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Panther - April 2009 - Vol. LXXXVIII, NO.13

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Prairie View A&M University. (2009). Panther - April 2009 - Vol. LXXXVIII, NO.13., *Vol. LXXXVIII, NO.13*
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The Panther

The Official Student Newspaper of Prairie View A&M University

Volume 88, Issue 13

Wednesday, April 29, 2009

pvpanther.com

Panther Tracks



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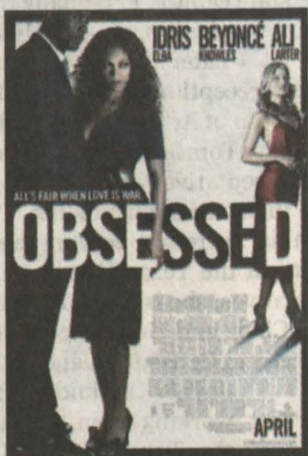
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She is your queen

After a long night of competition, Chelsee Hill is selected Miss Prairie View A&M University

Whitney Harris
News Editor

Chelsee Hill was crowned the 2009-2010 Miss Prairie View A&M University April 22 in the Opal Johnson-Smith Auditorium.

The 40th Annual Scholarship Pageant was themed "The Prototype: A Vision of a Queen" and featured eight young ladies vying for the crown.

Hill, a junior psychology major, said, "I am very, very happy. I'm on cloud nine and I'm very excited for the next year."

Contestants were judged in several categories including swimsuit, preliminary interview, impromptu question and answer, and talent.

During the introduction of the contestants, the crowd was entertained with a unique blend of techno music and hip-hop. Contestants were featured break dancing.

"I liked the entire theme," said Michelle Chapman, a junior animal science major. "The introduction was really good and unexpected."

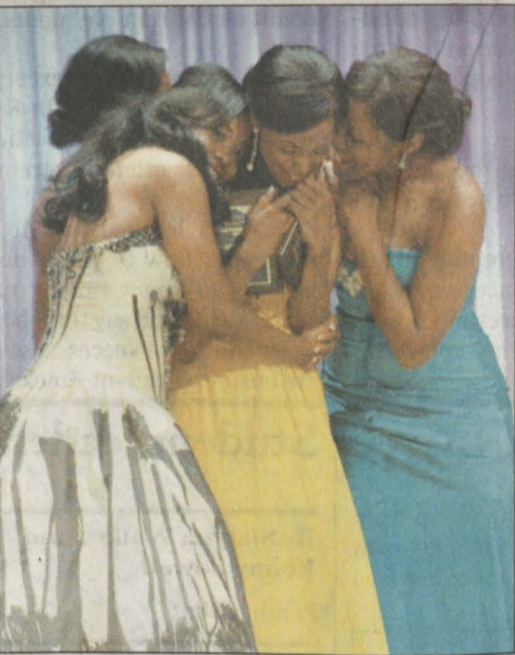
Hill won the talent portion of the competition with her dramatic monologue on black women empowerment.

"I support black women in everything that we do," said Hill. "I thought that not only would it be a good monologue, but I felt like it was something that needed to be said and the audience's reaction was wonderful."

Yetunda Olusanya, a senior chemistry major, performed a monologue about African kings; Dana Polk, a junior communi-



By Ronald Smith, The Panther



By Ronald Smith, The Panther

Tears of joy: The contestants swarm Hill as they all hear the big news.

cations major, sang Alicia Keys' "Superwoman"; Yermesha Kyle, a junior biology major, performed a jazz dance; Alyssa Rhodes sang acapella to "Good Love" by Anita Baker and Chinasa Nnamani, a junior education major, ministered through a praise dance.

"All of the girls did really good and it was a tough and tight competition," said Chapman. "It was to the point where you didn't know who would win the crown."

Hill won the award voted on by her

peers as the most helpful and positive, Miss Congeniality, and was a part of the three-way-tie for impromptu question and answer. Sharing the award were Elizabeth Gardner, a sophomore communications major, and La-Travia Davis, a junior management information systems major. Davis also won most ads sold, evening gown, swimsuit and preliminary interview. She placed first runner-up and Rhodes, a junior communications major, won second runner-up.

"I honestly didn't know if I would win

or not because there were other wonderful ladies going for it. All I can say is that I tried my best," Hill said.

Hill plans to start pushing her platform of physical and mental health right away.

"I want to create fun, accessible ways to stay healthy and in shape, and teach students how to balance their social and school lives and overall prepare for our futures."

Hill said the highlight of her evening was seeing her grandparents in the audience.



By Ronald Smith, The Panther

The ladies of Pantherland: (left to right) Latravia Davis, first runner up, Chelsee Hill, Miss Prairie View, and Alyssa Rhodes, second runner up.

Capital campaign helps Prairie View extend the view

By Jerrell Allen
Managing Editor

Prairie View A&M University recently reached its goal of completing the largest capital campaign in its history, raising more than \$30 million, thanks to charitable contributions from various sources including alumni, businesses, and national endowments.

This particular effort was initiated in 2002. The theme of this campaign was "Extend the View" and its principal goals were raising funds to support merit-based scholarships, student services, new endowments for faculty chairs, athletics, engineering technology and new lab equipment, the renovation and preservation of historical buildings and general support.

Nelson Bowman, director of development, responded to some concerns from students, that administration was not transpar-

ent enough to assure them that the money was going to be allocated appropriately. "Because this is a campaign with specific goals, the money will only go to those specified areas. If anyone wants to verify, our offices are always open," Bowman said.

He cited the upcoming administrative open house which will be hosted by the Office of the President on April 30 as an opportunity for students to learn more about where the funds raised in this effort will go.

Much of the contributions to the campaign came from alumni, who comprised 38 percent of total donations as of October 2008. Corporations also made up a large amount, giving almost 24 percent of the total donations. Among the largest corporate donors were Pepsi-Cola, Shell, Illinois Tool Works, and L-3 Communications Integrated Systems, Inc.

Among the largest contributors to the campaign were the Brown Foundation, which

donated \$1 million, and Whitlow Green, an alumnus of the class of '36 who donated \$2.1 million.

The university plans to erect a permanent donor wall in July on the second floor of the Memorial Student Center to honor over 2,800 donors to this campaign.

The official campaign ended in December of last year, with the university exceeding its goal of \$30 million by \$2.2 million, according to the Office of Research and Development.

The campaign has done much to revitalize the university's alumni, giving initiatives and has increased the school's endowment significantly. Prairie View's endowment is valued at nearly \$56 million and ranks in the top 10 percent among HBCUs (it actually ranks 6th). From 2002 - 2007, the university's endowment increased by 48.7 percent, according to the Office of Research and Development newsletter.

Engineering names college after Perry

By Whitney Harris
News Editor

The College of Engineering was named after Prairie View alumnus Roy G. Perry Thursday, April 23.

Perry along with alumni Holly Cherry Harris, Nathelyne Archie Kennedy, Taft Mohair, Christopher Sanderson and Darcell Walker served as panelists at the Office of Career Services and Students In Free Enterprise sponsored Engineering Success Symposium on April 24 in the MSC auditorium.

The theme for the symposium was "The Business of Engineering: Commercializing Technology."

In his address at the dedication, Perry touched on several issues faced by college students and encouraged them to strive forward.

Robert Powell, a junior civil engineering major, said, "I commend Mr. Perry on his many accomplishments and how he serves as a role model for inspiring youth as we strive to continue to breakdown those stigmas associated with the young black male."

Perry's accomplishments and commitment to giving back to Prairie View opened students' eyes to the importance of preserving their undergraduate institution.

"He helped me to understand where we, as a university, come from and where we could go," said sophomore architecture major Michael Love. "If we continue to live under the rug and act as though everything will be OK, nothing will get better. This institution is like a child; it will only grow as much as we allow it. If we don't feed the school, it will die."

During the symposium, Perry, along with others, pushed students to pursue their career goals and network with professionals.

"The panelists instilled in me the importance of experience and seeking out your passion over a paycheck," said Powell.

Perry graduated from PVAMU with a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering in 1978 and since then has made an impact on engineering and technology.

He was one of the first black executives at Dell, Inc. and since then he has excelled as corporate vice president of Global Supply Chain and Information Systems at StorageTek and CEO of ThinIdentity.

ROTC cadets receive awards at ceremony



By Ronald Smith, The Panther

Standing proud and tall: PV ROTC cadets stand in the attention position at the ceremony.

By Rodney Palmer
Panther Intern

The Navy midshipmen and marines of ROTC, and the Army cadets of ROTC held their 20th annual Joint Reserve Officers Training Corps awards ceremony April 22 at Alumni Field.

Friends, family, and a host of Army and Navy lieutenants gathered to witness as a mixture of 63 Army cadets and Navy midshipmen were awarded 31 awards; as well as 40 high school students were awarded scholarships. The awards rewarded the cadets for their academ-

ic excellence, military leadership, character, potential, proficiency, citizenship, and participation during their tenure as a cadet.

The festivities began as both the Army ROTC and the Navy ROTC marched onto the field hoisting the stars and stripes to receive their prestigious award.

Retired Lieutenant Colonel and current Director of Enrollment Management here at PVAMU Mark K. Pearson was the honorary speaker for this celebrated event.

Pearson first applauded all the cadets on their esteemed awards telling them to continue to believe in their ROTC and university.

Pearson gave encouraging words to the cadets that would help

them to become better leaders and citizens for America. "Lead by example," Pearson said, "Officers lead in front."

Pearson would go on to let the cadets know that their responsibilities don't stop at the reception of this award, but that they are to always be model citizens. Pearson said, "You are never off duty, you're always on display and represent someone."

"Stay in control of yourself," Pearson said "Great leaders equal great simplifiers."

Pearson saluted the cadets' accomplishments and sacrifices hoping they would take heed to his message.

All cadets were presented their award by commanding officers followed the oration.

Financial seminar enlightens students

By Lionel Mosby Jr.
Sports Editor

Deborah Dennis, entrepreneur and author, with the help of the Student Government Association and Students in Free Enterprise put on a financial literacy seminar April 23.

Dennis used her experience as a successful small business

owner to relay to students the skills that they need to build wealth.

Attitude, a positive mindset, and passive income were three of the main reasons people become wealthy, she said.

The seminar proved to be very interactive as the students played "Who Wants to be a Millionaire."

Students were able to ask specific questions concerning their finances during the presentation.

Most of the questions aimed toward Dennis were about

students' ability to raise or lower their credit scores through the use of credit cards, rent payments, and old debt.

Dennis used excerpts from her book "Road to Credit Repair" to answer every student question which helped those attending tremendously.

"I learned how to manage my credit, how to pay it down, and how to go about raising my credit score, so I would say that the seminar was definitely a success," said graduate business student Emeka Smalls.

Deltas host pageant for high school students

By Nastashia Matlock
Panther Intern

The Eta Beta Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. crowned Waller High School senior Kaelyn Thompson as the 2009-2010 Miss Jabberwock winner March 23 in the E.B. Evans Animal Industries building.

Keeping with the Delta week theme of C.I.A., the contestants were called the Delta Force.

The Jabberwock Pageant gives young women who are about to graduate from high school the opportunity to participate in a pageant where they can win scholarship money for the college of their choice.

"The pageant is not just a pageant, it is also like a small men-

toring session that the young women experience, as well as learn how to illustrate their intelligence, personality, and their beautiful talents to the community," said member Kristina Barnes.

The young ladies were judged on intelligence, grace, and personality in five categories including active wear, business wear, talent, formal wear, and question and answer.

"I am so proud of them. They worked so hard and I wish I could have given all of them a scholarship," Barnes said. "I know they will all grow up to be wonderful and prestigious women some day in the workforce because they're all headstrong and they're so determined."

Thompson said she appreciated Barnes greatly.

"I am extremely humble, completely surprised, and extremely grateful," Thompson said. "Kristina bent over backwards for all of us

whether it was picking us up from school, talking to our managers at work, or even taking out of her own pocket to help us."



By Iyiboba Briggs, The Panther

Cheese: Thompson is all smiles after being crowned 2009 - 2010 Miss Jabberwock.

Student leaders witness the black caucus

By Shayna Walker and
Ebony Sowell

Panther Staff

The House Legislative Black Caucus and Senate Legislative Black Caucus hosted their 10th annual African-American Legislative summit in Austin, Texas, April 27-28, 2009 with students from Prairie View A&M University in attendance.

Senate members Rodney Ellis and Royce West, along with House members, Alma Allen, Garnet Coleman, Yvonne Davis, Joseph Deshotel, Dawanna Dukes, Harold V. Dutton Jr., Al Edwards, Helen Giddings, Terri Hodge, Barbara Mallory Caraway, Sylvester Turner, and Marc Veasey opened their offices for questions from the attendees about upcoming legislation.

The first day of events consisted of seminars, open house meetings, and lunch on the lawn. The seminars were "Young Black Male Homicide," "Retaining the African-American Student in the 21st Cen-

Army ROTC commemorates at 66th annual military ball

By Jacqueline S. Sadberry
Copy Desk Chief

Lieutenants, cadets and guests came together for the Army ROTC annual military ball on April 24 in the MSC Ballroom.

Andrew Bland III, special agent in charge for the Houston office of the FBI, was the guest speaker.

"I'm not gonna sugar coat anything," said Bland. "We could find ourselves in a situation where we're not focused."

Bland added, "The fundamentals of leadership don't change no matter what rank or position you have. Anyone can follow, anyone can talk a good game when it comes to leadership, but it has to come from within."

Bland said that with leadership comes the ability to make decisions in tough situations.

Kappa Delta Chi hosts penguins for prevention

By Whitney Harris
News Editor

The Kappa Delta Chi Sorority, Inc. penguins participated in the 2nd annual nationwide "Penguins for Prevention" campaign on April 22.

The sorority's focus was to help promote cancer awareness and prevention among minorities.

"It's minority cancer week so we wanted to show them the risks of cancer because minorities are the one who get cancer the most," said Prairie View Xi chapter president Debbie Hernandez, a senior architecture and construction science major.

In support of the campaign, KDChi set up an informational table in the Memorial Student Center and passed out information about cancer awareness.

Students were pushed to live healthy lifestyles.

"It is really important that we get the word out," said junior psychology major Stephanie Guity. "Cancer hit really close to home for me. You never know who has cancer so it was very important to me that we help people become more aware."

tury," "African American Leaders Under 40 Across Texas," and "2009 Economic Stimulus Program."

Johnie Jones, a senior agriculture economics major and junior history major Trevon Joseph were invited to join the panel to discuss their roles as African-American leaders under the age of 40.

"I felt honored to speak on behalf of Prairie View especially at the state capitol. Personally this moment was historical," said Joseph.

Later that afternoon there was a reception held at the Blanton Museum of Art honoring media personality Tom Joyner and Texas State Representative Senfronia Thompson for their accomplishments. Thompson is currently serving her 18th term in the Texas House of Representatives; she is also House District 141 Chair and House Committee on Local and Consent Calendars.

Joyner is known as the hardest working man in radio as host of the Tom Joyner Morning Show, the leading nationally syndicated morning radio show. He is a philanthropist and entrepreneur and founder of the Tom Joyner Foundation and REACH media.

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Same-sex couples across Iowa apply to marry

By Amy Lorentzen
Associated Press

name Keeton.

"It's not very romantic, is it?" Melisa Keeton joked about the location and media attention at the ceremony.

The couple believes they were the first same-sex couple married in Polk County, and possibly the state, since an April 3 Iowa Supreme Court ruling that legalized gay marriage.

"I didn't think it would be us," said Shelley Keeton, whose twin brother served as one of the witnesses to the ceremony.

Earlier, the couple was able to get a judge to waive the state's three-day waiting period before marriages are considered final. The reason they presented is that Melissa, who is pregnant and due late this

summer, found the wait to be stressful as she deals with medical issues during her pregnancy.

Esperanza, with the Church of the Holy Spirit in Des Moines, also married at least two other couples, all at no charge. That included 52-year-old Gary Seronko and his 30-year-old partner Curtis Rethmeier, of Des Moines.

"This is one last step that everybody's going through," Seronko said.

He added that, "If I'm in a hospital bed, I want him to be able to be there."

Esperanza, 62, has been in a lesbian relationship with her 54-year-old partner, Vicky Esperanza, for nine years. They plan to get married in October.

DES MOINES, Iowa - Same-sex couples began applying for marriage licenses at government offices across Iowa on Monday, and several gay and lesbian couples quickly tied the knot in ceremonies in Des Moines.

Melisa Keeton and Shelley Wolfe were declared "legally married" by pastor Peg Esperanza during a ceremony in front of Polk County administrative offices in Des Moines.

They will share the last

High Court tests voting rights in Texas

By Paul Weber
and Mark Sherman
Associated Press

in preventing voting discrimination against minorities.

Because it is in Texas, the utility district's board is covered by a section of the Voting Rights Act that requires approval from the Justice Department before any changes can be made in how elections are conducted.

The utility district is challenging that section of the law, which Congress extended in 2006 for 25 years.

The Voting Rights Act, enacted in 1965, opened the polls to millions of black Americans.

The law "has been the most important and transformative civil rights act in our country's history," said John Payton, director of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund.

AUSTIN, Texas - The community of Canyon Creek was ranchland rich with limestone and cedar trees when Jim Crow held sway in the South. The first house wasn't built until the late 1980s and not even a hint of discrimination attaches to this little slice in suburbia.

Yet Canyon Creek, the heart of Northwest Austin Municipal Utility District Number One, is the site of a major Supreme Court battle over the federal government's often used and most effective tool

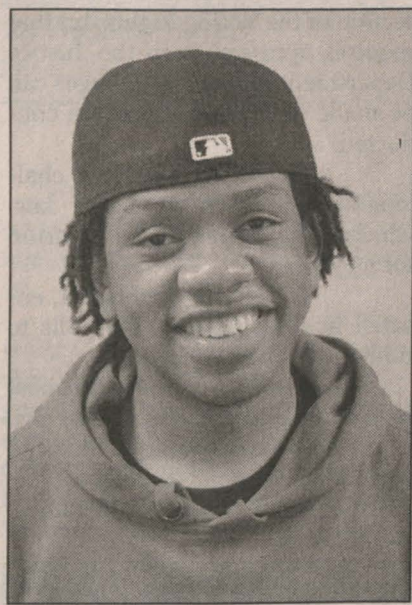
Actually,
the world
DOES
need another
lawyer.

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Richard White has left the building



Who knew it would be over so fast, my college career and my time with the newspaper. Sooner or later, it's one of those things you know is coming, you just didn't know it would be this soon. I've enjoyed my time as editor in chief of an award winning newspaper, and will hold it very close to my heart. I'm thankful for every experience, any friend gained or lost, and the student body for their support.

First and foremost, thanks to God for putting me in such a position. It was work, and I feel I did the best job I could, and like my Dad always says, "When you do your best, angels can do no better."

To the UC staff, thanks for the laughs and memories. I came in as sports editor and left with a new family. Your patience with me is truly priceless, and remember, we all we got.

To the administration, thanks for not kicking me or my staff out of school. We are just active college students who are very involved with our lives. Thanks for the response and hopefully in the future we can close the gap between students.

To public relations, thanks for all the support. The partnership is a true lifesaver. Thanks to Sheleah Hughes for your support throughout the course of the school year. I couldn't have done it without you.

To the student activities department, your hard work never goes unnoticed. I sincerely appreciate the hard work you all put in to accommodate the university and

staff.

Lionel, who knew the guy who lived on the opposite end of the hall in building 36 would become sports editor? You truly are a charismatic person who has a bright future ahead of you. Continue to try your best at whatever you do, and remember Papa Leo's will give you \$100.

Whitney, the classic type A personality. You did a good job as news editor, but just remember to laugh and enjoy the moment. Life is too short to be stressed out, if you can remember that, then you will be all right.

Shayna Shane, from the days of Alief Taylor to the MSC, we both have come a long way, and still have a long way to go. I enjoyed watching you grow into your position and become the best you can be, your potential is limitless. You grind hard, and don't let anybody tell you different. Your time is coming, just remember not to get frustrated on the way up.

Jack Daddy, your tireless work each week is a reason we have a paper to put out. Continue to smile, and be the kind and lovable person you are. I was happy you trusted me enough to come to me for whatever reason. Remember to take no mess from no one, not even boys.

Juice Jacobs, from the days to the low cut even steven, the mini fro, and back to the low cut even steven, you've remained the same. Remember to always go for the grape drink.

Ronald, the campus is now yours for the taking. I know we've put you through hundreds of seminars, workshops, programs, and conferences. You probably know this campus better than anyone, but just know your hard work is appreciated. Continue to be open minded to new things, and just maybe one day you just might be a better photographer than me.

Jerrell, from the humble days as staff writers, to distribution, to the last issue. Thanks for the rides home, your positive attitude, and your keen sense of humor. I will miss your presence and personality. Now all we have to do is kick the habit.

Ms. Nigh, what would the paper be without you? I will miss all of your gut busting jokes. I hope the

staff next year will be able to catch on to your jokes as much as I did.

Professor Lewis "Awesome" Smith, your knowledge and passion for the paper echoed throughout the staff. Your kindness, generosity, and sense of humor make you a unique individual. I was happy to be one of your "sons" and pray that you don't forget about me. It's not a cliché when I say words cannot express how I feel about you. Thank you will never be enough for everything you've done.

To the 08-09 staff, we have had enough experiences and laughs to last a good while, but I was just happy to be a member of the team. I hope I put a positive lasting effect on you all, as you all have put on me. I just expect to see *The Panther* raised to another level of excellence. It's in your hands now, so let's become great. You have my number if you ever need anything. Thank you all for your dedication, hard work, and remember, we're all adults so put it out there.

To the 07-08 staff, I loved all your teachings and direction. I miss the times we shared, but there is a season for everything. I look forward to the day when we are all once again in the same room.

As I leave the university, and *The Panther*, I pride myself in knowing I will soon have a degree from Prairie View A&M University. Thanks to anyone who may have read, skimmed through, or even picked up *The Panther*. A special thank you to my friends who listened to me vent, sent in questions, submitted ideas, and continued to show me support through the happiest and toughest times. To anyone I haven't mentioned, just know that I didn't forget about you, but I will always love you. It won't officially hit me that it's over until further down the road. Everything happens for a reason, and I'm just happy God directed my feet to *The Panther*. I will miss the school, friends and faculty I've met on this journey. This isn't a farewell, it's more of a thank you note. Thank you Prairie View for making me a Prairie View man who is ready for whatever challenge the world may bring, see you soon and take care.

Richard R. White
Editor in Chief 2008-2009

PURPLE & GOLD POLL

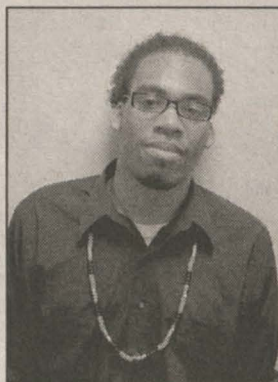
By Ronald Smith
Photo Editor

How would you rate this school year?
What is your most memorable moment?



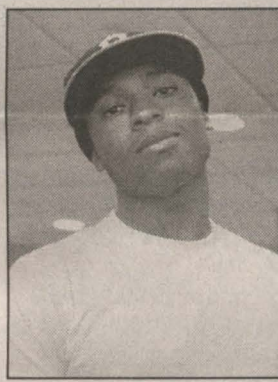
"I would rate it a 9.9! It was a very good school year from my perspective. My most memorable moment was the election party when Obama won. I saw so many happy people and everyone was on one accord."

Montrinaa Hill
Junior
Sociology



"I would rate it a 5 because all the events they had up here were hyped up, but didn't live up to its name. My most memorable moment had to be the VisZions concert we had in the MSC because a lot of people came and showed their support."

Michael Dixon
Senior
Music Education



"I would give it a 2 because it wasn't a lot of activities going on that I was informed about. The best moment here was the water fight. I enjoyed reliving my childhood."

Justin Knowles
Sophomore
Nursing



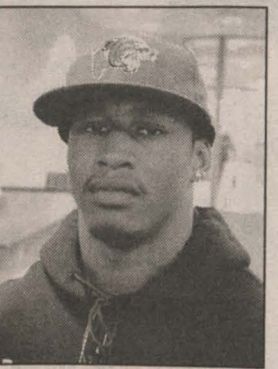
"An 8 because I had no car and I couldn't do a lot of the different things I wanted to do. The most memorable moment was the Toga Party because I have never been to a party that was so fun."

Britney Earl
Freshman
Nursing



"I would give it a 7 because last semester was way better, I was doing more activities around the yard, but the election party was my most memorable because that was the same day as my birthday."

Deena Jones
Freshman
Special Education



"7.9 because there were a lot of activities that I found out at the last minute and I couldn't attend. The most memorable moment for me was when we played TSU in the football game."

Jerome Tarva
Senior
Criminal Justice

Don't deny the Strait Way without strait answers

First and foremost, this viewpoint was not written to bash or exalt any ministry over another, but to challenge every believer to follow the apostle Paul's command to Timothy and "study to show thyself approved" - II Timothy 2:15.

I don't understand how so-called Christians can throw away flyers from anyone's ministry because of what they heard. How can you, being a man or woman of God, tear up or simply not acknowledge a ministry on the basis of he-say, she-say? When did it become cool for 'Christians' to exhibit the same behavior toward a ministry as those who don't claim to be followers of Christ? Why would you get rid of a set of scriptures handed to you because your friend said this or that?

If I am correct, I thought that believers were supposed to be distinctively different from those who occupy the world, especially when it comes to the way they interact with other believers or 'so-called' believers - 1 John 3:11-18, Acts 2:42-47. However, if there is someone who brings doctrines opposing the truth that we hold so dear in the precious and holy word of God, then should we automatically throw them away from fellowship with the body of Christ or should we first present them with the truth? I would hope that we will show them their faults (Isaiah 58:1) in meekness and kindness while praying that God would lead them back to the true faith, first, before we expelled them out of the congregation, or fellowship - 1 Corinthians. 10:1-6.

On the other hand, we can't argue against any foreign, mislead-

ing, or untrue doctrines if we don't have any real understanding of the facts, which can only come from God's word. The Holy Bible makes it clear that all the writings in this book are useful for teaching, rebuking, training, and CORRECTING - I Timothy 3:16-17. How can you say that one interpretation about the Bible is wrong while another is right without even mentioning one scripture in the book? It is impossible for anyone to help or exhort another about a false doctrine with-

"We should never just regurgitate facts and scriptures without really understanding the meaning of them..."

out proving it through scripture. We should never hear believers saying, "My pastor said, my mother told me, I heard a guy on TV say, or this Internet source explained it like this." I would much rather hear, "I read in John 3, I studied and prayed, or after reading, the Spirit revealed this to me." The Bible says, "Let God be true! and let every man be a liar" - Romans 3:4. So, we have to base everything on His word and not man's knowledge. Unless you have read and understood the argument being presented, how can you truly back up your point, and better yet, help that person see the truth?

With that said, if there are false doctrines being preached, it is our jobs as true believers and fol-

lowers of Christ to seek the face of God so we can stand firm on His word when we encounter them. We should be the first ones to speak with those who pose a threat to the truth of God, because we know that their beliefs can become a stronghold to others who are looking to know God. Also, we should present them with the truth through the word and not through our own knowledge so that God may be glorified in it.

However, if they are presenting us with the truth, we have to take that information and study to understand it for ourselves instead of throwing that precious data to the wayside, because we aren't rejecting them, but rejecting God. Also, we should never just regurgitate facts and scriptures without really understanding the meaning of them, because that is how we end up with those who form their own interpretation of the scriptures and construct strongholds for others later on.

Remember this: Romans 8:8-9 - "Those controlled by the sinful nature cannot please God. You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit if the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, HE DOES NOT BELONG TO CHRIST!"

So: I John 4:1 - "Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world."

-Lionel Mosby

Black team pulls out the spring game victory in double overtime

By Lionel Mosby Jr.
Sports Editor

The Prairie View A&M football team has experienced plenty of hard times during the last 20 years, but one thing it hasn't experienced is an off-season with so much anticipation.

"I think if they keep Coach Frazier then we can possibly be SWAC champs," said psychology major LaToya Smith. "I played two years under his coaching staff," said agriculture economics major Randall Zeno, "I know the defense is going to handle their business and I look forward to us winning a SWAC championship this year." "I hope we take the SWAC because they have been doing real good so now we have high expectations for them," said chemical engineering major Johnathan Vann. "They better not let us down now, because we know to get a new stadium we gotta win!"

The players feels that same excitement the school and alumni are exerting, so they went back to work this off-season with that goal in mind - win the SWAC championship. In order to do that, the Panthers know they have to go through the same familiar faces of the Grambling State Tigers, the Southern Jaguars, and the Jackson State Tigers, just to name a few tough conference opponents. So Frazier III put the Panthers through a great spring workout that concluded with one of the best spring games Prairie View has witnessed in a long time.

The game started with the same intensity it would end with

as transfer QB K.J. Black hit freshman RB Spencer Nelson for a 60-yard pass on the opening play of the game. Unfortunately, the Gold team couldn't move the ball down the field anymore, but Kyle Matthews put the team on the board with his 33-yard boot through the uprights to take the early 3-0 lead.

Both of the defenses became stingy after the field goal try, allowing only minimal gains from time to time during the first half. As the first half came to a close, the Black team got the ball in field goal range which allowed Brady Faggard to kick a 36-yard FG to tie the game before halftime.

The second half revealed much of the same defensive pressure as the first, as the SWAC's leading defense in 2008 played excellent for both teams. The Gold's offense was the first to reach pay dirt, however, as they took the 10-3 lead after QB Austin Nwokobia one-yard TD run. The Black team's offense responded to the challenge with a quick score, as QB Andrew McGlory hit WR Brandon Bell for a 36-yard TD to tie the score again with minimal time left on the regulation clock.

After the two teams finished battling out in regulation, they moved to decide the winner in an overtime period. Again, both defenses stepped up and only allowed long FG attempts by Faggard and Matthews that both ended up wide. In the second overtime, the Black team's defense caused the same results, as Matthew missed wide on another long FG attempt. Next up was the Gold team's defense, but they couldn't stop RB Michael Jason score from three yards out to lead the Black team to the 16-10 win.



By Ryan Versey, The Panther

Sibling rivalry: The spring game brought out the best in the PVAMU players of tomorrow and today while it leaves many fans hopeful of another great season capped with SWAC ring.

Softball team's SWAC tourney ends briefly

By Delray Williams
Panther Staff

The Panthers' softball team has struggled throughout this whole season. They competed in a SWAC tournament in Hattiesburg, Miss. against the Mississippi Valley State Devilettes and the Grambling State Tigers.

The Panthers' first game was against the Devilettes in which they lost 10-0. The Devilettes really gave the Panthers a hard time only allowing them two hits in the whole game with no scores at all. The Panthers also slacked on the defensive side allowing the Devilettes to score one hit and one run in the first inning. As the Panthers lost focus, the Devilettes took advantage of their weakness and scored five more runs with hits in the third. They really set a distance on the Panthers adding four more runs and five hits in

the fourth. The Devilettes ended the game with 11 hits total.

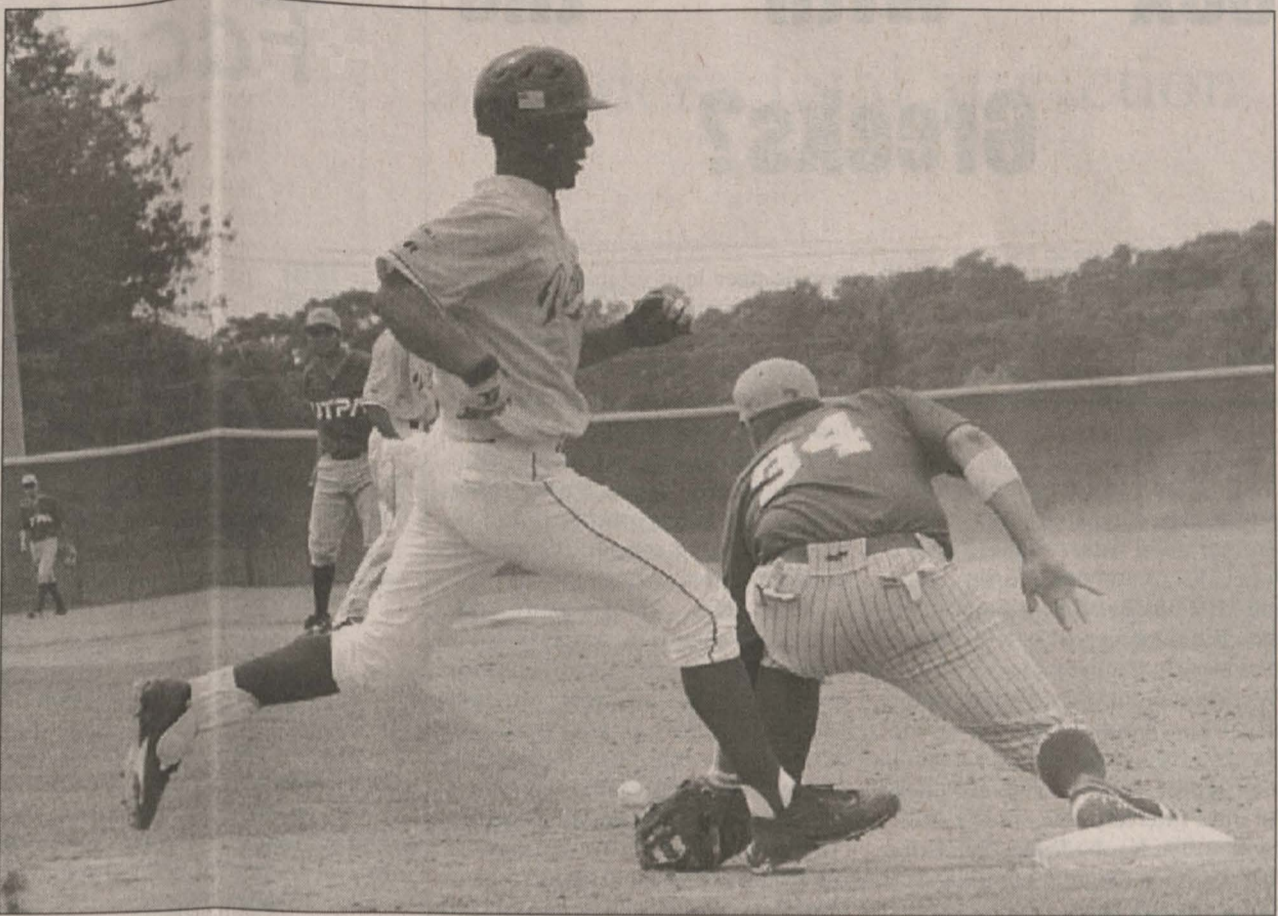
The Panthers competed against the Grambling Tigers next in another stressful game, losing 5-1. Neither of the teams scored at all until the third inning when the Tigers scored two runs with two hits. They established a gap on the Panthers as they scored three more runs and two hits in the fifth. The Lady Panthers did finally score one run in the sixth inning but it wasn't enough to overcome the Tigers. The game ended with the Panthers and the Tigers both having six hits each.

"We went into both games with intensity and energy but unfortunately it wasn't enough for us to come out on top," said Artavia Woods, sophomore psychology major and a member of the team.

Freshmen education major Jasmin Littles said, "I feel that we went into the games with a winning attitude but things just didn't end up the way we wanted them to."

Half and Half

Panthers split 4 games against out-of-conference opponents



By Ronald Smith, The Panther

Fantastic four: The Panthers' bats exploded big time in the four non-conference games.

By Cedrick Wilson
Panther Staff

The Panthers baseball team took a break from SWAC play last week as they travelled to play the 16th ranked Texas A&M Aggies on April 22 for the first time in the schools' respective histories.

The Panthers were preparing for the matchup during the days heading up to the game because they knew this would be a good measuring rod to see where the team was as they headed toward the SWAC Tournament in late May.

Unfortunately for the Panthers, the Texas A&M bats were too much as they won 21-4. The Panthers did, however, jump out to an early lead in the first inning as John Villapando scored on an error by the Aggie third baseman to give the Panthers the early lead. The Aggies then responded with seven runs in the bottom of the first and five more in the bottom of the second to make the score 12-1. The Panther bats came alive once again in the bottom of the inning as Brandon Kendrick and Brandon Whitby both hit RBI singles and Oscar Reed earned an RBI from a fielder's choice to keep the Panthers in touch at 12-4. However, Texas A&M closed the door with nine more runs in the third to extend the score to 21-4, where it remained until the game was called in the 7th inning. Terry Salter (2-5) received the loss for the Panthers.

On Saturday, the Panthers looked to rebound as they hosted a three-game-set against the Broncos of UT-Pan American. In the first game of a doubleheader on Saturday, the

Panther offense paced the team as they came from behind in dramatic fashion to capture the 11-10 win. The Panthers wasted no time in this game as they jumped out to a 3-0 lead in the bottom of the first with a three-run-blast by Myrio Richard.

The Broncos answered with a run in the top of the second, but Prairie View came back with two more runs in the bottom of the second as a Pan American error extended the inning. Odie Davis then hit a clutch two out double to bring home two runners which extended the lead to 5-1. Then, the Broncos' bats came alive as they scored three runs in the fourth and another in the fifth, all on home runs, to tie the game at five.

The Panthers then responded with another three runs on the board in their half of the fifth on a two-RBI double by Kendricks and a sac fly by Richard. Pan American scored another run in the top of the sixth, but Prairie View answered with a run in the bottom of the eighth on an RBI single by Darryl Johnson to give them an 8-5 advantage going into the ninth. However, the Broncos responded with a four-run-barrage in the top of the ninth on a couple of two-run-homers to take the lead, 10-9. But as they had all game, the Panther bats came through again as Oscar Reed hit a bases-loaded double into left field as the tying and winning runs came home to cap off an exciting game with a Panther win as the partisan crowd exhibited their joy.

In the second game, the Broncos began the scoring as they hung two runs in the top of the first.

The Panthers came right back with a matching two in the bottom of the inning due to an RBI single by Davis and a sacrifice fly by

Richard. However, the Broncos kept their offensive surge going with two runs apiece in the second and third innings and one in the fifth to push the score to 7-2. The Panthers did not go quietly as they hung three in the bottom of the sixth as Reed and Johnson both hit home runs to cut the margin to 7-5. However, the Panthers could not push any more runs across as the Broncos forced a split in the Saturday doubleheader.

In the rubber match of the weekend series, the Pandora's box for the opponents, that is, the Panthers offense came alive again with an 18-run-barrage. The scoring started in the bottom of the second as Reed hit an RBI single that brought in Kendricks and the floodgates were opened in the bottom of the third as the Panthers exploded for eight runs. Whitby collected two RBIs with a single up the middle, Kendricks tripled home a run, Jason Thomas and Reed each singled home a run, and James Murphy capped it off with a two-run-homer to left center field. Prairie View scored two more in the sixth to push the margin to 12-0. The Broncos cut that lead in half with a six-run-barrage of their own in the top of the seventh but the Panthers shut the door with their own six spot in the bottom of the seventh and the final ended 18-7.

With the weekend series win, the Panthers (20-21) are nearing the SWAC tournament and look to be rounding into form both offensively and defensively. Next on the schedule for the Panthers are dates with the Bearkats of Sam Houston State University on Wednesday, April 29, and a weekend series with Texas Southern University starting on Saturday, May 2, to conclude SWAC regular season play.



All photos by Ronald Smith, The Panther



A total team effort: Freshman Evan Richard (left) looks to throw out a runner during the game against the University of Texas-Pan American while senior Odie Davis (right) rounds third to head home for one of the Panthers' 34 runs in their onslaught of the Broncos' pitching staff.

So... how was Sex with the Greeks?

By Lenesha Jones
Panther Staff

On April 22 Panthers Promoting Healthy Decisions held a seminar titled "Sex with the Greeks: A Panel Discussion on Safe Sex, STDs, and HIV," in the E.E. O'Banion Science Building as part of STD awareness month. On the panel was junior Jesse Sneed, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc; sophomore Rell Washington Jr., Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., junior Stephen Bacon Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.; junior Angelina Padilla, Kappa Delta Chi; senior Jose Turcios, Sigma Lambda Beta Fraternity, Inc. and sophomore Jessica Madere Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.

The counselors stated that they were holding this seminar to get the views of what upperclassmen had to say about sex and to inform them on things they may not know since they had already had a chance to talk to freshmen during Panther Camp at the beginning of the year. The reason for having the panel was to make it an active seminar where views could be seen at every angle.

The seminar was opened up by male peer lead educator Greg Rose and Drechelle Williams, the

female peer lead educator, explaining the importance of sex education and the risks people take by not using condoms. Many questions were asked, but the one that got the most heat was, "What is sex to you?" Many opinions were voiced, from, "Sex is way too casual now to where people use it to pass the time," to, "It's something special, it's an intimate bond that two people share."

Other things were discussed, like how to properly use a condom, the eight steps of putting on a condom, the risks you take when protection is not used, and other trivia. Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. representative Sneed caused a lot of commotion saying, "In today's society, women are starting to think like men. They've been hurt so much, they know the game." The counselors rewarded feed back by passing out USB drives, and backpacks.

Junior Ashley Rose stated that she wanted to attend this seminar "To see what guys really think about sex and how they really view girls in that aspect." From the turnout of students and the questions and comments, it was obvious that many other students felt this way too.

Greg Rose closed out the seminar saying, "We have to talk about it or nothing will get resolved. It's so real."

Watch out Facebook... Here comes Twitter

By Carlton Lockett
Panther Staff

What is Twitter? That is the question that is running through everyone's mind when they hear about the addicting sensation.

Every time there's a new social network everyone wants to join and be part of it. "Twitter is on its way to becoming the next killer app," as stated in TIME magazine. First Myspace, then Facebook, and now Twitter. So the question is where did Twitter come from?

Jack Dorsey had grown interested in the simple idea of being able to know what his friends were doing. Specifically, Jack wondered if there might be an opportunity to build something compelling around this simple status concept. When he brought the idea up to his colleagues, it was decided that a prototype should be built. Twitter was funded initially by Obvious, a creative environment in San Francisco, Calif. The first pro-

toype was built in two weeks in March 2006 and launched publicly in August of 2006. The service grew popular very quickly and it soon made sense for Twitter to move outside of Obvious. In May 2007, Twitter was founded.

Simplicity has played an important role in Twitter's success. People are eager to connect with other people and Twitter makes that simple. Twitter asks one question, "What are you doing?" Answers must be under 140 characters in length and can be sent via mobile texting, instant message, or the Web.

Twitter is now helping people with different charitable organizations such as www.malariamore.org. Ashton Kutcher started a Twitter war with CNN. Whoever made it to one million followers first, the winner pledged to donate 10,000 mosquito bed nets to charity for World Malaria Day (April 25), and the loser donating 1,000. Kutcher won and is officially a bigger twit than CNN.

Demi Moore who is a movie star by day is a lifesaving Twittering hero by night. On

April 2, the "G.I. Jane" star received a frightening tweet from a woman named 'Sandieguy.' "I'm just wondering if anyone cares that I'm gonna kill myself now," she wrote to the star. Serious or not, her previous messages that hour—not directed at any one in particular—showed the Silicon Valley girl contemplating suicide and wavering on the decision. Moore immediately replied, "Hope you are joking," sharing the scenario with her nearly 400,000 followers. The brief exchange inspired several people to contact the authorities. The San Jose police were notified, and the caller indicated that she had been sending out messages on Twitter. Officers were sent to the address. There were no injuries but officers determined that the woman fit the criteria to be brought in for psychiatric evaluation, which she is currently undergoing. Who would have thought a simple application could save a life?

The easy-to-use application is used for networking, status updates, saving lives, charitable causes, promotions, advice from celebrities, world news, CNN updates and more. Anyone can join in on the fun for free. Just go to www.twitter.com and become a twitterbug.

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START ACHIEVING MORE.

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START ABOVE THE REST.

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RICK ROSS GOES DEEPER THAN RAP ON HIS LATEST ALBUM



Courtesy of Google

By Ryan Rudd
Panther Staff

Slip N' Slide Recording artist Rick Ross released his third album on April 21 entitled "Deeper than Rap." The 6-foot-2 inch, 300 pound Rapper's new album is probably his most anticipated of all, seeing how Ross has beef with multi-platinum recording artist 50 Cent of G-Unit. Ross and 50's beef, which has been escalating since January 2009, started with 50 Cent's exposure of Rick Ross' history as a correctional officer after the Miami rapper had led everyone to believe that he had a full-time occupation as a big time drug dealer prior to entering the rap game. The feud got even more intense and personal, as 50 Cent took Ross' ex-girlfriend and baby's mother on a shopping spree. In most cases, both situations hurt the rapper's stock. However, since the fight started, the record sales of both rappers' previous albums rose

an amazing 50 percent.

In the past three years, Ross has risen above the rap game, dropping his debut album "Port of Miami" in August 2006, which sold more than 187,000 copies during the first week. Ross' first album features several hits, including the smash hit single, "Hustlin," "Push It," and the remix to "Hustlin," which featured Jay-Z and Young Jeezy. Next, Ross released his album titled, "Trilla" in March of last year. Ross's sophomore album definitely had more success than the first, selling nearly 800,000 copies and counting. With hot singles throughout the album, including Billboard Top 100's #1 single for three consecutive weeks, "The Boss" featuring T-Pain, Ross's second album was a banger from start to finish. Other singles on "Trilla" featured "Speeding" with R. Kelly, "The Life" featuring Trey songs and, "Luxury Tax" featuring Trick Daddy, Young Jeezy, and Lil Wayne. The album also included "Here I Am" featuring Nelly and Avery Storm, which was very popular in BET's 106th and Park music countdown.

Ross's new album was an overall success. "Deeper than Rap"

displays a more mature side of Ross's style, while using his same similar style of seductive-gangster flow, which has made Ross very popular with hip-hop fans. Examples of this can be seen on the very first track of the album "Mafia Music," sounding similar to the intro of Ross's first two albums. The fourteen track album has several hits, including the debut single "Magnificent" with John Legend. In Ross's upcoming video for the second single "Cold Blood," the Miami MC appears in a black suit, black leather gloves and black shades as he sits in the back pew of a funeral parlor and watches a makeshift ceremony marking the death of Curtis Jackson, also known as 50 Cent, which serves as a response to the duel between Ross and 50. "Maybach Music," with T-Pain, Lil Wayne, and Kanye West, is certainly one of the better tracks on the album, along with "Lay Back," a club banger on Ross's new album featuring Robin Thicke. Ross even hooked up with Nas to produce "Usual Suspects" probably the album's most lyrically inclined song. On a scale of one to ten, "Deeper than Rap" earns an eight.

Obsessed

a modern fatal attraction

By Aurielle Granger
Panther Contributor

Derek Charles (Idris Elba) is at the peak of his career as an asset manager at a big firm and his family is on a spin with his new wife, Sharon (Beyonce Knowles), of three years and a child. Life couldn't be better until he decides to take a chance using a female temp, Lisa Sheridan (Ali Larter), in the work place this time around. In the beginning all is well, but when does well become well enough or well done? Do you report suspicion at the beginning or wait until it becomes unbearable, stalking for say?

From day one Lisa had the gleam in her eyes for Derek to ruin his life and marriage for the sake of her happiness filled with insanity. Since Derek's job is one place that brings them together every day and gives Lisa unlimited access to his life in entirety, she uses all the information she can get about him to her advantage to get as close as she can to home wrecker status.

How long does it take for Sharon to become aware of these demented events? Do you tell your spouse from day one? Will they REALLY believe you? The pieces to the puzzle are coming together but not in Derek's favor. Before Lisa is admitted into the hospital, she has gone

through a series of events for proof of their love life and affairs. Right about now, Derek is having a hard time getting others around him except his boss and his best friend Ben (Jerry O'Connell), who was informed prior to the folly, to stick by his side with these escalated possible lies or possible evidence that is now hanging over his head. Now it holds the potential to destroy his once flawless career and stable home. Lisa is obsessed with Sharon's lifestyle and the best way she can understand to get it is to snatch Derek from under her feet. The main question is if he is up for the challenge to end the obsession or let the lunacy continue and destroy all he has worked hard for.

"Obsessed" is definitely one film you do not want to miss out on! Directed by Steve Shill and written by David Loughery, "Obsessed" was released April 24, 2009 ranking top weekend debut at 28.5 million in the box office this past weekend. The film is rated PG-13 for sexual material including some suggestive dialogue, some violence, and thematic content and the running time is 105 minutes. The tagline for this film is "All's fair when love is war." Should love be a war between Derek, Sharon, and Lisa? Better yet, who do you think gets this victory? The film will only tell. Now there is only one more question that needs to be answered for the film makers. Are you "Obsessed?"

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Were you in Foster Care?

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The Foster Care Alumni student support group at Prairie View (FCA-PV) is launching an online connection for you.

No fees, no membership requirements. We will send out weekly emails and allow you to ask questions. All we need from you is your email address.

If you have questions, contact Ila Schauer at 936-261-5909 or email Vivian Dorsett at vivian_dorsett@yahoo.com



The Answers

Weekly Update for Freshmen

EARLY REGISTRATION begins APRIL 29.
**Check Panthertracks to see if you have any holds.

You must have had a grade of 'C' (OR 'S') or better in your developmental class(es) at mid-terms to be able to pre-register for summer or fall 2009.

When is the next Quick THEA? Call 936-261-3610 for the testing schedule.



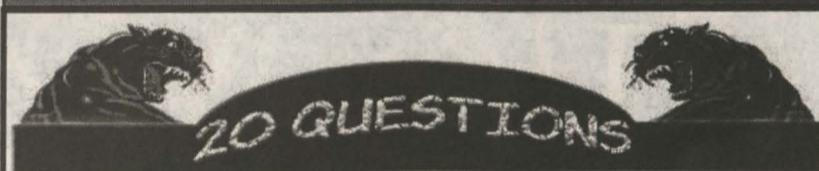
The people have spoken—Building 37 won the PV choice award for best Building! Shout out!!!

Building 39 would like to congratulate Ciara Alvord as the 1st Runner-Up in the "Lady of the Dove" Pageant! Your PA, Ms Jones and your LCC, Ms Gant are very proud of you.

Building 39 will hold a Study-Tips program on Monday, April 27th at 7pm.

SALUTE TO BUILDING 40: SEMETRIA AUGUST AND NORVELL HOPSON FOR SECURING INFORMATION FOR SUMMER STUDY OF THE NET TEST AND JALICIA POWELL AND GELISHA THOMPSON FOR APPLY FOR SUMMER INTERNSHIPS WITH GOOGLE. GET WELL WISHES TO DEJA WADE. BRAVO! TO AYESHA CAMPBELL FOR HER PERFORMANCE IN THE TALENT SHOW.

The PV Class of '62 recognized the Academic Excellence and Leadership of the Class of 2012 at a reception on Thursday, April 24th. The Class of '62 is sponsoring the Class of 2012.



1. How did Prairie View get everyone's phone number and how many people skipped class all day even though classes were canceled until 10 a.m.?
2. Anybody going to the Anything But Clothes party?
3. Which junior is in a rush to get the most letters and why are all the wanna be Greeks trying to join SGA?
4. Who would pay to see President Wright flex?
5. What would it take for him to be a party boy with a shag?
6. Who was the boy in 48 who stole polo shirts and acted like someone stole them from him when they were taken back?
7. Doesn't he know everybody knows he has no clothes and isn't it sad that he had to steal something he never had?
8. Why was the Rhomeo Car Show another hoodfest that took place during the dedication?
9. Who was the freshman getting heat from Hater-Beta?
10. If the dorm step-off is a bust, should we blame the AKAs for changing the date?
11. Is anyone tired off KKPsi making homemade flyers?
12. Isn't it funny that Tau Beta Sigma is throwing a seminar on hazing?
13. When did honor societies start pledging?
14. Who is the Lambda wearing the big charm bracelets?
15. What student leader spends all his time crying and writing in Black Foxes honesty boxes?
16. Who else was trying to find Waldo when searching for an AKA to buy a presale ticket?
17. So is walking around with someone else's baby the latest trend?
18. Who was the freshman who got caught stealing from Wal-Mart and was it strange that they made bail in time to make it to the glow party?
19. Who was the girl that lit a cigarette in the UC Apollo Style Talent Show and then cussed everybody out when she got boo'd off the stage?
20. Who is going to miss 20 Questions?

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.



Have a Safe, Enjoyable Summer from The Panther

This Week On The Hill

Thursday, April 30

FOCCS Bible Study
 Student Lounge Rm. 218

Sigma Gamma Rho Devious Delta Alpha StRH0ll Off
 Student Park

Gamma Sigma Sigma Seminar: Didn't Yo Mamma Teach You Better Than That?
 New Science Rm. A103

SGA Recognition Banquet
 Student Center Ballroom Section A

SIFE Annual Banquet
 Memorial Student Center Ballroom Rm. 204 Section B

Friday, May 1

Classic Dance Ensemble
 Ensemble Dance Concert
 Student Center Auditorium Rm. 111

CAB Hump Day
 Alumni Field

Classic Dance Ensemble
 Holding Room
 Memorial Student Center Lounge Rm. 218

Multicultural Affairs
 Asian Game Night & Origami
 Memorial Student Center Foyer

Saturday, May 2

CAB Zydeco Festival
 MSC Outside

Recruitment
 Presidential Scholarship Reception
 Student Center Ballroom Section A&B, Auditorium

Waller County Gladiators
 Semi-Pro Football Game
 William J Nicks Complex

Sunday, May 3

All-Faiths Chapel
 Worship Experience
 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Society of Women Engineers
 Leadership Workshop
 New Electrical Engineering Auditorium

Gamma Sigma Sigma
 New Member's Ceremony
 All Faith Chapel

Monday, May 4

Young Leaders for Christ Bible Study
 W.R. Banks Rm. 205

The Light Bible Study
 Student Lounge Rm. 218

Course Review Day
 [Classes must convene and instructors will prepare students for Final Exams]

CAB Banquet
 MSC Ballroom 204 CD

Child Development
 Overcoming Adversities:
 The Strength in Me
 E.E. O'Banion Science Bldg Rm A101

Tuesday, May 5

Course Review Day
 [Classes must convene and instructors will prepare students for Final Exams]

Last Class Day for Spring Semester

Last Day to Withdraw from the University (From All Courses) for the Spring 2009 Semester

Alpha Kappa Alpha
 AKA Scantron Day
 MSC Outside

Wednesday, May 6

Study Days for Exams

Beta Beta Beta
 Annual Picnic
 Student Park

Weather

 Partly sunny and breezy High: 85 °F Low: 70 °F	 Partly sunny; breezy, humid High: 86 °F Low: 71 °F	 Periods of clouds and sun High: 87 °F Low: 70 °F	 A p.m. t-storm possible High: 86 °F Low: 70 °F	 Breezy with periods of sun High: 86 °F Low: 69 °F	 Mostly cloudy with a shower High: 86 °F Low: 68 °F	 A strong morning thunderstorm High: 81 °F Low: 67 °F
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