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10-29-2003

Panther- October 2003 - Vol. LXXXI, NO.9

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Prairie View A&M University. (2003). Panther- October 2003 - Vol. LXXXI, NO.9., *Vol. LXXXI, NO.9* Retrieved from <https://digitalcommons.pvamu.edu/pv-panther-newspapers/698>

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PVAMU THE PANTHER

The Official Student Newspaper of Prairie View A&M University

panther@pvamu.edu

Volume 81, Issue 9

October 29, 2003



Did you enjoy this year's Homecoming events?

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HOMECOMING LOSS

Texas College Steers crush Panthers 21-10

Page 7



Students unstoppable in stepshow.

Page 10

President Wright's formal installation set for Nov. 6

Dignitaries, family, university community to attend



Special to The Panther

Dr. George Carlton Wright will be installed as seventh president of Prairie View A&M University, on Thursday, Nov. 6, in the William J. "Billy" Nicks Building at 10 a.m. to noon. Texas A&M University System dignitaries and state and local officials will join Wright's family at the ceremony where he will formally receive the symbols

of presidency: the Texas A&M University System Medallion, the Prairie View A&M University Medallion, and the University's Mace.

On Aug. 15, Wright succeeded Mr. Willie Tempton who served as Interim President from May 2002 until August 2003. Tempton took on the role of president after Dr. Charles Hines retired from the post.

Wright, a native of Lexington, Ky., joined PVAMU after eight years of administrative service as vice

president and provost at the University of Texas at Arlington, where he also was a professor. Wright has extensive experience in administration at the University of Texas at Arlington, the University of Texas at Austin, the University of Kentucky and Duke University. He earned a doctorate in history from Duke University. He is the father of two children and is married to Mrs. Valerie Wright.

HOMECOMING 2K3 EVOKES THE PANTHER SPIRIT

By Rachel Wells
Panther Staff

As part of activities marking homecoming, an inflatable carnival was held Thursday for Prairie View students. Taking place on the field next to the Hobart Taylor building, the carnival provided a chance for students to get out and have fun. The carnival hosted concession stands, games, music, and various activities.

There were many exciting activities, including a few games in which winners were given prizes. Some of the activities were a rock climb, a bungee run, an obstacle course, and a boxing ring. The boxing ring, by far one of the most popular activities, seemed like an attraction on its own. The bungee run was an event in which there were two alleys for people to run, a

See Carnival page 3



Photo by Ryan Brooks

Students freed their midterm frustrations through wrestling at the Inflatable Carnival, one of the many events held during Homecoming Week.

•State• •National• •World•

PV's Seven Day Forecast

Wed. Oct. 29	Mostly Sunny	79°/62°
Thu. Oct. 30	Partly Cloudy	82°/64°
Fri. Oct. 31	Partly Cloudy	82°/65°
Sat. Nov. 01	Partly Cloudy	81°/63°
Sun. Nov. 02	Partly Cloudy	80°/63°
Mon. Nov. 03	Isolated T-Storms	81°/63°
Tue. Nov. 04	Partly Cloudy	79°/64°

Courtesy of www.weather.com

Student charged with faking cancer has mental problems

MUNCIE, Ind. (AP) — A 24-year-old former Ball State University student charged with faking cancer to raise donations for treatment has "significant psychological problems," her attorney said Monday.

Brooklyn Walters of Culver pleaded not guilty Monday to theft and forgery charges in what prosecutors said was a scam she pulled off while a student at Ball State.

While a former employer said Walters began the ruse when she was 15, defense attorney Jay Hirchenhauer said she did not intend to hurt others.

Chicago pediatrician arrested with child porn

CHICAGO (AP) — A Chicago pediatrician who once worked in Kansas was arrested after thousands of images of child pornography were found on his computers, federal prosecutors said Monday.

Dr. H. Marc Watzman, 37, also had a hidden panel in his car that contained drugs such as morphine, compounds used to induce unconsciousness and a substance used to induce temporary muscular paralysis.

He was charged with possession of child pornography. He has not been accused of trying to use the drugs on anyone.

Agents said they found a desktop computer in Watzman's apartment with about 40 images of child pornography and more than 200,000 erased images.

Ex-president Charles Taylor should face war-crimes court

MONROVIA, Liberia (AP) — Former President Charles Taylor should stand trial at the U.N.-backed Sierra Leone court accusing him of war crimes, Liberia's new leader said Monday.

Gyude Bryant, who heads a newly installed power-sharing government, said the ex-warlord should leave his exile in Nigeria and face the court, which indicted Taylor for supporting a brutal Sierra Leonean rebel movement during that country's 1991-2002 civil war.

"I think Taylor should go to the court in Sierra Leone and face the tribunal and exonerate himself from the charges made against him," Bryant said.

"It's only honorable that Taylor do that."

American deported from China after serving state-secrets prison sentence

BEIJING (AP) — Citing his "repentant behavior," China deported a Chinese-born American citizen convicted of obtaining state secrets and put him on a plane to the United States on Monday, less than two years before his prison sentence expires.

Fong Fuming, 68, a naturalized American and a business consultant from West Orange, N.J., had been on a list of 13 prisoners that the U.S. government identified to China as priority cases.

In the past, Beijing has freed Americans or U.S. residents to coincide with visits from top-level Washington politicians.

The golden anniversary



Photo by Kayla Barnett

The class of 1953 reunites and observes the Homecoming parade Saturday.

Sharon says Israel has no plans to kill Yasser Arafat

JERUSALEM (AP) — Prime Minister Ariel Sharon said for the first time Monday that Israel has no plans to kill Yasser Arafat, even as he accused the Palestinian leader of continuing to orchestrate attacks on civilians.

Sharon delivered his assessment as Israel confirmed plans to begin providing services to eight settlement outposts in the West Bank. The announcement dealt another blow to the faltering U.S.-backed peace plan.

Robbers steal \$36,000 from Wal-Mart store in Puerto Rico

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP) — A group of robbers stole \$36,000 in cash from a Wal-Mart in Puerto Rico and then escaped early Monday, police said.

Seven bandits entered the Wal-Mart in suburban Bayamon through an adjacent warehouse where 19 employees were working before dawn, police said.

The robbers gagged and bound the workers with masking tape before breaking into the safe. They escaped in three waiting vehicles.

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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.

Royalties of Purple Reign

By Aaron Hamilton
 Panther Staff

The King and Queen Coronation Ball, which is held on the Wednesday of Homecoming week, will always be a part of the festivities. It is one of the "classy" events for students to enjoy.

This year's theme for the ball was "Royalties of Purple Reign." This year, due to the new Memorial Student Center, Prairie View A&M University was fortunate to have the ball in the auditorium and ballroom. Students were able to experience such things as an open bar and dance floor. In the past, the ball was held in the William "Billy" Nicks Fieldhouse (Babydome).

Ms. Denise Simmons and other members of the Department of Student Activities and Leadership, Dean Charles Lewter of the All Faiths Chapel, and a student committee consisting of the honorees and their courts organized the annual ball.

Carnival from page

person got strapped to each side to a bungee cord and was given a beanbag. The person who got a beanbag to the farthest point was the winner. No inflatable event could be complete without a moonwalk.

The carnival served traditional foods, such as turkey legs, popcorn, and cotton candy. The food and drinks were provided by Sodexo Food Services.

Although many students were entertained at the event, some were disappointed. Freshman education major Dalisha Bohannon said, "I would have liked for them to have more activities and to be located in a different area on campus not in the grass."

"It was pretty cool, something to do," stated Edward Jackson, a freshman biology major. "The best part was the boxing ring."

Either way, the carnival provided a release from midterms and an alternative to the more formal homecoming events that were held this week, including the Coronation Ball.



Mr. and Miss Prairie View, Reginald Bacchus and Lorie Freeman, wave to guests during the reception after the coronation ball in the MSC. Photo by Kayla Barnett

This year's honorees were Mr. and Miss Prairie View A&M University 2003-2004, Reginald Bacchus and Lorie Freeman. The inner courts included runner-ups for Mr. and Miss PVAMU. The outer court consisted of the Kings and Queens for the CSO, Pan-Hellenic, and other organizations on campus.

**ATTENTION:
 PVAMU FACULTY, STAFF, & STUDENTS**

The Office of Biomedical and Behavioral Research (OBR) is Sponsoring Their First Annual Information Booth.

Learn about OBR
 And How We can Assist and Benefit Your Research Opportunities, Learn about Student Internship Opportunities from NIH (National Institutes of Health), And Receive FREE Publications.

For your Convenience: 3 Different Places and Dates:
 *Memorial Student Center (MSC)
 October 28, 2003 12p-1p
 *Health & Human Performance (New Gym)
 October 30, 2003 12p-1p
 *New Science Bldg
 November 4, 2003 12p-1p

For additional information please contact Mrs. Bailey or Ms. Benjamin at extension 2056/4494

14 LADIES WANTED
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Ms. Black World Houston Pageant

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George C. Wright: The scholar and his accomplishments

Panther News Service

Dr. George C. Wright is an internationally known historian and award-winning university professor. While President Wright has an extensive background in higher education administration, he has also proudly dedicated a large part of his life to the study of American history, with a special interest in Afro-American studies and race relations. In an effort to understand the underpinnings of race, Wright has traveled to Germany and Eastern Europe to study race relations, to Australia to study the plight of the Aborigines, and to Asia to investigate the concept of being a minority. He has made many scholarly presentations in England, France, Germany, Italy, Finland, Singapore, Taiwan, Vietnam, and China.

The benefits of his studies have been shared with students during his professorships at the University of Kentucky, Duke University, and the

University of Texas at Austin. At UT Austin, he held the Mastin Gentry White Professorship of Southern History and was a recipient of the Jean Holloway Award for Teaching Excellence, the "Eyes of Texas" Award for excellence in service and the Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Award for "Outstanding Black Faculty Member."

Wright has won many fellowships, including the Andrew W. Mellon Faculty Fellowship at Harvard University, Friar Society Centennial Fellow for Teaching Excellence, the Silver Spurs Centennial Teaching Fellow, and the Lillian and Tom B. Rhodes Centennial Teaching Fellow at UT Austin. At Duke University, he was the William R. Kenan, Jr. Chair in American History. Among his awards are those recognizing him as one of the top ten professors at UT Austin during his tenure.

The public has benefited from Wright's scholarship through three books on race relations in his home state of Kentucky, where he was born in Lexington on February 23,

1950. Titles of his published books are *A History of Blacks in Kentucky: In Pursuit of Equality, 1890-1980, volume II; Racial Violence in Kentucky, 1865-1940; Lynchings, Mob Rule, and Legal Lynchings; and the Life behind the Veil: Blacks in Louisville, Kentucky.* The biography of *Robert Charles O'Hara Benjamin: A Forgotten' Afro American Leader* is a work in progress. Wright has also co-authored two television documentaries: *Don't Let the Sun Go Down*, and *Upon this Rock, the Black Church in Kentucky.*

In addition to his scholarship, a B.A. and M.A. in American history from the University of Kentucky, and Ph.D. in history from Duke University, Wright was selected as PVAMU's seventh president because of his higher education administration experience. His previous positions were: senior vice president for academic affairs and provost (1998-2000) and executive vice president for academic affairs and provost (1995-1998) at the University of Texas

Arlington. At the University of Texas in Austin, he served as vice president for undergraduate education. At Duke University, he had the responsibility as vice provost for the university program and director of Afro-American studies (1993-1995).

Wright has served on several civic boards in Arlington, Texas, and has made scholarly contributions to many academic boards including the Board of the Journal of Southern History and Summerlee Commission on Texas History.

Inauguration Events:

Wednesday - Nov. 5
FIRST LADY LUNCHEON
(by invitation only)
11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Memorial Student Center Ballroom

Wednesday - Nov. 5
INAUGURAL VESPER SERVICE
Memorial Student Center Auditorium
5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
(reception in the MSC Ballroom)

~ Thursday - Nov. 6~
ACADEMIC CONVOCA-TION AND INSTALLATION OF PRESIDENT WRIGHT
(Texas Barbecue Reception, New Gymnasium)
10:00 a.m. - Noon
William J. "Billy" Nicks Field House

INSTALLATION LUNCHEON FOR DELEGATES
(by invitation only)
12:30 p.m. - 2 p.m.
Memorial Student Center Ballroom

Friday - Nov. 7
WINDSHIELD TOURS OF THE CAMPUS
11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Prairie View A&M University
(Tours depart on the hour from lot #4 behind the A.I. Thomas Building)

Saturday - Nov. 8
FOOTBALL GAME
8 p.m. Kick-Off
PVAMU vs. Arkansas-Pine Bluff
Astrodome
(Houston, TX)

Hampton students, administration reach accord

By Kara Edgerson
Black College Wire

The editorial staff of the Hampton Script at Hampton University, whose latest edition was seized when they refused to run a letter from the administration on the front page, changed course Oct. 24 and agreed to print the disputed memo, written by the school's acting president, on page one.

In exchange, university officials promised to abide by the recommendations of a task force that will be established to determine the role of the student newspaper at the school. The task force will comprise members of the newspaper, the director of the university's Scripps Howard School of Journalism, and four HU faculty members, including Earl Caldwell, a renowned former New York Times re-

porter who holds an endowed chair at the Scripps school.

"This is a step toward change," said Talia Buford, a junior at the school and editor-in-chief of the Hampton Script. "(Acting HU president JoAnn) Haysbert has promised the staff that she will implement whatever the task force's findings are. We are confident this committee will secure the newspaper's freedom from interference by the administration of any kind, not only for us but for future generations of student journalists."

Buford said that no timetable was established for the committee to announce its findings, but Christopher Campbell, the director of the Scripps school, said he expects the committee to begin meeting as soon as Monday, and that

recommendations could come soon after. "This is creating the ideal situation in which student journalists can flourish on this campus," Campbell said. "We have an opportunity to create a model for how student newspapers at private universities should function."

Haysbert said she expects the task force "will uncover valuable insight that will collectively make Hampton stronger."

The task force was composed after the Script editorial staff refused to place Haysbert's memorandum about the recent state health inspections at the student cafeteria on the front page of the Oct. 22 homecoming issue.

The state inspectors found a number of critical health code violations and threatened to shut down the cafeteria if the university did

not correct the situation. Haysbert's memo outlined steps the university took to bring the cafeteria up to code.

The students instead wrote a front-page story that focused on those actions, and in a separate box, referred readers to Haysbert's memo, which they ran on page three. They said they were following the news values instilled in them at the university's journalism school. After learning that the students did not run the memo on page one, Haysbert ordered university workers to confiscate the newspapers before they were distributed.

The newspaper staff planned to redesign the homecoming edition on Friday evening so that it could be printed and distributed Saturday, the day of Hampton's homecoming football game.

YOU MUST KNOW:

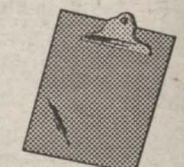
Congratulations to PVAMU's 7th President Dr. George C. Wright on his inauguration.

There are 28 days until finals

Get your flu shot at the Owens-Franklin Health Center for \$10 (students) and you can put it on your fees!



PURPLE & GOLD POLL



Did you enjoy this year's Homecoming events?



Jason Holmes
Senior/Information Systems

"I had fun at all the festivities including the parade when my car got all wet."



Erica Lewis
Freshman/Business Management

"I only did all the free things at homecoming, and they were okay. Too bad we didn't win, but the band was good!"



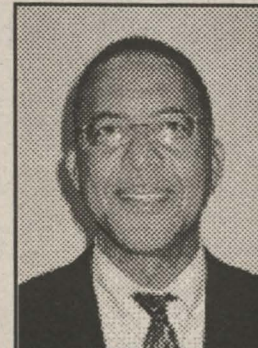
Michelle Henderson
Junior/Computer Engineering Tech

"I was in the stepshow and I believed that it was okay, but it could have been more exciting if there was a concert."



Dennis Broadnax
Junior/Computer Engineering Tech

"Homecoming was okay, but we could have had more events such as a great concert."



Willie Williams
Professor/Engineering & Computer Science

"I was sick, but heard it was good."

By Kayla Barnett

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

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SECOND ANNUAL MAJORS FAIR

(And life Beyond PVAMU)

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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2003

9:00 A.M.- 3:00 P.M.

STUDENT CENTER BALLROOM

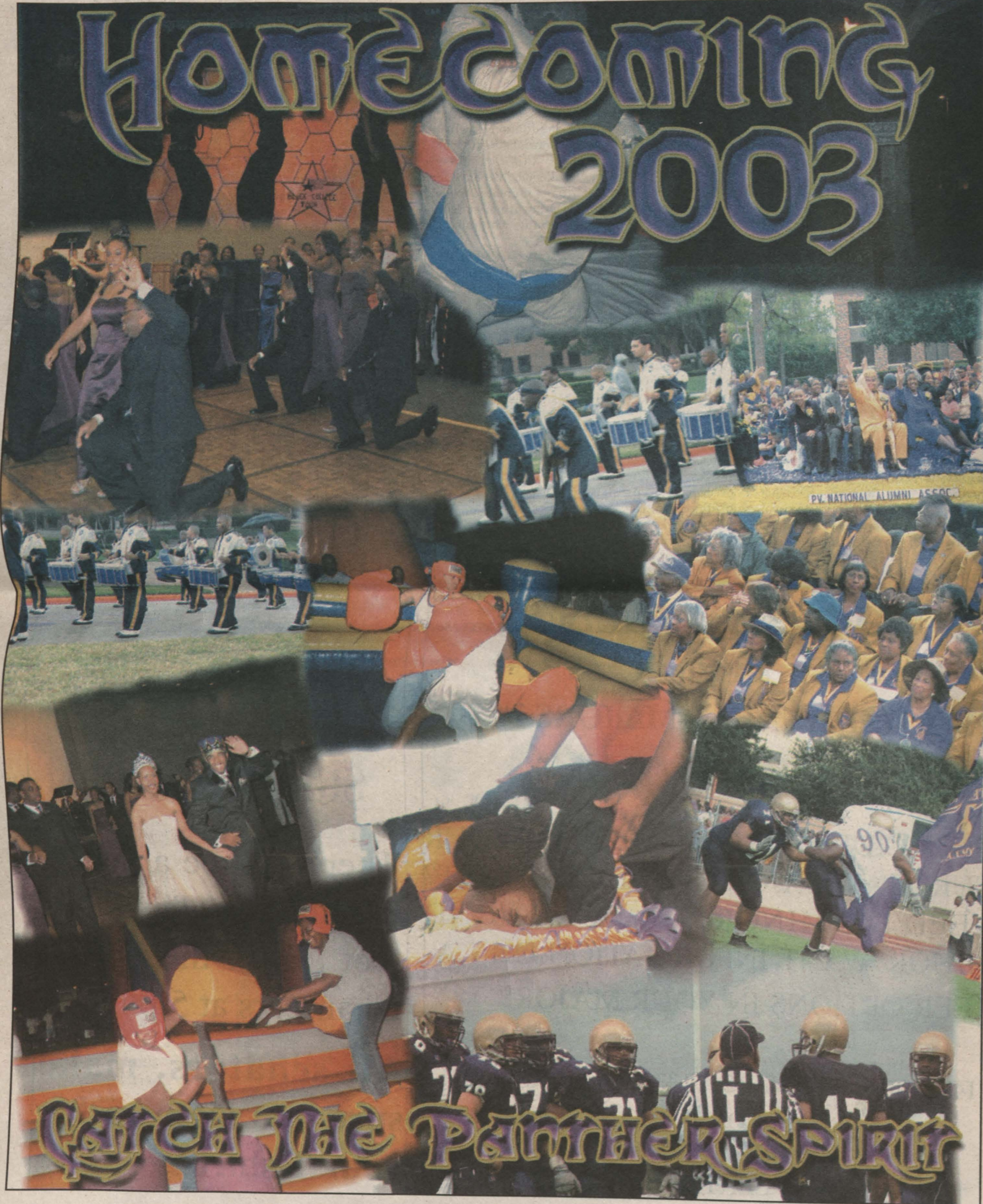


SGA Speaks Out

There will be a Senate meeting on Thursday, Oct. 30 in the Senate Chambers at 5 p.m.

All senators, make sure you sign up for your T-shirts.

Homecoming 2003



Lady Panthers rout Texas Southern on senior night

By Monica Johnson
Panther Staff

The Lady Panthers volleyball squad hosted the Texas Southern Lady Tigers on their senior night, Tuesday, October 28. This night, the Lady Panthers showed why they are number one in Southwestern Athletic Conference play, as they swept TSU in three straight games.

The first game showcased the offensive power of junior outside hitter Jameisha Sutton and seniormiddle blocker Janette Ozen. Texas Southern was unable to handle their powerful spikes. The Lady Panthers defeated TSU 30-15 in game one.

Game two saw another senior, outside hitter Summer Davis and Ozen wreak havoc. Their dogged defensive output rendered the

Lady Tigers helpless, as they held TSU to a miniscule 11 points, most of which were products of Lady Panther penalties. Ozen once again displayed why she's leading the SWAC in hitting, as her offensive barrage complemented their defensive performance. The end result was a dominating 30-11 game two triumph.

After game two, seniors were presented with flowers and plaques for their outstanding work on the team. Parents of some of the seniors were in attendance to watch their daughters honored.

Despite suffering two demoralizing defeats, the lady Tigers never wavered in their resolve. This final contest was the closest of all contests, as TSU attempted to mount a comeback. Led by high-flying senior outside hitter Mary Reese, they jumped out ahead early on. However, the competition level began to ascend. What seemed routine for the Lady Panthers in games one and two became increasingly difficult in game three. TSU began to close the gap, inching to within four, at 27-23. Badly in need of a boost, sal-



Both teams prepare for a meeting at the net.



Lady Panther setter Ashley Hausmann sets it high for her teammates.
Photo by Ryan Brooks

vation came in the form of a spectacular spike from Reese, upping the PV advantage to five at 28-23. The momentum boost provided by this play was enough to lift the Lady Panthers to victory, as Reese provided the nail in the coffin, sealing a hard fought 30-27 closing victory versus the feisty Lady Tigers.

The key to our success in this game," said head coach Alicia Pete. "This was a very important game, we need to stay focused for the next game, and defense will be the key."

The Lady Panthers will next be in action on Tuesday, November 4, when they battle it out versus Texas A&M-Corpus Christi, at 5 p.m. at the Baby Dome.

"Staying focused was

Panthers put up a strong fight despite 21-10 loss to Texas College

By Steven Kennedy
Panther Staff

The Panthers hosted the Texas College Steers for homecoming last Saturday at Blackshear Stadium. The Panthers played in front of the biggest home crowd this season, consisting of alumni, students, and fans. Prairie View came into the game as heavy favorites against the Steers of Texas College, but the game didn't quite play out that way. Texas College, who didn't even field a team last season, played like veterans against the Panthers.

The game started at a slow pace, with not much scoring in the first half. Place kicker Charles McCall got the Panthers on the scoreboard first with a 24-yard field goal to put his team up 3-0 with 4:21 to go



The battle raged on Saturday. The Panthers were defeated 21-10 by Texas College.
Photo By Shakira Martin

in the first quarter. The next points on the scoreboard weren't seen until 2:26 was

left in the second quarter, when Texas College scored on a 7-yard run by Jonathon

Combs to put the Steers up 7-3 going into the half.

The beginning of the second half was a scoring drought as both Prairie View and Texas College weren't able to put any points on the board during the third quarter. Although no scoring was being done in the third quarter, it could be credited to intensive play by both defenses. The offenses were evenly matched as Prairie View, and Texas College put up similar offensive stats throughout the game.

The fourth quarter was different as both teams cranked up their scoring. Texas College struck first on a Dontay Spillman 12-yard touchdown run with 14:07 to go in the 4th quarter.

PV receiver Courtney White caught a 41-yard touchdown pass from quarterback Michael Hill, making the score 14-10 with 5:41 left. The threat of a Panther comeback forced the Steers to step up, and they did just that, as Combs scored on a 16-yard touchdown run, sealing the win at 21-10.

Texas College finished with 52 plays for 238 yards (146 rushing, 92 passing), while Prairie View finished with 64 plays for 275 yards (194 passing, 81 rushing).

Leaders for Prairie View were quarterback Michael Hill who led the Panthers in passing and rushing (4 carries for 30 yards, 14 of 22 passing for 143 yards, 1 touchdown), and wide receiver Bertrum Jackson (7 catches for 49 yards).

Health Hints

FLU

INFLUENZA HITS "THE HILL"

We are continuing to treat a significant number of students for influenza, viral syndrome and upper respiratory infections.

Please do the following things to minimize your chances of getting the flu and/or reducing your symptoms:

- *Wash your hands often
- *Do not rub your nose after handshaking or touching common areas
- *Eat healthy food
- *Exercise
- *Get enough rest
- *Don't smoke

Even if you're not at high risk, you may want to get a flu shot to avoid loss of work or school time that flu causes, and to prevent getting that "lousy feeling."

Flu shots have few side effects. But always talk to your health care provider about any vaccination, especially if you have health problems, are pregnant or are planning a pregnancy.

FLU SHOTS ARE AVAILABLE NOW AT OWENS-FRANKLIN HEALTH CENTER. CALL 936/857-2511 FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

T.J. Pierre, Administrator
Health & Counseling Services



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.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE GOSPEL EXPLOSION!! What a night!! Nearly a thousand students, staff, faculty and local residents enjoyed a spirit filled evening. **CONGRATULATIONS** to the UC Advisement staff for winning the Homecoming Decorations Contest!!

ACTIVITIES: Bldg #35: Mentoree Slumber Party, get to know your Mentors; Bldg #36: "Are You Ready?", hints on preparing for midterm exams; Bldg #37: "My Body, My Health, My Control", speaker Mrs. Thelma Pierre; 'Bldgs #38 and #42: Financial Aid Seminars; Bldg #38 "Power Up with Wreckshop"; Bldg #43: "Life, Music, & Education", 'Grindin'; Bldg #46 "Ladies of Bldg #46 Pajama Party, fun, facials and discussion of your SDS scores; UCDB is sponsoring "A Night of Neo-Soul," showcasing original poem, poetic talent, and interpretive dancing. Tutoring in math Tuesday and Thursday evenings in the Panther ROOM, UC, 6-8PM...Finals are next!!!

UPCOMING: The Second Annual UC Majors Fair, November 11, 2003 (NEW DATE)

FRESHMAN ALERT!! Early registration for freshmen will begin on Friday, November 14th!! See your advisor for an appointment!!!

Hispanic Heritage Month September 15 - October 15

Congratulations to the Winner!

Xicotencatl Vega

In celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month, the first five students to correctly answer the following questions will receive a "PVAMU Spirit Pak".

1. To whom does the term Chicano refer? **A. Mexicans/Mexican-Americans**
2. Along with my son, I hypothesized that dinosaurs became extinct when an asteroid struck the earth and sent huge volumes of smoke and debris into the atmosphere. Who am I? **A. Luis Alvarez**
3. My mother, a single parent, worked two jobs to support our young family, so my grandfather often cared for my two brothers and me. He used to call me "siete lenguetas" (seven tongues) because I always talked so much. Later, I used my voice to aid in the struggle for justice and dignity for America's migrant workers. Who am I? **B. Dolores Huerta**
4. What is the root of the term Mariachi, as in Mariachi band?
 - a. Wedding/marriage
 - b. Group of musicians
 - c. French word
5. What event in the early 1900s sparked a tremendous wave of Mexican immigration into the US? **C. The Mexican Revolution**

Tennis squad preps to fulfill lofty expectations

By Lori Mason
Panther Staff

Not many people remember tennis before Venus and Serena. Now, the sport has evolved into one that attracts people of all genders, ages, and ethnicities, especially at Prairie View A&M University.

According to tennis coach John Cochran, "This is my best team yet." The days of PVAMU's tennis team remaining silent are over.

Last year, the tennis team ranked at the bottom of the charts. This year, the players are sure things will be different. Prairie View has two returning players this year, junior Hector Garcia, and sophomore Ron-Howard McNeil from Jamaica.

McNeil, who ranks second on PVAMU's tennis team said, "Being on the tennis team is like one big family. We eat together and

everything. We share a special bond." McNeil also said that the team is in excellent shape. "Our team is very physically fit and I'm never intimidated by an opponent."

Even though McNeil and the other players say they rarely get nervous, they do admit as the match progresses and the score gets closer, the game can get stressful.

In tennis singles, you don't have anyone to back you up, it's just you, the ball, and your opponent.

Hector Garcia is this year's co-captain. He ranks number five on the team and is very excited about this year's season. Garcia said, "Tennis is 75% mental, and 25% physical. I clear my head and mentally break down each point of every match."

This year's head captain is a newcomer to PVAMU. Blessing

Bvumzawabaya from Zimbabwe is a junior transfer student from Seward Count Community College in Kansas.

Bvumzawabaya was ranked in the top three in his country and he is sure to shine some light on this year's team.

"The ball is my biggest enemy. If I can destroy the ball, I can destroy my opponent," he said.

So far, Bvumzawabaya is enjoying PV, and is ready for the upcoming matches. Another newcomer is junior Kelton Scott. He is a transfer student from Grayson County College and is also excited about the upcoming matches for the season.

Not only are the guys anxious to get the season started, senior Faye Moore is overwhelmed. This year is Moore's second year with the team and she said that being on a team with mostly boys doesn't put

any pressure on the rest of the girls.

"We all get along great. We ride in the same van, we all hang out together and stuff like that. The team has grown together much faster this semester than ever," Moore said.

She said when she prepares for a game, her warm-up is her most critical tactic. "I know I need to move my feet more and be more aggressive at the net. Basically, I make personal goals for myself and don't worry about my opponent. Just focus on my game," Moore said.

Since Southern University is ranked number one in the Southwestern Athletic Conference, Cochran said they are the biggest matches of the season.

Southern has won the SWAC tennis championship two years in a row and PVAMU is trying to take that position in the next couple of years. Florida A&M and

Alcorn are also at top of the ranks and are also teams to beat.

Not only does the PV team shine on the tennis court, the players are doing very well in the classroom. "We had the best GPA of all sports teams last year," stated Coach Cochran. He stated that the team's GPA ranged from 2.7 to 3.9.

Prairie View's tennis team has a number of matches coming up including the ITA in Fort Worth, Texas, where they will test their skills against division I schools like Baylor, TCU, UT Austin, and a host of others.

The other big tournament, taking place this season is the SWAC Fall Tournament in Houston, Texas, so be sure to support our team.

Mississippi Valley State game carries heavy weight

By Andrew Roberts
Panther Correspondent

The Prairie View A&M Panthers football team will face the Mississippi Valley State Delta Devils at Blackshear Stadium Nov. 1. The game could have heavier stakes than one might expect, considering the following facts.

Although the two schools come into the contest with a combined 2-13 record, both still have a lot to prove before the season closes. Neither school has been able to notch a conference victory.

The Panthers haven't accomplished this feat since 2001, when they defeated Arkansas Pine-Bluff at home. Since then, the Panthers have not won a game in the SWAC.

For Head Coach C.L. Whittington, the Panthers' 2003 season has been a learning experience for his players.

Whittington has had the difficult task of reviving PVAMU's football program,

a job that comes with a lot of hard work and even more pressure. "We just have to learn to finish games. We have a young team and they're continuing to improve each week," Whittington said, summing up his team's performance so far.

Whittington recorded his first collegiate victory earlier this season with a 45-31 win over Paul Quinn. Mississippi Valley St. head coach Willie Totten's lone win this season also came against Paul Quinn by the score of 56-16.

Both teams come into the game with similar season statistics. PVAMU's overall record is 1-6, Mississippi Valley St. comes in with a 1-7 overall record. The Panthers are averaging 11.3 points per game as opposed to the Delta Devils who are averaging 12.9 per contest.

Following Saturday's game, both squads will have two games remaining on their schedules. PVAMU will get set to play Arkansas Pine-Bluff Saturday, Nov. 8 at the Astrodome, and Mississippi Valley St. will prepare for Alcorn State.

It has been a tough season for the Panthers and nothing would be more pleasing for head coach C.L. Whittington than to go out on a positive note.

A win Saturday would be PVAMU's first conference win in nearly two seasons. It would also be Coach Whittington's first win against a conference opponent.

The Panthers are 1-2 at Blackshear Stadium this year, therefore a win would allow them to finish the season with a .500 record at home, which is not bad considering the fact that PVAMU didn't win any games at home last season.

Mississippi Valley St. and PVAMU are both coming off homecoming losses. Mississippi Valley St.

lost to Texas Southern 30-17, while PVAMU was defeated by Texas College 21-10. Both teams should be feeling the heat to step up their play as the season comes to an end. If the Panthers are able to win Saturday, Prairie View's SWAC winless drought will end.

If not, the Panthers could be in jeopardy of going winless in the conference for the second consecutive season.

Kickoff time for Saturday's game is 6 p.m. at Blackshear Stadium. GO PANTHERS!!!!

Schedule of athletic events

Nov. 1
Soccer
PV hosts
Arkansas-Pine Bluff
Blackshear Field-TBA

Bowling
Arkansas-Pine Bluff
hosts Lady Panthers
9 a.m. at Pine Bluff, Ark.



College Knowledge

A man who has never gone to school may steal from a freight car; but if he has a university education, he may steal the whole railroad.

Theodore Roosevelt

College professor-- someone who talks in other people's sleep. - Bergen Evans

To those of you who received honors, awards and distinctions, I say well done. And to the C students, I say you too may one day be president of the United States.

- George W. Bush

80% of the final exam will be based on the one lecture you missed and the one book you didn't read.

- Third Law of Applied Terror

Everyone has at least one "printer pal." This is the person you can count on to use their printer to print your homework every night. - Court Sullivan

Students unstoppable in step show

By Antierria Brown Panther Staff

A step show and after party were held Oct. 25 at 8 p.m. in the William Nicks Building, concluding Homecoming week with a large turnout of Prairie View A&M University students and alumni.

The show was hosted by B.E.T. black comedy tour president Bryan Dennis, and tour comedian Zoo Man. "Zoo Man was so funny, he maintained the crowd's attention through the long intermissions," sophomore Stephanie Rufus said.

The show had a total of 11 acts that were divided into three different categories: campus student organizations, fraternities, and sororities.

"The step show was really good, you could tell that all the organizations practiced really hard," said sophomore Regan Miller.

To ensure fairness, the step show was judged by one member of each

sorority and fraternity that performed. The brothers of the Iota Phi Theta Fraternity Inc. kicked off the show.

The winners were divided into three different categories: in the campus student organization division in 1st place was KKPsi, in 2nd place Tau Beta Sigma, and in 3rd place PXY.

In the fraternity division the winners were: in 1st place Omega Psi Phi, in 2nd place Kappa Alpha Psi, and in 3rd place Alpha Phi Alpha.

In the sorority section the winners were: in 1st place Delta Sigma Theta, in 2nd place Zeta Phi Beta, and in 3rd place Sigma Gamma Rho. They were followed by the men of KKPsi who incorporated themes from scary movies into their shows skit.

Next up were the cane-twirling ladies of Sigma Gamma Rho, followed by the gentleman of the Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity. The fifth group of steppers was the blue and gold wearing brothers of Sigma Rhomeo who used the television show

106th and Park as their show's theme. The sixth act came from the women of the Delta Sigma Theta sorority, whose skit was based on a police cadet-training academy. The seventh act of the night was from the ladies of the Zeta Phi Beta sorority whose skit was "Ghost of Zetas past." The eight groups of steppers were the brothers and sisters of the co-ed group

PXY. Next up were the men of the Omega Psi Phi fraternity, who used a graveyard skit. The black and gold wearing brothers of the Alpha Phi Alpha were the tenth act, followed by the final act of the night the ladies of Tau Beta Sigma who used a Chinese style theme for their show.



Photo by Ra'Seana Martin

The unstoppable men of Kappa Kappa Psi once again delivered a phenomenal show. They received 1st place in the CSO category.

Film brings screams for Halloween

By Kimberly Morgan Panther Correspondent

The Texas Chainsaw Massacre, a remake of the 1974 horror flick, directed by Marcus Nispel, debuted Oct. 17, as the top weekend movie, grossing \$28 million.

The horror film is about five young adults who are stranded near a rundown home in Travis County, Texas.

On a trip to a rock concert in Dallas, Texas, five adults decided to pick up Pepper played by Erica Leerhosen, a young woman who looked exhausted, near death and had been staggering in the road. Pepper who was trying to escape the strange county did something outrageous and sent terrifying chills throughout the audience

and pinpointed the climax of the movie.

Imagine being stuck in a place of horror and there is no one to turn to talk to. A huge man who will do everything in his will to kill anyone he encounters is chasing the only option. The deranged killer chases his victims with a loud, terrifying chainsaw and wears a flesh-like mask from the skin of his previous victims. All



Photo courtesy of Google Images

Jessica Biel may look happy here, but her horrific life in the film isn't at all enjoyable.

residents, including the sheriff, know there is a serial killer victimizing people with a chainsaw.

The movie is an all time thriller. Be prepared to jump, scream, be grossed out, and grab whoever is sitting next to you when you see this thriller for the first time. With its strong horror and violent gore, Texas Chainsaw massacre is not recommended for sympathetic audiences with weak stomachs.

The film is based on the discovery of 33 butchered people found in a slaughterhouse in Travis County, Texas in 1973. The horrifying scene, considered by many to be the most gruesome mass murder cases of all time, shocked the country and generated headlines nationwide. Several questions still go unanswered: where is "Leatherface?" What happened to Thomas Hewitt? The case has been opened and closed several times, but the mystery remains unsolved.

The cast consists of Jessica Biel, Johnathan Tucher, Erica Leerhsen, Eric Balfour, David Dorfman, R. Lee, Lauren German, and Andrew Bryniarski playing "Leatherface."

LeBron serves up laughs in commercials

1st pick of the draft makes light of media comments

Associated Press

Television viewers will soon hear a cracking sound seemingly from LeBron James' neck, but fans of the teenage basketball phenom won't need to worry about a season-ending injury.

The sound is not James writhing in pain. It's him squeezing an empty Sprite bottle behind his neck in a new commercial that will air Wednesday on ESPN during the NBA rookie's first regular season game for the Cleveland Cavaliers.

In August, James signed a six-year multimillion dollar marketing deal to endorse Sprite and Powerade, both Coca-Cola Co. products.

It was in early July, that Atlanta-based Coke stopped running Sprite ads featuring Los Angeles Lakers star Kobe Bryant, who is charged with sexually assaulting a woman in Colorado on June 30.

A company spokesman said the Bryant move was not a result of his criminal case and the deal

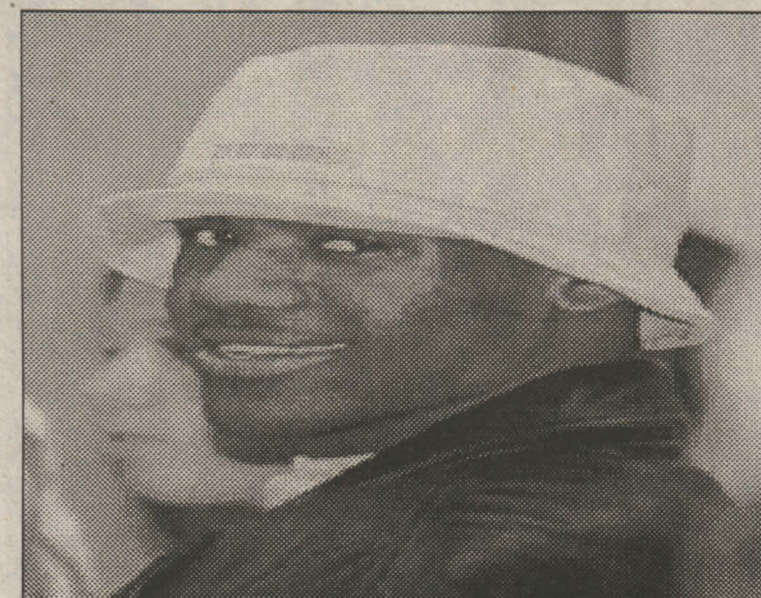


Photo courtesy of Google Images

Lebron isn't only making moves on the court. In addition to his NBA commercial, he'll soon be endorsing Sprite.

with James - this year's No. 1 NBA draft pick - was

"unrelated to Kobe Bryant's situation."

The new 30-second Sprite ad featuring James opens with him lounging with his buddies and watching TV, where a sportscaster is talking about all the hype around his NBA debut.

James decides to play a joke on his friends, with the fans watching. He mentions to

everyone in the room that his neck is starting to bother him. As he twists his neck in mock discomfort, a crack is heard. As his friends exchange concerned glances, James reveals the empty Sprite bottle as the source of the noise.

The 18-year-old Akron, Ohio, basketball star entered the NBA draft out of high school. He has a \$13 million contract with the Cavaliers.

In addition to his commercial with Sprite, James can also be seen in an NBA commercial. In this ad, he freezes up in hysteria during his first game. LeBron holds the ball while the crowd impatiently waits. After causing shock, he smiles and then breaks away to the goal.

Panther Poetry Lounge

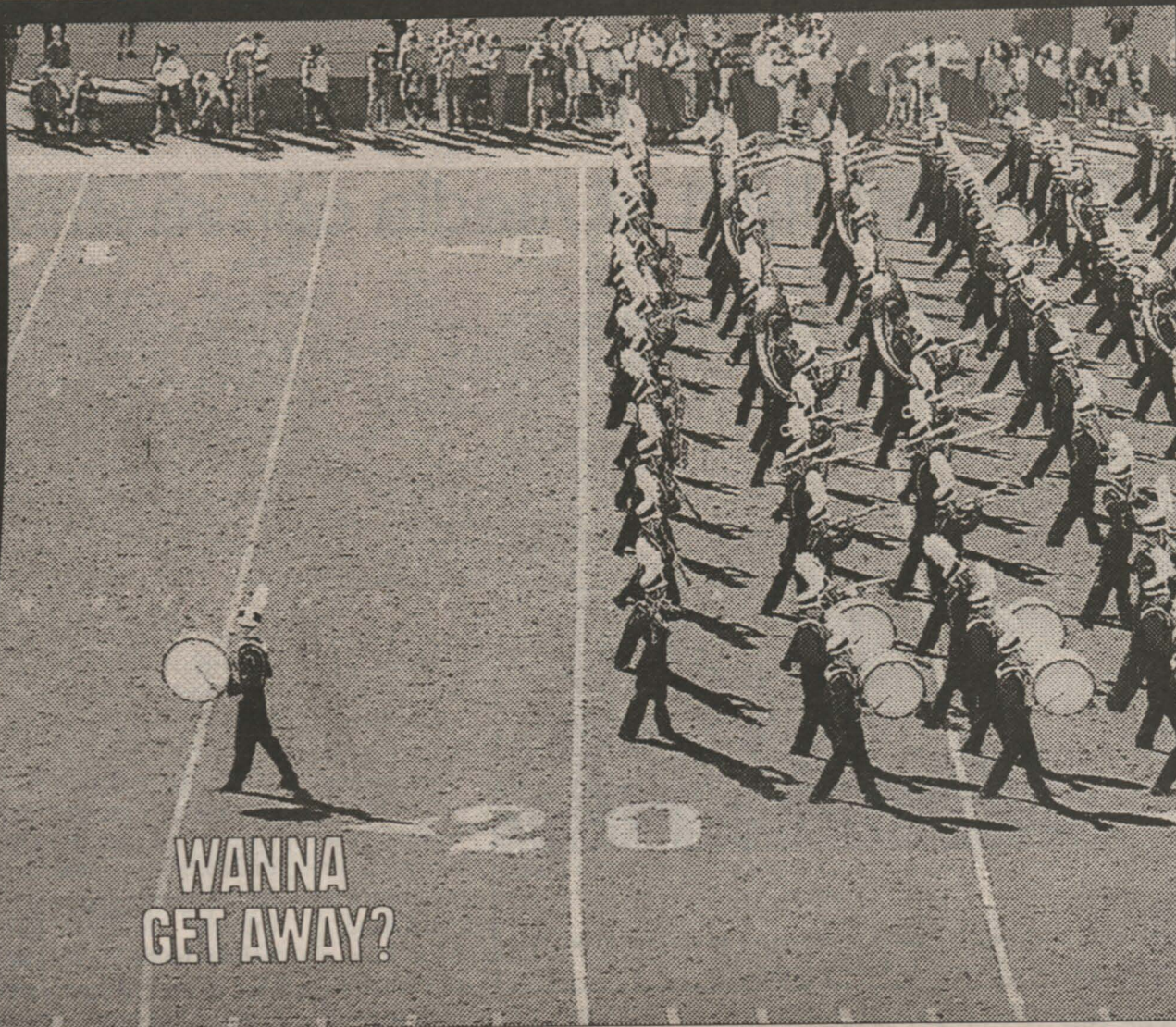
Life

By Bryan Darnell Callis

Life is so stressing, While the blessing is spiritual, Sometimes it's cocky other times egotistical, Time is so precious, Only God knows what the hour will do, No time to play, The economy is critical, Life is debatable, It plays me like a riddle, Ridiculously ignorant, Can't help but to be pitiful, I look into the mirror and see a unique individual, Now look at you, In order to be the best, You challenge the best, While the blessing seems spiritual, My native language is explicit lyrical, It doesn't matter anymore because I survived what I've been through, And dealing with hardships is just another issue, That's why life is so stressing while the blessing is spiritual!!

1. Are there any Greeks brave enough to step against KKPsi?
2. Who drives a black Celica with tape holding up the side-view mirror?
3. Isn't it sad that the football team couldn't beat a first year team?
4. Where did they all come from?
5. Did the Rhomeos keep dropping their canes or was it supposed to be a ripple?
6. Aren't you glad you've seen a unicorn, oops, SGRho step?
7. Instead of stepping, shouldn't they have been studying?
8. Who was stealing sno cone syrup from the carnival?
9. Why did the Alphas look malnourished?
10. Didn't they look like they needed to eat Wheaties, lift weights, and drink milk?
11. Who told the KKIs that they were fly in those shirts?
12. Why does P. Diddy have a mohawk now?
13. Aren't we glad that the party lasted longer than 30 minutes?
14. Shouldn't they build a daycare center where Fuller was?
15. Why are we counted absent if we're late?
16. Don't they know we can't find places to park?
17. Who got yelled at for parking in a faculty spot at S.R. Collins?
18. Whose sister didn't come back from the R. Kelly concert?
19. How long will the carpet stay clean in Ms. Pat's Place?
20. What do

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. Questions are printed at the discretion of The Panther



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