

THE METER

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Homecoming Special Edition

Crime knocks on students' front door

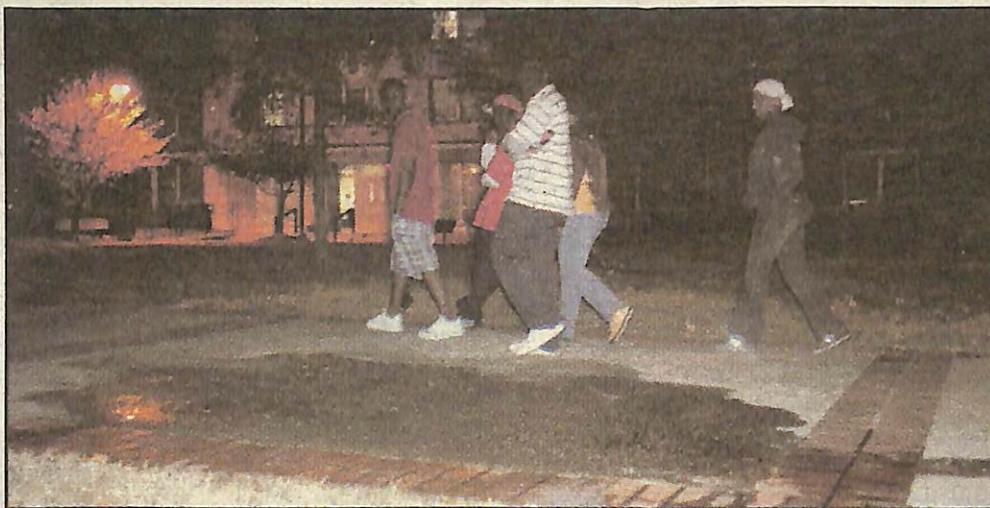


PHOTO BY KENNETH CUMMINGS

Students walk toward the front entrance of Hankal Hall past the spot where hours earlier Li Hong Peng, a Best Wok Chinese Restaurant deliveryman, was shot and killed after being robbed for his money and car Monday, Oct. 31.

Murder at TSU

By Eddie R. Cole Jr.
Editor in Chief

A robbery in front of TSU's Hankal Hall resulted in a delivery man for Best Wok Chinese Restaurant being shot and rushed to the Nashville General Hospital at Meharry where he was pronounced dead Monday, Oct. 31.

Li Hong Peng, 37, a temporary delivery man for the restaurant located at 28th and Clifton avenues in the Swett's Plaza,

was fatally wounded and robbed around 6:20 p.m., according to Metro Nashville Police officials.

"At some point, two male Blacks approached him with a weapon in a robbery attempt," said Detective Duane Phillips, of the Nashville-Davidson Metro Police Department, in a statement to the media after the shooting. "They ended up a struggle going on, he was shot, they took his money and his car."

See "Murder" on page 3

Sororities on suspension, appeal pending

By DeShanee Miner
Senior Visuals Editor

Two TSU sororities have been placed on three-year suspension for misconduct, according to a member of one of the sorority's advisory board.

Both the Alpha Chi chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. and the Alpha Psi chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. received notice of the suspension 72 hours after an incident on Thursday, Oct. 6, according to Natasha Vanderbilt member of the Alpha Chi advisory board.

However, Vanderbilt did not specify the details of the suspension.

Current Alpha Chi President Roneisha Graham, a senior electrical engineering major from Thomasville, Ga., said the chapter is presently appealing the suspension, therefore, declined to comment further on the situation. But Vanderbilt said the appeals process is currently "unclear" and could take up to a year and a half before completion.

Reasons for the suspension of both sororities were not specified, but TSU director of

See "Night" page 5

Tigers' homecoming win streak in peril

By Dairanetta Spain
Sports Editor

This weekend the TSU football program will place its nine-game homecoming win streak on the line against the Ohio Valley Conference's top-ranked Eastern Illinois Panthers Saturday, Nov. 5 at 6 p.m.

The Tigers are 2-6, 1-3 in the OVC and the Panthers are 6-2, 5-0 in the OVC.

The match-up to watch in this game is between the TSU defense and the EIU offense, which both lead the OVC in several categories.

The Panthers' offense averages 309.2 yards per game, but holding on to TSU's signature this season, the Tiger defense continues to lead the conference in total defense, passing defense, and sacks.

"I have a lot of respect for the TSU pro-

gram," said EIU head football coach Bob Spoo. "I am particularly concerned about their defense and I believe they (TSU) are a lot better than what their record would indicate."

Defensively, the Tigers allow a league best 321.9 yards total defense per game, but offensively only average 282.2 yards per

See "Williams" on page 16

Campus News

Johnson: TSU to become research extensive

By Melaney Whiting
A&E Writer

On Monday Oct. 24, new TSU President Melvin Johnson said he is interested in moving TSU "research extensive university" status during an open forum for TSU students.

Johnson said if TSU improves from its current "research intensive university" status, then the university would join the Howard University as nation's only historically Black colleges or universities with research extensive status.

Currently, TSU is in the process of building a new research facility, on the west side of campus between the Jane Elliot Building and Crouch Hall, at an estimated cost of \$8 million dollars, according to university development officials.

The building, whose construction began near the beginning of the fall 2005 semester, is expected to house

some of the university's existing research sponsored programs.

The building will be 62,000 square ft. and has plans to expand to more than 90,000 square ft. and will include an animal research facility.

The new facility supports the theory of Marcus Shute, TSU's vice president of research and sponsored programs.

"TSU's ability to grow depends on the resources made available to the university to invest activities that will grow, which include new academic programs both undergraduate and graduate, new research initiatives and research infrastructure," Shute said.

University relations and development director, Hollis Price, said the idea for the new building was conceived during former TSU president James A. Hefner's presidency and it was financed by grants.

"The financing is complicated,"

Price said. "The \$8 million is from extramural funding from research and service grants. The amount will go to the university and will be used to pay for the construction of the new facility being build."

And the new building couldn't come at a better time.

Shute said at the present time, researchers are near capacity in lab space and therefore, new research infrastructure was essential.

"The new building provides some additional space for new research activities, but in order to continue to grow, we need significantly more research and lab space," Shute said. "If we have more space, we can develop more programs."

But Shute said that the new building will already be near capacity when researchers are able to move into it after its expected completion in the fall of 2006.

Wesley Foundation to host annual fish fry

The TSU Wesley Foundation will host its annual Homecoming Fish Fry on Saturday, Nov. 5, during the Homecoming parade and pre-game festivities on campus.

The fish fry will be located behind the TSU Wesley Foundation Center, which is celebrating its first anniversary in the facility that opened last fall.

Coffee, hot chocolate and doughnuts will be available at 8:30 a.m. until noon. Fish sandwiches, fish plates (fish sandwich and coleslaw), chips, sodas and bottled water will be sold from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. or until all food is served.

The TSU Wesley Foundation is located at 3201 John A. Merritt.

Vera Coleman, chair of the Homecoming Fish fry Committee points out, "Each year, we work to raise funds so that our students can have a chance to plan and participate in enriching experiences that reinforce their faith in God

and in themselves."

For more information contact Reverend S. Renee Franklin, the campus minister, at 327-4651, or e-mail her at wesley.tsu@comcast.net.

Madelyn Ragland

Nursing school to host lecture today

The TSU School of Nursing will hold its annual Christine Sharpe Distinguished Lecture Series program during Homecoming week.

Renown doctor Courtney Lyder, a national expert in wound care and decubitus (pressure) ulcers, especially among elderly patients, will be the speaker.

Lyder was chair of a federal panel that revised national guidelines for pressure ulcers for the nation's nursing homes and strengthened the penalties for violating them.

Currently, he serves as a senior consultant on skin and wound care issues for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

He is the first nurse at the University of Virginia to hold a professorship in the school of medicine and is the first African-American male nurse to hold a named professorship in nursing.

In the past 10 years, Lyder has received as a principal investigator or co-investigator nearly \$7 million in research and training grants related to various topics in older adults.

He has published two books, 50 journal articles, 20 book chapters and 70 abstracts. He has given more than 200 lectures throughout the United States and abroad.

The event will take place today at 6 p.m. in the Frederick S. Humphries Complex. The public is invited to attend free of charge.

For more information on the lecture, contact Verla Vaughn at 963-5277.

Madelyn Ragland

Events Calendar

Today

Miss TSU Coronation
Kean Hall
7 p.m.

Royal Ball
Maxwell House
10 p.m.

Tomorrow

Pep Rally
Hale Stadium
noon

Saturday

Homecoming Parade
Jefferson Street
9 a.m.

TSU v.s. Eastern Illinois
The Coliseum
6 p.m.

News Briefs

Corrections

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

Campus News

Murder suspects still at large, security to increase

Continued from page 1

The robbery suspects were unable to be identified as either TSU students or visitors to the campus. However, Peng's vehicle was identified as a white Honda Civic with a Tennessee license plate that reads RTJ - O17.

According to WSMV Channel 4 News, the robbery occurred as a delivery was being made to female residents of Hankal Hall. The number of shots fired were not confirmed, but several shell coverings were visible at the scene.

"Basically, we're saddened anytime there is a loss, especially anytime there is a loss of life on campus," said Sherre Bishop, TSU director of public relations.

As of *Meter* press time, it had not been identified whether or not campus security cameras were able to capture an image of the suspects. However, Bishop said she didn't believe the suspects were TSU students.

"Security is not as tight as it should be," said Jasmine Rhodes, a resident of Hankal Hall and sophomore business administration major from Memphis. "I could have been caught up in that cross fire. Luckily I had already left for the Nightmare of Jefferson Street (dance competition), and it really was a nightmare on Jefferson."

According to *Meter* archives, the last murder on TSU's campus occurred in October 1997. That year, Ryan Keith "Reno" Anderson of Memphis was killed on the sixth floor of Boyd Hall in relation to an illegal drug transaction.

"This is the time of season where we always have robberies pick up but very seldom do we have one on a college

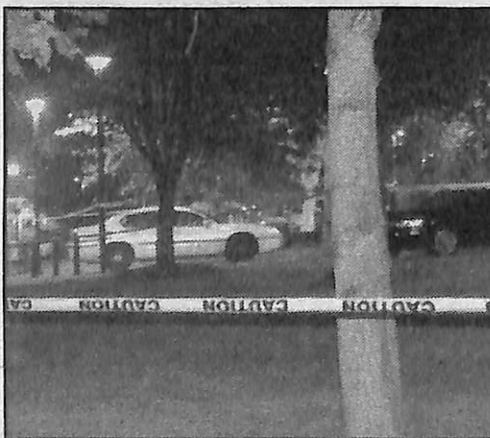


PHOTO BY KENNETH CUMMINGS

Metro Police covered the front entrance area of Hankal Hall after a murder of a local deliveryman.

dorm, on a college campus," Phillips said.

Bishop said that due to the Nottingham Law, a result of the Nottingham Campus Crime Scene Investigation Act of 2004, TSU, and any other university in the state of Tennessee, is required to turn the investigation of an on-campus murder over to the nearest precinct.

Detective Cynthia Quirouette of the Nashville-Davidson Metro Police Department, north precinct, said anyone with information regarding to the murder of Peng should call Crime Stoppers at 74-CRIME. A cash reward up to \$1,000 and tips can remain anonymous.

Time is of the essence

After the robbery attempt that occurred at about 6:20 p.m., Peng's body was left lying on the sidewalk in front of Hankal Hall until paramedics could arrive on the scene.

One female resident of Hankal Hall, who requested not to be identified, said that she heard what she believed to be firecrackers outside of the residence hall. She went on to say that when she looked outside, a body was lying on the ground.

The resident estimated that the body lay on the sidewalk for 20 minutes before being removed from the scene.

News Channel 4 reporter Dagny Stuart told *The Meter* that the location of the shooting given to their news station was the corner of 3500 John Merritt Blvd. and 33rd Avenue. She said the actual location of Hankal Hall was not specified for them to respond to, which delayed them in finding the dorm.

Quirouette was unable to disclose the time frame between the emergency call to 911 officials and the approximate time of the police arrival on TSU's campus.

Security measures on campus to increase

In light of the murder and the thousands of anticipated visitors coming to campus for Homecoming 2005, TSU officials said increased security measures will be implemented.

"We are stepping up security measures on campus," said new TSU President Melvin Johnson.



PHOTO BY KENNETH CUMMINGS

Sherre Bishop, director of TSU public relations, address questions about campus security to local media Tuesday, Nov. 1.

Bishop said that TSU Police will be hosting crime prevention sessions in all residence halls to give students "smart tips." She also said that students who don't feel comfortable migrating from location to location on campus can contact TSU Police for an escort.

"A number of security measures are being taken," Bishop said.

Other measures include increased lighting to dark areas on campus, counseling for students, and communication to students, parents, faculty, staff and alumni explaining what the university is planning on doing.

Johnson also said that local delivery restaurants will have to contact campus police before making conducting any business on-campus.

"This is a very serious matter for us and we want to let everybody know that students are our major concern," Johnson said.

TSU officials said an additional 32 Metro Nashville police officers, 16 emergency management officers, and 12 security officers have been contracted to assist with homecoming activities. Additionally, the Metro Nashville police department has a suggested parking and transportation routes for the homecoming game.

Li Hong Peng's life

Li Hong Peng was a temporary delivery man for Best Wok Chinese restaurant who was just trying to support his family, according to Eric Guo, restaurant manager and friend of Peng.

Guo said Peng was not employed by Best Wok, but was allowed to work there only as friend. He had only worked for the restaurant for less than a month and

had just moved to the United States four months ago.

Guo said Peng is survived by his wife and their seven-year old son. He said he believes that Peng's wife, who had only been in the United States for two years, was currently working at Vanderbilt University.

Peng was also expected to start school in an ESL, English as a Second Language, in December of this year.

Deliveries possibly affected

With Best Wok being one of the few local restaurants to deliver to the TSU campus, several local businesses are in limbo of whether to continue delivering to the university.

Michael Peters, assistant manager of Papa John's Pizza on Charlotte Parkway, said that his delivery services already took precautions with deliveries.

"We meet at the lobby of the hall," he said. "Normally, we try to call before we get there so they can meet us."

This was done despite the fact that the restaurant didn't deliver to TSU after 8 p.m. prior to the murder.

"After last night I don't know what's going to happen with the policy now," Peters said.

Trey Ragland, a delivery man for Wing Zone food establishment, said their store will continue to delivery to TSU with the exception of Hankal Hall. He said Hankal residents will have to meet Wing Zone employees at Wilson Hall.

Guo, who sometimes works as a delivery man in addition to being restaurant manager, said he has never had any problems at TSU but said he at the moment he is unsure whether his business will continue to deliver to TSU.

"Every time I go out to TSU there are normally a lot of officers," Guo said. "They are pretty nice and good with that."

Guo suggested that he didn't believe that suspects were from TSU, but he did say that Hankal Hall seems more prone to robberies considering its isolated location and numerous trees.

However he said, "I have never seen any officer back there in front of Hankal Hall."

Brian Browley and Kirsten Watkins contributed to this report.

Forum

What We Think

Crime stoppage is in students' hands

This past Monday, Oct. 31, the excitement and joy usually associated with Homecoming was subdued with the loss of a life on campus. At about 6:20 p.m., Li Hong Peng was gunned down in the front of Hankal Residence Hall.

Peng, 37, was delivering an order of food from the Best Wok Chinese restaurant on 28th and Clifton avenues, when he was approached by, according to Metro Nashville-Davidson police, two Black males.

The two men shot Peng and took both his money and car. And as Peng was taken to Metro General Hospital at Meharry Medical College where he was pronounced dead, this marks the second murder to take place on TSU's campus in less than ten years. The last murder was that of Ryan Keith "Reno" Anderson, a 21-year old from Memphis, in Boyd Residence Hall eight years ago, ironically, during homecoming week.

According to news reports, Monday night was only Peng's second day of work at Best Wok delivery driver as he was filling in for a friend who had to go out of town. He had moved to the United States from Japan only four months ago after recently completing a law degree to be with his young son to join his wife who worked at Vanderbilt Hospital.

The loss of life is always a tragedy, and the loss of life during the commission of a violent crime even further adds to the bitter taste left in our mouths. Of

course, when a tragedy such as this occurs, one of the first things is finger pointing and the blame game. While TSU can always do a better job in protecting its most valuable asset, its students, they must also take into consideration ways of protecting those who venture on our campus as visitors. Even with cameras, boosted patrols, and stricter entrance policies, there is only so much TSU administration and campus police can do to protect us.

While the entertaining activities of Homecoming week were on our minds, we need pause to reflect on the tragedy that has temporarily tarnished our university. We must think how we all can take an active role in making crimes, such as Peng's difficult, if not impossible, to get away with on our campus.

Sherre Bishop, TSU public relations director, made an interesting suggestion to *The Meter* that students could take to combat crime on campus. She suggested the formation of a student run campus watch, similar to neighborhood watch programs across the nation.

While many students may think the idea of taking the time to report suspicious activity as a waste of time and at worst a violation of some obligatory street etiquette, should keep in mind the larger picture. Namely, that each and every one of our very own lives are at stake.

As we may be able to say that the awful crime that took place on Monday was an isolated incident, the real danger

is if we send the message that incidents such as this don't affect us and that we won't take efforts to protect ourselves.

Of course, some will scream that it's the university's job to protect us; after all, don't we pay those entire tuition and housing fees so that we will be safe? But to put it simply, to make such statements shows a victim's mentality.

In a perfect world the TSU police would be able to prevent all crimes, but this isn't a perfect world. So, hate it or love it, now as students at TSU, it's our duty to assist in protecting ourselves. Now we aren't advising students to go out and try to take the law into their own hands, but we should be aware of our surroundings and have the courage to report activities that we know to be suspicious to the proper authorities.

While TSU will continue to welcome visitors to our campus, we should also be aware that the criminal element often looks at a college campus as an easy mark. After all, where else can you find such a large, generally unarmed population?

However, though we may not be armed with conventional weapons, we are armed with information and voices. We suggest that we use them both to ensure that tragedies such as the murder of a husband, father or anyone else never take place on our campus again.

The Meter Mission Statement

The Meter's mission is to accurately and responsibly report the "highlights and lowlights" of Tennessee State University and its community so that we may foster positive changes in the world around us, while reflecting the university's multi-cultural student body.

Submission Requirements

The Meter invites submissions by all members of the Tennessee State University community. Opinions contained in submitted articles do not necessarily reflect the views of TSU faculty, students, SGA, or administration. Timeliness and clarity are factors in selecting material for publication. Materials must adhere to the following guidelines:

- All contributions must be typed, double-spaced (submitted on 3.5" disks or e-mailed) by Monday, and must include the writers name and title or classification.
- Opinions and letters should not exceed 400 words.
- The Meter* reserves the right to reject letters, articles, or ads without explanation and to edit others as necessary.

The Meter

The Measure of Student Opinion and Sentiment

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The Meter capitalizes the letter "B" in the word "Black" when it refers to people of African descent in accordance with the Oxford American and other dictionaries.

The Meter is committed to serving TSU and the Nashville community. If you would like to become a supply outpost for *The Meter* or have an idea or suggestion regarding circulation please contact:

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Campus News

Night club incident leads to Greek probations

Continued from page 1

student activities, Ronald Myles, confirmed that there were improper activities at an off-campus event Thursday, Oct. 6.

"There was a confrontation at an off-campus site," Myles said, but he did not specify whether a conflict occurred on campus.

Current Alpha Psi President April Thomas, a senior accounting major from Albany, Ga., said the punishments were handed down after an incident at a Greek mixer during Skee-Phi Week, put on by the Alpha Psi and the Beta Omicron Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc., at the Red Carpet Lounge located at 1719 West End Ave.

"It wasn't between Greeks at first; a personal confrontation between two people, moved to on-campus, to the (New Residence Center)," Thomas said.

She said the next day, Oct. 7, an emergency meeting was called by the university between the members of

Alpha Psi, Alpha Chi, Beta Omicron, and the Alpha Theta chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc., to confirm what happened, was the reported altercation over and was there any vendettas lingering.

Thomas said as of Oct. 30, Alpha Psi was not applying for an appeal of the suspension.

But, whether or not an altercation took place on-campus, the TSU student handbook states that the university reserves the right "to sanction against students when an action by a student off campus is of such a nature that it constitutes a danger or threat to the safety and well being of the campus or members of the university community."

Also, university officials have imposed a 100 percent attendance mandate to all Pan-Hellenic organizations to attend anger management counseling.

The counseling sessions are expected to begin Nov. 15, according to Anthony Adjei, Iota Phi Theta Fraternity Inc. Pan-Hellenic representative.

University appeals at an all-time high

The appeal from the Alpha Chi chapter is one of several that are in the works at TSU.

William Hytche, dean of housing, said the week of Oct. 24 - 29 he had a substantial number of cases, nine of which were major and two ended in suspension.

Hytche, who serves on the TSU appeals committee, said he usually only has one minor appeal per month, sometimes one every two weeks.

He said the nine cases he had last week was the most he has ever dealt with in his nine years at TSU.

Hytche said he was unable to comment on the sorority suspension appeal because he serves on the TSU appeals committee.

Outsiders call for sex discrimination between Greeks

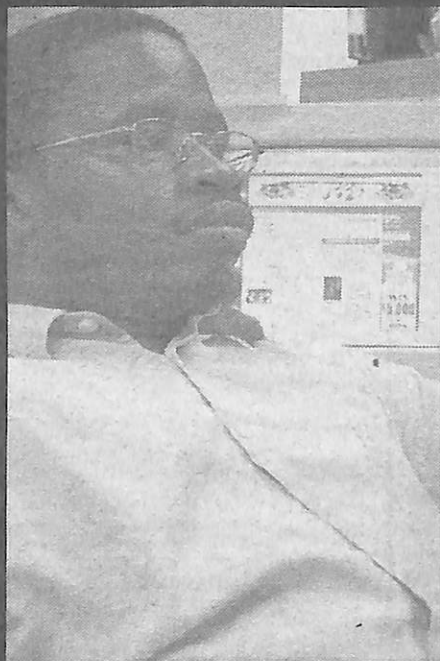
Also in response to the suspension, *The Meter* has received e-mails from concerned individuals who identified themselves as members of one of the two sororities.

These e-mails expressed concern about whether the suspensions handed down were based on the sex of the individuals involved instead of the ramifications of the actual confrontation. These allegations from the authors of these e-mails were based on their observations that some fraternities and some TSU athletic teams had took part in similar confrontations.

As of *Meter* press time, interim vice president of Student Affairs, Dorothy Lockridge could not be reached for comment on the allegations.

Student Affairs secretary, Carolyn Lewis, said as of 3:20 p.m. on Nov. 2, Lockridge was no longer accepting guests.

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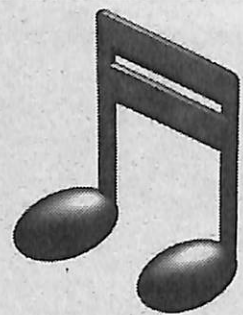
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Best friends share royal struggle

By Derrell Ester and
Anitra Montgomery
Contributing Writer and
Campus News Writer

For two best friends, the road to becoming a university queen was very rough and, at times, disappointing.

Tomeika Dobson, Miss TSU 2005-06, and Lauren Williams, first attendant to Miss Kentucky State University 2005-06, have been best friends since the fourth grade. But years later, when Williams decided to run for Miss KSU, Dobson became stirred to do the same here at TSU.

"Lauren actually inspired me to run for Miss TSU," said Dobson, a senior biology major from Indianapolis. "I always thought of running for Miss TSU since my freshman year. But when I was

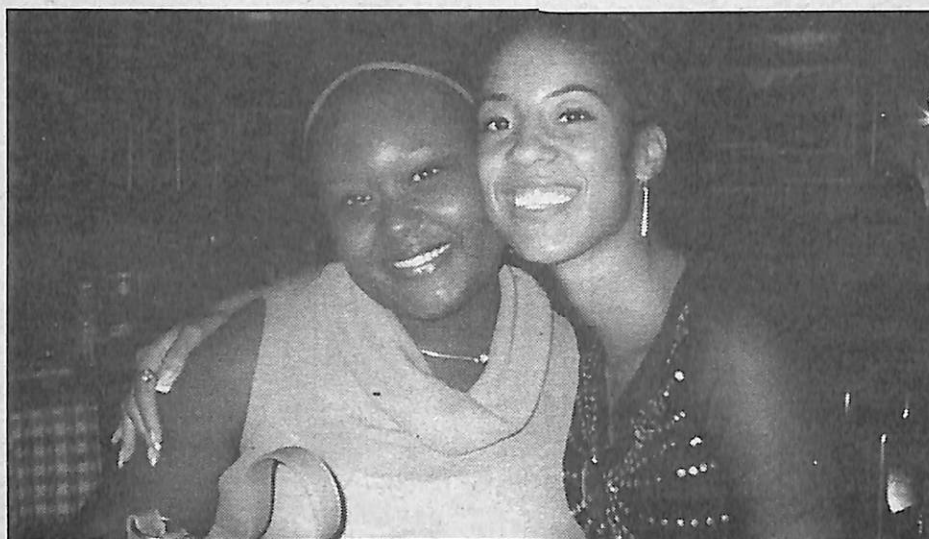


PHOTO COURTESY OF LAUREN WILLIAMS

Best friends, Lauren Williams and Tomeika Dobson, inspired each other as they both ran for Miss Kentucky State University and Miss TSU respectively last spring. Dobson was crowned in April.

helping Lauren prepare to run for Miss KSU, I was excited and decided to run myself and I got some of my ideas from her."

And ironically enough, Dobson and Williams both won their respected elections on the same day, April 11, both by a slim margin of victory. Williams' election was decided by 32 votes and Dobson's by 31, which coincidentally, both situations resulted in contestants questioning the accuracy of the election.

"It was so uplifting because we had been praying for this for months," declared Williams. "It was confirmation that our prayers were heard."

But the victory would be bittersweet as Williams would not be able to carry out her reign.

For Williams at KSU, her crown as

See 'Royal' on page 12

Respect the Architect

Rosa Parks

By Kirsten D. Watkins
A&E Editor

"Memories of our lives, of our works and our deeds will continue in others."-Rosa Parks

On Monday, Oct. 24, the world lost one of its most treasured jewels — Rosa Parks. The proclaimed "Mother of the Civil Rights Movement," passed away at the age of 92 due to natural causes.

A woman who stood up for her civil liberties and those of others, Parks helped to lay the groundwork for the historic Civil Rights Movement, spearheaded by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

It all started at the close of a tiring day, when Parks boarded a Montgomery,

Ala. public transportation bus and refused to give up her seat to a White man. She was then arrested and this incident generated a bus boycott that lasted in the state's capital city for 381 days, led by King. This story has been chronicled over and over again in many Black history classes and told through oral tradition throughout many families.

The Montgomery Bus Boycott speaks volumes on the spirit of courage, determination, and resilience to the younger generations, who at times seem to take for granted the basic freedoms that lie in front of them.

"She is a person that will never be forgotten," said Ellaina Toney, a senior nursing major from Indianapolis. "With her action, she sparked a change for millions. I just pray that the millions that follow don't take her for granted."

Parks, a former secretary for the

NAACP, was a quiet, yet forceful icon throughout this century. Not only was she Black, but she was a Black woman who with the help of other Black leaders, took the Montgomery Bus Boycott, and ultimately the Supreme Court. At the finale of the 381-day bus boycott, the Supreme Court ruled the actions taken were unconstitutional. One year later, the Supreme Court also came to the decision in the Brown vs. Board of Education decision that ended racial segregation in public school systems.

According to CNN, U.S. Rep. John Lewis (GA-D) expressed a great respect and admiration.

"It was so believable that this woman—this one woman—had the courage to take a seat and refuse to get up and give it to a White gentleman," Lewis said. "By sitting down, she was standing up for all Americans."

In addition to her infamous defiance on that Montgomery bus, Parks has given in service for years prior to the boycott and in decades since.

She was extremely active in voter registration drives and with the help of her husband, Raymond Parks, co-founded the Rosa and Raymond Parks Institute that aided young people in their educational endeavors and worked toward easing society's racial issues. Parks was also awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1996 and the Congressional Gold Medal in 1999 by former President Bill Clinton.

"Rosa Parks' efforts have crossed the boundaries of race and gender," said Kandice Allen, sophomore business administration major from Chicago.

The legacy Parks will live on and in the spirits of those who lobbied during the Civil Rights Movement and even in generations yet to come, according to many students. Her life and struggles have forced all of humanity to stand up for their rights when you know in your bones that you have a voice that shall be heard and to fight like there's no tomorrow in an effort to create change. •

Arts & Entertainment

Homecoming

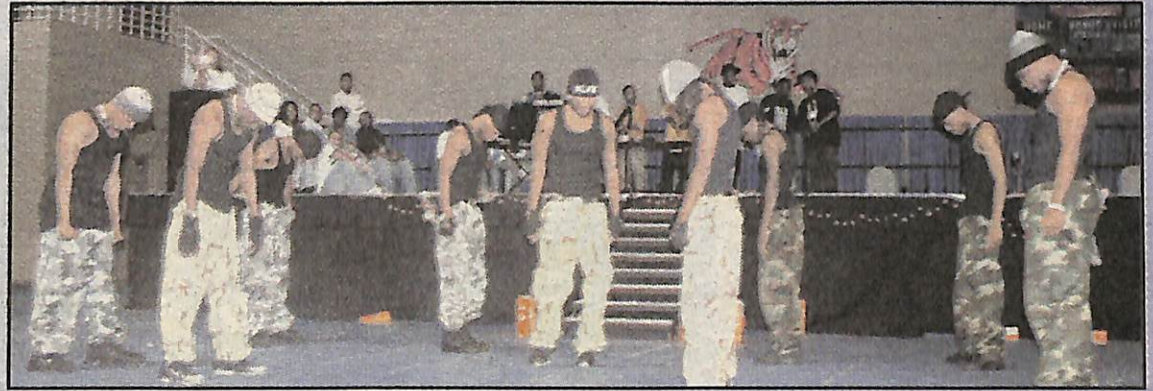
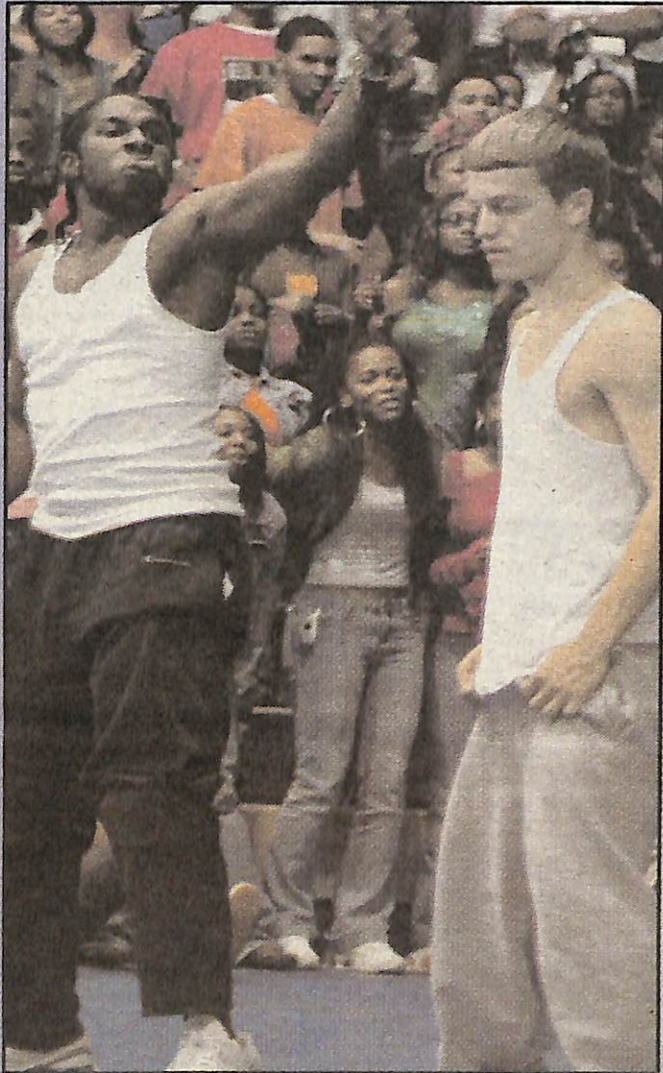
With the week almost over, these are the memories for Homecoming 2005



PHOTOS BY KENNETH CUMMINGS, TRICIA KELLEY, ELBERT JAQUESS, D'ANDRA ISABEL

Arts & Entertainment

2005



Arts & Entertainment

Moving to the rhythm and Blue

By Melaney Whiting
A&E Writer

TSU's band brings flavor from music both new and old

TSU's Aristocrat of Bands plays numerous hip-hop hits and oldies at classic games and other university functions during the academic school year to appeal to their audiences.

The band's staff, comprised of Edward L. Graves, James Sexton, Teddy Hall, and Reginald McDonald, has a unit approach to the performances, in which the four are involved in every aspect that makes the band work cohesively.

"We try to do a variety of things such as blues, jazz, and popular hip-hop because our audience is a variety and versatility is our tradition," said Graves, TSU head band director since 1979.

And since most of TSU's classic football game performances are shown live on television, it is imperative that the band perform new and exciting showcases for every classic game, according to Graves.

The majority of the music is written by James Sexton as he implements student's suggestions into his work, according to band member Jonathan Bell, a sophomore biology major from Birmingham, Ala.

"I used to take recordings of music we wanted to play and listen to the chords, melodies, and baselines and write them out for instruments all by hand," said Sexton, who is the assistant band director. "But now I use a Microsoft program that writes the music out on the computer as I play it on the keyboard, which makes things go a little faster."

Most students would agree that TSU's band is one of the most highly respected organizations on this campus. It is apparent in the way that students proudly show their love and admiration for their immensely praised Aristocrats

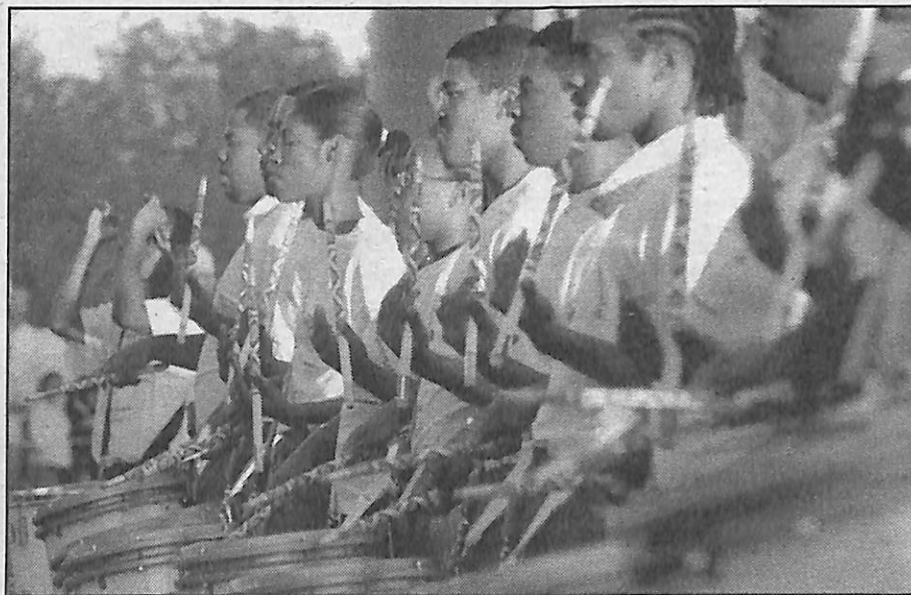


PHOTO BY KENNETH CUMMINGS

TSU drummers practice their candelas during a recent practice. The Aristocrat of Bands continue to wow crowds across the nation with their entertaining halftime shows and extensive song selection playlist.

when gracing the field for the much-anticipated halftime show, especially when they energize the crowd with popular songs, such as *Laffy Taffy* by rap group D4L, *Stay FLY* by Three Six Mafia, and *Naked* by Marques Houston.

"I think the songs we play are real crowd pleasers, especially because we have some for the new and old schools," said Brandon Cobb, a junior architectural engineering major from Atlanta.

However, there is a fine line that the band must tread to please both the students and the alumni. Of course, the students want to listen to the music to which they can relate. In other words, they want

to be moved by the music that they hear on the radio.

Most alumni are not familiar with these modern groups with hip-hop-infused beats and prefer the more traditional works of Earth, Wind, & Fire and Lenny Williams. So, the band directors must find a happy medium that will leave everyone swaying in the crowd.

However, the band is not allowed to rest off-season as most students could be lead to believe. The work load is just as heavy as the grind on the field.

"After football season, we have concert band and wind ensembles," Graves said. "Also, we have an active jazz ensemble, and pep band that plays at basketball games. All of these ensembles play at univer-

sity functions in the city and around the country. Being in the band is a year-long experience."

According to Bell, he feels that students at HBCU's fall into the trap of comparing our band to that of Florida A&M University, claiming that they are the cream of the crop because of their strength in numbers. Even though FAMU's band is larger than TSU's, the quality of sound should always outweigh the number of members on the field.

Bell said he thinks that FAMU is an extremely popular band, but he does not believe that they are TSU's biggest rivalry. He credits Jackson State University as giving the Aristocrats a run for their money.

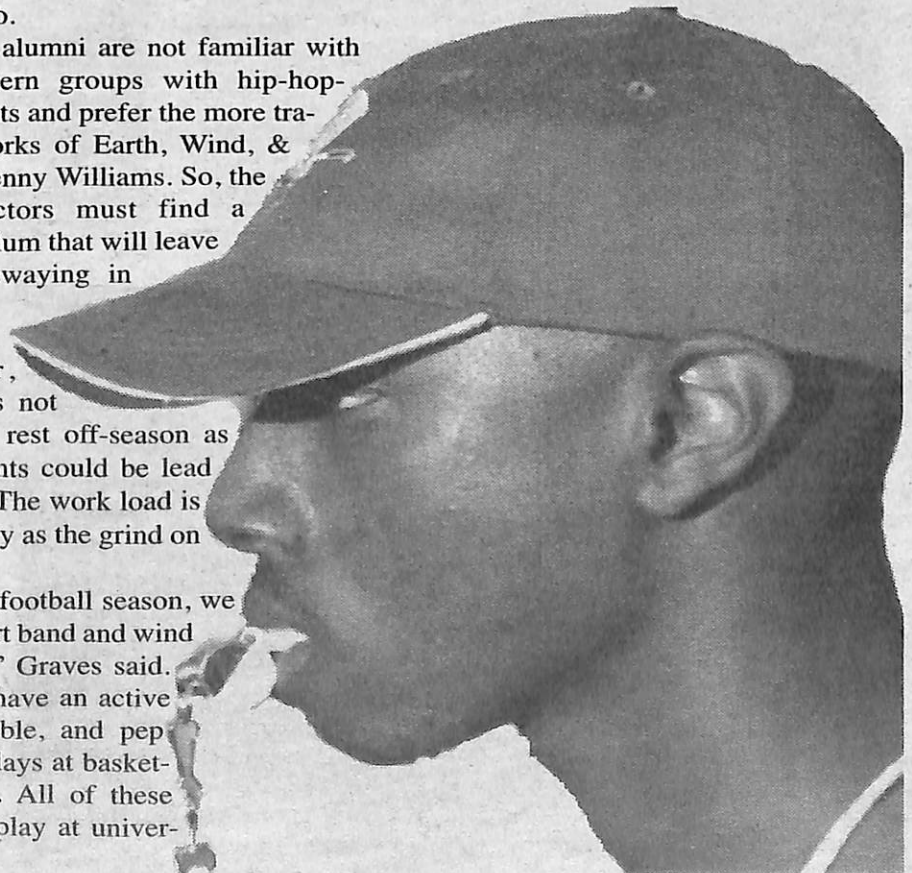
"I feel like we have the best musicianship out of all the bands we compete against," said Sheronda Howard, a junior graphic design major from Greenville, Miss.

The band provides the TSU family with a sense of unity by putting their spirit, dedication, and passion into their music.

"They provide the leadership experience and maturity and that's what makes the band what it is," Graves said.

"I feel like we have the best musicianship out of all the bands we compete against."

-Sheronda Howard



Arts & Entertainment

TSU first lady completes extensive residence renovations, upgrades

By Taylon Terrell and Anitra Montgomery
Contributing Writer and
Campus News Writer

Marcelite "Marcy" Johnson, TSU's First Lady, collaborated with commercial interior designer Wanda Palus to remodel the president's house, completing the project just in time for Homecoming 2005.

"It's so much more livable," Johnson said, in reference to home post-renovating.

Helping Palus, owner of Wanda Palus Interiors, with the remodeling endeavors was Samuel Polk, Sr., director of facilities management.

But both Palus and Polk said that the house is approximately 3,400 square ft. and had a very dark look before the project began but now, with the change, it appears to be more open and has a brighter look.

Palus, who has been in the interior decorating business for over 20 years, worked alongside the First Lady to help her select wallpaper shades, blinds, windows, flooring and other accessories.

"We kind of looked at it in three phases," said Polk. "And we called it a major maintenance renovation with accessories. No new space was added, but everything from the interior and the exterior was given a new look."

A new color scheme was also chosen for the home. The color scheme is a

combination of gold and turquoise, along with black and yellow. The kitchen cabinets were refurnished and double doors were added in the front entrance of the home. The carpet in the living room and

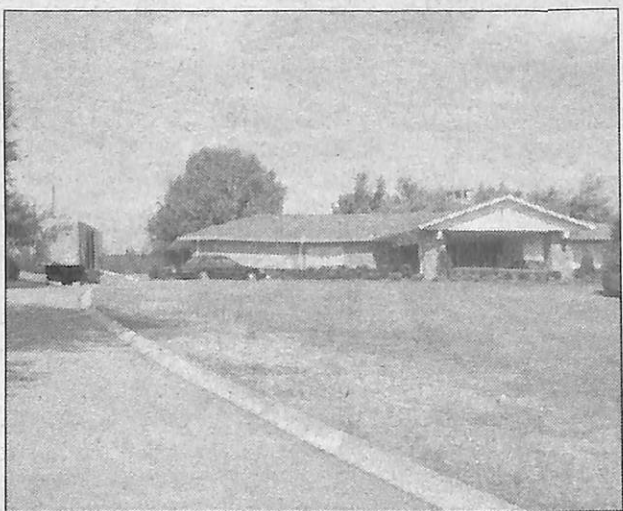


PHOTO BY KENNETH CUMMINGS

The President's residence on John Merritt Boulevard underwent some renovations.

dining room were replaced and wood laminate was added in the family room.

Even the front yard has a new look. Landscapers were called in to add plants and flowers, as well as installing a new privacy fence.

Palus said that her company usually handles contracts in commercial designing, not residential remodeling, however, she was asked by the Tennessee Board of Regents to work with the Johnsons to remodel their new abode, which was completed on Monday, Oct. 3.

"Now the house can be used for its intended purpose," Polk said, referring to the fact that now Johnson and her husband, TSU President Melvin Johnson, can officially move in.

According to Polk, the new additions exceeded the original budget \$100,000, reaching just under \$200,000 overall.

Polk also stated that the school funded the majority of the renovation to the house, located at 2904 John A. Merritt Blvd., which has been home to TSU presidents since 1991.

But prior to university presidents and their families living in the current location, the president took residence at what is currently the Goodwill Manor, which is now home to the TSU Foundation office and Office of Alumni Affairs.

Dr. and Mrs. Johnson took temporary residence in a condominium near West End Avenue in Nashville, but have now moved into their new address.

The Miss TSU Tea, which is held at the president's home each year, will be the first event for the newly renovated home. Though she has yet to see the inside of the house, Miss TSU is ecstatic about the event as well.

"I'm extremely excited about

this wonderful opportunity to meet the former Miss TSUs and compare experiences as well as bond," said Miss TSU 2005-06 Tomeika Dobson.

Palus said that with the move-in, the Johnsons will be bringing several furnishings from their previous home — a

sofa, two loveseats, and a few metal and glass tables, to be exact.

"She (Mrs. Johnson) has excellent, refined taste and I think the house reflects that," said Palus.

Some love triangles come full circle.

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Arts and Entertainment

Adversity brings unity

Continued on page 7

queen was taken away after the announcement of her as Miss KSU was retracted because it was said that one contestant's posters were still hanging after the designated time for posters to be down had passed. Instead of KSU issuing a re-vote, Williams had to settle for being first attendant to Stacey Davis, the current Miss KSU.

"There was so much drama," said Williams. "But even as trying as this experience has been, it has made me alot stronger. I've only made it through by the grace of God."

Here at TSU, due to inconsistencies in the election, Dobson's results were questioned as well. Two days after Dobson was announced as Miss TSU,

she was informed that a re-vote was necessary. But unlike close friend Williams, Dobson won the second election by nearly 400 votes to be named Miss TSU 2005-06.

Dobson said that both experiences have strengthened their friendship and that she has a true friend in Williams and that there is no animosity between the two because of the different results.

And now Dobson is well into her duties as Miss TSU, and growing with it everyday.

"Being Miss TSU is a lot of work," Dobson said. "There's something new everyday. (It's an) extreme growing and learning experience, but overall a blessing. The Lord will never put more on you than you can bear."•

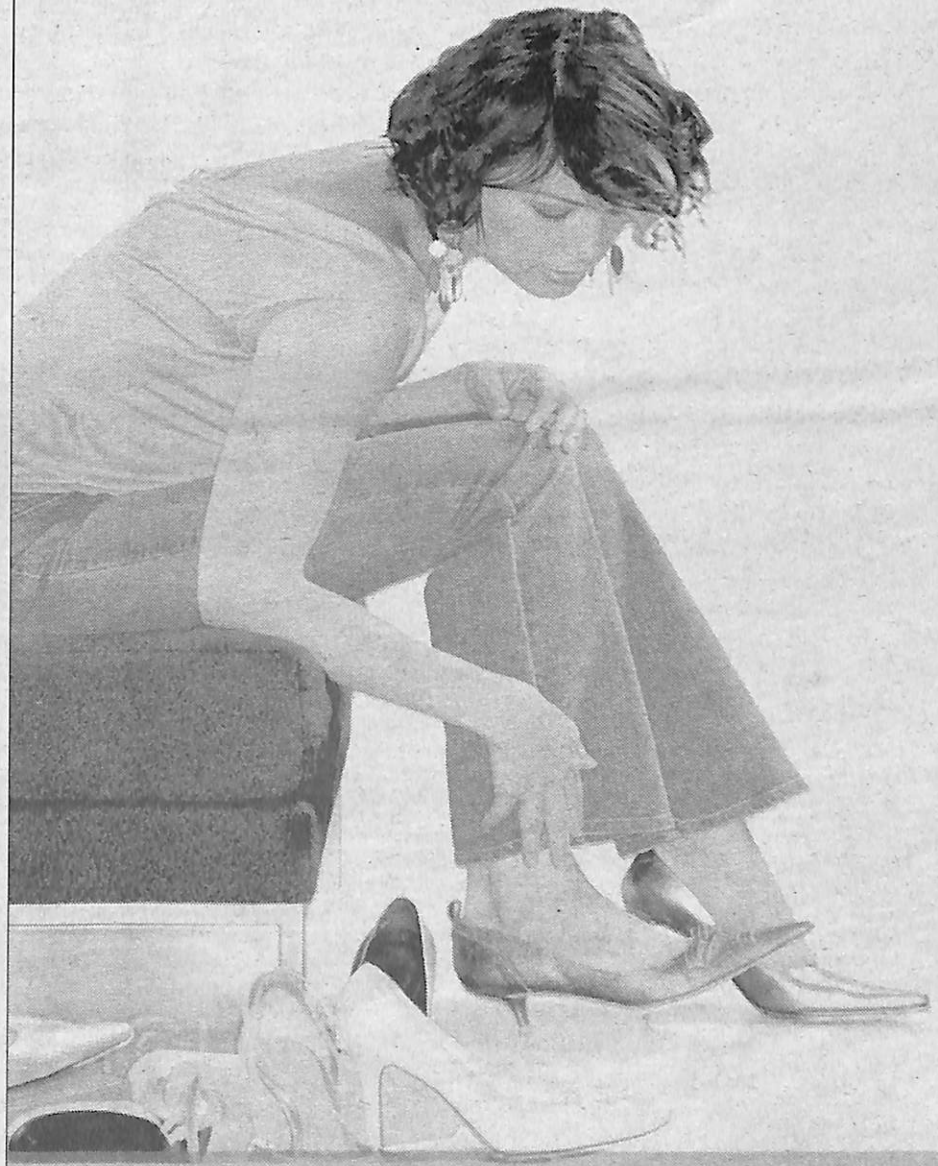
Got Poetry?

If you possess a passion and talent for poetry and would like to share it with the TSU family, please send your submissions to tigersubmission@yahoo.com

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Arts & Entertainment

The G-Spot - A+

"Her man demanded loyalty, but her body wouldn't obey"

Now many of us may have been a junkie for Eric Jerome Dickey's juicy tales as well as supporters of the Zane era, but it is time for us to be introduced to another writer that shall soon grace your bookshelves with numerous novels. New author Noire has arrived and if you've read this new sizzler you know he is not going anywhere for a while. When the word 'g-spot' comes to mind, one's thoughts might seem to wander. But the spot that comes to the mind of this New York writer is a social club and major drug house owned by the Notorious Granite McKay.

Nineteen-year-old Juicy Stanfield is the daughter of a deceased junkie, and must act as a mother/ sister to an unstable brother, and unfortunately the girlfriend of a 46-year-old drug dealer named 'G' (McKay).

At the ripe age of 16, Juicy's grandmother passed away and Juicy had no one besides her brother Jimmy. With no money or employment, Juicy and her brother were destined to the streets of Harlem, New York until G came to her rescue. Although he provided her with the lifestyle of a ghetto queen, he could never satisfy her sexual cravings.

Beautiful, smart, young and sexy isn't enough to describe how immaculate Juicy was. She can be described as every man's desire and if you were to even look her way 'G' would make your life non-existent. Juicy has everything she could ever want, except for the cure to an insatiable sexual drive. But for her to cheat on 'G' would mean a death sentence. 'G' doesn't believe in pleasing a woman and if she tries to please herself he would beat her near death and then have his way with her. All she ever asked of him was to let her attend school in order to study dance and that he takes care of her younger brother, leaving him out of the drug game.

Meanwhile, Juicy's sexual cravings began to intensify and she tries everything to keep herself under control but when she meets Gino, who just moved in from California, death would be more pleasing than the torment of a fine man living in her very own house. Never in her wildest dreams could she have known that he is the son of Granite McKay, so she ignores her womanly urges and focuses on a way to escape a lifestyle that she knows will end her life.

Juicy's questioning Granite's actions leads to a merciless beating. Seeking refuge in Gino's arms, one touch leads to another and the beginning of a deadly affair is born.

Rita is found brutally murdered with her tongue cut out her mouth by Juicy. Granite is made aware of the affair that is right under his nose and is infuriated. The lovers Juicy and Gino devise a plan to steal Granite's secret stash, but are set up on a fake drug run to Atlantic City. After several beatings and being ganged raped for a week straight, Juicy and Jimmy finally manage to retaliate and settle the score in the extreme violent conclusion.

Noire's urban drama exposes the dangerous life of drugs, money, murder and cold-hearted love. This author will definitely be here for awhile.

Veronica Walker

Exposed by Keith Barbee- A-

In his newest literary effort, former Meter A&E Editor, Keith Barbee, turns pages and heads with the release of a collection of poetry entitled, Exposed.

This book follows the release of his last critically acclaimed collection The Hot Life and delves deeper into the thoughts of the author.

The collection marks the author's personal journey into a more delicate territory with subject matter covering everything from relationships lost and found, the passion surrounding making love and even the footwear present during sexual activities.

Though the pieces can be both com-

ical and thought provoking all in the same breath, it is in this point that most of his poetic power lies.

On several pieces the potential for greatness shines bright. On the instant classic Timberlands, Barbee reveals the function of the foot favorite with a new twist—their functions in the bedroom. He also delivers on "Black People, My People" where he gives praise to the culture he holds dear to him.

He even manages to evoke controversy in "Exposed" as he tackles subjects including seemingly taboo points such as religion and sexual promiscuity.

The style of writing isn't littered with the pomp and circumstance associated with a lot of poetry. This collection works because it is very to-the-point but isn't light on creativity or clever word play.

Not yet as well known as some of his poetry contemporaries, Barbee knew that he would have to show the value of his thoughts. What would make him worth the read let alone the purchase? The answer was giving unadulterated emotion and raw honesty on every line. He succeeds largely in this department because the work in this collection is easily relatable. The average everyday

Joes and Janes can feel where he is coming from and that is powerful.

By coming off as the genuine article, Barbee has put together a collection of work that is both eloquent and savvy enough for everyone to enjoy.

The only weak spot in the collection becomes apparent in the selections that appear to be more afterthought than original inspiration. Some of the topics tend to focus on themes that are a little repetitive. Contrary to popular belief, saying you are angry two different ways, still means you are angry.

Bottom Line: This collection is well worth the price even if not all of the selections grab you with the same power.

Gregory Brand Jr. •

Literary Highlight

Exposed
a poetry collection

Keith Barbee

Lyricist Lounge

Craving
By Faith S. Nunley

IT'S PAST OVER DUE
IT'S A PASSION THAT ALL OF A
SUDDEN GREW
SOMETHING THAT I WANT
ENTIRELY
SOMETHING TOTALLY
UNDENIABLY
REAL
LOVE
I CRAVE IT LIKE A PREGNANT
WOMAN CRAVES ICE CREAM
I WANT IT SO BAD SOMETIMES I
WANNA SCREAM
WILLING TO GIVE MY ALL
WILLING TO FALL
DEEP
SO DEEP IT COMES TO MY KNEES
MAKING ME
SHIVER
LIKE IT'S THE COLDEST WINTER
EVER
LIKE THE MORE I WANT IT
THE MORE IT SEEMS LIKE
FOREVER
TO GET HERE
BUT I KNOW IT'S NEAR
BECAUSE I ALREADY KNOW HOW
TO LOVE MYSELF
NOW I WANT IT FROM SOMEONE
ELSE
SOMEONE THAT LOVES ALL MY
IMPERFECTIONS
SOMEONE THAT I CAN CALL MY
OWN REFLECTION
BECAUSE I KNOW HIM SO WELL
THE WORD "LOVE" DOES NOT
EVEN HAD TO BE SPOKEN
BECAUSE I CAN ALREADY TELL
BY HIS ACTIONS
AND MY COMPLETE
SATISFACTION
KNOWING ALL OF MY LIKES AS
WELL AS DISLIKES
NEVER EVEN ONCE HAVING
A FIGHT
SOMETHING SO NEAR
PERFECTION
IT BE UNSEEMINGLY UNREAL
BUT THE GREATEST FEELING ONE
COULD EVER FEEL
LOVE HOW I CRAVE THEE

Announcement

HEY! Have you been to visit the Career Center lately?

Well, if you haven't you might not know about all the special activities we have going on.

We frequently host company interviews and information sessions. For example, this month alone, representatives from Dell, M.A. Mortenson, Daimler Chrysler, Caterpillar, Cintas, AmSouth, Abercrombie & Fitch and Ford will be on campus looking for students to fill internships, full-time and part-time positions. These events are just a sample of all that we provide for TSU students.

The Career Center's services includes, but are not limited to, resume' critiques, career planning seminars, individual career counseling, internships, part-time and career employment. If you visit our website at, www.tnstate.edu/careers, you can find a wealth of information ranging from company websites and job links, to careers by major, and MORE!

Another available resource that we have is TigerTRAK. Tiger TRAK is an online job database where students can build up to ten resumes and search for employment. It is easy to get started; students simply register and upload their resume. Then, when an employer makes a request for students, we use TigerTRAK to notify the student of this opportunity.

The Career Center IS REALLY a student's best source of information about careers, internships and other opportunities, to take advantage of while they are in school. too many students neglect to have a plan for when they graduate from college and too few students think about job options before their senior year. This is why the Career Center has a comprehensive four-year plan for students upon their arrival and departure from the university, as well as alums who decide to make career changes. We want to provide TSU's students with an "upper hand" in the job market so that they will be competitive in today's job market. After all, the Career Center exists for you, the student. Not taking advantage means that you are missing out on a great professional growth opportunity.

Tennessee State University

Career Center

<http://www.tnstate.edu/careers>

TSU, a Title IX success story as others fail

By Dairanetta Spain
Sports Editor

The TSU athletic department has found no problems complying with Title IX of a 1972 federal education amendment, despite some other universities' inability to meet its guidelines.

In 1972, the first comprehensive federal law passed prohibiting sex discrimination against students and employees of educational institutions was passed and Title IX set the precedent for gender equity.

According to *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, an online publication, the most controversial component of

Title IX deals with athletics. Complying with Title IX has been referred to as "skating on thin ice" and with several stipulations and guidelines, one decision brings various components and goes through several checkpoints.

"I've never felt that we've had any major concerns, especially in the past 10

years," said Valencia Jordan, TSU's senior women administrator. "There is a lot of equity across the board in scholarships and salaries."

Jordan also pointed out the fact that TSU athletics has done more to enhance women's athletics. For example, the department has recently added softball

and golf after its cancellation of baseball.

To avoid violating rules and regulations of Title IX, a university undergoes a three part sequence: No. 1 - whether the numbers of male and female athletes are substantially proportional, No. 2 - whether the institution has a continuing history of expansion of opportunities for the under-represented sex, and No. 3 - whether the interests and abilities of the under-represented sex are being met.

Jordan said that she was unaware of TSU ever being cited for any violations in the law's 33-year history. Also Jordan said the National Collegiate Athletic Association issues an athletics certifica-

See "Gender" on page 16

"If you look at our athletic department... you will see that we have more female coaches, a female athletics director and females period in our administration."

-Valencia Jordan

President aims to link athletics, academics

By Lavonte Young
Sports Writer

New TSU President Melvin Johnson has a vision that could potentially lead the university to becoming a powerhouse in the Ohio Valley Conference.

Johnson said he thinks that athletics should be given just as much weight as academics and research, which in return will make TSU a well oiled machine.

"I see academics, athletics and research working together like gears," Johnson said. "The first gear is academics, and then comes athletics and lastly research."

According to Johnson, athletics could be utilized as a front porch to attract students to TSU and once they are attracted, they will come to learn about the academic and research side of TSU.

"We have so much in place already at TSU to be a power in athletics," said TSU Athletics Director Teresa Phillips.

"Now, those pieces must be strategically placed together to make success a reality."

Johnson said he is happy with the success of the volleyball team, which is currently ranked No. 1 in the OVC, thus far. He also said he believes that the men's basketball team has the chance to be the best in the conference with the additions that were made over the off-season as well.

"I'm totally committed to TSU sports and I believe that the Tigers will succeed in every sport," Johnson said.

In regards to the Big Blue's record this season, Johnson sees no harm. He feels the Tigers' football team will result into a winning program as the players get comfortable in new head football coach James Webster's system.

"I really enjoy going to the games and I feel that TSU athletics will possibly be national contenders in every sport," Johnson said.

Johnson's vision for athletics in the

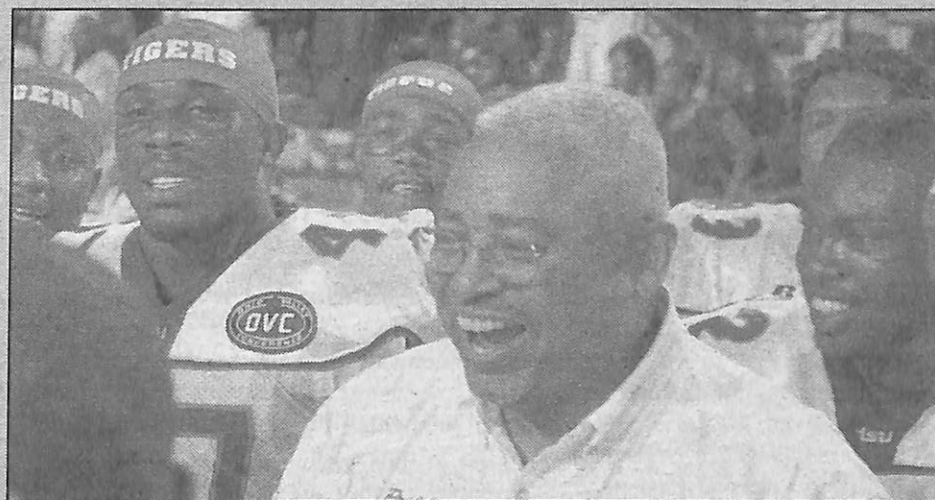


PHOTO BY KENNETH CUMMINGS

New TSU President Melvin Johnson celebrates with Tiger football players left to right: Daniel Williams, Darnell Ray, Almonte Duncan and Fred Burnette. The Tigers celebrated after TSU's 20-14 win over Jackson State in this year's Southern Heritage Classic.

future is for all of TSU's athletic programs to be on the top of the OVC, as well as national contenders.

To reach this vision, Johnson said he feels TSU has to gain support from the students, faculty, alumni and stock holders.

"If we are able to gain support from the students, faculty and stock holders," Johnson said. "We will be able to build conference champions, be national contenders and Olympic medalists."

And Phillips agrees.

"I agree with Dr. Johnson," she said. "Athletics went through a rocky period with leadership problems and NCAA probation woes, which caused the department's emphasis to be on re-developing an infrastructure of strong compliance and academics. Now that we are more stable, work can begin in earnest on building more support for the programs."*

Sports

Williams could be the winning factor

Continued From page 1

game. On the other hand, EIU's defense allows 365.2 yards per game and offensively they average 309.2 yards per game, better than only TSU in the OVC.

The Tigers come into this game on a two-game losing streak.

Leading the TSU offense, red shirt freshman running back Javarris Williams has 120 rushing attempts for 613 yards this season and three touchdowns. He was also named the OVC Offensive Player of the Week for the week of Oct. 16.

The Tiger defense is headed by senior defensive back Jamar Landrom and senior linebacker Wesley Holmes.

Both have gained OVC recognition, Landrom was OVC Defensive Player of the Week for the week of Sept. 11, and Holmes earned the same honor the week of Sept. 18.

This season, Holmes has recorded the team's most tackles in a single game with 17 in a 42-20 loss at the University of Tennessee-Martin.

"If they can establish their running game early and keep the rest offense flowing, I think they might win," said Matthew Talley a junior accounting major from Jackson, Tenn. "They shouldn't expect much yardage, but if any opportunity comes they should utilize it."

The Panthers also currently lead the conference in turnover margin averaging two per game which could prove to be the difference maker in a win and a loss.

"Turnovers - turnovers is the difference," said TSU head coach James Webster following a 33-3 loss against Jacksonville State. "Good football teams don't turn the ball over."

And the Panther defense doesn't give opponents much space if they turn the ball over. EIU leads the conference in rushing defense and is third in defense efficiency which is one reason the Panthers are undefeated in conference.

"We are very fortunate to have an undefeated record at the moment," Spoo said. "We recognize that we have tough games ahead. We have to play up to our capability to win them." •



GRAPHIC DESIGN BY GREGORY BRAND JR

Will the Tigers be able to piece together a victory for Homecoming? TSU comes into the match-up on a nine-game Homecoming win streak.

Gender equality is a concern in college athletics

Continued from page 15

tion in the event of making sure that institutions are in compliance in four specific areas every 10 years.

These areas include governance and commitment to rules compliance, academic integrity, fiscal integrity and equity. After this assessment, a committee makes evaluations to determine whether or not the campus itself is in compliance with Title IX as well as the university's athletics department and then any changes and adjustments will be made.

Besides this 10-year evaluation, TSU athletics also completes the annual Equity Athletics Disclosure Acts reports. This is a requirement of all co-educational institutions of post-secondary schools with a federal student financial assistance program and an intercollegiate athletic program. Institutions must prepare an annual report for the United States Department of Education regarding its

athletic participation, staffing and revenues and expenses by men's and women's teams.

As a preventative method of complying with Title IX, TSU also has a Title IX officer, Sandra Keith, director of equal employment opportunity/affirmative action (EE/AA). In addition to this office, committees and reports, TSU simply makes sure that all programs meet with compliance both in the number of scholarships and competition.

National attention has been associated with Brown University. In 1992, Brown was nabbed with a violation for eliminating women's volleyball and gymnastics teams four years prior. The ruling issued stated that Brown's actions violated the "proportionality rule" of Title IX because women comprised 51-percent of the Brown student body, but only 40-percent of the institutions student athletes.

Most recently, Florida A&M's can-

cellation of four sports violated Title IX. According to a recent article written by the news service for black college students, the Black College Wire's Robbyn Mitchell, the cancellation of four teams was due to budgetary problems.

In order to free up \$485,000 for the teams to compete, the men's and women's swimming teams, men's golf and men's tennis programs were cancelled. This fixed the budgetary problem, but put FAMU in hole. With this drop, the men's teams became the majority, which is clearly a violation of Title IX compliance. As a result, FAMU was forced to reinstate the women's swimming team.

"We have no more Title IX issues than most schools," said Rosalyn Dunlap, FAMU's assistant athletic director for compliance according to Mitchell. "The real thing we need to do in this Title IX situation is expanding to offer more women's sports . . . but for that we need money."

Jordan said TSU's current executive athletic administration, which is comprised of six women out of 10 top executive positions, is a general reflection in regards to TSU's athletic equality in administration.

"If you look at our athletic department alone not only in sports, you will see that we have more female coaches, a female athletics director and females period in our administration," Jordan said. "I would say that we are an exception to the norm." •

When was the last time TSU lost a Homecoming game?

E-mail your answer to tigersubmission@yahoo.com for this week's giveaway.