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The Panther

April 24, 1998
Vol. 75, No. 9

The Official Student Newspaper of Prairie View A&M University

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Learn more about the Marching Storm's financial status.

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See when "Don't Bother Me I Can't Cope" will be performed.

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Check out what a graduating senior had to say in The final Word.

Prairie View claims championship no.3 Softball hits 'em hard in '98

By Lindell Hale
Panther Staff

Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) won its third championship of the year when the Pantherettes captured the 1998 Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC) softball title last weekend at the City Park Softball Complex with a 9-1 victory over Alabama State University.

"Last year we finished at the bottom of the Western Division, so to come from the bottom to the top is truly an accomplishment within itself," said Head Coach A.D. James.

"Nobody expected us to be here nor to get to this point as conference champions. We've proven to everyone that we're the best in the SWAC," James said.

The Prairie View softball team with an overall record of (28-11) started its quest with a win over Mississippi Valley State (10-2).

Their second test was their biggest rival, Southern University. Down by one in the seventh inning, Rosalyn Hicks hit a hard grounded ball



Front row - Royal Hammond, A.D. James, Latreece Washington, Rosalyn Hicks, Stephanie Hillendahl, Ramona Carr, Lawanna Amey, Tamika Spencer, Lana Williams, Clarence E. Wolfe. Second row - Kimberly Thomas, Kyonnie Walker, Shellie Braxton, Michelle Manous, Elizabeth McCombs, Leslie West, Timeki Hayes, Denise Perry, Latresha Williams, Raelynn Gaut, and Yolanda Thomas.

which the second baseman could not handle, bringing in Latreece Washington for a 4-4 tie and forcing the seven innings game into extra innings.

In the bottom of the ninth, Latrisha Williams, doubtful for the game due to her injury the night before, stepped to the plate and unloaded a game-winning home run to beat Southern 5-4.

In the championship game, the Pantherettes easily defeated Alabama State with runs in every inning compared

to their opponents' one run in the third inning.

Leslie West, who was named SWAC tournament MVP as well as the most outstanding pitcher, picked up all the tournament wins.

West was also joined on the all-tournament team by teammates Raelynn Gaut at first base, Stephanie Hillendahl at shortstop, Williams at outfield, and Elizabeth McComb at catcher. Williams won most outstanding hitting honors.

No class, means no pass

By SaKinna Thomas
Panther Staff

Prairie View A&M University has revisited and updated its university class attendance policy. The policy, effective September 1, 1998, simply states, "Prairie View A&M University requires regular class attendance... Excessive absenteeism, whether excused or unexcused, may result in a student's course grade being reduced or in a student's being assigned a grade of "F."

Dr. E. Joahanne Thomas-Smith, Vice President of Academic Affairs, commented that the policy has been in the catalog, but it just was not enforced uniformly.

The need to enforce the policy now, begins with the university's mission, "to serve a diverse population of students."

The accumulation of one week of unexcused absences (for the number of clock hours equivalent to the credit for the course) constitutes excessive absenteeism and can prove to be fatal in students' academic careers.

The policy authorizes the instructor to refuse acceptance of assignments as part of the course requirements when the student's absence is unexcused.

Absences due to illness, attendance at university approved activities, and family or other emergencies constitute excused absences and must be supported by documentation presented to the instructor prior to or immediately upon the student's return to class.

Thomas-Smith suggested that students pay close attention to documentation to keep their records and have excuses written to

Pageant brings in new reign

Mr. Prairie View, Eric Johnson wins

common? They all started with Motown.

If you were in attendance at the 12th Annual Mr. Prairie View A&M University Pageant, you were taken on a musical flashback to the Motown era through the pageant's theme "Motown in Review".

Audience members ventured to Hobart Taylor Recital Hall on Thursday, April 16, 1998 to see the crowning of Mr. Prairie View A&M University 1998-1999.

The four contestants, Wayne D. Johnson, II, Ceasar J. Johnson, Eric D. Johnson, and Johnny Williams, Jr., along with the

current Mr. Prairie View, Alzo Slade, were all complete with afros and strolled down memory lane with Kermit Thomas and Bridgette McGowen who served as master and mistress of ceremony.

The gentlemen vied in sportswear, talent, formal wear, question and answer, and private interview competitions.

The talent segment was extremely competitive, since it was worth 35 percent of the total points.

The judges had a very hard decision, but de-



Eric D. Johnson
Mr. Prairie View 1998-99

By Jo-Carolyn Goode
Panther Staff

What do Marvin Gaye, The Jackson 5, Stevie Wonder, and The Isleys all have in

See Mr. PV on page 15

See Policy on page 15

Second language increases salary, employment opportunities

By Tiara M. Ellis
Editor-in-Chief

Hablas español? Parlez-vous Français? Sprechen sil Deutsch?

If you can not understand any of these questions or can only give a negative response, your future employment is extremely limited.

The United States has such an array of cultures that it is necessary to have some concept of a second language.

In many professional occupations, integral knowledge of a second language will increase annual salaries by up to \$35,000, according to Dr. John Sullivan, an instructor in spanish courses at Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU).

Whenever the subject of foreign languages is brought up around campus, the general response is full of complaining groans and overall discontent.

I can not understand the fear of learning a new language.

College is an environment directed towards learning, yet students refuse to open their minds and eyes to gaining knowledge that will assist them in their future endeavors.

It is this negative attitude towards foreign languages that places graduates seeking work at a disadvantage. When searching for college graduates to fill open positions, employers want the most qualified candidate.

If they can hire someone with the capabilities of completing his or her job requirements and the capabilities of working as an interpreter, then he or she will be quickly hired before anyone with only the basic requirements.

Some people actually believe they will not need to know another language in their profession. Doctors, journalists, teachers, and all other professions will experience people who do not speak english.

In other nations, children are raised speaking more than one language. This practice places an emphasis on the need for mastering more than one form of communication.

Whether the reason be travel, employment, or cultural diversity in your own hometown, it is necessary to master a second vernacular.

College students need to stop refusing to learn a foreign tongue. I can't tell if we are afraid, stubborn, or simply do not realize the importance of communication through the knowledge of a second language.

Once you graduate, it will be harder to take the time to study a second language. Whatever the reason, now is the time to study spanish, french, german or any other language that may be of interest to you.

Hines listens to student leaders

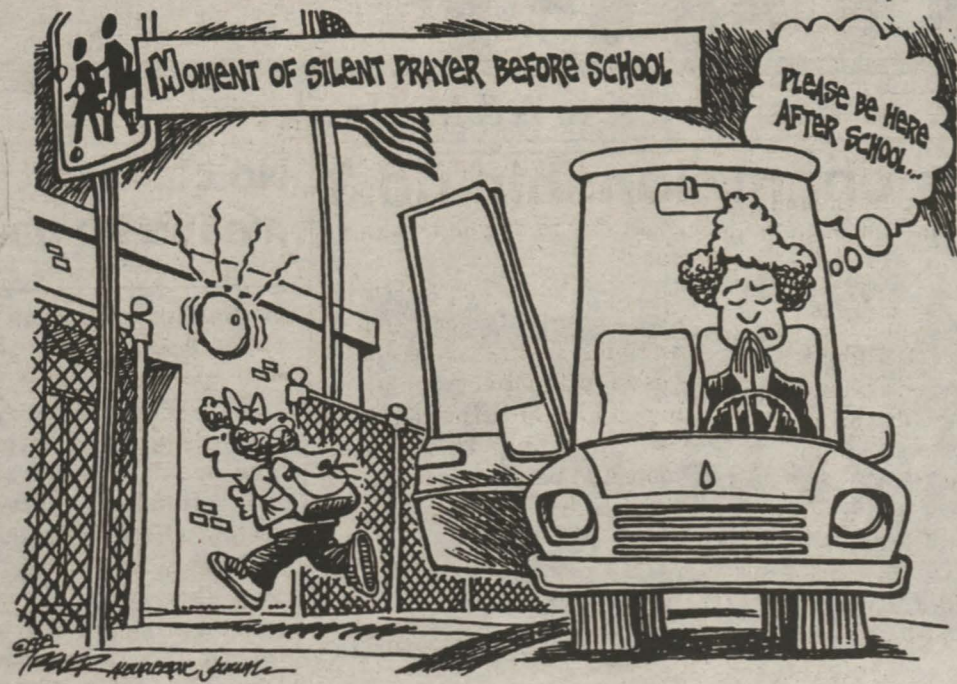
By Tiara M. Ellis
Editor-in-Chief

What better way to find out what issues are priority with Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) students than to ask them. President Charles A. Hines did just that at the Student Leaders reception held at his home on April 21.

I had the pleasure of attending with fellow student leaders to discuss prominent issues, induct the new student government association officers, and eat.

In a relaxed atmosphere Hines talked to the students about policy changes for the upcoming year, the importance of leadership, violence, drugs, alcohol, and

See Hines on page 3



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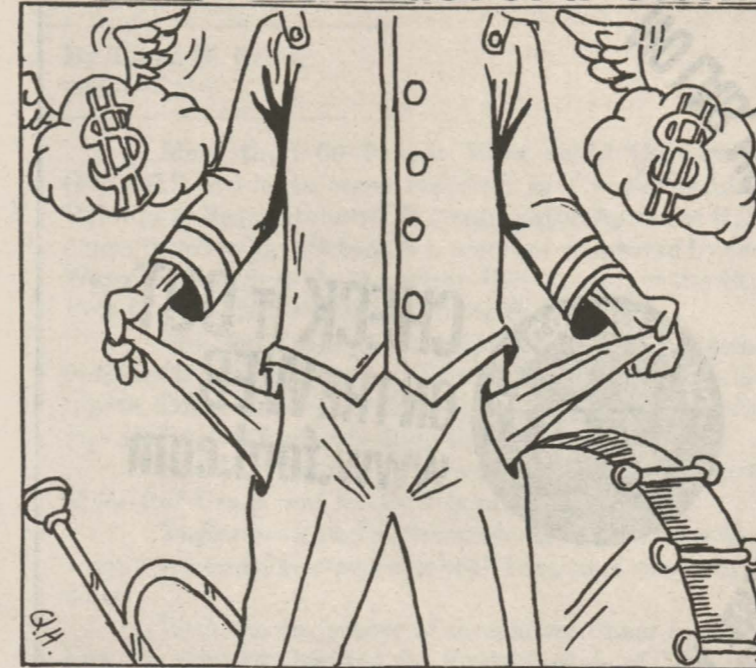
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Editorial Policy

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Marching to a different drum in the midst of a 'storm'



The Prairie View A&M University Marching "STORM" Band is in dire need of scholarship funds for band members commencing in September 1998. University administrators informed the "STORM" that as of September 1998, band stipends will no longer be offered. It is extremely important that stipends are provided for the students to maintain an effective band program.

Between the years of 1978 to 1983, the marching band program only consisted of a 50 to 60 member volunteer band. Without scholarships, the band performed poorly, attendance at football games was very low, and other institutions, agencies and organizations never invited the band to perform off-campus, and school spirit and pride in the band were virtually non-existent.

As of September 1, 1998, some students who have received stipends will have to give up marching band to seek additional funding for school. This action will decrease enrollment for the band as well as the university and lower game revenues for the athletic department. Meaning, if the marching band and its students suffer, the university suffers as well.

Without these funds, the band will surely suffer in its efforts to recruit competent student musicians from universities such as Texas Southern University, Grambling University, and numerous other universities.

These schools offer scholarships as much as \$5,000 per year. The average scholarship award for our band members is only \$600 per year.

The Marching "STORM" has won numerous honors from various media including ESPN, Sports Illustrated, Southern Living Magazine, the New York Times, The Detroit Free Press, Sports View Magazine, and The Houston Chronicle.

The "STORM" was selected by a nationwide panel of university band directors as one of the TOP 12 BANDS in the south. The only other minority university mentioned was Florida A&M University.

On behalf of the band, the dedication, discipline, and intensity of the musicians are only part of the reason for the success of The Marching "STORM."

We consider ourselves musical athletes striving to bring pride not only to the university but to ourselves and those who desire to become part of this great institution.

Making a stand: Student poses his own set of twenty questions

By David J. Mcpherson

I composed this letter in hopes of heightening student awareness. I believe students have lost sight of their power at Prairie View A&M University.

We must first understand that if students were not here, there would be no need for faculty or administrators on this campus.

At this point, you might be asking yourself "What can I do?" The answer to that is nothing, but WE can accomplish everything if WE so desire.

We should be concerned as well as involved in the policy making and expenditures that our University is involved in. You have the right to question and state your opinion on any subject matter that involves the student body. We have the power as long as we become and maintain a proactive status.

We must establish a strong student government, and see that the student government keeps the student body's best interest in mind, and if they do not, we have the power to remove them. We should never be satisfied with the situation that is before us, otherwise matters can and will get worse.

In my last letter to the editor, I stated that complacency kills and that same complacent attitude is what serves to make our student

body uneducated and weak. We don't have even the basic knowledge of things that go on day to day on this campus.

I know *The Panther's* most often read section is a section called "20 Questions." I usually find them very amusing as I am sure the rest of us do. But I have 20 questions too, and I bet they won't make you laugh:

1) Did you know human performance classes were taken out of our core curriculum?
2) Were you aware that Prairie View is the only school in the state of Texas to do so?
3) Do you know what classes will take the place of human performance classes?
4) Do you realize that as soon as next year, a professor may have the right to dismiss you from class for not having a book?
5) Have you ever attended a S.G.A. meeting?
6) Do you know what S.G.A. means?
7) Do you realize this is a historically Black university?
8) Did you know that as a Black University, we have a total expenditure of \$15,333,726 of which only 4.4% (\$680,096) was spent in support of HUBs (Historically Underutilized Businesses, i.e. companies owned by Blacks, Hispanics, and women)?
9) Did you know that none of the Texas A&M schools spent above 5% of total expenditures in support of HUBs?
10) Were you aware Texas Southern University has a total of \$10,695,313 in expenditures and they spent \$3,223,065 with HUBs (30.2%)?
11) Do you know the University of Texas schools spent no less than 15% of their total expenditures on HUBs?
12) If I owned a business, would Prairie View support me?
13) Did you know TAMU schools are

supposed to work in a collaborative effort with surrounding communities and this does not happen in Prairie View?
14) Did you know University Village does not comply with city building codes and the contractors refused to apply for municipal permits and licenses?
15) Did you know in 1996 there were changes in the construction plans that were a violation of our Ground Lease Agreement?
16) Did you know grease traps (waste filtration systems) were not installed and may cause a problem in our physical plant?
17) Did you know that as a result, our plant fell out of compliance with our state waste water discharge permit?
18) Did you know the University could be fined up to \$10,000 a day until the problem is corrected?
19) Did you know this would not have been a problem had the contractor installed the grease traps in the first place?
20) Do you get the feeling that you are being left in the dark?

I would like to remind you that the student body does have power, and all you have to do to enact that power is take a stand and ask questions.

chief of The Panther to the president of campus organizations and student government association officers; all of us attended the reception with the purpose of having a voice.
Through the various discussions broached, the importance of financial aid and quality employees kept my attention.
Hines said 83 percent of PVAMU students are on financial aid. If loans are not repaid, they go

financial aid.
Although this was my first visit to Hines' illustrious home, he has been hosting the Student Leaders reception every semester for the past year.
Having the opportunity to speak with the president of the university in a personal interview and in an atmosphere filled with my peers was inspiring.
From the editor-in-



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.

against the university. The acceptable default rate for not repaying loans is 25 percent. Our rate is not at 24.7 percent. PVAMU is only three tenths of a percent from losing all forms of financial aid.

With over three fourths of the students at PVAMU on financial aid this would cause the university to close, if ever placed on probation for a high default rate.

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Submission Policy for Letters to the Editor

KPVU seeks donor support

By Virrobin Esther
Panther Staff

There is just enough time to enjoy the last few days of special membership incentives and monetary challenge grants with Radio-thon '98 in an effort to raise money for the campus radio station.

Prairie View A&M University's (PVAMU) KPVU-FM 91.3 has been raising money with its bi-annual radio-thon since April 18 and will end on April 26.

On April 24, KPVU will broadcast live from the Magic Johnson Theater at Northline Mall in Houston with giveaways of compact discs, t-shirts, posters, caps, and tickets to those who attend the Magic Johnson Theater.

A table will be set up in the theater to make pledges to the radio station.

The event will also include a block party which will last from 1 p.m. until 6 p.m. outside of the theater.

On April 25 and 26, KPVU will participate in the Houston International Festival which honors a different part of the world in downtown Houston each year.

This year's festival pays respect to the Islands of the Caribbean.

The staff of KPVU will be at the festival passing out flyers and accepting pledges from 4 p.m. until 7 p.m.

Money raised through pledges during the radio-thon will help provide better servicing for KPVU which is the hands-on laboratory for students to learn about radio broadcasting.

KPVU is a 10,000 watt station serving Prairie View, as well as surrounding counties including Waller, Austin, Grimes, Montgomery, Washington, Fort Bend and Harris.

Although Radio-thon '98 will end on April 26, financial donations are accepted by the radio station year around.

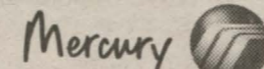
For more information, call (409) 857-4511 or access the KPVU home page on the internet at the email address www.pvamu.edu/kpvu.

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COLLEGE GRADUATE PURCHASE PROGRAM

PVAMU students train to save lives with CPR

By Tiara M. Ellis
Editor-in-Chief

More than 60 Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) students were certified in Cardiovascular Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) training on April 4 at H.T. Jones Intermediate School in a program sponsored by the Western Branch of the American Red Cross and the Eta Beta Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc.

The Red Cross provided the equipment and commitment from the instructors for the one-day course. Delta Sigma Theta publicized the event and supervised the registration of students taking the course.

Kathleen England, director of the Western Branch of the Red Cross, was the facilitator.

England instructed the students with the use of a video and hands-on experience with the use of respiratory dolls.

With the assistance of several volunteer instructors, the students learned the fundamentals of CPR, the signals of a heart attack, and the correct procedures for dealing with life-threatening situations.

Following the instruction and hands-on experience, everyone was given the opportunity to take an examination which certified them as CPR proficient.

Monthly classes on CPR are offered at 10 or 12 locations throughout Waller County.

For more information about taking CPR courses and becoming certified, contact the Red Cross at 1-800-366-3025.

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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:

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BE ALL YOU CAN BE:
ARMY RESERVE

Desire to model pays off in the end

By Joyce Dixon
Panther Staff

Proclaiming his love for God and his school, Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) student talked about his desire to model, act, and write plays.

Marlon Johnson began modeling three years ago as an associate of the Delight Modeling Agency.

Since then, he has made a few public speeches and has appeared on Channel 13 on several occasions.

Just recently, the 19-year-old drama major won an Ebony Fashion Fair modeling contract for the 1999-2000 modeling season.

With the help of a member in his church, Johnson became associated with the Delight Modeling Agency.

Johnson was performing and the church member asked if he would be interested in modeling.

"He carried around some pictures of me and showed them to people," said

Johnson. "The pictures made it to Australia where the Delight Modeling Agency is."

Johnson attested that "he is one of the blessed ones where modeling is concerned."

"Most people pay thousands of dollars to get started but because of the interest of one man, I didn't have to spend that much money," Johnson said.

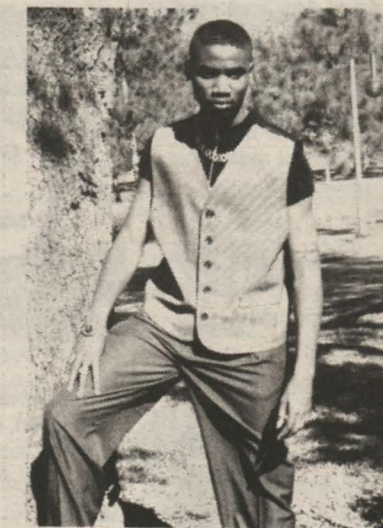
When asked what sparked his interest in modeling, Johnson said honestly, "I like to be seen. I want the whole world to listen to me."

Modeling gave Johnson an opportunity to express himself and develop confidence.

He said it also let him "display a certain vibe" about himself.

With modeling, Johnson said he can prove that he has what it takes not only in looks but also educationally.

Despite his modeling contract with Ebony Fashion Fair and the pending negotiations to model for Tommy Hilfinger, Johnson is not just another pretty face.



Marlon Johnson

He has been recognized on numerous occasions for his many academic achievements which includes TAAS recognition, All-American scholar, and the Dean's List.

Johnson's other achievements include winning Mr. Drew (1997-98) and being selected as a Charles Gilpin Player in the same year.

Through all of his successes, Johnson said he has remained humble because of his belief in God.

"I owe Him all the credit," Johnson asserted.

'Don't Bother Me I Can't Cope' returns to PVAMU

Play depicts Blacks using music to deal with struggles of society

By Alfred Fulton
Special to the Panther

Don't Bother Me I Can't Cope is more than just a statement stressed for centuries, it's a mindful creation of music, melody, and meaning woven into a play to depict the struggles, and fire of a proud, black people in the early 1960s and 1970s and the play is now showing at Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU).

Don't Bother Me I Can't Cope written by playwright Micki Grant will be performed on campus April 29 May 1 at 7 p.m.

PVAMU drama professor C. Lee Turner in 1979 coached the now famed singer Jennifer Holliday in *Don't Bother Me I Can't Cope*, in her first stage play musical in Houston, just one year before her starring in the Broadway hit musical *Dreamgirls*.

First presented on April 19, 1972 at the Playhouse

Theater in New York City, this colorful tapestry of black history and tradition "was enjoyed with a storm of excitement, which helped to fuel the flame of racial awareness," ac-

"It's very important to see how blacks dealt with the problems given to them by society and how music helped many to face the evil."
-freshman Kenyatta Herring.

ording to critics.

Later the PVAMU Charles Gilpin players of 1982 performed "Cope" under the direction of Turner to become the first all black university or company ever to play at the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C., after being selected one of six troupes from 375 entries hoping to perform. There were enthusi-

astic reviews received from the governor's office to the United States Senate and House of Representatives about the Gilpin Players, and their performance of "Cope" prompted a performance of the play at the Worlds Fair in New Orleans.

Although the play has not been performed on campus since then, "theater companies and college campus" around the states see the need to revive the award-winning show because many of the injustices inflicted during that time are going on today in the 90s" said director Turner, the show's director.

In fact, the department of Music and Drama has a talented cast of 45 performers and musicians to bring to life this "hymn to us", which deals with many universal truths.

"Cope" is unique, captivating and energetic," said freshman Kenyatta Herring, "it's very important to see how

blacks dealt with the problems given to them by society, and how music helped many to face the evil."

There is no doubt "Cope" is a motivating production, judging by the rave reviews it received in Dallas in March.

Jazz pianist and professor Robert Sanders said, "I left with my head up, the reception was overwhelming." "They should have come together sooner," said Danielle DeGrate, a PVAMU make-up designer for the Gilpin Players, "you'll leave singing something from the show."

Conceived with the most forthright intentions "Cope" ignites fire of emotions and is a reminder that time brings about a change, but the more things change, the more they stay the same.

Don't Bother Me I Can't Cope will be performed in the Hobart Taylor Recital Hall and tickets will cost \$5.

REGIONAL NEWS

In Brief

Sports, recreation are still options despite disabilities

Houston, TX

A physical disability doesn't have to mean the end of an activity life. From mountain climbing to playboard games, sports, and recreational activities can help improve self-esteem and provide a sense of accomplishment. "Most rehabilitation facilities and programs incorporate recreational therapists who are skilled at teaching people proper techniques and approaches to recreation," said Lex Frieden of Baylor College of Medicine and the Institution for Rehabilitation and Research in Houston. Some patients might start by pitching a ball to the therapist and progress to shooting baskets. Others, including those with spinal-cord injuries and traumatic head injuries, might begin their rehabilitation with pool-based activities. The water has a calming effect, and the buoyancy can help people with disabilities stand upright and increase mobility. "With proper guidance and modifications, many people with disabilities can participate in virtually any activity," Frieden said.

Antibiotic use causes most mutations in TB bacterium

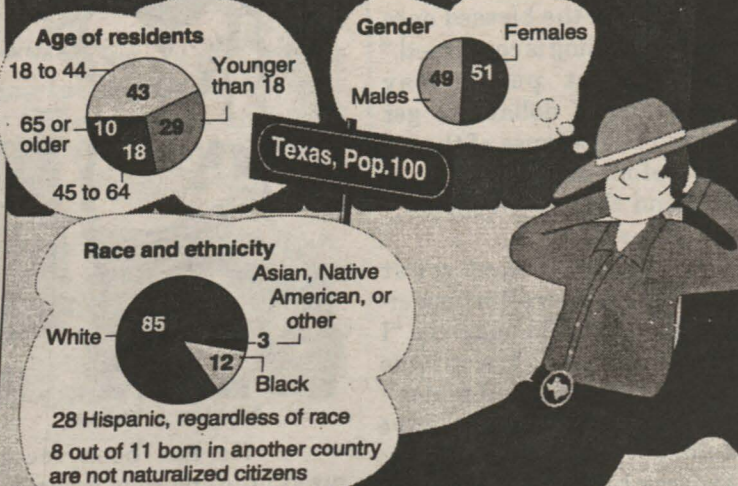
Houston, TX

Most genetic changes in the bacterium that causes tuberculosis have resulted directly from antibiotics used to treat TB. Researchers at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston and three other institutions in the United States analyzed DNA in more than 800 samples of the TB bacterium collected worldwide. "The particular structural changes we found could result only from antibiotic resistance as the bacterium protects itself from TB medications," said Dr. James M. Musser, a Baylor pathologist. Musser and the other scientists also found that certain strains of TB are more likely to cause clustered disease outbreaks. "We don't know why, but it is imperative to understand this issue to protect society with more effective medications and vaccines," he said. Nearly one-third of the world's population is estimated to be infected with the TB bacterium, which is transmitted by air from person to person. The bacteria usually attack the lungs and then spread to lymph nodes. If untreated, the disease can be lethal.

Keeping an eye on Texas

Can you imagine...

If you could create a small town, population 100, with all the diversity of Texas, the town would look like this*...



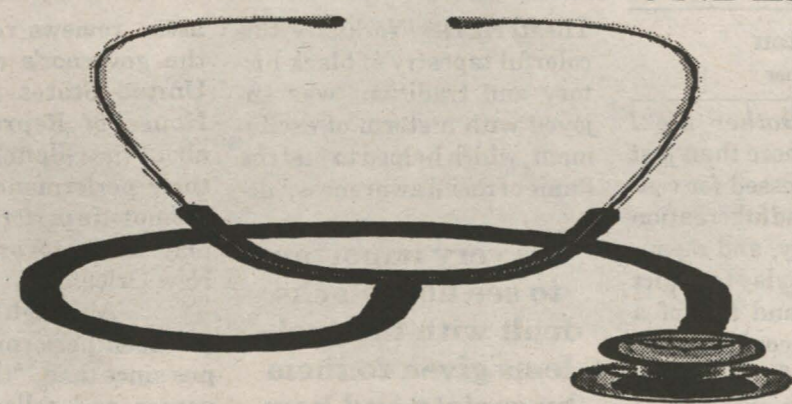
* Estimates are calculated from Texas' 1996 population of 19,128,261. SOURCES: John Sharp, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, U.S. Bureau of the Census, and other state and federal agencies.

Texas cultural demographics continue to change

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| 4. Actua Open Choice | 21. Blue Cross/Blue Shield of TX | 50. Home Life | 58. John Hancock | 93. Standard Insurance Company |
| 5. Affiliated Health Care | 22. Boon Chapman | 51. Houston Health Care Purchasing Org. | 59. Lamar Life | 94. Student Insurance |
| 6. Affordable Medical Networks | 23. Capp Care Network | 52. Humana Health Care Plans | 60. Liberty Mutual | 95. Tareco, Inc. (PPO) |
| 7. Alliance Health Providers | 24. Central Security Life Insurance Co. | 53. IBS | 61. Managed Health Care | 96. Tareco PPO & EPO |
| 8. Allied Benefit Systems, Inc. | 25. Champs | 54. Jefferson Pilot | 62. Medicaid | 97. Texas Municipal League |
| 9. American Exchange Life Insurance Co. | 26. Choice 100 | | 63. Med Corp Southwest, Inc. | 98. The Lubrizol Corporation |
| 10. American General Health Plan | 27. Cigna Companies | | 64. Medicare | 99. Time Life |
| 11. American Group Administrators | 28. CNA Companies | | 65. Mega Life | 100. TIPH0 |
| 12. American Insurance Co. of Texas | 29. Cost Care | | 66. Mid-Continent Medical | 101. Travelers |
| 13. American Medical Security | 30. Crown Life | | 67. Memorial Health Network | 102. USA Health Network |
| 14. American Pioneer Life Insurance Co. | 31. EBP Health Plans | | 68. Memorial Sisters of Charity | 103. Unicare |
| 15. American Reserve | 32. EDS Health Benefit Plans | | 69. Met life | 104. United Payers & Providers, Inc. |
| 16. Anthem Health Plan | 33. ETHIX Southwest | | 70. Metra Health | 105. Washington National |
| 17. APWU | 34. Fed Select | | 71. Monticello Life Insurance Company | 106. Workmen Compensation |
| | 35. First Health | | 72. Motorola Health Plan | |
| | 36. GEHA | | 73. Mutual of Omaha | |
| | 37. Golden Rule Life | | | |

CAMPUS NEWS

Army ROTC takes off



photo by Glenn Russell

Prairie View A&M University Army ROTC preforms air lift and air raid on April 16th, with Delta Company 3rd of the 49th Aviation Air National Guard Dallas, Tx.

Biology study wins highest award

By Candy Cromwell
Special to the Panther

Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) student Candy Cromwell, an apprentice of Dr. Dalton McWhinney of the Cooperative Agriculture Research Center (CARC), received the Orville Wyss award.

Receiving the highest award in the undergraduate poster presentation competition, Cromwell won the Orville Wyss certificate and \$100 in award money for her research entitled "Inhibition of Hydrolytic Activity from the Serum of Caprine Arthritis Encephalitis Virus Infected Goats by gp38 Transmembrane Protein."

"I am extremely honored having received this award, and I would like to sincerely thank Dr. Dalton McWhinney, Lashaunda Grimes, and Hattie Cromwell for their endless support, encouragement and guidance," said Cromwell who competed against several other undergraduate students.

Cromwell conducted research under McWhinney in the CARC for approximately a year and a half.

"Candy is a hardworking, dependable student with a bright future ahead of her. She has become very instrumental in many projects of mine.

It has been a tremendous pleasure having her work in my lab," said McWhinney.

A third year honor student majoring in Biology, Cromwell also received the 1996-97 Academic Excellence Award and has appeared on the Dean's List as well as the Biology honor roll for the past three semesters.

The student competition was held at the Texas Branch of American Society for Microbiology (ASM) state meeting.

The ASM meeting was a three-day event initiated to encourage and expose undergraduate and graduate students to research and studies.

Along with PVAMU, other participating universities included Texas A&M at College Station/Corpus Christi/Kingsville, University of Texas at Houston/Tyler, Angelo State, and University of North Texas.

Fire department responds quickly to hazardous leak

Prairie View, TX

The Prairie View A & M University (PVAMU) Fire Department and university officials responded quickly to reports of a hazardous gas leak outside the eastern corner of the College of Engineering Building at 8:45 a.m. last Wednesday.

Determining that the gas leak was Titanium Tetrachloride, a hazardous chemical, authorities cordoned off the area and evacuated the closest buildings (Fuller Hall and the College of Engineering Building). This was done as a standard precautionary measure.

From information contained in the Chemical Manufacturers Safety Data Sheet, officials determined the amount of Titanium Tetrachloride released did not pose an immediate or significant threat to the health or safety of PVAMU students, faculty, staff or students.

A private hazardous chemical disposal company arrived quickly to clean up the area and dispose of the chemicals, and confirmed that the gaseous materials posed no immediate threat to the public beyond the contained area.

By 4 p.m., the substance was removed and the storage area cleaned, and the vacated buildings were ventilated and returned to normal operations one hour later.

The leak appeared to have been caused by a rusted cylinder located on the east side of the College of Engineering Building.

Following the incident, two employees were taken by emergency medical personnel to Tomball Regional Hospital for evaluation and were subsequently released.

Crab Phi Crab takes annual dorm step off

Kendra Stillwell
Special to the Panther

By 7 p.m. on Monday April 20, 1998, the entrance to the Memorial Student Center Ballroom (MSC) was completely covered by anxious students waiting for the opportunity to witness the 3rd Annual Dorm Step Off, hosted by the Zeta Gamma Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

The crowd was dazzled as they entered the room, with music by DJ B-Love of Wisconsin Sleepers, Inc. and DJ AD. A member of each of the eight Greek organizations judged the four competing teams.

The males and females of Crab Phi Crab, the young men of Holley Hall, and a university wide freshman group competed for cash prizes.

Crab Phi Crab, being the only female group competing, received their performance with a standing ovation. Following their sisters, the men of Crab Phi Crab entertained the audience with their rendition of Ice Cube's "We Be Clubbin'" with their step program "We Be Steppin'".

The men of Holley Hall performed an outstanding show, and the remaining male team also had a show-stopping performance.

But in the end, the men and women of Crab Phi Crab came away with the grand prize.

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New books portray roots of jazz, Black struggle

New York, NY

New York - Pathfinder Press has just published two new books on the roots of jazz and the Black struggle: *John Coltrane and the Jazz Revolution of the 1960's* and *Black Music, White Business: Illuminating the History and Political Economy of Jazz*. Both are by Frank Kofsky, a frequent lecturer on the history of jazz who died in 1997.

Jazz as an art form, Kofsky argued, cannot be separated from the constellation of social, political, and economic forces confronting the Black urban population in the United States.

In particular, he contended, the innovations associated with John Coltrane were indelibly marked by the social context in which they emerged. The growing determination among Blacks to remove the chains of second-class citizenship, the impact of the movement for African independence, and "not least, the growth of explicit black nationalist sentiment."

John Coltrane and the Jazz Revolution of the 1960's is a revised, greatly expanded edition of Kofsky's acclaimed 1970 work, *Black Nationalism and the Revolution in Music*. It contains the best-known interview with Coltrane, recorded in 1966, a year before the saxophonist and composer's death. It also presents interviews with drummer Elvin Jones and pianist McCoy Tyner, and includes a discussion on how the interplay among Coltrane and his accompanist culminated in a series of artistic breakthroughs.

Black Music, White Business examines the contradiction in jazz that Blacks create, but wealthy whites



John Coltrane (FRANK KOSKY)

own. The expropriation of the means of expression of a whole people — and its transformation into just one or more commodity to accrue profit — Kofsky explained, is the key to understanding the ruthless exploitation of jazz and the musician who created it.

Charlie Parker, Billie Holiday, and Bessie Smith are eloquent examples of this fundamental relationship between the makers and owners of the music, Kofsky asserted.

Parker, the most prominent innovator of the bebop style of jazz, had to sign an exclusive recording contract to secure his release from



Charlie Parker (COURTESY VAL WILMER)

a state mental institution where he was being held against his will. Holiday and Smith — two of the most popular singers of this century — died broke; many of their most famous works had been recorded under contracts that provided flat fees, with no royalties.

A 500-page book, *John Coltrane and the Jazz Revolution of the 1960's*, contains 16 pages of photos; it is available in paperback at \$23.95. *Black Music, White Business*, a book of 165 pages, contains 8 pages of photographs; it is available in paperback at \$15.95.

Panther Classified Ads

Miscellaneous

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ADVERTISE IN "THE PANTHER"

Author makes readers aware of the "Black Indian", an invisible race of people

By Antrina Cooper
Special to the Panther

This non-fiction book entitled "*Black Indians*" by William Loren Katz discussed the trials and tribulations Native Americans, Africans and Whites went through during the colonial days of this country. In this book, the author is trying to make us aware of the way Indians were treated and why the term "Black Indians" was used. The material that Katz researched in order to write this book was well done. The only problem with the book was trying to pronounce the names of the various Indian tribes.

In the very beginning of the book, Katz mentioned how readers were probably not aware of all of the things Native American and African Society did together. When people first think of Indians, they think of the first thanksgiving. He makes us aware of the way Indians were used by whites as indentured servants; they way they took blacks under their wings; the way they were used as spies in the military, and the way they finally got recognized in the end.

When Africans were brought over to this country by whites from Africa to become slaves, a lot of them ran away from their masters. In doing so, they ran across the Native Americans who treated them like humans and showed them their ways of living. As a result, a lot of Africans settled down in the Indian community and began to intermix amongst the villages. From this intermixing, the term "Black Indians" derived.

The Indians developed freedom paths later after the slaves of Africa became more and more noticeable. These freedom paths would lead right to the Native American villages where Black men and women found a red hand of friendship and culture. After a while, the white slave masters became aware of what was going on and feared the worse. The whites knew if the Africans could get into the Indian society, they would no longer be slaves but treated as an equal. The offspring of Black Indian marriages shaped the early days of the fur trade,

added new dimensions to frontier diplomacy and caused a daring fight for liberty and justice.

The author was trying to reach a goal of making the readers aware of this great invisible race of people. He was opinionated about the way Black Indians were treated. He also noted in his book several examples of how many people of color did not want to be considered to be anything but a black: "We's culled people. I don't say we don't has no Injun blood, cause we has. But we ain't no Injuns. We's culled people."

Many of the Native Americans came from a place called Brackettville, Texas. This was known to have one of the largest Black Indian societies in the world. Besides Texas, the Indian tribes consisted of Mexico and went all over the United States and into the Caribbean.

The main Indian tribe the author mentioned was the Seminole tribe. He also mentioned other Indian nations but this tribe was known for its many ways of hunting and killing to protect its land. Many times the Indians would lose in the wars due to the weapons the Whites had. If the Indians were caught, they too became slaves of the Whites. While in captivity, the Indians would teach the African slaves their native language and they would try to escape together. If the escape was successful, they would take that famous freedom path back to the Indian nation.

Another part of the story was about a man named "Pompey Factor" who was once a slave and after slavery, he fought in several wars. He used truing skills he obtained from an Indian named "Chief White Horse" to help the Whites in the war. Even though he and his peers contributed a lot to helping the Whites in the war, he died penniless but received a Congressional Medal from the President of the United States.

During the big fur trade, the Black Indians became more European in their ways of thinking and acting. They started using hoes to garden the ground and started practicing a Christian reli-

gious belief.

As the years progressed, the Black Indians became modernized cowboys of the land. One famous cowboy who was a Black Indian was Bill Pickett (also known as "The Bull Dogger"). Pickett, who was the second of thirteen children, has been to Black Cherokees in Oklahoma. He left grade school to pursue a career in the great outdoors, and practiced steering calves and roping steers.

Pickett became the most famous Black Indian cowboy. He would race his horse, leap out of the saddle onto the animal's back and grab a horn in each hand and twist them. This process would make the animal's face turn upward and fall on his side. For the final touch, he sunk his teeth into the steers upper-lip or nose and let go with his hands. This made the beast startled and shocked. In later years, he began to

make movies with Will Rogers and made a big contribution of the rodeo scene.

Katz make readers aware of the origin of Black Indians, and the importance of knowing the history of all people whether they are red, black or white.

Many high school students would be interested in reading this book because it makes them aware of the trial and tribulations of this invisible race.

Faculty Profile

Brown makes a difference in purple and gold

By Santee's Bowers
Panther Staff

Born, raised, and educated in Prairie View, Dr. George E. Brown's roots run deep throughout the community.

Obtaining his Ph.D. and M.S. in microbiology, Brown has committed himself to science and strives for excellence through education and associations with the Benjamin Banneker College and the Biology Honors Program.

Brown encourages students to do their best by providing them with an op-

portunity to participate in the Premedical Concepts Institute Program. As a director of the summer program, Brown provides young people with a chance to gain ten Biology credit hours and experience college math and chemistry.

Through affiliations with the National Association of Minority Medical Educators, Beta Beta Beta Biological Society, American Association for Microbiology, and the Texas Association of Advisors, Brown is gaining respect for African Americans in the science world.

As an advisor, chairperson, and panelist, Brown

has been involved in numerous activities dating back to 1979, working with several committees and colleges.

From Texas, Missouri, and Florida to Washington D.C., Brown has definitely proven himself to be one of the best premedical advisors in region three. He was recognized and honored for his actions by the Student National Medical Association in 1991, 1992, and 1993.

Brown is continuously improving the premedical curriculum of historically black universities.

Prairie View A&M University Student Park

11:00 a.m.

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ENTERTAINMENT

Signs of the Times

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Bigwigs have been in a sour mood, nitpicking and nagging. Take it in stride and ride out the week. Things will return to normal soon.

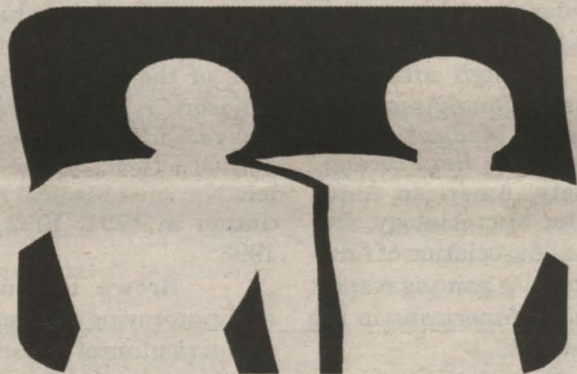
TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Your romantic life enters a renewed period. A friend has been too aggressive lately, and has been taking advantage of you. Shun this person's company in weekend social activities.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) You are champing at the bit to start implementing all those ideas you have. However, don't be too eager. Your impatience leads to trouble.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) You've been holding your tongue where a partner is concerned. You find yourself unable to do so and lose your temper. Clear the air over the weekend.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Keep out of the fray at work. That way, you'll avoid making enemies. Later on, you can play mediator and get everyone to communicate better.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)



Don't sign any contracts yet. Although you're all in agreement, there are some unforeseen details that should be worked out first. Patience is the key.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Avoid falling into an ego trap, causing you to turn everyone off. It's best to think about what you're going to say before you say it, especially with business partners.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) It's a good week to go shopping and get something for the house. The situation at work is highlighted. In fact, you're in for a nice surprise by week's end.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) You've been squirreling away some money, and it's time to start looking for a way to invest your little nest egg. Look into some options that are not necessarily conventional. However, be sure you know your risk tolerance.

AQUARIUS (January 19 to February 18) That green goddess, Jealousy, is rearing her ugly head, causing you many anxious moments. Your mate will be upset by the turn of events. Try to gain control by the weekend.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) A cantankerous co-worker throws a monkey wrench into everything you're trying to accomplish. The ultimate result is that this person will finally expose himself to bigwigs. Just bide your time for now.

Spring fashion show profiles lasted styles of the season



During the "Walk on the Wildside" scene models in black leather strut their stuff on the runway

photo by Charles Collins

By Charles Collins
Panther Staff

With summer quickly approaching, Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) students were treated to a fashion show April 13 in the Hobart Taylor recital hall.

"The Art of Fashion: A Journey of Expression" show was directed by Keisha Smith and hosted by Nagina Stringer and Buyaka Adebola.

There were numerous sponsors of the show, including clothing stores such as Dillard's and Clothestime, who provided much of the clothing merchandise, assuring a multitude of different types of clothing for the 27 models to present.

The show was composed of eight different scenes each focusing on a particular theme. The first theme, "Taste the Colors of the Rainbow," boast models wearing colorful summer outfits and set the pace for the rest of the show.

Other themes included "A Casual Day at the Park" and "City Streets," which featured models sporting urban wear and street clothing.

Scene four featured models wearing semi-provocative swim wear, capturing the full attention of the audience and keeping them asking for more.

The fifth scene focused on business clothing and was appropriately entitled "It's all about the Benjamins."

In scene six, another favorite of the audience, models showcased casual and jazzy

club wear during a singing performance by PVAMU's own, Soul Essential.

Scene seven, "Sweet Dreams", which showcased sexy lingerie which kept everybody on the edge of their seats.

The last scene entitled, "A Walk on the Wild Side" featured leather clothing such as mini skirts, suede outfits and even leather bras.

This fashion show was without a doubt a success, mainly because everybody who attended it had a good time and enjoyed themselves.

There was something there for everyone and it was a pleasant escape from the realities of studying and writing lengthy research papers.

Pick-a-Flick

The first persons to figure out the names of the following movies will win a video courtesy of Miramax Home Entertainment. Claim your prize by giving us the correct answers and bringing this issue of the paper to The Panther in the bottom of the MSC, Rm. 114.

B _ _ C _ J A _ _

Hint: 1 word; Twenty-one

S H _ _ _ W _ D _ N C _ ?

Hint: 3 words; Frequently asked question at a party

M _ U _ T H _ T _ _ O U _ H

Hint: 3 words; CPR

The Panther would like to thank and congratulate all the winners of the Pick-A-Flick column. Here are the winners of last issue's Pick-A-Flick:



Mark Davis, freshman, Criminal Justice
Christopher Griffin, sophomore, Communications

Tony Johnson, freshman, Social Work
Misty Adams, sophomore, Social Work
Eric Gaither, senior, Communications/Spanish

ENTERTAINMENT

Goodie Mob proves they are Still Standing



photo by James Porto

LaFace recording artist Goodie Mob

The Atlanta-based hip-hop quartet Goodie Mob returns to the music scene with *Still Standing*, the long-awaited follow-up to its debut LP *Soul Food*.

With most of the production performed by Organized Noize, who is responsible for the last Goodie Mob album, *Still Standing* represents the Atlanta sound in more ways than one as the southern tracks blend nicely with the tight lyrical performances of all the group members.

T-Mo, Big Gipp, Khujo and the raspy voiced Cee-Lo make up the culturally conscious group who never hesitates to relinquish its thoughts and opinions on the way it is.

The group literally raps a taste or two on songs like the enlightening "The Experience", a dissection of the meaning of the over-used 'N' word and the title cut, where the Mob chants "MCs are running out of things to say/ Radio stations are running out of things to play."

Goodie Mob, whose name translates to "The Good Die Mostly Over Bulls@t" or, if you drop an 'o', "God Is Every Man of Blackness", continue to bring the noise with cuts like the energetic first single "They Don't Dance (No Mo)" and the blazing "See You When I See You".

The album wins with songs like "Beautiful Skin", a respectable opus to all the Black sistahs who respect themselves, the controversial, yet true "Gutta Butta" and the ear-pleasing "Fly Away".

With *Still Standing*, Goodie Mob achieves the rare task of successfully mixing music with a message. The album is one to not only listen to, but also hear.

By Zharmer Hardimon
Entertainment Editor

20 Questions

1. With all the weirdos running around, shouldn't it be called the Kappa Freak Party?
2. Isn't PV the only place on earth where you can walk right up to a squirrel and look him in the eyes?
3. Is the street in front of Farrell Hall being repaired because of the last 20 Questions?
4. Remember when we had to put our book bags in those lockers in the bottom of Alumni?
5. Why is that on this campus those who do the most get paid the least, while those who do the least get paid the most?
6. Why do some professors think that you're only taking their class?
7. Congratulations to the new S.G.A. president Alzo Slade, Jr, but couldn't he have campaigned just a little bit harder?
8. While we're on politics, now that elections are over in Waller County, will we ever see the candidates on this campus again?
9. Won't you be glad when this semester comes to an end?
10. Since there have been so many problems found in the buildings of Phase I since its arrival, shouldn't the construction men slow down a little on the building of Phase III?
11. Ay, yo what's up with the sudden attitude change...they're only letters you know?
12. If the intake process was supposed to be over with on April 8, why are probate shows still being held?
13. Why is R & B music going down the drain?
14. What's up with that pile of dirt near the post office?
15. Why are 15% of the females on this campus students during the day and strippers at night?
16. Why is it that the only thing PV does on time is close?
17. Why didn't the softball team get a reception like the rest of the 1998 SWAC champions?
18. Why did the Mr. & Miss PV pageants have the same budget, but look drastically different?
19. What's up with all the mothers-to-be on the yard, is it mating season or something?
20. What do you think?

Open Mic



The Silent Oratory

Atop a rural slave cemetery
We hustle and scurry
But don't nobody worry
That Black's vision is blurry
Looking through one eye
This is tunnel vision
While two eyes expand the space
This often limits the race
Beyond bi-ocular
We should tri-ocular
And instead uh' tryin' to be popular
Living out yard soap operas
Check the blunt-puffin' coppers
Cock blockers, fake lil' mamas
and gran-papas
Leatin' hard in new cars
Watchin' step wars in front of Memorial's doors
Wanna-bees and libido fiends
— it's all apparent
Skirts shorter than one-credit

hour classes
Eyes on asses
Six-thousand saps of molasses
flunkin' classes
Sleepin' longer than Lazarus
Still believin' in Pythagorus
When sliding on an imaginary
hypotenuse is hazardous
Realizing we are the same color
as our dreams means everything
Universal equality
In addition to beneficial
diasporic policies
That draw on our positive
qualities
Beyond the powers of incompe-
tent generals
And invitational presidents
Is a collectively powerful Black
sediment
Convended on a plantation
settlement

-Eric-Chamel Gaither

PHAT DIME

The Panther's top ten in no particular order

If's All About Me - Mya f/ Sisqo

Gel At Me Dog - DMX

Second Round Knockout - Ganibus

I Gotta Be - Jagged Edge

Hil 'Em Wil' Da Hee - Missy Elliot f/ Lil' Kim

Beautiful Skin - Goodie Mob

Run to the Arms of the One Who Loves You - Xscape

My Way - Usher

Zoom Zoom - Dr. Dre f/ L.L. Cool J

I Got the Hook Up (R&B mix) - Sons of Funk

Preparation for a new season

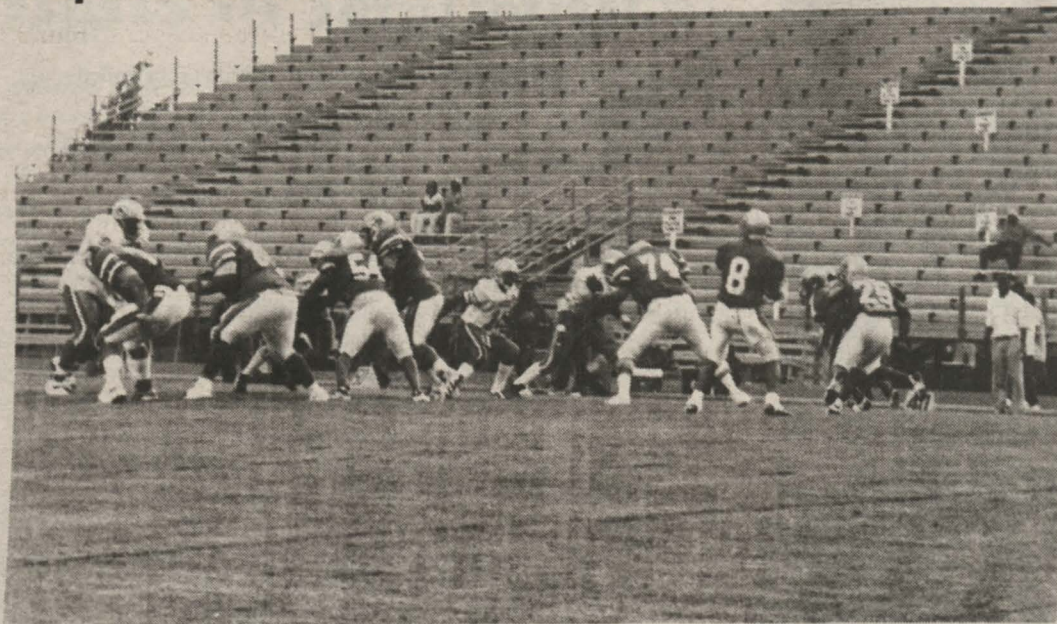


photo by Patrina Bostic

Everyday during the week of April 13-18, Prairie View A&M University's football team practiced for the coming spring season. With the Purple and Gold game on April 15, the team had an opportunity to activate its skills.

Track team finishes second outdoors

By Eric-Chamel Gaither
Panther Staff

The 1998 indoors track and field champion Prairie View A&M University Panthers finished first runner-up to the Southern Jaguars for the outdoors title at the recent Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC) championships. Athletes representing Grambling, Jackson State, Texas Southern, Mississippi Valley State, Prairie View,

Southern, Alcorn and Alabama State participated in 21 events, April 17-19 at Tad Gormley Stadium in New Orleans.

Freshman sprinter Lewis Turner, winner of the 100 meters (10.71) and runner-up in the 200 meters (21.15), scored 18 individual points for the Panthers.

Nathaniel Gross (21.59) and Ebony Brown (21.85) finished fourth and seventh, respectively, in the

200 meters. In the mile relay, Turner, Gross and Brown combined with senior NCAA All-American and 1996 Olympic trials qualifier Dakari Jahi Lenear to run a winning 3:06.3 seconds in the mile relay.

The Panthers mile relay, currently ranked No. 5 in the nation, will meet the No. 1 ranked Baylor Bears this weekend at the Drake Relays, where both teams

could challenge the collegiate record (2:59.91) in the 4x400-meter relay.

Three weeks ago, at the Texas Relays, the Panthers finished second to the Bears in the 4x400.

In that same meet, sophomore high jumper Ronald Nelson finished second, leaping 7 feet 2 inches, qualifying provisionally for the NCAA championships.

Additionally, in conference competition, Nelson finished second in the triple jump (49 feet 7 inches) and won the high jump (7 feet 2 1/2 inches), equalling the SWAC and school records set by Prairie View high jumper Carl Garcia.

For the women's team, Laura Bailey finished third in the triple jump (37 feet 5 3/4 inches), leading the list as the highest individual finisher.

Freshman distance runner Naja Finnoy finished seventh in the 3,000 meters for the Lady Panthers during the first day of competition.

Stephanie Redden and Claudia Dumas finished sixth and seventh in the women's 200 meters, running 25.61 and 25.74 seconds, respectively.

In the 400 meters, Dumas (57.26) and Redden (58.27) finished fourth and seventh, respectively.

The Lady Panthers 4x100-meter relay finished third in a time of 47.20 seconds, while the 4x400-meter relay team finished fifth in a time of 3:56.15.

On The Fast Track
TRACK FACTS

• PV triple jumpers (Nelson, Marlin Hargrove, Tony Austin and Eric Gaither) took four of eight spots in the men's SWAC triple jump finals, scoring 21 team points.

• PV pole vaulters (John Dimas, Trenton Harris and Nelson) claim three of six spots in that event to score 17 points.

• Did you know freshman distance runner Conner Marsh ran more than 15,000 meters during the SWAC championships, a distance equal to a Prairie View - Hempstead roundtrip?

• Lady Panther Tia Talley was a nationally ranked sprinter in high school in Fort Worth.

Beware:
Panthers are golfing on the green

By Stephen C. Price
Panther Staff

If Tiger Woods was a Panther alum, he would be extremely proud of the efforts of the 1997-98 Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) Golf Team.

This year the Panthers placed fifth in the Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC), the highest rank in the past eight years following Jackson State, Alabama, Texas Southern University, and Grambling.

The Panthers played their last tournament on April 16-19 at the SWAC Spring Sports Festival in New Orleans, where all SWAC schools spring sports go to determine who the best of the best is.

It was here that Parrish Batchan (who placed seventh in the festival, and is also a first All SWAC player), Ryan Sweat (who placed 12th) and the women's placing eighth helped the Panthers to a fifth place ranking in the SWAC.

With the addition of standout players from San Antonio and East Texas, and returning players like Parrish Batchan, Ryan Sweat, Talia Baley, and Marie Halley, the Panthers hope to finish next year with a bang.

"We should be able to place higher next year with our returning players," commented PVAMU golf coach, Charles McClelland.

There are efforts to recruit more women golfers, offer more scholarships, and get more support from faculty, alumni, and the surrounding community like the donation of hats by Dr. McNeil (an alumnus who played golf in the 60s). Any contributions will be greatly appreciated, according to McClelland.

"Last year, we had problems with uniforms and my philosophy is that 'if you feel and look inferior, then you play inferior'. This year we were blessed to get new shirts," McClelland said.

If anyone is interested in playing next year, contact Coach McClelland at 857-4853.

Prairie View A&M University
All-sports awards recipients

Tiffany Edwards
Eric Gaither
Leslie West
Tamarron Sharpe
Dakari Lenear
Felicia Tarver
Natalie Eatmon
Claudia Dumas
Roy Moses
Quincy Fuller
A.C. Carr
Michael Patterson
Eian Preston
Tracy Johnson
Jerrell Moore
James Houston
LaMonika Hurst
Kimberly Allums
Natalie Eatmon
Krishuna Taylor
LaMonika Hurst
Tenopra Sheppard
Shonta Greenwood
Keisha Hamilton
Felicia Tarver
Nedra Parker
Aron Thompson
Kevin Bell
Jocquinn Arch
Julius Marble
Tamarron Sharpe
Saladin Bilodeau
Jocquin Arch
Ryan Sweat
Parrish Bathchan
Robert Walters
Letitia Powers
Talia Bailey
Marie Halley
Claudia Dumas
Tia Talley
Stephanie Redden
Laura Bailey
Ta'meka Chopp
Lewis Turner
Dakari Lenear

Ronald Nelson
Conor Marsh
Ebony Brown
Dakari Lenear
Montrevas Cullivan
Reginald Thompson
Deyon Guillory
Claude Bates
Leslie West
Stephanie Hillendahl
Shellie Braxton
Elizabeth McCombs
Raelynn Gaut
Lawanna Amery
Anthony Morrison
Gregory Ballenger
Solomon Pendleton
Timberly Gilford
Belami Williams
Chiquia Robertson
Shayla Mickens
Tiffany Reeder
Natasha Gransberry
Larissa Hines
Keith Lewis
Claudia Blair
Elhadj Lebell
Tara Williams
Michael Houston
John Sharp
Tracy Johnson
Keith Washington
Corey Adams
Nolan Anderson
Marlon Hopkin
Keith Mowbray
Marquis Patton
King Whetstone
Rosalyn Hicks
Erika Baugh
Shatara Lock
Tiffane Wheeler
Rosanne White
Quincy Beasley
Tamika Spencer
Latresha Williams

Tennis team ranks fourth in SWAC conference

By Chi Chi Roberson
and Timothy Jones
Special to the Panther

There is a sport on our campus that many people don't know about.

This sport has caught the attention of some, but still it receives little, if any, attention from the students, faculty, and even the athletic department.

The sport is tennis. The Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) Women's Tennis team consist of six players: Chi Chi Roberson, Timberly Gilford, Bellami Williams, Rosanne White, Tiffane Wheeler, and Maya Jackson.

These ladies had an outstanding season, racking up wins against Texas Southern, Mississippi Valley, Alcorn, and Arkansas Pine Bluff.

While all of the tennis players had individual success, the standout was rookie Timberly Gilford who finished the season with a record of 14-3.

Overall, the women's team finished the season ranked fourth in the Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC) after playing Jack-

son State, the reigning champions.

Unfortunately, the Panthers were defeated in the team competition. However, the ladies still tasted success in the individual competition.

In doubles, Roberson and Williams defeated Southern University in the first round (8-0), but lost to Jackson State (4-8) in the second round. Gilford and White defeated Alcorn (8-4) in the first round and lot to Grambling (3-8) in the second round.

Individual singles also saw success for the Panthers.

Gilford competed well, but was ousted in the first round.

The veteran Roberson did one better than her performance last year when she ended the season third in SWAC. This year, she posted impressive victories against Alabama State (6-0,6-0) in the first round, Jackson State (6-0,6-3) in the quarterfinals, Grambling State (6-4,6-1) in the semifinals, and lost in the finals (1-6,2-6) to take second place in SWAC.

The season for the PVAMU Men's Tennis team culminated at the SWAC Championship. The competition saw PVAMU pitted against Alabama State Uni-

versity in the first round of the tournament.

The Panther men came up short and were ousted from the team competition.

In the individual singles competition, Solomon Pendelton and Robert Houston represented the Panthers well, but both were eliminated in the first round.

The individual doubles saw some success for PVAMU when Timothy Jones and Pendelton defeated Southern University (8-2) to advance to the semifinals.

In the semifinals, Jones and Pendelton lost a close match to Jackson State University.

The other doubles team of Houston and Anthony Morrison were eliminated in the first round of the individual doubles competition.

The men's tennis team, which finished fifth overall in SWAC this season, consisted of Houston, Daniel Smith, Morrison, Gregory Ballenger, Pendelton, and Jones.

Coach Douglas Fowlkes is looking toward next year very optimistically.

Both of the teams are very young and will return with four out of six players on each team.

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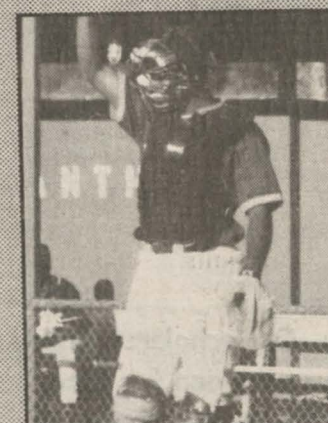
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Personal quote:
"Throughout the whole season, we have always played as a team and worked together. That made the whole season worthwhile."

Name: Rosh Handley

Age: 21-years-old

Major: Electrical Engineering

Began athletic career: at 4-years-old

Position: Catcher

Personal best: Catcher

Favorite junk food: Lasagna

CAMPUS NEWS

HAPPENINGS OF THE WEEK

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
26	27	28	29	30	01	02
D E A D	D E A D	D E A D	D E A D	D E A D	D E A D	D E A D
W E E K	W E E K	W E E K	W E E K	W E E K	W E E K	W E E K
			"Don't Bother Me I Can't Cope" will be performed in Hobart Taylor	Graduate Candidates Final Exam Purple & Gold Day	Graduate Candidates Final Exam 15th Annual Goat Field Day	Final Examination Period

In Brief

Nursing acknowledges Mattie McDowell

Prairie View, TX

The Prairie View A&M University College of Nursing recently acknowledged student nurse, Mattie McDowell. McDowell is a 1998 recipient of the Fuld Fellowship and Helene Fund Health Trust Award for which 51 nursing students from a pool of 300 nominees were selected from all over the United States.

Recipients of the Fuld Fellowship were nominated by their nursing schools. McDowell will attend the 1998 National Student Nurses' Association in Cincinnati, Ohio in April, and she will also attend the 17th International Career Congress in Rio de Janeiro Brazil, August, 1998.

McDowell is a senior graduating in December 1998. She maintained a 4.0 grade point average for five consecutive semesters at the College of Nursing. A wife and mother of four, she also works part-time at Herman Hospital.

Hebert enchants and mesmerizes audience with mezzo-soprano

By Alfred Fulton
Special to the Panther

True music lovers had a treat Monday when the enchanting Dr. Rubye N. Hebert mesmerized the audience with her mezzo-soprano voice which resounded in Hobart Taylor Recital Hall to an eager audience.

Accompanying her on the piano, Dr. Danny R. Kelly, head of the music and drama department, seemed to merge with the piano as his moving, melodic translations came to a perfect accord with Hebert's demanding voice.

Performing a musical collage of classical, old Negro spirituals and contemporary music such as Handel's *Sommi Dei*, Undine Moore's *Love Let The Wind Cry*, and *Talk About a Child* by William Dawson, the dramatic performance by the duo maintained the attention of the audience.

"It was wonderful, I enjoyed every moment," said Prairie View junior Jaiandrea Barrow.

Like a true diva, Hebert showed that with proper training and practice, soloist don't need a microphone to reach an audience. "They brought me to another place, I needed that," said drama major DC Stell.

"I felt like Julia Robert's during the opera scene in pretty woman," said graduate student Holly Barnett.

Ending the evening with Roland Hayes' arrangement of *Roun' About de Mountain*, this special musical treat left some commenting that with such seasoned and talented professors like Hebert and Kelly, it's no wonder Prairie View A & M University produces productive people.

'Reach out and touch someone'

By John Scott
News Editor

The AT&T ACUS program can help students save money on their long distance bills. This program allows students to make long distance calls using a personal code that they are assigned once they sign up.

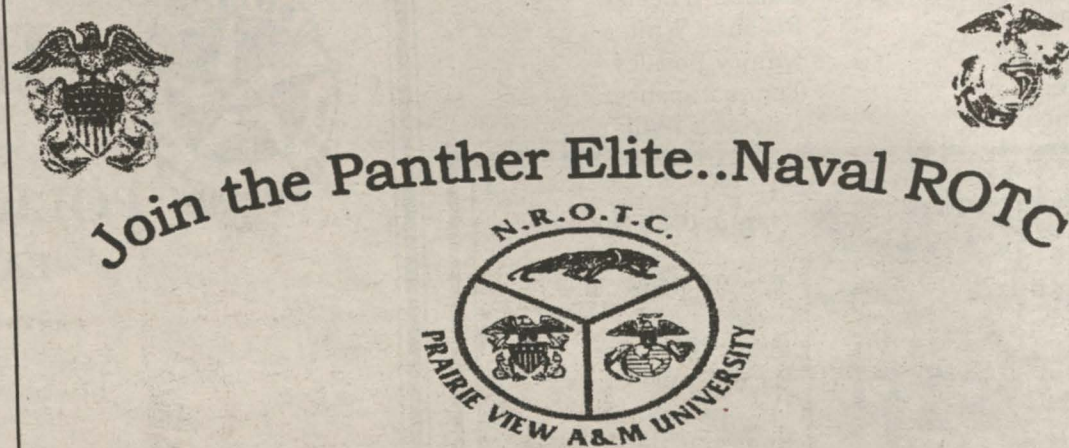
The students will then be billed on a monthly basis using AT&T's ACUS program and will have their own account, personal security code and will continually receive service information available at their residence hall check-in desks.

With the use of the program, the caller saves 15% on each call as compared to regular long distance rates. It is free to sign up and there are no credit checks. To sign up for the program, students can go to the bottom level of Hillard Hall.

For more information, contact Lynn Pettijohn at (409) 857-4320.

Countdown to the semester's end: 13 more days left in Spring 1998

Join the Panther Elite..Naval ROTC



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PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY

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.

Policy from page 1

faculty members to communicate absences.

The right to reduce a student's grade or in a student being assigned a grade of "F" is at the discretion of the faculty member whether excused or unexcused.

"Faculty members are to exercise the best of judgment; the purpose of the policy is not to be a weapon to beat the students," stated Thomas-Smith.

A student who believes the penalty received following violation of this attendance policy is unjust may con-

fer with his/her academic advisor.

If necessary, the matter may be appealed in writing to the course instructor, the instructor's department head, and finally, to the instructor's dean who must refer the matter to the Chair of the Admissions and Academic Standards Committee if it cannot be resolved within the college offering the course.

"Students who had entered the university with high potential and academic promise are now receiving unexpectedly low grade point averages. This was being attributed to two factors: 1) poor

COMIC RELIEF

class attendance and 2) lack of textbooks."

Thomas-Smith stated, "We want these classes to become the rule and not the exception. The policy aims to make attending class the norm."

Mr. PV from page 1 cited the most talented was C. Johnson who performed a dramatic interpretation on the history of PVAMU. He also took the award for Mr. Personality.

The contestant who was able to get the most ads was W. Johnson, and E. Johnson won the best private interview.

Classical piano, kick boxing, and the importance of the issue regarding the unbalanced number of Blacks in the sports arena are all clues linking you to E. Johnson who will reign as Mr. Prairie View 1998-1999. He along with the first runner-up, C. Johnson, will receive scholarships and prizes.

Slade, who crowned E. Johnson, said earlier, "Considering these four men, I feel good to pass on my crown. I know they are capable of doing a job worthy of a king."

He also had this advice to pass on to E. Johnson, "Be a leader and take initia-

tive because Mr. Prairie View makes his reign. Whatever his platform may be, he needs to live it and implement it to the best of his ability. Once he's reached the best of his ability, he should strive to do better."

E. Johnson, 21, plans on doing just that. He is a native of El Paso, TX and a junior double major in criminal justice and psychology.

He is a member of Blackstone Pre Law Society, and the honor society for criminal justice.

As Mr. Prairie View, E. Johnson plans on developing a student mentoring program.



HOCUS-FOCUS



FIND AT LEAST 6 DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PANELS.
Differences: 1. Curtain is wider; 2. Flowerpot is different; 3. Frame is smaller; 4. Freckles are missing; 5. Pants are different; 6. Flowerpot is different.

MAGIC MAZE

CHILE

W Q N R J G A D R A X U R O L
J G D A A R X T R E S E D N A
V S O N I L S P N N P K I F C
A X V C L V S A I I Q P O L J
H E A A U C I A N L A X O V T
R P M G N M T D O T L J H C F
D A T U B N E Y L S I X V T R
S E K A U Q H T R A E A P O M
K I G O L E D B Z O V P G X W
U T M R Q C I F I C A P O O N
L J I G F S A C N I D C A Y X

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

- Andes
- Desert
- Mountains
- Talca
- Arica
- Earthquakes
- Pacific
- Temuco
- Coastline
- Incas
- Peso
- Valdivia
- Copper
- Llamas
- Rancagua

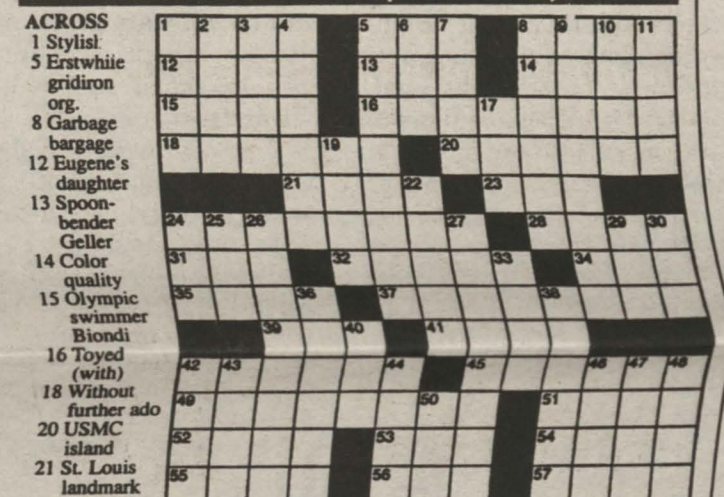
MAMA'S BOYZ by JERRY CRAFT



P.V.'s Own "Jus' Chillin'": By Quincy Higgins



KING CROSSWORD



- ACROSS
- 1 Stylist
- 5 Erstwhile gridiron org.
- 8 Garbage barge
- 12 Eugene's daughter
- 13 Spoon-bender Geller
- 14 Color quality
- 15 Olympic swimmer Biondi
- 16 Toyed (with)
- 18 Without further ado
- 20 USMC island
- 21 St. Louis landmark
- 23 Mainlander's memento
- 24 Smirked
- 28 Skunk's arsenal
- 31 Blackbird
- 32 Fast deliveries
- 34 Partner of plata
- 35 Petulant sort
- 37 Moderated
- 39 Enthusiast
- 41 "Phooey!"
- 42 Wasn't blitzed
- 45 Leg warmer?
- 49 Impeded
- 51 Nastate of tennis
- 9 Hall
- 10 "Dedicated to the — Love"
- 11 Becomes united
- 17 Chum
- 19 Non-kosher
- 22 Under a spell
- 24 Spotted
- 25 "— Little Spanish Town"
- 26 Bad call?
- 27 Put one's foot down
- 29 Mined-over matter
- 30 Staff
- 33 Light on one's feet
- 36 Imperial color
- 38 Sign up
- 40 Ball-bearing device
- 42 Son of Noah
- 43 Bats' hangout
- 44 Colorless
- 46 Bread spread
- 47 Office-hours start
- 48 Collections
- 50 Lamb's dam

Answers to King Crossword

THE FINAL WORD

Prairie View's yesteryear: Senior reflects on days of old

By Lawrence Warren
Graduating Senior

It's a quiet May night. The campus is serene, quiet and pleasantly calm. Bush has spoken and gone (whether we wanted him or not), and relatives who had come to see us in our triumphs have gone and left. We have exchanged phone numbers and addresses and have taken our last photographs with friends. We have laughed cried and said our last good-byes. Some until next time. Some for forever.

You carefully make last minute checks around your room as you pack away the last bits of clothing, apartment decorations and lasting memories into the boxes. As you haul the last of your belongings out the door and load them into the car, you stand there a minute staring at your apartment reminiscing about the memories (good and bad)

that University Village has provided you.

You don't forget, though, the great times you had during the *dorm only days* of yesteryear. You know them - Holley, Banks, Alexander, Suarez/Collins, Fuller and the rest.

You haven't forgotten when visitation ended at twelve o'clock, just when "conversation" was getting good! Remember when the Babydome "after parties" were between Drew Hall and Suarez/Collins? Remember when it was off the hook in front of Alumni Hall after dinner and when going upstairs and actually eating in Alumni was the only option? No potatoes, takeouts, Taco Bell or the underground.

What will be embedded in my mind and in my memories forever, though, will be the opportunities I was able to take advantage of the individuals I met and the friends I made in the process

here at Prairie View A&M University.

I've met the future Spike Lees and Quincy Jones. I've met the future Barbara Jordans and Louis Farrakhans. I've seen the Alvin Aileys and Judith Jamisons. I've heard the fu-

I leave but I will not forget, Shedding no tears as I stand up with pride . . .

ture Nikki Giovannis and Gil Scott Herons and I've spoken with the future Ben Carsons and Daniel Hale Williams. It's been a pleasure and an honor knowing each and every one of you.

I have enjoyed and learned from every experience here on the Hill - from being Mr. Prairie View A&M University, school ambassador down to being a Community Assistant who let people into

their apartments after they unfortunately locked themselves out of their room.

I've consoled, argued with, listened to, screamed at, got aggravated with, hugged, ignored, and showed love to so many here at Prairie View. I have been to beach parties and house parties.

I have seen some outstanding homecomings and then again there were some I just won't mention. One thing I can honestly and truly say, I will miss thy purple royal and thy gold.

Prairie View has given me knowledge of others and knowledge of self. Prairie View has strengthened my foundation and increased my confidence.

It has heightened my intelligence and enhanced my wisdom. It has been the source that has helped to shape and create my pathway in life. From you Prairie View, I can ask for no more.

As this chapter of my

life comes to a close, my hope is that I have encouraged at least *one* individual to keep the struggle alive in the fight against apathetic minds on these acres of great opportunity.

Even though it may be one person and they cannot do everything, they can do something and they should not refuse to do that something that they can do.

My brothers and sisters (and fellow Panthers), as I embark upon my new journey, I leave you, my family, but you will always stay in my heart.

I say to you *hotep* (peace) and leave with you these words:

I leave but I will not forget
Shedding no tears as I stand
up with pride
For a school that gave me
my roar
that shall be heard, one day,
far and wide.

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