New Technology Building Set To Open

Texas Southern University will dedicate its newest building, the new Leonard H.O. Spearman Technology Building, during a ribbon cutting ceremony on February 19. The ceremony, which will begin at 3:00 p.m. at the corner of Ennis and Wheeler St., includes a program, lab tour and reception.

The $31 million dollar construction features 35 labs and four research centers. The Spearman Technology building will house Aviation Science and Technology, Computer Science, Engineering Technology, Industrial Technology, Physics, and Transportation Studies academic programs.

Strahan’s Induction into 2014 Football Hall of Fame
Big for TSU…Big for Houston

Michael Strahan continues to make Texas Southern University proud. In addition to his titles of host of the NFL pregame show on Fox, co-host on ABC’s “Live with Kelly & Michael,” former NFL player and Super Bowl champion, Strahan can now add Pro Football Hall of Famer to the list. In the announcement made at Radio City Music Hall in New York, Strahan led the class of 2014 Hall of Fame inductees headed for enshrinement August 2 in Canton, Ohio.

After starring at Westbury High School, Texas Southern University was the only school that offered Strahan a scholarship to play football. Focus, determination and hard work propelled him to be drafted in 1993 by the New York Giants. He would spend the next 15 years carving out a hall of fame worthy career that included a Super Bowl championship, a Defensive Player of the Year award, seven Pro Bowls, and breaking the NFL single-season record with 22.5 sacks.

“We are extremely proud of Strahan’s induction into the Pro Football Hall of Fame,” said Dr. John Rudley, Texas Southern University president. “This honor is just further proof that Strahan remains intimately connected to his alma mater. He was conferred with an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters degree during the University’s spring 2013 commencement. He holds the position of Senior Vice President of Communications for IMG. Another Texas Southern alumnus Tony Wyllie, who currently holds the position of Executive Vice President of Programming, is an Inductee to the Pro Football Hall of Fame. This honor is just further proof that Strahan continues to make Texas Southern University proud.”

Sport Management Students Attend Diversity Business Summit

The Sport Management Program in the College of Education and the Department of Health & Kinesiology, under the leadership of Dr. Lillian Poats, Dean, and Dr. Dwalah Fisher, Interim Department Chair, and Dr. J. Kenyatta Cavil, professor, recently took a group of Sport Management students to participate in the Major League Baseball Diversity Business Summit, the premier sports employment and supplier diversity trade fair, held a George R. Brown Convention Center. Major League Baseball and the Houston Astros co-hosted the second annual MLB Diversity Business Summit.

Blaylock Retires After 42 Years of Service

Diane Blaylock, center, received a sterling silver clock and plaque for her retirement from the University. She is shown with Police Chief Roger Byars, left, and Deputy Chief Remon Green.

Texas Southern University’s Department of Public Safety held a retirement celebration for Diane Blaylock honoring her for her 42 years of service to the University as TSU’s DPS business administrator. Family, friends, and co-workers of Blaylock’s filled the University Museum to recall the precious memories and the valuable lessons that Blaylock will leave behind. Parking director Ed Davis served as the emcee for the event and roasted Blaylock by highlighting all of the changes in music, style and more importantly salaries since her start date of December 13, 1971.

Crowns Cast Features Top Houston Talent

A star studded cast of Houston’s top entertainers, soloists and performers has been chosen for the production of the national stage play “Crowns” that is coming to Sawyer Auditorium February 28 and March 1.

Kathy Taylor, an accomplished national recording artist, minister of music at Windsor Village United Methodist Church in Houston, songwriter, producer, and community activist has been cast as Mabel, the lead role.

Coming to Texas Southern University February 28 at 7:30 p.m. and March 1 at 2:30 p.m., “Crowns” is set against a tapestry of music and dance and tells the story of a young African-American girl named Yolanda, played by Crystal Rae, who is stricken by tragedy. She relocates to the rural South to live with her church-

See Crowns on page 2

Students attending the Summit are, from left, Troy Johnson, Andrew Garza, Dr. Cavil, Brenton Dunlap and Demorris Truemer, back row; James Stephenson, David Castillo, Terrence Stewart, and Demetrias Gatewood

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“She (Blaylock) has brilliantly transcended time,” Davis said. “She was smart from the very start. She knew to start right before the Christmas break, so she could work a couple of days and then go on a two week paid vacation,” Davis joked.

Blaylock’s 42 years, one month and 18 days saw seven United States presidents and eight TSU presidents take office.

In addition to the roast by Davis, Blaylock’s first supervisor, retired Melba Ozene, and her first student worker, Zanita Henry, came back to tell her how much she has impacted their lives. Current co-workers Sgt. Jamal Starks, Sgt. Rodney Jones, Sgt. Sheila James also spoke, as well as Deputy Chief Remon Green and Chief Roger Byars. Officer Benjamin Huseman, Ebonie Thomas, and Sgt. Belisha Williams serenaded her with song and poems.

“I have served the State of Texas for 35 years and I have never met anyone more loyal and dedicated to their job as Diane Blaylock is,” said Byars.

“Mrs. Blaylock did everything with excellence,” Green pointed out. “You were my confidence builder. Someone will fill your position and do your job, but no one will ever take your place,” he added.

“As I join the ranks of the retired baby boomers, I leave everyone with love and wishing them the best of luck,” Blaylock remarked.

Strahan…continued from page 1

‘Excellence in Achievement’ is more than a mantra at Texas Southern, it is a way of life.”

Another Texas Southern alumnus Tony Wylie, who currently holds the position of Senior Vice President of Communications for the Washington Redskins says, “I was prepared for this announcement because Mike is so deserving of the Hall. I wonder if the average person knows how huge this is… this is big for Mike and this is big for Texas Southern University students, alumni, friends, donors, supporters and huge for the city of Houston.”

Strahan remains intimately connected to his alma mater. He was conferred with an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters degree during the University’s spring 2013 commencement. He urged students to push themselves, believe in themselves, make the right decisions and to expect to be successful.

“I had one scholarship offer and that was to TSU,” Strahan said during his speech.

“Thank God for that scholarship. I was not the biggest, fastest, strongest, or smartest football player, but I always understood that I had more heart than that guy lined up across from me. I had heart; you have heart; we have heart at this school.”

With stretched arms, Strahan concluded his remarks by proclaiming, “I’m Michael Strahan…and I am TSU.”

Crows...continued from page 1

going grandmother and is engulfed in stories about the magnificent women and how their distinctive hats illustrate their individual experiences. Through her relationship with these “hat queens,” Yolanda experiences healing and finds self-realization.

“Crowns” is sure to entertain. Taylor’s musical gifts have brought her before both national and world leaders. She has ministered before Queen Elizabeth II, former President Bill Clinton, Senator Hillary Clinton, Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee, Rev. Jesse Jackson, Cicely Tyson, Maya Angelou, and many others. Taylor has received resounding critical acclaim for her outstanding, soul stirring, and inspirational performances.

Additional cast members include Andrea Baty as Mother Shaw. Baty has been featured as guest soloist at churches and other functions throughout the United States. She has sung background for gospel greats, such as Yolanda Adams, Beverley Crawford, Lacrecia Campbell, Vanessa Bell Armstrong, and V. Michael McKay. In 2011, she recorded the hit single, “He Will Make A Way” with John Waldon and Company; Tanya Galamison as Jeanette. Galamison has been a member of the cast for Houston’s infamous “Dancin’ in the Streets: Motown and More Revue” production; and CeCe Gordon and Felicia Johnson will be in the ensemble. Gordon, a triple threat in singing, acting and dance, has been performing since the age of six in local plays, musicals and school programs.

Also Keith Eason will serve as musical director for the play while Keith Bolden plays the main male character.

Tickets are on sale now: $50 VIP seating with parking included, $35 general admission and $20 student tickets. There is a special 10 percent discount on ticket purchases now through February 5.

Tickets are available for purchase at TSU Hannah Hall suite 210; TSU Book Store; Aunt Bea’s, 5422 North Frwy. (713) 692-2432; McQueen’s Custom Shoes and Tailors, 4402 Almeda; or online at tsu.thankyou4caring.org/crowns. For more information, contact Eva Pickens at 713-313-4205 or Marcele Brooks at 713-313-7970.
3. What are the benefits of working for the U.S. Senate?

Working for the U.S. Senate is extremely competitive, which helps to keep me sharp. Moreover, I am working with some of the most talented people in the world! The experience working on Capitol Hill, in general, is very rich.

4. What do you feel is the most significant skill/qualification an employee should have?

The ability to work under tight deadlines and produce quality work under pressure in an extremely fast-paced environment is a very important skill. Additionally, it is a must that you have in-depth knowledge of the legislative process, superior writing skills, and a strong work ethic.

5. What advice do you have for students who are pursuing career opportunities with governmental agencies?

My advice would be:
1. Know the history of the company.
2. Find out all current news regarding the company.
3. Identify a current problem they are facing, for which you may have the solution.
4. Identify and network with key personnel.
5. Take the time to identify and design your strategy for: Users, Influencers, and Deciders. The challenging thing about government is that you'll meet several people who have the power to say no, but not many who have the power to say yes.

6. Have you experienced many personal challenges on your career journey?

Yes, I’ve had plenty of personal challenges; however, those challenges made me better and stronger. I’m still learning as time goes on. The learning never stops. It’s truly an ongoing process of growing and getting better. The competition is like no other, yet it makes you better! The best thing to do is to embrace your challenges and fall in love with the process; it’s a lesson that will always make you stronger!

7. How important was the Career Center in helping you develop your career plan?

Being a former student leader at TSU and working with the Career Center on projects played an important role in my development. The Career Center was extremely helpful to me, mainly in my undergraduate years at TSU. The Center’s career services database, Tiger Connect, was very useful in providing internship and fellow opportunities as well as full and part-time prospects in Houston, Texas and around the world. Another thing that was helpful in my development, were the one-on-one sessions I had with the career center staff members, who gave me insightful information, especially on resume writing and interview preparation.

8. Where do you see yourself in five years?

Five years from now, I see myself as a senior level employee working in the field of politics with tons of work experience under my belt. It’s all about how you position yourself. The sky is the limit, and I will let my work speak for itself. Actions always speak louder than words, so just look out for me in the future!
THE OTHER GREAT MIGRATION: THE MOVEMENT OF RURAL AFRICAN AMERICANS TO HOUSTON, 1900-1941

The Department of History and Geography, College of Liberal Arts and Behavioral Sciences, cordially invites you to a lecture and book signing by distinguished TSU alum and award-winning professor Bernadette Pruitt on her new book The Other Great Migration: The Migration of Rural African Americans to Houston, 1900-1941 (Texas A & M University Press, 2013). Copies of Professor Pruitt’s comprehensive work are available for purchase at the Tiger Bookstore.

TSU THEATRE
Department of Visual and Performing Arts

One Monkey Don’t Stop No Show
by Don Evans
directed by Detria Ward

Location
Ollington Smith Playhouse
Texas Southern University
3100 Cleburne St.
Houston TX 77004

Thursday 8 pm | Friday 8 pm | Saturday 8 pm | Sunday 4 pm

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Texas Southern University
3100 Cleburne St.
Houston TX 77004

Tickets
$10.00 General Admission
$5.00 w/valid student ID
Tickets sold at the door
Limited Seating Available
2013-2014 Theatre Season

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Teach Me How To Love
A Relationship Series

TUESDAY
February 11
Open Mic Poetry Night
7-9pm
Student Center
Tiger Room
Sign up to Perform a Poetry Piece and/or to Speed Date:
http://tinyurl.com/TSUlove

WEDNESDAY
February 12
Speed Dating
7-9pm
Student Center
Tiger Room

THURSDAY
February 13
Panel Discussion
7-9pm
Education Bldg
Auditorium

Build authentic relationships with other students and with God.

Free Lunch at Wesley Foundation
Directly Behind the Business School
3811 Sampson St.
Thursdays at 12:10-12:50
Campus Pastor Julius Wardley
Phone number 832-588-6413

Lunch and Connect

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