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The PANTHER CUB

"Prima Veritas"

Volume 1
Number 2

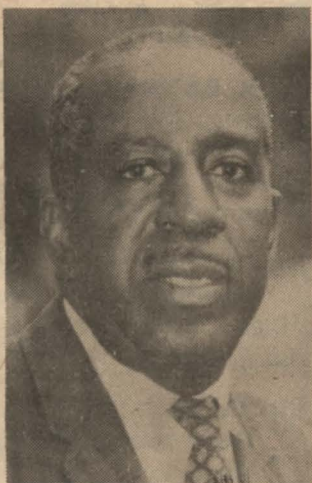
OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY
Prairie View, Texas

1980

EDITORIAL —

To Teach, To Search, To Serve Woodson In Perspective

Charles A Beard entitled his Presidential Address before the American Historical Association "Written History As An Act of Faith." Though not in the same sense as Beard, Carter Woodson founded on faith *The Journal of Negro History* in the twilight hours of the crumbling philosophy of accommodation and gradualism symbolized in the monopoly Booker Washington enjoyed in



Dr. George R. Woolfolk

Negro leadership and the ruthlessness of the Tuskegee machine. In the personal and symbolic confrontation of Woodson with the Caesarism of raw race and power to which the 20th Century gave early ideological promise, he rejected the shallow, mindless intemperateness of activism, intuitively sensing that the quest of his people for human dignity was in a very real sense a quest for roots and identity. His social engineering was rightly aimed at the task of rebuilding the human spirit if the human condition of the masses of his people was to be fundamentally improved.

Rejecting the easy temptation of the propagandist to shape his instrument of combat to fit the Napoleonic dicta for history, "a pack of lies agreed

See WOODSON IN PERSPECTIVE, Page 2

What Ever Happened . . . ? Alexander T. Pratt '61

In the inner core of students who have completed degrees in the Department of History, none stand higher than "Alex" Pratt. He has fulfilled our expectations of a representative graduate worthy of our acclaim. He has worked successfully in the public schools as a social studies teacher; and now combines an imaginatively creative teaching-administrative position as Chairman of the College of the Mainland's Social Science department with a seat on the city council of La Marque, Texas.

He has founded another "Fox Fire" magazine at his school and has embarked on an oral history program to gather up the folk tradition of his community before it escapes into limbo. The reminiscences of the long time residents of the county, recorded since the late '60s have proven a rich vein of lore. Says Pratt "There's a sense of urgency for me about this . . . I want to capture everyone before they die. Everytime I read an obituary in the newspaper I think, here's history gone."

We are proud of Alex because he has become a professional's "professional" and a citizen's "citizen." Father, Churchman, Teacher, Scholar, citizen, friend of his department and his university . . .

We salute him. We may not ever get him back home, but we bid him God's speed.

Operation Talent Scout

ATTENTION: Counselors, Principals, Social Studies Teachers:

The Department of History is on a talent hunt for History majors. Our hunt is especially strong for students who have promise, but are without adequate funds to enter college. We are asking for the names of these persons in the graduating class who are interested in pursuing a major in History.

The Department can offer some scholarships to a few carefully selected persons. In addition, the school has an aid program of scholarships and loans. We will send brochures presenting the program in History, the aid program and other vital information.

Execute the enclosed form at your earliest possible convenience. We would like to make direct contact with the students.

Twenty Second Annual Ministers' Conference Set for February 5-6

The Twenty-Second Annual Ministers' Conference will be held at Prairie View A&M University on February 5-6, 1980. The theme for this year is "The Black Church and Predominantly Black College: Historical Partners in the Development of Black Leaders." Rev. W. Van Johnson, University Chaplain and conference director, announces the agenda for guest speakers:

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1980

10:00 a.m. Opening Session
Memorial Center Auditorium

Dr. William Bill Jones
Pastor, Bethany Baptist Church
Brooklyn, New York

12:00 noon Luncheon Session
Alumni Hall

Bishop Samuel L. Green, Jr.
Presiding Bishop, Virginia Area
Bishop, Church of God in Christ
Newport News, Virginia

2:00 p.m. Lecture
Memorial Center Auditorium

Dr. William Bill Jones

7:30 p.m. Baptist Hour
Women's Gymnasium

Bishop E. A. Morgan
Bishop, Church of Living God
Decatur, Illinois

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1980

9:00 a.m. Minister's Convocation
University Field House

Dr. Wyatt T. Walker
Pastor, Canaan Baptist Church
New York, New York

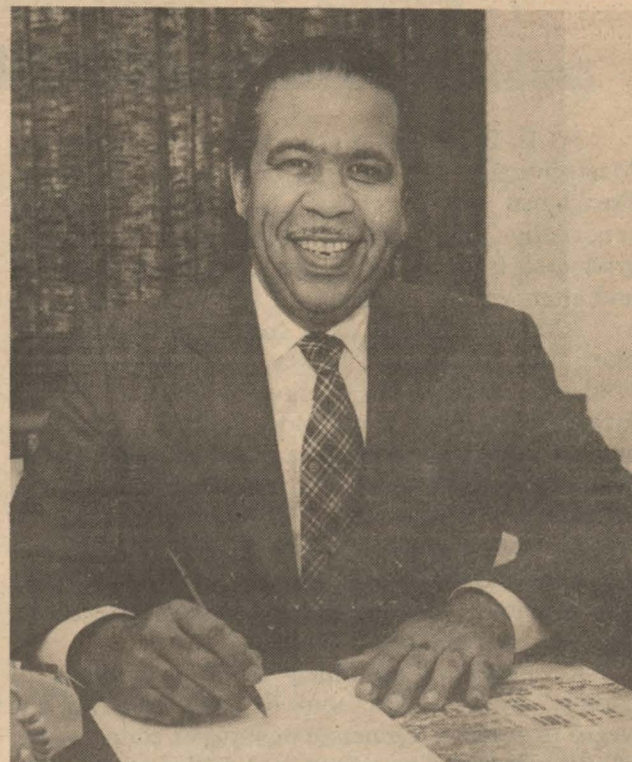
1:30 p.m. Closing Luncheon
Bishop H. Thomas Primm

Bishop A.M.E. Church
Nashville, Tennessee

Navy Seminar

The Navy department is sponsoring Black History Seminars every Tuesday and Wednesday during the month of February at 3:30 in Spence Hall 303. Lt. Frank Jackson will be officer in charge.

The President Speaks . . .

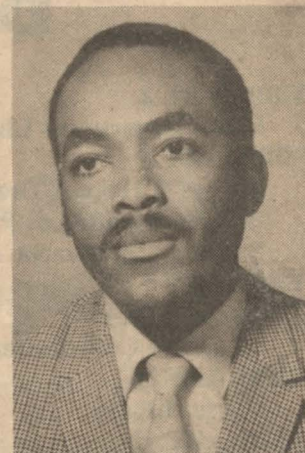


President A. I. Thomas

"The second thing the civil rights movement gave us is a much more democratized, much more tolerant society. Unfortunately we have become tolerant of the worst thing — mediocrity. Tolerant of the easy way. This will not work at Prairie View. We can't afford to be tolerant of mediocrity because our students have to be more than equal. They have got to be better. If they are only equal to the white man they are not going to get the job."

Drama Department

The Drama Department and the Charles Gilpin Players under the direction of C. Lee Turner present the following programs during the month of February.



C. Lee Turner

Thursday, February 7,
8:30 a.m.

Lincoln High School,
Port Arthur, Texas,
"Young, Gifted and
Black" directed by C.
Lee Turner

Saturday, February 9, 1980 12:30 p.m.

"Black Outlook" Channel 13, directed by C. Lee Turner.

Thursday, February 21, 1980 7:30 p.m.

Holley Hall "Profiles in Black" directed by C. Lee Turner.

Monday, February 25, 1980 7:30 p.m.

Drew Hall "Profiles in Black" directed by C. Lee Turner.

Wednesday, February 27, 1980 7:30 p.m.

"Black History in Review" Hobart Taylor Little Theatre, directed by C. Lee Turner.

Thursday, February 28, 1980 7:30 p.m.

"Black History in Review" Hobart Taylor Little Theatre, directed by C. Lee Turner.

Career Conference

The Texas Consortium For International Studies presents an "International Careers Conference," February 13, 1980 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in Hobart Taylor Hall 1 A 110. The speakers for the conference will be Dr. A. I. Thomas, President, Prairie View A&M University, Dr. Patricia Brams, Houston, and Dr. John King, Washington, D.C. For further details please contact Dr. Clarissa Booker who is coordinating the conference.

BLACKS IN YOUR PAST —

William Edward Burghardt DuBois (1868-1963)

W. E. B. DuBois was born in Great Barrington, Massachusetts. He was the descendant of Blacks, Frenchmen and Dutchmen, but "thank God," he reportedly said, "no Anglo-Saxon!" DuBois graduated from Fisk University, Harvard University and attended the University of Berlin.

Although trained as a historian, DuBois was more than a historian, he was a throw-back to the Frederick Douglass era of direct militant action. He favored immediate social and political integration and the higher education of a Talented Tenth (of the Black race) who would lead the masses out of the Wilderness. In his work, The Souls of Black Folk (1903), DuBois contended that manly self-respect is worth more than land and houses, and that a people who voluntarily surrender such respect, or cease striving for it, are not worth civilizing."

Reviewers varied widely in their opinions of DuBois' work. "This book is dangerous for the Negro to read," a Tennessee newspaper editor wrote, "for it will excite discontent and fill his imagination with things that do not exist or things that should not bear upon his mind." But the New York Commercial Advertiser disagreed. "At a time when race prejudice has suddenly taken on an aggravated form," it said, "when almost every day witnesses a new onrush in some unexpected quarter, a volume of this sort written by a Negro with unwavering faith in the inherent possibilities of his race, cannot be otherwise than wholesome and inspiring." It was in this work DuBois

uttered a famous phrase: "The problem of the Twentieth Century is the problem of the color line."

The DuBois book fed a growing controversy by its pointed criticism of Booker Washington and his school of thought. "I sought to make a frank evaluation of Booker T. Washington," DuBois said many years later. "As I read that statement now . . . I am satisfied with it. I see no work I would change." DuBois resented the "adjustment and submission" of Washington's philosophy. He bridled at the Tuskegee educator's downgrading of voting rights, his scorn for Negro colleges, his habit of blaming Negroes for their plight rather than laying the blame on whites.

Passionate in denunciation, bold in advocacy, DuBois organized the first effective opposition to Washington. Aided by William Monroe Trotter, he organized Negro intellectuals and professionals into a protest group, the Niagara Movement. This group held a secret meeting near Niagara Falls in 1905 and demanded the abolition of all distinctions based on race and color. When the Springfield, Illinois race riot shocked a group of white liberals into forming a civil rights group, which later became the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), they invited the participants of the Niagara Movement to join them. With the establishment of the NAACP, DuBois became the editor of its Crisis magazine.

In 1919, he launched the Pan-African Congress in Paris, to focus world opinion on the conditions

and status of black men. In his fight against discrimination and economic exploitation of the Negro, DuBois published books, articles and poems to set forth his views. Some of his works are The Suppression of the African Slave Trade (1896), John Brown (1909), Darkwater (1920), Black Reconstruction (1935), Black Folk Then and Now: Color and Democracy (1945), and The World and Africa. At the time of his death, he was living in Ghana and serving as editor-in-chief of the Encyclopedia Africana.

DuBois is generally recognized not only as one of the most incisive thinkers of his day but as one of the most profound scholars of his generation and time.

DISPLAYS

W. R. BANKS LIBRARY
February 3-9, 1980 Black History Makers
February 10-16, 1980 Positive Images — Faculty
February 17-23, 1980 New Career Vistas
February 24-29, 1980 Positive Images — Students

HOLLEY HALL — HOLLEY HALL LIBRARY
Department of Economics and Geography
"Blacks in the Social Sciences" Old Science Bldg. 2nd floor.

EDUCATION DEPT. — EDUCATIONAL BLDG.
Department of History, Spence Hall, 2nd floor
Home Economics, Home Economics Building

DID YOU KNOW . . . ?

"Black History Month Activities"

- FEBRUARY 2 Music Department Choral Clinic 9-4:30 (HBT)
FEBRUARY 5 Movie "I Have A Dream" 4:00 (LRC)
English Department Poetry Reading 7:30 (LRC)
Business Department Activities 1:30 (LRC)
FEBRUARY 6 Movie (LRC)
Minister's Convocation 9:00 Field House
FEBRUARY 10 Movie (LRC)
FEBRUARY 12 Movie(LRC)
Business Department Activities 1:30 (LRC)

- FEBRUARY 13 Movie (LRC)
ZOB Seminar 3:00 (TBA)
FEBRUARY 14 Dr. Shine Works and Excerpts 3:30 (Library)
FEBRUARY 15 Agriculture Department Seminar 2:00 (TBA)
Reading Department Seminar 10:30
FEBRUARY 18 "New Career Vistas" Brutus Jackson 9:30 (Library)
FEBRUARY 19 Movie 3:30 (LRC)
English Department Poetry Reading 7:30 (LRC)

- FEBRUARY 20 Movie 3:30 (LRC)
Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Seminar 7:00 (Holley Hall)
FEBRUARY 21 Drama Department — "Profiles in Black" 7:30 (Holley Hall)
FEBRUARY 25 Drama Department "Profiles in Black" 7:30 (Drew Hall)
Holley Hall Activities 7:30 (Holley Hall)
FEBRUARY 26 "Positive Images" 2:30 (Library)
Movie (LRC)
Baptist Student Movement Choir 7:00 (Memorial Student Center)
FEBRUARY 27 Movie (LRC)
Drama — "Black History in Review" 7:30 (HBT)
FEBRUARY 28 Drama "Black History in Review" 7:30 (HBT)
Book Review

Century II Book Review

On Wednesday, February 27, 1980 at 6 p.m., Dr. J. Reuben Sheller will review the book, The Emerging Order by Jeremy Rifkin. The "review" will be held at the President's campus residence. Dr. Sheeler, Professor Emeritus of History, Texas Southern University and a Methodist minister promises an intellectually stimulating evening. He was for many years a key southwestern figure in the operation of the Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History, serving on its executive council and as its President. The Prairie View Community is invited.

Woodson in Perspective

upon." Woodson placed his faith in scientific research, rather than "perpetually indignant and passionate agitation against wrong . . ." To combat the practices which diminished the Negro's humanity and made him seem an inferior being, Woodson had faith that he could fight on two fronts. He would give his people the psychological lift of knowing authentic heroes and thus break the mental bounds of personal acquiescence to their own degradation; and he could at the same time give the lie to those who marshalled pseudo science to forge the chains of his peoples' bondage.

Woodson's faith soared to much higher levels than the purely utilitarian plateau of an instrument of pragmatic social psychology advocated by some of the great in German historical scholarship. He dared believe and practice the notion that the history of black men was a fit subject for serious scholarship. This was a natural step from his basic assumption that the history of black men was a legitimate part of the history of mankind; and that to think otherwise

was not only a disservice to black men, but also a disservice to the whole field of history. The Journal was founded on that faith and across its pages there is a testimony to high scholarship and universality despite the fact that the word "Negro" appears in the title. And last, but by no means least, Woodson believed that the Journal could be a forum for the scholarly interest of all men, regardless of race, creed, or color — that the history of black men could create and foster an interracial and intercultural community of scholarly interest throughout and beyond this land of ours. He conceived of no narrow chauvinistic property rights in the history of black men for black men. The Journal has become the nursery of the scholarship of the young and a custodian of the best thoughts of the mature of all races, creeds, and colors in history and its many allied disciplines. Woodson placed his faith in the word of truth — as men in western civilization have taught themselves to arrive at truth — "and the word became flesh . . ."

George Ruble Woolfolk
Prairie View A&M University

Student-Faculty Art Exhibit
February 11-26, 1980

Art produced by talented young black artists is a valuable contribution to our American Culture. It often possesses deep psychological and intellectual qualities, frequently subtle and sometimes highly pronounced. What ever the case may be the Afro-American artist remains greatly ignored and unappreciated.

During the recognition of Black History Month the Department of Art will display an exhibition of works by students and faculty. The exhibit entitled "Visual Perspectives" will focus on numerous styles and directions in art. A multiplicity of paintings, drawings, photographs, commercial art and crafts are included in the exhibit.



Clarence Talley

Talley Art Show

"Perceptions of Life" an exhibition of art work by Clarence Talley will be on display at the O'kane Gallery, University of Houston, Down-town College, Houston, Texas, February 4 through 24, 1980. The opening reception will be held Tuesday, February 5 from 7 to 9 p.m.

Mr. Talley is presently exhibiting in the National Exhibition of Works on Paper, Columbia College, Columbia, Missouri. Talley is a member of the Art Department, Prairie View A&M University, Prairie View, Texas.

Omega Psi Phi Seminar

The men of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity will present a seminar "The Black College and the Black College Fraternity" on February 20, 1980 at 7:00 p.m. Holley Hall Seminar Room. Harris Bell, instructor in Department of History, will be the speaker.

THE DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY — Faculty and Staff

- 1. DR. GEORGE R. WOOLFOLK Professor and Chairman, Department of History
2. DR. ANASUYA S. RAO Associate Professor of History
3. DR. PURVIS M. CARTER Associate Professor of History
4. MR. JAMES W. HARRIS Instructor of History
5. MR. HARRIS BELL Instructor of History
6. MS. VIVIAN STRAUTHER Instructor of History
7. MRS. LA VERNE HILL Secretary
8. MR. EZEKIAL DUKES Graduate Assistant
9. MR. OLLICE HUGHES Graduate Assistant

THE PANTHER CUB

Published Quarterly in the interest of a Greater Prairie View A. and M. University. The CUB serves as the voice of Pantherland.

Prairie View A&M University is open to all, regardless of race, color, religion, or national origin.

EDITOR Harris Bell
HEAD OF DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY George R. Woolfolk

Holley Hall Activities
Department of English to Sponsor Black Poetry Reading

Mr. Ell-Roy Stevenson, senior Fellow of Holley Hall, announces activities for Holley Hall during the month.

Black History Drama Play by Reginald and Rodney Hobbs.
Place: Holley Hall Seminar Room.
Time and Date: February 21, 1980 7:30 p.m.
"Great Speeches of Our Times" Place: Holly Hall Seminar Room; Time and date: February 25, 1980, 7:30 p.m.
"The College Bowl"
Date and time and place to be announced.

Baptist Student Movement
Choir Annual Gospel Concert

One of the highlights of the annual celebration of "black history" month at the University is the Baptist student movement annual concert. Popular both on and off campus, this group, under the sponsorship of Rev. Eric Johnson will give their eagerly awaited concert Tuesday, February 19, 1980 at 7 p.m. in the ballroom of the memorial center. We are sure that the Choir, under the presidency of Miss Janet Stenson, will give their usually spirited and soul-stirring performance. The University community and the surrounding towns are invited.

College of Home Economics

The College of Home Economics proposes to display in the Home Economics building:
1. Pictures of black children and their families.
2. Artifacts, heirlooms, and costumes identified and labeled.
3. Pictures and news articles of Black home economists and their contributions.
Both the residential and academic community of Prairie View are cordially invited to visit the College of Home Economics during the month of February to review our contribution to and recognition of Black culture and awareness.

Department of Reading

The Department of Reading has scheduled two programs for the month of February. A Seminar "Minorities in Reading: Research Studies Reviewed" will be held on February 19th, 1980 at 10:30 a.m. in the Education Building, room 304.
In a different vein will be a program entitled "Poetry and Music in Black History" to be presented on February 26, 1980 at 9 a.m. in Education 306. Dr. Gwendolyn Grossman and Dr. Clarissa Booker are coordinators.

Zeta Phi Beta Seminar

The women of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc. will sponsor a seminar, "A Tribute to Black Women" on February 13, 1980 at 3:00 p.m.

Events to Be Announced

- Department of Education seminars
• Department of Sociology seminars
• Department of Physical Education Modern Dance Concert
• Alpha Kappa Mu short film series
• Music Department concerts
• Greek Organization seminars
• Student Government Activities
• Department of Biology seminars

Mr. Chapman, responsible for the black literature offering at the university has announced two sessions of poetry reading for the 1980 "black history" month celebration. Student written poems will be rendered Wednesday, February 5, 1980 at 7:30 p.m. in the Learning Resource Center of the W. R. Banks Library. There is to be a second session of the works of outstanding black poets, February 19, 1980 at 7:30 p.m., also located in the Learning resource Center. Faculty, student, and the surrounding community are invited to these stimulating literary evenings.

W. R. Banks Library
Film Festival

The W. R. Banks library announces a film festival during the month of February. All of the films will be shown in the Learning Resources Center, Basement, W. R. Banks Library.
FEBRUARY 5-6
"I Have a Dream" 4:00-4:30
FEBRUARY 10
"Aretha Franklin" 2:00-4:00
"Got To Tell It"
FEBRUARY 12-13
"Heritage in Black" 3:30-4:30
"Afro-American Music"
FEBRUARY 19-20
"From These Roots" 3:30-4:30
"Heritage in Black"
FEBRUARY 26-27
"Harriett Tubman & Under Ground Railroad 3:30-4:30

The Bakke Decision —
Implication For The Black Collegian

With the recent Bakke decision, many aspiring, young black scholars gave a sigh of relief. Young blacks were tense because of the possible abolishment of affirmative action, which has served as the vehicle of entry for minorities into the graduate schools of America. The idea that persisted was that if the decision declared affirmative action unconstitutional, the doors to America's top institutions would be closed; or to put it simply, without affirmative action, blacks could not get into the top graduate schools in the country. But what does this imply? The implication is that the black population is not capable of generating a scholar who can compete with the white scholar and that in order for blacks to enter the universities, a system of duality must persist.

This implication should not be accepted or go unchallenged by the black student today. The idea that blacks cannot meet standards set by leading universities must be attacked with a tenacity never seen before. What is the plan of attack? The answer lies within the black student body. The goal of each student, as well as black colleges, should be preparing to meet the standards. At the basis of this preparation, there must be a dedication to scholarship and an insatiable desire for knowledge and achievement instead of the present insatiable desire for the party life. Now is the time for the Black collegian to seriously look at the implications behind affirmative action and take steps to make such implications a joke.

Harris E. Bell
Department of History

Ethnic Study Group

The Department of History is pleased to offer another option in its program of studies. This is an excellent preparation for the student of cultural pluralism.

HISTORY

- 323 The New South
- 463 The History of the Negro to 1865
- 483 The History of the Negro, 1865 to the Present

SOCIOLOGY

- 273 Rural Sociology
- 283 Contemporary Urban Societies

GEOGRAPHY

- 273 Cultural Geography
- 283 The Geography of Africa

PSYCHOLOGY

- 323 Social Psychology
- 333 Psychological Testing
- 463 Psychology of Poverty

MUSIC

- 402H Afro-American Music
- 312H History of Jazz

ENGLISH

- 443-1 Survey of Afro-American Literature to 1935
- 443-2 Survey of Afro-American Literature to Present

PHYSICAL ED.

- 101q Modern Jazz I
- 201g Modern Jazz II

If You Didn't Come Home For The Centennial . . .

What is Centennial Voices? It is the beginning of a new and exciting oral history project that will provide the University with a living record — the actual voice of you and other alumni, recorded on cassette tapes!

Why Centennial Voices? Prairie View A&M University has celebrated its 100th year of existence. During that Centennial period, the University has distinguished itself as a producer of productive people. Our accomplishments have been many, but improvements can be made. Centennial Voices gives the University first hand knowledge from alumni of what the institution can do to excel even higher. More important, it provides you an opportunity to become a living part of your Alma Mater for ever!

What do I need to do to participate in Centennial Voices? All you do is buy a cassette tape, any amount of time, and talk. You may want to buy supplemental tapes so you can talk as long as you want.

What shall I talk about? On Cassette #1 Name, age, residence, occupation(s), military record (if any), children (did they attend Prairie View . . . years attended?), class graduated, honors, major, minor, degree and or certificate received.

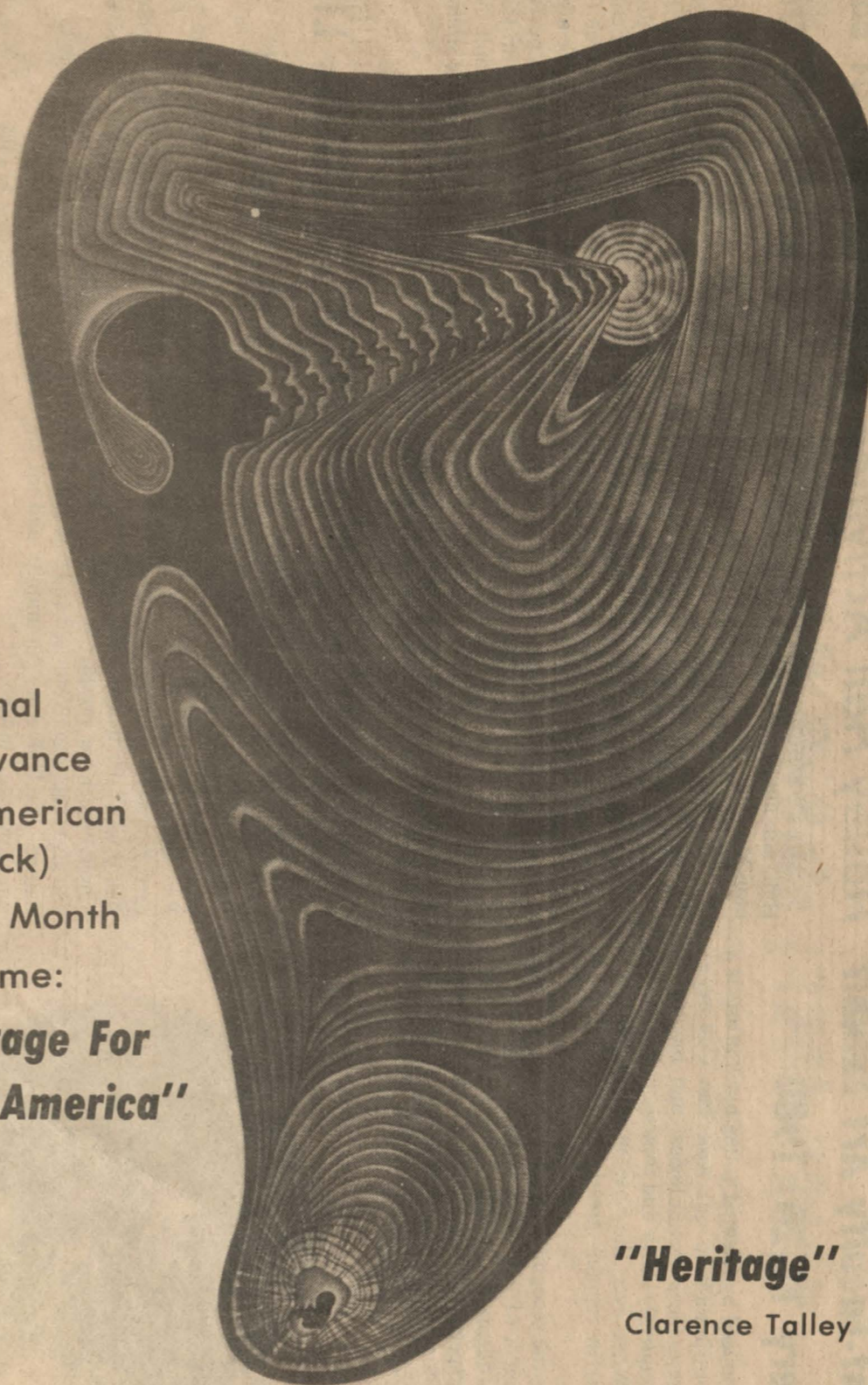
How was campus life (social and Fraternal organizations), religious activities, community life.

In the Long view, what did it mean for you to attend P.V. A&MU?

Do you feel that a predominantly black institution such as Prairie View was advantageous in your pursuit of higher education?

Mrs. James W. Harris, Coordinator
Dr. George R. Woolfolk, Chairman

PANTHER CUB



1980
National
Observance
Afro-American
(Black)
History Month
Theme:
"Heritage For
New America"

"Heritage"
Clarence Talley

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