



TSU students and Hurricane Katrina evacuees had quite a bit to talk about.

Page 8



The Knowles family is set to launch a new clothing line.

Page 10



Rivals give near filled Gentry Center a reason to cheer.

Page 13

Don't forget to pick up the December 8 Special Edition of *The Meter*.

Father motivates instead of mourns

By Madelyn Ragland
Campus News Editor

Parents face many challenges, but losing a child is probably one of the most difficult a parent could ever imagine confronting.

But for Chris Sowell, the father of Tyree Sowell, 21, a TSU senior from Dillard University in New Orleans who died on Nov. 17, this challenge brought forth an understanding.

"My son lived his purpose in life," Mr. Sowell said at a memorial for Tyree on Thursday, Dec. 1 in Floyd-Payne Campus Center forum. "My son was about destiny."

The memorial attended by about 100 people, featured several presentations and tributes from campus administrators, faculty and students who had been touched by Tyree during his two months at TSU.

Josef Robinson, TSU Student Government Association president, was the master of ceremony for the memorial and also read a letter of encouragement from Cortez Z. Watkins, Dillard's SGA president.

"Tyree will be truly missed," Robinson said to the Sowell family members in attendance.

Other presentations included a short feature film, which showcased Tyree's personality, as he discussed why he came to TSU and

See "Campus" on page 3



PHOTO BY KENNETH CUMMINGS

Chris Sowell, father of Tyree Sowell, speaks to uplift audience members attending a memorial in honor of his son on Thursday, Dec. 1.

Faculty member helps launch Latino coalition

By Darlisha Stanfield
Contributing Writer

Pamela Hull, associate director of TSU's University-Center for Health Research, is working hand-and-hand with local organizations to improve the health of Nashville's Latino community.

TSU's CHR, in collaboration with the Nashville Latino Organization, or the Organization Latina de Nashville, and Catholic Charities at Woodbine, are making strides to build the accessibility of quality health care for Latinos in the Nashville community with the launch of the Nashville Latino Health Coalition.

According to Hull, the goals of the organization are to find gaps in Latino health care and find ways of bridging them, to distinguish agencies or institutions working for the Latino community, and to encourage the Latino population to be active members of the health industry.

"I think that the coalition offers poten-

See "Coalition" on page 7

TSU officer faces charges for drug deals

By Madelyn Ragland
Campus News Editor

A TSU police officer, who had been on leave from the department since September, was arrested for selling cocaine on Monday, Nov. 21.

South Precinct undercover officers purchased cocaine from Tracy Lamont Morgan, 38, on three separate occasions this month, according to a press release from Metro

Nashville police.

Morgan was detained on three counts of selling cocaine, misdemeanor marijuana possession, control of drug paraphernalia and driving with a suspended license.

The *Tennessean* newspaper also reported that TSU officials said that if Morgan is convicted of the charges he will be fired.

But whether convicted or not, some TSU police officials are displeased with Morgan's situation.

"As a fellow officer, I am disappointed and saddened that one of my fellow officers, who I trusted, would perform a criminal act," said a TSU police official, who asked to remain anonymous. "I am angry because of the tarnish he put on the department and the shield. And I feel betrayed, because he was one of us and he was a criminal in disguise."

Also according to release, Morgan sold cocaine to an undercover officer on Nov. 10,

See "Citizen's" on page 2

Campus News

State Rep. speaks at TSU

Fifth district representative Jim Cooper visited TSU's Business Incubation Center at the Avon Williams Campus, stressing the need for fiscal reform in Washington in areas of finance and health care reform on Wednesday,

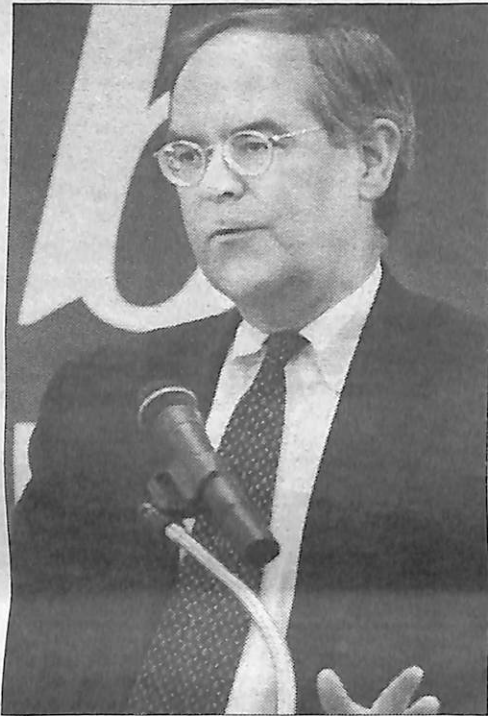


PHOTO BY KENNETH CUMMINGS

Tennessee State Representative Jim Cooper speaks at the TSU Avon-Williams campus on Wednesday Nov. 30.

Nov. 30.

The purpose of Cooper's visit was to stress the agenda of the Blue Dog Democrats, a fiscally conservative group of 30 U.S. Representatives, including Tennesseans Harold Ford, Jr. and John Tanner.

Cooper specifically addressed issues in health care including a Medicare bill recently passed that he called "a slow moving accident" waiting to happen.

"On 26 hours notice, that's how much time we were allowed to read the bill (before debating it in House)," Cooper said.

Cooper specifically addressed Tennessee's track record with regards to health care problems and America's current \$18 trillion deficit.

"It took 240 years for us to get one trillion in debt; now we're doing it just about every 18 months," Cooper said.

Brian Browley

TSU earns a patent with Boeing

TSU engineering researchers have earned a patent for a tool they developed for the Boeing Corporation.

The patent project, which began in 1998, allowed TSU students and Mechanical Engineering Professor Landon Onyebueke to design a PC-based mathematical and graphical estimation tool.

The tool aides in determining the number and size of pilots who can be accommodated in an existing cockpit and benefits in automobile passenger compartments, work areas and sporting equipment.

The adaptable tool can be adopted for maintenance purposes as well. TSU's tool for expanded accommodations analysis technique has been added to MIT's and Embry Riddle's curriculum.

Boeing officials Pete Derenski and Edward Winkle also visited TSU on Oct. 5 of this year to present the Phantom Silver Award to Onyebueke and his students.

Boeing has given TSU more than \$800,000 for research over the last seven years.

Madelyn Ragland

News Briefs

Citizen's tip leads to officer arrest

Continued from page 1

Nov. 15 and Nov. 16. The first two sells were sold on the roadside of the Bordeaux area and the last sell occurred at Morgan's apartment in Madison.

The investigation, which began after officers received a tip from a "citizen," did not produce any evidence that Morgan was selling drugs on or near the TSU campus, according to the release.

In addition, the *Tennessean* reported that Morgan was on leave for two on-campus incidents within the last nine months.

He reportedly said that someone was going to "go postal" after getting upset about having to complete some paper-



PHOTO COURTESY OF DAVIDSON COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT

Tracy Morgan

this time would not be in the best interest of TSU or the TSUPD.

Metro police also stated that officers used a search warrant on Morgan's apart-

work and in March 2005 he got into an altercation with another TSU officer.

Phillip Beene, a TSUPD lieutenant, said in an e-mail to *The Meter* that due to circumstances beyond his control, comments at

ment on Nov. 21 and "found paraphernalia commonly used in the drug trade, including a hydraulic press, electronic scales and plastic bags. Also found was a small amount of marijuana."

Morgan has been a TSU police officer since Jan. 16, 2000.

University officials said Morgan passed a complete background check before he was hired as a TSU police officer, according to WTVF Channel 5 News.

Morgan has since been released on a \$27,000 bond.

Events Calendar

Wednesday

Relay for Life Kickoff
FPCC room 035
6 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Be sure to pick up the Thursday, Dec. 8 Holiday issue of *The Meter*.

Corrections

The Meter regrets errors and will continue to bring readers accurate information.

Campus News

Campus welcomes, pays respect to Sowell

Continued from page 1

what he thought about the university while here. Also, Peggy Earnest, TSU dean of housing and director of residents' life, read a poem after having to compose herself from tears.

In addition, musical renditions at the memorial were provided by the New Direction Gospel Choir, led by Mardreques Harris, and a solo by Myyah Lockhart.

The Sowell family was presented with plaques from the SGA and *The Meter*, Lawrence James, interim head of the department of communications, and the department of residence life. Dorothy Lockridge, interim vice president of student affairs, read the closing remarks and a poem.

"He was so funny. ... (A) blessing upon my heart, a good person all-around," said Kafesta Scott, a classmate of Tyree, during the reflections portion of the memorial.

Also during the reflections, Mr. Sowell said he had some words on a piece of paper to express what he was feeling, but he said he didn't bring it with him. But it didn't seem to matter as he spoke with passion and freely expressed that his son loved being alive because God sent him to TSU to touch every life

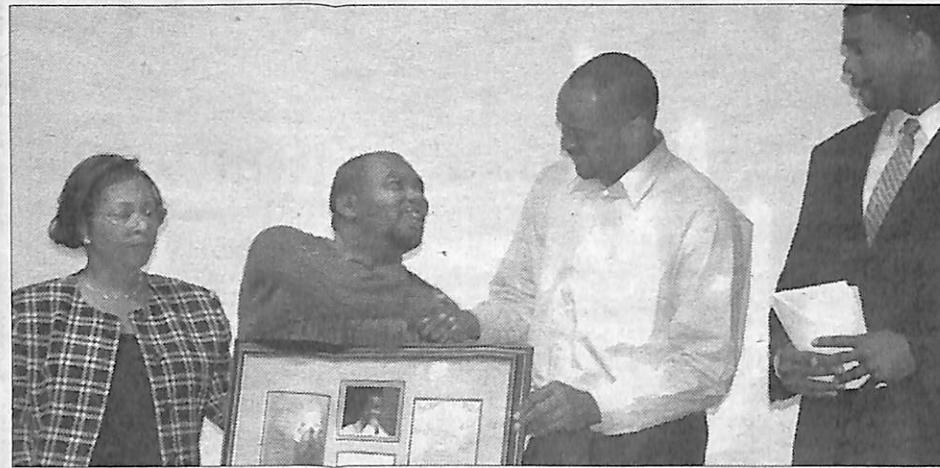


PHOTO BY KENNETH CUMMINGS

Chris Sowell (second left), father of Tyree Sowell, accepts a plaque from Peggy Earnest (far left), TSU dean of housing, and Boyd Hall dorm directors Shawn Modena (second right) and Julius Procter (far right) during the memorial for his son on Thursday, Dec. 1.

he came in contact with.

But Mr. Sowell didn't want anyone to mourn over the loss of his son.

Mr. Sowell spoke to inspire the audience through his son's death. He said when Tyree was born he wanted to give his son a name that he could live up to. And as Mr. Sowell talked about Tyree, he said just like the rich and golden biblical city of Tyre, he exemplified his name.

"We can't argue with God," Mr.

Sowell said. "God is about the people, God is about the love of people because whenever He puts us here we touch each other."

One semester from graduation

Tyree, who had planned to graduate from TSU next spring, was reportedly the victim of a hit and run car accident.

According to *The Dallas Morning News*, Thelma Sowell, Tyree's mother, said on Nov. 14, he was driving from

Atlanta en route to TSU when the accident occurred. She said he suffered massive head injuries.

Tyree had returned to New Orleans to retrieve some belongings he had left behind after evacuating for Hurricane Katrina. Mrs. Sowell told the newspaper said he stopped in Atlanta to visit some other college friends who were also displaced by Hurricane Katrina.

She also said that during Tyree's return trip to TSU, a motorist witnessed another car force him off the road and continue going after the accident.

Mrs. Sowell told the Dallas newspaper that he was in the rural outskirts of Atlanta when some guys were trailing Tyree's car closely. Witness accounts said that Tyree moved over to let the trailing car pass by, but apparently both cars were approaching a construction site and the car ran Tyree off the road.

The witness happened to be a doctor who attempted to follow the car that initiated the accident. He then contacted the Georgia State Patrol, who detained the three males.

Tyree died three days later in an Atlanta hospital.

"I know that my baby knows that I love him," said Mrs. Sowell to *The Dallas Morning News*. "But now, I thank the Lord that he's with God right now."•

Center of Health Research prepares for future

By Darlisha Stanfield
Contributing Writer

With seven staff members and 11 associate researchers, TSU's Center of Health Research is striving to maintain close relationships with the low-income and minority communities in the greater Nashville area.

Established in 1976, the Center stands independently and is funded solely by external grants. And to this day, graduate and undergraduate students, junior faculty, and other institutions use the center, which is located across the street from Friendship Baptist Church on 32nd Ave., for research training.

"The center is important because it's dealing with the community's health needs," said Baqar Husaini, the founder and director of the CHR. "We try to do a lot of community outreach programs to educate the people and get them in the

health system. That is the purpose of the center."

Planning and launching new health programs, mentoring junior faculty and encouraging partnerships between state, national, and international levels are some of the center's goals. With more than 25 publications from 2001 to 2005, the CHR has researched topics from the effects of group therapy for depressed elderly women, to the differences in breast cancer screening among African-American women in rural and urban areas.

Along with the many publications, the center has conducted five research projects on mental health, six projects on preventive health and health education, four projects on health services, and 15 projects on HIV/AIDS and international research.

"I am interested in medical research and hopefully I will become a part of the

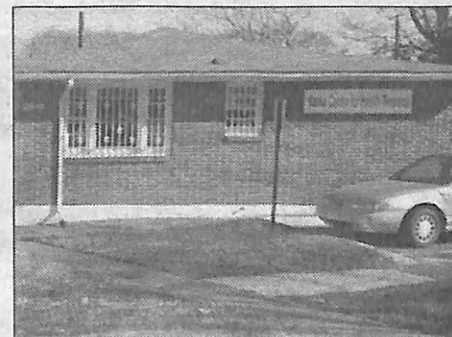


PHOTO BY KENNETH CUMMINGS

TSU's Center of Health Research

center's junior staff next year," said Quiana Mitchell, a junior nursing major from Kansas City, Mo. "I think the research being conducted at the center is the same type of research that will find the cures to the world's incurable diseases."

One of the most recent projects the CHR is tackling is the launching of the Nashville Latino Health Coalition.

Pamela Hull, the Associate Director of the CHR, is representing the center in a collaborative effort to develop the NLHC. Hull, along with the Nashville Latino Organization, and the Catholic Charities of Woodbine are laying the floor plans for a program to better the Latino community's access to health care.

Some of the CHR's upcoming projects include the Psychosocial and Cultural Barriers to Prostate Cancer Screening, lead by Hull and Partners in Eliminating Cancer Disparities, led by Samuel Adunyah, the Biochemistry chair at Meharry Medical College.

"The center is a valuable resource at TSU because we actively conduct research aimed at treating health disparities," Hull said. "We also train our junior faculty to become researchers and we have close relationship with the community."•

Forum

What We Think

Inspiration comes from unusual situations

In life, we've found that inspiration can spring forth from uncommon places and uncommon times.

And these uncommon places and uncommon times are often during our darkest moments. However, that is when the true inner light of humanity starts to shine through.

Chris Sowell, the father of our recently departed TSU brother Tyree Sowell, visited TSU on Thursday, Dec. 1 as two things; a man grieving the loss of his son and a man determined to show the indomitable nature of the human spirit.

While loss is something that is common to the human experience, it is something that everyone experiences differently.

As Tyree came to TSU as one of several displaced students from Dillard University and other schools along the United States Gulf Coast due to Hurricane Katrina, he made an immediate impact on those he came in contact with. Even though we were only graced by his presence for what seems to be a short time, it is evident from both our exposure to him and his father, that he gave so much.

While Mr. Sowell made it known that he misses his son and is saddened by his loss, he also said he takes comfort in knowing exactly where his son is.

Regardless of your religious affiliation, the faith that Mr. Sowell had in both his own convictions and those of

his son are truly encouraging. In the face of tragedy, sometimes all we have is what we hold to be true. And ultimately, our convictions are all we have.

Grieving for the loss of a loved one is a necessary and crucial part of the healing process. And while some openly weep at the loss, others quietly go through the process.

But in the case of Mr. Sowell, he took the loss of his son and used it to give us all a valuable lesson on the value of life and how we can make the most of it. He encouraged students to not get bogged down in their studies and even now as finals approach, it's important to keep in mind that there is life goes outside of this bubble called TSU.

While moving on from a state of bereavement is one of the more difficult transitions in life, there are ways to cope with grief. When people grieve they often go through a series of emotions including shock, numbness, denial, anger, depression and eventually resolution.

One of the most important steps to dealing with grief is first accepting what has happened. This is often one of the most difficult steps, but accepting and then dealing with the grief is the only way to move forward. Do not suppress the pain to only have it resurface later in a different form. But make the final step in the process and move on. Though there is no definitive way to "get over" the loss, we must learn to assimilate and live with it. As Mr. Sowell showed us even when dealing with the loss of a loved one, we can always look for a way to help others who are also going through the process.

Therefore, as the semester draws to a close, let us keep in mind individuals like Tyree and Mr. Sowell. We remember people such as them not in how they left us, but in how they live. Although we all deal with the loss of life in our own way, we should all head the example of Mr. Sowell and use our darkest moments to let our light shine. •



The Meter

The Measure of Student Opinion and Sentiment

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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

The Meter Mission Statement

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

Submission Requirements

The Meter invites submissions by all members of the Tennessee State University community. Opinions contained in submitted articles do not necessarily reflect the views of TSU faculty, students, SGA, or administration. Timeliness and clarity are factors in selecting material for publication. Materials must adhere to the following guidelines:

- All contributions must be typed, double-spaced (submitted on 3.5" disks or e-mailed) by Monday, and must include the writers name and title or classification.*
- Opinions and letters should not exceed 400 words.*
- The Meter reserves the right to reject letters, articles, or ads without explanation and to edit others as necessary.*

*The Meter is committed to serving TSU and the Nashville community. If you would like to become a supply outpost for *The Meter* or have an idea or suggestion regarding circulation please contact:*

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Letters to the Editor

Student stands up for math instructor

When you enter an education of higher learning, you should automatically expect and accept many challenges and obstacles. Many college students, especially the younger ones, do not want to work hard. I am currently a twenty-seven year old sophomore at Tennessee State University, who has a foreign instructor for college algebra.

Minakshisundara Rajadopalan is a non-native English speaking professor, who really has major concerns about his students learning. In one specific incident, I was sitting downstairs in the lobby waiting to attend class with a sad look on my face; he took the time out to see what was wrong. I told him I had concerns about not passing the test and

he took me into his office and tutored me for about thirty minutes prior to the test. I scored a ninety-seven on the exam. Other classmates have told me he has also done the same for them.

The student's major concern should be the teacher's wiliness to see them succeed, not their native language. I have had several native English speaking professors at T.S.U. that never took the time out to see if there was a way to improve my grade. Currently I have an A average in Mr. Rajadopalan's class. To me it's not the teacher that's foreign; it's the subject that's foreign to a lot of students. Algebra is not a subject for the majority that you can come to class an occasion or fail to review the problems when you get home

and pass. You have to work at it. What you put in it, is what you get out of it.

I personal feel that many college students are using some of the foreign instructors as an excuse. I have seen students come to his class every MWF just to get their name on the roll and leave, without giving him a chance and get upset when their grade is low. When you have an instructor like Mr. Rajadopalan the language barrier is not the issue, don't get me wrong I don't understand everything he says, but he is always willing to repeat himself without hesitation and he writes everything on the board while speaking.

Students need to take a step back and be honest with themselves and real-

ize it's not the instructor, but them as students who are not willing to take their education an extra mile and go home and study what was given to them in class. If I receive a low grade I am willing to accept the fact that I didn't prepare for the test like I should have. Upon exiting college and receiving a degree many students will have to learn and cope with language barriers in their varies fields. Making complaints and running away is not going to solve problem, we all know life is not easy, does not always go the way we want it, and does require a little hard work every now and then.

Rochetta Swanson

Student accuses *Meter* of hidden agenda

The November 21 article, "Several Students Suffer With Foreign Instructors" by Shauntae White, is unfair to TSU Professor Minakshisundara Rajagopalan.

Although the article does not mention Dr. Rajagopalan by name, his picture is printed alongside Shauntae White's story. This is an attempt at guilt by association, defaming Dr. Rajagopalan without saying his name.

Dr. Rajagopalan is an excellent instructor. He is easily understood by any student who pays attention to him and listens attentively. I know this from personal experience. I am taking Math 5060, Linear Algebra I, from Dr. Rajagopalan this fall. It took only a short

time to become accustomed to his accent.

Because Dr. Rajagopalan frequently meets with his graduate students one on one, I have had numerous conversations with him. I have learned a lot of linear algebra this fall.

Let me say again, after spending a little time becoming accustomed to his accent, Dr. Rajagopalan can be understood clearly.

He is TSU's most eminent mathematics professor. TSU benefits from Dr. Rajagopalan's extensive knowledge of mathematics.

Sincerely,
William Davenport

Student shares displeasure with president

Editor's note: This is a letter from a concerned student addressed to TSU President Melvin Johnson about the recent Hale Hall water situation.

December 1, 2005

Dear Dr. Johnson:

I am a junior, honor student from Kansas City, Missouri. I am writing this letter in regards to the horrible living conditions that I am being forced to live with right now. I do not know if you are aware of the hot water situation at Hale Hall. But, we have lived without hot water since Wednesday, November 23. We have not received any type of information on the situation at hand, the administration at Hale Hall is carrying on a regular days as if everything is ok.

My mother has been in touch with Mr. Hosea Lewis, who is the housing supervisor. He has not informed my mother on when or if the situation would be handled. I do not believe what is happening to us at this dorm is fair. I have never in my entire life had to live without access to hot water and I do not believe that I should have to start now, especially when I am paying Tennessee State University to provide me with such a necessity.

I have to wake up every morning knowing that a cold shower is waiting for me. I have to heat water in the microwave just to wash my face. Then, walking outside to fifty-degree weather

right after taking a cold shower is not healthy. I'm beginning to feel dirty, because all I do is throw the water on my body because it is so cold; I have not taken a decent shower since I went home for Thanksgiving. To solve this issue, I believe that some type of replacement housing needs to be provided or some type of reimbursement for the days that we have been without hot water.

I am more hurt about this situation than I am mad because I love Tennessee State University and I know in the future I will represent this University as a great University. I have a 3.6 grade point average, I am involved in many activities and when I graduate I plan on giving much back to this University. But in the essence of this situation, my outlook on this University has been tarnished. A University cannot expect alumnus to give back to them if they treated them bad while they were there. In the mist of this situation, I did not receive any type of emotional attention or apologetic comfort ness.

As much as this university has been in the news lately with such recent events that have occurred in conjunction with its name, a broadcast of this situation is the last thing it needs.

Cordially,
Naitosha L. Penn, student
npenn@mytsu.tnstate.edu

Tiger says all foreign instructors aren't bad

Editor's note: Stephanie Richardson is a student who assisted The Meter's photo staff by providing a picture of a foreign professor. She is not on staff.

I am a student of Dr. Minakshisundara Rajagopalan's College Algebra class. I was displeased with the way Dr. Rajagopalan's identity was misrepresented in the article "Several students suffer with foreign instructors." The article seemed to place a negative stigma on all non-native professors at Tennessee State University. Not all foreign professors at TSU totally confuse their students. Some professors do rec-

ognize the difficulty of the language barrier and whole-heartedly dedicate themselves to helping students understand the lesson on a one-on-one basis. Dr. Rajagopalan, for example, is always willing to clarify any math problems that his students may not understand. Should a student have a discrepancy, he is willing to work with them and is flexible with his or her issues.

The article just seems to discourage students from taking foreign teachers or even creating prejudices against these instructors.

Stephanie Richardson

Forum

Graduation means change, not goodbye



Gregory Brand Jr.
Senior Editor

The Jump Off

Well, it would appear that I have over-stayed my welcome at the fine institution called Tennessee State University, so the time has come for me to bow out gracefully.

It has been a pleasure existing here as a student and staffer on TSU's student publication, *The Meter*. Ironically, the realization that it was time to leave hit as I was thumbing through some of the archived issues of the paper and saw my work in four years worth of issues.

It caught me a little off guard. I was on staff when... a former editor called the president of TSU out in the paper, the paper was redesigned three times in one year, the paper went from twice a month to weekly and as the former president resigned after a little audit revealed a few inconsistencies that yielded big problems. Imagine working in all of these events and still keeping full-time hours



PHOTO FROM METER ARCHIVES

Gregory Brand Jr. laughs with *Meter* staffers during the 2004 Christmas party. Below, Brand dines at the 2002 HBCU newspaper conference.

and some cheap rip off of a social life.

It has been an interesting ride and I am eternally grateful for having *The Meter* with me through nearly every step of my matriculation. So my first thank you is to *The Meter* itself. It has taught me how to be an ethical and dedicated journalist, though I might have to face the unfavorable opinions and attitudes of my peers because of my goal in reporting the truth (no matter how ugly or pretty). It has also helped me to reach goals I could have only imagined reaching with out it, so thank you *Meter*. May you continue doing what a paper should do; cover the "highlights and lowlights" of TSU.

Amid the scandals and overreactions put forth by several of our illustrious Pan Hellenic Greek organizations and extremely difficult-to-talk-to administration, I learned a vital lesson in covering college news. Though covering colleges is difficult, truly succeeding here means you can succeed anywhere. Forget facing machine gun fire in Iraq; try getting the scoop on a campus crime from the on-campus officials. I promise you will have an easier time understanding the slurred Spanish in a Daddy Yankee song.

I am confident that the staff left in my stead will be more than up to the task keeping *The Meter* newsworthy and fresh. Sharp and confident Eddie R. Cole will keep *The Meter* on the right track along with the clever DeShanee Miner, get-it-all-on-film Kenneth Cummings, over-the-top opinionated Kirsten D. Watkins, sensitively detailed Dairanetta Spain, mega multitasking Madelyn

Ragland, always clean and composed Evita Timmons, computer-fu master Gregory Fletcher, go-to-guy Brian Browley and sometimes brutally honest Ms. Foster. I love all of you and hope you continue to make *The Meter* the best it can be.

Mushy Stuff

To all of my friends that have transformed into family, I will always appreciate and love you. This goes double from the original 4th Floor crew and former Meterites! (Sherpri, Mika, Alan, Meredith, Emil, Amani... the list goes on and they know who they are. Love y'all!) To the staff of WTST; we really do have the best chemistry on the yard and the talent to match. I love y'all. Also to Ms. Perianne London: you are a beautiful

person with more love than you know you have. Thank you for being a friend, mother and confidant.

And to my Brothers for Love, Achievement, Culture and Knowledge Inc, know that there is nothing that you cannot accomplish and you are among the greatest men on TSU's campus.

The first college experience happens only once and I am so glad that I had a few good teachers to help me along the way. Big shouts to Dr. Page, Ms. Foster, Dr. Brooks, Dr. Yan, Dr. Duncan-Walters, Ms. Etheridge-Logan, Mr. Gresham, Dr. Sturgeon and Mr. Dunson. Through your words and teachings I can move on and know that somewhere in my head are the makings of a person that can be successful. Thank you.

The Closer

As I leave, I want to remind the campus of what *The Meter* is here for. It is here to save you. No, not save you like a superhero or the lame character in a Project Pat song, but to save you from the ignorance of not being informed. Let *The Meter* do its job. Also bear in mind that it is other students that are trying to take on the task of reporting the news. Don't kill them if they stumble because they are climbing toward their futures. They are not there yet.

Though I cannot say that every issue of *The Meter* was the greatest instance of the publication world, quite a few got pretty damn close and I am proud that I could be a figure in making that happen. Peace and Love. One.♦



Forum

Graduation means change, not goodbye



**Gregory Brand
Jr.**
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and some cheap rip off of a social life.

It has been an interesting ride and I am eternally grateful for having *The Meter* with me through nearly every step of my matriculation. So my first thank you is to *The Meter* itself. It has taught me how to be an ethical and dedicated journalist, though I might have to face the unfavorable opinions and attitudes of my peers because of my goal in reporting the truth (no matter how ugly or pretty). It has also helped me to reach goals I could have only imagined reaching with out it, so thank you *Meter*. May you continue doing what a paper should do; cover the "highlights and lowlights" of TSU.

Amid the scandals and overreactions put forth by several of our illustrious Pan Hellenic Greek organizations and extremely difficult-to-talk-to administration, I learned a vital lesson in covering college news. Though covering colleges is difficult, truly succeeding here means you can succeed anywhere. Forget facing machine gun fire in Iraq; try getting the scoop on a campus crime from the on-campus officials. I promise you will have an easier time understanding the slurred Spanish in a Daddy Yankee song.

I am confident that the staff left in my stead will be more than up to the task keeping *The Meter* newsworthy and fresh. Sharp and confident Eddie R. Cole will keep *The Meter* on the right track along with the clever DeShanee Miner, get-it-all-on-film Kenneth Cummings, over-the-top opinionated Kirsten D. Watkins, sensitively detailed Dairanetta Spain, mega multitasking Madelyn

Ragland, always clean and composed Evita Timmons, computer-fu master Gregory Fletcher, go-to-guy Brian Browley and sometimes brutally honest Ms. Foster. I love all of you and hope you continue to make *The Meter* the best it can be.

Mushy Stuff

To all of my friends that have transformed into family, I will always appreciate and love you. This goes double from the original 4th Floor crew and former Meterites! (Sherpri, Mika, Alan, Meredith, Emil, Amani... the list goes on and they know who they are. Love y'all!) To the staff of WTST; we really do have the best chemistry on the yard and the talent to match. I love y'all. Also to Ms. Perianne London: you are a beautiful



person with more love than you know you have. Thank you for being a friend, mother and confidant.

And to my Brothers for Love, Achievement, Culture and Knowledge Inc, know that there is nothing that you cannot accomplish and you are among the greatest men on TSU's campus.

The first college experience happens only once and I am so glad that I had a few good teachers to help me along the way. Big shouts to Dr. Page, Ms. Foster, Dr. Brooks, Dr. Yan, Dr. Duncan-Walters, Ms. Etheridge-Logan, Mr. Gresham, Dr. Sturgeon and Mr. Dunson. Through your words and teachings I can move on and know that somewhere in my head are the makings of a person that can be successful. Thank you.

The Closer

As I leave, I want to remind the campus of what *The Meter* is here for. It is here to save you. No, not save you like a superhero or the lame character in a Project Pat song, but to save you from the ignorance of not being informed. Let *The Meter* do its job. Also bear in mind that it is other students that are trying to take on the task of reporting the news. Don't kill them if they stumble because they are climbing toward their futures. They are not there yet.

Though I cannot say that every issue of *The Meter* was the greatest instance of the publication world, quite a few got pretty damn close and I am proud that I could be a figure in making that happen. Peace and Love. One.♦

Campus News

Coalition to help more than just the Latino community

Continued from page 1

tial to build on the advances that have been made over recent years in expanding access to health care for the Latino population," said Hull. "To take this work to the next level by building capacity among Latino community members to have a voice and participate in collective actions that can make a lasting impact."

According to the home page of the CC, cctenn.org/index.htm, the organization offers assistance in several different areas that serve the Latino community, as well as other races. Some services offered exclusively to the Latino community are bilingual playgroups for children ages 3-5 and their parents, a prenatal program that helps access TennCare coverage and provides translation ser-

The traditional way is through members of certain organizations, who act as "liaisons" and assume the role of Latino community leaders due to their positions and acceptance by the general public in our city. These leaders interact with Nashville authorities or the community in general on behalf of the Latino community.

The mission of OLN is to organize and build the capacity of the Latino community to participate in processes of community action for social change and the collective benefit of Latinos and the general community, while contributing to social unity in a context of multi-cultural diversity. OLN is playing a key role in launching this new coalition, the grassroots Latino community will play an integral role in identifying issues to focus on, deciding how to address them,

since it will offer an opportunity for the voices of members of the Latino community to be heard. Furthermore, it will significantly help the Latino community understand the importance of prevention regarding health in a new society."

The vision of the three participating organizations is to attract many organizations to become one super-resource for the Latino community, according to Hull. According to the Census, in 2004 there was an estimated 36,000 people of Hispanic origin in Davidson County alone. This figure does not include the underestimated Hispanic immigrants and the actual number of people of Hispanic origin could be doubled.

At the first meeting, on Wednesday, Nov 17, 85 people were attendance. Amongst these 80 attendants were representatives from 40 different organizations involved with health care, public health, and social service and non-profit. These organizations represented at the meeting are all concerned with the well-being of the Latino Community.

"I think this is overdue," said Mary Bufwack, CEO of United Neighborhood Health Services. "I wish such groups had started awhile ago because we've been in dire need for so many years. I am happy to see this coalition starting. I do think it will be effective in the future because it's pulling in so many different institutions."

During the meeting, participants expressed their concern and gave suggestions about what services the coalition should provide. Some issues that were touched upon during the meeting were language barriers to health care access, health literacy issues, cultural competence in health care delivery, and the need for more bilingual and Latino-ori-

gin health professionals and staff.

Hull plays a pivotal role in the formation of the coalition. She devotes her personal time to organizing meetings, compiling an accurate and current contact list, researching similar organizations in other cities, and planning future activities.

"Some TSU faculty from the School of Nursing, College of Health Sciences, and the Service Learning office have also expressed interest in becoming involved in the coalition," said Hull. "I will continue to be actively involved in the coalition, but our hope is that once the coalition is established, all of the diverse coalition members will contribute to the sustainability of the coalition."

As of now, there are no TSU students involved in the coalition.

"We think that the coalition offers a unique opportunity for members of the grassroots Latino community to be empowered and to be active participants and partners with existing organizations to develop collaborative initiatives to improve the health of their community," said Hull.

"I wish such groups had started awhile ago because we've been in dire need for so many years."

-Mary Bufwack

vices, and the Hispanic Family Services.

The Latino community is represented in Nashville in a variety of ways, according to Juan Canedo, who works at the OLN and is the Organizing Director at the Tennessee Immigrant and Refugee Rights Coalition.

and evaluation processes.

"This coalition is important because it will basically be working in a collaborative manner to understand and address the needs of the Latino community as seen from the grassroots point of view," Canedo said. "It will be very helpful

IF INTERESTED:

Contact person:

Pamela Hull

Phone:

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E-mail:

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The

Read it in print, online, everyday.

Meter

Campus News

Fair provides evacuees with useful services

By Randall Maxwell
Contributing Writer

TSU displaced students as well as Hurricane Katrina evacuees now living in Middle Tennessee came together for a service and information fair created especially for those affected by the storm on Saturday, Nov. 19 in Kean Hall.

The fair was designed to provide evacuees with useful information about special services that were available in and around TSU.

These services included food, clothing and information about housing, dental education and cleanings, mental health, career and employment and child care services.

"These services will be available for a long time into the future," said Inman Otey, director of Career Center at TSU.

Each participant at the fair, for example, was given a list of job search links by the career center which helps evacuees in getting started in a search for a job.

"All the participants at this fair will be entitled to all our services, including part-time placements and summertime jobs and interns for income," Otey said. "Each evacuee will have access to the career center's data bases, career planning, a career workshop every Thursday at 3 p.m. and one-on-one individual counseling."

In addition to job opportunities for adults, entertainment for the youth was



PHOTO BY RANDALL MAXWELL

Debbie Howard, a Hurricane Katrina evacuee now living in Nashville, waits to be interviewed by TSUtv on Nov. 19 in Kean Hall.

also provided.

A puppet show entertained the children as most of the them left with over \$1,000 in school supplies and many toys.

"We simply cannot forget these people, especially during the holidays that are coming up," said Deena Sue Fuller, the fair coordinator. "We are organizing now to make sure we keep up with these people over the holidays so that no one will be left out, as far as having family or people to be around for the holiday."

But as families were invited from all

over Middle Tennessee, a Katrina success story even arose.

Bruce Belloto from DeBot, La., always looked forward to coming to Nashville to be a singer and songwriter. Now, due to Katrina his dream can now come true. He wrote a song about Katrina entitled, *I Remember the Night*, and now all sorts of opportunities in the music industry are opening up for him.

"Life has certainly changed, but I believe in the power of prayer and Jesus is my co-pilot" Belloto said.

Other exciting things have come into

his life as well since the hurricane. Since being in Nashville, he dropped his name in a hat along with 750 others, and his name was drawn to win a 1994 Chevrolet Astro van, so now he has wheels that he didn't have before.

According to Belloto, the Red Cross had made arrangements upon his arrival to stay in a cabin at a nearby campground. However, he gave his cabin to a family to use instead, since he could stay in his own van.

"Because of all the giving I have seen since this travesty, I now see giving as a lifestyle" Belloto said. "Now I'm just excited that I can go and spend the up-coming holidays and be re-united with my wife and daughter who I have been separated from since the hurricane."

On the other hand, evacuees at the fair like Wend Shelton from New Orleans came to the fair trying to find someone who may know something about buying real estate in New Orleans. Shelton was very excited about receiving free movie tickets and a library card here in Nashville without being a resident.

The fair set out to inform all participants' sources of information to better their lives.

"We just wish we could have reached more of the Middle Tennessee evacuees," Fuller said. "We had more volunteers than we did evacuees, and very few of our student evacuees. There were more than 200 volunteers and less than 100 evacuees. To my knowledge there were only two of our student evacuees at the event."*

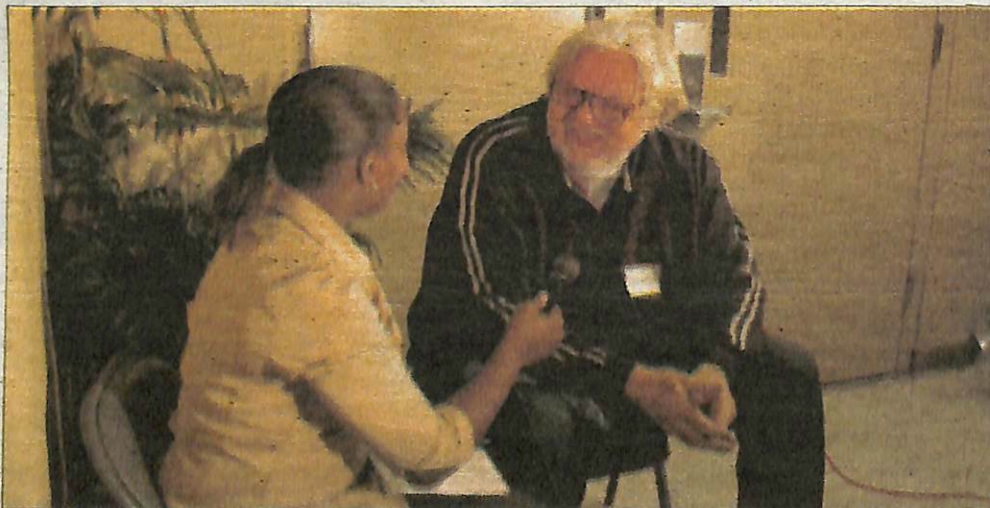



PHOTO BY RANDALL MAXWELL

Wend Shelton is being interviewed by TSU senior Chrycilis Perry for TSUtv on Nov. 19 in Kean Hall. Shelton came to the fair trying to find someone who may know something about buying real estate in New Orleans.




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New birth control method is on the rise

By Kristen D. Watkins and
Arian Brantley
A&E Editor and
A&E Writer

When women think about methods of birth control, the majority may automatically think of the most common contraceptive form - the pill.

However, the patch is another form of birth control that is steadily increasing in its number of users.

According to orthoevra.com, the birth control patch "has become the fastest growing hormonal contraceptive in the (United States)."

This fast growing contraceptive patch is disposable and is worn for one week. Then at the beginning of a new week, a new patch is applied and this will continue for three weeks. During the fourth week, no patch is applied and one's menstrual period should start during this patch-free week. On the day after week four ends, a new patch should be applied, starting a new four-week cycle.

But Elizabeth Frazier, resident nurse

at the Queen Washington Health Center here at TSU, said she thinks that most young women have reverted to the birth control patch for convenience.

"Many women are forgetful and feel that the patch may be safer because they can choose one day out of the week to change their patch, while forgetting to take a pill each day occurs more frequently as one's 'everyday routine' may change," said Frazier.

The official name of the birth control patch is OrthoEvra and it is a transdermal system in which the contraceptive medication is absorbed through the skin.

OrthoEvra is a thin, beige, plastic patch that contains hormones norelgestromin and ethinyl estradiol (progestin and estrogen), which are absorbed continuously through the skin and into the bloodstream. These hormones, similar to those produced by a woman's body, work to prevent pregnancy by slowing down the ovaries release of eggs.

But, as with all forms of birth con-

See "Side" on page 12



PHOTO COURTESY OF WYHC.COM

The patch, with an increase in its number of users, is another form of birth control, but it may have some health risks.

Cancer Coalition seeks to inform TSU of risks

By Brandy Wilson and
Jamil Hunter
Contributing Writers

The Cervical Cancer Coalition of Tennessee (CCCT) is admirably trying to spread information about cervical cancer on the campus of TSU.

Earlier this fall, the CCCT, along with the Queen Washington Health Center, hosted the "It's All About Health; Let's Fight Cancer Together" health fair in the forum of the Floyd-Payne Campus Center.

Students were able to speak with health officials from Meharry Medical Center and other cancer organizations throughout the Nashville community and even a panel discussion featuring Navita Gunter, a cancer survivor and CEO of the CCCT, was held on Thursday, Oct. 27.

"I wanted to have this health fair at TSU because many younger women don't know about the prevention of cervical cancer," Gunter said. "Younger women need to hear this (information) so they will know how important it is for them to take care of their bodies."

Cervical cancer can affect any woman who is or has been sexually active. It is more likely to occur in women who have a virus called the human papillomavirus (HPV), which is passed on through sex. It is also more likely to occur in women who have not had regular Pap-smear (Pap test) testing, according to the American Cancer Society.

"More and more college students are being affected by HPV everyday," said Rev. Hilda R. Davis-Carroll, ph.D, a spokesperson for the National Black Leadership Initiative on Cancer, Nashville coalition (NBLIC). "This is one of the main causes of cervical cancer, but cervical cancer is preventable and curable. Once women become sexually active testing, should be done every year with the Pap test."

Worldwide, cervical cancer is the second or third most common cancer among women, according to the NBLIC. Cervical cancer that has not invaded surrounding tissues of the cervix reaches a peak in both African-American and Caucasian women between the ages of 20 and 30 years. After 25 years of age, the number of cases increases for

both races, but it increases strikingly in African-American women.

According to Dineo Khabele, M.D., from Meharry Medical College, there are two kinds of abnormal tissue caused by HPV: condyloma (genital warts) and dysplasia (pre-cancer).

Dysplasia is the presence of abnormal cells on the surface of the skin. It is not cancer, but can turn into cancer over a period of years if left untreated. The

See "Females" on page 12

Arts & Entertainment

R&B diva brings couture from runway to the rack

By Kirsten D. Watkins
A&E Editor

Multi-platinum recording artist Beyonce Knowles, along with her mother/stylist Tina Knowles, has officially satisfied the cravings of female fashionistas around the world with her latest venture, House of Dereon.

It seems exceedingly typical that another celebrity has chosen to enter the world of fashion, but Beyonce just may be sitting on a goldmine as she elegantly re-introduces classic couture to our young female generation.

In the December 2005 issue of Ebony magazine, Beyonce declares that House of Dereon was inspired by the style and elegance of her late grandmother, Agnez Dereon. Tina Knowles, who is Dereon's daughter, insists that each generation brings a special gift to the infant project that launched in

November 2005.

"House of Dereon is more than just couture. It is also kick and soul," Tina Knowles told the magazine. "From Mama Agnez comes the soul. My influence is the couture and Beyonce adds the kick."

TSU has long been a venue for great expression of an individual's personality through fashion—just check out the student center on any given Wednesday. And females have chosen great excitement about Beyonce's new business move.

"I've watched Beyonce evolve through her fashion, since she came out with Destiny's Child, and her clothes have always been beautiful," said Mia McCain, a sophomore business administration major from Memphis. "She has always celebrated women with curves, so I hope that the House of Dereon reflects that."

The House of Dereon captures

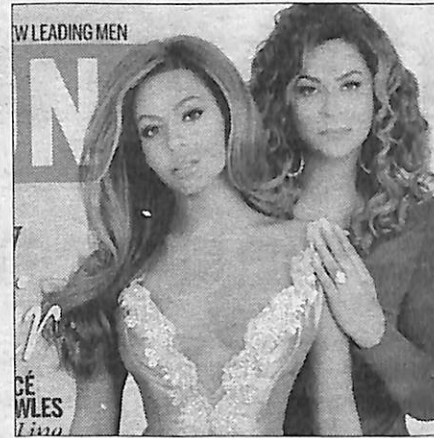


PHOTO COURTESY OF EBONY MAGAZINE

Beyonce (left) and Tina Knowles (right) are seen here on the cover of Ebony magazine. The two have started a new clothing line.

the essence of the trends that young women are interested in on TSU's campus. Dereon has debuted various signature jeans, cashmere sweaters, wool gauchos, items for a black-tie affair, and even some of the lavishly gorgeous ball-

gowns that Beyonce is so sophisticatedly noted for.

However, some women have shown a concern for how Dereon plans to attract college women to partake in the couture expression of self with the high-end prices. For instance, a pair of Dereon's signature jeans range in price from \$98 - \$118. While, for the average working woman, this may be feasible, for most ladies that run the TSU catwalk, one might resort to having a piggy bank in the name of Dereon.

"I have been looking forward to Dereon's release, but I was very surprised to find out that her prices were going to be that high," said Shaana Worlds, a junior English major from Moss Point, Miss. "I definitely will be checking it out because they have really nice stuff. I was just surprised to find such high prices for clothing that most young girls will want and may not be able to afford."

Meter Minute



Rent— B-

When Chris Columbus left the Harry Potter franchise almost two years ago who would have guessed he would wind up at the helm of the new big screen adaptation of the Broadway classic Rent.

The translation of the now famous musical stays fairly true to its originator while making a few leaps that make it an original in its own right. Though not all of the leaps are in the right direction, the

movie is more hits than misses.

The film follows the lives of six friends over the span of a year as they live and love in the city where stars are born. The story is based in the 1990s and places the characters in situations that reflect that time. As with many stories that take place at the start of the AIDS boom, the virus is a key linking factor in the story, as is the poverty of the period.

The film begins with a musical number that sums up the plight of the main characters. They live in a district of New York City that was made for the creative stimulation of the artistic minds that choose to live there. The only issue is they now have to move out of their basically rent free existence if they can't pay to stay there. The opening is set on Christmas Eve and the tenants get the gift of cancelled utilities and past due bill notices. These notices are promptly burned and music ensues.

They soon find out that their power has been cut by a former friend that has married into money. His "new" family wants to turn the art district into a commercially viable area, so he turns on his old friends to make it happen. This role is covered by a surprisingly seasoned Taye Diggs.

For lovers of the stage play, the film covers all the bases of the original story.

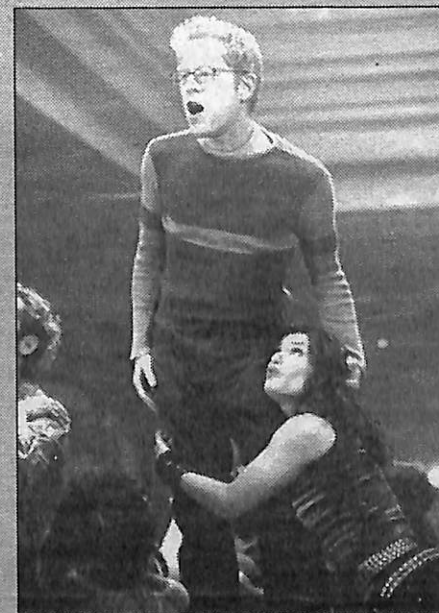


PHOTO COURTESY OF YAHOO.COM

Anthony Rapp stars as Mark Cohen and Idina Menzel co-stars as Maureen Johnson in the film Rent.

All of the famous music numbers associated with the stage version make appearances and are tied into a story that flows without following the exact pattern of the play. For newcomers, the film develops most of the film's plot and subplots into visuals that they can understand. This proves strong in the presentation of a couple of flashbacks that reveal tales

through some of the songs. For people that may have seen the play, this movie gives a visual background to stories the play only alludes to.

Credible performances are delivered by the multi-talented cast which is almost totally composed of stage actors, yet one clear stand out is musical newcomer and veteran actress, Rosario Dawson as the sexy and adventurous Mimi.

The story's realest weak spot rests in the lack of information given. Although the story, theoretically, is designed to attract people to the play and its characters, not enough info is given. Questions as to why the artists refuse to pay rent and how they end up in the district are left floating with the credits.

The audience, both fans of the play and virgins to the story, could have benefited from a clearer articulation of the movie's premise. Tying the music into the story would have also proved to be a winner. Musicals like Chicago shadow this film because the music aided in telling a compelling story instead of just punctuating it.

Bottom Line: The film is a neat and intelligent musical even if the story isn't the cleanest translation of a Broadway classic.

Gregory Brand, Jr.

Arts & Entertainment

50 Cent movie worth the buck

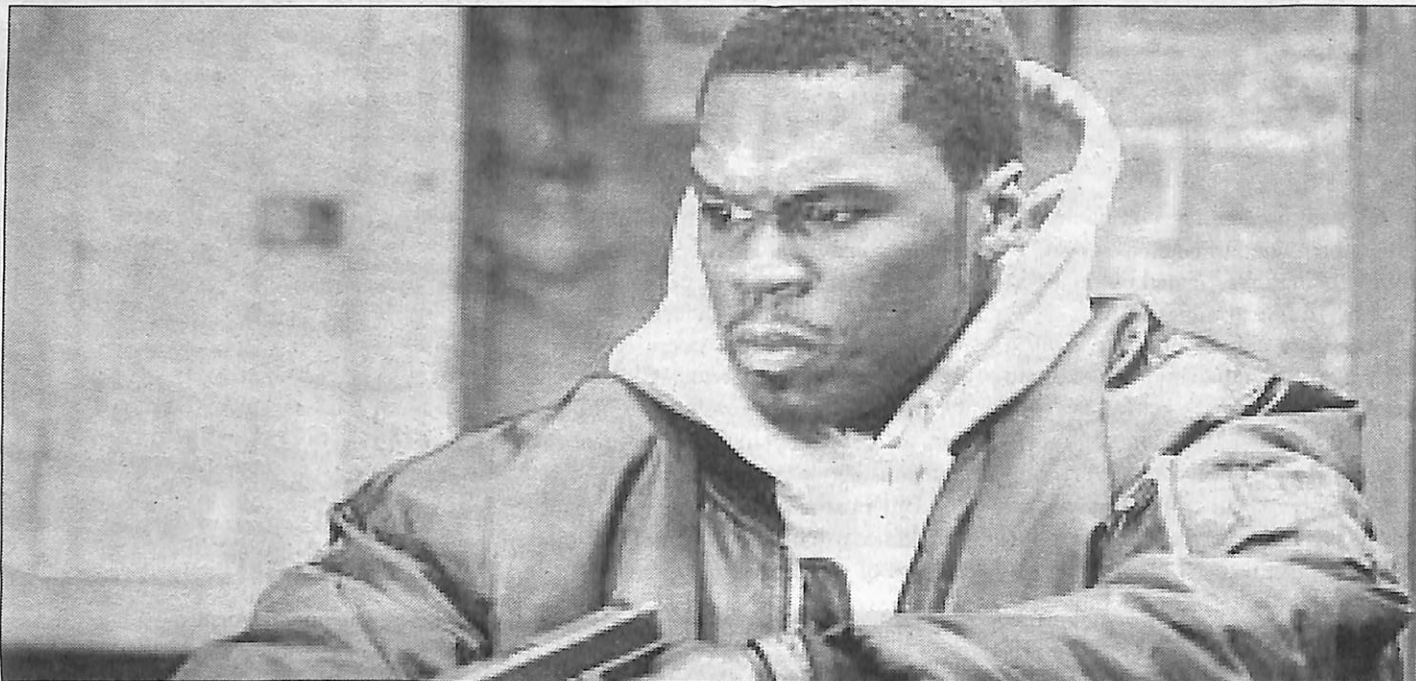


PHOTO COURTESY OF YAHOO.COM

Curtis "50 Cent" Jackson plays a character similar to himself in his new film *Get Rich or Die Tryin'*. The film has earned both positive and negative reviews for the film.

By Michael Ivey Jr.
Black College Wire

Many were expecting the worst from 50 Cent's acting debut, but *Get Rich or Die Tryin'*, named after his multi-platinum debut album, is a safe avenue for the CEO of G-Unit Records to enter Hollywood.

Curtis Jackson, aka 50 Cent, brings a ready-made fan base to theaters via his music, bolstered by the release of an all-new 50 Cent/G-Unit soundtrack.

An unauthorized biographical DVD, *Refuse To Die*, was released by New Line Entertainment. Add in that some Los Angeles and Philadelphia communities removed billboards that displayed 50's tattooed back, a microphone in one hand and a gun in the other, and the stage is set for the controversy connoisseur to show his story to the world.

In the film, Marcus, aka Young Caesar (50 Cent), spends most of his time at his grandparents' house because his mother Katrina (Serena Reeder) is always out hustling for neighborhood boss Majestic (Adewale Akinnuoye-Agbaje). Marcus misses her, but is preoccupied by the luxuries his job affords and by rapping, mostly about his girlfriend Charlene (Joy Bryant).

During an argument between

Katrina and another dealer, Katrina is killed. Marcus vows revenge. He begins dealing, and Majestic takes the kid under his wing. Marcus buys his first gun, and we fast-forward to his high school days as he aims the gun at a mirror in his cramped cellar apartment. He gets busted in school for drug possession, and when his grandfather berates Marcus after a court hearing, he proclaims, "I'm a gangsta, Grandpa. And I'm proud of it."

During a brief prison stint, Marcus discovers a passion for writing music and meets Bama (Terrence Howard), who saves his life and subsequently becomes his manager. The change of focus and association leaves Marcus on the outside of Majestic's circle, and therefore in harm's way.

Get Rich or Die Tryin' is entertaining throughout. However, it's not as "ultra gangster" or unrealistically underdog-driven as one might expect.

The plot shows a young man emotionally corrupted by his environment and the death of his mother.

Marcus is portrayed as a survivor. The key shooting scene is done well by Declan Quinn, the director of photography, and by Jim Sheridan, producer/director. It's a believable recreation of a man surviving nine shots at close range.

We get to see 50 Cent in a very different light when Marcus reunites with his childhood girlfriend. During his recovery from the shooting, Charlene questions whether he has the heart to continue striving. He breaks down crying.

50 Cent picked the safest and smartest role possible — himself.

However, this doesn't necessarily feel as if we're watching 50 play 50. His acting coaches deserve enormous credit.

The most glaring negative is Marcus' lack of emotional arch. He is not as ruthless during his hustling days; therefore, when he turns to music, it's the same anger — just a different target. It's not necessarily music that motivates Marcus, but humiliating his former employer through his music. This takes away from the idea of hip-hop as the gangster's saving grace. The film also seems to be set in the eighties, but the wardrobe suggests a later period.

In all, 50 Cent's celebrity and the sensationalism of his story turn a decent film into a very entertaining comparison of life and art.

Michael Ivey Jr., a student at Howard University, writes for the Hilltop.

Lyricist Lounge

Blissful Moments

By Hodari Pili-Tourre Brown

The joys of life
are full of blissful moments.
Moments of reflection
that signify joy
& passion in one's life.
Those times you share dearly with
the one you love
and those moments of greatness
that you only experience
with that one special person.

Sweet smelling l
ong stemmed roses
placed by a candle
that burns of devotion
for the one you love.
Moments of desire
are of the past
but moments of togetherness,
righteousness,
and courageousness
are in the future.
No more lonely nights.
No more painful goodbyes
but memories of joy,
happiness,
and a communal of love lives on.
Oh Sweet memories
of the day
for which we were meant to be.
No more agony
or bitter sweet sorrows
for today is the day
that we were meant to be as one,
as a union,
as a fellowship of blissful moments
of no regrets.
Live for the moment which is
blissful to my heart and yours.

Arts & Entertainment

Birth control side effects are numerous

Continued from page 9

trol, there are certain side effects and precautions that need to be taken.

With OrthoEvra, these side effects may include headaches, nausea, skin irritation at the patch site, breast discomfort, abdominal pain, and/or menstrual cramps.

According to the *Kentucky Enquirer*, Michael Thomas, co-director of the Alliance Center for Reproductive Health, states that the patch may not be healthy and effective for women who are somewhat heavy.

Other damaging effects of the patch are leg pain, swelling, shortness of breath, and dangerous blood clotting. This potentially deadly choice for contraception has taken the life of 18-year-old New York fashion college student and aspiring model Zakiya Kennedy, who passed away in April 2004 due to a pulmonary embolism, which is a rare and deadly complication from the birth control OrthoEvra patch. Kennedy died in a Midtown subway station. At the time of death, Kennedy was not wearing the patch (it was her fourth week of the month) and she had only been using OrthoEvra patch for just three months.

And ABC News revealed 17 deaths

and 62 life-threatening complications that may be related to patch usage and is currently being investigated by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

OrthoEvra can be obtained from a local health department, Planned Parenthood, or as a prescription by a primary care provider. The non-contraceptive benefits of OrthoEvra are very similar to those of the pill because they work in the same way to prevent pregnancy. According to plannedparenthood.com, these effects include predictable, regular menstrual cycles, less acne, decreased menstrual cramps and blood loss, fewer ectopic pregnancies, some protection from ovarian and uterine lining cancer, and others.

In contrast, the chances of developing serious health problems increased with age over 35 years and when certain health risk factors present are extremely high, such as smoking, high blood pressure, diabetes, and high levels of blood cholesterol or fat.

Therefore, as with any forms of birth control, it is suggested by professionals that women consult a physician before starting to use the patch to determine which method is best for that individual.

After several attempts by *The Meter*

to interview female students about birth control precautions, many said they felt as though disclosing that personal information would change the way that they were looked at by their peers. This article is designed to provide readers with the proper knowledge about contraception so that they can make informed decisions about their bodies.

But Frazier also warns that women should not use birth control as a primary method of protection.

"Condoms do offer some protection, but is a few minutes, maybe a few hours of heated emotions worth the risk of an unwanted pregnancy, an abortion, or a sexually transmitted disease?" Frazier said.

While Frazier is not chastising the young men and women who choose to engage in sexual activities, she said that the true joy comes with waiting for the right person and the right situation.

For more information on birth control visit:

orthoevra.com or
plannedparenthood.com

Got Poetry?

If you possess a passion and talent for poetry and would like to share it with the TSU family, please send your submissions to tigersubmission@yahoo.com

Females urged to get regular Pap smears

Continued from page 9

only way to tell if dysplasia is present on the skin or the genital organs is by taking a Pap smear or a biopsy (piece of tissue). It can then be evaluated through a magnifying glass called a colposcope, but only the biopsy gives the final diagnosis.

"It is important for women to get Pap smears, because doctors can identify and treat precancerous cells called dysplasia," said Khabele. "In addition when detected at an early stage of disease, cervical cancer can be cured."

The CCCT helps women get the resources they need for free screenings and treatment. It helps uninsured and

underinsured women through the Tennessee Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program operated by the Tennessee Department of Health.

During the health fair, Gunter stated that she was diagnosed by a doctor at Meherry Medical Center and that she had Level 2 Cervical Cancer.

Gunter said that she had not been getting regular Pap screenings and following her diagnosis, Gunter received 28 days of radiation and two days of an implant.

Gunter was then asked to be the voice of cervical cancer after a doctor heard her story and now, through the coalition, she wants to let women know

that they don't have to suffer from an illness that is nearly 100 percent curable if caught in time.

"I am very happy that they had the health fair," said Meghann Hill, a junior English major from St. Louis. "Women know they have to have Pap tests done, but this fair let me know that it is very important to have one regularly."

And other cancer survivors agree.

"Get your pap test and get your mammograms; it's better to do that than go through the pain of cancer," said Sylvia Russell, a cancer survivor who works for the TSU police department.

IF YOU GO:

What:

Cervical Cancer testing

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TSU Sports

THE METER

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TSU fans get up as rivals get down

By Carl Erskine Davis Jr.
Sports Writer

On Monday, Nov. 22, the popcorn was popping. The scoreboard was lit up. The sound of the Aristocrat of Bands filled the air and the stands were filled with students, faculty, and alumni as the Tigers lined up for the big game.

No, this isn't the annual Homecoming football game or one of the Classics. That was earlier in the fall. This is the image of the annual neighborhood-rivalry basketball game between the TSU Tigers and the Bulldogs from Fisk University.

And the students know the significance of the match-up.

"This is the game where everybody comes to play," said Stephen Morrison, a junior health and sports science major

TSU 72, Fisk 63

from Memphis. "You can't have any let-downs in rivalry games like this."

Yes, the rivalry game.

The game that gives the winning school bragging rights in the community for at least a year and when the fans are just a little bit rowdier, and the fouls are a little bit harder.

And yes, there were plenty of fouls to choose from.

The Tigers edged the Bulldogs in a physical game that featured 54 total fouls, 38 of which were committed by Fisk.

TSU junior guard Bruce Price, the leading scorer of the game, capitalized on Fisk's fouls, despite shooting 2-8 from the field, as he connected on 20-26 from the free throw line. He finished with 25 points.

The Tigers went up by as many as 19 in the first half and led 39-24 at the break.

But Bulldogs came out a little scrap-

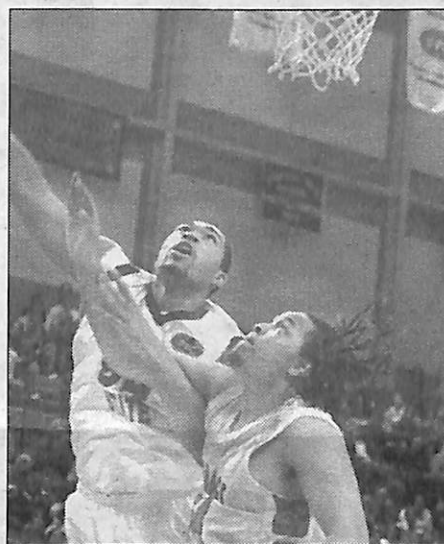


PHOTO BY KENNETH CUMMINGS

TSU forward Clarence Matthews reaches over Fisk forward Courtney Ellis for a rebound.

per in the second half, as they managed to tie the game at 52-52 after Fisk's Chris

Adams drained a three-pointer with 8:46 remaining in the game.

The Tigers, however, would manage to pull away, despite a drought of more than 12 minutes without a second half field goal.

Senior Kareem Grant and junior Clarence Matthews also helped lead the Tiger offense by pulling down four offensive rebounds apiece and scoring 13 and 15 points, respectively.

"We played well in the first half, but we did not in the second half," said TSU head coach Cy Alexander, who started his third season at TSU with a victory. "When you play a rivalry game like this, you can throw out the records. Our team must learn to keep its focus."

A recorded crowd of 7,685 witnessed the Tigers win their season opener.

The Tigers' next game is at Southeast Missouri on Thursday, Dec. 8 and Fisk is 5-2.

Athletes stride through pain and develop in life

Dairanetta Spain
Sports Editor

"Runners take your mark," the starter yells.

Aching in what seems to be almost every possible way, a dedicated track and field runner approaches the starting line barely able to walk, while at the same time not showing any signs of pain. With each step he takes, the pain becomes more and more unbearable.

As the athlete shifts his weight, the starter yells, "Set!"

Three seconds later the gun sounds and everyone is out of the blocks. To the injured athlete, each pound feels as though his shins are being torn into pieces, muscle by muscle. One minute and some odd seconds pass by and he's

finished, yet hardly able to walk but proud he finished through the pain.

Everyone has heard the saying — "Pain is only weakness leaving the body." And to many athletes, this saying motivates them not only in sports, but through life as well.

Striving through aches, throbs and injuries are often experienced by the average athlete at least one point in time in his career. While adrenaline pushes the athlete on in competition, true perseverance carries him through life.

"Pain is more of a mental thing," said Eugene Banks, a junior mass communications major from Chattanooga and member of the TSU football team. "It's part of the game, you have to learn to accept it. You're going to have to be able to deal with it one way or the other."

Also, an athlete will go to any mea-

sure when competing in the sport he loves. In correlation, an athlete's admiration and divine devotion to his prospective sport is like that of an endearing oath to strive at any cost to succeed.

The protection of an athlete's ability to judge whether or not a pain is serious or minor is aided. Each day, TSU athletic trainer Eric Williams says he deals with it all the time.

"As an athletic trainer you have to be able to decipher between a soreness pain and a serious pain," Williams said.

Many athletes learn how to persevere simply through participation. Whether it is in competition, having to learn a new system or reaching the prime of their career, few look back with regrets of competing with injuries for they have learned to subconsciously avoid pain at an early age.

"Even as a kid if you have bumps and bruises you are told to brush it off," Williams said. "It's the same thing in collegiate sports and professional sports. You have to learn how to play through those bumps and bruises."

Athletes such as Olympic gymnast Kerri Strug and her famous one leg stand after completing her gold metaling vault while wincing in the agony of pain, compete for pure pride. Strug's battle through an ankle injury is a prime example of surrendering pain for her love of gymnastics.

It is safe to say that at some point, all athletes have one thing in common when their views of performing through pain are challenged or questioned. They are not just aiming to finish or win; they are reaching for an ultimate goal-success in life.

"In the heat of the sport, pain was never a factor," Gardner said. "I view life in that way as well, no matter what obstacles may come my way. In the heat of the storm, my true devotion carries me in life and in sports."

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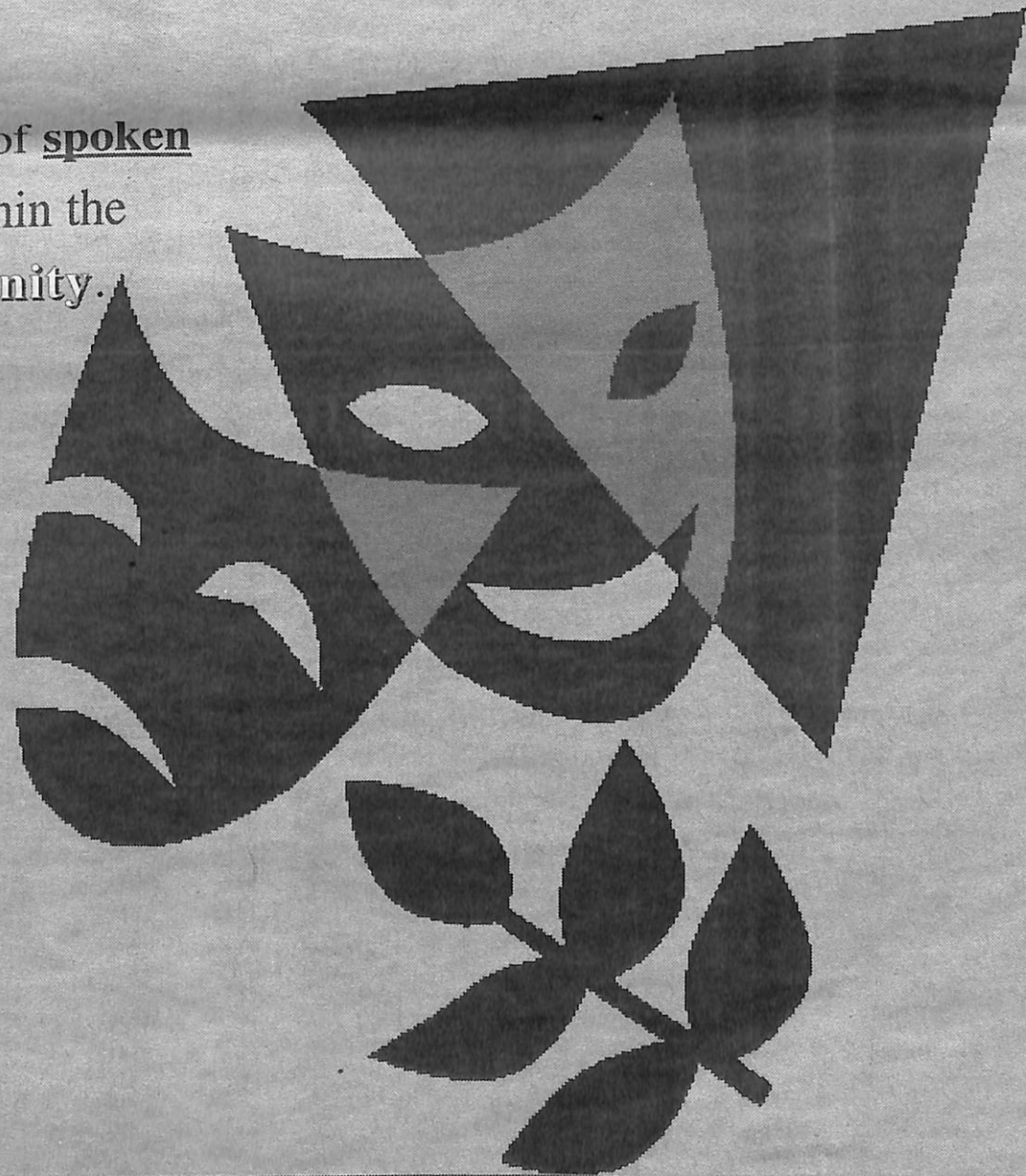
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Sports

Women's hoops outlasted by Rebels

Though the game was a tough fight throughout the first half between the Lady Tigers (0-4, 0-0) and the Ole Miss Rebels (5-1, 0-0 SEC), TSU would still fall 90-50 on Wednesday, Nov. 30.

Ole Miss, a member of the Southeastern Conference, opened the second half with a 30 - 6 run. The Lady Tigers stayed close early with 53 percent (10-19) field goal shooting in the first half, but dropped down to 35 percent (9-26) in the second half and finished the game at 42 percent (19-45).

The Lady Tigers had 26 turnovers compared to the Lady Rebels' 13.

Senior guard and forward Leslie Dean led the Lady Tigers coming off the bench with 14 points. She hit four of five field goals from 3-point range and freshman guard Tiffany Jackson tallied 11 points. Senior guard Quaneicia Fletcher returned to the lineup for the first time this season after being out due to injury. Fletcher would play all 40 minutes and scored six points.

The TSU Lady Tigers' next competition would come in yet another road trip on Thursday, Dec. 8 against Ohio Valley Conference opponent Southeast Missouri.

Courtney Malone

Two football coaches to step down

The offensive and defensive coordinators of the 2005 TSU football team (2-9, 1-6 OVC) will no longer hold their positions next season, according to reports in the Tennessean newspaper.

Orlando Mitjans, who served as defensive coordinator, and Jeff Braxton, who served as offensive coordinator, both told the paper that they would resign from their positions in the interest of the benefiting the TSU football program.

Mitjans headed a defense that allowed 27.5 points per game but led the Ohio Valley Conference in several other defensive categories for the majority of the season.

The Tiger offense, under the direc-

tion of Braxton, finished last in the conference in total offense with 277.8 yards per game and scoring offense at 12.4 points per game.

Roulhac is OVC Coach of the Year

TSU head volleyball coach Kathy Roulhac earned Ohio Valley Conference Coach of the Year honors on Wednesday, Nov. 16.

Roulhac directed a Lady Tiger program that finished the 2005 season with a 22-10 record on its way to earning the regular-season conference co-champion honors.

In her second year as TSU's head coach, Roulhac's squad set a school record for most wins in one season - an improvement of 17 more wins than the 2004 season.

Individuals honored despite dismal season

TSU redshirt freshman Javarris Williams and seniors Jamar Landrom, Wesley Holmes and Ernest Jones earned Ohio Valley Conference honors for their 2005 efforts on the football field.

Voted on by OVC head coaches and sports information directors, the four Tiger standouts earned both All-OVC first and second team honors.

Williams was named the OVC Freshman of the Year after he completed the 2005 season with 872 rushing yards and four rushing touchdowns.

Landrom and Holmes made the first team All-OVC. Landrom finished the season with 91 tackles, sixth best in the conference, and Holmes followed closely with the OVC's ninth best total of 87.

Jones, along with Williams, made his way on the second team All-OVC. Jones recorded 36 tackles, six of for a loss, and one sack this season.

Compiled by Eddie R. Cole Jr. and based on reports from tsutigers.com and *The Tennessean*.

Tiger Briefs

Tiger Top 5

For the weeks of 11/14 - 27

1. Bruce Price- Guard

Junior- Human Performance and Sports Science
Minneapolis, Minn.

Price tallied 25 points, five assists and four rebounds to lead the TSU men's basketball team to a 72-63 win against Fisk on Monday, Nov. 21.

2. Justin Williams -Defensive Back

Senior - Human Performance and Sports Science
Memphis

Williams had three interceptions and returned them for a total of 98 yards on Senior Day in a 49-0 loss against Eastern Kentucky on Saturday, Nov. 19.

3. Kareem Grant- Forward

Senior - General Studies
Middletown, Conn.

With 21 points, Grant would lead the TSU men's basketball team to 88-70 win on Tuesday, Nov. 15 against cross-town rival Trevecca.

4. Clarence Matthews

Junior - Criminal Justice
Beaumont, Texas

Despite committing three fouls in the first half of a 88-70 win over Trevecca, Matthews finished with 17 points, 11 of which were tallied in the first half, in the Tigers' second exhibition game.

5. Leslie Dean - Guard / Forward

Senior - Communications
Huntsville, Ala.

Dean scored 18 points and pull down eight rebounds against the Marshall Thundering Herd on Friday, Nov. 18. •



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