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Prairie View A&M University

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THE PANTHER

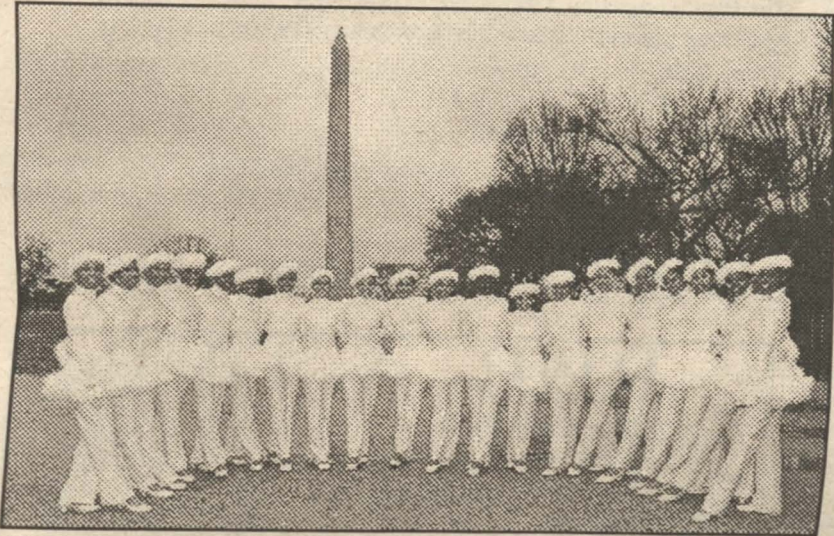
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Bush: Marching Storm will participate in inauguration

By Sheleah Hughes
Editor-in-Chief

dential nominee George W. Bush promised to invite Prai-

parade if he was elected President.



The famous Black Foxes debuted new uniforms at the inaugural parade.

During last May's commencement address, then Texas Governor and President George W. Bush promised to invite Prairie View's band, the Marching Storm, to the inaugural

parade if he was elected President. On Jan. 20, one of his campaign promises came true.

"It was an honor, that we deserved," said Lance Williams, a freshmen who plays the tuba in the Marching Storm.

Williams and 214 other members of the band, as well as 15 staff members, headed to Washington, DC with just a few days of practice.

But the award-winning band worried less about practicing and more about the logistics of the trip.

"We performed songs

that we were already familiar with," said Jimmy Smith, head drum major and music education major.

"Most of our practice time was spent fine tuning and marching to increase our stamina."

Advisors and university officials spent their time mapping out a financial plan.

The bulk of the financial responsibility was assumed by the university and the other portions of the trip were offset by donations and support from the public.

According to Willie Tempton, Vice President of Financial Affairs, the trip cost about \$150,000. The official amount will not be available until later this month, after all of the trip's expenses are



photos by Gionga M. Mhijewe

The Marching Storm rounded out the 54th inaugural presidential parade in D.C.

calculated.

Alumni also helped

See **BAND** on Page 9

Technology provides additional lessons

Several professors chosen for laptop pilot program

By Erica Curry
Panther Staff

Pilot Program.

The program's main goal is to help teachers expand their students' education.

The laptops, which will provide wireless support throughout the year, are to be utilized as tools to aid in the learning process. These computers will be a wonderful additional source to be used with textbooks. In addition to this, it is planned that some departments will be furnished with projectors, to allow students

With the new millennium in full swing, the old cliché "out with the old and in with the new" is the perfect way to describe some of the exciting changes that are being made at Prairie View this year.

Living in a world where technology is constantly advancing, it is imperative that no one be left behind.

Our university is moving forward and doing so with great strides.

Selected through an application process, about thirty-five members of the Prairie View faculty have been enrolled in the Faculty Laptop

Some of the departments included in the Faculty Laptop Pilot Program:

- Language and Communication
- Engineering
- Biology/Chemistry
- Business
- School Services
- Political Science
- Juvenile Justice
- Social Work/Behavioral and Political Science
- Agriculture/ Human Sciences
- Curriculum and Instruction

to learn from the internet in any class.

Faculty members must complete a training

See **LAPTOP** on Page 5

Graduate purchases land for development

By Harry Cathey III
Panther Staff

Prairie View A&M University is finally going to receive business in the surrounding areas that can only benefit the University.

After all these years of wondering when the city would accommodate students with more restaurants and shopping centers, plans are in effect.

With the expansion of U.S. Highway 290, it will just be a matter of time before more companies decide that they can make money near this college.

The more companies that build in this area, the more jobs students and surrounding civilians will be able to occupy.

Expanding the surrounding area can only benefit students and finally give Prairie a greater economic base.

An alumni of Prairie View A & M University is going to develop the historically black colleges uncharted

See **Area** on Page 6

In This Issue

Superbowl XXXV see Page 11

Two criminals captured See Page 9

Ron Jones farewell see Page 5

•World•

Bush on abortion

Stockholm, Sweden

(AP)- The European Union's top social affairs official criticized U.S. President George W. Bush's move to restrict U.S. funds to international family-planning groups involved in abortion. Bush imposed strict restrictions Monday on U.S. funds to international family-planning groups involved in abortion through performing the surgery, counseling on abortion or lobbying foreign governments.

Mouth stitched shut

Mexico City, Mexico

A Mexico City police stitched his mouth shut and another tried to crucify himself claiming that they were fired by a corrupt superior officer. The officers marched through Mexico City carrying a wooden cross.

Officer Humberto Vazquez used a nylon thread to sew his mouth shut. Officials did not show up at the protest until Vazquez attempted to nail his comrade to the cross.

Plane hijacking

Aden, Yemen

A man, claiming to be a Sadaam Hussein supporter, hijacked a plane carrying U.S. ambassador and approximately 90 other passengers. The pilot was instructed to fly the plane to Djibouti.

All of the passengers and the ambassador were safely released from the plane using an inflatable emergency exit chute after the hijacker was subdued.

Caught in the act

Lima, Peru

A member of the congressional commission, probing former fugitive Peruvian spy chief Vladimiro Montesinos, quit the investigating team after he was caught on a confiscated video taking money from Montesinos' home. The video showed congressman Ernesto Gamarra accepting money from an anonymous person.

Upon a viewing of the tape by Judge Saul Pena, he decided to resign from the investigating committee.

•National•

Women sentenced to prison

Pittsfield, Mass.

(AP)- Two North Adams women have been sentenced to prison for throwing an intoxicated man off a bridge. Deborah Lefebvre and Stacey Thiede each received five-to-seven year terms at their sentencing Monday. Last week a Berkshire Superior Court jury found the women guilty of assault with intent to murder and assault with dangerous weapons.

North Platte man faces sexual assault

North Platte, Neb.

(AP)- A North Platte man has pleaded innocent to one court of first-degree sexual assault of a child and three accounts of child pornography. David Lubash, 47, was in Lincoln County District Court.

Police arrested Lubash after he picked up photographs he had developed at a North Platte store. Police said the photos are of nude girls ages 10 to 12.

Purdue student found dead

West Lafayette, Ind.

(AP)- The Tippecanoe County coroner's office is investigating the death of a 21-year-old Purdue University student from Chesterton.

Laura Marie Williams' roommates found her dead in their off-campus apartment. She was last seen entering her room to rest, complaining that she didn't feel well.

The woman had been drinking while celebrating her 21st birthday. It had not been determined if alcohol and drugs were a factor in her death.

Woman pleads guilty in online porn

Roanoke, Va.

(AP)- A woman pleaded guilty to transmitting pornographic images of her 14-year-old relative on the Internet.

Sandra Keels Sarkisian and her boyfriend, Robert Troncoso, used a digital camera from their bedroom to transmit images of the 14-year-old girl performing sexual acts through a Website called iFriends.

Both face up to 35 years in prison, with a minimum of 10 years, and fines of up to \$500,000.

•Regional•

Texas names new warden

Huntsville, Texas

(AP)- A warden was assigned Tuesday to the maximum-security Connally Unit in Kenedy, the state prison where seven convicts escaped last month.

Robert John Parker will become warden of the Connally Unit effective Feb. 1. Parker is now the warden at the maximum-security Alred Unit at Iowa Park.

Man arrested in deaths

Corpus Christi, Texas

(AP)- A man returning from jury duty Monday found the bodies of his wife, daughter and grandson. A 26-year-old man was in custody in the stabbings.

Luis Villegas, the ex-boyfriend of Erida Rosales, was arrested after neighbors reported they saw a man leaving the home in the woman's car.

Villegas was also arrested for evading police.

Carcasses found on judge's land

Palestine, Texas

(AP)- A county election judge from East Texas was arrested Tuesday after authorities found the carcasses and bones of hundreds of cattle on his property.

Anderson County sheriffs arrested Larry Nuel Mack of Palestine on misdemeanor charges of animal cruelty. As many as 300 animals may have died from neglect, officials said.

A meter reader reported seeing the dead cows.

Mack told law enforcement authorities that the U.S. Department of Agriculture foreclosed on his property several years ago after he fell behind on note payments. He said he did not have the financial means to feed the animals.

Career forum

Prairie View, Texas

The College of Business will be hosting a Career Forum, Jan. 31, 2000 in Hobart Taylor. It is open to all majors, and it will start promptly at 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Students are asked to dress professionally and bring resumes.

Calendar of events

26 Friday

Pick up your copy of The Panther

27-28 Sat./Sun.

Panthers vs. Alabama State, Babydome, Prairie View, 5:30pm
Phi Beta Sigma Founders Day, All-Faiths Chapel, Prairie View, 3pm

29 Monday

Panthers vs. AAMU, Babydome, Prairie View, 5:30pm

30 Tuesday

The Panther meeting, Drew Hall, Prairie View, 5:30pm
Marching Storm DC Showcase, L.W. Minor, Prairie View, 4pm

31 Wednesday

Career Forum, Hobart Taylor, Prairie View, 9am-3pm

1 Thursday

Art Music Drama Lecture, Hobart Taylor, Prairie View, 3pm

Beds should be reserved for bedtime
Non-sleepers encouraged to limit bed time



By Sheleah Hughes
Editor-in-Chief

We are all settled in school, pretty much through with registration, and now it's time for the stress to set in as we try to balance school, work, sorority or fraternity

meetings, jobs, homework, friends, parties and of course sleep.

With so many interests, one must learn to balance time, and fit in some rest.

My main problem is once I find time to sleep, I can't get to sleep.

According to Dr. Max Hirshkowitz, a researcher with the Sleep Disorder Center at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, reducing extra-curricular activities in your bed could help you fall

asleep a lot easier.

When in bed the only thing we should be doing is sleeping, not reading, watching television or studying. By doing this we are causing our self to lose the sensation of being in the bed.

People in general, have a tendency to put their worries away until they get into bed. This, too, kills sleep.

Other things we should avoid are late night meats, caffeine, and sleeping pills. These things alone increase restlessness.

Good humor helps keep patience



By Felicia Walker
News Editor

Spring semester has arrived. For most of us, the spring semester brings about a world of changes.

Course loads take a twist to either high or low, and the majority of students tend to find something or someone new to spend their time with. For most of us at Prairie View this semester, fraternity and sorority memberships are on a major rise.

Nonetheless, the luxuries or hassles of second semester bring about unpleasant attitudes and frustrations that we uncaringly pour out on our classmates, roommates, and friends.

Take for instance my experiences last week. Choosing not to pre-register, I found myself at the bottom of W.R. Banks at the end of the fee receipt line with outraged students whose financial aid was messed up AGAIN!

After being registered and attempting to make it to my afternoon classes, I found myself battling not one, not two, but three cars for a parking spot near Hilliard Hall—where all my classes unfortunately seemed to be scheduled this semester.

One student even decided to swerve down the wrong side of the street to cut me off to gain the nearest parking space.

I wonder what they will do when the parking area is completely closed off?

After that I was officially set on condemning the idea that being considerate, let alone patient, was a virtue that I could possess.

But as the semester slowly carries on, I have come

to realize that without patience and consideration, our unity as brothers and sisters will fade away faster than we can imagine.

An impatient and unkindly character is a negative asset that sometimes is hard to avoid day to day.

Sure we would all like to give a few people a piece of our minds, but I'm sure none of us want to be seen as barbarians.

Considering the small community we matriculate in as students, learning to help each other will almost always benefit us more in the end.

So the next time someone cuts you off while you're driving because they were to busy blasting their 'screw', or you find yourself being told that KFC is out of hot wings AGAIN, hold back your public display of frustration and try to remember patience is without a doubt a "Godly" virtue.

• Letter to the Editor •

Safe sex cures 'baby mama' drama, diseases

Student urges peers to practice abstinence or use protection

Relationships in the beginnings are so sweet. "I love you, you love me". We are so inseparable. I please you emotionally, physically and mentally, especially physically.

At night we sleep apart, and begin to forget to use protection, because it desensitizes the feeling.

You are timid but you give in. We continually forget protection.

You need to talk to me later? What? Tell me now.

You are pregnant. What! What? I am going to buy a test.

I don't care if you already took one, I'll buy more just to make sure.

I come to grips with reality to make plans for my future family.

We make plans for the big house and cars after graduation. The baby is due in only a few months.

Why is it that we argue all the time? After the baby is born we play house, timid about what the future will hold.

I still want to act my age. I hit the club, wash my car three times a week and run the streets.

You want me on call at all times because you believe that's how grown-up, responsible men act.

We argue because I feel like you are too controlling. We become enemies, and the child is stuck in the middle.

- J. L. Nelms

The above story is not the only way the cycle occurs, but it is the format for destruction. The cycle is that of a relationship gone wrong. How could things be so perfect in the beginning and end with a child and broken dreams? To discontinue this cycle, protection must be used each and every time sex is had, even though the sensation is hindered. We must eliminate the "baby mama drama" that is creating single parent homes. There is no safe sex like abstinence, but if you must have sex use latex.

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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.

The Panther Advisor :
Dr. Kimetris Baltrip

Technical Assistant :
Gitonga M'Mbijewe

CAREER FOCUS

IBM receives great asset

Former Honda Camps All-Star and PVAMU graduate, Eric McNair, graces International Business Machine (IBM) with his profound skills. McNair graduated from PVAMU in May 2000 with a Bachelor of Business Administration in Finance.

While attending PVAMU, McNair was a four-year participant in Honda Campus All-Star Challenge teams, Phi Beta Lambda, and the National Association of Black Accountants. He is also a member of the Nu Phi Lambda Alpha Phi Alpha chapter in Arlington, Texas.

McNair is a client representative in the banking finance industry in Dallas.

"I am the gateway to all IBM has to offer. I provide customers with resources to fulfill their needs," McNair said.

Coca-Cola and UNCF internship program

Coca-Cola and the United Negro College Fund are offering 50 minority college juniors summer internships and academic scholarships.

Each student will receive a \$5,000 internship stipend, \$2,000 housing allowance, transportation allowance and will be eligible for a \$10,000 scholarship.

Requirements for the scholarship are as follows:

- Have a minimum 3.0 gpa
• Be a sophomore majoring in chemistry, engineering, finance, human resources, information technology, marketing or business management
• Provide a nomination letter from a faculty member
• Provide a current undergraduate transcript
• Interview with the Coca-Cola Company

The deadline is Feb. 16, 2001. For more information contact the Career Placement office at ext. 2055.

Parking at PV undergoes more change

By Adran Tyler Panther Staff

If it seems as if there are fewer parking spaces on the yard than ever before, it's not just you.

Over the last few years, vehicle traffic on the campus has increased while the number of parking spaces have seemed to decrease.

In the near future, construction on a controlled access barricade, similar to the one near the Health Center, will be completed near Banks Hall, restricting student vehicle to Lots 11 and 12, which are usually filled by students.

What does it all mean? It means it will take students a lot longer to find a parking space, and authorities suggest that students might do better walking to classes and leaving their cars parked.

Once the construction is complete, the nearest place



Photo by Creighton Holub

Construction continues as controlled access barricades restrict student vehicle traffic through Banks and Hilliard Hall. Students will be forced to park in assigned areas.

for students to park will be the commuter lot near Drew Hall.

The PVAMU Department of Public Safety is urging those with vehicles to leave them parked in the lot where they are registered.

Citations may be issued to those who are parked in unauthorized lots.

Vehicles that bear no PVAMU parking sticker may be towed at the owner's expense no matter where they are parked, and owners will have to pay administrative towing fees plus storage of the vehicle.

If students' vehicles are towed, they must appear at the Department of Public

Safety to obtain a billing notification which bears a stamp saying their vehicle can be released upon payment.

Students with a vehicle should go to the Department of Public Safety and obtain a parking decal, park in their assigned lot, or walk to save time, frustration, and money.

issued on a type of experimental basis in the hopes of enhancing skills in all areas of study.

They were given to students in all grade levels to help them to attain higher goals.

It is highly anticipated that in the future, all students will be given laptops at the

beginning of the year. If all goes well, the cost for the laptops will be incorporated into the students' fees, so that by graduation, the laptops will belong to the students.

If Prairie View becomes a laptop campus, the possibilities for learning will be endless. Teachers will be able to put syllabi on the web,

exams may be administered online, registration for classes will be improved, and much more.

For traveling athletes that have to miss exams and take them later than others, it will be possible for them to take the exams at the same time as their classmates at school.

LAPTOP from Page 1

which will be divided into six training sessions.

Last semester, students in the architecture and business departments were issued a laptop computer to use while attending the university.

The computers were



PORTIONS (CREOLE & CAJUN FOOD)

- SHRIMP OR CATFISH POBOYS
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WHEN: TUE thru THUR-Jan. 16 thru April 30, 2001 (11:00am - 3:00pm)
OPEN for Prairie View VS TSU Men's Basketball Game Feb. 6, 2001 (11am - 10pm)
Spring Fest April 26 - 28, 2001 (11am - until)

WHERE: In front of the old service station, next door to the (Print Shop) one block from Amistad Book Store at 615 University Dr.-Prairie View, TX. LOOK FOR THE WHITE CONCESSION TRAILER.PORTIONS

University bids farewell to Ron Jones

By Felicia Walker News Editor

Plaques of appreciation line the office walls of Ron Jones, Vice President of Student and Enrollment Services, as he concludes his final semester at Prairie View A&M University, ending April 1, 2001.

Mounted on the wall of Jones' office, who entered the University in fall 1996, remains a polished iron shovel, awarded to him for his support in the construction of the three phases of University Village.

Jones announced his resignation to University President Charles Hines in November of last year due to family and professional reasons.

His intention to return to his family's home in the Atlanta, Georgia area also impacted Jones decision.

"My decision to resign

from the University was more positive than negative," said Jones. "It was something my family and I prayed on for a long time."

In 1997, Jones was asked to work with President Hines to create a program that would target at-risk youth and problems associated with violence at the University.

From that research, Jones and other team members were able to create what is now known as the Department of Juvenile Justice and Psychology, signed by former Governor George Bush in 1997.

Prairie View's program is the only one that offers a doctorate in forensic psychology.

"I believe in dreaming, hoping and vision...students are the reason why I have stayed at Prairie View and I hope I have contributed to posturing Univer-

"I believe in dreaming, hoping, and vision..." -Ron Jones

sity students, staff, and faculty," Jones said.

His fondest memories at Prairie View range from serving on the Office of Civil Rights Issues Board - a department of education aiming to develop a plan of action for the University to end student demonstrations in protest of unorganized financial aid.

Jones has been able to participate in helping

See Farewell on Page 6

Classifieds

Panther Meetings

Tuesday 5:30
Drew Hall Suite 23



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'Lovers rock' stands firm

Sade releases another successful album

Someone once said, "The one thing that remains constant is change." Whoever said that lied. Some things just don't change, and it baffles us when age and change seems to skip those who are blessed enough to defy it.

Sade is certainly one of the blessed. Like a precious diamond, Sade has lost none of her shimmer despite being out of sight for eight years.

Before the album "Lovers Rock" arrived in stores a few weeks ago, many had already seen the video for the song "By Your Side." I personally was amazed because the voice was still so true, and her beauty hasn't changed; it's still mesmerizing.

On her first album of new material since 1992's "Love Deluxe", Helen Folasade Adu, her birth name, is as intoxicating as ever.

The recipe for success is often found by using the same ingredients you used the last time you were successful. Sade obviously believes this philosophy because she resolved her past differences with her former band

Sweetback and utilized their production talents.

Her voice flows naturally over the sparse but hypnotic grooves provided by her longtime band mates: keyboardist Andrew Hale, guitarist/saxophonist Stuart Matthewman and bassist Paul Denman.

If you are already a Sade fan, "Lover's Rock" is not likely to be a disappointment nor a surprise. No drastic changes, no fast paced songs over Timbaland beats. As a matter of fact it's refreshingly the old Sade.

Sade's themes haven't changed either - love, loss, and truly feeling both saturate this album as they have all of her others.

The first single "By Your Side" is classic Sade, cool yet seductive, while the despondent "King of Sorrow" and "Somebody Almost Broke My Heart" play seesaw with the emotions of heartbreak and hope.

"Lovers Rock" wouldn't be a Sade album if it didn't have the politically charged songs in it. "Slave Song" and "Immigrant" remind Sade

fans of the classic "Jezebel". The song "It's only love that gets you through" reminds one of a sermon. The Hammond organ grooves while Sade's smooth voice preaches to you delicately yet effectively.

The title track "Lovers Rock" has a taste of the classic "Cherish" with a new twist. It's a reaffirming song for a man that might have forgot how special he is.

The end result in all of Sade's work is you feel. She touches places that aren't usually touched.

Before there was a Lauryn Hill, before Eryka Badu, Angie Stone and Jill Scott, there was Sade. The whole concept of being pop without seemingly trying to be pop is her baby. She didn't "shake it fast" but she showed you what she had with her words and her voice, which was more than enough. She achieved commercial success without going commercial, and without flaunting her body.

I remember in the early 90's the hardest brothers with the booming systems would



Photo courtesy of Sony Music

Sade's album "Lovers Rock" is in stores now.

take a break from Dre's "The Chronic" to play Sade. If they played any other R&B artist they probably would have been laughed at, but Sade was never questioned. She had respect from River Oaks to the Projects. Because her music was true, it was simply Sade.

Here comes the beauty, she hasn't changed. Her words are still Sade. Her voice is still Sade. She is still Sade, and that will always be more than enough.

By Sherman Hatton
Panther Staff

Save a couple of dollars for 'Save the last Dance'

Far from "Clueless," "Save the Last Dance," directed by Thomas Carter, is not a typical high school drama. Julia Stiles stars as Sarah Johnson, a sassy, but intelligent ballet dancer from the suburbs.

After failing at an attempt to enter the Julliard School of Dance, she moves to an inner city school in Chicago. There, she meets Derrick Reynolds who is played by Sean Patrick Thomas.

Derrick is a sexy, smooth, and potential doctor who helps Johnson follow through with her dreams of attending Julliard. This movie tackles issues such as interracial dating, fulfilling childhood dreams, and coping with the challenges of street life. The messages are clear and concise without being too sappy.

In "Save the Last Dance," there is something for everyone from the trendy but friendly co-star, Kerry Washington, who plays Chanelle Reynolds, to the thug mentality of Fredro Starr, who plays Malakai. There are twists that may leave you saying "I know she didn't," turns that make you laugh, surprises that make you cry, and club scenes that get the audience "CRUNK!"

By Nikki Sasser
Assignment Editor

Area from Page 1

land.

Samuel Metters, an Austin native and graduate of Prairie View's College of Engineering, rescued the unused land from an auction.

Metters purchased the land from an family for \$500,000 after he paid delinquent taxes and pulled the land out of foreclosure. The land which lies on Highway 290 should be a good opportunity to bring money and jobs to Prairie View.

He is working with other African Americans to bring a service station, and a hotel to Prairie View and has plans to open a \$4.5 million strip mall.

Development will begin in March 2001 with the opening of retail and professional space as well as Williams Chicken.

Farewell from Page 5

maintain use of federal aid, estimated to over \$35 million annually.

"In the last two years work with recruitment, admissions, financial aid, retaining and recruiting students, I feel good about the progress that has been made since I've been here," Jones said.

So what lies in store for Vice President Jones?

Future plans include continued work with public education, higher learning, or public service.

A former military colonel, Jones plans to continue serving his community and students where ever he goes.

Jones added that he hopes the University continues to prosper, and

describes Prairie View as a "rocket preparing for lift off."

After April, Jones and his wife Ella and their younger daughter Allegra will retire back into the Atlanta area.

Jones' other two children, Psychology major Eric Jones and Administrative Systems major Erika Jones will remain at Prairie View A&M University.

"My departure from PV is on a high note. I want PV students to realize that no matter what people say, this school is thriving and by far not at risk," said Jones.

Jones added that he looks forward to continuing the friendships and professional relationship with the University.

Pretty Boy Thug, Pretty Bad Album

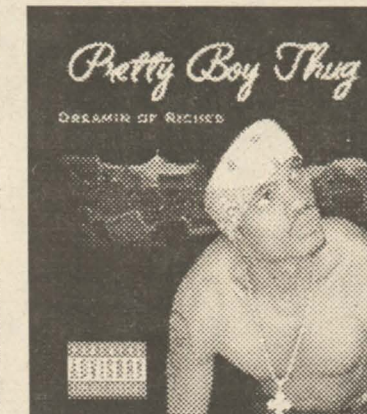
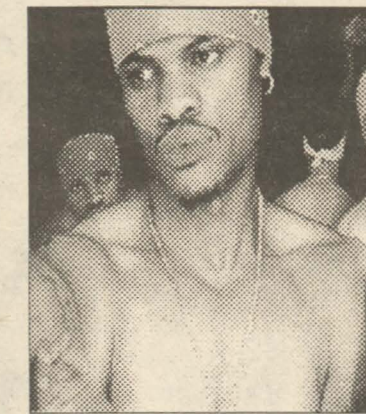


Photo courtesy of Big Cat Records

Proof that anybody, I mean anybody, can make a CD

From the town of Starkville, Mississippi comes Pretty Boy Thug, a young man who started scratching on turntables when he was 13-years-old and should have stopped shortly after that.

With his debut album "Dreamin of Riches" courtesy of Big Cat Records, Thug's main goal is to try and represent his home town, squash all of the stereotyping, and put Mississippi on the map.

Thug does have some rapping skills, but they are nothing great.

It's true that he represents where he is from. In fact he mentions his home state in EVERY song, and then to top it off, there's a song called, you guessed it, "Mississippi."

After the first 11 songs about Mississippi, listeners will surely have a headache from hearing it yet again.

The beats do nothing but cause listeners to wish they hadn't purchased this cd at all, but they do something right - the beats match

Thug's rapping skills which are horrible. It didn't seem that the beats had enough time and work put into them at all, and when you mix that with thrown together rapping, it equals a poor album.

On a scale of five Panthers, this cd gets one panther. If Pretty Boy Thug wants to make it in the rap game, he needs to step his rapping and his production up to a higher level.

Pretty Boy's comrades, Mr. Nobody, MacaDamien, Ya Ya, Black Zach, Tony Ranks, Mr. Mean, Rapper Don and the rest of his Storm Clique, doesn't make "Dreamin of Riches" any easier to listen to. Maybe this is why we have never heard of Big Cat Records.

It's too bad that he is a Pretty Boy Thug instead a Pretty Boy Rapper.

By Brit Bell
Panther Staff

20 Questions

1. Aren't we glad Sade is back?
2. Couldn't you watch the Cosby Show all day?
3. Shouldn't Lil Wayne replace Bushwick Bill as the third Geto Boy?
4. Why are there no Communications classes in the Communications building?
5. Why are there no language teachers?
6. Who is going to tell the guys on this campus that not everybody looks good in a Fubu jean suit?
7. Why did Fubu (For us By Us) sell out to a white company?
8. How many police officers do we need in the bookstore?
9. How many times am I going to have to dodge a police car driving on the sidewalk?
10. Why do they tell us not to walk on the grass when maintenance is driving on it?
11. Why is 20 questions the first thing everyone reads in the paper?
12. What happened to all the dogs that used to be on campus?
13. Does the food in Alumni taste funny to you?
14. What is the point of being class president if you don't do anything?
15. Is anyone really going to come to Spring Fest?
16. Do you watch the Cosby Show all day?
17. Why are all the shows on BET music shows with different names?
18. I'm feeling Free, but does anybody like AJ?
19. Where is the women's soccer team?
20. What do you think?

We want to know what you think. Please submit any questions you may have to The Panther, Suite 23 Drew Hall. Questions are printed at the discretion of The Panther.



The Answers

Weekly Update for Freshmen

Congratulations to Bldg. 37 with the highest overall GPA average of 2.66.

Are you in the correct class? Administrative changes have been made to schedules for students who have not satisfied TASP requirements to meet state law and local policy. Get a current copy of your schedule from your professional advisor. This is especially important if you pre-registered in November.

When is the UC Computer Lab going to open?!?!? Thursday, February 1
Hours of operation: Sunday - Thursday 12:00 - 11:00 PM; Friday - Saturday 12:00 - 5:00 PM

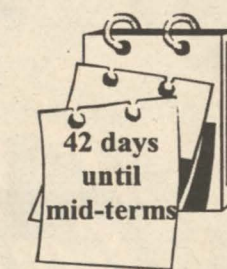
When is the next TASP? The next regular TASP test will be March 3, 2001. The registration deadline is February 2nd. Registration booklets can be picked up in the Delco Bldg., Rm. 238.

UC Financial Aid Drive (freshmen only) in each residential building on Monday, February 5, from 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM.



Wednesday, January 31, 2001

- ◆ Drop Day (Registration Cancelled, Room/Meal Privileges Denied) for Non-Payment
- ◆ Last day to drop course(s) without record



"JUST CHILLIN'" by: Quincy Higgins



Last two escapees captured

BAND from Page 1

By Sheleah Hughes
Editor-in-Chief

The final two members of the infamous Texas seven surrendered Tuesday night after being chased by law officers for nearly two months.

from a hotel employee who complained about guests.

Police officers then handled the situation, not knowing that it could involve the escapees. But after police realized the guests could be the escapees, they surrounded the

various retail shops in Texas, including a Radio Shack in Pearland and an Oshman's SuperSports Store in Irving.

Nearly a month later George Rivas, Randy Harpin, Michael Rodriguez,

Prairie View earn a spot on a national television show.

Eddie Robinson, a 1995 PVAMU graduate and the show's associate producer, contacted the University prior to the trip requesting their presence at Saturday's live taping of CBS' The Early Show with Bryant Gumble.

The band was taped live at the campus of Howard University.

"The love that Howard students showed us is what made the trip so worth while," said Smith.

A few members of the HU band as well as its director assisted the storm with its last minute preparations.

The Marching Storm also earned the honor of being just the fifth historically black college to participate in the parade.

PVAMU's band was among 40 college and high school bands invited to this year's 54th presidential inauguration.

Bush chose the storm after seeing the band perform at his swearing-in as Texas governor.

In addition to Prairie View, the Hardin-Simmons University Cowboy band from Abilene, the University of Texas Longhorn Band, Southern Methodist University's band, the Texas A&M Band, and two high school bands represented some part of the President's home state of Texas.

Two bands from Vice President Dick Cheney's home state were also included, as well as Grambling State University's marching band.

Dec. 13, 2000	Dec. 24, 2000	Jan. 4, 2001	Jan. 18, 2001	Jan. 22, 2001	Jan. 23, 2001
escapees break out of jail in Connally, Texas	escapees are suspected of robbing a Texas sporting goods store, and killing an officer	the manhunt is extended nationwide	FBI and ATF make reward \$500,000	4 of 7 are arrested, the 5th kills himself	final 2 arrested

Patrick Murphy and Donald Newberry were captured by Colorado Springs police officers at a Holiday Inn just outside of the city.

The two surrendered without violence and negotiated with agents for about six hours.

Police received a tip

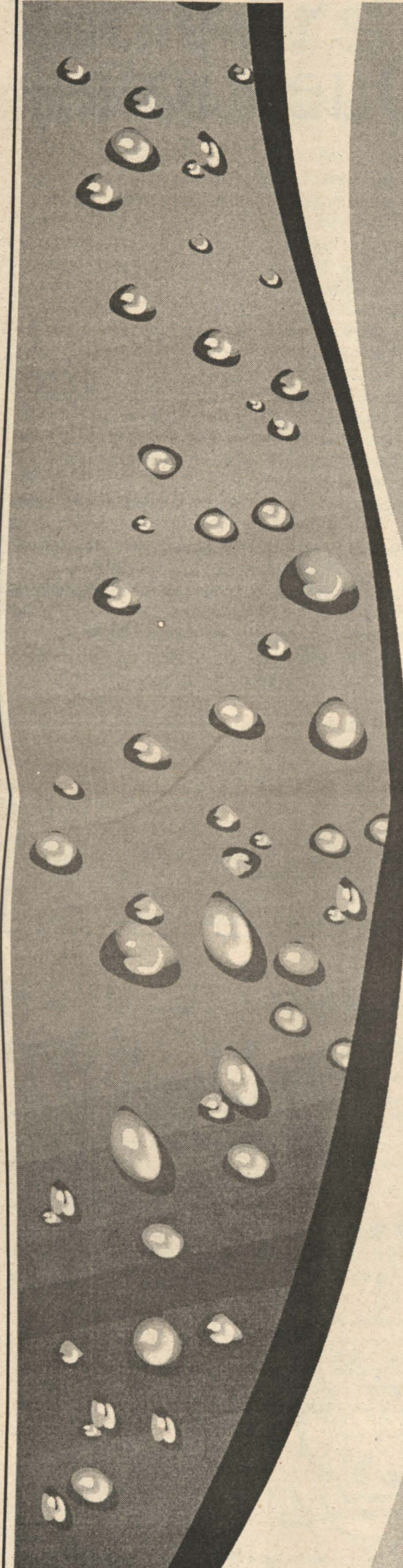
hotel.

The seven escapees broke out of the Connally Unit in Kenedy, Texas in mid-December.

The prisoners overpowered workers and guards in their area of the prison. Heavily armed, the group is suspected of having robbed

and Joseph Garcia were arrested in a Colorado Springs neighborhood. Larry Harper was barricaded by police and later killed himself.

The captured escapees will face the death penalty when they arrive in Texas.



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bring innovations to improve the way the world works and lives. For those who want to create the future, now is the time to be at Accenture.

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Accenture was formerly known as Andersen Consulting



Technology and sports form a perfect union



By Ryan McGinty
Sports Editor

Welcome to 2001, which is the official millennium year in some circles. Over the years the game of sports has changed drastically due to several innovations, but the most dominant innovation that stands out is technology.

Technology has made the world of sports easily accessible for the average fan. At one time if you missed the game, you were screwed. Now, with a few simple clicks of your computer, you can get a detailed stat sheet and recaps of your favorite game from various sources. The good thing is that you do not have to leave your house.

My favorite part of this technological phase revolves around fan message boards. Joining a message board will show you an entire different side of sports. Before I jumped on the message board bandwagon several years ago, I wondered where were all of the Prairie View fans besides us students. When I jumped on the bandwagon and joined a particular site, I found out there were several fans that actually shared the same viewpoints as myself.

Together, us fans set out and defended our beloved university despite the array of negative comments that were thrown at us. Since I pledged my allegiance to Prairie View, I heard an assortment of comments that ranged from lack of scholarships to the size of our football stadium.

Overall, it is all fun and games but it helps develop loyalty to your university and you get to experience what other schools are going through at the same time.

Another aspect of technology that most athletic organizations are converting to is web pages. With a web page on the internet, the possibility is endless. Instead of spending tons of dollars on advertising, a simple web page can save organizations money and time worrying about how to get the word out. All one has to do is get the word out about the web page and sit back and watch the publicity roll in.

Concerning that, I am deeply upset with my school's current athletic web page. Already hit with a lack of coverage in the Houston metropolitan area, the web page does not help. The other day, I clicked on a link to see what is going on and I saw a picture of some players from the 1998 season.

As I sought to check out other pages on the site, some of the links are still under construction. That does not sound so bad until you realize these same pages have been under construction since the 1997 school year.

Upon seeing that, all I could do is shake my head and click on something else. Alumni from all around the country have voiced their concerns about our site but I have not seen anything to address their concerns. I would love to have access to the site and update it frequently but at this point the feedback is not feasible enough for me to try. Something as simple as a campus web page can go a long way toward building respectability.

As the century progresses, expect the world of sports to become very accessible. There is a lot of money to be made in this industry so if you find an opportunity that sounds legitimate and interesting, jump on it because you do not know what may lie in store for you.

The possibilities are endless with a little hard work.

Panther men get back on winning track despite distractions

By Ryan McGinty
Sports Editor

The Prairie View A&M men's basketball team returned to its winning ways with a 78-61 win at Arkansas-Pine Bluff on Monday night.

The win, which marks the end of a two-game road trip, comes at a critical time for the basketball team because the team is in the midst of conference play.

Prior to the win, the Panthers had dropped nine straight games dating back to Dec. 7. Picked by coaches to finish in the upper half of the conference this season, the Panthers' slide has been attributed to several factors that occurred earlier in the season.

The Panthers have had to endure the suspension of their head coach, injuries to several key players and the addition of several new players to the team at the beginning of the month.

The Panthers have been without the services of leading scorer Greg Burks and center Roderick Riley.

Burks, who led the conference in scoring at the time of his injury, is out for an unspecified amount of time.

Riley, a 6-10 sophomore has not played this sea-

son due to a preseason knee injury.

The Panthers were expecting big things from Riley this season since he came on strong at the end of the 2000 season.

However, after Monday night's game, it appeared the Panthers found the right personnel to make up for both player's absence.

In the win against, Pine Bluff, the Panthers received strong offensive games from newcomer Ray Lark and senior forward Xavier Lee.

Lee, who assumed the scoring duties once Burks got injured, shot 13 of 23 from the field for 29 points and also pulled down seven rebounds and three steals in 38 minutes of play.

Lark, a native of Waller and a midseason addition, achieved a double double with 22 points and 10 rebounds.

Other Panthers who had a big game was center Ivan Coulter and guard Sadit Montgomery. Coulter scored eight points on 4 of 5 shooting and pulled down five rebounds. Montgomery added seven points and dished out eight assists.

As a team, the Panthers shot 34 of 61 for a season best 55 percent.

Lady Panthers continue SWAC dominance despite setback

By Ryan McGinty
Sports Editor

The surprise on campus and in the SWAC this season has been the play of the Prairie View A&M Lady Panther basketball team.

The Lady Panthers (3-2 SWAC) are ranked in the top half of the conference and recorded several milestones en route to their record.

The Lady Panthers were enjoying a three game winning streak against conference opponents before falling 55-53 to Arkansas-Pine Bluff on Monday evening.

Despite leading 30-25 at halftime, Pine Bluff rallied back and outscored them 30-23 in the second half to seal the victory.

Pine Bluff managed to stay close to the Lady Panthers because of their miserable 23 shooting percent from

In addition, they shot 46 percent from the free throw line and 27 percent from the three-point arc. Defensively, the team held Pine Bluff to 34 percent shooting and forced 11 turnovers.

In the first game of their road trip, which began Saturday night, the Panthers fell 78-66 to the Delta Devils of Mississippi Valley State University.

The Panthers were only down 30-28 at halftime before being outscored 48-38 in the second half by the Devils.

Lee led the Panthers in scoring with 20 points while Jamar Miles and Lark chipped in 17 and 12 points respectively. Point guard Blannon Campbell, Burks' replacement, added eight rebounds and six assists in the losing effort.

The team begins a critical three-game homestand this weekend against conference foes Alabama State University and Alabama A&M University.

The following Wednesday, the Panthers step out of conference play and host Texas A&M-Corpus Christi, who defeated Prairie View 82-53 on Nov. 22.

All home games start at 7:30 p.m. in the Babydome.

In addition, she was a perfect 5 of 5 from the charity stripe.

Despite the loss, the Lady Panthers remain right in the thick of the conference race.

Prior to the loss on Monday, they defeated conference foes Grambling State, Jackson State and Mississippi Valley.

The win against Grambling was the most impressive because Grambling has been the SWAC's top team the past several seasons.

The Lady Panthers return home this weekend to face Alabama State and then host Alabama A&M on Monday night.

They look to rebound from the loss against Pine Bluff to stay in the hunt for home court advantage during the first round of the SWAC tournament in early March.

Blue collar teams and controversial players headline Superbowl XXXV

By Marvin Anderson
Panther Staff

The odds-makers predicted a Titans-Rams rematch before the season. Even a Colts-Redskins Superbowl might not have been too far fetched. But a Ravens-Giants Superbowl?

No one ever would of predicted this, not even the two teams going to Tampa.

The defensive minded Baltimore Ravens (15-4) defeated Oakland in the AFC Championship game 16-3.

The Ravens held the Raiders' dominant ground game to a mere 24 yards, and 83 total yards through three quarters. The Ravens offense

relied heavily on its placekicker Matt Stover, who chipped in three field goals.

Their only touchdown came on a 96-yard catch and run from tight end Shannon Sharpe.

The Ravens own the NFL's best defense. This season, they set an NFL record only allowing 165 points through 16 games. They have also had their problems offensively, playing the entire month of October without scoring a touchdown.

At the center of the Ravens defense is middle linebacker Ray Lewis. Lewis, this year's NFL defensive MVP, was awaiting an attempted murder trial this time last

year.

Lewis was acquitted on all charges, and has gone on to play his best football this season.

The Giants, also a strong defensive team, received a huge boost from its offense in the NFC Championship game in which they defeated the Minnesota Vikings 41-0.

The Giants shutout of the Vikings is the first ever shutout in NFC Championship game history. The Giants also rewrote the history books by recording 31 first downs, a postseason record.

The G-Men's victory came on the golden arm of quarterback Kerry Collins, who

completed 28 of 39 passes for 381 yards, and his five touchdowns tied a playoff record.

The Giants amassed a total of 518 yards, and held the Vikes offensive machine to only 118 total yards.

Throughout the game, the Viking's "All-World" wide receiver Randy Moss was limited to two receptions for only 18 yards.

The Giants' defense swarmed the Vikings quarterback Daunte Culpepper causing him to throw three interceptions, and holding him to only 78 yards passing.

The Giants' last Superbowl trip came in 1991, when they defeated the Buffalo Bills in Superbowl XXV.

The Giants never would of dreamed of making it to this year's "big game", they just barely made it to the playoffs. In fact Giants head coach Jim Fassel's job was on the line if his team did not make the playoffs this season.

The Giants' offense is led by controversial quarterback Kerry Collins. Collins was under fire several years ago for making racist comments against a former teammate.

Collins, like Lewis, had to fight off questions surrounding the incident but he has admitted his racist comments were related to alcoholism.

Superbowl XXXV will be televised on KHOU's local Channel 11.

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