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The

Panther

January 23, 1998
Vol. 75, No.3

The Official Student Newspaper of Prairie View A&M University

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20 Questions asks the questions students are afraid to ask.

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View the Final Word, where students get the opportunity to speak out about positive and negative issues on campus.

Honors fit for a King

MLK was honored with parades, prayers, and speeches



Dr. Martin Luther King

By John Scott
News Editor

This past Monday, January 19, much of the nation took the day off in remembrance of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., a man whose profound impact on the history of this country cannot be ignored.

Dr. King was honored around the nation throughout the day in a number of different ways - parades, festivals, carnivals, also in the message of peace, love, and most importantly equality, which he left behind as his legacy.

Commemorative events

took place in small towns and big cities alike as all tried to pay homage to his legacy.

In Atlanta, Vice President Al Gore marked the King holiday by announcing plans to increase civil rights spending under the 1999 budget by \$86 million.

This would increase the amount spent to enforce civil rights laws Dr. King helped get on the books to \$602 million, up from \$516 million last year.

In Houston, a number of events took place.

There was a parade grand marshaled by Arun Gandhi, grandson of Mahatma Gandhi; Charles Evers, brother of murdered civil rights leader Medgar Evers; and Magic Johnson, the former basketball star turned businessman.

There was also a festival and carnival sponsored by Houston's Black Heritage Society at the George R. Brown Convention Center at which Derek King, nephew of the slain civil rights speaker, spoke along with others.

Two events in different parts of the country illustrate the true respect Dr. King's legacy has garnered in the years following his death.

The first was the unprecedented halt in trading on all U.S. financial markets in New York, literally billions of dollars did not change hands out of respect for the man and his message.

Secondly, the celebration of his national holiday occurred for the first time in the small Florida town of Ocoee. A race riot there in 1920 killed at least six people and drove all the blacks out of the area.

Ocoee City Commissioner Scott Glass's commenting on his city's adoption of the holiday, said: "I think it's the right thing to do, and I wish it had been done earlier....I don't think it's an atonement for racial incidents of the past as it is a recognition of where we are today."

Thirty years after his death Dr. King's legacy still brings change.

Post Office: Beware when checking mail

By Patrina A. Bostic
Panther Staff

Gunmen abducted two Prairie View A&M University students from the city's post office and shot at one victim leaving him for dead before the start of Spring 1998 classes.

On Sunday, Jan. 11, Damian Viltz, 23, of Port Arthur, was attacked by two men, at the post office at approximately 8:30 p.m., who knocked him down by hitting him in the head with a gun, causing a bleeding head wound. Viltz was then forced into his car, driven to Mayer Road which runs east and west between FM 1488 and FM 362. The assailants wrapped his hands, legs, and mouth with duct tape and shot at him once according to Waller County Sheriff Randy Smith.

Viltz told police his attackers thought he was dead and dragged him into nearby bushes, then stole his car. Managing to free himself, Viltz went to an area residence for help, Smith said. He was taken to Cy-Fair Hospital and treated for his head wounds.

Friday, Jan. 9, at about the same time as the other attack, Derrick Shaw, 19, of Dallas, was also held at gunpoint, shoved into his car and driven around the countryside. When the duo stopped the car, they forced Shaw in the trunk, and snatched his wallet. After driving to Hempstead the abductors headed back to Prairie View, parked the car, returned Shaw's wallet, released him, and fled the scene, said Smith.

"It's kinda strange that no real harm came to him in light of what happened in the following attack," said Smith. "Of course, it is a good thing."

According to Smith, investigators believe the same gunmen attacked both victims. Although no arrest has been made, one suspect has been identified

Thefts, burglaries taint return to campus

By Tiara M. Ellis
Editor-in-Chief

Upon their return to school, many University Village residents discovered that microwaves, televisions, jewelry and clothes were missing. The result of more than 30 burglaries and thefts was evident as students followed the question, 'How was your break?' with 'Did you get robbed?'

As one or two officers continuously patrolled the entire campus, thefts surfaced from opened windows and keys which were illegally used to gain entrance into many students' apartments over Christmas break.

The increased number of burglaries has caused some students to question the security of living in University Village. Junior Natalie Eatmon who was a second-year burglary victim said, "I am appalled. This (burglary) is a violation of my privacy. Security should have been improved."

After a rush of burglaries were reported the week of Christmas, the community assistants

checked the windows and doors of each apartment to ensure their security, said campus Police Chief R.V. Stevens.

Chief Stevens said that the recovery of stolen items has been slow but is an ongoing process.

"A lot of students did not have the serial numbers (of stolen items)," said Chief Stevens. "If we have serial numbers, we can enter them into a nationwide computer and check with the Houston police department."

With the arrest of Isaac Milton, 20, and his 17-year-old accomplice a few items were confiscated by the campus police department.

The two young men, who were not students at PVAMU, were leaving University Village with a television and clothes in their vehicle, when a campus police officer stopped them outside of the apartment gates. The officer was suspicious because the two were leaving University Village on Dec. 26 with a car full of items.

Paul Johnson, 26, who was later con-

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See Post Office on page 6

Recipe for change

By John Scott
News Editor

Well, as you may already know The Panther has changed addresses, from the cramped inadequate offices we once occupied in Hilliard Hall, to more spacious digs in the Memorial Student Center.

We all seem to be happy with our new location, but even still as I sit here typing this, I can't help but feel a sense of sadness intertwined with my happiness.

Why? Because of all that we had to go through to make the small advances we have made.

Between the conflicts with the administration both written and verbal, the money

problems we had, not to mention the technological problems we still face, we almost didn't make it.

Who do we blame? I'm going to go out on a limb here and say "us". By us, I mean the entire Prairie View unit, its faculty and staff, but most importantly its current student body and alumni.

I chose the word unit because I believe it's necessary for us to operate as such. Up to now, our interaction has been disjointed at best, and I feel that's why little here changes very quickly if at all.

The faculty and staff often make decisions in regards to the distribution of resources

See Panther page 4

VIEWPOINTS

Question: Why are we here?

By Alzo Slade
Panther News Staff

Do you know where you are? Do you know why you are here? Better yet do you know what our people went through for us to be here, for us to have an opportunity to elevate ourselves mentally? Are you tired of hearing this same old song? Well, why don't you do something to change the lyrics. We are at a Black institution of higher learning that was built on a plantation. The very ground where you stand to read this paper is the same ground that our people suffered on just so you could have the right to be educated.

Prairie View's campus is an oasis of knowledge. It is here for you to exhaust all of its resources in order to maximize your potential (which is unlimited). At one time we were hanged, burned, and dismembered just because we were looking in a book in an attempt to learn to read and write so we could make opportunities for ourselves.

Look at us now. Some of us will pick up a bottle, blunt or condom before the thought of a book enters our minds. It seems as though laws that banned us from being literate were taken away because we automatically choose not to read unless it is an assignment for class.

Your college degree is mostly a formality to pacify society. With your degree, you must also possess a sense of self. A sense of where you come from, and what you are capable of. I applaud our professors that realize Black youth of today have been institutionalized by Eurocentric standards and have taken progressive steps to teach us that we come from a long line of over-achievers.

At this knowledge center, you have a chance to destroy the invisible boundaries that society does not want us to cross.

Take a look at the big picture. For thirteen years of being in the public school system, we have been taught in the ways of those who do not share our thoughts, our culture, or our way of life.

We have been following a map that leads us to limited success. It seems like we have lost our sense of originality to the point where we just do enough to satisfy the norm.

Let us not forget that we are the original people. We are the originators of "civilization". The blood that runs through our veins is that of queens, kings, warriors, goddesses, and gods.

It is 1998. It is time to control our own fate. Are we maximizing our potential? I think not, so I ask what the hell are we doing? The battle is no longer physical, it is all mental so get your mind right and quit wasting time.

This is the training ground.

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This is the training ground.

Once you leave here it is not likely that you will ever again be surrounded by individuals that are as beautiful, or as creative as you. At this point, you represent all that your line of ancestry has worked for. You are what they have to show for their pain, agony and tears. So how much do they have to show?

Why don't we look at what they have to show for their suffering? They have their descendants graduating from high school in the top 10% of their classes, and coming to college to make a G.P.A. of 0.00. They are able to show their descendants stealing and beating each other over material possessions. What about their male descendants who place the title of bitch on their female counterpart and females who choose to live up to the title; therefore, going against the laws of nature by having sex on the basis of elementary physical attraction.

Of course, we have given our ancestors plenty to be proud of such as brothers and sisters who are beginning their trek of self-elevation. Brothers and sisters are training to own their own businesses and will stop at nothing until their goals are achieved. Our ancestor's descendants are on this campus exploding with talent in music, dance, and athletics, not to mention academic accomplishments in every major field that our campus has to offer. Brothers and sisters are coming together as one to create one of the most beautiful manifestations this world possesses - Black love.

Ladies and Gentlemen, we have come a long way, yet we still have longer to go. It is time to wake up out of this fantasy world to improve ourselves so we can make this thing work.

There are individuals reading this that feel this does not pertain to them because they have realized what is going on and are taking steps to improve themselves.

There are also individuals reading this who could not care less about what this article says. Both of these

See Editorial on page 6

See Editorial on page 6

See Editorial on page 6

El Nino: Cold today, warm tomorrow

By Samantha R. Thomas
Panther Staff

Have you ever wondered why today it's perfectly warm weather, and ladies are wearing opened-toed shoes as if it's the middle of July? Then, the next day it feels like somebody played a cruel joke with the thermostat, and you suddenly realize...it's still WINTER.

Many people like to call it crazy Texas weather, but scientists call it El Nino, which is Spanish for "the child."

El Nino is a natural weather phenomenon caused by the warming of tropical Pacific waters around Australia and the coast of South America.

It occurs every two to seven years according to information acquired through a website provided by Channel 2000 News. It can be traced back several hundred years when fishermen in Peru noticed warm water every December killing and driving away all the fish. Tropical fish would show up in places they otherwise would not have.

So what does this say to us? Well, according to meteorologists of the National Weather Service, the latest predictions indicate dramatic changes for California, New Mexico and Texas. California has always fallen victim to the warm waters, which cause storms, and increase the inches of rain, floods, and mud slides.

Texas may find for the first few months of 1998 almost double the amount of rainfall, as well as warmer temperatures. No one can predict the damage, if any, that will be caused by El Nino. But, if added along with a Texas tornado, it is not bound to be pretty.

So, tomorrow, when you're getting ready for class wear a T-shirt, a sweater, shorts, a pair of pants, Timberland boots, Payless sandals, and don't forget to pack your umbrella and wear your shades!!

Mayor Brown Threatened

By Patrina A. Bostic
Panther Staff

Recent death threats toward Mayor Lee Brown on the answering machine of a white supremacist, Baytown man prompted an FBI investigation.

The tape's outgoing message sputtered racist remarks regarding Brown's nomination. Authorities said the man on the recording links himself to Texas Aryan National Skinhead's organization.

Case experts believe the man circulated his phone number by obtaining pager numbers and phones lists of individuals and organizations and called them leaving messages for someone to return his call.

According to investigators, the man changes the message occasionally, but never voiced any threats until now.

"I'm not surprised," said Natasha Thomas, PV psychology major. "He (Brown) is the first black mayor of Houston, however, I hope it's only talk and won't be followed up with action."

The Houston Chronicle reported that Brown said he was aware of the recordings, but had not listened to them. "I chose not to listen to it. I think they should investigate it, it's something the

law enforcement people should take seriously--I take it seriously," said the mayor as quoted from a recent press conference.

Jonathan Bernstein, regional director of the B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation League, told reporters, "We have been watching this guy (Baytown man) for over three years, he is a young guy and this is what he does."

Bernstein described the man as a neo-Nazi and told reporters that hate groups were responsible for about 40 murders nationwide over the past eight years.

"I personally don't think the skinheads are bold enough to follow through with this threat," said Prairie View Mayor Ron Leverett. "They're just a bunch of kids who have family problems at home and just want to be somebody. It is another means of trying to gain free publicity and to heighten their membership."

"But at the same time, all death threats should be taken seriously by Brown's security team because anyone can snap," added Leverett.

"I think there are more people supporting Brown than people who hate him," said Nikkia Sams, computer science major.



Houston Industries is joining forces with the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo to provide multimedia presentation of video, laser and pyrotechnics, and a myriad of fixed, flashing and moving lights, all paced and accentuated by music and other audio effects at each of this year's 20 Houston Rodeo performances.

Calf roping and bareback riding will start off every show, followed by the grand entry, the remaining rodeo events and the music concert. Kicking off the phenomenal entertainer line-up on Friday, Feb. 20, 6:30 p.m., is Alan Jackson. Saturday, Feb. 21, 11 a.m., the Houston Rodeo will host Tracy Byrd and Trace Adkins to the Astrodome.

On Saturday, Feb. 28 the Show will pay homage to Black Heritage Day with a performance at 11 a.m. by Luther Vandross.



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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.

Keeping an eye on Texas

Poster contest winners

More than 10,000 Texas school children entered art work in the Texas Tomorrow Fund poster competition. First place winners, announced in January, will receive a four-year Texas Tomorrow Fund scholarship. Winners of second through fourth place will receive U.S. Savings Bonds.



Brandon Hooten, a fifth grader at Whitaker Elementary School in El Paso, won first place in the elementary school division. A detail of the entry is above.

SOURCE: John Sharp, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts.



Savannah White, an eighth grader at Springtown Middle School near Fort Worth, won first place in the middle school division. A detail of the entry is shown above.

Enroll by April 1: The Texas Tomorrow Fund allows families to lock in the costs of their children's future college tuition and required fees for about what they would pay today. For information, call 1-800-445-4723, or on the Internet: <http://www.window.state.tx.us>.



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Stop the presses: The Panther is back in print

By Stephen C. Price
Panther Staff

In the famous words of Arnold Schwarzenegger "I'll be back," and The Panther student newspaper is back and soon to be stronger than ever.

Last semester, there was a rumor going around that The Panther was going to be shut down because of a lack of funds. However, this was not the case.

The offices of Student Affairs and Student Activities were in the process of reorganizing and relocating The Panther to join The Pantherland under Student Activities.

There was a discrepancy over the use of funds from the student service fee (which covers things such as athletics and the MSC) allocations for the 1998 fiscal year.

According to Brian Dickens, Director of the Office of Student Activities and Student Affairs V.P. Ron Jones, with the support of Prairie View's presi-

dent, they decided to integrate the Panther and Pantherland to help fund both publications, and to ensure their improved quality.

Various sources said they felt the newspaper was subpar, because of a lack of student involvement and poor equipment used to run the publication.

This caused some tension in administration, according to the Panther advisor, Dr. Kimetris Baltrip, and they felt it was time for a new image. This change brought about the move to student activities, a new advisor, a new budget, and a reinforced commitment to the paper.

Now that the money situation is straightened out, The Panther can now focus on becoming a viable and first rate publication for the campus and surrounding communities. There are plans for a homepage on the internet, new equipment, an e-mail address etc., etc..

Chance to be crowned Queen

Ladies this could be you! Your opportunity to be Miss Prairie View A&M University 1998-99 is now here.

Female students have the opportunity to represent their university in pageantry competition.

Chrystal Bender carried the crown for 1997-98 and is preparing to forego her rein to a new queen.

Bender received first runner-up in the Miss Black Texas pageant in December.

Applications are available in the Office of Student Activities in the Memorial Student Center in room 116. Application deadline is January 28, 1998.



Photo by Gitonga M'bijewe
Chrystal Bender
Miss PVAMU 1997-98

"Now that we have the backing of the school, we can cover all bases needed where every voice is heard and the students can now feel truly represented," said Ellis.

According to Dr. Baltrip, The Panther and Pantherland need help. Assistance is needed from the students, faculty, staff, and surrounding community.

"The staff does not have to be a communication or journalism majors. Experience is not necessary. There is a competent and helpful staff to help guide those interested," she said.

"The Panther is going through a much needed facelift. The administration made a promise of dedication to improve the paper," said Dr. Baltrip.

with sub-standard housing, a daunting seemingly uncaring bureaucracy and a president many students regard as aloof, only succeed in alienating the final component of the unit, the alumni.

Once students graduate they simply want nothing else to do with the school. There are some alumni who do give money back, but by in large it seems that most who make their way out of Prairie View's doors keep going and don't look back. This is bad, because their money, and involvement as well are needed to help the school grow.

Even if alumni feel their time here was a bad experience, that's all the more reason they should give back, to make it better for future generations. But, if they can't find it in their hearts to give back for that reason, then

they should do it for a purely selfish reason, that being the better the school gets and the better the graduates it turns out, the higher the value of their degree.

With alumni influence and money combined with state funds all the departments could not only be well equipped but well staffed, and episodes like last semester's Panther fiasco would never occur.

Look closely at big schools and you'll see what I say is true. We need to operate as a unit, that means communication between the different parts is needed.

Current students need to contact alumni and scream for help, and they in tandem with the administration, faculty and staff, can bring about change a lot faster than begin.

Disney pays billions for NFL

Associated Press

Disney has agreed to pay \$9.2 billion over eight years for the National Football League's (NFL) signature prime-time packages, which are Monday Night Football on ABC, and Sunday-night games on ESPN. This dramatic buy out has shut NBC and Turner Sports out of the NFL broadcast picture until 2005. Disney will be paying \$1.15 billion a year for the NFL packages. The Associated Press reported that ABC will pay \$550 million yearly for Monday night games and ESPN will pay \$600 million annually for Sunday night games.

Fox has retained NFC rights and CBS has retained AFC rights from its former owner NBC in a deal that will allow the NFL to receive \$2.2 billion per year for television rights in the first five years of the eight year contract. These packages leave a possible take after the eight years that will round out to be nearly \$18 billion.

A & E Network Biography NCAA team to visit PV athletics

Source:
Prairie View A&M University

On January 26-29, 1998, a "Site Visit Team" will come to Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) to assess compliance with National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) rules and regulations. The team will be headed by compliance representative, David Brunk, from the NCAA Office in Kansas City, Kansas. In November, PVAMU completed a self-study in compliance with NCAA requirements and as a result of a campus-wide effort, according to committee chairperson, Dr. George Stafford.

As a part of Division I athletics certification, PVAMU was responsible for studying such areas of consideration as academic and financial integrity, rules compliance and commitment to integrity. While academic accreditation is common in colleges and universities, this program is the first to focus solely on this certification program of athletics programs.

The program's purpose was to ensure integrity in the institution's athletics operations and to open up athletics to the rest of the university/college community and to the public. Institutions of higher education benefit from increasing awareness and knowledge of athletics programs campus-wide, confirming strengths and developing plans to improve in areas of concerns.

The site visit team will report to the NCAA Committee on Athletics Certification and determine PVAMU's certification status.

PV bowling knocks them down

By Patrina A. Bostic
Panther Staff

Contrary to popular opinion, sometimes you do have to "knock down" all in order to get to the top, and Prairie View's new women's bowling team is mastering the art.

The team, under head bowling coach Alicia Peete, fought its way to second place by seeking to hit every pin in sight during a bowling tournament held January 15-16 against Texas Southern, Grambling State, and Southern University.

In the doubles match for the overall tournament, juniors Natasha Grandsberry and Lecretia DeJohn received individual trophies for outstanding doubles performances for having the highest total pin count.

"We have a good chance of going to the SWAC (championship)," Peete said.

Prairie View ranks second in the conference, and the top two teams advance to the SWAC tournament on Feb. 20, according to Peete.

"I think it is great that Prairie View has

a bowling team," said Missye Profit, mechanical engineer major. "It gives the school more exposure, and is a way to broaden athletic ability on campus."

SWAC now requires universities to have an equal number of team sports for men and women.

According to Peete, the bowling team and women's softball team materialized as a result of the ruling.

According to Peete, a bowling alley is scheduled to be built in Prairie View next year, and Peete said she and her bowling team are looking forward to its construction to reduce their current distance and travel time to Houston for tournaments.

Spectators are welcome to come out and support the team at no charge at the public bowling alley in Houston on Hwy 290 and Winfern, Peete said. The next home match will be held February 5.

"We have a really good team, and everyone works well together," said team member Falishia Franklin. "We appreciate all the support we have gotten so far."

Lady Panther basketball fights on

By Tiara Ellis
Editor-In-Chief

The 2-12 record held by the Lady Panther basketball team does not fully represent their hard work and efforts to compete in the Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC).

"It's not that we are getting beat badly," said senior Keisha Hamilton. "They (opponents) are just out hustling us. We are beating ourselves." On January 17, the Lady Panthers fought to the final seconds but came up short with a 62-60 loss to the Mississippi Valley Delta Devils. In that game, sophomore Felicia Tarver pulled in 18 rebounds letting all of SWAC know she is leading the conference and ranked ninth in the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) with her rebounding percentage of 11.1.

Hamilton is also showing her defensive strength with a SWAC sixth place ranking in blocks. In last week's game against McNeese State University, the Panthers outscored the Cowgirls 37-28 in the second half. But the 30-18 halftime lead was too much for them to overcome for a 58-55 loss.

"We have a lot of talent this year," said Assistant Coach Louise Madison. "It's just a matter of execution. As far as talent, I think we can compete with anyone." The Panthers will have another opportunity win in their conference on tomorrow when they play the Alcorn State University Braves in Lorman, MS.

Sports Quiz by Aaron E. Tucker

- Name the Chairman of the St. Louis Rams football team.
- What university did head coach Mike Holmgren of the Green Bay Packers attend from 1966-69?
- Name the first-ever head coach of the Chargers in 1960.
- What was former Pittsburgh Steelers' head coach Chuck Noll's record in his debut season in 1969?
- Who holds the record for a single game-rushing performance for the Oakland Raiders?
- Name the first team the Jacksonville Jaguars ever defeated during their expansion regular season in 1995.
- What former University of Miami head coach was also head coach of the Baltimore (now Indianapolis) Colts at one time?
- Name the New York Jet kicker who was successful on three field goals in the Jets' major upset over the Baltimore Colts in Super Bowl III.
- Name the first Denver head coach to lead the Broncos to a Super Bowl appearance in XII.
- Who is the Seattle Seahawks' all-time leading rusher?

Sports Quiz Answers

- Georgia Frontiere;
- Mike attended U.S.C. and was a quarterback;
- Sid Gillman;
- 1-13-0;
- Bo Jackson ran for 221 yards in 1987;
- the Jaguars beat the Houston Oilers in their fifth game of the season, 17-16;
- Howard Schnellenberger (1973-74);
- Jim Turner;
- Robert (Red) Miller;
- Curt Warner with 6,705 yards (1983-89)

In Brief

Co-ed Banks result of Holley closing

Banks Hall is now a coed dormitory and Holley Hall has been vacated. Last semester Holley only had one wing open to residents.

This action is due to the much needed renovation of Holley, an aged but useful dorm.

No completion date has been established. According to sources, all dorms on PVAMU's campus will undergo some sort of renovation.

Career fair returns

The Prairie View A&M University Chapter of the American Marketing Association and the College of Business have set the 14th Annual Business Career Forum for Wednesday, Jan. 28, 1998. The career forum, to be held in PVAMU's Hobart Taylor Building, offers graduate/undergraduate students opportunities to experience the range of careers available in business. The forum will begin at 9 a.m., Jan. 28. Contact Susan Repka for more information at (409) 857-4310.

Panther from page 2

that effect the entire unit in accordance to what they feel is needed. This is done without consulting the rest of the unit, namely the student body, to get a consensus on what is really needed.

The result has been inadequate technology needed to properly teach students the skills they are paying ever increasing tuitions to learn. That combined

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COMIC RELIEF

Post Office from page 1

and is currently being sought for questioning.

"It's ridiculous that you can't go get your mail," said Roderick Jones, a PV student.

A Prairie View police officer found Viltz's car the following Tuesday, but all the victim's personal belongings inside were stolen, authorities said.

"As we watched the post office after the second incident, it was just amazing how many stu-

dents drove in to check for mail at night leaving their cars running," said Smith. "Students need to exercise more caution and pick-up mail during the daylight."

"This is no longer Prairie View where we are safe and happy," said Prairie View student Theresa Augustin.

Chief R.V. Stephens said more patrol has been established in the post office area by both University and City of Prairie View police.

Burglaries from page 1

nected to the two arrested for stealing from University Village residents was also arrested Jan. 12 for an outstanding Waller County warrant for forgery.

Johnson was living illegally in University Village.

The three associates are being held in Waller County jail until their court date or until they make bond.

Other individuals

remain under investigation as the campus police continue their search for stolen items and those involved.

Representatives of University Village were not available to discuss the incidents but did offer a printed statement which described their interest in "striving to meet the needs" of their community and "enhance the living and the learning experience."

"The University Police Department in conjunction with The Village'

staff work cooperatively to educate and serve the community to provide a healthy and safe living environment which in turn fosters academic and social success," said a University Village representative.

Editorial from page 2

people play an important role in the elevation of our people.

If you have

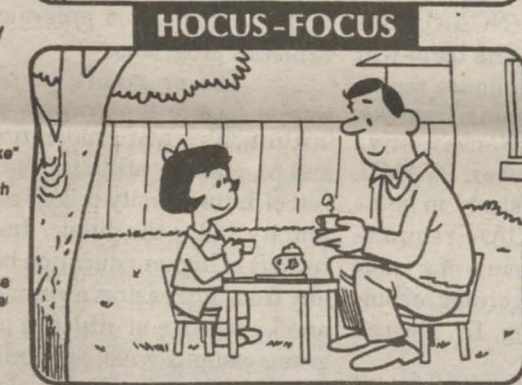
realized the struggle that we are in then you have a responsibility to make those that couldn't care less, aware.

There will not be a fast, tangible result.

When we persist and refuse to quit, we will be able to see that we will rise out of this hellhole of mental slavery that seems to suppress our capabilities of being the greatest people to ever touch the face of the earth.

Super Crossword

ACROSS	WINNER	CAVITY	INSTRUCTION	SHIPS	SONGS
1 Traitor's	45 Ship's officer	85 Vincent Lopez theme	4 Vocal of the Perry Mason shows	40 Star of the 77 Court barriers	79 Deauville donkey
6 Slip of the tongue	48 Rose-colored dye	88 Powerful	5 Having a handle	42 Paul Muni portrayed him	81 Greek underground
11 Cinderella's conveyance	49 Calcutta	91 Horse's gait	7 King of comics	44 Prom follower	83 It settles in lead
16 He played Moses	50 Sought to overthrow a verdict	95 City on the Rhine	8 Bowler's target	45 Remove the rind	84 Unnatural or forced
17 Nobelist Root	54 Small barrel	97 Very, in Versailles	9 Look for bargains	47 Comfortable shoes	86 Georgia city
18 Fixed portion	55 Imitated	99 Struck hard	10 Part of EEC	48 Banjo's Japanese cousin	87 Sarcastic
20 Dining	58 Irrational number	100 Bill's partners	11 Greek island native	50 Late bloomer	89 Western city
21 Lord's domain	59 Intransigent	101 Rajah's wife	12 "Midnight at the..." (song)	51 Cleanse of impurities	90 Broker's word
22 Landed properties	60 Hacienda	102 Held's home	13 "...boy!"	52 Last king of Troy	92 Settles in a place
24 Mischievous child	62 Dishonor or disgrace	104 Go away!	14 It succeeded the OSS	53 Civer	93 Giant grasses
25 Think logically	64 Bargain bonanza	106 Corn or color	15 Popular stadium fare	54 Avoid wedding expenses	94 "For — Sake" (movie)
27 Shakespeare heroine	65 Corn or color	110 Raided the fridge	16 Large picnic basket	57 Discourage through fear	96 Gentle touch
29 Dad's retreat	66 Wildebeest	111 Chemical salt	17 Good or hickie	58 Discontinue through fear	97 Badger's cousin
30 Expectant desires, in Soho?	67 Yale man	112 From associates	18 Artless	59 Chapter of the Koran	101 Jeweler's setting
32 Supplely	68 Get overly ripe	113 Discontinues path	19 Escapes detection	60 Kind of Alexander	102 Hit with the first
33 Green veggies	69 Euphemistic moral or genetic	114 Electron tube	20 Business transactions	61 Corned beef	103 Roman magistrate
34 Word with moral or genetic	71 Uncle Milton	73 Literary	120 Memory prod	62 Pigeon pea	71 June 6, 1944
35 Uncle Milton	72 Special times	74 Bag or poise lead-in	76 Military alarm?	78 Artificial	72 Roman setting
37 Special times	75 Bag or poise lead-in	76 Military alarm?	78 Artificial	79 Kentucky Derby	73 Brutally frank
38 Bag or poise lead-in	77 Kentucky Derby	78 Artificial	79 Kentucky Derby	80 Half a college year	74 Urban problem
40 Military alarm?	81 Kentucky Derby	82 Black and Red	83 Anecdotal	84 Anecdotal	75 Sacred
41 Artificial	82 Black and Red	83 Anecdotal	84 Anecdotal	85 Anecdotal	76 Sacred
43 War — (1837)	83 Anecdotal	84 Anecdotal	85 Anecdotal	86 Anecdotal	77 Sacred
Kentucky Derby	84 Anecdotal	85 Anecdotal	86 Anecdotal	87 Anecdotal	78 Sacred



FIND AT LEAST 6 DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PANELS.

Difference: 1. Bow is smaller; 2. Shirt is shorter; 3. Table leg is missing; 4. Teapot is moved; 5. Hair is different; 6. Cuts are missing.

Answers to Super Crossword

PASTA	LAPSE	COACH
HESTON	ELIHU	RATION
NAPKINS	MANOR	ESTATES
TMP	REASON	PORTRAIT
OPES	STUN	PEAS
BERLE	ERAS	BEAN
ERSATZ	ADMIRAL	PURSER
KNOW	EOSIN	SARTRI
APPEALED	KEG	PARROTTED
SURD	ADOBE	SHAME
TRI	GNU	ELLI
EGAD	DIODE	BLESS
REMINDER	DIAL	SEMESTER
SEAS	SINUS	NOLA
MIGHTY	RELENTS	GALLOP
ARLES	CEDE	TRES
GOOS	RANI	ALPS
ONA	CAROMS	PILOTS
NITRATE	ETHAN	RELATES
CEASES	NAIVE	ELUDES
DEALS	TREED	SAGES

AIR HOCKEY

Center line
Elite
Faceoff
Foul

Goals
Mallets
Masters
Penalty

Rails
Referee
Serve
Shield

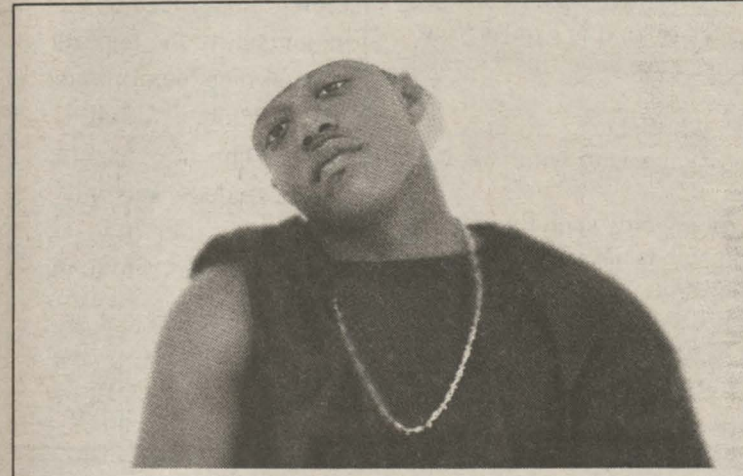
Surface
Table
Two players

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

NAME THAT FLICK

1. What video features the best of the rap and hip hop world's recording artists including Ice-T, the Fugees, Da Brat, Dr. Dre, the late great Tupac Shakur, Salt-N-Pepa and the late Notorious B.I. G.?
Brandon E. Allen
2. Name the comedy starring Joey Lauren Adams and Ben Affleck, and directed by Kevin Smith (who also directed Clerks). Hint: Amy is part of the title.
Brandon E. Allen
3. Evita's Jonathan Pryce and Mission: Impossible's Vanessa Redgrave are starring in what thriller, tale about a voyage gone wrong?
Brandon E. Allen

Music Review: New Bad Boy Ain't That Bad



Bad Boy recording artist Ma\$e

Harlem World is the name of the debut album by Ma\$e, Sean "Puffy" Combs' newest protégé. Ma\$e has been featured on other artist's albums such as PD & the Family's No Way Out and Notorious B.I.G.'s Life After Death.

Ma\$e dropped his album into stores nationwide last fall trying to stake claim as the new rap King of New York. However, Harlem World has 20 tracks with only six or seven worth listening to. "Will They Die 4 U" featuring Puffy and Lil Kim, "Lookin at Me" featuring Puffy, and definitely one of the livest tracks on the album, "The Player Way" featuring Eightball and M.J.G.

"Ni***z Wanna Act" featuring Busta Rhymes, "Feels So Good", "What You Want" featuring Total, and the best track of all, the hard-hitting "24hrs to Live" which features The Lox, Black Rob and DMX. "24hrs..."

ENTERTAINMENT

Imagery overuse reduces history of 'Amistad'

By Eric Chamel-Gaither Staff Writer

The overlapping cultural layers in the 1998 cinematic production "Amistad" give the movie a holographic quality, leaving an incomplete picture because of the overuse of dramatic imagery in place of historical accuracy, which idealistically could have only been brought to the screen through actual diaries kept during the historical event.

Logically, a producer would use as much actuality as possible to lend to a production's believability.

This would explain the central Amistad characters speaking Spanish and Mende during the 15-minute introduction for the movie.

It appeared that corporal language was more influential than verbal language in Amistad, since neither Spaniard nor African spoke the other's language.

So through dramatic imagery, "Amistad" established the foundation for a forced friendship that has existed between Africans and Europeans for more than 400 years.

The image of Cinque driving a sword through the heart of a shipman (just before the word "Amistad," spanish for friends, appears on the screen) cements a pictorial definition for black-white relations in America.

After the first trial in the movie, the captives found themselves in much the same situation as Jesus, having won and lost two battles with a single ruling.

When the lawyer could not find words for the Mende translator to convey the concept of "should have" never happened, as it related to the second trial for Cinque and the other captives, volumes were being spoken about the many ambiguous European-American concepts Blacks have yet to grasp.

Overall, "Amistad" appeals at different levels to different people. And while the central theme appears to be friendship, it is definite that much of this production has been sensationalized with dramatic imagery.

20 Questions

1. O.K., we've been gone for awhile, but we're back and we just gotta know why in the world is former U.S. President George Bush speaking at the May commencement?
2. Why weren't female residents of Banks Hall notified that males were going to be living in their dorm until after they came back from the holiday break?
3. Yo, whatever happened to the NAACP club?
4. Where is the support for the Pantherette basketball team?
5. Why are Aquariuses so live?
6. Are we the only school who doesn't register by telephone?
7. Why does the bookstore have so many "PV DAD" T-shirts in stock?
8. Speaking of our "valued" bookstore, do they raise the prices of books each semester just to see how much we will pay?
9. Or do they charge so much so that at the end of the semester they can take pleasure in watching us frown as we take back a measley \$2?
10. Why do we have an Alumni Affairs office that doesn't keep in touch with the Alumni?
11. Why is that you don't hear from certain organizations until it's time for intake?
12. Where is SGA?
13. If PV is supposed to be a business, why aren't the customers always right?
14. What's so express about KFC and Taco Bell in the MSC?
15. Whatever happened to the recreational park?
16. Why is that Alumni always tastes so good the first week of school?
17. What's so fast about the Fastbreak line now that it's upstairs?
18. Why is the lady in the Panthermart always in the restroom?
19. What's the difference between a fee receipt and a fee assessment?
20. What do you think?

The Panther staff wants to know what you think. Please submit any question you may have to The Panther in the bottom of the MSC, room 114A.

And the survey says....

We asked some students their best picks of 1997 and here are the results:

Best Movie Soul Food	Best R&B Female Singer Erykah Badu
Best Actor Samuel L. Jackson	Best R&B Male Singer Brian McKnight
Best Actress Vivica A. Fox	Best MC Master P
Best Comedian Chris Tucker	Best Female MC Mia X
Best Music Video ...Benjamins (Rock Remix)	Best R&B Group Dru Hill

COMING SOON!

The Panther House

THE FINAL WORD

What's up with the housing?

By Eunreka Moore
Panther Staff

When I arrived at Prairie View A&M University, I was so excited. I am still, however, have you ever heard the expression: First impressions last a lifetime? Well, here on the "HILL" that expression has not changed a bit.

As a matter of fact, it seems to me that it won't be changing for a while. If you are having problems with housing, you are certainly not the first.

Wait in line like the rest of us.

When I sit and look at my fee receipt and see how much money I am spending on housing, it tells me that something is seriously wrong. These problems haven't just started, they have been going on for some time now.

I say to my peers what Malcom X said to his congregation: "You have been hood winked, bamboozled, run amuck, taken in, conned, and jived."

I'm not knocking anybody, but why are things the way they are around here?

When I ask classmates who have been here awhile this very question, their response is "that is Prairie View and trying to change it is useless; things have been this way and always will be."

Does your cable work? What about your hot water? It's wonderful that the university fixed our windows, but that's not what I asked for.

Who am I kidding? We are only spending money. Yes, money, \$870 worth. I know that cable is not necessary or a school requirement; however, when everyone else has cable and hot water, I feel that I am definitely not getting my money worth. Are you? Don't get me wrong, the University Village III is under construction, and things are changing somewhat, in a slow, slow way.

However, my question is, . . . what about now?

Dear Readers,

In addition to Letters to the Editor on **Viewpoints**, (page 2) students have the opportunity to voice their opinions in The Panther's **Final Word**. This newspaper is for the students and will make every attempt to serve our readership to the best of our ability.

Sincerely,
Tiara M. Ellis,
Editor-in-Chief



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