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Prairie View A&M University

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Edited & Published by
Students at Prairie View

the

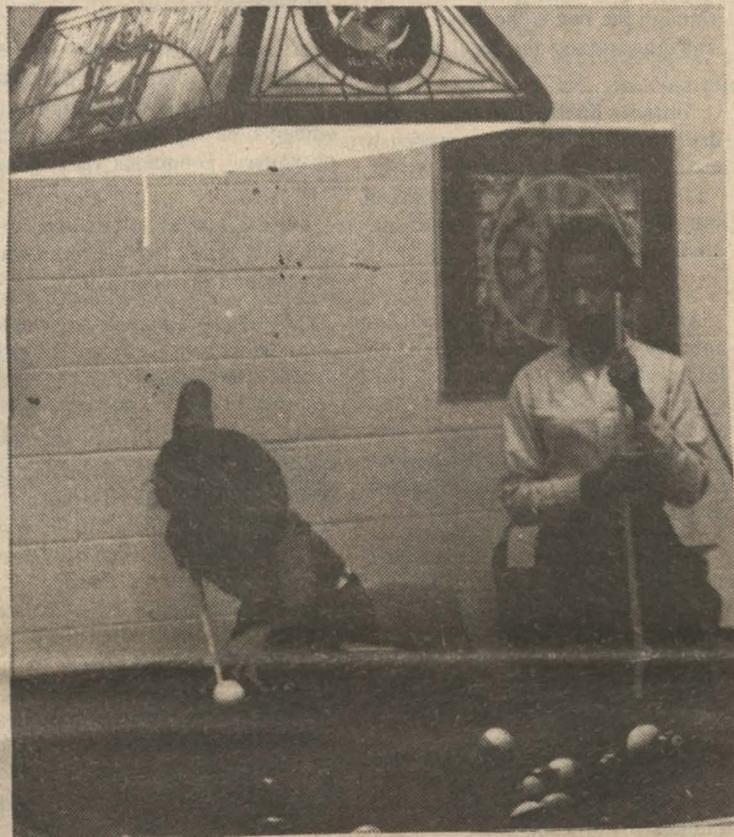


PANTHER

Prairie View
A&M University

Volume 63
Number II

February 18-25, 1985



CHARLOTTE HACKNEY PREPARES to shoot as Angela Morrison looks on. Hackney won the Memorial Center's pool tournament.

Library seeks upgrading

By MATTHEW LINDSAY

Dr. Don Sweet, library director at W.R. BANKS LIBRARY, says that everyone in the library wants a larger, more diversified collection, particularly in science and technology.

The library submitted a five year long-range plan to the University administration last month, calling for sizeable increases in the budget for audio-video, periodicals, and books. The kind of improvements they can supply make depends upon budget-cuts that Governor Mark White recently introduced on the state level.

"I'm hoping," said Sweet, "that by this summer we will know what our budget is going to be for the coming year. We did not have enough money this year. I'm cautiously optimistic we'll have more."

A major problem at the library is up-to-dateness. This includes everything from books to newspapers. Although they carry daily newspapers like the New York times, often a person will have to settle for when exiting the library.

yesterday's edition. According to Sweet, this is because of shipment problems and there is absolutely nothing they can do about it. "It's totally beyond our control," he said. When asked if Texas A&M shares this problem, Sweet replied "I don't know."

Another problem is the supply of books. Reference librarian Anthony J. Adam says that the budget is too tight to sufficiently increase the supply.

"However," he added, "we now have interlibrary loan, a computerized system which allows us access to material we don't have on hand. Of course, it might take a month to borrow the book if the library we're borrowing it from needs it for their students."

Sweet said that although the library has been a problem, the security system they are installing this month should put an end to it. It will eliminate the "book bag" checking a person undergoes often a person will have to settle for when exiting the library.

KPVU broadcasts Black History Series

PRAIRIE VIEW, TX--Larry Coleman, program director for KPVU-FM at Prairie View A&M University announced today that a special program in observance of Black History will be aired on the station beginning Monday, February 18 thru February 28. The following is a listing of the program. (1) "Adventures in Negro History"--spotlights the Negro in America from pre-colonial days down the threshold of today's Space Age. (2) Alex Haley--Tells the story of his search for Roots. (3) "TURN AROUND"--New York State Education Department. (a) Benjamin Banneker (b) Sojourner Truth (c) Harriet Tubman (4) Rev. Jesse Jackson--"Our Time Has Come" Jackson's speech delivered at the National

Democratic Convention. July 17, 1984. (5) The U.S Constitution and the Black American. (6) A Special Wingspread Series on the Black Experience produced by the Johnson Foundation.

Areas of Discussion: (A) "Freedom and Readjustment": The Civil War and Reconstruction 1860-1875. (B) "The Construction and James Crow": The Jim Crow Era 1890-1914. (C) "The Legal Quest for Equality": The Fight in the Legislatures 1960-1972. (E) "The Struggle for Equality": The Activist.

KPVU-FM is a 10,000 watt station and can be heard in the seven county proximate to Prairie View A&M University; N. Harris, Waller, Washington, Grimes, Montgomery, Austin and Fort Bend counties.

Coleman urges residences in the area to tune in to KPVU-FM not only to hear the special series of the program in observance of Black History Month but to enjoy the station's other fine programming which includes Jazz, Contemporary, Rhythm & Blues, Gospel and other fine intellectually based program series.

The dial setting is 91.3 on your FM dial.

February
Is Black History
Month

SGA elections to be held in April

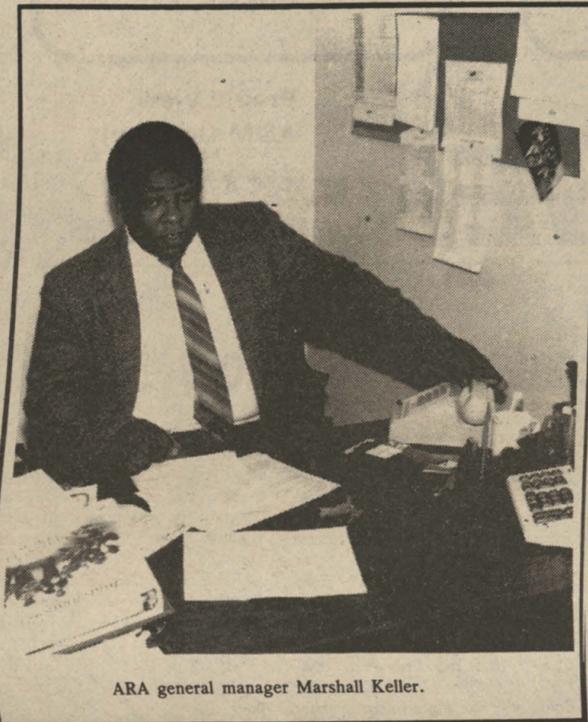
The Student Government Association will hold elections in April of this year for the election of new (and maybe some old) officers. This election will take place under a proposed constitution, whose main objective in Article 2 is as follows: 1. To act as the official voice of the student at large. 2. To provide a democratic government for the students. 3. To promote academic excellence. 4. To provide a liaison between students, faculty and the administration. 5. To promote better citizenship among the student body through the development of knowledge, skills and the understanding of self government.

Article 4, section 1 of the proposed constitution, the duties and powers of the Student Government Association are as follows: "The Student Government Association is the highest student organization of the University community. The jurisdiction of the Student Government extends over all other student organizations, councils and boards which affect the entire student body. The Student Government Association, shall be empowered to overrule those organizations, councils and boards which affect the entire student body as it sees fit."



PANTHER sticks it to opponents at a recent Prairie View basketball game.

Sanitation problems exist in Alumni Hall cafeteria



ARA general manager Marshall Keller.

Alumni Hall, where 90 percent of the resident students at Prairie View A&M University eat, scored below average on its April 1984 sanitation inspection by the Texas Department of Health. According to a survey made by Panther staffers last week, many of the same problems that contributed to the low score still exist.

In an inspection report that listed two pages of health code violations, the following conditions were noted: dead roaches observed inside of hot chocolate dispenser. Mold observed on walls in dishroom. Food residue observed on mixer head. Heavy buildup of grease observed at convection ovens. Food residue observed on shelves in walk-in-cooler.

In a tour of Alumni Hall last week, Panther staffers found: Many pieces of equipment with left-over, dried-up food residue. Dead roaches on stored food items. Food and grease spills on floors, making walking unsafe. "Frying grease being kept in deep fryer for twelve days. Left-over foods stored in a cooler that was not working properly. Donut maker filled with dried up hard dough. Algae build-up on sink, and walls in kitchen of the President's dining room. Soaking pots filled with dirty water and dead roaches

According to Earl Williams, assistant manager for ARA Food Services, Alumni Hall does not yet have a sanitation supervisor this semester.

"We're waiting on them to send us someone," Williams said. ARA general manager Marshall Keller was informed of the results of the Panther investigation and was asked for his reaction.

"I immediately had an employee meeting," Keller said, "to inform employees that anyone should be stopped upon entering the kitchen. Any employee with visitors will be terminated on the spot."

Keller would not comment on the unsanitary conditions or what is being done about them.

When asked if safety was the most important thing during a meal period he said, "Getting the students through the line is the most important thing during the meal period."

Antricia Smith, Director of Student Food Service was tremendously upset by the Panther survey results. "I feel I work for the betterment of the dining hall. I want what the students want," Smith says.

After Smith made a personal inspection of Alumni Hall kitchens on Friday along with Director for Management and Support Services Mrs. Sandra B. Davis, they found pots soaking in the sink of the bakery that were discovered by the Panther staffers were still there.

Davis immediately called a meeting of the Student Food Service Committee. Each member of the committee was given an assignment in connection with the findings of the Panther staffers. Smith said that committee members will be meeting weekly.

Sharonda Jenkins, student service member, assignment is to view the Alumni Center weekly and report the findings to the committee.

Alumni Hall can't open its doors to the students until given the okay by Sandra Davis. Davis stated that in the Spring of 1983 Alumni Hall had to be checked over three times

before they were given the okay to open. The Texas Department of Health scored Alumni Hall with a 30 for the 1983 inspection. Some of the conditions that contributed to this score were: (1) One box of sliced cheese covered with mold growth. (2) One pan of 30 hot dogs covered with white mold growth. (3) Roaches too numerous to count in the dishroom light shield. (4) Soda nozzles with black slime accumulations. (5) Cigarette ashes gathered next to food mixer. (6) Many foods could not be identified.

While talking with some students the Panther staffers found that many students had encountered numerous amounts of experiences from the unsanitary conditions of Alumni Hall.

Mark Crossland, a freshman from Houston, Texas, found a roach crawling around his apple pie.

"I took it to an employee who told me vigorously, 'You never seen a roach before? Don't you have them at your house?'" Crossland said.

Carlos V. Menkins, freshman from Templing, Maryland, was drinking a glass of milk and when he finished it, he found cigarette ashes in the glass.

Carl Vanden, a freshman, found hair whipped in his mashed potatoes. Clarence Banks, freshman from Shirts, Texas, was eating beans and bit down on something hard. "When I cleaned it off I found it was a rock in my beans," he said.

Even though the first scores were low Alumni improved on it's latest inspection. Yet some of the same conditions are still being found. A new inspection by the Texas Department of Health will be given in two weeks.

ARA is not affiliated with the university. It is a privately owned services.

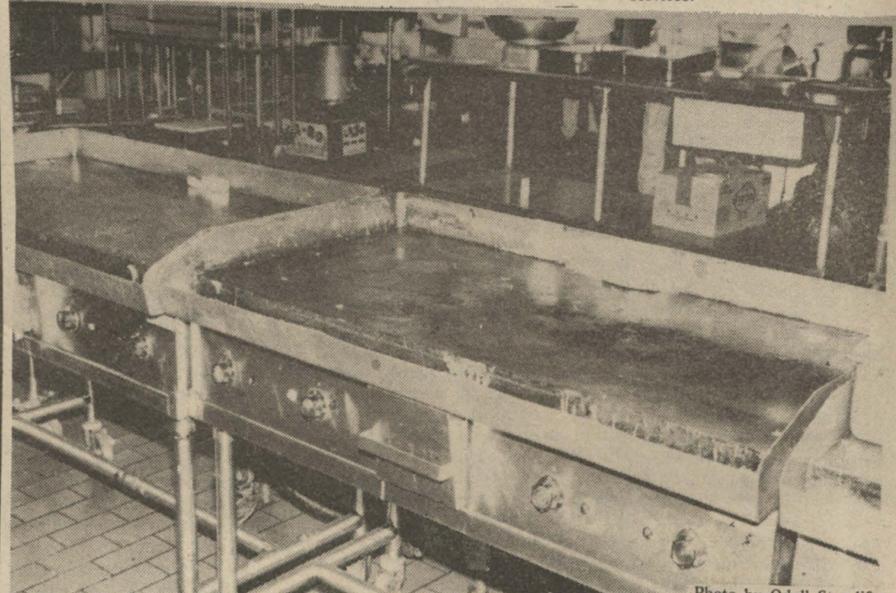


Photo by Odell Standifer

EGGS AND OTHER FOOD can be seen on this grill in Alumni Hall. This picture was taken during lunch.

Editorials and Comments

From the President's office

During the months of January and February 1985, President Percy A. Pierre met with a cross section of students to discuss "Ways of Making Prairie View A&M University A Better Place." Five luncheon meetings were held in the President's Dining Room. Dr. Pierre opened each session by explaining that he wanted "direct student in-put to better understand their aspirations for Prairie View and how those aspirations could be realized.

Students were selected at random from a list compiled by the Registrar's Office. Special attention was given to representation from all Colleges and/or Departments. Each of the 25 students was given the opportunity to present one suggestion, along with other concerns which were discussed by Dr. Pierre and the group. Some of the concerns related to long term goals, while others could be addressed during the session at hand. The conversation so motivated the students that many remained after the designated close of the session to further discuss their concerns.

The group concerns are as follows: STUDENT ASPIRATIONS AND CONCERNS

- Group I
January 28, 1985
- More recreational facilities and social activities
- Ramps for the handicapped
- Pedestrian crosswalks
- Extended library hours
- Housing for married students on campus
- Better supervision of weekend activities
- Accreditation of Colleges where needed, especially the College Business
- Student involvement in recruitment
- Billboards and signs on Highway 290 publicizing university activities
- Additional study areas in buildings on campus
- A place where students can gather to socialize, a "Hang out"
- Removal of so called "Cuts" (streets in front of Drew and Suarez-Collins)
- Group II
January 31, 1985
- Improved equipment for College of Engineering
- Strengthened library collections
- More professionalism shown by Administration
- Enhancement of recruitment and retention activities, including tutoring
- More active role by Pan Hellenic Council in creating a better social environment
- Stress on Christian ethics and principles
- Competitive graduates
- Group III
February 1, 1985
- Possible sharing of TAMU lab equipment
- More students voice in decision making, especially where fees are involved
- Added opportunities for course electives
- Reduction of the drop-out rate, the rate of transfer and changing of majors in the College of Engineering
- Elimination of cheating on exams
- Availability of scholarships for Criminal Justice majors
- Review of the honor roll requirement of a 3.5 GPA
- Upgrading of food services
- Improvement of registration process
- Dormitory discipline and unity
- Group IV
February 8, 1985
- Upgrading of the Security Department
- Stronger University entrance requirements
- Remedial classes for students who are in need of such assistance
- Increased academic competition in the classroom
- Tutorial assistance
- More help from advisors
- Tuition scholarships
- Transportation for commuting students
- Dormitory room selection handled by a method other than categorizing by field of study
- Upgrading of parking rules and regulations
- Additional meeting with the President

Department seeks reaccreditation

The Social Work/Sociology department of Prairie View A&M University is getting ready for a two day onsite visit by the 'Council on Social Work Education in April. The purpose of the visit, according to Dr. Sarah Williams, head of the dept. is for the council to "review our social work programs and the faculty for reaccreditation or withdrawal of those (accreditation) privileges." The council will also be expected to identify areas of weak-

ness, if there are any, and to suggest plausible improvements. There have been two previous "successful" visits by the council in recent years and the faculty members expect another successful visit in 1985. The council is the recognized national accrediting agency for social work education by the United States Department of Education and the National Council on Post Secondary Education.

Honor Society to offer scholarship

The Zeta Xi Chapter of Alpha Mu Gamma Foreign Language Honor Society announces the intent to give a scholarship award to a student who has taken at least three courses of a second language, and has earned a minimum average of 3.50 in the foreign languages courses. Students interested in applying may call 857-2354, or come to Room 2H259, Hobart Taylor for further information. Contact Miss Cheryl

Gobert and Mrs. H. Olivett Higgs, sponsor. The dead-line for application is March 7, 1985. The chapter will hold its monthly meeting on Wednesday, February 27, 1985 at 5:15 P.M. in room 210 Education Building. All current members are asked to make a special effort to attend. National Foreign Language week is March 3-9. Say something nice to someone! "Peace through communication"

Counseling aids students

Students placed on academic probation should not give up hope. If determination and a positive attitude are present, the counseling process will be of greater value in assisting you. University Counseling Services can be used as one tool to aid in your academic success. The services offered consist of evaluations to determine the levels of proficiency in basic skills, study skills sessions which will aid a student in acquiring appropriate ways to learn, referrals to tutorial sessions, and self-help

programs which will enlighten students on time-management, stress-management, self-confidence, self-esteem and decision-making skills. All probationary students will soon receive information from University Counseling Services inviting them to participate in academic counseling. After receiving this information, they should contact University Counseling Services in Evans Hall, Room 201, 857-2217 or 857-2218 for additional details.

Campus news important to Panther

The Panther is committed to reporting all the news we can possibly print concerning the Prairie View A&M University community. To that end, we conducted a workshop before the semester began and we were pleased to have students from all over the campus attend. We have reorganized our staff to reinforce our news-gathering effort. And we have assigned reporters to cover specific "beats" on campus. But we still depend upon reports from students, faculty and staff.

Those reports - submitted as news releases, letters, memoranda, and sometimes hastily scrawled notes in pencil - are often a problem. Frequently, there is no way we can determine the source of the report, no name or telephone number. Often the news is so long and detailed we lack space for it. And sometimes the item is of little significance or interest to the student population. We do not ignore any of these items; but we sometimes do not succeed in getting them published.

We want to do better. We think we can and accordingly we ask all campus departments, organizations, and activities to think a moment and then complete the following coupon designating a contact point. Reporters or editors will routinely contact you for news and to inquire about problems of coverage. We will send you a copy of our Panther stylebook, and if you desire, conduct news-writing workshops. We will also make editors available to talk to classes, group meetings or any similar occasion where people gather to talk about journalism.

Look for more messages in upcoming Panthers

The Panther needs your letters to the editor

Brain Teaser

The month of February is Black History Month. Below is a Black History matching game. Many of the matches are people in history matched with their names. Matches range from simple, to reasonably obscure. We hope that the puzzle will not only be amusing, but informative and stimulating.

1. Organization founded by Dr. Martin L. King
2. Only three time world heavy-weight champion
3. African folklore tale by Joel Chandler Harris
4. First Black Federal Judge (1949)
5. Hero Aboard USS Arizona at Pearl Harbor (1941)
6. 1975 Black commander of North American Air Defense command
7. First Black United States Senator
8. First of 11 Black winning jockeys of Kentucky Derby 1875-1895
9. First Black male to win Wimbledon Tennis Cup
10. First Black to die in America conflict (1775)
11. First Black U.S. Army General (1940)
12. Black inventor of heavy machinery oiler-name most remembered in slogan "The real"
13. Satirical Novelist-writer "Cotton comes to Harlem"
14. Famous black television father
15. First Black "Mr. America"
16. Black author of "The Death of Malcolm X"
17. Black physicist designer of ultra-violent Apollo 16 camera
18. Black Scientist Charles Drew first separated this substance
19. Author of "Lift every voice and sing"
20. Case of First Black petition Univ. of Texas Law School
21. Founder of Union "Brotherhood of sleeping car workers"
22. Black cowboy who owned 10,000 acre Texas Ranch
23. Date first Black reached Texas-Galveston Island
24. Date Prairie View A&M opened its doors
25. Black female winner of three Olympic Gold medals
26. Jazz Era Great - Bass Player

- A. William Hastie
- B. Hiram R. Revels
- C. Elijah McCoy
- D. Arthur Ashe
- E. Benjamine O. Davis
- F. Chris Dickerson
- G. Leroi Jones (plus)
- H. Ali
- I. Dr. George Carruthers
- J. Chester Himes
- K. Blood Plasma
- L. D. 'Chappie' James
- M. James Wildon Johnson
- N. Sweatt
- O. Dorie Miller
- P. D.W. '80 John' Wallace
- Q. Nov. 6, 1528
- R. SCLC
- S. March 11, 1878
- T. Oliver Lewis
- U. Wilma Rudolph
- W. Uncle Remus
- X. Charles Mingus
- Y. Red Foxx
- Z. Crispus Attucks (plus)
- Imamu Amiri Baraka

Answers To Last Week's Puzzle

SOLUTION
ACROSS: 1. Alonzo Pietro; 2. Robert Smalls; 3. James Smith; 5. Patricia Roberts Harris; 13. Daniel Hale Williams; 16. Howard Latimer; 17. Mary Patterson; 22. Alpha Phi Alpha; 27. Revies; 29. Arthur Mitchell; 30. Elijah McCoy; 31. Tuskegee; 32. Ernest Wilking; 33. Booker T. Washington; 34. Constance Motley; 35. Phi Beta Kappa; 36. Shirley Chisholm.
DOWN: 3. Johnson; 4. Matthew Henson; 6. Ira Aldridge; 7. Sadie Alexander; 8. Edward Bouchet; 9. Benjamin Banneker; 10. Alcorn; 11. McLeod Bethune; 14. Hattie McDaniel; 15. Ashnum Institute; 18. Nicholas Biddle; 19. Blanche K. Bruce; 20. Charles Drew; 212. Hallelujah; 23. Lewis; 24. Gilbert Jones; 25. Elizabeth Koontz; 26. Rebecca Lee; 28. Willie Thrower.

Junior Corp attends FTX

The Junior Corps at Prairie View A&M University will be attending a Field Training Exercise (FTX) during Spring Break. The FTX will be held in conjunction with various schools such as: University of Houston, Sam Houston State University, and Rice University. Many classes will be taught, however, instead of just learning in classrooms the Junior Corps will actually take the knowledge learned and practice it on the actual terrains or field at Camp Bullis. The Junior Corps is the first phase in the Advanced ROTC Program after the first and second year. It is geared towards preparing the cadets for the upcoming summer Advanced Camp located at Ft. Riley, Kansas. Another name that you may call these men and women is Military Science Three Students (MS 111's) "They will be the best if I have anything to do with it!" says SFC Ernest Kendall. He's vowed to make this particular class of cadets the best they can be. Sgt. Kendall is a 18 year veteran in the United States Army. He is

Airborn (jumpmaster), Air Assault, Jungle expert, and almost an expert in all of the qualifying areas available to him in his field. Most of the members in the Junior Corps have signed a contract with the United States Government, and receive a subsistence pay for their contract of obligation of \$100. Physical training while in the Junior Corp is very very rugged. Usually, the Junior Corp has Physical Training (P.T.) on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings. P.T. begins promptly at 6:00 each morning. It has been determined to be one of the most important jobs that one owes to himself. During class time, the Junior Corps members are subjected to various classes in military subjects. The classes are taught by experts in most instances and are vital to the career of those cadets. On class days the Junior Corps members wear their Battle Dress Uniforms (BDU's). The Junior Corps is run by the various cadets within the Junior Corps.

Poetry Corner

COLORS

Fire Engine Red
 Golden Yellow and Sky Blue
 Lime Green,
 Bright Orange,
 Violet Purple,
 Dark, Dark Brown and Just Plain Black.
 Waxy, melting in the heat.
 Molding together like tar bubbling in LaBrea....
 I left my crayons out in the sun.
 Submitted by
 Helyn B. Donald

This week in Black History

- *February 19-21, 1919-First Pan-African Congress, organized by W.E.B. DuBois at Grand Hotel in Paris.
- *February 22, 1965-Malcolm X was assassinated in New York City while addressing a rally of his followers.
- *February 23, 1929-Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters received a charter from the AFL.
- *February 24, 1952-Judge Waring quit his Charleston, South Carolina home as a result of ostracism for his fight for Blacks.

What is the SGA?

Now ask yourself this question, how well am I familiar with the S.G.A.? A few students were picked at random and asked these three questions: 1. What is the S.G.A., and what are their duties? 2. Will you vote in the spring election? 3. What will you be looking for in the future administration of the S.G.A.?

Toni Curry, a junior from Austin, Texas, majoring in Marketing and Management, said, to be honest I didn't know what S.G.A. stood for until I over heard another student being asked the same question. She also suggested that their duties were to help better the campus. "Yes, I would vote in the upcoming election for more progress in the S.G.A." said Curry.

Gwen Johnson, a sophomore from Beaumont, Texas with a double major in Communications and Computer Science, was familiar with the S.G.A. and felt that their duties were to promote a better welfare for the student body.

"In the future administration of the S.G.A., I will be looking for better thing's to come and yes I will vote in the election this spring," Johnson said.

Charles Stewart, a freshman from Houston, Texas majoring in Agriculture Education, was not aware of what the S.G.A. was. He felt that the S.G.A.'s duties were to sponsor activities and to inform students about campus happenings.

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COLOURS

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 Bit I'm asking too much
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 But for Service"

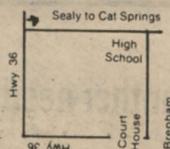
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 and one which we think you will thoroughly enjoy.
 We hope you can join us.

Time: 3:00 p.m.
 Day: Sunday, March 3,
 Place: Bellville High School Auditorium
 Subject: "Can God Protect us?"
 by Mr. Juan Carlos Lavigne,
 member of The Christian Science
 Board of Lectureship
 Host: Christian Science Society of Bellville
 Note: This is a free talk for the public.
 Childcare will be provided free of charge.



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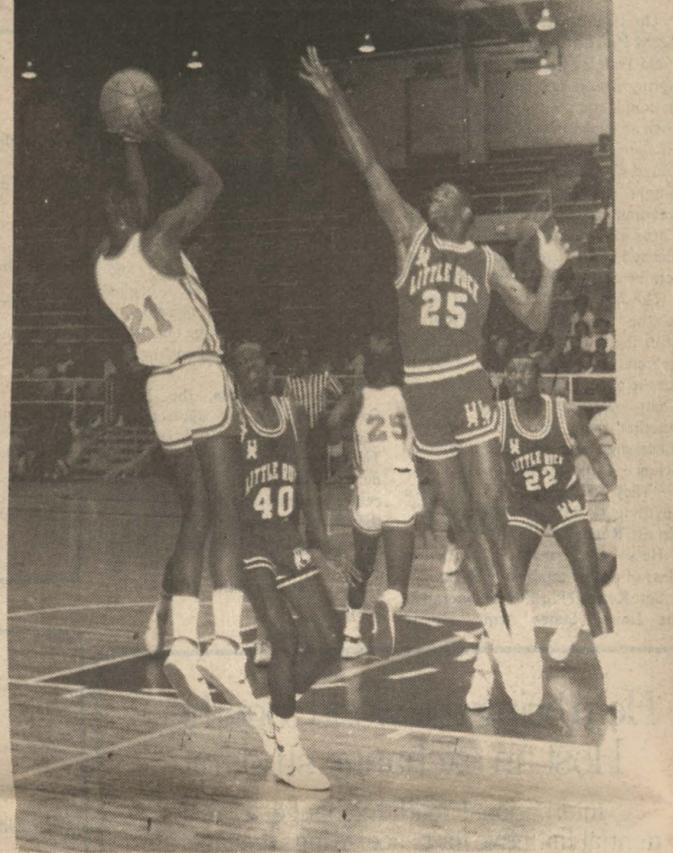
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MARK RUTLEDGE SLAMS home a bucket (left picture) and Reginald Jones (right picture) goes up for two in a game against The University of Little Rock. Prairie View lost the game, but came back to beat Mississippi



Valley State University 101-92 and Grambling State University 79-72. The Pantherettes beat Gramblings' women 75-73 to gain their first conference win of the season.

Photo by Antwon Williams

department head says Art series a success

Dr. Lucius Wyatt, head of the Department of Art, Music, and Drama at Prairie View A&M has a major concern for the arts. Therefore, he has taken time from his busy schedule to tell what has been happening in the department plans for the future.

Dr. Wyatt says the Performing Arts Series was originated to promote cultural enrichment on the campus. "The Performing Arts Series has been very successful this year," Wyatt said. "The presentations have been enjoyed by students, faculty, and the neighboring community."

Dr. Wyatt went on to name some of the noted personalities such as nationally known Soprano Carmen Balthrop, the William Grant Still String Quartet, and flutist Janet Ferguson who have graced the campus with their talents.

"Ms. Balthrop thrilled her audience and was given a standing ovation," Wyatt said. "Janet Ferguson performed a superb recital and presented a flute master class which was attended by flute students at Prairie View."

Dr. Wyatt further explained that when Ntozake Shange, noted poet and playwright performed, she conducted a workshop that involved members of the Charles Gilpin Players in it as well as her performance.

Dr. Wyatt hopes there will be more interaction with the programs in the department. He says he enjoyed collaborating with the Drama program on their fall production "BLACK AIN'T IN THE RAINBOW".

"We furnished the instrumental ensemble and provided the original music for this successful play," Wyatt said. "We hope to do more in this area in the future".

Wyatt says funds are needed in order to attract students with special abilities in the Arts to the university.

"Our scholarship funds thus far have been from private sources and been severely limited," he said. "All colleges and universities in the Southwest region are trying to recruit talented students in the Arts. Therefore, there is intense competition among the institutions for superior students in Art, Music, and Drama. Scholarships are a must!"

Dr. Wyatt believes there is a substantial interest in the arts at Prairie View A&M.

"One good example of local interest is the public's support of the production of "SOPHISTICATED LADIES" in Houston," he said

Dr. Wyatt says the Music department is planning a program of music by black composers for February 28 as their contribution to Black History Month.

Arts and Entertainment



GREGORY ROBERSON'S art work will be on display in the library during Black History Month.

HUGHES THE JOURNEY HAS BEGUN

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Hughes representatives will be on campus March 4 [See your placement office for an appointment.]



ON CAMPUS

Sports Briefs

The golf team is away this week competing in their first tournament. The team traveled to Houston, Texas in order to compete in the Lone Star Golf Classic. The members of the newly organized gold club are: Randy Baker, Michael Craft, Melvin Glover, Steve Mondisa, Landrum Price, Willie Toney, Wesley Sharpe, and Curtis Williams.

MEN AND WOMEN TRACK
The past weekend both the men and women track teams are away competing in the NAIA Indoors National Championship in Kansas, Mo.

The women has already won one SWAC title and competing for more. The men has not had as much luck but are moving on to more relays.

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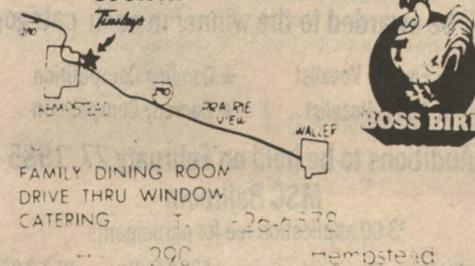
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Several AT&T Bell Labs engineers will be visiting Prairie View on Friday, February 22. They will tell you about AT&T Bell Labs, systems engineering, typical backgrounds, and example projects.

If you are majoring in electrical engineering, computer science, operations research, physics, mathematics, or engineering science and are interested in a career in systems engineering or just curious about what systems engineering is, come see us.

Friday, February 22

3:00 p.m.

Engineering Center, Room 206-J

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THE BAPTIST STUDENT Movement performs during the Minister's Conference in the Baby Dome.

Prairie View Grad Flies High

Second Lieutenant Gail Miller, a Prairie View graduate, with a B.S. in Mathematics and a minor in finance, successfully completed aviation school at Fort Rucker, Alabama, February 14 and became Prairie View's First Black female aviator.

The flight program which Miller completed, consisted of only four women and she was the only black woman in her class.

Miller attended Officers Basic Candidate School, at Fort Gordon and received her Signa Corps Branch. She was inspired by former PV ROTC instructor, Major Williams.

In order to become an aviator, she had to successfully complete flight school, a Fast Test and a flight physical.

She has flown several top army helicopters including the T-H 55 and the UH-Huey. In order to fly the helicopters, she had to go through the basic and advanced aviation tactics courses, which lasted about eight weeks.

Miller said that the aviation school has a lot of risk involved. Such as crashes which usually result in death. She said that three people were killed while she was in flight school.

"The aviation school is very stressful," Miller said. "The nine months of flight school were harder and more demanding than four years of college, but I enjoyed it."

Miller also said that it is harder for black aviators to succeed. In order to be successful, she said, you have to believe you are successful. There were only two other blacks, besides herself, both were male.

Although Miller feels that the flight school is very hard and demanding, she feels that blacks should become more interested in aviation school.

"I encourage more blacks to try to get into aviation school, I completed the course the first time around," she said. "I have seen more people get recycled or dismissed from flight school because of personal negligence and it wasn't in their hearts."

Miller said that she plans to serve 20 years with the U.S. Army. She has just been assigned ATC/Aviator platoon leader over stage and will soon begin Air Traffic Control training.

"It makes me feel good to know that I had what it takes to finish the flight course," she said. "I believe in myself and I made it."

In closing, Miller said, "My future aspiration is to fly back to Prairie View for ROTC drill in a UH-Huey."

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Our representative will be on campus on March 22, 1985. Material on the Station and a sign-up sheet for interviews are available in the placement office.



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Consumer Alert

Many people make New Year's resolutions to lose weight and get into shape. If you are one of those trying to firm your figure, you may be considering joining a health spa.

ASK QUESTIONS

Texas has many fine health spas and fitness centers. But numerous consumers have found that they joined the wrong one when the spa they joined closed after only a few months. So, it is important to check the reputation of the spa's parent company. ● How long have they been in business? ● Do they have unresolved consumer complaints at the local Better Business Bureau or at my Consumer Protection Division? If the answers to these questions are unsatisfactory, you should look for another place to exercise.

CHECK IT OUT

If you decide to join a health spa or club, be sure to visit the facilities several times before buying your membership. Go by at the time of day you are most likely to use the spa. Note whether your preferred hours coincide with peak times. If so, you will want to see whether the club is crowded. If it is, you might find it difficult to use the equipment or pool.

It is generally not a good idea to buy a "lifetime" membership. Many consumers have found that the lifetime referred to was that of the spa—not the lifetime of the member. Of course, no

one would admit that upon selling the membership, but that's how it sometimes works out.

You should pick a club that's convenient to your home and/or office. My Consumer Protection personnel tell me that people are much less likely to use a spa if they have to drive a long distance.

Talk to people who are already members of a number of convenient spas. See if they are satisfied before joining. Specifically, ask your friends and other members what they think of the club's maintenance and personnel.

Find out exactly what your membership includes before signing a contract. If the salesperson promises something to you that is not written into the contract, get that promise in writing. Verbal promises are worth very little when a written contract is involved.

Finally, if you have any health problems, check with your doctor about what kinds of exercise are best for you before joining a spa.

FOR MORE HELP

If you need more help or information on this or other consumer problems, contact your nearest Attorney General Consumer Protection Office (in Austin, Dallas, El Paso, Houston, Lubbock, McAllen, and San Antonio). The Attorney General's Office is the people's law firm. We're here to help you.

Good friends will give you a break when you're broke.



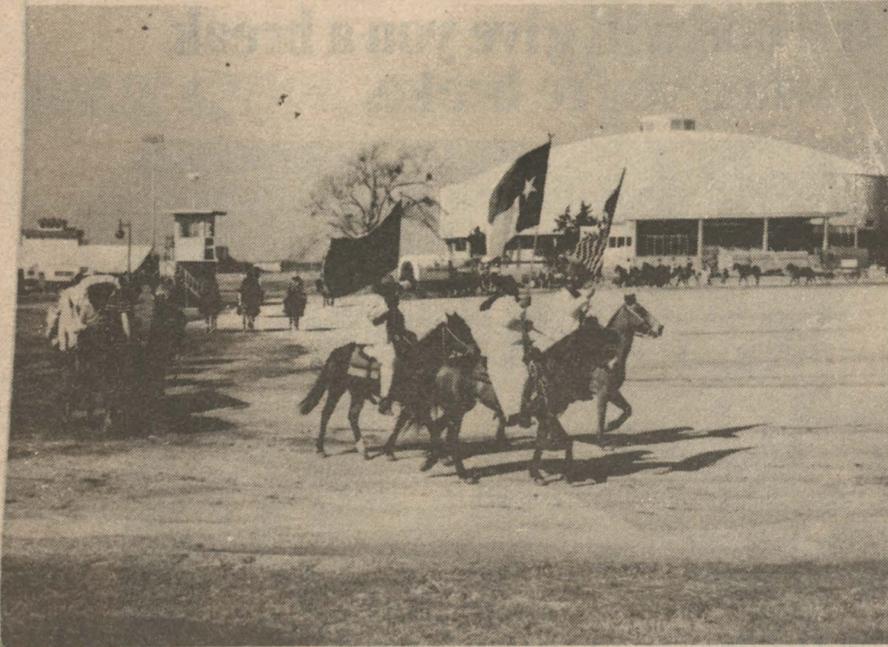
The dinner was sensational. So was the check. The problem is, the theater tickets that you insisted on buying broke your whole budget. Enough to declare bankruptcy by the time the coffee arrived.

A nudge under the table and a certain destitute look in the eye were enough to produce the spontaneous loan only a good friend is ready to make. How do you repay him? First the cash, then the only beer equal to his generosity: Löwenbräu.



Löwenbräu. Here's to good friends.

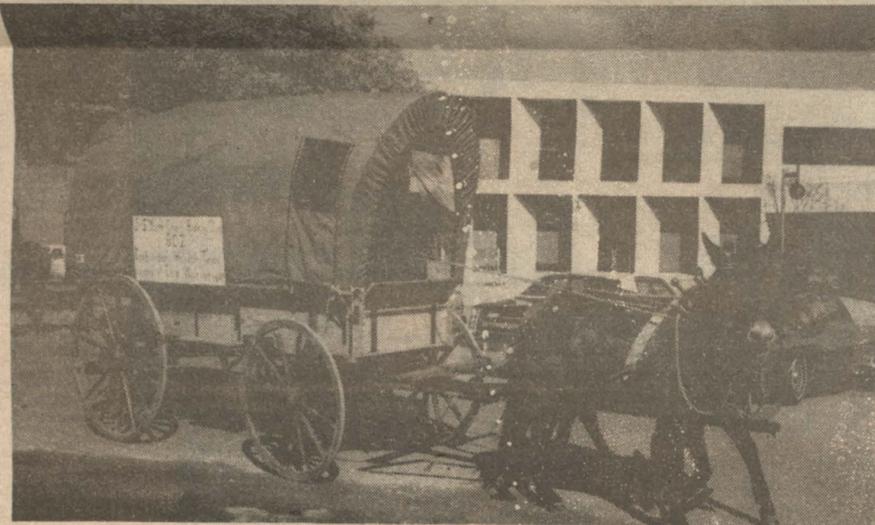
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Scenes from

the PV trailride

Photos by Tom Godwin



An interview with the boss

The Prairie View Trailriders recently completed a journey from Prairie View to Memorial Park in Houston and participated in the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo.

Panther: How many counties and riders were involved in the ride?

Francias: 27 counties and 300 riders.

Panther: Were there any injuries this year? **Francias:** Let me knock on wood. No there weren't any. We were lucky.

Panther: How many Prairie View students are participating in the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo?

Francias: One extension student, Larry Melcher, will compete in the steer-dogging event. He also participated in the trail ride. He was raised up as a trail rider.

Down the long and dusty trail, out under the wild blue yonder, ride the ever-ready Prairie View Trailriders.

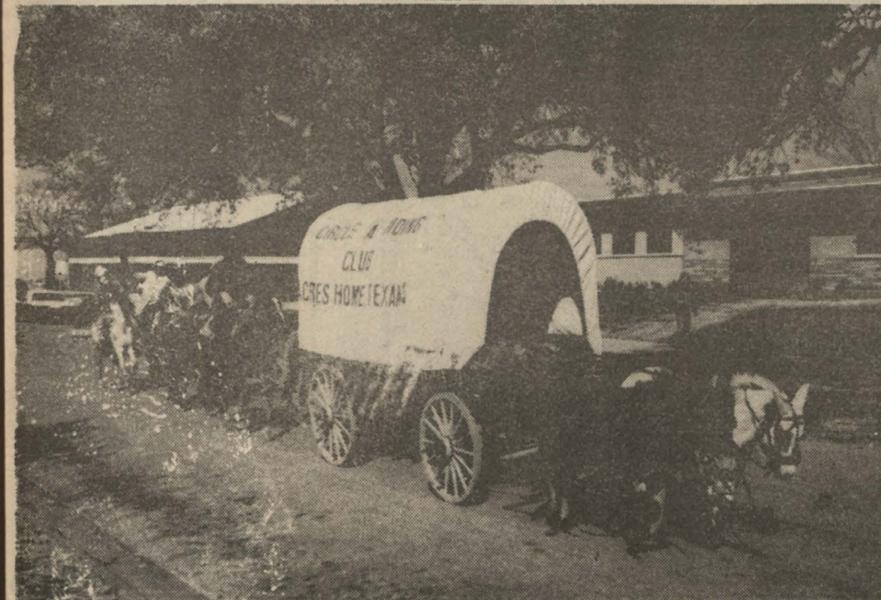
Panther: What kind of effect did the bad weather have on the trailride? **Francias:** About 35 percent of the riders got the flu, 10 percent got colds, 1 or 2 got frostbite, and about 40 percent of the people dropped out of the ride. Even some of the animals got distempered.

The local trailriders were joined by nearly a hundred other riders, at the goat center here at Prairie View A&M University.

Panther: Is the number of participants more or less than last year? **Francias:** The trail ride could not be conducted with less than 100 riders. Each year it grows.

The following is an interview with trailboss James Francias, Jr. of Waller, Texas. Francias is a 55-year old retired Southwestern Bell employee and has participated in the event several years.

Panther: How can interested trailriders get information? **Francias:** Registration fee is \$25.00 that covers trail necessities and a guaranteed camp.



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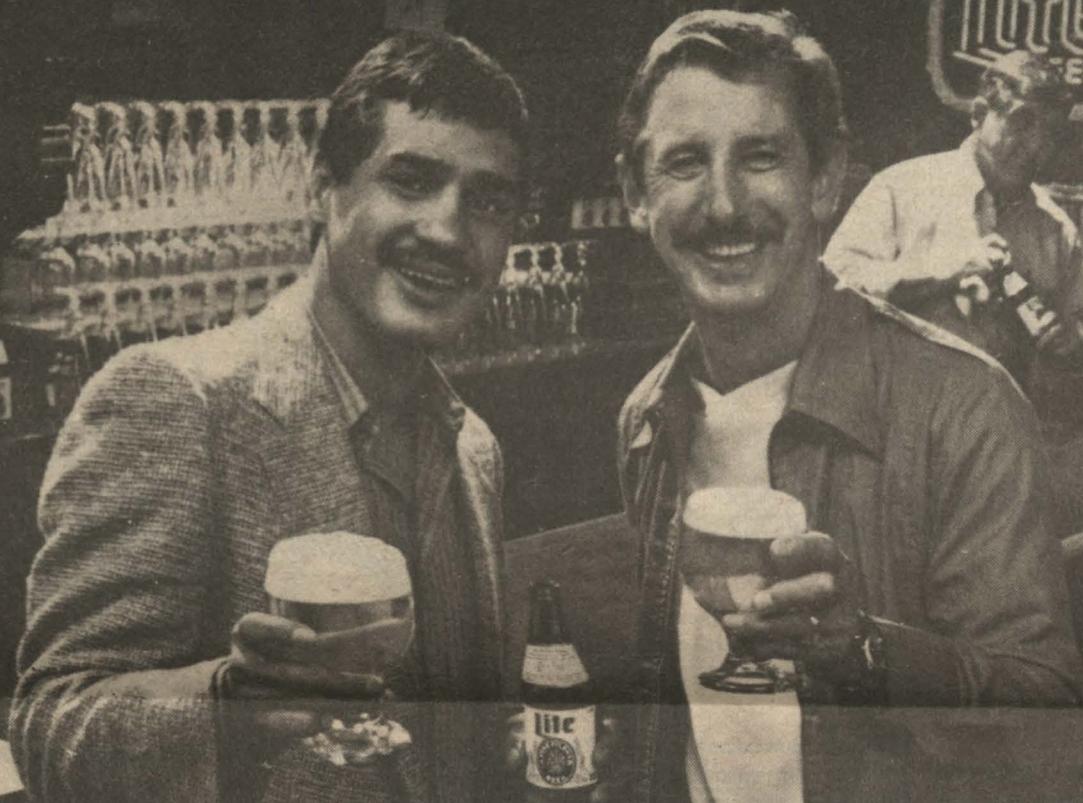
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Career Day held

On February 12th and 13th the office of Student Activities sponsors Annual Government Career Day for students who are looking for employment.

Career Day, which lasted from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. for 2 days in Alumni Hall, offered opportunities for students to get ahead in job hunting. Of the many career opportunities that were represented, the majority were affiliated with most of our armed services.

There were also representatives from the Texas Department of Human Resources, the Texas Department of Health, the Drug Enforcement Administration and the Houston Police Department, which are public service organizations.

These companies offered something for every major, while others were only interested in Aerospace, Chemical, Computer, Electronics, General, Industrial, Materials, and Mechanical Engineers. But all were here to recruit, inform and help guide students into their occupational fields.

The positions that were offered varied, but the ones that were open to the students ranged from engineering, law, office workers, social workers and health care professionals. These representatives also talked to students about student trainee positions, internship opportunities and Co-op positions within their individual firms.

The chances of a student gaining a position with any of these service organizations is good. Each student would be hired according to his or her academic qualifications.

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