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THE PANTHER

The Official Student Newspaper of Prairie View A&M University

Volume 88, Issue 5

Wednesday, February 25, 2009

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Career fair successful despite harsh economy

By Shayna Walker & Jerrell Allen
L/H & A/E Editor & Managing Editor

Although the economy is currently suffering from a recession, companies made a good showing at Prairie View A&M University's Career Fair Wednesday, Feb. 18 and Thursday, Feb. 19.

Representatives from many companies flooded to the second floor of the MSC, where they networked and mingled with students.

The Career Fair, hosted by the office Career Services and Outreach, hosted 45 vendors to meet and discuss employment opportunities with students.

"This is a two-day event where students get internships or full-time jobs. They are also here to form partnerships and educate students on different ways of employment," said Glenda Jones, director of career services, who was at the fair throughout the day assisting students. "Tomorrow graduate schools will be here for those who are interested," added Jones.

The fair offered something for students of every major, with non-technical majors networking with companies on Wednesday and technical majors like engineering and the sciences invited to participate Thursday.

Leslie Jansen of Human Resources department of Lower Colorado River Authority, said, "Our main focus is engineering internships and job offerings today, however every company will need someone to communicate with other companies," explaining that many companies were seeking communication majors in addition to those in technical fields.

Though considered a success by many students and those in the Career and Outreach Services department, the fair was not immune to the rocky economic climate of the current recession. Many students and even representatives from companies noted that the fair was smaller than previous years.

Senior computer science major Roderrick Shavers, who came to the fair with high hopes of finding opportunities, said, "This career fair was lackluster compared to previous



By Ronald Smith, The Panther



By Ronald Smith, The Panther

A step in the right direction: (Top) Junior Torrey Zeno exhibits a hearty handshake to plant a seed for his future. **(Bottom)** Students rush to the MSC ballroom to get their feet in the door for a solid and prosperous future.

career fairs."

Another student, junior accounting major Adrianna Runnels, had a much more optimistic attitude, saying, "With the way the economy is now, it was great to see so many companies. I need a job, and if employers are here, I want to talk to them. If nothing else, it's good practice for when I'm in front of

someone in an interview."

George Stanley, a Prairie View alum and a recruiter for defense contractor Raytheon, said, "The state of the global economy makes things like this much more important for students. It's important that they were here because this is where companies go to look for the brightest students and the best talent."

4,000 turn out for Pantherland Day



By Ronald Smith, The Panther

Come one, come all: People from all across Texas came to visit "The Hill."

Whitney Harris
News Editor

Prairie View A&M University's Office of Recruitment welcomed parents, mentors, college transfer and high school students to its annual Pantherland Day Feb. 21.

Nearly 4,000 people registered for the event including students ranging from high school freshmen to current college students. Participants began the morning in

the William "Billy" Nicks Baby Dome where they received their welcome and instructions regarding the rest of the day. Provost Dr. E. Joahanne Thomas-Smith also addressed the guests.

Sessions were offered to help with the needs of the individual classes of students; a financial aid and admissions informational, college visitation, campus and housing tour and student services and activities fair were available throughout the day to showcase all that Prairie View A&M University has to offer.

Pamela Owens Freeman, assistant director of recruitment and marketing, said that the main focus this year was to offer sessions that would build on the guests' interests.

As the second Pantherland Day of the school year Freeman explained the goal of now featuring two events per school term.

"We're trying to develop a Pantherland Day with a strong emphasis in college transfers and high school juniors and seniors so they were our focus in the fall. Spring is generally open to everyone," said Freeman.

At the fall's Pantherland Day, an unexpected 800 transfer students and high school upperclassmen were in attendance, and at Saturday's event, there was the largest turnout of college transfer students.

The closing ceremony featured a showcase of Prairie View's organizations including the Marching Storm and cheerleaders. Seven scholarships were also awarded to incoming freshmen based on their outstanding academic records.

"We started awarding on-the-spot scholarships last fall for recent admits," said scholarship manager Sharon Thibodeaux.

Upperclass students are encouraged to visit the Prairie View Web site for information regarding upcoming available scholarships. Students should also check their campus e-mail for reminders.

Freeman believes that Pantherland Day was a success based on surveys students completed and turned in. They said that it was very informative and that their questions were addressed.

"I would say that [Pantherland Day] was a big success," said Freeman. "We've been successful so far and I'm pleased with the outcome."

National Engineers Week makes big splash

By Lionel Mosby Jr.
Sports Editor

During the week of Feb. 16 – Feb 20, the college of engineering, which was recently renamed Roy G. Perry College of Engineering, hosted National Engineering Week. This year's slogan was "Engineer Your Life."

The week was hosted by

all the national engineering organizations on campus including NSBE (National Society of Black Engineers), SWE (Society of Women Engineers), and Pi Tau Sigma, but was spearheaded by a new organization known as CEO. CEO, the Council of Engineering Organizations, is an entity created to be a liaison between the engineering organizations and the faculty/administration.

"This week allows engineering majors across various disciplines to come together and celebrate the advancement and history

of their fields through activities, lectures, and constructive competition," said Cecil Shy, president of CEO.

The students participated in a design competition where they had to build and power a car made out of Kinex. The power would have to be redirected through the car by use of a water bottle and chemical reaction. A group of engineering students won first, second, and third place prizes of PV paraphernalia after their cars ran farther than the other participant's.

Generational conflict discussion motivates PV

By Whitney Harris
News Editor

In celebration of Black History Month, the W.E.B. DuBois Culture Club presented "It's Me Against the World," a program aimed to help bridge the gap between Prairie View A&M University faculty and students, on Feb. 19 in the Don K. Clark building.

The Men's Leadership Council and the Black History Month Committee coordinated the event.

A panel consisting of both students and faculty allowed for an open discussion between both faculty and students in the audience as well. The program touched on a number of issues that affect both the older and younger generations at Prairie View.

Listening to and respecting one another seemed to be the main concern among the panel and audience. Students often commented that older people have the

lecturing aspect of teaching down but they cannot seem to master the skill of listening. Students were also charged with having an issue with respecting and communicating with their elders as well as peers.

"[Our generation] is not honest. It's all about one ups," said panelist and junior history major Nicholas Malone.

Two issues associated with the younger generation's lack of respect for others were the media and their ability to cause a larger separation between the generations, as well as students' inability to choose role models and mentors for reasons not necessarily caused by their actions or wisdom.

Students were concerned about successfully breaking the tradition of an unmotivated and point blaming race.

Panelist Renee Williams, equal opportunity officer in the department of student affairs and institutional relations, stressed that students should develop a life map to help them clearly see their goals. Students were also told to ignore the stereotype that undergraduate study has to be four years, but instead en-

couraged to take their time, enjoy college life, and do well academically.

"It's a matter of your mindset. You have to have a plan and a destination where you know you want to go," said Williams.

Students were urged to develop patience and break the cycle of rushing through everything. They were told to stop striving to only gain quick money.

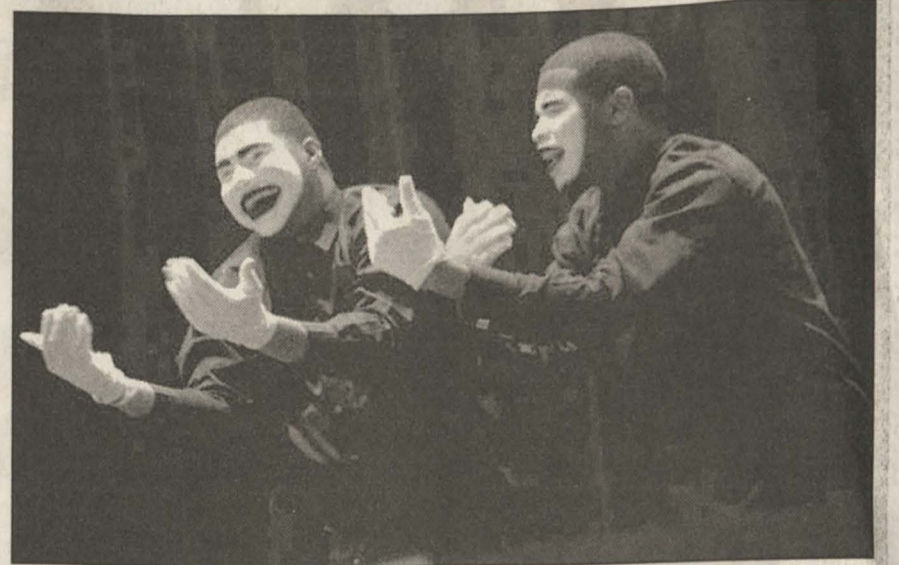
A panelist and associate provost for academic and student affairs, Dr. Michael McFrazier, explained that nothing comes easily and that students should not be passive, but instead seek professional mentors.

"It takes work to have a mentor-mentee relationship," he said. "If you want something you've got to be vigilant and ask them."

Provost Dr. E. Joahanne Thomas-Smith added to McFrazier's comments building on the current economic condition.

"With the current economy, if you don't get resources there's no question about what's going to happen to you. You're going to go away," Thomas-Smith said.

Gospel program showers praises



By Ronald Smith, The Panther

Songs of Celebration: The PV Mimes minister to guests through song and dance at the Gospel Extravaganza Sunday.

By Delray Williams
Panther Intern

The Black History Committee and the Students In Free Enterprise held a Black History Gospel Extravaganza in the Opal Johnson Smith auditorium on Sunday. Many students showed up to participate in the exciting showcase in which their feelings and views on black history were expressed through gospel songs and praise dances.

The showcase began with an opening prayer that led to the singing of the Black National Anthem. Following the praise and worship, the Prairie View Mimes blessed the students with a gospel dance. Performers included the Baptist Student Movement (BSM), senior Lindsey Williams, Dana Polk, a junior communications major, the UC Gospel Choir and Michael Dixon and Visz-

There was a tribute to black history that was performed by a dance group called Spiritual Expressions. They were dressed in African attire and danced to African songs that expressed their love for God.

The guest singer for the program was recording artist Martha Jones Owens. She gave the students a quick testimony encouraging them to not give up on God.

Jones Owens said, "Regardless of what you are going through, God will take care of you. We're nothing without God."

After singing her first song, she talked to the students briefly about the love of God. "If you keep God ahead of your life, you will conquer all," she said as she sang her next two songs.

Many of the students clapped and praised God during the program showing happiness and gratitude to the performers.

"The Gospel Extravaganza allowed students to come together and worship," said sophomore history major Kyle Maronie.



By Ronald Smith, The Panther

Time for change: Dean Charles H. Lewter IV challenges students to be patient and respectful.

PV student wins Sodexo scholarship

By Richard White
Editor in Chief

Sanique South, a junior biology and nutrition major, was awarded the \$2,500 African-American Leadership Forum Scholarship from Sodexo Food Services.

The scholarship which was open only to food science and nutrition majors on any HBCU campus that has Sodexo as its dining service, was created by a team of African-American Sodexo managers across the nation.

Thousands of applications

were received, but only eight spots were available.

South was fortunate enough to win one of them. South is from Manchester, Jamaica, and came to the United States three years ago. Her older brother, Lawrence Brown, who received his undergraduate and master's degree from Prairie View, inspired her.

After being notified that she received the scholarship, South said, "I was elated, and I drew a blank. I was doubtful I would receive the scholarship, but I did it anyway."

South's plans after graduation are to attend medical school and become a surgeon.

PV Student Housing Now leasing

**Furnished/ Unfurnished units
Cable, Washer, Dryer Included
Starting at \$440.00 a month**

**Peak realty
24687 Richards Road
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979-921-9530**

FOSTER CARE ALUMNI

Interest Meeting

Tuesday, March 3, 2009

7pm

UC Panther Room

Were you in Foster Care?

Would you like to meet and support fellow students just like you?

Let's get together for snacks and conversation.

HOW DO YOU GET TO WORK?

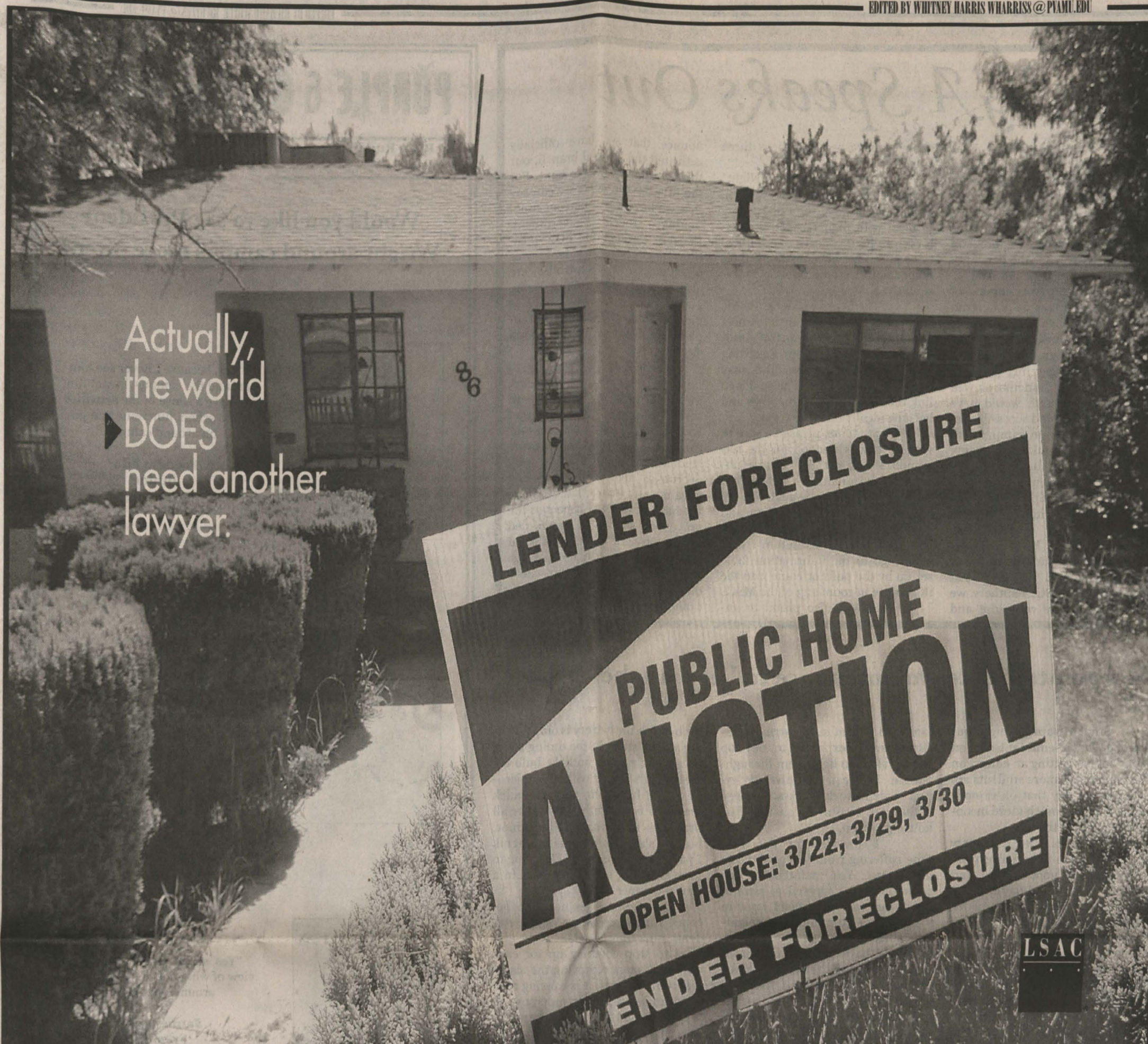
When you're on a search and rescue mission you can't help but get jazzed! The trees blur, the rotors thump, the wind whips by. It's awesome! Getting to work was never so much fun. But that's just the search. The rescue is the reward.

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PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY



Intramural & Recreational Sports

Leroy Moore Jr. Gymnasium

Panther Fitness Club for Faculty & Staff

February 3, 2009
11:00 - 12:00 One to Grow On (20 min. walk)
12:00 - 1:00 Aerobics
1:00 - 2:00 One to Grow On (20 min. walk)

February 5, 2009
11:00 - 12:00 One to Grow On (20 min. walk)
12:00 - 1:00 Aerobics
1:00 - 2:00 Body Pump (Strength & Conditioning)

February 10, 2009
11:00 - 12:00 ride for your life (Bike Ride)
12:00 - 1:00 body pump (Strength & Conditioning)
1:00 - 2:00 ride for your life (Bike Ride)

February 11, 2009
lecture (Healthy Mind is a Terrible Thing to Waste)

February 12, 2009
11:00 - 12:00 Aerobics
12:00 - 1:00 Body pump (Strength & Conditioning)
1:00 - 2:00 Ride for your life (Bike Ride)

February 17, 2009
11:00 - 12:00 One to Grow On (25 min. walk)
12:00 - 1:00 Aerobics
1:00 - 2:00 Ride for your life (Bike Ride)

February 19, 2009
11:00 - 12:00 One to Grow On (25 min. walk)
12:00 - 1:00 Body Pump (Strength & Conditioning)
1:00 - 2:00 Weight Training

February 24, 2009
11:00 - 12:00 One to Grow On (30 min. walk)
12:00 - 1:00 Aerobics
1:00 - 2:00 Weight Training

February 25, 2009
Food Demonstration (Healthy Eating 101)

February 26, 2009
11:00 - 12:00 One to Grow On (30 min. walk)
12:00 - 1:00 Body Pump (Strength & Conditioning)
1:00 - 2:00 Weight Training

Leroy Moore Jr. Gymnasium
Intramural Office Room 110
Email: intramural@pvamu.edu
Phone: 936-261-3925
Fax: 936-857-4422

Leagues & Tournaments

Sport	League	Entries Due	Captain Mtg	Play Begins	Facilities
3 on 3 Basketball *	Single Elimination	2/13/2009	2/16/2009	2/17/2009	TBA
Dodge Ball *	Group Play	2/13/2009	2/16/2009	2/18/2009	Leroy Moore Intramural Gym
Indoor Soccer *	League	2/20/2009	2/23/2009	2/24/2009	Leroy Moore Intramural Gym
NBA 2K9 *	Single Elimination	3/2/2009	3/4/2009	3/9/2009	Leroy Moore Intramural Gym
Racquetball ***	Single Elimination	3/6/2009	3/9/2009	3/10/2009	Leroy Moore Intramural Gym
5 on 5 Basketball **	League	3/16/2009	3/1/2009	3/23/2009	Leroy Moore Intramural Gym
3-Point Shootout *	Single Elimination	3/16/2009	n/a	TBA	Leroy Moore Intramural Gym
Slam Dunk Contest *	Single Elimination	3/16/2009	n/a	TBA	Leroy Moore Intramural Gym
Greek Olympics *	Group Play	4/3/2009	4/6/2009	4/7/2009	Billy Nicks Complex
Table Tennis***	Single Elimination	4/3/2009	4/7/2009	4/8/2009	Leroy Moore Intramural Gym
Softball *	League	4/3/2009	4/8/2009	4/15/2009	Billy Nicks Complex
Homerun Derby *	Single Elimination	4/3/2009	n/a	TBA	Billy Nicks Complex

* = Free Activity ** = \$74.00 per team *** = Singles + Doubles Competition
All entry forms will be turned in to office 110 in the Intramural Gym from 3:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

Aerobics Workout Faculty, Staff, and Students are WELCOME!
Monday - Thursday from 5:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m. (Must have Campus ID & Towel to participate)

Hours of Operation
Mon. - Fri. 11am-11pm
For special assistance
Call extension 3585

SGA Speaks Out

Greetings fellow Panthers! The Student Government Association would like to apologize for our lack of effective communication with students. Hopefully, you have not lost faith in us completely because we are still working actively for the benefit of all students.

To keep you abreast of some of the things SGA is striving to accomplish this semester, we've started work on our PV GO GREEN campaign that would actually bring a recycling program to the campus. Students, as well as faculty and staff, would have convenient, free and accessible recycling locations on campus that are not only helpful to the quality of the university, but also to the economy and the environment.

Some upcoming announcements include a student memorial service for the three fallen Panthers, Kris L. Bookman, Cameron Burleson and Otis Spicer, scheduled for March 4 at 10 a.m. in the MSC. Panthers, we encourage you to come out and

show your respect for these three students.

A "Meet the Senator Night" is scheduled tentatively for March 5. Students will have the opportunity to meet with their respective senators from their colleges to ask questions and find out more about their responsibilities as academic representatives.

The SGA president, Johnie L. Jones III, is scheduled to meet with the College of Nursing Wednesday to speak with them regarding any questions or concerns they may have at their campus. The goal is to link the two campuses together and become ideally one university.

Students, please be sure to vote in today's election for the referendum regarding a possible increase in the athletic fee and student service fee. Polls are available in the MSC foyer from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and if anyone is unclear or has questions regarding the referendum, they should go to the information table set up by the polls or come into the SGA office in room 223 of the MSC.

SGA is also proud to an-

nounce that we have officially activated the judicial branch, our third branch of government. For the first time in years we can say that we have a 100 percent functioning student government. Election packets for SGA positions including president, vice president, and comptroller are also now available. Once again, please stop by the SGA office to pick up an election packet. Completed applications are due March 3.

SGA is also working to improve campus safety, so we are in the process of meeting with several administrators to target and light unsafe areas on our campus. This would help provide students the opportunity to walk or run at night without feeling unsafe. Any issues that students are having with any aspect of the university should be forwarded to our Director of Complaints at mlove4@pvamu.edu, complaints.sga.pvamu@gmail.com or check out our Facebook page PVAMU Complaints.

Viewpoint: It takes maintenance to keep up the "Village"

Students are paying thousands of dollars a semester to live on campus so that getting an education is convenient, yet more students are learning every day that on-campus housing is in fact much more inconvenient than they thought.

Residents of University Village are constantly suffering from the sluggish and unconcerned staff members of housing. A day does not pass that someone is not complaining about a flooded, infested, or infected room, and that is not uncommon. Prairie View hosts one of the largest housing areas for American Campus Communities in the country, so problems are bound to happen to the estimated 10-year-old property. The problems, however, are only unappreciated when you consider the fact that these problems usually take several weeks, months to fix.

Some victims of room burglaries have yet to have their entire damaged apartment fixed. Damages that happened before the semester started still exist. Other students suffer from outside creatures in their homes and flooding and some have yet to get any assistance in these matters.

What should be extremely embarrassing to the university is the fact that after my room was broken into over the semester break, I had to call a friend who is no longer a student at Prairie View A&M University to call in a favor to University Village and its maintenance to get my room in order. My window, unlike the other ten around me, was fixed the night I got back on campus. It was not enough that I pay increasing room cost plus electricity and whatever other unfair fine charged to my account.

It is sad that students are

forced to live in such terrible conditions while expected to develop greater skills to help them throughout life. How can the university expect students to do well and succeed if they are victims of an uncaring housing system.

I am also for the third time suffering from having mold in my room. Yes, maintenance has come once and sprayed to remove it, but that was only after I stood in the office for 30 minutes complaining of needing to get things done. Because I have had to suffer from mold throughout the school year, my pocket book has been dented in greatly because of the high costs I have had to spend on air fresheners in order to keep my room smelling decent. My sinuses are constantly flaring and my head always hurts because I can't sleep without smelling a fungus that legally shouldn't even be in my room.

I shouldn't have to drop by maintenance twice a week to make sure they come fix a problem, things like that should just be done. Our university is always advocating to be more like schools like UT and U of H, but students here constantly have to live with problems that students at those colleges do not. It is not fair to ask students to adhere to their lease and pay their rent on time if maintenance and housing are not following their end and making sure everything is working or resolved efficiently.

I just wish they would realize that it is the simple things that they are not doing that make living on campus an uncomfortable and unsatisfying experience. Having a broken shower curtain sprawled across my floor for a month and being forced to take baths every day, listening to a beeping smoke detec-

tor because the battery is old, not being able to study in the dining room because of having no light bulb for four months, going without a microwave and having no time for quick meals for two months - these are all problems that yes, may be minor, but still should not be an issue at all. I pay too much money to housing to have anything wrong not fixed in a timely manner.

Maintenance needs to become a lot more aware of the students and their needs. They also need to stop covering up for each other and start removing the slackers from the staff, it is causing residents to be extremely unhappy. It is pathetic that fellow staff members joke about their colleagues having a poor work ethic. University Village staff also needs to put a little more pep in their step when they are working. They move in no haste, they are not the easiest to deal with, and they rarely fulfill their duties as Community Assistants. It is entirely too hard to find one who is willing or even able to help you, and once that time does come, they move with no speed because they complain about you inconveniencing them and their personal time. I'm sorry for asking you to do your job.

Finally, I would like to add that it is unfair to the student body to have to endure such rude behavior and a poor work ethic from their housing and maintenance staff. Dealing with housing is starting to become worse than financial aid. Pretty soon, students are going to start taking their business elsewhere because no one deserves to be treated as a nuisance. All we are asking as on-campus students is that we are attended to courteously and timely.

--Whitney Harris

Viewpoint: Hobart Taylor needs help...now

I read with interest your article regarding recent frustration with the construction in front of Hobart Taylor Building. I am a business major getting ready to graduate in May, let me tell you about frustration. Those of us who go to class in Hobart Taylor feel like we have been abandoned by the university. In the years I have been here, we have endured the following:

- Air-conditioning provided by an ugly blue trailer parked in front of the building blocking access from the east parking lot. Some days we had large blue fans in the hallways when the temperature was in the 80s. Our classrooms are still not regulated, we are either too hot or too cold.
- Mold and mildew coming from the bathroom floor. Men in hazmat suits removing stuff from the lower floor...how safe does that make you feel?
- All of our management and mar-

keting professors being moved to the architecture building making us have to walk over there for counseling.

- The east side doors locked for two years and parking spaces lost due to the construction crew. Our student lounge lost to new construction. Noise from construction and from the band practicing.
- Water always being cut off in the building and bathrooms locked.
- Bees in the classrooms.
- Flooded hallways four times. Now when we walk through the music side we can smell the foul odor of mold again.
- One snack machine in the building that is always empty.

We came to this university to learn planning and management skills and yet the implementation of this road construction on the first day of class doesn't bode well for the university when we, the students, have been gone since Dec. 10 and

this could have been done while we were gone.

Perhaps our Construction and Planning Department needs to take Construction and Planning 101 AGAIN. This is yet another example of how insignificant we are to administration. We have lost all of our parking, have to walk through concrete dust, dirt, broken up asphalt carrying rolling backpacks, and heavy books. My MBA friends have to traverse this in the dark...an accident waiting to happen.

If anyone should be given a new building, it is the College of Business because we have endured being the stepchildren of the university since I have been here.

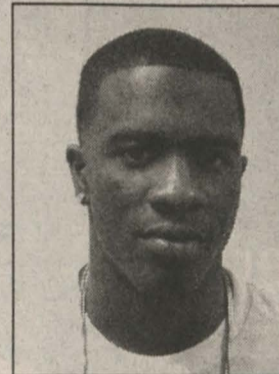
I wish to remain anonymous for obvious reasons since I wish to graduate in May.

--A frustrated senior from
Hobart Taylor Land

PURPLE & GOLD POLL

By Ryan Rudd
Panther Staff

Would you like to see President Wright around campus more often?



"Yes, because I never see him around the campus. I want him to have a sense of the activities and school functions that go on around campus."

Freddie Edo
Junior
Psychology



"Yes, because it would put him in more of a position to be more involved with the student body."

Randel Robinson
Freshman
Management



"Yes, so he can get a first hand view of what needs to be improved around our campus."

Jamie Watson
Freshman
Nursing



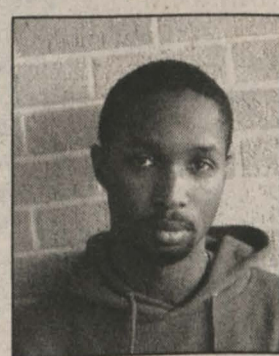
"Yes, because he should interact with the students more."

Neisha Wilson
Sophomore
Computer Science



"Yes, I would love to see him more often, so that the rest of the student body and I can get a better feel for his personality."

Charity Nwankpa
Freshman
Education



"Yes, because his presence may motivate students to go to class, and represent the University at a higher, more professional level."

Earnest Thomas
Senior
Criminal Justice

Softball team struggles in last three contests

By Lionel Mosby Jr
Sports Editor

The Prairie View A&M softball team struggled last week against some tough non-conference opponents. The team dropped three games straight, including one 10 point loss to the #19 ranked Texas A&M Lady Aggies.

The week started off with a trip to Huntsville, Texas, where the Lady Panthers took the field against the Lady Bobcats of Sam Houston State University. The Lady Bobcats came out scoring with one run in the bottom of the first, but after that run Analisa Gonzales settled down and pitched the rest of the inning without giving up another run. In the top of the third, due to a stolen base and an error, Gonzales would score to tie the game at one. Unfortunately, the bottom of the third and fourth innings opened up the lead and allowed SHSU to break away from the Lady Panthers for the win, 2-5. Gonzales finished the game throwing six strong innings while giving up only five runs on 10 hits. Garrison of SHSU threw the complete game giving up six hits and two runs, one unearned.

During the weekend, Prai-

rie View participated against Northern Illinois and Texas A&M at the University of Houston softball complex. The first contest pitting the Lady Panthers against the Northern Illinois Lady Huskies turned out to be one messy show. Both teams proved to be error prone as they combined for nine errors, six of which belonged to Prairie View. Those six errors were definitely a deciding factor in the game as the Lady Huskies produced four runs during the innings when the Lady Panthers erred. Shining through, however, was Brenda Sneed who momentarily tied the game at three when she homered in the bottom of the third inning. Still, the team could only muster two more hits to let the victory slip away, 3-6.

Against the Lady Aggies, the Lady Panthers struck first and took the 1-0 lead after a bases loaded single by Bridget Coronado. Two women were left on base as the Lady Panthers let the opportunity to pounce on the Lady Aggies slip away. From then on, Texas A&M put on a show and completely erased the memories of the first inning in the minds of the crowd. The game was called after five innings with the Aggies clinging to an 11-1 lead. Again, the Lady Panthers had trouble producing hits ending up with four, three of which came in the top of the first.

Panthers win two to slide into third place



By Ronald Smith, The Panther

Leadership: Senior Derek Johnson hopes to lead the team into the conference tournament for a chance to play on.

By Rodney Palmer
Panther Staff

The Prairie View A&M men's basketball team moved up the ladder in the SWAC, defeating the Mississippi Valley State University Delta Devils 81-69 Feb. 21, then downing the Golden Lions of Arkansas Pine-Bluff 66-64 Feb. 23 in the William "Billy" J. Nicks Baby Dome.

The Panthers welcomed Mississippi Valley St. and their coach, Sean Woods, who was a standout on the Kentucky squad that made it to the regional finals in 1992, but Woods' magical mystique couldn't help his team come away with the win.

The first half belonged to the Panthers as they displayed their prolific three point shooting, dismantling the Delta Devils' weak 2-3 zone. Freshman guard Tim Meadows hit a deep three ball with 11:28 remaining, making the score 16-9 in favor of the Panthers and forcing a MVSU timeout. MVSU had a frigid shooting night as the Panthers dropped back into their own 2-3 zone, easing their way into the half up 38-27.

Prairie View looked to quickly put MVSU away by going on an 8-2 run climaxed by a one-handed throw down by junior forward Darnell Hugee putting the score at 46-29. The Panthers would ultimately seal the deal when freshman guard Michael Griffin threw a no-look pass to Jacoie Shivers late in the game,

putting the Panthers up for good. Meadows would lead all scorers with 22 points as Shivers helped control the glass with 13 rebounds.

The Panthers swiftly shifted their attention to Arkansas Pine-Bluff as they carried that same first half momentum into the second half. The first half was an intense defensive struggle as both teams forced numerous outside shots. However, Prairie View would counter by attacking the rim and getting to the free throw line. The two teams would exchange leads throughout the half with the Panthers going up 33-28 into the break courtesy of junior guard Chris Jones' three pointer.

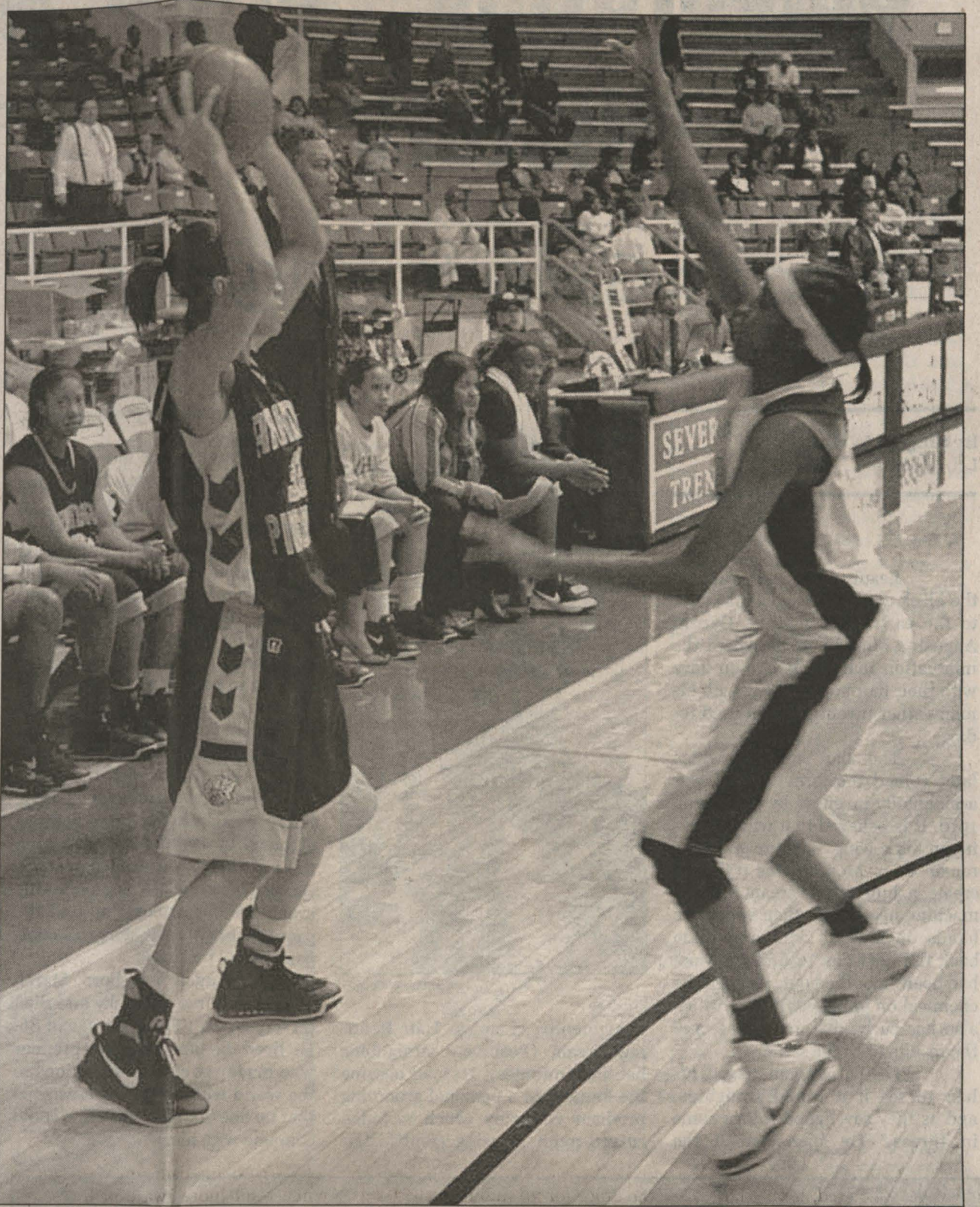
The defensive battle would continue in the second half as the Panthers were unable to make their first field goal until 6:40 into the half. The officiating crew would keep the game tight, quickly putting the Panthers in the bonus to keep them at the line. The Panthers shot 29 free throws to hit a remarkable 75 percent as a team. It was a tough shooting night for the Panthers as they woefully shot 20 percent from the field.

With the game tied at 64 apiece, Jones would go to the line knocking down two clutch free throws that edged the Golden Lions. Senior guard Derek Johnson led the way with 16 points with Hugee chipping in with 15.

The Panthers return to the hardwood Feb. 28 when they travel to Montgomery, Ala. to face the first place Alabama State University Hornets. The Panthers are currently sitting third in the SWAC at 9-5 behind a 12-2 Jackson State squad.

Lady Panthers "Think Pink" and think win

Prairie View supports breast cancer while stretching winning streak to 12



By Ronald Smith, The Panther

Tough defense: The Lady Panthers are ranked high in SWAC in every defensive category.

By James Motton II
Panther Staff

On Saturday, Feb. 21 and Monday, Feb. 23, the Lady Panthers took on Mississippi Valley State University and the University of Arkansas-Pine Bluff. Prairie View also hosted "Think Pink Day" to promote breast cancer awareness. Proceeds from the event were given to the Kay Yow/WBCA Cancer Fund and American Cancer Society.

PVAMU's vice president for administrator and interim athletic director, Fred Washington, spoke of the event and said, "Many of us know someone who has been affected by breast cancer and we are more than happy to do our part in raising awareness of this disease."

The Lady Panthers started the game against MVSU effectively by jumping out to a 16-7 lead at the 12:21 mark on a Gaati Werema la-

yup. Prairie View closed the first half with a 31-23 lead. In the second half the Lady Panthers continued their offensive surge on Mississippi Valley State as Aminata Dieye scored four points in the opening minutes of the second half. The Lady Panthers' lead jumped to 50-32 on a Trinity Robinson lay-up at the 8:59 mark. Prairie View never looked back and completed the game 74-53. Werema continues to boost her stock as one of SWAC's elite players with 19 points and 12 rebounds. Shondria Combs continues to be the floor general for the Panthers as she totaled 11 points and Dominique Smith wetted the nets with 17 points.

On Monday, Feb. 23, the Lady Panthers were looking to increase their winning streak to 12 as they hosted the Golden Lions of Arkansas-Pine Bluff. The Lady Panthers quickly jumped to a 17-7 lead at the 11:00 mark on a Latia Williams jumper. She was also able to complete a three-point play with a lay-up, increasing the lead to 25-12 with 8:00 to go in the first half. The

Lady Panthers shot well from the three-point range with 50 percent and went into intermission with a 41-28 lead. In the second half the Lady Panthers continued to have their way with the Golden Lions as Candice Thomas gave the Panthers their biggest lead of the game (62-36) with a lay-up at the 6:45 mark. The Lady Panthers finished the game 70-53 as they increased their winning streak to 12.

Leading the Panthers was Candice Williams who contributed 18 points while Smith added 14 points. Freshman Latia Williams played quality minutes off the bench with 9 points.

The Lady Panthers are ranked first in the SWAC in scoring offense, steals, and offensive rebounding while being ranked second in scoring defense, defensive rebounding, and blocked shots. The team also has a scoring margin of +20.5 which ranks first in the SWAC. The Panthers now travel to Montgomery, Ala. on Feb. 28, to take on Alabama State. Tip off is 5:30.



By Ronald Smith, The Panther

One mind, one goal: The Lady Panthers are seeking to grab their third straight SWAC title.

Celebrating Black History

Who is Garrett Morgan?

By Shayna Walker
LH/AE Editor

Beauty and hair care in the black community go as far back to the early 20th century. Garrett Augustus Morgan Sr. is where the infatuation that black women have with their hair began, along with his many other inventions still used today.

The hair relaxer, which later coined the term "perm," was accidentally invented by Morgan in 1910. It is believed that while working in his sewing machine and shoe repair shop, Morgan was trying to create a lubricating cream for the machine needle. He then wiped his hands on a wool cloth and came back the next day to find the wool had been smoothed out. He tried the chemical on an Airedale dog, which also has curly, textured mane, and the results were the same.

Lastly, Morgan tested his hair to see if it would straighten, and as they say, "good things come in threes." He then named the



Courtesy of Google

straightening chemical Hair Refining Cream (Positively straightens hair in 15 minutes). He later became the founder of a personal grooming products company which included curved-tooth pressing combs, hair

dying ointment, hair pressing gloss, and shampoo.

Morgan was indeed an innovative man who was the creator of other inventions used today. In Morgan's day, the first American made automobiles were introduced to the public along with many collisions. After witnessing an accident, Morgan thought something should be done for the safety of those traveling mobile and in 1923 he became the first to acquire a U.S. patent for the three position traffic light. The traffic light is also patented in Great Britain and Canada.

He also created the safety hood and smoke protector in 1912. Four years later he made national news by rescuing several men trapped during an explosion while wearing his gas mask. Soon after the event, fire departments around the country bum rushed Morgan's company to buy his mask.

Morgan was born March 4, 1877 in Paris, Kentucky and died on August 27, 1963 at the age of 86. He lived the life of an entrepreneur who made extreme contributions to the world with a mind so advanced that no one during his lifetime could compete with him.

BE THE CHANGE

Black Empowerment in the Americas

By Dr. Clarence Talley
Panther Contributor

The national theme for Black History Month 2009 as submitted by the NAACP is "The Quest for Black Citizenship in the Americas." The NAACP has for 100 years been at the forefront of the fight against injustice and unequal rights for people of color. Every year the NAACP set before us, the American people, and the world a theme which stimulates the intellect and challenges everyone to examine race relations and progress. In conjunction with the national theme, HBCUs have been celebrating under the umbrella of "Black Empowerment in the Americas: Be the Change."

With that theme in mind, I would like to briefly revisit some comments I made while addressing the MLK Holiday. Emphasis, during that occasion, was placed on the word "change": the buzz word for the 2008 presidential election. I ventured to ask three basic questions. One, what must we change? Two, why must we change? And three, when must we change?

First, what must we change? We must change ourselves. It is, I believe, impossible to change the condition of our world and those who inhabit it until we deal with "self." Before we attempt to change the exterior, we must change the interior. In other words, before we look outward to change the world, we must look inward. Jesus Christ warned us about being anxious to remove the mote from our brother's eye and ignore the beam in one's own.

Changing the world is a little easier when we ourselves have changed. If we do not change ourselves, we cannot change the world.

If America, the big brother of the world, seeks to influence other nations politically, economically, and socially then America must first be the finest example of what is possible. America must change internally to be the best example externally.

Change, however, cannot be achieved apart from God. He

has to be in the scenario. It is, "He who has made us and not we ourselves." As a result, the Lord knows better than we do the kind of change we need individually and collectively to make this world a better place.

Second, why must we change? We must change because we are slowly destroying ourselves, our families, and others. We must change because ultimately what's at stake is the brotherhood of mankind.

Furthermore, we must change because recent evidence of greed, which can no longer be concealed by pseudo business practices, has brought this nation to its economic knees. In the African-American community black-on-black crimes, fatherless and single parent households, unemployment, and drugs have decimated many of our neighborhoods.

Living "a thug-life" combined with having a "doing unto others before they do unto you" mentality have many of our young people perishing as fools rather than living together as brothers. We, as individuals, as a people, as a nation must change.

Third, we must change and we must change now. Change was the catalyst that propelled the first African-American into the Presidency of the United States.

The American people did not want the same-old-thing, business-as-usual. The American people wanted change, and they wanted it now! Waiting was no longer an option.

This Black History Month know that black empowerment will not automatically happen. We must "be the change" to make it happen.

Subsequently, we cannot and we must not wait, tomorrow is not promised. We cannot and we must not wait because there are deadly consequences. We cannot and we must not wait because a great deal of work is yet to be done.

People are still being judged by the color of their skin and not by the content of their character. Therefore, we must not wait. We must "be the change."

We must bridge the gaps that have long since divided people politically, economically, and socially. We must "be the change."

Now is the time not just for African-Americans but for all Americans to work more earnestly toward the empowerment of all people.

This can be achieved. We can make this world a better place. But first we must "be the change."

Chris Brown vs Rihanna

STOP THE VIOLENCE

By Nastashia Matlock
Panther Staff

A lot of conversations have been floating about the recent alleged domestic violence abuse incident between R&B singer Chris Brown and his former girlfriend pop star Rihanna.

No facts of whether the incident really occurred have yet been leaked, but many allegations are being thrown around by the media. Brown's alleged assault occurred Feb. 11 and he is being investigated for alleged "domestic violence and felony battery" and was charged with suspicion of making criminal threats. He was later released on \$50,000 bail. Innocent until proven guilty is what we say in America, but how true will that be in this case?

"I believe you're innocent until proven guilty," Michelle Caudle, a junior biology major said. "Yes, I am completely against any form of abuse, but we don't know all the facts of the story."

Many believe the media has a way of creating major gossip among celebrities which can cause their image to not only be ruined but their careers sometimes destroyed.

"This will be bad for his career whether he's innocent or guilty," Shawn Phillips, a freshman business marketing major, said. "He might as well get involved in some craziness like Bobby Brown or Britney Spears and come back with a new image."

Many have been swayed by the views of the media while others have not. Many view the media as biased because neither Chris Brown nor Rihanna have publicly admitted to any of these alleged claims.

"It's hard to take a side when the whole story and all of the facts have not been presented," Kendahl Williams, a junior business management major, said. "Neither one has admitted nor denied the incident, but the media seems to take favor to her side and not his which I do not think is fair."

"I think he hit her because he hasn't denied the facts, and he's pretty weak for that," Phillips said.

A picture was leaked showing Rihanna with several scraps and bruises, but many are still skeptical.

"Technology is a powerful tool for manipulation," Stewart Berry, a senior business management major, said. "Who knows if the bruises are really real because with the right technological tools, I could be seen holding an Oscar."

Without factual evidence, no one really knows what to believe. So, what do you think?

START TAKING THE LEAD.
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Who's who in Prairie View

Paul Chaney, entrepreneur of the week



By Ronald Smith, The Panther

By Ebony Sowell
Panther Contributor

Natural Mystic, produces scents of any variety. Some may call this idea rather ambitious but it has often been said that variety is the spice of life. Some of the most successful companies such as Wal-Mart, The Cheesecake Factory, Sony, and many others have reached their success by being able to cater to the needs of many. The customer is always right

and if a business has what the customer wants then it is hard to go wrong.

The title of his company comes from a Bob Marley song that speaks of a natural mystic blowing in the air. Not only is his company based on these lyrics but he lives by them as well, creating the scents from all natural products that Chaney claims are good for skin. "[The oils] don't cater to specific people, anybody can have what they want," professes Chaney.

Chaney is a junior pre-law/political science major who is 20 years old. Even at this young age he has an understanding of the demand to supply America with its many wants and needs. Not only do Americans want to look and feel good but they also need to look and feel good. Material gain is the foundation of the lives of most Americans and Chaney realizes this. "America is based on ownership [and I] didn't want to sell T-shirts...I wanted to sell something that was high reward and low risk," says Chaney. It can be hard at times to find the right prod-

uct and know who your market is but that is exactly what Chaney did. He did not want to be like the salesman in the student center trying to push purses and Obama T-shirts. He took a completely different angle and was successful. His product is unique and different is almost always the way to go. That is truly the only way to achieve success. People do not always know what they need. It is the job of the salesman to tell the customer what they need and when the product is one of a kind it is more likely to triumph the competition. Chaney is so accomplished because he provides an assortment that cannot go wrong.

Chaney plans to one day grow his business into a franchise and in order to do that there is a need to take risks. "If you don't take risks you will live your life in regrets" proclaims Chaney. His method is to take one step at a time and work day by day in order to reach success. Most people wish that they could... say that they should...and claim they would but they never do. What separates Chaney from these aimless in-

dividuals is his belief that "visions without execution are just illusions" and he uses this philosophy to make sure that he finishes all the many ventures that he starts.

Chaney is not only a businessman but a remarkable man. Even though he is successful and a man of great knowledge, he does not let these attributes sour his soul. "I try to stay humble in everything I do. I'm committed to service. I believe in the spirit of human beings that we are so much greater and that our potential is limitless," says Chaney. As we all know, money and success can change people so it is best for a man to stay humble if he does not want to lose who he is inside.

Chaney is open for business selling roll on oils, burning oils, hand dipped incense, soap, incense sleds, and bath salts. He is a one-stop shop to all your aroma therapeutic needs. He will also have lotions, oil diffusers, and candles available to purchase soon. He can be contacted at 713-517-8482 for orders of Natural Mystic Oils, Incense, & More.

Short Story Series

Breaking Chains

By Jacqueline Sadberry
Copy Desk Chief

The gentle breeze that blew across her hot skin in the summery afternoon was like a sigh of relief. Quinn looked up into the still noonday sky; the sun was high and the thin white clouds drifted in all the blue. A smile emerged from her face as though it had been hiding forever. She dropped the shovel that was in her hand, letting it fall to the ground with a metallic plunk.

"What a beautiful day," she whispered, as though she were telling herself a secret. She gazed at the brilliant dark green trees, the leaves waving slightly in the wind. The daisies planted around the barn bobbed this way and that way as the black birds flew joyfully in the air, "What a gorgeous, beautiful day."

"Shouldn't you be working?"

Quinn jumped at the sound of that voice. It was Ryan, Miss Riley's son.

"Ryan," Quinn slowly turned around to face him. He stood there, cloaked in the darkness of the barn. She wondered how long he had been waiting there, "I didn't know you were in here."

Ryan laughed. He took a step forward, "Well, you know how it is."

Quinn shook her head, "No I don't," she stared down at the shovel, "I've got a lot to do today, Ryan. So just stay out of my way."

As she tiptoed over to grab the shovel, Ryan ran over and picked it up. Quinn jumped back.

Ryan angled the shovel so that the handle was within Quinn's reach, "Here you are, my lady."

But Quinn merely backed away from it, "Ryan, please. I don't have time for this!"

"What? You don't have time to work, but you've got plenty of time to admire the landscape?" He set the shovel down against one of the stall doors. Ryan then stretched out, flexing his muscles as he did so, "Ah, I don't blame you. The scenery is nice around here, isn't it? But I've seen things much more beautiful than this; so much more."

Ryan reached out and took Quinn's hand, "Let me show you

around, Quinn. I know one place we could start." He nodded his head toward the back of the barn. He had that familiar look in his eyes that Quinn had come to hate. That slow gaze he did that made it seem like he had X-ray vision.

Quinn shook her head, "No. I don't want to go anywhere with you, Ryan. Now please, just leave me alone and let me finish this job for your mom."

Ryan gently tugged her closer to him, "Aw, don't be like that, Quinn! Come on, I promise you'll just LOVE me when we're through."

"I said no, Ryan," Quinn tried to take back her hand, but Ryan tightened his grip.

"Okay then, how about a quick tour of my room, then?" He began to grope at her, the two of them scuffling about as Quinn fought desperately to get away.

"No, Ryan!" Quinn began to shove at him as Ryan tugged at her shirt, "No!"

"The bed's really soft," he whispered into her ear.

"I SAID NO!" Quinn took her free hand and slapped Ryan across his face. Ryan finally released her, stumbling into the light of the sun.

Quinn shuffled backwards toward the shovel and picked it up, threatening to swing. Her heart was beating so fast that she could hear it roaring in her ears.

Ryan peered over at Quinn; there was a twisted grin on his face as he slowly licked his lips.

"Oh Quinn," He cooed, "How I love our game of cat and mouse."

He turned away and headed off toward the house. Quinn waited for him to disappear over the hilly horizon, clutching so tightly to the shovel that her knuckles turned white. After several moments passed and Ryan hadn't popped up again, Quinn cautiously made her way over to the last stall in the barn and attempted to clean it out, but her hands were shaking so badly, she couldn't get a good hold of the handle. She kept dropping it. Finally she took the shovel and threw it against the wall in frustration.

Quinn collapsed to her knees. She wept aloud, crying out to heaven, "Please, God! Please tell me that's it going to be better than this! It has GOT to be better than this!" She then glared through tear filled eyes at the cheerful, sunny day outside.

"She told me I'd be safer here and that it only be a few days. But she lied! Everyday I have to fight, and each day I wait for her to show up is one more day I realize that she's NEVER COMING BACK!"

Quinn hung her head and cried.



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Victoria Jozwiak, Proprietor

20 QUESTIONS

1. Who was happy when they saw the speed mountains had been removed?
2. Who felt like their voice was actually heard?
3. Who called the go live meeting and made superhead the guest speaker?
4. Why are *The Panther* and SGA beefing?
5. Don't the writers know those politicians are deep?
6. Or do they have an ally in CAB?
7. Why does every girl think they are a diva?
8. Was that really a diva dressed in black walking the catwalk at the fashion show?
9. Or was it somebody's grandma trying to find her youth?
10. Who knew we had a Taco Bell and Burger King in the UC?
11. Will they open a smoke shop too?
12. Who is sick of the Deltas' bad attitudes at hump day?
13. Who will actually buy tickets for the red and white gala?
14. Who had a change of heart after attending the Gamma Sig interest meeting?
15. Which productive Panther thought it was cool to stunt for the freshman in an old BMW?
16. Was he sad when his time to shine was cut short because he hit a tree?
17. Why is the CAB director so pissed off about being in 20 Questions?
18. Since he strives to be so popular, isn't all publicity good publicity?
19. Was the girls' basketball game Saturday the most pink and green the campus will see all year?
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 us at panther@pvamu.edu. Questions are printed at the discretion of *The Panther*.

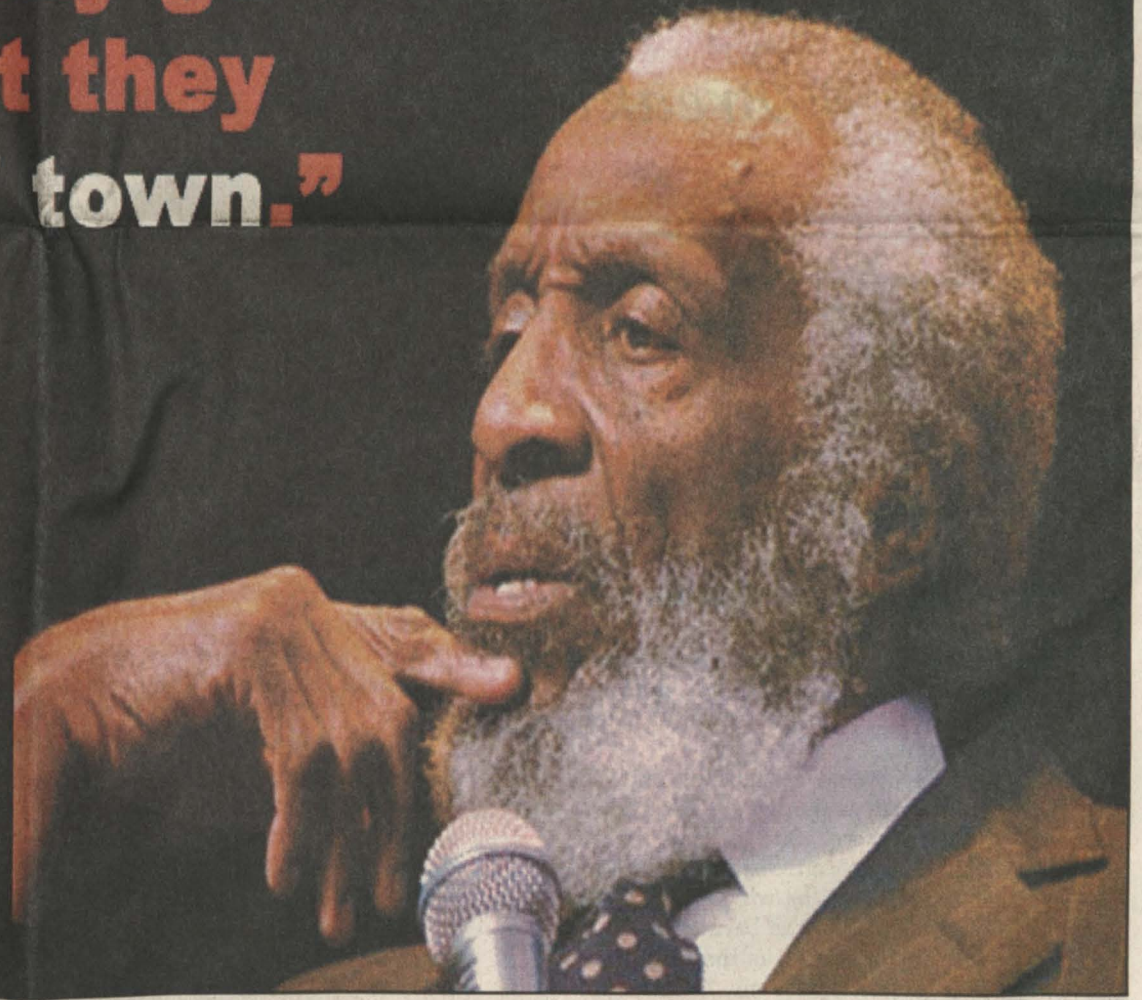
AN EVENING WITH DICK GREGORY

ACTIVIST, COMEDIAN, WRITER, &
ENTREPRENEUR








WHERE: WILLIE ALBERT TEMPTON, SR. MSC

WHEN: FEBRUARY 26 @ 7:00 P.M

**“Race baiters and
discriminators may go
underground, but they
never move out of town.”**



This Week On The Hill

Thursday, February 26	Friday, February 27	Saturday, February 28	Sunday, March 1	Monday, March 2	Tuesday, March 3	Wednesday, March 4
FOCCS Bible Study, Student Center Lounge	SIFE Slabs, Dabs and Slick Rides, MSC Outside	8 Kings of Africa Archetecture Auditorium	All-Faiths Chapel Worship Experience 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	The Light Bible Study, Student Lounge Rm. 218	Women's Council for Leadership Women's History Month, MSC Auditorium	FOCCS Prayer Circle, Water Fountain
College of Business Distinguished Alumni Luncheon, Ballroom Rm. 204, Conference Rm. 201	Office of Equal Opportunity Black History Month Event, Student Lounge	SIFE Hair Wars, Ballroom Rm. 204		Young Leaders for Christ Bible Study, W.R. Banks Rm. 205	Delta Sigma Theta Red & White Gala, Ballroom	CAB Hump Day, Alumni Field
SIFE Expo & Exhibit-MS Foyer	Charles Gilpin Players Drama/Play, "NEAT", Blackbox Theater	Charles Gilpin Players Drama/Play, "NEAT", Blackbox Theater		BET BET Harlem Heights Screening, Ballroom Section A&B	SIFE Outstanding Women Entrepreneurs, New Science Bldg. Rm. A103	Catholic Newman Association Ash Wednesday, Chapel
Charles Gilpin Players Drama/Play, "NEAT", Blackbox Theater	SIFE Face to Face with a Model, Student Lounge				Women's Council for Leadership Imitation of Life Part I, Movie & Discussion, Student Lounge	Delta Sigma Theta Red & White Gala, Ballroom
Student Affairs An Evening With Dick Gregory, MSC Auditorium Rm. 111	Young Leaders for Christ Bible Study, WR Banks Rm. 205				Women's Council for Leadership Photographer Exhibit in Art Gallery, Mrs. Jeanne M. Ashe, Library	Women's Council for Leadership Photographer Exhibit in Art Gallery, Mrs. Jeanne M. Ashe, Library
FOCCS Bible Study, Student Center Lounge	Zeta Phi Beta Black History Program, MSC Auditorium Rm. 111				Young Leaders for Christ Bible Study, W.R. Banks Rm. 205	Young Leaders for Christ Bible Study, W.R. Banks Rm. 205
Weather						
 Partly sunny and warm High: 81 °F Low: 60 °F	 Partly sunny and warm High: 76 °F Low: 52 °F	 Some sun, a shower possible High: 70 °F Low: 49 °F	 Some sun High: 66 °F Low: 50 °F	 Mostly sunny High: 71 °F Low: 53 °F	 Times of clouds and sun High: 77 °F Low: 58 °F	 Warm with plenty of sunshine High: 79 °F Low: 58 °F