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## Panther - November 2003 - Vol. LXXXI, NO.11

Prairie View A&M University

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# PVAMU

The Official Student Newspaper of Prairie View A&M University

panther@pvamu.edu

Volume 81, Issue 11

November 12, 2003



What advice would you give President Wright?

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Panthers lose 7-43 to UAPB Golden Lions.

Page 8



The Youngbloodz to bring "Southern Hospitality" to PV.

Page 11

## Wright takes up mantle of leadership

By Barbara Ramirez  
Panther Staff

The seventh president of Prairie View A&M University, Dr. George Carlton Wright, officially took office Nov. 6, urging the university and those involved with it to unite and embrace change.

"This is your university," Wright told the crowd, acknowledging the importance of many stakeholders at



Photo by Gitonga M'Mbijjewee  
Dr. George Wright waits to receive the presidential medallion. Also pictured is the provost, Dr. E. Joahanne Thomas-Smith.

an institution nearly 130 years old.

"The sum of the parts equals a whole," he said, detailing the role of individuals, institutions and organizations, toward the advancement of PVAMU.

To the Texas A&M Board of Regents, Wright said, "Prairie View A&M is your institution and it will benefit from your expertise, your involvement and your commitment." Wright

pledged to work daily to maintain trust and confidence from the Board of Regents and asked that they support him in the common goal, "to make PVAMU an even better institution."

The new president assured taxpayers that their investments would serve a purpose by the university working "to advance society."

Debate, Wright told

See Wright page 12

## Tempton to be laid to rest Friday

Willie A. Tempton Sr., senior vice president for external affairs and development, died Friday, Nov. 7. Tempton served as interim president of the university from 2002-2003.

A memorandum from the office of the president announced the following funeral arrangements:

### Public Viewing:

9 a.m.-11 a.m. Friday, Nov. 14  
Prairie View A&M University  
William J. "Billy Nicks" Building,  
O.J. Thomas Street,  
Prairie View, Texas 77446.

### Funeral Services:

11 a.m. Friday, Nov. 14  
Prairie View A&M University  
William J. "Billy Nicks" Building,  
O.J. Thomas Street,  
Prairie View, Texas 77446.

following the funeral services):

Veterans National Cemetery  
10410 Veterans Memorial Dr.  
Houston, Texas 77038  
Tel: 281-447-8686.

Condolences and other expressions of sympathy may be sent to:

The family of the late Mr. Willie A. Tempton Sr.  
c/o Carl Barnes Funeral Home  
746 West 22<sup>nd</sup> Street,  
Houston, Texas 77008.  
Tel: 713-869-4529.

Dr. E. Joahanne Thomas-Smith, provost and vice president for academic affairs, informed the university community yesterday that classes will be dismissed at 9:40 a.m. Friday, Nov. 14, and will resume at 2 p.m. to allow faculty and students to attend the funeral services.

Interment (immediately

## Accident claims life of PV student



Photo by Christina Johnson  
Waller County volunteer firemen and Prairie View policemen analyze the scene of the accident near Prairie View Inn.

By Barbara Ramirez  
Panther Staff

Prairie View A&M University Police Department has identified Brandi Collins, 21, of Dallas, Texas, as the student killed in a two-vehicle accident Tuesday afternoon on FM 1098.

Collins drove a red, 1998 four-door Plymouth Neon. The other vehicle was a 26 ft. U-Haul truck.

At 6 p.m. yesterday, the sole occupant of the U-Haul had not been identified. Katie Morrisette, a student, and only passenger in the Plymouth Neon reportedly sustained injuries.

According to chief of

See Accident page 12



•State•

•National•

•World•

**PV's Seven Day Forecast**

Wed. Nov. 12	Partly Cloudy	81°/58°
Thu. Nov. 13	Cloudy	65°/49°
Fri. Nov. 14	Few Showers	66°/56°
Sat. Nov. 15	Few Showers	71°/58°
Sun. Nov. 16	Few Showers	73°/56°
Mon. Nov. 17	Cloudy	72°/57°
Tue. Nov. 18	Cloudy	72°/51°

Courtesy of [www.weather.com](http://www.weather.com)

**A f t e r Schwarzenegger's win, GOP focuses to osnting Boxer**

**SAN FRANCISCO (AP)** — With Arnold Schwarzenegger poised to be sworn in as governor next week, California Republicans are turning their sights to the next big prize: the 2004 U.S. Senate race, where Democratic incumbent Barbara Boxer is seeking a third term. But while many Republicans would like nothing more than to topple the outspoken and proudly liberal Boxer, the magic formula of star power and GOP unity that elected Schwarzenegger has so far eluded this contest. Just three little-known Republicans have entered the race and top party strategists are hoping to coax in some bigger names.

"Barbara Boxer is America's worst senator. She's just a loud nuisance," said Jonathan Wilcox, a strategist for Republican Rep. Darrell Issa. "But her political skills are not inconsiderable, and anyone who thinks she'll go down without the fight of her life is wrong."

**Parents outraged at son's dorm expulsion**

**RANDOLPH, Vt. (AP)** — The mother of a Vermont Technical College freshman plans legal action after her son was expelled from his dorm for two weeks because of allegedly anti-gay comments he wrote in a note.

Rob Provost, 18, was evicted Oct. 29 after writing to two friends using comments the school determined to be anti-gay. He was not suspended from classes.

College officials gave Provost a list of hotels in the area and two days' notice to leave campus.

**Seven inmates die in prison riot in eastern Venezuela**

**CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)** — Seven inmates were shot and killed and three other people were injured during a prison riot in eastern Venezuela on Monday, authorities said.

National Prison Director Carlos Sutrun said the riot broke out early Monday inside Vista Hermosa Prison outside Ciudad Bolivar, approximately 450 kilometers (270 miles) east of Caracas.

Sutrun said three other people, including a federal prison inspector, received bullet wounds.

The violence continued as National Guard troops were deployed to control the situation, Sutrun added. It was not immediately clear how inmates got possession of firearms.

**Israeli military expels Palestinian from West Bank**

**GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP)** — The Israeli military on Monday expelled a Palestinian from the West Bank to Gaza, charging that he was involved in attacks against Israelis.

Kamal Idris, 25, was sent to Gaza, a military statement said, charging that he was a member of a Palestinian cell that carried out attacks in the Hebron area. The military said the expulsion was meant to prevent his involvement in further attacks.

Palestinian security officials said Idris was dropped off by soldiers in an isolated area near a main Gaza Strip junction.

**"Preparing for the future"**



Photo by Christina Johnson

Freshmen participated in the second annual University College Major's Fair held in the MSC ballroom Tuesday.

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**The Panther**

Prairie View A&M University's official student publication

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**Submission Policy for Letters to the Editor**

Anyone who reads The Panther can submit a letter to the editor by fax, e-mail, or postal service. All submissions are subject to editing and must include the author's name and telephone number.

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The Panther office is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday-Friday.

**The Panther remembers Willie Tempton**



By Christina Johnson  
Editor in Chief

Last weekend, Prairie View lost a distinguished alumnus, former interim president Willie Tempton.

Tempton served Prairie View at a time when it was going through dramatic changes. He dedicated a lot of time and service to help this university maintain its status as "a university of the first

class."

Every journalist remembers his or her first story assignment as if it happened yesterday. My first assignment for The Panther was to interview Mr. Tempton. At the time, I was a sophomore and it was my first year working for the paper. Of course I turned it down when it was given to me but nobody else wanted the assignment and since I was the rookie on the team, I had to do it.

I now realize that if I had not taken the assignment, I would never have met one of the nicest people to ever grace this university. During our conversation, we talked about his goals for the univer-

sity, such as initiating new degree programs and building a stronger alumni base, and how he earned the position of interim president.

When I asked Tempton if he was going to apply for the presidency, he simply stated no. "I don't plan on staying around for long," he said. "I'll stick around as long as the president thinks he/she will need my assistance."

"Beyond that, I intend to get out of the way and let the new administration do what they need to do and how they want to do it."

But Tempton did stick around - even when he became sick. Now one our best is gone.

The hard work, dedication, love, and loyalty that Tempton had for Prairie View was not in vain. I believe that Prairie View will continue to strive to be a top-notch university and with our new president, Dr. George Wright, at the helm, we will overcome all obstacles.

The Panther staff and I send our condolences to the Tempton family. To the Prairie View A&M University family, we ask that all of you pay your last respects to a man who upheld the values of our university and believed in us even when we didn't want to believe in ourselves.

**Reflections of a seasoned student-athlete**

**Anjeanette Robinson-Mays**  
Panther Correspondent

Being an athlete is not an easy thing to do. You have to balance school, sports, and your social life. Some coaches believe you shouldn't have a social life or that your social life should not come before your sport.

I have been an athlete for 13 years and I have had many coaches. They all want to same thing, from you; to do your best and be dedicated. A lot of people cannot be athletes because they are not able to live up to these two characteristics.

Trusting your coach and getting along with your teammates are two other attributes that student athletes must have. Trusting your coach is a big thing when

you come from high school to college. A coach may change your technique in shooting a basketball, swinging a bat, setting the volleyball, or throwing a shot. This technique might take some getting used to and student-athletes might second guess the coach but they have to trust them.

Senior Kathlena Mays said, "When I first came out to throw my technique I did a 360, "My coach changed my whole throw. I went from the glide to the spin in shot. At first I was very skeptical because I had been using the glide to throw the shot since I was in junior high. I learned to trust my coach and now the spinning technique allows me to perform at my personal best."

Being round the same people everyday can really make you tired of them at times, but that is what you have to do when you are on a sports team. A team travels, eats competes, practices and does everything else together.

Teams are like a family at times. Sometimes you get mad at each other and you might fuss, but there are times when you laugh, joke and play around.

Your top priority of being a student athlete is getting your education. This can be difficult if you don't know how to balance your time. It is difficult because in college, you travel a lot more than in high school. Sometimes the team will be gone for two to three days

and it can be hard to makeup class assignments, quizzes or get the notes from a fellow classmate. Even though "playing catch up" may be complicated, you have to keep your grades up. That is what being a "student-athlete" is all about, being a student first and an athlete second.

Having a social life is almost out of the question. Between practices, games and school work there is not much time for anything else.

"You have to use your time wisely," says Broderick Gatica. "Not putting things off until the last minute will sometimes allow you to have free time. You have to have some kind of social life. These are supposed to be the best years of our lives."

**Amistad moves to new location on University Drive**

By Kareem Howell  
Panther Staff

The new location for the Amistad bookstore has stirred up some excitement among the staff members of the bookstore. Ernestine Carreathers was excited to see that there was a buzz in the air about the bookstore.

Carreathers said Amistad changed buildings because someone outbid

them for the building. "We were in and they took it right from under our feet," Carreathers said.

Carreathers says she feels the location will enhance sales. She said more people have been browsing in the new location. "The old Amistad building was old and small. This new building is bigger and in a better spot so the people can see it off University Drive," she

said. The Amistad bookstore is not in competition with the on-campus bookstore because they sell different types of books.

"We are of a different nature, they sell textbooks and some books by black authors. However, our biggest sales are from black authors. We do have textbooks in administration and counseling, but we don't order a lot like they do, because our clientele

is small. In no way are we in competition with the bookstore on campus. We just want to make sure that we accommodate the public's needs."

The Amistad bookstore is open from Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Saturday from noon to 5 p.m. The new location is next to the Newman Community Center on University Drive.

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1 Porkchop & Fries	6 Shrimp, 1 piece Catfish & Fries



# Early registration begins as semester comes to a close

By Anteria Brown  
Panther Staff

Pre-registration is considered to be a privilege. Students who pre-register receive the first pick at classes and the schedules they desire. Beginning Tuesday, Nov. 11, students who are eligible began priority early registration. Early registration is offered online through Panther Tracks as well as through the individual departments.

Prairie View A&M University piloted web registration this past summer. This Spring 2004 semester is the first time all students except freshmen will begin using the web registration system. This is the first year that Prairie View has initiated a prioritized registration system. Graduate students and seniors will be given first priority. They will be able to register early on line beginning Wednesday, Nov. 11; juniors Nov. 12, and

sophomores Nov. 13. Because of a need for a more hands-on advisement freshmen are not eligible for web registration, instead they will register in their departments with their advisors.

"We strongly recommend that students who are eligible from the sophomore level and up participate in self servicing web registration," said Registrar Deborah J. Dungey.

The instructions for web registration are outlined in detail on the registrar's office web page, and in the 2004 Spring schedule of classes booklet. In order to register early via Panther Tracks students must first make sure that all registration holds are clear. Students may contact their department or access Panther Tracks to determine if they have holds. Students are also required to complete an advisement/ registration form. This form was newly created to facilitate the web

registration process. Those seeking to participate in web registration are also required to meet with their department advisor for course advisement and authorization for Panther Tracks registration.

Undergraduate students who have not met TASP requirements, and students who have been placed on academic probation or suspension are not eligible for Panther Tracks or departmental registration.

"I think it's great that Prairie View has initiated a web registration program. It shows that our school is advancing in technology, just as other schools have," said sophomore Melanie Stanley.

Aside from the web registration program students may choose to take part in departmental registration. Students should verify departmental advisement schedules with their academic department. Once students have verified

registration schedules with their advisor they should set up an appointment and complete an advisement/ registration form.

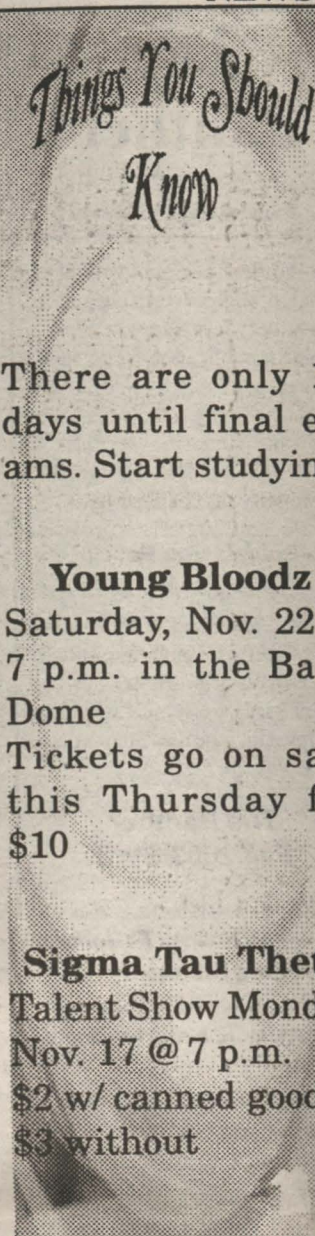
Students currently enrolled in a TASP or developmental course are required to have a grade of A, B, C, or S in order to qualify for early registration. Some departments also have requirements that may oblige students to receive a grade of C or better in their major classes. Students should contact their advisors to get further information on prerequisites for their departments.

The registrar formally dispelled the rumor of having to purchase textbook for a class prior to registration by saying "It has always been a practice of the registrar to advise students to first attend class and get the syllabus before you purchase the book."

There are only 18 days until final exams. Start studying!

**Young Bloodz**  
Saturday, Nov. 22 @ 7 p.m. in the Baby Dome  
Tickets go on sale this Thursday for \$10

**Sigma Tau Theta**  
Talent Show Monday  
Nov. 17 @ 7 p.m.  
\$2 w/ canned good  
\$3 without



# Remarks from the university community at the inauguration of President Wright

## Administration and staff

By Dr. E. Joanne Thomas-Smith  
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Good Morning! And welcome to this city on a hill, "PVAMU," a place I like to call the brightest sun in the southwestern sky.

In the well-known poem, Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock, T.S. Elliot asked, "Do I dare disturb the universe?" The very founding of PVAMU most certainly created a mild "2 on the Richter scale" disturbance in 1876 when the school was established but without high expectations of its survival let alone succeeding. Today, we are heirs to many administrators and staff members who toiled upward into the night strategizing to force the institution to stay alive.

Thanks to changes in our culture, changes in legislation, support from our BOR, chancellors, the legislators, alumni, federal agencies, and foundations as well as divine providence have brought us from: \*8 students to 7,800+

\*A few frame structures to a physical plant valued at over \$275million

\*A pre-collegiate curriculum

\*Four doctorate programs

\*No doctoral prepared faculty to over 70% terminal degree holders

\*No research to six major research centers and over \$10million in funded research

During this season in the University's history, Dr. George Carlton Wright, a noted scholar and servant leader will coach. The administration and staff will be his team.

This inauguration is the embodiment of the dreams, hopes, beliefs inherent in our mission to continue to produce, without exception, proud, productive Panthers who upon departing this world will have made a substantial contribution to it.

As we consider or commitment to serve, the

words of John F. Kennedy as he took the oath of office seem appropriate.

**Let every nation know, whether it wishes us well or ill that we shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe to assure the survival and success of liberty.**

- John F. Kennedy

Delegates and special guests, students, faculty, and members of publics served, today is a special day of reaffirming our institutional commitment and rededication to assure the survival of this land grant university. Dr. Wright shall know us by our fortitude and our faith. Thank you for being here to bear witness and thanks Dr. Wright for accepting the challenges of leadership.

## Student Body

By Hendrik Maison  
SGA President

I am honored to be called upon at this memorable occasion to speak to such highly esteemed audience. The inauguration of a university president isn't just a ceremony; it is an academic ritual in the hallowed chambers of the academia commonly referred to as an ivory tower. The installation of a 7th President is albeit significant, for in ancient African philosophy with its origins in the sprawling civilizations of Northern Africa, seven is an important number-it means completion, it means power, and it means honor.

Biblically, God created the world in six days and rested on the seventh, there are seven days in a week, so there have been seven great world powers o date-Egypt, Medo-Persia, Greece, Rome, the Papacy, Great Britain, and then the United States. This says a lot about our seventh President-a man if honor, he has come here to complete and he is bound to succeed.

The esoteric significance of seven cannot just be lost to the philosophy of the number; it exists in the

reality on the ground. The reality that after over 120 years of existence, the Prairie View A&M University has come of age-she has gone full circle in development and is well positioned to deliver on her promises-to provide an academic environment that is home away from home, breeding young men and women of distinction, academic excellence and industrial agility.

It is this promise that we, the student body, which I represent, are bold to affirm along with our President. For the first time we were involved in the process to select such a man of intense integrity. I personally had the honor of being the eyes and ears of the student body during those long thirteen months and it is my belief that if he fails, we fail and if he succeeds we all succeed.

In the spirit of this inauguration, I, on behalf of the student body, pledge our loyalty and our commitment to the new administration; we look forward to working with you-Dr. Wright, to deliver our collective promise.

God helping us we shall succeed.

In the months that you have been with us, we have sensed your earnest and sincere desire to be a democratic participant in our constructive thinking. Such a procedure, we believe, is fundamental in the future development of this institution.

In your vision of the possibilities of Prairie View A&M University, we, the faculty, accept the challenge of the part that we shall play in the university growth and student achievement under your leadership. We pledge to you our support in each step of the process.

President George Carlton Wright, the faculty salutes you.

## Faculty

By Dr. Evelyn Thornton  
Speaker, Faculty Senate

Regent Stevens, Dr. Wright, Distinguished Guests, Faculty, Students, Alumni, and Friends of Prairie View A&M University.

On behalf of the faculty, it is my distinct pleasure and honor to bring greetings to you on this special inaugural day of Dr. George Carlton Wright as the seventh president of this prestigious university.

President Wright-you have been selected to lead a tradition steeped university that has produced productive citizens for over 127 years. Your academic background and superb literary

accomplishments clearly make you an outstanding choice at this juncture in the history of our institution at a time when the university has accepted the broad mantle for higher education in the state of Texas, as a university of the first class.

You have demonstrated the quality of leadership required to build on the rich history and resources of our great institution. Your convictions as leader of this university family will enable us to achieve the mission of the university, overcome challenges, and carry-on traditions while creating new traditions.

A university in its final analysis is an institution of human relationships with a mission to awaken individuals to

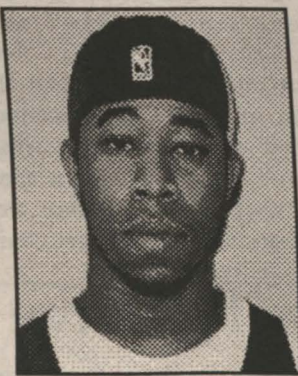
these relationships, to give each a challenging responsibility of possible achievement within the boundaries of democratic living, and at the same time, to unify the creative endeavors in the advancement of a common goal.

A coordinate with the president in achieving the mission of the university is the faculty. With and through this group lie the greatest potential for strength and success of the university. Within the faculty, the finest example of balance in human relationships must be developed. From it must radiate the spirit, which dominates the attitudes of the students, and hence, the atmosphere on the campus.

Therefore, President Wright, in extending to you

# PURPLE & GOLD POLL

## What advice would you give President Wright?



**Jeremy Mays**  
Sophomore/Electrical Engineering

"If we're to give President Wright some advice to make PV better, I would have him supervise the activity in Financial Aid because somebody is not doing their job correctly."



**Antionne Murray II**  
Senior/Business Management

"There should be some 'spring' cleaning as far as faculty and staff. They aren't as qualified to lead as they should be."



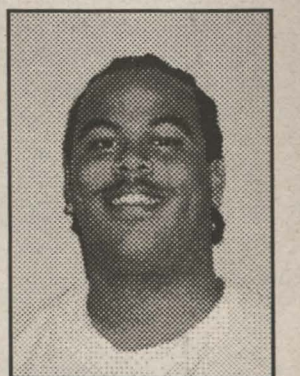
**Danielle Raibon**  
Freshman/Nursing

"If I were to give the president advice on making PV better I would tell him to create more school activities so that the students will gain more school pride."



**Ashlea Guillory**  
Sophomore/Criminal Justice

"The police need to stop worrying about towing cars and worry about our safety from offenders."



**Farley Lewis**  
Sophomore/Education

"Keep God first."

By Kayla Barnett



# Congratulations



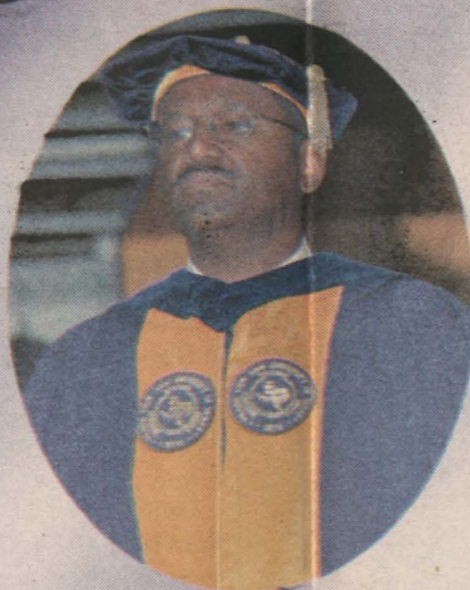
Mr. Edward B. Evans  
1st President  
1947 - 1966



Dr. J.M. Drew  
2nd President  
1966



Dr. Alvin I. Thomas  
3rd President  
1966 - 1982



## Dr. George Carlton Wright 7th President of Prairie View A&M University



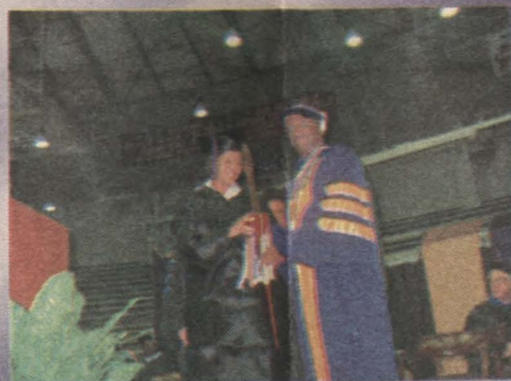
Dr. Perry A. Pierre  
4th President  
1983 - 1989



L.T. Gen. Julius W. Becton, Jr.  
5th President  
1989 - 1994



Dr. Charles A. Hines  
6th President  
1994 - 2002



by: Otis Clayborne II/Panther Staff



## Panthers win exhibition opener 99 to 68

By Dustin Daniel  
Sports Correspondent

The Prairie View A&M Panther men's basketball team squared off against the visiting Houston Quest in exhibition action Monday night at the Baby Dome.

The Panthers boasted a new starting lineup, complete with new faces. In his first taste of college action, freshman point guard Jared Ellison proved to be a defensive juggernaut, causing chaos and turnovers for the visiting Houston Quest. This led to the fast break opportunities where Ellison tallied his four first half assists, some of which were to hot handed shooting guard Kevin Cooper (3-3 3pt fgs).

Whenever the Panthers operated in the half court, they pounded the ball on the block to 6-11 senior center Roderick Riley and 6-10 forward Tyrone Nelson, who combined to shoot 10-15 in the first half. In attempting to negate the Panther advantage on the block, Quest rushed Riley with double teams upon touching the ball. This plan backfired, thanks to Cooper, and guard DaShon Harper (2-2 fg 1-1 3pt fg). However the Houston Quest managed to stay close in the first half, thanks to Mike Bowers' 10 points (3-4 fgs, 2-3 3 pt fgs in 1<sup>st</sup> half). At half, the Panthers headed to the locker room up 47-36.

The second half saw the Panther lead balloon to 30, behind the scoring of reserves like Harper (11pts 4-5 fgs, 2-3fgs), freshman Lonnie Wyche (10 pts in 3-6 fgs), Philip Hawthorne (11pts, 4-6 fgs, 3-5 3pt fgs), and the solid play of point guards Chad Bowen and Christian Sonier. The Panthers were led by their 1-2 inside punch of Riley (13 pts, 6-8 fgs, 8 rebounds) and Nelson (15 pts, 5-10 fgs 5-5FTs and 7 rebounds). The Panthers shot an astounding 64% from the field while holding the Quest to 39.7% shooting. Quest was led by Mike Bowers (22 pts 7-10 fgs, 3-5 3 pt fgs, 5-6FTS).

# Golden Lions outshine Panthers

## UAPB overpowers Prairie View in SWAC contest

By Steven Kennedy  
Panther Staff

It has been a very long season for the Panthers' football team, but with all the unfortunate losses, Prairie View A&M continues to into every game with an upset on their mind viruses their opponents. The Southwestern Athletic Conference is very competitive and Prairie View A&M's latest opponent Arkansas Pine Bluff defeated them 43-7 Saturday at the Reliant Astrodome in Houston, Texas.

Like Prairie View A&M, the Golden Lions of Arkansas Pine Bluff came into Saturday's contest with a record of 2-6. The 2-6 record in the win-loss column can

really throw an opposing team off, and that's just what Arkansas Pine Bluff did to Prairie View A&M, compiling 408 yards in total offense in front of a crowd of 4,301 last Saturday.

Pine Bluff started the game with a decent 7-play drive for 56 yards to set up their first score of the game with a yard touchdown by quarterback Antonio Lovelady to put the Golden Lions up 7-0 with 6:05 to go in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter. Prairie View A&M's offense has been using a rotation of quarterbacks throughout the season, with Mark Spivey, James Adamo, and Michael Hill who led the Panthers to

their only victory of the season against Paul Quinn. With three different quarterbacks taking snaps for the offense all season you never know who will start the next game, but freshman quarterback Mark Spivey got the call last Saturday. Spivey and the Panthers' offense were held scoreless in the first half of the game.

Meanwhile, Arkansas Pine Bluff and their offense were clicking on all cylinders with four different players scoring touchdowns for the Golden Lions. Jeremy Matthews, Michael Seller, Calvin Thomas, and Brian Jones all reaching the end zone between the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> quarters. Wide receiver Bertrum Jackson, who led Prairie View A&M in receiving yardages last season with 416

yards, scored the Panthers' only touchdown with a 30-yard touchdown reception from quarterback Mark Spivey with 8:02 to go in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter. But the damage had already been done by Arkansas Pine Bluff's Golden Lions.

Prairie View A&M finished the game with 14 first downs, and 63 offensive plays for 211 yards (168 passing, 43 rushing).

The Panthers will complete their 2003 football campaign this Saturday against the Southeastern Louisiana Lions in Hammond, Louisiana at Strawberry Stadium. Kick-off time is at 4:00 p.m.

## PV athletics through the eyes of Soccer Star

By Lori Mason  
Panther Staff

A day in the life of an athlete is all work and little play. Junior forward Ida Cooley describes her soccer endeavors and feelings about P.V.'s other sports teams, our athletic program, and the new athletic facilities.

"Our season is going great and I believe we can bring home the first soccer championship in the school's history," said Cooley. The SWAC is divided into two divisions: east and west, in which our girls are ranked number two in the west falling short to Grambling State.

"We have a very good playing field. They line it for us every game, our flags are put in place and our goals are set out before every game. I have no complaints about the field. We have our own practice field and everyone makes us feel like we've been here for years." For those who don't know, this season is Prairie View's second year with a soccer team and they're going out with a bang.

"I don't have a problem with the weights or the weight room," stated Cooley. "As long as the weights get the

job done, and so far they have been. Our team is in great shape and we are more than confident that we can go out and win it all." Prairie View's weight

room was recently redecorated to give athletes more comfort and strong desire to go out and conquer their opponents. According to Cooley,

Not only does Cooley focus on the soccer team, she supports all sports at Prairie View. The whole soccer team is supportive of all the other sports. "We go to volleyball and football games together. We sold football programs before and during the homecoming game." Cooley said, "the football team has come a long way this season as far as cama-

raderie and teamwork. "We came to camp at the same time and I noticed that the guys were focused and they had their minds set on goals, and with more hard work eventually they can win more games in the SWAC."

Cooley also tells us about our bowling team, which is doing pretty good this year. "The bowling team is just like any other bowling team in the SWAC, they're underrecognized."

"I think the cross country team does very good. They work hard and are out on the field just as much as everyone else," Cooley says. "They are an excellent team and they are making progress as time goes by."

"Our volleyball team is the only number one team at the school in the SWAC and they definitely have a good chance in

going to the tournament and advancing to the NCAA playoffs," says Cooley.

According to Cooley, our softball team is the best in the SWAC. Our baseball team has been going through some changes in the past few years. Cooley states that she thinks they have a pretty good chance at holding a pretty high spot in the SWAC despite the 50 game season that awaits them.

Last, but not least, Cooley says our tennis team works the best with what they have. "They don't get a lot of student support or faculty support, or a lot of funding, but they work really hard and are dedicated to the sport and to me that's what really counts."

Although soccer season is almost over, the girls will continue to support the other sports on campus as well as each other throughout the school year.

**Editor's Note**  
PV ATHLETICS THROUGH THE EYES OF, is a three part series showcasing athletes' views on campus athletics.



Photo by Christina Johnson  
Junior Ida Cooley cheerfully represents Prairie View to the fullest.

# Health Hints

## DIABETES

November is Diabetes Awareness Month. Diabetes can lead to blindness, heart attack, stroke, kidney failure, amputations and death. You can prevent or delay complications from diabetes by eating healthy meals, exercising regularly, controlling your weight, monitoring your blood sugar, taking the medicine your doctor prescribes and living a healthy lifestyle.

### Risk factors for diabetes

- \*African American, Hispanic, Native American, Asian American
- \*Family history of diabetes
- \*High or low blood sugar
- \*Overweight
- \*Limited physical exercise

### Symptoms of diabetes

- \*Blurred vision
- \*Fatigue, lack of energy
- \*Extreme thirst, hunger
- \*Frequent urination
- \*Sudden change in weight
- \*Slow healing of sore or cut
- \*Numbness or tingling in hands or feet
- \*Frequent infections
- \*Depression

You may have your blood sugar checked at Owens-Franklin Health Center. For more information stop by the Health Center, or talk to your physician.

T. J. Pierre, Administrator  
Health & Counseling Services

# Research expenditures lead campus to the top

By Cory Donley  
Panther Staff

Prairie View A&M University is among a select number of universities in the state of Texas with active research programs that give students the opportunity to work and compete in research sponsored projects.

Students in many departments are currently working on research projects funded by national research entities.

The projects are among those being undertaken by Texas public universities and health-related institutions in order to make discoveries that could possibly lead to a strong future economy, according to Ray Grasshoff of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

The research projects are good learning tools for students in the ideals of social work, strong study habits and even budgeting, said Dr. Willie Trotty, vice president of

research and development at the university.

There are two offices on Prairie View's campus that deal with research expenditures. The Office of Sponsored Projects and the Prairie View A&M University Research Foundation support and receive funding for 175 programs on campus.

Over the years, Prairie View has become one of the highest ranked universities in Texas with research-sponsored programs. According to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, Prairie View ranks 12<sup>th</sup> in research expenditures among 34 Texas public universities and 3<sup>rd</sup> in research expenditures among the nine Texas public universities that are part of the Texas A&M University System.

The centers that currently sponsor research programs on the campus include: the Center of Excellence for Communications Systems Technology Research, the Air

Force Fast Center, NASA Southwest Regional Network Resources and Training Site, the Thermal Science Research Center, the International Dairy Goat Center, the Cooperative Agricultural Research Center, the Center for Materials, Microdesign, and Microfabrication, the Texas Juvenile Crime Prevention Center and the Texas Gulf Coast Environmental Data Center.

Every year the university receives funding for research from national sponsors and the state of Texas. In past years the university averaged three to five million dollars, but it had an expenditure budget of 10.3 million dollars last year.

According to Trotty, the increase in research funding is the result of successes of past programs. For example, in 2002, several Prairie View students participated in a project for NASA entitled KC-135 Student Flight Opportunity Program, which gave Prairie View national attention when the students' reduced gravity experiment was selected for flight by NASA in a group five space flights in the week of July 10 to July 19 of this year. These achievements help promote the name of the university.

Trotty would like to see more students getting involved with research projects in their fields of study. "Everyone in some way can be affected by this program. Whether your major is history or mathematics, you can be a part of the research program," he said.

Research programs are for graduate as well as undergraduate students. Students who participate in the research also have the opportunity to travel around the country to experience symposiums and other academic events.



## SGA Speaks Out

Project Truth Health Rally in the MSC Lobby

November 19 from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

includes:

- \*Information about minority health
- \*Participate in a blood drive
- \*Sign up to be an organ donor
- \*Receive free HIV screenings
- \*Sign up for free CPR training



# Cute Consequences: Part 1 Grills don't pay the bills

By NiRosha Smith  
L&E Editor

Forget teeth whiteners, these days pearly whites just aren't enough to capture someone's attention. Young people are now looking to gold, platinum, and even diamond grills to make a statement. But before running to your nearest dentist to ask about creating your own dental mold, think of the lasting effects that your decision will have.

Call it a fad, but "grills" seem to have earned a permanent place in our mouths and society. When our generation was younger, silver caps were all the rage. Where did this new fascination originate? Many think that we have celebrities to thank. Hip-hop stars and rappers wear rows of gold or platinum teeth as part of their bling-bling and jewelry. Sometimes the teeth are etched with designs like dollar signs or embedded with gems. In a more subtle form of the fashion, small diamonds or other precious gems are sometimes fixed straight onto teeth.

Senior health and human performance major, Marcus Slewellen, accumulated his gold teeth over a period of time as the fad became more popular. He has several gold teeth, and doesn't wish at all that they were removable.

"I got my first gold tooth in 1989. There's nothing wrong with my teeth, it was just a fad," said Slewellen.

Exactly what happens to our teeth when we become overwhelmed

by this fashion fad? We all know that healthy teeth are happy teeth. With permanent mouthpieces, food particles and bacteria will become trapped underneath and can cause tooth decay. Tooth decay then leads to diseases such as bad breath and even worse, gingivitis.

Gingivitis is an infection of the gums. Most of the time it's painless and many people don't discover that they're infected until their dentist tells them. The bacteria found in dental plaque causes the infection. Most of the time it grows around teeth where proper hygiene care is difficult. As the disease progresses, pain, swelling, and loss of bone around the teeth can occur.

Although shiny diamonds on your incisors and platinum on your cuspids may seem nice on the street, they aren't welcome in the corporate world. First impressions are lasting and meaningful. When sitting across from a prospective boss, you want him to be astonished by your impressive resume rather than the various minerals you have covering your teeth. We, as young people, have enough stereotypes to battle without adding yet another.

"Having gold teeth is going to affect your job experience in the business industry, your appearance sells you," said senior Kawana Cox.

Although the world is making strides when it comes to judgment, these days men wearing braids and earrings are finding

their way into numerous corporate offices. Many men aren't concerned with

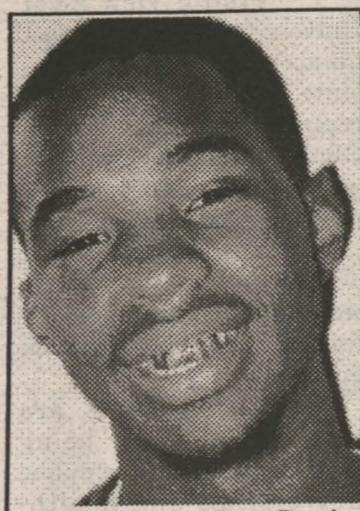


Photo by Ryan Brooks

"I got my grill for the attention it brings," said sophomore Jason Thompson.

what the corporate world thinks. They say they will be able to make a living in other fields.

"I know it will affect me getting a job. We already know that there's discrimination in the work field. If push comes to shove, I'll take them out. But there's more than one way to make money than in the corporate world," said Slewellen.

Instead of attempting to outshine Baby of the Cash Money Millionaires, opt for a more practical pullout teeth mold. With these you can be the envy of the streets as well as a professional in the office. As young people it's

understandable that we all want to show our creativity. But when making these creative decisions, think of the consequences.

**Editor's Note:**  
Cute Consequences is a three-week series of articles that will chronicle the health effects of current fads.

"THIS IS MY STORY"

Tupac Resurrection: The Album  
Featuring New Music By  
TUPAC SHAKUR • THE KRYPTONITE BROS  
CORNELL COLLEGE  
Available on  
Audiocassette, CD, DVD

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RESURRECTION

IN HIS OWN WORDS

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RESTRICTED  
PARENTS STRONGLY CAUTIONED  
SOME MATERIAL MAY BE INAPPROPRIATE FOR CHILDREN UNDER 17  
REASON: LANGUAGE AND IMAGES OF DRUGS, VIOLENCE AND SEX

Tupac-Resurrection.com  
zPacLegacy.com

**THIS NOVEMBER**

# Youngbloodz to bring PV "Southern Hospitality"

By Christina Johnson  
Editor-in-Chief

On Saturday, Nov. 22, be prepared to attend an event that has been dubbed "the crunkest concert and after party to ever hit the yard."

Prairie View A&M University presents Southern Hospitality featuring The Youngbloodz will hit the William J. "Billy" Nicks Fieldhouse at 7 p.m. This is the first concert to be held this academic year.

Neither the Department of Student Activities and Leadership nor the Campus Activity Board is sponsoring the concert. The concert is being brought to you by senior criminal justice major Elliott Garnes and his company, Oria Entertainment, in conjunction with The Fraternal Order of Classy Gentlemen-Sigma Rhomeo.

Garnes has plenty of experience in the field of public relations and promotions. He has produced and promoted shows with Swats Entertainment (Killer Mike and

T.I.), Hendu Entertainment (Pastor Troy) and in March he produced the Blue College Poets Tour's "Bum Rush Tha Stage" at Michigan State University.

"Since I've been here the concerts haven't been quality concerts," said Garnes, who graduates in May. "People come and perform for like 10 to 15 min-

cost."

Garnes said the concert is his way of giving back to Prairie View before he graduates.

Arista recording artists The Youngbloodz are hot on the charts right now with their hit "Damn."

Tickets for the concert go on sale at the fieldhouse, Thursday for \$10



After being disappointed during homecoming, students can look forward to the unforgettable concert that the Youngbloodz will bring.

utes on stage and leave. With my experience I knew I could put on a concert that was not only affordable for students but a quality concert at a low

each.

For more information, call 678-296-8731 or email [oriaentertainment@hotmail.com](mailto:oriaentertainment@hotmail.com).

# Gilpin Players win at festival

Special to The Panther

The Charles Gilpin Players participated in the Region Six Kennedy Center/American College Theatre Festival (KC/ACTF), Nov. 4-7 at the University of Texas at El Paso.

The Gilpin Players were multiple award winners for the seventh straight year. Six awards were won. No other college or university in Region Six (Okla., La., N.M., Ark. and Texas) matches the competition of the nationally respected Gilpins.

The adjudicator, competing directors, audience members, and students offered praise for the production of A Lesson Before Dying by Romulus Linney, based on the novel by Ernest Gaines.

The awards/honors for the Gilpins are:

Three excellence in acting honors: The coveted

Irene Ryan Award-Roenia Thompson for her role as Miss Emma Glenn, Kendrick Brown for his role as Grant Wiggins, Angela Johnson for her role as Vivian Baptiste.

Three excellence in technical theatre/management: Fernie Corrales for lighting design, Jenelle Edmund for stage management, Ronald Smith for sound design.

The award winning play was directed by Theatre Arts Coordinator and Acting teacher C. Lee Turner. Technical directions by Ricjuane Jenkins. Costume and makeup design by Mrs. Bonnie Cherrie. Voice and diction management advised by Dr. James Lee. The art designs were provided by Arthur Thomas, senior theatre arts major.

The play can be seen Nov. 12-15, at 8 p.m. in the Anne Campbell Little Theatre in the Hobart Taylor Building.

# Panther Poetry Lounge

A sweet form of suffering  
Bryan Callis

Love doesn't brag nor boast,  
It doesn't keep any record of wrong,  
Something that is worth holding on,  
A resist that is too strong,  
A will to carry on,  
Love is truly the passionate side of an individual  
that is immersed, the call that calls you higher,  
The heat that sets your passion on fire,  
The breath of your heart's desire,  
Countless reps of caressing the body and chest,  
Just one kiss on my breast,  
A four letter word that breezes through the air,  
The flame of the flare,  
Love listens, learns, and stay loyal to the body,  
The body of the soul,  
Love is a sweet form of suffering

1. Aren't you glad that basketball season has started?
2. Shouldn't the girls' basketball players get the same respect that the men do?
3. Isn't web registration pointless if you have to see your advisor?
4. Which black fox lost her ponytail during their performance?
5. Aren't we glad Long John Silver's finally opened?
6. Shouldn't they stay open for 24 hours?
7. Will we ever have a crunk Hump Day on the Hill?
8. When will the school build another parking lot?
9. Does it make sense to purchase a decal when you can never find a parking spot?
10. Why is the MSC so boring?
11. Shouldn't they open alumni for old times sake?
12. Why doesn't Panthertracks work late at night?
13. Does the hail damage on top of the MSC really matter?
14. What do the police do all day?
15. Does anyone know what happened to Prime Time?
16. Why does Channel 13 know more about what's going on here than we do?
17. How aware are you of your surroundings?
18. Shouldn't extra credit be available in every class?
19. What happened to the girls with the multi-colored hair?
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. 219 MSC or e-mail [panther@pvamu.edu](mailto:panther@pvamu.edu). Questions are printed at the discretion of The Panther



**Wright from page 1**

faculty and staff, can be healthy. He urged faculty and staff to express their opinions openly and share thoughts that could be beneficial to the university.

Mr. Prairie View A&M University, Reginald Bauchus, commended Wright, prior to ceremonies Thursday, for allowing everyone to have a voice.

"As Mr. Prairie View, one of the first things I noticed was his truly open-door policy. A lot of presidents say they have an open-door policy, but when it comes to it, they're really not available."

Wright succeeds Willie A. Tempton who served as interim president from 2002-2003 after sixth president Dr. Charles A. Hines resigned in 2002.

Wright gave staff a sense of security by saying that they should not apologize for lacking a Ph.D. or position on the faculty.

"Outstanding performance in your job will be rewarded," he said.

"Faculty are the heart of the university," he said, asking that faculty be committed to the well being of PVAMU.

Wright pleaded with students to take their education seriously in order to improve PVAMU for future generations of students.

"This is your school. It is your right to demand an education that will serve you throughout your life."

Wright asked alumni to, "regain your proper place at this university." "There are no good, great or excellent universities without the input of the school's alumni," he said.

Toward the end of his speech, Wright mentioned the importance of increasing the diversity of the student population.

"Our students need to have a fair, balanced view of race relations," he said, sharing his plans to recruit people of all races.

Wright received a mace, medallion and another personally engraved medallion with the university seal.

According to the program for the inauguration ceremony, the mace is an ancient symbol of authority that is carried by the marshal ahead

of the academic procession.

The presidential medallion commemorates the lineage of presidency at PVAMU.

The seal, according to Benton Cocanougher, interim chancellor of Texas A&M University System, "symbolizes the support of the entire system that you [Wright] carry out your duties as president."

Wright was visibly overwhelmed by the entire ceremony.

"For much of my life, especially when I was young, I wanted attention focused on me and often went to great lengths to get others to recognize me. Well, this installation program-coronation-or whatever, is even too much for me," Wright said.

Wright's family lined the front row exhibiting smiles and elation. Wright's sister, Wilma Wright, choked-up, fighting back tears. She said, "We're just running over with joy. We are so proud of him. He deserves this."

In addition to family and friends, prominent personalities representing local, state, and national institutions from many parts of the country attended.

"The decisions that you make as President will influence thousands of lives each year and will affect generations to come," Cocanougher told Wright prior to officially naming him president of PVAMU.

**Accident from page 1**

R.V. Stephens. Morrissette was taken to Tomball Regional Hospital. Stephens said the driver of the U-Haul also received injuries and was taken to a local hospital.

According to Stephens, the cause of the accident is under investigation by Prairie View City Police Department.

The condition of the truck driver remains unknown. No further details about the accident were available to The Panther at press time.

**"Safety First"**  
 Sponsored by  
**Miss PVAMU Court & Mr. PVAMU Court**  
**Thursday, November 13, 2003**  
**University College Auditorium**  
**6:30 PM**



**"Go Goddess" Seminar**

sponsored by  
**Miss PVAMU Court**

**Tuesday, November 18, 2003**  
**MSC Lounge, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor**  
**6:30 PM**

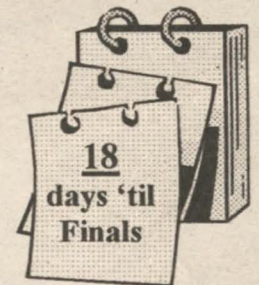
*For special assistance call ext. 2610*

For information on PVAMU  
 Registered, Recognized MIP-affiliated Student Organizations  
 Check out [www.pvamu.edu/studentactivities](http://www.pvamu.edu/studentactivities)



**The Answers**

Weekly Update for Freshmen



- You must have a grade of 'C' or better in your developmental class (es) at mid-terms to be able to pre-register for the spring.
- Check out the following URL: <http://calendars.pvamu.edu/> for information about our Quick THEA testing schedule or call 936/857-2747.

**UNIVERSITY COLLEGE CONGRATULATES ITS TOP BUILDINGS FOR MIDTERM GRADES**

1. BLDG #41 - "Ordinary Building Doing Extraordinary Things."
2. BLDG #36 - "Home of the Scholarly Panthers."
3. BLDG #44 - "Knowledge is the Prime Need of the Hour."

**ACTIVITIES:** BLDGs #38 & 42: "4.0 Tutoring" with Mr. Tate, daily 7-11 PM; "Poetry Night" with Ms. Wilson and Mr. Holmes; BLDGs #36 & 37: "He Say; She Say," a discussion of relationships from both a peer and professional perspective; UCFL!!!

**UPCOMING:** Early registration for freshmen will begin on Friday, November 14<sup>th</sup>!! See your advisor for an appointment!!! African American Theater Presents, Mr. Broderick Jones (Actor) with Commentary by William Chapman, Monday, November 17, 7:00 PM in the Panther Room.

**UNIVERSITY COLLEGE WISHES TO EXPRESS ITS DEEPEST CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILY OF MR. WILLIE TEMPTON. HIS DEATH IS A LOSS TO THE UNIVERSITY AND EACH AND EVERY MEMBER OF THE STUDENT BODY, STAFF AND FACULTY.**