



"Pink" Panther on the prowl.

page 14



Can you smell what the WWF is cooking?

page 19

The Measure of Student Opinion and Sentiment

SPECIAL COLLECTION

# 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Issue

## April 21, 1950: The Meter is Born

Since its first issue on April 21, 1950, The Meter has been a consistent part of student life at Tennessee State University and a presence at the events that shaped our school and our city.

From news like "The Rape of TSU" as riots ensued after the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and the merging of Tennessee State College and the University of Tennessee/Nashville, to sports features of now-TSU alumni Jefferson Street Joe Gilliam and Wilma Rudolph, The Meter has been a mainstay of TSU.

The faculty supporters and student staff of The Meter have consistently increased student awareness of pertinent issues and educated the finest journalists, from the days when the office was in "Old" Hale Hall and supported by the English department; to today, under the Communications department and in a fully-furnished suite in Kean Hall.

See pullout (pgs. 9-12) to learn more about the history of The Meter.

Happy Birthday!

The Meter's sole founder and first editor in chief, Samuel F. Yette in 1951 (right); and below, one of the most prolific documented moments in TSU history, the on-campus riots after the death of Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. (From the May 9, 1967 issue of The Meter)



## Tuition, housing, student fees all increase

By Kester Kilkenny  
News Editor

When students return in the fall they should be advised that they may have to dig a lot deeper into their pockets for enough change to attend Tennessee State University.

With recommended price hikes of up to 10 percent in some areas, chances are that the bill students received in fall '99 will look totally foreign to the one they will receive in the fall of 2000.

The two highest increases are expected to come in the areas of maintenance and out-of-state residency. The proposed hikes for each of these is expected to be 10 percent. The next highest price hike will come in housing, which is expected to go up 5 percent. Raises are also expected to come in student government fees and the cost of fines given by security officials, parking tickets for example, will also go up.

Eyebrows are expected to raise considering that students only had to deal with about a 5 percent increase in costs last year, as opposed to an estimated 10 percent one this year.

However according to H. Clay Harkleroad, vice president for business and finance, the blame for all the increases should not be solely placed on TSU officials. This is because some of the biggest recommended price increases will be coming directly from the Tennessee Board of Regents.

They are the ones who set the maintenance fee, as well as the out-of-state fee, said Harkleroad. He also pointed out that TSU was not alone in receiving these recommendations. In fact, all schools under the jurisdiction of the TBR will be experiencing the same or at least similar recommendation. This includes Tennessee State Technological University, Austin Peay and Middle Tennessee State University, among others.

The reason for TBR making these strong recommendations can be traced to the governor of Tennessee, according to Harkleroad. The governor recently announced that the state had accumulated a deficit of roughly \$400 million. One proposed way to chip away at this was to raise the amount of revenue received through student fees by percent, said Harkleroad.

The other proposed price changes, however are indeed from recommendations made by TSU officials. One of the main reasons for the increases in housing fees,

## Election results announced; low voter turnout problematic

By Nicole Edwards  
News Writer

After a week of campaigning and presenting platforms, TSU President James A. Hefner announced the winners of Student Election Commission week.

The platform for last year's officials focused on informing the student body about the stipulation of settlement, improving student relations and informing the students of the importance of their empowerment. The newly-elected officials want to continue to focus on some of the same issues, however, they also want students to notice some

changes.

The new SGA president for the 2000-2001 school year, Marc Anthony Peek, who received a total of 596 votes, said that he wants to maximize every opportunity the SGA has.

"We are going out there with tenacity," said Peek. "We will not ask for anything more than once. If it is all right for us to have it, then we will have it... I represent the Black men who are making moves and uplifting the community."

Some had a problem with the low voter turnout and the small crowd who showed up to hear the results of the election.

Kwesi M. Johnson, a day repre-

sentative-at-large winner, spoke about the mind-set of TSU students.

"There were not as many candidates this year," said Johnson. "This just shows the mind-set of the student body."

Johnson also defined the importance of the student vote. He said there were so many students who did not vote, that it is obvious that the students' mind-set needed to be elevated.

"There are too many students who want instant gratification and they are the same ones who do not vote and continue to complain," he said.

Johnson also spoke about

See "Expectations" on page 3

See "Tuition" on page 3



## News

# Second-generation SGA president-elect to plant growth at TSU

By Mitchell Vantrease  
News Editor

Georgette Peek made history as the first woman president of the Student Government Association in 1983, but she probably never expected for her nephew, Marc, to take the position 17 years later.

"She made tremendous strides for women and students on this campus," Marc Peek said.

Peek said it was his destiny to become the next president of the SGA and take the student body to another level. He was elected into office during Student Election Commission week on April 7 with 596 votes. Peek said he wants to rekindle the fire

"Through my administration I plan to plant seeds," he said.

Peek said he has a lot planned for the new school year, but will start early this semester by holding a press conference. The press conference held in the Forum on April 19 was for Peek to introduce himself and newly elected officials of the SGA to the campus.

He is no stranger of taking leadership to the next level. Many students

have seen Peek since last semester fighting the stipulation of settlement with The Time is Now Student Movement. The group began last semester to address the issue.

The stipulation was a court order that required Tennessee State University to have a 50 percent white, 50 percent non-white student body by 2000. Under the court case, the school had to agree to have a set quota of how many students should be admitted to the university.

Peek, a senior from Anderson, S.C., majoring in English, said many students are ignorant of the stipulation of settlement and should find out more about it. He said it has been "a divine success." Because of the issue, he has also contacted Al Gore, Tom Joyner and the Tennessee Black Caucus to inform them of the problems.

"I'm just trying to disseminate the facts and let the students judge for themselves," he said.

Other organizations he has been involved with include the Concerned Student Association and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

When Peek takes his place as SGA president in the fall, he said there will be several changes in the administration.

"I plan on taking aggressive stances, planting seeds and empowering students," he said. "I'm not asking for anything more than once."

Peek also said he will work fine with his newly elected SGA vice president, April Frazier. He believes she will get the job accomplished.

"She's very aggressive and will get the job done... She's about business," Peek said.

Peek said he does not want to compare himself with any other SGA administrations in the past. The reason he wanted to become president was because he saw inadequate leadership involved in the SGA.

"I didn't see any presidents taking their rights as consumers and students of the university," he said.

Peek said he is genuinely concerned about the students, and that's why he believes he won the position of president.

"I spoke with conviction during the elections... Nobody had the conviction. I also had the tenacity," Peek said.

One of Peek's goals is to see more interaction of the SGA with student body and not have low general body meeting turnouts.

"I want it get to the point to where



PHOTO BY JONATHAN GRAY

## 2000-2001 SGA President Marc Peek

the Forum is too full to hold SGA general body meetings," he said.

Peek said he wants to leave an impact on the university and wants them to know something important.

"You can achieve anything... Always be thankful for what you have (Tennessee State University)," he said. •

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News

# Expectations high for 2000-01 among elected class and SGA representatives

from page 1

changing some of the views of the students.

"We need to start with the most influential organizations to inform students. The SGA, Student Union Board of Governors and the Greeks need to be showing their faces," said Johnson. "Students need to be more concerned about when the SGA forums are than with when the thong party is."

Although the student turnout was low, there was strong support for the new officials.

"There was a very low turnout this year. There was more support for the candidates last year," said Tamara Jordan, a TSU senior. "However, I think the candidates will be stronger next year because of the stipulation of settlement."

She also said Marc Peek will do a very good job because he is trying to pre-

serve TSU's history.

Freshman evening representative-at-large winner Jamie Riley gave his expectations for the next school year.

"I'm expecting a great year and better changes to come," Riley said.

Miss Tennessee State University 2000-2001, Tamara S. Moore, who won with 427 votes, was excited about her new reign and title.

"I don't know how the students will perceive me, however, I don't want anyone to compare me to the other Miss TSU's," said Moore. "I know what the position is about and I know how to fulfill it."

Other results for this year's election included the proposal to increase the student government fee to \$2 with 672 voting yes and 358 voting no.

Class candidate winners included SGA Vice President April Frazier, with

735 votes; senior class representative (day) Raushanah Muhammad, with 220 votes; Miss Senior Goodness Ikeri, with 98 votes; junior class president Nicole S. Bonner with 286 votes; junior class vice president Emily Alexander, with 283 votes; junior class representative (day); TaraShaun R. Cain, with 281 votes; junior class representative (evening) LaDawn Blackett, with 127 votes; Miss Junior Adrienne G. Scruggs, with 91 votes; sophomore class president Andre R. Durojaiye,

with 419 votes; sophomore class representative (day) Shawn Taz Crawford, with 433 votes; sophomore

class representative (evening) Vincent L. Smith, with 428 votes and Miss Sophomore Brandee Watford, with 229 votes.

SGA day representatives-at-large are: N'Jemele Bush, Kwesi Johnson, Dacia Sellars, Kamelia L. Shahid, Quatteris Varner, and Courtney L. White, and SGA evening representative-at-large winners included Kevin Gilliam III, Jamie Riley, Catrina Roberson, Brandy F. Tate, and Damyon Thompson. •

## Tuition, fees on the rise again

from page 1

according to Harkleroad, is because TSU still owes money for the construction of the Heiman Street Apartments. In addition, at last check, the school was actually spending more money on maintenance and utilities than was collected in fees. This is totally unacceptable to Harkleroad.

"Housing is supposed to pay for itself," he said. Despite the mild winter that just passed, Harkleroad said they were to make sure they are prepared next winter. The expectation is for the utilities bill to go up, considering the unlikelihood of two mild winters in a row.

He also said more money needs to be invested in the library, teacher salary, teacher supplies, as well as money in maintenance.

"The teachers haven't been given a raise in three years, and as a result, a lot of teachers are leaving for higher-paying positions at other schools."

Harkleroad expects the fees to go up until they level off with the other schools in the southern region. As it stands, he said, Tennessee schools do not charge nearly as much as other universities in the region. To help current students make a smoother transition, Harkleroad said they may be allowed to take out loans for larger amounts after the numbers are finalized.

But some students like sophomore Cari Smith, a marketing major, remain somewhat pessimistic.

"We're going to need to get more funds for scholarships," she said. "Those increases are ridiculous. There is so much that needs to improve before they even think about raising any prices."

Considering the projected price of housing next year, she also said it will probably be more economical to get an apartment off campus. •

## Oh! Oh! Oh!

### Tom Joyner returns for third visit

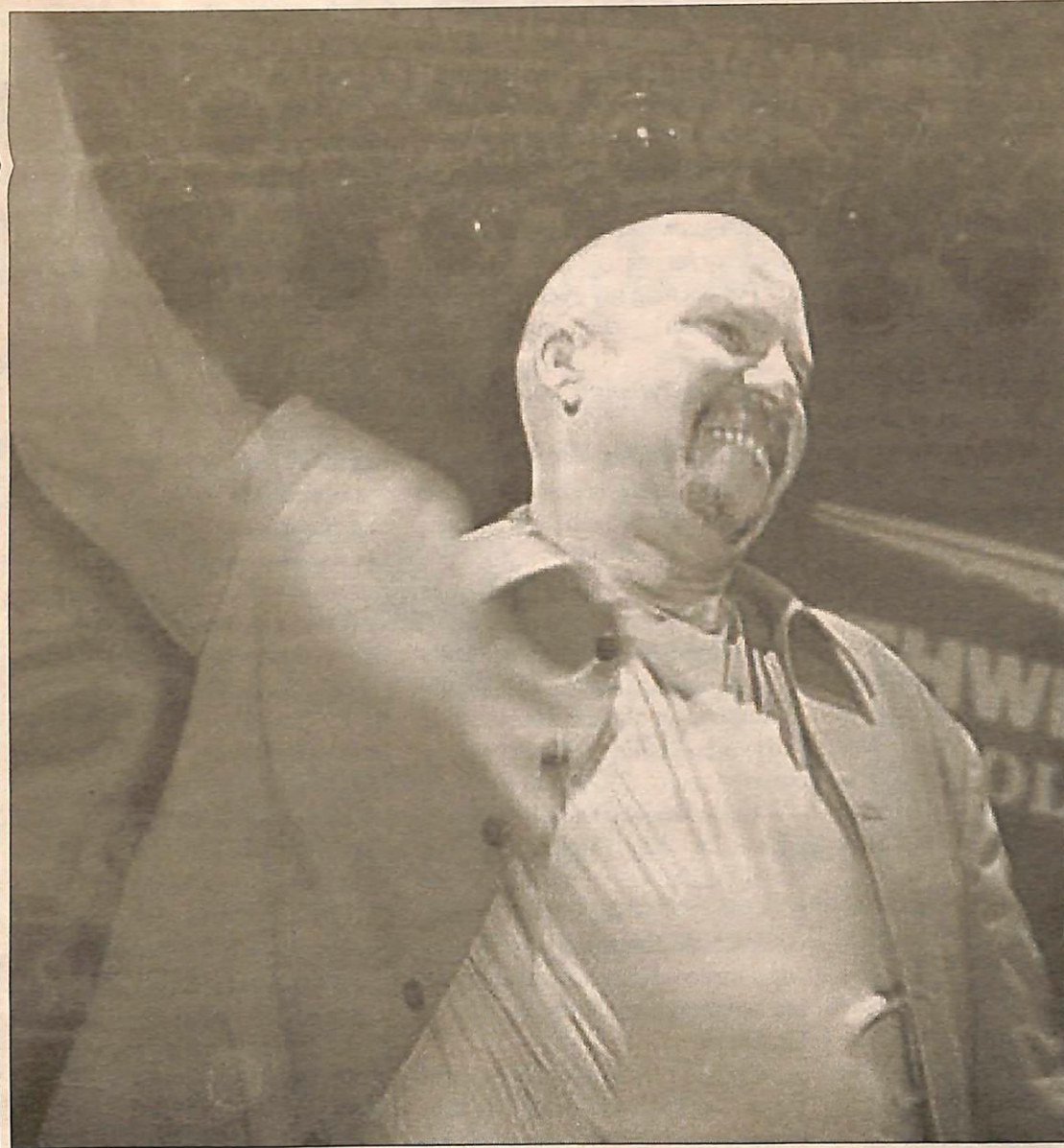


PHOTO BY METRA BAUGH

Tom Joyner and the show's staff came to Gentry Center at Tennessee State University March 31, marking the end of their two-week Census 2000 tour. The R&B group Atlantic Starr, famous for their countless love ballads, served as the musical guest at the Skyshow. Steve McNair of the Tennessee Titans also made a special appearance. •

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# The Meter

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## Forum

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COMMUNITY VIEW EDITOR **Hillary S. Condon**

Arts & Entertainment Editors **Metra Baugh, Sparkle Davis**

COPY EDITORS **Sonja Jones, Regan Toomer**

ARTS AND VISUAL MANAGER **Jonathan Gray**

ADVERTISING MANAGER **Dorian Wynn**

ADVISER **Regina Vincent Clark**

### What We Think

In commemoration of the birth of *The Meter*, April 21, 1950, the editorial board decided to print, "Now, Here's My Point" printed in the April 21, 1950, issue of *The Meter*, written by the first editorial board of *The Meter* and first editor in chief Samuel F. Yette.

This article is Meter history, and reflects timeless student opinions.

The following article proves how often the present tends to reflect the past and often times more than others everything comes full circle.

Considering how election week has passed and this editorial discusses election week on Tennessee State University's campus in 1950, we felt this was appropriate.

Student elections are coming up soon. And, there is anticipated the traditional clamoring for the two coveted positions of Student Council President and Miss Tennessee State.

The layman sees only the proverbial "red side" of the apple; that is, he disregards the great amounts of EXTRA midnight oil necessary to serve amply in such a capacity as that of Student Council President, for example.

And, because these same voters feel that Miss Tennessee State has only to look pretty and pass local inspection, that (referred to previously as the "best foot") at times proves not to be really the BEST foot at all; rather, it is a person who has only a RELATIVE degree of functioning power, plus the largest number of fraters, sorors and chums.

Incidentally, I might say, this happens more often in the cases of class elections. Electors are too often prone to make their selection on the basis of the candidate's physical features and his number of girlfriends.

This, of course, we recognize as being not only painfully true, but altogether unrelated to the issue of electing the most suitable individual. A COMMON MISTAKE IN CLASS ELECTIONS is that of becoming "change happy."

Particularly in the case of student council representatives, one year's service gives your representative a background upon which to build an insight.

Make it an objective to send veteran representatives to the Council: those of PROVEN ability to "Think, Work and Serve."•

## From where I sit: The wind beneath our wings



Mia D. McNeil

Editor in Chief

As the 42nd editor in chief of *The Meter*, I have the blessed task of being the editor of *The Meter* in its 50th year. To say that I am honored is not enough.

Upon members of the editorial board doing research for this issue, I have found that *The Meter* has truly been the "measure of student sentiment and opinion" for over 50 years... be it in print or not.

From the civil rights riots at Tennessee State University after Martin Luther King, Jr.'s assassination, to Wilma Rudolph being an ambassador for TSU to the rebuilding of this campus to the rekindled fire about the stipulation of settlement, *The Meter* has been an ongoing reflection -- biweekly, monthly, or periodically -- of the university in the eyes of students and alumni everywhere.

Many people do not realize the importance of what Samuel F. Yette did for TSU.

As the editor of this publication, I realize what he and his staff did for this newspaper, and therefore, this tribute is to them.

*Did you ever know that you were my hero...*

As a somewhat unfocused freshman coming to TSU, I had decided to pursue a major in political science.

Writing on the newspaper was only supposed to be an extracurricular activity on my resume, to make me more marketable to potential employers.

After writing on a few issues of the newspaper I began to realize that this was more than just a hobby. It was something that I could seriously consider pursuing as a career.

As I wavered and toiled about the decision, I had two very important people who were instrumental in my final decision.

Ambre Brown, *The Meter* editor from 1997-1999, told me that I had the leadership ability to guide this newspaper in the right direction and if I was planning to become a lawyer then I would have to be prepared to do a lot of writing and the newspaper was the best arena to practice.

Point taken, but I was still wavering - that was, until I sat down with Yette.

To hear him at our Meter homecoming open house talk about his love for journalism and the lengths he went to to create this publication and things he has done since then, I knew that the choice in my head and in my heart coincided for the first time in my collegiate career. Journalism was the career for me.

For opening my eyes to the light of journalism - you are my hero.

*And everything I would like to be...*

Former editors and writers for *The Meter* have gone on to do great things not only in the field of journalism, but in other fields.

Yette was an English teacher, an associate editor for *Ebony Magazine*, a BET commentator and is presently a columnist and Washington Correspondent for the *Miami Times* and *Philadelphia Tribune*, among others.

Karen Brown Dunlap, the first adviser for *The Meter* after it was placed under the umbrella of the communications department, is now the associate director, dean of faculty and a trustee at The Poynter Institute, the foremost journalism institute in the nation.

Dwight Lewis, a former baseball player for TSU and editor of *The Meter* is now the weekend editor for *The Tennessean* and often, people find themselves engrossed in one of his insightful columns.

Brown is currently a business

reporter for the *Philadelphia Inquirer* and is moving rapidly in the journalism arena.

But perhaps the most surprising of our *Meter* alumni went on to win five gold medals in the Olympics.

Wilma Rudolph was a news writer for *The Meter* during her years at TSU.

*I can fly higher than an eagle...*

Since the "rebirth" of *The Meter* under Ambre Brown in 1997, *The Meter* has received numerous awards and accolades for articles, layout and staff.

In 1999 - winner; second place; The Mark of Excellence Award in the editorial writing category; Society of Professional Journalists, winner; first place; Best editorial article; Historically Black Colleges and Universities Newspaper Conference, winner; third place; Best layout and Best newspaper; Black College Communications Association.

*You are the wind beneath our wings...*

Because of the dedication that began 50 years ago which was and is the foundation on which all writers and editors are based, this year's staff boasts two Chips Quinn Scholars and many members of the newspaper staff that have been selected for journalism internships for the summer.

However, the true testament to the continued love for *The Meter* is the dedicated staff that continually remembers that the newspaper is meant to cover the highlights and the lowlights of the university and adhere to that for every newspaper.

I am sharing my chair with the first editor of *The Meter* this issue. Typically, I am very protective of my chair, but considering this man gave me a place to sit by building the chair, I will happily move over for him.

For all these things we thank you and consider you the wind beneath our wings. •



# From where I sit: The Meter, in retrospect



Imagine, if you can, how gratified I am to know that an idea I had 50 years ago is a reality even today.

It's wonderful to think that I might have contributed in this way to an institution that I love so much and thereby played some part in developing journalistic skills in students at Tennessee State for half a century.

But, in truth, *The Meter* was more than an idea. It was an urgency -- an educational and moral necessity.

Educationally, much credit is due Dr. George W. Gore, Jr., a scholar who included journalism in his studies at DePauw University and who founded the Alpha Kappa Mu honor society in 1934. In the 1940s, he was a dean at Tennessee State and taught three journalism courses, catalogued as English 301, 302 and 303. He was my first teacher of journalism fundamentals.

Like other students in that post-World War II era, I found Tennessee State a great source of encouragement and inspiration, which permeated virtually everything. Learning and growth were

encouraged by everyone -- fellow students, faculty and staff alike. We were immersed in attitudes that matched our ever-present slogans: "Think, Work and Serve," and "Enter to learn, go forth to serve."

One of my literature teachers, Miss Laura M. Averitte, had written the school Alma Mater in 1918. Her last stanza expressed a typical wish:

*Send forth sons both strong and valiant,  
Send forth daughters wise and true,  
Filled with hope and dauntless courage,  
Motives sane and true.*

I felt that spirit especially from such teachers as Dr. Robert Hudson, Dr. Crawford B. Lindsay, Sr., Mrs. Alma Dunn Jones, and every student's sweetheart, Mrs. Annie G. Sasser.

Members of my fraternity -- Alpha Phi Alpha -- were always in the trenches. In 1948, they helped me, then a sophomore and a fraternity prospect, to get elected to the student council.

In the next year, my fraternity brothers used our majority on the council to make me chairman of the Publications Board, specified in the Student Handbook. That gave me official standing to confront the president.

The 1949 confrontation was both an educational and moral challenge. The Handbook showed that students were

paying for the publication of a student newspaper. But there was no newspaper. Even worse, President Walter S. Davis doubted our ability to publish a paper, and wondered whether it would serve or disserve the college.

I considered the need for the paper to be self-evident. I, therefore, did not expect his pointed question. "Yette," he demanded, "why do you want a newspaper?"

Searching hurriedly, I responded: "To report the campus highlights, sir."

But highlights were not his concern. Highlights might have been okay. He had a penultimate challenge: "But what are you going to do about the lowlights?"

"Well, sir," I told him, "we'll just have to report those, too."

His ultimate challenge was the requirement of a written "Program of Work." It would have to spell out every detail -- who would do what, when where and why. "If you can do that," he said, "then we'll think about it."

"No, sir," I countered. "If I can do that, then we must have the paper."

With a chuckle of doubt, he agreed.

Early in 1950, I was still a junior when I presented the Program of Work to a plainly shocked president. He praised my work, then called on Dr. William L. Crump, chairman of the Business Department, to find us an office and furnish it. *The Meter* was on its way.

That Program of Work has proved to be my best educational assignment. In all

the years since, it has been the design of my approach to every executive problem. It was especially helpful when I was executive secretary of the U.S. Peace Corps, director of Civil Rights for the U.S. Office of Economic Opportunity, a member of the University Senate at Howard University, founder and publisher of Cottage Books, and as president of the PTA at my son's school.

I am indebted to President Davis, of course. But I am also grateful to my successor editors and all of those who, even now, keep *The Meter* alive and providing accurate measures of student fact-finding and thoughtful opinion.

I congratulate you and most sincerely thank you.

See  
**Samuel Yette's**  
 profile on page  
 10 of our 50th  
 Anniversary  
 pullout





## News

# College of Arts and Sciences begins search, prepares for new dean

By T'Neisha Jackson  
News Writer

Tennessee State University's College of Arts and Sciences has an enrollment of almost 2,800 undergraduate and graduate students, offers 17 majors and has a full and part-time faculty of over 280. But since Dr. Bobby Lovett's resignation last August, the College has been without a dean.

Aug. 17, 1999, was officially Lovett's final day as dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, but he agreed to remain in the position until a new dean was selected and is acting as dean right now.

"This is not a job you should stay in too long," he said. "It's high-pressured and demanding. It takes a lot of time, energy, devotion and during that time you can neglect other things," he said.

He also said that he has reached the point where he has done all that he could, so it is now time to step down and let someone else take over the responsibility.

Lovett has been at TSU since 1973, and has held administrative positions for 20 of the 26 years he's been here. He has served as dean since 1988. When he first became dean, he expected the position to be tough and challenging, yet rewarding. And that is how he views the past 12

years.

"A dean is like a president of a college. You're the chief executive officer," he said. "You're expected to administer and manage the college."

Responsibilities of a dean include developing long-range and strategic plans, developing and processing curricula proposals, initiating personnel papers and contracts, and securing resources for faculty, staff and student programs.

Lovett's reasons for resignation were "to return to teaching, research and writing and to allow for new leadership in the college. He also said that after 12 years it had become a little less fun, and more frustrating."

Though the university loses Lovett as a dean, he said he will remain on campus teaching full-time in the History

department - the position in which he started his career at TSU.

"I'm resigning the deanship, not the professorship," he said.

Not only will Lovett be working with students and directing and assisting

**I've been with the university for 23 years. The positions I've served in prepared me well.**

**-Timothy Quain, director of Institutional Self-Study, and candidate for the dean position**

research again, but he expects to be able to devote more time to writing. He has already written

*The African-American History of Nashville, Tennessee, 1780-1930, Elites and Dilemmas*, as well as *The Art of William Edmondson*. He has also been published in other journals such as the *Tennessean Historical Quarterly*.

Through publishing his work, Lovett feels he will help to "put TSU on the national map."

"I'm just looking forward to another stage," he said.

Although the position

of dean of the College of Arts and Sciences has been vacant for nearly eight months, the application and interview process to fill the position came to an end this month.

One of those vying for the position is Timothy Quain, who is currently the director of Institutional Effectiveness and Research.

"I've been with the university for 23 years," he said. "The positions I've served in prepared me well." He has served as director of Institutional Self Study and is an English teacher at the 400 level at TSU.

After encouragement from fellow faculty members, Quain submitted his application May 12, 1999. He is currently waiting on the decision.

"I have a lot to offer because of the experience I have," he said. His plans and goals of being dean can be found on reserve in the main campus library.

Lovett has not been involved in the selection process.

"I don't have a say and I don't want a say," he said. "I don't want to be responsible for the next dean."

He did however offer some general advice. "Make sure that he or she always fights to protect the best interest of the university and the College of Arts and Sciences."•

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Community View

# The HBCU -- America's Fastest-Growing Endangered Species?

By Hillary S. Condon  
Community View Editor

Only three percent of America's institutes of higher learning are historically black. Although these schools enroll 17 percent of the nation's African-American students, they graduate 27 percent. HBCUs traditionally have high percentages of disadvantaged students and lack fundamental resources, yet they educate some of the more prolific minds of our time.

Despite these findings, prepared by Committee on the Historically Black Institutions, HBCUs have performed "a remarkable task." Almost 40 percent of this country's African-American college graduates at the undergraduate or graduate level are educated at HBCUs, as well as 75 percent of all African-American Ph.D.s.

An economist cited in the national report noted: "Despite their ongoing financial woes, the success rate of historically [B]lack institutions in graduating African-American students with bachelor's degrees is impressive. Drop-out rates from African-American students at four-year HBCUs are much lower than the rates for African-American students at other four-year institutions."

How does this affect Tennessee State University? Historically, TSU has endured a merger with a branch of a huge white school, and a stipulation of settlement decreeing that the university must become 50 percent white and 50 percent "other" in order to be funded by the state.

Recently, a campus group of concerned students has formed to protest the stipulation of settlement, calling themselves The Time is Now Student Movement.

Led by TSU senior and SGA President-elect Marc A. Peek, the group has addressed local lawmakers and the state Congressional Black Caucus and has marched in front of the state capitol to attract attention to the stipulation's "unfair" policies.

"It is all an underlying plot to destroy HBCUs," Peek said. "There is no type of overt oppression, and slavery is illegal. So we need to build up the only respect in which [slavery] is legal, which is the prison system."

Peek also specified that whites attending HBCUs do not necessarily hurt the school if they attend through their own free will.

## Who graduates from HBCU's?

- 46 percent of Black business executives
- 50 percent of Black engineers
- 80 percent of Black federal judges
- 85 percent of Black doctors
- 50 percent of Black attorneys
- 75 percent of Black military officers
- 40 percent of Black dentists
- 40 percent of Black physicians
- 50 percent of Black pharmacists
- 75 percent of Black veterinarians

"I am not against whites attending through natural matriculation," he said. "I am against the ideology behind the stipulation. The ideology is national, and the stipulation is local."

Furthering Peek's argument that the stipulation forced upon TSU is "unconstitutional" because HBCUs have never discriminated, but were created as a result of discrimination in public school systems, the huge grants given to white students at TSU to increase enrollment appears to be having the opposite effect.

While the enrollment of all races at HBCUs nationwide has steadily increased since 1990, the number of whites attending TSU has steadily decreased, despite the offer of full tuition, room and board.

According to TSU records office, the university received 367 applications from white students in 1999. Out of those, 230 students were accepted, but only 92 enrolled.

The minority scholarship offered to in-state, Caucasian, non-Hispanic students includes full tuition, room and board. While the scholarship is offered to all who qualify, preference is given to students directly out of high school.

To qualify, students must be citizens of the United States, must be Caucasian, must be working toward their first associate's or bachelor's degree, have a cumulative grade point average of at least a 2.5, a 19 on the ACT college entrance exam or 890 on the SAT col-

see "HBCUs" on page 8

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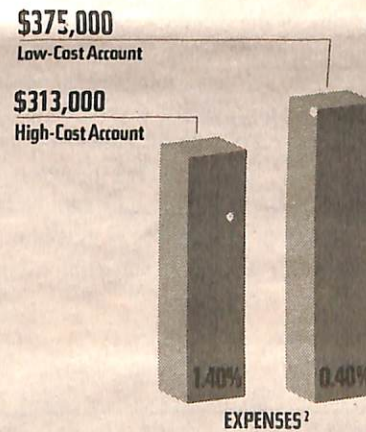
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1. CREF is a variable annuity. Estimated annual expenses are adjusted quarterly. 2. 1.40% is a very reasonable fee level for a typical fund; 0.40% is near, but not actually at the bottom of, the mutual fund expense ratio spectrum. 3. The chart above is presented for illustrative purposes only and does not reflect actual performance, or predict future results, of any TIAA-CREF account, or reflect taxes. TIAA-CREF Individual and Institutional Services, Inc. distributes CREF certificates and interests in the TIAA Real Estate Account. Teachers Personal Investors Services, Inc. distributes the variable component of the personal annuities, mutual funds and tuition savings agreements. TIAA and TIAA-CREF Life Insurance Co. issue insurance and annuities. TIAA-CREF Trust Company, FSB provides trust services. Investment products are not FDIC insured, may lose value and are not bank guaranteed. For more complete information on our securities products, including charges and expenses, call 1.800.842.2776, ext. 5509, for the prospectuses. Read them carefully before you invest or send money. © 2000 TIAA-CREF 1/00.





ASSOCIATED PRESS PHOTO COURTESY OF YAHOO.COM

### International Affairs

A federal appeals court issued a temporary stay last week, keeping six-year-old Elian Gonzalez (above, pictured with his great-uncle Delfin Gonzalez) in the United States while the battle over his custody rages on.

This order was issued less than an hour after the passing of the deadline for the boy's relatives to hand him over to his father.

Elian's Miami relatives ignored the government order, saying that Elian should stay with them in the U.S. instead of with his father in Cuba.

Since Elian's mother drowned off the coast of Florida almost five months ago, he has lived with his great-uncle, who refuses to give him up.

"They will have to take him from me by force," he said.

## World View

### Washington

For those of you who thought that the Monica Lewinsky scandal and worldwide national embarrassment was over, think again. Independent counsel Robert Ray, taking after Kenneth Starr, is reported as "actively considering seeking an indictment" against President Bill Clinton when he leaves office in January.

If the charges, which range from perjury to obstruction of justice, are indeed brought against Clinton, the president says he doesn't want a pardon. If the charges are brought after Clinton leaves office, he could only receive a pardon from the president, which Gore told reporters that he "could not see" happening.

### School Violence

Three first-grade girls in Lake Station, Ind., have been suspended because of an alleged plot to kill another girl in their class. Investigators report that they uncovered drawings depicting the school and a nearby wooded area, and that the girls had been overheard discussing how they would shoot or stab their victim after taking her into the woods.

The police were alerted to the plot by a parent of another student in the class. School officials say the girls will not be allowed back into school until it can be determined whether they pose a threat to the school.

### Crime

A former navy career man, suspected of killing five prostitutes in the Detroit area, may be linked to at least eight more slayings. Investigators in Detroit and the FBI are looking into whether "bodies" appeared as a result of his worldwide touring with the armed forces as well.

The suspect, identified as 26-year-old John E. Armstrong, worked as a fueler on the USS Nimitz during his matriculation in the Navy. Investigators say he could be linked to prostitute murders in Hong Kong, Singapore, Israel, Japan and Korea.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE TENNESSEE STATE WEBSITE

### State

Tennessee State Senator Kenneth "Pete" Springer was found dead of an apparent heart attack last week in his apartment. Friends and fellow legislators say that he was not in good health and had bypass surgery in the fall of 1998.

Springer was a former teacher and principal in Centerville, Tenn., and was a staunch supporter of education and raising teacher pay in Tennessee. Springer was 55 years old.

### Local Business

The hallmark of the "revitalization" of the Jefferson Street area, The Jubilee Restaurant, closed its doors months ago, but is now up for sale — by the state. The owners of the restaurant, who could not be reached for comment, reportedly owe approximately \$2 million in back taxes to the state of Tennessee. The asking price for the facility will start at \$2 million.

## HBCUs make the most with the least

continued from page 7

lege entrance exam. Before they can apply for the scholarship, students must first be admitted to TSU. Graduate students, out-of-state students and Hispanic students are not eligible.

Recently, there has been new criticism of the stipulation and the resulting scholarships, especially with the decrease in white enrollment.

Rubel Shelly, recently accepted as an adjunct philosophy professor at TSU, criticized the standards set by the state board of regents in a recent *Nashville Eye* editorial in *The Tennessean*.

"The problem is that TSU is a historically [B]lack institution," he wrote. "When decade-long litigation resulted in a court order to dismantle the dual system of higher education in Tennessee, the one school that had suffered the most from past racism was

saddled with an unjust burden in that dismantling process."

He also discussed relieving the court order.

"TSU needs to be relieved of the 1984 order of 50 percent white enrollment and given credit for doing more than any other state university to adjust to society's new realities," he wrote.

TSU Minority Affairs Director Sara Curp said that students decline scholarships often, and TSU's unusual grant cannot be an exception.

"We award the scholarship, and it is up to the student to decide," she said. "There are a lot of various reasons that scholarships are declined. It's probably like that at any institution. This problem is not unique to TSU."•

# Are you registered to vote?

Exercise your right to vote today...  
pick up a voter registration form in  
The Meter office  
(Kean Hall, Suite 304)



50th Anniversary Pullout

April 21, 2000:

Celebrating 50 years of Highlights and Lowlights

In 1948, Samuel F. Yette realized that students were paying a fee for a student publication that they did not have.

Upon a discussion with then-university president Walter S. Davis, Jr., Yette discovered that a student publications board had to be initiated by the student council.

This may have fazed another student, but Yette ran for a student council position and won. Along with eight of his brothers from Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc, Yette started work on a student newspaper.

Before he could begin, however, he was challenged by Davis to submit a "program of work" and detail all of his plans for the paper.

With his ideas in hand, Yette returned to Davis' office.

"Why do you want to put a newspaper on this campus?" Davis asked Yette in a conversation that Yette says he remembers as if it were "this morning."

"To report the campus highlights, sir," he replied.

"I know about that," Davis countered to the young man. "But what are you going to do about the lowlights?"

"Well, sir," Yette replied, "We'll just have to report those, too."

The name was chosen as a result of a contest that Yette sponsored to find a suitable logo and slogan for the newspaper.

The original logo was developed by Claude Torey, an industrial arts major, who said that *The METER* was "the measure of student opinion and sentiment."

Over the years, the slogan changed to "a measure of student opinion," and the logo was discarded. But the spirit of *The METER*, and its commitment to representing "the highlights and the lowlights" of Tennessee State University has not changed.

*The METER* remained under the advisement of the English department until 1977 when Karen Brown was hired to be the newspaper adviser and journalism professor for Tennessee State University's new department of communications.

*The METER* became a weekly paper in 1979 and remained so until 1990 when budget crunches and staffing restraints shrank the department into a loosely

biweekly schedule.

Yette, now an active alumnus and publisher, worked for several publications after graduation, including *The Chattanooga Times*, *Life* magazine, the *Baltimore Afro-American*, *Ebony* and the *Dayton Journal Herald*.

He was called "the Jackie Robinson of *Newsweek*" (the first Black reporter) before writing his award-winning, nationally-recognized book, *The Choice: This Issue of Black Survival in America*.

In 1997, *The METER* was "reborn," and returned to the original traditions with which Yette began in 1950.

Editor in Chief Ambre S. Brown returned *The METER* logo to the masthead, "From Where I Sit" as the editor in chief's editorial column, "the measure of student opinion and sentiment" as the slogan, and the biweekly publication of at least 12 pages was strictly enforced.

Today, it is published with a 4,000 circulation and distributed at both TSU campuses and the surrounding community.

Upon her graduation from Tennessee State University in 1999, Brown was the recipient of the First Annual Samuel F. Yette Editor's Award.

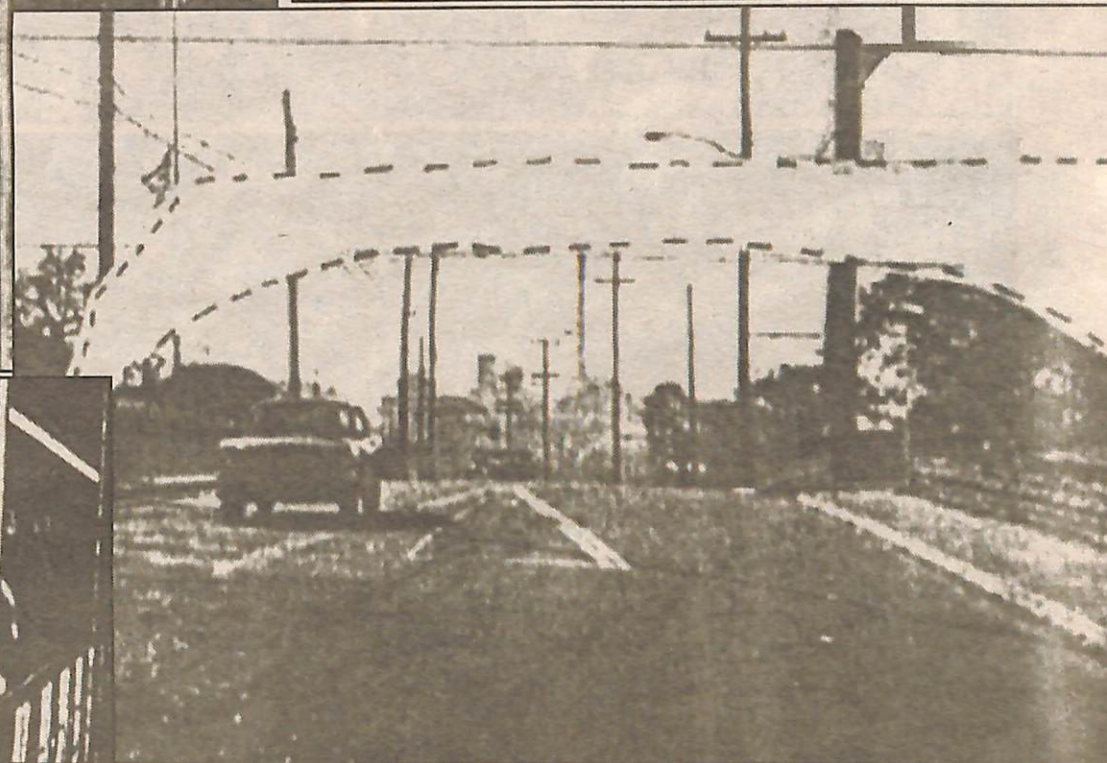
The Yette Editor's Award is given at the annual banquet to the outstanding

leadership of an editor in chief or section editor who exemplifies the principles that Yette strived to achieve on April 21, 1950.

Since 1997 alone, *The METER* has been the recipient of five distinguished awards:

- 1997 - Founder's Award, the 1st Annual Historically Black Colleges and Universities Newspaper Conference;
- 1999 - Best Editorial Article, the 3rd Annual Historically Black Colleges and Universities Newspaper Conference;
- 1999 - Second Place, editorial writing, "What We Think," Society of Professional Journalists, Region 12;
- 1999 - Third Place, Layout, Black College Communications Association Student Newspaper Award;
- 1999 - Third Place, Best Newspaper, Black College Communications Association Student Newspaper Award.

(Historical information adapted from *The METER Guide and Stylebook*, Ambre S. Brown, 1999.)



(Clockwise, from left): a profile of "Old" Hale Hall (from the Oct. 1979 issue); "Jefferson Street Joe" Gilliam (from the Feb. 14, 1974 issue) with then-university president A.P. Torrence; an artist's conception of a proposed overpass (from the Nov. 14, 1969 issue); Students protest by sitting-in at a segregated Nashville lunch counter (from the February, 1960 issue).



50th Anniversary Pullout

Portrait of legend and The Meter founder: Samuel F. Yette

By Hillary S. Condon  
Community View Editor

Legendary author and journalism trailblazer Samuel Yette first endeared himself to the Tennessee State University community in 1948, when he joined the student council and eight of his brothers from Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., to start a student newspaper. His struggle to start a paper that students had paid for is legendary among current *Meter* staff members.

The *Meter's* history tells of a conversation between Yette and then-university president Walter S. Davis when Yette submitted a Program of Work to Davis detailing his plans for the newspaper.

"Why do you want to put a newspaper on campus?" Davis asked Yette in a conversation Yette said he remembers as if it were "this morning."

"To report the campus highlights, sir," he replied.

"I know about that," Davis countered. "but what are you going to do about the lowlights?"

"Well, sir," Yette said decidedly, "We'll just have to report those, too."

After printing the first issue of *The Meter* on April 21, 1950, thereby setting the standard for educating and



Samuel F. Yette (in 1951, left, and today, right), started as the founder and first editor in chief of *The Meter*, and continues as a trailblazer today.

preparing young journalists at Tennessee State University for decades, Yette continued to write.

He received his masters degree in journalism and government in 1959 from Indiana University in Bloomington and worked many other jobs in journalism for decades. Among others, he worked as an English teacher, a sports writer and sportscaster in Chattanooga, Tenn., a reporter for the *Afro-American*, a newspaper in

Baltimore and Washington and an associate editor for *Ebony* magazine.

Yette also set standards and blazed trails for African Americans in journalism as a reporter for the *Dayton Journal-Herald*, a Washington correspondent for *Newsweek* and a journalism professor at Howard University.

In 1971, Yette authored *The Choice: The Issue of Black Survival in America*, a book that was considered by generations of African-American leaders to be a powerful and eloquent analysis of American life. Civil rights leaders such as NAACP President Kweisi Mfume still name *The Choice* as one of the most profound works regarding the Black struggle in North America.

In 1982, Yette founded his own thriving publishing company, Cottage Books, in Silver Spring, Md. He also continues to work as a columnist and Washington correspondent for the *Miami Times* and the *Philadelphia Tribune* and has had photographic credits in *National Geographic*, *Jet*, *People*, *Time*, *Negro Digest* and the *Afro-American*, among others.

Yette is the recipient of many journalism-related awards and honors and remains today an active alumnus of TSU. •



(Clockwise from left) Dean of faculty, Dr. W.N. Jackson, speaks for the faculty after student rioting and the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr.; Y.Y. Clark makes TSU history as the first woman engineer to join TSU's faculty (from the Jan. 1956 issue); an editorial cartoon about TSU's merger with UT Nashville (from Feb. 13, 1979); a crowd of TSU students in front of Nashville courthouse protesting police brutality (from March 6, 1980).

Through The Years -- For five decades of n

**April 21, 1950**

The *Meter* is born.

**Feb. 28, 1951**

TSU surges toward University status.

**April 30, 1951**

The Tennessee State Players Guild score an unprecedented success with Euripides' *Medea*, a two-act tragedy under the direction of legendary professor Dr. Thomas E. Poag.

**March 1954**

The Tiger Sharks win their fifth national swimming championship at the 7th annual CIAA invitational and diving meet.

**May 21, 1954**

Count Basie and his orchestra provided

the music for the first annual Inter-Fraternity Dance. This marked the first time that all the Greek-letter organizations on TSU's campus came together for an occasion of this nature.

**February 1955**

Four TSU Tigerbelles, coached by Ed Temple, represent the U.S.A. at the Pan-American games held in Mexico City.

**May 1956**

Tennessee State's fleet of Cinderbelles swept the 28th annual Tuskegee Relays with an overwhelming 139 points.

**November 1958**

Tennessee A&I becomes a land-grant University.

**December 1958**

Tennessee A&I State University was granted full membership in the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools.

**November 1959**

Ray Charles headlines homecoming activities.

**April 1960**

Over 3,000 students protested racial discrimination of lunch counters at the mayor's office and hear the mayor deny the charges that he favored initial white violence.

**April 20, 1960**

Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. spoke to a

crowd of 4,000 at Fisk gymnasium. His subject was "Non-violence to the Movement of Nashville."

**October 1960**

TSU track stars win seven gold medals at the Olympics in Mexico City.

**November 1960**

The Faculty Spotlight focused on Dr. Merl E. Eppse, Professor of History at Tennessee A&I.

**September - October 1961**

Coach Lawrence Simmons replaced Coach Howard Gentry as head football coach, while Gentry was promoted to the position of athletic director.

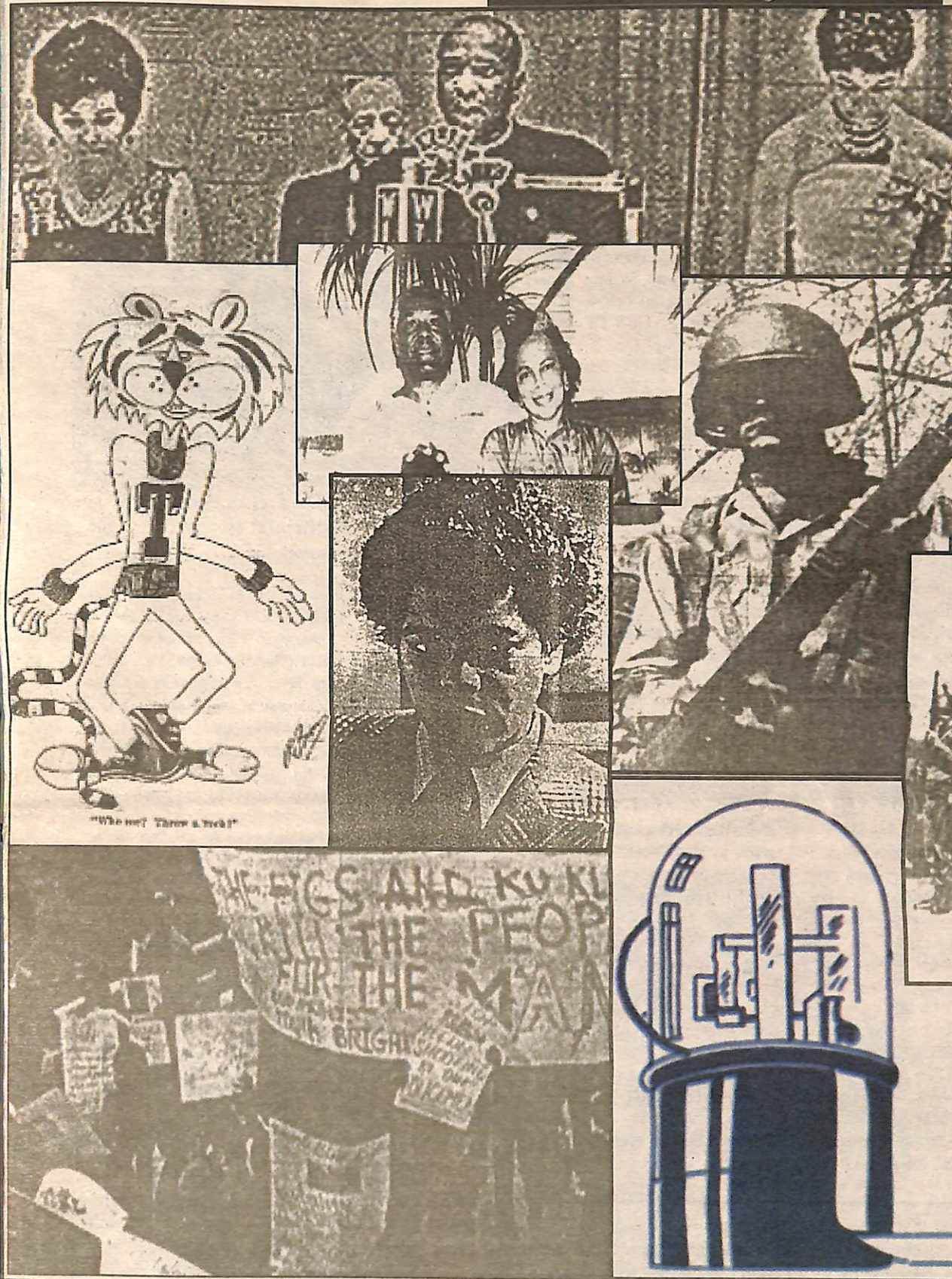


50th Anniversary Pullout

Former Editors In Chief.

Samuel F. Yette  
 W. Charlene Folsom  
 Arthur Wynn  
 Tommy Prude  
 Cheryl Culbert  
 Lynwood Holmes  
 Dwight Lewis  
 Dwight Jackson  
 Jan Parkman  
 Quintin Robinson  
 Teshima L. Walker  
 Sidney K. Brooks  
 Samuel G. Paryear  
 Tamala Savage  
 Getahn Ward  
 Nadine Bewry  
 Esther Rimmer  
 Garfield Lilliard  
 Henry Lindsey  
 Charles Kimber  
 Michael P.G.G. Randolph

Whittier Sengstake, Jr.  
 Lloyd Dixon  
 Andrea Lawrence  
 Clyde King  
 Lisa Harris  
 Shelton Tucker  
 Tawanna Moore  
 Sonya Dee Williams  
 Lurey Mock  
 Sonna Hodges  
 Hakim Rahoul  
 Sebastian Dortch  
 Quintin Robinson  
 Jerry Ingram  
 Kim Hooper  
 Steffanie Rivers  
 Darryl McClain  
 Roger Lee Randles  
 Karen Espenant  
 Ambre S. Brown



(Clockwise from top left), An artist's rendition of student attitudes after riots following Martin Luther King's assassination; "Winsome Wilma" (far right) serves as ambassador from the Olympics at a 1960 NAACP banquet, with Lena Horne (left) and Father Theodore Gibson; Howard Gentry Sr. poses with his wife, Carrie, before being honored at 1979 Homecoming; Julian Bond at the time of his 1974 visit to TSU as Parent's Day speaker; national guardsmen on duty at TSU after the riots; The Aleter logo, as designed by Claude Torey in 1950; Students align to protest racism and brutality in the police department, from March 6, 1980. •

ews and reviews, The Aleter was there

**February 1963**  
 Wilma Rudolph receives the Christopher Columbus Award in Italy.

**October 1963**  
 Nat King Cole performs at Nashville's Municipal Auditorium.

**May 1967**  
 The week of the riot after Dr. King's assassination is covered in The Aleter.

**April 3, 1972**  
 TSU launches its first radio broadcasting station, 580 AM, WTSU, on the first floor in the Alumni Building.

**September 1979**  
 Leon Brown founded the TSU Non-

Denominational Friendship Gospel Choir.

**March 6, 1980**  
 TSU students join a city-wide rally against police brutality.

**February 1982**  
 Student Government Association makes plans to launch a new project which will provide a new Student Learning Plaza for TSU students.

**October 1982**  
 Robert N. Murrell is the Homecoming Honoree.

**October 1982**  
 Don Shirley, a prodigy of American music, performed at TSU's "A-Building"

Auditorium.

**February 1983**  
 TSU's Student Government Association called for an immediate boycott against Domino's Pizza.

**March 1987**  
 Student Government Association President Carr addressed the Board of Regents in a 10-minute speech opposing Dr. Otis Floyd's appointment as president.

**June 1987**  
 Oprah Winfrey completes her TSU degree.

**September 1989**  
 TSU's Big Blue won its 400th game

when they defeated Central State in the annual Bill and Camille Cosby Classic.

**September 1989**  
 Dominique Wilkins visited the Big Blue teams during the Coca-Cola Hoop-La Classic.

**October 21, 1997**  
 The Aleter issued an emergency, one-page special edition after an illegal drug operation led to the shooting death of a TSU student in Boyd Residence Hall. •

*Gathered by Metra Baugh, Arts and Entertainment Editor at The Aleter and the assistance of the Special Collections Department of the campus library. •*



## 50th Anniversary Pullout

# Winsome Wilma -- Ambassador American

(reprinted from December 1960 issue)

Since Wilma's return from the Olympics, she was willingly done her share for Americanism at home, for Americanism at home, for her school, for her hometown, her state and her country. Ralph Boston and Wilma appeared in Youngstown, Ohio, for the Heart Fund, Oct. 23 Wilma went to Louisville, Ky., Oct. 27 for the Handicapped Children. Later in the month, Wilma was a guest at a Sports Diner in Washington, D.C., helping to promote "The Pig Skin Revue."

Turn her presence toward local activities, Wilma assisted the Nashville Junior Chamber of Commerce at a banquet which rallied and kicked off the Football Clinic Bowl. Incidentally, the Bowl was a huge success and the proceeds went to the Crippled Children's Clinic at Vanderbilt Hospital.



**FREEDOM DINNER PERSONALITIES -- NAACP Executive Secretary Roy Wilkins chats with three important ladies attending the Fourth Annual Freedom Fund Dinner in New York City this week. They are, from left, Lena Horne, Wilma Rudolph and Barbara Curry.**  
(Reprinted from Dec. 1960 issue)

Friday evening, Dec. 30, Wilma will receive a citation from the Philadelphia Cotillion Society at its 12th Annual Christmas Cotillion. The Cotillion will feature a Parisian Ballet-Fantasy, a presentation of the Jeweled Cross of Malta to Mr. Arthur B. Spingarn, and

a presentation of The Star of Malta to Wilma. Her citation will read-

"For courage in adversity, for the enlistment of hope and will; for bringing to the United States an unequalled Olympic victory; for inspiration to all young people everywhere."

Among the news writers who have visited the campus to interview Coach Temple, Ralph Boston, the Tigerbelles, and Wilma Rudolph, Mr. Alex Haley of *Reader's Digest* and Miss Barbara Hielman of *Sports Illustrated*, there was a charming 25 year-old writer photographer from Milan, Italy, Miss Guila Niccolai. She stated in an interview with *The Meter* Staff that she finished an Italian high school which consisted of five years of intensive study and began her career as a photographic journalist at 18. *Italian Illustrated* is her employer, but she does work for many magazines as a free-lance photographer. While on our campus, Miss Niccolai covered Wilma specifically for an entire week and A & I generally, including *Home Coming* Thanksgiving Day.

When Wilma is not on personal tour, studying, or in class, she works at her part time job in the University Post Office assisting her Coach, Ed Temple, and his wife Mrs. Charlie B. Temple. During the week, Miss Niccolai made headquarters at the Post Office where she had the view of the campus, students, faculty, and the entire University in non-classroom activities. Wilma won great affection from the Italian people while she was in Rome

for the Olympics. Miss Niccolai's face mirrored this warm affection of the Latin people.

With the charm and grace of a world champion, our own Wilma Rudolph appeared before the cameras by CBS-TV Monday evening, Dec. 5, on the show "To Tell The Truth." She was handsomely attired in a tailored tweed suit, a dark blouse and a triple strand pearl necklace. When the panel guessed her identity the audience applauded thunderously.

The prize money that Wilma won was donated to the national AAU fund because she maintains an amateur status and cannot accept money.

She flew to New York, along with Miss Barbara Curry as her chaperone, especially to appear on the television program, but due to her nation-wide popularity, she was asked to make several other appearances in New York and surrounding areas before she returned.

Wilma was invited as a special guest to attend the fourth annual Freedom Fund dinner given by the NAACP in the honor of Miss Lena Horne and Oscar Hammerstein. It was a gala \$100 per couple affair where an estimated 1,030 persons paid tribute. Wilma appeared beautifully decked in a strapless floor gown of white taffeta with a planed back. She sat at the guest table with Miss Lena Horne, Mrs. Marguerite Belafonte, Mr. Lennis Hayton, Mr. Jackie Robinson, Mr. Thurgood Marshall, Mr. Roy Wiggins and Dr. Eugene T. Reed, President of the New York State NAACP branches.

The affair was held Sunday, November 27, 1960 at the fabulous Statler-Hilton Hotel in New York City.



**WILMA ON THE JOB -- as Dr. Archer, Faculty Adviser of THE METER, and Miss Niccolai observe her work.**  
(Reprinted from Dec. 1960 issue)

At a dinner given in Wilma's honor, the Emblem Club of Christian Street Branch YMCA of Philadelphia, Pa., presented to her the Distinguished Service Award. This award is presented to the citizen of the nation whom the Awards Committee determines to have made "valuable contributions to the principle of human rights and human dignity inherent in our democratic philosophy." This is the first time that a sports personality has captured the honor.

Wilma was unanimously selected by the Committee on the basis of her outstanding performance at the 1960 World Olympics.

Sunday morning, *The Philadelphia Inquirer* reported of the affair, "Even Miss Rudolph, the 20-year-old Tennessee lass who must be awfully tired of being called "the fastest woman in the world," appeared surprisingly relaxed. In the two months since her return from Rome, Miss Rudolph has learned the fine points of the banquet circuit. Naturally modest and charming, she's also very bright." •

Editor's note: This article was reprinted from the Dec. 1960 issue of *The Meter*. Only minor changes in grammar were made.

### Greetings,

Returning Meter staff members, invited guests and current staff are welcomed as we pause this week to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of TSU's biweekly news publication, *The Meter*.

I wish each of you much success as working and aspiring writers, journalists, public relations practitioners, broadcasters and as individuals expressing your talents through the written word.

I encourage you to read every chance you get for pleasure as well as for gaining knowledge and sharpening your critical thinking skills.

Of course, if you have taken any mass communications course from me since I've been teaching at TSU, you know I strongly urge you to do your

very best. Keep in mind that there are three groups that make up the world—those who make things happen, those who watch what happens, and those who wonder what happens. Whether you are a current or former student, ask yourself: which group are you a member of?

Sincerely,  
Regina Vincent Clark  
Adviser of Student Publications



I consider it an honor and a blessing to be a part of such a momentous occasion for *The Meter*.

I can only imagine the feeling Samuel F. Yette is having at this very moment knowing that his dream has produced five decades of information along with numerous journalists.

As you have read this pullout, I know that you have noticed the phrase "highlights and lowlights." For 50 years, TSU has had quite a bit of both and *The Meter* was there every time.

During this time when some colleges and universities, specifically HBCU's struggle to create and maintain a forum for the voice of students, I find it no surprise that *The Meter* has lasted 50 years. The longevity can be explained in one word: Dedication.

*The Meter* editorial board and staff have always had a strong foundation based on the dedication of the past staff and its dedication to the students of this university.

I am honored to be a part of the long line of students that have pledged their dedication to *The Meter*.

Congratulations for 50 years well done!

Sincerely,  
Mia D. McNeil  
Editor in chief, *The Meter*





Arts & Entertainment



**Trick Daddy Book of Thugs:**  
Chapter A.K., Verse 47 3

Trick Daddy has one of the most fortunate situations in music. He somehow manages to resurrect himself with each release.

After making a memorable debut on Uncle Luke's classic club hit "Scarred" Trick Daddy then recorded his debut album, *Based on a True Story*, under the name Trick Daddy Dollars and later he recorded his critically disappointing second album, *www.thug.com*.

Now, Trick Daddy is prepared to entertain his fans this summer with the release of his most compelling effort to date, *Book of Thugs: Chapter A.K., Verse 47*. On this album, Trick succeeds with tracks such as "Boy" and "Shut Up" featuring Trina, Duece of 24 Karatz, and Co of Tre + 6. Current singles include up-tempo and catchy songs like "Nann," "Could It Be," and "Thug For Life."

The album falls short with songs of revenge and retaliation such as "Kill Yo' A\$\$" and "Gotta Let You Have It." But the album's saving grace is the sociopolitical commentary of "America," which features a mature and undaunted Trick Daddy uniting his accent and artistry to deliver a few complaints and considerations to his country over an interpretation of R.Kelly's "When a Woman's Fed Up" instrumental.

Tracks like "America" are powerful because Trick Daddy has accumulated so many impressionable fans who are

actually willing to listen to his views of injustice, life, love, pride and adrenaline.

Overall, this album's production and content proves that he is far more than a "booty" artist, but rather a passionate poet that yearns to be listed among hip hop's greatest. **Geno Ford**

**The Murderers** *The Murderers* 5

Bringing aggressive energy and hardcore lyrics to hip hop, since the introduction of N.W.A back in 1989,

and Ja Rule has done it again with the new rap group The Murderers, which consists of five brothers and a sister straight out the grimy streets of Queens, N.Y. (Chris Black, Black Child, 0-1, Tha Murdah, Vita and Ja Rule). While most emcees spit predictable rhymes that focus on staying iced out, getting drunk all day and running games on the females, these emcees keep it real while overflowing our street mentality with 18 raw and uncut street poems on their debut album *The Murderers*.

You will enjoy tracks like the hit single "We Don't Give A F\*\*\*," featur-

Common has named his fourth album after a book in which a woman's cooking enabled those who tasted it to feel the exact emotion she felt when she prepared the food.

Likewise,

**Common** *Common*

has experienced many things: the birth of his daughter, a break-up, a new label, the suffering in Cuba, recording in the same studio as Jimi Hendrix and D'Angelo, and the rebirth of soul music due to the successes of Lauryn Hill, Outkast, The Roots, Santana, and D'Angelo. He has since combined these experiences and observations to concoct a special dish of soulful seasoning.

The album also features a list of guests and friends such as Goodie Mob's Cee-Lo, Mos Def, The Roots' Black Thought, Stun Village, Vinia Mojica, Femi Kuti, Rahzel, Bilal, Jill Scott, and believe it or not, MC Lyte.

Common composes his lyrics with a newfound mastery of his voice, rhythm, and wordplay. Common's words inquire, describe, address, bless, curse and caress, as he uses a "no-rules" approach to cover such issues as abstinence, suffering, relationships, labeling, politics and survival.

But Common is at his peak as he breaks boundaries that we have set for him. He does this best with such songs like the emotional "Geto Heaven" (featuring D'Angelo); the inspirational dedication to political prisoner Assata Shakur "A Song for Assata" (featuring Cee-Lo), and the surprising "A Film Called (Pimp)," a battle of the sexes between Common and MC Lyte that finds him portraying a hustler trying to convince a woman to prostitute herself.

Common's *Like Water for Chocolate* is for contemporary hip-hop what D'Angelo's *Voodoo* is for contemporary R & B, a refreshingly fearless alternative that really has feeling and breathes life.

*Like Water for Chocolate* is an uncommon dish that will leave listener's numb from the listening experience, wanting for no other emcee. **Geno Ford**



PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.VIBE.COM

**DISCuss This!**

**Amel Larrieux** *Infinite Possibilities* 5

By **Regan Toomer**  
Copy Editor

Today's weather forecast is filled with thunderous and symphonic sounds that will bounce throughout the atmosphere. We will have Amel Larrieux and her debut solo album, *Infinite Possibilities* all afternoon, so adjust your volume to the appropriate level.

She was the singer formerly of the band Groove Theory, that brought us the hit song, "Tell Me," and "Baby Luv." Larrieux first appeared on the music scene with Groove Theory in 1995. It was Amel's amazing voice and writing that attracted the attention of Sweetback (Sade's band), who recruited her to perform two tracks on their self-titled album. These experiences led Amel to write and produce *Infinite Possibilities*.

This CD symbolizes a challenge, not only to Larrieux, but to the self-limiting and thus incomplete definition of what is commercially identified as black music and art today. Larrieux displays a blend of musical ingredients such as a tabla drum, which is a North Indian percussion instrument, to create a warm, eclectic background for her sweet, yet soulful voice on this first solo release.

She draws a wealth of influences from jazz, hip hop, gospel and funky R&B, mixed with flashes of middle-eastern, West African and Indian ethnic styles.

The hot single, "Get Up," features Larrieux's soothing vocals, bass lines and colorful keyboards. Along with scats and the tabla drum, the booming background music makes you sing in unison with her, "I know you're down, when you gonna get up?" The spiritual "Ini" is about looking within yourself for inner-beauty and inner-self. The drum programming on that track is impeccable.

The track "Searchin' For My Soul," talks about the troubles of the world using lyrics like, "Oh, I feel the weight of all the world is resting on the shoulders of this girl...I got Billie's [Holiday] blues."

The most intimate song is "Make Me Whole," which is dedicated to her husband Laru Larrieux. She tells him, "Your love completes my existence/you're the only half that makes me whole."

The whole CD is very impressive, especially for a solo release following the successful album *Groove Theory*. It looks like she has come a long way, and meteorologists predict another forecast of Amel weather that will resurface the music world, a change that everyone will look forward to.



Amel Larrieux

PHOTO COURTESY OF SONY RECORDS

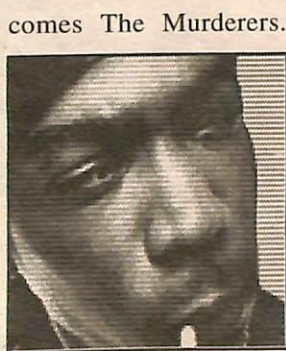


PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.DEFJAM.COM

Ja Rule

comes The Murderers. Some might think, "is this just another hip hop movement or are we witnessing the creation of a dynasty?"

Irv Gotti, the man who brought you Jay-Z, DMX

ing Ja Rule, Black Child, Tah Murdah and Vita. "We Murderers Baby," features Ja Rule and Vita, two emcees who performed at a metaphoric plateau informing the industry of their arrival.

This album will be rocked by hardcore street fans who feel that hip hop is getting soft and who feel that it needs to return to its underground roots.

**Franklin Alexander**

**Common** *Like Water for Chocolate*

5



## Arts &amp; Entertainment

## Songs that set the mood: a guide to your CD case

Music is universal. In other words, music brings us together and places our minds on the same level. Your level depends on the place that you are or the person you are with. Close your eyes and take a stroll down memory lane as the Arts & Entertainment section reminds you about songs that get you in the mood for...

## Church

"Total Praise" - Richard Smallwood with Vision  
 "Joy"  
 "Dance"  
 "Silver & Gold"  
 "Shabak"  
 "My Life is in Your Hands" - Kirk Franklin & God's Property  
 "The Battle is the Lord's" - Yolanda Adams  
 "Jesus is All" - Fred Hammond & Radical for Christ

## A wedding

"Endless Love" - Diana Ross & Lionel Richie  
 "For You" - Kenny Latimore  
 "Spend a Lifetime"  
*Jamiroquai*  
 "Happily Ever After" - Case  
 "I Do" - 98 Degrees  
 "Let's Get Married" - Jagged Edge  
 "We Must Be in Love" - Pure Soul  
 "Love U 4 Life" - Jodeci  
 "Ribbon in the Sky" - Stevie Wonder



PHOTO COURTESY OF CODE MAGAZINE

Kenny Latimore

## Studying

"The Beautiful Ones" - Prince & The

Revolution  
 Kenny G. (whole album - any one of them)  
 "My Life" - Mary J. Blige  
 Classical music  
 Jazz music

## Cruising

"Secret Garden" Quincy Jones f/ El DeBarge, Al B. Sure! & Barry White  
 "Vita, Vita" - Vita (from The Murderers)



PHOTO COURTESY OF CODE MAGAZINE

Lenny Kravitz

"What These B\*\*\*\*\* Want" - DMX  
 "Get It Together" - 702  
 "Spit These Bars" - Drag On  
 "Ms. Fat Booty" - Mos Def  
 "Da Rockwilder" - Method Man & Redman  
 "Bring The Pain" - Method Man

## Intimate moments

"Insatiable" - Prince  
 "Meeting In My Bedroom" - Silk  
 "Sweet Lady" - Tyrese  
 "Bump N' Grind" - R. Kelly  
 "Untitled (How Does it Feel)" - D'Angelo  
 "Let's Chill" - Guy  
 "Anytime" - Brian McKnight  
 "Top of the World" - UGK  
 "Forever My Lady" - Jodeci

## The summer

"Thinking of You" - Lenny Kravitz  
 "Ambitions of a Ridah" - Tupac  
 "Thong Song" - Sisqo  
 "Summertime" - DJ Jazzy Jeff & The Fresh Prince



PHOTO COURTESY OF CODE MAGAZINE

## The Artist Formerly Known as Prince

"Bling, Bling" - BG  
 "Livin' La Vida Loca" - Ricky Martin  
 "Summer Bunnies" - R. Kelly

## The club scene

"Take It Off" - UGK  
 "We Don't Give A F\*\*\*\*" - The Murderers  
 "Party Up" - DMX  
 "No More Play in GA" - Pastor Troy  
 "Back That A\*\* Up" - Juvenile

## A house party

"Planet Rock" - Afrika Bambaata & The Solsonic Force  
 "Exxplosive" - Dr. Dre  
 "Tear da Club Up" - Three Six Mafia  
 "Holla, Holla" - Ja Rule  
 "It's So Hard" - Big Pun  
 "U Understand" - Juvenile

## Just kickin' it or relaxin'

"Umi Says" - Mos Def  
 "Desolee" - Les Nubians  
 "Voyage to Atlantis" - The Isley Brothers  
 "Quiet Storm" - Mobb Deep  
 "One in a Million" - Aaliyah  
 "Breathe & Stop" - Q-Tip  
 "G Thang" - Dr. Dre & Snoop Doggy Dogg  
 "Bonita Applebum" - A Tribe Called Quest  
 "Just Kickin' It" - Xscape  
 "Check it Out" - Grand Puba f/Mary J. Blige  
 "Let The Bass Go" - The D.O.C.

## a meter minute



PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.PINKSPACE.NET

## Pink, the newest face on LaFace Records

By Brandi Montgomery

Arts &amp; Entertainment Writer

Let's face it, which other female artist has taken the Billboard charts by storm while setting hair trends across the nation? None other than the newest artist on the LaFace label, Pink.

This artist, with her pink hair and blue eyes was a skateboarder, hip-hopper, rave child and singer in a rock band while she found her place with LaFace.

The 19-year-old singer has held her own without riding the coattails of the label. Her debut album *Can't Take You Home* has already been certified gold by the RIAA.

Pink, a soprano, travels through multiple octaves with twists, turns and with self-confidence like a professional. She credits her club singing background as training.

As a child, she grew up listening to Madonna, Mary J. Blige, Janis Joplin, Shirley Murdock, the Supremes, and Donny Hathaway, whom she said influenced her singing.

No stranger to paying dues, Pink has sung backup and performed vocals for artists such as Diana Ross and 98 Degrees.

Pink got her start in the rap group Schools of Thought, which was short-lived. One day, a representative from RCA Records came to the club where Pink was performing to fill a spot for a girl group. She got the gig in the group Basic Instinct, but it flopped. She then was snapped up in a group, Choice, which made a demo at LaFace, but that didn't last either.

That was when she discovered her writing abilities by hooking up with Darryl Simmons. When Simmons asked her to write the bridge to "Just to be Loving You" for her album, she wrote it on the spot.

After Pink discovered her talent, she penned over half the songs on her album. According to [www.LaFace.com](http://www.LaFace.com), Pink decided that she was going to be herself to the fullest extent. Her songs were going to reflect relationships that she had been through even the embarrassing ones.

Look for The Meter staff in the student center lobby this week and pick up a staff writer application!



Arts & Entertainment



**Mack Maine Records:  
On a mission to make millions**

By Metra Baugh  
Arts and Entertainment Editor

Last year at around this time *The Meter* focused on a new group on campus who began under the name Mack Maine Records. Today, they have reached an even higher point of their flourishing careers with an official label and an even bigger purpose than last time. Lots of things for this group have changed... for the better.

"First we were doing Mack Maine Records from the dorm room," Tony Jackson, a.k.a Life and formerly known as Pretty Tony, said. "We just had quality equipment. We dropped two CDs in the spring of '99 and we had a lot of success from it."

The name Mack Maine Records is a management team and a record label that is now official with a business license.

The D.O.N., one of the producers, has since signed with Priority Records.

"He's got a nice label deal with them. He's trying to work on his album now," Tony said. MMR is no longer associated with The D.O.N.

This record company now has 30 artists, which include both R&B singers and rappers from around the campus of Tennessee State University.

"The reason why we have so many artists is because there is vast talent at Tennessee State," Tony said.

By having different artists with different educational and social backgrounds, MMR will provide not only various music types, but they will have gospel music as well.

"We're going through all genres. We want our artists to use their education in their music," Tony said.

MMR, which consists of 30 artists, has several big goals.

According to Tony, MMR's main goal is to come out with feature artists through compilations and albums displaying their talents in hopes of getting them signed to major label deals.

"Mack Maine is for TSU," he said.

"What we're trying to do is get a distribution label with Mack Maine Records or with

continued on page 16

**Bling, Bling: Gold crowns shining a light on America**

By Metra Baugh  
Arts and Entertainment Editor

It's just an ordinary day. You step outside of your dorm on your way to class. As soon as your Nikes hit the concrete, you're blinded by an object that seems to be beams from the sun, but that's not even the case. You are suddenly blinded by a casually dressed classmate who has several gold teeth that spells out P-L-A-Y-A, accented with a diamond.

For some people, gold crowns could mean several things. Some think that it looks unprofessional and others feel that it's the perfect fashion statement. Today you will be educated on how to care for gold teeth and most importantly, how to make this lifelong decision.

**The Decision**

Dr. Maury Hafernik, D.D.S., has practiced dentistry for 21 years in Austin, Texas. According to Hafernik, the body likes gold. On the same note it is very important that a patient takes care of both.

"You have to file the tooth down in order to fill the tooth," Hafernik said. "You have to remove the top and all around... a 360. Approximately 50 percent of the tooth is gone."

He said that he has never performed this procedure for fashion.

Fashion, however, is the reason why some people actually get this procedure.

Tony Strode, 25, is one who decided to get cosmetic gold crowns seven years ago.

His gold crowns came to existence because, "that was the style during that time, like Pelle Pelle," Strode, a May 2000 graduate of Nashville Tech, said.

Style navigates most of our lives, but Tony doesn't let that affect his life or his career.

"The older you get, the more it goes out (of style). It depends on which way you go," he said.

If one chooses to go to the streets, into the music industry or into arts this is most of the times unnoticed and is

often thought of as the "norm." But, when one gets into the business world, it's a different scenario.

"Everything is image in most companies," Keith Barbee, Marketing and Public Relations Assistant at TPAC, said.

Strode remains an intellectual,

top front teeth.

"Most people usually get four golds...that means you're grilled out," he said.

His crowns are 24-karat gold, which is the purest gold, according to Strode.

He has two open-faced, one heart-



PHOTO COURTESY OF VIBE MAGAZINE

Cash Money sporting gold in several places over their bodies.

business-minded man.

"I had no problems because of my gold teeth," Strode said. He is now self-employed, selling cars and going to auctions.

There are some stereotypes for people who choose to make this fashion statement.

Some people think that when you see cosmetic gold crowns, you see: rappers, young Black men, drug dealers, consumers of rap music, etc. In some cases that is true, but there are always two sides to every story.

"I think it's more of a southern trend," Barbee, a TSU alumnus, said. "A lot of New York rappers don't have gold (crowns)."

Juvenile, Master P., Big Gipp (from Goodie Mob), just to name a few, are images that people see everyday on the video channels and in print sources.

"The influence that we see are on magazine covers," Barbee said. "We mimic what we see."

In a world that rates almost everything on appearance, there are some individuals who take the situation and examine each side of it instead of just one.

**The Process**

The Webster Desk Dictionary defines "gold" as a precious, yellow, metallic element that is highly malleable and not subject to oxidation.

The kind of gold used in this procedure is important.

Strode has four gold crowns in his

shaped and one that is solid.

He had this procedure done about seven years ago and paid \$700 for four gold crowns.

During a visit to the dentist, Strode's orthodontist made his gold mold. For his next appointment, it took about 30-45 minutes to complete the full process. First, he received a shot of Novocain, which numbed his gums. Next, the dentist filed his teeth down. Afterwards, he proceeded to cement the gold in and that completed the process.

"When you get them cemented in, you can go back to the dentist and get them taken out," Strode said. "If you get them cemented in, you better make sure you want em'."

**Maintenance**

Care procedures for cosmetic gold crowns are quite simple. You must treat gold crowns the same way you would your regular teeth.

There are several important things that you can do daily in order to care for your gold crowns including: brushing and flossing your teeth two to three times daily and visiting the dentist every six months for your routine check up.

For years, you have seen your grandparents, aunts and other relatives and friends with one or two gold crowns. Today this dental procedure is a part of the music industry and work places everywhere. •



## Arts &amp; Entertainment

## The Director's Chair: Spring showers pour great movie season



**A - Oscarworthy**  
**B - Must See**  
**C - Make It A Blockbuster Night**  
**D - Buy A Bootleg Copy**  
**F - Forget About It !!!**

By Sparkle Davis  
 Arts & Entertainment Editor

### The Skulls B

Joshua Jackson stars in this modern-day thriller about one of the many secret societies that exist today. Luke McNamara (Jackson) is an Ivy league student that receives an invitation to join

their prestigious organization. Then, overnight his fortune changes when he accepts the invitation that will effect his relationship with his best friends and roommates Will Beckford (Hill Harper) and Chloe (Leslie Bibb).

All seems fine in the beginning until Will, an inspiring journalist, mysteriously dies under suspicious circumstances, forcing Luke to confront the possibility that he was murdered by The Skulls while trying to uncover their secrets.

With the help of Chloe, they embark on a deadly game of cat and mouse and discover how powerful The Skulls organization really is. Luke learns that the truth, like success, comes at a very high price.

The Skulls is a good movie, but it has some slow parts to make the audience understand the storyline. Joshua Jackson is great in this movie, hopefully we will see him in more films in the future.

### Final Destination A

There is one word to describe this movie... awesome! This is truly a horror movie. When Alex Browning (Devon Sawa) is embarked on a class trip to Paris, he has a premonition. He sees the plane explode moments after it takes off.

He then panics and insists that everyone get off the plane, but of course everyone ignores him. So in the midst of

his pleas, he and seven people are forced to leave the aircraft.

While in the gate house, Alex (Sawa) and his friends Billy (Seann Williams Scott), Tod (Chad E. Donella) and Claire (Ali Carter) a young woman, take heed to Alex's warning. Carter (Kerr Smith), his girlfriend Terry (Amanda Detmer) and Ms. Luton (Kristen Cloke) the teacher that stays behind with the students all watch in horror as Alex's premonition comes true.

Even though Alex's premonition has spared their lives, he believes that they all cheated death and will all fall victim to the grim reaper.

If you cannot sit through *Scream* or any other type of horror film, word to the wise, do not pay to see this movie. But if you think you have the guts, take precaution, many come into the theater, but very few come out.

### Erin Brockovich A

Julia Roberts stars in this funny and unconventional drama which is based on a true story.

When Erin is involved in a car accident and her lawyer fails to get her a settlement, she pleads with him to let her work in his firm. Ed Masry (Albert Finney) is reluctant but gives in. While working at the firm, she uncovers medical records that were placed in real estate files. Confused, she begins to investigate and stumbles upon a cover-up



COURTESY OF UNIVERSAL PICTURES

### Joshua Jackson And Paul Walker

involving a company that has contaminated the water in a local community. As a result of the contamination in the water, it has caused many illnesses among the residents.

Erin takes a personal interest in the case because she feels that she has the ability to connect with the people and the drive to help them win the case. Going door to door, she signs up over 600 residents. Brockovich and Ed received the largest settlement ever paid in U.S. history, \$333 million to be exact. A triumph that allowed her to prove herself and reinvent her life.

Julia Roberts does another outstanding job in this film. It's well worth seeing and it has Oscar written all over it. •

## Mack Maine Records: Keep an eye out for these TSU students

continued from page 15

Universal or Sony Records to help us distribute our artists. With Mack Maine Records you're getting educated artists."

They don't want to duplicate the other artists that we have today, who release one single today and are begging for another gig tomorrow.

"Mack Maine Records is gonna be

something like another Master P. thing, but better because we're taking our time, we're organized and we work together," Willie "Game" Dickson Jr., a rap artist, said.

The family atmosphere is always present because they are always working together.

"All of them [the artists] have to go through training," Tony said. "Training through Mack Maine Records means you have to sit down and find out where your true talent lies." And talent and intellect is a major part

of MMR. "We've got business majors, some studying to be doctors, a couple of lawyers and engineers," Tony said. "So, what a company would be getting with MMR is educated artists with talent to excel."

MMR is planning on releasing a book of poetry this year through their official record label and they are going to have a talent show soon.

"Mack Maine Records is the future," Tony said. "A lot of people are laughing,



PHOTO BY METRA BAUGH

Tony (seated) and Jeremy Jackson, rap artists on Mack Maine Records.

they're thinking it's funny. But last year we dropped 60 songs in two months. It's going to be the best, the cream of the crop." •

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Sports

# NBA playoffs favor teams in West Lakers favored to capture NBA's top prize

By Alan C. Beard  
Sports Writer

On to the mediocre Eastern Conference. Sure it has some of the premiere players in the league over here in Vince Carter and Allen Iverson but where are the great teams? Ever since the breakup of the Chicago Bulls franchise two years ago, the East has been the pits. They do however have a little race to watch in terms of playoff spots.

The Indiana Pacers with four games left would hold the top spot. The Miami Heat is a close two games behind and the New York Knicks are three games back. This basically gives them their projected playoff spots. The resurging Philadelphia 76ers are on a roll. After the acquisition of Toni Kukoc from the Bulls they are rolling into the playoffs looking to grab hold of the fourth spot.

The Charlotte Hornets are one game behind Philadelphia and are in the fifth spot right now, so watch to see how that unfolds.

The Toronto Raptors will make the playoffs for the first time in franchise history and get the number six spot followed by: the Detroit Pistons and as of Wednesday, April 21, the Milwaukee Bucks who beat fellow eighth-spot contender the Orlando Magic, looks like they'll get the final spot in the East.

If they were to end the season with the same record Milwaukee would get the last spot regardless, because they won more games in head-to-head competition.

Who will come out of the East? Your guess is as good as mine, it's as hard to call as the recent NCAA basketball tournament was.

One thing is for certain: we will be dazzled and excited with the onslaught of youth in this year's playoffs. The likes of Carter, Iverson, Kobe Bryant, and Jason Williams are sure to keep fans jumping out of their seats. •

With the playoffs on the horizon it is clear that the best teams are in the West.

Unlike years past there is no down-to-the-wire race to get into the playoffs in the Western Conference. It's pretty cut and dry with the Lakers easily gaining the top spot with the best record in the NBA, followed by Utah Jazz because they will win their division.

The division leaders automatically get the top two spots regardless of their record. The third spot will be given to the Portland Trailblazers who have a better record than Utah, but are in the same division as the Lakers.

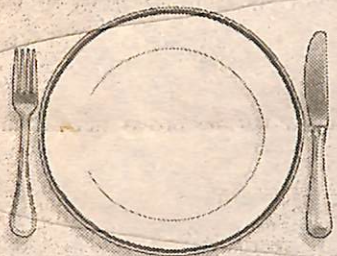
The Trailblazers have not been the same team since they lost to the Lakers in February when both teams had only lost 11 games.

The Lakers record as April 21 is 65-13, while the Trailblazers are 56-22. Rounding out the rest of the West either Phoenix or San Antonio will get the fourth spot the other the fifth. With four games left Phoenix looks to get the nod for the fourth spot.

The Minnesota Timberwolves will be the sixth spot and the Sacramento Kings and Seattle Supersonics will be the seventh and eighth spots respectively. Who will come out of the Western Conference this year? As if you had to ask, the Los Angeles Lakers will reign supreme under former Chicago Bulls coach Phil Jackson who has never lost a NBA Finals series.

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The Meter is searching for Sports writers and a Sports Editor. If you think you have team spirit, contact Mia McNeil at 963-7530.



## Sports

# Men's Track team in desperate need of improvement

## Recruits non-existent, walk-ons and prayers may be only hope

By Sedric Griffin  
Sports Writer

The Tennessee State University Tigers men's track team is in desperate need of new recruits.

They only have 15 runners on their roster with an NCAA minimum requirement of 14. Most of the men are walk-ons.

It has gotten so bad that part-time coach Victor Johnson has requested that an ad be placed in *The Meter* for more walk-ons. While other teams have the luxury of having a great number of play-

ers, the men's track team, having only one player over the NCAA minimum, can't afford any injuries.

One major problem that seems to be hurting the team is the lack of coaching.

As the Tigers have their third head coach in the last four years, some seem to be a bit bitter.

"My first two years here, there was Allen Robertson who was a good guy, stern firm coach, treated his guys well, but he got fired," said Lamont Gooding, team captain and three-time Ohio Valley Conference Champion in 800 meters. "Then there was Standford Strong, this guy who had no track experience and didn't know the rules."

Gooding seems to be optimistic about Johnson.

"He is a great guy and coach. He hasn't coached high school or college, but he's doing a great job," he said.

Many students have been wondering why the roster was so empty.

"It is empty because there has been no recruiting in the last three years and a lot of guys feel like transferring because of a lack of real coaches," he said.

In fact Johnson is the team's only coach. There are no assistant coaches on the team.

"If something happens to Coach Johnson then he will call me on the phone and give me the workout plan and I will implement it," Gooding said.

The shortage of coaches has been prevalent for the men's track team.

"The football team pretty much has their way with everything. They have the bulk of the money, they open the cafeteria late for them. Every team is lacking in money except for the football team," Gooding said. "Why does the football team have a great number of coaches, and we don't have one full time coach? The more money you put into a program the better they're going to produce."

TSU has built a brand new track without having a strong men's track team.

For high school seniors, Gooding says, "I wouldn't have anybody come here. The athletic program in general is geared for the football team. They [TSU] can start [improving the track program] by giving us assistant coaches and more money to recruit. If you get more coaches then you'll get a winning team."

Another recommendation that Gooding has is to make Johnson, who is a temporary part-time coach, the official full-time head coach. •

**If you are interested  
in the track team  
contact Coach Johnson  
at  
963-5896.**

## NEWSPAPER EDITOR WANTED

Position: Editor in Chief - *The Meter*

Duties: The editor in chief is responsible for spending at least 20 hours a week in the newspaper office supervising daily operations, including assigning stories, reporting, editing, photography and layout. This person holds regular meetings, sets deadlines, and ensures they are met. The editor in chief also assists in identifying support staff, such as section editors and staff writers, and makes personnel recommendations to the Coordinator of Student Publications. Finally, this person works with the Coordinator of Student Publications to ensure that the newspaper's content and layout are in keeping with professionalism, university policies, and publication ethics.

Requirements: The editor in chief must be willing to accept direction, work with a multicultural staff, and develop newspaper content that reflects the broad Tennessee State University community and its clientele. This person must be a full-time TSU student with a minimum grade point average of 2.5. Preference goes to those candidates with previous publication experience, computer literacy, and organizational and leadership skills. Continued employment is subject to satisfactory performance, as determined by the Coordinator of Student Publications.

Remuneration: \$1500 stipend per semester.

Tenure: August 1, 2000, through May 12, 2001, with preliminary planning and staffing taking place prior to assuming position.

Applications Accepted: (Starting) April 24, 2000.

Notification Date: By May 1, 2000.

Application Procedure: Interested candidates are requested to forward a resume and a letter of interest, including relevant work experience and proof of meeting requirements to:

Dr. Maurice Odine, Chairman  
Publications Board  
Room 407, Crouch Hall/Grad Bldg.  
Tennessee State University  
3500 John A. Merritt Blvd.  
Nashville, TN 37209

## YEARBOOK EDITOR WANTED

Position: Editor in Chief - *Tennessean* (The TSU Yearbook)

Duties: The editor in chief is responsible for spending at least 20 hours a week in the yearbook office supervising daily operations, collecting and editing copy, selecting and reviewing photographs, and general oversight of yearbook production. This person holds regular meetings, sets deadlines, and ensures they are met. The editor in chief also assists in identifying support staff, such as section editors and staff writers, and makes personnel recommendations to the Coordinator of Student Publications. Finally, this person works with the Coordinator of Student Publications to ensure that the yearbook's content and layout are in keeping with professionalism, university policies, and publication ethics.

Requirements: The editor in chief must be willing to accept direction, work with a multicultural staff, and develop yearbook content that reflects the broad Tennessee State University community and its clientele. This person must be a full-time TSU student with a minimum grade point average of 2.5. Preference goes to those candidates with previous publication experience, computer literacy, and organizational and leadership skills. Continued employment is subject to satisfactory performance, as determined by the Coordinator of Student Publications.

Remuneration: \$1500 stipend per semester.

Tenure: August 14, 2000, through May 12, 2001, with preliminary planning and staffing taking place prior to assuming position.

Applications Accepted: (Starting) April 24, 2000.

Notification Date: By May 1, 2000.

Application Procedure: Interested candidates are requested to forward a resume and a letter of interest, including relevant work experience and proof of meeting requirements to:

Dr. Maurice Odine, Chairman  
Publications Board  
Room 407, Crouch Hall/Grad Bldg.  
Tennessee State University  
3500 John A. Merritt Blvd.  
Nashville, TN 37209



## Sports

## Up On Deck

## Can You Smell What The WWF Is Cooking?!

By Alan C. Beard  
Sports Writer

Vince K. McMahon bought his father's wrestling company, the Capitol Wrestling Co., in 1982. He set out to transform it into the giant it is known as today, the World Wrestling Federation. Some of the greatest athletes in the world from boxing, football, basketball, powerlifting and ultimate fighting have participated in the WWF, including Mike Tyson and Lawrence Taylor.

Look, Jabronis!

If you haven't caught on yet then allow me to hip you to the newest craze hitting the Tennessee State University population and the sports-entertainment world. It is said to be a soap opera for guys, but the WWF has reached all new heights in the last few years, including the TSU female population.

Long past the days of "Hulk Hogan," "The Ultimate Warrior" and "Super Fly" Jimmy Snuka the WWF is the sport of the 21st century. It is better and more entertaining than its competition, the bootlegged version World Championship Wrestling (WCW).

Why, you ask? It attracts more than half a billion global viewers each week from teens, college students and families across the world who stay glued to the tube to witness the antics of WWF owner Vince McMahon and his cast of misfits.

Women ask yourself, what are your boyfriends and male friends doing every Monday at 8 p.m.? Could it be . . . smelling what "The Rock" is cooking, getting down with the "D-O- double G" and "Degeneration X," or getting aboard the HOOOOO train with "the Godfather." Guys I know you feel where I'm coming from, this is entertainment at its best.

Not to mention the added drama that is involved in every match. These guys and gals (yes, women wrestle, too -- the WWF is an equal opportunity employer), don't just get in the ring and slam each other around, there's a story line involved.

It's ingenious!

Much like the soap opera All My Kids (you know what I mean), we can't stop wanting to see what's going to happen next.

If for instance, something outside of wrestling happens that messes with the story line you can be sure McMahon has a back-up plan. Such a case happened early last year when superstar "Stone Cold" Steve Austin had to undergo spinal

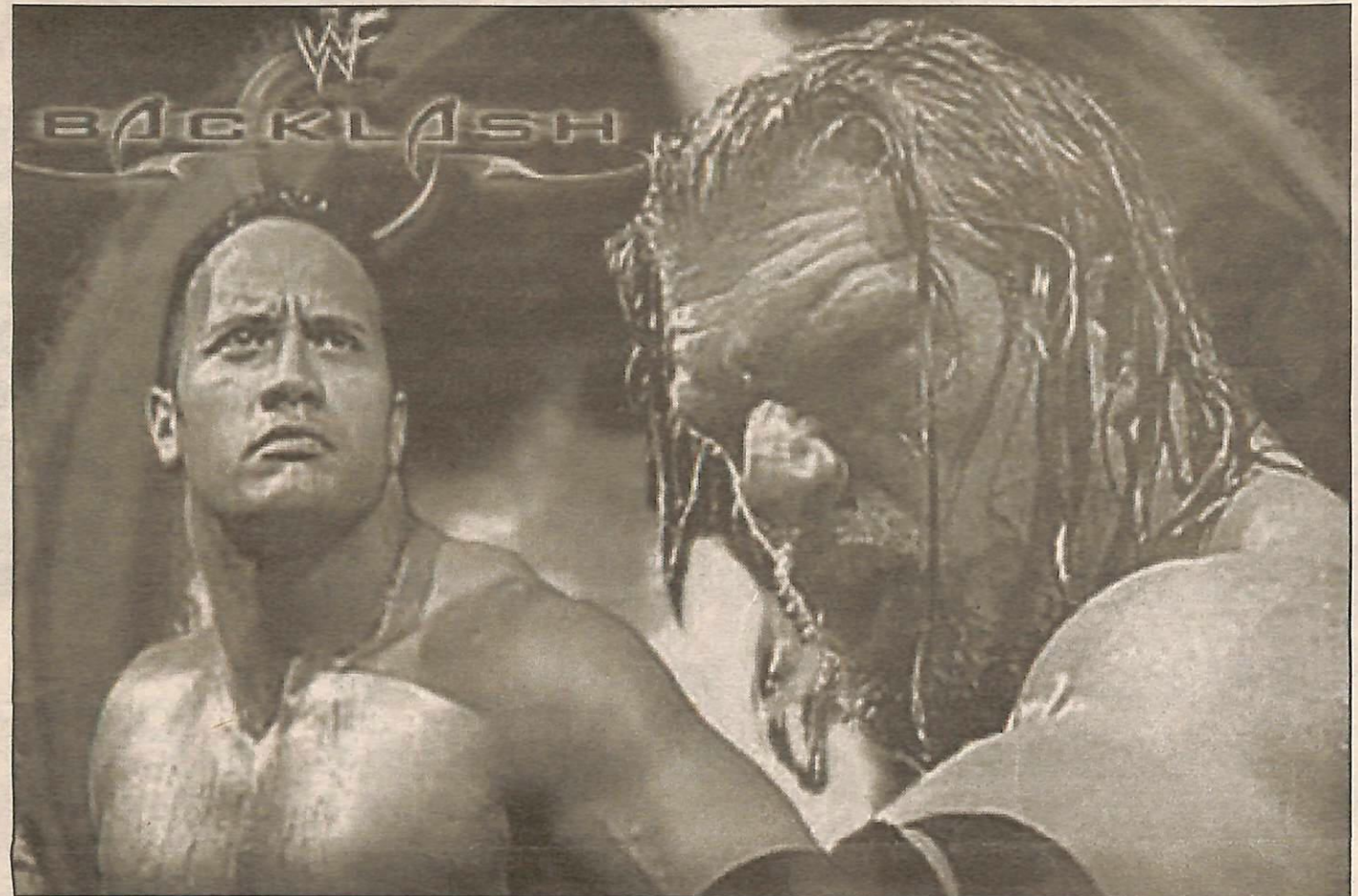


PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.WWF.COM

**Know your role, Jabronis -- The Rock and Triple H are just two of many well known professional wrestlers you'll find at the WWF. Look for "WWF Smackdown," Thursdays at 7 p.m. on UPN, and "Raw Is War" on Mondays at 8 p.m. on the USA Network.**

surgery.

In any other sport, a team without its superstar would be doomed. Not this one, just enlist the immediate services of "The Game" Triple H, Shane McMahon (Vince's son), Stephanie McMahon (Vince's daughter & Triple H's wife), The Big Show and the most electrifying athlete in sports-entertainment today "The Rock."

The WWF is so smart and entertainment savvy it has superstars in waiting.

I won't go as far as saying that it is all fake. True the matches are scripted, but you try telling Mick Foley a.k.a. "Dude Love"/"Mankind"/"Cactus Jack" that what he does is fake. He is regarded as the guy who will break a bone to sell a match and he's got missing teeth to prove it.

Women have caught on to the hype as well, they can't wait to see "The Great One," The Rock, tell all those "Roody-Poos" to "Know Their Role" and love watching the baddest S.O.B. "Stone Cold" chug a couple of beers down while giving McMahon the finger, (not the index).

This new-age entertainment giant is not going anywhere. It's the biggest show

going across the country. It is sure to hit your hometown soon so you can be one of the "Millions" . . . and "Millions" of fans watching "The Rock" come back.

For all those who haven't watched or just think wrestling is stupid, you're entitled to your opinion.

I must ask that you don't hate on it until you've tried it, just once try watching one Monday when nothing is on, which would be every Monday. If you still find yourself thinking that the WWF is

just a bunch of fake sweaty men body-slammng one another, then like "The Rock" says, "It doesn't matter what you think."•



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