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## Panther- September 1999 - Vol. LXXVII, No.1

Prairie View A&M University

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# THE PANTHER



The Official Student Newspaper of Prairie View A&M University



According to a statement issued by the White House, the infamous Y2K computer glitch will only be as bad as a "troublesome winter storm."

The President's Council on Year 2000 Conversion downplays the possibility of serious problems by telling the public to stockpile only modest amounts of food, water, medicine and cash.

The list is sure to garner opposition from Y2K alarmists who argue that computers supporting water, gas and electricity are at risk and more extensive personal preparations are necessary.

Among the one-page document's recommendations:

\*Store at least three day's supply of nonperishable food" and some fresh water (one gallon a day for each person in the household).

\*Consider other short-term survival needs such as clothing, tools, flashlights, and a battery powered radio.

\*Make sure you have enough medicine for 5 to 7 days for each person who needs it.

\*Have at least one-half tank of gas in your car.

\*And withdraw enough cash for a long weekend.

## Reality Check: Incoming students find college more than just parties, freedom

By Joyce Dixon  
Editor-In-Chief  
and Kervin Finley  
Pantherland Staff

No longer are the days when mom came into the room and yanked the covers off your body exposing your skin to the cool morning air. No longer are the days of running through the halls trying to make it to class before the last bell rings in order not to receive detention. No longer are the days of busy work, study hall, going to the principal's office, riding school buses, and having all of your classes in one main building.

Those memories will soon be replaced with new experiences. Freshmen will soon realize that it is the sole responsibility of each individual to make it to class on time every day.

And although there is



Freshmen spend their evenings hanging in front of Drew Hall with friends.

Photo by Glenn Russell

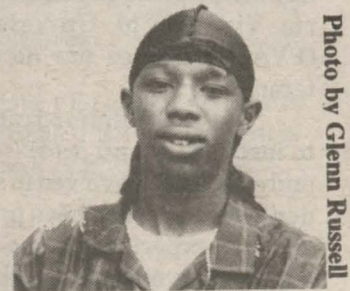


Photo by Glenn Russell

**Name:** Phillip Lewis  
**Major:** Computer Science  
"I came to Prairie View because it is an all black college and a great school. Here I can be the best at what I do."

no detention and no principal, new phrases such as "administrative drop" and "lowering a letter grade" will soon be added to the vocabularies of many incoming students.

Students have traveled from near and far to begin the Fall semester at Pra-

irie View A&M University (PVAMU). According to the Office of Admissions 1,798 new students were admitted, however, 1,034 enrolled for the Fall semester.

The beginning of the academic year has brought closure to doubts some stu-

dents had and aroused disappointments in others. Upon arrival many students were disappointed to find out PVAMU is not the notorious party school it is rumored to be.

See **New** on page 15

## Number sequence baffles experts

By Jon Cook  
Panther Staff

As 1999 comes to a close, more and more attention is being paid to the Y2K problem and how it will effect the world's computer systems.

Depending on whom you ask, the problem is anything ranging from a huge hoax to a catastrophe that some akin to the Apocalypse. Based on the early results of a test run monitored Sept. 9 the world's computer wonks have little to worry about come December 31.

The number 9999 is a common code used by older model mainframes to stop processing data or to carry out special operations such as sorting or totaling.

Consequently, as Thursday morning dawned, programmers and their groupies spent a few tense hours, watching and waiting to see the fallout, if any. However, no significant date-related computer disruption was reported, anywhere worldwide.

"We have no reports of any confirmed incidents as a result of the nines," said Bruce McConnell of the International Y2K Cooperation Center, a program funded in part by the World Bank. "The worst fallout involved a spreadsheet that went down at a college. Also reported from the specially equipped bunker of the State Department, the "rehearsal" of its Y2K had gone "blip-free" as far as the 167 embassies and consulates

were aware.

"It really was an opportune time to test our reporting systems, our analytic capabilities and our ability to communicate the information that we get from these posts," said Bonnie Cohen, under secretary for management from her 7th floor, windowless lair.

"The fact that 9/9/99 was a nonevent is no reason to be complacent," said Cohen. "Governments must continue to work hard to assure a successful Y2K rollover."

"The only thing I can tell you is that this was basically a nonevent," stated Bill

See **Nine** on page 15

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

**Gore popular among African Americans, p. 8**

Viewpoints.....2  
Campus News...4  
Regional News..6  
National News...8  
Black History....9



Entertainment..10  
Sports.....12  
Calendar.....14  
Comic Relief....15  
Final Word.....16



VIEWPOINTS

### School pride tested under adverse conditions



By Santee's Bowers  
Managing Editor

test of my support and school pride for PVAMU.

Watching my sister call on her cellular phone and register for her classes at the University of Texas at Arlington, since she did not have time to do on-line registration, gave me a strong indication that my continued journey on the road to success will be hard if PVAMU does not make the necessary changes to survive in the new millennium.

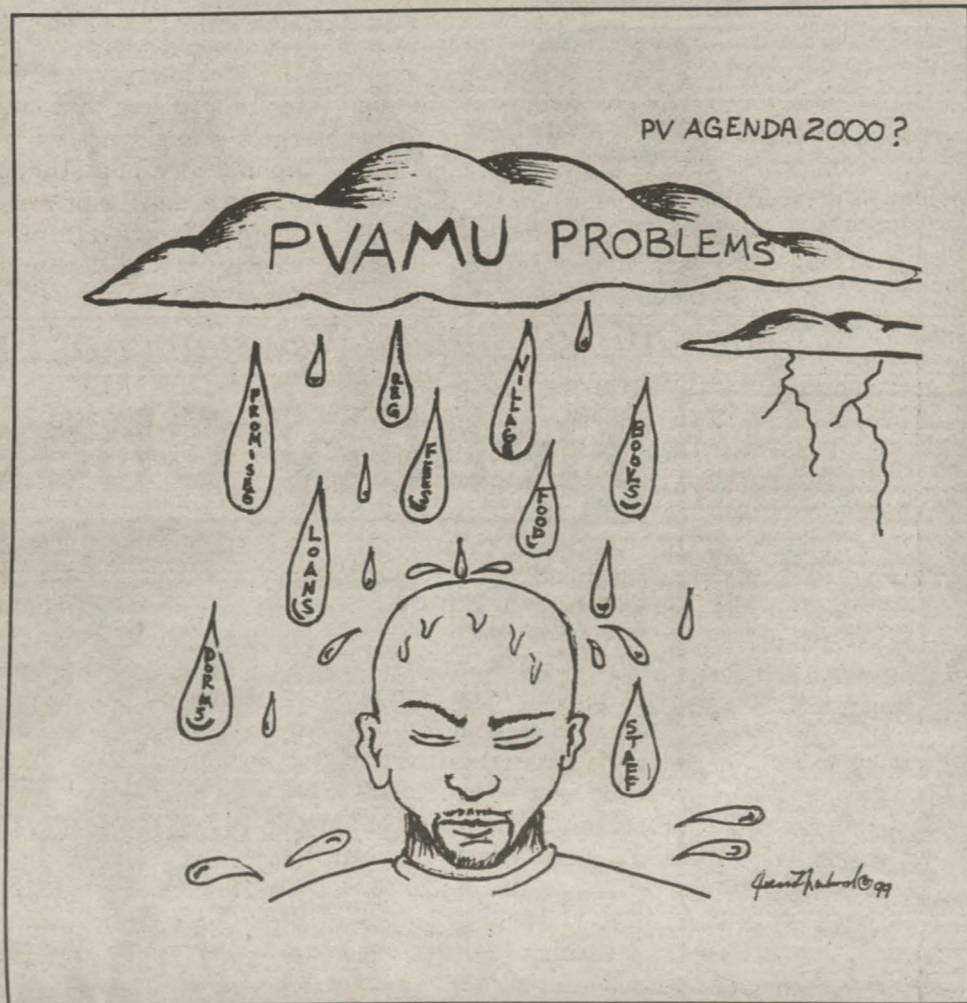
In June I enrolled in a number of courses offered at PVAMU during the first summer session. I enrolled myself in a course, unconscious of the fact it was at the graduate level. I did not know I would soon find out this fact in an unpleasant sequence of events. In the first few weeks I participated in class lectures and events which led the instructor to recognize my Generation X views and have a

See PVAMU on page 3

Few systems and families are perfect, each has its own idiosyncrasies. At Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) things are no different.

From administration to instructors and professors, and even those involved in student activities, I've been privileged to experience some trials that have made me characteristically stronger.

Each semester numerous students confront common obstacles that are often preventable. Encountering unnecessary situations such as registration and many other preventable difficulties, this summer proved to be a true



### New editor dedicated to service at PVAMU



By Joyce Dixon  
Editor-In-Chief

Greetings. I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself and welcome everyone to the Fall '99 semester at Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU).

My name is Joyce Dixon and I am the new Editor-In-Chief of *The Panther*. It is indeed a pleasure to be chosen to serve you, the student body of PVAMU for the duration of this academic school year. I hope to serve you even better than my predecessor Tiara Ellis.

I endeavor to further improve *The Panther* so that there will be something in it for everyone. You can look forward to a new and improved *Panther* with more graphics, pictures and a wider variety

of content in general.

However, I am aware of my limitations and I know that I cannot accomplish any of my goals without the support of the entire Prairie View family (students, faculty and staff). By support I mean your prayers, words of encouragement and criticism, and moral support. The *Panther* staff also needs dedicated people to help with the production of the paper.

Many of you do not realize the hard work and efforts put forth by a handful of students who never receive the recognition they deserve to ensure a paper is produced every two weeks. In order for the goals of the staff to be achieved more help is needed.

I know of no other organization, club or activity in which students can work hard, play hard and have your views heard by the entire PVAMU campus, alumni and so many others.

See Editor on page 3

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

The public and the law will not tolerate the mistreatment of animals. That's why the Bureau of Animal Regulation and Care (the city dog pound) operates under strict guidelines.

Dogs have water 24 hours a day, their cages are clean, and dogs are fed daily. A cage may hold from one to four dogs and one dog may have up to 18 square feet of space.

I recently visited the Houston city jail and observed 30 former human beings crammed in one small cell while many other cells were vacant.

There was no fresh water for drinking or washing. There were three rolls of tissue paper being used as pillows by very large men who had more tatoos than clothing.

The nonworking shower was filled with garbage through which some hungry and thirsty guys rummaged. Some of these folks were so tired or under the influence of drugs and alcohol that they laid near the commode—in human waste.

Mayor Brown: I am speaking for a lot of other jailbirds when I tell you not to take any more trips until the city jail is safe, sanitized and staffed with concerned police officers.

Sincerely,  
Jailbird Jack Terence

#### Editor from page 2

I will work hard for you this academic year. If anyone has any suggestions, questions or comments please feel free to direct them to me in the Office of Student Publications by coming to room 114A in the Memorial Student Center or by calling ext. 2132.

#### Submission Policy for Letters to the Editor

Anyone who reads *The Panther* can submit a letter to the editor at P. O. Box 2876, Prairie View, TX 77446 or in the Memorial Student Center, room 114. All submissions are subject to editing and must include the author's name and telephone number.

#### PVAMU from page 2

mutual respect for them.

In the process of becoming familiar with student names and classifications as they appeared on the official enrollment register, my instructor decided that he could no longer allow me, as a junior, to participate in his graduate course.

Three weeks into the five week session course, he asked me to step outside of the classroom. In the hall of the Delco Building he stated that he enjoyed having an opinionated student such as myself in his classroom and although I had an 'A' letter grade, he respectfully "felt that it was best if I did not return to the class until I had written permission to be involved."

The next day I sought aid from my dean, only to be subjected to questions such as "How did you get past registration?"

He was speaking in-

directly as though I had plotted and schemed to be in the course. He proceeded to volunteer no solutions to my situation as a student now lacking enough credit hours for financial aid, but instead focused his attention on repetitively telling me how PVAMU could be fined for letting an undergraduate in a graduate course.

Obviously more concerned with the school instead of me as a member of the student body which composes the University, he continued to shake his head back and forth in disbelief, excused me from his office, and before I could 'pick my face up from the floor' he continued to make phone calls to see what could be done on PVAMU's behalf so the University would not be fined if there was an audit.

Three days of hearing "well go speak with" and about eight people later, my individual situation was resolved.

Everyone has an opinion and/or solution to the problems in the administration,

but few act on them. I would like to strongly encourage the PVAMU family not to forget about past lessons learned as we move toward the new millennium. Secondly, I encourage the administration to act upon every opportunity to advance and help everyone that will be effected, not just the students who are protesting in person.

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#### Editorial Policy

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CAMPUS NEWS

Students take on challenges of leadership roles

Deondra Dockery  
Panther Staff

A wide mixture of males and females from vari-

"Teaming for the New Millennium" the 3rd Annual Student Leadership Institute and its 200 participants set out to train for leadership.

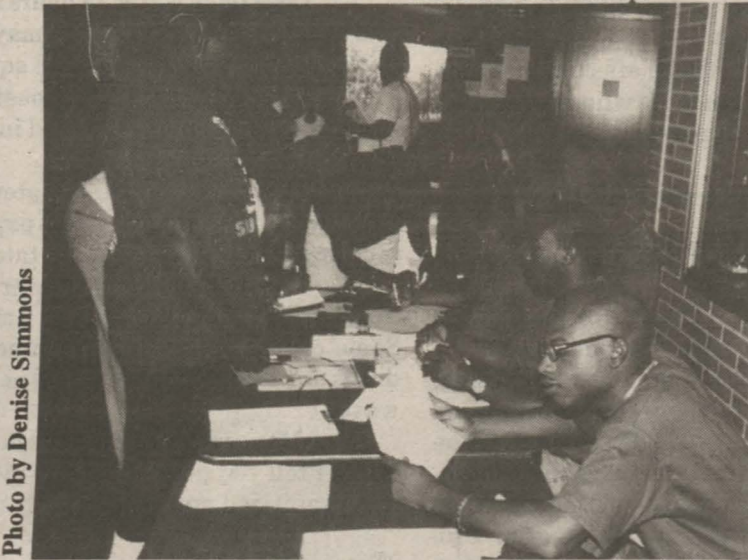


Photo by Denise Simmons

Panther Advisory Leaders James Seymour, Charles Harrison, Wykenia Smith and Vanessa Pears assist Shasta Moore during freshmen orientation.

ous backgrounds broadened their horizons, enabling them to support future generations. Under the theme

The goal of the program is to guide incoming freshmen through their first year of college.

Leadership Institute participants had the opportunity to be uplifted by speakers Dr. Rick Rigsby, coach and professor from Texas A&M University, Frank Jackson, Special Assistant to the President for Government Affairs at PVAMU, and Keysa Minnifield, Human Resource Director of Sodexho Marriot who spent the day teaching the participants about the importance of etiquette in life and careers. The participants also had the

challenging experience of assembling computers. Panther Advisory Leaders (PALs) were privileged to go to a Houston Comets game, bowling, and the movies. After completing the program, the participants were recognized at an banquet held by President Hines who asked them to take oaths to officially become a PAL and uphold high standards for themselves and the university and challenge themselves to be leaders forever.

International ties established for promising PVAMU scholars

Yauna Estes  
Copy Editor

Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) now has ties with Africa for students and faculty.

Although the international studies program here at PVAMU is fairly new, it is constantly expanding.

These ties were made possible thanks to PVAMU, Dr. Fredoline Anunobi, head of International Studies, Social Work, Behavioral and Political Science, and Dr. Bernita C. Berry, coordinator of the Sociology/Social Work program.

According to Anunobi, the mission was to "establish linkages between PVAMU and the University



Photo courtesy of F. Anunobi

Dr. Fredoline Anunobi meets with Dr. S.L. Luhanaga of Dar es Salaam University.

of Dar es Salaam through faculty and student exchange." Dar es Salaam is located in Tanzania, which is in East Africa.

See AFRICA on page 15

CAMPUS NEWS

PC club re-established at PVAMU

Oldest organization welcomes new school year with new status

Williard Joiner  
Panther Staff

Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) recently reinstated one of the oldest HBCU athletic fraternities in the nation.

Panther Club founded in 1900 as the "P Club" is the oldest fraternity on the campus.

The Panther Club, a non-profit international service organization, was brought from an extended hiatus in May 1999.

The organization seeks to educate male athletes about the rich history that spans the life of PVAMU, preserve male athletes, and promote unity, and stet sanctity of brotherhood. Also PC is dedicated to providing support for all athletic functions related to student athletes.

Over the last nine decades, the Panther Club has sponsored community youth outreach programs, tutorial sessions, primary bilingual education, honorary university awards, athletic education, shipping of school supplies to the Dominican Republic, and non-perishable food collection.

Notable members of the organization

include former professional businessmen and athletes like National Football Hall of Fame member Kenny Houston and national basketball great Zelmo Beaty, head football coach Clifton Gillard, Dr. Kirkpatrick of the engineering department, and current advisor for the panther club Charles Porter III. Nationally ranked high jumper Ron Nelson and All-Conference baseball player Armand Hill also participate in the organization.

In 1976 the Panther Club organized a sister organization, Club Pantherette, which was also reinstated this new year. Easter Gabriel and current volleyball, and bowling coach Alicia Pete are active members of Club Pantherette.

This year the Panther Club will donate equipment or sporting goods to university sponsored sports. Nationwide fund-raisers are also being held to help support the Prairie View Athletic Department as it continues to strive for excellence.

"It makes me feel very proud to have our organization back on the yard after an eleven year hiatus. Panther Club will promote student athletes and all sports at Prairie View A&M," said Porter.



Photo courtesy of CARR

Sky Panther returns from Paris air show

President Charles A. Hines welcomed the return of the Sky Panther.

"The participation of Sky Panther in the Paris Air Show is a hallmark event for Prairie View A&M University," Hines said.

The Sky Panther is a research project which was invited by Scaled Composites, Inc. to fly aboard the "Proteus" on its premier showing at the Paris Air

Show.

The Sky Panther team is made up of two faculty members and two students from the PVAMU Center for Applied Radiation Research (CARR) who made the trek to Paris to accompany a "testbed" they designed for an experimental pod on-board the Proteus.

- By Bryan H. Barrows, III

FYI

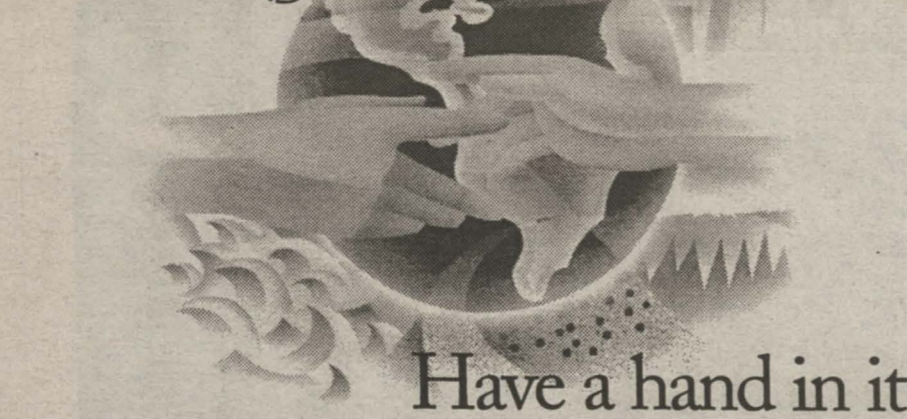
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REGIONAL NEWS

# Only the strong survive: Tips for successful college survival

By Yauna Estes  
Copy Editor

More than two million students in the United States face one of life's biggest challenges - leaving home to attend their freshman year at college.

Students have pre-

pared for college for years. After meeting academic demands, fighting with financial aid, and being thrown into new situations, there are many changes that still await new students.

Being nervous and anxious is natural. It is normal for things to be chaotic

when a student leaves for college because of the transition from high school.

Here are just a few tips and offers for incoming, first-year students about what to take, what to leave behind, and how to make a fresh start.

Talk to strangers. Be friendly, and talk talk talk to

people who you know, and even those you do not know.

Don't stress about your studies. Allow yourself time to meet people and settle down. Your grades do not depend strictly on your performance during the first week of class.

Get Rest. College is a

haven for night owls who study, and party late. Take power naps. If you don't you will be cranky, irritable, and susceptible to sickness.

Ask about what you don't understand or know.

Don't expect to figure out everything about college in the first week.

**Keeping an eye on Texas:**

**College no place for slackers**

Beginning with the fall class of 1999, students at state colleges and universities will be able to take only 45 hours more than required to complete a degree program, before being charged a higher rate of tuition. The new law is aimed at students who linger in college without earning a degree.

Illustration by Gilbert Conwoop

SOURCE: Council on Postsecondary Education  
Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts  
(www.cpa.state.tx.us)

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CAMPUS NEWS

# Houston students participate in Exxon community program

By Charles L. Collins  
Panther Staff

Three Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) students were selected to participate in the Exxon Community Summer Jobs Programing Houston.

Lenora Nelson, a senior from Houston, interned as an assistant to the recruiter at Spaulding for Children. Nelson's duties included various tasks such as developing outreach activities, media opportunities, posters and brochures. Nelson was involved in the coordination of the video taping and record keeping on children awaiting foster home placement.

Joseph Taylor, also a senior from Houston, interned with SEARCH. He was appointed director of SEARCH's Camp, Whatalottafun. Taylor planned and developed school programs including field trips and curriculum development. Taylor was also responsible for managing the

camp's budget and recruiting tutors and volunteers.

And Latasia Turner, a sophomore from Houston, worked as an education and outreach coordinator for the Alzheimer's Association of Greater Houston. Turner's responsibilities included supporting the agency's speakers bureau, the education and training committee, and preparing packets for the agency's Brown Bag Series to promote staying in touch with Alzheimers.

"This program introduces top college students, the next generation of leaders, to the importance of community involvement," said Suzy Lewis, public affairs representative for Exxon and coordinator of the summer jobs program.

Lewis said the interns gain valuable on the job experience while providing meaningful assistance to many non-profit organizations.

Beyond these immediate benefits, Lewis said the

program's long-term value is that "many of these talented student interns will remain involved with the community-based organizations either as volunteers or full-time employees."

The PVAMU students selected to participate in the program were among 30 students chosen.

Exxon has given grants totaling more than \$80,000 to the summer job program fund. Exxon started the program over 27 years ago and provided grants for the interns salaries.

Funds are also used for program administrator expenses for Volunteer Houston.

Since the Volunteer Houston program began in 1998, Exxon has spent over \$150,000 to place more than 50 inters with Houston area non-profit organizations.

Exxon also sponsors similar programs in Austin, Dallas, and cities in Alabama, Alaska, California.

# OFHC provides open door policy

By Donald Kegler  
Panther Staff

Is good help hard to obtain? To be perfectly honest, at times, it is difficult to come by.

However, on the campus of Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU), specifically Owens-Franklin Health Center (OFHC), this isn't the case.

When seeking a visit at the OFHC an appointment isn't required.

The center is open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The OFHC provides various services that can accommodate each student.

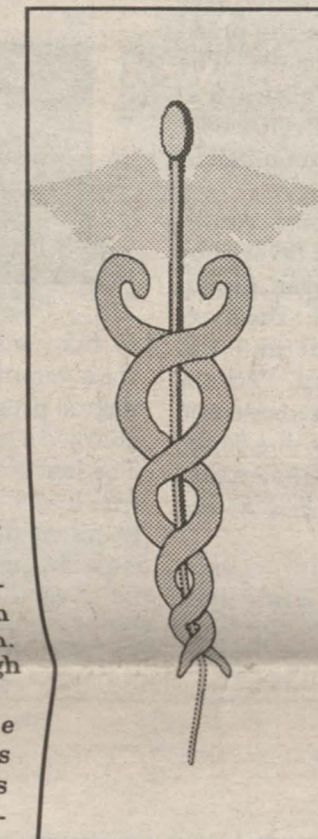
Services consists of routine office visits, laboratory services, pharmacy services, TB skin test, immunizations and blood pressure checks.

For the safety of students, a license physician, a registered nurse and a medical technician are on duty during operation hours.

Since administrators at the OFHC realize that some students may have difficulty paying for visits during their appointment so charges for services are sent to the university Fiscal Department for collection.

The OFHC provides two skilled counselors who are able to speak with students on or off campus.

Several counselors are at the OFHC and are located in offices on the second floor of the building. For a consultation, call 2277.



## Braids, Fades and Purple Kool-Aid®



Aleene Riley SGA President  
By Kesha Jones  
Panther Staff

### Riley empowers new term in SGA office

power. Look up the term in Webster's dictionary and you just might see a picture of Prairie View A & M University's own Aleene Riley.

Riley, a junior Political Science major with an outstanding GPA is definitely all about business, but she's also all about politics.

You may recall, last semester, the "happy face" candidate during the SGA elections. Well that was Riley, the only female SGA presidential candidate, and the only winner.

Riley's SGA presidential term began this semester, and she is definitely learning what the term "public servant" means. When she was asked about her new role, Riley said "I expected that it would be hectic... but it's okay."

This statement is com-

ing from a woman who tells her peers "when you do everything in your job description, you're only doing sixty percent."

That says a lot about Riley's commitment to not only the student body, but to every one and everything she comes in contact with. Riley said giving back is her dedication to the freshmen.

Among other things is her goal to raise money for homecoming, but most importantly she wants PVAMU to get back to that philosophy of being "engaged" to the community.

If Riley is spearheading these ideas it will soon turn into a reality, because when she looks at a challenge she sees it as defying the odds.

Empowering equals girl power and Aleen Riley.

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NATIONAL NEWS

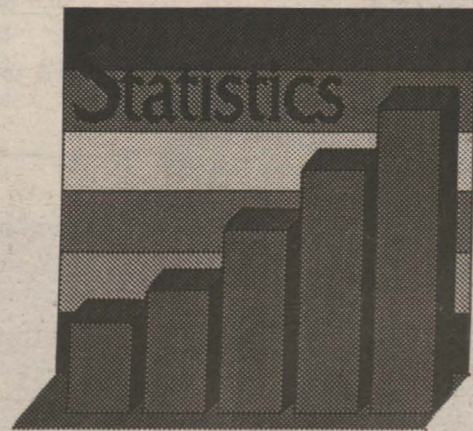
# Democratic candidate Gore top in polls among blacks

By Yauna Estes  
Copy Editor

Recent polls Show that African Americans favor Gore over Bush in the presidential election polls. The Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies released a 1999 national opinion poll in politics.

Presidential candidate Al Gore was favored by 60 percent of African Americans. George W. Bush received 43 percent and Bill Bradley 41 percent. Perhaps Bush is not being represented well in the media due to his comment that he believes that it is acceptable to display the confederate flag.

Bush is also unfavored among some college students due to the fact that students in state colleges and Universities will be able



to take only 45 hours more than required to complete a degree program before being charged a high rate of tuition. The law is aimed at students who linger in college without earning a degree. While Bush is also being questioned about his alleged cocaine and substance abuse, he is still up eight percentage points from his 1998 rating.

On the other hand, vice president Gore is winning in the polls, at least with African Americans. He has been supported by African Americans since 1997, according to the poll.

Other public figures included in the poll were President Bill Clinton, First lady Hillary Rodam Clinton, (running for senator of NYC) Reverend Jesse Jackson, Congressman J.C Watts and many more.

Jesse Jackson is now rated more favorably than president Clinton among blacks and white. His ratings have gone up since the negotiation of the release of the American hostages in Kosovo.

# Rapper pleads guilty to harassment

By Joyce Dixon  
Editor-In-Chief

Sean "Puffy" Combs pleaded guilty Wednesday to a lesser charge of second-degree harassment.

The leading rapper and producer was accused of assaulting record company executive Steve Stoute at his office in April with a champagne bottle, a chair and a telephone.

Combs was sentenced to a one-day "anger management" seminar by Manhattan Criminal Court Judge Martin Murphy. If convicted of assault and criminal mischief charges, Combs would have faced up to seven years in prison.

Combs is accused of beating Stoute bloody after the two men had a falling out over a music video in which the rap star is nailed to a cross and says, "I think I like this."

Reportedly Combs changed his mind after the taping and wanted the scene cut from the video. However, when the video premiered on MTV the scene was still there and Combs blamed Stoute.

"This is a case that is much ado about nothing. He shouldn't have lost his temper, and he wants to put all of this behind him. It was an unfortunate incident," Combs lawyer, Harvey Slovis said.

He felt very good about taking the plea," he added. Combs, 29, is the chief executive of the rap label Bad Boy Entertainment.

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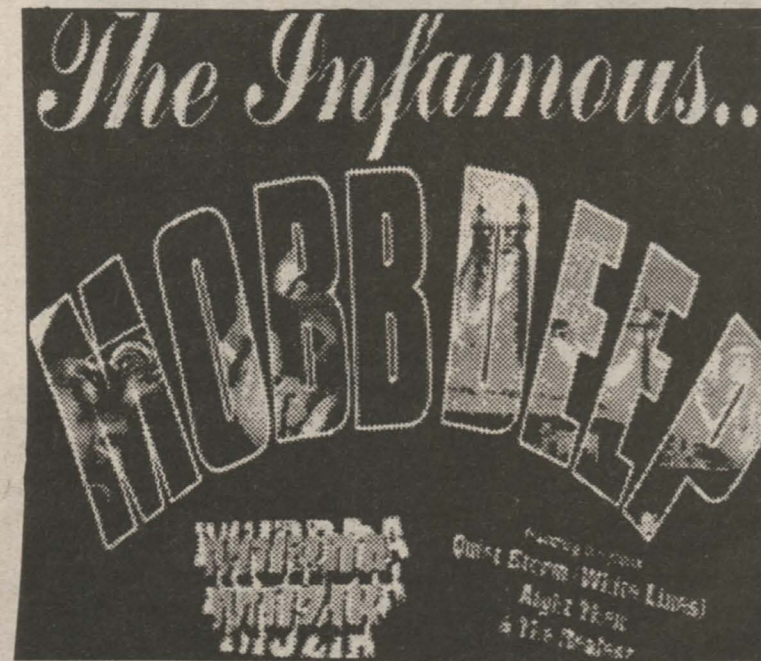


photo courtesy of Mobb Deep

Ahhhh, Autumn. Welcome back, Panthers. Welcome back to financial aid problems, freshmen who act like PV is 13th grade, the greasiest fried rice this side of Hong Kong, and cats who roll around in their F-150's blaring skrew with all the windows down, when they KNOW it's 100 degrees and they want to turn on the air conditioning. It's school time again. All this makes me want to close the door and relive some memories of summer. Really loud.

First off, it's the new Mobb Deep, imaginatively titled "Murda Muzik." If you're looking for some bounce, or some wanna-be Timbaland tracks, skip to the latest Silkk tha Shocker because you will NOT find it here. Remember "Shook Ones, Pt. 1?" Same thing, different year. Mobb Deep aka Tha Infamous hail from Queensbridge, NYC, which is slightly above Soweto in the grime quotient, and it shows throughout. The song titles say it all: "Deer Park," "I'm Going Out," "Thug Muzik," and "Murda Muzik." You get the point. Somebody needs to give these brothers a coke and a smile. They sound near homicidal on

## Summer hits, some are not

### Mobb Deep, Ginuwine survive heat

every track. The funny thing about music like this is how good it goes with summer cruising, chilling with the boys, or maybe post-uping playing playstation. It's dark, bleak, harsh, and yet melodic, and Prodigy's lyrics fit Havoc's beats like long legs and short shorts.

But what about the ladies, you ask? I got you. Next up is the Ginuwine album, called *100% Ginuwine*. One word - OFFDHOOK!!! I'm not the smooth R&B lover man myself, but this CD surprised me completely. Timbaland has been bitten more times than your local postman, yet he sounds fresh and brand new on here. Of course everyone remembers last spring's banger, "Final Warning" featuring Aaliyah, but that one is about fourth or fifth down on the list here. "So Anxious" can go for both the fellas and the ladies, as well as "Do You Remember" and "I'm Crying Out." However, the real standout is "Wait A Minute" which incorporates a classical Beethoven loop, some Steely Dan, and it sounds like someone is trash can thumping in the background. Timbaland is a genius in the same way Sean "Fluff Daddy" Combs aspires to be. He

takes obscure little samples and twists them around to form a totally different sound. On this CD alone he samples the Flash Gordon soundtrack, Godzilla, and a composition by Vallieri. Outstanding. Now if Ginuwine's camp would convince the brother to take those s-curl cornrows out, it'd be gravy. Don't get me wrong, I dig skrew music. I was shocked to turn on BET this summer and see Lil Troy's video all over the place. Houston has blown up, nationwide. Just don't forget there is music outside of "Wanna be a Baller."

By **Jon Cook**  
Panther Staff

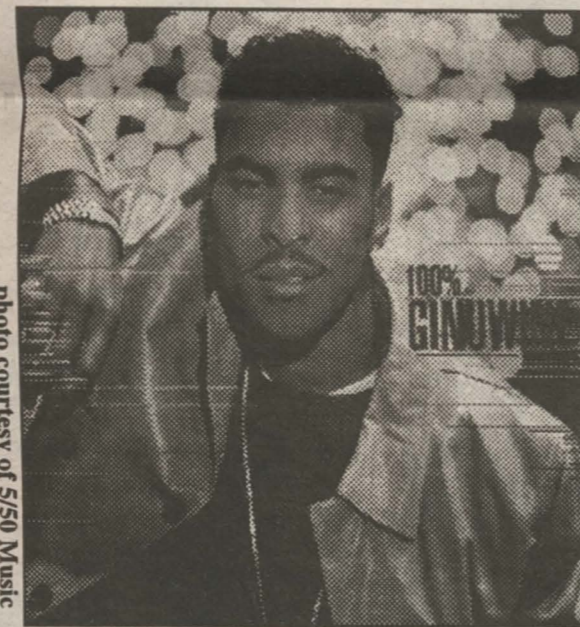


photo courtesy of 5/50 Music

5/50 Music recording artist, Ginuwine

## Audiences Fall In Too Deep

### Young actors prove they are more than just a pretty face

Over the summer there were several movies released that I thought were excellent, but the movie *In Too Deep* caught my attention.

This movie, distributed by Dimension Films and directed by Michael Rymer, has probably the best cast this summer. The star studded cast includes Omar Epps, LL Cool J, Stanley Tucci, Nia Long, and Pam Greer. They classified this movie as a

drama/thriller, but I think it should be called a comedy. Many of the scenes send the audience into a roar of laughter.

Detective Jeffrey Cole played by Omar Epps is an undercover cop in Cleveland who is placed on assignment to take down God, a drug dealing gangster who is responsible for 80 percent of the crimes committed in Cleveland. Not only does God have opera-

tions in Cleveland, he has several on the East Coast. His biggest is in New Jersey where he began. Cole goes undercover to try to catch God who becomes impressed with Cole and sends him out to prove himself. Cole embodies the character of a thug and is forced to take on the actions of the thug mentality. He gets so involved that he forgets he is an undercover cop. Cole works to gain

the full trust of God and gets caught up in his own lies.

The performances in this movie were great. I applaud Omar Epps and LL Cool J for their roles. If you have not seen this movie, you must go and see it.

By **Glenn Russell**  
Photography Editor

"Keys to the Range"  
Jagged Edge

"Bring It All to Me"  
Blaque f/ N'Sync

"Vivrant Thing"  
Q-Tip

"Spend My Life with You"  
Eric Benet f/ Tamia

"Get Gone"  
Ideal

"All That I Can Say"  
Mary J. Blige

"Bling, Bling"  
B.G.

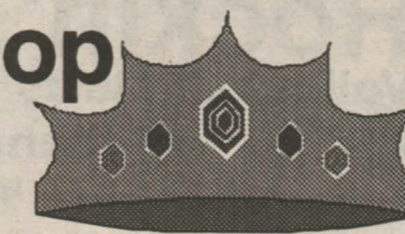
"Girls' Best Friend"  
Jay-Z

"Back at One"  
Brian McKnight

"Knockin' Pictures Off the Wall"  
Yungstar

The Panther's current top ten in no particular order

## Queen of Hip-Hop still reigns



Once again the Queen of Hip Hop, R&B, and soul has graced the music scene with her new self-titled album, *Mary*. The new album gets off to a keen start with a funky collaboration with Lauryn Hill and moves on to an upbeat struggle with the song "Sexy" featuring Jadakiss from the Lox. Mary J. provides us with a surprise when we hear "Deep Inside" in which she receives the help of Elton John when elements of his song "Bennie and the Jets" are recreated. In this song, Mary is pleading for people to see who she is beyond the materialistic standards.

"Beautiful Ones" finds the combination of soul, street, and style that she always provides in each album. She continues in a soothing mood with tracks like "I'm in Love," "Time," and "Memories" with beats that grasp your attention and hold them with calm the lyrical performance.

Although the album is good, it does have some down points such as "Don't Waste Your Time." I find it to be nothing more than a disappointing duet with Aretha Franklin. The vocal performance is excellent, but it is hard to

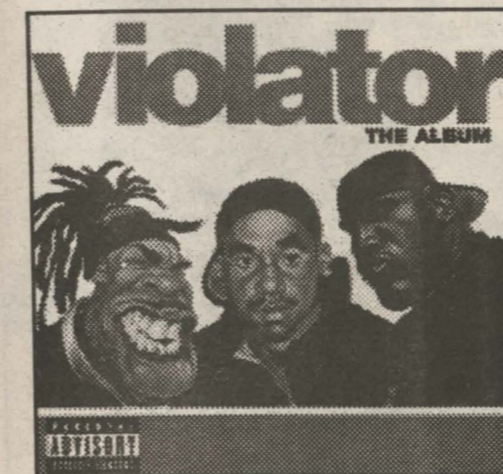
feel this song. "Let No Man Put Asunder" takes you back to the 1980s with a kind of house music flavor that makes you wonder why anyone would ever end such a flawless CD with crap like that. However, the album is put back on track with "Not Lookin," the long-awaited duet with K-Ci Hailey.

The album takes a different direction in melody with tracks like "Your Child," "No Happy Holidays," and "The Love I Never Had." They leave your head bobbin' because the lyrics are so real. "Give Me You," written by Diane Warren, makes for a crushing love ballad that reminds you of a wedding song.

Overall I would give the album three and a half stars because the beats and lyrics were on point. I'd say the CD is definitely worth the money and will keep you as entertained as her previous releases.

By **Candace Johnson**  
Panther Staff

## Violator showcases artists on compilation project



picture courtesy of Violator Records

ole booty-shakin' hip-hop, you've got yourself a winner.

It took only a moment for this CD to light up New York. Word has it that the Big Apple gave this CD two thumbs up and a *Belly* movie.

Most

New York has done it again. First the RuffRyders put together a CD that consists of various artists, mainly the RuffRyder clique. Now in the 9-9, Violator Records has gathered a number of New York's finest and dropped them on one album together. This new Violator CD is turning heads, making people bounce, and has all the women believing they are a "Vivrant Thing."

This CD has the definite mold of a party CD. When you take hard core hip-hop and combine it with some good

Flipmode Squad. If you're a Busta-Bust fan, you will feel him and get your just deserts.

This CD has style, charisma, and definite "flava." And it doesn't stop there. This joint not only has one artist for the world to catch on to, it offers much more. I think that dropping a lot of hot rap artist on one album compilation is a pretty good idea. In my opinion, you would have to be from back East to really feel the entire album. With artist like LL Cool J, the Flipmode Squad, Ja Rule, and Big Pun preaching nothing but East Coast flava, this may be a little out of the ordinary for southerners to feel.

If you're not one for vulgarity I wouldn't recommend this one for you. I give this CD two thumbs up and a BIG OLE PLUS for originality with no recycled beats. You heard it first from that Jigga "Q."

By **J. Quali Clay**  
Panther Staff

## 20 Questions

1. Where are the people that answer the switchboard?
2. Why do the computers always go down during registration?
3. So, can we count on the football team winning another game this season?
4. By the way, what genius decided it was a good idea for the football team to play at Southern?
5. How many professors actually decided to return this semester?
6. Will D'Angelo's new CD come out some time during this millennium?
7. Why are the cups in Alumni significantly smaller?
8. And what did they do with the big cups?
9. Are we the only ones that were truly disappointed in the Labor Day Classic Battle of the Bands?
10. How many fake guest appearances did TSU's band have??
11. Why is Homecoming in November?
12. Are they going to tear down the old New Gym?
13. What did everybody sell this summer to come back with these tight rides?
14. And why is everybody rockin' F-150s like they're Honda Civics?
15. Why did they wait until the day before classes start to begin construction on EVERYTHING on campus?
16. Wasn't MSC supposed to close in September?
17. Why are there more P.A.L.S. than there are freshmen?
18. Can we PLEASE stop feeding the stray dogs so they will go away?
19. Did anybody actually pay their installments for the Village?
20. What do you think?

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.

### 5 Overused Words and Phrases that are Hereby Banned from PV

1. Hater
2. It's Going Down
3. Crunk
4. Off the Hook
5. Tight



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SPORTS NEWS

In the Sports Spotlight

Edwina Brooks



Photo by Glenn Russell  
Volleyball player Edwina Brooks serves the ball during a recent practice.

Age: 21

Hometown: Snyder, TX

Fantasy Dinner: Jaleel White, Sheryl Swoopes

Favorite Movie: The Color Purple

Favorite Food: Pizza

Major: Health and Human Performance

There is no "T" in Team

- Edwina Brooks

Storm reigns on Ocean of Soul

Ryan McGinty  
Panther Staff

At most universities, marching bands usually take a back seat to the football team during the season.

However, that isn't the norm in the SWAC because in most cases, the bands are the main attraction. This was the case in the annual Labor Day Classic "Battle of the Bands" between the Prairie View A&M "Marching Storm" and the Texas Southern University "Ocean of Soul" on Saturday, Sep 4.

At 6:30 p.m., the "Marching Storm" officially kicked off the 1999 football season in the Astrodome by marching in with a bang.

The Storm was led on the field by drum majors Sam Long, Chris Williams, Andre Beatty, Vernon Hunter, Jimmy Smith and Roderick Sibley. After the drum majors presented their entrance, the Storm got the halftime show underway by performing a high energy field show, which was highlighted by the "Black Fox" dancers and the "percussion section, Da Box.

Ten minutes later, the "Ocean of Soul" entered the Astrodome with brand new band uniforms but the excitement level wasn't nearly as high as the Storm's entrance.

In previous years, the Labor Day Classic halftimes had a 10 minute time limit for each band. However, in a rule mandated by SWAC Commissioner Rudy Washington this summer, each band only had eight minutes to show each other what they are made of this year.

Drastic Classic

Panthers stunned in season opener

By Will Joiner  
and Jarrod Franklin  
Panther Staff

There was a different feeling at the 15th annual Southwest Airlines Labor Day Classic at the Houston Astrodome.

Was it that Prairie View and Texas Southern were playing the first televised Southwestern Athletic Conference game of the year? Was it that both bands performances were reduced to eight minutes? Maybe it was head football coach Clifton Gillard making his debut for Prairie View?

No, it was the Prairie View Panthers being favorite to dominate the game. Local papers covered Prairie View as the favorites all weekend due to the 44 injuries suffered by the Texas Southern football team. Coming into the game the Panthers were upbeat and everyone was ready to start the final season of the millennium.

This year the SWAC is being split into two separate divisions with Prairie View and TSU both in the Western Division, the game was important. The two teams will be joined by Southern University, Grambling University, and Arkansas Pine-Bluff. At the end of the regular season, the Western and Eastern Division winners will play for the S.W.A.C. championship.

A crowd of over 30,000 piled into the Astrodome to see TSU prevail 34-0 over the Panthers.

"One loss doesn't make a bad season. Last year Jackson State started 0-3 and came back to win the conference. We just need to get back on track," Gillard said.

TSU's first score came on a fumbled punt return which allowed running back Wayman Sneed to run a one yard touchdown.

"After the fumbled punt our team could not get back on track. They scored points off of mistakes. Mistakes will hurt you," Gillard said.

Although Prairie View out passed TSU with the three headed quarterback line of Josh Barnes, Jamaal Foster, and Demarco King, rushing the football was hard to come by. Critical offensive penalties brought back several long runs.

Defensively the Panthers played well considering they were on the field for a little over 30 minutes.

The Panthers play their first home game Saturday, Sep 11 at 6:00 p.m. against Howard Payne.

SPORTS NEWS

Rockin' and rollin'  
Volleyball starts out season with bang

west Athletic Conference (SWAC) championship.

"We're looking forward to a new season," said senior outside hitter Katrena Hurst.

Today, the volleyball team will travel to Lake Charles, La. to compete in a tournament at

By Tina M. Ellis  
Entertainment Editor

As the school year begins for Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) students, the volleyball team thinks of it as just another day. They have been back on "The Hill" since August 16th, preparing for a new season with a major change.

After Coach Jocelyn Adams decided to resign, Alicia Pete stepped up as head coach for the team. The ladies are adjusting to new coaching techniques.

Last weekend, the team kicked off the season with the Lady Panther Invitational Tournament. Texas Southern University (TSU) and Alabama State University (ASU) came to compete on Friday and Saturday. All teams played each opponent

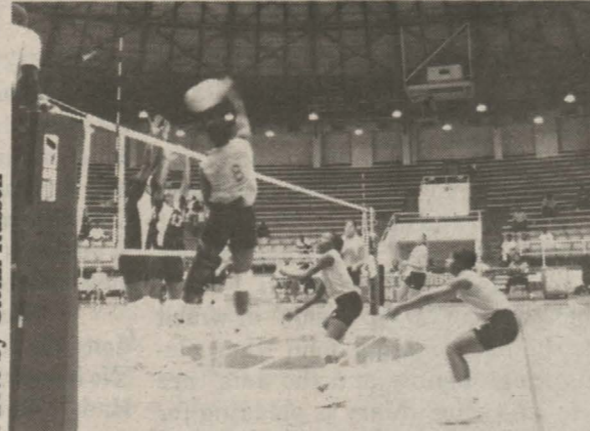


Photo by Glenn Russell

PVAMU Volleyball team vs. TSU at a recent volleyball tournament.

twice. Ironically, all three teams tied for first place. PVAMU beat Alabama State both times, while TSU defeated the Lady Panthers on both occasions. However, TSU lost to ASU twice.

The team is working hard to attain the South-

McNeese State University.

Although they were unsuccessful in their attempts to defeat TSU, another chance has arrived. TSU will be present at the McNeese State Tournament. "As a team, there's always room for improvement.

Sporting Summer Lacks Heat



By Brad Fuffin  
Sports Editor

With the beginning of school and the passing of Labor Day, summer has officially become a memory. Thankfully college football is here and the NFL isn't far behind. Baseball teams are gearing up for their perspective pennant races, and the NBA will soon follow suit.

Having these sporting events to look forward to is great, but what, if anything do we have to remember from the summer?

Did anything memorable happen this summer? What did the sporting world contribute to my memory?

Sure sporting events took place, but did any of them stand out in your mind? Let's begin with the new induction's into the Baseball Hall of Fame.

Without argument Orlando Cepeda, Robin Yount, George Brett, and Nolan Ryan all deserve to be called "hall of famers." The problem isn't who got in, it's who got left out.

This year, like years past, Pete Rose got the cold shoulder from Major League Baseball. The difference between previous years and this year was The Pete Rose Museum opened its doors less than two blocks from the Baseball Hall of Fame.

A slap in the face to baseball... maybe? Like him or hate him, illegal gambler or not, the man put up some awesome stats during his baseball days. Let the man in. Enough is enough! On a scale of one to 10, my memory rating is five.

Next we have Sosa and McGwire--- the sequel. If you followed the homerun race last year, there's not a lot that can be said about this year's race. They're both on or above the pace from last year. More than likely, one will just edge out the other at the end of the season. I give it a three on the summer memory scale.

Whether you follow cycling or not, Lance Armstrong's Tour De France victory is by far the most memorable sports story from this summer.

Making a come back from cancer to not only win, but to dominate the endurance race is hard not to forget. After winning all of the individual time trials, Armstrong and his U.S. Postal teammates protected his lead from more powerful and experienced European teams.

Armstrong was dropped from his team and by sponsors after being diagnosed with cancer. He is a native of Texas, but spends a good portion of his time in Europe training.

Armstrong did what no one gave him a chance to do. He won the most prestigious and famous cycling event in the world. A 10 on the summer memory scale.

Last but not least, the Women's World Cup was held this summer. The U.S. Women's team is ranked number one in the world, and could possibly earn an Olympic berth with a victory at the World Cup.

After dominating all of their opponents, the United States faced powerful China in the final game. After going scoreless during the match, the outcome would be decided by shoot-out. Needless to say the U.S. Women's Soccer team won the shoot-out in dramatic fashion. U.S. player Brandi Chastain took her shirt off on national television and everyone lived happily ever after. I give it a seven on the memory scale. All in all, the summer wasn't great for sports memories, but I'll take what I can get and wait for next summer to arrive.



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**In Brief**

**Bill 889 establishes university as an institute for preservation**

By Kalyn L. Bullock  
Business Manager

On January 25, 1999 a bill was passed to establish Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU), as an institute for the preservation of Texas and American history and culture.

After long deliberation in the judicial process, House Bill 889 was passed on May 29 by the 76th Legislature of the state of Texas. It was proposed by Representative Glenn Lewis.

PVAMU is responsible for focusing on the collection, preservation, as well as studying information and objectives that incorporate contributions African-Americans made in history and culture.

This task includes various topics such as the history of African-American education in the state of

Texas, African-American contributions to the military and its history, the role African-Americans played in settlements, also the different sections of government, agriculture, science, industry, labor, demography, business, nursing and medicine, public health, architecture and engineering, sports, arts and other professions.

H.B. No. 889 states that PVAMU has the power to open a museum, start an automated system for data access and retrieval along with other similar facilities. In order for PVAMU to reach student effectively, educational awareness programs will also be allowed.

**CAMPUS NEWS**

**COMING ATTRACTIONS**

<b>MON</b>	* Sep 13 LAST DAY TO VOTE WWW.SWACPAGE.COM
<b>TUES</b>	* Sep 14 Panther Newspaper / Pantherland Meeting 5:30 p.m. * Sep 21 Fall Career Fair 99' - Baby Dome 9 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Panther Newspaper / Pantherland Meeting 5:30 p.m.
<b>WED</b>	<b>12th CLASS DAY</b> * Sep 22 Fall Career Fair 99' - Baby Dome 9 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
<b>THUR</b>	* Sep 16 Senior Fraud Conference-College Station 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
<b>FRI</b>	* Sep 17 New Mexico St. Tournament - NM All Day (volleyball)
<b>SAT</b>	* Sep 11 Howard Pyane - Prairie View 6 p.m. (football) Cowgirl Round-Up - Lake Charles, LA All Day (volleyball) *Sep 18 New Mexico St. Tournament- NM All Day (volleyball) Southern-B.R. - Baton Rouge, LA 7 p.m. (football) Southern-B.R. - Baton Rouge, LA 9 am. (bowling)

**SCHOLARSHIP AND INTERNSHIP INFORMATION**

**The Piggy Bank**



**International League of Women Composers/ Search for New Music** is accepting applications from female students. **Eligibility:** Students must submit unpublished and previously unrewarded work of music (any style or medium); photocopies of score; cassette or 1/4 track reel tape, if available. For more information contact Chairperson of New Music Award, P.O. Box 42, Three Mile Bay, NY 13693. (315/649-5086) **Deadline Oct. 1**

**Rotary Foundation of Rotary International/ Multi-Year Ambassadorial** is accepting applications from citizens of a country in which there is a Rotary Club. They are

expected to be ambassadors of goodwill and must submit evidence of the ability to read, write and speak the language(s) of the country in which they will study. **Eligibility:** Undergraduate, graduate, or vocational scholars enrolled in a specific university degree program and taking course work which relates directly to the completion of one degree. For more information contact Scholarship Coordinator, 1 Rotary Center- 1560 Sherman Ave., Evanston, IL 60201-3698. (847/866-3000) **Deadline Oct. 1**

**National Women's Studies Association/ Audre Lorde Mem Prose Prize Annual** award for feminist writers

who write fiction or prose. **Eligibility:** Submitted work should take up a topic of discourse found in work of Lorde or seek to illustrate a condition, idea, or ideal inherent in her fiction or prose. For more information contact Award Coordinator, NWSA-University of Maryland, 7100 Baltimore Ave., Suite 301, College Park, MD 20740. (301/403-0525) [nwsa@umail.umd.edu](mailto:nwsa@umail.umd.edu) **Deadline Nov. 13**

**Zeta Tau Alpha/ Achievement Scholarship** **Eligibility:** undergraduate or graduate students demonstrating leadership qualities within Zeta Tau Alpha Chapters or in campus activities while

maintaining a high scholastic average. For more information contact Scholarship Coordinator, Zeta Tau Alpha International Office, 3450 Founders Road, Indianapolis, IN 46268. (317/872-0540) [www.zetaalpha.org](http://www.zetaalpha.org)

**Zeta Phi Beta NEF/ Deborah Partridge Wolfe International Fellowship** is seeking undergraduate or graduate students studying abroad and/or foreign undergraduate or graduate students studying within. For more information contact Scholarship Chairperson, Zeta Phi Beta Educational Foundation, 1734 New Hampshire Ave, N.W. Washington, DC 20009. (202/387-3103) [www.zpb1920.org](http://www.zpb1920.org)

**Ten Financial Aid Tips**

1. Prioritize your efforts, beginning with the federal government.
  2. Submit a FAFSA, even if you think you will not qualify for aid.
  3. Apply for aid as early as possible.
  4. Contact each school to explore financial aid possibilities.
  5. Get to know your financial aid administrator (FAA).
  6. Be prepared.
  7. Take advantage of tuition prepayment discounts.
  8. Money from grandparents could be paid in your name directly to the school.
  9. Investigate company-sponsored tuition plans.
  10. Apply for financial aid every year.
- [www.scholarships.com](http://www.scholarships.com)

**New from page 1**

Continuing PVAMU students advise freshmen to attend class regularly, be careful of the friends they choose and not to venture around the campus at night without an escort.

"Remember what your true mission at PVAMU is and acquire knowledge in the classroom as well as in life," said PVAMU senior Kesha Smith.

According to Gitonga M'Mbijewe, manager of the Office of Student Publications, students should enjoy

the four years of college.

"The key to ensuring enjoyment is maintaining a high grade point average the first year," said M'Mbijewe. He continued, "Maintaining a good GPA is easier than trying to improve a weak GPA."

**Nine from page 1**

Mundt of the Global 2000 Coordinating Group from Zurich, Switzerland.

However, disaster buffs should take heart. Ian Hugo, of Y2K group Taskforce 2000, said that many glitches related to the "nines" would

**COMIC RELIEF**

not necessarily be apparent immediately. According to Hugo, data that should be processed for later use might not be available when needed in affected systems.

**Africa from page 15**

The African university will allow a student of any major to study in Africa with no boundaries.

The agreement enables students to live on campus and make arrangements to live with families

for a short time while studying at the university. This will allow the student to learn hands on and take a closer look at African culture.

Berry described the people of Tanzania as very kind and humble.

"Visiting the continent of Africa for the first time was truly an awesome experience. I thanked God continuously for this wonderful opportunity and intermittently said to myself, 'Papa and Mama, your child is in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, Af-

rica," said Berry.

Berry and Anunobi also visited Zanzibar island.

"It is extremely important for students, especially African Americans to become more familiar with other countries," said Anunobi.

Anunobi continued, "At the university there were students from all over the United States studying abroad, but not one African American student."

Prairie View is now working on establishing ties with South Africa and the Dominican Republic.

**Panther Comics**



The Answers are located in the Classified Section

**MAMA'S BOYZ by JERRY CRAFT**



**"Just Chillin" BY: Quincy Higgins**



**MAGIC MAZE**

**MANAGER OF THE YEAR**

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

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

- |               |          |           |         |
|---------------|----------|-----------|---------|
| Alou Anderson | Bochy    | Layland   | Torborg |
| Baker         | Dierker  | Piniella  | Torre   |
| Baylor        | La Russa | Robinson  | Zimmer  |
|               | Lasorda  | Showalter |         |

**HOCUS-FOCUS** HENRY BY BOLTINGOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Baseball has been added. 2. Building is gone. 3. Catcher's pants are different. 4. Fence has been repaired. 5. Pitcher's pants are longer. 6. Boy's hat is different.

**KING CROSSWORD**

ACROSS	1 Was unoriginal	5 Low heels?	9 Type	12 Mad monarch	13 Verdi work	14 Born	15 Explain	17 Photo finish, perhaps	18 Iowa city	19 Perfect	21 Makes like hakes	24 Kojak's lack	25 A couple of cups	26 Noncommittal response	30 Cornerstone abbr.	31 Ralph of "The Waltons"	32 Alter affirmative	33 Slot machine symbols	35 Bees' followers	36 Bar	37 Dots on the map	38 Aspect	40 Pavlova portrayal	42 Lizzie Borden's tool	43 Common boundary	48 Party bowlful	49 Approach	50 Acknowledge	51 Fast flyer	52 Missing	53 - noire	1 Liston successor	2 Corral	3 Nosh	4 First verb in "Rebecca"	5 Super-garb	6 Ostentatious	7 He came after HST	8 Glut	9 Walters	10 "Star Wars" royal	11 Actor Howard	16 Apt. abbr.	20 Conk out	21 Detail, for short	22 Prelim to candle-blowing	23 Block a pass	24 Sombre-ros	26 Ban-shee's noise	27 Waste no time	28 Paradise	29 Supreme leader?	31 Penmanship	34 Actress Charlotte	35 Chat	38 Crazes	39 1945 losers	40 Ollie's pal	41 "The Way We..."	44 Ultramodernist	45 "Halli" to Caesar	46 Barracks bed	47 Lamb's dam
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## THE FINAL WORD

# Less is not more: Fashion sense and style are hard to recognize

By Santee's Bowers  
Managing Editor  
and Jon Cook  
Panther Staff

As school starts once again the beginning of the Fall '99' semester proves to be no different from any other.

The temperature ranges from 90 F to 100 F,

depending on where a person stands, and there seems to be more students on the yard.

With an atmosphere like this, the dress code among individuals becomes less and less when it is the topic of any discussion or brought to the

center of attention.

That's because there is less to focus on when it comes to students, primarily the ladies.

Good fashion sense and style are easy to recognize, especially when it is easy

on the eye. One basic rule that most people follow is that "one's fashion represents their personality."

I quote that to say 'less is not more' especially when it comes to some professors and instructors, and their views

about certain 'fleshy' individual.

Discrimination coincides with prejudice and people have their own opinions when it comes to first impressions.

After speaking with several males, although they appreciate the efforts made, they said some clothes are better left to wear at clubs. In other words late at night when most things are less apparent and visible.

Other than being a negative or tasteless distraction, a majority of the males said some ladies display a lack of class.

Perhaps the ladies who display themselves as such feel that this is their best bet in getting attention. Or maybe they feel inadequately prepared to attract friends to their minds and personalities and decide to display their legs and chests, as opposed to their sense of humor or easy smile.

What these ladies fail to recognize, however, is that when they are displayed in a manner that does not do them justice, the opposite effect is what they ultimately achieve.

Before everyone starts screaming and crying about discrimination, wait a minute.

Some of the brothers on this campus are dead wrong. And the bad thing is that everyone else knows it, but doesn't tell them.

Gold teeth are not the move to make, unless you are like Master P, independently wealthy. A gold front is the first, last, and only sign to an employer that YOU are not the employee he or she wants.

Some of you are also guilty of ironing your jeans to death.

Everyone wants to looked pressed, clean and fly, but come on now!

If you spend more money on starch than gas perhaps you need to sit down and ask yourself some serious personal questions.

"My friends agonized over choosing

a company to go with. My strategy

was simpler, why join one great

company when you can join many?

I went with GE."

Alphie Mullings  
B.S., Electrical Engineering  
City College of NY '97

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