



Texas Alliance for Minorities in Engineering
The University of Texas at Austin
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**Report: TAME Trailblazer Trip – HESTEC and Edinburg Area Schools
September 24 - 27, 2008**

Sponsors: The Meadows Foundation and ConocoPhillips



Thanks to funding provided by The Meadows Foundation and ConocoPhillips, and volunteers from University of Texas-Pan American (UT-PA), **over 1100 students and parents** from the Edinburg area were given the unique opportunity to experience the TAME Trailblazer, a 40-foot mobile science and engineering exhibit trailer.

HESTEC (Hispanic Engineering, Science and Technology) is a year-round program that culminates in a weeklong event held on the UT-PA campus. During this week, activities are provided for educators, students and parents emphasizing the importance of science literacy. Six different schools brought students to tour the Trailblazer from Wednesday through Friday. Community Day, held on Saturday, is open to the public allowing families to enjoy the activities together. HESTEC attracts more than 85,000 students, parents and community members each year. The list of speakers is impressive and for 2008, included Congressmen Gene Green, Rubén Hinojosa and Henry Cuellar.



Here are some comments from students who visited the Trailblazer:

- "It was fun and educational"
- "They had awesome gadgets and you learn a lot"
- "I think I want to do engineering ..."
- "Learning science is fun"

Together, we make a difference because of the continued efforts of our longtime supporters and active partners such as The Meadows Foundation, University of Texas-Pan American, ConocoPhillips, Shell Oil Company, Dow Chemical Company, University of Texas at Austin, Halliburton, Lockheed Martin, ABB, IBM and many others who join us in devoting time and energy to our most important natural resource – our children.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael Nevels".

Michael Nevels
Trailblazer Tour Coordinator

