



The

Collegian

The University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College

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Volume 52, Issue 11

Friday, November 5, 1999

Bash features frightful fun

By Rachel Benavidez
Staff Writer

Dozens of students flocked to Boo Bash 1999, where they screamed with horror in the "haunted house," cheered for their costumed classmates, and consumed various treats in celebration of Halloween.

The festival, held Oct. 29 in the Student Center between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m., featured food, fun and friendly competition for all. The Behavioral Sciences Club and the Criminal Justice Association sold food and soft drinks. The Collegian Press Club sold a little stress therapy with a Pie Throw Booth featuring such campus favorites as Assistant Baseball Coach George Solis, Bebe Crooks, of the Counseling and Guidance Center, and other unfortunate volunteers who generously lent their faces for target

practice.

Sigma Psi Delta, a local social sorority, set up a dart-throwing booth, UTB/TSC Ambassadors offered free face painting, the Gorgas Science Society said "Smile for the camera!" and sold Polaroid shots with a gruesome fellow next to Student Activities' Haunted House. Shrieks and screams could be heard from inside the quiet study room turned "haunted house" where for just 50 cents one could take a short walk through a maze of monsters, mayhem, and things that go bump in the night.

The entire event was set to the sounds of local band YOINK!. One onlooker said of the trio, "Excellent!" and gave the group two thumbs up.

Rounding out the event was a controversial costume contest sponsored by Student

Activities, whose original ill-fated stage backdrop was stolen from the Student Center Oct. 27 and never recovered (an eerie Halloween disappearance?). The backdrop was replaced in time for Boo Bash with a Student Activities original mural.

Laura Castillo, co-chairman of the Student Activities Programming Board, said that although the original backdrop was never recovered, it only set them back \$20 and some spray paint to make a new one.

Among the competitors for the coveted \$100 first prize in the costume contest were the "Scream" killer, an angel, a devil, some fairies, a "pimp," a vampire, Spiderwoman, la viejita, a Southern belle, some gypsies, some Martians named Marvin, a couple of dead hospital staff members,



Boo Bash featured a costume contest.

as well as what appeared to duplicate. There was even a man in the shower, better Wars Episode 1' movie, in See "Boo," page 2

Campus escort service offers safety in numbers

By Rachel Benavidez
Staff Writer

Picture this: It's late, you just got out of class, or maybe the library, and you have to walk alone in the dark to your car, which is parked behind the Jacob Brown Auditorium or in an alley near campus. This is a scary situation, to say the least.

But you do not have to walk alone.

Students Together on Patrol (STOP) is a group of volunteers and criminal justice interns who have organized to form an escort service on campus.

"Their primary purpose is to preserve a safe environment for students, faculty, staff and visitors to UTB/TSC," Chief of Police and Safety Juan Cardoza said. "When needed, they are available to escort you to your vehicle or around campus."

There are about 10 volunteers in the group, which was formed in 1994 and has been recognized by the TSC board of trustees for its services.

"The secondary purpose [of the organization] is to have a presence on campus, and deter any crim-

inal element that may be here," he said.

Cardoza said property crimes, such as vandalism and theft, are "extremely low," as are incidents of violent crime on campus.

"However, he still encourages any person who 'does not feel safe,' or witnesses suspicious behavior, to contact the campus police or utilize the STOP program "for their own safety and peace of mind."

Campus police are available 24 hours a day and STOP volunteers can be identified on campus by their bright orange vests or criminal justice T-shirts.

To request an escort or any kind of assistance, one can simply pick up any one of the 26 emergency phones on campus and be automatically connected to Campus Police. If using a non-emergency phone, dial 544-8232. There are emergency phones located in elevators, hallways and in the lawns across campus.

Persons who call are asked to give their location and reason for calling. At that time, a pair of escorts

will be sent to assist them. Why a pair? Because STOP program volunteers use what Cardoza calls "the buddy system," a recommended formula when walking anywhere that stresses "safety in numbers."

Jennifer Jimenez, a marketing sophomore, is familiar with the STOP program and says, "It's just good to know that [volunteers] are here to walk with you and make sure that you get to where you're going, safely...especially at night." Jimenez has been escorted to her car when it is parked behind SET-B after her Monday night class.

"Just because you don't hear about all these terrible things happening on campus, doesn't mean they can't happen," she said. "The first time it happens, it could happen to you."

Cardoza warns, "It's better to be safe than sorry...all it takes is a phone call."

To volunteer for the STOP program, contact the Criminal Justice Institute at 544-8995 or the Criminal Justice Department at 544-8993.

"Boo"

Continued from page 1

known as Genaro Lopez, biology professor and Gorgas sponsor, who took the crowd, "¡Si se puede!" Unfortunately, Lopez, no *pudo* because his original

costume did not place.

Costume contest winners were Rosalinda Serna and David Garcia, both as Marvin the Martian, who took first and third place, respectively. Manbel Castillo won second place for her "abortion doc-

tor" outfit. This caused some spectators to groan and wonder if the student's costume and comments to the crowd were too gruesome, even for Halloween.

Javier Guajardo, one of the judges, explained that the criteria for the contest were "originality, audience response and overall look." Some students questioned

the results.

Jamie Delgado, an education junior, said, "The same costume won twice, and the other got booed-hmm ... not too original."

Emergency Phone List

Ext.	Location
3891	Student Health Services Fax Number
3896	Student Health Services Office
6000	North Hall hallway-First Floor
6001	South Hall hallway-First Floor
6002	Eidman Hall hallway-First Floor
6003	Rusteberg Building hallway-First Floor
6004	Allied Health Building hallway-Closest to North
6005	Continuing Education Building-Facing U.S. Customs
6006	Library Lawn Island Phone-Between Library and Tandy Hall
6007	Tennis Courts Island Phone
6008	North Hall hallway--Second Floor
6547	Campus Police Fax Number
6702	SET-B Computer Lab Wing--Second Floor
6703	SET-B Computer Lab Wing--First Floor
6711	SET-B South Wing Elevator (to 3rd Floor)
6712	SET-B North Wing Elevator
7009	Office #6 Dispatch Area
7021	Eidman Elevator
7022	Library Elevator
7075	Tandy Hall Elevator
7099	Student Health Services Examination Room
7161	South Hall Elevator
7184	Tandy Hall--in front of Business Office
7185	Office #4--Sergeants Office
7221	North Building Elevator
8232	Office #5 Chief's Office
8233	Campus Police Front Desk Area
8951	Student Health Services--Reception Area

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Briefs

An introductory meeting of the UTB/TSC **Trustmasters Club** is scheduled for 6 tonight in the SET-B third-floor conference room. Prospective members may sign up at this time. The mission of the club is to "provide a mutually supportive and positive learning environment which every member has the opportunity to develop communication and leadership skills." For more information, call Paula Garcia at 983-7326.

Volunteers are needed for H-E-B's annual **Feast of Sharing**, set for Nov. 17 at the Jacob Brown Auditorium. UTB/TSC volunteers are scheduled to help from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Volunteers may sign up at the Student Activities Office; the deadline is Nov. 15.

Students majoring or minoring in psychology and/or sociology are encouraged to join the Behavioral Sciences Club. Meetings are held

from noon to 1 p.m. every Monday in South Hall 107. The club will award scholarships for the Spring 2000 semester. Applicants must be declared majors in psychology or sociology who have taken at least 12 credit hours in their majors. Applications listing other requirements are available in the Behavioral Sciences secretary's office in South Hall 226. The deadline for applications is 3 p.m. Nov. 22. For more information, call Linda Sells at 542-5160.

The Counseling Center will present an enrichment workshop titled "Improving Self-Esteem" from 12:15 to 1:15 p.m. Nov. 17 in North Hall 205. For more information, call the center at 544-8292.

Hector Inchaeta, director of Student Health Services, will dis-

cuss how to stay healthy during the Life 101 and Primetime sessions on Tuesday. Life 101 is conducted at noon in the Student Center and Primetime is held from 6:30 to 7:15 p.m. in the Eastwood Courtyard. Flu shots will be available at each session for \$5 each.

The **Academic Computing Department** will present the following five computer seminars for staff and faculty this month: *Basics of FrontPage*, Monday, Nov. 15 and 22; *Advanced Word*, Tuesday and Nov. 16; *Advanced Excel 97*, Wednesday and Nov. 17; *Intermedias Access*, Thursday and Nov. 18; and *Multimedia Elements*, Nov. 12 and 19. Sessions are conducted at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. in the Academic Computing Instructional Facility in the Library's Open Computer Lab (second floor). To register, call 982-0287.

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On Campus

Club spotlight

Name: Students Toward Excellence in Medicine.

Sponsor: Celia Flores-Feist

President: Jaime Hinojosa

Vice President: Ricardo Roca

Membership Secretary: Mayra Rodríguez

Community Services Secretary: Susan Kirk

Treasurer: Jose Manuel López

Public Relations Secretary: Laura Arroyo

Purpose: To help and advise students who are interested in health-related careers, to promote leadership, and participation in community services.

Meeting Time and Place: At noon the first and third Wednesday of every month in Q2.508.

Events: Guest speakers from different medical schools.

Fund-raisers: Raspa sales, raffles, T-shirts.

Community services: Blood drives, Toys for Tots and food bank.

Membership: 33.

Who should join: Those interested in health careers. No minimum GPA is required.

History: This organization started in Spring 1998.

—Compiled by Daniela Otañez



Photo: Daniela Otañez

Members of Students Toward Excellence in Medicine are (from left) Mayra Rodríguez, José Manuel López, Susan Kirk, Jaime Hinojosa, Laura Arroyo and Ricardo Roca.

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ARMY. BE ALL THAT YOU CAN BE.

Viewpoint

Some see red on tactless costume

By Melissa Cantú
Collegian Online Editor

I remember one Halloween when I was a waitress in Denton, Texas, and all the employees had to wear a costume to work. One girl was dressed like a one-night stand. She built a cardboard table around her waist that held a small lamp and a penholder. That was original. Another employee dressed up as our boss, who had very distinct features, although he wasn't very happy about it.

One employee's costume offended a lot of people. Customers even walked out when they saw a man dressed as Hitler near the entrance to the restaurant. I told him his costume was inappropriate, and I asked him to go home.

Last Friday, the Boo Bash costume contest featured a variety of contestants. A cute Southern belle walked across the stage. I think I saw double when I saw Marvin the Martian. Star Wars' Darth Maul made a special appearance as well. The contestants were introduced one at a time, and each was asked his/her favorite food and a phrase.

One contestant's costume and comments offended many audience members. I even took part in booing the contestant.

She was dressed as an abortion doctor. Her scrubs and hands had red spots on them. Asked what her favorite food was she responded, "baby fetuses." The infelicitous costume ended up winning second place. I can't begin to contemplate why someone would vote for her costume, not to mention dress up like an abortion doctor.

The contestants were judged on originality, audience response and overall look. When one judge was asked why the "abortion doctor" received second place, she responded, "the things that she said made it funny."

Abortion is a multifaceted and sensitive topic. According to the Alan Guttmacher Institute, which publishes Family Planning Perspectives, roughly 1.6 million abortions are conducted annually.

The Collegian

The Collegian is the student newspaper serving The University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southwest College. The newspaper is widely distributed on a campus of more than 9,000 students, and is a member of the Texas Intercollegiate Press Association.

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What was your favorite Boo Bash 1999 activity and why?

"The haunted house, because I loved scaring the people."

-Diana Trevino,
Sophomore psychology major

"The pie-throwing booth, because it was pretty cool seeing someone getting all dirty."

Diane Jacquez,
Freshman nursing major

"The face-painting booth, because it reminded me of my childhood."

-Vicki Montemayor,
Sophomore accounting major

"I guess the band was OK. They got the crowd going."

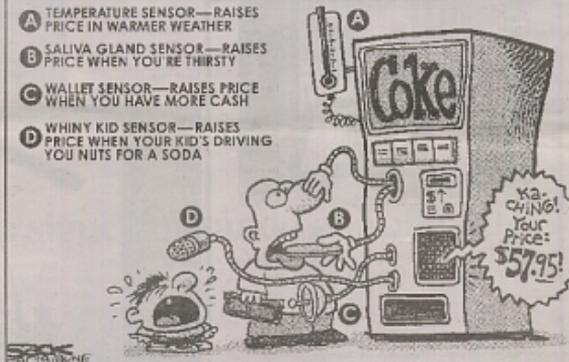
-Amanda Lee Garcia,
Freshman nursing major

-Compiled by Arnie Gonzalez

Student Soapbox

NEWS ITEM: COCA COLA DEVELOPING PRICE-ADJUSTING VENDING MACHINES...

- A TEMPERATURE SENSOR—RAISES PRICE IN WARMER WEATHER
- B SALIVA GLAND SENSOR—RAISES PRICE WHEN YOU'RE THIRSTY
- C WALLET SENSOR—RAISES PRICE WHEN YOU HAVE MORE CASH
- D WHINY KID SENSOR—RAISES PRICE WHEN YOUR KID'S DRIVING YOU NUTS FOR A SODA



Letters to the Editor Policy

Letters for *The Collegian* can be sent to:

The Collegian
80 Fort Brown
Brownsville, Texas 78520
e-mail: collegian@utb1.utb.edu
fax: (956) 544-3836

All letters must be typed, saved on disk and no longer than 250 words. Letters must include the name, classification and phone number of letter writer or the letter cannot be published. Opinions expressed in The Collegian are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the views of The Collegian or UTB/TSC administrators. The editor reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, content and libel.

Sports

Team Sting defeats Kingsville Javelinas in last home match

By Jessica Arriaga
Sports Editor

It wasn't a late trick but a definite treat Monday for the Lady Scorpions, who defeated the Texas A&M-

Kingsville Javelinas in their last home match of the season. The Scorpions won the first two games 15-9, 15-10 in the 3-out-of-5 match. After a 10-minute intermission, the Ladies returned to the court, losing the third

game 9-15 but winning the fourth 15-13.

The first game began with the Scorpions coming on strong in the second serve of the game. Bo Contreras scored six points. The determined Javelinas fought back and tied the game 6-6. They led only once 7-6. Scorpion setter Nicki Gonzalez scored the game point after tipping the ball to Kingsville's side, where it skimmed the hands of three opponents.

Contreras had 4 kills and 4 digs. Liz Clemente added 3 digs and Caro Saenz contributed 3 kills.

"I think that we are better than any team next to us," said Eli Clemente. "We have showed it, we have showed it several times."

Both teams were fired up for the second game. The Javelinas scored four unanswered points. Gonzalez and Contreras then scored a point each, followed by Loly Martinez with four consecutive points, putting the Scorpions in the lead 6-5. Both teams then scored five points each. The game point came on Lisa Salazar's serve. Kingsville

returned the ball, and Contreras hit it back. When Kingsville returned it a second time, Jessica Kromer and Soetzc blocked it. That closed the game 15-10.

Contreras made 4 kills and 3 digs. Eli closed the game with 4 kills, 5 digs and Salazar added 3 kills and 3 digs.

"This will be a good lift for us, if we win ... [Kingsville has] a four-year program," Coach Brian Funk said after the second game. "Right now we are in good shape."

Team Sting served first in the third game, and scored. Kingsville then scored 6 points in a row. The Scorpions struggled, managing to score only 9 points. Funk blamed the loss on fatigue and a lack of communication among players.

Vanessa Haro, who sat out the first two games, started in the third. She had a total of 4 kills and 6 digs.

Even with Contreras contributing with 4 kills, 2 digs and Salazar 3 kills and 3 digs, the Scorpions could not overcome the Javelinas. Also making



Scorpion Bo Contreras tries to spike the ball as two Javelinas attempt to block it during the second game of a match Monday.

See "Volley," next page

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Sports

Golf teams hit stride; two earn top honors

By Trey Mendez
Staff Writer

The UTB/TSC Men's and Women's Golf teams both placed fourth Tuesday at the Northwood/Hillden Oaks Collegiate Golf Championships in Granbury, Texas. Joey Zayas and Larissa "Lara" Peresidny were honored as all-tournament team members.

Sophomore co-captain Zayas finished in a tie for 5th and Peresidny finished in 4th, only 4 strokes away from the medalist.

Golf Coach Jesse Lucio was extremely pleased with his team's showing.

"We were the only junior college competing against Division II schools," Lucio said. "Our great showing is the result of working hard, we've been having great practices, and it is paying off."

Zayas was proud of himself. "I played awesome," Zayas said. "Even my bad shots turned out good."

Lucio had some glowing comments as well.

"Joey is a technician with his swing," Lucio said. "He was on on Monday, and everything went well. He played extremely good golf."

While Zayas was enthused, Peresidny seemed a bit disap-

pointed with herself.

"I should have won," she said.

Lucio was pleased and made some predictions for her fourth future.

"Lara is about a 5 handicap. I expect more of this from her next semester. She should be one of the top female golfers in the state by then."

Peresidny made some predictions for herself as well. "I better win the next one, I only lost this one by four shots."

Interestingly, two of the female golfers who finished ahead of Peresidny were from Canada, her native country.

"I knew the girls I was playing with. I used to beat them all when we were younger," she said.

Tuesday's final round was played in extreme weather conditions, but they didn't seem to bother the Canadian, who is "used to the cold."

The tournament was hosted by Northwood University of Cedar Hill. Its format featured competition between five-person teams, courting the four lowest scores of each. Men played 54 holes and women 36.

The Scorpions are starting to

Check out our stylin' pad



ELVIN BELLMAN/UTB/TSC

UTB/TSC baseball players (clockwise, from left) Armando Chacon, of Aruba, and Anselmo Vasquez, Jose Ortiz and Elvin Robles, all of Puerto Rico, eat and relax at the new dining table in their apartment. The team members received the table and chairs, as well as bed frames for their four mattresses, in mid-September. They said they are happy to have complete beds and a table on which to eat.

turn things around after a less-than-stellar performance in Bossier, La., Oct. 24-26.

UTB/TSC finished in a tie for 8th place with Grayson College in the Bossier Parish Community College Fall Invitational, a 15-team event. The Scorpions' two-day team total was 636. Taking top honors in the tournament was Tyler Junior College at 604. The top Scorpion golfer was Silvano Cristiano, finishing in 17th place.

The tournament was held at Huntington Park Golf Course in Bossier. Competing on behalf of UTB/TSC were Cristiano, Jeremy Guavara, Ricky Benavidez, John Roberts, Zayas, and Erik Lopez.

Asked about the team's performance, Benavidez said that UTB/TSC "didn't do so well." He cited the above-average length of the golf course and poorly maintained greens as reasons for the team's loss.

The tournament suffered a small

weather delay Oct. 25 as a result of ice on the ground. Top-off temperature in Bossier was a frosty 38 degrees, Benavidez said. Course conditions proved too tough for most golfers to handle as scores were higher than normal. The low golfer for the Scorpions was "Volley."

Continued from previous page

digs were Liz Clemente (3), Martinez (3) and Gonzalez (4). Kromer made 3 kills.

The Scorpions knew they had to win the fourth game to win the match. They were down 4-12 halfway through the game when Contreras served and scored six consecutive points. Both teams played aggressively, tying the game 13-13. Erik Clemente had the serve for the game point.

The Javelinas knocked the ball out, giving the Scorp the win 15-13.

Saez closed game four

Cristiano at 77-77 (154). Benavidez was next at 81,77 (158). Rounding out the pack were Guavara 82-80 (162), Zayas 81,82 (163), Roberts 87,80 (167) and Lopez 88,86 (174).

with 2 kills and 2 digs. Gonzalez and Liz Clemente each contributed 4 digs. Contreras had 3.

"It feels good to win," said Martinez, who was offered a scholarship this year to Kingville but turned it down once the win was chosen as a Scorpion. "I love my teammates, my team, we are an awesome team."

The Scorpions will play today and Saturday at the Region XIV Conference Tourney III in Wharton.

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Sports Brief

Intramural sports competition continues this month. Scheduled events are table tennis doubles, Tuesday; one-mile Scorpion run, Wednesday, and coed volleyball, Nov. 15-18. All events begin at 2:30 p.m. Participation is open to UTB/TSC students and employees only. A current ID must be presented when registering. For more information, call the Kinesiology Department at 544-8290.

Arts & Entertainment

Adjunct faculty art is mixed bag

By Debra Wilborn
Collegian Editor

Review

On display until Nov. 19 in the Richardson Art Gallery is the Adjunct Faculty Art Show, a collection of works by part-time UTB/TSC art instructors. Artists displayed are Ralph Ayers, Noel Palmérez, Juan García, and Brad Doberty.

Ayers manages the Tidwell Art Gallery on South Padre Island and the Coastal Academy of Fine Arts and Crafts in Port Isabel and recently was named chairman of the Lighthouse Square Merchants' Committee in Port Isabel. Ayers, who has won honors in the United States and Mexico, teaches art appreciation at UTB/TSC. Doberty is a staff photographer at the Brownsville Herald and teaches photography classes at UTB/TSC. García is an art education instructor and an art education specialist for the Brownsville School District. Palmérez teaches printmaking at the university and is a full-time instructor at Harria High School where he teaches computer art and drawing.

Ayers' statement in the gallery says, "the artist must have a compelling desire to communicate something fundamental." That may be true, but I have no idea what Ayers meant to communicate. Every one of his works on display is a simple female nude. Some are cartoonish in their use of color like "Tutuchaua" in pastel. The only standout Ayers work are "You and Who Else," elegant in its minimal use of line, and "Persuads," in which the artist applies light and shadow to a midtone paper.

Doberty's silver gelatin prints are the highlight of the exhibit. The first untitled work focuses on a crowd of people standing in a crosswalk in what could be old New York. Eccentric hats on the women are the most prominent feature. The "Landscape Off Highway 4," series of 6" by 24" black and white silver gelatin prints calls to mind Texas Highways photos, simple shots of open spaces.

"Landscape Off Highway 4, No. 3" fills its area with a yucca field. The straight black shadows of the leaves add natural drama. "No.2" focuses on the white halos of spines on the edges of a beaklike prickly pear cactus. "No. 1" backs away from the plants and focuses on three beaklike clouds over a perfectly flat horizon of valley. The series shows off the surreal beauty of the Valley's unspiring geography, or lack of geography.

García's only piece on display is "Ofrenda Para Nana Chonita y La Llorera (Chalupa)," a hodgepodge of "Día de los Muertos" paraphernalia spread thinly in a dull booth. On one side is a small poster giving information on the holiday. Let me sum it up by saying this is really nice. I can't count the number of "day of the dead" artworks I have seen since coming to the Valley.

Palmérez used a wider range of media on the works he displayed, however, he still falls into the safe trap. "Daydreams of Hope" is the most interesting. The work depicts a cartoonish Native American slumped against a dead tree in a parched land. The rain clouds are tantalizingly close, but shadow the horizon in a way

only suggesting reality. Color print "Ojas Soas" looks like an Albrecht Dürer study of a dry cornstalk, until you notice the tiny nude emerging from an ear, like a Thumbelina peep show. "Dagged Planes" (monotype canvas and wire frame, 2' by 6'), hangs on the wall near García's booth. Its bright curvilinearities draws attention. However, the most eye-catching works in the gallery are "Whispers in the Dark" and "Ojo de Curandero," both 4' by 5' canvases. Unfortunately, their only drawing power is in their use of bold contrast between black and light tones. Once you waste your time looking at the pieces, there isn't a whole

A&E Briefs

Student recitals are scheduled at 2 p.m. today and Nov. 12 in the SET-B Lecture Hall. Admission is \$3.

Guitarist Denis Anshelg will perform at 8 p.m. Tuesday in the SET-B Lecture Hall. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$7 for children and senior citizens and \$3 for UTB/TSC students with ID.

The University Cinema Club will show "The Whole Wide World" at 7 tonight in SET-B 2.548.

lot to keep your attention or contemplate. "Ojo..." depicts a wrinkled old man with one bulging green eye, and "Whispers..." is the same gaunt face of Christ you see on every piece of art and marketing in Hispanic Catholicism's pop culture.

One of my high school art teachers told me to throw out my first idea when brainstorming for a project. The first idea will usually be overdone and passe. There might be few fresh cars in art studios around the Valley that are empty.

You are cordially invited to a lecture featuring

Carmen Lomas Garza

Internationally renowned Mexican-American artist



Thursday, November 11th
9:30-10:45 a.m.

UTB/TSC Science and Engineering Technology Building Lecture Hall

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Off Campus

East Elizabeth residents organize

By Debra Wilborn
Collegian Editor

Brownsville is shaping up, one block at a time, thanks to the efforts of residents like Eugene Fernandez and others in the soon-to-be East Elizabeth Street Gateway QNO.

When a sector of the city is designated as a Qualified Neighborhood Organization (QNO), its residents are entitled to know about anything affecting their neighborhood, especially requests to change the specific use or zoning of a structure. The head of the QNO, Eugene Fernandez in this case, and residents within 200 feet of the zone affected would be immediately notified of the request.

The East Elizabeth Street Gateway QNO will enclose a rectangular area of the city from St. Charles to Adams streets and from Palm Boulevard to 7th Street. The area is part of the original town site and contains many historically significant buildings such as the Church of the Good Shepherd, the

Young and Miguel Fernandez Houses. Sadly, many 19th century residences have been demolished to make way for parking lots and retail centers.

"One of the true aims of the QNO is to maintain these structures and protect them. We don't want things to happen like what happened to the opera house," said Fernandez, referring to the Vicer Opera House, which stood on 10th and Levee for 90 years until it was leveled in the 1970s to make way for a charter school.

After historic preservation, the East Elizabeth Street Gateway QNO has three main public development neighborhood watch overseen by the Brownsville Police Department, secure city funds for extending the brick paving and street lamps from 7th Street to Palm Boulevard, and secure funding for an environmental study of abandoned gas stations on East Elizabeth. The Brownsville Recycling Center occupies a Spanish-colonial style Mobil sta-

but disreputable building is nearly identical to another station converted to an antique shop on Broadway in San Antonio.

Fernandez and other residents have made significant changes to their neighborhood without QNO status. In the past, the city seems to have given little thought to the area's growth. Elizabeth is only a two-lane street, yet a trucking company was given permission to set up shop across the street from the Fernandez House. The curbs on both sides of the street are crushed from 18-wheeler maneuvering in and out of the company's tiny lot. Citizens in the area organized and not only forced the trucking company to leave but also closed a taxi stand and an adult video store. Fernandez bought the rest of his block and closed the used tire store next door. Fernandez said the city is now very interested in his neighborhood. With more than 1,000 organized voters in the area, it is difficult to ignore.

Asked what has prevented



Eugene Fernandez is restoring his family's 19th century Victorian home at 319 E. Elizabeth.

the restoration in Houston, Veracruz in 1880. Eugene says that his family owed its fortune to the plantation.

Modifications to the Fernandez House are extensive. The weathered shingles had not been opened in 50 years until Eugene moved his antique store there two years ago. Fernandez is converting the carriage house into a coffeehouse and plans to restore the wrap-around porch that was stripped away in the 1933 hurricane. The brick and stone warehouse on the other side of the lot will be a Brazilian brass serving Argentine barbecue, among other things. Fernandez has mostly completed a large commercial kitchen to service these enterprises. The brick patio has been re-laid and one of the cisterns has been replaced with a fountain. A corner of the courtyard near the carriage house will be devoted to a stage for five music performances. Fernandez is working on an agreement with the UTBISC Music Department whereby student groups could perform there.

"It's a labor of love," said Fernandez not only of the extensive work done on his home but historic preservation in general.

Fernandez hopes to have the patio and coffeehouse open for business before January. This will be the second turn-of-the-century the Fernandez House has seen.

Then a general under Mexican President Benito Juarez, Don Puffino Diaz came to Brownsville in 1876 to find people willing to back his rise to power. As one of the most prominent businessmen in Brownsville, Juan H. Fernandez was one of those who met with Diaz at the Trevino House, which has since been leveled to make room for a parking lot. To repay Fernandez's large loan, Diaz gave Fernandez La Cichilla coffee plan-



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Tiempo Nuevo

Jugadores profesionales en México ahora Escorpiones

Por Maricela González
Reportera



MARICELA GONZÁLEZ/STAFF

De izquierda, Jorge Aguilar, Jesús Villarreal y Jaime Sandoval quienes jugaron fútbol profesional en México. Los tres estudiantes ahora juegan con el equipo de UTB/TSC.

Los estudiantes Jesús Villarreal, Jaime Sandoval y Jorge Aguilar están participando en el equipo colegial de fútbol pero antes formaban parte en equipos profesionales de béisbol en México. Puede ser que estos muchachos aman el deporte por el ambiente o quizás por la energía que les brindan sus compañeros. De cualquier manera Villarreal, Aguilar y Sandoval dicen que siempre ha corrido fútbol por sus venas y que es un deporte muy divertido y competitivo.

"El oficio más dominante es definitivamente el de portero", dijo Villarreal, quien está en su cuarto año universitario estudiando matemáticas. "Desde los 6 años lo he jugado y nunca he perdido las ganas. Siempre me ha gusta-

Sandoval, 20, también se incorporó en el deporte a los 6 años, y dice que es algo que a su familia le encama.

"Mis primos fueron jugadores y yo lo tuve que hacer también", dijo Sandoval, quien está en su segundo año universitario estudiando comercio internacional.

"¿Qué han ganado de haber sido seleccionados para equipos profesionales?"

Villarreal jugó profesionalmente por cinco años y participó con los Toros de Dallas.

"Haber jugado profesionalmente es quizás la más grande meta que he logrado en mi vida", dijo Villarreal. "Pero aún estoy muy joven [23] para decir que he logrado todo, todavía me faltan más metas por cumplir".

Villarreal jugó tres años y medio con los Rayados de Moctezuma, los Huracanes de Matamoros, los Toros de

Dallas y los Bravos de Reynosa.

Sandoval participó en la reserva por seis meses y jugó con Puebla, Paquiza, y los Lobos en la Universidad Autónoma de Puebla donde llegó a participar en juegos amistosos con los de primera división y absorbió técnicas para mejorar su juego. "Fue una cosa muy especial haber jugado en la reserva, porque me dio mucha experiencia", dijo Sandoval. "Me ayudó mucho futbolísticamente y me abrió más la mente en el terreno de juego".

Villarreal dijo que su hermano Víctor ha tenido gran influencia en su juego.

"El fue su portero en la reserva de México y aunque nunca jugó, Villarreal dice que fue su más grande inspiración y soporte. Entre otros de sus ídolos del deporte profesional "Fútbol".

Continúa en página 11

Expertos: Sequía sigue afectando al Valle, México

Por Ildelfonso Ortiz
Reportero

El área del sur de Texas ha sido víctima de sequías continuas por los últimos ocho años. Esta sequía es muy seria puesto que las cifras demográficas en el área del Valle del Río Grande están creciendo muy rápidamente.

Según Genaro López, profesor de biología en esta universidad, se espera que el número de personas viviendo en el Valle se multiplique por dos dentro de 15 años. Con tal explosión demográfica, la falta de agua causaría estragos a la ciudadanía.

Dice López que la sequía ha estado presente por los últimos ocho años. Aunque últimamente ha estado lloviendo, estas lluvias no han ayudado puesto que la

lluvia no llegó a las reservas de agua. "Lo que está irónicamente es un huracán", dijo López. "El problema de un huracán es el daño material que causaría, más el agua que traería resolvería este problema de sequía que ha arremetido esta área".

López dijo que UTB/TSC necesita mostrar liderazgo. Hay muchos inventos con aplicaciones reales que se pueden usar. Uno de estos inventos es un inodoro que usa descargas de aire, las cuales reducirían drásticamente el consumo de agua en esta universidad. Otro invento es el de riego subterráneo, en el que el agua se usa en la superficie. Por este método se instala tubería de manera subterránea, la cual reduce la cantidad de agua que se usa en el riego de las áreas verdes de esta universidad.

Algunos de estos inventos requieren una inversión, la cual se recuperaría en aproximadamente cinco años gracias a la cantidad de agua que se conserva.

Conservar agua es muy importante, pues según Rod Santa Ana, miembro del Servicio de Extensión Agrícola de Texas, el nivel de las reservas de agua es de 41 por ciento. El problema es que los sistemas de distribución de agua fueron creados para funcionar con altos niveles de agua. Dijo Santa Ana que el año pasado el nivel de las reservas de agua bajó a 18 por ciento, el más bajo en toda la historia. Este nivel dejó sin agua a algunos distritos.

Según Santa Ana, "el nivel óptimo para las reservas de agua es de más de 75 por

ciento. Todavía faltan aproximadamente 50 pies para que lleguemos a ese nivel", dijo.

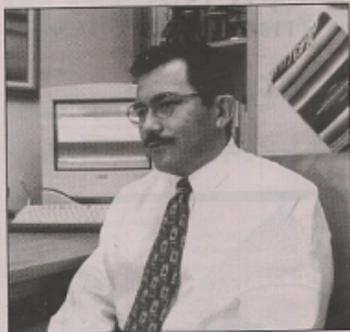
John Robinson, miembro de Intercambio de Agricultura, dijo que "en 1998 los cuatro condados que forman el Valle del Río Grande tuvieron una pérdida aproximada de 126 millones de dólares en pérdidas del valor de frutos". A estas pérdidas también se le deben añadir los trabajos relacionados con el procesamiento de estos frutos que no fueron creados.

El área del sur de Texas no ha sido el único lugar afectado. También el vecino estado de Tamaulipas, México, ha sido golpeado fuertemente por estas sequías. Según Eulalio Guerra, diputado federal de México para el estado de Tamaulipas y también

presidente de la Unión Ganadera de Tamaulipas, "la ganadería ha sido afectada muy seriamente y la prueba está en las cifras de reces muertas".

"El gobierno mexicano ha implementado varios programas de apoyo, pero el problema es que la sequía ha durado más tiempo que lo que se esperaba", dijo Guerra. "Los ganaderos y agricultores tomaron precauciones pero como la sequía ha sido muy prolongada, esas medidas se han agotado".

Dijo Guerra que los recientes lluvias han ayudado muy poco. "La razón de esto es que el subterráneo se ha secado tan drásticamente que cualquier lluvia es absorbida de una forma tan voraz que casi no permite que la vegetación la aproveche".



Ricardo Ayala

"Fútbol" Continúa de página 10

está el jugador Jorge Campos. "Diego Maradona fue mi gran inspiración en el deporte", dijo Sandoval.

Para Aguilár, estudiante de primer año de psicología, Hugo Sánchez es uno de sus más grandes notables futbolistas. Sánchez representa "la entrega y la convicción que se necesita para ser todo un triunfador", dijo Aguilár.

Aguilár, 24, también ha vivido la misma experiencia que sus compañeros. Por ejemplo, fue parte de muchos equipos en México como, los Defines, Guerreros, y hasta estuvo a prueba con los Pumas de San Antonio en 1995 por seis meses.

"Desde pequeño mi madre me inculcó la cultura del deporte", dijo Aguilár. "Y es la persona que me ha apoyado al 100 por ciento".

Desde los ocho años Aguilár ha participado en fútbol y dice que continuará con su pasión. "Y en todo esto el empuje que le brindan al estudio es extraordinario. Desean enfocarse en sus educaciones y quizás un día regresar a México."

"Para mí es importante combinar la educación con el deporte", dijo Aguilár. "Y la universidad me está dando la oportunidad".

"Quisiera estar en México jugando pero voy a tener una carrera primero y luego regresar", dijo Sandoval.

Llenos de recuerdos del pasado, hablan de sus experiencias futbolísticas.

"Cuando estaba en Monterrey los juegos eran en el estadio", dijo Villarreal. "Jugué 35 minutos enfrente de 30 mil personas, es una experiencia que no se olvida. Hay más pasión, ganas, coraje, más motivación y es más rápido el juego mexicano comparado al de los Estados Unidos".

Son muchas las metas que se pueden cumplir en el fútbol. Por ejemplo, ganando un trofeo de campeonato de liga, campeonato mundial o sólo en teniendo una perseverancia individual. Elisab Quintanilla es un compañero que ha jugado con los tres en el equipo de Hanna High School.

"Ellos son muy buenos jugadores", dijo Quintanilla. "Nacieron con el juego por dentro".

"Es mi vida [fútbol] y lo amo", dijo Sandoval.

"Eso sólo se obtiene con mucho trabajo, dedicación y a veces suerte", dijo Villarreal. "Fútbol es el mejor deporte en el mundo y muy saludable. ¡Practiquen!".

Y con esas palabras Aguilár se soríe con su amigo y le dice, "Estoy de acuerdo".

Por Daniela Ortégón Reportera

Ricardo Ayala III, consejero de UTB/TSC, Lic. profesional en consejería llegó el 21 de junio.

Ayala tiene maestrías en divinidad de la universidad Oblata de Teología de San Antonio y en educación como consejero de la universidad Pan Americana de Edinburgo.

"Yo soy el consejero personal y los estudiantes que atienden son de la universidad y del colegio", dijo Ayala "Los servicios que ofrezco son gratuitos y si acaso no quieren hablar con un consejero [somos] pueden hablar con un consejero".

Ayala ha trabajado 24 UTB/TSC, el consejero trabajaba como director de los servicios de una agencia que ayudaba a los ancianos.

"He tratado con niños, adolescentes, adultos y ancianos como pareja o individual-

mente", dijo Ayala. "La persona de menos edad que he tratado ha sido un niño de siete años y el mayor de 85 años.

Estudiantes de aquí van a verlo con varios problemas.

"Desde que yo comencé aquí muchos estudiantes vienen con problemas de familia, estrés, depresión y con relaciones personales", dijo Ayala. "Algunos estudiantes vienen a hablar porque encuentran las clases difíciles y están buscando ideas u opciones de lo que puedan hacer, es por eso que vienen a hablar conmigo antes de que empiece el semestre o después."

Antes de llegar a UTB/TSC, el consejero trabajaba como director de los servicios de una agencia que ayudaba a los ancianos.

"Trabajaba con ellos ayudándolos con problemas de

esquizofrenia, depresión, bipolar, que quiere decir que la persona cambia muy radicalmente de estado de ánimo y a como sobrellevar una enfermedad como el cáncer o diabetes", dijo Ayala.

"Por mi parte llevo 12 años de experiencia y pensé que al venir a esta universidad y trabajar con adultos, que son el futuro" dijo Ayala "... Entonces yo quiero ayudarles y guiarles en cualquier forma para contribuir en esa formación para mejorar nuestra comunidad."

Sus planes incluyen obtener un doctorado en psicología de consejero, o por lo menos un doctorado en educación.

"Disfruto mucho mi trabajo como consejero porque los estudiantes que vienen aquí pueden expresarse con sus sentimientos y yo estoy aquí para practicar y clarificar opciones."



Diana Lopez (izquierda) y Beckie Barreda de la oficina de Actividades Estudiantiles adentro de la casa de espantos, que fue parte de la celebración de Boo Bash.

BOB THOMPSON/STAFF

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The University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College

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Volume 52, Issue 12

Friday, November 12, 1999

University to mail financial aid checks in spring

By Trey Mendez
Staff Writer

A new semester is around the corner, and for students hoping to receive their financial aid checks, it means having to stand in line for a whole day again, right? Wrong.

This year, UTB/TSC has decided to follow the lead of other colleges and save both itself and the student body a lot of time by mailing out financial aid checks, except Guaranteed Student Loans. This is

the first time the university has mailed aid checks and it is expecting to disburse about 4,500.

Rosemary Martinez, interim assistant to the vice president for Business Affairs, said Guaranteed Student Loans will not be mailed because there are documents that the student must execute in person. By now, all students who receive financial aid should have received a letter in the mail accompanied by a survey and an address confirmation form that are to be returned to the Business Office by Monday, Nov. 15.

Students will have until Dec. 23 to complete a change of address form. Students who have not been notified by mail should visit the Enrollment Office in Tandy 105.

"The importance of these forms is to eliminate problems that may arise from an incorrect address," Martinez said. "It is very important for students to confirm their addresses if they want to receive their money in time."

The purpose of the survey is to evaluate student opinions as well as the possibility of other helpful methods such as a debit

card or an electronic fund transfer. Electronic fund transfers would require a checking account and would be wired directly to the student's account. "This method would be easiest to do and would not be a problem since it is already done with some members of the university's payroll. The debit card would be issued to students and would be honored only at UTB/TSC.

"Electronic fund transfers are becoming

See "Mail," page 10

Lots of holes in upper-level administration

By Debra Wilborn
Collegian Editor

Students, staff and faculty at UTB/TSC may find many new faces at the university in the coming semesters. Search committees are busy looking for people to fill several jobs, some of which are newly

created.

"Everybody works very hard to get the right person," said Jose Martin, dean of the College of Science, Mathematics and Technology and chairman of the search committee for the vice president for Business Affairs. The search committee is composed of

10 people representing each division.

Martin said the university must be careful not to select the wrong people for jobs. UTB/TSC is new, on the border and has modest resources, so it is watched closely.

"We cannot afford to make any mistakes," said Martin.

That is part of why the VPBA search committee has made slow progress since it began its work nine months ago. Martin says it is also hard to find "top people for top positions. Everybody is competing for a very small pool" of talent. Even if the committee finds someone with the right skills, the candidate may or may not like the university. To date, three VPBA candidates have visited UTB/TSC for interviews. Wayne Moore is the interim VPBA.

According to the university's employment Web site, "the Vice President for Business Affairs is a senior-level position that reports directly to the president of the university. The VPBA serves as a member of the university Executive Council and as the chief fiscal officer responsible for a multimillion-dollar annual operating budget. The VPBA administers and supervises the functions of the Business Affairs Division, including the departments of the Business Office, Human Resources, Information Systems, Physical Plant, Campus Police, Budget Office, Environmental Health and Safety, Purchasing, Records Management, and Corporate Compliance."

Candidate interviews for Student Activities director were conducted Nov. 4. The next candidate inter-

view will be Nov. 15. Students are encouraged to attend the open meeting with the candidate at 10 a.m. in the Student Leadership Room in the Student Center.

"I need feedback on this," said Dean of Students Jill Zimmerman, who would like to hear what students have to say of the person who may be their next Student Activities director.

The previous director, Dina Sousa-Hegarty, left in July after being with Student Activities since August 1997. Alberto Pena, administrative assistant for Student Affairs, is serving as interim director. Zimmerman expects to have someone hired permanently by next semester.

As posted in a Human Resources employment bulletin, "the Director [of Student Activities] will provide educational and administrative leadership for the co-curricular programs and student organizations.... Holthe will also plan, direct, manage and oversee the activities and operations of the Student Activities department, including advising the Student Activities Programming Board, the SGA, coordination of all student organizations, volunteer programs, student leadership programs and special events."

See "Jobs," page 2

Titanic discoverer coming to campus

By Brenda Iracheta
Staff Writer

Bob Ballard, the oceanographer who found the sunken HMS Titanic, will be the inaugural speaker in UTB/TSC's Distinguished Lecture Series later this month.

Ballard will speak at 7 p.m. Nov. 22 at the SET-B Lecture Hall. Tickets for this presentation are \$150 per individual and \$250 per couple. To purchase tickets, call the UTB/TSC Office of Institutional Advancement at 983-7359.

At 9:25 a.m. Nov. 23, the marine archeologist will address UTB/TSC students, as well as junior and high school students, in the lecture hall; there is no charge for this presentation.

Ballard, director of the Center for Marine Exploration at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution in Massachusetts, will talk about his findings and experiences in a multimedia presentation.

In September 1985, Ballard and his crew set out to find the Titanic, the luxury oceanliner that sank after hitting an iceberg in 1912. More than 1,500 people died in the disaster. Bad weather kept Ballard from exploring the underwater graveyard for a year. He

uncovered an array of artifacts.

Proceeds from the Distinguished Lecture Series will go into the President's Circle Fund, which is "used to support a wide variety of needs for students and faculty for which state funding is either inadequate or non-existent," according to a news release from the UTB/TSC Office of News & Information.

Rafael Vela, director of development for Institutional Advancement, said the university's Development Board, which sponsors the lecture series, was in charge of selecting and inviting Ballard. The board also considered such individuals as Colin Powell, former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of staff; Steven Hawkins, physicist, and Tom Breaker, NBC News anchor, before arriving at their final choice.

The board's duty is to advocate and provide financial support to the President's Circle Fund.

Vela said the fund has allowed the "increase of the educational experience." He said the fund makes such things as student and faculty conferences possible. Last year, the fund paid for a Jazz Band trip to San Antonio.

See "Titanic," page 10

"Jobs"

Continued from page 1

Hilda Silva, director of the Guidance Center, is on the search committee for a new director of the Learning Assistance Center. The committee has conducted phone interviews and will have a candidate on campus Nov. 19 for the first in-person interview. The candidate has prior experience as the LAC director. Judy Goodwin was the last LAC director and is now the management systems analyst for Student Affairs. Marie Masillas, assistant vice president for Student Affairs, serves as the interim LAC director.

Silva said of the task of multi-tasking, "Things need to continue to run, especially in offices with a lot of student traffic."

Executive director of Enrollment Services is a new job, and the Enrollment Management Committee oversees a lot of what the director would eventually do, said Pat McGehee, director of the Testing Office and chair of the search committee. McGehee said

the candidate interview process has begun and that the committee has recommended several candidates to Vice President for Student Affairs Olivia Rivas, who will make the final decision. McGehee hopes the position will be filled by the spring semester.

The committee in charge of hiring a director for the new Office of Distance Education has received several applications but continues its search. Committee member Mike Sullivan said the committee, chaired by Charles Lacey, "wants to get the best person we can." That is why they are offering \$60,000 for the minimum yearly salary. Ideally, Sullivan hopes the job will be filled by Spring 2000.

The director should have "a record of successful experience developing and teaching distance education courses (in particular, Web-based courses), experience integrating technology into traditional instruction, knowledge of professional development methods, experience as a full-time faculty."

See "Staff Jobs," page 10

Telephone registration for Spring 2000 begins Monday and runs through Dec. 1. Students will register according to classification, starting with graduates and seniors, between the hours of 6 a.m. and 1 a.m. daily. A help center, located in the Student Center, will be open until 7 p.m. to assist students who encounter problems. Late telephone registration will be conducted Jan. 3-4.

H-E-B's annual Feast of Sharing is scheduled from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Wednesday at the Jacob Brown Auditorium. The Thanksgiving dinner is free. UTB/TSC volunteers are needed from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Volunteers are asked to sign up at the Student Activities Office by Monday.

The School of Business will conduct two group advising sessions for current and prospective business students. The sessions will take place at noon and 6 p.m. Wednesday in Tandy Hall 113. Items to be covered include the School of Business Spring 2000 course schedule, a preview of the Summer 2000 schedule, declaration of major update and direction, and much more.

The UTB/TSC School of Education will sponsor a Teacher Education Advancement seminar from

Briefs

1 to 3:30 p.m. Nov. 19 in Tandy 113.

The Student Activities Office is seeking volunteers for the annual *La Posada/Pastorela*, scheduled for Dec. 3. Volunteers are asked to sign up at the Student Activities Office.

The Counseling Center will present a workshop titled "Improving Self-Esteem" from 12:15 to 1:15 p.m. Wednesday in North Hall 205. Admission is free. For more information, call 544-8252.

Students majoring or minoring in psychology and/or sociology are encouraged to join the Behavioral Sciences Club. Meetings are from noon to 1 p.m. every Monday in South Hall 107. The club will award scholarships for the Spring 2000

semester. Applicants must be declared majors in psychology or sociology. Applications are available in South Hall 226. The deadline for applications is 5 p.m. Nov. 22. For more information, call 542-5160.

More than 50 Early Childhood Education students are learning firsthand about the developmental stages of young children through observational and play courses in collaboration with the Texas Migrant Head Start Program. The growth and development course taught by Vanessa Carlan has students documenting the social and language behaviors of children, while Georgiana Daines' play theory and application class is working with Texas Migrant Council teachers in analyzing the play behaviors of children. Daines' class will attend the Texas Migrant Head Start Conference Nov. 15-19 in Corpus Christi.

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Vice President: Nora Glenn

Secretary: Sylvia Pérez

Treasurer: Claudia Arnold

Memberships: 16

Meetings: 5 p.m. the first and third Friday of every month in South Hall 115. The next meeting will be Nov. 19.

Club Events: Supports university cultural programs such as the production group Teatro Universitario "La Ventana." Guest speakers give lectures on travel, study in Spain and poetry.

Fund-raisers: Bake sales, raffles, programs for the literary periodical Nuevo Santandero.

Community Service: Beach Clean-Up

Membership Fees: One-time national fee of \$20 and a local fee of \$2.50 each semester.

For more information contact: Cheryl Phelps at 544-8873 or Roberto Cortina at 544-8870.

—Compiled by *Bessie Tracheta*



By *HEIDI CHANDLER/Collegian*

Sigma Delta Pi officers are (from left) Cheryl Phelps, sponsor; Nora Glenn, vice president; Cynthia Huerta, president; Sylvia Pérez, secretary; Roberto Cortina, co-sponsor, and Claudia Arnold, treasurer.



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Viewpoint

"10,000 in 2000" too taxing for teachers, university

By Melissa Cañté

Collegian Online Editor

UTB/TSC has worked very hard to raise the student population. It was successful this fall with a 12 percent increase in enrollment. Behind this achievement were constant meetings between university officials and staff, increased advertising, hair-raising arena registrations, deadline extensions and extra hours worked by staff. And that's just the icing on the cake.

But with the student population at just 9,992 we have a plethora of problems. Next semester, construction will be ongoing; thus, the parking problem will be ongoing. According to a self-study, the faculty are underpaid and some departments have

argued that they need more faculty. Students have complained that not enough courses are offered. Faculty complain about immoderate course loads and course size. These problems will continue to exist and even worsen.

The goal for next year is, and soon staff will don buttons saying, "10,000 in 2000." Officials hope to increase enrollment by more than 900 students. Another goal is "20,000 by 2010." Both would be awesome achievements. However, if such sights are set certain changes need to be made. For next semester and academic year 2000-2001, who is going to teach the students?

I heard a story from a math professor about how a

prospective for a faculty position came in from out of town and interviewed for a position here. He was told the outlook was promising. Well, the interviewee returned home with the assumption that he was hired. After much time had passed, and no word was received from UTB/TSC, he decided to call and check up. The academic year was nearing; he wanted to be sure. To his astonishment, he was told that the position was closed because there was no money to pay for another salary.

Number 1: How are we going to accommodate more students with the amount of faculty we have now?

Number 2: If we do decide to hire more faculty, how are we

going to attract professors when a self-study states that faculty are grossly underpaid? Faculty salaries for 1999-2000 increased by only 3.2 percent. This was short of the UT System chancellor's recommendation of 4 percent. The budget for 2000-2001 shows no increase in salary for faculty, because flat enrollment was assumed.

If enrollment increases, faculty and course availability will have to increase. Otherwise, faculty will be overworked; course size will increase drastically, resulting in unsatisfied customers—our students. Increased enrollment numbers look good on paper and in presentation to the UT board of regents, but ultimately at great price—the students and faculty. The strategic plan, posted on the Internet in <http://www.utb.edu/academic/index.html>, of our institution recognizes this as a weakness of our institution. It goes on to state that "We have not yet been able to establish the proper balances of teaching, service, and scholarship or creativity. With growth, changing external conditions, the demand for greater accountability, and the additional responsibilities and programs of a university, the teaching loads of faculty must be re-exam-

ined and reconceptualized." Remember that this was recognized with current enrollment numbers.

Jay Phillips, president of the Academic Senate, said that with increased enrollment comes extra monies available for salary increases. He said, however, that the decision lies with administrators.

"I do think their priorities could be changed," he said. "Faculty, of course, think faculty should be a top priority." And he's right. By placing faculty as top priority, students are placed as top priority.

Such problems are just the tip of the iceberg.

The parking problem has continued to rear its ugly head. Students have resorted to parking in residential areas, fire lanes, in between trees and in staff and faculty parking spots. Where will students park when there are 980 more students coming to campus? I don't think students will ride their bikes to campus like President Juliet V. Garcia recommended.

I'm not the only one to recognize such "what ifs." Several students, faculty and officials do, too. Something needs to be done before we lose good professors, staff and students.

What would you do to improve school spirit?

"We need cheerleaders!"
Lisa Valdez
education sophomore

"Have more pep rallies."
Eva Lamas
mechanical engineering freshman

"Bonfires at night the night before games and a football team."
Ivan Cordero
computer science sophomore

"I would like to see more bands -- ska bands -- playing at the one pep rally we have every year."
Marcos Joya
biology sophomore

—Compiled by Arnie Gonzalez

Student Soapbox

The Collegian

The Collegian is the student newspaper serving The University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College. The newspaper is widely distributed on a campus of more than 30,000 students, and is a member of the Texas Intercollegiate Press Association.

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All letters must be typed, saved on disk and no longer than 250 words. Letters must include the name, classification and phone number of letter writer or the letter cannot be published. Opinions expressed in The Collegian are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the views of The Collegian or UTB/TSC administrators. The editor reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, content and libel.

Regents visit UTB

By **Idelfonso Ortiz**
Staff Writer

Four members of the UT System board of regents were here last week to learn more about the campus and its progress.

Regents Raul R. Romero, Patrick C. Oxford, Woody L. Hunt and Charles Miller were greeted Nov. 4 by university President Juliet V. Garcia and four members of the Texas Southmost College board of trustees.

Garcia told the UT regents about the growth of the Rio Grande Valley. She said the Valley leads the state in commerce between the U.S. and Mexico. She also mentioned that various Fortune 500 companies such as DuPont and Lucent Technologies have

come to the Valley. Garcia also noted that the National Audubon Society will create a bird sanctuary here in the Valley, which will attract a great number of tourists.

The regents and audience were surprised to hear that by the year 2030 the Valley's population will have increased by 232 percent.

Garcia also spoke about the university's progress, stating that the academic level has increased since the partnership started. Garcia said the university has a goal of 20,000 students for 2010. Garcia mentioned that the magazine *Hispanic Outlook* ranked UTB/TSC 32nd among other universities. She also said UTB/TSC is ranked No. 1 nationally in Hispanics graduating in a mathematics



Woody L. Hunt (left) and Charles Miller were among four UT System regents who visited the university on Nov. 4.

major.

When Garcia told the regents that 87 percent of UTB/TSC students need a

remedial course, a regent said this university needs to train better teachers so that they in turn can train better students.

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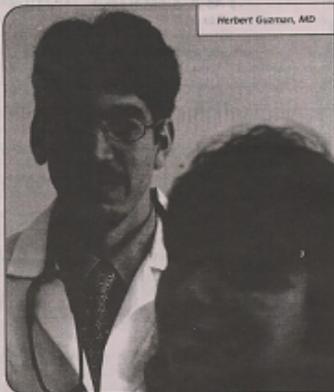
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"Mail"
Continued from page 1

the trend in universities all across the United States, Martinez said, "and in some countries, like Ireland, the government will not disburse fund unless it is done electronically.

If an alternate method was approved, the university would have to look into educating students on debit cards or even open up checking accounts if electronic fund transfers if students do not have one.

Though mailing financial aid checks seems like a great idea, there are students who do not approve of it.

"Some students are afraid that their money might get lost in the mail and not be available in time for the first class day," Martin said. In the event that a check lost, a replacement will be mailed. It is the student responsibility to make sure the address is correct.

The purpose of the change in disbursement is made for better customer service. All other methods will be considered based on how students react through surveys. Thus far, if mail method has been the one well received with the electronic fund transfer method next.

"There has not been a positive response on the debit card," Martinez said, "perhaps because students might not be familiar with them."

After the spring semester, if Business Office will look in the possibility of changes based on any problems that may have occurred, such as the number of students who did not receive their money or how many checks were mailed to a wrong address. There will be queries and student survey groups assigned to evaluate opinions from students.

Students on financial aid should expect to receive their checks before the first class of Jan. 18, 2000. Students are being urged to return all documents and express their opinions on the new method.

"We are trying to better serve the students," Martinez said, "hope they like it."

Sports

Volleyball team at regionals

By Jessica Arriaga
Sports Editor

Team Sting is competing today and Saturday in the regional volleyball championships at Panola College in Carthage.

Villarreal hopes to close last semester with a bang

By Trey Mendez
Staff Writer

Now that competition for the fall semester is over, Rita Kay Villarreal, the only returning member from last year's women's golf team, is setting her sights on making the most of her last semester as a Scorpion.

"I want to do the best I can," Villarreal said.

"Hopefully I can do well enough to earn a scholarship to another school and play golf."

Villarreal, a graduate of Pace High School, gives her father, Marcelo, plenty of credit for her success.

"He is my biggest influence in golf," she said.

Villarreal began playing golf at age 9, but never actually got serious about the game until her sophomore year, when she injured her knee playing basketball. The injury required surgery and kept her off the court for a while. It was during her layoff that she began to find a passion for golf that eventu-



Rita Kay Villarreal

The Lady Scorpions advanced to regional competition after taking second place at the Region XIV Conference Tourney III Nov. 5-6 in Wharton. They are 10-4 in the conference. Undefeated Lee College

also would earn her all-district honors and a scholarship to play at UT/ATSC. She was the first female golfer signed by Coach Jesse Lucio last year.

Villarreal is nothing short of athletic. She was a six-sport star at Pace, participating in track, swimming, basketball, volleyball, softball and golf. She was offered a scholarship to play softball at Brown Mackie Junior College in Kansas, but declined it.

"[Kansas] was too far away from home, and they only offered me a partial scholarship," Villarreal said. "So I decided to stay here and hopefully open up some eyes playing golf."

Villarreal, 19, was named District Most Valuable Player in softball as a senior, when she had the privilege of playing under her father, who was head coach.

Villarreal has been enjoying her college life at UT/ATSC. Currently a sophomore, she carries a GPA of 3.2 and hopes to transfer to the University of Texas at San Antonio, where she plans to major in criminal justice. Upon graduation, Villarreal will seek a career in forensic science, one of her biggest interests.

For now, Villarreal is focusing on the immediate future.

"My goal is to play better and get somebody to notice me," she said. She has been steadily improving during her 1 1/2 years as a Scorpion, and with only the spring semester remaining on her eligibility, she hopes to turn up her game in hopes of getting noticed by a Division I school. Until then, Villarreal is going to continue to work hard and focus on helping her team earn some respect.

took first place.

At last weekend's touney the Scorpions lost 11-15, 15-13, 11-15 to Blinn Junior College and 12-15, 10-15 to Lee College. They defeated Galveston College 10-15, 15-6, 15-12 and Alvin Junior College 12-15, 16-14, 15-6.

"We lost both games on Friday but we won both on Saturday," said Brian Funk, head volleyball coach.

"There were a lot of distractions. ... Even considering [Jessica] Kromer was out, we played pretty well."

Kromer, an outside hitter, was hospitalized Nov. 4 in Wharton with a severe case of the flu, said Janet Salcedo, assistant coach.

"She is feeling better," Funk said Monday.

Eli Clemente and Bo Contreras received All-



Robert Horowitz/Citizen

Larissa Perezlenyi and Joey Zayas pose with the plaques they received for making the all-tournament team at the Northwoods Hidden Oak Championships held in Granbury, Texas, Nov. 1-2.

Conference honors.

According to Region XIV statistics through Oct. 31, Contreras had 275 digs and 295 kills out of 85 games played.

The Lady Scorpions have

an overall record of 22-18.

The National Junior College Athletic Association volleyball championship games will take place Nov. 22-24 in Kansas.

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Sports

Baseball team ties 2, loses 2 at Galveston tournament

By Jessica Arriaga
Sports Editor

The UTB/TSC baseball team lost two games and tied two at the Galveston College Tournament Oct. 29-30.

On Oct. 29, the Scorpions lost 5-2 against Howard College and tied 9-9 against Alvin Junior College. On Oct. 30 the Scorpions tied San Jacinto Central Junior College 4-4 and lost 19-5 against

Galveston College.

In the game against Howard, J. R. Watts pitched six innings, giving up four runs, two of which were earned. He also made eight strikeouts. Outfielder Jessie Gonzalez had two home runs in the fourth. Infielder Raul Munoz went 2 for 4 with a run scored. Fernando Aviles shut out the eighth.

The Scorpions tied that night against the Alvin Dolphins 9-9.

Outfielder Armando Chacon went 3 for 3. He led the game with a home run and later scored three more. Humberto Rodriguez pitched a seven-inning stretch, giving up two earned runs and five strikeouts.

Infielder Hector Garanzuy went 2 for 5 with a double. He later added a homer and two RBIs. Munoz closed 2 for 3, with two RBIs against the Dolphins. Infielder Ramiro Tovar had two runs in the bot-

tom of the second. Gonzalez lost 10 to the Galveston Whitecaps 19-5.

Garanzuy scored a run. Munoz went 2 for 4 and added a homer.

Tovar went 2 for 3, with two homers and three RBIs.

"It was the longest home run I have ever seen in college," assistant coach George Solis said. "He hit it over the lights ... in front of his family."

Zapata went 1 for 2. Infielder Rudy Rendon and outfielder Elvin Robles each had a hit.

The Scorpions have finished playing their preseason games. The regular season begins in February.

Men's soccer club takes 2nd in state championship

By Mariela Gonzalez
Staff Writer

The UTB/TSC Men's Soccer Club missed a second chance to go to nationals after placing second in the Texas Collegiate Soccer League Championship last weekend in Arlington.

UT-Arlington edged the Scorpions 2-1 for the state championship on Sunday. A day earlier, the Scops had tied with Arlington 1-1 in their first faceoff. The club then shut out Abilene Christian University 5-0 Saturday night.

"If we would have won that game (Sunday), then we would have been No. 1 in the state, instead we are No. 2," Coach Bernie Peria said.

The Scorpions won the state championship last year.

Peria blamed the shonoring on the lack of players.

"We were tired because only 11 players went to the game," Peria said. "Since they did not have enough substitutes they tied."

Arlington was the underdog in

this competition.

"Our team was favored to win, because we had a better team the whole season," Peria said.

Where do they go from here?

"We had a good team but we did not accomplish what we set out to do at the beginning of the year," Peria said, but "we'll continue to practice like normal—after we take a short break."

Eliash Quintanilla scored a total of four goals and Armando Longoria two during the three games.

"Next year we will do better," Peria said. "Next year we will advance."

It was the second time this season the team missed a chance to reach the nationals.

At the Region IV National Qualifying Tournament held Oct. 29-31 at UT-Austin, the club lost its first game, won the second by forfeit and tied in the third at the eventual champion.

Texas Tech edged the Scorpions 3-2 in the first game. Jaime Sandoval and Eduardo Hierro

made the only goals for the team.

"It was tough because we played against the No. 1 ranked team," Sandoval said.

Coach Bernie Peria cited defensive errors.

"We kept it close but mistakes by our defense was the reason that they were not able to score," Peria said. "But we were never really leading in the game."

Nicholls State University of Thibodaux, La., which did not attend, forfeited the second game.

The Scorpions tied 1-1 against Southwest Texas State University in the third game.

UTB/TSC was winning after Eduardo Hierro scored a goal in the second half, but Southwest tied the game shortly afterward, Peria said.

"We could've won the three games because we have really good players," midfielder Jorge Aguilar said. "But lack of concentration on the defensive end brought us down."

Nationals will be held Nov. 18-20 in Statesboro, Ga.

Intramurals
Results

Nov. 2 Table Tennis Singles

Men's

First place: Gabriel Medrano
Second place: Eric Rodriguez

Women's

First place: Judy Walton

Oct. 12 Tennis Regular Doubles

Men's

First place: Ramiro Cuevas,
Gilbert Lopez Jr.
Second place: Santiago Rodarte,
Pascual Correion

Women's

First Place: Carmina Buentello,
Emilia Hernandez



ROBERT CHAMBERLAIN

Alejandro Gonzalez returns the ball during Intramural Table Tennis Singles competition in the Garza Gym annex Nov. 2.

Sports Briefs

A 3-on-3 basketball tournament, sponsored by the Kinesiology Club, will take place from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Nov. 20 at the Garza Gym. A three-point shoot-out will also be held. First-place winners in the 3-on-3 tourney will receive team jerseys. Second- and third-place winners will get team trophies. The three-point shoot-out champion also will receive a jersey. Any participant is welcome to compete in the shoot-out. The fee to enter the tournament is \$30 per team.

Cued Volleyball is scheduled for 2:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday. Participation is open only to UTB/TSC students and employees. There must be three women and three men on the court at all times. For more information, call the Kinesiology Department at 544-8290.

On Campus

Singing His praises



Sophomore Sonya Vega sings at the piano in the Student Center during Chi Alpha's Nov. 3 outreach. Officers of the Bible club said they were pleased with the event and the large turnout.

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Arts & Entertainment

71 busted for posting copyrighted music

TMS Campus

PITTSBURGH — Carnegie Mellon University has disciplined 71 students after a surprise inspection of their computer files indicated the students had posted copyrighted music on the university's network.

The university conducted the surprise inspections at the request of the Recording Industry Association of America, which has sent letters to about 300 campuses warning that they could be sued if their students use university networks to violate copyright laws. The association is particularly concerned about lost sales as a result of students copying compact discs onto MP3s, digital audio files that can be posted on the Internet where others can download them.

Carnegie Mellon officials

said they aren't in the habit of policing the university's intranet but felt obligated to investigate the association's implications. On Oct. 18, the university randomly checked public portions of 250 students' computer accounts and found that 71 had posted copyrighted materials on their Web sites -- making the material available to 11,000 users on the university's network.

Carnegie Mellon punished the students by suspending their home-computer access to the university's network -- sanctions that force the students to use one of the campus' computer labs anytime they need access to the university's network. The students' home-computer access will likely be disconnected for the rest of the semester -- unless the students agree to take a 90-minute class on copyright law.

In a rumba groove



Michael Quant conducts the UTB/TSC Guitar Ensemble in "Paisaje Cubano con Rumba" by Leo Brouwer on Nov. 5 in the SET-B Lecture Hall.

A&E Briefs

Student Recitals are scheduled for 2 p.m. today and Nov. 19 in the SET-B Lecture Hall. Admission is \$3 for UTB/TSC students with ID.

"La Noche de la Guitarra" is scheduled for 8 p.m. Nov. 18 in the SET-B Lecture Hall. Admission is \$3 for UTB/TSC students with ID.

The Adjunct Faculty Art Show continues in the Richardson Art Gallery through Nov. 19. Admission is free.

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Tiempo Nuevo

Universidad recibe subsidio para investigación científica

Por Daniela Ortega
Reportera

UTB/TSC ha recibido un subsidio de más de un millón de dólares para los departamentos de Física, Ingeniería Tecnológica y Ciencias Computacionales.

El nombre del subsidio que se otorgó a la universidad se llama "Colaboración para integrar investigación y educación entre UTB y el observatorio de interferometría láser para detectar ondas gravitacionales, LIGO. El dinero que otorga la Fundación Nacional de Ciencias, servirá para pagar los sueldos a los estudiantes y profesores por tres años para hacer investigaciones relacionadas con la operación y el funcionamiento de LIGO.

Joseph Romano es director del proyecto y Mario Díaz el co-director. Ambos profesores de física, junto con el profesor Luis Cabeza del Departamento de Ingeniería y el

profesor Firatbilal Khan de ciencias computacionales son los encargados de llevar a cabo este proyecto.

"La universidad es parte de lo que se llama colaboración científica de LIGO que es un grupo de universidades en todos los Estados Unidos y en el mundo que colabora con la información científica que va a ser producida una vez que estos observatorios empiecen a funcionar dentro de un año, en noviembre del 2000", dijo Díaz.

Los observatorios básicamente son dos, dijo Díaz. Uno está en el estado de Washington y otro en Louisiana y cuentan con dos detectores que "son dos brazos que tienen 4 kilómetros de largo, son tubos de vacío en los que van un rayo láser y pega en un espejo y vuelve, están muy aislados, los más alejados del mundo de 40 kilómetros, sus paredes por finas de cuarzo. Cuando rebota, si hay movimiento de las masas, los

rayos láser interfieren y entonces se hace patrón de interferencia y viendo las flechas de interferencia se puede detectar si hubo movimiento y cuando fue el movimiento. Estas se van a mover cuando pasa una onda gravitacional, que es una onda en el tejido del espacio-tiempo", dijo Díaz.

Según un boletín informativo del departamento de Ingeniería Tecnológica, "Las ondas gravitacionales fueron predichas por Albert Einstein en su teoría de la relatividad general. Las ondas son extremadamente débiles pero contienen información sobre eventos astrofísicos astronómicos que ocurren muy lejos de nuestro sistema solar."

Estos eventos incluyen el impacto de agujeros negros y estrellas neutras, explosiones de supernovas y posiblemente eventos que ocurrieron al principio del universo. Hoy evidencia indirecta de las ondas gravitacionales, pero una detección directa abrirá una ven-

tana al universo, que hasta este punto solamente se ha visto vía astronómica basada en electromagnética".

El subsidio también proveerá fondos para la construcción de una "supercomputadora" que consta de varias docenas de procesadores y capaz de procesar billones de operaciones aritméticas por segundo y que en material costará \$120,000 que también se utilizará para analizar datos que serán del detector.

Nueve estudiantes de ciencias computacionales, ingeniería tecnológica y física son los que participan: Rosa Luna, Marta Casquette, Charlie Torres, Adrián Rodríguez, Arturo Méndez, Donald Armas, Adán Cermeño, Oscar Peñero y Raúl Guaca.

Los estudiantes trabajarán con los profesores aquí durante el año académico y pasarán dos meses cada verano en Livingston, La., en el LIGO.

Tesis: Teocracia Mormona se planeaba en el sur de Texas

Por Ildefonso Ortiz
Reportero

El último Reino de Dios ha sido usado desde tiempos inmemoriales. Y siempre que se usa se relaciona con un reino espiritual, nunca con una entidad política o gubernamental. Lo que muy poco gente sabe es que el reino eterno may cerca de usarse para referirse a un país.

En 1830 Joseph Smith, entonces líder de la Iglesia de Jesucristo de los Santos de los Últimos Días que también es conocida como la Iglesia Mormona, intentó crear una teocracia para sus seguidores. Michael Van Wageningen profesor de inglés en esta universidad realizó su tesis para la maestría en este tema.

Según Van Wageningen, quien terminó su tesis en abril de este año, Smith empezó a mandar embajadas a diferentes países como Inglaterra, Rusia, Estados Unidos y la República de Texas, para establecer relaciones. Durante ese tiempo Samuel Houston entonces presidente de la República de Texas se veía involucrado en una problemática territorial con México que estaba en un intento de reconquistar Texas. El territorio donde estas batallas debían lugar era entre el Río Bravo (Grande) y el Río Nueces.

Según Van Wageningen la intención de Smith era de adquirir el territorio oeste de Texas. Este territorio en la

tercera parte de Texas. En aquel entonces la República de Texas era casi la tercera parte de lo que actualmente es Estados Unidos. Cuando Smith viajó de Texas regresó de Texas tenía una propuesta diferente pero muy visible.

Dice Van Wageningen que la propuesta era de que Smith trasladara todos sus seguidores desde Nebraska, al territorio entre los ríos Grande y Nueces, y creara allí su teocracia llamada El Reino de Dios. Van Wageningen dijo que este fue benefici-

ado a ambos lados. Por un lado la Iglesia Mormona tendría su propio país y por lo tanto escaparía todo el abuso y acoso al cual sus seguidores fueron sujetos en Estados Unidos. Por el otro lado, Sam Houston pedía para que su territorio perteneciera a los Mormones al creaba una barreira contra México. Los Mormones en aquel entonces contaban con un ejército de 5,000 soldados bien entrenados.

Van Wageningen afirma que aparte de Smith los que también tomaron

la decisión era un grupo de dirigentes llamado el Consejo de 50, el cual llevaba el nombre por el número de miembros. El Consejo de 50 y Sam Houston estaban ambos muy complicados con la propuesta pero un grupo de militares en contra de la Iglesia Mormona tomaron a Smith y a su hermano primogénito y los asesinaron.

El Dr. Van Wageningen dice que Smith El Reino de Dios se desmoronó. El sucesor de Smith, Brigham Young

peró que eso terminó entre los ríos Nueces y Grande en un territorio muy conflictivo, y optó por no seguir con el plan. Dijo Van Wageningen que Young se llevó a sus seguidores a Utah, más unos cuantos se fueron a Texas a seguir con el plan de Smith.

En su tesis, Van Wageningen dice: Espero que añadiendo esta parte de la historia he creado una obra completa que será valiosa a eruditos Mormones e historiadores "Texanos".

Profesor del mes

Por Violeta Davila
Reportera

Es gerente de Contabilidad de una de las maquiladoras del área.

"He llegado a un punto en que me he dado cuenta que la juventud necesita un poco de orientación, el hecho de estar en contacto con estudiantes, gente joven, gente con ganas de desarrollarse, de buscar el futuro me permite pasarle algo de mis conocimientos y experiencias a las futuras generaciones para su desarrollo, y eso me hace sentir bien", dijo Recalde.

En Contabilidad, dice Recalde, hay que combinar la teoría con la práctica, uno puede leer muchos aspectos en forma teórica pero si no se siente uno a hacer ejercicios y trabajar prácticamente es muy difícil llegar al final del curso sin haber tenido los conocimientos necesarios para poder tomar las materias siguientes en el aspecto práctico.

Los planes para el futuro crean Recalde desea continuar ayudando a los estudiantes y trabajando con ellos en lo que los haga felices.

para que respondan no solo como estudiantes sino como personas.

"En el futuro inmediato deseo continuar trabajando en la Universidad y si la Universidad me lo permite a lo mejor más adelante expandir el número de materias que ayudo en el área de Contabilidad", dijo Recalde.

"Las satisfacciones que me ha traído la carrera me ha permitido viajar por diversas partes del mundo, trabajar con numerosas empresas, conocer gente a nivel mundial de distintos países, orígenes y lenguajes, me ha permitido desarrollar como persona y como profesional en distintos aspectos de la profesión incluyendo asuntos contables, financieros, contabilidad de costos, y una de las satisfacciones más grandes ha sido el hecho de tener la oportunidad de estar en contacto con los estudiantes y llegar al final del semestre y escuchar sus opiniones y ver que realmente aprecian lo que uno está tratando de transmitirle".

Alberto Casilla, estudiante de

tercer año de la carrera de administración de empresas afirma que la clase es interesante y divertida. El acuerdo a los demás estudiantes tomarla con él.

Pedro Arellano, estudiante de tercer año de la carrera de administración de empresas, dice que Recalde explica muy bien los problemas de contabilidad y le parece muy bien que la clase sea en español.



Alberto Recalde Rodriguez

TEACHER JOB FAIR

NOVEMBER 17, 1999
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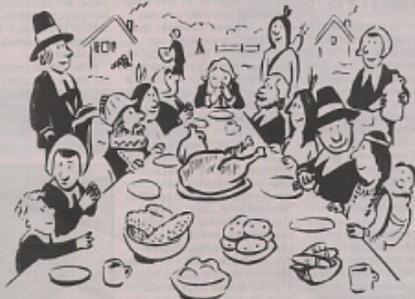
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The Collegian

The University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southwest College

Volume 52, Issue 13

Friday, November 19, 1999

Complaint brings change in AP exam

By Melissa Cantu
Collegian Online Editor

When UTB/TSC student Melinda Castillo tried to transfer Advanced Placement credit she earned in high school, she was upset to hear that three of her four exams were not accepted. So she decided to submit a letter to the Thirty-Three Cent Forum of the Brownsville Herald to express her frustrations. It was a good thing she did.

After reading the letter, Social Sciences Department Chair Norman Binder decided to act. Castillo had made reference to the fact that the U.S. History AP exam credit is not accepted here and this disturbed Binder.

"AP credit is accepted for World History," Binder said, "and it didn't make sense that

U.S. History was not accepted. Informally, we would have accepted her [Castillo] U.S. History credit, but she never came to us."

Informally, because U.S. History AP credit is not listed on the credit by the examination pamphlet.

"Indeed it was not on the approved list, but it should have been," he said. "It was an oversight."

Karen Stowe, assistant director for the Testing Office, said that if which the AP exam is given then students will be given earned credit.

"However, like Latin, an AP exam is given, but UTB does not give credit because we don't offer a Latin course," Stowe said.

Stowe said she wished Castillo had come to her office. See "AP," page 2



Students resort to parking on Ringgold Road next to the resaca after the SET-B parking lot was mistakenly closed.

DEBRA WILBORN/COLLEGIAN

Growing pains mean less parking space

By Debra Wilborn
Collegian Editor

Despite losing half of the SET-B parking lot and the lot

next to the amphitheater, UTB/TSC will see a net gain of 150 to 200 parking spaces by February, according to Physical Plant Director Grady

Deaton.

Last month, the amphitheater parking lot closed to make room for a new bookstore. Work crews also cordoned off half of the SET-B lot for phase one of the Life and Health Sciences Building.

However, construction on a 304-space lot behind the former Brownsville Campus already has begun with a projected completion date of Feb. 1. A temporary lot near the East Jackson Street entrance to the campus alleviates some of the parking madness.

"This all happened when we got a 12 percent increase [in enrollment]," Deaton said on the apparent bad timing of the UTB/TSC growth spurt. "It's gotta be done sometime, or it will all get worse instead of better."

Ringgold Road in front of SET-B closed Nov. 10 so utility lines for the LHS building could be laid under the street. The street will not open until

See "Parking," page 2



Wayne Moore exhibits good form in the egg toss on Field Day.

PHOTO BY BRYAN STOKES/COLLEGIAN

Employees have a ball on Field Day

By Rachel Benavidez
Staff Writer

A tradition has returned to UTB/TSC after a five-year absence. "Field Day," a day of friendly games and competition among staff, faculty and administrators at UTB/TSC began in 1987 and had become a yearly event until 1994 when the last "field day" was held.

Well, it's back. And according to Zehra D. Mata, UTB/TSC Kinesiology chair, associate professor and field day coordinator, the event held Nov. 12 was a "huge success."

"The purpose of Field Day," Mata said, "is to provide a fun-filled atmosphere...for staff, faculty and administrators to interact and get better acquainted."

Field Day was "resurrected" by

UTB/TSC President Juliet V. Garcia, Mata said. Garcia asked that a committee be formed to coordinate the event. The Kinesiology Club, and Grupo Folklórico Tzatlán, along with Mata, took the initiative and the result was an event that bowed representatives from almost every department at the university, including Garcia, Vice President for Administration and Partnership Affairs Wayne Moore, Assistant Baseball Coach George Sola and Social Science Professor Philip Kendall, among many others. Field Day committee members included Hector Castillo, Sylvia Perez, Renae Zamora, Lucy Willis, Aida Sierra and Janie Garcia.

Participants met in the Corzo Gym and were divided into four groups—the Gold, Blue, Orange and Green teams.

"The objective when assigning

teams," Mata said, "was to group people from different departments together so that people who don't normally work together can get to know each other better."

One would never know that the teammates, many meeting for the first time, had not been working and playing together for years.

The afternoon activities began with a mock torch lighting, reminiscent of the Olympic Games, and a passing of the torch. The "torch," a taped blue candle, was lit by Garcia and passed from team to team to symbolize good will between the players.

Team spirit was high and competition was fierce among those otherwise reserved working professionals. Win or lose, teams whooped and cheered each other on through the entire afternoon.

See "Field," page 10

The UTB/TSC School of Education will sponsor a Teacher Education Advancement seminar from 1 to 3:30 p.m. today in Tandy 113.

Volunteers are needed to participate in the annual **La Posada/Pastorela**. To sign up, call Miguel Figueroa by Wednesday.

The **Student Activities Office** is seeking volunteers to help with **La Posada/Pastorela**, scheduled for 7 p.m. Dec. 3. Volunteers are asked to sign up at the Student Activities Office.

The **Arnaldo Oliveira Library** is accepting canned food in lieu of fines for late books through Dec. 15. The food will be donated to the Good Neighbor Settlement House. For more information, call the library at 544-8221.

The **Student Activities Office** is sponsoring a Christmas door decorating contest. Departments must sign up by Nov. 24 at the Student Activities Office. Doors should be decorated by Dec. 1; judging will take place Dec. 8. For more information, call 544-8264.

Career Services and Placement will sponsor a Teacher Job Fair from 2 to 4 p.m. today in the Student Center.

Students majoring or minoring

Briefs

in psychology and/or sociology are encouraged to join the **Behavioral Sciences Club**. Meetings are from noon to 1 p.m. every Monday in South Hall 107. The club will award scholarships for the Spring 2000 semester. Applicants must be declared majors in psychology or sociology. Applications are available in South Hall 226. The deadline for applications is 5 p.m. Monday. For more information, call 542-5160.

The **Art Club** welcomes new members who want to participate in art events and student activities. The club helps members gain new ideas and perspectives about their current style and possibly new ones. Meetings are held at 12:30 p.m. each Wednesday in the Art Building. The club will conduct a drawing for a limited-edition edition by Eldi Perez. Tickets are \$1 each. For more information, contact club president Daniel Nunez at 546-7672 or at Lety.Nunez@aol.com.

A student recital is scheduled for 2 p.m. today in the SET-B Lecture Hall. Admission is \$3.

The **UTB/TSC Wind Ensemble** will perform at 8 p.m. Monday in the Jacob Brown Auditorium. Admission is \$3.

The **UTB/TSC Jazz Bands**

will perform at 8 p.m. Tuesday in the SET-B Lecture Hall. Admission is \$3.

The **UTB/TSC Choirs Concert** is scheduled for 8 p.m. Nov. 30 in the SET-B Lecture Hall. Admission is \$3.

The **UTB/TSC Mariachi and Estudiantina Concert** is scheduled for 8 p.m. Dec. 2 in the SET-B Lecture Hall. Admission is \$3.

The **Senior Thesis Exhibit I** opens with a reception at 7:30 p.m. Nov. 29 in the Richardson Art Gallery. Admission is free. The exhibit runs through Dec. 3.

The **University Cinema Club** will present "Raise the Red Lantern," a film by Zhang Yimou, at 7 tonight in SET-B 2548. The film, in Mandarin with English subtitles, is based on the novel "Wives and Concubines" by Su Tong. It is about a young woman who is sent by her stepmother to be the fourth wife of an aging wealthy man.

"Parking"

Continued from page 1
Feb. 1. The rest of the SET-B parking lot is still open; however, the contractor forgot to cut a temporary entrance to the lot from Ringgold, Deaton said. The lot was supposed to remain accessible from East Jackson and Ringgold streets. Students have been parking on both sides of Ringgold near the resaca instead.

Deaton said he and Campus Police Chief John Cardoza

explained the situation to the contractor, who will fix it soon. Pedestrian crosswalks will allow students, staff and faculty to get to SET-B through the construction.

Gorgas Drive in front of Cavalry Hall will be closed for two weeks during Christmas break. The closing is so cold water lines needed for air conditioning in the new bookstore can be installed underground. The street will be open before the Spring semester starts.

"AP"

Continued from page 1

and she would have done her best to help her.

Two weeks ago, the Social Sciences Department decided to formally accept AP U.S. History credit.

Binder is glad that the problem was taken care of.

"It affected one student, but that was one too many," he said.

The Collegian Online



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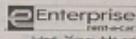
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On Campus

Club spotlight

Name: Pi Sigma Alpha, National Political Science Honor Society
Chapter: Chi Alpha
Established: Fall 1998
Mission Statement: To encourage individuals to get involved in politics.
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President: Joey de la Garza
Vice President: Claudia Ybarra
Treasurer: Ruben O'Bell
Parliamentarian: Noemi Garcia
Public Relations Officer: Armando Salinas
Secretary: Becky Longoria
Membership: 25
Meeting time and place:

At noon the first and third Friday of every month in the Student Leadership room
Club Events: Welcoming committee for new students, Bridge opening, debates
Fund-raisers: Golf tournament, drawings
Community Service: Boo at the Zoo, Beach Cleanup, Feast of Sharing
Trips: Washington D.C., White House tour
Recruitment: Open to upperclassmen with a minimum 3.0 GPA
Membership Fee: \$5 local, \$30 national
For more information, contact: Joey de la Garza at 867-5061 or e-mail him at joeyjd@aol.com
—Compiled by Melissa Cantu

Pi Sigma Alpha members and officers are (from left, standing) John Robey, sponsor; Yvette Guerrero; Becky Longoria, secretary; Leo Villarreal; Joey de la Garza, president; (seated) Noemi Garcia, parliamentarian; and Angelica Garcia.



Photo by Chris Torres

SGA forms Student Life panel

By Melissa Cantu
 Collegian Online Editor

A banner placed at the Coaches Plaza last Friday urged students to attend the Student Government Association meeting and talk about parking. When it came time for the meet-

ing, about 20 students sat in the Gonga boardroom last Friday to give an earful. That's a 1,000 percent increase in attendance. Parking was not even on the agenda, but the audience informally added it.

The SGA Executive Council members spoke of their trip to Houston for a leadership conference. Officers spoke on the various work-shops they attended. Vice President Heather Tumberlinson said she is seeking volunteers for the Student Life Committee that would deal with issues such as parking, fixing clocks on campus to reflect the night time, and other issues that may seem trivial, but are important to students.

Tumberlinson said she was glad so many people were in attendance to gain insight on the type of issues the committee would have to address.

"I'm very impressed with the turnout today [Nov. 12]," she said. "We're trying to make campus life better—that's what we're working toward."

Parliamentarian Melissa Acevedo, chair of the Academic Affairs Committee, said she had one problem—no members. She meets with the Academic Affairs Partnership Committee as a student representative and would use her committee to take concerns to the partnership committee.

Abigail Suarez, lower division business administration representative, inquired about a sign-up sheet for the committees. Tumberlinson said one would be posted outside the SGA office. In the representative forum, Katie Santos said the SGA should target University Experience students to increase attendance at SGA meetings.

She said the course requires attendance at functions on campus and the SGA should talk to professors of the course to include SGA meetings.

Santos also apologized for not having the Mr. Amigo proposal for a daylong celebration on campus during Chemo Days. This was discussed at the previous meeting.

Student Jesus Chaga said SGA needs to somehow target the working class.

"We need to try to get working people involved and into activities," Chaga said. "I hope that you all think of industry and what they can do for you." Under new business, SGA tabled a decision to purchase magnetic name tags after another representative asked if the purchase was feasible under the current budget.

SGA Adviser Jill Zimmerman interjected and said the name tags would be "an investment" and that "it's worth having our representatives are." She said they are only \$6 each.

The SGA announced it would participate in the Feast of Sharing.

In the student body portion of the agenda, students spoke on parking problems, inadequate buildings, and dissatisfaction with the bookstore. They wanted to know what the SGA was going to do about the lack of parking space.

Student Edson Johnson read a letter he had written to Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Raymond Rodriguez about his deep concern over the Spanish Placement exam. He was upset that UTB/TSC does not offer the exam here.



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Viewpoint

What are you thankful for?

"I will get to spend this holiday with my kids and enjoy their company for awhile, anyway."

--Jessica Silva

Junior

"This Thanksgiving will be special because it is the last one of the millennium; let's party!"

--Mary Gomez

Sophomore English major

"I am thankful for my family."

--Melinda Ramos
Freshman business major

"I am thankful for my grandma's special talents. They give me energy to keep on going to the next year. She is the super tamale woman."

--Joe Dipong
Sophomore English major

"Health."

--Joe Collazo
Sophomore music major

--Compiled by Arnie Gonzalez

Student Soapbox



Letter to the editor

Let me just start to say that I will not be doing an installation of the empty trash cans with [Debra Wilhom's art exhibit review, Nov. 5]. If I offended you, I apologize. I was just taking your high school art teacher's advice on brainstorming for a project. I do feel you have a right to call it a dull booth. Art is not for everyone. But when you use words like hedge podge, paraphernalia spread, and really trite, you should research the background for your write-ups. An art appreciation course from UTB/TSC might also help.

Let me add that the artworks of Mr. [Ralph] Ayers, Mr. [Noel] Palameaz and Mr. [Brad] Deherly were excellent. I was an honor for me to exhibit with them.

Juan R. Garcia



The Collegian

The Collegian is the student newspaper serving The University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College. The newspaper is widely distributed on a campus of more than 9,000 students, and is a member of the Texas Intercollegiate Press Association.

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* All letters must be typed, saved on disk and no longer than 250 words. Letters must include the name, classification and phone number of letter writer or the letter cannot be published. Opinions expressed in *The Collegian* are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the views of *The Collegian* or UTB/TSC administrators. The editor reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, content and label.

On Campus

Under the weather? Visit Student Health Center

By Rachel Benavidez
Staff Writer

The U.S. Census Bureau reports that young adults between the ages of 18-24 are more likely than any other age group to lack health insurance coverage.

Fortunately, for students in the University of Texas System, including UTB/TSC, Student Health Services exists to provide eligible students with health care services ranging from general medicine and family planning, to mental health services and medications at greatly reduced costs. Some services such as a physician's consultation and diagnosis, nursing care and health information are available at no cost.

Students who are enrolled for six credit hours or more per semester and are in good standing with the university, are eligible for student health services benefits.

However, many students at UTB/TSC are not even aware of the Student Health Center, which is funded by student service fees and revenue.

Hector G. Iracheta, director of Student Health Services at

UTB/TSC, estimates that 45 percent of the student population utilizes student health services. He said, 4,447 students contacted or visited the center, located in the Cavalry Hall, during the 1998-99 school year. The department has a budget of \$212,730 for 1999-2000.

"Maybe if we advertised more," Iracheta said, "we could reach and see more students." But servicing more students is a "catch-22" situation because of the limited space and staff allotted to the department.

"Our primary purpose is to provide health education and minor health services," he said. "However, because so few students are insured, we became a primary health provider for many... and we just don't have the facilities."

Said Iracheta encourages students to visit the center for routine exams and immunizations.

"It's easier to prevent than to cure," he said.

Asked if the issue of funding or facilities was being addressed by university officials, Iracheta said, "I'm not complaining... We are not ignored. When the new Life

and Health Sciences building and the new bookstore are done, then there will be more room for us."

Student Health Services shares Cavalry Hall with Campus Police and a small computer lab. It consists of one and a half examination rooms, and walk-in-closed-sted pharmacy that doubles as a records room and triples as a computer room for the staff of three. Iracheta is the only full-time employee. A nurse practitioner comes in 12 hours a week, and a receptionist is also on staff. An additional receptionist will be hired this year.

Perhaps some of the better known programs sponsored by student health services is the free AIDS/HIV screenings. In cooperation with the Valley AIDS Council, the tests are administered every Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. About five to 10 students are tested on campus each week.

Requests for immunizations, flu shots, and family planning services are some other common visits



RACHEL BENAVIDEZ/STAFF

Student Health Services Director Hector Iracheta checks the blood-pressure of Rachel Torres, receptionist/medical assistant, affiliation with UT Health Systems.

In addition to the services provided on campus, students may purchase health insurance coverage for their families (and children) at comparably low rates through the Mega Life Insurance Co. in

affiliation with UT Health

Systems.

For questions concerning cost or eligibility, or to learn more about Student Health Services or insurance coverage, call 544-8951 or 544-8391.

New math course offers an alternative to college algebra

By Brenda Iracheta
Staff Writer

A new math course is being offered to those students who seek class time completion.

Ray Simonsen, an assistant professor of mathematics, said that

Math 1332, or Math for Liberal Arts, offered for the first time this semester, satisfies the math core requirement. He said this course is for students who are not going into a math, science or technical field and wish to take something other than College Algebra to fulfill their

math requirement. Simonsen noted that if a student plans to take more math courses, then this class would not serve as a prerequisite.

"This course covers such things as logic and reasoning," Simonsen said.

Another course available to students is Math 1324, or Business Algebra. Simonsen said this course is for those students who are interested in the business aspect of the subject. Even though Business Algebra has been offered for several years, many students are not aware that the class is a valid fulfillment of the math requirement.

On another note, Simonsen said that as of this fall, math majors are now required to take eight credit hours of Calculus, four hours of Calculus I and four additional hours of the second part of the same class. In the past, Calculus was a three-credit-hour course. This new rule applies to first-time students only.

In light of the various math course choices, Simonsen said he expects College Algebra enrollment to decrease significantly next spring.

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Sports

Zayas banks on consistency

By Trey Mendez
Staff Writer

Joey Zayas, sophomore co-captain for the UTB/TSC Men's Golf Team, has been satisfied with his remarkably consistent performance of late, but isn't going to stop working hard to reach his goal. After having a stroke average of 79.5 last year, he has worked it down to 75.7 this year.

"I want to get my stroke average below 75 so that hopefully I can transfer to a four-year university update," Zayas said.

If he isn't picked up by another program, Zayas cites UT-Austin as his premiere choice for a degree. Though his grade-point average is a 2.5, he plans to bring that up by the time he transfers. Both of Zayas' older brothers went through the UT system. Zayas' mother and two of his best friends reside in Austin.

Zayas, 20, traces the beginning of his golf career back to the sixth grade when he hit a golf ball for the first time.

"I used to think golf was boring," he said, "but once I tried it, it was so challenging that I got hooked. I got the golf bug."

Zayas began to play competitively as a seventh-grader, but because St. Joseph's Academy didn't have a golf team for intermediate grades, he would practice on his own and enter tournaments independently. He gives his mother and father plenty of credit as his biggest influences in life and golf.

"My dad gave me the opportunity to



Joey Zayas

live between two golf courses and the financial support I needed to improve," he says. "My mom has been great to me, too."

One of the biggest decisions in his golfing career came when he transferred to Pace High School before his sophomore year. It was there that he teamed with his best friend in golf, Eddie Lucio III. About Lucio, Zayas remarks, "He showed me that practice was the key to improving, he helped push me into becoming a better player." Zayas' work ethic has never been in question. He can often be found on the practice range at Rancho Viejo hitting balls until dark.

After a high school golfing career that included a bid on the All-Valley team as a senior, Zayas was given a scholarship to attend UTB/TSC and has made the most of it, coming into his own this year after a personally disappointing freshman year.

"On a scale of 1 to 10, I would give myself a 6 as a freshman," he said. "This year I am more like an 8 because I am more consistent and dependable."

Zayas feels that his team is very close to coming together and playing to their maximum level.

"If we get our act together and practice like we should, we should go to nationals and compete," he said. "We have a good team, we just need more dedication."

Zayas has a great relationship with his teammates as well.

"I would describe us as being five brothers," he said.

Though he has no aspirations of turning professional, "It would be nice," Zayas said. "But first and foremost is to get a degree."

He plans to major in business and run his own operation, perhaps following in the footsteps of his father, a prominent land developer. "I want to be my own boss," Zayas said. "I don't like anyone telling me what to do."

Zayas' success stems from being at peace with himself and God, to whom he prays before every tournament. He lists his priorities as God, family, school and golf.

One thing for certain is that Zayas is willing to take the team on his shoulders and lead them to success. His philosophy on golf is simple: "Golf has got to come from within, you can't force it," he says. "I love it."



ROBERT CORRAJ-COLLIERIA

Students Gabriel Aleman (right) and George Green battle against Humberto Rodriguez, and assistant baseball coach George Solis during intramural table tennis doubles on Nov. 9. Solis and Rodriguez won the matches (19-21, 21-18, 21-19).



ROBERT HERRERA-COLLIERIA

Team Dirty, consisting of George Green, Salvador Hernández, Maribel Castillo, Ingrid de la Garza, Rachel Gutierrez, Joe Mike and Tony Torres, defeated four other teams competing in the coed volleyball intramural Nov. 15 at the Garza Gym. It was the last intramural competition for the fall semester. Spring competition is scheduled to begin Jan. 26 with a basketball free-throw shoot.

Sports

Scorpions place third at regionals

By Jessica Arriaga
Sports Editor

Team Sting returned home from the 1999 NJCAA Regional XIV Volleyball Championship in third place, losing the chance to compete for the national championship.

Playing at Panola College in Carthage on Nov. 12, the Scorpions defeated the Lady Agaches of Tyler Junior College 15-2, 15-9 and the Lady Bulldogs of Navarro College 7-15, 15-8, 15-8. They weren't as lucky on Saturday, losing to the Lee College Rebels 8-15, 4-15 and the Panola Pillies 11-15, 13-15. Lee took first place and Panola was second.

"We were definitely not at our peak," said Brian Funk, head volleyball coach.

Many of the Scorpions were recuperating from the flu and injuries.

"Bo [Contreras] had been coughing... Eli Clemente had a sore shoulder ... Jessica Kromer was not feeling good," Funk said.

Even with injuries, the Scorpions were able to put the ball into play.

"Vanessa [Haro] played well, I think I saw her play the best there all year," Funk said. "I am seeing her get better."

The Ladies closed their season 24-20 overall.

In last Friday's game against Tyler, Kromer and Caro Saenz both had six kills each.

Contreras assisted with five kills and 20 digs. Nicki Gonzalez also contributed with three aces and 22 assists.

In the facoff with Navarro, Haro had 11 kills and Contreras made 20 digs.

In the encounter with Lee on Saturday, Eli closed with five kills and six digs. Contreras contributed five kills and seven digs.

"Lee played very well," Funk said. "They were very pumped, and I think our team got a little nervous."

Later on Saturday, the Scorpions lost both matches against Panola. Both Haro and Eli made seven kills. Contreras closed with six kills and 8 digs.

Contreras was recognized as an "All Tournament" player at the regional tourney. She was one of six players chosen out of 13 teams.

Earlier this month, Eli Clemente and Contreras received "All Region" at the Region XIV Conference Tourney III. This was the last season for both players.

The Lee Rebels, who were undefeated this season, will represent the South Zone Conference at the NJCAA National Championship in Kansas Monday through Wednesday. Lee has not gone to nationals since 1997.

Last year, the Scorpions placed ninth in the national competition.

Run like the wind...



Photo Courtesy

Pedro Martinez, (right) passes his brother Miguel to win the intramural One-Mile Scorpion Run Nov. 10. Pedro ran the mile in 5:38 and Miguel in 5:54. The brothers were the only contestants.

Golf team ends semester at UTPA tournament

By Trey Mendez
Staff Writer

The UTB/TSC Men's Golf Team competed in its final tournament of the fall semester at the UT-Pan American Golf Classic held at Tierra Santa Golf Club in Weslaco on Nov. 8-9. The Scorpions finished in ninth place with a three-round composite team score of 916 (52 over par) at the 7100, par 72 golf course.

Conditions for the tournament were favorable, but according to co-captain Joey Zayas, the tough part came with playing 36 holes in one day.

"We played from 8 in the morning to 5:30 in the afternoon without a break," Zayas said. "It was a

long day."

UTB/TSC and South Texas Community College of McAllen were the only junior college teams competing against eight other four-year universities. STCC finished 10th.

This year, the Scorpions have found out what it takes to compete against bigger schools with four-year golf programs.

"Playing with four-year guys, is tough," Zayas said. "They are on another level. We have the talent, but they have better practice facilities."

The top finisher for UTB/TSC was Zayas, who tied for 25th at 78,75,72 (225).

"I could've done better," Zayas said. "I expect more from myself."

Finishing just behind Zayas on the team was captain Ricky Benavidez with scores of 73,75,79 (227) and Silvano Cristiano 79,73,77 (229). Freshman Nick Arnold, in his first tourney with the team, shot 82,77,81 (240). Jeremy Guevara finished with 77,81,84 (242).

With this semester of golf already completed, the focus of the team will move to next semester.

Zayas shared a few thoughts on how the team could improve for their next semester of competition:

"We are going to need a little more discipline and better practice techniques," he said. "We are all good golfers, we are going to need to put it all together. Next semester we will."

BITTY TRUMAN, LUTCF

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Off Campus

Harlingen festival celebrates diversity with feathers



By Debra Wilborn
 Collection Editor

Far above the Rio Grande Valley two super freeways converge. Travelers come from as far away as Alaska and may stay in the Valley or move through to Central and South America. These "flyways," major migratory routes, bring countless birds to South Texas every year. In the Lower Rio Grande Valley, bird enthusiasts have documented 484 avian species, both resident and migratory.

The Sixth Annual Rio Grande Valley Birding Festival, held at the Harlingen Municipal Auditorium Nov. 10-14, celebrated this great diversity with an estimated 8,000 birdwatchers from across the nation.

"Most important to me is the educational aspect of the festival. It has allowed a lot more people to understand what a place this truly is," Father Tom Pincelli, chairman of the steering committee for the festival, said in an interview, explaining that the Valley "probably rivals the Everglades" for biodiversity.

The big draw for the festival is its 50-plus birdwatching tours shuttling visitors to 16 Valley locations known for their variety of bird species. Locations included Falcon Dam, Bentsen-Rio Grande Valley State Park, South Padre Island, Brownsville and Harlingen. Most tours left at 6 a.m. to catch birds when they are most active. In the afternoon, bird-watchers could attend seminars on topics such as nature photography, South American avifauna, the ecology of Trinidad and a Spanish presentation on the basics of birding.

Thousands of schoolchildren watched last Friday as John Karger, director of Last Chance Forever in San Antonio, and a specially trained bay-winged hawk, demonstrated the ancient art of falconry. Karger displayed several species of owl, hawk, vulture and falcon, including an extremely rare luteo genis (mostly white) red-tailed hawk. The neotropical bird was almost dead when it was brought to Last Chance Forever, a center devoted to the rehabilitation

See "Festival," page 10

Parking Lot Closed

This great horned owl was one of many birds at the Rio Grande Valley Birding Festival.

The parking lot adjacent to the Science and Engineering Technology Building will be closed on Monday, November 22nd beginning at 3:00 p.m. It will reopen on Tuesday morning.

Thank you for your patience!



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Arts & Entertainment

Artist gives audience a "piece of her heart"

By Brenda Iracheta

Staff Writer

Renowned artist Carmen Lomas Garza gave a UTB/TSC audience of 300 "a little piece of [her] heart" during a presentation Nov. 11 at the SET-B Lecture Hall.

Before starting a slide presentation featuring her artwork, the Kingsville native told the audience that her mother inspired her to become an artist. She said her mother handpainted the "kieria tabla" (Mexican bingo tablet) for her family. Garza shared her personal background with the audience, in order to explain the many reasons why she became an artist.

"When I was 5, my brother came home crying from his first day of class because his teacher had slapped him on the knuckles for speaking Spanish," Garza said.

She said the incident caused a lot of discussion between her parents and the other Mexican-American families that had experienced similar troubles.

Her father, a World War II veteran like many of his peers, had returned from the battlefields seven years back, but racial discrimination was still present in Texas, Garza said. She said that the constant discrimination encountered by her family finally forced her father and mother to get involved with the American GI Forum, a WWII veterans organization of Mexican-Americans who fought for their rights.

"When my turn to go to school finally came, I was ridiculed for my accent," Garza said. She said that in high school, Anglo students were allowed to practice Spanish, while the Mexican-American students were hit with a paddle in the

back of the legs for speaking their native language.

"I graduated from high school confused, depressed, introverted and quite angry," Garza said.

Garza said the Chicano movement of the 1960s and '70s nourished her goal of becoming an artist.

Garza said that once while studying at Texas A&I (now Texas A&M-Kingsville) she witnessed a protest held by the Chicano students in the public high school where she was completing her student teaching. Eighty percent of the students in the school were Mexican-American and they protested the low education level at the institution, as well as the fact that there was only one Mexican-American teacher in the school, Garza said.



Carmen Lomas Garza

She said that later that evening, while having a conversation with a Chicano student outside the school, the superintendent passed

by in his car. The next day Garza was informed that the superintendent would not allow her to continue her student teaching. Garza said she had to continue her student teaching in Fallmar. A few months later, she found out that the 18-year-old boys who led that protest were immediately drafted and sent to Vietnam. Garza said that several of those boys lost legs, arms, and "one came home wrapped in the American flag."

"My goal as a Chicano artist is to start with the early collectors and recollections of my life and validate each event by depicting it as a visual art form," Garza said. I needed to re-visit and re-examine each event, she said.

Among the numerous paintings presented in her slide show, "El Milagro" depicts a crowd who has come to see the Virgin de Guadalupe, who appears before the astonished spectators. Another painting illustrates her mother placing a burning cone-shaped newspaper in her father's car to extract the water in it. A bucket of water sits nearby. This is a tradi-

See "Artist," page 10



12 Days
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Telephone Registration for undergraduate and graduate courses for the Spring 2000 semester continues through WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1ST

The Course Schedule is online!

View the Spring 2000 course schedule on the web at www.utb.edu. Printed course schedules will be available mid-week at the UTB/TSC Enrollment Office, HEB stores, and the school district's main offices.

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Consejos para finales

Por **Ildefonso Ortiz**
Reportero

El semestre se acaba y cada día se acercan más los exámenes finales. Está empezando la recta final, es ahora cuando se decide quien pasará el semestre y quien se verá en la necesidad de tomar esa clase de nuevo el semestre que viene. Es en este tiempo cuando la mayoría de los estudiantes tienen un nivel de estrés por las nubes.

Es por eso que las personas del Centro de Asistencia al Aprendizaje (Learning Assistance Center) nos han proporcionado algunos tips para poder tener una experiencia más grata con estos exámenes finales.

Uno de los tips es preparar tus notas para que estés familiarizado con el tipo de preguntas que te puedes encontrar en el examen. Una forma de prepararte es hacerlo en grupo. Según Bonnie Vasquez, una especialista en aprendizaje, al estudiar en grupo uno puede abrir su criterio y estudiar algunas áreas que anteriormente no les habrían dado importancia y podrían haber estado en el examen.

Según Samantha Rivera, Sue Rimby y Rebecca Dae, tatonas de escritura, hay varias cosas que puede uno hacer para sobresalir en los ensayos que vienen incluidos en algunos exámenes. Lo primero que se debe hacer es organizar tus ideas

para poder estar seguro que el ensayo conteste la pregunta que se ha hecho. Ellas dijeron que lo que muchas personas hacen es que preparan un ensayo antes de tiempo y ese ensayo a veces no necesariamente responde la pregunta que el instructor hizo. Un factor importante que los estudiantes deben de recordar es el tiempo, pues a algunos estudiantes se les va el tiempo en una pregunta y se les agota la mayor parte del tiempo y por lo tanto no contestan las demás preguntas del examen con la atención necesaria. Rimby, Rivera y Dae comentaron que es importante tener algún tipo de orden para los ensayos.

Según Edgar Vasquez, tutor de matemáticas, las personas que tienen problemas en matemáticas, necesitan relajarse. Generalmente, cuando se le tiene miedo a matemáticas es porque esas personas han tenido algún problema con la materia y tienen cierta ansiedad. Lo que esas personas necesitan hacer es tomarse su tiempo y cuando hagan los problemas hacerlos con extrema precaución pues es muy fácil hacer errores inconscientes.

El 23 de noviembre, el Centro de Asistencia al Aprendizaje tendrá una cátedra sobre cómo prepararse para exámenes con ensayos desde las 12:15 p.m. hasta la 1:15 p.m. en el edificio Norte 116.



BOB SANAGREDO/PHOTO COLLEGE

Una estudiante y un miembro de la fuerza acerca observan una réplica de un avión durante el festejo del día de los veteranos en el campus. Más de 200 personas asistieron al evento.

Veteranos recordados aquí

Por **Daniela Ortega**
Reportera

Una vez más en el campus de UTR/SC se llevó a cabo un homenaje en el día memorial de los veteranos para todos aquellos que han arrojado sus vidas en batallas por la libertad de Estados Unidos.

Este homenaje inició a las 11 de la mañana en el asta de la bandera, enfrente del edificio Gorgey, ante la presencia de 200 personas, entre ellos: sargentos, oficiales, comandantes y reservas de la armada, estudiantes y perso-

UTR/SC: Ignacio Menz, Joshua Tajada, Ricardo Lopez y Joe Ramirez, alumnos de la escuela Homer Hanna trazon la bandera de los Estados Unidos en conmemoración de los veteranos.

Edward Moore, veterano quien participo en 1970 en Vietnam, retirado en 1992, quien tiene 3 pensiones. dijo: "bienvenidos sean los veteranos federales, este es un día muy especial en todos los Estados Unidos, el día once del mes once, variedad de ceremonias se están realizando en todo el país. En septiembre se cumplirán 100 años del aniversario de los veteranos de guerras extranjeras (VFW), y para cada uno que ha servido como veterano en la guerra, le aplaudimos.

"Tuvo un tiempo en que muchos americanos sabían personalmente el significado de servir, que de un modo u otro, ofrecimos días de nuestra vida a nuestro país.

"Nuestro día de celebración memorial por aquellos que no regresaron se ha convertido en un día de compasión. Hoy los veteranos tienen una obligación especial, la que los que mantienen la llama encendida de nuestra memoria nacional. Los veteranos saben más que otro

americano de los ideales de democracia y libertad que siempre están encadenados al servicio de nuestras fuerzas...

"Algunos de ustedes que hayan experimentado estar en batalla saben que hay un lado bueno que es el orgullo de haber participado, cada vez que un amigo compañero o vecino mencionen Segunda Guerra Mundial, Korea, Vietnam, tormenta del desierto, Panamá y otras naciones en donde personal militar haya servido. Pueden decir silenciosamente yo estuve ahí, fui un soldado, hice la diferencia.

"El lado obscuro es la tristeza del precio de cumplir, es el de la pérdida y desesperación que nos hunde si alguien lo recuerda o si u alguien le importa.

"Si, eres veterano y estás orgulloso de serlo pero pagas el precio que te distingue".

Aviones de la confederación de la fuerza aérea pasaron mientras el homenaje estaba concluyendo. El padre Terence Gortzi, quien oficia la misa semanal en el Newman Center, hizo una oración por los veteranos, y dijo: "mantengamos en mente a los hombres valerosos en la armada que han dado su vida por servir a nuestro país".

Estudiante de hoy

Por **Juana María Grimardo**
Reportera

Nombre: Julie Olvera
Edad: 28 años

Reconocimientos: Cuadro de honor del Decano, beca de Excelencia Continua, beca del Instituto Nacional de Hispanos

Preparación: Gladys Porter

Especialidad: Educación, con certificación en educación bilingüe, inglés y educación física.

Reto más grande: Terminar la carrera como maestra, continuar mis estudios, y recibir la maestría en administración de educación, y algún día recibir un doctorado.

Metas: "En mayo del 2000 terminará la carrera, recibir el título de maestra. Es algo que espero desde

hace 5 años y otra de mis metas es llegar a ser una persona modelo para todos los estudiantes y ayudar a los alumnos para que continúen con sus estudios".

Pasatiempo: "Me gusta pasar parte de mi tiempo en el jardín, convivir y estar con mi familia y también me gusta pescar".

Anécdota: "Durante los cuatro años y medio que yo he estado aquí en la universidad he tenido muchas buenas experiencias, sobre todo que he recibido el apoyo de la directora de la oficina de consejería, Hilda Silva, además del ambiente estudiantil aquí en la universidad y todo lo que he aprendido por medio de sus profesores".

¿Qué ha hecho en beneficio de tu comunidad? "He participado de



Julie Olvera

voluntaria en el programa HOSTS [Help One Student to Succeed] and he sido voluntaria en el Boys & Girls Club de Brownsville".

"Si pudieras cambiar algo en el campus, ¿qué harías?" "Me gustaría que se implementaran más grupos de deportes, como baloncesto, natación, etc".



Posada and Pastorela

December 3, 1999

7:00 p.m.

The Posada will begin at the Free Speech Area followed by the annual Pastorela at the Marion Hedrick Smith Amphitheatre and will conclude with the breaking of the piñata, food booths, games, and musical entertainment at the Endowment Courtyard.

Everyone is encouraged to attend.

For more information contact the Office of Student Activities at 983-7116.

