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THE PAN AMERICAN

The Student Newspaper of The University of Texas-Pan American

September 22, 2005

McAllen IB program sets students up for success

By ANALEY
The Pan American

Jeanette LaFevers is proud of the internationally-acclaimed baccalaureate program she coordinates, and even more so of the graduates it produces.

For three consecutive years, McAllen's International Baccalaureate Organization (known as IB) has had a whopping 100 per-

cent graduation rate, an impressive figure when compared to a 76 percent diploma rate statewide.

As president of Texas IB schools, LaFevers overlooks all IB organizations in the state.

"Our students get preferential treatment for university admission, scholarships, but most importantly, they're prepared for college when they get there," she said. "We actually had a group of kids up at A&M

who called us on their first day of class to tell us how easy their courses were."

Each class is designated a letter of the Greek alphabet. Six members of the 2003 "Alpha" class, one member of the 2004 "Beta" class, and six members of the 2005 "Gamma" class have been admitted to the

University of Texas-Pan American.

The IB organization just lobbied for and got Senate Bill 111 passed, which makes it mandatory for every private and public Texas university to grant a minimum of 24 credit hours to students graduating with an IB diploma. IB organizers have until Dec. 31, 2005 to

decide which specific hours the students will receive credit for.

While the policy will not go into effect until 2006 and will not grant the 24 credits to those who graduated before then, students currently attending UTPA receive college credit based on their IB exam scores, said Jeanette Broshears, Student Life and Transition services director.

As it is, many students graduate

See **MCALLEN** page 12



Raising the bar: Freshmen class 'better qualified'

By SANDRA GONZALEZ
The Pan American

When Vice President of Enrollment and Student Services John Edwards saw the front page of the newspaper last week, his jaw dropped in shock from a headline that read "Enrollment decreases."

"We will have an enrollment increase, but our freshman numbers were down," Edwards said, clearing up the misconception.



EDWARDS

While the article did state that freshman enrollment numbers would see a decrease this year, Edwards feared that the alarming and misleading headline would have a negative reflection on the university.

"The only thing I was concerned about is that we didn't want to leave the impression upon peo-

See **ENROLLMENT** page 12

Food Safety 101

By OMAR RODRIGUEZ
The Pan American

Walking through the covered walkways of UTPA during the lunch hour, one is confronted with a possible danger that is not detected by the casual observer.

No, this is not about the birds that instill fear into students with their challenge to their sense of vanity. There is a larger issue on campus that concerns health and personal welfare, a number of organizations, and the policies of several administrative offices.

School organizations have used food sales as a means to raise money in years past. However, food-borne illnesses and the possibility of contracting an illness through food sales sponsored by student organizations have become recent concerns. Now, because of a few complaints, the guidelines for on-campus food sales have become stricter and are being strongly enforced. This comes to the dismay of many.

Dr. Tom Pozorski, co-adviser for the Anthropology Club, heard about the severity of the new restrictions at a recent faculty luncheon.

"I immediately responded by firing off a few e-mails so that we could resolve this issue," said Pozorski.

At first glance, the changes made seemed to prohibit any food items that were made off campus at people's homes.

"They are basically insinuating that people are unsanitary and not to be trusted," said Pozorski.

He pointed out that success of

a sale is measured by the number of people who return for seconds, and it would be illogical for a club to prepare food in unsanitary conditions that might cause illness.

Richard Costello of the Office of Environmental Health and Safety oversaw the drafting of these forms.

"There are a few items on the list that may need some clarity. In particular, the line that says 'All potentially hazardous foods must be prepared on site,'" said Costello.

"Somehow it got out that we

meant all foods ... including baked goods such as cookies or brownies. We meant foods that are not easily storable like meat and dairy products."

Costello remarked that another institution in the UT system had a serious problem with an outbreak of illness because such incidents were not properly prevented.

"We will implement the guidelines and we will seek to clarify the issue," said Costello.

The office realizes that the rule

changes may affect clubs by increasing the costs of putting on bake sales. In response, members, along with the Dean of Students, have put time and money into buying supplies that will help clubs adhere to the requirements; including ice chests, gloves and other items used for food handling safety.

Dean of Students Jerry Price responded, saying, "We do not want this to be a deterrent for university clubs, but there have been a number

See **FOOD** page 12



FUNDRAISER - From left to right, junior marketing major Joey Loza, sophomore kinesiology major Robert Martinez, and freshman music major Omar Garcia, members of Phi Sigma Kappa, grill meat to be sold on the UTPA campus.



You are cordially invited to attend the

University of Texas-Pan American
State of the Student Body Address
Thursday, Sept. 22, 2005
4 p.m.
Student Union Theatre

Immediately following the event
Meet and Greet your SGA
University Ballroom

Joey Cortez/The Pan American

THE PAN AMERICAN

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The Pan American gladly accepts letters from students, staff and faculty regarding newspaper content or current issues. The Pan American reserves the right to edit submissions for grammar and length. Please limit submission length to 300 words. The Pan American cannot publish anonymous letters, or submissions containing hate speech or gratuitous personal attacks. Letters are printed at the discretion of the editor and must include the writer's name, class/title and phone number.

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Do Croatian Sheep Dream of Reality T.V.?

By DAVID RODRIGUEZ
 The Pan American



And you thought television was in rough shape here.

In Croatia, a 10-day Internet reality show was launched Sept. 7. Like many American reality shows, viewers will have the power to vote for or against the contestants of their choice. Also similar to our shows, contestants will vie for a grand prize to be awarded to the last contestant standing at the end. However, unlike any reality T.V. we have seen, the losers may just end up on a plate with mint jelly.

You see, Stado (herd), is a reality television show starring sheep. The seven contestants can be viewed 24 hours a day during the show on www.stado.org. I can only imagine what outrageous possibilities await when seven strangers, picked to graze in a house, stop being polite, and start being sheep. The Web site is your standard reality television buttress, I'm assuming. I can't be sure because it is entirely in Croatian and, to be perfectly honest, I cheated my way through Croatian 101, not to mention the lab. The site features pictures of each contestant: Josip, Nevinka, Prozerpina, Stasa, Cihana, Veselka, and Vjeran. Each picture has a link which takes you to that sheep's individual page, complete with biography and vital statistics.

As I write this, only Josip and Prozerpina are left. Judging from what I've seen on our own reality shows and the bases for their outcomes, I guess the others have obviously fallen out of favor with the Croatian viewing public for some reason or another. I suppose they didn't take to Stasa's no-nonsense attitude, Vjeran's radical political views, or Veselka's endless parade of sexual partners. Then again it might only be that Josip and Prozerpina simply have the most luxurious coats. Either way it will be groundbreaking televi-

sion when the winning sheep will be announced and awarded the grand prize which is a piece of poetry in its honor. "Shall I compare thee to a mound of hay? Thou art more..."

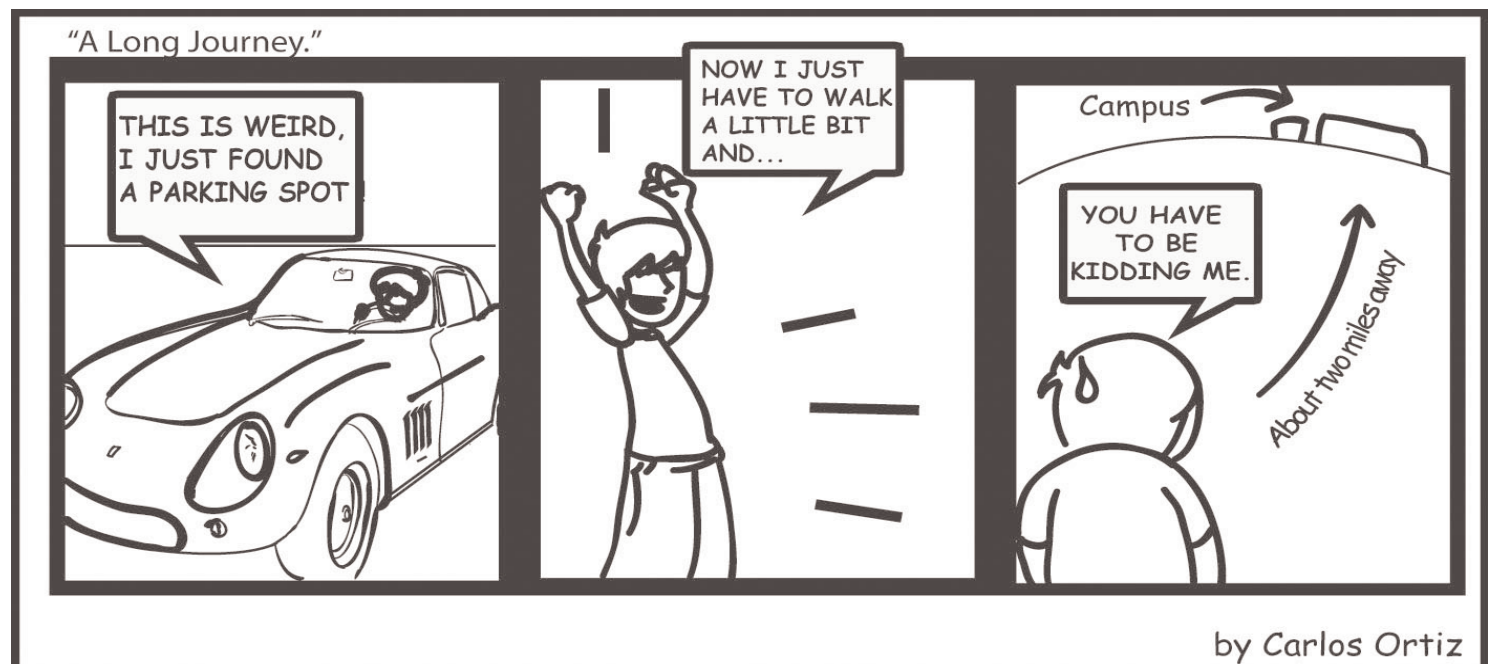
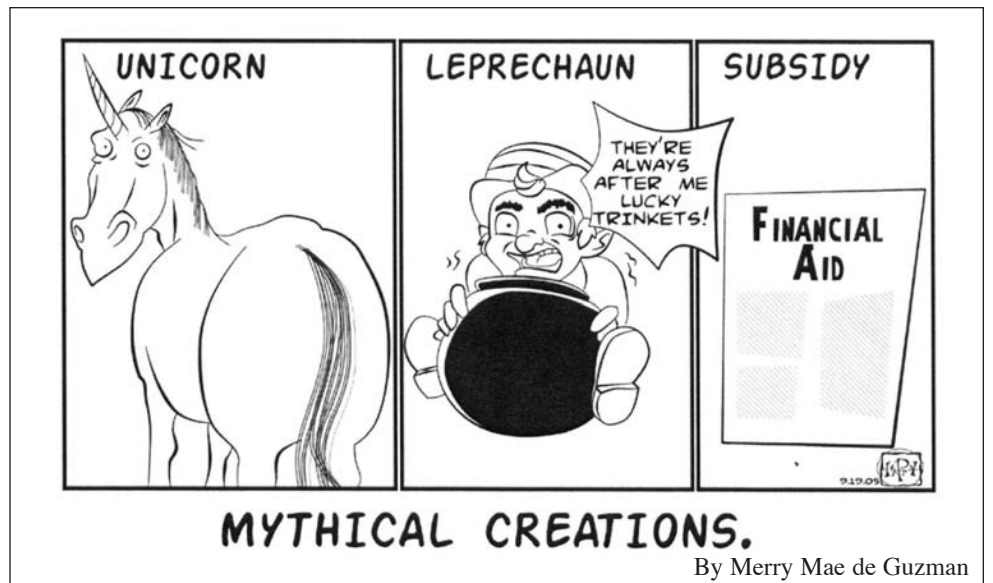
Just like reality shows here, Stado has its own obnoxious, moralizing detractors. The show has come under fire from human rights groups who apparently deem it a bigger threat to decency than the Sudan or Middle East, or Kentucky Fried Chicken. They have reported animal abuse to local Croatian veterinary inspectors. The investigation continues despite delicate statements by the show's organizer Sinisa Labrovic in an interview with the Vecemji List daily last Wednesday.

"I am not an insensitive bastard who abuses animals," Labrovic said. "We've called a vet for those sheep that were in poorer shape."

Labrovic then went on to explain the true meaning of the show, which he describes as a social commentary on how "more and more people, especially those that take part in reality shows, are made to look like sheep in every situation." He reportedly then pulled a cat's tail and threw a rock at a bird in the parking lot on the way to his car.

Labrovic makes a good point. Well, no. He makes an interesting one. At what point does a satirical joke cease to be a scathing indictment and instead become part of the problem? Is everyone in on the joke? Are the people watching and voting doing it with a smirk that can only be mustered by those in the throes of intellectual snobbery? Do they log on to the Web site after a dinner party and then engage in smarmy chit-chat about the hoi polloi? I would bet a bucket of pellets and a chewed-up hose that isn't the case at all. Instead of an insightful commentary on the depths television and our society has plummeted to, Labrovic seems to have only contributed to the dearth of smart innovative television of our past, like "Matlock" or "The Greatest American Hero."

But if those shows didn't appeal to you then, and reincarnations of them wouldn't do much for you now, and you are a bit distraught that Stado has just ended, then I have some good news. Cuba has been filming a reality show of its own for the past few years. "The Amazing Race...for Freedom." It has something do with rafts.



NEWS



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Conference extends help to drug addicts

By **MARIA ALEJANDRA MAZARIEGOS**
The Pan American

To commemorate National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month, the University of Texas Pan American recently co-hosted the second annual Substance Abuse Recovery Involvement Fair and Conference, Voices for Recovery, at the Student Union Theater.

While it is the second time an event like this has taken place in the Valley, it is the first time it's been on campus.

"Last year was the first time an event like this happened in the Rio Grande Valley, and it took place at the Roadrunners Stadium. I am very excited that this year UTPA housed such an important event that is recognized nationwide," said Judith Guetzow, the event coordinator and leader of the UTPA End Violence Against Women with Disabilities project.

The fair and conference were free of charge and brought about through the help of various sponsors, including UTPA's Department of Student Development Office, the UTPA Alcohol and Drug Abuse Program, UTPA Student Health Services, Rio Grande Valley Council Inc. and Palmer Drug Abuse Program.

"This year's focus is recognizing the collective effort that goes into achieving recovery from substance-use disorders," said Guetzow.

Substance abuse and addiction are issues that affect many people and do not discriminate on the basis of age or gender. These types of events disseminate information on the different ways to help those in need.

"I think this is really good," said Jennifer Flores, UTPA freshman and business major.

"There are a lot of young kids that are into drugs and want to get out but don't know how, and well, here there is a lot of information to help them see where to begin."

There were many booths set up by various agencies and participating student organizations. Each had pamphlets and information about substance-abuse recovery and the effects on the addicted and those around them.

"We are here to bring awareness that substance abuse is a big issue and there is help. I am glad to see that the turnout went great," said Fidencio Mercado, program director at the Palmer Drug Abuse Program.

Other participating organizations and agencies included Planned Parenthood, McAllen Boys and Girls Club, Valley AIDS Council and Starlite Recovery Center.

For more information on substance-abuse recovery, contact Judith Guetzow at guetzowjk@panam.edu or call (956) 318-5240.



Joel de la Rosa/*The Pan American*

ADDICTIONS - UTPA hosted the second annual Substance Abuse Recovery Involvement Fair and Conference, which offered help to addicts.

Mixed reviews on learning framework classes

By **HILDA LORIA**
The Pan American

Now in its second year at the University of Texas-Pan American, the Learning Framework 1301 course, required of all entering freshmen, has met both considerable success and its share of disapproval.

According to Vice President of Undergraduate Studies Dr. Ana Maria Rodriguez, with the implementation of the course, retention rate for the 2,824 entering freshmen for the 2004-2005 school year increased to 66.7 percent, up almost two percent from the previous year. Of the students who took the 1301 course and passed, the retention rate was 74.5 percent, an accomplishment for UTPA to revel in considering the national retention rate of 72 percent.

"The main purpose of the course is to improve the student's understanding of the learning process and their ability to succeed in college, and then applying that to their college experience," Rodriguez explained. "We think it's already showing that it's making a difference."

Definition of retention rate:

- A college's freshman retention rate measures the number of freshmen who return as sophomores.

- higher education online source

The idea for the course was initiated about three years ago when Dr. Rodolfo Arevalo, VP John Edwards, and Rodriguez had a conversation about initiatives around Texas and the nation that were contributing to retention of first-year students.

After extensive research, conferences, and networking, the UTPA task force developed a learning framework course modeled after the one at Texas State University in San Marcos, a leading institution in such initiatives.

Eight new instructors, each with a background in educational psychology, have been hired over the past two years specifically to teach the course. Application of principles learned is tailored according to student majors.

Despite its success, however, student feedback of the course has been mixed. A recent evaluation showed that 31 percent of students rated the course as excellent, 38.4 percent as good, 20 percent acceptable, and about 10.6 percent as poor or unsure.

"I probably learned one or two things, but I don't think I had to pay \$350 for just those two things," Maria Rose Miranda, junior nursing major, said. "I don't want to be pessimistic of the class, but I think it's a waste of money and time because I believe that a class cannot change a student's attitude toward school."

Despite her initial disapproval of the class, Miranda explained that she appreciated her improved time-management and note-taking skills. However, she felt that these were skills she was bound to learn and develop on her own as she furthered her studies.

"There are different kinds of students, and I don't think that it's fair to make every entering freshman take the class," Miranda said.

See **LEARNING** page 11

Putting careers on UTPA's priority list

By **EMMA CLARK**
The Pan American

Meet Lou Servantes. The soon to-be-graduated-student's new best friend.

She's the woman one may have seen sitting at a bustling table lined with students around the University of Texas-Pan American campus this week. Her mission is to help students find jobs.

While over 22,000 young people remain unemployed in Texas, UTPA's Career Placement Services and Servantes are attempting to make a dent in these numbers by encouraging students not to wait until graduation is imminent to find a 'real' job.

"Students mainly leave it to the last minute because they're busy living day-to-day," said the placement specialist and student employment coordinator. "They don't realize they are going through all these classes to get a job eventually."

Throughout the semester, the group will host a number of workshops and seminars geared to giving students the right tools with which to find the right jobs. Servantes said it's about choice, and negotiations with employers.

September and October are set to be the busiest months for CPS as various national and state-wide employers will be visiting the UTPA campus to conduct interviews and to recruit. The office said that in the past employers have turned down the opportunity to visit.

"Students need to take advantage of the things we have available to them," Servantes said. "Many other colleges have waiting lists for the employers and get attendance of 60-80 people. 20 for us is a success. So you have to ask why would the employers want to come here?"

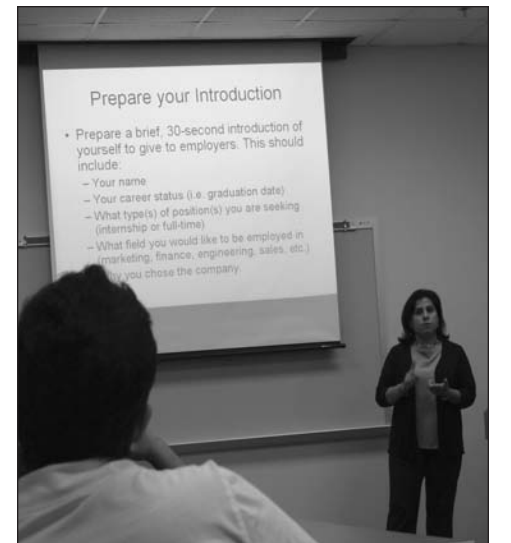
UTPA students have qualities to offer, she explained.

"Generally students here are hard-working, they have a higher attention rate, and are loyal. We're also bi-cultured and that's a quality you can't find in a lot of other places."

HESTEC will play host to the College Student Career Expo, possibly the best time for students to find employment, near and far. The Sept. 30 event promises over 60 companies on-site, and many will be interviewing on the spot.

"It's so important because they are considering UTPA again. It's exciting for us to get back Kraft foods example," Servantes said. "They realize that the campus has changed, and the students have changed."

She estimates only 1,000 students will walk through the doors of the Career Expo. The office remains hopeful however, and in an ideal world 50 percent of UTPA students would walk away with a career.



Joel de la Rosa/*The Pan American*

CAREER FINDER - Lourdes Servantes gives a presentation at Student Union Palmetto Room.

Mexico's Minute Response

By JOSUE ESPARZA
The Pan American

Some Mexican citizens have declared the actions of the civil defense group, the Minuteman Project, to be racist, not patriotic. But others see the grassroots effort as long overdue.

The Minuteman Project, whose goal is to seal the border and stop the flow of illegal immigrants, began in Arizona on a 23-mile stretch of the border. The group plans to start patrolling the Texas border soon. Despite their efforts, immigrants from Mexico, South and Central America continue to cross into the United States without a barrier to stop them.

Although a large number of Mexicans disapprove of the Minuteman Project, there are some who feel they understand that the motives driving them are good.

"Everyone in the world is going to do what they think is best for their country," said Mexican resident Lydia Loera. "And almost any country in the world doesn't accept [unlimited] immigration. Just look here in Mexico how the authorities in the south mistreat the immigrants coming to Mexico from Guatemala, El Salvador and other parts of South America."

However, since the beginning, the Minutemen have been met with strong disdain by many Mexican citizens who believe that this group is nothing but racist men trying to gain power in the United States.

"The people in the Minutemen are just retired Americans looking for popularity and have nothing else to do," said Juan Casares of Monterrey.

Some Mexicans think that the group is mistreating immigrants and are not being stopped by the government. Supporters counter that the government has done nothing to stop illegal crossing, and the Minutemen have stepped in to try and get basic laws enforced. American civil rights groups, such as the ACLU, are worried that the Minutemen are carrying weapons without the proper training and are endangering their lives and the lives of others by guarding the border.

The Minutemen, however, insist that they are usually unarmed and instructed not to confront immigrants, rather to contact Border Patrol officials at the sighting of illegals.

Rafael Gallego, a resident of Nuevo Leon, Mexico, believes that since the Minutemen are not trained Border Patrol agents they therefore are not prepared to deal with these situations.

"These people are carrying arms and they are hunting immigrants as if they were rats," said Gallego. "What I don't understand is why the United States is letting these people continue to be at the border."

Many Mexicans also think that the Minutemen are only promoting racism, because most of them are Anglos and the vast majority of immigrants are from Spanish-speaking countries.

Recently in a Mexican television broadcast the director of a migrant institute from Oaxaca, Rene Quiroz, announced that so far in 2005 there have been 74 immigrant deaths caused by Minutemen and ranchers living in Arizona. This information has not been substantiated outside of this report.

See **MINUTEMEN** page 11



WANTED - Ads requesting volunteers, such as the one above, have been put into circulation by organizers of the Minuteman Project.

Hispanic growth increases Spanish books in libraries

By TREY SERNA
The Pan American

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the Hispanic population was at an estimated 41.3 million, or 14 percent of the nation's total population, and these numbers are on the rise. One result of this boom is the rise in Spanish-language reading material in college libraries across the country.

The trend is raising eyebrows among some who believe that catering to a Spanish-speaking population means catering to a population composed in part by undocumented, non-tax-paying immigrants.

"People get all worked up because many learned English as their first language and don't really care to learn another, so they look at it as a waste of taxpayers money on materials they will never use," said Ramon Hernandez, a freshman engineering major.

However, Dr. Glenn Martinez, University of Texas-Pan American Department Chair of Modern Languages and Literature, takes the opposite view.

"Immigrants pay taxes no matter what," he said. "When you buy a bag of chips or a Coke at the store, you're not asked what language you speak first. You pay for the items, including the tax, so they should be able to use that money to provide for Spanish material in libraries."

Librarians in Rio Grande Valley libraries tend to agree, including at the UTPA Library.

For instance a book on how to make tacos would probably be much more reliable if published in Mexico, than a book that would be published in Memphis. This is key for the UTPA library.

"Enforcing someone to be monolingual is enforcing ignorance. It's a contradiction

because libraries are depositories of knowledge," said Ramiro Rea, associate professor of Modern Languages and Literature.

In an effort to maintain this idea on campus, every October George R. Gause Jr., special collection librarian at UTPA, and his wife Virginia Haynie Gause, systems librarian, attend a book fair in Monterrey, Mexico. They look for material that they believe will be beneficial to UTPA students.

"Seventy five percent of what we buy [at the book fair] is not available in English, but it gives us a different perspective of the material we are reading if it's from there. Some may be available in English but it won't be as in depth," said Gause.

"We are a university. Let's not have one perspective. We want to be unique."

The book fair in Monterrey naturally contains good regional material for the Rio Grande Valley. The proximity of the border and the cultural influences locally means that literature and Spanish-language academic material can be beneficial in the long run.

Instead of leaving newcomers to the States completely clueless in education Gause explained that it should be OK for our region, as well as others, to buy books that accommodate Spanish speakers.

"We need to expose these people to something they want to read and understand," said Gause.

"If we don't give them the information in Spanish, they'll end up being more ignorant and naive than they are, thus, leaving them further segregated from the United States culture and society."

support to their daughters who choose to pursue careers in science, math and engineering.

Thursday, September 29, 2005 HESTEC GEOGRAPHY SUMMIT

Middle school students will participate in hands-on workshops, competitions and listen to inspirational speakers - all activities designed to enlighten students about exciting careers in geography, engineering, science and technology. This event is sponsored by the National Geographic Education Foundation.

Friday, September 30, 2005 COLLEGE STUDENTS CAREER EXPO

Corporate and government organizations are invited to reserve exhibit space and meet with students from throughout the state who are seeking internships and career opportunities. Recruiters can receive student resumes in advance and schedule personal interviews.

Saturday, Oct. 1 COMMUNITY DAY

More than 20,000 attended Community Day in 2004, making this an ideal event for organizations that want to promote their products and services to parents, families, teachers and community members. Interactive exhibits, presentations and tours emphasize the importance of science literacy.

HESTEC Calendar

Tuesday, September 27, 2005 STUDENT LEADERSHIP DAY

More than 1,000 high school students will be motivated to develop their leadership skills by attending leadership building workshops and motivational seminars. In addition, these students will participate in a science-related, hands-on competition within their schools before the winning entry is showcased at UTPA. In previous years, HESTEC has featured solar panel car races, wind generation and robotics competitions.

Wednesday, September 28, 2005 LATINAS IN SCIENCE, MATH, ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY DAY

Female high school students with their mothers will hear from prominent women executives and inspirational speakers. The speakers will highlight the important roles women play in these fields, encourage female students' interest in these areas and help mothers to provide encouragement and



The University of Texas-Pan American

Career Placement Services presents



ALL MAJORS WELCOME

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FRIDAY, SEPT. 30

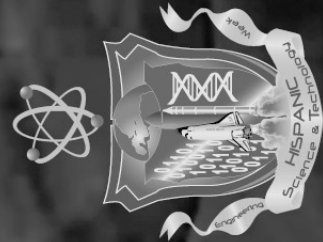
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La Reacción mexicana a los “Minutemen”

Por **JOSUE ESPARZA**
Traducido por SYLVIA LORENZEN
The Pan American

Algunos mexicanos han declarado que las acciones de la armada civil o los “minutemen”, lejos de ser patrióticas, son racistas. Pero otros creen que los esfuerzos reflejan una creciente preocupación por la seguridad individual en la zona fronteriza.

El proyecto de armada civil, cuyo objetivo es de sellar a la frontera e impedir el flujo de inmigrantes ilegales, comenzó en un corredor fronterizo de unos 23 millas en el estado de Arizona. El grupo ha anunciado su intención de patrullar partes de la zona fronteriza entre México y Texas. A pesar de los esfuerzos de la armada civil, los inmigrantes de México, Centro y Sudamérica siguen cruzando la frontera sin barrera que les impida.

Aunque gran número de mexicanos critican el proyecto de la armada civil, algunos piensan que sus motivaciones son buenas.

“Todos van a hacer lo que creen que es mejor para su país” dijo Lydia Loera, residente de México. “No existe país en el mundo que acepte una inmigración ilimitada. En México, por ejemplo, las autoridades en el sur de la República desconfían de los inmigrantes que llegan a México de Guatemala, El Salvador y otras zonas de Centro y Sudamérica”.

Sin embargo, desde su inicio, la armada civil ha sido criticada por muchos mexicanos como un grupo de racistas temerosos de una pérdida de poder frente a los cambios demográficos del futuro.

“Los armados civiles no son más que americanos jubilados en busca de la fama. No tienen otra cosa que hacer” destacó Juan Casares, residente de Monterrey.

Algunos mexicanos creen que los Estados Unidos les ha dado a este grupo una licencia para maltratar a los inmigrantes. Otros dicen que el proyecto de armada civil simplemente intenta que las leyes se obedezcan ya que el gobierno federal estadounidense no ha podido controlar el flujo de inmigrantes en la frontera. Algunos grupos de derechos civiles, por otra parte, se preocupan de que la armada civil está

portando armas sin el entrenamiento adecuado y que al asumir el papel de la patrulla fronteriza están poniendo en peligro sus propias vidas y las de muchos más. La armada civil, sin embargo, dice que no portan armas y que cuan-

manezca en las zonas fronterizas.

Muchos mexicanos también opinan que la armada civil propaga el racismo ya que en su mayoría los integrantes son anglos y que los inmigrantes tienden a ser hispano-hablantes.



courtesy of SanDiegoIndy.org

PROTESTANDO - Un manifestante sostiene una pancarta en contra de los ‘minutemen,’ que han estado patryando la frontera para reducir el influjo de inmigrantes ilegales.

do sospechan de una actividad ilegal en la frontera simplemente la reportan a la Patrulla Fronteriza.

Rafael Gallegoz, residente de Nuevo León, México opina que como los integrantes de la armada civil no reciben capacitación, no están preparados para enfrentar este tipo de situación.

“Esta gente está portando armas y persiguiendo a los inmigrantes como si fueran ratas” dijo Gallegoz. “Lo que no entiendo es cómo los Estados Unidos permite esta gente per-

Opinan, además, que las confrontaciones violentas entre ambos grupos pueden deberse al hecho de que los inmigrantes no respeten la autoridad de la armada civil.

En un comunicado de prensa reciente, el director del Instituto de Migrantes de Oaxaca, René Quiroz, señaló que, en lo que va del año 2005, ha habido 74 fatalidades de inmigrantes conectadas a las actividades de la armada civil en Arizona. Esta información no ha sido comprobada, sin embargo.

Quiroz también denunció el apoyo que el

gobernador de California, Arnold Schwarzenegger, expresó a favor de la armada civil ya que él mismo es un inmigrante de Austria.

Por muchos años, los Estados Unidos ha denunciado las barreras que separan países a lo largo del mundo. De hecho, fue este país el que ayudó a derrumbarse el Muro de Berlín en Alemania.

Como resultado, los mexicanos cuestionan los motivos de los Estados Unidos en crear tantas barreras entre los países colindantes.

“Si los Estados Unidos ayudó en derrumbar el Muro de Berlín. ¿por qué edifican tantas barreras en la frontera con México?” se pregunta Héctor Hernández, residente de Monterrey. “¿Por qué nos detienen a la armada civil que están deshumanizando al mexicano?”

La economía estadounidense es una de las más potentes del mundo. La mano de obra barata que proviene de México tiene mucho que ver con esta potencia. Algunos han dicho que los inmigrantes desempeñan los trabajos manuales menos deseadas – trabajos que los miembros de la armada civil no harían.

“Los mexicanos que vienen a los Estados Unidos son gente trabajadora que únicamente buscan mejores oportunidades. No son criminales. Sin embargo, la armada civil los trata como criminales” destacó Alondra Corola, residente de Apodaca, Nuevo León.

“Tal vez el rencor y el odio de los integrantes de la armada civil surge de su envidia del mexicana que está trabajando y contribuyendo a la sociedad mientras que ellos no hacen nada”.

Pero los mexicanos advierten que la armada civil no consiste únicamente en anglos, sino que algunos méxicoamericanos también participan. Alegan que estos han desechado sus raíces participando en actividades tan crueles.

“Es fácil olvidarse de los raíces, pues la vida ahora es mucho más cómoda. El que un mexicano critique y ofende a otro no es nada fuera de lo común,” observó Sorola. “Yo me siento a la vez triste y enojada sabiendo que existen mexicanos quienes se añoran al movimiento de la armada civil.”

Aumento de la población hispana hace que librerías proporcionen más material en español

Por **TREY SERNA**
Traducido por PAOLA CARRASCO
The Pan American

Según el U.S. Census Bureau, la población Hispana estaba en un estimado 41.3 millones o 14 por ciento de la población total en la nación, y estos números están en crecimiento. Un resultado de este boom es el incremento en material escrito en Español, que se puede encontrar en bibliotecas universitarias por todo el país.

Esta tendencia no es muy bienvenida por algunos que creen que ajustarse a una población de habla Hispana significa ajustarse a una población compuesta en parte por inmigrantes indocumentados que no pagan impuestos.

“La gente está alterada porque muchos aprendieron Inglés como su primer idioma y no les interesa aprender otro, entonces lo ven como un malgasto de el dinero de aquellos que pagan impuestos para material que nunca van a

usar,” dijo Ramon Hernandez, que está en su primer año de ingeniería.

“Yo sé que si quiero aprender de la cultura Hispana, yo voy a hacerlo leyendo un libro acerca de la cultura en Inglés, no en Español,” dijo Hernandez.

Sin embargo, Dr. Glenn Martinez, Miembro del directorio de Lenguas Modernas y Literatura de la Universidad de Texas-Pan American, toma el lado opuesto.

“Los inmigrantes pagan impuestos a pesar de todo,” dijo él. “Cuando tú compras una bolsa de papitas fritas o una Coca-Cola en la tienda, nadie te pregunta qué idioma hablas antes de la adquisición. Tú pagas por los productos, incluyendo los impuestos, así que deberían ser capaces de utilizar el dinero para proveer material en Español para las bibliotecas.”

Los bibliotecarios de el Río Grande Valle tienden a estar de acuerdo, incluyendo la biblioteca de UTPA,

Por ejemplo, un libro de cómo hacer tacos

probablemente tendría mucha más credibilidad si fue publicado en México que un libro publicado en Memphis. Esto es algo clave para la Biblioteca de UTPA.

“Forzar a alguien a ser monolingüe es forzar a alguien a la ignorancia. Es una contradicción porque las bibliotecas son depositarios del conocimiento,” dijo Ramiro Rea, profesor asociado de Lenguas Modernas y Literatura.

En un esfuerzo para mantener esta idea en la universidad, cada Octubre George R. Gause Jr., bibliotecario de la colección especial en UTPA, y su esposa Virginia Haynie Gause, bibliotecaria de sistemas, participan en un festival de libros en Monterrey, Mexico. Ellos buscan material que creen que va a ser beneficioso para estudiantes de UTPA.

“Setenta y cinco por ciento de lo que adquirimos (en el festival de libros) no está disponible en Inglés, pero nos da una perspectiva diferente si el material que estamos leyendo es de allí. Algo podría estar disponible en

Inglés pero no va a llegar a tal profundidad,” dijo George Gause.

“Nosotros somos una universidad. No tenemos una sola perspectiva. Nosotros queremos ser únicos”

El Festival de libros en Monterrey naturalmente contiene buen material regional para el Valle del Río Grande. El material académico en Español puede ser beneficioso a un largo plazo localmente por la proximidad con la frontera y por las influencias culturales. En vez de dejar a los recién llegados a Estados Unidos sin idea acerca de la educación, Gause explicó que estuviera bien para nuestra región, junto con otras, que se compraran libros que se acomodan a los hablantes Hispanos.

“Necesitamos exponer a la población a algo que quieran leer y entender,” dijo Gause.

“Si no les damos la información en Español, van a acabar siendo más ignorantes e injenuos de lo que son, dejándoles más segregados de la cultura y sociedad estadounidense.”



- 10 Years Gone 8 & 9
- Vonnegut's Last Hurrah? . . . 10

UTPA Mariachi clubs team up for benefit

By CLARALEXIS RIOS
The Pan American

Mariachi fan Evelyn Alaniz from Mission got more than what she bargained for Saturday; good music and the knowledge that she helped.

"My husband loves Mariachi," she said. "We've seen them at the Civic Center and we wanted to enjoy music today."

Hundreds of people gathered at the University of Texas-Pan American Fine Arts Auditorium on Saturday for a benefit concert sponsored by the City of Edinburg and HEB to help Hurricane Katrina's victims.

This event featured the UTPA Mariachi band, UTPA Mariachi Femenil, Mariachi Los Arrieros, and the UTPA Salsa Band.

Dahila Guerra, director of UTPA Mariachi and chair of the Music Department, said that she had a lot of help in organizing the event. Golden Key International Honour Society, Future Music Teachers, Young Adult Catholic Ministry, and the University Ambassadors pitched in.

"Several students approached me and I have been thinking about it as well," she said.

Guerra then approached the City of Edinburg, which contributed pizza for sale after the concert. She also approached HEB, and they contributed tortillas, sausages and drinks for this sale. All the proceeds went to

The Red Cross.

Pedro Gonzalez III, a UTPA sophomore mechanical engineer major and UTPA Mariachi member, explains how he came up with this idea for a Hurricane Katrina benefit concert.

"I was driving home after a gig upset and I felt like I wanted to do something," he said. "Hurricane Katrina had struck New Orleans prior to that. It was an idea that popped into my head while I was tossing and turning in bed."

Fabian Lopez, Golden Key vice president and UTPA senior music education major, explained the process for donating to the organization.

"After we have collected all of the money, there will be a small ceremony next month and a check will be presented to a Red Cross representative on behalf of all the student organizations," he said.

The night belonged to Mariachi Los Arrieros. The band, made up of Valley natives, has already performed in Las Vegas and will soon compete in Los Angeles.

Mirella Castañeda, herself a member of the UTPA Mariachi Femenil, said she was pleased with the bands' performance.

"I think we did the best that we could," said Castaneda. "Even though things can go wrong, you just have to make the best of it."

Bringing ZEN to the Valley

By JASON CHAPA
The Pan American

Art Awakenings will hold its own Hurricane Katrina benefit this Friday, Sept. 23, mixing a variety of performances and presentations from a local artists to help the victims of Katrina. Tickets will be \$7 at the door or \$1 off with the donation of a non-perishable food item.

Headlining the benefit will be hip-hop group Squarootz, classical guitarist Jason Landry, and a variety of DJ's spinning a variety of genres.

Titled "ZEN: Katrina Relief Benefit," the show will also feature a raffle for paintings by over 15 local artists such as Cat Garza, Zachary Moser, Gwen Rachel and Josh Polinard, among others. Tickets for the raffle will sell for \$10.

Moser, one of the organizers for the event and a junior majoring in philosophy and art at The University of Texas-Pan American, hasn't had the easiest time putting it together, despite good intentions.

"The main difficulty I have encountered is juggling the information flow in and out, on such a short notice," Moser said. "Meeting deadlines. Getting prompt replies from media outlets, or getting replies at all. Dealing with fickle artist trying to pull out after-the-fact. And

basically keeping everything running in a smooth organized fashion. It has been stressful at times."

However, despite all the stress, he still remains very excited at the prospect of helping.

"I felt hopeless, wondering, 'What could I do?' Then I realized I can do something. And, so I did," Moser said. "I am happy to be able to have the power to organize and give aid where and when it is needed. I feel more excited about and satisfied with this ability that any other thing that I can immediately recall."

In light of all the recent benefits for the hurricane victims, the only concern he has about his event in contrast is that it will do as well.

"I hope that all these other events are doing their part in getting all money, emotional support, and materials to those who need them most; the survivors of this horrible natural disaster," Moser said.

Gabriel Grajales, who will be DJing the event, feels that there's more to the event than the desire to help.

"The difference between this event and other fund raisers is that those are created by celebrities," Grajales said. "In other words, common, humble people such as ourselves are the ones really affect by a crisis [and] not celebs."

Reel to the Red Carpet: Emmy nod for UTPA Co.

By JASON CHAPA
The Pan American

The University of Texas-Pan American's own on-site production company, Reel to Red, received a Lone Star Emmy award nomination for outstanding student achievement with their student-produced film, "Going Nowhere."

The film, made on a budget of zero dollars in and around campus, focuses on the life-altering choices made by Charles Delgado, and is meant to be a dialogue about making the right choices about various topics students encounter in high school. It is also the first production for Reel to Red, known predominantly for its broadcasts on the closed-circuit television station seen on televisions around campus.

According to their Web site, the Lone Star Chapter, which awards the Lone Star Emmy, "is dedicated to becoming the primary portal to connect professionals and students in Texas' television broadcast-related fields for networking and career development. The chapter also is committed to encouraging and recognizing high levels of professional achievement through the annual presentation of the prestigious regional Emmy Awards."

Chelse Benham is the director of Reel to Red, and had much to say about the film and her staff.

"I had very high expectations; that's the point of being the director. I'm like the coach. I want to push them to do their best," Benham said. "I'm very proud of our team, but we all agree we could do better. We were stretching ourselves."

However, that doesn't stop her from recognizing the talent of her people.

"I believe we have the best students because of the demands of the program," Benham said. "[And] we only take the best. What we do is not easy. It takes a strong person to stick with it."

Griselda Arias, a senior graphic design major, is one of those students. She joined Reel to Red after hearing about it from a former member. For "Going Nowhere," she served as the script supervisor, and aside from her role in the production, serves as Benham's assistant director. She feels that the production was a wonderful experience

"It's been an honor to be a part of this group," Arias said. "Hopefully we'll get more awards for the movies we're making. Hopefully

we'll grow so others can share the experience too."

As for the subject matter of the movie, Arias felt it was a realistic, if grim, view of teenage life.

"I think it's good we're airing what goes on [in real life]," Arias said. "As an informative piece, it gives [students] a look at the outcome of what might happen if they make the wrong choices."

"I think, for their first film, it was awesome," said Daisy Alvarez, a sophomore



Courtesy of Reel to Red

R2R'S EMMY AWARD WINNERS? - Left to right: Griselda Arias, Martin Prieto, Daisy Alvarez, Javeria Farooqi, Rita Reyna, Israel Rojas; (Bottom row) Ali Nagui, Oscar Garza.

TV/film major who starred in the production. "It was sad, but it wasn't meant to be like a Hollywood happy ending. It was supposed to be a taste of reality."

Despite the often despondent subject matter, the team itself got along great.

"We are like a small family," said Javeria Farooqi, a junior communica-

tion major, who was the costume and set designer for the film, and also had a small role. "Everyone is like brothers and sisters. We all come from different backgrounds and with different experiences, and bring it to one team."

Alvarez agreed, saying that there weren't any conflicts.

"The crew helped each other out," she said. "It was a win-win situation. The chemistry between the members was always growing, and it helped them help each other."

The award nomination, not the first for Reel to Red, also surprised the team.

"It's amazing," said Farooqi. "I didn't think we'd get it because we didn't meet the standards we wanted, but it was very unexpected; when I found out I was very honored."

Ali Naqvi, sophomore TV/film major, served several roles during production, including cinematography, editing and lighting. He got a lot out of the film as well.

"I liked it," Naqvi said. "It was a learning experience, and [while] it wasn't as good as we hoped it would be, most artists expect a lot from their work and are disappointed with the results. We're still very proud of it. For the next one, we're aiming real high."

The director added a final note.

"You don't have to be a film student from a fancy art school to make a good movie," Benham said. "It takes creativity and ingenuity. Cooperation was also important. If they didn't [work together], they wouldn't have made it."

Ten years gone

“So where do you see yourself in ten years?”

This question is uttered by employers, advisers and parents almost on a daily basis to all college students. Students come to college with the hope of one day graduating, and never really plan the future unless it pertains to weekend plans.

As bright-eyed, hopeful freshmen, the future seems far off in the distance, and just getting through the first year of college becomes the toughest challenge. Eventually the transitional shock from high school to college fades and all that is left are classes, majors and what are considered the best years of your life.

It has been about 10 years since Belinda Guzman, Arminda Munoz and Lourdes Servantes lived the full college experience, but their memories remain

vivid.

Thinking back on her life here as a Bronc, Guzman said she was not such a focused student in the beginning.

“Not a serious one [student] when I started back in 1989,” said Guzman. “It took me six and a half years to graduate! “When I finally buckled down, I was very dedicated to my studies; it comes from having learned the hard way that the GPA does matter in the end.”

Guzman graduated in 1995 and gives her college accomplishments’ credit to the advice her mother gave her: “Your friends and boyfriends may come and go, but your GPA stays with you forever.”

The life of a college student is one of ups and downs. There is happiness and light-hearted

fun with friends on one side, and stress and deadlines on the other. It is a life that walks the line between care-free adult and responsible adult.

Arminda Munoz graduated from the University of Texas-Pan American in the spring of 1995 and looks back at her years and remembers the youthful energy and spirit.

“I guess I was more energetic?” said Munoz, “I was very energetic and I was looking forward to graduating and I was very optimistic about heading out into the real world.”

Munoz lived all four years in the dorms on campus and says she would not have traded the experience for anything. She would actually like to relive those times.

Lourdes Servantes graduated from the university in May 1998. She did not begin her college career at UTPA, but after transferring back and forth from The University of Texas-Brownsville she decided to finish in Edinburg. And just like the rest of us she slowly saw her improvement as a student with time.

“I think I got better as I progressed further with my degree,” said Servantes

“Towards the end I ended up getting all A’s, so that was pretty surprising. When I first started well that’s just another story; we’ll just say I didn’t do as well as the all A’s,” she said.

Servantes commuted from Harlingen every day and did not become active on campus until she joined the Advertising Club in the spring of 1997.

“Being focused on a goal is what college is about,” said Servantes, now employed with Career Placement Services on campus. “If one is not there already this is the time to find one. For each individual, goals are built up with time and vary from person to person. Some are basic and others more detailed and complex.

No matter which path is chosen by the student, the common goal seems to be just finish and be happy with what has been accomplished. Goals can change within one’s time in college and lead people down unintended career and life paths. For others, the map that they have created for themselves becomes a reality.

“[I want] to be successful in whatever I do and to be involved in some facet of the education field,” said Guzman, who received her degree in speech communication.

Her goals came true. She now works for the Princeton Review Organization as a college adviser, where she tries to get students to take things seriously ahead of time.

“Basically I advise/inform high school students about exploring post-secondary options,” Guzman said. “My goal is to increase the number of student’s awareness about going to college as well as assisting them with getting admitted into college.”

She also gives students advice with financial aid, testing, scholarships, and with the submission of college applications. Guzman believes it is important to inform students about all the options they have today, whether it is community college, trade school, military or four-year university.

For some however, their futures are not what they expected them to be. Sometimes, the degree you receive is not exactly put to use the way you hope, but in the end it can become something wonderful and unexpected.

“When I was younger I thought I would like the field of advertising and public relations,” said Servantes.

JOURNALISM AS A SPRINGBOARD

Servantes started by writing stories for the Pan American newspaper and later sold advertising. Working for the campus paper led to her next job at the Career Placement Center.

“I started writing news releases for them. And I was an office assistant so I would do office clerical work for them, too,” she said.

Working for the university has given Servantes a new perspective on how a college is run. She said that as a student you never get to see what goes on behind the scenes and who keeps the campus running.

While in her MBA program, Servantes applied for a part-time position at Career Placement Services. After focusing only on her MBA, she applied for a full-time position and now helps other students find the jobs and internships they need.

Munoz was the editor of the Pan American in 1995. Her goal when she was a student was to one day write for a daily newspaper, but nothing is ever written in stone. Now she is the public relations officer for Weslaco Independent School District.

“The tradition had been back then that the majority of the editors whether they be copy editors, sports editors or editors, they had moved on to The Monitor,” said Munoz, who is also a graduate student in communication, along with Guzman. “I had always envisioned that part of my future was that I would go on and work for The Monitor.”

As part of an interviewing class, Munoz attended a job fair that was held in the Field House and students were graded on how they presented themselves to potential employers. After handing out her resume, she passed a line of school district booths. Spotting her hometown’s school district she decided to stop and say hello.

“The lady from Weslaco ISD started giving me her pitch,” she said.

Not planning on interviewing for a job in teaching, she explained to the representative of the Weslaco school district her background in journalism. After submitting her resume, she was called the next day to interview for a spot as an assistant for the district’s officer of public relations.

After receiving the job as assistant, she took over the office a few years later. Now she works mostly on public relations, but hopes to teach journalism at UTPA after completing her master’s program.

FAST FORWARD

In 10 years time the University of Texas Pan American has changed immensely. Buildings are springing up everywhere and now there are shuttles to help students get around campus.

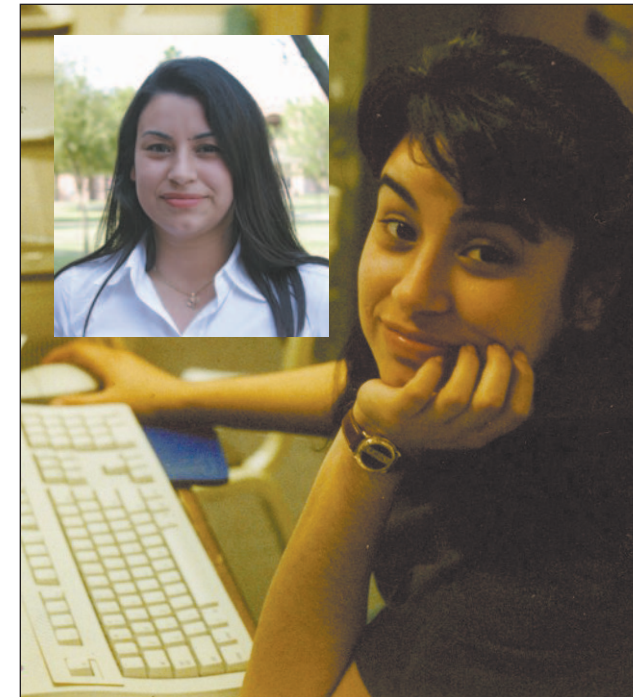
Ten years ago students seldom had access to the Internet, and research meant actually going to the library to look in the card catalog and find a book. Now most research tools are available by just pointing and clicking.

The three women all agree that the university has made great strides toward better conditions for students by offering more programs and opportunities for success.

Now their lives are different than the ones they



SERVANTES



BEFORE AND AFTER - Belinda Guzman (top) is now attending graduate school, after completing her undergraduate degree in speech communication at UTPA. Arminda Munoz (below), once editor of *The Pan American*, is now public relations officer for Weslaco ISD.

lived in college.

Guzman is now planning her wedding and simply anticipates the days when graduate school is over.

“I so look forward to the day to just come home after work and watch marathon episodes of ‘The Apprentice’ without having to crack open a book,” said Guzman

Servantes is happy just spending time with her family and friends. She is still helping out students with Career Placement Services.

“I have a lot of friends,” said Servantes. “I am happy right now.”

Munoz is a mother of two and has her distinct plans for a career in higher education. But she had such a good time as an undergrad that the memories still linger.

“I would easily go back and do those years again,” she said.

What the future holds for this trio of Broncs, only time will tell. But for now they are all happy and say the time they spent in college was the best years of their lives. So far.

Vonnegut signs off on a high note with new novel

By **BRIAN CARR**
The Pan American

Kurt Vonnegut is jaded. He is 82 years old and angry. So his tongue is buried in his cheek.

When most humans accumulate that many frequent flyer miles around the sun they become dull. We have all seen them in the grocery stores. They have trouble counting their change.

But miraculously the famed American author has retained his wit, and his most recent release "A Man without a Country" reads like the punch line to his eccentric writing career.

Taking aim at George W. Bush, conservatism, and computers, the legendary author whose books include "Slaughter House Five" and "Breakfast of Champions," offers us a series of life lessons learned in his four score and two years of existence.

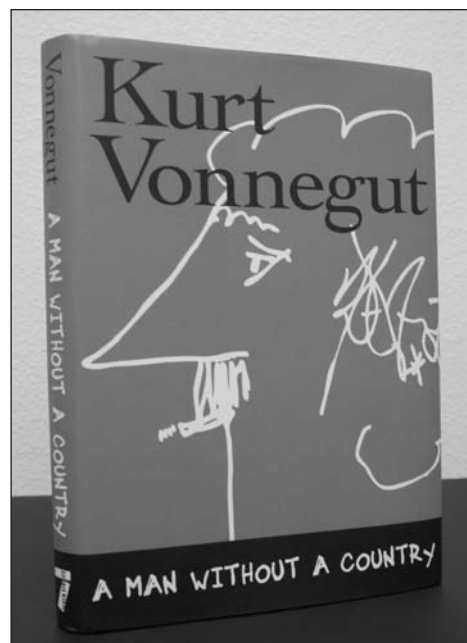
The 150-page collection of essays, released by Seven Stories earlier this month, is riddled with Vonnegut's mantras, as he exhumes the lives of Abe Lincoln, Karl Marx, Adolph Hitler, and fictitious alter-ego Kilgore Trout to explain his take on politics, society, literature, humor, and the nature of his own life.

"All I really wanted to do was give people the relief of laughing," writes Vonnegut. "Humor can be a relief, like an aspirin tablet."

By spryly suggesting that Bush uses the

military like a rich kid plays with Christmas toys, and that humans are on earth for the sole sake of farting around, Vonnegut gives the impression that he is using his mastered medium for the final time – taking the opportunity to make blunt, albeit, comical observations.

"We are all addicts of fossil fuel living in a state of denial," Vonnegut explains. "And like so many addicts about to face cold turkey, our leaders are now committing violent crimes to



Joel de la Rosa/The Pan American

get what little is left of what we're hooked on."

But Vonnegut is careful enough not to make "A Man without a Country" the death-knell gasp of an angry, aging eccentric. With his typical fast-paced writing-style the bespectacled uber-genius finds time to recount tales of uranium-pooing Martians, banana peel suppositories, and the negative effect of old age on parallel parking. He relives the bombing of Dresden. He talks about his first car. He explains his beef with the cigarette industry.

"Starting when I was only twelve years old, I have never chain-smoked anything but unfiltered Pall Malls. And for many years now, right on the package, Brown and Williamson have promised to kill me," rants Vonnegut. "But I am now eighty-two. Thanks a lot, you dirty rats."

For followers of Vonnegut's career his assumed final work is a must read, as it is littered with inside humor only his long-time readers will follow. But for the casual Vonnegut fan, or even those becoming acquainted with the aged literary giant for the first time, "A Man without a Country" will have to be taken like this: the whimsical self-authored epitaph of a beautiful lunatic.

This might be easiest summed up in one of Vonnegut's favorite observations:

"Life is no way to treat an animal."

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Joel de la Rosa/The Pan American

WALKING TO A HEALTHY HEART - Valley hospitals and local businesses participated Saturday in the 5K Heart Walk around the Commerce Center in McAllen.

LEARNING

continued from page 3

"There are students who are capable of becoming professional college students [on their own], and there should be a way to distinguish who should take the class and who doesn't really need the class."

University-wide acceptance from faculty and students of a required course has been one of the challenges that Rodriguez and the task force have faced.

"There are a lot of students who think they shouldn't be taking this course," Rodriguez stated. "[But] we did not want this to be a remedial course because we didn't want to carry the wrong message about the course."

Other challenges include having enough course sections and instructors so that all entering freshmen can be enrolled during the fall. Currently, only 56 percent of the freshmen are enrolled. The other 44 percent must

take the course either in the spring or summer semester. A student coming in with less than 30 hours of college credit must take it.

Faculty and staff around the state are working to make this class more student-friendly. And improvements made this year include a new textbook written by the faculty at Texas State University. The revised material enhanced the application aspect of the course based on staff experiences teaching the course. Professional staff development was also implemented as a way to move from a lecture-based curriculum to a more cooperative learning environment.

However, all remain committed to the goal.

"We have an obligation as an institution to help our students succeed," Rodriguez remarked. "And we think that this is one way."

MINUTEMEN

continued from page 4

Quiroz also disapproved of the support that California governor Arnold Schwarzenegger gave in favor of the Minutemen, especially since he was also an immigrant, from Austria.

Some Mexicans argue that the United States has not been fair to Mexicans in putting up such difficult obstacles, considering their past disapproval of the barriers between countries throughout the world and question the United States in this matter.

"If the United States helped in the bringing down of the Berlin Wall why do they have all those barriers for the Mexicans in the border?" said Hector Hernandez, of Monterrey.

The United States economy is one of the strongest economies in the world, with cheap immigrant labor playing a funda-

mental role in this.

"The Mexicans that emigrate to the United States are hard-working people who are only searching for a better opportunity," Alondra Sorola, from Apodaca, Nuevo Leon said. "They are not criminals but the Minutemen are treated them like they are."

There are also hostile feelings from some Mexicans against Mexican-American people who are participating in the Minuteman Project.

"It's easy to forget where you come from when your life is much easier now. Mexicans putting down other Mexicans is very common," said Sorola. "I feel sad and at the same time angry, knowing, or at least is how we understand here, that there are Mexicans joining the anti-immigrant group."

Bugs found in broccoli soup at UTPA cafeteria

By NAYELLY BARRIOS
The Pan American

Some students who ate at the UTPA cafeteria on Monday afternoon were surprised to find insects crawling about in their cheese broccoli soup.

"I couldn't believe my eyes. I had to look at it twice. There was a lot in there and I was looking around to see if anybody noticed," freshman pre-med biology major Vanessa Brown said.

Brown, who was having lunch with her friends that afternoon, proceeded to check the rest of the bowls at her table and noticed that they were all infested by the bugs which looked like seasoning at first sight.

Marketing major Sofia, who asked that her last name not be used, said the bugs looked like seasoning at first sight.

"It's a disgusting feeling to know that you have bugs going down your throat into your belly. We talked to the director, the chef came in all they could do was apologize and said that maybe it was from the doors opening, but it only went to the soup? It's like it was seasoned with bugs," said Sofia.

The students received a refund for their meal that day.

"We were approached by two students who said that they had bugs of some sort in their food," said Sodexo General Manager Jesse Pisors, "We personally observed a total of three gnats in what people showed us."

Dean of Students Dr. Jerry Price said that health is the number one priority.

"We take very seriously not only the quality of our food but certainly the health and safety involved," said Price. "And if something has occurred that makes it look like that priority of health and safety has been compromised, then we certainly want to look into it."

This is the first time that something of this nature has occurred at UTPA.

"After we were notified about them, the first thing we did was remove the pan of soup from the soup warmer, we looked in that, we did not see any. We did see a few

lying around the area, certainly there was a problem there, but we did not see any in [the pot]," Pisors said.

Pisors, who says the bugs flew in through the doors while they were open, met with auxiliary services and the physical plant director Tuesday morning to devise a solution to the occurred incident.

"This is something that is very much not characteristic of Sodexo or the record we have on campus here and I've never known of anything like this happening before, it won't happen again and we are trying to fix the cause of why it happened."

He said they will be moving the cash register 20 or 30 feet farther inside the cafeteria so that when the lines form by the doors, they are not forced to stay open giving less time to create this type of problem.

Also, soup will now be offered on the serving line with employees serving it to keep a better watch on it. Air curtains, which are fans that blow down an air barrier, are also being considered. Pisors said they may need to do that because this is a very serious matter that needs to be solved.

"Why were they attracted to that? Because of the cream, because of the cheese, there is a lot of protein that would attract a gnat to the soup. It did not get in the preparation period or the storage period, but once it was there it got in," Pisors said.

Sodexo follows the company food safety policy which includes monthly self inspections. They also voluntarily contract with the National Sanitation Foundation which goes in on an annual basis. They also have county health inspections, who were in Tuesday morning as a follow up to Mondays incident.

"We have a very strong record of good food and safe food, it's extremely rare," Pisors said. "We've never had a problem, even a minor one and I am very sorry that this happened to these people, and we'll do anything we need to fix it."

As for Brown and her friends, they are trying to see if they can arrange for their meal plan to be converted into Bronco Bucks.



INVADERS - Bugs were found in a bowl of cheese and broccoli soup at UTPA's cafeteria Monday afternoon.

FOOD continued from page 1

of complaints and we have to address those complaints."

An organization that has had to make several adjustments is the Original Music and Art Club. Andres Hernandez owns a taco stand that has met all the standards needed to serve hot food while taking all the proper precautions. That is until it was brought to his attention that they cannot use gas grills on campus.

"I understand the university's concern for health and safety and we will continue to follow guidelines," says Hernandez. The Office of Environmental Health and Safety are currently working with OMAC to clear up the situation.

The seminar on Tuesday did help to clear up a few things for some of the organizations.

MCALLEN continued from page 1

from the academy as college sophomores before they ever set foot in a university.

Broshears works with the IB students their high school senior year and first college year.

"We pick up where they left off," said Broshears. "We realize these are high-achieving students and have the desire to go above and beyond what normal students do, so we try to make it easy for them to have intimate relationships with their professors and faculty members. It's completely up to them whether to take advantage of it or not, but we like to let them know that they have that option readily available to them."

Once at UTPA, students work with another program called "BRIDGE," in which they are given the opportunity to work with faculty and interact with university scholars so they can get started with their field community service.

Students who graduate under the IB program often receive multiple admissions to universities such as Princeton, Columbia, Yale, MIT, and Brown. UTPA grants any IB scholar automatic acceptance and a full scholarship.

"It's a pretty prestigious thing; this is the only IB academy we have south of San Antonio," said Broshears.

Students are required to graduate with two diplomas – an IB certificate, and a Texas DAP designated state diploma.

The IB curriculum consists of six areas of study: English, foreign language, history, science, math, and an elective. In addition, students must take a course titled Theory of Knowledge.

"With this class, we try to get students to look at how we gain and integrate knowledge, and how to question its sources," said LaFevers. "It's a blend between philosophy and epistemology. IB thinks this is one of the core elements of their curriculum."

In order to obtain the degree, a student must also complete 50 hours of community service. According to LaFevers, this is to "build a sense of obligation to where they live and to the rest of the world."

A final requirement is carrying out an original research project and reporting it in an extended essay of 4,000 words.

"What happens when they're done with all this is they've built a sense of responsibility, and when they go to UTPA or any college or university, it's a real smooth transition for them," LaFevers noted.

Amanda Romeu, an 18-year-old biology pre-med freshman who is part of the Gamma class, says the program certainly readied her for college.

"I feel completely prepared and confident to take on my classes here, and I think the workload hasn't been overwhelming for me due to the experience I gained being in that program," she said. "College was easy to transition into. We'd get a lot of work in high school, so it was-

Anupama Reddy, senior with the Asian American Association said, "I wanted to come today because our club sells cultural foods and we want to know what the guidelines are."

Due to the confidential nature of the complaints, Price declined to release information regarding the details and who made them.

There were random comments made after the seminar about how all of this seems like common sense. Perhaps that may be true, but for anyone who needs a bit more clarity there are three offices working diligently for the clubs and organizations on campus. They are the Office of the Dean of Students, the Office of Student Development and the Office of Environmental Health and Safety.

n't really a hard thing to get used to once I came to Pan Am."

Romeu, like all IB graduates, has the option of studying in practically any country in the world if she ever decides to do so.

"It's great that I have the opportunity to study anywhere in the world and get it validated after all the hard work I put into it," she said.

There are over 1,200 IB schools in 100 different countries. The United States has 400, more than any other country in the world.

Sheenaley Legas, a 19-year-old nursing pre-med junior was accepted to the University of Portland, Texas Christian University, and Southwestern University, but chose UTPA because it offered her a full scholarship.

"It's also close to home, and Pan-Am has a good nursing program," said Legas.

Legas is a Beta class graduate, and while she did not receive the 24 credits the Epsilon class will be receiving this coming year, she says she is still glad she went through IB.

"It prepared me a lot for college," said Legas. "Most high school students don't get the opportunities that we did."

Although the number of students in a graduating class has never exceeded 100, the Alpha class collectively received \$1 million in scholarship offers, and the Beta and Gamma classes received over \$2 million.

The Lamar Academy, which houses the local IB program, currently serves 33 seniors and 44 juniors following the IB curriculum.

Charlie Mann, a 17-year-old high school senior says that while the program is challenging, teachers and administrators are always willing to give students a helping hand.

"[LaFevers] has always been there whenever the workload gets too close to driving us insane. The day-to-day routine sometimes gets really hard," he said. "But even though it sometimes feels like it's overwhelming, there are always people like Ms. LaFevers there to help us out."

LaFevers says many of the IB students that go to UTPA end up graduating within three years.

"We have one student in Pan-Am in our May 2003 graduating class who just started her master's program this summer," said LaFevers.

When LaFevers began working with IB, there were 18 schools participating in Texas. Now, they're pushing 30.

McAllen administrators are looking to implement the Primary Years and Middle Years programs, which would allow students to familiarize themselves with IB at a younger age.

"We're not yet sure if it's going to happen or not, but we're considering it," said LaFevers.

Currently, McAllen only operates the diploma program, which focuses on high school juniors and seniors.

ENROLLMENT continued from page 1

ple around the Valley that UTPA suffered an enrollment decline, because that is a significant event," Edwards said.

While this year's freshman enrollment was down, Edwards looked at the bright side saying that there were many benefits that arose from the new admissions requirements that caused the decline.

"We went from an average of 18 on the ACT to a little over a 19," Edwards said. "That is evidence that we are getting a better qualified students across the board in the universities freshman."

In addition to test scores, Edwards said that there was much more evidence of advancement.

"I believe that 96 or 97 percent of our entering freshman from the high schools have [graduated with] the recommended or

distinguished achievement program," Edwards said.

He also said that UTPA is becoming a big receiver of academically apt students, estimating that 19 or 20 percent of the entering freshman class were part of their high school's top ten percent.

"We also have a good increase of the numbers of valedictorians and salutatorians," Edwards said. "I believe we have something like 48 in this fall's entering freshman class."

Edwards said that he has high hopes for this year's more qualified freshman class.

"Not only do we want students to come here and complete their undergraduate degree, we want students to think about enrolling in graduate school at this university or at another university," he said.



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SPORTS CLIPBOARD

Broncs ranked eighth in first regional poll

Cross country recognized for prowess

The first South Central regional rankings were released on Monday and the University of Texas-Pan American men's cross country team is ranked eighth. The Broncs moved up one spot from their preseason ranking of ninth.

The Broncs competed in the Rice Invitational on Saturday and placed second as a team while senior Westly Keating placed third overall. The Broncs will be back in action on Saturday, Oct. 1 in Stillwater, Okla., at the Cowboy Jamboree.

Arkansas is number one in the rankings, followed by Texas, Rice, Texas A&M, and Baylor. Directly ahead of the Broncs in sixth and seventh are Stephen F. Austin State and LSU, respectively. Rounding out the top 15 are Sam Houston State, TCU, North Texas, Lamar, Texas A&M-Corpus Christi, Houston, and UT-San Antonio.

The regional rankings are voted on by cross country coaches at the NCAA Division I institutions included in the South Central region.

Islander volleyball tournament canceled

Islander, Lady Broncs rescheduled for Tuesday

Due to the Hurricane Rita Watch in Corpus Christi, this weekend, Texas A&M-Corpus Christi has announced that the Islander Volleyball Tournament has been canceled. The Islanders and Lady Broncs will reschedule their match for Tuesday, Sept. 27, which will begin at 7 p.m.

Hurricane Rita is projected to hit Texas by Saturday. Galveston, low-lying parts of Corpus Christi and Houston are the areas highly at risk.

The next game at the UTPA Fieldhouse will be against Texas State on Oct. 4, when the Lady Broncs will be looking to win their third straight home game.

Alamo named volunteer assistant baseball coach

New volunteer coach spent summer in Alaska

The University of Texas-Pan American head baseball coach Willie Gawlik announced on Friday that Jason Alamo has joined the coaching staff as a volunteer assistant coach.

"We're excited about his coming to our program as a volunteer assistant coach. He brings good experience from coaching in Alaska and came highly recommended from league officials," said Gawlik.

The former Marshall University hurler joined the staff mid-way through the summer after spending time in Alaska as an assistant coach for the Peninsula Oilers. In his role with the Oilers, Alamo assisted pitchers in pre-game routines, throwing programs, pitching mechanics and the mental aspect of pitching. He also served as the first base coach as well as handled various administrative duties. The newly named volunteer coach was the director for the Oilers baseball clinics in Soldotna and Kenai.

Alamo spent a pair of years as a pitching instructor at the Hardball Academy where he worked with college and high school pitchers from around the state of Florida. During his tenure, he also served as the head coach of the Hardball Academy Junior Team. Alamo was a pitching instructor for The University of Tennessee Baseball Clinic held in Coral Gables, Fla. in 2004.

He is currently finishing his degree at Florida International University.

UTPA Sports Information

FOR THE RECORD

UTPA SPORTS

VOLLEYBALL

Texas A&M-International match
Saturday, Sept. 10
Texas Hall

UTPA DEF. TEXAS A&M-INTERNATIONAL
33-31, 18-30, 29-30, 30-20, 22-20

UTPA: Kills, Stephanie Redd 14; assists, Chelsea Blakely 35; digs, Chrissie Carrigan 36; aces, Danielle Holthe 3.

record: (3-9)

TAMU: Kills, Michelle Castaneda 18; assists, Desiree Arredondo 45; digs, Amanda Ramos 23; aces, Xochitl Garza 2.

record: (9-3)

2005 UTPA Volleyball Schedule

Sept. 23 Texas A&M -Corpus Christi
Sept. 24 San Francisco
Sept. 24 Prairie View A&M
Oct. 4 Texas State
Oct. 8 Utah Valley State
Oct. 11 Texas A&M -Corpus Christi
Oct. 14 North Dakota State
Oct. 15 South Dakota State
Oct. 21 Praire View A&M
Oct. 22 Prairie View A&M
Oct. 22 TCU
Oct. 28 Utah Valley State

Note: All volleyball home games in bold.

Bronc Soccer Club

Men's

Saturday, Sept. 17
UTSA 2, UTPA 1
UTPA record: (2-1)

Women's

Saturday, Sept. 17
UTSA 7, UTPA 0
UTPA record: (0-1)

Sunday, Sept. 18

UTPA 5, Sam Houston State 0
UTPA record: (1-1)

Cross country

Rice cross country Invitational
Saturday, Sept. 17

Men's

1, Shadrack Songok, TAMUCC, 16:52.19. 2, Marcel Hewamudalige, Rice, 17:05.64. **3, Westly Keating, UTPA, 17:21.07.** 4, Luis Armenteros, Unattached, 17:35.31. 5, Brandon Moseley, Unattached, 17:40.16. **7, Hector Gandara, UTPA, 17:49.** **11, Luis Nava, UTPA, 18:12.07.** 13, Josh Hawkins, Sam Houston, 18:16.16. 15, Jose Rodriguez, Sam Houston, 18:27.85. **16, Juan Davila, UTPA, 18:33.68.** 20, Rocky Kimmons, Sam Houston, 18:37.08. 22, Alex Moncivais, UTPA, 18:52.13. 24, Mo Harford, TAMUCC, 18:53.91. **25, JJ Hernandez, UTPA, 18:56.81.** **26, Americo Ortiz, UTPA, 19:04.50.**

Women's

1, Ashley Monteau, Stephen F. Austin, 14:24.09. 2, Marissa Daniels, Rice, 14:37.97. 3, Callie Wells, Rice, 14:57.86. 4, Kate Gorry, Rice, 15:01.86. 5, Magaly Burciaga, TAMUCC, 15:06.03. 8, Anna Reeve, Rice, 15:24.33. 10, Hope Jimenez, UTSA, 15:29.71. 13, Lee Garcia, Rice, 15:42.13. 15, Elke Horn, San Houston, 15:47.02. 18, Erika Wright, San

Houston, 15:51.73. **20, Karla Hernandez, UTPA, 15:56.24.** 25, Katrina Nicholas, Stephen F. Austin, 16:10.20. 30, Catherine Cunningham, Southwestern, 16:28.81. **32, Lorraine Perez, UTPA, 16:34.08.** **35, Ashley Perez, UTPA, 16:41.74.** **40, Sharon Torotich, UTPA, 16:55.39.** **41, Rose Escovedo, UTPA, 16:56.56.** 50, Nicole Zerson, Sam Houston, 17:11.48. **58, Sara Rodriguez, UTPA, 17:49.75.**

UTPA 2005 Cross Country Schedule

Oct. 1 Cowboy Jamboree
Oct. 15 Pre-Nationals (men)
Chili Pepper (women)
Oct. 29 Independent Championship
Nov. 12 NCAA South Central Champ.
Nov. 22 NCAA Championships

RGV Football

Week 4

Thursday, Sept. 22
District 31-5A

Donna at PSJA North
Weslaco at Edinburg

District 32-5A

Harlingen South at Brownsville Porter
Brownsville Rivera at Harlingen
Brownsville Pace at Los Fresnos
Brownsville Hanna at SanBenito

District 32-4A

Mission Veterans at Weslaco East
Mission at Edcoud-Elsa

District 32-3A

Lyford at Raymondville
La Feria at Hidalgo
Rio Hondo at Progreso

Non-district

St. Joseph JV at Santa Maria
Monterrey Tech at St. Joseph
Port Isabel at Falfurrias
La Villa at Benavides

Friday, Sept. 23

District 31-5A

Edinburg Economedes at ENHS

District 32-4A

Mercedes at Brownsville Lopez
Roma at PSJA Memorial

Non-district

Zapata at Rio Grande City
McAllen Memorial at CC Ray
PSJA at McAllen High
MMA at Santa Rosa

Saturday, Sept. 24

Non-district

CC Carroll at McAllen Rowe

Monday, Sept. 26

Non-district

CC King at La Joya
CC Moody at Sharyland

Week 3

Thursday, Sept. 15

Non-district

Brownsville Porter 33, McAllen 14
MMA 20, Progreso 9

Friday, Sept. 16

Non-district

McAllen Memorial 57, Weslaco East 27
PSJA 28, San Benito 14
PSJA North 21, Harlingen South 14
Mercedes 24, Rio Grande City 21
Los Fresnos 44, McAllen Rowe 3
CC Carroll 42, La Joya 30
Edinburg North 13, Sharyland 12

Edcouch-Elsa 51, Raymondville 0
La Villa 20, St. Joseph 15
Hidalgo 40, Falfurrias 8
Brownsville Hanna 21, Donna 15
PSJA Memorial 39, Port Isabel 7
Rio Hondo 23, Mission Veterans 3
Calallen 32, Edinburg 14
La Feria 28, Santa Rosa 6
Weslaco 37, Roma 0

Saturday, Sept. 17

Non-district

Browns. Pace 47, Browns. Lopez 14
open: Harlingen, Mission, Lyford.

College Football

AP Top 25

Week 4

1. USC 2-0
2. Texas 3-0
3. LSU 1-0
4. Virginia Tech 3-0
5. Florida 3-0
6. Florida State 3-0
7. Georgia 3-0
8. Ohio State 2-1
9. Louisville 2-0
10. Tennessee 1-1
11. Purdue 2-0
12. Miami 1-1
13. California 3-0
14. Michigan 2-1
15. Georgia Tech 3-0
16. Notre Dame 2-1
17. Michigan State 3-0
18. Arizona State 2-1
19. Texas Tech 2-0
20. Alabama 3-0
21. Iowa 2-1
22. Iowa State 2-0
23. Virginia 2-0
24. Oregon 3-0
25. UCLA 3-0

NFL

Week 3

Sunday, Sept. 25

Cincinnati at Chicago, Noon
Atlanta at Buffalo, Noon
Cleveland at Indianapolis, Noon
Tampa Bay at Green Bay, Noon
Jacksonville at N.Y. Jets, Noon
Oakland at Philadelphia, Noon
Tennessee at St. Louis, Noon
Carolina at Miami, Noon
New Orleans at Minnesota, Noon
Arizona at Seattle, 3:05 p.m.
Dallas at San Francisco, 3:05 p.m.
New England at Pittsburgh, 3:15 p.m.
N.Y. Giants at San Diego, 7:30 p.m.

Monday, Sept. 19

Kansas City at Denver, 8 p.m.

Week 2

Sunday, Sept. 18

Tennessee 25, Baltimore 10
Tampa Bay 19, Buffalo 3
Chicago 38, Detroit 6
Indianapolis 10, Jacksonville 3
Cincinnati 37, Minnesota 8
Carolina 27, New England 17
Pittsburgh 27, Houston 7
Philadelphia 42, San Francisco 3
Seattle 21, Atlanta 18
St. Louis 17, Arizona 12
Cleveland 26, Green Bay 24
N.Y. Jets 14, Miami 7
Denver 20, San Diego 17
Kansas City 23, Oakland 17

Monday, Sept. 19

Washington 14, Dallas 13

Note: all times central standard time

UTPA Views

The Pan American caught up with several students to ask for their opinions about the current situation regarding the Roadrunners losing their lease in Edinburg.



J.J. Solis-Sophomore

"How is it that the city of Edinburg can shut down a team that has brought them two titles? It's not going to make a difference which team they bring in, it's all about the committment that people have to go and show their support for the Edinburg Roadrunners...they won it twice and a lot of teams can't say that...they brought the city some joy those years they won it."



Horacio Palacios-Freshman

"They (the city) aren't looking to help the city out itself. We had this team for awhile but it makes no sense. We had two championships and we're winning...they mentioned money but it's not going to the right people. It's going back into their pockets just to a smaller team in a smaller league. It makes no sense to me."



Octavio Chapa-Junior

"I had fun watching their games. It was my first pro game."

UTPA takes win over TAMU in five

By **JOEY HINOJOSA**
The Pan American

The UTPA volleyball team came into Tuesday night's match against Texas A&M-International having lost its last three contests. Despite the rough start to the season, the Lady Broncs were able to come back from being down 2 games to 1 and take down the Dustdevils in five games.

The fifth and deciding game ended up being a nail-biter, as the two squads had a see-saw battle that gave each team numerous opportunities to win the match.

UTPA volleyball Head Coach Dave Thorn was pleased that his team was able to come from behind on Tuesday.

"It was an exciting match. I'm sure it was great for our fans. We had some great fans here tonight making a lot of noise and that helped us out a lot," said Thorn. "Personally, I like the boring games you get over in three, but I'll take a win any way I can get it."

Thorn says that the Lady Broncs have gotten in trouble before when they have close matches, so the narrow win in UTPA's second home game is a big lift for the squad.

"We've been in some games where it has been close at the end. We had a five gamer against UTA that we lost 15-13, and some other really close games we couldn't quite pull out," said the Spokane, Wash. native. "To come from behind and win this game is a big confidence boost for us."

The eighth-year coach also felt that the team's aggressiveness contributed to the victory.

"One thing we've been working on in practice is finishing games, and closing them out when there close, and playing aggressively," said Thorn. "Playing through those points, and that's something that we did tonight. We put ourselves in a position to win because we played aggressive."

Senior Stephanie Redd finished with 14 kills to lead the team.

"Stephanie made some big plays for us. She had some big swings at the end of the game," said Thorn. "I think the whole team, Stephanie included, had some ups and downs throughout the match, but when it mattered she made some big plays for us."

Redd was glad to get the win, but felt she can improve in future games.

"I could have done better, especially toward the end, I kind of made errors I shouldn't have," said Redd. "It was a big win for us because we've been having a hard time finishing games, so at least we finished that one."

Freshmen Kellie Phillips had a solid night, contributing 12 kills and eight digs in the winning effort.

"Any time you can get a freshman to come in and play such a major role for you that's great," said Thorn of Phillips. "We've been relying a lot on her and she's really been stepping up. She's really not playing like a freshman anymore, which is great to see."

Junior Chrissie Carrigan led all players with 36 digs on the evening.

"She was big for us. She made some great defensive plays and served well



Delisa Guadarrama/The Pan American

HERE YOU GO - Chelsea Blakely (11) sets the ball to teammate Deanna Schneyer (12) during Tuesday night's game against Texas A&M-International.

for us all night," said Thorn.

With the win Tuesday, Thorn feels that the team is really starting to get a good chemistry going.

"This is one of those games where if we had played this game earlier in the season, I don't know if we would have been able to pull it out, but now the team is slowly coming together," said the

Whitman College alumnus.


The Lady Broncs (3-9) will head out on the road for the fourth time this season on Thursday. This weekend the team will be participating in the Islander Invitational hosted by Texas A&M-Corpus Christi. The squad's next home contest will be on Oct. 4 against Texas State.

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UTPA golfers head to Myrtle Beach

By JOEY GOMEZ
The Pan American

This weekend UTPA women's golf faces the Green Monster.

The nickname for the difficult green course on the Baytree Golf Planation



Joey Gomez/The Pan American

FORE - Natalie Haime prepares to tee off on the driving range Monday at Los Lagos GC.

located in Myrtle Beach, S.C., also comes with a stern warning from amateurs and professionals alike:

"Use every club in your golf bag."

Golf coach Barb Odale, however, has a psychological counter-punch heading into one of the largest women's collegiate tournaments in the country. That is, mind control.

"When you're playing 36 holes that's nine and a half hours of golf," Odale said. "With five minutes between each hole there's a lot of time to dwell on past mistakes."

Odale said she teaches her golfers diversion, how to focus on something other than a mistake as a way to keep certain errors from haunting her players as they make their way around the course.

"I explain to them that it doesn't matter," Odale said. "There are more important things to think about and in 10 years they probably won't even remember one round of golf."

Odale said that the ability to control the mental challenges in golf is what separates her veteran players from the freshman. She added that her seniors focus on pushing the younger players before every tournament.

The Myrtle Beach tourney is composed of 15 teams, approximately 21 fewer than originally planned. Odale said the team from Charleston is the favorite while the golfers from Methodist College will probably take it. The Lady Monarchs are fresh off their 18th national championship in the last 20 years.

"It's a more difficult tournament," Odale said, comparing it to their last tournament at UNT. The Lady Broncs finished eighth at the annual North Texas Women's Classic with a three-round total of 952 (321-318-313).

UTPA returns three seniors to the course.

Stefanie Maynard returns after a successful junior campaign that garnered her third National Minority Golf Championship, breaking a program record with a three-round total of 217 in the process. Her performance was the second lowest in program history.

Maynard tallied her ninth career top-five finish, tying for fifth, with a total 230 (75-78-75) after 52 holes.

Nikki Boychuck, the runner-up at the NMGC Championship last spring, also returns, and she brings her 310-yard drive with her. ESPN The Magazine's second team Academic All-District VI honoree tied for 16th with a three-round score of 235 (80-81-74) at the UNT Classic.

Daniella Cortes, a native from Aguascalientes, Mexico, is also back following a successful junior season during which she finished third at the CenturyTel/Texas State Invitational with a three-round total of 232.

Odale said that team looks to rebound from a lukewarm start at UNT. The challenge begins this weekend at the proclaimed "golf capital of the world"

This fall the women only host one tournament at home, Nov. 4 at Los Lagos Golf Course.

Gibson is new Bronc adviser

By ABEL SALINAS
The Pan American



GARRY GIBSON

After his first week on campus, Garry Gibson, new assistant athletic director for academic affairs and student services, is "pleasantly surprised" with campus and Valley life. Following a nine-year tenure at

Vanderbilt University, Gibson is hoping to continue where he left off in Nashville with a great academic record and enduring relationships with students-athletes.

Gibson, an ex-Marine drill instructor, will continue to help student-athletes succeed in all facets of campus life. His leadership skills have helped develop young minds throughout his professional career.

"Marines and students are similar in a way," he said. "Marines need discipline and guidance in order to be successful in battle. Students need discipline and guidance in order to be successful in college, to have a rich experience on campus and to graduate."

Gibson's friendly personality seems to have scored big with the athletes so far, as he's made himself available to any student who wants to sit down and talk.

"I want to earn their trust and confidence," said Gibson "I want to be there for them."

Karese Jenkins, track athlete, had her first meeting with Gibson on Monday and left his office with a fine impression of the new leader.

"[He was] Very nice, very respectful," she said. "He shows concern for the individual. He wants us to stay focused."

Other observers have given initial thumbs-up as well.

"He is very involved with the students acts like if he was one of them," said Alberto Perez, who works at the student-athlete tutoring center keeping records of who takes advantage of the facilities.

During his time at Vanderbilt, the program's graduation success rate peaked at 97 percent and was never lower than 88 percent. Graduation rate is defined by number of student athletes who graduated while not exceeding the time limit of their athletic scholarship.

"In order to have a successful program the coaches and the administration have to buy into the same thing," Gibson said.

The new assistant AD expects to obtain a good level of rapport with the students by the end of the fall semester, a goal that seems achievable given the friendly atmosphere with 'passion' in the air he has found here.

"I was amazed at the amount of people holding hands and kissing around campus," said Gibson. "I have seen more acts of affection being displayed in one week here than the nine years in Vanderbilt."

Rec sports off to optimistic start

By DARYL GONZALES
The Pan American

Every year students at The University of Texas-Pan American get a chance to showcase their talents thanks to the intramural sports program that is set up to relieve the stresses of college life.

This year the program is offering the same old favorites that intramural faithfuls love, but now there is a bit more variety as well. Co-ed dodge ball, putt putt golf, and kick ball are the newest attractions this semester for the student body.

The calendar of events for the 2005 fall semester shows men's, women's and co-ed flag football. It is one of the more popular sports, and may be aided because the university has no college football. This semester there are 25 teams on the fall schedule. It is a slight decrease from last semester when there were 30, but intramural sports assistant Art Cabrera is still happy with the outcome, said intramural sports assistant Art Cabrera,

"We just want the students to come on out and participate in our recreational events throughout the semester," Cabrera said.

The annual Valley Bowl will also be at stake this semester, as the first and second place teams overall from the fall semester will be invited to compete against UT-Brownsville, South Texas College, and Texas State Technical College teams. Cabrera said that he is trying to get Texas A&M-

Kingsville and A&M-Corpus Christi for the Nov. 5 tournament.

Other sports include men's and women's soccer, 6-on-6 volleyball, tennis, racquetball, and another favorite, softball, that is offered to men's, women's and co-ed teams. Plus a league is also offered to UTPA staff. Cabrera said that they are trying to get a softball tournament set up that is similar to the flag football Valley Bowl.

"We really want to see if we can get something started," Cabrera said. "We would probably do it at Doolittle Park so that we could have four separate games running at once."

The intramural sports program will also have the annual Midnight Madness 3-on-3 basketball tournament on Oct. 14 with a men's and women's team bracket. The winner of the men's and women's tournaments will get \$200.

"The deadline for the applications to be turned in will be on the 14th, so that I can have an entire day to plan out the brackets," Cabrera added.

Officials for all

sports are needed, and the intramural program will be accepting anybody that is interested in helping with the activities through the semester.

"We can still use some more officials for all sports," Cabrera said. "They can just drop by our office and fill out an application, or call 292-0839."

The new dormitories already in construction won't be the only thing seeing ground breaking on campus, added Cabrera. There are supposed to be some modifications done to the area surrounding the intramural field. Cabrera said that there will be a walking trail built around the fields.

Intramural Calendar of Events

Event	Entries due	Play begins
Flag Football	Sept. 2	Sept. 6
Beach Volleyball	Sept. 2	Sept. 6
Kick Ball	Sept. 9	Sept. 12
Soccer	Sept. 23	Sept. 26
6-on-6 Volleyball	Oct. 7	Oct. 11
Softball	Oct. 7	Oct. 10
Tennis	Oct. 21	Oct. 24
Racquetball	Oct. 21	Oct. 25
Racquetball (doubles)		TBA
3-on-3 Basketball	Oct. 28	Nov. 7
Dodge Ball	Nov. 4	Nov. 8
Putt Putt Golf	Nov. 4	Nov. 10

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Melissa Martinez/The Pan American
Rowdy protests the Edinburg City Council -- SEE PAGE 14.

Coach MIA but tennis presses onward

By ANNALISA LIMAS
The Pan American

The Lady Bronc tennis team is set to compete in its season-opening match in Huntsville Saturday, Oct. 1. While the women are eager to get the season rolling, one problem remains: they still don't have a coach.

After Paul Soliz resigned in August, the athletic department started a nation-wide search for a new coach. According to athletic director Scott Street, the search is going well and the women will have a new leader by the start of their season in 11 days.

"We've had some really good applicants so far and we just want to find the best possible person to fill this role," said Street.

In the meantime, assistant

basketball coach Jay Collins has taken the reins until a the vacancy is filled. Collins, in his first year with the Pan Am athletic program, is mainly conditioning the team and getting the players athletically prepared for their season.

"The team has a really positive outlook for this season," said Collins. "Last year a couple of them didn't like the situation, so they're just eager to learn and eager to get better."

Senior Elysia Sloan has also been given the responsibility of leading the team and setting an example for the underclassmen. She finished last year with a 3-7 overall record in the No. 3 seat.

"We do need more structure to our practices but we're doing really well, even without a coach," Sloan said.

"We're all staying really positive and mainly we're just eager to be back at school and on the team."

Sophomores Silke Buksik and Katherine Barto return this season, ready to build on their accomplishments of last year. Buksik finished the season in the No. 1 seat and stands to hold that position again this year. Though the team has only three returning veterans from last year, Buksik still feels strongly about the upcoming season.

"We may not have a coach yet, but Jay's conditioning is great and we're in a lot better shape than last year," said Buksik. "Our team's depth will be

better this year too, we have a really great lineup."

New to that lineup are Nicole Garcia, a sophomore transfer from Lee College; freshmen Marine DeBourquency of France; Ashley De La Garza of Edcouch-Elsa; Jessica Nafiez of Reynosa, Mexico, and Sheila Mabaluc of Edinburg.

With the Sam Houston State Tournament just around the corner, the women's team are pushing and motivating each other to prepare. After finishing the 2004-2005 season with a 2-8 overall record, the Lady Broncs have a lot they want to accomplish this season.

"Our overall goal is to go further than we did last year. Our team is much better this year and we're all just really excited," said Buksik.



Freshman bring it for UTPA '05-'06 season

By DARYL GONZALES
The Pan American

The Lady Bronc basketball team finished last year's season 14-14 overall and coach Deann Craft said that she was excited about some newcomers who will try and put the program over the .500 hump this time.

"I think that they have skill to help us now, but the mentality of Division I, those are the things that I don't have a timetable," Craft said. "I think that they can help us right out the gate."

The team signed six freshmen straight out of high school, many of whom are considered to be among the best in the nation, said the coach, whose team should set a team record for wins this season, and they have a deep and talented team.

"We think individually there are so many attributes to make a strong team and we have felt from day one when we put together this class and assembled them that we had really hit a homerun," Craft said.

"I would really like to applaud Coach Jill Davis, who is our recruiting coordinator, because I think that she did a fabulous job mixing and matching to get the right pieces to what we are trying to do here," Craft added. "I think for our future, it is in extremely good hands."

NEW BLOOD

Rachel Jones, the new freshman point guard out of Little Rock, Ark., is highly regarded by her new coach. The staff is excited about what she is going to bring.

"She holds tremendous north-south abilities, which means that her speed from end-line to end-line is basically unmatched," Craft commented. "She has a lot to learn at this level but she just has a really coachable spirit."

Danielle Kostacky is a 6-foot forward out of Clearwater, Fla., who helped her team reach the Florida Class 5A Final Four on three occasions.

"She played for a tremendous high school program out of Florida, she's probably one of the best fundamental bases out of all the signees that we've got as freshmen," Craft said. "We think

that she is going to be able to transition to the Division I type of play since she has been well coached before coming here."

This season will feature the tallest women's player in school history, as 6-foot-5 Whitney Coulson will be a huge defensive threat in the paint. Craft said that there is no adjective to describe the arrival of this towering freshman, because players like her just don't grow on trees. This type of player is hard to get in any level of play, let alone Edinburg, Craft added.

"We were unique for her, she just wanted to play," she said about her reason for choosing UTPA. "She gets better every day, and so her upside is really great and she is tremendous with her blocks. I think she is a pretty good rebounder and has a hook shot."

Another addition to the program is Robin Garrett, from Nacogdoches High School. There, she played for Miguel Boyalls who also coaches former Bronc guard Jennifer Piwanka. Craft notes that anyone who played for Boyalls is ready to play Division I basketball.

"We think that she is the combination of power and skill, and that is one thing that we have not had here before," Craft continued. "We had Molly Schamel who was power, and we have had other players that had skill, but never both together. She gives us the complete package."

Houston Eisenhower's Tashay Wirfrey has that unlimited potential, Craft said.

"I think this year she is going to have to develop a really strong work ethic," she added. "She is really hungry to make an impact, and I think this is a program that she can put her name on. I think that she has big game potential similar to Tynesha Pierce."



ATTITUDE - (top row from left to right) Triauna Carey, Whitney Coulson, Danielle Kostacky, Tashay Wirfrey, Robin Garrett, and Rachel Jones pose before practice Wednesday afternoon.

Pierce ended up being the team's biggest offensive threat as a freshman last season.

Last but not least, a 6-0 center, Triauna Carey was a first team TABC All-Region and first team 11-4A All-District selection as a junior. That season, the newly signed Lady Bronc averaged a double-double with 12.8 points and 11.3 rebounds per game.

"Tri is an important sign for us because of our graduation of two experienced centers," said Craft. "She has tremendous hand and very good feet. She will allow us some size and power in the low post, and she will compliment our perimeter game with her ability to set and read screens."

This newcomer also has the good pedigree going for her.

"Tri has been taught very well by Terri Morrison at Mesquite Poteet, and we feel that her best basketball is ahead of her which bodes well for UTPA," said Craft.

GETTING IT STARTED

During the recent Mexico tournament exhibition games, the Lady Broncs seemed to just steamroll through the competition. Craft said the experience gave the team a blue-print of what it can accomplish.

"But we know there is a big difference between the level of play in Mexico and SEC Auburn, our opening game."

She said that the trip down south helped the team in many ways, on the court and off.

"When you take away young peoples' cell phones, they have to learn to communicate the old-fashioned way," she said. "Like we did old-school when you really got to know people. You really get to learn who your friends are and who you can count on."

"I think that it was absolutely wonderful for this group to really get to know each other, because they didn't have that security blanket, Sprint or Verizon, they had to really rely on each other."

With Midnight Madness less than a month away, the Lady Broncs feel they have awesome incoming talent to go with an already sound squad. And they also have a head-start on the competition, with the four games in Mexico under their belt.

"I think that Mexico has really helped our team chemistry," Craft concluded. "I think that it has really helped us approach our preseason with more focus, and I think that there is a more of a sense of an understanding."