

Provost candidates to visit TSU this week. See schedule on **Page 3**



Tiger alumni have sights set on June's national convention in Tampa, Fla.

Page 7



Freddie B TV has some students laughing as he makes career moves.

Page 11



You may have seen his spirit, but do you know his story?

Page 13

TSU handles business

Student team sweeps national HBCU competition



PHOTO PROVIDED BY WALTER A. PINION

(L to R) Students Josef Robinson, James Sanders, April M. Thomas, William F. Busch, III, Thomas Tate, and team coach William U. Latham swept the Opportunity Funding Corporation Venture Challenge Business Plan Competition held April 6-9 in Atlanta.

By Itoro Umontuen
Business Columnist

6-9.

The team of four undergraduate students and one master's of business administration (MBA) student, which competed against 19 historically Black colleges and universities with graduate business programs, also won the Best Presentation award and the Best Business Plan award.

See "Honors" on page 9

Five TSU students brought home the first place award in the overall national competition among HBCUs at the Sixth Annual Opportunity Funding Corporation Venture Challenge Business Plan Competition in Atlanta held April

Provost candidates' visits begin

By Marshall A. Latimore and
Eddie R. Cole Jr.
Campus News Writer and
Editor in Chief

As candidates for the new provost/executive vice president position are expected to begin their campus visits this week, TSU President Melvin N. Johnson recommends the entire university community take advantage of the chance to meet the candidates.

The visits, which are for the vice president of student affairs and vice president of university relations and development posts as well, are all expected to occur from April 17 - 28.

Johnson said that he and his committee are inviting the search committees' recommended candidates that were cleared by the Tennessee Board of Regents. He said during the time leading up to the campus visits, he and TBR checked for inappropriate qualifications.

See "Johnson" on page 10

Professor to speak at Oxford, discuss inner city

By Raven Petty
Contributing Writer

William H. Hardy, associate professor of philosophy and religion at TSU, has been invited to speak at a round table discussion at the prestigious University of Oxford in London from July 30 to Aug. 4, 2006.

The Oxford Round Table was established in 1989 to "discuss contemporary issues of significant consequence" and Hardy will be presenting a paper entitled *On Revisioning Church, State and Community Education: An Inner City Modular Schools Program*.

The paper discusses the issues of

neglect and segregation that surround and affect African-American children who live in poverty and proposes the idea of modules "as specialized and tailor-made educational units that fit neighborhood and cultural needs," according to Hardy's abstract for the presentation.

In his abstract, Hardy hopes to bring attention to the inner-city communities that are struggling to reach their youth and what parents should do in order to involve the "Black Church" support and influence in these communities.

"This is a concentration of my lifetime of work," Hardy said about the

See "Hardy" on page 2



PHOTO PROVIDED BY WILLIAM H. HARDY

William H. Hardy, TSU professor, is scheduled to speak at England's Oxford University.

Campus News

Yearbook wins

Christopher Tate, editor of the 2005 *Tennessean* yearbook, and student life section editor Lauren Parker won first place in the student life spread category of the 2006 Columbia Scholastic Press Association's Gold Circle Awards.

News Brief

Tate also earned a certificate of merit for the endsheets in the 2005 yearbook, bringing the number of awards for this yearbook to four, including second place overall in the 2005 American Scholastic Press Association competition and honorable mention in the 2006 HBCU National Newspaper Conference Excellence in Journalism Awards.

"This is only the beginning of an award-winning publication for

Tennessee State University's yearbook," Tate said. "Because TSU had faith in my

staff to produce this all-color publication, it has proven to the university and the country that young, African-American college students can achieve goals as well as improve the image of HBCUs."

The Tennessean yearbook also received two honors for its 2004 edition, one for third place overall in the 2004 American Scholastic Press Association competition and a certificate of merit for Tate and editor Alexis Joy in the Greek organization writing category of the 2005 Columbia Scholastic Press Association's Gold Circle Awards.

Hardy aims to bring attention to TSU, Black culture

Continued from page 1

opportunity to share his views with the 40 delegates who will attend the round table.

Hardy has spent his life studying and researching African-American philosophy and religion and has been an ordained elder of the African Methodist Episcopal Church for 20 years.

One of his greatest accomplishments is that he is the co-author of *Reflections: An Anthology of African American Philosophy* which is presently the most recent of the only three African-American anthologies of philosophy in the United States.

Currently, Hardy is the coordinator of the Jerico Project at TSU which is designed to attract students to careers in philosophy, religion and the law.

Hardy hopes to not only bring attention to TSU, but also bring attention to his work in African-American philosophy and religion.

"Anytime anyone does something positive, it is positive for TSU," said Gloria Johnson, interim dean of the College of Arts and Science. "So many people want to seek out the negative, so when something good happens, it is positive for the university."

And Hardy agrees.

"This not only defines TSU as a place of higher learning, but, since TSU is known to be more 'teacher-oriented,' this will show TSU is research-oriented as well," he said. "This will put the spotlight and show that here are people who are making contributions to African-American religion and African-American philosophy."

The paper that will be presented by Hardy has the opportunity to be published in the *Forum of Public Policy: A Journal of the Oxford Round Table* at Harris Manchester College at Oxford, and, if chosen, will allow his messages and ideas to be

available in print.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for him and his career," Johnson said.

Hardy and his wife, Jocelyn Irby, will attend the Oxford Round Table and Hardy will give the Sunday morning message on Aug. 5, 2006 at 11:00 a.m. at the Richard Allen AME Church/Kensal Rise Methodist Church in London.

"I am very excited; it is a great honor," Hardy said about the trip to London and the few days he and his wife will spend in Paris. "This is a trip of a lifetime and the mark of my career!"

Don't forget to read the Thursday, April 20 issue.

"Anytime anyone does something positive, it is positive for TSU. So many people want to seek out the negative, so when something good happens, it is positive for the university."

-Gloria Johnson,

Associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences

Corrections

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

Events Calendar

Monday

Bible Study
FPCC Rm 217
7:45 p.m.

Uncut Live w/Sigma Frat
T.E. Poag
6 p.m.

Tuesday

Relationship Seminar
LRC Auditorium
7 p.m.

Thursday

Bibe Study
FPCC Rm 217
7 pm

Friday

Student Affairs
Spring Concert
Gentry Center

Saturday

Miss Big & Beautiful Pageant
Kean Gym

"State of Black America"
FPCC Rm 210
5 pm

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The Meter

The Measure of Student Opinion and Sentiment

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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. Timeliness and clarity are factors in selecting material for publication. Materials must adhere to the following guidelines:

a) All contributions must be typed and sent by e-mail.

b) Opinions and letters should not exceed 400 words.

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

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.

Campus News

TSU Provost candidates



NAME:

Rita Durante Marinho, Ph.D.

Current Position:

Dean, College of Liberal Arts, Towson University

Education:

Ph.D. Brown University 1979 - Political Science

M.A. Brown University 1975 - Political Science

B.A. University of Massachusetts - Dartmouth 1974 (summa cum laude) - Political Science Minor: Education

HBCU experience (attended or worked):

N/A



NAME:

Robert L. Hampton, Ph.D.

Current Position:

Chancellor's Faculty Fellow at City University of New York

Education:

Ph.D. University of Michigan - Sociology 1977

M.A. University of Michigan - Sociology, 1971

A.B. Princeton University (cum laude) - Sociology 1970 Minor: American Civilization with Distinction

HBCU experience (attended or worked):

N/A



NAME:

Eric W. Thomas, Ph.D.

Current Position:

Provost/Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs, Virginia State University

Education:

Ph.D. Meharry Medical College 1980 -- Biochemistry

M.S. Tennessee State University 1975 -- Biology

B.S. Tennessee State University 1973 -- Biology

HBCU experience:

Two-time graduate of TSU and graduate of Meharry Medical College. Formerly employed at Mississippi Valley State University and currently at Virginia State University.



NAME:

Joseph Martin Stevenson, Ph.D.

Current Position:

Distinguished Scholar, Founding Executive Director for Jake Ayers Research Institute and Executive Ph.D. Program, Jackson State University.

Education:

Ph.D. University of Oregon at Eugene 1986 - Educational Policy and Management; Emphasis in Higher Education

M.S. University of Oregon at Eugene 1986 - Curriculum and Instructional Leadership Emphasis in K-12 Education

M.A. California State University at Sacramento 1983 - Social Science Education; Emphasis in Government

M.A. California State University at Sacramento 1982 - Educational Administration Emphasis in Higher Education

B.A. California State University at Sacramento 1978 - Government *Minor* in Psychology

HBCU experience: Currently employed at JSU where he served as the university's first provost.

Scheduled Provost Finalists' Visits

Rita Durante Marinho

Joseph Martin Stevenson

Robert L. Hampton

Eric W. Thomas

Visit: April 17 - 18

Visit: April 17 - 18

Visit: April 19-20

Visit: April 19 - 20

Community Forum: April 17; LRC Auditorium at 2 p.m.

Community Forum: April 18; Humanities Auditorium at 2 p.m.

Community Forum: April 20; Campus Center, Room # 035 at 2:30 p.m.

Community Forum: April 19; Humanities Auditorium at 2:30 p.m.

Forum

What We Think

The Meter hasn't stopped, won't stop

You say that I'm wrong for! Stating my opinion to you / You say that I'm wrong and there'll be quiet consequences too / But I know my rights babe / There'll be no law abridging / The freedom of my speech / Or the right for me to petition for a remedy of grievances

Jill Scott – My Petition

The First Amendment to the United States Constitution is perhaps the most frequently mentioned portion of the Bill of Rights.

While many assume the First Amendment is set in stone, in actuality it continues to evolve and change particularly in a post September 11 world. The danger of having a passive appreciation and a partial education of these rights is that people don't know when they are having their rights infringed upon.

While some, including Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, have scoffed at the notion of calling the Constitution a "living document," that is precisely what it is. Even if there is never another amendment added to the Constitution the fact remains that individual viewpoints of constitutional interpretation affect how the law is executed. Unfortunately, de facto violations of this right are all too common.

The First Amendment is more multifaceted than any of the other amendments to the Constitution. Components of the First Amendment include the right to free

exercise of religion, the prohibition of the establishment of a state religion, the prohibition of limiting the right to assemble peacefully, freedom of the press and the prohibition of limiting the right to petition the government for a redress of grievances. Every day the right to freely distribute and access public information is challenged and, in some instances, outright defied by individuals in positions of "authority."

Individuals can easily make a personal choice to restrict access to documents that should be available to the public. This could easily happen with little recourse if individuals are not aware of their rights to access. To localize the situation to the TSU community, many students are unaware of the rights and freedoms afforded to them by the U.S. Constitution, the Constitution of the State of Tennessee, and even the rules and regulations governing the university.

Many are unaware that many meetings, including those held by the SGA and the executive search committees, are open to the student body. Additionally, due to the fact that TSU is a state funded institution, students have access to wide range of information including audits, contracts, and police reports.

While the state and university can charge reproduction fees for copying documents, the majority of information accessible to students remains untapped. Ultimately, one of the main attacks on the Constitution is that people are igno-

rant to their rights under the First Amendment.

According to Article 1, Section 19 of the Tennessee Constitution Declaration of Rights, "printing presses shall be free to every person to examine the proceedings of the legislature; or of any branch or officer of the government, and no law shall ever be made to restrain the right thereof."

It additionally states that "every citizen may freely speak, write, and print on any subject, being responsible for the abuse of that liberty."

The Meter uses this law and several others in continuing to bring our readers timely and relevant information and will continue to do so.

Page 4 of the 2005-2006 TSU Student Handbook echoes the importance of these rights when it states "(a)s members of the academic community,

students should be encouraged to develop the capacity for critical judgment and to engage in a sustained and independent search for truth."

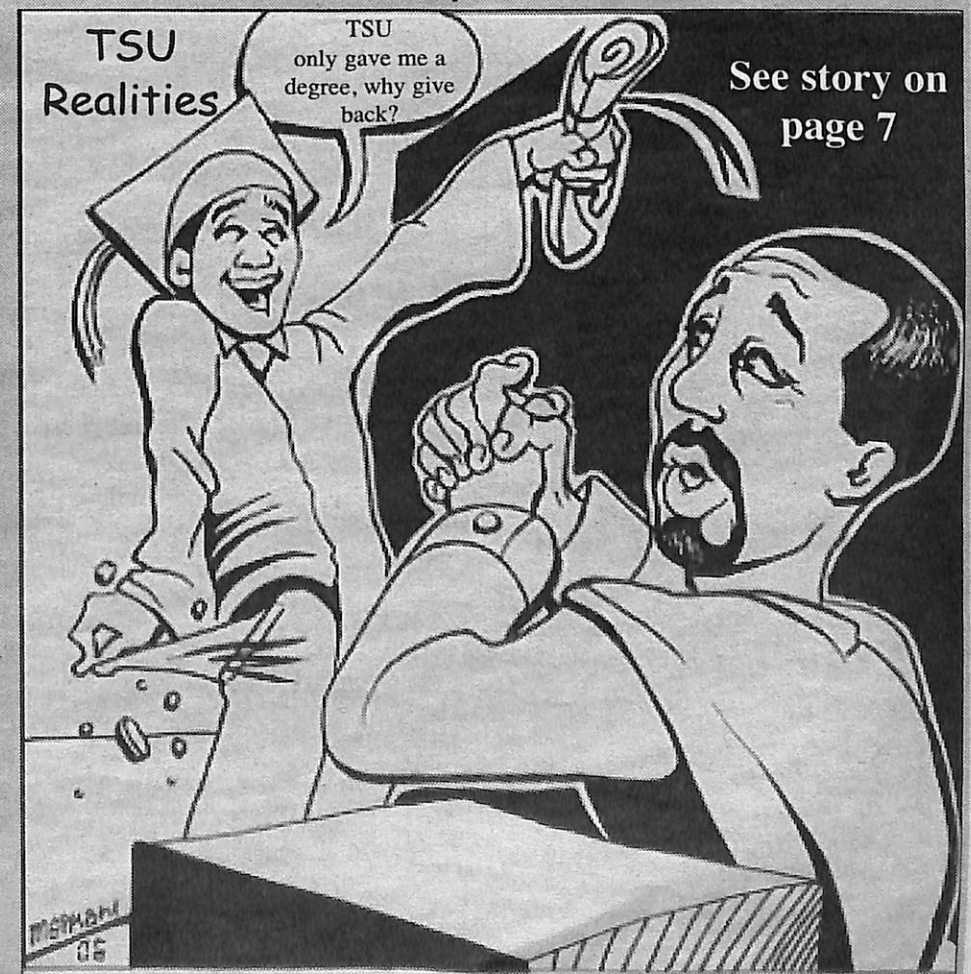
We also encourage our fellow students to exercise and take full advantage of their constitutional rights.

While there are certain exemptions to public records, such as medical records, records relating to minors, and individuals who are victims of crimes, the majority of inquiries made by the public are not only reasonable, but an assured right.

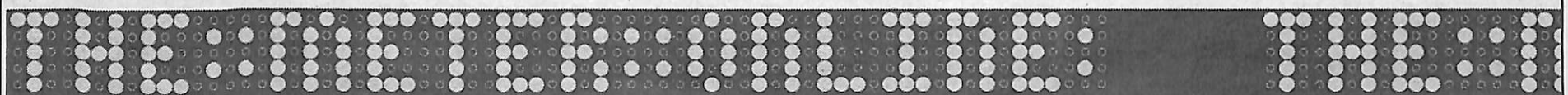
Therefore, the next time you feel something is going on within the federal, state or even the TSU administrative government that you should know about, it's probably because you should know about it. As a result, you should exercise your right, not privilege, because *The Meter* has and will continue to do so. •

"Students should be encouraged to develop the capacity for critical judgment and to engage in a sustained and independent search for truth."

-2005-06 TSU Student Handbook



Forum



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The Meter: 444,000 hits online
in March at www.tsumeter.com



Dont forget to
pick up the
Thursday issue
of *The Meter*



Letters to the Editor

Student addresses issues affecting the community

A wise man once said "...Everything created in this world was created for good. They become bad when we abuse them..." and then we wonder why. Men, why is it so difficult for some of us to control what is between our legs? Why do some of us keep raping, beating, cheating, and killing the women? Why has Tupac Shakur's warning of raising a generation that will hate the ladies but make the babies come true? Agree or disagree, these problems originated from what some of us have adopted as a way of having fun but have failed to realize that this kind of fun is poisoning generation after generation.

Since it is useless to address a problem without giving or proposing a possible solution, it is proper to inform the world about the kinds of fun that feel good for the moment but bites like a poisonous snake later. They are: all type of pornography, going to strip clubs, dirty dancing, and related activities. It is sad that some of us have forgotten the power behind sex, which unites two spirits. We have abused our ability to produce life and traded it for fun, money, and entertainment. Are we still willing to ignore the fact that there is a difference between physical attraction and love? We invented condoms, but we ignore the fact that, if abused, sex leads to varieties of evil like Aids, divorce, murder, hatred, lack of self control, and an abandoned child. Now, the challenge for men is to get real, standup, zip up, and be the change in the world that still wonders why jail cells keeps growing and the grave is never satisfied.

Women, some of you are slowly dying, yet the harassment, degrading, name calling, and drama continues. You look alive, yet you are dying inside. The sys-

tem tells you that drinking and clubbing are medicines to ease the pain that you are feeling inside; the system also has turned some of you into prostitutes and strippers. Have you forgotten that you have the authority to bring life? Even Tupac Shakur says, "... If a man can't make one, who gave him the right to tell a lady where to lay and create one..." your gift is valuable, yet some of you abuse it and still wonder why the pain still dwells in your soul.

Women, your beauty is a blessing. Stop abusing it, keep your legs closed, and control your emotion. Look beautiful, but don't degrade your body. Don't you know that you are also your brother's keeper? Stop wondering why the cycle of violence against you and your children keeps turning. Help to be the change that will stop this cycle. My brothers and my sisters, we need to consider the words of KNINE who says "...Everything you say and do affects somebody else not just you, so why don't you take a minute or two and think before you make a move..."

To the few men and women who don't have to wonder why and are the salt in a world full of sugar, please don't lose your saltiness. One night, before laying down to rest, I examined my heart. Suddenly, my soul uncovers one mystery of life: we have to consider the little things in life to achieve the greater things. As a result, I considered how a key is used to enter a room and understood what makes some wonder why: A man has the key of life. A woman is the room in which life dwells, but some wonder why because they failed to realize that they have ignored the plan of the master who created one key for one room.

aatolagbe@mytsu.tnstate.edu
Abayomi O. Atolagbe.

Students thank Honors Program instructor

Thanks, Dr. Sandra Waters Holt
For being mama.
For caring about each of us individually.
For taking us to your church.
For being the most popular person everywhere that we go.
For enabling us to stay in Hale Hall as freshmen.
For enforcing us to display chivalry to all women at all times.
For two free nights in the Embassy Suites in 2002, and Millennium Maxwell House in 05.
For making your rotel for the Christmas Party.
For keeping it real at all times.
For hugs instead of hellos.
For Mr. Latham.
For making us take Mr. Latham's class.
For snatching us up when we were out-of-line.
For making us pull our pants up.
For praying for us.
For believing in us when no one else would.
For pulling us aside when our outfits don't leave enough to the imagination.
For making Carl stop telling people that his real name is Zorro.
For reminding us to always "Tell the Lord thank you."

For being powerful.
For playing the 'Wind Blows' game with us at the 2005 Honors Retreat.
For helping us secure valuable internships with Fortune 500 companies.
For wearing blue and white on TSU Spirit Mondays.
For being there.
For embracing service learning.
For modeling true leadership.
For mentoring us as well as administration and faculty on campus.
For making miracles with no budget.
For your 30+ years of service.
For having a vision bigger than yourself.
For the spirit of transference.
For showing passion in all that you do.
For adopting each of us into your family.
For being a role model.
For transforming girls into women and boys into men.
For being a friend, not just a director.

With Love from Each One of Your 300+ students and faculty

Thank you to all who donated to
The Meter's efforts in
Relay for Life:
Perianne London
Dwight
LyRayna
Nolen Harris
Brian Diaz
Matthew W. Smith

Campus News

Professor leaves lasting impression, moves on

By Leah Ignagni
Contributing Writer

After 44 years of teaching, 15 of which were in Big Blue Country, a TSU professor is retiring.

Reuben Brooks, 73, professor of geography, said he decided to retire because there are other things in his life he wants to accomplish.

During his tenure at the university, Brooks was once appointed head of the history, geography, and political science department in 1991. He turned over the departmental administration in 1996 to take care of his wife, Carolyn, who died of cancer in 1998.

"I love the students here," Brooks said. "When I was called to TSU, a historically Black university, I was very honored, since I worked with intercultural students in California and I wanted that richness in my final career move. I have not been disappointed. I enjoyed my students here."

Even due to lack of funds, Brooks said he purchased most office supplies out of his own pocket and he acknowledged the big turn around in the department since 1996. He described his time in the administrative position as a facelift period.

Brooks explained that the shortage of available adequate classroom facilities and equipment is essential to a geography program. He bought a lot of supplies due to little or no money to run the department of history, geography, and political science.

"Probably the worst part has been the shortage of proper classroom facilities and equipment for a true first class geography program," Brooks said. "I had to buy a lot of supplies that we did not have available. I know other departments may have had things even less favorable, but I list this less as a complaint, but as an observation."

Brooks, who is originally from Bemidji, Minn., attended Bemidji State University where he earned a bachelor's

in music and geography. He attended the University of Colorado-Boulder for graduate school, where he later earned his doctorate in geography.

He was named Professor of the Year at George Peabody College for Teachers, Vanderbilt, became dean of Sterling College in Kansas, and was a dean at a Biola University in California. Brooks taught numerous undergraduate and masters and doctoral level courses over the years. He spent many years in Brazil for his doctoral dissertation regarding drought disaster hazards and resulting migration from the northeast of Brazil.

"Mr. Brooks has made geography fun ... allowing us to experience a lot of hands-on experiences," said Thomas Whitaker, a junior history major from Gary, Ind.

Though Brooks is retiring from academia, he plans to commit himself to writing projects. He has performed lectures at TSU and plans to travel abroad speaking to other students.

"I wish I could have taken more of

his classes before he retired," said Joel Dark, head of the history, geography, and political science department at TSU.

"I think the best adjective for Dr. Brooks is probably 'caring', as applied to both students and colleagues. His positive attitude, professional disposition, and personal warmth have benefited just about everyone in the department and will certainly be missed."

Brooks looks forward to traveling internationally. He plans to visit and contribute himself to all of his family, which includes three children and 10 grandchildren.

"I married the most wonderful woman; I became the father to three very intelligent, moral, and gracious children, all of whom earned at the minimum a master's degree and, one who has a Ph.D.," said Brooks, referring to his accomplishments. "Whenever I meet a graduate who attended a class or more from me, it causes my heart to leap. TSU has been a wonderful place for me."•

Alumni aim to continue TSU mission

By Brittini Barnes
Sports Writer

"Think...work...serve... it's what we do," is the motto for the 58th Tennessee State University Alumni National Convention hosted by the Tampa, Fla. chapter.

This year's event put on by the Tennessee State University National Alumni Association is scheduled to be held at the Hilton Clearwater Beach Resort from June 22-25, 2006.

"On average 150 to 200 alumni usually attend," said James Wade, president of the Tampa alumni chapter. "This year, being on the beach, our goal is to have 250 alumni to attend."

This year there will be a variety of speakers, programs, activities and workshops on the agenda to help direct TSU to become amongst the elite, according to tsu2006.com.

Registration for the whole weekend of events is \$195 through April 15 and recent graduating classes of 2000-2005 and current student rate is \$125, according to tsu2006.com.

"We encourage young alumni and

current students to attend," Wade said. "We offer an al carte on the events instead of paying the whole \$125."

Also, during this year's convention, there will be an election for the alumni association's next national president. Darlene Harris, member of the TSUNAA executive board and TSU's associate athletics director, said there are three candidates up for election to fill the seat of outgoing president James Ford, Jr who has served two consecutive terms, for a total of four years.

Some TSU alumni are optimistic about this year's alumni elections.

"I don't get a lot from (the alumni association) other than donating funds back to the university," said Lavette Dismuke, a TSU alumna and assistant ticket office manager at TSU. "I hope the

new officers focus on social events and job fairs for TSU alumni and future alumni so that they can network."

There are 40 alumni chapters across the U.S. including Atlanta, Memphis, and Tampa. There are also alumni chapters specifically for the Aristocrats of Bands, engineering graduates, and football players.

Current TSU students nearing graduation are already set to become a part of giving back to Big Blue.

"I plan on joining an alumni chapter," said William Busch III, graduating senior business administration major from St. Louis. "I want to be involved in the progression of our university not just a dollar contributor."•

See editorial cartoon on page 4

"We encourage young alumni and current students to attend. We offer an al carte on the events instead of paying the whole \$125."

-James Wade

Want to give
back and be
involved
within Big
Blue Country?

Check out the
National Alumni
Association Convention
at tsu2006.com and for
information on a alumni
chapter nearest your
hometown see
tnstate.edu/alumni.

Campus News



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS AND CBSNEWS.COM

A police official surveys the area around a destroyed home in Gallatin, Tenn.

A dozen killed by Tennessee tornadoes just north of TSU

By Toccara Houston
Contributing Writer

The weather may have been pleasant last week, but the previous week Tennessee was victim of some very severe weather that has left some without homes and jobs.

But homes and businesses weren't the only thing lost. Twelve lives were lost, as well, according to news reports.

Volunteer State Community College in Gallatin, Tenn., less than 20 miles north of TSU, will temporarily be closed until further notice since the school was severely affected by the storm as well.

"I couldn't believe it happened," said Shaun Clarey, a Sumner County emergency medical services supervisor, referring to the tornado that hit the county.

However, TSU students were taught specific drills in situations like this. With new fire and tornadoes drills implemented in February 2006, this helps students find safety and protection

on campus.

William Davenport, a junior architectural engineering major, said he felt safe during the severe weather.

"I was in the Boswell building and we went to our designated area to get away from the storms," he said urging no one to take this type of situation lightly.

Although the mock drill was suppose to teach faculty, staff and students the proper way to do things if a tornado touches down near campus, one student felt different when the sirens went off.

Jeremy Stephens, a senior physical therapy major who was located in the Gentry Center, said he "didn't think it was helpful." However, he expressed his sympathy for those affected by the storm.

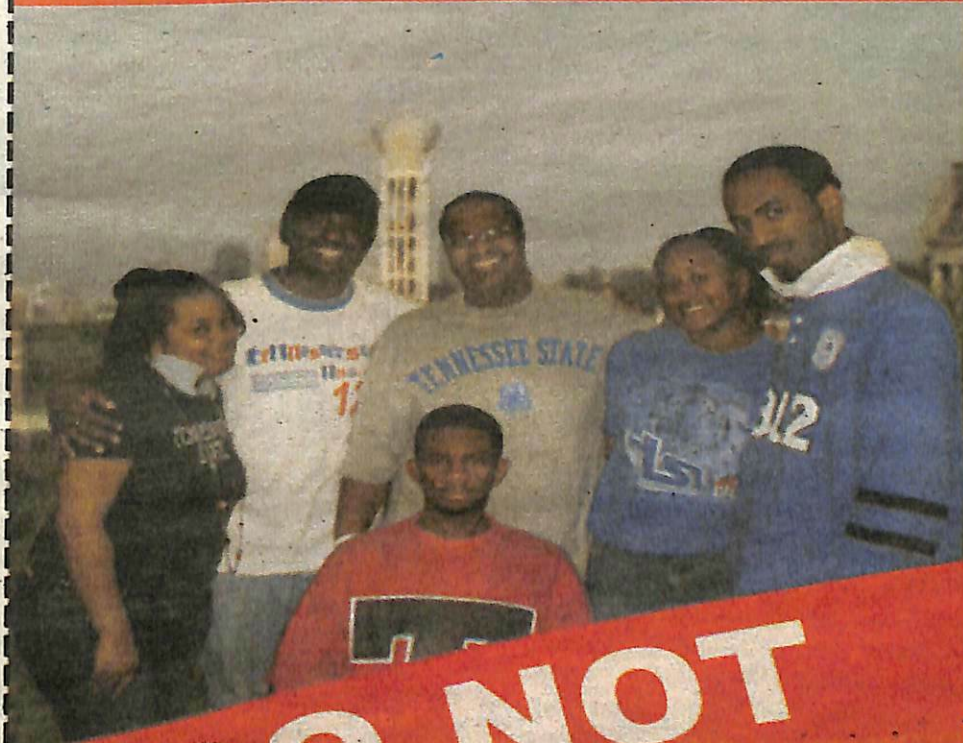
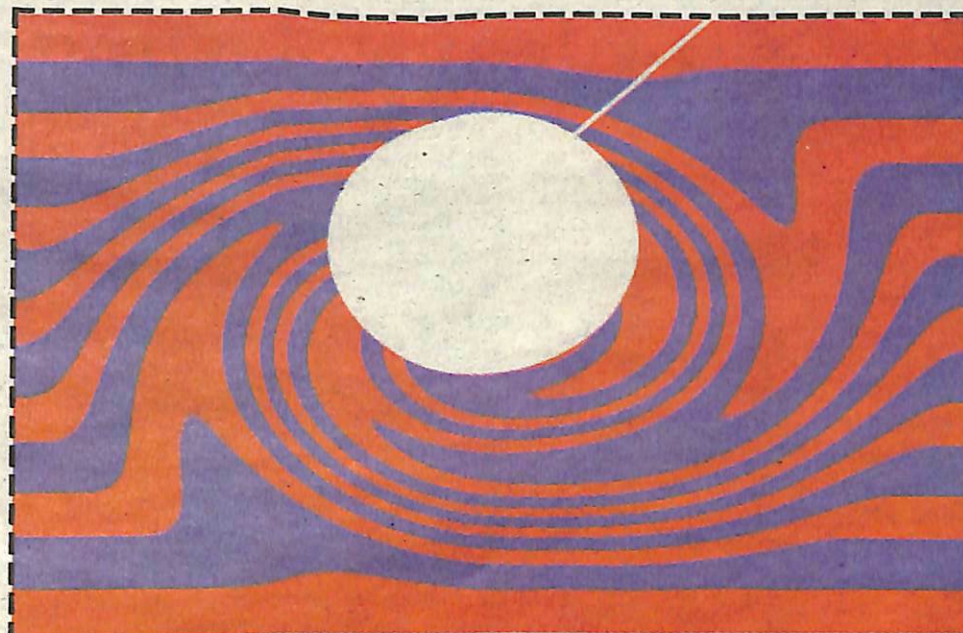
"I think it is devastating had everything taken away," Stephens said.

Clarey said, "Right now, we are cleaning up and basically rebuilding (to put the pieces back together)."

Madelyn Ragland contributed to this report. •

"Right now, we are cleaning up and basically rebuilding (to put the pieces back together)."

-Shaun Clarey



**DO NOT
DISTURB!**

I'm reading...

THE METER

tsumeter.com

Only two issues left!

04/20 & 04/24

Coming twice a week Aug. 2006

Campus News

Student to lead state-wide organization

By Eddie R. Cole Jr. and
Cara Anthony
Editor in Chief and
Campus News Writer

Passionate is the probably the best word that describes TSU junior Jermaine Coleman.

Or maybe selflessness describes the him better.

But regardless of how others may describe Coleman, the newly elected president-elect 2006-08 of the Student Tennessee Education Association on Saturday, April 8, said his goal in life is for others to succeed.

"I really love to teach," said Coleman, a music education major from Atlanta. "I love kids. I support public education. That's my passion. I'd rather see my work through you than for me to be at the top and you're at the bottom."

He said STEA is a state-wide organization with tens of thousands of members on the undergraduate, graduate and high school levels.

Coleman, who desires to be a high school band director before moving into administrative work, also said his responsibility is to advocate public education.

And following his campaign speech, though difficult, he feels ready to lead the organization.

"I gave the speech of my life," Coleman said with a look of amazement. "I was sweating bullets, but I got up there and did my thing."

Debra Jackson, advisor of TSU's chapter STEA, said Coleman has been active in STEA for two years.

"Since Debra Davis in the early 1990's, he is only the second person from TSU to be in line to hold the office of STEA president," Jackson said.



PHOTO PROVIDED BY JERMAINE COLEMAN

TSU junior Jermaine Coleman is the newly elected President-elect of the Student Tennessee Education Association.

She said Coleman was elected by student delegates across the state of Tennessee during the STEA Spring Delegate Assembly Conference and he will be representing the whole state of Tennessee which has 51,000 active members.

"He will be a liaison between the music and education department," said Reginald McDonald, assistant professor of music and associate director of bands, while citing that many music education majors don't get the chance to participate equally in education and music. "This is not only an accomplishment for him, but for music education majors."

But the same way McDonald praises Coleman's accomplishments, Coleman commends McDonald as well.

"You get what you teach," Coleman said quoting McDonald. "I'm going to set a standard."

Be sure to read the Thursday, April 20 issue of *The Meter*.

"He will be a liaison between the music and education department. This is not only an accomplishment for him, but for music education majors."

-Reginald McDonald, assistant professor of music

Honors Program praised by business team coach

Continued from page 1

The awards only build on last year's success where TSU's squad came in third place in the national competition and received first place in the Best Presentation category.

William U. Latham, team coach, faculty advisor and director within the Tennessee Small Business Development Center, credits the university's honors program.

"It also should be noted these students were able to perform well in the competition because each of the undergraduates are in TSU's Honors Program and the leadership curriculum has fully prepared them for this event and it gave them a competitive edge," Latham said.

The team consisted of William F. Busch, III, a senior marketing major from St. Louis; Josef Robinson, a senior real estate and urban development major from Atlanta; James Sanders, a senior electrical engineering major from Memphis; April M. Thomas, a senior accounting major from Albany, Ga.; and Thomas Tate Jr., the lone MBA student from Silver Spring, Md. Also in attendance was Tilden Curry, dean of the College of Business, and TSU President Melvin N. Johnson.

"TSU students are the best of the best," Johnson said as expressed excited about student leaders doing their part to carry on TSU's tradition of excellence.

This was also the first time in the history of the competition that one university won all three major awards: The team also received a monetary prize of \$10,000 which was divided between its members.

"Our team felt that we could win the competition because we knew our business plan and were very familiar with the business model," Sanders said. "We just had to convey this to the judges in a convincing and exciting manner."

Within the team's business model, Robinson was the president of the company and served as the project manager; Thomas served as the vice president of accounting and finance; Tate was the vice president of policy and administration; Busch was the vice president of sales and marketing; and Sanders was the vice president of research and development.

"Our business plan was centered on a watch made by CardioTrac Inc.," Sanders said. "The watch is used to monitor electrocardiograph (heart) signals and sends the data to medical professionals via a wireless network. Basically, doctors can monitor someone's heart from any location."

According to their business plan, "KardioTrac, Inc. will provide web and wireless monitoring of cardiovascular patients with their medical professional's through networking technology."

The plan also stated, "The KardioTrac will have an easy-to-use two piece unit is placed on the chest and wrist to monitor ECG signals, Easy-to-read display showing time, date, global positioning system, an easy-to-monitor watch allows information to be monitored personally by the patient and wirelessly using M2M technology by remote KardioTrac monitoring specialists."

But Tate said the win means more than just an award - it is important on two levels.

"No. 1: We proved ourselves not only to local and regional companies, but to national and worldwide companies and businesses," Tate said. "This will cause these Fortune 500 companies to consider TSU students because of the recognition we garnered. No. 2: This win will raise the bar for the students. We expected excellence when we entered the competition and that's what we received. The same principle applies to TSU students. If you expect mediocrity, you'll receive mediocrity."

The Opportunity Funding Corporation sponsors this annual competition as a major effort in encouraging entrepreneurship at HBCUs who have graduate programs in business. TSU has participated in the competition five out of six years. Latham has directed the TSU team for the past three years.

"The reaction of the other schools was half joy and half shock," Latham said. "No one expected a team consisting of four undergrads and one MBA student to sweep all the categories."

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Campus News

Instructor takes advisement to another level

By **Kenneth Cummings**
Visuals Editor

"Keep a copy of every form you fill out at Tennessee State University," said Veronica Duncan-Walters as she showed her advisees an electronic way of filling out advisement forms. "Do not rely on me to have everything."

With a bottle of water and honey buns for the students in room 285 of the Marie Strange Music Building, Duncan-Walters taught a group of students an easier way to follow their matriculation through college on Thursday, April 6.

A week earlier on Thursday, March 30, the associate professor and speech communication coordinator, Duncan-Walters, sent an e-mail to her advisees indicating a group advising meeting.

"In order to assist you with advising, I am planning two mass advising meetings for my advisees," the e-mail stated.

The message recommended students fill out advisement forms that are specified for speech communication and theatre majors and also had a link to senior standing forms.

So, what is Duncan-Walters reason-

ing to hold a group advisement meeting? She wants to change students' way of thinking when it comes to advisement.

"I don't know if other advisors are going to implement that process," Duncan-Walters said. "It's going to take a while to get students in the mind-set of group advisement."

Ashley Floyd, a freshman speech communications and theater major from Memphis, was very informed of the group meeting that Duncan-Walters initiated.

"The idea is good," Floyd said in reference to the set up of the group advisement meeting. "Unless you are not going to do anything here, it's time consuming."

Duncan-Walters had a chance to meet collectively and individually with a group of students, which included at least one from each classification and the number of her advisees was one of the main reasons to hold this meeting.

She said she thinks that it is less efficient to schedule individual meetings with the more than 40 advisees.

"In order to be more efficient, I thought, if I can give them all the same basic (information) and teach them how to fill out the forms so that they can see

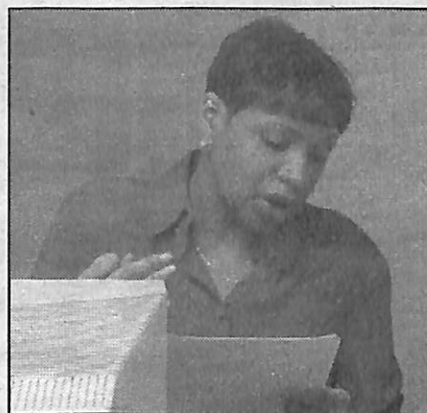


PHOTO BY KENNETH CUMMINGS

TSU professor Veronica Duncan-Walters now using e-Visement for her advisees.

where they are, it teaches a level of responsibility and accountability that I think students need," Duncan-Walters said.

Despite the recent meetings with her advisees this semester, just last semester, Duncan-Walters informed students that she was applying for the head of the Jackson State University Department of Communication position.

Christina Dobbs, 2005-06 sophomore class president who majors in history education, was shocked to find out

that Duncan-Walters was applying for the JSU position.

"I thought it was sad," Dobbs said. "She's a concerned teacher and TSU doesn't have many teachers that care enough about students as she does."

Dobbs, who was instructed by Duncan-Walters for public speaking, said she is more than just a communications teacher.

"She is a good teacher because she is passionate about her subject," Dobbs said. "She is a good life teacher. She gives out her cell phone number. She also calls to see how you're doing—even after you are out that class."

However, Duncan-Walters said that the decision to stay at TSU was hard, but her attachment to her students, to Nashville, and her love for TSU played a major factor in her staying.

"I have a tremendous attachment to the students here," Duncan-Walters said. "And the number of student who are my advisees or who I've just come to know since I've been here who were really distraught at the thought of me leaving. It really said something to me."

"It made me feel like I made a difference."*

Johnson urges TSU to get involved with process

Continued from page 1

"I would encourage everyone to take time out of their schedule to become involved in the process," Johnson said of the visits which are expected to begin on Monday, April 17. "This is where (the process) really gets to open itself up to the entire campus."

He said the new provost or "chief operating officer" must be able to carry on the mission of the university.

Johnson also said that helping him "bridge the gaps" between TSU constituents and demonstrating a global approach to how TSU prepares its students for the world community are even higher on his list of characteristics the new figure will need to possess.

"We have to make sure we get the right candidate," Johnson said in regards to the qualities the provost/executive

vice president should possess. "...one who understands the purpose of transparency and the ability to work with all (TSU constituents) is a collegial fashion."

And Karrem Allen, a sophomore computer science major from Memphis, agrees with Johnson and the need for the "right candidate."

"I don't want them to pick just anybody," Allen said in reference to the need for the selection process to be thorough. "I want them to pick the best possible candidate for the job, but if you asked me who the old (vice presidents) are, I couldn't tell you."

But regardless of who is selected, Johnson said the person must accomplish their duties.

"They have to get the job done," Johnson said. "With (the new position) the campus culture will change. (He or she) will have to be ready for it."*



PHOTO FROM THE METER'S ARCHIVES

This week candidates for the new provost position are scheduled to visit campus. Above is current TSU President Melvin N. Johnson answering questions during his visit as a presidential candidate last spring.

To view the
Provost
candidates'
campus
visit
schedules
see page 3.



Students uses comic talent to propel into industry

By M. Antonio Silas
A&E Writer

Laughter fills the Floyd-Payne Campus Center's forum as a girl with rainbow-colored hair and a gold grill on the lower row of her teeth explained how she spent her entire spring break last month.

The stunts and antics of Freddie Moultry, better known to the TSU community as Freddie B, have been shown to the campus with his television show, *Freddie B TV*, since the fall semester of 2005.

"I started the (television) show because I didn't want to do *Tiger News* and *TSUTV* didn't want me," said Moultry, a mass communications major from Atlanta. "I wanted to give TSU students and non-mass communications majors an outlet with a Freddie B twist."

Moultry has received critical acclaim from the TSU community and has interviewed many well-known individuals from the entertainment industry, including the likes of DJ Clue, R&B crooner Ne-Yo, and Keith Sweat.

Moultry began *Freddie B TV* in fall semester of 2005 and, as a mass communications major, Moultry said he has always had dreams and aspirations of becoming a famous television personality, as well as having his own television show. He said it took him an entire semester of planning in order to make his dream into a reality.

The first segment of *Freddie B TV* covered TSU's National Pan-Hellenic Council's Greek Week.

"I didn't have a cameraman or anyone to edit the shows for me starting out, so I had a very difficult time," Moultry said. "For my first show, I had my friend, Faheem Goree, shoot the show for me as I commentated. He also edited it for me."

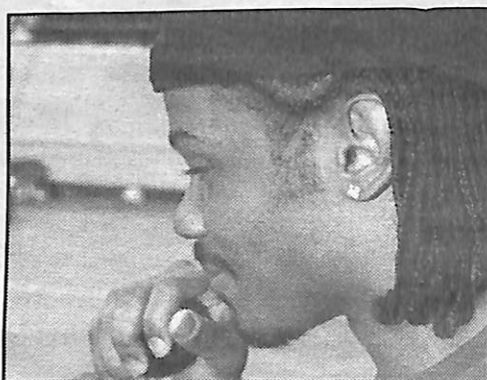


PHOTO BY KENNETHCUMMINGS

Freddie Moultry seen here entertaining the Relay for Life crowd.

"Since I didn't know how to edit, I had to piddle my way around. The more shows I did, the better I got at editing them myself."

Since he began shooting his television show, Moultry since interviewed artists and directors such as Akon, Monica, Ludacris, Charlie Wilson, Ne-Yo, and Little X.

But some viewers do admit that Moultry's show could improve.

"For the most part, it's really funny," said Alona Stafford, a mass communications major from Nashville. "Sometimes he tries to call people 'slow' or whatever, but for the most part, it's funny. It just needs a little more substance."

But the various connections he's made through his video series has given him the opportunity to talk to the artists, as well as made him much more marketable to major media outlets such as BET and MTV, according to Moultry. He's been in talks with both of the networks, but plans on expanding his own entertainment network, *8ighty Se7en Entertainment*.

"The concept of *8ighty Se7en* is 'Striving for Perfection,'" Moultry said.

See "Freddie B" on page 12

Top 5 Hottest hip-hop/R&B tracks of the week

Whether it's a feisty R&B female teamed up with a hot rapper or Southern rapper-turned-actor giving his fans some heat, the radio is turned up and the songs for this spring/summer are getting better and better. Here are the top 5 hottest tracks for this week:



PHOTO COURTESY OF MOVIES.YAHOO.COM

1. Christina Milian f/ Young Jeezy - *Say I*

The Def Jam/ Island Music Group songstress is back with a new album, *So Amazing*, which is expected to be released on May 16. With her first single, Milian teams up with rapper Young Jeezy, as she motivates young women to see their dreams to the end. With a catchy hook and an up tempo beat, Jeezy offers a quick 16 bars to dazzle Milian's record sales and keep fans bopping their heads.

2. Jagged Edge - *Good Luck Charm*

As the Atlanta quartet prepare for the release of their fifth studio album, Jagged Edge, the guys prove that they are back and ready to give the ladies what they want to hear. The Sony/Columbia group's first single, *Good Luck Charm*, is looping itself over the air in cities across the country, and the video stays in constant BET rotation. The song allows the men to proclaim their love for the women in their lives as they promise to never go without their 'good luck charms.'

3. Young Joc - *It's Goin Down*

Let me introduce you to another element of the snap craze, Bad Boy Recording artist Young Joc. His first single, *It's Goin Down*, has people vibing and dancing to this hit. It's an instant smash. You can hear it in the mall, in the club, on the radio, anywhere. Young Joc even has a dance to his new hit, called *Jockin*. The dance just solidifies his entrance into the snap craze Hall of Fame.

Christina Milian's *Say I* is on *The Meter's* Top 5 hip-hop/R&B tracks of the week.

4. Sean Paul - *Temperature*

The VP/Atlantic recording artist Sean Paul has once again proven that reggae and dancehall has a solid audience in the United States. With the release of his second American album *The Trinity*, Paul has continued to move bodies out on the dance floor. *Temperature*, the second single to this latest release, has garnered Sean Paul the No. 1 peak position of the Billboard's Hot 100 chart. The infectious beats and the mystery of the lyric have many vibing with the Jamaican born and bred artist.

5. Tyra - *I'm Still In Love*

The Petersburg, Va. native was introduced to the world last summer with her ode to Southern gentlemen, *Country Boy*. This year, she is back with another hot single and a debut album that many have been waiting on. *I'm Still In Love* is a song that involves a girl cheating on her boyfriend and she is so sick about it. This hit echoes of an apology. She is desperately in love and wants to rectify her wrongs. The second single to her debut album, *Introducing Tyra*, is also a favorite on the airwaves. This 20-year old singer has the chops to make it to the top in this industry.

Kirsten D. Watkins •

Arts & Entertainment



ATL - A+

Finally, the moment that many have been waiting for...

Warner Brothers and Overbrook Entertainment companies have partnered up to deliver to the masses the feature-film *ATL*, which has been described as a coming-of-age story for many young teenagers in the South.

Released on March 31, I was especially excited and pleased with the result. As a bred Georgia Peach, it is always exhilarating to see your city stake its claim in a profitable endeavor and a sweetly told story about from where you

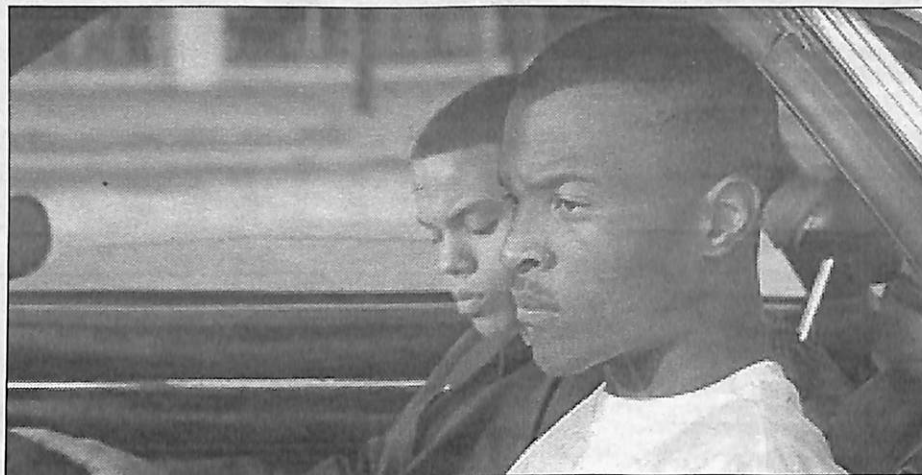


PHOTO COURTESY OF MOVIES.YAHOO.COM

Evan Ross and Tip "T.I." Harris star in the feature film *ATL*.

come.

Starring rapper T.I., *ATL* hands to the audience a young man named Rashad (played by the hip-hop heavyweight), who narrates his last few weeks of high school with his three comedic friends (played by Jason Weaver, Jackie Long, and Albert Daniels). Unlike the previews would suggest, Rashad is a hard-working and driven individual. His parents passed away in a car accident several years ago and he is left with the responsibility of taking care of his younger brother, Anthony (played by Evan Ross), while staying out of the way of their caretaker Uncle George (played by Mykelti Williamson).

The young men find solitude at the

neighborhood skating rink, Cascade Family Skate Center, which really exists. It is here that they can leave their troubles behind them and let loose, while determined to win the Skate Wars title for the year.

But that's not the only thing that Rashad gains at Cascade; he falls in love with Lauren London's character New-New, a ghetto gum-popping Southern belle who takes his breath away. Little does Rashad or his friends know, but New-New is not the woman that she claims herself to be.

This dramedy is full of laughter, yet touches at the heart of issues that affect the young generation today. *ATL* allows its characters to be a model for young-

sters to look after. It examines how young individuals from the "hood" can make it with a little drive and a lot of hard work, to not be ashamed of your past and how it can make you a better person, and that the glitz and glamour of the street life is just that...glitz and glamour, and that it will take you nowhere fast. I was also proud that the depiction of Mr. T.I.P. was of honorable value, that he wasn't the lead character who was out on the street hustling.

I absolutely loved this film. I was a little concerned because lately the rapper-turned-actor role has been quite overplayed, but T.I. handled this role as if it were born for him. The story was strong and supported by a cast that spoke realism and experience. Director Chris Robinson did an excellent job as he elevated himself from the music video arena and carried his first feature-film.

This film was a solid choice for producers Will Smith, Dallas Austin, and Tionne "T-Boz" Watkins to attach their names to.

Excellent job. I've been to the theaters to see *ATL* twice already and will be the first to have it when it's released on DVD. The film came in third in its opening weekend box office.

It's always a beautiful thing to see your city skyline, and it's even more fun when the filmmakers hit the nail right on the head.

Kirsten D. Watkins*

Freddie B motivated to continue

Continued from page 11

"The '8' is continuous and the '7' represents perfection personified. I want 8ighty Se7en to be known for universal entertainment."

Before *Freddie B TV* came about, Moultry was known for his campus radio show at WTST, TSU Campus Radio, where he hosted The 100% Show, which aired every Tuesday night at 9 p.m. As of late, however, there has been quite a bit of controversy regarding his abrupt ejection from his position as a disc jockey.

Moultry said that there was a lot of confusion going on at the radio station, and that he had a lot to do with why he doesn't DJ his show anymore.

According to the aspiring producer, he was on the radio one night, preparing to show his television show. The VCR at the radio station ate his tape up, so he had to find some type of way to entertain his

listeners.

"People were waiting on Freddie B to show a TV show," he said. "There were people calling up to the radio station asking when my show was going to air, and I couldn't just commentate all night."

Since he had nothing to show his viewers, he had to find another way to keep his listeners entertained, so he decided to do a prank call. Moultry called a random number and ended up getting in contact with a woman off campus.

After staying on the phone with her for a few minutes, Moultry ended the call and the show early. The same woman which Moultry's prank call was directed to then contacted Aerial Ellis, the operations manager at WTST when this incident took place. As a result, he said the police got involved and said that the woman told them that Moultry had

threatened her life.

Upon *The Meter* contacting the TSU Department of Communications, Professor Victoria Sturgeon said a comment could not be issued until the pending case with the police department was closed. Lawrence James, interim head of the TSU Department of Communication, could not be reached for comment as of press time.

However, Moultry said he called Nashville Police, and police seemingly weren't concerned about it because they had lost the case number. He said that the police sided with the woman, things got messy, and as a result, he left WTST and began producing his television show.

"Students do not matter most at TSU," Moultry said. "The faculty looks at the students here as kids. They are more concerned about getting their paycheck than taking care of the students."

But despite what the involved parties state occurred, Moultry said he has found massive success through his show and said he plans on doing big things

with his production company as both a CEO and recognized television personality.

"I think *Freddie B TV* is a very comical show that should not be taken that seriously," said Leon Tillman, a freshman agricultural sciences major from Marietta, Ga. "The police call wasn't really needed."

Moultry said he now is interested in becoming a part of a Web entertainment company called Baylo Entertainment. He wants to become a part of this company because he said that the company will give him 100 percent creative control, and he can take the developing television show whichever direction he wants, as opposed to fitting a mold that a network gives him.

"Whatever I end up doing, if I have a quality product, the money will come," Moultry said. "As long as I keep God first, I will be successful."*

'Zeroed' in on Zorro

By Courtney Malone and Marian Bullard
Sports Writer and Editor of *Tennessean* yearbook

A sheet of paper... an old oversized ripped t-shirt... and a cracked lunch tray... seems like junk; however Zorro transforms these items to a spirit stick, a cape and a TSU sounding board.

Zorro, Carl Darnell, can not be missed at any athletic event. He stands out. Excuse me, flies out in front of the crowd with his acrobatics, smiles, jumps, chants and let's not forget his push-ups. Flipping is his forte, but when the fans catch on... It is over. The entire audience is zorro-ized on his moves.

Not many people know Zorro by his birth name, but Darnell is a graduating senior, majoring in computer science. He hails from Jasper, Ala. byway of Huntsville, Ala., but to get to know him, let's zero in on Zorro...

The Birth of Zorro

Darnell wasn't always known as Zorro. In fact, he wasn't even given that name until he reached the 9th grade.

"We (me and my brother) started out as Ninja Turtles, moved on to the Power Rangers in the 4th grade, and then moved on to Zorro in the 9th grade," said Darnell.

His name as Zorro was intensified when he came to TSU for a summer program in June of 2002.

"While up here I started dating a varsity cheer-

Student strives to re-energize school spirit, makes impact

leader," he said. "I went to watch her practice and the coach made me turn a flip. After I turned the flip he said you're on the team. My freshman year here I was actually cheering."

His Sport

He does not discriminate to any particular sport. He attends football, basketball and softball games, track meets, tennis matches, and even the intramural games flipping and chanting for them all, although he admits that volleyball is his favorite.

"They showed me more love because I was there when they were losing," Darnell said. "Me and the (volleyball) coach are best friends but she doesn't even know it yet."

"Zorro, he is awesome," said Kathy Roulhac, head volleyball coach. "We went 11-0 last season at home and I believe he was a big reason why. He would lift the team by making noise, running around with his tray, and by doing splits."

The Push-Up

Zorro always does five push-ups after every free throw at basketball games. He does it to let the team know that they are working for us and we are working for them. Even though it seems Zorro has a set routine he does at every game, he claims everything is pretty much spur of the moment and he does whatever is on his heart at the moment.

The Tray

The mini white tray, the legendary tray, came from the "SUB" in 2003. It is actually discontinued and nobody else, but Zorro has one and the larger lunch trays come from the cafeteria.

"I don't steal them," said Darnell. "I was pulled into the Aramark office and the manager told me to take as many as I want. I've been holding him to that. And I do return every tray at the end of every game."

His School Spirit

He sees his school spirit transferring to others as a chain reaction.

"When I make people laugh and cheer, I get people excited," Darnell said. "The excited crowd energizes the team to work harder. The more they win, the more people come to the games. This strengthens school pride and encourages others to get involved. This should ultimately lead to increased enrollment by attracting more students."

Marcus Long, a business administration major from Jackson, Tenn., said "...Zorro made the games exciting. Zorro gave us a reason to get crunk at the games; he is the ultimate fan of TSU sports."

Around the Yard

Outside of the games, Carl lives up to the unmasked persona of Zorro as well. He walks around campus singing his favorite gospel hymns.

"I am in love with Jesus and he is in love with me," he said. "I minister to the school through my singing."

Darnell, an officer for both the TSU Honors Program and the TSU chapter of Golden Key International Honour Society, also excels in academics. He

participates in several other campus organizations such as the service organization B.L.A.C.K.

(Brothers for Love, Achievement, Culture and Knowledge Inc.), 100 Black Men, Alpha Kappa Mu, Phi Eta Sigma, Gamma Beta Phi, Phi Kappa Phi and helps circulate weekly issues of The Meter.

"Prayer and hard work" is his key to the balancing act.

His Dream

After graduating, he plans to work at an institution of higher learning within student activities or in the admissions office. He also plans to go to graduate school and earn a master's degree in higher education of administration.

He then plans to come back to Tennessee State University and work within student affairs.

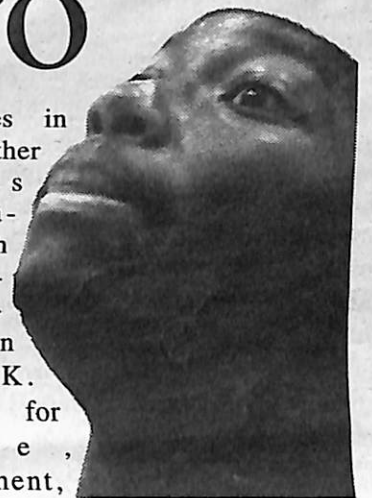
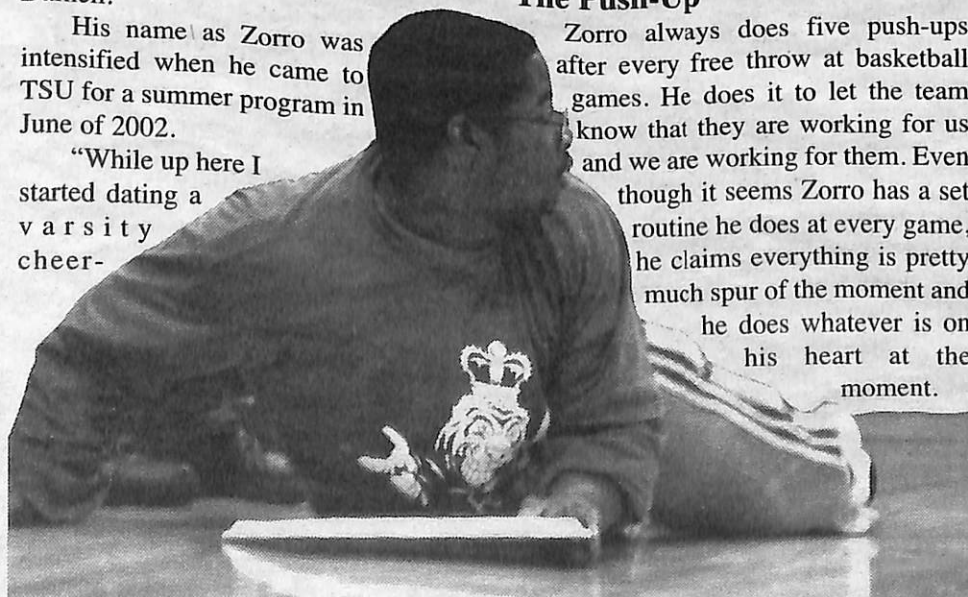
"I want to make sure students have the best opportunities, the best chances possible to succeed in life," Darnell said. "So I'm going to try to do whatever I can to make sure they succeed. Give me about 15 years and I will be the president of Tennessee State University, with a higher level and use all 450 acres."

Pass the Sprit Stick

Even as the semester comes to an end, don't think it's the end of Darnell. He said he will be at many other sporting events to come and he definitely won't miss the TSU versus Vanderbilt football game on Sept. 23, 2006.

So who will carry on the tradition after Darnell graduates?

"Little sprinkles of me are left in different people," he said. "The TSU spirit will live on."*



Sports

Williams leaps into NCAA regional

By **Brittini Barnes**
Sports Writer

If anyone has followed TSU men's track and field team during the last couple years, one particular Flying Tiger leaps out.

However, sophomore track team member Buford Williams isn't just being noticed in the starting grids, but also by his day to day stride.

"Buford is a great athlete and an overall person," said Lavette Dismuke, assistant ticket office manager at TSU. "Year after year he steadily improves. I would enjoy watching him in the Olympics in two years."

Just last month, Williams took a first place title at the Auburn Springtime Invitational with a long jump of 24 feet, 2.25 inches during the weekend of March 27, which qualified him for the NCAA Regional competition.

Now Williams' focus is on the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing, China and the thought of him on the international level is what keeps him fueled.

"When competing against other conferences and players, that are better than you, it helps me raise my level of performance," Williams said.

Flying Tiger coach Kelly Carter, a former All-American at Auburn University, entered the TSU Flying Tigers in the AU meet, which Williams and teammate Saihou Mbenga took the top two places.

And Carter knows that the meets of Southeastern Conference schools, such as Auburn, will not only prepare Williams for professional track and field,

"When competing against other conferences and players, that are better than you, it helps me raise my level of performance,"

-Buford Williams

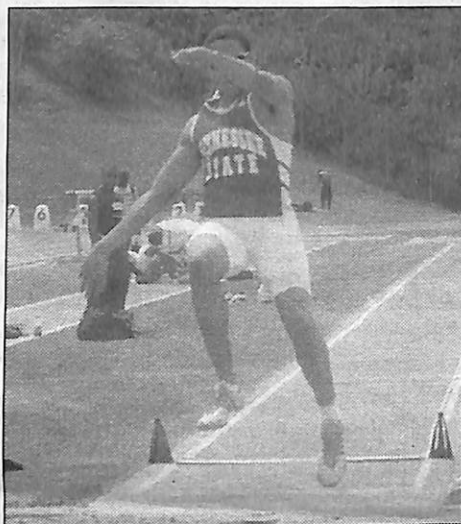


PHOTO BY TRACIA KELLEY

Sophomore Flying Tiger Buford Williams said competing against better runners helps him raise his level of performance. Williams is seen here at the Boston-Moon track meet on Saturday, April 15.

but the entire team.

"When we compete against other Division-I universities we get to compete against the athletics in the nation," Carter said. "This helps us to get better prepared for the (Ohio Valley Conference) tournament."

Williams said he one day hopes to give back to young kids by becoming a track coach, but he has also competed in almost all sports, including tennis, baseball, soccer, and golf.

He also enjoys reading books on biomechanics because Williams knows the importance of knowing what is going on in his body to be able to keep everything in tune.

"By reading body mechanics books helps me better understand myself and it helps me get the edge over everybody else," said Williams. "I also believe if you just work out and not read it will not help you but if you read and work out it will help you perform to the best of ability."

And his teammates agree.

"A goal without a plan is just a wish," said Franklin Rivers III, a senior engineering major from Little Rock, Ark. "And it is a person like Buford, who continues the competitive spirit with excellence and new heights." •

Boston/Moon Classic a winner for Flying Tigers, Tigerbelles

By **LaVonte Young**
Sports Editor

Both the TSU Tigerbelles and Flying Tigers track and field teams had strong performances during the Boston/Moon outdoor track meet on Saturday, April 15.

Several former Tiger track legends attended the meet such as Hezekiah Stevens, Willie Forman, meet's namesake Ralph Boston, a three-time Olympic medalist and fellow meet namesake John Moon, a six-time All-American at TSU then Tennessee A&I.

That alone was enough to motivate current TSU runners.

"Seeing the legends such as Boston and Moon motivated me and my team to perform our best," said Chris Howell, a junior sprinter for the Flying Tigers.

The men's track and field team would sprint on to a great day in front of the legends and the home crowd. The Flying Tigers' Buford Williams won the long jump event while setting a personal record with a leap of 24 feet, 11 inches. The jump qualified Williams for the NCAA regional.

"Everything was technically sound," Williams said. "My approach was down pack and my landing was superb. Everything was great. Coach (Kelly Carter) and my mentor Ralph Boston gave some words of wisdom that really helped me."

But Boston said there is still room for improvement.

"We still have a lot of work to do," said the legend Boston of the sophomore. "The horse is not out the barn, but he is showing a lot of promise."

Fellow teammate Ronald Morris will also be joining Williams in the NCAA regional after he finished second in the 400-meter dash with a time of 21.40 seconds.

"I happy with the way I performed because I qualified for the NCAA regional," Morris said.

The Flying Tigers also received strong performances out of Howell, Dominique Rodgers, and Mark Lollis who all set personal records at the meet. Howell came in fourth in the 400-meter

dash with a time of 10.68 seconds and Rodgers set a personal record in the triple jump with a leap of 15.26 meters. Lollis finished seventh in the 800-meter dash, but he set a personal best time of 2:00.

"I happy with our performance," Howell said. "I believe we can use this as a building block for the future."

"We can together as a team today," said Kelly Carter, head coach of the Flying Tigers. "I'm happy with our performance. We had five guys to set (personal records), so I'm pleased with our performance."

Tigerbelles win with team effort

The TSU women's track and field ripped off a victory in front of the home crowd.

The Tigerbelles, even though they didn't have an individual first place finisher, finished well enough as a squad to get the win.

The ladies got a strong performance from Tierra Boyd, who can in third in the 200-meter dash with a time of 24.49.

"I believe I can do better," Boyd said. "I feel that we are performing as (well) as we could since we (had) been off for three weeks, but we still have a lot of work to do."

The Tigerbelles went in to the last event, the 4 x 400 relays, down by one point to Ohio Valley Conference foes Jacksonville State University 108-107. The Tigerbelles ended coming in second place behind Seton Hall with a time of 3:47.49 which ended up giving the Tigerbelles the victory.

"We ran decent today," said head coach Chandra Cheeseborough. "We still have something to work on, so that's a good thing. We still have things to work. We are heading in the right direction. We had some times to drop, so I'm overall pleased with our performance."

And legend John Moon agrees that there is something to build upon.

"This was a very good meet and I'm hoping that we can build on to this meet in the years to come," he said. •

Sports

Pro-Timing Day proves Tigers among best

By Phil Baker
Contributing Writer

Jamar Landrom and Earnest Jones, two former defensive standouts for the Tigers' football team, open many scouts' eyes during Pro-Timing Day.

TSU staged its Pro-Timing Day on Thursday, March 30 in the Gentry Center Complex, allowing National Football League scouts the opportunity to see first-hand the skills of recent TSU performers.

Five Tigers, vying for spots in the April 29-30 NFL Draft, participated in seven events under the watchful eyes of representatives from several NFL teams.

"Pro-Timing Day was our way we showed scouts we can compete with the best," Landrom said.

All the players stepped into a room with the pro scouts and introduced themselves before the event began, including players who did not participate in the timed drills and jumps. They were then weighed, measured, timed and put through a series of drills related to their position, similar to evaluations done at the NFL Combine held last month in Indianapolis.

The events included the 40-yard sprint, vertical jump, standing long jump, 5-10-5-yard shuttle, the 60-yard shuttle (5-10-15 up and back), the L-drill (sprint around cones that are 5 yards apart), and the 225-pound max-reps bench press. The shuttles are designed to display a player's change of direction and sustained speed, and the L-drill displays change of direction and balance.

"Pro-Timing Day can make or break an athlete's draft status," said Chuck Losey, strength and conditioning coach for the Tigers. "The reasons the events

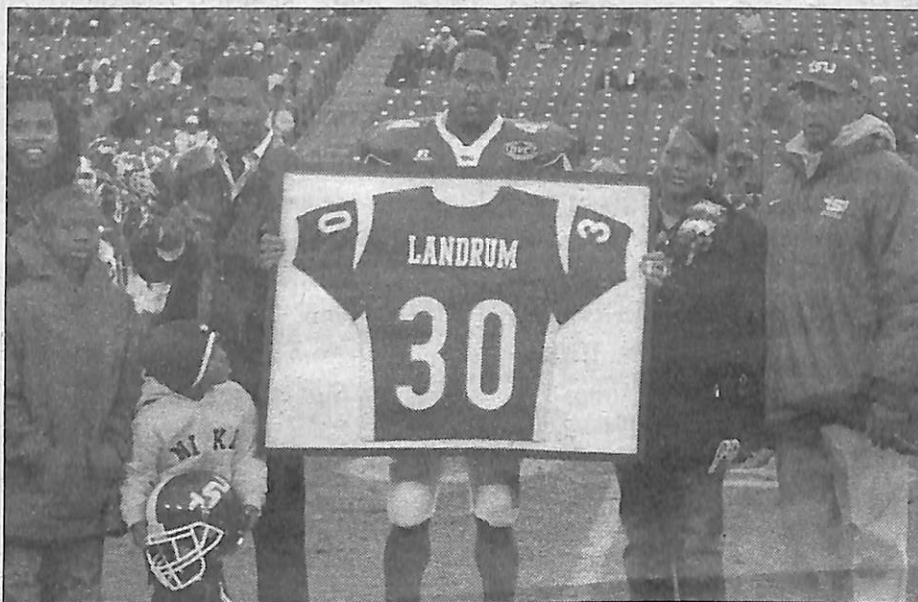


PHOTO BY TRICIA KELLEY

Jamar Landrom, defensive standout for the 2005 football team, was one of five Tigers to take part in the annual Pro-Timing Day held at TSU. Pro-Timing Day allows athletes to be scouted and time before scouts.

are so important is because it is the greatest measure of if a person can play in the NFL."

Among the five who participated in Pro-Timing Day, Landrom (6-3, 215) and Jones (6-1, 301) both had exceptional workouts.

According to the New York Giants recordings, Landrom ran his 40-yard dash in 4.48 seconds (with the wind) and 4.49 (against). He also ran the short shuttle in 4.22, the three-cone drill in 6.75 and the long shuttle in 11.36. In addition, he had a 37-inch vertical jump and a 9-foot-10 broad jump. He also recorded 17 repetitions in the 225-pound max-reps bench press. Landrom showing at the Pro-Timing Day ranked him in the top ten of strong safeties in almost every event according to times listed on nfl.com.

"I am very thankful for my Pro-Timing Day," Landrom said. "Hopefully, I should get a lot of teams' attention. The only question is will I be judged because I'm coming from a smaller school."

According to the New York Giants recordings, Jones posted an impressive 40 time as well. He ran his 40 in 4.88 seconds (against the wind) and 4.877 (with). His 40 time ranked him in the top five and, for several days, it was the fastest for defensive tackles in the nation, also according to times listed on nfl.com.

He also ran the short shuttle in 4.31, the three-cone drill in 7.00 and the long shuttle in 11.84. In addition, he had a 29-inch vertical jump and an 8-foot-2 broad jump. He also recorded 19 repetitions in the 225-pound max-reps bench press.

"I feel very happy with the way I finished," Jones said. "I know I caught the attention of some of the scouts. The only difference I feel that separates me from the other prospects is the school they played at. However, I don't regret ever picking TSU, they've represented me well and, hopefully, I'll get a chance to represent the school well."

Landrom and Jones' times and work ethics are giving hope to other Tigers who are currently on the football team, who also have plans of furthering their careers in football.

Almonte Duncan, a senior human performance and sport sciences major from Atlanta, believes Jones and

Landrom's performances are opening the door from him and his teammates. Duncan, who is a returning All-Conference defensive lineman, also believes Jones performance in particular is shining positive light on the team.

"I knew Jamar and Earnest were both going to excel," said Duncan. "Their attitudes on the field were straight blue-collar. Practice to them was like a day at the job, never complaining, but always working hard with pride. I definitely feel Earnest's performance in particular was big because it may open the door to me and my fellow defensive lineman, who sometimes go unnoticed."

Since the Pro-Timing Day, Landrom and Jones are still working towards their dream of making it to the NFL.

Both have been contacted by several teams who are interested and who have asked for personal workouts, including the Cleveland Browns, New York Giants, Indianapolis Colts, Detroit Lions, and Jacksonville Jaguars. They insist their training hasn't stopped and iterate that it will only get more intense in hopes of separating themselves from the rest of the prospects.

"Earnest and I are still training, so we can be ready," said Landrom. "Our desire for the league and our passion for to game is insurmountable. I am confident that we can make a huge and immediate impact on someone's team."•

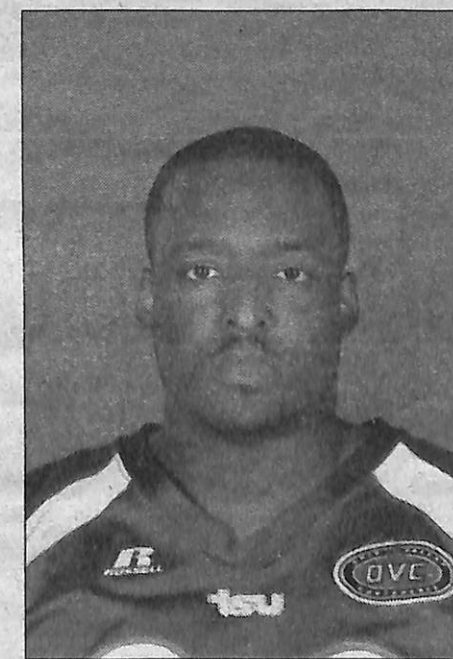


PHOTO COURTESY OF TSUTIGERS.COM

Defensive tackle Earnest Jones recorded some of Pro-Timing Day's top numbers last month.

"I am very thankful for my Pro-Timing Day. Hopefully, I should get a lot of teams' attention. The only question is will I be judged because I'm coming from a smaller school."

-Jamar Landrom

Sports

External firm to investigate TSU basketball program

The TSU Department of Athletics has hired an outside group to further investigate the basketball program's association with D1 Scheduling, according to Nashville's *The City Paper*.

The publication reported that TSU's internal investigation uncovered no improper activity in relation to an Internal article that posed an alleged link between six Division-I basketball programs, Los Angeles Community College basketball coach Mike Miller, and the company he started D1 Scheduling.

LACC is also the same junior college which TSU's 2005-06 leading scorers Kareem Grant and Wayne Arnold, and Clarence Matthews attended before transferring to TSU.

The article reported that Iowa State, which played TSU twice over the last two seasons – first on Dec. 31, 2004, and again on Dec. 28, 2005, paid D1 Scheduling \$40,000 for the home game against TSU, but TSU only pocketed \$10,000 – a 75 percent shortcoming of the payout. However, this past season, TSU brought in \$40,000 of the \$45,000 paid by Iowa State to D1 Scheduling.

"Last season we took \$10,000 after the Iowa State game because we already met and passed the \$175,000 the basketball program was asked to bring in," TSU Director of Athletics Teresa Phillips said in the March 27 issue of *The Meter*. "Going in to scheduling the Iowa State game, we brought in \$190,000 from playing Alabama, Arkansas, Western Kentucky, Southern Illinois, Louisville and Vanderbilt."

However, Phillips told *The City Paper* that the external investigation is only "to protect ourselves and Coach (Cy) Alexander by having an external group who does this kind of thing to come in and look closely at all possible matters so we can really put it to bed."

TSU President Melvin N. Johnson expressed pleasure in Alexander's performance as a coach.

"I have to side with Coach Alexander for right now," Johnson said to *The Meter*. "We are working with

(Ohio Valley Conference) to investigate about what transpired. Alexander has always been an outstanding coach."

Compiled by Marshall A. Latimore and Eddie R. Cole Jr.

TSU President: People jumped to the gun

Tiger Briefs

TSU President Melvin N. Johnson said the media coverage about Melaney Whiting's dismissal from the TSU women's tennis team was short on context.

He said conclusions have ultimately been made by people without of knowing how dismissal and appeals processes work.

"You know, there's a lot about that Melaney Whiting situation that we have to see both sides of,"

Johnson said to *The Meter*. "Every situation like this has a process; every administrative decision can be appealed."

"A lot of people jumped to the gun. There were all kinds of things beneath the surface that the media hasn't looked into."

Therefore, Johnson advises all media to fully investigate the processes of TSU and the Tennessee Board of Regents.

"I challenge the media to find out these processes," he said. "There are certain regulations regarding the way these situations are handled. The best way for the media to correctly keep its readers informed is by checking the student handbook or contacting TBR about these things."

Marshall A. Latimore

Softball bruises Bruins to end losing streak

The TSU softball team ended a



PHOTO BY KENNETH CUMMINGS

Tiger Top 5

1. Buford Williams – long jump

sophomore - health performance and sports science
Nashville

William set a personal record in the long jump competition at Boston/Moon Invitational on Saturday, April 15 with distance of 24 feet, 11 inches.

2. Jessica Nemnich - golfer

senior – elementary education
Jeering, Neb.

Nemnich was named to the second team All-Ohio Valley Conference team for the spring 2006 season.

3. Ronald Morris – 200-, 400-meter dash

junior – engineering
Madison, Tenn.

Morris set a personal record in the 200-meter dash at the Boston/Moon Invitational on Saturday, April 15.

4. Dominique Rodgers – 100-, 200-meter dash, triple jump

sophomore - psychology
Brendenton, Fla.

Rodgers set a personal record in the triple jump with a leap of 15.26 meters on Saturday, April 15.

5. Chris Howell - 100,200,400

Junior –Business, Management and Marketing
Detroit

Howell set a personal record in the 400-meter dash with a time of 21.40 at the Boston /Moon Invitational on Saturday, April 15.

three-game losing streak with a 6-3 win against the Belmont University Bruins on Wednesday, April 12.

The Lady Tigers were down 2-1 going to the bottom of the sixth inning, but exploded with five runs. Senior Heather Ebersole started the with a single in which she scored later from a single from junior Diana Clifford. The scoring parade would end with the innings first batter Ebersole driving in teammate Erin Finneran with her second hit of the inning.

During game two Belmont scored the first run in the fourth inning off a wild pitch from Lady Tiger Sara Meeks. Belmont took a 2-1 led with a RBI single from Bruin Jessica Wilson and BU would score three more runs as they held off a late rally from the Tigers to take a 6-3 victory.

Compiled by LaVonte Young and based on reports from tsutigers.com

Women's golfer earns OVC honors

Senior Jessica Nemnich was the lone TSU women's golf player to earn all Ohio Valley Conference honors for the 2006 season.

Nemnich, who notched consecutive top five finishes during the fall season, recorded four top 20 finishes on the year, according to tsutiger.com.

She had a 79.1 average for 18 rounds of play.

Nemnich is joined on the second team All-OVC by Maria Troche, a freshman Samford; Shanelle Howell, a senior at Jacksonville State; Christi Baron, a junior at Murray State; and Julie Bennett, a senior at Murray State.

Eddie R. Cole Jr.