



*The Rider* will not publish an issue on April 4, as its staff will be attending the Texas Intercollegiate Press Association Convention in Dallas this week. The newspaper will resume publishing on April 11.

## On campus



### Smoke-free policy

UTRGV officials attended a tobacco-use summit hosted by UT System. [Page 3](#)

## Sports



### Baseball to start WAC play

Vaqueros are set to begin conference play with a 10-10 overall record. [Page 3](#)

## A & E



### Virtual reality headsets

VR headsets aim to create innovative multimedia experience. [Page 9](#)

## On campus



### Incorporating exercise

UTRGV assistant director of Fitness and Wellness offers suggestions for workout routines. [Page 5](#)

## Opinion

### Campus Q & A

*“Do you think that the snacks in the vending machines on campus are harming students’ health? If so, how can we fix/change that?”*

>>>CARTOON: Smoking

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# Back to summer school

Registration starts today

## Summer 2016 Registration Dates

### CLASSIFICATION

Graduate, Post-Baccalaureate and Special Populations

Seniors

Juniors

Sophomores

Freshmen

### BEGINNING

**Today**

Tuesday, March  
**29**

Wednesday, March  
**30**

Thursday, March  
**31**

Friday, April  
**1**

MARIO GONZALEZ/THE RIDER GRAPHIC

**Marissa Rodriguez**  
THE RIDER

Registration for both summer and mini-term sessions opens today for graduate, post-baccalaureate students and special populations. Registration will continue for other student classifications as the week continues, with the final opening on Friday for freshmen.

To register for a class, students must have no holds on their account and meet all prerequisites for the course.

For many students who work, summer courses are a priority. They offer the convenience of a short term with the quality of a full semester.

Cassandra Matamoros, a third-year criminal justice student at UTRGV, has a full-time job and attends summer sessions every year due to her busy work schedule.

“I have to [take summer classes] so I can work more and save up for the next semester,” Matamoros said. “It really helps and I try to take at least two classes during the summer.”

Students may review their classifications or account holds through ASSIST and can likewise make student account payments with a credit card or

electronic check.

Tuition payments must be received by the first due date to avoid late fees or being dropped from all classes. To pay in person, students can go to the Office of Payments and Collections in the Student

Services Building at U Central in Edinburg and the Main Tower in Brownsville.

“The courses that are offered for my major are very limited, so I have to get in there as early as possible so this doesn’t happen again,” Matamoros said,

# Hitting the trail

SGA election campaigns underway



COURTESY PHOTO  
Marisol Castillo, Rodrigo Gonzalez, Imran Murtuza

**Felipe Zamorano**  
THE RIDER

Campaigning for the Student Government Association election began Sunday night and runs through April 7. The 25 candidates seeking a position and the students they will represent will have a chance to meet and discuss the issues the university faces.

There are two executive tickets led by Denisse Molina-Castro, a political science senior, and Rodrigo Gonzalez Contreras, a civil engineering sophomore, who are seeking the SGA presidency.

Both candidates told *The Rider* that their campaigns will not be focused on them, but rather will be student-oriented.

“Our team has decided that we want this to be a campaign

for the students,” Molina-Castro said. “We want the students to be engaged with our campaign.”

She and her running mates, Alondra Galvan, a political science junior from the Brownsville campus, and Peter Averack, a communication junior from the Edinburg campus, will use social media to interact with students on a one-on-one basis. They will also meet with student organizations and leaders in order to achieve this purpose.

As part of her platform, Molina-Castro has emphasized increasing the student travel and emergency event funds, and working to solve parking and transportation issues. She also plans to increase SGA involvement with the student body, promote unity between campuses and make student

services more accessible.

“My campaign ... will include hearing concerns from students,” Gonzalez said. “It will be an inclusive campaign.”

Gonzalez, along with the vice presidential candidates on his ticket, Marisol Castillo, a public relations junior from the Edinburg campus, and Imran Murtuza, a biomedical sciences junior from the Brownsville campus, seeks to go further than delivering his platform message to the student body.

“[We will] incorporate people from different organizations and different clubs to unite the movement,” Gonzalez said. “It’s not just going to be about me running for president.”

The four key components of Gonzalez’s platform are the promotion and expansion of

See SGA, Page 5

gesturing to the financial aid lobby where dozens of students waited to get information on their accounts.

The Registrar’s office stresses that undergraduates take care of existing student account issues

See SUMMER, Page 10

# Beware of job scams

Career Center warns students about fraudulent postings

**Andrea Torres**  
THE RIDER

University Police are investigating a case in which an employer allegedly asked a student to deposit a check into her personal bank account and make payments. The check turned out to be fake.

The student told police she applied for the job through the UTRGV Career Connection website. She notified the Career Center about the incident in which she was required to run errands and make payments from her personal bank account for her employer, according to an email from Juan Andres Rodriguez-Nieto, the center’s director.

In his email to *The Rider*, Rodriguez-Nieto said, the student was sent a check and asked to deposit it into her personal checking account and eventually write some checks.

However, when the student went to her bank and attempted to deposit the check, the cashier advised her it was fake, according to information released by UTRGV Police.

“The Career Center staff closed the position right away, and as soon as they learned

See CHECK, Page 10



# Spring TEACHERS JOB EXPO



Thursday, April 7, 2016

10 a.m.-2 p.m.

El Gran Salón (Student Union)  
Brownsville Campus

Friday, April 8, 2016

9 a.m.-12 p.m.

Fieldhouse (HPE I)  
Edinburg Campus

**UTRGV**  
.....  
Career Center

For more information or special accommodations, contact the Career Center at (956) 665-2243 or (956) 882-5627.



# Designing legacy

**Rick R. Ramirez**  
SOCIAL MEDIA EDITOR

Results from a campuswide survey in November asking for input on the mascot appearance show that the majority of respondents would prefer a student wearing a plush and oversized costume similar to that of Bucky the Bronc or Ozzie the Ocelot or one wearing Western attire.

Cindy Mata, director of Student Activities and head of the official Mascot Committee, oversees the development of the University of Texas at Rio Grande Valley's Vaquero mascot personification. The committee is comprised of UTRGV students, faculty and staff.

Mata asked students to apply and be part of a student based subcommittee to help gather input from the student body.

"The student committee would be made up of at most 15 students and we would like these students to help share survey results that we have, share the results and the renderings that we have to date," Mata said.

The subcommittee was suspended, however, because only one student had applied by last Thursday's deadline. The student became a member of the Mascot Committee.

Last semester's survey was conducted to help provide student feedback and suggestions for the mascot appearance. The findings of the 2,000 responses from the survey were sent to Rickabaugh Graphics, a design firm in Ohio that assisted with the creation of the UTRGV Athletics logo, to create the first rendering of the Vaquero mascot.

"Since we want to make sure that the process is done correctly and we have as much student feedback as possible, I consider these the initial renderings," Mata said. "As the head of the committee, I don't want to move forward with these until I have students that have seen them and given us their input, and that can provide us with additional feedback."

*The Rider* asked Mata for the first rendering of the mascot. She said she needed to consult with the committee on Friday before releasing any preliminary images.

Patrick Gonzales, assistant vice president for University Marketing and Communications, said all committee members have agreed that this is an important tradition for the university.

"This is one of those traditions that is going to last forever," Gonzales said.

The committee would like to gather as much student input before moving forward from the initial stages of the development.

"We are not in a rush," Gonzales said. "We are taking our time to make sure that we get it right and to make sure that we get enough student input as we can. While we are taking our time, we also know that people are excited to see something as soon as possible."

Members of the campus community may still submit feedback and mascot development ideas by emailing spirit@utrgv.edu.

# clearing the air

UTRGV working to review its smoke-free policy

**Trisha Maldonado**  
THE RIDER

The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley is determining whether its smoke-free policy should undergo changes.

Under the current policy, the university "prohibits the use of all smoking devices and tobacco products on university property."

Exceptions to the policy include off-campus UTRGV-provided housing facilities and lodging, artists or actors who participate in UTRGV

**Editorial cartoon,**  
**Page 4**

authorized performances and educational or clinical purposes involving smoking devices or tobacco products.

UTRGV representatives traveled to Houston in late February for a tobacco-use summit where all UT System institutions discussed their respective smoke-free policies and practices.

Nikkie Hodgson, UTRGV's associate vice president for Organizational Development Training, attended the summit.

"UT System had a tobacco summit because of concerns of health and university employees," Hodgson said. "They are putting a lot of



GABRIEL MATA/THE RIDER

emphasis on making sure we implement a tobacco-free campus at all our locations."

Hodgson said UTRGV representatives from the departments of Student Affairs, Human Resources and the School of Medicine also attended the summit.

They learned what other universities are doing in regard to on-campus smoking.

"We were able to learn everything there was," Hodgson said, "how aggressive some universities are [in regard to the policy] and how some universities have no policy."

Hodgson said a committee will soon be formed at UTRGV to review the existing policy.

"I'm sure when the committee

gets developed we'll include students, faculty, staff," she said. "[We'll] have a good group of representatives from the different populations at UTRGV."

She said the university is in a good place, having implemented a smoke-free policy last September.

"It's too premature for us to say whether it will change or not," Hodgson said. "There may never be a change to what we have currently, so be aware it could stay the same but at least it's something that is being discussed. We are just drafting the recommendations and then it goes up to administration. It is concerning and we want to

# Be Brownsville

**Oscar Castillo**  
THE RIDER

Mayor Tony Martinez delivered his third annual State of the City Address last Tuesday, saying Brownsville doesn't need to be like other cities.

"I often walk down the street and have someone say to me something like this, 'I wish Brownsville had this. Why doesn't Brownsville do that? I wish Brownsville was more like some other city,'" Martinez said. "But as I reflect on that, I say, 'You know what? Who we are is better than any other city. What we have is gorgeous, if we just kind of sit down and take a look at it. There's nature's beauty; it's all around us. It lies in over 90 miles of bicycle infrastructure that traverse our city. It lies in our community gardens that grows fresh produce [and] herbs like carrots, lemongrass, cabbage and even basil."

The mayor invited residents to take on a challenge by signing up on the BeBrownsville.com website for one of three advisory councils: higher education,

job creation and a thriving city center.

"To Be Brownsville is to be active in a civic sense, in a holistic sense and by simply being engaged, so that at the time we are finished with our task, on this journey we can say to ourselves, 'We did the very best that we can, and that we left this place in a much better place than we found it,'" Martinez said. "At the dawn of this year, the state of our city is vital and strong. It is strong financially, it is strong economically, but most important, it is strong in our spirit and our optimism."

The mayor presented a video on the "ecosystem" of Brownsville, which consisted of four sections: health and wellness, economic development, revitalization and education.

"We need to be healthy. You know what they say, 'If you have your health, you have everything,'" Martinez said. "Well the latest research conducted by the University of Texas School of Public Health



ANA CAHUICHE/THE RIDER

Computer science junior Anton Kovalyov (seated, from left), physics sophomore Andrey Stukopin, computer science freshman Carlos Hevia and computer science senior Holden Hernandez will represent UTRGV in the President's Cup Friday in New York City. All four are grandmasters and members of the university's chess team. Also shown are Senior Chess Program Coordinator Alfonso Almeida (left) and Chess Coach Bartlomiej "Bartek" Macieja.



MARIO GONZALEZ/THE RIDER

Brownsville Mayor Tony Martinez greets the audience during the 2016 State of the City Address & Symposium last Tuesday in the Brownsville Events Center. The event highlighted the accomplishments and the status of different projects taking place in the the city.

estimates that one in three people is diabetic in our area, and 50 percent of those don't even know it."

He said the community is combating the epidemic by visiting the Brownsville Farmers' Market and participating in multiple Cyclobia events sponsored by the city.

A Brownsville Farmers' Market booth was set up in the back of the room at the Brownsville Events Center for the audience to get a "little taste of the enjoyment of the truly native taste" of the city.

Melissa Delgado, director of the Brownsville Wellness Coalition, said the Farmers' Market has 32 vendors and receives about 500 to 800 visitors from 9 a.m. to noon Saturdays at Linear Park. All produce sold is grown locally and free of pesticides.

"Brownsville is changing every day in front of our little eyes, and let me tell you, great things are coming," Martinez said about economic development.

Some of those great things include SpaceX beginning to launch commercial rockets in 2018 and potential

make sure we make this a safe place."

UTRGV freshman Jose Ramos said he is against the smoke-free policy.

"People are still going to be smoking anyway, so I think that we should come up with zones," Ramos said. "Maybe come up with smoking zones and for all the smokers to be there and maybe we won't see them so scattered around campus."

Ramos said he has witnessed people smoking on campus.

"I notice people smoke near buildings and near the trees in open air," the business major said. "If the police start fining people, well, obviously a lot of people are going to stop smoking on campus but if they don't, I think that they should just come up with zones. Maybe the smokers will respect it a little bit more."

According to the school Handbook of Operating Procedures, violations can be enforced through routine inspections or the result of complaints from the campus community. Violations may also be referred to the University Police, who have the option of issuing a citation.

To access the current smoke-free policy online, visit utrgv.edu/hop.

manufacturing companies moving to Brownsville. The city hopes to make an official announcement in April.

Downtown Brownsville is undergoing revitalization. "The heart of the city," as Martinez calls it, will see "reinvigorating streets, buildings, people and life."

Brownsville is one of three cities in Texas to be designated a 2016 Texas Main Street City by the Texas Historical Commission. Local Main Street programs receive a wide range of services and technical expertise from the THC, which include design and historic preservation, economic development and organizational management.

In addition, the mayor announced that UTRGV and the city are finalizing paperwork for the sale of the Cueto building in Downtown Brownsville.

"Soon, UTRGV will be located in the heart of the city. Thank you, Guy. Very much," Martinez told UTRGV President Guy Bailey, who was in the audience.

The education component of the ecosystem is the "My Brother's Keeper" Community Challenge, which the city



## Campus Q & A

*Do you think the snacks in the vending machines are harming students' health? If so, how can we fix/change that?*



"Well, I don't really buy anything from the vending machines in the first place, but I do believe that each and every one is responsible for their own health, so I don't think that the school should change anything really. We're just responsible for our own health and food choices."

**Gabriela Martinez**  
Freshman



"Well, of course it can be harmful for students' health since most of the snack machines are mostly junk food. But [in] some cases we do need, like, the extra sugar and our bodies want it, to help us study and focus on our stuff."

**Pablo Jimenez**  
Education senior



I do believe they are hindering students' health. The way we can change that is by providing alternative healthy snacks in the vending machines at a reasonable price, maybe even an equivalent to what we currently offer. We do not want to discourage students from buying healthier options if it's more expensive.

**Robert Barron**  
Biology (pre-dental) sophomore



I believe they are harming us because we are mostly in a hurry. I speak for myself, but I think that everyone is pretty much in a hurry all the time. So, what's the fastest way to get something to eat? Even with drinks, there are Cokes everywhere and Monsters and energy drinks. I think it is harming us because of that time issue, and a way to alleviate that is by having more healthier snack options.

**Eloisa Velazquez**  
Biological sciences (pre-dental) freshman

--Compiled by Michelle Espinoza and Lesley Robles

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**Jonathan Baldwin**  
THE RIDER

God, having a conversation with one of his servants in the Bible, asked him, "Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? Declare, if thou hast understanding. ... When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?" (Job 38:4 and 7)

God, of course, knew the answer to his question. He wanted his eminence and Job's humanity to be clearly understood. The morning stars singing together and the sons of God shouting for joy are understood to be angels in many cases throughout the Bible.

Angels or sons of God, as they are referred to, and Adam are created beings. Created directly by God. Angels created before the creation of the earth and Adam created to dwell on it after it was brought into existence.

We, descendants of Adam, are referred to as sons of Adam or sons of the dust. Not direct creations of God.

Was there anyone else around before time began that could have been singing praises at the creation the world? "Sons of God" is used as a title for angels in particular places throughout Scripture. The Hebrew root of "sons of God" is Benei Ha'Elōhīm.

The Old Testament was originally given through divine inspiration from God and written in Hebrew by Moses.

This same word, Benei Ha'Elōhīm (angels), is used in Genesis 6:4. "There were nephilim on the earth in those days; and also after that, when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men, and they bore children to them, the same became mighty men which were of old, men of renown."

This verse refers to angels leaving their original habitation because they, "found the daughters of men attractive and

## Sons of God

took themselves wives of all whom they chose," Genesis 6:2. These sons of God, according to 2 Peter 2, sinned/"cast off their first estate." This estate/habitation was a heavenly hyperdimensional one.

The Greek word for habitation is *Oiketerion*. This word is only used in the Bible twice. One usage is by Paul the Apostle in 2 Corinthians 5:2 where he describes Christians as longing to be clothed with our heavenly habitation (to be with God). This implies that our current bodies are merely a vessel for our souls and are awaiting transference to our hyperdimensional *Oiketerion* with God.

The second use of *Oiketerion* is later in the Bible, "And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day," Jude 1:6.

The reason why Greek word translation is so important when understanding the Bible is because of the precision of the words. For example, there are two different words for "other" in ancient Greek. One means another exactly like the original, while the second implies a different type or kind of the same thing.

This precision influenced the accuracy of the Septuagint, a translation of the Old Testament from Hebrew into Greek. The Septuagint, meaning 70 in Greek, was commissioned during the reign of Ptolemy Philadelphus between 300 and 200 B.C. and was named after the 70 to 72 Jewish scholars who were charged to carry out its translation.

Another use of the term sons of God is found in John 1:12, "But as many as received him, to them gave he the power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe in His name."

This means that if we, as sons of Adam

or sons of the dust, choose, in faith, to believe in God's name, we have been given the power to be transformed, through Jesus' sacrifice on the cross, into creations/sons of God. This transformation allows us an *Oiketerion* in heaven alongside God for eternity.

In 1 John 3:1 the Bible says, "Behold what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God."

What love the Creator has for us that he would allow sons of the dust to make a decision, through faith, transforming and giving us eternal habitation alongside Him. This verse is celebrating those who have already made their decision to accept God into their lives.

The verse directly after 1 John 3:1 continues the excitement for those who have made a decision of faith with God and reveals a bit about our future habitation.

1 John 3:2, "Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not appear what we shall be; but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is."

God enjoys a dimensionality outside our own. He is outside our time domain as proven through prophecy in His Word. Those that have chosen to become the sons of God, through a decision of faith, will be caught up to him upon his return. We too shall leave our earthly habitation, of this world, behind and share whatever dimensionality He possesses based on this verse. When He appears, we will see Him as He is because we will be like Him. We will share His *Oiketerion*. How exciting.

Make a decision of faith that will transform you and grant you an eternal habitation with the one who laid the foundations of the earth.

## Submit a Letter to the Editor



**Letters policy:** *The Rider* encourages letters but does not guarantee publication. We reserve the right to edit for grammar and content. Letters for *The Rider* may be sent to [utrgvrider@gmail.com](mailto:utrgvrider@gmail.com). All letters must be typed and no longer than 400 words. Letters must include the name, classification and phone number of the author. Opinions expressed in *The Rider* are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the views of *The Rider* or UTRGV administrators.



# Spring up!

Ana Cahuiche  
THE RIDER

Beach season is here and it is time to spring up from cuddle season routines. Colette Cabot, UTRGV assistant director of Fitness and Wellness, provided information on the impact exercise has on one’s health. A person should exercise at a moderate intensity for 150 minutes a week, according to the American College of Sports Medicine. Cabot suggested spreading the 150 minutes throughout the week at intervals of 15 to 30 minutes throughout the day. She recommends walking and recreational bike riding for a low to moderate intensity workout. For a higher intensity exercise, Cabot suggests resistance and strength training (weightlifting), two to four sets of each exercise of eight to 12 repetitions each. Incorporating exercise into your daily routine can help:  
--boost your energy levels  
--weight loss  
--build stronger bones, joints and



Biology junior Ivonne Cano demonstrates a plank. Muscles targeted are abs, trapezius, obliques and deltoids.

## CITY CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

accepted in January to ensure that all young people, regardless of who they are, where they come from or the circumstances into which they are born, can reach their full potential. “Our Brother’s Keeper Community Challenge encourages people across the nation to implement a coherent cradle-to-college-and-career strategy for improving the life outcomes of all young

## SGA CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the availability of student employment, promoting collaboration between the SGA and other student organizations, establishing new traditions that include all students, and the equal representation and inclusion of all students. Both candidates say the role students play in the campaign is vital to the university. “We need to get out the vote,” Gonzalez said. “In last year’s election, the voting count was very low. ... That’s an issue. We’re almost 30,000 students and we barely [made] a thousand votes.” In last year’s presidential election, a total of 1,650 votes were cast. Gonzalez said the students’ role is to “keep posted about the candidates, to follow up the campaigns but most importantly, to vote.” Molina-Castro pointed out that without the support of the students the



ANA CAHUICHE/THE RIDER PHOTOS

Biology sophomore Mariana Saenz demonstrates a burpee. Muscles targeted are triceps, pectorals, quads, glutes, hamstrings and abs. immune system  
--improve mood and cognitive performance  
--reduce stress and anxiety  
--help prevent heart disease and type 2 diabetes The type of workout you choose will depend on your goal and personal preferences. UREC offers group exercise classes, personal training, fitness certifications, healthy cooking demonstrations and special events. For more information on services, hours of operation in Edinburg and Brownsville, and exercise class schedule, visit [www.utrgv.edu/urec](http://www.utrgv.edu/urec). Whether you prefer to exercise in a gym, at a park or in your room, these are some essential exercises that target most of your muscles:

people,” Martinez said. During his address, the mayor recognized Brownsville Independent School District students for participating in a chess tournament hosted at Rivera High School with more than 2,000 people from across the country attending. The students received two standing ovations and were presented a trophy. In between the ovations, Martinez said Brownsville was the “chess city of the nation” and that the students recognized that day would be the future of the city. The UTRGV Chess Team, which was

SGA wouldn’t be able to function. “I think that the role of the students should be to ask questions,” Molina-Castro said. “Ask as many questions as they want, whether we have the answers or not.” She believes that it is the candidates’ and SGA members’ role to direct them to those who can answer them. Cindy Mata, director of Student Activities, SGA co-adviser and a member of the elections committee, said the university will help promote voting through candidate fairs scheduled from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday in the Main Courtyard in Brownsville and the Student Union Commons in Edinburg. The fairs will help the candidates promote themselves and the platforms they’re running for. This year’s elections will begin online on MyUTRGV at 8 a.m. April 5 and will end at 11:59 p.m. April 7.

# Evening in the sand



GABRIEL MATA/THE RIDER

Rehabilitation services senior and Delta Zeta member Amanda Garces serves a volleyball as her sorority plays against members of Sigma Lambda Gamma during the Greek Week Volleyball Tournament at the UREC last Wednesday in Edinburg.

also in attendance, swept the 2016 Lone Star Open, held March 18 in Houston. The team dominated the tournament in the grandmaster section. Vladimir Belous, who attends the UTRGV Language Institute, placed first; Carlos Hevia placed second; and Andrey Stukopin placed third. Also placing in that section were Guillermo Vasquez, who placed sixth, and Felix Ynojosa, who placed seventh. Sixty players competed in this section. In the expert section of the tournament, Mkhitar Hobosyan placed third. On April 1, the team will send four

grandmasters to New York City to square off in the President’s Cup, also known as the “Final 4 of College Chess,” where they will compete against defending champion Webster University, Texas Tech University and Columbia University. The university will host a send-off for Anton Kavalyov, Stukopin, Holden Hernandez and Hevia at 11:30 a.m. today on the Student Union lawn. For more information visit, [bebrownsville.com](http://bebrownsville.com).

# CLUB SPOTLIGHT



MARIO GONZALEZ/THE RIDER

Members of UTeach include (front row from left) President Jonathan Bolivar, Treasurer Nayla Esquivel, Volunteer Coordinator Rubi Perez and Anthony Ramos. Back row: Juan Acosta, Historian Virginia Saucedo, Nancy Halasz, Social Coordinator Liliana Duarte and Jimmy Hernandez.

**Name:** UTeach  
**Purpose:** To promote the success of STEM pre-service teachers in the UTeach program at the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley and excellence in mathematics and science education.  
**President:** Jonathan Bolivar  
**Vice President:** Yazmin Reyes  
**Secretary:** Marisol Cortez  
**Treasurer:** Nayla Esquivel  
**Historian:** Virginia Saucedo  
**Publicity Coordinator:** Michelle Ramirez  
**Social Coordinator:** Liliana Duarte

**Volunteer Coordinator:** Rubi Perez  
**Awards:** University Inner Circle  
**Adviser:** Liliana Treviño, UTeach assistant professor in practice.  
**Activities:** Social events, fundraising and community service.  
**Meetings:** 12:15 p.m. Thursdays.  
**Membership requirements:** Must be a math or science major in the UTeach program.  
**For more information, email:** Bolivar at [jonathan.bolivar01@utrgv.edu](mailto:jonathan.bolivar01@utrgv.edu)  
--Compiled by Monica Gudiño

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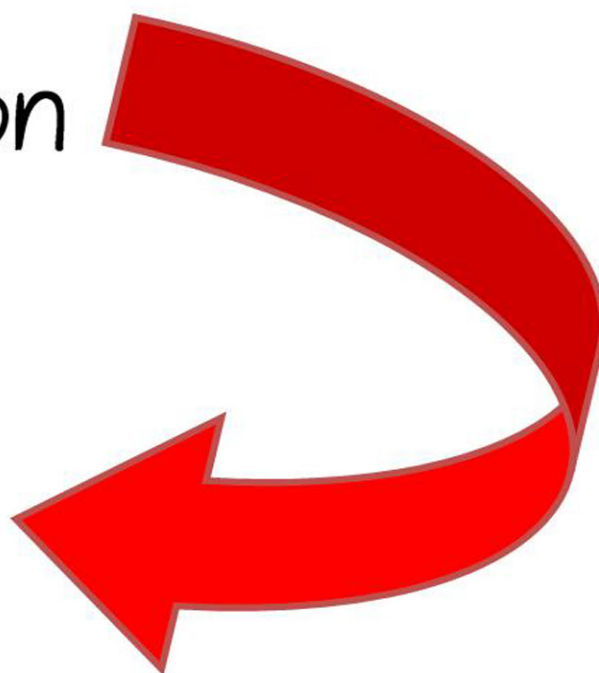
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# THE RIDER

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

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Juried Student Show

The **Juried Student Show** will take place from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday at the Art Gallery in Rusteberg Hall on the Brownsville campus. General admission is \$1 and student semester passes are \$3. For more information, call art Lecturer **Alejandro Macias** at 882- 7025.

## Janice Bryant Howroyd

The **National Society of Leadership and Success** will sponsor a video broadcast featuring **Janice Bryant Howroyd**, founder and CEO of the ACT 1 Group, who will talk about “**Creating Exponential Growth in Your Life**” at 6 p.m. Tuesday in the Main Building’s Salón Cassia on the Brownsville campus. ACT 1 Group is the largest privately held woman and minority owned workforce management company in the U.S. For more information, visit [www.societyleadership.org](http://www.societyleadership.org)

## Union Canvas

The Student Union will host a **Union Canvas** from 4 to 6 p.m. Wednesday in PlainsCapital Bank Student Union’s El Comedor on the Brownsville campus. Students will paint the Vaquero logo under the instruction of Alejandro Macias, a lecturer in the Visual Arts department. Materials will be provided at the site. Seating is limited. Students may sign up at the Office of Student Involvement with a UTRGV ID. For more information, call 882-5111.

## Health and Wellness Series

A presentation, titled “**Sexual Response Cycle,**” will take place from noon to 1 p.m. Wednesday in Cortez Hall 118 on the Brownsville campus. The session is part of the **Health and Wellness Series** sponsored by the **Counseling Center**. For more information, call 882-3897.

## Adviser Workshop Series

A session, titled “**Generating Involvement,**” will take place from 12:15 to 1:30 p.m. Friday in Main Building room 1.502 on the Brownsville campus. The session is part of the **Adviser Workshop Series** sponsored by the **Office of Student Involvement**. For more information, call 882-5111.

## ‘Picasso Your Stress’

The **UTRGV Counseling Center** will host “**Picasso Your Stress**” from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. April 5 in the Student Union on the Edinburg campus. Students will be able to paint their stress away before finals. Materials will be provided. For more information, call 665-2574.

## ‘Food Insecurity Forum’

UTRGV will host its annual **Food Insecurity Forum**, which will feature **Jeremy Everett**, director of Baylor University’s Hunger Initiative, who will talk about “**Hunger and Resilient Food Systems in the RGV**” from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. April 7 in the International Trade and Technology Building room 1.102 on the Edinburg campus. For more information, call the **Office of Student Accessibility Services** at 665-7005.

## Bowling Tournament

The **STEMS Mentor Club** will host its fifth annual **Bowling Tournament** from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. April 9 in the Galaxy Bowling Center, 3451 Pablo Kisel Blvd. in Brownsville. The fee is \$25 per person for four-player teams. Each team will receive three games, shoe rentals, a plate of Southwest Nachos and a pitcher of its preferred soft drink. Drawings will be conducted throughout the tournament and prizes for first-, second- and third-place winners. For more information, call Elizabeth Alanis, event coordinator, at 466-6370 or Martha Ruiz, event co-coordinator, at 466-5872.

## The Gentleman’s Code

**Counseling and Psychological Services** will host a free session, titled “**Relationships: How to Get It Right,**” at noon April. 13 in Cortez Hall 118 on the Brownsville campus. The males-only session will take place the second Wednesday of every month. For more information, call 882-3897.

## Action Summit

The **Texas Say What!** program, in partnership with the **Hidalgo County Tobacco Prevention & Control Coalition**, will host its annual regional **Action Summit** April 16 at the McAllen Convention Center, 700 Convention Center Blvd. The event seeks to engage local youth in promoting

tobacco prevention efforts and learning leadership skills and strategy. For more information, call 787-0004.

## Volunteers needed

The **Cameron County Children’s Advocacy Center** is looking for volunteers for its San Benito and Brownsville locations. The center is a nonprofit organization that advocates for and serves child victims of abuse. For more information, call **Elsa Garcia**, volunteer coordinator/community educator, at 361-3313.

## Graduation application deadlines

Students who plan to graduate in Fall 2016 must submit their application by May 1. For more information, contact the **Graduate College** at 665-3661 or email [gradcollege@utrgv.edu](mailto:gradcollege@utrgv.edu).

## Peace of Mind Yoga

Learn how to manage stress levels and do various types of yoga exercises from 6 to 7 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday on the Brownsville Student Union lawn. The event is sponsored by the **Student Government Association**. For more information, call 882-5937.

## Meetings

### Social-confidence group

The **UTRGV Counseling Center** hosts a social-confidence group, “**Reveal Yourself,**” from 3 to 4 p.m. Tuesdays in Cortez Hall 118 on the Brownsville campus. For more information, call 882-3897.

### G.A.L.S.

A group therapy session for women by women, titled “**Growing and Loving Ourselves**” (G.A.L.S.), takes place from noon to 1 p.m. each Monday in Cortez Hall 220 on the Brownsville campus. For more information, call the **UTRGV Counseling Center** at 882-3897.

### LGBTQ Group

The **LGBTQ Group** meets at 4 p.m. each Tuesday in University Center 306A on the Edinburg campus. Meetings are facilitated by experienced counselors and discussion is driven by concerns and needs of the group. For more information, call the **UTRGV Counseling Center** at 665-2574.

--Compiled by Monica Gudiño



# POLICE REPORTS



The following are among the incidents reported to University Police between March 9 and 12.

## March 9

**12:47 p.m.:** University Police responded to a call concerning an individual with a possible handgun at the Science Complex on the Edinburg campus. The initial call was received from the university call center and little information was provided. However, information obtained later on revealed that the incident had reportedly occurred earlier in the day between 8:50 and 9:10 a.m. A parent of a student relayed the information to the Call Center that their daughter, a student, had learned from another student that a male subject was in possession of a handgun in class. The parent refused to provide the name of their daughter or the name of the professor. The officer contacted the professor, who said she did not observe anyone with a handgun and the incident was never brought to her attention. The officer also spoke with two students, who said they observed a man who looked to be armed with a pistol. They never saw the pistol but saw what appeared to be an outline of a pistol over the man’s shirt and confirmed the incident occurred outside a classroom at the Science Complex.

## March 10

**8:05 p.m.:** A student employee reported that her ex-boyfriend, who is also a student employee, had come by while she was working and began arguing with her on the Edinburg campus. She said he grabbed the phone out of her hands, removed the battery, removed the SIM card and threw the phone back at her. When he grabbed the phone, he also grabbed her hands but there were no physical signs of injury. They share an

apartment lease, but she was going to stay with a friend at another location. The Dean of Students Office and the Title IX coordinator were notified. The student did not want to file criminal charges.

## March 11

**3:31 p.m.:** University Police responded to a disturbance at the University Library between two students. One of the students reported that she and her ex-boyfriend had broken up a few days ago. He followed her to the library from her home in McAllen. They argued about him wanting to get back together with her and she repeatedly told him that she wanted him to leave her alone. He took her phone and would not give it back. She then followed him and told him to return it. While trying to retrieve the phone, she grabbed the back of his shirt and eventually jumped on his back to obtain the phone. He then turned around and elbowed her in the throat, causing her to lose her breath. The ex-boyfriend was taken into custody and charged with assault, a Class A misdemeanor. The ex-girlfriend was taken to the Victim Advocacy Center on campus. The Title IX coordinator was notified.

**5:29 p.m.:** University Police responded to a call regarding two staff members who were requesting to speak to an officer on the Brownsville campus. The staff members reported a graduate student, who is the best friend of one of the reporting members, had just ended his relationship with his girlfriend. He told them to be careful because his girlfriend can be dangerous and owns a gun. The staff members refused to provide any other information because they did

not want to get involved. Officers were unable to contact the graduate student. However, his ex-girlfriend called UTRGV Police and said she and the graduate student have been in a relationship for more than seven years and have children together. She said she had no intention of hurting anyone and has no reason to go to the campus.

## March 12

**10:59 p.m.:** Officers checked out a suspicious vehicle, which had its parking lights on and was backed up against one of the buildings in The Village apartment complex. There were two male students, ages 18 and 19, in the vehicle which smelled of burnt marijuana. The vehicle was searched and an unusable amount of marijuana and an open bottle of Hennessy cognac were found. The students provided written consent to search their bedrooms in The Village. After the K9 sniffed both rooms, there were no usable amounts of narcotics located in the residence. Both students denied ownership of the alcohol and were cited for possession of alcohol by a minor.

--Compiled by Andrea Torres



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5143 or 665-2541



# A little night music

Monica Gudiño  
THE RIDER

Students in seven chamber ensembles will showcase their talent at 7:30 tonight in the Texas Southmost College Arts Center in Brownsville.

“It’s a student chamber ensemble,” said Iliana Zendejas, a student assistant for the Patron of the Arts program. “So, it’s a bunch of little ensembles of students that are music majors.”

They will perform classical, Romantic and contemporary music.

The first ensemble (Yolanda Vidaña Renteria on the violin, Orlando Pedraza on the cello and Sergio Hernandez on guitar) will perform “The Grand Trio” by Mozart.

“Sinfonia Concertante” a piece written by Austrian composer Karl Ditters von Dittersdorf, will be performed by Lee Carrera playing the viola; John Hunter, the double bass; and Ramses Avalos, piano.

Georgette Garcia, Rosa Galicia and Emalee Bravo will play the violin and Esmeralda Castellon Cruzon the viola in the third ensemble in a performance of “Suite para 4 violines,” a Romantic piece by Ladislav Gabrielli.

Carrera will play the viola and Jacqueline Guevara the piano for a performance of the “Viola Concerto” by self-taught German composer and multi-instrumentalist Georg Philipp Telemann.

“You have to work together, it’s not like a solo type of thing,” Zendejas said of the ensembles. “It’s a group effort and it really helps with, like, your people skills and really helps you be a better musician.”

“Da liegt der Feinde gestreckte Schar”



COURTESY PHOTO

Clarinetist Edgar Park (from left), pianist Victor Rangel and cellist Orlando Pedraza perform during a student ensemble concert last fall in the Texas Southmost College Arts Center in Brownsville.

(“There lie the enemies, strewn in piles”), by German composer and music critic Robert Schumann, will be performed by baritone Esdras Alvarado and Jose McKinnon on piano.

Alejandro Mejia and Daniel Camacho will perform a piano duet of “Take 5” by American jazz alto saxophonist and

composer Paul Desmond.

Mezzo-soprano Lorna Lopez and pianist Rebekah Johnson will close the night with “Spring Song,” written by American modernist composer Charles Ives.

“I think that it’s important to go to these types of concerts because you

get exposed to different music that you might otherwise not be exposed to,” Zendejas said.

General admission is \$5 and free for Patron of the Arts members. The next student ensemble will be April 6.

For more information, call the Patron of the Arts office at 882-7025.

# THE YEAR OF FUTURE GEAR

## VR set to blur the lines between creativity and reality

Nathaniel Mata  
SPORTS EDITOR

The latest piece of technology that is ready for the consumer marketplace is virtual reality, and it’s about to land in a big way.

Virtual reality headsets, like the HTC Vive and PlayStation VR are hitting stores this year, with the Samsung Gear VR and Oculus Rift already available.

It is a little different than cordless phones replacing landlines, however. Virtual reality is an experience on its own but one that often builds upon an existing entertainment medium.

Putting on a VR headset immerses the users into the game they are playing and augments reality to give the feeling of actually being in that world. Instead of running with a joystick, a VR user might move his arms quicker to increase running speed. The world you interact with is all around you, in 360 degrees, instead of just at the TV screen or

computer monitor you are looking at.

Video gaming is a field that is often trying to come up with innovative technology and change the way gamers play.

PlayStation’s version of VR technology is set to be released this October. PSVR, which will run with existing PS4s, retails for \$399, which is \$200 less than their competitors at Oculus Rift, which will run on high-end PCs.

Despite the price tag of \$599, the founder of Oculus Rift, Palmer Luckey, said pre-orders were going “much better than I ever could have possibly expected” during a conference hosted by Texas-based hardware company Dell. Facebook acquired Oculus Rift in 2014 for \$2 billion.

On campus, there is no shortage of tech savvy individuals who are eagerly anticipating

the arrival of VR headsets.

Joseph Nwankpa, a computer information systems assistant professor, is among those who plan to get an Oculus Rift soon.

“I see virtual reality as something that allows us to not only utilize our sense of seeing, but immersing ourselves in an environment that would not otherwise be possible,” Nwankpa said. “Virtual reality allows us to take that leap.”

He explained why he thought it would be successful in consumer markets.

“It’s something that is gradually going to get to [the consumers]. When you look at virtual reality, you realize that it’s being applied in more sophisticated platforms,” Nwankpa said. “For instance, in the military they are using virtual reality to simulate



PHOTO COURTESY OCULUS VR

fighter jets. These are cases where they have to use something to put you in that environment. Of course, this is going to trickle down into much more basic, consumer products.”

The computer information systems professor, who teaches on the Edinburg campus, said that early adopters of the products often have done the most background research. He feels like they wouldn’t need to be extra cautious about what they are getting into.

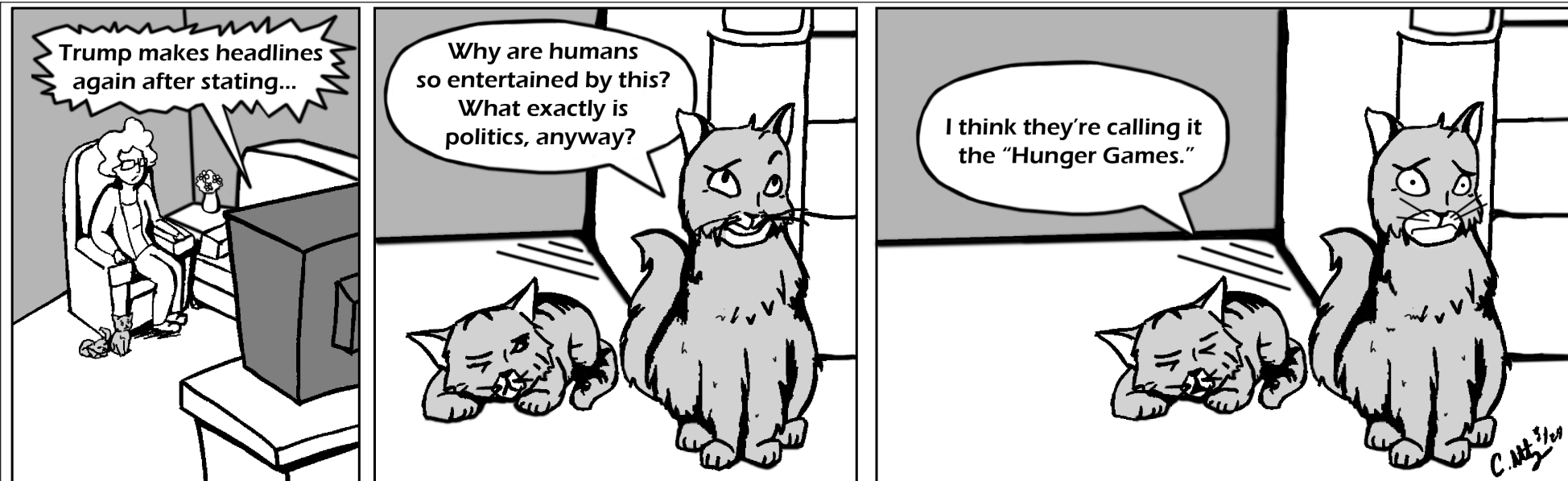
Sophomore Lawrence Hernandez plans to be one of those early adopters. He will receive a Samsung Gear VR in April.

“From an outside viewpoint you see someone and you don’t understand. When you’re in it you realize how a technology can take you into another world,” the computer engineering major said. “The Samsung VR is the best one because it’s only \$100 and it uses your phone, so it’s an entryway. If you’re

See VIRTUAL, Page 10

# VALLEY TOONS

By Clarissa Martinez





## CHECK

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

that the check had been mailed to the student through the U.S. Postal Service, the Career Center contacted campus police and filed a report,” Rodriguez-Nieto wrote. “Campus police contacted the student and an investigation is underway.”

*The Rider* received a summary of the incident through the daily crime log released by University Police. This reporter asked for a copy of the report on March 8 but University Police denied the request, saying the case is under investigation. The newspaper then filed a public information request with UTRGV Chief Legal Officer Karen Adams last Thursday.

Career Services approves jobs posted by employers on its Career Connection website.

“Whenever an employer wants to go and post a position, we review those positions,” Rodriguez-Nieto

said. “We make sure they are actually a legit business. So, a lot of times what we’ll do is we’ll look them up on the Internet. We look at their address. We Google them on Google Maps and make sure that is not a house. ... We also make sure that the job descriptions and job duties are well defined.”

In this particular case, the posting was for an office assistant position. When the Career Center reviewed the post “everything seemed to be legit, but as the [employer] asked the student to deposit a check and write checks, it became suspicious,” Rodriguez-Nieto wrote in the email.

Career Services will be updating its website to include a section that warns

students about fraudulent job postings.

Rodriguez-Nieto offered the following tips for those students who might be seeking a job through a job portal site:

--do not give your personal bank account number, PayPal account number or credit card information to a new employer;

--do not agree to have funds or paychecks directly deposited into any accounts by a new employer. (Arrangements for direct deposit or paycheck should be made during your first day or week of actual employment on site--not before);

--do not forward, transfer or send by courier (i.e. FedEx, UPS), or “wire” any money to any employer, or for any

“Everything seemed to be legit, but as the [employer] asked the student to deposit a check and write checks, ” it became suspicious.

Juan Andres Rodriguez-Nieto  
Career Center Director

employer, using your personal accounts;

--do not transfer money and retain a portion for payment;

--do not respond to suspicious and/or “too good to be true” unsolicited job emails;

--in general,

applicants do not pay a fee to obtain a job (but there are some rare exceptions); and --when in doubt, consult with a professional at the UTRGV Career Center.

To apply for a job through the Career Connection website, students must create a profile, which can be accessed through the myUTRGV site.

“They have to upload their résumé and include their skills and practically their employment history,” Rodriguez-Nieto said. “Once that’s been completed, they submit it and someone from Career Center will review it and approve it.”

To contact the center, call 665-2243 in Edinburg or 882-5647 in Brownsville.

## VIRTUAL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

nervous about it you don’t have to spend \$600, like the Oculus.”

He said the introduction to VR with phones will help out the more expensive VR products, making users into believers.

“People will be more likely to buy into it. If that wasn’t there I can see [the release] being really clunky, because it’s

## SUMMER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

before registering, which work-study student Maria Gonzalez agrees with.

Gonzalez also feels that registering and taking classes online during the summer has made the process and the semester easier to manage.

“I always try to register for online summer classes so I do not have to come for an hour every day. This saves me time and gas!” she said. “I also think [online summer courses] are easier if they’re online. I go on my own pace.”

As an office assistant at Student Services and a UTRGV senior in mass

\$500-plus,” Hernandez said. “When you finally try it, I tried [Oculus] once when it was in the demo stage, it was really good. When you try it you don’t forget how it felt. Once you try it you’ll understand.”

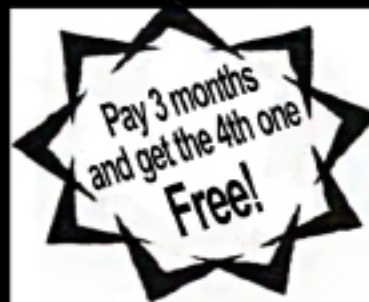
This year will be the year that gamers, movie-watchers and even roller-coaster riders will be able to get their hands on VR tech. Time will tell how the market reacts to the technology and if it will become successful.

communication, Gonzalez often sees the influx of students rushing to get assistance from Financial Aid and the Registrar’s office when it comes time to register for the new term. Gonzalez has seen the waiting time go from 25 minutes up to an hour and 40 minutes the week before registration for the summer terms.

The mini term begins May 16 and ends June 3, Summer I starts June 6 and ends July 12 and Summer II runs from July 14 through Aug. 19.

To request an emergency loan or sign up for a payment plan, students can use ASSIST at my.utrgv.edu under the Student Services tab.

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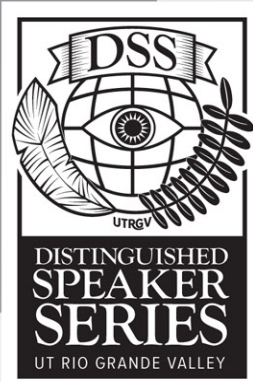
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# Rolling at right time

## Vaqueros set to begin WAC play



LESLEY ROBLES/THE RIDER PHOTOS

Jacob Huckabay stands in the batter’s box against Texas State University last Tuesday at the UTRGV Baseball Stadium. The Vaqueros won 4-3 in 10 innings.

### Bryan Ramos

THE RIDER

The start of conference play has been delayed a week for two Western Athletic Conference baseball teams after last weekend’s series between UTRGV and the University of Northern Colorado Bears was canceled due to Winter Storm Selene and several inches of snow hitting Colorado.

The series will not be made up.

Now, the Vaqueros are set to begin the WAC baseball season using the momentum of six wins in the last eight games before facing the University of New Mexico Aggies to open up conference play. The team has stepped its game up a level offensively, defensively and on the mound right in time for the most crucial part of the year, conference season.

Conference play consists of 27 home and away games within the WAC against nine other teams. At stake is the WAC regular season crown, as well as seeding in the WAC tournament, which takes place at the conclusion of conference play.

Only six teams qualify for the WAC tournament, making every conference game critical. The winner of the tournament receives an automatic bid to the regionals of the NCAA Division I Baseball Championship tournament.

In what would have been the team’s final tuneup game before WAC play, UTRGV topped interstate foe, the Texas State Bobcats, 4-3 in an extra-inning thriller last Tuesday to bring its record to .500 (10-10). Now, the Vaqueros will begin their quest for conference supremacy in the first year as UTRGV.

Senior third baseman Scott Mercer spoke about the team’s recent success heading into the WAC season.

“We want to be playing good because this is the real season. It’s good to see our offense getting back into it with a lot of good games,” said Mercer, who hit a walk-off grounder that was misplayed versus Texas State. “It’s reassuring and gives us confidence going into conference play.”

Hoping to improve on last year’s 10th-place finish in the WAC as UT Pan American, Head Coach Manny Mantrana and the Vaqueros look to establish themselves as a force to be reckoned with in the conference.

“I told them we’re going to divide the season into three stages. The first stage is over, prior to the WAC. Now, we’re heading into our second season, which are the next 27 WAC games,” Mantrana said. “Being able to win six out of eight, we’re starting to move the pieces around in a way where we’re able to compete and we’re able to win.”



Justin Quinonez delivers a pitch last Tuesday against Texas State at the UTRGV Baseball Stadium. Quinonez allowed no runs, and struck out six in 6.1 innings of work and finished with a no decision.

Sophomore pitcher Justin Quinonez got his first start of the season against the Bobcats, allowing no runs in 6.1 innings against a 15-5 Texas State team that received votes in the most recent USA Today Coaches’ Poll.

“It’s always good going into WAC weekend with a win,” Quinonez said. “We’re getting hot at the right time, our offense is coming through and our pitching is coming through like we hoped.”

The Vaqueros’ success has caught the eye of the WAC, as sophomore pitcher Johnny Gonzalez was named WAC pitcher of the week March 21, rewarding his early season play. Gonzalez, the former reliever who is transitioning into a starting role this season, is 3-1 on the year and has a 1.20 ERA in his five starts, while striking out 27 hitters in 30 innings.

The Vaqueros look to carry the momentum they’ve created into WAC play as they host the University of New Mexico State Aggies for a three-game home series beginning at 7 p.m. Friday on Mystery Giveaway Night at the UTRGV Baseball Stadium.

UTRGV baseball will wrap up pre-WAC play when the team takes on the University of Incarnate Word Cardinals at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday in San Antonio.

## Athlete of the Week



JESUS ESPARZA/THE RIDER

**Name:** Johnny Gonzalez  
**Classification:** Sophomore  
**Major:** Kinesiology  
**Sport:** Baseball  
**Age:** 20

**Hometown:** Corpus Christi

**Who is your favorite athlete?** “Derek Jeter, because of the way he plays the game. He plays it hard.” Jeter, who played shortstop for the New York Yankees from 1995 until his retirement in 2014, is a five-time World Series champion.

**Who is your role model for your life?** “My role model would have to be my dad. He does everything for me and I respect him for that.”

**What is the best advice you’ve been given and by whom?** “It would have to be my dad. He tells me to keep running, keep pushing no matter what happens.”

**Favorite place to hang out on campus?** “I hang out in study hall, got to get the grades up.”

**When did you begin playing baseball and why did you start?** “Just a family tradition. My dad played, pretty much the whole family played. It’s in the genes.”

**Did you get any awards in high school?** “I got utility MVP for the district.”

**What are your academic goals?** “To further my education and graduate.”

**What is your favorite movie?** “42,” it’s a baseball movie. Jackie Robinson shows how he played the game.”

**Where’s your dream vacation?** “Probably Hawaii. Nice water, nice girls.”

**How do you feel about being part of the first UTRGV Men’s Baseball Team?** “It’s fun being around a good group of guys, good cultured staff. It’s all positive here and I really like it.”

--Compiled by Jesus Esparza

# Get in the game

## UTRGV to host international racquetball tournament

### Jesus Sanchez

EDITOR IN CHIEF

Kane Wasenlenchuk, the International Racquetball Tour No. 1 player, and Daniel De La Rosa, IRT No. 3 player, will participate in an international tournament hosted by the UTRGV Health and Kinesiology Club April 8-10.

The Daniel De La Rosa Pro-AM Internacional will be a tier 2 tournament. Matches will take place in the Wellness and Recreational Sports Complex and the Health and Physical Education building II on the Edinburg campus.

Wasenlenchuk, a former Brownsville resident who now lives in Austin, and De La Rosa, of Chihuahua, Mexico, will greet the public April 9 at the UREC.

“Last March, we were able to host our first event with [UT Pan American],” said Aby Thottiyil, a UTPA alumnus and co-host of the international tournament. “We were able to bring down the top eight professionals along with some of the professional athletes from Mexico.

... The whole point of this tournament is to attract the locals that are competing here. Last year, we had about 100 to 200 people compete and this year we’re hoping we get around the same.”

Wasenlenchuk won last year’s tournament.

The international tournament has more than \$10,000 guaranteed as prize payout in the pro and open division entries, which are limited to 32 players. The pro division will pay all 16 players \$150 to \$2,500 and the open division \$25-\$500.

Amateur divisions will receive first- and second-place awards and some divisions will pay prize money as well.

The priority deadline for the international tournament was Sunday. Participants who still want to register will be charged a \$10 late fee.

UTRGV students paid \$25 each to enter the tournament for all amateur divisions.

The registration fee for the pro division was \$99 and \$54 for all other divisions,



JESUS SANCHEZ/THE RIDER

Management sophomore Gilberto Villalobos (right) prepares to hit a forehand in his match against kinesiology junior Nelson de la Cruz last Thursday in the Health and Physical Education building II on the Edinburg campus.

with the exception of the women’s singles (\$59) and men’s doubles (\$64). The fee for people under 18 was \$25.

Zasha Romero, a Health and Human Performance assistant professor and adviser for the H&K Club, said UTRGV students can benefit from participating in the tournament.

“The main focus of us having these tournaments is to provide students

that go through our classes, and have been in our classes before, some local competition, so they can have fun and so they can see professional players play,” Romero said.

He said some of the money generated by the tournament will go to the H&K Club.

“The money that comes to the club members is used for travel and for expense coverage to go to national and state physical education and health conferences,” Romero said.

All participants will receive a souvenir bag with a Dri-FIT shirt, wristband and a raffle ticket for an autographed Daniel De La Rosa racquet.

The pro and open divisions start April 8 and the finals April 10. The other divisions’ singles matches start and finish on April 9 and all doubles matches take place April 10.

To register for the tournament, visit [r2sports.com/website/event-website.asp?TID=16841](http://r2sports.com/website/event-website.asp?TID=16841).

For more information about the tournament, call Event Director JoAnna Reyes at (361) 510-1040. Admission is free.

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