

Prairie View A&M University

Digital Commons @PVAMU

PV Panther Newspapers

Publications

2-5-2015

Panther- February 2015 - Vol. XCV, NO.1

Prairie View A&M University

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.pvamu.edu/pv-panther-newspapers>

Recommended Citation

Prairie View A&M University. (2015). Panther- February 2015 - Vol. XCV, NO.1., *Vol. XCV, NO.1* Retrieved from <https://digitalcommons.pvamu.edu/pv-panther-newspapers/788>

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Publications at Digital Commons @PVAMU. It has been accepted for inclusion in PV Panther Newspapers by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @PVAMU. For more information, please contact hvkoshy@pvamu.edu.

The Panther

Volume 95, Issue 1

Thursday, February 5, 2015

news2pvu@yahoo.com

Details emerge on Brookside shooting



Jazzi Black, The Panther

The scene was relatively quiet three hours after the shooting. Waller County investigators surveyed the area to obtain additional information.

By Joshua Bennett
Editor-In-Chief

At approximately 1:20 p.m. on Tuesday, Prairie View Police Department received a call of a shooting at the Brookside Apartments, located off-campus at 23369 Richards Road.

The victims of the shooting were former students Tale Brisker and Devante Miller.

City of Prairie View Police says that upon arrival officers found the victims suffering from gunshot wounds. Brisker was determined to be deceased at the scene. Miller was transported to a Houston area hospital for

treatment, suffering from gunshot wounds to the jaw.

Upon investigation the identity of the suspect was obtained. Officers followed leads provided by witnesses and were able to identify a possible vehicle in which the suspect was last seen. The Department of Public Safety Crime Scene unit was requested and responded to

process and collect evidence from the crime scene.

Campus police say around 7 p.m. suspect Leroy Mitchell turned himself in to law enforcement and cooperated fully with authorities. He was arrested in connection with the homicide and charged with murder.

Shooting Page 2

University begins construction on new stadium



Denzel Speights, The Panther

Athletes, Texas A&M regents, university administrators, and students dig in the to signify the start of the new stadium's construction.

By Denzel Speights
Sports Editor

Friday was a historic day for Prairie View as the university marked the embarkment of the ground breaking for the new stadium.

"It's the culmination of more than a decade of working to raise the funds and to get the approval to have this program, that we just now have, to move forward," said President George C. Wright.

Some of the notables who spoke and attended the groundbreaking were Chancellor of The Texas A&M System Mr. John Sharp,

Member of the Texas A&M University System Board of Regents Mr. Charles W. Schwartz, Mr. John D White, Mr. Bill Jones, Mr. Ashley Robinson, Texas Representative Cecil Bell Jr., President Wright, Athletic Director Ashley Robinson, Head Football Coach Willie Simmons, Chairmen and President of Prairie View A&M Foundation Roy G. Perry, President of Prairie View A&M National Alumni Association Carl Young, and SGA President Sidney LeBeauf.

The Stadium/Athletic Complex will have the capacity to seat 30,000 with the west side having at least 9,000 seats and 6,000 on the eastside of the field. It will also provide

a press box along with premium seating and standard artificial turf suitable for playing. In addition, the Athletic Field house will have a strength and conditioning domain, meeting rooms, and academic support area for athletes, new locker rooms, and a sports medicine facility.

"We are looking at the vision of the future," said Representative Bell. "Prairie View is a gem but it's not hidden anymore," referencing to an earlier quote about the university being a hidden gem.

Groundbreaking Page 4

Student show provides possibilities

By LaShanda Francis
Panther Staff

Senior marketing major Ramon Williams plans to create a platform for PV students to showcase their creativity and talents.

With KPVM as inspiration, Williams came up with the idea for College on the Hill, a spoof reality web-series that focuses on the everyday lives of eight PVAMU students. "One of the things I felt like the student body needed to see was the depiction of HBCU students and how they react to certain things. And this show has a message. That's something we haven't necessarily seen before."

The show is also a "dramedy" that deals with different topics like sexuality, peer pressure, and relationships. The characters are multidimensional and relatable. "The most relatable character, I think, is Roger. He's a calm, cool, and collected guy trying to win the girl of his dreams," said senior communication major Sebastian Phoenix, who plays Roger.

The road to producing College on The Hill hasn't been easy. "Reserving different spots and venues can be a challenge. Then there's technical issues, learning about different systems and working with different cameras," said senior Amaan Clark, who serves as head cinematographer and associate director.

A typical workday can be exhausting. A single scene can take up to five hours to shoot. One episode takes about two weeks to write. Despite these hardships, College on The Hill is in the process of writing, filming, and editing multiple episodes.

Show Page 2

INSIDE



The Empire don't stop...

Page 3



Pastor Bridget Hilliard speaks on the five keys to winning

Page 2



CAB hosts Super Bowl Party

Page 4

Pastor Bridget Hilliard speaks on the five keys to winning in life



By Jewel Stovall, The Panther

By Raven Moody
Panther News Editor

Students, faculty, and staff were welcomed back to Prairie View for the spring semester during the general assembly on Thursday, Jan. 29.

The assembly, featuring Pastor Bridget E. Hilliard of Houston, Texas, kicked off not only Black History Month, but the President's lecture series. Hilliard and her husband Ira Van Hilliard are the co-founders of New Light Christian Center Church, which has six locations throughout Texas.

Hilliard's lecture for the general assembly was driven by her life mantra to always win. "Winning in life is the choice to accept Jesus Christ as the son of God and then to conquer the world's ways by using your faith," said Hilliard. "Success and winning in life for you is actu-

ally God's idea but you must realize that God is not going to automatically drop success and winning in your life, if not you'll be sitting around waiting on God, when God is waiting on you."

Junior human performance major Alanna Mumphrey got a basic understanding of Hilliard's speech. "What I got out of today's assembly was that success is key in winning at life. To be successful you have to have God first."

Hilliard said winning key number one is ability. God has given us certain talents, abilities, and gifts. Once those gifts, talents, and abilities are developed and properly placed it will cause you to win in life and achieve success. The world is so diversified that God will allow each person's gifts and talents to be used to get success in life.

(Proverbs 18:16, Deuteronomy 8:18)

Winning key number two is adversity, the pastor said. Adversity is the opposition you will face as you pursue your goals in life. "Adversity is common to everyone so you cannot escape it." Hilliard noted that adversity or resistance is the principal by which all muscle building equipment functions. Adversity comes in directions. We can allow the adversity to define us, destroy us, or we can allow the adversity to develop us. (John 16:33)

Winning key number three is attitude. Your attitude is your emotional response to the adversity you encounter as you pursue your dreams, goals, and use your ability. Your character is the visible reflection of your character. Your attitude will determine your altitude. We must decide to use our emotions to trigger the proper biblical response to the situations we encounter and immediately check

your attitude. (Ephesians 4:31-32)

Winning key number four is associations. You must decide to evaluate your relationships and determine if they are assets or liabilities. "You cannot fly with Eagles and run around with turkeys," said Hilliard. We must all watch our associations because your environment will change you before you will change it. (Proverbs 27:17, Hebrews 6:12)

Winning key number five is acclamations: What you are saying out of your mouth will determine your destiny. You must begin to say what God says about you. Biblically this is called a faith confession. It is a statement we chose to

make in agreement with the word of God regardless of our circumstances. (Proverbs 18:21)

Hilliard says her book and this lecture came from her attitude in life that she could always win in every situation, as well as her desire to see everyone else win.

Hilliard wants all young people to know that "no matter what you face in life you can come out victorious if you put it in God's hands." For more information about Pastor Hilliard and the New Light Christian Center Church locations please visit www.newlight.org

PV advances to Honda nationals



By Justin Sinegal, The Panther

By Kiara Rabb
Panther Contributor

The PVAMU quiz bowl team is advancing to the 2015 National Championship Tournament after placing 2nd overall in the National Qualifying Tournament held in the MSC ballroom Saturday, Jan. 31.

The team beat Hutson-Tillotson University in the semifinals with the score 565-370. However, they fell short against Grambling State in the championship round with the final score being 565-480.

Team captain Joseph Dowell was pleased about the team's effort during the tournament. "We did really well, however, we just need to increase our knowledge base," said Dowell. "If we can improve our knowledge overall then we should

be good."

Head coach Herbert Thomas is thrilled to head back to nationals. "Just to see Prairie View students competing and seeing how good we are lets the students know that they are getting a fantastic education," said Thomas.

Team member Brannon Billings enjoyed the competitiveness of the sport. "I like to see where I stack up against other like-minded people at other campuses," said Billings.

Dowell also believed that there should be an equal amount of supporters. "I know it may not have the action that you would usually find in a sport, however, I think it's important that we cherish and promote the intellectual portions of our campus as well as our athletics."

The Honda Campus All-Star Challenge gives the opportunity

for historically black colleges and universities to compete against each other academically and win scholarship funds worth up to \$50,000.

Tom Kaniham, the HCASC event coordinator, said that Thomas was very keen to having Prairie View host the competition every year after the team won the national title in 2010. "The school has excellent facilities, excellent food, and is near a major airport," said Kaniham. "The central location of Texas and the ability to host an event like this has made Prairie View an excellent opportunity for us."

The quiz bowl team will travel to Torrance, California, on March 21-25, 2015.

Shooting

Chief of Campus Police Zena Stephens says her department had previous dealings with the suspect and victims before in apartment building 16. Stephens says officers raided the house last semester and uncovered large amounts of codeine, marijuana, and cash.

Stephens says the house where the students stayed was a well-known drug house although they were not leaseholders.

Prairie View Police Chief Larry Johnson says that issues like this are a result of some private owners of houses at Brookside not having an appropriate way of screening tenants.

"I want them to take action to make better decisions on who they allow to stay on their property," Johnson said.

Johnson said Tuesday's

shooting started off as a minor dispute that turned deadly fast.

Stephens says she also believes this is not a reflection of Prairie View students as a whole but a reflection of improper management at the apartments.

"You are always going to have a part of the population that is bad no matter where you go. That doesn't mean Prairie View students are bad just because of a few issues with former students," Stephens said.

Junior mass communications major and Brookside resident Ariel Thomas says she heard the gunshots coming from the apartment in the afternoon.

The case is still under the investigation of the Prairie View Police Department and the Texas Rangers.

"You are always going to have a part of the population that is bad no matter where you go. That doesn't mean Prairie View students are bad just because of a few issues with former students," Stephens said.

Show

Michael West, the campus audio and video specialist, is already a fan of the show. "I'm really excited about this project. I think this is a really good opportunity for students to express themselves, and shed some light on life here at Prairie View. To see the amount of participation and enthusiasm from the students involved makes me proud."

"There's no limit to where this show could go. We have a lot of talent. Even after all of us graduate, I see the show still going on. This will be our legacy," said Williams. Be on the lookout for College on the Hill takeover week and the premiere, coming soon.

Inappropriate dress gives students negative image



Courtesy of www.orecity.k12.or.us

By Chadae Sauls
Panther Staff

As humans one of our natural instincts is to express ourselves through clothing and although self-expression is healthy, sometimes it may be perceived in a negative way.

Here at Prairie View it seems like the demand to dress for success is more in effect than at a predominantly white institutions, but to some students that may not be the case.

D'India Clay, a sophomore majoring in health, had a lot to say on how she feels about her peers' attire.

"Being that I attend a HBCU I have always felt like the environment within Prairie View has a greater demand on dressing for success. When I start my career I will not be able to dress any kind of way, I have to dress for the field I am going into."

Clay noticed some of her classmates coming to class dressed

inappropriately and she finds this disrespectful toward the teachers.

"It's a fashion show here, take me for example, I'm going to get up and go to class, but I'm not going to look like Rip the Runway. It depends on their mindset. The way you dress is a reflection of you."

Freddie Cohen, a senior majoring in agriculture, has attended a PWI as well as Prairie View and said he feels that being at a HBCU, the way you dress is in higher demand than at a PWI.

"Here at Prairie View you have to present yourself as if you're going to an interview even though you're going to class," Cohen said.

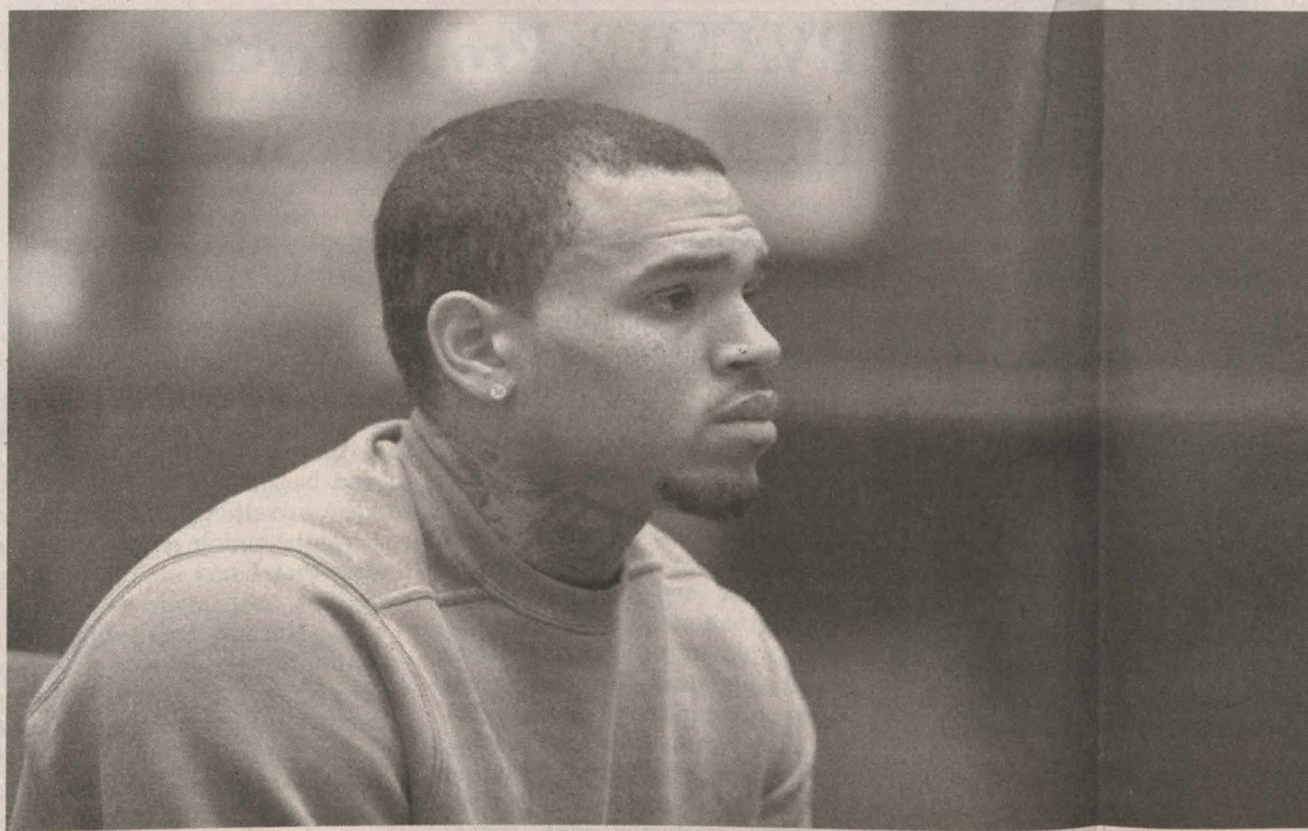
Cohen added, "Students who pay less attention in class are the ones focusing more on how they look and who will see them that day. Students that dress

comfortable or professional are the ones who seem to be more attentive in class."

Clay said, "Each individual has their own perception on how they want to look, but I do not always approve of it. Sometimes people tend to go overboard, but that goes back to what they were taught at home or the environment they may have grown up in."

Clay closed her thoughts on dressing for success saying, "People are going to dress how they want to regardless, and whether it's appropriate or not there will always be someone who has something negative to say in the background."

Chris Brown's tour delayed due to probation



Courtesy of nola.com

Brown has been on probation since 2009 and was responsible for 1,000 community service hours.

By India Foster
Lifestyle Editor

On Monday Jan. 26, Chris Brown notified all of his fans that the "Between the Sheets" tour with Trey Songz and Tyga, scheduled to begin Jan. 27 would be delayed by a couple of weeks.

The night before the concert was expected to hit the road Brown released a post on Instagram saying, "I would first like to apologize to all the fans and people who have been supporters of me and all the music over the years. The beginning of the BTS [Between the Sheets] tour has been moved to later dates now. The judge would not sign off on my travel to do the tour until I finish these last 100 hours of community service. I promise that I am busting my [butt] doing it everyday until it's complete. This is the most disappointing news I've gotten in a while. Everything happens for a reason so I wanted to personally inform my fans. The show must go on. Out of 1,000 hours I only have 100 left. I will work my [butt] off to complete it and I will be on that stage. Once again I'm sorry for the delay. I love yall! We will let you know the dates that are changed. It's

not cancelled. Just moved around a couple weeks."

Brown has been on probation since he assaulted Rihanna in 2009 and was responsible for 1,000 community service hours. The probation doesn't allow him to leave Los Angeles County without having court permission, which has been done but has gotten revoked.

Most of the fans and hopeful participants of the tour were very disappointed that they found out through social media, weren't informed through a valid source, and were notified so late.

"When I first heard about the tour being delayed the first thing that I was concerned about was my money, I honestly wanted my money back," said sophomore nursing major Melissa Adams. "I want to know when it will be rescheduled and why did we have to hear about this being rescheduled on Twitter or Instagram and not through someone official like Ticketmaster, Live Nation, or even Chris Brown's management."

Fans used social media as their outlet to reach Brown, Songz, and Tyga for answers since this was an abrupt action only days before shows. Some feel as though the performers just dropped the shows with no in-depth details of when the shows would continue which has left #TeamBreezy, #TreyAngels, and Tyga fans furious.

"I just feel like in return we should get more for having to wait like more performers," said freshman education major Brooke Grady. "I know some people are traveling all over just to see their concert and I know all the arrangements people have made is now a hassle which Chris Brown should have thought about while he wasn't handling his community service."

According to the Toyota Center in Houston, where the tour is scheduled to be held, the facility has not been contacted that there is a delay on the tour date.

Mellow Mondays relocates to Wingaritas

By KeTara Wells
Panther Contributor

General Manager of PVUKno Radio Paige James and her hardworking team of radio personalities have set a unique tradition titled "Mellow Mondays" at Prairie View A&M University.

The vision that James gained from the station was to bring quality music and talk shows to the student body. "I want them to be able to wake up in the morning to us and go to bed to us," she says. In addition, James and the station were inspired to start Mellow Mondays, an open mic poetry night helping upcoming artists, rappers, and singers.

After setting the foundation with popular talks like Campus Love, a radio broadcast that allows the student body to speak on the different sides of relationships, James and her business partner Quentin Dean originated Mellow Mondays in hopes to open their own poetry club in the future. James says, "I do believe that Mellow Mondays will turn into a Prairie View tradition to start the week. I

only do it every other Monday, so that our crowd won't get tired of this event, but I see it as something that can go every week in the near future."

Since the start of the spring semester, Mellow Mondays has been moved to the new location, "Wingaritas," which is closer to campus on University Drive. Last semester, the event was featured at Las Fuentes in Hempstead, Texas.

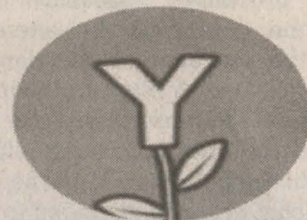
"I saw Wingaritas as a wonderful opportunity to give the students something different on campus and free of charge. I see potential in Wingaritas, because its location alone brings more people out, not to mention they are very affordable," says James.

The student station has definitely gained more attention, especially on Mondays to start their week off. They hope to leave a huge impression for the student body this semester with many events they plan to cover.

Trending Topics @ #PVNation

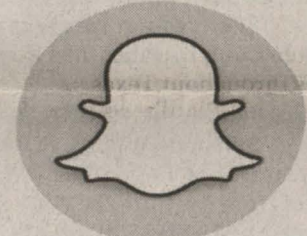
#YardingApp

The yarding is an upcoming social media app that is used to share the HBCU experience among different yards. The app is a mixture of Twitter and Instagram.



#NewSnapchat

The newest Snapchat update has a discover page that allows one to watch stories from different editorial pages like Cosmopolitan, People, CNN, ESPN, and The Food Network that refresh every 24 hours.



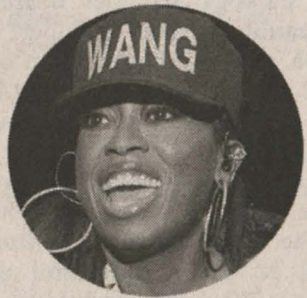
#BobbiKristina

On January 31, Bobbi Kristina, daughter of Whitney Houston and Bobby Brown was found face-down unconscious in her bathtub. On Monday Bobbi Kristina was pronounced fighting for her life in a coma following the same path as her mother.



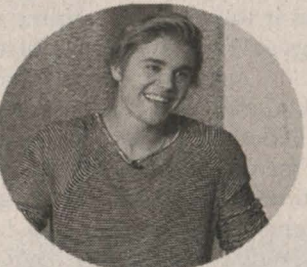
#MissySuperbowl

Missy Elliot made an epic return at the Superbowl Sunday halftime show with Katy Perry performing the classics, "Get Ur Freak On," "Lose Control," and "Work It." According to Billboard.com it is expected that Elliot's record sales are to go up 1,000%.



#JBCoverUp

Justin Bieber released a video after his appearance on Ellen saying his past behavior of being arrogant and rude isn't really who he is. Bieber says it's been a cover up and he's worried about what people think about him.



#NickiMill

Nicki Minaj was heartbroken over her long term relationship with Safaree Samuels but she's now been seen with rapper Meek Mill. There have been multiple posts on both of their pages that implies they are now dating.



#NoPerfectLoveStory

It was rumored that Beyonce and Jay-Z got into a very heated argument over sushi in Los Angeles over Jay paying more attention to his phone rather than Bey. Lately there have been rumors of the Carters getting a divorce.



Groundbreaking Continued from page 1....

Panthers fall to Alabama State

By Denzel Speights
Sports Editor



By Denzel Speight, The Panther

York knocks down three to tie the game at 71.

The Panthers were victims to Alabama State's buzzer beater Monday night at the baby dome with the score of 71-73.

In the final seconds in the second half down by three with less than 7 seconds Karim York hit a 3 beyond the ark to tie the game 71 all.

"He works on it [his shot] at practice all the time. He shoots threes all the time. He's a good shooter," said 31 senior guard Montreal Scott. "Coach drew a play for him to shoot the ball, we believe in him, so he just knocked it down."

However, with everyone in the Babydome expecting overtime, Alabama State did the unbearable in determining the outcome of the contest.

"Jamel Waters inbounded the pass to Robinson just to the side of the free throw line, and Robinson caught the ball and got off the winning shot in one fluid motion to give the Hornets (12-6) their eighth win in nine Southwestern Athletic Conference games," Sports information.

Scott led the Panthers with team high 18 points. Tre Hagood scored an additional 17 points while York finished the night with 12 points.

"We fought hard, that's the best team in the conference and I really feel that we were the better, but we got to play for 40 minutes, we

can't play for 39 minutes and 30 seconds," said head coach Brimm.

Throughout the first half of play, the Panthers managed to hold the lead for majority of the game, but turnovers and missed shot opportunities kept ASU on their heels and eventually taking a minor lead at the end of the half 37-36.

ASU continued to hold the lead for the early parts of the second half, but the Panthers rallied a 10-2 resurgence, with about 4:13 left in regulation, giving them the lead with the score 65-64.

"It's really just the will to win," says Scott. "Even though we came up short at the end, we still gave a hell of an effort tonight."

With less than two minutes to go in regulation, the Panthers had the opportunity to take the lead, but missed free throws and a late foul put the Panthers in the hole leading up to York's three-pointer to tie the game.

This Saturday the Panthers head to Texas Southern to avenge the loss earlier this season.

"It's a dog fight... They came and stole it at our crib, we got to go and take it at there crib. When we play TSU its not no friendly stuff, its business," stated Scott.

The time the two teams are schedule to play is 7:30 p.m.



By Denzel Speights, The Panther

Participants at the groundbreaking for Blackshear field mark a new chapter in Panther football.

The construction of the university's \$60 million project was in major part by the Texas A&M Board of Regents with the contribution of the Prairie View A&M Foundation, Prairie View's National Alumni Association, and the numerous partners of the university.

"Our responsibility is to raise the public funds for the stadium project," said Perry, "Our long-term goal for the trustees and I is to raise \$35 million and to take the burden away from the students," Perry concluded.

During the ceremony the speakers spoke about the importance and the involvement that the stadium will provide to the university, the students, the surrounding community, and the state of Texas.

"Any institution that has a good athletic program and student affairs department will be able to attract students and will be able to help the enrollment of the institution," said athletic director Ashley Robinson.

"This stadium is more than athletics. This stadium is about the beacon, it's about making it known to the state of Texas that Prairie View is here," says Perry. In addition, the university hopes to use the new field not only as an attraction to recruit student athletes but to show the culmination and sacrifice students have had during the development of the stadium.

"The one thing students look at is the stadium, especially athletes," stated #21 senior RB Courtney Brown. "It's going to help recruit students because, like they said earlier in the ceremony, sports is the key to recruiting students and student athletes."

"It just brings the whole university's morale up. It brings students' spirit up, you have something to cheer about, you have something to be cheery about, and athletes are looking forward to things; the expectedness of support, the willingness to support them. It just goes a long way for the university in hav-

ing this stadium," said LeBeauf.

The stadium is expected to be completed in time for the 2016 season. In the meantime the Panthers' home games will be played in Waller ISD stadium at Waller HS. To learn more info about t Blackshear stadium/complex you can go to <http://www.panther-stadium.com/>



CAB hosts Super Bowl watch party for students

By Daijonna Hall
Panther Contributor

In celebration of Super Bowl XLIX, Prairie View's very own Campus Activities Board Organization put on a Super Bowl watch party in the ballroom of the MSC for the students of PVAMU.

There were roughly 400 students who attended this event and according to sophomore Josh Maddox, chairperson of the productions committee of CAB, it was a successful event.

"It (the ballroom) was pretty full in the first half of the game, most people were really into it but it wasn't until halftime when things got really wild," said Maddox.

According to Maddox, Orok Orok, assistant director in the Office of Student Engagement was the master of ceremony during halftime and played music giving students a chance to enjoy before the featured performer came on.

"They (the students) were pushing chairs out of the way to

dance and even after halftime Orok kept the music playing and some people forgot that the game was even on," said Maddox.

The Super Bowl halftime performer was none other than singer Katy Perry who gave an amazing performance and literally shocked fans as she rode around the stadium on a makeshift firework while singing her Grammy nominated hit, "Firework." Perry continued to shock and excite the crowd when she brought out rapper/singer Missy Elliot to perform a couple of her old hits. However, it was not until the second half of the game that the intensity level of the students really increased.

Most of the students in the watch party were Seahawks fans according to Maddox, and when Jermaine Kearse, wide receiver for the Seattle Seahawks caught what most thought would be the game winning pass, the crowd went crazy with excitement. It wasn't until Malcom Butler, cornerback for the New England Patriots caught the game winning interception and

sent Seahawks fans into an uproar.

"Everybody was just in shock, we couldn't believe what happened," said Maddox. He even said that some students were claiming that the NFL was rigged after Butler's catch.

It's safe to say that Super Bowl XLIX was the game to top all Bowl games this year and was a lot more entertaining than most Super Bowl games have been in the past.

Although the New England Patriots took the win, both teams played extremely well and had great plays that will go down in football history.

PVAMU's Productive People: Head Coach Willie Simmons

By Dee Kyles
Copy Editor

Willie Simmons, former offensive coordinator, is now the 32nd head football coach in Prairie View A&M history as of Dec. 15, 2014.

Simmons comes from Alcorn State where just last season, as offensive coordinator, he assisted the team in scoring an average of 44 points per game, won SWAC and the SBN Black College national championships. Before his career as a coach, Simmons graduated from Clemson, with a degree in sports marketing in just three years while also playing quarterback. The following year he lettered one season at The Citadel. Simmons graduated high school with a 3.8 grade point average, 6,000 yards, and 96 touchdowns as the quarterback for the prep school, Shanks High School in Florida.

As the new head coach at Prairie View he will bring his hard working and determined attitude to the football team to set a new tone to spark a turn around. "Hard work and being the hardest working men on campus both on and off the field, you're able to create good habits. That will be the turn around." Prairie View football may lack a few things but Simmons is for sure that talent is not one of them. "We lack consistency and persistency, and doing the right thing all the time, not just for a few reps or when someone is watching. The

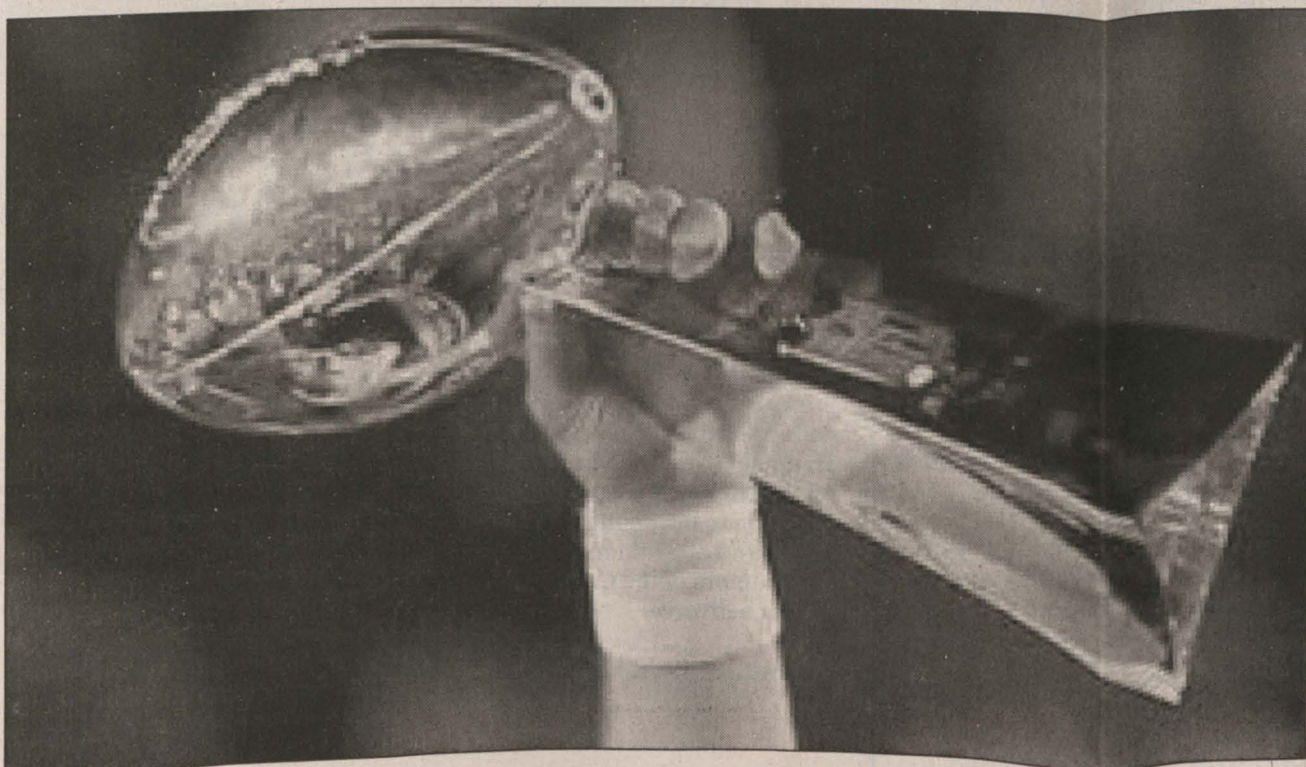
talent is there, but talent alone won't get it, we must apply the talent."

Although successful, Coach Simmons did not know he would be a coach at first. "I actually didn't want to coach. I graduated in 2003, and have a degree in sports marketing, so coaching wasn't a priority. I moved back home to Florida and to keep myself active, I decided to coach at the middle school. I saw the impact that I had on those young guys and that made my mind."

Not only does he inspire his team but the players that make the team inspire him as well. Speaking of a previous player Simmons says, "It's the players that make you love it. It's more than about winning. There is no telling where some guys would be without school or football, I'm also here to save lives."

Being a successful student, coach, and athlete, it is safe to say that Simmons knows what it takes to succeed through different obstacles. He says to the students of Prairie View, "Learn to compete, always thrive through adversity and fight for something. Opposition comes in many forms whether out on the field or in the classroom. You just have to use the natural fight we were born with."

A turn around for this coming season is most definitely attainable. "It's going to be a good season, but we must be the hardest working men to do it."



Brennan Speaks: How the FHA shaped Ferguson

By Brennan Wells
Panther Staff

I would dare to say that Ferguson would not be where it is today if not for the Federal Housing Authority. Many know the old adage, that those who do not learn from their history are doomed to repeat it. Sadly, this truism is playing itself out on the streets of Ferguson today, so much so that the President Barack Obama had to take to national news to stem the tide of violence.

One only has to look back over to the housing policies of the Federal Housing Authority in 20th century to grasp a full understanding of the pernicious issues at hand.

In 1974 a three judge panel of the Federal Eight Circuit Court of Appeals concluded that segregated housing in St. Louis was systematically and deliberately the product of racial discrimination. After such a court decision the Department of Justice came to the same conclusion after reviewing the issues of the case but took no action. What housing policies were put in practice to draw so much attention to St. Louis itself? Redlining, housing covenants and blockbusting are some of the tactics,

tactics endorsed by the Federal Housing Authority, that were used to separate White America from Black America and brought about federal investigation upon St. Louis.

In 1947 the Federal Housing Authority did away with literal racial discriminatory verbiage to deny African-Americans integrated housing, deciding instead on "compatibility among neighborhood occupants" to determine who lived where. You may ask why did the Federal Housing Authority wielded so much power when determining who lived where? This is so because, in 1943 the Federal Housing Authority financed 80 percent of all private home construction. Consequently, if one was to obtain a home, the loan would have to come from the Federal Housing Authority. Some African Americans did receive money from the Federal Housing Authority, however that number only amounts to 2 percent, with most of these loans given to individual persons in the south, among other all African-American housing developments.

With African Americans under the FHA, restricted to only certain areas to live in St. Louis, which replicates other

towns and cities across America, African-Americans began to face the plunder of White America. According to "Better Together" a non-profit in St. Louis, 86 percent of all stops by police, 92 percent of all police searches, 93 percent of all arrests in Ferguson were of African-Americans. Despite the fact that only 22 percent of all stops and searches led to contraband versus 34 percent of their white counterparts. This not only helps fund local and city government but further oppresses the African-Americans of Ferguson.

So I say unto you, that the pictures that flash across your TV screens of Ferguson does not show the whole picture nor does it depict the events that led to the Ferguson of today. We must as a group of African-Americans do our homework on the issues in a clear, concise, thoughtful perspective and formulate action to make a difference in the everyday lives of our communities. Anything else is akin to mental masturbation, revealing ourselves of the obligation of actually doing something for ourselves and other African-Americans.

The Empire don't stop.....

By Jeremy Sample
Panther Contributor

If you don't know by now, FOX's Empire is the hottest show on television; and it keeps getting better. Millions of people have made Empire a hit, so much so, the series has already been green lit for a second season after only the first two episodes. Lee Daniels calls it the "Black Dynasty", and the show certainly lives up to the name. What makes Empire such a success? Is it the raw, relatable characters; the compelling, character-driven storylines; the captivating music; or the killer fashion. The answer is...all of these ingredients help Empire to succeed, but the show would be nothing without the amazing actors that help bring the show to life on screen.

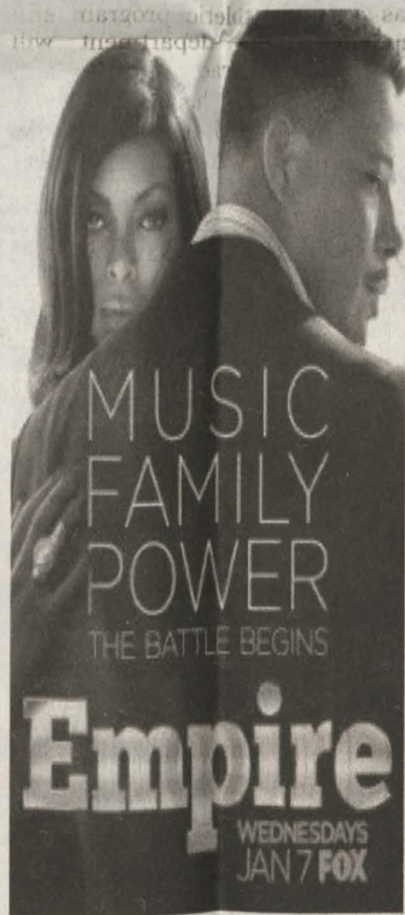
This milestone in television is anchored by Academy Award nominees: Taraji P. Henson and Terrence Howard; who play ex-spouses: Cookie and Lucious Lyon respectively. Cookie Lyon is the original gangster; a former drug dealer just release from a seventeen year stint in prison. Now she's wants her cut of the multibillion dollar company, Empire Entertainment, that Lucious built with the four hundred thousand dollars in drug money that she gave to finance the business in the early days. But, Lucious is not giving up the company without a fight; especially when he is just about to take the company public.

However, Lucious's life is turn upside down when he is

diagnosed with deadly disease and is not given very much time to live. This prompts him to pit his three sons against each other in an attempt to find his successor. The obvious choice seems to be his favorite son: Hakeem played by Bryshere Gray; a spoiled brat with mommy issues who spends most of his time 'popping bottles' to worry about anything else. Lucious thinks that with a little grooming Hakeem will be an amazing successor; even though he lacks the capacity and the drive to be a good leader. Then there is Andre played by Trai Byers, the brilliant, Ivy-league educated, and CFO of Empire Entertainment. Andre would be a good choice for the successor; but he lacks the musical appreciation and the celebrity that Lucious feels is needed to continue to make Empire a success after he is gone. Then, there's Jamal played by Jussie Smollett, a musical protégé; who has the talent to be a superstar. He is Lucious on steroids, but Lucious will never leave him the company because he is gay. Lucious excessively goes out of his way to demean and demoralize Jamal due to his unwillingness to accept his lifestyle; and it is this lack of fatherly approval that hinders not only Jamal's career, but his life as well.

It is the dysfunction in the Lyons family that makes Empire perfection. More importantly, it is amazing to see more black faces on a major network making great television. Empire is a well-oiled machine with a formula that makes it "can't miss television". If you don't believe me, tune in wednesday night at eight on FOX to see for yourself

the show that's on everyone's lips, Facebook page, Instagram account, and Twitter timeline.



PURPLE & GOLD POLL



Wingaritas or Fuentes?
Which one do you prefer?



"Fuentes because the drinks are better and you get more food for your buck."

Steffon Johnson
Communication Studies
Senior



"I prefer Wingaritas because the environment is better, the customer service is better, it's closer, and who doesn't love wings."

Brooke Grady
Education Major
Freshman



"From an overall perspective Wingaritas, based off just the food and the customer service."

Ryan Cole
Education Major
Senior

"I would also have to agree with Mr. Ryan Cole that Wingaritas is pretty awesome as far as the food and the customer service."

Keenen Middlebrooks
Computer Engineer
Senior

photos by: Denzel Speights

Advertise with the Panther

Email : news2pvu@yahoo.com

PHOTOGRAPHERS NEEDED!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Photographer & Graphic Designer:

Name: Justin (IG:@J.Croc) Crockett

Phone: (281) 455-9433

E-mail: justincrockett4444@gmail.com



1. Is it true that the Kappas are coming out?
2. Did they escape the zoo?
3. Aren't they all bark but no bite?
4. Whose pretty little baby is always with the AKAs?
5. Is it safe to say she will be on line next?
6. Who is the girl with the super tight curled bang?
7. Maybe one of the 100 hair stylists on campus can help her?
8. Or maybe she should go off campus?
9. Speaking of off campus, is it unsafe to say Brookside is where the crooks ride?
10. Did you know there is going to be Music Mondays?
11. Do they think they will compete with Mellow Mondays charging \$5?
12. Were there any upperclassman at the 90s party?
13. Should they grow up now or later?
14. Who is the winning team?
15. Are they losing?
16. Will the BM date challenge be rigged again?
17. Do the blessed males know they will miss their blessing for that?
18. Or...nah?
19. Who went to Hump day?
20. What do you think?



2015 Black History

Calendar

January 29

Spring Convocation

Speaker: Pastor Bridget Hilliard

10AM, Willie A. Tempton Memorial Student Center,
Opal Johnson Smith Auditorium

February 2 - February 27

Black History Exhibit

Northwest Houston Center Lobby

February 3

Mr. Frank Robinson, Jr.; Solo Exhibit

Art Gallery, John B. Coleman Library

February 3

President's Lecture Series

Speaker: Dr. John Hrabowski

6PM, Juvenile Justice and Psychology Auditorium

February 5

Black History Film: Freedom Riders

5PM, Northwest Houston Center Lobby

(Refreshments served)

February 9

Black History Book Talks (Local Authors)

5PM, Northwest Houston Center Classroom

February 10

Mr. Roy Douglas Malonson, Owner, African American
Newspaper in Houston, TX

Topic: "Overcoming Obstacles"

2:00PM, John B. Coleman Library, Room 108

February 10

President's Lecture Series

Speaker: Dr. Richard Reddick

2PM, Juvenile Justice and Psychology Auditorium

February 10

S.P.I.T. Knowledge Lecture

Herschel Walker

6:30PM, Memorial Student Center Auditorium

February 12

Presentation and Panel Discussion: "VIOLENCE ::

PROFILING :: UPRISING: AN ARTISTIC RESPONSE"

Presented by Ms. Ann Y. Johnson, MFA

12:30PM, School of Architecture Auditorium

February 12

"Black Lives Matter"

Speaker TBA

7PM, Willie A. Tempton Memorial Student Center,
Opal Johnson Smith Auditorium

Sponsored by SGA

February 15

Seminar: "Michael Jackson, Whitney Houston,
Beyonce and their Music in China"

Speaker: Dr. Liu

1:30PM PVAMU Confucius Institute,

3rd Floor J.B. Coleman Library

February 17

President's Lecture Series

Speaker: Mr. John Franklin

6PM, Juvenile Justice and Psychology Auditorium

February 18

Black History Book Talks (Local Authors)

5PM, Northwest Houston Center Classroom

February 23

Dr. Ivory A. Toldson, Deputy Director,

White House Initiative on

Historically Black Colleges and Universities

Topic: "Learn Black History, not Black

"Hear-story": Debunking the Myths,

Reclaiming the Narrative, and

Affirming the Legacy of African Americans"

1:30PM, John B. Coleman Library, Room 108;

6:00PM, Northwest Houston Center

February 25

#PVWakeUp

Panel Discussion: "New Slaves: Chained to a
Broken System"

6PM, Location: Juvenile Justice Auditorium

Sponsored by SGA & Blackstone Pre-Law Society

February 26

#PVWakeUp

Seminar: "Black Wall Street"

6PM, Location: Juvenile Justice Auditorium

Sponsored by SGA

Dates Subject to Change.

Visit
www.pvamu.edu/sa/
for Updates

For Special Assistance with Disabilities Dial EXT 3585