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Panther- February 2001 - Vol. LXXVIII, No.16

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THE PANTHER

panther@pvamu.edu · Volume 78, Issue 16 · February 9, 2001

Students remembered on anniversary of accident


By Ryan McGinty
Panther Staff

On Saturday afternoon, the Prairie View A&M men's track team will participate in the Houston/Runsport All-Comets Meet at the University of Houston.


While this may sound like another typical track meet for the team, the competition will be an emotional one because it will be on the date of the first anniversary of the team's tragic accident.

The accident, which happened on Feb. 10 last year, claimed the lives of four Prairie View A&M track athletes and injured six others. The team was on its way to a meet


*THE PANTHERS THAT
STILL RACE THROUGH OUR MINDS*




Vernon James II



Jerome Jackson



Samuel Sturns



Houston Watson

in Pine Bluff, Ark. when the driver of the van they were traveling in lost control on a dark road in northeast Texas. The track athletes who lost their lives in the acci-

dent were Houston Watson of Greenville, TX, Jerome Jackson of Dallas, TX, Vernon James of Vallejo, CA and Samuel Sturn of Jasper, TX. The individuals who were in-

jured included head coach Hoover Wright, and team members Lewis Edmonson, Lamar Adams, David Atteberry and Trenton Harris.

As a result of the accident, several developments have arisen that have impacted the families involved
See **TRACK** on Page 10

Speech, theater conference scheduled for Prairie View

By Tamela McGregor
Panther Staff

While students are enjoying Spring break, the Prairie View speech and debate team will host the National Association of Dramatic and Speech Arts Conference.

Spring break, March 14-17, was chosen to accommodate the schedules of judges and speakers who will participate in the University Interscholastic League the following week.

This year not only marks the 65th annual conference, but it also commemorates its creation in 1936 by S. Randolph Edmonds on the campus of Dillard University in New Orleans, La.

Every year, the con-

ference is held at different universities around the country. Last year, the host site was at Jackson State University, but NADSA did not have a site for this year's conference.

However, Jacqueline Davis, forensic director and Coach at PV, volunteered the university as this year's host site in order to "spotlight and showcase positive attributes of our campus as well as our students."

Davis said she feels the conference will give students "an opportunity to hone their speech and theater arts skills."

Among the events will be professional work-

See **SPEECH** on Page 5

Foreign languages omitted from spring schedule

By L'Rhonda Boyd
Panther Staff

The Department of Languages and Communications has started the semester minus two languages that were offered in the past.

This spring, language courses in either French or Kiswahili were no longer a choice for students.

The coordinator for the languages program, Dr. John Sullivan, said that students, not only at Prairie View but in the United States overall, are losing interest in many of the foreign languages that are offered through their schools.

As far as Kiswahili is concerned, classes suffered from low enrollment. Getting students interested in the



Photo by Creighton Holub

Students across the country no longer have an interest in foreign languages; instead they are focusing on technology.

course was the problem that caused the class to have less than 10 students enrolled.

"This program (Kiswahili) began in conjunction with the international studies incentive," said Dr. Sullivan.

Although Swahili suffered from low enrollment, that was not the final reason why the course was canceled. "The kiswahili pro-

See **FOREIGN** on Page 3

In This Issue

Sexual assault risks.... see Page 4

PVU wins big See Page 6

What foreign languages? see Page 3

Calendar of events

•World• President questions successor

Manila, Philippines

(AP)- Ousted Phillipine President Joseph Estrada filed a lawsuit with the Supreme Court questioning the legitimacy of his successor.

Estrada's lawyers said his petition is the first direct challenge to the presidency of Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, who was sworn in Jan. 20 as swelling street protests forced Estrada to leave the presidential palace.

Mortar shells fly in attack

Vranje, Yugoslavia

(AP)- Ethnic Albanian militants fired mortar shells and small arms in an hour-long attack against government positions in southern Serbia just outside Kosovo.

The overnight attack, the heaviest in months, began "from trenches and other rebel positions with mortar and heavy artillery fire," said Rasim Ljajic, minister for ethnic minorities in Serbia's government.

Australia begins free-trade talks

Canberra, Australia

(AP)- The Australian government began talks Thursday with state governments and business leaders on a free-trade pact with Singapore, Trade Minister Mark Vaile said.

Canvassing the views of Australia's eight state and territory governments and industry was an important element in developing Australia's approach to the free-trade agreement, Vaile said.

Singapore is Australia's seventh largest export market. Australia is Singapore's eleventh largest.

U.S. group receives contract

Beijing, China

(AP)- Germany's BASF AG, and China Petroleum and Chemical Corp., have awarded Shaw Group Inc. of the United States a contract to build their new joint-venture petrochemical plant.

The spokesman declined to specify a value of the contract, saying a report in the state-run China Daily newspaper giving value \$400 million was "not exactly correct."

Shaw Group's subsidiary, Stone and Webster, Inc., will handle the engineering, procurement, and construction of the 600,000 metric tons-a-year ethylene plant, in the Chinese city of Nanjing.

•National• Money to be used for scholarships

Sioux Falls, SD

(AP)- Gov. Bill Janklow is picking up ideas on how to keep students honest if the state uses national tobacco settlement money for college scholarships.

Lawmakers are considering a plan that would prevent students from smoking or chewing tobacco if they get some of the money.

During a forum Tuesday on South Dakota Public Radio, a caller suggested indication a person's driver's license if he or she is part of the program.

Janklow said it was a good idea and added that he would have somebody check into it.

Bush pledges to pay attention

McLean, VA

(AP)- President Bush pledged that his administration will "pay attention to Africa," though he did not know when he would travel to the continent.

Bush said the United States can help Africa by supporting free trade and peace-keeping efforts.

Restricting exotic dancing

Little Rock, AR

(AP)- A pair of bills introduced would give less wiggle room to exotic dancers.

One piece of legislation would close establishments at midnight, if nude dancing is performed. It would restrict dancers to the stage, no closer than 15 feet from patrons, and would ban tips. Also, anyone under 21 can not work as a dancer.

The other proposal would add "an act of nudity" to the offense of public sexual indecency.

It defines nudity as, among other things, showing private parts of the body that will less than fully opaque covering in places open to the public.

Employee facing prison kills

Melrose Park, IL

(AP)- Within minutes, four employees were killed by gunfire and another four wounded at a suburban Chicago engine plant, and the gunman turned the weapon on himself. The 66-year-old former employee was to begin a federal prison term for helping steal engines and parts from the company.

•Regional• University awaits career fair

Prairie View, Texas

The University Spring Job Fair will be held Feb. 13, 2001, from 9 am to 2:30 pm in the Billy Nicks Field House. Over 80 employers are scheduled to attend; to offer students internships, co-ops and permanent employment opportunities.

The companies will be interviewing prospective students.

Students are encouraged to dress professionally, and bring multiple copies of a resume.

School looks for improvements

Alvin, Texas

The Alvin Community College is looking for voters to approve a \$42 million bond issue to improve the campus and prepare for a possible new one.

The college is looking forward to building a science building, and a \$11.7 million arena for performances and athletic events.

The district's tax rate is expected to increase 23 cents per \$100.

Officials need help

Thompsons, Texas

Officials are asking the general public to help identify the skeletal remains found in a field just south of Fort Bend County.

The bones were discovered by a horseback rider near Davis Estate Road.

The bones were scattered and a pair of pants were the only piece of clothing found.

According to the Sheriff's Department, the skeleton was that of a man.

Investigators are asking anyone who has information leading to this incident to please call (281) 234-TIPS.

Rodeo parade coming soon

Prairie View, Texas

The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo will be hosting the annual rodeo parade, Saturday, Feb. 10, 2001, at 10 a.m. in downtown Houston.

The parade will be televised on Houston's ABC KTRK, Channel 13.

9Friday

Pick up your copy of The Panther
Movie night, UC Theatre, Prairie View, 7pm

10-11Sat./Sun.

Panthers vs. Grambling State, Grambling, LA, 5:30pm

12Monday

Pros and Cons of Dating, Drew Hall, Prairie View, 7pm
Single Out Dating Game, Alumni, Prairie View, 7pm
Panthers vs. Jackson State, Jackson, MS, 8pm

13Tuesday

Career Fair, Babydome, Prairie View, 9am-3pm
The Panther meeting, Drew Hall, Prairie View, 5:30pm
Valentine Ball, Hobart Taylor, Prairie View, 7pm
Art of a True Player, All Faith Chapel, Prairie View, TX, 7pm
Kappa Dating Game, Animal Science Bldg., Prairie View, 7:10pm

14Wednesday

Students Serving Students, Hobart Taylor, Prairie View, 5pm

15Thursday

UC Saints Night Out, All Faith-s Chapel, Prairie View, 7pm

Houston Chronicle
Carriers wanted for the early a.m. delivery for Waller & Hockley areas.
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Tues.-Wed.: 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Waller, TX 77484
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Languages should be part of everyday vocabulary



By Sheleah Hughes
Editor-in-Chief

Spanish teachers, and an empty load of French, Kiswahili, German, and Japanese instructors. And why I ask?

For we students to actually achieve the ultimate education, we must be trained in areas other than our majors, and foreign language is the first step.

But first we must recruit more teachers, and fill up more classes.

For arts and sciences majors it is required that foreign language classes be filled, but to make the program successful other programs must also be interested.

FOREIGN from Page 1

ram is gone because the Kiswahili instructor left," said Dr. Sullivan.

As of now the department has no plans on bringing Kiswahili back but there has been some discussion about adding Portuguese instead.

Unlike that of the Kiswahili course, enrollment was not a major problem for the French language. There is even a French Club on campus which is still active.

Dr. Sullivan feels that a lot of the low enrollment problems that many foreign languages suffer

from, comes from the fact that French and even Spanish are no longer considered foreign.

Instead they are more like second languages to many.

As a result, these two languages are starting to suffer from problems.

The French course also suffered from a problem that Kiswahili went through as well.

"The instructor resigned at the end of the fall semester," stated Dr. Sullivan. "We (the department) were unable to locate qualified French instructors," Sullivan said.

French courses are only dropped temporarily.

Last semester many students enrolled in Spanish classes also experienced somewhat of the same problem.

The department was on a search for new instructors, however they were replaced in time to spare the classes.

The department is now searching for qualified professors with a Ph.D. in French and Spanish and would really like to find someone who can teach both.

For those active French students, the department is allowing them to enroll in a Spanish course to receive credit toward their foreign language requirements.

Artists longevity leads to successful career



By Tina M. Ellis
Entertainment Editor

about MC Breed's "Ain't No Future in Your Frontin'?" Both of these songs were chart toppers, but now when we hear them we think longingly about the good ole' days and wonder where these guys are now.

Longevity is the key to a successful career in which you can truly be called an artist, but now it seems as if artists' careers are growing more and more short-lived.

Whatever happened to the days of putting out album after album full of hot tracks with live beats and complex lyrics?

Marvin Gaye and Tupac must be turning in their graves. Well, maybe not Tupac. He still releases another album every other week.

Now many of these one-hit wonders may have tried to make a come back, but that never really works.

Take Vanilla Ice for example. After "Ice, Ice Baby" got played out, he never had a

Edition spirit? He must have left it with Ronnie, Bobby, Ricky and Mike.

mates were above petty forms of entertainment.

I guess I was wrong because I witnessed one of the sickest events in history at the TSU basketball game on Tuesday.

The disc jockey played the #1 song on my Most Hated list, "The Cha Cha Slide." Right before my very eyes the entire Babydome stood up and did this ridiculous new form of the Electric Slide.

I'm sorry to inform you all that this song is a perfect example of what artists should never do. This man will forever be known for "The Cha Cha Slide," and that's not a

1. Gangsta Lean - DRS
2. Ain't No Future in Your Frontin' - MC Breed
3. Cool Like That - Digable Planets
4. Sex You Up - Color Me Badd
5. Brainstormin' - MC Brains

Top 5 one-hit wonders of the 1990s

chance. And Milli Vanilli... no, forget I even mentioned them. Let's just say you never get a second chance to make a first impression.

And poor, poor Ralph Tresvant; he gave a valiant effort. "Sensitivity" was a nice song, but where was that New

So, here we are, chilling at the beginning of the millennium. Wouldn't you expect a little bit of change? Maybe that's just a little bit too much to ask. I know that there's not much to do here at Prairie View, but I could have sworn my school-

good thing. So, ladies and gentlemen, I present to you the latest entry into the One Hit Wonder Hall of Shame - Mr. C, The Slide Man and his depressingly grotesque song, "The Cha Cha Slide."

I guess history really does repeat itself.

The Panther Staff

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Submission Policy for Letters to the Editor

Anyone who reads The Panther can submit a letter to the editor by fax, e-mail, or postal service. All submissions are subject to editing and must include the author's name and telephone number.

VALENTINE ROMANCE DINNER



Are you looking for the perfect way to celebrate Valentine's Day with your sweetheart? Well, here comes the perfect opportunity to dine under candle light and enjoy soft music



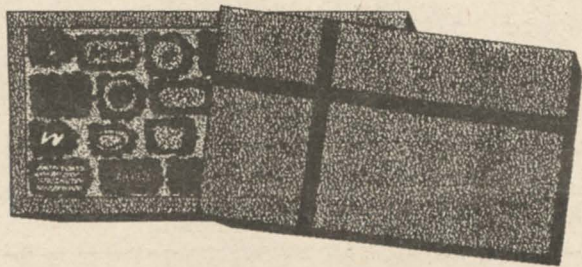
WHEN:
February 14, 2001

TIME:
4:00pm-8:00pm

WHERE:
Athletic Dining Room

\$25.00 per Couple
(\$5.00 Extra for a To-Go Plate)

You can purchase your tickets with the points on your meal card or pay cash at the Deli, Underground 2 Go or Auxiliary Services. The deadline to make reservation will be Friday, February 9, 2001 at 5:00pm.



ALL COUPLES WILL RECEIVE FLOWERS AND CHOCOLATE DIPPED STRAWBERRIES.

SPEECH from Page 1
shops that concentrate on areas of expertise in "technical lighting, set design, directing

and acting, radio announcing, playwright and public speaking" as well as festivals, demonstrations, and even auditions.

tation of The Lifetime Achievement Award to Dr. Ted Shine for his contributions in theater arts.

Prairie View's own Charles Gilpin Players and C. Lee Turner, director, are slated to perform on Wed, Mar. 14, at 8 p.m. in Hobart Taylor Recital Hall.

Davis mentioned that among the many professional speakers for the workshops will be Melanie Lawson, a news anchor for Channel 13 in Houston, who will be the speaker for TV newscasting.

Theater and speech majors will find different job prospects through postings and networking.

Highlights of the conference will include a presen-

Davis encourages anyone who wants to be judge, buy tickets for the banquet, buy ads in the conference souvenir book, or become an NADSA member to contact her at (936) 857-2229.

Prairie View's own Charles Giplin Players and C. Lee Turner, director, are slated to perform on Wednesday, March 14, at 8 p.m. in Hobart Taylor Recital Hall.

Classifieds

Panther Meetings

Tuesday 5:30

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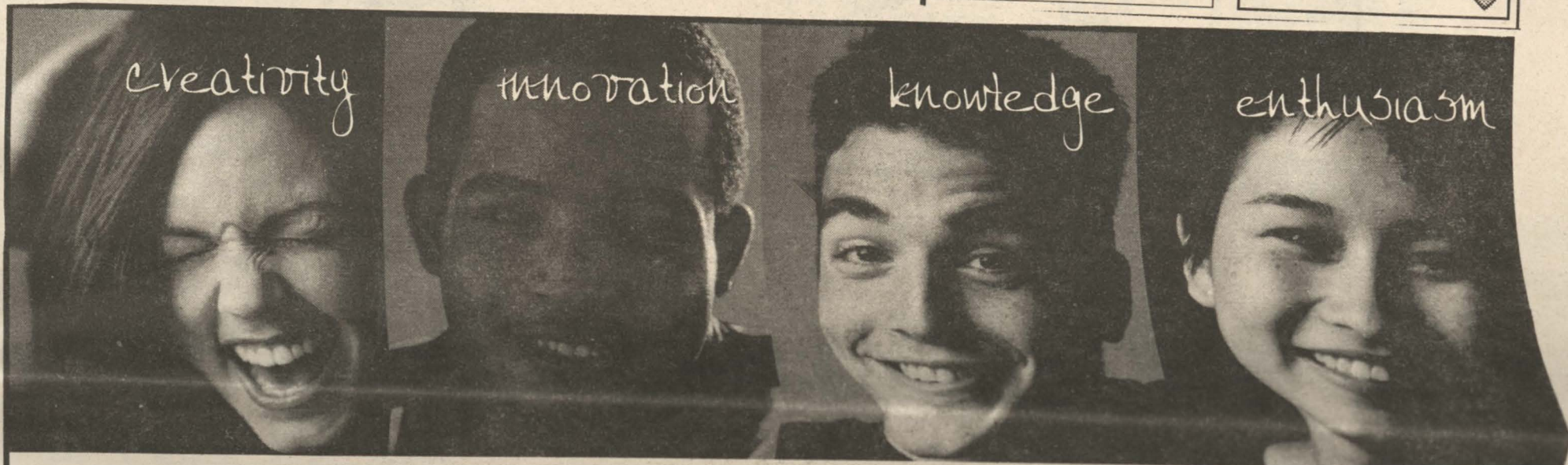
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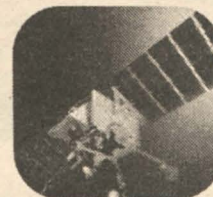
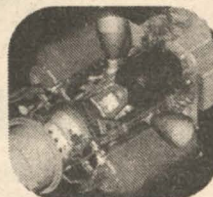
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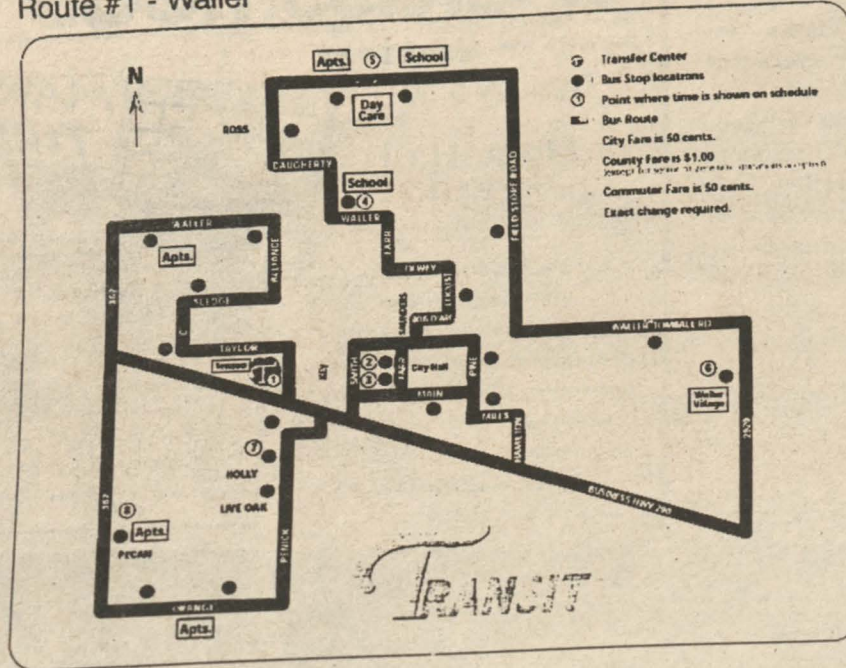
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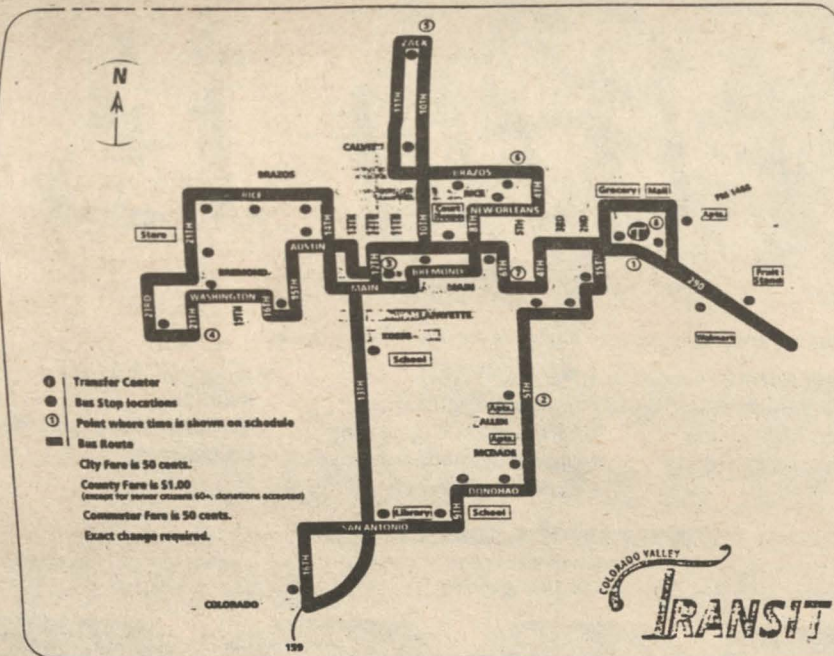
Route #1 - Waller



Weekday Time Schedule

	HWY 290 PENICK	WALLER TARR CITY HALL	FARR MEAD CITY HALL	WALLER MEAD CITY HALL	WALLER VILLAGE CENTER	WASHINGTON PENICK CLINIC	FM 362 PECAN APTS
	①	②	③	④	⑤	⑥	⑧
AM	7:00	7:10	7:12	7:17	7:22	7:30	7:45
	7:55	8:10	8:12	8:17	8:22	8:30	8:45
	8:55	9:10	9:12	9:17	9:22	9:30	9:45
	10:00	10:10	10:12	10:17	10:22	10:30	10:45
	10:55	11:10	11:12	11:17	11:22	11:30	11:45
	12:00	12:10	12:12	12:17	12:22	12:30	12:45
PM	12:55	1:10	1:12	1:17	1:22	1:30	1:45
	2:00	2:10	2:12	2:17	2:22	2:30	2:45
	2:55	3:10	3:12	3:17	3:22	3:30	3:45
	4:00	4:10	4:12	4:17	4:22	4:30	4:45
	4:55	5:10	5:12	5:17	5:22	5:30	5:45

Route #3 - Hempstead



Weekday Time Schedule

	HWY 290 PENICK	LAFAYETTE 5TH	HARLAND'S GROCERY	WASHINGTON 21ST	11TH ZACK	8TH WILKINS COURT HOUSE	6TH BREMOND CLINIC	FACTORY OUTLET MALL
	①	②	③	④	⑤	⑥	⑦	⑧
AM	7:00	7:05	7:16	7:33	7:46	7:50	7:52	7:55
	8:00	8:05	8:16	8:33	8:46	8:50	8:52	8:55
	9:00	9:05	9:16	9:33	9:46	9:50	9:52	9:55
	10:00	10:05	10:16	10:33	10:46	10:50	10:52	10:55
	11:00	11:05	11:16	11:33	11:46	11:50	11:52	11:55
PM	12:00	12:05	12:16	12:33	12:46	12:50	12:52	12:55
	1:00	1:05	1:16	1:33	1:46	1:50	1:52	1:55
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	4:00	4:05	4:16	4:33	4:46	4:50	4:52	4:55
	5:00	5:05	5:16	5:33	5:46	5:50	5:52	5:55



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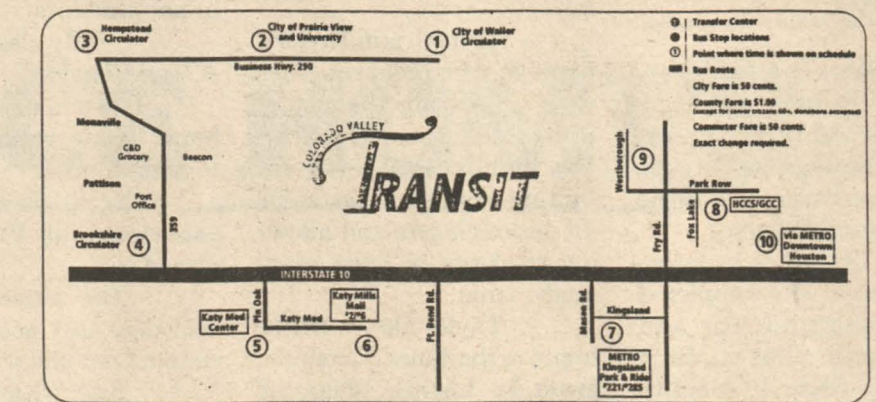
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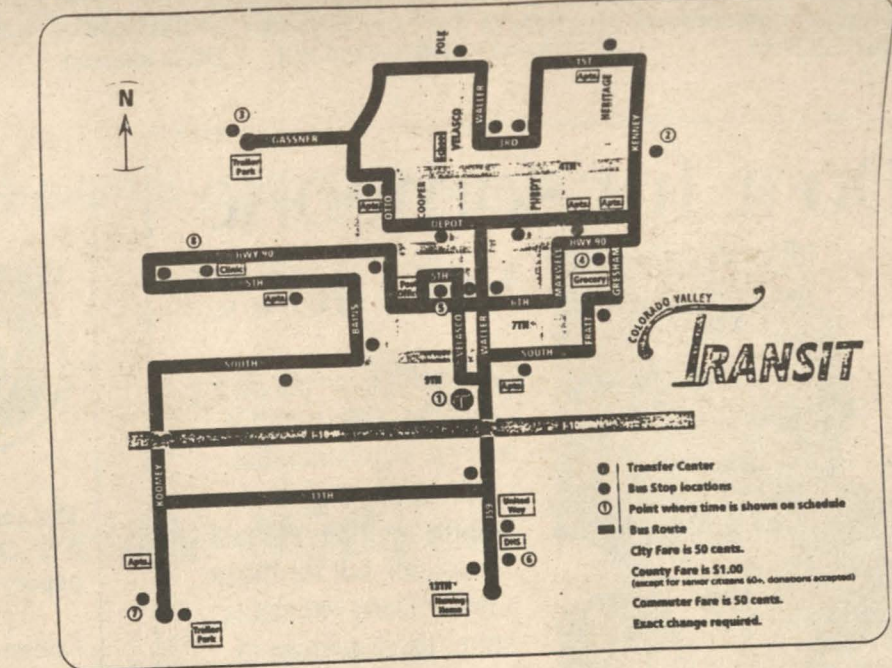
Inbound Time Schedule

	①	②	③	④	⑤	⑥	⑦	⑧	⑨
AM	6:00	6:10	6:20	6:30	6:40	6:50	7:00	7:10	7:20
	7:30	7:40	7:50	8:00	8:10	8:20	8:30	8:40	8:50
	9:00	9:10	9:20	9:30	9:40	9:50	10:00	10:10	10:20
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PM	1:30	1:40	1:50	2:00	2:10	2:20	2:30	2:40	2:50
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	9:00	9:10	9:20	9:30	9:40	9:50	10:00	10:10	10:20
	10:30	10:40	10:50	11:00	11:10	11:20	11:30	11:40	11:50
	12:00	12:10	12:20	12:30	12:40	12:50	1:00	1:10	1:20

Outbound Time Schedule

	①	②	③	④	⑤	⑥	⑦	⑧	⑨
AM	6:10	6:20	6:30	6:40	6:50	7:00	7:10	7:20	7:30
	7:40	7:50	8:00	8:10	8:20	8:30	8:40	8:50	9:00
	9:10	9:20	9:30	9:40	9:50	10:00	10:10	10:20	10:30
	10:40	10:50	11:00	11:10	11:20	11:30	11:40	11:50	12:00
	12:10	12:20	12:30	12:40	12:50	1:00	1:10	1:20	1:30
PM	1:40	1:50	2:00	2:10	2:20	2:30	2:40	2:50	3:00
	3:10	3:20	3:30	3:40	3:50	4:00	4:10	4:20	4:30
	4:40	4:50	5:00	5:10	5:20	5:30	5:40	5:50	6:00
	6:10	6:20	6:30	6:40	6:50	7:00	7:10	7:20	7:30
	7:40	7:50	8:00	8:10	8:20	8:30	8:40	8:50	9:00
	9:10	9:20	9:30	9:40	9:50	10:00	10:10	10:20	10:30
	10:40	10:50	11:00	11:10	11:20	11:30	11:40	11:50	12:00
	12:10	12:20	12:30	12:40	12:50	1:00	1:10	1:20	1:30

Route #4 - Brookshire



Weekday Time Schedule

	FM 359 9TH	KENNEY 5TH	GASSNER WISE	BROOKSHIRE BROTHERS	CITY HALL	UNITED WAY DHS	MEADOW WOOD APTS	HWY 90 CLINIC
	①	②	③	④	⑤	⑥	⑦	⑧
AM	7:00	7:05	7:10	7:20	7:25	7:30	7:40	7:50
	8:00	8:05	8:10	8:20	8:25	8:30	8:40	8:50
	9:00	9:05	9:10	9:20	9:25	9:30	9:40	9:50
	10:00	10:05	10:10	10:20	10:25	10:30	10:40	10:50
	11:00	11:05	11:10	11:20	11:25	11:30	11:40	11:50
PM	12:00	12:05	12:10	12:20	12:25	12:30	12:40	12:50
	1:00	1:05	1:10	1:20	1:25	1:30	1:40	1:50
	2:00	2:05	2:10	2:20	2:25	2:30	2:40	2:50
	3:00	3:05	3:10	3:20	3:25	3:30	3:40	3:50
	4:00	4:05	4:10	4:20	4:25	4:30	4:40	4:50
	5:00	5:05	5:10	5:20	5:25	5:30	5:40	5:50

New instructor impacts dance program on the Hill

By Jo-Carolyn Goode
Panther Staff

There is a fresh new step on the campus of Prairie View A&M University, and it belongs to Donyale Cantrese Taylor who is the new dance instructor.

Taylor is a native Houstonian who completed her undergraduate and graduate studies at Sam Houston State University where she focused on fine arts.

The former dance instructor, Paula Williams, recruited Taylor.

"I am so glad she did that or else I would have

been unemployed," said Taylor.

Growth is in Taylor's plans for the program.

Among the list of things she has planned, a few highlights include obtaining more credit hours for all dance classes and allowing students to have more studio time.

Taylor also wants to improve the dance minor program by having advanced dance classes.

She said she is interested in getting dance as a major if enough interest is generated, but her main priority right now is working with the dance minor.

Taylor expects a lot out of her students.

"My class is no easy A," said Taylor.

But don't get this down home Texan wrong, she likes to have fun.

Overall Taylor said her experience at PV has been pleasant.

She admits that she still gets lost going around campus but she will learn.

She has felt the warmth of the Panther love and experienced the Panther spirit.

"I am happy to be here... I love the fact that everyone is so willing to help me," exclaimed Taylor.

Cell phones, hair styles may increase sexual assault risk

by Sylvia Cedillo
Special to the Panther

According to the U.S. Department of Justice, somewhere in America, a woman is sexually assaulted every two minutes.

Sixteen-19 year olds are three and one half times more likely than the general population to be victims of rape.

This means that freshman women are the most vulnerable population on a college campus. But rapists do not choose their targets solely based on age.

As a result, The P.E.A.C.E. Project presents the following information for any person wishing to minimize the risk of sexual assault by a stranger.

Based on prison interviews, convicted rapists select their targets using various criteria.

They are most likely to go after a woman wearing her hair in a ponytail, bun, braid or other hairstyle that can be easily grabbed.

Rapists target distracted individuals.

They look for women talking on their cell phone,

searching through their backpack or purse, or doing other activities while walking.

These women may be easily overpowered because they are caught off guard.

What discourages a rapist? The rapists interviewed admitted that a target who puts up any kind of fight is too time-consuming and not worth the effort.

Women who carry umbrellas or other similar objects that can be used from a distance make poor targets.

Keys in one's hands are not the best deterrent because a person has to get really close to the attacker in order to use them.

Experts recommend that people carry pepper spray with them and yell, "I have pepper spray!" to a potential assailant.

When a potential rapist grabs his target around the waist from behind, a hard pinch either under the arm between the elbow and armpit or in the upper thigh inflicts great pain.

Collectively, all of these tips help create a campus climate that rejects sexual assault. For more information, contact the Project at (936)857.2008.

Cheerleaders bring spirit to Jones Elementary

By Jo-Carolyn Goode
Panther Staff

Ever had a big test but just wasn't feeling pumped up for it?

What you needed besides extra studying might have been spirit.

Spirit is what the University Cheerleaders will deliver first class to the students at Jones Intermediate Elementary School.

On Feb. 16, the University Cheerleaders will bring a little spirit to the school atmosphere through cheers and dance.

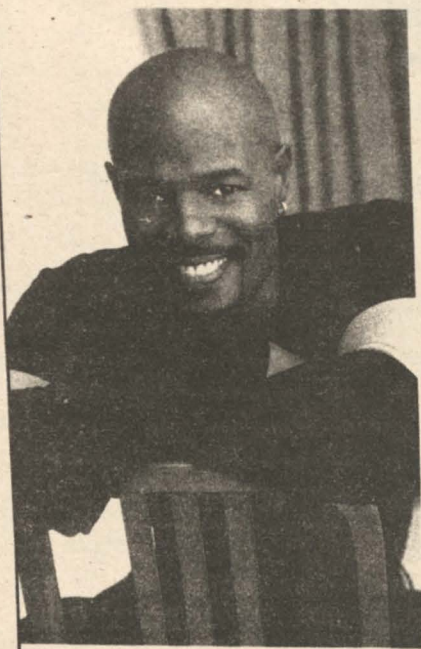
The cheerleaders aim to encourage students so that they can pass the Texas Academic Assessment Test.

Several students have mixed emotions about the test. A little uneasiness is certainly understandable.

The cheerleaders often perform community service so they are probably looking forward to this opportunity to serve their community.

"By bringing university role models like the Panther Dolls, and cheerleaders it will show them what they can become if they stay in school," said Pam Thomas, cheerleading and Panther Dolls sponsor.

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My health is no laughing matter. And a low-fat vegetarian diet can help me stay healthy and fit—not just for myself, but for those I love. Hearty vegetable soup, pasta primavera, or my mom's red beans and rice. Delicious and good for you. And that's no joke.

Keenen Ivory Wayans
actor

Tonight, make it vegetarian

For more information, contact: Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine
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PHOTO COURTESY OF ROBERT SEBREE / HAIR AND MAKE-UP COURTESY OF LISA BAUMERT

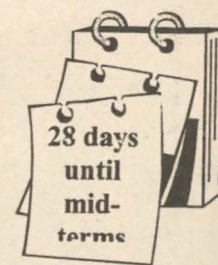


The Answers

Weekly Update for Freshmen

BLDG. 37 reminds us to:

CELEBRATE WHO YOU ARE EVERYDAY OF THE YEAR!!!

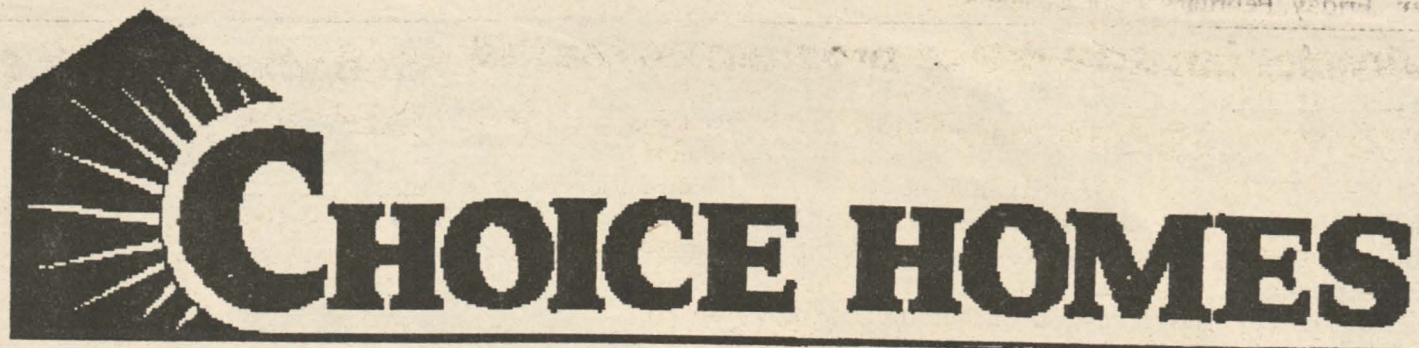


Did you participate in the Free Money Seminars on February 5th? Over half of the UC freshmen did and completed their financial aid paperwork for summer and next fall.

I missed the seminar, what can I do now? See your professional advisor located in the UC Advising Center to complete the paperwork. Financial aid paperwork for the summer is due March 1 and for the fall it is due April 1. Failure to meet these deadlines could impact the amount of your award and the date that it is awarded.

Are there summer intern jobs available for freshmen? Get your question answered at the University Spring Job Fair on Tuesday, February 13 from 9:00 AM - 2:30 PM in the Billy Nicks Fieldhouse. Be sure to update your resume and "Dress for Success" before attending. Call the Career & Outreach Services Office at 857-2120 for more information.

Did you know? On March 3, 1886, an African-American, Robert F. Fleming invented the guitar.



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National signing day passes quietly by Prairie View



By Ryan McGinty
Sports Editor

Wednesday marked the first day high school football athletes could sign national letters of intent with colleges of their choice. While scanning the newspaper, I noticed recruiting classes from Texas Southern, Sam Houston and Texas A&M but none from Prairie View.

I am unsure of the scholarship situation for next season but already our rival Texas Southern has a head start over us. I will not rant and rave as usual about the situation so I will take another spin on it.

When (see how confident I am) I become athletic director at Prairie View within the next 20 years, national signing day will be a day to remember.

I am going to host a recruiting bash on campus that our rivals will envy. The room will be filled with supportive alumni from around the area. The Houston media will be present and the head coach at the time will be buzzing with envy every time a letter gets faxed in.

This will become an annual thing once I step into the AD's office.

Remember, you heard it here first.

E-mail swacfans@aol.com to send your comments.



Photo by Creighton Holub

Lady Panther head coach Robert Atkins instructs his team during a timeout against TSU last Tuesday.

Panther women split series with TSU

By Ryan McGinty
Sports Editor

Like their male counterparts, the Lady Panthers split two games with Texas Southern to remain in the thick of the SWAC title hunt.

On Tuesday night, the Lady Panthers continued their up and down SWAC campaign with a 57-48 loss against TSU.

The Lady Panthers came out flat to open the game and never recovered from their first half breakdown.

Down 28-16 at half-time, the Lady Panthers made several runs in the second half to cut into the Tiger's lead but

could not get over the hump.

Panther center Tanisha Lee led the Panthers with 14 points on 6 of 13 shooting.

She also pulled down 14 rebounds and added two blocks in 35 minutes of action.

Center Monica Grass was the team's second leading scorer with nine points on 3 of 11 shooting.

Grass also grabbed 10 boards but had seven turnovers in 28 minutes of action.

Last Saturday night, the Lady Panthers took the first game in the series with a 65-61 win on the campus of Texas Southern. Their record now stands at 5-5.

SWAC Basketball

Men

Alabama State.....	9-2
Alabama A&M.....	9-2
Alcorn State.....	8-3
Miss. Valley.....	7-4
Southern.....	6-5
TSU.....	4-8
Grambling.....	4-7
Jackson St.....	3-7
Prairie View.....	3-8
Pine Bluff.....	1-10

Women

Alabama State.....	10-1
Alcorn.....	9-2
Southern.....	7-3
Prairie View.....	5-5
Grambling.....	6-5
TSU.....	5-5
Jackson St.....	5-6
AAMU.....	4-7
Pine Bluff.....	2-9
Miss. Valley.....	0-11

Panther of the Week

Xavier Lee

6' 5" 216 lb Senior

The Greensboro, NC native scored 18 points on 7 of 12 shooting, grabbed five rebounds and hit several key shots down the stretch in Tuesday's 73-70 win against rival Texas Southern.

Team Stats

Scoring/Field Goals

Xavier Lee 19.0.....	45.4%
Ray Lark 11.7.....	47.4%

Rebounding

Ivan Coulter.....	6.4
Ray Lark.....	5.7
Blannon Campbell.....	5.0

Assists

Blannon Campbell.....	4.1
Sadit Montgomery.....	3.5

Fouls

Ivan Coulter.....	3.1
Sadit Montgomery.....	3.0
Blannon Campbell.....	2.8

Upcoming games

2-10 at Grambling
2-12 at Jackson State
2-17 vs Mississippi Valley
2-19 vs Arkansas-PB

THE PANTHERS THAT STILL RACE THROUGH OUR MINDS

TRACK from Page 1

and the campus of Prairie View.

Not long after the accident, the families of the deceased sued the van maker, Ford Motor Company, but an outcome of the lawsuit has not been reported officially.

However, there have been unofficial reports circling that have said the families have settled with Ford for \$1.1 million apiece.

In addition, campus administrators have halted van travel for all athletic organizations, no matter how large or small they are, in favor of charter buses.

New guidelines have also been set for student drivers who must attend driving classes provided on campus.

After completing training, a set of guidelines and rules, which have been approved by the A&M University system as well as

Prairie View, must be signed. The next step is completing a data sheet which includes a in-depth driving record.

Several members who were involved in last year's accident have returned to the team this season with positive meets.

Lewis Edmonson placed first in an earlier track meet this season and Trenton Harris competed in the finals of his event.

Both athletes have put the accident behind them and are now concentrating on defending the team's 2000 indoor title.

This week's meet will be a challenge for many of the athletes.

"It's going to be on my mind, and I'll be emotional, but this entire week I have been working extra hard to block out a lot of things," said Edmondson whose neck was injured af-



Photo by Creighton Holub

Eric Gaither, a former track team member and PVAMU alumnus shows Cory Hubert and Andre' Edwards ways to improve their form while running. Neither Hubert or Edwards was involved in last year's accident.

ter the incident. His rehabilitation process continues now.

"I have to go get the job done, and that's just it," he said.

Larry Hamilton wasn't in the van last year, but he will feel just as emotional this Saturday.

"I know that there will be an awkward feeling with Jerome not there," said Hamilton. "I know he should be right there warming up

with the rest of us sprinters, running the same race."

Late last month, another unfortunate accident involving collegiate athletes occurred when a plane carrying several Oklahoma State basketball players and supporters crashed killing two team members and several supporters.

OSU postponed their games for the next several days and returned back to action last Monday night.

Panther men defeat Texas Southern in an emotional battle

By Ryan McGinty
Sports Editor

The Prairie View A&M men's basketball team returned to the win column with an emotional split against longtime rival Texas Southern.

On Tuesday night, Xavier Lee scored 18 points in an emotionally charged game to help lead the Panthers to a 73-70 win against Texas Southern.

In a game that attracted a near capacity crowd at Prairie View, the Panthers played their best basketball of the season in the first half.

Prairie View (4-16, 3-7 SWAC) came out on fire and clicked on all cylinders in the halfen route to a 35-22 halftime lead.

However, Texas



Photo by Creighton Holub

Panther center Ivan Coulter brings the house down with a dunk against Texas Southern last Tuesday.

Southern came out more aggressive in the second half and forced the game to be decided in the final minute.

The game became a seesaw affair in the final minute and eventually was decided by Panther free throws.

Texas Southern had a chance to tie the game several times in the closing seconds but both of their potential tying three-pointers came up short.

In addition to Lee's 18 points, sophomore shooting guard Jamar Miles had his best game of the year with 16 points on 6 of 9 shooting.

Other Panthers who scored in double figures were Blannon Campbell with 10 and Sadit Montgomery with 10.

Center Ivan Coulter was the team's top

defensive player with four blocks and five rebounds.

Rakim Hollis led Texas Southern with 22 points on 7 of 17 shooting.

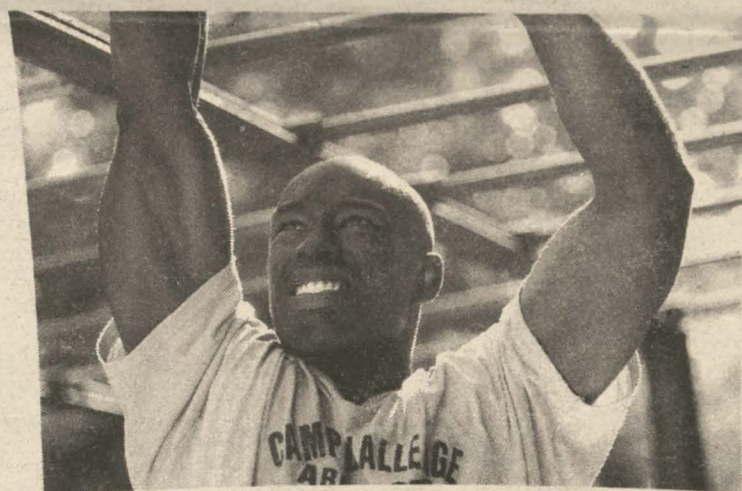
On Saturday night, the Panthers squandered a seven-point lead at Texas Southern in the final 40 seconds of regulation and eventually fell 90-85 in overtime.

Waller native Ray Lark led the Panthers with 25 points and seven rebounds.

Prairie View continues its second half of the SWAC schedule this weekend with road games at Grambling and Jackson State.

The second half of the schedule will be very important for the Panthers because each and every game will have a direct impact on tournament seedings.

The tournament will begin Mar 8. on SWAC campuses.



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