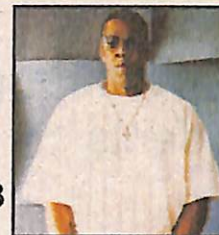




World Trade Center Towers attacked by terrorists

Page 7&8



Jay-Z returns and this time he's got *The Blueprint*

Page 12

The Measure of Student Opinion and Sentiment

Capital "B" in Black has historical meaning

By Crystal J. McMoore
News Writer

The *Meter* capitalizes the letter "B" in Black when the word refers to people of African descent, in accordance with many dictionaries of the English language and in accordance with linguistic history.

This policy raises the ire of some members of the Tennessee State University community, causing some even to accuse student newspaper reporters of seeking controversy.

It's disrespectful and prejudiced against the white members of the TSU community, said Kevin Wood, a minority student and former member of the Student Government Association. Mark Gunter, director of Minority Affairs, agrees, and both have complained to this newspaper.

But *The Meter's* policy, which includes lowercasing the letter "w" when referring to white people, is supported by academic and printed experts on the English language.

One such expert is Dr. Lynn C. Lewis, assistant professor of English at TSU.

"In history, to be American meant to be white," Lewis said. "Other groups had to be a certain type of American, Mexican-American, for example....Because of history, people of African ancestry have shared cultural and certain philosophical orientation. There is Swiss culture or French culture, but there is no certain white culture."

Not capitalizing the "w" in white is similar to the French culture, she says. "The French don't capitalize American, there's no disrespect intended; it's simply culturally correct, as is capitalizing the "B" in Black."

Clarence Majors, renowned author of the novel *Calling the Wind*, agrees that only those who were white originally were defined as Americans, while everyone else had to designate what kind of American they were.

Dr. James Haney, an associate professor of history at TSU, says the capital letter in Black evolved as designations for Black people evolved. "In the '60s Black Americans went from being Negroes to simply Blacks," he said.

The *Writer's Harbrace Handbook: College Writers Guide* says the "B" in Black is capitalized because, unlike whites, Black people are a specific type of American and white does not replace a geographically different group, as does Black.

Both the Oxford American Dictionary and Merriam Webster's Collegiate Dictionary define Black as "a member of a dark-skinned race, especially those of African descent," often spelled "Black". Neither of the dictionaries capitalizes the "w" in white.

Haney says he believes whether to capitalize the "b" should be an individual preference and that many Black people capitalize it "as a way of theoretically saying 'we are just as good as the white man.'"

While opinions on the capitalization policy vary among Black scholars and practitioners, they also vary among white people.

Professor Wayne. L. Billings, a professor in the Department of Languages, Literature and Philosophy, says, "That if you capitalize one term, you should do the same for the other, but capitalization of the "B" in Black goes back quite a while. . . it's a matter of consistency."

Historically, white never has been capitalized. *The Meter* capitalizes Black to give honor to people of African descent and pay homage to the historical reasons for doing so.

"I believe that since *The Meter* was established in 1950 with its own traditional style, it should stay that way," said Henderson Hill III, editor in chief of *The Meter*. "If we have to compromise and change the style that is used in the paper, we'll be losing another already established tradition,"



PHOTO BY TOSHA JONES

African art was among attractions at the 19th annual African Street Festival.

25,000 attend 19th Annual African Street Festival

By Tosha Jones
Community View Editor

An estimated 25,000 people attended the 19th annual African Street Festival held Sept. 15-16 on Tennessee State University's campus.

Approximately 85 vendors from 12 states participated in this year's festival and weekend showcase.

Kwame Leo Lillard, organizer of the festival, said the weekend unfolded smoothly, with great weather and pleasant personalities that couldn't have come at a better time.

"It was a wholesome healing at the time of tragedy in the country," he said. "We had wonderful weather and it was just excellent. God smiled on us."

This year's exhibits resembled those of past festivals, with traditional African art, clothing and jewelry. New shows were also introduced to the festival. The Metro Public Library operated a Book-Mobile on Saturday afternoon and 85 children were issued library cards. There was also a storyteller on stage that Lillard felt was "really neat."

A fashion show, various musical performances, and recognition of the oldest person attending the festival were a few more attractions that added to the delightful outdoor gathering.

Leon Franklin, a senior at TSU has attended the African Street Festival for approximately fifteen years and always enjoys the people and events.

"It's a good festive atmosphere. You have a lot of vendors and a lot of people who come that add to the culture that is already present in Nashville. A lot of folks from the Caribbean and folks from the continent of Africa come and share, it gives all the Nashville community an opportunity to connect with those persons... and to really cherish the culture that we have and embrace it," Franklin said.

"Most people come to pick up trinkets or to get various forms of artwork and that's always good, but it is also good to have that consciousness of the multicultural community that we have here."

See "Crowds" on page 10

The Academic Success Program produces success stories for TSU students

By Tatiana Taylor
News Writer

The Tennessee State University Academic Success Program, which is but one branch of the Trio Programs, has been playing a major role in the progress of student academics. It is designed to assist college freshman and sophomores with their adjustment from high school to college life.

The program provides tutoring, counseling services, mentoring, academic as well as personal advising and assistance with financial aid forms. ASP participants also attend cultural activities and networking events throughout the year. Graduate school tours are provided for junior and senior participants. The versatility of this program is to enhance the students' potential to successfully complete this hands on educational program.

Mary Y. Love, the director of Trio Programs, has diligently been with this program since 1973 when it was first funded by the U.S. Department of Education and served 145 students. She graduated from TSU with her bachelor's and master's degree in Mathematics in 1952. She also taught mathematics here between the years of 1956-1973. "A student's succession with this intense program can lead them to become prestigious adults," said Love. "A student is successful with this program if they follow through with the program and graduate from TSU."

"Eligibility requirements can be conversed over because there may be some exceptions for enrollment," said Love. "Overall, if you didn't make satisfactory progress in high school, receive a pell grant and have low family income, then you meet most of the criteria for acceptance."

The Academic Success Program services 154 students and is still adding to their roster. They have 28 freshmen, 45 sophomores, 48 juniors and 33 seniors. To keep their funds going, they must have 175 students or more enrolled. Every four years a proposal from the ASP is sent to the U.S. Department of Education to receive grants. Their last grant was received Sept. 1 to last for another four years.

Originally, the Academic Success Program was first named Student Support Services. The name was recently changed about a year ago to have a more eye catching title to pull more students into the program. "The ASP is apart of two other great programs called Educational Talent Search and Upward Bound," said Love. "Together they are called TRIO, a Commitment to Excellence."

The Educational Talent Search is an outreach program that identifies and assists persons that have demonstrated academic potential. Tutoring is provided at targeted Metropolitan, Nashville, middle and high schools. The project encourages students through various forms of assistance to fulfill the requirement for the completion of a secondary school education and to undertake and successfully complete a program of higher education. The program also encourages students to complete a program of post secondary education. Participants must be between the ages of 12- 27 and have completed the fifth grade.

Upward Bound is a program that aims to generate the skills and motivation necessary for success in the education beyond high school. It focuses on instruction in reading, writing, study skills, mathematics and other subjects. Upward Bound participants must have completed the 8th grade and have not yet began the 12th grade. The program consists of a six week residential summer phase and a twenty-two week academic phase. The summer component provides an intensive educational curriculum. The academic component focuses primarily on tutoring, academic instruction and counseling.

Congress has authorized these three wonderful programs collectively to serve low income, first generation high school and college students.

"I encourage students to get involved in the Academic Success Program because it's very beneficial towards their academics," said Sahara I. Donaldson, a junior from Pittsburgh, Pa. majoring in Occupational Therapy. She heard about ASP in her freshman year when Louise Gardner, assistant director of ASP, spoke to her class about the program. Ever since then, Sahara's grade point average has been steadily increasing every semester. "I just wish that the tutoring sessions would fit more into my schedule," said Sahara. Her intentions with the Academic Success Program have been going strong and she plans to continue her success in the future.

"The Academic Success Program is also helpful for those students who are not exactly involved in the program. A student can come as a walk-in and if we have tutors available, then they will be assisted," said Gardner. "We serve as an inspiration to our students."

"I love what the Academic Success Program is doing for me," said Kevin K. Scott, a senior from Memphis, TN majoring in Criminal Justice with a minor in Psychology and Sociology. "I have benefited from this program in so many ways." Though not a member of the program, he has been receiving help from them since Fall 98. He is now a Bill Gates scholar, a member of Phi Kappa Phi and Golden Key International Honor Society.

Once a student has completed this program, we would eventually have them to come back at the end of the school year for an awards ceremony," Love said. "They would then be congratulated for their accomplishments and then would then share their success story because the Academic Success Program produces successful stories in every student."

For more information, contact the director, Mary Love at 963-7461. The ASP is in the Floyd-Payne Student Center from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday in room 219. The ASP office is located in room 022 of the W.S. Davis Home Economics and Nursing Building.

SGA sets year's plans

By Dywuan Brown
News Writer

The Student Government Association president and vice president have new plans for this year. Damyon Thompson hails as this year's president from San Jose, Calif., and the office of Vice President is held by Kevin Gilliam III, from Clinton, MD.

Each year the SGA plans what goals they want to achieve for the student body to better TSU's campus. The organization is comprised of campus leaders whose purpose is to be a voice for the students while working to meet the needs of their peers.



PHOTO BY DERICK KIMBROUGH

SGA President Damyon Thompson

date.

Thompson feels strongly about the students concern with Financial Aid. He and President Hefner, will have a meeting with a consulting company to talk with Financial Aid and other offices to enrich their performance concerning the duty of handling loans and other financial situations.

Updating technology also is one of the SGA president's goals. "It's been a passion of mine to get more advanced technology for TSU," said Thompson.

He also feels that with the goals he has set for TSU, this will make us more competitive with other universities. With updating technology and financial aid, he wants to change the perception that a Black university cannot be as good as another in this area, such as Vanderbilt.

Vice President, Kevin Gilliam III, compared his ideas to "A Make a Difference Campaign." Kevin is head of the General Assembly, which consists of members from all organizations. One of the goals he plans to achieve includes, changing the mindset of the students at TSU. "Each student is affected directly or indirectly with organizations," Gilliam said. He feels that being in a position of power on campus, changing the way students think is something that is important to making a difference.

"I see most of our students are thinking on a one world path, but I want them to think multi-directional." A male weekend workshop is one idea Gilliam has. The objective of the workshop is to focus on the lack of direction and to help uplift and lead males in the path of good will and leadership. This workshop will not only benefit the males, but it also will affect the uplifting of women by teaching the males to show them respect.

Damyon Thompson has three basic ideas that he is proposing for the campus. First, he plans a collaborative leadership program. With this there will a focus on fostering leadership on campus. He plans to work with every organization on campus in order to meet goals that will satisfy the student body. There has been \$500.00 collected for the Heart Walk that SGA is completing. They're also working on the Presidential Dinner which will be held in the Faculty Dining Room at a later



PHOTO BY DERICK KIMBROUGH

SGA Vice President Kevin Gilliam II

TSU battles with cutting costs

By Henderson Hill III
Editor in Chief

No decisions have been made about what programs will be affected at Tennessee State University, due to a decrease in the school's budget, according to TSU President Dr. James A. Hefner.

The Tennessee Board of Regents, which oversees the state colleges and universities not in the University of Tennessee system, held regional town hall meetings at Austin Peay State University in Clarksville (Sept. 4), Tennessee Tech in Cookeville (Sept. 11) and Tennessee State University (Sept. 13) to examine how the schools will cut expenditures in accordance with a one percent cut in state appropriations.

Hefner said he was unsure what TSU will cut at the town hall meeting held at 3 p.m. on the Avon Williams downtown campus to make the Nashville community aware of the changes that will occur in the budget for the 2001-2002 fiscal year.

The Tennessee State Legislature demanded the town hall meetings when it passed an appropriations bill in June. The legislation excludes funding for new initiatives in higher education. This prompted an approximate 15 percent tuition increase for undergraduates and most graduate students to fill the gap left by state support.

The state now pays 40 percent of the cost of state higher education and students pay 60 percent, while they were once responsible for only 40 percent.

"In the state of Tennessee the funding comes from the students," said Brian Noland, analyst for Tennessee Higher Education Commission.

According to Noland, there likely will be no increases for state higher education for the next six years. This may cause such programs as developmental and remedial courses to be cut and sent to community colleges, where students would have to begin their academic careers.

"These are difficult times for Tennessee higher education- we have to look at what's next," he said.

This is especially a problem since "Tennessee universities have less than 90 percent of resources of other states in the Southeast region. That percentage will continue to widen if funds resources aren't increased," said Ken Looney, dean of Extended Education and Public Service at TSU.

"I contend that if we remove developmental courses from TSU we will be limiting access," said Dr. Monetha Reaves, director of Developmental Studies. "If we do not have this program we are denying access to 2,000 students."

Limiting university enrollment could possibly be a repercussion of the appropriations that will be cut from TSU's budget. This could be a possibility if teachers are cut, which would cause a class size limitation.

"There has been some talk about it at the regents level," said John Cade, dean of admissions for TSU. "I do not know how they will come up with caps on enrollment."

Currently there has not been any decision on what programs will be directly effected by the limited funds. According to a memo sent out by James Hefner, president of Tennessee State University, the TBR institutions will work together with reduced resources to efficiently serve the state.

The 89.9 percent of dollars funded in 2001 for TBR

schools have now decreased to 83.9 percent for the 2002 school year. This will effect 180,000 students that the TBR serves.

"It's still up in the air on how the state is going to address the tax issue," said Clay Harkleroad, director of Budget and Finance for TSU. Appropriations are funds given to public schools from the state legislature for education programs. Such things as housing, food services and bookstores are excluded because they are seen as auxiliaries, which are privately funded. "This one percent effects the revenue side of the cuts."

Although one percent of the appropriations for schools in the state has been impounded for the 2001 school year, Harkleroad contends that there has not been any drastic effect on TSU yet caused by the \$357,600 that was impounded. "This is a more statewide issue instead of a simple centered issue," he said.

TSU's base state appropriation was \$35,760,300 and now has been adjusted to \$35,402,700 for the fiscal year.

When a question was proposed to the presidents of the universities on the panel about what message they want to send to college students about the decreased appropriations, Hal Ramer, president of Volunteer State, stood up and shouted to the audience, "Contact your state legislature."

There was a huge concern at the TSU town hall meeting about the effect this new budget is going to have on the schools.

"This will effect the quality of the education of our school," Hefner said. "We should not be in the business of miseducation. I'm not in the business of sending students out who are miseducated."

For more information concerning TSU's budget, you can logon to <http://www.tnstate.edu> and go to the link under Business and Finance.

State Appropriation for Higher Education

1995-96	\$904,276,979
1996-97	\$906,661,100
1997-98	\$909,845,000
1998-99	\$967,968,600
1999-00	\$984,857,800

SOURCE: TENNESSEE HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION

Sources of Current Fund Revenue, All Public Four-Year Institutions

1988-89:	39.9% state appropriations; 14.7% Tuition; 45.4% Other
1998-99:	31.5% state appropriations; 18.4% Tuition; 50.1% Other

SOURCE: AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES•

Got News?

If you have

news that

affects

Tennessee

State

University

contact

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

What We Think

Sept. 11, 2001 was a day that will live in infamy in the hearts and minds of millions of Americans across this country. Never before have Americans experienced such tragedy due to terrorism on the home front. We were sad, hurt, angry and enraged. But most of all, we were in a state of disbelief.

Why did this happen? What kind of people could do that? Will it happen again? What can we do to stop them? What could we have possibly done to warrant this? These questions were just a few circulating in the general public after the attack on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

The reason that so many of us had unanswered questions is because of our lack of awareness. Before the attack so many of us walked the streets feeling pretty secure. Because we live in America we felt that we didn't have to worry about terrorism, it only happened in countries only known to late night news specials. Many of us did not know one thing about Afghanistan, never heard of the Taliban or of a jihad.

Many had the impression that if it didn't happen in the United States of America then it was not important. This arrogance mixed with ignorance provided the formula for the emotional discombobulating of Americans after the attack.

No longer did we feel safe in our own homeland. We felt invaded and insecure in our surroundings. Some of us developed a newfound fear of flying. Some of us became apprehensive of those whom we considered a threat, mainly Muslims. We began to question our belief in our government and their ability to keep us protected. We began to question everything but ourselves.

Did anybody ever stop to realize that what happened in America on Sept. 11, 2001 is almost an everyday occurrence in some parts of the world? Terrorism has been a problem for years, decades and centuries. Terrorism often results when members of a minority, (may it be a self-proclaimed minority or a well-established one) feels oppressed by an overbearing ruling body. Terrorists feel they have no other way in which to convey their message, therefore they commit horrible acts of violence.

It is important for us to acknowledge and respect other people and their cultures. So many of us see life only as our experiences. We give no merit to other events, places or people that we ourselves have not come into contact with. How many of us really realize how much we rely on other countries?

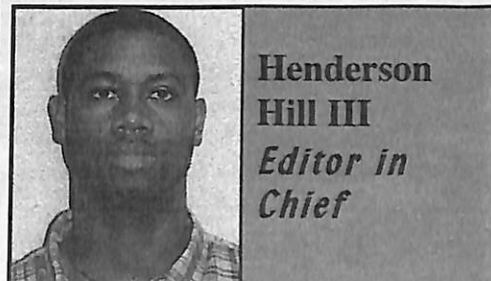
For example, do you even know where your clothes come from? The next time you're at the mall looking for your homecoming outfit, check the label of your clothes. Many of the clothes and the shoes that we wear on our feet come from various places on the globe. It could be a very good chance that "that cute little shirt" you saw at the mall was made by a child slave in some third world country. Yes, in the year 2001 there still are slaves in our world.

Think about this the next time you and your friends are rolling in a Navigator, Expedition, Four-Runner or whatever. Do you realize the amount of oil that is needed to keep those utility vehicles that we love so much running? Within the United States of America we only have a limited amount of oil.

This means that our country must ally with some top oil producing countries. Whenever our country allies with another country a relationship forms. Therefore, in every relationship there is give and take. If we are taking oil from other countries we will eventually have to give something in return. Come on, think! Remember the Gulf War.

Being aware is much more than looking over your shoulder as you cross the street. It is about being aware of your total surroundings. This includes your family, community, nation and more importantly your world. If we are to ever find peace in our society we must step out of the dark. This may happen by choice or necessity. The events that occurred on Sept. 11, 2001 pushed most of us into the light. What a difference a day makes.*

From where I sit: Happiness is what you make it



Henderson
Hill III
Editor in
Chief

I left my office on the third floor of the Floyd-Payne Campus Center destined for my History of the English Language class at 1 p.m. Wednesday, as I usually do, thinking about what I could write my editorial about.

As I walked through the campus center and the grounds of Tennessee State University something touched me deep in my soul. I wondered what made me happy.

I know this sounds slightly sentimental, but I never thought about it!

I used to think that trying to impress other people, who could give a rats butt about me, was a source of happiness. For some insane reason I also felt that the more money I had and the more materialistic things I possessed the more secure my happiness would be.

That is an unrealistic fantasy that I hope no one falls victim to. And if you have fallen for it, please come out of that immature mentality, because it's a set-up for failure. The only two people who truly care about your happiness are yourself and the Creator.

I'm 21 years old and have accomplished 95 percent of the things I set out to do by this time. But I have never stopped to recognize what makes me happy.

Some people get gratification from smoking marijuana, good grades, money, fast cars, belvedere and orange juice, bling-bling or shining for other people. I get fulfillment from my mom's chocolate sheet layered cake, honestly.

My real joy comes from the fact that I have two parents who have always supported me and all of the blessings that I have received. I'm happy. I can't say it enough times and in enough different ways.

I know who I am, I've realized what I want to accomplish in life and I know that I'm only defeated by negative energy if I let it defeat me. I'm here at TSU for my benefit, and no one else's.

I'm happy just being me. I'm secure with my attitude, appearance, strengths and

weaknesses. Not to be arrogant, but I love who I am and who I'm on the way to becoming.

I've gone through most of my life being disliked by other people and being told that I would never amount to anything.

People have always assumed (and you know what happens when you assume things) that I've always had an easy life because of what I drive, the good grades I make or what I wear.

Believe me, I've had my share of drama in my young life and I wouldn't wish that on the worst hater.

I think the realization that I can deal with the attitudes of ignorant people who offer nothing but complaints (not constructive criticism and, believe me, I know the difference) about how I run *The Meter* and live my life and present myself as an individual has showed me that I am maturing as a man.

Don't get me wrong, I love learning from those who have something worth listening to. The funny thing is that I come across more people who like to hear themselves talk than those who make valiant comments.

I just let people say what they want. Nine times out of 10 I'm not even paying attention. So for those of you, and you know who you are--students as well as faculty, who plan to approach Henderson Hill III with bogus discussion I'm letting you know ahead of time I'm just listening to be polite.

My advice to my peers is that you realize that no one can steal your joy until you let them. Therefore, you should live this one and only life that you're given to the fullest and to the standards that make you happy.

The people who complain about life the most are the ones who have no understanding that happiness is a gift that we are given from the Creator. It is something we should always cherish ("Shake dem haters off").

Don't be a fool and let other people shadow your joy or happiness. I'm happy about the fact that I can wake up every day and laugh at the things most people cry about.

"Happy is *that* people, that is in such a case: yea, happy is that people, whose God is the Lord."- Psalms 145:1.*

Letters to the Editor

Eve fan thanks A&E Editor

Alan,

Thank you so much for the pictures and the newspaper. I appreciate it so much. You are one of the few nice people in the world. Your newspaper looks like it is going well. Is there anyway I could get copies of your newspaper down here cause it is the bomb!

I appreciate you sending the pictures because you know I never found my camera and I will never forget that night. My dream finally came true that night, just to be in the same room with Eve was fine. But just think I was standing right next to her. Ha!

When I went home that night I walked in my room and saw all the pictures on my wall and in my notebook of Eve. It was like a dream. Eve is the greatest person (who has went through a lot in her life), role model and inspiration to me.

She's like the only person I can look up to and understand besides, Aaliyah. I know and believe in my heart that I am Eve's number one fan and will always be no matter what.

If I could meet Eve I would thank her for just letting me be in her presence. It was nice meeting you and your friend!

Thanks so much.

PS: I just bought me a Ruff Ryders necklace.

PPS: Do you have any pictures of me with Nelly and the St. Lunatics?

If not, thanks anyway.

Good Luck with you and The Meter.

Lasheka Benford

Riverdale High School freshman from Murfreesboro, Tenn. •

MEMORANDUM

To: All TSU Students

From: James A. Hefner
President

Subject: Discovering & Rediscovering the TSU Way

Date: September 7, 2001

It is my custom at the start of each academic year to write a memorandum to all Tennessee State University (TSU) students that seeks to explain what this University represents. If you have been a TSU student before this semester, then this memorandum is but one of many that you have seen, read, and, perhaps, found useful. If you are an incoming student and new to the TSU community, I wish to welcome you to the campus family through this memorandum. One of the reasons I write students at the start of each academic year is to inform new students and remind returning students of the central tenets and values that bind TSU faculty, students, administrators, staff, alumni, supporters, and friends; namely, our dedication and commitment to academic excellence.

Each year, I remind students that a college education is an intellectual odyssey like no other you have or will encounter again. Its aim certainly is to prepare you in a major field of study, but it seeks to do more. The college experience, especially at TSU, also aims to guide and prepare you for the great work of serving humanity. Upon graduation, you, as a TSU man or woman, should possess the skills, poise, and outlook that say not only that you are a product of higher education, but that you have been educated here. You also should possess a certain way – the TSU way – of thinking about the choices you make. By the time you graduate, whether as an undergraduate or graduate student, you should instinctively and unconsciously move with an air that communicates that yours has been a TSU education.

As this semester and academic year progress, let me urge you to dedicate yourselves to discovering or rediscovering, if you have lost it, the TSU way. That way can be discovered in ways big and small. It breathes in the buildings you live and study in. Buildings with names such as Davis, Crouch, Boswell, Love, Torrence, Elliott, Rudolph, Hale, Floyd-Payne, and McWhorter will shelter you both physically and intellectually. All of our buildings bear the names of men and women who have helped shape this University and who provide rich examples of the TSU way. Dedicate yourselves not only to enjoying, learning, and living in these buildings, but take time to learn about the men and women for whom these buildings are named. Each and every building bears a plaque that tells of its namesake. Each plaque tells a story of its subject. Each story, though different, echoes the same, recurring themes: dedication, perseverance, intelligence, creativity, daring, caring, and service.

The TSU way also breathes in the lives of this University's excellent faculty, supportive staff, and wonderfully diverse student population. Spend time getting to know your professors, not just as the men and women sharing subject-matter with you, but as men and women of TSU's story who are wellsprings of sound advice and who, incidentally, are some of the most interesting people you will meet. They are willing to help you discover or rediscover the TSU way, as are all TSU's dedicated faculty and staff.

In essence, the TSU way is a posture and an attitude or disposition you adopt that is rooted in the tradition of excellence this University has pursued from its beginning. You may be coming or returning to TSU accustomed to a certain style of dress, language, or conduct. We encourage individualism, but we also aim to place our mark on you as part of your TSU education. You may be accustomed, for example, to wearing baseball caps in buildings and ill-fitting pants. Again, that's fine in some contexts, but it is not the TSU way. The TSU way is to dress with a style and grace that appeal not only to the urban hipster, but also to the sophisticate. Pull those pants up! Remove the caps as you enter the campus halls. Both gestures are signs of respect not only for those who have come and gone before you entered TSU, but also self-respect.

While vulgar language has become fashionable, it is not the TSU way. Any wisecrack can curse the night stars, but it is the mature young man or woman who opts instead to use tasteful and correct language at all times – day and night. Just as your language should conform to the TSU way, so should your writing skills. Practice writing every day, even if you do not have a homework writing assignment. You will become a better writer by reading widely – at least one newspaper per day, a half dozen magazines each week, and a best-selling novel every three months – and incorporating new ideas in your writing exercises and journal.

While it may be tempting to simply follow the crowd and dress, talk, and behave to please your peers, please keep in mind that on graduation day none of your peers are prepared to offer their spectacular job or graduate scholarship to you because you were a good follower. Resolve now to set your individual standards high, very high, and you will be following the TSU way rather than the path of what-might-have-been. Whether you know it or not, you will complete your TSU education far more quickly than you think. Your time here will fly by and if you have not used it profitably and wisely, you will have missed so much of the drama and glory of a TSU education; namely, the thrill that comes with becoming someone new.

By the time you graduate from TSU, you will look and sound the part of a thoroughly trained and educated TSU alumnus or alumna or you will have missed a great opportunity to discover the TSU way. There is a line from Shakespeare that I believe wonderfully captures what it means to embrace the TSU way. It comes from Shakespeare's *Henry V*. The beloved King Henry and his small army are about to do battle with the mighty army of France. What Henry told his men I tell you: "All is ready if our minds be so!" Enjoy your academic year while embracing the TSU way.

The Meter Mission Statement

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

Submission Requirements

The Meter is published biweekly and is available free to the Tennessee State University community. Opinions expressed herein are of the writer, not those of the administration, the Student Government Association or the faculty or staff of TSU. The submission deadline is the Wednesday before each issue comes out. No exceptions! The Meter invites submissions by all members of the Tennessee State University community. Timeliness, clarity of thought, factual accuracy, and interest to the university community will be factors in selecting material for publication.

All materials must adhere to the following guidelines:

- All contributions must be typed, double spaced (submitted on 3.5" disks and hard copy), and must include the writer's name, telephone number and P.O. Box.
- Articles should not exceed 1,000 words, opinions should not exceed 500 words, and letters should not exceed 300 words.
- Sources of factual material should be included. All claims of fact are subject to verification.
- The Meter reserves the right to reject letters, articles or ads without explanation, and to edit those as necessary. •

News

Facelift revives main cafeteria

By Candace Benbow
News Writer

Tennessee State University students returned this semester to the main cafeteria looking more like a food court in a premiere shopping mall. Students could only admire the design from afar until Sept. 3 when it was open for business.

"Basically, it was time for a change," said assistant food service director James Cooke. The estimated \$10,000 project is an investment in show cooking. "People want to see what they are eating, Cooke said. With cooks preparing gourmet pizzas in plain view and a stir-fry station, students are able to select how they wish their food to be prepared.

"It's tight," said Toinya Samuels, a freshman from Chicago. "Everyone said that the food here would be awful but it's nice they have a variety."

Most upperclassmen have bittersweet emotions toward the renovation.

"I was pretty upset but all I did was go and get on the five meal plan," said graduating senior Managua Hunt of Knoxville. The Department of Residence Life reports that since the cafeteria opened, many students have either purchased meal plans or increased the number of meals they already had.

Cooke said that nine new employees were added in order to make this project successful. Students have noticed that with these new employees, the attitude in the main cafeteria had definitely changed.

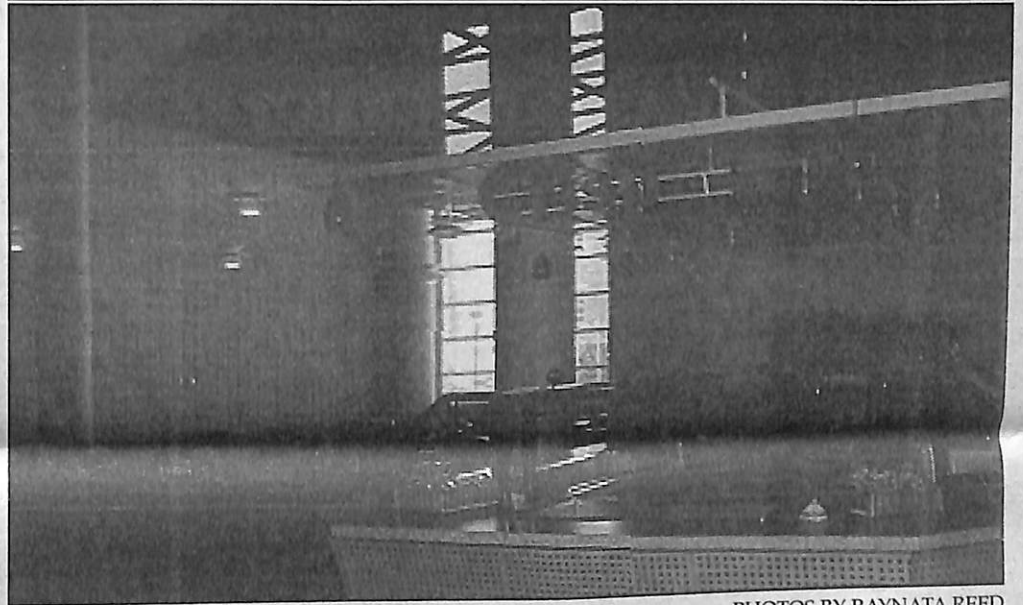
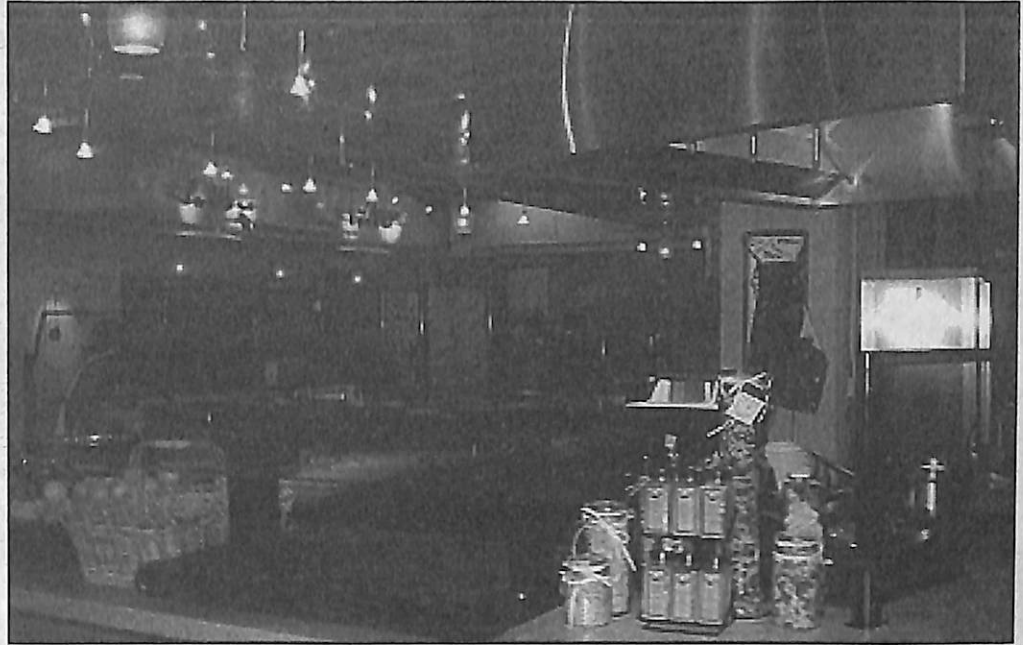
"You see signs saying 'Allow Us to Serve You' and the people are much friendlier," said junior Keishaun Proctor. "You see smiles and people ask what they can get for you instead of 'what do you want'?"

When asked if there were any plans to remodel any other campus eating facilities, Cooke stated that Rudolph is next. "We should remodel Rudolph in the next two years. The Sub has been renovated twice in the last five years and we did the Downtown Campus two years ago." A representative from the Office of University Relations and Development could not be reached for further information on renovation plans.

Natalie Timbs, a junior from Birmingham, Ala. enjoys the main food now over the Sub. "It's so much healthier," Timbs said. "They have a bigger salad bar now and it's just so much more filling than the Sub."

Cooke commented that in keeping up with the Sub, "We have hamburgers and french fries just like the Sub, but we have all you can eat."

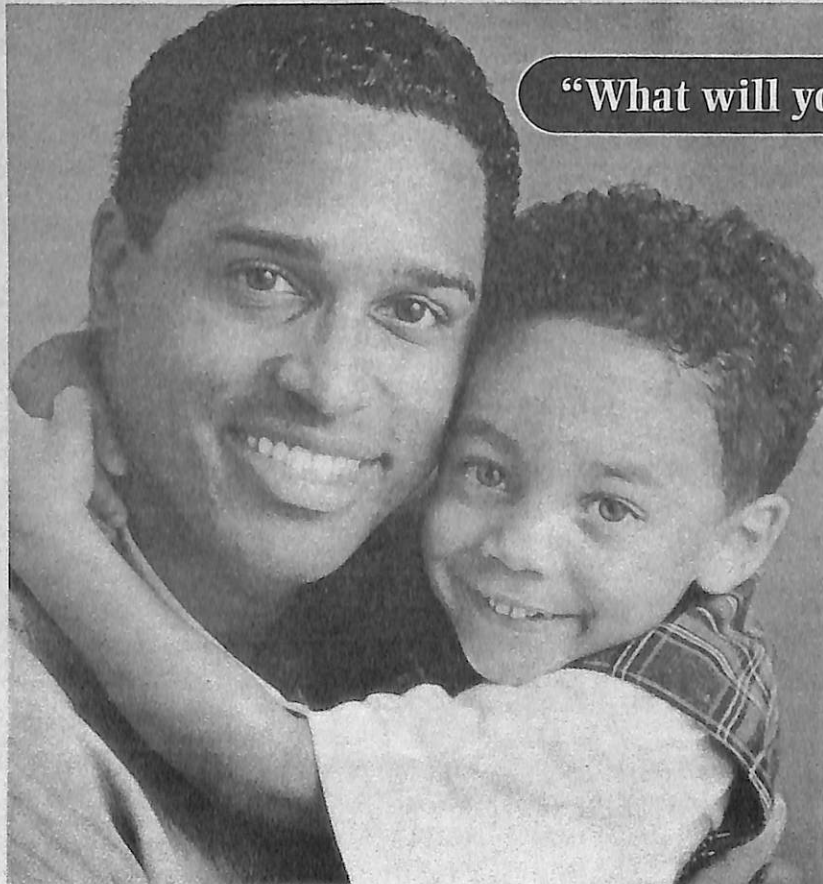
With the move toward show cooking and healthier foods, Cooke and his staff hope to bring more of the faculty, staff and older students in to eat. "Pretty soon, I'm going to have wraps on the grill," Cooke said. "Students need to become more health conscious. They eat in the Sub all year and wonder why they get sick in the winter."



PHOTOS BY RAYNATA REED

The newly renovated TSU cafeteria.

The main cafeteria has extended hours in all dining sessions in order to better facilitate the students. Junior LaNita Strozier of Atlanta said, "It's definitely nice and I will be eating down here more often."•



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News

Terrorist attacks leave America permanently scarred

A recap of the devastating events and their overall impact on us all

By Raynata Y. Reed
News Editor

On Sept. 11 the United States fell victim to a series of vicious terrorist attacks that destroyed symbols of the country's strength and power, including The World Trade Center towers and the Pentagon, as well as America's sense of security.

The World Trade Center consists of the two famous "Twin Towers" as well as five other smaller buildings. The buildings located in lower Manhattan, New York City, also include a shopping concourse.

As one of the world's largest commercial business complexes, the Towers were home to a number of businesses, government agencies and international trade organizations.

The 110-story sky scrapers were massive structures of aluminum and steel lattice, standing at 1,368 feet tall and 1,362 feet tall. They contained 104 elevators and thousands of employees each.

At around 8:45 that Tuesday morning, the first was hit by American Airlines flight 11, a Boeing 767 heading to Los Angeles from Boston. By evening, the first building had collapsed.

About 18 minutes later, United Airlines Flight 175, a Boeing 767 heading to Los Angeles from Boston as well struck the second twin tower. It also collapsed under the oppressive heat and force suffered by the plane's impact.

On the Tennessean.com website, Sept. 11, Hyman Brown, a University of Colorado civil engineering professor and the construction manager for the World Trade Center discussed the damage of the buildings suffered by the planes.

"...(S)teel melts, and 24,000 gallons of aviation fluid melted the steel. Nothing is designed or will be designed to withstand that fire."

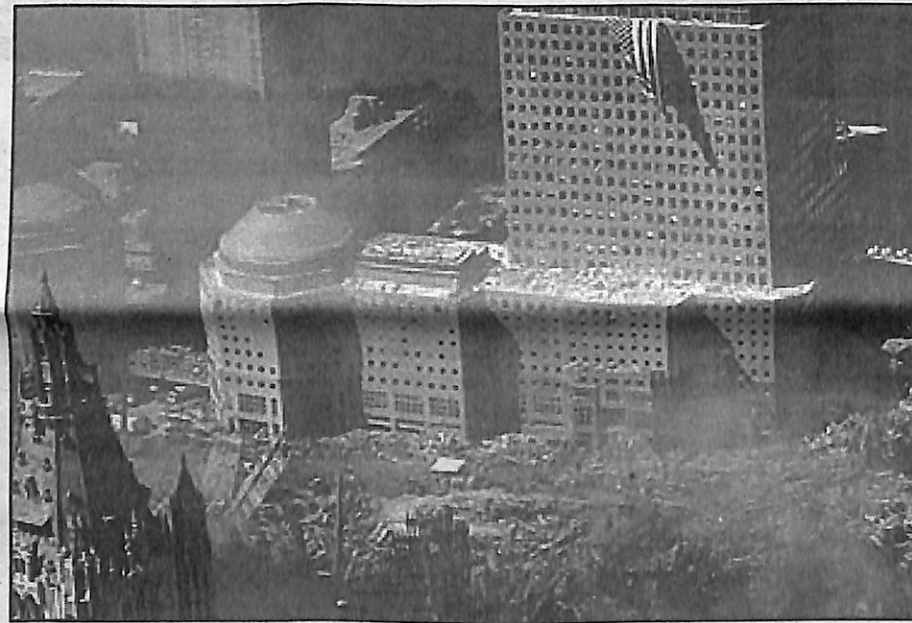
The third attack was in Arlington, VA, on the Pentagon. As the National Defense Building, the Pentagon is the largest office building in the world. Built from 1941 to 1943 and designed by George E. Bergstrom, it contains the offices for the departments of the army, navy and air force, as well as the Office for the Secretary of Defense.

It employs around 23,000 to 30,000 people. The Pentagon, as its name implies, is a five story, five sided structure built around a five acre court.

At 9:30 a.m., American Airlines flight 77, a Boeing 757 heading to Los Angeles from Washington-Dulles struck the Pentagon causing it to collapse on

one side.

Campanella David, the president's Maryland retreat was the suspected target of a fourth hijacked plane. Reports of male passengers attempting to overtake the hijackers on the United Airlines flight 93, a Boeing 757 heading to San Francisco



PHOTOS COURTESY OF EXCITE.COM & CNN.COM

The Pentagon and the World Trade Center towers in New York, were the sites of the Tuesday, Sept. 11, 2001 terrorists attacks.

from Newark, NJ, cite probable cause for this particular failed terrorist attack.

At 10 a.m., the flight crashed in a grassy field 80 miles southeast of Pittsburgh.

As for who is responsible for these horrific acts, the answer is still unknown. President George W. Bush referred to these acts as "acts of terror and acts of war."

Bush spoke of a faceless enemy as "(one that) hides in shadows...won't be able to run for cover forever...(and that) it attacked all freedom-loving people."

One of the main suspects in the case, deemed by the United States Government is Osama bin Laden, the Afghanistan religious radical and military leader. bin Laden is being sought after heavily for reasons that date back to 1979, during the Soviet Afghan War.

Dr. Daniel Gibran, Professor of

International Relations in the Political Science Department states that the U.S. preoccupation with bin Laden as a suspect stems from when the Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan to protect the regime of Naji Bullh.

The Soviets stayed for 10

Essentially, bin Laden was angry over how American troops were now occupying the Holy Land of Islam and he was bent on a campaign against America.

And now as war appears to be inevitable in the U.S., Gibran feels Bush's call for a war was probably done for political reasons.

"Bush's declaration of war was probably done to show his political stand," Gibran said. "To show that he is a tough leader and that America must do something."

It is apart of American society to seek revenge and justice...and the nation went along with him. Now they are beginning to realize that they might not have been the most prudent course of action since there are indications that bin Laden or members of his organization may not be responsible."

Dr. Coleman McGinnis, associate professor of Political Science also is hesitant about the impending war.

"(Our) options are somewhat limited. It's difficult to bomb a country back into the stone age that is already in the stone age," McGinnis said.

Coleman also addressed a point that was brought out by reporter Jodi Wilgoren in the Sept. 17 edition of *The Tennessean*.

"They were adults with education and skill, not hopeless young zealots. At least one left behind a wife and young children. They mingled in secular society, even drinking alcohol, hardly typical of Islamic militants, Wilgoren said.

Unlike the attack on Pearl Harbor by the Japanese, the enemy could be named.

"...(It's) an issue of looking at people in this country. How did they get in the country and how did they manage to live normal lives and begin to deal with this problem first," McGinnis said.

The comparison of this attack to Pearl Harbor also carries distinct differences.

Gibran states that there is no comparison in that Pearl Harbor was expected and we knew it was the Japanese. Both Gibran and McGinnis are surprised that there haven't been attacks before now and that we have not seen the end of terrorism attacks in this country.

Madeline Albright, former Secretary of State, referred to this incident as the "greatest loss of life on American soil." Indeed, exactly one week after the attacks, the aftermath of the events present a grim set of numbers. According to CNN.com, the total number of passengers and crew aboard the four planes that

See "New York" on page 8

News

New York Police and Firefighters lose their lives

Continued from page 7



PHOTO COURTESY OF CNN.COM

Rescue workers remove debris after attacks.

crashed total 266. In the World Trade Center attacks, 5,422 people have been reported missing and of the 218 bodies recovered, only 152 have been identified. The death toll for the Pentagon is 125. In all four incidents combined, the number of dead and missing total 6,000. More than 200 firefighters, police officers and rescue workers also have perished in this massive attack.

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News Briefs

TSU holds candle light vigil for victims

Tuesday, Sept. 11 the world was tragically dented by the destruction of the World Trade Center towers and The Pentagon. Within New York City and Washington D.C., and people across the nation mourned for the many innocent civilians who were trapped in the buildings and killed in the plane crashes.

To pay respect to this tragic loss of innocent lives, Tennessee State University also paid tribute to those who perished in this "act of war." On Wednesday, Sept. 12, the Student Government Association sponsored a Candle Light Vigil located in the amphitheatre. At the vigil, students from Fisk University came to speak and gave words of comfort for the student body. Kenneth Taylor a graduating senior from Atlanta, who was one of the people who brought this ceremony together said, "I love my school and my peers, and we are all affected by this situation." He also felt that this situation needed to be addressed immediately to those of the TSU student body.

Everyone was gathered to pray for the lives lost and some members of the SGA spoke on particular situations dealing with death and spirituality. At the end of the ceremony, the whole TSU family sang the Black National Anthem and left with a feeling of hope for the nation and the TSU family.

Dywaun Brown

Virtual Tour of Campus Can Now Be Found at Your Fingertips

Tennessee State University will be going one step further into the world of the Internet. On top of being one of the nation's most wired universities, people will soon be able to take a virtual tour of the campus.

The website at edsouth.com will have a 360 degree view of key spots on TSU's campus along with information pertaining to financial aid and a direct link to TSU's website.

Forensics Team Wins Big at MTSU

Tennessee State University's Forensics Team, directed by Kimberly LaMarque, won a total of 10 national awards in the first tournament of the year at Middle Tennessee State University.

"I am so very proud of our accomplishments," LaMarque stated. "At this same tournament last year, TSU took one national award. To say the least, the team is exuding strength and excellence."

Congratulations to all of the members of the Forensics Team.

Shaleda Ruff

Tavis Smiley Back in the Media Spotlight

Fans of Tavis Smiley, former host of the show BET Tonight need not mourn his firing by Black Entertainment Founder and CEO Robert Johnson.

Smiley, one of the most prominent voices in Black media has landed several contracts with BET's biggest competitors, including ABC and the Cable News Network (CNN).

Smiley will also continue his commentary on The Tom Joyner Morning Show and will host a one-hour morning show on 600 affiliate National Public Radio stations nationwide this month.

Other plans of the talk-host and columnist include writing two more books, making speeches across the country and continuing to publish his syndicated newsletter The Smiley Report.

Future goals of Smiley's include gaining enough capital to begin his own cable station or purchase a broadcast property.

Raynata Y. Reed

America salutes heroes on television

39 major networks veered from their regular broadcasting on Friday, Sept. 21, to pay homage to the fallen heroes of the terrorist attacks on America. With the help of celebrities from every spectrum of the entertainment industry they asked for donations, to help aid in the relief effort. Heartfelt performances were given by Alicia Keys, Billy Joel, Faith Hill and many more. To contribute to the cause you can call 1-866-TOUNITE or visit www.tounite.org

Alan C. Beard

News

From Where I Stand: Just so you all know even if you don't care



Raynata Y. Reed
News Editor

In light of the recent terrorist attacks, President Bush called for a National Day of Prayer. Tennessee State University responded with a remembrance ceremony on that Friday of the same week. The band played, the choir sang, speakers made remarks and the audience was supposed to sing "God Bless America" at the end of the program.

I say supposed because it was easy to take note of the number of people in Kean Hall who didn't know (all) the words. Yeah, I didn't know all of them, but I knew most of the words. When I talked to some people after the program, they didn't know any of them.

Hadn't even heard of the song. And I'm not going to point fingers or name names, but you know who you are (smile). And knowing the chorus doesn't help because that's the title of the song. You can't get brownie points for knowing that because that's a given.

As I looked around, forward, to my left and to my right that Friday, it reminded me first of church (since there was some preaching going on). Have you ever been in church and didn't have a hymnal handy or something moved in the preacher's spirit and he decided to sing a song that only he and the choir knew?

You'll gently sway back and forth, nod your head a little and when you finally pick up on the chorus, you suddenly have the voice of a lion. I've have also been known to try to predict the sound the next word in the song will make and then try to mouth that sound, so it looks like I know the words.

And then some people don't even try to fake it (which is cool) and that glazed over look in their eyes will tell you.

It also reminded me of many, many years ago when I was a girl scout (yes, I was a girl scout) at the age of about 11 or 12. After each meeting held every first and third Saturday of the month, we always gathered in a circle and sang "Taps." I remember the first time we did this I was lost. The troop leader

just assumed that we should have known the words.

Well, I was 11 (or 12) and I had no idea why we were singing "Taps." We were girl scouts for goodness sake, not military men. I know that our purpose was to "serve God and our country" but I hardly think that selling cookies and making gifts baskets for the residents at the nursing home was "Taps" worthy.

I was thinking that we could have sung something more uplifting because that song always made me think of a funeral dirge. I'm sure there was reason for us singing that particular song, but to this day, I don't know what it is. I do know that for the entire time I was a girl scout, I always struggled through those words. Though I digress.

The service held on Friday reminded me of the two instances mentioned above. I know everyone here at TSU might not feel "love and happiness" for their country right now, but all jokes aside, somebody needs to bless America right now and I can't think of anyone better to do it than God.

So if any of you attend an event in the future and they sing "God Bless America," I don't want you to have that lost look in your eye, so I want to share the words with everyone. I also don't want anyone to have one of my "Taps" flashbacks. (I'm still thinking we could have sung something else, anything else).

God Bless America, land that I love
Stand beside her and guide her
Through the night with the light from above
From the mountains to the prairies
To the oceans white with foam
God Bless America, my home sweet home (Refrain)

It would have been nice if someone had printed the words on the back of the blue program, but I guess, not unlike my girl scout troop leader, TSU assumed we knew the words. Surprise! Surprise!

And I'm not trying to sound preachy. Whether you are a religious person or not, you should know at least one song during this time that has "Bless America" in it somewhere. And personally, I'll feel even better if the first word is God. I've always believed and enjoyed raising praises up in song so even though you might not care what the words to "God Bless America" are, I'm telling you, just so you will all know. •

Good credit is important

Continued from bottom

set up a payment plan. Paying bad accounts in a timely manner will increase your score.

If the amount is too large to bear, Consumer Credit Counseling Service of Middle Tennessee, Inc. offers credit counseling and debt consolidation at a minimal fee. Many creditors drop interest and late charges if you're enrolled in the debt management program. If you feel bankruptcy is the way to go, research the facts. According to the CCCS, bankruptcy stays on your credit report up to ten years.

It won't wipe your slate clean. You will still have trouble getting credit or any type of loan-creditors seldom extend to someone who has filed for bankruptcy. Once you have paid your debts all paid as agreed accounts will purge from the credit files ten years from the date of last activity.

Other accounts information that reflects past history (30, 60, 90 day late) will purge from the credit seven years from the date of last occurrence. In the meantime, stop filling out those credit applications in the courtyard. Every time someone does a credit check on you, your scores go down.

To set up an appointment with the CCCS, call (615) 777-3404. You can also call the Credit Bureau of Nashville at (615) 386-2200. •

Got ideas for great financial stories? Submit them to The Meter in Suite 304A in the Floye-Payne Campus Center in the mailbox of Financial Analyst Brandi Montgomery

Tips on how to get your credit back to normal

Brandi Montgomery
Financial Analyst

Pre-approved credit offers deny you, tote the note lots are the only lots that will sell you a car, no apartment will let you live on their premises, even Gateway won't finance your dream computer. If you've found yourself in these situations recently, you're not alone. You suffer from a disease known to college students all over the world, bad credit. Don't fret. There is hope for you yet. Follow these easy steps to get your credit report back on track.

1. Obtain a free credit report.

The credit information center/Credit Bureau of Nashville, located at 2206 21st Ave South, will issue you a free credit report if you have been denied credit in the last 90 days. With your social security card and a driver's license in hand, you'll receive a report within minutes.

2. Review and make sure all information is accurate.

According to the Credit Bureau of Nashville, your credit report will let you know of all past due, closed accounts and open accounts. Although you may have forgotten about the Express account from your freshman year, the credit bureau hasn't. Credit reports are rated on types of accounts and timeliness of payment.

Accounts charged off to a bad debt are referred to as 19's (accounts you didn't pay). These accounts as well as past due accounts bring down your credit ratings. Credit grantors will be able to see how many collection and court judgments you've had filed against you. Make sure your address and named are spelled correctly. Be sure your date of birth and social security number also match. If any information is incorrect, you can fill out a research request form which researches your claim.

3. Pay those debts.

Contact numbers should follow each company's name listed on your credit file. Get in touch with these agencies and

See "Good Credit" at top

Community View

Crowds gather to participate in African Street Festival

Continued from page 1

Lillard has a database of over 350 vendors around the country who he contacts every year and receives their applications in June for the September festival. Along with vendors who are selling products, there are generally several booths set up by local social agencies providing medical, historical or educational information.

Abdou Fall, a native of Trinidad now residing in Philadelphia has been a vendor at African Street Festivals for six to eight years.

"I like it because I always make some business, meet some new friends, have a nice time and that is why I keep coming."

Fall manufactures his own African clothing and attends festivals like this about 15 or 20 times a year as a way of making a living.

Armon Davis, a TSU alumnus, was a vendor at his first African Street Festival about five years ago. "It's been nice, it's a nice gathering." Davis participates in weekend expos, church gatherings and other shows of this magnitude about 50 or 60 times a year. He said that he got interested in this business when he did a study abroad in Africa while attending TSU.

"It was an eye opener," he said. "This business is pretty lucrative if you are willing to work with it."

The African Street Festival originated with Aashid Himmons and his group, African Dreamland, in the early 1980's. The vision was to have a musical fest open to the community. It has grown to encompass support from all races and ages.

"I think there will always be an African Street Festival at TSU," Lillard said. "It has become a part of everyone's seasonal events ...and is in Ebony magazine's list of things to do in the fall."•

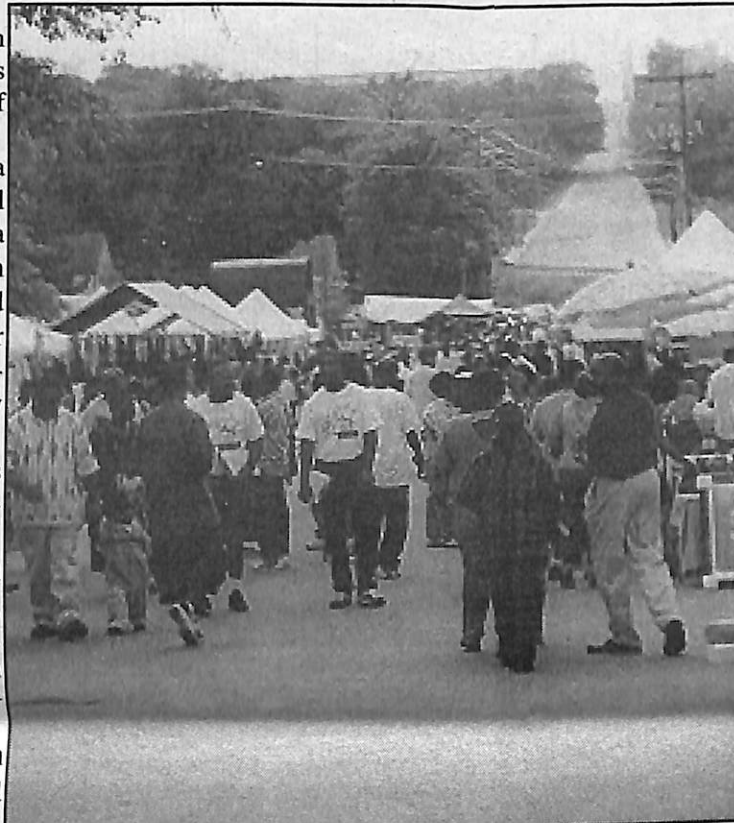


PHOTO BY TOSHA JONES

The African Street Festival attracted lots of people.

Campus Calendar

Sept. 26 - Technical Career Fair 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Kean Hall Gym

"Tropical Drink Fest" SUBG 11a.m. FPCC

Sept. 27-28

Oct. 4-6 - "Fences" The American Negro Playwright Theatre, 8 p.m. TSU Campus
Thomas Poag Auditorium

Sept. 27 - University Wide Career Fair and Employment Fair 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Kean Gym

Men of Wuan present "Love Jones" Open Mic Poetry Night 7 p.m.

Faculty Dining Room on 1st floor of FPCC

Oct. 10 - Table Set-up for Bone Marrow Drive with William Arnold 9 a.m.-2 p.m. FPCC

Community Calendar

Oct. 1 - Scarritt-Bennett Center begins "Diversity in Dialogue" a new series of dialogues on racism. Contact Joanne Rich at (615) 340-7450

Oct. 4 - The Lipscomb University Music Department presents the Jazz Band and Vocal Ensemble 6:30 p.m. Shamblin Theatre 3901 Granny White Pike

Oct. 5 - "Arts in the Airport"- free musical series. Scott Hallgren and Freeplay - Jazz 12-2 p.m. at Nashville International Airport•

First woman National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice at forefront of U.S. decision making

Nirgaz Abdullah
Community View Writer

At a time of national crisis, it seems pertinent to take a closer look at the office of National Security Advisor, newly occupied by Condoleezza Rice.

When Rice first took office as National Security Advisor for the Bush Administration, she shared her views about national security.

"George W. Bush will never allow America and our allies be blackmailed. And make no mistake; blackmail is what the outlaw states seeking long-range ballistic missiles have in mind. It is time to move beyond the Cold War. It is time to have a president devoted to a new nuclear strategy and to the deployment of effective missile defenses at the earliest possible date," Rice said.

Little did Rice know how true those words would ring in the aftermath of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. It was Rice who first informed President Bush of the disruption in national security. Now America is having to call on all of its allies in this time of crisis, and



PHOTO COURTESY OF ASSOCIATED PRESS

National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice

switched her major several times, first to English literature, then government and finally ended up majoring in Soviet politics.

Rice graduated at the age of 19, got her masters from Notre Dame at 20 and returned to Denver to

See "Rice's" on page 11

Rice is being tested on how well she ensures national security. Condoleezza Rice should be up to the task because she is the epitome of the all-American over-achiever. She entered the University of Denver at the tender age of 15 with the aim to become a pianist. When she realized this would not be the case, she

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- John A. Merritt Classic Party
- Back To School Party
- Black History Month
- Tiger Fest

The Student Union Board of Governors is working hard on upcoming activities for the students of TSU. If you are interested in volunteering please fill out the form below and return it to the SUBG office located in the SGA suite Room 217A.

Name: _____
Phone Number: _____
Classification: _____

Community View

Conservative Rice seeks to unite America

Continued from page 10

become a political science professor. And in 1993, at the age of 38, she became the youngest, the first female and the first Black provost at Stanford University. The provost is second only to the president in power.

National Security Advisor, Brent Scowcroft, selected Rice to serve on the National Security Council as senior director of Soviet and East European affairs when she was 34 years old. She experienced the unification of Germany, the Baltic's rebelling and the Soviet Unions struggle to leave communism in the dust.

In July of 1999, she stepped down as provost at Stanford University to become Bush's foreign policy advisor in his 2000 campaign. Bush later appointed her to her present position as National Security Advisor, the first African-American and first woman to hold such a high position in a president's cabinet.

Condi, as she is called by those who know her well, characterizes herself as an "all-over-the-map Republican," whose views are "hard to typecast," "very conservative" in foreign policy, "ultra conservative" in all other areas, "almost shockingly libertarian" on some issues, "moderate" on others, and "liberal" on probably nothing.

In Rice's speech at the United States Institute Of Peace Conference in January of this year she remarked, "In 2001, the challenge is to unite the far-flung concerns of all the agencies that are working across our real and virtual borders, from the Department of Defense to the Public Health Service, from the administrator of NASA to the Federal Communications Commission."

Rice's objective is to unite America under one agenda, thus ensuring our national security. Her goal is sure to be put to the test in our nation's current state of turmoil. •

earn her Ph.D. At 26 she became an assistant professor at Stanford University. Later she went on to

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Tennessee State University holds service of remembrance for those who perished in terrorist attacks

By Tosha Jones

Community View Editor

As President Bush called for a day of national prayer, the Tennessee State University community paused with the rest of the country on the morning of Friday, Sept. 14 and remembered our fellow citizens harmed in the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

At 11:30 a.m., students and faculty assembled in the Kean Hall gymnasium and listened to words of comfort and solace from various speakers.

Prior to the beginning of the ceremony, President Hefner expressed his desire for the TSU campus and the country to be strong and come together as one.

"The hope is that we are a nation that unites when there are catastrophes. We have done that during our various world wars and particularly when in 1941 we had Pearl Harbor bombed," he said.

"These days are days of empathy because something like this is not imaginable, and yet if you look at America and the people that you have seen on television, we are united. And this program is to say that TSU is in line and in sink with this nation. We are united around this national crisis."

Director of Public Relations, Phyllis Qualls-Brooks presided over the ceremony and opened by announcing that all 12 p.m. classes would be canceled in attempts to emphasize the seriousness of the event.

Student Government Association President Damyon Thompson addressed

the audience and stressed that this is a time for the TSU family to cherish one another and grow closer. Miss Tennessee

"We are Americans and God requires a response that is Godly," Sanders said.



PHOTO BY ILYAS MUHAMMAD

TSU faculty and students gathered in Kean Hall to mourn the victims of the terrorist attacks on America.

State University, Mia Evans, offered words of reassurance and proclaimed that God is always in control. Evans shared a scripture from the book of Psalms, as did Faculty Senate Chair Dr. Denise Dunbar.

Diana Poe led the audience in the singing of "God Bless America," accompanied by the Aristocrat of Bands.

Reverend Edwin Sanders from the Metropolitan Interdenominational Church was the keynote speaker for the service. He presented a passionate message telling TSU that it has to take a deeper look at the events that had recently transpired in the nation.

He recognized the idea that retaliation was in the forefront of many citizens' minds; however, the response to the terrorism must be proper and well-thought out.

In Sander's message he told a story of artists who were given the assignment of creating a beautiful and attractive painting, starting from a canvas that already had an obscene image or word painted on it. The project called for the artist to incorporate the obscenity and transform it into a picture that was meaningful and pleasing.

Sanders proposed to the audience to

think as the artists did in that, as members of this nation, it is pertinent not to attempt running away from the aspects of the country that are ugly, distasteful and foul. However, facing the problems, dealing with them and believing that it is possible to overcome them will be the sole hope for conquering the evil that tries to destroy the nation's greatness.

Tonya Lewis, a senior psychology major from Nashville felt the message of the afternoon was highly applicable to her life.

"I think like Reverend Thomas said, it really inspired me to look within myself to see what it is that I can do for my community, what services can I provide in making sure that we become unified," she said.

Lewis went on to say how she feels the TSU community should support each other during this time of chaos.

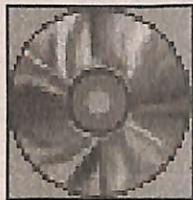
"At a time like this I think a lot of the Arab students that attend Tennessee State University feel as though maybe they are being singled-out and even in communities throughout Nashville. I think we just need to give words of encouragement. This tragedy has not caused us to point fingers at any individual, but we hope for justice. But in the meantime we are not going to single any particular race of people out to display our anger," Lewis said.

President Hefner closed the ceremony and encouraged the crowd to make personal efforts to achieve unity.

"United we know that we stand and

See "Words" on page 15

Arts & Entertainment



Compact DISCussions



Tech Nine *Anghellic* 5

The Kansas City, MO based rapper Tech Nine unveils his shocking new CD, *Anghellic*, which makes his listeners do nothing but thrive for each word. The new release by Tech Nine, contains some very interesting lyrics, which are surrounded by a smooth beat and rhymes that flow. He also drops some names and has a guest appearance by Roger Troutman in the songs "Here I Come" and "Twisted."

The lyricist reminds me of a Nine Inch Nails style of dispelling hate and anger in an artistic way that not only can the listener identify with but that comes from the artist's soul. Songs such as "Real Killer" and "Psycho Bitch" are prime examples of this lyrical style. This style is suited more for the common man, who can better identify with the emotions displayed in his poetry.

I recommend this CD with caution because the lyrics are harsh. The messages he is conveying are real and a part

of life. Tech Nine has mastered the use of depressing poetry, and made it entertaining as well as artful. **Paul Cameron**

Blu Cantrell *So Blu* 4

This Arista recording artist may appear to be a Faith Evans knock-off, with blonde locks and a fair complexion, but don't be fooled because her music sets her apart and gives her her own identity.

Some people may have heard of Blu Cantrell when she arrived on the scene with the mid-tempo *Hit 'Em Style* (*Oops!*), which offered the typical revenge lyrics that have become so popular today.

So Blu, Cantrell's debut project takes her listeners on an emotional escapade of different shades of the tribulations of present-day relationships. The singer croons through the CD with hurt and upsets with so much passion that her soprano voice creeps into your soul, and makes your body tingle from pure under-



PHOTO COURTESY OF ARISTA RECORDS

Blu Cantrell

standing from what she's singing.

This is a CD, which can help to relinquish relationship problems like classic Isley Brothers LPs, that you can put in and play from start to finish. *Waste My Time* featuring L.O., *Till I'm Gone*, *U Must Be Crazy*, *When I Needed You* and

I'll Find A Way, are just a few cuts, which show the pain that this young lady has evidently gone through in her life caused by heartbreak(s).

For anyone who has had a broken relationship, this CD gives total insight into what you're feeling, and may have

ever felt about someone who has done you wrong. You'll catch yourself boppin' your head to the words and beats of every song on this CD, just because you can relate.

But the cut that catches you off guard mid-way through the CD is *10,000 Times*. This shade of Blu (blue) speaks on the many times that she has been in love, and how she's hesitant to give a new person a try because love never works out for her. Check the hook - *Been in love 10,000 times, and I've been hurt 10,000 times! Yet and still you want a try! But what would you do if I gave my love to you/Would you hurt me too?* Then the bridge delivers her pain even more when she says - *Maybe love just aint for me! Why does this keep happening! Maybe one day I'll trust you, but for now! Here's what I'm going to say to you -* then it goes back into the hook. For those who have been through disappointments in relationships, there is no choice but to feel the lyrics she offers. Just when you think that Blu, has finished taking your heart on a roller coaster of painful

DISCuss This! Jay-Z/THE BLUEPRINT 5

Jay-Z the self proclaimed king of rap has dropped yet another album for his drones of fans. The album should be entitled *What's My Name* but who can blame HOVA, for loving the sound of his name flowing off the lips of people all around the world.

The Blueprint is a testament to hot production and in your face lyrics. Timbaland, up and comers like Kayne West, Just Blaze and Bink deliver some action packed beats.

The Roc-A-Fella giant holds no punches and delivers an upper cut to Mobb Deep's Prodigy, and worst of all Nas with the second track, *Takeover*. *Ya'll don't want it with HOV /ask Nas he don't want it wit HOV/ Nooooo.* Jigga puts it on wax like no one else and makes sure that his message, is relayed. **Jay-Z/Jigga/HOVA**

The CD is flawless in its ability to take the listener where he's never gone before. Not since 2Pac's *All Eyez on Me* has there been a better road trip CD. His last effort *The Dynasty* was more for the fel-

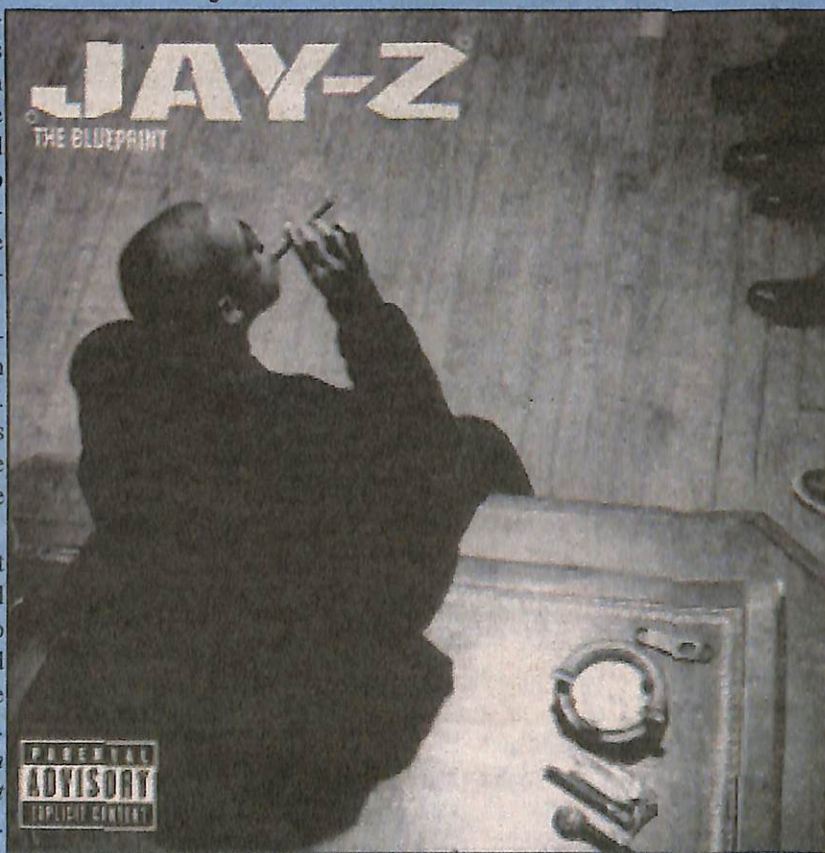


PHOTO COURTESY OF ROC-A-FELLA RECORDS

las in the way it focused on the lyrics rather than the beat. With

The Blueprint he has incorporated both elements.

The hottest track on the joint is number eight, entitled *Heart of the City*. It uses samples of Bobby "Blue" Bland's, *Ain't No Love in the City*, and even leaves Jigga requesting, "Take em to church!"

Surprisingly none of the other Roc-A-Fella artists are displayed on this outing. Finally he has taken us back to the days of *Streets is Watching*. One guest star does appear and that's Eminem, who goes over the top on the track, *Renegade*. *See I'm a poet to some a regular modern day Shakespeare/Jesus Christ the king of these latter day saints here.* Eminem also produced this one and shows once again, he is a force to be reckoned with.

The Blueprint is worth more than your money, it deserves your time. Like Jay-Z says,

"Where's the Love." **Alan C. Beard**

See "Maxwell" on page 16

Arts & Entertainment

UP Close:

WWF Proves to the World that the Show Must Go On



Alan C. Beard
A&E Editor

help of Steven Richards and some Alliance lackeys were able to dethrone the two giants. The crowd still cheered for the two brothers as they exited, and The Undertaker pounded on the emblem, of the U.S. flag embroidered on his shirt.

Enter the owner of WCW Shane McMahon who conveniently scheduled a handicapped match with himself and

the night, which pitted US Champion Tajiri versus Christian. Now some may think wrestling is flat out fake but being at ringside tends to give you a different perspective on things. "It seemed so real especially when Tajiri kicked the mess out of Christian. They weren't like superheroes, but it was more like two real people fighting," said Jermaine Dupree a 21-

Christian was disqualified for hitting the official with a chair. He then smacked Tajiri across the back with one and proceeded to make a Tajiri face sandwich by smashing his head between two chairs. Luckily he [Tajiri] was saved by Edge, Christian's brother who viciously attacked him for making an Edge face sandwich last week. Are you still with me?

The match appeared to be over and Tori Wilson carted Tajiri up the ramp. Then out of nowhere, Alliance member Rhino appeared and gored Tajiri back to Okinawa.

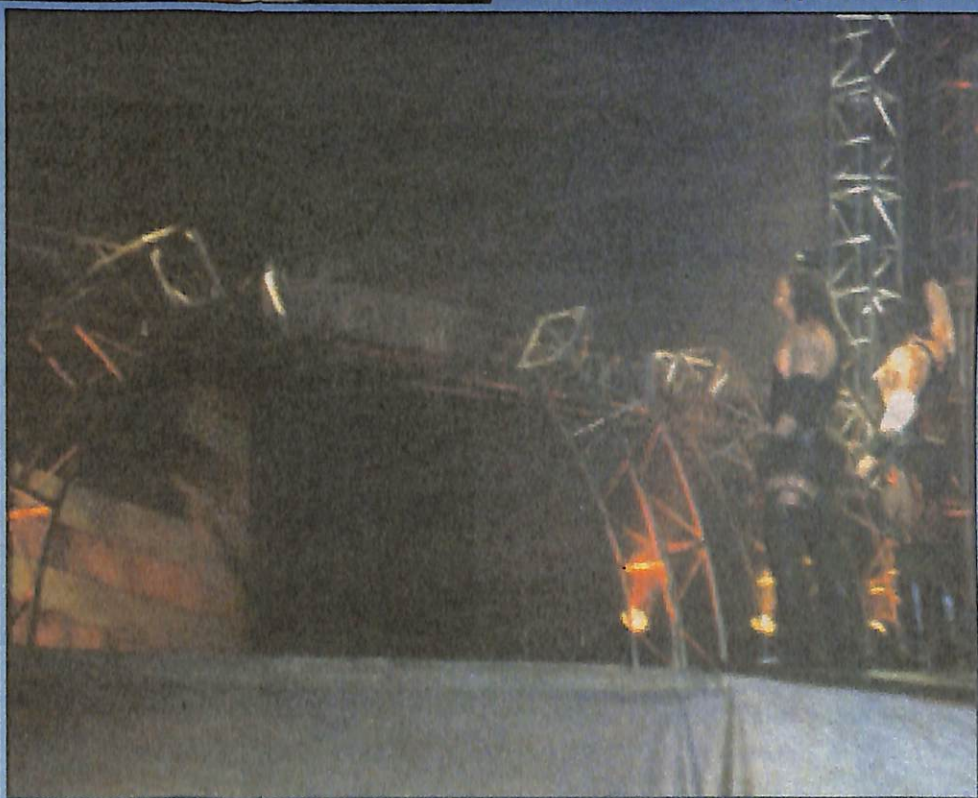
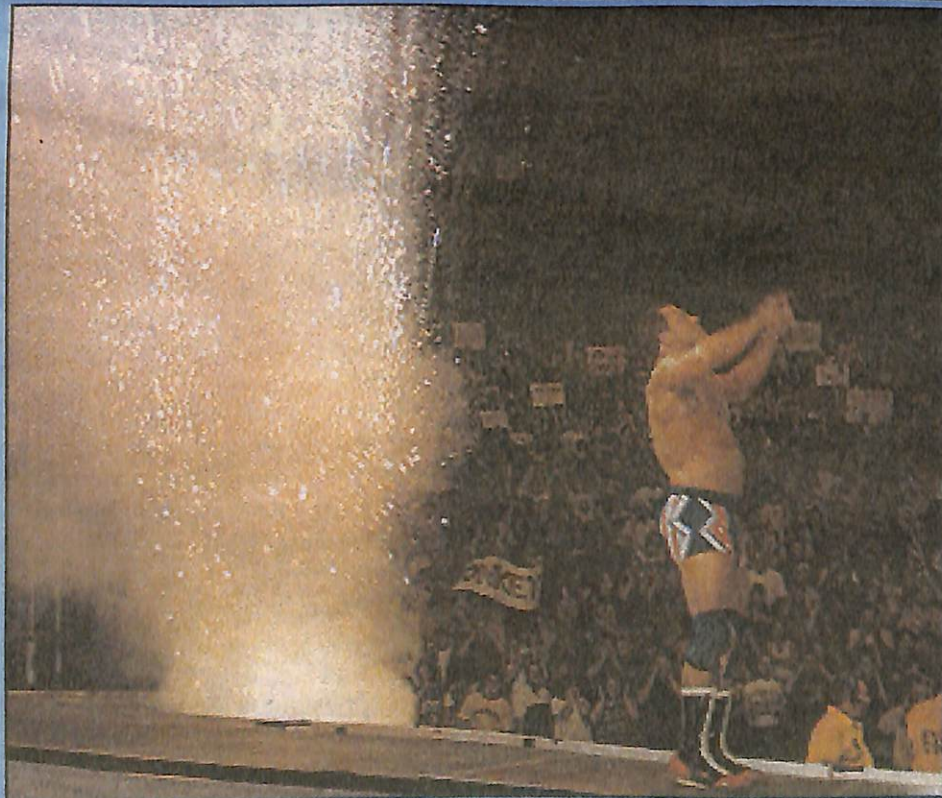
All of this was much to the liking of Shane McMahon who rewarded Rhino with a shot at the U.S. Championship at Unforgiven.

This match led up to one of the most anticipated of the evening. Finally, The Rock came back to Nashville. That's right! The Great One who also happens to be the WCW champion appeared from backstage to take on Extreme Championship Wrestling owner Stephanie McMahon and Test in a handicapped match. He excited the crowd with his flamboyant moves and cocky demeanor. This all stopped though as he

USA! USA! This was the reoccurring chant inside of the Gaylord Entertainment Center during Raw is War Monday, Sept. 17., as fans and World Wrestling Federation superstars paid homage to the red, white and blue, in the wake of the terrorists attacks on America.

Minutes before Raw went live, ring announcer Lillian Garcia, ignited the crowd with her rendition of the "Star Spangled Banner." Every man, woman, boy and girl at that moment was truly proud to be an American. Well, now that I've gotten that out the way.

The action kicked off with the World Championship Wrestling and WWF tag team champions Kane and The Undertaker defending the WWF tag titles against the dastardly duo The Dudley Boyz. Many came a long way to see this



PHOTOS BY ILYAS MUHAMMAD

Clockwise: A fan shows his love for America, Kane and the Undertaker salute the American flag and Olympic champion Kurt Angle looks up to the heavens.

event. "Yeah man, it's nothing like seeing these guys live up close and personal," said Pat Ford, a 28-year-old from Pulaski, TN. Ford was one of many standouts in an audience that was full of comedians.

Well, them damn Dudley's, with the

Booker T vs. Taz. Taz made sure that these two knew he was no pushover. The crowd was behind him, but they were just too much for the street brawler who was given a standing ovation by the crowd.

On to the most hard hitting match of

year-old senior here at Tennessee State University from Atlanta.

This match also brought the most oohs and ahhs from the crowd. Tajiri amazed the crowd with his athleticism and precise Hachitachi kicks. In the end,

began to get pummeled by Test. This left the crowd in disbelief and all I could say was, "You can do it!"

Fans gave The Rock strength as they

See "Stars" on page 18

Community View

East Nashville bakery a sweet endeavor and delightful place to dine

By Raynata Reed
News Editor

East Nashville's picturesque Historic Edgefield is the dwelling place of a charming little bakery owned by one of the neighborhood's own residents.

Jeff Tolar, small-business man and owner of Tolar House Bakery and Cafe has created a sophisticated restaurant that, though only six months old, shows promise of creating its own history just as rich as the neighborhood in which it stands.

Tolar, being no stranger to his work, has been in baked goods for 10 years and previously owned a business similar to the one he has now for two and a half years before opening the store in Edgefield. The birth of the Tolar House Bakery and Cafe is an extension of his first business, which strictly was a bakery.

"There was a need in the neighborhood for sandwiches at lunchtime, and I thought that would help sales. The concept grew from there." Tolar said.

Tolar's location choice for his restaurant stems from something more than just living in the area.

"In this neighborhood, there is every color, every socioeconomic group. It's a mix, that's why I love it." Tolar said.

If you're looking for an area that's quiet and outside of the hustle of downtown Nashville, Tolar's location is also a treat.

Customers of the bakery agree that its location is a prime spot.

"It's a living, thriving neighborhood, about two or three blocks from Adelphia and a very diverse area," said Kay Gaines, patron of the store who also lives in the neighborhood. "And the food is just wonderful."

Just outside of the door there is seating for sidewalk dining. Though the humble exterior of the restaurant is but a mere facade to the sophisticated, yet comfort-

able decor of the inside. Most of the lighting comes from the huge bay window at the front of the restaurant, which provides for a bright and spacious atmosphere. Near the window, there is a stage-like area home to a single table where patrons can sit and enjoy the view.

Original coffee cup art, prints and paintings by Malenda Trick, a friend of Tolar's, grace the walls and also are for sale, ranging from \$59 to \$460. A news-

and I didn't have to change a whole lot," Tolar said.

However, the design and decor of the restaurant is not the only factor that keeps customers coming back.

Brooks Parker, stockholder, in addition to Tolar, describes the Bakery as a "cute little place with pastries, sandwiches and salads, all homemade."

Indeed, all goods are homemade, by Tolar and Paul Elvers, also an employee

morollan cous cous salad and the creme horns and carrot cake also are frequent sellers.

Tolar stated the essence his homemade goods, a type of trademark for his restaurant, by commenting, "I like the desserts to look like they're made at home. They're never going to be perfect, but they're still good."

The Tolar House Bakery and Cafe also makes boxed lunches, caters events including weddings and sit down dinners and prepares gifts baskets. The competitor's of the Bakery and Cafe are mostly establishments that are open at night, such as Margots, Bongo Java's, Radio Cafe and the French Quarter Cafe. Though each restaurant is unique, they don't specialize in the homemade pastry and lunch arena of the Bakery.

Marketing or advertising campaigns have not been undertaken yet. Advertising for a business is a way in which a company can control what, when, where and how often messages go to a targeted public, and it is usually communication in one direction. In the future, Tolar plans to advertise for his business through the use of mass mailings.

Tolar's business doesn't play a major role in the community just yet, but he hopes that its role eventually will evolve on its own.

Outside of his current restaurant, Tolar's long range goals include wanting to open more stores, all company owned.

"In five or 10 years down the road I would love to branch out. The next step would be to open a commissary kitchen. I could produce everything from here and do some more wholesale work."

The restaurant already has loyal customers in its hands, as Paul Elvers pointed out.

"There's a lot of repeat business. A lot of familiar faces that come through to where you already know what they want before they order."

The Tolar House Bakery and Cafe is located at 700 Fatherland Street off of Spring Street. It is about 10 minutes away from the Tennessee State University main campus. Hours of operation are from 7:30 a.m.- 6 p.m., Monday thru Friday and from 8 a.m.- 2 p.m. on Saturday. The owner, Jeff Tolar, can be reached at 251-3030.

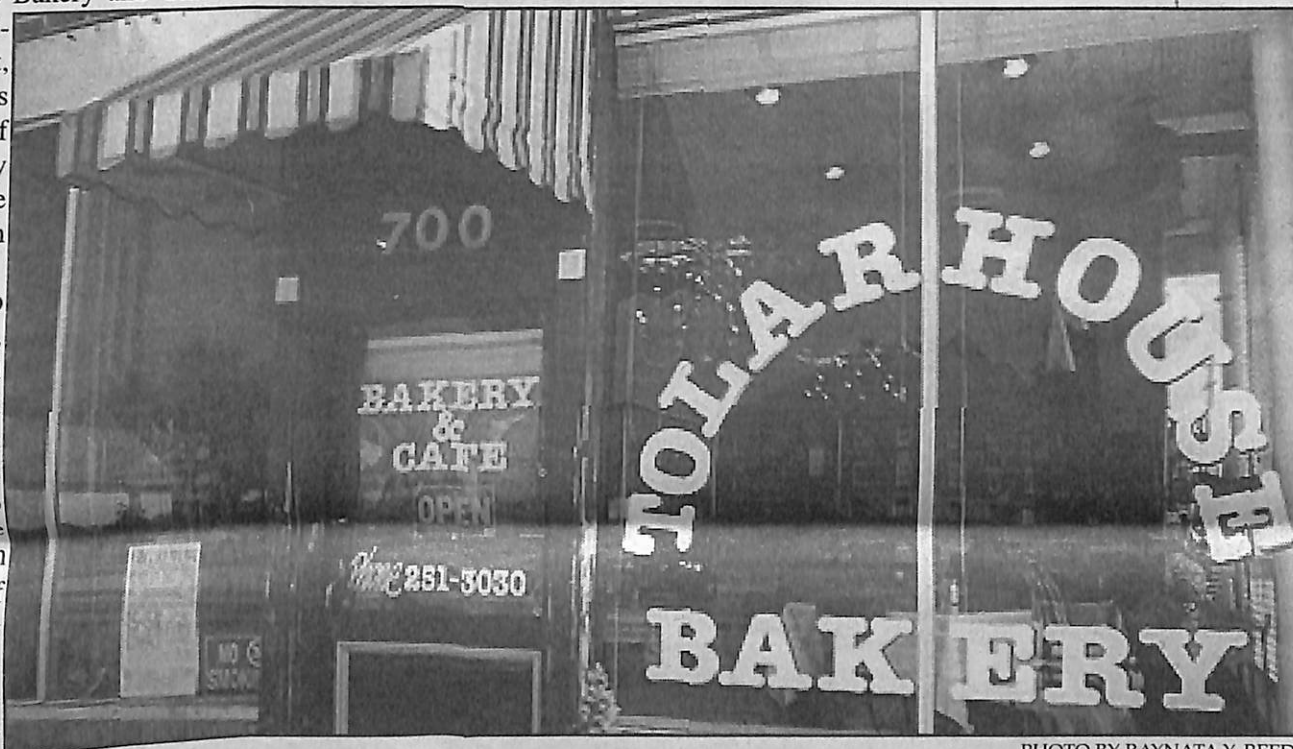


PHOTO BY RAYNATA Y. REED

The Tolarhouse Bakery.

paper stand with various local and national newspapers are available for the cus-

tomers to read while in the restaurant. The menu boasts nine different types of salads, seven types of

"There was a need in the neighborhood for sandwiches at lunchtime, and I thought that would help sales. The concept grew from there."

--Tolar House Bakery owner Jeff Tolar

tomers to read while in the restaurant.

There are eight square tables with crisp white tablecloths that seat four, with a single, cheerful flower in a modest glass vase in the center.

The restaurant itself is 15,000 square feet and seats about 40 people. There are two stockholders, one being Tolar and three employees. The bakery receives about 50 to 100 customers a day, both from the downtown area and in the neighborhood.

When Tolar's lease was up at his old location, he was fortunate to find the spot in Edgefield that he did.

"Everything just kind of fell into place. Most of the equipment was here

sandwiches, six kinds of cookies, four different flavors of tortes, seven types of pies, five different types of cheesecakes, three types of muffins, 10 kinds of cakes and seven miscellaneous items that include stuffed brioche, lemon bars, fried pies and creme horns.

Sandwich and salads range at about \$4.25 and side items are \$2.95. There is a lunch special for a sandwich, salad and beverage for \$7.50. Cakes and pies are \$2.50 a slice and cookies are \$.65. Truffles and other desserts range from \$2.25 to \$2.95.

According to Tolar, the favorites of his customers include the tangy roast beef with horseradish sauce sandwich, the

Community View

TSU, MTSU students delve into music industry with their own record label

By Jennifer Mitchell
Community View Writer

Seniors, Torrance Esmond and Lonnel Matthews are on their way to taking the music business by storm with their record label Player Way Entertainment. Twenty-one year old Esmond and 22-year-old Matthews started their record label two years ago here in Nashville.

Matthews, a business law major at Tennessee State University and Esmond, a recording industry/music business major at Middle Tennessee State University and a par-

status. "Basically we're just being us," Matthews said.

Mike Sean is one of the artist on Player Way Entertainment's label. The MTSU student hopes to one day achieve multimillion dollar status.

"We have to keep putting in the work, keep giving the people what they want to hear until they catch on," Sean said.

He chose to be a part of this label because they shared common goals. "They're about what I'm about. Everybody has to be on the same page, be on the same level and have the same goals and aspirations- Everything just meshed," Sean said.

In April of 2001, Esmond and Matthews

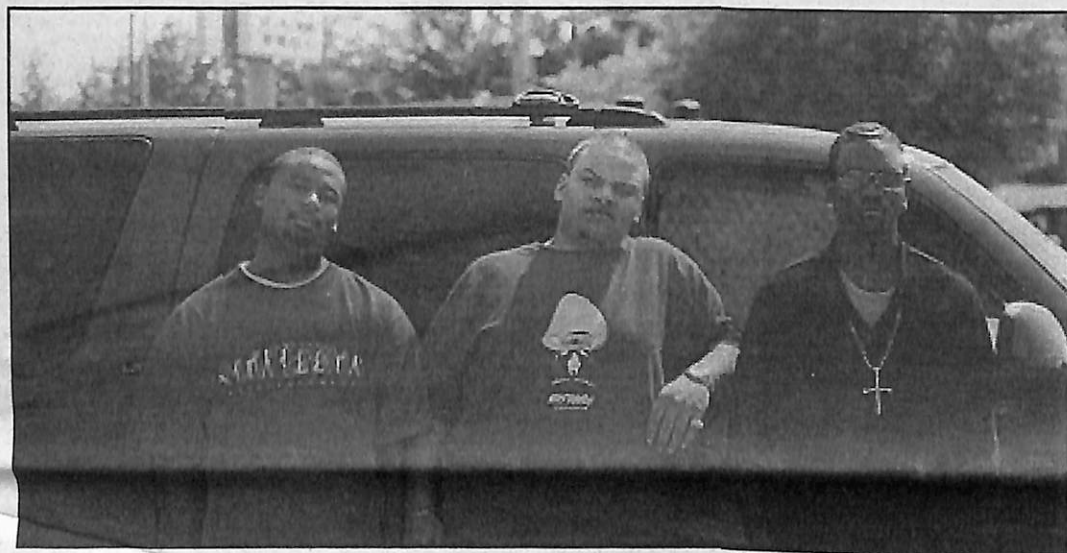


PHOTO BY TOSHA JONES

From l to r: Lonnel Matthews, Mike Sean, Torrance Esmond of Player Way Entertainment.

participant of the MTSU/TSU Consortium, grew up together and were originally members of a rap group.

The two decided to start a label of their own, after recognizing that they could

make more money independently than they would on someone else's label.

They saved up money to pay for studio equipment and brought in consultant Phillip Johnson to help them get organized. "Organization was the biggest obstacle," said Matthews, "It took some time to get on the same page."

Johnson assisted the entrepreneurs in developing a business plan, making sure goals were being met, setting studio time and planning marketing. He also aided in keeping order and managing the four rap artists Player Way Entertainment is home to.

"Our music falls under the hip-hop rap genre. Our style is more of a hustler type rap. We're trying to stay away from the gangster, killing and being a thug part of the game. We focus more on the player, clean cut balling

released their first album titled "Player Way Entertainment Compilation: Volume One."

They plan to distribute promotional CDs in the near future and have an untitled CD set for release in

the beginning of 2002.

The two partners look forward to expanding their business. In about a year, they plan to launch a clothing line called Player Ware.

Eventually, Esmond and Matthews would like to found "a philanthropic organization called the VISION foundation to help other aspiring entrepreneurs," an entertainment production company and have a chain of production studios across the country.

"Our goal is to be on top, to be the best," Esmond said. "I'm young in this game, but I'm cold."

For further information, Matthews and Esmond can be reached at TSU P.O. Box 3152 or e-mailed at lobrasco@hotmail.com or streetsymphonyproductions@hotmail.com.

"Our goal is to be on top, to be the best. I'm young in this game, but I'm cold."

--Torrance Esmond of Player Way Entertainment

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Words of comfort are relayed at remembrance service

Continued from page 11

divided we fall, and this is a united effort on our part. We will not be divid-

ed by terrorism. This is a manifestation of that united front," he said.

"I expect students to understand that freedom comes at a cost. There are people who want to take away our freedoms. If this does not manifest those freedoms and the fact that we should value them, then I don't know what will... Although we have problems of our own, we do value people and individuals and freedoms."

To students who have lost loved ones or friends, Hefner offered compassion and inspiration.

"We are saddened by that, but they must live on for the ones that they have lost and make something of themselves," he said.

"It is their responsibility now for the people who are lost and their opportunities are gone forever, for them to take up the slack, and be more than they ordinarily would be."*

Arts & Entertainment

Maxwell delivers with 'Now'

Continued from page 12

memories, the last song, *Blu Is A Mood*, gives an overall summation of each song on the CD. This song has a very laid back jazzy feel to it, with a taste of R&B flavor. The words of the hook simply say - *State of mind/ Color/ Way beyond/ Yonder/ Deeper/ Paradise/ All describe/ Blu is a mood*. Then the bridge comes in and hits you with - *Blu's not just a primary color/ It's a backdrop for the universe/ So if you're vibing on this chill atmosphere/ Baby you have been blued*.

Whomever may still be in dream world, sleepin' on this 23-year-old song bird, you need to wake up and take notice that this is a CD, you must have. **Henderson Hill III**

Maxwell Now 5

That's right ladies and gents, the wild haired balladeer is back with his third project entitled *Now*.

This CD is classic Maxwell. The debut song from the CD, *Get To Know Ya*, is a mid-tempo groove that you can dance to as well as lay back and chill to. This song has some of the most player lines to-date. *They be tryin' to bring you flowers/ You prefer your roses blue/ Others be tryin' to get in your trousers/ I was tryin' to get into you/ I was just tryin' to get with you honest*.

The second track, *Lifetime*, shows the singers move back to the vibe he had on his first project, which made him a household name, *Maxwell's Urban Hang Suite*. The tune is a sexy cut that is for anyone that has ever fought love before, and then submitted to it. The words in which the artist uses are nothing short of poetic. *I was reborn when I was broken/ I wouldn't believe/ Been through a storm with no use of hopin'/ That you would come rescue me/ Somehow your love set me free/ And now... I can let my life pass me by/ Or I can get down and try/ Work it all out this/ Lifetime/ Lifetime*.

The entire CD is tight. It offers a complete vibe of sensuality, sexuality and serenity. This is something that you can listen to to help calm yourself after a long day- it actually works. It's

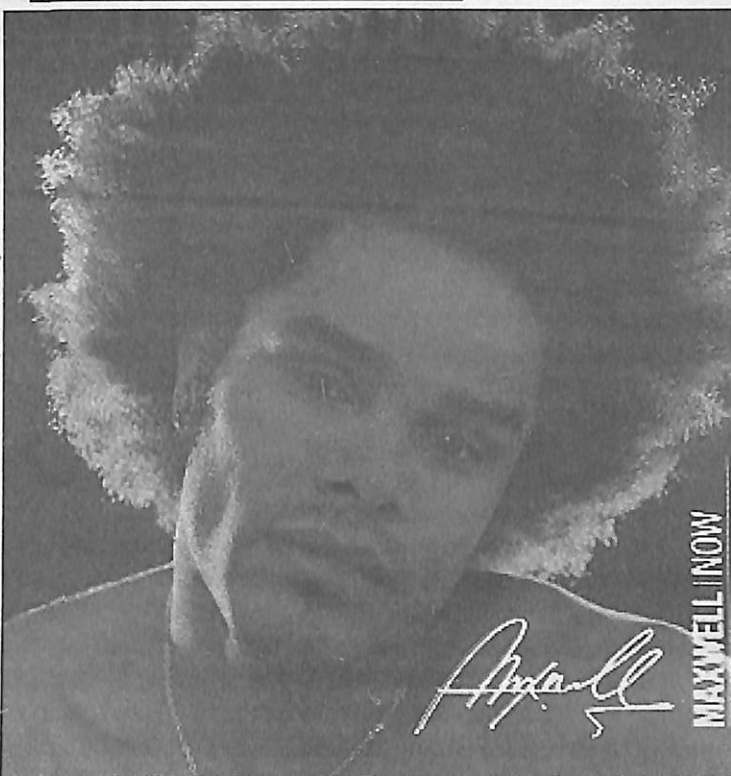


PHOTO COURTESY OF COLUMBIA RECORDS

Maxwell

almost as effective as relaxing glass of wine. His voice seems to soothe the deepest stress.

This is a CD that can played from track one to 12 [start to finish]. The song that is the epitome of a shared moment between lovers, is *This Woman's Work*. Maxwell's remake of this song first appeared on his *Maxwell Unplugged* CD, and later in the movie *Love and Basketball*. This song is nothing but true love-making music.

It's guaranteed that if you put *Maxwell's Urban Hang Suite*, *Maxwell Unplugged* and *Now* into rotation in the CD player, intimacy will most definitely transpire. Everyone must add this to their collection. **Henderson Hill III**

Do you love movies, music, poetry or all of the above? Then come fill out an application for the Arts & Entertainment section of *The Meter* and leave it in the mailbox of A&E Editor Alan C. Beard

Keepin It Real

Are Black films becoming redundant?



Shepri Giles
A&E Writer

Is a Black man really — *The Best Man*? This was oddly enough the question at hand after analyzing the substance of newly released movies.

Current Black films like *The Brothers*, *The Best Man*, *The Wood* and *Baby Boy* have had similar actors and plots, one being that all of the men were exhibited as cheaters. Gary Hardwick directed *The Brothers*, Malcolm Lee directed *The Best Man*, and Mark Brown directed *Two Can Play That Game*, which came out on Sept. 7. These films all

included Morris Chestnut. Taye Diggs also starred in both *The Best Man* and *The Wood* directed by Rick Famuyiwa.

After observing the casts and critique reviews, it demonstrated a stand still regarding uniqueness and talent? Black movies are rapidly being produced exhibiting similar characteristics. Redundant faces and plots are tiresome and we need to either seek new writers or new actors.

These films are also condoning cheating as a natural phase of every Black

relationship in plot, enabling minds to wonder if there are any more good Black men in society. Current Black films are casting similar actors i.e. Taye Diggs, Morris Chestnut, Vivica Fox, Gabrielle Union and Tamala Jones to name a few.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF IMDB.COM

Morris Chestnut in *The Brothers* and *Two Can Play That Game*.

This causes audiences members, like myself, to complain about lack of originality. It seems like these actors portray the same character every time but with more dialogue. This issue customarily raises some eyebrows. Yet, contrary to notions Tennessee State University student Damien Harris,

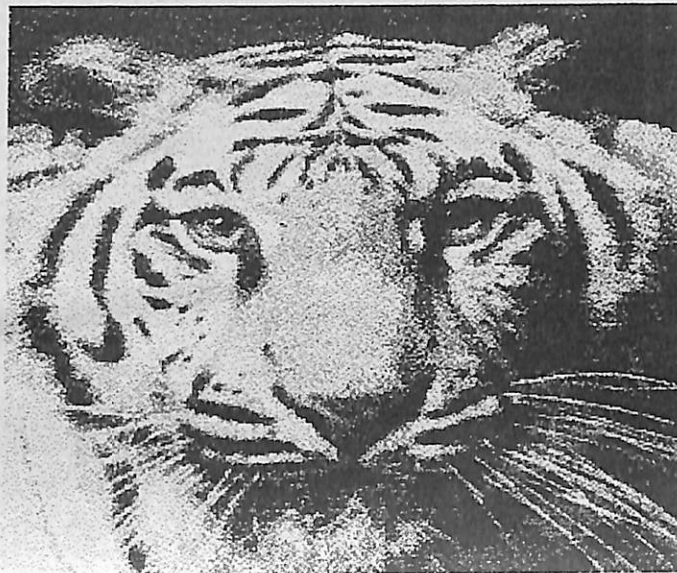
described Morris Chestnut as being, the only male that studios think can portray a real Black man's role. But with all of the "real black men," why is Morris Chestnut the only man being picked? Nonetheless, I know, by personally being a female, that actresses like Fox and Union aren't the only "real Black women" that can play a role. Not to knock these actors' and actresses' exceptional talent but, "There are indeed other good Black actors that should have an opportunity to earn recognition," replied Centras Forney. The Black community is multi-talented as a whole, therefore I know there are others that can meet or exceed the boundaries of these reoccurring faces.

However, many students agree with Demetrius Wilson who said, "It really doesn't matter! The current actors are doing a good job and should continue."

See "Themes" on page 18

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Arts & Entertainment

Themes of current Black films centered on same tired plot

Continued from page 16

There were obviously mixed opinions concerning the frequent appearances of actors and actresses opposite one another. Yet, it is not the quality of their work that is being scrutinized, because the films were good, but why the same faces?

The main issue at hand generally concentrated on the plot of Black films mainly depicting African-American males in a negative light. "Black men should gain new roles where they are portrayed as good men instead of cheaters," Jenia Humphrey said.

Sure recent films have gotten carried away with igniting a new blaxploitation era in Hollywood but can we get a new theme. I believe that we are capable of better creations. We have the ability to generate more diverse movies like *The Sixth Sense*, *Fast and Furious* and the upcoming *From Hell* starring Johnny Depp and directed by The Hughes Brothers (*Menace II Society*), to display versatility.

But, there is still a problem at stake concerning the plot because "It's the truth," men are cheaters according to Damien Harris, rationalizing the consistent plot theme. Seamore stated, "That's life, people cheat." "Producers are creating what makes money. "Problem relationships sell,"

Edwin Sneed said. That tells you right there what the Black community is coming to by exploiting our weaknesses for fame. Therefore, if that is what it takes to make money, I guess that's what goes, no matter what stereotypical judgments are concluded.

In addition, Seamore believes that it is not a stereotype of the Black race in the media because, "Cheating is not a Black or white issue, but society's as a whole." Even though there have been some white movies with this plot, 75 percent of their creations do not center on it.

Furthermore, Graham stated that by "Unraveling the do's and don'ts," in these repetitive plot substances of Black movies, it will eventually bring about change in relationships for the better. Filmmakers need to create a wider selection to choose from because we are now like Ms. Cleo we can predict the cast and substance of Black movies before ever going to see them. •

Stars and Stripes rule the night at WWF

Raw is War

Continued from page 13

electrified fans with his explosive entrance. "It was my favorite part of the night," said Mike Branson, a 19-year-old Nashville, Tenn. native. This energy seemed to filter into

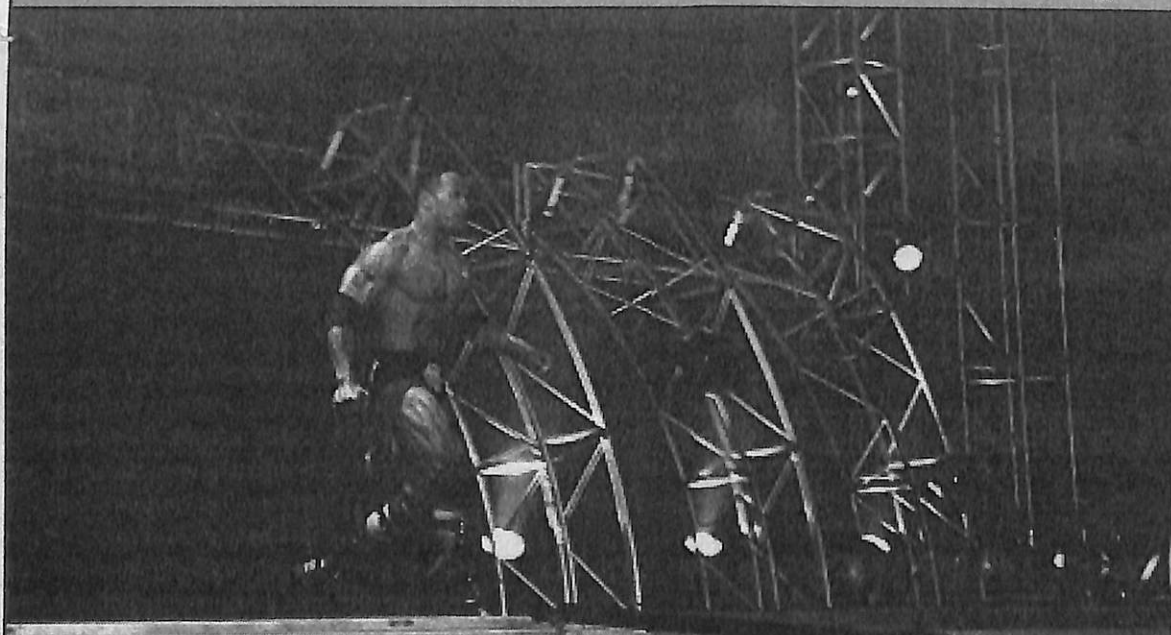


PHOTO BY ILYAS MUHAMMAD

the ring. Angle and Austin each had equally impressive entrances and the match was full of ups and downs. Just when you thought Austin was about to finish Angle with a stunner, the tables were turned and Angle sidewalk slammed Austin and pinned him 1, 2, 3.

After the televised show ended, the audience was treated

to an extra match as Austin called Van Dam back out to fight. Well, he came back out and beat the snot out of Austin who quipped, "I just got my a%& whipped twice, not once but twice!"

Oneida, TN native Kimberly Posey, said it best when she described the symbolism between Olympic champion Kurt Angle's perseverance over the bad guy. "It was truly a feel good atmosphere with all that has gone on in the last week and in the end the red, white and blue came out on top." •

WCW Champion "The Rock" finally came back to Nashville, Tenn.

chanted his familiar call, "Rocky, Rocky!" Suddenly he came to life and no one could get in his way, including the ref. He pushed The Rock and then was quickly rock-bottomed. He didn't stop there he went after Stephanie but his assault was put to an abrupt end when Booker T and Shane crashed the party. The Rock took a beating and then was pinned by Stephanie. As he [The Rock] limped up the ramp to the back, he turned around and threw his fist in the air and gave the crowd one last thrill.

On to the main event, which featured Rob Van Dam and "The Rattlesnake Stone Cold" Steve Austin against Y2J Chris Jericho and Mr. America himself Kurt Angle. Jericho

Theatre Corner

'Blast'

&

'West Side Story'

By Angela Jefferson
and Jamarran E'mil Moss
A&E Writers

If you love the theater, but hate long, boring plays about love and other mushy stuff, or you love music, but hate musicals, then you should go see *Blast*..

The winner of the 2001 Tony Award for best special theatrical event landed in Nashville, Tenn. from Sept. 18-23. The Tennessee Performing Arts Center played host to the event, which has been to London, Boston, Chicago, Detroit, Washington D.C. and on Broadway.

Blast kicked off TPAC's 2001-2002 AmSouth Bank Broadway Series.

It is like Tennessee State University's Aristocrat of Bands meeting the Nashville Ballet times six. There is no plot, or dull story line. It's just a band performing their field show on stage. Well, it's not just a band. It is the band of all bands (no offense Aristocrats).

The songs that they were playing were unfamiliar, but sounded spectacular, nonetheless. Their sound was loud and solid, and their movements were on time and together. It was a magnificent performance!

"Blast" is a mixture of a half-time show at a football game, and a step show," said TSU junior Marlon Merriweather.

During their playing of D. Ellis' *Loss*, the soloist floated down from the ceiling while standing in a chair. Another show stopping scene was a percussion solo. The percussionists were playing each others drums, as well as their own. On top of that, the percussion had glow-in-the-dark drumsticks. With the lights all of the way down, the sticks were all that could be seen.

"With the added special effects- it was theater worthy," Merriweather said.

However, the instrument players are not the only ones who make up the band. The colorguard was also excellent. If you thought that twirling the flag was only for girls, you're mistaken. There was an even amount of males as well as females performing. They twirled flags, rifles and swords. You name it, they twirled it. They even tossed flags to each other, as well as to band members who were standing at the opposite end of the stage.

There was an awesome chair routine with the whole band. They spun and flipped the chairs at a rapid pace, and within a second, they turned around, picked up their instruments, sat down in the chairs and began to play. How many bands

See "Tennessee" on page 19

Arts & Entertainment

Tennessee Repertory Theatre and Nashville Symphony gives us new look at 'West Side Story'

Continued from page 18



have you seen do that?

"It was truly amazing," said Karen Allen, a senior at Tennessee Tech.

"Blast", overall, was great. It was great seeing another band in action, especially one like this. If you have an interest in band, and their field shows, then "Blast" will be great to you, too. However, keep some Advil handy (the music gets really loud).

The contemporary musical West Side Story, which is based on the same premise as Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet, showcased at the Tennessee Performing Arts Center Sept. 4-16. West Side Story, directed by David Grapes, starred Tennessee acting veteran Mike Eldred (www.mikeeldred.com) and Broadway experienced Besti Morrison. The rivalry between the New York City west side gangs the Sharks and the Jets began at 6:30 p.m. and gained momentum throughout the night. Choreographer Lynne Kurdziel-Formato, with over 300 production credits under her belt, contrived many eye-catching moves for the energetic cast to perform in front of a near capacity crowd. Though the cast was not believable due to the lack of color of the actors on the hispanic side of town, the overall per-



PHOTOS COURTESY OF JOAN MARCUS AND TPAC

West Side Story and Blast.

formance was semi-rememberable. After intermission, the actors seemed to empathize with the families in the New York City terrorist tragedy and applied it to their acting energy. The emotional energy of despair and loss was thick in the air as the "deaths" of members of the Sharks and Jets was portayed on stage. Sullen silence was apparent throughout TPAC as the timeless message that "violence breeds violence" was reiterated in the sense of life reflecting art and vice versa. If one is interested in other plays that will visit TPAC in the near future, visit www.tpac.org.*

ATTENTION STUDENTS

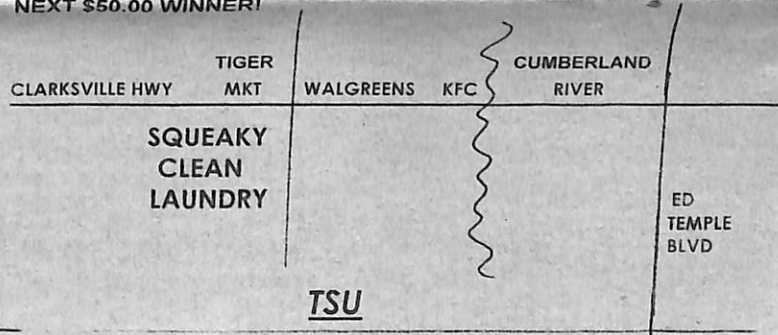
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HAS A DRAWING EACH MONDAY. THE WINNER GETS \$50.00. WHILE WAITING ON YOUR LAUNDRY TO WASH & DRY, FILL OUT A SHORT SURVEY FORM. IT TAKES JUST SECONDS & YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE PRESENT TO WIN. WE OFFER 38 WASHERS IN 4 SIZES, 25 DRYERS, SOAP & LAUNDRY BAG MACHINES, SOFT DRINK, SNACK & VIDEO MACHINES & 2 BILL CHANGERS...ALL IN A CLEAN & COMFORTABLE ENVIRONMENT. HOURS ARE 7:00AM TO MIDNIGHT, 7 DAYS A WEEK.

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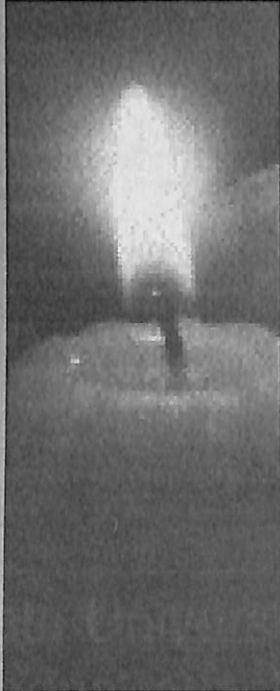
CONVENIENTLY LOCATED JUST 2 MILES FROM YOUR CAMPUS

Arts & Entertainment

The Lyricist Lounge

Emersed in self-hate
I wade and I wait
Impatiently for it to
evaporate
All that is positive
within me
Positivity fights to
set me right
But its small light
Never quite
Survives the dark
and everlasting night
Exhausted by the
fight
It has lost its little
might
No longer a flame
A mere ember
remains—burning patiently
My person split
Between opposing
forces within it
The two together will
not fit
The lone ember
refusing to quit
Why not just let me

My Shepherd



By Leslie Doss
A&E Writer

Like oxygen to the ember
It will unite
Ignite
Explode
Into a fire of burning desire
To love
To be loved
To be free. •

slip
Into the self-loathing
hell threatening to destroy
me
Why sentence me
To a conflicting eter-
nity
No doubt resulting
In the loss of my san-
ity
Surely doom would be
better than this—
surely
The lone ember that
sits
Refuses to quit
Because I am worth
it
I am worth the fight,
the exhaustion, the plight
So the ember will stay
And burn
And wait
For a fresh breath of
hope
To catch
To mate

The Lyricist Lounge
Submission Requirements

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

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

All materials must adhere to the following guidelines:

- a) All contributions must be typed, double spaced (submitted on 3.5" disks and hard copy), and must include the writer's name, telephone number and P.O. Box.
- b) Poems should not exceed 300 words.
- c) Submit a portrait of yourself to be used if your poem is published.

The METER reserves the right to reject poems without explanation, and to edit submissions as necessary, while adhering to the author's original vision.

For more information feel free to contact A&E Editor

Alan C. Beard at 963-5555

Note: The next issue will be the Homecoming edition of The METER so The Lyricist Lounge is requesting that all poems have something to do with school spirit. Thank You!

Sports

Teresa Phillips takes role as Interim Athletic Director for third time

By Paul Cameron
Sports Writer

Teresa Phillips is serving as Tennessee State University's Interim Athletic Director for the third time after the initial AD, James Smith, was fired. She began her career here at TSU as the girls basketball coach and played her collegiate career, at our neighbor on West End, Vanderbilt University.

After nineteen years (eleven at TSU and the other eight split between Vanderbilt and Fisk University) of coaching she has moved the focus of her career to the administrative side of sports.

The last two years she has served in this capacity, and the last year and a half she has done only administration. She looks at her time in administration as preparing her for the position as the Athletic Director. "I had a some more things to learn in those two years," she said. Phillips now feels more prepared for the role that she is currently filling.

She sees the position as an opportunity to provide an environment so that student athletes and coaches can be successful. This environment also helps the coaches sell their schools and programs, because with a good environment it attracts



PHOTO COURTESY OF
TSU ATHLETICS

Teresa Phillips

good coaches which in turn attracts good athletes.

Phillips also sees the need for a men's baseball program, which was dropped for gender equity reasons. Instituting a baseball program she said would require a female sport, which she thinks could be soccer. "It (baseball) is strong sport in our conference as is women's soccer," she said.

According to her there are former professional baseball players and aluminst that have expressed interest in the return of Tiger baseball. Phillips believes that these and other backers would provide funding for the baseball program that leaves a lack of funds in the soccer program.

The bottom line of the lack of this program is funds and Title IX, which calls for gender equity in athletics. She also supports Title IX because it helps keep the spirit of amateurism in college athletics in which it is based.

Phillips sees the biggest problems in the TSU's athletic program, is the fact that coaches are having to do things such as filing or clerical work themselves, which has taken away for the time they should be spending coaching, scouting and recruiting.

The athletic programs need to be marketed more for the community. Especially, the minor sports such as track, volleyball and softball.

President James A. Hefner was unable to be reached for comment on the Athletic Directors position.

Sothern Heritage Classic rescheduled in wake of attacks on America

By Derrick Hines
Sports Writer

Since one can remember, the Southern Heritage Classic has been played in Memphis, Tenn. at the same time every year. On Sept. 11, the attack on America, changed not only the way we see things but also led to the postponement of the game.

Tennessee State University students were packing their bags, saving their money, and planning a fun weekend. A road trip was in the making. Students were getting ready to see the Tigers avenge last years lost to the Jackson State University Tigers.

The football team seemed to be very focused on the task at hand. "I have mixed emotions about the game being postponed, said free safety and linebacker Walter Reese. The team was mentally and physically prepared for the game, and I really wanted to play. After the attack on America, I sympathize with the families who lost their loved ones, and I also respect the choice of the Ohio Valley Conference for canceling the games."

The way we view things here in America will never be the same. "After the planes crashed, it seems that people are starting to put things in perspective," said Derrick Hodges, a junior from Chicago.

Reese, also stated that a couple of his teammates did not hear from their family members in the wake of the crisis.

"I felt that the game being canceled was good for the well-being of the spectators, football players and staff," said

Christopher Gordon, a member of the Aristocrat Of Bands. "I don't think America could have handled another disastrous event."

Because these tragic events happened, TSU has rescheduled the Classic during the Thanksgiving break.

Writers Needed!!!

Are you interested in sports?

Do you like to write?

Are you always commenting on what that team should have done?

Well join the sports staff of *The Aleter*

If you are interested come to *The Aleter* office Rm 304A in the Floyd-Payne Campus Center and get an application or contact Sports Editor Marcus Norris at 963-5652

Don't
forget
Homecoming
Week 2001
is Oct. 7-13
TSU will take
on
Mississippi
Valley State.
Be sure to
come out
and support
the Tigers

Sports

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



**Marcus
Norris**
Sports
Editor

It's a miracle, how life can be conceived from a womb, I guess a baby's born crying 'cause it knows that we're doomed.

Mac Mall
I Feel Your Pain
Immaculate

I'm not trying to get to deep on ya'll or anything. That line was just the very first thing I heard when I started my car after hearing about the "World Trade" stuff. Just thought I'd let ya'll chew on that for a second. Spit or swallow, I don't care, I got mine's out.

Anyway, now that ya'll have picked up this very valuable piece of information, I'd like to send my sincerest condolences to anyone directly affected by the attacks. I haven't been this depressed since they canceled "South Central". I've spent a lot of time thinking about the whole situation. What's going to happen next? Are we going to go to war? Will this be a nuclear war? More importantly, will this last on through the football season?

When it occurred to me the potential ramifications of these tragic events, I decided i've got to act. I have to do my best to preserve our freedom in this country. So does that mean I'm going to sign up for the army? Yeah right!

No disrespect to those who did, but I'm gonna be right here until the curl comes back. Plus I've got flat feet, asthma, and I'm allergic to bullets. What I can do though is provide G-Dub (George W. Bush for the ebonically impaired) with a list of professional athletes who may be able to help with our situation.

It's a sort of new millenium Justice League (ya'll remember with Superman, Batman and 'em) that could help with some revenge, retaliation and get back. Unfortunately dude ain't hollerin' back at me (not even on the 2-way) so I don't know what he thinks. I aint trippin though, it aint like I voted or anything. Here's the list though:

Shaquille O'Neal: He could put on his costume from "Kazaam" and go undercover, on a special secret mission. Plus as an added bonus Kobe-haters will get to see how he does without Shaq.

Ray Lewis: The leader of the best defense in NFL could be the best defense of the free world. It ain't like he never killed before (oooh!). And, after he gets to bin Laden (is that how you spell his name?) he could do that dance that he did during pre-game introductions at last year's Super Bowl.

Venus and Serena Williams: It's guaranteed to get ugly (I mean really ugly) when these two sisters go anywhere. Sending them to Afghanistan to beat down terrorists with nothing but some tennis rackets and faces only a mother could love might be a good idea.

The Rock: He was whippin muda-suckas (can I say that?) in *The Mummy Returns*. Plus, he be talkin'

funky to folks. ("It doesn't matter how many terrorist groups you've got. The Rock is still going to kick your candy-ass!")

Mike Tyson: He just wants to kill somebody, and he's going to do it eventually. Why not put him to good use. Just strap a Robin Given's mask on bin Laden and Mike will know what to do. Hell I'd even watch that on Pay-Per-View.

Sidebar: For real ya'll. Don't go singling out folks because they're from the Middle East. You know if some of us were behind this it'd be right back to slavery.

Rae Carruth: Let's send him on a little suicide mission. Just strap his silly-ass to one of our missiles and send it somewhere with terrorist. And after we do it we can deny the whole thing.

Well that's my special Talkin' I.S.H. dedicated to the protection of our country. I do have any idea for anybody still feeling down about the whole situation. Imagine Osama bin Laden with his beard in three long french-braids and some gangster sunglasses, with his hands throwing up a "P", C-walking to his version of "Pakistani Love"

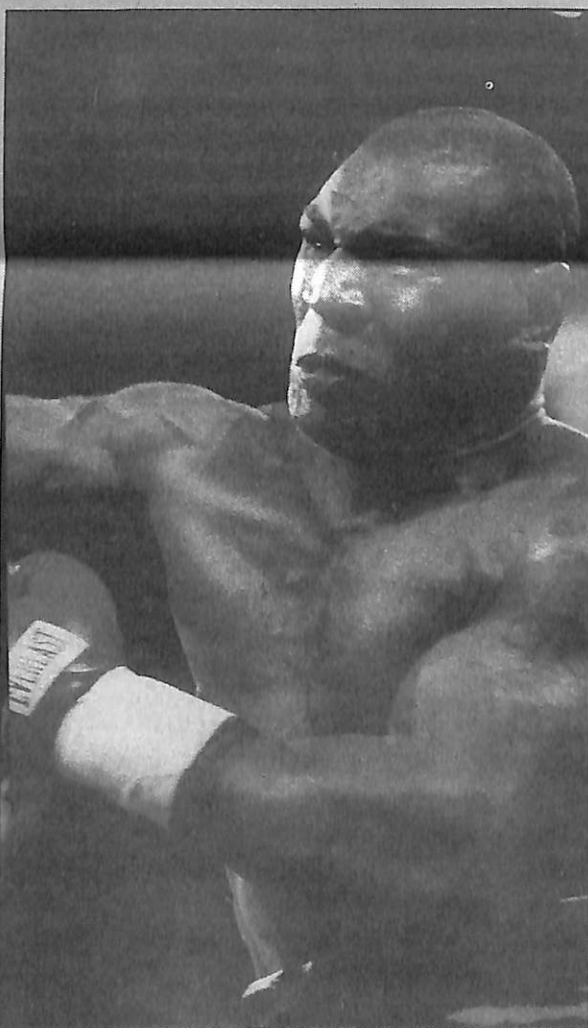


PHOTO COURTESY OF SPORTS ILLUSTRATED

Picture this: Mike Tyson vs. Osama bin Laden.

It might make you feel a little better. •

TSU Women's Volleyball team defeated by Tennessee Tech's Lady Eagles

Crystal J. McMoore
News Writer

Tennessee State University's Women's Volleyball team, still adjusting to a new scoring system, lost Tuesday's match against the "Lady Eagles" of Tennessee Tech, but not without a fight. This is the first year that TSU has adopted the concept of "rallying". In a rally game the teams play to best three out

began to pick up, with four unstoppable shots in a row. But the Lady Eagles were ready as they blocked quite a few of Hewlett's attempted spikes. The second game was lost by 13 points, almost the biggest gap all evening.

A positive turn came out of the third game, even though the Tigers weren't able to generate a win. The Lady Eagle's Maggie Stein was no longer a threat to the Tigers. The crowd was hyped by a forceful spike by



PHOTO BY ILYAS MUHAMMAD

TSU Women's volleyball players on offense.

of five, which is a game that goes all the way to 30 points.

The Lady Eagles' outside hitter, Maggie Stein's, powerful spikes left the Tigers on their toes.

It wasn't until they were down by 14 points that the Tigers finally stepped up. With an incredible amount of teamwork, the Tigers' middle hitter, Janique Suber, and outside hitter, Lakeshia Brown, together blocked four of Stein's monster spikes in a row.

When the Tigers finally took the serve, outside hitter Catrina Hewlett's serving was key, helping bridge the 14 point gap to a mere six points.

Simple mental mistakes began to hurt the Tigers. "They need to relax after broken plays and eliminate service errors," said Head Coach, Dawn Reese.

The crowd was intense when the Tigers' game

Hewlett, and with the crowd's support and enthusiasm the Tiger's were unstoppable.

Stein's spikes no longer intimidated the Tigers. She lost her hustle and just couldn't get to the ball fast enough. The crowd chanted, "Pick your face up!" because she and the other Eagles were unable to stop the Tigers.

The Tigers ended the final game with 23 points, the closest they had gotten to 30 all evening. Coach Reese said that she is "very hopeful they will do well in the future. They're still getting adjusted to the new way of scoring. They just need to keep their spirits up."

"The Eagles had some good blockers- they made it very difficult for our hitters. Now we know Tennessee Tech's tendencies, and if they want to beat us again they will definitely have to go five games or they won't be able to," Suber said. •

The to-do list in Beth Hoyme's purse
will never get done because a drunk driver
convinced his friends he'd be fine.

Friends Don't Let Friends Drive Drunk.

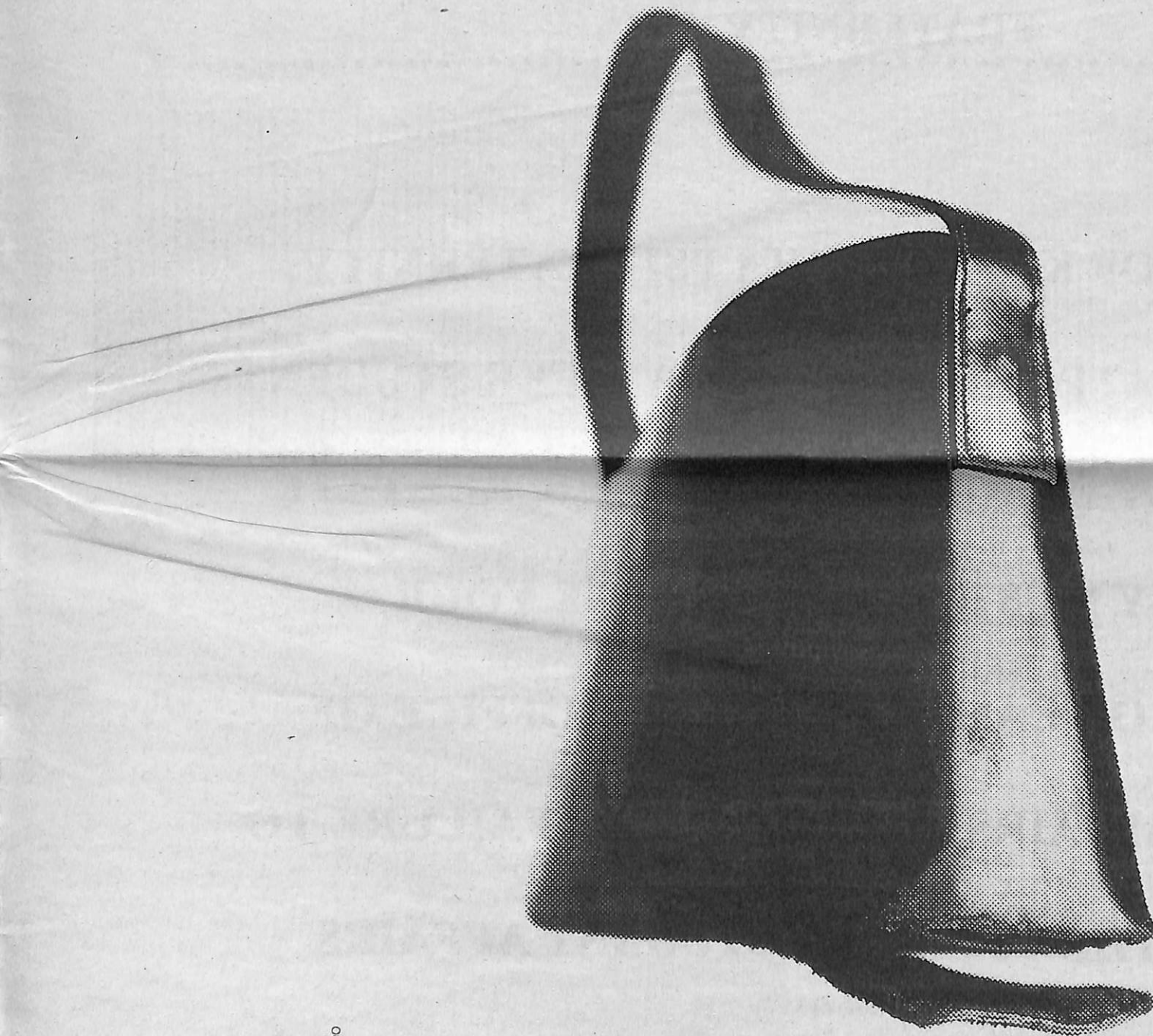


Photo by Michael Mazzeo



**OPEN LETTER FROM KAPPA ALPHA PSI
FRATERNITY, INC.**

.....

**MEMBERS OF KAPPA ALPHA PSI FRATERNITY,
INCORPORATED THAT ARE TRANSFER STUDENTS
CURRENTLY ENROLLED AT TENNESSEE STATE
UNIVERSITY MUST ACKNOWLEDGE YOUR
PRESENCE ON CAMPUS WITH THE OFFICE OF
STUDENT AFFAIRS IMMEDIATELY. FAILURE TO
CONTACT THE OFFICE OF STUDENT AFFAIRS
COULD JEOPARDIZE YOUR MEMBERSHIP STATUS
WITH THE FRATERNITY AND THE
REINSTATEMENT STATUS OF ALPHA THETA.**