

The Collegian

The University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College

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Friday, December 3, 1999

Rash of car break-ins

By Melissa Cantu
Collegian Online Editor

Student Perla Munoz felt violated when she found her 1984 gold Grand Marquis broken into at the library parking lot Nov. 17. Taken were an organizer, which contained her Social Security card, birth certificate, driver's license, credit cards and important phone numbers. Also stolen were a black case with 60 CDs and the title to her car. The perpetrator broke a window to gain access.

Munoz works at Academic Computing in the library, so she parks at the lot almost every day. She said now she cannot work without worrying that this may happen again.

"It's not the same after this happens to you," she said. "It took me the whole day to recover. I was very upset."

As she was leaving work on Nov. 21, Munoz found a pickup truck broken into in the same parking lot and quickly reported it to Campus Police.

Munoz began to hear of other incidents of break-ins here. Her co-worker, Alberto Tudon, found his car broken into Nov. 23.

They both did the right thing by quickly filing a police report, but this is not always done.

Carlos Gracia, of Information Systems, said his 1990 Toyota Corolla was burglarized this summer outside

See "Crime," page 2

World oceans preserve history of humanity

By Debra Wilborn
Collegian Editor

UTB/TSC's Distinguished Lecture Series got off to a promising start Nov. 22 with its inaugural speaker Robert Ballard, director of the Center for Marine Exploration at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution in Massachusetts. Ballard had the audience's undivided attention in the sold-out SET-B Lecture Hall as he told of his discovery of the Titanic, which launched him into international fame and of his other record-breaking and ambitious projects. A question-and-answer session followed the two-hour

presentation. "There were some who wanted a really big-name speaker like Colin Powell or Mikhail Gorbachev," said Randy Whittington, who chaired the selection

committee. "We said no because we wanted someone more education oriented." Ballard, recently named the National Geographic Society's Explorer in Residence for the next

See "Board," page 6



Photo by Colleen

Robert Ballard sports a Scorpions baseball cap as he talks with a student after the lecture Nov. 23.



Photo by Colleen

Zulema Williams (far right) directs the cast of "Espiritu de Navidad," the shepherd's play set for 7 tonight during the Posada/Pastorela in the SET-B Lecture Hall. Cast members are (standing, from left) Saul Ramirez, Edith Castañeda, Sergio Garcia, Ana Laura Rodriguez, Maria Jose Cano, Hilda Rubi Garza and Patricia Hinojosa. Seated: Elizabeth Garcia and Guillermo Martin. La Posada, featuring music, game and food booths, follows the play. Admission to the event is free. See story in Tiempo Nuevo, Page 15.

Board honors Soccer Club

By Debra Wilborn
Collegian Editor

The UTB/TSC Men's Soccer Club presented the second-place trophy it won in the Texas Collegiate Soccer League championship tournament to university President Juliet V. Garcia, who offered players some hope of financial support in the future.

The presentation was made during the Nov. 16 meeting of the Southmost Union Junior College board of trustees. Present were chairman Mary Rose Cardenas, board members Dolly Zimmerman, Chester Gonzalez, Roberto Robles and David Oliveira. Secretary Rosemary Breedlove was out of the country.

The soccer club, which finished the fall season at second place in state and with a record of 8 wins, 1 loss and 1 tie, also gave T-shirts to board members. Garcia explained to the board that the difference between a team and a club is that "a team gets lots of money." The majority of the club's expenses are paid with money from fund-raises. Garcia said that when UTB/TSC is finan-

cially strong enough, the team will be supported "like [they] deserve."

Fine Arts Department Chair Sue Zanne Urbis gave a report on the department's merger ensemble scholarships. Despite having award-winning vocalists and jazz band and "the largest guitar department south of Austin," Urbis said, scholarships available to students are very small. Ensembles are open to all majors, which is why 80 percent of ensemble scholarships were offered to non-music majors last summer. Urbis said the typical ensemble scholarship is \$75 per semester. Other universities usually offer around \$500 per semester. Over the last year, the Fine Arts Department has brought in more than \$100,000 in revenue for the university. Urbis reasons that scholarship funds should therefore be considered seed money for additional revenues.

"There is a tremendous amount of talent in the Brownsville area," Urbis said. "We are doing our very best to bring the very best

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See "Board," page 7

On Campus

Christmas is coming...



Christmas is just around the corner, but to the young and the young at heart it is already here. Pictured above, a little boy enjoys one of the animatronic teddy bear displays at Sunrise Mall.

"Crime" Continued from page 1

South Hall. The window was broken and it appeared to him that the perpetrator attempted to steal the car stereo. However, Gracia did not report the break-in to Campus Police.

"I didn't think they would do anything," Gracia said. "After this happened, then I started to hear about other break-ins."

But Police Chief Juan Cardosa says it's important to report the incidents.

"Lots of students don't call," Cardosa said.

The police chief said there is a suspect in the break-ins and a warrant has been issued for his arrest.

As of press time Wednesday, no arrests had been reported.

Munoz felt compelled to take action after her car was burglarized. She quickly began to gather names of other burglary victims. Within a few hours, she found the names of four victims. She then took all the information to The

Collegian.

"This is not new, this has been going on," Munoz said of the break-ins.

In a Nov. 5 article about an escort service on campus formed to "deter any criminal element that may be here," Cardosa said property crimes, such as vandalism and theft, are "extremely low" here, as are incidents of violent crime.

However, statistics provided by the department show otherwise.

Since the start of the semester, there have been a total of 32 burglaries of a vehicle. In September, there were seven burglaries of a vehicle and one motor vehicle

theft; for October, there were 17 burglaries of a vehicle and one motor vehicle theft; for November, there were eight burglaries of a vehicle and one motor vehicle theft.

No burglaries were reported in 1998, according to the department's Web page.

The number of recent break-ins at UTB/TSC surprised police officials at UT-Pan American in Edinburg.

"Wow, that's pretty high," Sgt. Delma Lopez of Campus Police at UTPA said about the break-ins here.

UTPA had 41 car break-ins for

See "Crime," page 17

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Briefs

A set of keys was found recently in the second-floor women's bathroom (in front of the chemistry lab) in SET-B. For more information, see Celia Flores-Feist, associate professor of Physical Sciences, in Q2.402.

Final exam schedules may be picked up at the Enrollment Office, located in Tandy 105.

The Student Activities Programming Board is collecting new and used toys through Dec. 14. The toys will be donated to a children's shelter in Matamoros. For more information, call the Office of Student Activities at 544-8264.

The Student Activities Office is accepting canned food through Dec. 14 for the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 2035's Twelve Days of Christmas food drive. The food will be distributed to needy families from Dec. 25 through Jan. 6. For more information, call the Office of Student Activities at 544-8264.

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Our campus community has been given the opportunity to nominate deserving faculty for the *National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development* (NISOD) Award. The NISOD Award is intended to "reinforce the primacy of teaching and to celebrate both instructors and programs that make good on the promise of the open door." It is specifically intended to honor excellence in teaching activities among community college faculty. Teaching activities include classroom teaching, advising, and project supervision.

Nomination Guidelines

The nominee must be a teacher of community college courses (i.e., freshmen or sophomore level);

A colleague or student may nominate a faculty member;

To submit a nomination, provide a statement describing your reasons for believing that the faculty member you are nominating demonstrates excellence in teaching. For example, excellent teachers may demonstrate such characteristics as: in-depth knowledge of the subject, communication skills, enthusiasm, accessibility to students, motivation, humor, excitement about her or his subject, ability to involve students in discussion, etc.

Nominations must be submitted by **January 19, 2000** to:
Dean of Graduate Studies and Sponsored Programs
Champion Hall, 1st floor (corner of Gorgas & May)

For more information, call the Student Government Association office at 983-7254.

The Student Government Association wishes you a safe and happy holiday season.

Off Campus

Future of Texas A&M Bonfire in question

By Rachel Benavidez
Staff Writer

Weeks after the Texas A&M University tragedy, the debate over the future of the bonfire continues.

What should have been the 90th year of a proud tradition ended in inconceivable tragedy in College Station, when the bonfire collapsed in the early morning hours of Nov. 18, igniting 27 and killing 12 students, now known as "The 12 Fallen."

The bonfire tradition began in 1909 to symbolize the Aggies' "burning desire" to beat rival school University of Texas, according to the 1997 Aggiedad yearbook. It is designed to collapse while it is ablaze to symbolize the fall of the Texas Longhorns on the playing field.

With the loss of life, people across the state are asking whether the tradition should be preserved. For A&M students, this may be one tradition they will have to learn to live without.

The bonfire is one of many traditions Texas A&M students hold dear. However, criticism of the bonfire's safety continues to grow. Some have denounced the tradition as "an accident waiting to happen." Yet support for the ritual is resounding. In an interview with CNN, Gov. George W. Bush offered his sympathy "to the families and friends of those hurt or killed" in the bonfire collapse, but said that he "would like to see the tradition continue."

"The traditions are why I went there," Andrew Torn, a Corpus Christi native, said. "They are part of the appeal."

Many Valleyites attend A&M, although none was involved in the deadly collapse.

In a letter to A&M President Roy Bowen dated Nov. 20, the UT System Student Advisory Council expressed its condolences on behalf of the UT System student body. UTB/TC students Steven S. King, Letari C. Ramirez and Meredith L. Tarpans serve on the advisory council.

Memorial services and prayer vigils were held for the victims in Harlingen and McAllen, and Valley Baptist Medical Center in Harlingen hosted a blood drive for those hurt.

Brownsville resident Lisa Parr and her son Jason, a freshman at A&M, have differing opinions about the bonfire's future.

"As a parent, I couldn't breathe until I knew Jason was all right," Parr said. "I don't think I could go through that again."

Jason sympathizes with his

mother's concerns.

"I know it must have been scary for her," he said. "... Everyone was scared." But he supports "keeping the tradition alive."

"The tradition shouldn't die with the 12 fallen," he said. "They would not have wanted it that way."

Former UTB/TC student and current A&M student Lynn Peña could hardly speak on the night of the accident.

"There are no words...you just can't explain it," she said.

"It's hard to describe how I feel," Peña said in the days following the accident. "I don't think reality has hit us yet.... I'm still in shock and at a loss for words."

In a comment representative of the anxiety felt on the A&M campus, she said, "The Aggie spirit has been uplifting.... I am so proud to be a part of our family."

Jamie Lynn Lucio, also a Brownsville native and current A&M student, shares sentiments

of camaraderie and tradition; however, she dissents from popular opinion.

"Concern for safety has to win out over tradition," Lucio said. "Maybe it can be replaced with a rally in remembrance of those students.... I know I will forever draw inspiration from them and this experience."

Every year, thousands of A&M students participate in building the pyramid, which is doused with jet fuel and lit on the eve of the game against UT. Last year, 70,000 people attended the bonfire.

UTB/TC graduate and current A&M Laredo student Manuel A. Montemayor attended Texas A&M and worked on the bonfire from 1994-97. The experience has remained an important part of his life. He remembers attending what is called a "cot class," where volunteers are instructed on "what safety precautions are to be taken,

See "Bonfire," page 13

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Viewpoint

Dear Santa, Make them a team

By Jessica Arriaga
Sports Editor

Soon it will be Christmas and while most kids are sending Santa Claus their letters, many soccer fans are wishing that the UTB/TSC Men's Soccer Club becomes a team. It is no exaggeration to say by now that the Men's Soccer Club has proved that where there is a will, there is a way.

Many are hoping that after ranking No. 1 in the Texas Collegiate Soccer League for the last two years and winning second place in the state playoffs both years, the club can have a chance to represent this university as a team.

The difference between a team and a club is money, among other things. A soccer team, like baseball, volleyball and golf teams, would receive scholarships, housing, tuition, books and travel money. As a club, the soccer players must fend for themselves.

For the last two years, I have seen the sacrifices these men made to win those trophies.

When you see a soccer player on campus, ask him to tell you about their trips to away games. Those experiences range from their cars breaking down in the middle of the road to sharing a hotel room with 15 other teammates to save money.

Currently, the club practices at the Little League baseball field. They use traffic cones, and even backpacks, as goal posts.

The university provides all clubs with some money. UTB/TSC has been generous enough to give the Men's Soccer Club uniforms. This year, it also helped by letting the club use school vans for trips on occasion. The club still had to pay for mileage. During the first year, many players took their own cars, packing their teammates in.

While members of official UTB/TSC teams are not allowed to work, many soccer players hold part-time jobs, go to school full time and still manage to make daily practice and at least one game each weekend.

In addition, the club must conduct fund-raisers (such as selling fajita tacos, T-shirts) to make enough money to pay for their travel and other team expenses.

I am amazed by the will and determination of these players, given their limited funds and facilities. Those who have attended their games have seen the dedication these men have to play the best they can.

The players' hard work has paid off. The UTB/TSC Men Soccer Club closed the season with a record of 8 wins, 1 tie,

and 1 loss to capture first place in the South Conference. They played against Texas A&M-Kingsville, UT-San Antonio, Our Lady of the Lake University, Sam Houston State University, Stephen F. Austin University, Lamar University, and the University of Houston.

The club advanced to the state playoffs on Nov. 5-7 and advanced all the way to the championship game by beating the University of Texas at Arlington and Abilene Christian University. They were defeated 2-1 by Sam Houston in the championship game.

On Nov. 16, Texas Southmost College board of trustees recognized the club's accomplishments. It was very sad to hear, however, that the club must keep representing this university without major financial support from the university.

UTB/TSC President Juliet V. Garcia told the soccer club



Photo by Amanda Cordero

UTB/TSC Men's Soccer Club captain Jaime Sandoval presents President Juliet V. Garcia with the second-place trophy the club won at the state playoffs and a T-shirt during the Nov. 16 Texas Southmost College board of trustees meeting.

that day: "I hope our finances someday are strong enough ... to support you."

If the university had three men's athletic programs and three women's athletic programs, they could join the National Collegiate Athletic Association and the soccer players could play against teams such as UT-Austin,

Texas A&M University and Texas Tech.

Garcia and the board of trustees should see that the determination, talent and recognition that the Men's Soccer Club brings to the university is worth making it an official team.

If you are a soccer fan, write your letter to Santa Claus now.



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.

Collegian Editor - Debra Wilson

Collegian Office Editor - Melissa Cant

Sports Editor - Jessica Arriaga

Advertising Manager - Robert Bellman

Advertising Representatives - Michael Lawrence, Tonya Schriber

Staff Writers - Rachel Hernandez, Arnie Gonzalez, Brenda Ischeles, Daniela Ortega, Doreen Orell, Leslie Palomares, Maricela Gonzalez, Josefina Duarte, Yveta Chacha, Tye Mendez

Graphic Artist - Robert Bellman

Photographers - Robert Conner, Eric R. Tripp, Chris Aguilar, Robert Hornbeck, Fred Garcia, M. Rodriguez, Vanessa Palacios

Student Publications Coordinator - Annett Cornejo

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The Collegian
80 Fort Brown
Brownsville, Texas 78520
e-mail: collegian@utbl.utb.edu
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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.

On Campus

Club spotlight

Name: Mathematicians Interested in Technology
Established: Spring 1999
Purpose: To promote math as a non-stressful subject and to integrate technology into math courses.
Sponsors: Sessia Wyche and Zhong-Ling Xu
President: Luis Sanchez
Vice President: Tino Ruiz
Secretary: Joe Canales
Treasurer: Alma Elizondo
Historian: Maribel Sanchez
Membership: 30
Meeting time and place: 1:30 p.m. the first and third Friday of each month in Q2.308.

Fund-raisers: Bake sales
Community Service: Free tutoring, volunteering at Bos at the Zoo and the Beach Cleanup

Recruitment: Open to all students who have a minimum 2.0 GPA

Membership Fee: One-time \$10 fee

For more information: e-mail at mit@utb1.utb.edu

—Compiled by Brenda Lee Tracheta



Members of Mathematicians Interested in Technology are (from left) Luis Sanchez, president; Maribel Sanchez, historian; Tino Ruiz, vice president; Alma Elizondo, treasurer, and Jose Canales, secretary.

The Collegian Online



www.sa.utb.edu/collegian/

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On Campus

"Ballard"

Continued from page 1

five years, was at the top of the list.

On Nov. 23, Ballard gave a free lecture for UTB/TSC students. Superintendents, science department chairmen and select students from local high schools were also invited. Whittington said they are trying to generate interest in the Jason project.

The Jason Foundation for Education is one of the world's largest distance education programs, involving 750,000 students and 20,000 teachers this year. Jason is underwritten by major corporations, such as EDSS, Sprint, Sun Microsystems and Exxon.

"Jason is also a wonderful place for children to learn about the power of the Internet," said Ballard, showing a slide of a boy at the controls of an ROV (remotely operated vehicle) on the sea floor thousands of miles away.

Ballard calls this long-distance interaction with

machines a "telepresence" and he developed the concept to eliminate a five-hour commute. The average depth of the ocean is 12,000 feet. In a manned submersible, ALVIN for example, it takes 2.5 hours to go that far down where it can stay for only a few hours before making another 2.5-hour trip back to the surface.

While teaching at Stanford, Ballard found a way to eliminate this "long ride in a freezing elevator" with his Argos/Jason ROV system. Unlike humans descending to the sea floor every day, an ROV can be left on the bottom as long as needed. Due to further advances in telecommunications, a telepresence with an ROV can be established from anywhere on Earth.

As technology progresses, more and more expeditions become possible. The next degree of freedom after the ROV is the untethered Automated Underwater Vehicle (AUV). On Ballard's in-fund list using such technology are Sir Ernest

Shackleton's Endurance, lost in 9,000 feet of water under an Antarctic ice shelf, and the Erbus and Terror of Sir John Franklin's final expedition to the Canadian Arctic.

Asked if he has ever worked in the Gulf of Mexico, Ballard explained that he deals mostly with ancient antiquity. A current project that may have application in the Gulf states is an examination of the Continental Shelf off New England. Working in conjunction with the Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center, Ballard and team are searching for Paleo-Indian artifacts underwater. During the Ice Ages, the Shelf was dry land and should still show evidence of habitation. Fishing trawlers, which inadvertently destroy the sea floor, complicates the work.

Ballard says he does his best to protect his finds. He and his team lobbied to get the Titanic Memorial Act passed in the 1980s. However, the act had no real power because the wreck lay in international waters. Since salvage is a legal business, Ballard decided the best way to protect subsequent finds was to not divulge their exact location.

Others had failed to find the Titanic because the search area was too large. Rather than "mow the lawn" with side-scanning sonar across hundreds of miles of ocean in search of the ship's hull, Ballard's team sent ROVs to the bottom with high-resolution cameras looking for the miles-long debris trail. Once the trail was found, the team followed it north until they spotted the wreck. Unfortunately, the start of the storm season postponed exploration efforts until the following year.

After discovering and exploring the wreck of the Titanic in 1985-86, Ballard found the German battleship Bismarck in '88-'89, the lost

Give and you will receive



SGA President Alberto Perez (left) and Representative for Liberal Arts Graduate Students C.E. Villoraal sit under a pile of donated goods for Proyecto Tarahumara. They will continue collecting at the SGA Office and Student Leadership Room until the last day of classes. For more information, call 542-2634 or 361-1947.

fleet of Guadalcanal in '91-'92 and in May '98 the U.S. aircraft carrier Yorktown, lost at Midway. However, Ballard's first major expedition did not deal with ships.

In the summer of 1973, Ballard was one of the first people to dive on the Mid Ocean Ridge, an undersea chain of mountains stretching 40,000 miles from the North Pole to the San Andreas Fault via the Atlantic, Indian and Pacific oceans. The ridge, mapped by cartographer Marie Tharp in the 1940-50s, is the largest feature on Earth yet went unexplored until the 1970s. Ballard says the vast majority of the oceans are still unexplored. Just this year an American dove in an American submersible for the first time in the Southern Hemisphere.

Taking into account that the Mid Ocean Ridge has magma chambers near the sea floor

thousands of feet below the ocean surface, the exploration team expected to find something similar to an underwater Yellowstone National Park, complete with geysers and boiling "mud pots." The team found the Black Smokers, dark jets of super-heated water issuing from the sea floor. The water leeches minerals from the hot rocks underground. As the hot water mixes with the much cooler water around it the minerals come out of suspension in a very pure state, giving the water streams a smoky look.

When the submersible ALVIN got too close to one of the Black Smokers, the Ventral effect from the water sucking past sucked the sub toward the stream and flipped it upside-down. A thermostat put into the stream registered temperatures of the

Dig them books!



PHOTO COURTESY OF MASON SERVICE

A ground-breaking ceremony was held Nov. 23 for the new bookstore on campus. Construction of the facility, which will be next to the amphitheater, is scheduled to be completed in fall 2000. Shown at the ceremony are (from left) Gene Widder, Texas Bookstore Co. regional manager; Brownsville Mayor Blanca Velaz; Bill Wilson, of Wilson Construction Co.; UTB/TSC President Juliet V. Garcia; Brent Dyer, Texas Bookstore Co. president, and state Rep. Jim Solis.

On Campus

ACROSS

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4. Sack of cards
11. Aerial period
14. Warning signal
17. Enslavement
19. Honey after you
17. Yellow-headed
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19. Sylvia's Turner
20. Tact for many
22. Move quickly
23. Puffs of air
26. Leader (noun)
27. Quasimodo
31. Ready for
32. Gaiter
33. Gaiter
33. Gaiter's utility
34. Pines
35. Kitten
38. Very important
39. Puffs of air
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59. Lewis' holiday
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"Board" Continued from page 1

UTB/TSC*

Trustee Robles offered to work out a fund-raiser for the department if Cubis could set a reasonable goal. Utbis was ready with the numbers, saying the minimum was \$75,000.

Wayne Moore, vice president for Administration and Partnership Affairs, briefed the board on the Port Mansfield Station and Housing property, surplus federal land that UTB/TSC has the opportunity to acquire. Once a Coast Guard station, the property could pass into UTB/TSC ownership at no expense to the university if it is used for educational purposes within one year of the transfer. Moore said the facilities are in "great shape" and predicted the university could use it within one month. The main use for the property would be to bring continuing education programs to the north end of the college district. In addition to an office building, kitchen,

housing and storage facilities, the station property also has a deep-water dock. Although UTB/TSC doesn't have its own boat, the dock would allow UTB/TSC to take advantage of vessels from other universities.

The partnership advisory report focused on a recent visit to the campus by three new UT System regents, Woody Hunt, Raul Romero and Charles Miller.

"I think it was very informative for them," trustee Oliveira said. "We made them aware of some unique issues we have down here."

Oliviera added that the regents were pleased with some of the university's measures to improve EXCET scores and referred to the new board of regents as "results-oriented and not afraid to ask the tough questions."

Garcia read from a report given by Miller to the full board of regents in Dallas shortly after his visit to Brownsville. Miller said in the report that he better understood the UTB/TSC partnership and thought it was "a very effective

arrangement."

Raymond Rodriguez, vice president for Academic Affairs, reported that the Academic Affairs Partnership Committee meeting focused on the program review process. Program reviews are conducted every five years. The most recently reviewed departments are Educational Administration, Counseling and Guidance and Modern Languages. Rodrigues said the first two departments are heavily attended by students. There was some discussion as to whether the job market warrants high numbers of students. However, reports indicate many of the students are willing to either wait for a job opening at Valley schools or turn to private practices for work.

Rodriguez also informed the board that the Modern Languages Department graduates more Hispanics than any other similar department in the nation. The department is moving toward establishing an associate's degree in Translation Studies and a computer lab.

As part of the Business Affairs Partnership Committee meeting report, Moore recommended approval of bids and payments on several projects at UTB/TSC, all of which were approved. Bids recommended were \$20,925 submitted by R.L. Abatement of Westaco for asbestos removal in three USDA buildings; \$19,400 submitted by Bar-L Construction for the installation of an above-ground fuel storage tank; \$184,705 for air conditioning control work in North and South halls by Ward Systems. The board voted to begin accepting bids for repair and improvements on electrical systems in the Jacob Brown Civic Center and for construction of the St. Charles Street parking lot behind the John Young House. Moore recommended approval of final payment on the Continuing Education parking area.

Another item receiving approval was the university's application for an Economic Development Administration grant with the U.S. Department of Commerce to renovate up two of

the old USDA buildings. If the grant is obtained, the buildings will be used as "business incubators," Moore said.

One budget amendment in two parts was approved; \$154,486 was added to the Jacob Brown Civic Center budget account for a total of \$769,538. The money was "rolled over" from the previous budget to cover replacement of the curtains and stage rigging in the center that was not completed last year. To establish a maintenance and operation account for St. Charles Street property, \$25,000 was added to the budget.

The Student Affairs Partnership Committee report given by Ines Gonzalez discussed the building program for the Student Union, "the living room of the campus." As stated in a building usage plan, the new Student Union will have about 27,300 square feet, compared with 16,000 in the current building. Inside will be a food court, a general purpose room able to accommodate a standing

See "Board," page 17

Sports

Sports Briefs

The UTB/TSC first annual Athletic Fund-raising Banquet will be held at 7 p.m. Dec. 10 in the Student Center. PGA professional Mike Binsley will be the guest speaker. Tickets are \$30 and include dinner. To purchase a ticket, visit the Athletics Office in the Garza Gym or contact Danny Ramirez at 544-8911.

BAD (Business Affairs Division) Doing Good will sponsor its first softball tournament at 9 a.m. Dec. 11 at Morningside Park. The entry fee is \$100 and the deadline to enter is Dec. 9. Trophies will be awarded to first-, second- and third-place teams. Music will be provided by DJ Eclipse. Proceeds will benefit the UTB/TSC Toy Drive and Be An Angel. For more information, call Albert Aguilar at 986-2839, Mike Hernandez at 542-0988, Albert Aguilar Jr. at 546-3270 or Maria Ruth Torres at 544-3898.

Fall 1999 Sports photos for sale at The Collegian through Dec. 10. Contact Jessica Arriaga at 544-8263.

Baseball team shaping up for season

By Maricela Gonzalez
Staff Writer

Head Baseball Coach Eric Gonzalez expects his team to be on fire in the spring semester.

"Expect for us to do better than last year," Gonzalez said.

Gonzalez cites the improvement and progress the team is making.

"Overall, the players are working hard and they will be in fantastic shape for the coming season," Gonzalez said.

Gonzalez, who has been at UTB/TSC for four years, said, "Ever since I have gotten here, we've been establishing a good program."

But he notes that other teams in the conference will be tough to beat.

"There is a lot of good talent, so there will be a lot of competition," Gonzalez said.

During the fall, the baseball team played scrimmages against other colleges.

Were the scrimmages good practice for the Scorpions?

"Yes, they were because our players got to see the quality of baseball teams that they will be playing in the spring," Gonzalez said.

Assistant Coach Patrick Reid resigned last month, so Gonzalez is looking for a replacement.

NCAA colleges are noticing the work of some Scorpions, and Gonzalez supports the interest of these top colleges. The National College Athletic Association is a four-year school program that includes UT-Austin and Texas A&M. UTB/TSC is in the National Junior College Athletic Association Division 1.

Gonzalez wants to assist his play-

ers in the opportunity to play at this level.

"At this point there are three players that might get the opportunity to play Division I baseball," Gonzalez said. It is the top division in the country.

Among them is shortstop Raul Muñoz, who is being looked at by the Longhorns, Gonzalez said. Several other prestigious colleges are looking at pitcher J.R. Werts.

"Foremost, they need to perform really well in the game and meet all requirements by having the grades to transfer," Gonzalez said.


Last season, the Scorpions placed 5th overall but the number of their conference wins doubled.

"Last year we won more conference games than we had in 15 years," Gonzalez said. "We won 14 conference games and just missed the playoffs."

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Benavidez glad to be home from Houston

By Trey Mendez
Staff Writer

Ricky Benavidez, sophomore team captain for the Men's Golf Team, is glad to be back in Brownsville after spending his first year after graduation at the University of Houston. Benavidez enjoys being back because he is close to home and closer to his little brother, to whom he is a role model.

"It's important for me to be around. I am really enjoying watching him grow up," Benavidez said.

It is not unlikely for Benavidez to think of others, he is the prototypical

team leader for the up-and-coming golf program at UTB/TSC. At Pace High School, he was a member of the National Honor Society and in the Top 5% of his graduating class. Benavidez currently carries a grade-point average of 3.5 and is working toward a career in pharmacy.

Benavidez began putting when he was 3 years old but didn't actually start hitting golf balls until he was 8. It was then that he began to play competitively in summer tournaments. Benavidez credits his father as being his biggest influence in golf.

"He was there when I first started and he has always supported me," Benavidez said.

In high school, Benavidez competed in baseball, tennis and golf. As a baseball player, he netted himself an all-district first team selection as a senior as well as all-district and all-Valley honors in golf.

Benavidez has stated that he will surely transfer after the spring semester, and has narrowed his choices down to the University of Texas at Austin or the University of Houston. That is the plan he says, unless he is offered a

scholarship to play golf. Lately Benavidez has been enjoying golf more and thinking about playing at a higher level.

"The idea of playing two more years of golf in college is something people dream of," Benavidez said. "Who knows what will become of it."

As far as golf is concerned, Benavidez feels that his performance has been getting better over the last year and a half, but he is still struggling with his putting. Benavidez has been able to lower his stroke average from 77.1 over eight tournaments last year to 76.9 through four



Ricky Benavidez tournaments this year. He feels that the team has been better this year and he hopes they can continue to improve.

"Next semester I hope that everyone comes around and shoots low scores so that we can be

See "Benavidez," page 10

Golf coach has high hopes for spring

By Trey Mendez
Staff Writer

At the close of the fall semester, Scorpion Golf Coach Jesse Lucio is satisfied with the performance his teams have exhibited thus far.

"I am happy where we have been finishing since we are a young team, but what matters most is next semester," Lucio said.

The Scorpions have been finishing in the middle of tournaments this year, compared with the bottom last year. Much credit can be attributed to the experience gained by returning team members, and a good recruiting class, highlighted by Silvano Cristiano and Larissa Pereszlenyi, two very competitive and mentally tough golfers.

The men's team has played in four tournaments and the women's team has competed in two. According to Lucio, the fall semester was just a tune-up for the spring. The spring semester will feature the South Region Zone 14 Athletic Conference tournament, which will decide who makes it to nationals and who stays home. The men's team must finish among the top three in the conference to secure a berth to nationals. The women's team, which is one of only two teams in the conference, is automatically in the national tournament, which will be held in Oklahoma.

There is plenty of excitement surrounding the spring semester because the women's team will receive a new member, Jackie Lucio of Los Fresnos. If the last name sounds familiar, it is because she is the daughter of Coach Lucio.

"Jackie brings a lot of experience to the team," Lucio said. "She has won several tournament and should help the team a lot."

Jackie Lucio will certainly bring another solid member to the Scorpion squad. Unfortunately, the Scorpions lost one player, Jessica Gonzalez, early in the semester for personal reasons, the coach said. With only have four players at the moment, the addition of Jackie Lucio will take some pressure off the others.

As far as team honors are concerned, Lucio said the highlight of the fall semester came when Joey Zayas and Pereszlenyi were honored as all-tournament team members at the Northwood/Hidden Oaks Golf Championships in Granbury. Both golfers have competed in many tournaments and their experience has definitely helped the team move up the ranks.

At present, the women's team consists of Pereszlenyi, Rita Villarreal, Angela Contreras, and Marissa Chapa. The men's team is led by Zayas, Ricky Benavidez, Cristiano, Jeremy Guevara,

See "Golf," page 10



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The Course Schedule is online!

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



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THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT BROWNSVILLE AND TEXAS SOUTHWESTERN COLLEGE



Photo: American City Press

Mixtures teammate Ruben Naranjo (blue uniform) is blocked by Rebel team member Jaime Vega at the basket during the final game of the 3-on-3 basketball tournament sponsored by the Kinesiology Club on Nov. 20 at the Garza Gym. The Rebels, consisting of captain Marco Hinojosa, brothers Juan and Jaime Vega and Omar Garcia, won first place after competing against nine teams. The Mixtures (captain Naranjo, Alex Sosa, Heriberto Castillo and Joe Garcia) placed second, losing 15-9 in the final game. In the 3-point shoot-out contest, Roly Gomez placed first after making 12 baskets.

"Golf"

Continued from page 9

Nick Arnold, Erik Lopez, John Roberts and Jim Bob Granger.

Hoping to lower scores, Lucio said he needs to get more production from the men's team. For the women's team, he is expecting the experience of Villarreal and Contreras, both outstanding high school players, to carry into the college scene.

For next semester, Lucio has emphasized both quality and quantity of practice as keys.

"We are on track and beginning to meet our goals for next year," Lucio said. "I'm very thankful for the support we have received from the college. Dr. [Olivia] Rivas and staff have been great. I am definitely looking forward to the spring

"Benavidez"

Continued from page 9

contenders in our region." Benavidez said.

For now, Benavidez is taking 13 hours at UTB/TSC and has been very busy with practice and school.

"Missing school for tournaments has been tough," Benavidez said. "Keeping my grades up has been catching up with me. My classes are hard, but my professors have been very helpful in allowing me to catch up and have worked with me to make up tests."

With the spring semester being his last as a student at UTB/TSC, Benavidez is going to try to get his game in shape for two more years of golf. If he doesn't get a scholarship, he will try to walk on somewhere. Either way, Benavidez has the character and will to achieve whatever he sets his mind to.

Merry Christmas from Sports Section

Team Sting reflects on successful season

By Jessica Arringa
Sports Editor

At the beginning of the semester, Team Sting had high hopes for returning to nationals for the second year in a row. Unfortunately, the Lady Scorpions did not realize their dream. Instead, they placed third in the 1999 NCAAA Region XIV Volleyball Championship, and closed their season 24-20 overall.

"We really had a good year," said Brian Funk, head volleyball coach. "We finished second, making the [regional] playoffs. ... We were in the position to make it to nationals."

Although there were only nine players on the team, Funk said, "still, we got a lot out of this team." Last year, Team Sting had 11 players.

Team members are disap-

pointed about not reaching nationals, and are sad because this was the last season at UTB/TSC for four sophomores—Liz and Eli Clemente, Jessica Kromer and Bo Contreras.

"When we were all together, we really showed them what we could do," Funk said. "It is always hard for me to lose them."

Those fatherly sounding words are typical of the coach, according to the Clemente twins. They see Funk not only as a coach and friend but also as a father figure.

The four sophomores say they will miss many things about being on the team, but they will miss Funk the most.

"I will miss Coach because he is an awesome coach," Kromer said.

Contreras agreed.

"Coach Funk is one original



Liz Clemente, Jessica Kromer, Bo Contreras and Eli Clemente

coach," she said. "You can never find a coach that is so involved with [players] on the court."

"Contreras had a very successful season. She was recognized as an 'All Tournament' player at the regional tourney Nov. 12. Contreras and Eli Clemente received 'All Region' honors at the Region XIV Conference Tourney III in October.

"Overall, we did good," Contreras said about the team.

"I learned a lot these [two seasons]."

The Clemente twins said playing together has been an unforgettable experience.

"We both played well, we both motivated one another," Eli said.

"I gave all that I could," Liz said. "Every time I went on the court, I had the will to

motivate my teammates to win."

Eli had some advice for returning players Yanesa Haro, Lily Martinez, Nicky Gonzalez, Lisa Salazar and Caro Saenz:

"Concentrate more on the game. ... Don't take volleyball as a joke."

The team will continue to practice in preparation for the fall 2000 season.

On Campus



Thousands of people, young and old, flocked to H-E-B's annual Feast of Sharing to enjoy a traditional Thanksgiving meal and entertainment featuring live music, karate and cheerleading demonstrations.

By the end of the day Nov. 17, H-E-B officials said they would have served 11,000 meals at the Jacob Brown Auditorium, site of the event, which is in its 10th year.

About 750 people, many of them UTB/TSC students and staff, volunteered to help seat the guests, serve meals and clean tables, feast planners said.

"This is the second year that I come [to the feast]," said attendee Cecilia Garcia, "and the food they prepare is very good. I enjoyed most the musical groups that played outside the auditorium."

--Daniela Ortega

Clockwise from bottom right:

Central Middle School students Diego Lara (from left), Gisela Trejo and Bynca Treviño enjoy their meal.

St. Joseph Academy students Carlos Flores (left) and Austin Stapleton serve soft drinks to dozens of people.

The musical group Xceso performs for people waiting in line outside the Jacob Brown Auditorium, site of the annual feast.

Amanda Lee Gomez eats on a metal chair. Her grandmother, Lucy Gomez, was nearby preparing soft drinks for the Feast of Sharing.

--Photos by Robert Cowan

The next issue of **The Collegian** will be published Jan. 18. Call 544-8263 for the ad rates and deadlines for Spring 2000.

Arts & Entertainment

Local legend named 'Conjunto Artist of the Century'



By Rachel Benavidez
Staff Writer

Texas Monthly magazine has named the late Narciso Martinez "Conjunto Artist of the Century" in its December issue titled "The Texas Century, which also names slain Tejano superstar Selena as "Voice of the Century."

Reynosa, Mexico, in 1911. His family moved to Texas that same year, settling in La Paloma just outside of Brownsville. He began working as a musician while still a teenager, playing at local dances and gatherings and continued until his death in 1992. The book states Martinez never earned much money and worked several part-time jobs during his musical career to support himself, including caretaker at Gladys Porter Zoo, from which he retired in 1977.

He pioneered new stylings to an established sound of music known as "conjunto" or "norteño" that have endured and continued to evolve even after his death, according to the book.

Martinez is considered by many to be the "Father of Conjunto Music" and earned the nickname "El Huracan del Valle" (the Hurricane of the Valley) in the mid-1940s.

The only cultural art center in the Rio Grande Valley was named after him in honor of his contributions to music. The Narciso Martinez Cultural Arts Center, located at 225 E. Stenger in San Benito, "promotes Latino heritage through art, music, theater, film, dance, and literary programs," according to advertisements for the center. It also serves as a community resource center and offers accordion lessons, taught by third-generation Martinez students.

Martinez also has been the subject of several documentaries including, "Los Del Valle" series, Vol. 7 titled: "Narciso Martinez, El Huracan del Valle."

The series was written, produced and directed by Manuel Medrano, professor of social sciences at UTB/TSC. The video series also features videos dedicated to folklorist

Américo Paredes, Tejano singer Joe Lopez, and Chamo Days; The First 60 Years, which recently was requested by the Library of Congress. The University of Parma in Italy has requested the volume on Martinez.

"Martinez" was legitimate long before Texas Monthly," Medrano said.

Medrano describes Martinez as a "Hispanic, musical and cultural hero" although he is hesitant to categorize or place a limit on his influence.

Although Martinez received little formal education, Medrano recognizes him as an important symbol of the university's philosophy, which stresses bilinguism, bicultural and bicultural education.

"We [Hispanics] need to discover our heroes," he said. "There are heroes in our own backyard. ... We just don't know it."

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Above: Sophomore Susana Castro performs with the UTR/SC Wind Ensemble Nov. 22 in Jacob Brown Auditorium. The ensemble (above left) has outgrown the SET-B Lecture Hall and the Student Center, where its recitals were usually held.

—Photos by Robert Hornbeck

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Arts & Entertainment

Below: Members of "Out-of-Sync All Stars" drove the crowd wild at the Third Annual Brownsville Latin Jazz Festival held in the historic Capitol Theater. This year's festival, presented by the Brownsville Society for the Performing Arts and titled "A Night at the Copa," was a fund-raiser devoted to the restoration of the theater for use as a performing arts center. Pictured are students Eric Hugoneth, lead guitar, J. J. Peña, bass, and Noe Sanchez, trumpet.



Diana Terry/Collage



Diana Terry/Collage

Above: Director Michael Quantz (left) and members of the UTB/TSC Guitar Ensemble perform in the SET-B Lecture Hall Nov. 18. Below: Ensemble member Arnulfo Mar was a crowd favorite.



Diana Terry/Collage

Mariah Carey's "Rainbow" is spectrum of sound

By Maricela Gonzalez
Staff Writer

Mariah Carey's "Rainbow"
There are artists and then there is Mariah Carey.

The sultry sensation released her CD "Rainbow" in the United States on Nov. 2. The first track, "Heartbreaker," released as a single Sept. 29, features the hip-hop sounds of Jay-Z. When "Heartbreaker" entered its second week at No. 1, Carey was spending her 60th week at No. 1, treating the 59-week record previously set by The Beatles (www.columbiarecords.com

[/mariahcarey.com](http://mariahcarey.com)). "Rainbow" is in Carey's words an "album that chronicles my emotional roller coaster ride of the past year. If you listen closely, there's a story here with a very happy ending. After every storm—if you look hard enough—a rainbow appears."

Carey, the daughter of a former New York Opera singer, began singing at age 4 and was once married to the president of Sony Records, Tommy Mottola.

"Thank God I Found You," track No. 14, is dedicated to her new love, international singer Luis Miguel. Is this the roller coaster she speaks about in

"Rainbow"?

Or could it be the transformation of a conservative pop singer into a wild, soulful diva in such a short period of time.

"Rainbow" features 13 tracks co-written by Carey. "Against

CD Review

all Odds," written by Phil Collins, is rearranged and sung passionately by the artist.

My favorite song on the CD was No. 5, "After Tonight," which stresses the laid-back feeling of "Rainbow." Its lyrics include:

"I look at you looking at me/

feels like a feeling meant to be/ and as your body moves with mine/ it's like I'm lifted out of time."

The music style in the album ranges from pop and R&B to gospel. Collaborations with different musical artists such as Usher, Da Brat and Missy Elliott, Snoop Dogg, Joe and 98 Degrees have opened a variety of musical genres and, therefore, audiences for the singer.

Collaborations with producers Jimmy Jam and Terry Lewis have helped bring out the relaxing vibe contained in the album.

Her poetic writing shines through with Dianne Warren's

and David Foster's assistance.

She writes about the strength in her self with "Can't Take That Away from Me," sings about her man's ex-girlfriend and joins Master P in a remix of "Did I Do That?"

"Her writing talks about everything imaginable," UTB freshman Omar Gutierrez said. "Rainbow is definitely a great CD that can relate to every one."

"Rainbow" is the album to take us into the next century. I give "Rainbow" five stars and suggest that it be heard for its high quality and soothing fresh sound.

On Dasher, on dancer, on iridium and neon!



BOBBI CHAM/CHICAGO

"Ballard"
Continued from page 6

chart before melting. It was made of the same material as the sub's portholes. Later measurements put the Black Smokers at 650 degrees F, the melting point of lead.

More amazing was the discovery of an entire ecosystem thriving in the harsh environment. Lab tests on giant tube worms and clams growing around the Black Smokers revealed that the organisms survive on populations of cyanobacterium that mimic the effects of photosynthesis in the mineral-rich environment. Until this discovery, all life was believed to derive its existence from the sun. Ballard said the microscopic structures in a meteorite from Mars look like fossilized cyanobacterium.

On the first time out with a new dual-ROV system in 1997, Medza/Jason. Ballard and his team found the largest concentration of Roman ships ever discovered in one place. On the second expedition, they discovered the oldest wrecks ever discovered in the deep sea. Ballard believes this is because there are a lot of wrecks in the deep ocean and not due to any special

ability he or his expedition teams have.

"We're good, but we're not that good," said Ballard, who estimates that more than 1 million ships have sunk in the course of human history. "There is probably more history in the deep sea than in all of the museums in the entire world put together."

In June '99 Ballard examined the wrecks of two Phoenician ships, the oldest wrecks ever found in the deep sea. Located about 30 miles from Israel, the vessels date from around 750 B.C. and lie at depths between 1,000 and 3,000 feet. The oldest known shipwreck is in less than 200 feet of water near Turkey.

The two ships apparently flourished in a storm, landing upright on the seafloor. Their wooden hulls have since disintegrated, but their cargo of hundreds of amphorae, perfectly preserved, outline the shapes of the vessels that carried them. The larger ship is about 58 feet long, making it the largest known ship from the classical Greek era. The smaller ship measures more than 45 feet. The ships were first spotted in 1997 by U.S. Navy research submarine NR-1 sent to find the Israeli

sub Dakar, lost in the eastern Mediterranean.

According to Ballard, the chances of finding ancient vessels are improved because the deep ocean preserves things well. Thanks to the Internet, Ballard predicts that in the next decade a person may rent an ROV to examine an undisturbed shipwreck rather than visit its artifacts in a museum.

Most recently, Ballard has focused his attentions on the Black Sea. The Bosphorus Strait, which drains the Black Sea, is too shallow to permit the depths of the sea to flow out. He explained that he expects to find "mummified" ships on the floor of the Black Sea, where low oxygen content prevents wood-borers from eating ships.

While on a National Geographic survey to find ancient vessels in the Black Sea last year, Ballard took time to investigate a theory by William Ryan and Walter Pitman of Columbia University and found evidence for the biblical flood of Noah.

Ryan and Pitman proposed that Noah's flood occurred at the end of the last Ice Age. At the start of the Ice Age, glacial buildup lowered sea

levels worldwide, cutting off the Black Sea from the Mediterranean. The Bosphorus Strait dried and formed a land bridge. Evaporation further reduced the level of the Black Sea until it was only a large, freshwater lake fed by the rivers of Russia and Eastern Europe. When the glaciers melted, sea level in the Mediterranean rose but not in the Black Sea. The land bridge collapsed under the weight of an entire ocean, and the ensuing flood would have destroyed towns and vil-

ages along the shores of the sea.

lages along the shores of the sea.

Evidence of the catastrophe is difficult to find because violent erosion left little of the original beach. Ballard focused his search on a natural harbor near Sisop, Turkey. Using side-scan sonar, his expedition team found exactly what they were looking for.

"There was the classic beach profile," Ballard said. "The beach being leading down to the old water level, the beach itself and a sand bar offshore. It looks like any beach anywhere on Earth, except it is under 550 feet of water."

Dredging brought up smooth pebbles and shells, but at this depth there should have been mud. Two shells from the ancient beach were of extinct freshwater mollusks, presumably from the pre-flood, freshwater Black Sea. Radiocarbon dating indicates the shells are about 7,500 years old.

"So we've pretty well proved that the flood took place," Ballard said.

In August 2000, Ballard returns to the Black Sea to continue searching for ancient merchant vessels and further evidence for the flood.



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On Campus

"Bonfire"

Continued from page 3

how to go about the tasks, and on just how there will be absolutely no tolerance towards unsafe behavior."

"...In other words, don't even think about missing Bonfire with

"Crime"

Continued from page 2

all of 1998, and the most they had for one month was seven, Lopez said.

Police Sgt. Agustin Carrera said two officers and three guards are on duty from 3 to 11 p.m. and from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. here. He said there are three police cadets who will join the department soon. There are also six more openings in the department, but no one has applied.

Carrera said there is no particular problem area on campus for break-ins.

"The problem areas are all over," he said. "It's hard to stop

alcohol," he said.

Montemayer found out about the accident through a phone call from a friend at A&M.

"It was like seeing my own family and being on national television," he said. "I felt as if I had lost family members that day."

He traveled to College Station everyone and interrogate them if they're just standing by a car."

If your car has been burglarized, Carrera recommends the following: first, do not touch anything. Leave everything there you found it second, immediately contact Campus Police and file a detailed report; third, contact the department about two or three days later to follow-up.

"We keep a close tab with the Brownsville Police Department to keep up with stolen merchandise," Carrera said.

When Munoz told The Collegian about the break-ins, this reporter called a few pawnshops to see whether the stolen items may have been pawned.

An employee at the second

to attend the game and visit the bonfire site where many have left flowers, notes and other tokens of sympathy and spirit.

He sympathizes with the families of the victims, saying, "Some of the parents have mentioned that they do not want the tradition to die with their children...that they

pawnshop contacted by The Collegian said that 60 CDs in a black case were pawned the same day Munoz's car was broken into. The employee even gave the name of the person who pawned the merchandise.

However, when Munoz and Officer Armando Pulido went to see whether the merchandise was identifiable, the manager said the employee was mistaken. The manager then said that 120 CDs were pawned at \$60 the following day, Pulido said.

In a later interview, Pulido said that was a big discrepancy and that he was going to follow it up.

"The employee should not have given the information to begin with," Pulido said.

know how much it meant to them and what it means to the A&M family in a whole."

Montemayer supports the bonfire, adding that it is "not just a pile of logs—it is an Aggie tradition."

The question of whether the now controversial tradition will continue remains to be answered.

"Board"

Continued from page 7

crowd of 800, meeting rooms and work space for 50 student organizations. The UT System Office of Facilities Planning and Construction is collaborating with the university on the design proposal for the \$8 million Student Union, scheduled to open September 2001.

Gonzalez concluded his report by informing the board that UTB/TSC currently has 150 international students representing 14 countries, including France and Bahrain. He also reported that bus usage has increased to as many as 75 students a day.

"With as many students I've heard complaining about parking, I'm surprised more people aren't using the bus," Oliveira said.

Robles informed him that it may be for health reasons. Walking 1.5 miles a day reduces a person's risk of heart attack by 40 percent.

The President's report began with an update on the university's Y2K preparedness. According to Garcia, "the UT System has a very complicated plan to ensure that our core processes will keep things running." UTB/TSC has been tested several times, both live and in "tabletop" exercises. When the rest of the world is ringing in the new millennium on Jan. 1, Tony Zavaleta, vice president for External Affairs, and others will be on campus monitoring university systems.

The university has received several grants. Shannita Davis, program director of the Medical Technology Department, has received a \$22,000 multiple year grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce.

The money will be used to form a collaboration with UT-Medical Branch at Galveston and develop a Web-based education in clinical

University President Ray Bowen said on the day of the accident to reporters on the scene, "There is a large sentiment among students, faculty, administrators, parents and many others that want the tradition to continue. ...For now we will leave the issue on the table."

laboratory science. The Emergency Medical Laboratory Technology program was awarded a \$40,000 grant by the South Texas Border Initiative for equipment and EMT continuing education in the Valley. UTB/TSC has received \$63,000 of a multi-million-dollar grant aimed at forming a water management technology program on the U.S.-Mexico border. The project's ultimate goal is to create a decision guidance program integrating existing water management databases and models to assist border residents in setting water usage policies. Other aims in the Brownsville area are to develop public education projects to mitigate and prevent non-point source pollution in the re-creation system.

"This is applied research to benefit our region," Garcia said.

Other schools awarded portions of the grant are the University of Houston, Rice University, Texas A&M-Kingsville and Texas A&M International in Laredo.

The President's report continued with Carmen Lomas Garza's recent visit to UTB/TSC. Garza, one of the nation's most prestigious artists, gave several presentations on and off campus. According to Garcia, Garza said UTB/TSC was the place where the artist had received "the most gracious welcome of any university [she] had ever visited."

It was also reported that Carl Landreth, an instructional computing specialist with the Academic Computing Department, completed his doctoral degree in Applied Technology Training and Development at the University of North Texas.

Garza also informed the board of a \$15,000 donation by the Prax Olive family to create an endowment for students in the occupational technology program.

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Jeff Pruit, ganador del concurso general de físico-construivismo de hombres, es premiado por Tito Mata y Karen Miller, una juez del torneo. Mata patrocinó el evento por medio de su establecimiento Tito's Gym.

Pastorela y diversión habrá esta noche

Por Juana María Grimaldo
Reportera

La pastorela "Espirita de Navidad" se presentará hoy a las 7 de la noche en el auditorio del edificio de Ciencias y Tecnología Ingenier (SET-B).

Dicha obra de teatro empezará con una peregrinación, la cual consiste en un recorrido por el puseo de la universidad con personajes tales como José y María en un pasaje de lo que fue la llegada de Jesús.

Una vez concluida esta primera fase, se dará inicio a la pastorela, en la cual participan diferentes personajes escenificando el nacimiento del niño Jesús, según la presidenta y fundadora del Club Cultural Latinoamericano, Aracelia Salazar. Los miembros del club son los iniciadores de la pastorela en conjunción con el Departamento de Actividades Estudiantiles.

La pastorela, dirigida por la estudiante Zulema Williams, tiene la finalidad de dar a conocer a la comunidad estudiantil de UTB/TSC, así como a toda la localidad de Brownsville y de igual forma

a la comunidad de la vecina ciudad de Matamoros, de los valores culturales hispanos.

Adicionalmente, Williams fue actriz en varias telenovelas en México.

Otra de las finalidades de la pastorela es fomentar la cultura entre los dos fronteras.

Este evento cultural está compuesto de tres fases que son: peregrinación, pastorela y posada. La posada consiste en un recedatorio acerca de lo que vivieron María y José cuando pidieron a la gente, casa por casa, permiso para pasar ahí la noche.

Después de estas tres etapas

del evento se llevarán a cabo cánticos navideños, así como la participación del Mariachi Escorpión de la universidad, que deleitarán al oído con sus canciones a los presentes. También habrá juegos tradicionales, y concursos entre los asistentes.

Se servirán champagne y bufalos gratis, según Beckie Barreda, asistente administrativa de la Oficina de Actividades Estudiantiles.

También habrá un concurso donde se ganarán pasteles y habrá una piñata para que los asistentes al evento puedan pegarle y divertirse en el ambiente navideño, dijo ella.

Así mismo, habrán puestos de comida, donde se venderán tamales y antojitos mexicanos entre otras cosas.

Barreda dijo que se esperan más de 300 personas para el evento.

Aproximadamente 50 personas participarán en la presentación del evento que será gratuito y que se viene realizando desde 1993.

Salazar dijo que una de las características de la pastorela es que es una muestra cultural, la cual tiene una connotación religiosa pero sobre todo cultural, para que todos puedan asistir y disfrutar del ambiente familiar.

Evento promueve músculos sin drogas

Por Hidelonso Ortiz
Reportero

Un auditorio se llenó de espectadores, ansiosos de ver a un grupo de personas musculosas pesar para que se decidiera quién tenía el cuerpo superior. Esto fue lo que sucedió el pasado sábado 20 de noviembre en Camille Lightner Playhouse. Tito's Gym, un gimnasio de Brownsville, tuvo un torneo regional de físico-construivismo.

A dicho torneo asistieron competidores de Austin, Houston, Corpus Christi y hasta de Louisiana. Fue un espectáculo muy completo no sólo por los participantes, sino que este con-

curso fue antidrogas. Tito Mata, dueño de Tito's Gym, y Dave Goodin, campeón mundial de físico-construivismo organizaron este evento para promocionar torneos en los cuales el uso de drogas no es permitido. Mata dijo que a todos los competidores se les hizo un riguroso examen antidrogas.

"Este tipo de eventos son para tratar de obtener un cuerpo superior, si se usan drogas, ya sean anabólicas o recreativas, se pierde el propósito", dijo Goodin.

El evento fue presentado por un comediante cuyo nombre es Dallas. El entretuvo a toda la afición con sus ocurrencias. Entre los recesos del evento, Dallas salió al escenario con diferentes atuendos, incluso con un traje de baño y tangas.

Al principio del evento, apareció el Grupo Folklórico Tizatlán de UTB/TSC, el cual es dirigido por Zelma Mata.

Después de ellos salió en escena Karen Miller, una físico-construivista profesional. Ella salió bailando al ritmo de Lou Bega y su Mambo #5, y después posó su increíble musculatura. Al terminar ella, empezó el concurso de los hombres, el cual fue seguido por el de las mujeres. Los campeones generales fueron Jeff Pruit y Ann Flegas. A ambos se les otorgó unos trofeos de 8 pies de altura y el reconocimiento de tener los mejores cuerpos de la región.

Estudiante de hoy

Por Daniela Ortégón
Reportera

Nombre: Rosa María Lera
Edad: 25 años
Preparatoria: St. Joseph Academy

Especialidad: Física
Reconocimientos: Scholastic Excellence Award en 1997, y Lower Physics & Engineering en 1998.

Hecho más grande: "Destacar como persona y profesional-

mente en el área de ingeniería".

Metas: "Graduarme en física y seguir mis estudios, obtener una maestría en ingeniería industrial".

Pasatiempos: "Leer y ver documentales y estudios del canal de Discovery. Conocer más en el área de biología para poder transmitir lo que yo sé a los demás".

¿Qué has hecho por tu comunidad? "He participado como voluntaria en presenta-

ciones en el zoológico, para niños pequeños sobre especies en peligro de extinción".

Aneédotas: "Hemos sido afectados por tener un equipo nuevo en el departamento de ingeniería".

Si pudieras cambiar algo en el campus, ¿qué harías? "Que se realicen más actividades en donde los alumnos puedan participar y creo que ampliar el estacionamiento sería un beneficio para nosotros los estudiantes".



Tiempo Nuevo

Nueva ley mexicana causa polémica

Por **Delfonso Ortiz**
Reportero

La noticia tomó por sorpresa a la mayoría de las personas. Cada automóvil que visite el interior de México desde el pasado día primero de este mes, se verá forzado a pagar una fianza que puede alcanzar la cantidad de \$800 dólares. Esta fianza será repesada cuando esa persona regrese con dicho automóvil.

Un representante de aduanas mexicanas en Mazatlán, en condición de anonimato, dijo que "Los precios de la fianza son los siguientes: Por autos modelo 2000 y 99 se pagarán \$800 dólares. Por autos del '98 al '94 se pagarán \$600 dólares. Por autos anteriores a 1993 se pagarán \$400 dólares. A estos costos se les tiene que añadir una cuota de \$15 dólares para pagar los trámites necesarios".

Esta será una de las nuevas medidas que tomará el gobierno mexicano. Según Cathy Travis, directora de prensa para el congresista Solomon Ortiz, esta medida está siendo aplicada para regular el número de automóviles ilegales que entran a México.

Travis dijo que esta ley está siendo aplicada porque un gran número de automóviles entran a México y se quedan ilegalmente. De estos automóviles ilegales, el gobierno no recibe nada de impuestos. Por eso, el gobierno pierde dinero. Ortiz y otros congresistas se reunieron con




algunos embajadores mexicanos para discutir alguna solución alternativa para esta medida, dijo Travis. Ortiz y los demás congresistas ya lo irían retrasar la fecha de implementación por un mes. Esta medida fija a implementación a principios de noviembre, pero por la polémica que creó se retrasó la fecha un mes para poder estudiar bien las consecuencias de dicha medida.

El gobierno mexicano ha mostrado gran interés en implementar dicha ley. Por esta razón, la única vía que le queda a Ortiz y los demás congresistas es mostrar al gobierno mexicano la pérdida económica que dicha ley causará.

Bill Sumners, miembro de Rio Grande Valley Partnership, creó un estudio léctico sobre la pérdida económica. Según Travis, la cifra de pérdidas económicas para México tan solo en los puertos del Valle del Rio Grande alcanzaría dos billones de dólares.

Por esta razón, Ortiz y otros congresistas preocupados por esta nueva ley, aparte de reunirse con una junta de representantes mexicanos para buscar otra alternativa, le pidieron ayuda al presidente de Estados Unidos, Bill Clinton. En un escrito dirigido a Clinton, el pasado 18 de noviembre se le pidió que platicara con Ernesto Zedillo, presidente de México, para que le expusiera el tema y se pudiera tomar alguna medida alternativa. Clinton no ha podido responder puesto que ha estado constantemente fuera del país, pero se espera una respuesta positiva de su parte.

Cuanto cuesta llevar un automóvil al interior de México

Modelos	Fianza
 1999 a 2000	\$800 dólares
 1994 a '98	\$600 dólares
 1993 y anteriores	\$400 dólares

Nota: Además se cobrará una cuota de \$15 dólares a cada automóvil para cubrir los trámites necesarios.

Banquete con sabor a amistad

Por **Daniela Ortigón**
Reportera

Miles de personas convivieron y disfrutaron la comida tradicional de la temporada durante el Banquete de la Amistad, patrocinado por las señoras H-E-B el mes pasado.

El evento, que se lleva a cabo desde hace 10 años, para celebrar el Día de Acción de Gracias, empezó a las 11 de la mañana en el auditorio Jacob Brown el 17 de noviembre. Más de 10,000 personas participaron, desde niños hasta ancianos. Desde muy temprana hora estaban afuera del auditorio haciendo fila. Los Petróleos de Brownville y Nexo de McAllen estuvieron animando al público con su música.

Después del auditorio se presentó la estudiante de la primaria Cornack, el coro de la primaria Russell, el grupo de animadoras de la preparatoria Harris, "Músicars on Palm", el coro de la preparatoria Porter y una presentación de

canas.

Aldrededor de 750 voluntarios ayudaron con el banquete, entre los cuales fueron 190 estudiantes y personal de UTB/TSC. También participó el personal del Centro Médico de Brownville, IMC por sus siglas en inglés, el comitad de Cáncer, tejidos de invierno, o Winter Textans, miembros del grupo de soporte diabético (Diabetes Support Group), así como oficiales de la Palmita Fronteriza, migración, Departamento de Bomberos y los alumnos del tercer año de la preparatoria San José.

De entre los clubes que participaron en el evento fueron los Asistentes Médicos, (S.H.P.E), el club de ingenieros hispanos, la Asociación de Criminología (Criminal Justice Association), y estudiantes que pertenecen a diferentes fraternidades como Alpha Kappa Psi. Participaron también la Oficina de Inscripciones, la Oficina de Ayuda Financiera.

Un tercio de los voluntarios fue de las escuelas Harris, Pace, Rivera, Lopez, las secundarias Lucko y Vela y la primaria Russell.

Las compañías Coca Cola, Pepsi, Hygija, Budweiser y Miller Lico fueron también patrocinadores del evento.

"Este banquete se estaba presentando al igual que todos los años por todo Texas y esperamos más personas que el año pasado", dijo Bob Clark, quien coordinó el número de voluntarios.

Ruben Servellón, gerente de H-E-B, Boca Chica dijo: "Desde las 4 de la mañana los trabajadores de H-E-B han estado preparando la comida y este año prepararemos 11,000 platillos. Somos 50 los que estamos a cargo del evento entre gerentes y trabajadores".

Servellón dijo que Joe Lucko y Rob Harris fueron los principales organizadores del banquete.

Se sirvió pavo, pelleno, salsa de arándano, ejotes, pan de papa con salsa, acompañado con un pastel de



BANQUETE DE LA AMISTAD

El Banquete de la Amistad se inauguró con gran festejo.

La música de Lou Beger "Mambo #5".

"Es muy bueno que las señoras de H-E-B hagan este evento en beneficio de la comunidad de Brownville", dijo Rafael López, asistente.

Cecilia García, otra asistente, dijo "ya van dos años que vengo y la comida que preparan está muy sabrosa. Lo que más me gustó fueron los grupos que tocaron y animaron al público del auditorio".

La escuela de kinder de Eva Ramirez se presentó haciendo demostración de latas al ritmo de



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