Vol. I, Issue 2

THE STUDENT VOICE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS RIO GRANDE VALLEY

Monday, September 7, 2015

McRaven: UTRGV is the future of the Valley

UT System chancellor visits both campuses

Jesus Sanchez EDITOR IN CHIEF

Heavy rains and flooding did not prevent UT System Chancellor William McRaven from traveling between the Edinburg and B r o w n s v i l l e campuses Aug. 31 to celebrate the grand opening of the University of

"I really do think this is a historic day," McRaven said in an

Texas Rio Grande Valley.

interview with *The Rider*. "This is not just about pulling two campuses together. It's really about establishing a campus for the 21st century. We're going to be an innovative campus. ... This is about the future of the Valley. ... This is a historic day for the Valley and for Texas."

McRaven took part in the flagraising ceremony on the Edinburg campus, which was held at the Student Services building. In Brownsville, he greeted university officials and students in the Main Building's Salón Cassia. UTRGV President Guy Bailey said he was pleased by McRaven's visit.

"We deeply appreciate his commitment to the university," Bailey said. "[UTRGV] is the most important and enjoyable thing I've ever done in my career."

McRaven spoke of his job as the chancellor for the UT System and his passion for the people in the Valley.

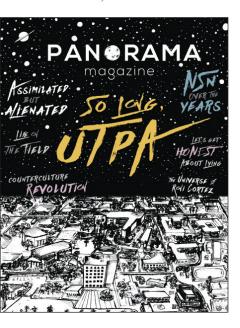
"You see the passion, you see the commitment, you see the excitement," McRaven said during his speech. "You see the [students]

See MCRAVEN, Page 2

Panorama, staff finalists for national awards

UT System Chancellor William McRaven

Nominated for best general magazine, diversity article, environmental portrait, fashion, advertorial



Clarissa Martinez
THE RIDER

The last publication of Panorama, UT Pan American's magazine, is a finalist for a Pacemaker award from the Associated Collegiate Press for Best Student General Magazine.

Several staff members on the Panorama have also received individual nominations for a Pacemaker award.

The Panorama received Pacemaker awards for best feature magazine in 2010 and 2014.

"The Pacemaker is considered college journalism's highest award," said Donna Pazdera, a mass communication lecturer who serves as adviser to the magazine, which has

The Spazmatics at Stomp



LESLEY ROBLES/THE RIDER

The Spazmatics, an '80s band from Austin, perform at the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley's Stomp event Aug. 31 on the Old Track and Field in Edinburg as part of the Best Week Ever celebration. The event provided free food, entertainment and an opportunity for students to get connected with what the campus, as well as the Rio Grande Valley, has to offer.

been renamed Pulse under UTRGV.

For the last issue, the magazine staff wanted to look back at the experience of UTPA. They also included articles that cover the arts and showcase social consciousness in the area.

Ana Duncan, a UTRGV graphic design senior, worked with fashion contributor Daniel Ymbong to create a street fashion spread. They looked at national, European and

Korean magazines for inspiration. She constructed the spread manually as a collage, and used Photoshop and InDesign to create the final product.

When she was notified of the individual nomination for fashion design spread, Duncan was surprised.

"I wasn't really expecting having the individual [nomination]," she said. "We worked so hard, like, all together. I was almost sure that we were going to get it, like the whole magazine ... and I'm excited that we did but it was a surprise for me to be also nominated as an individual."

Karen Villarreal received a nomination for advertorial design, Omar Garcia for an environmental portrait and Gabriel Galvan for an article on diversity. The staff will attend the ACP/CMA National

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THE RIDER

Monday, September 7, 2015

RIDER

The Rider is the official student newspaper of the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley. The newspaper is widely distributed on campus and off campus in Brownsville and Edinburg, Texas. Views presented are those of the writers and do not reflect those of the paper or university.

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It's lunchtime!



MARIO GONZALEZ/THE RIDER

Students, faculty and staff line up to be served hot dogs and chips from University of Texas Rio Grande Valley President Guy Bailey and other administrators during the Picnic with the President event. Also shown with Bailey are Martin Baylor, UTRGV executive vice president of finance and administration; Provost Havidán Rodríguez; and Janna Arney, vice president for operations and chief of staff.

Ospreys draw in match vs. Dallas Destiny

Jesus Sanchez EDITOR IN CHIEF

The Rio Grande Ospreys tied with the Dallas Destiny in their second online match in the U.S. Chess League tournament.

University of Texas Rio Grande Valley Senior Program Chess Coordinator and International Master Alfonso Almeida won his game in the match held last Wednesday. Grandmasters Andrey Stukopin and Holden Hernandez drew their game and Mkhitar Hobosyan lost his game.

"Our situation is still very good in the league because we won our first match," UTRGV Chess Coach Bartlomiej "Bartek" Macieja said last Thursday. "Dallas is a relatively strong opponent, so a draw with them is a good result, at least not a bad result."

The Ospreys, made up of UTRGV chess team and community members,



MICHELLE ESPINOZA/THE RIDER

University of Texas Rio Grande Valley Chess Coach Bartlomiej "Bartek" Macieja demonstrates moves from Wednesday's match against Dallas Destiny to fellow Ospreys in Brownsville. Also shown are (from left) Holden Hernandez, Mkhitar Hobosyan, Alfonso Almeida and Andrey Stukopin.

are tied for first place with 1.5 points in the Western Division with Dallas Destiny and the San Francisco Mechanics.

The Ospreys will take on the Mechanics at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday for their third match in the tournament.

MCRAVEN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

walking around with 'UTRGV' on their shirts in masses. ... They recognize that they're part of history. This is history in the making."

At the end of the ceremony, UTRGV Student Government Association President Alberto Adame presented McRaven with a framed UTRGV logo as a gift on behalf of the student body.

"This is a gift from the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley to Chancellor McRaven to thank [him] for all of [his] support," Adame said. McRaven said he was honored to receive the gift and was excited to see what UTRGV will bring.

"One hundred years from now, people in Texas will look back on this day and they will say, 'This changed Texas,'" he said. "This changed Texas forever because when you can improve the quality of education ... you bind down all the bad things that are out there, you bind down ignorance, you bind down the bigotry, you bind down racism, you bind down everything, the poverty. All you have to do is take the time to educate the people and everything

about their lives will get better. ... This is a wonderful day and I can't think of any other place I would rather be than right here, right now."

PANORAMA

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

College Media Convention Oct. 31 in Austin, where the winners of the Pacemaker awards will be announced.

Pazdera said it is important for students to attend the convention because they meet peers from across the country and learn from them. It also helps them get the word out about their magazine.

ON CAMPUS 1 Monday, September 7, 2015

Alcohol for sale at athletic events

Aimed at enhancing fan experience

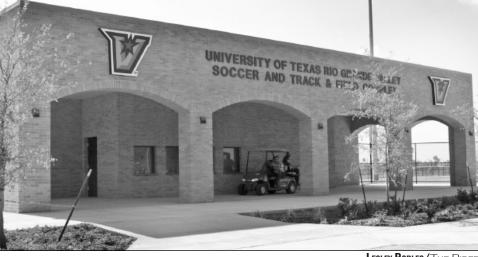
Nathaniel Mata

The University of Texas Rio Grande Intercollegiate Department has started selling beer and wine at home games for men's and women's soccer, men's basketball and baseball.

This announcement comes after a pilot program in Spring 2015 that was conducted during baseball season. Now the program will be official and fans 21 and older will be able to purchase alcoholic beverages with a valid ID through the official vendor, Sodexo.

Sales will begin one hour before game time and conclude with 15 minutes remaining in soccer matches, 10 minutes remaining in basketball games, and at the start of the seventh inning of baseball games. Customers may use their credit cards or cash for

"We came up with a committee that included individuals from the police department, dean of students office, environmental health and safety, the athletic department," said Chelsea Blakely, senior associate athletic director for external operations. "A bunch of individuals came together to make sure that when we implemented the pilot program we were also tracking the effects on the campus and the community."



LESLEY ROBLES/THE RIDER

The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley will sell alcohol during men's and women's soccer matches, men's basketball and baseball games and will include a family zone where alcohol is prohibited.

The pilot program allowed the department to study the effects these sales would have on the community. They compared crime, ticket sales and concession sales statistics from the Spring 2014 season, when alcohol wasn't being sold during games, to the Spring 2015 season.

"We followed a lot of metrics such as public intoxication, conduct referrals to the dean of students, driving under the influence. We saw no negative, adverse trend based on these metrics," Blakely said in a phone interview with *The Rider*. "There was very positive feedbacks from fan surveys and it did generate additional revenue. We increased our attendance, our concession sales and our ticket sales."

The price, which was also studied during the pilot program, will be set at \$5 for domestic beverages and \$7 for premium drinks.

Venues for the games will include a section designated as an alcohol-free area. Fans who choose not to be in the presence of alcohol can sit in the section known as the "family-zone."

"The family-zone' was created to be an alcohol-free zone, which will allow patrons to sit in an area where there is no alcohol consumption," Blakely said. "We wanted to make sure they still had the same game-day atmosphere prior to alcohol being sold."

The new program is foreign to many students who in the past knew drinking on campus was prohibited. Students old enough to drink had mixed responses regarding the new

"We do have a huge risk because we don't know the outcome," said Julio Esquitin, a 21-year-old junior. "But why not give it a chance and see the results of the privilege. I want to [attend the] game now because it's an extra thing that wasn't available and out of nowhere we have this opportunity. It does make it a little bit more amusing. There is a lot of police and supervision at these games, so I think the students will be able to

Another student believes this new policy will attract larger crowds to the stands and keep them there for the entire game.

"It's more of an attraction. It will have people last longer there, they won't leave halfway," psychology senior Kassandra Reyes said. "Something like football, for example, is all about drinking and the snacks when watching. So, if you can see a sport live and drink, that's pretty cool."

Responses to hate crime

Edinburg campus bench vandalized

Ena Capucion

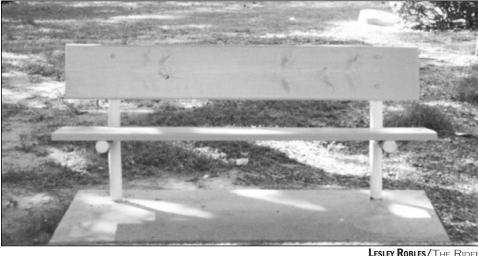
The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley has several benches and picnic tables spread throughout its Edinburg campus to promote local clubs and organizations. One of these benches belonging to the Student Equality Alliance, previously known as the LGBT Alliance at UTPA, had a derogatory term engraved onto it. A police report was filed and the bench was immediately replaced.

Ruben Patlan Jr., president of SEA, received the news through an email from Student Involvement. As the organization's leader, he didn't allow his emotions to affect his leadership.

"I felt like I wasn't too surprised only because, unfortunately, it's kind of a reality in our world. Just coming into contact with hate or ignorance is kind of expected," the 24-year-old said. "I tried to look at the positives and kind of tell my members, 'Don't let this get you down."

Communication disorders major Angie Roura was shocked when she first heard about the incident.

"No one should have to worry about being called a fag or this or that because [people] want to put that," the 19-year-old said. "Why would they do that? What do they gain?



LESLEY ROBLES/THE RIDER

his bench has replaced one from the LGBT Alliance that was recently vandalized.

What do they win with that? Why would they go and make someone feel smaller and make someone feel bad? They don't know the effort, the tears or whatever went into getting the organization together [and] decorating the bench."

As for broadcast communications major, Clemecia "Mecia" Duru, the purpose of the benches was not only to represent the university's ongoing clubs, but to express and support what each organization stands for.

"So what they're doing is destroying and not building," the 18-yearold said. "I don't understand why somebody would even be tagging something that is put there to support

someone. A lot of these people who are in the category of the LGBT are not supported, especially at home. So when you go out of your house, of course you're going to want at least a little something like a bench to be supporting."

While students such as Roura and Duru understand the struggles LGBT people face, the perpetrator's act affected the current students attending UTRGV.

"Responses that I were afraid to hear and did hear were my members ... and students were reaching out to me letting me know that they were upset to hear that happen and now ... they don't feel safe at school," Patlan

said. "That's what I was afraid of."

Considering UTRGV is still fresh off its debut, Patlan believes a little help from the university would help spread awareness on LGBT issues such as hate crime.

"I think at the university level, there should be more resources for students in general to educate themselves about issues like this: like the LGBT community," the Edinburg native said. "Here in the Valley it's still kind of foreign to a lot of people, like taboo even."

Despite the silent attack on the LGBT community, SEA will not allow the incident to get in its way. Meetings will be held in the STAC building every Thursday along with monthly fundraisers and socials.

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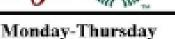
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OPINION

25 and still living at home

Rick R. Ramirez SOCIAL MEDIA EDITOR



Are you 21 or older? Do still live with your parents? Do your parents make your car payments or pay your cell phone bill? If you cringe for

a second or have to justify your specific situation in order to feel slightly less embarrassed, this may apply to you. Most people who fall into this category will argue that it is their parents' responsibility to continue to care for them. This may also be the case for new graduates who are still trying to

find their calling.

As difficult as it is to admit, I'm 25 and still living at home. During the summer of 2014, I woke up one morning, ate a bowl full of Cocoa Pebbles and sat in the family room. Still wearing the shirt from the day before, I laid on the sofa with my kid sister and half a bag of Lay's potato chips. I felt uninspired, tired and old. My younger brother, who is only 6 years old, came up to me and said, "I can't wait to be big like you. I'll have tattoos and my own truck. Then Mom and Dad can't tell me what to do."

I shook my head and laughed. "Poor kid," I thought.

If only he knew how far from the truth his perception of age and responsibility was. I didn't have the heart to tell him that even at 25, I was still far from true adulthood.

When I was 18 years old, my parents told me they would support me as long as I was in school. They warned me to take my studies seriously. Unfortunately, like many, I goofed off my first semester. Despite their threats, they never stopped caring for me. I never stopped receiving their help. As a result, I continued to slack off in school, knowing that their angered words were nothing more than empty threats.

I woke up the other day, got dressed and headed outside to my truck. I waited in the lobby of a local tire shop as two guys worked on my vehicle. I purchased new tires and had the oil changed. I received a phone call from my panicked mother. She asked if I had been out all night. I chuckled and told her where I was. She replied, "But it's barely seven o'clock. Are you feeling well? And you better not be on drugs! Make sure you get your schoolwork done."

"No mom," I said. "I'm not on drugs and I feel great. See you tonight after work. And don't worry so much.

I'm 25, still live with my parents and am lucky to have their support. Their patience varies, but their love does not.

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Campus Q & A

Are you interested in joining any campus clubs? If so, which one and why?



Maraya Garcia Pre-med/biology sophomore

"Definitely the Guerra honors program and the Student Government Association. The students before me, during the summer campus orientation with A Prime-Time (APT), motivated me to join these."



Abraham Trejo Garcia **Computer science** freshman

"I guess my main concerns would be the degrees and the programs that are going to stay or not stay. ... And also tuition, if it's going to increase or is it going to stay the same, or you know, we're depending on financial aid, so we want to know what's going on with that."



Valeria Camacho **Nursing freshman**

"Yes, I would like to join the International Student Organization. During orientation I saw it and I found it interesting and hopefully I can be a part of it."



Julio Cesar Yanez Accounting/management senior

"Yes. As a former IMA (Institute of Managerial Accountants) student member and a current accounting major, I think that would be the club that I'm most interested in joining this semester."

--Compiled and photos by Michelle Espinoza and Lesley Robles

El desalojo del periodista Ramos

Mauricio Lomeli

A través de los años, he visto suficientes

conferencias de prensa como para saber que lo que hizo el reportero de Univisión, Jorge Ramos, el 25 de agosto, no es fuera de lo común--como periodista, uno tiene que ganar la atención de la persona para poder hacer una pregunta--otros periodistas ya han comentado que esto es muy común en conferencias de prensa. Desde un punto de vista lógico, cuando el candidato presidencial Donald Trump se unió al podio, y fue después de que le hicieran dos preguntas que Ramos fue quien se paró y se puso hablar para hacer una pregunta. Eso fue todo. El no estaba "gritando" como Trump aclama. Ramos usó su libertad de expresión y de prensa (tiene esa acreditación), pero estos derechos fueron diluidos después de que Trump lo escuchara hablar, y viera quien era; fue después de esto, que Trump *eligió* no dejarlo hablar y decidió darle la palabra a alguien más. Persona que, por cierto, no exclamó por que le dieran la pregunta a Ramos antes de la suya. Lo que pasó después fue algo nunca antes visto: el guardaespaldas del candidato empujó a un periodista fuera del salón de prensa.

Yo no creo, como unos han dicho, que Ramos haya "querido ser la historia". No hay evidencia de ello. Al contrario, el estaba actuando como un periodista. A veces ser un periodista significa que uno pregunta las cosas incómodas, las preguntas difíciles, que seguro molestarán a otros. Especialmente cuando no se quiere dar una respuesta. A veces, ser periodista significa que te emprendes por el bien y el peso de lo que estás reportando, y que lidias con las consecuencias de ello.

Ramos, un mexicano-estadounidense de la Ciudad de México, es el "chief news anchor" de la televisora hispanohablante más vista en Estados Unidos, con principios de 1986 en San Antonio. Y, lo más importante de todo, para los migrantes, es que el es visto como alguien cercano por que tiene su propia

experiencia migratoria, una "suertuda" como le gusta decir. En sus reportajes, el aboga por las vidas de otros basándose en hechos, le da voz a las experiencias de quienes no lo pueden hacer por si mismos, y la gente ve esto. Y es ahora que hay un video de un simpatizante de Trump diciéndole a Ramos que "se salga de [su] país", algo que a migrantes se les dice más seguido de lo que les gustaría

Esto es muy importante en este momento por que Univisión es un canal que ha ido creciendo en audiencia, al mismo tiempo que la creciente población hispana: más de 54 millones hispanoestadounidenses viven hoy en día en el país, un cambio de más de 50 por ciento desde el año 2000. Univisión ha sido la televisora más vista en "prime time" por los últimos dos años. Ramos, siendo la cara y experiencia de la División de Noticias, en los últimos años ha hecho su influencia y personalidad crecer más

Vea RAMOS, Página 7

Inspiring mujeres

UTRGV art students showcase their works at Historic Brownsville Museum

Andrea Torres

Science fanatic Rubi Perez got a kick out of "Spaced Out," a mixedmedia piece depicting Albert Einstein surrounded by a colorful galaxy.

Perez, a biology senior, was one of more than 50 people who attended last Wednesday's opening of "Mujer-Eres," in the Historic Brownsville Museum. The exhibit features the works of nine female art students from the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley.

Perez said her favorite piece was Josie Del Castillo's "Spaced Out," "because I am a science fanatic, so I can really relate to it."

Melissa L. Vega, an art junior and "Mujer-Eres" contributor, said the show revolves around celebrating women and their artwork.

"This is something that we wanted to put together just to celebrate the art that was created by women, particularly the ones at UTRGV," Vega said.

She collaborated with art junior Samantha Rawls to bring the second showcasing of "Mujer-Eres" Brownsville. It was first displayed in the Narciso Martinez Cultural Arts Center in San Benito.

"We were trying to get a name that would represent the show. ... Mujer-Eres it's about women, by women to inspire other women," Rawls said.



CLARISSA MARTINEZ/THE RIDE

"Spaced Out," a mixed-media piece by art major Josie Del Castillo, hangs on the wall among other artworks by fellow UTRGV students at the "Mujer-Eres" art exhibit, which opened last Wednesday at the Historic Brownsville Museum.

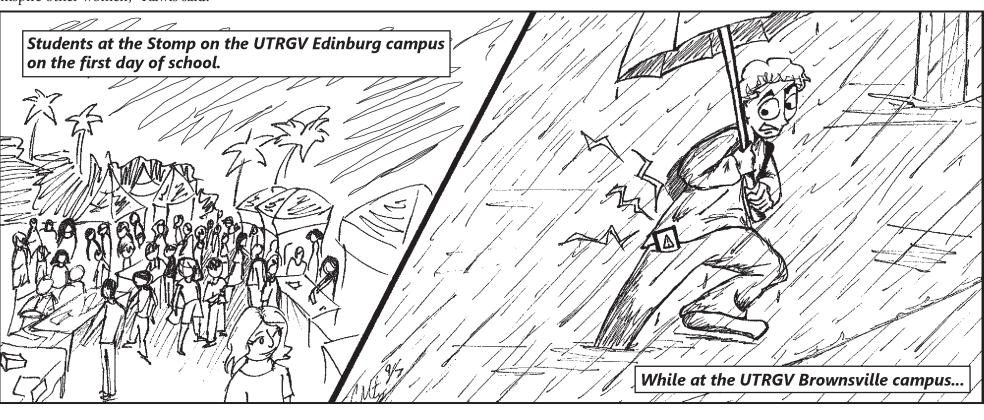
Vega explained how the materials she used, including Prisma colors, spray paint, magazines, dirt and new pastels, inspired her creations.

"Different materials speak to you and it's just so amazing," she said. "When you find that one particular medium that inspires you to keep going, to keep creating and to

keep adding to the piece until it's completed and you just have this amazing artwork right in front of

Thirty-nine works from Vega, Rawls, Del Castillo and fellow students Eliana Arauyo, Annette Sosa, Vivian Zapata, Gwendolyn Condit, Ana Valdes and Bianca Camarillo are on display through Sept. 30.

"Attraction to Light," a show by photographer Joe Hermosa and the first official UTRGV exhibition, will open at 6 tonight in the Gallery at Rusteberg Hall on the Brownsville campus. Admission is \$1 and refreshments will be served.



RAMOS

CONTINUA DE LA PAGINA 6

allá de la comunidad hispanoparlante, y ha llegado al escenario nacional.

Habiendo dicho todo esto, lo que la gente debería de estar mencionando es como Trump, en efecto, es una persona falsa. El le exclama a Ramos que "[se vaya] de regreso a Univisión", el ha recibido cartas personales de Ramos, pidiendo una entrevista (algo publicado en su Instagram, con el teléfono personal

de Ramos, aunque quitado después). También, en algún momento le pregunta a Ramos si sabía que el es parte de la demanda contra Univisión. Aun así, Trump afirma, en una conferencia de prensa, que "no [sabe] quien es el tipo". De misma forma, el dice que no sabe quien "escoltó" fuera a Ramos, cuando en realidad fue su propio guardaespaldas, respondiendo a la señal que el dio. A esto se le llama mentir, o ser engañoso. Haciendo a un lado la insolencia en general, la falta de respeto a la prensa, y lo que otros han llamado actitudes autocráticas, esto es algo que no se debería ni de oler en el titular del ejecutivo de un país.

--Mauricio Lomeli es un estudiante en

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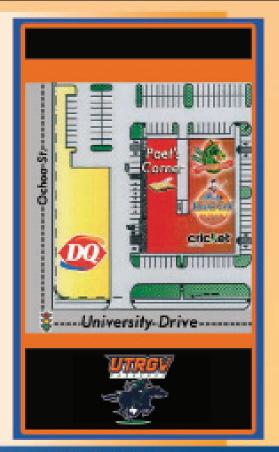
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