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Prairie View A&M University

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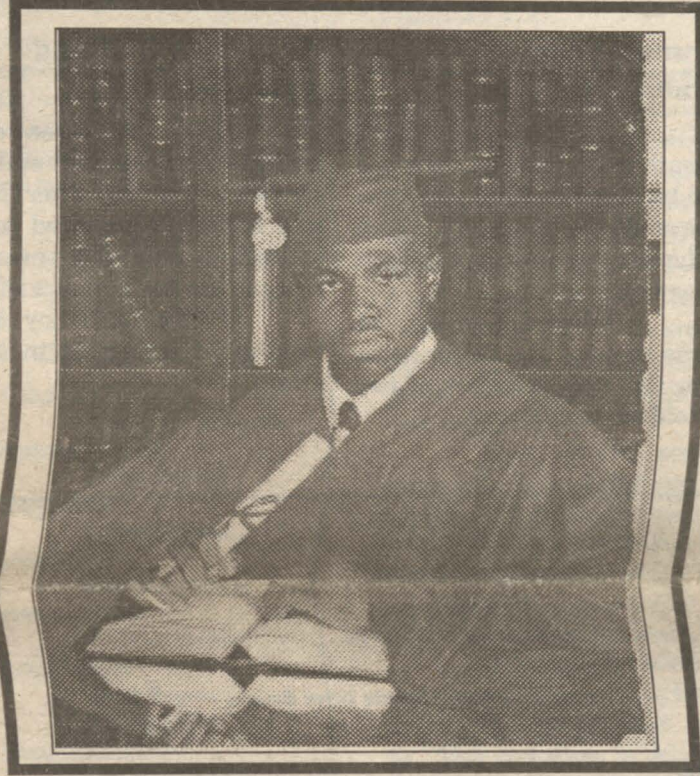
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PRIVANIMUS

panther@pvamu.edu · Volume 79, Issue 27 · April 24, 2002

The Official Student Newspaper of Prairie View A&M University

Students mourn the loss of a Panther Mike James Jones passes in car accident



Mike James Jones
1983 - 2002

By Micole Williams
Special to the Panther

On April 15, 2002, Prairie View A&M University lost a member of its student body. Fortunately, this loss seemed to bring those who were close together.

Mike James Jones, a freshman from Houston Texas, born February 13, 1983 passed away early last Monday morning after being in a car accident involving an 18-wheeler.

Mike was a resident in University College. Since his first day at Prairie View he made a lot of lifelong friends. These people who will remember for the rest of their lives.

"Mike was a cool friend, someone who made me smile all the time," replied Chris Joseph.

Many of Prairie View students and faculty attended the services held on Saturday including Dr. Price and Lettie Raab.

Disease affects over 20,000 Americans

Mary Wesley
News Assistant

World-famous boxer Muhammad Ali has it. This disease affects former Attorney General Janet Reno as well as actor Michael J. Fox. What is the disease that affects over 1 million people in the United States? Parkinson's Disease. The National Institute of Health reports that every year 20,000 to 50,000 people are diagnosed with this disease.

What is Parkinson's disease? Parkinson's Disease (PD) is a neurological disorder that is caused by progressive weakening of neurons (brain cells) that control movement. The affected neurons are located in the substantia nigra, the area of the brain responsible for movement. Normal neurons in this area produce the chemical dopamine, which communicates smooth and

even muscle movement to the corpus striatum. When PD affects the cells, dopamine is not properly transmitted and people cannot control their body's movement.

Parkinson's slowly takes effect and as a result, many people are not aware they have the disease until they are in the extreme stages and have pronounced movement deficiencies. Approximately one-third of PD cases occur among people under fifty. WebMD reports that nearly 40% of people with Parkinson's may not be diagnosed and approximately 25% are misdiagnosed.

While there is no "cure" to Parkinson's Disease, there are several advances that have been made toward treating it. In January, Japanese researchers used primate stem cells to make a range of mature brain cells.

See Parkinson's on page 5

The Defacing of Prairie View's Graduation Students selling graduation tickets to fellow students

Tenneh Freeman
News Assistant

Graduation! This is one of the most important days of a student's life, especially African-American students. For most of you this is the first generation of college graduates in your family.

For all the hard work, time and effort: for all the village fees, parking tickets and student fees you have had to pay through out your college career.

It was a long road that took four or however many years to complete. And

now the reward is within reach for a journey well traveled.

"All" of your family and friends will be in attendance and it will be a pound day for everyone. "All" your family and friends! Well this presents a bit of a problem for students. Not all their family and friends will be able to attend.

As you all are fully aware, there is a fifteen-ticket limitation for all graduates. This means that the favorite Aunt and Uncle might not get to come or even the man or woman in your life.

The thought of this is really unfair for most students. They feel as if their family members as well as friends should be able to attend. After all it will be a special day and they should be able to invent at least more than a mere fifteen people.

But the lack of tickets is not the only problem that has now descended on the graduates of 2002. Now, most students plan to turn a profit off their fellow students.

The plan is now to get the maximum amount of tickets (15) and sell the rest to people who might need them. Ordinarily, turning a

profit is a positive thing on PV's campus, but this is not an ordinary situation. Most students feel that selling tick-

ets to fellow students is just outright robbery! "Just give

Graduation page 5

COMING NEXT WEEK	INSIDE
War on Terrorism: Israel and Palestine	Are we being used? Page 3
Book Review	Pulitzer Prize winner visits PVAMU page 4
SWAC tournament: Panthers and Lady Panthers have plans to go all the way	Women's Soccer Team: the new edition PVAMU sports page 6
	 WEATHER Greater Houston Area forecast: Thick cloud cover: High 86, Low 60. Possible chance of rain

•State•

•World•

•National•

Sam Houston myth

Houston, Texas
Despite a famous painting and at least three biographies depicting Gen. Sam Houston as having been shot in the right ankle, the man who led the battle of San Jacinto 166 years ago Sunday seems to have a leg up on historians. Richard Rice of the Sam Houston Memorial Museum in Huntsville recently found proof of the mistake in a letter Houston wrote to his wife, Margaret, on Jan. 11, 1853. After informing her he had nothing to tell "that would cheer or delight" her, Houston wrote: "I suffer slightly in my left leg, from the same cause, that I complained of at home, the San Jacinto wound." And Madge Thornall Roberts, also notes that Andrew Jackson Houston, wrote in a 1938 book that "the general's left ankle was shattered by copper ball."

DiCecco Prevails

Turin, Italy
AP-Alberico Di Cecco of Italy won the Turin Marathon on Sunday after favorite Joseph Chebet dropped out after leading for several miles.
Chebet, a 30-year-old Kenyan, won the Boston Marathon and New York City Marathon in 1999.
Di Cecco finished in 2 hours, 10 minutes, 27 seconds, with countryman Danilo Goggi 25 seconds behind.

Cars destroyed

Tokyo, Japan
AP- Three passenger cars owned by a local government official were found burned early Monday, leading police to suspect an arson attack by leftist radicals opposed to the expansion of Tokyo's main international airport. No one was injured in the predawn fire in the garage of Eiji Shimano, a local bureaucrat in charge of public relations at Narita Airport, said police official Hideki Kobayashi. Police suspect radicals opposed to the expansion of New Tokyo International Airport at Narita, 65 kilometers (40 miles), northeast of Tokyo, claiming it will be used for military purposes.

Actor Charged

Los Angeles, Ca
AP-Prosecutors filed murder charges Monday against actor Robert Blake in the shooting death of his wife that could bring the death penalty.
In addition to murder, Blake was charged with solicitation of murder, conspiracy and the special circumstance of lying in wait. Under California law, a special circumstance can make it a capital case.

Money Raised for MLK

Omaha, Neb
(AP) _ An alliance of churches has raised \$145,000 toward a memorial recognizing the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. Donations and sale of bricks for a walkway around the monument should bring in the rest of the money, organizers said.

Infant Finally Buried

Shreveport, La
(AP) -Three years after a newborn infant's body was found decapitated in a steel yard, the coroner released the remains for burial.
A funeral service for the unidentified baby will be held Wednesday.

Forest Park Cemetery is donating a plot, while a casket and service will be provided by Osborn Funeral Home, police said Monday.

Inmate Dies

Raleigh, N.C.
(AP) _ A terminally ill death row inmate who wanted to be released from prison so he could die in a hospice died Monday morning in the prison hospital.
Edward Lemons, 34 was under a death sentence for the 1994 murders of two Goldsboro residents.

Father's Bond Set

Phoenix, Az
(AP) _ Bond was set Monday at \$354,000 for a Glendale man who admitted biting off his 2-year-old son's thumb while he was on the hallucinogen PCP.
Raymond Jones, 39, was picked up by Maricopa County Sheriff's deputies on Saturday night after he was found walking naked in traffic, said Sgt. Bill Knight.
His son, Robert Jones, was taken to a local hospital.

8-year old Stabbed

Baltimore, Md
(AP) _ An 8-year-old girl was in critical but stable condition Monday after she was sexually assaulted and stabbed in the neck several times in her home, police said.
Police said they are looking for a suspect in the attack.

The Panther

Prairie View A&M University's official student publication.

The Panther is a publication supported through advertising and student activity fees. Views expressed within the publication are not necessarily those shared by Prairie View A&M University or the Texas A&M University Board of Regents. All articles, photographs and graphics are property of The Panther

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.

Submission Policy
for Letters to the Editor

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The Panther office is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday -Friday. The offices are located in Harrington Science, Room 105.

Hmmm! Are we being used ?



By Tenesia S. Mathews
Editor-in-Chief

During the course of the present day elections here in the city of Prairie View, the students have been pressed to vote for certain members of the city. How many of them have, besides working for Prairie View, been active in student life prior to these elections. The answer is few and far between.

Most of the students who attend this university are not actually residents of this city, and this is proven because on weekends Houston is hounded with Prairie View students. Although, it would seem that those running for office have an interest in us. The question is what are they really going to do for us? They can't lower the prices on housing, on food, or even help out with financial aid.

Even though on an ad placed in the Panther Dewayne Charleston said that if he was elected into the position of Justice of the Peace then he would in fact help with the so called problem with financial aid. This comment was only partially true. The only way that he can help is if a student files a civil suit against Prairie View A&M University with the office of the Justice of the Peace.

How many students have the money to file a civil suit and to pay for a lawyer to represent them, probably none.

Was he using us? I am not bashing Dewayne Charleston, but the methods that politicians use are sometimes unethical.



*33rd Annual Miss Prairie View
A&M University
&
16th Annual Mr. Prairie View
A&M University Scholarship
Pageants*

"The Essence of Pantherland"

*William "Billy" J. Nicks
Fieldhouse
Wednesday, April 24, 2002
@ 7:30 PM
Admission: Free*



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Beginning Fall 2002, The Rawls College of Business will offer **75 New Scholarships** [\$1,000 each] renewable for a second year. All scholarship recipients pay the same low tuition as Texas residents.

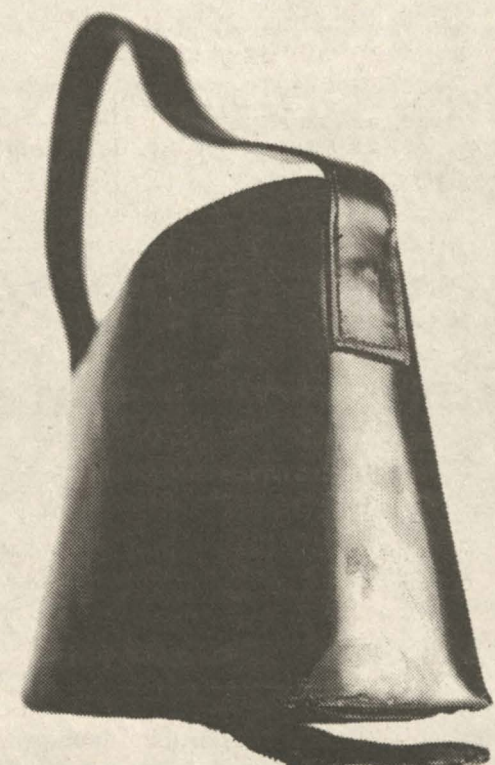
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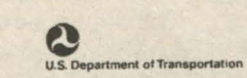
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The to-do list in Beth Hoyne's purse will never get done because a drunk driver convinced his friends he'd be fine.

Friends Don't Let Friends Drive Drunk.



Black Pulitzer Prize Winner Speaks At PVAMU

By Denise Cohen
News Assistant

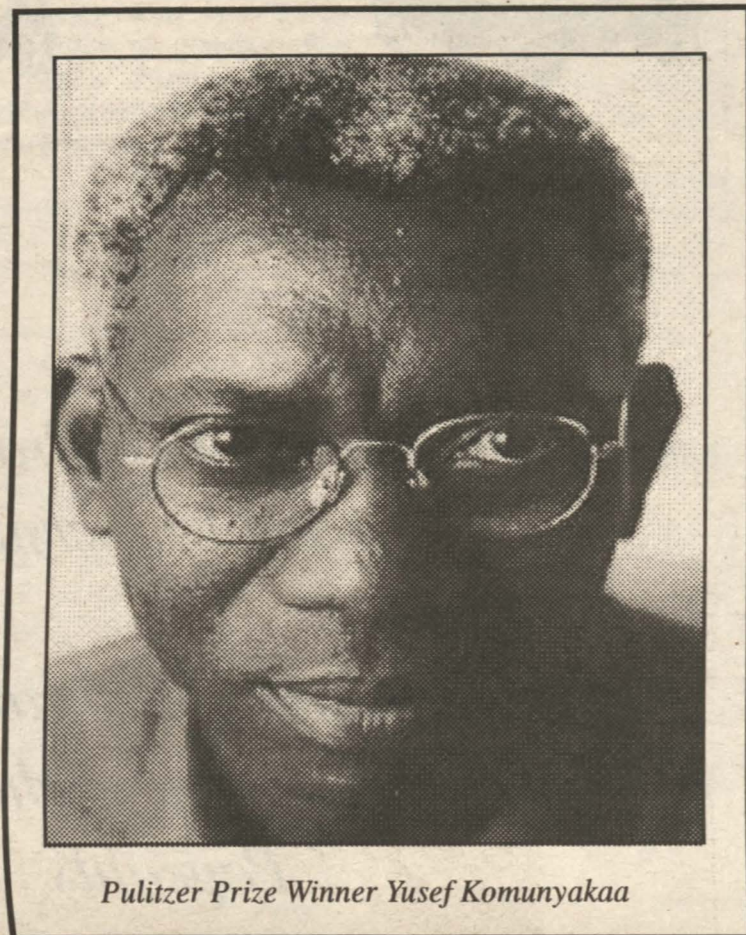
Yusef Komunyakaa, an African-American Pulitzer Prize winning poet, read from his works, to the Prairie View A&M University community.

The readings took place at a program recently held at the All-Faiths Chapel by the Department of Languages and Communications.

Professor William Chapman coordinated the event in collaboration with Callaloo Magazine, a leading African-American literary journal published at Texas A&M University.

Komunyakaa read poems detailing aspects of his life from Neon Vernacular: New and Selected Poems, a book for which he won the 1994 Pulitzer Prize for poetry.

He read a poem he wrote in Sydney, Australia, voicing his views on the world today.



Pulitzer Prize Winner Yusef Komunyakaa

But the most touching performance was a breathtaking poem he wrote after visiting the Vietnam War Memorial in Washington, D.C.

Komunyakaa, a decorated Vietnam veteran, wrote about all of the lives affected by the Vietnam War.

Throughout his lifetime Komunyakaa has written many poetic pieces and books.

He has won highly respected awards, including the William Faulkner Prize, the Hans Poetry Prize and the San Francisco Poetry Center Award.

He has also won the Kingsly Tufts Poetry Award, the Dark Room Poetry Prize and the Thomas Forcade Award.

Komunyakaa earned the bronze star for service in Vietnam.

The first of five children, the renowned poet was born in Bogalusa, Louisiana.

After graduating from Bogalusa Central High School, he enlisted in the United States Army where he fought in Vietnam.

After the war Komunyakaa enrolled at the University of Colorado where he earned a bachelor's degree in 1975.

He obtained a MA from Colorado State University in 1978.

He also earned a MFA from the University of California at Irvine in 1980.

Komunyakaa is currently a creative writing professor at Princeton University.

The editor of Callaloo Magazine, Charles Rowell, expressed interest in promoting exchanges of literary talents between Prairie View A&M University and Texas A&M University.

Parkinson from page 1

Stromal cell-derived inducing activity (SDIA) technique was used to create the new cells. Thirty-five percent of the cells made by SDIA produced dopamine, the chemical PD neurons lack.

Here are several symptoms of Parkinson's disease:

Muscle rigidity, stiffness, difficulty bending arms or legs, unstable, stooped, or slumped-over posture, Loss of balance, changes in their walking pattern, shuffling walk, slow movements, difficulty to walk, difficulty initiating any voluntary movement, small steps followed by the need to run to maintain balance, freezing of movement when the movement is stooped, inability to resume movement muscle aches and pains (myalgia), shaking, tremors, changes in facial expression, reduced ability to show facial expressions, may be unable to close mouth.

Parkinson's disease affects the body over a great period of time, and it occurs in many stages:

Stage 1
Signs and symptoms appear only on one side of the body and are mild.

Symptoms such as tremors may be inconvenient, but they are not disabling. Changes in posture, movement, and facial expression are noticed.

Stage 2
Symptoms appear on both sides of the body. Symptoms cause minimal disability. Posture and gait are affected.

Stage 3
Body movements are slowing significantly. Balance problems occur while

walking or standing. Symptoms cause moderately severe problems with normal functioning.

Stage 4
Symptoms are severe. The individual can still walk, but only to limited extent. There is rigidity and slowness of movement.

Stage 5
Patient is no longer able to live alone.

Graduation from page 1

them away," one student said "why should we to pay for something that is suppose to be free any way.

Students around campus are in a frenzy about the fact that their own classmates are trying to take advantage of them.

A majority of students feel that those who are trying to turn a profit from this unfortunate ticket situation are just as wrong at being issued only having fifteen tickets in the first place.

Instead of making money off a free event why don't those students consider simply giving their left over tickets away? Do this as a last act of kindness for your fellow classmates.

Surely if you are not going to need your tickets be considerate of those graduates whose family members would not otherwise be able to see them graduate.

Give them the opportunity to see their loved ones in person and be proud of the fact that their "baby" is graduating!

Soccer from page 6

deciding factors in her elimination process.

Players that don't meet eligibility requirements, players that are disrespectful or exhibit attitudes, and players that don't work hard. "Experience is not required, hardwork is, said Tarver".

There are schlorships

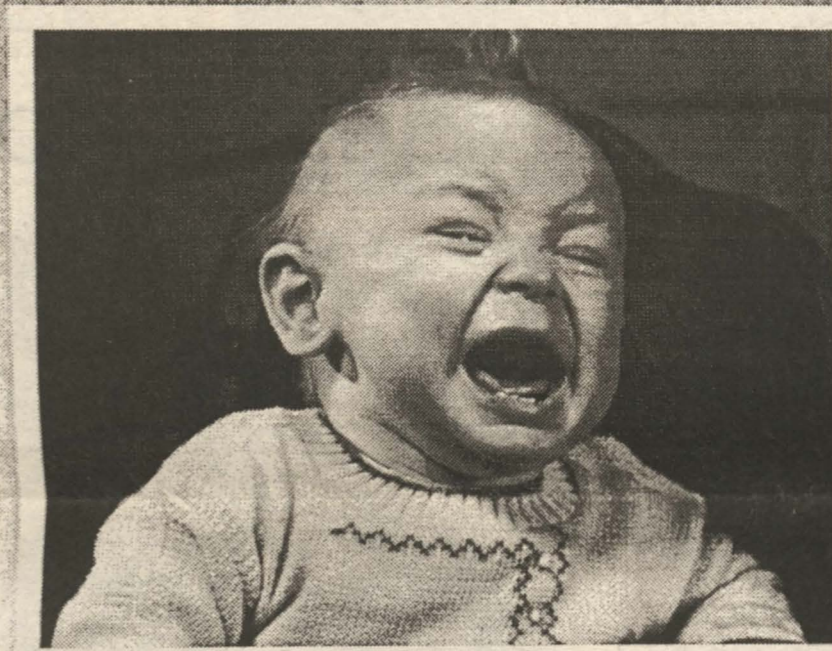
available, but since there are only a few accessible they will only be awarded to the most talented players.

The lady Panthers have already begun performing conditioning drills in preparation for the upcoming season.

The lady Panthers begin Soccer Camp in August, with their first game on August 31.

Next, the Panthers travel to Southeast Louisiana.

When asked for her outlook on the teams upcoming season Coach Tarver replied, "I told all the players to set high goals, and work hard, If we do so we won't have any reason for disappointment. My staff and I will plan and prepare well so that we won't have any reason to hang our heads".



WANTING A CHANGE?

Is your life kind of messy? Do you ever ask yourself questions like, "Who am I? Why am I here? Where am I going?" Consider that God may have the answers. That makes sense, doesn't it? With God, you can start over with a clean slate, start down a new road, and live your life connected to the one Person who knows what's best for your life at all times. Knowing God doesn't mean that life suddenly becomes trouble-free. Life has its challenges. But you won't walk it alone. To find out more, see the feature article "The Source of a Changed Life" at www.EveryStudent.com.

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Position # 4

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General Election: May 4

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2002 Recognition Packet
Due: Friday, May 17, 2002
Packets Available: Monday, April 29, 2002

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2002 Student Leadership Institute Applications

NOW AVAILABLE

Department of Student Activities & Leadership
Harrington Science Bldg., RM 108 or
Student Activities & Leadership Website (Fillable Forms)

Lady Panthers soccer kicking into high gear

By Marvin Anderson
Sports Editor

Beginning this fall Prairie View will usher in a new sport into its growing family of athletics: women's soccer.

An overwhelming majority of Southwestern Athletic Conference schools will institute women's soccer teams into their athletics this fall.

The women's soccer team will be lead by first year head coach Felicia Tarver.

Tarver, an assistant coach on the women's basketball team, and is a former standout on the Prairie View basketball team.

The theme of Tarver's teams will be something she has acquired from her experiences on the hardwood: hardwork and discipline.

"One bad apple can spoil the whole bunch, said Tarver".

Tarver's theme of hardwork and discipline has

already begun to rub off on her prospective players.

When asked about the teams chances for success this season Cheryl Burns replied, "Always expect the best and work hard, and you will be successful."

Currently, there are 60 women interested in playing, yet there are only 22-30 roster spots available.

According to Coach Tarver there are three

Soccer Page 5

Lady Panthers 2002 Schedule
Friday Sept. 27
Grambling at Prairie View
Friday Oct. 4
Prairie View at Southern
Friday Oct. 6
Prairie View at Alabama State
Friday Oct. 18
Prairie View at Texas Southern
Sunday Oct. 27
Arkansas PB at Prairie View
Friday Nov. 1
Jackson State at Prairie View

Draft Day Recap



By Marvin Anderson
Sports Editor

Saturday's NFL Draft provided excitement, the element of surprise, and made history for one team.

The expansion Houston Texans made a number of firsts, as well as choosing first selecting Fresno State quarterback David Carr.

The Texans used their second selection to choose University of Florida receiver Jabar Gaffney.

This combination should provide big plays for the Texans immediately.

The Dallas Cowboys gambled big and won big getting the player they coveted in Oklahoma safety Roy Williams, as well as adding picks which they used to select Houston native and Colorado guard Andre Gurode.

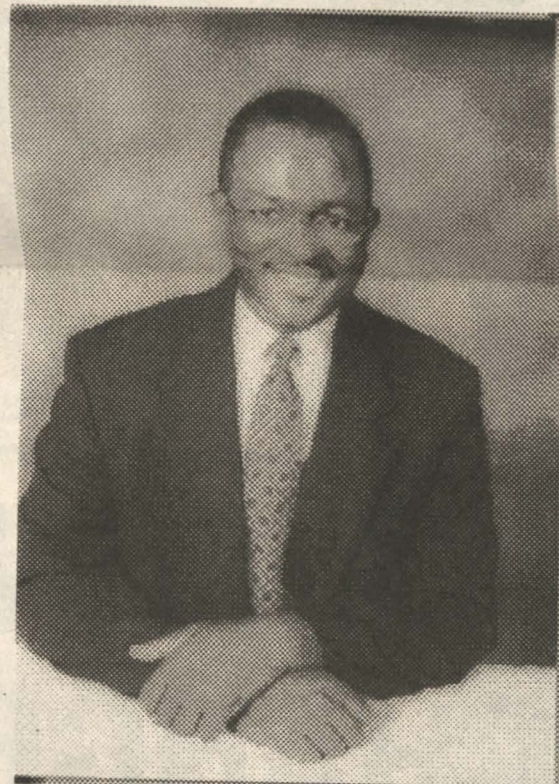
The sleeper selection of the draft also goes to the Cowboys who wheeled and dealed to get Pittsburgh wideout Antonio Bryant.

Offfield issues and injuries caused Bryant's stock to drop. Bryant's skills can't be denied, he would have been considered a top 10 pick if it weren't for his injury plagued junior season.

The St. Louis Rams, usually a cerebral bunch made a questionable call in selecting Ohio State quarterback Steve Bellasari as a safety, and Heisman Trophy quarterback Eric Crouch as a wide receiver.

I can't wait to see how these transactions will work out.

Frank D. Jackson for Mayor



*Unity in the Community
Now is the Time to Raise Our Village Campus
and Community*

The appeal is for all candidates for political office to:

- help unite the community
- work for the community in or out of office
- demonstrate the spirit of peace & reconciliation

Now is the time:

- for PV to rise to its full potential!
- to transcend the Willie Lynch Syndrome!
- for all citizens To Stand Together!
- to elect experienced leadership that can get the job done!

Together with TEAM Prairie View I have helped to:

- build a **U.S. Post Office** and obtain our own zip code
 - build the **Waller County Community Center** - Prairie View
 - build the **Prairie View Vol. fire station**
 - build the **Waller County JP office / Community - Monaville**
 - obtain **turn lanes on business Hwy 290**
 - determine the **route for the new Hwy 290**
 - pave county roads** in the city of Prairie View
 - bring cable TV to the city and campus**
 - facilitate the building of UNCO I & II**
 - facilitate the building of **Garman's (Nat. Alumni office)**
 - bring **Williams Chicken** to PV
 - install the **first ATM machine** in the city
- Frank D. Jackson has served:**
- with 3 mayors
 - with 7 university presidents
 - 12 years as a councilmember
 - 8 years as county commissioner
 - 24 years in the US Navy - retired captain
 - 16 years as fire chief PV Vol. Fire Dept.

It Will Be A Whole Lot Better, If We Just Do It Together!

Paid political AD. by the Frank D. Jackson for Mayor Campaign Marian E. Jackson Treasurer P.O. Box 475 Prairie View, TX 77446 936-857-5550

Funnyman Eddie Griffin Stars In Undercover Brother

Griffin jokes his way back to the big screen after a short break

Press Release
Special to the Panther

Popular actor/comedian Eddie Griffin will star in *Undercover Brother*, opening nationwide on May 31st. Best known to his fans for his razor-sharp comedic wit and his versatile talent on the *Malcolm and Eddie* series, Griffin most recently had a key role in the Denzel Washington starrer *John Q*.

Undercover Brother is directed by Malcom Lee, whose first film was the 1999 hit, *The Best Man*. Lee moves to greater filmmaking heights with *Undercover Brother*, based on Urban Entertainment's popular website series.

Undercover Brother is best described as *Austin Powers* meets *Shaft*, filled with non-stop comedy, cutting edge special effects, inventive gadgets and amazing car stunts.

Griffin is *Undercover Brother*, blasted from the past and ready to rescue his people from *The Man*.

A master of disguise, he works alone and with an arsenal of unique weapons, including flying afro-picks and platform shoes equipped with

hydraulic lifts to escape an assailant. His superhero exploits bring him to the attention of the Brotherhood, a secret organization that is also fighting *The Man*.

Impressed with *Undercover Brother's* unorthodox methods, the chief (Chi McBride) sends his top female Sista Girl (Aunjanue Ellis) to recruit him.

Realizing that he can't win the battle by himself, *Undercover Brother* agrees to join the Chief, Sista Girl, Smart Brother (Gary Anthony Williams) and Conspiracy Brother (Dave Chappelle) in their efforts to ensure equality for all people, regardless of race or creed.

When *The Man* and his followers sabotage the plans of presidential hopeful General Boutwell (Billy Dee Williams), the organization sends its best operatives into action.

To infiltrate the privileged world of *The Man* and to foil his plans, *Undercover Brother* disguises himself as Anton Jackson, a Gap-wearing, *Friends'* watching, mayonnaise-loving black man.

He soon finds himself up against *The Man's* top

agents, Mr. Feather (Chris Kattan) and Penelope Snow/Snow White She Devil (Denise Richards).

Undercover Brother stars Griffin, who previously starred in the films *Double Take* and *Foolish*.

Undercover Brother also stars Chris Kattan (*Monkey Bone*, *A Night at the Roxbury*), who plays Mr. Feather, and agent for *The Man*, and Aunjanue Ellis (*Men of Honor*, *Caveman's Valentine*) plays Sista Girl.

Denise Richards (*Valentine*, *The World Is Not Enough*) stars as White She Devil; Gary Anthony Williams (*End of Days*) stars as Smart Brother and Dave Chappelle (*Blue Streak*, *Nutty*) stars as Conspiracy Brother.

Chi McBride (*Boston Public*) plays The Chief, veteran star Billy Dee Williams plays General Boutwell and Neil Patrick Harris (*Doogie Houser*) plays Lance, an intern with *The Brotherhood*.

Based on Urban Entertainment's popular website series, *Undercover Brother* is a live action comedy. Malcom D. Lee directs from a screenplay by John Ridley (*Three Kings*). Brian

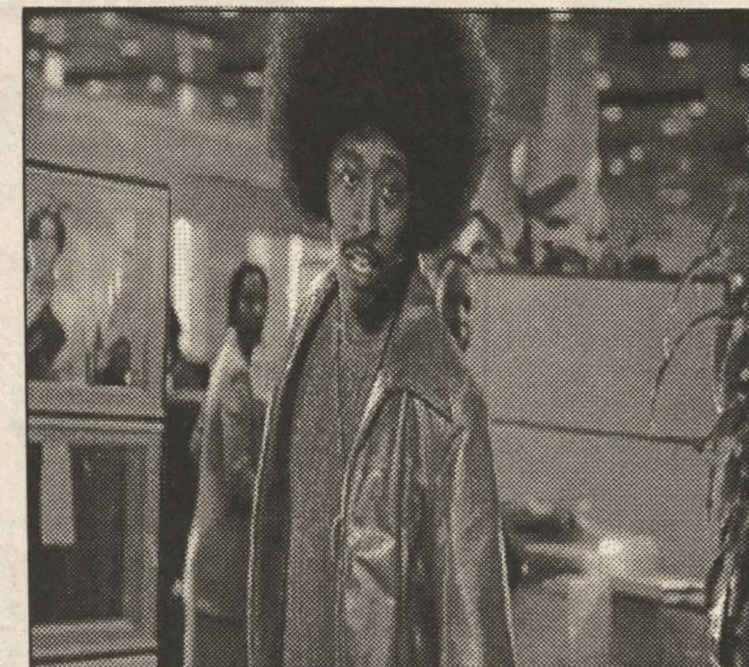


Photo Courtesy of Google Images

Griffin fills the movie with non-stop comedy, cutting edge special effects, inventive gadgets, and amazing car stunts. The movie opens nationwide on May 31st.

Grazer, Kim Roth, Michael Jenkinson and Damon Lee produce. John Ridley and Bill Carraro serve as executive producers.

Matthew Hart is the associate producer. Cinematographer Tom Priestly, Jr., production designer Bill Elliot, costume designer Danielle Hollowell and editor William Kerr round out the production team.

Undercover Brother is a Universal Pictures and Imagine Entertainment production in association with Urban Entertainment.



The Answers

Weekly Update for Freshmen

STUDY! STUDY! STUDY!



- You must take the TASP at least once every academic year.
- Check out the following URL: <http://calendars.pvamu.edu/> for information about our Quick TASP testing schedule or call 936/857-2747.
- If you had less than a 'C' or 'S' in a developmental class at midterm, you can not early register



April 24
May 1-2
May 3-8
May 11

Mr. and Ms. Prairie View Pageant
Study Days
Final Exam Period
Commencement

University College Honors the Memory of

Michael James Jones, Jr.

A Fellow Panther
A Fellow Freshman
A Friend We Will Never Forget

1. Does Dr. Hickson look like Mia X?
2. Who is the big girl with red hair from that looks like Punky Brewster?
3. Does Ms. Dungy talk like a man?
4. Does Dr. Yeo look like Jet Li?
5. How many freshmen do you think will come back next year?
6. Who is heavier Classic Dance Ensemble or the Panther Dolls?
7. How much are Ford Escort's?
8. Twenty dollars?
9. Who's going to win Miss Prairie View pageant Ms. Simmons or Dean Lewter?
10. How many people who went to the Beach Party will be at Splash this weekend?
11. Why is Rashon running for Mr. Prairie View again?
12. Is he upset because he lost the first time?
13. Would someone please give him the crown, have pity?
14. Since the freshmen have a G.P.A. of 1.4 will they be living in Phase I next semester?
15. Why not just vote Prime Time for city council?
16. How many people miss class to watch A Different World?
17. And who missed class Friday to go to the Beach Party?
18. Why are the Sigma Juliet's so hated, Not?
19. The men love them?
20. What do you think?

Want to tell us what you think? Would you like to submit any questions you may have to The Panther? Please bring your comments to Rm.105 Harrington Science or email panther@pvamu.edu. Questions are printed at the discretion of The Panther.



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