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Eladio Jaimez

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What should happen to Jody Ramsey Stadium?

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WORLD NEWS



■ The governor of the Mexican state of Chihuahua was shot and wounded today in the country's first major act of political violence since it ended 71 years of single-party rule, authorities said. Police said a former member of the state police was taken into custody. Gov. Patricio Martinez was shot in the head inside the state capitol building and taken to a hospital, state and federal officials said.

SPORTS



■ Knicks center Marcus Camby was suspended for five games and will lose about \$345,000 for throwing a wild sucker punch at San Antonio's Danny Ferry. The punishment angered the Knicks, especially coach Jeff Van Gundy, whose head collided with Camby's while he stepped between the players. Van Gundy needed more than a dozen stitches to close the cut over his left eye.



The Student Newspaper of The University of Texas-Pan American

THURSDAY

January 18 2001

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FEATURE

Berenice Meadows shows "Wall of Color" exhibit at the Clark Gallery

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Subway moves into Student Union

Willie B's Express and Moonbeans Coffee open for business Monday

By Melissa Soto

The Pan American

Students will be able to spend part of their weekend hanging out or studying in the Student Union (SU) which plans to expand hours from 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. this Saturday.

"We're going to try that for six weeks and see how that works, evaluate our customer base and our customer business," Student Union director Sam Smith said.

The SU, a two-floor 46,000 square foot build-

ing which opened last semester, will house Subway, Willie B's Express and Moonbeans Coffee.

"The Student Union Advisory Board (SUAB) has known since the beginning that they wanted to have food service in this building," Smith said

Because of paper work which still needs to be completed, Smith says Willie B's Express and Moonbeans Coffee will not be operating until Monday. Subway is already open and will be available from 10:30 a.m.

to 7:00 p.m. on Monday through Friday and 11:00 am to 3:00 p.m. on Saturdays. However, menu selection is small due to the limited space provided for necessary equipment.

"We have had to do a lot of mechanical things to accommodate all of their cooking equipment, and that was an issue," Smith said. "They don't have the space to run a whole compliment menu, and there's no reason until they see what business is going to be like."

With the addition of

three air-hockey tables, two foosball table, three ping-pong tables and a 60" big screen TV in the upper game room, Smith says student activity in the SU has more than doubled into just two days of the spring semester.

An Automated Teller Machine (ATM), a KIOSK, and two pay-phones were also installed during the holiday break. Smith plans to place two more 25" TVs on the walls of the dining area and a 27" TV in the TV room. Smith

says in the future, a convenient store will be located inside the Student Union.

Four study rooms are located upstairs on a first come, first served basis and four meeting rooms, which can convert to six rooms. The meeting rooms are open to the university and student organizations.

"It's a great facility, we need to understand that it's being paid for by students, this is a student building, so we need to do what students need to get done," Smith said.

TxDOT seeks input from residents on University Drive construction

By Eliza Lopez

The Pan American

The Texas Department of Transportation plans to host a public meeting in Edinburg concerning future construction on University Drive.

A date and time has not been set for the meeting, but designer Joseph Leal said it would be held before April.

"The project has to be ready for bidders by September," Leal said. "The reviewing process of the plans in Austin takes three months, so we want the meeting at least five months prior to September."

TxDOT will present their project and everything about it. They expect feedback from the community to improve the project.

"If the open meeting shows good results, we are

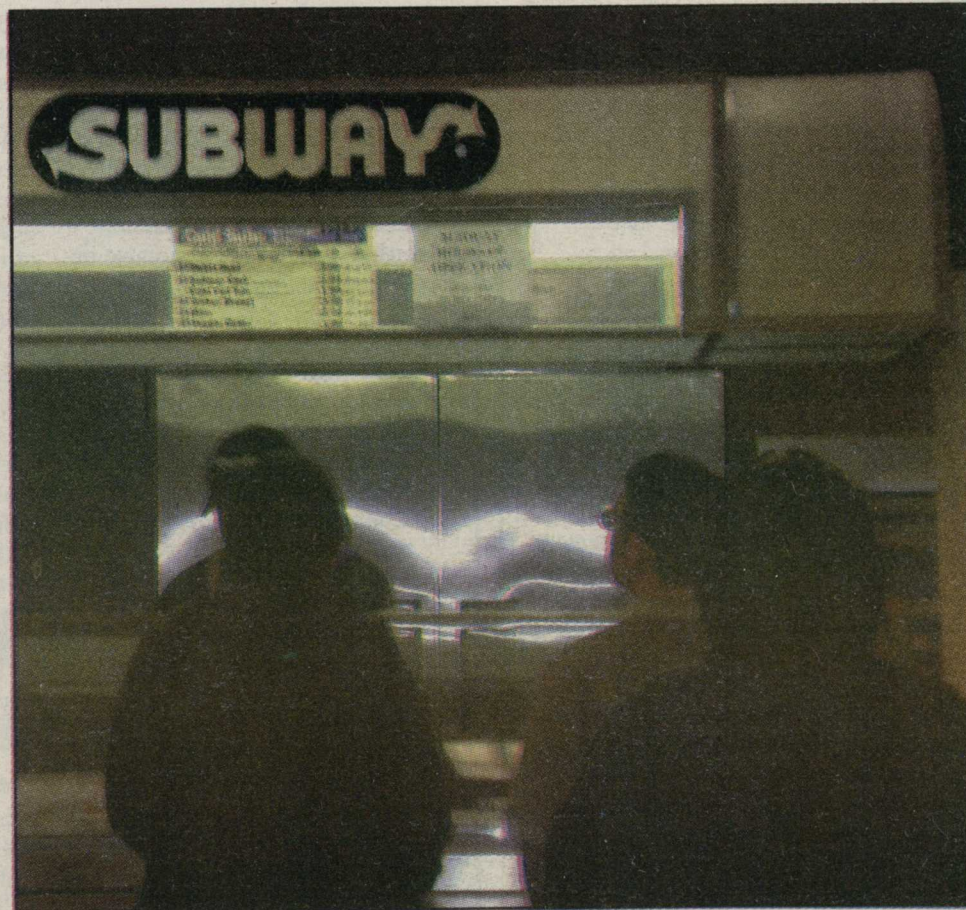
looking at hopefully starting the project towards the late part of the year, in October or November," said, TxDOT Area Engineer Mario Jorge.

According to the TxDOT, 126 accidents occurred on University Drive in the last three years. A majority of the accidents occurred when cars made left turns and cut across on coming traffic.

This prompted Edinburg city officials to contact TxDOT for construction of a median covering the turning lane. The median will run between Jackson and 10th street in Edinburg.

TxDOT hopes the six inch concrete curb will eliminate the points of conflict.

According to TxDOT, only the lanes adjacent to the median will be closed during onstruction.



- Eliza Lopez/The Pan American

LETS DO LUNCH: Students stand in line in front of the new Subway in the Student Union. The restaurant opened on Tuesday and Willie B's Express and Moonbeans Coffee will open on Monday. The Student Union opened in September, but had no restaurants



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THE PAN AMERICAN is an official publication of The University of Texas-Pan American and is produced in the Communication Department. Views presented are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect those of the university administration.

Letters policy

Letters to the editor must include your name, address, and phone number. They will be printed on a space available basis.

Editor's Thoughts

Heroes, legends and Roadrunners

By Eladio Jaimez
 The Pan American

New millennium, new president, new editor

As we officially enter the third millennium, the United States and Mexico begin the year with new presidents. Vicente Fox Quesada and the National Action Party (PAN) take over after the Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) held office for 71 years (note to the PRI: think of changing the name of your party because after 71 years of being in power, the party is no longer revolutionary).

On this side of the border, The United States Supreme Court appointed Bush the 43rd President of the United States, after more than a month of fighting over dimpled and pregnant chads in Florida.

A change in power occurred closer to home as well. I was hired to take over as editor of The Pan American.

The majority of you probably would never mention me in the same breathe with Fox or Bush, but the odds are one of the two breaks a promise or does something wrong before me.

I take over as editor after my fourth semester as a member of The Pan American staff. I look forward to continue working with my staff, the Communications Department and the university. I welcome letters from all our readers, not just students, faculty and staff of UTPA.

Rollins Remembered

I remember when I walked into the newsroom last spring on the first day of school and learned our advisor and journalism instructor Bob Rollins had passed away.

Yesterday marked the one

year anniversary of his passing.

I am one of the few students remaining in the communications department who had the privilege of having a class and working with him. Those who shared that privilege understand the great loss the department suffered when Rollins lost his six-month battle to cancer.

Rollins is still missed a year later and will be missed for years to come. However, his memory lives on in the students he taught and touched. Students that have gone on to be teachers and advisors themselves. Students who have gone on to be reporters with *The Los Angeles Times*, *The Dallas Morning News* and *The Monitor*, to mention a few.

Gotta take the good with the bad

Baseball fans are currently experiencing a bitter-sweet moment.

The same day Minnesota Twins teammates Kirby Puckett and Dave Winfield became only the seventh pair of teammates to be elected to the Hall Of Fame on the same year, the games last .400 hitter, Ted Williams, underwent surgery to repair faulty heart valves.

Fans of those magical Twins must be proud to see two of their own get elected to the Hall of Fame. Puckett and Winfield are joined by Jim Rice, Bruce Sutter and Goose Gossage when they get inducted in Cooperstown, NY. Both Puckett and Winfield made it in their first year of eligibility.

Williams is listed in critical conditions at New York Presbyterian Hospital's Weill Cornell Medical Center where he'll remain 10-14 days.

Williams is not only one of the games true living legends, but an American hero.

Williams took time off from baseball to serve his country as a fighter pilot during World War II.

Its about time

A semester after the Student Union opened, resaurants have finally moved in giving students a choice of eateries on campus.

The Student Union is not complete, however. The convenience store is still empty and the t.v room still lacks t.v.'s. Maybe by next semester we'll be able to enjoy the whole Student Union.

Let's give Student Union director Sam Smith credit though. We do have a nice gameroom where we can play foosball or shoot pool. Just don't drop the cue ball or any ball on the floor because you'll have to pay a one dollar fine.

There's a new bird in town

The Texas Louisiana League expansion team in Edinburg finally has a mascot. The Roadrunners join the Rio Grande Valley Whitewings from Harlingen as the second Valley team in the TL-L.

The name was chosen from a list of five finalist including the Outlaws, Vaqueros, Posse and Landsharks. The league went with the Roadrunners because the mascot appeals more to children.

Whatever mascot they chose and for whatever ridiculous reason, the rivalry between the two Valley teams should be a fun one to watch. It may not be as intense as the Red Sox and Yankees or the Mets and Braves, but the Whitewings and Roadrunner's matchup should make for some great baseball in the Valley.

- Thumbs up to remembering last New Year's Eve celebration.
- Thumbs up to Christmas gifts you actually found useful
- Thumbs up to getting enough rest.
- Thumbs up to pizza coupons
- Thumbs up to The Simpsons on syndication.
- Thumbs up to tax and duty free stores.
- Thumbs up to getting things done.
- Thumbs up to all night cafes



- Thumbs down to overfining Marcus Camby.
- Thumbs down to long days at work that won't end.
- Thumbs down to fruit cake surpluses.
- Thumbs down to cleaning up after big parties.
- Thumbs down to the University Bookstore for giving students five days to return books for a refund.
- Thumbs down to writer's block.

BRONC Talk

What should happen to Jody Ramsey Stadium

—Eliza Lopez



Criselta Galaviz
Freshman
Psychology

Well, it should be used maybe for the little kids to play there.

Hector Salinas
Junior

Mechanical Engineering

If it won't be used educational wise, the should tear it down and use it for parking.



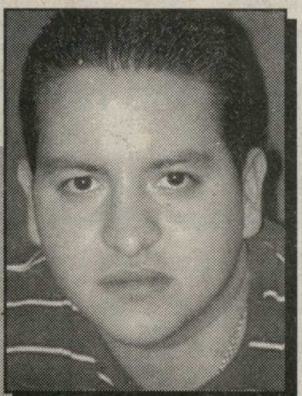
Laura Molina
Freshman
Journalism

It should remain and be used for educational purposes.



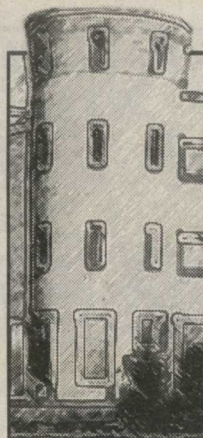
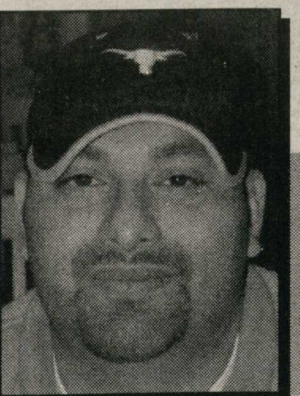
Efrain Cevallos
Freshman
Music

I think it should be used for practice.



Rolando Mejorado
Junior
Interdisciplinary Studies

I think they should just tear it down and use it for a parking lot.



Campus

news briefs

Former sports writer takes a swing at editor position

By Melissa Soto
The Pan American

Senior communications student Eladio Jaimez will serve as the editor of The Pan American for the spring 2001 semester. The 23-year old Harlingen native was selected last December by the Student Publications Committee.

As editor, Jaimez does not plan to change the layout format of the newspaper right away. He will, however, replace Ryan Henry's editorial cartoon with an editorial column. Jaimez hopes to eventually increase distribution of The Pan American to cover the McAllen and Mission areas as well.

Jaimez says he would also like to see the entire communications department participate with the production of The Pan American, in which both instructors and students could benefit.

"I hope to get the student body more involved by encouraging professors to feed stories from their journalism classes to the student newspaper," Jaimez said. "Everyone wins if students can sharpen their reporting skills and practice meeting deadlines."

As previous editors, Jaimez realizes a shortage in staff



Eladio Jaimez

reporters could be a problem. He encourages students to apply for volunteer or paid positions.

"Students should also consider the fact working in the newspaper is a great experience for them—valuable experience that will be valuable no matter what field they go into, no matter what their major is," Jaimez said.

Jaimez volunteered as a sports writer in the spring of 1999 before he joined the staff full-time. He worked his way up to sports editor by his fourth semester at The Pan American, and he was promoted to senior reporter last fall. Jaimez covered campus and community events, as well as political news stories, including visits by President Clinton and the Gore/Lieberman

campaign.

"I wanted to prove to myself that I could write more than sports, and I did it when I wrote about news and politics," Jaimez said.

The decision to apply for editor was another personal challenge Jaimez made to himself. He saw the editor position as an opportunity to test the knowledge he's gained in his employment at The Pan American.

"I want to get the experience in college of not just being a reporter, but also on editor," Jaimez said. "It will hopefully give me an advantage when it comes for a job in the real world."

Jaimez expects his current work relationship with the staff to continue throughout the spring semester.

"I've worked with them and we all got along very well," Jaimez said. "I expect the job to be hard but with the help of the staff and the experience of our advisor Arturo Longoria and our advertising coordinator Juanita Sanchez, it will make my job easier."

Anyone interested in joining the newspaper can pick up an application at The Pan American business office, room 171 in the COAS building.

UTPA to host "Science Day"

Special to The Pan American

More than 1,000 high school and middle school students from Edinburg, McAllen and the Upper Rio Grande Valley will visit The University of Texas-Pan American Feb. 2 for "Science Day."

Sponsored by the College of Science and Engineering, tours of the campus will be

provided from 8:30-10:30 a.m. Afterward, there will be a one-hour "Physics Circus" at the Fieldhouse by Dr. Karl Trappe of The University of Texas at Austin Department of Physics. The "Physics Circus" is a collection of fun and fascinating demonstrations designed to show the excitement of physics. Trappe has given hundreds of these shows around Texas

since 1978, and this will be his first appearance in the Valley.

In addition, UTPA will co-host the 14th annual conference of the Rio Grande Science Teachers Association, Feb. 3 at 7 a.m.

Trappe also will provide a "Physics Circus" at 1 p.m. in the Student Union.



UTPA's award-winning student newspaper, *The Pan American*, seeks enthusiastic students to report the following:

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- * Science, Environment & Health
- * Politics and Government
- * Art and Leisure
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Volunteer and paid positions are available. Reporters will gain valuable experience to carry over into any career. All majors accepted.

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**TUESDAY
FEBRUARY 22, 2000**

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STD check-ups increase after school breaks

College students seek treatment more frequently following school breaks from summer, Christmas, Spring Break

Daniel Garcia Ordez
The Pan American

UTPA's health center reports an increase in sexually transmitted disease (STD) check-ups following school breaks. The center's director, Dr. [Name], noted that the number of students seeking treatment for STDs has risen significantly since the start of the semester. This trend is attributed to the high number of students returning to school after long breaks, during which they may have engaged in unprotected sex. The center offers confidential testing and treatment for various STDs, including chlamydia, gonorrhea, and syphilis. Dr. Ordez emphasized the importance of regular check-ups and safe sex practices to prevent the spread of these infections.

NEWS

UTPA's health center reports an increase in sexually transmitted disease (STD) check-ups following school breaks. The center's director, Dr. [Name], noted that the number of students seeking treatment for STDs has risen significantly since the start of the semester. This trend is attributed to the high number of students returning to school after long breaks, during which they may have engaged in unprotected sex. The center offers confidential testing and treatment for various STDs, including chlamydia, gonorrhea, and syphilis. Dr. Ordez emphasized the importance of regular check-ups and safe sex practices to prevent the spread of these infections.

Department of

Miguel Liscano
The Pan American

UTPA Foundation reaches \$60,000 scholarship goal to help Valley Scholars complete degrees

Special to The Pan American

Recipients of a new scholarship thanked donors Thursday at The University of Texas-Pan American and promised their money was "well invested" after University officials announced they had reached their \$60,000 goal.

The UTPA Foundation matched an initial investment of \$30,000 from the Valley Alliance of Mentors and Scholarships (VAMOS) after the McAllen Medical Center Foundation agreed to donate \$15,000 annually to the fund.

Other donors include: Don Kurth of Alps Automotive, Ticona/Celanese, Inc., Mr. and Mrs. Maxie Carpenter, Guerra Brothers, Felix Martinez, Joe Phillips, Karen Kilgore and Louella Russell.

The fund will allow Valley Scholars to complete their baccalaureate degree at UTPA after transferring from South Texas Community College.

"I take great pride in meeting VAMOS' challenge in such a short time," said UTPA Foundation Chairman Roy Martinez. "The response to this program has been great, and this is not the end of the story but just the beginning."

VAMOS and the UTPA Foundation each has committed \$30,000 annually to award \$60,000 in scholarships for up to 20 transfer students through the UTPA/VAMOS Valley Scholars program.

Biology major Belinda Cerda and two classmates – education major Yvonne Benavides and mechanical engineering major Cecilia Gonzalez – said they were pleased to be among the first recipients of the scholarship.

"On behalf of all the recipients, I want to thank VAMOS, STCC, UTPA and everyone who sponsors us," Cerda said. "I and the other scholarship recipients will prove that your money is well invested."

The UTPA/VAMOS Valley Scholars program will enhance the partnership between STCC and the University, said Roland S. Arriola, UTPA vice president for External Affairs.

"We're really expanding and strengthening the great relationship between the college and the University," said Arriola. "This program is just another part of that relationship, and we envision it growing substantially as more and more STCC Valley Scholars graduate."

Also on hand were McAllen Mayor Leo Montalvo, John

Starting with a \$30,000 investment from the Valley Alliance of Mentors and Scholarships, the UTPA Foundation reached its \$60,000 scholarship goal, allowing Valley Scholars to complete their baccalaureate degree at UTPA after transferring from STCC.

Schrock Sr. and Harold Siglar of the McAllen Medical Center Foundation, STCC President Dr. Shirley A. Reed, STCC Vice President for Institutional Advancement Dr. Ramiro Casso, VAMOS Board of Directors Vice President Sonia Falcon, and VAMOS Board Member Paul Rodriguez.

The UTPA/VAMOS Valley Scholars program is similar to an STCC program that began in 1997. The STCC endeavor assists Hidalgo and Starr County high school graduates who are in the top 5 percent of their school's graduating class, with their tuition and fees covered by local benefactors.

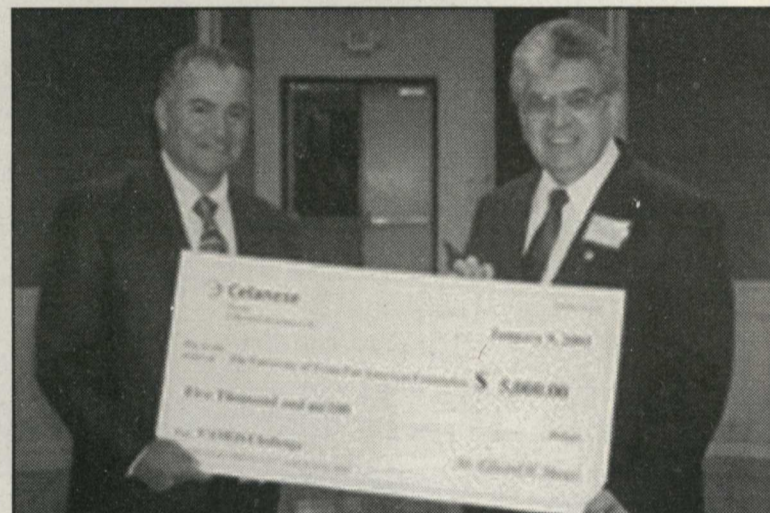
"This is another very important partnership between UTPA and STCC," said Reed. "Students who have a scholarship for the first two years sometimes find it difficult to get a scholarship for their junior and senior years. That's why it is critical Pan Am partner with

the community college so these students can go on and have a scholarship for their entire four years."

Formed in early 1995, VAMOS is comprised of local professionals dedicated to helping

students attend college. It has provided scholarships to Hidalgo County high school students for their outstanding achievements and academic performance.

"As proud as we are of the donations and contributions we've made, the thing we are most proud of is our students," said Falcon. "I want them to keep up the good work and stay with it. If you have brothers and sisters, I also would encourage them to focus on their education and apply for this scholarship."



Ticona CEO Edward H. Munoz, left, presents \$5,000 to Roland S. Arriola, Vice President for External Affairs, for the company's contribution to the UTPA Foundation as part of the UTPA/VAMOS Valley Scholars Program.

Campus Calendar

January

Friday, January 19 The UTPA Music Department presents the first in a series of concerts performed by the UTPA Mariachi at 7 p.m. The concerts continue Jan. 20 at 7 p.m. and Jan. 21 at 2 p.m. All are in the UTPA Fine Arts Auditorium. Tickets are \$5 in advance or \$7 at the door.

Call 381-3471 for more information.

Saturday, January 20 Tours of the Shary-Shivers home will mark the beginning of the Mission Citrus Fiesta. Tours will run in the morning and afternoon. Tickets are \$5 and may be purchased at the Shary-Shivers Estate or by calling 381-2500.

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Thurs. - 1 Tacotote
Fri. - 3 Tacos Reynosa
(includes rice, beans, & drink)

UTPA Student Health Services earns national accreditation

Special to The Pan American

Having met nationally recognized standards for quality health care, The University of Texas - Pan American Student Health Services recently was awarded a certificate of accreditation by the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care, Inc.

"We are pleased and proud to have achieved accreditation," said Rick Gray, Student Health Services director. "We think accreditation is very important and has helped us to improve the quality of care we provide. We feel that our students are the ultimate beneficiaries from our participation in the accreditation program."

"I am also thankful and proud of the staff in the facility," Gray added. "Their dedication to quality and hard work was the key to this favorable accreditation decision."

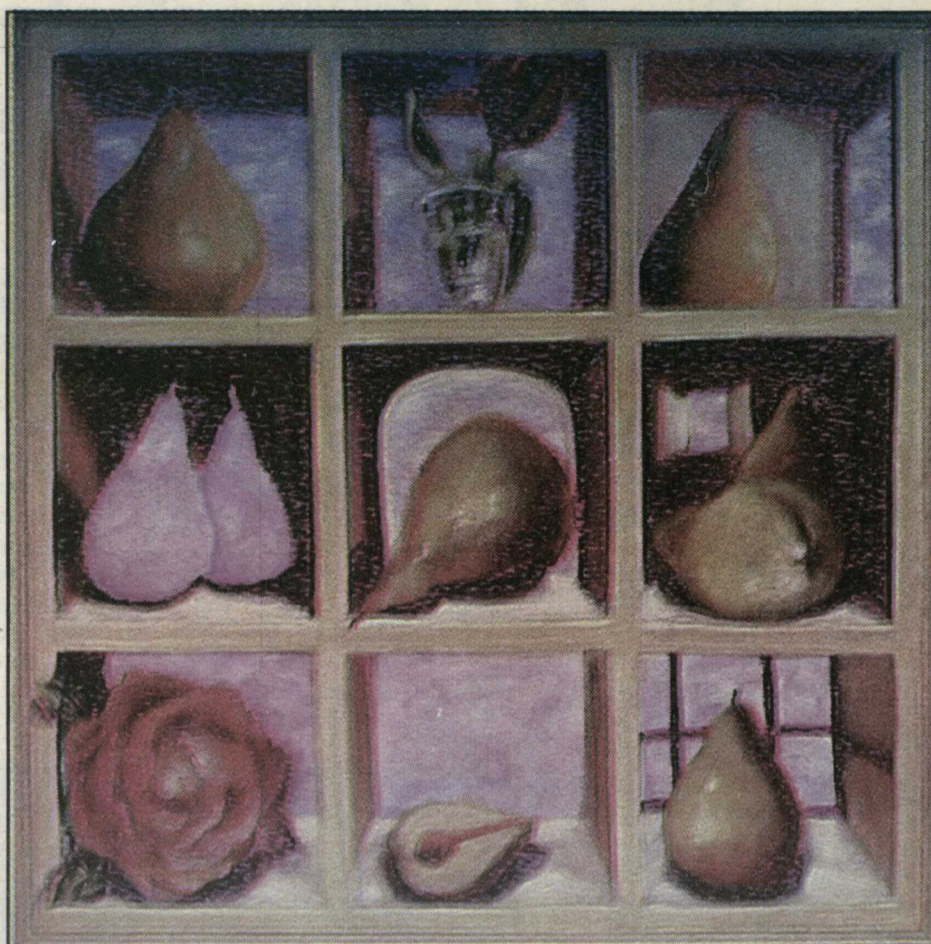
The accreditation process involved UTPA Student Health Services undergoing an extensive on-site survey of its facilities and services. The survey team, which was composed of physicians and health care

administrators, evaluated all aspects of patient care, with survey findings that resulted in a favorable decision.

"The dedication and effort necessary to achieve accreditation is substantial," wrote AAAHC President Dr. William Beeson in a letter to the University. "UTPA Student Health Services is to be commended for this accomplishment."

UTPA Student Health Services is one of only five accredited Student Health Centers in Texas, joining The University of Texas at Austin, Texas A&M University, Texas Tech University and Southern Methodist University.

The Chicago-based nonprofit AAAHC conducts its accreditation program on a national basis. It has accredited more than 800 ambulatory health care organizations, which include single and multi-specialty group practices, ambulatory and office-based surgery centers, college and university health services, health maintenance organizations and other managed care systems, dental group practices, community health centers, and occupational health centers.



Meadows' "Wall of Color," which took 13 months to complete, is on display in the Clark Gallery until Feb. 28. Admission is free and the gallery is open Monday through Friday except holidays.

Her Wall of Color

After traveling to different universities across the nation, Berenice Meadows' 13-month project "Wall of Color" is on display in the Clark Gallery in the Fine Arts Building

By Eliza Lopez
The Pan American

" I like the academic environment. I like to share my work with the students and see their work as well.

— Berenice Meadows
Artist

Seven and a half years ago artist Berenice Meadows was working on her Bachelors Degree in Psychology. She was lacking three credits in order to graduate so she took an art class with Professor Bruno Andrade at Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi. When the professor saw her paintings he encouraged her to continue painting.

Meadows has been painting ever since.

She started with flower paintings because she loved the nature of it, and painted flowers for some time. Meadows then moved on to paint candies, lollipops, and toys until she began landscape and fruit paintings, which led to her exhibit "Wall of Color."

In October of 1999, Meadows wrote to UTPA requesting they host her exhibit. She sent her portfolio to UTPA as well as other universities across the country.

"I like the academic environment. I like to share my work with the students and see their work as well", Meadows said. She added that she sent her work to UTPA hoping that UTPA's proximity to Mexico would open up other doors.

Meadows said having her work chosen is competitive because universities don't choose just anyone. The portfolios go through a selection process with professors making the decision as to which exhibits will be shown.

"The professors select the portfolios with the work that they would like exhibited," Meadows

said.

After six months of travelling to various universities, Meadows' exhibit is on display in the UTPA Clark Gallery in the Fine Arts Building.

"Wall of Color" took 13 months to complete, but Meadows thought at that point in her life it was time for her to create this type of a difficult piece.

"The importance of the pieces is that this will be the last time all the paintings will hold together," Meadows said.

Meadows' next stop is Galveston, where she'll present her exhibit later this year. In October, Meadows' paintings will be on display at the Multicultural Center in Corpus Christi.

The paintings are on display in the Clark Gallery now through Feb. 28. Admission to the gallery is free and is open Monday through Friday.

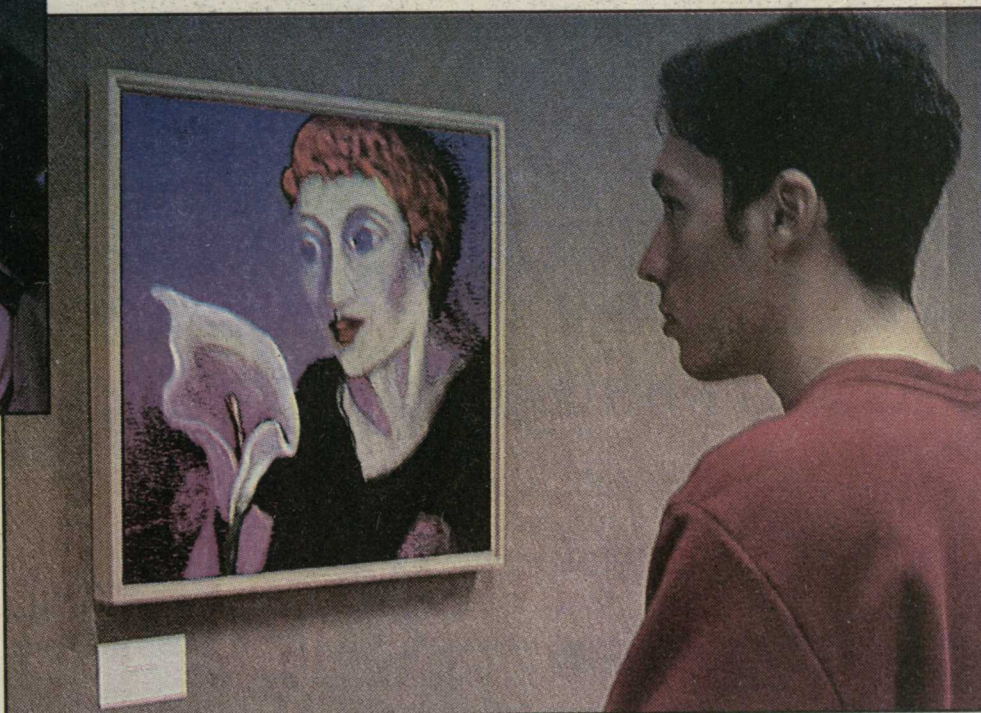
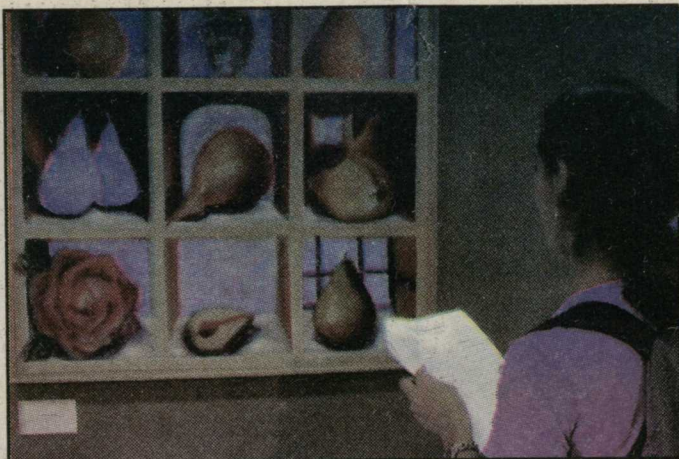
On Thursday, Feb. 1 from 7 to 9 p.m. there will be a reception where Meadows will be on

hand to answer any questions people might have about her paintings.



Andy Gomez ponders some pears that are part of Meadows' "Wall of Color" exhibit.

Photos by
Ileana Garcia Spitz



(Above) - UTPA students Maria Martinez (above) and Rafael Sierra (right) take notice to several of the eight larger paintings that make up Meadows' exhibit.

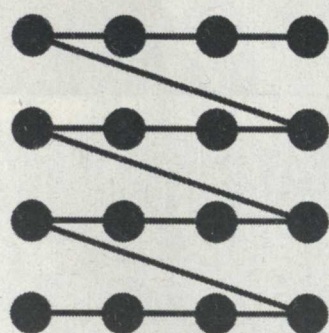


Meadows hangs 100 12-inch by 12-inch oil on canvas paintings in five rows of 20 to create this "Wall of Color." Meadows used recycled and scrap materials to make the canvases for each painting.

✱ COMMUNICATION.

T H E A N T I - D R U G .

A loving relationship cannot exist without communication. Research shows that kids believe they have valuable things to say. When parents ask them and listen genuinely, **it helps build self-esteem and confidence.** Also it demonstrates that you support their burgeoning independence as well as their ability to make intelligent decisions. The important thing to remember about drugs is that **it's not a five minute talk about sex. It's a dialogue.** As kids grow, they will need more information relevant to their exposure. In general, smoking marijuana is harmful. The younger a kid is, the more it may be. Research shows that people who smoke it before age 15 **are 7 times more likely to use other drugs.** It also shows that people who didn't smoke marijuana by age 21 were more likely to never smoke it. For more information, visit www.theantidrug.com or call 800.788.2800.



Communication is connection. During their teenage years, kids are exposed to an ever widening variety of people and influences. Know their friends as well as their friends' parents. Know your kids' routines and set curfews. Tell your kids that you love them. Praise them when they do well, no matter how small the accomplishment. Stay connected.

Getting to know your kids and staying involved with them is one of the most effective drug deterrents. Through their teenage years, this is not always easy. Even still, research shows that kids still want this to happen, even as they are exploring and growing into their own individuality. One way to do this is to set dates to do things together and plan routine activities (Saturday lunches, Sunday afternoon drives) where you can catch up. This message is brought to you by Partnership for a Drug-Free America*.

PARTNERSHIP FOR A DRUG-FREE TEXAS AND AMERICA

TOLL FREE

1-877-9-NO DRUG



-Arnulfo Moreno

TEAMWORK: Lady Broncs I-r, Naima Williams, Erin Buttery, Alexis Williams, Michelle Smith and Cheveron Terry huddle up during a game against the Unicversity of New Orleans. Despite an 80-70 setback the Lady Broncs are off to one of their best starts in recent history.

Bowen discusses occupational therapy at Faculty Forum

Special to The Pan American

Judith E. Bowen, occupational therapy program coordinator at UTPA, will be the speaker at the UTPA Alumni Association Faculty Forum, Feb. 7 at noon at The Tower Club in McAllen.

Bowen will discuss "Occupational Therapy: Skills for the Job of Living," including a brief review of the origin of the profession, its central philosophical theme and relevance to health care in the new millennium. The presentation is scheduled to begin at 12:20 p.m. and end at 1 p.m.

Bowen has been an occupational therapist for more than 30 years, with clinical practice in New Jersey, New York, Tennessee, Kentucky and Texas. She taught at Eastern Kentucky University before coming to the Rio Grande Valley in 1996.

Bowen helped implement the UTPA Occupational Therapy

UTPA Occupational Therapy program coordinator Judith Brown will discuss "Occupational Therapy: Skills for the Job of Living" during a Faculty Forum on Feb. 7.

Program, which became an independent program Sept. 1, 1999. Last spring, it was fully accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education.

The Faculty Forums, which feature prominent UTPA faculty members sharing their expertise and research, are

presented the first Wednesday of most months at the Tower Club, 200 S. 10th St., and are open to the public.

Tickets are \$12.50 per person and include lunch. Contact the Alumni Office at (956) 381-2500 for reservations.



BOWEN

Free estate planning seminars offered in region

Special to The Pan American

A free series of estate planning seminars in simple, non-technical terms will be provided Jan. 18 through March 4.

Sponsored by The University of Texas-Pan American Foundation and the Rio Grande Valley Estate Planning Council, Inc., the seminars will be led by volunteer teams of estate planning professionals, including attorneys, financial planners, certified public accountants, trust officers and investment brokers.

The seminar schedule is as follows: Jan. 18, UTPA

International Trade and Technology Building, 1-5 p.m.; Jan. 23, Embassy Suites Hotel in McAllen, 1-5 p.m.; and Jan. 31, Embassy Suites Hotel, 1-5 p.m.

Also, Feb. 6, Harlingen Country Club, 1-5 p.m.; Feb. 8, International Bank of Commerce in Rio Grande City, 1-5 p.m.; Feb. 18, Echo Hotel in Edinburg, 12:30-3 p.m.; Feb. 22, ITT Building, 1-5 p.m.; and March 4, Echo Hotel, 12:30-3 p.m.

The afternoon sessions include lunch, while dinner is provided in the evening. Reservations are required.

For more information, call (956) 381-2500/2326.

Valley Symphony Orchestra and Chorale plans Valentine's Day dance, fundraiser

Special to The Pan American

The Valley Symphony Orchestra and Chorale has planned a Valentine's Day fundraising dance to accommodate couples looking for a special way to spend the day.

Sponsored by the Rio Grande Regional Hospital and the South Texas Symphony Association, the Feb. 14 event promises to be a romantic evening every couple can enjoy.

In addition to providing a special treat for that special person, ticket holders will know they are helping to support a special cultural facility in the Valley.

Tickets, which are \$30 per person or \$300 for a table of 10, can be purchased by calling the symphony office at 630-5355.

The dance takes place at the Pharr Convention Center from 7 to 11 p.m. Music is provided by the Dean Canty Orchestra. Guests may bring their own adult beverages, while set ups and snacks are available for purchase.

"It was a great event last year, and we expect it to be even better this year," said Board President Suzanne McDonald. "Last year many businesses bought tables and put together groups of five couples which had some relationship with the business. Other tables were coordinated by a couple who got together four other sets of friends to share the occasion."

Winter Texans were a big constituency at last year's dance. Some trailer parks got together enough friends to have a table or two of their own.

"However you do it, you know you're in for a great evening and the satisfaction of supporting one of the most acclaimed and important arts organizations in the area," said Bill Burns, chief administrator of the Rio Grande Regional Hospital.

A number of tables have already been sold for this event, so people are urged to make their reservations as soon as possible. To make reservations, or for more information, call the Symphony at (956) 630-5355.

Students receive Rehabilitative Services scholarships

Special to The Pan American

The University of Texas-Pan American has awarded 12 scholarships for the spring semester in the Rehabilitative Services Program of the College of Health Sciences and Human Services.

The recipients are Antonio Aguirre and Monica Moreno of Harlingen; Rebecca Boykin and Pedro Dennett of McAllen; Mitka Chacon of San Benito; Mary Jane Charles, Norma Lopez, Maria Ocanas and Hector Requenez of Edinburg; Melissa

Gonzalez of Pharr; Veronica Hernandez of Mercedes; and Roschel Servantes of Mission.

All of the scholarship recipients are graduate-level students preparing to become rehabilitation counselors. They will receive full tuition, fees and a monthly living stipend.

The Rehabilitative Service Program is committed to providing quality, comprehensive education to students on a variety of topics related to people with disabilities. It is also committed to integrating theory and practice in the classroom.

IT PAYS TO ADVERTISE IN THE PAN AMERICAN CALL 381-2541

Sports Calendar

January 19-21

Men's Tennis



1/19-21 - Fri.-Sun. Rice Invitational Houston All Day

Notes: After playing in only three tournaments during the fall, UTPA will play in more than 10 tournaments.

January 20

Women's Basketball



1/20 @ Centenary Shreveport, La. 5 p.m.

Notes: UTPA fell to 8-11 with their last loss (70-60 to New Orleans), marked by a bad day at the charity stripe (17 for 29).

January 24

Men's Basketball



1/24 @ Air Force Colorado Springs, Colo. 7 p.m.

Notes: The Broncos continue to have problems on the road and will attempt to break a nine road-game losing streak.

January 27

Track & Field

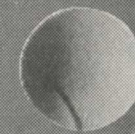


1/27 LSU Invitational Baton Rouge, La.

Notes: Head Coach Dan Laufer continues his first season at the helm.

January 27

Women's Tennis



1/27 Sat. Southeastern Louisiana Texas 2 p.m.

Notes: After earning a 39-35 record in singles play, the Lady Broncos are off to a good start after finishing last season at 16-80.

QUICK HITS

Lady Bronc golf team signs player

The UTPA women's golf program announced the signing of Bulverde, Texas, native Christine Treanor to a national letter of intent for the 2001-02 academic year.

Treanor, who is in her senior year at Smithson Valley High School, is the defending Texas District 27-4A Champion. She was a regional qualifier during the 2000 season and is the team captain at SVHS. She had a stroke average of 77 during the 2000 season for SVHS Head Coach Jimmy Kasch.

Treanor has received national recognition for her play. She was ranked 222nd in the nation for all ages by Golfweek. She has participated in American Junior Golf Association Tournaments in Boise, Idaho, Lawrence, Kansas and San Antonio. She was the Webster Women's Tournament

Consolation Champion. She was the New Braunfels City Champion and advanced to the Texas-Oklahoma Tournament Championship Flight.

"This is an exciting step for Lady Bronc golf," said UTPA Head Coach Barb Odale. "Christine is a powerful hitter. We expect her to be able to come in and contribute next year. We are looking forward to her coming on board. She brings a wealth of experience that the team hasn't had. Even though she's only been playing competitive national golf for a year, she has showed that with some improvement she could be a major player."

Treanor is the first signee for the Lady Broncos for the 2001-02 academic year. Odale expects to get more commitments during the spring signing period.

Bronc athletic holds second annual fund drive

The University of Texas-

Pan American Athletic Department announced on Wednesday that the Bronc Athletic Foundation (BAF) has presented UTPA Athletics with a check for \$108,000.

During a recent BAF Celebration the BAF membership was honored for their committed effort in support of UTPA athletics. Fund raising Team Captains Jerry Barth, Rick Villarreal, Paula Berkley, Jim Board, Mike and Rosie Sweeney, Bob Hoffman and Bill Weidner were presented awards for their leadership and dedication.

In addition, Jerry Barth also received special recognition in regards to being both the Captain of the top fundraising team and also the top individual fundraiser. Rene Guerra earned the Most Valuable Fundraiser Award for his efforts during the recent campaign.

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Game 1
Texas A&M 65
UTPA 48

At the half, the Lady Broncs were trailing 27-18. In the second half, the Lady Broncs came within four points of the lead on three-pointer basket by Cheveron Terry at the 10:05 mark, which made it 41-37, but they wouldn't get any closer.

Terry led the Lady Broncs with 18 points, including 4-of-9 from three-point range. Terry also led the team on the boards with eight. The Lady Broncs out rebounded the Lady Aggies 39-31.

Game 2
Weber State 71
UTPA 55

UTPA cut the lead to two points on a lay-up by Radiajah Sinnette with 6:14 left in the half. Weber State led by five, 37-32 at the half.

Weber State took advantage of their height and out-rebounded the Lady Broncs, 38-28. Weber State made 53.1 percent of their shots to 39.0 percent for the Lady Broncs.

Michelle Smith, making her first start of the season, was joined by Erin Buttery with 10 points each. Cheveron Terry added nine points.

Game 3
UTPA 74
UTEP 68

In the first half, the Lady Broncs found themselves in early foul trouble with three players at three fouls each, and trailed at the half, 33-28.

UTPA cut into the Miner lead on a lay-up by Naima Williams, just 20 seconds into the second half. From there the Lady Broncs stayed close, tying up the game three times, before Cheveron Terry made a three-point basket at the 9:45 mark, giving the Lady Broncs the lead for good.

Terry scored 26 points, hitting on 4-of-11 from three-point range, to lead all scorers.

Game 4
Louisiana-Lafayette 73
UTPA 66

Billie Popovska posted her second career double-double, leading ULL in both points (18) and rebounds (10). Her driving lay-up with 4:50 to go in the game gave the Ragini Cajuns the lead for good.

The Lady Broncs made six straight free throws to cut the margin to as little as five, but could get no closer than that.



-Arnulfo Moreno

Lady Bronc Alexis Williams, right, attempts to stop New Orleans player Keeshawn Carter from running the offense.

Lady Broncs lose second straight, drop to 8-11

Sports Information

The University of New Orleans had three players score in double figures, leading the Privateers to a 70-60 win over the University of Texas-Pan American in women's basketball action Tuesday night at the UTPA Fieldhouse.

Jessica Dunham led the way for the Privateers with 16 points, including four three-pointers. Keeshawn Carter came off the bench to score 15 points, while Margit Kluibenschadl had 14 points in the win.

New Orleans came out of the gate stone cold, missing their first seven shots. UTPA took advantage and scored the first seven points of the game. They held the lead until an 11-2 run gave

the Privateers their first lead of the game at 22-19. New Orleans took a 30-24 lead into the locker room. In the second half New Orleans increased the lead to as much as nine points before a pair of three-pointers by Cheveron Terry cut the lead to just three with 10:30 left in the game. However, Dunham hit a trey to put the Privateers back up by six and they never looked back.

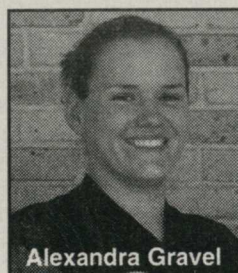
For UTPA Terry had her first double-double of the season with 12 rebounds and 15 points. She also had team highs in steals (5) and assists (3). Alexis Williams had three assists, tying her with Kelly Garrett for the UTPA career record with 292. Naima Williams was the only other Lady Bronc in double figures with 11 points. She also had nine

rebounds.

"17-for-29 (free throw attempts) is bad when we lose a 10-point game," said UTPA Head Coach Karin Nicholls. "We allowed them to make too many offensive rebounds. Change that and we have a different ball game. You cannot win if you let them score on the offensive rebounds. We just gave them too many second attempts. Whenever we get the lead we seem to relax. We cannot afford it. We've got to give it everything."

UTPA lost its second straight game and fell to 8-11 overall. New Orleans improved to 10-4 overall. The Lady Broncs return to action on January 20th at Centenary College in Shreveport, La. Game time will be 5 p.m.

DURING THE BREAK Lady Broncs finish holiday break with 4-4 record



Alexandra Gravel

The Lady Broncs posted three victories in a row. It was the first time this season and was last accomplished during the 1998-99 season

UTPA's Cheveron Terry scored a season-

high 26 points, hitting on 4-of-11 from three-point range in a victory against the University of Texas-El Paso.

Alexandra Gravel and Naima Williams both set career highs for points in a game, in a

win against Loyola-Chicago. Gravel scored a game-high 30 points on 8-of-17 shooting from the field, including 6-of-12 from three-point range. Williams scored 23 points, topping her previous high of 21.

Game 5
UTPA 66
Wyoming 61

Naima Williams scored her final three points of the game on a putback with 11 seconds left, helping to seal the University of Texas-Pan American's 66-61 upset win.

Williams, who scored a game-high 17 points, grabbed a missed three-point attempt by Cheveron Terry, and laid the ball in as she was fouled by Heather Shaffner. Williams sank the free throw to give the Broncs a 66-61 lead.

Game 6
UTPA 85
Loyola-Chicago 72

Alexandra Gravel scored a game-high 30 points on 8-of-17 shooting from the field including 6-of-12 from three-point range.

The Lady Broncs held the lead for most of the first half until the Ramblers came back with a 9-0 run that gave them a 27-23 lead with 5:29 left in the half. However, the Lady Broncs finished the half strong with an 8-0 run to take a 37-32 lead into the locker room.

UTPA, committed just 16 turnovers in the game, while forcing 30 by the Ramblers.

Game 7
Houston Baptist 76
UTPA 64

Alexandra Gravel scored 29 points and keyed a 9-0 run to start the second half that gave the Broncs the lead for good.

The Lady Broncs (8-9) stepped up on the defensive end, forcing 21 turnovers by the Huskies (11-5), while committing just 13 themselves. UTPA also held HBU to just 33.3% (9-27) shooting from the field in the second half. Despite having a significant height advantage, the Huskies were only able to out rebound the Lady Broncs by five. 20 second half fouls also hurt the Huskies.

Game 7
Texas A&M-Corpus-Christi 68
UTPA 58

The Lady Broncs controlled the tempo of the game for the first 10 minutes and led by two points at one juncture.

However an 11-1 Islander run midway through the half gave TAMUCC a commanding 23-14 lead. UTPA kept fighting and a three-pointer by Michelle Smith and a lay-up by Erin Buttery cut the lead to just five at the half.

Howard hopes Broncs can overcome short practice week

Matt Lynch
The Pan American

After less than a week of organized practice, the UTPA men's tennis team faces a fierce start to its spring season at the Rice Invitational Friday.

"It's going to be tough," Head Coach Scott Howard said. "This will be a good opportunity for the guys to get some matches in before our first conference match."

The Broncs will face many of the top teams from the South at the invitational, including the University of Texas, Texas A&M, Baylor, TCU and Nebraska.

To compensate for the lack of practice time, many of the Broncs practiced on their own throughout the off-season to keep their competitive edge.

"Most of the guys were able to play during the break," Howard said. "Since many of the guys are fighting for roster spots, everyone's motivated and driven."

The team has put what little practice time has been

2000-2001 Men's Record

Had a 21-38 record during the fall season. Were led by Enrique Bastante (4-4) and Alex Cequea (5-5). In doubles, Bastante and Meiners teamed up for a 2-3 record.

available to good use, according to Howard. "Most of the guys are playing well and we've had very intense practices," he said.

The Broncs have also added an athlete to their roster since the fall. Sophomore Neil Barraclough practices with the Broncs but has red-shirted this season and will compete with the team in the fall.

As opposed to the shorter fall season, the pace of the spring season is fast and furious. The Broncs will attend competitions nearly every week over their three month season, 27 events in all.

"The guys are really motivated because they know

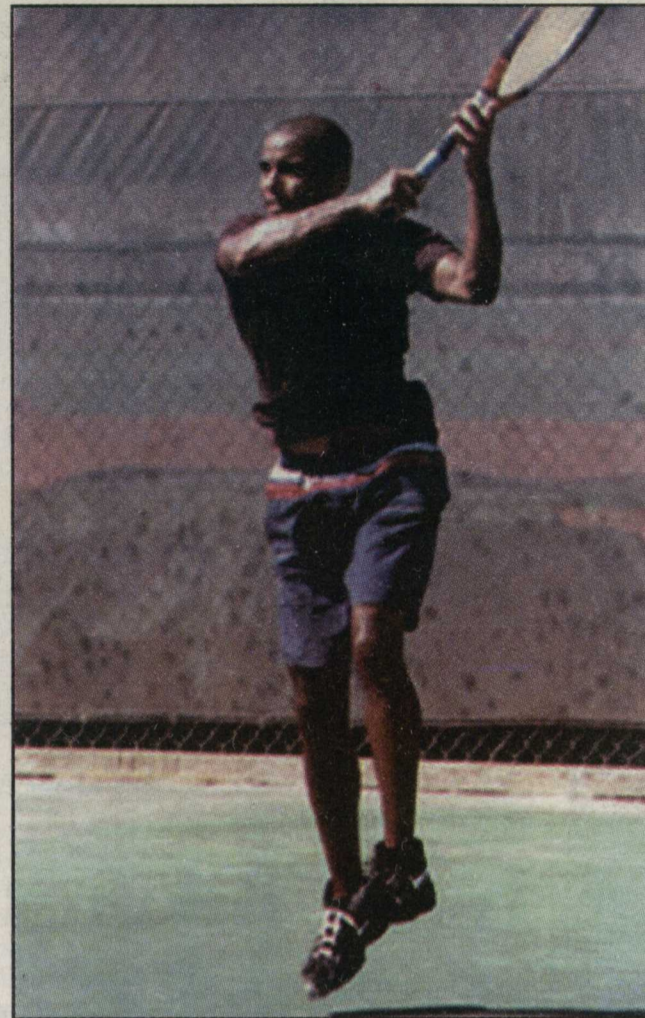
there's always competition right around the corner," Howard said. "It's easy to get pumped up because you don't have a couple of weeks in between tournaments."

While the season has yet to begin, Howard sees the depth of his team as both a strength and a weakness.

"Our depth is a strength, but we don't have a superstar at number one singles or number one doubles," he said. "A lot of our guys are very close (in ability) and they know that if they're not playing well they won't be playing. They are really pushing each other in practice."

The Rice Invitational provides a good opening challenge for the Broncs, who face their first Southland Conference opponent and the fifth-ranked team in the country, Southeastern Louisiana, Jan. 27.

"It feels like we're carrying the torch for the whole athletic department since we're the only (UTPA) team in a conference right now," Howard said.



Kareem Abdullah is in his first year at UTPA, after a two years stint at Seward Community College in Kansas. He will be one of six newcomers to the team. In his first semester of play, Abdullah accumulated a 1-5 singles record. The Broncs as a team had a 21-38 singles record.

Broncs unable to stop late run in defeat by Ragin' Cajuns

Sports Information

Brian Merriweather scored 21 points, but an 11-3 Louisiana-Lafayette run helped the Ragin' Cajuns come from behind to defeat the University of Texas-Pan American 72-71 in men's basketball action Monday night at the Cajun Dome.

The Cajuns (8-6) closed out the contest on an 11-3 run over the final 4:18 to win their sixth straight over the Broncs and third straight overall, despite hitting only one of their final eight free throws and finishing only 8-of-22 from the charity stripe in the game.

With the close win, Louisiana-Lafayette has now won its last three home contests 5 versus UTPA and Sun Belt Conference rivals Florida International and New Mexico State 5 by a combined eight points.

Lonnie Thomas led the Cajun offense with 19 points, including 14 in the second half, and grabbed a

team-high nine rebounds. Darryl Robins came off the bench to provide a career-best 13 points on 6-of-8 shooting and snared nine rebounds, including seven off the offensive glass.

Blane Harmon added 16 points for Louisiana-Lafayette with four 3-pointers, while Orlando Butler continued to emerge from a midseason offensive slide with 12 points, his first back-to-back double-digit efforts of the year.

Brian Merriweather led UTPA with 21 points, including four 3-pointers, while John Braxton added 19 points with five treys. Mire Chatman came off the Broncs bench to tally 13 points.

The Cajuns took a 40-36 halftime lead into the locker room at the halftime break and continued to lead by four at 50-46 on Harmon's three-pointer at the 14:54 mark. However, UTPA (7-11) exploded on a 16-2 run over the next seven minutes and capped the rally when

Terrell Hillis baseline jumper gave the Broncs a 60-52 lead, their largest of the night, at the 8:00 mark.

Over the next four minutes, the Cajuns shaved only one point off that lead and continued to trail at 68-61 after Braxton's three-pointer at the top of the key. That's when the Cajuns took off on their game-ending run.

Harmon drilled a three-pointer to cut the lead to four, and Robins brought the Cajuns to within a bucket after stealing a UTPA pass and taking it the length of the court with only 3:19 remaining.

Butler gave the Cajuns their first lead since the 14:27 mark after nailing a driving jumper with two minutes left, but UTPA regained at the 1:24 mark when Marcus Quinn rebounded a Braxton miss. With 1:10 remaining, Thomas converted a basket inside and the Cajun defense held the rest of the way.

Dave Thorn named Coach of the Year

Sports Information

UTPA Head Coach Dave Thorn was named Coach of the Year, while four players received individual honors in the recent Independent Volleyball Awards.

Thorn, who just finished his third year at the helm of the Lady Broncs, guided the team to a 19-18 record, tying for the most wins in school history. The Broncs ended the season by winning 11 of their last 15 matches. In three years at the helm of UTPA, Thorn has a record of 35-53.

"It's a great honor, but it's a reflection on the team as a whole," said Thorn. "The players played up to their potential this year and that's why we had such a solid season."

Mindy Hubik, a freshman from Bedford,

Texas, received the Rookie of the Year Award. Hubik led the Broncs in kills and blocks this season and was twice named Independent Player of the Week. She was also named second team All-Independent.

"Mindy had an outstanding year," said Thorn. "She got better and better as the season went on. She really stepped up her play after Debbie's (Puente) injury. She became the focus of our offense at that point."

Jaclyn Muszynski, a freshman from Walnut, Calif., was named first-team All-Independent. Muszynski ranked among the team leaders in kills, digs and blocks this season. She had four matches with 20 or more kills, the most on the team, including 28 against St. Mary's, a per-

sonal best.

Setter Lorena Lopez and outside hitter Puente also earned second team recognition. Lopez set the UTPA single-season record for assists with 1,073 and finished her career ranked second on UTPA's all-time list for assists. Puente saw her senior season come to an end prematurely after an injury, but she still ranked among the team leaders in kills, digs and attack percentage.

"Lorena was the heart and soul of this team," said Thorn. "There were matches that she kept us in through her defense or her hustle. Debbie is just an outstanding player. Losing her was a big blow to the team."

The Broncs have 10 players returning for the 2001 season, including starters, Winker Cruz, Muszynski, Hubik and Yvonne Garcia.