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Prairie View A&M University

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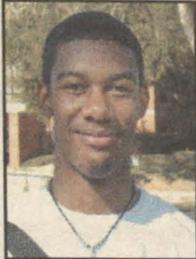
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THE PANTHER

panther@pvamu.edu . Volume 80, Issue 14. January 21, 2003

The Official Student Newspaper of Prairie View A&M University

Inside
this week



What was your New Year's resolution and why?

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School of Juvenile Justice and Psychology celebrates fifth anniversary.

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"National Security" ranks high among Panther favorites.

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Tempton responds to tuition questions

By Barbara Ramirez
Panther Staff

Some students have been questioning the basis for paying two types of tuition fees—board authorized tuition or designated tuition and resident tuition. To shed light on the issue, *The Panther* secured an interview with Interim President Willie A. Tempton to address the concerns students have.

According to Tempton, "The resident tuition fee is the state mandated fee. All students in the state of Texas who attend a state assisted institution pay a fixed tuition of \$44 per semester credit hour."

The total cost of both tuition fees is \$1,440, which, Tempton said, is reasonable when compared to other schools both in and outside of Texas.

In an informal campus survey, most students deemed the resident tuition reasonable. Students focused more on the university's board
See Tuition page 5

New Coach, New Team, Superb Performance Panther basketball team on top again after 30-year drought

By Andrew Roberts
Sports Editor

The Prairie View A&M Panthers are in a tie for first place, after a win against Jackson State Monday night. The Panthers improved their record to 5-0 and moved themselves into a tie for first place.

The win capitalizes a three game home stand in which Prairie View defeated Texas Southern, Grambling, and on Monday night Jackson State.

The Panthers are on a five game roll in the SWAC conference coming away with wins on the road against Alcorn State and Southern earlier in the season. The team has been involved in three consecutive close games, all of which have been decided by three points or less. Somehow the Panthers have been able to find ways to win these close contests.

Saturday's match-up brought the 2-3 Grambling Tigers into town to face our undefeated Panthers. Prairie View started the game off by taking an early six-point advantage.

See Basketball page 6



Photograph by Gitonga MUMBILLE

Shooting Guard Gregory Burks leaves opponents spellbound as he makes another crucial game winning shot to put the Panthers up by one to clinch another SWAC victory. The Panthers are now 5-0.

House bill seeks \$130 million for pre-medical academy at PV Effort is brainchild of State Representative Ruth McClendon

By Nikki Easter
Panther Staff

State Representative Ruth McClendon has sponsored a bill in the Texas Legislature to establish a pre-medical academy at Prairie View A&M University.

House Bill 85 requests the allocation of \$130 million

to Prairie View A&M University over a ten-year period to fund the academy.

Interim President Willie Tempton said that under the program, pre-medical students would attend Prairie View A&M University for two years and continue for

two more years at a "partnership medical school" in Texas where they would complete requirements for a bachelor's degree. He said that the program is similar to one established in 1978 at Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia.

Dr. E. Joahanne Tho-

mas-Smith, provost and vice-president for academic affairs, said that Representative McClendon is currently looking for ways in which the legislature could fund the program without upsetting the state's budget deficit. "It's really in the best interest of the state to

have a medical school that would produce quality physicians of African-American and Hispanic descent," Thomas-Smith added.

House Bill 85 vests the organization, control, and management of the

See Bill page 5

•State•

PV's Seven Day Forecast

Wed Jan 22 Partly Cloudy 57°/31°

Thu Jan 23 Partly Cloudy 42°/27°

Fri Jan 24 Partly Cloudy 49°/27°

Sat Jan 25 Partly Cloudy 53°/34°

Sun Jan 26 Few Showers 58°/39°

Mon Jan 27 Partly Cloudy 64°/42°

Tue Jan 28 Mostly Cloudy 61°/41°

courtesy of weather.com

•National•

Ballard teacher, coach charged with harassment

LA CENTER, Ky. (AP) - A Ballard County teacher and coach has been charged with harassing five female students.

Kentucky State Police are investigating allegations that middle school teacher Freddie Bobo, 40, harassed the eighth-grade girls. The students names were not released.

Bobo was served last week with a summons charging him with five counts of harassment. He was not taken into custody.

Ballard County Superintendent Steve Hoskins said he could not comment beyond confirming Bobo's suspension and the investigation.

Bobo is scheduled to appear in Ballard District Court on Jan. 27.

Police search for clues on missing college student

FORT COLLINS, Colo. (AP) - Police looked for clues Monday on the whereabouts of a missing University of Northern Colorado sophomore.

Lacy Miller, 20, was last seen around 1:30 a.m. Saturday, when she dropped off a girlfriend at the friend's apartment.

Her parents reported her missing after she did not return to their home, where she lives. Police have found no evidence of foul play.

"While there is no evidence of foul play, this behavior is so uncharacteristic of her behavior that her parents and Fort Collins police felt it was necessary to get information out to the public in case anyone had any information on her whereabouts," police spokeswoman Rita Davis said.

•World•

Woman freed from handcuffs in lingerie store

LONDON (AP) - A woman who slipped into an erotic lingerie store to look around drew far more attention than she intended when her hands got stuck in handcuffs and she had to be rescued by firefighters.

A crowd gathered to watch the fire crew free the embarrassed shopper from the police-style cuffs with a hacksaw, Sarah Nosed, an assistant at the store, said Monday.

"People mess about all the time with the handcuffs and they jammed," she said. "We tried everything to get them off, but we couldn't, so we had to get the fire brigade out to saw them off. She was very embarrassed."

The West Midlands Fire Service said it sent out an entire crew to deal with the emergency.

"I think there were about six firefighters in the shop and they all wanted to come along as it was the highlight of their day," Nosed said.

Britain to send land force of 26,000 troops to Gulf

LONDON (AP) - Britain will send a land force of 26,000 troops to the Persian Gulf in preparation for possible military action against Iraq, Defense Secretary Geoff Hoon said Monday.

Hoon announced the large deployment in the House of Commons, where opposition from his own Labor Party has been strong to a U.S.-led war against Iraq.

Mr. President?



goggleimages.com

The very outspoken Rev. Al Sharpton has filed papers seeking the Democratic Party's nomination for the 2004 U.S. Presidential race. Sharpton is the second African American male in history to seek the party's nomination. Jesse Jackson ran for the nomination in 1984.

The deployment is a dramatic increase in Britain's military build-up for any Iraq war. Britain already has dispatched its biggest naval task group - the ships are carrying 3,000 Royal Marines and 5,000 sailors.

The new deployment, which will take place in the coming weeks, would include 120 Challenger tanks and 150 Warrior armored personnel carriers,

Hoon told Parliament. A deployment on this scale is "no ordinary measure," Hoon said, but he also emphasized that "none of the steps we are taking represents a commitment of British forces to military action. A decision to employ force has not been taken, nor is such a decision imminent or inevitable."

Britain has been the strongest supporter of the United States' tough line on Iraq.

Advertisement for 'D.B. LOVE' featuring a CD image, contact number 832.428.8109, and a drawing of a person. Text includes 'Welcome back returning students!!' and 'CALL FOR PRICES.'

Advertisement for 'campus FUNDRAISER' with text: 'Earn \$1,000 - \$2,000 for your Student Group in just 3 hours!' and 'Your Trusted Source for College Fundraising.'

Advertisement for 'Home For Sale !!' with text: 'Three (3) Bedroom, One (1) Bath House in Hempstead, Texas Washer/ Dryer Hook -ups For Rent \$600 Monthly Call 979-777-8963 or 979-777-4108'

Advertisement for 'Bill's Fresh N' Fried Seafood Specials' with text: '12pc. Wings and fries... \$3.99', '10 pc. Catfish nuggets and fries... \$2.99', '3pc. Drumfish with fries ... \$3.99', '2 Pork Chops and fries \$3.99'

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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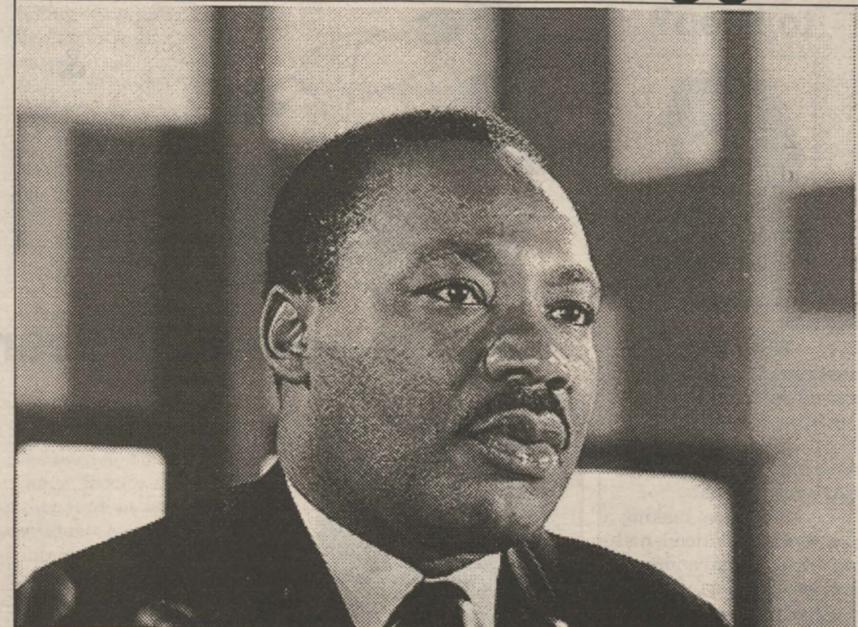
What did it cost us to struggle?



By Tenesia S. Mathews Editor-in-Chief

The 2nd Monday in January somewhat symbolizes the outcome of the African American struggle. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr's National Holiday although not recognized by all states represents the inherited exertion that our ancestors endured just to have simple pleasures such as: public restrooms, the right to use the public library, and equality in the work and labor forces. But all in all what did all the struggle cost us?

Prairie View A&M University has stood in its place since 1876. Through the lynchings, the protests, the Great Depression, and the wars our university still stands. But what has it cost Prairie View to stand as long as it has? What was the point of Coloreds, Negroes, Blacks, and African Americans enduring all that we have? Our generation has basically assimilated ourselves into a society that still labels us, a society that still closes doors in our



Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr, one of the most prominent African American leaders in the 20th Century.

faces because we have the audacity to have too much melanin in our skin.

What was the point of all the struggle when we still elect and follow people like President George Bush, a president who does not support the University of Michigan in its efforts to diversify its graduate programs, Senator Trent Lott, who openly supports those who promote racism and inequality for minorities?

To answer my own questions, it costs us ourselves. The youth today, especially minorities, have the

ability to live and thrive in a society that labeled us 2/3 of a white person.

How many of us actually take pride in the sacrifices that our parents, grandparents, and great grandparents made for us to enjoy the freedoms that we exalt daily? People like Dr. King died to just be able to use public restrooms, but now we don't even have enough home training to throw the tissue in the trash instead of on the floor in the restrooms around campus. People like Dr. King died just to be able to shop in the stores

that we go into and steal out of. People like Dr. King died to sit in the libraries that none of us have even seen the inside of because we don't like to read.

The costs for all the struggle that was endured was our souls. We have assimilated ourselves into a culture that still practices racism subtly. We have almost thrown away hundreds of years of struggle for alcohol, marijuana, Tommy Hilfiger and Polo. I guess the saying is true " you pay the costs to be the boss," but what are we the boss of?

PV student fed up with campus violence

As a student here at Prairie View it is becoming a big issue to me that there is so much violence among the students. I have several friends who live in Phases 1 and 2 that are too scared to come outside at night because of the fights and have left their cars home because they're afraid they might be broken into.

They live in the phase and don't want their cars there, so why should I, just being a visitor, want to park my car over there? The fighting not only makes me not want to drive over there it also

makes me want to stay home in fear of stray bullets. The other day I was in Phases 1 and 2 and heard gunshots. I'm not sure if anyone was hurt, but it makes me wonder what the police are doing to make sure guns and other weapons are not on our campus.

I only see about six officers on campus until it is time for a bug event. Why can't there be more police patrolling the campus during "regular" school days to ensure the safety of the students?

Violence among the students is not only around

campus. It is happening at off-campus functions as well. For instance, after the PV and TSU basketball game the party at the Waller Fairgrounds was out of control. People were fighting like they were in a war. Police held people inside the party while others were fighting outside. I've known people who have gotten caught up in fights and they were simply trying to break them up.

Innocent people are getting hurt and it seems that the police were trying not to get themselves hit. I've personally witnessed an officer stand-

ing around while people were fighting. Maybe it's just me, but I feel that some of them have an "I don't care" attitude. That's not the way it should be.

I feel the Prairie View Police Department should hire more officers to control the unruly crowds and violence in the village. We need police who are dedicated to their jobs and care about the safety of the students.

Candace Simpson

Resolutions: to keep or not to keep?



By L'Rhonda Boyd
News Editor

Webster's defines resolution as the act or process of resolving and a solution of a problem.

My question is how serious do we take our new year's resolutions?

For some, making a new year's resolution is nothing more than a promise that we don't intend to keep or a goal that we won't try to reach.

Many people make up their resolutions just to satisfy the curiosity of others.

Then there are those who take their resolutions very seriously.

Losing weight, getting physically fit, and quitting smoking are usually the most popular.

Maybe it's time we change the way we look at new year's resolutions.

If taken seriously this could be a time where you take something about yourself that needs adjusting, and fix it.

As young Americans we should strive to better ourselves and bettering ourselves should always be top priority.

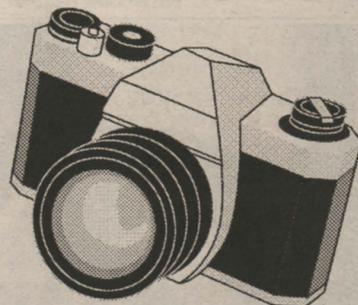
For some, a new year's resolution is the boost needed in preparation for bettering ourselves.

Sometimes it's the only time that people look at themselves in search for something that could be better.

The sad part about these resolutions is that they are seldom kept.

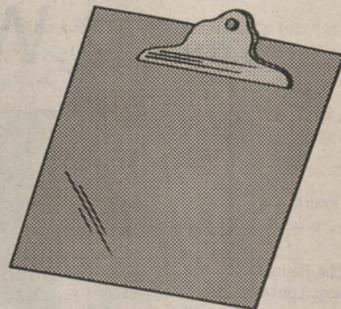
In summary, maybe new year's resolution should be taken serious but how can they when we don't intend to keep them after they are made?

PURPLE



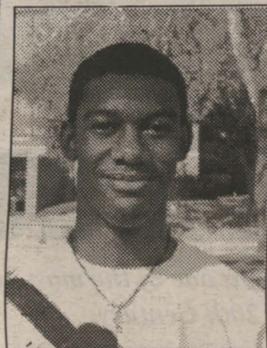
&

GOLD



POLL

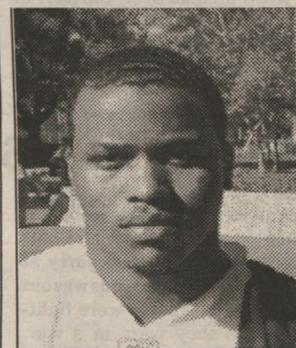
What is your new year's resolution and why?



Jarvis Cox

Electrical Engineering
Freshman

"To stop being so nice because people take advantage of other people's niceness."



Carlan White

Political Science
Senior

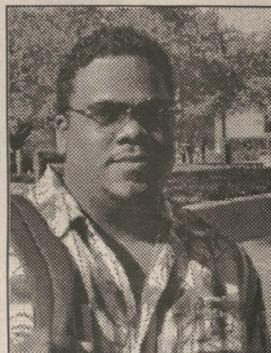
"To work harder on the field to help the football team win more games."



Shanique Walher

Nursing/Psychology
Sophomore

"My new year's resolution is to get closer to God."



Sherman Hatton

Political Science
Senior

"To be more disciplined. I feel it's my only setback."



Kelli Hemphill
Biology
Sophomore

"To try to be more understanding with my parents because I want them to be able to understand me."

Prairie View alumnus among top achievers to be recognized at 2003 Black Engineer of the Year Awards

Press Release
Panther Staff

Baltimore, Md. - Roy G. Perry, corporate vice president, global Supply Chain Management of StorageTek in Louisville will be acknowledged for his career achievements at the prestigious 2003 Black Engineer of the Year Awards Conference, which will be held February 13-15, 2003 at the Baltimore Convention Center in Baltimore, Md. Perry, who received his bachelor of science in electrical engineering from Prairie View 1978, is recipient of the 2003 Professional Achievement in Industry Award.

He was among hundreds who aggressively competed for recognition at one of this country's oldest and most highly regarded conferences for Blacks in the fields of math, science, engineering, and information technology. With award recipients from such companies as General Motors, the Boeing Company and IBM Global Services, Perry joins a notable roster of professionals, many of whom have conquered a landscape of personal challenge, social inequity, and workplace immobility only to excel in their fields.

Since 1987, the Black Engineer of the Year awards ceremony has provided employers with the unique opportunity to acknowledge the achievements of African American trailblazers within their ranks. Hosted by US Black Engineer and Information Technology magazine, the Council of Engineering Deans of the Historically Black Colleges and Universities, and Lockheed Martin Corporation, the conference continues to bring together college administrators, engineering and IT professionals, scientists, and high-level decision-makers from the corporate, government, and military communities.

Over the years, corporate recruiters and human resource managers have successfully connected with thousands of bright, up-and-coming minority students seeking employment and intern-

ship opportunities within the industry. The conference and awards ceremony provide immeasurable social and economic value to its constituencies in both the public and private sector.

Tuition from page 1

tuition or designated tuition and its purpose.

"This fee is what we used to call the building use fee or general use fee," Tempton explained. "It was a fee that universities were authorized to collect for program support, maintenance, and upkeep of those auxiliary enterprises other than educational and general facilities."

Tempton gave an example of how the university utilizes the board authorized tuition by saying that it is used on such events as the choir going to Poland, which required "some \$70,000 for the trip."

Another example he cited was when the band went to Washington D.C. to participate in the 2001 presidential inauguration, which cost about \$100,000. He said one very important use of the board authorized tuition is homecoming and all events associated with it. Tempton said that temporary parking lots and new parking lots are also paid for by the board authorized tuition and that there are a number of extracurricular activities that state funds do not provide for. All these activities require the use of the board authorized tuition, he maintained.

Tempton stated, "You have to recognize that when you compare the cost of going to school in Texas to other states we are fairly still inexpensive." Junior psychology major Robyn Robinson expressed her thoughts on both tuition fees. "I think it's for a good cause. It helps build and better our condition. If I was in any organization, I would like the help, instead of paying out of pocket."

"I think that \$1,440, compared to what Texas A&M and other universities are paying, is not that bad. So, I think it's all right," said junior communications major Damiko Nash.

Other students such

as junior communications major DeMarcus Thompson expressed a different opinion about the tuition. "I think it's unnecessary because they're taking too much money from us. If they're going to take any money, they should take it from University Village because they're gypping us."

Bill from page 1

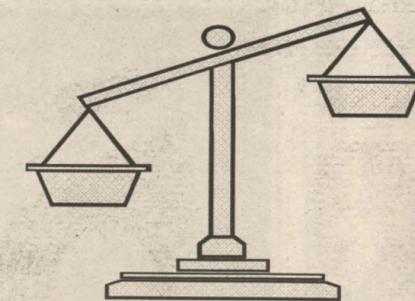
academy in the board of regents of Texas A&M University System. The regents would approve the employment of personnel and the operating budget, and the academy staff would be employees of Prairie View A&M University.

The bill stipulates that the academy would "provide academic and career counseling for academy students, faculty mentorship for each student, enriched undergraduate courses with specific intent to strengthen academic preparations for future medical school applicants, long distance education technically to allow active participation with medical schools, visitations to medical school educational sites, and visitations of medical school faculty to the academy for academic enrichment purposes."

The introduction of House Bill 85 follows the passage last summer of House Bill 42, also sponsored by State Representative McClendon, under which the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, with the assistance of the board of regents of the Texas A&M University System, conducted a study to evaluate the feasibility of Prairie View A&M University to provide the clinical education necessary to support a doctor of medicine degree program.

According to Dr. George Brown, head of the biology department, a public hearing held in June 2002 by the Coordinating Board and Representative McClendon concluded that it was feasible for Prairie View A&M University to support a medical degree program provided the university formulated partnerships with other medical schools in Texas.

"I am very optimistic that the legislature would recognize the job that PV has done to get the bill, but also cautious that the bureaucrats can change the implementation of it," said Brown.



SGA Speaks Out

Your Student Government representatives participated in the Southwest Black Student Leadership Conference January 16-18.

SGA Campaign Begins Today: SAY YES TO ATHLETICS!!

Wednesday, January 22, 2003
COPS meeting at 7:00p.m. in the Administration Building Auditorium

Committee Chair Meeting
7:15 p.m. in Harrington Science Building Rm. 102

Thursday, January 23, 2003
General Assembly at 7:00 p.m. in the Auditorium of the Administration Building.

Please come out and bring your concerns and questions about the Athletic fee!!

Thursday, January 30, 2003
University Voting for Athletic Fee 10:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m. in Alumni Hall

Don't Forget Your Buildings
Please know that your presence at many of these events, will be greatly appreciated so you will be well informed of the University's upcoming proposals.

Whittington named new head coach



Andrew Roberts
Sports Editor

Prairie View's Athletics department has taken a big step in turning around our struggling football program.

Athletic Director Charles McClelland along with Interim President Willie Tempton have hired C.L. Whittington as the new head coach of the Prairie View A&M Panthers football team. Whittington, who is an alumnus of Prairie View A&M, comes here with a proven track record. Whittington, a former Houston Oilers defensive back, played in the NFL for five years. Whittington joined the Panthers coaching staff in 1984 where he was the coach for defensive backs, special teams, and wide receivers.

After serving on the Panthers coaching staff for five seasons, Whittington moved to bigger and better things. In 1989 Whittington accepted the defensive coordinator job at Texas Southern University. Whittington gradually worked his way up to defensive line and special teams coach of the NFL Europe Frankfurt Galaxy. In 1995 the Galaxy won the World Bowl Championship.

Whittington looks to bring P.V. back to winning ways. With a full allotment of scholarships, new training and playing facilities on the horizon, and a better funded athletic program the Panthers should be ready for battle. GO PANTHERS!!!!



Center Roderick Riley dominates opponents and captivates fans as he makes a move and basket to help the Panthers win against the Grambling Tigers.

Basketball from page 1

an early six-point advantage. The Panthers were plagued by a bit of foul trouble in the first half but were able to regroup and take a six-point lead into halftime.

Malachi Thurston had a productive scoring first half hitting for nine points. Roderick Riley and Gregory Burks added six points and the half ended with P.V. up 37-31.

Prairie View started the second half by going on a 5-0 scoring run that increased their lead to eleven points. Grambling would subsequently go on a run of their own that allowed them to take a two-point advantage 52-50. The two teams would exchange several baskets and with 2:00 remaining the score was knotted at 69 points apiece. With 1:28 Gregory Burks found himself at the free throw line with a chance to give his team the lead. Burks made one out of two free throws giving P.V. a 70-69 advantage.

With 42 seconds remaining Grambling reclaimed the lead on a Paul Haynes jumper. With 36 seconds remaining Prairie View would get another chance to recapture the lead. Once again a

Grambling foul would place Burks on the foul line for two shots. Burks was able to convert on both attempts putting P.V. back on top 72-71.

The Panthers would force Grambling into a tough shot that fell short with time expiring. With 2.9 seconds remaining P.V. grabbed the rebound and Kevin Cooper was fouled. Cooper made 1-2 free throws giving Prairie View a two-point lead. Grambling was able to inbound the ball and get one last shot attempt off that failed to draw iron. The Panthers prevailed 73-71. Roderick Riley had a double double with 16 points and 10 rebounds.

Prairie View faced the Jackson State Tigers for the last game of their three game home stand. Both teams would start the game off struggling from the field. P.V. began to pick things up and took a six point lead with 3:34 left in the first half. P.V. was only able to shoot 25 percent from the field in the first half of play. Jackson State did not shoot much better going 6-22 for 27 percent. Thurston led all scorers at the half with 9 points and also grab-

bing 7 rebounds. The half would end with the score P.V. 26 and J-State 19.

When the second half began, things started to pick up offensively for both ball clubs. J-State started the half off hot from beyond the arc courtesy of Ishmael Wallace who made five three point baskets in the half. The Tigers stormed back and were able to grab a seven-point advantage early in the half.

Prairie View would battle back scoring seven unanswered points of their own to tie the game at 38. The Panthers soon found themselves without their primary inside presence, Riley, who committed his fourth personal foul with 10:21 remaining.

Brandon Moorercame into the game and picked up the slack on both sides of the ball missing only one shot attempt and coming up with a key blocked shot. Riley would return to the game and spark a Panther charge scoring five straight points capped by a three-point play. The score was tied at 59 with under two minutes remaining. Riley

fouled out with 1:38 left.

With 28 seconds remaining P.V. found themselves in unusual territory down by one with time running out. Prairie View's own Mr. Clutch, Gregory Burks delivered once again on a floater in the lane to give Prairie View a 63-62 lead with 20 seconds left.

P.V. would get a chance to set up defensively after a J-State timeout. The Panthers came out and forced a turnover with their full court press. Thurston gained control of the loose ball and was fouled. Thurston went to the foul line where he went 2 for 2 giving P.V. a three point lead.

Prairie View held on for their fifth straight SWAC victory and their third consecutive win at home. Coach Francis was quoted as saying "It feels great to be in first place in SWAC, we handled our business at home and we control our own destiny. Hopefully we will be able to match-up on the road with the same intensity." Coach Francis and his ball club have Prairie View A&M athletics back on top. GO PANTHERS!!!!

Athletes of the Week

Name: Malachi Thurston

Classification: Junior

Height: 6'5"

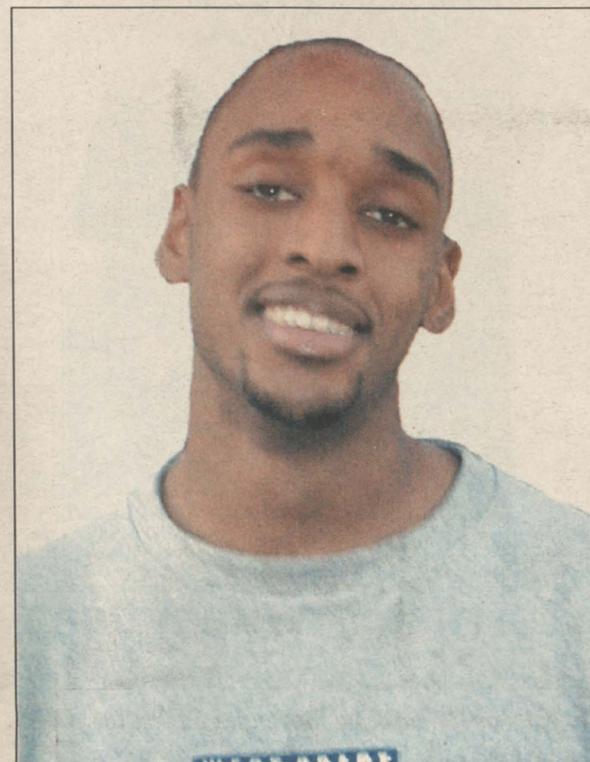
Weight: 210

Position: Power Forward

Major: Health & Human Performance

Hometown: Oakland, California

Claim to Fame: One of the many new faces on the Panther Men's Basketball Team that has led to the 5-0 start in SWAC. Thurston hit game winning free throws in wins against Alcorn St. and Southern. He was also named SWAC player of the week.



Name: Latoya Moten

Classification: Junior

Height: 5'5"

Position: Shooting Guard

Major: Architecture

Hometown: Flint, Michigan

Claim to Fame: Averages 10 points per game. Moten has been one of the leading scorers for the last couple of games for the Lady Panthers Basketball Team.



Texas JCPC celebrates fifth anniversary

Noted child advocate and physician joins School of Juvenile Justice and Psychology in celebration

Tenesia Mathews

Editor in Chief

Dean H. Elaine Rodney and the School of Juvenile Justice and Psychology celebrated the fifth anniversary of the Texas Juvenile Crime Prevention Center on Friday Jan. 17.

The Texas Juvenile Crime Prevention Center (Texas JCPC) was created in 1997. The Texas JCPC is committed to the reduction of juvenile crime and delinquency among youth in the state of Texas.

The keynote address was given by Dr. Benard A. Harris, an astronaut, businessman, and child advocate. In his presentation, Dr. Harris spoke on prevention meth-

ods that will help families provide youth at an early age with good self-images and love. Harris stated that children have "to learn to choose to succeed."

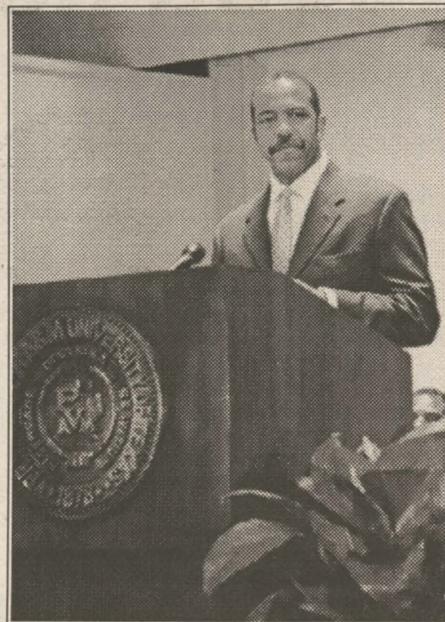
The program also included a captivating performance by Prairie View's world renowned Charles Gilpin Players who enlightened the crowd with a "Dramatization of the Texas JCPC."

Dr. Rodney, along with Interim President Willie A. Tempton and special guests Senator Royce West and Dallas County Commissioner John Wiley Price, ended the ceremony with awards for the faculty, staff, and other contributors of the Texas Juvenile Crime Prevention Cen-

ter, School of Juvenile Justice and Psychology, and Prairie View A & M University.

The faculty and staff such as Criminal Justice professor Mr. Ron Server who received a special award for all his contribution this year to the Texas Crime Prevention Center were delighted that they were rewarded by Dr. Rodney for their hard work and dedication.

This celebration symbolizes for Prairie View A&M University that hardwork and dedication are important attributes and that more of those admirable qualities would be needed to advance the university and serve society.



Dr. Benard A. Harris was the keynote speaker at the Texas JCPC celebration.

Drug maker uses Magic Johnson to advertise HIV treatment

Alex Polier

AP Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — As competition among makers of AIDS drugs increases, GlaxoSmithKline is using perhaps America's best-known HIV carrier to spread awareness among urban blacks of treatment methods and the company's products.

Magic Johnson's image is being splashed on billboards, subway posters and full-page ads in newspapers and magazines. The ads include photos of a robust-looking Johnson and feature messages such as, "Staying healthy is about a few basic things: A positive attitude, partnering with my doctor, taking my medicine every day."

The market leader in HIV treatments with its drug Combivir, GlaxoSmithKline said its campaign is being conducted in cities with the highest rates of HIV/AIDS infection among blacks, including New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Miami, Washington, Chicago, Philadelphia, Houston, Atlanta and Newark, New Jersey.

The campaign also

includes educational ads and a speaking tour by Johnson. It is similar to campaigns that have used athletes, movie stars and other celebrities to promote awareness about and specific drugs for arthritis, depression and other conditions. But the GlaxoSmithKline campaign is the first of its kind for HIV, which has created particularly sensitive issues of price and profit for the pharmaceutical industry.

"The new wave of this disease is moving toward minorities, specifically African-Americans," said Peter Hare, vice president of GlaxoSmithKline's HIV business unit. "More African-Americans are dying from AIDS than white people. So, from a business perspective, if you want more patients, you have to focus on the African-American community." Johnson, diagnosed with HIV 11 years ago, does not have full-blown AIDS. To maintain his health, the basketball Hall of Famer takes a combination of GlaxoSmithKline and non-GlaxoSmithKline drugs, including Combivir, the most commonly prescribed HIV drug and one of

GlaxoSmithKline's best sellers.

New alternatives, including generics, are turning what was once a limited market into one of fierce competition. Products such as Crixivan and Stocrin made by Merck & Co., and Kaletra and Norvir, made by Abbott Laboratories, pose a threat to GlaxoSmithKline's profits. GlaxoSmithKline still controls about 50 percent of the market for HIV drugs, with sales topping \$1.1 billion in 2001, the most recent year for which comprehensive figures are available.

"So if anyone complies with their treatment, or if new African-Americans start using HIV drugs, there will be some benefit for us," Hare said. "But this campaign is beneficial for everyone. There is something in it for African-Americans with HIV, for doctors, and yes, something in it for Magic and for GlaxoSmithKline."

Many major drug companies have educational AIDS campaigns. Abbott, for instance, sponsors free testing at community AIDS organizations. AIDS is the leading cause of death for blacks between the ages of 24 and

44. One in 50 black men and one in 160 black women are believed to be HIV-positive today. About one in three does not know he or she has it. Hare said the traditional methods of marketing HIV drugs do not always reach blacks.

"This group doesn't particularly trust the health care system," he said. "Research shows that they want someone they believe. And they believe in Magic Johnson." For a long time, rumors abounded that Johnson had been cured or was on some secret treatment formula. According to the company, Johnson, who was not available for comment, feels this campaign gives him a chance to further dispel those rumors. "We are trying to get across that Magic looks good because Magic takes his meds every day, not because he is taking some tailored potion," Hare said. "The stuff he takes is available to everyone."

HIV treatment is expensive. The drugs are usually taken in combination with one another, and each can cost from \$1,500 to \$6,700 a year in the United States. GlaxoSmithKline and other

leading HIV drug makers froze prices last year as a gesture to the AIDS community, but some activist groups are unhappy that the companies are not offering any low-cost incentives along with the publicity campaign. "Telling people to get tested and seek treatment and not providing the resources is corporate irresponsibility," said Michael Weinstein, president of AIDS Healthcare Foundation, the country's largest provider of HIV/AIDS medical care. "The only issue left to tackle with AIDS is the cost of medication."

He said the GlaxoSmithKline campaign is clearly a commercial for its products, but is helpful anyway. "It's identity advertising. But it's inspiring. Putting Magic out there to people is a very positive thing. He is the ultimate symbol of living well with HIV," he said. Marty Algaze, communications director for the Gay Men's Health Crisis in New York, said an important first step in reaching blacks is showing that an HIV diagnosis is not a death sentence. "If Magic can get more people to get tested and get on HIV drugs than I am all for it," Algaze said.

A good neighbor

By Candice Grizzell

Panther Staff

She is known as a wife, a mother and a friend at home and in the church, but at Prairie View A&M University, Nelly Hernandez is also known for her services as a volunteer.

Anative of Zacatecas, Mexico, and a mother of two, Hernandez, who currently resides in Waller, found out about the university through long-time friend Amparo Isaza-Navarrete, program coordinator for special populations.

"Nelly [Hernandez] wanted to learn more about citizenship and volunteered to take a group to Houston for the citizenship training in August," said Navarrete.

"I invited her to Prairie View that same day."

Hernandez came to the university in August 2002 speaking very little English and would sit in Dr. Mehl



Nelly Hernandez displays pride in her country and culture.

Photo submitted to the Panther

Penrose's 9 a.m. and 10 a.m. Spanish 1013 classes.

While Penrose lectured, Hernandez walked

around the class, pulled two or three students aside and asked them questions on the material they were learning.

"She was willing to

work with students and was more like a teaching assistant, a pleasure to work with," said Penrose.

"She seemed to adapt very well."

According to Hernandez, her purpose for coming to the university was to provide services to the community and to build relationships with students and faculty.

"Nelly [Hernandez] was very excited to see the desire students had learning Spanish and this motivated her even more," said Navarrete.

"A lot of people think we're here for the money, but Nelly paid someone to watch her children so she could come to Prairie View and volunteer."

Hernandez often assisted students in the Spanish level 3 classes in the language lab.

Students, in return, taught her how to navigate the computer where she gained computer skills and, in addition, helped her set up an e-mail account.

Hernandez said she felt very comfortable with the students and faculty and is more confident with herself.

She also gave a presentation in Dr. Penrose's class on the celebration "El dia de los Muertos," which means "The Day of the Dead"

utilizing her English skills. According to Hernandez, El dia de los Muertos is celebrated on Nov. 1 in remembrance of the relatives who have passed.

The altars have pictures of the deceased so families can pray for them more meaningfully.

In Mexico the celebration is held at the cemetery where family and friends gather to pray.

She noted that in certain parts of Mexico favorite meals of the deceased were cooked by the family and brought to the cemetery plot where the family could reminisce on their loved ones and eat.

Hernandez said that on the day of her presentation she was not nervous at all because of a special belief.

"I brought to mind my sister who had passed and this gave me more support because I was not alone," Hernandez said.

Hernandez intends to enroll in the university next year and work on a degree in Spanish.

She hopes to work eventually on becoming a certified teacher.

"I see a personal development in Nelly [Hernandez]," said Navarrete. "She came in the fall speaking very little English and the results at the end of the semester were amazing."

Texas fugitive arrested after scuffle in store

KETCHIKAN (AP) — A fugitive wanted on cocaine trafficking charges was arrested after a struggle in a Carrs store Sunday.

Albert E. Herrera, 30, was taken into custody by an off-duty Alaska State Trooper with the help of four men inside the store. Herrera is being held on Texas warrants, troopers said.

Webb was off-duty and in plain clothes Sunday about lunchtime and walked into Carrs with his wife and daughter when he saw Herrera at the Western Union counter.

"I told him he was under arrest," Webb said. "He ran toward the

produce department and I tackled him," Webb said. "He put up quite a struggle and I called out for help. Four gentlemen there assisted me."

With the help of the store manager and three other men, Webb said, Herrera was subdued.

Ketchikan police took Herrera to Ketchikan General Hospital and then to jail.

Webb said Texas plans to extradite Herrera.

Webb said he would have liked to thank the people who helped him in the store but he did not know their names.

"I do appreciate all the gentlemen who assisted me," he said.



Are You Next?

The Prairie View A&M University Scholarship Pageant Program

will host a

2003-2004 Miss/Mr. Prairie View A&M University Scholarship Pageant Informational Session

Wednesday, January 22, 2003 @ 5:15 PM
All Faiths Chapel, Meditation Room

For more information, contact
ext. 2018 (Miss PVAMU) or ext. 4940 (Mr. PVAMU)

It's That Time Again...

If your membership roster and/or officers have changed (Fall 2002), registered recognized organizations must update the information.



Department of Student Activities & Leadership
Harrington Science Bldg., RM 108

Forms available on-line
www.pvamu.edu/studentactivities "Fillable Forms"

Chapter updates due Friday, January 31, 2003

Lawrence defines law in "National Security"

Secure your seat in the theatre for this movie is a hit

By Natasha Forte

Panther Staff

Cars flying through the air, warehouse shoot-outs, a slightly over the top security guard, and a falsely accused cop out for revenge is to be expected from Martin Lawrence's latest movie, "National Security".

The movie begins with two cops taking on a gang of villains in a warehouse. One of the cops, Hank Rafferty, played by Steve Lahn, watches helplessly as his partner is gunned down by a faceless killer.

While the movie starts out with suspense it wreaks with comedy through and through.

While on the other side of town, Earl Montgomery, played by Martin Lawrence, is trying desperately to become a police officer.

His dreams are shattered when he is literally carried out of the police academy for taking a basic drill too far.

The two meet unexpectedly in a very bizarre situation. Montgomery accidentally locks his keys in his car and sticks his hand in the driver's side window that is slightly open. Rafferty sees Montgomery and mistakes him for a car thief and approaches him.

Montgomery's smart racial remarks stir up conflict between the cop and civilian which leads to Rafferty being falsely accused of police brutality against Montgomery. Rafferty is convicted of the felony and ends up imprisoned for six months on Montgomery's account.

After serving his full sentence, Rafferty is kicked off the force and is reduced to working for a security company called, "National Security", hence the title.

Ironically, Montgomery works for the same security company and the odd duo team up on an entertaining escapade to catch the bad guys.

Every effort to get the criminals was hindered by someone or something.

They got side-swiped on a couple of occasions by the police because they were doing the cops' job.

The cops even had a warrant out for their arrest but that did not stop them from looking for the bad guys.

There is an unexpected twist when the two find out about a band of crooked cops who are assisting the criminals in their master plan. With this information, the heroes begin completing the puzzle and all the pieces start to fall into place.

Rafferty and Montgomery went to the police captain for help but he wanted proof of the crooked cops. They figured out a plan that would drive the criminals to them. But once again the criminals were a couple of steps ahead of them.

There were not many surprises in this movie in terms of plot and suspense, but like all of Lawrence's movies this gap is filled with lots of laughs. While no suspense and pre-

dictable scenes would usually throw the audience for a loop this was not the case with National security.

Although, this formula has been used before with Eddie Murphy in "Beverly Hills Cop", Danny Glover in, "Lethal Weapon", and Martin Lawrence in his previous movie, "Big Momma's House," it still finds a way to have the audience falling out of their seats with laughter. This movie is definitely a must see.

While Martin has been seen in a lot of movies that couldn't cut it in the box office, National Security is definitely not one of them.

Steven Lahn, Martin's co-star, is superb and a definite twin to Martin. Who ever thought this duo would be such a hit was right. National security earned 17.5 million the first day and this is definitely money well spent.

This mixture of law and laughter was a great combination. This movie deserves four panther paws.



Martin Lawrence
Courtesy of Google Images

Panther Paws

panther classic

 superior

 worth mp3ing

 barely made it

 rather study

Age Discrimination charges filed against "American Idol"

Older the berry sweeter the juice is not the case in this reality picture

By Tim Reynolds

Associated Press Writer

The hit television series "American Idol" violated anti-discrimination laws when its producers wouldn't let a 50-year-old college professor audition because he was too old, his attorney said Monday.

Drew Cummings, a visiting professor of film and television at Miami-Dade Community College, said he was turned away from a Nov. 2 tryout in Miami Beach because the Fox TV show's rules say

auditioners cannot be older than 24. He has filed complaints with the state and federal agencies that enforce anti-discrimination laws.

"I find it hard to believe that age plays a part in determining the next American Idol," Cummings said in a statement. "Age discrimination runs rampant in the entertainment industry and corporate America. It's time that someone did something about it."

His attorney,

Frederick Kramer, said that state and federal officials, including those from the Equal Employment Opportunity -- Commission, have 180 days to review Cummings' charges. Cummings could then file suit.

State and federal officials were not available for comment Monday because of the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday.

Fox-TV spokesman Joe Earley did not immediately return a message left at his Los Angeles office Monday. The show's second edi-

tion, "American Idol 2," debuts Tuesday night.

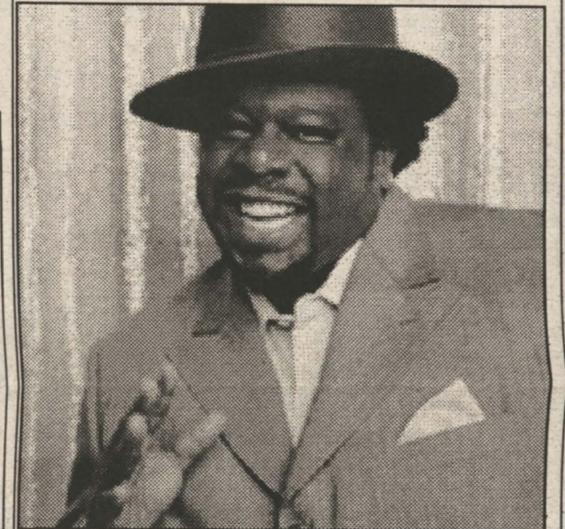
The talent show's co-executive producer, Ken Warwick, has said 70,000 people nationwide auditioned for "American Idol 2," after the program's first edition proved to be a smashing success last summer.

That group was whittled by judges down to

234 and will be trimmed to 32 semifinalists in the second week. Viewers vote on the semifinalists.

The nationwide winner, along with gaining immediate fame, receives a recording contract. Nearly 23 million people watched last year's series finale, in which Kelly Clarkson became the first "Idol."

"He Does It All"



Courtesy of Google Images

Comedian, variety show host, and actor Cedric the Entertainer is doing it all. Cedric is shining in all his endeavors and is determined to stay on top no matter what.

A "Chocolate Affair" serves up drama

Copeland has another national best seller which debuted on the top ten seller list

NiRoshia Smith

Panther Staff

When four beautiful and successful black women get together, you know the drama can't be far behind.

This is brilliantly conveyed in Sheila Copeland's novel, "A Chocolate Affair." This book is a dramatic suspense story that teaches important lessons in life and love.

The main character, Keisha, uses spiritual guidance to help her through her basketball star husband's trade to the Lakers.

She feels that God gave her the occupation of mother and lover, and she won't have it any other way. When friendships and relationships are at stake,

only Keisha can fix them. The only thing she can't fix is her insecurity about being a Laker's wife.

Then there's Jade Kimura Ross, the epitome of a black Barbie. She is a multi-cultural artist who has been dealing with pregnancy since her honeymoon.

Jade is married to a basketball phenom who wants her to convert to a stay-at-home mom. She's convinced that her career is her life. Not even a baby can slow her down, and she'll die before becoming like Keisha the Laker's wife.

With every picture Jade paints, her husband is traveling closer to the door and her life is closer to being over. Jade continues on with her career aspirations.

Disaster strikes when she loses her patience with her husband and the consequences change her life forever.

Gorgeous songstress Topaz seems to have it all. Life keeps getting better for her when she learns her friend Keisha has moved to L.A. Maybe now she can get help focusing on her marriage as well as not choking Jade.

Lastly, there's Nina. She's Topaz's cousin and a live-in babysitter. She is a young, hip MTV host who aspires to be a writer.

Her record executive boyfriend proposes and she struggles to find an answer. She feels that if love is what she sees with her friends, then she'll pass on the offer. Or will she?

This book is a page-turner that keeps you guessing until the very end. By revealing the truth behind celebrity lifestyles, this book makes the reader question the glitz and glamour of Hollywood. It definitely deserves a space within your bookends.

While this book is great this is not Copeland's only great book. She is the author of the best selling "Chocolate Star".

This book deserves four paws cause it is truly superior.



Courtesy of Google Images

Listen to this

SALE

Yearbooks on Sale Now!

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Hurry!!! Yearbooks are Selling Fast!!!

1. Why did the Kappas get shamed with their banner at the game?
2. Why does the basketball team have groupies?
3. Who is sick of seeing blue jackets?
4. Which Iota needs to get an undergraduate degree?
5. Is Greek life getting out of control?
6. Did Target run a 5 for \$20 on velour suits?
7. Doesn't the b-ball team go hard?
8. Why did a P.V.A.M.U. police officer pledge Sigma?
9. Does anyone's cable in the Village work?
10. Is there still going to be a yearbook?
11. How many people are skipping class to get their overpayment checks?
12. Is it me or do the Ques run the yard?
13. How many Nellys and L.L.s do we have on campus?
14. Why are the December graduates still here?
15. Do the Zetas pee standing up?
16. Why are the cheerleaders doing the "Bring It On" routine?
17. How many freshmen are on academic suspension?
18. Why does Hines still have a P.O. Box?
19. Was M.L.K. day a success at the Alpha picnic?
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.

One set is not enough!



The selection process is tough! Before a Panther Cadet is given an opportunity to earn the coveted wings of the Airborne or Air Assault, they must prove to the Professor of Military Science that they are physically and mentally ready to meet the challenges they will face.

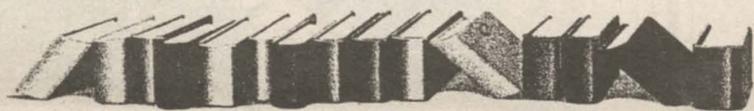
Earning one set of Wings is a tremendous achievement. Cadet Major Ryan Sims, a senior from Tyler, Texas has earned two! Only a handful of Army ROTC cadets across this country wear both sets of wings.

The military parachutist wings "airborne" are earned in Ft Benning, Georgia. The three-week school ends with soldiers making five parachute jumps.

The Air Assault wings are earned at Ft Campbell, Kentucky. Ft Campbell is the home of the 101st "Screaming Eagles" Division. Rappelling from helicopters and meeting the rigorous physical standards of an elite division are part of this course.

Cadet Sims is a senior majoring in Computer engineering technology and will be graduating in May, 2003. He will be commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Army and is hoping to be stationed at Ft Campbell, Kentucky.

If you are interested in the challenges that Army ROTC may have to offer, please contact Captain Rodney Penny at (936) 857-4612.



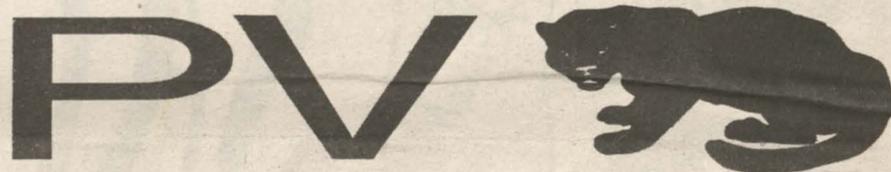
REGISTRATION DEADLINE

FOR ALL COLLEGE STUDENTS
IS FEBRUARY 3, 2003

IF YOU HAVE PREVIOUSLY REGISTERED, YOU
MUST COMPLETE A NEW REGISTRATION
FORM EACH SEMESTER TO KEEP THE
INFORMATION CURRENT

*PICK UP REGISTRATION FORM AT COLLEGE
MINISTRY TABLE IN THE MALL

THANK YOU!



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PRAIRIE VIEW'S CHAPEL

VAN ARRIVAL: 10:30 DEPARTURE: 10:40

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