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Emma Clark

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THE PAN AMERICAN

The Student Newspaper of The University of Texas-Pan American

November 17, 2005

Gala honors ex-Broncs

By **BONNIE BUSTOS**
The Pan American

The University of Texas-Pan American Alumni Association is excited about preparations for the second annual President's Alumni Ball as the Nov. 19 event draws near.

The association is even providing left-footed alumni with free dance lessons to assure the evening goes smoothly.

Christina Cantu, a UTPA alumna who graduated in 1995 with a master's degree in business administration, has been helping with preparations for the ball since the summer and is very excited for Saturday night.

"The dance lessons are fun, and after an hour, they become such a great workout," Cantu said.

For the idea, originally proposed by UTPA President Blandina Cardenas, nominations for distinguished alumni are sought out in the summer. They are selected based on success in their chosen fields and/or if they have made significant contributions to their communities or UTPA.

This year the ball will honor three distinguished alumni: Sylvia Hatton, executive director for the Region One Education Service Center; Noe Hinojosa Jr., vice-chairman and public finance manager for Estrada Hinojosa & Company, Inc.; and Joseph F. Phillips, president of Tex-Best Travel Centers.

A silent auction is set to be the highlight of the evening, with items or services from local businesses. Bidding usually starts at five dollars, and guests can bid on the different items throughout the night.

See **ALUMNI** page 11

Alumni Ball

The UTPA community is invited to the event, which will take place on Saturday, at the UTPA Events Center/Field House. Tickets for the event are \$100 and can be purchased by calling the Alumni Association at (956) 381-2500. Formal or evening attire is strongly suggested; however, black ties are optional.



Joel de la Rosa/The Pan American

TO LEGALIZE OR NOT - Following Denver's legalization of the possession of small amounts of marijuana, Valley residents expressed conflicting opinions on whether or not a similar law should be passed here.

Valley weighs in on pot law

By **ANA LEY**
The Pan American

Weed, pot, reefer, marijuana, grass, hash: all are street names for the same thing - *Cannabis sativa* or *Cannabis indica*. No matter what it's called, across the United States some communities are accepting it as the every day norm.

On Nov. 2, Denver, Colo. voted for the legalization of the possession of small amounts of the drug by a 53-47 percent citizen vote.

Andrea Fernandez, a sophomore of psychology at the University of Texas-Pan American, is just one of the many Valley residents in disbelief about the decision.

"I can't picture something like this being legal here. I can't even see it happening in Denver right now, and it is," said Fernandez.

While Fernandez doesn't think the substance will be legalized here, she is ambivalent about whether local residents

would benefit from the passage of a similar law.

"I don't think I'd want it legalized here, I guess because that's not what I was brought up with," Fernandez said. "But as far as our society's well-being is concerned, I don't think it'd be that bad of an idea. I mean, it's already here, people sell it all the time, and it comes in from Mexico very easily."

Marijuana is the most commonly used illicit substance in the United States, according to the 2004 National Survey on Drug Use and Health, and in Fernandez's mind, that could be turned into a positive thing for the country.

"Why doesn't the government just tax it and make it expensive? If they're not making any money out of it right now, why don't they do that?" asked Fernandez.

While Denver now allows adults to have up to one ounce for personal use,

See **MARIJUANA** page 11

Cultures converge during International Week

By **MARIA MAZARIEGOS**
The Pan American

International Week at the University of Texas-Pan American will wrap up Friday, after keeping the campus occupied with speakers and activities from around the globe. With only a day left, organizers have said that so far, the turnout for events has been quite commendable.

"I have presented in this type of event

in past years, and I must say that the turnout we are having right now is great," said Matthew Christensen, English professor and event moderator.

Students have been able to grasp a sense of others' cultures through speakers and demonstrations, including presentations from two Fulbright Scholar exchange students. Fulbright Scholars is a government-funded program that

See **INTERNATIONAL** page 11



Melissa Martinez/The Pan American

DANCE - Afife Pestaa, a member of the Danzar Academy de Rey Duran, represents the Middle East Tuesday evening as part of International Week.

EdVenture brings adventure to UTPA

By **FELICIA RAMIREZ**
The Pan American

History indicates that collaborations produce great results. The Bush-Clinton Relief Fund has raised close to \$1.1 billion total for both tsunami relief and the victims of Hurricane Katrina, the notorious Sonny and Cher had two number-one singles together, and today another collaboration will be born.

For the first time in University of Texas-Pan American history, two colleges across campus will work on a project together.

The department of business from the College of Business Administration and the department of communication from the College of Arts and Humanities merge to provide an outdoor event for students with information about careers

offered by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). Free of charge, Hogan's Alley will offer an obstacle course, FBI information and free food.

In September, EdVenture Partners approached Joe Garza, marketing professor, to collaborate with them for the second year in a row. EdVenture

See **FBI** page 11

Hogan's Alley
NOV. 17
11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
at THE QUAD

A Fatwa On You, and You, and You, Too!

By DAVID RODRIGUEZ
The Pan American



According to a video issued by Al-Qaeda after the bombings in London in July, the Queen of England is “one of the severest enemies of Islam.” Yes, the Queen of England, that little old lady who wears hats with nets that hang down in the front, the one with the mama’s boy.

This should definitely be cause for concern for Her Royal Highness. Especially considering what happened to Dutch filmmaker Theo Van Gogh. All he did was make a movie about the plight of Muslim women. He was found murdered on the street with a knife buried in his chest. The knife helped pin a note on him with a warning to others who would speak out against Islam.

But then again, who isn’t an enemy of Islam these days?

Take for example a recent edict published by the Saudi newspaper, the Al Watan. This edict aims its scimitar at a truly insidious threat to Islam, soccer. Here is the translated fatwa that lays down rules for the devout Muslim soccer enthusiast. And no, I didn’t make these up. They wouldn’t be nearly as funny if I had.

1. International terminology that heretics

use, such as “foul,” “penalty,” “corner,” “goal,” “out” and others, should be abandoned and not said. Whoever says them should be punished and ejected from the game.

2. Do not call “foul” and stop the game if someone falls and sprains a hand or foot or the ball touches his hand, and do not give a yellow or red card to whoever was responsible for the injury or tackle. Instead, it should be adjudicated according to Sharia law rulings concerning broken bones and injuries.

3. Do not follow the heretics, the Jews, the Christians and especially evil America regarding the number of players. Do not play with 11 people. Add to this number or decrease it.

4. Play in your regular clothes or your pajamas or something like that, but not coloured shorts and numbered T-shirts, because shorts and T-shirts are not Muslim clothing. Rather, they are heretical and Western clothing, so beware of imitating their fashion.

5. If you have fulfilled these conditions and intend to play soccer, play to strengthen the body in order better to struggle in the way of God on high and to prepare the body for when it is called to jihad. Soccer is not for passing time or the thrill of so-called victory.

6. Do not play in two halves. Rather, play in one half or three halves in order to completely differentiate yourselves from the heretics, the corrupted and the disobedient.

7. If neither of you beats the other, or

“wins,” as it is called, and neither puts the leather between the posts, do not add extra time or penalties. Instead leave the field, because winning with extra time and penalty kicks is the pinnacle of imitating heretics and international rules.

8. Young crowds should not gather to watch when you play because if you are there for the sake of sports and strengthening your bodies as you claimed, why would people watch you? You should make them join your physical fitness and jihad preparation, or you should say: “Go proselytise and seek out morally reprehensible acts in the markets and the press and leave us to our physical fitness.”

9. You should spit in the face of whoever puts the ball between the posts or uprights and then runs in order to get his friends to follow him and hug him like players in America or France do, and you should punish him, for what is the relationship between celebrating, hugging and kissing and the sports that you are practising?

10. You should use two posts instead of three pieces of wood or steel that you erect in order to put the ball between them, meaning that you should remove the crossbar in order not to imitate the heretics and in order to be entirely distinct from the soccer system’s despotic international rules.

11. Do not do what is called “substitution,” that is, taking the place of someone who has fallen, because this is a practice of the heretics in America and elsewhere.

THE PAN AMERICAN

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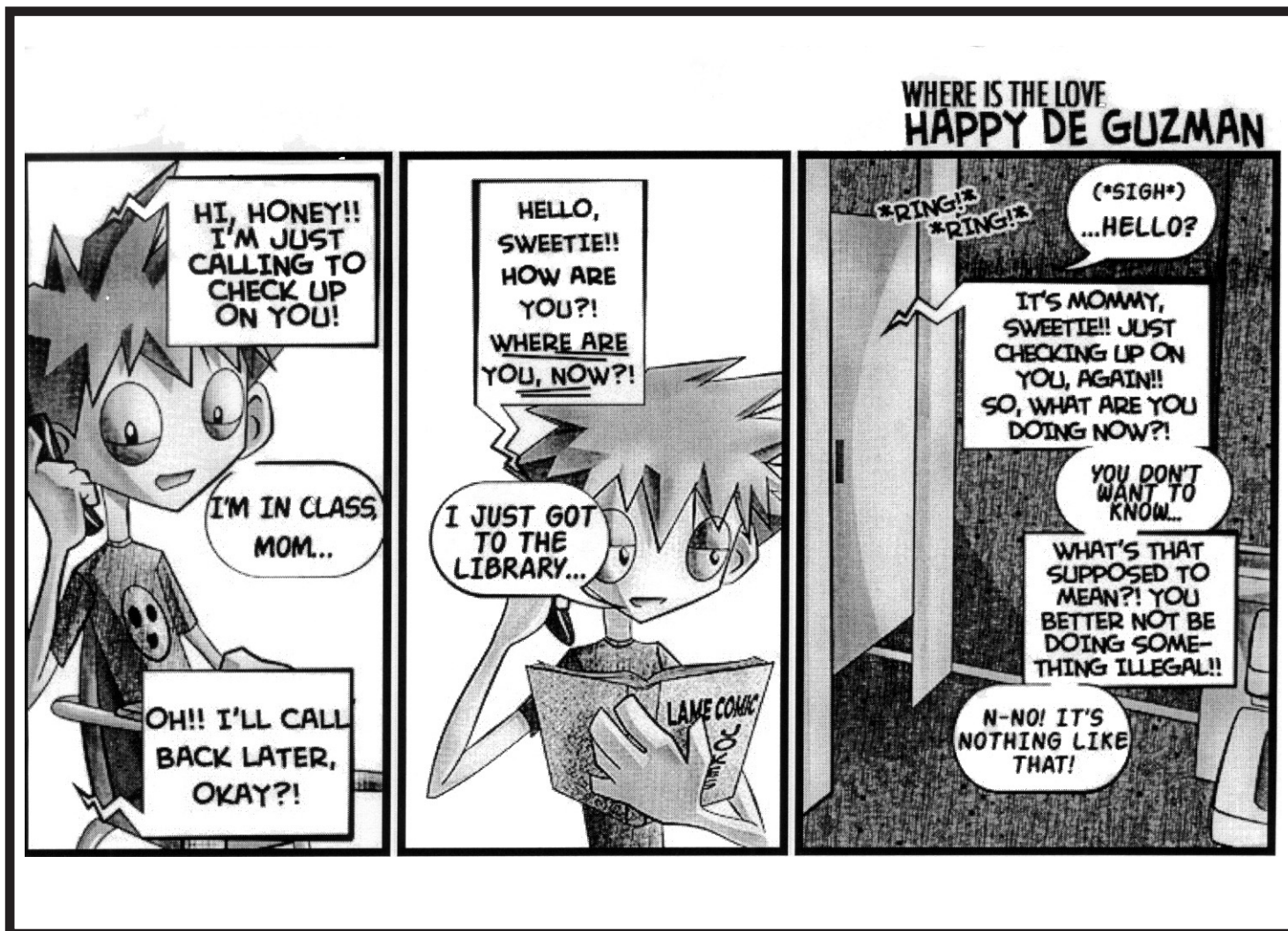
Anthony Pinal
Thursday at Noon

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NEWS



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Religious retreats offer spiritual uplift

By VICTORIA RODRIGUEZ
The Pan American

Many students wander around campus thinking about what makes this world work. Is there truly a force named God? Are we all a part of a bigger picture, pawns in a huge game of chess?

For those who are suffering from lack of faith, or simply want to celebrate their beliefs, there is now a series of events that celebrate Catholicism and Christianity, and reawakens the faith that may have been lying dormant.

The Young Adult Catholic Ministry (YACM) is sponsoring a three-day Catholic retreat named Bronc Awakenings. The purpose of the retreat is the revival of spirituality and the celebration of God in everyday life.

Bronc Awakenings was brought to the University of Texas-Pan American two years ago after some members of YACM attended a retreat at Our Lady of the Lake University. They wanted to bring the retreat down to UTPA so other students

could have the experiences they had.

"All of those that went to Dillo Awakening wanted to bring it down because it was such a wonderful feeling and a wonderful experience. We wanted everyone at Pan Am to have the opportunity to experience something like that too," said Omar Riojas, a senior journalism major. "That's one of the main reasons YACM decided to bring it down here—because of the fulfillment you feel after the Awakening."

They've had one retreat per semester, starting last fall. This retreat marks Bronc Awakenings 3. Their goal is to have one retreat per semester as it takes about three to four months to prepare for each one.

According to Riojas, the retreat made him feel more connected with religious beliefs.

"When I went to Dillo Awakening, it made me more active in the Catholic faith and made me more Christian over all," said Riojas. "It made me want to share the

See **AWAKENING** page 12

UTPA beefs up grad programs

By LUKE KOONG
The Pan American

Tejinder Sethi and Yang Jin Wang are finding new ways to learn and conduct research in the international business doctoral program at the University of Texas-Pan American, but they're learning the hard way, without being babied.

"The program is not as structured as the undergraduate level, but I've realized going through it after two years that it is probably a good thing," Sethi said. "At the Ph.D. level, you're not supposed to be spoon-fed and led by hand - it's more of a self-learning experience. After two years, I realize that although it has been a trying experience, it is probably the better of the two designs."

While the transition from undergraduate to graduate studies was challenging, both have succeeded at becoming more independent learners.

"I learned how to reach my own objective and how to do my own research. I remember in the first semester, I always asked my professor, 'What should I do?'" said Wang. "Now, I have learned how to do



Luke Koong/*The Pan American*

SCHOLARS - (from left) UTPA graduate students Yvette Essounga, Tejinder Sethi, Adesegun Oyedele and Yang Jin Wang review a topic from class. All are in the international business doctoral program offered on campus.

it by myself. Not only learn the knowledge itself, but learn how to do things by yourself."

Currently, UTPA only offers two doctoral degrees, one in educational leadership and the other in international business. The university also works in conjunction with the University of Texas-Austin in

offering a cooperative doctorate in pharmacy.

University officials hope that by the year 2007, more prospective graduate students may be able to consider continuing their studies at UTPA through the addition of doctoral programs in rehabilitative

See **GRAD PROGRAMS** page 12

UTPA migrant program eases transition from high school

By JUAN GAUNA
The Pan American

Enrique Flores is an entering freshman from Raymondville used to working 12 hours a day every summer in Herman, Minnesota, hoeing sugar beets. For him, being a migrant worker is a responsibility he and his family do not take lightly.

He recalls the journey back from Minnesota as hard and often discouraging, because of the difficulty of returning to school each fall.

"I would come in late and it would be hard for me to catch up with the rest of my class," Flores said.

This is the first time Flores and his family came back in early August instead of mid-September, but not the last time they will migrate.

Over the past 15 years, the College Assistance Migrant Program (CAMP) at the University of Texas-Pan American has helped migrant students like Flores with the transition from high school to college.

According to Luis Romero, the program's new assistant director, CAMP

provides over 70 migrant students each semester with various educational resources, such as one-on-one tutoring sessions, counseling, and advising.

"We create that bond and it's something that makes you feel good," said Romero, looking at CAMP alumni pictures hanging on his wall.

Participants also become aware of the options they have in life, the importance of education, and the obligation of spreading awareness of farm-worker life.

Born in Dallas and raised in

See **CAMP** page 12



Joel de la Rosa/*The Pan American*

DRIVING AHEAD - (from left) Emmanuel Briseno, Ramiro Reyes, and Melinda Barrera participate in class as part of the CAMP program for freshman migrant students.

Center for Distance Learning to unveil improved WebCT

By HILDA LORIA
The Pan American

Web Course Tools (WebCT) 4.1, the online course management supplement to a number of university courses, will be upgraded to an improved version, WebCT 6.0 by September 2006.

"WebCT 6.0 has a cleaner user interface to allow us to accommodate the increasing technology demand now and in the future," said Christina Rogoza, associate director of the

Center for Distance Learning.

Most of the new features will improve course management tools to create a more user-friendly atmosphere for faculty members and course designers. These new features include a quick start page for faster and easier course set-up and an interactive student view to allow faculty to view their course just as their students would.

"The Center for Distance Learning and Teaching Excellence is

continuously making improvements to accommodate the growth in demand for learning management systems and remain current with the new technologies that affect the students and faculty here at UTPA," Rogoza said. "WebCT 6.0 will allow us to accomplish these goals."

Officially released in 1997, WebCT is used in 1,510 universities and colleges in 57 countries.

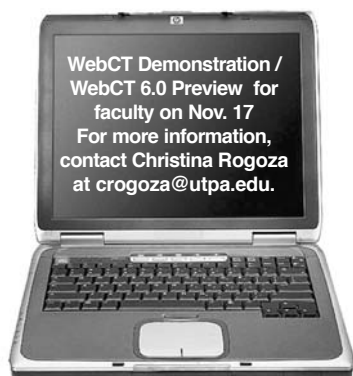
WebCT has been used at UTPA since 1996 when Dr. Wendy

Laurence-Fowler was awarded a grant to research ways to improve the learning environment by incorporating hypertext in the classroom. She became the first professor to implement WebCT into her classes.

After Fowler's success with the course implementation, other faculty members followed suit and began to use WebCT in their classes.

Dr. Cindy Martinez Wedig, a lecturer in the biology department, has

See **WEB CT** page 12



WebCT Demonstration /
WebCT 6.0 Preview for
faculty on Nov. 17
For more information,
contact Christina Rogoza
at crogoza@utpa.edu.

■ "I've had a roof over my head each night. A lot of someones have offered to put me up, a lot of someones have offered to feed me too."

- Ryan Riedel

Just passing through

By SANDRA GONZALEZ
The Pan American

A large cloud hung above the trash dump. The soil underneath his feet was so contaminated that it had been known to spontaneously combust. Ryan Riedel, 23, could not believe his eyes.

"It was one thing to see that, but it was another thing to see the people out there picking through the trash with the smoke and the fires," Riedel said.

This stop was just one of many for Riedel as part of his 1,950-mile bicycle journey along the U.S.-Mexico border which he calls Voluntour 1950.

The idea first came to Riedel when he was visiting a friend in Cheyenne, Wyo. and met a 21-year-old who was biking across the country. While he liked the idea, he wanted to make it more meaningful. So he developed the idea to interview the people he came across.

"The whole idea is to talk to people about the kind of changes they want to see in their community and what they're doing to bring about those changes," Riedel said. "So, I'll bike across the border dipping over and under and record a lot of these conversations and put them in a book so other people can understand and learn about these issues of social justice and culture."

So what started off as a long bike trip for someone who hadn't biked for more than five miles his entire life, evolved into what he hopes to be a five or six-month adventure.

While it is an ambitious project for a recent graduate of Arizona State University, Riedel, who majored in Spanish and religious studies, said that the timing was right. However, his parents

didn't share exactly the same sentiment.

"They were upset, upset in the 'parental concern' way. They were worried," Riedel said. "Mijo, what are you going to do? Where are you going to sleep? You're going to be on the road with all the big trucks and rigs."

Almost four weeks into his journey from Houston to the San Diego-Tijuana border, Riedel has found that the common concerns associated with a trip of this kind have turned out to be less of a problem than initially thought.

"I've had a roof over my head each night. A lot of someones have offered to put me up, a lot of someones have offered to feed me too," Riedel said. "If anything, it's been a blessing because I've come in contact with a lot of good people that way."

When kind strangers are in short supply, Riedel turns to his trusty meal of honey and bread to curb his hunger.

One thing he can't curb, however, also happens to be what has turned out to be the hardest part of the trip for Riedel: his emotions.

"[Yesterday], I spoke with Esther Salinas who lives in Mission, Texas. She's one of the main organizers and activists who works with this community who suffers from birth defects, cancer, and spine bifida as a result of a chemical plant," Riedel said.

Spinal bifida, a disorder involving incomplete development of the brain, spinal cord, and/or their protective coverings, results in paralysis of the lower limbs. Seeing the horrible effects of this disease and others proved something completely different than Riedel had experienced ever before.

"That was an emotionally gut-

wrenching and heart-breaking experience. It's hard going through the emotional spectrum," Riedel said. "I knew it would be tough, but how do you prepare yourself for that?"

Riedel has run into a number of obstacles that he has not been prepared for, though; everything from a nail puncturing his bike tire to misplacing his cycling shoes, keys, and wallet all in the same day. The biggest mishap, however, happened early on in his first of two attempts at the trip.

"The first time I tried the trip, I was in Austin and on the first night I was there, someone stole my bike," Riedel said. "I had locked it up in a barbed wire fence and someone came by that night, snipped the fence, took my bike and got the hell out of there."

But he was determined to continue. He caught a ride with a friend, got a new bike, and continued on all for the purpose of breaking out of the "comfortable" life.

"You read something in the newspaper one morning, then you go out to school or work later in the day and it doesn't leave an impact on your life. That's comfortable. It's empty," Riedel said.

One thing that was not empty was Riedel's meeting with University of Texas-Pan American President Blandina Cardenas.

"There's a lot of depth to that woman," Riedel said. "She really understands education as empowerment."

Riedel also added that he was surprised at Cardenas' willingness to meet with "just a guy on a bike."

But if there's one thing he's learned, it's that surprises are all around. One revelation in particular came when he visited a garbage dump in Matamoros, Mexico.

"They [American businesses] are dumping huge quantities of waste products into the soil," Riedel said. "It was both humbling and humiliating. When my country dumps waste in other countries, I take that to heart."

While he has yet to find a publisher, Riedel hopes that his book has the same effect.

"I'm hoping somebody picks it up and says 'This sh*t is f*cked up,'" Riedel said.

But if action does not follow reaction, Riedel says, his efforts will have been futile.

"If my word dies there, I may well just ridden a bicycle across the country and visited all the McDonalds along the border."

However, he tries to remain positive in his thinking.

"I really believe in what I'm doing," Riedel said. "I really think I can make a difference."



Courtesy of Ryan Riedel



Joel de la Rosa/The Pan American



courtesy of Ryan Riedel

BIKER DUDE - Ryan Riedel stopped in Edinburg (left, below) as part of his 1,950-mile bicycle trip along the U.S.-Mexico border. His trip also included a stop at the Palo Alto Battlefield in Brownsville (top left) and the Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid office in Harlingen (above).



Catching the bug: PC repair company saves RGV

UTPA student sees need for student tech support

By **TREY SERNA**
The Pan American

You're surfing the Web and chatting when out of nowhere those annoying pop-ups start appearing. Your mouse cursor starts acting weird right before the computer slows down then freezes altogether. After restarting your computer, the same thing happens once again, within minutes.

Enter Noel Escobar, a social work graduate student at the University of Texas-Pan American.

Escobar and four friends created their own computer repair business as a way to generate income and to provide much-needed services to their fellow students.

Already with an associate's degree in computer science from Del Mar College and a bachelor's degree in psychology from UTPA, he is no stranger to campus, where he has been studying since 2000.

"We all realized that as students, we really needed money," the army veteran said. "It was also evident that there wasn't a place locally where people could go and get home PC repair in an efficient amount of time. Stores that sell computers usually take a long time, sometimes up to about two weeks to fix computers."

Their brainchild has developed into the company known as The Computer Repair Guy. All five friends have experience working with computers, and each has his own specific area of expertise.

"Each tech has a good grasp for

repairing and upgrading computers," Escobar said. "We have a networking specialist, PC security specialist, Web designer, photographer and graphic artist."

Some may find it odd that Escobar would choose to get his bachelor's in psychology and pursue graduate studies

"I majored in psychology because it was interesting to me and I love helping people," Escobar said. "I think it's great to be well rounded."

While Escobar understands the necessities of having a computer, he enjoys the lighter side of computers and can often be found playing action and



Stephanie Zmuda/*The Pan American*

THE COMPUTER REPAIR GUY - Noel Escobar (left) and his daughter Ashley load a printer and other computer supplies Tuesday afternoon at their home in McAllen. The UTPA community benefits greatly from Escobar's repair services.

in social work, rather than in computer science. However, he sees each of his varied interests as a different facet of his personality.

mystery games.

"There's so much information out there, you just have to know what to look for and how to look for it," he said.

With his own dependence on computers, Escobar understands the anxiety students can go through when their computers break down.

"The computer is an integral part of our lives and having a computer that works quickly and efficiently is a joy," Escobar said. "For those of us who rely on computers daily, there can be a real sense of loss when they break down."

The primary goal of The Computer Repair Guy is to help students fix their computer problems in an efficient and affordable way.

The rates for computer repair are \$60.00 per hour for in home PC repair, \$75.00 per hour for laptop repair and \$120.00 per hour for networking.

While this may sound like a lot of money, Escobar says that many times customer problems can be fixed in little time, resulting in a very reasonable charge.

"There are many instances where we help students for only \$35. Every job is different and we make every effort to assist all customers," he said.

UTPA students also get a discount from the business, depending on the severity of the problem, but Escobar estimates students pay about 50 percent of the normal rate.

"The reason we give discounts to UTPA students is simple; we know what it is like to be a student. And being a student generally means we don't have much money," Escobar stated.

Tech news

While Escobar's services are certainly a good option, students also have improved support available on campus.

The UTPA technical support offered to students used to be limited in scope, and was only available to help students working with WebCT, logging into their e-mail accounts, or searching the school database or online catalog.

However, within the past couple of weeks, the tech center has been working to improve services by providing free help with computers regarding spyware, adware, viruses, pop-ups and many other computer problems.

"We've had the anti-virus software for a while but now we're putting together a CD that will have special tools in assisting students with all sorts of problems with their Windows XP programs," said Travis Moon, a computer user support specialist.

So next time your computer starts acting out of the ordinary, you no longer have to feel helpless. Rest assured that help is just around the corner.

Democracy, global affairs bridge the gap between lifestyles

By **CELINA A. GILPATRICK**
The Pan American

Tonight at 7p.m., International Week continues on campus in the University of Texas-Pan American Library Auditorium, as the door to a world of democracy will be opened for students.

Joseph Bracken, advisor to the under secretary of state for democracy and global affairs, will be speaking about promoting human rights and democracy around the world.

Bracken said that his decision to speak about democracy reflects the policy set by President George W. Bush.

"Last year, the United States decided and the president announced that the government would begin to promote democracy around the world," said Bracken.

Marilu Salazar, director of International Programs at UTPA, understands the importance of Bracken's presentation and she expects it to garner interest from stu-

dents.

"Bracken was chosen to speak in order to give students and other individuals the opportunity to listen to a crucial topic in international affairs," said Salazar. "The presentation will spark the students' intellectual curiosity by posing questions related to human rights and democracy."

The topic relates to the global community, and International Week is designed so that students can learn about other people outside their neighborhood.

"The more people learn about other countries and other cultures, the better people understand each other," said Bracken.

He plans to give students the facts and ideas concerning not only their career choices, but also how they carry out their lives.

"Everyone should be able to enjoy their inherent rights and freedoms, which are enshrined in our Bill of Rights and in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights," said

Bracken, whose overseas assignments have taken him to countries such as Yugoslavia, China, Canada, the Philippines, Bosnia, Indonesia, Palau, Brunei and Cuba.

International Week at UTPA start-

ed on Monday and continues through tomorrow.

The event, a joint initiative of the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Department of Education, is, according to its web page, supposed to "rec-



Joel de la Rosa/*The Pan American*

FROM ACROSS THE POND - Chris Schevermann (left) a business administration junior from Germany, talks to theatre sophomore Adriana Garcia in the Student Union during the week's festivities.

ognize the global exchange environment between the United States and other countries."

Having the event on campus is important because it offers our students, faculty, staff and the community at large an understanding and a learning experience on different cultures from around the world, said Salazar. "This event is also an opportunity to gain more knowledge about global issues that we are facing today."

University professors as well as speakers like Bracken are being featured throughout the week.

"International events offer a miniature course in foreign cultures, similar to a course in a foreign language, which enables a person to converse with someone from another country," said Bracken.

"This week will let our community know that there are many positive things to explore and discover out there in the world," said Salazar. "The event is an eye-opener to the world."

CAMP facilita la transición para estudiantes migrantes

Camino a una mejor educación con la meta de una vida mejor

Por JUAN GAUNA
Traducido Por SYLVIA LORENZEN
The Pan American

Enrique Flores de Raymondville, quien inicia su primer año de colegio, trabajaba 12 horas diarias cada verano en Herman, Minnesota desenterrando betabeles. Para él, ser un trabajador migrante, es una responsabilidad que tanto él como su familia no toman a la ligera.

Recuerda los viajes de regreso de Minnesota difíciles así como desalentadores, debido a la dificultad del ingreso a la escuela cada otoño.

“Llegaba tarde y era difícil ponerme al corriente con el resto de mi clase”, dice Flores.

Esta es la primera vez que Flores y su familia están de regreso a principios de agosto, en lugar de mediados de septiembre, pero no la última vez que migrarán.

Durante los pasados quince años, el Programa Migrante de Apoyo para el Colegio (CAMP) de la Universidad de Texas Pan-Americana ha apoyado a los estudiantes migrantes como Flores en la transición de preparatoria al colegio.

De acuerdo a Luis Romero, nuevo asistente del director del programa, CAMP brinda a más de 70 estudiantes

migrantes una variedad de recursos educativos cada semestre, tales como sesiones tutoriales personalizadas, así



ROMERO

como consultas con asesores y consejeros.

A través de viajes culturales y con frecuencia educativos, los estudiantes pueden interactuar con otros estudiantes migrantes de todo el Valle.

“Creamos un vínculo y es algo que te hace sentir bien”, expresó Romero, observando fotografías de los ex-alumnos CAMP en la pared de su oficina.

Los participantes también se dan cuenta de las opciones que tienen en su vida, la importancia de la educación y la obligación de conscientizar sobre los trabajadores del campo.

Habiendo nacido en Dallas y crecido

en McAllen, Georgina González es otra estudiante de CAMP y agradece que UTPA sea una de las pocas universidades que cuentan con este programa.

A diferencia de Flores, el distrito escolar de González tenía un programa migrante que le ayudó con asesoría y guía académica.

No obstante, ella sabe las dificultades y discriminación que con frecuencia sufren los estudiantes migrantes.

“Los estudiantes migrantes son los que más luchan, partimos temprano y regresamos tarde, con frecuencia nos consideran ilegales, pero aún así algunos de nosotros logramos mejores calificaciones que los estudiantes regulares”, declaró González. “He aprendido a apreciar la vida y la importancia de la escuela”.

Martha Morado, estudiante de criminología y ex-alumna CAMP recuerda haber estado en el programa. Recuerda actividades como los Seminarios de Habilidades Prácticas con actividades que permiten a las personas comprenderse a sí mismas y a los demás.

Morado dijo que CAMP mejora cada año en todos los aspectos para servir mejor a los estudiantes.

“Los chiflan mucho, les hacen todo;



Joel de la Rosa/The Pan American

AMISTAD - Un grupo de estudiantes migrantes discuten situaciones imaginarias de la vida martes.

pero no, este año he notado que cuentan con nuevos y mejores métodos, y todo es para ellos” bromeó.

Morado se refiere a los cambios críticos que CAMP experimentó este verano, incluyendo a Luis Romero como asistente del director.

Romero fue un trabajador migrante, dejó su trabajo como consejero en CAMP, decidió solicitar el puesto y fue aceptado para reemplazar a Marilyn Hagerty.

Romero expresa que vio esto como una oportunidad para mejorar tanto personal como profesionalmente y admite que su experiencia personal

como migrante le recuerda día a día la importancia de escuchar a los estudiantes, cuando ellos necesiten a alguien con quien hablar.

“Pensando sobre lo mucho que los estudiantes sufren durante la transición, necesitan a alguien que los escuche”, agregó Romero.

Romero mencionó que aunque el programa atraviesa por muchos cambios administrativos, la meta permanece igual; ayudar a los estudiantes migrantes en la transición entre la preparatoria y el colegio y en el proceso, hacerlos sentir seguros y listos para volar por sí mismos.

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Absurdity abounds in “Rhinoceros”

By **ANGELA SALAZAR**
The Pan American

What would happen if the latest trend was to turn into a big, awkward rhinoceros? Eugene Ionesco’s play “Rhinoceros” now playing at the University of Texas-Pan American Theatre, poses such a question.

The three-day play, which started Wednesday night at the Jeffers Theatre and runs though Sunday’s 2 p.m. matinee, centers on the main character, Berenger, who is kind, but slightly confused. He lives in a small French town and realizes, one morning while arguing with his love-interest, Daisy, the sight of a rhinoceros. Slowly everyone in the town begins to morph into rhinoceroses except for Berenger and Daisy.

“All of a sudden people for no apparent reason at all start turning into rhinoceroses,” said Carlos Garza Jr., director of the production.

“But it goes deeper than that. When the playwright originally wrote it, he wrote it as a reaction to Nazis taking over his country.”

Eugene Ionesco was originally from Romania. The play portrays the herd mentality that he experienced while living there.

“When the Nazis first got there, everybody thought they were disgusting, they hated them,” Garza said. “But as more and more Nazis took over and people became Nazis, they became

accepted. He [Ionesco] felt that he was the only person standing up to them. So basically he replaced Nazis with rhinos.”

The main theme rings throughout the play. It is a fight for the individual to stand up for themselves and not be sucked into something because “everybody does it.”



Joel de la Rosa/*The Pan American*
JOINING THE HERD - Edgar Ituarte (front) and Mark Guerra, explains to Rick Rosales (Berenger) how many possible horns the rhino may have had.

The “follow the herd” attitude is still alive and kicking today. And it seems only fitting that the play be seen by teens and young adults.

“I’m a teacher,” said Garza, “Students have become lazy and they copy, especially off the Internet. And when you catch them their answer is always ‘everybody else is doing it.’”

Though the two lead characters, Berenger and Daisy, start the play as lovers, sadly, it is Berenger who is left to defend himself against all his friends-turned rhinos.

“Berenger, I consider to be the normal guy, in a crazy world of crazy characters,” said Rick Rosales, the senior theatre performance major who plays Berenger. “Something happened to him in his past to where he feels cold about everything. So, he tends to drink and forget about the world.”

The character of Berenger is portrayed as the individual standing alone in a world of rhinoceroses. As the play progresses the rest of the characters seem to want to pull him out of the world that he has created for himself and make him part of the herd.

As the female counterpart, Daisy is left with Berenger until the end. But despite her efforts, she ends up joining the trend.

“She is a young woman, career woman trying to find the man in her life,” said Letty Valladares, a graduate of UTPA in theatre per-

formance who plays Daisy. “She is caught between following her heart and doing what is



Joel de la Rosa/*The Pan American*
ONE OF A KIND - Severo Canales plays Jean in the play “Rhinoceros.”

probably the best for her.”

Although Daisy seems to be the play’s love-interest for Berenger, every man in the play is attracted to her in some way. Her offbeat but loveable character is a strong match for the average Joe Berenger.

With its out-of-the-ordinary comedy and strong social commentary, the play is part of a genre known in the theatre world as absurdist.

Absurdist plays rely on the improbability of occurrences actually taking place in real life.

Public television: 20 years and counting

By **MEREDITH LAGRONE**
The Pan American

Most people probably grew up watching “Sesame Street,” a public television that people of all ages can enjoy. If not that show, then maybe they enjoyed visiting “Mr. Rogers’ Neighborhood,” or read every book “Reading Rainbow” recommended to them.

Locally, that means the crew of KMBH, the local affiliation of PBS, which is based in Harlingen. KMBH has been broadcasting from Harlingen for the past 20 years, an anniversary it celebrated in October.

“We are always there,” said Father Pedro Briseno, speaking of the educational and cultural influence of PBS in the Valley. “We are bringing a consistent educational service to the Valley.”

Briseno especially appreciates specific programs KMBH produces, whether on air or off, that concentrate on the local needs.

“We have brought specifically to local communities services that are appropriate for the needs of our community,” he said. “We have GED programs, ESL services, and we also produced a series on citizenship taxes. We have produced historical documentaries related to the Valley, and we have also promoted the spe-

cific culture of our population through cooking shows. Those shows have become a national success.”

Briseno has been CEO of KMBH for the past 10 years. He is also pastor of the Immaculate Heart of Mary church in Harlingen. In working so closely with the people of the Valley, he says, he is aware of community needs, and strives to meet them in any way he can.

He has met with some opposition, as he said every PBS affiliate is, because the company is partially federally funded.

“Every year is a fight,” he said. “Because of the political game in the Congress sometimes public broadcasting is not focused on. We are dedicated to education, culture and art, and I guess not everybody in Congress appreciates this as a priority. That is when our funding, all public broadcasting, is in danger.”

Educators agree: public broadcasting is an important service to the Valley.

“If they have to be watching television, at least it’s something educational,” said Mercedes Olivarez, assistant director of Mid Valley Early Childhood Education Center in Weslaco.

“Most of these kids come in having

watched television from birth, basically, so if they’re watching this, they know their colors and shapes and things. We let them watch it for a short time in the mornings when they first get

“Every year is a fight... We are dedicated to education, culture and art...not everybody in Congress appreciates this...That is when our funding, all public broadcasting, is in danger.”

- Father Pedro Briseno, CEO of KMBH

here.”

Prissy Canales, a fourth-grade teacher for the Brownsville ISD, agreed with Olivarez.

“By the time they’re fourth-graders, they’re on to cooler television,” Canales said. “But I used to teach younger kids, and I know they got something out of it. It’s good that it’s educational. I have a one-year-old son, and I let him watch ‘Sesame Street’ all the time. We love it.”

Kids also give a seal of approval for PBS programs.

“I watch ‘Cyberchase,’” said Weslaco

fourth-grader Angie Vasquez. “It’s really good, and it teaches me about math stuff.”

In addition to national shows, KMBH produces educational programs specifically for local schools.

“We have also provided a consistent service to the school districts through instructional television,” said Briseno. “We make formal television classes on those subjects that are taught in the classroom like math, geography, you name it. We have done that for 20 years.”

The station also has an affiliate of NPR radio, KHID-FM 88.1, which went on the air in 1992. Briseno said the station tries to do the citizens of the Valley a service by airing NPR newscasts germane to the area. These newscasts air five times a day.

“It is so expensive to establish a local news bureau,” he said. “As a service to local community, every piece of information that we receive about culture, art or community events that are happening, we air.”

KMBH and KHID have combined service areas throughout the Rio Grande Valley and Mexico. The signals for both stations reach as far as western Starr County and the northern part of the state of Tamaulipas in Mexico, reaching a total of 1.2 million people.



Stories by Frank Cavillo and Jason Chapa

New venues close to campus provide students a place to forget about school and just play

At any given time in any given semester, students can easily find themselves overwhelmed and bogged down. Term papers pile up on top of daily lectures, reading quizzes, not to mention mid-term exams, can be too much at times for even the most diligent of students.

However, it appears that students are finding solace in local establishments near campus.

Two fairly new, yet, popular businesses that have capitalized on the large amount of twenty-somethings are Fast Eddie's and Mango's Sports Bar. University of Texas-Pan American senior Joshua Polinard, a frequent patron of Fast Eddie's, says that it's the stark change in environments that draws him in.

"These places have a feel that's not very academically oriented with school," Polinard said. Both places share one common goal, to help students forget about their school troubles and provide an atmosphere which allows them to interact with others just like them.

"Fast Eddie's isn't like the student union at school because it doesn't reek of academic stress or any familiarity thereof," he said. Located on the corner of Schunior and Closner sits Fast Eddie's, a popular and lavish bar and grill with many amenities to offer. The reasons for going there seem almost endless. If a group of friends is looking for something that will occupy their time, it would be safe to say that the nearly 20 pool tables, foosball tables, dart boards, video games (located on the floor as well as at the bar), digital jukebox and 16 television sets will keep anyone busy.

If there is a hunger or thirst to satisfy, there are a variety of drinks and cocktails to choose from while on the menu, patrons can find delicacies such as buffalo shrimp, NASCAR nachos and a pigskin platter.

The atmosphere and service also add to Fast Eddie's bevy of qualities. Open late until two a.m. seven days a week, free pool is offered every Monday as well as on a person's birthday. The staff is also very friendly and make sure to offer the best service possible. All of this can be enjoyed in a large, spacious environment that sports vintage décor and memorabilia on its walls as well as neon lights.

Almost adjacent to Fast Eddie's is Mango's Sports Bar, a similar establishment also mainly frequented by UTPA college students. The building has a particular look about it, as if it could be found in a beachfront environment. Although smaller than Fast Eddie's, Mango's Sports Bar offers a more casual, and somewhat intimate social setting. The atmosphere inside has a somewhat futuristic touch to it, a sharp contrast from its outside appearance.

Mango's offers a fully stocked bar, a live D.J., occasional

discounts on alcoholic beverages and a mass amount of overhead television sets.

Additionally, Mango's offers its patrons a variety of choices as how they wish to spend their visit. Patrons can hang out with their friends on stools at the bar, relax in big red leather couches in the lounge section, or shoot the breeze outside in the bar's patio area.

Josue Gutierrez, a senior at UTPA, makes it a point to be at Mango's every Thursday. For Gutierrez, it is the chance to spend

■ "These places have a feel that's not very academically oriented with school. Fast Eddie's isn't like the Student Union because it doesn't reek of academic stress or any familiarity thereof"

- Joshua Polinard, UTPA senior

time with friends whom he rarely gets to see otherwise that appeals to him.

"Sometimes you don't get to see your friends because of school and everyone's different schedules," he said.

Furthermore Gutierrez finds that places such as Mango's help him forget about any negativity in his life.

"Any problems at home or school go away," he said. "You only worry about having fun."

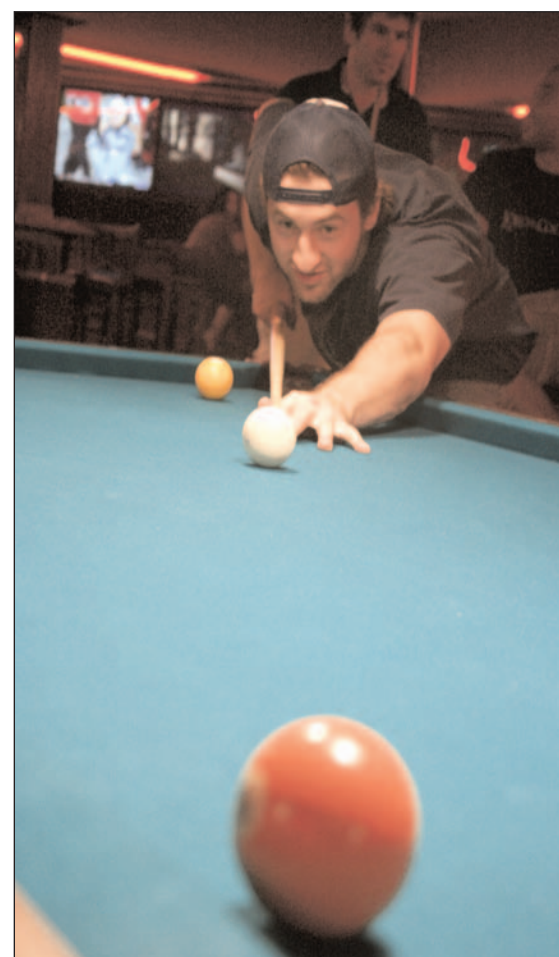
Marcus Moreno, who manages Fast Eddie's, believes that it is the convenient

location which first attracts students to his establishment.

"It's close to campus, but it's because of the music, good food and reasonably priced

drinks that students keep coming back," said Moreno. Moreno estimates that nearly half of his business comes from UTPA students.

"They're a good crowd. Pan Am students are always well behaved and never start any fights or trouble," he said.



Melissa Martinez/ The Pan American INTO THE CORNER POCKET - A patron of Fast Eddie's lines up a solid after a long day of dealing with the stress of university life.

Theater gives new meaning to "Dinner and a Movie"

Moviegoers in the Valley will get a brand new experience with the planned arrival of an Alamo Drafthouse Cinema to Edinburg. The well-known theatre chain has been in operation in Central Texas for the past eight years and plans to open its doors to Valley residents within the next 18 months.

The cinema's concept is a unique one: a combination of dinner and a movie in a theatre setting, plus service of alcoholic beverages. It contains a full-service kitchen and an extensive menu, offering salads, pizza, sandwiches, entrees and appetizers. Alcoholic beverages include beer, wine and limited mixed drinks.

The theatre is the planned anchor of Trenton Crossroads Plaza, a 101,000-square-foot retail and commercial complex that will be situated at the corner of Trenton and Jackson roads in southwest Edinburg. The center will be built by One Orion Development, Inc., of McAllen.

Paul Garza, president of One Orion, said the plaza will have parking for about 600 cars and will have the flavor of the Texas Hill Country, complete with limestone materials used in construction.

"It will feel like San Antonio and have the tropical flavor of the Valley," he said in a recent press release. "Right now, there are a lot of Valley residents who go up to San Antonio and Austin for shopping and entertainment, but our idea is to bring those attractions down here and keep Valley money down here."

NEW THEATRE

Tony Karam, a general contractor with One Orion, said in the same press release that he believes the complex will be a big draw for Valley residents.

"You are going to want to hang around here," he said.

The developers also plan to showcase local culture at the complex and try to draw in consumers.

"We will host special events, such as art shows featuring talent from this community, in order to bring more people to the plaza," Garza said. "Trenton Roads will be a destination place."

University of Texas- Pan American students think the theatre will definitely be a place they want to spend time.

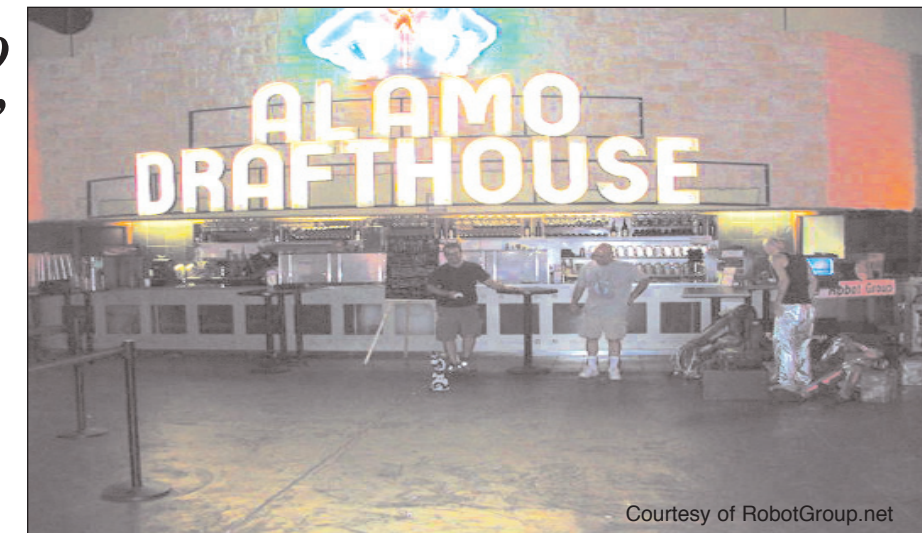
"I think it's a good idea, although I don't know why they'd want to bring it down here," said Jessica Ramirez, senior public relations and advertising major. "Can you imagine getting to watch a movie and eat dinner at the same time? That's awesome."

Garza also hinted at the physical aspects of the building, which he believes will be a strong pull to locals.

"There will be a water feature, which involves three separate waterfalls with a light show, that has never been seen before," he revealed. "The lights in this area are going to be phenomenal."

Ramiro Garza with the Edinburg Economic Development Corporation believes the project will be a great boom for Edinburg's economy.

"We're really excited over here," he said. "This project is going to help us greatly in trying to develop the Trenton area for retail development. It's certainly going to bring all kinds of people to



Courtesy of RobotGroup.net

Edinburg, and many jobs will be created.

Garza estimated \$10 million will be spent on this project alone, which he said will be a positive move for Edinburg's economy. In addition to economic development, he believes the plaza's unique construction and the theatre's one-of-a-kind experience will be a new and unique service to the Valley.

The drafthouse employs a wait staff providing service throughout the film. Orders are placed on a slip of paper provided with the menu. The orders are attached by a customer to a clip that is fixed on the table in front of each row of seats. The staff comes by to collect orders, and they are dispersed during the movie. Bills are settled toward the end of the film.

The theatre also has a "no children under 6" rule, which means that there should be no children in the theatre younger than age 6, no matter if a parent is present or not. Of course, if a patron plans to treat himself to a beer, proper ID is required. The regular ratings apply to every movie at the drafthouse, as well.

The Alamo Drafthouse Cinemas in Austin and San Antonio have a variety of programming.

For instance, the downtown Austin place offers a midnight showing of "The Rocky Horror Picture Show" every Saturday night. The Village Alamo, located a few miles outside of downtown Austin, offers "Videoke," where contestants can act out their favorite movie scenes and win prizes from local merchants. All three Austin locations also offer University of Texas football games on Saturdays. Fans can view the Longhorn on the big screen, while enjoying all the extras the drafthouse has to offer.

In addition to the food service and extra programming one wouldn't get from a regular theatre, the cinema is also available for privately scheduled parties and events. In the central Texas locations, directors regularly screen movies, drawing large crowds.

Directors include: Quentin Tarantino, Robert Rodriguez, Peter Jackson and William Friedkin.

For more information on the Alamo Drafthouse, visit the Web site at www.alamodrafthouse.com.

Medieval Faire offers Valley residents the sights, sound and taste of the past



Imagine a time when gallant knight errants fought bravely for ladies in waiting, minstrels showered the countryside with their deeds, and kings ruled by Divine Right.

For those who'd like to time travel, but not deal with the other, abysmal aspects of such an age (the lack of bathrooms, the oppression, the Black Death), the Museum of South Texas History will stage its 13th Annual Medieval Faire Saturday in downtown Edinburg.

The medieval events will be held in downtown Edinburg from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

"It's a charm when you can be someone else, and enter into an age with chivalry and honor, all the good things we don't have in this world," said Denise Silcox, who serves as "seneschal," or one of the officers of the McAllen chapter of the Society for Creative Anachronism (SCA), "La Marche Sauvage (The Wild Walk)."

The SCA is a national organization dedicated to educating people about times long passed, participating in similar faires around the country to do so. A variety of displays will provide insight into what life was like back in the days of faith, fire and dragons. Well, not dragons.

"The Medieval Faire gives visitors of all ages the opportunity to see what life was like in the Middle Ages," said Melissa Tijerina, the museum's programming officer. "As well as to experience history through seeing different kinds of activities, like plays, poetry readings, lectures, sword fighting, arts and crafts, danc-

MIDEIVEL FAIR

ing, music and medieval food. The visitors will be able to go back in history."

Silcox, a University of Texas-Pan American graduate with a master's in rehabilitative studies, serves as "seneschal" for "La Marche Sauvage," and has helped put together the festival for several years.

"The reason we do this for, is as the SCA, we're very interested in educating people about the Middle Ages," she said. "We do a lot of research. Why we do it is because it's just fun, plain and simple."

Silcox explained that the skills used during the faire are perfected over time, often years.

"We practice what we do for years to perfect our skills; the fighters fight at least once a week, the artisans have guilds where they perfect their arts as well as working on their own," Silcox said.

Passion is also expected from the patrons. Visitors are encouraged to dress the part, and where the fine food and fighting not enough, costumed patrons have a chance to participate in a contest in which the winner will receive a family "Friendship" to the museum, which includes free admission, discounts at the gift shop, and



Courtesy of <http://fjepsblagnacjr3.free.fr/drasar/>

other benefits for a year.

Silcox encourages families to make the effort.

"I love to see when people dress up themselves, instead of just coming to see what we do. When they dress up and become a little bit of the faire."

As well as costumes, food and fighting, visitors will also be treated to several special presentations during the faire.

Milo Kearney, a professor of history at The University of Texas-Brownsville, will lecture on "The Indian Ocean and Medieval Trade." A dramatic company consisting of clubs sponsored by Kearney will stage an original skit, "Spider Kings of the Late Middle Ages," that exposes some of the hard facts of life in the time period.

"I am excited to see the enthusiastic involvement of my UT-B history students in themes in medieval history," he said. "They throw themselves with much gusto and humor into these little historical skits, which are intended to be a lighthearted entertainment as well as an informative presentation."

"The more cultural events the Valley can muster the more enjoyable a place the Valley will be," he said.

A ticket for the faire also covers admission to the South Texas History Museum.

"For those who have not seen our exhibits, we're in a brand-new building after a major reconstruction," said Tijerina. "We have a beautiful new exhibit that deals with South Texas and Northeastern Mexico."



Courtesy of Jim McKone

FAST EDDIES + MANGO'S

Concert band off on a good note

By CLARALEXIS RIOS
The Pan American

The University of Texas-Pan American's 60-member Concert Band, conducted by Dean R. Canty, will perform Tuesday, Nov. 22 at 7:30 p.m. at the UTPA Fine Arts Auditorium. It is a symphony of predominantly wind instruments.

Canty came to UTPA in 1967 and since then has taught various classes, including band, trumpet, conducting, brass methods and music appreciation. He has also supervised student teachers, and many of his students and co-workers in the music department, which is sponsoring the event, are also participating.

Pedro Martinez, a trombone, euphonium (tenor tuba) and tuba player will be a featured soloist on the famous solo, "Blue Bells of Scotland" by Arthur Pryor. This is his second year at UTPA and first time performing with the Concert Band. Martinez is the low brass teacher at UTPA and will direct the UTPA Brass Choir in performing "Fanfare for the Common Man," by Aaron Copland, "Kanon," by Johan Pachelbel and "Polonaise-No. IV," by Gus Guentzel.

Martinez explained what he hopes the audience will get out of his performance.

"I hope people take a positive musical experience from the performance," he said. "The trombone is not an instrument that is often featured, so I hope to convey the sonorous aspect and the underestimated technical capabilities of the trombone...It produces a unique resonance and provides a wonderful means for musical expression."

Manuel Arambula, a senior music major and alto saxophone player, described his feelings when performing on stage.

"It is exhilarating and electrifying,"

Arambula said. "We only have one concert per year, and since the band members change every semester, this is their chance to shine."

Wallace Tucker, interim dean of the College of Arts and Humanities, has been intermittent performing guest with the band since 1976. He plays the trombone and the euphonium, and feels very strongly about performing, when he does participate.

"Most of the time, it is the most fun I have ever had when performing with the band," he said. "Sometimes as a soloist, it is the most challenging task that I have ever attempted. It is also the most rewarding when successfully accomplished."

The 16-member University Wind Ensemble will perform "The Good Soldier Schweik Suite," by Robert Kurka, which tells the story of a German civilian who was drafted and became a soldier during the First World War. Each of the six movements represents a theme or idea based on a book by the Czech novelist Jaroslav Hasek.

Sophie Romero, a sophomore music and player of flute and piccolo, explained how she is preparing for this event.

"I just practice constantly and execute the parts that I really need to work on," she said.

Gloria Zamora, a freshman education major and university band fan, explains what she is looking forward to seeing at the concert.

"I want to see what kind of rhythms they are going to have and what songs they are going to perform," she said. "I was a band student in high school, and I think that the talent they have is amazing."

Tickets are \$5 and will be available at the box office at 7 p.m.

Unconventional culture at UTPA

By FRANK CALVILLO
The Pan American

Monday evening at The University of Texas-Pan American was proclaimed "International Cultural Night," as students as well as members of the community gathered at the library auditorium for an evening full of song, dance, poetry and a variety of delicious and exotic food.

The evening began with a with a spectacular talent/fashion show which showcased acts from at least a dozen different countries, each with its own blend of cultural appreciation and artistic freedom.

In terms of music and dancing, there was authentic show stopping movements from the Middle East, warmth that was felt during the number representing France, fast-paced foot tapping offered by America, and soothing relaxation projected through guitar playing from Spain.

The talent show also offered up various forms of poetry from the likes of Cuba, Mexico and Armenia, each of which proved to be poignant, descriptive and passionate. Each piece presented had a message and many were done in native languages.

Sascha Hansen, a German native, who is also a sophomore at UTPA, presented a comedic commentary which included a song and dance portion called, "A Typical Day in a German Boy's Life."

Hansen, who has been studying business at UTPA for the past 10 months, believes cultural diversity is important.

"Many people have wrong impressions about other countries," he said. "It's good to see other cultures represented because it invites people to study them further."

Hansen hopes that his performance gave audience members an inside look into his life.

"I wanted to show how I feel here and how maybe they would feel in Germany and how great it would be to see another country," he said.

In between all of the singing and dancing, the audience was treated to an international fashion show in which authentic styles from Bangladesh, China, Costa Rica, Ethiopia, France, India, Iran, Korea, Nigeria, the Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Spain and Tanzania were represented. Though the costumes differed almost as greatly in appearance as well as the music which accompanied the models as they walked through the stage, each piece of



Melissa Martinez/The Pan American

FROM THE PHILIPPINES- Mimi Bedoya leads a candle dance with the Maharlika Dance Group at International Cultural Night.

clothing symbolized the beauty of the home country. The impressive array of costumes all conveyed feelings of tradition, pride and worldliness.

Just outside the auditorium, the International Food Tasting event was held where attendees were treated to an eclectic spread of food which consisted of among other things, potato pancakes from Ireland, quiche from France, gorditas from Mexico, and baklava from Iran.

Those who sampled the international smorgasbord ate their meals in a library courtyard that was transformed to include round tables with lush tablecloths, gold lights all around, international music, beverages, as well as different symbols such as lanterns and piñatas, adding to the multi-cultural ambience.

Rebecca Gadson, the director of special programs for UTPA, said the night's main goal was to introduce people to the vast amount of different cultures in an unconventional way.

"We wanted people to take a culinary tour around the world," she said, adding that the event's underlying motivations go further.

"Events like these bring us here in the Valley closer to different cultural perspectives and encourage students to appreciate their own culture as well as others," she said.

Gadson was impressed by the turnout and hopes that events such as these become a yearly feature.

"Our goal was to transform the area into a place where international acculturation could be celebrated," she said. "We hope it becomes a tradition that will grow and expand and will involve more of the community."

Both the talent/fashion show and the food tasting seemed to greatly resonate with those who attended the events.

UTPA junior Josh Morales, who only attended the event to watch his sister, who was performing, found himself changed by the end of the evening.

"Everything was great. Tonight opened my eyes to stuff I had never knew or saw before," he said.

The evening was part of International Week, a weeklong series of events hosted by the Office of International Programs at UTPA. The office's goal is to expose students to different cultures and hopefully encourage them to pursue studies in another country.

"Tonight has really made me more interested in looking into and pursuing the whole Study Abroad program," said Morales.



Melissa Martinez/The Pan American

WORLD FASHION - Caitanya Jasti models traditional Indian clothing.

**The Event of the Semester
TODAY**

**You are
WANTED
BY THE FBI**

**Come to Hogan's Alley—An FBI Experience
Nov. 17 in the UTPA Quad 11am - 2pm**

Games
Field Training
Food

FREE

Drawings
Obstacle Course
Music

Find Yourself... @ www.FBIjobs.com

Hogan's Alley is an opportunity to have fun while testing your skills as an FBI Special Agent through various field-training obstacles.

ALUMNI continued from page 1

"We're really excited about the silent auction," said Debby Grant, director for Alumni Relations.

"It's a great time to get really dressed up, enjoy some good food and music" said Mark Lacy, a UTPA alumnus who graduated in 2005 with a degree in communications.

Alex Torres and his Latin Orchestra will have guests dancing merengue and salsa all night long. The Sounds of the South Dance Orchestra will also provide a blend of music.

While food and dancing are the main attraction for many, the idea behind the ball is to raise money for student scholarships.

"The President's Alumni Ball is one of our two largest fundraisers for scholarship money," said Grant, who expects more than 350 people to attend the event.

In order to raise money for scholarships, the ball offers guests the opportunity to become sponsor, with four different levels to choose from, each with their own price tag and some benefits for the buyer.

The UTPA community is invited to the event, which will take place on Saturday, November 19th, 2005 at the UTPA Events Center/Field house. Tickets for the event are \$100 and can be purchased by calling the Alumni Association at (956) 381-2500.

Alumni Sponsors

Platinum sponsorship

\$10,000 donation
Includes: two tables, seating eight people. Sponsors will be presented during the event, their name is published in the program. Two \$2,000 scholarships will be named after the sponsor

Gold sponsorship

\$5,000 donation
Includes: one VIP table for eight. The sponsor is also presented during the event, and their name is published in the program. Two \$1,000 scholarships will be named after the sponsor.

Silver sponsorship

\$4,000 donation
Includes: a table for eight, name publication in the program, Two \$740 scholarships named after them.

Bronze sponsorship

\$3,000 donation
Includes name publication in the program, one table for eight. Two \$500 scholarships named after them.

INTERNATIONAL continued from page 1

provides funds for students from other countries to come and study in the United States.

UTPA exchange students Ali Lasloom from Saudi Arabia and Boniphace Makane from Tanzania gave a presentation on culture and language in their countries, giving insight on the history and importance of language and communication in their native lands.

"It is important for people to understand each other in order to live in peace," said Makane.

While the main focus of their presentation was language, the information provided to the audience was not limited to that subject. After the event, the audience was encouraged to ask questions and the speakers were able to clarify any misconceptions about their cultures.

"Muslims do not have to wear the traditional clothing," said Lasloom. "It is not fair to judge an entire culture or religion based on someone or some group who made a mistake."

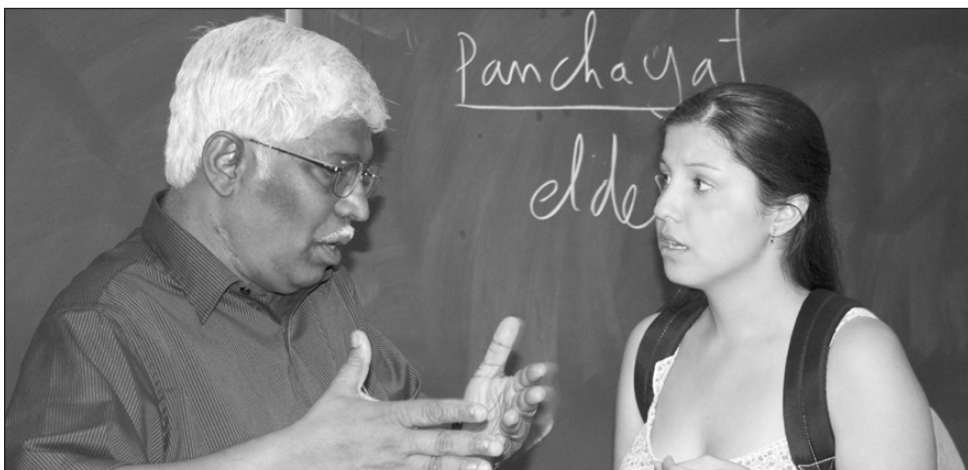
Digging deeper on the subject of Islam was Sheikh Rodwan Saleh, president of the Islamic Society of Greater Houston. In his Tuesday night presentation, he outlined the beliefs and cleared up

common misunderstandings about the Muslim religion.

"This was wonderful. I really learned a lot about a sensitive subject in society right now," said Clara Lisa Gonzalez, a McAllen resident and event participant. "There is more to their beliefs than what airs on television."

To continue the festivities, John Bokina, a political science professor, will discuss the recent elections in Germany, today at noon in the SBS building room 101, followed by the German film "Run Lola Run" in room 310 of the UTPA Library at 4 p.m.

For those interested in absorbing more international culture, a Study Abroad Fair will take place today and Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. with information on course availability and universities around the globe. Students wishing to learn Arabic and Swahili can take a two-week mini session taught by Lasloom and Makane beginning Nov. 29. For more information on Study Abroad Programs and the language classes, contact the Office of International Programs CAS 125 or call (956) 381-3572.



Melissa Martinez/The Pan American

AN UNDERSTANDING - George Vincentnathan, chair of the department of criminal justice and Renell Renalid, a senior criminal justice major, discuss democracy and the fate of community justice institutions in India.

MARIJUANA continued from page 1

the state still imposes its own possession laws on users.

According to the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy Information Clearinghouse, the primary foreign sources for marijuana in the United States are Mexico, Canada, Colombia, and Jamaica. In 2002, Mexico and Colombia produced about 7,900 metric tons and 4,000 metric tons of marijuana, respectively. Most marijuana shipments from Mexico are believed to enter the United States through Arizona, California, and Texas.

In Texas, State Rep. Aaron Pena believes the enforcement of drug laws is gradually being minimized, specifically those for *Cannabis*.

"When I was a teenager, you could stay in jail for the rest of your life if you had marijuana in your possession," he said. "Now, people get out on bail and usually spend no more than one night in jail."

However, Pena said legalization is something he is strongly against.

"In the last session of Congress, the issue was brought up - we were called to vote," he said. "I had absolutely no trouble saying no to a proposal to legalize."

Sgt. James Loya of the UTPA Police Department also opposes legalization efforts.

"It would only put a damper on what we are trying to do," said Loya. "I don't think you'll find too many people in my line of business that are for legalization."

Loya added that ending the ban on marijuana might add to the number of DWI accidents in the Rio Grande Valley.

"There is a lot of proof that it impairs your ability to drive," he explained.

He also believes that many efforts to legalize for medicinal purposes are being supported by users who do not have a legitimate medical need for the drug.

"A lot of people promoting the drug are not doing it to improve their health; they seem to be out of control with it, and aren't using it for treating diseases," said Loya.

While opponents of the legalization believe

smokers should be disciplined, groups such as the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML), argue that pot smokers are not harmful to society.

"Like most Americans, people who smoke marijuana also pay taxes, love and support their families, and work hard to make a better life for their children," said NORML's Web site.

NORML and other organizations such as Safer Alternatives for Enjoyable Recreation (SAFER) put a lot of effort into enlightening the electorate about the positive aspects of decriminalizing weed.

"We educated voters about the fact that marijuana is less harmful to the user and society than alcohol," said Mason Tvert, campaign organizer for SAFER, in an interview with CNN about the situation in Denver.

But Pena maintains that "we live in a democracy, and rules and disciplines are made by a majority." According to Pena, since the Texan majority doesn't want this substance to be legal, it shouldn't be legalized.

Pena added that while the Valley has problems with alcohol abuse and alcohol related deaths, legalization of other substances would do nothing to solve it.

"Just because we have a problem with that, this doesn't mean we should decriminalize other drugs," Pena said.

However, Marc Solis, a sophomore communication major, believes that legalizing marijuana like Denver did would have benefits by easing tensions between authorities and consumers.

"Weed's popularity would get watered down. It wouldn't be such a big deal if it were legal," he said. "If it were something you could buy easily, nobody would care, and the government could charge a lot of taxes for it."

While Solis said he is neutral on the matter, he believes it should be available as a replacement for other drugs, and that it is a "good solution for minor things."

"Legalizing could solve certain things, but it could cause other problems such as long-term health effects," he said. "All in all, it's a no-win situation."

FBI continued from page 1

Partners is a national company that helps develop innovative industry-education partnerships by blending academic theory with practical, hands-on application.

"The fact that EdVenture Partners has returned and asked us to participate in a project with such a high profile client, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, is exciting, challenging, and most importantly a credit for the students at The University of Texas-Pan American," said Garza. "I am truly excited on their behalf for this opportunity."

The FBI asked for a campaign that would build student interest in applying for the agency. EdVenture Partners in turn proposed this challenge to about 10 universities through out the country. Those universities then compete to provide an efficient campaign for the client.

While speaking about this project to his marketing class, Garza was approached by an advertising student with the idea of incorporating a creative course from the department of communication. Garza agreed to offer a part in this project to Kimberly Selber, who is the professor of

the Creative Strategies course. Selber agreed to the opportunity.

"This project can be compared to a lab for the course; the FBI project is a learning environment," said Selber.

Students from both the marketing and strategy courses began work for the campaign the first week of the semester. The group included 60 students separated into nine different departments, which began research on the UTPA campus.

Elizabeth Becceril Wong, head of the research department for the FBI project feel that this opportunity allows them to demonstrate their skills.

"I think that it is a very good opportunity to be with students and to put all the theory into practice and develop our best performance in what we are studying," she said.

During Hogan's Alley, which will be held today from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the UTPA quad, students will be able to log on to the FBI jobs.com Web site. The site provides information about various careers offered by the FBI. In addition, students will be able to enjoy music, an obstacle course, raffles, and free food.

GRAD PROGRAMS continued from page 3

counseling, manufacturing engineering, and clinical psychology.

Before that becomes a reality however, the university has a considerable amount of planning and work to do. According to George Avellano, associate vice president of academic affairs, the addition of these new programs will assist the university as it becomes a more prestigious school.

"All the top-tier universities are doctoral research-intensive, which we're heading for, but first, we have to be a doctoral research-intensive university, meaning we need to graduate at least 20 doctoral graduates per year," Avellano said. "Right now we are graduating about five to six per year, but that's growing."

Once the new programs are in place, Avellano believes graduate and undergraduate students alike will benefit from the new opportunities provided.

"Having graduate programs gives the students the opportunity to be associated with faculty who are qualified and have the credentials to be doctoral-level faculty because not only do they teach doctoral-level courses, they also teach undergraduate," he said.

BUSINESS AS USUAL

Of the two programs currently offered at UTPA, the Ph.D. in international business is a unique one.

Very few universities across the country offer the degree.

Michael Minor, the director of the program, believes UTPA's effort has a lot to offer to prospective students as a result of its uniqueness.

"We have two advantages. We're very research orientated and we are very intent on getting our students involved in publishing and presenting right from the start," Minor stressed. "Like every professional arena, there is a way to be successful. To learn how to be successful, you have to experience the game that professionals play, or how they operate their careers. So, we try to get our students involved in that very early on."

Currently, there are 43 students are working toward a Ph.D. in international business, while 25 students are enrolled for an Ed.D. in educational leadership.

The Ed.D. is an applied program training district superintendents, principals and educators. Upon completion of the doctorate, students should be able to take the knowledge they have gained and apply it in an administrative environment. On the other hand, the Ph.D. is also a research program. Students should be able to do research in the business field and apply that information to broaden the knowledge of their profession.

NOT JUST STUDENTS AT WORK

There is a lot of time and effort put into bringing new programs to the university. A planned Ph.D. in rehabilitative counseling just received approval from the coordinating board to create a proposal. Once the proposal is looked over by the president and provost, it will be sent back to the coordinating board for review. The process takes up to two years before for a doctoral program is approved.

Aside from preparing proposals for the programs, however, UTPA must ensure that its faculty are up to the task of running a doctoral level program.

"You have to have the faculty. We try to develop the faculty at the master's level and help them transition to the doctoral programs," said Avellano. "You don't want to get the program first then try to fill the gaps."

Both of the current doctoral programs began as cooperative agreements with UT-Austin. According to Avellano, both programs have been able to establish their identities over the past several years. A key component to that has been the continuing work of the faculty members.

"We wouldn't have the doctorate programs without a solid faculty base to support them," Avellano stated. "We're continuing to require a significant amount of publications and research. A program not only has

to not only support the needs of students in this geographical area, but to establish and maintain a reputation of quality throughout state and nation."

GOING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

Continued improvement by the doctoral programs and their faculty have helped to provide an incentive for prospective graduate students to attend UTPA.

"Students want to come here because of our bilingual environment," Avellano explained. "It's an opportunity not only to learn international business or to become involved in a higher level of education, but to learn Spanish and get involved in the multi-cultural environment."

Avellano also believes the work and output from the faculty and students are helping to improve the Valley and the people living in it.

"Our dissertations are dealing with the problems with a particular market," said Avellano. "Those dissertations are really solving and providing information to problems indigenous to the Valley. Many of the dissertations in business also deal with border issues, banking in Mexico, international trades and maquilas."

Anyone interested in learning more about the many graduate programs offered at UTPA can contact the Graduate Office at (956) 381-3661.

CAMP continued from page 3

McAllen, Georgina Gonzalez is another current CAMP student who is grateful that UTPA is one of the few universities that have such a program.

Unlike Flores, Gonzalez's school district had a migrant program that assisted her with tutoring and academic guidance.

Still, she knows the difficulties and discrimination that migrant students often go through.

"Migrant students are the ones who struggle the most, we leave early and come back late, we are often considered illegal aliens, but yet some of us end up with better grades than the regular students," Gonzalez said. "I've learned to appreciate life and the importance of school."

Martha Morado, a criminal justice major and CAMP alumnus, remembers being in the program, taking part in activities like the Life Skills seminars, which enable people to understand themselves and others.

Morado said that every year CAMP improves every aspect to better serve the students.

"Los chiflan mucho, they do everything for them, but no, this year I've noticed that they have new and better tutoring methods, and everything is for them," she joked.

Morando is referring to the critical changes CAMP saw in the summer, including the introduction of Romero as assistant director.

A former migrant, he saw this as an opportunity to grow personally and professionally. He explained that his personal experience as a migrant reminds him every day about the importance of being there for the students when they need someone to talk to.

"Thinking about how much students suffer during the transition, they need someone who can listen to them someone who is there," said Romero.

AWAKENING continued from page 3

experience with everybody."

The Bronc Awakenings are held once a semester at the Campus Ministry Building on Kuhn Street. This semester the 40-50 staff members met Nov. 11-13 where they were assigned a certain number of people to help; usually around 25 attend.

According to Angel Barrera, this year's director of the retreat, each retreat includes a meditation on a saint. For the second event it was St. Francis of Assisi. The patron for the most recent retreat was St. Peter, with the theme of "If I keep my eyes on Jesus, I can walk on water."

According to Riojas and Barrera, the retreat is full of talk sessions, prayers, fun games and activities and reflection. There is a strict confidentiality maintained for other aspects of the retreat.

"We do more stuff at the retreats, but we don't want to reveal anything. We want it to be a nice touch for those who decide to come to the retreats," said Barrera, a senior management major.

According to Barrera, this past Awakening was a great experience.

"The awakening was my Awakening. I could see God everywhere; it was an amazing feeling. It was a great, and eye-opening experience," said Angel Barrera. "It made me realize how much I loved Him."

Applications for future Bronc Awakenings can be found at groups.yahoo.com/groups/bronc_awakenings, and at the Campus Ministry. There is a \$20 fee. Scholarships and sponsorships are available.

The Campus Ministry has YACM meetings every Tuesday at noon, as well as prayer and adoration at 7 p.m. They also hold Mass every Sunday evening at 7.

WEB CT continued from page 3

been using WebCT for five years in all six of the courses she teaches.

"The program has allowed for better instructor-student communication and seems to aid my students in their understanding of the course requirements," Wedig explained. "Students feel more comfortable e-mailing than coming to office hours and are able to have more complete notes."

Wedig takes full advantage of WebCT using it for class notes, online quizzes, online communication with her students, and even provides her students with access to their complete grade records.

According to Wedig, the current process for uploading documents with pictures in WebCT 4.1, the current version, is complicated. The new feature in WebCT 6.0 will allow her to upload those same documents with less of a hassle.

The upgrade to WebCT 6.0, however, will not translate to major changes for students who will only notice the addition of a My Files area where they can store and access files to be used in their coursework. Nonetheless, students who use WebCT in their courses find the online supplement to be beneficial.

"It's very user-friendly," freshman electrical engineering major Alexis Carranza said. She uses WebCT in her General Chemistry class for lecture notes, quizzes, and grade updates.

Despite its many advantages, however, students still suggest ways that WebCT can be enhanced.

"The network is not always reliable for connection," sophomore biology major Joshua Garcia explained. "That sometimes prevents students from completing quizzes or assignments that are due at a specific time."

In addition, Carranza suggested the possibility of an automatic notification to students' main e-mail addresses to inform user of unread mail, calendar changes, or grade updates.

For faculty members, WebCT 6.0 is something to look forward to for its obvious improvements. But for some, like Wedig, it is also something to be uncertain about for the upgrade brings about changes faculty members may not know how to implement.

"Faculty can expect the same level of support with continuous improvement," Rogoza said. "Training will begin in February 2006 and continue throughout the summer."

A demonstration on WebCT and an additional WebCT 6.0 Preview session will be provided for faculty on Nov. 17 at the Technology Innovations in Higher Education series hosted by CLDTE. For more information, contact Christina Rogoza at crogoza@utpa.edu.



Joey Cortez/The Pan American

MAKING HISTORY- Mylissa Rodriguez, biology graduate student is the first person in the history of the university to accomplish black belt status.

SPORTS CLIPBOARD

Runners advance to Nationals as season nears end

Keating captures Regional Championship

For the first time in school history, two runners will compete at nationals, after a day of firsts for The University of Texas-Pan American men's cross country team at regionals.

Senior Westly Keating became the first UTPA runner to capture the NCAA Division I Regional Championship as he broke a course record with a time of 29:30.07 on Saturday in Waco.

A two-time cross country All-American, Keating broke away from the pack midway through the race and finished a full minute ahead of runner-up Josphat Boit from the University of Arkansas, who captured the national championship last season at 10,000 meters. With the victory, Keating earned his third trip to the NCAA Division I National Championships, which will be held at Indiana State University in Terre Haute, Ind., Nov. 22.

Keating wasn't the only person to earn a trip to the national championships as he will be joined by fellow senior Hector Gandara, who finished 14th overall with a time of 31:42.00. It is the first time in program history that the Broncs will be sending a pair of runners to the NCAA Division I National Championships.

Freshman Luis Nava finished 24th overall with a time of 32:29.25 and earned a spot on the All-Region team. With Keating, Gandara and Nava all on the All-Region Team, it was the first time in program history that the Broncs had a trio of student-athletes earn the honor.

The Broncs finished fourth overall in the meet with a total of 147 points, their best finish in program history. Arkansas captured the team championship with a total of 33 points, while Texas (46) and Texas A&M (147) finished two and three in the meet.

Alex Moncivias finished 51st overall with a time of 33:49.40 while J.J. Hernandez, Americo Ortiz and Angel Ramirez finished 57th, 58th and 59th, respectively.

"It was a great overall race," said head men's and women's track and field / cross country coach Ricky Vaughn. "It was absolutely outstanding, and we couldn't have asked for anything better. To have Westly win the meet, a pair of runners going to nationals and three of them on the All-Region Team, I couldn't be happier with the day."

The Lady Broncs finished 12th overall with a total of 333 points and failed to earn a spot in the top 10 of the NCAA Division I Regional Championship standings.

Junior Karla Hernandez was the Lady Broncs' top performer as she crossed the end line in 23:43.90, which placed her in 51st place. Ashley Perez finished six spots behind her teammate in 57th place with a time of 23:54.00.

Sara Rodriguez finished 68th overall with a time of 24:14.40 while Rose Escovedo was 77th overall. Lorraine Garcia, Sonya Rivera and Sharon Toroitich finished 89th, 92nd and 95th overall, respectively.

"I was a little disappointed with the women today, and I thought that we had a chance coming into the race of finishing in the top 10," said Vaughn.

Holthe named to All-Tournament Team

UTPA middle hitter has team-high 58 kills in Colorado

UTPA senior women's volleyball student-athlete Danielle Holthe was selected to the 2005 Independent All-Tournament Team, which was announced Monday.

Holthe finished the five-match indie tournament with a team-high 58 kills, averaging 2.90 kills per game in 139 total attacks, along with posting a team-high .216 hitting percentage. The Lady Bronc middle hitter also collected 29 digs and 11 blocks for the tournament.

The UTPA team captain recorded three matches of 10 or more kills, including a tournament-high 17 kills against Texas A&M-Corpus Christi. She also collected 15 kills against IPFW and 10 versus the host squad, Northern Colorado.

Holthe was joined on the All-Independent Team by MVP Lacey Koelliker (Utah Valley State), Maegan Hoyt (Utah Valley State), Camie Manwill (Utah Valley State), Amy Anderson (South Dakota State), Samantha Pearson (South Dakota State), Fabiana Souza (IPFW), Abby Mayne (Northern Colorado), Kim Hebl (North Dakota State), Kati Broom (Texas A&M-Corpus Christi) and Annie Fiorvanti (Providence).

UTPA Sports Information

FOR THE RECORD

UTPA SPORTS

Basketball

Men's
Saturday, Nov. 12
UTPA 102, Univ. Regiomontana 54

	UTPA			A	Pts
	FG M-A	FT M-A	Reb O-D-T		
East	7-9	2-2	2-5-7	0	16
Puente	0-0	0-0	0-2-2	3	0
Gaither	2-6	0-0	1-1-2	0	5
Sheppard	0-4	0-0	1-3-4	9	0
Chatman	4-12	0-0	2-1-3	2	12
Shankle	2-11	4-4	2-2-4	2	9
Edwards	8-10	6-6	2-6-8	0	22
Burrell	4-6	2-2	0-2-2	2	10
Lien	9-11	1-1	6-8-14	1	19
Smith	1-6	2-2	2-1-3	4	5
Trader	1-4	2-2	1-5-6	1	4
Buck	0-0	0-0	0-1-1	1	0
Totals	38-79	19-19	21-37-58	25	102

Percentages: FG .481 FT, 1.000, 3-Point 7-22, .318. Blocked shots: 1. Turnovers: 20 (Puente 3, Gaither 2, Sheppard 2, Chatman 2, Edwards 2, Burrell 2, Lien 2, Smith 2, Trader 1, Buck 1, East 1). Steals: 7 (Sheppard 3, Puente 2, Shankle 1, Edwards 1). Personal Fouls: 23 (Buck 5, Trader 3, Lien 3, Burrell 3, Edwards 2, Shankle 2, Sheppard 2, Puente 2, East 1).

UTPA.....45 57 - 102
URM.....25 32 - 57

Women's
Saturday, Nov. 12
UTPA 61, TAMUK 53

	UTPA			A	Pts
	FG M-A	FT M-A	Reb O-D-T		
Jones	2-6	1-2	1-3-4	3	5
Wilson	0-0	0-0	0-1-1	1	0
Reed	1-3	0-2	1-2-3	6	3
Daniel	5-6	1-3	2-1-3	0	11
Montague	5-8	1-1	0-4-4	3	13
Pierce	2-4	0-0	0-1-1	1	4
Kostacky	0-0	0-0	0-0-0	0	0
Winfrey	1-2	0-0	1-2-3	0	2
Garrett	3-6	0-0	0-0-0	0	6
Knerr	4-9	0-0	1-1-2	0	8
Ramirez	0-1	0-0	0-0-0	1	0
Coulson	0-1	0-0	0-1-1	0	0
Gooden	3-6	3-4	3-4-7	0	9
Totals	26-52	6-12	9-23-32	15	61

Percentages: FG .466 FT, .636, 3-Point

5-12, .417. Blocked shots: 1 (Garrett 1). Turnovers: 29 (Wilson 8, Kneer 6, Winfrey 4, Daniel 4, Garrett 2, Jones 1, Reed 1, Coulson 1, Gooden 1). Steals: 15 (Wilson 3, Daniel 3, Montague 2, Winfrey 2, Kneer 2, Jones 1, Coulson 1, Gooden 1). Personal Fouls: 16 (Coulson 4, Gooden 3, Garrett 3, Winfrey 2, Jones 1, Reed 1, Daniel 1, Kneer 1).

UTPA.....31 30 - 61
TAMUK.....29 24 - 53

Men's schedule through Nov.
Nov. 18 Sul Ross State Univ.
Nov. 20 Illinois (South Padre Isl. Tour.)
Nov. 22 Wichita State Univ. ("")
Nov. 25 Texas Southern ("")
Nov. 26 TBA (South Padre Isl. Tour.)
Nov. 29 Texas

Women's schedule through Nov.
Nov. 18 Auburn
Nov. 21 **Prairie View A&M**
Nov. 23 Louisiana-Lafayette
Nov. 25 Mississippi Valley State
Nov. 26 Prairie View A&M

Cross Country

Men's
NCAA Regional Championships
Nov. 12

- Arkansas
- Texas
- Texas A&M
- UT-Pan American**
- Stephen F. Austin
- Louisiana State Univ.
- Texas Christian Univ.
- Texas State
- North Texas
- Louisiana Tech
- Sam Houston State
- Baylor
- McNeese State
- Houston
- Texas A&M-Corpus Christi

Individual Stats:
1. Westly Keating 29:30.75
14. Hector Gandara 31:42.00
24. Luis Nava 32:29.25
51. Alex Moncivias 33:49.40
57. J.J. Hernandez 34:09.15
58. Americo Ortiz 34:16.00
69. Angel Ramirez 34:44.45

Women's
NCAA Regional Championships
Nov. 12

- Arkansas
- Baylor
- Rice
- Lamar
- Stephen F. Austin
- Texas A&M
- Texas A&M-Corpus Christi
- Texas Christian Univ.
- Texas
- Louisiana State Univ.
- North Texas
- UT-Pan American**
- Sam Houston State
- Houston
- Louisiana-Monroe
- Arkansas State
- McNeese State

Individual Stats:

- Karla Hernandez 23:43.90
- Ashley Perez 23:54.00
- Sara Rodriguez 24:14.40
- Rose Escovedo 24:34.55
- Lorraine Garcia 24:39.40
- Sonya Rivera 24:45.35
- Sharon Toroitich 24:50.45

2005 Cross Country schedule and results
Nov. 22 NCAA Championships

VOLLEYBALL

Texas A&M-Corpus Christi Match
Saturday, Nov. 12
UNC Rec Center

TEXAS A&M-CORPUS CHRISTI DEF. UTPA
30-12, 30-22, 22-30, 28-30, 15-11
UTPA: Kills, Kellie Phillips 15; assists, Chelsea Blakely 48; digs, Chrissie Carrigan 23; aces, Kellie Phillips 2, Heather Bravo 2, Chelsea Blakely 2.
record: (10-19)
TAMUCC: Kills, Anna Machado 19; assists, Paula Araujo 26; digs, Amber Phippen 22; aces, Lauren Carter 2.
record: (14-15)

North Dakota State Match

Saturday, Nov. 12
UNC Rec Center
NORTH DAKOTA STATE DEF. UTPA
30-24, 30-23, 30-25

UTPA: Kills, Daniel Holthe 9; assists, Chelsea Blakely 30; digs, Carrie Ermel 10; aces, Kim Mora 1, Carrie Ermel 1.
record: (10-18)
NDSU: Kills, Kim Hebl 12; assists, Sheila Parrish 21; digs, Kari Fagnan 13; aces, Kim Hebl 3, Sheila Parrish 3.
record: (4-31)



Joey Gomez/The Pan American

LETS GET' EM - The University of Texas-Pan American Lady Broncs get together before the game against Texas A&M-Kingsville at the UTPA Field House. The Lady Broncs came out on top 61-53 over the Lady Javelinas.

Broncs set for upcoming SPI tourney against nation's best

By **DARYL GONZALES**
The Pan American

The University of Texas-Pan American men's basketball team put out a good showing against Monterrey Tech and Universidad Regiomontana. Now the Broncs get set for their first real game of the season against Sul Ross State University on Friday at the UTPA Field House.

The visiting group is usually one of the top NCAA Division III teams in the state, Bronc Head coach Robert Davenport commented. The Lobos return their top scorers from last season, Sidney Hooper, who averaged 22 points a game, and C.J. Acosta, who scored 15 points a game.

"They are a good shooting team, and they get across the court quick," Davenport said. "The challenge for us is that we are going to need to contest and pursue long rebounds, if we can get them to do that then our strength is going to be in the post."

The Broncs' performance in their second exhibition game left coach Davenport very optimistic heading into Sul Ross. The two teams are very similar when it comes to size and style, but the only difference is that Sul Ross is a bit better at shooting, he said.

"The thing that I was really excited about was that Universidad Regiomontana played a zone defense for the majority of the game and we were still able to score extremely well," said the second-year coach. "Usually, the game tends to slow down when a team plays zone, but continued to put up the numbers."

"We did a good job of pushing the ball in transition and attempting to score in transition even though they were playing us in zone, it really prepares us for Friday. Even though we were playing a team that wasn't really at our level, we didn't relax and that's what I wanted to see," Davenport added.

The Broncs seem to be ready for the latest season, attitude-wise.

"I'm really pleased with everyone on the team; they all have a great mind set of wanting to get better," Davenport said. "I know that we make mistakes, but these guys are coachable and they love to play the game. If I had to say that we had a weakness right now, it would probably be more defensively than offensively."

The game against Sul Ross should be a good game to get the season kicked off, so the Broncs are not going to take them for granted, he continued. "Because they are a well-coached team. If we take them for granted we are going to have our hands full. If we do what we are capable of doing and worry about our own things, we always have a chance to win," he added.

Davenport said that he has seen improvement from his team after each of the two exhibition games. Their performance against the Mexican National Champion Monterrey Tech and Regiomontana has him confident in his team.

"I felt that they were a bit better this year compared to last, just because they had some post players that could score. "I feel that we have taken a step forward after both of our games this season so far," Davenport said.

The match against Sul Ross will begin a series of games for the Broncs, in fact they will be playing six games in 11 days.

SOUTH PADRE ISLAND EVENT

Later this season the Broncs will be hosting the South Padre Island Tournament that will see eight Division I institutions battling it out for the crown,



Joey Gomez/The Pan American

FOR TWO - Dexter Shankle attempts the lay-up against RegioMontana last Saturday. UTPA won 102-54.

including national powerhouse Illinois, first up for the Broncs in the tourney. In a unique split style, UTPA will play two games on the road and then come home to finish the tourney.

"What can I say, they were in the NCAA National Championship game last year and they have Dee Brown returning," Davenport said. Brown was one of the Fightin' Illini's top scorers, averaging 13.3 points a game with a total of 104 rebounds and 70 steals for the season. Brown was supposed to go the NBA, but an injury kept him at the collegiate level for one more year.

"They have an unbelievable program, and we can expect to have 20,000 people at the game wearing orange, but not our orange. So it will be great college basketball environment and our guys are going to have to put that all aside and focus on the game. They can only put five guys on the court at a time like us, and we just need to do our best. So it's a big game for us and the guys because we have some guys on the team that are from that area," Davenport added.

After facing the Fightin' Illini, the Broncs will not find it any easier as they take on Wichita State, a team predicted by many sports analyst to be one of the favorites to win the Missouri Valley Conference.

Returning to the Valley for the remainder of the SPI Tournament, the Broncs will take on Texas Southern.

"They have always been a very talented team, and we are going to have to be prepared to take on them in another environment," Davenport said.

On Nov. 29, the Broncs will take on the NCAA Division I second ranked team in the nation, The University of Texas. The Horns return three of their starting five from last season's squad that made it to the elite eight in the NCAA Tournament last March.

"The thing that a lot of people need to realize is that we aren't going to have a chance to take a breath because we start off with playing the team that finished second in the nation last season [Illinois] and then we finish off the run in Austin against the currently second-ranked Longhorns in a span of 10 days," he continued.

"They wear the same type of shoes that we do, we just need to lace them up and do the best we can to prepare our guys to be successful for these games," Davenport concluded.

MEN'S TEAM BREAKDOWN

By Class...

Senior (1)
Derrick East

Juniors (4)
Johnathan Chatman
Larry Sheppard
Kano Edwards
Colin Lien

Sophomores (5)
Dexter Shankle
Danny Puente
Cori Gaither
Zach Trader
Ryan Buck

Freshmen (3)
Alex Robinson
David Burrell
Ben Smith

By Position...

Guards (6)
Johnathan Chatman
Larry Sheppard
Dexter Shankle
Danny Puente
David Burrell
Ben Smith

Forwards (5)
Alex Robinson
Derrick East
Cori Gaither
Zach Trader
Ryan Buck

Centers (2)
Kano Edwards
Colin Lien

2005-06 UTPA Broncs Schedule

Nov. 5	Monterrey Tech	W 78-57
Nov. 12	Universidad Regiomotana	W102-54
Nov. 18	Sul Ross State	
South Padre Island Tournament		
Nov. 20	Illinois	
Nov. 22	Wichita State	
Nov. 25	Texas Southern	
Nov. 26	TBA	
Nov. 29	Texas	
Dec. 3	Air Force	
Dec. 6	UT-San Antonio	
Dec. 10	Texas Tech	
Dec. 15	Texas State	
Dec. 20	Stephen F. Austin	
Dec. 22	Wright State	
Dec. 28	Oregon State	
Dec. 30	Arkansas	
Jan. 7	Tulsa	
Jan. 10	Monterrey Tech	
Jan. 14	Northern Colorado	
Jan. 16	Texas State	
Jan. 21	IPFW	
Jan. 24	SMU	
Jan. 28	Utah Valley State	
Jan. 30	Northern Colorado	
Feb. 2	Texas A&M-International	
Feb. 4	St. Edwards	
Feb. 9	Utah Valley State	
Feb. 11	South Dakota State	
Feb. 15	North Texas	
Feb. 20	Texas A&M-Corpus Christi	
Feb. 25	South Dakota State	
Feb. 27	Texas A&M-Corpus Christi	
Mar. 1	IPFW	



**Sophomore
Danny Puente**

All home games in bold.

Lady Broncs hope to catch tiger by the tail at Auburn Saturday

By JOEY GOMEZ
The Pan American

This weekend Lady Bronc basketball heads to Alabama to face the Auburn Tigers signifying the start of what could be another historic season for the UTPA lady ballers.

Following a successful two-game exhibition sweep, the ladies take on a team that boasts impressive size in the middle, and returns four players to a team that went 16-13 last season, 8-4 in the Southeastern Conference.

This year the Lady Broncs will have to contend with freshman 6-foot-7 center Keke Carrier along with veteran Marita Payne who averaged 8.0 rebounds per game as a junior last year.

UTPA coach DeAnn Craft speaks of team identity. She said that what remains is discovering a pattern of consistency as the season revs up.

Consistency was the right word as the Lady Broncs connected on 50 percent of their shots from the field (26 for 52) and 50 percent from behind the arc (3 for 6) last Saturday against Texas A&M-Kingsville.

That game, Dominique Montague scored a team high 13 points going 5 for 8 from the field, and tallying two treys. The match against the Lady Javelinas also marked some firsts for players who found themselves at different positions following an injury on Tiona Wilson late in the first period.

"Devin Reed was brilliant at point guard," Craft said after the game. "She emerged as our secret weapon on the court."

The junior from Indianapolis ranked first last season in steals (49), scored 8.1 points per game, and scored 226 points on the season.

Against Auburn, accurate shooting will probably be of the utmost importance for the Broncs. The Tigers tallied 783 total defensive rebounds last year. Their proficiency on the boards led to an average 40.5 rebounds a game last year with Payne leading the charge.

Auburn showed weakness last season behind the arc. They brandish a .320 average, making 4.1 per game compared to opponents 4.7 per game. By comparison, UTPA accumulated 4.8 treys per game last season.

Statistically, UTPA edges out Auburn in several different categories.

The Broncs notched 300 steals (10.7 per game) compared to the Tigers 250 (8.7). By the numbers, UTPA also nicked Auburn in assists as the Broncs amassed a total 366 (13.1) to the Tigers 356 (12.3).

The Lady Broncs return to the Field House on Nov. 21 when they host Prairie View A&M, coached by former WNBA superstar Cynthia Cooper, at 7:30 p.m.



Joey Gomez/The Pan American

KEEP AWAY - UTPA forward MaHogany Daniel maneuvers around TAMUK's Angela Trotter (11) in last Saturday's match. UTPA won 61-53.

2005-06 UTPA Lady Broncs Schedule

Nov.7	Monterrey Tech	W, 80-54
Nov.12	TAMUK	W, 61-53
Nov.18	Auburn University	
Nov.21	Prairie View A&M	7:30 p.m.
Nov.23	Louisiana-Lafayette	
Nov.25-26	Texas State Tournament	
Nov.25	Mississippi Valley State	
Nov.26	Prairie View A&M	
Commerce Bank Wildcat Classic		
Dec.2	Kansas State	
Dec.3	TBA	
Dec.8	University North Texas	
Dec.10	Texas State University	
Dec.18	University Arkansas	
Dec.20	Schreiner University	7 p.m.
Dec.22	Texas A&M-International	7 p.m.
Battle at the Border Tourney		
Dec.29	UTEP vs. Texas Southern	5 p.m.
Dec.29	Vs. Texas State	7 p.m.
Dec.30	UTEP vs. Texas State	3:30 p.m.
Dec.30	Vs. Texas Southern	5:30 p.m.
Jan.2	UTEP	
Jan.6	Northern Arizona University	
Jan.15	University North Colorado	
Jan.17	Utah Valley State College	
Jan.21	Texas A&M-Corpus Christi	7 p.m.
Jan.31	Wichita State University	
Feb.4	IPFW	7 p.m.
Feb.6	University North Colorado	7 p.m.
Feb.11	South Dakota State	7 p.m.
Feb.15	Huston-Tillotson	7 p.m.
Feb.18	IPFW	
Feb.23	Texas A&M-Corpus Christi	
Feb.27	Oregon State	
Mar.4	Utah Valley State	7p.m.

Home matches in bold

WOMEN'S TEAM BREAKDOWN

By Class...
Seniors (4)
Dominique Montague
Joanna Fuentes
Stacey Gooden
Devin Reed

Juniors (1)
MaHogany Daniel

Sophomores (4)
Cinthia Ramirez
Tynesha Pierce
Tiona Wilson
Dottie Knerr

Freshmen (6)
Danielle Kostacky
Whitney Coulson
Teshay Winfrey
Triauna Carey
Robin Garrett
Rachel Jones

By Position...
Guards (6)
Dominique Montague
Cinthia Ramirez
Teshay Winfrey
Tiona Wilson
Rachel Jones
Devin Reed

Forwards (6)
Danielle Kostacky
MaHogany Daniel
Joanna Fuentes
Tynesha Pierce
Stacey Gooden
Dottie Knerr

Centers (3)
Whitney Coulson
Triauna Carey
Robin Garrett

2004-05 WOMEN'S TEAM LEADERS

Dominique Montague
3-pointers (49)
3-point percentage (.343)
Total points (114)
Second in minutes per game (24.4)
MaHogany Daniel
Offensive Rebounds (65)
Defensive Rebounds (100)
Total Rebounds (165)
Rebounds per game (6.6)
Blocked shots (34)
Second in steals (42)

Devin Reed
Steals (49)
Second in points per game (8.1)
Second in total points (226)
Minutes per game (27.6)
Second in assists (56)
Tynesha Pierce
Points per game (9.0)
Total points (243)
Second in field goal percentage (.462)
Second in total rebounds (121)
Second in offensive rebounds (44)
Second in rebounds per game (4.5)

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SPORTS



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Soul of the Broncs lies in the hands of devoted few

By ANNALISA LIMAS
The Pan American

After three months of off-season conditioning, it's time for the basketball Broncs to show their hard work and preparation. But basketball isn't the only team that will go to work on the court. The UTPA cheerleading squad will be in full-fledged action supporting the basketball team, showing the student body that cheerleading is also a sport, with conditioning and preparation.

Since try-outs in April, the squad has worked endlessly to perfect routines and cheers not only for support of UTPA athletics but for the national competition

in January. Practicing four days a week, the Bronc cheerleaders put in as much work as any other sports team on campus if not more, according to coach Charlie Caceres.

"People think that it's just a girly-girl sport and they don't realize just how tough it is," said Caceres. "It's an aggressive sport and several injuries are always sustained."

Caceres, who cheered at Pan Am for three years, is in his 16th year of coaching the squad.

Under his guidance, the Bronc cheerleaders won a title in 2000 at the Universal Cheerleaders Association

(UCA) national championships and placed third last year at the same competition.

"Cheerleading tends to fall under the radar at UTPA, but we establish credibility with the awards that we win," said Caceres

While the basketball season offers their main chance to cheer, they try to show equal support for the rest of the teams. The cheerleaders attended ever home game during the recently concluded volleyball season and participate in any rally for the other teams.

"We can't necessarily cheer at a golf tournament or a track meet but we do our best to show our support for them," said Caceres. "Also, anything we do for the

men we do for the women."

Like the men's basketball team, this year's cheerleading squad is full of new faces. With 12 freshmen, five sophomores, and only two seniors, the team is almost entirely new. This year the co-captains are Vanessa Reyna and Victor Villarreal, both in their second year at UTPA.

The start of the basketball season is only the midway point of the cheerleader's season. With year-round support and practices, plus a competition in January, the group has a packed calendar.

"We work year 'round without any breaks," said Caceres. "Our job is never done."



Joey Gomez/*The Pan American*

AWESOME - Jennifer Chavana shows spirit in UTPA's game last Saturday.



Delisa Guadarrama/*The Pan American*

Bees swarm opponents into possible four-game win streak

By JOEY HINOJOSA
The Pan American

HIDALGO - The Rio Grande Valley Killer Bees (6-3-1, 13 points) are hoping to be on a four-game win streak by late Sunday evening as the squad will be competing in crucial divisional matchups this weekend. On Tuesday afternoon RGV was able to take care of business in Corpus Christi, defeating the Rayz 6-3.

The Killer Bees will be in Austin on Friday to face off against the Ice Bats, will host the Laredo Bucks on Saturday in Hidalgo, and finish the weekend on Sunday for a road game in Laredo.

Prior to the matinee win, the Killer Bees had lost two straight home games. a 2-1 overtime loss to the defending Central Hockey League champion Colorado Eagles, and a 6-3 loss to the Austin Ice Bats.

Before the Corpus Christi contest, RGV Head Coach Tracy Egeland expressed his thoughts on how the season has gone thus far.

"It's been a bit of a learning experience. We are going through some early season growing pains and we're building as a team, but I love our attitude," said Egeland. "I like our work ethic. I like our leadership. We're putting an end to the short game slide here and we're going to turn things around."

The importance of divisional games is not to be understated, as the winner of the games can create some space between themselves and their rivals.

"It's a big stretch, and we have to bring it every night. What I like is that we should be highly motivated in these games," said the Lethbridge, Alberta native. "We can go and get some revenge on Austin from the other night, and then come back here and play our biggest rival [Laredo] in front of a sold-out crowd Saturday, so we are going to go hard."

"We are going to play 60 minutes, and I'm sure in a week's time we are going to be sitting ok," added Egeland.

It's early in the 64-game season, but the third-year RGV head coach is already looking for some improvements in key areas from his team.

"I think we have to buckle down defensively. Our penalty killing still has a long way to go," said Egeland. "But our overall mindset is where it needs to be, and as far as the big picture we're focused and headed in the right direction."

The penalty killing seemed to come together Tuesday after the Killer Bees held Corpus Christi to zero power play goals in six opportunities. It was the first time this season RGV had not allowed at least one goal while their opponents were on the man advantage.

Despite a couple of problems, Egeland has found many positives from this year's squad.

"I think we are playing hard. Our goaltenders have played well. Individually we have some guys that are playing well. I can draw positives out of every guy," said Egeland. "I think that as a group we have to pay a little more attention to a few little things, as far as line changes, dumping the puck, and minor things that will make a difference by the end of the night."

STANDOUTS

Some of the individuals that have been playing well include the line of

left wing Dwayne Hay, center Matic Kralj, and right wing Aaron Phillips. Hay and Phillips played together from 2003-2005 with the Pensacola Ice Pilots of the ECHL. The linemates collected a total of 224 points between them during their time in the sunshine state.

This season both Hay and Kralj went on scoring streaks that had them scoring at least one point (a goal or an assist) for seven consecutive games. The two each have 13 points in 10 games, and Phillips has seven points in nine games.

When it comes to playing division foes the players are eager to get on the ice. RGV forward and alternate captain Ryan Shmyr is excited about the upcoming games.

"Any time you have divisional games it's very important because it could be a four-point swing, and we're looking at it that way," said the third-year Killer Bee. "We have to be strong in those games. That's where we can really take command of our division, so we are looking forward to it."

The Killer Bees have only played three games away from Dodge Arena this season, and are undefeated in those contests. Egeland doesn't mind being on the road for a bit, but is really pleased that the team will be seeing more quality time on the ice. Last week Dodge Arena was booked with concerts that forced the Killer Bees to sacrifice some practice time.

"It's nice to get some practices in here (at home). Last week, I think it hurt us. We didn't make much mention of it, but when you are only on the ice twice in one week, and it's every other day, and you don't skate the day before a game, I really believe that hurt us in the long run," said Egeland. "We're buckling down and bringing it for 60 minutes. I think that day off before the game really hurt our intensity level last Saturday. Now we get to skate a couple of days, we play, and we get to keep skating through the week. I really think that is going to make a difference in us playing three periods."



Joey Hinojosa/*The Pan American*

FROSTY - Left to right, Sean Gillam, Aaron Phillips, Daymen Bencharski and Evan Linsay.