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J. R. Ortega

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THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS - PAN AMERICAN™

65 YEARS

# THE PAN AMERICAN

Volume 65, No. 20

THE PAN AMERICAN

February 19, 2009

## SAFETY

# Recent thefts have university on high alert

By J.R. Ortega  
THE PAN AMERICAN

Recent thefts and burglaries across The University of Texas-Pan American have sparked the UTPA Police Department to release several Crime Alerts over the past week emphasizing theft prevention and vigilance.

"Any time we can identify a pattern of crimes, we put out crime alerts to

the public," Acting Police Chief James Loya said.

Many of the thefts occurred during broad daylight at various departments across campus, including burglaries at the Unity Hall housing complex. Five such incidents on the south side of Unity were reported to UTPA PD Monday morning.

On Tuesday the arrest of a 19-year-old male sophomore was made in the

case. The majority of items, including various electronics and currency, were recovered, according to the Crime Alert update.

A heightened wariness was prominent throughout the university after a statement was made by a campus police officer claiming that 100 thefts had occurred across campus since January of this year.

According to Loya and police re-

ports, there have only been 15 reported thefts since January 2009 and the statement made was a miscommunication, because the number actually represented the total from the previous year. Loya said no disciplinary action was taken against the police officer, whose name was not disclosed.

"It got snowballed that we were at 100 (thefts)," Loya said. "It was a comment that got taken out of proportion."

## AT STAKE

Items stolen at various departments across campus included a person's wallet pilfered from the Department of Rehabilitation.

Loya explained that thefts are defined as anything stolen through easy and open accessibility, like a backpack on a picnic table or personal items left unattended or out in the open. Burglar-

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## ADMINISTRATION



Ben Briones/THE PAN AMERICAN

**STANDING TALL** - Interim President Charles Sorber was introduced to the university at a town hall meeting Monday in the Student Union. The committee to choose the next permanent president was announced.

# Interim President Sorber makes university debut

## Presidential search committee announced

By Brian Silva  
THE PAN AMERICAN

In a welcoming ceremony in the Student Union Theater Monday afternoon, University of Texas System Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs David Prior introduced to staff, faculty and students their interim president, Charles "Chuck" Sorber. While introducing Sorber, Prior also announced the committee that will be searching for the university's new permanent president.

In traditional UTPA style, Sorber

was greeted by the university's student mariachi band. He was then led into the nearly full theater with UT System administration where a town hall-style meeting ensued.

"You are a major educational presence here in the Valley," Prior told the crowd. "It's time that we look toward the future... by moving forward you'll ease the uncertainty."

He lauded former UTPA president Blandina "Bambi" Cardenas' efforts and accomplishments, but reiterated with emphasis the university's need to move on. In addition to thanking Cardenas, Prior also expressed his appreciation for Vice President of Academic Affairs and Provost Paul Sale for taking on executive duties while the university transitioned into new leadership.

SEE SORBER || PAGE 5

## STUDENT ACTIVITIES

# Low Homecoming voter turnout not a downturn

By Ana Villaurrutia  
THE PAN AMERICAN

With flashes of spirit and cheer, homecoming has been ingrained in American tradition for years, but it's only a successful venture with decent campus support. At UTPA, where 96 percent of its student body commutes to school, student involvement has always received a relatively low

turnout.

Last year's ballot tallied to a mere 958 votes for King and Queen out of about 17,500 UTPA students and the Coronation ball only attracted 250 people. The event is sponsored by the University Program Board and involves several organizations on campus. The week usually features events

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## ADMINISTRATION

# Chairs step down to pursue teaching

By Abby Flores  
THE PAN AMERICAN

With a new president on the way, the university community is getting used to the idea that change is a reality. Big change. But on the lower levels of academic administration, transition is a relative constant.

Department chairs, who fill a vital role facilitating faculty success and communicating with deans, come and go every couple of years. Usually, anyway.

With a smile on her face and her voice filled with excitement, Communication Department Chair Dr. Salma Ghanem said she's ready to hand over her position, after eight years at the helm. Ghanem isn't the only department chair stepping down over her title throughout campus. Each year a handful of them yield the title to a peer.

Ghanem, who attended the university as an undergrad back in the 1980s, became a faculty member here in 1994 and later was appointed chair

in 2001. Though she served in the position much longer than the average holder, Ghanem said she's loved it in the main.

"It's been a smooth transition, too...it's time to move on and do something different," Ghanem said. "I've enjoyed my job very much and I'm looking forward to stepping down."

The job of a department chair is to coordinate advisement for students,

SEE CHAIRS || PAGE 5

# OPINION

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THE PAN AMERICAN

February 19, 2009

## Opinion

# Homecoming Week elections not so spirited

Victor Ituarte  
A&L Reporter

Homecoming Week Elections are here!

Yes, weak. Let's put it out there right now: it is all a popularity contest.

Since I earned Homecoming Duke last year (third place out of three candidates), naïve people may see this as a means of expressing bitterness for my not having captured the crown. It was apparent then and it's more apparent now: the system concocted to brew a batch of incomparable pride is inaccurate. After a panel of staff members selects the candidates based on a predetermined set of standards, there is no authenticity to homecoming elections.

The Homecoming Court is meant to represent the pinnacle of Bronc pride. If it weren't meant to be so, candidates wouldn't be shouting "GO BRONCS!" in their bios while flashing Bucky's gang sign, trying to earn your vote.

This does not exemplify school pride: anybody innocently approaching the library's north entrance on Friday afternoon might have been accosted by Kappa Delta Chi and their offer of chocolate strawberries in exchange for a vote.

They had a convenient laptop for voting, to support their sister, a candidate for Homecoming Queen, who, by the way, was not in sight. This speaks for itself.

It is admirable that the sorority is banding together to show their support, but whatever happened to human connectivity?

Maybe this wouldn't be as bothersome if student money weren't being used for posters, crowns, medals, bouquets, and a coronation ball complete with décor, free grub, and a DJ.

Why should we support a song-and-dance when we all see the man behind the curtain?

The new Court is decided by who wants it more and not by who deserves it more. When the GRAMMYS, Oscars, and EMMYS are being awarded, they aren't handed to the artist who is jumping out of their seat the highest; esteemed individuals sit in a room and vote 'til they drop.

Maybe faculty and staff should be given a chance to voice their opinions since they interact with students as well. Maybe the Office of Student Development should give hopefuls more than a week so they don't resort to tacky tactics to secure success.

## Illustrated Opinion

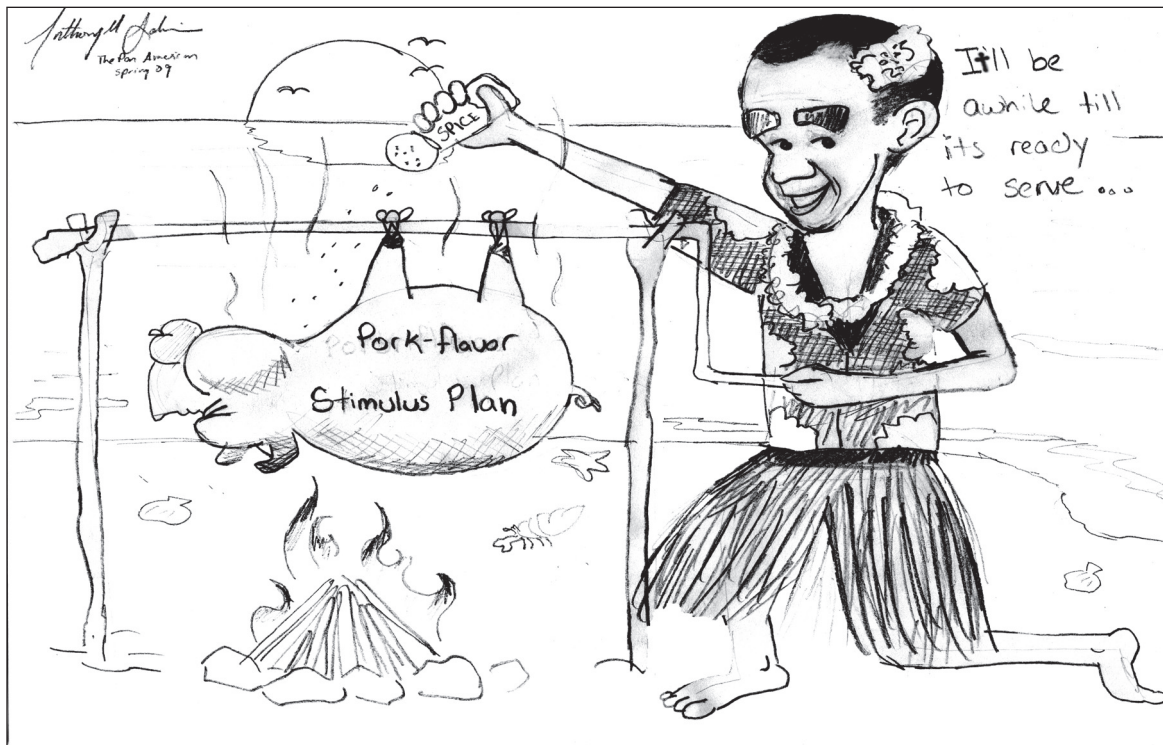


Illustration by Anthony Salinas

## Opinion

# Checkpoint a second border

Brian Silva  
Managing Editor

I'm a citizen of the United States, and I expect to be treated as such.

I was making my way northbound on US 281 this weekend for a brief visit with family and friends in the Corpus Christi area. Before I knew it, there was a blaring drill sergeant-like person in my face.

No, I didn't enter a military base, the car I was in simply pulled up for its turn to be checked out by the Border Patrol at the Falfurrias checkpoint. The military-like commands were coming from a Border Patrolman sticking his head in my car.

I consider my two hometowns to be Falfurrias and Corpus Christi, and since my university and half of my family are in the Valley I frequently cross this secondary border. Yet in my countless trips up and down 281 from Fal to Edinburg, I've never encountered a time where I've actually been suspected of being an illegal immigrant.

In just about every instance where I was asked "U.S. citizen?" I simply nodded and continued texting or whatever I was doing.

A nod did not suffice for this blonde-haired, blue-eyed Customs and Border Protection agent with a Southern accent.

He reiterated the questioned to

me more forcefully, to which I answered a vocal "yes." I was rather bewildered as to why he was being so forceful with the questioning. He then proceeded to ask me where I was born, and I must note he was sticking his head inside the car by this point.

I answered promptly with "Corpus Christi." He then yelled the question again and then began to repeat it in Spanish. I cut him off and yelled back "Corpus Christi!" again. He then told me he couldn't hear because there was a truck outside making noise and yelled the question again, with his head still in the car.

I was on the verge of reciting the facts of my birth as listed on my Certificate of Birth. "Corpus Christi, Texas... Nueces County," I responded.

He asked the driver an array of questions and then asked if he could look in the trunk. We felt a bump. The drug dog had jumped in the trunk. What'd he find? Kibbles and Bits. There were some nice paw prints afterward.

It was clear the patrolman was being a jerk. He wasn't doing his job. It was clearly evident he heard me the first time he asked each question. Next time I'll answer in Spanish. After all, the U.S. Constitution declares no official language for the nation.

It has also become evident in recent months the Border Patrol folks have become more stringent and intrusive.

What concerns me, though, is the lack of "America" I feel when coming from the Valley. It feels like I'm crossing another border. The Border Patrol certainly treat us like we're coming from another country.

The Valley is apparently some sort of hybrid zone.

This sort of thing counters the message UTPA's academia and Valley politicians try to convey toward the young Hispanics of the Valley. It is statistically true the Valley is among the most impoverished areas in the nation, but our leaders are spearheading initiatives to bring equality and new opportunities.

To break through our poverty barriers we must empower ourselves as equals to any other American. As students we are no less intelligent than students in the town of Cambridge, Mass. As citizens, when passing through the checkpoint, we are no less worthy of proper treatment than those of Crawford, Texas.

Let Congressmen Ruben Hinojosa, Solomon Ortiz and Henry Cuellar know that we expect better and equal treatment. By all means, let's protect the border, but we must protect the actual border, not a pseudo one.

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**\*\*Delivery\*\***

Thursday at noon

The Pan American is the official student newspaper of The University of Texas-Pan American. Views presented are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect those of the paper or university.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Pan American accepts letters of 300 words or less from students, staff and faculty regarding recent newspaper content, campus concerns or current events. The Pan American reserves the right to edit submissions for grammar and length. The Pan American cannot publish anonymous letters or submissions containing hate speech or gratuitous personal attacks. Please send all story ideas to thepanamerican@gmail.com.

Individuals with disabilities wishing to acquire this publication in an alternative format or needing assistance to attend any event listed can contact The Pan American for more details.

**Financial Aid Workshop**  
 Sunday, Feb. 22  
 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.  
 Student Services Building

**International Women's Board Scholarship App. due**  
 Thursday, Feb. 26

■ ADMINISTRATION

## Dean of students national search still underway

Position search process to take several months

By **Naxiely Lopez**  
 THE PAN AMERICAN

Seven months have passed since former Dean of Students Jerry Price left The University of Texas-Pan American to pursue a job on the

West Coast; meanwhile, UTPA officials are still trying to fill the position.

Former Associate Dean Jeanette L. Broshears was named interim dean in July 2008 after Price announced his plans to become Chapman University's next vice chancellor of student affairs/dean of students.

Among the dean's duties, is the responsibility of being the student body's voice to administrators. In

a earlier interview, Broshears said that the role of the dean is to serve the students and to make sure that the administration knows what their needs are. She also said that the search for a qualified individual takes time.

"I wouldn't call it a delay, it's a long process," Broshears said when questioned about the amount of time the position has been vacant. "It usually takes six months or so to fill a position of that kind."

In an effort to find a permanent replacement, the university set up a search committee headed by Dennis McMillan, associate vice president for enrollment and student services.

"The committee is made up of faculty members, administrators, and a representative from the Student Government Association," McMillan said. "It is in charge of screening applicants and comprising a list of possible candidates that are chosen based on their applica-

tion and a phone interview."

Once the list is made, it will be presented to Vice President for Enrollment and Student Services John Edwards, and only a select few will be invited to campus so that the committee can get to know the finalists better. The finalists will be given a two-day tour of the university.

"We try to allow enough exposure to the candidates (in the tour)

SEE DEAN || PAGE 6

■ HEALTH

## Bacchus and Gamma spreads sexual awareness

By **Nadia Tamez-Robledo**  
 THE PAN AMERICAN

Last Thursday, students lined up outside the Student Union for their turn to unwrap free hot dogs at Bacchus and Gamma's "Wrap Your Weiner" lunchtime event, each one making a pass by the table full of informational brochures and condoms, before picking up a bag of chips and soda.

The organization set up the free food and pamphlets about sex, drugs and alcohol as part of Sexual Responsibility Week, partnering with representatives from Planned Parenthood, Student Health Services and The Empowerment Zone to distribute information about sexual health along with free condoms.

"We want to make it fun, give people free food, encourage people to come out and get involved with Pan Am, but also get some good in-

formation about it," said club president Alyssa Garcia.

The idea for the slogan came to the 21-year-old biology major when she helped Bacchus and Gamma pass out free hot dogs for the Great American Smokeout last year.

"If you're walking down the hall or walkway and you see something that says 'Wrap Your Weiner,' you're definitely going to stop and see what they're talking about," she said. "It's just something to catch your attention."

Garcia said that though some people may have gotten the wrong idea from the tongue-in-cheek advertisements, the club supports students' right to choose.

"Some people think we're trying to say, 'have sex, have sex, have sex,' but what we're really trying to say is, if you choose to, we want you to be safe about it," she explained. "Absti-

SEE AWARENESS || PAGE 6



Isaac Barrientes/ THE PAN AMERICAN

**SEX AND CANDY** - Jessica Muchow, (far left), a member of Bacchus and Gamma, hands candies to Adrian Hernandez along with sex pamphlets last Thursday in the Quad for the "Wrap Your Weiner" event.

■ STUDENT ACTIVITIES

## Student organizations on suspension

By **John Gallagher**  
 THE PAN AMERICAN

The Office of Student Development suspended eight clubs as of Feb. 16 for not attending a mandatory Risk Management Workshop. Compared to last semester's suspension tally, which totaled 34 clubs, it's a step up.

Texas House bill 2639 requires all UTPA clubs to attend a risk management session. The session teaches club officers how to deal with fire hazards, hazing, alcohol, drugs and sexual harassment issues. The club

officers are then obligated to relay the information to other club members.

"We provide this free training to students so they can be successful at meeting their club goals," states Rebecca Gadson, director of student involvement.

Although the eight clubs have been suspended, they still have a chance to appeal their suspension says Gadson. Some of the organizations suspended are the Lady Broncs Soccer Club, English Majors Organization, and Alpha Kappa Psi.

"The officers are given a chance to attend a make-up session in which

they can redeem their status as an organization," Gadson said. "Last semester we gave clubs several chances to attend the workshop."

The next session make-up date is March 10 and until then suspended clubs forfeit all privileges of permanent organizations, namely the ability to fundraise along with the support of the dean's office.

Last semester a staggering 23 clubs were penalized for not attending the workshop, and another 11 were dissolved for not meeting other OSD requirements such as having at least

SEE ORGANIZATION || PAGE 6

■ INFRASTRUCTURE

## Disabilities office moves to University Center

By **Abby Flores**  
 THE PAN AMERICAN

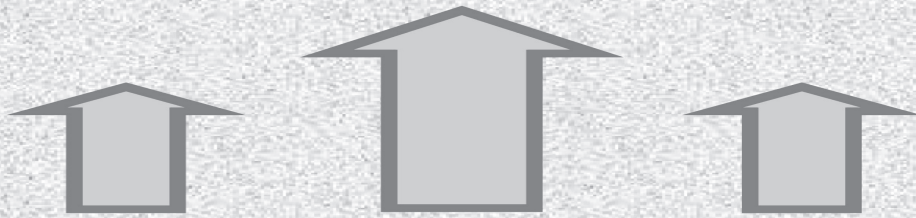
With no exact date set, the Office of Services for Persons with Disabilities (OSPD) will be moving from the Emelia Schunior building to the University Center, Room 322.

Once construction is done in the UC, OSPD will be able to move into its new digs along with The Empowerment Zone Substance Abuse Services. OSPD, which was once a

part of the Student Health Services, merged with the Empowerment Zone when Student Health Services moved to its new location near the fitness center.

"The decision to merge the office was made by the dean of students when Student Health Services moved out of Emilia Schunior Hall," said Assistant Director of Student Judicial Affairs Christine Carruthers. "The

SEE OSPD || PAGE 6



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## SORBER continued from Page 1

Sorber, who came out of retirement to serve in the university's top executive position, joked with the crowd about making it clear he was not a candidate for the position of permanent president.

He told those gathered that he was not here to be a placeholder, but rather to keep up the university's momentum.

"My role is to work with you to move you all along the path that you all have set," Sorber said.

Prior noted that it is a very important time for the university since the Texas Legislature is in session. He made it clear that budgets are contracting and the Legislature will most likely not give much more money to higher education institutions.

In the same vein, Sorber asked that all in the university help in the endeavor to keep up the university's finances.

In regard to finding the next permanent president, Prior discussed the committee the UT System Board of Regents Chair H. Scott Caven had selected for the presidential search. Prior, who will lead the committee, listed top criteria, saying that the group is looking for someone who can exercise academic leadership, be fully engaged with the local community, and lead a management team well.

The vice chancellor also said he especially wants to see someone who has a solid focus on students.

After the committee is done selecting a field of candidates, it will recommend

several to the Regents whom members feel are qualified to be president. From there the Regents will make the decision to name a finalist, and eventually hire the finalist. However, Prior noted that sometimes in such a process there is more than one finalist, though it is a rare instance.

Prior also spoke about the UT System's new chancellor, Francisco Cigarroa, whom he said has his own comprehensive vision for the institutions of the UT System.

"Chancellor Cigarroa has already made it clear that he is very interested in the leadership of this institution and will be actively engaged in the selection of the next president of the University of Texas-Pan American," Prior said.

He said the process should be completed in around nine months.

Prior also announced that Cigarroa will be visiting the university within about a month. On his visit he will tour around campus and meet with the university's faculty, staff and student leadership. No date has been set yet.

The members of the presidential search advisory committee are:

**David Prior, UT System Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs**

**Paul Foster, UT System Board of Regents member**

**Janiece Longoria, UT System Board of Regents member**

**Juliet Garcia, Ph.D., president of**

**UT Brownsville**

**Rodney H. Mabry, Ph.D., president of UT Tyler**

**Bruce Reed, Ph.D., UTPA Deans Council and dean of the College of Health Science and Human Services**

**Danika M. Brown, Ph.D., Faculty Senate chair and assistant professor of English**

**Arturo Fuentes, Ph.D., associate professor in the Dept. of Mechanical Engineering**

**Jerry Polinard, Ph.D., professor of Political Science**

**Mary Lou Cano, administrative assistant in the Division of University Advancement**

**John-Robert Iruegas, UTPA junior psychology major**

**Roland Arriola, president of UTPA's alumni organization**

**Marla Guerra, Ph.D., superintendent, South Texas Independent School District**

**R. David Guerra, president, International Bank of Commerce**

**Nat Lopez, president, Harlingen Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, former regent and chairman, Pan American University**

**Margaret McAllen, former regent, Pan American University**

**Jaime Ramon, chairman, University Foundation and partner, K&L Gates**

**Anne Shepard, Harlingen area Chamber of Commerce**

## SPIRIT continued from Page 1

such as a yard art competition, a scavenger hunt, and coronation ball, but in general, Homecoming has had a shaky past at the university.

### THE TRADITION

According to a study of past year-books, the celebration we know today first appears in the books at UTPA, then called Pan American University, in 1979, when a bonfire and a basketball game victory against the Air Force Academy were the highlights of the week. The book states 100 students out of an approximate 9,000 students attended the bonfire.

Over the next few homecomings, the weeklong affair incorporated a decades old tradition called Bronc Days, which featured games and events such as tug-a-war, a rodeo, and a cigar-smoking contest. The

Bronc Queen, chosen by popular vote during Bronc Days, evolved into the homecoming queen that students select today.

### KEEPING THE SPIRIT ALIVE

Though homecoming has not been consistently celebrated at UTPA, with a large gap of inactivity from 1996 to 2003, in recent years students and staff have fought to resurrect the deal.

Homecoming Advisor and Coordinator of Campus Activities Marisela Gonzalez believes that though turnout is low she has seen a small increase in the three years she has been advisor.

"The more you're involved, the more you become a part of the university, if you don't you lose interest in school," said Gonzalez who said they have received an increase

of four or five student organizations participating.

Homecoming king nominee James Berglund said he believes that campus activities like homecoming that promote school spirit enliven the university as a whole.

"It adds so much more to the college experience participating in on-campus events," said the 21-year-old biology senior from Corpus Christi.

As scores for the homecoming court are tallied by the OSD, Berglund reflects on the campaigning he did with nursing senior Andrea Char-kow. The pair believed that pressuring students to vote for them was not the best way to boost student involvement.

"(We were) approaching anyone, not just soliciting, but inviting them out there," Berglund said. "We would appreciate your vote but really we just want you to vote."

BroncLife Chair Arianne Co has helped organize events for homecoming and said though homecoming court voting maybe low and events such as the UTPA scavenger hunt had six organizations participate she still believes it's a strong group, but turnout could improve.

"I'd say it represents an active portion of the campus," stressed the 19-year-old nursing junior as she took a break from outlining the word "Bronc" on her yard art. "We want students to know there is other things to do than classes, we want it to spread.

## THEFTS continued from Page 1

ies, like the recent case at Unity Hall, are identified by the presence of breaking and entering; plus, items stolen are not easily accessible.

According to campus police reports for 2006, there were 100 reported thefts, with 95 in 2007 and 100 in 2008.

Lizette Gonzalez, a secretary and recent theft victim at the Rehabilitation Department, said the crime happened within a matter of five minutes. The wallet contained her driver's license, more than \$80 in cash, and several major credit cards.

"After discovering that it was not in my bag and hoping desperately to find my wallet, I traced my steps back to the last time I had used the wallet, which was only about an hour before," she explained.

"When that failed, I knew I was a victim of theft."

Gonzalez said despite the numbers gaffe, she would like to have UTPA PD release alerts more often.

"When I heard from the police officer that there had been more than 100 thefts since January, I was stunned and disappointed," she admitted. "Being informed that there had only been about 15 crimes of theft on campus doesn't make a difference."

Gonzalez said she has investigated the theft herself, and found one of her

credit cards was charged at the Aziz convenience store on the corner of University Drive and Sugar Road nearly an hour after the theft.

### THE PROCESS

Gonzalez said she has not heard the latest evidence gathered from the UTPA PD, however Loya explained that video surveillance from two recent thefts is being examined.

"We investigate all our thefts until we exhaust all leads," he said.

A c c o r d - ing to Loya, the university police department grades on a zero- to 50-point system when it comes to campus thefts. Thefts on the lower end of the spectrum have the least possibility of being solved

due to lack of evidence and witnesses, while those on the higher end have a higher probability because of circumstantial evidence.

"With 17,000 students and 3,000 faculty and staff members, it begins to become a little city," he said.

Loya stressed departments keep desks and drawers with personal information under lock and key, tag personal items with a name in case it is lost and keep fellow office workers informed of when there will be no one in the office.

## CHAIRS continued from Page 1

recruit staff and faculty, report to the university dean, and consult with other chairs in the development of programs. That is a short list of responsibilities, as this often thankless job seems to attract complaints more than compensation. Many faculty serving in the role get a release time and/or slight raise, but they function as a huge part of the progress of the university.

During Ghanem's eight years, the department ballooned 120 percent in terms of student credit hours, making it the second fastest growing outfit on campus next to communication disorders.

"I have looked at my job as a facilitator, if a faculty member has an idea, I always do my best to push that idea," Ghanem said.

Professor Timothy Mottet, who arrived from Texas State last year as an endowed chair, will be filling the seat of department chair in fall 2009, after an election process decided among faculty in the department. Peers elect their leader and then follow.

Once Mottet takes over, Ghanem plans to continue teaching and focus on her research in media studies. She says she's not worried at all about the change.

"Mottet will be excellent, it's good when you know someone great will be taking over," Ghanem said.

Along with Ghanem, Interim Chair

of Health Sciences and Human Services Thomas Shefcik will also pass on his title to someone new. Shefcik has been with UTPA for almost 20 years and plans to keep teaching until he retires.

With three years as program coordinator and four years as interim chair, Shefcik knows he's definitely qualified for the job, but doesn't mind someone else taking over. In fact, he notes that many chairs feel that the job cuts into their attention to other academic matters.

"I'm not stepping down; we're looking for someone permanent. If there's no one, then I'll be here as long as I need to," Shefcik said. "But with this job I can't focus on teaching, and that's what I love to do."

The department, like communication, has been on a roll lately. Since 2005, credit hours have increased over 300 percent and the number of faculty doubled with Shefcik as interim chair. With his help, the newest doctoral program on campus was approved in October 2008. To help the program go in the right direction, Shefcik says that they need someone with vision who can lead the way forward.

"It's been a very challenging job, we have excellent faculty, but demands for managing it takes a lot of time," Shefcik admitted.

## HOMEcoming 2009 SCHEDULE

### Thursday

Variety Talent Show

Student Union Theatre (7 p.m.)

### Friday

Coronation Ball

Ballroom (8 p.m.)

### Saturday

Tailgate party and fajita cook-off

(All day)

Bronc basketball

Field House (7 p.m.)

## OSPD continued from Page 3

merger was about where it made the most sense to place Disability Services due to the functions the office has.”

Decisions for the merger came about when Student Health Services moved, and was later approved by the dean of students.

“Whenever construction is done, we will be ready to move in and another office will take over our old office,” Carruthers said.

Licensed staff at the Empowerment Zone are able to provide UTPA students with prevention awareness activities, screening and assessments, intervention, plus individual or group counseling.

“Due to this change, and the variety of services that are at the University Center, it made sense to move when more space opened up,” Carruthers said.

ruthers said.

Carruthers has been employed with The University of Texas-Pan American for seven years and has worked at OSPD since last spring. The center offers services for disabled students that enable them to participate fully in the learning experience. Provided are sign language interpreters, recorded texts, adjustable tables, lumbar-support chairs, and a liaison relationship between disabled students and faculty.

Students with recent surgeries or broken bones also qualify for help with a current, comprehensive documentation of temporary or permanent disability. Many students with minor disabilities are not aware of the services available to them at no cost. Approximately 175 disabled students are patients of OSPD.

“There are many students with disabilities on campus who don’t realize that we are here to assist them,” Carruthers said. “The University Center has a lot of student services provided within the building which will make it easier to link students to the resources they need.”

With the new move coming soon, OSPD and The Empowerment Zone will be able to provide better and sufficient services for students all in one facility. The primary benefit of the move for OSPD is the opportunity for a larger office where there is more staff available to help students and provide them the best services possible. In addition, the move will allow students with a disability to be connected to other areas of the university from a more central location.

## AWARENESS continued from Page 3

nence is number one with us, but statistically, the numbers don’t lie. A lot more people in relationships choose to be intimate.”

According to a 2007 American College Health Association survey of over 20,000 students, 68 percent said they had at least one sexual partner in the past 12 months.

Over 49 percent said they had been sexually active within the last 30 days.

While representing 25 percent of the ever sexually active population, 15-to-24-year-olds acquire nearly half of all new STDs said a 2007 study by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention.

A study done by the Guttmacher Institute of New York, a non-profit organization that observes trends in sexual health, found that unplanned

pregnancies were highest among women 18-19 and 20-24; in these age groups, more than one unintended pregnancy occurred for every 10 women, a rate twice that for women overall.

Educouch native Laura Becerra waited in line for the information and food while holding a bouquet made of pink tissue paper, a lollipop and two condoms, another freebie given away at the event.

“I’m glad that they’re giving students the opportunity to use protection and make them aware of sexually transmitted diseases,” the 21-year-old social studies composite major said.

“This idea is unique. It’s my third year at Pan Am, and this is the first organization that actually makes us aware [of that information].”

## DEAN continued from Page 3

so that they can see what we’re all about,” McMillan said. “We have them meet with different groups made up of students, administrators and academic deans.”

Once the meetings are over, those in attendance are given an evaluation form on which they express their concerns. Edwards, however, will make the final decision.

So far, the university has not invited anyone to tour the campus, but McMillan says they are hopeful the dean of students position will be

filled by the beginning of summer.

“It will take a few months to work through the process,” he added. “Hopefully we can stay on track and make progress and make a selection in a timely fashion.”

In the meantime, SGA President Marcos Silva says he is certain Broshears will continue to do everything in her power to ensure the duties of the dean are carried out.

“She’s done an outstanding job,” he said about Broshears. “We’re really glad to have her.”

## ORGANIZATIONS continued from Page 3

three members and an adviser.

“Some clubs such as the Chuck Norris Fan Club weren’t really active before being suspended,” Gadson explained. “But others such as the Lady Broncs Soccer Club certainly felt affected by the policy.”

The OSD has to track over 200 campus groups and ensure each is eligible to function as an official club. This is a far cry from four years ago, when approximately 70 clubs existed.

Club leaders are also encouraged to attend workshops that aid organi-

zations in being successful.

The annual Skillbuilders Series is one such program recommended to student organizations. This year’s series occurred from September to November and included topics such as recruiting, team building, and conflict resolution.

Elizabeth Kennedy, president of the Outdoor Expedition Club believes risk management is essential.

“I think it’s necessary because a lot of clubs get new officers each year and they need to learn about problems

such as hazing or food handling, it gives you an overview of all the important issues,” Kennedy said.

OSD representatives state they are not interested in suspending clubs, and will make every attempt to help them achieve autonomy.

### CLUB REQUIREMENTS

- Faculty/Staff Adviser
- At least three members
- Risk Management Workshop
- Turn in organization packets

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**EVENTS**

Thur., Feb. 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OSD Mini Involvement Fair From 12:00p.m. to 1:00p.m. at the SU Commons</li> <li>• Poker Tournament From 4:00p.m. to 5:00p.m. at the SU Commons</li> <li>• Variety Talent Show From 7:00p.m. to 9:00p.m. at the SU Theater</li> <li>• Valley Symphony Orchestra &amp; Chorale Starting at 8:00p.m. at the Fine Arts Auditorium</li> </ul>
Fri., Feb. 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UTPA Ballet Folklorico Starting at 7:30p.m. at the Fine Arts Auditorium</li> <li>• Coronation Ball Starting at 8:00p.m. at the Ballroom</li> </ul>
Sat., Feb. 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UTPA Ballet Folklorico Starting at 2:00p.m. at the Fine Arts Auditorium</li> <li>• Women's basketball vs. NJ Institute of Technology Starting at 5:00p.m. at the Fieldhouse</li> <li>• Men's Basketball vs North Carolina Central Starting at 7:00p.m. at the Fieldhouse</li> </ul>
Sun., Feb. 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UTPA Ballet Folklorico Starting at 2:00p.m. at the Fine Arts Auditorium</li> <li>• Men's Basketball vs. NJ Institute of Technology Starting at 7:00p.m. at the Fieldhouse</li> </ul>
Mon., Feb. 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air Hockey Tournament From 3:30p.m. to 4:30p.m. at the SU Game Room</li> </ul>
Tue., Feb. 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mardi Gras "Fat Tuesday" From 11:00a.m. to 12:00p.m. at the SU Commons</li> <li>• Food Handling Safety Workshop From 12:00p.m. to 1:00p.m. at the SU Theater</li> </ul>
Wed., Feb. 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scrabble Tournament From 2:30p.m. to 3:30p.m. at the SU Commons</li> </ul>

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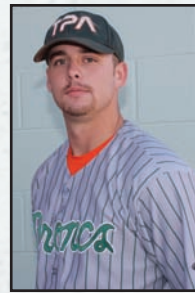
Abraham Garcia  
Infielder



Andrew Perez  
Infielder



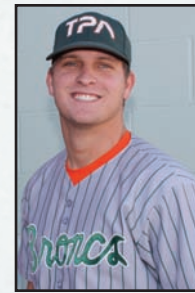
Anthony Garcia  
Pitcher



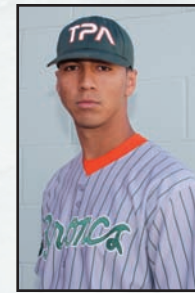
Billy Donaho  
Outfielder



Blaze Hinojosa  
Infielder



Bonham Hough  
Outfielder



Chucky Garza  
Infielder



David De Leon  
Pitcher



Doug Roth  
Pitcher

# THE DAWN OF A NEW ERA

By: Ramiro Paez

Last June, the only footsteps that could be heard coming from The University of Texas-Pan American baseball office were those of Willie Gawlik's, who was clearing his workplace after serving six seasons as head coach.

Gawlik was coming off a 21-35 year, the program's eighth consecutive losing season. The athletic department chose not to offer Gawlik a third contract and the one-time Bronc was sent packing.

However, it didn't long for the athletic program to find a new sheriff, as the quest to regain the winning charisma of the university's glory days in the 1970s.

Manny Mantrana, former Saint Thomas University head coach, was hired in late August to replace Gawlik and establish a new era for Bronc baseball; he came to the Valley with a rich tradition of his own at STU.

Mantrana led the Bobcats to three College World Series appearances during his 12-year tenure and produced a .691 winning percentage from a 434-193-1 record. On Saturday, UTPA will induct the 1971 College World Series team into the athletic Hall of Fame. A postseason connection perhaps?

Some might consider the new acquisition's experience and the '71 team's induction to be a coincidence but it couldn't have come at a better time. Though it might not be the Broncs' golden year just yet, Mantrana assures that the UTPA and Rio Grande Valley communities will witness a new attitude from

the baseball program.

"The kids are going to play hard. They're going to hustle. They're going to give everything to win games," said Mantrana, who was labeled as the most successful coach by STU. "As far as our expectations, we have to be patient. All three of us, myself and my two assistants, come from winning programs. That's why we're here; to change the trend of eight straight losing seasons at Pan Am and it's going to happen. There's no doubt about it."

It's easy to tell what personality trait makes Mantrana stand out as a self-endearing coach: his confidence. Coming from a winning program, he knows what it takes and how it feels to win. Now, the challenge is shifting that confidence and winning mindset to the Broncs, who open the season tomorrow in Lubbock for a four-game weekend set against Texas Tech and Southern Utah.

"The toughest thing for us as a coaching staff to do with the boys here is to change the mentality of losing," Mantrana said. "We will, and want them, once we step on the field, to expect to win instead of hoping to win. There's a huge difference. It takes a little time and takes a lot of mental discipline to be confident."

The Broncs return 17 players from last year's roster, including key seniors in catchers Jordan Rutenbar and Nick Spears, plus outfielder Billy Donaho. UTPA will need every bit of offensive production after losing

Roly Gonzalez, who led the team in batting average (.338), at bats (226), hits (76) and runs (52).

Rutenbar finished behind Gonzalez with a .332 batting average plus a team-high 42 RBI and five home runs in 55 games. Sophomore infielder Jose Mendoza and Donaho were two other Broncs who played in the 50-game range, rounding out the .300 batting averages at .321 and .305, respectively. The team hit .300 a year ago.

Donaho, who totaled a team-leading six home runs last season, says the addition of a new coaching staff and system will change the complexion of the squad, which looks to improve on a 7-11 2008 record against Independent Conference opponents.

"We got a good group of kids and we have enough talent but I think the coaching staff will have a big input on this year's team," Donaho said. "We've adapted to (the new system) and I think we should have a good team this year."

Mantrana says the pitching unit will be a group effort this year as no certain player emerges as a real standout; last year's team ERA was well over 6.00, canceling out the solid showing at the plate. Depending on the flow of the game, Mantrana will use as many pitchers it will take to win games without jeopardizing player health.

The Broncs lose the presence of Cody Cisper (6-5) and Matt Shepard (4-4) on the mound and will try to establish senior right-

hand pitcher Shane Janecka and sophomore Corpus natives Arnold Franco and David De Leon as reliable hurlers.

Janecka went 2-7 last season with a 6.44 earned-run average while Franco delivered as a freshman, finishing with a 3-3 record in 36 innings pitched.

In an interview after the Green and White game in November, Mantrana said, "Rome wasn't built in a day," referring to the future progression of the baseball program. He admits he came to UTPA to change a lagging baseball program into a legit contender in the Great West Conference, with play set to begin next season. The new coach added that no player or coach is oblivious to the fact that patience will be emphasized this season.

"It took a while to build a city like Rome in the old days," Mantrana said. "It's going to take a while for us to get to the point where we go to the regional tournament every year so we can go to Omaha. That's what we talked about when we first started, as far as being patient."

"I come from a winning program. I'm used to winning but I also have to realize that we're taking over a program that has had eight straight losing seasons. We're going to take it one day at a time, we're going to be patient and we're going to continue to improve every day so that in a couple of years, now we become a team who can play against anybody in any day."



Eli De La Garza  
Infielder



Gabriel Salinas  
Outfielder



Garrett Bivone  
Infielder



Iradier Hernandez  
Outfielder



Joey Mendoza  
Infielder



Jordan Rutenbar  
Catcher



Jose Salmon  
Outfielder



Thomas Tovar  
Catcher



Marcos Martinez  
Pitcher



A.J. Franco  
Pitcher



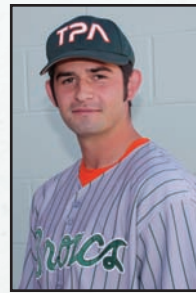
Mike Lankford  
Pitcher



Nathan Molina  
Pitcher



Nick Spears  
Catcher



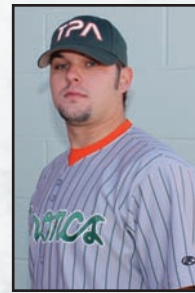
Tim Tefft  
Outfielder



Ryan Vest  
Infielder



Scott Wingo  
Pitcher



Seth Brevard  
Pitcher



Abraham Garcia  
Infielder

Ramiro Paez/THE PAN AMERICAN

## STATS

2008 Overall Statistics for Univ. Texas-Pan Am returning players

Record: 21-35 Home: 7-11 Away: 12-24 Neutral: 2-0 : 7-11

Player	AVG	GP-GS	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	TB	SLG%	BB%
Gabriel Salinas.....	.333	5-1	6	2	2	1	0	0	1	3.500	1	0
Jordan Rutenbar.....	.332	55-53	199	42	66	11	1	5	42	94.472	26	12
Jose Mendoza.....	.321	57-55	212	32	68	10	2	2	35	88.415	27	7
Nick Spears.....	.311	35-28	90	18	28	8	0	3	13	45.500	16	5
Billy Donaho.....	.305	52-51	203	43	62	10	0	6	39	90.443	23	5
Andrew Perez.....	.286	55-55	196	33	56	7	2	6	32	85.434	8	3
Garza, Esequiel.....	.286	6-2	7	1	2	0	0	0	0	2.286	4	0
Ryan Vest.....	.280	44-37	150	22	42	7	0	1	25	52.347	10	2
Bonham Hough.....	.274	56-55	208	45	57	8	0	6	42	83.399	27	9
Tim Tefft.....	.175	22-10	40	7	7	0	1	0	5	9.225	5	1
Abraham Garcia.....	.175	14-9	40	7	7	1	0	2	8	14.350	5	4
David De Leon.....	.000	1-0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
<b>Totals.....</b>	<b>.300</b>	<b>56-56</b>	<b>1963</b>	<b>374</b>	<b>588</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>326</b>	<b>802.409</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>58</b>

Opponents.....	.331	56-56	1961	464	649	118	26	49	423	966.493	278	47
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Player	ERA	W-L	APP	GS	CG	SHO/CBO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	2B	3B	HR	B/Avg	WP
Garza, Esequiel.....	0.00	0-0	1	0	0	0/0	0	0.2	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	.333	0
Jose Mendoza.....	0.00	0-0	1	0	0	0/0	1	0.1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	.000	0
Tim Tefft.....	4.50	0-0	2	0	0	0/0	0	2.0	1	1	1	3	1	0	0	0	.143	0
David De Leon.....	4.94	1-1	19	0	0	0/0	1	31.0	41	28	17	27	24	8	1	2	.323	4
Mike Lankford.....	5.19	0-0	10	0	0	0/0	0	17.1	25	19	10	6	13	9	2	1	.338	0
Shane Janecka.....	6.44	2-7	15	11	2	0/0	0	64.1	90	60	46	20	23	18	2	7	.340	1
A.J. Franco.....	6.50	3-3	9	7	1	0/0	1	36.0	52	30	26	11	23	7	0	7	.347	1
Doug Roth.....	7.50	0-2	16	1	0	0/0	1	30.0	35	31	25	24	20	4	2	1	.302	5
Seth Brevard.....	23.62	0-0	5	0	0	0/0	0	2.2	8	7	7	6	0	1	1	0	.571	0
<b>Totals.....</b>	<b>6.82</b>	<b>21-35</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1/0</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>471.1</b>	<b>649</b>	<b>464</b>	<b>357</b>	<b>278</b>	<b>348</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>.331</b>	<b>36</b>
Opponents.....	5.64	35-21	56	56	0	2/2	9	486.2	588	374	305	218	355	94	9	34	.300	45



Shane Janecka  
Pitcher



Stephen Piercefield  
Assistant Coach



Manny Mantrana  
Head Coach



Norbert Lopez  
Assistant Coach

## BASEBALL PREVIEW

## SCHEDULE

Feb. 20	Texas Tech	Lubbock	4 p.m.
Feb. 21	Southern Utah	Lubbock	11 a.m.
Feb. 22	Southern Utah	Lubbock	10 a.m.
	Texas Tech	Lubbock	3 p.m.

### Al Ogletree Classic

Feb. 27	Illinois	Edinburg Baseball Stadium	7 p.m.
Feb. 28	Texas-Arlington	Edinburg Baseball Stadium	7 p.m.
March 1	Stephen F. Austin	Edinburg Baseball Stadium	1 p.m.
March 3	Texas A&M-CC(DH)	Edinburg Baseball Stadium	3 p.m.

### Whataburger Classic

March 6	Alabama	Corpus Christi	6 p.m.
March 7	Texas A&M-CC	Corpus Christi	1 p.m.
March 8	Texas A&M-CC	Corpus Christi	1 p.m.
March 10	Texas A&M-CC (DH)	Corpus Christi	1 p.m.

### Notre Dame Classic

March 13	Illinois State	San Antonio	12 p.m.
	Notre Dame	San Antonio	4 p.m.
March 14	Illinois State	San Antonio	4 p.m.
March 15	Notre Dame	San Antonio	12 p.m.
March 16	Jackson State	Edinburg Baseball Stadium	6 p.m.
March 17	Jackson State	Edinburg Baseball Stadium	3 p.m.
March 21	Prairie View A&M (DH)	Edinburg Baseball Stadium	1 p.m.
March 22	Prairie View A&M	Edinburg Baseball Stadium	1 p.m.
March 24	Texas-San Antonio	San Antonio	3 p.m.
March 26	New Mexico State	Edinburg Baseball Stadium	6 p.m.
March 27	New Mexico State	Edinburg Baseball Stadium	6 p.m.
March 28	New Mexico State	Edinburg Baseball Stadium	6 p.m.
March 31	Lamar (DH)	Beaumont	3 p.m.
April 3	Univ. of Houston	Houston	6:30 p.m.
April 4	Univ. of Houston	Houston	6:30 p.m.
April 5	Univ. of Houston	Houston	1 p.m.
April 8	UT-Brownsville	Edinburg Baseball Stadium	6 p.m.
April 9	TCU	Edinburg Baseball Stadium	6:30 p.m.
April 10	TCU	Edinburg Baseball Stadium	6:30 p.m.
April 11	TCU	Edinburg Baseball Stadium	12 p.m.
April 15	Stephen F. Austin (DH)	Nacogdoches	12 p.m.
April 18	Texas Southern (DH)	Edinburg Baseball Stadium	3 p.m.
April 19	Texas Southern	Edinburg Baseball Stadium	1 p.m.
April 21	Texas-San Antonio	Edinburg Baseball Stadium	3 p.m.
April 22	UT-Brownsville	Edinburg Baseball Stadium	6 p.m.
April 25	Prairie View A&M (DH)	Prairie View	TBA
April 26	Prairie View A&M	Prairie View	TBA
April 28	Texas A&M-CC	Edinburg Baseball Stadium	6 p.m.
May 10	Northern Colorado (DH)	Greeley, CO	12 p.m.
May 11	Northern Colorado	Greeley, CO	3 p.m.
May 12	Northern Colorado	Greeley, CO	3 p.m.

### National Independent Tournament

May 20	TBA	Edinburg	TBA
May 21	TBA	Edinburg	TBA
May 22	TBA	Edinburg	TBA
May 23	TBA	Edinburg	TBA
May 24	TBA	Edinburg	TBA



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Feb. 24, 11 a.m.  
Student Union Commons

**Musician Esteban Jordan**  
Saturday, 9 p.m.  
Cine El Rey

ART

## Controversial issues inspire artist, mother, activist

By Marco Carbajal  
THE PAN AMERICAN

Philip Rubinov-Jacobson once said, "Inspiration revises our self-image, from seeing ourselves as passive victims to being active agents of transformation. This is the single most important factor in changing the human condition."

Celeste De Luna is no stranger to inspiration or helping change the human condition. The student, mother, artist and

activist has been blazing trails in the world of art and politics for years.

De Luna, who was raised and lives in Harlingen, is currently earning her MFA in painting and says she first realized an interest in art as a child after discovering a love of drawing. After taking

courses in art La Feria high school, De Luna chose to continue that study at The University of Texas-Pan American and graduated with a bachelor's degree in art and education in 1997.

De Luna, who is married with three children and is a teaching assistant at UTPA, admits her Latina roots play a large part in her work, but believes the universal themes in her art are relevant to any culture.

"I show a lot of things that deal with Latino culture, but issues within it such as motherhood and immigration are things people and their families have experienced themselves," De Luna said.

"People can relate to that."

As of late, her work has grown political, addressing issues such as the war in Iraq and immigration policies including the border wall and passport issues for Mexican-Americans born to midwives.

This very issue inspired De Luna to use her father's birth certificate as the background for one of her latest works, titled "Partera Passport."

The painting, currently on display with several of De Luna's works at the

Centro Cultural de La Raza in San Diego, Calif., depicts a young Mexican woman with a halo of light giving birth on a bed while a midwife, or *partera*, reaches for a baby that is in the process of crowning. Beautiful, translucent colors allow the viewer to see copies of the

birth certificate through the paint.

Bert E. Beltrán of National City, Calif., is co-owner and editor of Calaca Press and acted as curator of the exhibit for the Centro. Beltrán says De Luna's work well reflects the community she is a part of. He also adds that her relevance as an artist and activist is definite.

"We live in an age when Mexican immigrants are discriminated against on a daily basis," said Beltrán, who has worked in association with the Centro for 15 years. "We need more artists like Celeste to not only put out work that reflects the community, but also allow the

"We live in an age when Mexican immigrants are discriminated against a daily basis."

**Bert E. Beltrán**  
Co-owner/editor of Calaca Press



CELESTE DE LUNA

**DEPICTING LIFE** - De Luna's painting shows a young Mexican woman with a halo of light giving birth on a bed, while a mid-wife reaches for a baby that is in the process of crowning.

community to see the work and take action based on what she is portraying."

Emi Zuniga, who is earning her MFA in painting and printmaking at UTPA, has been a friend of De Luna's for nearly three years and says that she admires her friend's work for its strength and power. Zuniga also adds that art is a wonderful creator of social dialogue.

"Art is used to project a message and to engage people in conversation. The feminist movement, the Chicano movement and the labor movement were all

guided by the fine arts."

Both Zuniga and De Luna take their children to art shows in Austin and San Antonio because they feel it is important for them to experience different points of view and be aware of their own environment. Zuniga is in awe of De Luna's ability to balance school, motherhood, art, and activism.

"She's everywhere, in class, with her kids, working or at shows here and there. I can't even keep up with her," Zuniga said. De Luna's MFA graduate art show is slated

for April 18 at the Narciso Martinez Cultural Arts Center in San Benito, and with graduation looming in May, she looks to the future with the same fire and passion which fuels her life and art. She hopes to teach at the collegiate level and entertains dreams of one day having a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the cultural arts.

Poised to begin the next phase of her life, this passionate pioneer of paint has one solid plan for the future.

"I want to contribute to a dialogue and make people think," she declared.

MUSIC

## Battle of the Bands returns for local musicians on rise

By Marc Solis  
THE PAN AMERICAN

The time has come once again for The University of Texas-Pan American's annual Battle of the Bands, a musical competition hosted by University Program Board's N2Tunes Committee, which will be showcasing Valley talent on the rise Feb. 24 at the Student Union Theater.

"We hope to get a good turnout this time around, considering that Battle of the Bands wasn't able to happen last year due to inadequate time to fulfill duties," said Stacy Sanchez, chair of the N2Tunes Committee. "I believe it gives college bands the opportunity to grab their fair share of exposure."

Sanchez views the Battle of the Bands as a gateway for more student recognition, especially for winners, offering participating artists the chance to

hook up with other groups. She emphasized the positive aspects for UTPA, like keeping the tradition alive.

N2Tunes started the competition in 2007 with a complete set of different people.

"It feels like our committee is obligated to continue what we started, to provide cool entertainment for everybody," she said.

Marisela Gonzalez, coordinator of student development, noted that preparations are intense on the day of the show.

"Everything from monitors, mics, cables, lights, drums, guitar/bass amps, and a PA system will be set up so bands can just plug in and play," she said.

Felipe Resendez, a UTPA student, is excited to be playing in front of a live audience again. Resendez is a biology major from Sharyland who is also the lead singer in a band called The Piles, an eclectic little

pop/rock four-set that has been together for six years. He sees the event as an opportunity to gain some long-needed exposure and possibly the chance to network with other musical acts.

"It feels really, really good to be on a real stage again after a year of not playing in front of a crowd," Resendez noted. "This gives us a chance to make some new fans."

The band took a yearlong hiatus due to a member quitting the group, and had other issues in regard to rehearsal arrangements.

A permanent replacement was found and now the guys are now ready for action.

Besides The Piles, a few other bands will be sharing the stage to test out their

musical chops Feb. 24, including Ean Road, Cosmikos, and a ska punk band that played the previous Battle of the Bands by the name of Vital Brass Tones.

Requirements include a recorded demo with at least two songs, a \$40 registration fee by check that will be returned to bands after performance, and a copy of lyrics for the two songs that will be played by each.

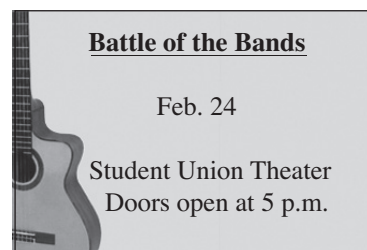
Other guidelines require every band to play a 10-minute set which should be ethically sensitive and non-discriminatory, which means no profanity or nudity allowed since judges will be critiquing preparedness, originality, quality, presentation, and interface with

the audience. Originals are encouraged over covers.

First place winners receive a big shiny trophy along with \$100 worth in Bronc Bucks and their own personal show down the line. The second-place award consists of \$100 in Bronc Bucks, while third-prize winners get to take home \$75 of the same.

This is a perfect opportunity for musically talented students who may be suffering from an empty pocket at the lunch line.

Doors will open at 5 p.m. at the Student Union Theater, and the first band will be going on by 6:15. Students interested in signing up can register with the N2Tunes Committee at the University Center, Room 205. For more information or to request special accommodations, please call the University Program Board at (956) 316-7991.



## CAMPUS

# Gender class explores balance

By Russen Vela  
THE PAN AMERICAN

It is always fascinating to look back in history and notice how males have been the dominant figures in society, while the women stayed at home and birthed children, particularly sons to please their husbands and their families.

This was the norm. But where is the equality? Where is the balance? Throughout history we have seen and read that some males and females did not follow that norm, which sometimes led to a battle of the sexes.

In Communication in Human Relations: Gender Communication, Dr. Jeffrey McQuillen discusses and provides examples on how male and female might balance each other out, instead of battling it out.

McQuillen, a South Fork, Penn. native, has taught communication studies for 20 years. He received his bachelor's degree in secondary english at the University of Pennsylvania, and later earned his Ph.D. in communication at Oklahoma University. McQuillen explained that the course is designed to provide students with an understanding of differences between male and females.

"The students learn the difference between the sexes, not just the biological makeup, but the different roles they play," McQuillen said. "I hope they appreciate the facts, and the balance of both sexes."

McQuillen noted that theories and observations made on this subject show that stereotypes and misconceptions are rampant. One theory is most evident in the Mexican-American culture, because the Mexican-American man feels that while he is supporting his family by going to work, his wife is supporting him by making sure everything in "his" household is

in order. It is very stereotypical for Mexican-American woman to believe that her husband is in charge, while she gets no say in anything. When we describe a typical Mexican-American male, we get the macho-man or the hardcore family man who wants to be the center of everything and rule it.

"We first explain the existence of gender," McQuillen said. "We then look at both sides of male and female equally; we are not all feminists in the class, we look at both sides and see the factors at which make us different."

Some factors include why males think they are dominant and why females accept the male dominance.

With about 30 students in the class including communication majors but also those from English and international business among others, McQuillen states that while some students agree with topics discussed in class, others don't. But he doesn't intrude on their personal beliefs, rather encouraging them to talk about experiences they feel reflect the topics in class.

"We look at the attitudes, facts, issues and trends," McQuillen said. "A lot of the stuff we talk about is not rocket science, it's really a mirror. Do we like the way males and females are portrayed in our culture as well as different cultures? Do we like ourselves the way we are? And if we don't, can we change it?"

In a clever way of explaining the balance of the male and female, McQuillen offers this equation.

"If a man speaks English and wants his

Spanish-speaking wife to speak English, that is A. If the wife wants the husband to speak Spanish instead of English, that is B. What we are learning in the course is how the couple gets to C, which is Spanglish. It's all about the balance."

Basically, if a couple wants to communicate on the same level, they will have to be able to learn a language which they both can speak, and in that case be able to sustain and balance the relationship between them.

Jessica Yanez, a senior communication studies major who is taking the course this semester, has been excited about the talks in class and its overall subject matter.

"I like this course because I want to know more about gender," said Yanez. "I want to know the power struggle between men and women, and most of all; I want to know why so many people have different perceptions about males and females."

Yanez's main goal in the class is to better understand the fight for power from both genders and how they will in the future balance the power between them.

With all these hot topics going about, students who join the class may develop the knowledge to gain an understanding of characteristics related to gender communication and become more familiar with crucial issues and problems facing both sexes. McQuillen who also serves as an associate professor and graduate coordinator for the graduate program said enthusiastically the gender course will most likely be back next spring.



Isaac Garcia/THE PAN AMERICAN

**BATTLE OF THE SEXES** - Students in Jeffrey McQuillen's gender course sit attentively as he explains the differences between the sexes. The class is offered Mondays and Wednesdays 1:10 p.m. to 2:25 p.m.

## A&amp;L BRIEF

## Valley Symphony Orchestra and Chorale

The Rio Grande Valley will be in for a treat tomorrow night as the Valley Symphony Orchestra and Chorale take the stage at 8 p.m. in the University of Texas-Pan American Fine Arts Auditorium. The Symphony orchestra will perform Vivaldi's "Concerto for Violin and Cello" featuring Emily Hanna Crane on violin

and Sarah Kapps on cello.

Chorale performances include Bruckner's "Te Deum" and Rutter's "Magnificat" with a welcome home for RGV native Vicki Moffatt as guest soprano. Moffatt grew up in McAllen and is a McAllen High School graduate as well as an alumna of UTPA, where she

studied voice under the direction of Professor Ray Drakeley. She is currently singing with "Conspirare," a professional Grammy Award-nominated group from Austin.

For concert and ticket information call (956) 661-1615 or log on to <http://www.valleyorchestra.org>

## COMMUNITY



Ben Briones/THE PAN AMERICAN

**SPIN IT** - DJ Daniel Ledisko mixes beats as club-goers crowd the booth Friday at Club Shine in McAllen.

## L.A. Riots hits downtown McAllen

By Andrielle Figueroa  
THE PAN AMERICAN

Friday night was full of beats and electronic mixes harmoniously created from favored DJ Daniel Ledisko of L.A. Riots.

Many people in the Valley have had the understanding that there is never anything to do in the Deep South Texas we call home. However the Goodbar team, Sam Martinez and Patrick Garcia, is working to give the public a taste of big city life.

Goodbar has been working on events for the past two and a half years. Though the task of a promoter may seem like child's play, Garcia admits to tougher realities.

"Getting L.A. Riots down was at first a tough sell," commented Garcia. "But nowhere near as tough in comparison to selling them, an underground group of remix DJs, to a city that's used to hearing and dancing to more of the commercialized stuff."

The line-up for the Friday event at Club Shine in downtown McAllen consisted of local acts DJ Flux and DJ TREND\*E alongside the Los Angeles native, Daniel Ledisko.

Starting off the evening was Edinburg's DJ Flux, Reuben Martinez. Martinez, 20, an undecided major at The University of Texas-Pan American, has been working on music for just over a year and a half. The young DJ holds spots at local clubs and lounges such as Martinis, Yacht Club and Kabos.

"To be honest, L.A. Riots is one of the first real DJ's I started listening to," Martinez stated. "So to open up for them was awesome."

After Martinez's set, taking the reign was DJ TREND\*E, Edgar Villarreal. Originally from Alamo, he has traveled across the state and made a name for himself in San Antonio where he was house DJ at Bliss Ultra Lounge.

Closing up the night was main event L.A. Riots. The group is a duo act usu-

ally consisting of Daniel Ledisko and JO'B. Ledisko performed solo at the show, but that did not take away from the performance.

Ledisko performed remixes of groups like Chromeo and MSTRKRFT, working from a booth ironically shaped like a disco ball. The music was on its own playing field; the assumption that all electronic music sounds the same was proven false through his performance.

Standing behind the booth, Ledisko was focused and mixed with ease, aside from the dozens of people that danced around him. Ledisko's final song was Bon Jovi's "Livin' On a Prayer," to clear out the drunken dancers.

Although it was an extremely sweaty and tiring experience, the music kept everyone mobile.

One could argue that the close quarters of downtown McAllen are not the perfect home for a club, though if in a large space there would not be the same feel.

Clubs should be close and intimate. The intimacy gives fans a chance to meet artists and understand who they are.

Beatriz Montejano, an 18-year-old Mission native, has been a fan of the ensemble for over a year and was able to meet the performer after the show.

"We took a picture and were able to talk for a little bit. He was very charming, and he even gave me a kiss on the cheek. I fell in love," Montejano joked.

Club Shine overflowed with people, so the success of the event was obvious. Goodbar is striving to create more events like this one for the growing music and club-life scene.

"McAllen's a growing market, and with a growing market you get a growing community of people who aren't satisfied with the atypical and popularized forms of music," Garcia stated. "Overlooked and great artists are present in every realm of music; we just want to bring them down to appease the overlooked listener."

**Women's Basketball**  
vs. NJIT  
Saturday, 5 p.m.  
UTPA Field House

**Men's Basketball**  
vs. North Carolina Central  
Saturday, 7 p.m.  
UTPA Field House

TENNIS

## Programs suffer road, home defeats after long hiatus



Ben Briones/THE PAN AMERICAN

**INTENSE PRECISION** - Tennis player Luisa Cantu (foreground) works the court on Tuesday while Megan Bedeau keeps her eye on a return. The team looks to improve after losing to Texas A&M Corpus Christi.

By Pedro Perez IV  
THE PAN AMERICAN

It's not every day someone quits during a match, especially a conference match. But last weekend when the University of Texas Pan American men's tennis team matched up against Texas A&M Corpus Christi, the Islanders dropped their first match because Aswin Vijayaragavan mentally broke down Mikhail Pavlov.

Vijayaragavan is no stranger to winning, but this time his opponent was fresh off playing the day before and had to drive back home to face off against Vijayaragavan. It was just too much.

"He (Aswin Vijayaragavan) made him work so hard for every single point the guy gave up the first set and said, 'you're going to win,'" interim head coach Chris Gill said.

Gill credits Vijayaragavan for his game plan of just wearing down the opponent, knowing he was tired.

"He did it so much that the guy didn't want to play through," Gill explained.

Unfortunately for the Broncs though, the rest of the Islanders took notice and sent a 6-1 message, handing the Broncs their first conference

loss for the season. Pavlov even had his revenge on Vijayaragavan when he and Dmitry Novikov beat the pairing of Vijayaragavan and Nirvick Mohinta 8-4 in doubles play.

Still, Gill was pleased with the attitude that the Broncs showed against the Islanders and knows that the team is still learning to be more trustful about its game.

"I thought the things that we're trying to set ourselves later for success are working," Gill said. "At times it's a matter of trust, trusting the stuff we're doing out here and using it when the pressure is on."

### WOMEN'S TENNIS

The Lady Broncs jumped back into full swing with three matches in four days against Texas State, UTSA and Texas A&M Corpus Christi.

Unfortunately for the Lady Broncs, they too fell short on their three-match stretch.

Team members are struggling right now with adjusting to their new roles, and new responsibility in leadership.

"When you have players like Giana (Oliveira) and Julia (Cirne-Lima) who were number one and number two on the team and Silke (Busik) who provided a lot of leadership, leave you're

looking for people to take their place and it's a lot of responsibility," Gill said. "It's just so tough to have to perform at this level and have to raise it all of a sudden."

But Gill knows his remaining players are up for the challenge and that they're not going to quit.

"Luisa (Cantu) has responded beautifully," Gill said. "(She) just played so well lately and getting a couple of good wins against some very good players."

Cantu, a junior from Ciudad Victoria, Mexico, handed Nyssa Peele of Texas State a 7-6, 6-2 loss on Saturday at the Texas State Tennis Complex and Nadia Filmalter of TAMU CC a 6-2, 6-0 loss on Tuesday at the Orville Cox Tennis Center.

This weekend both the Broncs and the Lady Broncs will be in action against New Mexico State in Las Cruces, N.M. Both teams play three matches. The Broncs square off against Montana State, No. 75 New Mexico State and Idaho while the Lady Broncs take on UTEP, New Mexico State and Northern Arizona.

"I think if we come out of the weekend 1-2 it's a good accomplishment," Gill said. "If we come out of the weekend 2-1, then we're on cloud nine."

MEN'S GOLF

## Broncs start off swinging with first-place win at Schreiner event

By Pedro Perez IV  
THE PAN AMERICAN

Monday the University of Texas Pan American men's golf team set out on a 36-hole adventure and Tuesday, with Armen Kirakossian leading the field, the Broncs took first place at the Schreiner Spring Shootout at The Club at Comanche Trace in Kerrville.

The Broncs won the first tournament for first-year head coach Santiago Larrea, who was hired last semester. Now he knows what to expect from the men in the upcoming semester.

"Well, the guys did pretty good," Larrea said. "It was the first tournament of the spring semester and it was actually my first tournament as head coach for the men's team. And all the work they put in the last couple of months finally paid off."

Larrea, who is from Vitoria, Spain, also said that this tournament was very difficult because of overcast and muggy weather conditions, and extremely fast greens.

Kirakossian, who actually won the tournament, shooting two-un-

der-par 142, set the tone for Broncs tone this semester; the team shot 300 on Monday and 305 on Tuesday.

"(The first-place finish felt) really good, pretty satisfying and rewarding," Kirakossian said. "I just been working a lot on the mental side of the game and I just put it into motion, went in there with a little more confidence and that's pretty much it."

Senior Carrolton native Shane Pearce finished the match six strokes behind Kirakossian enough for second overall as he went in four-over-par 148, Edcouch native A.J. Gonzalez finished tied for seventh with a score of 155 and High Wongchindawest finished in a five-way tie for 14th with a 160. Newcomer and Mexico City native Salomon

Cain finished tied in 25th shooting 166 over the two days.

"My senior Shane Pearce finished second but he knows I know he could've done much better," Larrea said. "The rest of the team needs to

learn a little more from my senior (Shane Pearce) and Armen (Kirakossian). They need to watch them play and practice so they can get to the level where the other two guys are."

Larrea said if he can accomplish getting the rest of the team on the same level as Kirakossian and Pearce then the men can do big things in the

conference tournament, to be held in April in Houston, and at the PGA Minority Collegiate Golf Championship in Florida.

Up next for the Broncs is the SFA

Bill Hill Classic in Conroe Feb. 23. The Broncs will use this tournament as another stepping stone toward the Red Wolf Classic hosted by Arkansas State April 13.

"It's a tournament I believe we can win again next week," Larrea said. "We can build it up for the third tournament which will be a little bit tougher."

### MEN'S GOLF SCHEDULE

Feb. 23	SFA Bill Hill Classic	Conroe
Feb. 24	SFA Bill Hill Classic	Conroe
April 13	Red Wolf Classic	Host - Arkansas State Jonesboro, AR
April 14	Red Wolf Classic	Host - Arkansas State Jonesboro, AR
April 20	Great West Conference Championship	Houston
April 21	Great West Conference Championship	Houston
May 8	PGA Minority Collegiate Golf Championship	Port St. Lucie, FL
May 9	PGA Minority Collegiate Golf Championship	Port St. Lucie, FL
May 10	PGA Minority Collegiate Golf Championship	Port St. Lucie, FL

### WOMEN'S GOLF SCHEDULE

Feb. 23	Islander Classic	Corpus Christi
Feb. 24	Islander Classic	Corpus Christi
March 9	2009 Claud Jacobs Intercollegiate	Victoria
March 10	2009 Claud Jacobs Intercollegiate	Victoria
March 16	Baylor Invitational	Waco
March 17	Baylor Invitational	Waco
March 30	UALR Women's Golf Classic	Hot Springs, AR
March 31	UALR Women's Golf Classic	Hot Springs, AR
April 20	Great West Conference Championship	Houston
April 21	Great West Conference Championship	Houston
May 8	PGA Minority Collegiate Golf Championship	Port St. Lucie, FL
May 9	PGA Minority Collegiate Golf Championship	Port St. Lucie, FL
May 10	PGA Minority Collegiate Golf Championship	Port St. Lucie, FL

"(The first-place finish felt) really good, pretty satisfying and rewarding. I just been working a lot on the mental side of the game and I just put it in motion, went in there with a little more confidence and that's pretty much it."

**Armen Kirakossian**  
UTPA golfer



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## ■ MEN'S BASKETBALL



Isaac Barrientes/THE PAN AMERICAN

**RISE ABOVE** - Junior forward Nathan Hawkins towers over two opponents from Longwood, scoring two of his 13 points on Valentine's Day. The Broncs face North Carolina Central at home Feb. 21 at 7 p.m..

# Broncs exact revenge from Longwood at home, 86-82

By Kevin Stich  
THE PAN AMERICAN

Saturday night found The University of Texas-Pan American men's basketball team at home in the UTPA Field House, looking for redemption as it faced off against Longwood University (14-11) for the second consecutive game. Valentine's Day showed no love to the boys from Virginia as a determined Bronc team boxed it out for an 86-82 victory.

UTPA, which suffered a 77-61 defeat in their Feb. 11 meeting, gained a 10-point advantage and looked strong early until late in the first half when a bizarre play, where a Nick Weiermiller pass hit a referee in the leg, affording lucky possession to the opposing team. Head coach Tom Schuberth was infuriated with the play, among many calls that he felt were unfair.

"I still think it's the wrong call," Schuberth said after the game. "The official kicked the ball and the official blew the whistle, and the ball was still in play and they gave them the ball. I've never seen anything like that. In fact, I'm going to talk to the supervisor of officials and explain it. And they made a bunch of bad calls, I thought."

The decision ultimately led to the Lancers tying the game at 35 points apiece. Then, with 1.7 seconds left on the clock, the game tied 40-40 and a defender draped over him, junior guard Ben Smith drained a fadeaway three-pointer as the time expired in the first half.

In the second half, the Broncs led by as much as 14, but another late surge

found them battling to stay on their feet as the teams exchanged jabs. The game was capped when an 86-82 lead and 11 seconds left in regulation proved too much for Longwood to overcome.

"I think Longwood's good, they're playing well, they've won seven games in a row," Schuberth said. "They're very good offensively and I felt we handled the pressure today that we didn't do at their place. But they're a good basketball team."

The games leading scorer, senior forward Emmanuel Jones, boldly asserted himself with 25 points plus eight rebounds and five blocks, including two crucial blocks with under a minute to play that helped the Green and Orange hold their lead. A few times he couldn't help but smile.

"Down the stretch a lot of players, a lot of the team, they made some big plays, made some big free throws that helped us out a lot," Jones said. "The intensity that we had tonight and the way we played tonight, we're capable of beating any team with that same kind of effort, no doubt. No team can keep up with us if we just go out there and give it our all."

Freshman guard Jared Marec pitched in a career-high 23 points of offensive support, while shooting 10 of 12 from the field.

The Broncs, now 7-16 on the season, will look to finish the season strong as they host North Carolina Central University Feb. 21, part of a homecoming doubleheader at the UTPA Field House. They have four games left.

## ■ TRACK AND FIELD

# Teams set sights on Great West meet

## Track programs adjusting to new head coach

By Sara Hernandez  
THE PAN AMERICAN

Aggieland was the site of the perfect regular-season finale for The University of Texas-Pan American's track program when junior Wally Gonzalez approached the finish line to record the fastest time in school history in the 800-meter run after a two-day battle at the Texas A&M Invitational.

The Edinburg native edged Cary Grant's previous time of 1:54.15, punching in a time of 1:55.34. Grant held the school record for 18 years before Saturday.

"It means a lot that I have my own record," Gonzalez said. "I heard that the guy that had it was from Edinburg too."

The men's and women's track and field programs finished 12th and 10th, respectively, at the invitational, their last event before the Great West Conference Championship meet Feb. 28, in Vermillion, S.D.

The Lady Bronc day was highlighted by three top-10 finishes in one race. Junior Carolina Izaguirre placed fifth in the 5,000-meter run with a time of 17:54.08, while Diana Galloso of Edinburg and Larissa De Leon of Mission placed seventh and eighth, respectively, with times of 18:29.46 and 18:38.24.

In the 1,000-meter run, freshman Daniela Estevane crossed the finish line in sixth, recording a time of 3:21.93.

In field events, sophomore Melinda Sarmiento of Progreso cleared the 1.62-meter mark to obtain seventh in the high jump event.

Senior Amanda Ferris led the Lady Broncs with fourth- and fifth-place finishes in the weight throw and shot put events. She achieved personal bests in both events with a 17.36 throw in the weight and a toss of 14.29 in the shot.

## ■ WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

# UTPA falls to 12-13, returns for home finale

By Sara Hernandez  
THE PAN AMERICAN

The University of Texas-Pan American women's basketball team dropped two road games last week against Long Beach State University and California State Bakersfield.

On Saturday against Long Beach, UTPA gave stiff competition and finished the first half tied in a 35-35 tie after a jumper by junior Rose Esther Jean.

The match presented a similar scene during the second period. Although UTPA closely guarded the 49ers, Long Beach slowly took off with a 51-51 tie with 11 minutes remaining, allowing the Lady Broncs to score only seven points in the last 10 minutes en route to a 78-58 victory.

Freshman point guard Epiphany

"I've been working extra hard in my events...There have been dramatic changes in my workouts," said Ferris, a San Antonio native. "The results of the change have proved to be positive."

On the men's side, sophomore Roberto Najera and junior Vidal Ruiz contributed with fourth and seventh places in the 5,000-meter run with times of 15:45.31 and 17:04.96, respectively.

In the 1,000-meter run, Gonzalez came in sixth with a time of 2:28.69.

According to assistant coach Hugo Cervantes, competing against athletes from ranked teams like Arizona State, Texas A&M and Texas will give the teams a taste of the type of opponents they will encounter in two weeks at the conference championship.

"It lets us know where we stand right now against some really good competition," he said.

The anticipation for what will be the first conference meet for the track and field program since the late 1990s, when it belonged to the Sun Belt Conference, is sustained with the arrival of Dave Hartman, the team's new head coach.

Hartman joins the program after four years as an assistant track and field and cross-country coach in Athens, Geo., and prior experience at Tex-

as A&M and the University of Texas-San Antonio.

"He's been successful at the highest level of competition," Cervantes said. "He's bringing in a different vision to this program."

Hartman said he was pleased with the athletes' commitment to their events after observing the squad get after it Saturday in College Station.

"The team seems like a great group of young men and women," he said. "I was impressed with how they competed and handled themselves."

He also mentioned that although his first goal is to lead the team to a successful conference showcase, he will eventually strive to fashion a nationally ranked team.

"I want to bring experience and excitement about trying to take the program to another level in conference and in the national level," Hartman said.

With the team and coaching staff motivated to bring home a conference title, a sense of purpose drives the training environment for the Broncs and Lady Broncs.

"There comes a point in training when you have to start to look beyond," Ferris said. "If you think you can and are willing, then anything's possible."

## Texas A&M Invitational Results

### MEN - 12TH PLACE

6th place in 1,000-meter run  
Wally Gonzalez 2:28.69  
11th place in 1,000-meter run  
Omar Doria 2:33.93  
12th place in 1,000-meter run  
Andrew Lopez 2:34.31  
4th place in 5,000-meter run  
Robert Najera 15:45.31  
7th place in 5,000-meter run  
Vidal Ruiz, Jr. 17:04.96  
13th place in 800-meter run  
Wally Gonzalez 1:53.76 (new record)  
17th place in 800-meter run  
Omar Doria 1:55.25

### WOMEN - 10TH PLACE

6th place in 1,000-meter run  
Daniela Estevane 3:21.93  
5th place in 5,000-meter run  
Carolina Izaguirre 17:54.08  
7th place in 5,000-meter run  
Diana Galloso 18:29.46  
8th place in 5,000-meter run  
Larissa De Leon 18:38.24  
7th place in shot put  
Amanda Ferris 46-10.75  
4th place in weight throw  
Amanda Ferris 17.36m  
11th place in weight throw  
Michelle Elizondo 15.52m  
12th place in weight throw  
Stephanie Perez 15.01m  
7th place in high jump  
Melinda Sarmiento 1.62m

\* Sara Hernandez made a new record for the 60m hurdles at 9:23, beating the old record of 9:29 in 2008 by Sabrina Montalvo.

Smith led the women with 15 points followed by junior guard Rachel Hester, who totaled 13. Senior Teshay Winfrey had a team-high seven rebounds and newcomer Brittany Demery collected five boards.

The Lady Broncs saw their record drop to 12-12 after the loss, jeopardizing the program's pursuit toward accomplishing a winning season and program record for wins (14). And on Tuesday night, it took another hit.

UTPA fell to Cal State Bakersfield 72-64 in what was its second-to-last road game before returning for the home finale Saturday.

The Roadrunners dominated the majority of the night, but allowed UTPA to climb back late in the game. However the 20-point deficit earlier in the second half proved to be too much

for the Lady Broncs to make up, sealing their opponent's win.

Winfrey contributed with 19 points and Demery and Smith combined for 29 points. Demery also snatched nine rebounds as UTPA outrebounded the Roadrunners 33-30.

Smith said that although the team has been performing well, the Lady Broncs are not satisfied with these two consecutive road setbacks and are hoping to improve in the last stretch of the season.

"I expect us to have a winning season and win the last five games," Smith said. "I expect to finish strong and continue to grow as a team in the end of the season."

With a 12-13 record, the Lady Broncs return to the Field House Saturday as they look to avenge their loss suffered earlier in the year against New Jersey Tech. Tip-off is set for 5 p.m.



HONORS

Sports Commentary

## HALL OF FAME CLASS OF 2009

By Ramiro Paez  
THE PAN AMERICAN

The third class of the university's Athletics Hall of Fame will be inducted Saturday. Here is a look at the luminaries joining the Bronc honor roll:

### Abe Lemons



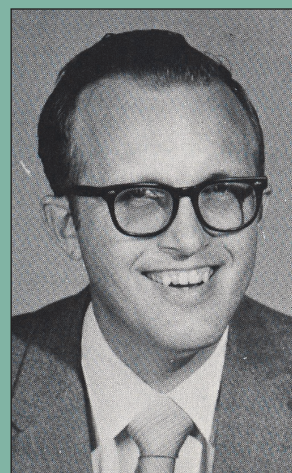
It's going to be a while before someone is officially labeled as the next Abe Lemons. In fact, we may never get to that point. Lemons is the most successful men's basketball coach the program has ever seen, recording a .775 winning percentage during his stay with the Broncos from 1973-1976. He finished with a 55-16 overall record, never enduring a losing season, and was named the Texas Coach of the Year during the 1974-1975 season. In 1976, he coached at The University of Texas, where he guided the Longhorns to the NIT Championship in 1978. He finished his coaching career with a 599-343 record and lost his final game by one point in his quest for victory No. 600. He made light of the situation, giving one of his most notable quotes after the loss, "Damn referees. I'll miss them less than anybody."

### Jim McGurk



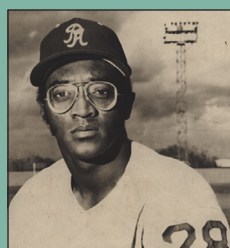
If there's one guaranteed thing Jim McGurk (left) can say, it's that he's a national champion. McGurk was part of the 1963 Bronc team, under the direction of Sam Williams, which captured the NAIA Men's Basketball National Championship, defeating Western Carolina 73-62. Against the Catamounts, McGurk scored 12 points, just a mere glimpse of what he accomplished in his career with the Broncos. He is ranked 10th all-time in points scored with 1,281. In addition, he ranks eighth in field goals made (514), 10th in free throws made (253) and third in rebounds (948), behind Luke Jackson, a teammate of McGurk's.

### Jim McKone

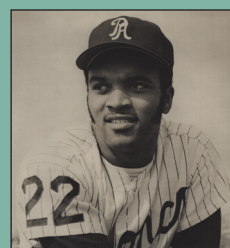


At the men's basketball games last season, there was always a familiar face sitting at the press table. With his notepad and pen, Jim McKone quietly sat in his chair and jotted down notes of the game's development. During postgame interviews with coach Tom Schubert, McKone didn't need a tape recorder to gather quotes, but rather just relied on his pen to do the work. After spending 30 years as the UTPA sports information director, McKone returned to fill the role on an interim basis last year, and showed he hadn't missed a beat. McKone, who received the CoSida's Lifetime Achievement Award after retiring, will be inducted into the Hall of Honor for his efforts to aid Bronc sports from 1969 to 1999.

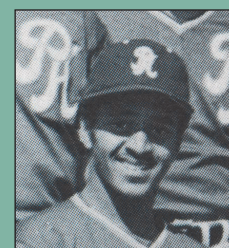
### The Tyrone Brothers



James Tyrone



Wayne Tyrone



Leonard Tyrone

It's not every day where you see three brothers play for one program but James, Wayne and Leonard Tyrone defied that axiom. The Tyrone brothers played on the Bronc baseball team during the 1970s, engraving their names in the program's record books.

James Tyrone, who also played with the Chicago Cubs and Oakland A's at the professional level, was the first Bronc, playing from 1970 to 1971. He was part of the 1971 College World Series team that was eliminated by Southern Illinois in Game 12. He was a two-time All-American and is third all-time in batting average (.363) and sixth in stolen bases (71).

Wayne Tyrone joined his brother in 1971 and also played during the 1972 season. He was drafted by the Chicago Cubs in the 20th round of the 1972 amateur draft.

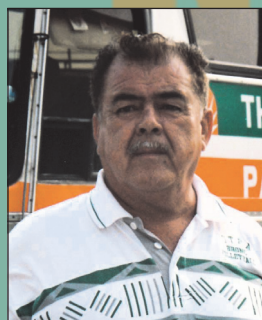
Leonard Tyrone played with the Broncos from 1976-1979. He is fifth all-time in runs scored (141) and is one place better than his brother James in stolen bases (79). He finished four spots behind his brother in batting average (.387) and is eighth in games played (182).

### Delilah Johnson



There's no woman like Delilah Johnson. One of the best to ever compete on the women's track and field team, Johnson was a two-time All-American in discus in 1991 and 1994. She holds the all-time record in discus (174-0) achieved in 1992. Johnson also holds the outdoor and indoor shot put records, both from 1994. She recorded a toss of 49-9.75 in indoor shot put and 49-5 in outdoor. Johnson was an NCAA Division I national qualifier in discus during the '92 season and was a two-time Sun Belt Conference champion ('92, '93) in discus, javelin and shot put.

### Lupe Garcia



It's life on the road that defined Lupe Garcia's career at UTPA. For 35 years, Garcia served as the athletic department's official bus driver, taking all sports programs across the country to their respective destinations, before the era of teams flying to games. He started his career in 1965 and retired at the age of 65. Garcia and McKone will become the first two members inducted to the Hall of Honor, which is designated for people who were not athletes or coaches but made great contributions to the university's athletic programs.

### 1971 College World Series



UTPA baseball coach Manny Mantrana is hopeful he can one day lead the Broncos to the College World Series in Omaha, just like Al Ogletree did in 1971. That year, the Broncos finished with a 42-7 record and were ranked fourth overall at season's end. UTPA went 2-2 during the tournament, and both losses came at the hands of Southern Illinois, in Game 4 (5-4) and Game 12 (8-6). The Broncos eliminated Seton Hall (8-2) and Harvard (1-0) to stay alive in the tournament after their first loss but ultimately couldn't get past the Salukis. Ogletree was named the Coach of the Year by The Sporting News, Texas Sports Writers' Association and South Plains Professional Scouts Association.

## Where the gods once walked

By Gregorio Garza  
THE PAN AMERICAN

It seems that every month there is some news shaking up the sports world, and this time around it's baseball's turn. As it has been widely reported, Alex Rodriguez of the New York Yankees, otherwise known as A-Rod, has finally admitted to using steroids during his time playing ball, after initially telling Katie Couric that he didn't do it.

Now, the complaint here isn't against him lying and denying using steroids. I don't care where his moral ground is in relation to telling the truth. The complaint is his reasoning: A-Rod says he turned to performance-enhancing drugs because he was under pressure to perform at a certain level.

In the game of baseball, or in any sport, there will always be the great ones, with a Hall of Fame to honor them after their careers are done. But with the stigma of steroid use, the once hallowed baseball Hall is tainted.

Babe Ruth once held the record for the most home runs hit in a single season, after he slammed 60 in 1927. This record lasted for 34 years until the season was extended from 154 games to 162 in 1961, and Yankee Roger Maris hit 61 homers. But the fact that the season was extended by eight games caused an asterisk to be placed next to the record, a way of saying that the mark had been broken, but not on even ground.

Next came Mark McGwire with 70 runs in 1998 during his home run race with Sammy Sosa. The season was still at 162 games but he broke it in 144 games, removing the need for the asterisk. Yet when it came to light that he probably used performance-enhancing drugs, the old asterisk reared its head again, much like when Barry Bonds broke Mac's record in 2001, though as he was thought to be using steroids. Bonds later passed Hank Aaron's career record of 755 round-trippers, and there has been much talk of the case.

The records of the past were feats of strength and passion. They took determination and focus to accomplish, but now with a few new rules and fancy creams and steroids, these records are trounced upon. They hold no meaning anymore.

This will only get worse as it seems that steroid use became the norm from the 1990s onward. There is no pride in the accomplishments, as the men who have hit record numbers of homers recently were driven by the will to get into the record books. But when the majority can break the records, no one is great and no one is special.

And we, the viewers are hurt more as we see not the game that we once loved, but the mockery it's become, tainted and abused.