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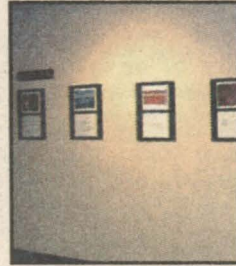
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Inside
this week:



Which Spring Fest event are you looking forward to the most?

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Photojournalism students deck the halls of Hilliard.

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Vegetarianism provides a healthy alternative for students.

Page 10

Maison wins again; Spikes gets Veep post

By **Barbara Ramirez**
Panther Staff

Hendrik Maison was re-elected president of the Student Government Association last Tuesday with 51.8 percent of the votes cast, according to the unofficial results. Maison pulled 301 votes out of a total of 584 cast.

Marcus Joubert came in second with 207 votes and Stacy Lloyd received 73 votes.

For the vice presidential elections, Vivian Spikes won with 357 votes, defeating Trenise Green who got 214 votes. Cristina Lee was elected comptroller.

Speaking after the election, Maison said, "I was nervous and it's good to be nervous because then you focus on the goal at hand and concentrate a lot."

Maison said that despite his nervousness, he was never scared because fear cripples him from doing his job to the best of his ability.

Outlining goals for the new SGA, Maison said, "This time I plan to accomplish three times as much as I did last time because I've been through the system before. I already know the ins

See Maison page 12

Francis named rookie coach of the year

By **Ryan McGinty**
Special to The Panther

Prairie View A&M University head basketball coach Jerome Francis Jr. was recently named College Insider.com's 2002-03 Rookie Coach of the Year.

Prior to the arrival of Francis, Prairie View finished the 2001-02 season with a 10-20 overall record and was picked to finish ninth out of ten teams in this season's Southwestern Athletic Conference preseason poll. However, Francis guided the Panthers to the team's first conference championship in 42 years with a 17-12 overall record and a 14-4 conference

See Coach page 12



In his first year as coach, Francis led the men's basketball team to a 17-12 overall record, and a 14-4 winning season. Photo by Gitonga M'Mbijewe

Spring Fest begins with friendly "feud"

Students, professors compete in a fun version of classic game show

By **Candace Simpson**
Panther Staff

Monday night's Family Feud on the Hill was a huge success with the crowd.

"Fabulous Feud," as it was called was hosted by Outrageous Adventures. The game was a recreation of the original television show, Family Feud, but with a twist. Contestants were asked for the top answers on the board as usual, but they weren't battling it out for thousands of dollars. There was also no

"lightning round." Instead, whoever won the game out of the families had to then go against one another for a chance to be placed in the money machine.

Once in the money machine, players were given the opportunity to grab as much of the money as they could in 25 seconds. The machine was also filled with paper along with the money to make the game a little more interesting.

There was a large turnout for the game, attract-

ing an audience of well over 200 spectators. A disc jockey was also on site keeping the audience members entertained by playing the latest music during intermissions. Several representatives from organizations, teachers and student groups including: the Panther, PAN, CSO, SGA, Kappa's, Alphas, Deltas, AKAs, and Zetas took part in the event. Alpha Phi Sigma, UC teams, teachers from the department of Languages and Communications, CAB, and PALS also participated.

A few of the rounds consisted of faculty and staff members playing against students. In one of those rounds the students taught the teachers a few lessons about subjects they were unfamiliar with. The question about the most popular kool-aid flavors was one the teachers will probably never forget. The crowd went wild yelling out suggestions as the student team answered. Staff members seemed to be astonished

See Feud page 12

•State•

•National•

•World•

PV's Seven Day Forecast

Two high school seniors die in car crash

Nine dead of SARS in Canada

Wed Apr 09 Mostly Sunny
66°/36°

TERRY, Miss. (AP) — Two Terry High School students were killed when their cars collided in South Hinds County.

TORONTO (AP) — The battle to control SARS continued Sunday as public health officials in Ontario reported 179 cases, including nine deaths.

Thu Apr 10 Mostly Sunny
72°/43°

Henry R. Heitman IV, 18, was driving a Hyundai Accent that crashed head-on with a Honda being driven by Melanie Keen, 18.

That was up from 163 probable and suspected cases Saturday of severe acute respiratory syndrome. The death toll rose by one after a death last week was later linked to SARS, said Dr. Colin D'Cunha, Ontario's chief medical officer of health.

Fri Apr 11 Partly Cloudy
74°/49°

Heitman was pronounced dead at the scene, by county coroner Sharon Grisham Stewart. Keen was taken to the Central Mississippi Medical Center, where she later died from her injuries.

Dr. James Young, Ontario's commissioner of public security, said it took a while to determine that the patient had SARS because the person did not display all the typical symptoms. A panel of experts reviewed the victim's chart and lab work Saturday.

Both students were seniors. The accident is being investigated.

Sat Apr 12 Partly Cloudy
76°/50°

MSU suspends students for post-game disturbance

EAST LANSING, Mich. (AP) — Two Michigan State University students have been suspended following post-basketball game disturbances last weekend estimated to have cost the community \$70,000.

On Sunday, the World Health Organization reported a global death toll of 98 as two more people died of SARS in Hong Kong.

"They're immediately banned from campus pending the final resolution of their case," Student Affairs Vice President Lee June told the Lansing State Journal.

Seven people, including five students, face a variety of charges ranging from being a minor in possession of alcohol to indecent exposure related to the disturbances.

During the disturbance, four cars were overturned, several small fires were set in bushes and dumpsters, and vending machines were damaged. Officers also set off tear gas to break up a crowd earlier in the night, and a bus stop was damaged by revelers.

Mon Apr 14 Partly Cloudy
77°/59°

Courtesy of weather.com

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"For or Against?"

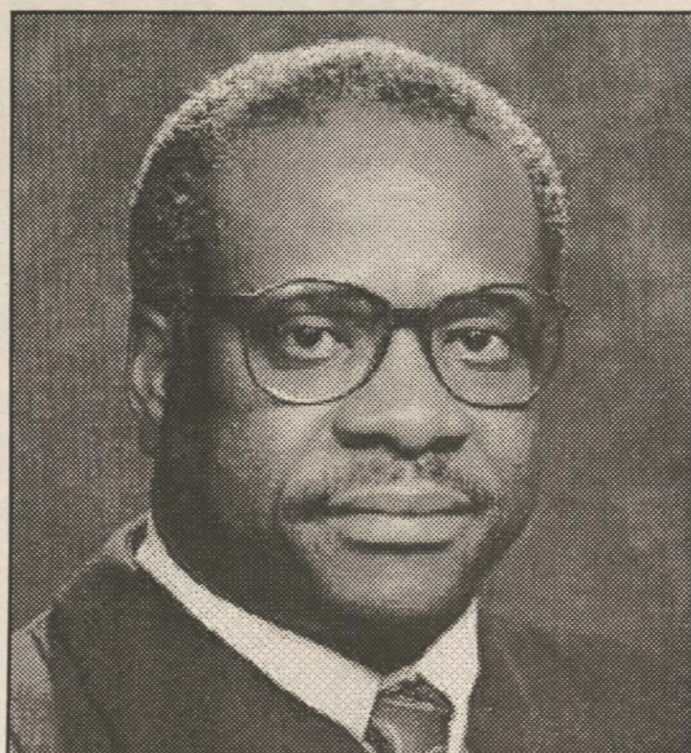


Photo courtesy of googleimages.com

Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas is the second African-American male to hold a position in the highest court in the nation. Thomas is one of nine justices currently debating the University of Michigan Law School affirmative action cases.

Although Ingram correctly answered the final question for the top prize, the episode never aired and his check was withheld because of the cheating allegations.

"Millionaire" contestant found guilty of cheating

LONDON (AP) — A British Army major was found guilty Monday of cheating his way to the top prize on "Who Wants to be a Millionaire?" by using a coughing accomplice in the audience.

The jury at London's Southwark Crown Court found Charles Ingram, who correctly answered the million-pound (US\$1.58 million) question on the hit show, was found guilty of relying on a coughing friend, Tecwen Whittock.

Whittock, a college teacher, was found guilty of using "coded coughs" to signal the right answers as Ingram progressed to the top prize.

spokeswoman, did not identify the two people who died of severe acute respiratory syndrome, or SARS.

Since this island nation of 4 million people first reported its SARS outbreak a month ago, it has quarantined about 1,000 people, ordering them to stay home for 10 days or risk prosecution.

Eight people have died and more than 100 have been reported ill as a result of SARS in Singapore. The global death toll is almost 100.

Deadly flu-like virus takes two more lives in Singapore

SINGAPORE (AP) — Two more people have died from a mystery flu-like virus in Singapore, bringing the death toll in the city-state to eight, a health ministry spokeswoman said Monday.

Winnie Tan, the

The Panther

Prairie View A&M University's official student publication

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Is affirmative action still needed?



By Christina Johnson Panther Staff

Affirmative Action - A policy that seeks to redress past discrimination by ensuring equal opportunity, as in education and employment.

—THE AMERICAN HERITAGE DICTIONARY 4TH EDITION

Last Tuesday, thousands of our peers from fellow HBCUs protested and camped outside of the United States Supreme Court in Washing-

Tim Reid misses energy on HBCU campuses

By Garrison L. Vereen II Black College Wire/ FAMU

A self-described product of his community, Tim Reid, actor, producer and filmmaker, feels strongly about what's happened to the black college experience, judging from the campuses he has visited.

"The black college experience is being homogenized," said the Norfolk State University graduate. "When I was in college, there was an energy; that energy is missing now."

Reid, 58, star of the TV show "Sister, Sister," was at Florida A&M University to screen his latest film, "For Real," and to host a symposium, "Tim Reid and the Business of Show" as part of FAMU's inaugural Artists in Bloom festival.

Reid said he believes that his motivation to produce his own films comes from the neighborhoods of his youth.

Reid said that because his community had its own self-sustaining economy, it wasn't hard for him to decide to make his own product.

ton D.C. to hear the oral briefs of the University of Michigan Law School affirmative action cases, *Gratz v. Bollinger* (2000) and *Grutter v. Bollinger* (2002), where the nine justices were in a heated debate about whether or not colleges and universities can legally consider race when enrolling students into their systems.

These cases are the most important affirmative action trials the Supreme Court has seen in years.

The last major affirmative action case was *Hopwood v. Texas* in 1996, where the 5th Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals barred "any consideration of race" in college admissions in the states of Mississippi, Texas, and Louisiana.

Affirmative action has been a big issue since the 1960s when many people were fighting for civil rights. Sup-

porters of affirmative action policies believe that in order for everybody to be "equal," there must be equal opportunities for all genders, races, and ethnicities. Non-supporters believe that these policies violate the simple rule that all persons are equal under law. They claim it's unfair to discriminate against members of one group to redress past injustice against another.

True, affirmative action increases opportunities for minorities by giving them a helping hand in hiring and college admissions, but there are plenty of success stories of minorities who have succeeded without the help of affirmative action.

The main question behind all this commotion is: Is affirmative action still needed? Should institutions of higher learning and employers take concrete steps to

bring diversity into their environments?

Do you want to take what many critics consider to be a "free ride" and fill some university's quota? Or do you want to take the initiative and show that through hard work and determination you can achieve success without affirmative action?

The choice is yours no matter where you stand on the issue.

Affirmative action is a dispute that will never really be resolved. Until we truly live up to the words of the Pledge of Allegiance, we will never have "liberty and justice for all."

issues of old-school-vs.-new-school culture, new filmmakers who are in the business for the wrong reasons and the lack of passion on modern college campuses today.

Concerned about what he feels is a tremendous change to the character of historically black college and universities, as well as other colleges and universities, Reid

challenges the students he visits to be free thinkers.

"Today's college campuses are some of the most politically correct, conservative and passionless establishments in the community," he said.

Reid said he wants to use work such as "For Real" to bridge the gap between different generations.

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Goodbye!



By Denise Cohen Panther Staff

This time last week the student body and administration were left in the dark about the outcome of the SGA elections. The April 2 front-page headline read, "Who is the weakest link?" Unfortunately we had to say "Goodbye" to candidates Marcus Joubert and Stacy Lloyd. The two SGA presidential hopefuls fought a good fight (who could miss P.L.A.T.I.N.U.M signs all over Alumni?) but in the end Hendrick Maison retained his position as SGA President.

Now that the decision is almost final it is time for Maison to get down to business. Maison is now at the PV student body's beck and call.

So what does that mean for PV? Will Maison alert the administration to our frustrations concerning budget and staff cuts? Will he be a positive voice of PV to the outside world and represent us as a prominent but overlooked HBCU that truly "produces productive people"? Or will he continue to produce social outreach among the campus like he did in organizing an inexpensive bus trip to Alabama to support the men's basketball team?

Whatever may be on his agenda let us hope that he does not fall prey to the negative political aspects that a position of power brings.

Let us hope now as a veteran Maison will remember the positives he brought to his office in his first year and learn from the negatives that can plague all politicians and the company they keep.

Now that the polls are closed it is time for our needs to be addressed.

91 arrested as student crowd marches in N.Y.

By Gabrielle Maple Black College Wire

Anti-war protesters clashed with police after refusing to disperse after an anti-war rally March 22 in the streets of midtown Manhattan. A Police Department spokesperson said 91 people were arrested for disorderly conduct and 17 police officers were treated for injuries received in the melee.

While chanting such phrases as, "Whose Streets, Our Streets," and "The March Ain't Over Until the War is Over," protesters — mostly students — sat down in the streets in an act of peaceful resistance.

"We are not inciting a riot," said Beth Wissman, 19, "We are peacefully rebelling [against] the system."

A student at the

city's School of the Visual and Performing Arts, Wissman and other sit-in participants did not expect police to make arrests.

Daniel Williams voiced his disbelief and anger as three of his friends were bound by police.

"You would think [police would] be out fighting crime," said Williams, who was not arrested himself. "They would rather arrest innocent people uniting to show Bush and the world that we will not stand for an unjust war."

Police estimated that 125,000 to 200,000 turned out for the march.

Many said they felt an excessive presence of police made matters worse.

United for Peace and Justice, a grassroots activist group that organized the march, was permitted to parade only from Broadway

and 42nd Street to Washington Square between noon and 4 p.m., according to city officials. Officers tried to move the crowd from the streets into Washington Square Park.

Kiyoko McCray, 21, said she witnessed officers use pepper spray and batons to break up disorderly groups burning an American flag.

"We have the right to peacefully assemble and no violence has occurred," said McCray. "The police are the ones inciting riots by spraying (pepper spray) into a crowd of innocent people."

Yashou Muhammad said he took to the streets to protect his 17-year-old son, Josef. "The police work for us," he said angrily. "I am too old to fight, but I have to do it for the generations to come."

The crowd even

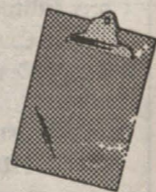
taunted the news media, urging reporters and cameramen to capture the true sentiment of the people. "The world is watching, the world is watching," people shouted as police tackled, subdued and hauled demonstrators into paddy wagons.

The protesters lingered in vicinity of Washington Square Park well into the night. Despite the outcome of the march, organizers say they will continue to voice their discontent.

"These are our streets and our country," said 21-year-old Fray Fuller, "We will stay here until our soldiers come home."



PURPLE & GOLD POLL



Which Spring Fest event are you looking forward to the most?



DeShunn R. Glaze Sophomore/Theatre Arts

"Java House event, because Shaunta Gates will perform her plushy poetic twist of Jill Scott's D-E-E-P... gotta be there!"



Rashaad K. Donelson Junior/Computer Science

"Trina in person and the glow zone after party because its a unique edition to the Spring Fest events."



Roenia Thompson Sophomore/Theatre

"The talent show because there is gonna be a lot of future stars performing."



Stacey L. McClaskey Senior/Accounting

"The talent show, because I'm sure it's going to be funny!"

Photos By: Denise Cohen

Photojournalism students deck the halls of Hilliard

Candice Grizzell Panther Staff

The walls of Hilliard Hall have been decorated with photographs taken by the students from Dr. Shannan Butler's digital photojournalism class.

The photographs displayed are abstract, which are photos that focus on an object not recognizable. This was the first photo project the students had to accomplish.

"I had about five faculty members from the Department of Languages and Communications take a look at the photographs and pick their favorite ten," Butler said. "It wasn't necessarily based on complex or artistic merit, but on a general audience pleasing strategy."

Showcasing the photographs was Butler's idea of bringing some attention to students' achievements and motivating the students to do better in class.

Butler plans to feature more photographs from the class. The students are working on a series of projects, which includes a portrait, a sports photo, landscape photo, touch-up photo and a photo essay.

"Our next display will probably be a mix of projects," said Butler.

"Possibly the top five photographs from each project category and hopefully get more students represented."

Butler recommends that students from other departments to come and see

the exhibit and added, "it's exciting."

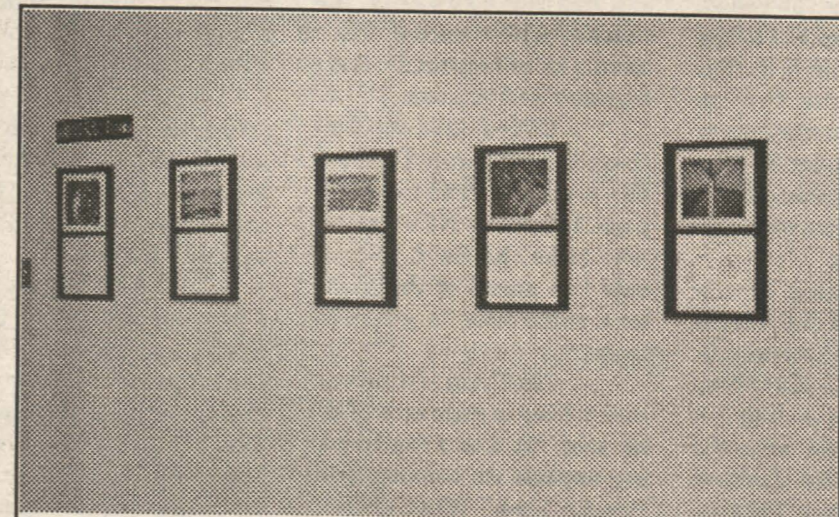
Butler worked in collaboration with Dr. Antonio Jocson, assistant professor of English. "He

"Then he took what the class wrote and picked the ones he found most intriguing and we selected the best parts of those and put them together with the images."

class who are already creatively inclined," Jocson said. "And a project like this lends itself very easily to interpretation, analytical thinking and to critical thinking."

Jocson noted that once the students saw the photos they became very eager and did not know what to make of them. "The students responded to the pictures very differently and in a lot of ways it's their own personal histories and what they're going through at that moment that determine those responses," said Jocson. "The project was unique and encouraged conversation and served to enhance great interest in our department where students got the opportunity to participate in art and language."

Jocson hopes he and Butler can hold future exhibits in the library and said, "support the department, creative thinking and the arts because it's what keeps us alive."



Abstract photos taken by students line the first floor hallway of Hilliard Hall.

Photo By: Candice Grizzell

[Jocson] was really pleased with the photographs and thought 'why not get my class to do a free write on the photographs to take some time and just look at the photos and see what they inspire,' Butler said.

worked in groups of two to four and had to share their experiences among their classmates.

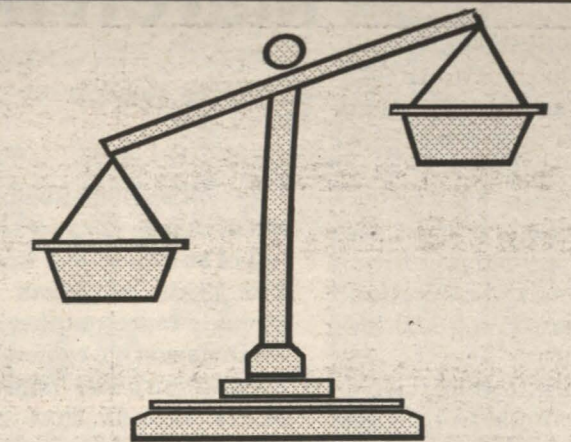
"The photos have to do with composition and I thought the students would benefit because there are a number of students in the

The 34th Annual Miss Prairie View A&M University Scholarship Pageant

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William "Billy" J. Nicks Fieldhouse
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Please turn in these forms no later than Friday, April 11 at 4 p.m.

Don't Judge



By: Leona Aaron
Panther Staff

Being an athlete is not always about your physical ability but instead how you use your talent. Everyone is so quick to judge but hate is the one getting judged. There are some females and males scared to go out for a sporting event because of all the presumptions clouding their judgment. For instance, some females are scared to try out for Black Foxes because of all the illusions surrounding them.

If you look closely at all of them they are all shades of the rainbow. They're different shapes and sizes. When they have tryouts they pick the best nineteen girls to go on the field with a few alternates. You wouldn't believe how nice each and every one of these young ladies is because you are too busy judging them. If you are that talented, prove them wrong and try out in April.

The football team is judged similarly because they don't have the best record. Why don't you go out there and spring train with them if you think you could do better? We have great athletes on the team making mental mistakes in the game. This happens when you have a young team who is trying to rebuild but yet we keep bringing them down. I bet you don't want to get up with them at 4 a.m. for conditioning. Those who talk about having a good game are the main ones with no game.

Remember the saying "Don't judge a book by its cover." Anyone can lose for a while then have a winning season.

Students get NFL, NBA experience

By Ryan McGinty
Special to Panther

While most students spend their vacations and spare time during the school year sitting around the house and wondering what to do four students from the Prairie View A&M University sports medicine program broke from the norm and spent their free time rubbing elbows with professional athletes.

Representing Prairie View in NFL and NBA organizations were Lamar Adams, Dustin Jackson, Jamie O'Neal and Nickolondria Taylor. Adams spent time with the Philadelphia Eagles, Jackson with the Houston Texans, O'Neal with the Denver Broncos and Taylor is currently serving as an intern with the Houston Rockets.

All four participants said the experience gained from their respective organizations was priceless. In addition, each had a different outlook.

"I learned a lot this

past summer and I got to meet some interesting players and learned a lot about them," O'Neal said. "What stood out most was the players behavior towards the coaches and trainers. They have a lot of respect for their trainers and coaches."

O'Neal said the first thing he experienced in Denver was the frantic work pace. Like most NFL rookies who take the field, O'Neal said the speed of the camp took some time to get used to.

"Nothing is slow and everything is done on a hop," he said. "It was a big learning experience coming from Prairie View." When O'Neal returned to Prairie View for the start of the fall semester, he easily noticed some of the differences between the NFL and collegiate life.

"The experience helped me to learn that money is everything to them (NFL players)," he said. "They have a lot of tolerance because a lot of them were

being talked to like children. It is not like that here at Prairie View. It is a big difference."

"It is not my first priority to do this as a living but it may come at some point in time," Adams, who is called 'Old School' by his peers, spent his summer interning with the Philadelphia Eagles. Last summer marked Adams' second stint with the Eagles.

"I basically did treatment and field setup for the Eagles last summer," Adams said. "I was more prepared this time than the year before because I knew what I had to do when I got to camp. I had the mindset that I was going to go in and shine."

Like O'Neal, Adams said the speed of the practice sessions and the amount of equipment was the biggest difference.

"At training camp everything is done at a fast pace and you steadily have to be aware of your surroundings. There is no down time.

You have to keep up because if you're caught sitting back you will be called in by the head trainer and dealt with.

"The amount of equipment blew my mind," Adams added. "We have limited equipment at Prairie View as far as sports medicine but they have everything imaginable and it's all first class. They have a budget that is out of this world so they can get the best equipment and as much as they need."

Rounding out the list of NFL interns is Dustin Jackson. Jackson, who is a certified athletic trainer, spent his summer with the Houston Texans. A graduate of Texas Southern, he is scheduled to complete his graduate work at Prairie View A&M University next spring with a master's in educational administration. Jackson said his stint with

March Madness ends with surprises

By Andrew Roberts
Panther Staff

The 2002-2003 season of college hoops was one full of surprises and upsets. The state of Texas was strongly represented within all Division One conferences throughout the country. Many squads that were picked to do well under achieved and some squads that were not picked at all had significant impacts on their conferences.

Case in point, coming into the season the Prairie View A&M Panthers men's team was picked to finish as low as ninth out of their division of ten. The Panthers started the season on a 6-0 run and did not look back from there. They finished the season with a (14-4) conference record and claimed their first SWAC regular season title in over 30 years.

Prairie View A&M first year head coach Jerome Francis received the College

Insider Coach of the year award for his remarkable turnaround of a struggling program. Point guard Gregory Burks was named the Southwestern Athletic Conference Player of the Year. Fellow teammate Malachi Thurston received Newcomer of the Year honors along with being named to the SWAC second team with center Roderick Riley. The Panthers made it to the SWAC semifinals in Birmingham, Alabama where they were defeated by Alcorn State.

Alcorn went on to face another Texas based opponent the conference finals when they matched up with Texas Southern University. TSU beat Alcorn and advanced to the big dance for the first time in seven years.

Texas Southern played the University of North Carolina Ashford in the opening round game. The Tigers forced UNC into overtime but fell short at the

end. UNC Ashford moved on to play Texas in the first round of the south regional. Texas prevailed 82-61 sending UNC back to Ashford.

The Longhorns would reel off three more consecutive victories beating Purdue, Connecticut, and Michigan State. The Longhorns title run would end in New Orleans with a 95-84 loss to the Syracuse Orangemen Saturday night in the Final Four. Texas had never been that far in the tournament before. They finished with their best overall record in 56 years. Despite the fact that none of the Texas schools were able to win it all, the fans of Texas hoops were treated to one of the best seasons of college basketball in decades.

Prairie View will return next season with the same squad minus three players: Gregory Burks, Blandon Campbell, and Brandon Moore all who are

graduating seniors. Coach Jerome Francis and staff will be back as well. The biggest question to be answered for the Panthers will be who will step up and lead the team now that Burks' collegiate career has come to a close?

Texas should return next season with the majority of their line-up. Houston product T.J. Ford will continue to get better with time and more game experience. Ford received the Naismith award at the end of the season for his play throughout the year. Coach Rick Barnes has been in the drivers seat at Texas for five seasons and has done a great job in getting the Horns back on track.

March Madness officially came to a close Monday night with the Syracuse Orangemen defeating the Kansas Jayhawks 81-78. Syracuse was lead by freshman sensation Carmelo Anthony who averaged a double-double during the Final Four.

Athletes of the week



Names: Kimberly (right) & Jennifer Fernandez (left)

Classifications: Sophomore & Senior

Hometown: San Antonio TX,

Sport: Softball

Positions: Right Field & Second Base

Claims To Fame: Kimberly never met a softball she couldn't hit. Jennifer is the groundskeeper who cleans up everything.

What do you think when you see a Black Fox?

By Dustin Daniels
Panther Staff

What's light-skinned, tall, slender, and has hair down to their shoulders? If you guessed a black fox, you're wrong! The reality of being a Black Fox is one that regardless of one's physique, important assets such as experience, loyalty, dedication, and hard work are what's needed in order to join.

Both physical and psychological misconceptions of black foxes do exist. "The perceptions of all Black Foxes being tall, light-skinned, slender, and having shoulder-length hair are just that, perceptions," says Chelsea Greer. "To prove that stereotype is false, all one has to do is look

as well as in the classroom," says Greer. To execute dance routines with flawless energy, Black Foxes must be prepared physically. Each practice session is headed with a brisk jog to loosen the muscles, and then is proceeded by a non-stop 30-minute aerobic session. Mental ability is just as essential for execution. After working out, they are taught their dance routines for their next performance. Constant practice and repetition sharpen the mind and aid in developing the body, so by show time, execution is perfect.

In order to become a Black Fox, you must show up for the tryouts, which begin

in April. At the tryouts, you must make up a dance routine for least 1-2 minutes. This routine must feature high kicks and splits. You must have experience as a dancer, loyalty, and endurance are what you must check yourself for once auditioning before captins LaPortia Morrison and Chelsea Greer.

Being a Black Fox can be quite strenuous and demanding, however, the advantages weigh heavily upon the minds of those who've become a part of the squad. Only half of the advantages are the excitement of performing before friends and peers. "Once you become a part of this squad, you're like a member of the family," says Greer. "The sup-

port and friendships that we gain make for a lifetime of memories." As a member of the black foxes, you can also add to the networking process. "Many members of our squad are a part of many other venues on campus, like SGA," says Greer. This increases the number of associates for a possible future reference.

What's tall, short, light-skinned, dark-skinned, dedicated, poised, and loyal? If you guessed a Black Fox, you've guessed correct! As the fine line between perception and reality is being crossed, all who aspire to perform may do such, with no worry of bias whatsoever.

College of Education job fair seeks hopefuls

Nikki Easter
Panther Staff

The College of Education and the Career Placement and Outreach Center are hosting the 23rd annual Education Job Fair in the west wing of Alumni Hall from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. today.

A news release issued by the College of Education and the Career Center Placement and Outreach Center said, "Recruiters from over 100 school districts nationwide, professional schools and regional service centers will be on campus to meet students and discuss employment opportunities."

The news release said, "Teachers, future teachers, administrators, future administrators, students from all fields and public school personnel are invited to interview and discuss job opportunities."

Discussing the ad-

vantages of attending the job fair, Dr. Constance Person, head of the department of curriculum and instruction said, "There have been students in the past who were hired on the spot. There is a great need for teachers everywhere. Special education and reading teachers are in high demand right now. However, students must pass the ExCet exam in Texas in order to become certified."

The ExCet exam is the Examination for the Certification of Education in Texas. The ExCet exam has been the state's teacher certification exam since 1986.

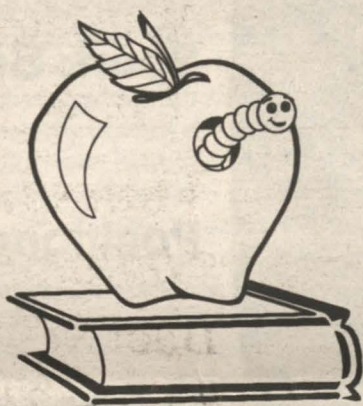
Like all job fairs, graduating seniors who are majoring in education are urged to come professionally dressed with a resume in hand.

"Students preparing for the job fair should remember they have a lot to offer because they have been well

trained," said Person.

Person also urged students who are not graduating this year not to get discouraged but to use the job fair for all it's worth. "Education majors who are not graduating this year should still plan to participate in the job fair to practice their interviewing skills."

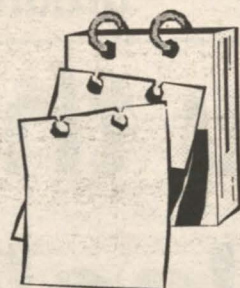
Education professor, Martha Bailey is coordinator of the job fair.



The Answers

Weekly Update for Freshmen

18 class days until finals!



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.

SPRING CONCERT OF THE PVAMU SYMPHONIC BAND!!
Thursday, April 10, 2003, 7:00 PM, Hobart Taylor Recital Hall

- Building 39 is hosting a "Time Management" Seminar featuring Mr. Jerrel Moore, Math Resource Specialist and Coach on Monday, April 14th at 6:30 pm
- ACCESS Reunion!! Saturday, April 26, 2003, noon to four pm at the Student Park
- Building 43 sponsored a "Building Integrity Among the Guys" Seminar on April 7, 2003. A series of roundtable discussions were led by Dr. Alfred Parks, the Building 43 Faculty Fellow
- Buildings 38 & 42 sponsored a play reading on April 2, 2003. The play, "Contribution," was written by Dr. Ted Shine, a former PVAMU faculty member. 70+ students and staff enjoyed the evening. A special thanks goes out to the students who did a magnificent job reading the parts: Terrance Gilbert, Eusheia Living and Tiffany Marks.

health hints

Sleep Disorders

Sleep disorders tend to fall into three groups:

- *Trouble getting to sleep
- *Trouble staying asleep
- *Trouble staying awake

SYMPTOMS

Insomnia

- *Trouble falling asleep.
- *Waking often during the night; not being able to get back to sleep within a half hour.
- *Early waking: perhaps a few hours before your alarm rings.
- *Feeling sleepy often during the day.
- *Trouble staying focused during the day.

Obstructive sleep apnea

- *Loud bursts of snoring and snorting that jerk the sleeper (and anyone nearby) awake.
- *Morning headaches.
- *Daytime sleepiness with trouble staying focused.
- *Short temper and bad moods.

Restless Legs Syndrome

- *Creepy, crawly, or sometimes painful feelings in the legs, most often at night when trying to fall asleep, or during sleep.
- *Constant urge to move the feet and legs.
- *Jerking of legs (and sometimes arms) that you can't control.

Narcolepsy

- *Falling asleep all of a sudden and with no control in the daytime.
- *Sudden loss of muscle control triggered by strong emotion or fatigue.

www.health.com

Spring Fest 2003: Calendar of Events

Monday, April 7

*Family Feud
West Wing of Alumni
7 p.m.-10 p.m.

Tuesday, April 8

*Probate Show
Back of Alumni Hall
6 p.m.-7 p.m.
*The Java House Poetry Jam
William "Billy" Nicks "Baby Dome"
7 p.m.-10 p.m.

Wednesday, April 9

*Talent Show
William "Billy" Nicks
"Baby Dome"
7 p.m.-10 p.m.

Thursday, April 10

*Inflatable Carnival
Back of Coleman Library
7 p.m.-11 p.m.

Friday, April 11

\$ 10
*Concert and Glow Zone After Party
F/Trina and Ying Yang Twinz
William "Billy" Nicks "Baby Dome"
8 p.m.-1 a.m.
\$ 10



Photo By: Launch.com



Photo By: BET.com

Saturday, April 12

*Purple and Gold Scrimmage
Blackshear Stadium
10 a.m.
\$ 10
*PV Stomp Down
William "Billy" Nicks "Baby Dome"
8 p.m.-2 a.m.
\$ 10

Are we equal?



By NiRoshia Smith
Panther Staff

The Supreme Court met last week for hearings on affirmative action. Justices Antonin Scalia and Clarence Thomas made senseless remarks on the problem towards lawyers from the University of Michigan.

"Lower your qualification standards," Scalia said. "If the value of having everybody in mix with people of other races is so significant to you, just lower your qualification standards. You don't have to be the great college you are. You could be a lesser college, if this value in important enough to you."

Thomas agreed with this statement saying schools would be more diverse with lower admission policies. I was outraged at their audacity to imply that these criteria ensure diversity. That says that they believe we aren't as intelligent as our white counterparts. It's considered a direct attack on my character when it's said that my acceptance into institutions of higher learning make for a lesser school.

Affirmative action is a small price to pay for an enormous problem. It wouldn't be needed if we were in a nation that was built on an equal playing field. It's hard to be "proud to be an American" when they degrade and dismiss my character at round table meetings each month.

The statements made were a waste of words as well as useless babbling. Minority students are just as capable if not more so than the so-called majority. The molasses like movement towards equality is slowing down each day. I leave you with one question: will we ever be considered equal?

Vegetarian entrees can provide healthy alternatives to students

By Nikki Easter
Panther Staff

Soul food is a term given to food cooked by African-Americans in the south. One may conjure up the thought of foods like deep fried chicken, catfish, or pork chops smothered in gravy. African-American families have passed down this tradition since slavery.

However, vegetarianism is an alternative to traditional soul food that's becoming more accepted in our community. A vegetarian is defined by the Merriam Webster dictionary as "one that believes or practices living on a diet of vegetables, fruits, grains and limited animal products (milk, and cheese)." A vegan is "a strict vegetarian who consumes no animal food or dairy products."

People stop eating meat for many reasons. Mechanical engineering major Sekou Wilson has been a vegetarian for a year and a half. "The only foods that have cholesterol in them are animal products. Chronic diseases [such as cancer and heart disease] plague the U.S., especially the African-American community," said Wilson.

According to a report from the Journal of the American Medical Association,

90-97% of heart disease can be prevented by a vegetarian diet. When a person eats more cholesterol than needed, the excess accumulates on the walls of arteries and constricts blood flow to the heart, leading to high blood pressure, heart disease and stroke.

Wilson replaced hamburgers and pizza with legumes (black beans, soy, and wheat grains), rice, and a "wide variety of fresh fruits and vegetables." Raw foods like salads and fruits don't weigh him down while heavy foods like whole grains "keep [him] feeling full."

Electrical engineering senior Mike Randoff says he cut meat out of his diet after reading a book about processing plants. Although he doesn't eat meat, he's not eating the proper foods because "Alumni's accommodation for vegetarians is horrible. First you have to bring a doctor's note, then find somebody to fix your food which sometimes takes too long. Paul, an Alumni Hall service manager, is the only one who seems willing to help, but is sometimes so busy that it's hard to catch up with him."

Graduate student Courtney Wilson says she's been a vegetarian since she was sixteen years old. She says it's easier to make the

transition gradually, but doesn't "advise doing anything without talking to a physician to find out what's best for your body. First you need to have a plan; know how you're going to get there, then start doing things we all know are healthier, like increasing vegetable intake, and drinking more water."

When Wilson arrived at Prairie View as an undergraduate student, Alumni Hall managers did their best to assist her. "I talked to a manager. I made it known what I wanted and they worked with me, but it took me talking to people to get it done."

Alumni general manager Gabe Lewis said he doesn't advise African-Americans to become vegetarians, but he tries to accommodate students based on their dietary needs. "We are not white people, our bodies need protein. We want to do what they do, and then we wonder why we have all these problems."

Lewis said if a student wants a special diet, they must fill out a form then set up a meeting in which to counsel the student on what's best for their diet and how he can help.

In an article published on allaboutblackhealth.com, the

author describes how negative eating habits were used during slavery to "fatten the slave and enable them to perform strenuous labor." Times have changed. A high cholesterol, and high calorie diet is the cause for many major killers within the black community. Soul food is an African custom that involves experimenting with different herbs and spices, and creating original ways to prepare food while serving it with an original flair. It cultivates the spirit of family and unity. A vegetarian doesn't have to give up this tradition, but continue to infuse the artistic cooking indigenous to African heritage with good health habits that induce a long life.



Photo courtesy of Google Images

Vegetable and nut casserole is a healthy alternative. For more healthy recipes go to www.vegetarianrecipe.com

Illinois House votes to study racial profiling by police in traffic stops

Associated Press

Urged on by minority lawmakers' personal stories of tense encounters with police, the Illinois House voted Wednesday to study racial profiling in traffic stops.

Legislation approved 80-28 would require a four-year study during which police around the state would have to record the race of people they pull over. The Transportation Department would review the data for signs of racial bias.

Critics say the bill will create more paperwork at a time when security is more important than ever.

"This bill is way too cumbersome for law enforcement," said Rep. John Millner, a Carol Stream Republican and former police chief.

Some lawmakers questioned whether minorities are targeted more often by police. But others said they have experienced it themselves.

Rep. Lovana Jones, D-Chicago, said she was

pulled over by a police officer who would offer no explanation for the stop and detained her for 45 minutes.

"It's a horrible feeling. All the time the lady was talking to me, she had her hand on her gun," said Jones, who is black.

The legislation, would not require police to ask drivers their race. Instead, police would record their best guess. Police writing out tickets and reports would have to include their own race and name, although that would

not be public information.

Lawmakers also approved legislation letting police stop drivers who fail to wear seat belts. Right now, police can issue tickets for seat belt violations only if they have stopped a driver for some other reason.

Some lawmakers worry it would give police another way to target minority drivers. To address that worry, the seat belt measure was paired with the racial profiling study.

Fox movies on web

Associated Press

Twentieth Century Fox has licensed its movies for viewing over the video-on-demand service CinemaNow, becoming the sixth major studio to offer its movies for downloading over the Internet.

Fox will release titles the same day they become available over pay-per-view outlets, the companies said Thursday. Movies to be featured include "Daredevil" and "One Hour Photo," as well as upcoming films such

as "X2," the sequel to last year's "X-men."

New titles will be priced at \$3.99 for 24 hours of unlimited viewing. Library titles will cost \$2.99. All movies will be available for viewing using the Microsoft Windows Media 9 player.

Internet-based video on-demand services have yet to catch on, primarily because they require a high-speed Internet connection. Even then, movies take as much as an hour or more to download.

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U.S. AIR FORCE
CROSS INTO THE BLUE

Panther Poetry Lounge

Can I?

By: David Carpentier

Can I ask you a question?
Because you cause intoxication
Without me having to put a bottle to my lips
And it's something about you that causes me to trip
And contemplating being with you
Images of us doing the do
In several positions satisfying in several ways
Experiencing orgasms that last for days,
Images of us holding conversations
That cause mental stimulation
Images of us being committed to one another
So the question I need to ask is can I be your lover?
Loving mind, body, and soul
Because being intimate with you on all levels is my goal,
So can I be your friend with special privileges?
Because being your man and pleasing you consume my mental images
Can I be the man you daydream about?
And know without doubt
That I am committed to you and will resist temptation
Without question
Because with you I have happiness and happiness can't be replaced
So when offered that forbidden fruit I won't even consider trying a taste
Because it's your flavor
The essence of you that I savor
So can I be the one you grow with, trust, and with whom you start the rest of your life?
Who one day maybe will make you my wife,
Can I be the one you think about when you're touching yourself?
Can I be the one who takes care of you when you're in not so good health?
Can I be the one with whom you share all your hopes and dreams?
See falling in love is easy but staying there is harder than it seems
And staying there will be our toughest task
Just give me an opportunity is all I ask
Cause rather than be nothing I want us to amount to something
So can I be your everything?

Books to Read

1. Addicted- Zane
2. I'm Telling- Karen E. Quinones Miller
3. The Other Woman- Eric Jerome Dickey
4. Leslie- Omar Tyree
5. Baby Mama Drama- Carl Weber
6. God's Gift to Women- Michael Baisden
7. A Lawyer's Life- Johnnie Cochran
8. The Divine Nine- Lawrence C. Ross
9. Black Like Me- John H. Griffin
10. Why I Love Black Women- Michael Eric Dyson

1. What's the new Iota's line number? 2. Is he the tail and the ace? 3. Are the other CSOs hating on GSS because they're the crunkest on the yard now? 4. Can you believe SGRho crossed five girls this time? 5. WARNING: Could they have 50 next spring? 6. Doesn't KoolAid need to create a "red" flavor now? 7. Why did the Panther team get stomped in Fabulous Feud? 8. Isn't it funny how The Panther can laugh at itself and other organizations can't? 9. Why did the lights go out everywhere on campus last week? 10. Can we not pay the light bill because of budget cuts? 11. Who was the girl that handcuffed her boyfriend to the bed and left him naked? 12. How long did he scream help before his roommates helped him? 13. Since TBS crossed, can they and KKPsi get new jackets that are their own? 14. Since they're in the band, shouldn't their rhythm have kept them together? 15. Why were the Ques fighting each other at the relays? 16. Who's better with a cane, the Kappas or SGRhos? 17. Did the Kappas jump their frat brother at UT because he's white? 18. Why are the Deltas offended when they hear any kind of "ooo-ooop"? 19. Are you serious? 20. What do you think?

This is for entertainment only. The questions submitted are not the views of The Panther. Want to tell us what you think? Please bring your comments and questions to Rm. 109 Delco or e-mail panther@pvamu.edu. Questions are printed at the discretion of The Panther

Maison from page 1

and outs and the specifics they're looking for."

Maison noted that his knowledge of politics helps him to understand administration, therefore making his job easier.

"You have to know who the players are," he said. "You also have to know how to work the system to get the job done."

Coach from page 1

record.

In addition, the Panthers advanced beyond the first round of the SWAC tournament for the first time since 1998.

"It is a tremendous honor to be named Rookie Coach of the Year," Francis said. "I would like to thank the athletic administration and fans for their support and I look forward to another competitive season."

Feud from page 1

as the survey displayed the number one flavor as red. I guess this goes to show you, although teachers may be more book wise than the students, they should try to get to know more about them.

Another question that got the contestants as well as the crowd hype was, "Who was the greatest rapper of all times?" Answers such as Notorious BIG and Jay-Z were yelled and XXX. However, Tupac was the number one answer. Among the ones that made the cut were MC Lyte, Nelly, and Lil Kim.

"The crowd enjoyed it more than I thought they would. We thought that we would have to do more to keep the crowd into it than just play the game," said Roderick Pullum, CAB Committee Chair of Speakers and Lecturers. When asked if they will bring the game back Pullum stated, "The event was a suc-

cess and we'll probably do it again." The game was still a hit on campus and students look forward to playing it again next year.

THINGS TO KNOW:

- Please have a safe and fun Spring Fest!
- Congratulations to the new Pan- Hellenic and CSO members.
- Registration for Fall 2003 starts April 15.
- Start preparing your financial aid information for the Fall 2003 semester now.
- There are 18 class days until finals.

American forces bomb upscale Iraqi Al-Mansour neighborhood

By Chris Tomlinson and Hamza Hendawi

Associated Press

The U.S. bombing of an upscale neighborhood where Saddam Hussein and top aides were believed to be meeting blasted a 60-foot-deep crater, ripped orange trees from their roots and left a heap of concrete, mangled iron rods and shredded furniture and clothes.

At least three buildings were destroyed in Monday's 2 p.m. attack on the western Baghdad district of al-Mansour, which broke windows and doors as far as 300 yards from the site.

Rescue workers looking in the rubble for victims said two bodies had been recovered and the death toll could be as high as 14. They didn't release any names.

A single B-1B dropped four "bunker-busting" bombs on the district after U.S. military intelligence was tipped that Saddam, his sons Odai and Qusai and other Iraqi leaders might be meeting there.

Those close to Saddam have said the Iraqi leader is so obsessed with security that very few people would know about his movements. He maintains dozens of residences and uses doubles to keep people guessing.

An exiled dissident told The Associated Press that only two people are kept posted about Saddam's whereabouts - his son Qusai, who commands the Republican Guard and heads the president's security, and his private secretary, Abed Hameed Hmoud, a member of Saddam's Tikriti clan. Even oldest son Odai is thought to be out of the loop because he is considered to have a reckless nature.

In the heart of Baghdad, American soldiers who reached the gold-and-blue-domed New Presidential Palace rifled through documents in the bombed-out compound. The Americans also blew up a statue of Saddam on horseback in the center of the city.

The troops secured the main roads in the area, leaving soldiers at every intersection. They made forays to the Al-Rashid and to the bombed-out Information Ministry, but unlike at the palace, they did not stay.

There was no estimate of Iraqi casualties from Monday's raid, but 10 miles outside the capital, about 100 Iraqi soldiers were reported killed at the Baghdad airport in seven hours of fighting that ended early Monday.



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A.S.C.E.

American Society of Civil Engineers

American Society of Civil Engineers, Prairie View A & M Chapter would like to invite all civil engineering students and students interested in civil engineering to attend the chapter meetings on April 8th and 22nd in Room 109K in the C.L. Wilson Engineering Building at 5 p.m.