

9-30-2010

The Prospector, September 30, 2010

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Academics

Lack of funds affects students

BY ANOUSHKA VALODYA

The Prospector

When students ask for an increase in fees, something must be wrong.

Tired of working with old equipment and insufficient resources, students, faculty and staff from the College of Science are proposing lab fee increases to provide newer equipment for the chemistry and biology laboratories.

The lab fee price ranges from \$1 to \$40.

Chemistry professor James Becvar said he made a pitch last year to increase the fees, which he said have been stagnant for a decade.

"Our lab fees are dramatically lower than other chemistry lab courses at other Texas institutions," Becvar said. "We are financially strapped, and it's difficult to pay for basic office supplies while also paying for lab materials out of the same account."

He referred to the sharing of the Maintenance and Operation account, which isn't primarily allocated for lab materials.

Juan Camacho, administrative services officer, is in charge of making purchases for the science labs.

"If I worked with only student lab fee funds, then it would sometimes be tight to make purchases," Camacho said. "Sometimes I struggle to find money, so I get it from other accounts, like Maintenance and Operation."

Camacho said the average money available from student lab fees per year for biology lab courses is \$60,000 and that each year he has to

take between \$4,000 to \$5,000 from the Maintenance and Operation account to cover expenses.

Christina Gonzalez, chemistry graduate student, is in charge of placing the orders for biology labs.

"To buy and maintain equipment is expensive and hard to get approval for buying," she said. "I feel like the university focuses on research more, instead of the teaching aspect. For example, the autoclaves need to be replaced since they're over 20 years old."

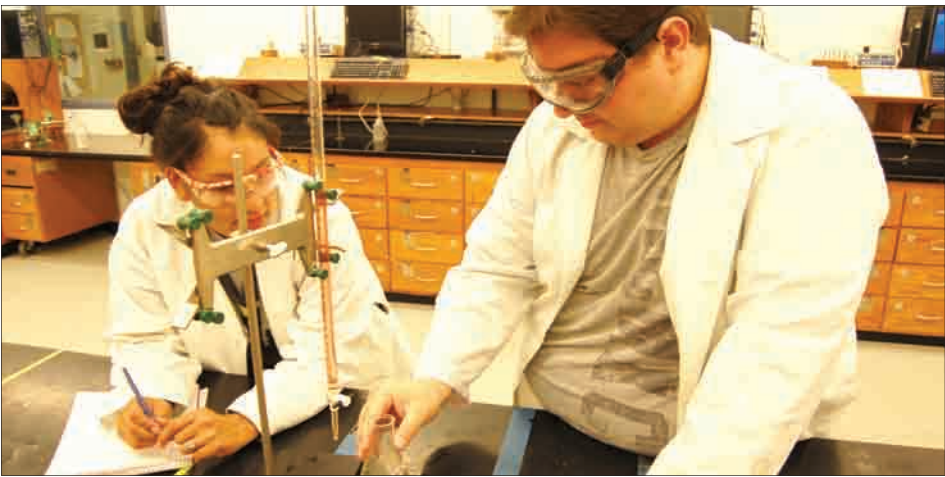
Jorge Gardea-Torresdey, chair of the chemistry department, said that although the department obtained grants, the lab fees should still be increased.

"We have increased enrollment and a new Ph.D. degree in chemistry and yet our budget hasn't gone up accordingly as it should have been," Gardea-Torresdey said. "Yes, the lab fees did increase, like from \$20 to \$30, but that's not a lot."

Anny Morrobel-Sosa, dean of the College of Science, said that Becvar's proposal is currently under review.

"We evaluate all requests for lab fees, but we also take into account the fact that many of our students are economically constrained so we try to minimize lab fees as best we can," Morrobel-Sosa said. "The budget is never sufficient. You will always want more money, but you do the best with what you have."

Edmundo Silva, junior applied mathematics major, said he took around four labs and wasn't too impressed with the quality of equipment.



JESUS PEREZ / The Prospector

Jacky Hernandez, junior, biology pre-dental major, works along side Chris Hvizdak, sophomore, biology pre-medical major at the labs in the Physical Science building.

"The organic chemistry melting pot device didn't work, and neither did the hot plates. The equipment was good but old and not 100 percent accurate," Silva said. "Precision would have been better with newer equipment. I'm wondering where our lab fees go?"

Chemistry lecturer Bonnie Gunn teaches chemistry labs 1105 and 1106, which have \$1 and \$4 lab fees, respectively. Although she calls the equipment, especially the computers as new and state-of-the-art, she admitted that there is a need for more money to go toward supplies.

"We do need to see an increase in lab fees. If you compare this university's lab fees to other universities, we're under," Gunn said. "The biggest problem we have is our balances. They're extremely old, probably six to seven years of age, and without lab fees, we don't have funds to replace them on a regular basis."

Gunn said that a few more dollars could go a long way.

see **SCIENCE** on page 3



Special to The Prospector

QUEER HISTORY MONTH celebration

BY CANDICE MARLENE DURAN

The Prospector

UTEP students, faculty and staff will do their part to bring awareness to issues affecting the gay community during Queer History Month. They hope to bring these issues to the forefront not only in the El Paso community, but the world.

"We want to take this on a global scale," said Jesus Smith, sociology graduate student and vice president of Queer Student Alliance. "We want to go through films, politics, culture, society and all different things. We want to take that concept about homosexuality and bring it to public attention."

Queer History Month takes place in October to celebrate the progress in the gay community. This year's theme is "Looking back, marching forward." UTEP will celebrate the month with events concerning queer history, politics and campaigns.

"LGBT people don't realize how fast the progress is, although, we have a long way to go," Smith said. "We have a huge strive for a better quality life and we keep in mind that the social movement for queer equality takes a long time, years maybe."

As part of the celebrations, the Union Cinema will showcase films and documentaries exploring issues affecting the gay community.

"Out in the Silence," directed by Joe Wilson, will be screened Oct. 12 at the Union Cinema. The film is about his own experiences with homophobia in his small town.

"Paris is Burning" is a documentary about New York City's transgender community. The film digs into race, sexuality, gender and class in America. This film will be presented by Stacey Sowards, assistant professor of communication, Oct. 19.

see **HISTORY** on page 5

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Column

Are we ready?

BY VANESSA JUAREZ
The Prospector



On Sept. 28, Colton Tooley, 19, walked onto the University of Texas at Austin campus and opened fire around 8:10 a.m., before killing himself on the sixth floor of the Perry-Castañeda Library. Tooley, sophomore mathematics major, was armed with an AK-47 rifle, and though he fired several shots in the direction of the South Mall and the University Catholic Center, shot no one else.

When I first heard about the incident, my memory instantly harkened back to frantic images of the deadly shootings at Columbine and Virginia Tech. I was filled with dread that, yet again, more students had been killed on campus – a place where you should feel safe. Because of Austin’s proximity, I’m sure I wasn’t the only El Pasoan also worried about the safety of my friends who attend the university. Before I had received more details about what had happened, I rushed to the conclusion that a distraught gunman had once more, caught a university off guard, and students had paid with their lives. Fortunately, and thankfully, that wasn’t the case.

In fact, it has been happily surprising to hear the university handled an emergency as unexpected as this, so quickly. With a campus the size of UT Austin, which has 51,233 students enrolled as of this fall, there’s no way to completely prevent violence on campus. The same can be said of UTEP, whose population has steadily increased to 22,106 students enrolled this fall. In the case of large universities, the best way to prevent tragedy is to have a fast-reacting, efficient law enforcement and emergency notification system in place. In the aftermath of this incident, UT Austin seems to have both.

What is most encouraging and astounding to me about this tragic incident is how swiftly students were notified about what was happening on campus. After doing some research with students I know at UT Austin, the Daily Texan (UT Austin’s student newspaper) and the public affairs office at the university, I was able to piece together a timeline of events.

Shots were first fired around 8:10 a.m. Almost immediately, university

police were notified of the event and acted jointly with the Austin Police Department. According to Antonio Guevara, junior public affairs and political communication major at UT Austin, the emergency notification system went into effect immediately when the siren and loudspeaker were activated. Soon enough, the SWAT team became a part of the investigation.

At around 8:20 a.m., Guevara, who was signed up to receive campus text alerts, was first notified that a “gunman was suspected to be on campus” and was last seen at the Perry-Castañeda Library. Throughout the day, Guevara received four more text messages and at least two emails from Bill Powers, the president of the university. At 11:18 a.m., the emergency information website for UT Austin notified students that campus was closed. Much earlier than that, shuttles and buses carrying students to UT Austin were notified of the emergency and kept students away from campus. According to a statement issued by Powers, the university implemented all the facets of their emergency notification system, including sirens over the loudspeakers, text message alerts, email alerts and online updates.

Though I’m usually hypocritical of any large institution’s ability to be efficient when it’s most important, I have to say that I’m impressed with how swiftly and thoroughly the university notified its students about what was going on. Literally, my friend told me that he received text messages at 8:20 a.m., 8:42 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 10:10 a.m. and 12:15 p.m. According to Guevara, the incident was handled, “very effectively to say the least.” He also said that the consensus among other students was that the event was handled really well.

Tooley’s assault was short-lived, but I think everyone knows that this could have been a potentially bloody incident. What could have happened is enough to make me shudder and it got me thinking about the preparedness of our own university.

According to Art Acevedo, Austin Police Chief, the law enforcement community had just undergone training with the university and other branches on how to handle an emergency cooperatively. Proof of that seems to be that the crime scene was secured so seamlessly. It made me wonder if UTEP police and the El Paso Police Department have ever done something like that as well. The emergency siren system at

UT also helped notify students immediately that something was wrong on campus. UTEP does have a similar P.A. system set up, but I don’t believe I have ever heard the test siren.

According to Guevara, UT Austin tests their emergency sirens at least once a month. Apparently the loudspeakers at UTEP are tested regularly, however, I myself, along with a lot of students and staff I have talked to, have never heard the siren go off. Even if the sirens do go off, is the university certain that everyone from the Sun Bowl to the Academic Services Building can hear it? According to students at UT Austin, the sirens from campus could be heard about two miles away.

UTEP has instituted the emergency text alerts through Mobile Campus and has even been pushing students to sign up for it at safety fairs. In the event of an emergency, this tool could be life-saving. I know that several universities have used chunks of time to stage an event to test their emergency system. Shouldn’t we conduct some kind of test drill as well? I understand the staff at UTEP has to undergo emergency preparedness training, but I’m worried that a lot of students seem to be unaware of the emergency plan, which I found a pdf copy of at www.utep.edu/documents/police/emergencyplan.pdf. My advice to students, check it out.

Still, with our growing student population, the fairly large war veteran population, the frequency of campus shootings and the threat of border violence spillover, does UTEP have the emergency system in place to support us? Luckily, UTEP hasn’t had to deal with a violent situation in recent memory, but that isn’t to say that something couldn’t happen. Tooley’s actions in Austin demonstrate that a threat can appear seemingly out of nowhere. This could happen to any campus and just because it has never happened at UTEP, doesn’t mean it never will.

Admittedly, UT Austin may be more conscious of its safety considering the tragedy that struck in 1966 when student Charles Whitman killed 16 people, but we should be just as prepared for an event like this. We can’t prevent people from coming onto campus with a concealed weapon, but I’m also not sure we have the reflexes to respond to an emergency like UT Austin did.

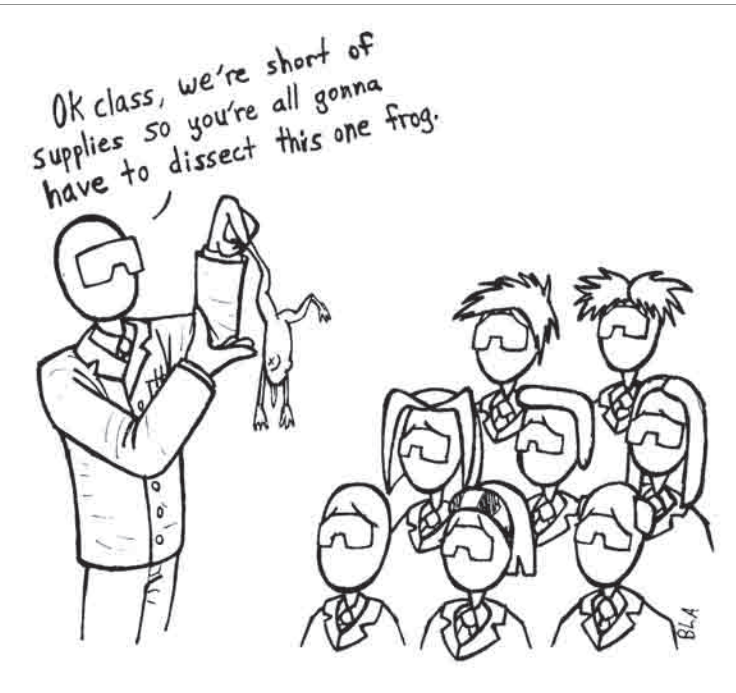
Vanessa Juarez may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

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THE PROSPECTOR

September 30, 2010

NOW gives former senator baby bottle tops in protest

BY ADAM LIEBENDORFER

Special to The Prospector

WASHINGTON - To protest to remarks made by a top economic policy official, the National Organization for Women called for his removal Wednesday by giving him a gift.

NOW President Terry O’Neill went to a National Commission on Financial Responsibility and Reform meeting and gave a bag of baby bottle nipples to commission Co-chair Alan Simpson. While O’Neill offered her “going-away gift,” about a dozen protesters picketed outside the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

“He gave us, frankly, the opportunity to inject a little levity in response to him, but actually the message is very serious,” she said.

O’Neill brought some of the estimated 1,500 bottle tops in a cellophane bag, wrapped with purple ribbon and tagged, “To Alan Simpson, From NOW.” O’Neill said that for every \$5 donors gave, NOW would buy one rubber nipple.

O’Neill’s plan was to give Simpson the nipples as he walked through the hearing room’s main door. When he came through a side door, she rushed into the room and gave them to him, saying she hoped he will “have the decency to resign from the commission.”

In an August e-mail to Ashley Carson, executive director of the Older Women’s League, the former Wyoming senator and minority whip compared the Social Security program to “a milk cow with 310 million tits,” adding, “Call when you get honest work!” Simpson has long had a reputation for making impolitic statements.

His remarks prompted NOW to start the “Tits for an Ass” campaign, which calls for Simpson’s removal from the commission and prompted the baby bottle nipple donations.

“The main thing I think right now is for people to really shine a spotlight on what Alan Simpson wants to do to So-

cial Security in the name of fixing the deficit,” O’Neill said.

Simpson declined the nipples and suggested they be taken to a children’s hospital.

The bipartisan commission began its meeting after O’Neill and Simpson spoke for a few moments and shook hands.

Paul Posner, director of the Public Administration Program at George Mason University, supported performance-based budgeting. Janet St. Laurent and Patricia Dalton, of the Government Accountability Of-

see **NOW** on page 5



ADAM LIEBENDORFER / Special to The Prospector

President of the National Organization for Women Terry O’Neill attempts to the tell co-chair of the Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform, Alan Simpson, to step down.

SCIENCE from page 1

“We’re looking at an increase from \$1 to \$10 and from \$4 to \$15, so we’re not asking for a large increase, but enough to replace broken and damaged equipment and potentially get rid of old pieces,” Gunn said.

She did cite students as responsible for the deterioration of lab equipment.

“The Bunsen burners look old, but really they are not that old. What we’re dealing with is chemical corrosion, and there’s nothing we can do with that,” Gunn said. “Also what is happening is that kids are not cleaning their glassware.”

However, Eli Greenbaum, assistant professor for biological sciences, said that he has no problems with the lab materials he uses in his classes.

“I’m very happy with the resources we have available here, and I haven’t heard anything from students,” Greenbaum said.

Mathew Ambrose, senior finance major, said that in his Human Anatomy and Physiology Lab 2111, an experiment wasn’t successful due to the materials.

“The rat we experimented on was really old. We need younger rats that are pink, and the scalpels had no sharpness, so we couldn’t really cut that much,” he said.

Melanie Jabalie, freshman pre-pharmacy major, said she has taken two science courses with labs, including Chemistry 1305.

“Some of the balances I worked with needed to be recalibrated since the needle didn’t go to zero,” Jabalie said. “So there was some percent of error, but they were good enough for what we did in class, which was to practice using them.”

Chris Hvizdak, sophomore biological sciences major, said that while the glassware equipment is up to par, he would like to see upgrades and repairs in other supplies and equipment.

“We should get better hand soap, like the grade hospitals use,” Hvizdak said. “Also, the thermostat connected to the computer sensor panel was inaccurate, like a two-percent off margin. A thermometer would have given a better reading.”

Devin Terrin, senior psychology major, said quality is divided by course levels.

However, Gunn said that she’s stunned that students complain about the quality of equipment at UTEP, especially since students from St. Mary’s University and Texas Tech University praised what UTEP offers to its science students.

“These students who used our labs during the summer had nothing to say but ‘ooh and ah, this is so cool!’ It’s because we have state-of-the-art technology and they don’t,” Gunn said.

The budget for chemistry for the 2009 to 2010 year was nearly \$2 million, which increased 14.4 percent since the previous year.

Biological Sciences had a budget of more than \$2.6 million during the same year, an 11.2 percent increase from the previous year.

Budget items include faculty salaries, administrative and professional salaries, classified personnel, wages, maintenance and operation and travel.

Anoushka Valodya can be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

simplystated

Bellydance superstars
return to El Paso

The Bellydance superstars present “Bombay Bellywood” at 7:30 p.m. Oct. 6 at Magoffin Auditorium. Tickets are available at the UTEP Ticket Center or ticketmaster.com. For more information, visit bellydance-superstars.com.

UTEP MBA week

UTEP’s Master of Business Administration (MBA) programs will host UTEP MBA Week Oct. 4-9 at the UTEP Graduate Business Center in Downtown El Paso.

The event provides prospective MBA students to learn more about the program and attend several accelerated MBA or international MBA classes.

For more information, e-mail gbc@utep.edu or call 915-747-7727. The UTEP Graduate Business Center is located at 201 E. Main Drive, Suite 110.

New degree to provide
pathway for dancers to teach

Dance students at UTEP now will have an easier path to become teachers in public schools through the new Bachelor of Arts degree in dance with teacher certification, which was approved by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board in mid-September.

Like other programs in the College of Liberal Arts that provide teacher certification, the new degree offers major courses in dance along with education classes that will ready them for classroom settings.

Rockin’ your Vote 2010

The El Paso Young Democrats, El Paso County Democratic Party, Unity 2010 and local sponsors are hosting Rockin’ Your Vote 2010 to encourage people to register to vote.

The free concert will feature Radio La Chusma and Karma. The event takes place from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Oct. 3 at Club 101. For more information, contact Jay Desal at 637-5987.

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Please send or drop off completed entry to: Students' Choice Awards, c/o The Prospector, 105 Union East, El Paso, TX 79968-0622, or drop them off at Student Publications office located at 105 Union East.

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LOOKING BACK
MARCHING FORWARD

Oct. 2
Spotlight 2010 (Music, Art, Dance, Song)
Magoffin Auditorium
Silent Art Auction: 6 p.m.
Show starts: 7:30 p.m.

Oct. 12
"Out in the Silence" film premiere and discussion
Union Cinema
6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.
With directors Joe Wilson and Dean Hamer

Oct. 13
UTEP Coming Out Day and Disabled Student Services Resource Fair
Union Breezeway
11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Oct. 19
"Paris Is Burning" film discussion
CAB Garage, Union Building West, Room 111
noon-1:20 p.m.
With Stacey Sowards

Oct. 20
Queernival/International Food Fair
Geology Lawn
10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
with the Office of International Programs

Oct. 21
"Bodily Love and Body Expressions of Sexuality"
Women's Resource Center, Union Building West, Room 112
noon -1:20 p.m.
With Brenda Risch and Ambar Calvillo

Oct. 23
AIDS Walk
International AIDS Empowerment Memorial Park 8:00 a.m - noon
With Delta Lambda Phi

Oct. 26
"Fire" film discussion
CAB Garage, Union Building West, Room 111
noon -1:20 p.m.
With Maryse Jayasuriya

Oct. 27
"Africa and Homosexuality"
Women's Resource Center, Union Building West, Room 112
noon -1:20 p.m.
With Charles Ambler and Sarah Ryan

Oct. 28
"Sex Ed 201: The lessons LGBT people never get"
Student Health Center
noon - 1:20 p.m.

Nov. 2
"A Jihad for Love" film discussion
CAB Garage, Union Building West, Room 111
noon -1:20 p.m.
With Arvind Singhal and Julia Camacho

Nov. 3
"Homosexuality and the Military: A Global and Historical look at Greece"
Women's Resource Center, Union Building West, Room 112
noon -1:20 p.m.
With Ron Weber

Nov. 5
"Looking Back, Marching Forward: A Look at Queer History through

the eyes of a Chicana"
Blumberg Auditorium
5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
With Emma Perez

Nov. 9
"Dakan" film discussion
CAB Garage, Union Building West, Room 111
noon -1:20 p.m.
With Charles Ambler

Nov. 10
"Size Matters: The Brain as the Largest Sex Organ"
Women's Resource Center, Union Building West, Room 112
noon -1:20 p.m.
With Kristin Gosselink

Nov. 11
"Down Low Women: A Discussion on the Fluidity of Female Sexuality"
Women's Resource Center, Union Building West, Room 112
noon -1:20 p.m.
With Cristina Rivera, QSA President

Nov. 13
The Queer Leadership and Academic Development Conference
Union Building East
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Nov. 16
"Transamerica" film discussion
CAB, Union West, Room 111
3:00 p.m. - 4:20 p.m.
With Aurolyn Luykx

Nov. 18
UTEP's Transgender Day of Remembrance Presents: "Cassandro El Exotico" film premiere and discussion
6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Union Cinema
With Miguel Juarez, doctoral candidate, U.S. History/Borderlands

HISTORY from page 1
Also being shown is "Fire," a documentary film set in India that explores questions about lesbianism. The film will be presented by English professor Maryse Jayasuriya Oct. 26. The three other movies planned to be screened are "Jihad for Love" Nov. 2, "Dakan" Nov. 9 and "Transamerica" Nov. 16. "Jihad for Love" is about the religious struggle and acceptance of queer people in society. It is the first film to uncover homosexuality among Muslims. The film will be presented by Arvind Singhal, professor of communication and Julia Schiavone-Camacho, assistant professor in the Department of History. "Dakan" is a film about a gay couple's quest to become straight, and how they are eventually reunited. This film explores homosexuality and race in Africa and will be presented by history professor Charles Ambler. "Transamerica" is a film about a transgender woman (Felicity Huffman) who is brought back together with her son and tries to lead him down the path to a better life. The film will be presented by Aurolyn Luykx, anthropology and education professor. Lastly, "Cassandro el Exótico" is a documentary about an El Pasoan and world-renowned luchador Cassandro el Exótico. Cassandro, whose real name is Saul Armendariz, and director Michael Ramos Araizaga will be at the showing of the film for a Q&A session. "I plan to attend as many of the films as I can," said Ambar Calvillo, senior organizational and corporate communication major. "They play really diverse movies and I will be leading one of the panels." Calvillo will be a mediator at the "Bodily Love and Body Expressions of Sexuality" panel Oct. 21. "I'm going to be talking about how queer people and straight people express themselves," Calvillo said. "How they express themselves in relationships and bodily expression. That's my contribution to bringing awareness." Members of the Rainbow Miner Initiative, who are organizing the events, hope to use Queer History Month not only to fight for queer rights, but also African American rights, women's rights and all minority rights. "People need to understand that queer history is part of our history," Smith said. "This is happening all over the world. People will start to ask themselves 'Did everybody choose these sexualities?' and we're bringing global concern." Straight Allies, a supportive group of Rainbow Miner Initiative, is helping the campaign by advocating fair treatment for everybody. "Basically I'm a supporter for LG-BTQ by being a straight ally and supporting their campaigns," said Jamal Nava, Campus Activities Board member and senior computer information systems major. "I give them moral support and advocate for the LGBTQ." For more information, call the Student Development Center at 747-5670. Candice Marlene Duran may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

NOW from page 3
fice, spoke about reducing wasteful spending. Simpson didn't address NOW's criticism during the hearing, but co-chair Erskine Bowles, President Bill Clinton's chief of staff, defended Simpson's stance on Social Security. "For those of you here today that want to save Social Security, I can assure you that the one thing Alan Simpson talks about is simply making Social Security solvent for 75 years," he said. "You don't have to worry about Alan Simpson." O'Neill said her main message was to urge the commission "to understand Social Security really has nothing to do with the deficit" and that she found Simpson's comment about "honest work" the more offensive of the two. "Using foul language - fine," she said. "He's a man who uses foul language. But accusing a woman who has dedicated her career to helping older women - and accusing her of not having honest work is outrageous." Adam Liebandorfer, a double major in journalism and Spanish at Ohio University, is participating in the Scripps Howard Foundation's Semester in Washington internship program this fall. He may be reached at shws2@shns.com.

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CAMPBELL VIRGINIA TEXAS

Contest

UTEP history makes student a winner

Trivia answer translates to free parking pass

“Because of the contest, students can know at least a little bit of the history of campus and not just attend classes.”

- Ernesto Avila, pre-business major

BY NICOLE CHÁVEZ
The Prospector

Taking a look at UTEP history was enough for Ernesto Avila, junior pre-business major, to be the winner of the Centennial Trivia contest organized by the Office of Student Affairs. “I just searched on Google and Wikipedia for UTEP history,” Avila said. “Now, I think students should really know about the history of the school.”

After Avila correctly answered the question, “what is the significance of this date (Sept. 23) in UTEP history?,” he was randomly selected from a total of 687 correct answers. Two days later, he received an e-mail announcing he won a free parking pass for a year.

UTEP officials unveiled the “Mining Minds” sculpture, located at the university’s roundabout, Sept. 23, which marked the anniversary of the first day of classes at UTEP.

UTEP President Diana Natalicio thought students should be aware of the history and proposed the idea of the Centennial Trivia.

“Having a contest, with a great prize, seemed to be a good way to engage students,” said Gary Edens, assistant vice president for student affairs.

A total of 717 responses were received.

“All of us who helped organize the contest are thrilled with the wonderful response from students,” Edens said. “Not only did we have a large number of entries, but the vast majority of them answered the question correctly.”

UTEP had 27 students when the campus first opened and now there are more than 22,000 students enrolled, which is 814 times the initial student population in 1914.

Avila’s response was “UTEP officially opened on Fort Bliss with an enrollment of 27 students on Sept. 23, 1914.”

“Because of the contest, students can know at least a little bit of the history of the campus and not just attend classes,” Avila said.

Nicole Chávez may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.



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DIEGO BEDOLLA / The Prospector

Ernesto Avila, junior pre-business major, won a free parking pass for correctly answering the Centennial Trivia contest.

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entertainment

Music

The Lusitania christens new album



Special to The Prospector

The Lusitania will release their full-length album “Rain and Rivers” at 8 p.m. Oct. 3. at Ardovino’s Desert Crossing.

BY JUSTIN ANTHONY MONAREZ
The Prospector

Local alt-country rockers, The Lusitania, will end a yearlong anchor watch with the release of their debut album “Rain and Rivers” Oct. 3.

“I think we’re all a little dramatized,” said Mike Duncan, frontman and english graduate student.

The new full-length album signifies the lifting of their figurative anchor and the continuation of their six-year journey.

The Lusitania will release their album with a performance at 8 p.m. Oct. 3 at Ardovino’s Desert Crossing. Sleepercar’s Jim Ward will also perform at the CD release show.

There is a \$10 donation for entry into the event. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to Beans and

Rice for Northern Mexico and the other half for a copy of the album.

Recording for the album started in May 2009. The band members expected the album to be completed in weeks, a month at max, but weeks turned into months, and a month into a year.

“We thought ‘uh, it’ll take a couple weeks,’” said Charles Berry, drummer and junior English major. “It took a lot of weeks.”

Although the record was finished at Clap of Thunder studios, many album tracks were recorded in closets and bathrooms at Jim Ward’s house, Mike’s mother’s house, Penny Lane studio and more.

“We recorded a lot of it guerilla style,” Mike said.

Ward and Sleepercar band mate Gabe Gonzalez co-produced the album together. They offered to help

the band during production and post-production.

After the album was finalized, the band and producers decided to release the record on Ward’s Civil Defense League records and their merchandise website tembloroso.com.

“They put a lot of time in it with the idea that we were going to become a type of family, a part of their community, and we would work together after the album is out,” said Blake Duncan, bassist and Mike’s brother.

Despite the help from local music scene veterans, there were still some difficulties when recording the album.

“It just kind of spaced out that way. Whenever Sleepercar had something going on that means we didn’t do anything for a while,” Blake said.

During the course of the year, Ward was kept busy with Hope and Anchor’s opening and setting up Clap of

see **ALBUM** on page 8

Prefuse 73 beats to give El Paso electronica life

BY OMAR LOZANO
The Prospector

The patron saint of underground glitchy, hip-hop Prefuse 73 will bring his unique take on live electronica to the Black Market at 7 p.m. Oct. 3.

Performing under the alias Prefuse 73, crafty beat producer Guillermo Scott Herren has made his way into the electronic music spectrum by blurring the genre line via use of heavy stuttering, hip-hop influenced breakbeats, obscure samples and dreamy synths.

Prefuse 73’s live experience often utilizes a vast array of creative resources, from a slew of electronic MIDI controllers, live instrumentation, full DJ set, live vocals and even beat boxing.

“This is really big for this city. Prefuse 73 coming over here is a statement that this type of [electronic]



Special to The Prospector

Producer Guillermo Scott Herren, who performs under the moniker Prefuse 73, will perform at 7 p.m. Oct. 3 at the Black Market.

see **ELECTRONICA** on page 8

SEX INCIPIES

To Plan B or not to Plan B

BY CRYSTAL ROBERT
The Prospector



I’ve always considered myself a smart girl. I try my best to stay healthy and be aware of my body and what might harm it. So, how I found myself in a Whataburger parking lot with my head hung low, hastily shoving a packet of Plan B into my purse, continues to astound me.

C’mon, I write a sex column. I should have known better.

Plan B is a form of emergency contraception also known as the “morning after pill.” This form of contraception should be taken within 72 hours after intercourse in order to be effective. Plan B is not to be confused with the controversial RU-486 abortion pill, which can be taken up to 49 days after intercourse.

While RU-486 can terminate a pregnancy, Plan B cannot. According to a local pharmacist, Plan B prevents a fertilized egg from implanting, but will not terminate an existing pregnancy.

Plan B uses a high hormone dose in pill form, with two pills coming in each packet. The first pill is to be taken within 72 hours of intercourse, and the second taken 12 hours after the initial dose.

I was faced with the decision to use Plan B after acting irresponsibly, even though I have been taking an oral contraceptive for more than 10 years and have never before been confronted with the request to ingest this form of birth control.

I will admit, I was a bit wary after receiving an early morning phone call from my paramour, but my optimistic and romantic nature has confused persistence with affection before.

However, I was wrong. The conversation that followed was pregnant with pause. I attempted to listen, immediately shocked at the proposal.

Initially, I was overcome with a flurry of emotions. I was embarrassed that I would have acted so irresponsibly and I was frightened at the possibility of actually being pregnant at this time in my life. Finally, I was offended, considering the proposition a slight on my intelligence and character. I’ve been living in this body my whole life, shouldn’t I know best?

Most of all I was upset at the implication that I would allow myself to become impregnated because I’m a woman and my goals didn’t seem as valid in this person’s eyes. Did this guy really believe I would risk all I’ve already accomplished now?

In the end my longing to “make it all go away,” coupled with the immense and irrefutable guilt (C’mon, I’m a sex columnist, I should know better) I felt, won over, and I impetuously agreed to take the contraception.

see **SEX** on page 8

SEX from page 7

We agreed to meet at a specific time and place - just like another drug deal. I followed the directions on the package. Leery of reading the laundry list of side effects, I feared that I might feel tired or sick while I worked, something I couldn't afford.

Luckily, I did not face the usual painful physical side effects of cramps, but felt nauseated and tired for a week. That was followed by hormonal changes that, despite my tumultuous nature, were impossible to deny.

According to Sarah Lyle, a registered pharmacist at the Albertson's on Mesa Street, the main and most common side effects felt by women are vomiting and nausea. The Plan B website also warns against additional side effects such as headaches, breast tenderness, dizziness, fluid retention, abdominal pain and irregular bleeding.

Lyle suggests that this form of emergency contraception puts as much strain on the body as a daily dose of oral contraception does, if taken regularly. Lyle does not suggest taking Plan B more than once a year. Another local pharmacist suggests that if Plan B is taken more than once in the span of three

months, the patient should instead consider oral contraception.

Additional side effects may occur if already taking an oral contraceptive. Lyle informed me that this was the reason for my strong hormonal changes, which continued for several weeks. Lyle suggests that if an oral contraceptive is taken accordingly, Plan B is not necessary but can offer peace of mind in situations where contraceptives may have failed.

When considering Plan B or any contraception as an option, please attempt to be as well informed as possible. Even the most well educated and poised person can become flustered in an uneasy situation.

Always remember that your body is your own and ultimately you are the only person that will deal with the side effects. Despite how uncomfortable a situation may feel, it will never be as uncomfortable as making a bad decision. Being well-informed is the greatest contraception against a decision you may regret.

The Plan B pill is offered over the counter, ranging in price from \$10-\$70 nationwide and offered at Albertson's for \$40.99 and at Walgreen's for \$44.99.

Crystal Robert may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.



your events

Triumph Over Shipwreck releases their new album with special guests Barbarian, Terror Eyes and more at 8 p.m. Oct. 1 at the Spot, located at 9068 Socorro Dr.

Austin's famous indie-rockers Spoon will perform at 7 p.m. Oct. 6 at Club 101.

Canadian songwriter Bryan Adams will perform a solo acoustic set at 8 p.m. Sept. 30 at the Plaza Theatre.

The annual La Vina Harvest Festival starts Oct. 2-3 at La Viña Winery in La Union, New Mexico with live entertainment.



FIND YOUR DIAMOND DisABILITY Awareness Week

OCTOBER 9-14, 2010

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CAB's Miner Alley 1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Between Fox Fine Arts and the UTEP Parking Garage	"Navigating Life with a Disability" Guest Speaker: Dr. Barbara Schoen, Assistant Professor of Health Sciences 11:00 a.m. - 12 noon Tomas Rivera Conference Center, Union East	Community Resource Fair 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Union Plaza
MONDAY OCTOBER 11	Student Panel Discussion 12:15 p.m. - 1:30p.m.	THURSDAY OCTOBER 14
Sensitivity Training Workshop 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Acacia Room 102, Union East		Murderball: Special Film Screening 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Union Cinema, Union East
		Wheelchair Hockey 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Memorial Gym

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For more information call (915) 747-5148 or www.utep.edu/dsso



Special to The Prospector

The Lusitania plans to tour in support of their debut album "Rain and Rivers."

"What we're going to do now is not necessarily different from what we were doing before," Blake said. "Now we have the records. Now we can sell something at our shows instead of saying 'oh yea, we're working on it'"

The band is booking and working toward a winter tour in December. They will likely hit the southwest and Texas.

"The whole way this band operates as compared to before is so much more advanced than when I look at us a year ago," Berry said. "We invest a lot more into it."

In the meantime, the band has several weekend warrior tours and shows lined up for the next couple weeks. The band will first hit Dallas, San Antonio, Lubbock on one weekend stint, the Amigo Airsho the next week and Albuquerque and Colorado Springs the following.

Mike said the new album will help keep the band on the road. Besides a

stronger scene in El Paso," said Patrick McNeil, co-founder and event organizer for Nightcrawlr Productions. "That's (our) goal, this way things will start working out a lot better, you will get larger turnouts for events, more people will come out to support and on top of that, better bands and better DJs will come through."

Doors open at 6 p.m. and with show time set to begin at 7 p.m. Oct. 3 at the Black Market.

Presale tickets are \$7 and \$10 and are available at All That Music, the Headstand and Ticketbully.com. The show is only for people 18 years and older.

Omar Lozano may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.



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Track

Kidd Field gets long awaited face-lift



BOB CORRAL / The Prospector

Track and cross country coaches are hoping the new addition to Kidd Field will cut down on injuries their athletes sustained last season.

BY DAVID ACOSTA

The Prospector

Walk down the tunnel under the bleachers at UTEP's Kidd Field and into the offices and locker rooms of the track and field/cross country department. The dozens of framed awards for UTEP's past and present All-American track and field and cross-country athletes line the walls of the office lobby. There is literally no room for more awards to be hung

on any of the lobby's four walls or the hallway leading to the coach's offices.

Now, after approximately 12 years, UTEP's most successful athletic program, track and field, will get a face-lift to their home as well. Kidd Field is not only used by the UTEP track and field team for practices and the annual UTEP Invitational track meet, but also by UTEP students for personal fitness as well as kinesiology classes.

"I think we are very fortunate that we are able to get this type of track in

these economic times," head coach Mika Laaksonen said. "It took a while to go through the steps and get it here, but I don't think we indicated that there was a need for a new one earlier."

The typical lifespan of a track running surface is seven or eight years, under good weather conditions, Laaksonen said.

In the past decade, UTEP athletics has tried to help bolster the department by investing heavily in

upgrading facilities. Since Bob Stull took over as athletic director, the Sun Bowl has had new turf installed; the Don Haskins Center received a new floor and a new neighboring facility, the Foster Stevens Basketball Center, which opened last year. The facility cost \$14.6 million to build and it features two practice courts, a strength and conditioning center, as well as other amenities for the men's and women's basketball teams.

"We have had good success with this program, but it's also not a revenue sport and I'm completely satisfied," Laaksonen said. "This is a new position for me and we are getting a new track, so I'm satisfied."

While Kidd Field has had some recent light renovations, a new video board and scorer's booth was installed as well as upgrades to the locker rooms, the surface of the track remained the same. Laaksonen indicated that while the old surface had hardened with time and caused minor injuries to his team, it probably also slowed some of his team's times over the course of the season.

"The old track was very hard to run on," said senior 200 and 400 meter runner Anderson Mutege. "(The softer surface) is going to help us post faster times, I think, and avoid injuries, and its also a motivation for us to run faster."

The new track will be painted in UTEP's trademark dark navy blue with orange place markers. Coaches hope that by advancing the UTEP brand on the new surface, they can continue to attract world-class track and field athletes to their program.

"A good track is always an attraction to recruiting," assistant coach Paul Ereng said. "When you have a good facility, everyone wants to use it."

Currently, with outdoor track season still months away, the track team is using the Sun Bowl and surrounding area parks and tracks to do work out. Laaksonen says this is only a minor inconvenience that will pay off when the new track is done. According to the contractor, the new track should be completed by Oct. 16.

David Acosta can be reached at prospector@utep.edu

Football

Miners head up I-25 for a showdown with the Lobos

BY ALEX MORALES

The Prospector

UTEP heads up north to take on the University of New Mexico Oct. 2, where they look to score three wins in a row for the first time since 2008.

The Miners (3-1, 1-1 Conference USA) have been led all year by their defense and have held three of their first four opponents under 300 yards. In those three games, their opponents did not score more than 13 points. The defense has created turnovers this season, where they have had six interceptions and have forced five fumbles, recovering one of them.

Junior linebackers have been the staple for the defense with Isaiah Carter leading the team with 29 total tackles and Jamie Irving and Rozell Smith rounding out the top three with 27 and 26 tackles, respectively. Junior defensive back Travaun Nixon has two interceptions on the year since coming off suspension.

"We're playing so physical...hitting them in the mouth and running to the ball," head coach Mike Price said.

"We're playing a lot of guys who are fresh."

The Miners offense has been in sync for most of the year, but last week's game against Memphis was their poorest showing all year. They had a season low of 288 yards on offense, but kicker Dakota Warren, who made three field goals in the game, bailed them out. Warren is the second Miner to make two 50-plus yard field goals in a game since Chris Jacke hit a pair of 51-yards at New Mexico in 1988.

"We did know (Warren) had that kind of a leg," Price said. "His strength and distance isn't a worry. It was his accuracy and he was accurate on Saturday but we knew it...we really believed he could make the long one."

UTEP is averaging 28 points per game, while averaging 421 yards on offense. The team could see more production in their offense as senior running back Donald Buckram returned from injury against Memphis. Against the Tigers he ran the ball 13 times for 63 yards while catching three balls for 15 yards.

"Buckram is a difference maker," Price said. "We will play him as much

as we think he needs to play and as much as we need to play him to win. But his knee is OK and we will go through it daily."

Senior quarterback Trevor Vittatoe has been consistent this season, completing 57 percent of his passes for 986 yards with eight touchdowns and only two interceptions. With 10,669 yards in his career, Vittatoe passed Tulsa's Paul Smith into fifth place on the all-time career passing yards in C-USA.

UNM (0-4, 0-2 Mountain West Conference) comes limping into the game winless, giving up points at an alarming rate. Their opponents are averaging 56 points a game, while the Lobos are losing by an average of 46 points.

"They have had three difficult games...a lot of teams would be 0-3 playing those teams," Price said. "I am sure they are disappointed. I know they have circled UTEP in red as the soft part of their schedule. We'll see if that holds true, that's why we play the game."

Alex Morales may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.



BOB CORRAL / The Prospector

The Miners defense has improved overall from their 2009 season.

Volleyball

UTEP meets Rice in Houston for C-USA contest



File Photo

Freshman Jeane Horton goes up for a spike during volleyball practice. The Miners take on Rice at 6 p.m. Oct. 1 in Houston.

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BY DAVID ACOSTA
The Prospector

UTEP volleyball heads to Houston Oct. 1 to face the Rice Owls. The Miners start the conference schedule with a 2-0 record by sweeping its first Conference USA matches versus East Carolina.

The Miners defeated the Pirates in consecutive sets on Sept. 25 and 26 in Greenville, North Carolina behind an excellent defensive effort.

"Right now we are feeling pretty good about some of the things we are doing," head coach Ken Murphy said. "We know we are going to be tested a little bit more against the teams this weekend but at the same time we know...that if we play well we're going to have a lot of success."

While Rice (7-8, 2-1 C-USA) is coming off a loss in its last match to Southern Mississippi, it did have three players with double digit kills. As a team, the Owls also posted an outstanding .301 hitting percentage and 60 kills.

The biggest key to winning, according to Murphy, will be shutting down Rice's potent offense. Prior to conference play, Murphy tweaked his defense, moving libero/defensive specialist Stephanie Figueroa from the left-back position to middle-back, where she played last year prior to transferring from Iowa Western Community College. The minor adjustment has paid off with Figueroa leading the Miners defense and helping them sweep East Carolina with a total of 28 digs. For her efforts, Figueroa was named C-USA Defensive Player of the Week.

"We can see the difference this past weekend," Figueroa said. "Our defense has improved a lot, I think I'm more comfortable and the other (defensive specialists) are more comfortable."

Figueroa currently leads the team defense, averaging 3.96 digs per set for a total of 196 digs overall. Helping her out has been redshirt freshman outside hitter, Melissa Toth who has 100 digs this season. Seniors defen-

sive specialist Jennifer Nolasco and setter Patty Jarmoc, have also pitched in with 92 and 89 digs, respectively. Eleven of Nolasco's digs came in one match against East Carolina.

"(Defensively) we have been doing really good lately," Nolasco said. "We need to keep doing what we're doing...our defense and our blocks need to be on point."

Last season, the Owls defeated the Miners in each of its matches en route to a fourth-place finish in C-USA, a conference tournament championship and an appearance in the NCAA Tournament. UTEP and Rice have faced each other 30 times since 1983, with the Owls leading the series 22-8, including nine straight victories over the Miners dating back to 2005.

"We think they are one of the teams we know we need to be competitive with in order to put ourselves on top of this league," Murphy said. "If we can beat them it's going to be a little bit of a landmark for us."

Murphy feels the Miners do have the weapons, both defensively and offensively, to remain undefeated going in to its home opener Oct. 3 against Houston.

"We match up well, I think our strength is our blocking and our defense," Murphy said. "Their centers and hitters are really good but we feel if we block really well and play the defense we're capable of we can neutralize that."

Following the trip to Rice, the Miners return to Memorial Gym for three games - the home opener against Houston, followed by a two match series versus Marshall on Oct. 8 and 9.

"It's very important to keep the momentum going," Nolasco said. "Every game is a challenge, every game is key. We are going to play against Rice like it's our last game."

David Acosta can be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

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Football

Former linebacker turns to coaching Miners

BY ALEX MORALES
The Prospector

The transition from playing football on the field to watching it on the sidelines is a lot harder than it looks. "You come out for the game day that's still the same, you still get the same chills, but the way you go about the game is completely different," first year linebacker coach Robert Rodriguez said. "It's easy to get in front of the mirror, to amp yourself up and get yourself ready, but to prepare a whole group of guys is hard."

Rodriguez is no stranger to playing under the lights at the Sun Bowl. During his tenure as a Miner, he became the fifth leading tackler of all-time with 443 tackles. He is also the most recognizable El Pasoan to play for UTEP.

Rodriguez attended Montwood High School, where he was a star running back for the Rams. When he became a Miner, he was moved and flourished as a linebacker.

The Tennessee Titans signed him as a free agent, but he was left out in the final cuts before the 53-man roster was made. He played in NFL Europe and then in the CFL from 2006-2007.

Rodriguez joined the coaching staff at UTEP as a graduate assistant in 2008. He is now the linebacker's coach as of the 2010 season.

First year defensive coach Andre Patterson has been impressed by Rodriguez's work ethic and by his desire to learn.

"The number one thing is that he is very smart and he's eager to learn," Patterson said. "He's in my back pocket all the time trying to learn more and more, not just about the linebackers, but the total package of the defense."

Patterson believes that players relate well to Rodriguez because he wasn't that far removed from playing football. Also they recognize his success as a linebacker.

"They already have respect for him because they know what he has done here as a player," Patterson said. "That only takes you so far and then you have to prove to them that you have the knowledge to help them get better and he does a good job at that."

Players credit Rodriguez for pushing them to their limits. He not only wants them to be better players on the football field, but better men in life.

"He's pretty much pushed me to be a better person as far as a player, to play with heart and emotion," senior linebacker Anthony Morrow said. "He tells us all the time we are a reflection of him so he doesn't accept anything but 110 percent from us at all times."

Players respect Rodriguez a lot more because he has played football up until recently. They also know he had an opportunity to play at the professional level.

"You look at him and you see the things he has done weren't as far back as some of the other coaches," Morrow said. "He's so young so you feel like he can relate to you because he's played with some of the guys I played with my freshman year. Listening to what he has to say and his advice on the field means a lot more because he has been in those shoes."

As for Rodriguez he believes he is lucky to be coaching in a place and community that is home to him. One day he hopes to build this program up and make El Pasoans proud to be Miners.

"I want to coach at UTEP the rest of my life," Rodriguez said. "I want to be here as long as they have me. I want to grow here. My wife is here and she is a Miner, my family is here and are all Miners and that's all the things that I love and that's why I want to be here."

Alex Morales may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.



BOB CORRAL / The Prospector

Linebackers coach Robert Rodriguez once played on the field, but this year the only part of the field he sees is from the sidelines as a coach.

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Answer

6	9	4	5	1	3	8	2	7
3	2	7	8	6	4	5	9	1
5	8	1	7	2	9	6	4	3
2	6	9	4	3	1	7	8	5
4	1	8	6	7	5	2	3	9
7	3	5	2	9	8	4	1	6
1	4	6	9	8	7	3	5	2
8	7	3	1	5	2	9	6	4
9	5	2	3	4	6	1	7	8

Answers to: 9-28-10

BRAIN ZONE

King Crossword

ACROSS

1 Trophy room, maybe
4 Recede
7 Sticks
11 Oil cartel
13 The Red or the Black
14 Inauguration recitation
15 "Arrivederci"
16 Faux —
17 Secondhand
18 Wash the pots
20 Potter's oven
22 Pinch
24 Its capital is Riga
28 Twisted treat
32 Existence
33 Ireland
34 Talk on and on
36 Get up
37 Blazing
39 Round pegs in square holes
41 "Am I my brother's —?"
43 Sock part
44 Related (to)
46 Shriveled
50 Unite
53 Grip repeatedly
55 Frat party garb
56 Reed

DOWN

8 Ours
9 Noshed suddenly
10 Third degree?
12 Bedspreads
19 Occupation, for one
21 Science room
23 Mrs. Al Bundy
25 Henry —
26 "Meet Me claim
27 Quite some time
28 Pinnacle ingredient
30 Ontario

neighbor
File from a crime scene
35 Morsel
38 "A mouse!"
40 Boar's mate
42 Clean the suds off
45 Back of the neck
47 Region
48 "Zounds!"
49 Sistas
50 Trot
51 Japanese sash
52 Charged particle
54 8 pts.

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