

Prairie View A&M University

Digital Commons @PVAMU

PV Panther Newspapers

Publications

5-1-1998

Panther- May 1998 - Vol. LXXV, No.10

Prairie View A&M University

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.pvamu.edu/pv-panther-newspapers>

Recommended Citation

Prairie View A&M University. (1998). Panther- May 1998 - Vol. LXXV, No.10., *Vol. LXXV, No.10* Retrieved from <https://digitalcommons.pvamu.edu/pv-panther-newspapers/497>

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Publications at Digital Commons @PVAMU. It has been accepted for inclusion in PV Panther Newspapers by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @PVAMU. For more information, please contact hvkoshy@pvamu.edu.



The

Panther

May 1, 1998
Vol. 75, No. 10

The Official Student Newspaper of Prairie View A&M University

Year-in-review:

By Patrina A. Bostic,
Carlos Hopkins, John
Scott, and Tiara M. Ellis
Panther Editorial Staff

Through all of the good and bad, it has finally come full circle and another academic year at Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) has come to a close.

The 1997-98 year has held a lot of dramatic changes for the university. From athletic achievements to the loss of some great professors, PVAMU still stands.

In recognition of the end of a yet another year, *The Panther* is reflecting on the past year in all its glory and defeats.

What a year we've had in sports—three whopping first time ever Southwestern Athletic Championships (SWAC) in the history of the university.

The Men's Indoor Track and Field team lead the way to victory and on its heel came the men's basketball team triumphing in the media's spotlight while advancing to the National Collegiate Athletics Associa-

Students come full circle as they fall out of '97, spring into '98

to the women's bowling team who aimed to demolish every pin in sight and secured a grand second place SWAC trophy which they embraced with pride.

As PVAMU brings a winning athletic tradition to the campus, the football team's losing streak continues. It's possible they may catch that championship fever for the Fall 1998 season.

Out of the communication department the forensic team won high "superior" and "excellent" honors in the Pi Kappa Delta Bi-Province Forensic Tournament at McNeese State University-Lake Charles.

Our prestigious Marching Storm will no longer be recruiting students with scholarship money. Students presently receiving stipends will have to find other means of paying for their tuition. The future quality of our band remains questionable.

Famous playwright, Dr. Ntozake Shange, known for her Broadway hit *For Colored Girls Who Consider Suicide When the Rainbow is Enuf* honored PVAMU when she was hired to teach English literature and drama classes.

The University Choir traveled to Las Vegas, NV, for a vocal competition and competed well with one student, Jean Mays, winning first place for an outstanding vocal performance.

The best "thing" to happen to the *The Panther* came on board in the Fall 1997 with fire and determination. Dr. Kimetris Baltrip, lead the publication to new heights.

In addition, the PVAMU Computer Science Department won the heart of NASA which led to



photo by Gitonga M'Mbijewe

Mr. and Miss Prairie View 1997-98 sit atop their float during the Homecoming Parade basking in the limelight.

signing a collaborative agreement due to PVAMU's impressive academic progress and training in computer science and engineering.



photo by Gitonga M'Mbijewe

Senior NCAA All-American and Olympic trial qualifier, Dakari Jahi Leneer, runs his leg of the relay race.



The trumpet section of The Marching Storm pauses to catch the beat.

(NCAA). Meanwhile the women's softball team was playing hardball and didn't let up until they reigned and tasted the glory. Congratulations also goes out

photo by Gitonga M'Mbijewe



Students dance in front of Alumni Hall to zydeco music in celebration of Springfest 1998.

photo by Gitonga M'Mbijewe



photo by Gitonga M'Mbijewe

Greek unity is represented as members of each organization present their signs on the steps of the Memorial Student Center.

Media injust to image of blacks



By Carlos Hopkins
Copy Editor

Entertainment?—I think not.

The images on television that depict Black people in this society are quite disturbing.

Gangsters, drug dealers, hustlers, pimps, whores, should I go on? It is disturbing to watch the scenes on the nightly news which show young Black men and women going to jail for doing crime, as if that is all we do.

My problem is that we (Black people) have too many negative images on television and in films put out by Black and White people. It seems as if we are trained to accept these images because it is said to be "what is going on."

What about the other things that are going on? Where are stories about the Black lawyer becoming a partner at a law firm, or the Black man or woman going from a hard-working police officer to police chief, or the Black man graduating from medical school with a degree to practice medicine? Where are the Black CEOs, judges, and entrepreneurs with successful businesses? Where are these images and why aren't they shown on television or in films?

Our younger generation need images like these to have something to strive for. They need more television shows to focus on family values and getting an education, not just having to see an overload of Black-on-Black crime on television.

There is also too much emphasis on growing up to play professional basketball - mostly shown in soft drink commercials.

I am not totally saying do away with soft drink commercials and basketball, but have some type of balance of commercials.

It seems as if these commercials are teaching our Black youth to be a basketball team player and not a basketball team owner. Is that the overall plan?

Our own Black movies are no better than the commercials. Most of the films made by Black people have a good point or valuable concerns that need to be addressed, but why include the negative stereotypes that our Black race has been plagued with.

For example, in the movie *Soul Food*, why was there gang violence? The director could have easily proved his point without it.

In fact, most of the Black movies produced have scenes with some type of gang violence or gang material, or they have actors using bad grammar suggesting that the particular person is from the ghetto or the "hood."

Not all people who live in the hood use bad grammar. In the real world, people tend to look down on people that live in the ghettos when in fact that person may be a hard-working individual.

If what is displayed on television is constantly repeated and supported by Black people, it will become a major factor in how people view Black people in today's society.

Our beautiful Black women, the mothers and queens of our race, are too often viewed as whores, easy-going, having no morals, too independent, and with bad attitudes.

Yes, there are WOMEN who are like that. Why do these images have to be publicized at the expense of Black women?

Black brothers and sisters, we really need to watch the way we play into these stereotypical roles and make an effort to clean up our image.

A lot of Black people act and talk the way they do because of how they are influenced by television, films, and most of all, music.

Let us all be more positive and supportive of one another as brothers and sisters. We can set our own standards and not let someone do it for us.

We can change the way we are viewed in society. All of this can be done not just by one individual, but as a whole.



Newspaper Staff

The Panther Advisor : Dr. Kimetris Baltrip
Technical assistance provided by Gitonga M'mbijewe

Editors

- Tiara M. Ellis : Editor-in-Chief
- Patrina A. Bostic : Managing Editor
- John Scott : News Editor
- Zharmer Hardimon : Entertainment Editor
- Carlos C. Hopkins : Copy Editor

Staff

- Quevarra Moten
- Joyce Dixon
- Charlotte Womack
- Jo-Carolyn Goode
- SaKinna Thomas
- Charles Collins
- Samantha R. Thomas
- Quincy Higgins
- Tracey Moore
- Alzo Slade
- Glenn Russell
- Virrobin Esther
- Stephen C. Price
- Santee's Bowers
- Eric Chamel-Gaither
- Latoya Moore
- Lindell Hale

Editorial Policy

The Panther is a publication supported through advertising and student activities fees. Views expressed within the publication are not necessarily those shared by Prairie View A&M University or the Texas A&M University Board of Regents.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Fall brings oportunities that make a difference

Santee's Bowers
Panther Staff

As the spring 1998 semester comes to an end, students are gathering their thoughts and plans for the summer. Taking the summertime break to vacation, to work, or to further their education, many students should not forget about their home away from home.

As they return to Prairie View A&M University in the fall, many should prepare to make an improvement in the campus life atmosphere. With new students, foreign and domestic; new professors, young and old; and a new student government president, full of ideas and ready to start; alumni should prepare to see PVAMU with a new look.

Fulfilling the fall semester 'kicking it' time with activity, instead of going to the game room, many should take every opportunity to do something productive. Whether it is community ser-

vice, assisting within their department, or becoming an active member of SGA, students should take every opportunity to leave a positive impression.

Instead of composing new complaints, students should try to aid in the correction of old complaints. Instead of reminiscing about broken promises from the president, students should take the initiative to get things done themselves. Instead of complaining about the sports program, the football team in particular, many should support all student activities during the fall.

It is easy to say that people should do this, instead of doing that, but what ever they choose to do, students should not take their education for granted. With so many oportunities ahead, I encourage and challenge young Africans to make a difference. First improving the university, then the community, many students and their actions may lead to a nation-wide evolution.

Submission Policy for Letters to the Editor

Anyone who reads *The Panther* can submit a letter to the editor at P. O. Box 2876, Prairie View, TX 77446 or in the Memorial Student Center, room 114. All submissions are subject to editing and must include the author's name and telephone number. These submissions reflect the opinions of *The Panther* readers and not the staff.



IMMEDIATE AVAILABILITY FOR DISTRIBUTION CENTER POSITIONS

If you are interested in full-time, part-time or summer positions, please apply in person or write.

Qualifications: Must be at least 18 years of age, able to lift up to 60 lbs and pass basic math test.
Shifts Available:
Part-time: Monday-Thursday 4:00pm-10:00pm
Full-time: Monday-Friday 7:00am-4:00pm and Monday-Thursday 11:00am-10:00pm (Full-time includes some overtime, including Saturdays.)
Applications Accepted: Monday-Friday, 8:00am-5:00pm @ 1800 N. Mason Road, Katy, TX 77449
ACADEMY IS A SMOKE-FREE ENVIRONMENT

NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE.

The Gilpin Players get back into the swing of things

Isn't it ironic how sometimes you can have a year where you are on top of the world as national champions? Everybody loves and respects you. Then, the next year it's an absolute ghost town.

Well, that's the way it was in Hobart, Texas with the music and drama department. The fall semester this year was a complete turnaround from last year, as you may recall.

The Charles Gilpin Players have held a long-time winning tradition since the arrival of Mr. C. Lee Turner in 1979.

*In 1982, the Gilpins were chosen to perform at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington D.C., as one of the six top college performing troupes in the nation.

*In 1983, at the Northeast American College Theater Festival held at Pan American University, the Gilpins swept major awards presented including Best Choreography, Best Costumes, Best Set Design, Best Director, and Best Musical Cast for their production of the *Cotton Club Revue*.

*In 1984, the Gilpins continued their legacy by being one of ten college theater groups chosen to perform at the World's Fair in New Orleans. The mayor of New Or-

leans gave the Gilpins a key to the city and named July 25, 1984, as Prairie View A&M University Day in honor of the Gilpin Players.

*From 1985-87, the Gilpins won the American College Theater Festival.

The Gilpin Players won more awards at their re-



gional competition at San Jacinto's Community College in Pasadena, TX than any other university.

The production was *Infancy/Zoo Story*, two absurd, one-act plays which both take place in New York City's Central Park.

Then, the Gilpins gained the most awards for *Fences* at a Commerce, including Director's Choice and Best Ensemble Acting. A to-

tally different play and cast from *Infancy/Zoo Story*, *Fences* was chosen to go to the Kennedy Center for an exhibition performance along with four other universities from across the country. Also, Irene Ryan Nominee, Exekial Morgan and partner Taryne Metcalf fared extremely well in the national competition.

The fall semester there were no glamorous cabaret shows and no glorious awards from competitions. We did, however, keep up the main-stage campus shows: *Dial M for Murder*, *Herbert III*, and *Shoes* which were all directed by Dr. Theodis, Jr.

The spring semester found the Gilpin Players getting back into the swing of things.

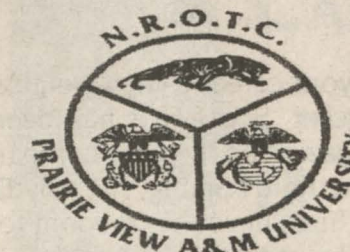
This semester started off at the TETA convention in Dallas, then a performance of *To Be Young, Gifted and Black* in Plano, and finally a tour of *Don't Bother Me I Can't Cope* was performed at the Dallas Black Academy of Arts and Letters.

The student directing projects were a big hit this year thanks to budding directors D'Carrey Stell and Richard Bratcher.

This letter was contributed to *The Panther* by the Music and Drama department.



Join the Panther Elite..Naval ROTC



Merit based scholarships are available to those who qualify. Our scholarships pay full tuition, university fees, textbooks and your uniforms are provided for free. Also, all scholarship winners receive a monthly stipend of \$150.00 per month. If you have what it takes and are interested in a potential career as a Naval or Marine Corps Officer, contact LT Terrence Thomas on campus at (409) 857-2310 or drop by the Naval Science Building.

Naval ROTC..we develop LEADERS.

CAMPUS NEWS

Programs assist student progress toward education degree

Below are a few programs that may be useful for students as the year comes to a close:

- Students who entered the University in the Fall of 1997 may be eligible for a \$1000 rebate. In order to be considered for the rebate, students must graduate with no more than three hours beyond their degree plan.
- The International Financial Aid Fund is to assist students who are approved for study abroad. Students must be accepted into an international Academic Program Committee.
- The "Right to an Academic Fresh Start" entitles residents of Texas to seek admission to public institutions of higher education as undergraduate students without consideration of courses undertaken ten or more years prior to enrollment.

Students must meet the qualifications for each program. For additional information regarding guidelines for these programs, contact Mrs. Nicole Woods, Division of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management at 409-857-2626.

Frontier Festival recognizes PVAMU professors

Prairie View, TX

Drs. Bruce Twyman and John Fuller represented Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) at the University of Houston Annual Frontier Fiesta Festival on April 18-19, 1998.

PVAMU participated with a display for the first time this year. The display was funded from research enhancement grant entitled "Black Seminoles in North American Politics 1845-Present."

The festival had an estimated 6000 students and professors attending.

Nick 'em but don't hurt 'em - Domino

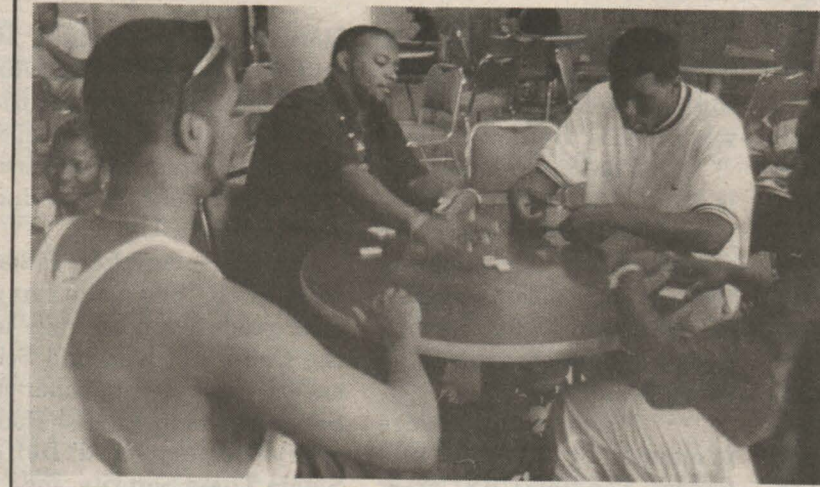


photo by Tracey Moore

Relaxing in the game room with a quick hand of dominoes after class allows students to get their minds off of those upcoming exams.

Prairie View A&M University students serve as facilitators at conference in Tampa, Florida

Prairie View, TX

Sixteen members of the Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) Student Branch Association for Childhood Education International (ACEI) presented a session and served as facilitators at the Annual ACEI International Study Conference in Tampa, Fla., April 15-18, 1998.

The response to their session, entitled "Culturally and Developmentally Appropriate Emergent Literacy Activities for Young Children," was overwhelming.

The members attending the conference were Lea

Barksdale, Kizzy Brooks, Mone't Clarkston, Nicole Cozart, Troy Daniels II (Mr. ACEI), Karen Davis, Jacqueline Gerrans, Shandrea Harris (President), Kim E. Lee, Willie Manning, Christina McCloud, Stephanie McNeil, Yalisha Reed, LaKeisha Rider, Kimberly Scott, and Elizabeth Warren.

PVAMU had the largest representation of university students from Texas in attendance at the conference. The students were accompanied by their university ACEI sponsors, Dr. Martha L. Bailey and Dr. Ollie J. Davis, and chaperon, Ms. Jerlyn Mosley.

ACEI is the oldest professional organization for

those involved in the education of children from infancy through early adolescence.

Members of the PVAMU student branch are preservice teachers majoring in Interdisciplinary Studies, usually with an emphasis in Early Childhood Education/Elementary Education.

Members have participated in many local activities throughout the academic year, including the Annual Officer Installation Ceremony, a Thanksgiving Luncheon, where nonperishable food items were collected for neighborhood families, a host of Christmas activities for the community and various other projects.

© 1997, 1998 Southwest Airlines Co.

Before We Ask For Your References, We Think It's Only Fair To Show You One Of Ours.

"Southwest Airlines Is The Best Company To Work For In America."

-Fortune magazine

Join Us For The Southwest Airlines Job Fair At The Hobby Airport Hilton, 8181 Airport Blvd., Monday, May 4, 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

Flight Attendants

Flight Attendants provide quality, professional, and courteous service by ensuring the safety and comfort of our Customers while making the flight fun and memorable. Flight Attendant bases are located in Dallas, Houston, Phoenix, Chicago, and Oakland, and assignments are made based on staffing needs.

Want to take your career to new heights? This could be just the ticket. Southwest has been recognized by Fortune magazine as the best company to work for in America. The hardworking, friendly Employees at Southwest Airlines have the freedom to be creative, dress casually, and have fun on the job. Employees also enjoy great benefits like free

travel privileges, profitsharing, matching 401(k), medical and dental. If these are important to you and if you're prepared to work harder than you ever imagined — and have a lot of fun while doing it — Southwest's Recruiters are eager to meet you. Come by our job fair and talk seriously about your future. Please bring a copy of your résumé.



SOUTHWEST AIRLINES
A SYMBOL OF FREEDOM®
www.southwest.com

Equal Opportunity Employer

Congratulations Upcoming Graduates!

UCS

Universal Computer Systems provides the most innovative software available in our industry. We are a stable, privately held company in business since 1970 with more than 1400 employees nationwide. Positions are available at our headquarters in Houston, our expanding office in College Station, or regionally throughout the country. All majors are considered for entry-level positions ranging from sales and customer support to programming and technical support. For more information about our current positions, please see our binder in the placement center or send a resume to:

Universal Computer Systems, Inc.
6700 Hollister, Houston, TX 77040
Fax: (713) 718-1401
http://www.ucs-systems.com

*UCS hires non-tobacco users only.
E.O.E.*

Approved by the American Bar Association Since 1979.

RESEARCHING YOUR NEXT CAREER MOVE?

Become a Paralegal or a Para-Accountant.

Invest as little as four months training for a "cutting edge" career in law and accounting. Call us at (713) 666-7600 or 1 (800) 633-8967.



SOUTHWESTERN PARALEGAL INSTITUTE

4888 Loop Central Drive, Suite 800
Houston, TX 77081-2214
email: www.swpara@aol.com
Fax: (713) 666-2030

CAMPUS NEWS

Communication student to intern at CBS, Inc.

Prairie View, TX

The Communication Department of Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) congratulates SaKinna Thomas, junior, double majoring in Communication and English for being chosen to work with CBS Inc. this summer. Thomas was chosen by CBS Inc. and The College Fund/UNCF to participate in the 1998 CBS Career

Horizons Program. The program provides an eight week learning experience at CBS Inc. in Los Angeles, Calif. The program stipend is \$5,000 for an eight-week period and upon successful completion of the program, Thomas may also be eligible to receive up to \$8,000 in scholarship support for the 1998-99 academic year. Participants were nominated by deans and professors. The 1998 CBS Career

Horizons Program chose 10 students, two for the Los Angeles site and eight for the New York site, from a pool of applicants from all Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). Thomas is from Indianapolis, IN. She maintains a 3.82 grade point average in the College of Arts and Sciences. She is a member of Sigma Tau Delta English Honorary Society, and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Housing update: It's time to move

Semester hall closing
• As stated in your Housing Contract and Handbook, Residence Halls will be

closing to the general student population Sat., May 9, 1998 at 12 noon through Aug. 16, 1998.

Fall housing for returning students

• Room reservations for students seeking housing in the Fall Semester 1998 can be made before the end of the semester.

• Room reservation deposits of \$100 must be paid prior to May 1, 1998 for the Fall Semester 1998 for all returning students.

Fall housing for new & transfer students

• Fall housing for new and transfer students can be made through the mail or in August.

• Any residents found residing in the residence hall illegally will be charged with trespassing, may lose future housing privileges, and will be billed.

Summer housing

• All residents who have met their fiscal obligations and who have not been placed on a university enrollment block, and plan to attend summer school need to apply for housing at University Village.

Panther Classified Ads

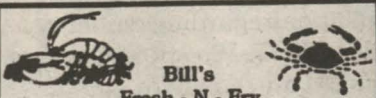
Miscellaneous

NOW OPEN
ON CAMPUS
KOPYKO

COPYING AND PRINTING CENTER
Fax-Offset Printing
Binding • Typesetting and more
MSC - Room 101B
• Telephone 857-4945
• Fax 857-4946

FOR RENT

3 BR-2 FULL BATHS
CEILING FANS, AC/HEATER
MAJOR APPLIANCES
\$300 SECURITY DEPOSIT/
\$500 PER MONTH
(281) 473-2298 Pager
(281) 463-0668 Home
1226 4th Street
Hempstead, TX



Bill's
Fresh - N - Fry
Seafood
203 Brentwood Hempstead, TX 77445
CALL (409) 826-3568
Specials: Fries included
10 shrimp \$4.99
10 Catfish nuggets \$2.99
6 Shrimp + 4 Nuggets \$3.99
3 pc. Drum Fish \$4.99
2 pc. Catfish Fillet \$3.99

Master the ExCET, \$35, Money-Back-Guarantee. Ask your University Bookstore for ExCET Master®. Go to: www.excet.com or phone: ph 409-962-3100.

Help Wanted

Panther Positions

Speak your mind, share your thoughts, learn a skill, meet new friends and gain valuable experience!



GIRL SCOUTS

Summer Camp Counselors, Administrative Staff, Nurses and Lifeguards needed for Girl Scout resident camps near Athens, Texas and on Lake Texoma. For more information, call 972-349-2490, ext. 7020. EOE.

No previous experience necessary, and open to students of any major.

Available Now!!

HELP WANTED

Men/Women earn \$375 weekly processing/ assembling Medical I.D. Cards at home. Immediate openings, your local area. Experience unnecessary, will train. Call Medicaid 1-541-386-5290 Ext 118M

For Sale

FOR SALE

2.0 acres of land on Briar Meadow Dr. Great for home-steading! Electricity, phone, and city water for only \$12,000 call Beryl @ (713) 520-6624

BUY A MEMORY

Older issues of The Pantherland yearbook are available for a nominal fee. Come by the Student Publications Office, 114A MSC, write to P.O. Box 2876, Prairie View, TX 77446 or call (409) 857-2132 or 857-4107.

BLACK HISTORY

Former PVAMU president molds the university of today



Former PVAMU president and visionary, Dr. Alvin Ignace Thomas

By John Scott
News Editor

Former Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) President Dr. Alvin Ignace Thomas is not a name known by very many present day students on this campus, but it is one they should learn and never forget.

Thomas' contributions during his 33 years of service to PVAMU (16 of which were spent as president) enabled students to attain a quality higher education.

Dr. Thomas came to Prairie View A&M College as a woodwork instructor in 1949

after receiving his Master of Science from Kansas State University.

He worked for Prairie View for 17 years in a number of capacities including director of its division of industrial education and dean of its entire school of Industrial Education and Technology.

During this time, Dr. Thomas continued his own education (eventually receiving his Ph.D from Ohio State University), while formulating and solidifying his ideas on the university's directions.

He was given the opportunity to put his ideas to the test in 1966, when he was

appointed president of the university, replacing the originally appointed Dr. J.M. Drew who had grown ill shortly after taking office.

This twist of fate drastically changed the face of the university.

According to a March 1979 article in Texas Monthly, the campus Dr. Thomas inherited resembled a "...Jerry built army barracks in the South Pacific..."; its drop out rate was "...more than 70 percent..."; and the laboratories were using "...hand-me-down equipment from Texas A&M that was hopelessly out of date..."

Faced with these circumstances, Dr. Thomas studied and learned his from competitors who had succeeded.

One competitor he studied was Yale University. He traveled to Yale to witness first hand how it was run and talk to those who attended or worked there.

After his observations, Dr. Thomas said in an interview, "...Everything at that university is tied directly

to a system of upper-class ethics and values..."

"...There is a built in guarantee that, once you have been exposed to the Yale ethic, you are immediately qualified to enter the upper class."

Dr. Thomas continued, "...They (Yale) had perfected the art of perpetuating a white upper class."

Dr. Thomas wanted PVAMU to "...perfect the art of perpetuating a black middle class..." elevating underprivileged kids from the ghetto into it.

He knew in order to attain his goal, it would be necessary improve the appearance, facilities and curriculum at PVAMU.

After strongly lobbying the Texas A&M University system, he had not only attained a new master plan for PVAMU, but \$13 million to begin implementation.

The first buildings built were Holley Hall and Drew Hall dormitories and the Alumni dining hall.

Completed in 1973, these structures were the be-

ginning of a building boom which resulted in the erection of the fire and security building, Farrell Hall, Burleson-Ware ROTC Building, Hobart Taylor Hall, the engineering building, KPVM radio station and the Owens-Franklin Health center.

In addition, he added extensive landscaping, planting trees and grass on the campus where there was little or none. He also changed the majority of the curriculum to focus more on traditionally middle class professions.

His approach seems to have worked as PVAMU has become a leading American university.

The enrollment has doubled since he began his tenure from around 2,500 in 1966 to well over 6,000 today and the dropout rate has fallen well below 50 percent.

Sadly, poor health forced him to resign in 1982, leaving many wondering what could have been, for no presidents since have left such an indelible mark on the face of the university.

OUR APOLOGIES

The Panther Staff would like to apologize to Gboyega Adegbola for misspelling his name in last week's issue within the article titled Spring Fashion Show Profiles Latest Styles of the Season. Gboyega was one of the host of The Journey of Expression talent show.

PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY ARMY ROTC DEPT HAS
\$\$\$ SCHOLARSHIPS \$\$\$



TO GIVE AWAY
DID YOU KNOW:

THAT THE ARMY ROTC PROGRAM HAS 2 YEAR AND GRADUATE STUDY SCHOLARSHIPS TO GIVE AWAY. THESE SCHOLARSHIPS WILL PAY FOR YOUR TUITION, FEES, BOOKS, AND PAY STIPEND OF \$150 A MONTH UP TO \$1500 A YEAR.

THE MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS TO QUALIFY ARE:

- * INVOLVEMENT IN EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES
- * MUST GRADUATE AND BE COMMISSIONED BETWEEN YOUR 17TH AND 27TH BIRTH DATE
- * U.S. CITIZEN
- * 2.5 OVERALL GPA

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS IS: 15 MAY 1998

FOR MORE INFORMATION

CONTACT MAJOR PEARSON AT (409) 857-4612.

ACT NOW

1998 ANNUAL FUND CAMPAIGN
"FOR A STRONGER PVAMU"

supporting athletics scholarships, academic scholarships and the greatest needs of the University.

Contact: Mrs.Carolyn Bradley - Oliver
PVAMU Office of Institutional Development
P.O. Box 4129, Prairie View, Tx. 77446-4129
(409) 857-4091 fax: (409) 857-3806

Order Your Brick Today for the
ALUMNI PARK WALL!

Be Among the First 500 to be immortalized in Brick
DON'T DELAY -- ORDER TODAY!

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

Friday, May 8, 1998

For More Information Call
(409) 857-2245

1ST PERSON

Jessye Norman

Her operatic reputation is so great that the proud, culture-obsessed French chose her, an American, to sing their national anthem in France's 1989 bicentennial celebration.

DID YOU KNOW?

- HER HEROINE: Soprano Marion Anderson, who struggled against discrimination in 1940s
- BROUGHT LIBEL SUIT AGAINST: Classic CD Magazine, which had griped about a large-figured 49-year-old singing the part of a seductive teenager in the opera "Salome"
- MERIT BADGE: Made a lifetime member of Girl Scouts, 1987
- HER VOICE: Strongest and most expressive in middle and low notes; unstable on higher notes

PERSONAL DATA

- BORN: Sept. 15, 1945, Augusta, Ga.
- EDUCATION: Howard Univ., Univ. of Michigan, Peabody Conservatory (Baltimore)
- CAREER: Operatic debut in Berlin, 1969; performed in Europe; made U.S. debut in 1972; in later years, tours and many recordings

SOURCES: Collier's Encyclopedia, Who's Who in America, New York Times Magazine; Winne Klotz photo courtesy of Metropolitan Opera

Learn more and take the Jessye Norman quiz online at: (Your Web site's URL goes here)

Students of fashion, merchandising sew up the industry



Students and faculty of PVAMU attended the 12th annual Marketing Opportunities in Black Entertainment in New Orleans this past semester.

By Keisha Smith
Special to The Panther

Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) is a higher learning institution that encourages not only scholarly excellence, but also diversity and creativity among its students.

From the College of Engineering to the College of

Liberal Arts & Sciences, talented PVAMU students of all majors continue to stand out and display their talents including those in Fashion Design & Merchandising in the Department of Human Sciences.

Many people are not even aware that PVAMU offers a Fashion Merchandising program, but that silence will soon be broken as PVAMU students in the pro-

gram make their move. The head of the program is Ann Johnson who graduated from PVAMU in 1992 and began teaching here in 1995.

Johnson also founded Club 'Flava', an organization geared toward Fashion Merchandising & Design majors, with membership open to everyone.

Johnson said she wanted to start a club that was fresh, creative, and innovative.

This semester, Club 'Flava' attended the Marketing Opportunities in Black Entertainment (M.O.B.E.) conference in New Orleans. The conference was a great opportunity for the students who were able to attend.

Although the conference focused on marketing, organizational seminars such as "Fashion and Blacks In The Computer Industry" were included. The students met a

see Fashion on page 11

Since this is the most read column of The Panther, the staff thought it would only be appropriate to select our favorite questions of the 1997-98 school year. This column was not only created for your humorous enjoyment, but it was also created in the hopes of provoking thought among students and faculty. We would like to thank all the readers and we intend to keep on asking the questions that produce humor and provoke thought. And now without further ado we present to you.....

The Best of 20 Questions 1997-98

1. Why is this the only section of *The Panther* most of you are reading?
2. Now that Valentine's Day is over, what will po' Miss Bettye and her flowers do?
3. How many points do you have left on your meal plan?
4. Why do the campus police try to give tickets to females who won't give them their phone numbers?
5. Why is it that the president had two teams in national competition (Honda Campus All-Star and PV Men's Basketball team) and showed up for neither?
6. If PV is supposed to be a business, why aren't the customers always right?
7. Now wait a minute, we all love Kirk Franklin, but when the DJ plays "Stomp" after Master P at the club do we stomp or bounce dat a**?
8. Why is the Homecoming concert for the alumni and Springfest for the locals?
9. What's so *Express* about KFC and Taco Bell?
10. Isn't PV the only place on earth where you can walk right up to a squirrel and look him in the eyes?
11. Why is it that you don't hear from certain organizations until it's time for intake?
12. Where the hell are all the communications majors? (Yo, *The Panther* needs your help!)
13. Doesn't Ron Jones look like Dr. Hines?
14. Is 1998 the year for PV sports, or what?
15. Why is there a flier in the MSC that says "No More Fliers in the MSC"?
16. Since there have been so many problems found in Phase I since its arrival, shouldn't the construction men slow down just a little on the building of Phase III?
17. Remember when the front of Alumni used to be crunk?
18. Why are 15% of the females on this campus students during the day and strippers at night?
19. Why is University Village so trifling?
20. Who is the idiot who asked the AKA's "Does AKA stand for Any Kappa Anytime"?

Agricultural research stretches abroad

By Patrina A. Bostic
Managing Editor

Prairie View A&M University's (PVAMU) College of Agriculture and Human Sciences signed a collaborative agreement known as a Memorandum of Understanding with Universidad Autonoma Agraria Antonio Narro (UAAAN)-Torreon, Mexico, this spring with hopes of creating opportunities for limited resource farmers.

The efforts between PVAMU and UAAAN center around sending the South African Boer meat goat to UAAAN for cross breeding with some of Mexico's indigenous goats in an attempt to find the best combination which not only produces superior meat, but also a dual purpose dairy and meat goat.

Boer goats have been sent to UAAAN and research is underway.

PVAMU was the first university in the United States to import and study the Boer goat, according to Dr. Dalton McWhinney, Agriculture Research Scientist.

"We are the top HBCU (Historical Black Colleges and Universities) goat research center of the 1890 institutions, and people come (here) from all over the world for goat management and research," said McWhinney.

PVAMU founded its International Goat Research Center in 1983 and has since established agreements with the Ministry of Agriculture in Jamaica and the University of Costa Rica as goats are more numerous in countries outside the United States.

"We've extended our arm and have included neighboring countries as partners in our research effort," touted Dr. Alfred Parks, Research Director of

the PVAMU Cooperative Agricultural Research Center. "There are a lot of spin-offs from our research and with the NAFTA between the United States and Mexico great opportunities exist."

According to Parks, cattle are not as profitable as they once were because they require more land, manpower, and other resources to raise compared to goats.

He also pointed out that 5% of United States citizens have problems digesting cow milk and goat milk would be an alternative.

Parks hopes to work with a company such as Blue Bell in developing a formula for ice cream, and other projects include gourmet cheeses and yogurts all made from goat milk.

The joint venture also focuses on developing academic and cultural exchange programs for

students and faculty.

Three PVAMU students and one faculty member will study at UAAAN this summer, and in the fall, a graduate student from UAAAN will enroll in PVAMU classes while exchanging scientific, statistical and agro-economic information from UAAAN research center.

Parks is optimistic that those traveling to Mexico will return home speaking Spanish and said "learning Spanish is another benefit of this program."

"I think it's a good agreement between PVAMU and Mexico because it puts us in a position to address issues pertaining to goat production and management at an international level which is one of our primary responsibilities as an International Goat Research Center," said McWhinney.

Parks said he hopes this project will be the beginning of many projects with UAAAN.

PVAMU professor studying abroad

Prairie View, TX

Ronald Server, coordinator of the Prairie View A&M University Criminal Justice Program, has been selected to participate in the National Security Educational Program (NSEP).

The program entitled, "Improving Educational Opportunities Among Diverse Student Populations" is to be held this summer at the University of Iowa, followed by a month-long tour of the Soviet Union, including Russia, the Ukraine and Budapest, Hungary.

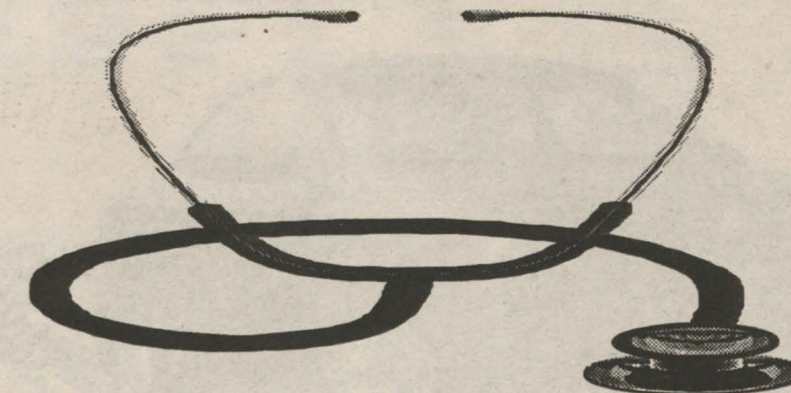
The program is designed to enhance international studies at targeted universities with limited academic work and research capacity in the field.

Server, an attorney, teaches a comparative law class and hopes his experience will provide research material for his class.

WALLER FAMILY PRACTICE

1221 FARR STREET - WALLER, TX 77484
(409) 372-3646

"CARE FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY UNDER ONE ROOF"



Walk-ins Welcome

SAIFUDDIN TAHIR, M.D., F.A.A.P.
Board Certified Pediatrics

ABDUL HASEEB, M.D., F.A.A.P.
Board Certified Pediatrics

PEDIATRICIANS
7 DAYS A WEEK
HOURS: MON. - FRI., 8:30-5:30
SAT., 9:00-4:00
SUN., 11:00-4:00

- Comprehensive Family Care - Pediatric Care - Physical Exams - Immunizations
- Sports/School Physicals - Well Baby Care - Minor Emergency Care - Internal Medicine - Circumcision (abrasions, lacerations, etc.)

If you do not see your insurance company listed below or you have any questions about our participation in your insurance, please call for more information.

The Clinic Accepts:

1. Accordia Small Business
2. Accountable Health
3. Aetna Managed Choice
4. Aetna Open Choice
5. Affiliated Health Care
6. Affordable Medical Networks
7. Alliance Health Providers
8. Allied Benefit Systems, Inc.
9. American Exchange Life Insurance Co.
10. American General Health Plan
11. American Group Administrators
12. American Insurance Co. of Texas
13. American Pioneer Life Insurance Co.
14. American Reserve
15. Anthem Health Plan
16. APWU

18. Beech Street
19. Benefit Planner
20. Blue Choice
21. Blue Cross/Blue Shield of TX
22. Boon Chapman
23. Capp Care Network
24. Central Security Life Insurance Co.
25. Champs
26. Choice 100
27. Cigna Companies
28. CNA Companies
29. Cost Care
30. Crowns Life
31. EBP Health Plans
32. EDS Health Benefit Plans
33. ETHIX Southwest
34. Fed Select
35. First Health
36. GEHA
37. Golden Rule Life

38. Great Fidelity Life
39. Health Administration Services
40. Health Advantage
41. Health Care Alliance
42. Health Care Compare
43. Health Compare Affordable
44. Health Net Provider
45. Health Partner
46. Health Select
47. Health Risk Management
48. HEC (Health Economics) Select
49. Hill Country Life Insurance Company
50. Home Life
51. Houston Health Care Purchasing Org.
52. Humana Health Care Plans
53. IBS
54. Jefferson Pilot

55. Jefferson Life Insurance Company
56. John Alden
57. John Hancock Advantage Plan
58. John Hancock
59. Lamar Life
60. Liberty Mutual
61. Managed Health Care
62. Medicaid
63. Med Corp Southwest, Inc.
64. Medicare
65. Mega Life
66. Mid-Continent Medical
67. Memorial Health Network
68. Memorial Sisters of Charity
69. Met Life
70. Metra Health
71. Monticello Life Insurance Company
72. Motorola Health Plan
73. Mutual of Omaha

74. National Automatic Sprinkler Industry
75. National Foundation Life Insurance Co.
76. National Health Care Alliance
77. Northwestern Providers Alliance
78. Northwestern National Life
79. NYL Care (PPO)
80. One Health Plan of Texas
81. PPO of Texas
82. Philadelphia Life
83. Phoenix - Home Life
84. Preferred Health Network
85. Preferred Plan of TX
86. Presidential Life Insurance Co.
87. Private Health Care Systems
88. Provident Life
89. Regit

90. Sams Report (PPO)
91. Sierra Health
92. Southwest Home Life Insurance
93. Standard Insurance Company
94. Student Insurance
95. Tareco, Inc. (PPO)
96. Tareco PPO & EPO
97. Texas Municipal League
98. The Lubrizol Corporation
99. Time Life
100. TIPHO
101. Travelers
102. USA Health Network
103. Unicare
104. United Payers & Providers, Inc.
105. Washington National
106. Workmen Compensation

Seven Days a Week
MUSTANSIR VEJLANT, M.D.
Board Certified Internal
Medicine

ADULT INTEREST
6 DAYS A WEEK
Hours: MON - FRI.
8:30 - 5:30
SAT. 9:00 - 4:00

DENZEL WASHINGTON

HE GOT GAME

THE FATHER, THE SON AND THE HOLY GAME

OPENS IN SELECT THEATRES MAY 1

SPORTS NEWS

PVAMU sports deserve to get a fair shake

By John Scott
News Editor

It's the bottom of the last inning, two outs, two strikes, and your team's down by one. You have a runner on second, if you swing at this next pitch and connect for a base hit, you could drive the tying run home, but if you swing and miss....

This is what was running through Rosalyn Hicks' mind just before her bat connected with the ball for the game tying RBI. That hit put her team, the Prairie View A&M Lady Panthers, in position to eventually beat Southern University 5-4 with Latrisha Williams' thundering home run in the bottom of the second extra inning. This also was after overcoming a 3-1 deficit.

The Lady Panthers really showed their character that second round of the Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC) Championship softball tournament and throughout.

see Sports on page 11

Three ways to beat the high cost of college.

1. The Montgomery GI Bill
2. Student loan repayment
3. Part-time income

The Army Reserve Alternate Training Program is a smart way to pay for college. First, if you qualify, the Montgomery GI Bill can provide you with up to \$7,124 for current college expenses or approved vo/tech training.

Second, if you have—or obtain—a qualified student loan not in default, you may get it paid off at the rate of 15% per year or \$500, whichever is greater, up to a maximum of \$10,000. Selected military skills can double that maximum.

Third, you can earn part-time money in college, and here's how it works: One summer you take Basic Training, and the next summer you receive skill training at an Army school. You'll earn over \$1,500 for Basic and even more for skill training. Then you'll attend monthly meetings at an Army Reserve unit near your college, usually one weekend a month plus two weeks a year. You'll be paid over \$107 a weekend to start. It's worth thinking about. Give us a call:

(409) 830-5324

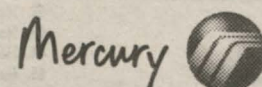
BE ALL YOU CAN BE.
ARMY RESERVE

\$400 CASH BONUS
toward purchase or lease*



1998 Ford Escort ZX2

You've hit the books. Now it's time to hit the road. Ford can help. College seniors and grad students get \$400 cash back* toward the purchase or Ford Credit Red Carpet Lease of any eligible Ford or Mercury. It's academic: pocket the cash, grab life by the wheel. For more College Graduate Purchase Program info, call 1-800-321-1536 or visit the Web at www.ford.com



*To be eligible, you must graduate with an associate's or bachelor's degree between 10/1/96 and 1/5/99 or be currently enrolled in graduate school. You must purchase or lease your new vehicle between 1/4/98 and 1/5/99. Some customer and vehicle eligibility restrictions apply. See your dealer for details.

NO LAB. NO DISCUSSION. NO LECTURE. YOUR NEXT COURSE IS ALL ABOUT TWISTS AND TURNS.

COLLEGE GRADUATE PURCHASE PROGRAM

CHECK IT OUT ON THE WEB. www.ford.com

Sports from page 10

They went on to win it all and to do it, they annihilated the best the SWAC had to offer with scores like the 10-2 shelling of Mississippi Valley State in the first round and the 9-1 thrashing of Alabama State in the championship game.

Yet what do they receive as a result of these feats?

Of course they receive a conference championship, but do they get the opportunity to represent the conference as well as their university on a national level in the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) tourna-

ment?

The answer is no. Why you say?

Well, according to SWAC public relations director Lonza Hardy, the Rating Percentage Index (RPI) of the SWAC is not high enough in softball in order for it to claim either an automatic spot in the NCAA tournament or have any of its teams invited.

The RPI is a rating scale used by the NCAA to determine the overall strength of any given college sports team as well as its conference. It is based upon how well teams perform against opponents outside their con-

ferences. The more non-conference games they win, the higher the rating goes for both themselves and their conference.

The problem with the SWAC is we really don't play enough non-conference games against teams with decent RPI ratings in any sport to truly gain a stronger rating ourselves.

That has to change. If for no other reason than it is costing money.

A higher RPI rating for the whole conference could raise our seed in NCAA tournament for starters to say 15th or maybe even 14th

which increases our chances of survival to the next rounds, which in the case of the basketball tournament, could possibly mean another \$250,000 for the conference.

Many say we don't have the athletes to compete with those other conferences and that they'll destroy us. I disagree.

You'll never be able to compete with the best if you don't play with the best.

If our conference is in fact mediocre, how are we supposed to get better if we play mostly with ourselves and those inferior to us?

Think about it.

Fashion from page 8 number of professionals including Black Entertainment Television (BET) representatives, and Daymond John, CEO and designer of FUBU (For Us By Us) Fashions.

Currently John is working on a Fashion Advisory counsel project which will serve as a mentorship program, 'Fad P.V.'

Merchandising students are now designing an urban sportswear line. The line will include apparel for males, females, and full figured people and should be ready by Fall '98 after securing a license.



HOCUS-FOCUS



FIND AT LEAST 6 DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PANELS.
Differences: 1. Pillow is smaller. 2. Sign is different. 3. Dummstick is shorter. 4. Boy is missing. 5. Slippers are added. 6. Dumm is different.

MAMA'S BOYZ by JERRY CRAFT



P.V.'s Own "Jus' Chillin'": By QUINCY HIGGINS



MAGIC MAZE

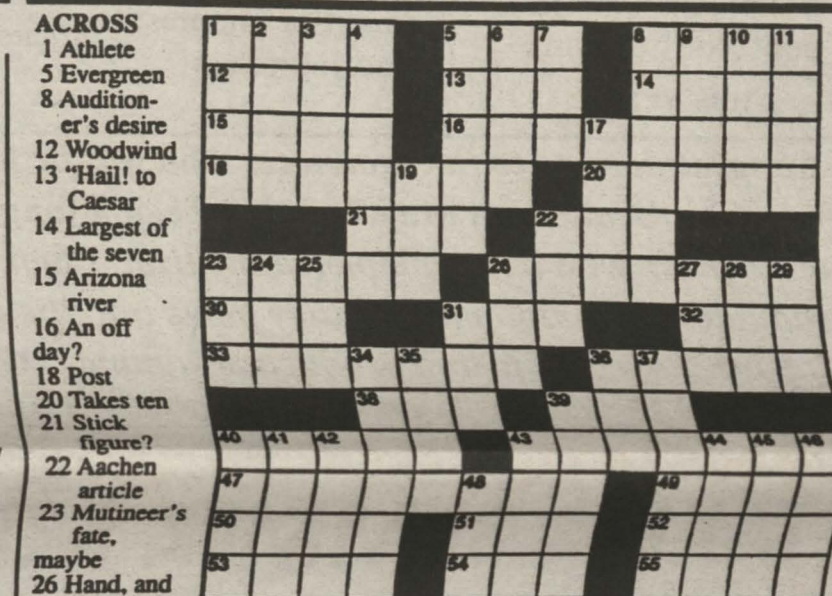
HALL

XGDAXUROELJCGDA
XVSPNKICGYOFCAX
INDEPENDENCEVVSQ
OLJHIAEIVOICAXV
TRTPDNGENHNRLJH
FDABYENCWPXVITR
POMTNTAOMOMMHK
IGMRIREDTYUOEBZ
XOAO TOINESRALS W
TCNOITIBIHXEUTS
ROYONLJCIGFDCAY

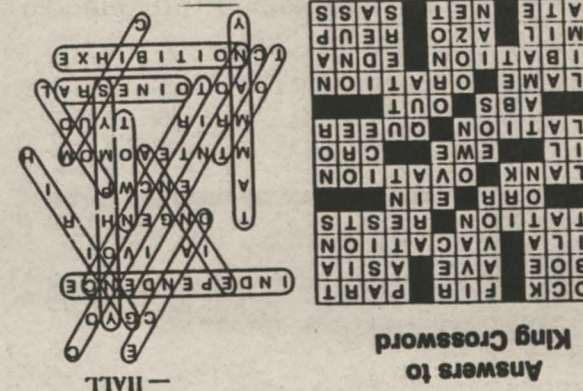
Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions—forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

- Annie Convention Independence Tammany
- Arsenio Dance Music Tom T.
- Carnegie Exhibition Pool Town
- Concert Hiring Symphony

KING CROSSWORD



- ACROSS
- 1 Athlete
 - 5 Evergreen
 - 8 Auditor's desire
 - 12 Woodwind
 - 13 "Hail! to Caesar"
 - 14 Largest of the seven
 - 15 Arizona river
 - 16 An off day?
 - 18 Post
 - 20 Takes ten figure?
 - 21 Stick
 - 22 Aachen article
 - 23 Mutineer's fate, maybe
 - 26 Hand, and then some
 - 30 Spindletop spillage
 - 31 Ram's ma'am
 - 32 —Mag-non man
 - 33 High spirits
 - 36 Eccentric
 - 38 Stomach muscles
 - 39 Extinguished
 - 40 Sweetheart
 - 43 Desmothenes' offering
 - 47 Beverage
 - 49 — St. Vincent Millay
 - 50 Bygone actor
 - 51 Nitrogenous
 - 52 Sign on for
- DOWN
- 1 Trots
 - 2 Last writes?
 - 3 Pop preference
 - 4 Batman portrayer
 - 5 Act of goodwill
 - 6 Terrible guy?
 - 7 Fun 'n' games
 - 8 Obvious
 - 9 Un-repaired
 - 10 Laugh-a-minute type
 - 11 Prepares
 - 17 "Turandot" tune
 - 19 Annoy
 - 22 Leading lady?
 - 23 "To Helen" writer
 - 24 Abner's adjective
 - 25 Carte lead-in
 - 26 Make the last payment on
 - 27 Lemieux milieu
 - 28 Raw rock
 - 29 Postal creed word
 - 31 Dawn goddess
 - 34 Mexican
 - 35 Utterance of skepticism
 - 36 Sine-non link
 - 37 Puts into words
 - 39 Whether
 - 40 Skeddaddled
 - 41 Ohio city
 - 42 Slightly
 - 43 Slime
 - 44 Brainstorm
 - 45 Responsibility
 - 46 Entries on Baby's agenda
 - 48 Author Fleming



King Crossword
Answers to

THE FINAL WORD

Students, faculty, staff express congratulations, farewells, thank yous, and good byes.

Congratulations
to the ladies of
Delta Sigma Theta
Sorority Inc.
Spring '98;
"Evolution"
To the "Heavenly 67,"
Love #32

CONGRATULATIONS
Carolyn Hurst!
From Katrena & LaMonika;
Get those future millionaires
while you can! We'll miss
you! (Naw! Forreal!)
Congratulations
Marsha Denise Taylor
Best of Luck in the
Future! *from*
SaKinna Thomas

I would like to say thanks to
PXY, DST, friends and family.
I have truly had a Panther
experience. Continue to be
true to God and yourself-
everyone else will fall in place.
I luv you TP, CB, & CB.
Take care JW, AS, & MP.
Peace and Soul! *From*
Samantha R. Thomas

A Special Thank You!
to the Student Government Association
for the banquet and
special recognition bestowed
upon the "Golden Girls" of the
Registrar's Office. We appreciate
your thoughtfulness for bestowing
upon us "The Panther Pride Award."
From: Frieda Fereday, Daisy
Herzog, and Georgia Owens

HOTEP! To all of those who
supported me throughout my
reign as Mr. PV and your votes
for the S.G.A. elections. And to
all the "G's," keep clovating!
from ALZO SLADE JR.

CONGRATULATIONS to
all of the graduating sorors of
Fall '95 (Delta Sigma Theta)
Eta Beta's "Mission Impossible."
Love #18 China Doll

DOC'S SHOUT-OUTS
Thanks to all of the
students who
worked with Student
Publications
this year.
Congratulations to *The
Panther* graduating
seniors: **Eric Gaither,**
Samantha Thomas,
and **John Scott.**
Spring 1998 success in
Student Publications
couldn't be possible without
**Gitonga M'Mbijewe, Ron
Jones, and Brian Dickens!**
Thanks so much!
"Dr. K. Baltrip"

Mr. 10 "The Perfect Man," although
you are graduating, **Eric Gaither,**
you'll always be in our hearts &
on our minds. *Love the*
Sisters of DST.

CONGRATULATIONS to
Dr. K. Baltrip for being chosen
Communications Dept. "Professor
of the Year." And thank You
for such wonderful leadership of
The Panther.

Thank You
to all of The Panther's
editors, staff, advisor,
and all of the people
who supported Student
Publications.
This year couldn't have
been wonderful without
you. *From* Anonymous

"Congratulations to the graduates who will be honored at the Commencement Convocation on May 9. It has been a long and difficult journey and I salute those who have completed the trip. I look forward to giving the graduates their diplomas, as they move into the real world of work. To our students, have a safe and productive summer. God bless you all."

Prairie View A&M University President **Dr. Charles A. Hines**

TAKE A SUMMER BREAK!

PICK UP A COUPLE OF CLASSES

HOUSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE - CENTRAL

REGISTRATION DATES

Summer I
Registration on Campus Thru May 14
Late Registration May 26 -28
Classes Begin June 1
Summer II
Registration on Campus Thru June 25
Late Registration - July 6 - 7
Classes Begin July 6

MOST CLASSES FULLY TRANSFERABLE
CONVENIENTLY LOCATED DAY/EVENING CLASSES
WIDE SELECTION LOW COST

CALL 713-718-6210 TODAY FOR CATALOG SUMMER CLASS SCHEDULE

