



Monday
January 22, 2007

THE COLLEGIAN

Volume 59, Issue 16
blue.utb.edu/collegian

The University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College

Aiming at the zone



Luis F. Peña/Collegian

UTB/TSC pitcher Jon Ali warms up with catcher Chris Walker during Thursday's baseball practice at Scorpion Field, two days before the game against Alumni.

Freshmen's low GPA a 'concern'

By Robert Rodriguez
Staff Writer

The average GPA for first-time freshmen has declined 8 percent, according to UTB/TSC officials.

The 1,415 first-time freshmen who attended UTB/TSC during Fall 2005 earned a mean grade-point average of 1.94, compared with a 2.11 average achieved by the 1,659 first-time freshmen in Fall 2004 and the 1,557 freshmen in Fall 2003, according to the Data Management and

• See 'GPA,' Page 10

Pearson takes helm of Partnership Affairs

By Isis Lopez
Collegian Editor

Most people who go into administration follow a specific pattern; they become department chair, become a dean and enter into the administrative route, David Pearson says.

But Pearson, the new vice president for Partnership Affairs, did not follow the traditional route.

"The problem is that ... there are not an infinite number of chairs, there are certainly not an infinite number of dean positions," Pearson said.

So, UTB/TSC Provost José Martín and President Juliet V. García created what they call an administration fellowship, said

Pearson, who was selected for the fellowship in which he shadowed an administrator for a semester.

"I was this person last fall," Pearson said. "I think it's a great idea because someone who has not been an administrator has only a vague idea of the rhythm that the administrators operate under."

Pearson shadowed Wayne Moore, who was interim vice president for Academic and Partnership Affairs following John Ronnau's resignation last summer and now is now a faculty member and special assistant to the president.

He said he has a brand-new

• See 'Appoint,' Page 2

THE COLLEGIAN

The Collegian is an award-winning student newspaper serving the University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College. The newspaper is widely distributed on a campus of 15,000 students and is a member of the Texas Intercollegiate Press Association.

Collegian Editor
Isis Lopez

Spanish Editor
Graciela Salazar

Collegian Online Editor
Jason Rios

Collegian Webcast Editor
Carlos Centeno

Advertising Manager
Lorena Cruz

Advertising Representative
Roxanna Rosas

Staff Writers
Michell Godinez, Paola Ibarra, Marie Meléndez, Hugo Rodriguez and Robert Rodriguez

Copy Editors
Lorena Cruz, Michell Godinez, Hugo Rodriguez and Robert Rodriguez

Photographers
Maria Durón, Diego Lerma, Luis F. Peña and Elizabeth A. Perez

Editorial Assistants
Paola Ibarra and Diego Lerma

Secretary II
Ana Sanchez

Student Publications Coordinator
Azenett Cornejo

Address:
The Collegian
Student Union 1.28
80 Fort Brown
Brownsville, TX 78520
Phone: (956) 882-5143
Fax: (956) 882-5176
e-mail: collegian@utb.edu

Briefs

Book allowance scholarships

The **UTB/TSC Staff Senate** will grant 20 **Book Allowance Scholarship** awards of \$100 each for Spring 2007. Applicants must be full-time staff below the level of director, must have met and satisfied their probationary period, have a minimum overall GPA of 2.0, and must provide a current statement of charges and unofficial transcript. Applications will be accepted until 5 p.m. Jan. 31. For more details and to download an application, access the Web site <http://blue.utb.edu/staffsenate>.

Meetings

The **Student Government Association** will meet at 4:30 p.m. Thursday in the Student Union's Salon Gardenia. For

more information, call the SGA office at 882-5877.

The Disability Awareness Club

meets at noon each Wednesday in the Student Union's Salon Bougainvillea. For more information, call club president **Travis Briones** at 545-7306 or send him an e-mail at [travis.briones1@utb.edu](mailto:briones1@utb.edu).

Steinway Series

Pianist **Uzziel Guzman** will present a recital as part of the **Steinway Series' Faculty Piano Concert** at 8 p.m. Saturday in the SET-B Lecture Hall. Admission is free for students with valid ID and \$15 for the public.

Patron of the Arts

Pianist **Raul Capistran**, will

present "**300 Years of Keyboard Music in Mexico**" at 3 p.m. Sunday in the SET-B Lecture Hall. Admission is \$10 for non-member adults, \$7 for senior citizens and children, and \$3 for UTB/TSC students with a valid ID.

RGV Science Association

Frank Summers, an astrophysicist at the **Space Telescope Science Institute** in Baltimore, Md., will speak Feb. 2 at the 19th annual **Rio Grande Valley Science Association Conference** at the Pharr-San Juan-Alamo High School, 1229 S. I Rd., in Pharr. To register for the conference, call 381-0690 or visit the RGVSA Web site at <http://www.rgvsa.org>.

Research Symposium

Abstracts are being accepted for the ninth annual **UTB/TSC Research Symposium**, scheduled for April 11-13. Featured speakers, a calendar of events and abstract submission information is available at <http://blue.utb.edu/research>.

Financial aid deadline

The deadline to submit an application for financial aid for the upcoming Summer and Fall 2007 sessions is March 1. For more information, visit the Financial Assistance Office, located in Tandy Hall 206, or visit its Web site at <http://blue.utb.edu/fa/>.

Anniversary celebration continues

By Hugo Rodriguez
Staff Writer

The university's anniversary celebrations resume next month with two major events in the School of Business.

Nina Vaca, CEO of Pinnacle Inc., an information technology company based in Dallas, will speak 6 p.m. Feb. 8 in the Student Union's Gran Salon, said Mary Beth Deese, administrative secretary in the School of Business.

Invitations will be sent to business students and business people in the community.

The School of Business will conduct a faculty roast during a barbecue from 5 to 8 p.m. Feb. 28 in the Education and Business Complex courtyard. Business

students who wish to roast the faculty will be auditioned. Business students can pick up tickets to the event at the dean's office.

In March, the School of Education will sponsor a reading marathon.

Stephen Rosales, assistant to the Dean for P-16 Initiatives, said the school wants to break a record for continuous reading for the "Guinness World Records."

Celebration of the University of Texas at Brownsville's 15th anniversary and Texas Southmost College's 80th year began on Sept. 1. In October, the School of Health Sciences marked the 40th year of the nursing program, the College of Science, Mathematics and Technology sponsored a variety of events in November

and the university honored six individuals who impacted the growth of the university during December's "Diamonds Among Us" event.

In April, the university will host a *Quinceañera* Scholarship Gala in the Jacob Brown Auditorium.

Like the Mexican tradition of celebrating a girl's 15th birthday with a dance, the anniversary committee is "in the process of selecting the students that are going to be *las damas* [maids of honor] and the escorts," said Olivia Rivas, chair of the School Specialties Department and anniversary celebration coordinator.

Posters for the event, designed by Carmen Lomas Garza, are being sold for \$20 each in Rivas' office.

John Hawthorne, manager of special collections and university archivist, is heading a project called the "Memory Book." He said the book is "the telling of the 15-year history of the UTB/TSC partnership, with a special emphasis on growth, especially the growth in the number of students, the growth in the buildings and facilities on the campus, and the growths in the offerings of majors and certifications and opportunities for our students."

Hawthorne is soliciting help from anyone on campus interested in the project.

Other upcoming events are a second "Diamonds Among Us" program in June, graduate school celebrations in July and closing ceremonies in August.

Appoint

Continued from page 1

He said he has a brand-new title because the university is in the process of renaming the division Partnership Affairs.

"When the office was originally established the administrative structure was much smaller," Pearson said, and now administration resides in the office of the president and the provost.

He said his office is responsible for:

--overseeing Physical Plant maintenance and renovations;

--coordinating projects for the \$68 million bond issue approved by voters in 2004;

--and facilitating the activities of the Texas

Southmost College board of trustees.

One of his main goals is putting together "a more comprehensive or more coordinated" conservationist master plan in university activities.

He said the university will start a College Park initiative working in collaboration with the City of Brownsville. The university will donate land to construct parks.

Pearson, who now earns \$114,000 a year, joined UTB/TSC on Sept. 1, 1997.

He holds a bachelor's degree in sociology from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and a master's and doctorate in sociology from Yale University.

Replacing Pearson as Academic Senate president is Karen Fuss-Sommer, an

associate master technical instructor in and program director of the Vocational Nursing program.

Fuss-Sommer said her challenge is to represent each faculty equally.

The Academic Senate is part of the shared governance in the university, along with the Staff Senate and the Student Government Association. She now presides over meetings of the Academic Senate. She also is a representative on the Student Affairs Partnership Committee, and is a member of the Faculty Advisory Council to the UT System as the representative from UT-Brownsville.

Fuss-Sommer holds a bachelor of science

Unofficial count

Enrollment still lagging

By Robert Rodriguez
Staff Writer

As of Wednesday, preliminary enrollment figures showed a slight increase in enrollment, bringing the total number of students registered at UTB/TSC to 12,133.

Officials remain confident that this spring's enrollment will top that of last spring's 12,763 students.

"Preliminary [figures] look very good. ... All indications are that we will exceed [last spring's enrollment] by 3 percent," said Linda Fossen, vice president for

Enrollment Planning.

Registration continued until Friday, when dual enrollment students and students in the master's programs were expected to boost enrollment.

"This is the week we register 'til Friday," Fossen said. Particularly in the master's degree program,

we have quite a few people come in this week. ... We still haven't enrolled all our dual enrollment, either. We have a significant number of students that get put on through dual."

This semester, Fossen anticipates 1,500 to 1,700 dual students will be registered at

UTB/TSC, an increase from Spring 2006's final count of 1,447.

"We still have quite a few more registrations to process," she said.

Want this space?
Call 882-5143

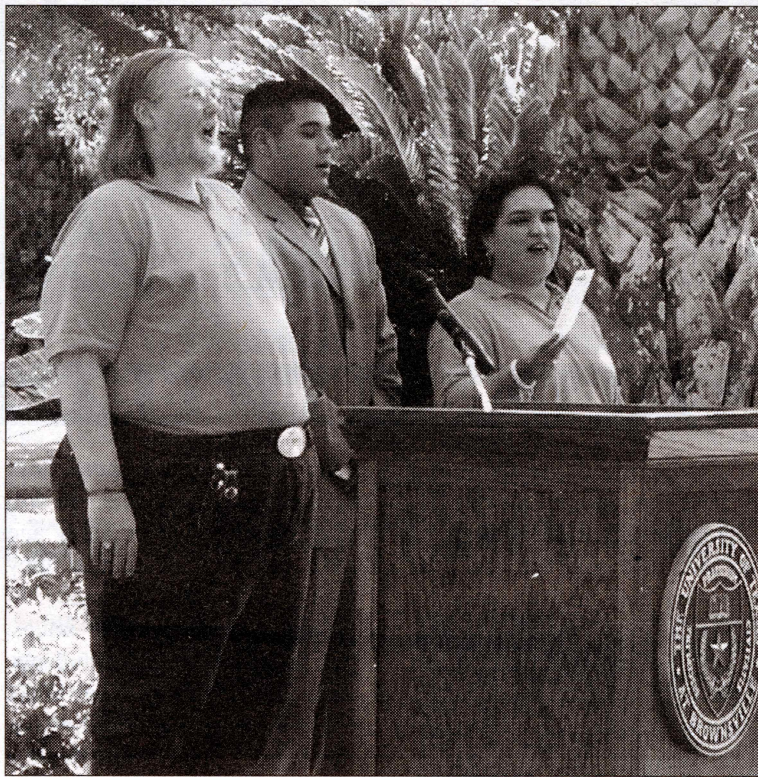
Phillips' life honored

Office of News
and Information

"A Celebration of Life" for Terry Jay Phillips was held Saturday in the Student Union's Gran Salon.

Phillips, dean of the College of General Studies at UTB/TSC, died Tuesday at M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, leaving a legacy of more than 24 years of dedication to excellence in education and commitment to students and colleagues.

Mr. Phillips, 53, joined UTB/TSC's Physical Science Department faculty in 1982 and later served as department chair, dean of Developmental and General Education, interim associate vice president for Academic Affairs, and dean of the College of General Studies. He was appointed three times as interim dean of the College of Science, Mathematics and Technology and was a former president of the Academic



COLLEGIAN FILE PHOTO

Dean Terry J. Phillips, SGA President Abraham Ponce and Dean of Students Mari Fuentes-Martin lead the audience in singing UTB/TSC's alma matter on Sept. 1.

Senate.

"Jay will be remembered as a tireless advocate of fair and equitable treatment for all, for his kindness, loyalty, and his keen intellectual gifts shared with us so unselfishly all these years," said UTB/TSC President Juliet V. Garcia.

Mr. Phillips, a physicist, helped to implement the 1991 partnership between Texas Southmost College and The University of Texas System through his work in helping to draft policy proposals and facilitating formation of the general education core. He was recognized for his teaching as recipient of the prestigious Chancellor's Council Outstanding Teaching Award in 1996.

"Jay was such a bright-minded and intelligent person," said UTB/TSC Music Professor Terry Tomlin, a long-time friend. "He was one of the smartest individuals I knew, and his intelligence made him such an able administrator."

Mr. Phillips had a love for

music and played the trombone in the UTB/TSC One O'Clock Jazz band for about 10 years. He also adapted the words of the alma mater to the current version and occasionally would lead audiences in singing it.

He was a graduate of Sam Houston State University, where he earned his bachelor's degree in physics and mathematics in 1975 and his master's in 1977. Before joining UTB/TSC, Mr. Phillips taught at Texas A&M in Galveston, Galveston College and Sam Houston State University.

Mr. Phillips, born May 14, 1953, in Sugarland, is survived by his mother, Bertha Phillips of Brownsville, and a sister, Nikki Phillips of Houston. He was preceded in death by his father, Nick, on July 1, 2006.

The family requests that, in lieu of flowers, memorials be made to UTB/TSC Scholarships, the American Cancer Society, and M.D. Anderson Cancer Center.



24 HOURS

PANCHOS

with Beans, Cheese, Fajitas and Avocado

ONLY \$8.50

HOMEMADE

1/2 lb. **CHEESEBURGER**

COMBO WITH FRIES

ONLY \$5.95

24 HOURS

COME BY AND SEE US AFTER YOUR NIGHT ON THE TOWN!

Gorditas • Steaks • Menudo • Caldo • Enchiladas
Tripitas • Tacos de Brisket • Cabrito en Salsa • And MORE!

4434 E. 14th St. Brownsville, TX 78520
ORDERS TO GO! OPEN 24 HOURS! **542-4777**

UT Retirement Plans Advisor

Your Personal Financial Advisor

Bob Richardson, CLU, ChFC

REGISTERED
FINANCIAL CONSULTANT

(956) 542-1775



Investment Advisor Representative with, and securities and investment advisory services offered through InterSecurities, Inc. Member NASD, SIPC and registered investment advisor.

Student Soapbox

If you could be a celebrity, who would you be and why?



"I would probably want to be Brian Molko because he's funny, he's cool, he's a very original kind of guy. I like his music. ... He's just an inspiration to all of us."

Javier Castañeda
Freshman marketing major



"I would be Drew Barrymore, just because I like the way she [acted] in "Charlie's Angels," like her attitude there; she looks tough."

Alma Garza
Freshman radiologic technology major



"I'd be Paris Hilton because she inherited a lot of money without doing anything; and not only that, she gets free Dior, free gifts anywhere she walks around. ... She does nothing but have fun."

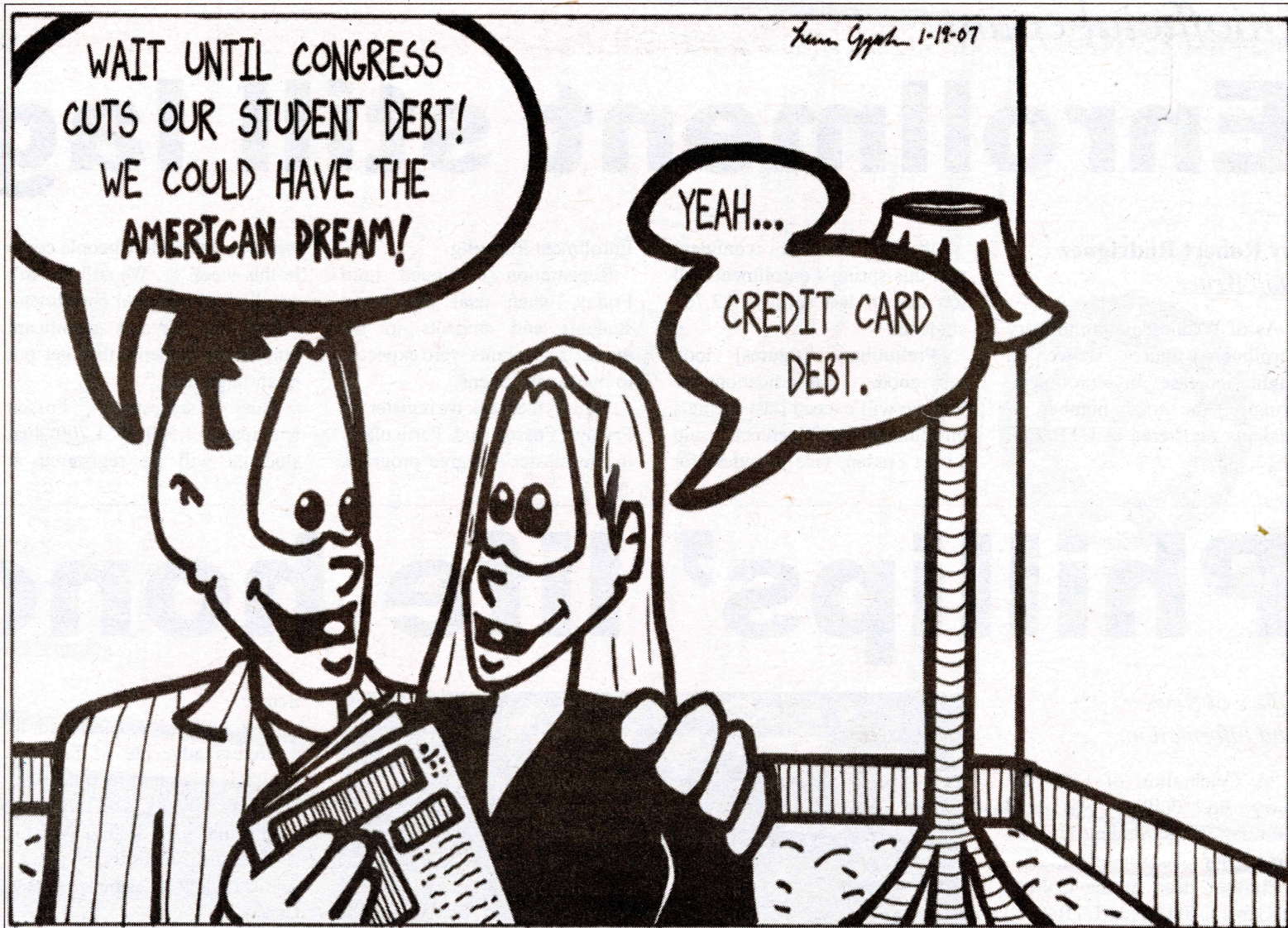
Crystal Vargas
Freshman communication major



"I think I would be David Hasselhoff. Why? Because he saves lives."

Joaquin Braumuller
Sophomore management major

--Compiled by Graciela Salazar



Letter to the editor

Welcome back, Scorpions

I hope everyone had a good break. This semester, the Student Government Association has many things planned and many things we want to accomplish.

As you start your second week of school you realize how much you have spent on textbooks. I know that for many of you, buying textbooks is a burden. This should not be. Your Student Government is working with other Student Government leaders throughout Texas to ease that burden.

Your Student Government is going to Austin this spring to advocate for tax-free textbooks

on your behalf. A bill sponsored by state Sen. Judith Zaffirini (D-Laredo) would allow students to buy their textbooks tax-free. That is money back in your pockets. While it might not seem like much, just by going to Austin we are showing that there are students in South Texas who need to be represented.

This is just one of many issues affecting students, and there are many things we want to help you with. We need your help. We need to hear you, the students. For example, how many of you have walked in a parking lot with cars speeding by? Many of you have. Where are all the speed-limit

signs? There are no speed limit signs in our parking lots. We will work to put up those signs and make students aware that they need to drive more cautiously.

There are many other issues. This is where you, the students, come in. I challenge you. Make your voice heard. Attend our meetings. E-mail your Student Government representative, contact me. As students we need to work together if we are to make our campus better.

Aside from these constant student issues, your Student Government is going to continue its tradition of such events as Scorpion Academy, the

President's Roundtable and Hit the Books with SGA. Throughout this semester I will do my best to keep you informed weekly via our school newspaper of our efforts. Our responsibility is to represent you, advocate for you, listen to you and to make sure that we do our best in accomplishing our goals for this student body.

We hope you have a great semester and we insist that you join us in our efforts. Sting 'em.

Abraham Ponce
Student Government Association President

Letters to the Editor Policy

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

Tired of the same old stuff on the Web?

Watch The Collegian News

Webcast

blue.utb.edu/collegian

Bearing the brr



Diego Lerma /Collegian

Students Jorge Lopez (from left), Berenice Soriano, Armando Espinoza, Enrique Gonzalez, Karem Guillen and Santiago Ortiz huddle to keep warm between classes Thursday in the

Cardenas Endowment Courtyard. The Rio Grande Valley has been in the grip of a cold front since Jan. 15.

Grant helps librarians earn graduate degree

By Marie Melendez
Staff Writer

Because of one man, four graduate students have received a master's degree of science in library and information science from the University of North Texas through the Rio Grande Initiative.

The Rio Grande Initiative is a grant for 20 recipients, later named Rio Grande Fellows, along the Mexican-American border that pays for tuition and fees, books, a laptop computer and travel expenses to the North Texas campus.

The fellows receive two-year scholarships to earn a master's degree in library science online through the School of Library and Information Science while working in professional-in-training positions in academic or public libraries along the border.

Occasional trips were made to UNT for orientations and to

fulfill some of the requirements of having hands-on contact with professors and the school.

Joel Chirinos, Justin Lawrence, Yvette Lopez and Anabel Treviño earned the degrees in December.

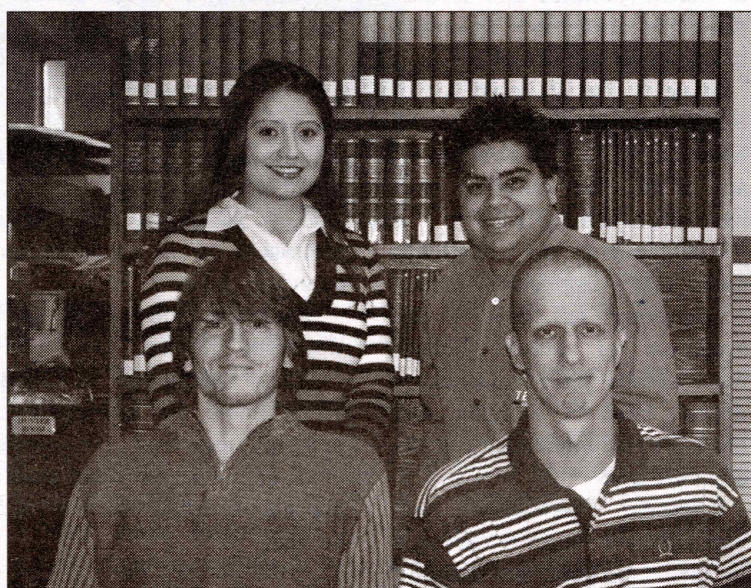
"I feel so privileged to have had the opportunity to be part of such a great program," said Treviño, circulation and reserves supervisor for the Arnulfo L. Oliveira Memorial Library.

Another student, Ezequiel Melgoza, will receive his degree at the end of this semester.

The opportunity, most will say, was given to these people by John Hawthorne, manager of special collections and university archivist, and Mabel Hockaday, assistant library director.

Chirinos, Lawrence, Melgoza and Treviño received their undergraduate degrees from UTB/TSC.

"Mr. Hawthorne was the man who hired me at the library," said Lawrence, a library intern. "I had



Elizabeth A. Perez /Collegian

John Hawthorne (seated at right), manager of special collections and university archivist, was instrumental in forming a partnership with the University of North Texas to start the Rio Grande Initiative, where UTB/TSC students were able to earn master of science in library and information science degrees. Shown with Hawthorne are Justin Lawrence (seated), Anabel Treviño and Joel Chirinos.

no idea ... that I would even like working at a library."

Chirinos, like Lawrence and

Trevino, works at the library as a training specialist and feels "really good" about this grant.

"This is something we did for two years straight," he said. "We didn't take any summers off, we even took many May [sessions]. ... We started [in] January 2005 and just finished this December."

The grant was written in partnership between UTB/TSC and the University of North Texas.

"[Hawthorne applied for the grant] to the national Institute of Museums and Library Services," Lawrence said. "It was then passed to the University of North Texas' hands and 20 [students] ended up with the grant."

The grant from the national Institute of Museums and Library Services totaled \$790,000.

There is talk about renewing the grant for more members next year.

"It was my interest in the program, called the Laura Bush 21st Century Librarians'

• See 'Grant,' Page 6

Police Reports

Following are among the incidents reported by Campus Police between Dec. 11 and Jan. 13.

At 1:22 p.m. Dec. 11, the Barnes & Noble Bookstore manager reported that a man was trying to sell back three textbooks that might have been stolen. The man was unable to provide identification and said the books belonged to a friend.

At 8:58 a.m. Dec. 12, a staff member reported a Gateway laptop computer missing from the mobile lab of the Distance Education Department. The loss was estimated at \$500.

At 3:09 p.m. the same day, a faculty member reported a genetics textbook missing from her mailbox in the Biology wing of the Life and Health Sciences Building. The loss was estimated at \$130.

At 3:10 p.m. Dec. 21, a staff member reported a 14-gallon wet/dry vacuum cleaner missing from Physical Plant. The loss was estimated at \$70.

At 2:07 a.m. Dec. 23, a Campus Police officer responding to a curfew violation at The Village at Fort Brown smelled a strong odor of marijuana emitting from a room. The officer inspected the room and found small particles

of what seemed to be marijuana and an empty bottle of vodka. No arrests were made but the student was referred to the coordinator of student judicial affairs.

At 6:36 p.m. Dec. 27, a student reported that her 2005 Honda Accord was damaged while it was parked in the International Technology, Education and Commerce Campus lot.

At 7:39 a.m. Jan. 8, a Guerra Daycare Center staff member reported damage to the center's tree house. The damage was estimated at \$50.

At 10:46 a.m. the same day, a student reported that his 1993 Ford Explorer was burglarized while it was parked in Lot A. A carrying bag, cell phone and audio speakers were among the items taken from the vehicle. The loss was estimated at \$125.

At 1:57 p.m. the same day, a staff member reported that her 2001 Pontiac Bonneville was scratched while it was parked in Lot Z.

At 4:09 p.m. the same day, a student reported that his 2007 Honda Accord was scratched while it was parked at the International Technology, Education and Commerce Campus.

At 10:06 a.m. Jan. 10, a Campus Police officer responded to a

report of smoke at the business incubator at the International Technology, Education and Commerce Campus. Physical Plant staff explained that the smell was created by dust on the heating system.

At 8:54 a.m. Jan. 11, a Campus Police officer responded to a strong odor of smoke at The Village at Fort Brown. The source of smoke was a bag of burned popcorn inside a microwave oven.

At 4:02 p.m. the same day, staff member reported finding a university key in Tandy Hall. Later that day, a staff member reported losing a university key matching the description of the found key.

At 2:50 p.m. Jan. 12, a Media Services staff member reported a DVD Player missing from Eidman Hall.

At 10:42 a.m. Jan. 13, a 2006 Honda Civic and a 2006 Ford F-150 collided in The Village at Fort Brown. No injuries were reported.

At 1:45 p.m. the same day, a staff member reported losing a key chain containing university and personal keys.

--Compiled by Carlos Centeno

Grant

Continued from page 5

Program," Hawthorne said. "The money [for the grant] comes from Washington because Laura Bush, President Bush's wife, is a librarian. She has a special interest and passion for librarians. So she convinced her husband and the U.S. Congress to fund the program because there aren't going to be enough librarians in the future, so this program pays for free education for those interested in becoming librarians."

The Rio Grande Initiative stands as the only program of its kind that has reached out

to border libraries and is also nationally accredited, according to a news release from UNT.

Students who are interested in being a recipient can go to the library and talk to Hawthorne or any of the other librarians who have received the grant.

Requirements for eligibility are that applicants must be working full time at an academic or public library, must already have a bachelor's degree, must be bilingual and must be recommended by an administrator.

Chirinos, Lawrence and Treviño each hope to advance in this field and are thankful for Hawthorne helping them to pursue a master's degree.

"Mr. Hawthorne is basically responsible for giving me my education," Lawrence said. "And for that I feel extremely grateful and I always will be."

Chirinos enjoys being a librarian.

"It's a very interesting profession that is changing and evolving," he said.

Hawthorne thinks this is a wonderful program.

"Every employee at UTB/TSC should be interested in opportunities and ways to motivate our students and enable our students to better themselves," he said.

Professor of the month



Julie Larson

Name: Julie Larson

Position: Master technical instructor in the English and Communication Department.

Degrees: Bachelor of arts degree in speech communication (secondary education) from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire; master of arts in communication arts and sciences from Western Michigan University.

Membership: National Communication Association

Awards: Three-time recipient of the Teaching Excellence Medallion from the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development, Who's Who Among America's College Teachers (1996, 2001).

Hometown: Milwaukee, Wis.

Have you taught in any other institution of higher education? If so where? "I taught at Purdue University in Hammond, Ind."

How many years have you taught at UTB/TSC? "16. ... I started when I was young."

What other jobs have you had? "I've been a lifeguard, a camp counselor, a bookkeeper, receptionist and a factory worker."

If you could choose any other profession, which would it be and why? "It would probably be a criminologist, because I am hooked on Court TV. ... Like crime scene investigation-finding out how people got murdered."

What motivates you? "Just living life. Getting up every day and having a job to go to, a family to come home to."

What classes do you teach?

"I teach speech, applied communication and interpersonal communication."

What would be the best way to study for your class? "Do the assignments because each assignment builds on the next assignment."

What are your hobbies? "Reading [about] crime."

What are your short- and long-term goals? "My long-term goals are to retire from UTB/TSC. Short-term goal is to teach my classes well and to motivate the students in my class to stay in school."

What would you change at UTB/TSC? "I would have a place for incoming first-year students, like a student union ... where they can hang and learn about the university and how to study. I would change orientation. ... I would have orientation be the "Amazing Race" and students would have to find their way around campus."

--Compiled by Elizabeth A. Perez

Watch The Collegian News

Webcast

blue.utb.edu/collegian

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle



Elizabeth A. Perez/Collegian

In-depth look at rocks

Estefani Quesada (center), a fifth-grader at Victoria Heights Elementary School, learns how to identify rocks and minerals as fellow students Pamela Sanchez, Estefania Naranjo and their teacher Lynda Salgado look on during the "Orbiters Landers and Rovers: A Contemporary Study of Mars and the Future of Phoenix Mission" event held Jan. 13 at UTB/TSC. The South Texas Engineering, Math and Science Program sponsored the event for students across the Rio Grande Valley. The event also featured Suzanne Young, a scientist working with the Phoenix Mars Lander, which NASA is set to launch in August.

Scholarships

The **Pan American Round Tables of Texas** offer the **Florence Terry Griswold Scholarships** for female graduate students. A scholarship of \$2,500 is available for a woman who is a citizen of a Pan American country (other than the United States) and is pursuing a graduate degree at a state-supported college or university in Texas. A scholarship of \$2,000 is offered to any woman who is a native U.S. citizen and a legal Texas resident, is classified as a graduate student or a college faculty member engaged in specialized study of the languages or cultures of a Pan American country and will study or do research in a Pan American country (other than the United States). For more information, visit: www.partt.org/scholarship. For an application, visit the Financial Assistance Office, located in Tandy Hall 206. **The deadline to apply is Jan. 31.**

The **Datatel Scholars Foundation** offers four unique scholarships, ranging in value from \$1,000 to \$2,500. The **scholarships** are awarded to outstanding students attending Datatel client institutions. **Angelfire scholarships** are available to outstanding students who served in the Asian theater (Vietnam, Laos and/or Cambodia) between 1964 and 1975. Spouses and children of Vietnam veterans and refugees of Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam are also eligible. Scholarships are also awarded to military personnel who have served in Operation Desert Storm, Operation Enduring Freedom and/or Operation Iraqi Freedom. **Returning Student scholarships** provide assistance to outstanding students who have returned to higher education after an absence of five or more years. **Nancy Goodhue Lynch scholarships** are awarded to outstanding undergraduate students majoring in information technology-related curriculum programs. The scholarship application is available online at: <http://www.datatel.com/global/scholarships/>. **The deadline to apply is Jan. 31.**

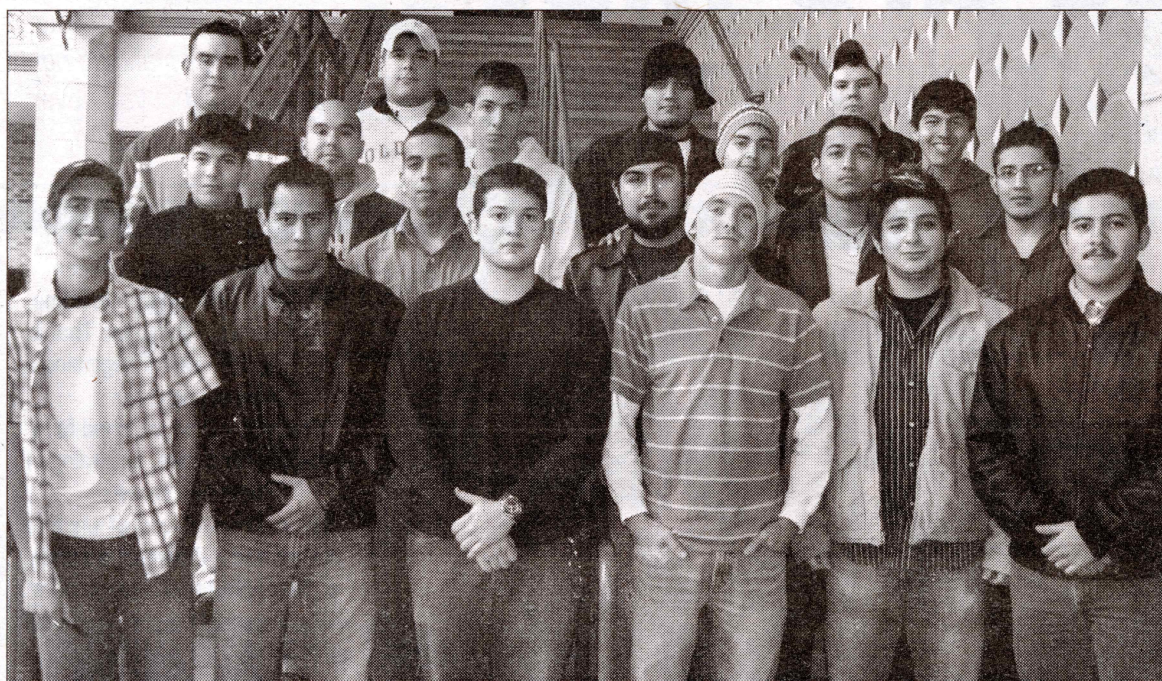
The **¡Adelante con UPS! Leadership program** offers a \$3,000 scholarship to Latino students who pursue a degree in business or related fields. Applicants must have and maintain a minimum GPA of 3.0 or higher, be eligible for financial aid from a federal or state-funded program, be full-time students and must provide two letters of recommendation that express leadership potential. Students who apply must also participate in Adelante's Leadership Institute and possibly participate in a paid internship in summer 2007 in a business or corporation. For an application, visit http://www.adelantefund.org/adelante/UPS_Scholarship_En.asp. **The deadline to apply is Jan. 31.**

The **Hispanic Scholarship Fund** offers college scholarships ranging from \$1,000 to \$2,500. To be eligible, students must be of Hispanic heritage, be U.S. citizens or legal permanent residents, be undergraduates or graduate students enrolled full time in a degree-seeking program at an accredited U.S. college or university in the United States, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands or Guam. Students must also have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.0 and have applied for federal financial aid. For more information and application materials, visit <http://www.hsf.net/scholarship/programs/cctransfer.php>. **The deadline to apply is Feb. 2.**

The **Calgon Take Me Away Scholarship** offers college scholarships ranging from \$500 to \$5,000. To be eligible, students must be females age 18 or older as of June 23, 2007, be legal residents of the United States, be officially enrolled and matriculating in a four-year accredited undergraduate college or university program at a U.S. college or university as of Sept. 1, 2007. Students must also have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.0, and remain enrolled in the same accredited four-year college or university for at least one year after accepting scholarship funds to be eligible for the full award. For more information and an application, visit: <http://www.takemeaway.com/scholarship/index.html>. Only online submissions will be accepted. **The deadline to apply is Feb. 28.**

--Compiled by Hugo Rodriguez

Club spotlight



Maria Durón/Collegian

Members of Kappa Sigma include (front row, from left) Michael Peña, president; Abel De Hoyos, vice president; Jose Cantu, secretary; Shawn Ballard, treasurer; Robert Treviño, vice president; and Jason Ríos. Second row: Lewis

Osorio, Mando Flores, Paul Fonseca, Jonathan Weaver, Andrew Perez, Jorge Alanis, Ray Montes, Hector Rivera and Roberto Loredó. Third row: Lupe Peña, Abraham Ponce, Jose Balanos and Agmed Gonzalez.

Name: Kappa Sigma

Purpose: Kappa Sigma is a national social fraternity that teaches fellowship, leadership, scholarship and service.

Established: In the fall of 1869 at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville. The Kappa Sigma chapter at UTB/TSC was established in Fall 2006.

President: Michael Peña

Vice President: Robert Treviño and Abel De Hoyos

Secretary: Jose Cantu

Treasurer: Shawn Ballard

Sponsor: Stephen Rosales

Events: Welcome Week, Sombrero Fest and monthly meetings.

Community Service: Volunteers for UTB/TSC's Posada/Pastorela and movie nights.

Meetings: 7 p.m. Wednesdays in the Student Union's Salon Bougainvillea.

Requirements: a GPA of 2.0 or higher and good character.

Dues: \$45 membership fee; \$40

monthly fee.

For more information: send an e-mail to Michael Peña at blademp777@yahoo.com.

--Compiled By Maria Durón

If you would like your student organization featured in the Club Spotlight, call Collegian club reporter Maria Durón at 882-5143 or send her an e-mail at collegian@utb.edu.

Tired of the same old stuff on the Web?
Visit The Collegian Online at blue.utb.edu/collegian

Bachelorette of the week



ELIZABETH A. PEREZ/COLLEGIAN

Name: Eva Gabriela Duran

Age: 18

Classification: Freshman

Major: Communication

Zodiac sign: Gemini

What is your favorite food? "Seafood."

What is the first thing you notice about a person you're attracted to? "Their eyes."

Have you ever cried for someone you loved? "Yes."

If you could be another person, who would you be? "Hilary Duff."

What's the first thing you think about in the morning when you wake up? "Shower."

How long do you typically take to dress? "One hour."

What are your hobbies? "Dancing and singing."

What type of music do you listen to? "Reggae, rock, hip-hop."

What animal would you like to be? "Butterfly."

Where do you see yourself in 10 years? "Working in a TV station."

What is something that not many people know about you? "That I am sensitive."

Would you ever date someone younger or older than you? "Yes, older."

Free association quiz:

Love: "Life"

Friendship: "The best"

Makeup: "Essential"

Piercing: "The best"

Lies: "Never"

If you would like to be featured as a Bachelor or Bachelorette of the Week, call Paola Ibarra at 882-5143 or send her an e-mail at collegian@utb.edu.

Piano concert with a Slovak theme

By Marie Melendez

Staff Writer

Richard Urbis, an associate professor of Fine Arts, will perform at 8 p.m. Friday in the SET-B Lecture Hall.

"I'm doing the recital and two of my students are also going to be on there playing some of the pieces as well," Urbis said. "We're having a Slovak-themed recital."

Urbis said the recital, sponsored by the Patron of the Arts program, will have Czech, Polish and Russian music.

"It'll give sort of a panorama

of well-known and lesser-known composers," he said.

Rocio Escobedo, a foreign student from Mexico, will start the program by playing two pieces by Janacek, a Czech composer.

Willie Morales, of Laredo, will be playing a piece by Muczynski, a Polish-American composer.

Janacek became widely accepted more than 50 years after his death, Urbis said.

"He was a known composer," he said. "But he's become to be a loved composer among the public now."

He also believes that Muczynski will grow to be a widely played

piano composer.

"I've found his work to be more enjoyable to play than composers with bigger reputations," Urbis said.

Urbis' numbers will be from pieces by Dusik, Dvorak, Smetana, all Czech composers; Rachmaninoff, Scriabin, both Russian composers; and Chopin, a Polish composer.

"At the end of the concert I'm going to be playing a lot of Chopin," he said. "Chopin is paradoxically the most famous composer, despite the fact that he's got a French name."

Urbis has been performing all

over the world for many years.

"I've done Czech music concerts in Czech parts of the U.S.," Urbis said.

He has played at the Czech Embassy in Washington, D.C., and at the Dvorak Museum in Prague.

All of Urbis' concerts have themes.

"I like to do recitals with a theme, so this time I'm doing Slovak," he said.

Admission to the concert is \$7 for non-member adults, \$5 for senior citizens and children, and \$3 for all UTB/TSC students with a valid ID.

These Hollywood squares are hip!

By Michell Godinez

Staff Writer

It is not every day that you get the chance to see a professor asking another staff member what Sisqó song says she had "dumps like a truck, truck, truck; baby move your butt, butt, butt."

This was just one of the many pop culture questions host and Associate Professor John Cook asked in the mock version of the TV classic quiz show "Hollywood Squares" held Wednesday in the Cardenas Hall South lobby as part of Welcome Week.

Martie DiGregorio, the president's office program director for special events, appeared to know the most pop-culture trivia, including the name of the movie in which Jennifer Tilly was artificially inseminated with a turkey baster (Answer: "Seed of Chucky").

Staff psychologist Charla Layne helped to organize the event and said it was originally planned to take place in the Endowment Courtyard but was moved to the South lobby due to the cold weather.

"The theme [for Welcome Week] was Hollywood and so we were trying to find different activities [for] students to take part in that would be fun."

Prizes for winners ranged from different games to Welcome Week T-shirts.



MARIA DURÓN/COLLEGIAN

Associate Professor Louis Falk, Program Director of Special Events Martie DiGregorio and Counselor Robert Phaneuf try to come up with an answer during the "Hollywood Squares" game, in which students competed for T-shirts and board games.

"[We gave out] "Deal or No Deal" and "Scene It" DVD games," Layne said. "We weren't actually expecting so many contestants ... so we ended giving out mainly T-shirts."

Senior biology major Tania

Cruz was one of the contestants in the first round but did not end up winning.

"I really enjoy trivia, so I would do it again if they asked me to," Cruz said.

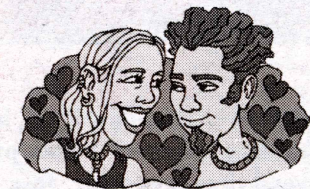


What if the love of your life was standing right next to you, but you never met him or her?

UTB/TSC has thousands of students, and the chances of meeting someone between classes are almost slim to none. Fate can only go so far. That is why The Collegian is beginning a new dating project.

Students will be matched for a two-hour blind date, according to common interests.

The date will consist of lunch or dinner, and a Collegian reporter, photographer and videographer will be present to record the event.



Participants must be respectful at all times. However, if a participant is unhappy with the date before the two hours are over, he or she can choose to leave.

The Collegian encourages both outgoing individuals who like meeting people, as well as shy people, to participate.

If you are interested in participating in The Collegian's blind date project, send an e-mail to collegian@utb.edu with your name, classification, major and briefly describe your personality and include your favorite music and clothing style.

What's **YOUR** Interest?

Recreational, Social, Cultural, Volunteer or Political

Pick an organization ... **TODAY**

JOIN A CLUB DAY

Wednesday, January 24th
10:00am - 2:00pm
Student Union Lawn

Get Active -- Get Involved

Join us for lots of fun, music and prizes

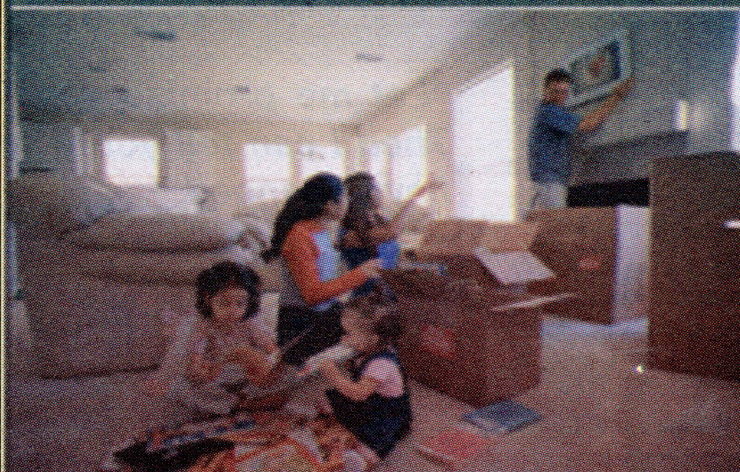
FREE Prizes



FREE Prizes

www.StudentLife.utb.edu

Bring your family to a beautiful new home



Six extraordinary communities to choose from.

Integrating beautiful communities for fine living

Features

- Energy Efficient
- Functional designs
- Granite tops
- Convenient plans
- Above average ratings
- Customizable

Best locations in Brownsville
Close to great schools, Shopping, Hospitals

Price Range
115's to 230's

Location
Functionality
Value



564 Jesse Mann Blvd. Brownsville, TX 78526
Tel : (956) 547 7777
www.terreas.com

ATTENTION SCORPIONS

Official UTB-TSC Cheer Squad and Mascot Clinic and Tryout
Open to current students both male and female

Clinic and Tryout slated for
January 27th and 28th

Contact:

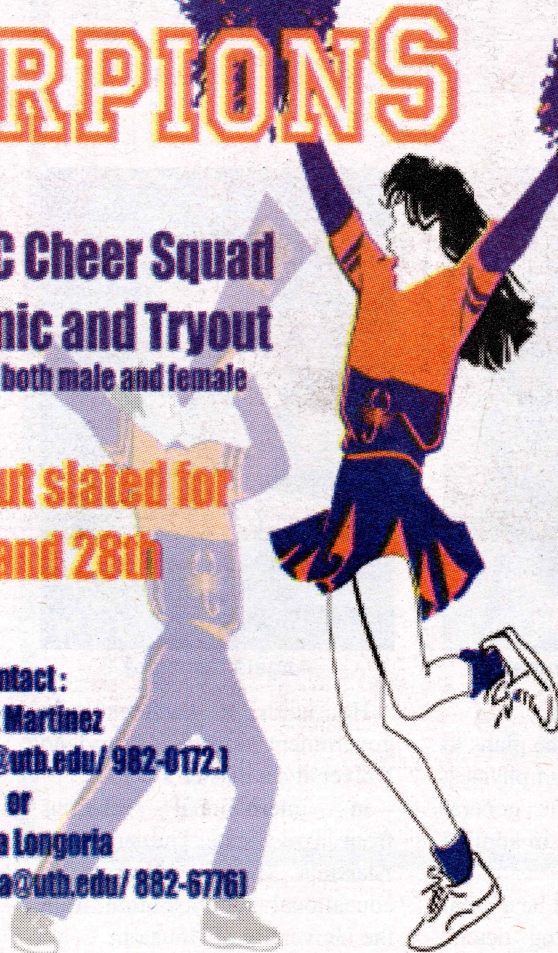
Albert Martinez

(albert.martinez@utb.edu / 982-0172)

or

Patricia Longoria

(patricia.m.longoria@utb.edu / 882-6776)



ATTENTION SCORPIONS



Open to active students, faculty, and staff.
Men's, Women's, and Co-Rec divisions

Team Sign-Ups
January 16th - 29th

Captains Meeting/
Team Representative Meeting
January 31st

Games begin February 2nd.

Contact:

Albert Martinez (albert.martinez@utb.edu)

Roel Gutierrez (roel.gutierrez1@utb.edu)

Office 982-0172



GPA

Continued from page 1

Reporting Department.

"We are very concerned. ... This is the first time since we've been keeping records that we have seen the freshman GPA fall [below] 2.0," said Linda Fossen, associate vice president for Enrollment Planning.

The minimum GPA for a student to graduate from UTB/TSC is a 2.0 on a 4.0 scale; however, in some schools and colleges at UTB/TSC, the GPA must be higher just to enter.

"For the students to graduate and succeed in their employment goals, they have to at least keep a 2.0 GPA," Fossen said.

The figures are based on fall-to-fall comparisons.

Charles Dameron, vice president for Academic Affairs, said that until Fall 2006's data is released, it is not certain whether the low GPA will develop into a trend.

He said that when that data is available, "then one of the things we can see here is does it look like it's a trend. ... Does it continue to drop a little more or was this a one-semester decline and then it's back up."

Officials say discussion to improve current programs such as tutoring, classes based on stress and time management, and peer mentoring have been initiated to help students.

"Some students find themselves in difficulty and don't know where to turn for help," Fossen said. "We've got many students who are now helping as peer advisers and that's a powerful advocacy because these students can speak to new students from the perspective of

"Let me promise you, let's talk again in May. ... Then I can tell you what I have done and how we have changed."

--Peter Gawenda,

acting dean of the College of General Studies

"been there, done that and this is what I suggest."

The university is also working more vigorously to connect students with advisers who can help them develop goals.

"Students that have a plan that is more meaningful to them, students that have career goals that they are passionate about and committed to are much more likely to succeed than those who don't," Fossen said.

The report also showed a steady decline in the GPA of first-time freshmen taking developmental courses. Six hundred and forty-four students averaged a 1.75 GPA for Fall 2005, compared with 790 students who averaged a 1.96 GPA in Fall 2004 and 844 students who averaged a 1.97 GPA in Fall 2003.

"What is being done at this point is the content of the course is being adjusted so that the students learn more and it has become, I have to admit, a little more difficult in order to raise the skill levels," said Peter Gawenda, newly appointed acting dean of the College of General Studies.

Gawenda speculates the drop in the GPA is due to Fall 2005's developmental students having lower skills.

"The skill level of students might have been lower when they came in at this point," he said.

Gawenda promised changes and implementation of new teaching techniques.

"I had all the faculty together and had them present to me what has been done and then present again to me whether there were any changes and now that I have seen this [GPA] naturally... I will confront them with this and tell them, 'Look, this is what seems to be showing that maybe we can change our job.'"

Gawenda said new steps will be taken this semester.

"Let me promise you, let's talk again in May. ... Then I can tell you what I have done and how we have changed," he said.

The number of first-time freshmen who received all F grades for a semester jumped from 8 percent, or 133 students, in Fall 2004 to 12 percent, or 176 students, in Fall 2005.

Dameron attributes this lack of academic success to students who forget to withdraw from classes because of extenuating family or economic pressures.

"People who go through emotional, psychological or economic stress are most

likely to fall into that category," he said. "A family member will pass away. ... It doesn't occur to them that they have to go and drop those classes."

Students with these poor grades are allowed to return the next semester.

"Typically, they are given an opportunity next semester to sign up and continue taking classes but the advisers will contact them. ... Typically, we ask advisers to intervene as well," Dameron said.

The GPA for dual enrollment students in Fall 2005 stood at 2.35, a decrease from Fall 2004's 2.69 and Fall 2003's 2.63.

Dual enrollment students, high school students who simultaneously take college credit courses, have usually performed better than the UTB/TSC student body.

"Our dual enrollment students relative to GPA, the graduation, and retention rate outperform our overall student body every year," Fossen said. "When you look at the average GPA it is well above a 2.0."

To ensure the academic success of future students, the university has begun a pilot program in several middle schools to connect younger students with career goals.

"We are using research, career and life skills that are provided by USA Funds, one of the guarantors that we work with in financial aid, and they hired some very renowned instructors to put together these kits," Fossen said.

She also said that UTB/TSC is working long term with public schools to help prepare "our students in a more solid way."

Appoint

Continued from page 2

degree in education from Texas A&M University.

Angela Gonzalez, previously an assistant director of the Office of News and Information, is now assistant to the president.

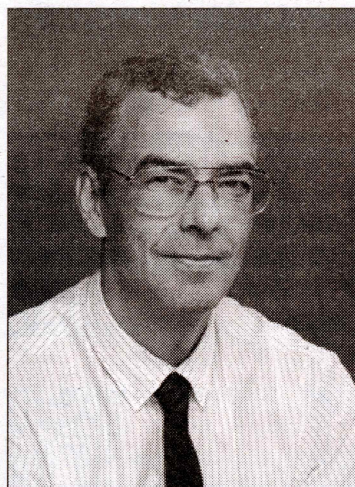
Gonzalez assists the president with research and speech writing and schedules speaking engagements for.

Gonzalez said her challenge is to keep up with a busy pace. She has worked at the university for seven years, and holds a bachelor's degree in communication from UT-Pan American.

Her salary is \$54,000.

Peter Gawenda is wearing three hats.

The director of the Bachelor of Applied Technology program is now acting dean for the College of Science, Mathematics and Technology, a position previously held on an interim basis by Terry



David Pearson

Jay Phillips, who died Tuesday.

Gawenda is also the acting dean for the College of General Studies.

He said he is taking over as dean for the College of Science, Mathematics and Technology until the position is filled.

His goals are to increase



Karen Fuss-Sommer

enrollment and degrees.

Among the degrees he plans to create are a doctorate in physics, a bachelor's degree in general studies and a master's in applied technology.

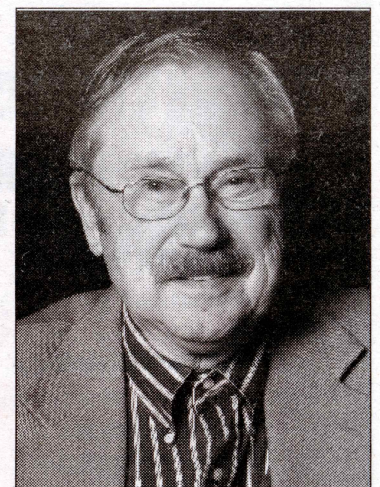
"I hope that this will be a great time for me as acting dean," Gawenda said.



Angela Gonzalez

He holds a bachelor's in government from Maryland University, a master's in international relations from Troy State University in Alabama and a doctorate in educational administration from the University of Houston.

Information on



Peter Gawenda

Gawenda's salary was available at press time.

Advertise
in The Collegian
Call 882-5143

Are 'Tummy Tuck' jeans fact or science fiction?

By Vanessa Willis
McClatchy Newspapers
 (MCT)

CHARLOTTE, N.C. --When I was 11, I wore my jeans carefree, until holes tore in their knees.

At 21, I only worried about how my thighs looked in them.

Now, at 31, I expect more from my jeans. And lucky for me, manufacturers are using new technology to offer more options for a wider variety of figures.

Several denim-makers have recently started marketing jeans they promise will flatten your stomach, but still feel comfortable. The models they use in these ads, however, hardly look like they need to be sucked in anywhere, but I digress.

My son's almost 3, but my belly hasn't gotten the message that I don't need to look pregnant anymore. I'm tired of wearing long shirts and never tucking them in, and going to bed with a waistband button's imprint still pressed into my skin.

I tested tummy-flattening jeans by Tummy Tuck, FDJ

(formerly French Dressing Jeanswear) and Riders by the Makers of Lee UltraFit jeans.

As part of the slenderizing jeans test drive, I asked co-workers for their reactions, and unfortunately the pair they thought looked most flattering was my least favorite.

My all-time favorite jeans are Old Navy's Women's Curvy Bootcut. I bought them online for \$29.50, and haven't found them in local stores. They are medium-weight denim, come in two dark washes and hug my curves comfortably.

Back to those slenderizing jeans. You have to realize that no matter what magic they employ, jeans are not going to make you look like a twiggy Olsen twin if you're really built like Beyonce.

And, sadly, if your jeans are too tight, all your "stuff" will



CHARLOTTE OBSERVER/MCT

Vanessa Willis test-drives a variety of blue jeans that make you look slimmer, like these Old Navy's Women's Curvy Bootcut.

shift elsewhere and you'll end up looking like you're trying even harder than you are.

My best advice is to keep trying different brands and styles

until you find something comfortable enough to actually sit down in but form-fitting enough to be flattering. It's a delicate balance, but still achievable.

Here's my skinny on lean denim.

I have to be honest. The cut of the Tummy Tuck brand was too constricting and the fabric made me feel like a human sausage. And don't get me started about the muffin top they created. (If you don't know what that means, you don't need slimming jeans.) My co-workers said these looked the best, anyhow.

Tummy Tuck has gotten rave reviews in the media, but I'm guessing the ladies who love them are only pudgy in the belly, and not plus-size gals overall.

The Riders--the cheapest and most widely available brand I tested--were my favorite by a

landslide. The denim is just the right weight, the silhouette is forgiving but still hugs the body, and the stretchy panel holds my belly in without leaving me lightheaded. My only complaint, and it's minor, is that I'd prefer a darker color --the sample pair I tried was a medium wash.

The FDJ (formerly French Dressing Jeanswear) pair was flattering and moderately comfortable, but the legs were about 3 inches too long. (They don't offer a petite cut in their Olivia jeans in my size.) But all of their jeans have tummy control elements, and I plan to try other fits to find one that suits me better.

So, overall, I'm happy to have found the Lees, because they're affordable and easy to find. And I'll hang on to my hopes of finding the right FDJ pair.

But I'm still thinking about buying another pair of my trusty Old Navy jeans before the company decides to shift their denim collections around for the spring.

**Si hablas español y quieres
 ayudar a niños con
 cáncer...**

Help Kids with Cancer Win their Battle

Earn \$9 per Hour

**St. Jude Children's Research Hospital
 Radiomaratón Promesa y Esperanza**

**The Job: For Two Days You Will Take
 Inbound, Spanish Phone Calls During the
 Annual St. Jude Radiothon**

**When: February 8 and 9, 2007
 7 a.m.-11 p.m.
 (flexible shifts)**

**Where: ITEC, 301 Mexico Blvd.
 Brownsville, Texas**

**Chance to Win a 26" Plasma TV, Computer
 and More!**

Call To Sign Up: 888-556-3911



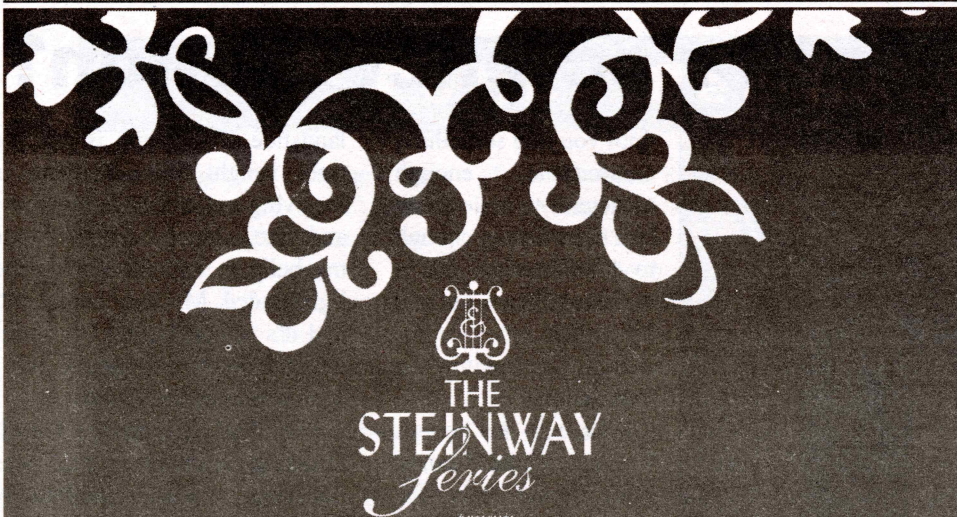
Nominations for the 2006-2007 Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges and Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges are now being accepted by the Office of the Dean of Students. This program is to honor outstanding campus student leaders for both scholastic, campus and community achievements.

The following criteria apply to all nominees:

1. Academic Requirements
 - Undergraduates
 - Minimum GPA of 3.0 in all course work
 - Currently enrolled in at least 6 semester hours
 - Completed at least 60 semester hours (juniors and seniors only for Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges)
 - OR
 - Completed at least one semester and have less than 59 semester hours (freshman and sophomores only for Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges)
- Graduates
 - Minimum GPA of 3.75 in all graduate course work
 - Currently enrolled in at least 6 semester hours
 - Completed at least 6 graduate semester hours
2. No record of academic or discipline probation or suspension
3. A member of at least one UTB/TSC registered student organization

Applications are available at <http://blue.utb.edu/sa/dos>

Please complete and submit your application to the Dean of Students Office located in Student Union Room 1.20 no later than 5 p.m. February 23. For further information, contact David Marquez, Coordinator for Student Judicial Affairs, at 882-5141.




THE STEINWAY Series
presents

Faculty Concert Performance featuring **UZZIEL GUZMAN**



Benefiting **The UTB/TSC Department of Fine Arts**

Performing the Music of Frederic Chopin
Saturday, January 27 • 8 p.m.
Science and Engineering Technology Building Lecture Hall

Tickets \$15.00 • Free admission for students with valid UTB/TSC I.D.
Tickets available by telephone at (956) 548-8708 or
Box Office opens at 7 p.m. the evening of the performance



www.utb.edu

2007-08 STARS Scholarship

Scholarship Eligibility Requirements:

- Must be a U.S. citizen or a legal permanent resident with a permanent resident card or passport stamped I-551.
- Must have a permanent South Texas address in one of the following counties: Aransas, Bee, Brooks, Cameron, Duval, Goliad, Jim Hogg, Jim Wells, Hidalgo, Karnes, Kenedy, Kleberg, La Salle, Live Oak, McMullen, Nueces, San Patricio, Refugio, Starr, Webb, Willacy, or Zapata
- Must have earned at least 12 undergraduate credit hours at a U.S. accredited college or university.
- Must have a minimum college cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.7 on a 4.0 scale.
- Must be enrolled in a U.S. accredited 2-year community college (enrolled part-time or full-time) in a degree-seeking program, or a 4-year university undergraduate program (enrolled full-time) seeking a bachelor's degree, or a university graduate program (enrolled full-time) seeking a master's, law or doctorate degree.

Other important information and applications available online at:
www.southtexasstars.org

Postmark Deadline: February 28, 2007

All applications and materials must be submitted by Postmark Deadline:
Wednesday, February 28, 2007.

Mail to:
STARS
c/o L&F Distributors
3900 N. McColl Road
McAllen, Texas 78501

2007 - 2008
UTB TSC
General Scholarship Application is now available online.
To apply, visit:
http://blue.utb.edu/fa/general_scholarships.htm
Deadline: March 1, 2007
Don't wait, apply today!

DISCOUNT[®]

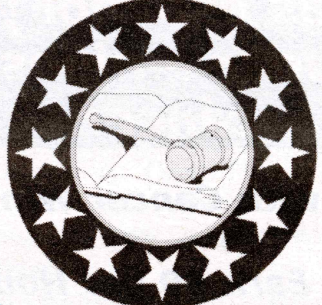
TIRE CO. INC.

WE'RE LOOKING FOR GREAT CUSTOMER SERVICE TECHNICIANS

We offer a great career opportunity if you have a smiling face and don't mind a physically demanding workload.

- Wages starting at \$7.50 an hour
- No experience needed (will train)
- Excellent Advancement opportunities
- Excellent Benefits Package Available

For more details please stop by our store at 3200 N Expressway 83 or call (956) 542-9550 and ask for Buddy.




Attention Pre-Law Students!

Come and meet
Larry Sager
Dean, The University of Texas School of Law

Learn how you can apply to the UT law school!

Tuesday, January 23, 3-4 p.m.
Gorgas Hall Board Room



For more information, contact the Office of New Student Relations at (956) 882-8860.

Subsidio da a bibliotecarios una maestría

Por Marie Meléndez
Reportera

Gracias a un hombre, cuatro graduados han terminado la maestría en ciencias bibliotecarias e información en la Universidad del Norte de Texas (UNT) por medio de la Iniciativa del Río Grande.

La Iniciativa del Río Grande es un subsidio que se otorga a 20 personas, después de llamaron becas bibliotecarias del Río Bravo, a través de la frontera México-americana que paga colegiaturas, cuotas, libros, una computadora portátil y gastos para el viaje al campus del Norte de Texas.

Los beneficiarios reciben becas durante dos años para hacer la maestría en ciencias bibliotecarias en línea por medio de la Escuela de Ciencias Bibliotecarias e Información mientras que trabajan en puestos profesionales de entrenamiento en bibliotecas académicas o públicas a lo largo de la frontera.

De vez en cuando se hicieron

viajes a la UNT para asistir a orientaciones y cumplir con algunos de los requisitos de tener contacto con los profesores y la escuela.

Joel Chirinos, Justin Lawrence, Yvette López y Anabel Treviño terminaron la maestría en diciembre.

“Me siento muy privilegiada de haber tenido la oportunidad de ser parte de tan buen programa”, dijo Treviño, supervisor del departamento de publicidad y archivos de la biblioteca del campus.

Otro estudiante, Ezequiel Melgoza, terminará la maestría al final de este semestre.

La mayoría diría que la oportunidad fue brindada gracias a John Hawthorne, gerente de colecciones especiales y archivista universitario, y Mabel Hockaday, directora asistente de la biblioteca.

Chirinos, Lawrence, Melgoza y Treviño se graduaron con una licenciatura de UTB/TSC.

“El señor Hawthorne fue el hombre que me contrató en la biblioteca,” dijo Lawrence, un

becario bibliotecario. “No tenía idea ... que me pudiera gustar trabajar en la biblioteca”.

Chirinos, al igual que Lawrence y Treviño, trabaja en la biblioteca como tutor bibliotecario y se siente “muy bien” por esta beca.

“Esto es algo que hicimos por dos años completos”, dijo. “No nos tomamos ningún verano libre, hasta tomamos clases en la [sesión] de Mayo. ... Empezamos [en] enero del 2005 y acabamos de terminar este diciembre”.

La solicitud del subsidio fue escrito en asociación con UTB/TSC y la Universidad del Norte de Texas.

“[Hawthorne solicitó para el subsidio] en el Instituto de Museos y Servicios Bibliotecarios”, dijo Lawrence. “Después estuvo en manos de la Universidad del Norte de Texas y 20 [estudiantes] terminaron beneficiados”.

El subsidio del Instituto de Museos y Servicios Bibliotecarios, una agencia nacional, totalizó \$790,000.

Hay pláticas de renovar la beca para más miembros el próximo

año.

“Me interesé en el programa, llamado ‘Laura Bush 21st Century Librarians’”, dijo Hawthorne. “El dinero [para la beca] proviene de Washington ya que Laura Bush, esposa del Presidente Bush, es una bibliotecaria. Tiene un interés y una pasión especial por los bibliotecarios. Por lo tanto, convenció a su esposo y al Congreso de los Estados Unidos a fundar el programa porque en el futuro no va a haber suficientes bibliotecarios, y este programa paga por la educación de esos interesados en convertirse en bibliotecarios”.

La Iniciativa del Río Grande permanece como el único programa que ha llegado a las bibliotecas de la frontera y que es acreditado nacionalmente, según un comunicado de prensa de UNT.

Los estudiantes que estén interesados pueden ir a la biblioteca y hablar con Hawthorne o cualquiera de los otros bibliotecarios que han recibido esta beca.

Los requisitos para poder ser

elegidos son que los candidatos se encuentren trabajando tiempo completo en una biblioteca académica o pública, tengan una licenciatura, que sean bilingües y que sean recomendados por un administrador.

Chirinos, Lawrence y Treviño esperan progresar en este campo y le están tremendamente agradecidos a Hawthorne por su ayuda y dedicación en ayudarlos a ejercer la maestría.

“El señor Hawthorne es responsable por haberme otorgado mi educación”, dijo Lawrence. “Y por eso es que me siento extremadamente agradecido y siempre lo estaré”.

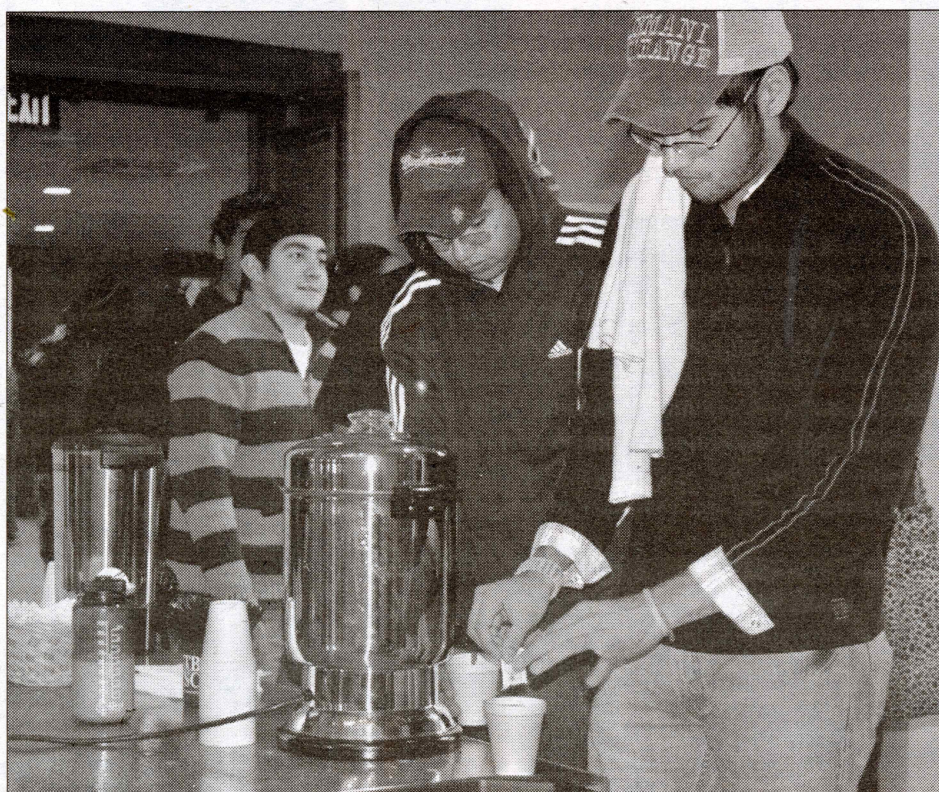
Chirinos disfruta ser un bibliotecario.

“Es una profesión muy interesante que va cambiando y evolucionando”, dijo.

Hawthorne piensa que es un programa maravilloso.

“Todo empleado en UTB/TSC debería de estar interesado en oportunidades y en maneras para motivar a nuestros estudiantes a capacitarse para mejorar”, dijo.

Cálida bienvenida



ELIZABETH PÉREZ/COLLEGIAN

De izquierda: Aldo Bedolla, estudiante de segundo año de educación y Carlos Arizpe, estudiante de segundo año de negocios se sirven chocolate caliente en La Sala el martes, el primer día de clases. El Departamento de Vida Estudiantil (Student Life) dio chocolate caliente y café a los estudiantes ya que la temperatura era 39°F (3.9°C).

Estudiante de hoy



GRACIELA SALAZAR/COLLEGIAN

Nombre: Mayra G. Urteaga

Edad: 19

Ciudad natal: Matamoros, Tamaulipas, México

Promedio: 3.87

Especialidad: Mercadotecnia

Clasificación: Estudiante de segundo año

Reconocimientos: “Lista del Decano Otoño 2005, Primavera 2006, Otoño 2006”

Pasatiempos: “Leer ... ir al cine y platicar por el [Hotmail] Messenger”

Actividades Extracurriculares: Líder

de Scorpionation

¿Cuáles son tus metas a futuro?

“Terminar exitosamente mi carrera universitaria y estudiar una maestría”.

¿Cuál ha sido tu reto más grande?

“Probablemente ingresar a UTB, mi reto fue dominar el inglés, pero no hay reto imposible de conquistar”.

Si pudieras cambiar algo de la universidad, ¿Qué harías? “Integraría más carreras profesionales al plan de estudio ... como la arquitectura, el diseño gráfico e industrial”.

¿Qué te gusta de la universidad? “Su ambiente pacífico y que está en pleno desarrollo”.

Anécdota: “El segundo semestre llevé una clase que se me dificultaba mucho y ... la tomé con un maestro que es muy estricto. Todo el semestre me esforcé muchísimo pero sentía que para el profesor mi esfuerzo no era suficiente. Terminó el semestre y pensé que la reprobaría pero ... saqué B. Un semestre después me encontré al profesor y lo saludé, no pensé que se acordaría de mí, pero me dijo: ‘Claro que me acuerdo, eras la mejor de mi clase, una estudiante muy dedicada’. ... Aprendí que debes dar tu máximo aunque sientas que no es suficiente, porque seguramente para los demás será más que suficiente”.

--Recopilado por Paola Ibarra

We could have gone anywhere. We chose Florida International University.

Miguel Alonso, Jr.
Miami
Electrical Engineering

Douglas Houghton
New York
Nursing

Megan Bottegal
North Carolina
Forensic Chemistry

Charlie Emerson
Connecticut
Post Professional
Athletic Training/
Sports Medicine

Saira Babu John
India
International MBA

FIU's University Graduate School offers more than 120 degree programs at the master's and doctoral levels ranging from creative writing, business and education to the sciences, engineering and health professions. FIU ranks among the top 20 best values in public higher education in the country, according to Kiplinger's Personal Finance magazine 2006 survey.

The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching ranks FIU as a Research University in the High Research Activity category in their prestigious classification system. FIU is among the youngest universities ever to be awarded a chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, the nation's oldest and most distinguished academic honor society.

Visit gradschool.fiu.edu to see what some of our students say about FIU's graduate programs.



Most Wanted wins volleyball tourney

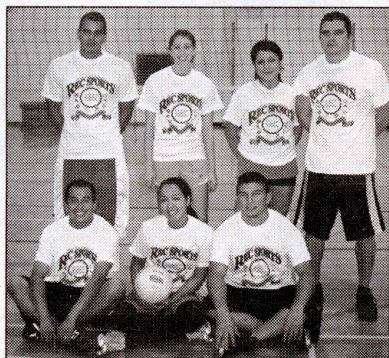
By Roel Gutierrez
Special to The Collegian

The Campus Recreation Department held its semester volleyball tournament Nov. 10 in the Manuel B. Garza Gym. Nine teams, consisting of 60 participants, battled for the championship.

After hours of competition the championship game came down to Most Wanted, a team made up of all students, and Team Blitz, a combination

of students and staff. The final was best of three games up to 25 points with rally scoring.

Team Blitz jumped out ahead by winning the first game 25-17 with some hard hitting by Taeko Inoue and a few shots by Alex



COURTESY PHOTO

Most Wanted

Salinas.

In the second game, Most Wanted kicked into another gear, leading the game with spikes by Luis Uresti and saves by Patricia Rodriguez. Freddy Blanco, Bobby Gaytan and Jessica Gallardo

assisted with serving and returns.

Most Wanted won the second game 25-19 to enter a tie-breaking third game that would decide the overall winner of the contest. It started as a see-saw contest in which both teams led.

Most Wanted won 25-21. The team had strong help from Jamie San Miguel, Zoraida Rodriguez and Crystal Anderson.

Flag football season ends at Valley Bowl

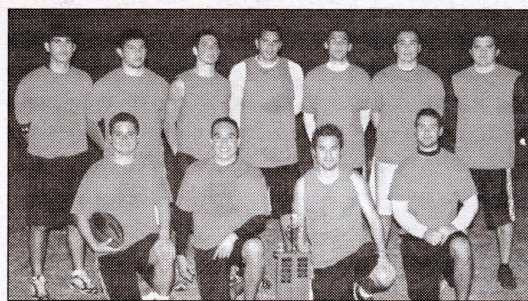
By Roel Gutierrez
Special to The Collegian

The 2006 Scorpion Flag Football Tournament kicked off Oct. 29 at the Scorpion Park and displayed some impressive teams battling for not only the first-place trophy but also to take home bragging rights for Fall 2006. Two aggressive co-ed teams met in the final round as did two run-and-gun teams in the men's division.

In the co-ed game the Blue Devils fought their way into the tournament, then found themselves in the championship game vs. defending champs Recreational Hazard. The Blue Devils had great effort on both sides of the ball.

Luis Peña, Danny Garcia and Mario Martinez helped with some early offensive gains that kept the Blue Devils in the ballgame the first half. Brenda Jimenez, Josephine Herrera, and Erick Lopez provided some great defensive rushing that hurried Albert Perez of Recreational Hazard.

Perez was able to dodge a couple of rushers at a time to hit some dependable receivers for Recreational Hazard. Jennifer Duke, Valerie Lopez, Rosie Garcia, Hawk Scott, Joey Cepeda and Jerry De La Garza had some



LUIS F. PEÑA/COLLEGIAN

UTB Most Wanted

good catches to help advance the Rec Hazard up and down the field. The team was just too strong and defeated the Blue Devils 14-6.

The men's championship game was no surprise as the Fall 2005 co-champions found themselves in the final on Nov. 11 at the Valley Bowl in Edinburg. The Sharks and UTB Most Wanted fought it out in a well-played ballgame that had Most Wanted jump out to an early lead thanks to TD passes thrown by Freddy

Blanco, two of which were caught by Luis Uresti.

Also contributing to UTB Most Wanted's early lead was Bobby Gaytan, who gained a significant amount of yards rushing while adding a TD in the process.

The Sharks offense, led by Roel Benavidez and Andy Cornejo, was able to move the ball down the field but would not find the end zone.

In the second half, the Sharks came out strong and stopped UTB Most Wanted from scoring. But the Sharks, who again moved the ball effectively in the second half, would not hit pay dirt. UTB Most Wanted had done enough in the first half and then played tough defense in the second half to hold on to the win.

Both teams showed great teamwork and determination along with good sportsmanship that reflects what flag football is all about.

UTB Most Wanted made it to the championship game in the Valley Bowl but fell against the Stallions of Edinburg, 42-21.

Viewpoint

MLS was only league willing to shower Beckham with money, love

By Ann Killion
San Jose Mercury News

SAN JOSE, Calif.--No, no, no, scolded Major League Soccer. Don't you dare compare our big fantastic groundbreaking news to that quarter-century-old cautionary tale of the North American Soccer League.

Sure, there are differences. But the similarity is more striking.

After 11 seasons of toiling in athletic anonymity, the league felt it had to hire an aging international superstar to get some real attention.

So far the plan has worked. In the days since the league announced it signed David Beckham to a whopping \$250 million contract, the words "MLS" and "Los Angeles Galaxy" have been written and broadcast around the world. That has never happened before.

The league is certain to see a boost in television ratings, ticket sales and overall profile when Becks and his famous family (wife Victoria, aka Posh Spice, and

sons Brooklyn, Romeo and Cruz) arrive in Los Angeles. Beckham, glamorous, gorgeous and still owner of the most beautiful free kick known to soccer, is going to create a buzz.

But then what?

His arrival will do little for the development of soccer in this country, which was the mission statement of MLS. And which some of us still believe is the key to building long-term interest in the sport.

A lot of American soccer fans would like to see some of that \$250 million plowed into player development, such as finding a better way to spot and develop players who aren't products of our elitist youth soccer system.

Some of us would be more interested in the hiring of another former European star. That would be Juergen Klinsmann, who was all set to become the next coach of the men's national team before U.S. Soccer managed to screw up the deal. Now, the team is led by Bob Bradley as it embarks on another quadrennial search to

improve its standing.

A charismatic, prestigious national coach and more depth and diversity in the talent pool--those are the things that can move soccer forward in this country. Beckham is merely a diversion.

Here's one way his arrival is different than that of Pele three decades ago: The New York Cosmos hired the best player in the world, whereas the Galaxy has hired the most famous player in the world.

But Beckham's moment as the world's most famous athlete is near its end. His critics say his fame has never matched his talent (though his skill on set pieces is unmatched and his crosses are still right on the mark).

MLS had better hope he still has enough skills--though that's a double-edged wish. If Beckham arrives and is clearly the best player in the league, it will only confirm the rest of the world's opinion that MLS is a third-tier organization.

That's because Beckham, 31, comes to Los Angeles basically

out of other soccer options. He had already lost his place in the Real Madrid side (and was told that he won't ever play again for the club). The former captain of England, he's no longer playing for his country.

MLS was the only league willing to shower him with money and love. And it's quite a drenching. Though most of that \$250 million will come from endorsements, revenue sharing and product sales, Beckham will be paid a salary of \$10 million a year. That means he'll make more in two weeks than the Galaxy's entire salary cap (excluding the Beckham exemption). It means he'll make more in four minutes than the league's minimum salary. It means Landon Donovan has been just slightly eclipsed as the team star.

Beckham's job isn't to play soccer but to sell jerseys and elevate the league. He's a soccer event, like the World Cup in 1994, which drew a lot of interest but didn't create a large, devoted fan base.

Beckham's deal is expected to open the door to other past-their-prime international stars, such as Ronaldo. That all sounds suspiciously like NASL, which folded in 1984.

But this isn't the late 1970s. Soccer has progressed since then. A sign of that is how many of our young players are going to Europe. Last week, as MLS embraced Beckham, the league sold the rights to midfielder Clint Dempsey to Fulham of the English Premiership for \$4 million.

Our best and brightest know they have to go to Europe to become great players, while former European stars may realize they can come here and coast comfortably into retirement. MLS might morph into a senior circuit.

That's not the league's original charter, of course. But if it provides a boost in television ratings and product pushed, the league is willing to make that deal.

This Spring '07...

Get the **NEW**

FREE

Pick up your copy at any Info Shop, Library, Dean of Students or DE/IT in SETB 2.320

(Distance Education & Instructional Technologies)
*have your Sting Card ready

Also!
From DE/IT

Check your courses in Blackboard, your UTB/TSC eMail and digital library resources, etc. @ the new

My**UTBTSC** Blackboard

QUICK STOP

- Located at:
- MRC South 1st Floor
 - Gym
 - Library
 - EDBC 1.400 (Business Lobby 1st Floor)



Provided by:
Distance Education & Instructional Technologies (DE/IT)
SETB 2.320
(956) 882-6696
deonline@utb.edu



Attend any of the following **MyUTBTSC Blackboard** Student Orientations:

Time • Day • Place	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	Jan. 22	Jan. 23	Jan. 24	Jan. 25	Jan. 26
	Arnulfo O. Library	LAC MRC N 108	Student Union "La Sala"	Info Shop Tandy	SETB 2.320
	10-10:30 a.m. 2-2:30 p.m. 6-6:30 p.m.	10-10:30 a.m. 2-2:30 p.m. 6-6:30 p.m.	9-9:30 a.m. 2-2:30 p.m.	11-11:30 a.m. 2-2:30 p.m.	10-10:30 a.m. 2-2:30 p.m.

Starting January 29 we will be giving orientations Wednesdays and Thursdays at DE/IT in SETB 2.320 from 10-10:30 a.m. / 2-2:30 p.m.

<http://myutbtsc.blackboard.com>

