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The Official Newspaper of



Prairie View A&M University



THE PANTHER

NEWSPAPER



Productive Panther: Kendric D. Jones

By Daric Cottingham,
Editor in Chief

Prairie View is known for producing productive Panthers, but what does it take, exactly? There is molding and building up of PV men and women during their undergrad experience. This December graduation, there will be a Panther walking across the stage that has taken full advantage of his time here at Prairie View A&M University. Kendric D. Jones is a native of Houston, Texas and started his journey at Prairie View A&M University in Fall 2014. Kendric hit the ground running as soon as he stepped foot on "The Hill." I was able to catch up with former SGA President (Student Government Association) and City Councilman, Kendric D. Jones.

Q: How do you feel about your undergrad experience here at Prairie View A&M University?

Kendric: I always try not to stay comfortable, and by that I mean, remain open to new experiences. Every year while here I at PV, I asked myself what new thing will I try; doing this made for an excited but well-rounded undergrad experience. It was amazing, something out of a movie.

Q: Describe what it was like being a student, SGA President, and a city councilman. What are the differences between student government and the city government?



Photo by: Akki Harvey

Kendric: Being a student in college is already like a full-time job. Add in being SGA president, or being a student leader in general, and your plate becomes full. Learning to find balance and juggle everything helped prepare me for the post-graduate world. — While holding office as SGA President, I noticed the accessibility to the students we represented. City government doesn't work like that. It's not acceptable for three of us to be in the same room to talk about city business. In the city council, you have to adjust and handle things differently, as opposed to SGA.

Q: What are your favorite memories of your undergrad experience?

Kendric: My favorite memory has to be running for SGA president. At that time I was on line for Alpha, and juggling classes while also running for city council. A lot was on my plate. But during that time I truly learned that a great support team surrounds me. I learned this even more during my presidency. I would say a lot of growth happened during my Junior year as a whole. Following that year, I was able to study abroad in Costa Rica. It was an eye-opening experience. Just seeing people who were less fortunate by Americanized standards have joy in the everyday culture and community taught me to appreciate everything I have, including the people in my life.

Q: What advice would you give to students to get more involved with the city and university?

Kendric: Honestly just get involved; be the change that you want to see. It's important to understand that the university and city are a whole community. Find your place and help enrich this community.

Q: What are your plans post-graduation?

Kendric: After college I plan to finish off my term as a city councilman and then continue on my education in graduate school, pursuing a masters in public policy or attend law school.

Kendric, like many student leaders, is held at a higher standard because of the responsibility they hold, but it is essential to understand the things that make us all productive Panthers is that we support each other like no one else. Congratulations to the December graduates, who have completed a milestone! Now it is time to show the rest of the world what productive Panthers can do. To the rest of my fellow student body, lets put in the work and make the best of our undergraduate experience because we got next!



Photo by: Akki Harvey

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Rising Panthers

By Brenna Armstrong,
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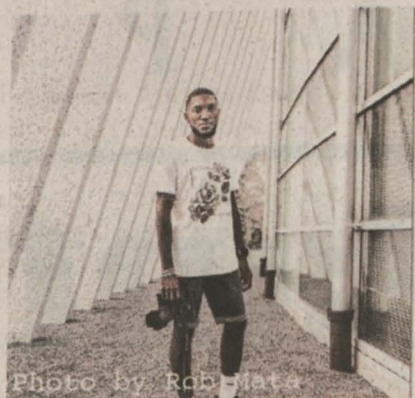


Photo by Rob Jiat
keep up with Allen's web development can follow @Bizonthehill on Twitter for upcoming information.

Regarding his plans after graduation, he does not have any currently as he is choosing to live his life day by day. However, Allen does wish to open doors for others to follow after his time here. He claims "I want more for Prairie View...I want to be an example to the world and show that the stereotypes and misunderstandings people have about Prairie View are not true." Allen believes that his future is brighter than ever due to this University and the opportunities provided to him, and he strives to ensure that no one else misses out on them. To keep up with Allen visit his website DevynA.com.

Briana McEntire for Lucid Beauty



Photo by Briana McEntire

Briana McEntire is a junior business major here at Prairie View and recently launched her makeup brand "Lucid Beauty." Her makeup line currently includes lip glosses all made from scratch that come in a variety of colors. Aside from this new brand, McEntire is also a talented makeup artist and has been practicing since she was in elementary school. She recounts fond memories of learning her trade stating that "in high school, all I did was practice on myself and other people." In balancing both her studies and her new business, McEntire notices that it has changed her perspective on what makeup means to her. Makeup for her has been not only an outlet but also an art form and a hustle for the young entrepreneur.

Regarding what can be expected from McEntire and "Lucid Beauty" in the future there are big plans ahead. McEntire says "I have a lot of projects ahead, but currently I am designing

pressed highlighters that are hopefully releasing in the spring!" As far as her plans after her graduation, she is hoping to commit more time to her business and expanding her brand. Not only that but she also intends to provide a larger range of products to a broader audience of consumers. When asked she stated that "the thought of where I could be if I keep going makes me not ever want to stop." This Rising Panther is hot on the trails to becoming the next big thing in the makeup industry, and her fellow Panthers support her one hundred percent. McEntire is the true definition of a Girl Boss!!

Ify Charley



photo by Jessmine Cornelius

Ify Charley is a Rising Panther with her podcast, "Babbling with Jas," in which she discusses the importance of self-empowerment and mental health while guiding listeners on their spiritual journeys and encouraging them to live in their truth. Self-love is the main focus of her podcast which is available on both iTunes and Soundcloud. Charley's motivation for being a productive Panther outside the classroom was the mental health crisis occurring in the environment around her. Having witnessed many of her peers struggle with depression and dealing with it herself, she decided she wanted to impact her community positively. Charley states that she "lost a friend to suicide this year, and it woke me up in so many ways...I wanted to create a platform where everyone can grow together and transform into the best versions of ourselves." Charley has a strict standard of no negativity when recording and listening to her podcast, and she pushes her audience to learn to love themselves unconditionally. She discovered her passion for speaking at a young age and recalls being told as a child that she had the characteristics of a motivational speaker. Charley had not paid to much attention to that accolade, assuming that she was talking and not

realizing she possessed a gift. Due to her passion and love of her subject matter, she states "it's not hard to balance between school because this is therapy for me... I get to change the world one episode at a time." Her love for what she does is so great in that she believes she would continue to do the podcast and inspire others with her voice even if the gig made her no money in the future. Charley's desire to impact her audience and their perception of the world is payment enough in her eyes. She states "I feel like this is way more than what money can buy." Viewers can catch her podcast every Sunday and Wednesday, and we look forward to seeing how much more this rising Panther will impact the world!!



Photo by Alex Maduro

a major contributor to their podcast. When it comes to the support of his family and friends he has got an abundance of it. Although many of his friends and family were surprised when he took it seriously, they were more than on board with his vision. Greg states that his biggest supporter is his mom and called her his "number one fan." It'll be exciting to see what else this Rising Panther has in store for the school in the semester to come!

Greg the Gemini

This Rising Panther is one of the up and coming DJs here at Prairie View. Aside from being an engineering major, he has also rocked the crowd at various events and parties this year. The young deejay's father introduced him to the idea of deejaying when he casually mentioned that he "learn the trade for fun." Greg remembers that he didn't take his father's advice "until I got to Prairie View, something about the culture here that drove me." The culture of Prairie View latched on to Greg when he saw the other up and coming deejays before him. Greg recalled that "the way they would control the crowd and get everyone hype...I wanted all parts of that." Greg achieved that this year and has even been one of "On The Yard's" most prominent figures and

Remembering George H.W. Bush and his Legacy

By Harold Owens,
Opinion Editor



photo by Eric Gay/AP/Rex/Shutterstock

In the wake of the passing of the late President George H.W. Bush, it is crucial for his impacts and achievements to be remembered. While his time as President preceded many of Prairie View's current students, the legacy of excellence that he left behind is exceptional nonetheless. His many credits included serving as a decorated U.S. Navy pilot in World War II, becoming an oil tycoon and millionaire in Texas, appointment to an envoy position in Beijing, and later the Director of Central Intelligence.

However, despite these meritorious milestones, there are some who felt that the National Day of Mourning that followed President Bush's passing was, if not undeserved, then unnecessary. Considering that policies implemented by him in the late '90s caused a great deal of harm to American citizens of color, it's not hard to see why some may feel less than compelled to mourn this fallen President; especially when the aftereffects of said policies have arguably worsened the situation.

Additionally, some students held that, since Prairie View A&M University is an HBCU, and given President Bush's previously mentioned actions, perhaps the campus should not have been made to mourn him. While this perspective was relevant, that did not change the fact that Prairie View was an institute of the Texas government, and was thus subject to any governmental policies, especially those of the local variety.

Finally, President Bush's policymaking did not always come at the expense of the American people. With the approval of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, President Bush brought the same safeguards afforded to racial, religious, and sexual minorities to persons with disabilities. By consequence, President Bush essentially created an environment in which Americans with physical and sensory disabilities could and would be better served by the society they inhabited.

In any case, despite his mistakes and missteps, it's likely that President Bush's term will be one of the more well-remembered incumbencies of the Oval Office.

Letter to Fellow Panthers



Via SGA



Dear Panther Family,

We have now completed our first semester of the academic year and would like to reflect on it as well as how we can move forward in the Spring. We, the Student Government Association's, role is to promote adequate representation and to be the official voice of the student body so that students' express their opinions.

This year began with some unexpected challenges; however, SGA has been working diligently this semester to overcome them. By using platforms and ideas to improve the Prairie View experience. This semester, we had the opportunity to bring Beto to our University. Although he did not come out victorious, we are proud of the student body for taking out the time to do their civic duty and vote on what their beliefs are. Please remember that there is power in our voices and our votes. We continued the monthly "Presidents Roundtable" meeting where organizations can gather ideas and thought to improve our campus in a centralized location. We also took the initiative to keep students involved by holding town halls on different affairs and departments of the University. This type of forum is highly recommended for students to attend so that there is transparency about plans for the university. Also, for any concerns to be addressed towards administration. Madufo Eze started his official scholarship, the "EzUp" Scholarship fund, where he used \$10,000 to help students in financial need. The office of development also matched his \$10,000 which doubled the number of funds that could be given away. Lunch with Sams. This project was to implement a way for students to explain and express how life on the hill is treating them in all areas. We have officially launched the opportunity for students to sit on the Student Code of Conduct review board. There are more projects in the works to tentatively take effect by spring or fall 2019. By implementing a student complaint box on the official PVAMU website and a physical box right outside the Senate Chambers in the MSC, it has been beneficial to facilitate your concerns adequately. We want to know what we can do in addition to serving you in the following semester; please feel free to contact us or submit anything in our concern box.

The Unleashed Administration will continue to serve you and ensure that student voices are heard. We wish you a happy holiday and a prosperous new year filled with joy and cheer!

In Panther Spirit,

Madufo Eze, Student Government Association President

Princess Ojuolape, Student Government Association Vice President



Prairie View Football Recap with Jalen Morton

By Jorai Beach,
Sports Editor



Photo by Amia M

The Panthers may not have finished the season how they wanted to, but they have a lot to look forward to in the future. They ended their season with a record of 5-6 with a conference record of 4-3. There were a couple of games where the offense seemed out of sync. The team had self-inflicted wounds that they did not have enough time to recover from. Some key games proved the Panthers a forced to be reckoned with, such as the Rice game. Despite beating Grambling, the Panthers had a three-game losing streak during conference play, which unfortunately resulted in The Panthers not being able to compete for the SWAC Conference Championship. A critical returning starter next year is Quarterback Jalen Morton.

Morton is a Red Shirt Junior and also the starting Quarterback of the Prairie View Panther football team. This season was his first year starting at quarterback. His first game was against Rice, and he did not disappoint. The Panthers came up short losing to Rice 31-28 only losing by three a field goal. However, Morton had over 200-yard throwing and threw for three touchdowns. The second game of the season was the MEAC vs. SWAC Challenge where Prairie View faced NC Central. The Panthers won 40-24, and Morton ended up throwing for 295 yards, and two touchdowns. Morton enjoyed this game, and he states, "The favorite moment of the season was NCCU in ATL bc the environment was different. Then the be another SWAC team other than Southern to win against the MEAC was amazing.

Then the trophies for the team and the MVP for it just set it off." MVP wasn't the only award Morton would get.

The following two games resulted in losses vs. UNLV and Sam Houston. The first game of conference play was against Arkansas Pine Bluff. Not only did Prairie View win, but Morton broke two school records. One record was for most rushing yards in school history. Morton rushed for 255 yards and made four touchdowns. He states " Having the school rushing record is an honor in all aspects, I want to thank my team and coaches for putting me in a position to get that record. Honestly, I didn't know I broke it at the UAPB game, and it didn't feel like it for a good minute." The week after was the State Fair Classic vs. Grambling State. The Panthers ended up victorious in the final score of 22-16. Morton threw for 269 yards and three touchdowns.

The week after the Grambling game, the Panthers played Southern University. "It seemed like a nightmare at the end of the season, knowing my team was better than everyone we faced," Morton said.

The Panthers had five turnovers in the game and loss to Southern 38-0. Losing to Southern was the start of their three-game losing streak. However, the Panthers ended their last two games on a good note. They beat Alabama State 66-13. Morton threw for nearly 300 yards and four touchdowns. In the final game vs. Texas Southern, the Panthers won 60-14. After asking Morton about Coach Dooley, he responded "There has been a major culture change since Coach Dooley came

in. You can feel the energy of how bad we want to win and what it takes to win. Every coach on the staff has done great things so they are only providing knowledge to win and how to be a man. His traits are discipline, playing with a chip on your shoulder, confidence, having a little swagger, and humbleness."

The Panthers will have a very successful season next year. Morton will return for his senior year, along with star running back Dawonya Tucker. "The one thing to look for next season is to win championships! Coach Dooley and his staff are going to put us in position to win," says the record holding Quarterback. It sounds like a promising future for the Dooley era Panthers.

This football season is Coach Dooley's first season as the Head Coach of the Prairie View A&M University's football team, and there has been a shift in the atmosphere. "There has been a major culture change since Coach Dooley came in," Morton said. "You can feel the energy off of him as well as the other coaches on how bad and what it takes to win. Every coach on the staff has been great, and they are only providing knowledge to win and how to be a man." When asked about certain traits Coach Dooley has, Morton responded, "His traits are discipline, playing with a chip on your shoulder, most definitely confidence, having a little swagger, but also humbleness."

Coach Dooley was the offensive coordinator for Grambling last year. Grambling has won the SWAC championship in the 2017 season and the 2016 football season. The Panthers

beat the defending SWAC champions 22 to 16. However, after defeating the reigning champs, the Panthers had a three-game losing streak to teams that they should not have lost two. Next year will be a better season for sure, and with the returning starters coming back, their offense will still be high powered.

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Photo by pvamu athletics

Chrissy's Early Years

Christen Augustine, also known as Chrissy, has had a lot of success in the sport of volleyball. Her success in this sport started in high school. Augustine started playing volleyball when she was fourteen years old. She was a three-year varsity player at Summer Creek High School located in Humble, Texas. Throughout her high school career, she achieved major success and was a recipient of multiple awards. Augustine was awarded the Summer Creek's Defensive recipient team award and was also an All-District Honorable Mention for

both the 2013 and 2014 seasons. She also led The Lady Bulldogs to the UIL playoffs her Sophomore and Junior seasons. In the duration of her high school career, she ended it with over 400 digs.

College Success

Augustine's success continued at Prairie View A&M University, playing under coach TaCho Tyler. Augustine was awarded SWAC's Defensive Player of the week on October 14, 2015, and again on September 21, 2016. In her Junior season in 2017, not only was she awarded defensive player of the week, but she

Christen Augustine: Leaving her mark with the Lady Panthers

By Jorai Beach,
Sports Editor

was also named the SWAC Defensive Specialist/Libero of the Year. Augustine received a spot on the All-SWAC First Team. For her Senior season, she won Defensive Specialist of the year for her second time.

When asked about how she felt about accomplishing this achievement Augustine said, "It feels great! This was a goal of mine immediately after I won the award the first time, so to have my goal accomplished is amazing!" She continued to say that "obtaining this award for the second time in a row showed me how blessed I truly am!" Augustine also described how she developed between her Freshman year all the way up until now. "Freshman year I played very timidly and scared. Coach told me to 'play the way that I did to get here.' It was like a light bulb went off and I went back to playing the way that I knew how." Augustine continued to say that "ever since then I can honestly say that I've been very successful!"

Student-Athlete

Not only has Augustine had success as an athlete, but she has also had success in the classroom. In high school, She was also awarded All-Academic

Honors in all three of her varsity seasons. Augustine is a Chemical Engineering Major. Being a student in college is hard, but being a student-athlete seems pretty challenging. Augustine says that "the biggest challenges are missing class. This causes me to miss important class material that I end up having to teach myself, which just makes something that is already hard ten times harder."

Student-athletes do not get the credit that they deserve because not only do they have to be physically tough, they have to be tough mentally as well. Augustine plans to get work experience in her field of chemical engineering and attend Graduate School after her undergrad career to receive her Master's Degree in Chemical Engineering.

Chrissy has left her mark in her collegiate career as a defensive specialist. Her teammate Cetara Cater describes her best, stating that "On the court, Chrissy is very quiet but deadly... She doesn't say much, but we always know she's there and going to go hard! Off the court, she is one of the most amazing people I have ever meet." Cater continues to say that "She's always very helpful with your problems no matter what it is. She's like the big sister

I never had! I'm going to miss her a lot. From our friendship to her great defense. She's going to be very hard to replace!" Even though Augustine is done playing, she has high expectations for The Lady Panthers next season "Next year I expect the team to do very well. We should have a lot of returners so their chemistry will be good."

Panther Holiday Cheer



Photos by Amia Mayo

Gift Ideas on a College Student's Budget

By Brenna Armstrong,
News Editor

With the Holidays right around the corner, college students all around are scrambling to find the perfect gifts for friends, family, and their significant others. To help with the holiday stress, The Panther has compiled a list of gifts ideas that are perfect for any budget!

Gifts for \$15 or less:

Monogrammed Umbrellas via Etsy \$14.99- With all the unexpected rainy days at Prairie View a personalized umbrella is the perfect gift for any student on a budget!
Santa Sleighs 12 Days of Socks Advent Calendar via Target \$15.00 - Holiday socks are a cute gift to give and with Target's handy advent calendar to count down the 12 days before Christmas it's even better!! Great for guy and girls.
Half Price Book Gift Cards via Half Price Books and Amazon.com- For all the book

lovers here's a great way to get even more bang for your buck at Half Price Books. The books are already marked low so get your loved one a gift card to make it even cheaper !! Or buy them a book either works.

Gifts for \$20-\$30:

Scented fragrance oils via ExoticFragrances.com \$25-> - These oils come in various popular scents from all of your favorite brands. From Burberry and Calvin Klein to Michael Kors and Gucci and everything else in between. The 8 oz. bottles run for twenty-five dollars no matter what fragrance. The sizes come in a different variety, and prices so feel free to mix and match how you please.
Cinemark three month Movie Club membership via Cinemark.com \$26.97- For all the movie lovers one can gift their friends or loved ones with the exclusive Movie Club Membership that includes one free 2D movie ticket per month, twenty percent off the concession that someone can



MarketWatch Photo Illustration/iStockphoto

share with a friend, and no add-on fees for tickets bought online. A great perk of this deal is that the unused free movie tickets can be rolled over to the next month!! This membership sounds like a steal for all the movie aficionados.
Echo Dot via Amazon.com \$24.99- the echo dot is a voice-controlled speaker that can use the Alexa program to play music make calls, control smart home devices, set timers, answer questions and more. This gift is perfect for the tech-savvy people of the world or anyone who wants more than a humdrum speaker!

Gifts for \$50 or less:

PlayStation Store gift via Gamestop.com \$50- the perfect gift for any gamers that own a PlayStation and needs new games to keep them occupied.
Nike Tanjun Sandals via famousfootwear.com \$44.99- these sandals have been hot and even though it's winter time there's still Texas bipolar weather so why not be prepared?! These sandals are priced at less than 45 dollars fitting right into a college-friendly budget. These sandals are all the rage right now you might even want to gift yourself for being a productive Panther this year!

Name Necklace via getnamenecklace.com \$40- this is the perfect gift for the couples out there that want to do something sentimental for their significant other. There are a variety of options to choose from including the choice between silver, gold, white and rose gold, plating, design, lettering and even the option to add a birthstone. This gift is a beautiful way to let someone know you love them and will make their hearts melt on the holidays.

Championships: Meek Mill is Home for the Holidays

By Jorai Beach,
Sports Editor

Intro

Philadelphia rapper Meek Mill released his album "Championships" on Friday, November 30, 2018. In a way, you could say Christmas came early this year. This album is nothing short of greatness. The album starts with an intro that uses the sample of Phil Collins' "In The Air Tonight." Mill flows with ease to this beat, and he does not disappoint at all. The song starts slow but gradually increases intensity. Coincidentally it increases when the drums break down exactly how it does on the original Phil Collins song.

Uptown Vibes

This album has a blend of different types of songs. One song, in particular, that was unique is the song "Uptown Vibes." The beat to this song has soothing Spanish horns that put you in a certain mood. When the beat drops, they are in the rhythm of the reggaeton drums. This song features artists Fabolous and Anuel AA, who help compliment the Spanish horns with their laid-back flows. This song could be the next club anthem. One thing for sure is that this song will be played frequently in New York and Miami in the clubs.

What's Free?

The fifth song on the album is one that every Hip-Hop fan can resonate with. The Notorious B.I.G. created a song in the 90s called "What's Beef?" Mill switched the narrative by putting his twist to this notorious beat. Mill says in the hook of the song "What's Free? Free is when nobody else could tell us what to be. Free is when the TV ain't controlling what we see." Mill is one person who knows what freedom is. The rapper has been battling the criminal justice system since he has been in the rap game.

The Philadelphia native was sentenced to prison for violating probation in November of 2017. The violation he was involved in dealing with him popping a wheelie on a dirt bike in New York City. "What's Free?" features Rick Ross and Jay-Z. Jay-Z's verse is immaculate, and it hits the soul, preaching about the stories of his city dealing with social injustices African Americans have endured.



Photo by Maybach Music Group 2018

Oodles O' Noodles

Oodles O' Noodles is another great song that has a soothing saxophone playing in the background. Mill paints a picture talking about his personal life, and the delivery is strong. At the end of the song, Mill raps that "I got a homie that's a billionaire, and I be tryin' to explain to him like if your mom ain't on crack or if she got a job and she doing eight hours a day and your daddy in the graveyard or in the jail cell, who gone babysit?" Mill talks about his prison reform encounter such

as being sentenced by an African American judge. The system is designed to have a harsher sentence on African Americans.

Going Bad

The beef is squashed between Drake and Mill, and he is featured on the album on a song called "Going Bad." It is great seeing them pair up because they never fail. In 2012, Drake was featured on Mill's mixtape Dream Chasers 2 in a song called "Amen." Even though the song is what started the beef, "R.I.C.O." is another collaboration that was wonderful. These two must

continue making music together because the sky is the limit. Rick Ross, Meek Mill, and Drake on a song could up the ante

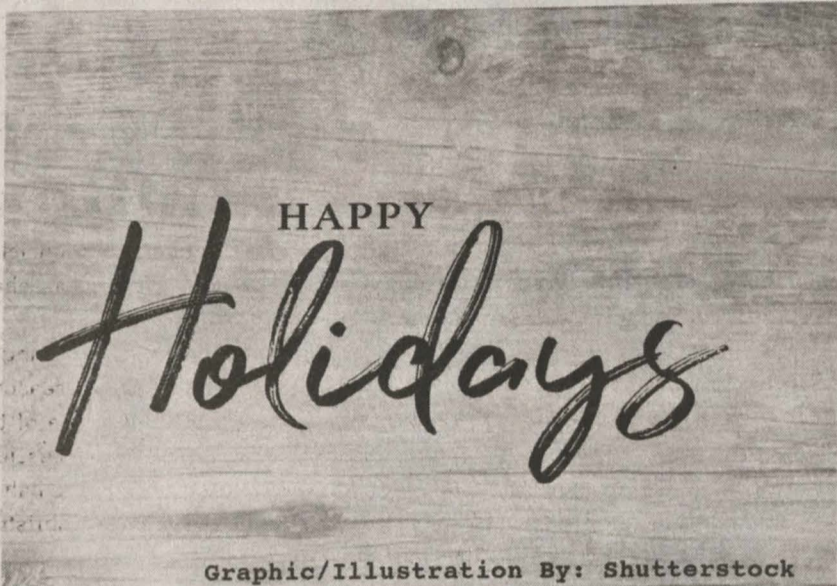
Rating

Overall, this was a really good album. It featured even more artists such as Kodak, 21 Savage, Future, and Cardi B. This is his best album and production wise and the song "24/7" Mill has with Ella Mai, has an awesome sample. The sample is from Queen Bee herself singing "Me, Myself, and I." I would rate this album a solid nine because the song with Future does not

flow with the album as a whole. However, the lyrics Mill raps in this album is a gospel of the streets and testimonies to the everyday life of minority communities. It is great to see an African American male to use his platform to share his voice about what is really going on in today's society and changes that need to be made.

'Tis the Season: A Winter of Holiday Cheer

By Alexandria White,
Managing Editor



Graphic/Illustration By: Shutterstock

Happy Holidays from the Panther News staff! In this article, there are holidays worth celebrating with friends and loved ones that happen from December 1, 2018, until February 5, 2019. Each holiday listed below has some history, activities, and ways to spread holiday cheer. Enjoy!

December 1: Twinkle Twinkle hang your lights

December 1 is National Christmas Lights Day, and before the invention of traditional electric bulbs, candles were used to light homes and trees. Electric light bulbs came into use with Thomas Edison's invention of the light bulb in 1879. However, hanging lights didn't become the "norm" until 1903 when General Electric began selling pre-packaged electric lights. To celebrate this luminous occasion, gather a group of your friends or that special someone and take a trip to your local lights exhibit. If you're from Houston, Zoo Lights is open until January 13. There is also Santa's Wonderland in College Station, Texas, and Christmastime at the San Antonio Riverwalk in San Antonio, Texas.

December 2-10: Hanukkah, Oh Hanukkah

December 2-10 is the eight-day celebration of Hanukkah. Hanukkah, also known as Chanukah, is the Festival of Dedication and celebrates the rededication of the second Jewish temple in Jerusalem. Some activities to light your Menorah include literally lighting your Menorah, eating some Latkes (potato pancakes), playing with dreidels, and giving Gelt (gold-foil-wrapped chocolate coins) to all your friends and loved ones. Mazel Tov!

December 12: Keep calm and build gingerbread houses

December 12 is National Gingerbread House Day, and this fun craft wouldn't be possible without the discovery of ginger by Europeans in the eleventh century. The Europeans brought ginger and other spices from the Middle East and began to bake them. Gingerbread was initially baked only by Catholic monks for use in religious ceremonies, and around the sixteenth century Germans curated the idea of baking gingerbread and crafting it into houses. This tradition found its way to America by way of German immigrants and after the publication of "The Gingerbread Man," making gingerbread houses quickly became a way to make the holidays sweet and fragrant. To celebrate this holiday, gather friends and host a gingerbread house competition. Gingerbread house kits retail for about ten dollars, but the fun that you will have is priceless.

December 21: Did someone say Solstice?

December 21 is the day of the Winter Solstice. In the Northern Hemisphere this means that on this day there is the shortest period of daylight and the longest night of the year. The tilt of the Earth's axis is what causes the Solstice, and after December 21 there are shorter days and longer nights until spring. Many cultures celebrate the Solstice by feasting and engaging in solstice rituals such as yule prayers and having a familial yule log ceremony.

December 24: Santa Claus is coming to town

December 24 is Christmas Eve, and on this day the anticipation

25 SONGS FOR THE HOLIDAY SEASON

BY DARIC COTTINGHAM

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Christmas Time to Me Judy Sparks Eyes For You III Justin Bieber 8 Days of Christmas Destiny's Child Christmas in Hollis Run-DMC Do You Hear What I Hear? Wendy Houston This Christmas (Main Version) Chris Brown Mistletoe Justin Bieber Someday at Christmas Minnie Driver I'll Be Home Morgan Wallen Winter Things Ariana Grande Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas Beverly Sills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Snow in California Ariana Grande Winter Wonderland Emeli Sande All I Want For Christmas Is You Maxwell Collip True Love Ariana Grande Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays N.E.R.G. Last Christmas Ariana Grande Santa Claus Is Coming to Town Jack & Jill Sleigh Ride TLC Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas Minnie Driver When Christmas Comes to Town Matthew West & Meghan Moore Baby It's Cold Outside (feat. Gavin De... Cobie Smulders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Christmas With My Girl Maddie & Tae Santa Baby Ariana Grande Christmas in Harlem (feat. Prince Cy... Bun B, Prince Cy Hi & Trayna Taylor
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for the celebration of Jesus Christ is felt by many Christians. Christmas Eve is the time people come together and rejoice in the Christmas spirit. There is often caroling, movie marathons, eggnog galore, pattering on rooftops, and a jolly man checking his list twice. To embrace this day, rock around your Christmas trees with family and friends and complete your advent calendars. There should also be good tidings and figgy pudding.

December 25: A Holly Jolly Christmas

December 25 is Christmas day. On this day Christians honor the birth of their Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Over time, Christmas has evolved into as much of a secular holiday as a religious one, and families spread merriment and give gifts to their friends and loved ones. There are many movies, songs, and traditions dedicated to this holiday so celebrate by watching some movies, singing loud for all to hear, and ringing those silver bells. Go to a Christmas church service, exchange gifts, and surround yourself with loved ones. Merry Christmas!

December 26- January 1: Ready, set, Kwanzaa

December 26-January 1 is the seven-day celebration of Kwanzaa. Kwanzaa was invented in 1966 by Maulana Karenga and has its roots in African cultures. To celebrate, enjoy a feast (Karamu) and gift-giving. Kwanzaa has seven core principles (Nguzo Saba) which are: Umoja (unity), Kujichagulia (self-determination), Ujima (collective work and responsibility), Ujamaa (cooperative economics), Nia

(purpose), Kuumba (creativity), and Imani (faith). To celebrate Kwanzaa, according to <https://www.wikihow.com/Celebrate-Kwanzaa>, hang Kwanzaa flags up and decorate the main room of your house with the symbols of Kwanzaa. Place a green tablecloth over a centrally located table and put a straw or woven mat (Mkeka) on top of it. Then put these items on the mat: fruit (Mazao), a seven-pronged candle holder (Kinara), seven candles to represent the seven core principles (Mishumaa Saba) - three candles on the left are red, representing struggle; three on the right are green, representing hope; and one in the center is black, signifying the African American people or those who draw their heritage from Africa. As well as ears of corn for each child (Muhindi); if there are no children, place two ears to represent the children of the community. There is also gifts for the children (Zawadi), and a cup to represent family and community unity (Kikombe cha Umoja). Happy Kwanzaa!

December 31: "10-9-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1!"

December 31 is New Year's Eve and this countdown to the New Year is the perfect day to tie up any loose ends, throw a party, and make some resolutions. New Year's Eve celebrations happen around the world, and the annual ball drop in Times Square occurs after Samoa, Tonga, and Kiribati ring in their New Years! The USA, American Samoa, and Baker Island ring in the year last, but you know what they say about being last... Celebrate the last day of the year by adorning yourself in sparkles,

rocking your 2019 gear, popping some fireworks and getting the perfect midnight kiss.

January 1: HAPPY NEW YEAR!

January 1 is the first day of the New Year and a time of new beginnings. New Year's Day is the first day on the modern Gregorian Calendar, as well as the Julian Calendar. To rejoice in all the blessings to come with the changing of the year, start a memory jar to acknowledge the days that were 10/10, deep clean your closet and donate the clothes to a local shelter, and do your best to fulfill those resolutions that you set (again). You can do it!

February 5: Year of the Pig

February 5 is Chinese New Year, also known as Spring Festival, and celebrates the beginning of a new year on the traditional Chinese calendar. There are several Lunar New Years' in Asia, but Chinese New Year is the most well-known. To celebrate the Year of the Pig, put up some festive decorations; eat a reunion dinner with your family; pop firecrackers and fireworks; give red envelopes of "lucky money" to children; deep clean your house; light and watch some lanterns, and eat lots of sweet dumplings.

Happy Holidays to all, and to all a good winter break!

*<https://nationaltoday.com/december-holidays/> was used as a reference

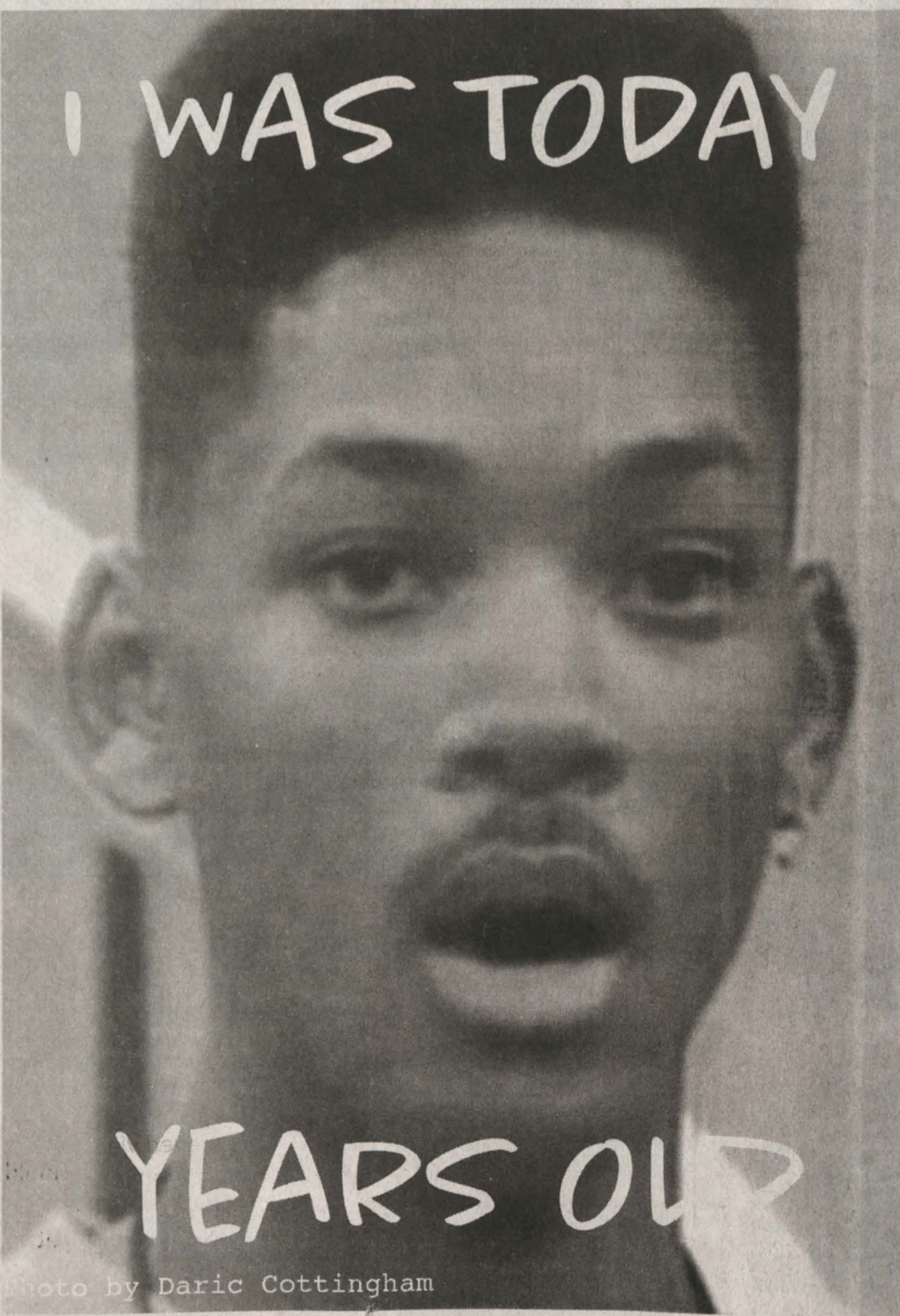


Photo by Daric Cottingham

I Was Today Years Old...

By The Panther Staff

- 1) When I saw the eight in the middle of an eight of diamonds
- 2) When I realized a "23-19" from Monsters Inc. was for a white sock with W being the 23rd letter and S being the 19th
- 3) When I realized how to use a can opener properly- you put it on the top, not the side
- 4) When I realized the Vans logo is a math symbol ($\sqrt{\text{ANS}}$)
- 5) When I realized the band "Blink 182" is pronounced "Blink Eighteen Two"
- 6) When I realized the correct way to put on a band-aid is to cut the sides in half and apply in a crisscrossed fashion
- 7) When I realized that people say "break a leg" at auditions because they hope you end up in the cast
- 8) When I realized "laser" is an acronym for Light Amplification by Stimulated Emission of Radiation
- 9) When I realized the lyrics in the Christmas song "Up on the Housetop" is "reindeer pause" not "paws"
- 10) When I realized that the characters of the "Lion King" have Swahili names with meanings, for instance, Simba means "power" in Swahili
- 11) When I realized "R&B" is short for rhythm and blues
- 12) I was today years old . when I realized when Kim possible used to say "What's the sitch Wade?" that sitch was short for situation.

Does it Feel Like Christmas?

By Harold Owens,
Opinion Editor



As the academic semester draws to a close, students are getting ready for the Winter Break. That is if they haven't left already. As the on-campus activity grinds to a halt, many will be heading home to Houston, Dallas, Austin, and beyond. Soon, the only activity will be those resigned to stay on "The Hill" for the holiday season. So, as the student body disperses to its numerous destinations, you may find yourself asking: "Does it feel like Christmas?" Or, at the very least, you might think it to yourself.

Of course, it may feel a little like the Christmas season with the abundant hot cocoa and cookies. But really, a little something is missing from your festivities. The magic, the joy of the season; you probably felt it in your youth. However, for some time now, it has eluded your grasp, just out of reach.

Maybe the family you're going back to isn't the same, because you lost someone along the way. Perhaps, you can't get back to your family for the holidays, which is why you're staying on campus. Maybe the family you wanted to see couldn't make it into town, so now you're at the holiday function with no one to talk to. That may be more noticeable if you have a large family, per my experience. Yes, you have to walk through and greet all the family you know, but that's not the same. There's nothing like seeing your friends and favorite cousins. Just imagine the shenanigans you all would get into; the pleasant memories you will make.

Maybe there's a food you miss, or a Christmas Eve tradition you can't join in. Possibly, in reflecting on the year that has past, you can't find much worth celebrating, between "Agent

Orange's" (President 45) consistent foolishness and continued chaos everywhere else in the world.

In any case, here's to not being, or feeling, alone this holiday season. I hope you all can retain some of that seasonal joy. Count your blessings, and look at the cup of eggnog half full and not half empty. Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!

When Tis' The Season?

By Harold Owens,
Opinion Editor



Graphic/illustration by: Jillibean Soup

Storytime:

I was riding back to Memorial City with some family friends for the Thanksgiving holiday. Many things were discussed on the trek from Prairie View to Memorial City; grad prep, television, PC gaming, etc. Among the discussions, we pulled around a corner to see a house draped in Christmas decorations. The Tuesday before Thanksgiving, mind you. The blatant disrespect for Thanksgiving as a holiday is unsettling; it seems that after Halloween it's full speed ahead to Christmas.

The Issue

Businesses begin mounting festive decor, unlit string lamps appear on tree trunks, and advertising campaigns go all in on winter themes, all at least two weeks before Turkey Day. What's worse is that you'll sometimes have Christmas music at least one more week before that.

As we passed the pre-decorated home, we noticed a series of wreaths on the adjacent fence. Part of me understands why someone would want to prepare their decor so early, but it makes me sick! It's certainly possible that people are busy with their holiday festivities and career and thus won't have time otherwise to adorn their houses with cut-outs nor their lawns with standing wire deer. However, another part of me says that the Christmas Season is not to begin until after Thanksgiving is complete. I shouldn't see your decorum out and about until Black Friday at the earliest,

and Mariah Carey should only become relevant again around the same time. It's just so uncouth to not give Thanksgiving the proper dues it deserves.

Responses

The family and friends that I was riding with agreed with my point of view. They even pointed out that another house on the block would often go all out on decorations, lights, deer, and ornamentation of all kinds. Fortunately, the owner had not yet embraced the Holiday Spirit. Even on the way into the neighborhood, there were plenty of shops and stores that had adopted red and green lighting or wintry themed decorations.

My Take

I like Christmas as much as the next guy, especially since I've got a big family. I like Christmas music, and the lights and decorations and whatnot; but there is a time and place for it. Decorating and listening to the music at any time you feel like hearing it will diminish its uniqueness. If you are putting Christmas decorations or listening to Christmas music before Thanksgiving, reconsider and fully take the time to reflect on what you are thankful for on Thanksgiving. Thanksgiving is just as good as Christmas, so please stop skipping it!

40 Questions

1. Who chose the band's playlist this year?
2. Y'all not tired of Mo Bamba?
3. Sodexo, what is Honey Barbecue Chicken Nugget Stir Fry?
4. Why our meal plans so high for low quality food?
5. Can we get more panther buck options?
6. Can a swipe work at the Bistro?
7. How many of y'all lost money to the on-campus gambling ring?
8. Did y'all set y'all homecoming out?
9. Will people ever get their money back for the WetDreamz party?
10. Is there like only one playlist for parties?
11. Did y'all streak during homecoming?
12. Is streaking still a thing?
13. Why was the Key Party the livest homecoming party?
14. Was tailgate the highlight this year?
15. Where are all the real leaders and mentors?
16. Do the PALS still exist?
17. Are we Panthers on the Hill or crabs in a barrel?
18. Where's the support for your fellow panther?
19. Why were there so many date auctions?
20. Did y'all actually go on dates?
21. What's up with PV Paw Link?
22. Where y'all events double booked too?
23. Anybody else have a hard semester?
24. Can we get a curve on the final grades, professors?
25. What exactly is the old PV?
26. What is soul PV?
27. Can PV22 just tweet in peace?
28. Can y'all just let new PV be?
29. Can we bring back the Labor Day Classic?
30. Why our mascot be so live?
31. Why do people complain but don't attend anything?
32. How many town halls does it take?
33. PV I know you lyin' (taps table), why we in a dead zone?
34. Where is the WiFi?
35. Which one of y'all a fire starter?
36. How these cars keep catching on fire?
37. Who robbed MarketRitas?
38. Can we have one successful black owned business?
39. Will Greek life be revived in 2019?
40. What do you think?

These questions are for entertainment purposes ONLY. The questions are retrieved via anonymous student submission and are NOT the views of The Panther Newspaper. They should be read as gossip ONLY, NOT as fact. Want to tell us what YOU think? Please bring YOUR comments and questions to Rm.216 MSC, e-mail us at thepanthernp@yahoo.com, or submit anonymously at ask.fm/PVPantherOnline



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