

The Luna Light



"The People's College"
Becoming The Premier Rural Community College in America

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Mora High's Devinn Martinez to play softball at Luna CC

Martinez believed to be first softball player from Mora to play at college level

The following is a one-on-one interview with Mora High School student-athlete Devinn Martinez. She will be playing softball at Luna Community College this season.

By Jesse Gallegos

It is believed this is the first time that a Mora High graduate has made a college softball team. What are your thoughts on this?

Actually I had never thought about it like that. This was so unexpected because softball is a new program in Mora and I am very excited and grateful for the opportunity and hope that the program remains (in Mora) for future athletes.

What are your strengths as a softball player?

I think my willingness to learn and improve my skills as well as being a team player are my strengths.

What do you think you need to work on?

There is a major difference between high school and college softball, so I know I will have to adjust to that and work on everything; I am excited and anxious to learn it all.

What are you going to major in while at Luna Community College?

What professional career do you want to pursue? Right now I haven't decided what I "want to do," but I have declared my degree in the liberal arts



Devinn Martinez is pictured with her high school softball coach Josh Garcia.

program at LCC and I do plan on continuing my education.

Would you like to play softball at a four-year university after playing at Luna Community College? If so

why?

I would love to continue playing softball at a four-year university simply because I love the game.

What first interested you in the game of softball?

Both my mom and dad coached Little League for a long time and during the summer of my freshman year I decided to try it out and as time passed I loved it.

What was your grade point average in high school?

My GPA was a 3.6

What is your approach to managing being a full-time student-athlete at Luna Community College? You will be practicing and playing quite a bit, while still attending school?

I realize that it is going to be tough, but I know that I will be able to handle it with the support of the coaches and my family. I liked that the coaches stressed education and all they do to help the players, so I just need to do my part and do my best.

Should other colleges start looking closer to student-athletes from smaller communities. Obviously, there is a lot of talent in small towns?

I agree that there is a lot talent and

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Luna Community College
14 days until the first day of fall classes

Mora High's Devinn Martinez...

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I think that it would benefit small communities greatly if colleges would look closer at these athletes. Unfortunately for both the athletes and the colleges, a lot of talent is missed when they overlook small towns.

What advice can you give other student-athletes from high schools with the enrollment of Mora High or smaller that have a dream to pursue an athletic career at the college level?

I guess always do your best at what you love because you never know what opportunities lie ahead. I never would have guessed that I would be playing a game I love while in college. It's an intense feeling.

The following is a one-on-one interview with second-year LCC Softball Coach Meredith Gilpin on Martinez.

How did you first hear of Devinn?

Coach Josh Garcia contacted me for herself and other seniors on his team.

What position does she play?

Devinn's primary position is pitcher.

What impressed you about her?

Devinn's raw talent can be improved upon and her willingness to learn and make changes. Her passion and work ethic is also an added bonus for any team.

What can she add to your team?

I believe she will add that passion and work ethic for the Luna Rough Rider Softball Program.



LCC Softball Coach Meredith Gilpin says that she is impressed with Martinez' passion and work ethic which she calls a "bonus."

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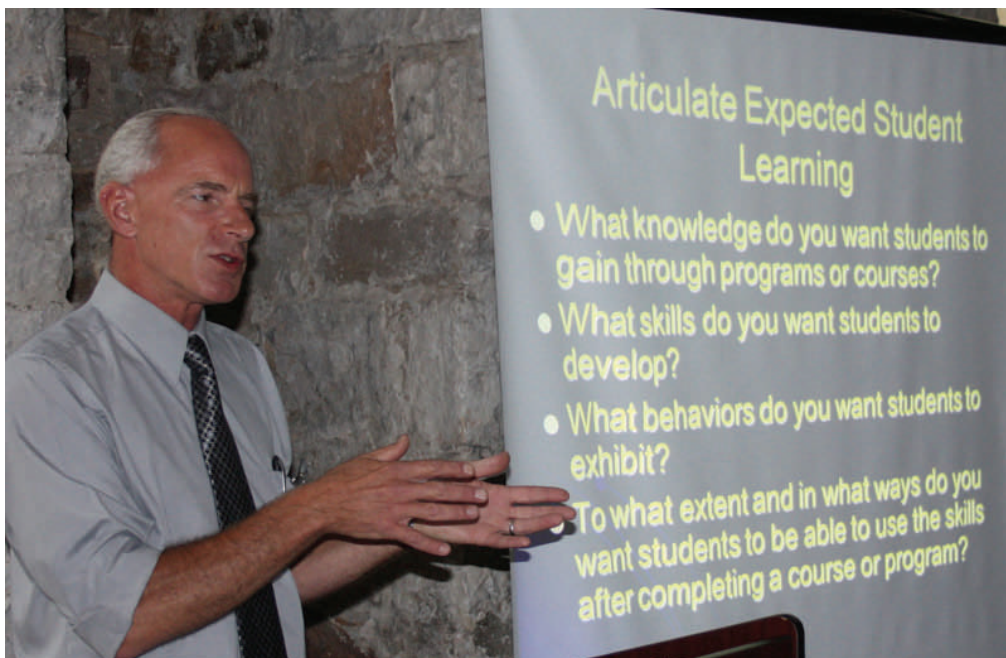
LUNA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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August 23, 2010
www.luna.edu

505.454.2500 (main campus)
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LCC Symposium—One of the best I've ever attended; it had all the elements



Luna Community College's Dr. Andrew Feldman was one of several LCC employees who were session speakers. Feldman, along with his peers, received high marks on their presentations.

A Different Perspective

By Jesse Gallegos

I couldn't have been prouder of the first-time effort of last week's Luna Community

College's Symposium. All the pre-work that went into it showed as people in attendance had plenty of gratitude.

What do I look for in conference's or symposiums? The essential elements are: organization, content and courtesy. And in all accounts

this symposium was right on target.

I was especially proud that the majority of the speakers were Luna Community College employees. I had the privilege to attend—at least is some part—all of them. Let me be the first to publicly congratulate each and every speaker. They were confident in their subject area and their delivery was well received. People seemed very appreciative.

I also liked the fact that the symposium was available to teachers and administrators at all levels from across the state. Although only few took advantage of it—the talk of the first year symposium should and will attract a lot more for the years to come.

One idea to improve it would be to have it in September, October or November when administrators and faculty are at full swing. Many may have still been on vacation during the early part of August.

Last, but certainly not least, I believe this symposium unintentionally may have brought our staff and faculty closer. It may have built credibility, if you will, amongst one another. The academic discussions during and after each session not only enhanced knowledge, but also one important element that is often overlooked—camaraderie.

Luna Community College, here is a well deserved pat on the back, and my best wishes to even a greater symposium in the fall of 2011.

LUNA COMMUNITY COLLEGE IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR THE FOLLOWING VACANT JOB POSITIONS:

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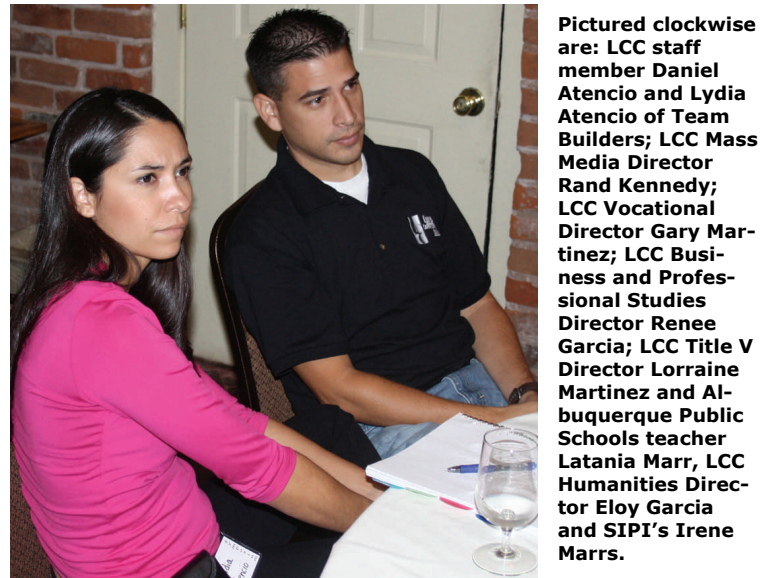
LUNA COMMUNITY COLLEGE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER. ALL POSITION POSTING FOLLOW THE LCC AFFIRMATIVE ACTION PLAN.

Photos from 2010 LCC Symposium



Pictured clockwise are: LCC faculty member Joseph Montoya, Economic Development Sec. Fred Mondragon, LCC President Dr. Pete Campos, LCC faculty member Dawna Gallegos, ENLACE Director Ron Martinez, Las Vegas City School's Superintendent Rick Romero, LCC faculty members Patricia Kuhlman and Sherry Goodyear; LCC staff members Eric Cummings and John Tiernan; LCC faculty member Harry Anderson and John Braman of The United World College and LCC Dual Credit Director Patricia Romero.

Photos from 2010 LCC Symposium



Pictured clockwise are: LCC staff member Daniel Atencio and Lydia Atencio of Team Builders; LCC Mass Media Director Rand Kennedy; LCC Vocational Director Gary Martinez; LCC Business and Professional Studies Director Renee Garcia; LCC Title V Director Lorraine Martinez and Albuquerque Public Schools teacher Latania Marr, LCC Humanities Director Eloy Garcia and SIPI's Irene Marrs.

Photos from 2010 LCC Symposium



Pictured clockwise are: LCC SMET Director Dr. Andrew Feldman (Feldman gave two talks on two different issues—assessment and alternative energy); LCC Board of Trustees Member Abelino Montoya Jr.; LCC Director of Education Debbie Trujillo; Highlands faculty member Dr. David Olivas and LCC staff member Denise Gibson.

LCC: "The People's College"

2010 softball and baseball orientation



The 2010 Luna Community College Athletic Orientation took place on Friday, Aug. 6.



Pictured clockwise are: LCC student-athletes and their parents enjoy a barbecue; LCC Financial Aid Director Regina Madrid; LCC faculty member Art Abreu; LCC Vice-President for Academics Dr. Vidal Martinez with Farmington High Grad Ashton Martinez and her mom Donna Zeliniski; students and parents at LCC and Dr. Pete Campos.

Carlos Lovato always put students first

By Dr. Pete Campos

At the time of one's passing, it is said that the good comes out. Well, the good that Carlos Lovato did—came out—throughout his life and will continue as many of us will remember his words, actions and are direct benefactors of his goodwill.

During the thirty plus years I worked alongside Carlos who was a colleague, strong advocate for student success and community leader, who tirelessly always sought to find help for students, the elderly and people he had just met.

He did things quietly, effectively and never for personal credit. He would pick up the phone at anytime and call any member of the federal congressional or state legislative delegation. His work with these distinguished federal and state leaders was second to none. For example—he was able to help free up \$11 million federal dollars for the Ivan Hilton Science Technology Building and get federal funds necessary recommitted for the successful Upward Bound Program at New Mexico Highlands University. He once even called upon state leaders to not lose faith in and continue investing in the Behavioral Health Institute. While economic times may have been tough, government leaders listened!



Carlos Lovato (left) with Dr. Pete Campos. Campos says Lovato was a champion for the well-being of people and education was his focus.

Soon, construction on the first phase of the new long-term care facility will begin. The list of his effectiveness and successes goes on and on. We often visited and he would always tell me: “We have to help these kids; we have to get them educated, give them good experiences and get them to see other places and help them find jobs.” Carlos never changed his message—it was always about students!

While he could have retired and possibly relaxed a little, he did not want too! He would say: “I’ve got the energy to help these kids and I want to keep doing it.” Thousands of New Mexico students and many from other states and countries benefited from Carlos’ wholehearted commitment. That’s probably why we got along so well. Yeah, just recently, we chided each other about who would become Governor, but we both knew that his heart was with kids and regardless who served as our chief of state; he would quietly continue his quest to pursue opportunities for our youth. Mi Querido Amigo Carlos: your legacy to “put students first” lives on.

Note: At the time of his passing, Lovato was director of NMHU’s Upward Bound Program.

First impressions say a lot

By Lorraine Martinez

I can recall, as I’m sure you do, the first day of registration. The excitement, anticipation and even hesitation in what to expect was overwhelming. Did we feel lost? You bet we did, but we persevered. The long lines, classes that closed just as we got to the table and the conversations with friends, advisors and professors were major steps in pursuing our goals as students as we entered college for the first time. At each line, there were people to answer questions we may have had and navigate us incoming freshman in the right direction. No doubt, these experiences we will never forget at the beginning of our careers. *First impressions say a lot!*

Remember going to a place of business, a school and a new job and being treated with kindness where people were helpful, sincere and ready to go that extra mile to make sure you as the customer were satisfied? As the saying goes, ‘treat people the way that you

would like to be treated.’ *First impressions say a lot!*

Student orientation and registration for the athletes took place at Luna Community Col-

We all need to work in the same positive direction everyday and support each other in providing quality education and customer satisfaction.

lege on Friday, Aug. 6, 2010. Parents and excited students spent the day in orientation, testing, and finally registering for classes. I was one of many employees who helped with the process on Friday and evoked memories from way back. I felt reminisce in seeing how enthusiastic the students were and how the parents stood by to help them pursue a new path knowing when to let go. Those were the days that I recall with nostalgia my mixed feelings, and empathize with both students and parents.

As I chatted with an associate, he recalled the day he went to buy a part for his truck at an automotive store and was treated with indifference. No, he didn’t buy the part there; instead he went to another auto store and came out buying additional parts for several years that he didn’t need. Nevertheless, being treated with dignity and respect is what prompted his willingness to invest. *First impressions say a lot!*

What are the payoffs for this incredible day for students, parents and staff? Smiling faces, relief, and a sense of moving forward and perhaps more is the pay back.

Luna Community College is always prepared to serve its customers, the students, and provide the best “customer service” we can. Often, there isn’t a second chance to make a first impression.

We all need to work in the same positive direction everyday and support each other in providing quality education and customer satisfaction. *First impressions say a lot!*