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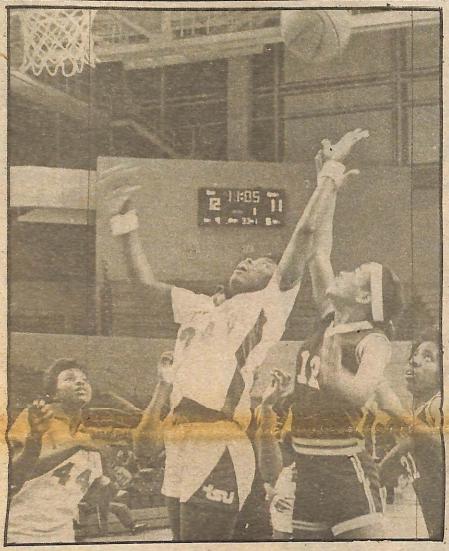
TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

NASHVELLE, TENNESSEE

the METER

Volume 37 Number 13

February 12, 1986



Sharron Jarrett (center) is the Tiger Gems all-time leading scorer. Jarrett, who coached here for two seasons, claims she was fired unjustly.

presidency

halled search

By Adrienne Ewing

Plans to name a permanent president for Tennessee State University have been halted by State Board of Regents Chancellor Thomas Garland.

Garland announced these plans recently to the Advisory Committee on the TSU Presidential Search. "Given the existing

circumstances within the TSU community, the search for a permanent president should not proceed," said Garland. Dr. Roy Peterson,

interim president of TSU, said, "I am the interim president and I shall be so until June 30, 1986 unless the State Board of Regents

changes the contractural obligations I agreed to." Garland is primarily. concerned with the inabilities of various constituencies to unify toward achievement of the role and mission of the university; the gradual drop in enrollment that has impacted upon funding; and the need for a better understanding by both TSU and the Nashville community concerning the role the university must play in the rapidly expanding Nashville area.

"I have clearly articulated what I think the role of the institution should be," Peterson said.

Sayers fires Gens head coach

By Gary Knox and Jerry Ingram

Interim athletic director Gale Sayers fired head women's basketball coach Sharon Jarrett Tuesday. Last year coach Jarrett

took over the Tiger Gems as interim head coach after Maxine Merritt resigned. Later Jarrett was named head coach at her alma mater. Jarrett said she served nine months as an interim head coach, but she never received a check from the university.

"She lacks experience to operate a division I program, Sayers said. We are looking for a coach with more experience. That is the bottom line."

"I handled all the business last year. I received experience last year," Jarrett said in a telephone interview Tuesday.

Savers, who works three days per week as interim athletic director, said he is not sure whether he will apply for the permanent position. Sayers said he will make up his mind by February 15. Jarrett is the first person in the athletic department that he has removed since taking over the position in September.

"Anytime you dismiss a coach, it is not an easy decision because it will affect someone's life, probably for the rest of her life. You have to think about what you want the

program to be and at this time she does not have the experience," Sayers said about the firing. "Yes, it was a tough decision," he added.

Sayers said there is a combinations of things that led to the firing of Jarrett. Sayers hopes to fill the position after March 4.

He is considering former NBA star, Ted "Hound" McClain for the position. McClain said he does not know at this time whether he will apply for the job.

"It all depends. I really don't have any comments at this point," McClain said.

"I hope he will want to apply for the job. I don't know if he is going to apply for the job or not," Sayers said.

Jarrett feels that she has done a good job with the time she has been in charge of the Tiger Gems. She said she is displeased about the decision.

"They need to tell me more about me being dismissed other than that I lack experience. I handled the situation last year as a coach. I have scheduled some top teams next year and got some commitments from some top players. I think I have done a good job with the team over the past two seasons," Jarrett said.

proper role of TSU in this area.

"I sincerely believe that TSU must play a key role as the major urban state university in the Metro Nashville area. Until the Garland has spoken with business, government, and TSU , community begin to share a continued on page 3

"If it is that there were too many factions represented on the search, I can understand his stopping the process even though I do not agree with it," Peterson

continued. various sectors in the

Campus renovations slated for completion in Sprin

By Jeraldine Cunningham Tennessee State University is in the process of implementing more campus renovations projects, according to George Morgan, Director of Facilities Planning.

The renovations and new constructions are a part of a 5-year plan to upgrade the TSU campus.

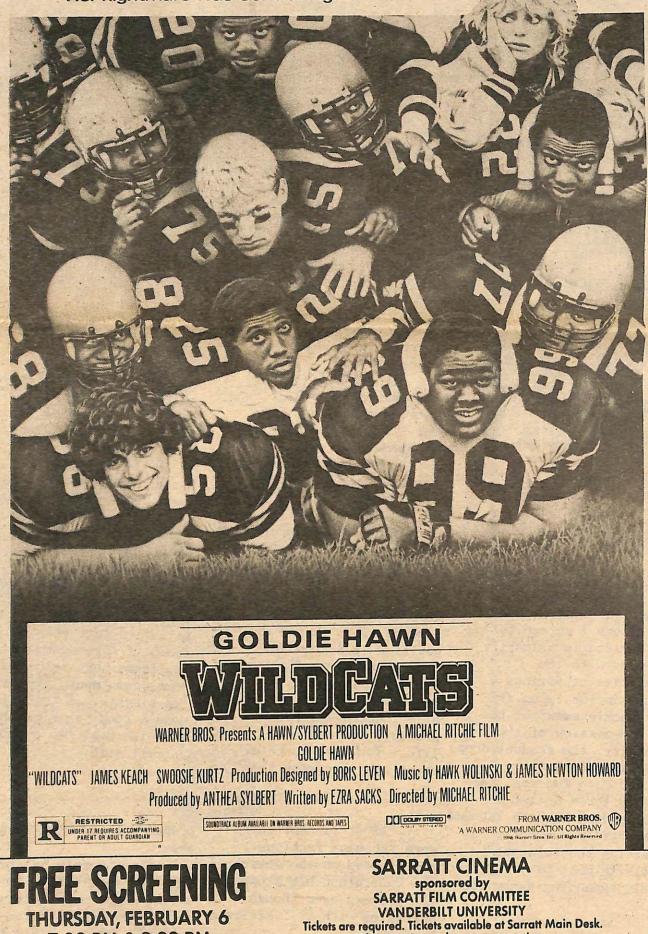
"The funds for these projects are from state and federal agencies, loans and grants," said Morgan.

7:30 PM & 9:30 PM

Some of the Major Construction Projects tentatively scheduled for the completion next year are: Campus Drainage - Involves installing drainage for the total main campus. Heiman Street Renovation Phase I - Involves renovating two buildings on Heiman street owned by the 'university. One will house Personnel, Safety and Purchasing and the other will house Central Receiving. General Campus ImprovementsInvolves landscaping, signs and a new campus outside lighting system.

Small Business Incubation Center - Involves constructing a new building on Downtown Campus to house the incubation programs. Lot Construction Project -Involves constructing of two new parking lots. One is located on the hill behind Hale Hall Dormitory and the other is in front of the Student Health Center. Also included is the remarking of

Her dream was to coach high school football. Her nightmare was Central High.



several parking lots and paving of the east lot near the Administration Building and the lot in front of the Operations Building. Chemistry Building System Upgrade - Involves renovating the total building system. Hale Hall Dormitory Energy Grant Project - Involves upgrading energy efficiency of all buildings. Solar water and heating systems will be added.

Electrical High Voltage Upgrade - Involves upgrading the underground and overhead electrical high voltage system on the north side of the Main Campus.

L.R.C. Underground Steam line Replacement - Involves replacing existing underground steam lines in the rear of the L.R.C. building.

Sweet Auburn

revue comes

To TSU

The Cultural Affairs Committee of Tennessee State University will present 1 "Sweet Auburn: Music From The Soul," on the main campus Friday Feb. 28 at 8 p.m. in the A-Auditorium.

"Sweet Auburn: Music From The Soul," a musical revue, is a composition of seven talented young singerdancers who feature music made famous by the greatest black performers in the South.

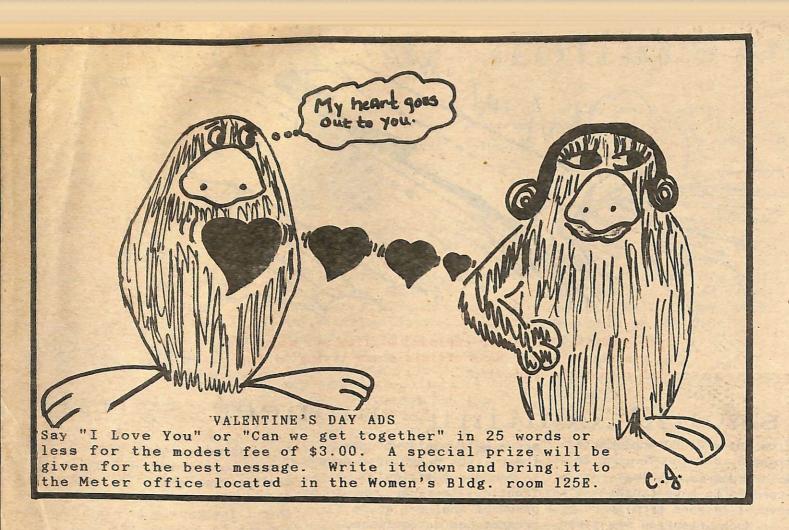
New Orleans had Basin Street and Memphis has Beale Street. But Atlanta's Auburn Avenue really had the best of both. It featured the Top Hat Club, the Royal Peacock Club, the Harlem Theatre and the Magnolia Ballroom.

The black performers who appeared in the establishments of "Sweet Auburn" were without doubt, the Who's Who of blues, soul, jazz and pop music. They were "Ma" Rainey, Bessie Smith, Lena Horne, Big Maybelle, Little Richard, James Brown, Marvin Gaye and Gladys Knight and the Pips. Don't miss this great

musical treat sponsored by the Cultural Affairs Committee of TSU.

372F

Please arrive early to ensure seating.



Presidential Search halted

common vision which focuses on the enormous potential of TSU, efforts to pursue a permanent president will be in vain," Garland said.

It is not certain who will fill the interim position that will become available on July 1.

Peterson said it is unfortunate that the university will have no "responsible and accountable" voice to direct the institution after June 30.

"If I were asked to serve next year as an interim who could not be a candidate, my answer would be no. I say no because I believe a person must be considered both responsible and accountable. Without these I cannot serve," Peterson said.

Peterson said he will continue working very hard to leave TSU in a position where it can continue to be viable even though it does not have a permanent president.



Players Guild presents "Purlie"

Tennessee State University's T.E. Poag Players Guild presents "Purlie," a musical drama based upon the play "Purlie Victorious," by Ossie Davis. Performances will be

held February 24, 25, 26, 27 on the main campus in the Administration Building Auditorium. Curtain time is at 8:15 p.m. each night. The play is directed by Mr. W. Dury Cox.

For further information, please contact Mrs. Hattie Brown at 320-3500.

WTSU goes public

Tennessee State University's campus radio station wants students to tune in.

WTSU is on the air from noon to 5:00 p.m. Monday and Wednesday, and Noon to 4:00 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. The station, located on 580 AM, has a jazz format. Rhythm and blues round out the general music programming.

Friday has been designated as rhythm and blues day. WTSU will present the best in dance, "R&B" and "rap" music. Monday through Thursday from 3-4 p.m. Gospel hour, featuring some of the finest in Christian music, will air.

WTSU is also a source for news and information. Monday through Thursday at 1:15, 2:15 and 3:15 p.m., we broadcast a news update of all national, state and local news, plus sports and weather.

There are also informative programs such as: The Muslim Perspective In America, A Look At Books, Storytime, Spectroscope, Today In Black History and Day By Day With Jesus.

The WTSU staff believes in three things: (1) Playing the hits before they become. (2) Being the alternative source of entertainment and information, and (3) Being the best radio station possible for the Tennessee State University family.

Tune in to 580 AM and you'll be regular WTSU listener.

Space travel should be halted: student

By Lewis Brown, Jr. (Senior Mass Communication major)

I feel that we should stop sending civilians into space. Although it should be their choice, we have let technology outsmart us. Not only that, but if another disaster takes place during a future shuttle mission, what kind of response does NASA officials and the government think they will receive from the American public.

In my opinion, I think the Lord is telling us to back off, because we are trying to outsmart him!

Americans

By Quintin Robinson

The explosion on board space shuttle Challenger sent flames across the skies above the Atlantic ocean and waves of sadness and mourning around the world.

The lift-off suddenly turned into a nightmare for a small-New Hampshire community, where McAuliffe, 37, and a member of the unsuccessful shuttle fight, was a high school teacher.

-It was the worst disaster in the history of the American space program. Seven astronauts were killed, including Christa McAuliffe, America's first private citizen to attempt a shuttle flight.

Many of McAuliffe's colleagues and students expressed shock over the shuttle. They thought NASA's 25th mission would be a successful one--a mission that would make McAuliffe an American hero. McAuliffe was chosen

should continue pioneer from among 2,000 applicants to apply for the Teacher in Space program. She was expected to have taught several lessons from space.

Much attention was given to McAuliffe's death because she was the first private citizen to attempt a space flight. NASA had highly publicized McAuliffe's shuttle mission. The idea of sending a school teacher to space was a big boost to their space program.

Immediately after the explosion, questions began to surface about whether too much attention was given to McAuliffe. Also, some hinted that the U.S. should discontinue manned space flights. Still others were concerned about sending civilians on future space missions.

McAuliffe and the other six astronauts will be sadly missed, but their pioneer spirit will live on in the NASA space program. Like the

seven astronauts who gave their lives pursuing a dream to conquer the final frontier, Americans should be proud of what our space program has accomplished during its 24 successful space missions.

mlint

Space Shuttle Challenger exploded killing all seven

what caused the explosion.

astronauts on board. NASA officials are trying to find out

Because of our space program and our astronauts, we have learned a great deal about our universeinformation that was alien to us 20 years ago. It is because of our past accomplishments in space technology and the need for further knowledge about space, that the United States should continue to pursue what is often called "the final frontier."

As long as man remains inquisitive about what is out there, NASA should continue to provide him an opportunity Send your opinion concerning to discover. Yes, I would love to become the first journalist to report from space.



"Yes, Just because we had one disaster, we shouldn't prohibit space exploration. It's a real high risk for anybody .. We have not gotten it down to perfection and nobody really knows what can happen." Lynn Hopkins, Mass Communication, Sophomore, Nashville.

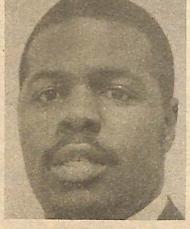
Private citizens should be allowed on future shuttle missions. It is that spirit of adventure and a thirst for knowledge that has led man to discovering what was previously unknown to him.

spirit

The tragedy which claimed the lives of our seven astronauts should not be viewed as a signal to cancel future space explorations. That fiery explosion; however, should remind us that there is room for our space program to err.

I am convinced that our scientists will study what went wrong on board the shuttle and use that knowledge to build a better and safer space shuttle. God Bless America!

this issue or any other issue that you are concerned about to The Meter, P.O. Box 858



"Yes, it's their right. She was not forced. People have car wrecks, people still People have drive cars. plane wrecks, people still fly planes. It's just a chance you have to take." Terry Waters, 22, Mortuary Science, Franklin, Tenn. Senior



Should civilians be allowed I think the real problem is on future Shuttle flights hat we lost 50 percent of after last week's explosion our black astronauts, being that we only had two. My of Challenger?

"Yes. Despite the risk involved, future projects could enhance our knowledge of the unknown." Gregory McIntyre Photos by

personal philosophy is that no grave is as deep as a rut. If civilians want to volunteer to go, then I don't have any problem with that." Kitty Smith, Instructor

Page 5 matter of dollars and sense

We as black Americans have been taught that the best way to succeed in today's society is to become the best in our respective fields or occupations.

While I was growing up Aunt Nora always use to say, "Son, get your education, that's one thing they can never take away from you." But she also told me that "It's not what you know but who you know."

I saw her words come to life while on a recent trip to a job fair for minority journalists.

My advisor's phone had rung off the wall for two weeks with editors begging her to bring her talented young journalists to Memphis to get jobs. Supposedly we were a much needed group in the field of journalism.

For a whole day I sat with students from other colleges in the South listening to executives from major newspapers such as Scripps Howard, owner of The "Plain spoken"

Commercial Appeal in Memphis; Gannett, owner of USA Today; and Associated Press tell us just how much we were needed. I was almost convinced by those great speeches until a white advisor from Mississippi Valley State University, a predominantly black college, stood up and challenged these editors to do more hiring and less talking.

My own advisor, Dr. Insignares, criticized them and stressed that we as students should fight for our place in today's society.

After this Aunt Nora's voice started to echo in the back of my mind.

Later at a luncheon in the Skyway ballroom, on top

What should said about be

By Randall Blakey

What should be said about college hopefuls with low ACT scores and no college options?

What should be said when Tennessee State University accepts them and helps them to realize their dream of graduation and a job paying \$25 to \$30 thousand dollars to start?

What should be said when these SAME students become alumni and say, "I don't owe TSU s...?"

The answer: "Blacks are not motivated to the fact that they must give back to their alma mater." This is how Leon King, Director of Alumni Affairs, responded when asked about the

thousands of TSU alumni who do not contribute anything once they leave this institution.

There are TSU alumni in Nashville who say they never receive anything pertaining to alumni affairs.

If this is the case, it's either because females change their last names after marriage or because some people are reluctant to leave their correct address with Admissions and Records, for fear of being billed for a student loan. There are also those who just don't care about what happens to this seventy-seven year old school which has a reputation for training those lacking higher educational skills.

of the famous Peabody Hotel, we received more advice from Benjamin Hooks, the Executive director of the NAACP. He said that even though we as black Americans had come a long way, there are still many barriers to be removed.

Hooks humorously, but at the same time seriously, told us that if he had been white, with all of his knowledge and culture, he would have been President of the United States by now.

He pointed out that if these major newspapers really wanted to hire more blacks they could; that if they really wanted to have more black editors and black columnists they could.

That afternoon, after the workshops had ended, we began to mingle with the employers. This proved to be more beneficial than the workshops. Here is where we made contacts that turned out

to be just as important as all of the knowledge that we had gained throughout our matriculation in college.

The next day at the job fair the only newspapers that showed interest in us were those we had previously made contact with. Many students who had come with high hopes left full of disappointment.

Thank God that I had listened to Aunt Nora. Her advice paid off. I talked only to the editors of the newspapers I was familiar with. That left little room for disappointment. However, it was obvious that a few editors had made the trip only for some time off.

Students, take Aunt Nora's advice and start making contacts now. Without them, all the education in the world won't guarantee you a job.

alumni? noncontributing

As I listened while Mr. King informed me of this pathetic situation, I felt like crying. I also realized his story needed to be shared with others.

How anyone could graduate from TSU and not send at least \$2 to \$5 a month is simply beyond me. Tennessee State

University has been the Crutches and Backbone for so many of our alumni. Therefore, it should not be a problem for Mr. King to meet with different alumni chapters around the country and have a standing room only turnout.

This, however, is not the case. In most instances, after a 400 mile trip aimed toward keeping the TSU family

together, Mr. King will greet perhaps five to ten alumni, in cities where files show that over 600 graduates call TSU their "Alma Mater."

Folks, in case you didn't know, the state does not give this institution the money to function the way it should, and as a result, Alumni Affairs doesn't have enough money to send more than two monthly mailings.

So alumni, if you're lost, Alumni Affairs has played "hide-and-go-seek", but to no avail.

If you don't care, think about doing unto others as others have Done Unto You.

For the faithful few, I tip my hat. For the mislead majority: what should be said?

Black Americans persevere

By Jeraldine Cunningham

Lincoln once said: "As I would not be a slave, I would not be a master." The belief in this statement gave freedom to an oppressed people.

February is recognized as Black History Month. It coincides with the birthdates of the great black leader Frederick Douglass (February 14) and President Abraham Lincoln (February 12).

It was set aside to observe the past achievements of blacks and the present status of black Americans.

The participation of blacks enabled the Union to win the Civil War; thus, the Emancipation Proclamation, a historical document, was written and signed by president Lincoln ending the institution of slavery.

Black Americans face the reality of being a minority

mong minorities, yet we persevere. Yes, we continue to contribute to society. We have chosen to believe that one day the democratic way of life that recognizes the equality and dignity of all persons will some day come true.

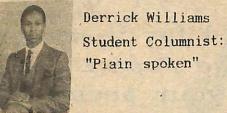
As we observe Black History Month, we want America to know that we are proud of our heritage and contributions. We are a

creative people and a special people.

"We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; we are persecuted, but not forsaken; we are cast down, but not destroyed." We are learners, teachers, leaders, and

followers, but most of all, we are winners.

We are Black America!



The Poetry Place

you top

young phillis, how she must have felt... snatched up from rich african soil, plopped down into a deprived and foreign one... how she survived...

how maria stewart must have felt, being the only woman of any color to speak out publicly then forbidden to be a suffragette...and sojourner truth cried out "ain't i a woman too"?

and young black dancers, how they felt, when they could not dance for thier own people and had to be "high yallar" at that

a young lena horne, ostracized for refusing to pass for white...how she survived...

think of rosa parks that evening on the bus...tired and wanting only to sit down...arrested for refusing to give up her seat...

think about coretta king mourning her beloved on that fatal day...how she survived...

think about your own mother raising her heavy head despite the hard times...to educate herself...to educate you...

and think about yourself too, as you think about these immortal soldiers...and see how you have come through the battle...and you too will survive...

man

renee davis

he's a man a black man a new black man with new liberated black ideas he's a man who would be together if he weren't so cold who ever told him that it was alright to step on other people's lives with his new liberated black lifestyle

You asked for it; now it's here--- *The Poetry Place.* Submit your poems by 2 pm Monday. Anessa Allen Literary Editor Womens Bldg. 320-3377

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NAVY OFFICER. LEAD THE ADVENTURE.

Mechons: Class Moderick B. McDavis

years at TSU have brought on new changes and new faces, none can forget the constant struggle of facing reality at football championship during

The class of 1986 can finally breathe a "sigh" of relief as they head toward the conclusion of a long and capricious four years.

For some, the road to a higher education continues. For others, the caprice world of full-time employment is at a band that has an But for all, the hand. memories the experienced as a class will live in their minds and hearts forever.

The graduating class of 1986, formerly the high school class of 1982, has experienced and been involved with more changes and struggles involving TSU than anyone could ever imagine.

Football play off games, TV commercials, two deaths, one suicide attempt, NCAA probation, new head basketball coach, foreign trips, and presently the 50 percent white/black court decision-are all major activities that we will remember for years to come.

It was Fall 1982 when the Big Blue Tigers successfully fought for and earned a winning football season. Finally, the last game of the season ended and we were on our way to the play offs. We defeated the first opponent. The second opponent had an advantage because of unfavorable weather conditions. TSU lost the game and a chance to become NCAA champions in 1982-83, but life goes on and so it did.

Although the past four Because of academic touched the lost his life probation with members of the One student lost his life football team, TSU's big blue in an automobile accident tigers were denied the chance the 1984-85 season. An 11-0 season comes every "blue moon," as proven by the 1985/86 Tigers' season, but life goes on and so it did.

If you are a band who implies sensuous sound with funky dance steps and spirit soothing vocals, then you are outstanding reputation as an entertainer, and the media

loves dynamic entertainers. TSU's world renown

Aristocrat of Bands reached its peak in 1982/83 and has continued the same thrills throughout the remaining three years. During the past four years, the Aristocrats have been involved in television commercials, both locally and national, and have travelled abroad to perform in Japan If with all expenses paid. that was not enough, the band has been offered to perform in Paris, France this year. The Class of '86 has also experienced some less pleasant moments.

People you grow to love and gain affection for are always expected to be around when you need them, but no one can escape fate. The class of 1986 has experienced death from the passing of two fellow students and an attempted suicide by another.

Both deaths were accidental. Although these

deaths were campus related, there were other students away from the University that

touched our lives as well. while traveling back to school. A second TSU student who was a member of our class was found hanging in her jail cell in Clarksville, Tenn.

The deaths of fellow classmates makes one look at his or her life and think about their actions in comparison to their former classmates lives. Realizing that they could die any moment, time becomes very important to many of the students.

One of the students was eating a late night snack and suddenly choked on a bone and died. That same night an elevator fell on a student as he attempted to retrieve his keys from an elevator shaft in Boyd Hall. Fortunately, he was not killed.

The second person was celebrating a once-in-a-lifetime situation one night. He was pledging a fraternity. The next morning he was found dead. The student who attempted suicide by jumping out of a window on the sixth floor of a residence hall.

The four deaths alone are tragic enough to give incite and direction to other students for preparation of life and the need to exist. And, as we reflect on the greatest of them all, John Merritt, who was not just a legend, a coach and humanitarian, but a friend, also passed.

If four deaths were not enough, then having a winning football season and not being allowed to participate in the play offs was reason enough to question why continue the struggle?

Out with the old and

in with the new demonstrates TSU's men and women basketball program, TSU's Athletic Director, and TSU's presidency position.

Page

It seemed no one wanted to coach an undisciplined men's basketball team until Larry Reid stepped on the scene with fire burning in his eyes. And just as things started to look promising for the girl's basketball program under new head coach Sharron Jarrett, Interim Athletic Director Gale Sayers fired Jarrett.

And let's not forget the dear Dr. Roy Peterson who did not know that serving as interim president would become such a big issue when he decided to seek the fulltime presidency job.

University policy on Equal Opportunity Affirmative Action, and Compliance with Title IX has been exercised strictly at TSU over the past four years. However, no effort has been made to enforce this regulation of the Education Amendments of 1972 at predominantly white institutions.

For the past four, unfriendly overseers with balls and chains have weighed us down and monitored our every move. I wonder if we are free and if we belong here?

Fellow classmates, I encourage you to put your trust in God and the chains that have imprisoned you the past four years will be removed. Then spread your wings towards glory and continue on your way to success:

Good luck to the class of 1986, for you are the next generation that will lead, teach, and make a difference.

AFRO-AMERICAN History Conference

Wed., Feb. 12, 9:00 to 3:30 Downtown Campus

Featured presentations include: The James Lawson Case, Lynchings in Tennessee, and Black Musicians in Tennessee.

Registration Fee: \$3 for students, \$4 for nonstudents. Registration Fee includes lunch.

Call Dr. Lovett, 320-3046, for further information.

The Meter

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