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The Prospector, April 5, 2011

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ENT • 9

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SPRING PRACTICE BEGINS
Quarterbacks vying for spot
SPORTS • 13



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY SARAH BURCHETT

The infamous freshman 15 refer to the tendency of first-year college students to gain excess weight due to irregular eating habits, less exercise, more stress and limited grocery funds.

Health Freshmen struggle to keep pounds from piling on

BY DIANA ARRIETA
The Prospector

The dreaded “freshman 15” has found its way onto the waists and hips of several first-year students at the University of Texas at El Paso yet again.

“I’ve definitely gained weight over the past months, since I entered UTEP,” said freshman mechanical engineering major Alejandro Espinola. “I know I’ve gained at least ten pounds already and the school year is not over.”

The infamous freshman 15 is the tendency for first-year college students to gain an average of 15 pounds.

“Students do tend to pack on the pounds during their first year at school for a host of reasons that include late-night eating to all-you-can-eat buffet dining, visiting fast food restaurants, lack of exercise and alcohol use or abuse,” said UTEP dietitian and nutrition educator Marilyn Rotwein. “Most freshmen do not

gain the 15 pounds. Fifteen pounds is more of an average, which means a lot of freshmen are gaining more and a lot are gaining less.”

While the lack of exercise is a major problem, many students argue that they lack the time to eat healthy.

“I know that for me, one of the main problems is the fact that I don’t have time to go home and eat,” Espinola said. “Since I work on campus, it is easier for me to buy a pizza or a hamburger while I’m there.”

Even though UTEP is a commuter school, many students spend all day on campus without an eating plan.

“Not having a set eating plan leads students to skip meals and not have proper hydration strategies,” Rotwein said. “Not only do my students have difficulty managing their weight, but their exercise adherence drops off and they do not feel energized.”

Implementing programs at the university to create awareness among

see **FRESHMEN** on page 7

Fitness

Video games keep students in shape

BY MATTHEW MUNDEN
The Prospector

Nearly three years after the video game fitness craze began with Nintendo’s “Wii Fit,” games like EA Sports Active have continued the trend, fighting the preconceived notion that video game players are overweight, out-of-shape slob.

On campus, students use games like “Wii Fit” and EA Sports Active to keep in shape.

“I do have ‘Wii Fit,’ in fact I was just thinking about how I should get on it,” said Kayleigh Ross, senior English major. “I enjoy doing it because it tracks progress. I don’t know if it alone necessarily works, but I do find some of the activities to be helpful.”

The largest roadblock to jumping on the bandwagon of video game exercise equipment is the cost of the different electronics.

The price of a Wii is \$199 and “Wii Fit” is \$150. EA Sports Active is \$60 and, once again, a console is needed to play the title (Wii, PS3, or Xbox 360).

“I haven’t used either game,” said Elizabeth Levesque, senior creative writing major. “I’ve actually wanted to try the ‘Wii Fit’ because I liked the concept behind it, but the game and controller are just too expensive to purchase when I’m not even sure that I’ll get anything out of it. I can’t even find it cheaper on eBay, and usually you can get any game cheaper on there from Asia.”

However, it isn’t correct to give credit to Nintendo for starting the exercise gaming craze. Konami’s “Dance Dance Revolution” existed long before EA Sports Active’s “Wii Fit” and its sequel, “Wii Fit Plus.”

“I have never used the ‘Wii Fit’ or recent sporty video games but I am a big fan of ‘Dance Dance Revolution,’” said Fernie Medina, junior biological science major. “I started playing it when I was a high school sophomore just because it looked cool to me, and it became addicting in many ways.”

The game, which was also a big craze in arcade environments, has players step on arrow buttons on a mat that comes with the game. On

the lowest difficulty, players might break a sweat, but as the difficulty gets higher, players would get quite a workout.

“It took some time to learn the basics and get used to the dancing pattern,” Medina said. “Before I knew it, I was already losing not only great amounts of sweat, but also great amounts of weight.”

Developed in 1998 and ported to the Playstation in 1999 in Japan, the game became a craze in North America in 2001 when a new version was released on the Playstation.

“DDR was the best game I ever discovered because it helped me find a workout that I really liked doing,” Medina said. “This was a lucky shot for a girl who used to be very fat, a couch potato and a social reject who hated PE and was only good at receiving the ball with her face.”

“Dance Dance Revolution” helps its players get in shape not only physically, but also mentally.

see **GAMES** on page 12



File Photo

Christine Gutierrez joined the “Wii Fit” movement after taking a monthly class at Western Technical Institute. Students often find exercise video games to be a good solution to losing weight while still having fun.

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Column

QB battle headlines spring training

BY SAL GUERRERO
The Prospector



After a much needed three month break, the UTEP football team has strapped on their helmets and prepared for what could only be described as the most interesting spring training in four years.

After the season ended Dec. 18, 2010 with a 52-24 loss at the hands of BYU, the Miners have a lot of ground to make up under center.

After former four-year starting quarterback Trevor Vittatoe hung up his cleats this past year, head coach Mike Price is looking to fill the most important position on the team.

There are a few options for quarterback as it stands right now in spring training. Senior transfer Tate Smith came on board to the football team last August from New Mexico. He played in four games as a Lobo before transferring to UTEP. Smith is arguably the most athletic of the four contenders for the quarterback position. His legs are his biggest asset and he has shown his ability to scramble throughout the first two days of spring training. Arm strength is no question for Smith. The senior can sling the pigskin with ease but what troubles me watching him is his accuracy. On multiple occasions, Smith's passes were either thrown into the ground or just missed its target. If he gets the starting spot this fall, it'll be his arm strength and athleticism that will get wins.

The most experienced of the four quarterbacks in the Price offense is Carson Meger. The 5-foot 11-inch QB is a commanding quarterback that takes control of the offense the minute he gets a shot under center. His arm strength is in question but he is one of the most accurate of the four QBs. His one downfall is his size. Meger will find it difficult to see past his o-line and the defensive line. Passing lanes will be his best friend and his knowledge of the offense will undoubtedly be his best advantage.

The least likely option to fill Vittatoe's spot as quarterback is red shirt Javia Hall. When looking at Hall, he has the making of a quarterback with his 6-foot 1-inch frame. But his lack of abilities under center will leave Hall as just a practice quarterback. His arm strength and accuracy are not fine-tuned to play at the Division 1 level. If anything he will become a James Thomas II-type QB who runs the ball on occasion and plays slot from time to time.

The most talked about quarterback of the spring is junior transfer Nick Lamaison. Coming out of high school, Lamaison signed with SEC powerhouse Tennessee but later transferred to Mt. San Antonio College. He signed with UTEP this past fall and began attending school this spring. In two practices Lamaison has shown promise as

quarterback. Besides Hall, he would be my pick to lead the offense this fall. There are no questions about his arm strength and accuracy. Lamaison does not throw the prettiest of passes but they get on time and in the hands of his wide outs. He threw two picks the first day of spring ball but it was the first day he ran the offense.

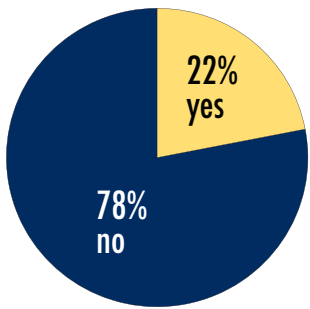
With only two practices down this spring, Smith would be my pick of the starting job right now with Lamaison in a close second. Once the Lamaison learns the offense he will be a contender to take over the starting role come fall. Fans will have to wait until Camp Socorro this summer to find out who the true starter will be.

Sal Guerrero may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

you think?

This week's poll question:
Do you regularly use the Swimming and Fitness Center located on campus?

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POLL RESULTS
Will you contribute to the Japan relief fundraiser?



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Campus

Students still pay for fitness center they don't use



JUSTIN STENE / The Prospect

Despite recreational fees increasing from \$20 to \$70 over the last few years, not all students seem to take advantage of the Swimming and Fitness Center on campus.

BY CELIA AGUILAR
The Prospect

This semester alone, students will contribute over a million dollars to the expansion of the Swimming and Fitness Center, yet many students don't even use the facility.

"I don't even know where the Swimming and Fitness Center is," said April McWilliams, senior social work major. "I've just never been. I go to Planet Fitness."

McWilliams is not the only student who prefers to go off campus to work out. For students with schedules that do not allow them to hit the gym during the day, 24-hour locations are more convenient.

Others simply enjoy the environment of off-campus fitness centers like Patricia Quezada, senior Chicano studies major, who prefers to burn calories outside of UTEP.

see FITNESS on page 4

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JUSTIN STENE / The Prospector

The Swimming and Fitness Center is currently undergoing major renovations and will be completed later this semester.

FITNESS from page 3

"I don't like to deal with the people who think they're all buff and everyone's checking them out," she said. "There's more of a variety at an off campus gym."

Whether students use the Swimming and Fitness Center or not, the amount they are paying to maintain the facility remains steady. With the expansion due to be complete later this semester, students are now paying \$70 in recreation fees compared to the \$20 fee charged in prior years.

Recreation Sports Specialist Irma Sandoval encourages students to make use of the Swimming and Fitness Center.

"It's included in their tuition and students don't know about it. They have to take advantage of it," she said.

According to Sandoval, up to 900 people frequent the center daily. However, it is difficult to decipher the exact number of students who utilize the facility since the total number of visitors includes faculty, staff, alumni and students.

Cesar Barron, senior microbiology major, is aware of the recreation fee he pays with tuition and feels like he should try and get his money's worth.

"I go work out at the Swimming and Fitness Center because I pay. They charge me anyway so I go," Barron said.

Terry Sharpe, junior creative writing major and president of Kappa Alpha

Psi fraternity is also aware of the out of pocket contribution even though he does not use the center.

"There's really no particular reason I don't go and I know I pay for it. I should start going because I want to swim," he said.

The pool is actually one of the major reasons students visit the facility, but with renovations set in place to upgrade locker rooms and re-plaster pools once the new building is ready, students will have to find somewhere else to swim those laps.

The Swimming and Fitness Center can also be an accessible resource for students who live on campus.

"I sometimes go to the Swimming and Fitness Center but not often. I used to go swim or work out more often when I lived on campus because it was so convenient," said Jessica Tellez, junior political science major.

Perhaps the opening of the 87,427 square foot building, which will include a rock climbing wall, basketball and volleyball courts and an indoor track, will attract more students. David Davis, sophomore accounting major, is anticipating the expansion.

"I'm looking forward to the opening of the new building. I only go to the swimming and fitness center twice a week, but I'll probably go every day once it opens," Davis said.

Celia Aguilar may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

Profile

Student triathlete starts his own business

BY CANDICE MARLENE DURAN

The Prospector

As if writing topic essays, studying for exams and taking vigorous notes weren't already hard enough, one student has added starting a company to the hectic schedule of an average college learner.

"I like to be busy," said Hector Ornelas, senior biology major and founder of 3TS. "I don't like being at home watching TV, I would rather be outside, and I would rather be busy at school or at work. I would rather be doing something more productive."

3TS provides training, coaching and support services in triathlete sports. The main focuses of the company include helping clients achieve their fitness goals, training for triathlons and coaching swimming, running and cycling along the way. They attend monthly training groups, or triathlon courses, which require six-day-per-week participation.

"3TS is excellent, I improved a lot," said Raul Mendoza, senior finance major. "I started out as a bad swimmer but a pretty good cyclist. We had training and Hector coached us and set an example and motivated us."

Ornelas said he finds fulfillment in helping the community. He method of coaching means getting to know his clients on a personal level in order to have the tools to motivate them and achieve their goals.

"I think as a coach the key element is learning how to motivate your athletes," Ornelas said. "If you know your clients, you know how to motivate them and inspire them. I think that's a good way to help them because you're not just helping them be a good athlete, you're helping them be a good person, a good student, and they get more disciplined."

Ornelas sets an example for his clients by competing in triathlons.

"I do all sorts of stuff," Ornelas said. "I guess that helps them; like I'm their role model."

3TS is also recognized for being a good contributor to improving the city's health.



ESTEBAN MARQUEZ / The Prospector

Hector Ornelas, senior biology major and triathlete, started 3TS, a company that trains other students for competitive racing and fitness.

"I would say it helps the community by being healthy," said Christine Bostick, one of Hector's clients. "It puts significant value on exercise and how important it is in your life. You learn to be disciplined and you learn to commit to your goals and achieve them."

Bostick joined the program in November to train for a triathlon. She explains how the experience has not only been a positive one, but one with many benefits beyond what she anticipated.

"I participated to join the triathlon in September," Bostick said. "And I needed to improve my running. Then the opportunity came up where I met

Hector and I joined his group for full triathlon training."

Bostick expresses how the program allowed her to realize the real enrichment in life that one may not get from school or work.

"It helps with life," Bostick said. "You get a real importance of it."

Ornelas started his triathlon career at an early age. He began with swimming at age five, and then decided to get into track and cycling. When Ornelas came into UTEP, he explains how his boss, Brian Carter, associate director of the Swimming and Fitness Center, convinced him to try out triathlon competitions.

"I started hanging around with him, practicing," Ornelas said. "And he suggested I try it out because of my swimming background, my running background, and I got somewhere. From there on, I started opening a lot of doors."

Ornelas explains that the best part of his job is helping people and doing what he enjoys.

"The hardest part is just getting people to support you," Ornelas said. "It's hard getting everything started and helping it get off the ground. It's still hard but we have a long way to go."

Ornelas anticipates his business to grow and hopes to have his own triathlon shop. He'd like to develop his own cycling track since the closest one is located in Houston.

To participate in 3TS or find out more about competing in triathlons, visit 3tsonline.com.

Candice Marlene Duran may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

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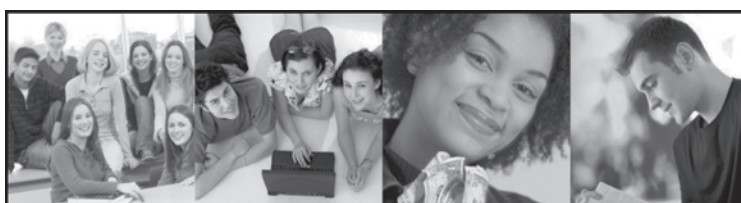
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Salud

Llaman a prevenir contagio por el virus H1N1

POR NICOLE CHÁVEZ

The Prospector

El virus H1N1 o de “influenza humana” ha cobrado cuatro vidas en Ciudad Juárez desde su rebrote hace dos semanas. En El Paso se han reportado 30 casos del virus en lo que va del 2011, pero ninguna muerte.

Reportes del Departamento de Salud Pública de la ciudad de El Paso muestran que en los meses de enero y febrero hubo 29 casos de H1N1. La mayor parte de ellos ocurrieron en febrero.

“Los números son significativamente altos comparados con los de 2009, cuando la epidemia de H1N1 fue detectada”, dijeron oficiales de salud de El Paso en una declaración oficial. También indicaron que esta situación se debe a que los proveedores de servicios médicos ahora cuentan con mejores métodos de detección y reporte de este tipo de casos.

En Ciudad Juárez ya se han inmunizado alrededor de 120 mil personas quienes representan cerca del 20 por ciento de la población, según revelaron datos de la Subsecretaría de Salud en Ciudad Juárez.

Luego de que un paciente es diagnosticado como sospechoso de haber contraído H1N1 es dirigido al Comité Médico de Vigilancia Epidemiológica, organismo encargado de prevenir y reducir el impacto de enfermedades infecciosas en Juárez, que lleva a cabo los estudios necesarios para confirmar y prevenir el contagio del virus a otras personas.

“Personas que presentan repentinas fiebres, escurrimiento nasal, dolores de cabeza, garganta y musculares, son inmediatamente reportados al Comité Médico de Vigilancia Epidemiológica para una mejor evaluación”, dijo Luis Rincones, médico particular en Ciudad Juárez.

De acuerdo a un comunicado de prensa de este organismo, a partir del 20 de enero de este año se han revisado



Special to The Prospector

Autoridades de salud están llamando a la gente a vacunarse contra el virus H1N1.

a 82 personas, de las cuales 17 de ellas se han confirmado como portadoras del H1N1.

En UTEP, no se ha lanzado una nueva campaña de prevención. En el Student Health Center están disponibles vacunas contra la influenza, que incluyen protección contra H1N1, influenza tipo H3N2 y tipo B.

Algunos estudiantes parecen estar mas preocupados por las consecuencias binacionales que pueda traer la prevención de H1N1, que el posible contagio del virus.

“Cuando salió por primera vez lo del H1N1, me acuerdo que las líneas en el puente se pusieron peor, te revisaban aún más, hubo mucha paranoia por parte de los oficiales”, dijo Mario Ruiz, estudiante de tercer año de ciencias computacionales.

Algunas de las recomendaciones para prevenir el virus son vacunarse y lavarse las manos con frecuencia. Mas información acerca del virus H1N1 y como prevenirlo está disponible llamando al 211 o visitando www.elpaso-texas.gov/health.

Nicole Chávez puede ser contactada en prospector@utep.edu.

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National

Obama to Hispanic student: 'I believe in you'



MELVIN FELIX / SHF Wire

Kenrry Alvarado, a Hispanic student at Bell Multicultural High School in Washington, asked President Barack Obama a question about college at a forum March 28. Obama told him, "I'm confident you're going to succeed."

BY MELVIN FELIX

Scripps Howard Foundation Wire

WASHINGTON – Kenrry Alvarado, a 17-year-old senior at Bell Multicultural High School, can't decide if he wants to study biomedical engineering, civil engineering or economics. But he knows one thing for sure.

"Yeah, I'm going to college," Kenrry said.

On March 28, Kenrry was one of a handful of students to ask President Barack Obama about his plans to aid Latino education. The president visited the high school for a town hall with students, parents and teachers. The event was presented by Univision and hosted by anchorman Jorge Ramos.

Kenrry asked Obama about college affordability after Ramos told the president that just one out of eight Hispanic students reaches college.

"Before, a student was able to receive two scholarships a year to pay for college. Now that student can only have one," Kenrry said. "What is your government going to do to keep the Pell scholarship without cutting the budget for education?"

Obama replied: "Well, first of all, I expect you to go to college so I'm confident that you're going to succeed. I believe in you."

He said he increased Pell grants by \$800 per year and made them available to more students.

Kenrry said he was happy that the program will have more money but still had questions. Some project that the Pell grant program will run a deficit, and Kenrry said he wanted to know what Obama plans to do about that.

Kenrry's parents are from El Salvador, where Obama visited last week

see OBAMA on page 7

In brief

UTEP takes multidisciplinary approach for drug addiction research



Special to The Prospector

Edward Castañeda, chair of the Department of Psychology

El Paso is made up of a diverse group of citizens with an even more diverse set of beliefs and customs. That mix of cultures gives the Sun City its uniqueness, but also creates challenges in many areas unseen in other parts of the country.

Edward Castañeda, professor and chair of the Department of Psychology, understands these intricacies well. The El Paso native and UTEP alumnus uses his knowledge of the Paso del Norte region to conduct groundbreaking research in the area of neuroscience, cognition and behavioral sciences.

This year, the National Institutes in Health awarded groups of UTEP faculty from the colleges of Science, Liberal Arts, and Health Sciences with a grant for more than \$2 million to fund the University's Vulnerability Issues in Drug Abuse (VIDA) research training program. The team, which will be led by Castañeda, will conduct a five-year study of factors that contribute to drug addiction among Hispanics of Mexican origin, which is an understudied population in the subject.

"We made the argument that El Paso is a very unique environment – it's a border community," Castañeda said. "We have an opportunity to look at a number of diverse factors such as gender, culture and ethnicity, across different disciplines here at UTEP."

As part of the University's Diversity-promoting Institutions Drug Abuse Research Program, VIDA brings together UTEP researchers from the health, social/behavioral and biological sciences and public policy fields that integrate the neuroscience and socio-cultural dimensions of drug use vulnerability in Hispanics.

The program also will be used to recruit talented graduate and undergraduate students, conduct campus seminars and workshops, and two conferences about drug abuse.

"What made this work was that we came together as a team and everybody had an opportunity to contribute to the development (of the program) based on their perspectives," Castañeda said.

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OBAMA from page 6

on his five-day visit to Latin America. Kenrry was born in the U.S.

"The education's not so good in El Salvador. That's why many people travel up to the U.S. to receive their education," he said.

One in five students in the United States is Hispanic. According to the 2010 census, there are 50.5 million Hispanics in the United States, 16 percent of the population, and they accounted for more than half the national population growth from 2000 to 2010.

"While Latinos have grown demographically, we haven't seen comparable levels of educational attainment or even growth in college attainment," said Frances Contreras, associate professor in educational leadership and policy studies at the University of Washington in Seattle. Contreras is the author of a book due out in June: "Achieving Equity for Latino Students: Expanding the Pathway to Higher Education Through Public Policy."

She said one of the most immediate solutions would be to pass the DREAM Act, which would provide permanent residency to students who arrived in the U.S. as minors, are in good academic standing and acquire a college degree or join the military.

"It makes sense to invest in already achieving students," Contreras said. "It's much cheaper to invest in them now as opposed to having a low wage worker at the end of the spectrum."

The president has been a strong proponent of the legislation.

"We need to pass the DREAM Act," he told the Bell audience. "I believe that we can still get it done."

Obama said Hispanics must keep the pressure on Congress to make sure the legislation is approved. He stressed that a majority of Democratic senators voted for the DREAM Act when it failed to become law last year in a 55-41 vote. The House had approved the bill the day before 216-198.

"Given the census figures, I think Republicans are going to have to make sure that they do something that's of vital interest to the Latino community," Jose Rico said in an interview. He is deputy director of the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics. "And this is an easy one."

He said the law would apply to students who have been responsible, are doing well in school and have no criminal record.

"They want to contribute to our country, they are here by no fault of their own," he said. "So it's very hard for me to understand how anybody could be against it."

Bell is part of the Columbia Heights Education Campus, which also includes a middle school. Bell ranked third in the metropolitan area in the Washington Post's "Challenge Index 2010," which ranks schools according to the number of Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate tests that students take. Of 172 schools, Bell had the highest number of students – 84 percent – who qualified for free or reduced lunches, a rough measure of poverty.

Melvin Felix is from New York University, where he is majoring in journalism and politics. He is currently an intern at the Scripps Howard Foundation's Semester in Washington. Hispanic Link reporter Bianca Fortis also contributed to this story.



DANIEL ROSAS / The Prospector

Keeping the freshman 15 away can be as simple as hitting the weight and exercise room at the Swimming and Fitness Center on campus.

FRESHMEN from page 1

entering freshmen could be the solution.

"I feel that UTEP could create special programs among students that would promote a healthier lifestyle and eating habits," said freshman media advertising major Roberto Tarango. "Providing special presentations and statistics about the issue during orientation or putting up posters around campus to promote a healthier eating consciousness among students could also help."

While creating awareness among freshmen can lead to healthy eating habits, selling healthier food on campus may also help reduce the number of students gaining weight.

"Most students at UTEP and at other universities have access to a lot of unhealthy, high-caloric foods," Tarango said. "Providing access to healthier food venues on campus as well as healthy beverages and snacks rather than energy drinks and sodas, for example, can prevent students from falling into the temptation of eating things that will make them gain weight."

Obesity is a contributing cause of many health problems, including heart disease, diabetes, strokes and some types of cancers.

"Obesity can make activity more difficult and cause a variety of negative health consequences," Rotwein said. "The challenge is learning how to incorporate healthy eating and exercise into a schedule that is very demanding."

The long-term dangers of gaining large amounts of weight should be fuel for students to find out how they can change their eating habits.

"Students can always contact a nutrition counselor so they can learn strategies to build a healthy meal/snack into their lifestyle in order to optimize their health," Rotwein said. "Students can also look for nutrition education lectures and classes to become aware of the importance of eating healthy as well as learn some hydration strategies."

Diana Arrieta may be reached at darrieta@prospector.com.

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our view April 5, 2011
editor
Diana Amaro, 747-7446

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In “Hop,” a bunny poops jelly beans. So I decided to eat bunny poop as so many commentators on the website have suggested (however, I did not die - which was the second part of these recommendations). Fun fact: bunnies don’t poop jelly beans.

entertainment

April 5, 2011
editor
Matthew Munden, 747-7442

Review



Special to The Prospector

Left: Rutger Hauer is the “Hobo with a Shotgun.” Center: Jake Gyllenhaal runs to save a Chicago commuter train in “Source Code” and (right) little kids, as “Insidious” proves, are just creepy.

‘Source Code’ is science fiction done right

BY MATTHEW MUNDEN

The Prospector

Duncan Jones’ “Source Code” mixes elements of popular science fiction into a movie that is as well crafted as one would expect from the young director of “Moon.”

The movie stars Jake Gyllenhaal as Colter Stevens, who mysteriously wakes up on a commuter train in Chicago sitting across from a woman named Christina (Michelle Monaghan) that seems to be the girlfriend of a man named Sean Fentress...but the problem is that Christina believes to think Colter is Sean. However, that isn’t the only problem, because eight minutes af-

ter Colter wakes up on this train it explodes and kills everybody on board. Turns out that Colter is part of an experimental mission that is sending him back to the final eight minutes of Sean’s life to discover why the train blew up and to find the identity of the bomber before another weapon could off.

“Source Code” shares a lot in common with shows like “Fringe” because of the science being used. There are discussions of alternate universes and fate. It also reminded me of some of the shows like “Daybreak” and the American remake of “Life on Mars.” Both shows, like

see **CODE** on page 11

Economy of the movie industry

On a budget of \$30 million, “Source Code” made over half of its budget (\$15 million) back on opening weekend, according to Box Office Mojo.

On a budget of \$1 million, Insidious made about \$13.4 million, according to Box Office Mojo.

On the opposite side of the scale, “Sucker Punch” and “Mars Needs Moms” have made \$29.9 million on a budget of \$82 million and \$20.3 on a budget of \$130 million, respectively.

What does this all mean?

1. That higher budget films don’t do well out of the summer.
2. The animation in “Mars Needs Mom” is really creepy.
3. People understand “Sucker Punch” sucks.

‘Insidious’ is not as sinister as one would hope

BY ALEJANDRO ALBA

The Prospector

“Insidious” seems to be a collision between 1950 horror movies and the new Hollywood horror movie. Director James Wan and writer Leigh Whannell have created something completely new from their gore-filled franchise, “Saw.”

Patrick Wilson and Rose Byrne stars as Josh and Renai, a married couple with three children who have moved into their fine-looking new, old home. The couple’s oldest child, Dalton (Ty Simpkins), falls while exploring their home’s attic and shortly thereafter slips into a coma-like state.

The doctors are baffled by his condition, and months pass without any clue to a possible recovery. Meanwhile strange things begin to happen in the family’s house, leading Renai to believe the house might be haunted. However it is revealed that their son is the one haunted and a medium is called in to aid the family.

The film has a strong sense of foreshadowing jumping scenes. It’s exactly like a haunted house, where you know when and where to expect something to jump out at you. Yet, some of the scenes at the beginning of the film were a little unexpected.

see **INSIDIOUS** on page 11

Better watch out: the ‘Hobo with a Shotgun’ is going to get you



Special to The Prospector

“Hobo with a Shotgun” is available on all on demand services. With Time Warner Cable, the movie is available on channel 1 in standard definition and on channel 840 in high definition. The movie will get a limited theatrical release on May 6. It is not rated, so most theaters (and none of the theaters in El Paso) will not be able to show it due to different regulations.

BY MATTHEW MUNDEN

The Prospector

What started as a mock trailer shown in front of a few showing of Quentin Tarantino and Robert Rodriguez’s “Grindhouse” has become a full movie. No, I’m not talking about Machete (it would be weirdly out-of-date if I was). I’m talking about “Hobo with a Shotgun.”

“Hobo with a Shotgun” is a throwback to the old Troma films of the 70s (it even has a logo during its opening credits that said it was filmed in Technicolor) and is insanely creative in its bloodlust. Of course, this isn’t the same bloodlust that one might find in films directed by Eli Roth or any of the “Saw” series. This movie has its tongue so far in its cheek that it broke through its cheek and the tongue is now on someone else’s cheek.

Rutger Hauer, who you may remember from such films as “Turkish Delight” and “Woman Between Wolf and Dog” (or you might actually

remember him from “Blade Runner,” “Batman Begins” and “Sin City”), is the titular Hobo. Hobo isn’t one of those hobos that only have goals like eating, drinking, or just living on his mind. Hobo is begging for a lawnmower and dreams about the day he’ll be able to carry a new sign that says, “You grow it, I mow it,” instead of the one that says, “I’m tired. I want to buy a mower.”

However, the Hobo, who has been riding the rails for a while, has ended up in a town that has a lot more than just a used mower for the low cost of \$49.99. It is run by an evil elf-like man (Brian Downey, who looks like an alternate universe version of Dennis Hopper) that is slinging cocaine to the youth, decapitating people (like his own brother) using barbed wire nooses connected to cars, and has the police force working for him. So instead of paying his \$49.99 for his dream mower, he buys a shotgun

see **HOBO** on page 11

Icons

When I grow up, I want to look just like you...well, maybe not you, Precious

BY ALEJANDRO ALBA
The Prospector

Every now and then there is an iconic figure in a film that makes us think “Man, I wish I was fit and healthy like that!” Sadly, most people only talk the talk. They watch the movie, get inspired, then run for 10 minutes and turn off the treadmill never to turn it back on again. The following movies are examples of such instances from people around campus and past experiences.

“Rocky” - The great iconic Rocky Balboa has motivated many people to undergo an intense training routine. I believe it is the theme song, “Eye of the Tiger,” that’s really motivational. Both the beat and the lyrics can really pump up a person to do anything. If the song is not enough,

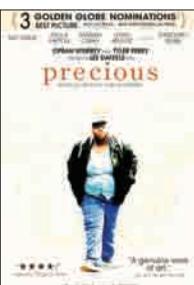


the montage of the training does it too. Climbing hundreds of steps, and throwing your hands up by the time you reach the top creates quite a buildup in someone.

“300” - Once “300” hit theaters, every guy at school wanted to be as ripped as Gerard Butler and his army of 300. The movie brought in such a high demand for the secret of the actors workout routine that a work out DVD named after the movie was on sale shortly after. Whether or not the DVD offers anything new from what other free routines already offer, I am sure that it is overpriced and a waste of money.



“Precious” - I began to laugh even though I knew it was rude when my friend told me that Precious makes her want to exercise.



Many people around campus, when asked, said that any movie with overweight people made them want to exercise. Well, I do see where the motivation comes from, but I think it’s better to go with the fit figure rather than the opposite.

“Fight Club” - In its sick, twisted way, this movie has many wanting to do something about the extra fat their body contains. The movie is not an action



flick though. I believe it’s all the grease that is shown that really gets people working out. Brad Pitt, can also be a source of motivation since he is probably the fittest person in the whole movie.

“Flashdance” - This 80’s Cinderella tale, with sex, was brought up by several of the people around campus as well. Once again, I believe it is the songs and the montage of dancing that cause the motivation in the person, because the movie is about a girl who is in love and dances. It can also be the leg warmers that inspire people, just like one girl I saw at the gym once. She was running with leg warmers on, and then began to do some weights. Who knows what inspires people.



“Twilight” - The film adaptation of the book had every guy and girl wishing they had Jacob’s body. Back in high school, I had a classmate that obsessed over obtaining



a ripped body just like Twilight’s werewolf. He began eating what seemed to be hamster food, but it was just some type of healthy organic food. He was so determined to get ripped that he even bought a poster of Taylor Lautner and hung it up on his wall as daily motivation. I’m sure he was not the only person to do that, but it seemed a little too intense on his behalf. However, all his efforts of eating healthy and working out went to waste because he never came close to looking like his idol.

Alejandro Alba may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.



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Special to The Prospector

Michelle Monaghan and Jake Gyllenhaal star in “Source Code,” directed by Duncan Jones.

CODE from page 9

“Source Code,” depend on revelations, instead of twists. The mystery can be solved quite early in the film, if you pay attention to all the details and realize that no scenes in this movie are filler...well, until you get to the final five minutes of the film, which should have been cut. The movie has a perfect ending in it, but the movie keeps going. It doesn't ruin the movie, but you wish that an editor had trimmed it down a bit.

The score, especially at the start of the movie, brought a geeky smile to my face (well that is actually the only smile I'm capable of). The opening theme felt Hitchcockian to such an extent that I thought that Bernard Herrmann rose from the dead to do another score (actually, I felt this way during “Hobo with a Shotgun” as well, maybe he is now a zombie).

If I have any problems with the film, apart from the ending scene, it has to be with Jeffrey Wright as Dr. Rutledge. Wright is normally an actor that I really like and I think his portrayal of characters like Felix Leiter in the recent James Bond films are quite good. However, Dr. Rutledge is almost a comically evil scientist. From his mannerisms to his vocal inflection, it seemed like Wright and screenwriter Ben Ripley just looked up evil military scientist in the dictionary of clichés (great book by the way, five out of five stars) and thought it would be a great fit.

On a budget of about \$30 million, Jones makes this film look great. From the beautiful visuals (beautiful is a strange word to use, but a couple of the explosions...especially one that occurs when Colter is handcuffed in the train looks amazing. And now, I sound like a creepy...actually, creepier sociopath) to some great sound design (one scene in particular that ends with a cut to black has one of the most cringe inducing sounds of carnage that has been used for awhile), “Source Code” is a work of science fiction brilliance in the same way that 2009's “District 9” and Jones' “Moon” was.

With two movies, Jones has proved himself to be a visionary auteur of science fiction and I, for one, cannot wait to see what comes next.

Four out of five picks

TTTTT

Matthew Munden may be reached at prospecto@utep.edu.



Special to The Prospector

“Insidious,” on a budget estimated at \$1 million, made over \$13 million on its opening weekend.

INSIDIOUS from page 9

The jump scares were funnier than frightening. Sitting next to a “tough guy” that couldn't even fit in his seat, who was screaming and jumping every now and then was hilarious.

The first part of the film is very successful. Wan and Whannell had a perfect creepy, suspenseful atmosphere to the movie that created a good build up. Then it all went to waste.

I was disappointed when suddenly ill-advised humor was being used. Ghost Hunters, Whannell and Anhus Sampson, were unnecessary comic relief. They were funny and caused some good laughs across the theatre, but their goofy characters only shattered the scary psychological aspect of the film and totally killed the mood.

The movie also failed at moments when Wan's interpretation of other dimensions and demons came out. I am sure that it was intended to have a creepy factor, but I think that the old TV show “Are You Afraid of the Dark?” did this better.

Wan also left me thinking that he has some sort of obsession over

creepy puppets. Not only does the tricycle puppet from “Saw” come out (it is hidden), but there is a new addition of creepy puppets, although they don't have any importance.

The end, well I don't think I should spoil such thing, but I will say that I liked it. It has the proper ending to a horror movie. Happy endings should stay in Disney movies.

Insidious is definitely a good rental, but paying \$9 to watch it is just simply insidious. The first half was good, but unfortunately the second half was poor and cheap bringing my rating from three to two.

Two picks out five

TTTTT

Alejandro Alba may be reached at prospecto@utep.edu.

HOBO from page 9

(also for the low cost of \$49.99) and starts cleaning up the city one shotgun blast at a time.

This isn't a film for everyone, much like other grindhouse-style movies like “Machete” and “Piranha 3-D” from last year. When going into this movie, one should expect copious amount of gore. However, the tone this movie has when it has Hauer blasting pedophiles, rapists, and robbers heads off is so silly that instead of being shocked, you actually laugh along with the ever increasing carnage. In fact, one montage that had the rapidly changing headlines on the latest newspapers left me in such a fit of laughter that I had to pause the movie and rewind it to watch the whole thing again.

I say “pause” and “rewind” because like a lot of smaller films coming out recently, “Hobo with a Shotgun” is available on demand for \$10 and in about a month the film will have a very small theatrical release. The film is being distributed by Magnet films, which had similar releases, like the Bobcat Goldthwait film, “World's Greatest Dad.” For films like “Hobo with a Shotgun” and “World's Great-

est Dad,” which have darker subject matter that some theaters would shy away from, the on demand service is a blessing.

“Hobo with a Shotgun” feels like “Taxi Driver” mixed with “Looney Toons.” It even has a score that is reminiscent of the Bernard Herrmann score from “Taxi Driver” mixed with elements from the score from “Blade Runner,” composed by Vangelis. I say this because this is a movie that is made for geeks and I feel like most movie geeks (who have a fondness for John Waters) would like it.

“Hobo with a Shotgun” isn't high art, but it doesn't try to be that. It tries to be a gleefully gory throwback and it succeeds. If reading the title “Hobo with a Shotgun” makes you smile, go on YouTube and watch the trailer (beware: really NSFW). If you aren't offended, you'll probably love it. I did.

Five out of five picks

TTTTT

Matthew Munden may be reached at prospecto@utep.edu.

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Column

Next-gen dictionary woes

BY JAZMIN SALINAS

The Prospector

Texting lingo has been a part of the 21st century vocabulary and has reached heights that no one thought imaginable.

Shorthand writing can be seen as the first attempt to make life and speaking to one another easier. Shorthand writing was put to use by those looking for an alternative to the time-consuming, wordiness of the English language.

Of course shorthand writing takes a lot of practice and isn't mastered within minutes of learning its mechanics, but the new age of "shorthand" texting has taken off on a whole other plane that no one saw coming.

America was familiar with Ebonics since the 70s and became a big controversy during the 90s when people were debating whether it was an acceptable way of speaking and writing at public schools.

Ebonics was not just some language that caught on in popularity. It was a historical and meaningful language that came from African slave descent.

The guys who get to alter our everyday "professional" speech argued during the Ebonics controversy and only some years later they are hit by yet another changing aspect in the English language.

Texting lingo, or net lingo, has been used by almost everyone who has

text, e-mail, and/or social network capabilities.

The harmless new generation "shorthand" started out with shortening words such as you into "u," okay into "k," and and into "nd." Many sources argue that people start doing this to shorten the words in a text message to not get charged more.

It was no big problem, those who used these small words knew what they meant and only used them within private conversations, but never taking them into the academic or professional world.

And then came a whole new ball game with "lol."

The popularity of this three-lettered acronym shot through America like Ben Franklin's first encounter with lightning.

The first time I heard the infamous laugh out loud was back in 2003 in middle school, it was nothing of importance to me: until I started texting.

The vocabulary of the text messaging world started to grow and included the popular "omg," "ttyl," and "brb."

Slowly but surely, people started to catch onto this new trend and new acronyms started to pop up quickly.

I refused for the longest time to use the various shortcuts that lazy people used to just say a few words, but I caved in and found myself texting "lol."

Americans, during the early to mid 2000s, probably could not fathom the

effect that texting would have on our society.

There are acronyms out in cyber space that many have to look up on the internet just to figure out one text message. If this wasn't enough, the problem started to spill into the school systems.

Students were using the text messaging lingo in their academic papers and almost seemed to forget how to spell all together.

Working at a middle school brought this reality to a whole new light for me. TAKS season would approach and students would ask if "omg" and "lol" were acceptable in the writing portions of this state mandated test.

Although many scholars argue that the problem isn't serious, students must understand the line between academic writing and texting between their friends.

The latest edition of the Oxford Dictionary added net language to their number of definitions, posing the question if they were going to be acceptable in the academic field.

Who knows what will be acceptable in the future, but for now the young American generation has the dictionary on their side.

Jazmin Salinas may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.



Special to The Prospector

"Dance Dance Revolution" is a series of games developed by Konami and have appeared on every home console since the original Playstation.

GAMES from page 1

"When I play DDR, I'm only focusing on stepping on the right arrows at the right time," Medina said. "My brain is so concentrated in getting the highest score that I forget I'm actually moving. I just aim for becoming faster and stronger to get the highest scores and master songs on the highest level. My body did change a little besides losing weight. I became more active and aware at school and my legs started looking more toned."

However, Ross says games, like "Wii Fit," shouldn't be the only thing one uses to stay in shape.

"I would recommend it to someone who is interested in it because it couldn't hurt," Ross said. "I just wouldn't depend solely on it if you're seriously looking to lose weight."

Matthew Munden may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

"DDR was the best game I ever discovered because it helped me find a workout that I really liked doing. This was a lucky shot for a girl who used to be very fat, a couch potato and a social reject who hated PE and was only good at receiving the ball with her face."

- Fernie Medina, junior biological science major

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Football

Miners open month-long spring training



BY SAL GUERRERO
The Prospector

With the season still five months away, the UTEP football team began their annual spring training March 31 at Glory Field.

“There’s a lot of enthusiasm and we’re having lots of fun,” head coach Mike Price said. “I didn’t have to get on anyone for not hustling. Defense looked good, offense looked good, everyone is in good spirit.”

This spring all eyes will be on the defensive unit who acquired a new safeties coach in Al Simmons. The defensive backs came through in the first two days, picking off the quarterbacks five times in game situations.

“(Defense) is improving, its just about getting better,” Simmons said. “The players are eager and want to be the best they can be. It’s not easy to get interceptions... we’re happy whenever we get them but we’re not settling with them.”

Junior defensive back Deshawn Grayson was one of the DBs who accounted for an interception on the second day of practice. Grayson has started on the defensive unit for the last two seasons and will be one of the key players in the backfield for the Miners.

The UTEP football team stretches during the first practice of spring training March 31 at Glory Field. The Miners will participate in 14 practices in preparation for the Spring Game that takes place April 30.

see **SPRING** on page 16

Football

Junior transfer quarterback fights for job

BY KRISTOPHER RIVERA
The Prospector

With a new football season drawing near, Miner fans ponder how the line-up changes will be managed.

Four-year starter Trevor Vittatoe will be graduating and will be leave with bold print in the record books by posting up 2,756 passing yards. The question as to see who will take the reigns as quarterback remains up in the air.

UTEP brings in a new member to the quarter back list in junior college transfer quarterback Nick Lamaison. He got his first shot working with the offense March 31 as spring drills began.

“I felt comfortable, I felt good, I didn’t really feel nervous,” Lamaison said. “I’m feeling excited for practice and just to improve and keep getting better.”

Coaches seem at peace with his first outlook with the team on the first day of spring drills.

“I think he did well. The good thing about (Lamaison) is he picked up the offense well and quickly,” co-offensive coordinator/quarterback coach Aaron Price said. “He’s come in and put time in the office and made sure he’s gotten to where he can come out here and compete so he’s not on first time basis.”

Lamaison is transferring in from Mt. San Antonio College in California as a



SAL GUERRERO / The Prospector

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Nick Lamaison takes takes a snap with the offense during a spring practice April 2 at Glory Field.

Track

Endurance runs past obstacles in life



BRIAN KANOF/ Special to The Prospector
Sprinter Endurance Abinuwa became head coach Mika Laaksonen’s first All-American at the 2011 Track and Field Championship.

BY KRISTOPHER RIVERA

The Prospector

UTEP junior All-American sprinter Endurance Abinuwa has been performing extraordinarily well since she came to UTEP. But what most people do not know is she had few opportunities growing up, and never saw herself where she stands today.

Abinuwa grew up in Sapele Delta State, Nigeria, where a poor economy and an education system can’t guarantee opportunities for the majority of its citizens. The chances of getting out of the city seem almost impossible.

“I just wanted to leave my country and come to a better place,” Abinuwa said. “I wanted to go where I could have a good education, it’s really difficult in Nigeria, it’s really difficult.”

Opportunity found a way to Abinuwa’s doorstep and set her on the right path.

UTEP Alumni and former outstanding track athlete Blessing Okagbare is responsible for part of Abinuwa’s presence here at UTEP. Okagbare, being from Nigeria, was familiar with Abinuwa and her talents. She brought her to the attention of former track and field head coach Bob Kitchens.

“She talked to coach Kitchens about me. (Kitchens) told her they needed to recruit and asked if she had any person in Nigeria that could do good,” Abinuwa said. “[Okagbare] said, ‘I know this girl from my state my local government. Her name is Endurance and she is good.’”

Now at UTEP she appreciates everything she has, from receiving a good education, to living in a land full of possibilities and doing what she loves—running. She is grateful for everything she has and always welcomes friends with a big, friendly smile on her face.

Abinuwa recently posted personal best’s at the Texas Tech Open. She took first place in the 400-meters with a time of 52.66 and a time of 23.07 in the 200-meter. At the 2011 NCAA Indoor Track and Field Championships, she finished fourth in the 400-meter dash with a time of 53.06. This top finish qualified her to be an All-American.

Now Abinuwa has worked hard since she got the opportunity to step on the track and teammates everywhere find her to be motivating.

“I guess she doesn’t play a lot, she’s real serious about what she does, that’s even more intimidating, but then it also makes me want to work harder,” junior

middle distance runner Rebecca Crain said. “When we’re working together, I know as long as I’m behind endurance I should be good.”

Now as a junior, she has come out to build upon previous seasons and added to her list of accomplishments.

“I always thought she had a lot of desire to do well and I always thought that she took the sport seriously, but I thought she didn’t understand the fundamentals,” women’s sprint coach Kebba Tolbert said. “She had a fairly decent freshman indoor and outdoor season. I think she’s made some improvements this year, partially because she’s older and more mature and partially because we took a different approach.”

Just like a 400-meter run, Abinuwa begins hard and strides through the race eager to come out ahead of everyone.

“I think about my life sometimes, and think of where I came from, where I’m going, where I am right now and...god...I’m still not there yet,” Abinuwa said.

Kristopher Rivera may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

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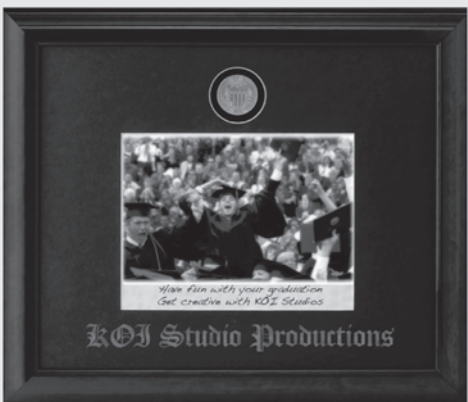
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by Linda Thistle

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QUARTERBACK from page 13
junior, giving him two years of eligibility with the team. There at Mt. SAC, Lamaison and the Mounties had a perfect season in 2010 where they claimed their second straight state championship. He had impressive stats in 2010 while at Mt. SAC. There he completed 300 of 499 passes for 3,993 yards with 30 touchdowns and 12 interceptions. He averaged 307.2 yards passing per game.

His experience has clearly earned him respect, and now he comes into an unfamiliar town hoping to work his way up to starting quarterback.
“I like El Paso, it’s a good place where I can come and just focus on ball, there’s not a lot of distractions,” Lamaison said. “I like my players and we’re getting along real well, we’re building camaraderie, which is a good thing too.”
In 2009, Lamaison redshirted with the Tennessee Volunteers. Although

he may have just recently transferred from a junior college, he is familiar with the rigors of Division 1 football.
“I was at Tennessee originally,” Lamaison said. “Even though I red shirted there it was intense so I feel that was a beneficial experience right there.”
Lamaison comes into spring with just two months of learning the UTEP offense. Coaches said they are not worried with the junior who has adapted well to the offense in only a short time being with the team.

“It’s his fourth offense that he’s had to learn since high school,” Price said. “He had his junior college then went to Tennessee and then came back to junior college with a different coach and now he’s come here. He’s got a good knowledge of the game.”
The pending starting quarterback job is not going to be a given. Tate Smith, Carson Meger and Javia Hall will be there competing for the spot as well. The demand on these quarter-

backs is not going to be simple. They come with lots of standards in regards to leadership and integrity.
“I feel like everything is going well, I just got to get more time in with my receivers,” Lamaison said. “I didn’t fall far from where I want to be, but I know I can improve a lot.”
Kristopher Rivera may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.



SAL GUERRERO/ The Prospector
Tate Smith throws a pass during drills at spring practice April 2 at Glory Field. Smith is fighting for the QB job along with Carson Meger, Javia Hall and Nick Lamaison.

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SPRING from page 13

"I feel pretty good to be getting back out here. My legs were a little wobbly at first but now I'm getting back under myself," Grayson said. "We're on the right track. Everyone is hungry and we're just trying to set the tone early with the interceptions."

Grayson said with two days of practice under the team's belt it's hard to evaluate where they are as a team right now, but once the team goes full

contact April 5 the mind set of the team will change.

On the offensive end the focus of the first few days of practice has been on the quarterback situation brewing. Javia Hall, Nick Lamaison, Carson Meger and Tate Smith will all be vying for the chance to start this coming fall.

"Meger was probably the most accurate today (April 2), but it was a learning day for the quarterbacks," Price said.

While the QB situation is still up for grabs, a few veterans have filled in at the running back slots. Seniors Vernon Frazier and Joe Banyard are leading the charge to take over former running back Donald Buckram's spot. Both backs saw their fare share of playing time last season, but this spring will determine where they will be on the depth chart.

"Vernon Fraizer has been hitting the hole faster than he has," Price said. "A lot of times he stutter steps and the

hole closes. He takes one look and hits the hole hard."

As for newcomers, the wide receiver spot has shown promise with two players hailing from Odessa Permian High School. Junior Lavorick Williams, who transferred from New Mexico State, has turned some heads with his catching abilities. Freshman Felix Neboh is fighting for the slot position with wide receiver Marlon McClure out due to an undisclosed situation. Neboh, a small speedy re-

ceiver, has dropped only a few passes in drills, the coaching staff has been raving about his ability to make cuts and run routes.

Spring practice will be held at Glory Field on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays all this month. The Spring Game will take place April 30 with the time to be announced in the coming weeks.

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Junior wide receiver Lavorick Williams searches for the pass while running a route during the second day of spring practice.

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