

THE RIDER

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Fright Fest 2: shivers down your spine

Nubia Reyna
THE RIDER

For the second consecutive year, UTRGV will host Halloween Fright Fest on the Edinburg and Brownsville campuses beginning today until Halloween.

“We are aiming better this year ... bigger and better,” said Julia Gonzalez, cultural committee chair for the Campus Programming Board. “We are expecting a lot to happen.”

Fright Fest will offer four events on the Brownsville campus: The screening of “Suicide Squad” at 8 p.m. today on the Student Union lawn, a pumpkin carving contest at 10 a.m. Tuesday on the Student Union lawn, plus a haunted house and costume contest at 7 p.m. Thursday in the Casa Bella student housing complex.

On the Edinburg campus, Fright Fest begins with a pumpkin carving contest at 8:30 a.m. Tuesday on the Student Union east patio. “Suicide Squad” will be screened at 8 p.m. Wednesday on the Quad. Trunk or Treat will take place at 6 p.m. Thursday in the Soccer and Track & Field Complex, followed by a haunted house at 7 p.m. in the Student Union’s second floor. On Halloween, there will be a costume contest at noon in the Student Union Commons.

“Everything is going great, so far. We are expecting a lot to happen,” Gonzalez said. “It has been talked about since last



LESLEY ROBLES/THE RIDER FILE PHOTO

Studio art freshman Hugo Uribe carves his pumpkin during the Pumpkin Carving contest hosted by the Student Union during last year’s Fright Fest on the Edinburg campus.

Fright Fest. ...” she said. “We want to scare as many students as possible.”

All of the campus events are free for students, including the food.

UTRGV to buy plaza in Brownsville



ANA CAHUICHE/THE RIDER

The former BookBee, located at 2168 E. Jackson St. in Brownsville, will be used to place 12 faculty offices and the UTRGV Counseling and Training Clinic.

Monika Garza
THE RIDER

The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley continues to expand with the planned purchase of the P&P Plaza in Brownsville.

Mark Saenz, UTRGV’s chief real estate and space planning officer, said the purchase of the

plaza is under contract.

The plaza is located at 2395 W. University Blvd., next to the former Burger King restaurant. Other recent or planned purchases include the BookBee building, located at 2168 E. Jackson St., the Armory Complex, located at 340 Porter Dr., and the former Burger King restaurant located across

the street from the Casa Bella student housing complex.

Saenz said it has still not been determined how the university will use the plaza.

“We don’t know at this point,” he said. “We are going to evaluate the needs of the campus, and then, the administration will decide what departments will be lodged in the space.”

On June 15, UTRGV bought the BookBee building for \$515,000. It will house 12 faculty offices and the Counseling and Training Clinic from College of Education and P-16 Integration’s Counseling and Guidance Department.

“The owner of the property [Melissa Avalos] contacted the university, expressing an interest in selling the property to the [university],” Saenz said.

For 16 years, the building served as a college bookstore.

Saenz said the UTRGV faculty offices will include the History and Biology departments.

“Right now, space is a necessity and we are addressing

See **EXPANSION**, Page 2

Countdown to Election Day
Fourth in a series

Last face-off before Election Day

Oscar Castillo
NEWS EDITOR

Following the two previous contentious presidential debates, the stakes were raised as Republican nominee Donald Trump and Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton squared off for the last time at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

The nominees looked to seal the deal by winning over as many undecided voters as they could during the third and final presidential debate.

UTRGV Communication Professor Louis Falk said both candidates missed an opportunity to sway voters in their direction.

“It just seems, basically, the same stuff over and over and

EARLY VOTING

TODAY - NOV. 4

Brownsville

La Sala at Student Union

TSC Cardenas Hall 115

Edinburg

Student Union Commons



MARIO GONZALEZ/THE RIDER GRAPHIC

over, except it just gets nastier and nastier,” Falk said of the debate.

However, he also said Trump might see a decline in his poll numbers.

“Trump, obviously, did it again, where he made himself, by his comment, part of the news cycle,” Falk said. “Unfortunately, in this election, from what I read a couple of weeks ago, if you do something to make them keep talking about you, and you are in the news constantly, like

Editorial cartoon,

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he is, then your poll numbers have been dropping. So, if you go back and you look, Hillary, when all the emails stuff that she was fighting back against it,

See **DEBATE**, Page 10

THE RIDER

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YOUR NEWS IN ONE PLACE

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY

The **Happy Kitchen/La Cocina Alegre Cooking and Nutrition Program** will offer six weeks of classes, emphasizing the selection and preparation of fresh seasonal foods that are nutritious, economical and delicious. Spanish classes start today and tomorrow from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at the Buena Vida Housing Development, 1419 E. Tyler St. in Brownsville. On Tuesday, an English class will be offered from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the same place. For more information, email brownsvillewellnesscoalition@gmail.com.

Vaquero Ice Cream

The **Student Union** will serve free ice cream from noon to 1 p.m. at the Main Courtyard West Wing in Brownsville, while supplies last. For more information, call 665-7989.

‘Suicide Squad’ showing

The **Campus Programming Board** will show **‘Suicide Squad’** on the Student Union lawn from 7 to 10 p.m. in Brownsville and Wednesday at the Quad in Edinburg. Admission is free. There will be a costume contest, free food and more. For more information, call 665-7991.

TUESDAY

Fish and chips

The **Encounter Campus Ministry** invites students to lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Quad on the Edinburg campus. For more information, email utpacmi@aol.com.

Battlefield Release Party

The **Student Union** will host a **Battlefield Release Party** at noon in the Game Room of the Student Union in Edinburg. For more information, call 665-7989.

Food Habit Workshop

The **Student Food Pantry** will host **“Setting Your Limits”** from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. in Room 1.422 of the Main Building in Brownsville. The workshop will have a discussion on sodium, fats and sugars. Attendees will prepare a mango chicken salad recipe. For more information, call 882-8980.

WEDNESDAY

Breakfast to go

The **Baptist Student Ministry** will provide free breakfast from 8 to 9:30 a.m. at the Main East front lawn on the Brownsville campus. For more information, call 383-7491.

Blood drive

The **Sigma Tau Delta-International English Honor Society** will host a blood drive from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the North Quad on the Edinburg campus. The blood drive will be held before Zombie Walk. For more information, call Writing and Language Studies Lecturer

Mary Ann Escamilla at 665-8752.

Hearing Aid Fundraiser

The **Deaf Education and Advocacy Foundation** will sell T-shirts and other items from noon to 1:30 p.m. on the library lawn in Edinburg. The sale will continue at the same time and location Thursday. The event will help raise awareness and funds for hearing aids. For more information, call 320-7754.

Pink Night

Kappa Delta Chi Sorority-Alpha Beta will host **Pink Night with KDChi** from 4 to 11 p.m. in the University Ballroom on the Edinburg campus. Guests will learn about breast cancer awareness and women’s health. There will be music, prizes, treats and dancing. The sorority is asking guests to wear pink in commemoration of **Breast Cancer Awareness Month**. Admission is free. For more information, call 393-9102.

THURSDAY

Texas Secretary of State Carlos Cascos will visit UTRGV from 11 a.m. to noon at the Plains Capital Theater on the Edinburg campus. Cascos, a former Cameron County judge, and UTRGV President **Guy Bailey** will discuss **VoteTexas**, the statewide voter education campaign. For more information, call 665-7989.

Treble Thrivers performance

The **Treble Thrivers** will host an acoustic session from 12:15 to 1:30 p.m. at the Student Union on the Edinburg campus. The singing group will perform a capella and acoustic music. For more information, call 457-2494.

LTA Zumbathon

Zeta Rho Chapter of Lambda Theta Alpha Latin Sorority Inc. will host **LTA Zumbathon** from 5 to 9 p.m. at the North Quad in Edinburg. The sorority wants to bring awareness to the Latin community about the “leading cause of death among Hispanics,” according to Cancer.org. The event is open to the public. For more information, email ltz.zp.1975@gmail.com.

Halloween Dance

The **Treble Thrivers** will partner with other student organizations to host a **Halloween Dance** from 7 to 11 p.m. in Room 1.300 of the Community Engagement and Student Success Building in Edinburg. The event will include games and a costume contest for UTRGV students, faculty and staff. Guests are asked to wear their favorite costume. The dance will also feature a special performance by the **Treble Thrivers Show Choir**. Admission is free. For more information, call 457-2494.

POLICE REPORTS

The following are among the incidents reported to University Police between Oct. 10 and 16.



Oct. 10

10:10 a.m.: A UTRGV shuttle bus was involved in a traffic collision at the intersection of Ed Carey Drive and Business 77 in Harlingen. Harlingen police officers told campus police that only the bus driver was in the vehicle at the time of the accident. The driver struck his head on the front windshield and was transported to the nearest hospital.

Oct. 11

3:04 p.m.: A student reported his ex-girlfriend was harassing him, after being advised several times to not communicate with him. He said his ex-girlfriend approached him, began yelling obscenities and grabbed him by the arm, without his consent, while attempting

to communicate with him. The student does not wish to file criminal charges.

Oct. 12

9:07 a.m.: A local vendor reported an unknown individual stole a pack of soft drinks from his delivery truck, which was parked in the SET-B lot on the Texas Southmost College campus. He said he did not see the individual but was told by a witness, who saw the incident. TSC security was notified and UTRGV officers conducted a perimeter check of the area.

Oct. 13

1:51 a.m.: A minor was stopped by a UTRGV officer for driving without headlamps. The female was driving with two fellow high school passengers, who also had no driver’s license. A courtesy transport was provided for the passengers, while the driver was released to her parents. An acceptance of

Improve your grades

Sigma Lambda Gamma Academics Committee will host an event to help students improve their grades from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. in Room 2.130 of the Student Academic Center in Edinburg. For more information, call 665-8752.

Save a Life

The **Student Union** will partner with the **Child Development Center** to host **Save a Life Child Car Seat Check** from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. at the Child Development Center in Edinburg. For more information, call 665-7989.

FRIDAY

Cyber Security

The **Association for Computing Machinery** will host **Cyber Security** from 2 to 6 p.m. in the Engineering Building on the Edinburg campus. The event will help students learn how to decode and fight against hacking and/or viruses. For more information, email alejandro.huertao2@utrgv.edu.

OctubaFest

The **OctubaFest** annual concert will take place at 7:30 p.m. at the UTRGV Performing Arts Complex auditorium in Edinburg. The concert will feature guest artist **Charles Villarrubia**, an associate professor of tuba/euphonium and brass chamber music at UT Austin. Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased at <http://patron.utrgv.edu> or at the door. For more information, call 665-3881 or email patron@utrgv.edu.

SATURDAY

Soirée de la Flûte

Soirée de la Flûte will take place at 5 p.m. at the UTRGV Performing Arts Complex auditorium in Edinburg. Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased at <http://patron.utrgv.edu> or at the door. For more information, call 665-3881.

SUNDAY

Brass duo

UTRGV faculty members **Bill Haugeber**, a trombonist, and **Adam Decker**, a trumpeter, will perform in concert at 3 p.m. in the Texas Southmost College Arts Center in Brownsville. Haugeber is an assistant professor and Decker is a part-time lecturer in the School of Music. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for seniors and students with a UTRGV ID. They can be purchased at <http://patron.utrgv.edu/> or at the door. For more information, call 665-3881 or email patron@utrgv.edu.

Texas Night

The **Student Union** will host **Texas Night: Cowboys vs. Eagles** at 3:30 p.m. in the Student Union Game Room in Edinburg. For more information, call 665-7989.

--Compiled by Brenda Garza

responsibility and a juvenile release form was completed, and the operator was cited for the traffic violations.

Oct. 15

4:30 p.m.: While on patrol, officers saw graffiti on the southeast side of the Science Building in Edinburg. A work order was placed to remove the graffiti.

Oct. 16

3:17 a.m.: At the South Texas Business, Education and Technology Academy, a Valley Metro security guard advised a UTRGV officer that he heard gun shots from the Heritage Square Apartments in Edinburg. People advised they heard similar sounds but could not pinpoint the location. Edinburg Police Department officers arrived at the scene and later found some fireworks near the apartments.

--Compiled by Megan Gonzalez

EXPANSION

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

that. So, when those buildings are completed, I think everybody will feel the benefits of them,” said Patrick Gonzales, associate vice president for University Marketing and Communications. “It also provides our students with more opportunities.”

UTRGV is planning on buying similar facilities near other parts of the Brownsville campus, Saenz said.

On Nov. 6 of last year, UTRGV bought

the Burger King building, located at 2701 E. Tyler St., near the Brownsville campus. The university bought it from Tejon Properties for \$1.1 million, Saenz said

By expanding both university campuses, UTRGV will grow not only in buildings but also more academic programs will be offered, Gonzales said.

“Expansion is not only brick and mortar, but also academically,” Gonzales said. “We are now offering more academic programs at each of our main campuses. ... Programs that hadn’t been available

on some campuses are now available. That type of expansion is exciting, too.”

Twenty new programs are offered on the Brownsville campus, which include a bachelor of arts in Mexican American Studies, a master’s of science in manufacturing engineering and a minor in medical humanities.

In Edinburg, five new programs are available, which include a bachelor of business administration in materials management and logistics, a bachelor’s of science in marine biology and a master’s of science in physics.

Fear the walking students

University hosts second annual Halloween food drive

Bryan Ramos
THE RIDER

With Halloween just a week away, students at UTRGV are spreading the fun for a good cause.

Lecturer Mary Ann Escamilla's English 1302 students will host a Zombie Walk on Wednesday in Edinburg designed to have fun while raising awareness to fight hunger insecurity. Her students were inspired by the Syfy television show "Z Nation," which is about zombies.

The Zombie Walk is an opportunity for people to get in the Halloween spirit and have zombie makeup applied when they contribute one to two cans of non-perishable food, which will be donated to the UTRGV Student Food Pantry.

Assistant Professor Jennifer

Saxton's theater students will be on hand to take care of the zombie makeover. Participants will then roam around campus as a horde of zombies for a zombie walk, bringing a Halloween feel to people on campus while raising awareness about the Student Food Pantry.

"We want people to walk away knowing UTRGV has great support systems for the students, including making sure that they've eaten," Escamilla said. "I don't think enough of our students understand that. What's more important than to make sure our students are fed and not hungry while they're trying to learn? ... I feel the Food Pantry helps out

so well."

The events kick off with a

Blood Services will collect blood for vampires and local hospitals in need.

From 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. there will be a Hunger Insecurity Presentation at the Student Union Café where students in Escamilla's 1302 class will showcase posters they've made to raise awareness about hunger insecurity.

Zombie makeovers will be from 5 to 6 p.m. Students who donate one to two cans of non-perishable food will receive a makeover to turn them into something straight out of "The Walking Dead."



COURTESY PHOTO

Blood Drive from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday at the Quad on the Edinburg campus. United

The Zombie Walk is from 6 to 7 p.m. and will start in front of the Edinburg Liberal Arts Building South. Participants will follow the lead zombie for the walk and will have a opportunity to have their photo taken and posted on social media. Kona Ice will sell snow cones during the event.

The events will run all day and students are encouraged to donate food or blood and participate in the Halloween event for a good cause.

The UTRGV Student Food Pantry's mission is "to assist students in need by providing food supplemental to those impacted by financial problems and conditions, and are subsequently experiencing difficulty meeting their nutritional needs," according to

See **ZOMBIE**, Page 7

Supporting victims on campus

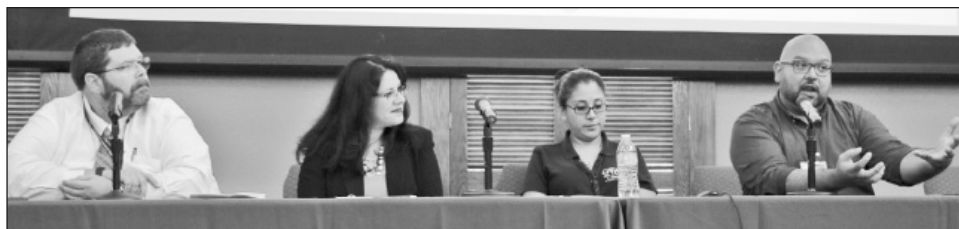
Megan Gonzalez
THE RIDER

This month, domestic violence awareness has spread throughout the university.

In 2015, more than 150 people were killed in domestic violence incidents, according to the Texas Council on Family Violence. This is an increase from 132 deaths in 2014.

"The ages range from 14 to 94," said Jenny Clark, an associate professor and member of the Women's Studies Committee, about the fatalities.

The Office of Victim Advocacy and Violence Prevention (OVAVP) and the Office of Student Support, Counseling and Wellness provide counseling and



MICHELLE ESPINOZA/THE RIDER

Rick Gipprich Jr. (right), Regional Outreach and Support program director of the Texas Association Against Sexual Assault (TAASA), answers questions on the challenges of addressing sexual assault during the panel discussion at the CAVE conference last Wednesday on the Brownsville campus. Also shown on the panel are Doug Stoves (from left), associate dean of students and director of Student Rights and Responsibilities; Alicia Morley, Title IX coordinator and director of the Office of Institutional Equity; and Priscilla Palacios, program coordinator for the Office for Victim Advocacy and Violence Prevention at the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley.

assistance for students. Student Rights and Responsibilities provides an online reporting system, Vaqueros Report It,

which allows students, faculty and staff to report potential violations to various offices in UTRGV.

Student places first in international competition

Brenda Garza
THE RIDER

Zika research student Brenda Hernandez-Barron, a biology senior, placed first in a poster competition at the 2016 International Congress of Entomology (ICE) in Orlando, Fla.

The Entomological Society of America hosted the "Entomology without Borders" congress, attended by more than 6,000 people.

The five-day competition, which began Sept. 25, had nearly 6,000 oral and poster presentations and 298 symposia, making it the largest gathering of entomology students, scientists and experts, including two Nobel Prize-winning professors who were keynote speakers.

"It's the biggest convention you've seen," Hernandez-Barron said. "You would have to walk 10 minutes just to see the other talks that you were interested in."

Biology Assistant Professor Christopher Vitek said, "I always encourage [students] to participate. Whenever I go to a conference like this, I try to bring undergraduates and graduates who have research ready to present."

His student, Hernandez-Barron, participated in the Undergraduate Student Poster Competition: Medical Veterinary Entomology division.

"We weren't expecting to win because we knew the competition would be high," Vitek said. "I was hoping for it and I knew that she definitely deserved it."

This is the second year Hernandez-Barron competes at the congress.

"I was very shocked," Hernandez-Barron said about winning the award. "I

saw a lot of work that was in my category and a lot of people were more than capable of getting that prize."

The congress conducts a yearly competition and the international competition takes place every four years.

"Last year, I didn't win," Hernandez-Barron said. "[This is] an international convention. Last year was a national convention [and] I didn't win anything, so I honestly didn't expect to win. I'm very happy that I won and I can put my school's name out there before I graduate."

ICE 2016 gathered representatives from more than 97 countries and discussed recent advances in the science of entomology, as well as creating awareness of the challenges needed for food security, human health and the conservation of the environment.

Hernandez-Barron's poster, "Zika Virus Infection and Dissemination within South Texas Mosquito Vectors," explained her research on the Zika virus transmission and infection rate capacity.

During her presentation, she explained to the judges that her hometown is close to the Mexican border. Hernandez-Barron told them how there have been some cases of Zika just 30 minutes from where she lives.

"[This is] an international convention," Hernandez-Barron said. "They didn't know what role the Valley played."

Many people asked Hernandez-Barron about the research.

"My research is important because [the Valley] could be an introductory route for this virus," she said. "We have the species that transmits [the virus] in the Valley, as well as in the border of Mexico."

Hernandez-Barron said she wants



SARAH CARVAJAL/THE RIDER

Brenda Hernandez-Barron

to train with the best in the field of entomology.

"I [want] to go the University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB) in Galveston for training," Hernandez-Barron said. "I'll learn from them and come back and do everything better."

The weeklong training at UTMB will prepare Hernandez-Barron for the final phase of the research, which involves a greater sample size of mosquitoes and the incorporation of another species of mosquito. Her main goal is to publish her work.

"I'm looking into the prep program for Ph.D. at UTMB," Hernandez-Barron said. "If I publish, I have something to show and go directly into a Ph.D., instead of going through a master's first."

Hernandez-Barron participates in

the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) program, which provides grants and other support for science education.

Joanne Rampersad-Ammons, a chemistry associate professor and HHMI director at UTRGV, said, "It is fabulous [she won] because it gives students a benchmark that they can aspire to and it's more inspirational than anything else."

Ammons explained how HHMI would be proud of their grant recipient.

"As we are winding up this program, these are some of the things I'm going to want to let HHMI know, [the things] we have been able to accomplish with our students through the program," she said.

Ammons said Hernandez-Barron has been in the program for several years.

"She gets very enthusiastic about building a community and she's not afraid to go out and let people know about the program. She has been a very, very good part of our community," Ammons said.

Vitek also spoke highly about the biology senior and her abilities.

"I'm not surprised she won; she is an incredibly gifted and talented student," he said. "She puts in quality work. I expect her to go get her Ph.D., since that is her goal, and I look forward to calling her Doctor one day."



Vaquero Voice

Spooky experience



“Estaba en prepa y fuimos a misiones en un pueblito, pero llegamos a una escuela que nos iba a hospedar. En esta escuela, entonces, llegamos y lo primero que vemos es un cadáver, así de una serpiente, colgado, así en la puerta principal. Y resulta que eso era como brujería del pueblo para protección de nosotros supuestamente. Pero la verdad es que nos sacó mucho de onda y estábamos con mucho miedo y cualquier sonidito que se escuchara en la noche nos despertábamos y no pudimos dormir bien. Estuvo bastante feo eso”.

German Torres
Estudiante de biología de último año

“One time I had to stay in Tennessee with a friend’s grandma, I didn’t even know her. We were driving up the mountains and it was getting late at night, the sun was going down, there were starting to get shadows in the forest and if you know the Appalachian Mountains, it’s creepy at night. ... We were driving up the mountains, and we had never been there before, so when we get up there, we are in Tennessee, right, but we arrive at this Spanish-styled old house and so I am looking at it and I’m asking my mom, ‘Are you sure this is the right place? Because there’s like moss growing up the sides and vines and it looks very creepy.’ It didn’t look like anyone was there. So, we drove around to the back and there was like this old swimming pool, like, some statues and we knocked on the door and an old lady comes and she’s like, ‘Hi! I’m the grandma.’ So, everything was OK. Then, when we went to our room, the room was not inside the house. She had like an upstairs balcony-veranda-type place where the doors would connect to an outside hallway, kind of like a motel. So, we go into our room, but in our room, the theme was clowns! I kid you not. And so, hanging from the ceiling is clowns!”

Elisabeth Roberts
Nursing sophomore



“I was at my friend’s house and we were hanging out. He has a two-story house, so I was coming out of the bathroom and I was walking down the hallway. His house is a really big house, so it has two staircases, one grand staircase and then a small spiral staircase in the middle of the house. So, I was walking past the small spiral staircase and I saw a little girl standing there, like, in all white. I looked again and it was gone. So, that ruined my night for the rest of the time that I was there.”

Hunter Meyer
Education freshman

“I remember last year I went to the Rotten Flesh Factory. It was me and my friends, we all went. Me and my other friend, we wouldn’t let go of each other. We were just covering our faces. My other friend cried and my other friend threw up and my other friend, I don’t know how, she ended up with her toe hurt. We were such scaredy cats; we were just pushing and screaming. That was the first and last time I’ll go to one.”

Jessica Ramos
Education freshman

--Compiled by Ana Cahuiche and Gabriel Mata



Enjoying the college life at 35



Brenda Garza
THE RIDER

Have you ever heard the saying, “If I only knew then what I know now?” Well, at the beautiful age of 35, I finally know what that means.

As a freshman, in the yonder year of 1999, I was this young, naïve girl that only went to school, took her classes and didn’t get fazed by all these organizations you see around campus hollering and showing school pride.

Somehow, that didn’t interest me. I wasn’t in any type of club and for some reason, being “part of” something never seemed to interest me, but then again, maybe, I was just scared.

Going through college and being afraid to ask for help, raise my hand and answer a question, or even talk to my professors was something this young girl was not willing to do or partake in.

Feeling as though I would be laughed at if I answered a question wrong or shamed because I was an outsider “trying” to fit in, maybe, that’s the reason I wasn’t as involved.

I can definitely say, “If I only knew then what I know now.”

It has finally dawned on me that life is all about uncertainty. Life is about taking risks, falling down and then getting right back up. Life is about enjoying the moment, whether good or bad.

In college, everyone is an outsider. Everyone is from everywhere. We have students in this university from all across the globe. No one really knows what direction they are going, let alone who your professors will be, or whom you will befriend while waiting in a long line in the girls’ restroom, the line during lunch at the cafeteria or even the financial aid office line, which seems to last an eternity at times.

Starting new friendships is what your college life is all about. Yes, studying your craft goes without saying, but in the end, the friendships you make here could potentially be long-lasting friendships that can last a lifetime.

Being involved can help you develop skills you didn’t have or, in fact, enhance the skills you do have. For example, I love to make people smile. So, becoming part of the Operation Smile Club at UTRGV was a no brainer. The same goes for marketing. Because of my friend Julio

Salinas, who is the president of the American Marketing Associating, I decided to finally join.

And guess what? I am so excited to meet new people, make friendships, enjoy new experiences and acquire skills I didn’t have. Did I mention the networking? Getting to meet people that could potentially help you along your amazing journey is something you just cannot buy.

Joining *The Rider* was a huge part of discovering who I am. I can honestly say that my journey of becoming a newspaper reporter was completely out of the question. Never in a million years did I think I would work for any newspaper, let alone the school newspaper. Television yes, but never the newspaper. And now that I’m working here, I feel I belong here, like I’ve always belonged here.

I got out of my comfortable box and tried something new for the first time. Like anything, it was scary at first, but in the end, it was something I needed to do for myself. Being a mass communication major with a concentration in broadcasting, this learning experience has been amazing thus far, and I wouldn’t trade it for the world.

I’m acquiring new skills that will help me expand my horizons. I’m learning that there is a lot of stuff going on in this university that needs to be discovered by the student body. From organizations to grants, and departments I didn’t even know existed!

Thankfully, because of this right turn, I took on the path to discovering who I am. I am becoming a well-rounded

person. In the end, you just have to step out of your comfort zone to know who you are and what you are really made of.

At the ripe age of 35, I can finally say, “I’m enjoying my college life.”

No longer am I afraid of talking in class, asking questions, asking my professors for advice or becoming more involved in student organizations. Being involved has become the new norm in my life.

Again, isn’t this what your “college life” is all about? Trying new things, meeting new people, acquiring new skills that could potentially be your moneymaker in the future, failing and then getting back up.

So, for those scared students who have yet to become involved in this so-called college life, I urge you to submerge yourself in it.

Enjoy it while it lasts, because by the time you reach my beautiful age, you’ll be telling yourself the same thing I keep telling myself now, “If I only knew then what I know now, where would I be?”

Visit us at **utrgvrider.com**

The renaissance of virtual interactions

Mario Gonzalez
PHOTO EDITOR

2016 has been a great year for the ease of access to many emerging technologies. Like with quad copter drones, the world of virtual reality headsets is still new in the market of consumer electronics and while the technology is still in its infancy, it has a promising future in the area of entertainment and education.

While virtual reality (VR) is not a new concept, it has seen a major revitalization that was only possible due to the advancements in the technology of the last decade.

The dictionary describes virtual reality as “a realistic and immersive simulation of a three-dimensional environment, created using interactive software and hardware, and experienced or controlled by movement of the body.”

In simpler terms, virtual reality is a computer simulation of an immersive environment in which the user can interact using the body. Today, people have access to different virtual reality experiences and games through different devices available in the market. With experiences focusing on videogames, virtual tours, interactive movies and other educational tools, this technology is finally reaching mainstream attention. These devices take the form of virtual reality headsets and while they each serve the same purpose, they perform differently from one another.

Low-cost devices such as Google Cardboard or the Samsung Galaxy VR require only a smartphone to operate. These are limited in functionality compared to more expensive devices, but they tend to be more practical as they are lightweight and do not require a high-performance computer as their



MARIO GONZALEZ/THE RIDER GRAPHIC

main processing unit; they can also work without the need of cables or external sensors.

In 2012, Oculus VR announced the Oculus Rift VR headset in a Kickstarter campaign that successfully raised \$2.5 million via crowd funding and that led the renaissance of this once forgotten

industry. Since 2014, Oculus VR operates

under the management of Facebook, and as of today, its major competitor is the HTC Vive.

“No one knows if virtual reality will be successful or not. For all we know, it could turn out to be a massive disappointment like 3-D television was a couple of years ago.”

Both the Oculus Rift and HTC Vive are expensive but powerful devices that cost between \$599 and \$899 and are the ones that will provide the richest and most

immersive experiences with the minimal

effects of motion sickness because of their high-end displays, optics and sensorial components.

Up until the beginning of this year, there was a clear polarization between the capabilities of the affordable and the high-end headsets. PlayStation VR, the newest headset, hit the market on Oct. 13. Developed by Sony Interactive Entertainment, the PlayStation VR is a middle ground between the affordable and the more expensive headsets available. Unlike the Oculus Rift and the HTC Vive, Sony’s headset doesn’t work with a computer but rather exclusively with the Sony PlayStation 4 gaming console.

The experiences produced by these devices can be experienced only first-hand. Various video games and other interactive media already have been developed for some of these devices and these titles will vary depending on the platform on which they are being released.

Since this is a relatively new industry, some people would argue that this is not the right time to invest in technology like this, but it is because of the early adopters and those who believe in a product that the industry is able to grow. The only incentive for developers to develop video games and other media at the moment would be to serve those who already own one of these devices. The industry would grow if there were a large enough audience to serve.

The only reason why Facebook bought Oculus VR in the first place is because it saw the potential of this industry.

No one knows if virtual reality will be successful or not. For all we know, it could turn out to be a massive disappointment like 3-D television was a couple of years ago.

5 things to do in the RGV leading up to Halloween

Sergio Garcia
SOCIAL MEDIA EDITOR

1. The Rotting Flesh Factory

The Rotting Flesh Factory falls under a classic that never gets old, haunted houses. From clowns to zombies, this event features all types of realistic creatures, monsters and scary beings. This is an all-ages event; nonetheless, parental discretion is advised.

Phone: 730-3283
Address: 602 W. Van Buren Ave., Harlingen

2. Toluca Ranch Haunted House

Presumed to have real paranormal activity, this event is hosted on a property that dates to the 1800s. According to local legend, this property is haunted because of the satanic practices and murders that happened in the house many moons ago. Fact or fiction, the Toluca Ranch Haunted House is uniquely frightening. This event allows anyone 16 or older, but discretion is advised.

Phone: (512) 971-5295
Address: CR-1702, Weslaco

3. Valley Escape Room

Are you good at handling stress while multitasking? Yes? Well, the Valley Escape Room might be for you. The dynamic is fairly simple: Get locked in a dark scary room with a zombie and try to escape by solving puzzles and riddles. This game is not recommended for those under age 13. Children must be accompanied by two paying adults. To attend the event, a minimum of four people is required.

Phone: 832-9535
Address: 1614 W. Pecan Blvd., Suite 1, McAllen

4. Nightmare on Broadway

One might be able to describe this attraction as simply laser guns and monsters. This interactive, four-dimensional haunt gives you the opportunity to defend yourself by shooting the monsters that come at you. You might have a gun and protective glasses, but that doesn’t stop you from being scared of smells and eerie sounds of the unknown. This event is for all ages; nonetheless, parental discretion is advised.

Phone: 358-2755
Address: 120 S. Broadway St., McAllen

5. Trapped RGV Escape Rooms

Team up with your co-workers, friends or family to build your skills and escape from a locked room. Designed for four to 10 people, the room tests your wits and skills by prompting you to crack codes, solve puzzles and find clues that will lead to your escape. This is event if for all ages; however, if you are under age 14, a parent or guardian must accompany you.

Phone: 685-3033
Address: 609 W. U.S. Hwy. 83, McAllen

Club Spotlight

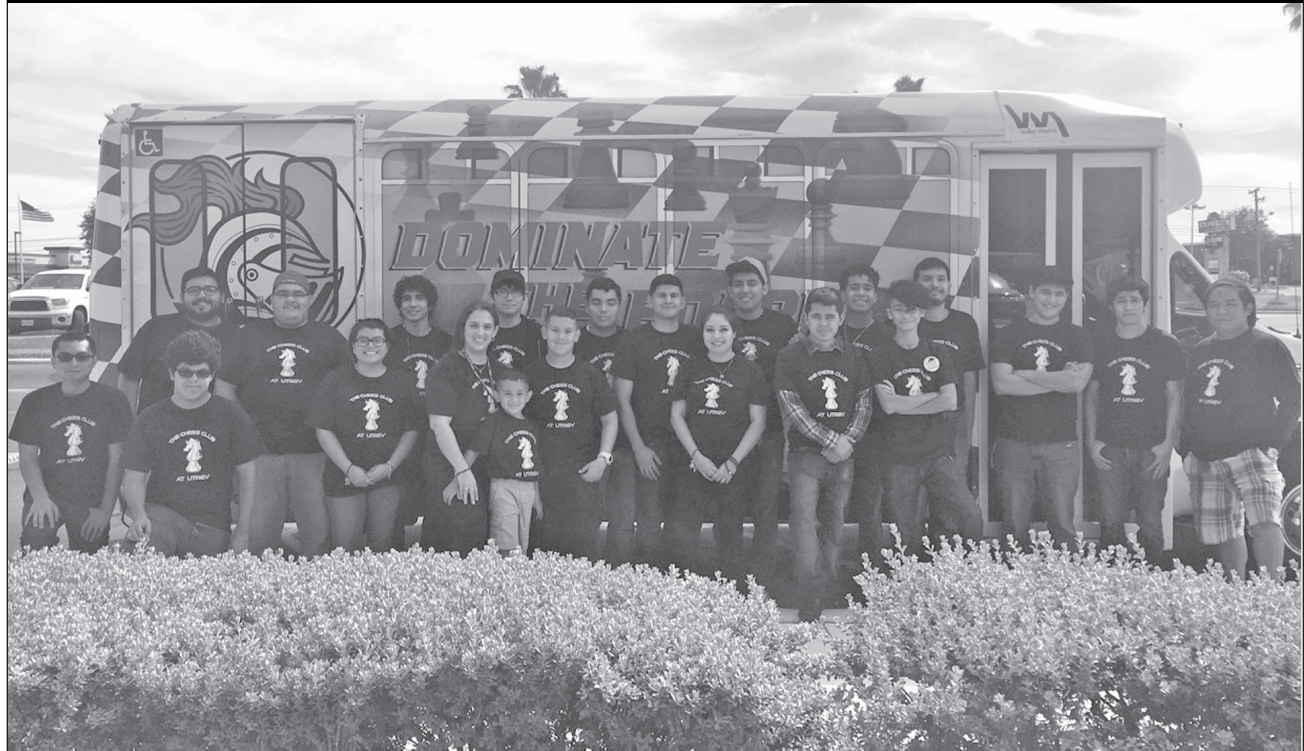


PHOTO COURTESY CHIA LIN YONG

Members of the Chess Club at UTRGV include Michael Guirnela (front row, from left); Adrian Peña, Daisy Reyes, Adviser Nancy Razo, Joel Razo, Joaquin Razo, Daisy Soliz, Recruiter Mario Jimenez and Juan Acosta. Back row: Ivan Roel Cantu, Daniel Ramirez, Derek Duron, Eric Tarver, Edinburg Vice President Oscar Castillo, President David Ortiz, Co-President Jaime Rios, Jaime Castillo, Juan Acosta, Juan Fairas, Miguel Reyes and Mark Canony.

Name: The Chess Club at UTRGV

Purpose: To serve the entire community of the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley and foster an increased interest, participation and enjoyment of the game of chess in surrounding communities; promote chess as an art and intellectual sport, and strive to uphold the name and reputation of the university.

Co-President: David Ortiz

Co-President: Jaime Emiliano Rios

Vice President-Edinburg: Oscar Rodriguez

Vice President-Brownsville: Daniel Ramirez

Publicist: Cathalina Osornia

Treasurer: Lorena Garcia Ramon

Recruiter-Edinburg: Mario Jimenez

Recruiter-Brownsville: Ivan Roel Cantu

Adviser: Nancy Razo, associate professor in practice for the Human Development and School Services program
Activities: Teaches at local schools, conducts private lessons, group lessons, helps and hosts chess tournaments, and competes.

Meetings: 4:30 to 8 p.m. Monday and Thursday in STAC 1.112A in Edinburg and 4-7 p.m. Fridays in Sabal Hall 2.106 on the Brownsville campus.

Membership requirements: None

For more information, email: david.ortiz02@utrgv.edu or visit www.utrgvchess.com.

--Compiled by Lesley Robles



GRADUATE & PROFESSIONAL

SCHOOL FAIR

Meet with recruiters from healthcare/medical schools, law schools, and graduate programs. This event is open to the community.

Brownsville Campus

Wednesday, Nov. 2, 2016

El Gran Salon (Student Union)

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Edinburg Campus

Thursday, Nov. 3, 2016

University Ballroom

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

For more information or if special accommodations are needed, please contact the Career Center at **Edinburg (956-665-2243)** or **Brownsville (956-882-5627)**.

In rhythm against breast cancer



SARAH CARVAJAL/THE RIDER PHOTOS

Participants in the Cha Cha Zumbathon follow their instructor, Jessica Maltos (right), last Thursday in Edinburg. University Recreation hosted the event in observance of Breast Cancer Awareness Month.



Interdisciplinary studies sophomore Judy Sanchez (left) gets her hair cut by cosmetologist Yizza Rojo at the UREC in Edinburg. Yigi's Beauty Salon cut hair at the zumbathon and will donate it to make wigs for cancer patients.

Awareness shots



ANA CAHUICHE/THE RIDER

Chemistry graduate student Alan Villarreal shoots a small basketball while wearing beer goggles, provided by University Police, last Thursday at the Student Union veranda. Also shown is April Garcia, a bystander peer educator for the UTRGV Superhero Project. The activity, hosted by the Office of Students Rights and Responsibilities as part of Alcohol Awareness Week, simulated the experience of intoxication.

ZOMBIE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3
its website.

Coordinator Jennifer Cerda told *The Rider* that the pantry serves 35 to 40 students per week on the Edinburg campus and 15 to 20 students per week on the Brownsville campus.

Among the items in high demand at the pantry are canned fruits, vegetables, beans, soups, tuna and chicken; dried foods such as oatmeal, crackers, pancake mix, pasta and rice; and also apple sauce, fruit snacks, juice, peanut butter, jelly, pasta sauce and water.

Paola Salazar, a junior psychology

major who is helping run the event, said this is a good opportunity to raise awareness on a very real problem that affects college students everywhere.

"I think it's very important for students to understand that there are students at the university who experience hunger," Salazar said. "When you think of university students, you don't think that they experience hunger because they can afford a college education. I want people to be aware of the face that students who go to school can actually experience hunger, just like other things."

For more information, visit the event's Facebook page at Zombie Walk Food Drive.

Tenacious rider



ANA CAHUICHE/THE RIDER

Biomedical sciences sophomore Rudy Garza rides along a zip line last Tuesday on the Student Union lawn in Brownsville. The ride was provided by the Campus Programming Board for students to enjoy.

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Ayotzinapa: reflejo del ‘nuevo’ México

Rebeca Ortiz
EDITORA DE ESPAÑOL

En México, parece haberse perdido el miedo a las palabras que hace unos cuantos años horrorizaban a todos. Palabras como, asesinato, torturados, desaparecidos, sepultados, masacre y otras del mismo grado de terror profundo son ahora palabras de uso común, que casi no dicen nada impactante.

Y es que la barbarie, la crueldad extrema, parecen haberse instalado para siempre en la vida diaria de muchas regiones del México, mártir del siglo XXI.

El pasado martes se presentó en UTRGV, campus Edinburg, la plática con los padres de los “43 de Ayotzinapa”, el cual forma parte del tour universitario que dará el movimiento este otoño. El evento fue presentado por el Centro de Estudios México Americanos.

“Ayotzinapa es solo uno de los miles de casos de desaparición forzada”, dijo en su discurso de apertura la profesora de Creación Literaria, Edna Ochoa.

“A dos años de la desaparición de los 43 normalistas, el gobierno mexicano ha entorpecido y falseado los hechos con simulaciones y engaños para que no se sepa la verdad, ha mostrado su incapacidad para conducir investigaciones creíbles sobre estas desapariciones”, dijo Ochoa.

Felipe de la Cruz Sandoval y Mario González Contreras son padres y voceros del movimiento social Ayotzinapa, el cual protesta la corrupción e impunidad que impera en México y el cual tiene como misión principal encontrar a los normalistas desaparecidos la madrugada del 27 de septiembre de 2014 en Iguala, Guerrero.

De la Cruz Sandoval, cuyo hijo, Ángel Nery, entonces de 19 años, sobrevivió los ataques perpetrados por la policía de Iguala y la policía federal, mismos que han sido comprobados por las comunicaciones telefónicas entre ellos la noche del 26 y 27 de septiembre reveladas por el Grupo Interdisciplinario de Expertos Independientes, sigue estudiando y participa en la búsqueda por sus compañeros.

“Sigue con la esperanza de encontrar a sus compañeros, sigue en las actividades porque toda la escuela sigue participando, porque no podemos nosotros dejar a un lado la situación del dolor, del tormento, de la angustia de las familias, y de él, porque el también sufre al no saber de sus compañeros”, dijo De la Cruz Sandoval, quien además es maestro y forma parte de la Coordinadora Estatal de Trabajadores de la Educación de Guerrero (CETEG).

Su hijo, aunque sobreviviente, quedó



LESLEY ROBLES/FOTOS RIDER

Felipe de la Cruz Sandoval (izquierda), líder y vocero del movimiento Ayotzinapa, y Mario González Contreras escuchan la canción “En defensa de los 43 normalistas”, escrita por el profesor José Villarreal de Texas A&M University-Kingsville.

afectado psicológicamente a raíz de lo sucedido, pues “le cambió la vida como le cambió la vida a todos nosotros”.

González Contreras, padre de César Manuel González Hernández, desaparecido el 27 de septiembre del 2014, dedica su vida a encontrar la verdad sobre el paradero de su hijo, para lo cual ha tenido que cambiar su vida radicalmente de la noche a la mañana.

González Contreras, quien ahora viaja y comparte su testimonio con el mundo entero, y a quien René Pérez del grupo “Calle 13” ofreció el micrófono durante uno de sus conciertos del 2014 y que aprovechó para exigir la renuncia del entonces procurador, Murillo Karam, no tenía experiencia como activista.

“No sabía ni lo que era una activista, desgraciadamente, pues lo único que

te interesa es la educación de tu hijo, la educación de tus hijos y el trabajo y la familia. No ves más allá del entorno familiar”, dijo González Contreras.

Ochoa, panelista del evento cita al profesor Neil Harvey, de New Mexico State University, cuando dice que “es gracias a la lucha de los familiares que se ha roto con el intento de inculpar a los mismos estudiantes, y es gracias a la ampliación de la solidaridad que se exhibe como absurdo el argumento de la secretaría de relaciones exteriores, en el sentido de que Ayotzinapa es un caso aislado”.

Con sus más de 150 mil muertos y sus más de 27 mil desaparecidos desde el 2006 en la guerra contra el narcotráfico, Ayotzinapa está muy lejos de ser un caso aislado.

El movimiento Ayotzinapa no acepta apoyo del gobierno federal. Los gastos del movimiento son sufragados por los otros compañeros activistas de diferentes organizaciones y colectivos.

“No lo permitimos, lo único que le exigimos al gobierno de México es respuesta y que nos entregue a los jóvenes, porque sabemos que es un crimen de estado, porque fueron uniformados quienes se los llevaron, fue el ejército mexicano, la policía federal y todo el cuerpo policiaco”, dijo De la Cruz Sandoval. “Entonces no queremos nada económico del gobierno de México. Lo que queremos son respuestas”.

Al preguntarle si no le teme al cansancio del ajetreo dentro del movimiento social, dijo que al contrario, “cada día que amanece, amanecemos con mucho más ganas porque es un día más de sufrimiento para nosotros”.

Cabe resaltar que en el Informe *Ayotzinapa I*, que el GIEI hizo público antes de salir de México este pasado abril, afirman que en los ataques contra los normalistas hubo “una estructura de mando” con “coordinación operativa central” entre fuerzas “de dos cuerpos policiales municipales diferentes (Iguala y Cocula), y al menos 18 patrullas

municipales y una de protección civil que intervinieron esa noche”.

No obstante, González Contreras mantiene la esperanza de encontrar con vida a los normalistas.

“Está la esperanza tan viva, ¿porque?, porque no nos han demostrado lo contrario, científicamente nosotros no tenemos nada que nuestros hijos estén mal. Han querido engañarnos, nos han querido entregar de distintas formas, pero no han podido”.

Para él, lo peor de todo, “lo más nefasto del estado es que siempre los están buscando muertos, no han tenido ninguna línea de investigación que quieran buscarlos en vida y hay muchas líneas de investigación”.

González Contreras testificó este verano en la Comisión Interamericana de los Derechos Humanos en Washington, D.C.

Para poder realizar una valoración técnica de la versión oficial sobre el final de los normalistas en el basurero de Cocula, el GIEI pidió un peritaje independiente al Dr. José Torero, quien cuenta con reconocimiento mundial en investigaciones sobre incendios, para que realizara un trabajo de campo.

La conclusión publicada en su Informe *Ayotzinapa I* establece que “no hay ninguna evidencia que indique la presencia de un fuego de la magnitud de una pira para la cremación de inclusive un solo cuerpo”.

Aún así, la Procuraduría General de la República, mantiene que los normalistas fueron asesinados e incinerados en el basurero de Cocula por la célula de *Guerreros Unidos*.

Hay 140 personas en la cárcel por el caso Ayotzinapa, entre ellas, miembros de la policía, mandos medios y delincuentes. Ningún funcionario de alto rango ni policiaco ni político ha sido detenido.

A la fecha se mantiene la cerrazón del gobierno respecto de no permitir que se interrogue a los militares que tuvieron alguna intervención en aquella trágica noche.

Cuesta trabajo, si lo vemos a distancia, creer que este vocabulario atroz forme parte del paisaje diario en la sociedad mexicana, esa de la que nos separan solamente algunos metros de la frontera.

Y ahora, en pleno siglo XXI, el infortunio de México no termina, ni tiene para cuando terminar.



Mario González Contreras, padre y vocero del movimiento Ayotzinapa, comparte su testimonio durante su tour universitario, el pasado martes en el International Room del campus de Edinburg.

Vaqueras aim high in 2016

Women's basketball laying winning foundation



GABRIEL MATA/THE RIDER

Guards Idil Türk (right) and Daniela Azubell practice last Tuesday in the UTRGV Fieldhouse in Edinburg.

Bryan Ramos
THE RIDER

Coming off back-to-back winning seasons for the first time in program history, the UTRGV Women's Basketball Team is establishing itself as a force to be reckoned with in college basketball.

The last time the program had a winning record was in the 1982-83 season. After the 31-year drought, the Vaqueras have finished with a 19-14 record the previous two years.

Fourth-year Head Coach Larry Tidwell has turned the program around during his

time in the Rio Grande Valley, compiling a 52-45 record. In the past three years, the Vaqueras have earned trips to the Western Athletic Conference tournament and two second-place finishes in the WAC regular season. Tidwell's squad has put the work in and laid the foundation to build a winning tradition at UTRGV.

"I've been coaching for 41 years. I've not scored a point, grabbed a rebound, had an assist or steal; it's about your players," Tidwell said. "You've got to go out and recruit and get good players that are not

only good players, but are good people. Overall, I'm very happy with what we've done in building a culture of players that respect what we're trying to do and buying in to what we're doing."

The team began fall practice two weeks ago and is gearing up for tip-off on Nov. 12 when it takes on the University of Nebraska as part of the Preseason Women's National Invitational Tournament in Lincoln, Neb. The work toward the 2016-17 season began during the summer for the Vaqueras.

Senior guard and captain Shawnte' Goff returns for her final season after a big year in 2015-2016, where she averaged 15.5 points per game. Goff's play earned her WAC Player of the Year, All-WAC First Team and All-Defensive Team honors. She became the first in program history to be named Player of the Year in her respective conference and was voted the preseason WAC Player of the Year for the upcoming season by WAC coaches and media.

"We get here over the summer to help the new recruits learn the system," Goff said. "We feel like being here over the summer, learning the system, it will be easy once school and the season starts to get into everything because we've worked over the summer."

Returning to Tidwell's team to play a big role this year will be fellow team captains junior forward Hildur Björg Kjartansdóttir and sophomore guard Idil Türk. Kjartansdóttir's size and play around the rim provides a presence in the paint for the Vaqueras, while Türk's knockdown shooting from outside brings a dangerous threat from the three-point line. Also returning is senior forward Mary Savoy, who was sidelined with a hand injury for most of the 2016 season.

Kjartansdóttir posted seven double-doubles in her final 12 games last year and is ready for another big year.

"I'm coming in with confidence. I've been working hard this summer on getting better," Kjartansdóttir said. "I have high expectations. We're looking good right now, but we have a lot to work on. We finished second in our conference last year, so we're going for the championship this year."

Goff has scored 1,390 points in her three-year career with the program and sits only 50 points away from the record, 1,439 points set by Bianca Torre from 2009-13.

"Bianca Torre was pretty good," Goff said. "Every time I see her around she's always encouraged me to break her record, so that's really encouraging. I give most of the credit to my teammates because I can't score baskets by myself. I can't play just one on five. It will be a great accolade, but I'm looking to win games. That's an individual award and I want a team award."

The team award the group is after is a WAC conference championship and a berth to the big dance, the NCAA tournament. Tidwell has been to the NCAA tournament before, seven times as assistant head coach at Texas Christian University and once as the head coach at Lamar University. He said he hopes to take UTRGV to unreached heights.

"The main thing we want is a WAC championship and we want a WAC tournament championship in order for us to go play in the NCAA tournament and be a part of March Madness," Tidwell said. "I've been in eight of those before and there's nothing like it, and I would love for the Valley to experience that. Every person who has played and worn green and white and now the orange and silver, I have all

See **BASKETBALL**, Page 10



LESLEY ROBLES/THE RIDER PHOTOS

Sophomore Alberto Herrera trains for the Western Athletic Conference championships during practice last Tuesday at the Edinburg Municipal Park.

"It definitely helps. It's about time that we get recognized," Zapata said. "We've been working hard since my freshman year, and I know the girls have been working hard, too. We definitely want to win and be recognized by other teams."

Zapata, who is only one of three upperclassmen on a team with 12 runners, spoke with veteran experience when asked if the team ever looks at the

See **RUNNERS**, Page 10

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



SARAH CARVAJAL/THE RIDER

Name: Ragni Steen Knudsen
Sport: Volleyball
Position: Outside hitter
Classification: Sophomore
Major: Undecided

Age: 21

Hometown: Myre, Norway

Who is your favorite

athlete? "A guy who plays for the national volleyball team in Italy [Ivan Zaytsev] because he plays his way, and that really motivates me to play my way."

Who is your role model?

"I would say my dad because whenever a challenge comes to him, he never quits. He always fights to get that challenge done."

What was the best advice

you've been given and by

whom? "My uncle said to always remember where you came from."

When did you begin playing

volleyball, and why? "My

mom and dad are actually volleyball coaches, so I was practically living in the gym, like from when I was born to now."

What's your favorite place

to hang out on campus?

"Probably just outside. I don't have a specific place, but I think the campus is really beautiful."

What are your academic

goals? "To get an A in each class."

How do you feel about

being part of this team? "I

feel really lucky and blessed to be a part of this team; to be able to play with these girls is amazing."

What are your personal

goals for this season? "My

personal goals are to get better on each, like blocking, spiking, receiving. To get one step better."

--Compiled by Sarah Carvajal

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UTRGV Women's Cross Country team members Jennifer Zapata (from left), Bryana Rios, Alma Villanueva, Ana Bautista and Michelle Flores practice last Tuesday morning at the Edinburg Municipal Park.

DEBATE
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

her numbers were dropping because she kept commenting, but when she starts disappearing, her numbers rise back up.” Clinton headed into the debate with a six-point lead in the polls, according to RealClearPolitics.com.

‘Rigged election’
By far, one of the major highlights during last Wednesday’s debate was when Chris Wallace, host of “Fox News Sunday” and debate moderator, asked Trump if he would accept the result of the election if he were to lose. Trump replied, “I’ll tell you at the time; I’ll keep you in suspense.”
The reply was controversial because, as Wallace noted during the debate, it is a long-lasting tradition that the loser must concede to the winner and thus unite the country. Trump could be the first nominee in the U.S. to reject the decision because of what he calls a “rigged” election.
“For the debate, by him making that comment, which everybody is talking about that he may not accept, that’s pushing him back in the limelight, which has a negative effect,” Falk said.
Communication Department Chair John Cook said he wouldn’t be surprised if Trump were to seek legal action if he doesn’t agree with the election’s result.
“He does think the system is rigged, and what’s interesting is that his cohorts all say, ‘Oh, no, no. He is talking about the media being highly supportive of Hillary,’ but he says, ‘No, I’m talking about the election fraud, too.’” Cook said.
“And, it’s like, even his own supporters don’t support what he says, which I find very interesting.”
Trump has said in multiple rallies and social media that he believes the election

and the media are rigged against him.
Trump might think the election is rigged because his comments keep him in the limelight, Falk said.
Asked what impact this rhetoric will have in American society, Falk replied: “Overall, it could hurt the chances of people voting in general, not just for this election but in the future because if people don’t have confidence in the process, why participate?”
Trump alleges the election is rigged because millions of people who are registered to vote should not be.
About 24 million, or one of every eight, voter registrations in the U.S. are no longer valid or are significantly inaccurate, according to pewtrusts.org.
The website notes that more than 1.8 million deceased individuals are registered to vote, whereas about 2.75 million are registered in more than one state.
“All of the studies that have been done, of the millions and millions of votes that been cast, maybe 30 people have committed voter fraud,” Cook said. “I just think it’s a ridiculously small concern, but you know, he’s set up this belief system amongst his hardcore supporters.”
Trump believes Clinton should not have even been eligible to run because of the email scandal.
“The investigation began as a referral from the Intelligence Community Inspector General in connection with Secretary [of State] Clinton’s use of a personal email server during her time as Secretary of State,” FBI Director James Comey said July 5 during a press briefing. “The referral focused on whether classified information was transmitted on that personal system.”
In July, the FBI decided to not press charges against Clinton because although it “did not find clear evidence

that Secretary Clinton or her colleagues intended to violate laws governing the handling of classified information, there is evidence that they were extremely careless in their handling of very sensitive, highly classified information.”
Fitness to be president
During the debate, Wallace asked Trump about the women who have claimed to have been sexually harassed by him after the release of the infamous “locker-room talk” video.
“First of all, the stories have been largely debunked,” Trump replied. “Those people, I don’t know those people. I have a feeling how they came. I believe it was her campaign that did it.”
From a public relations perspective, Cook said the first step would be to deny it if that is, in fact, what happened, but Trump saying he wouldn’t assault the alleged victims based on their looks is sexist and wrong.
“The fact that his wife came on and said, ‘I don’t believe he did it’ is probably better PR than anything Donald Trump said,” Cook said. “In my work, I’ve occasionally managed people who were accused of sexual harassment and they would say, ‘Have you seen how attractive my wife is?’ and I go, ‘What’s that got to do with anything?’ because that’s not the answer. It’s just not.”
Trump then blamed the Clinton campaign for the violence that has happened in his rallies. He said he knew this because of an edited video, posted on YouTube by Project Veritas Action, which suggests that Scott Foval of Americans United for Change, an organization helping the Clinton campaign, was allegedly inciting violence in the Trump rallies.
In response to the video, Brad Woodhouse, president of Americans United for Change, released a statement

on “The Sean Hannity Show” saying, “Scott Foval is no longer associated with Americans United for Change.”
Clinton did not address this in her response.
Wallace then asked about the Clinton Foundation and if there was a conflict of interest, referencing the WikiLeaks emails, which showed that donors received special access to Secretary Clinton and some of those donors received government contracts.
“Well, everything I did as secretary of state was in furtherance of our country’s interests and our values,” Clinton said. “The State Department has said that: I think that it’s been proven.”
Immigration
As pointed out by the moderator, immigration is one of key issues where both candidates have polarized stances.
Trump said the U.S. needs stronger borders and that Border Patrol officers and ICE had endorsed him.
However, the National ICE Council, a union, endorsed Trump, not the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.
Clinton then said that she is for “getting rid of any violent” illegal immigrants. However, she wants to enact a comprehensive immigration reform within the first 100 days with a path to citizenship.
Trump pointed out that in 2006, Clinton was for increased border protection.
“Hillary Clinton wanted the wall,” Trump said. “Hillary Clinton fought for the wall, in 2006 or thereabouts. Now, she never gets anything done, so naturally the wall wasn’t built, but Hillary Clinton wanted the wall.”
Clinton, a senator from New York at the time, voted for the Secure Fence Act of 2006.

RUNNERS
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

times of other teams in the WAC.
“In the beginning of the season, we worry about our own rankings and where we stand,” she said. “As conference comes closer, we start focusing more on what we have to place, what we have to get, who we have to beat to be on top.”
On the men’s side, there is room for improvement over previous seasons as well. The first two years of WAC cross-country were consecutive second-to-last finishes.
UTRGV lost its top runner, Jose Juan Wells, to graduation, but this season, it’s made additions and hopes to spark improvement. The additions include

three freshmen as well as Weslaco East sophomore Alberto Herrera, who transfers to Edinburg after spending his freshman year running for University of Arkansas at Little Rock.
Herrera’s adjustment back to the Rio Grande Valley came naturally. The sophomore already has one WAC Runner of the Week title under his belt since joining the program. He said fitting in on the team was a smooth process for him.
“I fit in pretty easy, definitely different than my first college team at Arkansas, but in some ways, it’s kind of the same as my high school team. I connect more to these guys,” he said.
Herrera knows success at important meets from his high school career, qualifying for state in three consecutive

seasons and winning the District 31-6A title in 2014 as a member of the Wildcats Cross Country Team.
Asked how he ensures the conference meet is his best race yet, his answer was anecdotal.
“That whole week, I make sure I’m eating right, drinking enough water and I’m sleeping right,” Herrera said. “I just prepare for it mentally and envision myself doing what I want to do on the day of the race.”
UTRGV will travel northwest to race in 50-degree weather this weekend and hopes to return to the Valley with hardware and an extended season.
WAC member Seattle University will host the meet at the Jefferson Park Golf Course.

BASKETBALL
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

the respect in the world and I would love to do it for them. We’d like to honor our past and honor our present and set high standards for the future.”
The Vaqueras will take the floor in the Orange vs. Gray Scrimmage at 7 p.m. Nov. 5 at the UTRGV Fieldhouse for some intrasquad warm-up action. The first game of the season will be on the road against the University of Nebraska as part of the Women’s National Invitational Tournament at 1 p.m. Nov. 12. The ladies make their official home debut Nov. 25 when they face Prairie View A&M University as part of the Feast on the Border tournament.

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‘May light eternal shine upon them’

Chorale to perform John Rutter’s ‘Requiem’ Tuesday



PHOTO COURTESY DAVID PIKE

UTRGV Music Assistant Professor Sean Taylor conducts the Master Chorale Choir during last yea’s Fall Concert at the Texas Southmost College Arts Center.

Monika Garza
THE RIDER

The UTRGV Master Chorale will present its fall concert “Vita: Innocence, Romance, Tragedy and Salvation” at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday in the Texas Southmost College Arts Center in Brownsville.

Classical choral music will be performed by the student ensemble.

“The [Master Chorale] is the main chorus of the university. It is made of vocal music majors and [UTRGV] gives them each semester a performance opportunity to perform major pieces in major concerts on campus in the [TSC] Arts Center,” said Sean Taylor, music assistant professor and conductor of the ensemble concert.

The concert will feature British composer John Rutter’s “Requiem,” with solos by UTRGV Assistant Professor and cellist Katherine Decker and special guest and oboist Erica Casanova.

General admission is \$5.

A pre-concert lecture will be presented before the concert at 7:05 p.m. in the TSC Arts Center lobby.

“We will be talking about the music that we’ll be performing,” Taylor said. “So, some history and interesting facts will be discussed.”

The student chamber ensemble, which was scheduled for Thursday, has been canceled, according to the Patron of the Arts office on the Brownsville campus.

For more information about future Patron of the Arts events and tickets, visit patron.utrgv.edu to see a full schedule.

Latin Jazz Festival wraps up



MARIO GONZALEZ/THE RIDER

Trumpeter Danny Garcia and saxophonist Joe Chapa perform as part of the quintet, Joe Chapa Group, during the Brownsville Latin Jazz Festival Oct. 16 in Downtown Brownsville.

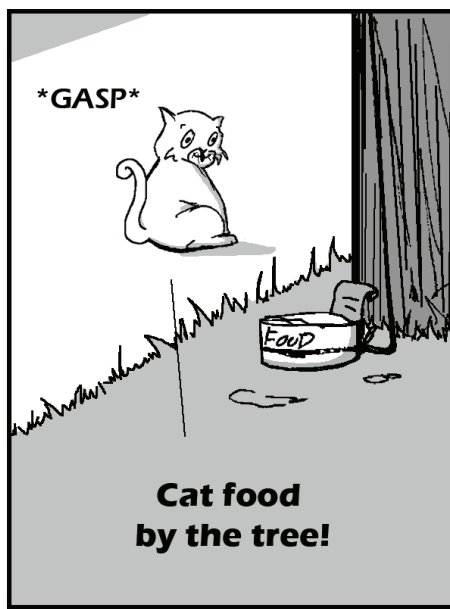
Night of angelic melodies



SARAH CARVAJAL/THE RIDER

Rebecca Coberly, a music associate professor, sings a solo, “Kyrie,” with the full choir of university and high school students directed by David Means Oct. 17 in the UTRGV Performing Arts Complex Auditorium in Edinburg.

Ride Along



By Clarissa Martinez

LUNCH SPECIALS
11AM-2PM

SUNDAY BRUNCH
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