



Kiss, Kiss

The Meter kisses designate Love & Sex reports throughout this issue.

THE METER

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February 11, 2008

Serving the Tennessee State University community since 1950

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THE LOVE & SEX ISSUE

Blood drive expects 150

The spring blood drive, hosted by the Pre-Alumni Council (PAC), is scheduled Wednesday, Feb. 11 in Kean Hall gymnasium and is expected to bring out large numbers.

The blood drive was started two years ago when PAC joined service organization Brothers for Love Achievement Culture Knowledge Inc. (BLACK) in hosting the event.

PAC Vice President Trehon Coleman, a junior computer science major from Nashville, said, "We are looking for at least 150 people to participate this year."

Last semester, more than 100 students tried to donate blood; however, only 50 were eligible to donate.

This year, there will be a few people from the community to come out and discuss the importance of donating blood.

Former vice mayor of Nashville, Howard Gentry, a 1974 graduate of TSU; Dr. Gwinett Ladson, associate professor of obstetrics and gynecology at Meharry Medical College and a 1980 graduate of TSU; and, Laura Faber from WZTV Fox 17 news will be in attendance.

"I'm looking forward to the participants to come out," said PAC adviser Teresa Pendergrass. "It is a crucial time in which people need blood."

Hodari P.T. Brown, a senior criminal justice major from Detroit and president of the Pre-Alumni Council, was not available for comment.

Student development symposium series

Byron Pitts, a national correspondent for CBS news will visit TSU on

Monday, Feb. 11 at 1:50 p.m. in the Robert N. Murrell Forum, room 210 in the Floyd-Payne Campus Center.

This event is being hosted by the student development presentation and symposium series.

College to Career and Teacher Recruitment fair

The annual College to Career and Teacher Recruitment fair will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 12 from 10-3 p.m. at the Tennessee State Fairgrounds. The career fair will have more than 400 employers from business, industry, government and education fields.

Students are urged to come out and take part in meeting with recruiters to learn more about career and internships to enhance job searches.

For tickets to the fair, please contact the Career Center located in suite 304 of the Floyd-Payne Campus Center or Dean Hytche at the Avon-Williams Campus

Compiled by
Acquanetta G. Donnell Jr.

University responds to severe weather

In the aftermath of a series of storms that ravished the Southern states, TSU President Melvin N. Johnson issued a statement to the university community, acknowledging the potential danger as well as issuing FEMA-drafted tips for recovery.

"Our hearts and prayers go out to



Byron Pitts

the communities that were actually hit and devastated by these violent storms, especially those that experienced loss of life and injuries," Johnson said in a statement, published on The President's Corner on the tstate.edu Web site and sent to faculty and student e-mails.

"We realize that natural disasters can exact their toll either directly or indirectly as some of you may have family or friends that may have been affected," the statement continued.

Compiled by Marshall A. Latimore

Five left dead in Los Angeles

Five people, who were in a stand-off last Thursday, one being a police officer, lie dead after a man barricaded himself inside a Los Angeles house that caught fire.

A number of police surrounded the house after a suspect inside the house dialed 911 at about 9 p.m. on Wednesday night.

The victim said that three family members were already killed. SWAT Officer Randal Simmons was shot to death and Officer James Veenstra was seriously wounded.

Romney quits the race

Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney suspended his bid from the presidential nomination on Thursday.

Romney said, "If I continued in the race, it would forestall the launch of a national campaign and be making it easier for Senator Clinton or Obama to win," according to cnpolitics.com.

By Romney no longer a part of the presidential race, Senator McCain is now the front-runner in the GOP race.

Compiled by
Acquanetta G. Donnell Jr.

Events Calendar

Monday	A Whole New World (Seminar)
Midday Magical Getaway FPCC Courtyard 12 noon	Boswell Rm. 12 6:13 p.m.
Tuesday	Wednesday
Crimson and Creme Cafe Elliot Hall 7:13 p.m.	Midday Magical Getaway FPCC Coutyard 12 noon
Midday Magical Getaway FPCC Courtyard 12 noon	"Delta Channel" Talent Show Kean Hall Gym 6:35 p.m.

Campus & World Briefs

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PHOTOGRAPHERS:

Carlisa Pridgen

DIRECTOR OF STUDENT PUBLICATIONS:

Panela Foster

CIRCULATION:

2,000

THE METER

The Measure of Student Opinion and Sentiment

Tennessee State University
3500 John A. Merritt Blvd.
Campus Box 1246
Nashville, Tenn. 37209-1561

Phone : 615-963-7530

Fax: 615-963-5452

E-mail: themeter@hotmail.com

Web site: www.tsumeter.com

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.

For breaking news and online updates, visit tsumeter.com

3-day Weather Forecast



Monday
Mostly cloudy
High: 46°



Tuesday
Rain
High: 51°



Wednesday
Partly Sunny
High: 43°

Source: Weather.com

University's students participate in legislature

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

This past November, the Department of History, Geography and Political Science sponsored the university's first delegation to the newly reformed Tennessee Intercollegiate State Legislature (TISL).

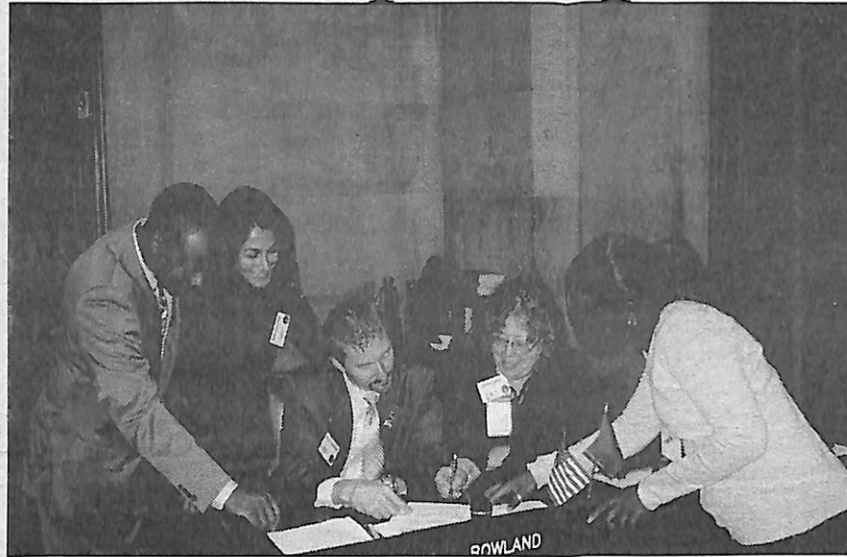
With more than a 30-year history, TISL was founded in 1966 and on the TSU campus before 1980 by Tennessee college students.

TISL provides a forum for debating issues and learning about state government.

This program in the state of Tennessee allows each university to send representatives to participate in caucusing, committee work and full legislative sessions.

Advised by Hoyt King, professor of history and assisted by Brian Russell, assistant professor of history, the TISL program at TSU allows students from the university to participate in the Tennessee legislature.

All members of the TSU chapter of TISL are allowed to write and debate a



From left to Right: Mark Epps III, Nurhan Bozkurt, Philip Stoecklein, Myrah Daniel, LaPourche Owens are all students of TSU's chapter of TISL.

bill that has been proposed. However, to do this, the proposed bill must have followed all procedures.

Out of all the bills that have been proposed from TSU, students, eight of them have been passed.

"What we do in this program is a real experience for us," said Philip Stoecklien,

a senior political science major from Nashville and also one of the members who has been recognized by the TISL executive board. "We basically learn the process of legislation."

The TSU chapter of TISL has prepared two laws. The first has gone nationwide while the other is on its way.

The law requiring babies to be in car seats, and the other which limits smoking in public places. Some of the laws that are proposed by TISL go on to the general assembly.

Aquinas College and Lipscomb University, both located in Nashville, caucus with TSU in their efforts to pass bills in the legislature.

"TSU has a strong part of the participation in TISL," Russell said. "By becoming a part of TISL, the members are being able to make a connection with people involved in the government."

TISL meets in the fall when the legislature is not in session, which allows participants access to all chambers.

TSU has sponsored one bill that will be lobbied on April 8 at the state capitol.

"Our goal for TISL here at TSU is to recruit at least 20 students to participate," King said.

Stoecklien takes great pride in the organization and admits that students are allowed the opportunity to showcase their skills.

"This program is compiled of all college students and completely student led and organized," Stoecklien said.

TSU Deltas, Sigmas stomp out competition

By **Seth E. Davis**
Staff Reporter

TSU's Zeta Alpha chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc. and Alpha Chi chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. won first place in the 22nd annual National Pan-Hellenic Council step show.

After beginning nearly 45 minutes late, the Feb. 9 event, held in Kean Hall gymnasium, culminated a week of events and featured members of six of the TSU chapters of fraternities and sororities.

The show was hosted by Robert "Black Rob" Higgins, a biological sciences major from St. Louis, and Shasta Wilson, a December 2007 graduate.

Some students showed dismay about the show's delay in starting time.

"We shouldn't have had to pay \$15 and we should've started on time," said Sharia Howard, a sophomore nursing major from Hammond, Ind., "but other than that it was fine."

Jason Brewer, program and events coordinator for Gentry Center, said the delay of the event was because of its par-

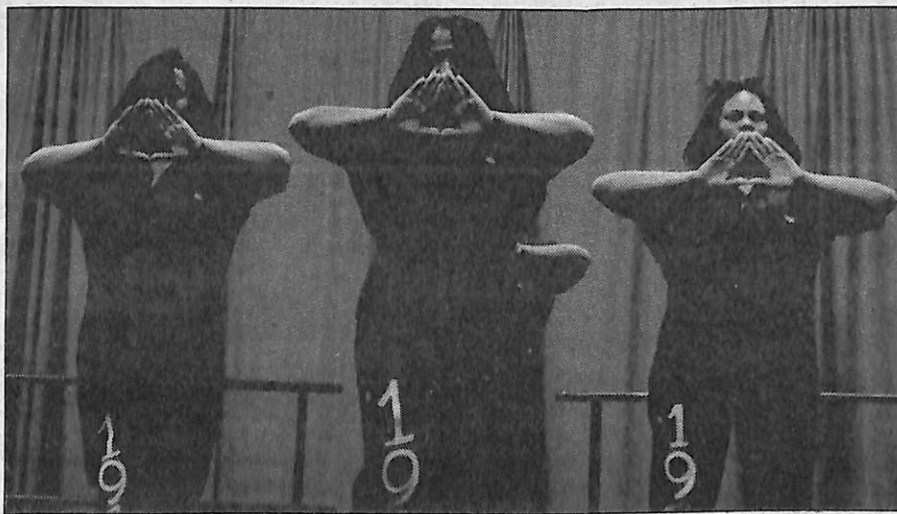


PHOTO BY MARIO STUART

Members of the Alpha Chi chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. took part and won the 22nd annual Pan-Hellenic step show.

ticipants.

"The delayed start was due to the DJ not being present and the host and hostess not being present," Brewer explained.

But Wilson said she thought the performers might have been the culprits. "I guess the organizations were not ready

at 7 p.m."

The men of Phi Beta Sigma's winning performance consisted of a "Club 1914" theme, in which no other fraternity was deemed entrance.

In their performance, the Sigma's boasted, "All it takes is a few of us to

make the step show crunk."

While the ladies of Delta Sigma Theta's winning performance consisted of an "AX Auto shop" theme. While working "hard for the money," the Delta's appealed to the crowd through intricate steps and poking fun at the other sororities.

Other highlights of the show included the return of the men of Omega Psi Phi giving the audience a partial history lesson on the history of hopping and performing in golden diapers and purple long johns.

The men of Alpha Phi Alpha, second place recipients, paid homage to the hit film 300, in which no other organizations were good enough to step with the Alphas.

"It seemed that the organizations were better organized and prepared than other step shows," Wilson said. "I liked that Alphas performance better with the 300 theme."

"Everybody did a great job," she added. "The Kappa's improved. Welcome back Rho Psi."•



What We Think Being careful is sexy

Valentine's Day is right around the corner and everyone is hard at work thinking about how they are going to show that special someone how important they are.

While love and sex do not necessarily have to go together, this generation tends to believe that the two must coexist.

What each individual does is his or her own business, but each person needs to take responsibility for his or her own actions.

Sexual urges are a part of being human. The more conservative sector of the world believes that sex should wait until marriage.

But in the real world, people are going to have sex and there is nothing that anyone can do to stop it. Sex has become a part of everyday life.

It's everywhere, even right in this newspaper.

Sex is a common occurrence, especially on college campuses. Because of the sexually charged environment that colleges and universities create, sexually transmitted diseases are becoming more prevalent amongst young adults.

In 2006, women age 15-19 had the

highest rate of Gonorrhea out of any other age/sex group according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Women age 20-24 came in second and the rates for men in the same age groups are still increasing. In that same year, African Americans accounted for 47 percent of Chlamydia cases.

According to Avert.org, African Americans consistently account for the highest number of HIV diagnoses each year. That makes no sense when African Americans only make up approximately 13 percent of the population.

Statistics like this should alarm young adults, but the invincible mentality that this generation has developed causes college age individuals to be careless with their sexuality.

The speech has been given time and time again, but if there are still people that are not practicing safe sex then it **clearly has not been given enough.**

Condoms are available for free at several locations including Queen Washington Health Center right here on campus. Contraception is too readily available. There is no excuse for being careless.

Planned Parenthood of Middle and

East Tennessee, Inc. is located right down the street on D.B. Todd Blvd. They offer many different contraceptive options as well as STD testing.

The costs for their services are reasonable for college students and some are even free of charge.

Prevention is the easiest way to stay healthy. If one never catches a disease then that person does not have to worry about the effects.

If students suspect that they have a disease, he or she needs to get tested to be sure. Ignorance is bliss, but knowing is truly half the battle.

Finding out that one has an STD early, before it has the chance to do long term damage, is important.

Pregnancy tends to strike fear in the hearts of college students more so than

the fear of catching an STD.

Students feel like diseases can be managed and cured with drugs, allowing them to still lead the type of lifestyle that they want. Children, on the other hand, require a severe lifestyle change.

The consequences of unsafe sex are far too great and no matter how you look at it, a serious change is possible.

Whether it's a change in lifestyle because of a pregnancy or death from a disease that could have been prevented, it is a change that doesn't have to be made.

If you think that sex is in your Valentine's Day forecast, then please be prepared. Make sure that you have plenty of condoms.

Sex is a beautiful thing. Just don't let carelessness turn it into a death sentence.

“ Don't let carelessness
turn sex into ”
a death sentence. ”

Tigre` 

By David Houston



Sex equals love...not really



Cara Anthony
Editor in Chief

FROM WHERE I SIT

Love stinks. I know that may sound very negative, but sometimes it does. Let's just be real with each other.

Romantic relationships can be difficult, especially ones that start in college.

Sometimes two people meet fall in love and get married or even more often the relationship turns into an on again off again holding pattern that ends in grief.

Unfortunately, a lot of college relationships end on bad terms.

This may be because of mistrust or

premature physical intimacy. I am sure some one can relate to what I am saying because sex and relationships is not a foreign topic among our generation.

In fact, I believe that our generation is openly sexual. Open sexuality in the mass media may contribute to some of the problems college relationships fall into.

Just because you watch a hot sex scene on screen or see a passionate kiss on television does mean that you and your mate should reenact it later that night.

Sexual acts make things complicated, even if a couple thinks that they are in love.

If you think that you are in love, more power to you, but be forewarned there is still a risk that your relationship could dissolve.

Don't get me wrong, I believe in the power of and how it makes you feel warm

inside, but I also know that is can hurt.

Just because you are having sex with someone doesn't mean that you are in love or even have the potential for true love.

Personally, I think that alot of college students are in lust. Helping someone study for a test or going out on a date may lead to other things, especially if you find the person attractive.

That's why it's important to stay focused. Getting physical earlier, saying "I love you" to soon and spending too much time together can lead to a relationship going bad really soon.

Now is the time for us to focus on obtaining a degree. It becomes hard to do that when the majority of your time and energy is being spent on a relationship.

A relationship should never take over your life, especially not when you are in

college. Sadly this is the easiest time for it to do so.

It always upsets me to see stories on the news about young girls getting kidnapped, rapped or abused by there boyfriends.

Having a lot or sex and spending large amount of time together, sometimes puts a possessive ownership on people.

That is why we all should be mindful of relationships that have the potential to become possessive.

My viewpoint should be clear; I want everyone on this campus to stay away from negative relationships.

Surround yourself with positive people; there may even be a chance that you may fall in love with one of them. However, lust rarely ends in true love and make sure you love yourself first. •

Honesty is the best policy, fallacy



Brian C. Browley
Managing Editor

FROM WHERE I STAND

Last year, for our annual Love and Sex issue, I wrote a rather controversial piece entitled "The Myth of the Good Black Woman."

Now when I say controversial, I mean there were some women on this campus that had me in their rifle sights. I received several comments on our Web site, tsu-meter.com, and even had one young lady track me down on Facebook to tell me that I need a hug.

While I knew the piece was controversial, I also knew it was an issue that needed to be covered from a fresh perspective.

Now, a year later I look back on my commentary through the lenses of hind-

sight and I ask myself, do I still stand by my analysis?

Yep, I do but with a slight addition. In retrospect, I should have called my piece "The Myth of a Desire for Honesty in 21st Century Romance."

In the last few weeks, I've discussed in depth with my friends the very nature of love and sexual relationships. Essentially the x-factor that I have found to be absent in failed relationships is honest and realistic conversation.

Harlequin, a book publisher known nation wide for their romantic novels stated in their 2008 Romance Report that trust and honesty were the most important areas of a relationship. Forty-one percent of men and 51 percent of women can't be wrong, right?

Wrong.

According to the same report, 63 percent of Americans feel that "white" lies are a necessity in a healthy relationship. Doesn't seem to fit, does it?

So why is there this logical discon-

nect between what we say we want and what we actually practice in our relationships?

The problem, of course, is when you ask an honest question is being prepared for an honest answer. An honest answer is often the last thing people want to hear in matters of the heart.

The truth is, yes, that dress might make you look fat, yes, you may not be her best lover and if you are not prepared for the every possible answer that may come you shouldn't ask the question to begin with.

The truth is that sometimes it is better to not know every waking thought of your significant other. That's not being dishonest; it's being considerate. And a lie, no matter how well meaning, is anything but.

I can safely say that in the 30 plus years of my parents' marriage I've never seen or heard them be anything but honest with each other.

In preparation for writing this col-

umn, I gave my parents a call and ironically enough they both answered the line on different phones so I was able to ask them about the acceptability of a "white" lie.

Before I could even finish my statement, my mother laughed and simply said no. A lie, no matter how well meaning, is never the way to go. A lie, even when meant to spare someone's feelings, will eventually come out.

When it does, it's generally going to be in a far from constructive manner. Some questions simply need not be asked and some simply need not be answered.

So what's my advice on this dilemma?

Tell the truth and potentially unleash the gates of hell, or tell a little "white" lie and keep the peace?

Well in love it's better to be honest and get burned a little on the front end that to spend a lifetime building a foundation a little "white" lies that are anything but. •

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ONLINE FEEDBACK

TSU soldiers to report for duty in Iraq

Charles Flack

posted Feb. 4 at 10:02 a.m.

Norman (aka Chip), cousin, lil' bro, we are praying for you and your Battalion to come back home safe and all in one piece. We are proud of you!

P.S. Dude, you need to come back to TSU to finish your degree when you get back. It is never too late! (smile)

Sista Holly McChristian

posted Feb. 5 at 1:50 p.m.

Hey Chip,

I will be praying for you. And like Chucky said, come back home and finish your degree. That is my New Year's resolution to myself. I am getting my degree this year or at least going to begin the quest to finish.

Anyway, I know you will be fine over there in the sand, but be careful. I love you and take care!

Samson McChristian

posted Feb. 5 at 4:42 p.m.

Hey Soup "Chip" Just forwarding a prayer for you and your fellow soliders.

We all know that you and your men know your responsibilities and will do well. I know that you are not a Marine but I will say this to you Semper Fi,

B. Chapman

posted Feb. 6 at 9:39 p.m.

Thank you TSU, for all your love and support! We will represent you honorably and proudly!

GO BIG BLUE!!!!

J Jones

posted Feb. 8 at 10:31 a.m.

B. Chapman,

We are PRAYING for you down here in Florida.

Y. Michelle Settle

posted Feb. 9 at 3:26 p.m.

Chris...my son. We are so proud of you. Every since the age of 9, I knew you would serve our country in some capacity and make us proud. You have done that.

Many people would not give so much of themselves for our nation and our freedom. Thank You. We love you so much!!

Mom

What We Think And the endorsements go to...

Hodari P.T. Brown

posted Feb. 4 at 12:07 a.m.

I wonder how the Meter endorsed their candidates. But, at the end of the day, if Obama is change, then why hasn't he shown the change that he plans to give the American people while he has been in Washington D.C.

I am not endorsing Clinton or Obama but I feel that they have the exact same policies and if you watched last Thursday's debate, you would have heard the moderators say the same thing about both candidates.

In fact, at the end of the night, Clinton was able to explain her policies and initiatives much better than Obama.

I don't believe it is fair to compare the Clintons and Bush's because older Bush policies were not made current and Bush and Bill Clinton's administration did so much for all Americans.

Therefore, Hillary Clinton will bring new ideas and change to the White House in terms of her policies and her demeanor in terms of being more experienced and well rounded to deal with the issues that

her husband failed to deal with properly such as international issues like Rwanda, Bin Liden, etc.

Therefore, I don't agree with how the endorsements were made.

sanrucker

posted Feb. 4 at 9:08 a.m.

We, as blacks, have that brain-washed mental illness. the extent of that sickness cannot be put in words.

It is revealed by our inclinations to follow where whites lead. we see the food on their plates, the clothes on their backs, the cars, the boats, the planes, the jobs, their own businesses, their prestige etc. What we don't see are the unorthodox methods that they use to amass this material empire.

Knowing that we as a race cannot offer one another these fleshy gains, we forsake each other, for a chance at "the thrill of it all."

We fund the whites' hedonistic instincts through our lack of knowledge. we forsake our natural gifts from GOD.

We fail to strive to acquire things that are everlasting, things that don't fade or pass away, great gifts to give to our children that stand the test of time.

Barack's friend,
San Rucker*

ASK THE METER MADAM

Dear Meter Madam,

I have this problem. I have a lot of guy friends that either treat me like a boy or as if I am their little sister.

I am honestly not attracted to any of them, but I do want them to see me as a woman and stop talking about women as if I'm not there. Granted I have female friends that I hang out with on occasions, I just feel more comfortable around guys.

Also, they tell me I am beautiful all the time. I'm tired of that! I want to be hot and sexy and not look like a hoe.

Got any advice?

People tend to talk about other people based on what they know about them, referring to the most familiar attributes of a person first.

I'm willing to bet that the women that they refer to as "hot and sexy" in front of you are just women that they have

seen. The only reference point that they have for those women is their physical appearance.

On the other hand, they know you personally and realize that you are a great person. They wouldn't hang around you if you weren't.

A man telling you that you are beautiful is the ultimate compliment. Beauty isn't just a physical thing because beauty is seen with the mind.

Just because they don't say that you are sexy doesn't mean that they don't think it. It's just encompassed in the overall beauty that they see in you.

If you are truly being yourself around them, then my advice is to keep doing you. If you aren't attracted to them then just value the relationship that you have with them.

If them treating you "like a boy" or a "little sister" bothers you, then let them know.

But don't be surprised if they change the way that they act around you. They have let you into their world and value you as an equal. Take that as a compliment. They care enough about you to keep it real about who they are.

Dear Madam,

I think I'm beginning to fall for my friend. You may think that this is okay, but he is in a relationship with someone who may be his potential wifey.

To make matters worse, he's expressed that he is feeling me as well. What should I do? Because I can't handle the drama!

Thanks,
Miss Secret

No, no, a thousand times no! You do not want to introduce this kind of drama into your life. If he has a girlfriend then he is with her for a reason. I'm sure that he knows that you like him.

No matter how much he tells you that he is feeling you, if he wanted to be with you he would be.

There is no logical reason why you should get involved with this guy beyond a friendship. You should never make someone a priority when they just see you as an option.

Don't let anyone make you feel like it's okay to be the chick on the side. There are plenty of other men out there that would be happy to have you in their life.

In the unlikely event that he did leave

his girlfriend for you, could you really trust him?

It's been said before and I'll say it again. If he'll cheat with you, he'll cheat on you. He may seem like the greatest guy in the world.

But, if he is willing to put your feelings and his girlfriend's feelings in jeopardy, then he is only out for himself.

My advice would be to leave this guy alone. He will only bring drama into your life.

In the end, you will be the one that looks bad because you know exactly what he is doing. Protect your heart so that it doesn't get broken.*

**Send your
inquiries to the
Meter Madam to
meter.madam@
gmail.com**

Family, friends bid Army soldiers farewell

By Ashley McDonald
Opinions Editor

Emotions ran high as friends and family members of the soldiers from the 304th Military Police Battalion gathered for the Farewell Ceremony held in Kean Hall on Sunday, Feb. 10.

Approximately 300 people filed into Kean Hall to support their loved ones that will be leaving to serve in Iraq later this week.

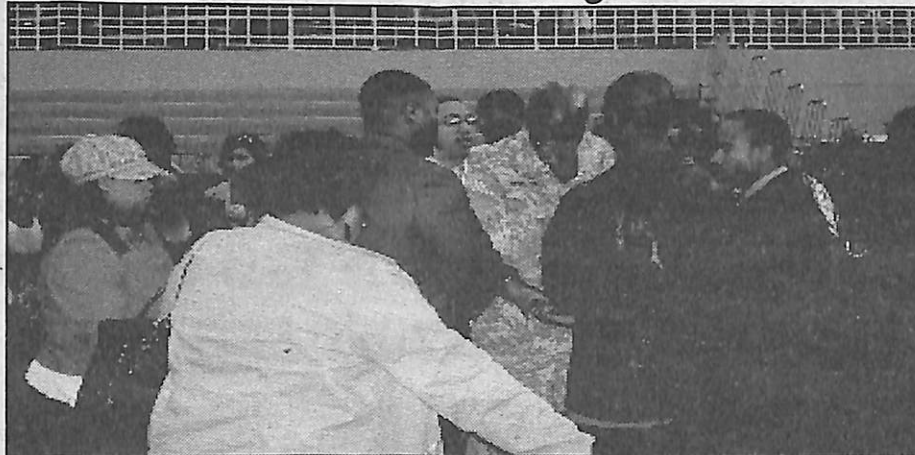
"I'm trying to maintain composure," said former TSU student 1st Sgt. Norman Dashiell Jr. "Not knowing is probably the biggest thing, not only for myself but all of my soldiers that are going through.

"But since I've been through it twice before, I've got an idea of what to expect," Dashiell said.

Col. Patton Keith Pickens was the keynote speaker for the occasion. He offered words of encouragement to the soldiers and to the families.

"Today we send these soldiers out on a mission to liberate other people, a mission some doubt they can accomplish," Pickens said. "They may have some doubt in their own hearts and minds about the ability of the U.S. government and the military of this country to pick up this operation and succeed.

"It is critical that we accomplish this mission for the future benefit of the



TSU alum 2nd Lt. Bandom Chapman shares an emotional moment with members of his fraternity brothers of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc.

PHOTO BY ASHLEY MCDONALD

United States and the people who live here. I am confident that these soldiers will all do their duty," Pickens continued.

Donald Deering spoke on behalf of Congressman Jim Cooper who was ill during the ceremony. Mayor Karl Dean and former mayor, Bill Purcell also offered words of comfort.

Pickens and Dean realize the huge sacrifices that the families are making as they deal with their departing relatives.

Both men extended their services and support to the families of the soldiers during the deployment.

Pickens has been deployed twice himself and has faith that these soldiers are prepared for the times that they are

about to face.

"The Army Reserve is better organized now than it has ever been," said Pickens.

Second Lt. Brandon Chapman, a May 2005 TSU graduate, had mixed emotions during the ceremony.

"This is a great moment. I'm just thinking about how much I'm going to miss my family and friends," Chapman said. "In the past couple of days, I've kind of dealt with some personal issues.

"I've put myself in the position to be the best leader that I can be so that I can think clearly enough to lead these soldiers and bring them back home safely," Chapman said.

Certificates of appreciation were presented to members of 304th Military Police Battalion as well as faculty and staff members on behalf of Lt. Col. Carol V. Haas.

Included in the honors were President Melvin Johnson, Dr. Robert Hampton and band director Ret. Col. Edward Graves.

The soldiers will be departing for their mission this week and will be away from their loved ones for Valentine's Day.

Students from Metro Nashville Public schools made Valentine's Day cards for the soldiers and children from the families of the soldiers distributed the cards at the end of the ceremony.

As the ceremony concluded, a wide array of emotions filled the gymnasium.

Friends and family members were saddened by the impending absence of the men and women in their lives that will be serving the country.

The soldiers sang *The Army Goes Rolling On* and exemplified a great deal of pride for the work that they will be doing.

The Aristocrat of Bands was present to play the national anthem and The United States Army Song.

"It's a team effort and I'm thinking about that," said Chapman. "And I'm thinking about family and friends and I've got to put that in perspective to focus on the men and women that I have to lead."•

ACCOMPLISHMENT

People will know you're serious when you produce.

—Muhammad Ali



When we produce, we go beyond words. After a time, promises and declarations sound hollow and silly, even to our own ears. Having results to show is proof for ourselves.

—Unknown

From the Noble Men of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.
"Mighty" Rho Psi Chapter



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Tuesday Special

Purchase an 8" and get the 2nd for \$2.00
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Purchase and 14" and get the 2nd for \$6.00

Wednesday Dine-In Special

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for 1/2 price
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Import beer - \$2.00

Thursday Night Special

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and get a free regular size kool-aid
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Friday Night Fish Fry

Whiting fish sandwich \$3.75
add Spaghetti for \$2.00
4pm till close

Saturday Early Bird Specials

25 piece \$12.99
Add Wings .75
Before 3pm

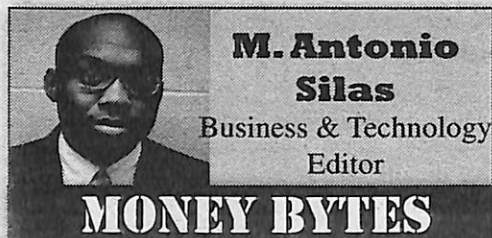
Nuttin' But Sundays

Free fries with 6 or 8 piece basket
Domestic beer - \$1.25
Import beer - \$2.00

BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY

Monday, February 11, 2008

Volume 58 Issue 28



**M. Antonio
Silas**

Business & Technology
Editor

MONEY BYTES

BRAND YOURSELF

Wal-Mart, McDonalds, Coca-Cola, Microsoft; what do all of these companies have in common? They are all major players in their respective fields.

Each one of these corporations provide services or products that are known worldwide for their own respective traits, whether it be innovation or price.

These companies made a name for themselves by being the best at what they do and being known for it; they made their names a brand.

A brand is defined by dictionary.com as "kind, grade, or make, as indicated by a stamp, trademark, or the like". While all products or companies may have a name, they may not have a well-known brand.

According to Melissa D. Johnson, founder, president and CEO of Velvet Suite Marketing Consulting Group, the best way to leave a mark on a brand is to be separate from the rest of the pack.

This means focusing on aspects of the business, and what differentiates from the competitors.

While branding is commonly used in describing companies, it's also something that business minded individuals focus on doing within themselves.

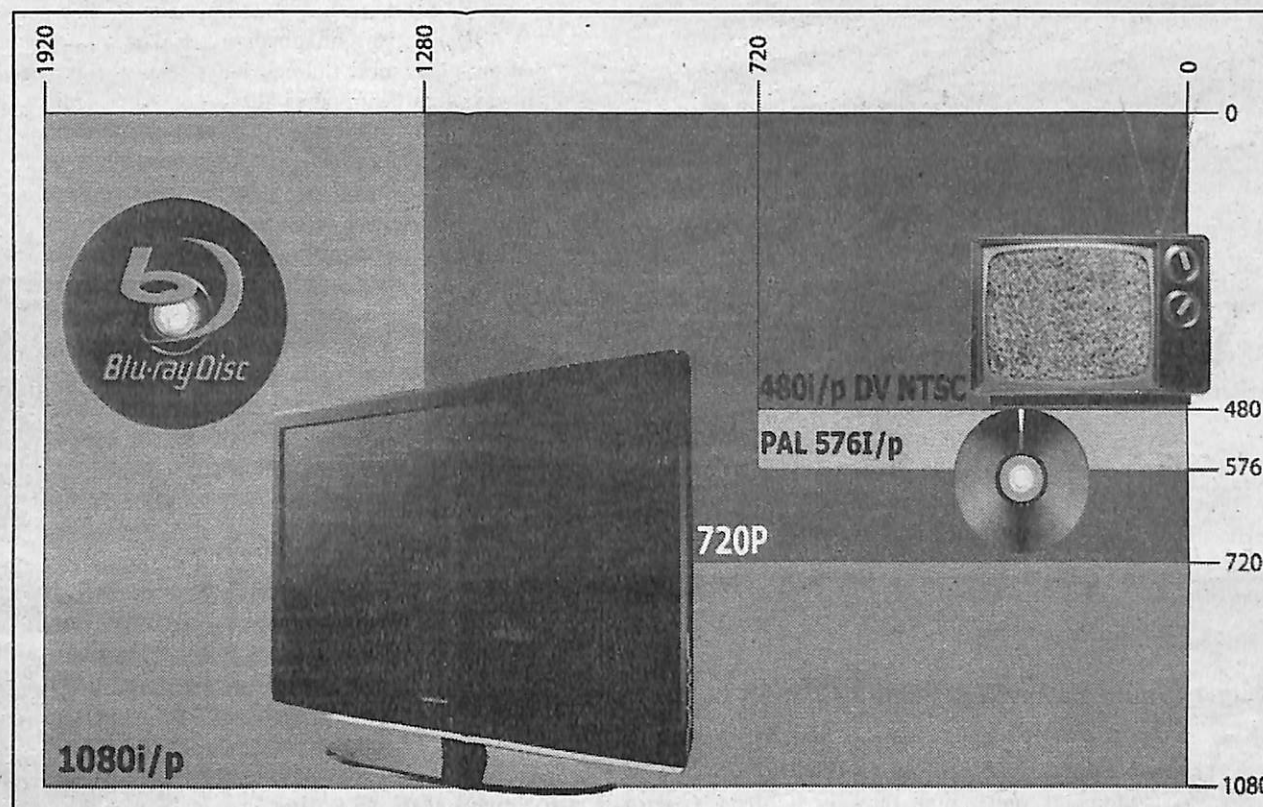
This can be accomplished by assessing strengths and weaknesses and providing something that the competition can't.

Discovering value can occur by reviewing assets and traits, realizing potential in strong points and focusing on position.

Diversification in the business world is the key to survival and marketing to employers those special characteristics will prove to be beneficial to a business.

www.tsumeter.com

High-def TVs get bigger, better, cheaper



GRAPHIC BY BRIAN C. BROWLEY

There have been many improvements in picture quality as the growing number of TVs with 1080p resolution show.

These HD sets can potentially display more of the detail in current high-def signals than so-called 720p sets can.

Until recently, most 1080p TVs were LCD or rear-projection sets. These TVs were very expensive at the time; however, now consumers find a growing number of 1080p plasmas at lower prices, giving them more choice.

Manufacturers are also addressing the inherent weaknesses of the different display technologies.

One good example of this is that many new LCD sets are using 120Hz technology. That essentially doubles the number of video frames displayed on the screen and is designed to reduce the amount of motion blur in fast-moving images.

Many plasma TVs now come with

a protective coating that reduces that annoying reflection.

These many improvements leave little reason for consumers to wait to buy an HDTV. If price is not an issue at all, consumers should consider buying a 1080p model. However, this isn't fully necessary.

Many students who are looking for an HDTV will come to find that the 720p models will work just fine depending on the size of the TV.

Generally speaking however, as a rule of thumb, large TVs over 50" will look better in 1080p and smaller TVs under 25" will look excellent in 720p. A 1080p TV has a frame resolution of 1,920 by 1,080 pixels.

Trends in pricing suggest it's a good time to buy because many of the major price cuts have already occurred.

Over the next year or so prices for 40-inch and larger 720p LCD TVs are expected to fall only 10 percent or less, with smaller LCD TVs seeing even

more modest price reductions. Prices of larger 1080p sets could drop more, though not as much as last year.

HDTVs are very reliable nowadays with repair rates for LCD and plasma TVs, averaging around three percent overall during the first three years of use, which is the time covered by many warranties.

Thanks to the steady increase in HD programming, there's now plenty of content that can make the most of these state-of-the-art

HDTVs. Most prime-time shows on the major broadcast networks and many cable/satellite stations (such as ESPN, Discovery, TNT, and many others) are now offered in HD.

There are other sources of high-definition content as well, most notably Blu-ray and HD DVD discs.

Patrick Comer

Tips for a Valentine's Day budget

By Kevin Terrell
Staff Reporter

For those students who don't have a lot to spend on a great Valentine's Day, here are some tips on how to enjoy the day without breaking the bank.

There are many different ways to approach the day and have a good time.

There is an old saying that says the smallest things make the biggest impression. A romantic evening at home with one's Valentine can be just as beautiful as going to a fancy restaurant. Go to the grocery store and stock up on those items

you'd usually pay \$30 to eat. A spaghetti dinner with dim candle light at home eats the same way it would out in a restaurant.

Cooking a meal with your beau is one way to make it a total experience for the both of you. Ending the night with dessert while watching a romantic comedy, such as *Hitch*, *50 First Dates* and *You've Got Mail*, can make it just that much more intimate.

Utilizing the imagination makes Valentine's Day more intimate and personal. If your significant other likes to dance, put on some soft music and bring the dance floor to the living room.

Writing personalized "I Love You" notes and love letters detailing all the rea-

sons why a person loves (or likes) their

Valentine is another personal touch that will make memories that will last forever.

A Snuggling up and reading a book together can be very romantic for couples that enjoy literature. A slow jams mix on a CD can be the perfect way to set the mood in a personal setting without going broke.

Typically people dread Valentine's Day because it's usually viewed as a time of the year to spend money. While this isn't all that can be done for V-Day, being creative and thinking of cheaper alternatives can make the day just as memorable.

V-day Tech Gifts

Valentine's Day is traditionally filled with chocolates, flowers or risqué lingerie when it comes times to exchange gifts.

For those who are tech savvy or just tired of getting the same thing year after year, here's a list of items that could appease the inner geek in loved ones.

Canon PowerShot SD1000 7.1MP Digital Elph Camera with 3x Optical Zoom (\$168.99)

Moments only come once in a lifetime and grabbing a Powershot will help to capture all of those special moments with that special person. This camera is simple enough to pick up and use and has enough depth to provide the user with multiple options.

Logitech Noise-Canceling Headphones (\$49.99)

These noise canceling headphones are very effective in terms of eliminating outside distractions when trying to enjoy favorite artist. While they are not as expensive as other high-end headphones, they function just as well, if not better than their competitors.

Logitech V20 Notebook Speakers (\$54.98)

If space and expenses are low, or if wanting to utilize the music library on the computer, investing in external speakers would be wise.

They provide stereo sound at a low price while conserving space and eliminating clutter.

Western Digital WDXMS2500TN Passport 250 GB USB Portable Hard Drive (\$124.99)

If that special someone is one of those people who enjoy keeping every single piece of media they receive, this item is for them. It doesn't require a power source, so any music, movies or documents they want to take with them is always readily accessible.

Canon CanoScan LiDE 25 Color Image Scanner (\$49.99)

If wanting to digitize old files or photos, this is a great product. It is nice for chronicling and backing-up important files that don't want to be lost.

Palm Z22 Handheld (\$99.99)

For the typical college student, everyday life can be pretty hectic. Class, campus organizations, relationships; it can be a bit much to keep up with without writing it down or storing it somewhere. This Palm Handheld makes all information available at all times.

Apple iPod Nano 8 GB Pink (\$199.99)

For the music lovers out there, the Pink iPod Nano is the perfect gift. Full color menus, album covers, the ability to double as a hard drive and various other features make this item the perfect gift.

Kevin Terrell



Time flies.
Don't miss out.

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THE METER

ARTS & CULTURE

Monday, February 11, 2008

Volume 58 Issue 28

Kissing on Campus



PHOTO BY MARIO STUART

PDA has TSU appeal

By Kevin Terrell
Staff Reporter



Imagine walking through the student center and seeing a couple passionately engaging one another. They are seemingly oblivious to the throngs of onlookers and passersby.

While the display is sometimes a little more than is generally desired, most people at TSU say public displays of affection (PDA) is not necessarily a bad thing.

For those who don't know, PDA is the official name given to these visible expressions of attraction. It seems like clockwork around Valentine's Day couples tend to perform frequent PDA.

In an unofficial poll given to 50 TSU students, a majority of the campus believe that PDA is acceptable to an extent. Despite its overwhelming support, there are a few that just don't like it at all.

"PDA is OK as long as it is in moderation," said Carmen Harris, a sophomore business administration major from Houston.

Understanding the difference between what is acceptable and what is not is a very important issue to some students.

"If it's over-the-top it's not cool, but a kiss on the cheek or forehead is OK," said Amber Hughes, a sophomore cardio respiratory therapy major from Memphis.

Some students feel as if it is OK depending on the location.

"Depending on where you are," said Jennifer Sparks, a junior human resources management major from Detroit. "In a movie theater or at a romantic dinner (it's ok), but not in the cafe or sub."

Many times students just ignore the PDA that happens in the student center, but there are some that feel PDA needs restrictions on both location as well as frequency.

"PDA is only OK if it's tasteful and appropriate for the setting you are in," said Megan Hudson, a junior speech pathology and audiology major from Monroe, La.

Hudson also said she believes that there is a certain degree of respect that must be given to everybody else around.

"I think there is no problem with PDA as long as it's not too explicit, because there is a certain conduct to be maintained in public," said Leon Tillman, a junior agricultural science

See "PDA" on page 15

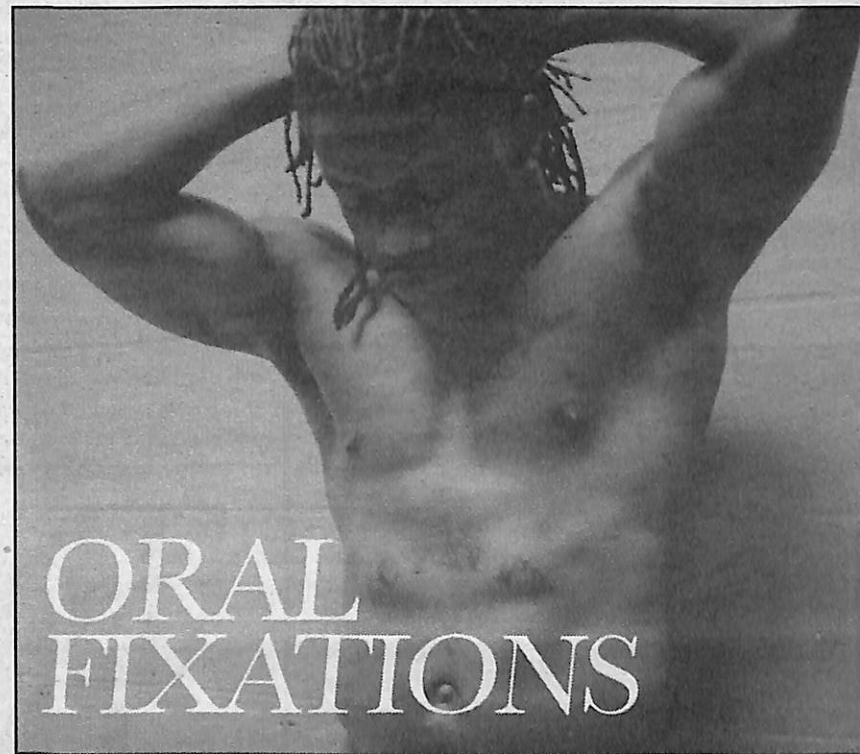


PHOTO BY MARIO STUART

Oral sex may be taboo in conversation

By Seth E. Davis
Staff Reporter



Among TSU students, oral sex is a taboo yet popular topic of conversation.

With the popularity of song favorite's such as Three Six Mafia's, *Slob on My Knob*, Khia's *My Neck, My Back* and Shannna's *Gettin' Some Head*, the topic has established itself as an unavoidable part of popular culture.

Even though the topic of sex is everywhere and the topic of oral sex is not far behind it, oral sex is still viewed as a taboo topic.

"In the African American community (oral sex) is not a commonly talked about practice," said Lynnette Whitlow, Director of STD Free!. "However in the next 15 to 20 years the acceptance will grow (and) it is (still) becoming more and more popular."

Some students feel differently about the "taboo ness" of oral sex.

"It once was (taboo) but is not so

much anymore," said Brittney Johnson, a freshman English major from Memphis. "Sex is in every aspect of life but has become a topic of causality."

Darnell Henderson, a sophomore speech communications major from Memphis, said he feels our culture over-uses sex in general.

"Pornography exploits oral sex to be a bad thing and has taken away the sensuality of the act," Henderson said. "Oral sex is something to be used with discretion not done for everyone."

One of the appeals of oral sex to students is a sheer self-esteem boost. For some students the mere fact that they are bringing pleasure to another person is enough.

"What I like about oral sex is the gratification of knowing I'm pleasing the (other) person," Henderson said.

Students also said that they select oral sex as an alternative to losing their virginity.

See "Oral" on page 15



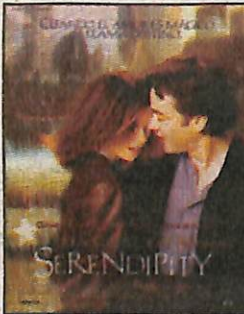
10 Things I Hate About You (1999)

An epic of the romantic comedy genre, this loose adaptation of William Shakespeare's *The Taming of The Shrew* launched the careers of lead actors Julia Stiles (Kat) and the late Heath Ledger

(Patrick).

Set in an American high school, the plot is a scheme to get Kat's sister, Bianca (Larisa Oleynik) a date. But, in order for Bianca to date, Kat "The Shrew" has to begin dating as well.

The up-and-down romantic banter Kat and Patrick exchange lead to feelings they both never expected. This comical take on the original is perfect for new couples.



Serendipity (2001)

For intellectual couples, this romantic comedy is as educating as it is entertaining. In general, the term "serendipity" refers to an effect in which one accidentally discovers something fortunate, especially while looking for something else entirely.

In the case of this quirky farce, main characters Jonathan Trager (John Cusack) and Sara Thomas (Kate Beckinsale) meet in a New York department store but fall in love instantly.

An initial verbal tussle quickly fades, and the two share a night filled with romance and a test of fate. Years later, both try tracking each other down.

A flurry of near-misses and classic Shakespearean symbolism pepper this witty new-age fairy tale with the right touch of humor in a way that sparks the kind of conversation that lingers long after the credits roll.



Romeo Must Die (2000)

An action-packed take on Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*, this Warner Bros. Pictures film served as a launching pad for its star-studded cast.

The film careers of fallen R&B songstress Aaliyah (Trish O'Day), hardcore rapper DMX (Silk), martial artist Jet Li (Han Sing) all benefited from this blockbuster film.

After Han's brother is murdered in America by members of a black gang bossed by Trish's father, Han breaks out of prison in Hong Kong and makes his way to the U.S. to avenge his brother's death.

After Trish's brother is also slain, the two become co-detectives in figuring out the details of a complex conspiracy.

Those looking for an ethnic remix on a classic drama will be pleased and pleasantly surprised by the movie's romantic end.



Love Jones (1997)

The pinnacle of date movies, *Love Jones* explores the notion of love at first sight. Starring Nia Long (Nina Mosley) and Larenz Tate (Darius Lovehall), it was widely praised.

Darius, a poet, and Nina, a photographer, meet at Sanctuary, a Chicago nightclub featuring jazz and spoken word.

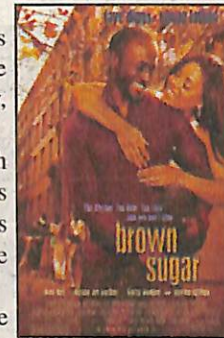
Darius shares small talk with Nina before his set begins, and then surprises her by renaming one of his poems, *A Blues for Nina* as he recites it. A whirlwind romance develops, the kind that ensures this movie is one that never loses its luster.

Brown Sugar (2002)

Starring Sanaa Latham (Sidney) and Taye Diggs (Dre), this movie, in a nod to the youngest of the popular music genres, tells a love story and loosely, the story of hip-hop.

Beginning with the day Sidney falls in love with hip-hop and the moment she befriends Dre, viewers will be transported back into time, when hip-hop was young. Now all grown up, the two are still die-hard fans of hip-hop.

Viewers get to see if love and the musical genre go hand-in-hand.

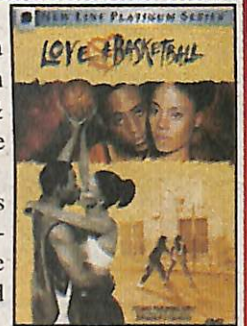


Love & Basketball (2000)

Another film starring Sanaa Latham (Monica), this time with Omar Epps (Quincy), *Love & Basketball* provides a unique blend of romance and sports.

To go along with the sports theme of the movie, it's broken into quarters to depict the different phases of Monica and Quincy's life and relationship.

When it all comes down to a basketball game, is Monica's skills good enough to make love prevail?



Poetic Justice (1993)

This romance/drama that launched the big screen careers of Janet Jackson (Justice) and the late Tupac Shakur (Lucky) is the perfect film for couples who love getting away.

The movie introduces viewers to Justice, a young black woman depressed from love lost. It is in meeting a postal worker, Lucky, that she finally begins to shed some of the hurt.

As she finds new meaning in life through opening her heart to Lucky, Justice also scribes poetry, which she recites throughout the movie.



Dirty Dancing (1987)

For the couple that appreciates a few dance moves, this romance perfectly sets the mood. Starring Patrick Swayze (Johnny Castle) and Jennifer Grey (Frances "Baby" Norman), the plot is rather mild and simple allowing the dance scenes to shine, as it should.

Baby makes a transition from teenager to woman through learning to dance the Mambo from her crush, Johnny, at the resort her family is vacationing for the summer. The dance scenes in this movie are powerful and well-choreographed.



Top 10 Date Movies

By Marshall A. Latimore

Romeo+Juliet (1996)

A high-stakes, gun-fighting adaptation of Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*, this film features award-winning performances by Leonardo DiCaprio (Romeo) and Claire Danes (Juliet).

Crafted to appeal to younger audiences, the movie maintains much of the original dialogue of the play, even though it is set in a fictional modern-day suburb of Los Angeles, Verona Beach.

In the tradition of the original play, this tragic love story ends with the suicides of its main characters. This film, however, offers a twist, creating an ending that will certainly shock first-time viewers.



Something New (2006)

Starring date movie staple Sanaa Latham (Kenya McQueen) and Australian actor Simon Baker (Brian Kelly), this romantic comedy explores what happens when love spans beyond color lines.

Kenya, a black accountant, accepts a blind date set up by a co-worker but turns it down when she realizes her date is with Brian, a white landscapist.

Over time, the two develop a friendship that begins to grow into more, though Kenya can't get over the opinions of her girls, her brother and parents. Ultimately, Kenya finally learns to shake her insecurities and go after Brian. Straight forward and simple, this film has a lesson—nobody messes with the heart!



10 Essential Love Albums

By Gregory Brand, Jr.
Arts & Culture Editor



The **Valentine's Day** holiday is the time of year that people reserve to express their love to their special someone.

Be it with **cards, candy or even activity**, this one day of the year almost everyone makes his or her feelings known.

Over the years, **music** has long held a high position in setting romantic moods and expressing passionate **love** between people.

In light of the approaching holiday, the list

below presents 10 essential **love** albums.

These albums are representations of music and melodies dedicated to the emotion of **love**.

Though older **music** is still respected, these albums will deal with artists and music that most closely fits the generation in college right now.

When it comes to falling in **love**, falling out and living somewhere in between, these albums are sure to fit the bill.

There is no order to the albums listed, just great **love music** and the artists responsible:



Keyshia Cole
The Way It Is

She may be a little rough around the edges but Keyshia Cole knows what she feels and it shows on this heartfelt debut. With a homegrown soprano and lived-in sensibility she managed to make the world understand what she was feeling and despite her relative inexperience, listeners knew they found love.

Song to hear: *Love*



Usher
Confessions

Literally flooded with tales of love from both the good and bad side, this album is a classic for both lovers of good music and fans of romantic tales. *Confessions* comes off as intensely personal and it is here that it wins. Usher takes listeners on a ride and the experience is as real as it gets.

Song to hear: *Superstar*



Corinne Bailey Rae
Corinne Bailey Rae

The British-born singer/songwriter exploded onto the American music scene with a fresh voice and emotionally rich lyrics. Throughout the album, she shares herself with listeners and in return they get to hear solid love songs that reach real people all the way across the Atlantic.

Song to hear: *Breathless*



Jill Scott
*Who Is Jill Scott:
Words and Sounds Vol. 1*

The debut album features the voice of an artist known for emotional depth and strong performances.



From beginning to end this poet/singer gives laments of love and dedication and uses her voice to lift listeners to her level.

Song to hear: *He Loves Me*

Janet Jackson
Janet

Ms. Jackson scored one of her greatest albums with the release of this LP. Lyrically she is tight and musically she brings it home with songs that look at love as more than just a word.

Song to hear: *Anytime Anyplace*

Sade
Love Deluxe

This African queen decided to switch her jazzy grooves toward more organic and free productions and as a result she delivered an album packed with moving instrumentation and powerful lyrics. Facing love and life, Sade made her musical move, a movement.

Song to hear: *No Ordinary Love*

Mariah Carey
The Emancipation of Mimi

After an extended hiatus, Mariah came back hard with an album full of commercial hits and romantic gems. Her octave jumping vocals and every-woman lyrics helped cement her place in love song history.

Song to hear: *Mine Again*

Musiq Soulchild
Aijuswanaseing

This debut album introduced the world to a singer and songwriter able to write about love and sing about it too. His music gave listeners some-

thing new for that time period and still resonates now. His use of emotion makes this album easily relatable and interesting.

Song to hear: *Love*

Floetry
Floetic

This London-born, Philadelphia-based duo brought spoken-word and vocal styling to the mainstream and gave an interestingly memorable debut. The album speaks on real subjects and even faces the longing associated with love and loving someone.

Song to hear: *Say Yes*

Aaliyah
One In A Million

This is the album she declared the adulthood she danced around in her debut. She owned her womanhood and the evidence shines through on this album's track list. Though she covers the dark side of love, she shines brightest when she loves.

Song to hear: *4-page Letter*

Close calls:
Mary J. Blige
My Life

Brian McKnight
Back At One

Eric Benet
A Day In The Life

TLC
Crazy Sexy Cool

Maxwell
Urban Hang Suite



FIVE TOP BREAK-UP SONGS

1 *Don't Speak* No Doubt

This is the heartfelt story of two people breaking up. The lovers were so close they were friends. But while the break up is going on she just wants him to stop talking. "Don't speak, I know what you're thinking, but I don't need your reasons, don't tell me cause it hurts."

Irreplaceable Beyonce

This song is not only about the break-up, but also the kicking out! This is a narrative and instructional. She tells him and us where his stuff is and that he can take the little bit that he came with and leave. And the message is: Always have a spare. "I could have another you in a minute. Matter fact he'll be here in a minute - baby."

3 *Don't Want You Back* Eamon

HE IS MAD!!!! We aren't sure what this girl did to him. But he is cussing her out and is not happy with her! "F##! all those kisses they didn't mean jack f##! you, you h0@ I don't want you back." If you want some one gone, yell this song at them!

Gone N'SYNC

This is where you start crying a little. This tearful production shows someone so deep in love completely torn up by this break-up. Not only does the song tell you that the break-up wasn't mutual, but he wants her back. "I don't wanna make excuses, baby won't change the fact that you're gone. But if there's something that I could do, won't you please let me know?"

5 *Don't Call Me No More* Project Pat

This is the crunk ringtone that you have on your phone for people you don't want to answer. With an extremely relatable chorus, it is no wonder that this is a ringtone favorite. "Don't call me no mo' and don't text me no mo'. Cuz I'm through with ya!" Please stop calling me chicken head.

Seth E. Davis and
DeShanee Miner

CONDOMANIA

By **Rechelle Jackson**
Copy Desk Staff

The time of year has come for loved ones to publicly and privately showcase their feelings for one another. It is unrealistic to assume that no one will be intimate this Valentine's Day, but students should remember that while the loving may be good, it is also important to be careful.

Condoms are the number one form of contraceptives on the market today and are used to prevent pregnancies and the spread of sexually transmitted diseases. By taking a couple of minutes to put a condom on, an unexpected life can be prevented and a life can be saved from infection.

Before use, the condom should be checked to make sure it is FDA approved and that the expiration date has not passed.

Below is a list of condoms that range from flavorful to old fashioned latex. Whether they are being used as a contraceptive method or just for bedroom fun, it is important to know what kind is offered and how to use them.

Male Latex Condoms

These are the most common types on the market and range in price from about \$7 to \$8 a dozen. Their drawbacks are their bad taste for oral sex and that water based lubricants are the only ones that can be used with them. Oil based lubricants like hand lotion or Vaseline can make a latex condom break.

Male Natural/Sheepskin

These condoms are actually made of lamb intestines, not sheepskin and are preferred because they "feel more natural." The price is a little more expensive being around \$20 for a dozen.

These are only good for protection against pregnancy, not against STDs. Any type of lubricant (oil or water based) may be used with these condoms.

Female Polyurethane (Plastic)

The female condom is sold under the brand name, "Reality" and is only good for vaginal intercourse.

They are made of polyurethane and any lubricant can be used with them. They cost \$3 each, and are usually sold in packs of three.

They have a higher failure rate than latex condoms because they are more difficult to insert and use. These cannot be used for anal intercourse.

Glo in the Dark

This is the only FDA approved glow-in-the-dark condom that is intended to prevent pregnancy and STDs.

The Night Light condom is non-toxic and will glow after about 30 seconds of exposure to ordinary light.

The Night Light Glow-In-The-Dark Condom is made of three layers. The inner and the outer layer consist of regular latex while the third layer contains a safe pigment that begins to glow and is sealed between the two latex layers.

Flavored

The flavor in these condoms may be contained in the lubricant or directly on the condom. Some flavored condoms are even colored to match the flavor - such as red for strawberry flavored or yellow for banana flavored.

Flavors can include mint, grape, orange, banana, strawberry and even chocolate, vanilla and cola. These condoms are meant to add a yummy dimension to oral sex, and many of the brands are also FDA approved for strength and protection.

If planning to use these condoms for vaginal sex, make sure they are sugar-free as sugar flavored condoms can throw off the pH in the vagina, which can lead to yeast infections.

Studded

These condoms are shaped and textured to increase pleasure for the female, male or both partners.

Some of these condoms have two sections of ribs on the top and at the base, which adds stimulation in just the

right places for females.

Others contain hundreds of raised studs on the outside for female satisfaction and/or on the inside to enhance male enjoyment.

The condoms that are marketed for mutual pleasure tend to be wider, have bulb-like tips and a more contoured shape, which increases male comfort and allows nerve endings to remain at their most sensitive state - thus adding significantly more pleasure for him.

Edible

There are different brands of edible condoms that can be chosen. They usually come in packs of four and are available in a variety of flavors.

The condom is rolled on, and then can be eaten off. Edible condoms are for novelty use only and they do not provide any type of protection against pregnancy or STDs.

Colored

Condoms are available in almost every color; in fact, one can even find tri-colored condoms that feature the national colors of 36 countries, such as America, France, Spain, Russia and Italy.

Dual-color condoms are also available, which may be fun to use during the holidays, like a black and orange condom for Halloween, red and green for Christmas and pink and red for Valentine's Day.

French Ticklers

These condoms either have a soft rubber tickler tip or are made of soft jelly.

Tickler condoms fit over the penis and come in various styles of nodules, nubs and ridges and shapes that provide stimulation by "tickling" the inner walls of the vagina.

These condoms are considered to be novelty types, so they do not provide protection against pregnancy or STDs.

If the woman is not on hormonal birth control pills, a man can wear a regular condom underneath the tickler to ensure contraceptive protection.

For breaking news and online updates,
visit the Meter online at tsumeter.com

Gay Greeks increase visibility

By Tiffani J. McDaniel
Asst. A&C Editor



Four women created the first lesbian Greek organization, Omicron Epsilon Pi sorority in Tallahassee on Feb. 7, 2000.

According to their Web site, their motivation to start this organization was to create a haven for dominate women that would change the negative stereotypes placed upon butch/stud women within their community.

Along with lesbian organizations, gay male organizations have emerged as well including Delta Upsilon Phi, which was established on Jan. 15, 1985 by Trevor A. Charles on the campus of Florida State University.

Also according to the site, membership is targeted toward gay men of color who are at least 18 years old, have great potential to be good role models for gay men, and utilize their time to contribute services to the community.

"It's good that they have their own organization, as long as they don't take someone else's letters," said Rona Henry, a senior health care administration major from Knoxville, Tenn.

Other homosexual Greek-letter organizations have emerged such as, Alpha Chi Upsilon Sorority, which has a local chapter, Iota Lambda Pi Sorority and Alpha

Omega Chi Fraternity.

Organizations established for the sole purpose of uniting gays is politically correct. However, it can harm already established organizations.

After pictures were posted via the Internet last year from schools such as Texas Southern University and Prairie View of men dressed in pink and green, organizations like Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. were affected.

"It's an atrocity that men would want to pledge AKA," said Memry (Beth) Wilson, a junior mass communications major from Memphis. "I can't fathom why a grown man would want to be in a sorority, I don't get it. It's not legit, you're not national, you're just walking around looking stupid."

According to an article published on blackgreeknetwork.com, these men were the new inductees of the Tri Alpha Chapter, and they preferred to be called MIAKA (men interested in Alpha Kappa Alpha).

In 1906, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., the first black male Greek organization was founded on the campus of Cornell University, during a time when Blacks were considered inferior and denied essential privileges delegated to non-minority students.

Afterward, eight more organizations including Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc.,

Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc. and Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc. paved the way for Black men and women to build a bond that would last a lifetime through service projects, and brotherly and sisterly love.

"I pledged because I thought it would make me a better man, and it did," said Keith Batts, a senior business administration from Nashville and a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc.

Kenya Williams, a sophomore criminal justice major from Memphis said that making gay-centered organizations could help in the same way it helped Batts. "If that's what lesbians (and gays) need to utilize their freedom of speech, go for it," she said.

Since social organizations are generally used to unite people with similar concerns and appreciations, organizations in support of homosexuals could be helpful to that community, much like the organizations that came before it.

"Gays are constantly being out casted from society and especially Greek organizations," said April Little, a senior health science major from Harriman, Tenn., and a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. •

tsumeter.com

Lyricist Lounge

"What is Love?"

By Melissa Smith

What is love?

Love is not the singing heart of a stuffed animal on Valentine's Day.

Love is not the tear on that glistening rose in a red bouquet.

Love is not the from you card that occupies my shelf

Love is loving me completely and then.

Loving you like nothing else. •

Oral sex not sexual substitute

Continued from page 11

"A lot of people feel that they are saving their virginity, but oral sex is still sex," said Elizabeth Frazier, the head nurse at Queen Washington Health Center.

The topic of what is considered sex is a widely debated topic among students.

"Sex to me is the mutual understanding of giving pleasure to the other person," Henderson said. "Sex is seducing of the mind." •

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PDA not universally approved

Continued from page 11

major from Marietta, Ga.

Although it seems that a lot of students are for PDA, there are some who are not.

"I hate it, don't like to see it, there is a time and place for everything," said Valynne Wiles, a junior commercial music major from Pittsburg, Pa.

Mondresa Miller, a junior accounting major from Pontiac, Mich., said she is not interested in PDA at all.

"I don't think it's necessary, you should just act normal, because everybody doesn't want to see that," Miller said.

In general, it seems that the campus is generally okay with PDA, though not everyone around wants to see it being done to the extreme.

PDA is still the biggest visual of the upcoming holiday but not everyone will be participating in it. •



PHOTO BY MARIO STUART

Students on campus say they don't have a problem with public displays of affection



Food can be libido enhancer

By Travis Cooper
Contributing Reporter

Studies by the Food and Drug Administration dispelling the legends of the libido-enhancing ability of certain foods are not swaying some opinions of the aphrodisiacs.

Professionals agree that the beliefs foods such as chocolate and oysters are rooted in myth, and have little to no effect on the sex drive of an individual.

According to Dr. Ivan Davis, director of Queen Washington Health Center, tests on these foods have been done by the FDA, but the results did not yield any significant findings.

"There are some foods shown to increase libido but the effects are barely noticeable," Davis said.

Despite this, many students still believe that food can be a powerful tool used to get themselves or their lovers in the mood.

Chocolate unanimously tops students' lists of libido-enhancing foods and many say it will be used to set the mood this Valentine's night.

"I think that chocolate is the most romantic food," said Elzey Rosebud, a senior health sciences major from Memphis. "It can be used in many ways including in foreplay."

Courtney Avent, a sophomore biology and pre-med major also from Memphis went on to say, "Chocolate puts me in the mood. Ice cream puts me in the mood too, but I don't know why."

Foods with temperature or textural extremes like ice cream are not uncommon tools to be used during moments of intimacy according to sexinfo101.com.

The Web site also suggests trying to incorporate juicy fruits like strawberries, pineapples and watermelon into foreplay as sweet incentives to kiss different places.

Fruit is a potentially powerful foreplay tool, but it is not the only possibility. Destini Williams, a junior political science major from Chattanooga, Tenn., recommends some uncommon yet innovative foods to try with your partner.

"Aside from caramel sauce and chocolate covered strawberries, pop rocks add a twist to intimacy," Williams said. "A mouthful can add a tingling sensation to wherever you choose to kiss."

Clams, oysters and shrimp have also

found their place in the hearts of lovers. Such seafood has been used as a tool for sexual enhancement for ages because of its tie to the Greek goddess of love Aphrodite, according to WebMD.

The belief in the arousing nature of shellfish is not limited to the Mediterranean. WebMD states that the incorporation of such is a staple in many cultures including those of the Caribbean.

"Conch is known as a libido enhancer," said Dien Hinsey, a senior English major from the Bahamas, "but it's not really available in Tennessee."

According to FDA studies, garlic and spices affect the body by increasing heart rate and blood flow, and chemicals in chocolate are said to increase endorphins. The way a food is consumed, however, is just as important as the dish itself.

Oysters and pomegranates are both regarded as erotic foods because of the methods they are consumed.

Food.com states that raw oysters are eaten in a suggestive manner, and seeds like the pomegranate are fed to lovers to increase fertility.

"I enjoy the tropical fruits like mango and pineapple," Williams said, "along with other things that can be fed like grapes."

Romanceclass.com says the tradition of feeding grapes to one's lover stems back to ancient Rome when one would feed their spouse peeled grapes to show they cared for the other. The act is not meant to increase potency, but to display dedication to the lover.

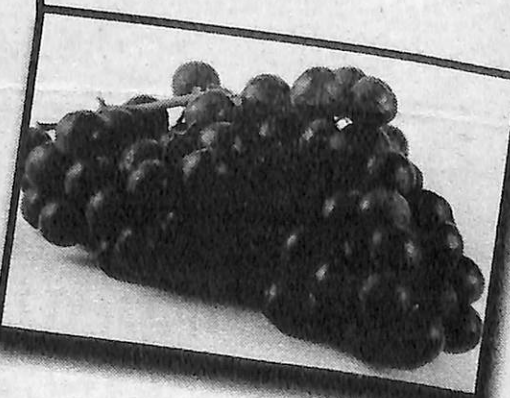
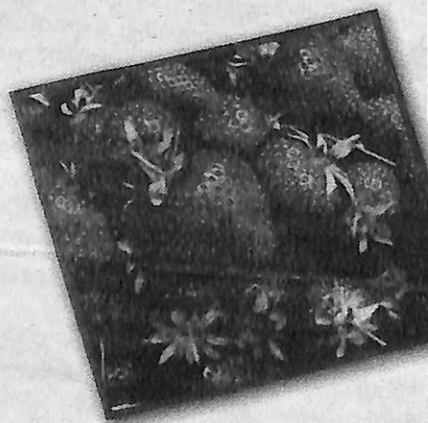
Preparing a meal or going to a romantic dinner are other methods recommended by romanceclass.com to set the mood.

Ladies agree that the secret to a wonderful Valentine's night lies not in the food, but in the atmosphere in which it's received.

"The perfect Valentine's dinner would include rose petals lining the way to a hot bubble bath," Williams said, "and would end with a home-made meal, preferably Italian, being fed to me."

While the physical effects of aphrodisiacs are debatable, the psychological effects are undeniable. According to Food.com, food and love have been historically linked for over 5,000 years, and these ties are not easily broken.

Walretta Chandler, a campus nurse at Queen Washington Health Center sums up romance by simply saying, "You can't go wrong with dinner."*





**TENNESSEE
STATE UNIVERSITY**

**In Honor of Black History Month
Tennessee State University's
Pre-Alumni Council**

will host a

Blood Drive

at

**Kean Hall Gymnasium
on Tuesday, February 19
from 10 a.m.- 6 p.m.**

To sign-up, please email hb4president@aol.com

METER BREAK *Cause everyone needs a break from the news!*

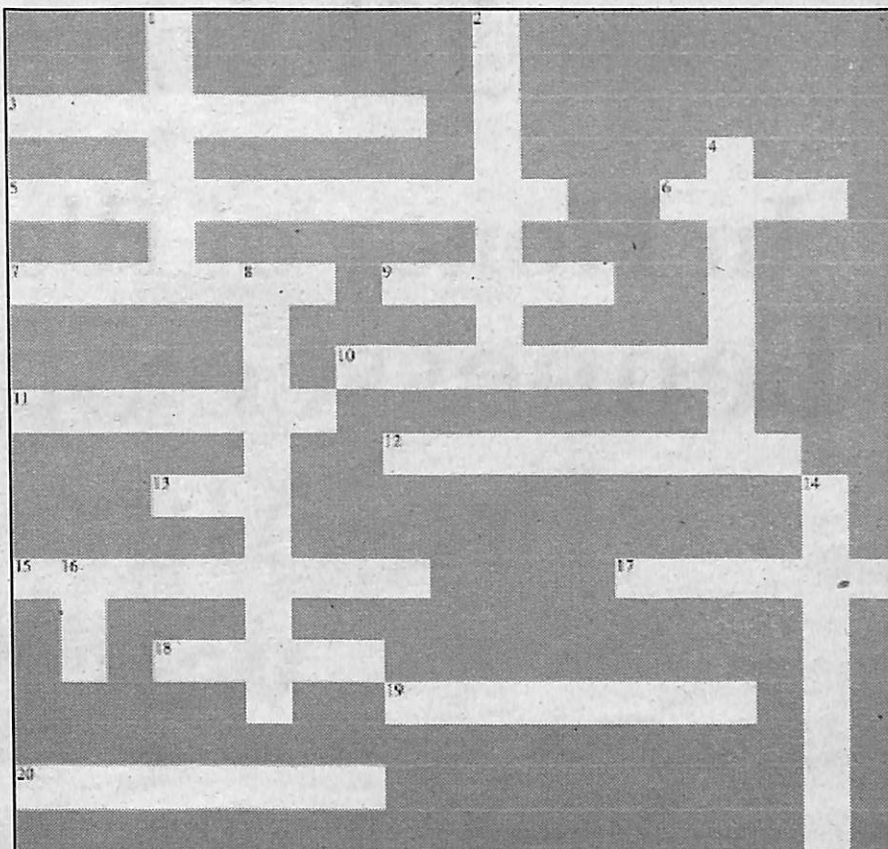
PHOTO OF THE WEEK HOOKS, ANYONE?



PHOTO BY MARIO STUART

Members of the Rho Psi chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. perform in the 22nd annual Pan-Hellenic Council step show at Kean Hall gymnasium.

Crossword Challenge



ACROSS

- 3. "My funny _____."
- 5. Synonym for this latex contraceptive
- 6. "Every time the _____ drops."
- 7. Snoop's seduction
- 9. 112 hit or club "shuffle"
- 10. Substance to make it slide
- 11. From the past
- 12. Public displays of _____
- 13. Where a good Valentine's day ends
- 15. Difficult science class or a strong connection

17. Climax

- 18. Cardiac organ
- 19. Daughter of a king and queen.
- 20. Victoria's specialty

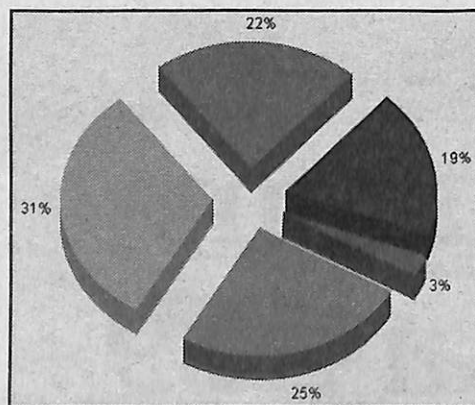
DOWN

- 1. What Valtrex treats
- 2. The love of T-Pain's life
- 4. Head, for a man
- 8. Chocolate and viagra
- 14. "Lovey dovey, _____." (two words)
- 16. Warm embrace

in the POLL

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Which 2008 election issue is most important to you?



- Balancing the economy- 31 percent
- Education Funding- 25 percent
- Ending War in Iraq- 22 percent
- Universal Healthcare- 19 percent
- Alternative Energy Source- 3 percent

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:

What will you be doing this year on Valentine's Day?

- A. Spending time at home with a special person.
- B. Going out for dinner & movies
- C. Chilling alone, taking care of yourself.
- D. Talking the night a way with a long-distance friend.
- E. I don't care about Valentine's Day at all.

Need advice?
Ask the
Meter Madam

Send an e-mail to
meter.madam@gmail.com

SPORTS

Monday, February 11, 2008

Volume 58, Issue 28

Tigers overwhelmed by 'bad luck'**LaVonte Young**
Senior Sports Reporter

The last week the TSU Tigers continued a string of self-described "bad luck" when it came to closing out games and Saturday night's game against Tennessee Tech wasn't any different.

With the Tigers up 74-73 and 29 seconds left on the game clock, Tennessee Tech guard, Anthony Fisher, hit an inbounds play three pointer to put the Golden Eagles up 76-74.

"I was struggling early in the game but I finally got in rhythm towards the end," Fisher said.

Coach Cy Alexander said, "Fisher made a tough shot to give them the victory."

On the next Tigers' possession, guard Bruce Price had a chance to tie the game but he split the pair of free throws.

Tech went down to their end and

knocked down a pair of free throws to build their lead to three.

Tigers' forward Jerrel Houston had a chance to tie the game but his three-point attempt bounced off the front of the rim.

"This was our fourth lost in a row and it's frustrating," Houston said. "It's like we have bad luck but it won't last."

This was a big win for Tennessee Tech who improved their record to 9-8 in conference play to move into the sixth spot while the Tigers tied with Southeast Missouri State for the eighth and final spot to gain a tournament birth.

"We are just trying to get to the tournament," Houston said.

In seven out of the Big Blue nine conference loses were by six points or less.

"Bad luck never ends for us. It's like we have been snake bitten," Alexander said.

The second half was a back and

forth affair at one point. Early in the half, the Tigers had an eight point lead but Tennessee Tech would rally a come back. Tech in return would jump out to an eight point lead and the Tigers would come back.

"When we were down, the kids showed resilience," Alexander said. "They show a lot of character."

The Achilles heals for the Tigers proved to be the free throw line.

Tech shot 13 of 16 from the line in the second half while the Tigers shot 11 of 18.

Gerald Robinson Jr. and Ladarious Weaver led the way for the Tigers with 18 points apiece. Weaver was five of eight from behind the arc.

Houston scored 15 points while Price chipped in with 11 points.

The Big Blue will be back in action Thursday against Murray State. Tip off is set for 7:30 p.m. at the Gentry Center.

Webster excited with recruits**By LaVonte Young**
Senior Sports Reporter

TSU head football coach James Webster said that he is more excited about this year's Tiger recruits than he was about last year's class.

Last year, the Tigers addressed their need of filling a quarterback position with standout freshman Calvin McNair, who stepped in and made an impact for the Big Blue.

This year, the Big Blue's focus was on the defensive side of the ball and Webster feels he has players that can come in and play.

"I feel like we have a lot of players that can step in and play right away," Webster said.

The Tigers signed 17 players on

See "Tigers" on page 20

Cold second half kills Lady Tigers**By LaVonte Young**
Senior Sports Reporter

The Lady Tigers (10-14, 7-8 OVC) ice-cold second half was costly as they fell to the Tennessee Tech Golden Eagles (6-19, 5-10) 60-51 on Saturday, Feb 9.

With the loss the Lady Tigers fell to sixth in the conference.

Struggling could not explain how bad the Lady Tigers were playing in the early part of the second half. In the first 6:16 of the second half they were 0 of 3 from the field with five turnovers.

Oby Okafor ended the field goal drought when she hit a lay up with 13:43 left to cut the lead to 38-27.

The Lady Golden Eagles would con-

tinue to build their lead to as many as 15 points in the second half but the Lady Tigers battled back to cut the lead down to five.

The Lady Tigers could not buy a bucket in the second half shooting 8-26 from the field for 30 percent. They were not much better in free throw shooting as the Lady Tigers only shot 11 for 20 from the free throw line.

The Lady Tigers went to half time with their two leading scorers Kendra Appling and Okafor on the bench with three and two fouls respectively.

The Big Blue defense held the Golden Eagles to 8 of 33 from the field for 24 percent shooting but the Golden Eagles knocked down 10 of 11 from the free throw line.

Turnovers also killed the Lady Tigers in the first half as they gave up the ball 13 times and in the opening minutes of the second half turned it over four times.

While the Lady Tigers were cold, the Lady Golden Eagles were beginning to heat up going on a 38 to 25 run.

Even with the cold shooting and turnovers, the Lady Tigers were only down by eight with 4:00 left in the game.

Okafor led the way for the Lady Tigers with 17 points and 12 rebounds and six turnovers. Charisse Hicks was the only other Lady Tiger in double digits with 10. Appling scored four points in 20 minutes of action.

The Lady Tigers will be looking to rebound against Austin Peay University on Monday, Feb. 11 at 7 p.m.

SPORTS CALENDAR

Week of Feb. 3-9

Men's BasketballFeb. 14 vs. Murray State
at 7:30 p.m.Feb. 18 vs. Austin Peay
at 7:30 p.m.**Women's Basketball**Feb. 11 vs. Austin Peay
at 7 p.m.Feb. 14 vs. Murray State
at 5:30 p.m.**Flying Tigers**Feb. 15 @ Virginia Tech
Indoor Meet**Softball**Feb. 16 vs. Alabama A&M (DH)
at 12 p.m.

**Want to write for the Sports section?
Stop by *The Meter* office and
apply in Kean Hall 304.**

Tigers get eight from Nashville

Continued from page 19

National Signing Day. Last season, the Tigers' defense struggled with injuries and lack of depth. But this season it will not be a problem.

"We addressed our needs on the defense side of the ball," Webster said. "That is what we were really focused on with this class."


The Big Blue did not have to look far for their players with eight of them coming out of the Nashville area.

"I feel like this is a big year for the state of Tennessee," Webster said. "This is the most prospects out of the state since I have been here."

Webster said the university could offer only 14 scholarships this year but the number is expected to increase next season.

"Last season, we had a team that was full of juniors," Webster said. "Next year we will have more to offer."•

THE METER




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To my homies: I love yall. Black Barbie, Sade Davis, Don Daniels, Alyssa Korbin, Zach, Teryn, Shirelle, Meghan, Franchesca Alicia, and Doje.
From: Joshua Sims



To Tay: Happy Valentine's Day, Ol' Buddy, ol' pal
From: Janitsa



To Quan: Happy Valentine's Day. You are so funny and you sing really good. Love ya
From: Larette Sanders



To Malleta: You have made me very happy, in such a short time. You mean the world to me and I look forward to your future together. I love you.
From: Elbert Jaquess, Jr.



To: Shout out to all the ladies at TSU but love always to Shannon and Maya
From: DePaul Owens



To Detroit: Keep holding it down!!! We been A1 since day one! God is our witness!
From: Angel D.



To anonymous: Affinities you Love, fervently enhancing sexual inhibition, numerically numb gift, post-transcriptional gene silencing Love

From: Anonymous



To Patrick Calvin: I love your personality. Every time I see you, a big smile appears on my face. Happy Valentine's Day!

From: Anonymous



To my Meter staff: much love this V-Day and all my male friends who will keep me company next Thursday. God bless Beta Nu Gamma.

From:
Kimberly Chester



To Z Phi B: from the men of the Awesome Zeta Alpha chapter of Phi Beta Sigma

From:
Xavier Keen



To myself: Because I am kind of a big deal. Also for those who don't have Valentines this year.

From:
Micheal Hart



To all the lovely ladies of the Honors Program Council and the general body: Happy Valentine's Day

From:
Michael E. Johnson II



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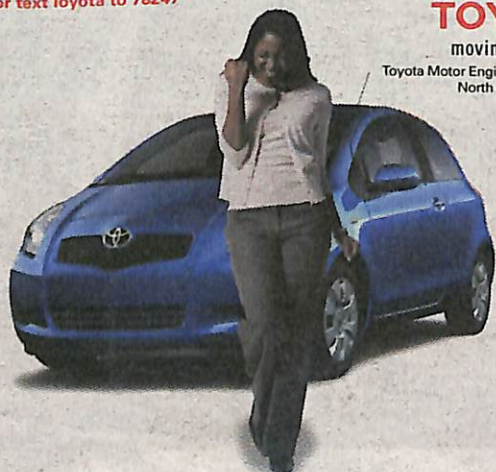
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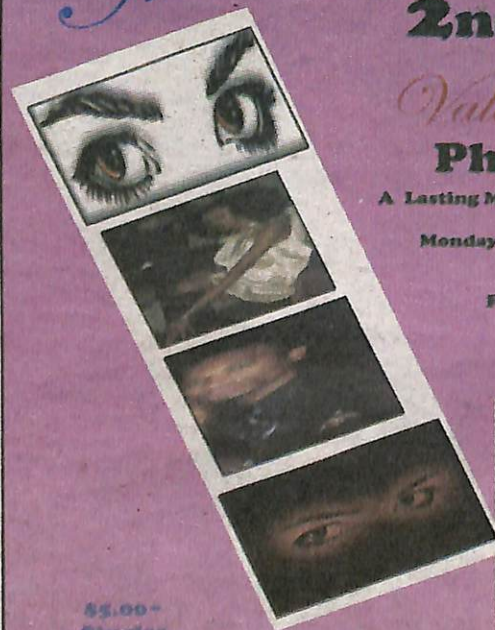
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Monday February 11 - Thursday February 14

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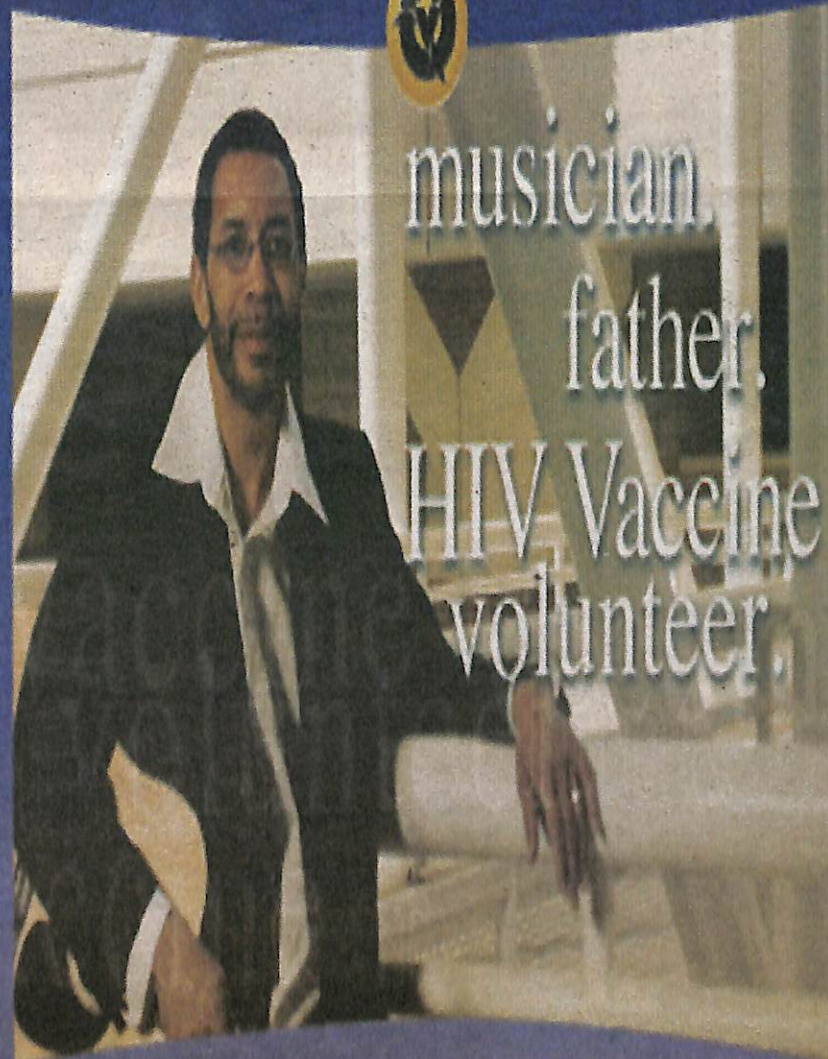
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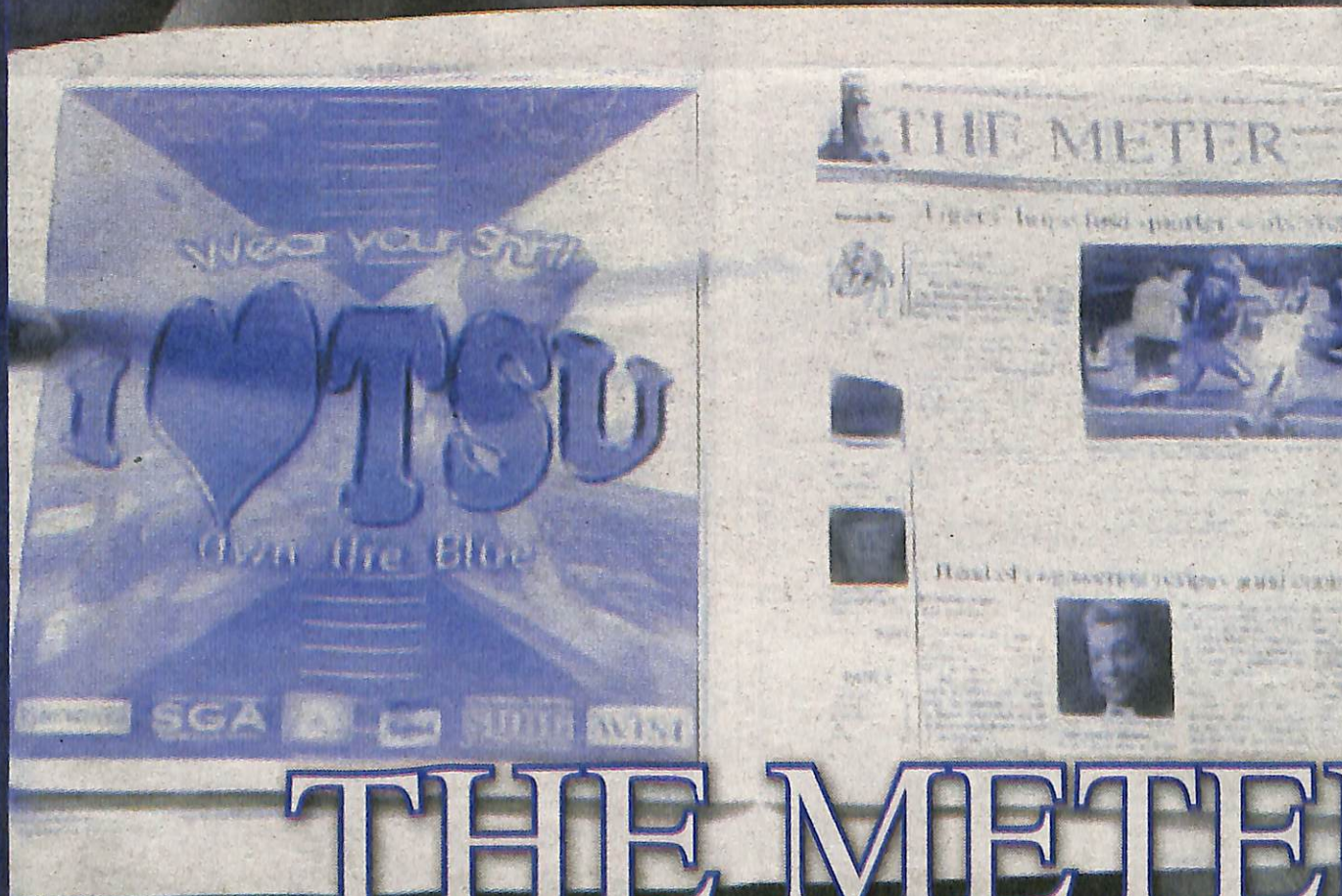
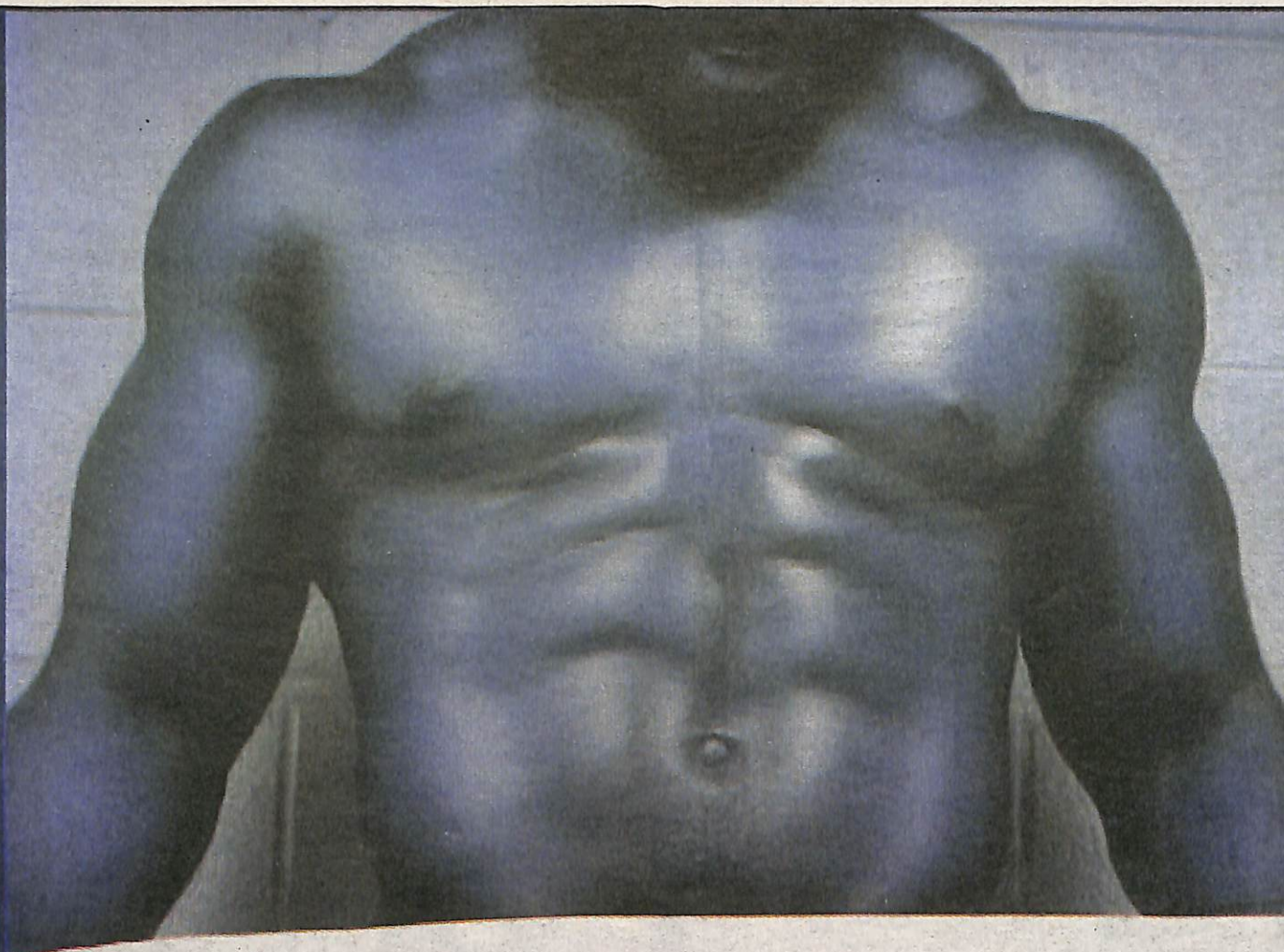
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