February 7, 2006

Dear Prairie View A&M University family,

I would like to personally extend my condolences and sincere sadness over the loss of our two students. Antwan McKinney, a former football and track athlete who was a graduate student and assistant track coach and Lamond Foster, a former football player and senior political science major, left an impact on our campus and they will be missed. In a family, we often have difficult circumstances to address and challenges to overcome. It is important to allow ourselves the time to mourn and then continue in a spirit that honors the friendships and memories we hold dear.

Losing loved ones and friends is never easy and we do not want to minimize the impact this kind of tragedy can have on any of us. In addition to calling on friends and family if you need to talk, you can access individual and/or group counseling Monday - Friday 9am - 7pm by dialing ext. 2511 or 2217. If you experience medical problems, such as severe headaches, sleeplessness, anxiety, lack of concentration, etc., call 2511 for a medical appointment. Crisis intervention is available 24/7 by dialing 1-800-346-3549. A mental health professional will conduct an initial assessment and referral. Please inform the mental health professional that you are a student or staff member of PVAMU.

Student leaders have planned a memorial service honoring these students which will be Thursday, February 9, 2006 at 11:00 a.m. in the Memorial Student Center Auditorium. Information about funeral services in their hometowns will be forthcoming.

This tragedy should serve as a reminder of how precious life is and how valuable you are to your families, friends and our university family. As I have stated on a number of occasions, please feel free to call or e-mail me or any of the administrators. We are all here to support you and we are committed to your future.

I wish each of you a safe and productive semester.

Sincerely,

George C. Wright
President

www.pvamu.edu