

ACCENT

TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

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Homecoming '79 Honors Gentry

Howard C. Gentry, director of athletics at TSU from 1961 to 1976, is returning for the 1979 Homecoming as its honoree.

During his 27 years at TSU he served as a teacher, coach and administrator.

The University's athletics enjoyed a "Golden Era" of progress during Gentry's tenure as director of athletics. During this time the TSU athletic teams participated in numerous national and international events. In fact, the school "became known as a school swallowed in champions of athletic greatness."

The football team played its first post season game against an NCAA affiliated school during his tenure. That game was against Ball State College in the Grantland Rice Bowl with a final score of 14-14.

It was during Gentry's administration that the footballers had a winning streak of 24 games for a new record which still stands at TSU. Another highlight of Gentry's administration was the regional telecast of the 1973 game with Grambling from Hale Stadium by ABC-Television.

Basketball also prospered. From 1969

through 1976, the TSU Tigers played in all but two NCAA Division II South Regional Tournaments. The team won the South Regional four times, finished second twice, third once and fourth once. TSU also participated in NCAA championship play in 1963 and 1967. The team was the UPI College Champion in 1961 and the Associated Press Champion in 1972.

The famous Tigerbelle Women's Track Team continued its upsurge by developing talented performers who participated with distinction nationally and internationally.

Under Gentry's leadership, TSU became one of the nation's tops in footballers drafted by the pros. The 1971 team ranked third in the nation with a total of nine draftees. The 1975 team gained the distinction of having all five seniors on the squad drafted. A sizable number of TSU basketball players were also drafted by the pros during the Gentry years.

Shortly after he became TSU's athletic director, Gentry became a moving force in the affairs of the National Collegiate Athletic Association where he served on several committees.

A native of Columbus, Ohio, Gentry attended West High School where he participated in football, basketball and track. His interest in football continued when he entered Florida A&M where he became an All-Conference and All-American tackle. He received his B.S. in Health and Physical Education from there in 1943.

Young Gentry embarked on his first coaching career at North Carolina A&T after a stint with the U.S. Army from 1943 to 1945.

Gentry was serving as line coach at

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Howard Gentry in one of his pep sessions



Howard Gentry and Jake Gaither (former Florida A&M coach) Discussing Their Past Rivalries
Photo by John Cross

HOMECOMING HONORS GENTRY
(Continued from page 1)

Central State University in 1948 when he first attracted the attention of TSU's President W. S. Davis and Henry Arthur Kean, director of athletics and head football coach.

Gentry came to TSU the next year, 1949, and served with distinction under Kean until the latter became a full-time athletic director in 1955. In 1956 Gentry was named head football coach.

His lifetime record as head football coach was 42 wins, to losses and one tie. His greatest win, however, has to be the game he won over Florida A&M, his Alma Mater, in the 1956 Orange Blossom Classic. Jake Gaither had his glamour-runners Willie Gallimore and Al Frazier, but Gentry had players like Fay Mitchell to help defeat his old school 41-39.

His 1956 team was 10-0-0 and national champions; he was selected coach of the year.

A full professor of health, physical education and recreation, Gentry received his MA from Ohio State in 1952.

Since his retirement, Gentry has been inducted into the Citizens Savings Athletic Foundation Hall of Fame (Los Angeles) for noteworthy achievement in the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics, the Florida A&M State University Sports Hall of Fame and he has been recognized for distinguished service by the NCAA Council.

Gentry and his wife, the former Carrie Louise McLaughlin reside in Nashville, not far from TSU's main campus. They have two children, Mrs. Carol Cornelia Gentry Johnson and Howard Cornelius Gentry, Jr.

Alumni Homecoming Activities

October 19, 1979

- 4-8 p.m., Registration: Goodwill Manor (Old Presidents' Home)
- 8-11, Friday Evening Frolic: Old Presidents Home
- 4-8, Registration: Class of '49, Hyatt Regency

8-until, Hospitality House, Hyatt Regency (class of 49)

October 20, 1979

- 8 a.m.-until: Registration continues
- 9 a.m.-: Class of '49 breakfast (Dutch)
- 12:00 noon: Luncheon, Hyatt Regency, (Roasting of Vernon "Skip" McCain)

After Game Disco til 2:00 a.m., Main Ballroom, Hyatt Regency. Cash Bar. Tickets are \$10.00 per person, \$9.00 with Alumni Membership Card.

Four's and Nine's

The TSU 1949ers, have set for themselves some exciting times around the theme "Let's Remember Together," according to William Scott of Phoenix, Arizona, who started working on the agenda early.

Registration begins Friday, October 19, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. The "Hospitality House" opens at 8:00 p.m. and continues "until." The 49ers will reminisce with a series of pictures—"The Spoon, The Wigwam, Greek Sunday, etc."

The Greek medley starts at 2:00 a.m. Saturday, October 20. The memorial, reflections and a business session, will be at the luncheon beginning at 12:00 a.m., at the Hyatt Regency. An added attraction will be the roasting of former football coach, Vernon Skip" McCain. The AFTER THE GAME DISCO, at the Hyatt will last until 2:00 a.m. Disco tickets are \$10 each and \$9 with the Alumni Membership Card. Food will be served and everyone is invited.

Showcase of Bands

As part of TSU's Homecoming festivities there will be a showcase of high school bands on Saturday, Oct. 20, in W. J. Hale Stadium.

Ten bands will perform for 10 minutes each, beginning at 2 p.m. The public is invited to attend and there is no admission charge.

The participating bands are: Carver High School, Birmingham, Ala.; Central High School, Detroit, Mich.; East High School, Nashville; Howard High School and Hughes High School, Chattanooga; Martin Luther King High School, Chicago; Phillips High School, Birmingham; Tolleston Junior High School, Gary, Ind.; Whites Creek High School, Nashville; and Woodward High School, Cincinnati.

Quality vs Quantity

For the past 21 years, the annual "battle of the bands" (FAMU Rattlers vs TSU Aristocrats) has undoubtedly been the spectacular highlight of every football season.

On October 20, spectators will have another opportunity to judge for themselves which of these two dynamic groups are indeed the greatest band in the land!

The Rattlers with their renowned "Marching 100's", promise to give the crowd one of the best half-time shows ever. And as usual the Aristocrats will not settle for a number two spot. Under their new band director, Edward L. Graves, the Tigers say that it is quality, not quantity, they'll give the fans.

In addition to this standoff situation, 10 high school bands have been invited from across the country to perform in a special "Showcase of Bands," at 2:00 p.m. at W. J. Hale Stadium.

A pre-game show begins at 7:15 p.m., Saturday, followed by the game at 7:30. The game will be played at Dudley Field (Vanderbilt Stadium).

It's guaranteed to be a homecoming everyone will remember. Don't miss it!!!



Edward Graves, the man in action, will be direct the Aristocrats in the battle of the bands.
Photo by John Cross

Humphries Appears Before THEC Budget Hearing

President Frederick S. Humphries asked the Tennessee Higher Education Commission, at a Friday, Oct. 5, budgetary hearing, not to reduce TSU's appropriations request "below the pledge of the merger plan."

It is important, Humphries said, that the appropriations be equal to or greater than the combined amounts of the former UTN and TSU.

The merger plan requests that the combined amount be available to assist with the merger.

"I also request that the Higher Education Commission take into account inflation and faculty salaries," he continued.

TSU's enrollment dropped as expected due to "the emotions of some," Humphries said. Under the state's formula funding, TSU could lose two to three million dollars if present enrollment trends for the institution continue.

Humphries said he "has a positive faith" in TSU personnel. If funding is continued at the promised level, the present need will be justified by the success of the merger, he continued.

Humphries cautioned THEC against a reduction of funds for TSU's developmental studies.

"The ACT scores of the average TSU freshman is 10 or 11," Humphries said. "That is one step below the norm of 17 for Tennessee and much below the national average of 19.

"TSU is a historically black institution," Humphries continued. "Blacks lag whites in overall scores out of high school."

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Cheerleaders Go To Great Heights To Please TSU Fans
Photo by John Cross



Coach "Big John" Merritt and Quarterback Joe Adams Planning Their Next Offensive Play
Photo by John Cross

HUMPHRIES APPEARS
(Continued from page 3)

THEC Executive Director Wayne Brown said his decision on whether to recommend cutting TSU's budget would be based on Humphries' answers to three questions:

1. What work will surplus faculty do while enrollment is low?
2. Can the extra money be used to help meet the campuses' needs in the areas of maintenance and security (areas for which TSU has requested more money)?
3. Will TSU continue to spend money for developmental programs for poorly prepared students? Brown has argued that such programs are not consistent with TSU's goals of becoming a major comprehensive university.

"The University now has an adult population due to the merger," Humphries said. "Those students also need developmental studies."

Humphries stated that federal funds have been used to support the developmental program. Those funds are coming to an end. Without further funding from the state, the program is in danger.

He also emphasized the need for developmental funds to be allotted to engineering and business tutorial programs—particularly in light of the proposed (and THEC approved) development of a school of business at TSU.

Defending requested capital outlay for maintenance and new construction, Humphries pointed out that the terrain of the campus makes construction and maintenance of buildings and grounds more expensive.

Four additional expense requests were:

- 1) Campus re-development funds—lighting, parking and major maintenance.
- 2) Engineering, business, and other faculty salary increases.
- 3) Maintenance of the agricultural building.
- 4) More security personnel.

The President, in summation, asked again that TSU's appropriations request not be cut and stated that the investment in higher education would be repaid in the coming years.

HOMECOMING '79

THEME: Putting
Putting
Putting
Putting It All Together
TSU

HOMECOMING '79—Dedicated to:
Mr. Howard C. Gentry, Sr.
Assistant Football Coach—1949-1955
Head Football Coach—1955-1961
Athletic Director—1961-1976

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16 Kean Hall
Student Union Board of Governors
Presents
Super Talent Extravaganza
Featuring
Transfere III Band

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17 Student Union Plaza
12:15 p.m. Serenade—Hop-Down
Social Sororities and Fraternities

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18 Student Union Plaza
12:15 p.m. Serenade—Hop-Down
Social Sororities and Fraternities

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19 Student Union Plaza
12:15 p.m. Pep Rally—Band & Cheerleaders
8:00 p.m. **HOMECOMING CONCERT** Kean Hall

Featuring
"MAZE"
Reception Downtown Campus
Honoring

Mr. Howard C. Gentry, Sr.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20

10:00 a.m.	Homecoming Parade	Begin at 18th & Scovel
1:15 p.m.	Luncheon: Student Government Association	Tenn. Room
2:00 p.m.	Showcase of Bands	W. J. Hale Stadium
7:15 p.m.	Pre-Game Activities	Dudley Stadium
7:30 p.m.	Football Game: FAM-U vs TSU	Dudley Stadium

CALENDAR OF SPECIAL EVENTS

October	12.....Applications for fall graduates due	
October	12..... Open House—Social Science Laboratory	
October	19.....TSU Women's Club Luncheon	
October	27.....Last day to withdraw from the University	
November	4-7.....National Basic Skills Conference	
November	22-23.....Thanksgiving Holidays	
December 17-Jan.	2.....Christmas Recess	