



Sleepy days are almost over

staff photo by Octavio Garcia

shot, taken from the water tower near the physical plant building, shows a sleepy campus during the semester break. But the peaceful look won't last. Students already are returning.

tenure policy tightened

Prairie View profs waiting

United Press International
PRAIRIE VIEW — Thirteen
Prairie View A&M University
professors are waiting
for news that applications for
tenure from all but three of them
will be denied by administrators
backing down on non-
productive instructors.
"The ones who were accepted
I don't know yet," one profes-
sor, who asked not to be named,
said Monday. "The secrecy
around this place just can't be

cracked. The people who really
know what's going on are afraid
to say anything."

Acting university president
Ivory Nelson said he will not yet
identify the accepted professors.

"In order to get tenure here,
you've got to produce," Nelson
said. "And that's the way things
should have been here before.
To be a tenured professor at
Prairie View, you have to have
been here for seven years. You
have to teach and to publish, and

you have to be active in the com-
munity."

In the past, a faculty member
just had to pass the seven-year
level of employment and then
make application for tenure.

Tenured faculty positions are
akin to permanent jobs.

Nelson, who has brought
sweeping changes to Prairie
View in recent months, says fac-
ulty members at the predomi-
nantly black Waller County
school now can expect to meet
the same tests for tenured posi-

tions as professors at any other
university.

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Preacher, millionaire
smash art treasures

United Press International
FORT WORTH — Evangelist
James Robison and millionaire
T. Cullen Davis last October
smashed \$1 million worth of
jade, ivory and gold art objects
relating to Eastern religions be-
cause they were "graven images"
which do not "please the Lord."

Robison, whose ministry is
based in suburban Euless, Mon-
day confirmed the destruction
of the objects took place. Davis,
exonerated in sensational trials
in the 1970s of murdering his
stepdaughter and wife's lover
and plotting to have his divorce
court judge murdered, refused
to comment.

After the trials, Davis — a
onetime flamboyant playboy in-
dustrialist — became a born-
again Christian under the
leadership of Robison and it was
because of this conversion that
the destruction of the objects
took place, Robison said.

Davis had donated the rare
pieces, including a 4-foot high
jade pagoda carving valued at
more than \$500,000, to Robi-
son's ministry.

They were taken to Dallas for
auction, and Robison said his
reading the Bible as an aide was
driving him to view the objects.

He said he focused on
Deuteronomy 7:25, which says:
"The graven images of their
gods shall ye burn with fire.
Thou shalt not desire the silver
or gold that is on them, nor take
it unto thee, lest thou be snared
therein; for it is an abomination
to the Lord thy God."

"It was so clear that the Lord
didn't want me to receive them,"
Robison said. "It was not biblical,
and as far as I was concerned it
represented a false religion."

Robison and the aide loaded
the objects into a truck and took
them to Davis' mansion. Upon
being shown the Bible verse,
Robison quoted Davis as saying,
"If you can't have it, I can't have
it. We're going to destroy them.
I don't want to do anything that
does not please the Lord."

Davis brought a hammer
from the mansion and he and
Robison smashed the objects in
the driveway.

"I spoke to him (Davis) today

and he told me he doesn't want
attention about this," Robison
said Monday. "He said he knows
why he did it. Those were ob-
jects he had collected all his life,
and when he thought they might
be displeasing to the Lord, he
destroyed them."

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Ruling: Policy proof
not required in cars

United Press International
AUSTIN — Motorists cannot
be penalized for failing to carry
proof of liability insurance with
them when they drive, the Texas
attorney general's office has
ruled.

State law requires every driv-
er to be covered under liability
insurance. Police have ticketed
motorists for failing to provide

proof of such insurance in the
form of the actual policy or a
card from insurance companies.

But in an advisory opinion
released Monday, the attorney
general's office said the law does
not require drivers to carry
proof of insurance.

"Failure to carry, produce or
furnish information concerning
evidence of financial responsi-

bility responsibility is not a crime
or offense under the act," the
opinion said.

The attorney general said if
courts were allowed to try a driv-
er on charges of failing to pro-
vide proof of insurance, it could
violate his right to be presumed
innocent before being proven
guilty.

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