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THE COLLEGIAN

THE STUDENT VOICE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT BROWNSVILLE AND TEXAS SOUTHMOST COLLEGE

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Monday



February 21, 2011

Protesters demand Rendon step down

TSC trustees OK separation in 4-3 vote



LESLIE BARRIENTOS/COLLEGIAN

Students protest Friday against the Texas Southmost College board of trustees decision to separate TSC from UT-Brownsville. Shown (from left) are senior music education major Olga De Leon, senior vocal major Natalia Montes, senior music education major Nancy Torres and senior percussion major Jonathan Garza.

By Alejandra González

THE COLLEGIAN

The Texas Southmost College board of trustees voted 4 to 3 Thursday to have UTB/TSC become two autonomous institutions with separate governance and contracts for facilities and certain staff services.

At noon Friday, about 15 people protested the board's decision, marching through campus and carrying signs demanding that TSC board Chair Francisco "Kiko" Rendon step down. They also sought signatures on a petition to recall the decision.

Thursday's motion was made by Trustee Trey Mendez and seconded by Adela Garza. Besides Mendez and Garza, those

voting in favor of the motion were Trustee Rene Torres and Rendon. Voting against the motion were Trustees David Oliveira, Dr. Roberto Robles and Dr. Robert Lozano.

After the vote, Oliveira stood up and said, "God help us all," and walked out of the meeting, held in the Arts Center with Robles before it was adjourned.

Rendon told both trustees they were out of order, to which some of the more than 300 people in the audience replied, "No, you are out of order."

The vote followed nearly five hours of discussion and public comments on the partnership's future. Lozano succeeded in passing a motion to waive executive session for discussion.

Oliveira said the bond debt TSC has incurred for construction projects is not going away.

"You're going to have the bond debt anyway if we separate; we are not giving the taxpayers a break," he said.

Arguing for unification of UTB and TSC, he said there would be an immediate tax reduction by two-thirds starting as early as Sept. 24 of this year if the Texas Legislature approved the unification.

Oliveira also compared the proposed budget from UT System and the one Rendon had come up with.

• See 'Board,' Page 12

Students help community file tax returns

By Irma Mora

THE COLLEGIAN

UTB/TSC has joined forces once more with the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program to provide free tax assistance to students and low-income taxpayers.

Since Feb. 2, about 30 to 40 taxpayers a day have been receiving help in filing their tax returns free of charge in room D2 of the International Technology, Education, and Commerce Center, said Pat Celaya, the site coordinator for the VITA site at UTB/TSC.

The service is available to taxpayers who have an annual income of less than \$49,000, have a disability, are non-English speaking or are elderly taxpayers. Qualifying taxpayers may make an appointment by calling 554-9344.

Volunteers are available from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday and from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday until April 15. The service will not be available during Spring Break, March 12-19.

Qualified individuals who plan to have their income tax returns prepared by a volunteer should take: a copy of last year's tax return, valid photo identification, original Social Security card for self, spouse and dependents, all W-2s, information of other income, deductions and credits and their bank's routing and account numbers if electing direct deposit. If planning on filing jointly, both spouses must be present.

Volunteers get the satisfaction of helping the community as they file taxes.

"It provides a much-needed service in the community because we prepare and file tax returns for low-income, non-English speaking and disabled

• See 'Tax,' Page 8

Campus to welcome 'El Rey del Bolero'

By Francisco Garza

THE COLLEGIAN



Carlos Cuevas

This Thursday, the university will welcome Mexican bolero singer and Mr. Amigo 2010, Carlos Cuevas.

Cuevas rose to fame after winning the "Festival OTI

de la Canción" for Mexico in 1990, with the bolero titled "Un Bolero."

He has released 25 albums through the years and performed duets with such iconic singers as Armando Manzanero, Julio Iglesias and Plácido Domingo.

Each year, Brownsville's Mr. Amigo Association selects a Mexican citizen who embodies goodwill between the United States and Mexico. The recognition coincides with Brownsville's Charro Days festival.

Sergio Martinez, Student Life director and the event's organizer, told *The Collegian* that students might appreciate Cuevas' music because it appeals to the

romantic in all of us.

Cuevas is scheduled to arrive in the SET-B Lecture Hall at 11:45 a.m. The program will include performances by UTB/TSC's Mariachi Escorpión, Grupo Folklórico Tizatlán and children from the Raul Guerra Early Childhood Daycare Center.

The Golf Cart Parade, featuring colorfully decorated carts in procession down the Paseo, will kick off the celebration at 10:30 a.m., followed by a pre-event program in the SET-B Lecture Hall at 11 a.m.

Admission to Thursday's ceremony is free and open to the public.

BUDGET INFORMATION MEETING
NOON TODAY
 @ Science and Engineering
 Technology Building Lecture Hall
 THE MEETINGS WILL PROVIDE UPDATES ON RESOURCE
 GENERATION, COST CONTAINMENT AND MEETING BIENNIUM
 BUDGET GOALS.
URGENT

COLLEGIAN

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The University of Texas at
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Briefs

Budget information meeting

UTB/TSC will conduct a **budget information meeting** at noon today in the SET-B Lecture Hall. The meeting will provide updates on resource generation, cost containment and meeting biennium budget goals. For more information, call 882-7363.

Patron of the Arts

Clarinetist **Jonathan Guist** and other faculty members will perform at 8 tonight in the Arts Center. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for senior citizens, children and UTB/TSC students with ID. For more information, call 882-7025.

The **Daedalus String Quartet** of New York will perform at 8 p.m. Thursday in the Arts Center. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$10 for senior citizens and children and \$5 for UTB/TSC students with ID. For more information, call 882-7025.

'All Shook Up' musical

"**All Shook Up**," a musical featuring more than 24 Elvis Presley hits, takes place at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday in the **Arts Center**. Tickets start at \$39 for adults, \$29 for seniors, \$19 for children and \$6 for UTB/TSC students with a valid ID. For more information, call 882-8587.

Concentration workshop

The **Student Success Center** will conduct a workshop titled "**My Mind Went Blank: Strategies for Memory and Concentration**" at noon Wednesday in Tandy Hall 113. For more information, call 882-8292.

UT Law School dean to visit

Larry Sager, dean of the **University of Texas at Austin School of Law**, will visit UTB/TSC at 3:30 p.m. Wednesday in the Gorgas Hall board room. For more information, call Applied Business Technology Lecturer **Joe Krippel** at 882-7325 or send him an e-mail at joe.krippel@utb.edu.

'Frida' screening

The **Brownsville Museum of Fine Art**, 660 Ringgold St., will screen the movie "**Frida**" at 7 p.m. Thursday. At 5 p.m. March 3, the museum will host a lecture on the artist **Frida Kahlo** presented by her niece **Cristina Kahlo**. Museum admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for university students and \$2 for students in kindergarten through 12th grade. For more information, call 542-0941.

C.H.A.N.G.E. meeting

C.H.A.N.G.E., an organization that provides a system of support and advancement for the gay community among people of every spectrum meets at 6 p.m. every Friday in the SET-B third-floor conference room. For more information, call organization Vice President **David Hernández** at 525-9097 or send an e-mail to organization.change@yahoo.com.

Art exhibit

"**In Pursuit of the Figure**," an exhibit featuring the work of **David Ransom**, an adjunct faculty member at UTB/TSC, continues until Friday in the Rusteberg Art Gallery. Gallery hours are 4:20 to 7 p.m. Monday and Wednesday, 12-5 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday and 1-5 p.m. Friday. Admission is \$1 for the public and free for art majors. For more information, call 882-7571.

Grupo Folklórico performance

UTB TSC's **Grupo Folklórico Tizatlán** will perform at 7 p.m. Saturday in the Arts Center. Tickets are \$7 for adults, \$3 for children and \$5 for students with their ID. For more information, call 882-8290.

IMAS workshop

The **International Museum of Art & Science** will conduct an "**Introductory to Printmaking**" workshop with local artist and professor **Ben Martinez** at 9 a.m. Saturday. The cost of this workshop is \$42 for IMAS members, \$50 for adults and \$46 for students with ID. The workshop is designed for ages 14 and older. For more information, call 682-1564.

Brownsville Farmers' Market

The **Brownsville Farmers' Market** is held from 9 a.m. to noon every Saturday through May at Brownsville's Linear Park on Harrison Street, between East Sixth and Seventh streets. For more information, call 882-5896.

Mount Calvary services

Mount Calvary Christian Church conducts services from 11 a.m. to noon every Sunday at 712 N. 77 Sunshine Strip, Suite 11, in Harlingen. The church holds a support group meeting for the GLBT community, family and friends from 7 to 8 p.m. Mondays and Bible study from 7 to 8 p.m. Wednesdays. For more information, call 551-6275 or visit www.mtcalvarycc.org.

Slavery, segregation exhibit

An exhibit documenting abuse against African-Americans during the times of slavery and segregation in the United States will be on display throughout February in the first floor of the **Arnulfo L. Oliveira Memorial Library**. The exhibit is co-curated by UTB/TSC history students **Debby Cruz** and **Demaracus Gatlin**. For more information, call 882-7130 or send an e-mail to milagro.hernandez@utb.edu.

Black History Month program

The fifth annual **Black History Month Celebration** featuring the **South Texas Mass Choir** led by Minister **Donald Hamm** will be at 6 p.m. Feb. 28 in the SET-B Lecture Hall. The guest speaker will be the Rev. **Meizie Bobbins-Lofton**. Admission is free. For more information, call **Deloria Nanze-Davis** at 882-4196 or send her an e-mail at deloria.nanzedavis@utb.edu.

Research Symposium

Faculty, staff and students are encouraged to submit papers to the **UTB/TSC Research Symposium**. The deadline is Feb. 28 and requirements are posted at www.utb.edu/symposium. The event takes place from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. March 25 at the International Education, Technology and Commerce Center.

Mandatory advising

Mandatory advising is under way for students wanting to attend classes in the summer and fall. For more information, call **Academic Advising** at 882-7362 or send an e-mail to academicadvising@utb.edu.

Careers in education workshop

The **Student Success Center** will conduct a workshop that will highlight the different career choices available in the education field, alternative education possibilities and advancement in the field at noon March 2 in Tandy Hall 113. For more information, call 882-8292.

RGV Science and Engineering fair

Volunteers are needed to serve as judges or support staff for the annual **Rio Grande Valley Regional Science and Engineering Fair** on March 4 and 5 in the International Technology, Education and Commerce Center and Fort Brown campus. For more information, call Administrative Secretary **Hugo I. Montes** at 882-6676 or send him an e-mail at hugo.i.montes@utb.edu.

ARTOPIA III art show

The **Student Union** is seeking original art from the campus community for its **ARTOPIA III art show**, which will be juried by art Professor **Carlos G. Gómez**. The show will take place at 6 p.m. March 7 in the Student Union's Gran Salon. Entry forms can be picked up at Student Union 1.20. For more information, call Assistant Director **Patricia M. Longoria** at 882-6776 or send her an e-mail at patricia.m.longoria@utb.edu.

Photo exhibit

"**Serenity**," an exhibit of UTB/TSC photos by **Pu Chen**, continues through March 10 in the University Archives and Special Collections Room of the **Arnulfo L. Oliveira Memorial Library**. Admission is free. For more information, call Special Events Coordinator **Millie Hernandez** at 882-7130.

PWS spring conference

Professional Women Speak will conduct its **spring conference** from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. March 26 in the Education and Business Complex's Salon Cassia. Admission is \$25 for women and \$10 for students. For more information, call **Moises Estrada** at 882-7334 or send him an e-mail at moises.estrada@utb.edu.

--Compiled by Daniel Beltrán

Police Reports



Following are among the incidents reported by Campus Police between Jan. 31 and Feb. 5.

At 11:13 a.m. Jan. 31, a student reported that her laptop computer was missing from her room at The Village at Fort Brown.

At 11:59 a.m. the same day, a student reported that the back tires of the Scorpion Metro bus damaged a drain rail in Lot V.

At 3:06 p.m. the same day, a Campus Police officer was dispatched to the Regional Academic Health Center because

a student was feeling ill. The student declined transportation to the hospital. He was escorted to Student Health Services for evaluation.

At 3:51 p.m. the same day, a staff member reported two students having a verbal dispute in Lot AB. The report was forwarded to the Dean of Students Office.

At 9:04 p.m. the same day, a Campus Police officer responded to a verbal argument in the Education and Business Building driveway. The individuals involved left the area after speaking with the officer.

At 10:09 p.m. the same day, a student reported that his Ford Mustang was damaged while it was parked in Lot Z.

At 8:53 a.m. Feb. 1, a Campus Police officer was dispatched to the sidewalk between University Boulevard and Lot AB because a staff member fell. The staff member injured her face and hands, but declined emergency medical service.

At 1:47 p.m. the same day, a staff member reported receiving a suspicious voice message. The message appeared to be a prank.

At 5:31 p.m. the same day, a faculty member reported a student who was experiencing chest pains while in his class. The student declined transportation to the hospital.

--Compiled by Alejandra González

SGA's Rangel disappointed in board's decision

By Cleiri Quezada

THE COLLEGIAN

The Student Government Association's plea to unify UT-Brownsville and Texas Southmost College made no difference Thursday night.

About 300 students, faculty, staff and members of the community witnessed the 4-to-3 vote by Texas Southmost College board of trustees to separate UTB and TSC.

"I thought they were going to listen to the community that was there," Student Government Association Vice President of Administration Rosalinda Rangel said after the board meeting. "I mean, there was more than enough people for unification. There was like 10 people [there for the separation] and some people that said they represented the community. I certainly did not feel like that because everybody that was there was pretty much for unification and it was disappointing to feel that our representatives are not really paying attention to what we were saying."

Earlier in the week, the SGA passed a resolution in support of Option 2, proposed by UT System Chancellor Francisco Cigarroa, which would have made Texas Southmost College part of the University

of Texas at Brownsville.

Tuesday's resolution approval came after the SGA conducted a survey Feb. 8 to 12, asking students' opinion on the two possible options that could be taken by the TSC board of trustees concerning its partnership agreement with the UT System.

Of the 368 students who took the survey, 181 supported Option 2.

Senator at Large Grady Lunsford said that a 49.2 percent majority was a low number.

"It's from the 8th to the 12th, not even a week that this survey was going on, and it is a really low number," Lunsford said during the SGA meeting. "To say that 49 percent of the students that took the survey agreed with Option 2, that's a little deceptive."

Rangel agreed that 49.2 percent was a low number; however, she said there was difficulty trying to send a mass e-mail to students.

"I know it's a low number, but the problem is that we're not allowed to use Blackboard anymore for surveys and so they wanted to do it through [SurveyMonkey.com] and just send a link to all the students," Rangel told Lunsford. "The problem is that you can easily forward that link to somebody else who's not a student and they can take



SERGIO SALAZAR/COLLEGIAN

Student Government Association members Javed Paiman (from left), Jennifer Espinales, Karla Lozoya, Jesus Calvillo and Marisol Cervantes vote Tuesday in favor of Resolution 26, which supports Option 2, a proposal that would make Texas Southmost College part of the University of Texas at Brownsville. The resolution was presented to the TSC board of trustees during its meeting Thursday.

the survey as many times as they want, so what they did is ... they personally e-mailed every single student.

"The problem also is that we're not allowed to use the server list of the university, so we have to use the SGA@utb e-mail and since that is not recognized [by] some of the Hotmail accounts and things like that, it went directly to junk mail. So that's why I was telling everybody, 'Remind students, check their junk mail; we need to get as many responses as possible.'"

The senate voted 14 to 2 in favor of the resolution. Lunsford and Elda Flores, senator for the College of Science,

Mathematics and Technology, cast the dissenting votes and Jessica Ruiz, senator of the College of Science, Mathematics and Technology, abstained.

Before Thursday's TSC board of trustees meeting, students gathered outside the Arnulfo L. Oliveira Memorial Library in support and against the unification of the two institutions.

"From what I've heard is that UT owns 40 percent of the buildings, TSC owns 60 percent and they're talking about taking all the music buildings," sophomore music

• See 'SGA,' Page 10

Campus to host American Mathematics Contest

By Héctor Aguilar

SPANISH EDITOR

More than 150 students are registered to take part in the American Mathematics Contest, which will take place for the first time in the Rio Grande Valley on Wednesday at UTB/TSC.

The AMC 10/12 contest has been taking place for 60 years. Public and private schools from Brownsville, San Benito, Harlingen, Los Fresnos, Port Isabel, Pharr and Weslaco as well as students from the UTB/TSC Mathematics and Science Academy will participate.

The major goals of this event are to spur the students' interest in mathematics and develop their talent through solving challenging problems during a competition.

"We believe that our students here in the [Rio Grande] Valley are very well capable of going all the way to the Math Olympics. That's why we wanted to give them the opportunity to start from the AMC and go to the greatest point that is possible," said Shaghayegh Setayesh, a UTB/TSC professor of algebra and one of the organizers of the event.

With about three minutes per question,

the pressure is on for students, who will have a 75-minute interval to complete a 25-question multiple-choice exam that can be solved with algebraic and pre-calculus concepts. The use of a calculator will not be permitted.

To participate, students must be under 17.5 years of age and not enrolled in grades 11 and 12 for the AMC 10 section and be under 19.5 years of age in the AMC 12 section.

Potential opportunities for advancement exist because the top 5 percent of students who excel in the AMC 10 section and the top 2 percent of the AMC 12 section will be able to move on to the level of American Invitational Mathematics Examination, or AIME.

Furthermore, AIME participants may advance to the United States of America Mathematical Olympiad (USAMO). From there, six participants and two alternates will go to the Mathematical Olympiad Summer Program and, finally, they compete in the International Mathematical Olympiad.

Alexey Glazyrin, a visiting lecturer at UTB/TSC who participated in the International Mathematics Olympiad in July 2001 as part of the Russian team and

was a guest in the Chinese Mathematical Olympiad in 2001, is among the faculty involved in math clubs.

"We tried to motivate every school in our area, [including] BISD and several other schools, to organize math clubs at their schools. We provide them with materials, problems, solutions and so on. ... Each week we have a meeting here on campus ... and the teacher that's sponsoring the math club gets some sort of tutoring on how to work with kids on these problems," Glazyrin said.

He believes it will take several years before the real influence of the teaching will be evident on the students but said there are good chances that some of the students could advance to AIME.

One such math club sponsor is mathematics high school teacher Roxana Jiménez, who has 13 participating students. Not only have her students become members of Mu Alpha Theta, a high school and two-year-college honor society but they also have scheduled time during their day to practice together and individually for this competition.

"This is the very first time for these students," Jiménez said. "They feel excited, they feel worried, and their

confidence has been building up with every practice.

"My expectations [for them] are basically to have a good experience since they've never done this before, [and] for them to break out of that shyness and then just have the ability to go and seek out new opportunities."

Stella Filizola, chair of the mathematics department of Saint Joseph Academy, has 59 students participating. Saint Joseph Academy students, she said, currently participate in competitions similar to UIL.

"I am very happy that the university decided to do this," Filizola said. "I think it's a win-win situation. I think it's going to be good for the university, good for our school and good for the students overall."

After the contest, there will be a campus tour and an award ceremony. Valley Regional Medical Center and Sunshine Pediatrics helped sponsor this event, which was organized by mathematics Professor and Chair Jerzy Mogilski and Setayesh.

Middle and high school students who meet the requirements will have until Tuesday to register. For more information, contact Setayesh at 882-8892 or via e-mail at shaghayegh.setayesh1@utb.edu.

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What's Your Beef?



What's up, Advising?

"My problem is [with] the [Academic] Advising Center because I think they need to be more updated as far as the degree plans.



Because with me, they tell me one thing and then I go back and they tell me another thing. And, it's not so much that they're wrong, they're just not updated

with it. For example, I was going to get my minor in communication and it turns out this last semester I need another class they didn't tell me about, so I don't understand why we have mandatory advising if it didn't really help me out in the end."

Astrid Torres
Senior sociology major

Step aside

"The problem is the parking is really bad. There [are] people hanging around in the parking lot so, I mean, other people are trying to get the parking space and they can't.



... That's one of the reasons why I'm late sometimes to my classes. ... Maybe Campus Police can, like, go

around ... just tell them if they're not going to class or if they're just hanging out ... just tell them to leave [unless] they're going to park."

Bianca Gonzalez
Freshman radiologic technology major

Wash your reusable bags

"The idea is the plastic bag [ban], I think it's a great idea but when you put it to practice, it's a horrible idea. ... We have the swine flu that



can be picked up with the bags and spread [via] the counter. ... The thing is we are bringing our bags [and] we don't check them properly. ... There's homeless people, there's people [from] low-[income] areas and they bring the bags ... but there are insects in there. There are diseases on them and they are bringing them to the supermarket. ... So they are bringing everything from the street to the supermarket. ... There are some diseases out there that can be spread through bags."

Reynaldo Guillen
Senior management major

--Compiled by Rene Cardona Jr.
--Photos by Leslie Barrientos

NO FUTURE for Partnership



Graphic: Michelle Serrano/Collegian

Sticks and stones may break my bones but words ...

By Francisco Garza
THE COLLEGIAN



As many of you know by now, Texas Southmost College trustees voted 4-3 Thursday night to split the institution from the University of Texas at

Brownsville. Besides the sobering decision, the meeting produced several memorable quotes.

I was fortunate enough to be present during the meeting and heard most of them.

"You're lying," some members of the audience shouted at Trustee Trey Mendez when he said UTB would not have open admissions if it united with TSC.

"You're lying again," they shouted when Mendez said both institutions would have to be reaccredited whether they stayed together or separated.

Groans were heard when Mendez said trustees wanted control of the junior

college if UTB and TSC were to be united because they were the best people "to know what the community needs."

"Lord, help us all," Trustee David Oliveira said after the votes were cast. Oliveira and fellow trustees, Doctors Roberto Robles and Robert Lozano, voted against the separation.

were escorted out of the building by Campus Police.

One of my favorites was a pair of quotes by Trustee Adela Garza.

"We are here to serve the community, thank you for coming," Garza said early in the meeting.

"Chief, please escort these people out,

"No! You are out of order!" audience members shouted to Rendon as they were escorted out of the building by Campus Police."

"Dr. Robles, you are out of order," board Chairman Francisco "Kiko" Rendon said when the trustee left the Arts Center stage after the vote, refusing to stay for the rest of the meeting.

"No! You are out of order!" audience members shouted to Rendon as they

or get them quiet," she said toward the end.

"Save TSC!" said supporters of the split whenever they disagreed with what a trustee said.

We will just have to wait and see if TSC, indeed, ends up saved.

Letters to the Editor

Consider a green platform

The Brownsville city elections are nearing, now under three months.

Candidates for city commission and mayor, pledge to do all in your power to stop the proposed West Loop, and then work to turn the strip of the vacated railroad tracks into a hiking, biking, walking and nature trail.

Also, re-examine the funding of the Sports Park, which through its cost has virtually frozen the possibility for smaller parks, including the wooded seven acres near Russell Elementary School.

Think green space and health, candidates!

Eugene "Gene" Novogrodsky
Brownsville

Time for state income tax

While not perfect, a state-income tax would be a huge help in helping Texas solve its budget deficit. A state-income tax is preferable to the nibbling-here-and-there taxes, including property taxes. Do not expect the current Legislature to have the courage to enact such a tax, especially if it is a progressive one. But do look for the Legislature to cut education, health and environmental funds, which could be restored with, dare I repeat it, a state-income tax.

Eugene "Gene" Novogrodsky
Brownsville

Letters to the Editor Policy

Letters to the editor must include the name, classification and phone number of the author or the letter cannot be published. Opinions expressed in *The Collegian* are those of writers and do not necessarily reflect the views of *The Collegian* or UTB/TSC administrators. The editor reserves the right to edit the letters. Letters for *The Collegian* can be sent to collegian@utb.edu.

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Martinez touts ethics code in run for mayor

By Cleiri Quezada

THE COLLEGIAN

Against the background of the Historic Brownsville Museum, attorney and community leader Tony Martinez formally launched his campaign for mayor of Brownsville on Tuesday.

Martinez promises to replace divisive and negative leadership with a positive one. He noted that the first priority must be to regain the public's trust.

His first initiative would be to pass a tough new ethics code that raises the standard of behavior at City Hall.

"El Paso passed one. Dallas passed one. It's time for Brownsville to pass one and rebuild the people's trust," Martinez said.

Planning for the future and creating economic opportunities were consistent themes throughout Martinez's speech.

He spoke about the need for transparency and accountability in the budgeting process, building consensus around an economic plan that leverages the Port of Brownsville, the need for a mayor who will support the school district and the University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College.

"We have a lot of challenges that face us, whether it be at the city, you know, whether it be our economy, whether it be our public school system, whether it be our university and our community college, so we have a lot of things that we have pressing before us and we need to kind of figure out what's the best for all the young people in this town," Martinez told *The Collegian*.

As for the dissolution of the partnership

between the University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College, Martinez said the best solution to the issue is to focus on what is best for the students.

"The first thing we have to do is we have to continue the community college's mission and vision," he said. "I don't think we can afford not to do that in this population. The second thing is we need to have a four-year college; we cannot let it go. UT is a good system and so we can't say, 'we don't need you.' We need UT, we need TSC.

"We need to figure out a system where we can accomplish both of those with the least amount of taxing, we can't double our taxes, we can't raise our taxes, so we're going to have to find a solution to that. I think it's a great challenge but I think we can do it. But we have to keep first and foremost the most important thing about the whole thing: We've got to make sure that we take care of our kids. The students are the most important part, so whatever is the best for them it's what we have to do, simple."

Martinez also mentioned the importance of improving graduation rates and keeping libraries and playgrounds open after school.

"We need to keep kids active and learning while their parents are often still at work," he said.

Martinez noted that the city must also do a better job in providing basic services.

"We have to have the ability with regards to everyday stuff," he said. "Figure out how we can keep our streets in good repair; the potholes, trash, the traffic that's getting worse and worse. So we have a lot of day-



CHRISTOPHER PEÑA/COLLEGIAN
Attorney Tony Martinez announces Tuesday that he is running for mayor of Brownsville. The election is set for May 14.

to-day dealings that we have, as well as major issues that we need to address."

During his speech, Martinez mentioned that in order to keep citizens safe, there has to exist a reliable police force; therefore, he wants to build a financial plan to build up the police force.

"It's not just for our safety but theirs," he said. "Our men and women in uniform need to have the proper backup."

Attorney Thomas Tijerina was among those who attended Martinez's campaign launch.

"He has a good idea of what Brownsville

should be and what the campaign process should be and what it means to be a mayor," Tijerina said of Martinez. "I don't think he's in it for himself, he's in it for Brownsville. He has invested a lot of his time in the city and I think that he wants for anyone who looks at us to be proud of our city from Brownsville or from outside, to not be embarrassed of who's representing our city."

Vermillion Elementary School teacher Carmen Zuniga agreed with Martinez's initiative to improve education.

"We're up to our elbows in taxes just like I'm sure that you see it at home; mothers and fathers who work with their children with their homework," Zuniga said. "Every child has the potential to be the best. They are full of hope and what they want is to become successful in everything that they do, whether it is to become our future teachers, nurses, doctors, policemen or even pop stars. ... Our city needs a person who believes in them and that person here today is Tony Martinez."

Martinez is a graduate of St. Mary's University School of Law and is a partner in the law firm of Martinez and Barrera. He has served on several boards and commissions, including Our Lady of Perpetual Help Nursing Home, president of St. Joseph Academy and is founder and benefactor of Guadalupe Regional Middle School.

He is married to Carla Saenz Martinez and has four children: the Rev. T.J. Martinez, a Jesuit priest; Trey Martinez; Andy Martinez; and Melissa Martinez Brown.

Letter to the Editor

Congress works 'around the clock'

I welcome [Francisco Garza's] enthusiasm in writing [his] opinion about legislative efforts taking place in Washington ["GOP focusing on your uterus," column, Feb. 14]. I read his column about the work being done in the House of Representatives and certain bills being introduced in Congress during the 112th session.

I, too, view some of those bills that he spoke about as harsh and not doing what the American people wish them to do, but we will leave that for another day.

However, I must point out a small [mistake]. The House of Representatives does not have *one week off after every two weeks of work*. Contrary to that, Mr. Garza, we work very hard, on weekends and around-the-clock. I answer calls

from constituents, stakeholders and reporters all the time. On weekends, we often travel to and from our congressional districts to meet with those we represent.

I have worked in the House of Representatives for some time now and I can assure you that when we, the Democrats, were in control of the House of Representatives, the legislative calendar was a lot busier than what we have seen from our Republican counterparts in the last six weeks.

I have attached a calendar, <http://majorityleader.house.gov/Calendar/112th1stSessionCalendar.pdf>, for your review in the hope you will become more informed and familiar with the legislative process and when we are in session and out of session. When you see

"D.C. Work Week," those are the days the House of Representatives is in session in Washington conducting legislative business on behalf of the American people. When you see "Constituent Work Week," we are usually traveling to our respective congressional districts to hosttown hall meetings, talk to constituents and conduct outreach with the member of Congress we work for or on their behalf.

Jose Borjón
Communications Director
for U.S. Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee
(D-Texas)

Editor's note: The areas in gray show the days Congress is in session. The weeks Congress is not in session are

called "Constituent Work Week," when lawmakers are in their home districts and visit with their constituents.

112th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

HOUSE CALENDAR

ERIC CANTOR MAJORITY LEADER

JANUARY							FEBRUARY							MARCH																							
S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa	S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa	S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa																	
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Ban on texting while driving passes

By Christine Cavazos
COLLEGIAN EDITOR

The Brownsville City Commission has passed an ordinance that prohibits texting while driving.

The ordinance was approved during Tuesday's meeting, together with the consent agenda items, which means the commission can approve them in one motion and without discussion unless a commissioner so requests.

Under the ordinance, drivers cannot use "a cellular phone or other electronic media device to view, send or compose an electronic message or manually engage other application software while operating a motor vehicle upon any public roadway within the city, including when stopped."

Exceptions are when drivers use a wireless communication device to strictly engage in a telephone conversation, including dialing or deactivating a phone call or while stopped or standing at a position parallel to and as close as possible to the right-hand edge or curb or a roadway where parking, standing or stopping in a nonemergency situation or use "a wireless communication device solely in a voice-



CHRISTOPHER PEÑA/COLLEGIAN

Brownsville Mayor Pat Ahumada (fourth from left) presents South Texas veterans with a plaque proclaiming April 9, 2011, as "Welcome Home, Vietnam Veterans Day" in the city. Also shown are District 3 Commissioner Melissa Zamora (left), Cmdr. Raul Leal, Lupe Oliveira III, Rey Molano, Ruben Cantu, District 1 Commissioner Ricardo Longoria Jr. and District 4 Commissioner Edward Camarillo.

activated or other hands-free mode."

In other business, the commission accepted a \$270,000 grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Department of Homeland Security.

Brownsville Fire Department Chief Leonardo Perez said the grant will be used to install exhaust systems in the fire station on East Adams Street and for the purchase of two air compressors for firefighters.

The commission also approved a one-

year interlocal government agreement between the cities of Brownsville and McAllen in which their respective staffs will cooperatively study methods and resources available to provide a better level of governmental services.

Officials from each city are to work together and present a report to the city commission within 60 days with options and recommendations for improvements.

The commission also authorized City

Manager Charlie Cabler to seek a \$64,230 grant from the 2011 Criminal Justice Program for the purchase of a fingerprint identification system for the Brownsville Police Department.

Commissioners awarded a contract in the amount of \$37,845.50 to Professional Service Industries of McAllen for geotechnical and construction material testing services for street and drainage improvements to the Brownsville Multimodal Terminal Facility.

The company will perform "subsurface exploration and pavement evaluation needed in the design of a cost effective flexible pavement and drainage system for reconstruction purposes on a rotation basis, based upon additional miscellaneous projects as scheduled by the city engineer," according to city documents.

The commission also proclaimed April 9, 2011, as "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day" for South Texas veterans. A "living memorial" generating national awareness and acknowledging those who "served and sacrificed, those living and those who have passed away" will take place that day at the McAllen Convention Center.

García testifies before House budget panel

By Alejandra González
THE COLLEGIAN

UTB/TSC President Juliet V. García testified Tuesday before the state House Appropriations subcommittee, urging the state not to close the door on students.

García spelled out the recipe for student success: "Having students on campus, not working off campus more than 20 hours a week, having students in learning communities, building dormitories, providing support systems for students, having more advisers available to them--all of us know the recipe for student success. What's unfortunate is that students can't often meet all of that criteria."

She said the Rio Grande Valley was known as the "Magic Valley" because of its fertile soil.

"The Valley is still fertile, now it's in its human capital, but we might miss an opportunity here to [assist] a generation of students who have done everything right," García said. "They listened to us, and they took all the rigorous courses, and they did well and now they come to our door, and I'll be very specific, in our case alone, 674 students will arrive at our door and will not have the benefit of [the] Texas Grant, which means the door will in effect be closed."

House Bill 1 would decrease the university's appropriations from \$94.8

million to \$77 million, cutting the Texas Grant and Texas Work-Study program funding by 41 percent for the university, and aid to the Top 5 Percent and 10 Percent students would be slashed by 79 percent.

Earlier this month, the president testified before the Texas Senate Finance Committee, saying that proposed budget cuts for higher education would force the school to lay off nearly 200 staff members and keep hundreds of freshmen out of the university.

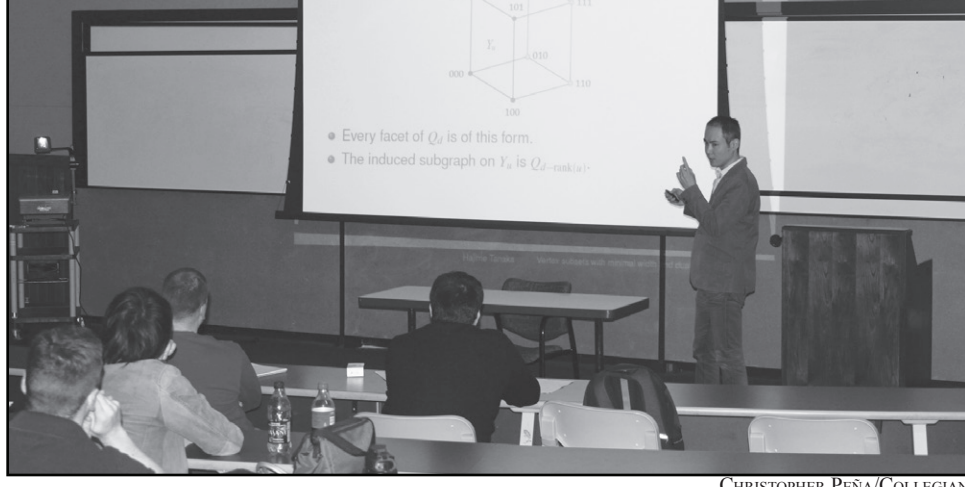
García said Tuesday that "every investment that is made in South Texas is a returned investment that is quite extraordinary."

A committee member questioned the president on UTB/TSC's operating expenses.

"I show operating expenses per full-time student equivalent to be the highest in your university of any [universities] on my list. Do you believe that to be accurate?" state Rep. Jimmy Don Aycock (R-Killeen) asked García.

"No, sir, it is not," she replied. "The kind of data that you get splits us up only by the upperclassmen that are attending UT-Brownsville, not to include the Texas Southmost College half of us. ... Our administrative cost per student has dropped down significantly over the last 10 years."

García said UTB/TSC's average class size is 22 students to one teacher.



CHRISTOPHER PEÑA/COLLEGIAN

Hajime Tanaka, a professor from Tohoku University in Sendai, Japan, explains hypercube facets to professors and graduate students on Feb. 11.

They know much about geometry

By Irma Mora
THE COLLEGIAN

On Feb. 11, UTB/TSC students were treated to a four-hour-long geometry lecture by five mathematicians, including four from Japan.

The mainly graduate-level students in attendance heard about various geometric theorems that exposed them to "real mathematics," said Mathematics Department Chair Jerzy Mogilski.

This rare lecture is one of three that the main organizer, Oleg Musin, a math professor at UTB/TSC, has been able to bring to the campus.

Musin recently resolved a complicated problem known as the "Kissing Number Problem" and since then, has been invited to talk at various seminars. As a result, he has made connections and been able to bring math experts such as the ones who presented on Feb. 11, said Math Department Secretary Ernesto Tusa.

"Determining the maximum number of D-dimensional spheres of radius r that can be adjacent to a central sphere of radius r is known as the Kissing Number Problem (KNP)," according

to the Association for Computing Machinery.

Musin's birthday was the main motivation for the majority of the guest speakers to come, Tusa said.

Guest speakers were Hajime Tanaka and Rie Tanaka, of Tohoku University in Sendai, Japan, and visiting professors at the University of Wisconsin at Madison; Alexander Barg, a professor in the electrical and computer engineering department at the University of Maryland; and Professors Sho Suda and Hiroshi Nozaki of Tohoku University.

Each speaker gave a lecture on one geometric theorem and the lectures lasted about 40 minutes each.

Future events like this will be funded by grants being received by the UTB/TSC Mathematics Department from the National Security Agency and the National Scientific Foundation, Mogilski said.

"Geometry became like our leading area of the department, so our group of faculty in geometry are receiving a very important grant," he said.

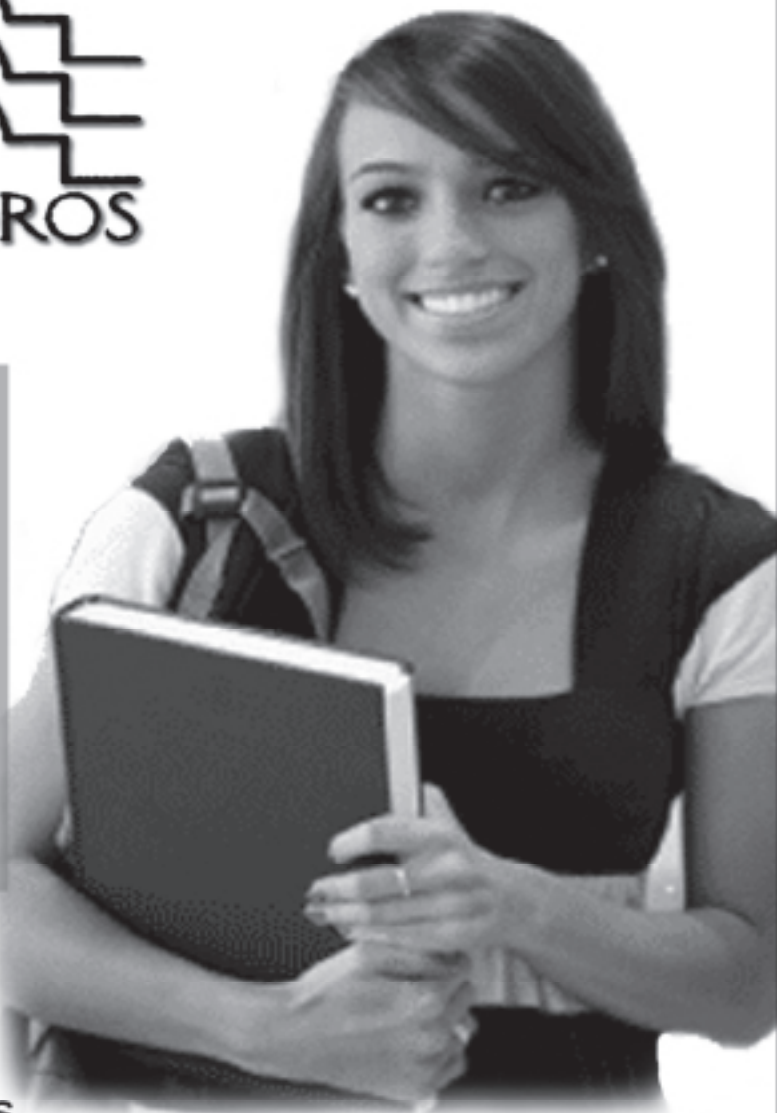
These grants fund activities for students to gain exposure and confidence in the math field.

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UTB/TSC anniversary left in the dark

By Rene Cardona Jr.
THE COLLEGIAN

The anniversary celebration of UT-Brownsville and Texas Southmost College is facing some uncertainty because of coming monetary challenges and changes in the partnership between the institutions.

“There were a series of events that were going to happen during the year, which are not,” said Linda Ufland Operations and Services Manager for the TSC District Office. “We were planning, it’s when everything happened so we kind of put everything on hold.”

Marisa Campirano said planning hasn’t gone on for about four months but a meeting was held between representatives from the different UTB/TSC colleges and schools Thursday.

Community Day received a green light, but it is going to be a “scaled-back version,” Campirano said. Originally, the event was to have a \$60,000 budget but Campirano said \$45,000 has been asked for instead in light of the budget cuts, and that figure is pending approval.

“We’re still waiting what the budgets are so we are planning what we can, but as far as like the events that were supposed to be done, where each college would have an event within a specific month, I don’t think those are still happening,” she told *The Collegian*.

The schools and colleges will, however, have activities during Community Day, which Campirano said during the meeting each respective entity will pay for. The event’s budget will go to paying for Physical Plant setup, Campus Police and registration materials, she said.

By holding the event during Homecoming Week 2012, Nov. 5, in conjunction with other typical activities such as Coffee with the President, campus and ghost tours, not only gives more time for planning (the event was originally going to be held in April) but money will be saved because of the combined marketing. There still will be separate marketing, though.

Other cost-saving strategies are also being implemented and planned: Instead of having the event sprawled across campus, it will likely take place at the Student Union, as discussed during the meeting, and sponsors are being sought to provide additional funds and/or necessities for the event such as tents.

“A lot of [businesses] want to come on to campus and have this ability with our students,” Campirano said. “There aren’t very many opportunities for them

to come on that’s going to benefit both sides, so this is something where you can come on and do something fun as a sponsor, provide product placement, get recognition but you’re still giving back by helping us provide this not just to our campus community but to the community at large.”

A development plan will be created to assist with raising funds so additional items can be given away to event attendees and additional entertainment can be rented, like those similar to ones at Orange Crush, or getting Disney characters to come, Campirano said.

Plans are still being developed and the committee wants student participation for planning Homecoming 2012 and Community Day.

“We have not been as successful as we’d like to be in the past in incorporating our student body into homecoming, and I believe with Community Day ... it really allows the opportunity to start that dialogue to get the students involved, especially the student organizations by having booths there,” Campirano said.

Those interested can contact Campirano at 882-4332.

As for the TSC board’s decision Thursday to separate the institutions, Campirano said she didn’t know if the administration is calling the anniversary an anniversary and Community Day was just part of homecoming.

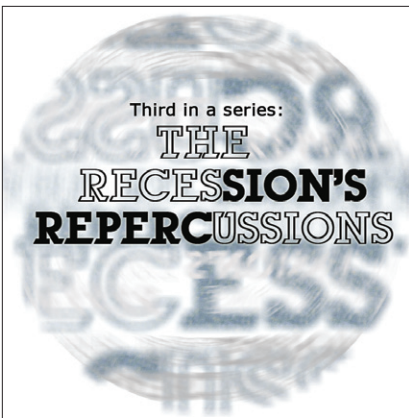
“I don’t know if it will be considered an anniversary event or just a component of homecoming,” Campirano said via e-mail Friday.

“It’s that we’ve got a lot of changes in our future and so we’re just going to roll with the punches,” she said at the meeting.

Sergio Martinez, director of Student Life, said: “Within any organization, whether a university or a business, when you’re splitting and you’re uncertain of the future of that organization, you know, it makes things very difficult to predict. ... From ... a business standpoint you always want to say what’s going to be the direction for next year so we can plan accordingly.”

The TSC board of trustees voted to separate the two institutions in a 4-to-3 decision, with Adela Garza, Francisco “Kiko” Rendon, Trey Mendez and Rene Torres as the majority.

“The anniversary program is being reconsidered in light of last evening,” Provost Alan Artibise told *The Collegian* via e-mail Friday. “It will take some time for the senior administration to decide on how to proceed.”



MICHAEL PEÑA/COLLEGIAN

Members of the Campus Activities Board include (front row, from left): Advisers Stephen Cisneros and Monica Alvarado. Middle row: President Daniel G. Vela, Vice President of Membership and Involvement Jay Salazar, Vice President of Public Relations and Marketing Virginia Sandoval, Vice President of Records Management Laura Cavazos, Vice President of Historical Archives and Information Erika Amador and Vice President of Finance Sylvia Paz. Back row: Alma C. Reyes, Bethany D. Lopez, Agustin Garcia, Elijah Gonzalez and Patsy Aguilar.

Name: Campus Activities Board	Involvement: Jay Salazar
Purpose: To program social, cultural and educational activities to unify students, promote school spirit and increase student engagement.	Advisers: Sergio Martinez, Monica Alvarado and Stephen Cisneros
Established: 1990	Activities: Bougainvillea Ball, Cupid’s Corner and Scorpion Roundup
President: Daniel Vela	Meetings: 3 p.m. Fridays in the Student Union’s Salon Jacaranda.
Vice President of Records Management: Laura Cavazos	Requirements: Must be a current UTB/TSC student and all members must meet UTB/TSC Satisfactory Academic Progress.
Vice President of Finance: Sylvia Paz	For more information: Call Student Life at 882-5138.
Vice President of Historical Archives and Information: Erika Amador	
Vice President of Public Relations and Marketing: Virginia Sandoval	
Vice President of Membership and	

--Compiled by Daniel Beltrán

Tax

Continued from Page 1

individuals for free,” said Celaya, who has been a volunteer for nine years.

With nearly 1,000 tax returns prepared and filed at the ITEC Center last year and about 1,000 expected to be completed this year, Celaya said students are encouraged to become volunteers and help out. Those who apply must undergo training by the Internal Revenue Service and a pass a test for certification. The training is available on campus every fall and spring. Anyone interested in the training may contact Celaya at pat.celaya@utb.edu, Maggie Solis at maggie.solis@utb.edu, Seth Colwell at seth.colwell@utb.edu.



LESLIE BARRIENTOS/COLLEGIAN

Maria Ramos, who works part time for UTB/TSC, assists taxpayers with their return Wednesday at the International Technology, Education and Commerce Center.

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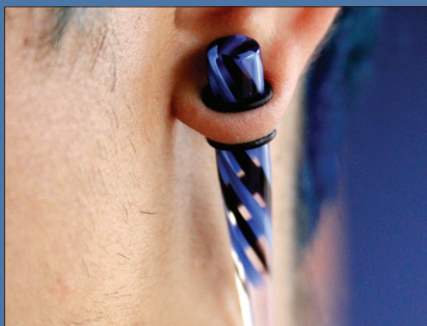
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LESLIE BARRIENTOS/COLLEGIAN PHOTOS

Name: Robert Ruiz
Classification: Freshman
Major: Art education
Clothing: Warp 'N' Weft long-sleeve plaid shirt, PacSun (\$10); Tripp NYC pants, Hot Topic (\$20); Ripsaw Vans sneakers, Vans store (\$40); Peter Grimm fedora, Spenser's (\$20); Vans shades (gifted); jacket, JC Penney (\$40); earring, Hot Topic (\$10); blue hair dye,

Sally's (\$20)
What/who inspires your style?
 "Growing up I always loved rock star fashion. For example, The Strokes [have been the influence in how I dress], and skating apparel is all I buy."
Describe your style in three words:
 "Creative, bold and fitted."

--Compiled by Leslie Barrientos

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YELLOW LIGHT

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If you apply between March 2, 2011, and June 1, 2011, your award may be ready by the payment deadline (if eligible).

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GREEN LIGHT

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Spring enrollment at 13,784

By Héctor Aguilar

SPANISH EDITOR

UTB/TSC's enrollment this semester totals 13,784, according to figures provided by the Registrar's Office on Thursday.

In comparison, there were 13,931 students enrolled in Spring 2010 and 15,180 in Fall 2010.

The number of semester credit hours this spring is 132,364, compared with 124,187 hours in Spring 2010 and 141,053 hours in Fall 2010.

Enrollment figures for this semester will become official in about a month. The reason for a higher figure in the fall semester correlates with high school graduations. Barreda said officials usually compare spring semester to each other and fall semesters respectively.

"We've consistently grown at about a 7 percent increase that we've seen in the most important category, which is in credit hours," Registrar Albert Barreda said. "Even though we've experienced a 1 percent decrease in headcount, the credit hour difference between last spring and this spring will still reflect a 7 percent increase."

Asked about the implications of this difference, Barreda said the trend has been for students to enroll in more credit hours than in the past, both for full-time and part-time students.

While higher-level courses are usually considered UTB courses and lower-level courses TSC, this is not always the case.

"There are some courses that are categorized as [UTB] university lower level and students that are able to be enrolled in those courses have to meet eligibility requirements, which include testing out of any developmental courses," Barreda said.

The requirement for UTB lower-level courses includes testing out of developmental courses, or remedial courses, he said.

There is no clear distinction, Barreda said, as to who is considered a UTB student vs. a TSC student because students can be taking courses from both institutions simultaneously.

"I don't think that at this point we have enough clarification that we could actually make determinations or sound responses to those types of questions until final decisions are made as far as the [UTB/TSC] partnership is concerned," he said.

The next counting year, which the state uses to determine funding, will comprise next year's summer terms, Fall 2012 and Spring 2013 semesters.

"There is about a two-year lag, really, between what the state legislature uses as far as enrollment and when funding actually occurs," Barreda said. "With the state budget crunch that's being experienced, there may be changes to funding formulas as well, for all we know. We do know that there are going to be cuts. What amounts and to what degree, we don't know yet," Barreda said.

SGA

Continued from Page 3

education major Anthony Ramirez said. "Our Eidman Hall, they're gonna take it. It's TSC, they're talking about our band hall; TSC, our brand new Arts Center that we finally get to perform in, they're gonna take it. So where is the music department left to go? Which is one of the best, if I'm not mistaken, degrees that we have on this campus."

Ramirez said the music department has brought a lot of recognition to UTB and TSC; therefore, the separation of both institutions would hurt.

"We're giving this campus a lot of recognition ... and then for the campus just to say, 'No, we're gonna take it all away from you,' it's a slap in our face. I mean, it's really gonna hurt us," he said.

Ramirez wanted the board of trustees to come to a decision as to the relationship of UTB and TSC.

"Everybody is fighting and there's a lot of little bickerings that are happening here and there. ... There's no common ground. ... Everybody wants but they're not willing to give and, I think, if everybody would just work together for Option 2, I think we would be a lot better."

Earlier Thursday Rangel said she would like for the board to discuss how the separation of the institutions would affect taxpayers and if staff would be cut off.

"We need information and that's pretty much what we're lacking all the time," she said.

As for the seven members of the board of trustees, she said Trey Mendez would be the tie-breaker when the board would vote for or against unification.

"I would say Trey is definitely our tie-breaker because he's a UT grad and he's a UTB/TSC grad and ... he has a closeness that the other ones don't have, and he can relate to the students of this university better than any of them and I think that if

anybody would be able to make a difference in that [vote], it would be him," she said.

On Thursday night, however, Mendez voted with a majority of the board for the separation of both entities.

Rangel wants students to reach out to the four trustees who voted against the partnership--Mendez, Francisco "Kiko" Rendon, Adela Garza and Rene Torres--and demand answers as to why they made that decision.

"I would tell the students to contact these people and to ask them why they chose that and what are the outcomes of that resolution that has nothing to do with numbers or taxes or budget--that it has to do with academics," she said. "I think that's the main concern. I think they forget that we're also students and, yes, taxes are an important part of our life, you know, making a living, but also getting an education. Otherwise, we wouldn't be going to school."

On Nov. 10, 2010, the UT System board of regents voted to terminate its nearly 20-year partnership agreement with Texas Southmost College no later than Aug. 31, 2015, after TSC board Chair Francisco "Kiko" Rendon failed to send a letter to the regents outlining the core concepts the TSC board wanted in a new UTB/TSC model.

In a letter to Rendon dated Jan. 21, Cigarroa offered two proposals: two wholly separate institutions with contractual arrangements for use of resources, but no shared governance, and a single institution whereby the community college becomes part of the University of Texas at Brownsville.

In other business on Tuesday, the senate approved SGA President Jorge Muñoz's appointment of three new senators: Brian Leal, senator at large; Kevin de la Cruz, senator for the College of Education; and William Fern, senator for the School of Health Sciences.



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U.S. rep says agents ambushed by Zetas in Mexico

By Alicia A. Caldwell
and Will Weissert

ASSOCIATED PRESS



Jaime Zapata

Members of Mexico's ruthless Zetas gang carried out a highway ambush that killed one U.S. federal agent and wounded another this week, a Texas congressman said Thursday.

Michael McCaul said Immigration and Customs Enforcement Special Agent Jaime Zapata, 32, was killed by members of the Zeta cartel after a group of 10 to 15 armed men in two vehicles forced Zapata's Chevy Suburban off a highway in San Luis Potosi, Mexico, on Tuesday afternoon. ICE Agent Victor Avila was shot twice in the leg.

McCaul, chairman of the House Homeland Security Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee, said the agents identified themselves as U.S. diplomats before being shot.

"This was a complete ambush," he said, adding that investigators recovered at least 90 bullet casings from the scene.

The Texas Republican said Zapata, of Brownsville and a 2005 UTB/TSC graduate, and Avila identified themselves as U.S. diplomats "hoping [the Zetas] would honor the long-standing tradition that they don't [target] U.S. law enforcement."

"This is a complete game changer," he said. "They are changing the rules."

He said while the motive for the attack remains unclear, one thing is certain: "There's no case of mistaken identity."

Authorities have said the agents were likely in the wrong place at the wrong time and that their SUV is of a kind coveted by drug cartels in the area.

Mexican authorities are investigating the shooting but have not announced any arrests.

"My sense is that we know, we probably have pretty good intelligence as to who was behind this," McCaul said. "That's what it appears to be."

U.S. Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano and Attorney General Eric Holder have formed a joint task force led by the FBI to help Mexico find the killers.

Holder said Thursday that U.S. officials would look closely at the security situation in Mexico and make any changes warranted to ensure that U.S. personnel "have maximum protection."

The Mexican government does not allow U.S. law enforcement personnel to carry weapons. Holder would not say if the government planned to push to allow U.S. law enforcement working in Mexico to arm themselves.

McCaul was more forthright.

"We are helping them, they are not helping us," he said. "If we are going to put our guys down there ... to allow them not to be armed really puts them right in the bulls-eye and they are sitting targets."

McCaul said he wants to schedule congressional hearings to examine the U.S. role in Mexico's ongoing drug war, which has killed more than 35,000 people since Mexican President Felipe Calderon launched an offensive against the country's drug gangs shortly after taking office in late 2006.

Zapata and Avila, also from Texas, were on temporary assignments at the ICE attaché office in Mexico City. They had been driving between Monterrey and Mexico City when the attack occurred.

Avila serves on a unit to deter human trafficking and is based in El Paso. Zapata had been based out of Laredo. He joined Homeland Security in 2006, served on the Human Smuggling and Trafficking Unit as well as the Border Enforcement Security Task Force. He also was a member of the U.S. Border

Patrol in Yuma, Ariz.

On Thursday, police and ICE officers blocked the entrance to the road leading to Zapata's family home in Brownsville.

Brownsville police spokesman Eddie Garcia said the department doesn't usually provide such protection to the family of shooting victims but that it was appropriate given the circumstances.

The security is "for the privacy of the family. The family is not ready to come out yet and give interviews," Garcia said.

The U.S. State Department has taken several measures over the past year to protect consulate employees and their families in Mexico, although attacks on Americans are rare. It has at times authorized the departure of relatives of U.S. government employees in northern Mexican cities.

In July, it temporarily closed the consulate in Ciudad Juarez, a city at the center of Mexico's drug cartel violence, after receiving unspecified threats. Earlier this month, the consulate in Guadalajara prohibited U.S. government officials from traveling after dark on the road to the airport because of cartel-related attacks in Mexico's second-largest city.

--Alicia A. Caldwell reported from Washington.

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Board

Continued from Page 1

“Under separation, and there is a proposal that the chairman has put out there, a proposed budget that he has come up with that shows Texas Southmost College ... with a surplus,” he said. “I think I saw in the newspaper today, that this is the one proposed by the University of Texas and it shows us with a surplus of about \$100 million. First of all, the analysis done by the University of Texas System does not show any surplus if we separate. In fact, it shows a \$9.8 million dollar deficit, so let’s get that straight.”

Trustees had a second option to consider as proposed by University of Texas System Chancellor Francisco Cigarroa in January: as single institution whereby the community college becomes an important part of the UT-Brownsville. Under this option, TSC would transfer or lease at no cost its assets to UT-Brownsville and phase out the local taxing district. Cigarroa asked the board to make a decision before March 15 because that is the last day to submit requests or proposals to the Texas Legislature.

In the discussion of the deadline, TSC attorney Frank Perez said the UT System did not provide a deadline but two other TSC attorneys, Daniel Rentfro and Horacio Barrera, said there was. Rentfro held up a timeline that stated March 11 was the deadline.

Mendez said that the UT System had projected the value of TSC’s assets to be \$198 million and its bond debt to be \$102 million that will be paid by taxpayers until the year 2034.

During the intense discussion, Trustee Adela Garza criticized Robles and Oliveira for defending the unification proposal. She was then booed by the audience.

About 48 people--students, faculty, staff and members of the community--addressed the board. The majority of the individuals spoke in favor of uniting the institutions.

Cassandra Wolf, chair of the UTB/TSC Development Board, and Rosalinda Rangel, vice president of administration for the Student Government Association, presented the board with survey results that favored unification.

As the first speaker, the Rev. Armand Mathew, of the university’s Center for Civic Engagement, drew applause for his words.

“I urge you to vote this evening and to vote for unification,” Mathew told the board. “All of you were elected to be Texas Southmost College board trustees and always to seek, to serve and to sustain the best interest of our students.”

Resident Jillian Jeffries addressed the board as a concerned taxpayer.

“How in the world do you expect to operate and fund a junior college that will not be accredited, will not have faculty, [and] will not have students to pay tuition without raising our taxes?” Jeffries said. “I don’t know [how], I don’t think you can. I would hope as the governing body of Texas Southmost College that you would give just consideration to the numerous towns and cities that have voted resolutions in favor of unification; I would hope you would give even more consideration to your staff, your faculty and the students that have voted in favor of unification. I’m in favor of it.

“And I leave with this: I know that there are some board members that feel you don’t have to answer to anybody. Well, I’m here to tell you, you do. You answer to me and everybody else.”

Former Brownsville Mayor Ignacio “Nacho” Garza addressed the transfer of assets as proposed by the UT System.

“For those who say we are going to give away these assets, if I remember correctly,

the core of this campus was given to us by the U.S. government because it was a military base. ... So, whoever we give these assets to, and they are not going to leave Brownsville--nobody is picking this campus up and the assets, and the buildings and moving them--whoever we entrust them [to] for higher education is still for the community,” Garza said. “They are assets of Brownsville. So, I ask that you consider and vote for unification.”

Enrique Melguizo, a concerned parent, also favors unification.

“I’ve come here to request that you vote for unification,” Melguizo said. “For the kids, for the better economic development, for lower taxes and once you do the unification and Texas Southmost College board dissolves, then all of your bosses may vote for you to go to on and become experts and fix other boards that have to be fixed. Please vote for unification.”

Brownsville attorney Jeff Roerig addressed the issue of fiduciary ownership of UTB/TSC property.

“This property here does not belong to any individual,” Roerig said. “The property here belongs to the public. And this board of trustees is here for the public. Transferring that property to another public entity to administer it for the same citizens is no ... breach of fiduciary duty. Rather, the fiduciary duty is to use and manage that property for the best interest of everybody in Brownsville. And that’s what this property is for: the education of children. The property will continue to be used that way. ... These buildings were designed to act as a unit, and now it’s going to be divided into two units. It won’t work.”

Robles asked Rendon for the trustees’ opportunity to address the audience.

In his statement, Robles tried to persuade Rendon and fellow trustees Garza, Mendez and Torres to vote for unification.

“Years from now, history will be kind to those whose individual efforts join hands [with] others to help build human bridges that advance society and civilization as a whole,” he said. “Let’s join hands today and do the right thing by voting to keep these institutions united and against separation.”

The audience reacted with a standing ovation.

Garza tried to justify her position in voting for separation of the entities but was constantly interrupted and booed by the public.

“I gave Dr. Robles my attention,” she said. “I think we all deserve respect. ... The reason why the board is comprised of seven people from different parts of the community is because we all bring something new to the table. Not everybody’s perfect, not everybody knows everything.”

Trustee Rene Torres was also booed by the public audience.

“I, too, have an opinion, but what I don’t have is the backing of the UTB administration or the resources,” he said. “You can hold your comments or your boos until I finish.”

UTB/TSC President Juliet V. Garcia did not attend the meeting. *The Collegian* tried to reach her Friday morning but was told that she was unavailable.

On Nov. 10, 2010, the UT System board of regents voted to terminate its partnership agreement with Texas Southmost College no later than Aug. 31, 2015, after TSC board Chair Francisco “Kiko” Rendon failed to send a letter to the UT System board of regents outlining the core concepts the TSC board wanted in a new UTB/TSC model.

The next TSC board meeting is March 24.



CHRISTOPHER PEÑA/COLLEGIAN

Adam Guillen, a freshman music education major, was among about 30 people who rallied before the Texas Southmost College board of trustees meeting Thursday.



MICHELLE SERRANO/COLLEGIAN

Brownsville attorney Jeff Roerig is one of nearly 50 concerned citizens who addressed the TSC trustees Thursday night. Roerig spoke in favor of unification.



MICHELLE SERRANO/COLLEGIAN

Members of the audience in favor of and against the partnership split react Thursday to the Texas Southmost College board of trustees’ decision to separate from UT-Brownsville.



MICHELLE SERRANO/COLLEGIAN

TSC Trustee René Torres (left) and board Vice Chair Dr. Roberto Robles argue on the stage of the Arts Center after Thursday’s 4-3 vote to dissolve the partnership between Texas Southmost College and UT-Brownsville.



MICHELLE SERRANO/COLLEGIAN

“[TSC Trustee] Adela [Garza] was texting all the time; she does not give a damn about the students!” shouts Yoli Roberts, president of the Medical Alliance. Roberts said she attended the board meeting in support of Trustee Dr. Roberto Robles.

Winds and strings take center stage this week



Courtesy Photo

The Daedalus String Quartet will perform at 8 p.m. Thursday in the UTB/TSC Arts Center.

By Francisco Garza

THE COLLEGIAN

The Patron of the Arts program will present two distinct acts this week for your musical delight.

Jonathan Guist, an assistant professor of music, has been playing the clarinet since he was in fourth grade and performing since he was an undergraduate.

At 8 tonight, he will perform in the Arts Center for the first time.

Guist, who received a master's degree in music from Baylor University and a doctorate of musical arts from the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, N.Y., said he will be playing "mostly contemporary classical, composed in the 20th century for clarinet and piano and clarinet and flute."

He will be accompanied by Assistant Professors Kenneth Saxon, Juan Pablo Andrade and Master Chorale Assistant Director Robert Cruhm on the piano.

Assistant Professor Cristina Ballatori will join Guist on the flute.

"I'm looking forward to playing with my colleagues," Guist said.

The other act performing this week has been called "one of the finest young groups to emerge in our current golden age of

American string quartets" by The New Yorker.

The Daedalus String Quartet will perform at 8 p.m. Thursday in the Arts Center.

The quartet is composed of Min-Young Kim and Ara Gregorian on the violin, Jessica Thompson on the viola and Raman Ramakrishnan on the cello.

They will be playing Mozart's "String Quartet No. 22 in B-flat major," Berg's "String Quartet, Op. 3" and Schumann's "String Quartet No. 1 in A minor, Op. 41, No. 1."

This marks the second visit the group has made to UTB/TSC.

In addition to its performance, the quartet will participate in a master class earlier the same day.

This class is open to all students and will be conducted in the main hall of the Arts Center.

Tickets for Guist's performance are \$10 for non-member adults, \$5 for children and senior citizens and \$5 for UTB/TSC students with valid ID. Tickets for the quartet's performance are \$15 for non-member adults, \$10 for children and senior citizens and \$5 for UTB/TSC students with valid ID.

For more information, call 882-7025.

Review

'The Eagle' doesn't fly

By Louie Vera

SPORTS EDITOR

With a riveting trailer, the potential for "The Eagle" looked high and ostensibly too high as this big bird of a movie traveled lower than its optimal height of flight.

Kevin Macdonald ("State of Play," "The Last King of Scotland") directs the story of Marcus Aquila, played by Channing Tatum, who is out to restore his family's name 20 years after his father led the Ninth Legion that lost the precious and invaluable golden eagle in 100 A.D.

The opening scenes keep the promise from the movie trailers high as Aquila leads his Roman men into battle where they are ambushed in the middle of the night. The fight scenes are engaging but lack velocity behind their punch. While it's rare to find the perfect combination of story, acting and action in historic battle movies such as "Braveheart," it seems "The Eagle" misses at all three phases with such a straightforward story and acting that is hindered by a seemingly uninspired script.

After suffering a brutal injury to his leg in the opening battle scene, Aquila develops a friendship with Esca, played by Jamie Bell, who is saved by Marcus during a gladiator fight in their local village.

Esca guides Marcus north past Hadrian's Wall, which is considered the "End of the

World." On their journey, Esca and Marcus travel past the Great Woods and Snowy Mountains where they encounter a tribe of noble savages. With Esca being a native of the lands and Marcus in the depths of enemy territory, he calls Marcus out as his slave to avoid an abrasive response from the locals.

In fact, the tribal leader says that they bring back a lot of Romans to their tribe but not any with their head attached to their body.

Just as the movie magic would have it, one night during their stay, the tribal leader brings out the once-thought-lost golden eagle during a ritual dance.

The final battle scene takes too long to develop and without giving away too much, Marcus and Esca's help come from almost unrealistically old-age warriors who somehow keep up with the young tribe that outnumbers them nearly 3-to-1.

"The Eagle" certainly felt like an expensive documentary on the History Channel and is better off seen on an early evening on Netflix from the comfort of your home couch. The movie grossed \$8 million its opening weekend and fourth in overall rank behind Adam Sandler's box-office topper "Just Go With It," which made more than \$30 million.

Film explores Brownsville's high school teen cliques

By Michelle Serrano

THE COLLEGIAN

Barbara Eder, a foreign exchange student at Hanna High School during the mid-1990s, never forgot her experiences in Brownsville.

Eder, now a filmmaker in Austria, draws upon those experiences to describe the lives of American teenagers who live within a hierarchy of cliques in an

environment that espouses the American Dream in her docudrama, "Inside America."

"I used to go to Hanna High School when I was 17 years old [from] a sheltered life in the countryside of Austria. I [was] confronted with violent gangs, illegal immigrants and drugs. My friends had to deal with issues in their lives, which I thought only existed in movies. ... The closeness I felt for the people in Brownsville made me want to put this into a movie," Eder told *The Collegian* via e-mail.

"I remember I was sitting in a cafe with this friend of mine, Constanze Schumann, who is a producer. ... I also told her about my past life, about Brownsville and all the stories from there. She was so excited and told me to make a movie out of it. She would produce it right away. That was the beginning."

Eder summed up the storyline of "Inside America": "The American flag is proudly raised at school every morning and the dream of prosperity and freedom is invested in [the students'] mind, but the reality is tough; drugs, violence and security at the school gate are a part of the daily routine. The six teenagers fight for their future in between ROTC class and home economics, somehow managing to retain their vitality and dreams."

Eder studied in Brownsville for a year but said she stayed longer because she had a hard time leaving everybody behind.

"I remember the first day of school I got arrested by the security guards," she told *The Collegian*. "I didn't know why, but then they explained to me that my T-shirt was offensive. It showed a cartoon of an elephant falling down from the sky on a small kid on the ground and at the bottom it said, 'Oh sh--.'"

"It was supposed to be funny and in my country everybody would smile at it, but at Hanna it was offensive. That was my first impression of that school and especially the U.S.--you can get in trouble for being humorous and there are rules. Never break them or question them--you'll get in trouble."

The cultural differences were also apparent to Eder.

"Most of the students could speak perfect Spanish and I only spoke German and English," she said. "Lots of people would just see me as white and rich, which I wasn't at all, but after a while they understood that I was not an ignorant foreigner but a person who was absolutely interested in the people from Brownsville and their culture, especially their food."

The typical nighttime activity for a Brownsville student was going to Matamoros, Eder said about an activity that is nearly impossible to do today with the instability of Mexico.

"I don't think there were any students who wouldn't go to Matamoros," she said.

A major difference Eder noted in her stay in Brownsville was that everyone wanted to belong to a group.

"Either you wanted to be part of the *fresas* or part of the punks or part of the gangs or part of the cheerleaders," she said.



It's a statement that strikes at the heart of teenagers across America, who, in one way or another, seek to discover their identity, something that Eder said she was not so familiar with in her native Austria.

"In my country, it was so different because everyone wanted to be [an] individual and was interested in all sorts of groups of people," she said. "... When I was at Hanna High School, I would be friends with gang people and *fresas* and also the supernerds and also the heavy-metal guys and punks."

"I remember one time I got everybody together at my house and it was weird in the beginning," she said. "Slowly, people who would never talk to people of another clique started talking to each other, and after a while, white, rich kids and illegal immigrant kids from Cameron Park [were singing] songs together. I will never forget that moment."

Eder still keeps in touch with some of her Brownsville friends.

"Inside America" was financed by public funds from Austria and the Austrian Broadcasting Corp. and was filmed in 2008.

"We also got support from the Film Academy Vienna, where we were still students at that time," Eder said. "Our budget was 80,000 euros and we were only a team of five while shooting the movie. Without the support of the Brownsville Film Commission and locals, it wouldn't have been possible, as we were coming from abroad and had no existing network."

The Brownsville Independent School District was supportive throughout the shooting of the film, Eder said.

"They understood the effort and the importance of showing kids' lives close to reality and far from clichés," she said.

Viewers of the movie have been "very touched by the characters and their stories," according to Eder.

"Everyone knows the successful stories of people in the U.S. who managed to live the 'American Dream,' but the back side of it, the problems which kids of Brownsville have to deal with, the fact that some kids are illegal, are hardly shown," she said. "They actually thanked me for that matter."

Schumann said "the movie [has] had a fantastic festival career," including the Toronto Independent Film Festival and the Max Ophüls Festival in Germany, where "Inside America" won the Special Jury Award.

"Max Ophüls is the most important festival for new directors in German-speaking countries, so we were very honored," Schumann said.

A screening of "Inside America" is scheduled March 14 at Austin's South by Southwest music and media conference.

For those who wish to wait for a major theater release, Schumann said that "so far, we don't have distribution in the U.S. but hope to get picked up in SXSW."

Eder's next film project will be about the "bizarre" lives of criminal profilers.

For more information on "Inside America," go to <http://blog.insideamerica-themovie.com/>.

El Concurso Americano de Matemáticas por vez primera en el Valle

Por Héctor Aguilar

EDITOR DE ESPAÑOL

Más de 150 estudiantes participarán en el Concurso Americano de Matemáticas (AMC), que se llevará a cabo por vez primera en el Valle del Río Grande el miércoles en UTB/TSC.

El AMC 10/12 ha existido por 60 años. Las escuelas públicas y privadas de Brownsville, San Benito, Harlingen, Los Fresnos, Puerto Isabel, Pharr y Weslaco al igual que los estudiantes de la Academia de Matemáticas y Ciencias de UTB/TSC participarán en este evento.

El concurso tiene como metas atraer el interés de los estudiantes en las matemáticas y desarrollar sus talentos al solucionar problemas complejos durante un concurso.

“Nosotros creemos que nuestros estudiantes aquí en el Valle tienen la capacidad de llegar hasta las Olimpiadas de Matemáticas, por eso queremos darles la oportunidad de comenzar desde el AMC y llegar hasta el punto culminante que sea posible”, dijo Shaghayegh Setayesh, profesora de álgebra de UTB/TSC y una de los organizadores del evento.

Durante el examen de 75 minutos, los estudiantes tendrán aproximadamente tres minutos para resolver cada una de las 25 preguntas de opción múltiple que podrán solucionarse por medio del uso de conceptos de álgebra y pre-cálculo. No se permitirá el uso de calculadoras.

Los estudiantes que quieran participar en



SERGIO SALAZAR/COLLEGIAN

Shaghayegh Setayesh, profesora de matemáticas en UTB/TSC es una de las organizadoras del Concurso Americano de Matemáticas que se llevará a cabo el miércoles en el campus.

el AMC 10 deben ser menores de 17.5 años y no estar inscritos en segundo o tercer año de preparatoria y para participar en AMC 12 deben ser menores de 19.5 años y estar en una preparatoria.

Existen varias oportunidades para avanzar en estos concursos dado que el 5 por ciento de los estudiantes que sobresalga en el AMC 10 y el 2 por ciento del AMC 12 podrá participar en la Examinación Invitacional Americana de Matemáticas (AIME).

Los participantes del AIME tienen la oportunidad de avanzar a las Olimpiadas de Los Estados Unidos Americanos (USAMO). De allí se elegirán seis

participantes y dos suplentes que asistirán al Programa de Verano de las Olimpiadas de Matemáticas y finalmente competirán en las Olimpiadas Internacionales de Matemáticas.

Alexey Glazyrin, profesor de matemáticas de UTB/TSC quien participó en las Olimpiadas Internacionales de Matemáticas en julio de 2001 como miembro del equipo ruso, forma parte del profesorado que está involucrado con los clubes de matemáticas.

“Tratamos de motivar a las escuelas del área, [incluyendo] a las del Distrito Escolar Independiente de Brownsville y a varias escuelas más para que organizaran clubes de matemáticas en sus escuelas. Les dimos el material, los problemas y las respuestas y demás. ... Cada semana tenemos una junta aquí en el campus... y a la maestra que esté patrocinando el club de matemáticas se le da tutoría para solucionar los problemas con los chicos”, dijo Glazyrin.

Él cree que se tomará varios años hasta que la verdadera influencia de la enseñanza para los estudiantes sea evidente, pero dijo que hay buenas posibilidades de que los estudiantes avancen a la AIME.

Una de las patrocinadoras de los clubes es la maestra de matemáticas de la preparatoria de San Benito, Roxana Jiménez, que instruye a 13 de los estudiantes. Sus estudiantes no solamente son miembros de Mu Alpha Theta, una sociedad de honor para estudiantes de preparatoria y universidades técnicas de dos años, sino que también se han tomado el tiempo para

practicar en grupo e individualmente para este concurso.

“Esta es la primera vez para estos estudiantes,” dijo Jiménez. “Están emocionados, preocupados y se están más seguros de sí mismos con cada practica.”

“Las expectativas [que tengo para ellos] básicamente son que tengan una buena experiencia dado que nunca han hecho esto antes, [y] que pierdan la timidez y que simplemente tengan la habilidad de ir y buscar oportunidades”.

Stella Filizola, directora del Departamento de Matemáticas y maestra de la Academia de San José tiene a 59 participantes. Los estudiantes de San José, dijo ella, participan en concursos similares a los de UIL.

“Me alegra que la universidad haya decidido llevar esto a cabo”, Filizola dijo. “Todos salen ganando, será bueno para la universidad, para nuestra escuela y para los estudiantes”.

Después del concurso, habrá un recorrido del campus y una ceremonia de reconocimientos.

Valley Regional Medical Center y Sunshine Pediatrics contribuyeron a este evento que fue organizado por el profesor de matemáticas y Director del Departamento de Matemáticas Jerzy Mogilski y Setayesh.

Aquellos estudiantes de secundaria y preparatoria que cumplan con los requisitos y quieran participar tendrán hasta el martes para inscribirse. Para mayores informes, contacte a Setayesh al 882-8892 o vía e-mail a shaghayegh.setayesh1@utb.edu.

Estudiante de hoy



CHRISTOPHER PEÑA/COLLEGIAN

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Clasificación: Estudiante de cuarto año
Fecha de graduación: Mayo 2011

Reconocimientos: Lista del Decano: Verano 2006, Verano 2007, Otoño 2008, Primavera 2009, Otoño 2009, Primavera 2010 and Otoño 2010; beca de *Center for Civic Engagement Scholar*, *MBRS-RISE Scholar*.

Pasatiempos: “[Son] leer y me gusta también cocinar. Mi platillo favorito para cocinar son las entomatadas. También me gusta pasar el tiempo con mi familia, con mi novio, con mis amigas, ir de compras y participar en actividades con el grupo de mi iglesia de jóvenes”.

Actividades extracurriculares: “Hago servicio social; me gusta ir a asilos de ancianos y ser voluntaria y también con [el] *Center for Civic Engagement* he tenido la oportunidad de hacer muchas actividades extracurriculares como [limpiar la playa]... También hacemos actividades para niños de [la vecindad] Buena Vida. ... [En una Noche de Brujas] les hicimos una mini fiesta y estos Días de los Charros vamos a hacer lo mismo”.

¿Cuál sería tu trabajo ideal? “Quiero llegar a ser médico”.

¿Cuáles son tus metas? “Mi meta ahorita sería graduarme ya éste mayo y quiero aplicar a una escuela de medicina próximamente y al mismo tiempo aplicar para un programa de investigación allí mismo en la escuela de medicina, esas son mis metas por ahorita”.

¿Cómo te ves dentro de 10 años? “Me veo ya trabajando en lo que me gusta. Me gustan bastantes las personas de tercera edad. Entonces, me veo tal vez trabajando como geriatra, teniendo una clínica y recibiendo pacientes”.

¿Qué te gusta de la universidad? “Me gusta la estructura. Me gusta que [puedas] caminar de un edificio a otro porque he tenido la oportunidad de ir a otras universidades y muchas veces tienes que irte manejando, estacionarte y bajarte y aquí está todo conectado. ... Me gusta la naturaleza, hay bastantes árboles, la resaca. Está muy bonito, mientras que vas a una clase puedes disfrutar de eso”.

¿Qué te gustaría aportar a la universidad? “Pues mi tiempo, también [ayudar] a otros estudiantes a darles tutoría. He tenido estudiantes de menor clasificación grados menos que me han venido a preguntar ¿cómo le haces para entrar a cierto programa? o así y me gusta ayudarlos y decirles”.

¿Qué lección has aprendido durante el semestre pasado que te ha hecho pensar de otra manera? “Aprendí que las cosas no siempre salen como quieres y tienes que tener más opciones... No clavarme de que esto es lo que quiero hacer sino OK. Si no funciona esto, tengo opción B, opción C y así”.

¿Cuál es tu clase preferida? ¿Por qué? “Me gustó bastante la clase de anatomía y fisiología con el Dr. [Hugo] Rodríguez. El es un gran maestro, te enseña todo bien padre. Lo hace interesante, interactivo, podemos participar durante la clase, entonces yo creo que esa ha sido la clase más favorita”.

Anécdota: “El semestre pasado estaba teniendo una clase que era una vez a la semana y recuerdo que en una ocasión falté y cuando regresé a la clase me dijeron que había examen y yo ni en cuenta y ‘no, sí’ me decían, [‘ve] a tu alrededor’. Sí, estaban típico los estudiantes viendo sus notas, sus libros y yo ‘no inventes’ todo por no venir o por no consultarlo con el maestro o con mis compañeros de que ¿que hicimos la semana pasada? Entonces fue algo que aprendí y me hizo pensar diferente que ahora si faltó o algo, lo primero que hago es mandarle un correo al maestro”.

--Recopilado por Daniel Beltrán



SERGIO SALAZAR

Una dulce melodía

Lorenzo García, estudiante de diseño gráfico de último año (izquierda) y David Mark, estudiante de gobierno de segundo año, de la banda Friday Avenue participan en el evento de Cupid's Corner el 14 de febrero en la Sala de la Unión Estudiantil. Aproximadamente 300 personas asistieron al evento patrocinado por Vida Estudiantil y organizado por El Consejo de Actividades del Campus, dijo el director de Vida Estudiantil Sergio Martínez.

TE GUSTARÍA SABER QUE ESTÁS PASANDO EN NUESTRO UNIVERSO?

ENTRA A [HTTP://UTBCOLLEGIAN.COM/V](http://UTBCOLLEGIAN.COM/V)

Scorpions cage Lions, sweep

By Louie Vera
SPORTS EDITOR

The 2011 UTB/TSC baseball season is very much in its infant stages but, even so, the Scorpions' maturity is manifesting at an eyebrow-raising pace.

Scorpions skipper Bryan Aughney and his ball club are off to one of the school's best starts in history at 8-1. Results for the weekend series against Texas Wesleyan University were unavailable at press time.

The team has two four-game winning streaks under its belt, including an all-important three-game sweep Feb. 11 and 12 against conference opponent Southwestern Assemblies of God University, then taking an 8-2 decision Feb. 13 against Texas Lutheran University at Katt-Isabel Field.

Overall, the Scorpions outscored their road foes SAGU and TLU 40-8, which is a good start for UTB/TSC as its 11-game trip continues with the University of Texas Pan-American Tuesday in Edinburg, followed by a three-game set vs. Huston-Tillotson University to end the road trip.

"That was a good weekend," Aughney said. "We feel very good to take three conference games on the road and [it's a] great way to start the conference season. We played well, pitched well, and there are some things we can improve on. Those three wins are what we need. We went into [Texas Lutheran] and had good energy and kept that momentum going for the most part. I think this group is starting to figure out what it means to play to win and how to win."

One of the offensive standouts from the four games was second baseman Nick Loftis, who went 6-for-13 with



CHRISTOPHER PEÑA/COLLEGIAN

UTB/TSC second baseman Nick Loftis targets first base during practice Wednesday at Scorpion Field. Loftis batted 6-for-13 Feb. 11-13 during the Scorpions' four-game road trip.

four RBIs, runs and stolen bases to help the Scorpions leave the Feb. 11-13 road trip unscathed.

"We feel pretty confident," Loftis said. "Our communication with one another really improved and our sticks got going when we needed them. The pitching staff did really well, too, and was able to get guys out. I know I have a lot to improve on but, overall, it was a good weekend."

UTB/TSC banged out 47 hits, including 15 extra base hits (14 doubles and a homer).

"Getting a conference sweep is big," senior Matt Warner said. "Good to see everyone clicking on the right cylinders and even the guys who didn't play their best were picked up by the other ones. It was a good team trip all around."

On the mound, the Scorpions' starters set the tone and were virtually unhittable as Julian Moya, Danny Gidora, Matt Schaafsma and Kevin Chapman combined for 23 innings of work, scattering nine hits and striking out 18 batters.

The Scorpion hurlers had a combined 0.73 WHIP and a baffling 0.00 ERA, not allowing a single run or unearned run.

"We've got to be mentally ready for a game and then the next one, and we've got to keep it that way," Aughney said. "Against Texas Lutheran we played great for six innings and then we put it in cruise control. Luckily, it didn't come back to bite us. We've got to get mentally right, right now, and create those habits so come May, it becomes routine."

UTB/TSC sets stolen base record, Chapman steady on the mound

By Louie Vera
SPORTS EDITOR

If there was one thing UTB/TSC Baseball Coach Bryan Aughney thought might be lacking on his roster, his answer would've been team speed.

While that still may be true, the Scorpions showed their coach and Southwest Assemblies of God University that with some timing and good instincts, the 2011 UTB/TSC squad can swipe bags with the best of them.

In fact, in their conference opener Feb. 11 against SAGU, the Scorpions stole 12 bases, breaking the previous school record of nine set Feb. 9, 2007 in the inaugural Scorpion baseball game in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics

against the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor.

"We've got some guys that can run the bags; Jorge [Camorlinga], Matt [Ginn], Joel [Fernandez] can run," Aughney said. "We're not blazing by any means but we've spent a lot of time trying to read pitchers and finding good situations to run in. That kind of comes from them trusting not only themselves but [also] the system."

Camorlinga led the team in the game with three stolen bases while teammates Ginn, Peter Maldonado, Adam Miller and Brad Regehr each snagged two.

Aughney is fully aware a record-breaking day like the one against the Lions isn't always going to be at hand, so he is hoping his team will be able to manufacture runs with the bat on the ball.

"We're going to run into games sometimes where we're not going to be able to run," Aughney said, "[also,] where teams are going to do a good job of shutting us down. Stolen bases to us are great, it's definitely a bonus, a big part of our game, but we have to learn to play without them and bang some runs in and play station-to-station baseball. We've done a good job, so far, but there is definitely room for improvement and we left some bags out there we should have had."

Chapman finds groove

Pitcher Kevin Chapman is blunt. The man likes to start but whether he is starting, in the middle, or finishing the game, the right-hander simply wants to win.

While his teammates were taking bases like candy from a baby, the senior hurler was keeping SAGU off the bags as if they were private property and no trespassing allowed.

Chapman had a no-hitter through five innings and gave up two hits in the sixth before leaving the SAGU base runners stranded on the diamond.

He also sat down seven batters via strikeout.

"I'm a guy who just loves to pitch," Chapman said. "Whenever the team needs me, I want to help, whether it's starting or coming out of the bullpen. Starting is fun because you get to prepare yourself and relieving is fun because you get all the pressure. It was the first start of the weekend and I wanted to set the tone and

Garza, women cruise in Laredo

By Louie Vera
SPORTS EDITOR

The UTB/TSC Women's Golf Team couldn't have scripted a better way to start the spring semester: with a win.

Freshman standout Elizabeth Garza followed an 84 with a final round 83 to win top medalist and help the Scorpions run away with the Jack Brown Memorial Golf Tournament Feb. 15 and 16, hosted by Texas A&M International University at the Laredo Country Club.

"It was awesome," she said. "It felt really good to do so well, and as a team, with it being the first tournament of the semester. I think it's going to help us with our game and the tournament really showed our potential."

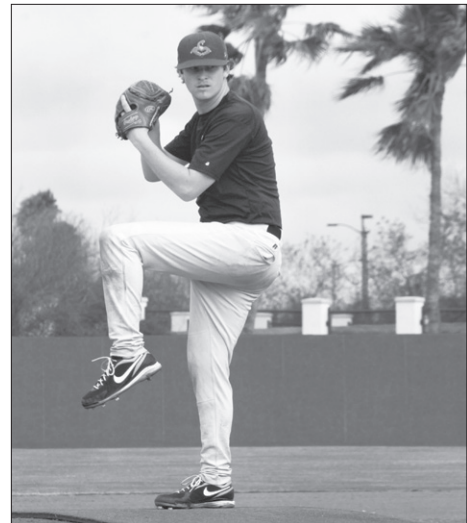
The Scorpions fired a team total of 725, winning the tournament by 73 shots over TAMIU and third-place Texas Lutheran University.

Now, with a victory in its bag, the team is hoping the early success permeates through conference.

"To see them rise up and get a win is huge," Scorpions golf Coach Anthony Lopez said. "Nobody said anything, but I think getting the win as a team is a big leap for us. They didn't get off to the best start but they hung in there and shot a better score the second day, which is not easy to do. [The win] is going to be really good for their mentality and their focus knowing they just did it last week and they can do it again."

Teammate Krystal Garza kept pace with her fellow Scorpion, shooting back-to-back 84s to earn second medalist. Senior Andrea Cadriel shot a total of 188, Eneida Alonso 202 and Pamela Lopez finished with a 203.

"Overall, it was a good experience for both of us," Krystal Garza said. "To start off the semester with a win is a huge confidence booster."



CHRISTOPHER PEÑA/COLLEGIAN PHOTOS

UTB/TSC pitcher Kevin Chapman winds up Wednesday in preparation for games against Texas Wesleyan University.

attack the strike zone."

In the first nine games, Chapman has appeared in three games, earning two wins in 10.1 innings of work with a microscopic 0.87 ERA.

"He's done a great job for us in the past in both roles as a starter and reliever," Aughney said. "His biggest strength is he wants to win. One of the great things about Kevin is he doesn't get too wrapped up in roles and I know he's worked hard with Coach [Wade] Pope to get better. Another positive on the weekend [is] that these guys are starting to figure out that it's all about getting the W."



Scorpion third baseman Joel Fernandez attempts to tag out University of Houston Victor catcher Brandon Bahanon on Feb. 5 at Scorpion Field.

PROMOTIONS
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Go to www.utb.edu/metro for route maps and detailed schedules.

SCHEDULES

SCORPION METRO CONNECTOR (ROUTE 14)

The Scorpion Connector goes around the UTB/TSC Fort Brown Campus, through downtown Brownsville to ITECC, and back again every 30 minutes.

HOURS: 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Mon. to Fri., 7 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Sat.

LOCATION

TIME

MRCN	00, 25, 30 and 55 minutes after the hour
B.U.S. Terminal	04, 21, 34 and 54 minutes after the hour
B&M Bridge	08, 17, 38 and 47 minutes after the hour
Amigoland Event Center	10, 15, 40 and 45 minutes after the hour
ITECC	12 and 42 minutes after the hour

SCORPION METRO CIRCULATOR (ROUTE 15)

The Circulator travels around the UTB/TSC Fort Brown Campus only and stops every 10 minutes.

HOURS: 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Mon. to Fri.

LOCATION

TIME

MRCN	every 10 minutes from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Cavalry Hall	every 10 minutes from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
REK Center	every 10 minutes from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
University Boulevard Library	every 10 minutes from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
East Jackson & 24 th Street	every 10 minutes from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.



Schedule times are approximate and may vary based on road conditions and other factors. Los horarios son aproximados y pueden variar dependiendo de las condiciones de las calles y otros factores.

