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THE PANTHER

panther@pvamu.edu · Volume 80, Issue 11 · November 13, 2002

The Official Student Newspaper of Prairie View A&M University

Inside
this week



Why are black athletic programs suffering?

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Athlete of the Week
Roderick Riley
shines on the court.

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The Gilpin
Players take
"Medea" to
another level.

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National search for next president begins

Deadline for nominations and applications is Jan. 15, 2003

By Barbara Ramirez
Panther Staff

A national search has been launched to find the next president for Prairie View A&M University.

According to a news release from the communications office of Texas A&M University System, Chancellor Howard D. Graves announced the formation of a presidential search advisory

committee for the hiring of the new president. Graves said he hopes a new president will be able to assume office next summer.

The release said the committee will recommend the best candidates to the chancellor, who will make a recommendation to the appointing body, the A&M System Board of Regents.

Jerry Gaston, deputy

chancellor of the A&M System, chairs the committee. Other members are:

-Lee Henderson, assistant professor of biology and speaker of the PVAMU Faculty Senate

-Clarissa Booker, reading education coordinator in the department of curriculum and instruction and member of the PVAMU Faculty Senate;

-John Fuller, professor of electrical engineering and member of the PVAMU Faculty Senate;

-Freddie Frazier, distinguished professor of mathematics;

-Clement Glenn, instructor in educational administration;

-Elizabeth Noel, dean of the College of Agriculture and Human Services;

See Search page 5

Alumnus retires as three-star general

Special to the Panther

Prairie View alumnus Lieutenant General Billy K. Solomon has retired



from the United States Army after 36 years of service.

Lt. Gen. Solomon was born in Oakwood/Fairfield, Texas. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture Education from Prairie View A&M and a Master's in Contracting and Acquisition Management from Florida Institute of Technology.

Solomon was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Quartermaster Corps through the Reserve Officers Training Corps Program in 1966. His military education includes the quartermaster Officer Basic Course, Army Supply Officers Course, Quartermaster Officers Advanced Course, Defense Procurement Course, Armed Forces Staff College Logistics Executive

See Army page 12

PVAMU plays host to Ambassador of Jamaica

By Nikki Easter

Panther Staff

"Out of many, One People."

The Jamaican motto resonated throughout the campus as the yellow, black and green flag flew alongside the red, white and blue.

To assist international and native students in this celebration of international brotherhood, Prairie View A&M University welcomed His Excellency Seymour Mullings, the Ambassador of Jamaica and Ricardo Allicock, the Consul General of Jamaica in Miami to the campus last week.

Sophomore political science major Dierdre Smith, a native of Jamaica, originated the idea and worked in conjunction with SGA President Hendrik Maison and President Willie Tempton to invite Mullings and his wife to Prairie View.

See Ambassador page 12



Photo by Gitonga M'Mbijewe

(L to R) Deirdre Smith, Dr. Doris Price, Dr. E. Johanne Thomas-Smith, Consul General Ricardo Allicock, Mrs. Lilieth Mullings, Ambassador of Jamaica Seymour Mullings, First Lady Mary Tempton, Interim President Willie Tempton, and Honorary Consul Beverly Ford pose for a picture after the event.

•State•

PV's seven - day forecast

Wed Nov 13 Mostly Sunny
68°/43°

Thu Nov 14 Partly Cloudy
69°/47°

Fri Nov 15 Partly Cloudy
67°/46°

Sat Nov 16 Partly Cloudy
66°/51°

Sun Nov 17 Partly Cloudy
69°/51°

Mon Nov 18 Partly Cloudy
67°/50°

Tue Nov 19 Partly Cloudy
66°/49°

courtesy of www.weather.com

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•National•

Erie School District submits charter application

ERIE, Pa. (AP) -The Erie School District is submitting a charter school application for its Northwest Pennsylvania Collegiate Academy, which would mean that a student's home district - not the parents - would pay the annual tuition costs.

If the state approves such a charter, Erie School District would take in almost \$1 million from other school districts by taking advantage of a state mandate that a student's home district must pay the tuition and transportation costs of charter school students.

Famed dean of medical school, dies at 83

NEW YORK (AP) - Marvin Kuschner, the first dean of the medical school at the State University of New York at Stony Brook, died Oct. 18. He was 83. Kuschner was appointed dean in 1972, just as the Long Island medical school was accepting its first students. He served as dean until 1987.

During his tenure, the school's budget increased and Stony Brook University Hospital was established.

•World•

10-year-old Pakistani girl married off to pay father's debts

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP) - A villager married off his 10-year-old daughter to a 40-year-old man in remote southern Pakistan, compensating the man for a borrowed buffalo that died in the father's care, a women's rights activist said Sunday.

The village council, or jirga, decreed that the father could use his daughter to pay back the man for the loss of the animal, and a Muslim cleric sanctioned the wedding. The girl, who was married five months ago, recently fled her husband and returned to her family in the village of Dadu.

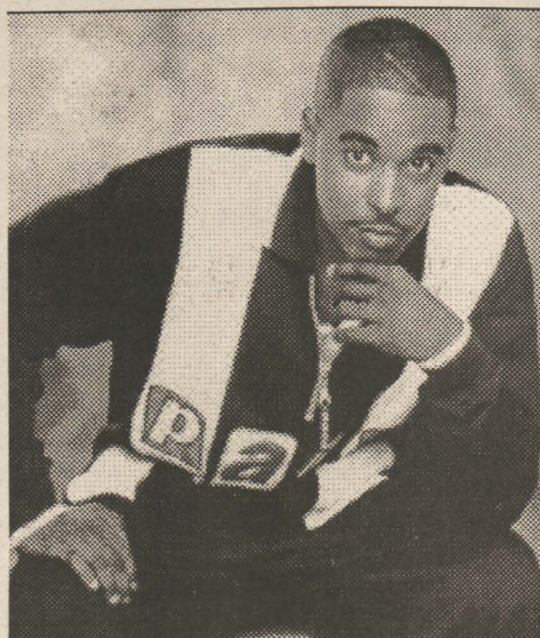
Underage marriages are common in the region, but few people file complaints about the practice.

The legal age for marriage in Pakistan is 14 for females and 18 for males.

Ceremony of remembrance held for war dead

LONDON (AP) - Thousands of war veterans and military personnel braved pouring rain on Sunday to re-

"Too Young, Too Gifted to die..."



Television/ film star Merlin Santana, 26, was killed Saturday in South Los Angeles. Santana starred in many films, but his role as "Romeo" on "The Steve Harvey Show" won him nominations for NAACP Image Awards and ALMA Awards, which honor Hispanic performers.

member those killed serving their country.

Crowds of onlookers stood quietly at the Cenotaph memorial in Whitehall, central London, for the service commemorating the war dead of Britain and the 54-nation Commonwealth.

The remembrance ceremony is held every year on the nearest Sunday to the anniversary of the end of World War I on Nov. 11, 1918, at 11 a.m.

Security at the Cenotaph event was tight, with onlookers having to pass through metal detectors and have their property searched.

Queen Elizabeth II and politicians led by Prime Minister Tony Blair and opposition leader Iain Duncan Smith were expected to lay wreaths of red poppies on the Cenotaph.

Oklahoma St. regents pick new chancellor

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) - Oregon State University President Paul G. Risser was selected Monday as Oklahoma's new chancellor

for higher education.

Risser, a native Oklahoman, said the number of college students in the state must be increased and their graduation rate must be improved.

"It's not a system that needs to be changed, it's a system that needs to be supported," he said.

The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education decided that he would be paid \$250,000 a year. He will start on Jan. 6.

Risser, 63, grew up in Blackwell and was a botany professor at the University of Oklahoma from 1967 to 1981.

"It gives me a great deal of pride to be home," he said.

Risser's academic career has included research of the Tallgrass Prairie Preserve in Osage County. While at OU, Risser was assistant director of the biological station at Lake Texoma and directed the Oklahoma Biological Survey.

He has been president of Oregon State for six years. He has also been president of Miami University of Oxford, Ohio, and vice president for research at the University of New Mexico.

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

The Panther Fall 2002 Staff

- Editor-in-Chief:** Tenesia S. Mathews
- News Editor:** L' Rhonda Boyd
- Lifestyles Editor:** Yolanda Hadnot
- Sports Writer:** Andrew Roberts
- Photographers:** Marques Allen, Leona Aaron
- News Assistants:** Lisa Shaw, Nasha Ross, Shericia Woods
- Copy Editor:** Christina Johnson
- Advertising Manager:** Cristina Lee
- Banner:** Roshon George
- Business Manager:** Britini Gross

Technical Assistance by: Gitonga M'Mbijewe Contact

Phone: (936)857-2132 • Fax: (936)857-2340 • Room 105, Harrington Science • P.O. Box 2876, Prairie View, TX 77446 • panther@pvamu.edu

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

My Alma Mater shouldn't honor Bush

By Jonathan Hutton, Sr. Black College Wire

Why would Howard University want to honor President Bush, whose agenda is not only anti African/African American, but anti-labor, anti-woman, anti-environment and anti-human rights?

The university's Board of Trustees has approved him as a suitable candidate for commencement speaker or recipient of an honorary degree, although no final decision has been made.

During the 1998-99 school year, I was undergraduate trustee of Howard. The graduate trustee, Randy Short, and I worked to ensure that the immediate interests of the undergraduate and graduate students were not underestimated, undervalued or marginalized when the Board of Trustees met and made final decisions that affected the university community.

We successfully lobbied for Kwame Ture and James Farmer to receive honorary degrees. Ture was one of the key leaders and voices of the Black Power Movement in America, raising the "Black Power" cry all over the U.S. and the world.

His work ranged from the fight for voting rights in Mississippi to the fight against imperialism and colonialism in Africa and throughout the so-called Third World.

Farmer was the architect and visionary of the Freedom Rides in 1961 that tested the legality of interstate bus travel for blacks and brought the attention of the world to the harsh racism, torture and death that blacks and civil rights workers faced in the South.

Upon hearing that the trustees were considering Bush, I thought: Is this the same George Bush who in

Why is the crime rate rising on college campuses?

By Chris Sibley

Many college students in the world today view crimes such as assault and robbery as the norm, since we hear of it on a daily basis. Everyday we turn on our televisions and open our newspapers to hear and read about people getting assaulted and robbed on college campuses and we look past it, until it happens to us.

For instance, if someone at Prairie View gets shot and another person reads or hears about it, they may talk about the issue for a couple of days, but it soon crosses their mind like "what happened, happened and that's the

way it is." Some students on campus expect to be victims of crime because crime rates have risen tremendously, so they do things to prevent themselves from being involved in violent crimes. Theft and vandalism are also common on these campuses. Students' cars have been stolen and broken into. Everyone needs to realize that a crime involves all of us, because we could be the next victims.

Almost every college student in the U.S. has known another student or has been a victim of a crime while on a college campus.

A lot of suspects who are involved in these crimes are individuals who have been raised since they were children, in homes where violence has been practiced on a regular ba-

sis. Parents play an important role in this situation, because adults only grow up acting the way they have been taught as children.

There isn't enough done to prevent crimes on college campuses. Universities need to take a better stand in crime prevention.

Police departments on college campuses are not paying close attention to crime prevention. This is the main reason why the crime rate has risen each year. University's presidents are to blame because they have the highest authority. Campus public affairs and police departments should also put forth more effort in trying to better help colleges in preventing some of the crimes that occur on campuses daily.

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See Alma Mater Page 3

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Healthy Panthers

Health and Nutrition tips Diabetes

- * Diabetes is caused by lack of insulin, a hormone that is essential for getting energy from food.
- * There are two types of diabetes. In type 1 diabetes, which usually starts in children, the body stops making insulin completely. In type 2 diabetes, the body still makes some insulin, but cannot use it properly.
- * Diabetes is at epidemic proportions in the United States. About 16 million people in the U.S. have type 2 diabetes. Half those people are unaware that they have the condition.
- * Several factors put people at higher risk for diabetes, including obesity, a family history of the condition, and a sedentary lifestyle.
- * A doctor diagnoses diabetes using a blood test to measure glucose levels in the blood. A special test called an oral glucose tolerance test may also be necessary.
- * Diabetes usually requires a team of treatment specialists, including a regular doctor, a diabetes educator who may be a registered nurse, a nutritionist, and an endocrinologist.
- * Diabetes can often be controlled through lifestyle changes, such as losing weight, eating a healthy diet and following a diabetes meal plan, and getting regular exercise.
- * Several medications are available to help treat diabetes. These are usually taken in pill form and either help the body make more insulin or help the body's cells use insulin more efficiently.
- * The key to diabetes management is controlling blood sugar and avoiding hyperglycemia and hypoglycemia. People with diabetes must monitor their blood sugar regularly using a glucose meter.
- * People whose bodies don't make any insulin, or who are not helped adequately by medication, may need to take daily insulin shots.
- * Diabetes can cause complications, including heart disease, nerve damage, and blindness. Proper management of the condition through diet, exercise, and medication can help prevent complications.
- * Diabetes has emotional and mental implications as well as physical ones. People who have diabetes should know the symptoms of depression, talk to their treatment team about how they are feeling, and perhaps join a support group.

Provided by YourMedicalSource.com

What part of your PV education is most disappointing?

"The most disappointing part of my education at Prairie View has to be that there aren't enough activities to do outside of class."

Stephen Johnson
Freshman



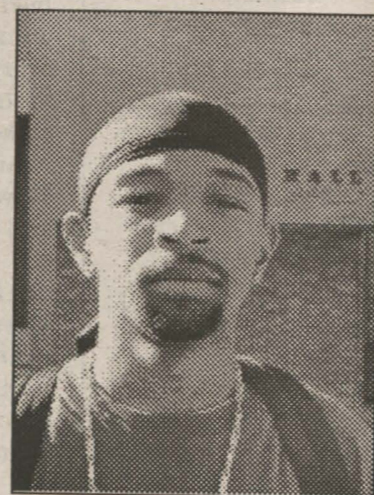
"I don't like how slow the university acts toward fixing student problems."

Douglas Whitaker
Junior



"Overall, the education at PV is rewarding, but I don't agree with hiring professors who don't give exams over the topics they lecture in class."

Tikaria Doggett
Sophomore



I don't like how the degree plans have changed in some departments. People don't want to spend any extra semesters because of changes.

Crystalle Williams
Junior

Purple debate team wins awards

Special to the Panther

Five PV intercollegiate debaters secured four awards at the Diamondback Tournament hosted by St. Mary's University in San Antonio, Texas on the weekend of Oct. 25-27.

Newcomer and Biology major Brandon Kirby from Houston, Texas, was a semi-finalist in the Novice Division of the Tournament, and another newcomer, English major Tiffany Turner from San Antonio, Texas placed 2nd in Novice Division Speaker Awards.

Houstonian and Com-

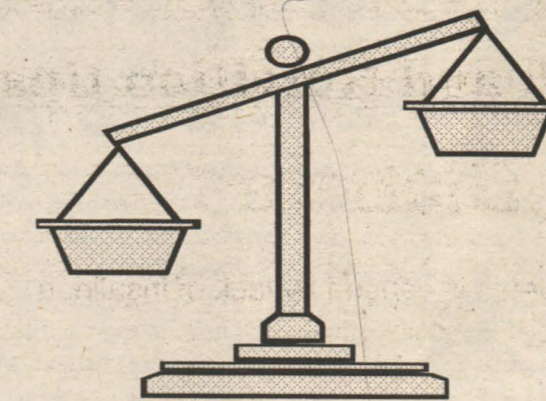
munications major Charles Brooks took a 3rd place Novice trophy. Crystal Chatman, an English major and resident of Nacadoches, Texas, received the final award in the Novice Division: she ranked 5th in Speaker Awards. NaConda Cade of Beaumont, Texas, competed in the Varsity Division. She was the third best speaker on the PV team.

Forty-Five debaters participated in the tournament. It included Novice, Varsity and Open entries (some coaches and graduate students.)

The teams included the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville, Louisiana Tech, Florida Tech., and Cameron of Oklahoma. Ten colleges and universities participated in the tournament.

The PV Debate Team will compete at LSU Shreveport Nov. 15-17th.

The website of the International Public Debate Association is www.ipdassn.com and the Purple Debate website is in the Quick Links of the www.pvamu.edu website. Click on "Debate Team".



SGA Speaks Out

Thursday, Nov. 14: There will be a general student body meeting in the Administration Auditorium at 7:00 p.m. All students, faculty and staff are invited. Come out to voice concerns and make solutions.

Monday, Nov. 18: The Senator for Science and Mathematics will be holding a Mathematics Department Speak Out at W.R. Banks in Room 204 at 5:30 p.m. All mathematics majors and minors should come out to voice ideas and/or concerns.

Tuesday, Nov. 19: The Senator for Science and Mathematics will be holding a Science Department Speak Out at the New Science Building in Room 101 at 6:30 p.m. All science majors and minors should come out to voice ideas and/or concerns.

If you are interested in becoming a senior associate justice or a chief justice for the SGA judicial branch please contact Phyl at ext. 2220 between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Search from page 1

-Doris Price, interim vice president of student and enrollment services;

-Shield Lin, associate dean of engineering and head of the mechanical engineering department;

-Hendrick Maison, president of the Student Government Association;

-Frank Jackson, special assistant to the president for governmental affairs and mayor of Prairie View

-Sherylle Fuller, administrative secretary in the College of Arts and Sciences;

-Wilhelmina Delco, former state representative;

-James DeAnda, Solar & Associates

-Winnie Wooley, president of the PVAMU Alumni Association

-Calvin Bluiett, member of the PVAMU Alumni Association;

-Cleophus Sharp, president of the Houston chapter of the PVAMU Alumni Association;

-Harry Johnson, national president of the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity;

-James Mitchell, former vice president of Texas Instruments;

-Richard McReavy, superintendent of the Waller Independent School District;

-More—
-Lupe Fraga, president and CEO of Tejas Office Productions, Inc.;

-Kase Lawal, president and CEO of CAMAC Holdings, Inc.; and

-Keith McFarland,

president of Texas A&M University Commerce.

A position announcement emailed to *The Panther* by Bob Wright, Director of Communications at Texas A&M University, said candidates will be evaluated on the following criteria:

-Experience with federal and other agencies

-Excellent interpersonal and communication skills

-Understanding and appreciation of PVAMU history and strengths

-Demonstrated experience with working with cross-cultural environments

-Commitment to advanced technology throughout the

university

-Ability to expand research and graduate programs

-Demonstrated success at increasing university enrollment while maintaining high standards

-The demonstrated capacity to provide leadership in fund-raising activities

-A track record in effective leadership and decision-making based on shared governance

-A track record in planning (involving implementation, assessment, and budget allocations)

The announcement also detailed the responsibilities of the president as follows: "The President is the CEO of the University and reports directly to the Chancellor of Texas A&M.

The President must provide visionary leadership, be a proven fundraiser, be committed to di-

versity and a global outlook, and must work effectively with the Chancellor and Board of Regents.

The President must be an articulate advocate who will represent the University effectively to diverse constituencies, including the legislature.

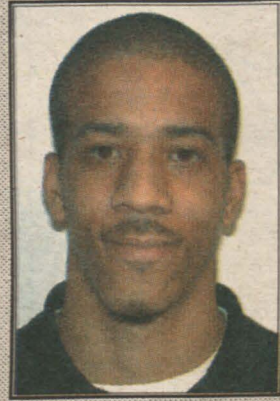
"Qualifications for the presidency include a distinguished record of leadership, scholarly achievement, demonstrated excellent administrative skills, and the ability to work effectively with faculty, staff, students, alumni and other constituencies.

An earned doctorate is also preferred."

The announcer noted, "The planned appointment date is Summer 2003. The search will continue until the position is filled and evaluations begin as dossiers are received, but for all consideration, nominations and applications should be received by January 15, 2003."

Under Texas law, "the names of the finalists only must be disclosed 21 days prior to the Board of Regents action to appoint the next President the announcement added.

To ensure that possible candidates nationwide are aware of the presidential search, the national search will be advertised in the University Faculty Voice, The Chronicle of Higher Education, Black Issues in Higher Education, Hispanic Outlook in Higher Education, Black Enterprise, and the Career Journal.



Andrew Roberts
Sports Editor

Why are many black college athletic programs so far behind?

not get the honors and recognition that they truly deserve for producing productive people and athletes.

Another setback that many black college athletic programs must endure is lack of adequate training and playing facilities. The weight training facilities that our athletes use at Blackshear Stadium and the Baby Dome can best be described as small and outdated. When you go to the University of Texas you could get lost in their weight training facilities.

The University of Texas has a stadium that seats over 84,000 people. Their student enrollment is a little over 48,000 leaving them enough room to seat all of their students and 36,000 in additional fans. Texas A&M's football stadium seats up to 82,600. Their student enrollment is 44,700 leaving 37,900 extra seats for fans. Blackshear stadium seats only 6,000 people. Prairie View's student enrollment is currently 7,262. It is truly pitiful that our stadium could not even hold all of our enrolled students if necessary.

Blackshear stadium may have been sufficient in the past but as Prairie View continues to grow so should its internal structures.

Prairie View has a stadium that can best be compared to a high school football stadium. While UT and Texas A&M play in stadiums that could rival those of many NFL franchises. The last time I checked we were supposedly under the same educational system as Texas and Texas A&M as being recognized as "universities of the first class."

So the question is why such a big gap between athletic programs. No one is lobbying for a multi-million dollar stadium that seats 80,000 people.

But could Prairie View at least get one that has the capacity to hold all of its student population?

Alumni and students having to stand during the homecoming game is unacceptable. It's situations like this that show how far some

There used to exist a day and time when colleges such as Texas, Oklahoma, Alabama and Mississippi, would not even allow blacks to enroll for class.

Many of the same schools that shunned blacks before desegregation currently thrive off the athletic contributions of black athletes every year.

Sports is a multi-billion dollar industry. Memorabilia, tickets, endorsements, paraphernalia and television help make college and professional sports huge money makers. Many division one athletic programs have large quantities of black athletes in their sports programs.

Many of these same schools have student populations that consist only of a small fraction of black students. I'm not criticizing any black athlete that makes the decision to go to a predominantly white school. Why not? That's where the elite learning and athletic training facilities are, along with the majority of media exposure. The only black college football game you're likely to see nationally televised is the Bayou Classic where Grambling plays Southern. Why is this?

Black colleges have produced some of the greatest athletes in sports history. Walter Payton went to Jackson State. Jerry Rice attended Mississippi Valley. All pro defensive lineman Micheal Strahan went to Texas Southern and Steve McNair, all pro quarterback of the Tennessee Titans, attended Alcorn State, all which are black schools.

Black colleges just do



Blackshear Stadium gets filled to capacity easily during big games forcing many students and alumni to stand.

black college athletic programs are currently behind. Many black schools lose out on talented black athletes that opt to go to predominately white universities with better facilities. More importantly many black colleges lose when it comes to equal athletic equipment and playing/training facilities.

How can we ever expect an athletic program to reach its full potential as long as its facilities and assets are severely lacking. The history of Prairie View athletics is deeply rooted in tradition and success. Losing is something that no one enjoys, but how can we ever improve without the proper tools needed for success? The blame need not be on coaches and players but on the system itself.

To all the athletes who have made the choice not only to attend and give back to a black college in the classroom but on the athletic playing field as well, you should all be applauded.

Representing a black college in any sport is something that has never been easy and something that is still not fair. Lack of sports funding and inadequate facilities are just some of the many obstacles in the life of the black college athlete.

SWAC Football Last week's scores

Arkansas Pine Bluff 44
Prairie View 0

Grambling 34
Alabama St 21

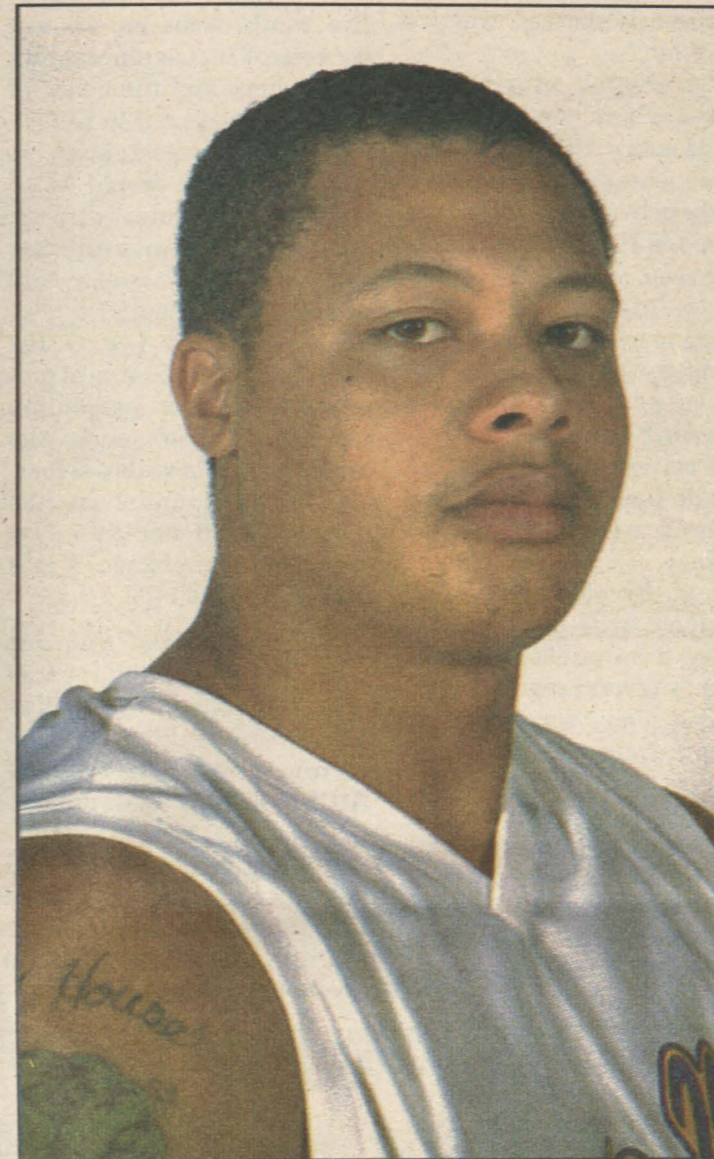
Miss. Valley St. 26
Alcorn St. 6

Texas Southern 26
Clark Atlanta 3

Jackson St. 13
Alabama A&M 13

Southern 28
Miles College 21

Athlete of the Week



Name: Roderick Riley

Sport: Basketball

Classification: Senior

**Claim to Fame:
Led PV in scoring
with 17 points in a
loss to the Arkansas
Angels 74 to 67**

Lady Panthers get burned by Houston Flames

Cory Donley
Panther Staff

The Lady Panthers opened their 2002 season against the semi-pro Houston Flames. The Lady Panthers opened strong with great hustle, taking a early lead. The Lady Panthers played aggressive, fast paced basketball in the first half of play. The ladies controlled the Flames defensively in the first half making them work hard to put points on the board. Houston was held to only 29 points in the first half. The Lady Panthers shot 38.2 percent in the first half. The Lady Panthers went into the locker room at halftime with a slim lead.

The second half seemed to be where the Lady Panther's had most of their trouble. The team found it difficult to get points on the board and to get offensive and defensive rebounds against the Flames. The Lady Panthers shot 11 for 32 in the second half. The Lady Pan-

thers went 0 for 6 from the three-point line. A sluggish and slow start in the second half proved to be costly. One reason for the Panthers' defeat was the weapon that the Houston Flames possessed by the name Debra Williams.

Williams dominated the game with an impressive 34 of Houston's 66 points. Williams went 5 for 8 from the three-point line. The Lady Panthers found it difficult to defend Williams who showcased her ball handling skills and outside shot.

The Lady Panthers were led by center Tanisha Lee who had a team high 12 pts. The Lady Panthers will have to regroup, practice, and focus on the upcoming opponents.

The ladies played strong basketball against the semi-professional team from Houston, which goes to show that the Lady Panthers will be able to hang with the best that the SWAC has to offer.

This year's Lady Panthers basketball team has a lot of talent. Lee is one of the best centers in SWAC. Hav-

ing a strong inside presence is a plus to any team. This year's Lady Panthers team consists of the following players, Alayniah Teverbaugh, Elisha Winters, Tanisha Lee, Karlanda Butler, Tiffany Nalls, Carolyn Hopkins, Casey Hart. Other team members are Carolyn Hutchings, Shakia Roberts, Celeste Coleman, Latoye Moten, Natasha Adams, and Monica Grass. The Lady Panthers are coached this year by Coach Robert Atkins.

Our Lady Panthers' schedule consists of twelve home games. Their next home game will be Friday, December 20 against the ladies of Texas College.

Be sure to come out to support our Lady Panthers. These ladies work very hard to be the best that they can be. Attendance for last Wednesday's game was okay but could be improved on. The support of Prairie View fans is always nice to see. GO LADY PANTHERS!

Aggies freshman QB likely saves his coach, ruins Oklahoma title

By Stephen Hawkins
Associated Press Writer

COLLEGE STATION, Texas (AP) - Reggie McNeal's breakout performance came at the perfect time for embattled Texas A&M coach R.C. Slocum and the absolute worst time for Oklahoma.

Slocum had been taking it slowly with his freshman quarterback, giving McNeal a few snaps here and there over the first nine games, waiting for the right chance to let him loose. That came Saturday.

McNeal replaced struggling starter Dustin Long late in the first quarter, throwing for 189 yards and four touchdowns and running for another 89 yards to lead the Aggies to a 30-26 upset of the top-ranked Sooners.

Almost single-handedly, the freshman likely saved Slocum's job and ruined Oklahoma's chances of playing for the national championship. The Sooners (8-1, 4-1 Big 12) dropped to No. 4 in the new Associated Press poll Sunday. The Aggies (6-4, 3-3) got 35 votes but finished four spots out of the Top 25.

"Reggie's poise was impressive. I can't say I was surprised," Slocum said. "I thought all along that he had special qualities. I didn't want to scar him by throwing him out there too soon. We brought him along throughout the season."

Before Texas A&M's first win ever against a No. 1 team before a crowd of 84,036. Slocum had come under intense pressure. The Aggies had already lost three games

at Kyle Field, where they'd lost only four times throughout the 1990s.

"It's a huge win for R.C. and the program. This has got to rank in the top five games we've ever played," said outgoing athletic director Wally Groff, whose resignation is effective Dec. 31.

Texas A&M president Robert Gates last week offered his "full support" to Slocum, and was in the locker room to celebrate with the team Saturday. But Gates also said Slocum's status would be determined by Groff's replacement. Slocum insisted much of the talk about his future was "overrated," but conceded that Saturday's win was big.

If McNeal keeps playing like that, there is a bright future for the quarterback and his coach.

Independence comes with responsibility

Webster's 4th edition definition of freedom is, "exemption or liberation from the control of some other person or some arbitrary power; liberty, independence; a being able to act, move, use, etc. without hindrance or restraint; being free from the usual rules, patterns, etc."

What does 'freedom' mean to you? Leaving home and being on your own can be both exciting and frightening. But with independence comes responsibility.

Are your actions those of a responsible free person? Are your actions those of a person that appreciates the sacrifice(s) his/her parent or guardian has made or continues to make in your behalf in order that you might obtain all the things a good education offers?

A mistake is fertilizer for growth, however, some mistakes can haunt you for life. Some mistakes can destroy your life. You say,

Dennis Bates
Graduate Student

Department gives recognition to honor societies at fall meeting

By Christina Johnson
Panther Staff

The department of Languages and Communications held a fall meeting of honor societies to recognize majors and minors who have excelled in their respective fields.

Within the department, there are several honor societies and clubs: Sigma Tau Delta (English), Alpha Mu Gamma (foreign languages), Sigma Delta Pi (Spanish), Sigma Tau Theta (communications), the Association of Black Communications Majors, and the French Club.

Students showed what they've learned during the entertainment segment of the program. Sigma Tau Delta members La Erica Huff, Tamille Williams, and Kristopher Viosine performed "Fun with Literature." They read

"I'm an adult, I'm free to do as I choose!" Have you considered that some things you do may be a far stretch away from what you should do? If it follows a path of self-respect, self-restraint, self-love, and consideration of others you're heading the right way. If it isn't, give it some thought.

Apply these considerations when studying, partying, language usage, and the manner in which you dress (to name just a few). It will help the growth of character.

Enjoy this time of your life, just don't lose sight of the real purpose of college which is education (in its various forms).

To know who you are will take time. Don't let others define and/or determine who you are and who you should be for them? Feel free to feel free but free DUMB can be enslaving.

Microsoft chairman gives \$100 million to fight AIDS in India

By Beth Duff-Brown
Associated Press Writer

NEW DELHI, India (AP) — Microsoft Chairman Bill Gates pledged \$100 million Monday to fight AIDS in India, a dramatic initiative he said would focus on helping women protect themselves from careless partners.

The \$100 million contribution from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation is the largest grant the organization has given to a country to fight the deadly virus.

The foundation is funded by the Microsoft founder's personal wealth, which Forbes magazine estimated in September at \$43 billion.

"I realized about 10 years ago that my wealth has to go back to society," said Gates, a father of three who says he was influenced by his own parents' practice of regularly donating to charity.

"A fortune, the size of which is hard to imagine, is

best not passed on to one's children. It's not constructive for them."

Gates started his four-day trip through India on Monday with a visit to a private hospice in New Delhi — where he wore a "tika," the deep red Hindu mark, on his forehead.

"It's a very brave thing to speak out and it's a problem that needs a lot of brave people," Gates told Naveen Kumar, an HIV-positive activist who said India's public health facilities had refused to treat him and his wife.

Kumar said his HIV-positive wife was turned away from public hospitals when she was pregnant. Doctors at one government-run hospital suggested she have an abortion.

"The hospital actually asked my wife to leave. They said it was useless to have the baby," he told Gates. Their daughter is healthy and virus-free, he said.

Gates said his initiative would focus on women, because of their vulnerability to the virus and their lack of access to treatment in India.

"In a conservative society, the effort would be to reach out to the women through other women and to ensure that the resources reach the women," Gates said.

He said the Gates Foundation was looking at programs that teach prevention methods that don't require the cooperation of a male partner.

The foundation has invested \$100 million in research on microbicides — gels designed to kill HIV.

Gates, who also met with Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, urged Indian leaders and health professionals to look beyond the stigma of AIDS and publicize its danger.

"HIV-AIDS is at a relatively low level in India and experience shows that countries that act at an early stage can prevent the disease from becoming widespread."

Priest serves despite groping allegations

Man, 58, complained of assault during 'healing' session

Associated Press

DALLAS (AP) — A Roman Catholic priest at a high-profile downtown church has been allowed to continue serving despite an accusation that he groped and propositioned a worshipper in 1991, according to correspondence and interviews.

Coadjutor Bishop Joseph Galante, a spokesman for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and one of the nation's most outspoken prelates on abuse issues, said in Monday's editions of The Dallas Morning News that he has been unable to persuade Bishop Charles Grahmann to remove the Rev. Ramon Alvarez.

The case raises questions about whether

the diocese is following its sexual misconduct policies, which were toughened in the wake of clergy abuse scandals that cost more than \$30 million in legal settlements.

Grahmann said in a news release that the allegation has been thoroughly reviewed by professionals both inside and outside the church.

"Based on the known facts, the diocese handled the situation correctly and the bishop stands by the decision it has made."

Alvarez, head priest of the Cathedral Shrine of the Virgin of Guadalupe, which has more than 50,000 registered families, is accused of assaulting a worshipper who asked him for help with severe back pain.

The allegations against the priest surfaced in May, when 58-year-old Garland Melancon told the diocese that, after the priest agreed to perform a pain-relief blessing, he pulled down Melancon's jogging

pants, groped him and propositioned him.

Alvarez acknowledged "inappropriate contact" with the Houston-area man and was told to resume counseling about "boundary issues" that he'd previously undergone voluntarily, diocesan Chancellor Mary Edlund said.

She characterized the encounter as consensual but would not discuss details. No civil or criminal charges have been filed; the legal deadline for doing so may have passed.

The priest, 47, declined interview requests from the newspaper, as did Grahmann.

In a news release, Grahmann reiterated his support for Alvarez and said that the allegation "does not invoke provisions of the diocesan policy on child abuse."

Galante said he did not get a detailed briefing

about the situation until early October and since has been urging action.

He said when he asked Edlund whether the allegation were true, "She said, 'There is some truth.' She didn't go into details."

Galante said he has learned enough to conclude that the priest should be removed indefinitely from the cathedral, both for punitive reasons and to promote his own healing.

In a written policy, the Dallas Diocese says that clergy sexual misconduct "will not be tolerated under any circumstances."

Misconduct is defined as including any sexual contact with a minor or an adult.

The policy states that if allegations "are supported by sufficient evidence," the priest will be promptly re-

moved from duty. Final discipline is not specified.

In a written statement regarding the Alvarez case, the diocese told the newspaper that "this matter has been thoroughly reviewed by the diocesan officials."

Bishop Grahmann after consultation with advisers and professionals determined that based upon the facts there are no impediments to Father Alvarez continuing in ministry.

Edlund, who runs the diocese's day-to-day operations, and diocese spokesman Bronson Havard said a full investigation was unnecessary because they considered the priest's accuser not credible.

One reason was that Melancon "wanted to be paid for his silence," Havard said, noting that he has not pressed civil or criminal charges.

Teens suffers burns from being a 'Jackass'

SEATTLE, Washington (Reuters) — A 15-year-old Washington state boy suffered serious burns when he set himself on fire trying to re-enact a stunt similar to those from MTV's controversial show "Jackass," though an MTV spokesperson noted the stunt the boy tried had never appeared on the show or in the recent movie based on the show.

The boy from the Seattle suburb of Bellevue, Washington, soaked his shirt in rubbing alcohol late on Friday and ignited it while his friends stood by with a video camera shooting footage they planned to sell, police and local media reported.

After suffering first-degree burns over his face and upper body, the teen-ager initially told police that someone had set

his clothes on fire while he walked on a trail after attending a high school football game in Issaquah, Washington, police said.

But police later recovered a backpack containing an alcohol-soaked T-shirt, lighter fluid and a video camera.

"The stunt obviously went very wrong," Issaquah police said in a statement, adding that the boy could face obstruction of justice charges for lying about the incident, requiring extra police work.

The "Jackass" show depicting outrageous and dangerous stunts by paid actors aired on Viacom Inc.'s youth-oriented MTV in 2000 and 2001 and then was canceled. However, a movie version opened in theaters three weeks ago and has raked in \$53.3 million at the box office.

The movie includes the following disclaimer: "The stunts in this movie were performed by professionals, so, neither you nor your dumb buddies should attempt anything from this movie."



The Answers

Weekly Update for Freshmen

IT'S TIME TO GET SERIOUS ABOUT YOUR ACADEMICS!!

- You must take the TASP at least once every academic year.
- Note: Sophomores, juniors and seniors must provide TASP scores for the year 2002 to be able to pre-register for spring 2003. Check out the following URL: <http://calendars.pvamu.edu/> for information about our Quick TASP testing schedule or call 936/857-2747.

DATES TO REMEMBER (all dates found at the website <http://calendars.pvamu.edu/>)

November 12	Early Registration for Spring '03
November 28-29	Thanksgiving Holiday
December 1	Rent due at UC
December 6-11	Final Exams!!

- THANK YOU PVAMU STUDENTS, STAFF AND FACULTY FOR MAKING THE FIRST ANNUAL UC MAJORS' AND MINORS' FAIR A SUCCESS!!!
700 students and over 100 staff and faculty participated!!!
- Congratulations to the UC Advisement Division for winning 1st Place in the Homecoming Decoration Contest and to UC for a 3rd place in their Homecoming parade category.
- Watch this space next week for UC's Academic Superstars!!



CAMPUS ACTIVITIES BOARD (CAB)

Sponsors a

Food & Clothing Drive

Tuesday, November 19, 2002, 6:00-8:00 PM
University College

Please drop-off your nonperishable food items and donated clothing items to above location at the indicated date and time.

For more information, call Campus Activities Board @ ext. 4443

Do the crime, pay with time



By Yolanda Hadnot
Lifestyles Editor

With the recent criminal offenses of Winona Ryder (actress) I am starting to wonder if celebrities are immune to punishment for their crimes. Nowadays a hit single, flashy clothes, and a good lawyer can get you out of anything.

Winona was recently convicted of felony shoplifting when she stole 5,500 dollars worth of clothing from a major department store. Sorry to say, but the cuffs were the only thing she was slapped with even though this is her fourth offense. She got off with petty probation of three years but had she been a "mere mortal" she would have done time.

While Winona is the one in the public eye she is not the only one who's gotten off scott free or with probation. Oscar winning actress Halle Berry got off from the heinous crime of running over a woman and fleeing the scene of the crime. Halle's plea was she blacked out and couldn't remember the whole ordeal. Please, how many of us really believe that garbage?

Not to mention, Robert Downey Jr. gets off frequently for his excessive drug abuse. Robert can't keep his nose clean to save his life literally. Why are celebrities immune from punishment? Shouldn't we all be treated equal?

I know if I commit a crime and am convicted I will face a jury of my peers. Why don't they? Officials should never expect celebrities to pay for their mistakes when they can flash some cash and those pearly whites to get off.

Weekly Horoscopes 11/10-11/16

By Miss Anna

Associated Press

ARIES: (March 21-April 20)

Use all of the resources available to you. A family argument may take some extra attention to straighten out, with no serious fallouts. You may need to make some choices - between spending more quality time with family and friends, or advancing at work.

TAURUS: (April 21 - May 21)

There seems to be some apparent conflict, but it is of a healthy variety, and may yield some unexpected benefits in the form of totally new approaches to routine situations. Don't make hasty decisions regarding financial matters until you know the whole story.

GEMINI: (May 22 - June 21)

You and your significant other may make a wonderful connection and the sense that you are growing closer will bring both of you joy. Success will be yours, even if it is of a low-key nature. You know you've made great strides, and soon the right people will notice.

CANCER: (June 22 - July 23)

Try to take it easy this week. You have been going at a frantic pace, and it will start to catch up with you. Decisions made hastily may be flawed, so put off action until you have all the facts. Treat yourself to something special, and maybe something a little frivolous.

LEO: (July 24 - August 23)

You will get ahead by working hard. Nothing less than your reputation is at stake, but no need to worry since your work is usually above reproach. Expect a little bit of a delay, because soon you'll be riding on the crest of success. The spotlight is yours, you deserve it.

VIRGO: (August 24 - September 23)

Prosperity is an issue, so instead of whining, take action. Work a little harder and you'll be surprised at the financial results. A surge of inspiration will enable you to get through any potentially rough situations - clear all avenues of communication.

LIBRA: (September 24 - October 23)

Use your clout to get some new and different changes off the ground at work. Friends and co-work-

ers can really come in handy now. You're working for no less than the greater good of all involved - remember this. Don't be taken in by careless flirting with someone new.

SCORPIO: (October 24 - November 22)

Keeping your nose to the grindstone is admirable to a point, but you might make a better impression with superiors if your approach is more balanced. Learn to give some responsibilities to others if you are interested in a management position.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 23 - December 21)

You tend to keep your emotional distress to yourself, and this might not be for the best. Allow someone close to penetrate your defenses. Your beauty comes from within, and creates a glow that is obvious to others around you. Make plans carefully to assure a positive outcome.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 - January 20)

A little contemplation will get your week off on a calm and clear path. You are pleased with the results up until now, but do want to improve your work. Allow troublesome obstacles to dis-

solve themselves. You can't hasten this process by hovering and worrying needlessly.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 - February 19)

Is your current relationship a little unbalanced? If so, playing the role too faithfully can bring resentment and boredom. Maybe a planned weekend pleasure trip is just what the doctor ordered. One or both of you may need to learn something new. Make peace with inevitable changes.

PISCES: (February 20 - March 20)

When working on your financial plan for the future, avoid putting all your eggs in one basket. Anything which looks definite may not be beneficial in the end. Diversify investments and don't expect to get rich overnight. Any health problems are probably from neglect.

IF THIS WEEK IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: Catch up on correspondence with friends. Be wary though, encounters with others may end in emotional outbursts, which may leave you a bit bewildered. You may feel that you are constantly at battle with your significant other, which leads you nowhere.

Giplin Players make Greek play come to life Crowd gives cast a standing ovation

Leona Aaron
Panther Staff

Prairie View A&M

Theatre Arts Program and the Charles Giplin Players presented the greek tragedy,

Medea Nov. 9-11 in Hobart Taylor Recital Hall.

Those who went and didn't know anything about greek mythology came out understanding it very well. Medea is about a woman who is deceived and betrayed by her husband, Jason. She sets out to destroy Jason for the pain and suffering he caused her.

In the end, Medea gets her revenge on Jason but at the cost that couldn't be forgiven by the Gods. Medea, written by Euripides, was freely adapted, arranged, and directed by C. Lee Turner, the theatre arts program coordinator.

The cast of Medea was excellent and didn't miss a beat. Monet Wright,

who played medea, and Marcus Turner, who played Jason, were very convincing in their roles.

The supporting cast, included the chorus who did everything to perfection. They all received standing ovations.

The Giplin Players will perform Medea Nov. 13 at 1:00 p.m. at the American College Theatre Festival in Beaumont, Texas, at Lamar University Theatre.

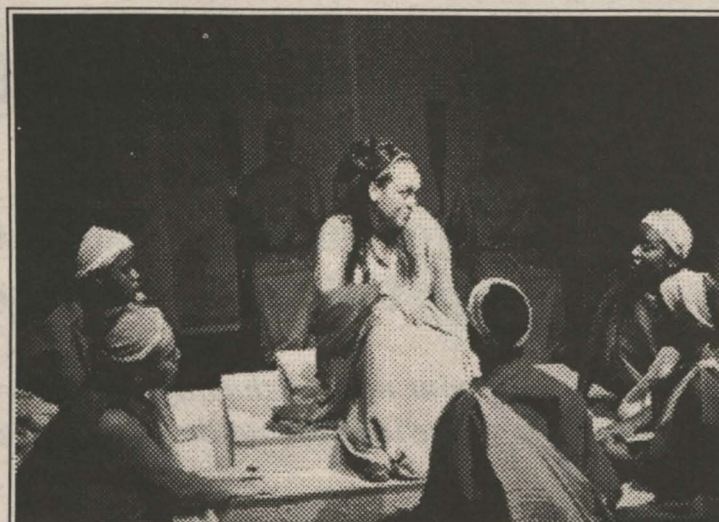


Photo by Leona Aaron

The Greek play performed by the Giplin players was a big hit. The cast got a standing ovation for their superior performance. The lead actress had the crowd wanting more and more.



Alma Mater from page 3

the midst of a 2000 Republican primary battle in South Carolina appealed to the most openly racist university in America, Bob Jones University, in his quest for votes and to solidify his support for the Confederate flag? [Bush refused to take sides in the battle over whether to remove it from the South Carolina Capitol.] The same George Bush, who as governor of Texas, led the nation in state-sanctioned lynchings and limited the appeals of those convicted? The majority of those legally lynched were African American males.

Bush has maintained

a closed-door policy with civil rights organizations since his tenure as president. He showed the nation and world his utter disregard of black life by executing Gary Graham (Shaka Sankofa), a juvenile offender, on the testimony of one shady eyewitness. During the presidential campaign, Bush said he was not in favor of affirmative action but "affirmative access." He opposed the World Conference Against Racism in Durban, South Africa, and refused to send Secretary of State Colin Powell to represent the interests of the administration. Bush was selected (not elected) president of the United States by the Supreme Court, despite the fact that the majority of Americans (90 percent of Afri-

can Americans) did not vote for him; thousands had their votes discarded or were intimidated and turned away at the polls.

Bush's ideological foundation started with his father. Then-Rep. George Bush Sr. voted against the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which was inspired by the 1963 March on Washington.

He also opposed the Voting Rights Act of 1965, which was inspired by the "Bloody Sunday" march across the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Ala. Rep. John Lewis, D-Ga., a recent Howard honorary degree recipient, was one of the principal leaders of that march. George H.W. Bush served as director of the Central Intelligence Agency at a

time when the FBI's Counter-Intelligence Program (COINTELPRO) was in full swing. He nominated Clarence Thomas to the Supreme Court, and vetoed the Civil Rights Act of 1990. His campaign featured "Willie Horton" ads to drum up an angry white backlash in order to ensure Bush's election victory in 1988. Bush represents everything that I know my alma mater to be opposed to and fighting against.

The Rev. Jesse Louis Jackson Sr. was right at the Democratic National Convention of 2000 when he warned America to "Stay out of the Bushes"! Frederick Douglass, one of the principal founders of Howard University and the longest serving trustee in the University's history (25 years) once said: "Find out just what a people will submit to, and you have found the exact amount of injustice and wrong which will be imposed upon them; and these will continue until they are resisted with either words or blows, or with both: The limits of tyrants are prescribed by the endurance of those whom they oppress".

This is a fight and struggle for the soul of Howard and indeed the soul

of Black America. Let us lock arms and join hands as a united world and fight back against the Bush agenda.



Listen to this



SALE

Yearbooks on Sale Now!

Only \$ 20

Pay in the Fiscal Office

Hurry!!! Yearbooks are Selling Fast!!!

1. Why is everyone who is going through M.I.P. giving blood?
2. Do they know they might need it?
3. Why don't the Deltas give blood?
4. Who got left in New Orleans on the MAPS trip?
5. Does the Panther office have a contract with Williams Chicken?
6. Why does Phase I&II have cold water Monday through Friday?
7. When did rollerblading and bike riding become so popular?
8. Who broke into K.F.C.?
9. What did they get?
10. Chicken tenders?
11. Why is there a big hole in K.F.C.?
12. Who is the girl who won the lotto?
13. When did G.T. become the terminator?
14. Is Katy Mills an outlet or a mall?
15. Why doesn't the new parking lot have handicap spots?
16. What happened to the S.G.A. party?
17. How long will we talk about the M.I.P. process?
18. Who still wears letterman jackets?
19. Why did every sport lose this week?
20. What do you think?

This is for entertainment only. The questions submitted are not necessarily the views of The Panther. Want to tell us what you think? Please bring your comments and questions to Rm. 105 Harrington Science or email panther@pvamu.edu. Questions are printed at the discretion of The Panther.

Army from page 1

Development Course, Industrial College of the Armed Forces and DoD CAPSTONE Worldwide Training Program for General Officers.

Lt. Gen. Solomon's awards include the Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Commendation Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster, Army Achieve-

ment Medal, and Armed Forces Reserve Medal.

The distinguished PV alumnus is married to the former Cathryn Jefferson, also from Fairfield, Texas. They have two children, a daughter, Tonya, and a son, Brandon.

Ambassador from page 1

"Brotherhood and unity come with education," said Smith who presided over the public program held in Hobart Taylor Recital Hall last week.

Mullings and his wife, Lilieth Bell, arrived on the hill Wednesday and were greeted with an extensive tour of the campus by members of SGA and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority.

During the program, "In Conversation with His Excellency Seymour Mullings," Allicock said Jamaicans in the diaspora are working together to spread

Jamaican influence across the world.

Following Allicock's speech, Mullings addressed the faculty and students of Prairie View. He greeted the stage playing a piano solo titled, "Island in the Sun."

Mullings is Jamaica's seventh Ambassador to the United States as well as its permanent representative to the Organization of American States. He assumed responsibility November 2001 after serving Jamaica as a parliamentarian for decades, according to a public biography.



Cadet Tejan Robinson completed the Leadership Training Course during the Summer of 2002 and received a 2 yr. scholarship in Army ROTC.

Opportunities for Summer Training Announced

With the declining economy and tough job market, students at Prairie View are taking a closer look at opportunities to serve our nation. Among the choices gaining increased popularity on campus is Army ROTC. The program, which helps qualified college students become Army lieutenants, can now be completed in as little as two years - through attendance at the Leader's Training Course.

"The Leader's Training Course (LTC) allows students who -- for whatever reason -- did not participate in Army ROTC during their first two year's on campus to still complete the course and earn an officer's commission before they graduate," said Lieutenant Colonel Dexter Henson, The Professor of Military Science at Prairie View. The LTC is also perfect for graduate students.

The Leader's Training Course is held at Fort Knox, Kentucky during the summer. While there, students may also compete for merit-based scholarships that provide up to \$17,000 toward tuition costs. All who successfully complete the course automatically qualify for a tax-free monthly allowance of \$350 during their next year of college. That amount grows to \$400 per month during their final year of Army ROTC classes.

Army ROTC provides the majority of the Army's officers and is the largest of the military's commissioning programs. Graduates can select from among 17 job specialties - where they will have the opportunity to put the leadership skills they developed in Army ROTC to immediate use.

"The course really taught me a lot about myself - and what it takes to effectively lead others," said Cadet Tejan Robinson, a Prairie View student and graduate of the 2001 LTC.

For more information on the Leader's Training Course, contact Captain Rodney penny at (936) 857-4612 or e mail at rodney_penny@pvamu.edu.

WE HAVE A SUREFIRE
WAY TO PREDICT THE
FUTURE. HIRE YOU TO
INVENT IT.

Cyberspace controls and laser defense systems came as no surprise to the U.S. Air Force. In fact, they came off our drawing boards. No wonder we're always looking to hire the best and brightest. You can leverage your degree immediately and get hands-on experience with some of the most sophisticated technology on earth. To request more information, call 1-800-423-USAF or visit our Web site at airforce.com.



U.S. AIR FORCE
CROSS INTO THE BLUE