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## The Pan American (2013-11-22)

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# Where is Thanksgiving?

When the lights go up before the turkey gets stuffed

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## the panamerican

Volume 70, No. 13

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# CUTTING CANCER RISK IN THE VALLEY

## New GRACIAS Program offers genetic counseling

By **Claudia Lemus**  
The Pan American

This year, 117,371 Texans will be diagnosed with cancer and 41,362 are estimated to die of the disease, according to a report by the Texas Department of Health Services fact sheet. Of these, 2,758 new cancer cases and 949 deaths are estimated to occur in Hidalgo County.

With these statistics in mind, the Regional Academic Health Center will now offer the new Genetic Risk Assessment for Cancer in All South Texas

(GRACIAS Texas) program in the Rio Grande Valley to help people with a family history of breast and colon cancer determine their own risk of developing the diseases. The assessments will include genetic counseling and testing.

GRACIAS is sponsored by a three-year grant from the Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas. It will allow genetic counselors to work with at-risk families in the Val-

ley and, for certain individuals, it will cover the costs for genetic testing.

"Genetic testing is a way that may help individuals determine their risks of getting cancer," said Bimal Banik, a professor in the Department of Chemistry.

Banik is the first President's Endowed Professor of Science and Engineering at UTPA and has authored more than 635 publications, presentations and patents that explore

the biomedical science behind anticancer agents.

The Genetics Home Reference, a service provided by the U.S. National Library of Medicine, explains that depending on the nature and complexity of the tests, the cost of genetic testing can range from \$100 to more than \$2,000, and increase further if multiple family members must be tested.

"A long-term study is required to conduct genetic counseling,

but it is worthy to pursue it. Importantly, it is wise to keep all the options open to individuals who are at high-risk of cancer," Banik said. "(GRACIAS Texas) will be really important."

According to the National Institute of Health, genetic tests are medical processes that can help people with a history of cancer in their families predict their risk of getting a disease by looking for gene changes in DNA or RNA from their blood

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Dr. Nelson is such a nice man, I hope he stays president after the merger #utpa

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If someone lost their car keys, they're at the STEM Center in the Math Building ! c: #UTPA

-@urawizardharry\_

I'm in favor of the UTPA name being changed to UT-south.UTI and the other names just no. #utpa #projectsouthtx

-@victoriapena38

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**May Ortega**  
**ARTS & LIFE EDITOR**

Last year, the Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office had the second-highest amount of sexual assaults reported among Texas counties after Houston's Harris County, according to the Texas Department of Public Safety.

The Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network (RAINN) stated that in 2003, one in every 10 rape victims was male, so believe it or not, anyone can be a casualty. RAINN also said that regardless of one's gender, people who have been sexually assaulted are four times more likely to contemplate suicide.

Some believe that men are monsters who are responsible for the flaws in society, so they do not deserve sympathy for

# MAN UP



**Different genders should not mean different standards**

their own struggles. Growing up, they're taught not to cry. But what about the men on the other end of certain issues?

Something else that is commonly connected to women is eating disorders, with 24 million Americans suffering from things such as anorexia. Of those millions, about 15 percent are male, according to the The National Association of Anorexia Nervosa and Associated Disorders.

ANAD also stated that men affected by eating disorders tend to keep quiet about their illness because of the perception that it is a "woman's disease." Four percent of people with anorexia die from the condition and some men are not willing to ask for help because they have to live up to society's standard of masculinity.

Whether one's male counterpart deals with abuse, harass-

ment or even paying for dinner every single time, anyone should be able to get help when they need it.

Maybe this is where things such as No-Shave November come in handy. The purpose of

in 1999. About 60 countries, including the U.S., take part in IMD celebrations in various ways. Silence for Pounds, a fundraiser to support men affected by sexual abuse, was held in Greater Manchester, U.K.

However, celebrations for this day in the States did not make major headlines.

Some may argue that men don't deserve to be celebrated, but look at all they have done. They are responsible for a large portion of the inventions and tools that make many things easier. Men have led art, education and all other sorts of movements. They have even fought for women's rights in the past and are doing so in the present.

It's called feminism. How about instead of dragging each other down and fighting fire with fire, people support one another in their time of need? What takes up the space between one's legs should not determine how vulnerable they are, or how much sympathy they deserve. Men are people, too.

**What takes up the space between one's legs should not determine how vulnerable they are, or how much sympathy they deserve.**

the unofficial holiday is to raise awareness of prostate and testicular cancer. The whole month of October is dedicated to bringing attention to breast cancer, so men with similar illnesses deserve support, too.

Tuesday marked International Men's Day, which was inaugurated in Trinidad and Tobago

Tuesday. Participants remained silent for minutes to the whole day, representing the silence of boys and men who do not speak out about sexual abuse they have been through.

On a lighter note, in Australia, men handed out red roses as a symbol of strength, character and courage in honor of IMD.

**COMIC**

So, I've been going with the No-Shave November thing, and so far it's coming out pretty good.

Same here, man.

Hey, guys, wait up!

Oh, look, it's Maria--

Whoa!!

What the...?

Hi, are you guys supporting those with prostate cancer too?

Itzel Lopez/The Pan American

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**PHOTO OF THE WEEK**



Jon Nutt/The Pan American

Maria Kliefoth, a redshirt junior, sets up to spike the ball against Bakersfield on Nov. 20. This was the last game of the 2013 volleyball season in which UTPA finished with a record of 13-20.



**TEXAS H.E.A.T.**

**Help End Auto Theft**

Help End Auto Theft, or H.E.A.T., is a state-wide program administered by the Texas Department of Public Safety aimed at reducing auto theft. Upon enrolling in Texas H.E.A.T., citizens will receive two decals which are placed in the front and rear windows of their vehicle. These decals give law enforcement officers automatic probable-cause to stop the vehicle between the hours of 1:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. in order to verify ownership. Enrollment is free and can be completed in person at the University Police Department or on-line at the Texas Department of Public Safety website. To learn more information or to enroll your vehicle, please visit [https://records.txdps.state.tx.us/dps\\_web/heat/](https://records.txdps.state.tx.us/dps_web/heat/)

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

or other fluids, such as saliva or tissues. The gene changes are passed from one generation to the next and are present in every cell in the body.

**CANCER IN THE VALLEY**

While genetic counseling and testing can be used to determine the risks faced by individuals with cancer in their families, it can do little to prevent or stop the diseases from developing.

“Early detection of cancer is the most crucial. (With it), patients would receive better treatments and numerous options,” Banik said.

However, according to Marianita Escamilla, a lecturer in the Department of English, her symptoms began suddenly and unexpectedly. If she hadn’t insisted her doctor examine her thoroughly in 2010, her breast cancer would have gone undetected, she said. In her family, only her great aunt had suffered from the disease.

“I began feeling a sharp burning sensation at my left breast,” said Escamilla, who has worked at UTPA for 11 years. “But because there was no present lumps or typical signs of breast cancer, the doctor kept telling

me I was okay. That nothing was wrong.”

However, despite what the doctor told her, her pain said otherwise.

“Listen to your body,” Escamilla said. “It turns out I had HER2 positive breast cancer after they did a mammogram.”

According to the American Cancer Society, HER2 is a growth-promoting protein that 1 in 5 breast cancer patients have. Without treatment, cancers with high amounts of the protein grow and spread more aggressively.

“Women with this type of cancer, according to the doctors, last no more than one year,” said Escamilla, who has been undergoing treatment for three years and six months.

In 2009, cancer was the leading cause of death for Hispanics and Latinos, and as a result, the need for research to reduce cancer among the Hispanic population in the U.S. has significantly increased, according to Banik.

However, Banik said that present issues in the Valley may affect research and the adequate treatment of patients.

“Part of the cancer burden among the Hispanic

populations is due to lack of screening and early diagnosis. Additionally, low income and lack of health insurance coverage bring further problems,” the chemistry professor said. “Despite significant progress in the Rio Grande Valley areas in a number of ways, cancer research is ignored here.”

As a result, among the many objectives of his research, Banik strives to increase the number of cancer researchers in South Texas as well as promote the importance of it to students.

“It is important to improve research facilities for cancer and biomedical researchers in the RGV,” Banik said. “Students should be introduced to cancer research at an early stage in their career.”

As for Escamilla, she continues battling cancer. Despite her accomplishments in treatment, she feels that at the moment, she is more of a fighter than a survivor.

“I am a *luchadora*, not a ‘survivor,’” Escamilla said. “I have three years of treatment yet to go. ‘Survivor’ is too passive for me.”

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# Teaching the system

## UTPA students volunteer at juvenile detention center

By Melinda Garza  
The Pan American

Inside the Edinburg Juvenile Justice Center is a facility designed to accommodate 96 juvenile offenders in a secure room. Fences surround the outside and the sole entrance is manned by an employee with a key card. Inside the facility is a conference room where, with the help of volunteers from UTPA, juvenile offenders now have a chance to clear their records.

The facility was launched in 2007 and is responsible for the processing of juvenile offenders between the ages of 10-17 taken into custody by law enforcement agencies. The detention facility provides a short-term stay for the law violations they committed.

Students enrolled in Associate Professor Emmy Pérez’s

English 4340 course teach first-time offenders creative writing once a week for two hours. The students organize workshops for those in the detention center where they write original poems and prose pieces. They organize their own lesson plans in addition to completing assigned work for the course.

“Our main goal by volunteering through the Juvenile Court Conference Committee Volunteer Program (JCCC) is to work one-on-one with the first-time juvenile offenders to (prevent) the troubled youth from getting into deeper trouble and getting involved with the formal juvenile justice system,” said Naomi Orozco, a student of Pérez’s. “Our one-on-one work with our service learning project is to teach the students creative writing.”

Edinburg Judge Mario E. Ramirez of the 332nd District Court created the JCCC as an early prevention and intervention program. The Intake Unit at the courthouse receives and processes referrals, then assigns the case for disposition. The Unit is on call all day, every day and its members determine if a child will be detained when a police department calls, requesting that the juvenile be taken into custody.

This marks the third semester that students enrolled in Pérez’s Special Topics in Creative Writing course have participated in service-learning projects. In spring 2010, Pérez created a course that made it a requirement. According to her, some students continue to go to the juvenile detention center voluntarily after the class has ended.

Volunteering has long been a part of Pérez’s life. She taught female prison inmates in the 1990’s and started a poetry project for youth at a boot camp in El Paso that evolved into Voices Beyond Walls. VBW is a creative expression and arts program in juvenile detention centers in New Mexico, where kids read their own poetry with hip-hop melodies. Wanting to continue her community service work when she was hired at UTPA, she made the decision to include her students.

“I had about 15 students from my various classes involved in these service-learning projects each semester, but it was for extra credit not a course requirement,” said Pérez, who has been teaching at UTPA since 2006. “I was always impressed when students did not complete the projects for extra credit, but for the sheer experience.”

Those in the detention center are required to attend sessions with Pérez and her students as well as other programs. If they complete all of the required sessions, their records will be cleared. Pérez thinks the program is beneficial to not only the juvenile offenders, but to her students as well, because they leave the relative comfort of the classroom, and see how

creative writing can be used outside the University.

“I believe that UTPA students in these types of projects learn leadership skills, improve speaking skills and learn how to become encouraging mentors,” Pérez said. “These projects also encourage students who are bilingual to use their bilingualism even more.”

A former UTPA student, Linda Romero, created Vidas Cruzadas in fall 2011 after serving as a mentor for the JCCC in Pérez’s class. According to the Vidas Cruzadas website, Romero saw the effect creative writing had on participants and wanted to do more. Vidas Cruzadas is a creative writing workshop that has published the community’s work in chapbooks, which are compilations and samples of the poems, and community programs.

The Vidas Cruzadas Project has clients at the McAllen-based businesses Life Center, which offers counseling, and El Milagro Clinic, which offers medical services for those who do or do not have health insurance. Romero, who is currently getting her master’s of fine arts from UTPA, and her mother, Lidia Romero, a counselor at Life Center, give adult participants from these two organiza-

tions the choice of having their work translated. If they agree to it, they can translate it themselves or have a UTPA student do it for them.

Orozco, who has been a part of the program since early October, said that creative writing is a form of therapy for youth at the detention center because it helps relieve stress and make sense of their feelings. She considers herself to be not only a teacher to the youth, but as well as a mentor and a friend.

“Our purpose is not to change these students, but to have human interaction with them, to listen to them and help them gain a sense of direction by being positive role models,” said Orozco, who is a sophomore double majoring in English and political science. “I am proud to be a part of this and I am grateful for the opportunity to give back to my community. This is the type of service and charity that I like to get involved in because you can really see pure love being expressed while working.”

# EARLY CHRISTMAS

## Students weigh in on the holiday's presence

By Jose S. De Leon III  
The Pan American

Yarely Rodriguez was grocery shopping during the first weekend of November at her local WalMart on University Drive when she came across a surprising sight.

In the middle of an aisle sat the store's offering of Thanksgiving-themed items, such as pumpkins and pecan pies, strewn about on a small table. Behind that table, however, was a plethora of Christmas-themed goodies, ranging from decorated sugar cookies to wreaths and more.

Upon further inspection, the English major also noticed Christmas music playing over the speakers store-wide and WalMart customers receiving plastic bags for their groceries with the words "Happy Holidays" written on them in fes-

tive green and red letters.

The 25-year old junior said she was annoyed by the fact that stores were already displaying Christmas items, and that customers were already shopping for a holiday not due to arrive for another five weeks.

"It's insane. We haven't even finished celebrating Thanksgiving," she said. "It's as if people are abandoning the one holiday that does not revolve around material possessions."

The holiday is important for Rodriguez because two of her family members are corporate electricians whose jobs have them traveling the country for business purposes. Thanksgiving is the only holiday when they're guaranteed a visit.

"It's an emotional holiday for me and my family," Rodriguez explained. "We can truly

be thankful for what we have. It's enough to share food and spend time with family and friends without feeling an obligation of doing anything else, like buying gifts."

However Karen Camacho, Rodriguez's roommate, is enthusiastic when it comes to Christmas. She has her Pandora station set up to play nothing but Christmas music in order to "get into the holiday spirit."

Camacho explained that she loves the Yuletide holiday so much that last year she adorned her room with stockings and didn't take them down until mid-June.

"When you think of Thanksgiving, it's all about family," the 19-year-old biology major said. "You have to spend time with them, but not everyone likes their family. In Christmas, you

can also spend it with friends and everything is so pretty. The holiday has so much stuff to offer, like themed movies, television specials like *A Charlie Brown Christmas* and some fabulous decorations."

David Melow, a 23-year-old cashier at the WalMart on University Drive, sees why stores would start selling Christmas items so early.

"There's not really that much in terms of Thanksgiving decorations and music in the first place," the marketing major said. "I can understand why stores would pump out so much Christmas at this time. It's one of their biggest sources of revenue."

According to the National Retail Federation, holiday sales for 2012 totaled nearly \$580 billion, an increase of more than 4 percent from the previous year. This represented nearly 20 percent of total industry sales for the year.

Melow plans to decorate his apartment for Christmas this weekend and is excited for the upcoming holiday.

"Everyone usually says it's their favorite holiday, and what's not to love?" he asked. "There's gift-giving, the ambience is much friendlier and customers are less bitchy. Ev-

eryone's in a generally better mood and the Christmas weather is great."

Shelby Lynn Gonzalez, a junior majoring in rehabilitation, has also joined in on the Christmas cheer by setting up a pine tree in her apartment. For the Raymondville native, Thanksgiving isn't a big deal because she didn't grow up with the holiday.

"My parents didn't like to cook, so we rarely celebrated it," the 22-year-old junior explained. "I'm currently living with my boyfriend, who grew up in Mexico, and he's not familiar with it."

For Gonzalez, Christmas decorations help liven up her apartment to make it feel homey, a mood that she wants to capture because she and her boyfriend only recently moved into their new place.

"I love the season. The lights, the colors and the smells. It makes me feel happy," she said. "Whenever I walk into a store and see all the Christmas stuff, I can't help but be relieved and think 'I'm not the only crazy person already celebrating it.'"

Because people are preparing for Christmas, sales for supplies are steadily increasing.

Elizabeth Song, owner of Confetti, a party and gift sup-

ply store located in McAllen at 5208 N. 10th St., believes that decorating early stems from people preparing themselves for the holiday rush.

"Most people want to get a head start on decorations so that the only thing they'll have to worry about in December is buying gifts," the San Juan native said.

Confetti offers a limited amount of Thanksgiving items, such as wreaths and baskets, but according to Song, those products don't sell as well as Christmas-themed decorations.

"Thanksgiving is sandwiched between Halloween and Christmas; two of our biggest holidays," Song explained. "Some people just don't focus on it because they need a breathing room to warm up for how hectic Christmas is."

Yarely Rodriguez said she understands how chaotic Christmas can be and offered advice for people starting to worry about the holiday.

"Stop. Take a deep breath and take a look at your calendar," she said. "Cherish what you have that money can't buy and realize that Christmas is still over a month away. There's time to worry about that, but that time is not right now."

# MONTH OF THE WHISKERS

## Movember and No-Shave November

By Audry Ocañas  
The Pan American

November is not only known for Thanksgiving, but also for a 10-year tradition where men grow moustaches and beards to raise awareness for prostate and testicular cancer.

"Movember," the combination of moustache and November, started in Melbourne, Australia in 2003. According to [us.movember.com](http://us.movember.com), two friends were discussing fashion and questioned where the moustache, or "Mo," had gone and joked about bringing back the 'stache. Together, they talked their mates into growing Mos with them. They chose the month of November and renamed it Movember.

It was not until 2004 that these mates, or "Mo Bros," as they called themselves, officially established the Movember Group and raised funds for the Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia. According to the Movember web-

site, what began as 30 friends growing moustaches without a cause has grown into a global charity. Now with 21 countries participating, such as Canada, Germany and Sweden, the movement has more than a million Mo Bros and Mo Sistas.

Stemming from Movember, No-Shave November is a slightly different tradition of growing hair for a cause. According to [no-shavenovember.com](http://no-shavenovember.com), the goal of the event is to raise awareness by embracing one's hair and growing a beard, cultivating a moustache, letting those legs get hairy and skipping that waxing appointment.

Many cancer patients lose their hair, so participants are encouraged to donate the money they usually spend on shaving and grooming for a month. This is to educate people about cancer prevention, save lives and aid those fighting the battle. Those par-

ticipating in No-Shave November have raised more than \$130,000 this month.

### BROTHERS OF THE 'MO

Carlos Nichols, a 21-year-old senior, is a member of the UTPA chapter of Phi Kappa Theta, a fraternity whose platform is prostate and testicular cancer awareness. The group is closely associated with Movember and has a registered team consisting of 60 people. Phi Kappa Theta has hosted events and fundraisers on campus every Movember for the past three years.

"I had never heard of Movember until I joined Phi Kappa Theta," said Nichols, who has been a member of the fraternity since fall 2011. "PKT, along with a handful of other (global) fraternities and organizations, are directly affiliated with Movember to specifically host and raise funds for the month."

Although the idea of Mo-

vement is to grow a moustache, women can get involved as well. Known as "Mo Sistas," women can support the Mo Bros in their life, such as their father, brother or friend. Mo Sistas can organize events and help spread the important message of men's health. Jacqueline Moreno, a senior biology major, aids Movember events by giving them a woman's touch.

"I currently help out with Movember by helping Phi Kappa Theta get donations and tabling," the 21-year-old said. "We also have other events coming up and I will be there to help with those (by) baking moustache cookies and making moustache straws."

Phi Kappa Theta raised \$250 in the first week of November and continues to provide awareness of cancers affecting men by hosting events, such as moustache contests and fundraisers.

### RULES FOR THE 'STACHE

Because Movember gets its

power from the Mo, participants are instructed to follow guidelines when growing out their bristles. In order to correctly participate, one must register at [Movember.com](http://Movember.com). Members are then given information on how to raise money and awareness with their moustache.

There are certain rules every Mo-grower must follow. The joining of the moustache to the sideburns is not allowed because that would result in a beard; nor is the linking of the handlebars to each, that would result in a goatee. However, a small complimentary growth under the bottom lip, known as a "tickler," is allowed.

### HAIRIER, BETTER

The correlation between not shaving and providing awareness to men's health is as simple as equating a moustache with a man. Nichols explained his interpretation of how men should take to the Mo.

"(Those in charge of Mo-

vement) try to push the image of a man with a moustache. Picture an old-school gentleman with a moustache, and that's what they try to do," the Nicaragua native said. "Moustache equals men, men equals prostate and testicular cancer. Men should be proud to grow a moustache."

Movember continues to be a success with even celebrities participating, including Cuba Gooding Jr., Mark Foster from the band Foster the People, the entire Dallas Stars hockey team and David Ortiz of the Boston Red Sox. Fictional characters have gotten in on the action as well with Mr. Clean and Larry, the face of Quaker Oats, growing moustaches and beards for the cause. According to the website, Movember has been changing the face of men's health since 2003 and plans to keep having fun doing good.

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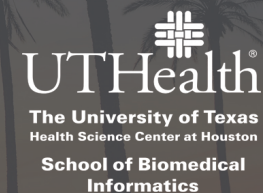
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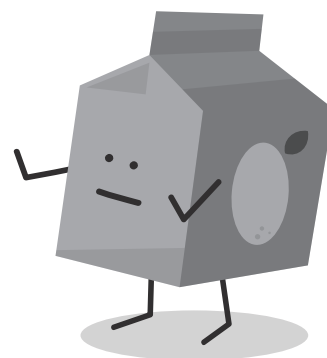
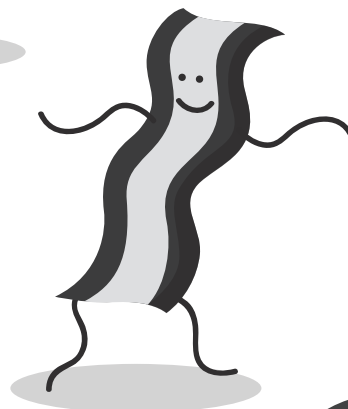
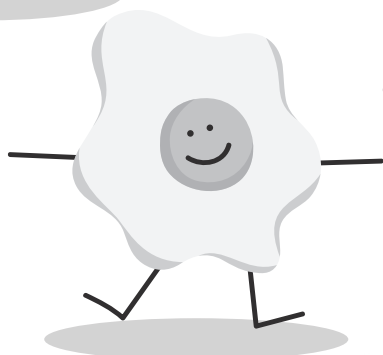
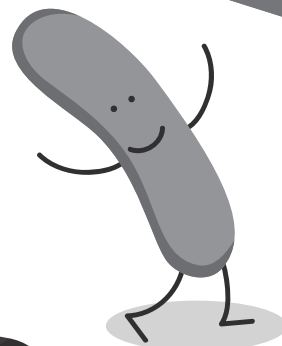
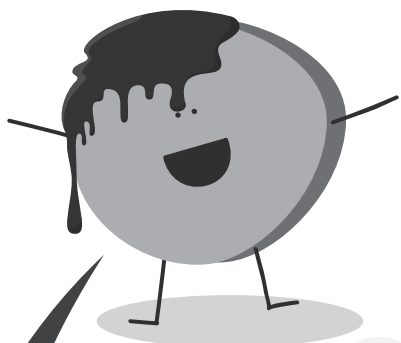
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# SIGNING FOR MARROW

# BALL UP

## Broncs return from Islander Tournament

## Athletes support life-saving registry

By Kristela Garza  
The Pan American

Signing of a form and a 10-second swipe on the side of the mouth with a cotton swab could be a lifeline to someone in need. That's why Nov. 19, the UTPA Athletic Department hosted its Bone Marrow Registry for the second year in a row at the University Library.

Bone marrow transplants are the possible cure for blood cancers such as leukemia and lymphoma.

The drive started two years ago with Nolan Naranjo, a 5-year-old from Brownsville with pre-leukemia. By the age of five he had been through 50 blood transfusions, but eventually they stopped working. That's when UTPA Athletics stepped in to host its first registration drive in 2012. The boy's mother ended up being a match.

"It was a life or death situation. Either we find a match or he dies," Head Baseball Coach Manny Mantrana said. "When they replaced his bone marrow, it really worked out well. He's running, playing with little boys, so it's a great feeling. It could be...our little brothers, our little sisters...so what better way to give back to the community than try to save a life?"

With the success of Naranjo's

transfusion, the baseball team and women's basketball team decided to continue the registration by hosting it again this year.

The school worked with the Be the Match, an organization who according to their website is a leader in bone marrow transplantation.

According to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, an estimated 149,990 people in the U.S. will be diagnosed with leukemia, lymphoma or myeloma in 2013.

The foundation has been active for more than 25 years and works with the National Marrow Donor Program. According to the foundation's website, the program manages the most diverse and largest bone marrow registry in the world.

The diversity of the registry is necessary because for a match to be found, the person donating must be of the same ethnicity.

The idea of being able to donate and possibly save a life is what drew Nayrovy Contreras, a 25-year-old nursing major, to register Nov. 19.

"I just thought it would be a good experience to donate," she said. "I work at the hospital and I try to help people as much as I can. It feels really good to know that you're helping somebody else."

Not only are every day students urged to participate but Mantrana said he pushes his athletes to participate as well so they can understand and be a part of something bigger than themselves.

"Our first one was last year... it's a great feeling with our baseball program," Mantrana said. "Our players know being part of UTPA is a gift, but in return for that gift, they have to do community service."

Last year the event drew 250 new registers to the foundations system.

Passing out flyers and calling attention to the cause were people like Matthew Harrell, a 23-year-old UTPA pitcher. He and his teammates stood outside the Library, handing out flyers and attempting to persuade passers-by to take a few minutes to save a life.

"It's one thing to help people by handing out papers and get people to sign up," Harrell said. "But when you actually interact with a little boy and you see how he was in the beginning...when he had to wear a mask, or couldn't be outside for very long...now he's out throwing baseballs...he's full of energy. He's alive again."

By Marco Torres  
The Pan American

Nov. 15, was one of the best endings in program history as UTPA was tied at 78 with Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne (IPFW) with five seconds left when junior Shaquille Boga received the inbound pass from Javorn Farrell in the closing seconds. The junior guard ran left and banked in the game-winning half court shot.

The Broncs propelled over the Golden Eagles, 81-78, as the Broncs continued the Holiday Inn Downtown Marina Islanders Basketball Tournament.

Farrell was named to the All-Tournament team, as voted by participating head coaches. He averaged 20.5 points per game over the tournament after scoring a season-high 23 points against Tennessee Tech.

"He played well and did a good job, but one thing I would like for him to do is play at a high percentage rate," Head Coach Dan Hipsher said. "We want him to score more at an efficient rate, and others have to do a better job finding him and he also has to do a little more work on moving without the ball."

Farrell shot 47 percent in the tournament, four percent higher than his season mark.

It was a round ribbon tournament that gave every team four games with no official winner. The five teams each had one home game as part of the "tourney" schedule. Participating schools include Huston-Tillotson, Tennessee Tech, IPFW Mastodons, the tournament host, Texas A&M-Corpus Christi.

The Broncs started the event strong with a 94-62 victory against the Huston-Tillotson Rams Nov. 13 at the Field House.

Farrell led the Broncs in scoring with 18 points, as he and four other players were able to reach double digits. The Broncs started the game fast as they jumped out to a score of 13-2. The Rams were able to pull within 10 points a few times, but the Broncs went on an 11-

0 run to put the lead up to 21 points to close the first half.

According to Hipsher, the Broncs are a young team trying to work together.

After the start of the second half, the Broncs increased the lead as they went up 63-33 with about nine minutes remaining and took their largest lead of the game at 94-60 with 53.5 seconds remaining.

The Broncs were able to shoot 55.6 percent from the floor in the second half and 67.7 percent from the line for the game and cruised to victory.

The Broncs (then 1-2) opened up a seven-game road trip Nov. 15 with a game against Tennessee Tech University at Corpus Christi to continue the tournament, where junior Boga

fy roles and we have a very slim margin of error," Hipsher said. "Overall, I am very pleased with the kids, we just have to get a little smarter and tougher."

The next day, the Broncs (now 2-2) were not as lucky, as they continued the tournament, with a loss to the Mastodons, 66-60. Farrell followed his career high of 23 points with a 22-point performance at the American Bank Center.

The Mastodons lead the Broncs for most of the game and were up nine before UTPA finished a 13-3 run to pull within one point with nine minutes remaining. From there, the teams traded buckets until the Mastodons pushed the lead back to six with about a minute and half remaining. The

Broncs were able to pull within two points, but the Mastodons closed out strong for the victory.

The Broncs (2-3) concluded the tournament by

“Overall, I am very pleased with the kids. We just have to get a little smarter and tougher.”  
- Dan Hipsher  
Men's head coach

banked in the game-winning halfcourt shot that gave the Broncs the victory, 81-78.

Boga finished with 17 points and Farrell led the Broncs with a season-high 23 points. Senior Justin Leathers was able to record his first double-double of the season with 14 points, 12 rebounds, five of which were offensive. The Broncs were able to score 18 points off turnovers, although the Golden Eagle's bench outscored the Broncs 31-10.

The Golden Eagles kept the pace at 16-7 as the Broncs had a slow start, but heated up as Farrell converted a three-point play and jump-started a 21-7 run, making the score 28-23 with about eight minutes remaining in the first half.

The Broncs were able to keep the lead as they battled the Golden Eagles back and forth. As the game came to a close, Golden Eagle Josiah Moore made a layup with 46 seconds left. A few missed opportunities later Boga hit the game-winning shot beating the buzzer.

Hipsher explained that the team was fortunate to win the second game due to the back and forth action in scoring.

"We are a young team with guys that are trying to identi-

losing to host Texas A&M-Corpus Christi Islanders Nov. 17, with a score of 72-61. Graduate student Farrell led the Broncs in scoring with 19 points, as he has paced the Broncs in five straight games and his season average is 16.8 points. Other Broncs on the scoring charts include Shaquille Hines, who scored 13 points and seven rebounds in 30 minutes of playing time. Boga played 19 minutes with eight points, two rebounds and two assists.

The Islanders showed their dominance and went on top by as much as 15 in the first half. In the second half, the Islanders pushed the lead to up 24, the Broncs' largest deficit of the season. UTPA was able to pull within 10 points after a 15-1 run but that was as close as they got.

The next home game is a return match against the Roadrunners Dec. 7.

"I think it will help us that the games are more spread out a little bit. That first six games I put out there was more of a training camp for us," Hipsher said. "Now we are going to have time to prepare for our opponents and get our team a little more fine-tuned."



Jon Nutt/ The Pan American

Sophomore Middle Blocker Haley Durham spikes the ball against Bakersfield Nov. 20. This was the final game of the 2013 volleyball season where they finished with a record of 13-20. Students who registered to the bone marrow registry were given free tickets to the game as a thanks for their effort.





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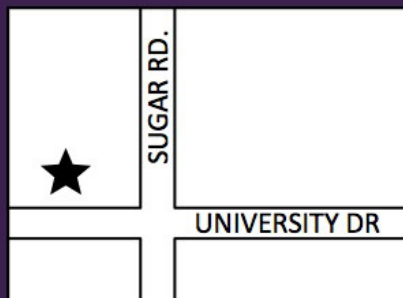


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