



**PRAIRIE VIEW
A&M UNIVERSITY**



**PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY TO VIE FOR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP OF
32ND HONDA CAMPUS ALL-STAR CHALLENGE (HCASC), AMERICA'S PREMIER
HBCU ACADEMIC COMPETITION**

The HCASC awards more than \$350K annually in grants to campuses competing in the academic knowledge contest.

PRAIRIE VIEW, TX, March 18, 2021 – Hundreds of study hours and intense preparation have paid off for a team of scholars from Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU), who have advanced to the Sweet Sixteen Playoffs in the Honda Campus All-Star Challenge (HCASC). This is the 32nd season for HCASC, billed as America's premier academic competition between students from Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs).

The program challenges students to expand their scope of knowledge on a wide range of topics while gaining lifelong learning skills, including leadership, collaboration, and sportsmanship. This is the 26th year PVAMU has participated in the Honda Campus All-Star Challenge.

"We are delighted and proud once again to compete in the Honda Campus All-Star Challenge. This event has become a much anticipated highlight of our students' experiences," said PVAMU President Ruth J. Simmons.

Members of PVAMU's 2020-2021 team include:

- Xavier Dukes, Captain - Junior, Computer Engineering major, Killen, TX
- Caleb Fisher, Senior, Business Management major, Pearland, TX
- Worthington Moore, Junior, Communications major, Humble, TX
- Thomas Gray, III, Junior, Architecture major, Yonkers, NY
- Herbert Thomas, Coach, and Joseph Dowell, Assistant Coach

Due to the pandemic, HCASC shifted from in-person events to virtual tournaments. On March 20-21, PVAMU will compete in the HCASC Sweet Sixteen Playoffs with the goal of advancing to the National Championship Tournament, April 17-20.

"We have been a part of the HCASC since its beginnings," shared Coach Thomas, who also works in the university's Career Services office as a placement coordinator. "Our students are very competitive, and they love to show that they can compete with the best of the best. Grit in a team is exhibited by knowing each player's strengths and having a collaborative will to succeed. This year's team has GRIT!"

About the program:

Honda Campus All-Star Challenge is a year-round knowledge-based program that enhances educational experiences and personal development opportunities for HBCU students. The program challenges students to expand their scope of knowledge on a wide range of topics while gaining lifelong learning skills, including leadership, collaboration, and sportsmanship. During games, students work together to answer questions about history, science, literature, religion, the arts, and pop culture. Outside of competition, students build camaraderie, network, and become friends for life.

((More))

Established in 1989 to recognize the academic talents of HBCU students, the Honda Campus All-Star Challenge can be a platform to help students pursue their dreams. Prairie View A&M University aims to be the last team standing and win the top prize – a \$75,000 institutional grant from Honda.

“Honda congratulates the students from Prairie View A&M University who demonstrate a passion for knowledge and learning that extends beyond the classroom,” said Alexandra Warnier, manager of Corporate Social Responsibility at American Honda. “For over 30 years, Honda Campus All-Star Challenge has highlighted the academic excellence of HBCUs on a national stage. We look forward to crowning the 2021 HCASC National Champion and celebrating the achievements of these incredible students.”

About the event:

Event: “The Honda Campus All-Star Challenge”
Date: March 20 & 21, 2021
Time: Starting at 10 a.m. EDT
Place: HCASC.com

Honda's Three-Decade Commitment to HBCUs:

For over three decades, Honda has supported the success and dreams of HBCU students through initiatives like the Honda Campus All-Star Challenge and Honda Battle of the Bands (HBOB). These programs have provided unforgettable experiences and opportunities for HBCU students to create memories that will last a lifetime, including meeting and networking with their peers from other HBCU schools. Honda has impacted the lives of more than 200,000 students and awarded over \$14 million in grants in support of HBCU education programs and facilities improvements.

For more information, contact Lillian E. Parker, Honda Campus All-Star Challenge: lillian@hcasc.com, or Rebecca Lee, American Honda: rebecca_lee@ahm.honda.com.

Connect with HCASC on social media using #HCASC.

Facebook: www.facebook.com/HCASC

Twitter: www.twitter.com/HCASC

Instagram: www.instagram.com/hcascpix/

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About Prairie View A&M University: Designated an institution of “the first class” in the Texas Constitution, Prairie View A&M University is the second-oldest public institution of higher education in the state. With an established reputation for producing engineers, nurses, and educators, PVAMU offers baccalaureate degrees, master’s degrees, and doctoral degree programs through nine colleges and schools. A member of The Texas A&M University System, the university is dedicated to fulfilling its land-grant mission of achieving excellence in teaching, research, and service. For more information regarding PVAMU, visit www.pvamu.edu.

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