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## Panther- September 2009 - Vol. LXXXIX, NO.2

Prairie View A&M University

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# The Panther

The Official Student Newspaper of Prairie View A&M University

Volume 89, Issue 2

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

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# 82 infected with seasonal flu

## No reported case of swine flu virus on campus

By Ryan Rudd and Corbin Mickens  
Panther Staff

In the course of the past few weeks, Prairie View A&M University's health clinic has been coping with an outbreak of the flu virus that has threatened the health of many freshmen in the University College and other students on campus.

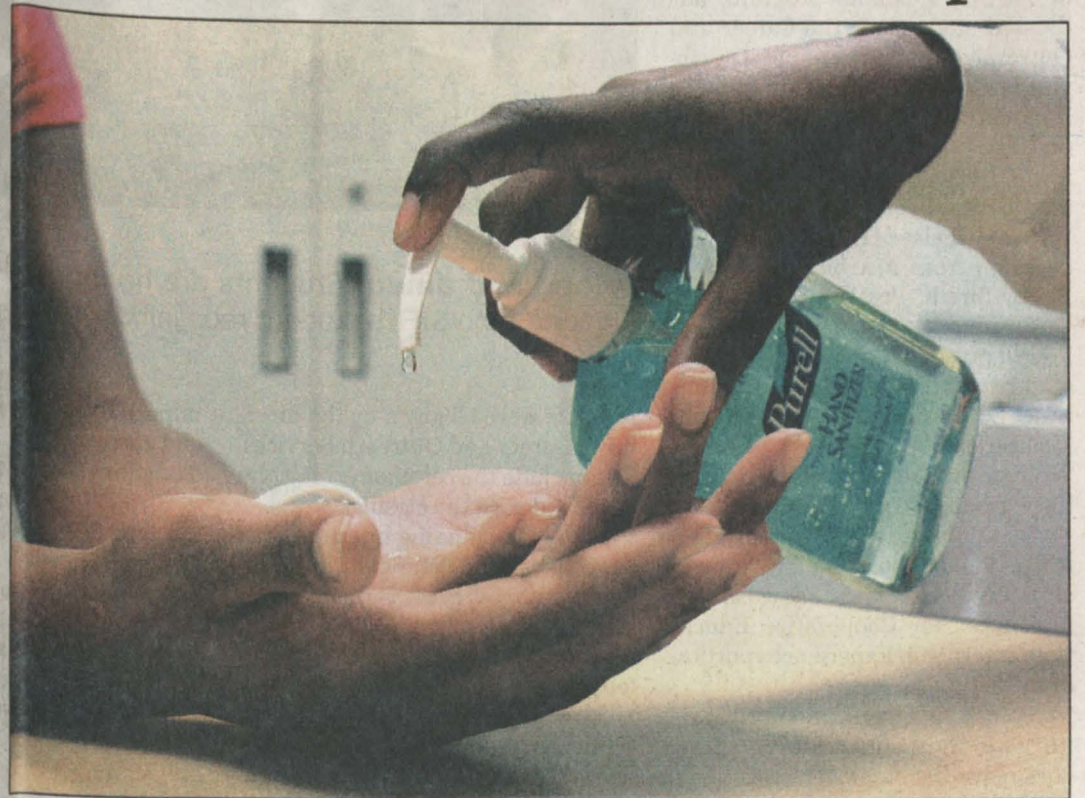
The origin of the flu outbreak is unknown, but one thing is certain: students fear the virus may spread more rapidly.

According to Thelma J. Pierre, administrator of the Owens-Franklin Health Center, there have been 82 reported cases of flu on campus, dating from Aug. 31 to Sept. 12.

"During the first week of class, we had fewer numbers of students getting ill. However, the increase in statistics came after the Labor Day weekend, just as we had expected," Pierre said.

The staff of University College has been forced to take safety precautions to protect residents.

Shandon Neal, assistant director of student and residential life in the University College, said, "The flu started around the first of this month. There were already several stu-



By Ronald Smith, The Panther

**Better safe than sorry:** Students try to stay healthy by using hand sanitizer.

dents experiencing flu-like symptoms before they came to the school. Consequently, the virus began to spread once interaction between students started."

Some of the freshmen who have the flu said they were feeling symptoms before the second week of school.

Neal talked about how the students who were subdued by the flu had been asked to leave the University College and return home, if they were from the area.

Others were isolated by having their roommates relocated to another quarter of the freshmen dormitories, leaving the ill students in a room alone.

Although placing students in isolation was a solution for Neal and staff, it created another problem for Pierre and the rest of the health department.

Pierre said, "Before students are placed in isolation, we issue them a release form for all of their classes as a medical excuse. At first, we were experiencing issues with students in isolation, in terms of how they would get their food and basic supplies. It wasn't our initial responsibility, but we decided to handle these issues. In collaboration with Sodexo, we devised a system in which we have volunteers wearing gloves and masks bring food to ill students."

Even though this system has been working effectively, the health center does not have enough volunteers.

"We made an announcement to students at the general assembly regarding our need for new volunteers, but so far nobody has responded," Pierre said.

All students placed in isolation remain there, until experiencing no symptoms for 24 hours, without taking any medication, officials said.

Although the flu outbreak is a serious situation, it hasn't taken the student body, the staff, or administrators by surprise.

This school year ushered in a number of new students from different places, increasing PV's enrollment from some 8,000 to an estimated 8,600.

Many students attending PVAMU came this school year unprepared for the weather conditions in Texas, which has forced their bodies to adjust to a new climate, health officials said.

"Given the fact that this is flu season, and you have so many students from different places whose bodies are learning to cope with the environment and interactions with complete strangers, an outbreak of this magnitude can be expected," said Sheleah D. Hughes, Prairie View A&M University's director of public relations.

The process of determining whether a person has flu or not involves two tests, one for type A and another for type B. Anyone who tests positive for both types is then tested for H1N1.

Those tests are shipped off to a lab, where doctors take up to 45 days to process results.

There has actually been no reported case of H1N1 influenza (swine flu).

Hughes said that so far test results have been negative for students who were automatically tested for H1N1 flu virus.

### Helpful Information

**Symptoms of novel H1N1 flu virus are similar to those for a seasonal flu and include:**

- fever
- cough
- sour throat
- runny or stuffy nose
- body aches
- headache
- chills
- fatigue

### Emergency warning signs are:

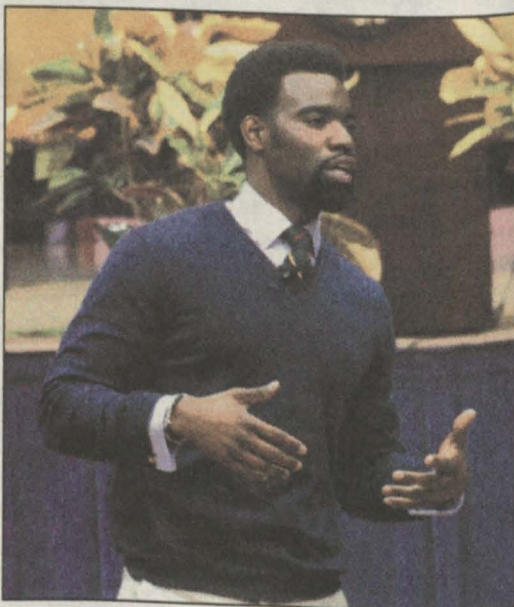
- difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
- pain in the chest or abdomen
- sudden dizziness
- confusion
- severe or persistent vomiting
- flu-like symptoms improve but then return with fever and worse cough

go to [cdc.gov/h1n1flu](http://cdc.gov/h1n1flu) for more information

# Do the right thing

## Students challenged at annual assembly

By Sean Ealum  
Panther Intern



By Ronald Smith, The Panther

**Think smarter, not harder:** Slade pushes students to keep their priorities in order at the student assembly.

The General Student Assembly held Wednesday, Sept. 9, in the William "Billy" J. Nicks building focused on encouraging students to do what's right, with the popular theme from Spike Lee's hit 1980s film, "Do the Right Thing."

Alzo Slade, a 1998 graduate of Prairie View, was the speaker.

Slade got the attention of the students when he began to address other issues such as sagging and the use of vulgar language. He challenged students and stressed the importance of priorities.

"You are here to graduate and become a man or woman once you leave here, get your priorities together," said Slade.

He thanked Mayor Frank Jackson for his help and assistance on the Prairie View campus.

Slade used his personal experiences at Prairie View to motivate students to be better.

He described how in his freshman year, he was always telling jokes and just wanted to have fun.

"I was always trying to make people laugh. My grades dropped my first year because I was caught up in having too much fun, just wanting to get by," said Slade. "As I went on to my sophomore and junior years, I real-

ized I needed to straighten up."

He closed his speech by saying, "Use the resources you have on campus and use them to your advantage."

Miss Prairie View Chelsey Hill was the mistress of ceremonies, and introduced "Do the Right Thing: Quality Without Compromise" as the university's motto for the school year.

The assembly began with a welcome and invocation by Michael Love, Mr. Prairie View, and Trent Johnson, vice president of SGA.

Dr. E. Joahanne Thomas-Smith, provost and senior vice president for academic affairs, spoke to students about doing the right thing and striving to do their best.

"We want you to leave inspired. Do the right things that are necessary in order to succeed," Thomas-Smith said.

The PVAMU cheerleaders along with the Marching Storm performed and Andria Green, a senior health education major, sang a solo.

Freshman criminal justice major Lateria Robinson said, "The speaker was very real about every point he made. He caught our attention and gave good points on how to live our life in college, as well as the company we keep."

## Students' achievements celebrated at banquet **Tour De Pink's success continues**

By Cierra Liggins  
Panther Staff



By Ronald Smith, The Panther

Dr. James Wilson, director of PVAMU's honors program, addressed students at the Career and Outreach Services' annual Dr. Irvine C. Gordon Student Recognition Banquet held in the MSC ballroom on Sept. 14.

The ceremony was initiated by a welcome from Miss Prairie View Chelsea Hill followed by an occasion from MANNRS President Bobby Smith. President of Student Government Association Robert Powell presented greetings from the students and Mr. Prairie View Michael Love proceeded with words of inspiration. President of Society of Women Engineers Raushanah Shahid introduced Dr. James Wilson.

Junior president of SIFE Ridge Fields spoke on the Internship Challenge and was also the introducer for Cooperative Education/Internship Experiences portion of the banquet.

Manager of Lockheed Martin Storefront Juan Moreno-Gongora gave his employer reflections. Presentations, recognitions, and

**Wined and dined:** Students are honored while enjoying dinner during SIFE's student recognition banquet on Monday.

remarks were all given by the director of Career and Outreach Services. To conclude the ceremony, Malcolm Copeland gave the closing.

Outstanding intern awards were given to students: Krystal Blakemore, Coreylee Thomas, Ursula McCarty, Demetris Reed, Jennifer East, Michael Mathews, Carla Wooten.

When asked why it was significant to host this event, Jones said, "To encourage and motivate students to come to our events. It's

important to congratulate them and encourage them to be good ambassadors for the university."

"One thing I would like for the interns to leave with is do not be afraid of plain b, c, and detours," said Wilson. When asked what you hope that the students receive from an event as such dedicated in honoring them for their achievements Wilson replies, "Number one, network with everyone who sees value of P.V. trade of excellence. Secondly, celebrate success."

By Tameika Gordon  
Panther Staff

The 5th annual Tour de Pink, a bicycle fundraiser for breast cancer ride that leads eager riders throughout very rural areas of Texas began at PVAMU on Sept. 13.

Tour de Pink is a 12, 23, 47, 63, 80 or 100-mile bike marathon, in which riders choose their own distances. Each rider has a minimum fundraising pledge of \$100. BBVA Compass, a financial institution is part of the Sunbelt based banks, serves as the official sponsor for Tour de Pink on an annual basis.

The marathon began early Sunday morning at 5 a.m. when eager riders and volunteers registered to ride. This tour raises money for the Pink Ribbons Project to fight breast cancer by strengthening knowledge of awareness of this life threatening condition and prevention of breast cancer in underprivileged communi-

ties. Pink Ribbons Project, is a 501 (c) (3) tax exempt organization that raises awareness and educates about breast cancer through its programming, and provides woman wellness exams to low income women who are without insurance in the greater Houston area.

However the greatest cancer is ignorance, black women are less likely to receive mammograms or even seek knowledge in order to prevent cancer. In the black community things tend to be put off until a problem arises, and sometimes it's too late. Unfortunately the thing usually procrastinated on is health. Even though studies have proven that black women are less likely to get breast cancer, they are at even higher risk of dying from the disease. This is because the preventive stage is skipped and all treatment that could have been provided is unable to be used due to the advanced condition of the cancer. October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, every woman, regardless of ethnic origin, should go to your gynecologist and be screened for breast cancer.

## University Village hosts talent show

By Aurielle Grangier  
Panther Staff

The talents presented at the show were not just solely from the contestants.

While DJ Guarantee showed off his skills trying to please the hyped crowd from wall to wall, people were dancing, singing, representing their hometowns, and their classifications in any way possible with the host of the night, DeJaun Kennedy.

"I'm blessed because this goes for my major and this is what I want to pursue in life. I was blessed to be given the opportunity to have this hosting job," said Kennedy.

The students whom filled the room were excited almost every second of the show. Both during and in between the acts, students paraded to their favorite songs to their support for their friends, family, classmates, and roommates showcasing on stage.

The University Village staff is credited for the event.

"We just wanted to kick off the year right. We definitely want to do that with the University Village upperclassmen housing because we house 1,920 residents and we just want to give something back to our residents who have given so much to us," said resident director of University Village James Durant.

## Cupid strikes in Pantherland

By Tequila Lewis  
Panther Staff

The PV love Connection took place Sept. 10 at 6:30 p.m. in the MSC, hosted by Campus Activities Board.

This event was a spin off of the classic show "Love Connection," used to couple up individuals with common interests without them seeing each other. "The Love Connection is relevant to the student body because it fixes stereotypes on relationships, and shows there is someone for everybody," says Joe Narcisse, an active CAB member and junior business management major. He also elaborated that the student body needs an entertaining way to meeting new people, rather than just seeking the opposite sex's exterior. Panelist Joshua Grimes, junior mechanical engineering major spoke about the PV Connection, "I gained a free ticket to the Baby Dome party, I was very happy to be picked randomly at open house to participate in the event." In comparison to the real "Love Connection," there were also winners who received a date, such as, Angela Gloston senior and criminal justice major who stated, "This was an interesting experience, I have never done anything like this

before, I wanted some random fun and to do more activities in school and I actually ended up having a new experience." Along with her, winner Taylor Griffin, sophomore health/human performance major had a few words to share about his upcoming date, "We are going to enjoy the Baby Dome party, I plan on taking my date Tamika to Red Lobster, too."

Although the show was about the contestants on stage, the audience was well involved in the game. The topic of relationships seemed to appeal to the students in the auditorium. Shelly Schoberg, junior and business marketing major was one of them and gave her reaction to the game show, "PV Connection is something different, I would love to come back and see the game again," she also goes on to say, "The host passing out tickets to the panelist and interacting with the audience gives the students something productive to do with their time." Roman Blackmon, junior accounting major was also in attendance to the show. "I really enjoyed it, it's nice to see the school have more fun and entertaining events to attend too, I'd like to see more of this on the weekends so students won't leave campus," he said.

Gaining new activities on campus seems to be one of many demands students are requesting these days.

## Organizations open new doors

By Chloe Coffey  
Panther Staff

Many students, new and returning to the Prairie View campus, already have countless issues to attend to, to ensure a successful semester without having to wonder exactly what organizations exist here on the yard. Due to this crucial situation, Steve Ransom, Director of Student Activities and Leadership, and Denise Simmons, Assistant Director of Student Activities and Leadership, sought to develop a highly-effective solution: Open House.

Open house was set up as a unique way of allowing students the rare opportunity to connect, face to face, with each organization present. Students got to hear directly from the sources, the inside scoop of what each organization was all about.

There was also a number amount of fraternities and sororities also, including Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc., Sigma Rho-meo, Fraternity Inc. and Phi Beta Lambda Fraternity Inc. By investing in the establishment of the open house, they in turn, equipped students with multiple means as to how to invest their time here at Prairie View.

Sophomore Clynes Glen won first place in the University Village Talent Show singing a melody of Jill Scott's "The Way" and Floetry's "Say Yes" Sept. 14 in the Opal Johnson-Smith Auditorium.

Throughout the show, a combination of singers, rappers, dancers, poets, and musicians displayed their talents to the judges and the student body.

In the final judging, only three people were able to walk away holding a title, junior history major Mike Blue's singing brought him into third place.

Senior Hasifa Najemba performed a spiritual dance to John Meyer's "Slow Dancing in a Burning Room," coming in at second place."

The first place winner, Glen set the tone as her voice took over the auditorium and won over the judges' votes.

"It was a good experience because everyone was into me," said Glen shortly after the final judgment.

## New job for Lowe

By Ryan Rudd  
News Editor

This school year, the students at PVAMU usher in a new Student Volunteer Coordinator, Alisha Lowe.

Last year, Lowe served as the Secretary of Alumni Relations.



Alisha Lowe

"I've always been into non-profit community service projects, so this position is a direct fit for me," said Lowe. Surprisingly, not only is this position new to Lowe, but it is new to the university as well.

According to Lowe, the university created her position because they felt the need to get students more involved in service inside and outside of the classroom setting.

She said, "My goal is to have at least one student complete a service learning project by the time they graduate."

The first example of Lowe's work in progress can be provided this Saturday at Panthers At Work (P.A.W.).

## VOLUNTEER DEPUTY VOTER REGISTRAR TRAINING

WHEN: SEPTEMBER 22, 2009

WHERE: WILLIE A. TEMPTON SR. MEMORIAL STUDENT CENTER, TV ROOM LOUNGE ON 2ND FLOOR

TIME: 1:30P.M.-3:30P.M.

We will explain your responsibilities as a Waller County Volunteer Deputy Voter Registrar.

We will deputize anyone that wants to become a Waller County Volunteer Deputy Voter Registrar.

**IF YOU ARE  
LOOKING FOR  
OPPORTUNITIES,  
WE HAVE OVER  
100,000 MILES  
OF COASTLINE  
TO FIND THEM.**

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# What's going on with Obama?

Well, it's officially over. Actually, it has been for weeks now. The honeymoon of the Obama administration has come to an end. It's amazing that the same man who ran an almost spotless and groundbreaking campaign not more than a year ago, cannot even muster enough political muscle to push his own ideas through a congress that is controlled by his own party.

In his defense, Republicans never really have been on his side, but what has happened to these so-called "moderate Democrats"? How can the President expect to reach across the aisle when his own house is in disagreement?

Now, one could go on and on about the shortfalls of this administration so far, but that is not what puzzles this writer. The most important question should be, "Where have all of the support-

ers gone?" What happened to the millions chanting "Yes, We Can"? Are they now whispering "Maybe we shouldn't have"? Where are the

**"What happened to the millions chanting 'YES, WE CAN?' Are they now whispering maybe we shouldn't have?"**

thousands of college students who wanted to be a part of change and do something different for the nation? Are they even informed enough of the issues to participate in the debate?

Whether on the left or the right, college students across the nation seem completely quiet on the issue of health care. This is amazing

considering that despite the fact that grandma, grandpa, mom and dad have important viewpoints and a great deal invested in the healthcare system, they won't be around as long as their children to feel the effects of these decisions. Students across the nation talked, chanted, and even screamed to be a part of the process. Now school is back in session, and they seem unable to wake up as if all of this is an eight o'clock class. Do they know what's going on? Can they understand

the deep consequences of what we do today, and how it will affect us for years to come? Where are all these once highly involved citizens? America is in desperate need of them. If you see one anytime soon, stop and ask them, "What's going on?"

Bradford Traywick

# We are fellow Americans, let's act the part

As we approach the anniversary of the election of our nation's first black president, we as supporters of Obama's living legacy, must prepare for an increase of scrutiny under the magnifying glass of the still bitter opposition.

Case in point, in last week's Panther "Speak Up or Shut Up," an article written by an obligate Republican, is an attempt to mildly crucify the current administration's efforts to improve our nation's security, financial infrastructure, national healthcare, and other campaign issues. He rants and raves in an incoherent spew of what is becoming the cliché, robotic GOP response to anything in legislature with a Democratic seal, "Woe, the colored President and his liberal ideas! Beware of his intentions as they pave the path to the destruction of our constitutional freedoms! He's secretly still a Muslim!"

As of late, watching GOP centered news seems anti-American. Their sentiments lean more toward secession than unification

in effort and compromise. Each negative viewpoint and comment is cloaked in the Stars and Stripes to euphemistically continue their separation from a common, ameliorating ideology. Simultaneously, the repetition of this negativity creates an assembly line where GOP members become hard wired to be anti-productive, stagnant, and pessimistic toward the democratically controlled government at which time it becomes impossible for them to be a part of, or create anything positive thereafter. Thusly, the aforementioned oxymoronic "mild crucifixion" is a product of such a system, blindly kicking dirt and adding to the dust storm that will consume the America we all love.

We, as a country, are still wading through the aftermath of the Republican Party's last eight years. Let's not carry over that attitude of inevitable defeat into these next three, maybe even seven years of our history. Allow the audacity of hope to dwell in your heart, do your part, and our efforts will meet the fate

that destiny intends. The Republican presidential candidate, John McCain, offered this advice to his constituents in his November 2008 concession speech. Maybe the majority of the GOP was too disgusted after Obama's win to tolerate the advice, so I'll present it here to reiterate his closing position.

"I urge all Americans who supported me to join me in not just congratulating him, but offering our next president our goodwill and earnest effort to find ways to come together, to find the necessary compromises, to bridge our differences and help restore our prosperity, defend our security in a dangerous world, and leave our children and grandchildren a stronger, better country than we inherited. Whatever our differences, we are fellow Americans. And please believe me when I say no association has ever meant more to me than that." - Sen. John McCain (R)

Bristol Mayo

# Freedom of speech mayhem too much?

When is freedom of speech out of place? Kanye is arrogant, Serena is aggressive, and Joe is blunt.

We all sat with our mouths wide open as we watched rap artist Kanye West rip the microphone away from teen idol Taylor Swift who was accepting her first moon man on the MTV Video Music Awards in New York City Sunday, Sept.13.

"I'm sorry, but Beyoncé had one of the best videos of all time," Kanye yelled as Beyoncé looked stunned and Taylor seemed even more so.

However, just the day before during the US Open semi-finals, Serena Williams threatened the life of a linewoman, "I'm going to shove this ball down your f----- throat... I'm going to kill you!" Serena an-

grily yelled at the linewoman.

And just a few days before that on Sept. 9, during President Obama's address to Congress, Congressman Addison "Joe" Wilson yelled "You lie!"

Now what do these three individuals have in common? Besides money, fame, and power...they are all influential role models who help shape society.

Even though their actions were not widely accepted not one of them truly apologized.

Is freedom of speech becoming a tool of mayhem? Should there be a limit placed on what someone can say?

Many believe that it is the most unexplained right we have. Most don't realize that it is protected only when it doesn't cause harm

or degrade someone, and hasn't already been agreed to be kept private.

I think it would be fair to say that freedom of speech has its proper time and place.

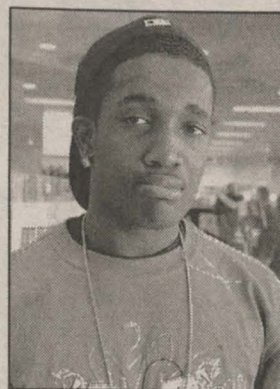
Sometimes calling it how you see it isn't the best solution. Serena has been fined \$10, 000 and maybe even more punishment to come, and Kanye faces the possible loss of millions of fans, and as for Joe, who is that again?

Be mindful the next time you speak your mind because your act of freedom may be causing somebody else harm, thus making it a crime, aka slander aka libel aka threat.

Tameika Gordon

# PURPLE & GOLD POLL

## How do you feel about the swine flu scare on campus? What are some procedures you take to protect yourself?



"I am really not that afraid of the flu and I don't think it is that big of a deal, but I use precautions like washing and sanitizing my hands and don't share any kind of personal items with anybody."

**Roderick Coburn**  
Junior  
Criminal Justice



"To be honest I really do not think about swine flu until someone coughs or sneezes around me, but I do make sure I practice good hygiene and wash my hands regularly."

**Lowri Gray**  
Senior  
Marketing



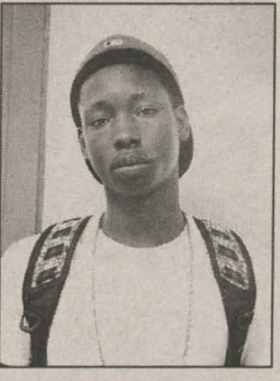
"I think the flu scare is over emphasized because people are scared of the unknown. I take necessary steps such as washing my hands and avoiding physical contact with people who are sick."

**Shamalle Payton**  
Junior  
Computer Science



"The swine flu "epidemic" hasn't really hit me yet, but I'm naturally a neat freak, so I constantly wash my hands and Lysol everything in my room just in case. Once the flu shot comes in, I am definitely going to get it."

**Eden Sahle**  
Freshman  
Biology



"I haven't really thought about it. It hasn't affected anyone I know so it's not a problem and I keep hand sanitizer on me also."

**Jared Bell**  
Freshman  
Accounting

By Perry Osborne-Johnson, The Panther

# SGA Speak Out

To start, everyone in SGA would like to say thank you to the students who came out and applied for the desired positions available. There were more than 100 student applicants so good luck to you all.

Mark your calendars for the Sept. 22 election date via Panthertracks. Students will be allowed to vote by simply logging in, selecting "take a survey" and then marking their vote. Make sure to choose the candidates you feel will represent and lead your university well.

There are a few upcoming events SGA has coming up including the "Speak Up or Shut Up" open forum that will take place on Tuesday, Sept. 29, at 3 p.m. So come out and meet our university president Dr. George

C. Wright along with his staff and administrators. Students will have the chance to tour the A.I. Thomas building and offices which house the president and administrators. Be sure and bring your questions, comments, and concerns. This is one of many opportunities for your voice to be heard (Hint: Speak Up or Shut Up).

Last but not least, the official launch for the recycling program will be Monday, Sept. 21. Registration will be posted online and individuals as well as organizations will be able to sign up. Please help and join in this university-wide collaboration. We hope that these first few weeks have been great and if you have any questions we're located in the MSC, second floor room 223. Have a good week!

I Love College  
By: Robert Jordan III

DESIGNER Swine Flu MASK

Get Yours TODAY!!!

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## Soccer team pulls off big upset against UNT

By Lionel Mosby Jr  
Sports Editor

The Lady Panther soccer team rolled into Denton, Texas, on a four game losing streak, while giving up an average of 4.7 goals a game to their opponents. That changed on Saturday, when Jessica Garcia recorded a team high of 15 saves in the Lady Panthers 1-0 win over North Texas. The victory was Prairie View's first win over a Division I program in the history of Lady Panthers soccer.

"The game was definitely a confidence booster for the girls," said Head Coach Abe Garcia. "We hope this win will bring the team some outside exposure, but more importantly, some recognition from this student body and administration."

The contest proved to be a defensive battle throughout the first half of play, as both teams struggled to get up shots on goal. North Texas, which has beaten Big 12 conference foes Texas Tech and Baylor, had their hands full with Prairie View's attacking style. "We didn't do anything different because it was North Texas," said Coach Garcia. "We just went out with the same scheme as always."

The game plan started to create more opportunities in the second half, when Prairie View pro-

duced more shots on goal through their excellent passing. Overall, the Lady Panthers got 10 shots up on North Texas' Haley Newsom and Mandy Hall. The barrage of shots eventually paid off for the team in the 78:00 minute, as Mayra Castillo hit Monica Diaz with a perfect pass that she kicked into the back of the net.

The Diaz score would prove to be the deciding point in the game, but Jessica Garcia's excellent 90 minutes in front of goal definitely made the win possible. "My coach told me this was my game and I kept that in mind throughout the game," said Garcia. "Even though I played well, I still know it was a total team effort and it proves we can play with the best." "She had an outstanding game," said Coach Garcia. "Everybody excelled in their positions and hopefully this momentum will continue into the rest of the season." The Panthers have some great upperclass women with years of experience on this year's team, but they also have eight freshmen who have stepped on campus and into starting roles. "They are all adapting to the game rather quickly, even though they have some adjusting to do with the players," said Garcia.

This young Lady Panthers squad will look to build on their historic win Monday. They will face Texas College here in the William "Billy" J. Nicks Athletic Complex at 5 p.m.

## Volleyball team gets kicked in the boot

By Jeremy Malone  
Panther Staff

The Lady Panthers traveled to Lake Charles, La. last weekend to play in the McNeese State Tournament. Prairie View opened up with McNeese State followed by UL-Lafayette and UT-Pan Am.

In the opening match on Friday, McNeese State started its dominance by taking the first and second game with a 25-12 and 25-16 win. The Lady Panthers didn't leave without a fight, though, losing a close third match 25-23. Sapphire Reid led the Lady Panthers with eight kills while Cheri Lindsay tallied four digs. Shaun Williams recorded six assisted blocks in addition to 12 assists from Erin Fondel.

In the first match on Saturday, the Lady Panthers played UL-Lafayette losing their first two matches 25-19 and 25-13. The Panthers came out sluggish in the first

two games, but fought back to win the next two games 25-18 and 25-17. In a hard fought fifth game, Prairie View fell 15-10, as they lost 3-2 to the Rajun' Cajuns. Lindsay had a mammoth game with 23 kills, 17 digs and four assisted blocks while Reid tallied 12 kills and 18 digs. The Lady Panthers also received 48 assists and 11 digs from Fondel in addition to 14 digs from Jasmine Hale.

The final match of the tournament for the Panthers came against UT-Pan Am. Prairie View came close in every contest, but lost three consecutive games 25-23, 25-23, and 26-24 to close out the weekend. Williams led Prairie View offensively with 11 kills while Fondel tallied 27 assists. Hale led the team with 18 digs followed by six each from Lindsay and Reid.

The Lady Panthers' next match is against the University of Arkansas-Pine Bluff on Sept. 17 before they host three teams at the Lady Panther Invitational on the weekend.

## Panthers fall 21-18 to New Mexico State

By Jeremy Malone  
Panther Staff

Starting off slow and finishing fast, the Prairie View A&M Panthers had an enormous fourth quarter come back, but eventually fell three points short 21-18 to New Mexico State at Aggie Memorial Stadium on Saturday evening.

New Mexico State is the first Football Bowl Subdivision team to play the Panthers since 1979, when the Panthers lost to Hawaii.

Prairie View also had never scored a point against a FBS opponent in the program's history, but that changed after Brady Faggard recorded a 30-yard field goal with 9:55 left in the first quarter. This play was set up by a 47-yard-run by Donald Babers to put the Panthers in scoring position. New Mexico State quickly answered with its first scoring drive of the game as they went on an 11-play, 80-yard drive that was capped off by one of NMSU's QB Jeff Fleming's two rushing TDs.

With 4:58 left in the first half, the Aggies upped the lead to 13-3 after Fleming drove the Aggies 67 yards in 12 plays. The first half ended when starting quarterback Jay Bluford threw an interception as Prairie View was driving into scoring position. Backup quarterback KJ Black, a Western Kentucky transfer, came into the game after Bluford went

only 5-of-13 for 34 yards, an interception and gave up three sacks.

Neither team was able to score in the third quarter, but with 8:42 remaining in the game the Aggies went on another 12 play drive that ended with a Marquell Colston 4-yard TD run. Now down 21-3, victory looked out of reach for the Panthers, but Black and the defense refused to give up. The defense stiffened and repeatedly caused the Aggies into fourth down situations. The Panthers used that defensive momentum to rally with a 9-yard TD run from Black, as well as a 27-yard touchdown toss from Black to wide receiver Anthony Weeden. Prairie View then converted the two-point conversion cutting the Aggies lead down to three. The Panthers' upset bid, unfortunately, ran short of time and timeouts, as the Aggies ran out the clock for their first victory in the Dewayne Walker era.

Prairie View finished the game with 135 yards in the air and 146 yards on the ground. Black was the leading passer and Babers led the team in rushing with 118 yards. The Panthers' biggest problem on Saturday was that the defense couldn't stop the run, giving up 241 yards on the day.

The Panthers now have three weeks to prepare for the reigning SWAC Champion, Grambling State Tigers. The annual State Fair Classic in Dallas is scheduled on Saturday, Oct 3.

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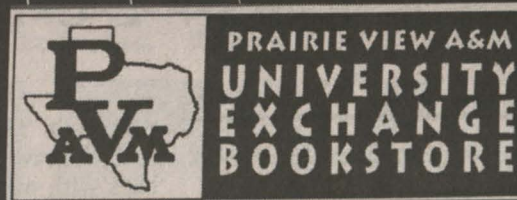
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# Spotlight: Who is doing what?

Highlighting students who excel in  
their area of interest

By **Lionel Mosby Jr.**  
Sports Editor

From countless training exercises to preparation for the real thing, the American military is the most precise unit in the world. Capable men and women lead this nation's elite daily, while numerous other nations pursue those powerful positions throughout their careers, but never seem strong enough to rise to the top.

Nevertheless, Mahogany Clarke, a senior social work major who was born in Germany, has been appointed to the most powerful position for a cadet in Prairie View A&M University's Army ROTC - Battalion Commander. Clarke was chosen to be battalion commander over other qualified cadets, because of her GPA and her performance at the Army ROTC's Leadership Development Assessment Course (LDAC). Her ROTC GPA is an outstanding 4.0 and her academic GPA follows at an

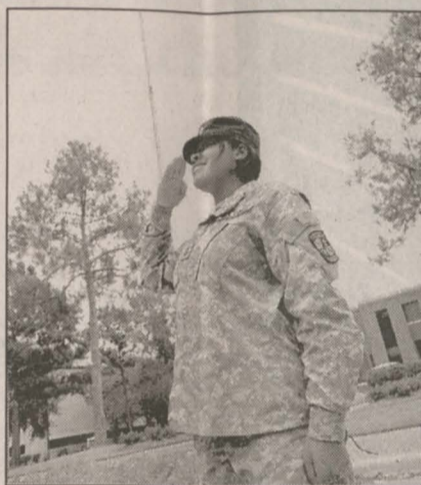
honorable 3.6. LDAC, a course that evaluates and distinguishes potential officers, proved that Clarke deserved to be battalion commander and now she oversees everything that goes on within the Army ROTC.

"I was like 'why me?'," said Clarke, "I was very shocked and appalled. This is only the start of my second year in the ROTC program and other people had way more experience than me." Now controlling all the operations and training of the program, Clarke wants to have all the cadets in a position to take her place. "I want them to be able to do my job after I'm gone," said Clarke. "That's my goal while I'm here."

Clarke also has aspirations after her time here at PVAMU. "I want to be an officer in the army," said Clarke. "I want to lead, motivate, and guide people to strive for excellence. I've always been like that, because I'm the mentor type and that's what officers do." Furthermore, Clarke, who is also a member of the United States National Guard, is excited about combining her role in the military and her collegiate degree to service those men and wom-

en who put their life on the line for this country. "I'm a social work major and I want to work with the soldiers who are coming back from the war," said Clarke. "I want to help them deal with their problems like post-traumatic stress syndrome."

However, the only syndrome that seems to be contagious on this campus right now is success. Stay tuned for more student spotlights.



By Ronald Smith, The Panther

Attention: Cadet Clarke poses.

# Anger

## The feast of self

By **Ronald Briggs**  
Panther Contributor

"Of the Seven Deadly Sins, anger is possibly the most fun. To lick your wounds, to smack your lips over grievances long past, to roll over your tongue the prospect of bitter confrontations still to come, to savor to the last toothsome morsel both the pain you are given and the pain you are giving back--in many ways it is a feast fit for a king. The chief drawback is that what you are wolfing down is yourself. The skeleton at the feast is YOU." --Frederick Buechner

Anger is a normal human emotion. Anger is often misunderstood as a primarily negative emotion that results in aggressive or unhealthy behavior. However, anger can be positive in many ways. Anger can be natural, protective, motivating, self-preserving, and energizing.

Anger becomes unhealthy when it interferes with

your daily life and/or relationships. Anger is a basic human emotion. Our expression of emotions is influenced by many factors. These include our family, ethnicity, culture, religious beliefs, gender, social status, and social expectation. It is through our experiences and relationships that we understand the role of anger in our lives.

Exploring your anger can be difficult, because it sometimes masks other more vulnerable emotions, such as hurt, rejection, or sadness. It is important to recognize the connections between your anger and other issues, such as trauma, substance use, aggression, grief, assault, rape, depression, eating disorders, thoughts of suicide, or anxiety. Counseling can help you uncover these deeper emotions and begin to understand how your anger can serve as a signal for unmet needs.

You CAN learn to manage your anger in healthy ways! If you think you may have a problem with anger, make an appointment with the Student Counseling Service (936/261-1400). Our trained counselors will assess your concerns and make recommendations regarding how to best meet your needs.

## Life Etiquette

### "R-E-S-P-E-C-T"

By **TeneInger Abrom-Johnson**  
Panther Contributor

Hats show style, hats show class, hats also show disrespect.

Once upon a time men would take their hats off when approaching young ladies, or when they walked into buildings. Now, men walk into buildings (i.e. churches, restaurants, classrooms) with heads adorned. I ask myself at times is it because they are rebellious and perverse; I come back with a resounding no. I believe young men were not taught to reveal their heads as this may refer to giving in or being submissive in some way, instead of looking at it as being honorable. We tend to stick anything that leaves us vulnerable as having a negative connotation.

Here on campus we have men who wear hats in the building. I again assume when I see this that they just do not know it is disrespectful. I always want to share in a respectful manner, so that others are not embarrassed by someone asking them do something that should be so natural. I often find myself saying, "more is caught than taught." As adults, we need to model early what is to be the norm later in life.

I do understand that women wear hats inside as a fashion

statement. This tends to be the proverbial straw that broke the camel's back with men. Women wear hats in the building, so why can't men? Women also wear dresses but that is never an issue. Wearing hats can also be a fashion statement for men, just not inside. Hats were made to wear as a protection for the head, now men are seen with hats worn both over inside and outside. Below are acceptable places for men to wear hats.

- Ball games (if it is a basketball game that is usually held inside. Recognize that it is a building and take your hat off as you cross the threshold and place it back on your head later)

- Anytime you are outside. A hat should never be on your head while you are dining or giving reverence. That not only shows that you are not aware of your surroundings it is disrespectful to the person in your company.



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# PERRY STRIKES AGAIN

## I can do bad all by myself hits theaters



Courtesy of Google

By Aurielle Granger  
Panther Staff

April, Taraji P. Henson, needs to find the selfless side of her heart and quick before she loses everything that may save her from living a miserable lonely life alone.

Jennifer, Hope Wilson, along with her two brothers Manny, Kwesi Boake, and Byron, Fredrick Siglar, break into Madea's house and stumble upon a rude awakening. Madea is not the one to mess with in the neighborhood. Ironically, instead of calling the police or taking some typical silly action, she takes the in children to help them and dis-

cover the truth that lies among these lingering kids.

These children have no one to turn to for help except their Aunt April. The question is will April help them? After only a few minutes in the house, Jennifer's attitude gets her kicked out, but all that matters to her is the safety of her brothers. With Byron's diabetes, he needs his insulin shot but Jennifer being a 16-year-old child with no assistance, no job, a deceased mother, and a missing grandmother, stealing needles seems like the only option. Maybe getting into trouble can have its perks after approaching the neighborhood church with the perfect solution to solving three situations all in one.

Will April be able to put her selfish ways aside to help the ones who should be most important

to her, family or will she get a little assistance? Immigrant, Sandino, Adam Rodriguez, is looking for a handyman job at the church, can fix up April's worn out apartment for a trade of a place to stay, the children can get off the streets, and April can finally help someone in need.

Everyone knows misery loves company, but April feels that being alone is the best way to handle her life. What about when the alcohol can no longer save you? When sleeping the day away is no longer an option, or your eyes open to see your married boyfriend is not the person you longed for him to be?

After receiving tragic and life changing news from the pastor, April learns she is the only person who can help these children. She must learn to think beyond herself, or foster care may be the only option left for Jennifer and her brothers. Before April can willingly help others, she must first find out that she needs to help herself by learning to love the right way. Maybe helping others can be the salvation she needs to get on the right path. [She can also learn to love through Sandino's genuine kindness for others or will it take her married boyfriend, Randy, Brian White, to shine the light on what really matters the most when you have nothing left.]

No one really wants to be alone in life, at least no one who is looking for happiness. How many people can say they are happy and doing great alone, without family or friends? Surely, many can say that they "Can Do Bad All by Themselves". That usually does not require too much assistance.

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GREAT MINDS DON'T THINK ALIKE



# VMAs

## The good, the bad, and Mr. West

By Ryan Harris  
Panther Staff

Is it possible that the VMAs, aired Sept 13, may have been the best broadcast award special of the decade? The annual award show, hosted by Russell Brand, hit new heights in ratings due to the usual shocks and surprises that occur, but no one was prepared for this year. Well, an easy target would be yet another infamous example of Kanye West's ability to turn an audience against him in less than 10 seconds. The presentation of the first award of the night, Best Female Video, put new comers against veterans with nominees being Beyonce, P!nk, Taylor Swift, Katy Perry, Kelly Clarkson, and Lady Gaga. Many felt that Beyonce would be a clear winner, but fate saw fit to give the MTV 'moon-man' to country sweetheart and new comer Swift. The 19-year-old made her way to accept her first award and in the beginning of her acceptance speech West felt it necessary to intervene and voice his opinion on an 'injustice.'

He then went on to state, "Taylor, I'm really happy for you, and I'm gonna let you finish, but Beyonce had one of the best videos of all time!" Kanye shrugs his shoulders and hands the microphone back to a stunned and dazed Taylor. The crowd instantly begins to boo, as even Beyonce is shocked by such a stunt. The backlash did not cease as the utter use of Kanye's name created an uproar of disapproval.

Oh yeah...with all the 'Kanye Khaos' who could forget the rest of the night's memorable events, including a spectacular tribute to the King of Pop. The pinnacle of the act came from none other than Michael's younger sister, Janet Jackson. From the well choreographed dance tributes to his hits such as Thriller, Bad,

and Smooth Criminal to the exciting adrenaline driven performance of his and Janet's 'Scream,' the King would be proud.

Now if Madonna is considered the 'Material Girl' then Lady Gaga is definitely the 'Surreal Girl.' From her numerous wardrobe changes, which included her black feathered corset/neck brace, to her red laced crowned body cover that seemed more suitably worn by one of M.J.'s kids. Yet it was her Phantom of the Opera-esque themed performance of her hits Poker Face and Paparazzi that left the world in awe, during which blood began to slide down her chest metaphorically symbolizing the dangers of paparazzi in a very gruesome way. She ended the routine by 'hanging' herself, yet she was very much alive when she took her first 'moon-man' for Best New Artist.

The star studded music fueled event continued when Beyonce commanded every woman and thirty backup dancers with a larger than life rendition of her massive hit 'Single Ladies (Put a Ring on It). Once again proving her right to own the title of 'Queen B' and the 'moon-man' for Video of the Year. Beyonce also righted a wrong by allowing Taylor Swift to re-do her interrupted acceptance speech, having known the joy of winning her first 'moon-man' at age 17 while in Destiny's Child.

How do you end a show with such energy that even an adrenaline junkie would O.D?

You bring in the 'Mr. New York' himself, Jay Z. The crowd stood as Beyonce's hubby and songstress Alicia Keys soared with the single 'Empire State of Mind' from his much anticipated album The Blueprint 3. And as a treat, the public was granted a first look at the megahyped film, Michael Jackson's: This Is It.

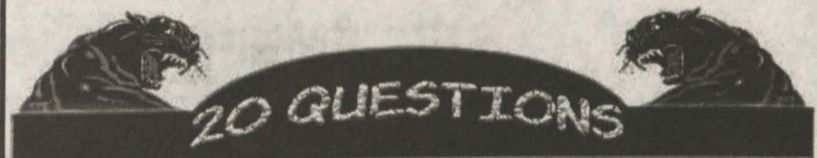
MTV may not have expected certain occurrences that night, but the product was good TV and their best award ratings since 2004.



Courtesy of MTV

### Video Music Awards or Very Mean Attitudes:

Kanye West, Lady Gaga, and Alicia Keys participated in a very entertaining event.



1. When are freshmen going to learn that wearing pajamas outside your room is not cool?
2. Does the large participation in the SGA interest meeting mean it will be the same for MIP?
3. Who went home and told their mom that they were joining Sigma Gamma Alpha?
4. Who's already giving out "favors" to be in SGA?
5. Aren't we glad the fountain is finally working?
6. Since it is up and running will there be a fountain repair fee on your fee receipt?
7. Who was the girl who walked to the CAB table at open house and asked if they haze?
8. Speaking of CAB, when did getting in become so exclusive?
9. Were the résumés really that necessary to "watch people work"?
10. Who was the girl who felt it was necessary to call and charge up the CAB director because she almost didn't make it?
11. Did CAB try to compete with the Kappas by having a relationship seminar?
12. Who was the guy shaking it by Delco in front of his homeboys?
13. Is buying books getting that crucial?
14. Why doesn't the Delco stripper lend money to the guy who was giving out lap dances at the talent show?
15. So is Las Fuentes the new spot to have a good time and unwind and see a live fight?
16. How do all 50 Deltas come back for a Omega party, but can't bring in a new line?
17. Who was the guy who was serenading the cheerleader in the MSC?
18. What village CA is doing room checks but never leaves?
19. Who is the basketball player who created a fan site for his PV fans?
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](mailto:panther@pvamu.edu). Questions are printed at the discretion of The Panther.



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