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Prairie View A&M University

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# THE PANTHER

"Something inside so strong..."

THE OFFICIAL STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY

Homecoming Reflections

## PANTHER PRIDE:

A pictorial review of events, page 8



PV Greek Life...  
"I'm an AKA," page 13

# Men's cross country makes history, wins SWAC



Photo by Gitonga M'Mbijjewe

By Dustin Daniel  
Panther Correspondent

For the first time in school history Prairie View A&M University won the Southwestern Athletic Conference cross country championship Monday. In convincing fashion, PVAMU captured first, second, third and 10th place finishes en route to a 31 point total, topping the second place team by 23 points.

Leading all runners was redshirt freshman Alonzo Thomas with a time of 27:42.92. Teammates Matthew Jones, a freshman, followed with a 28:02.41 and junior Thomas Rivera closed out the dynamic trio with a time of 28:03.51. Sophomore Tyrone Russell closed out the list of top ten performers with a 29:18.16 finish.

"After the second mile I felt good about my chances to finish in front of the pack," said Thomas. "We have great coaches (Clifton Gilliard and Chris Clay) who prepared us for today's championship. It feels really great to capture a SWAC title in my first year of competition."

Gilliard was named SWAC coach of the year while Thomas, Jones and Rivera received first team all-SWAC honors for their outstanding performances. Russell garnered second team honors for his top 10 finish.

"These guys have worked hard all season long," said Gilliard. "Coming into the meet they had their minds made up that they were going to give their best performance toward winning the conference championship. Our front three have been performing great all year long, but I didn't think we would be so far ahead."

Southern finished in second place with 54 points followed by defending champion, Jackson State with 110 points for a third place finish.

We are number one: Coaches and members of the PV cross country team gather around the grave of Coach Wright to share the celebration of their SWAC victory.



## In the news...

### San Antonio police officer charged with sexual assault

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A San Antonio police officer has been accused of sexually assaulting a woman, the second officer charged this year with rape.

Ruben Saenz, 28, was charged Sunday in connection with a traffic stop Saturday morning. A woman said he stopped her for a traffic violation, followed her home and assaulted her, said Sgt. Gabe Trevino.

The woman said in an affidavit that the officer asked if she had been drinking, then offered to follow her home.

She said Saenz told her he would arrest her if she refused to have sex with him.

"I let him do whatever he wanted to," she told detectives. "I did not say no to him, but I did not want to have intercourse with him."

She called her husband who reported the assault, Trevino said.

"Based on information we got at the scene. . . . we have reason to believe the offense did occur," he said in Sunday's online edition of the San Antonio Express-News.

Another San Antonio police officer, Dean Gutierrez, was charged in July with sexually assaulting a transsexual. He was indicted by a federal grand jury in October.

### At least three dead in highway crash

HOUSTON (AP) — At least three people were killed Monday on a Houston highway in a crash involving a cement truck and a van, police said.

Houston police Sgt. Michelle Sandoval said three people were confirmed dead. Sandoval said one person, whom television station KPRC described as a 90-year-old woman, was flown to a local hospital. Two other people were in the van but their condition was not immediately available.

The names of the victims were not immediately released.

Police were investigating the cause of the crash.

### Malcolm X site project gets federal grant through Omaha

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Omaha has given \$30,000 from a federal Community Development Block Grant to a project that would mark the birth site of Malcolm X, but the \$680,000 proposal is still looking for help.

The Malcolm X Memorial Foundation wants to build a museum, an amphitheater and a community center at the site, as well as set aside a green space.

The foundation owns 65 lots near where Malcolm X's parents, Earl and Louise Little, had owned a home, which is now gone. If photos of the home can be found, the foundation would like to construct a replica.

On the spot now is a memorial plaque to the slain civil rights leader.

The foundation was born in 1971, and leadership has been passed to Sharif Liwaru, a student programs adviser at the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

Liwaru said the \$30,000 will be used for a land survey, architectural renderings and maintenance and security of the site.

He also said the foundation will conduct a capital fundraising drive this year.

### Government investigating Dodge truck and SUV

WASHINGTON (AP) — The government is investigating nearly 500,000 Dodge Durango sport utility vehicles and Dodge Dakota pickup trucks because of a possible loss in steering control.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration said Monday in a posting on its Web site that it has received several reports of looseness in the steering shaft or separation because of loose or missing coupling bolts in the vehicles.

The preliminary investigation will involve more than 467,000 vehicles, including the 2004-2005 models of the Durango and the 2005 model of the Dakota.

There have been no crashes or injuries linked to the issue, according to NHTSA.

Messages seeking company comment were left with DaimlerChrysler officials.

NHTSA investigations sometimes lead to vehicle recalls.

## Thousands pay respects to Rosa Parks in Detroit

Associated Press

DETROIT (AP) — Rosa Parks' body has returned to the city she called home, with thousands waiting in a line more than a quarter-mile long to pay their final respects to the late civil rights leader. Parks was 92 when she died Oct. 24 in Detroit. She lay in honor in Montgomery, Ala., and in Washington before her body was returned Monday night to the city where she had lived since 1957.

Her mahogany casket was flown from Washington to Detroit, where it was carried into the rotunda of the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History for round-the-clock viewing through early Wednesday.

By the time the museum doors opened Monday night, thousands were lined up outside. As rain began to fall steadily, umbrellas sprouted and some members of the crowd began singing "We Shall Overcome."

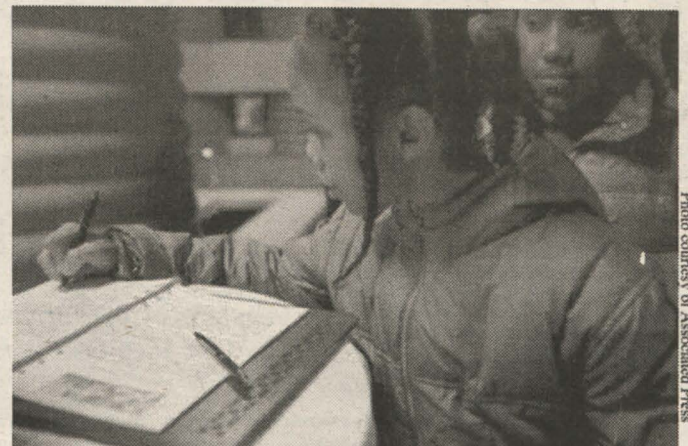
Tony Dotson, 43, a maintenance worker from Detroit, stood near the front of the line Monday night and said he wanted to pay honor to Parks.

"I appreciate what a blessing she was, and I'm thankful she was right here in Detroit and we didn't have to travel far to see her."

Deborah Lee Horne, 56, of Detroit, said she was encouraged by the sight of so many children and teenagers waiting. "I think what she did needs to be highlighted for young people," she said. "If not, they have no idea."

Viewing was to continue until 5 a.m. Wednesday, with Parks' funeral to be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Greater Grace Temple Church. Former President Clinton and singer Aretha Franklin were scheduled to attend.

In a three-hour memorial service Monday at historic Metropolitan A.M.E. Church in Washington, Parks was remembered for the example she set with a simple act of defiance: refusing to give up her seat to a white man on a Montgomery city bus on Dec. 1, 1955.



Loved by all: Christe Holinshead, 10, signs a guest book at museum during a public viewing for Rosa Parks Monday, Oct. 31, in Detroit.

Oprah Winfrey, who was born in Mississippi during segregation, said Parks' stand "changed the trajectory of my life and the lives of so many other people in the world."

Parks' memorial brought together leaders of both political parties, from Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld and Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff to Rep. John Lewis, D-Ga., Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., and Democratic National Committee Chairman Howard Dean.

Parks became the first woman to lie in honor in the Rotunda, sharing the tribute given to Abraham Lincoln, John F. Kennedy and other national leaders. Capitol Police estimated the crowd at more than 30,000 but some participants said it was far bigger.

Parks was a 42-year-old tailor's assistant at a Montgomery, Ala., department store when she was arrested and fined \$10 plus \$4 in court costs. That triggered a 381-day boycott of the bus system led by a 26-year-old minister, the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.

The U.S. Supreme Court ruled in December 1956 that segregated seats on city buses were unconstitutional, giving momentum to the battle against laws that separated the races in public accommodations and businesses throughout the South.

Parks' act exposed her and her husband, Raymond, to harassment and death threats, and they lost their jobs in Montgomery. They moved to Detroit with Rosa Parks' mother, Leona McCauley, in 1957.

Rosa Parks held a series of low-paying jobs before U.S. Rep. John Conyers Jr. hired her in 1965 to work in his Detroit office. Conyers, speaking during the Washington memorial service, recalled a 1990 visit to Detroit by Nelson Mandela.

The former South African president led the crowd in a chant of Parks' name, "which made us realize that this is an international phenomenon that we celebrate," Conyers said. "Rosa Parks is worldwide."



## You ought to be in pictures!



## Local forecast

### Thursday (Nov. 3)

Sunny  
High: 80  
Low: 57

### Sunday (Nov. 6)

Mostly Sunny  
High: 82  
Low: 50

### Friday (Nov. 4)

Partly Cloudy  
High: 84  
Low: 61

### Monday (Nov. 7)

Sunny  
High: 78  
Low: 51

### Saturday (Nov. 5)

Mostly Sunny  
High: 85  
Low: 60

### Tuesday (Nov. 8)

Sunny  
High: 78  
Low: 55

### Wednesday (Nov. 9)

Mostly Cloudy  
High: 78  
Low: 55

## PV makes changes in department of public safety Chief of police position now vacant

By Latisha Johnson-Wallace  
Panther Staff

Prairie View A&M University department of public safety is currently looking for a new police chief.

Former police chief Brian Davis was terminated on Friday, Oct. 21 after serving four months in his probation period as a new employee at the university.

University employees are under a one-year probation as new staff. This gives the university and the individual the opportunity to evaluate periodically to see if they are a good fit for the university.

Prairie View is able to decide if the new hire is com-

patible with the university and gives PV a chance to dismiss or keep the new staff member.

This probation period also gives the individual an

**“It is important to know it does not impact the police department to support and do duties on campus.”**

open ground to adjust to PV and to see if they can be an asset to the university. Fred Washington, associate vice president for finance and administration, said “the university will start all over again, the hiring procedure

for a new police chief.”

For the hiring procedure, the university will form a search committee of faculty, administration, and criminal justice specialists, who will then make a recommendation to the hiring authority of that department.

Washington also stated that it is “important to know it [termination of police chief] does not impact the police department to support and do duties on campus.”

He said the university police department will be actively looking for a new police chief, and will do all they can to assure that they hire an individual who will help Prairie View “continue to grow in a positive direction.”

## SIFE to host music business seminar and talent showcase

By Fredrick Roberts  
Panther Contributor

The members of the Students In Free Enterprise team are set to host the fall Music/Entertainment Business Seminar for aspiring artists on Nov. 19 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the MSC auditorium.

The seminar will be followed by the “2005 Stars of the Future” Talent Showcase and Competition at 8 p.m. The Music/Entertainment Seminar

will bring to the campus noted recording artists, entertainment lawyers, songwriters, producers and record labels to educate students on the entertainment business.

The talent contest will feature some of Prairie View A&M University’s talented singers, instrumentalists and poets. Other special guests are also being invited for the special talent contest which is being staged as part of the Parents/Family Weekend to be sponsored by Career Services and Outreach

at the university on Nov. 18-19. Auditions for the talent contest are set for Nov. 7 and 8 in Room 216 Evans Hall and students must sign up in Room 201, Evans Hall. For information on the talent show contact Gregory Rose, producer at 936-857-2055.

As November is National Fiscal Fitness Month, the SIFE Team will also sponsor several seminars on personal finances, credit management, investments and building wealth for the future.

## THE PANTHER

THE OFFICIAL STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF  
PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY

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# Students upset by paper's call to close Southern-New Orleans

By John Guillory  
Black College Wire

Students from hurricane-damaged Southern University-New Orleans held a "town hall"-style meeting to protest an editorial in Baton Rouge's daily newspaper that declared, "New Orleans and Louisiana would be better off if the state does not rebuild Southern University in New Orleans."

Most of the New Orleans campus sustained major flooding damage - up to the second floor in some buildings - after a levee breached during and after Hurricane Katrina hit land Aug. 29. The state has estimated the damage to campus buildings at \$50 million.

The university plans to open a trailer campus with temporary housing and classrooms by January. SUNO only exists because of the evils of segregation . . . it just doesn't make sense to rebuild failure, the Oct. 17 editorial in the Advocate, published in the state's capital city, said.

"Its record is poor. Its existence has always been more about racial politics than education policy. And the reality is that Louisiana cannot afford an infinite number of low-performing four-year universities."

Avis White, SUNO student government president, expressed her displeasure before 150 students and faculty who met Oct. 19 on the Southern University-Baton Rouge campus. White, a senior from Vacherie, La., urged supporters to write letters to the newspaper. We need to inform them that these comments are false, insulting and unappreciated, White said.

SUNO serves a nontraditional population that no other college does. We need to notify them that we are displaced, not destroyed and we will be back. Some students supported White and suggested mailing the newspapers back to the publisher, Douglas Manship Jr. Some suggested a protest in front of the newspaper's main office.

Though most students present were disappointed by the editorial, some said they needed more support. Angela Sanders, a graduate student pursuing a master's degree in social work from SUNO, said students everywhere should get together to fight. "SUNO appreciates all the help from the Baton Rouge campus, but more students and administration need to show support to combat the deception of the Advocate," Sanders said.

According to former SUNO chancellor Joseph Bowie,

who is now a professor at the school, the Advocate published a similar editorial about Southern University 20 years ago. He said the newspaper was always out to destroy black institutions.

The comments made about SUNO are completely false, Bowie said. We have 90 percent of our programs accredited and graduated over 14,000 students, with a large number of those being accepted into graduate school.

Bowie also said SUNO existed to provide opportunity and to reach out to lower income students who don't have the chance to go to institutions outside New Orleans.

Other students and faculty urged actions to protect the reputation of the university and a declaration that SUNO plans to rebuild and open stronger and better than before.

The Southern University System Board of Supervisors scheduled a news conference to respond to the editorial, to be attended by many of the system's administrators, faculty, students and alumni.

During a Rebuilding New Orleans rally Oct. 13 at New Light Missionary Baptist Church in Baton Rouge, the Rev. Jesse Jackson said no one should consider the closing of historically black colleges in New Orleans.



photo by Kriesha Sheftall

**Major effect:** A student inquires about opportunities in her current major.

## PV hosts 4th annual majors' fair

By Latisha Johnson-Wallace  
Panther Staff

Students interested in learning more about their current major or who have questions as to what major they should choose, were given the opportunity to explore their options at the 4th annual majors fair sponsored by the University College.

Fred Bragg, of the UC academic advising team, said "it's an opportunity for students to get information from 63 majors and PV services, and to make adjust-

ments in their major choices."

The majors' fair enabled students get into contact with the professors in their majors and to obtain information about current jobs available in their fields of study.

The purpose was "to provide students with one on one basis with their professors to get degree plans and find how much they will make with that degree," said Tom Adams, academic advisor at UC.

Students who were not able to attend the majors' fair are encouraged to get in contact with their departments.

## Discussion of images of women in hip-hop starts at Spelman

Associated Press

Hip-hop and its portrayal of women is the focus of a week long discussion starting Monday at Spelman College. Likely the most famous black women's college in the country, Spelman has been on a mission since April 2004 to make the music industry look at itself and what it produces.

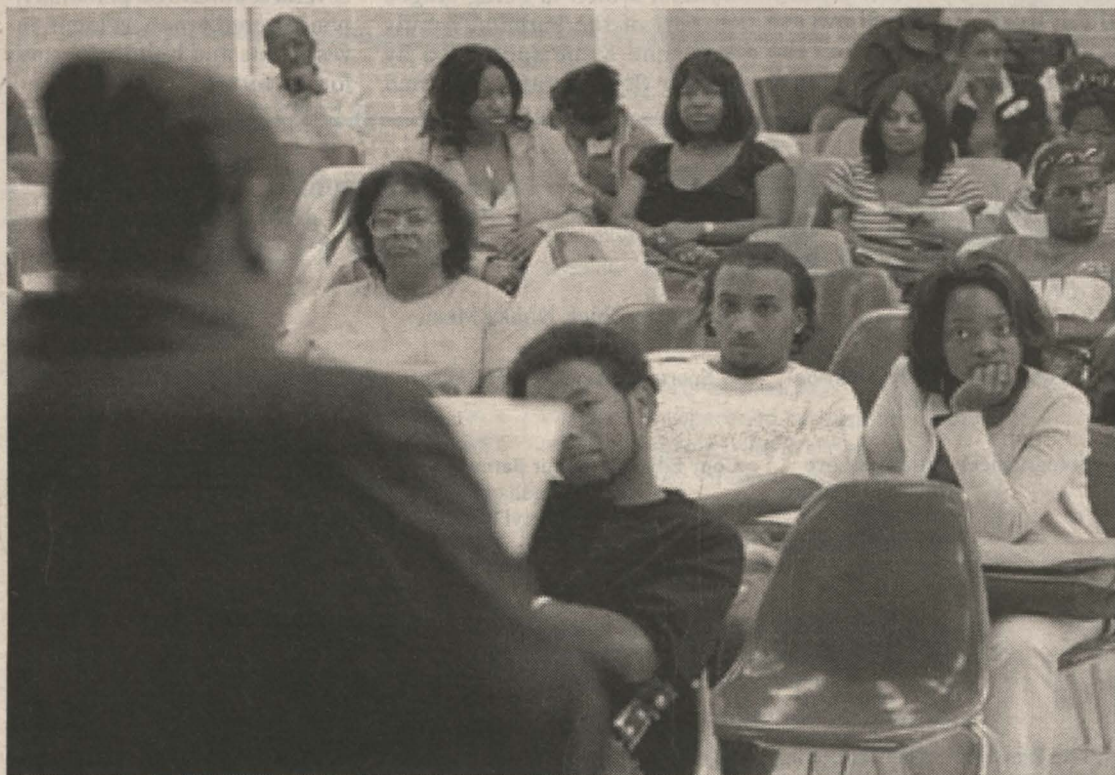
Two Spelman students decided to take a stand against what they saw as the exploitation of women in hip-hop culture last year. Asha Jennings, who is now a law student at New York University, said she was motivated by watching rap superstar Nelly swipe a credit card through a woman's backside in a video.

"At some point you've got to say, 'Enough is enough, and I'm tired,'" Jennings, 23, said

Friday, comparing her turning point with Rosa Parks' refusal to give up her seat for a white man on a Montgomery bus.

Nelly canceled a charity event at the school last year when he learned that Jennings, who was a senior and president of Spelman's Student Government Association, was planning a protest, together with Moya Bailey, who was president of the college's Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance, and other students.

His record label, Universal Records, said it was unfair that Nelly should be singled out. While misogyny in pop music, especially hip-hop, has been around for years, the students said there has been an explosion of almost-X-rated videos passed around on the Internet or shown late at night on cable channels like Black Entertainment Television, also known as BET.



Avis White, president of the Student Government Association at Southern University-New Orleans, told fellow students that "we are displaced, not destroyed and we will be back."



# Over and over again you fail me But I won't give up the fight



By **Latisha Johnson-Wallace**  
News Editor

As we all know, surviving in college is a struggle. Students, especially those who pay out of pocket, suffer from inadequate health care, unhealthy eating habits and structure that many don't develop or learn until their upperclassman years. With all these new adjustments to adult life and adult decisions, Prairie View students have been dealt an extra burden to bear, our infamous financial aid office. Since the beginning of this fall semester, students have been struggling to get their due money, pay their bills, pay the university, all while trying to keep the respectful behavior that we were taught by our parents.

I must commend my fellow students for their patience this semester. They've handled themselves well. However, with only six weeks left in the fall semester, all patience and respect has been thrown out the window.

Many students are still waiting to be awarded, or as the financial aid office calls it, waiting for monies to be applied. False information continues to be given, which slows the already slow as molasses process. The system failed us, but expects us to keep up our end of the bargain by paying them on time, or "working with them." Heads up, why should we "work

with them" and they won't "work with us?" Are they working to give students their overpayment checks, that many use to pay bills with, eat with and just survive?

On the other hand, do they want you to apply your hard earned money or money due to you by paying them ever so quickly and "off the top" when they haven't done anything quickly. If we are going to "work together" then it needs to be 50/50 between the two, not 90/10 as it has been in the past. You work for me and I work for you. You get your money when I give it, and you pay me as you are supposed to, and I continue to try and give you more patience.

What I am saying is that students are trying to survive, and on a small amount of money at that, and at the very university that is supposed to educate us, nurture us and make sure that we are set to be productive people, it is an unfortunate situation that is hindering our productivity.

It is stressful to have to worry about "is my money coming it?" "will I be dropped?" "how am I going to pay rent for the month?" Then focus on your studies, extracurricular activities and being a student. Period. What message does the financial aid situation send? Students think that they are not getting adequate help and this is making them lose a lot of respect for those they expect help from.

Moreover, slowly but surely, students are getting fed up. More so, with the fact that no one will address the situation and specific administrators are not even acknowledging the students. How rude and what a way to turn their backs on those they should be most interested in.

I believe that the students have been patient, some even understanding, but when is the financial aid office going to do its part? Get it together.



photo by Marques Allen  
**Cutting up:** Administration and faculty cut the ribbon to the new architecture building.

## It's official; architecture building now a part of the PVAMU campus

By **Detorsha Brunson**  
Panther Staff

The School of Architecture held a ribbon cutting ceremony Oct. 27 to celebrate the opening of the new Architecture and Arts Building.

The ceremony began with an opening from SGA vice president Bryan Waters. The university president, Dr. George Wright, said that the building is a milestone for architecture education in Texas. "This provides an opportunity to build on success that we already enjoy," Wright said. "This is a milestone that will be in place for a long time."

The three-story, 105,000 square-foot building has several design studios, a 135-seat lecture theater, with state of the art

projection and sound recording equipment, along with both a flat and curved panel screen for special projection events, as well as computer and teaching laboratories.

President emeritus Dr. Charles A. Hines stated that the road to the opening of the building was long and filled with potholes. "This building was constructed for the master builders who will go forth from this place and time to reconstruct this nation," said Hines. "This building says that only excellence is good for us at PVAMU."

The official ribbon cutting was followed by a dedication and tour of the building and the Uncommon Ground art exhibit.

The dean of the School of Architecture, Dr. Ikhlas Sobouni, said, "I can't even describe it with words. This is a marvelous building."

## Herbert Martin to perform works of poet Paul Laurence Dunbar at TAMU library

By **Jamaur Barnes**  
Panther Staff

The Africana Studies Program at Texas A&M University and the Department of Languages and Communications at Prairie View A&M University are sponsoring a Paul Laurence Dunbar visit by Professor Woodward T. Martin of the University of Dayton, Ohio, to the campus of Texas A&M University on Wednesday, Nov. 9 at 4 p.m.



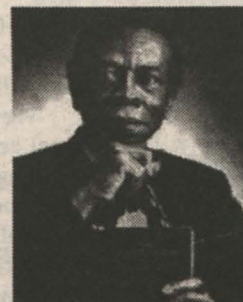
Martin will be speaking as well as performing the works of Paul Laurence Dunbar, the great African-American poet in room 204E of Evans Library. The purpose of his presentation will be to enrich scholarship, teaching, and diversity through the works of Dunbar.

Martin is a professor of English and poet-in-residence at the University of Dayton. He teaches mainly courses in African-American literature and creative writing. He has done extensive scholarly research on lost Dunbar manuscripts.

Martin has authored seven volumes of his own poetry. His prize winning volume *The Log of the Vigilante* won the Mellen Poetry Prize for an epic on the American slave trade.

He has embarked on a new career as an opera librettist.

Professor Patrick Muana, director of Texas A&M University's Africana Studies program said, "I expect students to gain insight on the life and works of Dunbar, who was not highly celebrated."



Dr. Herbert Woodward Martin

The Africana Studies program invites high profile scholars of color from all around the world to speak on

issues that are imperative to the black community.

Muana said that the poetry presented will be especially significant to black students because Dunbar's poetry was written during 'Post Civil War Era,' and reflects the feelings of African-Americans in regards to civil rights and Jim Crow laws. "It is crucial that students understand diversity, and the infractions within the era of Dunbar," Muana said.

"Dunbar's work highlights a critical stage in our history, and this will enhance the critical understanding of Texas A&M and Prairie View students."

In addition to the presentation, there will also be a meet and greet session afterwards, where students can enjoy refreshments in addition to having their writings critiqued.



# Voodoo practitioners scatter after Katrina

Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS, Louisiana (AP) -- The last time Don Glossop saw his customers they were ritually burning green candles, hoping voodoo would pierce the federal bureaucracy and hasten the arrival of desperately needed relief checks.

Glossop's shop, New Orleans Mystic, has been closed since Hurricane Katrina swamped the city two months ago, and most of his clients, who practice a local variant of voodoo, have scattered across the country.

He fears that Katrina, which laid waste to entire neighborhoods and claimed hundreds of lives here, may take another casualty: New Orleans' status as the country's voodoo capital.

"As of today I would say it's pretty dead," Glossop said. "Even the tourist shops are in jeopardy.

There is a chance for a huge loss here."

Voodoo has long been entrenched in New Orleans, quietly practiced in homes with altars, candles and incense to solve problems of the heart and wallet. Before the storm tore through, about 15 percent of the city's population actively practiced, according to Lisa Fannon, a tour guide, though estimates vary widely.

Voodoo is part of the vernacular here, showing up in jazz and conversation. Some residents still sprinkle red brick dust on their doorway steps to ward off evil spirits.

It's an economic draw as well, enticing curious tourists and their pocketbooks into stores such as Glossop's.

While plans are still on for an annual voodoo fest for Monday, organizer Brandi Kelley said the

event will be much smaller this year because many drummers and dancers were forced to relocate.

The ceremony at her shop will focus mainly on healing the city.

"We have got to call on the ancestors for help and get real serious about it," Kelley said. "The spirit is in the city. It's the spirit of this city that is going to rise from the ashes."

If only she could find her snake for the closing ceremony. He was supposed to be in a bathtub of a friend's apartment.

"They say he's somewhere in this room full of debris," Kelley said, her voice trailing off.

It wasn't supposed to be this way. The "go away" hurricane ritual was performed in July, just as it always is at the start of the hurricane season.

"It didn't quite work out so

well," acknowledged Giselle Moller, manager of Marie Laveau House of Voodoo. But, she said, it may have helped a bit.

"Imagine if the hurricane would have hit us straight on. There would have been no French Quarter," she said.

Even before Katrina, some thought voodoo was fading in New Orleans because the younger generation was less interested in the complicated practice, which involves substantial memorization of rituals and songs, Glossop said.

But New Orleans is not giving up on voodoo, notwithstanding evangelist Franklin Graham's recent comments that the city's Mardi Gras revelry and ties to voodoo were adverse to Christian beliefs.

Defenders say voodoo is a legitimate African-based religion that has been unfairly maligned

in movies and popular culture.

"Voodoo is not some kind of black magic cult," said Wade Davis, a Washington-based National Geographic explorer-in-residence who has studied the religion extensively in Haiti. "It's the distillation of very profound religious ideas that came over during the tragic era of slavery."

In New Orleans, much of what is practiced these days is a system of folk magic. Some also practice Haitian voodoo.

As the city revives, proponents hope voodoo will make a comeback, too, because it's part of the intrigue that draws visitors.

"I think it's going to be a very strong part of what will get people back here," said Jameson King, who works in one of the voodoo shops in the French Quarter. "We're here for more than drinking."

# United Methodist Church defrocks lesbian minister

Associated Press

(AP) A lesbian minister was defrocked by the highest court within the United Methodist Church, handing a win to traditionalists in one of several mainline Protestant denominations split over the role of homosexuals in the church.

The UNC's nine-member Judicial Council — seven of whom heard the case Thursday in Houston — found that the Rev. Irene "Beth" Stroud violated the denomination's ban on "self-avowed, practicing homosexual" clergy. The ruling was issued through its Web site on Monday.

A church panel decided in December that Stroud, 35, by being in a lesbian partnership, engaged in practices that are incompatible with Christian teachings. The panel's

decision was overturned by an appeals committee, but the Judicial Council has now backed the original ruling.

Stroud's representatives had argued that taking away her clergy credentials because she's a lesbian amounts to discrimination.

The Judicial Council ruling says the church does not discriminate based on sexual orientation: Gays and lesbians are allowed to become Methodist ministers, but they must remain celibate.

Stroud "could be welcomed back with both arms," United Methodist Church counsel Thomas Hall said. "But she'd have to be celibate." Stroud had acknowledged that the relationship between herself and her female partner was sexual.

Stroud, who became an associate pastor at Philadelphia's

First United Methodist Church of Germantown in 1999, has said she never revealed her sexual orientation in documents related to her ordination but didn't keep it a secret, either.

She said she decided to come out in 2003 because she felt she was being held back in her faith by not sharing the complete truth about her life. A complaint was filed against her last year.

"I thought I was prepared for anything, but still the news came as a blow," Stroud said in a phone interview Monday. "It's a sad day for me and for my family and for my congregation and, I think, a sad day for the United Methodist Church."

Eight council members voted to defrock Stroud; one council member was absent. Two members — Beth Capen and Susan T. Henry-Crowe — wrote a separate statement saying they felt badly about the result.

"We do not disagree with the legal analysis of our colleagues, although we deeply regret the outcome," they wrote. "While the Judicial Council must be faithful to its charge from the church we are also sensitive to the hurt, pain and brokenness of the family of God."

Mark Tooley, program director for The Institute on Religion and Democracy, an advocacy group for conservative mainline Protestants, said he was not surprised by the

ruling.

"The council has enforced the church's teachings on marriage and sexuality," he said, "and it looks like it will continue to do that even though some regional bodies will attempt to circumvent a clear meaning of church law."

Hall said the decision provides some relief for the church, but is "not the end of this whole conversation."

"An issue like this takes so much energy on both sides, and takes the focus off a lot of the great things the church is doing," Hall said. "This gives us some space so we can hopefully channel our energies into the great things we're doing." The UMC is the nation's third-largest denomination.

Stroud held a news conference Monday outside her church in Philadelphia and was joined by her partner, Chris Paige. The two

recently celebrated the five-year anniversary of their commitment ceremony.

"We've spent about half of our married life in this judicial process. ... I'm just glad it's over," Paige said.

Stroud will continue as a lay staff member at her congregation, preaching, supervising children's and youth work and conducting pastoral visits. She told the congregation Sunday that she and Paige were applying to be foster parents.

Stroud said she would accept offers to speak at other churches that are open to homosexuals.

"I want to stay in relationship with people whose minds I might have an opportunity to change," she said. "We can't have any question or any denial about the fact that the United Methodist Church practices discrimination against gays and lesbian people."



Side-by-side: Irene "Beth" Stroud, at Philadelphia news conference, as her partner Chris Paige looks on.

Photo courtesy of AP

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Commentary

## Student angered by judging, behavior at stepshow

By LaCheryl E. Whitlow  
Panther Staff

Let me start off by saying that I have the utmost respect for all Greek and non-Greek organizations but I think the brothers of Alpha Phi Alpha were not given their due respect and time to shine during last week's homecoming stepshow. The fact that a fight took place while these gentlemen performed was not only disrespectful, but was downright unfair in my personal opinion. I'd like to apologize to the brothers of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity myself on behalf of the student body.

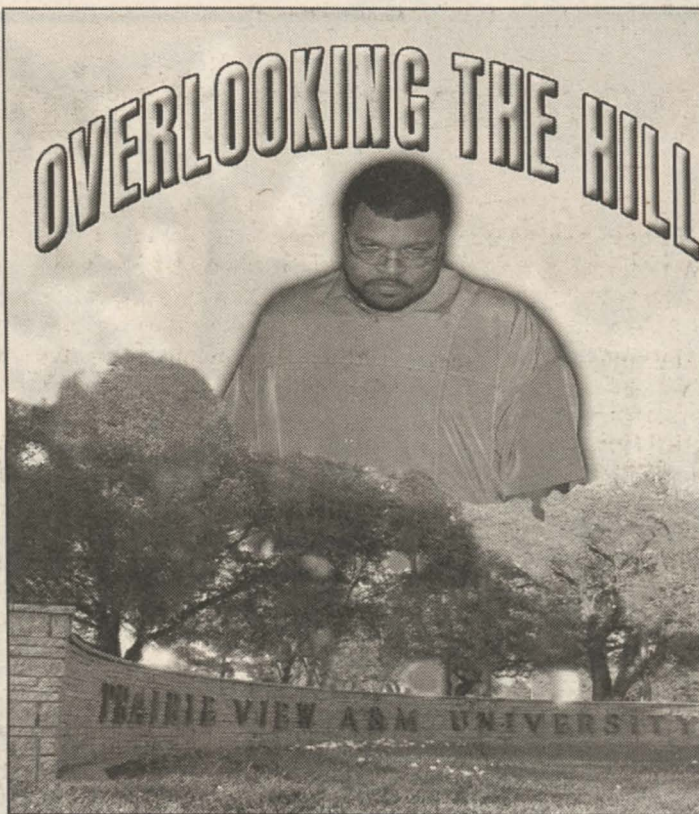
How could judges make a sound decision on who won or not if in the midst of an organization's performance a fight takes place and students are scattering, screaming,

and taking the focus off of who was on stage? How could it honestly be determined if more than half of the time the Alphas were performing everyone was focused on the fight? I can't imagine how hard it was for those guys on stage to try and focus on what they were doing while all that commotion was taking place. I'm not sure how long it takes or how much time fraternities and sororities have to put a performance together for a stepshow, but all their hard work went down the drain. As I watched from a distance, while trying to secure my own safety, I was amazed and admired how these young men continued to perform despite all the chaos.

Of course many people could see that and no formal apology or anything was said in defense of the brothers of Alpha Phi Alpha. I personally hate what happened to them regardless of what fraternity they

belonged to. I'm not stating whom I (in my own opinion) think should have won, but everybody else received the respect of the audience and judges while performing. Why didn't the Alphas? No, it was not anyone's fault concerning the fight except for the people involved, but if it had happened to another fraternity or sorority while they were performing would it be a different story?

All I'm simply stating is that I think something should have been said in terms of an apology or even perhaps a chance to start over. It's almost safe to say that you think because nothing was said to the Alpha's defense the judges had already made their choice regardless of the fight? That was something that I thought about and I could be wrong...but then again so was the judging.



## The nod

By Dr. James Jones  
Faculty Contributor

There is a communication that routinely occurs among African-Americans in professional settings. This non-verbal communication occurs in the presence of outsiders, yet they are usually oblivious to either its occurrence or meaning. Their inability to detect a most powerful communication is fine as they were not the target of the communication anyway. Outsiders would be surprised that this unspeakable unspoken communication manifests itself in nearly every setting that African-Americans are found: Fortune-500 companies, barbershops, poetry circles, night clubs, and unemployment lines. This form of communication which is best termed "the nod" is commonly used by a diverse population of African-Americans: Colin Powell, Michael Jordan, Debbie Allen, Young Jeezy, and me. My "nod" conveys a personal determination to uplift the race while simultaneously validating the humanity and inextricable linkages holding African-Americans together.

"The nod" means different things depending upon the context in which it is issued or setting it appears. "The nod" was often the only form of assistance

that African-Americans could offer one another in the midst of troubles. Put simply, "the nod" was the race's only 'bridge over troubled water.'

Unfortunately, it appears that this unique communication has become a thing of the past. The greatest support for such feelings is found right here at PVAMU. I routinely witness African-American students, faculty, and staff failing to acknowledge one another via "the nod" or any other greeting. The failure to acknowledge each other's humanity is not only inexcusable, but also holds a deeper meaning that indicates something is amiss among the PVAMU community. As the descendents of a people who were bonded, beaten, disenfranchised, segregated, and currently experience unprecedented politico economic marginality there should be little doubt that we are inextricably bound together. Although many may consider "the nod" inconsequential, it remains the best mechanism to close the occupational, educational, and social gaps found among a diversifying African-American community. So the next time you have an opportunity to greet someone on the PVAMU campus who you may, or may not, personally know, simply smile and nod; I am sure that they will understand exactly what you are saying.

## PURPLE & GOLD POLL

What event did you enjoy most during homecoming?



The stepshow.  
-Chris Campbell  
Sophomore  
Management



Casino Night. If the money was real, I would be rich.  
-Natasha Octave  
Senior  
Interdisciplinary Studies



I enjoyed the stepshow the most, because we had the most school spirit.  
-Marchelle Cain  
Sophomore  
Marketing



The coronation, it was really entertaining and appealing.  
-Gary Hill  
Sophomore  
Business Management  
and Communications

Submit letters to the editor to:  
panther@pvamu.edu

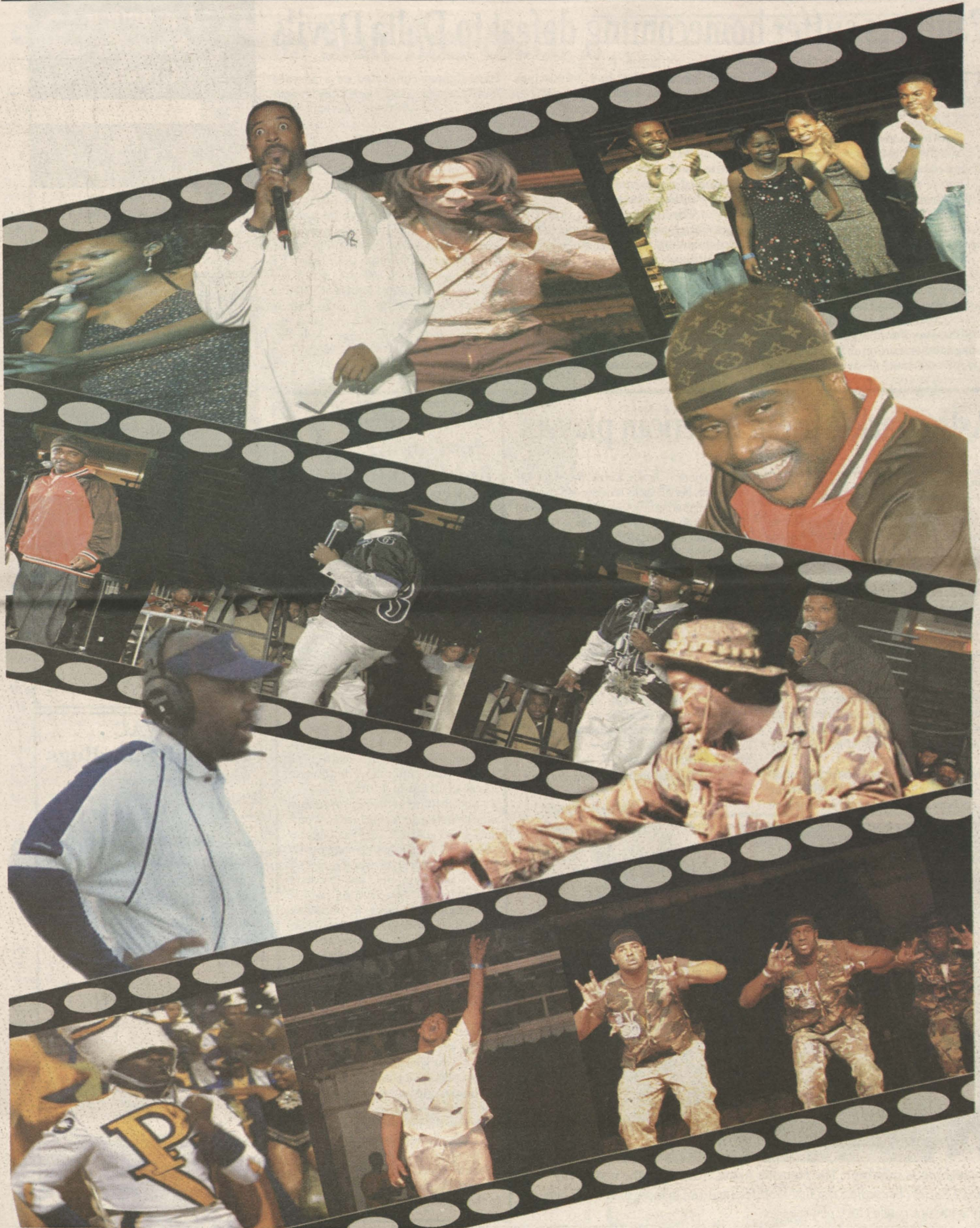


# Homecoming Reflections

EDITED BY PHOTO AND GRAPHICS EDITORS









# Panthers suffer homecoming defeat to Delta Devils

By Palmer Perez  
Panther Correspondent

The Prairie View A&M University (2-5, 0-5 SWAC) Panthers suffered a 58-13 homecoming loss to the Delta Devils of Mississippi Valley State (5-3, 4-3 SWAC) at Blackshear Field.

MVSU blitzed the scoreboard by scoring three touchdowns in a span of nine minutes.

The Delta Devils scored their first two touchdowns on a pair of rushes by Walter Burnette at the 12:29 and 10:48 marks of the first half respectively.

At the end of the first quarter, MVSU was comfortably ahead, 21-0 after adding another score on an Aries Nelson to Calvin Woods touchdown pass with 11:52

remaining in the first half. Mississippi Valley State added their fourth unanswered score of the night in the second quarter with a two-yard touchdown run by Calvin Woods to take a 28-0 lead.

With 8:25 left in the half, Prairie View sophomore Paul Johnson intercepted a pass and took it 30 yards for the Panthers' first score.

The Delta Devils added two more touchdowns and a field goal to take a commanding 44-7 advantage before intermission.

The Panthers' sole offensive score came in the third quarter when senior receiver Chris Peters caught a 12-yard pass from senior quarterback Michael Hill bringing the score to 44-13.

MVSU put a cap on their scoring onslaught adding two touchdowns.

Gary Cooper connected on a 36-yard touchdown pass to Clarence Cotton with 10:36 remaining in the second half. With 3:10 left to play, Cooper had a two-yard run that capped off a seven-play, 80 yard drive. For the game, PVAMU's Hill was 12-of-23 for 83 yards with one touchdown. Leading the team in receiving was Peters with five catches for 37 yards, Sophomore Arnell Fontenot led the Panthers on the ground with 87 yards on 12 carries.

"We still have four games left on our schedule and I think that we can be very competitive in each and every one of them," said Panther head coach Henry Frazier. "We have to dig deep within ourselves and play hard each down. As a coach I have to figure out where the mistakes are being made and correct them."

# Astros lack African American players

Associated Press

HOUSTON (AP) — Joe Morgan worries about the face of baseball. Watching the World Series, the Hall of Famer is troubled by what he sees.

His old team, the Houston Astros, is down 2-0 to the Chicago White Sox, but it's not their lineup that concerns Morgan. It's their makeup.

The Astros are the first World Series team in more than a half-century with a roster that doesn't include a single black player.

"Of course I noticed it. How could you not?" Morgan said while the Astros took batting practice before the opener in Chicago. "But they're not the only ones. There are two or three teams that didn't have any African-American players this year."

Morgan said it's a predicament and a challenge for Major League Baseball. While more players from around the world are making it

to the majors — Japan, Korea, for example — the number of blacks is declining.

"It's a daunting task to get African-American kids into baseball, and I don't see the trend changing," he said.

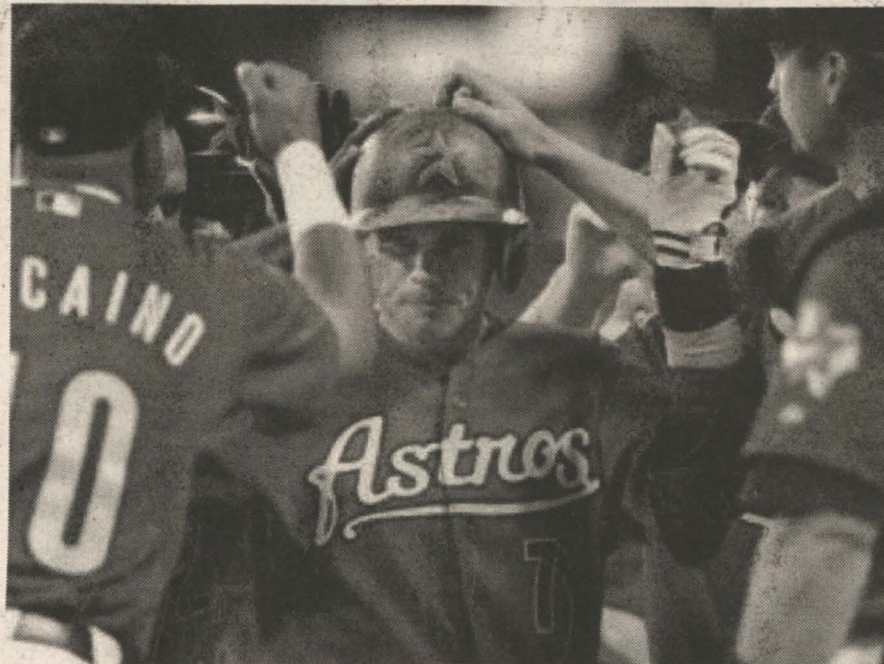
The last World Series team without a black player was the 1953 New York Yankees. It wasn't until 1955 — eight years after Jackie Robinson broke the color barrier in 1947 — that Elston Howard became the first black in Yankee pinstripes.

Black players accounted for just about nine per cent of big league rosters this season.

"We know that we have work to do," Commissioner Bud Selig said Tuesday. "We'll continue to intensify our efforts. I'm very aware, I'm extremely sensitive about it, and I feel badly about it. But we need to get to work to change things."

Astros general manager Tim Purpura agrees.

See Astros on page 11



**Something is missing:** The Houston Astros made it all the way to the World Series, becoming the first World Series team in more than a half-century without a single black player.

## Lady Panthers cross country team finishes third in SWAC

Panther News Service

Prairie View A&M University sophomore Brittany Hamilton recorded a second place finish and two other PVAMU runners recorded top 10 finishes as the Lady Panther cross country team posted a third place mark in the 2005 SWAC Cross Country Championships held on the campus of Prairie View.

Hamilton, a sophomore from Dallas, led the way with a second place finish. Freshman Viktoria Manuel followed with a sixth-place finish while sophomore teammate Tyesha Hill finished 10th.

"Brittany is the type of runner who gets stronger as the race goes on," said head coach Essie Washington. "She did what she had to do to put us in position to be able win the meet."

As a team, the Lady Panthers completed the race with 65 points, finishing behind runner-up Grambling State (59 points) and champion Alabama State (52 points). For their performance, Hamilton and Manuel were selected to the all-SWAC first team while Hill earned second team honors.

Overall, Washington was pleased with her team's performance and looks forward to the future.

"Our goal going into the meet was to place five girls among the top 16 runners and we missed our goal by one runner. However, I was pleased with how the meet turned out.

"We have a pretty good nucleus of distance runners returning next season," added Washington. "I look forward to watching them compete in the future."

## Upcoming Sporting Events

### Football

11/5 @ Pine Bluff 2:30 p.m.  
11/12 vs. Jackson State 2 p.m.

### Volleyball

11/3 vs. Grambling State 5 p.m.  
11/11-12 SWAC Tournament

### Soccer

11/3-6 SWAC Tournament

### Basketball

Men's  
11/18 vs. Paul Quinn 7 p.m.  
Women's  
11/9 vs. Houston Cavaliers 6 p.m.  
11/16 vs. Houston Elite 6 p.m.

## SWAC Football Standings

### East

Alabama State*	6-1, 6-2
Alabama A&M	4-2, 6-2
Alcorn State*	3-2, 4-3
Miss. Valley State	4-3, 5-3
Jackson State	2-4, 2-6

### West

Grambling State	6-0, 6-1
Southern	2-4, 2-4
Pine Bluff*	2-4, 2-6
Texas Southern	1-6, 1-6
<b>Prairie View</b>	<b>0-5, 2-5</b>

\*Prairie View's next opponent



# Struggling Jackson State fires coach

Associated Press

JACKSON, Miss. (AP) — Jackson State fired coach James Bell on Monday, two days after the once-proud program clinched its third consecutive losing season.

Athletic director Roy Culberson said Bell's firing was effective immediately.

"While Bell has made significant improvements in the overall football program during the past two and a half years, we believe that this decision is in the best interest of Jackson State, its fans and alumni," Culberson said. "We would like to thank coach Bell for his untiring efforts and sincere love for the players."

Quarterbacks coach Daryl Jones will serve as interim coach for the final three games of the season. School officials are forming a committee to search for Bell's permanent replacement.

Bell, 47, was 8-23 with just two home victories in two-plus seasons at Jackson State. The Tigers are coming off a 64-36 home loss to Arkansas-Pine Bluff, the team's fourth straight defeat.

The historically black school which produced NFL star Walter Payton and won 15 Southwestern Athletic Conference titles had fallen upon hard times.

Jackson State (2-6, 2-4 SWAC) hasn't had a winning season since 2002, and under Bell had only two wins against teams with winning records.

As the wins fell, so did the attendance. Jackson State once regularly led Division I-AA in attendance, but only 2,831 attended Saturday's loss to Pine Bluff.

The Tigers, who play at 60,000-seat Mississippi Veterans Memorial Stadium, have an average home attendance of 11,878 with one home game remaining.

Robert Hughes, who preceded Bell, was fired after three straight 7-4 seasons.

Bell's contract, which pays \$85,000 annually, expires Dec. 31.

He came to Jackson State before the 2003 season with 20 seasons of experience as a collegiate assistant coach. His lone head coaching experience came at the high school level; he was 1-9 in 2002 in his only season coach at Chavez High School in Houston.

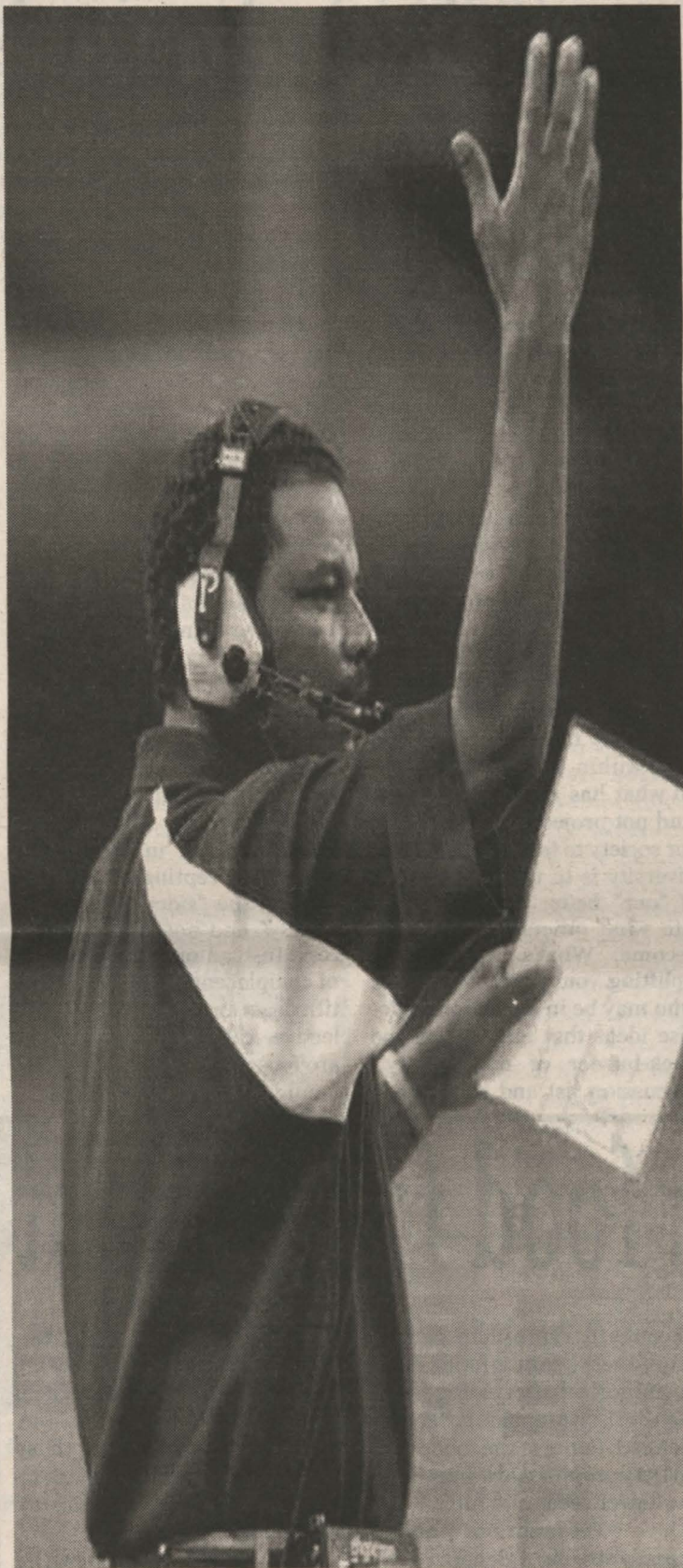


Photo courtesy AP

**The end of the road:** Coach James Bell fired after third consecutive losing season at Jackson State University.

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Astros from page 10

"I think it's a huge, huge problem for baseball," he said. "The pool of African-American players just isn't there. And as baseball becomes more college-oriented in its draft, there aren't a lot of players to pick."

"The African-American athletes are going into other sports," he said.

The most recent survey by the NCAA, taken during the 2003-04 season, showed that only six percent of Division I baseball players were black. Half of the men's basketball players were black, as were 44 percent of football players.

Houston has a half-dozen Hispanic players — it was the first team to open a baseball academy in Venezuela, about a dozen years ago. Bench coach Cecil Cooper is black.

Outfielders Charles Gipson and Charlton Jimerson, both black, played for the Astros during the regular season.

The White Sox have three black players on their Series roster: Jermaine Dye, Carl Everett and Willie Harris, along with coaches Tim Raines and Harold Baines.

They also have eight Hispanic players and Japanese second baseman Tadahito Iguchi.

"We're diverse because we're looking for the best in talent and character," general manager Ken Williams said before the

Series started. "It just happened that way. I could care less what the makeup of the club is as long as it works as a whole."

Williams is the only black general manager in the majors. A former big league outfielder, he joined the White Sox in 1992 as a scout, confident he could find players in the inner cities. After a year of trying, Williams felt as if he'd failed.

Morgan is disturbed by what he's found, too.

A two-time NL MVP, Morgan helped Cincinnati win two straight championships. In 1976, along with fellow black teammates Ken Griffey, George Fos-

ter and Dan Driessen, the Big Red Machine swept a Yankees team that had 10 black players on its roster.

Just 10 years ago, Atlanta and Cleveland each had five black players when they met in the World Series.

In 2003, Derek Jeter and the Yankees lost to Florida. Jeter's father is black and his mother is white; the all-star shortstop has said he considers himself both black and white.

"There's a perception among African-American kids that they're not welcome here, that baseball is not for inner-city kids," Morgan said. "It's not true, and I hate that the perception is out there."



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# The infinity of the complacent mind



By Alanna Jones  
L/H & A/E Editor

The Microsoft Encarta Dictionary defines infinity as "limitless time, space, or distance, and an amount or number too great to count. Complacent is defined by the same dictionary as "self-satisfied and unaware of possible dangers." With that said, *The Infinity of the Complacent Mind*, can be defined as the limitless distance within the mind to be self-satisfied and unaware of one's surroundings. The question now is: Does this mere definition describe PV society, better yet, black society as a whole?"

To be complacent is to stand still and not make efforts to grow beyond the box that white society has placed "us" in.

To stand still is not wanting to move forward to see where the next step will take you. To not move forward is to allow someone or some other entity that is outside the box take what may rightfully be yours. Why are blacks allowing their minds to be shaped into a square box and not take shape with the plights at hand? And why are we OK with limiting ourselves to only what we know thus far?

For centuries, whites have placed black society in the four-cornered room of slavery, demoralization, hatred, and inferiority. They do this because of how their ancestors ridiculed our ancestors and believe that the present day minds of black people are based on how we have been represented in our history. This may be true depending on the experiences in one's life, yet, blacks show this same cruelty to one another including on PV's campus. Why is this happening?

Didn't the pro-black movements led by such activists as Martin Luther King clearly demonstrate the importance of "black unity?" The death of Rosa Parks should be branded

in our minds as the buried legacy of someone who has defined our simple liberty of being able to sit at the front of the bus, which has transcended into the ability of blacks being able to sit coach on airplanes. With all this rich history that flows through the veins of "our" true essence, we continue to feel that "our" brothers and sisters next to us want or have the desire to bring "us" down. Why?

To think outside the box is to think outside of what may be "normal" to "us." Is it necessary to subject ourselves to the way of thinking that society wants us to think? If we did that, how is our culture going to grow and expand to the infinite possibility that we can gain? To stay within the box is to stick to what has already been done and not project new knowledge for society to talk about. To lack diversity is to tame the depths of "our" being and transpire into what others want "us" to become. What's wrong with uplifting your brother or sister who may be in a position to devise ideas that may be on the back-burner of our society's discussion list and bring them

forward to lessen the ignorance that "we" limit ourselves to?

As of yet, the complacent mind has plagued black culture. Today, in 2005, "we" are a people who have thoroughly placed our marks in every aspect of academia, media, science, medicine, government, arts, and so on. Those trendsetters who have laid the foundation for present day blacks to expand on their achievements did not conquer these quests by being complacent. To become "one" is to move away from the infinite possibility of black culture never being whole.

Being at PVAMU we have a God-given chance to expand our minds within our predominant culture, but we continue to act like we are not the same. If our minds don't change, society will continue to lavish itself in "our" ignorance in accepting to continue walking the "sideways eight of infinity" and not making progress. Instead of being a culture of complacency, "we" should be titled as an enterprise of collective collegiate minds who are focused on creating endless boundaries outside of the box.

## Correction: The divine nine

1. **Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.**- was established on the campus of Cornell University in 1906. (alphaphialpha.net)
  2. **Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.**- was founded in 1908 on the campus of Howard University. (aka1908.com)
  3. **Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.**- was founded on Jan. 5, 1911 on the campus of Indiana University at Bloomington. This organization's fundamentals were based upon achievement. (kappaalphapsi1911.com)
  4. **Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.**- was founded on Nov. 17, 1911 on the campus of Howard University. Manhood, scholarship and perseverance are the cardinal principles on which this organization was founded. (oppf.org)
  5. **Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.**- was founded on Jan. 13, 1913 on the campus of Howard University. The major programs of the sorority are based upon the organization's "Five-Point Programmatic Thrust." Economic development, educational development, international awareness and involvement, physical and mental health, and political awareness and involvement. (deltasigmatheta.org)
  6. **Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.**- was established on Jan. 9, 1914 on the campus of Howard University. Its foundation was built upon the principles of brotherhood, scholarship, and service. (pbs1914.org)
  7. **Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.**- was founded in 1920 on the campus of Howard University, basing its principles on scholarship, sisterly love, and finer womanhood. (zphib1920.org)
  8. **Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.**- was founded Nov. 12, 1922 on the campus of Butler University in Indianapolis, Indiana. Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority's aim is to enhance the quality of life within the community. Public service, leadership development and education of youth are the hallmark of the organization's programs and activities. (sgrho1922.org)
  9. **Iota Phi Theta Fraternity, Inc.**- was founded on Sept. 19, 1963 on the campus of Morgan State University. It was founded upon the purpose of the development and perpetuation of scholarship, leadership, citizenship, fidelity, and brotherhood among men. (iotaphitheta.org)
- Compiled by Alanna Jones

# The medical corner: food for thought



Prof. Dennis E. Daniels,  
MPH, Dr. PH and  
Treeza Okeyo  
Medical Correspondents

Food and nutrition are important to brain function and capabilities. Although the brain is only 2 percent of body weight, it consumes 30 percent of daily calorie intake. Nutrients can have a dramatic effect on thinking, concentration, intelligence level, memory, reaction time, emotions and brain aging.

Poor nutrition can contribute to mental disorders such as anxiety, depression and lead

to memory destroying toxins, while good nutrition helps prevent brain decline and enhance brain functioning.

Dopamine, norepinephrine and serotonin are the three important neurotransmitters (chemicals that transmit information) in the brain.

Norepinephrine and dopamine are critical for clear and quick thinking. To support their production, it is advisable to eat food rich in an amino acid called l-tyrosine. The brain uses this amino acid to synthesize neurotransmitters. Some of the foods high in l-tyrosine are meat, seafood, poultry, almonds, avocados, lima beans, pumpkin seeds, sesame seeds, beans and tofu.

Serotonin regulates mood and the sleep wake cycle. It also promotes positive feelings. L-tryptophan is important for serotonin production.

Because l-tryptophan causes drowsiness, eating foods high in amino acid after eating foods high in l-tryptophan is recommended. Some of the foods rich in l-tryptophan are bananas, sunflower seeds and milk.

The brain also requires a steady stream of glucose which it uses to power neurons and produce acetylcholine (a neurotransmitter important to memory). It is advisable to eat complex carbohydrates from foods like beans, whole grain cereal and bread, fruits and vegetables. Avoid simple sugars which provide a short-term kick followed by lethargy (tiredness).

B vitamins such as B1, B2, B6, B12 and folic acid work with enzymes that control neurochemical movement in the brain and vitamin B12 also protects the myelin sheath. Dietary supplements such as folic

acid pills might help slow cognitive decline in aging. Research has shown that low folic acid contributes to mental decline. Some food sources for these vitamins are brown rice, nuts, broccoli, fish and raw green leafy vegetables.

Apart from healthy foods, the brain thrives on exercise. Using it in unusual ways increases blood flow and helps in wiring new connections. Physical and mental exercises are essential for optimal and enhanced brain activity. Things like cross-word puzzles, chess, reading articles and books (e.g. Invisible Man by Ralph Ellison or The Color of Water by James McBride), relax and exercise the brain.

Article compiled from: Betterhumans.com: Brain Nourishment, aolsrc.news.aol.com, and The nutrition reporter by Jack Challem



## PV Greek Life... "I'm an AKA"

There are nine active Greek organizations on campus: Alpha Phi Alpha, Alpha Kappa Alpha, Kappa Alpha Psi, Omega Psi Phi, Delta Sigma Theta, Phi Beta Sigma, Zeta Phi Beta, Sigma Gamma Rho, and Iota Phi Theta. The Panther would like to inform readers how students can go to class, socialize, be active members of an organization, and hold a job. Therefore, each week the Panther will showcase a member of each of the nine active Greek organizations on campus.

**By Jamyen Robinson**  
Panther Staff

Initiated in fall 2003 into the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. representing number 42 of her line, 69 I.V.I.E.S. of Conspiracy, with the line name of "Pretty Impatient," Ivy Cadoree symbolizes diligence, intelligence, and determination.

Cadoree is a senior biology major and chemistry minor at Prairie View A&M University. Cadoree was interested most by the sorority because it was the first and finest sorority of the divine nine, the community service that is done on campus, and how the ladies of the sorority present themselves in a "classy, well-mannered way."

Cadoree feels that the lifestyle that has been acquired after she became a member of A.K.A has opened the opportunity to set a positive example for younger females. "Whether you want the attention or not, you are given the possibility to exploit your sorority in a positive way, using the popularity to make a difference and not for personal clarification."

Cadoree is most proud of her organization's recent donation of \$500 for breast cancer research, and also held a successful seminar providing more detailed information concerning the issue.

Although, Cadoree along with her fellow sorors, exhibits this sorority with optimism, it is always common that with the conception of an organization, or any organization for that matter, misconception is not too far behind. "Some people perceive us as conceited or ungrateful, when in actuality that's not the case at all," says Cadoree. "We are very positive women who aim to be role models, and we carry dignity for our organization because it stands for something greater than

ourselves. Organizations are always setting examples for students and are constantly under the microscope of others who are on the outside looking in."

When asked what advice can be given to students who are interested in joining a Greek organization, Cadoree stated that first "you should make sure that you are joining for the right reasons. Also, you should be prepared for things that come with the territory, and use it to make a change. Behind every organization, there's work. You have to be willing to work hard," Cadoree said. "Having letters is one thing, but making the difference is another."

"The bonds of sisterhood will

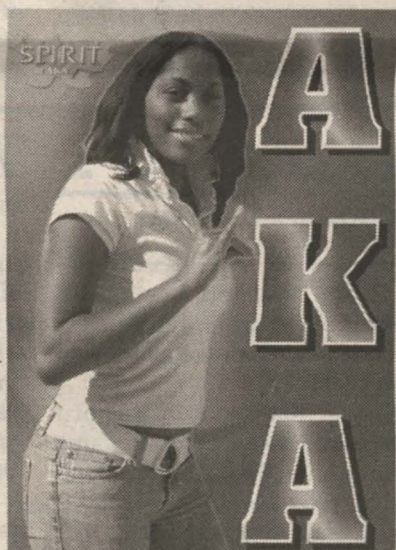


Photo by Otis Clayborne II

**Ivy Cadoree.** President of the Zeta Gamma chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

keep us united forever," are the words that Cadoree that live by in reference to her sorority. Cadoree and her sorors look forward to making an impact on communities, and changing the lives of others in a positive way.

It is confidence within a Greek organization that holds a sorority together, great pride that keeps the sorority strong, and the depth of gratitude that plants a prosperous foundation for many years to come.

# Breaking down the promiscuous mind

**By LaCheryl E. Whitlow**  
Panther Staff

"I really, really want him. I'm not sure what move I'm gonna make to seduce him but I know that he knows I really didn't call him over to study. So what if I don't know him that well. This is college and I'm just indulging in college life," as she justifies in her mind why it's okay to sleep with a guy she barely knows. She slowly closes her book and leans over to whisper in his ear, "let's switch subjects to some anatomy."

While some of us fantasize and desire to journey freely into a night of heat and passion, most people don't regularly try to capitalize every sexual thought that they have. However, there are some of us who do and are not able to discern between the pleasuring and aftermath of sex. Some of us become addicted, thus leading into a life of promiscuity.

*Webster's Desk Dictionary* defined promiscuity as being characterized by or having numerous sexual partners on a casual basis. Men and women alike can both be classified as promiscuous depending on their sexual histories.

Surprisingly, there are reasons that people become promiscuous and sex addicted.

According to FAQ's: Sex Addiction (<http://www.sexaddict.com/FAQ.html>) "The biological addict is someone who has conditioned their body to receive endorphins and enkephalins (brain chemicals) primarily through reinforcing a fantasy state... psychologically, the need to medicate or escape physical, emotional or sexual abuse can demand a substance... spiritually, a person is filling up the God hole in them with their sexual addiction. The addiction is their spirituality; it comforts them, celebrates them and is always available and present. Then there is the sex addict who can be two or even three of the above reasons. In other words sexually promiscuous people use sex as a cover up or defense mechanism."

Contrary to popular belief, there are people who disagree and profess that they simply enjoy having numerous sexual encounters with different people just for the thrill and excitement of sex with a different person. A female student (name withheld) says, "I'm a female that really enjoys having sex a lot and I don't feel like it's because I'm trying to suppress a horrible childhood or because I have low self-esteem because I don't."

Sex is a beautiful thing. It's the very essence of human

existence. Since the beginning of time human beings have explored and experimented with the doors of sexuality. We want to know how it feels and why it feels so good to us since it's as natural to us as food, water, and shelter. Yet, sometimes too much of a good thing is not always good for you.

**WANT  
YOUR  
QUESTION  
FEATURED  
IN  
"20  
QUESTIONS"  
FOR  
NEXT  
WEEK'S  
ISSUE?**

Contact  
[panther@pvamu.edu](mailto:panther@pvamu.edu)

# Pancreatic cancer awareness month

**By Alanna Jones**  
L/H and A/E Editor

November is National Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month.

Within the United States cancer of the pancreas is the fourth leading cause of cancer death. This year approximately 32 thousand Americans will die from this disease. This disease is not only common among whites but blacks as well and very difficult to treat. For these reasons, pancreatic cancer has been labeled as "the challenge of the twenty-first century."

Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions has become the leading center for the treatment and study of pan-

creatic cancer.

There is a clear need to continue the research that has already been conducted on the cause of pancreatic cancer. The paradigm currently being examined in the basic science laboratories of John Hopkins in the accumulation of mutations in specific cancer-causing genes that can cause pancreatic cancer. Therefore, researchers are looking at genes at both the level of the chromosomes and at the DNA level.

Cancer of the pancreas is not resectable at the time of diagnosis. Chemotherapy and radiation therapy are the main treatments offered to patients whose tumor cannot be removed surgically. Immunotherapy is also offered as a

vaccine made of cancer cells themselves, and preliminary research suggests that this vaccine can be an effective and safe treatment for pancreatic cancer.

Resection, which is the removal of the pancreatic tumor by surgery, is currently the only chance for a cure for patients with cancer of the pancreas. Resection, commonly known as the "whipple" procedure, is very complex and only performed by surgeons who are specially trained to conduct this surgery effectively.

This article's contents and more information about pancreatic cancer can be found at Johns Hopkins Pancreas Cancer Web research (type in search engine).



## PV's Freshest

# Roscoe Mickens

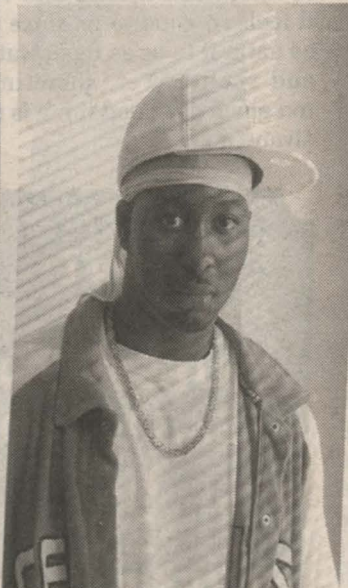


Photo By: Marquese Allen

18-year-old Gemini Roscoe Mickens was born in Los Angeles, Calif., but grew up on the west side of Lake Como in "Funky Town" Fort Worth, Texas.

Mickens decided to attend PV because he knew several people who attended the university and friends assured him that PV was a good school. He also wanted the experience of attending college at an HBCU.

As an electrical/mechanical engineering major, Mickens dreams of becoming a manager for General Motors one day.

Before attending PV, Roscoe lived with his grandparents and his aunt since the age of five. He has two younger brothers and looks up to his grandfather because he always pushes him to do better.

Mickens' hobbies include playing basketball, football, and lifting weights in his spare time. Usually you can catch him wearing a buttoned down shirt, jeans, and white gym shoes. Mickens' favorite movie is *The Wood*, favorite artist is Young Jeezy, favorite actor Wesley Snipes, and favorite actress is Halle Berry.

# Olufunke John



Photo By: Marquese Allen

Born on March 18, 1987, Olufunke John is a Nigerian princess from the north side of Houston, Texas.

John came to Prairie View because she took a very enlightening tour of the university and liked the atmosphere so much that she decided to stay. With a major in English and a minor in government, John plans to teach kindergarten while attending law school at the Thurgood Marshall School of Law at Texas Southern University and eventually becoming a lawyer.

With a name that means "God's gift of joy" in Nigerian, John considers herself a leader. She is outgoing, fashionable, and very social. In high school she was voted "class favorite" and was on the

newspaper committee. John spends her spare time participating in community service activities with the Special Olympics, and she is on the membership and publicity committee in Club Flava and also a member of the NAACP.

When John isn't busy with her civic activities you can find her jamming the band Cold Play because they are different, relaxing, and their lyrics are easy to relate to. Her hobbies include shopping, reading, and modeling. She considers herself a very trendy person usually wearing Bermuda shirts, vintage T-shirts, and Vans sneakers.

John has one brother and a cousin who she looks up to like a sister. As a child she always tried to keep up with her cousin, but her parents never allowed her to. Now that she is older, she models herself after her cousin and is finally accepted into her clique of friends.

By: Sharonda Peals  
Panther Staff

# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

EDITED BY ALAYNA JONES AJONES7@PVAMU.EDU

## The Review

### Ray J: *Radiation*

By Latisha Johnson-Wallace  
Panther Staff

Brandy's younger brother has just released his fourth album *Radiation*.

Assuming that this title is to warn any potential listener to bring your protective gear to keep yourself from the harmful and toxic excuse for some good R&B music that this album provides. Almost anyone would be skeptical of buying an album by someone whose only hint of fame comes from his close family member who now is no longer really a household name.

Ray J or Brandy's little brother, delivers a disaster on his latest release. A work of total humiliating and sheer effortlessness on his part. This pop album can only appeal to those less inclined to the works of much more advanced and gifted artists. Ray J is no Usher; he is no John Legend or any other artist that brings about an essence of true

talent. His first single *One Wish* falls off the mark repeatedly. Ray J lacks any hint of soul, any true gift for providing audiences with vibrant lyrics and soothing beats.

*Radiation* was made to provide money in his pocket; not of audiences to listen to and enjoy, but for them to purchase and regret.

There is not a single track that makes the listener want to blast or even sing along with. Ray J uses uninspired lyrics, sings with a studio technology enhanced voice to still present very poor vocals. His tracks are childish, useless and simple.

This album is boycotted and sent back to the record company, it's time for Brandy's younger brother to sit down, quit his day job and start a night shift where we will never have to see him. Buy a book instead, or better yet invest your money. Don't even bother to download or borrow a copy.

## Bun B: *Trill*

By Kennea Anderson  
Panther Staff

The self-acclaimed debut album from Bun B, *Trill*, is one of the hottest albums on the market.

Rapper Bun B (born Bernard Freeman) rose to fame in the duo "UGK." The group consisted of Bun B and Pimp C in the late '80s when their former crew, Four Black Ministers, fell apart.

Based in Port Arthur, Texas, UGK signed with Jive Records. Before Jay-Z or Outkast, before Tupac Shakur or the late Notorious B.I.G., the Texas duo in, 1992 released an album called *Too Hard to Swallow*, a series of Southern gangster raps.

Bun B had other side projects such as underground hits and *Mddl Fngz* in 2000, but UGK was certainly his main concern. Unfortunately, his partner and former group member of UGK, Pimp C, was sentenced in 2003 to eight years in prison on an aggravated gun assault charge.

*Trill* has many hits: *Bun a Fire*, *Bun Dem*, and the slow motion first single that fea-

tures Lil Ke Ke, *Dropped Up*.

Many of the songs on the album are representations of how it is done "Down South," with emphasis on Texas as a whole. These deliberating tracks showcase other artists such as Paul Wall, Slim Thug, Manny Fresh, Mike Jones, Chamillionaire, and Jay Z.

*Trill* can be described as meaningful, uplifting, and simply real with no holding back from the well experienced artist.

After years of determination and dedication, Bun B is still holding it down for his fans and his fellow group member Pimp C. Even though he is away, Bun B mentions him in all the music that he writes, saying "Free Pimp C."

*Trill* is beyond doubt what the rap industry needed. With his Texas customs and screwed up mixes, Bun B will soothe listeners to the end of time. He is one of the hottest rappers on the scene who will maintain his status for giving nothing but the best quality of rap music there is. He simply exemplifies trueness to himself and to the group UGK, which he will always be a member of.



## Events for Nov. 3-Nov. 9, 2005

Thursday, 11/3	Friday, 11/4	Tuesday, 11/8	Wednesday, 11/9
Awareness Day 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Outside	Phi Beta Sigma 5 p.m.-8 p.m. University Village Clubhouse II	Financial Aid Default Prevention Workshop 9 a.m.-1 p.m. MSC, Rm. 203	Delta Sigma Theta 10 a.m.-2 p.m. MSC, Rm. 204
University Academic Council 3 p.m.-5 p.m. MSC, Rm. 203	Pan Week Celebration 7 p.m.-11:55 p.m. MSC Outside	Criminal Justice Club 4 p.m.-5 p.m. Woolfolk, Rm. 104	Alpha Lambda Omega 11 a.m.-1 p.m. MSC Outside
Wesley Foundation 5 p.m.-6 p.m., Chapel		Alpha Phi Omega 5 p.m.-7 p.m. Hobart, Rm. 1A110	Alpha Phi Omega 12 Noon-2 p.m. MSC Outside
Lecture by Jeffrey Johnson "Cousin Jeff" 5 p.m.-9 p.m. MSC, Rm. 111	<b>Saturday, 11/5</b> Educator PC&D Lab 8 a.m.-4 p.m. NSCI, Rm. A103	SIFE 5 p.m.-8 p.m. NSCI, Rm. 104	CAB Hump Day 12 Noon-2 p.m. Outside MSC
Alpha Kappa Alpha 5:30 p.m.-9 p.m. NSCI, Rm. 101	LULAC 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Architecture Bldg.	Beta Beta Beta 5 p.m.-6:15 p.m. NSCI, Rm. 106	Phi Beta Sigma 5 p.m.-7 p.m. Delco, Rm. 327
Delta Sigma Theta 6 p.m.-8:30 p.m. NSCI, Rm. A101	Small Business Center 9 a.m.-4 p.m. MSC, Rm. 201 and 204	CSO 5:15 p.m.-7 p.m. MSC, Rm. 203	NAACP 5 p.m.-11 p.m. MSC, Rm. 204
NAACP 6 p.m.-8 p.m. Banks, Rm. 204		African Students' Association 6 p.m.-7 p.m. Banks, Rm. 208	Wesley Foundation 5 p.m.-6 p.m. Chapel
Gamma Sigma Sigma 6:50 p.m.-10 p.m. NSCI, Rm. 122	<b>Sunday, 11/6</b> NO EVENTS ARE SCHEDULED FOR THIS DAY	Alpha Kappa Alpha 6 p.m.-9 p.m. NSCI, Rm. A101	Delta Sigma theta 5 p.m.-11 p.m. MSC Lounge
Alpha Lambda Omega/ Gamma Phi Delta 7 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Chapel		Gamma Phi Delta 6:30 p.m.-7:45 p.m. Chapel	Alpha Phi Omega 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Library, Rm. 108
Gamma Psi Omega 7 p.m.-9 p.m. Banks, Rm. 211	<b>Monday, 11/7</b> WITHDRAWAL WITH A "W" ENDS	Epsilon Gamma Iota 7 p.m.-9 p.m. C.L. Wilson, Rm. 109	National Council of Negro Women 6 p.m.-7 p.m. NSCI, Rm. 103
Epsilon Gamma Iota 7 p.m.-9 p.m. C.L. Wilson, Rm. 109	Phi Beta Sigma 5 p.m.-7 p.m. Delco, Rm. 327	Zeta Phi Beta 7 p.m.-10 p.m. C.L. Wilson, Rm 103	Mr. Prairie View Seminar 6:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m. Chapel
Karnation Kourt 7 p.m.-9 p.m. Banks, Rm. 202	Sigma Alpha Iota 7 p.m.-8 p.m. Hobart Recital Hall	Phi Beta Sigma 7 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Library, Rm. 108	Miss Prairie View 6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. NSCI, Rm. A103
BSM 7 p.m.-10 p.m. Chapel	Delta Sigma Theta 7 p.m.-11 p.m. MSC, Rm. 111	Kappa Alpha Psi 7 p.m.-10 p.m. MSC, Rm. 111	Delta Sigma Theta 7 p.m.-11 p.m. NSCI, Rm. A101
Alpha Lambda Omega 7 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Chapel	Phi Beta Sigma 7 p.m.-9 p.m. Chapel	Zeta Phi Beta 7 p.m.-10 p.m. Banks, Rm. 202	Sigma Gamma Rho 7 p.m.-9 p.m. NSCI, Rm. 104
Omega Psi Phi 7:10 p.m.-10:10 p.m. MSC Ballroom	Gamma Sigma Sigma 6 p.m.-10 p.m. NSCI, Rm. 103	BSM 7 p.m.-10 p.m. Chapel	Kappa Alpha Psi 7 p.m.-10 p.m. MSC, Rm. 111
	Alpha Phi Omega 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Library, Rm. 103		FOCCS 7 p.m.-9 p.m. Chapel
			Epsilon Gamma Iota 8 p.m.-10 p.m. S.R. Collins, Rm. 225



## Financial Aid

By Anna Okonkwo

At P.V. what do they mean by "aid?"  
They never do their job and they still get paid.  
I don't know how many people work in there,  
But I never get my money and that s@#% ain't fair.  
All I'm trying to get is a higher education,  
They take a lunch break as long as a vacation.  
You try the phone system to not waste gas,  
They hear it ringing and just sit on that a#%.  
You try not to get mad, instead stay calm,  
You really want the side of their head to meet the inside of your palm.

A slap that won't miss the 20 questions,  
A slap so hard they might have a suggestion.  
The paperwork you turn in never gets processed,  
When you see what's wrong, it's still in their office.  
Weakened legs and bodies from standing in that line,  
One person finally got some money but what about mine?  
I don't know 'bout you, but this makes me sick,  
It won't really matter come December 10<sup>th</sup>.  
Yes, that's the day scheduled to graduate  
It you don't get dropped 'cause your aid ain't straight.



1. Which building in UC is contributing to the high pregnancy rates at PV? 2. Which Gamma Sigma Sigma needs to go on Maury to find out who her baby daddy is? 3. Why are the Zetas rejecting people under 150 pounds? 4. Are they trying to hold on to the stereotype of being fat and ugly? 5. Which Zeta was in the AKA rush line? 6. Doesn't she know it's too late to undo her mistake? 7. Didn't the dude in the Zeta step show look like Miss Jay of America's Next Top Model? 8. Which Delta stepped harder than she pledged and busted her pants? 9. Who really wanted to see her shake her laffy taffy? 10. Or, should we say pecan brittle? 11. Were the Zetas robbed of first place? 12. Why was KKPsi better than everyone else? 13. Who saw the Alpha step show? 14. Which was worst, the Alpha step show or the fight? 15. Why was there a scarcity of people after the halftime show at the game on Saturday? 16. Can we assume they were at the Kappa tailgate party? 17. Did Tau Beta Sigma not step because their neos have no rhythm? 18. Wasn't this the best coronation? 19. Is it because hurricane Denise got beat by tropical storm Brandy? 20. What do you think?

### Plus 15 More

21. How much hair was purchased to make the royal court's hair styles? 22. Are the Houston beauty supply stores going to search for more horses to replenish their drought? 23. Why did coronation have the best DJ? 24. Now that homecoming is over can we get a head start on Springfest? 25. What are the impeachment procedures for SGA? 26. Were the homecoming T-shirts black and gold for a reason? 27. Why did the Delta shirts look like the AKA shirts? 28. Is it because the AKAs were actually the Delta's first choice? 29. Or, are the Deltas trying to take a lesson in fashion? 30. How many girls were chasing after alumni? 31. Don't try too hard because didn't they date your soror? 32. Is that what "true" sisterhood is all about? 32. What girls are having to check in with a psychologist because they did not get a call from the Ks? 33. On the other hand, are you reading this and just now finding out that they already made the calls and you didn't get one? 34. Is the world going to end? 35. What do you really think?

This is for **entertainment only**. The questions submitted are not the views of **The Panther**. Want to tell us what you think? Please bring your comments and questions to Rm. 219 MSC or e-mail us at [panther@pvamu.edu](mailto:panther@pvamu.edu). Questions are printed at the discretion of **The Panther**.



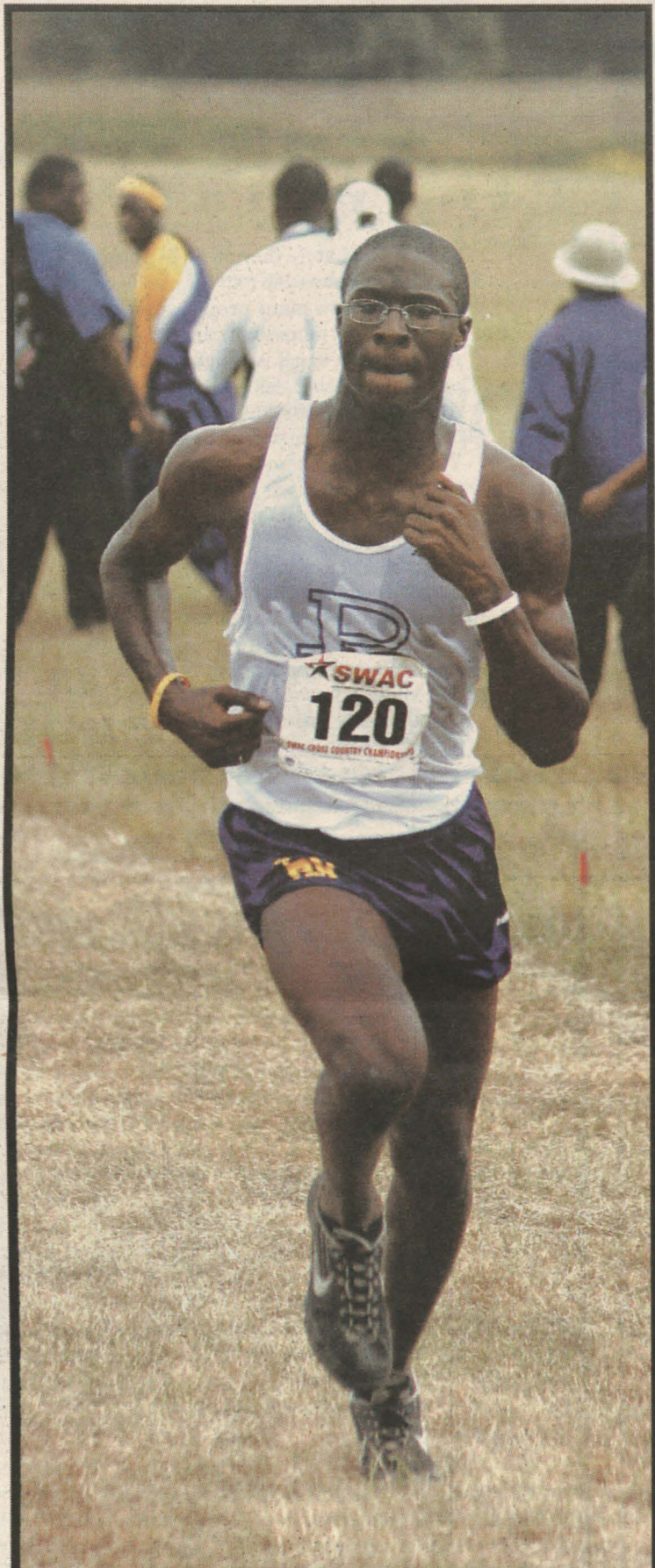


Photo by Gitonga M'Mbijewe

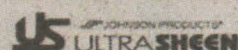
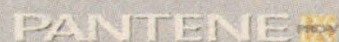
**Run Alonzo, Run:** Alonzo Thomas finishes first in SWAC championship race.

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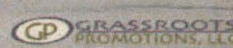
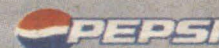


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**PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY**  
**THURSDAY NOVEMBER 3, 2005**  
**NOON-4PM**  
**STUDENT CENTER LAWN**



Things to do




12:00P - 12:15P **BET★ JUMPOFF** ✓

12:30P - 1:00P  **SINGER'S SPOTLIGHT** ✓

1:00P - 1:30P  **POETRY CONTEST** ✓

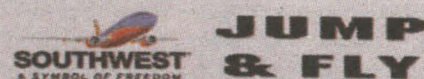
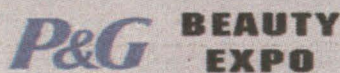
1:30P - 2:00P  **FLOW** ✓

2:00P - 2:30P  **CONCERT** ✓

2:30P - 3:00P  **3-POINT SHOOTOUT** ✓

3:00P - 3:45P  **2-ON-2 HOOPS COMPETITION** ✓

All Day



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