



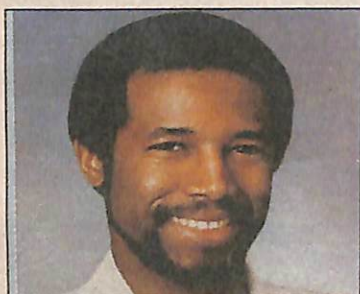
THE METER



THE MEASURE OF STUDENT OPINION AND SENTIMENT

Nashville, Tenn.
November 17, 2003

Volume 54
Issue 12



Find out the story behind the name of TSU's renown visitor.

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Read opinions on the state of Miss America.

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See how *The Matrix* *Revolutions* rates on the must-see list.

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Football Results

Tennessee State University 38

Eastern Kentucky University 43

Civil Rights sites to be honored

By Meridith M. Miller
Community News Editor

The bells of Music City will soon be "letting freedom ring" as the Nashville Civil Rights Movement Survey Project documents and preserves a series of citywide locations involved in the National Civil Rights movement.

The survey project, which the Middle Tennessee State University Center for Historic Preservation conducts under the leadership of graduate student David Price, will offer a database of historic information displayed on high schools, churches, business buildings and Nashville area sites that were the locations of various protests, sit-ins and non-violent presentations.

"The goal of this project is to identify and honor places that still remain in Nashville that were significant sites of Civil Rights events," Price said.

The survey project is working in con-



PHOTO COURTESY OF GOOGLE.COM

Blacks and whites demonstrate April 27, 1964, in the middle of West End Avenue outside of Morrison's Cafeteria.

junction with the Tennessee Preservation Trust to help educate the Nashville community about the significant role the city played

See "Nashville" on page 7

State mandate requires hepatitis vaccination waiver

By Evita Timmons
Campus News Writer

Students in Tennessee higher education institutions must sign a waiver form stating they have been informed of the benefits of hepatitis A and B vaccinations, and confirm whether or not they have chosen to be vaccinated, according to an April 23, 2003, state mandate.

However, TSU ceased offering shots to students over the summer because there is a vaccine shortage due to the war.

According to the office manager at Queen Washington Health Center, students are referred to a local clinic if they decide to be vaccinated. It is not known

how many students receive the shots every year.

"(The vaccination) is not mandatory at all schools," said Mary Morgan, director of communications at the Tennessee Board of Regents. "However, students living in dormitories who elect not to take the shot must sign a waiver."

One out of 20 people in the United States will contract hepatitis through contact with infected blood and/or people, according to the Tennessee Medical Association.

At least 300 cases, as of Tuesday, Nov. 11, are connected to a hepatitis A outbreak from Chi-Chi's Mexican

See "Kentucky's" on page 2

Murray State may even series

By Tamika L. Jefferson
Sports Editor

The Murray State University Racers can even the series, 8-8, with a win against the Tennessee State University Tigers in both teams' final football game of the season at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 22 in the Roy Stewart Stadium in Murray, Ky.

On the ovesports.com Web site MSU and TSU are tied in second place with 12 percent of people who visit the site listing the teams as the likely winners of the Ohio Valley Conference title.

"The series will not be even because we are going to win," said Tanesha Bailey, a senior

See "Few" on page 13

Campus News

Kentucky's hepatitis outbreak strikes 300

Continued from page 1

Restaurant. Its nearest establishment is approximately 215 miles from the university in Lexington, Ky. The restaurant is located in 16 states including, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Michigan and Indiana.

Hepatitis A and B are potentially serious, very contagious viral diseases that affect the liver, and neither disease has a cure. Hepatitis A is spread by eating or drinking contaminated food or water and by close personal or sexual contact with someone who is infected. Hepatitis B is spread through infected blood and body fluids, the same as HIV, yet it can be 100 times more contagious than HIV. Symptoms of the diseases can include fever, loss of appetite, low energy, abdominal tenderness, nausea and vomiting, dark urine, or jaundice, a disease that causes the skin to look yellow.

The best way to prevent hepatitis A is to practice good personal hygiene like washing hands after changing diapers, when cleaning or after using the toilet, and before preparing or eating food. Another measure is to avoid foods that could be contaminated such as undercooked shellfish or food that has been prepared by someone who has the virus.

Hepatitis B can be prevented by being vaccinated with three doses of the hepatitis B vaccine. Prevention of the disease can also occur by avoiding



ILLUSTRATION BY DAVID FERGUSON

TSU no longer offers hepatitis A and B vaccinations to students.

shared razors, toothbrushes, or pierced earrings. Other preventative measures include practicing safe sex and not sharing needles.

"I take hepatitis A and B shots every year," said Michael Ross, a sophomore electrical engineering major from

Newport News, Va. "I have been taking the shots since I became sexually active."

For more information about hepatitis A and B, visit the Queen Washington Health Center or contact the center at 963-5292.

Events Calendar

Nov. 17
SGA general assembly mtg.
FPCC Rm. 210
8 p.m.

Nov. 18
Women's Basketball Game
NWBL USA Elite Team
(Exhibition)
TBA
7 p.m.

Men's Basketball Game
Vasda USA (Exhibition)
TBA
9 p.m.

Nov. 19
IAS Political Debate
FPCC Rm. 210
Noon

Nov. 21
Fall "Slumber Jam"
Kean Hall Gym
10:30 p.m.

"We Got Issues" Comedy Show
Kean Hall Gym
(\$3 with TSU ID, \$5 without ID)
7 p.m.

Nov. 23
Annual Christmas Tree Program
FPCC Rm. 210
6 p.m.

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Campus News

From poverty to prestige:

Famed doctor scheduled to tell how he overcame childhood obstacles

By Sherpri G. Giles
Editor in Chief

Growing up in the slums of Detroit with poor grades and an uncontrollable temper nearly precluded the accomplishments of neurosurgeon Benjamin Carson. However, at 1:40 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 18 in Kean Hall, Carson will share his arduous background, knowledge and philosophy with students of all backgrounds at Tennessee State University.

Carson's mother, a single parent, did not want him to be another poor Black child who the education system failed. Therefore, she limited his television watching and refused to let him play outside until he finished his homework each day. She required him to read and write a report on two library books a week even though, with her third-grade education, she could barely read them.

Within weeks of completing assignments from his mother, Carson astonished his classmates, who referred to him as a dummy, by identifying rock samples his teacher had brought to class. He recognized the rocks from one of the books he had read.

"It was at that moment that I realized I wasn't stupid," he recalled later in his book *Gifted Hands*.

Carson continued to amaze his classmates with his newfound knowledge and within a year he was at the top of his class. The hunger for knowledge had taken hold of him, and he began to read books on all subjects.

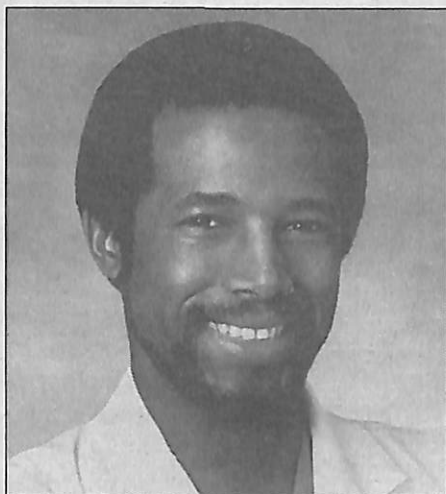


PHOTO COURTESY OF NEURO.JHML.EDU

Dr. Benjamin Carson

He later desired to become a physician, and he learned to control the violent temper that threatened his future. His achievements earned him academic scholarships to Yale University, where he earned a degree in psychology. Later at the Medical School of the University of Michigan, his interest shifted from psychiatry to neurosurgery.

"That's phenomenal," said Nathan Fluellen, a senior from Chicago majoring in economics. "While I knew of Carson, I didn't know his background."

Carson is the director of pediatric neurosurgery at The Johns Hopkins Medical Institution in Baltimore, Md. Carson also holds numerous honors and awards, including more than 20 honorary doctorate degrees.

One of Carson's accolades includes

the successful separation of the two German cranium conjoined Siamese twins in 1987. Operations to separate twins joined in this way had always failed, resulting in the death of one or both of the infants. However, Carson agreed to undertake the operation. A 70-member surgical team, led by Carson, worked nonstop for 22 hours. In the end, the twins were successfully separated and are surviving independently.

Carson is also known for leading a medical team of South African doctors in the first successful separation of vertically conjoined twins in 1997. He refined the techniques for hemispherectomy, a radical brain surgery to stop intractable seizures, and developed, along with the Hopkins plastic surgery division, a craniofacial program to help children who need combined neurosurgical and plastic surgical reconstruction.

"His accomplishments are remarkable and make me proud of my race," said Candace James, a senior from Pomona, Calif. majoring in speech communications and theatre. "It moves me to Hefner's quote 'commitment to excellence'."

Carson's story is told in his first book, *Gifted Hands*. His second book, *THINK BIG*, encourages others to develop their intellectual potential. His latest book, *The Big Picture*, offers an in-depth look at a professional surgeon's life—and his unique perspective on priorities, race, society, success and living a life of faith in a complex world.

"(Carson) is infectious," said Patricia Clayton, coordinator of programs. "Hearing the nature of how he grew up...and who he has become today, inspired us, Martin and Hefner, to expose the students to him."

Carson globally travels to share his knowledge and philosophy with the hope of inspiring people of all ages and educational backgrounds. He is scheduled to appear as the third of eight keynote speakers for the 2003-2004 Student Development Symposium and Presentation Series.

The event was initially planned to be held in T.E. Poag Auditorium, which holds a crowd of approximately 350 people. However, university public relations officials anticipated a crowd overflow. Therefore, the lecture was moved to Kean Hall, which holds approximately 1,100 people.

"Attendance is growing and we wanted everyone, students, administration and more, to attend," Clayton said. "We wanted to ensure that we could accommodate the crowd."

There were approximately 700 attendees to hear the previous speaker, co-founder of Ben and Jerry's Ice Cream Jerry Greenfield, held Sept. 23.

"I will definitely attend Carson's lecture," said Rosena Duncanson, a senior from the Bahamas majoring in computer science. "I think life is a blessing and to speak to someone who assisted in a miracle is a great opportunity."*

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WTS

Forum

Miss America, an alternative to the 'video whore'

By Simone Johnson
Black College Wire

The Miss America judges have once again accepted the maxim, "Once you go Black, you can't go back!"

The judges crowned a seventh Black woman, the strikingly beautiful Erika Dunlap, as Miss America. Miss America 2003, Erika Harold, another dynamic Black woman, crowned Dunlap and continued the Nubian reign. It was the second time that Black women attained the crown for two consecutive years. In 1991, Marjorie Vincent was crowned by Debbye Turner, Miss America 1990.

The "back-to-back Black" conquest probably has Lenora Slaughter, who was hired as director of the pageant in 1935 and held the post for 32 years, rolling in her grave again.

Sometime in the 1930s, the pageant instituted the rule that

the Miss Iowa title. Vanessa became the first Black Miss America in 1984.

Her runner-up, Suzette Charles, another Black woman, became Miss America when Williams resigned after nude photographs of her were published in *Penthouse* magazine.

The "Erika-to-Ericka" conquest of the Miss America title comes after a nine-year absence of beautiful sisters wearing the crown. The previous one, Kimberly Aiken was crowned in 1994.

A lot has changed regarding the media's portrayal of Black women since 1994. That year saw the dawn of "Black female degradation," ironically, on Black Entertainment Television. OK, so maybe a lot hasn't changed.

This is 2003, and BET inundates its viewers with images of Black women shaking their tailfeathers in music videos.

Sadly, many young girls



PHOTO COURTESY OF
MISSAMERICA.ORG

Erika Dunlap is crowned by Miss America 2003, Erika Harold.

chocolate beauty is also a dean's list scholar at the University of Central Florida. She plans to attend law school after graduation.

Chocolate-complexioned girls need not fret if they don't see their counterparts among the fair-skinned vixens who seem to dominate the hip-hop videos. All they need to do is look at Erika Dunlap, America's beautiful brown princess.

Simone Johnson is a student at Morgan State University in Baltimore who writes for *The Spokesman*.

"Sadly, many young girls emulate the 'video whore,' when they need to emulate Miss America 2004."

-Simone Johnson

"contestants must be . . . of the white race."

It wasn't until 1970 that the contest had its first Black contestant, Cheryl Browne, who won

emulate the "video whore," when they need to emulate Miss America 2004.

Dunlap has received many scholarships and community service awards. The 21-year-old

What We Think

"The share of family income required to pay college expenses has increased for all families in the 1980s and 1990s, but it has gone up the most for those at the low end of the economic scale...and neediest students suffer the most," according to CNN.com.

Universities who seem to need funds the least are receiving more and more financial aid, while smaller less prominent universities and colleges are struggling to make ends meet.

Many of these lacking schools are historically Black. Clark Atlanta University cut five academic programs from their university's curriculum last month to generate funds. On April 7, 2003, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools voted to uphold the decision to rescind the accreditation of Morris Brown College, one of our nation's oldest historically Black colleges. As a result, Howard University launched a Web site to request monetary donations from the public to raise the funds that are necessary to ensure the longevity of the institution.

So our question is how much of the reported \$16,635,527 that Tennessee State University has raised during its most recent capital campaign will the students who are already hard at work here really see in their pockets? We understand that TSU is heavily focusing on recruiting to bring some of the "top students and faculty from around the world" here as well as compensate our current faculty and staff. We know that it costs money to be able to compete with the hundreds of universities around the country and world. But, what about the rising tuition costs on our home front every year? In case everyone did not already know, out-of-state students are paying \$4,000 more per semester to be here than in-state students. If these students never see the \$5 million that has been allotted from the Students Matter Most campaign for annual student scholarships, the people who "matter most" might be forced to leave school for one or more semesters in order to earn enough hard cash to finish their education.

We hope that these newly collected funds find their way into the hands and wallets of current students who have already "committed to excellence" by choosing TSU. We welcome and look forward to increasing our university in numbers, but we would hate to see a senior who is unable to enroll in those last six credit hours that are needed to graduate due to a lack of financial assistance.

So, we speak on behalf of all those who have donated to TSU's campaign and those who await its results when we say we hope that current students will see notable, financial benefits from the funds, and that we are not left out in the cold as newer faces grace our campus. •

The Meter
The Measure of Student Opinion and Sentiment

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

Letters to the Editor

Volunteers encouraged to give for the holidays

WINTER WRAP-UP 2003

To the student body, faculty, and organizations in TSU Land,

I am calling on you to lend me your ear, your heart, and a helping hand this holiday season. I, Shayla Ferrell, will be holding a drive for the entire month of November to help the families in need this Christmas. Yes, I do realize that there are many drives each holiday season. Yet, what you may not realize is that this drive is a bit different. As a volunteer, I interact with these families personally. The place that I volunteer for is not receiving the budget that they

usually have to help these families; actually, they will not have a budget at all. Needless to say, this winter will be a lot colder than usual for these families without our help. I am trying to do my part as a volunteer to help as many families as I can and ensure their warmth and a touch of happiness this cold holiday season. (All who volunteer know the feeling.) Now I realize that I cannot help all but, with *your* participation, *we* can help a lot more than one. I am asking for all types of giving. We need food, clothing, personal items (for male and female), toothpaste, detergent, etc. Monetary funds will be greatly appreci-

ated. I hope that this will grow to be a yearly, if not, year round event. We need to help build up our community TSU. So, let us start here. Help me help them, from one family to a plethora of others. Please participate in the *WINTER WRAP-UP!* I would like to thank you in advance for your participation and prayers.

If you would like to participate, please call: (615) 832-7484 or email: winterwrapup2003@hotmail.com.

This letter is published in the format in which it was received. It has not been edited for content or style.

Alumna questions president's new ticket policy

Dear Dr. Hefner,

As a recent TSU alumna, I can honestly say that I was truly appalled by the way that homecoming was handled this year. Homecoming is supposed to be about alumni AND students. I honestly think TSU could have planned out the game better than they did. I under-

homecoming game is just greedy. The students pay too much for the student activity fee to have to pay for a game that is supposed to be about them and getting them to show excitement about their school, team, and alumni. If TSU just wanted to make sure that alumni were not abusing the system, you should have made plenty of free tickets

TSU went even further to sell tickets to non-students in an area that is commonly known as the "student section". Since TSU has been having games at the Coliseum, the students have sat next to the band with the SGA at the front and Pep Club behind them and then all the rest of the students. To sell tickets in this area was wrong. There were arguments started between students who felt that it was their section and older people who TSU sold tickets to. Perhaps TSU should further think about other options when it comes to games and its students. Remember the new TSU motto that was chanted at the game along with the song "We Shall Overcome": Students Matter First.

Sincerely,
Nicole Williams
TSU Alumna 2002

This letter is published in the format in which it was received. It has not been edited for content or style.

"If TSU just wanted to make sure that alumni were not abusing the system, you should have made plenty of free tickets available to the students to pick up using their valid IDs."

- Nicole Williams

stand that you lose a lot of money when alumni use their ID's to get in the game free but to make the students pay for a

available to the students to pick up using their valid IDs. As is charging the students for tickets was not enough,

The Meter Mission Statement

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

Submission Requirements

The Meter is published weekly 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 every Monday. 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:

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

Campus News

Exchange program rewards student

By Daniel Viega
Campus News Writer

Although Micah Guster, 20, attended Tennessee State University for most of his matriculation for undergraduate studies, in 2002 he wanted a change of atmosphere. Therefore, he took advantage of the National Student Exchange program and he said he is a living account of the successful and rewarding program.

Guster, a junior from Chattanooga, majoring in history, took part in the NSE program his sophomore year at Florida International University in Miami. Guster said he enjoyed his year at FIU and found the NSE program an experience he would never forget.

"I enjoyed (FIU) a great deal...The school has a beautiful campus, great teachers, different opportunities for your major...and it is also another place to find more networks between the people at the school," he said.

Guster explained that the process of wanting to exchange to another school in the NSE program is not very difficult and said that students who do not like the school to which they exchange can transfer back to their original school. He said that the most difficult parts of the NSE program are handling costs and the application to the particular school. Guster also said that the program may not be a good idea for those who are not good at dealing with change.

"It was not that hard for me to adjust because I am a people person and have dealt with public relations," Guster explained. "But I wouldn't recommend a student to participate in the NSE program if they cannot deal with changing their environments."

Aside from participating in the NSE program, Guster is involved with other student activities at TSU. He is a member of the University Honors Program, where he serves as an honors mentor, he's one of the secretaries at Hale Hall and is president of the organization Life Givers.

"Micah is one of the best people I've ever met," said Guster's roommate Curtis

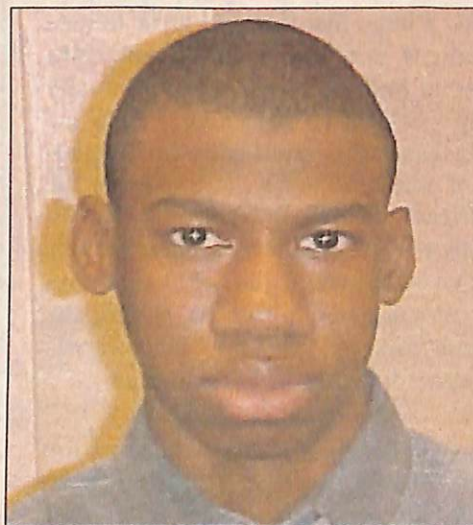


PHOTO COURTESY OF MCCALLIE.ORG

Micah Guster

Green, a junior from Detroit majoring in sociology and history. "...He's got a really good heart and he means the best."

The NSE is a non-profit consortium program among 149 colleges and universities in the United States and its territories. The program was founded in 1968 and more than 50,000 students have been successfully placed for exchange. Dr. Jun Rivera, who works in the University Honors Program office, is in charge of the program. The program is now open to accept applications for the Fall 2004 exchange year.

Rivera also recommends that TSU students take advantage of what the NSE program has to offer.

"(The NSE) offers a different environment, as well as access to other courses, programs, etc. not offered here at TSU...Students also don't have to worry about paying out-of-state fees and they learn to grow academically, culturally and socially," Rivera said.

Student
Achiever

Picks of the Pack

Do TSU's cafeterias provide a large enough variety of foods to keep the student body healthy?



Name: Lauren Parker
Classification: Freshman
Major: Mass Communications
Hometown: Memphis

"No. The menu list will say that the cafeteria is having something different each day, yet they usually just serve the same things."



Name: Matthew Lamar
Classification: Sophomore
Major: Biology/Pre-med
Hometown: Atlanta

"Our cafeteria foods aren't healthy enough for students who play sports or are involved in other strenuous activities. Having something like a Subway would be a lot more healthy than our Taco Bell."



Name: Tyrell Brown
Classification: Junior
Major: Marketing
Hometown: Chicago

"Yes, the cafeteria provides a nice variety of foods, and since Rudolph is smaller, they only have to cook for so many people so they can make the food right."



Name: Briana Everhart
Classification: Senior
Major: Early Childhood Education
Hometown: Middletown, Ohio

"No, our cafeterias do not have enough variety. We eat the same pizza, chicken and rice every day!"

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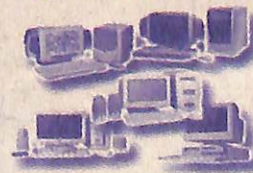
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Community News

Nashville pivotal in gaining civil rights

Continued from page 1

in the success of the movement. According to the Preservation Trust, Nashville's non-violent protests served as one of the most influential catalysts for similar movements across the southern states.

Coordinators of the survey project said they see their work as a creative way to examine and document some of the most critical times in the nation's history.

"It's a challenge (for citizens) to learn the true history of all the actions that took place during the movement because most literature only documents high-profile sit-ins and protests that took place during the modern Civil Rights Movement," Price said. "Most people don't know that the first sit-ins in Nashville occurred in 1870 during Reconstruction."

Sites honored by the survey project will include those from the 1905 Nashville streetcar boycotts, to desegregation crises of the late 1960s and early 1970s. Specific sites included are East High School for its association in the Kelley v. Board of Education desegregation lawsuit, First Baptist Church, and the Metropolitan Courthouse, formerly Nashville City Hall, where Fisk student leader Diane Nash fought for the desegregation of lunch counters.

"We are hoping to be finished with the survey by mid-December," Price said, "But the publicized materials and public programs we would like to initiate will take a little while longer."

A comprehensive list of the chosen sites along with historical information and public education materials will be delivered through a speech and slide show presentation at the Tennessee Preservation Trust 5th annual conference held in Nashville April 15-16, 2004. Since the conference is in Nashville, Price hopes that students will take advantage of the learning opportunities and attend the conference.

"The Nashville student movement revolved around students from Tennessee State and Fisk," Price said.



PHOTO COURTESY OF GOOGLE.COM

Mathew Walker, Peggy Alexander and Diane Nash participate in a sit-in at a Nashville diner in 1960.

"I encourage all students to attend the conference and learn about their history."

The survey project will offer valuable information to the Nashville public and Nashville university communities and some students are already giving the survey project initiative a vote of confidence and encouraging others to do the same.

"Students should get involved in learning about the survey project for individual education and for the betterment of their universities as wholes," said Jamie Riley, a TSU graduate student and former president of the TSU chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. "TSU Students don't always get a chance to express their Civil Rights sentiments, so I definitely think our students as well as Fisk students should be inspired to learn about the roles of Black students in Nashville's history."

For more information on getting involved with the Nashville Civil Rights Movement Survey Project contact David Price at (615) 259-2289.

The diabetic dilemma

On the front line: Part 1 of 4



Gregory Brand
Layout Editor

There is good news and bad news for the Black community. The good news is gun violence is no longer the leading cause of death among Blacks. The bad news is medical and mental complications are wiping out Blacks almost twice as fast as they were being shot.

This series is called *On the front line* because the four conditions to be discussed are growing threats within the Black community.

The first topic in the series is the energy production disorder, diabetes.

Diabetes is a disease in which the body does not adequately use or produce the bodily enzyme insulin, a hormone that the body creates in an effort to break down sugar, starches and other carbohydrates for daily energy. Without insulin the body is prone to exhaustion, fatigue and even comas because it is ill equipped to produce the needed energy.

According to the American Diabetes Association, the cause of the disease is still a mystery; although fingers are being pointed in the direction of genetics and environmental factors such as obesity and lack of exercise.

In the Black community diabetes is a major obstacle in the path of proper health. According to National Diabetes Information Clearinghouse, 2.8 million Black people have diabetes and approximately 13 percent of all Blacks will eventually contract the disease. The report also said that on average Blacks are twice as likely to have diabetes as white Americans.

African-Americans who have diabetes are at a 27 percent higher risk of death than their white counterparts.

Diabetes shows its presence in a variety of types. Type one diabetes results in the body's failure to produce insulin, type two diabetes occurs when the body cannot properly use insulin, pre-diabetes is a

condition that shows strong signs of full diabetes while not actually having the disease and gestational diabetes occurs during pregnancy. Approximately 90 to 95 percent of Americans with diabetes have type two diabetes.

With numbers like those and the disease being linked to genetics and family health patterns, it is a must for Blacks to fully understand the danger placed in front of them.

"Diabetes runs in my family," said Billy Menesse, a junior from Atlanta majoring in mathematics. "My mother is at risk herself because she is approaching pre-diabetes. I don't have (diabetes) right now, but it could be coming down the line."

According to the ADA most cases of diabetes go undiagnosed, and many of the symptoms are rarely noticed and seem harmless. The symptoms, which include dry mouth, becoming winded or tired quickly, and experiencing difficulty to quench thirst, tend to be mild and temporary. According to the ADA, two out of three people with diabetes die from heart disease or stroke.

"I know there is a danger," Menesse said. "That is why I try to take good care of myself."

Regardless of the dangers, a diagnosis of diabetes is not a death sentence. Healthy lifestyle choices including a balanced diet consisting of specified portions of meats, vegetables, grains and fruits, are big on health specialists' lists. Exercise on a regular weekly basis along with proper and regular use of prescribed medication can make life as normal and trouble free as possible. These healthy choices made now can prevent the disease from running down the family tree and onto the youngest branches.

"To stop the on set of (diabetes) it is important for young people to start eating and living better," said TSU registered nurse Elizabeth Frazier. "It's important to understand the disease and where it comes from."

The next installment of *On the front line* will delve into the mind as the low down on Body Dismorphic Disorder, a mental condition that clouds a person's personal perception of themselves and causes them to harm or drastically alter themselves, is put into the spotlight.

Body
&
Mind

Community News

From food to language international students learn to adjust

By Lovemore Masakadza
Black College Wire

When Ibrahim Cisse jetted into the United States from the West African country of Niger in 2000, the only English words he spoke were, "the window" and "the door." Now he can converse fluently in the language.

"All I could speak was French; I did my high school education in French. When I came here, I had to spend two months at UNC Wilmington doing a program called English as a Second Language," said Cisse, a senior physics major at North Carolina Central University, referring to the University of North Carolina at Wilmington.

"After the two months of intense learning, I was able to communicate in English and make a lot of friends."

Among the increasing population at the Durham, N.C., university are students from different parts of the world who spend a lot of time learning the art of adjusting to life in the United States.

They are from Liberia, India, Zimbabwe, Nigeria, British Virgin Islands, Kenya, China, Sierra Leone, Rwanda, Jordan, Jamaica, Panama, Ukraine, Ghana, Japan, Bahamas, Colombia, United Kingdom, Lebanon, the Philippines, Ethiopia, Turkey, Congo, Panama, Belarus, Canada and Trinidad.

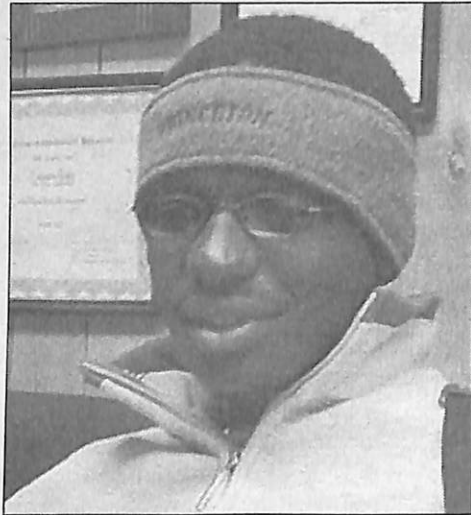


PHOTO COURTESY OF
BLACKCOLLEGEWIRE.ORG

Ibrahim Cisse is a senior at North Carolina Central University from Niger.

All told, 57 of North Carolina Central's 7,191 students are classified as international.

The Institute of International Education, which promotes closer educational relations between the United States and other nations, reported Nov. 3 that there were 586,323 international students studying in the U.S. last year — a number growing only slightly because of restrictions placed by the U.S. government after the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

"I learn a lot from my American friends and try to adjust, but it's not easy. I can only do what I can," said Sarfaraz Riaz, a sophomore visual communications major from Pakistan.

Ruth Odamtten, a freshman nursing major from Ghana, said she faces many problems when conversing with Americans because she was schooled in British English, which differs slightly from the American variety.

"When I just got here and saw the word 'restroom' written on doors, I thought they were rooms where people who were tired would go and sleep," she said.

"In Ghana, we don't call what are called here restrooms 'restrooms.' They are called toilets in my country."

When Americans talk, she said, she tries to figure out the meanings of words that will confuse her.

"I listen to what they say, and when I talk, I say things the way they say in order for them to understand me."

Some of the foreign students do not have relatives in the U.S., and they spend the duration of their studies without going back to their countries.

"I am the only one from our family here, and I have been here for three years. And I have never gone back home," Cisse said.

The students also have to make an adjustment with food.

"I am not used to American food, but that is no big problem to me; there is lot of Russian food in stores around," said Nadia Gavrilova from Belarus, a sophomore biology major.

The foreign students speak highly of the quality of education at North Carolina Central and say it is worth their sacrifices.

They may be away from their parents, but they say they are glad to have Emma L. Mosby, the international students adviser who some of them have nicknamed "Mother."

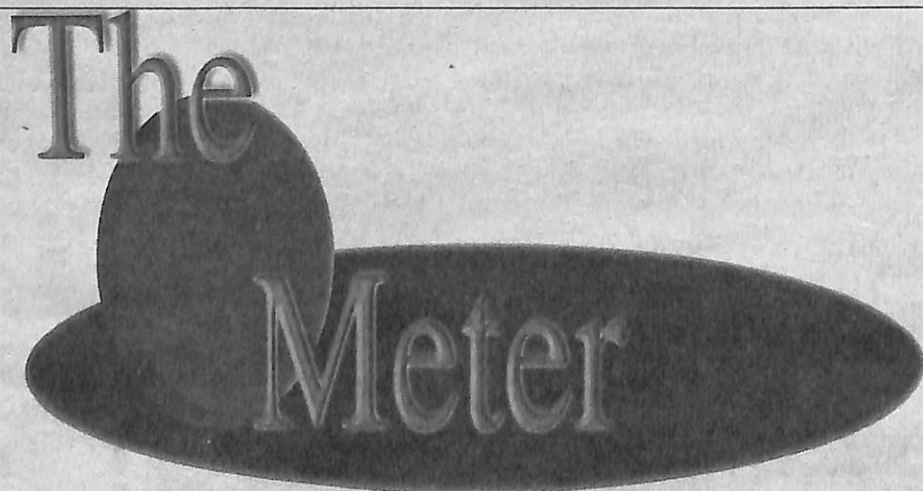
"Whenever I can help them solve their problems, I help, but the only problems come to funding. I cannot provide them with funds," Mosby said.

Mosby is also the adviser to North Carolina Central's International Students Organization. She said she was impressed by how the international students excel in their studies.

"They study hard. Education is their main concentration and they are getting good grades," she said.

"I am very proud of my students. Some of them go on to do their master's degrees and some go on to do Ph.D.s," Mosby said.

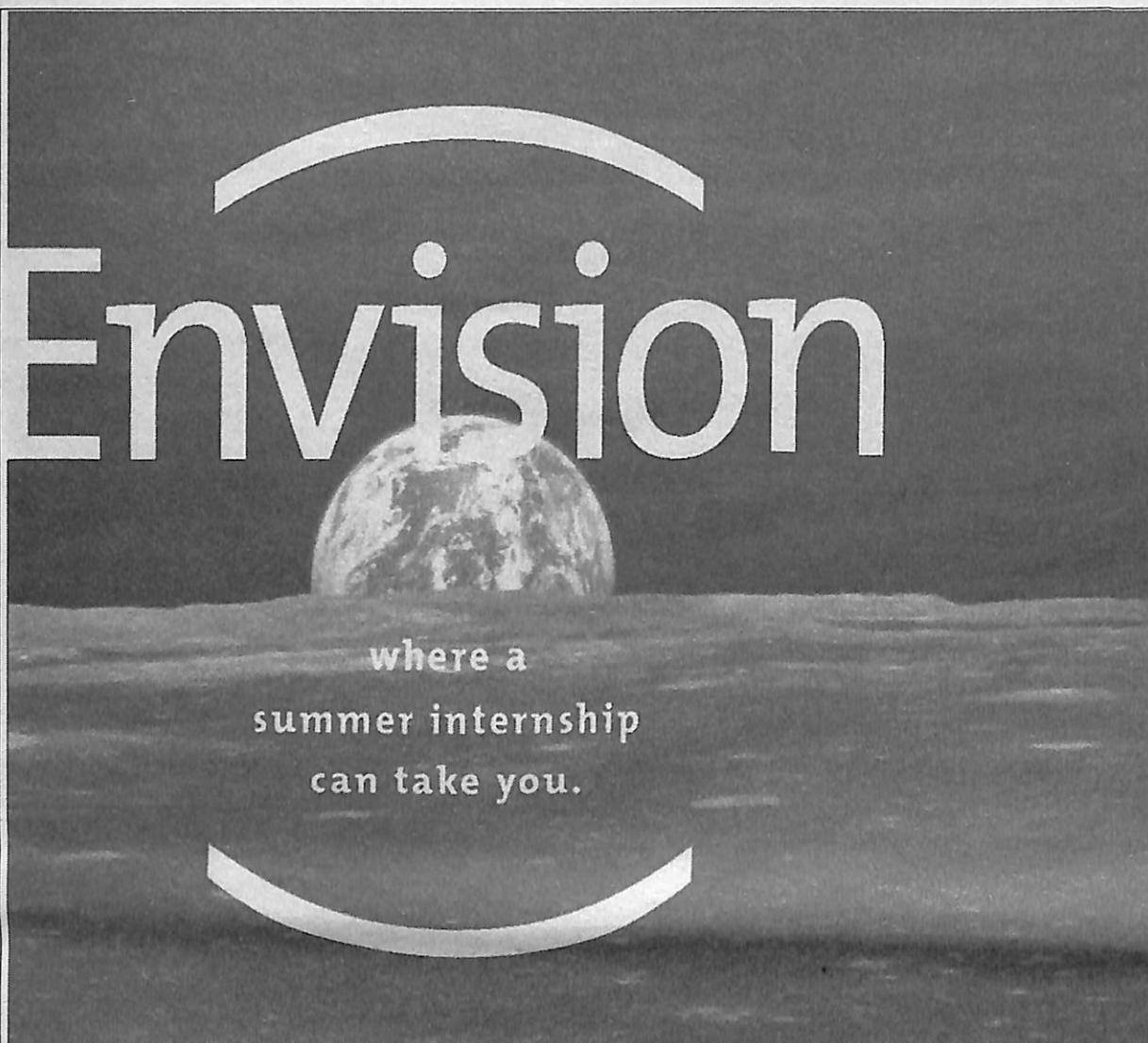
Lovemore Masakadza is a student at North Carolina Central University who is editor-in-chief of the *Campus Echo*.



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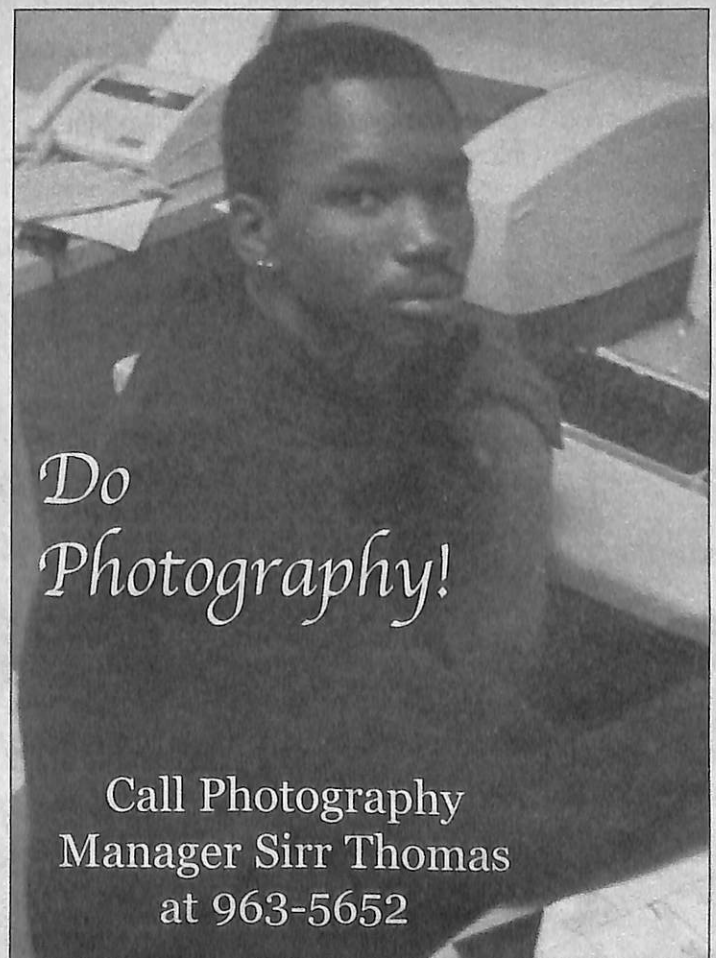
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Arts & Entertainment



The Matrix Revolutions B-

In the third and reportedly final installment of *The Matrix* trilogy, our hero Neo and the remaining free members of the human race, fight for the survival of their species against the all-powerful machines that seek to enslave and draw energy from them.

Though the plot may sound outlandish, it is the stuff of which blockbuster films are made.

Screen directors Larry and Andy Wachowski have finished their religion-touching, action-packed, science fiction masterpiece by giving fans and spectators a deeper look into the film that made the world question if reality was really—real.

The film begins with Neo (Keanu Reeves) in a coma, a condition he acquired after miraculously stopping a band of exterminator robots known as sentinels with a power he was not aware he possessed. Using this newly discov-

ered power pushes his consciousness into a place between the real world and the Matrix that he cannot escape on his own. This prompts his comrades Morpheus (Laurence Fishburne) and Trinity (Carrie-Anne Moss) to take measures to get Neo out.

It is important to have the messiah-like figure Neo, intact because thousands of sentinels are digging deep into the earth in an effort to destroy the remaining free humans in the last human city Zion. At the same time former policing program, Agent Smith (Hugo Weaving), threatens life inside the Matrix. Smith has gained the ability to copy himself and is using it to take over the entire *Matrix*.

With these events taking place, the humans are forced to mount the defense that could hold the fate of their survival.

The Wachowski brothers create a sense of impending doom for all humans both logged into the Matrix and out in the real world by pushing danger in on all sides. The only hope is the more-than-human savior Neo. This film takes on the heavy task of tying up all of the loose ends, and closing off the story line. The film is not only successful in that aspect but also succeeds in a stylized and beautifully cinematic fashion.

By incorporating digital imaging, impressive special effects and a strong ensemble cast, *Revolutions* comes out a clear winner.

Taking its cue from action and science fiction films and Japanese animation, the film takes several bold visual steps. *Revolutions* contains some action sequences that will be talked about for years to come. The aerial battle between Agent Smith and Neo is probably one of

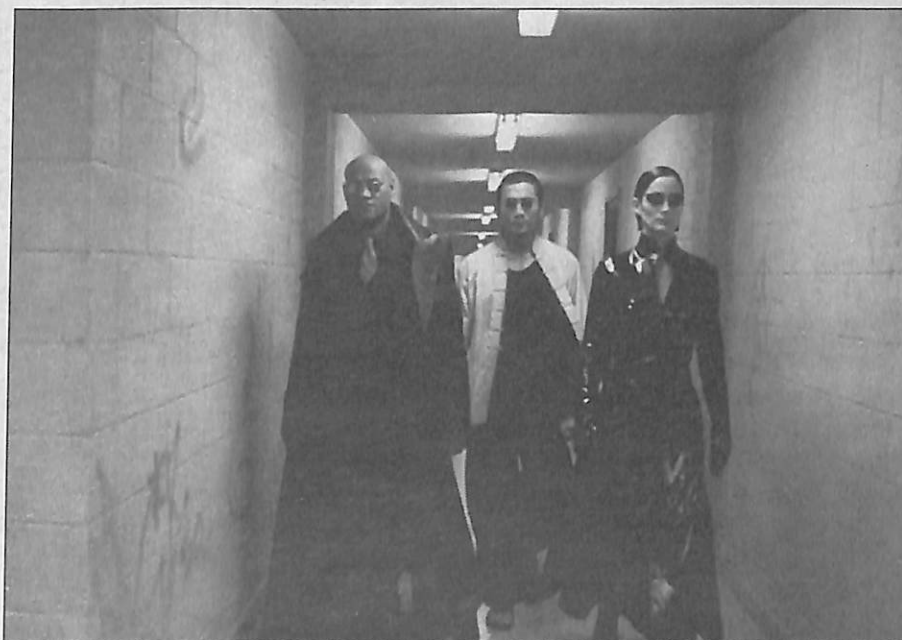


PHOTO COURTESY OF GOOGLE.COM

Morpheus (Laurence Fishburne), Sarif (Ngai Sing) and Trinity (Carrie-Anne Moss) make their way to see the Oracle in the final installment of *The Matrix* trilogy, *The Matrix Revolutions*.

the most impressive fight scenes seen on screen in recent history. The machine city is also masterfully composed showing the majesty of the all-powerful machines.

Amazing performances are delivered by Trinity, Morpheus and Niobe (Jada Pinkett-Smith) as they round out the troop of human warriors. Veteran actress Mary Alice steps into the role of the Oracle and does a great job after the untimely death of the first two films' Oracle, Gloria Foster.

The film's only weak point is that it tried to do too much in too much time.

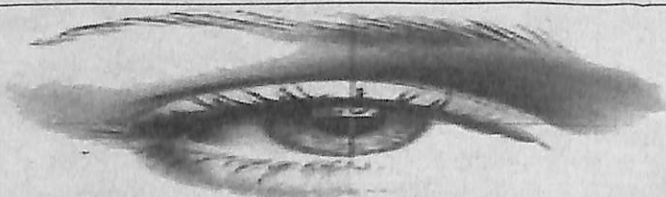
The film is already more than two hours long, employing more than 200 thousand extras, yet the Wachowskis

want the viewer to become acquainted with a whole slew of new characters, keep up with all the old ones and keep track of the heavily layered storyline. The first film was a success because it told the complex story simply and gave non-stop action on top of it all.

That formula would have worked here as well. It seems as though this film relies on the viewer filling in too many blanks.

Bottomline: Fans of the franchise, lovers of a good story and action junkies will be pleased because the film just happens to be visually stimulating brain food.

Gregory Brand



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Arts & Entertainment

The Source Awards

The good, the bad, the ugly

By Aaron Rogers
Black College Wire

Not the Grammys, not the American Music Awards and not the MTV Awards. It's the Source Awards that mean the most to the hip-hop community.

The 2003 Source Hip-Hop Awards took place Oct. 13 at the Miami Arena in Florida, with the show broadcast Nov. 4 on Black Entertainment Television during "sweeps" week.

This is something that no hip-hop fan can miss, the only awards show geared toward hip-hop. The awards honor not only the artists, but the fans.

Many were disappointed that the show was not held last year. This might have had something to do with the stabbing of three people outside the Miami spot that served as the "host club" for the 2001 awards.

Let's recap the show for those who missed it on television. Then we'll get to the good, the bad and the ugly.

Wyclef Jean opened with a song from his upcoming album that suggests that "Black-on-Black crime needs to stop."

There were performances by Cam'ron, Fabolous and Tamia, Ja Rule, Trina, D-Block, Murphy Lee, Nelly and P.Diddy, and Dirty South (which includes Lil Jon, David Banner, Lil' Flip, Ying Yang Twins, Youngbloodz and Bone Crusher).

Dirty South brought down the house with its medley of songs.



PHOTO COURTESY OF GOOGLE.COM

Ludacris



PHOTO COURTESY OF GOOGLE.COM

Trina

The set, which was called Club Dirty, was a club scene that included real strippers (who took everything off) and men dressed as pimps.

After the performance, Lil' Flip said, "That sh*t was crazy. I did not think that it was going to get that wild."

And wild it did get, as more and more people ran on stage during the seven-minute performance. "I wanted to go out there and rip that b*tch up, and that's exactly what we did," Banner said.

50 Cent was the night's biggest winner, despite the bad relationship he has with *The Source* magazine, which is celebrating its 15th anniversary. He won three awards, for breakthrough artist of the year, single of the year — male, and album of the year.

Ja Rule accepted one of 50 Cent's awards, which could have been a diss, knowing that they don't get along.

Other big winners were Lil' Kim (artist of the year — female, single of the year — female) and Lil Jon and the East Side Boyz (artist of the year — group, video of the year).

LisaRaye and Treach of Naughty by Nature hosted the two-hour show.

The Good

#3. Trina. Fellas, she is really the "baddest chick." All of the girls were fine, but Trina was something serious. That was one of the nicest behinds I've seen in 20 years on this earth.

#2. Most of the artists were very

friendly and respectable, even though many might rap about street life and how hard they are. Cam'ron said "yes, sir; no, sir" every time I asked him a question. David Banner was running around with fans as if they were his best friends. Lil' Flip invited me to his dressing room to "chill," and he and Bone Crusher both gave me their personal phone numbers.

#1. No one was killed. There were

The Ugly

#3. Nelly's 5-year-old dancers. During the performance by Nelly, Murphy Lee and P. Diddy, two little girls came out and started shaking their tail feathers. At first I thought it was cute, but those little girls were doing that dance better than some of the professional dancers.

#2. Ja Rule's crew. Ja Rule's people



PHOTO COURTESY OF BLACKCOLLEGEWIRE.ORG

Nelly and P. Diddy perform their hit single *Shake Ya Tail Feather* at the 2003 Source Hip-Hop Awards.

no gun fights and everyone left alive.

There was one fight, but it was outside and stopped quickly.

The Bad

#3. Presenters can't read. A lot of the presenters had problems reading the cue cards. While most just stumbled over words, Redman just gave up and said, "I can't read that sh*t."

#2. Weed smoking. Some of the artists were smoking weed while they were practicing on stage (this stuff is still illegal, right?) As I walked down the hall leading to all the dressing rooms, I started to get high myself. As the only one not smoking, I felt as though I was the one who was wrong.

#1. Rappers turned back because of guns. As many of the rappers tried to enter Miami Arena, they were rebuffed because they had guns. The security guard would tell them, "Just take it back to the car so I won't have to call the police."

complained the entire time I was there.

Fifteen minutes before the show, he decided that he did not like his set anymore and that it had to be changed.

One of his bodyguards hit a man because the Dirty South dressing room (which held Lil Jon and the East Side Boyz, David Banner, Lil' Flip, Ying Yang Twins, Youngbloodz, Luke Campbell and Bone Crusher) had more sofas than his did. Twelve people vs. one person. Who do you think would have more sofas?

#1. Intoxication during the show. A lot of the artists were intoxicated, but some could hold their alcohol better than others. Da Brat was clearly messed up. One of the Ying Yang Twins and comedian Shaw-tay got a little liquor in them and could not be still. Both were running around yelling for no reason.

Aaron Rogers, a student at Albany State University in Albany, Ga., writes for *The Student Voice*.

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Sports

Blue-White game showcases Tiger talent

By Sheena Hamilton

Sports Writer



PHOTO BY ELBERT JAQUESS

Freshman guard Bruce Price (left) prepares to make a move on fellow teammate freshman guard Orlando Wright (right) in the Blue-White game Saturday, Nov. 8 in Kean Hall.

The 2003-2004 men's basketball squad displayed its newly established defensive force and scoring abilities in the Blue-White scrimmage game, with the White team winning 81-69 Saturday, Nov. 8, in front of 750 fans in Kean Hall.

The White team, coached by new head coach Cy Alexander and assistant coach Mark Pittman, was composed of what appeared to be all of the team's remaining, consistent starters. Freshman Courtney Bohannon, a 6' 8" small forward from Memphis, and the very vocal freshman Bruce Price, a 6' 3" guard from Minneapolis, Minn., were also on the White team. Center Cedric Bryson and team captain Garrett Richardson, a guard from El Paso, Texas, led the team with 18 points a piece, with Richardson's perfect performance of 5 for 5 field goals.

"The White team played more like a team," said Keli Wade, a junior from Memphis majoring in aeronautical and industrial technology. "They played extremely competitively, not like they were playing against their own teammates, but (against) real opponents."

All players on the White team scored, and five of the seven had double figures. The White team seemed to fall right in line under the leadership of a new voice found in Price.

"Bruce Price is truly shining, considering the fact that he is only a fresh-

man," said Thaddeus Jones, a former Tiger and a senior from Okolona, Miss., majoring in marketing. "I like the leadership that he will bring to the team. I believe he will have a great career here."

The Blue team, coached by assistant coaches Jamal Brown and Darren Tillis, was composed of the newer and less significant players. New transfers Eric King and Rod Flowers showed an enormous premier effort. Flowers led the game with an astonishing 29 points and King showed up amongst the starters for the Blue team and wore the notorious number one. Flowers scored 11 key points

after making it to the free-throw line for a whopping 16 attempts, with his father rooting on the sidelines and sometimes even on the court. Overall the Blue team made 7 of 13 shots.

Flowers and King will not be playing this coming season due to NCAA regulations. Flowers, who transferred from the University of Cincinnati, will be eligible for play in the 2004-2005 season with one year of eligibility left in graduate school. King will be eligible to play his first season with TSU in 2004-2005 with two years of play remaining.

"Eric King and Rod Flowers are

really making a good first impression," said Franklin Rivers, a sophomore from Little Rock, Ark., majoring in electrical engineering. "They are some aggressive guys."

The halftime show consisted of various activities for audience participation. The freshmen and seniors played tug-of-war and the sophomores competed against the juniors. Random audience members participated in musical chairs. The prizes included TSU basketball T-shirts, basketball season tickets and book vouchers for next semester.

Though the team played in a scrimmage game against one another, head coach Alexander said the team still has more work to do to prepare for the upcoming season.

"We need to work on rebounding more," he said. "They have to practice more and be rebound conscious in order to better themselves."

Roshaun Bowens, a junior small forward from Nashville, seemed pleased with the efforts of the White team. He did not play his usual *dominate game*, but stepped back, proving his ability to be a team player. Although he is known as the Tigers' so called "hype man," he can be cohesive and said he doesn't have to be the center of attention or the leading scorer to be satisfied with a win.

"The White team gave a fighting effort," Bowens said. "We didn't give up, even when we were down, like we might have last year."•

Few mistakes can prove victorious for Tigers

Continued from page 1

from Detroit majoring in psychology. "I don't know the technical aspect of football but I know our record is good and our players are really stepping up."

The Tigers (6-4, 4-2 Ohio Valley Conference) have played MSU (3-7, 2-4 OVC) every year since 1988, losing 27-51 last season.

"They are a run, play action team," head football coach James Reese said. "Defensively, they put pressure on you (because) they have four good defensive linemen."

TSU, which ranks no. 1 in defense, allows 316.1 yards per game, with MSU close behind ranking no. 2 at 316.7 yards per game. The Racers are no. 1 in field goals, making 12 of 14 (85.7 percent) and the Tigers rank last in the OVC in field goals, making 4 of 12 (33.3 percent).

"If the Tigers can step up on minor mistakes, then I think they have what it takes to still win the OVC," said Maurice Goins, a junior from Memphis majoring in commercial music. "Our defense is on point, but the team as a whole must be on the same page to win, period."



PHOTO COURTESY OF TSUTIGERS.COM

Receiver C.J. Johnson catches a pass against the Murray State Racers Nov. 9, 2002.

After the score was tied 7-7 in the first half, MSU scored 23 unanswered points to make the score 30-7 at the half last season. The Tigers did not score again until the fourth quarter and committed costly turnovers. The Racers out rushed the Tigers 321 to 35 yards, but TSU's passing game excelled with 333 yards passing to MSU's 103 yards passing.

"We are going to take our best run plays and best pass plays and try to execute those," Reese said. "We are going to give the ball to #22 (Charles Anthony)."•

Sports

Tigerbelle follows Rudolph's tracks

By **Tamika L. Jefferson**
Sports Editor

Former Tigerbelle Wilma Rudolph not only broke track records and won Olympic medals but she inspired one of Tennessee State University's current Tigerbelle, Juanita Thomas, to run track.

"Ever since I was little, I knew that I wanted to go to the Wilma Rudolph school," Thomas said. "I didn't find out the name of TSU until I was older."

CoCo, as Thomas is affectionately called by her friends, is a distance runner and has been running for 10 years. She has been a Tigerbelle for four years and she clocked her best time in the Ohio Valley Conference Cross Country's Championship in Murray, Ky., this year, with a time of 19 minutes and 28.5 seconds.

"She works really hard and she has a great personality," Tigerbelle head coach Chandra Cheeseborough said. "(Teammate) Rae'Ven Richards and Juanita usually place right behind one another."

CoCo is a graduating senior from Detroit majoring in health, physical education and recreation and plans to attend graduate school at TSU to receive a master's degree in physical education. She maintains a 3.6 grade point average while on an athletics scholarship and is in the Golden Key National Honor Society. CoCo is active in the NAACP,

Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Senior Senate, *The Tennessean* yearbook staff, the Michigan Club and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc.

"I don't hold any executive board positions because by me running so much, I don't want to take a position and not be there when I am needed," she said.

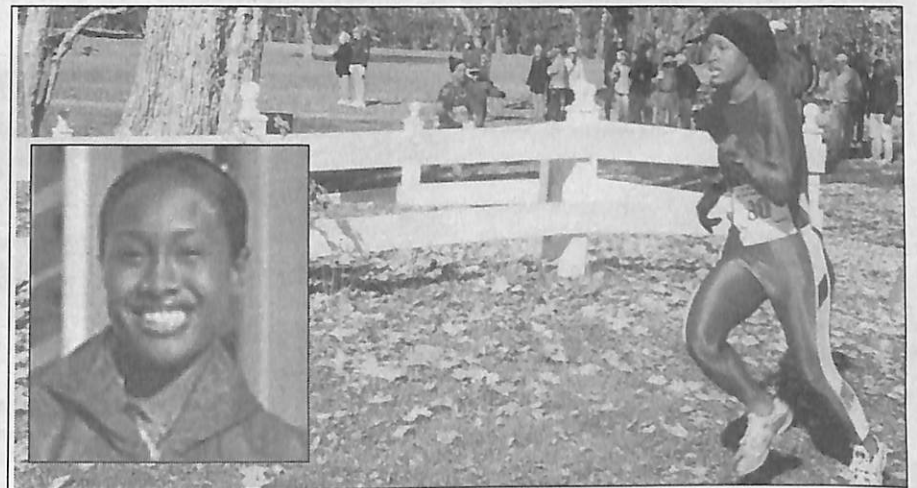
A typical day for CoCo begins with running from 6 a.m. until 7 a.m., class from 8 a.m. to 1:50 p.m., track practice from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., and her day ends with meetings from one of her organizations, homework and laying down for bed at midnight.

Besides running, CoCo enjoys shopping, hanging out with her line sisters and traveling back to Detroit, if her schedule permits.

"The stereotypes that student athletes have it easy are not true," Thomas said. "They expect more out of us than traditional students because there are times we leave school on a Tuesday and won't return until Sunday. We have to make up that work, regardless. If we don't have the GPA, we can't stay eligible, therefore the added pressure is hard."

Friends of CoCo admire the discipline she displays in running track, maintaining a feasible social life and upholding her grades.

"She is a very involved young lady... she gives 100 percent to the sorority," said Amaris Johnson, president of DST.

Sports
Spotlight

PHOTOS COURTESY OF JUANITA THOMAS AND TSUTIGERS.COM

Former Tigerbelle Wilma Rudolph inspired Juanita Thomas to run track at TSU.

"We are proud of her for her accomplishments... as she continues the legacy of great sorors initiated in Alpha Chi such as Wilma Rudolph."

CoCo has three sisters and a brother, who ran track before he decided to start a family. She said she admires her father for raising her as a single parent. She said he taught her to be independent and thinks he did a "very good" job raising her.

"I'm in school with no kids," she said. "My father is my biggest fan and number one supporter and he is always down here when he can."

Her advice for incoming freshmen seeking to be student athletes is to not fall into the hype.

"Do it for a reason and contribute something to the team," she said. "You have to grow up and make sure you are able to handle the pressure because you

are not going to be able to run home whenever you want to; we are your family now."

Rudolph always will be remembered for winning five gold medals, but Thomas does not want the TSU family to remember her as a Tigerbelle or as a Delta.

With her master's degree, she said she wants to open a physical education camp for obese children to help build their confidence and self-esteem and lose weight at the same time.

"I want them to remember me for my positive impact on the school," she said. "Once I graduate, I will be here working with other student athletes and when I get a good job, I will contribute funds to the university."•

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Sports

Belmont defeats TSU on senior night

By Eddie Cole
Sports Writer

The Tennessee State volleyball team dropped the match 0-3 against cross-town rivals the Belmont University Bruins on senior night in front of 221 fans in their last home game of the season, Tuesday, Nov. 4, in Kean Hall.

TSU honored seniors Kristin King and Jennifer Corral before the game. King is one of only two players in TSU volleyball history to be a four-year captain and Corral in just two years here has been an Ohio Valley Conference honorable mention.

"Kristin King has been here the longest and it's tough to see her go," head volleyball coach Dawn Reese said. "Jennifer Corral is one of the hardest workers that I've coached."

After the match, the Bruins' record was 5-20, 3-7 in the Atlantic Sun Conference, and the Lady Tigers' record was 6-22, 0-12 in the OVC. In game one, the Bruins jumped out to an early 15-9 lead. The Lady Tigers were forced to call a timeout with the score at 23-16 to stay within striking distance, but Belmont's

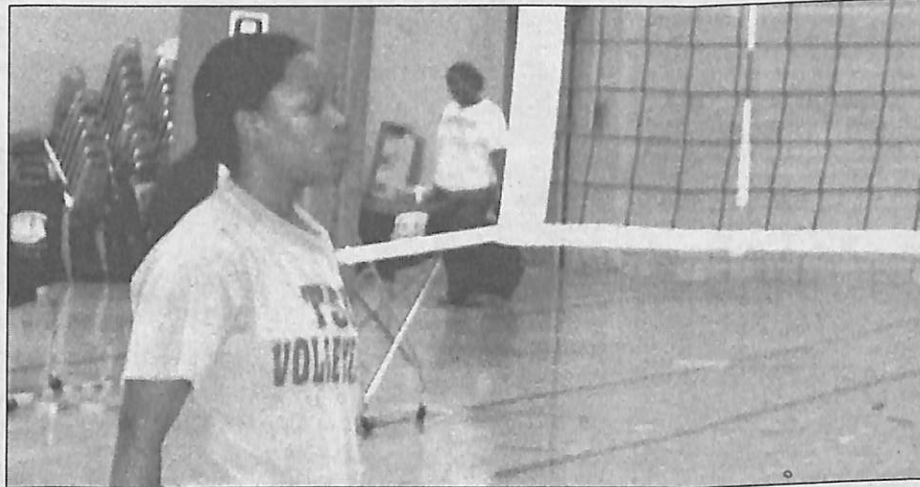


PHOTO BY SIRR THOMAS

Kristin King participates in one of her last practices as a Lady Tiger Monday, Nov. 12 in Kean Hall.

.325 hitting percentage in game one led them to a 30-24 win.

"It's been a long dreadful season for the seniors," said Travis Saulsberry, a freshman from Memphis majoring in nursing. "And to drop senior night 3-0, it's just heartbreaking."

The Lady Tigers started trading points for points with the Bruins early in game two. However, TSU's six ball han-

dling errors in the game were just what Belmont needed to hand the Lady Tigers an 18-30 loss.

The Lady Tigers jumped out with a 4-0 lead in the third game. The good start wasn't enough to stop the determined Bruins, who were only one game away from a school record four straight match wins. Belmont stormed back and took a 23-17 lead and handed TSU a 30-21 loss

in game three.

"Tonight's loss should serve as motivation for years to come," said Jermaine Coleman, a freshman from Atlanta majoring in music education. "The rule for sports is if you can't win any game, at least win homecoming and senior night."

Corral recorded 18 kills and 11 digs in her final game in Kean Hall and Catherine Armwood led the team with 13 digs and Shelby Myers added 10 of her own. Jodi Webber and Erin Jansen led the Bruins both with 10 kills each.

Lindsay Cleveland added 16 digs and Jansen recorded 15 digs for Belmont.

"We've got four more left, but I wish we could have won that (Belmont game)," Reese said. "It's kind of tough now, we have lots of injuries and not a lot of depth."

Sophomore Jade Cabell sprained her thumb, freshman LaQuata Marsh tore ligaments in her hand, freshman Shelby Myers sprained her knee and senior Jennifer Corral sprained her ankle this season.

Volleyball team loses road games

The Tennessee State University volleyball team lost 3-1 to the University of Tennessee at Martin Skyhawks Saturday, Nov. 8 in Martin.

The Lady Tigers (6-23, 0-13 Ohio Valley Conference) kept game one close, but UTM (6-24, 4-10 OVC) held on for the win. TSU won game two, but UTM won the two remaining games when they capitalized on the Lady Tigers' errors.

TSU's senior Jennifer Corral recorded a double double, with 22 kills and 10 digs. Freshman Shelby Myers had a match-high 44 assists.

Kentucky wins women's golf first tournament

In its second year, the Tennessee

State University women's golf team hosted its first-ever tournament at the Nashboro Golf Course Monday, Nov. 3, with the University of Kentucky finishing first in the two-day competition.

UK's final score read 640, with Maggie Miller leading with a 157 score.


Nashville's Belmont University came in second overall, and UK's Ali Kicklighter and Radford University's Laura Terebey came in second with individual scores of 158.

TSU fell into fifth place led by Leslie Scarborough's 18th placing with a 175 score.

Compiled by Tamika L. Jefferson


Tiger Briefs

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