kevin Garnett and Wally Szczerbiak lead this team of overachieving nobodies.

Bad-They have no draft picks until 2004 because of an illegal contract signed by power forward Joe Smith.

Ugly-Although he's a great talent and still young (25), Garnett is wasting his youth playing for a team that, at best, will make the playoffs and lose in the first round.

"Them ain't no twenties, but they clean though."

Washington Wizards

Skinny-His air-ness returns one mo'gin. But in this version of "the Wiz", MJ ain't cruisin' down the yellow brick road to the playoffs (Not even with Jesus Christ himself at the point).

Portland Trailblazers

Skinny-This team's future is hairier than India Aire's legs. (Uhh!). There is an abundance of talent (Sheed, Pip, Bonzi and Derek Anderson) and a new focus on new head coach Mo' Cheeks, so we'll have to wait and see.

San Antonio Spurs

Skinny-Tim Duncan and David Robinson are great,

but they're both softer than a wet sponge. They are better than this low rating, but I don't care.

Utah Jazz

Skinny-Karl Malone and John Stockton ain't getting any younger. But the "Oreo" we love to hate is still playing at an all star level and will make the playoffs.

New York Knicks

Skinny-Nucleus of Latrell "I'm-a-choke-you" Sprewell, Allan Houston and Marcus Camby is nice, but the best ball-handler in New York is still ...Lil Kim.

New Jersey Nets

Skinny-They stole Jason Kidd from Phoenix, which was good. But last year he threw more backhands to his wife than behind-the-back-passes to his teammates. ("You trying to help Ike!")

Phoenix Suns

Skinny-They traded franchise player Kidd for franchise killer Stephon Marbury. Shawn Marion may explode again this year, but will the real Penny Hardaway please stand up?

Ticking Rolexes

Detroit Pistons

Skinny-Jerry Stackhouse is the best player on this team (29.8 points), but that's not saying much (40 percent from field).

Seattle Supersonics

Skinny-They still got my ninja Gary Payton, although they wanted to trade him.

Denver Nuggets

Skinny-Nick Van Exel (17 points and 9

assists) is playing his best ball, but Antonio McDyess is out until January. If they played in the east they'd be a playoff team.

Memphis Grizzlies

Skinny-Point guard Jason Williams will have the whole city chanting "We making easy money losin' games in style!"

Boston Celtics

Skinny-Paul "Peezee" Pierce and Antoine "Weezee Wee" Walker will get their points, but when a Celtic team has more Blacks than it has Anglos, it just doesn't work.

Golden State Warriors

Skinny-Trying to find a way to lose even more games than last year (65) they are moving Larry "pronounced Luh-ry fo my St. Louis folks" Hughes to the point. (C'mon Dirty?)

Chicago Bulls

Skinny-Traded future all star power forward Elton Brand to Clippers for two new booties, Tyson Chandler and Eddy Curry. So last year's 15-67 team is actually better than this year's team.

Cleveland Cavaliers

Skinny-They've still got a team?

If you gamble according to my predictions, you'll be guaranteed to come off as clean as if you just popped a couple of Golden Seals and washed them down with some holy water. Until next time, watch where you creep and keep yo babies out the street. I'm out. •

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