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the METER

Volume 37 Number 14

March 6, 1986

Probationed dean cites administration's uneasiness over black publications

By Quintin Robinson

Dr. Edward Isibor charged his being placed on probation is harassment and that the decision somehow relates to Ms. TSU's not being allowed to appear in Ebony Magazine's April issue.

Isibor, who would not comment further on the relationship he thinks exists between the two incidents, stated that Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Mary Burger first agreed to use an issue of the "U.S. Black Engineer" magazine to recruit students, but later changed her mind.

Calls to Dr. Burger's office were not returned. Burger's secretary told a Meter reporter that the vice president had given her the message that she did not want to talk to the media about the "personnel matter."

"At first I thought she was jealous because my picture is on the front cover of the magazine," Isibor

said. Now I think there is some relationship between this and the Miss TSU incident," Isibor added.

Miss TSU Regina Hampton was informed last week by executive vice president for external affairs Dr. Richard Rhoda that she would not be in Ebony magazine's April issue. The issue features college queens from black schools. TSU Public Relations office refused to submit Hampton's photo to the black publication.

In past years, Miss TSU has been featured annually in the magazine.

However, since the Stipulation of Settlement states that TSU must not be considered a racially

identifiable school, Juanita Buford, director of public relations, who is black and Rhoda, who is white, decided not to send the material to Ebony when a photo was requested several months ago. Hampton learned of the

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PR "Jim Crows" Miss TSU

By Derrick Williams and Adrienne Ewing

Regina Hampton, Miss Tennessee State University, will not be saluted in Ebony magazine because the administration stated that it would violate the Stipulation of Settlement.

The stipulation states that TSU can no longer be recognized as a racially identifiable institution.

"We talked to someone in public relations at TSU who said it was not in the best interest of the university to be represented among the other black college campus queens," said Marilyn Marshall, associate editor of Ebony magazine.

Ebony, published by

"Jim Crows"

Johnson and Johnson Publishers in Chicago, features black college campus queens annually. In the past TSU has been represented.

The lawsuit requires the university to have a 50-50 balance in the racial makeup of its students by 1993.

"We received a letter from Ebony asking for information pertaining to our college queen," said Juanita Buford, public relations director at TSU.

"I discussed it with Rich Rhoda and he felt that since this would be representative of black institutions we should not participate," said Buford.

Rich Rhoda is the executive assistant to the

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US Black Engineer

FIVE DOLLARS WINTER 1985

Special Careers Issue

Special Engineering Educators Section:

Dr. Neville Parker
Dr. Eugene DeLoatch
Dr. Edward Isibor



Dr. Edward Isibor, Dean of Tennessee State University's School of Engineering

Careers in Space Manufacturing

High Tech Jobs in Southern California

TRW Engineers in Washington

INSIDE
\$500 Resume Scholarship Winner! See Page 60

Permanent president possibly by spring '87

By Greg Carr

State Board of Regents Chancellor Tom Garland told members of the TSU Student Government Association recently during a 90-minute meeting that a permanent president will be picked no later than next spring.

In a separate meeting with SGA president, Gus Macedo, and vice president, Edward Fennell, Garland discussed the historically black school's retention rate and its mission.

"We talked about Tennessee State's mission,"

Fennell said.

"The predominantly white institutions are competing for the top black students, and TSU serves to educate those without a whole lot of money and even less moral encouragement from society."

Garland, who assured SGA leaders that he does not want the school to lose its black heritage, came under fire last month from several community groups and campus leaders after he halted the search for a permanent president.

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Honor Society holds induction ceremony

The Tennessee State University chapter of the Golden Key National Honor Society will hold its annual induction ceremony on Wednesday, March 19th, at 7:00 P.M. in Room 320 of the Downtown Campus Building. The reception honors the new members of the Golden Key

chapter. Certificates will be presented to new student members in recognition of their academic achievements. The recipient of the Golden Key Outstanding Faculty Research Award will also be announced at this reception.

For more information concerning the Golden Key National Honor Society, please contact Mark Bandas, Director of Evening Programs, Office of Student Affairs, Room 346, Downtown Campus (251-1561).

Alpha Kappa Mu Wants You!

Everyone is welcome to attend our March 18, 1986 meeting. It will be held at 12:00 p.m. in room 22 of the S.U.B. The minimum requirements are a 3.3 GPA and 60 total hours.



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Continued from page 1

Miss TSU barred

president for external affairs.

When asked why the issue had not been discussed with Hampton, Buford commented, "I owe her an apology for omitting her from the decision."

Rhoda said the letter from Ebony, dated November 12, 1985, was received by public relations between the 17th and 19th of November. In an earlier statement Buford told Hampton the letter arrived in December.

In a meeting with administrators earlier this week, Hampton said she asked Rhoda if he or anyone intended to tell her about the situation. He responded, "No, because we were unfamiliar with the procedures involved in such a matter and we were not aware that Hampton had to be given this information."

In late February former Miss TSU, Karen Gorman, called Hampton to ask her if she had already taken the photograph to be sent to Ebony.

Hampton said she did not realize the picture should have already been sent. After talking with Gorman, Hampton called the Public Relations Department and spoke with Juanita Buford.

Earlier in the semester, Jet magazine, which is also published by Johnson and Johnson, asked Hampton to appear in their magazine as the centerfold, but she declined the offer.

Norman O. Unger, sports editor for Jet magazine, said, "We have published black queens in the past that were not necessarily from black colleges and the TSU administration should take that in consideration."

Hampton said that she asked Buford if her picture would be going into Ebony and Buford told her no.

Hampton requested a copy of the letter and Buford told her that the letter had been misplaced.

"I feel like they went over my head and I just wonder if they were ever going to inform me of the situation," said Hampton.

"I am very hurt and disappointed, not that my picture did not appear in Ebony magazine, but that I did not receive any communication of the decision given by the administration."

"It's sad to know that so many people who were looking forward to seeing my picture in Ebony magazine among my peers will not be given that opportunity," said Hampton.

Hampton said that students do not run for Miss TSU just to be in Ebony, but it is one of the many honors of the title.

Rhoda and other administrators have announced future plans to ask Ebony to run a feature story that would explain why TSU can no longer be called a predominantly black institution

Isibor probationed

Continued from page 1

decision last week.

"Obviously, this is a very sensitive issue," Dr. Rhoda said.

"Tennessee State will always be recognized as a historically black college, but we do not feel Miss Tennessee State's picture should be in a magazine promoting black college beauty queens."

"U.S. Black Engineer," a bi-monthly publication devoted to engineering, science, and technology, and to promoting opportunities in those fields for black Americans, is also a black magazine.

Isibor was placed on six months administrative probation by Burger for

"insubordination." In a Feb. 25 letter, Burger told the engineering dean that he is being placed on probation for being disrespectful, unprofessional and using abusive manner in a conversation the two had concerning the purchase of 100 magazines to recruit engineering students.

Isibor said the magazines, which sold for \$5, would be paid for by industry funds at \$2 per copy. Isibor, who is pictured on the cover of the magazine's Winter 1985 issue, said Burger first told him that the magazine could be used to recruit students because it showed a positive image within the university.

The Meter

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Scenes from "Purlie"



"NO MORE OLD CAPTAIN; NO MORE" Says Gregory Carr in a scene from Ossie Davis's critically acclaimed play Purlie Victorious.

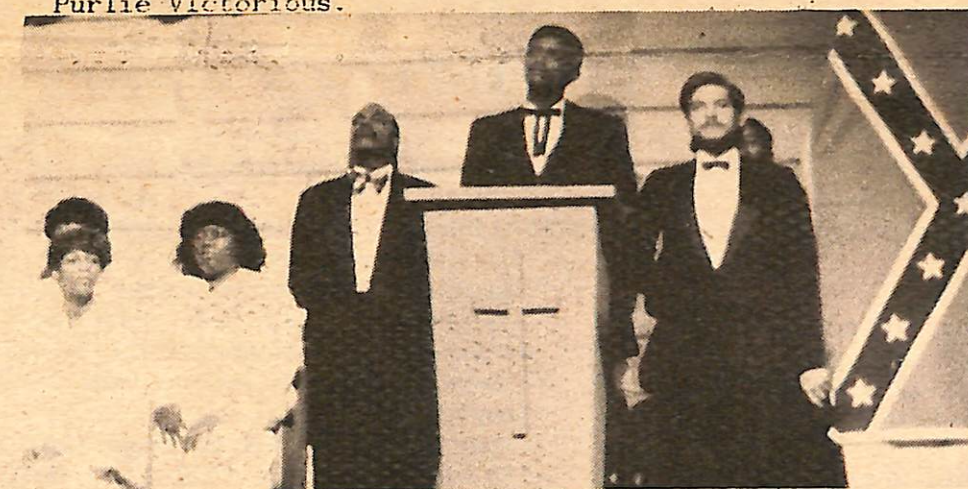


Photo by Babajide Grillo

"AND THE LORD SAID . . ." Purlie Victorious, Gregory Carr, preaches a rather uplifting sermon that tells of the struggle and victory involving a black family and a white plantation owner.

Continued from page 1

Presidential . . .

He also declared that interim TSU president Dr. Roy P. Peterson would not be considered a candidate for the permanent president, because he serves as interim president and has an unfair advantage over the other candidates.

A permanent president was expected to be chosen by July 1.

Meanwhile, the SGA leaders contend that it is inevitable that TSU will lose

its heritage unless something is done to improve the condition of campus life and ambiguities of academic standards as initiated by the remedial and developmental programs.

"We suggested that a conference concerning the remedial and developmental programs be held every summer beginning this spring," Macedo said.

OMEGA's "Cautious Nine" is the last line

By Rodgerick McDavis

The Omega Psi Phi's Rho Psi chapter formed the "cautious nine," a line of undergraduate pledgees, in October 1983.

No one thought that "cautious nine" would become the last line to represent the distinctive fraternity at TSU. Or is it?

Rho Psi chapter, established here at TSU, is a fraternity that many undergraduate and graduate males have considered becoming a part of. Because of Rho Psi's highly complicated and intellectual admittance requirements, few have joined the well renowned incorporated fraternity, but have sought admittance in various other black fraternities.

The Omegas here are sadly missed because of a legal decision that has left their chapter inactive for at

least five years. The suspension period started in 1983.

A group of male students are showing their concern for the fraternity and their desires to have the Omega's suspension lifted. The "Que's Interest Group," as they are called, have donated time and activities towards showing the university and the community what kind of men the fraternity would consist of once it is off probation.

Other fraternities at TSU have been placed on suspension. And, time and time again, they have come back strong.

Underground pledging is a method of joining a fraternity. However, the risks are greater than advantages. Usually there is not an advisors present during initiation. That makes pledging extremely dangerous.

Article-8, page 69 of

the student handbook, says that an organization may be placed on probation, suspension, or an organization may be suspended from the university by the designated authority of the institution.

When an organization is suspended, it is not allowed to engage in or sponsor any activities or programs as a TSU organization. It is not allowed to hold meetings.

Yes, the gold boots, faded jeans, sweat shirts, and purple caps are truly a tradition at TSU. That once famous bench, located in the university plaza, that use to be surrounded with "foot stomping gold boots," is now empty.

The case for Rho Psi chapter is suspension. Ronald Myles, Director of Residence Life, says he believes the suspension is for 5 years. He said the long suspension is to enable the last group of inducted

members to graduate and move on, allowing the chapter to start over with a new attitude and mind.

Omega Psi Phi is well-known for its "down-to-earth" personalities, which means being yourself at all times. That's right, no hat and cane for this group of guys, strictly come as you are.

Their purpose is the same as all fraternities, to serve mankind, develop special talents, provide fellowship, and promote leadership.

Myles says anyone interested in pledging before the termination should join a chapter at one of the local colleges or the graduate chapter.

Omega Psi Phi is traditionally TSU, a tradition should never fade away, but should adapt to the changing times.



The Poetry Place

King: The Not knowing what to feel

by Carmen Journigan
Sophomore English Major

The Man
Carl A. Freeman

Martin Luther King
was his name
civil rights
was his game

His act was together
and his message clear
his voice rang out
to those far and near

He demanded justice
he was on our side
he helped us develop
A great sense of pride

His stay was short
but his deeds long
it's only fitting his
memories stay Now that he's gone

He spoke for all people
regardless of color telling
us that God made everyone
that we are all brothers

Yes, Martin had a dream
that like birds of a feather
All God's children would one
day flock together.

I am pulled in one direction
by my mind
and in yet another by my
heart
Either way I choose will
leave me alone, alone and
apart from you
You see if it is my mind that
I obey from you I'll have to
walk away
And, yes, my heart is a
selfish thing
that will only pain to my
life bring
yes, I care for you
-but a man's gotta do what a
man's gotta do.
My mind says only friendship
to expect
but it's more my heart
desires,
I suspect
Not knowing what to feel
is no fun at all
Each word and gesture becomes
a tightrope
off which I might fall.
Being your friend is enough-
more might for me be too
rough.
Of course you don't know
it can be bad
analyzing your thoughts

to see if it is over you
I'm sad--
or if it's at me
you're mad.
I'm sure the matter has been
determined by someone
greater.
Yahweh, Allah, Jehovah, the
Creator.

I Too

Anessa R. Allen
Senior
Mass Communications

Like Nefertiti and Sheba
I too was a queen
cloaked in flowing robes
thick braids bound around my
head
gold and silver rings
in my nose
coiled around thin dark
wrists
and toe rings

I stood tall and proud in the
Congo
and lulled my children
and I was loved
fanned/cooled
with ostrich feathers
like
Nefertiti and Sheba
I too was a queen

Celebration, ashanti gods
rich soil reaping from the
mother earth



Anessa Allen, Editor

dancing, singing, laughter,
joy
then...
screams, torture, pain
O, the indelible pain...
help me...help me...

They stole my babies
killed my man
stripped my garments
tore the rings of gold and
silver out of me
forbade my language
raped my mind and body...

Now I lay here
my body swollen
miscegenation
degradation
bastard child...
and they lull me back to my
own land
where like
Nefertiti and Sheba
I too was
a queen.

Submit your poetry to
The Poetry Place, TSU Meter,
P.O. Box 858 or stop by The
Meter office in Room 129,
Womens Building. All material
must have name and phone
number on it.

Miss TSU barred from Ebony

Public Relations experiences magazine madness

By Randall Blakey

When Dr. Richard Rhoda was lured from his top position on the State Board of Regents to a job at historically black TSU, I knew we were going to have problems with the "The Powers That Be."

This was the initial strategy: First, let's fool the hopeful recruits by placing racially misrepresented pictures in TSU's Undergraduate Catalog. Then no one will believe that Tennessee State University is a predominantly black school,

and we can keep "The Powers That Be" smiling. That plan was exposed.

Step II, when one of our prominent black professors appears on the cover of a

popular black magazine and proposes a brilliant recruiting idea, let's tell him it's a great idea. Let's tell him it's one that will promote a positive image of TSU.

Then a week later let's tell that same professor, "Oops, we made a boo boo." Your idea will promote the school as being predominantly black, therefore, it is invalid. Did Dr. Burger collaborate with "The Powers That Be?"

Third, The Powers That Be informed Ebony Magazine (a black owned, Chicago-based magazine), that TSU could not give them a picture of Miss TSU to include in their "Salute to Black College Queens."

The reason: It would promote the school as being predominantly black.

(The picture has appeared in Ebony for several years prior to this

incident.) However, the Stipulation of Settlement states that TSU must be a non-racially identifiable school.

The "Powers That Be" also decided to keep the decision to themselves.

Their intent was go through this school year fooling hopeful recruits, TSU faculty, alumni,

and Miss TSU, Regina Hampton. "Bless her heart," that plan too was upset.

"I was very disappointed to find out that Public

Relations Director Juanita Buford, [who is black], and executive assistant to the president Rhoda, [who is white], made the decision in November to exclude my picture," she said.

"This was done without informing me until I asked out of curiosity four months later."

"They apologized and said they were unfamiliar with the procedures involved in such a matter and that they didn't know I had to be notified."

Who knows what will happen next? I'm certain of one thing, however, we should not have people in key positions, who do not know what is going on at our university.

Instructors: Get your house in order



Derrick Williams

Student Columnist: "Plain spoken"

Well, Spring Break has rolled around again. For the Class of 1986 this will be the last Spring Break taken at TSU.

Hopefully, you will have a safe trip wherever you are planning to go. Remember the spring of 83 when we all hung out in the plaza that week before spring break?

The weather was beautiful and we were doing all those things that we were not supposed to do. Those were the good old days, hanging out in what we students still call "Plaza 101."

Time has passed and pretty soon we will become alumni of this University. It is a university that has gone through and is still going through many changes.

Now this column is not coming from any of my Aunt Nora's but rather from those students who have sweated out these hard four years and didn't go home after that first week, when the Administration was so unfriendly during

registration and the only decent meal we received was at the Freshman banquet.

If not for those instructors like the Mr. and Mrs. Cottons, Miss McDougalds, Dr. Barretts, Dr. Richardsons, Dr. Deans, etc., that not only gave us an occasional break but also gave us a little advice on life, we would not have made it.

For the rest of the faculty and administration, who have been more concerned with getting rid of the part-time President, who many considered a puppet for the Board of Regents until they recently cut his strings, than with trying to take care of the full time students who most definitely are the pride and future of the University and country as well, you need to "get your house in order."

It's a wonder many of us students have made it this far. As freshman some only knew about the University Liquor Store down the street.

Now don't be shocked, instructors, for many of you were leaving or entering when we ventured down there.

Today it is sad to say but many of the students, in order to calm their nerves

from one of those hard standardized tests, that the instructors probably can't even pass themselves, have turned to drugs.

Now that is a poor excuse. For you instructors who are not involved in drugs, but wish that you were teaching at Vandy, Howard, and don't let us forget UT Knoxville, etc., there are more faculty and students there who are able to ruin their lives with the same foolishness.

However, these other universities have people in the right positions to hush up these ugly issues.

For those instructors who still truly have a major concern for the students here at TSU, it is time that you get back to the basics if you haven't forgotten or if you even know about them, and push the student forward instead of attempting to hold him back.

Instructors, take the story of the Prodigal Son in St. Luke 15:11-32 for example. This is the story where the father still loves his son who has strayed away but returns in the end for forgiveness. However, he has equal love for the son that

stayed at home.

The point I am trying to make is that all students should be special in the eyes of the instructor, no matter what handicaps they may have.

It is up to the instructor to utilize the student's full potential. This is very necessary in order for the students to grow when they leave this university.

If this is not accomplished and we do not get our house in order, then this university will truly become a disaster; but it will not be the fault of us students.

The Meter thanks the Student Government Association and Student Activities for a \$1,000 contribution that allowed us to resume printing.

The Meter has not been published in several weeks because all monies allocated to the paper had been spent and advertisers have not paid money owed to the newspaper for advertisements.

We are sorry for the inconvenience.

Quintin Robinson,
Editor-in-Chief

Downtown parking called puzzling

by Helenmary Hendrix

Perhaps pondering parking problems is purely plebeian plight, a plague.

And, then again, maybe you do travel occasionally to the downtown TSU campus. If you have noticed the absence of parking places across Tenth Avenue, previously available to TSU commuters.

This has presented a problem for daily travelers and continuing confusion for the infrequent visitor. It is almost totally impossible to get to the designated "new" parking area across Charlotte Avenue, and you have the basic formula for a quick trip back to the interstate.

Dwight Perrine, head of Security for the downtown campus, explained that the 555 parking places at American General that are

available to students after five p.m. does not make up for the 400 parking places TSU lost to construction. The Business Incubation Center was built on the site where student parking was formerly located.

Here are some humorous (and not so humorous) solutions:

- a.) A parking garage with a connecting bridge.
- b.) Traveling car-to-car teachers.
- c.) A pedestrian controlled crossing light or a responsible patrol mother.
- d.) A sign located on Charlotte (perhaps on the railroad bridge) that flashes vacancy or no vacancy for the lot on Tenth.
- e.) One block correspondence course.
- f.) If all else fails, consult the diagram.

Dr. Jamye Williams delivers womens day address

By Carmen Journigan

Dr. Jamye Coleman Williams, head of the Communication Department at TSU, told the congregation at St. John AME Church Women's Day that "Christian women must not be guilty of inaction."

In her speech, "In Times Like These: The Christian Women's Agenda for the 80s," Williams challenged Christian women to live up to the heritage of the past, confront the demands of the

present, and make their lives a commitment to the future. She went on to recognize some of America's outstanding black women.

"Harriett Tubman, Sojourner Truth, and Mary McCleod Bethune are examples of black women's strong heritage. A debt of gratitude must be paid to them," she said.

Dr. Williams stated that social problems, including divorce, teen pregnancy, and a need for religious instruction, are demands of the present that must be met.

"There must be a commitment to the future, she said, Winnie Mandela and Corazon Aquino are two women who need our support as they attempt to change the future in their respective countries," Williams said.



Photo by Roderick McDavis

Speaking at a TSU Sigma Delta Chi meeting, Banner Staffer, Tony Kesser said "the newspaper is seeking to increase the number of minority staff members, but has a long way to go." From left to right: Valerie Marks, Banner copy editor, Tony Kesser, Banner State Editor, Jerry Ingram, Meter News Editor, Harriette Henderson, Banner Staff Writer and Quintin Robinson, Meter Editor.

Spreading the word on FOI

Adrienne Ewing, a Senior Communication major, has won a distinguished Barney Kilgore Journalism internship, the committee announced Tuesday.

Ewing, Editorial Editor of the Meter and a member of Society of Professional Journalists, Sigma Delta Chi,

will spend three months this summer working in the Sigma

Delta Chi Freedom of Information Center in Washington, D.C.

The award, named for distinguished journalist Barney Kilgore, is given annually to two Journalism students.

TSU blasts Fisk in Quizz Bowl

By Adrienne Ewing

TSU defeated Fisk 195-90 at last Tuesday's Quizz Bowl between student leaders from both schools as part of African American History month activities at Fisk.

"It is an honor to have doubled their score. It's fantastic and I'm still pretty high on it," said Dr. Andrew Jackson, an instructor in the Sociology Department and principle organizer of the team of participating students. He served as coach of the TSU team.

Quiz Bowl members from TSU were: Rossie Turner, David Mills, Augusto Macedo, Edward Fennell, Gregory Smith, Dwayne Howard, Stuart Dickerson, and team captains, Grant Winrow, and Henderson Woods.

From the start of the competition it was clear that TSU was going to win.

The questions came from the various categories of science, theater arts, music, art, Africa, Third World issues, geography and the performing arts.

Dr. Revis Mitchell and Dr. Naqueyalti Warren were the organizers of the event for Fisk.

Dr. Dorothy Granberry,

Ted Jones of the art department, and Thomas Davis of the music department developed the questions.

"Because TSU stereotypically [sic] falls short on SAT and ACT tests, accomplishments such as this show that those tests really do not say anything about our student's knowledge," said Jackson.

Jackson said this type of competition gives TSU ammunition to counter all the negative media coverage it receives about the academic competence of its students.

"Every time the media puts out negative information we must showcase a positive aspect and we can showcase the scholars at this university and not be intimidated by anyone," said Jackson.

This is to become an annual tradition and next year TSU is planning to host a quiz bowl with regional competition.

"I hope more students, especially women, will participate. If we get the kind of support we need we might have a quiz bowl every semester to exercise our minds for intellectual growth."

The Spellers: A family Affair

By Gary Knox

"Do what you gotta do baby! Do your thang. That's what I'm talking about!! Do what it takes to win. Good try."

These words of confidence and motivation were repeated throughout every TSU men's basketball game this season by Anthony Speller, the brother of TSU's starting guard, Jonathan Speller.

Anthony and his sisters, Lori, Gina and Leslie, could be found in the front row at almost every home game cheering for their younger brother. His father, William Speller, and brother, Kenneth, both of Chicago, also attended several home games.

"It gave me a good feeling to know that they were in the stands supporting me."

"It gave me motivation and it made me play harder."

Jonathan said before every game, he and his "big brother" Anthony usually spent the afternoon together brainstorming the different situations that could occur in the game.

"I looked at it as giving him confidence," said Anthony.

"I did not try to tell him anything that would go against the coaches' concept."

"I felt pretty glad when he made a good play or did something that I told him to do."

"It lets me know that he was listening."

The 6'3" sharp shooter

said sometimes he looked at his brother in the stands while Anthony shouted, "play him to the right. He's left handed."

"I always heard his voice. He was always trying to help," Speller said.

"It's always been that way. It's good knowing that what ever you do, good

or bad, your family is out there supporting you. It made me play better and it made school easier."

The third-year guard averaged 12 point and three rebounds per game this season, which the Tigers finished 14-14, their best record in five years. On Feb. 8, at home against Jackson State, on his birthday, Speller scored a career high 26 points.

"Speller is a good player. He handles the ball well and is a good outside shooter."

"He shoots with a lot of confidence. We need him in our offense to win," said Coach Larry Reid.

"I taught him everything he knows," said sister Lori, who said she coached her younger brother for a number of years.



Photo by Roderick McDavis

"WAY TO GO JOHN" Big brother and sisters give little brother all their support during a basketball game in TSU's Gentry Complex.



Jonathan Speller

Joining a conference might bring TSU "Roundballers" more support

By Keith Graham

Tennessee State University in the past few years has watched its basketball program and the city of Nashville go in different directions.

The lack of support from the fans of Nashville has become a major problem for the basketball program. This could be changed by joining the Ohio Valley Conference. For several years, TSU has not been in a conference. They play some schools from the OVC each year, but are still outsiders to the conference.

February 1, TSU proved it is worthy of belonging in such a conference. Playing the team with the longest winning streak in America, TSU played a tremendous game before finally dropping a one point decision.

This game was very meaningful in another way. Playing against OVC member Middle Tennessee State

University, the largest crowd in the history of Gentry Center was on hand. This should let the members of the athletic department know something. The importance of joining this conference is crucial to the future of the program at TSU. It could be possible for games like this to be played regularly at Gentry instead of the sub-par teams who visit here each winter. I think the fans have proven that if they will support games involving top level competition.

Vanderbilt for the last few years has produced less than great teams, but they continue to play top teams from the SEC and others outside their conference.

For this they are supported tremendously. The OVC is a league with two very good teams this year and is well balanced from top to bottom each season.

Joining this conference

would help solve a problem. game scheduling. For years, the tigers have played smaller schools, that are not known well by Nashville's fans. By joining the OVC there would be a home and home series with each member. this would bring the best OVC schools to TSU every season. By playing schools such as MTSU, Tennessee Tech, Murray State and Eastern Kentucky, the fans would be seeing schools that they are more familiar with.

The OVC also has a tournament each season at the conclusion of the regular season. An automatic bid to the NCAA tournament goes to the winner. An event like this would be perfect for the Gentry Center. TSU has not played games of this importance in years.

Important games, rivalries against league teams, tournaments and the NCAA talk all sound good.

And it could be just the thing to keep officials at TSU worried about something each season besides empty seats.

The future is in the hands of the officials from the athletic department and OVC officials. Let's hope they give the program what it needs to get back where it should be. By doing this, they would be giving the fans what they deserve and then the fans could give the team what it deserves—more support.

Playing against teams from the OVC, would, in my opinion, create more interest from the fans. By joining the conference fans would expect something that right now they don't—better basketball. This could create enthusiasm about the program that has been missing for years.

Superbowl "Shufflers" invade TSU

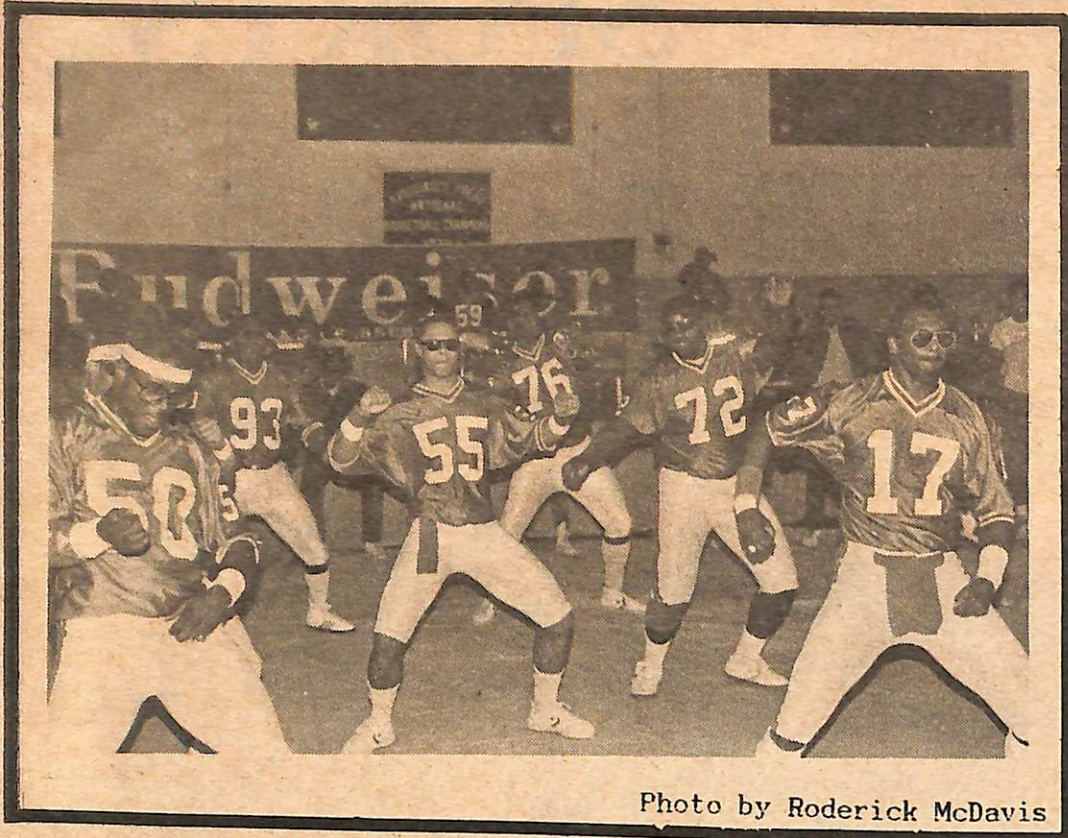
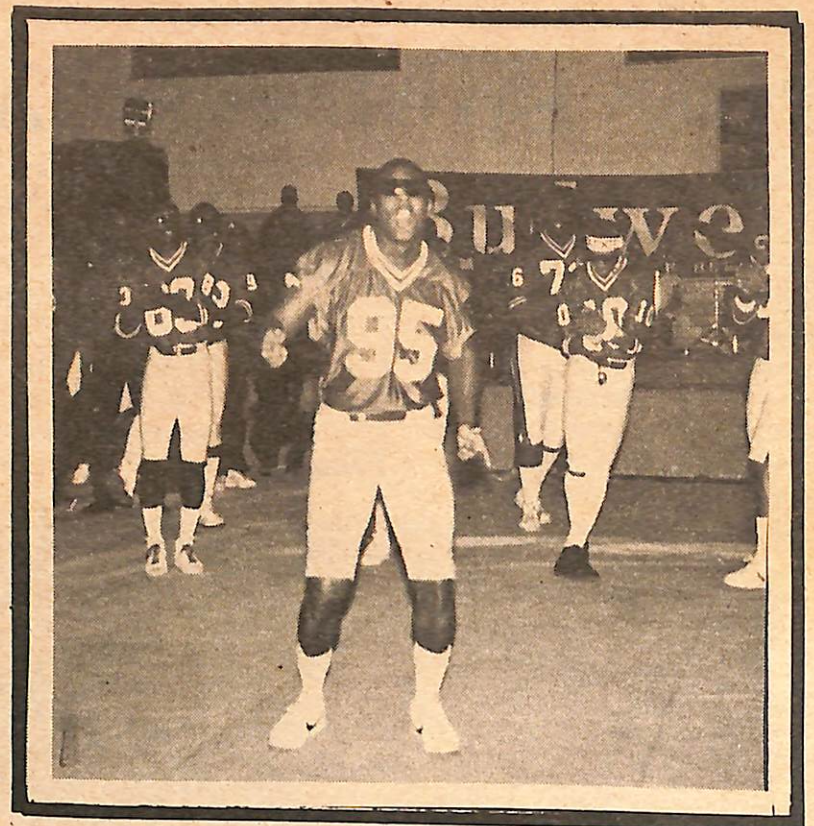


Photo by Roderick McDavis



The "Boys" rock to the beat

Wearing the designated numbers of Super Bowl XX champions, the Chicago Bears, members of TSU's football team instantly became superstars as they rocked the house in the dilapidated gymnasium.

Kean's Little Garden lit up with cheer from the zealous students that attended the gallant affair, a "Putting on the Hits" talent show, sponsored by Delta Sigma Theta Sorority.

Dent surprises former coach

By Jerry Ingram

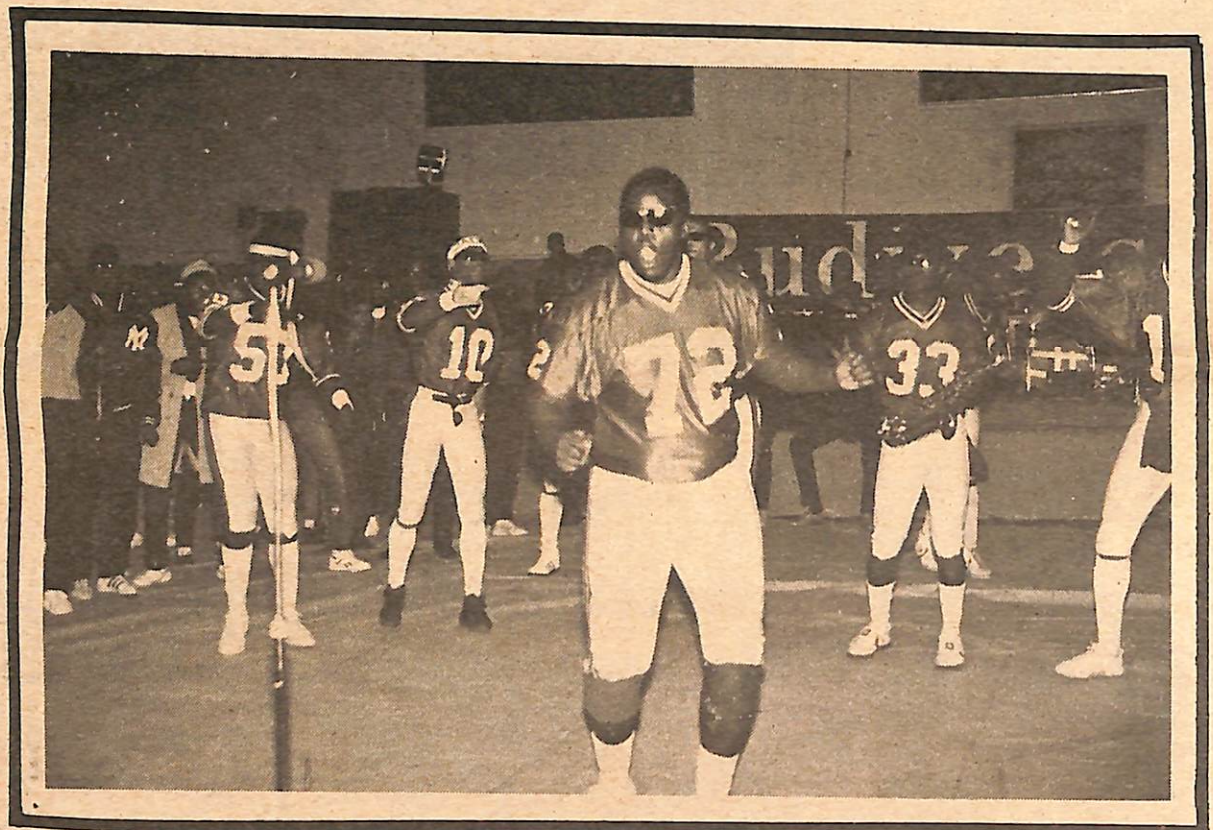
Former TSU defensive tackle Richard Dent talked with former football coach Joe Gilliam Sr. during a visit to the campus where a Nashville tribute is being planned for the Superbowl XX most valuable player later this month.

"It's nice that you can always come back home," Dent said.

The former TSU star paid a special visit to former TSU defensive coordinator, who molded Dent into one of the leading defensive linemen in the country.

Dent said he is excited about the planned TSU athletic department ceremony which will honor Dent with a parade and banquet March 27 in Nashville.

Details will be announced by the athletic department later.



Have a nice spring break