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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

Celebrating the lives of two Panthers, page 7

Mathematics professor found dead at his home

Anterria Brown
Panther Staff

Longtime Prairie View A&M University professor Dr. George A. Roberts was found dead Monday evening at his home in a subdivision south of Hempstead.

According to the Waller County Sheriff's Office, Roberts was discovered with a single gunshot wound by his wife, in what law enforcement officials are calling "an apparent suicide." The exact cause of death, and the entrance of the bullet wound are still under investigation pending results from the Harris County Medical Examiner.

Roberts, who was professor of mathematics in the College of Arts and Sciences, taught here at Prairie View for 22 years. He served on several university committees and was graduate advisor and graduate coordinator for his department. Over the years he served on more than 30 departmental committees, and was vice president of the Faculty Senate.

Roberts taught at his alma mater, Wiley College, where he advanced from the rank of instructor in 1966, to professor and head of the department of mathematics. During that time he completed his Ph.D. in mathematics at Texas A&M University, in 1979. The title of his dissertation was "Uniqueness and Interpolation of Entire

Harmonic Functions." He joined the Prairie View A&M University faculty as associate professor in 1983.

In addition to his teaching career spanning 40 years, Roberts published in the *Journal of Approximation Theory*, presented research papers at national meetings, and made contributions to several funded projects, including Title III-MATH-NET, University AROTC Skills Development, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, and the National Science Foundation.

Roberts received numerous awards throughout his tenure, including Teacher of the Year, Educational Achievement, Omega Man of the Year, Outstanding Turner Graduate, and Personalities of the South. He was also inducted into the Science Hall of Fame. He served as Adult Leader for the Boy Scouts of America Troop 141, chair of the Scholarship Committee of the Nu Iota Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Adult Sunday School Teacher and chair of the Deacon Board and the Building Fund Committee at Walnut Grove Baptist Church in Carthage, Texas.

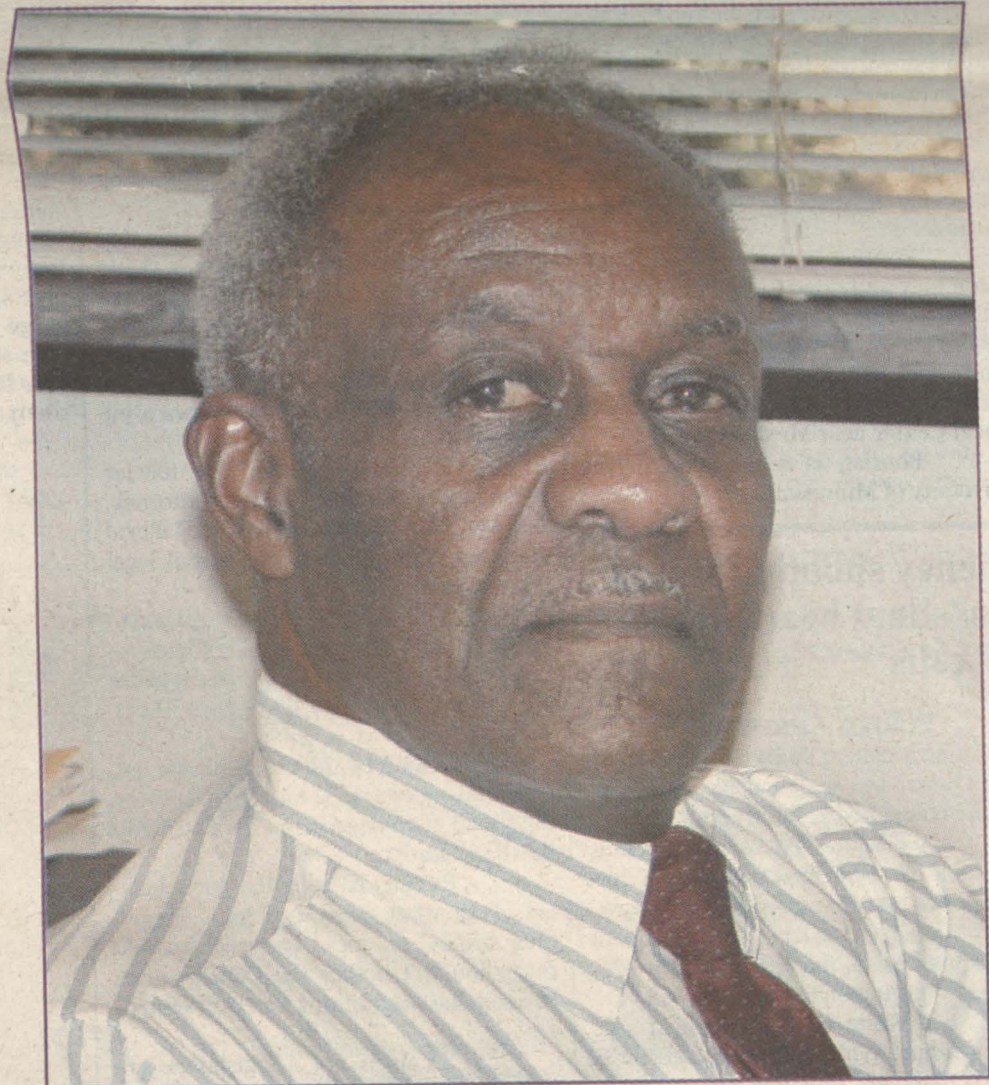
Dr. Evelyn Thornton, professor of mathematics, said, "Dr. Roberts was a distinguished professor and a great teacher who inspired all who worked with him or who worked under his tutelage. As a colleague he was dependable, timely, devoted, and honorable."

Thornton, a former head of the department of mathematics, described Roberts as a model faculty member and citizen who led an exemplary life of dedication and service.

Dr. Aliakbar Haghghi, head of the department of mathematics, said, "Professor Roberts was a nice responsible faculty member. I express my condolences to his family, friends and colleagues. We are

sorry to have lost one of our department's best professors, and he will be missed."

Roberts is survived by his wife Mary, and three sons, Michael, Jason, and John.



Courtesy photo

Accomplished scholar: Dr. George Roberts was highly regarded by his colleagues.

In the news...

White House awards Texas professor National Medal of Science

WASHINGTON (AP) — Nobel laureate Norman Borlaug received the National Medal of Science in a White House ceremony Monday and shared the moment in the spotlight with the Texas university where he has taught for years.

Borlaug, 91, flashed a double Texas A&M University "thumbs up" sign to President George W. Bush, who draped him with the medal, drawing some chuckles and an Aggie "Whoop!" from the audience.

Borlaug, a professor of international agriculture, has devoted much of his study and career on problems of world hunger and famine.

He developed strains of high-yield wheat that were critical to helping turn the tide of a famine and starvation crisis in India and Pakistan in the 1960s.

His work in helping double wheat production in those countries became known as the Green Revolution. Bourlaug has since been dubbed the father of that revolution.

He won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1970 for developing the high-yield dwarf wheat that reversed the countries' food shortages.

Bourlaug is a supporter of biotechnology and divides his time between College Station, Dallas and Mexico. He teaches at Texas A&M in the fall. His family lives in Dallas. In Mexico, he has worked at the International Maize and Wheat Center near Mexico City.

Bourlaug is a graduate of the University of Minnesota.

Cheney shooting victim has 'silent heart attack'; VP calls

CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas (AP) — The man accidentally shot by Vice President Cheney last weekend has had what doctors now call a "silent heart attack."

A hospital spokesman in Texas says some of the birdshot that Harry Whittington was hit with moved into his heart.

Soon after the announcement in Corpus Christi, the vice president telephoned Whittington to wish him well.

A White House statement says Cheney found Whittington in good spirits -- and offered his "thoughts and prayers."

The Austin attorney's been moved back to intensive care so he can be monitored.

However, doctors say he didn't experience chest pain or other normal signs of a heart attack.

Regulate weather to prevent disasters, security chief jokes

WASHINGTON (AP) — Looking for a strategy to prevent disasters like Hurricane Katrina? Try regulating the weather, Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff joked Monday.

Speaking at a gathering of state emergency management directors, Chertoff noted the weekend snowstorm that hit the area, joking that it had been especially arranged "to give a little additional urgency to these proceedings."

"It seems the problem we have in this country is, we either have too much moisture or too little moisture, depending on whether you're on the coast or in the interior," Chertoff said. "If we could average it out, we could prevent some of the disasters we've been faced with."

The next hurricane season begins June 1.

Did I tell you? I have guns

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) — Annie Oakley would have been proud.

Seeking to dispel the notion that her liberal views on abortion, gay rights and gun control might make her not to their liking, state attorney general candidate Jeanine Pirro told the state Conservative Party leadership on Monday that when it comes to guns, she knows a bit about lock and load.

Republican Pirro, the former Westchester County district attorney, said her main goal has been to keep illegal guns out of circulation, not curtail legal gun ownership.

"I have done everything I can to get them off the street, to make them accountable, to increase penalties for those who have and traffic in illegal guns," Pirro said.

"And, by the way, I have a .22, a .38 and a Mauser," she added, eliciting a big round of applause from the Conservative Party leaders.

Pressed later by the party leaders about what one called her "broad, blue stripes" on social issues, Pirro said that shouldn't bother the Conservatives because she was running for attorney general.

"This is not a legislative job. This is a law enforcement job," she said.

Until December, Pirro had been a candidate for the GOP's Senate nomination to challenge Democrat Hillary Rodham Clinton's re-election bid this year. Pirro quit that race in the face of fundraising problems and a lack of support.

STATE & NATION

EDITED BY NNEKA MEKA NMEKA@PVAMU.EDU

Rock the Vote turns 16, tries to regroup and recover from debt

By Paul Chavez
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) - Rock the Vote is turning 16 this year, but the birthday for the organization that has used Madonna, R.E.M. and other music stars to get millions of young people involved in politics is shaping up to be anything but sweet.

The non-profit group founded in Los Angeles in 1990 is \$500,000 in debt and down to just two employees, from 20 in 2002, according to tax documents and Hans Riemer, the organization's political director. Rock the Vote has been courting donors and hopes to make an announcement in about a month about its future, Riemer said.

"It will be the new Rock the Vote. That's what we have in the works," he said.

Rock the Vote founder Jeff Ayeroff and board chairman Fred Goldring declined to comment.

The organization provided a recent letter to the Los Angeles Times that said Rock the Vote has a "modest debt" that is typical after a presidential election.

"While no organization wants deficit finance, elections are important enough to require hard choices," the letter said in response to a recent article on its affairs. "So when we sensed the surge of youth participation in 2004, we used all the credit at our disposal. This is something organizations do routinely."

Rock the Vote registered 1.4 million voters for the 2004 election at U.S. college campuses, through its website and via ad campaigns featuring some of music's biggest stars.

Diana Owen, an associate professor of political science at Georgetown University, said political off-years are trying times for youth voting organizations.

"What has happened, as usually happens in off-election years, is that many of them have disbanded and they will have to try to regroup for the next election cycle," Owen said. "Rock the Vote seemed to be one that was a little less bad off than the others."

Ayeroff was co-chief of Virgin Records when he founded Rock the Vote - the first organization to effectively use the media to engage young voters. It has been followed by groups such as the New Voters Project, which targeted young voters in six states for the 2004 election; music mogul Sean Combs' "Vote or Die" effort; and in Canada, Rush the Vote, created in 1997.

In a web posting last Wednesday, Riemer said Rock the Vote was "taking advantage of the off-cycle to restructure."

Census numbers released in November showed a groundswell of young voters participated in the 2004 election. About 47 percent of eligible Americans ages 18 to 24 voted in 2004, up from 36 percent in 2000. No other age group increased its turnout by more than five percentage points.

REGISTER TO VOTE

www.rockthevote.com

ROCK THE VOTE

Retraction: The article "Two Panthers killed in crash" was by LaCheryl Whitlow

CAMPUS

EDITED BY Alanna Jones ajones7@pvamu.edu

You ought to be in pictures!



Coach Carter visits PVAMU during a celebration of Black History Month.

Photo by Evan White



PV students know how to take good pictures.

Photo by Evan White



What a smile!

Photo by Evan White

Using our rights to dig up dirt



By Alanna Jones
News/ Managing Editor

The Panther student newspaper received awards for news coverage on last year's tuition increase and its Lifestyles/Health and Arts/Entertainment section at the 8th Annual HBCU "Excellence

in Journalism" student newspaper conference in Greensboro, N.C.

Although these awards are to be applauded, I must admit that I was saddened when names from PV were not called more often.

In my mind I began to think about why the content of our paper was not recognized more than it was. Realizing that most of the awards were given for investigative stories, I wondered what we could do to win more awards for investigative reporting in the future.

I came to the conclusion that it's time that I, as news editor, use my rights as

a student and citizen to find out what's happening on my campus.

I have discovered that there are many issues, topics, and incidents that are being hidden behind closed doors. If students are paying to go to school here, then we have the right to know and understand with thorough explanation what is happening on and around campus.

Once again, I want to challenge the student body to ask questions. If you are wondering about something going on, send in your question. I want to make it my duty as news editor to find answers and report on it.

College of Business provides free tax service

By Sean Mitchell
Panther Staff

In conjunction with the IRS, the College of Business is providing free tax preparation assistance for residents of Waller County, including PVAMU.

"In a nutshell, the College of Business is providing free income tax preparation for individuals in Waller County," said Kimberly Gordon, assistant to the dean of the College of Business.

"The college is providing this as a community service and as a way to increase awareness about certain income tax credits for which many people

are eligible, but do not apply and claim on their income taxes," Gordon said.

The efforts at Prairie View are being managed by volunteers from the National Association of Black Accountants. "Assistant Professor William Vetter helps to coordinate these efforts along with Dr. By-Rung Lee, professor of accounting," Gordon stated.

According to the IRS website (www.irs.gov) "A tax credit is a dollar-for-dollar reduction of taxes owed. Some credits are refundable - taxes could be reduced to the point that an individual would receive a refund rather than owing any taxes." Gordon stated that

the College of Business felt it was important to get the word out because of credits often missed by families such as EITC (Earned Income Tax Credit), Child Tax Credit, and Credit for the Elderly.

Free tax preparation is happening right now at venues such as the Prairie View A&M University Hobart Taylor Hall Room 2B220, Waller County Library at 2331 - 11th St in Hempstead, and Waller County Courthouse at 836 Austin Street in Hempstead.

For more information about dates and times, call 936-857-4310, 936-857-2797 for faxes, or you may contact klgordon@pvamu.edu.

THE PANTHER

THE OFFICIAL STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY

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Black college papers face problems of interference, lack of commitment

By Jameya Porter and
Ayesha Rascoe
Black College Wire

Uncommitted staffers, interference by the administration and infrequent publishing are among the primary problems faced by newspapers at historically black colleges, according to editors and advisers who discussed those issues Feb. 8 to 11 at the 2006 HBCU Newspaper Conference and Job Fair.

Those factors can impede student journalists as they prepare for their careers. The conference drew 162 students from 20 schools to North Carolina A&T State University in Greensboro. Media professionals and students shared ideas there for improving the newspapers and confronting those obstacles.

"We have to tell the truth, whether it's ugly or whether it's pretty," said Jennifer Jiggetts, editor in chief of *Norfolk State University's Spartan Echo* newspaper. "They think we're supposed to be a [public relations] tool," Jiggetts said, referring to officials at the Virginia school.

While she said the *Spartan Echo* staff might be a little more "fortunate" financially than those at other historically black colleges -- some cannot afford to publish weekly and have little equipment -- Jiggetts said some members of *Norfolk State's* administration tend to be uncooperative and apprehensive when asked to provide information for the stories in the paper.

"The newspaper's purpose is to inform people," she said. "They don't understand the dynamics of the paper," such as the difference between opinion and news articles. Students related several examples.

A front-page note in the Feb. 8 issue of the *A&T Register* alerted readers that a school official insisted on approving quotes to be used. The official also asked to read the reporter's story in advance of publication; the note told readers that this would violate newspaper policy.

At a session about the First Amendment, student editors from Lincoln University of Missouri alleged that an administrator there threatened

the newspaper's funding if she continued to be questioned for a popular opinion feature called "21 Questions."

At Hampton University this month, officials tried to convince the *Hampton Script* that it did not have a story when a site team visit resulted in a recommendation of a two-year provisional accreditation for the Scripps Howard School of Journalism and Communications. The *Script* wrote the story anyway.

Some student reporters said officials refuse to talk to them about stories of interest to students. "How are you going to talk to the local paper and not talk to us -- the students -- and we're the ones paying you?" Jiggetts asked.

The A&T Register of North Carolina A&T faces a different conflict.

The Register's editor in chief traditionally has been chosen by a board of people within the university's journalism department or connected with it. However, a proposed new selection process would make the choice part of student government elections.

That would give the entire student body an opportunity to choose the editor. Erica Franklin, the A&T Register's interim editor in chief, said it might also be a way for the student government to control the paper, as a popularly elected editor would be a representative of student government.

In addition to administration-related controversies, some newspapers at historically black colleges wrestle with putting the paper out in a timely manner.

This affects the students' education: With most historically black college newspapers publishing only monthly, bimonthly, weekly, or inconsistently, students' lack of experience in daily news coverage becomes an issue, said Marquita Smith, faculty adviser to the *Spartan Echo*. This puts HBCU students at a disadvantage when competing with students at predominantly white institutions for internships and jobs.

Among HBCU newspapers, the most frequently published are the *Hilltop* at Howard University, a daily, the *Famuan*

at Florida A&M University, which publishes three times a week; and the *Southern Digest*, a twice-weekly.

Many factors prevent daily publishing, including a shortage of staff, as in the case of the *Tiger's Roar*, the newspaper of Savannah State University.

Last semester, Oneisha Freeman and two other students took on the responsibility of producing the *Tiger's Roar* after the paper went on a hiatus attributed to lack of student participation. The publication has had only two issues for the 2005-06 school year, one per semester, said Freeman, the paper's photo editor.

"We're in a really great place to have a great newspaper; we just have to do it," Freeman said.

The staff of Dillard University's *Courtbouillon*, silenced when the school suffered almost \$400 million in damages from Hurricane Katrina last year, faces even greater adversity.

Fortunately, the newspaper office and computers were spared, according to Rebecca K. Roussel, the new editor in chief. Roussel temporarily attended Southern University while Dillard was closed during the fall, and at Southern she was business and technology editor of the *Southern Digest*. Roussel decided to return to Dillard in the spring. After assessing the severity of the situation and attending a professor's session on the media's role in covering Hurricane Katrina, Roussel decided the students needed a voice.

"I came back to Dillard because I felt that it was part of my duty in rebuilding New Orleans," she said during a workshop on the hurricane at the newspaper conference.

Roussel, the only representative of Dillard's paper at the assembly, said the *Courtbouillon* -- which used to publish bimonthly -- will return initially with two issues per school session. Dillard reopened in January on an accelerated-semester schedule, fitting in two sessions between January and June to help seniors catch up who could not attend school in the fall.

Another newspaper still feeling the backlash of Ka-

trina is the *Gramblinite* of Grambling University. Wendell Graves, editor in chief, said Katrina-related budget cuts affect his newspaper staff's ability to attend more journalism-related conferences and other events, and to have more of the equipment needed to keep the paper running smoothly.

Many student newspapers also struggle to recruit staff. Reporters who are uncommitted or inconsistent present a problem, editors said.

"You have students who like journalism and want to be in the field," said Graves, "but they don't like to work -- they don't have the work ethic it takes to be a journalist."

Despite the publishing issues, student journalists can still succeed, said Derick Hackett, student media director and adviser for the *Southern Digest* at Southern University in Baton Rouge.

"You have to take advantage of what your school offers," said Hackett. For example, the *Southern Digest* is printed only twice a week, so the staff publishes stories online as events occur. According to Hackett, the *Southern Digest* often beats the local news media in sports coverage by posting its stories immediately after the event.

Smith, the *Spartan Echo* adviser, also suggested students make the most of their resources.

"If you're going to be biweekly, you have to make it special. Go beyond the basics," she said. Specifically, Smith suggested that students write more investigative and second-day stories.

The challenges are not unquarable. Several newspapers collected awards during the conference's "Excellence in Journalism" awards banquet.

The *Southern Digest* and the *Meter* at Tennessee

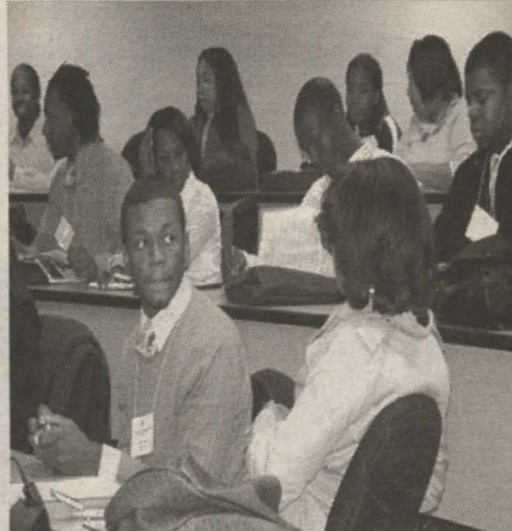


Photo credit: Mike McCray/A&T Register

Justin Thompson of Hampton University networks before a workshop at the HBCU Newspaper Conference, which drew 162 students, primarily from historically black colleges and universities.

State University collected Best Student Newspaper honors in the contest, which is sponsored by the Black College Communication Association. The newspapers' accomplishments in 25 categories, including outstanding news coverage, layout and design, photography and online journalism, served as evidence that success is possible.

At workshops on writing, media convergence and other topics, participants exchanged ideas for solving their newspapers' problems. Students also networked with newspaper professionals and recruiters, and applied for internships at a job fair held by the American Society of Newspaper Editors.

"As HBCU newspapers, we have a responsibility to a legacy and it seems our voice has been stifled," said Solomon Lincoln Jr., editor in chief of the *Spokesman* of Morgan State University. "We have to renew that pride by working together and forming alliances: sharing ideas, looking at what makes each paper strong, sharing our best practices so that we all shine."

Jameya Porter is a print journalism senior at North Carolina A&T State University and online editor of the *A&T Register*. Ayesha Rascoe is a print journalism junior at Howard University and campus editor of the *Hilltop*.

Toastmasters at PVAMU Miss Black and Gold is crowned

By Sharonda Peals
Panther Staff

PVAMU's Toastmasters Chapter held a seminar titled "Voices of Distinction," hosted by Dr. Henri Bailey of the Business Management Department.

The Toastmasters Club main priority is to help individuals conquer their phobias about public speaking. The organization is open to all individuals on campus including faculty, staff, as well as students.

Founded at PVAMU in 1990, this gavel chapter decries that its members are to give public speeches without

fear, keep the mistakes to a minimum, and have fun doing it. Once members become comfortable with the craft, they may attend regional meetings as well as participate in competitions. Current member and student Travis Brock stated that, "It is an important club to be apart of if you want a career in any kind of public speaking, politics and broadcasting to name a few."

Dr. Bailey says that "Many people enjoy being apart of the toastmasters chapter because they enjoy speaking before the public and the comradery."

Hundreds of businesses sponsor their own toastmasters' chapters within their

companies to help improve upon their employees public speaking abilities. Making the opportunity to network with other organizations another benefit of membership.

Every meeting opens with a prayer from one of the members. The Toastmaster is the individual who runs the meetings and the Table Topics Master poses several topics discussed throughout the meeting. A timekeeper ensures that each person's speeches are less than three minutes. After all of the topics have been discussed, each speaker is critiqued to help them learn from their mistakes and become more advanced public speakers.

By DeTorsha Brunson
Panther Staff

Jessica Waiters, 19, exhibited all the qualities of a true queen as she won the title of Miss Black and Gold last Thursday in the MSC auditorium.



Photo by Evan White

The brothers of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity hosted the 31st annual scholarship pageant showcasing seven very talented young ladies as the

fraternity celebrated its 100th year in existence.

The pageant opened with an intricate dance number that followed the theme of the competition, and with attention to detail, the seven contestants mesmerized the audience, proving that they were all deserving of the prestigious title, Miss Black and Gold.

As the winner of the pageant, there will be many opportunities for Waiters to network, and meet many important people who could very well open their

doors in the years to come.

Runner up Tegest Tadesse said, "I would like to thank the men of Alpha Phi Alpha for giving me the opportunity of a lifetime." The competition consisted of three segments-swimsuit, talent, evening wear, and question and answer- all which helped the judges determine the most well rounded and deserving young lady. There were many diverse talents presented by each contestant, including singing, dancing, and inspiration poetry. After each lady showed her physical beauty and talent, there was the question and answer portion of the competition. Each contestant was asked one question and was expected to give the best answer. Freshman Chante Cooper said, "Each of these ladies looked great in their formal gowns, and it just goes to show you that not only can you be beautiful but also smart."

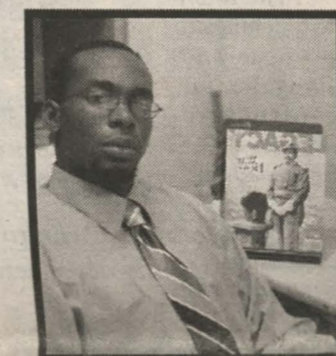
As the crowd sat and depicted which ladies they wanted and felt should win, it was clear that the contestants had become very positive role models, not only for their peers but generations to come. Royshyra Ford, a freshman nursing major said, "I felt that overall the pageant was great and productive."

SGA speaks out

By Oludayo Olusanya
SGA President

Hello Panthers! Financial Aid Awareness Week is coming to an end this Friday. Become familiar with the financial aid office and the process by attending the remainder of their posted events. There are only two

weeks remaining in Prairie View A&M University's Black History Month Celebration! Continue to read the calendar of events and participate as much as possible. The Student Government Association office is always open to voice your opinions and ideas. Contact us at 936-857-2220 or at sga@pvamu.edu.



Traces of Elegance

Memorial Student Center
Ballroom

Stroke
of
Seven

Thursday
February 16, 2006

Sponsored
by
BB
BACK TO BASICS

Pick Up FREE Invitation
MSC Rm 221

Attire Specifications on
Reverse Side

Black Tie Optional

Black Tie Optional is one of the various forms of attire that you might be asked to wear to an event. Black Tie Optional asks that you dress in a formal fashion to best suit the event. The following options are available for both males and females.

Male

A Tuxedo
or
A Dark Suit
with a Tie

Female

A Cocktail Dress,
A Long Dress,
or
Dressy Evening
Separates

Booze lands gay bishop in rehab

Associated Press

The Episcopal Church's first openly gay bishop, V. Gene Robinson, has started treatment for alcoholism.

"I am writing to you from an alcohol treatment center where on February 1, with the encouragement and support of my partner, daughters and colleagues, I checked myself in to deal with my increasing dependence on alcohol," Robinson wrote in an e-mail to clergy Monday that was released Tuesday by the Diocese of New Hampshire.

Robinson's assistant, the Rev. Tim Rich, said Tuesday there was no crisis that led to Robinson's decision to seek treatment but rather a growing awareness of his problem.

In his letter, Robinson said he had been dealing with alcoholism for years and had considered it "as a failure of will or discipline on my part, rather than a disease over which my particular body simply has no control, except to stop drinking altogether."

Rich said the news surprised

him and many other clergy.

"We did not see it in any way impact his ministry in the diocese," Rich said.

The Rev. David Jones, rector of Robinson's home church, St. Paul's in Concord, said he had never seen any sign that Robinson had a problem with alcohol.

Robinson was elected bishop of New Hampshire in 2003 and confirmed by the national church, causing an upheaval not only in the Episcopal Church, but the worldwide Anglican Communion of which it is part.

He will spend four weeks in rehabilitation. Spokesman Mike Barwell said the diocese would not disclose the location.

In the Episcopal Church system, such matters are handled within the diocese. Between sessions of the diocesan convention, the "standing committee," an elected panel of priests and lay parishioners, normally decides supervision of the diocese during a bishop's absence and other questions regarding his administration. The national church gets involved only in rare cases of formal charges involving

misconduct.

The diocese's standing committee said its members support Robinson "and we commend him for his courageous example to us all, as we pray daily for him and for his ministry among us."

In addition to touching off protests and struggles for control and property in the Episcopal and other Anglican churches, Robinson has found himself a celebrity.

At New York's gay pride parade last spring, marchers and spectators crowded around him for more than three hours, reaching out to touch his hand, crying

and thanking him.

"It sounds soap-operaish to say, but I'm the son of a tobacco sharecropper who didn't live in a house with running water until I

was 10 years old. I can't believe I'm here, you know. So I find it very difficult to be anything but grateful," he said after the parade last year.



The Bishop: V. Gene Robinson confessed to clergy that he had an "increasing dependence on alcohol."

Woman accused of cutting off baby's arms wanted to 'give the baby to God'

Associated Press

A woman accused of killing her infant daughter by cutting off the girl's arms had said a few days earlier that she wanted to "give the baby to God," her husband testified Tuesday.

Dena Schlosser, 37, was leaving church about a week before the girl's November 2004 death when she said she wanted to give Maggie to pastor Doyle Davidson, John Schlosser said.

"She said, 'I want to give the baby to Doyle.' She said 'I want to give the baby to God,'" said Schlosser, who has filed for divorce.

He also testified at his wife's murder trial that she showed other disturbing behavior following Maggie's birth -- including cutting her own wrists with scissors -- but that he didn't worry too much or take her to counseling. John Schlosser said she had had bouts with depression after the birth of

their other two daughters.

The testimony came on the second day of Dena Schlosser's murder trial, which hinges on whether she knew right from wrong. Prosecutors are not seeking the death penalty.

The defense has entered a plea of not guilty by reason of insanity.



Innocent sacrifice: Dana Schlosser pleads insanity after cutting off the arms of her 10-month-old daughter.

Dena Schlosser was arrested in 2004 after she told a 911 operator she had severed her baby's arms. Police found Schlosser in the living room, covered in blood, still holding a knife.

On Monday, she slumped forward and stared at her hands

as prosecutors played jurors the recording of the 911 call.

"Exactly what happened?" 911 operator Steve Edwards asked.

"I cut her arms off," Schlosser replied as a gospel song played in the background.

After her arrest,

Schlosser was diagnosed with manic depression. In February 2005, a jury deliberated only a few minutes before deciding Schlosser was mentally incompetent to stand trial and she was committed to North Texas State Hospital. But in May, a judge decided Schlosser was competent.

Her two surviving daughters, ages 6 and 9, are in their father's custody.

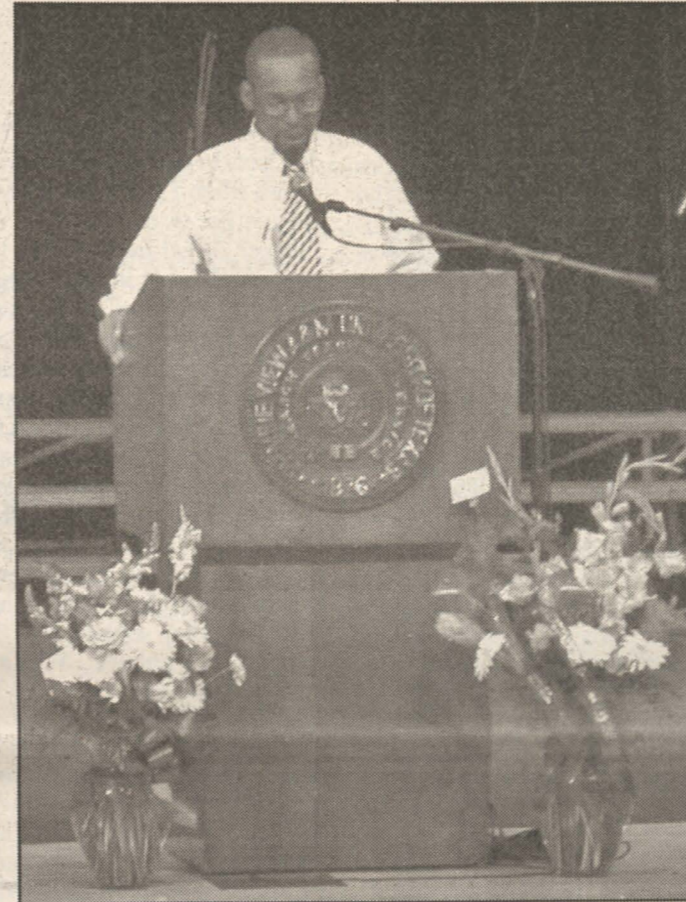
Schlosser had been accused of child neglect in the months before Margaret's death, but a state investigation found she did not pose a risk to the 10-month-old or her other two daughters.

Texas' troubled Child Protective Services came under intense scrutiny after a number of high-profile child abuse deaths, including the Schlosser case.

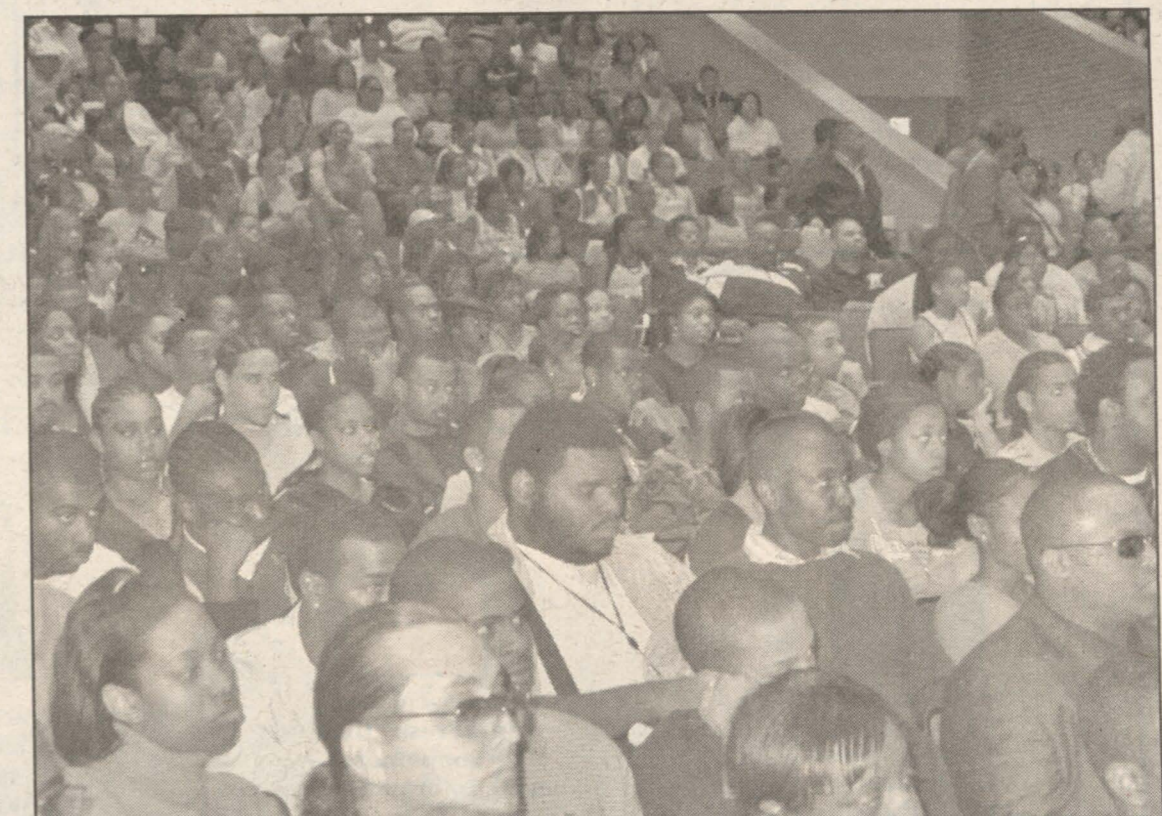
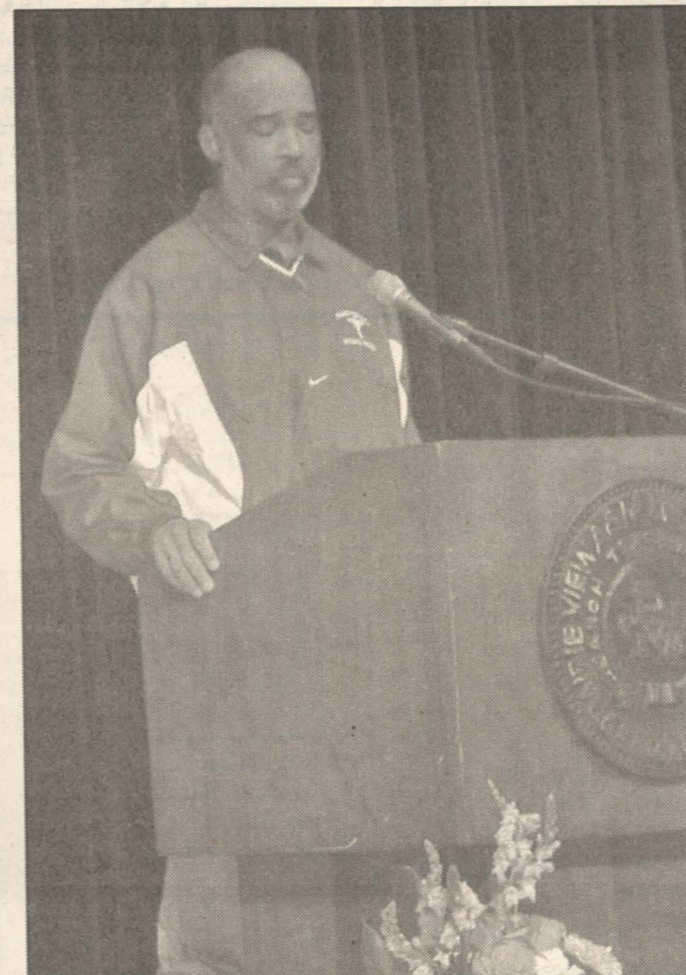
The Health and Human Services Commission, which oversees CPS, laid out more than 160 recommendations last year to overhaul the agency.

Celebrating the lives of two Panthers

Memorial service held Thursday, Feb. 9, in the MSC to honor 'Twan' and 'Trinidad'



Photographs and old football jerseys were displayed on stage in loving memory of Antwan McKinney and Lamond Foster.



Students filled the auditorium to remember their fellow Panthers.

Letters to the editor

Quick to point the finger

I want to know if *The Panther* could do a further investigation about Antwan and Lamond's accident. According to News 2 Houston (Channel 2) the accident occurred in the westbound lanes. (website: <http://www.click2houston.com/news/6904680/detail.html>) If this is so, how can Harris County Deputies make the accusation that Antwan and Lamond were in the wrong? Westbound would be going out towards PV and East would be going into Houston. It was reported that Antwan and Lamond were coming back to campus from a Superbowl Party in Houston. This meant they would be traveling westbound

and the accident was on the westbound side, so tell me who's in the wrong? Then, why deputies have yet to release the name of the young woman in the other vehicle? Evidently somebody must be paying a good chunk of change to keep her name hushed because it would have been nothing for deputies to run the license plate or VIN number on the car or even check the glove compartment for insurance information. And.... by now I'm sure SOMEBODY has put an APB out for her if she "has no identity." I honestly think there is a need for a more in-depth investigation as to why these questions have not been answered. In my opinion, the parents should press the issue and finally get the facts straight.

Even when the first news report hit the air, deputies were so quick to point out that Antwan and Lamond were "students from Prairie View." We've heard everything about them and nothing about the young woman. The toxicology reports haven't come in and accusations have already been made. All I'm saying is this mess doesn't add up and accusations should not be made until all evidence is in and has been thoroughly evaluated. Giving these guys, their families, and our university bad names in vain is something that the entire Prairie View Panther family should be fighting to protect us from. What do you think?

Frustrated Student

Student learns to live and love after loss

Losing a loved one is hard. Losing a loved one with whom you have an unresolved circumstance can be one of the most devastating events in life. I, as well as many other fellow students, have had the tragic experience of losing a fellow classmate and friend. I have unfortunately had the experience of losing a friend without resolving our differences. My newfound mission in life is to smile at those who frown and to speak to those who turn away

because I never know if that is going to be the last time I see them. My mother used to tell me living life without regard for others was a huge gamble. She would say, "If I am wrong and God and heaven do not exist, then what will you lose by treating people right. If I am right and God does exist, then you lose your soul."

These past events have made me realize that I am never too young and it is never too early for my time to be finished. I am never too young and it is never

too early for me to respect and love those who surround me. Love, unfortunately, seems to be much of what this university lacks. Do we really need to know one another to love one another? Is your soul really worth hating someone to the death? I could say stop the violence, increase the peace, or stop the hate, but that would be quite cliché. I do believe, however, that if we learn to love we will learn to live.

Enlightened

What's the real dirt on campus?

A comprehensive list of questions from the student body.

What is the smell on campus? Why is the rent going up but there are no improvements? Why doesn't the hot water work in the Village? Why don't the emergency call boxes work? Why do we pay to eat but the food doesn't change? Why don't we hear about information from school instead of the news? Why were there only five people at the student fee increase meeting? Why don't the shuttles run both ways? Why are the shuttles one right behind the other? Why do you have to pay to use facilities on campus? Why don't we get our OP before school starts? Why do we have to use Sodexo to get food? Why does the shuttle stop at 4:45? Why does Sodexo close at 5? Who stole the mouse balls from the computer lab? Why don't the lights stay on around the track and the loop? Why don't the computers work in the MSC? Why are we paying for health services and pay for checkups and shots? Why do we have SWAC champs playing on old courts? Why doesn't the Dr. come in before lunch time? When are we going to get these answers? Why do the football players get so much money and don't win? Why did the band's budget decrease this year? Why do they charge you for an I.D. fee twice? What's the one dollar international fee? Why do they increase the library fee and close earlier? Where are the color printers? Why does Ms. Pat charge a dollar to punch in I.D. numbers? Why should you have to pay to park where you pay rent? Why do four people pay 408 to stay in the closet? Why is everybody else's Spring Fest and homecoming better than ours? Why is there mold in the Phases

and will they pay for our medical bills? Why aren't more student hourly jobs available? Why do four different people pay four separate light bills? Why do they close the gates by the Phases at night? Who is the whino behind the desk in financial aid? Why can't we get a Panther debit card? Why can't the freshmen get more than a fridge when they pay more than the Village? Why are we wasting water? Why is the fountain so dirty? Why don't we get color printer access? Why can't I drink the water in my room without getting sick? Why do I have to pay 10 cents to make copies when I pay a library fee? Why is the water brown in the Village? What happened to the preview channel in the Village? Are they planning on renovating the laundromat? Why does it take so long to replace department heads and faculty members? Why do we get only \$5 for dry cleaning? Why does it take so long to put up a parking lot? Why do we have teachers that can't speak English? Why are the police so rude, take forever to arrive, and don't do anything? Why are they always on the company cell phone? Why are professors getting raises? Why do police sexually harass when they should be helping? Why do all the high GPA people not get scholarships? Why are there high school football fields that are better than ours? Why can't we transfer our points? Why doesn't maintenance fix things? Why does the Panther Mart cost so much, and not have what we want, and the shuttle won't take us to Wal-Mart? Why won't people answer the phone during the summer in Financial Aid? Why are the people at lunch in Financial Aid at 3:30? Why is the Financial Aid voice mail always full?

Continued on page 15

SPORTS

EDITED BY RASHAD MORGAN RMORGAN@PVAMI.EDU

Panthers upset number two ranked Tigers

By Rashad Morgan
Sports Editor

Great teams are built around one concept: teamwork. The Prairie View Panther (4-19, 1-11) basketball team showed exactly that this past Monday, versus the Grambling State Tigers (11-9, 9-4). The Panthers played well on both ends of the floor leading them to a 72-68 victory.

With this win, the Panthers ended a twelve game losing streak, and earned the first conference win against a number two ranked Tiger squad.

In their last meeting, the Panthers lost to the Tigers 67-74 at Memorial Gymnasium.

Monday, the Panthers got off to a slow start in the first half, but remained consistent on both ends of the court instead of giving up easy baskets and turning the ball over. At the end of the first half the Panthers shot thirty-seven percent from the floor but remained in striking distance of the Tigers, lagging behind by only five points.

The Panther defense held the conference's leading scorer, Brion Rush to only nine points in the first half.

In the second half, the Panthers came out seemingly more determined to ruin the Tigers' hopes of a road win.

The Panthers began to double the Tiger tandem of Rush and Andre' Ratliff more, and began to force more turnovers. The Panthers forced the Tigers to turn the ball over 20 times.

Once the Panthers caught the lead, the Tigers were unable to regain it, despite missed freethrows late in the half.

The Panthers took the game 72-68. Oscar Thompson and Dominique Sharpe led the Panthers with 15 points each.

Prairie View's defense and better shot selection led them to victory. The Panthers shot fifty-six percent from the field in the second half and held Rush to 18 points.

Andre' Ratliff led all Tiger scorers with 20 points.

The Panthers will next face Mississippi Valley State February 18. The Delta Devils are ranked seventh in the conference and with this new found confidence in the Panther squad, it looks like we will come home with a victory.



Photo by Evan White

Crashing the boards: Junior forward, Adenilson Clementino, lays the ball in for two points, Monday versus Grambling State.

Upcoming Events

Basketball

Men
2/18 @ Ark. Pine Bluff 7:30pm
2/20 @ Miss. Valley State 7:30pm
2/25 vs. Alabama A&M 7:30pm

Women
2/18 @ Ark. Pine Bluff 5:30pm
2/20 @ Miss. Valley State 5:30pm
2/25 vs. Alabama A&M 5:30pm

Baseball

2/17 @ Texas State 6:30pm
2/18 @ Texas State 2:00pm
2/25 @ Texas South. 12:00pm

Softball

2/17 @ UT-Arlington 11:00am
2/17 @ James Madison 6:30pm
2/18 @ Wichita State 10:00am
2/25 vs. Univ. of Texas San Antonio 1:00pm

Track & Field

Men
2/24-26 SWAC Indoor Championships

Women
2/24-26 SWAC Indoor Championships

Basketball Standings

Men

Southern	11-2, 12-11
Grambling State	9-4, 11-9
Jackson State	8-5, 12-13
Alabama State	7-5, 9-14
Alabama A&M	6-6, 8-10
Alcorn State	6-7, 6-16
Miss. Valley State	6-7, 6-16
Ark. Pine Bluff*	5-8, 8-13
Texas Southern	4-8, 6-18
Prairie View	1-11, 4-19

Women

Southern	10-3, 13-9
Jackson State	10-3, 12-11
Alabama State	8-4, 11-10
Miss. Valley State	8-5, 12-10
Alabama A&M	6-6, 10-11
Alcorn State	6-7, 8-13
Grambling State	5-8, 9-11
Ark. Pine-Bluff**	5-8, 6-16
Prairie View	4-8, 5-17
Texas Southern	1-11, 3-18

*Men's basketball next opponent
**Women's basketball next opponent

PURPLE & GOLD POLL

Do you feel safe on campus?



Yes, because God is my protection. I fear no man
-Danielle Stokes
Junior
Criminal Justice



Yeah, I'm good.
-Jim "Fresh" Dickson
Sophomore
Managing Information Systems



Not really because a lot of things are happening on campus and it makes me uneasy.
-Kayla Evans
Sophomore
Biology



Yes, I do.
-Marcus King
Junior
Criminal Justice

Evan White

EAST vs. WEST: Houston hosts all-star game



By Rashad Morgan
Sports Editor

This year's NBA all-star game is set to take place this weekend in Houston, TX. Over the years, the all-star game has developed in to a weekend full of events that build up to the big game which features the top ranked players in the eastern conference versus the top ranked players in the western conference.

The eastern conference ended its three game skid last year by defeating the west 125-115. Allen Iverson was named the games MVP after scoring 15 points, handing out nine assists, and contributing on defense with five steals. This was the first all-star game since 1981, which did not produce a 20 point scorer.

This will be the third time in the all-star game's 54-year history that the event will take place in Texas. The last and only time Houston played host to this event was in 1989. During that game, Utah's Karl Malone and John Stockton helped the

favorite with one of the best all-star game starting line-ups within the past few years. Their starters are: Allen Iverson, Dwayne Wade, LeBron James, Jermaine O'Neal, and Shaquille O'Neal. The rest of the players representing the east are: Gilbert Arenas, Chauncey Billups, Chris Bosh, Vince Carter, Richard Hamilton, Paul Pierce, Ben Wallace, and Rasheed Wallace.

The western conference is led by the leagues leading scorer, Kobe Bryant, who is averaging a monstrous 35.2 points per game and who recently scored 81 points, the second highest total in NBA history, against Toronto in late January. The other four starters for the west are: Steve Nash, Tracy McGrady, Tim Duncan, and Yao Ming. Ray Allen, Elton Brand, Pau Gasol, Shawn Marion, Dirk Nowitzki, and Tony Parker are the other players representing the western conference.

The game Sunday is the highlight of the weekend, but there are events held that will be held tonight, Friday and Saturday to keep the avid NBA fans interest until then.

One of the most anticipated pre-game events is the slam dunk competition. Last years slam dunk champion, Memphis' Josh Smith will defend his title against three young high-flyers: Andre Iguadala, Nate Robinson, and Hakeem

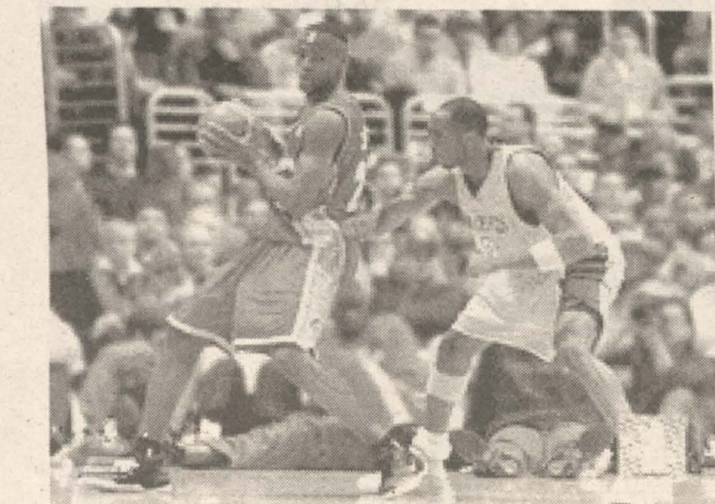


Photo courtesy of Associated Press

Who's MVP: Veteran all-star, Kobe Bryant, hopes to lead the west to victory, but the league's man-child, 6-8, 245, LeBron James stands in his way.

western conference cruise to a 143-134 victory in the Astrodome. Karl Malone was selected as the game's MVP, scoring 28 points and garnishing nine rebounds. Chicago's Michael Jordan led the eastern conference with 28 points.

This year the eastern conference has to be the heavy

Warrick. New York's Quentin Richardson looks to defend his three point shootout title this year against the league's best behind the arch. Vying for the title are former champion Ray Allen, Dirk Nowitzki, Jason Terry, Chauncey Billups, and Raja Bell.

Are You Worthy to Wear this Crown?



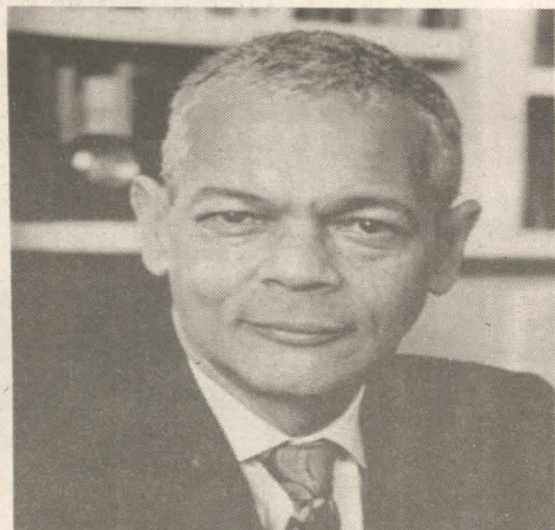
Announcing
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Student Activities and Leadership Web Page

Please complete and turn in your application to Dean Charles H. Lewter, IV
located in the Johnson Phillip All Faiths Chapel.

Application Deadline February 28, 2006

Prairie View A&M University presents



"An Evening with Julian Bond"

Memorial Student Center Auditorium
Wednesday, March 1, 2006

6:00 p.m.

Reception following program
Memorial Student Center Foyer, 2nd Floor

For more information, call Student Activities & Leadership call 936-857-2018

FAMU athletics placed on four years probation

Black College Wire

Rubin Carter, Florida A&M University's football head coach, sat somewhat restlessly at a Feb. 1 news conference alongside Mike Gillespie, the men's head basketball coach. They awaited the NCAA's final decision on more than 200 violations in all-university sports from 1998 to 2004.

The verdict: The NCAA's Division 1 Committee on Infractions has placed the athletic department on four years' probation ending Jan. 31, 2010, among other penalties.

The 10-member committee cited a "lack of institutional control," in addition to the violations.

The committee also found "insufficient evidence" to support an allegation against former head football coach Billy Joe, who was removed from his position in June. Joe has filed suit against the university. At the time of his dismissal, the winningest coach in school history had two years left on his contract, at an annual base salary of \$135,000.

Part of the punishment is a reduction in grants and aid to all FAMU sports, newly appointed Athletic Director Nelson Townsend announced.

Baseball grants are to be reduced by three, beginning this season. Grants in men's and women's swimming and women's track -- reduced by

two. Men's and women's basketball, men's track and field, bowling, softball and volleyball are to each lose one grant beginning this year. Women's track loses an additional grant in 2006-07.

Football was hit hardest, losing 14 grants in all. Six have already been taken away. The remaining eight are to be subtracted over the next three years, ending at the conclusion of the 2008-09 season.

As a result of the penalties, practice time for the football team is to be reduced by 20 hours.

The violations surfaced after an earlier investigation, prompting the university to hastily enact a harsh self-imposed penalty, cutting numerous scholarships and prohibiting post-season play.

In the aftermath of that discovery, the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) stripped FAMU of 11 conference titles.

Nevertheless, the setbacks, made official the day of the news conference, sounded like sweet music to coaches and athletic department officials in attendance.

Most expected things to turn out a lot worse.

Townsend credited Interim FAMU President Castell V. Bryant for working in conjunction with NCAA officials to reduce the self-imposed penalty to "what we would consider realistic to the crime that had been committed."

"Even though the penalties are serious, they by no

means rank in accordance with the self-imposed penalties that you heard in the past," said Townsend.

"And the dreaded results many of us hesitantly looked forward to did not become a reality."

A feeling of relief resonated throughout the cramped room.

"This really helped our program move forward," said Carter of the new ruling.

"The loss of 28 scholarships would have been athletic suicide. We never would have been able to survive that. Football would have been dead."

You could hear the men's basketball team celebrating down the hallway that runs from Gaither Gymnasium to the Rattlers locker room.

Coach Gillespie's Rattlers, who are 6-3 in the MEAC, are now eligible to compete in the MEAC and the NCAA tournaments if they win the conference.

The previous penalties had affected recruiting. The men's basketball team signed three junior college transfers, but has not been able to go out and actively recruit any high school

players. On Feb. 1, national signing day for college football, the Rattlers inked 21 prep prospects for next year's squad.

The violations were a result of what the NCAA described as an understaffed and inadequately funded compliance department under former compliance director Jonathan Evans.

The entire department has been revamped since. Evans has been replaced by Marilyn Jones, a former official in the University of South Carolina's athletic department.

The department's staff includes a compliance coordinator and four athletic advisers. Townsend also said the university will be holding compliance training sessions for the entire athletic depart-

ment. The changes "are going to make all the difference



Photo courtesy of Black College Wire

In the hot seat: Newly appointed FAMU athletic director, Nelson Townsend, announced that a majority of the department's punishment would be a deduction in grants.

in the world," Bryant said. "We're not going to have this problem again. We're moving forward."



The Answers

Weekly Update for Freshmen

PARTICIPATE IN BLACK HISTORY MONTH ACTIVITIES!!



You must have a grade of 'C' (OR 'S') or better in your developmental class (es) at mid-terms to be able to pre-register for summer or fall 2006.

Check out the following URL: <http://calendars.pvamu.edu/> for information about our Quick THEA testing schedule or call 936/857-2747.

UC SHARES THE UNIVERSITY'S SORROW AT THE LOSS OF TWO FINE PANTHERS ANTWAN MCKINNEY AND LAMOND FOSTER

Bldg #35 will be hosting a "Relationship Panel" on February 26th that will focus on modern day relationships
Bldg #39 will host a "Rap-a-Taste" session on Academic Success in collaboration with their Faculty Fellow, Dr. Tau Kadhi
The UC Talent Show will be held on March 8, 2006. Practices will be held February 20, 28 and March 7th.

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ASK FOR SPECIALS

Edit this



LaCheryl E. Whitlow
L/H and A/E Editor

was excited to write essays and term papers.

As a psychology and criminal justice major my ideas regarding humanistic behaviors and the concept of the law began to slowly transform me into a more dogmatic thinker by fueling my thirst for written expression. Then came the day I didn't get the memo regarding everything I thought I knew about writing. Apparently, whatever I learned in an English class or two has nothing to do with the dynamics of newspaper writing.

While many of my peers join Greek organizations I run off to pledge the ever so great, critically acclaimed, Panther newspaper staff. Being here has forced me to take the bitter with the sweet. Although I would never trade the skills

I'm not sure what motivated me to enter the office of student publications last semester but I haven't been able to exit the doors since. I've been writing poetry, short stories, and song lyrics since I can remember and when I came to college (this sounds a little geekish) I

The medical corner: The importance of stretching



Prof. Dennis E. Daniels,
MPH, Dr. PH and
Nichole Liggins
Medical Correspondents

ing put under stress. When a muscle is put under stress, the fibers contract and shortens to respond to the loading force until enough tension builds up and the muscle begins to return to its normal, relaxed, length. Because of this phenomenon, it is extremely important to thoroughly stretch your muscles before and after engaging in any athletic activity.

Stretching is a very important maintenance exercise for weight bearing muscles. Although stretching is very important to those who lead an active lifestyle, it also has excellent benefits for those who are not as active. Stretching has proven to decrease muscle stiffness, improve muscle tone, increase range of motion (flexibility), improve circulation, reduce risk of injury, decrease lower back pain, improve posture, aid in the management of stress, and improve muscle efficiency and overall body performance.

In order for stretching to be efficient, it must be performed properly. Before beginning a stretching routine, the muscles should be properly warmed-up. This can be done with a low intensity exercise such as a brisk walk, cycling, or stair climbing. Once the muscles are warmed-

During a work-out, whether it is cardiovascular or strength training, your muscles are be-

or networking system that I've acquired as being a writer and copy editor for *The Panther*, for the world (well to be frank I do have a sell out price) I would not be telling the truth if I didn't admit that this has been my most challenging job I've ever had.

Initially, I never fathomed being here as long as I have been but I'm glad I stuck around. Being a member of the Panther staff has become a passion for me. I've become a better communicator, more expressive, and more susceptible to change. As the new editor of Lifestyles & Health and Arts & Entertainment I would like to thank the entire Panther Staff for the opportunity to work with such an awesome team of talented and professional people. I'm glad to be a part of this staff.

LIFESTYLES & HEALTH

EDITED BY LaCheryl E. Whitlow lwhitlow@PANTHER.EDU

Do female students really study more than male students

Chineka Jones and Shannon Watkins
Black College Wire

Last spring, female undergraduates at the school had an average GPA of 2.72 compared with 2.46 for their male counterparts, according to the university's office of Research, Evaluation and Planning. Ask any professor and you'll hear a good reason: "Females study much better than males," said physics professor Kinney Kim. This is consistent with a recent nationwide survey that found differences between the study habits of male and female students. It was conducted for the Association of American Publishers by Student Monitor, a research agency based in Ridgewood, N.J. Female students study more and they study better, according to the report.

Male students tend to skim what they read, while women are 23 percent more likely to read their assignment closely. "As a study technique, I read my book thoroughly and write down what I think is important," said Micha Davis, a freshman studying psychology. The Student Monitor report surveyed 1,800 undergraduate students attending community colleges and public and private universities. It showed that female students more often study harder, earn better grades and graduate on time. According to the report, female students are 35 percent more likely to study daily, and they are 20 percent more likely to study 15 hours a week or more. Davis' study habits are consistent with these findings. She said she studies 10 hours a week. "I study two hours a day," said Hillary Sherrill, a mass communication senior.

But several male students said they studied only four or five hours a week. Men study one-third less than women, according to the report. "I personally retain more in a less amount of time," said James Knight, a junior majoring in English. Students at North Carolina Central and at Jackson State University have several theories about these differences. "Males are workers, not thinkers," said Jeremy Russell, a junior at North Carolina Central majoring in mass communication. Female students have fewer distractions

and are more concerned with grades," said Narissa Smitherman, a North Carolina Central junior studying mass communication. Smitherman said she likes to study at the Barnes & Noble bookstore, where it is quiet. "Females study more because they care more in general," said Shelby Gilliard, a junior in mass communication at the same school. "Males are less organized." But not all agreed with the study's conclusions.

At Jackson State, Pierre Fields, a freshman social work major from Chicago, said, "For centuries men have" headed "and are still head of majority of business" and "government positions and if you think about it, it takes studying and being focused to get to these positions." Amanda Rouse, a freshman biology major at Jackson State from Sardis, Miss., said, "I believe it's 50-50, because I have noticed that some freshmen girls like to party four days out of a week. The freshmen guys may party on a Friday or Saturday and Sunday, they may go to church, do some laundry, and do a little studying." Tori Cousins, a freshman mass communications major from Jackson, Miss., said, "I don't study at all, but I still do well and the guys I know don't study either and some do well and others don't." Others said the study sounded credible.

"Girls study more to a certain extent, because they tend to worry more about their schoolwork and grades, where guys have the attitude either you know the class material or you don't," said Phillip Stewart, a freshman pre-med biology major at Jackson State from Lake Village Ark.

"If I call any of the girls that I'm friends with," said Corey Conerly at Jackson State, a freshman from Brooklyn, N.Y., "nine out of 10 times, they will be in the library or with a group of friends doing classwork or studying. And when it comes to reading books for class, you will find more guys asking girls about the given reading assignment and what it was about."

Chinese director calls movie immoral

By Min Lee
AP Entertainment Writer

The Web movie, produced by Internet prankster Hu Ge and titled "A Murder Sparked by a Chinese Bun," expands on the movie's premise that one of its main characters turned evil because he was cheated out of a Chinese bun as a child. "I think this is an approach that has lost the most basic moral bottom line," Chen said in an interview on the sidelines of the Berlin Film Festival, which appeared on the Chinese Web site Sina.com on Monday.

"The Promise," a US\$35 million (euro29 million) production, is a mythology about an ordinary girl transformed into a princess by a goddess on

the condition that she will never find true love. As a young girl, the princess cheats a future duke out of a bun. As an adult, the duke becomes one of her adversaries. "I think this (parody) has exceeded the normal bounds of issuing commentary and opinion.

It's an arbitrary alteration of someone else's intellectual property ... if (HuGe) made a movie, and people did this, how would he feel?" Chen said.

The director said he has asked his lawyer to look into the parody, but did not explain what sort of legal action he is considering. Meanwhile, Chen said he expects "The Promise" to make at least 210 million Chinese yuan (US\$26 million; euro22 million) at the Chinese box office—a considerable amount in China's developing movie market. He said the U.S. distribution rights have

been picked up by Warner Bros. and that it will show in U.S. theaters from May. Chen is best known for his art-house movies including "Yellow Earth" and "Farewell My Concubine," and "The Promise" is one of his first forays into commercial blockbusters.

In an apparent attempt to cultivate a pan-Asian market, he cast Japanese and South Korean actors in the movie.

"When we first started working as movie directors, there was no concept of market and you were not required to have a concept of market," he told Sina.com. "But when the market of concept suddenly appears before you, you have to face it ... I think it's very irresponsible to not consider market returns for a movie involving such a big investment."

Judge Judy on tough judicial love

By Lynn Elber
AP Television Writer

"You're drinking my tea?" she says to Jerry Sheindlin, her husband of 29 years, who's lurching alongside her during a production break on her court show. Not bothering to appeal, he stops pouring from her cup into his and returns the property to its rightful owner.

For Judy Sheindlin, marking her 10th season as the star of one of TV's top-rated syndicated shows, watched by 10 million people daily, enforcing justice is a full-time job. Her grandchildren may enjoy some slack; all others, watch out.

That unforgiving approach to small-claims disputes culled from courts nationwide is what draws viewers. When Phil McGraw barks at an errant spouse or parent on "Dr. Phil," he's reflecting the influence of Sheindlin's decade of TV toughness. Accept responsibility for what you do in everything," the former New York family court judge said in an interview. She was referring to her own expectation of how judges should behave and, in a more expansive view, the world.

Her unshakable mantra is personal responsibility. It's a position that played well when her show began and may be even more beguiling in a time vexed by the forces of war and terror. The real power is yours, Sheindlin tells us; who wouldn't want to believe?

The 63-year-old who reminds you she successfully raised five children and stepchildren will not brook excuses from those she sees as skirting their duties.

Petri Hawkins Byrd, who served as her bailiff in New York and cuts an imposing figure in the same role on TV, admires Sheindlin as "blunt, witty, sharp as a tack" and for her refusal to accept any nonsense. Would he want to come before her in court? "Hell, no," he said, laughing. "And I don't advise any of my friends to do so. Not if they want to maintain their love of the judicial system."

Sheindlin was scheduled to receive a special Valentine Day's treat: her star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. Also, she garnered a Daytime Emmy Awards nomination, her 10th overall, for the upcoming April ceremony. Sheindlin's popularity earns her a reported \$30 million yearly. She travels to work

by private jet from the Naples, Fla., home she shares with her husband, a retired judge who also did his time in a TV courtroom with "People's Court." She flies in every other week to Los Angeles for three days of taping.

Because the show draws from small-claims courts in which judgments generally are limited to no more than \$5,000, cases tend to involve the less affluent. But the show aims to be as "upscale as possible," Douthit said, avoiding Jerry Springeresque elements.

As "Judge Judy" faces new competition, including court shows vying for Hispanic viewers, Koerner predicts that its ratings and enviable time slots, often preceding local afternoon newscasts, are secure.

News is profitable for TV stations and they demand a reliable performer as lead-in. "Her fans are her fans. Even if they do want to see any of these new shows, they're not going to leave her show," Koerner said. But will Sheindlin leave them?

Her unexpected second career has given her "a wonderful 10 years" and she's contracted for four more, through the 2009-10 season. Beyond that, she's unsure.

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Raves & Reviews

The Underworld

By Da'Lynn Stinson
Panther Staff

The movie Underworld Evolution, is the sequel of the movie Underworld. In the first movie, there was a battle going on between the Death Dealers (vampires) and the Lycans (werewolves). Selene (Kate Beckinsale) was a Death Dealer. She was trying to figure out why the Lycans were after Micheal Corvin, who was a human. The Lycans were after him because he had the blood of both vampire and werewolf. She found out that he is a decedent of Alexander Corvinus, the father of them all. Alexander had two sons,

Marcus and William. William was bitten by werewolf and Marcus by a vampire. In the sequel, Selene is back with a vengeance. When she figures out that she was betrayed by her own people, she wants revenge. This is a fast-paced, modern time story, filled with deadly action and forbidden love that takes Selene and Micheal into a battle to end all battles as the immortals face their fate. This movie was directed by Len Wiseman. It also co-starred Bill Nighy and Tony Curran. If you are a vampire or a suspense lover, you should go and see this movie.

Crashing into reality

By Ashley Slayton
Panther Staff

If you weren't present, then you missed the eye opening experience that took place Thursday February 9, 2006. Sponsored by the W.E.B. DuBois History Club, the screening and discussion of the movie allowed PVAMU students of different backgrounds, cultures and sexes, to interact with one another in new ways. Crash raises questions in viewers minds about discrimination in the world and explores stereotypes that plague us in modern day society.

The movie forces individuals to think critically about not only how

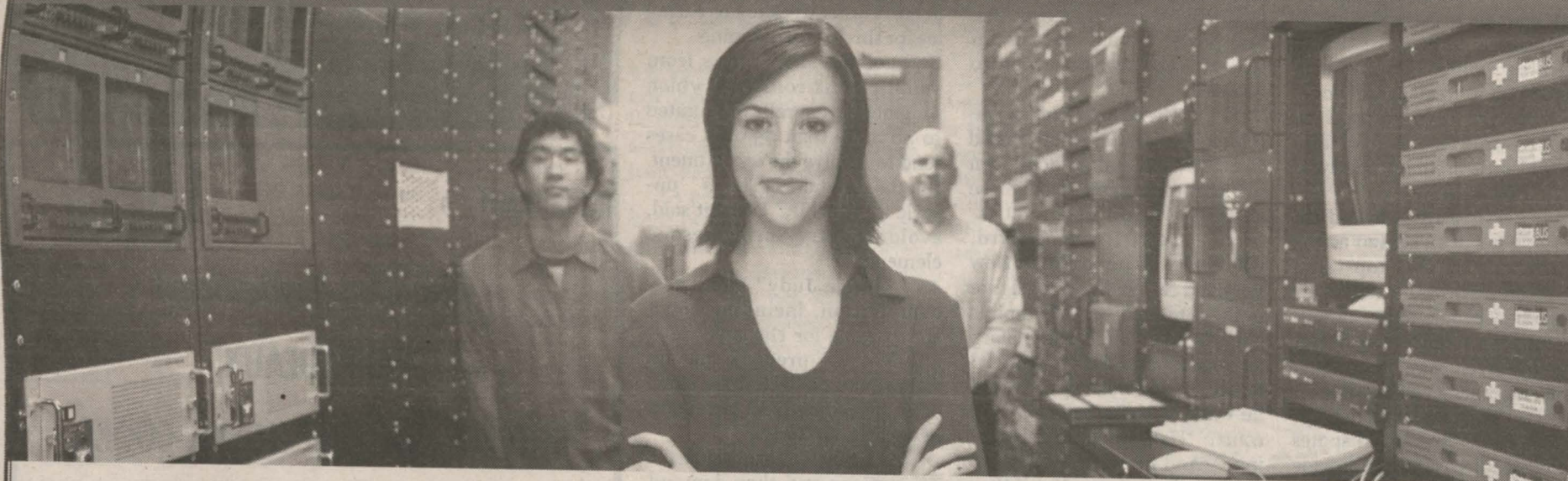
people view each other and themselves but how these different views affect society. One prevalent issue in the movie, is that of racial discrimination. Where does it stem from and why has it been allowed to flourish in our society? "I think a lot of it starts with the media," says Dustin Daniels, a senior communications major. While the media is often blamed for broadcasting offensive and discriminatory material, it could be argued that the media doesn't create prejudice it only reflects the prejudice that already exists in society.

Crash follows different characters of various ethnicities as they fight against racial boundaries they face in everyday life. A high society black couple has a nasty run-in with two white officers from the LAPD. A family loses everything when an act of

racial violence destroys a principle income and touching scene unfolds where a victim's tormentor becomes her hero.

Crash also contains a scene depicting black on black crime. The film's principle purpose is to provide insight into lives of people with diverse nationalities and expose what happens when those people collide. Essentially, it is a movie about which results in misunderstanding. Bearing in mind that this is black history month, Crash is a movie that impacts people of color and leaves them asking questions of the black community. As we continue with black history month, students should keep in mind and remember to be respectful of people's differences because differences make people unique.

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Events for Feb. 16-Feb 22, 2006

Thursday, 2/16	Monday, 2/20	Tuesday, 2/21	Wednesday, 2/22
Gamma Sigma Sigma- 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. MSC	12 p.m. - 2 p.m. SGA Fresh Monday w/DJ, MSC Lawn	7 a.m. - 6 p.m. Career Services Career Fair MSC Ballroom	7 a.m. - 6 p.m. Career Services- Career Fair MSC Ballroom
Gamma Phi Delta 12 p.m - 4p.m MSC	6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Sigma Gamma Rho Black History Seminar NSBA 104	12 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. Alpha Kappa Alpha Memorial Service Water Fountain	11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. NAACP Membership Drive MSC
University Academic Council 3 p.m-5p.m MSC	7 p.m. - 10 p.m. Alpha Phi Alpha Seminar: Prairie View WRB 240	12 p.m. - 2 p.m. PEACE Project Informative Workshops Evans Hall	11:45 a.m. - 1 p.m. Urban Readers Association- MSC
Douglas Leadership Institute 5 p.m-8p.m NSBA122	7 p.m. - 9 p.m. Sigma Alpha Iota Talent Show @ Hobart Recital Hall	6 p.m. - 9 p.m. Urban Readers Association Black History Bible Study NSB 101	12 p.m. - 2 p.m. DeltaSigmaTheta Elephant Walk T-Shirts MSC
NAACP Founders Day Program 5:30 p.m. - 8 p.m. JBCL-108	7 p.m. - 9 p.m. University College Black History Seminar /w Frank Jackson NSB A103	6 p.m. - 9 p.m. Alpha Kappa Alpha The Virtue of A Woman NSB A101	5 p.m. - 10 p.m. Special Programs Black History Month Cul- tural Workshop MSC Ballroom
Friday, 2/17		6:45 p.m. - 9 p.m. Karnation Kourt Proper Etiquette Seminar WRB 242	6 p.m. - 11 p.m. Alpha Kappa Alpha AlphaKappachino UC Panther
8 a.m. - 3 p.m. Cooperative Extension Diabetes Awareness Conference MSC204		7 p.m. - 10 p.m. Alpha Phi Alpha Educational Seminar WRB 240	6 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. FOCG
7 p.m. - 10 p.m. Fau Beta Sigma/Kappa Kappa Psi Game Day @ Band Hall		7 p.m. - 9 p.m. Sigma Gamma Rho Africa Seminar WRB 209	
7 p.m. - 11:55 p.m. Back To Basics Spring Ball MSC204			
Saturday, 2/18			
	Sunday, 2/19		
	2 p.m. - 6 p.m. Zeta Phi Beta Founder's Day @ The Chapel		
	4 p.m. - 5 p.m. Sigma Alpha Iota Founder's Day HBTRH		

Do you want to write for The Panther
or
submit a question to
'20 Questions?'
Please send in your contact
information or questions to:
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Panther Poetry Lounge

Submit your original
poems to:
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Continued from page 8

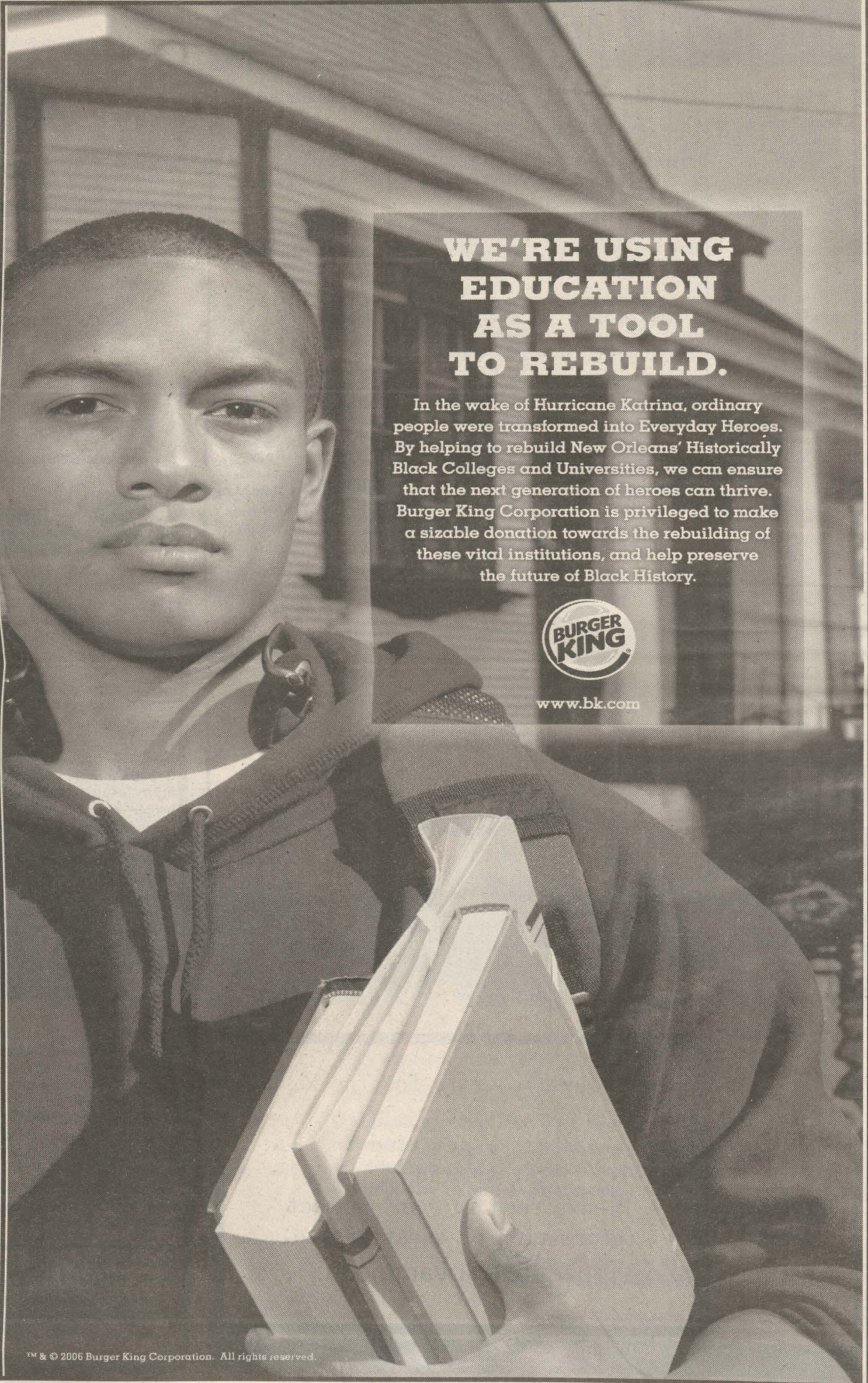
1. Why do you have to provide your own paper in the printer in the village and in Delco? 2. Why can't people take lunch at different times? 3. What happened to late night dinner? 4. Why aren't students more involved in the students in the decisions on campus? 5. Why do you make appointments in financial aid and don't get seen on time? 6. Why do we pay taxes on the fee receipt and in person? 7. Why do you need a referral from your counselor to see the financial aid director when we pay her salary? 8. Why aren't we aware of financial updates and deadlines? 9. Why does financial aid lose paperwork? 10. Why do smaller departments not have scholarships? 11. Why is our utility bill two months late and then get holds? 12. Why don't people process paperwork early for financial aid? 13. Why do panther tracks have operation hours? 14. Why are there so few financial aid counselors? 15. Why can students outrun the police to the fights? 16. Why aren't there enough officers when there is a fight but they're everywhere when nothing is going on? 17. Why is there so much paperwork to meet with administration? 18. Why do you sit in the police station to write a report for nothing? 19. Why is financial aid always in a meeting? 20. Why are the tickets so high?

Plus 13 More

21. Why do they write tickets after business hours? 22. Why isn't housing renovated before you move in? 23. Why is ticket writing a student hourly job? 24. Why does she pay a deposit and don't get it all back? 25. Why do we always have fish on Friday and chicken on Mondays where is the variety? 26. Why is the food undercooked? 27. Why can't grad students get decals after 5pm? 28. Why can financial aid reduce grants and scholarships? 29. Why do they take the grant after it is on the fee receipt? 30. Why do we only have chick-fil-a? 31. Why can't people who don't have cars swipe their id cards to open the gates in the village? 32. Why should you have to pay to apply for graduation?

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. Questions are printed at the discretion of **The Panther**.

Read *The Panther* every week!

A young man with a serious expression, wearing a dark hoodie, is carrying a large stack of books under his arm. The background is a blurred outdoor setting, possibly a campus.

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