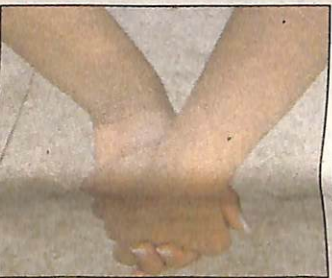
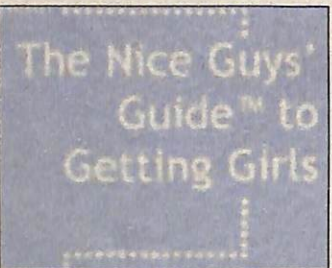




The world watches, refugees flee, and troops deploy as Haiti turmoil heightens. **Page 6**



Find out if America is ready to make the nation "free" to homosexuals. **Page 4**



Good girls will no longer like the bad boys. Nice guys are playing by new rules. **Page 10**



Tiger golf team swings into the spring. **Page 11**



PHOTO BY ELBERT JAQUESS, JR.

Keisha Chattman perfects her craft for the Lady Tigers' three-game home stand, March 9-13.

Tigers softball strikes preseason sparks

By Sheena Hamilton
 Sports Writer

The Tennessee State University Lady Tiger softball team's (2-5) preseason play so far reveals a handful of standouts.

First-year players, such as Keisha Chattman and Caryn Barber, are stepping

up to the plate. Chattman statistically leads the Lady Tigers with 50 percent batting and on-base averages. Barber leads the team in walks and attempted steals, with two for each.

"This year coach (Joyce) Maudie got a chance to recruit a lot more," said See "Maudie" on page 11

John Henry's creates jobs, continues legacy

By Sherpri G. Giles
 Editor in Chief

John Henry Heidelberg, owner of North Nashville's John Henry's Restaurant and Showcase, tries to help students achieve their goals by offering them leading opportunities in his restaurant.

Tennessee State University students may see more than 12 familiar faces of

their colleagues working in the restaurant.

"(Heidelberg) is (supportive of) young Blacks getting their start," said Christopher Smith, John Henry's marketing and events director, who is also a graduate student at TSU from Coco Beach, Fla., majoring in public administration. "To allow students to run his business shows a lot of dedication to future leaders."

See "Oprah" on page 3

Women athletes wear jerseys, dresses

By Tamika L. Jefferson
 Sports Editor

Without push-up bras, dresses or skirts, except tennis players, and for the most part, makeup, some women athletes are able to maintain their femininity in their respective sports without the lesbian stigma attached.

While femininity is defined as the quality or nature of the female sex, according to the Merriam Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, some Tennessee State University women athletes are more inclined to maintain manicures and hairstyles and not sag their pants, among other things, to maintain their images as women.

"I realize that I am a lady first and an athlete second," said Kristin King, a senior from East St. Louis, Ill., and the captain of the TSU volleyball team. "I'm entitled to wear what I want to wear. The day I feel

like wearing jogging pants and a hat, I can; I bought it. I don't feel like female athletes should be condemned for their different style of dress."

Women athletes are sometimes viewed by their peers as lesbians because they wear pony-tails or braids in their hair without the weave,



PHOTO BY ELBERT JAQUESS, JR.

Tigerbelle Margertha McLean models her casual wear.

See "Athletes" on page 11

Campus News

CIT software helps campus e-mail evade viruses

By Ashley Northington
Campus News Editor

The Communication Information and Technology department has updated its software to detect derogatory words or phrases associated with viruses or SPAM to protect university e-mail accounts, according to Eric Reed, web/portal administrator.

Messages containing words or phrases like "xxx," penis, vagina, adult sex, porno, spick, honkey, sex toys, nigger, nigga and gangsta are either modified or rejected from the e-mail account by the virus definitions.

"We have always (performed this function)," Reed said. "We buy more as new software enters the marketplace."

CIT uses a combination of Microsoft Windows, Solaris, E-safe appliances, Command Anti-Virus, and other virus definitions in order to "protect" university e-mail accounts.

On March 1, the devices rejected 11,565 incoming e-mail messages and

modified 49,877 messages with viruses. The virus definitions recognize viruses because each one has a specific "signature" or trademark. These messages are modified by deleting the parts that contain the triggered phrases. Messages with viruses attached are modified by deleting the virus.

Student/teacher e-mail messages that contain words like penis or vagina, possibly originating from the biology department, can be permitted if the CIT department is aware of it in advance. The department also has the option to alter the list so that teachers and students can communicate academically.

"On one hand it is great the university protects us from SPAM and viruses," said D'Alva Franklin, a sophomore majoring in mass communication with emphasis in radio and television from Gallatin, Tenn. "On another hand it is unfortunate if the message is legit and not allowed because it contained a particular phrase."

Reed stresses the importance of the department's objectives in protecting

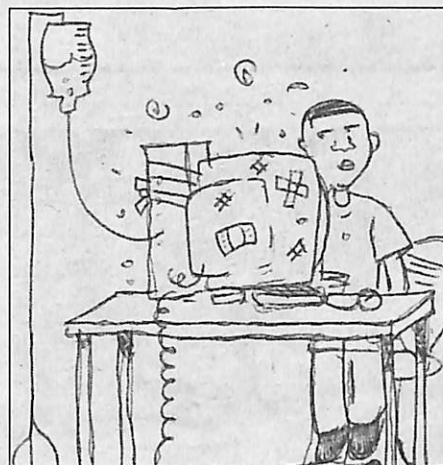


ILLUSTRATION BY KEITH MOORE

Students sometimes have difficulty receiving legit e-mails.

students, faculty and administration from viruses, SPAM and limited storage space in e-mail accounts.

"(CIT) just want to make sure business is protected," Reed said. "What would happen if viruses and SPAM were permitted to interrupt business?" he questioned.

Events Calendar

March 8

Sexual Awareness Seminar
LRC Auditorium
5 p.m.

Uncut Live

T.E. Poag Auditorium
7: 30 p.m.

March 9

Brother to Brother Seminar
FPCC Rm. 210
7 p.m.

March 10

Footsteps of a Millionaire
FPCC Rm. 210
6 p.m.

People's Choice Awards
T.E. Poag Auditorium
8 p.m.

March 12

The World's Best Kept Secret
FPCC Rm. 210
6:30 p.m.

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Community News

Same-sex marriages sweep the nation

By Courtney Hawkins
Community News Writer

President George W. Bush called for a constitutional amendment to ban same-sex marriages Feb. 24., after the city of San Francisco and the state of Massachusetts declared that same-sex couples had the right to get married.

When San Francisco began to issue marriage licenses to gay couples, an estimated 2,700 people got married there during the weekend of February 20-22. New Paltz mayor Jason West in New York married 25 gay couples Feb. 27, and numerous same-sex couples were married in Portland, Ore., last week.

Bush said the ruling allowing same-sex marriage was "deeply troubling."

"Marriage is a sacred institution between a man and a woman," he said. "If activist judges insist on re-defining marriage by court order, the only alternative will be the constitutional process.



ILLUSTRATION BY KEITH MOORE

Displays of affection among homosexuals are no longer kept behind closed doors.

We must do what is legally necessary to defend the sanctity of marriage."

Marriage rights have played an ongoing role in American history. It was

not until after the civil war that Blacks were allowed to marry all across the United States. And the U.S. Supreme Court did not allow interracial couples to marry until 1967. Until the 1970s, no one had tried to contest the Constitution on same-sex marriages according to Religious Tolerance, an organization that fights for freedom to people of all religions.

In April 2003, Holland was the first to make it legal for gay couples to get married.

"I don't think (same-sex marriages) should be banned," said Christen Whatt, a junior from Detroit majoring in computer science. "The heart doesn't have a gender."

Not all citizens take the liberal approach to dealing with the idea of same-sex marriages.

"I don't think that same-sex marriages are natural," said Tommy Humphrey, a junior from Nashville

majoring in Africana studies.

The decision of granting marriage licenses to gay couples may not come easy if it comes at all. States such as Tennessee, Georgia, Alabama, Missouri and Illinois have already made it difficult to legalize same-sex marriages by issuing a Defense of Marriage Act, which has banned same-sex marriages since 1996.

Same-sex marriages may be a major topic for the 2004 election year. This decision has the power to change laws that have been enforced by the Constitution for hundreds of years.

"(Same-sex marriage) is immoral and blasphemous," said David Miller, a sophomore from Nashville majoring in criminal justice. "I disagree simply because God made Adam and Eve, not Adam and Steve."•

Oprah discoverer 'rejuvenates' Jefferson Street

Continued from page 1

Heidelberg, or "the man who discovered Oprah Winfrey," is a TSU alumnus and is also the owner of WVOL 1470, Nashville's oldest radio station of 52 years. He said Winfrey came into the station at age 17 while she was in high school soliciting funds for the March of Dimes walk-a-thon. He felt she was so talented and articulate that he asked her father if she could work for the station.

Heidelberg said she didn't want to work in broadcasting, but she excelled as a weather girl. His relationship later grew closer with Winfrey, and he sponsored and escorted her as Miss Fire Prevention. Through his encouragement she's now the richest Black woman in broadcasting.

"It is great to see a TSU alum continue on the trail of the positive movement to rejuvenate this community," Smith said of Heidelberg.

John Henry's, a pocket filled with remnants of Southern Jazz and food billed as "fine dining with a taste of soul," opened last fall in the old Jubilee restaurant building at 1036 Jefferson Street. The Nov. 25 debut of the restau-

rant and showcase was a concept created by Heidelberg.

It is located in a two-story lavender building next to California Nails. Upon entering the restaurant, customers will be greeted with a smile from a host/hostess who seats the guests in the main dining area which has two big screen movie projectors for entertainment. The restaurant seats approximately 273 people.

John Henry's joins no fewer than a dozen eateries-- including fast food and fine dining-- that dot Jefferson Street. It is minutes from Kijiji Coffee House and Harper's restaurant.

The menu features a number of chicken, steak and seafood entrees ranging from \$7 to \$20. TSU students get a 10 percent discount with college identification. Each meal can be complimented with a glass of fine wine of choice from the full-size bar located on the second level of the restaurant overlooking the dance floor.

"I recommend people to come in for a quick bite during lunch, or an elegant dinner," said public relations intern Quiana Shute, a senior majoring in speech communication and theatre from

Nashville. "It is even great to just stop by for drinks with friends at the elegant bar."

John Henry's also features specialty days like Family Night Monday, Crab Night Tuesday, Amateur Night Wednesday, "A Taste of Jazz" Thursday and Friday, and Saturday and Sunday's are open for promotional events.

"This year the (AKA) Jazz Set was at John Henry's and it was really nice," said Laura Sherrod, a junior political science major from Huntsville, Ala. "The area inside the club was open, spacious and perfect for the classy and formal affair."

Jazz artists including Hershel Bailey, Story Book and Descendants of Reality have performed at the restaurant. The next event is scheduled for March 17 with the official after-party of the Erykah Badu and Floetry concert.

"This is a place for the upcoming professionals to enjoy themselves," Smith said. "Prospective customers can look forward to a lot of events geared toward mature students who are looking for more than parties to entertain them, but more of an upscale atmosphere."

John Henry's is open Monday



PHOTO BY SHERPRI G. GILES

John Henry's second level overlooks the buffet bar, dining tables and two big screen televisions on the main level.

through Thursday 11 a.m. to midnight, Friday and Saturday 11 a.m. to 2 a.m., and Sunday 12:30 p.m. to midnight. For more information, contact the restaurant at 615-256-5995.•

Forum

United States of America: Home of the heterosexual



Sherpri
G.
Giles
Editor in Chief

The United States is a free country to everyone, except gays.

President George W. Bush, who claims he is a "uniter and not a divider," called on Congress to approve a constitutional amendment to bar same-sex marriage. He, along with other social conservatives, wants to stop gays from marrying, as they are in San Francisco.

Most members of Congress agree that marriage should be a union between a man and a woman.

The Defense of Marriage Act, passed by Congress in 1996, has not been tested in court. The law says states are not required to recognize same-sex marriages from other states. But far fewer want to enshrine that social construct in the Constitution. Things must change for the times. Congress is looking down on the amendment because it has been amended only 27 times in 215 years, which was last amended in 1992. To become law, an amendment must win two-thirds

majority in both the House and Senate, then be ratified by three-fourths, or 38, of the states.

People feel as though there is evil in being different, but look in the mirror. As Black people we were called beasts, nigger and more because our skin was darker, lips fuller and hair wavier. Did this make us outcasts? Did we not deserve the same rights as others? We fought for our rights to be equal and the Constitution was amended.

In 1870, the 15th Amendment established that, "The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude." In 1920, the 19th Amendment established that, "The right of citizens

of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex. Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation." In 1971, the 26th Amendment established that, "The right of citizens of the United States, who are 18 years of age or older, to vote, shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or any state on account of age."

So, why can't we amend the



PHOTO BY ELBERT JAQUESS, JR.

Sexual statures are no longer taboo subjects.

Constitution for gays? Is it because same-sex marriages aren't normal? Well, what is the definition of normal, genders having sex with more than one mate? Oh, no. That is not our business. Or does the opposition come from the thought of a same-sex couple raising a family? Oh no, we would rather a man and woman beat the living crap out of a child than for him to live in a loving same-sex atmosphere. What is normal is children growing up in a single parent household? Yeah, that is it.

Everybody deserves the same rights no matter whom they sleep with in bed. It is a free country. The government needs to pay less attention to what people are doing in their bedrooms and more to the economy in regards to social security and more.

From
Where
I
Sit

What We Think

Haitians have no refuge in US

Despite the United Nations refugee agency's request for countries near Haiti not to turn away refugees, President George W. Bush declared that all Haitians will be sent back home if they try to come to the United States.

As of Feb. 28, the U.S. Coast Guard intercepted approximately 500 people at sea and sent them back to Haiti. Cuba, Jamaica, and Canada have opened their doors to the Haitian refugees and Jamaica has accepted more than 100 people.

America considers for admission as refugees "persons of special humanitarian concern who can establish persecution or a well-founded fear of persecution." If the Haitians are not people who are in special humanitarian need, then who is? It seems our nation has a history of deterring Haitian refugees from our shores. In December 2001 and October 2002, when countless Haitians showed up in Florida, the United States increased the criteria required Haitian refugees to gain admittance. And last December the Department of State reportedly contacted non-governmental agencies about setting up refugee camps as another way to keep them out of the country. It's shameful that Bush can send thousands of U.S. troops to "liberate" the people of Iraq and even send Marines to Haiti, but he refuses those who are desperately searching for immediate relief from their current state of misery.

If Bush was really sincere about helping people, it seems that we would be less of regulators and be more true liberators. What is it about the Haitian people that disqualifies them from the "protection and life-sustaining relief for victims of conflict around the globe," that the U.S. government says it provides? Whatever the excuse, Bush is denying Haitians one form of humanitarian effort that every person deserves.

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The Meter

The Measure of Student Opinion and Sentiment

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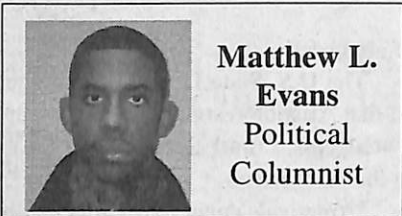
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The Meter capitalizes the letter "B" in the word "Black" when it refers to people of African descent in accordance with the Oxford American and other dictionaries.

Forum

SGA abandons impartial leadership



Matthew L. Evans
Political Columnist

Tennessee State University's Student Government Association has failed to recognize that there is more than one political ideology on campus. With more than 8,000 students enrolled at TSU this semester, there are bound to be different ways of political thinking. However, with recent promises made by the SGA and its president, this fact has been blatantly ignored with the sponsorship of a partisan political organization – the College Democrats.

In general, a SGA is the designated leadership of a student body, composed of fellow students of various classifications, who all should have the same agenda, focusing on the advancement of student life wherein all students are involved. With that stated, it should be appalling to the TSU student body that our SGA has chosen to not take that path. Instead, it has chosen to do what it thinks is best for us without consulting the student body itself. I'm not sure about other students, but I never received a survey from our illustrious SGA asking if I am a Republican or Democrat. Are most students Republican, Democrat or independent? Well, the SGA never bothered to ask, so it must not be too concerned.

With the lack of interest in students' political thought, the SGA has not fairly contributed to the political atmosphere on campus. If students aren't informed in an unbiased fashion about American politics, then the TSU student body will slowly become out of touch with political reality and greatly lag behind universities such as Howard or the University of California-Berkeley, two of the many politically active campuses in America. Any consistency of this negligence will hinder the future of all students at TSU and at a rate of 8,000 plus students being enrolled, growing yearly, the number of politically ignorant graduates will continue to increase.

The administration, faculty and student leaders (SGA) of TSU should work to create a non-partisan environment that stimulates students' interest

in politics and the world around them. This means that the administration, when planning for speakers to visit the university and lecture, should take into consideration choosing politically-minded individuals whose ideologies completely vary. Therefore, students may be exposed to different opinions and viewpoints, in turn, forming their own decisions in an unbiased atmos-



PHOTO BY SIRR THOMAS

Evans says the SGA, led by President Shawntaz Crawford (pictured above), is biased in its support of the College Democrats.

phere. This also means that when lecturing students, professors should try to hold impartial discussions instead of

imposing their beliefs cleverly through their speeches while educating students. The aforementioned ideas combined with the SGA restructuring its bias with all students in mind, would be the first step in the right direction. Then maybe every student would have a fair chance to learn more about politics without a biased opinion, whether it be liberal or conservative.

Another solution to this ongoing problem could be for the administration to encourage students to participate in political activities. Students should then take some initiative so that they are not always in the dark about politics in America. If the right opportunity is given to participate in the political process and if students take advantage of those opportunities allotted to them, then TSU will soon become more of a politically active campus.

With that, who knows, TSU could be the Berkeley of the 21st century. If not, then our ignorance will continue to be bliss. Until then, I am still waiting to receive a political survey in my P.O. Box. If anyone else receives one from our illustrious SGA, please feel free to notify me.

Email: matthewlevans@msn.com•

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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.

Community News

Warfare weighs on Caribbean country

By Keith Moore

Community News Writer

Haiti's first democratically elected president Jean-Bertrand Aristide fled into exile Feb. 29, after receiving pressure from the international community and from insurgent rebel fighters who were calling for his immediate resignation.

U.S. Marines arrived in Haiti Feb. 29, after Aristide's departure, to help restore order to the nation's chaotic state.

President George W. Bush sent 50 U.S. Marines to protect or evacuate the U.S. embassy and 2,200 more Marines have been put on alert by Pentagon officials to watch for refugees sailing from Haiti's major ports. Bush warned that the United States would turn away all refugees looking to flee the growing chaos. The Dominican Republic doubled the number of troops along the 225-mile border they share with Haiti.

"It shouldn't take very long (to restore peace)," said Dr. Daniel Gibran, Tennessee State University professor for international relations. "The entire country (Haiti) is not up in arms. It's not Iraq. Haiti's problem is strictly domestic."

Since a disputed election in 2000, distrust has been widespread amongst the Haitian government.

Violence erupted in the Northern



PHOTO COURTESY OF YAHOO.COM

A Haitian boy attempts to loot a television set from a cell at the general prison in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, March 2.

Haitian city of Gonaives Feb. 5, as rebel fighters began an offensive attack. The rebel group of 5,000 calls itself the National Resistance Front to Liberate Haiti, and it claims that Aristide runs Haiti with widespread corruption, flawed policies and is actively involved in international drug trafficking. The members blame Aristide for Haiti's current problems of poverty, high infant mortality rate and an increase in the AIDS population. The resistance is calling for the arrest of Aristide so he can be tried

before a court for charges of murder and corruption.

"In their society most people are living below the poverty line, and as a result there are grievances, which leads to violence," Gibran said. "Thus, these economic, political and social grievances must be addressed."

The government opposition took control of all of Northern Haiti including Les Cayes, Haiti's third largest city, and Cap Hatien, the second largest city. Rebel leader, Guy Phillippe, said they were moving towards the capital, Port-au-Prince, and were in position to take hold of the city if Aristide didn't resign.

Aristide dismissed the rebel's accusations, in an interview on Feb. 26, calling the guerrilla insurgents "nothing more than terrorists." He said that resigning from office was "out of the question" and he planned to "serve out his full term in office," which ends in February 2006.

Aristide sought the intervention of the United States and the international community, in order to "protect the ideal of democracy."

"Washington (D.C) should stand for democracy in Haiti," Aristide said. "We need the presence of the international community as soon as possible."

Aristide called for the occupation of American and international police forces to extinguish the rebel uprising and

retain order.

The U.S. State Department suggested that Aristide resign and give power to a predecessor until elections can be held in the summer.

"America's concern is with elections and not with the satisfaction of the Haitian people," Gibran said.

Haiti is one of the poorest countries in the western hemisphere and the country of 8 million people has been a scene of political violence many times in its 200-year history. Opposition forces are capturing and killing suspected Aristide supporters and pro-government militants. Aristide supporters are looting and vandalizing the capital of Port-au-Prince. As food prices rise, gasoline becomes scarcer and there is only one hospital operating in the capital.

Pressure is mounting for a diplomatic solution to be reached, and while the United States offers assistance, some question the nation's continual involvement in numerous foreign crises.

"The U.S. needs to focus on domestic problems," said Hodari Brown, a political science major from Detroit. "We are already in Afghanistan and Iraq. We police the world, (but) we can't be the only world leaders out there."•

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Community News

Picks of the Pack

What are your suggestions for students dealing with depression?



Name: Cameron Henderson

Classification: Freshman

Major: Art

Hometown: Memphis

"I like to listen to music, go shopping or hang with friends to take my mind off of what's upsetting me. I also suggest that you always have someone to talk to to help you through your problems."



Name: Josef Robinson

Classification: Junior

Major: Business Administration

Hometown: Atlanta

"The key to dealing with depression is to find some form of spirituality. You should find a higher power, and you will find a source of strength to overcome your obstacles."



Name: Shari Thompson

Classification: Junior

Major: Business Information Systems

Hometown: San Jose, Calif.

"I always try to talk to someone and let them know what I'm going through, and I find that my friends always have positive words of encouragement to help me out."



Name: Deshon Murphy

Classification: Senior

Major: Psychology

Hometown: Clarksville

"I think it's really important to develop a relationship with God. During times of frustration, prayer is the best way to deal with depression."

A depressing issue

On the front line: Part 4 of 4



Gregory Brand
Layout Editor

According to the National Mental Health Association, Black Americans are more likely to suffer from a common type of depression called bipolar disorder and not receive diagnosis. This is especially sad because NMHA records show that one in five Blacks with bipolar disorder, also called manic-depressive disorder, will commit suicide.

The study said that lack of trust in the medical industry is the primary cause of Blacks not knowing whether or not they suffer from the disorder.

"My father was diagnosed with mild depression when I was in high school," said freshman education major Deshenia Anderson. "He now takes medication to help him. I'm glad he has it."

Manic depression is characterized by feeling extreme highs, or periods of over-the-top jubilation, and extreme lows, or periods of amplified sadness or discomfort. These changes can occur at rapid intervals but most often happen gradually.

The highs are called periods of mania, when the person is characterized as being overly talkative, and energized. The lows are the points of depression when nothing can lift them out of the trenches.

Depression in general is defined as a psychiatric disorder characterized by an inability to concentrate, insomnia, loss of appetite, feelings of extreme sadness, guilt, helplessness and hopelessness, and thoughts of death. These abnormalities are caused by irregular chemical imbalances in the brain.

"Depression is a type of dysphoria (mental delusion)," Tennessee State University senior psychological examiner Lynn Swain said. "It is longer lasting and more severe than normal sadness and irri-

tability and it originates in the person's mind."

The three main types of depression are major depression, the type that is viewed as "depression" by the main public, dysthymia, which is not disabling, and bipolar disorder. Although often characterized with mood swings and endless feelings of sadness, depression is not exclusively limited to those feelings.

People suffering from major depression experience disturbances in eating and sleeping habits and also face uncontrollable sadness and lack of motivation. Though there is no known cause of depression, this type has been closely linked to drastic changes in one's living condition and huge losses.

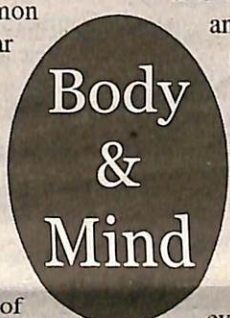
"Some forms of depression can even be substance abuse induced,"

Swain said. "Using drugs and substances like marijuana, cocaine and alcohol create changes in the brain that cause depression symptoms."

Dysthymia is less severe and is characterized by some of the same symptoms as major depression. The symptoms often manifest themselves as bad feelings, sour moods and temporary lapses in energy. Most people with this form of depression will experience a period of major depression at some point in their lives, according to the National Institute of Mental Health.

To help remedy the problems that come with depression, counseling is offered as well as mood-altering prescription drugs like Zoloft, Prozac and Paxil. These drugs are designed to produce chemicals for more balanced behavior by controlling the serotonin levels within the brain.

"With younger sufferers drugs are sometimes more necessary because symptoms can manifest themselves with a higher level of irritability than the normal sadness of depression," Swain said.



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Community News

Abortion stipulations may become voter issue

By Stephanie Woodruff
Campus News Writer

As Tennesseans watch for political issues surrounding the November presidential election, they might see the matter of abortion stipulations become a part of the ballot.

The state senate proposed a bill stating that abortion shall only be permitted in the event of the following three circumstances: incest, rape or danger to the mother.

"I don't think the government should have a say so because a woman's body is her own property and no one else's."

-Erica Davis

More than 700 pro-life supporters gathered outside the Tennessee Capitol in January to kick-off efforts to pass a resolution that would allow for a public vote in 2006 on the matter of abortion stipulations.

"If it was important enough to vote on amending the Constitution to open a lottery, then we should have a say on a matter of life and death," said Brian Harris, president of Tennessee Right to

Life.

Tennessee politicians are debating whether the decision should be left up to the Tennessee supreme judges, or if the people should be allowed to vote.

"It is the woman's right to do what she sees fit in her situation," said Arnale Trotter, a freshman business information systems major from Detroit.

Sen. David Fowler, a Republican, and Rep. Mike Turner, a Democrat, are the primary sponsors of the bill. They are supported by groups such as the Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention and Black Americans for Life.

Among those against the bill include Sen. Roy Herron, a Democrat. The American Civil Liberties Union is also against the bill stating that it believes the bill would only target a certain group of people.

Protesters on both sides of the abortion argument are waiting to see what the senate decides regarding the issue. The abortion rights issue has been going on for years, but voting may now fall onto future ballots, and into the hands of the people.

"I don't think the government should have a say so because a woman's body is her own property and no one else's," said Erica Davis, a freshman history major. "If she chooses to have an abortion then that is her choice."



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Arts & Entertainment

Spielberg classic earns acclaim

Schindler's List is an exceptional story about attempted genocide of Jewish people. It is an important film because it educates viewers about past atrocities to help prevent future ones.

Special features on this DVD include *Voices from the List*, a 77-minute documentary produced by the Shoah Foundation that shows testimonies from Schindler survivors, and a behind the scenes story with Academy Award-winning director Stephen Spielberg as he explores landmarks of educational enlightenment made possible through the Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation.

The Shoah Foundation, created in 1994, established an international educational outreach that developed more than 30 visual history collections. The foundation produced several documentaries, which were shown in multiple countries, created educational tools available to millions of students across the globe and facilitated training workshops for more than 1,000 teachers in three countries. These educational programs were constructed to provide awareness about racism and social injustice.

Included in the special edition col-



PHOTO COURTESY OF GOOGLE.COM

Left to Right: Ralph Fiennes, Ben Kingsley, Steven Spielberg and Liam Neeson.

lector's gift set is a book of photographs, a foreword by Steven Spielberg, and the soundtrack all enclosed in a Plexiglas case. Available wherever DVDs are sold, this classic release is a great addition to the collection of movie lovers of all genres.



By Jamarran E'mil Moss
A&E Editor

The historical visual masterpiece *Schindler's List*, which grossed \$131 million in the box office in 1993, will be released on DVD by Universal Studios tomorrow. Legendary director Steven Spielberg's founding of the Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation is also being celebrated.

Schindler's List, which was released in 1993, won seven Academy Awards and featured seasoned actors Liam Neeson, Ben Kingsley and Ralph Fiennes. Adapted from Thomas Keneally's novel, this story portrays the horrors of the Holocaust and the brave individuals who defied the fatalistic rule of the Nazis.

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Arts & Entertainment

New book vows to help the 'nice guys'

By **Jamarran E'mil Moss**
A&E Editor

The Nice Guys' Guide to Getting Girls is written by former "Joe Schmoes" who now have mastered the art of befriending attractive women and women in general. What makes these "nice guys" noteworthy is their honesty and simplicity.

The book directly relays women's testimonials as they tell their pet peeves with men's actions. From bad body language to being unconfident conversationalist, this guide gives men pointers on not only how to treat women better, but how to be overall nicer individuals. Chapters within this *Nice Guys' Guide* range from giving step-by-step pointers on how to convey an interesting conversation to providing assistance on getting an ex-girlfriend back.

For "gentlemen," this book is nothing more than a reinforcement of their current ideals. But for all others, it serves as a tool to help men develop relationships with women built on the foundation of chivalry and principles of sincere care for a woman's feelings and well-being.

In addition to this guide providing anecdotal scenarios on how to meet women at different venues and approach tactics, it also has a glossary. The glossary contains innovative phrases that assist in entirely explaining the nice guy personae. CCR (an acronym that stands for compliments, compassion and reas-

urance), dudefest (when more men than women attend a social gathering) and relinquishing short-term sexual desire (viewing women as people not as sex objects) are a few of the terms included in the glossary.

Three appendixes are also included in this guide. Appendix A is "questions to ask a woman that you have just met," appendix B contains "date ideas" and appendix C suggests "recurring event ideas."

The Nice Guys' Guide to Getting Girls is considered to be the number one book women are buying their male friends, according to www.amazon.com. The authors' opinions and methods have been requested on such high rated shows as *The O'Reilly Factor*, MTV's *Big Urban Myth Show* and *The Ricky Lake Show*.

"For 'gentlemen,' this book is nothing more than a reinforcement of their current ideals."

-Jamarran E'mil Moss

The book may be a sign of the devaluation of women and gives a slight pathetic tone that says some men actually do not know how to treat women with dignity, compassion and respect. However, if it wasn't for this book, some men wouldn't have the opportunity to be instructed on how to respectfully treat women.

This book costs \$12.95 and can be purchased at retail bookstores or online at www.TheNiceGuysGuide.com.

Literary Highlights

Lyricist Lounge

Off My Chest

By **Emiliano Styles**

I have come in the midst of confusion
To clear up all illusions
Caused by society's mental contusions
That have ruined hope's well-being
I'm singing
Not because I can,
But because my heart can no longer
Stand being suppressed
It explodes through my mouth like a
Volcanic eruption
By Mt. Everest,
Feel me?

I guess I'm reciting to the wind
Because who knows when air will
Begin or end
But a lot of us stop breathing it.
Clutching crafts because my expression
Fiends for it.

Believe that I mean it,
Every word I say is a crucial decision.
Souls are at stake, I use precision
To become someone's inspiration
The bittersweet taste of liberation
Is left on my tongue,
Left in your minds

I'm kind enough to realize that you
Must be told the truth.
We think it, secretly say it to our close
Friends, then get mad when someone's
Bold enough to say it to the masses.
I feel I gain the most knowledge sitting
In the BACK of classes

Because I observe the personalities that
Complete the room's capacity
To radiate a new sense of reality
Of where I will be,
And how close I'm coming to that new
Discovery,
Join me
On a poetic mission
Where I wait patiently for Cavalry like
bites to hooks of fishermen,
Understand? I hope you hear the
sounds vibrated, can't wait to shout the
words, "Finally I've made it!"
But I'll forever perform acts to attain
What I can never gain and explain the
Unexplainable.

Promises I'm reminded to know
Every time I see a rainbow
That this ain't coincidence and that I
have a purpose. Every time I rip, I get
Anxious, cause this may be my last
Chance to show all doubters and non-
Believers that I can do cant's focused
on My destination. Seems like I'm in a
Trance. I ignore trends, raves, rants, to
Be classic and "create definitive works
that people find hard to surpass," They
look and glance, see me around like
plants. Though I'm still you doubt that
I'm living? Nevertheless,
I'm competing in an internal mental
Contest, but I'm giving my all to this
world. I hate to feel regret.
God Bless•

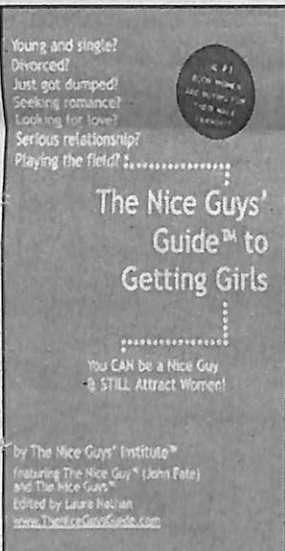
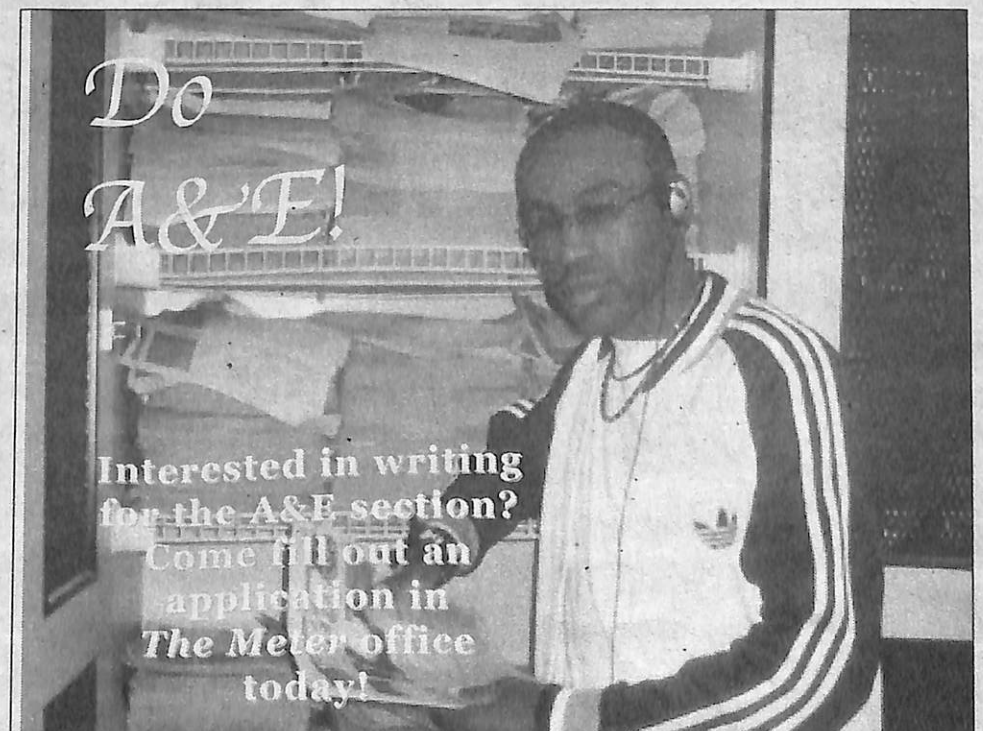


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Sports

Tigers fall close in OVC Tournament

The eighth-seed Tennessee State Tigers fought with the top-seed Austin Peay State University Governors in the Ohio Valley Conference Tournament opening round March 2.

The Govs won 74-71 against the Tigers, whose 7-21 and 6-10 OVC record

turned the ball over and APSU hit one of two free throws with 1.8 seconds left to seal the win.

Junior forward Roshawn Bowers led TSU with 18 points. Austin Peay's Josh Lewis recorded a double-double with 17 points and 12 rebounds.
Tamika L. Jefferson

Tiger Briefs



PHOTO COURTESY OF TSUTIGERS.COM

Roshawn Bowers

would seem anything but a winning record. The Govs entered the game with an 16-0 OVC record. TSU led 39-38 at halftime before the Govs took the lead in the second half. TSU kept the game close until the final seconds when they

Tiger golfers win first spring tournament

The Tennessee State men's golf team won the First Annual Samford University Intercollegiate, its first tournament of the spring season.

Junior Robert Dinwiddie continued his success from the fall season by taking the spotlight of the tournament. He finished first in the individual portion, defeating the next closest opponent by

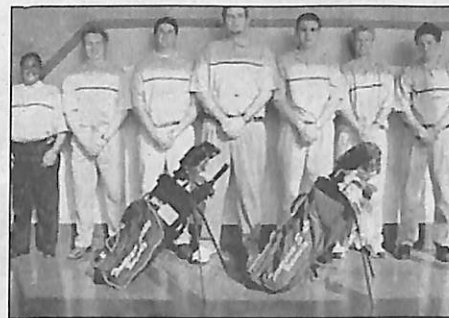


PHOTO COURTESY OF TSUTIGERS.COM

TSU's 2003-04 men's golf team and head coach Catana Starks (far left).

seven strokes. In the fall season, Dinwiddie won the Gulf Coast Collegiate Classic and Charles Southern Fall Invitational.

Eddie Cole

Horton named Athlete of the Year

Nick Horton received the Ohio Valley Conference Male Athlete of the Year honor for his first place finishings in two events during the 2004 OVC Indoor Championships. This is his second consecutive year



PHOTO COURTESY OF TSUTIGERS.COM

Nick Horton

winning the award.

Side Track

Horton led the Flying Tigers to a fourth place finish. He clocked times of 21.30 seconds in the 200-meter dash and 47.62 in the 400-meter dash setting records in both races at Eastern Illinois' Lantz Fieldhouse, Feb. 27-28.

Eddie Cole

Maudie says only team goal is to daily improve

Continued from page 1

Chattman, a sophomore from Little Rock, Ark., who plays outfielder. "This team is her team; we are a new team with new faces and new talent. We have a lot of potential, but it will take some time to mesh."

Last season the Lady Tigers finished 9-33 and 5-16 in the Ohio Valley Conference, which ranked them last. TSU ranks seventh in the conference though conference play does not begin until Saturday, March 27, against the Morehead Lady Racers.

Team captain Misty Adfield, senior pitcher and infielder Shannon Hicks and senior pitcher Alana Thomas, bring experience to the team.

Thomas leads the team in pitching. She pitched 15.1 innings and struck out 14 batters thus far. Hicks ranks right behind Thomas in earned run average, with 4.91 and opposing bat average with .185. Adfield has a 60 percent average in slugs, three runs and one home run under her belt.

"Our preseason schedule is giving us a chance to evaluate the players

more before conference play," Maudie said. "It is also preparing us."

Five freshmen, five sophomores, four juniors and three seniors make up the softball team.

Maudie, who is in her third year as the head coach, said that the only goal for the team is to improve each day, with each game and stay competitive. "Play hard, play smart and play together" is the team motto for this season, she said.

The team can abide by that motto in a three-game home stretch versus Middle Tennessee State University on March 9, Cumberland University on March 10 and Mercer University on March 13. The Lady Tigers are scheduled to travel to Sacramento, Calif., for a three-day tournament at Sacramento State March 19-21.

"I like the preseason schedule," said Marques Scott, a sophomore from Chattanooga majoring in computer science. "A difficult preseason schedule paid off for our basketball team this season in the conference."•

Athletes attempt to shake lesbian stereotype

Continued from page 1

their muscles are toned and they wear athletic gear, such as jogging pants that hang past their waists, according to TSU sophomore Lloyd Azubuike from New York.

Based on research by Mediamark Research and American Demographics, there are 74 million active women in the United States, who spend an estimated \$17 billion annually on athletic apparel. Active women turn out to be very desirable targets, who are mostly college-educated consumers in management and professional occupations, with household incomes exceeding \$60,000. According to a January 2001 Internet study by MarketResearch.com, women's footwear and sports apparel sales will hit \$39 billion by 2005.

"People see them as lesbians when they walk with a limp... and when they let the hair around the edge get nappy," Azubuike said. "When women athletes were younger, they had the mentality of moving like men, especially in basketball."

Kwan Exum, who is the treasurer of TSU's Gay Straight Alliance, said, "People are so closed-minded because all

lesbians don't dress like men. You dress however you feel like dressing that day; your sexual orientation has nothing to do with it."

She also acknowledged that besides taking books to class, a prerequisite for attending class is wearing comfortable, loose-fitting clothes.

"If regular girls wore jogging suits all the time and never show their feminine side, then I'll think something is up," said Fred Jordan, a senior from Nashville majoring in speech communication and theatre. "However, wearing jogging suits is more acceptable for women athletes. We don't want to see women wearing Chuck Taylors (shoes) all the time, maybe some one-inch heels sometimes."

Tigerbelle Juanita Thomas admitted to not looking her best while playing her sport but declared that outside of the sport, the way a woman carries herself is what's important.

"During the day, you just have to throw on some stilettos or some earrings," she said.•

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