



THE MEASURE OF STUDENT OPINION AND SENTIMENT

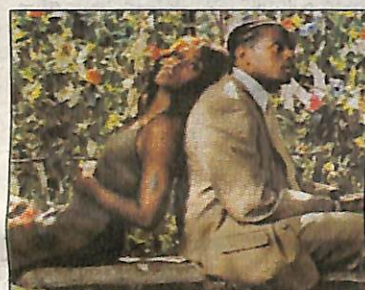
Nashville, Tenn.
September 6, 2004

Volume 55
Issue 1



What will these students find in the books new DVD selection?

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Classic
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Alabama
A&M 7

Administrative exodus forces change

Four of top seven to be replaced

By Ashley Northington
Editor In Chief

Tennessee State University expects to undergo a major administrative overhaul to fill four of the top seven administrative positions by the end of the spring semester.

President James A. Hefner announced his retirement, effective May 31, 2005, Vice President of Business and Finance Clay Harkeleroad retired July 31, and Vice President of Student Affairs Thomas Martin expects to retire effective December 31. Gerald Washington, vice president of university relations and development was relieved of his duties

effective June 15.

"I am not certain how the school will run (after new people take on the open positions," Martin said. "Universities typically go on."

Hefner announced his retirement May 20,

See "Martin" on page 2.



PHOTO BY
DESHANEE MINER

TSU President
James Hefner

See Hefner's final plans on page 3

TSU presidential search in progress

By Kamaria Mack
Campus News Editor

Nationwide interest in the search for the new president for Tennessee State University has prompted webcast coverage of finalist interviews, something no other institution has agreed to conduct.

Since TSU is the only Historically Black College or University publically funded in the state and has a large alumni base, the Tennessee Board of Regents, which is comprised of academia who

See "TBR" on page 2.

Students may get more camera time than expected

By Karla Manning
Campus News Writer

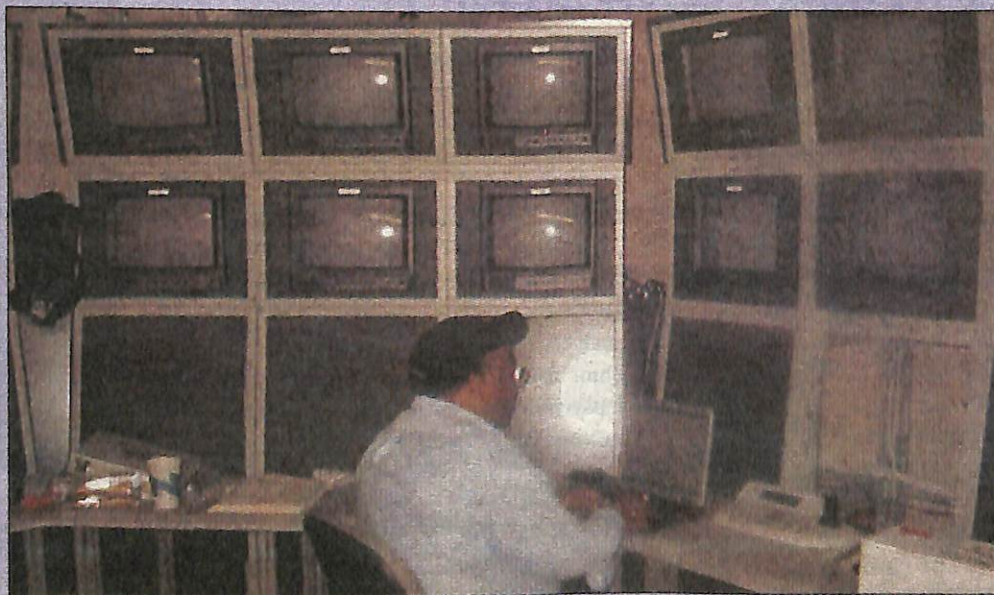


PHOTO BY KARLA MANNING

Electronic access specialist Stephen Starnes of Best Access Systems

At the end of the fall semester, Tennessee State University will have 43 cameras to be installed around campus in an effort to lessen car thefts and break-ins.

As of August 31, 2004, 25 cameras had been installed in all of the campus parking lots, near and behind residence halls, as well as places where there is a large amount of student activity. There are cameras that face the main entrances to Wilson Residence Hall, and Boyd Residence Hall; three cameras face the parking lots of Eppse and Boyd Residence Halls

According to Chief Arthur Lawson of TSU's Police Department, there were 34 car thefts and break-ins in TSU's parking lots last year. "That number was way too high," Lawson said. "By installing these cameras in

See "Security" on page 6.

Campus News

TBR has eight official candidates

Continued from page 1

govern higher education institutions in Tennessee, has constructed a search firm designed to research, select and encourage strong national candidates.

"We felt that it would make sense to webcast the interviews. TSU has a number of national alumni with substantial interest in this project," said Mary Morgan, the director of communications for the TBR.

The initial screening process is expected to begin in early October. TBR is conducting the operation of finding a new president for TSU, by using the identical search procedures used since 1995 in hiring new leadership at other

TBR universities.

TBR Chairman, Governor Phil Bredesen appointed 5 people to sit as members of the Presidential Advisory Committee: Barnett Reality, Maxine Smith, Buddy Bowers, Tom Jackson and Agenia Clark. The purpose of the board is to condense the candidate pool to three to five people.

After condensing the candidates, the candidates are invited to visit the campus for a series of open meetings and interviews with the faculty, staff, students, deans, legislative delegation, advisory committee, alumni business leaders, as well as the community.

"We (alumni) are going to support

the new search," said TSU alumnus Shawn Thompson. "But, Hefner was a great president."

Currently, the board has eight official candidates and 11 nominees. Charles Manning, Chancellor of the TBR system, advised by a committee of 14 or more including up to 6 members of the board, recommends one candidate for presidency. The new president is scheduled to take office May 31.

"It would be nice to have an alumni president, but if not, I expect him to be passionate, innovative and hardworking," said Gary Moore, a senior from Memphis majoring in mass communications.

TSU Presidential candidates at a glance

Tricia Devin Ph.D., Ed. D.

Provost of Academic Affairs: Long Beach & Sunnydale Campuses
Chicago, IL

Jerome G. Green, Jr. Ph.D.

Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs
Dean, College Of Arts and Sciences
Mississippi Valley State University
Itta Bena, MS

Robert R. Jennings Ed. D.

Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer
Wakeforest University

Winston-Salem, NC

Warren C. Jones Ph.D.

Senior Administrator and Faculty Coordinator/ Advisor for the University
Without Walls Program
Acting Assistant Dean of the College
Chicago, IL

Ray A. Shackelford Ph. D.

Director, Academic Advisement and Faculty Resource Center
Bethune-Cookeman College
Daytona Beach, FL

Joseph Martin Stevenson Ph.D.

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Jackson State University
Jackson, MS

Ronald A. Stover D. Min. Theology

Accounting Assistant, Office of the Comptroller
Washington D.C.

Maurice C. Taylor Ph.D., J.D.

Special Assistant to the President
Dean, School of Graduate Studies
Morgan State University
Baltimore, MD

Martin final task to make Boyd attractive

Continued from page 1

months after TBR audits discovered that he accepted Super bowl tickets among other gifts that totaled over \$9,000 from Aramark officials and that he allowed students to receive out of state fee waivers when he was instructed to cease awarding the scholarships.

"I have faith that our new administrators will be able to step to the plate and continue to bring TSU to the forefront of the academic world," said Korita Bogarty, a junior from Cleveland, Ohio majoring in childhood development.

Although Martin only has one semester left at TSU, he has set two goals to meet before he leaves.

"I want to make Boyd Hall a more accommodating dorm," Martin said. "I also want to prevent car theft and vandalism."

Martin says that although he has worked at TSU for 12 years, he has no other reason to retire except he had "worked a substantial number of years."

Cynthia B. Brooks, the previous assistant vice president for academic affairs, has been appointed as the interim vice president for business and finance while Homer Wheaton, the previous associate vice president of university relations and development, was appointed to the post as interim vice president for university relations and development. Brooks and Wheaton's new posi-



PHOTO COURTESY OF PUBLIC RELATIONS

Cynthia B Brooks.

tions were effective July 1, 2004.

Other people who left TSU this year are Dale Williams, previous advisor to Miss TSU and Maurice Odine, former communications department head who retired in August after 14 years.

"There is really no way to tell which direction the university is headed administratively due to all the position changes," said Antoinette Coleman, a junior from Memphis, who is majoring in psychology. "I hope everything will be positive."

Events Calender

Sept 6

Labor Day
No classes

Voter registration
FPCC
12 noon- 1:30

Sept 8

Voter Registration
FPCC
1 pm

Inauguration of SGA President and officers
FPCC Rm 210
4 pm

Alpha Theta Talent Show
FPCC Rm 210
6 pm

Wellness Center Q&A
FPCC Rm 210
11 am

Sept. 9

Voter Registration
FPCC Lobby
12 noon- 1:30 pm

100 Black Men Inauguration
Holland Hall
7 pm

Corrections

The Meter regrets errors and continuously strives to improve.

Campus News

President refuses to be inactive

By Ashley Northington
Editor In Chief

Tennessee State University President James A. Hefner declared that he would not be "a lame duck president" during his final year at the university.

At the August 23 Faculty Institute meeting Hefner said his goals for the year include raising one million dollars to go towards funding for the capital campaign publicly launched last fall, completing the Olympic plaza, tennis complex, as well as working with the Tennessee Board of Regents to build housing for non-traditional students, and a technology center for agricultural research.

"I want to build more conveniences for students," Hefner said.

Hefner also expects to continue following through with the Geier consent decree mandates, which states TSU has to make campus upgrades and attract



PHOTO BY DESHANEE MINER

President Hefner working on some of his goals for last semester.

more white students to campus. Other goals include trying to build a research

building.

Hefner, who announced his retirement May 30, hired former Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences William Lawson, to become an executive vice president to assist him during his last year. The EVP is expected to provide help in the evaluation of vice presidents and represent the president when necessary.

"I have been the president here for 14 years," Hefner said. "After that long, it is not uncommon for people to retire."

Initially, the TBR released a statement stating that Hefner was only to handle outside fundraising while the new executive vice president was to handle the daily operations. However, Mary Morgan director of communications for the TBR said "the board expects him to handle the same decisions."

"I am still the president of the university," Hefner said. "I will still handle the same decisions as always."

While Lawson assists the president this year, Gloria Johnson, former assistant Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences is expected to fulfill duties as Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

After Lawson's 11 month stint as EVP, the final decision as to if the position will remain at the university will be decided by the new president who is scheduled to begin on June 1, 2005 following Hefner's retirement effective May 31.

Lawson, an Alabama native holds a Ph.D. in sociology from Iowa State University and has served as a sociology professor in addition to his position as dean. He has served at Tennessee State University since 2000. He previously served as the dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Alabama State University.

-Brian Browley contributed to this article.

TSU seeks new breed of student

By Gregory Brand
Senior Visuals Editor

As many universities attempt to increase enrollment by lowering admission requirements, Tennessee State University aims to increase its student population by using a different strategy.

TSU still goes after traditional, fresh-out-of high school students. But now, students over 23 and those with associate degrees are primary targets in TSU's campaign to increase enrollment by 25 percent. The strategy also calls for pursuing in-state students more aggressively.

While the 2003-04 academic term had record enrollment of 9,024, TSU aims for 10,500 students by 2006, according to the Geier Consent Decree coordinating committee.

It's all a part of TSU's campaign to fulfill the terms of the court decree that aims to increase the enrollment of white students at the 92-year-old historically black university.

To meet this challenge, TSU President James Hefner's administration is enlarging the recruitment force by electing a team which primarily seeks traditional students. The old staff is

being supplemented with recruiters pursuing non-traditional and associate degree enrollees.

"Increasing student enrollment is very important," said TSU recruiter Brandi Montgomery. "Having two recruitment staffs ensures that all bases are covered in getting more students enrolled."

Nashville Technical College is working with TSU by offering 350 academic scholarships to students wanting to supplement their degrees. The scholarships are offered only to students heading to TSU.

Before this arrangement was established, Nashville Tech's relationship with TSU was limited to the handling remedial courses for students. Spokesmen for Nashville Tech were not reachable for comment.

In another area, TSU used to supply out-of-state fee waivers for many traditional students who had demonstrated academic achievement and leadership. Those waivers have been cut out of the budget. Though out-of state students are still welcomed and accepted, TSU is putting greater emphasis on snagging Tennesseans.

"We're really pushing in-state

enrollment," said Montgomery. "In-state students are an important part of state schools. (As a result) our focus has been put into making connections with Tennessee's city and county schools."

Many on campus look on the increasing enrollment as positive, but some students are not in full support of the way the scholarship program for Nashville Tech graduates is structured.

"I don't understand why they would want to give all of the (scholarships) to the non-traditional students," said Gregory Fletcher, a TSU junior computer science major from Washington D.C. "Gaining students of any kind is a good thing, but traditional students are losing scholarship opportunities to individuals that have already had some education."

Some students even believe that the new Tennessee Lottery Scholarships are a factor in the new rush for in-state students. Some proceeds from the Tennessee Lottery that was set up early this year go toward student scholarships. To obtain a scholarship for use at a state school, all a student needs to do is to apply, retain a 3.0 grade point average from high school and not drop below a 3.0 in college, and achieve a score of 19 on the ACT and complete 24 credit hours

a semester.

"The school is set to make a lot of money from students awarded the lottery scholarship," said Emily Harrison, a TSU sophomore business major. "A lot of college-bound students are awarded the (scholarships) and the school gets the money. I know I'd go for it."

The change in enrollment tactics arrives on the heels of the Geier Settlement Consent Decree that orders TSU to pull in enough white students over the next five years to fill half of the student body at the predominantly black university. TSU's minority scholarship program is allowed to continue while the university tries to attract non-traditional students as well.

The decree came about because of a discrimination lawsuit filed in 1968 by Rita Sanders Geier against Tennessee for violating segregation laws. She argued that supplies and resources at public black colleges weren't comparable to those available at their white counterpart schools. The courts ruled in her favor.

But change came slowly. So in Jan 2001, the courts set a five-year timetable for active implementation of the Geier Consent Decree.

Forum

Back to school fall fashion



Dayna Lovelady
A & E Writer

School is back in session and the fall 2004 semester brings a new wave fall fashion for men and women.

Skirts are popular for ladies this fall. Pleated tennis skirts we once wore when we were little girls are now back in style. The mini skirt is a sexy number that can be paired with a plain shirt to dress it down or with a silk or satin shirt for a dressier look. A-line skirts with a fitted waist and flared bottom are also red-hot items. A-line skirts provide a three dimensional look that is flattering for almost any figure.

This is also a big season for vintage fashion with an urban twist. Some popular items from the fifties and sixties like round toe pumps paired with jeans and a

funky urban T-shirt brings this look to life.

The hot look for men this season is the classic, button-down dress shirt left unbuttoned with a plain white t-shirt underneath, a pair of jeans and Air Force Ones or any plain white shoes to match the tee. Blazers are becoming more and more accepted for everyday wear and a more popular choice among some men due to fashion trendsetters like Kanye West and Usher. Blazers with jeans are one of the number one fashion trends for men this fall.

Some people love to be different and push the fashion envelope, but there are some rules that are not meant to be broken. Here are a few rules of thumb to remember:

Ladies

- Mini skirts are great for showing off legs, but not other unmentionable assets.

- Always remember to keep skin moisturized when wearing skirts, shorts,

sleeveless shirts, or any other garments that show skin.

- For important functions like job interviews clothing should fit loosely and fall at least one inch from your knees.

- When wearing sandals keep nails freshly trimmed and polished, and save sandals for sixty degree and warmer weather

Gentlemen

- If you prefer the style of slightly sagging your pants, be sure to wear undergarments that are clean and in good condition.

- White T-shirts should not be worn to tightly, and should fall at least two inches past your lower back.

- Freshly cut hair, neat twists and braids, or a nicely shaped afro can enhance any look.



PHOTO BY DESHANEE MINER

Ashley Troupe and Meghann Hill
display their fall fashions

Politics heats up summer



Matthew L. Evans
Political Columnist

Forget the sweltering days of being blinded by the simple process of walking outside. Forget the blazing afternoon when the thought of killing for an ice cold drink seemed legit. Forget the hot days of the summer of 2004, politics this summer was scorching. From all the primaries in thousands of different districts to major party conventions, there was never a shortage of political news in the American media.

A college student in America has does not have any excuse as to not recognizing the name Barak Obama. He is the Democratic candidate for U.S. Senate in the state of Illinois. If you are a college student in America there is no excuse for not being knowledgeable of the summer's current events. In one of the most important political seasons of our young lives, history is being made and each student at Tennessee State

University and other institutions of higher learning should take note.

In primary elections, candidates from each major party are selected by their constituents with a responsibility of representing the party in the elections in November. From Illinois to California, and from Georgia to New York, every student should know who is running in their home state. For instance, I am from Atlanta, Georgia and for the first time in the history of our great state, a black woman was nominated by a major party to represent her state in the U.S. Senate. Her name is Denise Majette, a Democrat who will face Republican Johnny Isakson in the upcoming Senate race. Election Day is November 2nd and people should have an idea of who they are voting for.

Of course, most Americans are anticipating the Presidential election. It is common knowledge that Democrats John Kerry and John Edwards are challenging President George W. Bush and Vice President Dick Cheney for the presidency. For the most part, the country is divided among party lines; therefore, it looks as if it is going to be a very close race. My

advice to students everywhere is to exercise your right to vote, regardless of who gets your vote. Do not become one of those Americans who has a b***s*** excuse as a reason for neglecting to vote, and then turn around and complain about what is wrong in America. As P. Diddy said, "every student should "vote or die," it's as simple as that."

The Democratic National Convention was a couple of weeks ago in Boston, and Americans heard speakers, Barak Obama, Al Sharpton, and Bill Clinton express why John Kerry is the best candidate for the job. The Republican National convention was held just last week and Americans got to hear former New York Mayor, Rudy Giuliani; John McCain, Maryland's first African American Lieutenant Governor; and the state's first Republican Lieutenant Governor, Michael S. Steele tell them why George W. Bush should be reelected. This is going to be a huge a race and everyone should start paying attention. What we all witnessed this summer was hot, but in the fall, politics in America is going to get hotter. Is Tennessee State University ready? I know I am.

What We Think

Registration's everyone's problem

Registration is undoubtedly the worst time to deal with Tennessee State University administration. It seems as if every staff member has an attitude or does not have the information students, parents, and teachers are requesting. Students are forced to wait in long lines in the financial aid office, admissions office, or bursar's office, only to be redirected to another ridiculously long line. TSU has the technological capabilities to prevent these occurrences, so why is there no solution to this ongoing problem?

Last year, TSU thought its problems would be solved with the launching of its new server, myTSU. While Eric Reed, TSU's portal administrator, admitted last spring that he was not ready for myTSU to run, the system was placed online anyway for students to utilize. While over 8,000 students began to register during the onset of the spring semester, students still experienced problems with the new system.

Unfortunately, some students still wait until the last moment to register for classes. Therefore, myTSU has yet to prove itself to the university.

The lines keep getting longer, so students should aim to find a solution to the ongoing problem.

Forum

Student Health Insurance Plans Developed for the Tennessee State University Students

Approved by The Tennessee Board of Regents
Student Health Insurance Committee

Features include:

- Covered charges at the Student Health Center paid at 100% with no deductible
- Coverage for inpatient and outpatient hospital expenses such as: surgery, physician's visits, diagnostic testing, prescriptions and other services
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Brochures & Enrollment Forms available at the:

- Student Health Center
- www.healthbenefitconcepts.com or calling 1-800-463-2317
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This insurance plan does have limitations and exclusions. For complete details see policy on file at the Tennessee Board of Regents

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.

Talk to us! 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:

- 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.
- Opinions should not exceed 500 words, and letters should not exceed 300 words.
- Sources of factual material should be included. All claims of fact are subject to verification.
- The Meter* reserves the right to reject letters, articles or ads, without explanation, and to edit others as necessary.

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of

Tennessee State University
September 9, 2004 6:30 PM
Holland Hall Room 102

The Meter
*The Measure of Student Opinion and
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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.

Campus News

TSU adopts common calendar

By Evita Timmons
Campus News Writer

In accordance with Tennessee Board of Regents guidelines, Tennessee State University along with other TBR universities now have the same academic calendar.

As of this school year, TSU will start classes, take breaks, end classes, and hold registration on the same schedule as Austin Peay State University, Middle Tennessee State University, and the University of Memphis.

"This is a joint effort by all TBR schools," said Mary Morgan, director of communications for the TBR. "People had such diverse dates to start classes, so online courses were delayed."

Morgan said the delay of online classes made it difficult for online students to qualify for financial aid. The synchronized schedules also allow students to transfer schools easier.

Fall and spring semesters are expected to be shorter, lasting approximately fifteen weeks. Since the schedule is shorter, the classes begin as early as

6:50 a.m. and are extended by five minutes. However, students now have fifteen-minute intervals between classes.

"I think the longer break is better for students who are commuting from the downtown campus," said Megan Lightford, a junior majoring in business administration from Memphis. "The bad part is having to stay in class longer."

The admissions office was unable to verify how many students registered for earlier classes due to an extension in registration.

In order to be in accordance with the academic calendar, each school must begin early registration the Monday in April for fall and summer classes. Fall classes must begin the last Monday in August in order to have a midterm break during the eighth week of classes. Spring classes are expected to begin the Monday before January 18.

"I think (the new schedule) would allow some students to take classes that they would not normally be able to take," said Veronica-Duncan Walters, an associate professor in the department of communications. "It would be interest-

ing to see how much it catches on, for the students and the teachers. I hope that students will take advantage of the new time slot."*

September 2004						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 Birthstone: Sapphire Flower: Aster	30	31	1 TSU	2	3	4
5	6 Labor Day	7	8	9	10	11 Patriot Day
12 Grandparent's Day	13	14	15 MT	16 Rosh Hashanah	17	18
19 M	20	21	22 First Day of Autumn TSU	23 Libra Sign Starts	24	25 Yom Kippur AT
26	27	28	29	30	1	2

GRAPHIC DESIGNED BY BRIAN BROWLEY

Security cameras expected to monitor students at all hours

Continued from page 1

the parking lots, we hope to prevent some of the car thefts and break-ins."

The cameras began usage August 31 and were installed by Best Access Systems, the same company that installed the fobs, another security measure to protect students from unwanted guests and/or strangers in residence halls, last year.

The idea to implement camera usage on campus had been discussed for three years, according to Larry Carpenter, the security camera project manager and

assistant director of Residence Life.

"These cameras were installed so that the safety and security of our students, faculty, and administration, and staff will be ensured," Carpenter said. "This is something that TSU needed; it was long overdue."

According to TSU's Purchasing and Business Services, the approximate cost of the installation was about \$500,000; the project was funded by the university using a reserve fund designed to make campus repairs.

"I think the cameras are invading the privacy of the students but since they are

outside in the parking lots, then that is a better reason", said Jermaine Simmons, a junior from Franklin County, Tennessee majoring in Electrical Engineering. "I do think that the money could've went to something else like scholarships, grants, or better attention to the dorms."

The cameras will be monitored 24 hours a day by security and police officers of TSU's police department, in a room located near the main cafeteria. The monitors have color screens that are connected to a hard drive, according to Tony Patterson, an employee of Best Access Systems. This can be used to transfer the VHS tape to a DVD if necessary.

"I'm really excited about these cameras being installed on campus," Carpenter said. "I just hope the students take advantage of this opportunity they have for their own security reasons."*

"These cameras were installed so that the safety and security of our students, faculty, and administration, and staff will be ensured. This is something that TSU needed; it was long overdue."

-Lawrence Carpenter



Looking for an Opportunity to Make a Difference?

CIAs Directorate of Intelligence is seeking candidates for Analyst Positions.

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- Collection Analyst
- Counterintelligence
- Threat Analyst
- Counterterrorism Analyst
- Economic, Political, Leadership and Military Analysis
- Science, Technology and Weapons Analyst
- Medical Analyst
- Psychological/Behavioral Analyst
- Crime and Counterintelligence Analyst

Candidates must have at least a bachelor's degree with a minimum GPA of 3.0. Language skills, previous foreign area residence or travel, and relevant work experience are pluses. Candidates must successfully complete a medical examination, polygraph interview, and an extensive background investigation. All positions require US citizenship and education to the Washington, DC area.

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Arts & Entertainment

TSU bookstore DVDs bring convenient entertainment to campus

By Meridith M. Miller
A&E Editor

DVD movies are being sold for the first time on campus in the TSU bookstore. Students no longer have to leave campus to purchase copies of the hottest new movie releases like *The Dave Chappelle Show* or classic old favorites like *Scarface*.

Plans to offer the DVDs began in the summer when bookstore manager Steve Treece contacted Arrow Distributions to inquire about DVD sales. Arrow is the distribution company responsible for providing the music CDs that the bookstore sells.

"I spoke with a manager at Jackson State University's bookstore," Treece said, "and he told me that the DVDs were doing really well there, so I wanted to try it out here at TSU."

According to Treece, the DVDs have been on sale in the bookstore for about a month and a half. While the on-campus location offers students an unbeatable convenience, bookstore prices may not be able to compete with larger suppliers like Wal-Mart and Best Buy.

"The DVDs are doing pretty good," Treece said, "but students aren't buying the new releases as much because they aren't priced competitively."

Arrow is responsible for pricing all DVDs sold in the bookstore, and unlike stores such as Best Buy, Arrow makes the majority of its profits off of new releases and sells older movies at reduced prices. Stores like Best Buy and Wal-Mart generally sell new releases at reduced prices and older movies at regular retail value.

One such example is the newly



PHOTO BY DESHANE MINER

Jasmin Dreummond and Elaina Hatchett browse through the new DVD collection.

released *Kill Bill Vol. 2*, which the bookstore offers for \$26.99. Best Buy offers the same movie for a sale price of \$19.99, a price difference of \$7. Another new release, *Barber Shop 2*, is offered in the bookstore for \$25.99. Wal-Mart prices the same DVD for \$20.88, a difference of \$5.11.

"Stores like Best Buy can offer better prices because they purchase in bulk," Treece said. "But we really wanted to offer the DVDs anyway as a service to the students."

Some bookstore DVDs will experience a price cut if the DVD in stock is sold, or if Arrow ships more copies. Such is the case with *You Got Served*, which upon its first shipment was priced at \$26.99, and on its second shipment boasted a reduced price of \$18.99, a dif-

ference of \$8.

The bookstore has a total inventory of about 150 DVDs and receives one to three copies of each movie. Although prices may be higher in the bookstore, with prices that range from \$10 to

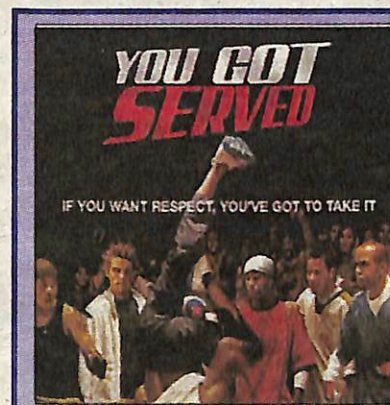
\$26.99, the bookstore's DVD collection has a little something for everyone.

Much like many record and movie stores, the bookstore receives new releases on Tuesdays. According to Treece, the bookstore can get any new release and almost any other movie it requests.

"I encourage students to come in and request titles," Treece said. "We welcome any suggestions students may have about what they would like to see us offer."

With a staff open to the students requests and a convenient on-campus stock, the bookstore could become the place for students to purchase films. This may especially be true for students without transportation or incoming freshman who haven't learned their way around Nashville.

"Because we're on a college campus the DVDs are naturally a little more expensive," said Gabrielle Lewis, a freshman political science major from Memphis. "But the fact that students can save gas money and time makes it worth the few extra dollars."•



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Arts & Entertainment

**Hero-B**

Following the phenomenal cult and commercial success of *Kill Bill Vol. 1* and *Kill Bill Vol. 2*, Quentin Tarantino decided to make the leap into the production of a real foreign language, martial arts film. The result is the stunningly beautiful epic, *Hero*.

By utilizing special-effects technology and an emotionally engaging script, the film makes a bold attempt to cover all cinematic bases.

Hero takes place in ancient China just before the start of the Qin Dynasty. The Qin Dynasty is the clan responsible for ending China's territorial wars and unifying the country as a complete

nation.

For the feuding territories that are to be conquered and ultimately combined, the cause of this combination must be annihilated. The king must be assassinated to prevent this unification. As several attempts on the king's life have narrowly missed their mark, a new weapon is unveiled to end the threat.

The film follows a nameless warrior (Jet Li) that has made a vow to destroy all those who threaten the king. One by one he travels the Chinese countryside and vanquishes each foe with an unnatural power that is mysteriously shared by all of the film's great warriors.

The sword play is vicious yet filled with a regal beauty that is rarely captured in modern movies. The violence is also matched and complemented by rich visual scenery that fills the screen and becomes a character itself.

There is also a love story within this epic about the inevitable progression of a nation. Two of the warrior assassins share a complex and functional love that is violated with the arrival of the king's nameless vindicator.

This film also boasts a strong plot. This period in Chinese history places the civilization on the edge of change, and it has made the people nervous. The intensity of the film reflects the mood of the period perfectly, while the sly betrayal and subtle treachery in the film's story



PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.TONYLEUNG.ORG

The cast of Hero

and cinematography cut at the viewer.

In sheer production and scale this film is amazing. Its visually engaging quality makes it wonderful to watch. The way the film is presented makes it hard not to watch what is going on on-screen.

The weak points of the film come into play as the complex storyline gets a little more convoluted than usual. Though the plot twist is well executed, the flashbacks are a little tough to fathom until they are nearly over. That problem is further aggravated by the fact that the film is in

Chinese! The film is also a little longer than it has to be. It all looks great but sections of it drag a little.

Bottom line: Fans of Kung Fu films and strong stories should be pleased. *Hero* is a beautiful film that gets a little ugly on the length.

Gregory Brand

Fall movie previews

The Cookout

When Todd Anderson (Storm P), a young man who is a first round draft pick for the NBA, decides to host his family's annual summer cookout at his new house in an upper-class suburban neighbor-



PHOTO COURTESY OF YAHOO.COM

Eve and Storm P in the movie Cookout

hood. The laughter and drama begin as his family and friends give the neighbors and each other a rude awakening. At the cookout Anderson's old friends meet his new friends, and he is faced with the dilemma of figuring out who just wants his money, and who really loves him for who he is. With an all-star cast including Eve, Frankie Faison, Farrah Fawcett, Danny Glover and Queen Latifah, who adds her comedic genius as the crazy down-to-earth security guard, this movie cooks up a lot of excitement and a whole lot of fun.

Wicker Park

This psycho-drama plot unfolds as an engaged investment banker Matthew (Josh Harnett) puts his engagement on hold while he searches for the woman he saw in a cafe window. He believes the

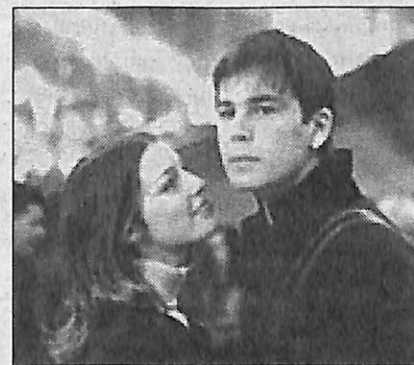


PHOTO COURTESY OF YAHOO.COM

Jessica Pare and Josh Harnett in Wicker Park

mystery woman to be his long lost love, but his obsession with uncovering her secrets lands him in a world of trouble. *Wicker Park* also stars Matthew Lillard, Rose Byrne and Diane Kruger.

Paparazzi

Paparazzi is the tale of a famous movie actor, Bo Laramie (Cole Hauser), who seeks revenge on the four in-your-face paparazzi photographers that caused

the accident injuring his wife and son. This tale of revenge offers a realistic, high-speed portrayal of what many celebrities deal with on a daily basis as they flee for their privacy, and sometimes, their lives. *Paparazzi* also stars Robin Tunney, Dennis Farina, Tom Sizemore and Larry Cedar.



PHOTO COURTESY OF YAHOO.COM

ColeHauser

Ashley K. Washington

Arts & Entertainment

9 must do and see events for fall 2004



By Alexandria Houston
A&E writer

As the 2004-2005 academic year heats up, TSU, Nashville and surrounding areas have a plethora of entertaining activities lined up during the fall semester. Check out this Tiger Eye 9 to get the 411 on all the best things to see and do during the upcoming months. The

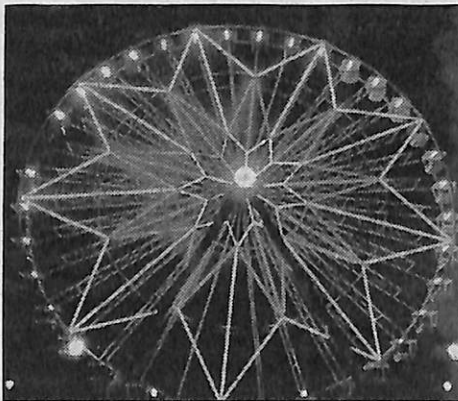


PHOTO COURTESY OF TENNESSEE.COM

A fun alternative for the young at heart.

diverse activities offer a little something for every Tiger to enjoy.

1) **2004 State Fair**-The 2004 State Fair will be held from Sept. 10 through Sept. 19 at the Tennessee State Fairgrounds. The Fairgrounds sit on 117 acres located near downtown Nashville. The cost of admission is \$8 for adults, \$4 for children ages 3 to 12 and \$4 for seniors 55 years and older. Parking is \$5, and exhibit centers open at 9 a.m. Rides begin at 10 a.m.

2) **The Truth Tour**- The Truth Tour starring Usher and Kanye West is expected to be held at 8 p.m. Friday, Sept. 17 at the FedEx Forum in Memphis. Tickets range from \$45 to

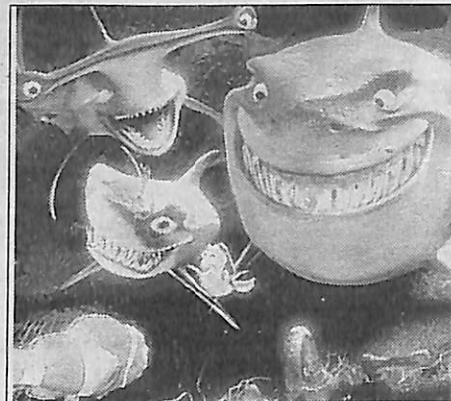


PHOTO COURTESY OF GREEKROAR.COM

Nemo expects to have the same effect on ice as under water.

\$75. There is an eight ticket limit, but tickets are almost sold out.

3) **Disney on Ice**- Disney on Ice presents Disney/Pixar's Finding Nemo at 3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 18 at the Gaylord Entertainment Center. The cost of admission ranges from \$15 to \$38. Those who liked the movie will enjoy expressing their inner child and seeing the characters come to life.

4) **Southern Heritage Classic**- The Southern Heritage Classic starring the Tennessee State University Tigers and Jackson State University will be held at 6 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 18 at the Liberty Bowl Stadium in Memphis. Watch the Tigers battle each other on the field, and groove with the Aristocrat of Bands and the Sonic Boom of the South during the half time battle of the bands. Student tickets are \$10. This is the 15th anniversary of the Classic so come out and celebrate 15 years of southern style football and fun.

5) **The Frist Museum presents Grace Graupe-Pillard**- Grace Graupe-Pillard's Manipulation/Disintegration will be featured from Sept. 24 to Jan. 2 at the Frist Museum of Visual Arts. The Museum is located at 919 Broadway in downtown Nashville. Grace Graupe-Pillard's large-scale paintings comment

on the fragmentation of life for survivors in war-torn countries. Inspired by recent news photographs of bombings, refugees and prisoners, she transforms these images into nearly abstract paintings. The cost of admission is \$6.50 with college ID, and admission is free for art lovers 18 and under. Visitors can expand their artistic horizons at the museum from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Sundays.

6) **Atlanta Football Classic**- The

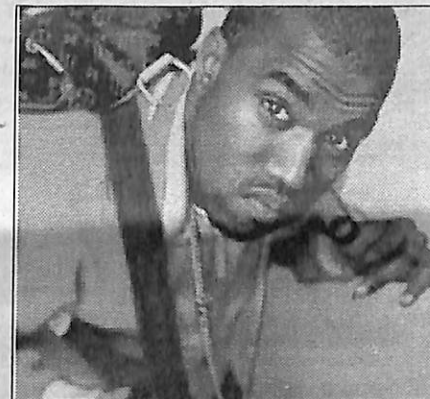


PHOTO COURTESY OF SING365.COM

Usher Confesses while Kanye spits the Truth

Atlanta Classic features a battle between TSU and Florida A&M University in Atlanta's Georgia Dome. The game starts at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 25. Tickets range from \$12 to \$45. This event is more than a football game, it's one of the biggest rivalries of the year for the football teams and the bands in one of the hottest cities in the south.

7) **Best of Both Worlds Tour**- The Best of Both Worlds Tour features R&B artist R. Kelly and hip hop artist Jay Z. The concert will be held at 7 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 10 at the Gaylord Entertainment Center. The cost of admission ranges from \$67.50 to \$75.00 with an 8 ticket limit. It's time for some *Bump and Grind* and *Big Pimpin'*.

8) **Homecoming 2004**- The biggest game of the year goes down at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 6 at the Adelpia Coliseum. Events leading to the game include the Mr. TSU Pageant, the Battle of the Residence Halls, the homecoming

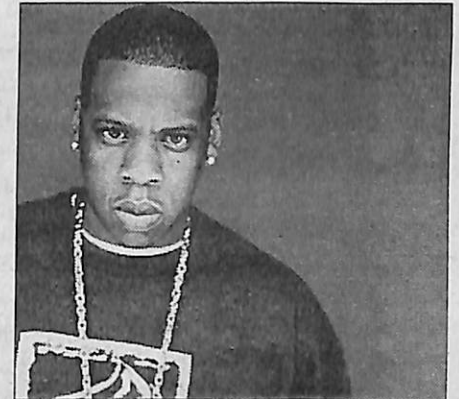


PHOTO COURTESY OF V-LAW.RU

99 Problems should not keep students from this concert.

step show and the Miss TSU Coronation and Ball. Come out and support fellow TSU students, and cheer the tiger football team on to a homecoming victory.

9) **The Darkhorse Theatre presents Hellcab**. The Darkhorse Theatre, located at 4610 Charlotte Ave., will host *Hellcab* from Dec. 3 through 18. Show times are 7:30 p.m. on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays. *Hellcab* is 70 minutes of vignettes based on real life events. The play is a study about modern city life and the people we meet for a brief moment who have the ability to touch us long afterwards. Six actors play approximately 25 roles, while the seventh actor, the cabbie, is the guiding character for the audience. Each vignette lasts about as long as the average cab ride. Tickets range from \$12 to \$15. For reservations call 262-5485.

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Sports

John Merritt Classic continues to grow

By Sheena Hamilton and Kamaria Mack
Sports Writer and Campus News Editor

Despite lackluster attendance, Tennessee State University sports officials still say the John Merritt Classic continues to grow.

Last year the classic's attendance dropped to 18,124 from the 2002 attendance of 18,625. Clifton Gray, chairman of the John Merritt Classic Committee, expected 25,000 people to support the Tigers this year with fair weather. Teresa Phillips, TSU's athletic director said the classic continues to grow every year, especially with this years corporate sponsors being Comcast Communications, Coca-Cola, State Farm Insurance and Anheuser-Busch.

"When you have strong sponsorship, it means that you are becoming a marketable item," Gray said. "In order to obtain our goal we go through sponsor participation, word of mouth and consistency."

According to tsutigers.com, TSU's partnership with Comcast

Communications is valued at over \$100,000. Graves declined to release the

value of other partnerships.

The main goal of the Classic is to raise money for scholarships and any other needs for the University; the Classic weekend is a huge effort in community outreach.

Graves said another way the board tried to enhance the classic was through higher promotion of the college fair, in efforts to attract high school students to attend TSU. Also catered towards the students is the annual concert, which includes: popular rap duo 8 ball and MJG, rappers the Youngbloodz, and Lil' Wayne.

"It is really cool that the advisory board took a unique interest in what type of music the students listen to," said Trey Ragland, a sophomore majoring in computer science from Rome, Ga. "It is also nice that their goal is to attract more prospective students to TSU."

The John Merritt Classic is an event that honors the legend, former Tiger's collegiate Hall of Fame coach John Ayers Merritt; known affectionately to some as "Big John." Merritt guided the Tigers from 1963-1983 with a record of 172-33-7. Dallas Cowboy Ed "Too Tall" Jones, Chicago Bears Richard Dent and Waymond Bryant and Oakland Raider Eldridge Dickey, the first African



PHOTO BY DESHANEE MINER

Students stand in line outside of Student center Ticket office

American quarterback to be selected in the first round of the NFL draft, all trained under TSU's most successful head football coach. Merritt led the Tigers to the National Black College Football championship title in 1965, 66, 70, 71, 73, 79, 81 and 82.

The 2004 classic honorees are the 1966 Tennessee State University Tiger's football team. That season, the Tigers recorded TSU's first undefeated, untied season and first National Black College Football Championship under Merritt. The Tigers averaged 41 points per game

and only allowed four ppg, including an 83-0 homecoming win over Kentucky State University. Nolan Smith led all scorers that season with 12 touchdowns and teammates Claude Humphrey and Eldridge Dickey earned All-American honors and became National Football League first round draft picks.

Tennessee State University head football coach, James Reese informs the new players of the history of the John Merritt Classic. In meetings the team is told the tale of a leader and an era of success and pride associated with the very jerseys they wear each week.

"More than a classic game, I see this as an opportunity to honor tradition and carry on a legacy," said Reese.

TSU is not the only historically Black college or university who hosts their own classic. Morgan State University plays in the Parkway Classic, Alabama State University plays in the Turkey Day Classic and Norfolk State University host both the Labor Day and Fish Bowl Classics.

"I think it's a privilege to have your own classic, that not many HBCUs get," said sophomore chemistry major Amelia Sanders from Augusta, Ga.

"...TSU has a lot of privileges that other HBCUs do not get."

-Eddie R. Cole, Jr. and Ashley Northington contributed to the story.

This graph represents how Attendance at the John Merritt Classic has declined since 1999.



GRAPHIC DESIGNED BY GREGORY BRAND

Sports

TSU football team reloaded for 2004

By Eddie Cole
Sports Editor

Stemming from the momentum gained from last season's 7-5 record, Tennessee State University's football team has reloaded its arsenal for the 2004 season.

The Tigers signed 37 players, the most in the Ohio Valley Conference, in addition to later transfers. Lamel Ages (Auburn), Jamar Landrom (Toledo), Nikkeda Rutland (Garden City CC) and Darnell Ray (Illinois) are expected to make an immediate impact on the field. Preseason All Americans running back Charles Anthony and defensive end Paul Thomas returned as team captains in their respective units.

"I think that athletically we could be better than last year, but you try not to judge until after the first game," defensive coordinator Rod Reed said. "On paper we look good, but the game is not played on paper."

The Tigers finished the 2003 season first in total defense, allowing 320 yards per game, granting the fewest first downs with 191 and the third best scoring defense with 23.8 points per game.

Offensively, the Tigers scored the most touchdowns with 47, recorded the second best scoring offense with 29 ppg

and the third best total offense total with 381.8 ypg.

Anthony, a senior, finished last season second in Division I-AA with 1,708 rushing yards, only missing the 100-yard mark in one game, against Jacksonville State University. He also accounted for 15 touchdowns and snatched 29 receptions for 362 yards. Anthony, who carried the ball 72 percent of TSU's rushing attempts, earning post season All-American honors from the Sports Network, American Football Coaches Association, Associated Press and Sheridan Poll.

Clearing Anthony's path are seniors Chris Ham and Barion Jones and sophomore Raushaun Rowser, who are returning starters on the offensive line.

"We are looking for more consistency from our quarterback," said offensive coordinator Anthony Owens. "We have an All-American running back, so we should be able to run the ball, but we have guys that have to step up at receiver."

Last season quarterbacks Bryson Rosser and Riley Walker split time under center. Walker, a senior, put up 1,235 passing yards and six touchdowns in ten games while Rosser, a junior, threw for 1,458 passing yards and 18 touchdowns in eight games of action. Senior Kevin

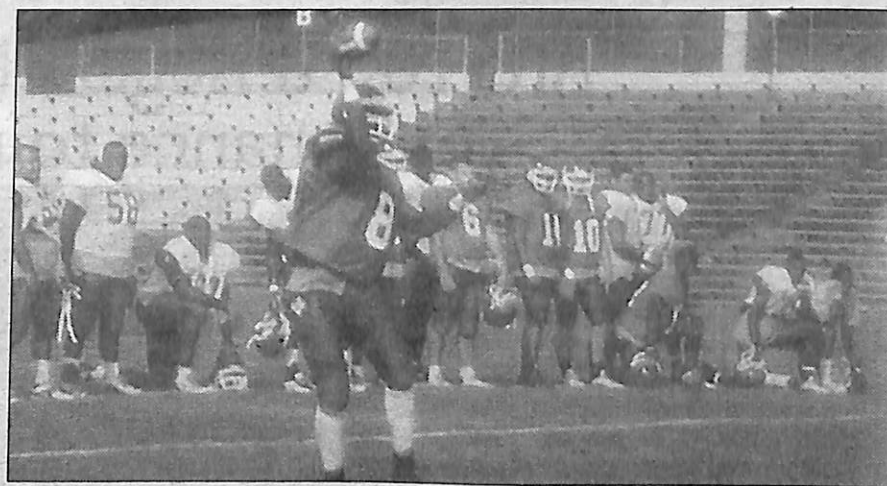


PHOTO BY DESHANEE MINER

Bryson Rosser throws a pass in a practice before the John Merritt Classic

Hollis, juniors Ivan Burley and Fred Burnette, and sophomores Gerald and Jarrett Morrow, will step up into major playing time at receiver this season, with the departure of a veteran receiving corp.

Thomas, a senior who finished last season leading the OVC with 12 sacks and 20 tackles for a loss, is expected to be joined by fellow senior James Dumervil and junior Wesley Holmes who recorded 91 and 65 total tackles respectively. Also, the secondary returns senior safety Justin Williams who tallied

42 total tackles in 2003.

"They were straight last year... (But) I want to see them pass the ball more," said Gerald Onuoha, a sophomore from Huntsville, Ala., majoring in physics. "I believe this is the year TSU wins the OVC."

Though the 2004 Tigers are predicted by head coaches and sports information directors in the OVC to finish sixth, the platform for a top finish has been laid.

TSU volleyball under new direction

Tennessee State University named Kathy Roulhac as head volleyball coach. Roulhac, who replaced Dawn Reese, served as the assistant academic coordinator and interim senior women's administrator at North Carolina A&T University. She also led the volleyball program to three straight 20 win seasons and was a part of the Aggie athletic program for the last ten years.

Assistant coach Eysha Ambler, also her first year with TSU, joins the Lady Tigers after three seasons as a graduate assistant with fellow Ohio Valley Conference member Jacksonville State University. Roulhac, with eight returning players and four freshmen, will not have to look far for experience.

TSU's home opener is scheduled for Tuesday, Sept.

7, when they play host to their rival the Belmont Bruins.

New coaches join TSU football

Coaches Brandon Blew and Shannon Harris are the newest faces to join the Tennessee State University football staff. Blew and Harris both joined the team in July and will coach the running backs and quarterbacks respectively.

Blew, a graduate of the University of Arkansas, joins the TSU coaching staff from San Jose State University, where he served on the Spartan staff for the last three seasons working with defensive backs. Blew replaced Bill Khayat, who now coaches the National Football

League's Arizona Cardinals. Harris, a former TSU standout, student assisted for TSU last season. Harris currently holds the TSU records for total offense (3,137) and most touchdown passes in a game (7). He is also second all-time for single season completions (211), single season passing yardage (3,008) and third for single season touchdown passes (26). In 2003, Harris played for the Arena Football League's Shreveport Battle Wings.

Tigers look to continue streak

The Tennessee State University football team expects to extend an eight game win streak against the UT-Martin Skyhawks Thursday, Sept. 9, in this season's Ohio Valley Conference opener. In last season's OVC opener, TSU won 41-10. Running back Charles Anthony ran

for two first half touchdowns and quarterback Riley Walker hit ex-Tiger Carlos Wright for an 82-yard touchdown pass putting the Tigers up 21-10 at halftime.

The Tigers continued to clip the Skyhawks in the second half with Anthony running his third touchdown of the game and ex-Tigers Rashad Shaw and C.J. Johnson both scored touchdowns to finish all scoring. TSU totaled 142 rushing yards and 285 passing yards. The Tiger defense held UT-Martin to only 225 yards total offense.

The Skyhawks went on to finish the 2003 season last in OVC standings (2-10, 1-7 OVC). UT-Martin finished last in scoring offense (16.5), scoring defense (36.6), rushing offense (101), rushing defense (220.7), and total defense (438.5) and near the bottom in several other categories.

Compiled by Eddie Cole

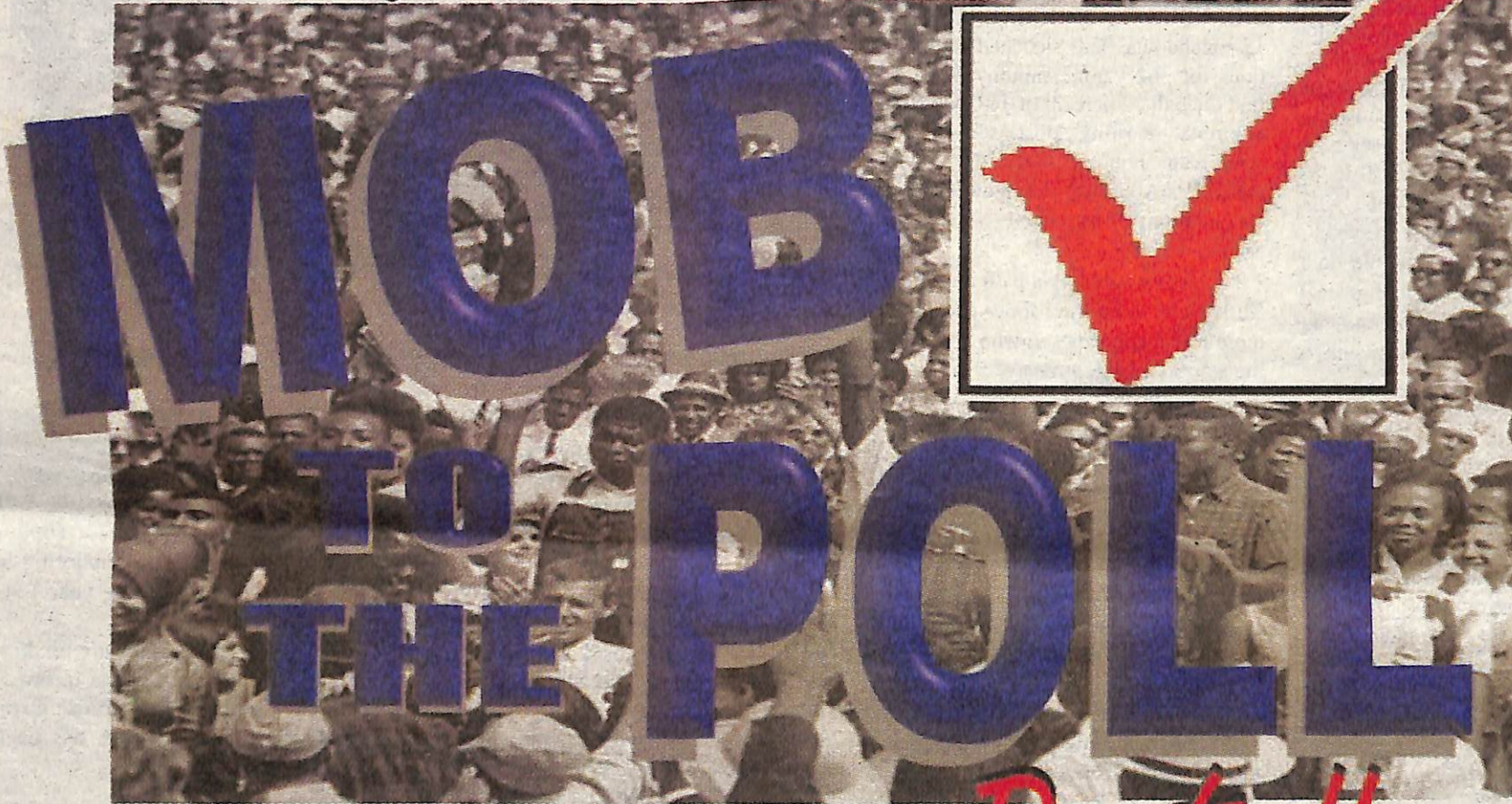
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Voter Registration Deadline

October 2, 2004