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THE PANTHER



The Official Student Newspaper of Prairie View A&M University

Springfest '99 ends with a bang

Comedy and Step Show expected to highlight Springfest week

By Jo Carolyn Goode and Keshia C. Jones
Panther Staff

Although the official Spring Break for Prairie View A & M University students began a little bit earlier than usual, upon returning, students realized that the fun was not yet over. The end of Spring Break ushered in what is known as Springfest '99. Students put their party hats back on for the celebrations and events that last all week long.

Springfest started full of pride as PVAMU alumna Morenike Efunfade graced students with her presence, and her insightful movie "The Water Story." The short film showed a single black father trying to make all the right decisions while raising a daughter.

Efunfade, who directed the film, explained that although the project was aired for television, PVAMU's broadcast was her film's first public showing. It was clearly an emotional homecoming for the first-time director.

The events for day two consisted of a book review and Panther Lounge.

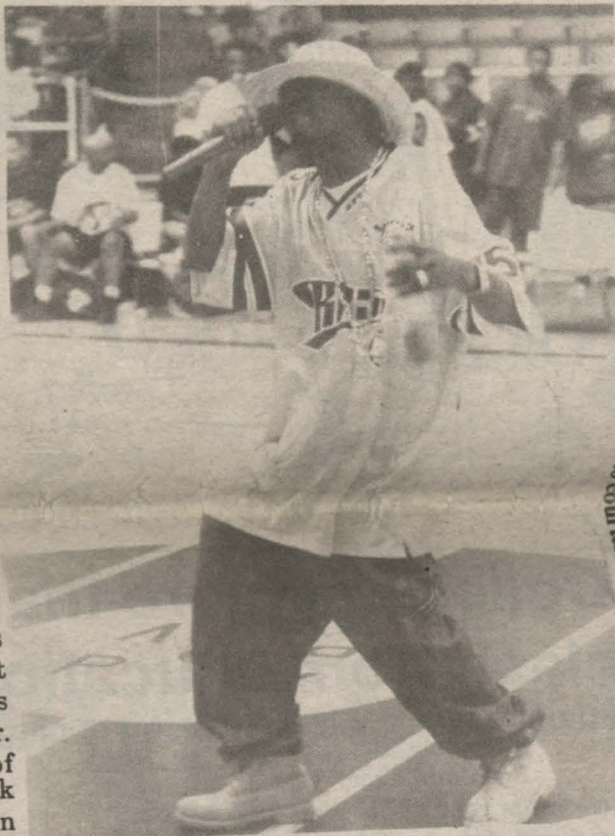


photo courtesy of Glenn Russell

Rap artist, Yukmouth, of Rap-a-Lot Records entertains the crowd during half time of the celebrity basketball game on Wednesday.

and "1960 Legacy of the African American Leaders."

With a full room of listeners, Mrs. Hines shared knowledge about African American leaders, such as activist Adam Colin Powell and former Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall, among others. She spoke about their contribution to a culture, its people, and history.

The evening continued on with the Panther Lounge which showcased the campus' finest poets. This year's Panther Lounge did not have the usual celebrity guest, but that didn't slow down the night because PVAMU discovered some stars of its own.

One of the highlights of the night was when Marlon Johnson stepped to the microphone



photo courtesy of Glenn Russell

Rap-a-Lot competed in the celebrity basketball game of Springfest for the second consecutive year and brought along some celebrity guests to perform.

The book review was hosted by Veronica Hines, first lady of PVAMU, who discussed the books, "Servants of the People"

and captured the attention the audience with an original poem. Aside from the talented poets, Phi Mu Al-

Ensemble performs for Austin convention

By Yauna Estes
Panther Staff

Representatives from the Classic Dance Ensemble performed at the Annual Texas Daily Newspaper Associate Convention in Austin on March 22.

The Dance Ensemble's presence was requested by the executive president of the Texas Daily Newspaper Association, Philip Berkebile, to perform at The Renaissance Hotel where the convention was held for such guests as Governor George W. Bush and Sylvester Turner.

"Preparing for their trip has helped the dancers to grow, and required long hours of dedication. I am extremely excited, and I feel that this opportunity will be a catalyst for the Classic Dance Ensemble, Prairie View, and future journalists," said Ken Epting, the choreographer for this event.

"The Classic Dance Ensemble put in extra hours of rehearsal for this 20 minute performance talent, then to publicize, and be seen. I feel seeing our names in print will validate success," said Epting.

The group mesmerized the audience with a military style routine titled "Dangerous." The costumes included camouflage pants, black shirts, camouflage hats, and combat boots.

After the first set of dancers excited the stage,

See Dance on page 15

pha also helped move the crowd with their outstanding musical performance completing a night that was full of Black creativity and love.

Wednesday began with great importance as the College of Education hosted the Founders' Day and Honors Recognition Convocation Program. The tone was set with Rockell Williams' passionate speech about the historic establishment of PVAMU. The convocation address was given by Opal Johnson Smith, President-Elect of Prairie View A & M University National Alumni Association.

Smith's speech was full of valuable advice and personal anecdotes. The program went on to recognize the many students for

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* Learn more about Robert McCreary's untimely death on page 7.

* Check out the review of Tevin Campbell's new release and the personal interview on page 10.



VIEWPOINTS

Misunderstood by many
Passion inspires action
not negative feedback



Tiara M. Ellis
Editor-in-Chief

seven to ten years, if not sooner.

As a true PVAMU Panther, I have to speak up when I do not like what President Charles Hines is doing with his position of power. It is up to the students to give him input about our education and the facilities that further that education.

Giving feedback about Hines or other issues on campus does not necessarily have to be negative though. It just so happens there is very little positive feedback that I can offer Hines in the finale of my four years under his regime.

Ultimately, it does not good to spit fire and hot air without following those words with some action to rectify all that we complain about.

Whether we like it or not, we are submerged in a generation of youth with ab-

See **Power** on page 3

In all I do, I try to make people think about their actions. I try to direct my writing, talking, and demeanor in a way that influences positive thought and conversation. There are times when I get very passionate about this university and issues concerning it.

At times that passion can be misunderstood. Passion and fire can be confused with pessimism and fury when that is not actually the case.

It is hard to sit by and watch this university slowly being rebuilt into a campus of cheap, subsidized housing that will be falling down within



College is more than
classroom education
Students learn interaction and coping skills

Each and every year across the country, students are posed with one of the most important questions in their lives... "What college should I go to?"

For some it is an easy answer. For others the choice may be a little more complex. Many students attend colleges thousands of miles from their homes. This choice serves them a different set of issues than those faced by most incoming freshman.

Of course, they too must learn to adjust to new roommates, new environments and even new rules. But they must also deal with coming to a far away land where nothing is familiar.

In 1997, 12 percent of PVAMU's school population was from another state besides Texas. This 12 percent chose to attend Prairie View for various reasons, including the renowned engineering department, award-winning marching band, sports program, fabulous faculty and numerous other activities and departments that PVAMU are nationally recognized. The distance did not excuse them from enrolling, it just issued them a chance to meet different people from other parts of the country.

It hurts me each and every time I hear a person, usually from out-of-state, complaining about the campus being boring, isolated or empty. These same people are usually the

See **College** on page 3



By Sheleah Hughes
News Editor

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Ms. Ellis:

We have recently been researching flooding problems in Texas and would like to share ideas since we have learned that many people in different areas of the state have also become alerted to the possible gravity of the issue.

We recently worked with Jeanie Turk of Sour Lake, Texas, in her unsuccessful attempt to get a flood-control district established in southeast Texas. During that time we learned many causes of the increase in flooding in that area and much of it could be eliminated.

We hear much about flooding all over Texas in areas that, "have never flooded before," and the damage in life and property continues to mount each year.

Please respond with any ideas you have on the subject. Also let us know if there is any concern in your area on the subject and more importantly, if there has been any research or answers revealed.

Sincerely,
Bryan & Joan Froust

With spring rains and flooding fast approaching, information on this subject may be advantageous to the university. Anyone wishing to respond to the issue of run-off and flooding in the Prairie View area may write *The Panther* at the address below.

Tiara Ellis, Editor-in-Chief

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. Our e-mail address is located at www.panther@pvamu.edu. All submissions are subject to editing and must include the author's name and telephone number.

Submission Policy
for Letters to the Editor

Power from page 2

solutely no concern for anything or anyone but ourselves. Because of this refusal to stand for anything, we follow every leader who looks like they know what they are attempting to fight for.

Instead of thinking and researching for ourselves, we go with the flow. And when the flow gets a little choppy, we jump ship. Our fickle attachment to whatever is the new form of rebellion gives us no credibility.

Action can be in the form of writing a letter to the student newspaper or Hines directly. But when offered that solution, so many students immediately spit out, "I don't have the time."

How long can it take to write a simple letter commenting on an issue? Five, ten minutes? Doesn't your university deserve that much attention?

Obviously not, because I have received only four or five letters to the editor from students in my one and a half year stint as editor-in-

chief of *The Panther*. I bet Hines has received even fewer.

People accuse me of having a chip on my shoulder, because of the anger in my writing. Well, I accuse those same people of not caring enough about their university and the education they receive here to get angry.

Bet I don't get a response! In which case, we all lose.

See **College** on page 3

ones complaining about nothing to do or there not being enough parties and anything else they can find to pick a bone with.

I did a little research and found out that those same people are rarely seen at parties, seminars, interest meetings or other campus-wide events. They are usually found in their rooms, cooped up, sleeping, whining or running up their calling cards.

College is more than books, tests, professors and graduating. It is a cabinet of ingredients including friends, fun experiences, knowledge

and other opportunities to explore the world. The only way to enjoy it is by using the ingredients.

You can't make cookies by complaining that you don't know how to make them. You have to actually try and get your hands dirty. While in college you have to get out, meet people, attend social events, and learn about others. Sitting in your room complaining, whining and calling home won't get anything dirty.

When the question was posed to some students during their senior year in high school, they chose to attend a school far from home-PVAMU. Now that they are here, they are dealing with homesickness, missing old friends and the changing temperature of Texas. They are attending social events and getting their hands dirty while having fun and meeting new people.

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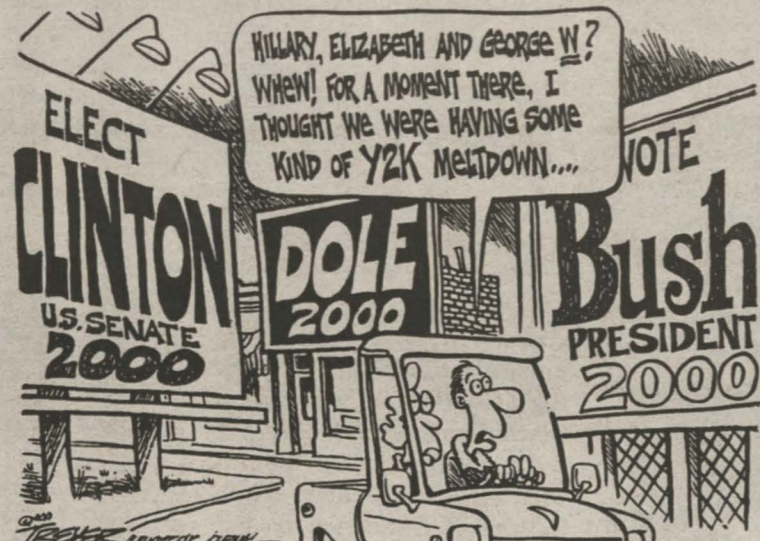
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Editorial Policy

The Panther is a publication supported through advertising and student activity 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. Visit Prairie View's web site at www.pvamu.edu or e-mail *The Panther* staff at www.panther@pvamu.edu.



CAMPUS NEWS

Stars shine bright

Honda Campus All-Stars earn 14th place in national competition



photo courtesy of HCAS

Honda Campus All-Stars member: Eric McNair, Charles Smith, Aminah Lewis, Malcolm Sykes, Cleveland Harris and sponsor Herbert Thomas receive their award at the national championship tournament held in Washington, D.C.

By Eric McNair and Herbert Thomas
Special to the Panther

The Prairie View A&M Honda Campus All-Star Team represented the University spectacularly.

The 10th annual HCAS National Championship tournament was held March 11-15 with 64 historically black colleges and universities present.

The PVAMU team finished 14th, but received 1st in its division. This was the first time in years that the PVAMU team advanced to the "Sweet Sixteen."

PVAMU lost to Fayetteville State in a first round playoff rematch earning the university \$5000. Florida A&M University was crowned the 1999 National Champion and was awarded \$50,000.

The HCASC program is the largest meeting of African American students, HBCU presidents, and volunteers, and qualifies as an important educational and networking summit.

This year's program included an appearance by Olympic Gold Medalist, Jackie Joyner Kersee, and a keynote address by Yolanda King, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s daughter. Entertainment was provided in a spirit-filled performance by the Morgan State University Choir, and the sultry sounds of Kenny Lattimore and Shanice.

"The competition was the highest example of sportsmanship, excitement, academic challenge, and PV spirit," Aminah Lewis, leading scorer said.

With this kind of confidence, PVAMU's team can become the 2000 champs.

Miss Sabarrack Presentation & Contest

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Trip abroad provides cultural exchange

By Shariff Shabazz
Panther Staff

The trip to Nueve Laredo, Mexico on Friday, April 9 will be a learning experience for many Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) students, especially for those students who have not had the opportunity to come in con-

tact with other cultures, lifestyles, people and other traditions.

For those who are attending this trip, it will provide a cultural exchange between natives of Mexico and African American students from PVAMU.

Unfortunately, many African Americans are not

provided with the opportunity to travel abroad. This unique trip will provide the perfect opportunity to share and exchange ideas, culture, traditions and knowledge with the natives of Mexico to better understand and appreciate the people, land and the various cultures of Nueve Laredo, Mexico.

Alumni honored for achievements



Carol Campbell, graduate, ambassador to PVAMU

By Lum-Awah Atang
Panther Staff

The old adage that "Prairie View Produces Productive People" is more than just fancy alliteration, it is a fact.

Carol Campbell, a graduate and ambassador to the university, recently received national and international certification as a "Cor-

Campbell receives international certification as "Corporate Etiquette and International Protocol Consultant"

porate Etiquette and International Protocol Consultant." She was certified by the Protocol School of Washington, D.C. in January and currently serves as protocol officer to President Hines.

Campbell is responsible for coordinating official visits by dignitaries to the university, some of which include former U.S. President George W. Bush, who spoke during the May commencement ceremony last year, a state senator and the mayor of Houston.

She also coordinated the Chancellor's 21st Century Council visit to PVAMU.

Campbell graduated

with a B.A. in Communications in 1979 and is currently pursuing a master's degree in Counseling at PVAMU.

Some of her other accomplishments include community and marketing relations for the ACCESS Program and Development Director of membership activities for KPVM radio, 91.3 FM.

She has also served as the business affairs administrator with HBO in Los Angeles and the assistant associate producer for the television show "Laverne and Shirley."

Campbell continues to make Prairie View proud.

Prairie View A&M University
Division of Student and Enrollment Services

Public Notice
To All Prairie View A&M University Students

The Registrar's Office frequently receives request for student demographic information. This information, generally referred to as "directory information," is subject to disclosure as public information and includes the following: name, address, telephone listing, major field of study, date/place of birth, participation in officially recognized activities/sports, weight/height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance, degree/awards/honors received, and the most recent educational agency or institution attended by the student.

Prairie View A&M University adheres to the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA), thus, the Registrar's Office hereby gives Public Notification that the above student information will be released to those who request the information unless you notify the office that this information should not be released. If you do not want the above information released, you must complete a Request to Prevent Disclosure of Directory Information by March 29th, 1999 otherwise, it will be assumed that the above information may be disclosed for the remainder of the current year. The Request to Prevent Disclosure Forms are located in our office, Room 110 of Evans Hall.

Prairie View A&M University
Division of Students and Enrollment Service
Summer & Fall 1999 Registration Activities

Holds Clearance Days

Who: Currently Enrolled Students
What: Clear All Existing Holds Early
When: Undergraduate Students
Mon., April 5 - Fri 9, 1999
9:00 - 12 noon
1:00 - 4:00pm
Graduate Students
Sat., April 10, 1999
10:00am - 2:00pm
Where: Step 1 - Evans Hall Room 122 (Hold Identification)
Step 2 - Department Placing Hold (Hold Clearance)

Early Registration

Who: Currently Enrolled Students
Alphabetical order by Last Name
When: Tues., April 13 - Fri., April 16, 1999
9:00am - 12 noon 1:00pm - 4:00pm
Tues. U,V,W,X,Y,Z, A,B,C,D,E,F,G
Wed. N,O,P,Q,R,S,T H,I,J,K,L,M
Thurs. H,I,J,K,L,M N,O,P,Q,R,S,T
Fri. A,B,C,D,E,F,G U,V,W,X,Y,Z (Graduate Students ONLY)
Sat., April 17, 1999
9:00am - 12:00 noon
1:00pm - 3:00pm
Where: Step 1 - Department Advisor
Step 2 - Memorial Student Center Ballroom

CAMPUS NEWS

Dance ensemble prepares to host annual educational seminar

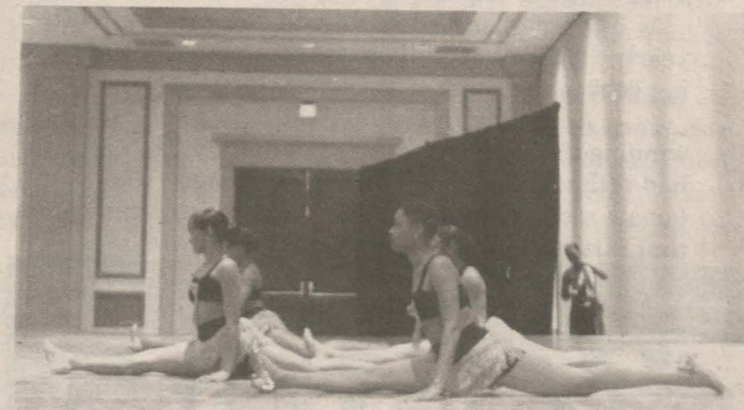


photo by Glenn Russell

Randa Russell and other Classic Dance Ensemble members performed at the Annual Texas Daily Newspaper Associate Convention in Austin on March 22.

By Cornesha Avington
Panther Staff

The Classic Dance Ensemble will host the 18th annual Black College Dance Exchange on April 8th-11th.

The four day conference is expecting 400 students, including about twenty-five historically black colleges and universities and about one hundred and forty former

Classic Dance Ensemble members.

The Black Dance Exchange is a coalition of dance companies from HBCUs and their major goal is to provide opportunities for dancers to come together for learning, social and performance experiences.

The main thrust of the dance exchange is educational,

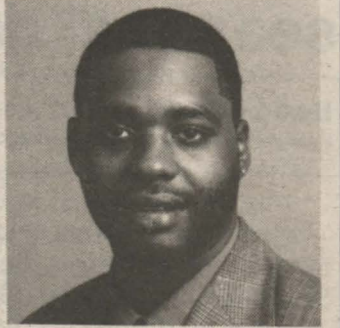
which the conference exposes by offering performances, lectures, demonstrations, and master classes that are conducted by selected professional and student companies each year.

The agenda includes a banquet, and the conference will open with a performance by Cleo Parker Robinson Dance on April at 8pm. Classes during the conference will be held on Friday and Saturday from 9am to 4pm in the dance studio, Baby Dome, and the MSC Ballroom. The performances will be open to the public in Hobart Taylor and will feature professional as well as student ensembles.

In addition to the dance exchange, the Classic Dance Ensemble is very excited to be celebrating their 10th anniversary of performance at PVAMU, as well as holding also a dance concert on Mon, March 29, titled "Shout."

Student recognized by international organization

By Queverra Moten
Panther Staff



Senior Maurice A. Perkins

One of Prairie View's graduating seniors Maurice A. Perkins, has been published in the International Who's Who of Professional Management.

Perkins is not only the senior class president but he is an announcer for KPVM 91.3 FM, the university

him apart.

His future goals include owning his own radio station and teaching elementary students communications. He wants to help mold the minds of children.

He has been influenced by his mother, father, grandmother, godmother and girlfriend, all who have a long history at PVAMU.

Perkins says to anyone who wants to get to where they want to go, "Stay focused, ask questions and do all you can to know all you can."

*"Stay focused, ask questions and do all you can to know all you can."
- Maurice Perkins*

band, concerts, Panther basketball and other activities.

Perkins has exemplified extraordinary accomplishments in the field of radio. His distinctive voice and unique personality have set

Remembering the past

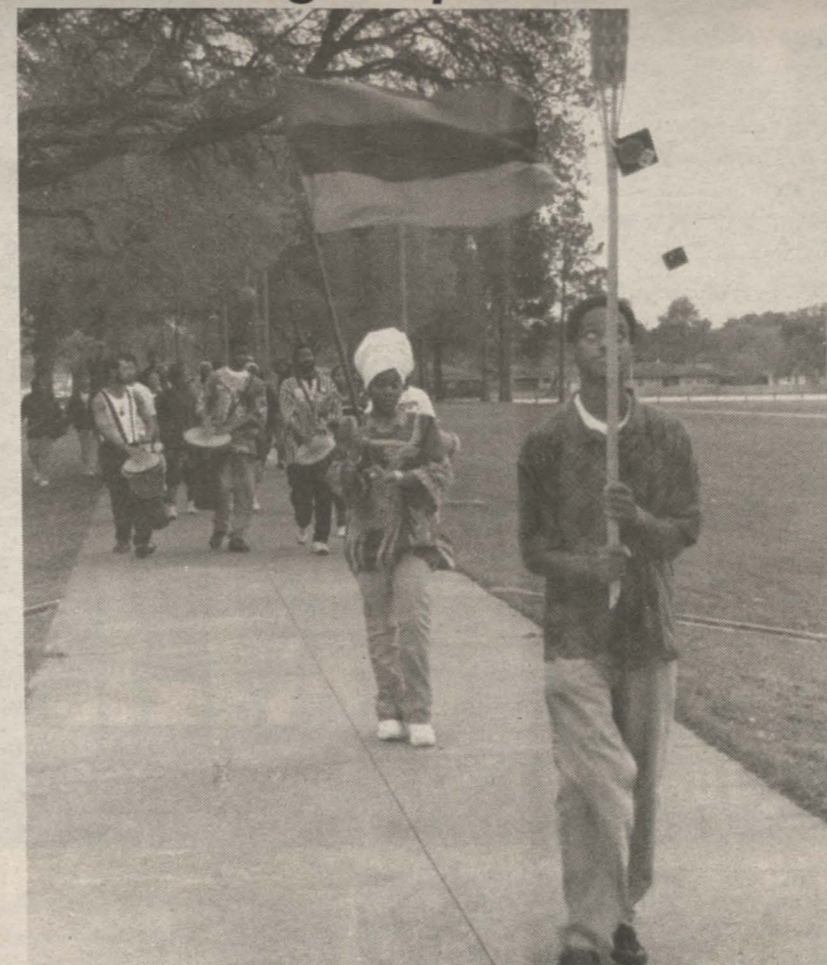


photo by Glenn Russell

Kendall McDonald leads N'Cobra on a march in remembrance of our ancestors. The torch that he is carrying is lighting the way. N'Cobra organized various events to commemorate Maafa which means terrible occurrence during the week of March 15-19.

Hopeful students get taste of campus life, activities

By LaToya Moore
Panther Staff

"Pantherland Day" on the hill was a special event held for perspective students and their family and friends to give them a taste of Prairie View A&M University, its programs, departments, campus and students.

Pantherland Day began in the fieldhouse with the national anthem. The welcome address was presented by President, Dr. Charles A. Hines and Student Government Association President Alzo Slade.

Felicia Powell and Kimberly Pierson served as Mistresses of ceremony, setting the scene for the event by introducing speakers who presented facts for undergraduate admissions, financial services, scholarships, and housing and announcing student performances.

The stadium floor was covered by different departments and colleges ranging from the College of Arts and Sciences to the College of Engineering, who were present to answer questions or concerns about the campus.

A step show including many of the campus' sororities and fraternities, along with a talent show provided entertainment for the guests.

The event was to give people a taste of PVAMU in a positive light and provide students with information about financial services, scholarships, and a variety of programs.

"This event was an opportunity to view PVAMU in a positive light during a time when it has been misrepresented." Ngina Stringer, volunteer said.

The day ended on a positive note leaving perspective students, family and friends with the positive aspect of PVAMU.

PVU

Pantherland Day
on the Hill

Climbing To the Top...
"On the Hill"

REGIONAL NEWS

Ebony Fashion Fair exhibits new seasonal designs

By Jon Cook
Panther Staff

A chill March wind blew patrons toward Hannah Hall on the campus of Texas Southern University last Saturday night.

But a thirst for the latest clothes, worn by some of the most beautiful people in the world, pushed them on even faster.

The 41st Annual Ebony Fashion Fair Tour came to town this past weekend.

The event, titled "Fashions To Love 98-99", is a yearly parade of the former "Best Dressed" winners in high school.

Organized under the auspices of Eunice W. Johnson, wife of publishing mogul John Johnson, the show was staged by and catered to only very fashionable people, who heeded the call and came out in droves, wearing their Easter Sunday clothes.

The show began promptly at 8 p.m. with a flourish of music, and the beginning sequence.

Designers from Todd Oldham to Oscar de la Renta, Dolce & Gabbana to Gianni Versace, Christian Dior to Yves St. Laurent supplied the models with everything from evening gowns to nightgowns and ball gowns. In every single color, shape, texture and size, from stripes to solids, to polka dots to brindle, Bengal tiger colors.

An hour into the two hour extravaganza, the master of ceremonies hosting the event, Lloyd Gite, appeared and three Houston area models- Evonia Shields of Galena Park, Bo Valentine of Barrett Station and Katrice Offord of Houston- were all honored by their respective universities with Offord being honored by a representative of Prairie View A&M.

Offord, a member of Zeta Phi Beta and a 1996 graduate of PVAMU with a degree in Fashion Marketing attended the reception at a Houston hotel.

Since two free tickets came with every pass into the show, the afterparty was even better than the fashion show itself. The models, 11 women and 2 men, danced and talked to patrons, while enjoying live jazz and an open bar and buffet.

The Ebony Fashion Fair is really a scholarship fund, presented by prestigious organizations such as The United Negro College Fund, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, The Urban League, National Council of Negro Women, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc., Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., Links Inc. and Jack and Jill of America.

Proceeds from the Houston show were used to provide scholarships for TSU students. The total amount of funds raised since its inception in 1957 exceeds \$45 million.

Prairie View student mistaken for lottery winner

By Carol Means
Special to The Panther

Texas Lottery Commission official Gail Phillips said the \$29 million Prairie View lottery winner is actually a man from Pinehurst, Texas.

According to Phillips, media relations director for the Texas Lottery Commission, the winner of the January 27 drawing was David Bruce Littlefield.

He purchased the winning ticket at UNCO

convenience store located on Hempstead Highway at FM 1098 in Prairie View, Texas. The estimated Texas Lotto jackpot for that drawing was \$27 million, but the final prize awarded was \$29 million.

Annual installments will provide him with a yearly check of 1.16 million less taxes and any outstanding debt to the State of Texas.

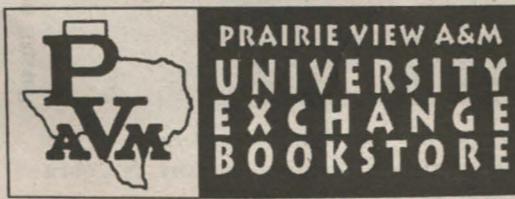
According to Phillips, Littlefield submitted his winning ticket for processing February 8, 1999. Rumor had it that the winner of the \$29 million lottery was a female student from PVAMU. There is no indication that Littlefield was ever a student at PVAMU.

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CAMPUS NEWS

Car accident claims life of PVAMU student

By Carlos C. Hopkins
Panther Staff

For the 1998-99 school year, the known death toll of the Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) students has just risen to four.

Robert W. McCreary Jr., 19, freshman from Fort Worth, Texas, was fatally injured in a three-vehicle collision on U.S. 190 outside of Hearne, Texas on March 7.

McCreary was on his way to his hometown when his car drifted from the west-bound lane into the eastbound lane, killing two students, as well as himself, and injuring an officer.

McCreary, a 1998 O.D. Wyatt High School graduate, was attending PVAMU on a band scholarship. He played the saxophone for PVAMU's Marching Storm which was described as "his heart" by his mother, Sandra McCreary.

A recent article on McCreary in the Fort Worth Star-Telegram reported that

he recently enlisted into the Army Reserve to help finance his college tuition.

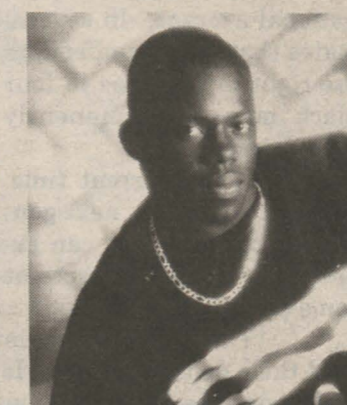
"A Gospel Night in The Chapel," sponsored by the freshmen class, was dedicated to McCreary's remembrance on March 18 in the Johnson-Phillips All Faiths Chapel.

"Robert was the sweetest person I have met thus far in life, and the sounds of his masculine voice will truly be missed," said Marching Storm member Michelle Wilson.

PVAMU student and close friend, LaNita Jackson, said "he was always smiling, giving me hugs and nice 'hellos,' and I am going to miss that."

According to officials, McCreary was taken to St. Joseph Regional Health Center where he died shortly after arrival.

Department of Public Safety officials pronounced two Texas A&M University students, Amber Lightwine, 21, and Arthur Robinson, 23, both of Bryan, Texas, dead at



Robert W. McCreary, Jr.

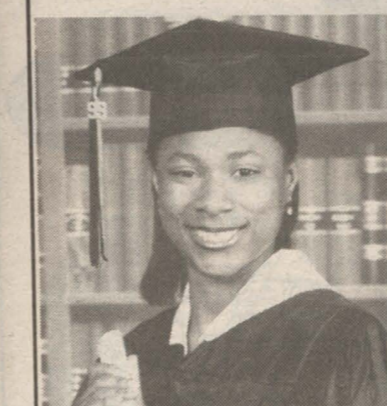
photo courtesy of Venita Frazier

the scene. A third motorist, College Station police officer, Mark Stoddard, was also injured.

McCreary was buried at Skyvue Memorial Gardens in Rendon, Texas following his funeral which took place at Mount Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church in Fort Worth, Texas.

"I remember one of Robert's favorite sayings where he would make me laugh. He would always say 'if you smile, then you can make it,'" said personal friend, Venita Frazier.

— Braids, Fades and Purple Kool-Aid® — Gransberry manages to do it all and still get out



Graduating senior, Natasha Gransberry.

By Lashanda Lombard
Panther Staff

With the many talented, intelligent and extraordinary students on campus, there is always those who stand out from the group.

Natasha Gransberry, a graduating senior, double majoring in electrical engineering and radio and television, juggles her time being a volunteer teacher's assistant

for three classes and diligently works hard to continue the honor of having her name on the national dean's list.

Gransberry is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. and previously held the title of president of the Zeta Gamma chapter in 1998 and vice-president in 1997, she is also the captain and most valuable player of the bowling team.

Gransberry is a bright student who in addition to being a member of Who's Who among College students, holds the title of Public Relations Practitioner for the Student Government Association and Campus Activities Board.

Gransberry has had four job offers after graduation but she is pondering the idea of law school.

"Graduation is another stepping stone I am about to complete," said Gransberry with a smile.

She is inspired by her spiritual beliefs, parents and sister.

In her spare time she bowls and continues to write two movies which she has been writing for a year now.

"In order to be successful, you must learn to set goals, and for goals to bring success you must seek a plan of action," said Gransberry.

Gransberry is another outstanding student at Prairie View A&M University.

Natasha Gransberry's favorite Kool-aid: Lemonade and cherry.

This feature was added to give recognition to outstanding campus leaders - organizations and individuals.

The Panther solicits any nominations from students, faculty and staff for honorees in this section.

PVAMU first to establish juvenile justice program

By Kandyace Mayberry
Panther Staff

Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) has earned a place in the academic spotlight by being the first to establish a juvenile justice program.

On January 29, 1999, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board voted to establish a school of Juvenile Justice at PVAMU as well as the Texas Juvenile Crime Prevention Center.

Senator Royce West and State Representative Toby Goodman sponsored a bill in the 1997 Texas Legislature that authorized the beginning of the Texas Juvenile Crime Prevention Center which would include the School of Juvenile Justice.

The program is expected to produce people who will be leaders in research, teaching and community service as it relates to juvenile justice.

Undergraduate classes for the School of Juvenile Justice are set to begin in the Fall of 1999. The program will offer bachelor of science degrees in criminal justice as well as a degree in criminal justice specializing in juvenile justice.

Along with undergraduate classes, the School of Juvenile Justice will offer a master of science program with degrees in juvenile justice and a proposed degree in juvenile forensics psychology. The Juvenile Forensics Psychology degree program will start in the Fall of 2000.

Clete Snell, a professor in the School of Juvenile Justice, said the Masters program's main goal is "to attract employed practitioners" to participate in the program. The program would allow the employed to work and go to school because the classes would be offered at night and on weekends.

According to Snell, the main focus of this new program is crime prevention and keeping juveniles out of the system.

Snell said the program will work because of the background of the professors involved. The professors are different culturally and academically.

If you are interested in the School of Juvenile Justice or would like more information, please contact Mr. Clete Snell at (409) 857-4938 or e-mail Dr. Ed Schauer at Ed_Schauer@pvamu.edu.

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NATIONAL NEWS

Felony disenfranchisement denies black voters

By Yauna Estes
Panther Staff

In the past, African-American voters were barred by poll taxes and literacy tests. In 1999, many African American voters are denied the vote by felony disenfranchisement.

Forty-six states and the District of Columbia prohibit inmates from voting while serving a felony sentence. Maine, Massachusetts, Utah and Vermont permit inmates to vote.

Thirty-two states prohibit felons from voting while they are on parole and 29 of these states exclude felony probationers.

Ten states disenfranchise all ex-offenders who have completed their criminal sentence. Texas disenfranchises ex-offenders for two years after they have completed their sentences.

The states that bar ex-offenders from voting are as follows: Alabama, Arizona,

Delaware, Florida, Iowa, Kentucky, Maryland, Mississippi, Nevada, New Mexico, Tennessee, Virginia, Washington, Wyoming and Texas.

A large percentage of African Americans that are convicted of felonies, and this poses a threat to the black vote. The impact of felony voting disenfranchisement is an estimated 3.9 million. One in fifty adults has permanently lost their voting rights as a result of a felony conviction.

...three out of ten of the next generation of black men can expect to be denied the right to vote...

tion and 1.4 million of the disenfranchised persons are ex-offenders who have completed their sentences. Over one million African-American men, or 13 percent of black men, are disenfranchised.

This is seven times the national average. In several states that deny ex-offenders the right to vote, one in four black men, is permanently disenfranchised.

At the current time, three in ten of the next generation of black men can expect to be denied the vote at some point in their lives.

"These people have paid their debt to society. It makes no sense to turn them into political outcasts. No other country in the world takes away the right to vote for life," states Jamie Feline, Associate Counsel at Human Rights Watch and coauthor of a felony disenfranchisement report released by the Human Rights Watch and the Sentencing Project. "If current trends continue, in a dozen states as many as 39-40 percent of the next generation of black men, will permanently lose the right to vote."

"This is not just a criminal justice issue, but one of basic democracy," said Marc

Mauer, Assistant Director of the Sentencing Project and co-author of the felony disenfranchisement report.



The rate of disenfranchisement has grown higher in recent years as a result of harsh drug laws and mandatory sentencing requirements. Disenfranchised ex-offenders can seek a governor's pardon to restore their voting rights, however many are not aware of their rights due to ignorance or lack of resources.

One goal of the Human Rights Watch and the Sentencing Project, is to banish disenfranchisement. They also urge Congress and state

legislatures to ensure felons their ability to vote unless, it is a part of a court imposed sentence for specified serious crimes. Finally, they urge the United Nations Human Rights Committee to address U.S. criminal disenfranchisement laws in light of human rights treaties prohibiting unreasonable or racially discriminatory restrictions on voting rights.

Human Rights Watch is an independent nonprofit organization using research and advocacy to promote respect for internationally recognized human rights.

The Washington-based Sentencing Project is a national nonprofit organization engaged in research and advocacy on criminal justice policy.

For additional questions, contact Gill Kline: 202-966-4994 or Jamie Felner: 212-216-1212. Further information can be found at <http://www.hrw.org/hrw/press98/otc/vpte1022.html> or www.org.com.

BLACK HISTORY

Obadele promotes reparations at PVAMU

By Corey Johnson
Panther Staff

Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) has its own pioneer in the movement to obtain reparations for black people.

Dr. Imari Obadele, professor of political science, is a leader in the National Coalition of Blacks for Reparations in America (N'COBRA).

This grassroots organization is demanding reparations from the United States government for all African-Americans.

Dr. Obadele is currently the organizer of the N'COBRA Election Project, an effort to allow individuals in the community to determine who will be Economic Democratic Coordinators (EDCs).

EDCs will make (under the direction of their constituents) effective plans for

the use of reparations.

On campus, Dr. Obadele may be credited with exposing students to collaborative efforts to encourage black people to consider self determination within the process of repairing the community.

In classes, students are taught to consider a variety of historical sources concerning the issue of reparations.

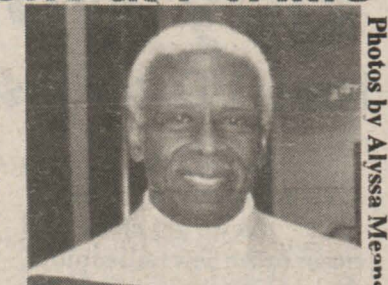
Obadele informs students about N'COBRA's demands for release of political prisoners, release and rehabilitation of prisoners and also payments in order to build regional campuses for Black youth, fund economic development and provide \$25,000 per black family.

Every weekend Obadele makes trips to consult with the Louisiana chapter of N'COBRA. He has helped draft the N'COBRA reparations documents, and

is constantly working with lawyers from the National Black Lawyers and Black Political Scientist organization to sue the United States government.

Obadele has conducted surveys in 62 cities concerning the above demands of the government. The results of this survey will be used as evidence of the willingness of Blacks to support themselves socially and economically using reparations.

Any student interested in assisting Dr. Obadele and N'COBRA in conducting the EDC elections should call (409) 857-2024.



Dr. Imari Obadele

Photos by Alyssa Means

The Learning Tree

by Gordan Parks



By Santee's Bowers
Advertising Manager

"Jack Winger was a poor man, but the supper he blessed that night was of things Newt (Winger) liked best - fried chicken, yams, browned clabber gravy and cornbread. Immediately the talk centered around the big storm and it's casualties."

Taking the reader to realms of his past life, author Gordon Parks told about life in Kansas. He speaks of the small town's big situations that separated Blacks and Whites. Parks also included the circumstances that held them together as a community. Bringing all of his friends and relatives into the story to Parks does not make light of real world predicaments.

Dealing with drunkenness, God and death, the author covers all of the elements that made up life in Cherokee Flats. Parks takes the reader through the numerous ups' and downs of Newt's, the main character's

life. In this novel Parks writes about specific events in his hometown such as his father giving skin grafts to the 'little Johnson Girl' and another character Marcus Savage beating Jake Kiner after stealing peaches from his orchard.

The author's writing style is one of true naturalness. He takes a small town setting similar to one located in Prairie View and draws out the 'niches' of existence. He makes the reader feel as though they know the characters personally or can relate them to someone they actually know.

The book is recommended to anyone who is willing to take a couple of days and mythically vacation in Cherokee Flats. I personally think the author is easy to relate to and his novel should be read especially by young people. Reading this novel makes me appreciate the advancements Blacks and Whites have made in society..

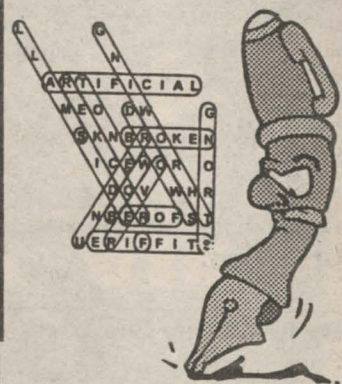
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ANSWERS TO THE PUZZLES

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Answers to King Crossword

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G R I M E F R I T I L L V I O W
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To all persons of full/part Louisiana Creole descent, please respond to this advertisement. This is a request for family histories, poetry, photography, pre-American colonial memorabilia (i.e. currency, documents, etc.), which will be used by Prairie View A&M University alum Eric C. Gaither to complete a thesis in the discipline of African-Creole Studies. Contact or send information to the following:
Eric C. Gaither@Dartmouth.edu; or Eric C. Gaither - 30 Lebanon St. #3 - Hanover, N.H. 03755

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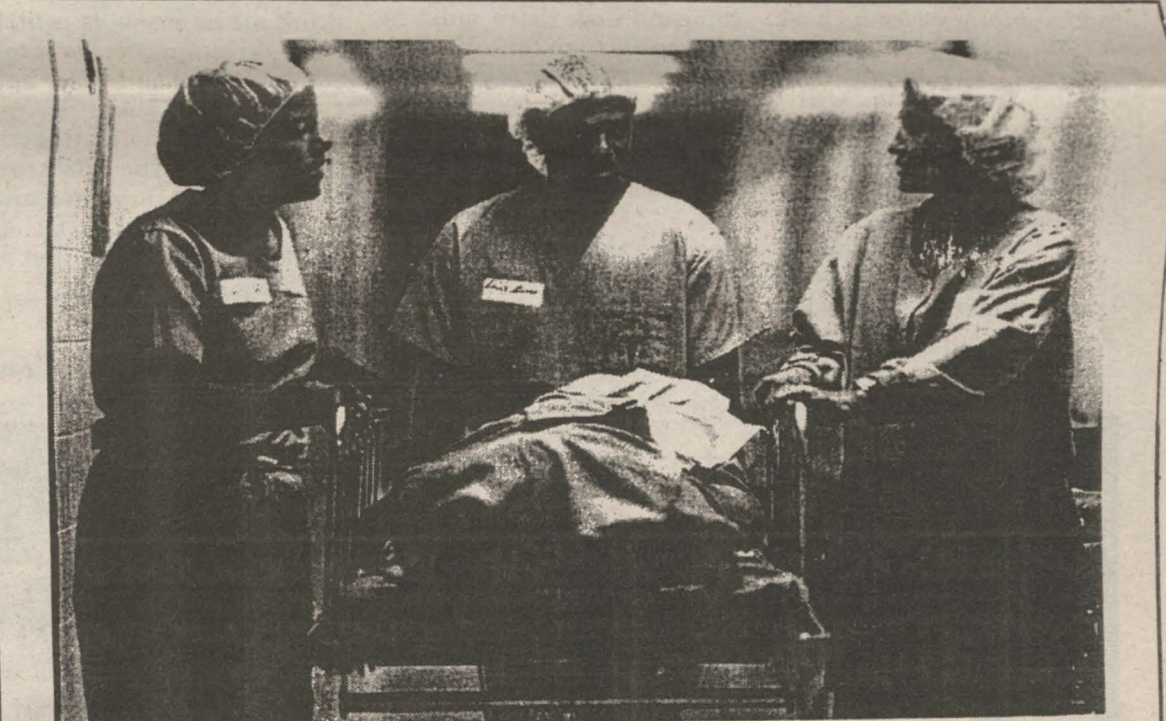
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'Boy Wonder' Flashes Back onto the Scene

New CD brings sound of fire, lyrics of water

Everything that was old is new is old and so on.

As we get closer and closer to the new millennium, the world seeks to recycle the past and re-package it as the future, and for the most part, it works.

Along comes Tevin Campbell, you remember him, he wanted to "do you after school like some homework" and all that jazz from the early 1990s, recall? He left Waxahachie, Texas after Quincy Jones put him on, and didn't look back, until he looked around and noticed his albums were going double wood instead of platinum, and took a year long lay-off from the business to get his thing together and come correct.

After listening to his newest self-titled CD, I'd like to give him a welcome back aka his ghetto pass, but he still doesn't understand, so I have to snatch it back with no regard.

Campbell came out at just the right time, with just the wrong material.

Since this is the age of Usher and Tyrese, teenybopper music would sell like Evian in a burning building, but instead of writing with the daughter in mind,

Campbell wants to seduce her mother, and it does not work.

He tries, really he does.

Quincy Jones is all well and good if you want your audience to be over the age of 35, but to attract that urban demographic every entertainer thirsts for nowadays, one needs producers with juice - artists like Wyclef Jean, Stevie Jordan (from Bad Boy), and Faith Evans.

He's on the right track, but the producer can only do so much, and the music might be fire, but the lyrics are water, and what you get is a lot of mud.

The first single is "Another Way" in which Tevin, Mr. Campbell if you're nasty, speaks about how he's so tired of ballin', how all these women keep throwing themselves at him and how there must be more to life than this. We look at the cover of the CD, which features Tevin looking 12-years-old, and think "Yeah, man, whatever..." and quickly skip to the next.

"Never Again" sounds like a good choice for the next single, if Tevin didn't sound so soft. I mean, people appreciate a sensitive brother nowadays, but no one likes a punk. The Fugee-produced track is

on point, but like I said, so are most of the tracks. This continues throughout most of the CD - great music in the first 30 seconds of every song and then Tev comes in mewling like a lost kitten and just blows it.

I won't doubt the brother. People might not remember but he's been in the game for ten years, and as anyone who is trying to break in will tell you that is quite an accomplishment. I think all he needs is a little more direction, decide what he's gonna be, and what he's trying to accomplish.

On the meter, this one rates a five. The hard core Tevin fans, if there are any, will undoubtedly love the direction he's heading, but to me, he just sounds lost.

By Jon Cook
Panther Staff

After a quick break from the music and entertainment industry in general, Tevin Campbell is back with his new self-titled album.

Yes, the young man who started out in the early 1990s has returned to take his rightful place in the royal industry.

He used his hiatus to take a step back from business and enjoy life as a teen-ager. This life, however, does not include school.

Tevin used this opportunity to spend time at home with friends and family, relax, and write songs instead of going to college. He admits that he does regret not attending college.

With his career already well underway, Tevin said a college degree is not necessary at this point in his life.

"Music is what I want to do," Campbell stated with conviction. "I want to be doing this for a long time."

Tevin depends on his family to keep him grounded.

By Santee's Bowers
Advertising Manager

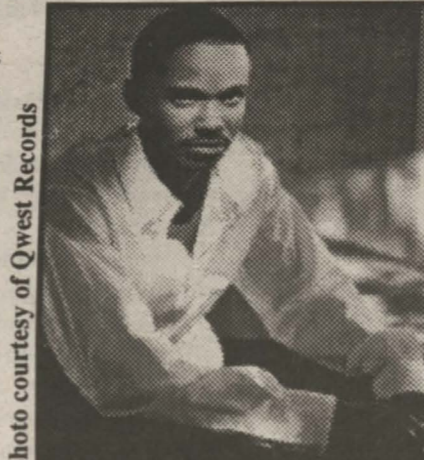


photo courtesy of Qwest Records
Veteran artist, Tevin Campbell

His mother acts as his business manager, while his sister helps him stay in fashion. He admits that his younger brother stays away from the business aspects and just tells him if he looks good. Campbell's life is great and he definitely knows how to handle stardom.

Stevie Wonder, Lauryn Hill, and Marvin Gaye are just a few of the artists Campbell admires most, and he said God is his role model.

Tevin helped in the production of his latest album, and hopes to own a record company one day to take control of his music and create his own distinct sound.

Campbell puts his heart and soul into his work. He said, "If people do not feel it, then I have failed."

Since he has matured in age, experience, and wisdom, Campbell has made plans to tour in the near future. Currently, he does not plan to surface in any acting roles for television or movies.

However, if given the opportunity, Campbell says that he would not refuse.

Cruel Intentions receives mixed reviews

Twisted movie passes for love story



don't you think?

Cruel Intentions is filled with action and deceit both genders could immensely enjoy watching in every scene.

It began with two wealthy teen-agers left to house sit in New York while their parents were on a long business trip. A heartbroken Kathryn, played by Sarah Michelle Gellar, wants revenge on her ex-boyfriend who dumped her for a naive and shallow young girl by the name of Cecile (Selma Blair). Her step-brother Sebastian (Ryan Phillippe) is a local womanizer and sets goals to lure women into sexual activity. He then betrays them after he gets what he wants.

Subsequently lacking to find a challenging new victim, Sebastian reads a magazine article and learns of a virgin who will be coming to

Movie has good intentions, but fails

If you have seen *Dangerous Liaisons*, you have seen *Cruel Intentions*. Both are based on the book *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*.

Sebastian, our resident villain turned good guy, keeps a journal of all of his sexual conquests and plans to add Annette to his list.

In a twisted bet with his step-sister, Kathryn, Sebastian works to receive the ultimate prize - a night with Kathryn. If he loses, he has to give up his only true love - his '56 Jaguar.

The movie was just about as pitiful as it gets. Every scene was predictable, and the ending was written before the opening credits were finished rolling.

All of the characters placed complete trust in Sebastian and Kathryn. Had this been real life, the devious duo would have been dethroned before they had a chance to make the bet.

If scandal and thrills are what you are seeking in a movie, then go check out this new sizzling flick.

It may have pre-viewed as scary, and some may have been disappointed because it failed to be, but the revealing of true love has always been such a heart warming experience.

The innocent Annette (Reese Witherspoon) was the daughter of the dean of Sebastian's school and his greatest victory would be becoming the first to take her most prized possession, but Kathryn wanted to make his task more interesting by placing a friendly bet.

The conniving two worked diligently at completing their goals, but the innocence of love overcame Sebastian, and caused him to betray his true feelings because of the shame Kathryn placed upon him.

When he finally realized Annette was the woman he loved and abandoned his reputation, he rushed to her for forgiveness, but did not complete his journey due to a tragic battle that was staged by the wicked Kathryn out of spite and jealousy.

I have to compliment the directors of this movie for giving a scary impression, but twisting it off as a love story.

It definitely deserves two thumbs up!

By Cornelia Avington
Panther Staff

Of all of the characters in the movie Cecile is the most realistic. She is a dense teen-ager with absolutely no clue about Kathryn's intentions, which are without a doubt cruel.

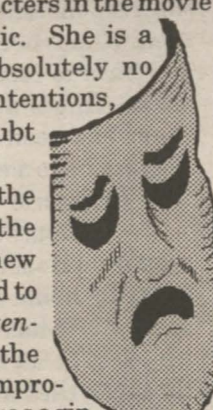
The difference in the ages of the characters in the original script and the new and improved version add to my disdain for *Cruel Intentions*. The context of the original script was compromised. This screenplay was a rip off. Wait until this movie goes to video.

By Alyssa Means & Yanna Estes
Panther Staff

20 Questions

1. Is the AKA in the blue Mustang a race car driver?
2. Will "The Water Wars" end after Spring Fest?
3. What's the value of the "washateria" lady's teeth?
4. And why are all of the 'grilled out' guys so jealous of her?
5. Why did Drew Hall have a fire drill at 5 a.m.?
6. Why do the members of ΔΣΘ throw up the ΩΦΨ sign more than their own?
7. Why was "Hump Day on the Hill" on Thursday instead of Wednesday?
8. Is it called Blackshear Field or Blackshear Stadium?
9. Why is the Office of Student Activities more like the Office of Anti-Student Activities?
10. When are they going to start construction on the new MSC?
11. Why does every actor think they can sing, and every singer think they can act?
12. Why did every organization on campus put on a raffle giving away Spring Fest tickets?
13. Did anybody buy the new Tevin Campbell CD?
14. Did anybody know there was a new Tevin Campbell CD?
15. How many times will Rap-A-Lot make guest appearances on campus?
16. Why is DJ B-Love so upset about DJ Def Jam Blaster being a part of Spring Fest?
17. How many people actually went to the Honors Convocation?
18. Isn't the stepshow going to be a rerun of the Greek Olympiad?
19. Why are the members of ΔΣΘ so mad about question # 6?
20. Que piensas?

We want to know what you think. Please submit any question you may have to The Panther, Rm. 114 in the bottom of the MSC. Questions are printed upon discretion of The Panther.



Open Mic!

How to Let You Know...

What does it take to know who you are?
When will you see that my heart beats for you?

I want to walk along the same path you've been
Cry your tears, and smile your smiles,
then be the one to make you feel joy.
This is written on my heart, but how to let you know...

I want to breathe your breath and wait for the exhale
if only to hold something in me that is a part of you.
I want to hold silent conversations with your eyes,
or touch a door and just know you're on the other side.

I want to lay awake at night and stare at your beauty,
fall asleep in your arms and dream sweet bliss.
But now I stare at the ceiling, thinking thoughts of you,
drift into a restless sleep, and wonder who you are.

-Tina M. Ellis

PHAT DIME

"Break Ups to Make Ups" Method Man f/ D'Angelo	"You Got Me" The Roots f/ Erykah Badu
"NAS is Like" Nas	"Final Warning" Ginuwine f/ Aaliyah
"I Like It" Harlem World f/ Mase	"The First Night" Mya
"Jigga What, Jigga Who" Jay-Z	"More Freaky Tales" Too Short
"What's It Gonna Be" Busta Rhymes f/ Janet Jackson	"I Still Believe" Mariah Carey

The Panther's current top ten in no particular order

HET RETBYWOA

PICK-A-FLICK

ELRGFHTI

RMOF SUDK LITL WAND 2

The first nine people to correctly unscramble the three movies above will win a video of their choice courtesy of Mirimax Home Entertainment. Claim your prize by bringing the correct answers and this issue of the paper to The Panther office in the bottom of the MSC, room 114.

SPORTS NEWS

Corruption provides boxing's not so good, bad, and ugly

By Brad Ruffin
Sports Editor

Coming soon to a pay per view channel near you, "Three Blind Mice Invade New York." Unfortunately that particular title was rejected and someone thought Lennox Lewis vs. Evander Holyfield was more appropriate.

Every time the sport of boxing seems to take two steps forward they are in fact taking ten steps back.

Corruption is not new to the world of boxing. For years shady promoters and fighters willing to take dives have been as much a part of the sport as the marquee match-ups.

The Lewis vs. Holyfield fight doesn't even rate as a classic fight.

Stevie Wonder could see that this wasn't a close fight nor can it be classified as one of the greatest heavy-weight battles of all time. This according to some wild haired, self fulfilling, ex con turned boxing promoter whose good word isn't worth the remains at a diarrhea convention.

Unofficially there is an undisputed heavyweight champion of the world.

Lennox Lewis made Evander Holyfield look like he was every bit of his 36 years. Let's be honest, Holyfield isn't and never will be considered one of the greatest heavy-weights of all time.

In ten years Holyfield will still be known for his two bouts with Mike Tyson.

Holyfield is at best a blown up light heavyweight with better than average boxing skills. His average opponents have typically been over the hill, not ready for the hill, or one dimensional fighters. Holyfield's fights are smart but provide about as much excitement as two old men playing chess in the park.

Other than Tyson biting Holyfield's ear, what do you remember about that fight? Do any Holyfield highlights exist? Don't get me wrong, his record speaks for itself. Holyfield isn't a slouch, he just isn't great.

Don't think I'm going to let Lennox Lewis off the hook so easy either. Lewis fights out of England and rarely comes across the Atlantic. When he does fight in the states, he faces fighters such as, uhhhh hmmm errrrr you know those insignificant fighters that have names that you can't remember.

The fact that Lewis is a natural heavyweight has the same boxing skills of Holyfield and a right hook that can drop any fighter in the division is the reason he should be wearing all three boxing title belts.

While Larry, Moe, and Curly were judging something other than the fight, they did provide the rest of the world with an inside view of the corrupt nature of the business. What happened to the old days, when fighters fought until only one person was standing. You remember, don't you? Those slobber knocking, eye closing, bloody, bare knuckle events that made this sports famous?

This would at least eliminate the three stooge syndrome.

Of course this method would open the door for all the human rights activists to raise hell over the unnecessary beating of the human body.

Until the huge problem of corruption is solved, the talent of fighters doesn't matter, the big marquee match ups don't matter, the hoopla surrounding these big fights doesn't matter, and boxing fans don't matter.

While some understand the problem and others don't care, certain promoters will continue to abuse their power and wield their money swords as if they were greedy Kings.

Rain, Sleet, or Snow...

Panthers prevail at TSU Relays



photo by Glenn Russell

Women's 4x100-meter relay practices after winning at the TSUrelays.

By Brad "Tito" Ruffin
Sports Editor

Prairie View A&M men's track team continued

its SWAC dominance by placing first in the 48TH annual TSU Relays this weekend at Texas Southern.

See TSU on page 13

All SWAC high jumper Ronald Nelson cleared seven feet and two inches, which was good enough to tie him for first place in the high jump.

Lewis Turner's time of 10.5 seconds earned him a first place showing in the men's 100-meter dash, while Larry Hamilton place 6TH with a time of 10.7 seconds.

The PVAM men's team scored 152 points to gain the first place position in the team standings, placing them well ahead of second place team finisher Barton County Community College (Kansas).

The main event of the relays was supposed to be the Olympic development men's 100-meter dash. Former Olympic gold medalist Mike Marsh was supposed to com-

Future Stars shine for Prairie View Baseball

By Will Joiner
Panther Staff

On a team of twenty players most of the responsibility is put on the upperclassmen. When there are only six upperclassmen, you have to rely on the young players on the team. This is what the Prairie View baseball team has been forced to do. Many of these players have a chance to become future stars here at Prairie View.

First there is Frank Johnson, a freshman from Houston, Texas. Johnson leads the team in home runs with three so far this season. He has started every game and continues to be an offensive as well as defensive threat for the Panthers. While playing against Oklahoma State in Oklahoma, he received good reviews from the media, complementing him on his glove.

Billed as the Panther's catcher of the future, Demond Duke has played many other positions. Duke has played right field, center field, and catcher as well.

"We have a lot of potential and in time we will be real good," said Duke.

He has contributed heavily this year and will be a key player in the Panther's run for the conference title.

Adrian Adams, a freshman from Lufkin, Texas has proved he can play everyday. Adams has started every game this season either at third or second base. His ability to be versatile has opened up many opportunities not only for him, but for other team members. Adams also is a solid person in the lineup with his bat and shows plenty of hustle on the field.

With the eligibility problems of other players, Earnest Jackson has been forced into

a starting role this year. This freshman has stepped in and proved that he will be a force to be reckoned with at shortstop in the future. Since last semester Jackson has constantly shown improvement in his glove and bat. Being the leadoff hitter most of the season, Jackson has reached base and stole many of them.

On this year's pitching staff there are two freshman having great seasons. Thomas Price and Kent Kelley are the dynamic duo surprising all of Prairie View's opponents.

Price has had two superb outings in the Southwestern Athletic Conference (S.W.A.C.) this year.

The San Antonio native has shown a kill attitude with the motto "play everyday as if it was your last, and aim for the stars."

Kent Kelley is a Freshman from Little Rock, Ark. with great left-handed throwing power. In addition to showing his stuff on the mound he has had the chance to show his stuff in the outfield.

"The future looks bright because the nucleus of our team is made up of freshman and sophomores, but we need strong leadership," said Kelley.

People in other programs see what is going on at Prairie View and want to be apart of it.

The future is bright for the Prairie View baseball team so

The next home games are March 27 and 28 versus the Southern Jaguars and April 10 and 11 versus the Arkansas- Pine Bluff Lions.

SPORTS NEWS

Nothing to sing about Draft offers steady stars, not super stars

By Tina M. Ellis and Brad Ruffin
Entertainment Editor and Sports Editor

While baseball training camps are in full swing and the shortened basketball season is bouncing along, the NFL draft is quickly approaching. Taking place April 17 - 18 the draft will re-introduce the Cleveland Browns to the NFL along with a slew of young talent at every position.

The quarterback class of 1999 is especially deep this year. Six quarterbacks could be selected by the end of the second round. Potential first rounders Tim Couch (Kentucky), Donovan McNabb (Syracuse), Akili Smith (Oregon), Cade McNown (UCLA), Daunte Culpepper (Central Florida), and Brock Huard (Washington) could all go very high in the draft.

With the first pick in the first round, Cleveland is sure to pick either Texas running back Ricky Williams or quarterback Couch.

When looking for prospective NFL quarterback, scout generally like a player to be at least six feet four inches, weigh about 220, and clock a 4.8 in the 40 yard dash. These requirements aren't set in stone, but they do give scout something to reference from.

Running backs are more quantity than quality this year. Ricky Williams is followed in the draft by good backs, but it's not likely any will go in the first round other than Williams.

The lot of wide receivers is steady and consistent. No one receiver stands out above of the rest. Torry Holt (North Carolina St.) is currently ranked number one among receivers. Often compared to Jerry Rice, he is expected to go in the first round.

Peerless Price of Tennessee is one of those all-around athletes who just does everything well. He's not the flashy type and is expected to be picked in the third round. Severely underrated, Price will be money in the bank for the team that drafts him.

In the middle of it all sit the centers. Damien Woody (Boston College), a junior weighing in at 312 pounds, combines toughness and good instincts with solid skills. He should be snatched up by the biggest bidder during the first or second round.

After Woody is picked, there will be a long wait before another center is drafted. The rest of the prospects are a faceless lot and figure to be picked the second day of the draft.

Chris Claiborne (USC) and Andy Katzenmoyer (Ohio State) are the only two linebackers in this years draft who are projected to be selected in the first round. Clemson's Rahim Abdullah and West Virginia's Gary Stills could slip into the first round with help from teams trading and dealing up or down in the draft.

Kickers and punters are historically not chosen in the first round. This year's draft will likely be no different. Kansas States' Martin Gramatica is the leading prospect in the draft. With a 65-yard field goal to his credit, he'll bring accuracy and consistency to any team that drafts him.

Punter Rodney Williams from Georgia Tech is probably the best punter in this years draft but is sometimes sloppy in his technique and hasn't been the model of consistency. Hunter Smith (Notre Dame) is likely to be drafted in the fifth round.

The draft will provide us with a few sleepers, but will more than likely hold true to form from beginning to end.

In the Sports Spotlight

Lewis Edmonson



Lewis Edmonson clears a hurdle at practice in preparation for the upcoming Prairie View A&M Relays.

"If you're going to pray, don't worry. If you're going to worry, don't pray."

- Lewis Edmonson

Hometown: Caldwell, TX

Age: 20-years-old

Position: Hurdler

Personal Best: 300meter hurdles, 5th in state high school meet 3-A division

Fantasy Dinner: Halle Berry, Jada Pinkett Smith, and Janet Jackson

Favorite Movie: Friday

Major: Health / Human Performance

TSU from page 12

scratch due to a hamstring injury. Although Marsh's absence was a disappointment, the race wasn't. Barton County Community College sophomore Lawrence Armstrong and Texas Southern's Michael Martin provided the excited crowd with a photo finish.

Armstrong, who has already committed to The University of Florida, was the JUCO National Champion last year in the 100-meter dash. Martin was the number one ranked sprinter recruited out of high school in 1997, and was undefeated during his collegiate career.

They both turned in times of 10.49 seconds, but Armstrong's lean at the tape earned him the victory.

Grambling State's Juan Womack received the most outstanding performer honor by winning the shot put and discus. Womack tossed the shot put a distance of 15.69 meters and followed that performance by sending the discus a distance of 48.95 meters.

In the women's division the Lady Panthers racked up 48 points, placing them fourth overall behind Grambling State, the University of Iowa, and team cham-

pion Southern University.

The Lady Panthers placed third in the 4 x 100 meter relay with a time of 46.52 seconds.

PVAMU's Tina Ellis and Attina Perkins faired well in the field events. Ellis threw the discus 38.86 meters placing second in the field event, while Perkins placed third in the shot put with a throw of 11.35 meters.

Erica Burrell propelled the way for the Lady Jaguars, winning the 100-meter dash with a time of 11.63 seconds.

Teammate Trudy Bihui took care of the 100 meter high hurdles, winning in a time of 14.03 seconds.

The most outstanding women's performer of the track meet went to the University of Iowa's Mandy Beck who won the javelin, the shot put, and scored 20 of her teams 122 points to earn the honor.

Featuring teams from all across the country, the high school division was dominated and eventually won by local stand out Westbury High School.

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CAMPUS NEWS

In Brief

Students, graduates apply for summer program in Houston

Houston

Minority college students and graduates interested in becoming physicians may apply for the Honors Premedical Academy, a six-week summer program at Baylor College of Medicine and Rice University, both in Houston.

Funded in part by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the program offers additional educational experiences designed to enhance competitiveness among applicants for medical school.

For program information, call (800) 798-8244 or e-mail mmep@bcm.tmc.edu. The application deadline is April 1.

Classic Dance Ensemble holds spring dance concert

Prairie View, Texas

The Classic Dance Ensemble will hold a dance concert on Monday, March 29 in the Hobart Taylor Recital Hall at 8 p.m..

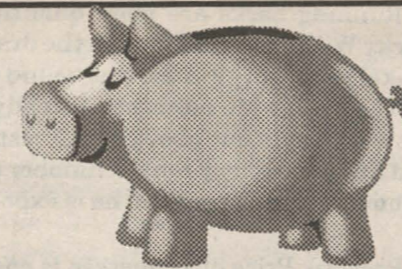
The concert titled "Shout," costs \$3 presale and \$5 at the door.

Presale tickets can be purchased by calling Paula Williams at ext. 2440.

COMING ATTRACTIONS!

MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
29	30	31	1	2	3
Classic Dance Ensemble Concert Hobart Taylor Recital Hall 7:30 p.m.	Student Publications Meeting Rm 114, MSC 5:30 p.m. Dorm Step Off	PV vs. Grambling State (softball) 1 p.m.	Arkansas-Pine Bluff Invitational (golf) PV vs. Grambling State (softball) 11 a.m. PV vs. TSU (baseball) 12:30 p.m. Priority Deadline for Application for Summer and Fall 1999 April Fool's Day	Arkansas-Pine Bluff Invitational (golf) PV vs. Arkansas-Pine Bluff (softball) 12 p.m. Texas Relays University of Austin Easter Holiday	Arkansas-Pine Bluff Invitational (golf) PV vs. Arkansas-Pine Bluff (softball) 11 a.m. Texas Relays University of Austin

The Piggy Bank



Scholarship and Internship Information

Children's Museum of Houston is seeking two part-time Early Childhood Library Aides.

Eligibility: If you are computer literate, have excellent communication skills, and are available for some weekend hours, you will enjoy working with parents and children. Please apply at Children's Museum, 1500 Binz, Houston, TX 77004. Bilingual in Spanish a plus.

No phone calls please.

Star of Hope is seeking a full-time Computer Learning Center Instructor.
Eligibility: Excellent working knowledge of computers and Microsoft programs. Must be able to teach both women and children. Able to motivate and encourage.
(713) 748-0700, ext. 500.

Houston Works is accepting applications for the following positions to staff its Summer Youth Program: Eligibility Reviewers, Data Entry Clerk, Placement Specialist, Worksite Developer, File Clerks/ CMS, and Customer Assistant Representative. Salary range from \$8 to \$15 an hour.
Eligibility: There are over 20 positions available. Tempo-

rary positions are F/T or evening and weekends. Reliable transportation required. Bilingual a plus. Apply in person at: Houston Works, 600 Jefferson, 9th Floor, Houston, TX 77002. Monday - Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. No phone calls please.

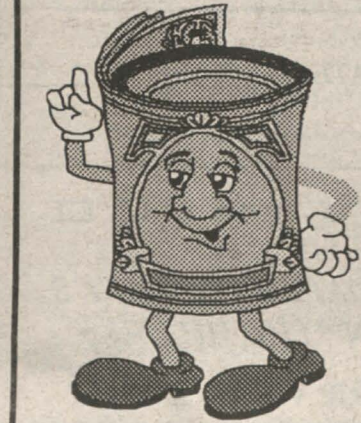
Communications Career Fair
Friday, April 9, 1999
Memorial Student Center - Flag Room, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas
Featuring: Newspaper, Magazine, Broadcasting, Public Relations, Advertising, Agricultural. Search for full-time or internship positions, and don't forget to bring copies of your resume and samples of your work.
For more information contact Jim Raupe (409) 845-0048 or jdraupe@acs.tamu.edu

National Environmental Wire for Students (NEWS) is offering a unique opportunity for students to improve their journalism skills on one of the most pressing issues of our time - the environment. From June 14-19 at American University in Washington, DC.
Deadline: April 29.
Completed applications can be mailed or faxed to NEWS, or you can apply on line at www.envirocitizen.org. For more information call (202) 234-5993 or e-mail aja@envirocitizen.org.

Star of Hope is accepting applications for Receptionist/Clerical. Clerical/Computer experience a must. For more information call the job line at (713) 748-0700, ext. 500.

Camp For All, a camp for children and adults with chronic illnesses or disabilities, is seeking a part-time clerical assistant, 12-15 hours per week, in its business office. Schedule is negotiable. Duties include phone answering, filing, mailings, data entry and generally assisting the full-time staff. Send letter of interest to: 10500 NW Freeway, suite 145, Houston, TX 77092 or fax to: (713) 686-1242 or e-mail to: lhargus@wt.net.

Students who are looking for summer jobs and careers can now visit a Web site that provides free information on job opportunities around the world: www.JobMonkey.com.



COMIC RELIEF

Dance from page 1

Epting approached the stage in costume and introduced the next dance, titled "Zoot Suit Riot." All costumes lit up the stage, with an explosion of vivid colors of the rainbow. This dance was the first of two dances which represented the 1920s and the swing era.

The men performed to "Truckin," while the "Sassy Stomp" allowed the women to show off their style of the roaring 1940s in black and silver fringe.

Following the 1940s dance was a solo performance

"Copper Colored Gal" by Epting.

Epting's solo led into the final performance, "Swing." All dancers approached the stage with a fire that was expressed in their costumes in bright pinks, purples, blues, and oranges.

There were applause after every performance, however at the end of the last performance, the Ensemble received a 15-minute applause.

After the performance, the president along with many members of the audience, greeted the dancers.

"Wow, this show should really be marketed," said Berkebile.

They continuously received compliments as they exited the performance hall.

To express their gratitude the Texas Daily Newspaper Association offered an extra bonus of \$200, in addition to the more than \$1000 gift presented to the Ensemble.

Bang from page 1

their outstanding academic achievements for the spring and fall semesters of 1998.

Closing out the day was the Rap-a-Lot/PV Celebrity Basketball Game. After much anticipation, Rap-a-Lot appeared on the scene ready to play. Throughout the game Rap-a-Lot passed out CDs, flyers, and T-shirts to students.

At the half the crowd was pumped to excitement with the music styles of DJ B. Love and his mini concert.

Friday and Saturday will conclude the week of Springfest. Montana Taylor and Lavelle Crawford, who have both appeared on BET's Comic View, will showcase their comedic talent in the

Comedy Explosion along with a performance of Rap-a-Lot recording artists Tela.

On Saturday, a total of 12 Greek and non-Greek organizations could compete for a grand prize.

Ten of the acts will be from PVAMU. The other two could come from the University of Texas and Texas A&M University.

The grand prize, totaling to \$6,000, will be divided into three different categories; first place Campus Student Organization (CSO), first place Pan-Hellenic fraternity and sorority.

MAGIC MAZE - ARM

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

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

- Artificial
- Bow
- Broken
- Fire
- Fore Over
- Rockier
- Side
- Small Stiff
- Strong
- Sword
- Throwing Tone
- Under

Panther Comics



HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Plate date on table, 2. Knife is different, 3. Towel on wall, 4. Chair is different, 5. Clock is different, 6. Jar is different, 7. Jar is different, 8. Jar is different, 9. Jar is different, 10. Jar is different, 11. Jar is different, 12. Jar is different, 13. Jar is different, 14. Jar is different, 15. Jar is different, 16. Jar is different, 17. Jar is different, 18. Jar is different, 19. Jar is different, 20. Jar is different, 21. Jar is different, 22. Jar is different, 23. Jar is different, 24. Jar is different, 25. Jar is different, 26. Jar is different, 27. Jar is different, 28. Jar is different, 29. Jar is different, 30. Jar is different, 31. Jar is different, 32. Jar is different, 33. Jar is different, 34. Jar is different, 35. Jar is different, 36. Jar is different, 37. Jar is different, 38. Jar is different, 39. Jar is different, 40. Jar is different, 41. Jar is different, 42. Jar is different, 43. Jar is different, 44. Jar is different, 45. Jar is different, 46. Jar is different, 47. Jar is different, 48. Jar is different, 49. Jar is different, 50. Jar is different, 51. Jar is different, 52. Jar is different, 53. Jar is different, 54. Jar is different, 55. Jar is different, 56. Jar is different, 57. Jar is different, 58. Jar is different, 59. Jar is different, 60. Jar is different, 61. Jar is different, 62. Jar is different, 63. Jar is different, 64. Jar is different, 65. Jar is different, 66. Jar is different, 67. Jar is different, 68. Jar is different, 69. Jar is different, 70. Jar is different, 71. Jar is different, 72. Jar is different, 73. Jar is different, 74. Jar is different, 75. Jar is different, 76. Jar is different, 77. Jar is different, 78. Jar is different, 79. Jar is different, 80. Jar is different, 81. Jar is different, 82. Jar is different, 83. Jar is different, 84. Jar is different, 85. Jar is different, 86. Jar is different, 87. Jar is different, 88. Jar is different, 89. Jar is different, 90. Jar is different, 91. Jar is different, 92. Jar is different, 93. Jar is different, 94. Jar is different, 95. Jar is different, 96. Jar is different, 97. Jar is different, 98. Jar is different, 99. Jar is different, 100. Jar is different.

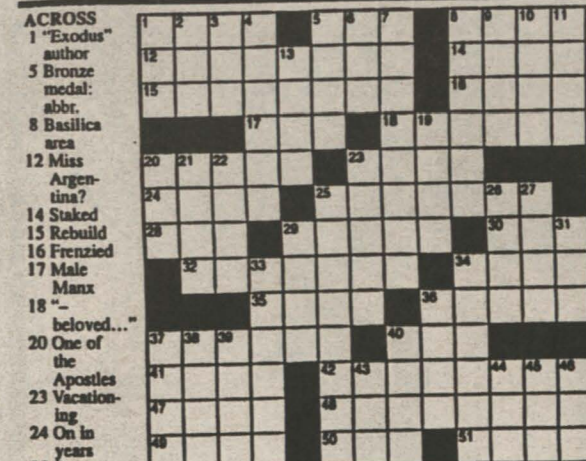
MAMA'S BOYZ by JERRY CRAFT



"Just Chillin" BY: Quincy Higgins



KING CROSSWORD



- ACROSS
- 1 "Exodus" author
- 5 Bronze medal: abbr.
- 8 Basilica area
- 12 Miss Argentina?
- 14 Staked
- 15 Rebuild
- 16 Frenzied
- 17 Male Manx
- 18 "beloved..."
- 20 One of the Apostles
- 23 Vacationing
- 24 On in years
- 25 Supervised
- 28 Watch-dog's warning
- 29 Luxury
- 30 Promise
- 32 Comprehensive
- 34 "Lisa"
- 35 Ms. Hari
- 36 Small change
- 37 Baba phanauj ingredient
- 40 It'll get you moving
- 41 Like a bump on
- 42 Sudden death
- 47 Rain cats and dogs
- Berlin song
- 9 Poker hand
- 10 ledge
- 11 Vortex
- 13 Plato's P's
- 19 Count counter-part
- 20 Bling
- 21 Farming: prefix
- 22 Eatwhile talk-show host
- 23 Spanish city
- 25 Speeches center?
- 7 "Tobacco Road" author
- 8 Irving
- 31 Political mover?
- 33 Political mover?
- 34 All in your mind?
- 36 Singer
- 37 Revellie's opposite
- 38 Lotion additive
- 39 Season with a shrink
- 40 Outer
- 43 Clatter
- 44 Hour-glass figure?
- 45 Calendar abbr.
- 46 Work unit

THE FINAL WORD

St. Pat's pinching proves pathetic

By Joyce Dixon
Managing Editor

Ahh! March.
Thoughts of spring breezes, shade trees, March Madness and Spring Break

fill the minds of many.

The oppressiveness of the season that has just passed is no longer felt, only the refreshing feeling evoked by the newness of life represented by all things green.

Speaking of green, what's up with Saint Patrick's Day?

I'm not knocking anyone's culture, so please don't get offended. However, I have a problem with getting

pinched because I choose not to wear green on a particular day.

Other cultures complain that African Americans are afforded a whole month for reflection and celebration when they only get one day. They may have a point there, but at least we don't go around pinching people because they are not wearing black during Black History Month.

How would people feel if they were pinched because they don't know the names of at least ten African American inventors or because they don't own any kente cloth or eat soul food?

Through a little research I have found the original reason for the holiday, however, in the United States the day is not celebrated in accordance to why it was started.

St. Patrick's Day is celebrated on March 17 by the Roman Catholic Church in honor of Saint Patrick and celebrated in Ireland in commemoration of his death.

However, in America, St. Patrick's Day is basically a time to wear green, drink beer and party.

The holiday was first celebrated in 1737 in Boston, Mass.

The color green is associated with the holiday because it is the color of spring, Ireland and shamrocks. Leprechauns are also associated with the holiday for a reason that I have not yet discovered. According to legend, leprechauns are mean little creatures. They were probably added because capitalists needed something cute to put on greeting cards.

"...but at least we don't go around pinching people because they are not wearing black during Black History Month."
- Joyce Dixon

Also associated with St. Patrick's Day is the concept of good luck.

It is good luck to find a four leaf clover (it doubles your luck to find one on this day), to kiss the blarney stone, and last but not least, it is good luck to wear green.

School children started the tradition of pinching classmates who don't wear green on this day.

Now I don't know about you, but this doesn't really sound like something I want to participate in.

Many times I find that people do things because it is something they are used to doing. They don't really have a reason for doing it other than that's what they have always done.

However, it is not always good to do things just for the sake of tradition.

Many of my peers tried to pinch me on March 17, some succeeded, others did not. Therefore, I guess I am writing this for them.

I think if we are to celebrate any holiday then it should be for the purpose in which it was intended.

I don't see any reason to celebrate a holiday if the only reason for celebrating it is to ostracize those who do not conform.

We should put more energy into positive things. We have enough violence in our society without a holiday instilling such barbaric and violent practices into our lives and the lives of little children.

Besides, I am tired of being pinched.

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Joel Kupersmith, M.D.
Dean, Texas Tech School of Medicine



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