



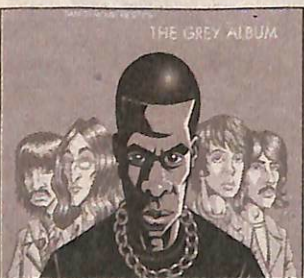
Check out how this artist contributed to TSU on her recent visit.

Page 2



See how laws are changing for smokers.

Page 6



The Beatles' rock and Jay-Z's rap come together on one album.

Page 8



Find out how this sportscaster took the sports world by storm.

Page 11

# Local club boots Blacks

By Kamaria Mack  
 Community News Writer

Two Black men, one a Tennessee State University student, were grabbed and escorted out of Stampede Dance Hall and Saloon in Murfreesboro around midnight Feb. 18, 2004, for wearing inappropriate attire.

After paying \$6 and being inside the club for about 45 minutes, Frederick

Murphy and Jason Richardson were physically escorted out of the establishment by three security guards. Murphy said he was wearing a Ralph Lauren sweater and Richardson was wearing a Sean John polo shirt. He said they were informed to leave because their clothes did not comply with the dress code. The security guards told them that no Sean John, Enyce, Phat Farm or white T-shirts were allowed inside the club.

"I feel that we were targeted because we were Black," said Murphy, a senior, psychology major from Clarksville. "There were white people wearing outfits that were almost identical to ours."

Murphy said they were denied a refund. He said they asked to speak with the manager, but the security guard told them that he was not available and even if he was, he

See "Club" on page 6



PHOTO BY ELBERT JAQUESS JR.

TSU officer Charles Davis places a ticket on an illegally parked vehicle outside of Clay Hall on March 9.

## TSUPD adds security

By Candace James  
 Campus News Writer

The Tennessee State University police department added four new security guards, bringing its total to 16, due to this year's 30 motor vehicle thefts.

New guards are posted in the front

and back of the Holland Hall parking lot, inside of Hankal Hall and in Hankal Hall's parking lot, according to Sylvia Russell, TSU assistant director for the police station. TSU investigator James Kizer said additional security guards are posted in Holland Hall, Torrence Hall, and Eppse parking lots from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

See "Community" on page 3

## Dare to wear natural hair

By Tosha Jones  
 Copy Editor

When Delisa Atwater looks in the mirror, she said she feels free and sees herself the way God intended for her to look.

The 21-year-old Tennessee State University senior did not have these same feelings three months ago when she had chemically processed hair. But in January, she "went natural," cut off all her relaxed hair and hasn't looked back since.

"I am never going back to a perm," she said. "It's great. It feels like me. I feel so comfortable with my hair being natural."

Last May Atwater decided to discontinue applying relaxers, or perms, to her hair to chemically straighten its texture because she said her hair was unhealthy, breaking off and shedding.

"I've had so many positive responses to my natural hair," she said. "A lot of girls have come up to me and said, 'I wish I could do that, but I'm too afraid.'...For so long it seems we're told the way you're supposed to look nice is to have straight hair...and anything that pushes you out of the norm is scary because you don't know how people will accept you."

See "Going" on page 9

## Campus News

# Earlier classes to give TBR students wake up call

By Chasitie S. Goodman  
Campus News Writer

This fall Tennessee State University is expected to start as early as 6:20 a.m. and have 15-minute intervals between classes instead of 10 minutes.

TSU administration initiated these changes in accordance with the new common calendar that the Tennessee Board of Regents plans to implement next academic year so all of its schools would have the same class time schedules.

All TBR classes are scheduled to begin at 6:20 a.m. on Monday, Wednesday and Friday and 6:55 a.m. on Tuesday and Thursday in the fall.

"I think that's too early," said Rashaun Rhodes, a junior from Decatur, Ga., majoring in engineering. "If you have a study session the night before, you have to cut the session short just to get to class the next day."

Extended breaks between classes also stems from student complaints about not being able to make it to class on time, according to Augustus Bankhead, dean of student affairs.

"I think it is a good thing," said Gloria Johnson, associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. "It will be good for those students who have to park."

Ronald Foster, a senior majoring in business administration from



ILLUSTRATION BY DAVID FERGUSON

**Some TSU students could be arriving to class as early as 6:20 a.m. next semester.**

Indianapolis, has to travel from the Avon Williams Campus to the main campus between classes.

"I think (the time) should be 20 (minutes)," he said. "It is hard to make it (to class) in 10 minutes."

Bankhead said, "It is not going to cause hardship. It will actually be more convenient for those students coming from one end of the campus to the other."

The common calendar requires all TBR institutions to start and end classes on the same days. This is expected to eliminate students missing financial aid deadlines when taking courses online.

The new schedule would make general core courses at all TBR institutions the same, allowing students to more easily transfer general requirement classes

among TBR universities and colleges.

There are already a large number of Austin Peay State University students attending class as early as 7 a.m., according to Sheila Bryant, a representative from Austin Peay's public relations office.

All Monday, Wednesday and Friday classes will be five minutes longer, while Tuesday and Thursday classes will be 10 minutes longer. The actual schedule is still in the last stages of finalization, but Bankhead said he expects to enforce the changes next year.

"Frankly, I think that's a good idea," said political science professor Mary A. Evins. "There is probably not a teacher on campus who wouldn't mind a little extra teaching time."

## Activist, artist makes surprise visit

By Chasitie S. Goodman  
Campus News Writer

Margaret Taylor Burroughs, who opened the first independent Black history museum in the country, gave a surprise lecture Thursday, March 4, 2004, at the Tennessee State University Hiram Van Gordon art gallery.

Burroughs, poet and visual artist, is the author of the acclaimed *What Shall I Tell My Children Who Are Black*.

She said she acknowledges nothing negative and credits her students with helping her to open her museum, which was once held in her house but is now in a large building in Washington Park in Chicago. She said it will soon have a



PHOTO COURTESY OF  
THEHISTORYMAKERS.COM

**Margaret Taylor Burroughs**

restaurant and all the extras of most standard museums.

During her visit, Burroughs autographed two original pieces and donated them to TSU's art department.

"I'm so excited," said Shelly Childress, a senior speech communication and theatre major from Nashville. "It is so neat to see a face behind the pieces."

Burroughs has an extensive background as an educator and writer. She has written many children's books and poetry including, *Jasper, the Drummin' Boy* published in 1947, and *Africa My Africa* published in 1970.

"Identify your goal or dream in life," Burroughs said. "You should have in mind what your legacy is going to be so it won't just be a stone tombstone."

## Events Calendar

### March 16

Liz Murry, lecture  
T.E. Poag Auditorium  
1:40 p.m.

### March 17

Greek Grievance  
FPCC Rm. 210  
7 p.m.

### SOCK Party

Elliot Hall  
8 p.m.

### March 18

Greek Roundtable  
FPCC Rm. 210  
6 p.m.

Film *Civil Brand*, followed by  
discussions/questions

FPCC Rm. 210  
6 p.m.

### March 21

Gamma Phi Talent Hunt  
FPCC Rm. 210  
4 p.m.

## Correction

•The Evolution Creative Group sponsored the College Democrats, not the Tennessee State University Student Government Association, as stated in the March 8 issue.

*The Meter* regrets the error and continuously strives to improve.

**Campus News**

# Community joins universities to fight crime

Continued from page 1

Monday through Friday. Guards are also posted in these areas Monday through Friday from 6 p.m. -7:30 a.m.

TSU police Chief Arthur Lawson, said the decision to implement additional security during the day was because most auto thefts are committed during the morning or in the day when there are more cars on the lot.

"I believe that TSU police is not doing their job as officers and there needs to be security in dorms as well as outside each dormitory parking lot," said Christopher Butler, a senior majoring in business administration from Cleveland. "I rarely see security after 3 a.m."

In 2003, there were a total of 214 theft offenses with only a three percent arrest rate, according to the police department campus handbook. There were 30 motor vehicle thefts, yielding a 10 percent arrest rate. In 2002, 71 assault crimes were committed, but 45 arrests were made. Although there were some arrests in assault crime, there were no motor vehicle crimes solved out of the 19

## Reported Crimes

	2003	2002	2001
Larceny	214	200	168
Vehicle Theft	30	19	38
Assault	42	71	61
Burglary	6	9	7
Robbery	3	8	4

SOURCE: 2003 POLICE DEPARTMENT CAMPUS HANDBOOK.

incidents. With larceny at its highest in 2003, 214 incidents were reported while only 13 arrests were made, according to the 2003 police department campus handbook.

"One of the main concerns of safety for students is the security of their vehi-

cles," Student Government Association President Shawntaz Crawford said. "TSU police focuses more on issuing parking tickets and towing cars and less on protecting their vehicles."

In order to help prevent some of these crimes, the local Middle Tennessee community developed a program called the Crime Stoppers of Middle Tennessee. The group is comprised of approximately 20 police units from area universities and colleges such as Vanderbilt University, Middle Tennessee State University and TSU. Surrounding counties in middle Tennessee and Metro City Police are also included. Meetings are held every month at a different school facility. The last CSMT meeting was hosted by the TSUPD in Kean Hall on Feb. 12.

"Some of the crimes discussed at the meetings are resolved, however the purpose of the Crime Stoppers of Middle Tennessee is to make colleges and universities aware of criminal activities and to post them on our most wanted list to every surrounding university," Lawson said.

Charles Cabbage, a former Aramark cashier, was reported by TSUPD to the CSMT's "most wanted list" for theft. After the report was made, his picture was faxed to every surrounding college and university in middle Tennessee. VU reported his appearance, but no arrest was made, according to Lawson.

Along with the monthly meeting with the CSMT, Lawson conducts weekly meetings with his staff every Thursday at 1:30 p.m. in the TSUPD facility located between the Ford Residential Complex and the New Residential Apartments. Also, Lawson and Crime Prevention Counselor Venus Allen, work together to provide students with information on different crimes and how to prevent them.

"We try to get the students out to some of the seminars and make them aware of certain issues concerning student's safety by sending memos via e-mail," Allen said. "Knowledge is power and we don't want our students to be victims of ignorance."•

**Congratulations to the Tennessee State University Peer Counselors for their awards in the 29th Annual Southern Regional Orientation Workshop at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville March 5-7, 2004. They won first place in the banner design competition and second place for most school spirit of large delegation.**



**All Eyez On You Salon**  
**1808 Jefferson Street**  
**8am - 8pm, Tues- Sat**  
**329-3555**  
**10% Student Discount**

## Letters to the Editor

# SGA president challenges partial claim, Meter judgement

## Response From Taz The SGA President

Let's get right to the point. The SGA has nothing to do with my political views and did not sponsor The College Democrats. I have never forced my opinions on anyone and I continuously strive to be a non-partisan representative for the student body. The student government association sponsored an impartial voting drive to encourage the student body to be apart of and brought to presidential candidates to the campus to arouse students interest in the political process. We also extended the invitation to all other candidates who wanted to come to our campus for the exact purpose of being impartial. By the way Mr. Super politician, I didn't see you at our voting drive, I didn't see you registering people to vote and I didn't see you marching to the poll with us to go vote. I am sorry we didn't put a flyer in your mailbox, but we came to every dorm and put posters up all over campus. By the way, did you even vote? The nerve of you. You must be preparing your self for a political career, because you seem like you are just a talker. Despite your silly little judgments of the SGA and me, we are doing something while you are just talking about it. I did not even know who you were until last week.

## Response from Taz the Man

The College Democrats was sponsored by The Evolution Creative Group another organization that I am apart of which strives to encourage growth in student thought. I guess you think taking shots at the SGA and me will help get your College Republican organization some publicity and help you get a name for yourself. Well, let me help you out. College Republican – Matthew Evans  
College Republican – Matthew Evans  
College Republican – Matthew Evans  
College Republican – Matthew Evans  
College Republican – Matthew Evans  
College Republican – Matthew Evans  
College Republican – Matthew Evans  
College Republican – Matthew Evans  
College Republican – Matthew Evans  
College Republican – Matthew Evans  
College Republican – Matthew Evans  
College Republican – Matthew Evans  
College Republican – Matthew Evans  
College Republican – Matthew Evans  
College Republican – Matthew Evans

You happy now, you got your 15 seconds of fame. You came to my College Democrat meeting smiling in my face with all this positive talk about working together to get students more politically involved. When you said you were the president of the College Republicans I did not discourage you. I even told you that I would come to some of your meetings and help you if I could. Then you turn around and write all this crap about me in the paper behind my back. That was a real cat move. You could have addressed me to my face like a

man. You could have come by my office and talked to me. I don't have any problems with you or your organization and would have been delighted to assist you in any way. But instead you chose to drag my name and the student government's name through the mud. Reporters who cleverly use their political columns to publicize and advance their political agenda don't sit very well with me. I am sad your editors thought that this was news worthy enough to make the paper. They should have used that space to publish a story about the SGA bringing two national political figures to campus along with the local and national media. That story made the local newspaper, national newspaper, local and national television. But it didn't make the meter or your illustrious political column.

By the way aren't you the president of the Future Politicians of America. Isn't that a non-partisan organization created to inform students about politics. But aren't you also the president of the College Republicans. SEEMS A LITTLE PARTIAL TO ME.

**Shawntaz Crawford, SGA president**

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

## What We Think The Passion of the Christ

After all of the debates (and some say contrived controversy) over *The Passion of the Christ*, many people on campus have been confronted or questioned about the supposed gruesomeness of the movie. Yes, the movie is disturbing in its violence. But the purpose and overall message of the movie is the same one that appears in the Bible. The message of forgiveness and sacrifice takes precedence over the vivid, bloody scenes depicting the last 12 hours of Christ's life.

Even those among us who do not wholeheartedly believe in Christianity or Mel Gibson's idea of what Jesus looked like can come away with an urge to reassess past actions and present situations. Every once in a blue moon we are forced by whoever runs the universe to stop and think about what our purpose is and about what we are doing on Earth in the first place. *The Passion* made us do that. Many religions believe that Jesus was not the son of God, but a prophet. Honestly, if this story is true, then this man still willingly endured horrible treatment for the sake of the people who tortured him.

Wouldn't this make the wounds that we inflict upon each other even more horrible than the crucifixion? The wounds that can't be seen are the worst kind and take the longest to heal. Emotionally, we tear each other down in countless ways every day.

It's funny. We separate ourselves from each other all the time and then wonder how horrible things happen to people. There's a scene in a recent movie in which a woman says, "People will throw gas, propane and matches into a room and then turn around and wonder how the house caught on fire."•

**Check the review of this film on page 8.**

**CHECK OUT THE METER'S WEB SITE**  
[www.tsumeter.com](http://www.tsumeter.com)

*The Meter*

**The Measure of Student Opinion and Sentiment**

**Tennessee State University**

**3500 John A. Merritt Blvd., Box 1246**

**Nashville, TN 37209-1561**

**Phone: 615-963-7530**

**Fax: 615-963-5452 E-Mail: [themeter@hotmail.com](mailto:themeter@hotmail.com)**

**Ad dept. E-Mail: [themeter2@hotmail.com](mailto:themeter2@hotmail.com)**

**EDITOR IN CHIEF: SHERPRI G. GILES**

**CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR: ASHLEY NORTINGTON**

**COMMUNITY NEWS EDITOR: MERIDITH MILLER**

**ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR: JAMARRAN E'MIL MOSS**

**LAYOUT EDITOR: GREGORY BRAND**

**PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER: SIRR THOMAS**

**COPY EDITOR: TOSHA JONES**

**SPORTS EDITOR: TAMIKA L. JEFFERSON**

**ADVERTISING MANAGER: BRANDON G. TALFORD**

**DIRECTOR OF STUDENT PUBLICATIONS: PAMELA E. FOSTER**

**CIRCULATION: 3,000**

*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

# Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. works to improve HIV/AIDS awareness

The women of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Incorporated celebrated International Day of Service on March 13, 2004 by promoting health and wellness focusing on HIV/AIDS. On that day, over 900 Delta chapters in America, as well as abroad, presented conventional and innovative programming initiatives in order to educate men, women, and children on HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention.

The Alpha Chi Chapter embraced this day by providing a free community barbecue in Hadley Park with emphasis

on providing free HIV testing and free HIV/AIDS awareness literature. These innovative women also provided direct services to Nashville Cares and Women On Maintaining Education and Nutrition (W.O.M.E.N.). The women of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Incorporated are definitely on a mission to lead the way for positive changes on an international level. The Alpha Chi Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Incorporated would like to thank the Zeta Alpha Chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Incorporated, Nashville

Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Incorporated, Ron Crowder of Street Works, Katherine Wyatt-Morely of W.O.M.E.N., and Stephanie Woodarck of Nashville Cares for their contributions towards this day.

Pensola Hazel, chairperson of program, planning and development

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

## 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.\*

## TSU Swimming Pool

Gentry Complex x-5610

Monday through Friday Faculty/Staff Swim Club	6:30-7:30 am
Monday through Friday Open swim - with lap swimming	12 - 1:30 pm
Monday through Thursday Open Rec swim	7 - 9 pm

- Pool open to all Faculty, Staff, and Students.

\* T.S.U. ID required to enter swimming pool!

- Pool available for rentals & pool parties  
contact Dept of HPER, 3<sup>rd</sup> fl, Gentry Complex.



\*Currently accepting applications for life guards\*

## Community News

# Lawmakers try to clear the smoke

By Courtney Hawkins  
Community News Writer

Georgia is considering a law that would require drivers who smoke cigarettes to roll down the windows before lighting up with children in the car.

According to the *Topeka Capital Journal*, this new law would "allow police to pull over a motorist for smoking while driving with a child in a car safety seat."

If the law passes, Georgia would be the first state to restrict smoking in private vehicles.

"(Lawmakers) are discriminating (against) and segregating people who smoke," said Ransom Thompson, a business administration major at Tennessee State University from Gary, Ind.

States across America are changing smoking and non-smoking areas to just non-smoking areas in public places. The Georgia senate passed a statewide ban Thursday, March 4, on indoor smoking, including restaurants and bars. Indiana,

Oregon, Arizona, California and New York have also passed laws to prohibit smoking in public places.

For years, research has proven that cigarette smoke affects people around the smoker who inhale secondhand smoke. According to the Oneida County Department of Health in Utica, New York, "secondhand smoke kills approximately 63,000 people each year. Secondhand smoke contains carcinogenic compounds known to cause cancer and has chemicals such as mustard gas and radon which is a poison."

The health risks of secondhand smoke have been a concern to lawmakers and have led to stronger health laws enacted within different states.

The Clean Air Act of 1970 restricted smokers to confined areas in public places. Yet, many states in the nation are trying to amend this law by regulating smoking in all areas. Good Time Charlie's, a restaurant in San Antonio, suffered business losses of 30 percent, because they did not have the funds to



PHOTO BY ELBERT JAQUESS JR.

**TSU student Diedra Ladd, takes a smoke break by McCord Hall.**

remodel their facility to comply with the new laws.

New York officials are pushing for more strict laws completely banning smoking in all restaurants, bars, billiards parlors, and outdoor cafes.

"I definitely think smoking laws are good because people will realize how

dangerous it is for your health," said Candice Griffin, a junior chemistry major from St. Louis.

Some people say they are for the new smoking laws because of health benefits, yet others say they feel there should not be any amendments to what is already set under the Clean Indoor Air Act.

"(Lawmakers) should keep it how it is because it appeals to both, smokers and non-smokers," Thompson said. "If it does change, companies will lose a lot of their business and revenue."

Many of these laws would be in favor of non-smokers who want stricter smoking laws. Some changes are in progress, and more changes may go into effect later.

"I like it," Griffin said regarding the change in smoking laws. "I don't believe that we should have to deal with the smoke. The smoke just makes me (nauseated)."

## Club manager dismisses patrons who don't 'dress nice'

Continued from page 1

would not want to speak with them. When Murphy and Richardson got outside the club, they said they saw two women who had the identical experiences, except, the women had not paid their money. The girls were told that they could not enter the club because of their outfits, even though white women wearing similar outfits were allowed to enter.

"Men are not allowed to wear urban wear with their hats turned to the side or their clothes hanging off of them," Stampede club manager Bob Koegle said. "You should just dress nice."

Richardson, a Nashville resident said, "It looked like they were singling people out."

On an average college night at Stampede, the crowd is predominately white. That night, according to Richardson, the majority of the Black people were given a reason to leave and some were physically escorted outside.

"I was told that my Sean John baseball hat was inappropriate, but a white girl with a Sean John T-shirt was conveniently overlooked," he said.

Koegle said, "There should be no FUBU, no gold chains or things like that (worn in the club) or a person will not be allowed to enter." He expressed a strict dress code, but he and his staff made exceptions at their discretion.

"Although it shouldn't be, racial discrimination is an issue that is dealt with on (a regular basis)," said Tyreka Banks, the vice president of the National Association for the Advancement of Color People chapter at TSU. "The TSU chapter of the NAACP is available with support and guidance for anyone experiencing problems. At this time, we are supporting a young man in Georgia, but our priority is our TSU family."

Murphy and Richardson have contacted the Tennessee Human Rights Commission Charge of Discrimination, a local organization that supports and represents those who have experienced dis-



ILLUSTRATION BY KEITH MOORE

**A Tennessee nightclub kicks out Black patrons who managers deemed inappropriately dressed.**

crimination, and they are waiting for advice on the best way to handle the situation.

"I would like for anyone who laid

his hands on me to be fired," Murphy said.

# Community News

## Picks of the Pack

How would you deal with being discriminated against by a public or private establishment?



**Name:** Shannon Foster  
**Classification:** Freshman  
**Major:** Speech Communication and Theatre  
**Hometown:** Memphis  
"Unfortunately, we live in a world where discrimination is alive and well. If ever I was to be placed in that situation, I would take my dignity and pride where it would be appreciated."



**Name:** Gerald Morrow  
**Classification:** Sophomore  
**Major:** Business Administration  
**Hometown:** Memphis  
"I would continue praying for these types of people, because I know what type of person I am and the goals I'm striving for."

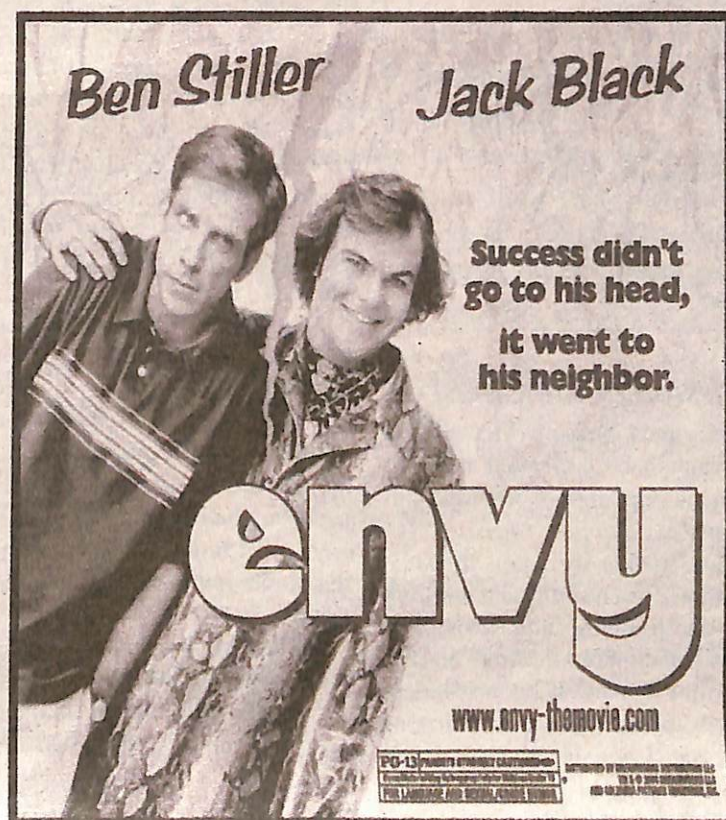


**Name:** Sheena Buford  
**Classification:** Sophomore  
**Major:** Agriculture Business  
**Hometown:** Ft. Lee, Va.  
"Of course I would make those discriminating against me aware of my dissatisfaction, but I would do so while keeping my safety in mind."



**Name:** Stanley Johnson  
**Classification:** Junior  
**Major:** Speech Communication and Theatre  
**Hometown:** Atlanta  
"I would go to my heavy chevy, pop the trunk and start to get crunk."

## GET "GREEN" WITH ENVY



**AND COME SEE DREAMWORKS' NEW OUTRAGEOUS COMEDY!**

**Thursday, April 1 at the Regal Opry Mills Theater**

**Pick up your complimentary pass at The Meter's office [3500 John M. Blvd] beginning today!**

Passes are available on a first-come, first-served basis while supplies last. One pass per person. Each pass admits two. No purchase necessary.

**DREAMWORKS PICTURES**

**TSU METER**

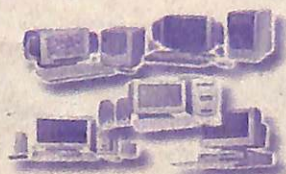
**OPENS IN THEATRES APRIL 2!**

m  
e  
n  
t  
i  
o  
n  
  
t  
h  
i  
s  
  
a  
d

*Need internet in your dorm?  
Call me*

**technology service..net**

*"Service Before and After the Sale"  
Computers - Upgrades - Service - Training*



**Dr. William S. Merriman**  
118 7th Avenue North #1201  
Nashville, TN 37203-3755  
(615) 977-8750  
mum@nashville.net

m  
e  
n  
t  
i  
o  
n  
  
t  
h  
i  
s  
  
a  
d

Do  
Community  
News!

Interested in writing for the community? Call Community News Editor Meridith M. Miller at 963-5555.



## Arts & Entertainment



### The Passion of the Christ- B

Silver screen phenom Mel Gibson takes a triumphant turn from actor to director in the gripping full-feature docu-drama, *The Passion of the Christ*.

By giving time to detail, dynamic casting, emotion-rich acting and amazing imagery, the resulting film is nothing short of an instant motion picture classic.

The film begins 12 hours before Jesus Christ is crucified, and during its two-hour runtime covers this age-old story with the most brutal and graphic detail ever captured on film. *The Passion* places Christ at the pivotal moment in his life when he must sacrifice his life for the

collective sins of mankind.

The viewer understands this heavy burden as soon as the movie opens and witnesses Christ wholeheartedly accept the burden, even though he knows the grief that he will experience.

After taking time to introduce the characters, the movie speeds on at a rapid pace, showcasing the relationship between Jesus, his disciples and the world in which he ministers. A noticeably feminine Satan also slithers about the film in frail attempts to crush the Messiah's spirit.

As Christ is captured, taken into custody and subsequently beaten in an extremely brutal fashion, the film breaks into flashbacks of Christ in happier times influencing other people's lives. All of the flashbacks are well-placed, giving necessary breaks from the on-screen violence, and bring elements into the story that might not have been included in his last hours.

The film in one word is thorough. It goes to great trouble to bring the story, in its entirety, to the screen and manages to keep the film less than two and a half hours long.

Time is put to good use considering the film is subtitled in two dead languages, Aramaic and Latin. The film also covers the fates of the traitor Judas, the



PHOTO COURTESY OF MOVIES.GO.COM

### Jim Caviezel portrayed Jesus in *The Passion of the Christ*.

denier Peter and the effects the crucifixion has on the world.

Critics and some people of the Jewish faith have been crying out that the film is overly violent and an exaggeration of the historical and documented event. Though the film is violent and spares no punches in giving the viewer a firsthand look at what led to the crucifixion and the actual slaying, it is not an exaggeration.

The film has strong special visual effects that help tell the story in the most vivid and descriptive fashion. The effects

used to depict the demons that haunt Judas after his betrayal, and the brutal beatings that Christ receives at the hands of the Roman soldiers are rendered extremely well. They are so real that they invoke tears and sobs from viewers.

Jim Caviezel as Jesus, Maia Morgenstern as Mary and Monica Bellucci as Mary Magdalene, deliver powerful performances. They are all deeply engaging and carry the story through to the end. Despite controversial attitudes about the race of the cast, they are expertly selected giving an authentic feel that's missing from most films dealing with this type of subject matter.

The film's only weak point is the fact that it doesn't spend enough time on Jesus. *The Passion* uses a bulk of the movie to show you what happens to him, not the good works he brought to the world. The film would have been more complete if it made people understand why the crucifixion of Christ was such an injustice and colossal loss even if it was for a higher purpose.

Bottom line: The film is an amazing, historical drama with incredible emotional power. It is a must see for everyone regardless of religious denomination.

**Gregory Brand\***



### Compact DISCUSSION Ratings

- 5/5 Instant classic
- 4/5 Ground-breaking
- 3/5 OK album, worth a listen
- 2/5 Buy the bootlegged copy
- 1/5 Wack

### DJ Danger Mouse *The Grey Album* 4/5

Here's a recipe for a surefire hit or an absolute failure. Take the final album of one of the greatest hip-hop artists of all time, add a generous portion of the highest-selling and perhaps most influential rock and pop band of all time, and

vigorously mix.

The result of this unusual concoction is the extremely well-crafted *The Grey Album* from the mind of producer/disc jockey Brian Burton, aka DJ Danger Mouse. The album combines the vocals of Jay-Z's *The Black Album* with the melodic and hypnotic rifts of the Beatles' classic, *The White Album*, into a collective potpourri.

While the idea of blending these artists may seem contradictory, the two albums complement each other well. *The Black Album* has been deemed by hip-hop heads worldwide as one of Jay-Z's best, and many Beatles fans and critics say *The White Album* is one of the Beatles' greatest and most diverse albums. *The White Album* is the ninth best-selling album of all time. DJ Danger Mouse capitalizes on the homogenous sounds of the *The White Album* and blends them seamlessly with the introspective and reflective mood set by Jay-Z on his last hurrah.

The album is not a replacement for either one of the respective classics it was forged from, but it's a welcome and innovative compliment. Danger Mouse

occasionally managed to improve the mood set by the beats on the original *Black Album*. Standout tracks to this effect are *99 Problems*, *Allure*, *Justify My Thug*, and *What More Can I Say*.

Throughout the album, Danger Mouse occasionally overdoes the production side of the songs such as *Dirt Off Your Shoulder* and *Change Clothes* in which Timbaland's and the Neptunes' production is just as important as Jigga's lyrics.

Although *The Grey Album* omits two songs from *The Black Album*'s 14 tracks, *Lucifer* and *Threat*, there is no sense of incompleteness in the musical stew.

However, a legal issue arose with the creation of *The Grey Album*. Fortunately, the issues are not coming from Jay-Z's or the Beatles' camp. Rather EMI, the company that owns the publishing rights to the many songs on the Beatles' catalog,

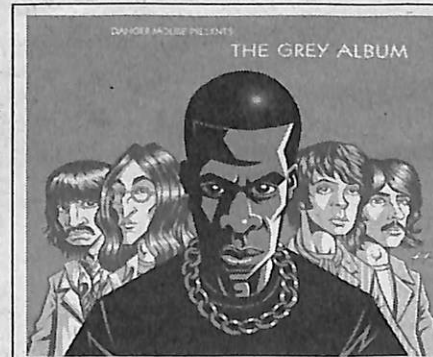


PHOTO COURTESY OF DJDANGER-MOUSE.COM

### *The Grey Album*

issued Burton a cease and desist order. The Los Angeles-based DJ complied by halting the sale of the album from his Web site [djdanger-mouse.com](http://djdanger-mouse.com).

Spearheaded by a group of file-sharing advocates who run a Web site [c.a.l.l.e.d](http://c.a.l.l.e.d) downhillbattle.org, supporters of *The Grey Album* conceptualized a protest named "Grey Tuesday," which took place Feb 24, 2004. During the protest of EMI's cease and desist order, several participating Web sites hosted links to download *The Grey Album* for free. Both sides of the legal battle have begun arguing their opinions regarding the legal precedents that could result from this issue. What started off as one DJ's exercise in creativity has quickly escalated into what could be a full-fledged legal battle between file-sharing advocates and the music industry.

**Brian C. Browley\***



## Arts & Entertainment

# Going natural sends women on spiritual, emotional journeys

Continued from page 1

Suzan Matias-Ballentine, owner of Suzan's Hair, Body and Spirit Salon in Nashville, who specializes in the care of natural Black hair said, "Black women are beginning to realize they don't have to follow suit to what society has told them they can do with their hair. It shows the strength in who we are. It is an evolution and a cycle that has come back around."

There has been an increasing trend in Black women wearing natural styles, a fashion that can be seen among more women celebrities like Marsha Ambroius and Natalie Stewart of the music group Floetry, Jill Scott and Erykah Badu. Styles can range from near shaven crowns to flowing dreadlocks or two-strand twists.

In April 2002, Patricia Gaines founded an elaborate Web community, Nappturality.com, that only months later had 2,300 registered members. The site offers Black women countless news articles on natural hair care, homemade hair recipes, books and videos that can be purchased, pictures of natural styles and testimonies from various women. Gaines said she is also affiliated with the owner of a similar Florida-based Web site called OurHair.net.

The array of classy and unique styles has shown Black women that they have options, Matias-Ballentine said. Women who want to experiment with a natural look without cutting their hair often add extensions to achieve the desired style.

"Natural weave is the safe way to go natural," Atwater said. "That style is in right now and that's fine because as a people we go through fashion trends... hairstyles reflect what's in our culture. The question is, is it only cute because

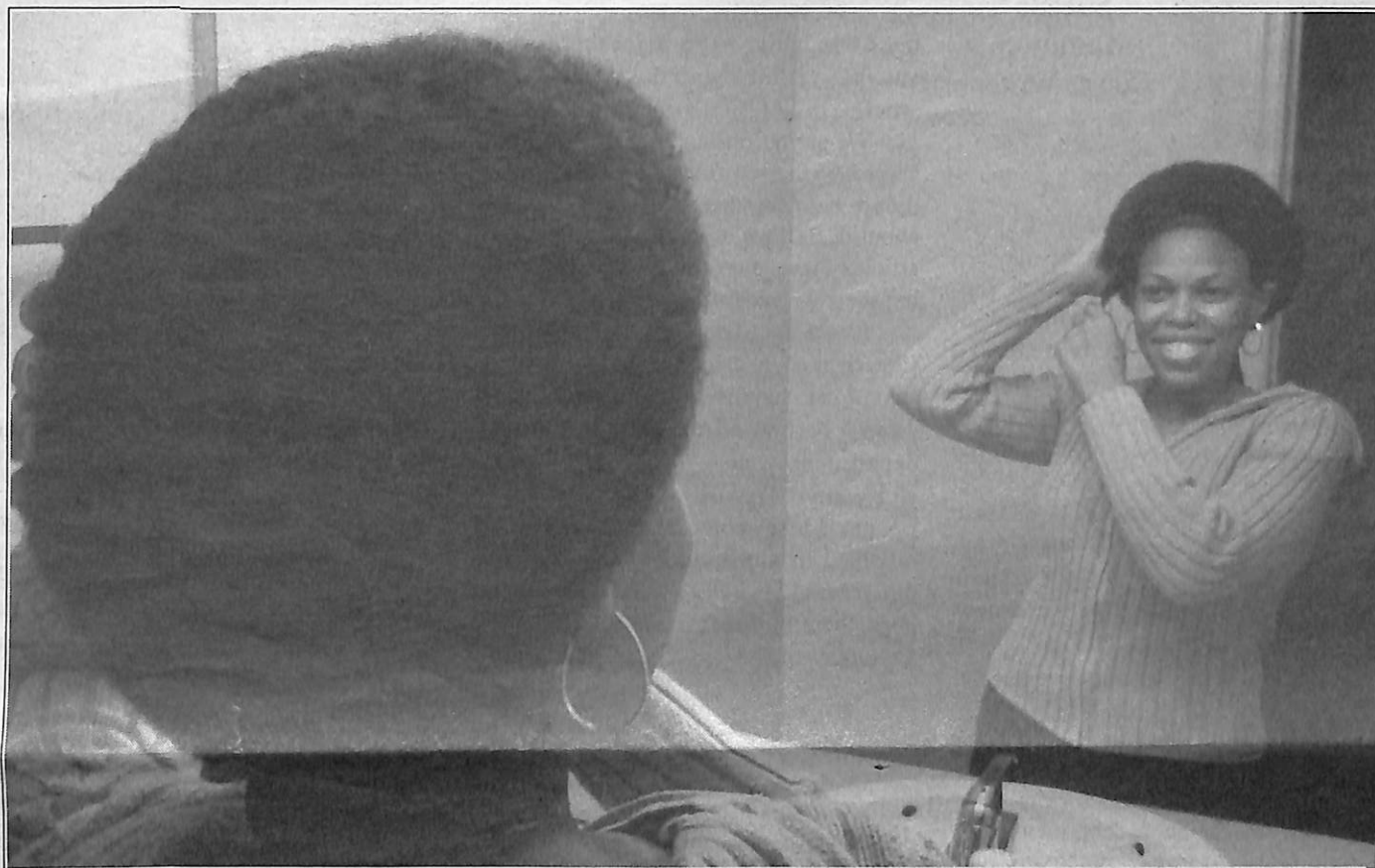


PHOTO BY TOSHA JONES

**Delisa Atwater has been wearing a natural hairstyle since January.**

it's popular right now or because it looks good on us and that's how we are supposed to look?"

Despite the trend that may be evolving, Atwater and Matias-Ballentine agree that women who grow out their chemically treated hair go through a personal and spiritual journey.

They both described the process as a literal battle that takes place between the processed hair and the new growth as they tangle together and fight.

"You go through different steps, not only physically... but emotionally," Atwater said. "In the beginning is a

crossroad because at that point you can still turn back...and when you get up enough nerve to cut it off, it's a release."

Matias-Ballentine, who has worn dreadlocks for the last eight years, said, "Once the new hair blossoms you can start to feel the beauty of the natural hair. Some people have never felt this beauty."

She said that many women experience frustrations with their natural hair because they have always had relaxed hair and don't know what to do with it after it's cut out. She said natural hair needs as much care and attention as relaxed hair, and she and Atwater agree that Black women should not be afraid to embrace their kinky, nappy, coily and wavy hair patterns.

Atwater said when she had a perm, she felt like people with natural hair looked down on her because she decided to straighten her hair. But, she said, "Now that I've stepped on the other side, I don't care. I don't look down on people with relaxed hair. I say just be comfortable in who you are and do you."

With the growing resources and networks established for Black women to explore a wider variety of care, awareness of available options seems to be increasing.

"When I went natural I felt accepted into a whole new community with people who understand and have been at the same crossroads before," Atwater said. "I don't feel like an outcast among people who have relaxed hair. But, they accept me for who I am and respect me for what I've done. I feel like my family has grown."\*

*"Once the new hair blossoms you can start to feel the beauty of the natural hair. Some people have never felt this beauty."*

*-Suzan Matias-Ballentine*

In the next issue of *The Meter*, the question of whether natural hairstyles impact job candidates' ability to become employed will be discussed.

## Sports

# Win or lose, we love our Tigers



**Sheena  
Hamilton**  
Sports Writer

I and the rest of *The Meter's* sports staff attend a lot of the games, matches and meets, and we're dedicated to supporting our athletic teams. Win, lose or draw, we are going to love them all.

When we write articles for our section we discuss, attempt to and intend to point out some positive things about the teams, but we can not make every aspect of our story positive. News, in general, can not always be positive. We are not trying to "hate." We want the athletic teams to succeed more than they know, and we try to speak with encouragement at the beginning of the season and congratulate at the end. But, no matter how many good things we say, people only seem to remember the bad, like an article about the volleyball team losing. They forget the articles about the men's basketball team seeing postseason play despite its overall record, or the new

women's basketball coach being confident in her coaching abilities and highlighting the new recruits. A student who was quoted in the article insinuated that there was no redemption for this season, but that wasn't the entire focus of the article.

We are telling nothing but the truth. We relay facts to the students and if it didn't happen, then we couldn't write about it. Believe it or not, there are some articles that we do not want to do at all, but they are necessary.

I am a former Tiger Varsity Cheerleader and currently an athletic tutor. I can honestly say that I have dedicated a portion of myself to the athletic department at Tennessee State University. The reason I have done so is because I love sports. I have always been involved in athletics; I ran track at the junior and high school levels and I have been cheering for seven years. I am now a member of the Universal Cheerleading Association staff and train cheerleaders across the United States to cheer their teams to victory.

I know and love a lot of the members of the football team from road trips, plane rides, summer camps, study hall and freshmen weeks. I have mad love for



ILLUSTRATION BY DAVID FERGUSON

**Reporters try to capture all aspects of TSU sports teams' seasons, whether they win or lose.**

some of the Tigerbelles and their nearly flawless efforts on the track. I have grown a deep respect and admiration for some of the volleyball players through the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and I value all of the vigorous efforts of the other student athletes at TSU. I know that it is hard to successfully balance school and athletics; it takes a certain kind of person.

Winning and losing will not waiver our support. I cheered for my high school football team and it had a 1-9 record two

years in a row. Sometimes, though, when a team is having a bad season, it is better for the university to hear less about it and sometimes it is better for the athletes not to have to talk about it. Granted, there has recently been a lot of hype placed on teams at TSU due to the changes in the coaching/administrative staffs, all of the sports are important. The point is that we really do love all the TSU sports teams no matter what.

## Work with children in the outdoors!

Spend the summer at our resident camps near Nashville, Tenn. Looking for individuals with experience in horses, ropes course, lifeguarding, art, drama, RN's, EMT's, cooks, outdoor skills and general counselors. Salary includes room/board with training.

Make a difference in children's lives.

For more information, see our Web site

[www.girlscoutsofcv.org](http://www.girlscoutsofcv.org),

email [mmcmenomy@girlscoutcv.org](mailto:mmcmenomy@girlscoutcv.org),

or call 1-800-395-5318 or 615-383-0490 ext. 282.



Do  
Sports!

Do you enjoy  
commenting on  
basketball or soft-  
ball games?

If so, call  
Sports Editor  
Tamika L. Jefferson  
@ 963-5649.

Sports

# The Meter salutes Hannah Storm

Hannah Stören, aka Hannah Storm, is a pioneer of women sportscasters. For Women's History Month, *The Meter* salutes Storm because she opened the door for other women sportscasters such as Robin Roberts, who was ESPN's first on-air Black anchorwoman, and former University of Southern California basketball standout sportscaster Cheryl Miller.

Storm's father's sports executive job turned her career wheels in the direction of wanting to become a sportscaster instead of going into a field related to her political science degree from Notre Dame.

During her journey to become a prominent sportscaster, Storm received rejection after rejection from news directors because she is a woman. In 1983, a woman sportscaster was considered a "nontraditional" job.

With college experience as a disc jockey, she applied for a graveyard shift DJ job at C.101 FM, 20 miles outside of Corpus Christi, Texas, where she spun heavy metal music. The program director, Bob Fazio, told her that her last name Stören should change, and after that she used the last name Storm.

She left C.101 after eight months and began covering sports at a radio station, at Home Sports Entertainment and at a TV station in Houston. In 1988, Storm was a sports anchor and reporter for a TV station in Charlotte, N.C. She anchored *CNN Sports Tonight* and weekend sports programs for the cable channel in 1989-92.

Storm worked with NBC for 10 years, and she became the first woman to serve as the solo anchor of a network's major sports package when she



PHOTO COURTESY OF CBSNEWS.COM

### Hannah Storm

hosted NBC's coverage of the NBA (1997-2002) and Major League Baseball, including three World Series (1995, 1997 and 1999). She also was the primary play-by-play announcer for the inaugural season of the Women's National Basketball Association (1997). *The Early Show*, CBS News' weekday morning broadcast, named Storm as an anchor in October 2002.

Storm's recently published book, *Go Girl!*, a sports guide for parents, is in its second printing. Because of Storm's diligence and perseverance, there are more women in sportscasting who have followed an easier path to succeed in this field.

Even though the number of men in this industry far outweighs the number of women, people now are able to see more women on sports channels.

**Tamika L. Jefferson**

# Murray State delivers Austin Peay its first loss

Murray State University's Cuthbert Victor scored 13 points and grabbed nine rebounds in a 66-60 win over undefeated Austin Peay State University (21-9, 16-0 Ohio Valley Conference). The win gave MSU its 12th OVC Championship and earned it an automatic bid into the NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament.

Adam Chiles added 12 points, while Antione Whelchel scored 10 points and grabbed 10 rebounds. MSU (28-5, 14-2 OVC) snapped APSU's 24-game winning streak against OVC foes.

The game saw seven ties and two lead changes but neither team led by more than seven points. MSU jumped to a quick 8-2 lead in the opening period, but the Gobs tied the game at 15-15 on a 3-pointer by Memphis native Adrian Henning with 10:19 left in the first half.

Victor was named the tournament's Most Valuable Player and joined teammates Whelchel and Chiles on the All-Tournament team. Josh Lewis and Anthony Davis earned All-Tournament honors from Austin Peay.

### Lady Gobs win fourth OVC title

The Austin Peay Lady Governors (23-7, 14-2 Ohio Valley Conference) won their fourth straight OVC Basketball Championship with a 65-51 win over Eastern Kentucky University (15-15, 9-7 OVC). The win earned the team an automatic bid into the NCAA Women's Basketball Tournament.

APSU's Gerlonda Hardin scored 23 points and grabbed 12 rebounds. Also, Jessica Grayson finished with 11 points with teammate Kera Bergeron, a Nashville native who broke the OVC single-season record for the most 3-pointers made in a season, with 99.

The APSU defense held EKU to 23.3 percent on 7 of 30 shooting in the second half, while outscoring EKU 25 to 20 during the final 20 minutes.

Hardin won her second Most Valuable Player Award, after the senior from Springfield, Tenn., also claimed the honor at the 2002 OVC Championship. Bergeron and Grayson were also named

to the All-Tournament squad, with ECU's Katie Kelly.

### Court rules NFL statute unfair

Under the NFL's rule, former Ohio State University running back Maurice Clarett, who played only one year of college football, would not have been eligible for the draft until 2005, but a U.S. District Judge Shira A. Scheindlin ruled in his favor.

According to Associated Press reports, the decision established that the NFL rule prohibiting players from being drafted until they have been out

of high school for three years violates antitrust laws because the policy excludes all players in Clarett's position from selling their services to the only viable buyer.

In his lawsuit, filed in late September, Clarett contended

that he was being unfairly kept out of the NFL.

The NFL has announced plans to appeal the judge's decision.

Clarett sued the NFL after being suspended from **Maurice Clarett**

Ohio State for a number of issues, including violating NCAA bylaws and lying to investigators about the value of items stolen from a car he was using. The university has since agreed to allow Clarett to rejoin the team in off-season workouts, but he has declined the offer until he is reinstated by the NCAA.

Now that Clarett has been ruled draft eligible, the focus turns toward whether he will actually enter the draft or return to Ohio State for another season. In the lawsuit, his attorneys claimed he would be a top pick if he were allowed into the 2004 draft.

**Compiled by Tamika L. Jefferson**

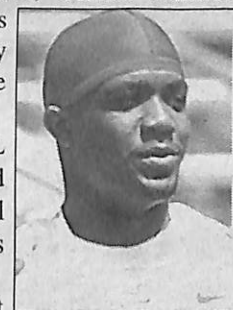
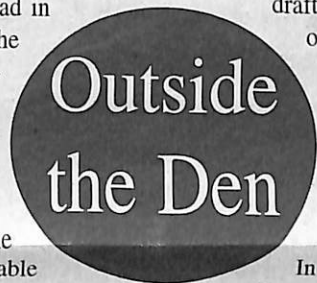


PHOTO COURTESY OF BUCKEYESPORTS.COM

**INVESTMENT STRATEGIES THAT ARE CLEAR AND CONCISE EVEN IF OUR NAME ISN'T**

Aside from our name, we've always been in favor of making things simple. So contact us for smart, easy investment techniques to help you reach your financial goals.

TIAA-CREF.org or call (800) 842-2776

**TIAA CREF** Managing money for people with other things to think about.

RETIREMENT | INSURANCE | MUTUAL FUNDS | COLLEGE SAVINGS | TRUSTS | INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

TIAA CREF Individual and Institutional Services, Inc. and Securities Investor Services, Inc. are member securities products. For more information, call (800) 842-2776, ext. 3365. For prospectuses, read them carefully before investing. © 2002 TIAA-CREF Individual and Institutional Services, Inc. TIAA CREF, 130 York Avenue, New York, NY 10043.

## Advertisement

### The WALT DISNEY WORLD® College Program. Internships that take you there.

To build the future of your dreams, start with a Fortune 500 company that creates dreams every day. With the WALT DISNEY WORLD® College Program, you'll be more than a paid intern, you'll be welcomed into a multi-cultural, international atmosphere that shares your values and provides opportunities for education and achievement. And that's just the beginning.

- ♥ Paid internship
- ♥ Living accommodations provided with 24-hour security
- ♥ All majors and college levels eligible
- ♥ Eligible to apply for second year advanced internships relative to field of study
- ♥ Resume building opportunity with Fortune 500 company
- ♥ Networking opportunities with leaders
- ♥ Experience and education with rationale for success

Visit our website at [wdwcollegeprogram.com](http://wdwcollegeprogram.com) and then come to the presentation. Attendance at the presentation is required to interview.

 **Walt Disney World®  
COLLEGE PROGRAM**

**TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY**

Monday

March 15, 2004

12:00 p.m.

Campus Center, Room 319



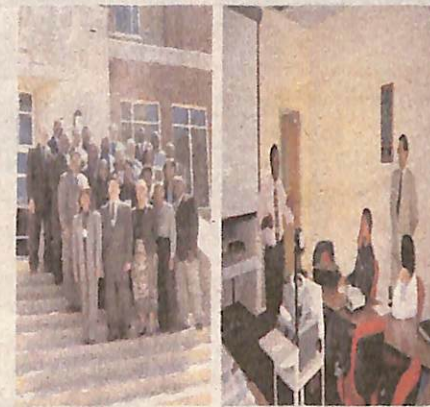
**YOU WILL ARRIVE.**  
At Disney.

EOE • Drawing Creativity from Diversity • ©Disney

### Student Motivation Task Force (SMTF)

*"Providing students with the tools they will need to succeed in the real world"*

March 29-31, 2004



SMTF is a task force of alumni/corporate executives who interact with students, faculty and staff to encourage students to develop their careers and professionalism, which includes Class Room Based Seminars Networking Events, Mock Interviews, and Resume Critiques.



### University Wide Internship and Career Expo

April 1, 2004

Held in the Kean Hall Gym

Sponsored by your

Tennessee State University Career Center

For more information call 963-5981.