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Tennessee State University

The Meter

The Measure of Student Opinion and Sentiment

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Issue 6

Special 1997 Homecoming Edition

"An evening with an angel"

Janella D. Buckner
Staff Writer

During "An Evening with an Angel," the parents of Jamila Njeri Engram, the 55th Miss Tennessee State University, presented her with a new 1998 Honda Accord and her own personal parking space at Hale Hall, at the annual Coronation on Thursday, November 6, in Kean Hall.

The coronation started promptly at 6 p.m. when Myron Broome, SGA vice president, opened the program with reflections of Miss TSU.

The mistresses of ceremonies, TSU Director of Public Relations, Phyllis Qualls-Brooks and Dallas TSU Alumni Chapter President, Jenine Robinson, announced the 68 organizational queens represented at the coronation.

The greetings and occasion

were made by Mr. Johnnie Bond, SGA president. He recited a poem expressing his feelings about Jamila Engram.



TSU president James A. Hefner gives Miss TSU, Jamila Engram her official oath.

After the greeting, Robbyne Manning, Miss TSU 1996-97 proceeded into Kean Hall as the audience stood to their feet. Shortly after Manning took her seat, the royal Court entered. The Royal Court consists of Miss Freshman, Sharifa Vinson; Miss Sophomore,

Jonique Brooks; Miss Junior, Penny Mosley; Miss Senior, Brequia Reed and First Attendant, Audrey Hall.

Engram then made her way to the stage where she was officially sworn in by Dr. James A. Hefner, president of TSU. Thomas Martin, vice-president of Student Affairs, performed the charge to the queen.

After all the speeches and oaths, Engram was officially crowned by Manning.

The TSU Showstoppers gave two performances while other special presentations were made by Miss Fisk University, Harriett Johnson; State Senator Thelma Harper; Miss Meharry Medical College, Angela Lanier; organizational queens, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and the Royal Court.

As a gift, Miss TSU's family had arranged that she get her own parking space in front of her

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PHOTO BY SAVONYA BARNES

Christina Miller won first prize in the freshman category of the annual oratorical contest

Oratorical contest encourages competition

Freda D. Buckley
Staff Writer

The Tenth Annual Robert N. Murrell Oratorical Contest was held Nov. 2 in the Forum of the Floyd-Payne Campus Center. This year's theme was "85 Years of Thinking, Working and Serving."

Dr. Jacqueline Mitchell, professor of communications, opened the competition. "I hope this event will mirror and reflect the life and integrity of Robert N. Murrell, his purpose, his commitment to develop the skill of young people."

The Robert N. Murrell Oratorical Contest was established in 1988 by Marion Spears, Director of Boyd hall and the Residence Hall Council. The Contest is named in honor of the

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Sands, Waller capture Mr. and Miss UHP

By Kara Duke
Staff Writer

Jacquay Waller and Rachel Sands captured the title of Mr. and Miss University Honors Program at the 3rd annual Mr. & Miss Honors Pageant on Thursday, October 29 in Kean Hall.

The pageant began when the contestants took the audience back to the "mother land" as they

performed an African dance to the beat of drums. The contestants swayed with rhythm as they were introduced to the audience.

The contestants in the pageant running for Miss Honors were Kimberly Smith, Erin Brown, Teesha Boyle, Heather Brown, Shena Ashley, Sands, Krishenna Patrick, Lakiya Ayo and Jamil Scott. The Mr. Honors contestants were Christopher Berry, Christopher Cruse, Jamal

Hutchison, Waller and Richard Young.

The Master and Mistress of ceremonies were Bernard Johnson and Ambre Brown, who made the audience laugh with their comical gestures. After Melanie Wilson gave the welcome, the University Honors Program choir made their debut performance singing "I Believe I Can Fly."

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PHOTO BY DANNY BROWN

Mr. and Miss UHP '97-98.

T.E. Poag delivers 'Through the Eyes of a Black Woman'



PHOTO BY SAVONYA BARNES

T.E. Poag looks "Through the Eyes of a Black Woman".

By Demeika Thompson
Staff Writer

The annual homecoming production of T. E. Live was not performed this year due to a vision of the Tennessee State University's Thomas Edward Poag Players' Guild.

This year's substitution was noted by members as a rewarding experience. Instead of their traditional variety show, on November 5, the Guild presented, "Through the Eyes of a Black Woman".

This one act play, set in the ambiance of a dinner theater, was written and directed by Ashley Jefferson. The event was sponsored by the Student Union Board of Governors.

The cast included, Shalonda Carney, Nicole Ford, Ashley Jefferson, Heneliaka Jones, Natalie Norman, Kimbra Turner, Kristi Steele, and Ebonne Woods.

The master of ceremonies for the event was T. E. Poag president, Timothy Bailey. Excited about the success of the production, Bailey said, "This

play was a stepping stone for T. E. Poag."

A prayer before dinner lead by Janella Buckner, sophomore member of the Guild, prepared the audience for an evening of theater.

The play used eight diverse characters to capture the lives and experiences of black women. Ford, who recreated the role of Nikki, a confused suburban in a racially mixed marriage, said, "Black women are all different, but we should not judge one another."

Though the play was centered around issues that black women face daily, Turner, who played Chantel, a materialistic fashion designer, insisted that the play was not another attempt to bash males. Instead, she believes it gave men a vision of the struggle that black women encounter in society.

Throughout the play the true identities and values bestowed in each character were brought out in a soliloquy, in which the inner being of each character was introduced to the audience.

As the play ended, the audience val-

idated the excellence of the performance through their unending applause.

"It was heart-wrenching and real," said Ashley Cunningham, advertising manager for the Meter. Melora Green, a sophomore, said "The idea of the dinner theater brings culture to the campus."

"Through the Eyes of a Black Woman," written three years prior to this performance was envisioned through the eyes of Jefferson. This vision flourished into a theatrical reality and gave the T. E. Poag Players' Guild a sense of pride.

Jefferson, overwhelmed by the response of the production, said, "Writing and acting has always been my first love. As a kid, I always wanted to play the role of Rudy's best friend on "The Cosby Show."

She plans to use her background as an accounting major to have a successful business in writing and production. Jefferson does not plan to make a continuation of the play but plans to put the production on again and write more plays.

The play evoked sentimental feelings for Jefferson and members of the T.E. Poag Players' Guild. It is their belief that this was what they needed diminish the idea that T. E. Poag is all about being comical. Members of the Players' Guild agree that the talent exemplified in this production mirrored the serious side of the organization.

Overjoyed with tears of triumph, old and new members of the organization united to witness and participate in the event. The Guild believes that Dr. Thomas Edward Poag would be proud of this accomplishment.



PHOTO BY SAVONYA BARNES

Steevon Hunter played three saxophones during the talent segment of the pageant.

Hunter crowned Mr. TSU

By Kelly D. Morgan
Staff Writer

Dressed to impress, six of TSU's finest males stepped out in style to showcase their talent, character, and intellect to a packed house on Tuesday, November 4. The distinguished gentlemen began the Mr. Tennessee State University Pageant with a bang as they make their premiere appearance for the evening in silver and black. Together the six contestants performed a choreographed routine, adding special effects with black canes. The crowd screamed wildly and appeared to be quite impressed with the first impression of each of the candidates.

After each contestant had been formally introduced to the audience, MC's Shante' Telfer and Myron Broome introduced the judges for the evening, each members of the Nashville community and long-time supporters of TSU.

Each contestant was

required to create his own scene for each category of fashion—casual, swim, and business, in addition to showcasing his talent and participating in question and answer session. Contestant number one was Tolando Hawkins, a sophomore majoring in marketing from Jackson, TN. Contestant number two was Romel Murphy, a sophomore marketing major from St. Louis, MO. Contestant number three was Jerold Borden, a junior marketing major and native of Louisville, KY. Contestant number four was Steevon Hunter, a sophomore from Memphis, TN majoring in Music Education. Contestant number five was Abdul Rutherford, a junior Elementary Education major from Portland, OR. Contestant number six was Keith Barbee, a junior from Ripley, TN majoring in Business Administration.

The showcase began with casual wear scene. Contestants used their individuality, style, and charis-

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Boyd hall follows up on security measures

By Timothy O. Bond
Staff Writer

After the recent shooting of Ryan Keith Anderson, a former TSU student, in Boyd Hall, the cry for tighter security resounded throughout the entire campus.

The Student Government Association met with President James A. Hefner to discuss security measures. In their meeting, Hefner declared that all dorms would have security from dusk to dawn, which meant security

would be present from 5 p.m. until 6 a.m.

Since the shooting, the TSU dorms have been equipped with security guards to check student I.D.'s. Yet it remains questionable whether the newly enforced security is making the residents of Boyd Hall feel more secure.

Lamont Page, Boyd's assistant dorm director said, "We are pleased that we are now getting that type of coverage, however we still have a way to go."

Although the staff is pleased with the new policy, some stu-

dents complain that the measures are too extreme and inconvenient.

Steve Reid, a Boyd hall resident said, "Security is alright but I'd rather it go back to the way it used to be because I was more comfortable. I think they're kind of taking it too much to the extreme."

The discomfort that students of Boyd hall feel is a result of not being able to enter or leave through the west wing door of the dorm that leads to the library, computer lab and other facilities

on campus.

Page said, "Locking the door probably is an inconvenience, but if having an inconvenience will better secure this dorm then that's what we have to do."

However, some students feel the heightened security is poorly enforced.

"Half of the time security doesn't even check the I.D's, so what good is it going to do to lock the door? Checking I.D's doesn't totally solve the problem because anyone off campus can shoot you just as fast as anyone

on campus. Security needs to enforce metal detectors or something like that," said Alvin Pryor.

Johnnie Bond, SGA president and a Boyd resident said, "Security has provided some sense of security for the students to know that I.D's are checked, but I don't feel that security should abuse that power or make it an inconvenience for the students. It should be a balance between providing and also insuring that students feel safe and welcome within their own living quarters."



PHOTO BY DANNY BROWN

Hankal Divas wins the battle

Dorms. The event, which is sponsored annually by the Student Union Board of Governors in celebration of homecoming week, was held in Kean Hall on November 3 at 7:00 p.m.

The first place trophy went to the Hankal Hall Divas, second place trophy went to Wilson Hall's Ladies of Distinction and the third place trophy went to Hale Hall.

First to perform was Antonio Jones representing Boyd Hall. Screams filled Kean Hall as Jones sang "Down Low" by R. Kelly.

Next to take the stage were

the Divas of Hankal Hall. The Divas' performance included four young ladies singing interrupted by an army of different ladies stepping in army fatigues to the center floor to Master P's "No Limit Soldiers". The divas then formed lines and combined different steps with occasional dance moves.

Hale Hall added a feeling of Sunday church service as Cynthia Pasley enriched the audience with a gospel selection.

The Ladies of Wilson Hall strutted in their v-neck shirts and black dress pants as they per-

formed a step routine that included a variety of floor stunts.

Boyd Dormitory was then represented by "4 Deep", a group that displayed their unique dance moves representing the city of Memphis.

D.J. Bone, the disc jockey for the event pumped up the crowd as students ransacked the floor dancing to Master P's "How ya do dat there" and the all time popular song, "The Perculator".

The event ended as the audiences' cheers filled the air as the Divas of Hankal Hall rushed the stage to receive their first place trophy.

The divas of Hankal Hall celebrate their victory.

By Stacey Diltz
Staff Writer

residents of Boyd, Watson, Hankal, Wilson, Hale and Rudolph dormitories performed in the annual Battle of the

It was a night of talent as

Clay creations and a history lesson

By Mitchell Vantrease
Staff Writer

On October 9, Jane-Allen McKinney's ceramics class experienced a day with one of the nation's top sculpture artists, Yoni Sinor, at Cheekwood, an art museum and botanical garden.

Sinor has created many sculptures around the country, including a life-size Emmy for the National Academy of Television for Arts and Sciences.

She also has worked on a sculpture entitled the "Tug of War" for the Franklin Battleground Academy. She is currently working on a sculpture entitled "For the Forests", which is dedicated in memory of the Aborigines. The exhibit is a part of a sculpture trail at Cheekwood.

During the session with Sinor, the class worked on clay creations and received a history lesson. As they sat working on their creations, Sinor told stories about her Native American ancestors,



PHOTO BY DANNY BROWN

Yoni Sinor shows her sculpture

the Cherokee Indians. Her family comes from Skinhim, a town in Lincoln County.

She told stories of her ancestors involvement with the Trail of Tears, one of the biggest disasters in American history. She explained the political structure of the Native Americans and their everyday living conditions. Sinor also informed students that seventy-five percent of the food eaten by Americans today was provided by the Indians.

The class left the demonstration with more knowledge and appreciation of the Native American culture.

TSU host its' first induction

By B. Newcomb
Staff Writer

Tennessee State University's National Alumni Association made history by inducting Dr. Thomas Frist, Jr., Samuel H. Howard and Fred Jones, Jr. as honorary members on Friday, November 7, during TSU's Homecoming week.

The ceremony, the first of its kind for the National Alumni Association, was held in the Atrium on the Avon Williams Campus in downtown Nashville.

Various alumni, faculty and administrators were on hand to witness the induction of three individuals who have helped in the growing process of TSU by

making contributions to the university in the past few years.

The welcome was given by National Alumni President, Mary A. Adams, with greetings from TSU President James A. Hefner, followed by the occasion from National Alumni Vice President, Robert Smith.

The honorees were inducted, presented with an award and certificate and given the opportunity to speak. All three were proud to be inducted and reflected on their past dealings with TSU.

Frist, Howard and Jones are all from Tennessee, and have had an impact on TSU. Frist is a Nashvillian who serves as chief executive officer of Columbia/HCA and has

contributed substantial funding for the university's first chair of excellence, the Thomas and Patricia Frist Chair of Excellence in Business.

Samuel H. Howard, a Nashvillian, is the chief executive officer of the Phoenix Healthcare Corporation, an influential individual in various radio stations in Nashville and established the Samuel H. Howard Endowed Fellowship to support business professionals who seek to earn a master's in business administration.

Jones of Memphis is president of the Summit Management Corporation and is founder and producer of the Southern Heritage Classic, which TSU participates in annually.

The Meter

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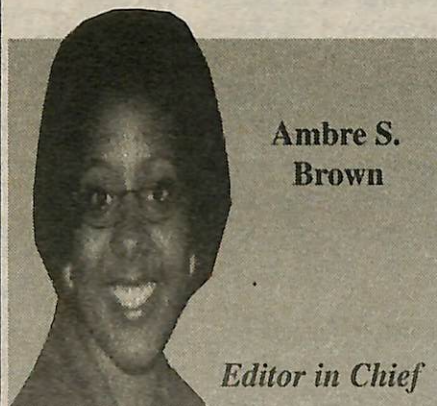
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Because the newspaper will inevitably receive more submissions than can possibly be printed, timeliness, clarity of thought, factual accuracy, and interest to the university community will be major factors in selecting material for publication. All material must adhere to the following guidelines:

- All contributions must be typed, double spaced (submitted on 3.5" disks and hard copy), and must include the writer's name, telephone number, and P.O. Box.
- Feature articles should not exceed 1,000 words. Opinion length should not exceed 500 words. Letter length 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 or articles without explanation, and to edit those accepted as necessary for copy fit, grammar, or style.

The Meter
Tennessee State University
P.O. Box 1246
3500 John Merritt Blvd.
Nashville, Tn 37209
(615) 963-5652
FAX: (615) 963-5051

From Where I Sit: they still haven't come

Ambre S.
Brown

Editor in Chief

Anyone who keeps up with me knows I love to write about the rebirth of school spirit, loyalty and how important it is to know the school's history.

But sadly, I find all too often not enough students really know about Tennessee State University's history and the attempts by a few individuals to strip the school of the mission it was founded upon.

In 1977 TSU was court-ordered to merge with the University of Tennessee, Nashville, in an attempt to make the school more conducive to students from the Middle Tennessee area.

However, with all roses there are many thorns, and a few of the scars left on the hands of TSU was that we, a historically black university founded as the Tennessee Agricultural and Industrial Normal School for Negroes, were to recruit more white students.

Actually, a whole lot of white students.

By 1993 TSU was supposed to have "a 50 percent white, 50 percent non-white student body."

But anyone who walks through the student center at noon on Wednesdays knows that did not happen.

Actually, white enrollment has decreased. Since the current president, James A. Hefner has been here, white enrollment has gone down a little over 15 percent.

Now, to alumni, supporters and students dedicated to maintaining the historic mission of the university, that is something to celebrate.

But to the people who have alternate visions of where they would like to see TSU go, this makes them a bit frustrated.

Recently, an article was brought to my attention printed in the *Nashville Scene*, one of the city's alternative newspapers, about the percentage of white students attending TSU.

But the article was not positive. Actually, it was very negative for the university. The headline really caught my attention. It was titled, "Lighting

Up ... If TSU is Courting White Students, Where are the White Faces?"

Now as a journalist, I am already very critical. But as a student who bleeds royal blue and white, I am also very cautious about people from this university talking to the press.

Anyway, as I read the article and studied how the reporter's language insinuated a number of things about the admission standards of the university and the minority scholarships in comparison to other predominate white universities, I felt disheartened something like this would creep up during a time where TSU has been criticized so frequently in the recent past.

I was sad until I came to a part in the article that changed my depression to a state of shock.

TSU's professor of the year, the chair of the faculty senate and the chair of the sociology department, David Broad really confused me when he acknowledged that he knew that "African Americans have suffered indignities in American institutional life for a very long time."

But the real clincher was when he said "what non-African Americans suffer at TSU is very much like what African Americans experienced in historically white institutions in the not-so-distant past."

Maybe I missed something.

But what I took that statement to mean was, and please correct me if I am wrong, that "non-African Americans" or white people, are treated now, at TSU, like black people were treated in the 50s and 60s.

Now, from what my mother and history books tell me, the Civil Rights Movement was not an easy time to grow up in. There were riots, second-hand supplies, the Little Rock Nine and conspired theories to keep blacks from attending certain colleges.

Fast-forward 40 years, and I attend a school where anyone who is not black can get a full scholarship with a 2.25 high school g.p.a. and 19 on the ACT, while people who look like me have to have a 3.0 and 21 on the ACT to get a full ride.

I called Dr. Broad and asked him why he made those statements. And he said he "absolutely" stands behind his views.

But since he did not answer my question, I asked him again. He then said because of the things that have happened to him.

Again I was confused.

But before I assumed anything, I made sure that Broad, a tenured profes-

sor who says he is loyal to TSU and concerned about the growth, or lack of growth of the university, really felt that TSU was such a bad environment for people who were not black.

He told me about the complaints filed against him within his department and talked about the charges of him being a racist.

He also said a lot of other things about the abuse he receives in the department, but after I analyzed what he was saying and what had been printed, I came to a frightening conclusion.

David Broad had taken a personal issue and made it a public dilemma.

Now I really have a problem with this.

The fact that people do not like you is not a reason to make a public statement that, because it is not explained, could cause someone to think this university is a place that discriminates.

Dr. Broad went on to explain that he said a number of other things that the reporter from the *Nashville Scene* conveniently left out of the article.

But as a reporter, I also explained that the information he was giving me about the "numbers" were well and good, but when he started to talk about race, the story took a turn for the worse.

Broad said he feels the school is under a "legitimate" court order that we are violating by not actively attracting more non-African American students and maximizing the growth potential by attracting more students.

But TSU has received \$112 million, built seven new buildings and renovated the entire campus and "they" still have not come.

I care about the stipulation settlement and the fact that people, not of the same ethnic background of those the university was founded for, are basically paid to attend this school.

But I am also aware of the fact that people cannot be forced to attend a college and contrary to Broad's belief, if someone wants to drive 45 minutes to Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro, you cannot change their mind.

It does not matter how good we look or how good we sound, you cannot force anyone to do anything or go anywhere they do not want to go.

But it appears to me some people want to use force to change the character of this university.

And character is something I feel I am about to be forced to question.

The numbers do not matter

By Barbara Brown-Gathers

The historic event that took place on October 25, in Philadelphia, Pa, was called the MILLION-Woman March.

Yet the post-march question became; how many women were actually there?

How does one count the fish in the sea, with all of the little creatures scurrying to and fro?

How many were there during the Maafa (a Kiswahili term meaning Great Calamity, which is currently the term used to refer to the holocaust of the African people that was formerly referred to as slavery)?

How many African American sons and daughters fought and died in the wars of this nation from 1776 to the present though still victims of racial discrimination? How many? How many? How many?

Recently, during the Million Women March, the Philadelphia Police Department quoted 300,000 participants present, while the organizers estimated over 1.2 million.

With such a wide discrepancy, fallacy is evident. Nevertheless, the important question is, do the numbers really matter?

Rather than calculate, let us qualify. On October 25, a multitude of energized, determined sisters of African descent converged before Penn's Landing and extended up the Benjamin Franklin Parkway to represent themselves, their families, and their communities. These sisters came to voice their concern for the plethora of dilemmas that face America's children of Africa. They came hoping to hear, see, feel, and/or learn something that might be personally inspirational that they could take home and use to enhance their collective communities.

Women, as God's conduit for the nurturing of human life, need to be, and for the most part are, beings of the spirit, the realm of feelings and other intuitions. Therefore, individuals cannot determine validly, the success of this assembly of women by merely counting the number of physical entities apparent at the gathering. What validates and speaks to the success of this his-

torical event is that women were spiritually moved within by the essence of sisterhood that was exemplified everywhere.

The warm smiles and casual conversations between women who did not even know each other was evidence of this.

Janet Hammond Ryder, a community leader and resident of Philadelphia, escorted several sisters from Miami, Brooklyn and Jamaica, to the nearby Gloria's Seafood Restaurant.

This restaurant, owned by an African American, provided a respite from the damp chill and drizzle outside.

Paying for everyone's lunch, she embodied the spirit of the march. Her kindness as well as the warmth and generosity of other women attending the march serve as examples of the spiritually motivating energy that was being exchanged between women of color in Philadelphia on October 25th.

Valerie Martin, an educator and community activist from Miramar, Florida, said "The numbers are not important, but what matters is that the spirit of apathy be exorcised from us as sisters, and as members of the African American community."

Eboni Hill, a teenager from

Brooklyn, New York, found Sister Souljah's words relevant and sharp. "I hear a lot of people out there today saying, sister, sister, sister," said Sister Souljah. "But what is the definition of sister? Some of you are here today, but will be ass-butt naked in a club tomorrow."

The grounds were filled with people, constant motion, constant laughter, discussion and the buying and selling of march memorabilia. Yet when the introduction of Winnie Madikizela-Mandela began, a hush and stillness fell over the crowd.

Winnie came to the microphone screaming 'Amandla!' with her fist raised. Like a cauldron of fire she exploded, "We are countless in unity."

The unity that was accomplished on the Benjamin Franklin expressway was unlike anything that has been seen before. The number of women was beyond countable.

The Spirit of the march was all encompassing and the love that the sisters showed was infinite.

All present that drizzly day were witness to the brightest display of womanhood seen in the US.

Barbara Brown-Gathers is an educator in Brooklyn, New York.

Letters to the editor

To the Editor,

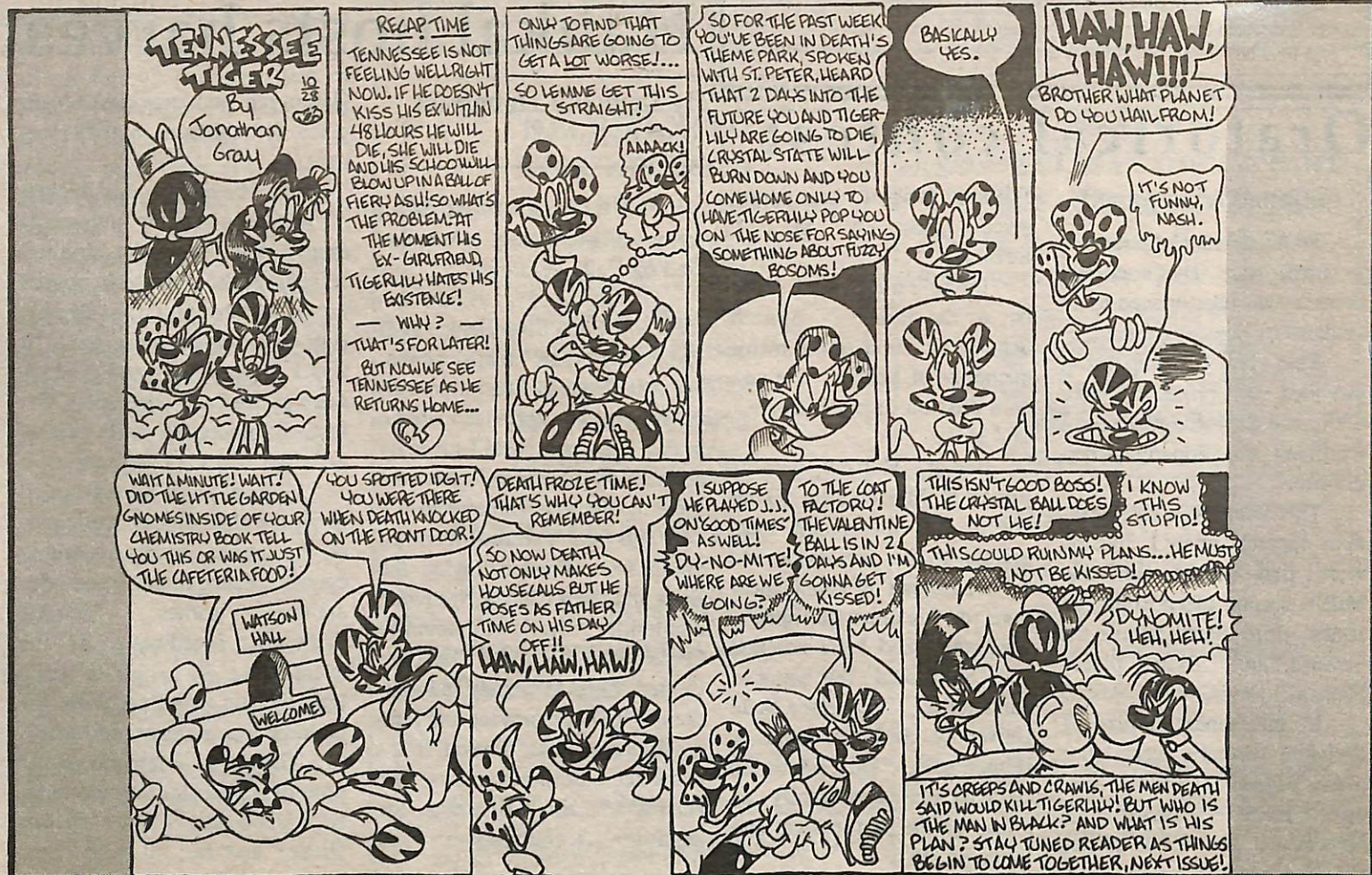
It is disappointing to see how many of our black males are killed not only on campus, but also in our streets. Since we students have been shocked by the accident that occurred last week, I feel that more rules should be started so that our school can feel more safe. Although security is at a high level now, I still think that it can be reinforced in ways such as: searching the student's possessions, having the students sign in and out, and a twenty four hour security patrol.

Searching the students possessions will make sure that the students are not carrying illegal drugs or weapons. Also, it will make sure that nothing has been stolen from any person's room or from the dorm facility. Having students to sign in and out after 6:00 p.m. will help to increase security. This will help keep a record of all students whereabouts. In case families need to contact children this will make it easier to give information about the student, and with students signing in and out they are also monitoring the traffic in the dorm more closely. A twenty-four hour security patrol will cut down on suspicious persons on campus. A patrol will decrease the amount of rapes and muggings on campus.

If we implemented the scanning of students possessions, signing in and out, and having a security patrol it would reinforce the security presence on our campus. If we inform students of these new regulations of campus security and make sure that they are properly enforced by a properly trained security staff, it would allow students to feel more comfortable and safe while pursuing their educational goals. For our sake, we should want to see these kinds of improvements in security now.

Respectfully yours,
Charles A. Wright

Send all questions and comments to:
Ambre S. Brown
TSU Box 1246
3500 John A. Merritt
Blvd
Nashville, TN 37209 or
BROWNAS@HARPO.
TNSTATE.EDU



Community Calendar

November- 13 - "Powerful Black Women"- Landiss Series at Lipscomb University featuring Fisk professor Jessie Smith. Lipscomb University, Swang Center, Room 108. For more information call (615)-269-1000.

November- 20-23 - "For Colored Girl sWho Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow is Enuf", a renowned African-American play by Ntozake Shange. Featured at Looby Center, located across from Fountain Square. Showtime is at 8 pm. Price: \$5.00.

"Driving Miss Daisy," a Pulitzer Prize-winning play and Academy Award-winning film presented by Cumberland Co. Play house, through December 6, O'Brien Adventure Theater, 221 Tennessee Ave. Crossville, Tennessee. For more information, call (615)-484-5000.

"A Fashion Forecast"

By Regan Toomer
Staff Writer



The Tennessee State University Varsity Cheerleaders hosted "A Fashion Forecast" in the Kean Hall Gymnasium, November 1, at 8:00 p.m.

This year's fashion show was held to raise funds for TSU's cheerleaders.

The cheerleaders recently won seven first-place awards at the Universal Cheerleader



Association competition.

Stanford Strong, co-producer of the runway was proud to announce that the show was in its fourth year of production. "The theme for this year's show was to forecast the clothes and talent. It took a lot of sweat and tears to put on the finished product."

Some of the sponsors for the fashion show included Castner Knott, Phatkaps, GrooveWear,



Gantos, and other department stores from nearby shopping mall areas. The runway show also featured black designer lines such as Chantal, Diavontti, Shabazz Brothers, Dig Wear and Mecca.

Dwight "Diavontti" Pope, coach of the TSU Varsity Cheerleaders, owns Diavontti Productions, a marketing company named which consists of mod-

eling, modeling instruction, clothing and hair design, and



fashion show production. Not only did Pope produce the show, but he also modeled and had spare time to greet the audience members at the ticket door.

The fashion show not only modeled the talents of many designers, but also displayed the TSU Varsity cheerleaders' dedication to excellence.



Hankal hosts harvest festival

By Demeika Thompson
Staff Writer

The tradition of Halloween terror was not present in Hanakal Hall on Halloween night.

On October 31, 1997 the residence of Edna Rose Hankal Hall sponsored their tenth annual Harvest Festival. The purpose of the festival is to provide children in the Tennessee State University community with a safe environment to celebrate Halloween.

This year's festival recruited youth from Preston Taylor, the Boys and Girls Club of Nashville, eighteenth ave. Community Center, West Nashville Day Care Center, YWCA, friends and children of TSU employees and family. Eleanor Bass, Hankal Hall's residence hall director, says, "the Harvest Festival decreases the negative connotation of

Halloween and provides a safe place for children to trick-or-treat."

The Harvest Festival kicked off with a the greeting of the children. Once all of the children arrived they trick-or-treated throughout the dormitory. Hankal Hall resident, Kia Jones, said, "it was a great success and the kids were excited and energetic." The festival proceeded with games, activities and a hot dog meal.

Hosts of prizes were awarded to all the children that participated in musical chairs, costume contests, dance contests and educational games. Melanie Wilbourn, coordinator of the event, says, "I aspire to be a teacher and working with the children was a great experience.

There was a tremendous outpour of support for the community wide event. Senator Thelma Harper and her husband, Paul

Harper, visited and donated candy.

Many campus organizations and local companies contributed to the celebration. Campus participants were, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Phi Gamma Nu, LYLAS, Eppse Hall, Residence Life, Students Against Drunk Drivers, SUBG Rudolph Hall and Zeta Phi Beta.

The contributing companies for this year were, Burger King, Citizens Bank, Kroger, McDonald's, Mrs. Winners Shoney's and Target.

According to Bass, Hankal Hall is a community service oriented dormitory.

She contends that they are always opening their doors to any organizations that need a place to have community service projects. for any further information contact Eleanor Bass at 963-7922.

Oratorical contest

continued from page 1

Football Team who resided in Boyd Hall. The oratorical contest was later opened to all students by popular demand.

This year's competition provided cash prizes of \$500, \$300, and \$200 for winners in freshmen and upperclassmen divisions.

This winners in the freshman upperclassmen I division were first place- Christina Miller, second place-Robinette Jones, third place-Jahairi A. Soward, and fourth place-Nathaniel Davis.

In the upperclassmen II division winners were first place- Myron D. Broom, second place- Adaora C. Nwankwo, the third place-

William Jenkins, and fourth place- Francoise M. M. Reynolds.

David Mills, board member of the Robert N. Murrell Scholarship fund spoke of his memories of Murrell. "He was on a mission to build people," said Mills.

Barbara Murrell, wife of Robert N. Murrell said, "I am elated and very proud. I am grateful to the participants and the department of communications for this oratorical contest. My family and I are honored that TSU brought this honor to our family." Tennessee State University president, James A. Hefner said, "This gives the students an opportunity to reflect on the past, present and future of TSU."

Michael McBride's vision for his people



PHOTO BY SAVONYA BARNES

In addition to serving to curator of TSU's art museum, Michael McBride is also a professor.

By Constance Carlisle
Community View Editor

Visions of My People was a recent art exhibit that was dis-

played at the Tennessee Performing Arts Center. This exhibit was comprised of black artists who were born in Tennessee or lived in

Tennessee who have made a contribution to the art world.

Visions of My People took a look at the different ways artists see black people.

Michael McBride, a professor and world renowned artist was chosen to be a participant in the exhibit.

McBride started drawing at the young age of five years and at the age of eight he decided he wanted to be an artist.

McBride acknowledges that his ability as an artist is a gift. He was influenced by one of his late cousins and he knew it was his calling to become an artist. He also acknowledged different instructors and people guided him along the way.

McBride said, "Everything around me inspires me." He came to Tennessee State University majoring in art. He graduated in 1979.

He left TSU to pursue his art career, but in 1982 he was working in a studio and was looking to hire some student that were coming out of college. He had students from TSU present their portfolios and knew that these students were not ready for the real art world.

He knew the past greatness of the TSU art department and felt the need to give back.

McBride tries to teach his students that you have to have the passion to become an artist and that grades do not matter.

One has to want to learn it, understand it, and know it. He is here at TSU not for the money but solely for the students and to keep the TSU tradition alive. McBride's art work is displayed world wide. It can be seen on the Jamie Foxx show, living Single, and in local art galleries in Nashville.

He has also done illustrations for books that can be seen on Sesame Street, and Gwendolyn Brooks and George Bush the former President own prints of his work.

McBride enjoys what he does and cares enough about the students and Tennessee State University to give and share a part of himself.

NBS travels to Howard for Job Fair

By Freda D. Buckley
Staff Writer

The National Broadcasting Society (NBS) of Tennessee State University attended the Communications Job Fair at Howard University Oct. 23-25 in Washington D.C.

Its purpose was to provide a forum for industry-wide representatives and future communications professionals to network and join forces for a more diversified work force and to provide opportunities for future study in communication.

Large market television, newspaper and local TV and radio stations were present to recruit students from all over the country such as Cable News Network (CNN), Channel 8 news of Washington D.C. and Atlanta Records. Seminars were conducted to give students a better understanding of the qualifications they will need in order to be successful in the communication field.

Tom Brokaw of NBC nightly news said, "You must have good communication and writing skills to get far in this field." Jeffrey Johnson, sales manager of the National Football League (NFL) spoke of the importance of

preparing for an internship position. "Learn the history of the company before the interview, make sure your cover letter is persuasive so that it will catch the employer's attention, take notes and ask questions. Let the employer know that you are what they are looking for," he said.

Jeffery K. Lee, President of Black Entertainment Television (BET), Taylor Buckley of USA Today, and Chris Washington from Atlanta Records were also present.

Senior Karla Y. Hughes said, "I felt the trip was worth while, I was able to network with people in the field, and in the future they may be able to guide me."

Junior Taurus D. Glass said, "The D.C. trip was a great experience for me. It gave me the chance to network with other people in the communication field. It also gave me a better outlook on other professions in communications."

Dr. Henry Onjejiaka, professor of communication said, "It was an excellent opportunity for students in NBS to network. I will do this annually to expose my students in the professional field. The trip was a highlight for the NBS."

A special thanks to the Student Union Board of Governors for all of their hard work during Homecoming 1997!

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November 8, 1997: The

Stepping out with style

By Roderick Rice
Staff Writer

As one stepped into the Gentry Center Complex on the eve of the 1997 homecoming game featuring the men of Tennessee State University and Tennessee Tech University, they were blinded by a



PHOTO BY SAVONYA BARNES

A group of non-traditional members of Phi Beta Sigma walked away with the first place trophy at this year's homecoming stepshow.

mass of primary colors and Greek letters.

As 92 Q's Rick Walker stepped out on the stage to host the show, one suddenly prepares themselves for an afternoon of music, screams, dancing, and definitely stepping.

The Vision One dancers of Louisville, Ky., and the Tommy Hilfiger dancers of Memphis, Tenn., opened the annual Homecoming Greek StepShow.

A mass of elephants and triangles filled the stage when the ladies of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. of the University of Memphis started the step show as they showed the audience crimson and cream sophistication.

Their show consisted of an assortment of dances, steps, chants, and acrobatics. They were followed by the frogs of Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority Inc. of Alabama A&M University as they stepped out wearing green rain suits and pink wigs to show their true love of the ivy leaf.

The final ladies to step were the Tennessee State University, Alpha Chi, chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Even blind folded, the ladies dazzled the crowd with precise step and accurate form. After a brief intermission of red, white, black, yellow, blue, pink, green, and

gold the show reopened with the fraternities.

The unknown chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc. amazed the eager crowd as they unmasked to the surprise of the hyped crowd.

These untraditional Sigma's represented not only a variety of states, but also a variety of cultures and feelings of brotherhood.

The men of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. of Western Kentucky University were the next group to perform.

They amused everyone as they challenged each other with precision and perfect timing. Stepping out in black and gold tuxedos these men conveyed a wide variety of dynamic steps and comical satire to highlight the difference of sizes of these men.

The "pretty boys" of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc. from the University of Memphis enticed the ladies with a lot of bumping and

grinding.

They showcased their trademark as they twirled their "candy" canes and to everyone's delight not a single one was dropped.

Who knew one could do so much with a chair?

Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc. from Alabama A&M University were the last to go on. Their set consisted of a bed and flower which was associated with their concept of a guy who has a dream of which collegiate fraternity he wants to join. Needless to say, his fairy godfather shows up and he becomes a Sigma man. Many dance routines and afros later, they left the stage.

In the end, the Delta's and the Sigma's were the winner of the annual greek show. The ladies of Delta Sigma Theta Inc. of Tennessee State University won second place and the University of Memphis chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Inc. took home the honor of first place.

The second place award for the fraternities went to the men of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc. of Alabama A&M University and the unknown chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc. won first place honors.

A showcase of Na

By Hillary S. Condon
Staff Writer

TSU's homecoming day, Saturday, November 8, began at 9 a.m. on Jefferson Street with the annual Homecoming Parade.

Despite frigid weather, there was an enormous turnout of alumni, students, and families. The streets were lined with vendors, selling everything from cotton candy to fish sandwiches. The crowd was overwhelmed with the smell of gasoline-fueled barbecues and soul food, the sounds of excited children and the heart-thumping pounds of the bass drums in various marching bands.

The TSU Aristocrat of Bands excited the crowd as the Sophisticated Ladies danced to the melodic sounds. Other highlights were the Oscar Meyer Weiner mobile shaped as a giant hot dog, the float for De Ford Bailey, Sr., which included a live country band, and Cedar Grove Baptist's "Okie Dokie Express", a miniature train that blew gusts of smoke.

The parade ended with recently crowned, Miss TSU, Jamila Ingram and Mr. TSU, Steevon Hunter. Wrapped in royal blue and white capes, the two waved happily to the crowd. The float also included members of the Royal Court-Audrey Hall, Sharifa Vinson,



Miss Tennessee State University, Jamila Homecoming Parade

Jonique Brooks, Penny Mosley, and Brequia Reed.

This year's parade not only excited onlookers, but impressed alumni who returned for the event. Alumnus Joe of

Boswell, Clayton ho

By Altresha Burchett
Staff Writer

In the midst of TSU's homecoming festivities, the celebration would not be complete without giving recognition to those who molded this institution to be what it is today.

"Homecoming is a time to remember and a time for alumni to look at the future for the present students," said Mrs. Phyllis Qualls-Brooks, Director of Public Relations.

On Saturday, November 8, a reception was held for honoree, Ethel Boswell and grand marshall, Xernona Clayton, in the Mary Wilson Hall Auditorium, better known as the cafeteria to many alumnus. These two dis-

tinguished women were escorted by SGA president, Johnnie Bond and vice president, Myron Broome, preceding TSU president, Dr. James A. Hefner, in a heart-felt greeting.

Ethel J. Boswell, wife of Alger V. Boswell, the first vice president of the university, is a TSU graduate with a lengthy commitment to education and the university.

She provided a reign of service to TSU and its programs for 32 years. Accompanying her were her two children, Alger Boswell II and Alice Love, who are also alumni and educators.

During her remarks, Boswell stressed the importance of education. "Once you have reached your pinnacle of success, reaching back should be

Day they all came home

Nashville's greatest An Aristocrat Family Reunion



PHOTO BY TAMIKA STOWERS

Engram and her king, Steevon Hunter closed out the annual

Bert remarked that academic grants and a more diversified student body has made TSU a learning experience for all. Crawford Walton, also an alumnus of TSU, said, "The relationships you

have here will follow you forever and the sweetest thing you get out of coming back is to see how the young people really do make this place great."

hored at reception

viewed as a privilege instead of a hindrance," said Boswell.

In support of her mother, Alice Love said a few words and acknowledgments to those who have helped her and her family along the way.

"It's something about a line that brings people together whether they see each other or not," said Dr. Donzaleigh Patterson, former classmate and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. line sister of Clayton, as she saluted her.

Clayton received her bachelor's degree from TSU, graduating with honors. She spoke about her basic foundation and best years at TSU where she learned that "nothing is special about being average, either you are above or below."

Clayton began her broadcasting

career in 1967 when she became the first black person in the South to have her own television show. She joined the Turner Broadcasting System in 1979, where she is presently corporate vice president for urban affairs.

Clayton's current project, a 90 minute segment on African American achievements, will be presented on February 8, 1998 and seen on CNN in over 156 countries.

Following Clayton's remarks, Mia Evans, Miss Wilson Hall, presented a token of appreciation to both honorees.

Special thanks were given to TSU'S Air Force ROTC, the Aristocrat of Bands, retirees, alumni, the homecoming committee, faculty, staff, and others involved in making the reception a success.



PHOTO BY TAMIKA STOWERS

Take a stroll down memory lane with pictures of past Aristocrats.

By Nicholas T. Jones
Staff Writer

Tennessee State University's Aristocrat of Bands is one of the most historic organizations in the institution. Past members were invited back to TSU for a reception during Homecoming week on Saturday, November 8 at the reception hall of the Agricultural Research & Extension Complex, commonly known as the Barn.

The affair was only one of the events that was part of a two-day Band Reunion for past members of the Aristocrat. The development of the reunion was the year long effort of a committee led by Chairman Darrell Moore. Anyone that was ever a participant in the Aristocrat of Bands was welcome to attend.

The reunion was attended by members of the band from the days of the original Aristocrat under the direction of the late Frank Greer to the 1990s. Martin S. Evans, Jr. of Nashville, an Alto Saxophonist from 1978 to 1980 said, "The band transcends all generations."

All sections of the band were represented through presence and pictures. The Reception Hall was filled with pictures of band events, band marches, band members, etc. They displayed the Aristocrat's rich history. They brought back fond memories for the former band members.

Danielle Wheeler of Nashville, a flute player from 1984 to 1988, tells current band members to "Enjoy it while you are involved. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. We are a special group. There are many who would like to be where you are right now and have fun!"

The majority of the band members share the same opinion. Carolyn Hart-Jason of Edwardsville, IL, a flag corps member

from 1977 to 1980, referred to the Aristocrat as a "community of friends." Hart-Jason also said, "When people ask me what I remember about TSU or like best about going to an HBCU, besides the educational aspect, is the opportunities that were given to me in being part of the Aristocrat of Bands."

John T. "Toy Soldier" Lewis, Jr., the first drum major of the

Aristocrat in 1952,

remembers Frank Greer as a military man. Lewis said, "Greer brought precision and discipline to the band." Furthermore, Lewis said to the current Aristocrat members, "I hope that they will continue the legacy and the greatness because TSU was really one of the first bands to become modernized and all of the other black bands copied TSU's style." TSU President James Hefner said, "When you think about Tennessee State University, think about the Aristocrat of Bands."

After Hefner's speech, Kim Clark a French Horn player in 1980, spoke. He mentioned ABART, the Aristocrat of Bands Alumni Recruitment Team, which covers eight regions. The members of ABART, the unofficial ambassadors of TSU, travel to high schools, and encourage band members to consider attending TSU for their college careers.

ABART was developed between the Alumni and current Aristocrat director, Professor Edward "Prof" Graves, was given an almost complete standing ovation when recognized by Clark.

While at the podium, Graves mentioned the recognition of the band, the talent of current band members, and asked for financial support.

Graves also introduced the Frank Greer Band Scholarship. After Graves spoke, the memorial awards were presented. The award for the late Benjamin I. Kirk was accepted by his widow, Mrs. Brenda D. Kirk.

She was given a standing ovation. After she accepted the award in her late husband's honor, she announced the Benjamin I. Kirk Scholarship Fund. Mrs.

continued on page 13

Conversation Piece: Hip hop with Keith Barbee



PHOTO BY AMBRE S. BROWN

Keith and Dorian trip on hip-hop.

A Discussion With Keith Barbee and Dorian Wynn

KB: Rhythm & Blues, Country, and Rap, that's considered music but hip-hop is a culture, do you agree?

DW: I agree.

KB: Why do you agree that hip-hop is a culture?

DW: Because hip-hop goes as far as the way that people dress, the way they talk and the way that they represent themselves. The way that people live their life.

KB: When I say a name, I want you to comment on whether you think these artists exemplify hip-hop and explain. Missy Elliott?

DW: In the 1990's you have 100 percent more women coming out. Sometimes harder than dudes, solo as well as in groups. They are getting just as much response if not better than the guys. Missy Elliott represents a new generation.

KB: Puff Daddy?

DW: He is new generation also. He exemplifies having fun and getting away from reality a little bit.

KB: Our music is often used to sell everything from burgers, cars, clothes, and soft drinks. Should we continue to allow our music to become so commercial?

DW: Yes, because it is a way for black people to make money. White people do it, we are not even on their level yet. We should do whatever we can do to support our people.

KB: Many old school artists are making comebacks, L.L. Cool J., KRS-1, EPMD are back together and a new disc from Will Smith will be released in a couple of weeks, how do you feel about the comebacks of all of these artists?

DW: Number one, I feel as

though it's about the money. Second of all, white artists like The Beatles and The Rolling Stones do it all the time. I feel that it is alright because they have already put in work and everybody knows who they are.

KB: Who is your favorite hip-hop group or artist?

DW: Eightball and MJG.

KB: Why Eightball and MJG?

DW: Because they are so real and they can explain a situation and make you feel like you were there. They talk about women, relationships, being in the dope game or being involved in gangs. Most black people can feel that because they see that in their life.

KB: What is your favorite song by that particular group?

DW: "Friend or Foe"

KB: Hip-hop has come full circle as far as the topics addressed. Gangsta rap with N.W.A., bubble gum rap with Hammer, political rap with Public Enemy and now we have Big Willie-style rap about clothes and cars with Puff Daddy and Lil' Kim, where do you think hip-hop will go next as far as what they discuss in the

lyrics?

DW: I can't say, it's so unpredictable. Anything in the world can influence hip-hop. Certain things happen in the government and in the world, so I really can't say.

KB: Last question, L.L. Cool J., Rakim, Snoop Doggy Dogg and Biggie. Every couple of years or so, a dynamic lyricist takes the throne, right now everyone is saying that with the death of Biggie that Jay-Z is the heir to that throne. Do you agree?

DW: No.

KB: Who do you think is the heir

to that elite throne?

DW: I've never really thought about it but I believe that it is going to be someone from down south.

KB: Is it possible that it could be Master P?

DW: Possibly, you just have to wait and see. No one knew that Biggie would blow up like that. No one knew that 'Pac was going to blow up like he did.

KB: I just want to thank you for your time and we just have to keep this hip-hop thing going.

DW: Alright.

KB: Peace.



PHOTO BY AMBRE S. BROWN

Keith Barbee and Dorian Wynn discuss hip-hop culture.

Uncle L, Making his own rules

By Keith Barbee
Arts & Entertainment Editor

You know him. FUBU stylin', cap wearin', one pant leg rolled up havin', GAP and Coke commercial makin', actor, rapper and now author of his biography, "I Make My Own Rules".

The acronym L.L. Cool J which stands for Ladies Love Cool James started out in the rap game at the young age of 15 and he hasn't looked back ... until now.

Although he has become a pop icon, it is very obvious that he just wants to be respected as a father, husband, and a positive role model.

Uncle L chronicles his ups and downs in the business known as hip-hop.

He speaks very candidly about the cars, the clothes, the tours, and the women. He also

discusses the physical and emotional abuse that he suffered at the hands of his step-father and the neglect that he endured from his biological father.

ly, particularly his grandmother and her influence, most notably on his successful "Mama Said Knock You Out" in which she tells him to simply knock out his competition which he has done successfully with platinum and platinum-plus albums.

Mr. Smith has left the backstage groupies and the fast cars behind him and is concentrating on being a father to his three children and a husband to his loving wife Simone.

L.L. Cool J. is not only involved in the development of his own children but also to those of the urban community by offering his youth camp, Camp Cool J in which

over 100 kids participate in seminars dealing with AIDS, pregnancy and drug.s

He has made his own rules and is now living by them.



L.L. Cool J makes his own rules.

James Todd Smith talks very compassionately about his career, the motivation that his grandmother's basement gives him to write lyrics and his fami-

Compact DISCUSSIONS by Keith Barbee



Yvette Michele: A Dream Deferred

Okay, I'm on my way back to school from a weekend visit at home. I am Middle Tennessee bound on a two and one half hour drive and I need something to listen to. I am tired of Boyz II Men, I have done the Uncle Sam thing, SWV and all of the things that I like. I guess I'll check out this new CD by Yvette Michele, "My Dream."

I can get with the playfulness of the second track, "Summer Love" and I can feel the sincerity of the ballad, "All I Really Want".

We are going to have to stop for gas in a minute. I can do without "Crazy" and "Everyday & Everynight".

Why can't the guy in the red Ford truck drive, What?

Who decided on the track "Let's Stay Together"? It's awful.

I just passed through Brownsville and we are about to get on the Interstate, is your seat belt fastened? I'm listening to this CD but I know that I will never play this again. You can officially place this CD between B Angie B, Trisha Covington and Mona Lisa on the "would-be divas" shelf.

I have to turn on some heat if you don't mind.

Yvette is doing a horrible job on the remake of Angela Winbush's "Something In The Way (You Make Me Feel)". Everyone is always trippin' on Mary Blige about remakes but everyone always blows them up. Tell me that you didn't love "Sweet Thing", "Natural Woman", or "I'm Goin' Down". Honestly, I am about to take this disc out and put in Missy Elliott or somebody. This CD is garbage.

I'm tired just like everyone else of Puff Daddy on everyone's album but Yvette might

want to call Puffy for her second album, if there is one. The title track "My Dream" is actually a bad dream.

We have just passed by Jackson. I know what the problem is, these are club songs, not songs to be played in your vehicle or at night before you go to bed.

Here we go through all of this construction.

Now her only hit, the overplayed, "I'm Not Feeling You" is on. This was a waste of my time but I did it for you. I listened to this CD for you so that you would not have to. Please do not buy this CD, you can borrow mine. I will probably let you have it.

Mase: The Baddest Boy

Mason Betha, known around the world to hip-hop kids as Mase soared to the top of the charts as a guest rapper on such multi-platinum hits as "Can't Nobody Hold Me Down" with Puff Daddy and on "Mo Money, Mo Problems" with Biggie and Puff.

Mase was recently seen putting in guest work on Mariah Carey's "Honey" remix and Brian McKnight's "You Should Be Mine".

But can Mase stand alone? That is still to be seen, besides his classy club joint "Feel So Good" that first appeared on the *Money*

Talks soundtrack, Mase (for better or worst) enlists the help of everyone from Busta Rhymes, Lil' Kim to Jay-Z on his debut album, *Harlem World*.

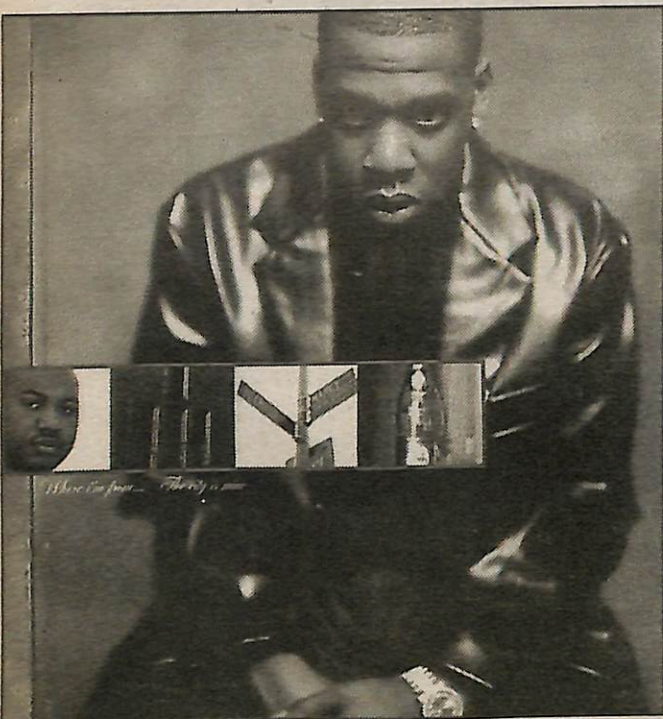
Things are off to a great start with the instrumentation on "Puff's Intro" which leads into "Do You Wanna Get \$?" featuring Puff (of course). The sleepy stylings of Mase go one on one with the wide awake flow of DMX on "Take What's Yours," in which Mase states that "the weather man don't even know the storm I'm going to bring".

Billy Lawrence lends her vocals on "Love U So" which uses excerpts from "Ooh Baby". Hands

down, the tightest track on the album is "The Player Way" featuring Eightball & MJG. Mase details ghetto love on the up-tempo jam "What You Want" featuring bad girls Total.

Every guy should understand Mase's dilemma on the interlude "Phone Conversation" and Mase asks what would you do if you had "24 Hrs. To Live" with The Lox, Black Rob, and DMX. Monifah is quite mellow on "I Need To Be". Mase only comes up short on "Jealous Guy" which features 112.

Mase is definitely a bad boy but you would be too if you had all of this help.



Jay-Z: Heir To The Throne?

He is considered by many to be the heir to the throne.

The throne once held down by the likes of L.L. Cool J., Rakim, KRS-1, Snoop Doggy Dogg and most recently The Notorious B.I.G.

Born Shawn Carter, he became Jazzy on the streets which led to Jay-Z on wax. On his second full length release, *In My Lifetime, Vol. 1*, he shines on "Imaginary Player" and "Streets Is Watching". He is sarcastic on the tight track "Lucky Me" when he details just being Jay-Z.

The first single "(Always Be My) Sunshine" features Foxy Brown. Is it me or does Jay plus Foxy equal platinum hits? Check

their record, "Ain't No ..." on his first CD and "I'll Be" on hers. Foxy even made a guest appearance in Jay's video for "Who You Wit". Speaking of which, Jay now delivers "Who You Wit II" where he said "Jay-Z rated AG baby/that's all good/I sink this ball in your hole/I'm Tiger Woods".

"Real Niggaz" is also a classic, it features Too Short. Jay even does his part to bring the coasts together when he rhymes, "If you're ballin'/Keep ballin'/If you're jealous/Stop/I want Biggie to rest in peace/As well as 'Pac". He lets us know that he is a true story teller on the track "Rap Game/Crack Game" in which he talks about how the rap industry mirrors the selling of street pharmaceuticals. Don't sleep on the solemn "You Must Love Me" fea-

turing background vocals by Kelly Price.

This is what a true hip-hop CD is...banging' beats, polished production and Jay taking his place as the heir to the throne.

Please direct any questions or comments about the Arts & Entertainment section to Keith Barbee, A & E Editor, at 963-5555.

Student Employment:

Job Location and Development Program

The Student Employment (JLD) provides for every student who desires to work, a reasonable opportunity to find employment. All students are encouraged to enroll in a Student Employment Program.

November 1997

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Job #	Location	Pay Rate	Position
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128	Nashville Area	\$9.00/hr	Administrative Ass. & CSR, Clerical
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130	Nashville Area	\$7.00/hr	Cleaning
131	Nashville Area	\$7.00/hr	Set-Up Assistant
132	Downtown	\$7.50/hr	Clerical
133	Nashville Area	\$8-10.00	Packaging Job
134	Nashville Area	Min. Wage	Radio Control Board Operator
135	Nashville Area	\$7-9.00	Child Care
136	Nashville Area	\$7.50/hr	Proof Operators
137	Nashville Area	OPEN	Copy Consultants
138	Nashville Area	\$8-9.00	Lifting Packages
139	Nashville Area	up to \$9/hr	Clerical
140	Nashville Area	\$8.00	Telemarketing
141	Nashville Area	OPEN	Part-time Lab Technician
142	Nashville Area	9.50-11.00	Medical Billers, A/P Clerks
143	Green Hills	OPEN	Teachers & Substitute Teachers
144	Nashville Area	\$8.00	Unload Trailers, Pull Orders
145	Nashville Area	\$6.50/hr	Receptionist
146	West End	9.50-11.00	Full Charge Bookkeepers
147	Nashville Area	6.50-7.00	Tellers, Proof Operators, Check Processing
148	Nashville Area	OPEN	Shop-Trainers, Parts-Runner
149	Madison	OPEN	Teller
150	Nashville Area	\$15/day	Election Officials
151	Nashville Area	OPEN	Part-time Administrative Assistant
152	Nashville Area	OPEN	Crew Member
153	Downtown	\$7.00/hr	Indefinite Assignment

JOB #	POSITION	DEADLINE
SUMMER INTERNSHIPS		
1001	Student Career Program	
1002	Presidential Management	10/31/97
1003	Construction Projects	
1004	Educational & Professional	3/15/98
1005	Editing Internship	11/15/97
1006	Programming Assistant	
1007	Transportation Specialist	
1008	Finance	12/31/97
1009	Marketing	9/30/97
1010	Financial Service Representative	6/1/98
1011	Financial Service Representative	10/27/97
1012	White House Internship	11/1/97
1013	Communications	9/19/97
1014	Cubmaster & scoutmaster	11/1/97
1015	Agriculture	
1016	Management	5/15/98
1017	Marketing	
1018	Airport Officer	6/6/98
1019		
1020	Sports & Fitness	Jan-98
1021	Development Program	
1022	Program Assistant	
1023	Management & Supervisor	
1024	Lifeguards	
1025	Address Consultant	4/12/98
1026	Environmental	
1027	Marketing	3/25/98
1028	Management Internship	
1029	Special Project Communications	May-98
1030		
1031	Retail Internship	3/21/98
1032	Laboratory Assistant	
1033		
1034	Summer Internship	
1035		
1036		
1037	Internship	
1038	Clerical/Administration	
1039	Engineering/Accounting	
1040	Science/Financing	
1041	Marketing & Publicity	
1042		
1043	Problem Solving	
1044	Database Development	
1045	Summer Tutoring	

Permanent Positions

Company	Position	Major
Duracell Battery (Chattanooga, TN.)	Engineers	Mechanical Engineering
Fastenal Company (Nashville, TN.)	Management Trainee	Business Administration
WEWS-TV Channel Five (Cleveland, OH.)	Associate Producer/WEB Producer	Journalism or related field
WDCN Channel Eight (Nashville, TN.)	Program Acquisition and Scheduling Manager	Mass Communication
Ingram Barge Company (Nashville, TN.)	Staff Accountant	Accounting or equivalent experience
International Investigative Service, Inc. (Greenville, SC.)	Entry Level Investigator	Criminal Justice
Westinghouse Electric Corporation (Houston, TX.)	Combustion Turbine Field Service Engineer (Mechanical/Project or Electrical/Controls)	Electrical Engineering or Mechanical Engineering
Metropolitan Government of Nashville (Nashville, TN.)	Social Work Technician	Social Work, Counseling or Psychology
Indiana University/Purdue University of Indianapolis (Indianapolis, IN.)	Senior System Programmer	Computer Science/Technology
WBIR-TV Channel 10 (Knoxville, TN.)	News Producer	Mass Communications
Institute of Gas Technology (Des Plaines, IL.)	Assistant Biologist	Biology (all areas)

For more information on student employment and job listings stop by the Career Center; located in the Floyd Payne Campus Center, Suite 304. Contact: Lucy Tucker or Kim Little for Part-Time Employment and Summer Internships. For Full-Time Employment contact: Tonya Fizer or Marva Hornbuckle. *Please bring the job number when inquiring about a job listed above.*

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Ashley
Cunningham
at 963-5652
for more
information.

"It was something mystical"

continued from page 9

Kirk said that the purpose of the scholarship fund is "to raise money in the memory of Mr. Benjamin I. Kirk who was the Associate Director of Bands from 1979 to 1997 so that others will be able to major in music."

Mrs. Kirk said that her husband loved music and was proud of TSU musicians. She says that the fund will keep growing until somebody applies. Mrs. Kirk also says that music is a universal language. There were many a factors

that attracted the former band members to Tennessee State and the Aristocrat. However, they have one thing in common. James Lewis of Birmingham, Ala., a drum major from 1983 to 1986, said, "It was something mystical about TSU and the Aristocrat of Bands" that attracted him to TSU.

Any contributions to the fund, can be sent donation to: Ben I. Kirk Scholarship Fund, P.O. Box 23382, Nashville, TN 37202-3382 or First American National Bank, Main Office, 315 Deadrick Street, Nashville, TN 37237-0001.

Engram crowned queen

continued from page 1

Audrey Hall.

Engram then made her way to the stage where she was officially sworn in by Dr. James A. Hefner, president of TSU. Thomas Martin, vice-president of Student Affairs, performed the charge to the queen.

After all the speeches and oaths, Engram was officially crowned by Manning.

The TSU Showstoppers gave two performances while other special presentations were made by Miss Fisk University, Harriett Johnson; State Senator Thelma Harper; Miss Meharry Medical

College, Angela Lanier; organizational queens, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and the Royal Court.

As a gift, Miss TSU's family had arranged that she get her own parking space in front of her dormitory, Hale Hall. Her father, George Engram, pulled out the keys to a new car.

"Thank you for all your support and love; thank you for putting your trust in me to represent you as Miss Tennessee State University," Engram said.

"This has been one of the classiest functions I have been to at TSU," Toiya McNeil, TSU alumnae said. "Jamila will represent TSU well."

Hunter crowned Mr. Tennessee State University

continued from page 2

ma to create extravagant scenes to accompany their outfits. From leather to silk, the guys did not lack style. Props included dancers, special lighting, staged "security guards", and even a mock golf tournament.

The next scenes awed the audience, especially the ladies. Swimwear scenes included tropical props, mountain climbers, African jungle props, beach scenes, and an excerpt from "Purple Rain." These extraordinary props and creative themes kept the audience on the edge of their seats.

Due to the elaborate scenes, there were some gaps between performances. However, the MC's, along with the DJ's successfully kept the crowd hype by pumping up the music and boosting the home-

coming spirit.

The Talent Showcase was next on the agenda. The gentlemen showed off their skills by playing musical instruments, poems and poetic dialogue, and through the sweet sounds of song.

Business wear was modeled in the final scenes of the evening. From Italian suits to pinstripes, the men of the evening took on the professional look in scenes that varied from corporate America to the elementary classroom.

The last segment of competition was the question and answer session. Topics of discussion included racial equality, real men, student concerns, rap music and females, voting, and how to continue to THINK, WORK, & SERVE.

After each contestant had answered his question, it was finally time. The judges had to

decide who would be the 1997-98 Mr. Tennessee State University. The results. . . Second runner-up was contestant number two Mr. Romel Murphy. First Runner-up was Contestant number five, Mr. Abdul Rutherford.

Mr. Tennessee State University 1997-1998 was Contestant number four, Steevon Hunter. Mr. Reginald Andrews, the former Mr. TSU relinquished his crown to Steevon after he had taken his final walk.

Steevon says that as Mr. Tennessee State University, he will try to think of ways to work diligently and serve his university.

He aspires to one day come back home to TSU as director of bands. "I am proud to represent such a great institution of higher learning," he said.

"Honors isn't just for honor students..."

continued from page 1

The contestants were judged on business and formal attire and a question and answer segment. Business attire was introduced by Constance Carlisle and Thaddeus Flowers. Formal attire was introduced by Felicia Taylor and Eric James.

The contestants dressed for success as the women walked with sophistication and elegance while the men were on a mission in their business and formal attire.

During the first intermission Ronald Edwards sang

"Wind beneath my Wings". As everyone waited for the votes to be counted and the winners to be announced, the audience was lifted up in praise by a special guest performance by gospel recording artists Angie & Debbie Winans. The Winans brought the crowd to their feet as they sang the controversial "Not Natural" and "I Believe" from their new CD.

The song "I Believe" was inspired by their brother, Ronald, whose heart exploded on the operation table but, was brought back to life after the Winans family prayed for the

doctor and asked him to try again. After their performance the winners were announced.

As the 1997-98 Mr. Honors, Waller said, "I plan to make it known that honors isn't just for honor students it's for the whole T.S.U. student body."

First and second runner-ups were Christopher Cruse and Christopher Berry.

As 1997-98 Miss Honors, Sands is excited. "I plan to make the honors program a more visible part of T.S.U.," she said.

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Tigers to take giant strides in '97-'98 hoop season



PHOTO BY DANNY BROWN

**Head basketball coach
Frankie Allen**

**By Dennis Geffert
Contributing Writer**

As a new basketball season dawns for the Tennessee State Tigers, an influx of new talent plus the experience that a core of young veterans will provide give rise to hopes of great improvement over last year's gutsy but ultimately disappointing season.

There is good reason for optimism in predicting a strong showing from this year's version of the Tiger hoopsters. Head Coach Frankie Allen has all but one of his major contributors from last season returning, albeit a significant loss in former Tiger stalwart Monty Wilson.

TSU will head into the new season fielding a strong starting lineup with senior point guard Kareem Gilbert handling the playmaking chores. The 5'9" ballhandler dished out 7.6 assists per game last season, among the top three in the nation, as well as pouring in 13.1 points per game. Always a threat to go to the hoop as well as dish off, Gilbert looks to improve on his numbers this season as he hopes to shake a back injury which sporadically sidelined him last season.

Look for power forward Jason Johnson to have a monster season. Picked as a preseason All-Ohio Valley Conference First teamer by The Sporting News and as a Dick Vitale All-OVC Prime-Time Player, Jason hit the weights over the off-season and has noticeably bulked up for his third Tiger campaign, looking to improve upon last season's 16.4 ppg and 6.9 rebounds.

The addition of a legitimate big man at center will enable Johnson to play with a lot more

abandon this year. College of Charleston transfer Julian Bankston, out of Hendersonville's Beech High School brings his 6'10" and 240 powerful pounds right into the Tigers' low post. An eager pupil of legendary Coach Ed Martin's "Big Man Camp" this past summer, Julian plays "wide" in the lane and appears ready to make his mark in the OVC. Take my word, he'll be a load for the opposition's pivot men and the first "presence" TSU has had in the middle since Carlos Rogers left for the NBA.

Not enough can be said about the initial impact of Keith Samuel and brother Kevin Samuel on the TSU program last year. Kevin was named OVC Newcomer of the Year on the strength of his 11.7 ppg average to go along with 6.1 rebounds and a sparkling 42.3% average from three-point land. Perhaps the best pure shooter on the team, he'll go at the two-guard. Keith had several stellar performances last year including a 23-point, 15 rebound effort against Austin Peay. The twins bring their dual swing man capabilities and a season of experience into their sophomore campaigns.

The Tigers have an outstanding mix of experienced veterans and impressive new talent coming off the bench.

Senior Seth Huber may have been the best sixth man in the OVC last year and hopes to solidify that position in his second TSU season. The 6'5" forward also bulked up during the off-season and brings his accurate (37%) 3-point shooting into the game as well as an intensity that belies his easygoing off-court demeanor.

Increased playing time

should give certain returning veterans the chance to make their mark on the TSU program this season. Junior guard Harold Spencer has been impressive in practice and will spell Gilbert at the point. 6'5" junior George Parker and 6'5" sophomore Terry Murray, both forwards out of Memphis, also look to step up. 6'6" sophomore forward Lee Williamson is looking to rebound from a serious knee injury.

Tennessee State's newcomers comprise the consensus top recruiting class in the OVC. Coach Allen's and Assistant Coach Joe Esposito's efforts,

guard out of Spencer, Tennessee's Van Buren County High, is another point producer ready to provide offense off the bench. A pure shooter, his 27+ ppg last season was tops in the state.

PERRY JEFFRIES, is a 6'3" junior transfer out of Genesee Community College in New York. A good ball-handler gifted with slick moves and an aggressive nose for the ball, look for this kid to become a fan favorite. My "sleeper" on this year's team.

OVC OUTLOOK

The Tigers are predicted by most of the pundits to finish sec-

Wells has shuffled off to the Dallas Mavericks and his shoes will be impossible to fill. Reggie Crenshaw will keep the Gobs in a lot of games though.

SOUTHEAST MISSOURI STATE/ My "sleeper" team, they could be tough. 6-10 center Bud Eley is a presence in the post. Coach Gary Garner, in his first season, directs a team that's always very tough in their gym. An early season road test for the Tigers on December 4.

EASTERN ILLINOIS/ Dickie V.'s "sleeper". All five starters return including Chad Peckinpah, right behind Kareem Gilbert in assists nationally. But they don't seem to wake up from those long bus trips from Charleston. Good night, Panthers.

Those are the main opposition for TSU. UT-Martin, Eastern Kentucky, Tennessee Tech and Morehead State will bring up the rear in the OVC. But these are the teams that the Tigers must

beat to make a run for the Conference Title this season. The lack of "money games" on the road against national powers plus an early January four-game homestand give the Tigers a chance for a running start on a highly successful season. The talent is there.

The Tigers' season begins for real against Asbury College at the Gentry Center on November 18. Early season highlights include a visit to Vanderbilt's Memorial Gym on Nov. 24 and a home game with neighborhood rival Fisk University on Nov. 29.

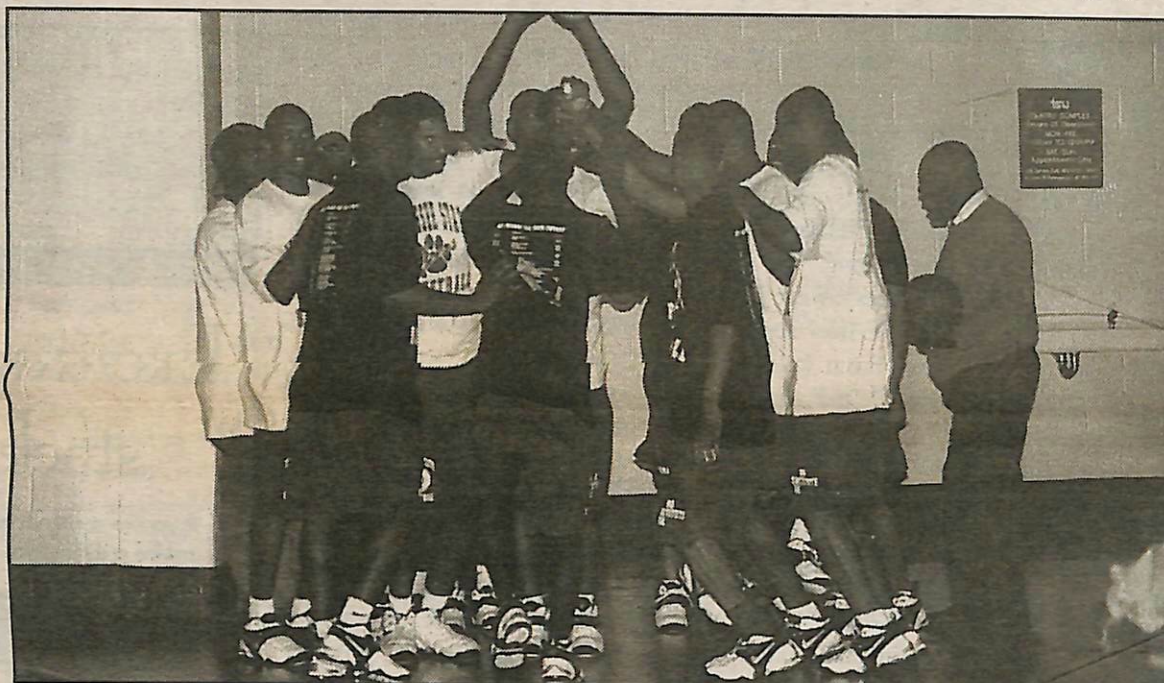


PHOTO BY DANNY BROWN

The team huddles together after a pre-season practice.

most notably in the state of Georgia, will provide Tiger hoop fans with thrills galore over the next few years.

Among those eligible to play this year are: JAMIE ROBERTS, a 6'3" guard out of Albany, Georgia, was noticed while recruiting the Samuel brothers. He was hard to ignore. Also an All-State quarterback, he is a remarkable athlete with quickness, speed and graceful power to the hoop. He is projected by The Sporting News as OVC Newcomer of the Year.

GERALD MORRIS, a 6'7" junior transfer from Columbia State is a natural power forward. Last year, teams took advantage of Jason Johnson catching a breather. Not so this year. Gerald is capable of thunder in the paint and extra muscle on the boards.

JAY JOHNSON, a 6'1"

ond in the OVC this year and significantly improve upon last year's 7-11 Conference and 9-18 overall record. Here's a look at the contenders and pretenders:

MURRAY STATE/ Yes, we're loaded, but so are the OVC Tourney champs. De'Teri Mayes and Tourney MVP Chad Townsend come right out of the big dance and into the front runners' position in the Conference. But hey, we whipped these guys 84-68 in our placelast year. Regardless, the team to beat.

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE/ Our "natural" rivals, always two BIG games. Picked anywhere from third to sixth, they won't be able to replace Nod Carter and Roni Bailey. They may not recover from early season visits to North Carolina and Kansas.

AUSTIN PEAY/ Bubba

**Support Tiger
Basketball**

TSU improves conference record to 3-2

By **Jamael McCauley**
Sports Writer

Defense wins games, but kickoff returner Tyrone Butterfield's sideline speed ends them.

He raced down the sideline for 82 yards early in the fourth quarter leaving behind all Tennessee Tech Golden Eagle defenders, giving the Tigers a 28-21 lead, and a homecoming victory.

The Tigers offense came out with a new look as second string quarterback Todd Valentine was

awarded the starting position in place of struggling starter Leon Murray. This seemed to be a pretty good move as the sophomore distributed the ball evenly to his receivers and completed 16-35 passes for 265 yards and threw for 3 touchdowns.

The Tigers third possession of the game ended in a 9-yard touchdown reception from Valentine to running back Calvin Davenport to give them a 7-0 lead.

The Golden Eagles countered on the following possession when quarterback Andre

Caballero connected with Brian Jackson to put them on the board early in the second quarter.

Juan Hall has been one of the Tigers go-to players all year, and on Saturday he continued to show why. With 11:10 left in the second quarter, he slipped through the Golden Eagles' secondary for a 41-yard crossing pass reception, to put the Tigers back in front 14-7.

It did not take long for the Golden Eagle offense to get back in the end zone to even the score at 14. The Tigers put together an impressive 12 play, 85-yard drive

in the closing seconds of the second quarter to give them a 21-14 lead at the half.

The pressure was put back on the Tigers early in the fourth quarter when Caballero found wide receiver Walter Hill in the end zone for a 23-yard touchdown reception to make it a 21-21 contest.

Butterfield received the ball on the Tigers 18-yard line and saw that he had room down the right sideline. After breaking a few tackles he was long gone down the field, leaving smoke and kicking up dust to give the

Tigers a 28-21 homecoming victory, and their second win in a row.

Tyrone Butterfield is a play maker and quarterback Todd Valentine kept his poise and played a mature game. The Tigers offensive line over-matched the top-ranked Golden Eagle defense, which allowed the Tigers to compile a total offense of over 400 yards.

The Tigers improve their record to (3-6) and (3-2) in conference play. Their next opponent will be Murray State on November 15 in Hale stadium.

Lady Tigers still struggling at end of season



PHOTO BY DANNY BROWN

Alishia Marshall

By **Jamael McCauley**
Staff Writer

As the Tennessee State Lady Tigers volleyball team's season conclusion gets nearer, they find themselves struggling to put points in the win column.

As of late, the Tigers haven't been playing good ball, and their record provides a direct reflection. At one point they went on a 10 match losing streak, and as of now they have won only two of their last 13 contests.

On October 28, the Tigers did manage to pull off an upset against the top ranked Tennessee Tech Golden Eagles in 3 straight sets, (15-6), (18-16), and (17-15). This match proved that the Lady Tigers can compete with the best, but doing it consistently

is the problem.

Three days later, they were back in action hosting the Eastern Illinois Panthers in a conference match which ended with the Tigers losing (15-9), (15-8), and (15-7).

The following morning the Lady Tigers were back on the court taking on the Southeast Missouri Otahkians, only to be swept again in 3 straight sets, (15-9), (15-5), and (15-10).

The Lady Tigers effort and competitiveness should not be questioned, but there seems to be some pieces of the puzzle missing to make the team complete. Their current



PHOTO BY DANNY BROWN

The Lady Tigers fall short for the block against Eastern Kentucky University.

record is (4-17), and they are (2-13) in conference play.

Picks of the Pack

November 15, 1997
NFL

Denver at Kansas City
Minnesota at Denver
Carolina at San Francisco

NCAA

Auburn at Georgia
Notre Dame at Louisiana State
North Carolina at Clemson
TSU vs Murray State University

Win and Loss record



Ashley Cunningham

Denver
Detroit
San Francisco

Georgia
Louisiana State
North Carolina
TSU

The Meter
6-8



Dwayne Morrow

Denver
Detroit
San Francisco

Auburn
Notre Dame
North Carolina
TSU

Freshmen
8-6



Melissa Garrett

Kansas City
Detroit
San Francisco

Georgia
Norte Dame
Clemson
TSU

Sophomores
9-5



Kidada Stokes

Kansas City
Minnesota
San Francisco

Georgia
Notre Dame
North Carolina
TSU

Juniors
9-5



Henry Murphy

Denver
Detroit
San Francisco

Georgia
Louisiana State
North Carolina
TSU

Seniors
10-4



Dean Ronald Myles

Denver
Minnesota
San Francisco

Georgia
Louisiana State
North Carolina
TSU

Faculty/ Staff
9-5

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