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Panther - April 1992 - Vol. LXIX, NO.6

Prairie View A&M University

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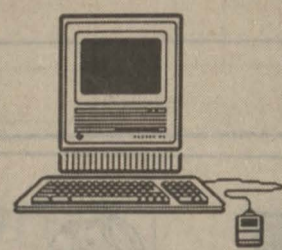
New Cheerleaders for 1992-93

Lifestyles page 5



Panther pride

Viewpoints page 7



PV to install computer system

Newsweek page 3

The Panther

The Official Student Publication of Prairie View A&M University

Thursday

April 16, 1992

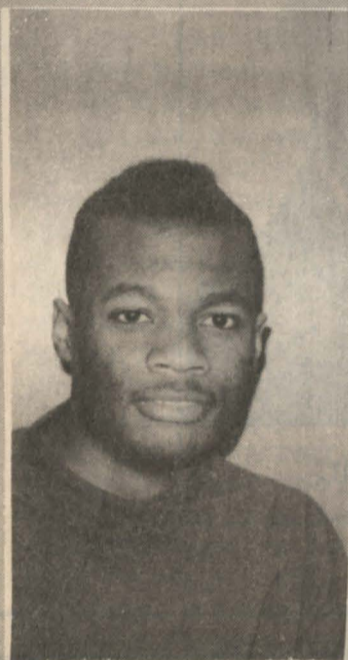
Volume 69, No. 6

Prairie View, Tx. 77446

Speak Out!

Did the march to Hempstead change your views on voting?

Marrick Myles, Jr.
Sociology major



My point of view has not changed. I have always known that voting is important to the advancement of the community we live in. As citizens we need to vote to voice our opinions. I, too, have that right.

I enjoyed being a part of a worthwhile movement and standing up for Prairie View students' constitutional rights.

We have come a long way as Afro-Americans and we did not come to Prairie View for anyone to infringe upon our rights.

I think we have affected the lives of the people in Waller most because now they know that we are serious about being an active student body in our community.



Participants of the 1st Annual Mr. Collegiate African American Pageant

Students march in protest

Michelle Johnson
Co-Editor-In-Chief

The 'Prairie View 19' are still fighting legal battles of perjury and illegal voting as they await the trial in the latter part of April. The 15 indicted students of the original 19 were arrested and finger printed at the Waller County precinct, but they were released under counsel.

'Buddy' McCaig, who requested that the grand jury investigate these students, said he feels that the indictments will encourage the student population to go out and

vote instead of intimidating them.

Part of Prairie View's student population were encouraged to vote as they participated in a rally for the 'PV 19' and marched from the university campus to Hempstead.

This march paralleled to the March on Washington was no less effective as hundreds of students walked and drove caravan-style to Hempstead.

"Unity is the key", according to Frank Jackson, County Commissioner-elect precinct 3.

The demonstrators were accompanied by the Prairie View police, a fire truck carrying refreshments for the demonstrators and an ambulance for those who could not endure the heat.

In similar fashion, many students armed with their voter registration cards lined up to exercise their right to vote.

News teams from Houston were present to cover the march to Hempstead. It felt good to be part of a unified effort to improve the rights of students at Prairie View, said Shawntel, a senior Communications major.

Becton discusses shortcomings and accomplishments

By Roosevelt Huggins
Co-Editor-In-Chief

President Becton hosted the monthly Chat With the President on Tuesday with a small student turnout. However, the forum may have reached many students as it was again broadcast on KPVA radio station.

The "Chat" began with a replay of NBC's Today Show news feature about the university. Becton commented that the news feature along with another that appeared on CNN increased telephone calls and inquiries about the university. Becton stated "This is the kind of advertisement that the university could not buy."

In view of past "Chats", he further stated that the purpose of the forum is to "talk about issues that we should change." One such issue the President mentioned was that P.V. placed 11th out of approximately 100 HBCU's in graduating Blacks at an

undergraduate level.

President Becton was asked to discuss the shortcomings and accomplishments that the university has experienced during his two and one half year tenure. For shortcomings, the president listed lack of money due to low enrollment, lack of monetary support from the National Alumni Association, and the lack of students participating in student government.

The positive developments since Becton's tenure include having the largest turnout at an Honors Convocation, at Banneker Honors College, and the College of Nursing. Student discipline and basic decorum has also improved, and last but not least the restoration of fiscal integrity at the university.

Ronnie Davis, president of the Council of Student Organizations, stated that the student service fee deliberations were complete. The fin-

continued on page 4

Kevin Brady unopposed as Waller County's next state representative

Press Release

As a result of redistricting, State Representative Kevin Brady, a Republican from The Woodlands will most likely be our future representative as he stands unopposed in the upcoming election.

The 15th legislative district he represents has changed and will be composed of south and western Montgomery County, Grimes, Madison, and Waller County. Waller County was added to the newly configured seat, while Leon and Houston counties were shifted to other districts.

Brady is pleased with the opportunity to represent Waller County and Prairie View A&M University, for whom he helped fight for funding in the special budget session last summer.

"I am looking forward to

serving the citizens, business community and elected officials of Waller County. I am also excited about the progress and potential of Prairie View A&M. It is a quality educational institution with a quality leader in General Becton," says Brady.

One of the leaders of the reform movement in the House of Representatives, his successful legislative efforts included HB 124, the measure to bust the 95% cap on Texas prisons, several changes strengthening state efforts to prevent child abuse, environmental legislation, and seven bills passed to address the needs of the local communities.

Brady credits his legislative staff, local citizens and

continued on page 4

Students to visit Europe

Foreign language students to attend schools in France and Spain this summer.

By Montoya Warner
Panther Reporter

Six outstanding Prairie View foreign language students have received partial scholarships to study overseas this summer.

Chantelle Ford, Kimberley Runnels, Luis Venegas, and Andrea Brown received scholarships to study in Madrid, Spain, while Portia Hopkins and Michelle Collins received scholarships to study in Dijon, France.

They earned the scholarships by participating in a standardized test that measured their skills in the areas of oral and written communications in the foreign language of their choice.

The students studying in Spain will be attending the University of Madrid while those studying in France will attend the University of Bourgogne. They will have four weeks of intensive foreign language, culture, and civilization studies.

Dr. June Carter, professor of Spanish said, "We try to encourage students to take advantage of studying abroad. It would be a great experience that could only benefit the student."

The scholarships are worth up to \$3,000 and include round trip transportation, room and board accommodations and tuition. The students will earn college credits. They will also participate in daily activities, excursions to cities within the country, lectures and performances.

This is undoubtedly a great opportunity for Prairie View students to be exposed to many different cultures.

"I feel honored because I scored high enough on the test to receive partial scholarship," said Luis Venegas, "If I decide to go it will be a chance of a lifetime."

Committee reviews activities budgets

Fee allocations committee meets with organization representatives to determine fund allocations

By Mark Waddleton
Panther Reporter

The Student Service Fee Allocation Committee last week reviewed the budgets submitted by various student-oriented organizations on campus. The individual groups went before the committee to solicit funds for their programs.

The committee allotted them twenty minutes to give a presentation on why certain funds should be directed to their programs. After the representatives completed their proposals, the committee questioned them about their submissions.

In some instances, it became quickly apparent that some organizations desperately need more money to function at a respectable level, while others appeared not to be in such trauma.

One committee member Ron Davis, mentioned that although the committee did have some influence over the money that is allocated to the different groups, they acted more as a buffer between the students and the administra-

tion. The administration would have the final word on how all funds are to be allocated.

Nevertheless, the committee did not take their job lightly. Using their power sparingly, they turned away some organizations, requesting that they resubmit their requests by Friday April 10.

Several groups made requests which seemed very logical and fair. The marching band pleaded for more money to buy new and long overdue uniforms. Apparently, the band continues to perform exceptionally even though they are operating with depleted reserve.

Moreover, the funding that the band has received from the state this past year was barely enough to continue repairing instruments which were purchased in the sixties and seventies.

The committee posed the question of whether the band had been conducting any fundraising events. Professor

continued on page 4

NEWS FRIDAY

Key Dates

April 22
P.V. Choice Awards
Hobart Taylor, 7:30 p.m.

May 10
Mother's Day

FYI



Surveys suggest that those using English as a preferred second language outnumber those to whom it is native.



The Geiger counter was developed by German physicist Hans Geiger in 1912.



The thin fabric called gauze probably takes its name from the ancient city of Gaza in what is now Israel where the cloth was first made.



Stinging requires a bee to use 22 different muscles.

Countdown

23

Days until
end of
semester

BRIEFLY

TASP Test Announced

The next TASP Test will be administered at Prairie View A&M University on Saturday, April 25, 1992 at 8:00 a.m. in W.R. Banks Classroom Building. The postmark deadline for regular registration is midnight, March 27, 1992. The regular registration fee is \$26.00; late registration is an additional \$20.00. Registration bulletins are available in the lobby of W.R. Banks Classroom Building.

All freshman students who took the placement test prior to enrolling and who are presently enrolled in at least 15 semester credit hours of college-level courses and who are not exempt from TASP must take the April test. Failure to take the test will prohibit re-enrollment except in developmental courses.

National Rape Awareness Month

The Department of Health and Human Performance is presenting a lecture and video series to address issues surrounding the subjects of acquaintance rape, media manipulation regarding relationships, sexual harassment, as well as criminal prosecution for these crimes.

Among the featured speakers for the lecture series will be Ms. Cassandra Thomas, who is the Executive Director of Houston Area Women's Council. Ms. Thomas was recently interviewed on Prime Time regarding rape in the Houston area. Also Ms. Rosemary Potter will discuss self defense and how we individually can address our own safety in our city.

Several videos will be presented in the ALRC Lab. Subjects will include personal accounts of the pervasive nature of acquaintance rape. Also a video will be shown which addresses the nature of marketing strategies which manipulate our ideas and expectations in relationships and the negative effects within our youth today.

The lectures are scheduled for 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on April 29 in the John B. Coleman Library with video series to run simultaneously in the ALRC video rooms. The public is invited in seeking education to stop violence on our campus and in our lifetimes.

Wesley Foundation hosts Conference

The Wesley Foundations at Texas Southern University and Prairie View A&M University will join together to sponsor a conference/dialogue for students of African Descent Studying the USA on April 24-26, 1992 in Houston at the Holiday Inn on the N.W. Freeway. Also sponsored by the Campus Ministry Section of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry of the United Methodist Church.

Registration is scheduled for Friday, April 24 at the hotel lobby. First plenary address, "Why We Need A Common Ground", by Rev. Hector Grant, Bethel United Methodist Church in San Antonio is on Saturday, April 25. Two other addresses are scheduled throughout the day.

For more information contact Rev. Frank Guidry, Wesley Foundation-PVAMU at 409/857-4940.

Student Receives Cartwright ROTC Award

Midshipman 1/c Joseph A. Davis, a senior Accounting major at PVAMU, was recently selected for the General Roscoe C. Cartwright ROTC Achievement Award. The award is presented to the most outstanding Army or Air Force cadet or Navy midshipman currently enrolled a senior at a Historically Black College or University.

Midshipman Davis is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Davis, Jr., of Richmond, VA. While at PVAMU, Midshipman Davis has been selected to the honor roll seven consecutive times. He has a cumulative grade point average of 3.09. His organizational affiliations include: Current Midshipman Battalion Company Commander within NROTC program, Phi Beta Lambda Business Fraternity, Delta Mu Delta National Honor Society, Alpha Kappa Mu National Honor Society, and National Society for Public Accountants.

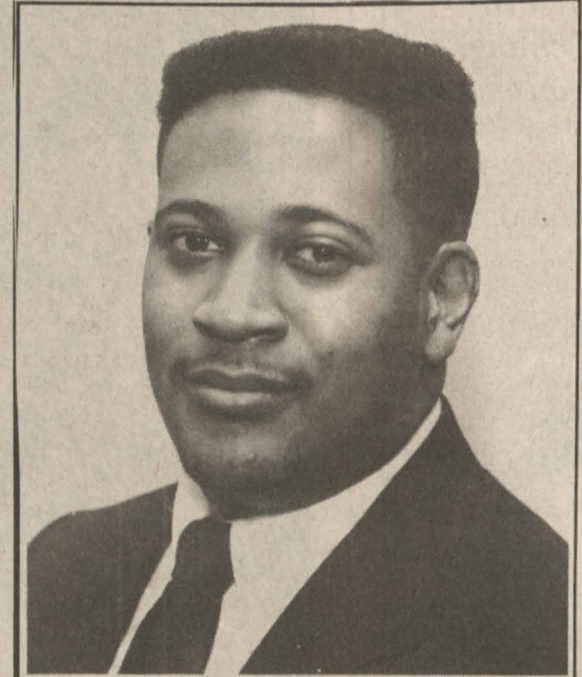
Midshipman Davis recently returned from Washington, DC where he was presented with a personalized engraved plaque and a \$1000 U.S. savings bond. Upon graduation, Davis will be appointed an Ensign in the United States Navy and will attend Navy Supply Officers School in Athens, GA.

Midshipman Davis is married to the former Kerri D. Marshall, a Fall '91 PVAMU graduate and they are expecting their first child in July, 1992.

PEOPLE

Mr. James W. Bell, Jr., a Prairie View A&M University education major recently received The Black Collegian Magazine's Teaching Scholarship Award. Mr. Bell's \$2000 tuition award stems from a joint-venture education initiative between the magazine and the university.

Bell plans to receive his Bachelor of Science degree in Interdisciplinary Studies with a specialization in Reading. He is an active member of P.V.A.M.U. Chapter of the Association for Childhood Education International. Bell plays an active role in the College of Education and Public Schools Mentorship Program where he serves as a special friend and tutor to three black male students.



James W. Bell, Jr.

THE PANTHER PRAIRIEVIEW A&M UNIVERSITY

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.....Roosevelt Huggins
Newsweek Editor.....Chandra Baty
Lifestyles Editor.....Omar D. Harris
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EDITORIAL POLICY

The Panther is a bi-weekly publication supported through advertising and student activity fees. Views expressed in the Panther are not necessarily those of Prairie View A&M University or The Texas A&M Board of Regents.

The Panther will accept news submissions from campus organizations and individuals at Hilliard Hall 209 on or before 5pm on Fridays.

The Panther reserves the right to editorial discretion concerning publication of submitted items and photographs.

Advertising rates are as follows: Students - \$2/ column inch (CI); local - \$3.75/CI; Local Agency - \$4.15/CI; National - \$5.67/CI

Mail inquiries to : The Panther, PVAMU, PO Box 156, PV, Tx, 77446

Departmental News

Biology

Lone Star Steel of Dallas has awarded two additional \$2,500 scholarships to the Biology (environmental technology) graduate program. The biology department received two scholarships from Lone Star Steel last year. Those scholarships were applied for and granted. This year's scholarship were not applied directly, which shows confidence in the biology graduate program at Prairie View A&M University.

Dr. Floyd Malveaux, Professor and Chairman of the Department of Microbiology at Howard University College of Medicine recently visited the campus for two days as a Visiting Scientist under the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology Program funded by the Minorities Access to Research Careers.

His main lecture titled, "Asthma and Allergic Diseases: Models For Integration of Basic and Clinical Sciences", was lectured to junior and senior pre-medicine majors. While here Malveaux also visited with other biology classes.

Cooperative Extension

The Cooperative Extension Program at Prairie View A&M University will open the H.S. Estelle 4-H and Youth Camp located near Huntsville July 6 and extended through August 7. This is the 17th summer the Cooperative Extension program has implemented a residential camp for youth, ages nine to nineteen.

The camp schedule dates are: July 6-10, July 13-17, July 20-24, July 27-31, and August 3-7. Registration fee for youth who qualify for the Summer Food Service Program is \$30 per week. The fee for youth who do not qualify is \$40.

Contact your local county Extension Office or the Cooperative Extension Program at PVAMU, Drawer B, Prairie View, Tx. 77446, 409-857-2517 for more information.

NEWSWEEK

Improved computer database for P.V.

University begins 18-month schedule to install S.I.S. -Plus computer system.

By Roland Lemonius
Panther Reporter

The university is now in the process of acquiring S.I.S. Plus, a computer database projected to vastly improve the functioning of the current system.

This Student Information System (S.I.S.) budgeted at some \$348,000, is expected to provide improved user efficiency and increased information accessibility. This should enhance student services such as financial aid and improve enrollment management, particularly during the registration exercises.

In addition, the new system will facilitate improved management of financial resources, creating increased security and audit trails, while reducing the manual processes necessary to generate reports. This should increase productivity and reduce the likelihood of errors.

Information Systems Corporation has been contracted to install the new system which is expected to become fully functional within the next 18 months. Consequently, a rigid schedule has been

drafted by Project Coordinator Ron Cornelius, outlining the steps to be followed for the database to be successfully completed within the specified time.

This schedule includes dates and times wherein delegated staff members in various departments will receive training in the use of the S.I.S. Plus system. These persons will then be responsible for returning to their respective departments and training the other staff members.

The first phase of training sessions began in March and are being held in the Memorial Student Center.

According to Vice President of Finance and Administration Harold S. Bonner, "The staff are enthusiastic about participating in the project as they realize its importance in improving their respective job functions."

Moreover, provisions have been made for them to hire temporary assistants to alleviate the pressure of their regular work load along with the training sessions.

Along with the training sessions, the schedule also out-

lines the installation of the software, the transfer of all university files and data to the new format, and the rigorous manual rechecking of the transferred data.

Also scheduled is a trial period for running the new program. The budgeted \$340,000 includes the purchase and installation of the software, and the hiring of trainers to instruct the university staff.

In order to gain maximum efficiency from the S.I.S. Plus system, the program is being acquired simultaneously with another computer system, Campusnet. The Campusnet system will facilitate a total integration of the university's colleges, departments, offices and facilities with the central information database.

Consequently, vital information concerning financial aid, library holdings, class assignments, course loads and degree plans, may be accessed from virtually anywhere on campus. The Campusnet system is expected to become functional by the fall semester.

Selden on leadership

By Dwayne Bennett
Panther reporter

Audrey Selden, Texas assistant secretary of state, was guest speaker April 7 during Leadership Emphasis Week.

Hosted by Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, the forum addressed barriers minority women are likely to experience as they attain leadership positions.

Selden, a Harvard Law School graduate, said she left a lucrative law practice to join Gov. Ann Richard's administration to become a public servant because it is her public duty to serve the people.

Selman said, "The boundaries of racism and sexism are not limited to state government but exist everywhere, but, by demonstrating a strong work ethic, these obstacles will be overcome."

She also stated that minority women must stand up and realize that they are somebody and must not continually accept lesser positions due to prevalent stereotypical attitudes when they are equally qualified for the same positions as their male counterparts.

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EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Illegal telephone calls being investigated

Three students admit their involvement.

By Chandra Baty
Newsweek Editor

Telephone security companies have decided to try and eliminate illegal phone calls made by students on campus.

Five telephone security companies have contacted the telephone office and student life at Prairie View about the problem. Students have been obtaining illegal cards or codes to make long distance calls without paying.

GTE Security in California has published a list of pay phones, dorms and room numbers where the fraudulent calls have occurred. GTE says the list is growing daily and totaling almost \$20,000.

The calls have been made

on South Western Bell, AT&T and Wil-Tel Networks by using false GTE cards. The networks have no means of validating the cards instantly.

AT&T Security is currently working on a bill that is an estimated \$3,000 while Pacific Bell says that some calls amount to up to \$300.00.

The university will not investigate these calls, but rather will allow the telephone companies to handle the matter. Colonel Aldridge, Dean of Men, says the telephone is "provided as a service to the students." The telephones in the dorms are not designed to make or receive collect calls.

Since the telephone security companies have to handle the matter, they might decide

to take legal action. The companies will call the students and ask about the calls. If the student denies the calls, the company can subpoena the person to court.

Once in court, the judge may fine, incarcerate or refer the student back to the university for disciplinary action. It is only then will the university investigate the matter.

So far only three of the 20 students identified have admitted and agreed to pay the companies back.

If these calls continue, students will put the university in danger of losing the telephone service or the companies could raise rates which would in turn raise tuition. Then everyone pays.

P.V. student new Chips Quinn scholar

News Release

Morenike Efuntade, a junior communications student from Washington, D.C. has been named a recipient of the Chips Quinn Memorial Scholarship for students in journalism.

The program, sponsored by The Freedom Forum, matches select students from historically black colleges and universities with prominent newspapers across the nation.

This year, only 12 students were chosen to participate in the program. Each university that is a member of the Association of Black College Journalism and Mass Communication Programs (ABCJMCP) is invited to nominate one junior as a candidate for the program.

Nominees were judged on academic achievement, class standing, and their demonstration of having the qualities needed for a news career such as great curiosity, enthusiastic initiative, clear

communications skills, determination to succeed and a great capacity to care.

As a Chips Quinn Scholar, Morenike has received a paid internship at The Sacramento Bee. Upon completion of the intensive 10-week program, she will receive a \$1,000 scholarship.

Morenike Efuntade has been on full academic scholarship, is a Benjamin Banneker student and has been on the honor roll since her freshman year at Prairie View.

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NEWSWEEK

Development assistance available

Panther Staff

Prairie View has expanded from a residential campus to include commuter students to increase enrollment.

Many of these students, and faculty as well, find housing in the 290-Highway 6-Jones Road areas, the closest housing available with reasonable rates and providing major shopping and entertainment centers.

While attempts have been made to develop housing for the Prairie View area, little has resulted, most likely because of financing. Prairie

View has growth potential, however, major development groups may see the area as marginal.

Due to the national housing crisis, some groups have formed specifically to offer assistance to marginal and low-income areas

One such organization is Planners Network, a national association of activist city planners, architects, academics and organizers involved in housing and community development.

Its members provide technical assistance and research to community organizations to develop innovative housing programs and policies.

The contact person is Chester Hartman, Planners Network, 1601 Connecticut Ave., NW, Fifth Floor, Washington, DC 20009, (202) 234-9382.

Other groups include: Institute for Community Economics. Contact Greg Ramm, 57 School St., Springfield MA 01105 (413) 746-8660.

Local Initiatives Support Corporation. Contact Paul Grogan, 733 Third Ave., New York, NY 10017, (212) 455-9800.

Enterprise Foundation at 505 American City Building, Columbia MD 21044, (301) 964-1230. Contact Bart Harvey.

National Congress for Community Economic Development, Bob Zdenek, 1612 K Street NW, Suite 510, Washington, DC 20006 (202) 659-8411.

Housing Assistance Council, Moises Loza, 1025 Vermont Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20005 (202) 842-8600.

These five organizations provide financial and technical support for a burgeoning community-based housing development movement. They channel funds from foundations, corporations, government agencies and individuals into innovative housing projects sponsored by nonprofit groups in urban and rural areas.

If Prairie View has a larger residential base, then maybe we won't have to worry about the legality of students voting.

Information provided by Washington Journalism Review.

Brady next Waller County State Rep.

continued from page 1

government officials, and colleagues in the House and Senate for his accomplishments during his first term.

"I learned a great deal about Texas state government in my first term, most of it encouraging, some of it not", states Brady. "I am anxious to finish what I started in the areas of legislative reform, child abuse prevention, and criminal justice. Above all, I hope to continue to be an effective and hardworking representative for the citizens of the 15th District."

Brady is a graduate of the Institute for Organizational Management at Southern Methodist University, and holds a Bachelors degree from the University of South Dakota.

President discusses shortcomings and accomplishments at forum

continued from page 1

al step was to deliver them to the President to be reviewed for approval. Results of the allocations should be available next week.

At the forum, the administration stated that approximately 48 students were found in violation of the visitation policy. To date 21 male students and female students have been suspended or are in the process of being served suspension notices. Becton

added that one person, to avoid getting caught, jumped out a third story window in Drew Hall.

Other issues of the forum included Fiscal and Financial Aid hours and service at these two offices. In fact, one student submitted the name of a staff personnel who had been rude to that student. The administration said that they would investigate the situation.

Committee reviews activities budgets

continued from page 1

Edwards stated that no athletic program had to stage fundraisers to increase finances, therefore, why should the band be subjected to such stipulations?.

He felt that if the band had to spend time to raise money, above and beyond the hours that they dedicate on the field, so should everyone else.

The forensics team is also in critical need of any type of funding. Last year the team received no money from the university, and as a result, had to operate minimally on their own fundraising efforts. Despite this, they brought over fifty awards to the school this past year, although competing was extremely difficult because of the limited tournaments they could attend.

Team members were often asked to pay from their own pockets in order to participate. With proper aid, the team coaches felt that the Prairie View Forensics team could bring the school comparable recognition to that of Texas Southern's team.

Among the other departments requesting additional funding were the University Choir, All Faiths Chapel, Intramurals, KPVO, and even the Panther.

Hershey sponsors track meet for youth

Press Release

While many athletes are preparing for the 1992 Summer Olympics, future olympic hopefuls are teaming up for fitness during a unique athletic event for youngsters.

The Hershey's National Track & Field Youth Program, the largest youth sports program of its kind in the U.S., is in its 15th year of promoting friendship, participation, sportmanship and physical fitness.

Volunteers in each of the 50 states and the district of Columbia hold track meets for children between the ages of nine and 14. Over a million children participated in the program in 1991.

Alumni of the program

include Mary Lou Retton, 1984 Olympic gold medalist in gymnastics; Hilary Lindh, 1992 silver medalist in downhill skiing; and Andre Cason, 1992 record setter in the indoor 60 meter dash and member of the 1991 world record 4x100 meter relay team.

The Hershey Youth Program is sponsored by the President's Council on Physical Fitness & Sports, the National Recreation and Park Association and the National Association for Sports and Physical Education; Hershey Foods Corporation is the sole funding sponsor.

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ATTENTION !!!!

The Wesley Foundation proudly presents its
3rd Annual

WESLEY FESTIVAL

TIME: 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

PLACE: Memorial Student Ballroom

DATE: Monday, April 20, 1992

THEME: Celebrating the gift of life and giving thanks to God for our many blessings.

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LIFESTYLES

New Miss. P.V. makes plans and promises

By Montoya Warner
Panther Reporter

The newly-crowned Miss Prairie View, Cynthia Lester, already has plans to promote more activities for students during her reign.

The charming nineteen-year-old sophomore, computer science and mathematics major made several proposals she would like to see accomplished.

Cynthia wants not only herself, but the entire royal court and Miss Prairie View Plus to be more visible and get involved in the various functions on campus. She would also like to start rap sessions for incoming freshman women who could use her advice and guidance.

The reasons why Cynthia ran for Miss Prairie View were not only to develop her

talent and communication skills, but to be a campus queen, not just another queen of the campus. She also intends to dedicate herself to doing something positive with her title and not just sit back and enjoy the benefits.

Getting herself involved in numerous activities and groups is nothing new to Cynthia. She is a university cheerleader, a Johnson-Phillip All Faiths Chapel usher, a member of Mega Omega Beta, and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. She also continually maintains high academic grades.

Upon winning the Miss Prairie View title, Cynthia received the Miss America official crown and case, a bouquet of roses, a scholarship award of \$1,200, competition wardrobe for the Miss Texas Pageant, and an expen-

se paid trip to the pageant and numerous other prizes and gifts.

When asked about some of the things she is looking forward to during her reign she stated, "I am looking forward to representing Prairie View in three different pageants, it will be a real honor."

She will be representing Prairie View in the Miss Texas Pageant, the Miss Black Hall of Fame, and the Miss African-Collegiate Pageant.

For now, Cynthia's main ambition is to be there for the student body.

She explained, "During the forthcoming year I hope to be involved in as many activities as possible. I never want it to be said that I was too busy to attend activities that students asked me to attend."

First Mr. Collegiate African American

By Roosevelt Huggins
Co-Editor-In-Chief

Charles Lee Clemons of Lincoln University Pennsylvania made history on Saturday, April 4th when he became the winner of the First Annual Mr. Collegiate African American Scholarship Pageant.

Clemons is a senior majoring in Therapeutic Recreation and the son of Rev. & Mrs. Charles Clemons. He plans to obtain his Masters degree in Arts/Exercise Physiology with an emphasis on Cardiac Rehabilitation. Among his hobbies are swimming, acting, and weight training. He is also a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

As Mr. Collegiate African American, Clemons will have as his duties to promote excellence in higher education particularly at H.B.C.U.'s. He will participate in the East Coast speaking tour of H.B.C.U.'s and appear at the Miss Collegiate African American Pageant to be held in Hollywood, California in June.

The mission of the pageant is to provide another opportunity to present the African American males in a positive

and wholesome manner. The pageant also seeks to dispel the myth that black males are a product of a negative environment by creating a model of excellence for a positive belief in oneself and race, and encouraging individual achievement.

The pageant had an African Heritage Theme and featured artwork by Imari Havard. Besides the performances of the contestants in the talent competition, entertainment was provided by the groups No Doz and Mercedes, Eclipse, Trent Robert, and the fabulous dance troupe Classic Dance Ensemble.

In a statement at the recep-

tion, Clemons echoed "The group of guys in this room are the greatest collection of positive black role models." Fellow competitor Hiawatha Northington stated that "Brotherhood and understanding myself was a positive advantage of the pageant."

First runner-up of the pageant was the King of Pantherland, Deosick Burney, and second runner-up, Ricky Wayne Georgetown of Texas Southern University.

Plans are already underway for the production of the Second Annual Mr. Collegiate African American Scholarship Pageant.



Clemons crowned Mr. Collegiate African American

Cheerleading squad members chosen

Eleven members selected to represent P.V. in the fall

By VaShawnda Jenkins
Panther Reporter

The prospect of having a good football season in the fall has created a greater demand for cheerleaders and a mascot. After several practice sessions, cheerleader tryouts were held this week in the Baby Dome. Eleven skilled ladies were selected for this year's squad. They are Karen Armelin, Kelly Collins, Dee Holland, Deondra Flournoy, Linday Freeman, Lena Moore, Eva Shelley, Bridget Smith, Trina Stanberry, Shawnette Stewart, and Jam-

elyn Williams.

Practice sessions, which lasted from 6:30 to 8:30 in the evenings, involved jumps, stretches, and learning routines. Toysha Jones, a senior political science major, supervised and trained students vying for a position on the squad.

According to Jones, "To be a cheerleader, one must be dedicated, have a positive attitude, and be able to demonstrate their abilities." Students must also maintain a 2.0 grade point average.

Each of the approximately 25 students, were judged on a scale of 1 to 10 in several different categories including jumps, spirit and performance.

This year, there were more students competing for the mascot position than have in the past. Imari Havard and William Young beat out seven competitors for the position.

As always, the tryouts were open to the public, giving the competitors the experience of performing in front of an audience.

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EDITORIAL POSITION OPENING

Applications are invited from interested students for the position of Editor-in-Chief of the Panther newspaper for the 1992/93 academic year.

Responsibilities

- Provide leadership through assignments and professional guidance for reporters, editors and other staff members.
- Supervise the regular publication of the newspaper.
- Represent the newspaper at scheduled workshops, meetings and other fora.

Qualifications

Applicants must satisfy the following requirements:

- Junior or above classification at the beginning of tenure.
- An overall GPA of 2.75 or above.
- Completed Newswriting 1 course (or equivalent) with a grade of "B" or above.
- Completed Communications Law course (or equivalent).
- Write an essay on editorial philosophy.
- Be interviewed by the Student Publications Board.

Applications forms may be obtained from Hilliard Hall Room 107 or 216. Completed forms must be returned not later than Monday, April 20.

The Panther is a student-run, bi-weekly publication. Staff positions are open to all students enrolled at Prairie View A & M University.

SPORTS

Mixed fortunes for track team

By Roosevelt Huggins
Co-Editor-In-Chief

Prairie View's track team traveled to Baton Rouge Louisiana and placed in many of the track and field events.

In the men's running events, Praire View won the shuttle hurdle relay over Southern University in a time of 59 minutes, 28 seconds. In the 200m Wallace and Pete of

Prairie View placed second and sixth.

In the glamour event, the 4x100m relays, Prairie View's team finished a disappointing 4th. In the Sprint Medley, however, P.V. won with a time of 3:21.97. The team was pleasantly surprised when George

Key placed third in the high jump with a leap of 6'10".

Not to be outdone, the women's track team shined throughout the Pelican Relays. Coach Washington has directed the team to their best showing under her tenure. Terri Clayton won the women's 100m and 200m dash. The women's team also placed well in the triple jump, 4x400m relay, and in the sprint medley.

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Fifteen nominees for Prairie View's Hall of Fame

Barbara Jacket, Hoover Wright, among those nominated

Press Release

Fifteen nominees including 1992 Summer Olympic Coach Barbara Jacket and Prairie View Men's Head Track Coach will be inducted in the Prairie View's Sport Hall of Fame on May 9th in the West Wing of Alumni Hall.

Other nominees include Caregie Barnes Jr. (Track & Field), Grady Barrens Sr (Football/Baseball), Maurice Dawson (Football), Edward Elliot Jr. (Basketball/Football), Harold Grimes (Basketball/Football), and Harold

Grimes (Basketball/Football).

Also to be inducted will be Kenny Houston (Football), Dewey McQueen (Baseball), Frederick Newhouse (Track), Alvin Reed (Football), Debra Speight (Football), Otis Taylor (Football), C.A. Thomas, and O.J. Thomas.

The Hall of Fame serves as a depository to enshrine the memory of those Panthers who have made worth contributions and outstanding achievements in various sports and have exhibited high principles of good sportmanship. The Hall of

Fame based upon their athletic accomplishment at Prairie View, community service and demonstrated leadership ability.

Prairie View Sports Hall of Fame was formed in 1987. Since then approximately 57 people have been inducted into the Hall of Fame. Of those inducted, most notable are Elmer Redd, Sam Taylor, Paul Ware, Gentriss Hornsby, and Lloyd Scott.

For more information, contact Robert F. Ford at (409) 857-4710 or write to Sport Hall of Fame, P.O. Box 843,

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Classic dancer

Panther Staff

Bongiwe "Bongi" Sithole, a business management major, is one of the founders of Prairie View's Classic Dance Ensemble.

The Ensemble came about after she and co-founder Jennifer Adams, choreographed a dance and performed for the Miss Black and Gold Pageant in the Spring of 1989.

Ms. Sithole says, "Everything just clicked for that performance so we decided we wanted to do something bigger."

The Ensemble went to Nashville before ever performing on campus. Since then the group has expanded its repertoire and added new members each year to perform at numerous campus events.

Born in South Africa, Bongi left there at age two and was raised in Chicago.

She says she was surrounded by art and culture while



Bongi Sithole co-founder of Classic Dance Ensemble

growing up because her father, Dr. Elkin Sithole, is a professor of ethnomusicology at Northeastern Illinois University.

Despite her parents' protestations to do something different, Bongi began studying

dance when she was 16. She learned Dunham technique with Tommy Gomez in Chicago until she decided to strike out on her own and come to Prairie View in Fall 1988.

A Zulu, Bongi recently visited her family who lives in Durban, SA on the occasion of her mother's funeral.

She says she was ready to go home because she had found a Zulu dictionary in the Coleman Library and had been practicing the language for a while before her mother's passing.

At 28 years, she says that she is ready to settle down and have a family with someone who has the same cultural background.

"People in America seem to make things up as they go along," she says. "At home, people are respectful, orderly and soft spoken. Cultural guidelines are clearer with regard to behavior."

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VIEWPOINTS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

A display of Panther pride

By Robert Jordan
Letter to the Editor

I recently visited the library to do research on a rare animal, and I was intrigued with what I found.

A panther is a rare breed of cat that stalks its prey in an unassuming manner. For the most part, a panther does not attack unless it feels threatened or is attacked. Then, with all of its great strength, it retaliates until the threat is conveniently disposed of.

I was one of the many Prairie View students who made the six-mile walk to the Waller County voting precinct. Along the way, I stopped and looked behind me.

What I saw took me back to my history books, as I saw African-Americans standing up for their civil rights. The caravan of cars and trucks that accompanied the marchers showed their support by tooting their horns and providing refreshments.

The sight evoked memories of Selma to Montgomery, and being part of such a historical event brought into focus what our parents and grandparents did to allow us to survive.

Sigma Xi research competition

Michelle Johnson
Co-Editor-In-Chief

The first annual Sigma Xi research paper competition had 13 entries. The winners are: the team of M. Ball, B. Curtis, N. Lee, and L. LeBlanc, all seniors in Mechanical Engineering. The title of the paper was "Mechanical Probe and Laser Scanner".

The second place winners were R. Chapman, L. Haywood, S. Marquez, T. McDaniel, and I. Muhammad. They are also seniors in Mechanical Engineering. The title of their paper was "Digital Measurement Device: A Boeing Aircraft Design Project".

The third place winner was Koo B. Chin, a graduate student in Animal Science. His paper was entitled "Evaluation of nutrient Composition of Commercial Goat Milk Yogurt Produced in the U.S."

The 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners will be given cash award of \$300, \$200, \$100 dollars respectively, along with plaques.

The other three papers will be presented certificates for their efforts.

The 4th place winner was "Rheological Evaluation of a New Turbine System Control Fluid," by Shannon P. Marquez. G.C. Emesih won fifth place with his research paper entitled "Effects of Photoperiod and Continuous Release Melatonin Implants on Plasma Concentrations of Prolactin in Cashmere Goats." Sixth place went to M.L. Sasabo who wrote a paper entitled, "Design for Total Dose Radiation Tolerance of CMOS Logic Gates."

The winners will be honored at an awards banquet for the Sigma Xi Society on April 22.

Included as a part of the awards for the first three winners was a free ticket to the banquet.

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The photographer will be here Wednesday, April 22, 1992 from 10:30 until 5:30 to photograph all staff, students & faculty members who were unable to have their photo taken at the earlier sessions.

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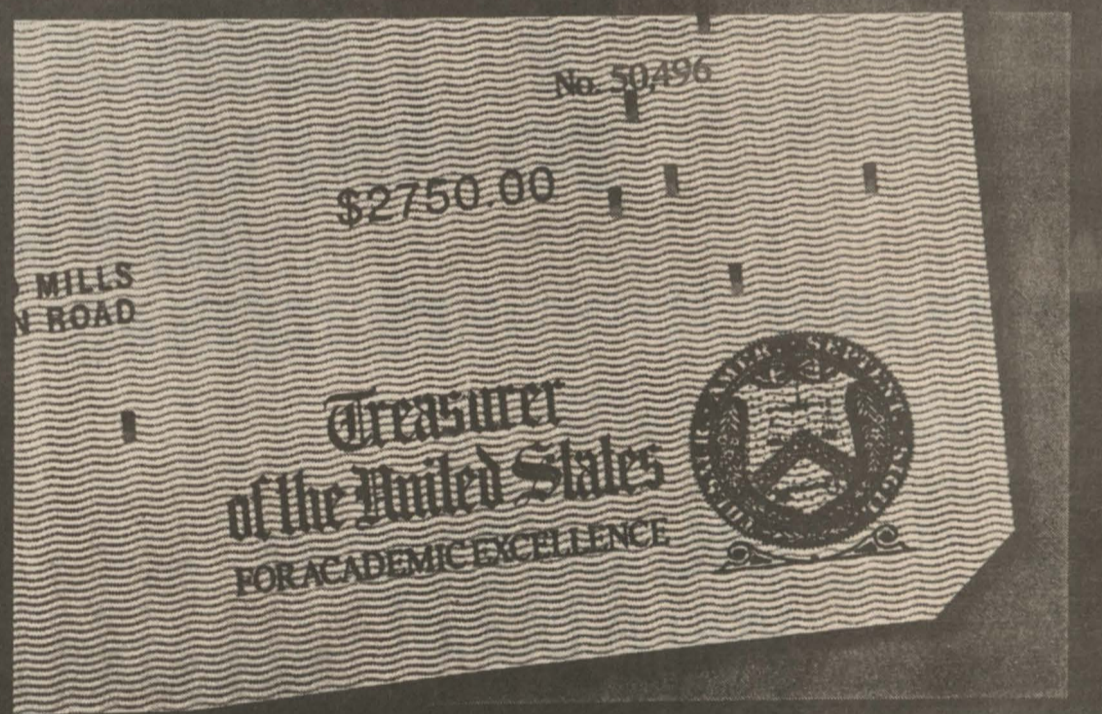
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Monday: 4-20-92 WESLEY Festival chapel (M.S.C. BALLROOM)

Tuesday: 4-21-92 Ecumenical Gathering of PVAMU

Wednesday: 4-22-92 Musical (All Faith Chapel)

Thursday: 4-23-92 Wesley Work Day

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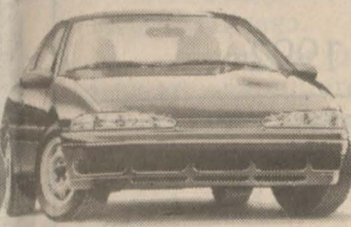
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