

Last Day to Register to Vote Thursday April 6, 2023

Prairie View Magazine

April 2023

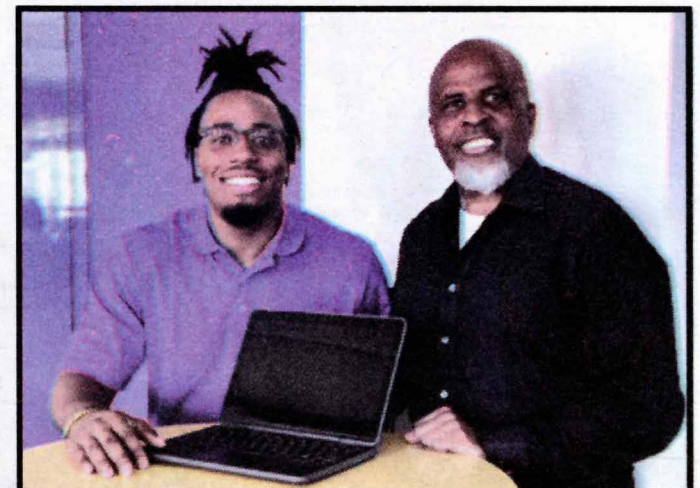


In the Pews

Pastor Fred Thomas, III encourages his members to support the church's youth. He took the opportunity to bring a show goat into the church service, while underscoring the need of his members to bid on the livestock of FFA members. Supporting our kids in such a manner IS MINISTRY. Pictured left to right: Pastor Thomas, Chania Bennett, Mattie Jones, "Jake" the Goat, and Jamary Jeffrey. Page 9



TOP TEENS ATTEND 51 ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN DALLAS Ladies and Teens in attendance were Ladies Burnest Carter, Gwendolyn Carter, Top Lady Chapter President, Sharon Gillum, Cherie Singleton, and Kimberly Williams Watson See story on page 9



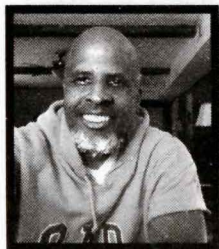
Prairie View Magazine publisher, DeWayne Charleston awards a Name, Image, and Likeness (NIL) contract to All SWAC runningback Caleb Johnson; a first for the PVAMU team. SEE BROCHURE ON PAGE 15

TAMU SYSTEM APPOINTS MORE OVERSEERS, SAYS SIMMONS ABANDONED STUDENTS

DeWayne Charleston,
Publisher

Two months ago, Texas A&M University System issued the rolling statement:

BRYAN-COLLEGE STATION, Texas — Chancellor John Sharp announced today that Ruth J. Simmons, President of Prairie View A&M University, will have a new role and title following the end of her term as president.



DeWayne Charleston,
Publisher

As President Emerita, she will also hold a faculty appointment as University Professor, which will provide her the flexibility to continue important aspects of her work on behalf of Prairie View.

As University Professor, she is free of a single departmental home and may affiliate across departments, collaborating and lecturing as deemed suitable.

As a faculty member, she may participate in instruction and research in ways that utilize best her unique experience and leadership in higher education.

1. She will perform duties as needed on behalf of the new president, up to and including assisting in raising funds and expanding the number of important institutional partnerships that increase the research and doctoral granting profile of the university.

2. She will launch a leadership program for those seeking to advance in higher education leadership. Doing so will be the culmination of a decades-long effort on her part to increase the diversity of senior leadership in colleges and universities.

Well its April now and the System is calling her a President who “has abandoned her students”.

In a recent interview with the Houston Chronicle, Simmons accused the school of essentially being a “Colonizer”. Notice the language in its initial plan for her retirement, “She will perform

duties as expected on behalf of the new president....up to and including raising money.”

UP TO AND INCLUDING RAISING MONEY. It is clear that the Texas A&M system only ever wanted Dr. Simmons to raise money for its systematic dismantling of the essence of Prairie View. Tomika LeGrande was supposed to bring in students, while Dr. Simmons was “to assist” her by providing Ivy League type financial support.

Dr. Simmons wanted to advance that objective by hiring individuals who she felt could support the future administration.

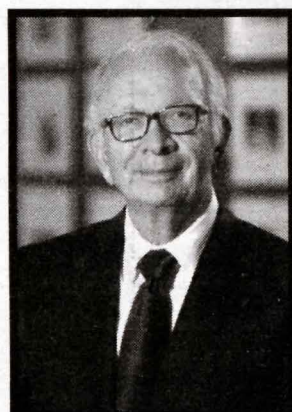
Simmons says the university has been “shortchanged” and “neglected”. The Texas A&M System says “she abandoned her students”. Sounds like a contentious divorce to me.

Dr. Simmons will be given a little palimony, while the system will retain all community property and more importantly retain full custody of the kids.

Mean while as we continue to follow Simon’s unceremonious departure from The Hill, governor Abbott has appointed three

additional overseers of the HBCU. None of the recent appointees is a Prairie View graduate. I am reminded of a quote the former Texas Governor Ann Richards once said in a staff meeting with a group of visiting community organizers, “just having different people in the room changes the conversation.”

Institutional and Academic independence is the only answer for Prairie View. If we cant have a seat at the table of leadership at the system, we will continue to live on a beautiful, well manicured plantation. Unfortunately for many of us...as long as the campus looks nice, we’re really okay with that. #FREEPVAMU



“Truth is, the first time President Simmons was told ‘no’ in over almost six years, she quit and abandoned Prairie View A&M’s students, faculty and staff,” a spokesperson told The Houston Chronicle. “Despite her public criticism of The Texas A&M University System, Chancellor [John] Sharp allowed her to speak at commencement after her resignation and authorized her signature to be attached to December’s diplomas.”

The Collins are Honored as Mentors and Will Welcome PVAMU Students to their 800 acre ranch later this month

There are few things in life that Ernest Collins would love to do more than tend to his livestock, manage his ranch, spend time with his family or discuss his alma mater, Prairie View A&M University. These simple things are woven into his everyday life.

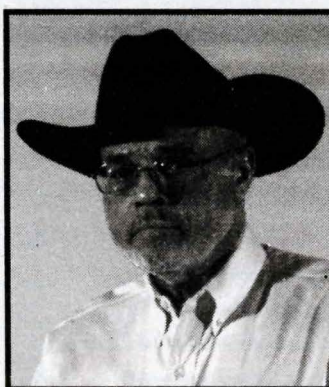
A 1967 graduate of Prairie View, Ernie Collins grew up on a farm in Travis County approximately seven miles southeast of Austin. As one of eleven children born to Ella and Talferd Collins, he quickly learned the importance of hard work and education. As a top priority, each of the children were supported and encouraged to take full advantage of educational opportunities. As a result, all eleven children graduated from high school and attended college. They also learned the importance of agriculture. The family farm, located on Dee Gabriel Collins Road, has been owned and operated by members of the Collins family since the late 1800s and is recognized by the state of Texas for its history.

Following high school graduation Collins enrolled in the state's second oldest institution of education, where he studied business. It was during this time that he enrolled in the advanced ROTC program. Upon graduation he was commissioned 2nd Lieutenant in the United States Army. While focused on the basic business principles of profit and growth and balancing the art of the military service, he also flourished in the subject of love. Prior to reporting for officer's basic training artillery at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, Ernie married Floretta Brown in her hometown of Bay City, Texas.

Collins served two years in the Army as a training officer at Fort Ord, California. He was discharged as 1st Lieutenant in 1969. Soon after he joined Humble Oil and Refinery Company,

which is now ExxonMobil, and spent a 34-year career working in various marketing and management positions. Collins, worked with the company's most famous advertising campaign, "Put a tiger in your tank." The slogan and accommodating faux tiger tail to fix around a car's gas cap along with the bumper-sticker proclaiming 'I've got a tiger in my tank' reached record breaking heights.

Today, Collins is actively involved in the community. He serves as a Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Director, a member of the advisory board for the Rodeo Institute for Teacher Excellence (RITE), charter member of the "100 Ranchers" organization, advisor to the Farm Service Agency County Committee for Harris and Montgomery County and a member of the Land Owners Association of Texas. In 2007, he served as the Chairman of the Black Heritage Committee, bringing his focus of community involvement and educational outreach to the forefront.



Tramyra Simmons, President of the Houston PVMAU NAA is shown here with Ernie and Floretta Collins and a family member, as they receive the "Acts of Mentorship Award" at Wheeler Ave. Baptist Church in Houston, Texas in March 2023.

He served on the University's Extend the View: Shape Tomorrow Today Capital Campaign cabinet and is a founding trustee of the Prairie View A&M Foundation, which is working to raise funds to support all of the University's major initiatives including a new athletic complex. He is a supporter of the Estelle 4-H and Youth Camp and an advisor to the College of Agriculture and Human Sciences. He and his family have established scholarship endowment funds at Prairie View A&M University and Morehouse College.

Collins and his wife reside in Houston and are the proud parents of three children, Leslie Collins-Thompson (Rod), Todd Jamal (Jeanelle), and Daryl Donovan (deceased). They are also proud grandparents of six: Taylor, Ross and Brooke Thompson; Sydney Rose, Ella Gabrielle and Alston Ernest Collins.

Ernie Collins of Prairie View A&M University joined Humble Oil and Refinery Company, now ExxonMobil, in 1969 and worked in various marketing staff and management positions until his retirement in 2003. Mr. Collins and his wife, Floretta, are strong supporters of youth and education and have established scholarship funds at Prairie View A&M University and Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia.

"Texans who take custody of their relatives' kids struggle to make ends meet — and to get more aid from the state"

When Beverly Morris moved six of her grandchildren into her apartment, it was cramped quarters on every front.

The two-bedroom unit sat off of a highway in Austin. The three girls — ages 8, 14 and 15 — slept in one room. The three boys — ages 7, 10 and 12 — slept in the other. The living room sofa became Morris' bed for a year.

Morris took permanent custody of five of her six grandkids after Child Protective Services removed them from their home after finding evidence of medical neglect and parental substance use.

Morris hadn't planned to parent again at 63 years old. But she stepped in to prevent her grandchildren from entering Texas' troubled foster care system and being separated from each other. She also informally took in the sixth grandchild, after one of their parents stopped caring for them. The state pays Morris to care for the five grandchildren for whom she has permanent custody, but she gets a fraction of the amount that a stranger who stepped in as a foster parent would get.

That's something some Texas lawmakers are trying to change this year.

The costs piled up for Morris, seemingly all at once: The kids needed summer clothes. The car kept breaking down on the way to school. Morris felt like the world was closing in on her.

"I would just cry every night. I cried and I was like, 'God, I'm not doing this, I don't want to do it,'" said Morris, who quit her job to take care of the children. "I'm living as a single person. And then to take in six kids? It was hard."

Morris offers what is known as kinship care, when a relative takes in children who have been removed from their homes by Child Protective Services. More than 8,000 kids, or 41.5% of children in the state's care, were placed with kin or relatives as of February, according to recent state data.

As a relative caregiver, Morris gets about \$2,000 in assistance from the state each month to support the cost of caring for the kids. She puts it toward rent. At the very least, she reminds herself, the kids will have a roof over their heads.

Studies show children in the care of relatives experience less trauma and better behavioral health outcomes than those in the care of foster families. Relative caregivers are also more likely to be single, unemployed, older and live in poorer households.

In addition to receiving far less compensation than foster parents, relative caregivers also often face the typical barriers lower-income Texans experience in getting public benefits like

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families or the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

Red tape

When relatives take in children who have interacted with the Texas child welfare system, the state provides some financial assistance, depending on family circumstances.

If the child has an open case with Child Protective Services, relatives can receive \$12.67 per day, per child for up to 12 months through the Relative and Other Designated Caregiver Program. To qualify, residents must earn a total household income that is below 300% of the federal poverty limit. For a family of four, that would be less than \$90,000.

The payments to relative caregivers are often 50% of what a foster parent receives. A foster parent receives at least \$27.07 per day, but can get paid more if a child has more complex needs. Foster parents have to complete training and get licensed before they take in a child, unlike relative caregivers.

A relative caregiver can choose to complete the training foster parents do and get "verified" by the state. That would allow them to get paid the same as foster parents. But Mercedes Bristol, a grandparent of five, said families have to go through a lot of red tape to get verified. For example, the relative's home must pass a state assessment. Some grandparents have been asked to make costly home repairs or find a house with more square footage to meet the home assessment, Bristol said. For aging relatives on fixed incomes, such fixes are cost prohibitive.

"They're not doing it for the money. They're not doing it for the income," said Bristol, who is also the executive director of Grandparents Raising Grandchildren. "They're doing it just to be able to afford to keep these children but yet they have so many barriers to get to that stipend."

One grandparent raising three grandchildren in Cibolo, Denise Smith, said she looked into getting verified. But to complete the training, she would have needed to find and pay for child care.

Smith needed the extra money from the state. After she took in grandkids, she walked a tightrope with her finances for years. She was always falling behind. Overdue bills stuffed her mailbox.

She would dial utility assistance companies. The operators would mimic each other, saying they could help with the last \$50 of your bill. It was never enough.

Continued Next Page

Struggling in Texas continued from previous page

"To say to a family that you'll pay the last \$50 or the last \$100 when you have a \$500 utility bill," Smith said. "That means you still gotta keep looking for who's going to help you. There were a lot of times when we had to do that."

Smith would forget to eat. She developed high blood pressure. Research shows high blood pressure, among other poor health outcomes, is a condition of poverty.

"I remember the doctor telling me, well, you have to get rid of the stress. But I can't tell you to do that because that means you'd have to get rid of kids," Smith said. "So all we can do is give you medication."

She recounts this now, but she doesn't know how she lived through it. Sometimes, it feels more like a fever dream than her real life.

If a Child Protective Services case is closed and a kinship caregiver gets legal custody of a child, relatives can seek assistance through the permanency care assistance program. Monthly payments are between \$400 to \$545 per month for each child, depending upon the child's needs.

Kinship caregivers can look to public benefits for another source of assistance. SNAP food benefits, known as food stamps, cover the cost of groceries. Relatives can also get a one-time \$1,000 payment through the TANF program.

But both SNAP and TANF are entangled with red tape, too. The value of families' cars is factored into how much SNAP and TANF aid they are entitled to, kicking some caregivers off the programs entirely.

"I needed a car to take them to school, to doctor's appointments, to day care," said Bristol, with Grandparents Raising Grandchildren. "I needed a car to keep my job, but yet they counted my car and therefore I wasn't eligible for one-time \$1,000 TANF [payment]."

Legislative efforts

Some Texas lawmakers want to pay relatives like Smith more money to care for kids.

In the Senate, Sen. Royce West, D-Dallas, is proposing Senate Bill 908, which would remove the eligibility requirements to getting verified. In the lower chamber, Rep. Lacey Hull, R-Houston, has authored the identical House Bill 2613. Neither bill has yet to be scheduled for a committee hearing, an early step in the legislative process that's vital if they're going to move forward.

Rep. Terry Meza, D-Irving, filed House Bill 1431, which would remove the eligibility requirements for the relative and other designated caregiver program. But her bill has also not yet been scheduled for a debate.

"In the past, the state of Texas has felt like if grandma takes in her grandson, she should be willing to do that without any payment," Meza told The Texas Tribune. "But grandma is on a

fixed income, maybe, probably, likely. And taking on her grandson, even though she's willing to, may present a financial burden on her."

The Texas Legislature last increased payments for relative caregivers in 2017. That legislation's sponsor, Sen. Charles Schwertner, R-Georgetown, at the time said the payments would mean fewer children would end up in the foster care system.

Five years after the passing of that 2017 bill, a panel of child welfare experts said the Department of Family and Protective Services was still underutilizing kinship care and failing to provide adequate support for relative caregivers. That included the disparity in what relatives caring for kids get paid compared to strangers. The panel was authorized by a federal judge in a long-running lawsuit to make a list of recommendations for the state agency. The panel said that in addition to paying kinship caregivers more to provide for kids, Texas could also better support relatives by helping them navigate the foster care system and connect them with more resources.

"Kinship caregivers are a backbone of child welfare systems," the 2022 report said. "There is compelling evidence that children placed with kin experience increased stability, improved well-being and behavioral health outcomes, and high levels of permanency than children placed with strangers."

Lingering at the Capitol

On a recent Sunday, Morris readied all six of her grandchildren for church.

They had just celebrated a birthday; the oldest has just turned 15. Morris was planning to keep the balloons up. With six children under one roof, the next birthday is never too far away.

But the youngest had other plans. With one swoop, he popped the balloons inside their apartment at breakfast.

"Go brush your teeth. Go, go," she told him, in one strong, unwavering command. She still reminds herself she has to be a parent first, and a grandparent second.

She had 45 minutes to pack the six kids in her car. And she still needed to wake up her 14-year-old granddaughter.

Her thoughts were also on the future. Morris isn't sure how she'll make ends meet three years down the road, when the oldest turns 18 and her assistance from the state gets cut.

"How come a kinship can't get the same amount of money? I'm doing the same amount of work," Morris said, who will be 74 years old when the youngest turns 18. "Why is there such a big ol' gap between if you're kinship and if you're a foster parent?"

As bills that could help Morris and other kinship caregivers linger, Sen. José Menéndez, D-San Antonio, said many lawmakers don't see how hard it can be for caregivers, clawing their way out of poverty, to put food on the table or pay for baby formula.

"They're so far removed from what it would be like to have a financial struggle," Menéndez said. "Some people literally don't have the extra money. They don't, they don't, they don't. It's hard for (legislators) to understand that."

PROTECTION & SECURITY IS CONTENTMENT

- Automobile insurance
- Homeowners Renters Insurance
- Life insurance
- Business & Specialty



Edna Mae Price PRICE AGENCY

Your Neighborhood Agent
613 Sandra Bland Pkwy, Ste. 98
Prairie View, Texas 77446
eprice2@farmersagent.com

<https://agents.farmers.com/eprice2>

Call 936-463-3884 today

I can help you secure your most valuable assets

Restrictions apply. Coverage may vary. Not available in all states. See your agent for details. Insurance underwritten by Farmers Insurance Exchange and other affiliated insurance companies. Visit farmers.com for a complete listing of companies. Not all insurers are authorized to provide insurance in all states. Coverage is not available in all states.

Life Insurance issued by Farmers New World Life Insurance Company, 17201 29th Ave. SE, Ste. 300, Bellevue, WA 98004



INNER CITY FINANCIAL SERVICES



TAX SERVICE - INSURANCE - NOTARY

Oscar L. Price, Manager

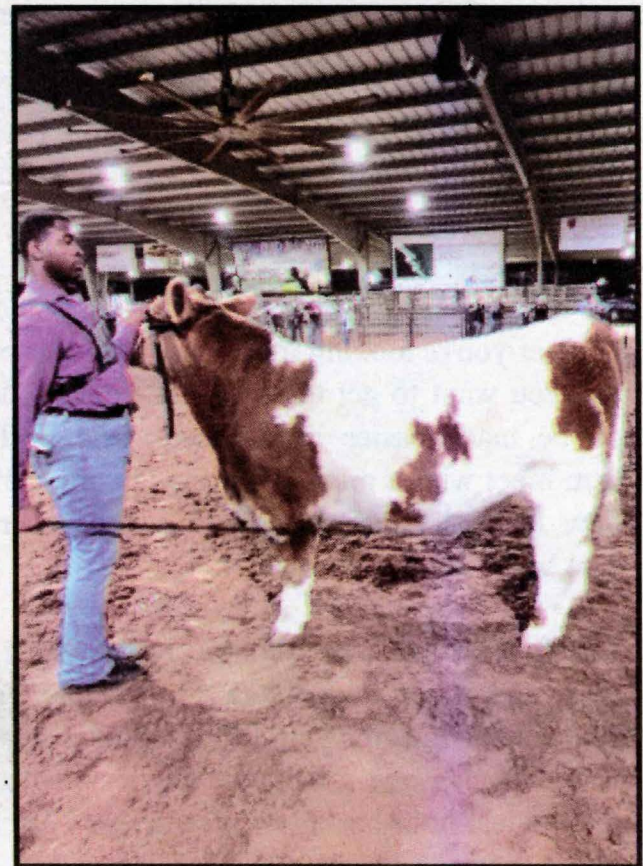
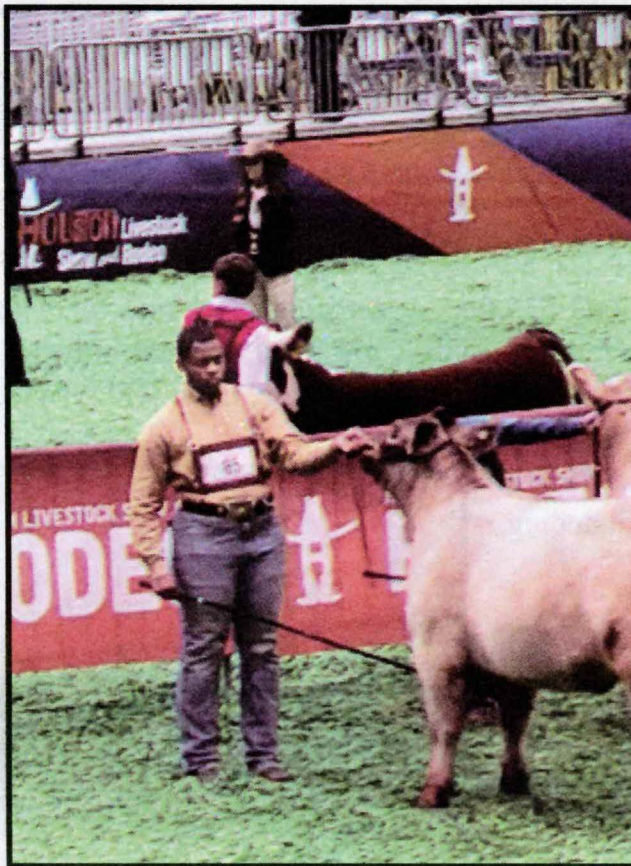
Call Or Stop By Today
Nosotros Hablamos Espanol

Ph. 936.463.3407
Fax: 936.463.3413
Cell: 713.366.2908

P.O. Box 2883
613 Sandra Bland Pkwy. Ste 97
Prairie View, Texas 77446

innercityfinan2326@yahoo.com

Jamary Jeffrey a senior at Waller High School had yet another successful year showing livestock. Picture here, he is showing his steers at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. Jamary is an active member of Greater St. Peter's Baptist Church in Hempstead, Texas



The Prairie View Chapter Top Teens of America and Top Ladies of Distinction, Incorporated attend the 52nd Area I Conference

The Prairie View Chapter attended the Area Conference held at the Dallas Anatole Hilton in Dallas, Texas from Thursday, March 23rd until Sunday, March 26th, 2022. After returning last year from a two-year hiatus, this Area I Conference seemed to be a little busier with more people. Area I which is comprised of the states of Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Arkansas gives the Chapters a chance to showcase their programs and projects for the organization. In addition, there are competitions in essay and speaking for the Teens and best scrapbook and print media for the Ladies and Teens. Also, outstanding Teen and Lady competitions are held. During the midst of the conference, there are plenty of workshops and meetings held and an offsite tour usually of a campus and/or monument. This year the Teens and some of the Top Lady Advisors traveled to Dave and Busters. At the end of the Conference, the Teens were presented at the annual Mr. and Miss Top Teen Presentation Ball where they performed a waltz before many dignitaries. The newest inducted Ladies were acknowledged

as well at the Ball. The Prairie View Chapter was well represented at all angles at the Area I Conference. Teens Christopher Cooper, Kiera Hines, John Reese Mayfield IV, Toni Smith, Ollie Reed IV, Oryn Reed, and Jasmine Watson, the Area I Treasurer, participated in the Area I Choir. Teen Tania Livingston and Teen Kiera Hines, the Area I Corresponding Secretary, competed in the Perdita Jones Essay contest. In addition, Teens Tania Livingston and Jeremiah Milton represented the Chapter as Mr. and Miss Top Teen. The Prairie View Chapter as a whole won first place in print media. Way to go Ladies and Teens on a successful mark at the Area I Conference!! Ladies and Teens in attendance were Ladies Burnest Carter, Gwendolyn Carter, Top Lady Chapter President, Sharon Gillum, Cherie Singleton, and Kimberly Williams



Watson and Teens Christopher Cooper, Kiera Hines, John Reese Mayfield IV, Jeremiah Milton, Ollie Reed IV, Oryn Reed, Toni Smith, Jasmine Watson. Parents Stephanie Turner-Hines and Anita Milton provided transportation.

The Rain Method for Buying a Car

Article by: Prairie View FCU | Cy-Fair FCU

The average cost of a new vehicle today is around \$35,000. Whether you're looking for a brand-new car or a reliable used ride, you want to get the most for your money. The process can be made easier by following the RAIN method: First, meet with a member of the lending staff at Prairie View Federal Credit Union to secure your financing. Then begin the RAIN process:

- Research

Check out Consumer Reports, Kelley Blue Book, and other sources to make sure the vehicle you want is reliable and right for you. Use the buyer's guide to find the wholesale price -- the price the dealership paid minus any rebates, hold-backs, or incentives. That is the price you'll use to negotiate.

- Ask

Ask the dealership for information about the average cost of upkeep. This information is critical as you examine the overall costs of the purchase. Insurance is another big cost. Contact your insurance company to find out the rates you can expect with the vehicle you are looking at.

- Investigate or Inspect

If you're thinking of buying a new car, tell the salesperson at the dealership that on this trip you will be test driving only and not ready to make a deal yet. This is your opportunity to get a feel for the car. Will it meet your needs? How does it handle? Will you be happy with it for years to come? If you're buying a used



vehicle, the inspection process is very important. Very carefully check both the exterior and interior. Take it for a test drive and see how it handles, how it accelerates and brakes. If everything looks and feels good, take it to a

certified mechanic for a full diagnostic check. It may cost you \$100, but not only will you get a detailed report of the condition, most will provide you with a list of problem areas



and the cost to fix them. This will be helpful for your last step.

- Negotiate –

Many people find the negotiation process intimidating, but it's important if you want to get a good deal. Pick out two to three dealerships to visit. Tell the salesperson that you're checking out other dealerships and the one that offers the best deal will be getting your business. Ask them "What's the lowest price you can offer on this vehicle?" Take that number and visit your other dealerships. See which offer comes in the best. If you still aren't happy with the offers, tell them what you think is fair based on the research you have done. If they say no, move on.

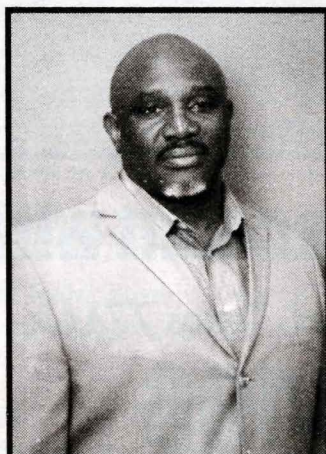
Note: Purchasing a vehicle is probably going to be the second largest expenditure in your life. Being prepared is key to getting the best deal.

PVAMU Receives \$5 Million Grant from USDA

PRAIRIE VIEW, Texas (March 21, 2023) – Prairie View A&M University has been awarded \$5 million to provide training, education and community engagement to underserved farmers across 60 counties in East Texas via the Climate-Smart Farm Planning Program.

This award is part of the Partnerships for Climate-Smart Commodities Funding opportunity announced by the USDA.

“Expanding opportunities for small and underserved producers is a key goal of Partnerships for Climate-Smart Commodities,” said USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack. “Small and underserved producers are facing the impacts of climate change head-on, with limited resources, and have the most to gain from



leveraging the growing market demand for agricultural goods produced in a sustainable, climate-smart way. Our goal is to expand markets for climate-smart commodities and ensure that small and underserved producers reap the benefits of these market opportunities.”

“This initiative provides farming communities with the remarkable opportunity to improve their farming practices, systems and technology while addressing the agricultural sector’s increasingly critical need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions,” said PVAMU Vice President of Research & Innovation Magesh Rajan, Ph.D., P.E., MBA. “The funding for these projects boosts our ability to develop projects that support historically

underserved farmers across the State of Texas. The success of these initiatives will benefit our programs in the scientific community as well as the greater global agricultural industry.”

The Climate-Smart Farm Planning Program will be implemented in three phases:

0. Training and providing technical assistance to farmers;

0. Educational programs and field days to implement regenerative agriculture practices; and

0. Engagement through partnerships to help farmers move through their first harvest and into the marketplace. Furthermore, this includes listening to the individual needs of farmers to incorporate regenerative agriculture practices, financial incentives and ongoing advisement.

The project’s principal investigator is Clarence Bunch, Ph.D., Agriculture Natural Resources program leader of the College of Agriculture and Human Sciences Cooperative Extension Program at PVAMU. Bunch was awarded alongside his colleague, Ram Ray, Ph.D., associate professor in the Cooperative Agriculture Research Center, who is leading the Climate-Smart Sustainability Certificate project.

Bunch has partnered with Cargill Inc. and several community-based organizations, such as Texas AgriForestry Small Farmers and Ranchers, the Landowners Association of Texas, and 100 Ranchers, Inc. to support the diverse range of farmers, ranchers and private forest landowners who will benefit from this new project.

Dr. Bunch noted this would not be possible without CEP Program Specialist Ashley Pellerin, his AgNR Team and the support of Cargill, Inc.

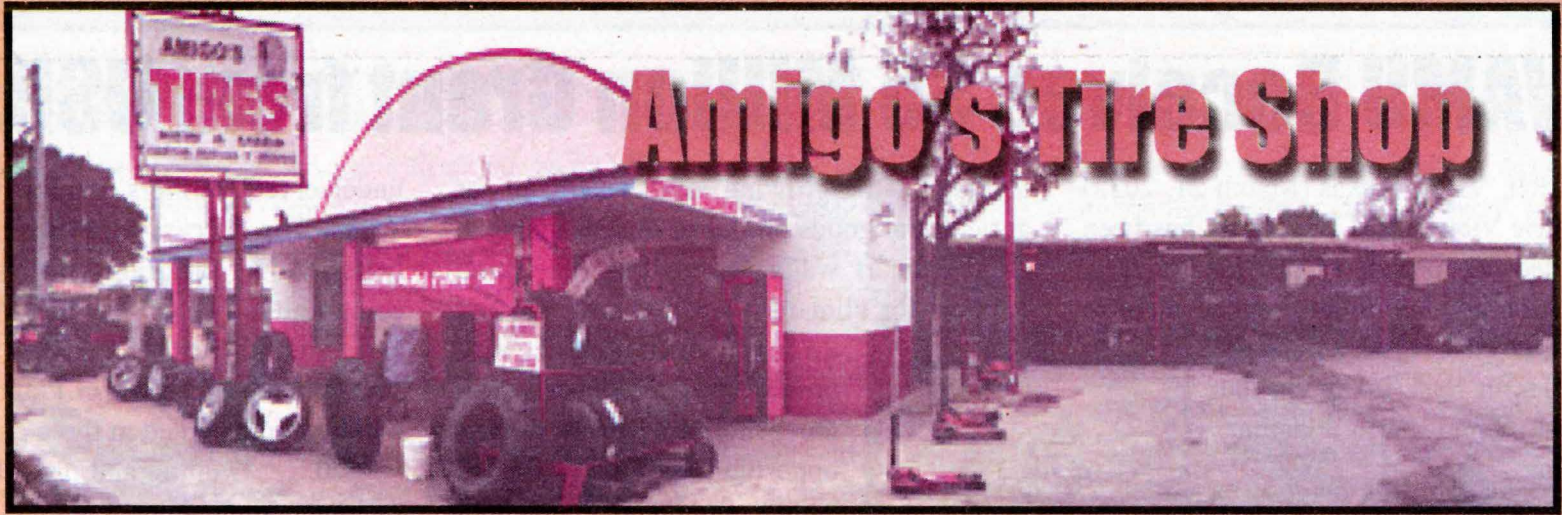
This article by Jenna Craig originally appeared in the March edition of “On the Rise.”

ROYALTY

TAX SERVICE

1 CHILD	\$7100
2 CHILDREN	\$9500
3 CHILDREN	\$10000
STUDENT	\$1000

844-826-2TAX (829)



PVAMU Students 10% Discount with ID

440 Austin Street, Hempstead. Texas 77445

979.826.6496

Royalty
Tax Service

UP TO \$6000

STARTS JAN. 2

CASH ADVANCE

FREE ESTIMATES

844-826-2TAX

HOME OF THE *Royalty*
\$100 REFERRAL

PUBLIC NOTARY
SELF EMPLOYMENT
PERSONAL TAXES
NUMEROS DE ITIN
SE HABLA ESPAÑOL

#ROYALTYISLOYALTY



PVAMU Wins Grant to Expand International Footprint

PRAIRIE VIEW, Texas – Prairie View A&M University has been awarded a grant to host one of four Increase and Diversity Education Abroad for U.S. Students (IDEAS) workshops organized by World Learning. The grant award further solidifies PVAMU's place as a leading institution in providing international study-abroad opportunities for students.

"Hosting this workshop helps the world benefit from our expertise and see us actively contributing to campus internationalization in meaningful and effective ways," said Godlove Fonjweng, Ph.D.,

institutions and communities to create a more peaceful and just world through education, sustainable development and exchange," according to the organization's website.

They accomplish this goal by concentrating on five critical program areas:

- People-to-people exchanges
- Global education
- Institutional strengthening
- Youth workforce and entrepreneurship
- Civic engagement
- TESOL I English teacher training

To date, World Learning states that it has impacted more than 150 countries "to find comprehensive solutions to some of the world's most pressing challenges, such as poverty, conflict, and inequality."

It's no wonder that PVAMU's popular international program will host an upcoming IDEAS workshop, said Fonjweng.

"The mission of Prairie View A&M University's Office of International Programs is to infuse global content in the University's teaching, research, service and aesthetic functions," he said. "We achieve this through targeted and intentional programming designed to enhance the global competence of our graduates."

Designed to increase each university's ability to administer and deploy Study Abroad programs effectively, the IDEAS workshops will benefit both faculty and students from around the country.

"The workshop will help us prepare faculty and international educators from PVAMU and around the country who can deliver the type of international programming that helps students expand their international perspectives," said Fonjweng. "By studying abroad, students learn about other people and their ways of life, thus preparing themselves for our increasingly interconnected global community."

To apply for a Study Abroad opportunity, please email international@PVAMU.EDU or call 936-261-2132 or 936-261-5453.

By Kerry Laird

IDEAS
INCREASE & DIVERSIFY
EDUCATION ABROAD
FOR U.S. STUDENTS

executive director of International Programs at PVAMU. "The Office of International Programs at PVAMU envisions being a nationally recognized program that is playing an important, contributing role in helping ensure PVAMU graduates

seamlessly integrate into an increasingly interconnected global economy and community."

PVAMU's IDEAS workshop, which is set to be held on April 14, 2023, will address "Fighting Climate Change Through Connection Between Study Abroad and the UN Sustainable Development Goals."

At the direction of the U.S. Department of State's USA Study Abroad branch within the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, World Learning awarded grants for other workshops to University of Washington at Tacoma, College of Southern Nevada and University of Wyoming. Announced on Study Abroad Day, the workshops will focus on experiential learning, inclusion and enhancing education at community colleges.

World Learning is part of the Vermont-based School for International Training (SIT), which was founded in the 1960s as the first training site for US Peace Corps Volunteers. World Learning seeks to "enhance the capacity and commitment of individuals,



Prairie View Magazine is published monthly by PV Magazine Printing. Advertising is sold exclusively by the publisher, DeWayne Charleston. For advertising information or to make suggestions for editorial content please call 281.508.0222

PVAMU Bowling Team Wins SWAC: on to NATIONALS

ARLINGTON, Texas – Coming out of the elimination bracket Prairie View A&M University's resilience proved to be what was needed to overcome the Alabama State University bowling team winning their sixth tournament championship in the history of the program.

"This I have to admit was the hardest challenge in a long time trying to get to the Championship match," said the head bowling coach Glenn White. "It was certainly exciting and rewarding to see this young team perform at the level that they did to defeat a veteran returning champion in such an intimidating environment with the cameras and lights. They showed up at the right time to put all their hard work into action. It was an awesome, awesome performance after losing the first match and never losing again. I am one proud coach. Hats off to them and we're looking forward to Regionals."

How it Happened:

The third-seeded Lady Panthers dropped its first match of the 2023 SWAC tournament to Jackson State (947-1035, 844-919) on Friday sending them to the elimination bracket to face number one-seeded Southern, who also lost their first match.

The next round consisted of a bout with Southern moving them back to the winner's bracket with the scores of 1031-966, 994-938. A rematch with Jackson State again found the Lady Panthers moving to the semi-final round that would determine their fate. PVAMU won by the scores of 895-869, and 867-857.

With momentum on their side, the Lady Panthers opened up Sunday taking command with a 966-843, traditional game victory. The five-game baker match came down to PVAMU garnishing a 972-837 win moving them to the championship bracket to face the defending champion Alabama State.

Prairie View A&M went ahead 1-0 in the first match thanks to a narrow 181-179 win. The Lady Panthers continued their surge taking game two (211-185). Alabama State would take game three (180-197), but a 200-162 decision in favor of the Lady Panthers gave them a 3-1 lead. Continuing their momentum PV went on to take game five with a 179-161 four out of seven baker format winning the conference tournament crown with the victory.

Stephanie Vasquez was named the tournament's Most Valuable Bowler, while also earning a spot on the SWAC All-Tournament team. Teammates Ivelisse Reyes and Jayda Gordon also

was named to the All-Tournament team.

Next Up:

PVAMU awaits its opponents for the NCAA Women's Bowling Tournament, with the regional round beginning April 7-8 in Arlington, Texas at the ITRC Bowling Center.

Keep up with all the latest news and information for PVAMU athletics by following pvpanthers.com as well as through Twitter via the PVAMU general sports account (@PVAMUPanthers). You can also follow along on [Instagram.com/pvamupanthers](https://www.instagram.com/pvamupanthers).



Women's Bowling Team Draws Fayetteville State in 1st Round of Natl Tournament

PRAIRIE VIEW – The 2023 Southwestern Athletic Conference Champions Prairie View A&M University Women's Bowling team will begin its march towards the NCAA Championship, drawing Fayetteville State of the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA) as the Lady Panthers learned during the NCAA's Bowling Championship Selection Show.

PVAMU not only will play in the first round they are also the host team for the NCAA Arlington Regionals. The Lady Panthers earned an automatic bid to the dance following their sixth SWAC championship title victory Women's Bowling Tournament days ago.

There will be three other teams joining PVAMU and FSU in the Arlington region. Perennial contender #1 seed McKendree, Sam Houston State, and Louisiana Tech will also be in attendance.

SWAC Tournament MVP Stephanie Vasquez is no stranger to the national stage, this will be her second appearance in two years completing her final year of eligibility. Teammates Ashlyn Okazaki and Ivelisse Reyes will also have their second opportunity to face off on the national stage. The first-timers will be Victoria Cobos, Miranda Fuentes, SWAC

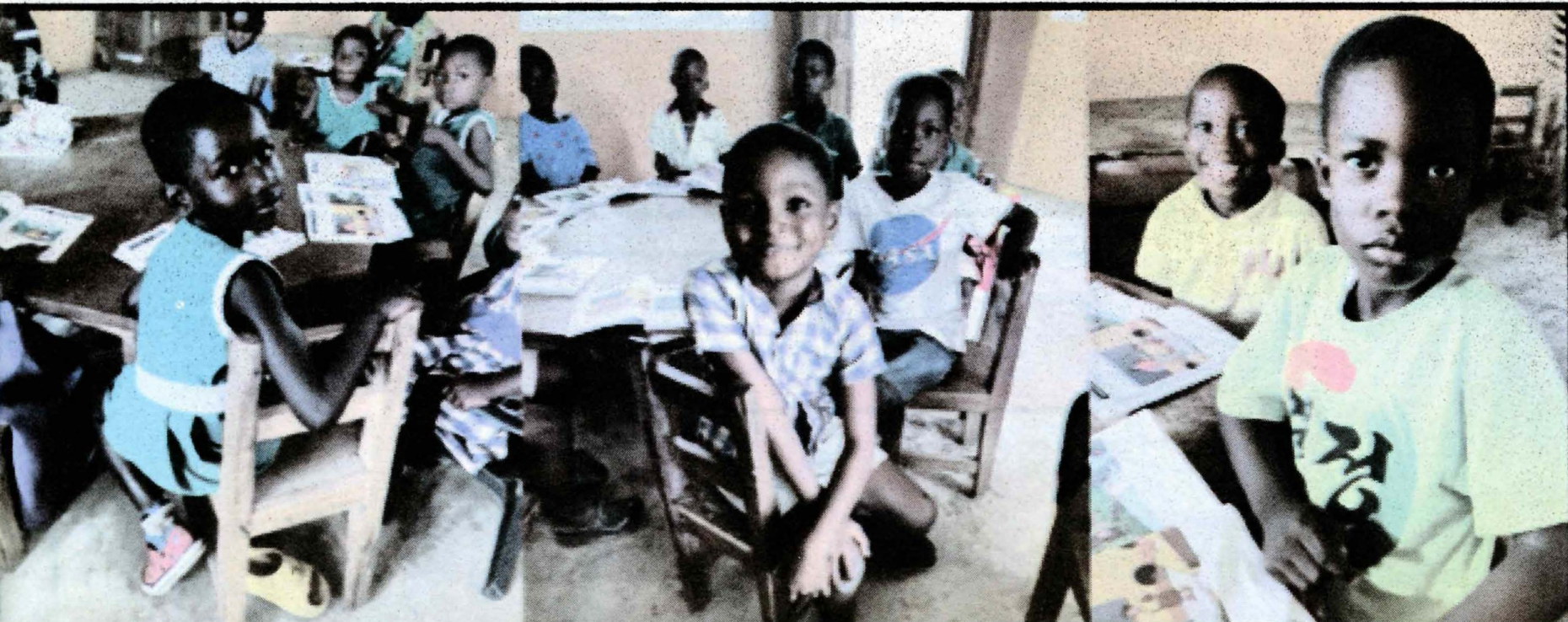
Freshman of the Year Jayda Gordon, and Amani Moore.

The 2023 National Collegiate Women's Bowling Championship regional competition will be held April 6-8 at the International Training and Research Center (ITRC). The winner of each regional will advance to the NCAA Championship rounds on April 14-15 at South Point Bowling Plaza in Las Vegas, Nevada.



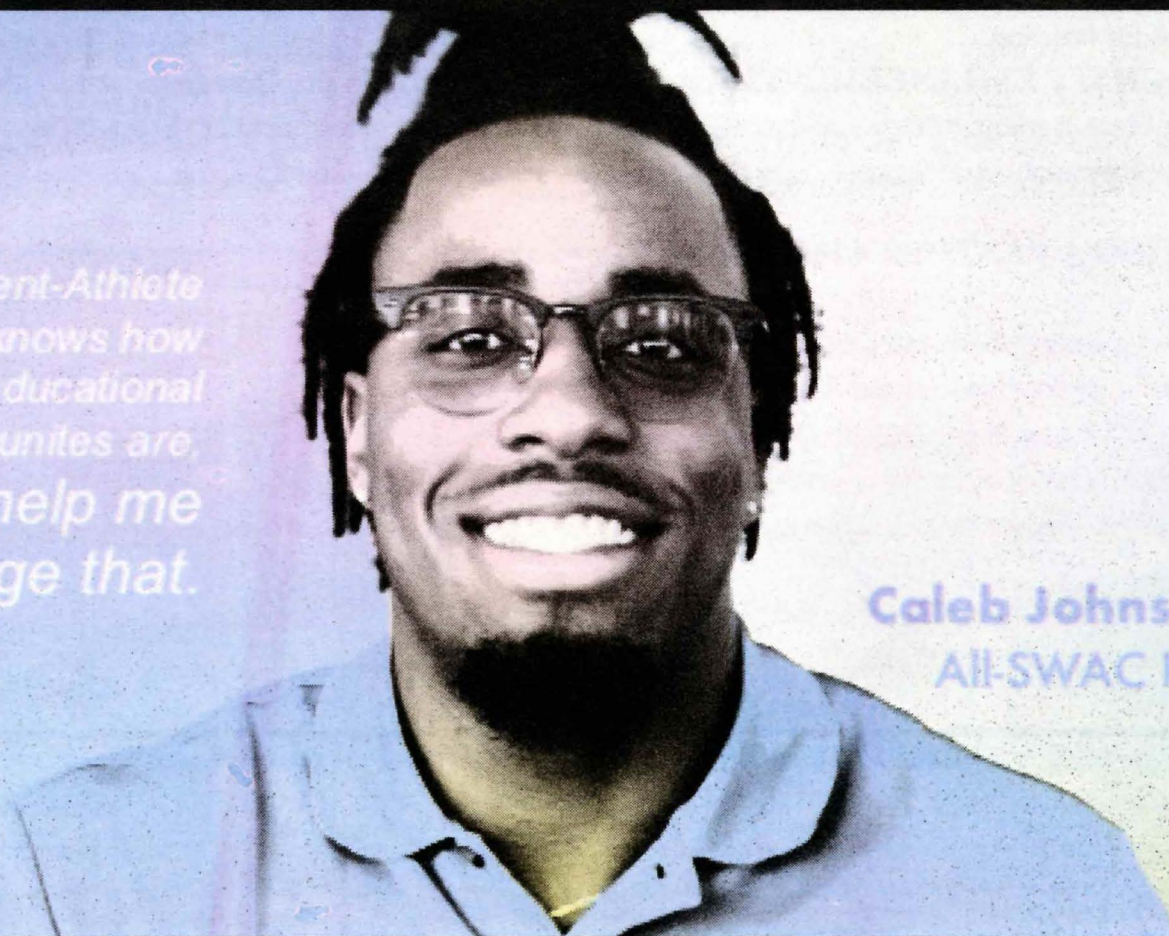
All regionals are double elimination except for the play-in match at the five-team regional which will be single elimination. Each round will consist of teams competing in a best-of-three match format, bowled in the following order: five-person team match; Baker total pin fall; and best-of-seven Baker match play. Regional competition will conclude with one team from each regional bracket advancing to compete in the championship. The champion will be determined using a best-of-seven Baker match play. The championship final will air at 9 p.m. Eastern time, Saturday, April 15 on ESPNU.

Keep up with all the latest news and information for PVAMU athletics by following pvpanthers.com as well as through Twitter via the PVAMU general sports account (@PVAMUPanthers). You can also follow along on [Instagram.com/pvamupanthers](https://www.instagram.com/pvamupanthers).



At the Jukwa Frami Primary School
in Cape Coast, Ghana
200 Students Share a Single Computer

*As a Student-Athlete
who knows how
important educational
opportunities are,
please help me
to change that.*



Caleb Johnson, PVAMU
All-SWAC Runningback

**PURPLE AND GOLD FUND
ATHLETIC ANNUAL FUND**

Why Support the Purple and Gold Fund Athletics Annual Fund ?

Big or small, every gift makes a difference in the lives and educational experience of our student-athletes. Your gift to the Purple and Gold Fund will provide current and future Panthers with a quality education and a premier intercollegiate athletic experience year after year.

How will my gift support Panther student-athletes?

Contributions to the Purple and Gold Fund immediately impact the Athletics Program at Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU). The following are examples of the many ways your gifts can advance the educational experiences of our student-athletes:

- **SCHOLARSHIPS** Over 400 student-athletes participate in Panther sports programs at PVAMU. Scholarships help offset the expense of a college education and further the ability of our students to access a wide-range of educational enrichment opportunities.
- **ACADEMIC SUPPORT AND RESOURCES** Your gifts will elevate our students' abilities to obtain the best scholastic services and tools to meet the rigorous demands of their academic and athletic training.
- **FACILITY ENHANCEMENTS** Your contribution will help the University attract the best and brightest student-athletes and provide a top-tier game day environment through the development, maintenance, and enhancement of our world-class facilities.

SUPPORTING A PANTHER CHAMPION

- \$150 training shoes for a track and field student-athlete
- \$350 new football helmet for a Panther freshman
- \$1,500 A coach's recruitment travel expenses for one semester
- \$4,000 Travel costs for a volleyball away game
- \$10,321 One semester full scholarship for one Panther student-athlete

Thank you for cheering our student-athletes on to success. Their achievements start with you and your gift to the Purple and Gold Fund.