



# THE METER

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## what's inside



Find out all the crowns Oran Jones wears.

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## Changes coming to this year's homecoming

By Cara Anthony  
Editor in Chief

Modifications made to TSU homecoming traditions may make this year's experience different for TSU students and alumni.

Student Union Board of Governors chairpersons hope that the changes will be received by the student body.

"It's trial and error," said SUBG Chairperson Jonathan Bolston. "We're trying something new; students will let us know if they don't like it."

This year the homecoming parade will

be approximately 45 minutes shorter, the Mr. TSU pageant will be replaced by a comedy show and, after three years, a homecoming concert will feature three popular artists.

Bolston said plans for nixing the pageant and replacing it with a comedy show were made in August during the Student Government Association's annual retreat.

Last year Darrius Brooks, a black student, who was initially crowned on Tuesday Oct. 24, had his crown stripped away on Friday Oct. 27 after a recount of the five judges' votes showed that first-runner up Stephen Morrison, a white student, had actually won the pageant.

In a statement released by SUBG, Brooks

was re-crowned on Monday Dec. 4 because its members determined that Morrison was in violation of an official rule that prohibited the victor from applying for graduation.

"Last year we took flack for that," said Co-chairperson of SUBG Carroll Wesson.

Wesson said that she hopes this year's homecoming will be something for the students to remember.

SGA President Xandelyn Wright thinks that the changes will have a positive impact on homecoming week.

"I think that it will give students the

See "Changes" on page 7

## EKU DEFANGS TIGERS WITH FIRST OVC LOSS

### QB Heffner breaks leg, out for season



PHOTO BY KENNETH CUMMINGS

EKU Colonels Antwaun Molden and Cardius Dowell attempt to tackle TSU Tiger Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie during an offensive play. The Tigers fell to the colonels 49-7.

By LaVonte Young  
Senior Staff Reporter

RICHMOND, Ky – TSU's hopes of an OVC title may have gone down the drain when junior quarterback Antonio Heffner went down with a broken fibula. After Heffner's season-ending injury, the Tigers defense came up lame for the rest of the game allowing a 49-7 rout to give the Tigers their first OVC loss.

"They beat us," said Head Coach James Webster. "The loss of Heffner had nothing to do with the score of the game."

Heffner went with 3:21 left in the second quarter while rolling out the pocket. As he did, however, he was met by a pack of Eastern Kentucky University defenders that belted him.

Heffner laid on the field of play as medical personal attended to his injury. Eventually trainers had to carry Heffner off the field, and later he was taken by ambulance to a local Richmond hospital for x-rays. The preliminary diagnosis of the injury was a broken fibula.

"It's a huge lost for us," Webster said. "It

See "Tigers" on page 19

# New director of public relations

As of Sept. 1, Cheryl Bates-Lee has been appointed director of public relations in the new Office of Marketing and Communications.

The director of public relations is to serve as the university's spokesperson, as well as responsible for the planning, development and implementation of communication strategies designed to promote and clarify the university's missions, goals and objectives.

Bates-Lee has more than 20 years of experience in the areas of communication, education and public relations.

"She brings a wealth of experience to our public relations area and will be an asset to our marketing efforts," said Rutledge Jones, the assistant vice president of marketing and communications.

## Athletics Study Program

President Melvin N. Johnson announced that TSU has begun a year-long, campus-wide effort to study its athletics program as a part of the NCAA Division I athletics certification program.

The NCAA is a membership organization of colleges and universities that participates in intercollegiate athletics.

NCAA's main purpose is to maintain intercollegiate athletics as an integral part of the educational program and the athlete as an integral part of the student body.

The certification program focuses solely on certification of athletics programs, and will help ensure

integrity in the institution's athletics operations. Institutions will benefit by increasing campus-wide awareness and knowledge of the athletics program. The current self-study will be the second in the certification process for TSU.

The NCAA committee will be led by Johnson and Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs Ken Looney, who will serve as the Steering Committee Chair. Various members of the university community, faculty, administrators, students and alumni will also serve on the committee.

Compiled by Jaimee N. Randolph •

## Campus Briefs

# Noted biologist "unreservedly" apologizes

On Thursday, noble English biologist Jim Watson apologized "unreservedly" for saying that black people were not as intelligent as whites.

"I cannot understand how I could have said what I am quoted as having said," Watson said during an appearance at the Royal Society in London.

Watson won the 1962 Nobel Prize for his role in the discovery of the double-helix structure of DNA, and since then has become a major influence.

His comments have triggered many responses criticizing his character. David Lammy, the British government's skills minister, who is black,

describes the comments as "deeply offensive."

Watson's planned appearance for Friday at the London's Science Museum was cancelled due to his remarks.

Watson has a history of making prejudice comments not only concerning race, but gender and sexuality as well.

## Democrat criticizes US war effort

Pete Stark, a Democrat from California, is facing fire from the Republicans for comments regarding the American casualties in Iraq.

Stark said that Republicans are spending money "to blow up innocent

people (and) if we can get enough kids to grow old enough...(we can) send them to Iraq to get their heads blown off for the president's amusement."

Republican representative, Mike Duncan disputed this statement, concluding that it's "an insult to every American, Democrat or Republican."

Compiled by Jaimee N. Randolph •

## News Briefs

For the latest news and updates check [tsumeter.com](http://tsumeter.com)

## Events Calendar

### Wednesday

"Think Fast" Interactive Game  
6:30pm Poag. Aud.

"Haunted House"  
11:30-4pm FPCC Rm 210

### Thursday

Speaker: Tavis Smiley 6pm  
Poag. Auditorium

### Friday

Women Volleyball vs. Jacksonville State 7pm Kean Hall

Lifestyle & Health Management 10a-2pm FPCC lobby

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## THE METER

The Measure of Student Opinion and Sentiment

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## MISSION STATEMENT

The Meter's mission is to accurately and responsibly report the "highlights and lowlights" of Tennessee State University and its community so that we may foster positive results while reflecting the university's multicultural student body.

## SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The Meter invites submission by all members of the Tennessee State University community. Timelines and clarity are factors in selecting material for publication. Materials must adhere to the following guidelines:

a.) All contributions must be typed and sent by e-mail.

b.) Opinions and letters should not exceed 400 words.

c.) The Meter reserves the right to reject letters, articles or ads without explanation and to edit others as necessary.

## Corrections

The Meter regrets errors and will continue to bring readers accurate information.

## 3-day Weather Forecast



**Monday**  
Isolated T-Storms  
High: 76°



**Tuesday**  
Isolated T-Storms  
High: 69°



**Wednesday**  
T-Showers  
High: 64°

source: weather.com

# MISS TSU; MISS NBCA Hall of Fame

By **Acquanetta G. Donnell Jr.**  
News Editor

After her coronation, a crown may become a regular part of Orna Jones' wardrobe, who also recently won the title of Miss National Black College Alumni Hall of Fame.

Jones, a senior foreign language major with a concentration in Spanish from Southfield, Mich., was chosen as queen out of 33 participants.

Jones is not the first Miss TSU to hold the title of Miss National Black College Alumni Hall of Fame. Robin Manning won in 1996, and Michelle Robinson Wilkins won in 1999 during their reign as Miss TSU.

"Orna represented the university well," said Deborah Watson, the assistant to vice president of student affairs. Tommy Dortch, the founder of the National Black College Alumni Hall of Fame, started the contest in 1986 with six queens.

The goal of this competition is to display young black women, who have already been highlighted by their respective colleges or universities. The competition spotlights the intellect, talent and personalities of college queens.

Beginning on Wednesday, Sept. 26, all contestants were required to perform their oratorical in front of the judges for the competition.



Miss TSU 2007-08 Orna C. Jones reacts with tears, as she hugs Miss National Black College Alumni Hall of Fame 2006-07 Erica Christian Little, after hearing that she will be Miss NBCA Hall of Fame 2007-08 on September 29, 2007 in Atlanta.

PHOTO BY KENNETH CUMMINGS

"When it comes to speaking in front of people, I speak to inspire," Jones said. The oratorical ranged from singing to dancing to speaking. From those categories, the top 10 contestants were selected. The topic for the oratorical was how Historically Black College

Universities protect our heritage and legacy.

After the top 10 gave their oratorical during the competition, the top five were

selected. Along with Miss TSU, stood Miss Houston-Tillotson University, Miss Winston-Salem State University, Miss Elizabeth City State University and Miss Benedict College.

"I think she performed well. She was original and consistent," said Mario Price, a junior mass communications major from Memphis.

Jones' official coronation, "Unveiling of a True Star," is scheduled for

Wednesday Oct. 31 at 7 p.m. in Kean Hall.

Assistant Director of Student Activities Sonya Smith said, "It's not going to be like last year, it will be an event and freshmen are encouraged to attend." •

## Residence life joins fight against breast cancer

By **Acquanetta G. Donnell, Jr.**  
News Editor

Being observed annually in October, National Breast Cancer Awareness Month touches the lives of many women.

According to The American Cancer Society, more than 19,000 black women will be diagnosed with breast cancer this year. Known as the second most common cancer among black women, breast cancer is being made aware of by the Department of Residence Life

The theme for this year's Breast Cancer Awareness Month is, "Health Through Awareness".

"A lot of younger people really don't think about breast cancer often because we feel that it can't affect us," said Christopher Garner, a junior mass communication major from Chicago.

Spearheaded by Merl R. Eppse Hall dorm director, Shenitha Hampton, along with Victoria Jackson, Mary Wilson Hall

director, and Eleñora Bass, Harold E. Ford Sr., and John N. Ford Residential Complex director, these women have done a magnificent job in making the students aware of how important it is to know what breast cancer is and get tested.

"I know of several co-workers, family and friends who have survived breast cancer, and I felt that I should recognize it," Hampton said.

The objective is to raise health consciousness about the female body.

"Early detection is the key to avoiding breast cancer," Hampton said.

Women can detect breast cancer by getting a mammogram by her physician.

"I think that it is important to participate in this effort because I have a lot of immediate family members," Bass said.

Normally, residence life conducts a walk in honor of breast cancer awareness month.

"I think that many people go without

really thinking about this illness. This is very important, and I am glad that TSU is recognizing this," said Jasmine Cliff, a junior elementary education major from Nashville.

For more information on Breast

Cancer Awareness Month and other activities that will be held for the remaining month, call the department of Residence Life at extension 5361 or contact Hampton at extension 7889. •

For more information on breast cancer awareness visit  
[nbcam.org](http://nbcam.org) or [cancer.org](http://cancer.org)

# What We Think

## Conflict resolution must go beyond one day

On Oct. 19 the state of Tennessee and TSU observed Mediation Day. Mediation is a practice that continues to be used in courts and other avenues to assist in dispute resolution. Be they big or small, there will always be conflicting points of view on virtually any and everything.

There is a saying that there are three sides to every story: yours, mine and the truth. It's the dogged view that one's opinion is absolute that often leads to conflict between parties. Parents argue with their children that they know what's best for them and children argue that their parents are out of touch and don't understand them. On the campus of TSU people come into conflict everyday yet far too many people choose to handle their disagreements in a counterproductive fashion.

Often when someone is approached regarding a dispute, the first reaction is to become defensive. Becoming enraged and agitated is not the way to deal with a situation. While people always complain about someone talking behind their

back, it's often when they are approached directly that conflict arises. Being agitated when someone seeks to resolve a dispute is immature and ultimately shows a lack of personal growth and responsibility.

The same can be said of how the TSU community deals with difference of opinion. Students often complain of feeling ambushed by changes to the university and administrators complain that students don't participate in opportunities given to them to offer feedback.

Conflict resolution goes beyond the individual. In addition to the right of freedom of speech, one of the most fundamental rights is the freedom of individuals, and even groups, is to petition their government for redress of grievances or a correction of some form of injustice. This applies to the nation as a whole, as well as the university community.

Students should have no fear or apprehension of seeking information and explanations with regards to how the university conducts any of its business.

Likewise, administrators should be more forthcoming with the student body to any and all changes that occur within the university.

An open avenue of communication between the university administration and students is the only way to do this. Students have expressed concern over issues of safety, tuition, housing and parking, and it is the role of the university to address these concerns just as it is our responsibility to highlight and report them.

Even on The Meter staff we have disagreements and have to resolve them in order to effectively produce a quality publication that accurately reports the highlights and lowlights of the TSU community. When there are constant personal and professional disagreements, the quality of a product is jeopardized. This can be said of virtually any entity regardless of its function.

Ultimately, conflict resolution revolves around the need for communication and a willingness to step outside

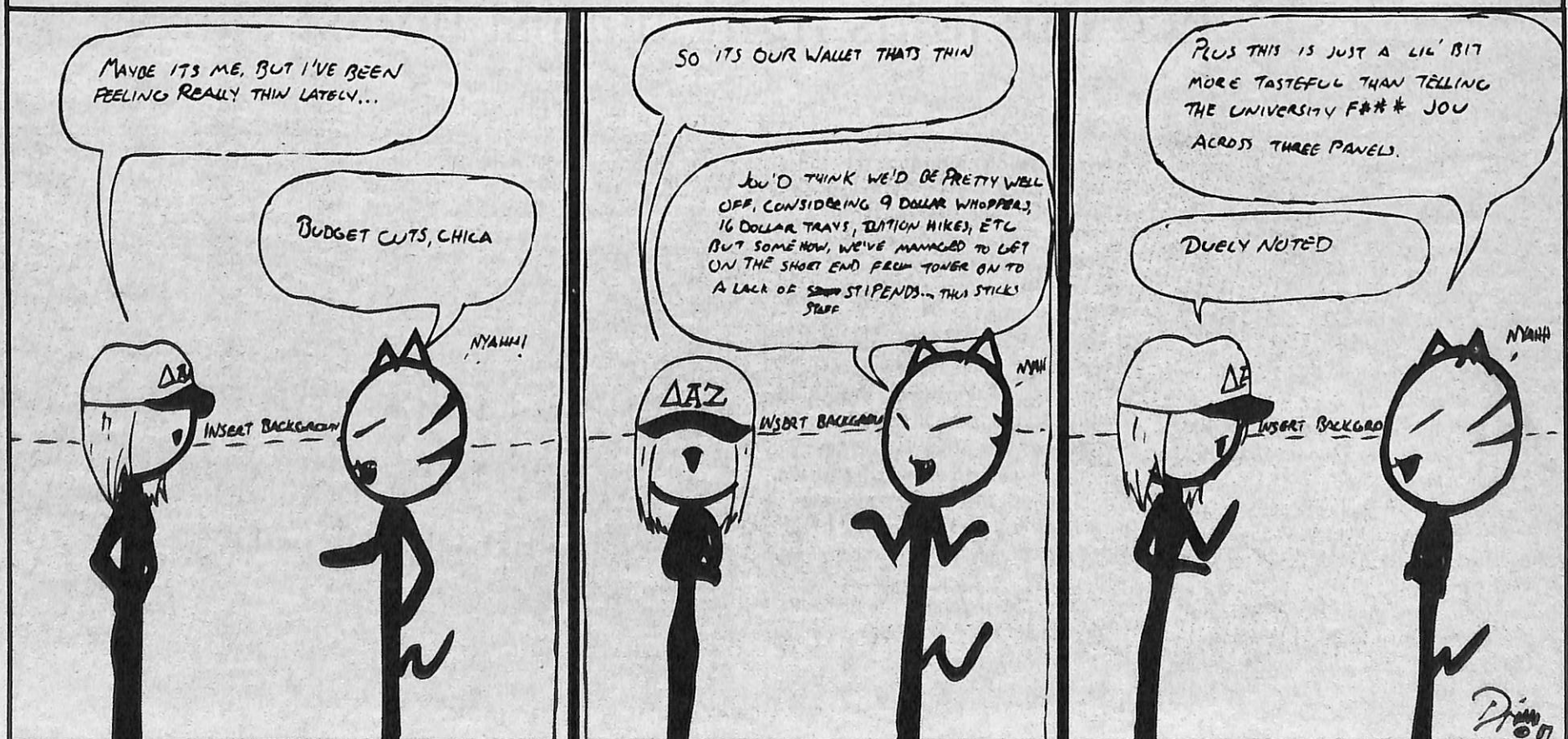
one's comfort zone and admit the need for assistance. Unfortunately, there are many services that are offered by the university that students, faculty and staff do not take advantage of due to a lack of willingness to seek assistance.

In addition to the Ombudsman's office, which sponsored TSU's implementation of Conflict Resolution Day, the university counseling center offers services for individuals. While most conflicts are the result of two parties reaching an impasse, it never hurts for the individual parties to assess their own position dispassionately, and possibly reexamine their position on the matter. Yet if both parties attempting to address a grievance come to an impasse, it's a good idea to get a neutral third party involved in resolving a dispute.

Seeking to resolve a dispute on any level, be it personal or professional, is a good step in making peace not only between others, but within ourselves.

### TIGRE'

By David Houston



# Midterms are here and it's time to focus



**Cara Anthony**  
Editor in Chief

## FROM WHERE I SIT

Midterm week has arrived along with a new coffee house located a view feet away from Boyd Residence Hall. The coffee house may serve as a great outlet for those looking for a mental health break. Take advantage of the coffeehouse, but don't just sit around drinking lattes all day, you have to study.

To everyone who has exams and especially to the freshmen class good luck I hope that you have prepared yourself.

There are just a few points I would like to make about the importance of these exams and value of the college experience as a whole. Often professors, parents, guardians and other superior influences

try to instill the worth of studying, but the advice often goes unheard.

During midterm week it is important to stay focused and remember why you are attending TSU. There are many students that have come before us and failed miserably for one reason or another. However, some of our predecessors have excelled in life simply because they focused during major academic moments like midterm week.

Being lackadaisical and not taking out the time to study may get you by for a short time but in the long, run your college career may end up worthless if you walk away with a lack of knowledge.

You should pack your bags and drop your classes if you plan on cheating, skating, or floating through college. Yes, it has been done before, and it is scary to think those people may be running businesses, or educating children.

Someone may pose the question, who cares if a person truly doesn't retain information presented to them as long as

they obtain a degree? My answer to that is simple, they are doing the world a disservice.

Recognizing that demographically, Black people make up the majority at TSU, the last thing Black America needs is another young uneducated person in our midst. I am not saying that if you don't have the opportunity to go to college you are uneducated; I am speaking to those that enter a university and waste the opportunity. If is never to late to become a student, even if you did not start this semester off as one.

This week during midterms take the time to study and learn more than you could ever imagine. Become a scholar. If we all vow to our best, by passing midterms and turning in projects on time, next week we may hold our heads a little higher when we are roaming among the alumni during homecoming week.

In a few years or maybe within a year current TSU students will become alumni. Every TSU alumni should be

thought of as great. The greatness that you will possess may have started with the determination to do well on midterms.

I challenge all the student body to make goals and hold each other accountable for the rest of the semester. Academic excellence might be contagious.

Got something to say?  
Leave your feedback  
at  
[TSUMETER.COM](http://TSUMETER.COM)

# Cosby airs out dirty laundry and tosses mud in the process



**Brian C. Browley**  
Managing Editor

## FROM WHERE I STAND

In recent years the internal dialogue among African-Americans regarding the state of their race has become fodder for public debate. While I'm not opposed to anyone offering constructive solutions to the problems of their fellow citizens regardless of race, I do have a problem in the tone and motives with which this advice is often offered. What is marketed as constructive is many times simply masqueraded mudslinging. It is not offered in the spirit of partnership in addressing the problem, but rather it is offered in as a paternalistic lecture that only serves for the amen corner to chime together in agreement.

One of the most controversial figures in this debate has been Bill Cosby. Cosby voted number one in TV Guide's 50 Greatest Dads has taken this role literally in his new book "Come On People" and has given low-income African-Americans a stern talking to. Making the rounds to promote his new book, Cosby along with

Harvard professor and co-author Alvin F. Poussaint, M.D., has appeared on NBC's Meet the Press, Oprah and other programs rallying against the destructive influences and actions of low income African-Americans.

I'll be the first one to say that Cosby has many valid points in his book. Yes, there are too many black children born out of wedlock, yes, too many Black men are in the penal system and yes our community should place a higher priority on education. But unfortunately, Cosby's and other members of the Black community, who are critical of lower income Blacks aren't able to offer tangible solutions because the harsh realities of impoverished inner-city life are not a part of their reality. So while they can talk a good game about what needs to be done, and what shouldn't be done, they won't be there to do the groundwork and see such policies through. As a famous saying goes, it's easier to shout advice from a foxhole while everyone else is on the front line.

While Cosby, as a product of the inner-city, who pulled himself up from his surroundings has the credentials to make critique of the community, he virtually ignores the impact of the crack epidemic and other socio-economic factors that also play a role in the current state of

the Black community.

Cosby and others, while admitting that institutionalized racism exists, don't concern themselves with dealing with that in addition to the inner problems of the community.

I constantly hear well-to-do Blacks say, if you don't want to go to jail then don't commit the crime. Well that's a statement deserving of a duh, if I've ever heard one. The fact remains that Blacks who commit crimes are more likely to be handed down stiffer prison sentences than their white counter parts and that is a problem. According to drug felonies in state courts' Bureau of Justice Statistics report, 33 percent of convicted white defendants received a prison sentence versus that of 51 percent of African-Americans. Cosby's reaction to facts such as this during his Meet the Press interview was "then tell them not to sell drugs."

While I have little sympathy for individuals who willfully break the law, I do believe in the spirit of equal protection and punishment under it. Any society that dares to call itself just should have this tenant as one of the priorities. To ignore this fact or belittle its importance by making contrived statements such as "don't do the crime if you can't do the time" shows how little one really cares about equal rights, democracy and the spirit of

fairness for all.

Racism will continue to divide this nation because racism, and classism still divide the Black community. There are segments of the Black community who don't look at other Blacks, who have transgressed as "their people."

One of W.E.B. Dubois' most brilliant philosophies was the idea of the Talented Tenth. While those ignorant of Dubois' true message look at the Tenth as being a self-elevated class of Black elitists, the true purpose of the tenth was to extend the hand of service to the other 90 percent of the community. Unfortunately many members of the Talented Tenth in the Black community have abandoned their responsibility to assist that other 90 percent, and simply look at them as a problem.

One of the most disturbing trends of people who critique lower income African-Americans is the dehumanizing habit of labeling. Cosby dismissively refers to other African-Americans as "these people." What essentially is happening is a line of demarcation is being drawn between the have's and have not's in the Black community with the upwardly mobile African Americans disowning and disregarding their brethren who have

See "Black" on page 6

# ONLINE FEEDBACK

## Famous Choreographer Visits TSU

**T. Lynn.... Dance Student**  
 posted 10/13/07 @ 8:27 PM CST  
 Ok....

Now I have a question. Why wasn't this even advertised all over the school?? There are advertisements everywhere I look: for parties, musicals, jobs, and athletic events. However for a person like Ms Debbie Allen, there aren't any types of fliers put up??

The communications students really lucked up on this one, or should I say was selfish with this person. I am a current dance student for Ms. Gentry and I was disappointed that this wasn't even thrown her way. Considering that she knows Ms. Allen and also is a dance instructor, I thought that she should have gotten some type of notice that she was going to be on campus. That was quite rude though, not to advertise to a dance instructor.

Now Ms. Allen went to an HBCU, but you don't advertise her at an HBCU.... seems kind of backwards!!!!

Key word and quotes, "Ms. Debbie Allen visited the communications department to motivate students to keep pushing toward their dreams."

Mass Comm vs. Dancers!!!

Damn ya'll are selfish!!!!!! Now Ms. Allen even said that America needed to re-invest in education because the communication industry is bigger now right??

However, what a break down in communication there was in (not) advertising such a great event. There are now more venues to get students more immersed in technology and venues that want more students to come, but this communication thing with events around campus has definitely got to get better.

**Jim**

posted 10/14/07 @ 11:34 PM CST

Obviously, you're disappointed you didn't know about this, but there are several probable reasons why her visit wasn't advertised toward you.

\*If it was designed only for comm. students, then why advertise to the other 8,000+ students?

\*Also, people like Allen might tend

to request monetary compensation for talks with crowds of a certain size, so it may have been in the dept.'s best interest to ensure only its students attend, unlike those other events that want big crowds.

\*Also, beyond her choreographer jobs, it is clear that her role as a 10-time Academy Award director was more relevant for comm. students.

\*As for Ms. Gentry, if the TSU friend or faculty member that brought in Allen didn't know that Gentry knew her, then I understand why Gentry wasn't notified. But this does speak volumes for Gentry's relationship if Allen didn't give her acquaintance a call/e-mail... or maybe she did.

\*Lastly, your use of communication v. that of communication field is different. In the case of Allen, an accomplished director and actor, the communications field is related to those students studying radio and t.v./journalism. The lack of communicating the event is a general statement.

I guess I'm saying I wouldn't call someone "selfish" because you didn't know what was going on in another

department. Also, how long has TSU had dance students? Is that a major with a department like the dozens of comm. students?

## Ten tips for keeping your computer spyware clean

**Brent J. Chapman**

posted 10/12/07 @ 11:43 AM CST

This was a very informative article. I immediately employed the suggestions since I am a frequent user of social networking sites.

## Campus fasts for Holy Month

**Angie Ali**

posted 10/08/07 @ 9:26 AM CST

Greetings of Peace, Health and Wellness!

It's good to know that Muslim students at TSU are actively involved in the local community in a way that is informative and charitable, and that non-Muslim students are willing to learn about other religious practices.

## Black Americans only community that allow others to criticize

Continued from page 5

taken an erroneous path.

What has continued to surprise me is the fervor with which this debate has been thrown into the public arena for all to weigh in. There is no other community in this entire United States in which the internal dialogue of the culture and race is the topic of such public debate. You very rarely hear of such public debate in the Jewish, Asian or even Hispanic communities in the U.S. Perhaps having the commonality of shared language, homeland and cultural identity outside of their identity as Americans is the reason for this discretion.

African-Americans' entire identity is based in this nation and therefore individuals from outside of the community feel inclined, and even empowered to comment on the state of the Black community. African-Americans allowing every Tom, Dick and Harry to offer opinions as to how to deal with the issues facing their community is not the way to go. In fact, so much "dialogue" on the issue is a real problem. We've had enough speeches, talks, lemon squeezes and debates to last us for a lifetime.

Personal responsibility is just that,

personal. Until the majority of the African-American community first individually and then collectively decides we won't stand for the continued erosion of our community and values little, if anything, can really be done.

What we in the Black community need is action, not words. If your 8-year-old niece knows the lyrics to every song on 106 & Park, but can't do her times tables, take action. If your little brothers can Superman, RoboCop, Spider-Man and Super Soak that hoe, but can't conjugate a noun, take action.

Is there are "right path" for African American's to take? Absolutely. No one can argue successfully that a loving two-parent household is not the best environment for a child to be raised. No one can or should argue that 70 percent of Black children being born out of wedlock or raised in single-parent homes is something that should be applauded or strived for. Unfortunately, these are the realities of our community at this point, so we can either keep throwing figures at each other and name calling, or we can actually do something worthwhile and change course.

Hopefully Cosby will agree with that.



Something on your  
 mind?  
 Give your two cents at  
 tsumeter.com.

# Changes to parade will give students more time

Continued from page 1

opportunity to really have fun," Wright said adding that activities like the concert and comedy show are nice additions.

In reference to the parade, Bolston said changes will benefit the band and allow them to have more time during the day. Dean Myles, Director of student activities said that the number of parade entries were reduced with the goal of making the parade shorter.

"The university homecoming com-

mittee decided that the band needed more time to prepare," Bolston said.

Each year SUBG plans activities for students to attend during the week. On Monday Oct. 29 SUBG's first event for the week will be a talent showcase, "Battle of the Residence Halls."

"We are trying to build up the momentum for the homecoming concert," Wesson said.


The concert scheduled for Thursday Nov. 1 will feature rap artist Lil Wayne, Yung Joc and R&B artist Lloyd.

Student Affairs budgeted about \$100,000 to bring the artist this year. The comedy show that will replace the pageant cost about \$9,000.

Comics Doug Williams and Esau McGraw will perform on Tuesday Oct. 30.


"I think we always have to be adaptable to change," Myles said. "The changes that have been made will benefit the student body."

If you would like to help decorate for Homecoming 2007, meet in the SGA office located on the second floor of the Floyd Payne Campus Center suite 217 Friday and Saturday at 2 p.m.


 Brothers for Love, Achievement,  
 Culture and Knowledge Inc.

Also B.L.A.C.K.'s  
 Chat & Chew  
 With Liberty  
 and Justice  
 for All...  
 Or Really?

Monday, Oct. 22  
 FPCC Rm. 210  
 Refreshments to be served




Time flies.  
 Don't miss out.

[www.tsumeter.com](http://www.tsumeter.com)

# Christian coffeehouse opens near campus

By Ashley McDonald  
Staff Reporter

The Baptist Collegiate Ministry opened a Christian coffeehouse across from Boyd Hall at 1104 33rd Ave. on Oct. 19 giving students a place to unwind during midterms.

JoAnn Scaife, the director, ministry specialist and campus minister of the ministry, concocted the idea of opening the coffeehouse as a way to impact the college campus by spreading the gospel.

The hours of operation will be 8 a.m. until 8 p.m. initially, and, will eventually, stay open 24 hours a day. The money made from the coffeehouse is to go directly back into the ministry and to the students.

"We want to find ways to build the ministry and reach students by meeting them in everyday college life," Scaife said.

The house will also be the home of an Internet radio station. BReleasedRadio.com, Scaife's own multimedia company, will move to the coffeehouse for the benefit of the students.

Broadcasting directly from the coffeehouse with live radio shows such as Music Entrepreneur, the Art of Being Single, Praise Party, What's Up With You? and Grits, Scaife is also interested in broadcasting some student and syndicated programming.

Through the coffeehouse, Scaife is interested in creating small scholarships and offering internships to students in the areas of hospitality, retail, marketing and communications. The coffeehouse also accepts work-study students.

"When I first heard about it, I didn't



PHOTO BY KENNETH CUMMINGS

know it was Christian-based," said Shalinda Miller, a senior political science major from Memphis. "Once I found out that it was, I felt that it would give TSU students a different atmosphere, and further encourage religion and their faith."

Currently, the small, two-bedroom house can hold approximately 25-30 people. It will be the site for a variety of different events such as fundraisers, leadership seminars, celebrity meet and greets and music entrepreneurial conferences.

There are plans to clear out the back-

yard area as an extension to the coffeehouse. This area will house such events as concerts, poetry readings, book events and songwriting events. Student organizations are encouraged to use the coffeehouse as a venue for events that foster a positive message.

Scaife, who has been diagnosed with cancer three times and overcome it without radiation or chemotherapy, is very dedicated to this coffeehouse. Because of the things that she has been through, she has made a vow to the Lord to help others to understand their purpose, the beauty of life, and the beauty of God.

"I believe that I have been placed here to help students and anyone that I come in contact with to understand purpose and life," she said. "I can't give all of the answers to purpose or life, but I can at least use what I have been given to guide them there."

The coffeehouse will host a menu including coffee, tea, bottled water, and various pastries. As the establishment progresses, they will expand the menu to sandwiches and other health food items.

Designed to be a place of inspiration, the coffeehouse will provide a campus minister at all times during the hours of operation for students who need guidance or counseling. It will also be equipped with wireless Internet.

"I think it's pretty good," said Joe Ashby, a senior communications major from Louisville, Ky. "Especially since

all of these college students claim to be so religious, it will be a good place (for them) to congregate. Since there is a radio station there also, it will help students in the field of communications to gain experience."

DeAndrea Boyle, a senior interdisciplinary studies major from Dickson, Tenn., said she feels that the coffeehouse will be a positive addition to the campus.

"It will be a safe haven for students," she said. "It's something different and good because school is stressful. That will be a place that you can go to get that peace back and unwind."

Because the small, two-bedroom house had to be transformed into the coffeehouse, it was in need of serious renovation. Everything from the paint on the walls to the equipment that will be used by the radio station has come from donations. Empty Hands, a men's ministry out of Franklin, Tenn., was the first to contribute to the project. Amongst other contributors are Mike Music, Grace Community Church, The Paint Shop and the Lively Group.

Brothers and Sisters United, a student organization on campus will be working out of the coffeehouse, and has also helped with the renovations.

"I'm not worried about if people are going to like it," says Scaife. "I'm concerned about making an impact." •

# TSU works for students to reduce conflict on campus

By Acquanetta G. Donnell, Jr.  
News Editor

Last Thursday, Oct. 18 TSU and the state of Tennessee recognized Mediation Day, as a part of Conflict Resolution Day.

Conflict Resolution Day was designed to raise awareness of conflict in the environment. Beginning last Wednesday in the Floyd Payne Campus Center, the Ombudsman office had a table that explained what conflict is and how, we as students, faculty and staff can help alleviate so much negativity in the environment.

The table set up in the FPCC also had pledge cards for students, faculty and staff to sign that stated they pledge to disregard any conflicts.

"I think that TSU's recognition of the

need to reduce violence and use conflict resolution skills make a significant statement," said TSU Ombudsman Gloria Ivy. Not only to the TSU community, but to the surrounding community as well."

With the many conflicts such as the shooting in the Lena B. Watson Residence Center that occurred in the last month, and with the death of football player Taylor Bradford in the University of Memphis community, Conflict Resolution Day was a day that caused many students to think twice about a situation before they react.

Later that evening, the Ombudsman office held a violence prevention workshop in the Learning Resources Center that provided tools for anger management. The speaker, Stephanie Bundle, the director of the New Residence Center, spoke to an audience about what violence really is.

Violence being any word, look, sign or act that hurts a person's body, or things.

"We hurt each other regularly and we don't even know that we are doing it," Bundle said.

Bundle also discussed the different types of violence, such as stealing, lying, name calling and even stalking. Many students who didn't know that these were violent acts were made aware in the workshop.

"I think that workshop was really good," said Dorisha Wright, a sophomore psychology major from Ripley, Tenn. "Any person with anger problems should have been in attendance tonight. They could have helped someone and themselves."

If you would like to sign a pledge card to alleviate conflicts on campus and in your own lives, please visit the

Ombudsman office in suite 120 of the Queen Washington Health/Counseling Center or you can contact the office at extension 2515. •

At the close of the very helpful workshop, Bundle listed the ABCD's of anger management which are:

- A-be aware
- B- Backoff
- C-Checkout choices and consequences
- D-Decide and do



# BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY

Monday, October 22, 2007

Volume 58 Issue 14



**M. Antonio Silas**  
Business & Technology  
Editor

**MONEY BYTES**

## Convergence a trend to stay

With the rapid growth of technology, many forms of media are seemingly becoming extinct. Magazines and newspapers are having a difficult time keeping up because of the Internet's ability to update the world with news at will. People can purchase and even view music and movies on the Web.

The Internet has completely changed the way we gather and look at our information.

With the convergence of old news mediums into new ones, older formats steadily fade into oblivion. Books and journals that college students use for reports and assignments are now available electronically.

A study conducted by the Pew Research Center shows that more college students are steadily migrating towards their computers instead of their libraries to study, learn and gather information for projects.

High schools and universities are even hopping in on the trend. More and more institutions are putting lesson plans, study guides, tests and even books on the Internet. This practice could be the beginning of a total integration of how we gather and use our information.

While this may be great in terms of convenience and availability of information, it does raise valid concerns. The Internet is a medium that any artist can make additions to. While libraries, magazines and news outlets may require valid authorities to share information, the Internet does not. Anyone can log onto the World Wide Web and upload information that may seem factual, but really isn't.

Keeping this in mind, college students should make sure they spend an adequate amount of time in the library. There are archives upon archives of information for students to utilize. Institutions spend millions of dollars building libraries and ensuring that they remain up to date. The information provided in libraries is what students pay for in their fees; make sure you get your money's worth. •

## Student entrepreneurs start sweet "Experience"

**Alyssa Clark**  
Staff Reporter

Over the years there have been many Black businesses established throughout the United States. However, many people do not know how to start their own business, or do not believe that it can be done. With proper help and instruction, it is possible.

For example, just selling CDs or braiding hair is a good start. A lot of TSU students are willing to do whatever it takes in order to make ends meet. Many cut hair, tutor, style hair, do nails or even cook. One group of friends, in particular, had the same vision and decided to make it a reality.

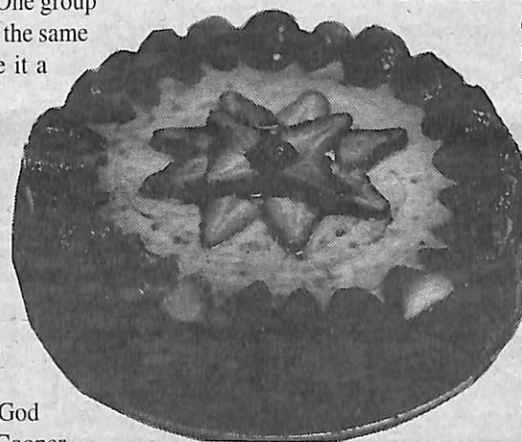
Five TSU students established their own business called The Cheesecake Experience. It started in January 2007, when two friends, Travis Cooper and Stan Moore decided to go into business together.

"It was a vision from God that had to come true," said Cooper, a senior mass communications major from Memphis.

Just like any other business, it wasn't easy starting off. There was much



preparation to be done and positions to be filled, so three other people got involved:



Vice President of Business and Finance Jamal Oldham, Occupation Manager Gregory Brand and Secretary Dejuanica Moore. .

The cheesecakes are made by Cooper, the Executive Chef and President. The idea for making cheesecakes came from a woman that he had once dated; she said that she loved cheesecake, so he attempted to make her one.

"When I first started making cheesecakes they weren't tasty at all and took two years to master," Cooper said. "Since then it was something I had to stick to."

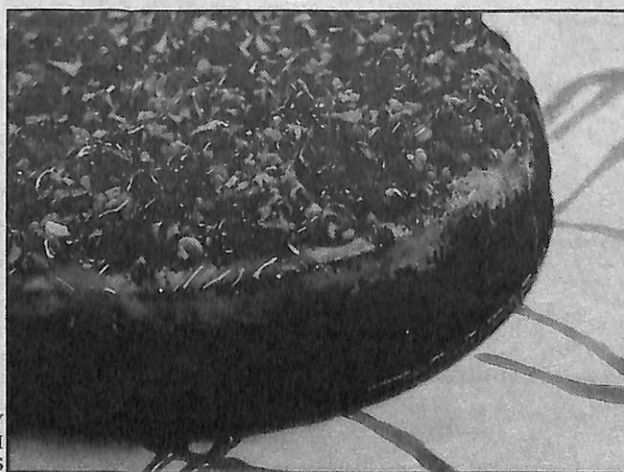
The business has been doing well thus far and caters to a lot of customers including college students, teachers and restaurants such as Madea's Chicken and Waffles. All of the cheesecakes are freshly made to order with all natural ingredients. The prices are 15 percent less than other cheesecake companies and range from \$20 to \$45.

In the future, The Cheesecake Experience plans to branch out into further areas including the Internet and several restaurants across the world. A good way to order these delicious cheesecakes is to contact them directly or email them at [cheesecakeexperience@gmail.com](mailto:cheesecakeexperience@gmail.com).

For students who want to start their own business, Oldham offers a bit of advice

"If you're going to do it, do it and have fun with it," Oldham said. "Leave nothing on the table and follow what God has for you." •

**Top:**  
Cheesecake  
Martini  
with choco-  
late or regu-  
lar graham  
cracker;  
**Center:**  
Strawberry  
Cheesecake;  
**Right:**  
Heavenly  
Crunch



PHOTOS BY  
KENNETH  
CUMMINGS

# Stock market basics for students

**By M. Antonio Silas**  
Business & Technology Editor

The stock market is an entity that allows the trading of stocks. While many Americans may see the daily stock report on the news, many don't understand it or how to use it. Stocks are the bonds of different companies, and there's over \$50 trillion within the stock market waiting to be earned. It's difficult to predict how exactly the stock market will act, but better understanding of it could lead to a large payout.

The stock market is driven completely by supply and demand. The amount of stocks available dictates the supply and the amount of shares that investors want to purchase dictates the demand for those

particular shares.

The stock exchange comes into play because there are people who are selling the stocks, and there are people who are buying the stocks. These areas facilitate the purchasing of these bonds by providing up-to-date information about each stock and its prices. One of the better known examples of these includes the New York Stock Exchange. The stock market is basically a store where buyers and sellers go to make transactions.

Stocks are valued two different ways: one is by how much a person is willing to pay for a particular stock. These types of values employ supply and demand to fluctuate the prices. The other type is a cash flow.

Stocks are the bonds of different companies.

- i.e. Microsoft, Dell, and Apple

Over \$50 trillion is currently within the stock market.

Prices are set by supply and demand.

- The more people want to purchase the stock, the more it will cost.
- The less people want to purchase a particular stock, the less it will cost.
- Price to Earnings ratio is also a factor
- Formula based on statistics and older stocks.

The first example is decided by supply and demand. The more people want to purchase the stock, the more it will cost. Adversely, the less people want to purchase a particular stock, the less it will cost.

The second example goes by what's called a Price to Earnings ratio. It's a formula based on statistics and older stocks. This is what people use to evaluate their prices and make decisions about what to purchase.

While your money is at risk with the stock market, it can reap great benefits. It is not guaranteed, so the potential earning is higher. While the changes in the stock market can result in either large losses or gains, the short term changes in the stock market can result in high returns. During times of economic prosperity, the stock market usually does well. On the other hand, the stock market does badly when the economy isn't doing well.

According to [www.free-financial-advice.net](http://www.free-financial-advice.net), these are some of the tips you can use to do well in the stock market:

#### Don't try to time the stock market

Despite the fact that people say it's possible to know which way the stock market is going to rise or fall, it is not. Do not waste your time trying to follow trends that do not exist.

#### Use cost averaging

Don't purchase a large amount of stock in bulk. Purchase a small amount every pay check, every month or every week. Your purchases will always be at an average price instead of an inflated one.

#### Take taxes into account

When purchasing stocks, try your best to hold on to them for at least a year. If you try to sell your stocks in less than a year, you will be taxed a larger amount than the ordinary tax rate, which is the rate you receive if you don't own your stocks for long enough.

#### Diversify your investments.

Don't just invest in stocks. It is better if you diversify your investments into other asset classes including real estate (a house) cash (savings account or Certificate of Deposit) and maybe even bonds. That way, if one asset class really underperforms, you will have some exposure to the better performing assets.

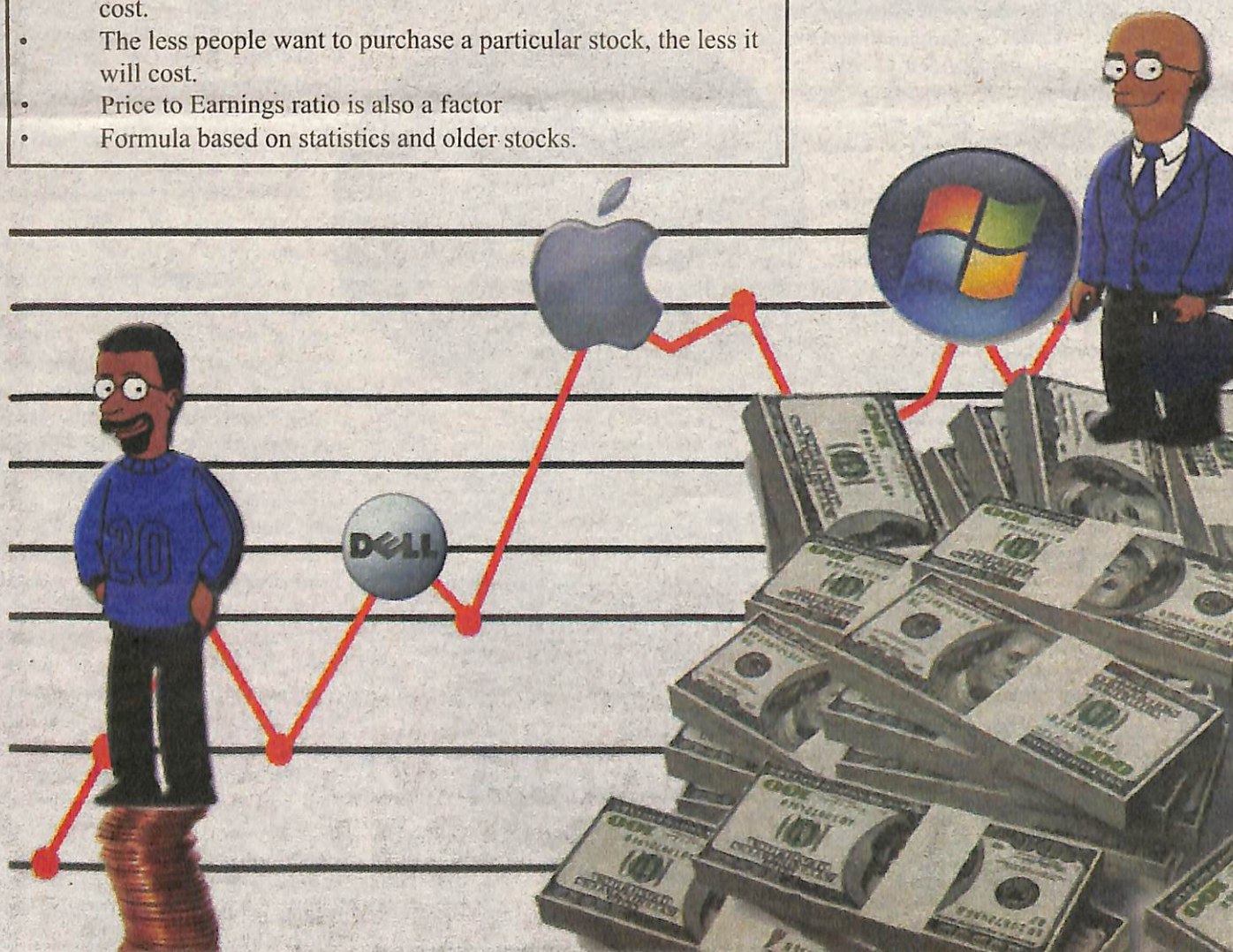
#### Diversify your stocks (mutual funds)

When investing in the stock market, don't load up on just one or two stocks. Diversify your investments across many stocks. If your portfolio is not large enough to buy 15 or more different stocks, you should consider purchasing one or more mutual funds to ensure diversification.

For more informative tips

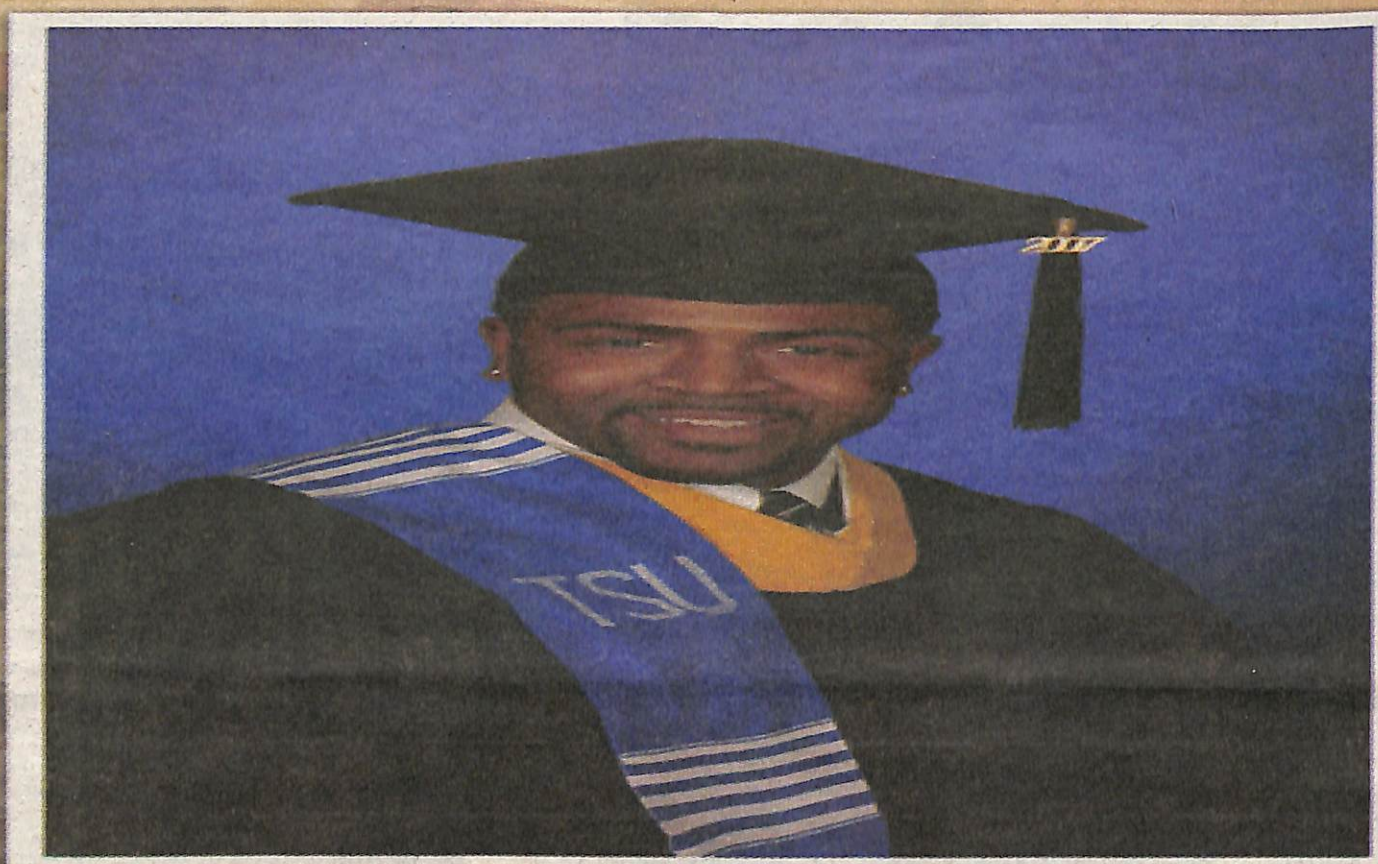
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# Verizon wireless unveils new lineup of phones

By Patrick Comer  
Staff Reporter

Verizon has a brand new line up of phones coming out this fall. The LG VX Voyager is their headliner of four new fashionable phones to be released this quarter. These phones have the potential to divert quite a few iPhone dollars from their archrival AT&T.

The Juke, Pearl, Venus and Voyager have all been confirmed by Verizon to be released by the end of November. Since the original specifications on these phones were released, only few details have changed.

Verizon's BlackBerry Pearl is the first of the Pearl series to get EV-DO, a high-speed broadband Internet service, and also adds Verizon's VZ Navigator service, which is slowly becoming the standard across these phones.

When the Samsung Juke is released it will be the first "flick" phone to ever hit North America arriving with an astonish-

ing 2GB of built-in memory, A2DP and VGA camera.

The Venus slider sports the most interesting screen setup. It has a dual screen in which the bottom screen provides relative touch controls and the top screen functions as a normal screen. The Venus, and its black or pink color options, might be the most fashionable phone



out of the group. While this phone rocks a two mega pixel sensor, it has a lot of potential because of the microSD slot which will provide up to 8GB of expansion.

Finally, the Voyager does it all. It sports a full screen touch screen on the outside, and a second screen on the clamshell interior, facing a gigantic QWERTY keyboard. Here the long awaited V CAST Mobile TV makes an appear-

ance, as does a microSD slot and 2 mega-pixel camera.

All of these phones are supposed to be out by Thanksgiving, but Verizon isn't giving out any word on the prices or exact dates. It is known however, that the Juke and Pearl are going to be released first, to be followed by the Venus and then the Voyager.

**Will Verizon's new phones prove to be iPhone killers?**

Leave your feedback @ [www.tsumeter.com](http://www.tsumeter.com)

# Sony gives customers early present with PS3 price cut

By M. Antonio Silas  
Business & Technology Editor

Sony announced on Thursday, Oct. 18 that they would be cutting the price of their PlayStation 3 game console in the U.S., and introduced an even cheaper model that will arrive before the holiday shopping season.

The top-line PlayStation model, with an 80 gigabyte hard drive, now costs \$499, down from \$599. This price cut eliminates the lower-end model, which has a 60-gigabyte drive and has sold for \$499.

A new low-end model with a 40-gigabyte drive will go on sale Nov. 2 for \$399.

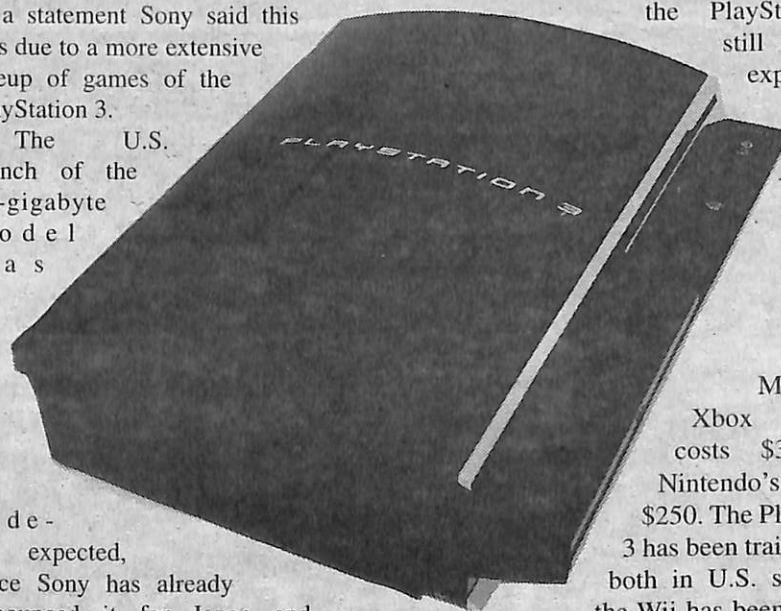
Unlike the other PlayStation 3 mod-

els, the newer model won't be able to play games made for the PlayStation 2. In a statement Sony said this was due to a more extensive lineup of games of the PlayStation 3.

The U.S. launch of the 40-gigabyte model was

widely expected, since Sony has already announced it for Japan and

Europe. It narrows the price gap with competing game consoles, but the PlayStation is still the most expensive.



Microsoft's Xbox 360 costs \$350 and Nintendo's Wii costs \$250. The PlayStation 3 has been trailing them both in U.S. sales, and the Wii has been a break-

out hit for Nintendo, with more than 9 million units shipped. Sony has sold 5 million PlayStation 3s since they went on sale in November last year.

Look out for more Business & Tech news and tips online @ [www.tsumeter.com](http://www.tsumeter.com)

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THE METER

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# ARTS CULTURE

Monday, October 22, 2007

Volume 58 Issue 14

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## Gentry brings a passion for dance

**Mykilla Grinstead**  
Staff Reporter

As a mother, mentor and dance instructor at TSU, Judy F. Gentry has faithfully served TSU and the community for nearly 30 years.

Gentry began teaching in what was known as the department of health, physical education, recreation and dance, as an instructor in the fall of 1980.

She received her bachelors of science in physical education and her M.A. Ed. from TSU.

"I'm so glad (Gentry) chose this university," said Janice Johnson, a junior health performance and sports science major from Columbus, Ohio. "I really don't know how the dance department would be without her. She is wonderful."

Prior to leading the dance department, Gentry studied dance in Taipei, Taiwan, Formosa, China, and danced professionally with the Centennial Dancers for five years. She also served as lead dancer and

choreographer for the Nashville Mistrical Players for three years.

Further polishing her skills in her craft, she has studied with dance greats Donna Rizzo, Tom Pazk, Jim Piersall, Mable Love, Fenecia Briggance, Bruce Taylor, Chuck Davis and the late Raymond Clay.

In addition to teaching in what is now the department of human performance and sport sciences, Gentry is the founder, choreographer, and artistic director of the TSU Dance Experience Ensemble and is in her 20th year as the coordinator and choreographer for the TSU Aristocrat of Bands dance auxiliary, the Sophisticated Ladies.

In its beginnings, Gentry and the TSU Dance Experience Ensemble performed in the Nashville Symphony's 1987 Spring Pop series featuring Bobby Jones and New Life.

The Sophisticated Ladies continue under Gentry's leadership and value her honesty and expertise.

"Once we heard, 'five, six, seven, eight,' it was time to get serious," said Montinike Moore, a senior early childhood development major, said with a laugh.

"You must be agile, mobile and versatile," she added.

Gentry was selected as one of the most inspiring teachers in America for the 2002-2003, 2003-2004 academic years. She was inducted into the TSU College of Education's Wall of Fame 2005, and has received the Contemporary Black History Makers Award in 2006.

With all her accomplishments, Gentry remains in the eyes of TSU students.

"There are not many dance instructors that can actually show the class how to dance," said Sarde Jackson, a human performance and sport sciences major from Summersville, Tenn. "My previous teachers would just tell me what to do, but Mrs. Gentry actually does it first, and she is great at it."

In addition to the accolades she has managed to collect, she is also proud to

add grandmother to her already long list of accomplishments. With her grandsons, Caymon Joseph Broome and LaDarrell Trey Collier II, Gentry said she couldn't be happier or more proud.

"I'm truly just a vessel that the Lord has used to broaden through dance," Gentry said. •



Judy Gentry

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## Perry's new film asks: Why did I get married?

### Why Did I Get Married?—A

The king of "chitlin' circuit" theater and moderately entertaining motion pictures has hit a new and interesting high with the release of his newest film based on one of his hit stage plays, "Why Did I Get Married?"

Featuring an all-star cast, "Why Did I Get Married" takes an interesting and surprisingly realistic approach to how educated and career oriented African Americans look at love and living.

Throughout the film, several situations that are rarely, if ever faced on screen, are addressed in explicit detail here, and it makes for a genuinely entertaining and personal experience. The

characters are distinctly human and even though the success level achieved by them is exceptional, the story is still believable and ultimately relatable.

The film opens as Patricia (Janet Jackson), a psychologist and professor is lecturing to a class about her book "Why Did I Get Married." She talks to the class about what the book aimed to accomplish and what inspired her to write it. She then goes on to say that she was inspired to write the book by the annual vacation that she and her friends take along with the discussions that inevitably occur.

After the necessary introductions to the film's key characters are made, she and her husband Gavin (Malik Yoba), are

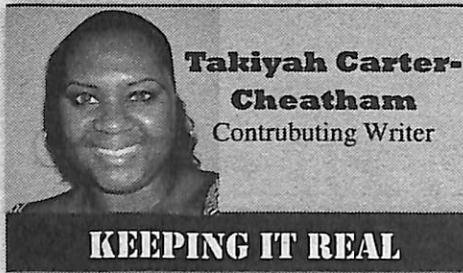
See "Why" on page 14



PHOTO COURTESY OF MOVIES.YAHOO.COM

Tasha Smith, Janet Jackson and Sharon Leal in Lionsgate Films' Tyler Perry's *Why Did I Get Married?* - 2007

## College & Marriage not always a pair



**Takiyah Carter-Cheatham**  
Contributing Writer

### KEEPING IT REAL

Young adults around the world begin to date on a serious level once they enter college. A sense of maturity seems to overpower the sense of logic and they begin to explore the possibilities of marriage before or after graduation.

Most believe students are not mature enough to handle the responsibilities of marriage. I would tend to agree because it seems the divorce rate is on the rise. However the cause of it is not all due to irreconcilable differences but due to incompatibilities that went undetected when they were young newlyweds.

Approaching graduation and especially upon completion students feel a sense of accomplishment and are ready to take their lives to the next level.

The problem is once someone makes the decision to enter into marriage that early they soon realize marriage was more work than they bargained for. The percentage of divorce rate amongst young adults continues to climb rapidly. Why doesn't marriage at college age last? The answer is the misconception that infatuation is real love.

Often young people on the college level mistake the actions of a special someone to be something out of the ordinary. The escorts to class, offers to carry a heavy backpack to your classroom, and late night talks in the student center. These are wonderful gestures that a relationship is on the right track but it's also the preliminary actions of someone who is just merely interested.

Relationships develop from this stage of getting acquainted with one another to developing a strong physical attraction. It's at this stage the misconceptions begin. Most relationships stay at this level for long periods of time approaching graduation. Once graduation gets closer students who have been in a relationship for most of their college life feel they are ready for marriage.

Some colleges offer classes to prepare students for marriage and serious relationships, however the courses are only optional. Those who complete the course at times feel they are prepared for a long-term relationship or even marriage. Some also conclude they are not

ready and choose to wait and pursue their career goals instead.

Although colleges make subtle attempts to prepare students for marriage I believe more can be done. Mental preparation is key to starting a marriage off on the right track. Unfortunately many students don't acquire that level of maturity in college. Students who frequently skip classes, lack motivation in their schoolwork or show lack of concern for maintaining a high grade point average generally won't demonstrate much commitment in marriage either.

Students marrying early often can be a marriage of convenience and not heavily centered on love. The financial obligations that a graduate faces while venturing out into the real world can be overwhelming. The idea of having a spouse to split the rent and bills sounds appealing to many who graduate with no job opportunities.

Not to imply that all graduates who pursue marriage after graduation will end up in divorce court, however it's recommended that graduates put more focus into seeking a career after graduation than a spouse. Statistics show those who wait to enter into marriage at a later age have a higher success rate in marriage than those who marry young.

Although there are many graduates who feel they are marriage material right after pomp and circumstance, there are many students who admit marriage is worth waiting for. Many would prefer to line up a stable job, benefits and adjust to living the post campus life.

According to the Journal of Marriage and Family 17 percent of men and 12 percent of women prefer to wait for marriage. It takes lots of work, commitment and determination for happiness to be attained in matrimony.

Completing your own personal goals and feeling a sense of accomplishment for yourself is the best way to enter into a marriage and sustain longevity. Happiness is often achieved when one is happy with oneself and feels a sense of achievement in reaching personal goals.

We all enter the stage of mental maturity at different times in our lives. However, it must be recognized that if you don't wait for that growth to take place you take the risk of realizing later in life marriage wasn't the best choice for you. In the midst of that discovery anyone can achieve success in matrimony if they turn to their faith for guidance, and have determination to have a long and prosperous marriage.

## "Why did I..." a change from Perry's other films



PHOTO COURTESY OF MOVIES.YAHOO.COM

**Michael Jai White, Malik Yoba and Richard T. Jones** costar in Lionsgate Films' Tyler Perry's *Why Did I Get Married?*

### Continued from page 13

off to attend this year's vacation in the mountains of Colorado.

As the friends and couples, Terry (Tyler Perry) and Diane (Sharon Leal), Marcus (Michael Jai White) and Angela (Tasha Smith) and Mike (Richard T. Jones) and Sheila (Jill Scott) all make their way to Colorado, each couple is hit with their own personal set of problems. The most blaring issue manifests itself in the marriage of Mike and Sheila when Mike brings another extremely attractive female who is said to be a friend of Sheila's on the couples-only vacation. Mike also leaves Sheila to drive from St. Louis to Colorado as he flies with the "friend."

The problem hits the roof when it is revealed that Sheila's verbally abusive husband, Mike is cheating with the so-called friend.

As the character's stories play out, the viewer gets an opportunity to see exactly how groups of friends really work when it comes to love, relationships and real friendships.

While the plot weaves between the characters' lives, the story never goes for cheap laughs. Even though there are distinctively hood characters in the film, this is not a ghetto film. Not even a

reference, let alone a comedy sketch from crappy films like *Soul Plane* make an appearance and that works wonderfully.

Brilliant performances are delivered throughout. The character development is one of the most captivating elements of the film. The couples have real personalities and the film shows them. Smith as the over-the-top loudmouth Angela portrays the intelligent ghetto girl that only a black college can cultivate to perfection while Jones does a low-down-dirty-rotten husband with smart comedic flare. Jackson, Scott, Leal and even Perry deliver strong and memorable performances.

In a nutshell, "Why Did I Get Married" does a good job of balancing emotional content with sidesplitting comedy, all on top of a brilliant cast.

For fans of a good movie with strong production value, this film hits its mark. The movie is beautifully shot and the locations are gorgeous.

Bottom line: "Why Did I Get Married" is a deeply interesting film that hits home with audiences of all kind and for once doesn't have to make African Americans look like fools to make them laugh... and cry.

**Gregory Brand, Jr. •**

[www.tsumeter.com](http://www.tsumeter.com)

## Play takes a humorous look Black life in America

The Colored Museum, a play written by George Wolfe, is now being presented in TSU's Cox/ Lewis Theater located in the Performing Arts Center. The play, which began Oct. 18 portrays many African American stereotypes and proves them false.

The play is set inside of a museum showcasing numerous exhibits ranging from slaves to present day Harlem. The exhibits become alive and provide an interactive experience for all members of the audience.

The use of satire is evident from the first scene and continues throughout the entire play. Serious themes are also addressed, such as the pitfalls of African Americans.

Regular performances will continue to be held this week, Oct. 25-27, with a matinee on Oct. 28.

The Meter sat down with director Patrick E. Idoye to get a better understanding of the play and how it came about.

The Meter: What made you choose this play?

Patrick Idoye: Essentially it has to do with the experiences of Blacks, since

they've been in this country from the middle passage up until today. There has to be a way to exorcise the pain that African Americans have gone through, wash it away, take it off and then move forward, put it in the past, and this is precisely why I felt it was necessary for our students to do this show.

TM: Do you feel the audience got the message of the play?

PI: I think what happened tonight was that a lot of people may have been stuck on the funny aspect of the show, so I think a lot of people may have missed the message. Essentially the prejudices of the past, all the things that we wouldn't accept today, can be laughed at as a means of moving forward.

TM: What obstacles did you have to overcome in order to produce this play?

PI: We had very limited time to work on the play. As a seasoned director, I had to do what I had to do. We worked 13 hours everyday to make sure we got our act together.

TM: How much does it cost to put on a production of this type?

PI: It costs a little over \$10,000.



PHOTO BY CARLISA PRIDGEN

### The cast of *The Colored Museum*.

TM: Was there anything about this play that was different on the production side from those of the past?

PI: We brought in more videos than we had ever tried in the past. This is why it was technically challenging to do but we are happy for the results and look forward to doing more in the future.

TM: Do you feel that this play was relatable to the TSU community?

PI: I think everyone that was here and in the TSU community can relate. These are essentially the experiences black people in America go through.

TM: What is your commentary on the actors in the play?

PI: Great. A lot of them have never been on stage before, so I took the time to bring them in to make sure they did well on stage.

## Losing locks may lock up the job

By **Rechelle Jackson**  
Staff Reporter

For Victor Hogue, wearing a short cut hairstyle has proved to be beneficial to both his academic and work careers.

Hogue, a sophomore biology major from Yazoo City, Miss., believes that having short hair might offer him more respect than others that choose to wear longer hairstyles.

"I started to grow my hair out, but I was told to cut it before I got serious about looking for a job," Hogue said. "I also had to make sure it was short before I got to college".

Hogue admits that although sad, it is true that employers do take appearance into consideration when looking for future employees. "If two black men were going out for a job and one had a short cut and the other one had braids, the one with the short cut would probably get the job," Hogue said.

On the contrary, Calvin Brownlow believes that having "dreads" does not hinder his chances of receiving a job. Brownlow, a senior aeronautic industrial technology major from West Memphis,

Ark attended the College/Career Fair held Sept 25-27 in search of information about his career choice.

"Everyone was really nice to me and showed no discrimination, I even had people approach me about jobs," he said.

Many employers set up information booths in Kean Hall looking for prospective employees for their businesses. Although all participants were encouraged to dress business professional, there was no restriction on hairstyle, and the employers seemed not to mind.

"As long as they are willing to work, we don't care what their hair looks like," a representative from Toyota said. "The hair can be long, short, pink or blue.

Dreadlocks, simply referred to as dreads, have become a popular style amongst African American males in the 21st century. They can also be called locks. The hair is grown to a significant length, twisted into locks and held in place by certain waxes and gels. Brownlow admits that while he did not have a problem at the career fair, he has been treated poorly before while on campus.

"Some teachers have looked at me funny, and I just get a weird vibe from

them, but I'm used to it," explained Brownlow.

Hogue also stated that teachers sometimes automatically stereotype boys with dreads, twist and braids, and feels that at times he gets more respect.

"If they want to avoid the conflict, the boy should just keep his hair simple and short, because it does matter," Hogue said.

Representatives from the Army were the only organization that offered a different response.

"When (students) enlist, they have to cut their hair, no matter what color they are", said Sergeant Jansen Hunter of the US Army. "If someone would let hair hold them back from money, then that's on them."

Other schools feel differently about the emerging hair craze. Students enrolled in the business administration program at Hampton University in Virginia, are not allowed to wear braids or dreads at all.

According to <http://talk.collegeconfidential.com>, Business Dean Sid Credle said "We don't have problems with Afros, but cornrows and flowing dreadlocks are not for students", said. He added that

having the rules for hair are intended to prepare students for the business world.

Roy Fraction, a senior psychology major from St. Louis, said that he did not experience any discrimination towards him at the fair, although he did not stay long. "I only walked through a couple of times, but nobody gave me a hard time," Fraction who wears shoulder length locks said.

Fraction admits that he will eventually cut his hair once he graduates, but does not see a problem with being an individual.

"I feel like I should be able to express my culture freely, it's sad I have to conform to European standards and molds just to be successful."

Hogue disagrees by saying "If you have to wear braids just to express your culture, then you don't really know what the culture is all about."

He advises young males getting ready for college to be careful when deciding what hairstyle to wear and to be prepared to cut their hair if asked.

"Get in the habit of cutting it, so that you may prepare for that next level after you leave TSU," Hogue said. •

# Top 5 spots for couture in Nashville

By Bianca Braggs  
Staff Reporter

## 1. Boutique Bella

2817 West End Ave  
615-467-1471

Hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Mon-Sat

Within walking distance of Vanderbilt University, Boutique Bella consumers typically range from Vandy students to the more trendy housewives of Nashville. They offer a large variety of styles and looks for image conscious shoppers looking for the latest styles. Carrying everything from the Justin Timberlake backed William Rast Jeans, hot newcomer Kooba Hand Bags and universally famous Juicy Couture, Boutique Bella is a definite hot spot. For the past six years Boutique Bella has offered a wide array of fashion for the Nashville area style savvy consumers.

## 2. Hud Luxe

2203 Brandywood Dr.  
615-298-7474

Hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Mon-Sat

If your look is more out of the box, then this is the boutique for you! With locations in Green Hills and Brentwood, Hud Luxe is a boutique that is all about



PHOTO COURTESY OF LANDOFDENIM.COM

## True Religion jeans and apparel

how edgy you can make your wardrobe. With special styles such as Lamb, J Linen Berg, Development and True Religion, it is the chosen boutique for Nashville's Rock and Roll men and women. Hud Luxe has only been in business for a couple of years but has become a heaven for young adults, who aren't afraid of bright colors, high waist denim, vests, boots, belts and fantastic jewelry. At this boutique, being flashy is a total understatement.

## 3. Jamie

4317 Harding Pike  
615-292-4188

Hours: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon-Sat

As the mother of Hud Luxe owner, Jamie is the real deal. Up and running for 34 successful years, Jamie is Nashville's first couture boutique, and has the most designer couture lines. This boutique has a team that travels to Paris and Milan to buy and sale the hottest trends of the year. Pretty much all fashion seekers shop at Jamie, even local music industry stylists and fashionistas stop to pick up clothing for their celebrity clients. Having high fashion brands such as Marni, Vera Wang, Oscar del Renta, Lanvin, Gucci, Prada and Dolce & Gabbana, there is no question as to why Jamie is number one. This boutique is full of quality couture, the finest jewelry and furs for day and evening wear with sensible prices.

## 4. Coco

4239 Harding Pike  
615-292-0362

Hours: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon-Sat

This fashion boutique is exclusively for the more conservative vixens of Nashville. This is the hot spot for the finest, classy brands like Tracey Reese, Tahari, Donna Karen, Calvin Klein and Buchman. Coco also has the latest cosmetic products such as Ahava, Vincent Longo, Creed and Tocca to polish your sexy preppy look. With 30 years in business, this boutique's shoppers range in age from late teens

to classy business women focusing on more retro looks from the late 40's and early 50's. Coco also has some exciting discounts and the salesperson will even assist you with finding attire worth, sometimes, limited riches. If you are a sucker for the tailored and sophisticated fashion, look no further.

## 5. Flavour Clothing

1522-B Demonbreum St.  
615-254-2064

Hours: 10:30 a.m.-7 p.m.

Mon-Fri; 10:30 p.m.-6 p.m. Sat

With new trends arriving everyday, Flavour Clothing is most notorious for getting a taste of all the styles you see in your favorite music videos. Styling men and women of downtown, Flavour Clothing provides unique brands like William Rast, Jose Jeans, 7, AG, J in Company, True Religions and Anik Denim just to name a few. For the past four years, this boutique has been clothing not only students, but also local country stars and out-of-towners. They also have a love for young unique shoppers, so they offer some amazing student discounts!•

# Soulful debut from crooner Kevin Michael

Kevin Michael

Kevin Michael — B-

The first two singles off Kevin Michael's debut album, Kevin Michael, prove that the artist has a lot to offer as a singer and a songwriter.

With a rich, throaty falsetto and uninhibited tenor, he has sent shockwaves through the industry as someone to watch. The first two singles, We All Want The Same Thing and It Don't Make A Difference To Me, give good messages amid copious production and gifted vocals.

The thing is, tucked away at the end of the album are acoustic versions of We All Want the Same Thing and It Don't Make Any Difference to Me. And those versions are easily the two best songs on the album.

At his worst, Michael sounds like he is relying too much on cutesy singsong choruses. But on radio-friendly jams like the Hood Buzzin' and We All Want the

Same Thing, Michael is definitely a confident crowd pleaser.

The reggae-tinged It Don't Make Any Difference to Me is by far the most interesting non-acoustic track here. However, it is Michael's pop instincts that keep his album afloat.

Michael has a melodic, yet soft voice that tends to get consumed by the music on some of the album's songs. On the other tracks, in particular the acoustic numbers that aren't oversaturated with guest performers or overproduction, Kevin shines.

While his singing isn't perfect at all, he shows enough potential to deserve his current rising star status and reputation of someone to keep an eye on.

The reason for this is that Kevin has the sound and spirit of an indie artist. And when the layers of production and other performers are added to the album, they definitely take away from the purity of his music.

Just look at the overproduced track

Can't Get Enough, featuring rapper Shorty Da Kid. Overall this track shows what's wrong with the album. His voice is just not the type of voice that will benefit from the instrumentals on that track.

Michael's voice is definitely higher and softer than your typical soul singer, but much more soulful than your average R&B or pop singer.

Though the album is full of amazing vocal and heartfelt lyrics, some of its accomplishments are killed by Michael doing a little too much.

This album is by no means a disappointment, but it could have been much better. Hopefully next time the album won't be bombarded with overpowering beats and be more focused on creating songs that will showcase his talent.

If the album's executive producers had been more concerned with the artist in the first place, this CD would have been a must have to own and not just an album that's worth a listen.

Patrick Comer•



PHOTO COURTESY OF KEVINMICHAEL.COM

Kevin Michael

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# SPORTS

Monday, October 22, 2007

Volume 58 Issue 14

## Lady Tigers defeated on the road

By Ebony Works  
Sports Editor

The TSU volleyball team dropped to 9-4 in the OVC when they were defeated by Southeast Missouri State University on Thursday night and Eastern Illinois University on Friday night.

In the match against Southeast Missouri, the Lady Tigers only managed a hitting percentage of .085 while Southeast Missouri managed a hitting percentage of .283.

The Redhawks held advantages in kills, assists and digs throughout the entire game, while the Lady Tigers had 5.0-4.0 leading margins in blocks.

Senior Candace Saleaumua had 24 assists while Collese Dornan and Christian Lowe each tailed eight kills to lead the Lady Tigers. Senior Kelly Davis

had six kills.

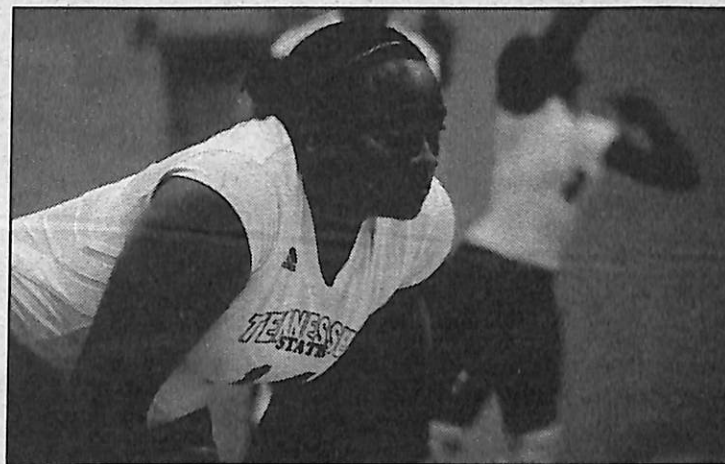
As the Lady Tigers saw their record fall 11-11 and 9-4 in OVC against Southeast Missouri, they knew they had to change their game plan to claim a victory against Eastern Illinois on Friday night.

While playing against Eastern Illinois in front of a new school record of 2,004 screaming Panther fans, the Lady Tigers were defeated in four games, 30-22, 30-16, 28-30, 30-23.

In game one, Eastern Illinois dominated as they had a seven point run to take the lead and claim the victory.

The Lady Tigers took an early 5-0 lead in game two, but the Panthers came back to tie the game 12-12. Eventually taking a 13-1 streak, giving the Tigers no chances of winning, Eastern Illinois claimed the victory.

In game three, Eastern Illinois tried



Senior Candace Saleaumua readies for a play against Morehead State on October 2, 2007.

PHOTO BY KENNETH CUMMINGS

to take advantage of the game, but the Tigers fought back as they had a blocking advantage while holding the Panthers to a .121 hitting mark to take the 30-28 win.

Eastern Illinois lead 7-2 in game four before TSU could battle back to pull within 16-14. From that point on

both teams continued to put points on the scoreboard until the Panthers pulled away and claimed the 30-23 win.

The Lady Tigers will see action again as they face Jacksonville State University on Friday Oct. 26 at 7 p.m.

## OVC players remain on watch list

TSU Tigers' senior defensive back Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie and Eastern Illinois linebacker Donald Thomas are the only players that remain

on the updated Buck Buchanan Awards Watch List.

They are the only two people from the original watch list to remain. The

Buchanan award goes to the best defensive player in the Championship Football Subdivision, formally known as Division AA.

This season Cromartie has not received the opportunity to make plays on defense since teams are staying away from him. On the season Cromartie has recorded 20 tackles (one for a loss), three blocked kicks and six passes defended. The Tigers coaching staff has found other ways to utilize his ability. Cromartie is fifth in the conference in kick returns due to his 18 returned kicks for 419 yards.

This season Thomas racked 55 tackles (four for a loss), one pass defended and one quarterback hurry for Eastern Illinois.

The winner will be announced Dec. 13 at the Sports Network in Chattanooga, Tenn.

Courtesy of OVCsports.com  
Compiled by LaVonte Young •

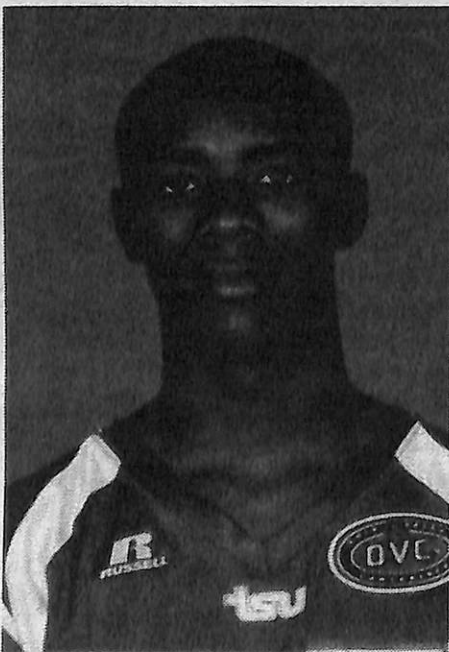


PHOTO COURTESY OF TSUTIGERS.COM

Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie



PHOTO COURTESY OF EIUPANTHERS.COM

Donald Thomas

For the latest  
on TSU  
sports  
visit  
TSUMETER.COM

## Fisk Flea Market

Come out for a bundle of vendors  
From Purses, socks, glasses, watches anything  
you need is here!

Date: October 31st, 2007

Where: Fisk Yard

Time: 12-7pm come for food, music and a  
great cause

Combat World Hunger one  
“click” at a time by visiting:  
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# Tigers suffer worst loss of the season

Continued from page 1

is a leg injury, his leg is probably broken and he's done for the season."

Coming into the game, the TSU Tigers knew they would have to play their best football of the season to come out with an upset, but instead they suffered their worst loss of the season.

## First half faux pas

The Tigers came into the game looking to spoil the number 21 ranked ECU Colonels Homecoming.

Standing as the only two undefeated teams in the conference, the Tigers and ECU both had a chance with this possible win to be on track to take the conference title and earn a playoff berth.

The first quarter belonged to ECU running back Bobby Washington. Washington rushed 86 yards on six carries and had 16 yards receiving.

After forcing the Tigers to a three and out on their first possession, the Colonels wasted little time putting points on the board. They started their drive at their 48-yard-line, and only needed four plays to hit pay dirt. Washington caught an eight-yard pass from Allan Holland to make it 7-0 ECU.

On the first two Big Blue possessions they were unable to move the football, but on their third drive, the Colonels gave the Tigers some help. ECU gave the Big Blue three first downs off of penalties.

On the drive, the Colonels committed four penalties for 32 yards. The TSU offense moved down the field with a balanced attack offense, which set up running back Javaris Williams for a two-yard touchdown to tie the game at 7-7.

The Tigers defense allowed Colonels to answer right back. The Colonels started their drive at their own 48-yard-line. On the first play of the drive, Washington ran 52 yards down the left sideline to set up first and goal at the three-yard-line. Washington would find the end zone with two more plays to make it 14-7.

"We gave up big plays today," Webster said. "You cannot do that against a good football team."

On the Tigers' next possession they were beginning to get into a rhythm on offense, but found it short lived as a Heffner pass intended for Chris Johnson was picked out by defensive back Derek Huff, who took it to the house for a 68-yard touchdown to make it 21-7 ECU.

Trying to answer back, Heffner threw another pick to ECU's Antuwan Moulden

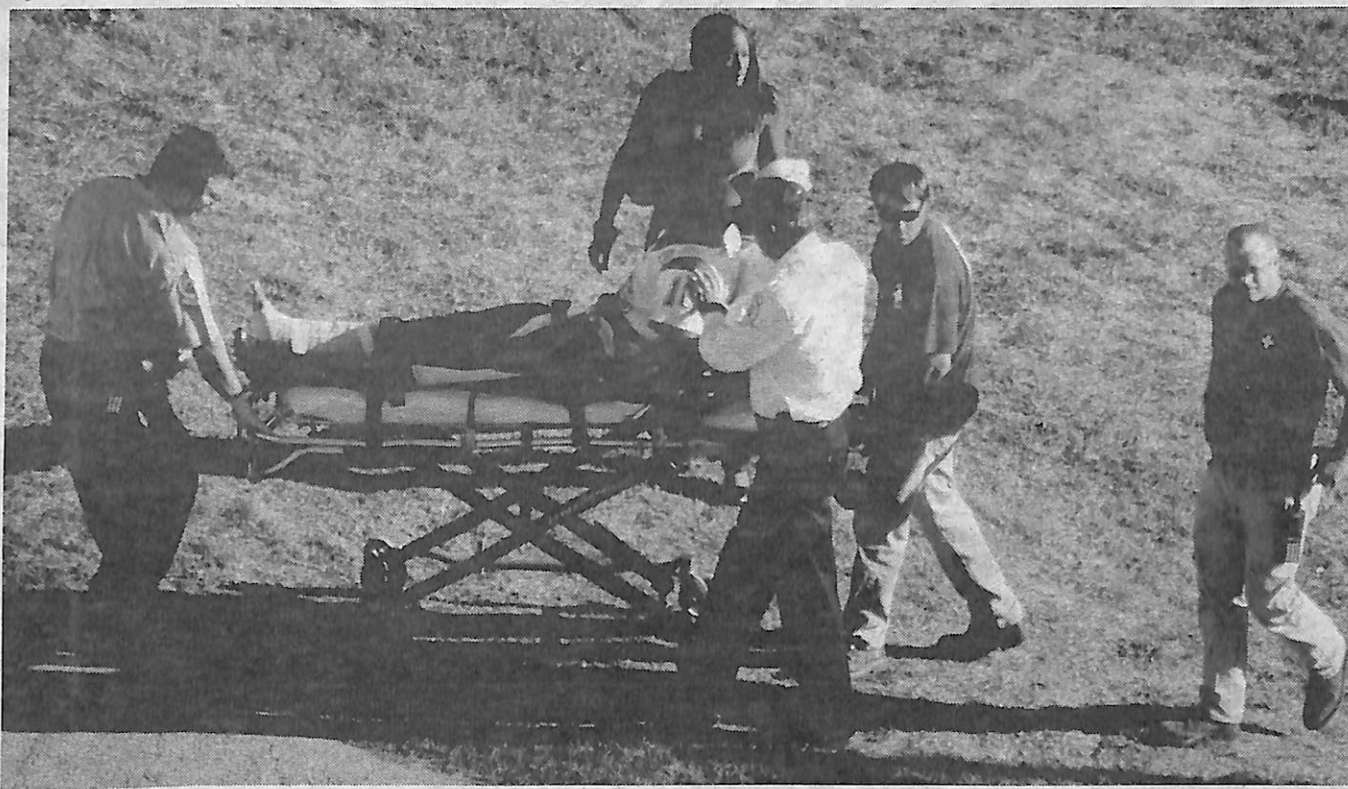


PHOTO BY KENNETH CUMMINGS

Starting quarterback Antonio Heffner is taken off the field on a stretcher on Sat. Oct. 21.

to give the Colonels the ball on their own 17-yard-line.

With 4:21 in the second quarter, Josh Greco hit Quinton Williams, who was left uncovered to score for a 28-yard touchdown, which made the score 28-7 before half time.

"I told the team before the game; you can't give them anything," Webster said. "You got to make them earn it. We gave something and they capitalized on them.

They deserved to win the game."

## Second half slump continues

Things did not get any better for the Big Blue in the second half. The Tigers offense only gained 107 yards in the second half.

"Our offense just was not in sync today," said junior receiver Chris Johnson.

On the other side of the ball the

Colonels still executed their offense and capitalized from the Tigers' mistakes.

"Our defense should have played better and offense should have played better today," Webster said.

The Colonels scored 28 points off the turnover against the Tigers. For the season they have scored 100 points off turnovers.

The Tigers allowed ECU's two backup running backs to rush over 100 yards. Washington shares time in the backfield with Mark Dunn, who missed the game due to a virus. Washington took advantage rushing for 134 yards and two touchdowns. Third string running back CJ Walker also had a huge game rushing for 138 yards and a touchdown.

## Playmaker under center

Calvin Mcnaril was thrown into the fire late into the second quarter. For the game he went 6 of 12 passing for 42 yards.

In his senior season at Henry County High School he accounted for 2,933 yards of total offense and scored 24 touchdowns.

"He is an excellent young quarterback," Johnson said. "We have to boost his confidence and we have to look for our leaders to step up."\*



PHOTO BY KENNETH CUMMINGS

Freshman Calvin Mcnaril makes a play in the third quarter of TSU's loss to ECU.



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