

4-12-2011

The Prospector, April 12, 2011

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VIDEO

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arts & entertainment



What is art? Beyond the definition

Marcela Nungaray
Detail of "Broken"

ENT • 7

EL MUSEO URBANO

Graduate students
revive El Paso history

NEWS • 3

Hip-hop reconsidered

Public library honors the music genre

ENT • 7



NATIONAL CHAMPS

Cheerleaders win
NCA Nationals
in Daytona

SPORTS • 13

Jason Lucero
Detail of "Media Coverage
Abstract (9 of 12 pieces)"

PHOTO BY ESTEBAN MARQUEZ / The Prospector

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Column

Agree to disagree

BY MATTHEW MUNDEN
The Prospector



Artists’ intention should not matter once an artist has let their work go public. Take Zach Snyder’s “Sucker Punch.” I believe, and still do, that the film sexualizes rape and abuse. Some comments on The Prospector website suggest that I am wrong and the movie does not at all suggest that. Zack Snyder believes his movie is empowering to females. I believe that we all have room to be right and wrong when looking at “Sucker Punch” or any film for that matter.

It is sort of the Schrödinger’s cat of film criticism. Schrödinger’s cat is the idea of a cat locked in a box and there is a vile of poison that is broken...and long story short, the cat, as long as no one opens the box to check on it, is both alive and dead.

Deciphering a film or any piece of art is like that, except there is no opening the box to see if the theory is right or not. Even when the artist says otherwise. Take “Blade Runner.” Ridley Scott believes that his film implies that the hero, Deckard, is a replicant. Harrison Ford believes that his character isn’t. I believe he isn’t. Some of my friends find themselves on Scott’s side. No one should be wrong in this matter because we all have enough room to agree peacefully. In the Internet age, we have a lot of platforms to stage our opinions and create intelligent debates about why our opinions might differ. Maybe in a brighter world, we could have a forum and everyone could respect each other as actual human beings. Not just a name printed in ink. Occasionally, there would be someone that does not jive with the rest of the community tone-wise, but the majority should still be open to

trying to find the point of what they are saying. However, we seem to jump to attacking not only the opinion, but the critic. Possibly, a college newspaper isn’t the place to expect some type of thoughtful dialogue, but why not? Why should we only expect the loud disrespectful minority of fools to be the ones that get their voices heard? Make no qualms; I am a talentless nameless critic for a college newspaper. I, like writer Kurt Vonnegut once said about book critics, dress up in a suit of armor to attack a sundae. However, apparently I am a word not acceptable for print for saying something negative about a movie that even if I didn’t focus on rape or abuse is still a lousy pile of crap. However, if you find it great, as some friends did, good for you. Our tastes just differ. Neither one of us is wrong or right for more than ourselves. In columns and reviews, I state my opinions and, in comments, you can state yours. Am I a word not acceptable for print? Yes and no. I don’t think I am. But to, at least, one person I am. Let’s agree to disagree.

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

you think?

WHAT DO

This week’s poll question:
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Letter to the editor Failure to identify

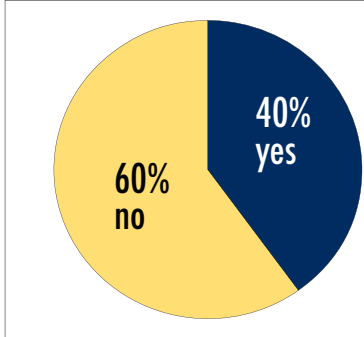
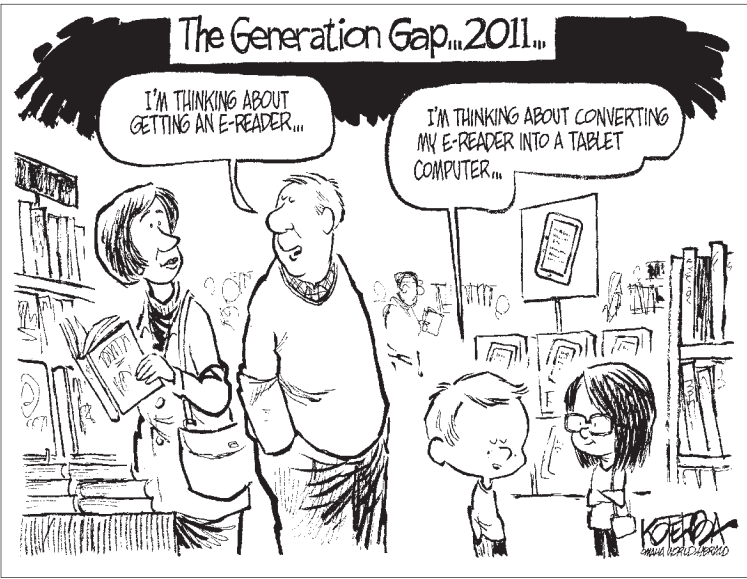
Up for public hearing today in the Texas State Senate is a bill (SB 843) that would expand the “Failure to Identify” law to anyone who is “legally detained” by the police. In practice, this would essentially mean that the police could demand identification from anyone, and not just individuals placed under arrest. My concern, and my contention here, is that this is tantamount to an “Arizona Law,” and is simply being applied to the entire population of the state as

a means to establish a pretense of egalitarianism. Make no mistake, this is a racist law, one that is designed to circumvent probable cause, and one that will result in deportations. We, as members of an international institution, and of a vibrant border community have a responsibility to protect our population from unlawful, unconstitutional persecution, and I encourage everyone to contact their State Senator to speak out against this deplorable encroachment on individual liberty.

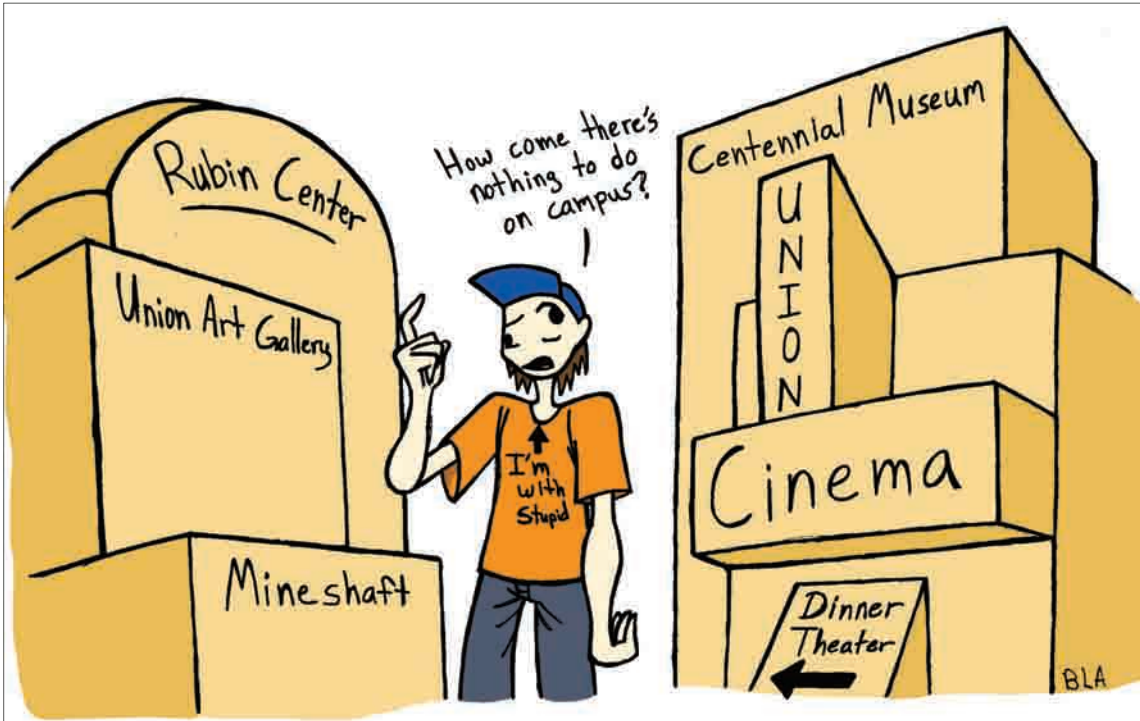
Anthony Gus Cohen
Junior creative writing major

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the prospector

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History

Condemned building transformed into museum

BY CELIA AGUILAR
The Prospector

UTEP graduate students are working hard to turn a condemned part of downtown into a hub for El Paso's rich, multicultural history. The building at 500 S. Oregon St., an area targeted for demolition by the El Paso Downtown Redevelopment Plan, is being converted into El Museo Urbano.

"The issue of redevelopment really brought this to life for me," said Michael Herrera, history graduate student. "It makes you think about the process of maintaining the community."

Once the sight of Olivas Villanueva Aoy Mexican preparatory school, the building will feature four main rooms. Two of them will be dedicated to Teresita Urrea, who occupied the building in 1896 and 1897.

"She was a very well known curandera. Thousands of people would come to see her. Anywhere from 50 to 250 people would be seen by her every day. She was really a revolutionary curandera," said Yolanda Leyva, chair of the Department of History and co-director of El Museo Urbano. "Under the dictatorship of Porfirio Díaz, she was exiled from Mexico and Díaz called her the most dangerous girl in Mexico."

Another room will tell the history of the building itself and the

seldom heard history of Segundo Barrio, which includes African American and Chinese narratives. Jaime Portillo, history graduate student and one of the 35 graduate students involved in the project, feels this is a good opportunity for residents to learn about the multi-faceted history of El Paso.

"The museum actually shows the diversity and culture that's been here since the beginning," Portillo said. "There is a lot of things people don't think about or consider. There's more than just Anglos and Mexicans here."

The last room will be a more interactive space focusing on curanderismo and the various methods of pre-Columbian healing still used today.

"We're going to set up everything like if there was a curandera here. We're going to have an altar and it's going to be made by one of the curanderas from El Segundo Barrio," said Maria Lopez Calleros, history graduate student. "We also want the people of the community to participate putting the altar together. That's going to be an area where the community can participate to make it more interactive."

El Museo Urbano will also serve as a welcoming space for walking tours which will be apart of the museum's programming. This

see MUSEUM on page 5



JUSTIN STENE / The Prospector

El Museo Urbano, located at 500 S. Oregon St., was once the sight of a Mexican preparatory school and is now being redeveloped by UTEP graduate students.



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Organizations

Student involvement on campus low



ESTEBAN MARQUEZ / The Prospecto

According to Mine Tracker, student participation in campus organizations is lacking. The site reports that only about 2,500 students out of the 22,000 enrolled at UTEP participate in student organizations.

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BY CELIA AGUILAR
The Prospecto

According to Mine Tracker, there are 207 registered student organizations on campus, but less than 2,500 out of more than 22,000 students enrolled at UTEP participate in campus organizations. The numbers are likely to be even less than that as several of the students involved are a part of multiple groups.

“Pretty much everybody (I know) is in at least two or three different student organizations,” said Cagney Sanders, senior political science major and president of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated. “Students involved on campus are very

few. I don’t really see a lot of new people.”

Despite the fact that UTEP has several registered organizations with varying missions, those with the highest membership are honor societies, sororities/fraternities and professional associations.

For many students, their lack of involvement has to do with being unaware of the opportunities on campus. Magali Ornelas, freshman programa interamericano student, is not currently a part of any student association and was surprised to find out how many organizations are available at UTEP.

“There has got to be something I’m interested in,” Ornelas said.

Student organizations on campus range from creating awareness and understanding of various cultures, to anime appreciation, to organizations that cater to specific majors such as advertising, medicine and pharmacy. But the majority of organizations, which are not career specific, are dedicated to community service.

Such an example is the University Lions Club, which is a chapter of the international club. According to Lilian Mayberry, biological sciences adjunct professor and faculty advisor to the University Lions Club, the group’s mission is to create and foster a spirit of understanding among all people for humanitarian needs by providing voluntary services through community involvement and international cooperation.

“The Lions’ motto is ‘We serve.’ Lions Club International is the largest service organization in the world, with clubs in over 200 countries,”

Mayberry said. “University clubs are relatively new and were created in an effort to encourage young people to participate in service organizations.”

Although, the political climate in the state is heating up and billions of dollars in proposed budget cuts could affect public education, the student political participation is low. Less than 10 percent of the student associations on campus are political.

Students who are not involved in organizations gave three main reasons: they do not have time, they live in Ciudad Juárez which makes participation more difficult and/or they are simply not interested.

“I’m not in any student organizations because I work and I go to school,” said Jonathan Adame, freshman criminal justice major. “There is just no time.”

However, for Sanders, it is worth the extra effort to make the time, because she believes it is not only about giving back to the community, but gaining valuable experiences.

“People don’t realize that being involved helps build your resume and helps you with real world problems. You learn problem solving skills when you are involved and have a hands-on role in an organization,” said Sanders, who is also involved in seven other organizations.

Monica Almeida, former president of the Student Advertising Federation and senior media advertising major, admits that being involved with student organizations while living in Juárez is difficult, but possible.

see INVOLVEMENT on page 5

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MUSEUM from page 3

concept is where the urban aspect comes into play.

"The muralist movement takes art to the streets. This is the idea of taking history to the streets. For those who don't go to the museum, we'll take the museum to them," said David Romo, doctoral history student and co-director of El Museo Urbano.

The walking tour focuses on approximately 25 buildings downtown, primarily those connected with the Mexican Revolution. The various graduate students involved in the project have done extensive research on El Paso's downtown area and the Segundo Barrio buildings to contribute to the tours.

Perhaps the most important aspect of the museum for those working on this project is to work in conjunction with the community. One weekend they met with the residents of the tenement where the museum is located and held a workshop on identity and history.

"We want people from the barrio to appropriate this space," Lopez Calleros said. "This is the first time the UTEP History Department (makes) an effort to connect the actual curriculum and studies with the community and what is happening. I don't think this is happening in a lot of places in the U.S."

The grand opening of the museum will take place May 7, which marks the 100th anniversary of the battle of Juárez (when Pancho Villa besieged the city of Juárez marking the victory of the revolutionary movement), with a "pachanga historica."



JUSTIN STENE / The Prospector

The grand opening of Museo Urbano will take place May 7, which is the 100th anniversary of the battle of Juárez.

While participants are excited for the opening, they are quickly running out of funds. The grant given by the Texas Historical Commission only covers rent until June and the Museo Urbano is currently seeking funding for another year.

Despite monetary troubles, Jessica Ruizquez, interdisciplinary graduate student, is confident that all her work will pay off.

"This has been an ongoing project that the public history class has

been involved in for four years. There's been quite a few students, three or four classes involved, and we're finally at the point where we're seeing all of our ideas come together," Ruizquez said.

Volunteers and donations are constantly being recruited. For more information, contact Yolanda Leyva at yleyva@utep.edu or call 747-7064.

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

INVOLVEMENT from page 4

"I found it a little hard to stay late here for activities and come back to Juárez. The first thing you have to do is have everything clear about what your responsibilities are and the most important thing is to set your priorities," Almeida said.

According to Almeida, making an effort to get involved can pay off for students seeking real world experience or networking opportunities.

"It's like working in the real world. I got two internships and I've gotten to know a lot of people in the industry. You get a chance to put into practice what you're studying for," Almeida said. "It's a very good opportunity to be in-

involved in organizations. It depends on you if you want to make yourself count in the world."

While it may be easy to attribute lack of student interest to apathy, there may be other reasons preventing students from becoming fully engaged in student activities.

"It is hard to find students who want to be involved, but I don't think students are any more apathetic than other people in any community. They are busy with work, school, and don't always take the time to give," Mayberry said.

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



ESTEBAN MARQUEZ / The Prospector

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Question of the week

What is your favorite entertainment venue at UTEP?

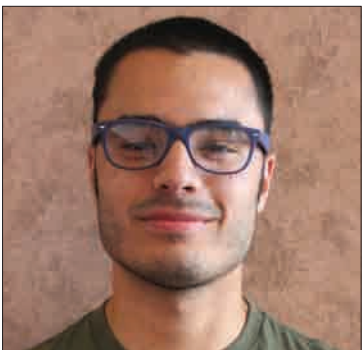
Photos by Justin Stene, Diana Amaro and Esteban Marquez



RYAN ADAMS
sophomore psychology major
“Mine Shaft, because it’s a great place to relax, either before a meeting or in between classes.”



ANTHONY VALDEZ
freshman computer science major
“Dynamite game room is my favorite place to hang out with friends.”



CODY SALIAS
freshman political science major
“The Centennial Museum because it has a lot of artifacts there that catch my attention and a variety of other different things.”



KEVIN DIAZ
freshman civil engineering major
“Mine Shaft, because the atmosphere is vibrant, social and relaxing.”



ESTEFANIA MARQUEZ
sophomore graphic design major
“Union Cinema, because I love movies and it’s affordable.”



BRIAN LAZO
freshman history major
“Dinner Theatre, because the plays are entertaining and it’s a great place because you can eat during a play.”



CANDICE MORENO
freshman english major
“Mine Shaft, because you can take a break there to eat while also watching TV.”



OSCAR SAENZ
junior math major
“Fox Fine Arts Recital Hall, because it shows us a side of campus we are not familiar with.”



DELILAH DELGADO
sophomore music and vocal performance major
“Fox Fine Arts Recital Hall, because I’m a music major and I like to support the music and art community in El Paso and UTEP.”



DOMINGO MARTINEZ
junior multimedia journalism major
“Going to UTEP football games at the Sun Bowl, because they are the best.”



ISCHACK MORALES
freshman bio-medical major
“The Mine Shaft to kill my free time.”



AIRAM GONZALEZ
freshman education major
“Dinner Theatre, because it is entertaining and a good experience.”

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30 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

The ever morphing idea of art

BY MATTHEW MUNDEN
The Prospector

Art, like beauty, is said to be in the eyes of the beholder, but who or what defines art?

“Art is a method of communicating ideas in a visual manner,” said Kate Bonansinga, director of the Stanley and Gerald Rubin Center for the Visual Arts. “To me that is art. That means painting, sculpture, performance, or any number of different things.”

The definition of art is one that constantly evolves as times change. With the introduction of cinema in the early 20th-century, the definition had to change to accept films as a form of art. In modern times, the idea of video games as art is one fought with people on both extremes of the argument explaining why or why not it might be considered art.

“I think I have to see the video game and I think it also goes back to intention of the creator,” Bonansinga said. “Is it to express an idea that is important or beyond entertainment? Or is it just a way to pass the time?”

Bonansinga said that intention is not the only thing that matters, viewers’ contributions to the art also matters. The viewer’s preconceived notions of what is art and the meaning of different colors, images, or countless other things shapes what a viewer might see. An open mind is required to fully appreciate art.

“There is a whole new medium of art making that is called social practice, where the primary goal is to

connect with people in some shape or form,” Bonansinga said. “It may or may not be a visual form.”

To analyze art, one must accept that there is far more than just one way to interpret something.

“I think we need to have standards, it is not as if anything is art and everyone is an artist. I don’t believe that,” Bonansinga said. “But I do believe that there are many different types of artists today that are pursuing many different types of methods for communicating their ideas with a broad audience.”

The student exhibit on the second floor of the Rubin Center depicts the multiple ideas, techniques and methods artists use to communicate.

“I don’t think the student exhibit can be defined by just one idea,” Bonansinga said. “Some works are assignment driven, so some have been created in a class. Sometimes what the students are trying to do is fulfill a requirement for a particular project.”

The student exhibit is not shaped by the artists that submit their work, but by the juror that selects it.

“Often you can see the point of view of the juror,” Bonansinga said. “Every year we hire an outside juror to select the artwork for the exhibition and this year out of the 400 plus pieces of artwork she looked at, she selected less than a hundred.”

This year, the juror was more interested in the idea that the piece was going for than anything else.

see ART on page 10



ESTEBAN MARQUEZ / The Prospector
Detail of “Media Coverage Abstract 9 of 12 pieces,” by Jason Lucero, is part of the student exhibit at the Rubin Center.

Music

El Paso Public Library salutes hip hop



ESTEBAN MARQUEZ / The Prospector
Eric Bretado, freshman criminal justice major, checks out the music section at the downtown El Paso Public Library.

BY JACKIE DEVINE
The Prospector

The El Paso Public Library, in partnership with Hip-Hop Alumni, will host “Reconsidering Hip Hop: An Afternoon of History, Film and Music,” which will introduce new hip hop stacks at local branches throughout the city.

The new hip-hop collections will provide the community with novel ways to research and understand hip-hop and its place in American and world history as well as its origins in African American folk traditions.

The event will feature a lecture, a film screening and a live performance. Following the lecture, the hip hop documentary “Style Wars,” which is one of the foundational hip hop documentaries, will be shown. The purpose of the event is to shed light on the real meaning of hip-hop and how it all got started.

According to Jeff Chang’s “Can’t Stop, Won’t Stop: A History of the

Hip-Hop generation,” the hip-hop/rap culture known today roughly began in the mid 1970s. It first caught on in New York because it offered urban youth a creative way to express themselves and provide them with an art form that was available to anybody.

Unlike other forms of music where voice lessons were necessary. The only rule hip-hop had was to be original and rhyme to the beat of the music.

“Hip-hop is now a widely accepted music format. We want people to realize how much it has influenced us, to our clothing and even our way of thinking,” said Jack Galindo, marketing and customer relations coordinator for the El Paso Public Library. “There is also a certain kind of poetry behind the lyrics. It’s a story of urban culture that is real and not what you see on TV and the movies.”

Some artists that paved the way for hip hop are The Sugarhill Gang, Rakim, Public Enemy and N.W.A., plus

see HIP-HOP on page 10

Column Choose your generic white guy

BY MATTHEW MUNDEN
The Prospector



We are living in a time of generic video game heroes.

Look at “Uncharted,” “Bulletstorm,” “Gears of War” or other AAA games released each year and you’ll find the same white guy in every game. Only one studio, Rockstar, seems to be able to base games on someone other than the stereotypical white male, but even then the games only have male characters. Any female characters are relegated to “Tomb Raider” games, where the heroines are so stupidly disproportionate that in a real world they would probably knock themselves out when jogging.

When the female character doesn’t have these characteristics, the game just doesn’t sell (“Beyond Good and Evil” was a great game with a strong female lead that failed to sell).

According to the podcast “Weekend Confirmed” at Shacknews, 40 percent of video game players are female, yet most games are advertised to the teenage male demographic. More females are mobile game players, yet even on that service the games that get the most marketing and money behind them are ones geared for guys (like Epic’s “Infinity Blade”).

It isn’t a problem that is just for games, though. Movies have the same problem when it comes to big-

see GENERIC on page 12



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GREAT PRIZES

Your opinion matters! Because of your feedback we made the following improvements:

- The Cyber Café located in the Union received 25 brand new computers.
- Three (3) additional microwaves were installed in the food court area for student use.
- The Union East 1st floor underwent a major renovation to include a new sitting areas, six (6) conference rooms, 2 designated for student use only and an Information Center.
- Six (6) UTEP Today monitors were installed throughout Union East providing event information, weather information and news information.
- Union Building Directories have been installed in the Union East and West entrances to include a campus map in the Information Center area.
- Student newspaper, The Prospector was completely re-designed both in print and on-line.
- Creation of a University Ticket Center Annex located on the first floor of Union East.
- Students can purchase athletic event tickets on-line using their Miner Gold Card.
- Installed the UTEP Miner Alert System which includes a cell phone based emergency text messaging system, a campus outdoor emergency annunciation system and emergency email notification.
- Increased the number of safety and awareness programs by 21%.
- Additional e-mail alerts sent to students whose I-20's are due to expire.
- Areas/programs (Intramurals, climbing gym, Racquetball courts, pools, fitness classes and weight room / cardio area) in the new Student Recreation Center (SRC) will be offered in the peak times selected by the students.
- Technology Support hosted the first open house in October 2010 to show new technologies available to students.
- Students can access UTEP software from anywhere, at any time and from any device. This new service alleviates the congestion in the computer labs.



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VEYWEEK AND FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS



ESTEBAN MARQUEZ / The Prospector

“Reconsidering Hip-Hop” will take place on April 16 at 2 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the downtown library.

HIP-HOP from page 7

many more. Hip-hop was revolutionized by these artists, but they also helped to popularize a music genre that is all about personality and attitude.

“We want to take the community back in time to the foundation of culture and ideology of hip hop,” said Justin De Senso, co-founder of Hip-Hop Alumni and guest lecturer for the library’s event. “With time comes evolution, just like the climates change so does the music, it’s always changing and shifting.

With that we also want to acknowledge the justice and art behind it.”

Over the years, hip-hop has become a heavy weight in the music industry. Some of today’s biggest selling artists are Jay-Z, Eminem and Kanye West. Legends like Tupac Shakur emphasized that hip hop is really about interpretation. However, hip-hop does have critics. Not many appreciate the genre if it is not in respectable context.

“Hip-hop used to be fun and about dancing. It was about joys of life that transitioned from the late

70s and early 80s,” said Eddy Gutierrez, music enthusiast. “Now hip-hop is self-indulgent, about money and disrespecting women. It has turned into stories about crime, violence and drugs.”

“Reconsidering Hip-Hop: An Afternoon of History, Film and Music” will take place on April 16 at 2 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the downtown El Paso Public Library. For more information, visit their website at www.elpasotexas.gov/library.

Jackie Devine may be reached at prospector@utep.edu

ART from page 7

“It was about what the idea the student was trying to convey and not what the material object looked like,” Bonansinga said.

Starting May 26, artist duo, Ather-ton and Keener, are creating an exhibit that uses mirrors and natural sunlight to show how light changes throughout the day. Vonansinga says that some people might not view that as art, but to some it is.

“Minimalist art like that is something that is starting to be very big, especially in the tech world,” said Jerry Aldaz, senior English and American literature major and founder of the

tech blog, Pantless Nerd. “Minimalist art allows people to fill in the spaces in their imagination.”

In the end, artists attempt to create something that could change their viewers’ opinions of the very nature of art.

“You can find art in anything because beauty is truly everywhere,” said Justin Marcell, rapper and producer of the band, Brain Matter. “We however strive to make people see the beauty in darker things and open their mind to different concepts and ideas.”

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



ESTEBAN MARQUEZ / The Prospector

Marcela Nungaray, “Tracer of Me, series 1-5” is also part of the student exhibit.



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From traditional recycling efforts to exploring innovative ecological research across the globe. The University of Texas at El Paso continues to implement and explore numerous eco-ventures in its efforts to help preserve the planet's natural resources.

In the upcoming week, UTEP will step up its environmental outreach and educate others on the importance of being eco-friendly.

Ecathon

What is the UTEP Ecathon?

It is ultimately a walking journey designed to encourage a healthy Ecoconscious lifestyle. How? It will provide a unique and focused opportunity to experience the beauty and uniqueness of our campus while being a healthy benefit to yourself. The Ecathon wishes to empower you to strengthen your belief in yourself and your natural capabilities. While on this journey, you will walk part of three distinct courses outlined with markers around the campus. Wellness Ambassadors and other volunteers from the student organization, Environmental Advocates, will join you as they discuss the paths and highlights of noteworthy markers along the specially designed route. Register today and invite your colleagues to join the group as we move en masse to show the campus that we are both health conscious and ecoconscious.

The first 25 people who register and participate will receive a FREE UTEP water bottle.

WATT Dog Competition

Create your own Grill by Using the Power of the Sun!!

Rules:

- The first 10 entered organizations will be given \$100 to spend for materials
- Each team must successfully cook their hot dog/veggie dog using their homemade solar cooker
- Each team will be scored on creativity as well as successful product, and presentation.
- The first, second, and third place teams will receive a monetary award for their group.

UTEP's Earth Week 2011 celebration, which runs Friday, April 15, to Friday, April 22, will have a daily theme. The themes for the week are life and nature's four elements: water, air, fire and Earth. The public can attend discussions and events on various topics, including energy conservation, global warming, transportation, the impact of urban sprawl, water scarcity and more. Family-friendly events include a solar hot dog cooking contest, carbon footprint demonstrations and performances by local musicians.

UTEP Green Awards

Do you know someone or an organization here on campus that is doing something green to help out the environment?

- We want to know who here on campus is helping take care of our environment.
- What innovative methods are people putting to work in efforts to be more environmentally friendly?
- What alternatives are they applying to better save energy?
- What makes them sustainable living super stars?

To nominate a stand-out UTEP environmentalist, simply let us know, in 500 words or less, why they are deserving of the UTEP Green Award and what they are doing to help the environment. We know that people on this campus are going green; it's time they get the recognition they deserve! Nominate someone today and let us know about all the environmental activism that is taking place.

Categories:

- UTEP Individual Student
- UTEP Individual Faculty or Staff Member
- UTEP Student Organization
- UTEP Department

Deadline for nominations is Friday, April, 15, 2011

For more information and to register for events: admin.utep.edu/earthweek



Special to The Prospector

One of these are just like all the others. Can you spot the difference? (top left to bottom right) Cole from “Infamous;” Baldur from “Too Human;” Alec Mason from “Red Faction Guerrilla;” Starkiller from “Star Wars: Force Unleashed;” Nathan Hale from “Resistance 2;” and Commander Shepard from “Mass Effect.”

GENERIC from page 7
budget action movies. Occasionally they have more diversity racially and physically wise. For every Aaron Eckhart, Paul Walker, or Hugh Jackman, you have a Vin Diesel, Samuel Jackson, or (although I hate him) Shia LaBeouf.
But when it comes to a female hero, you still get the hyper sexualized, teenager’s dream of female “bad-assery” that you find in “Sucker Punch” or the completely passive Bella in the “Twilight” series. The closest you get is Hermione Granger in the “Harry Potter” series, who I view as the true

hero of the film (Harry is sort of the bumbling idiot of the series).
Only in the last couple of years, movie industries are beginning to understand that other demographics besides the 18-40 male exist and series like “Twilight,” with a large and passionate female fan base, or the Tyler Perry series of films, which targets an African American demographic, have become big.
However, where is something like “Harry Potter,” or even “Twilight,” for the video game space? In the video games, there is no got-to-have-it-on-day-one game for females, like there is for dorks like me that will stand

out in line at midnight for the latest “Gears of War” or “Call of Duty.”
Of course, things like “Final Fantasy,” “Kingdom Hearts,” or other Square Enix have made strides to cater to a more diverse crowd of gamers. The most recent “Final Fantasy” had a few strong female characters (and some strong, rather effeminate male heroes, but that has more to do with the art style than any point that the designers are trying to make). But that game also occasionally fell back on racial stereotypes instead of making real characters (Sazh in “Final Fantasy 13”). But I kind of view these JRPGs in the same way I view roman-

tic comedies because they essentially feel like the same thing over and over just a little warmed up for a new audience. In cinema, for every “Love, Actually,” you get a hundred Katherine Heigl vehicles, i.e. for every “Final Fantasy 13,” you get a dozen “Tales of Vesperia.”
Western RPGs seem to be the only place that you can find strong characters of multiple races as males or females. But that is because you usually get to create your own character. On the cover art and in preview coverage, you still get to see that Bioware’s idea of “Mass Effect’s” Commander Shepard or “Dragon Age 2’s” Hawke

is the generic white guy (in “Mass Effect’s” fiction, all the races are now mixed to the point that everyone is a bit of everything, but apparently that means in the future everyone looks a little tan).
Maybe none of this matters. Video games are the highest grossing form of entertainment and seem to be doing just fine. But maybe it is just me being tired of the McDonaldization of the world or something, but I want more choices.
Matthew Munden may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.



SGA 2011 Spring Elections

Filing

April 8th - 14th

Information Session

April 14th at 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Acacia Room (102-A)
Union Bldg. East, 1st Floor

Campaigning Starts

April 18th

Elections

April 20th - 21st

The 2011 Spring Elections will be held for the positions of:

President: 1 position	Collegiate Senators
Vice President for Internal Affairs: 1 Position	Business: 1 Position
Vice President for External Affairs: 1 Position	Education: 1 Position
	Engineering: 1 Position
	Graduate: 1 Position
	Health Science: 1 Position
	Liberal Arts: 1 Position
	Nursing: 1 Position
	Science: 1 Position
Senator At-Large: 14 Positions	

For more information including the election code, visit the SGA Office at 304 Union Bldg. East, 915-747-5584, or visit our website at www.utep.edu/sga.



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Cheerleading

Miners win national championship



BOB CORRAL / The Prospector

The UTEP cheerleading squad won their first national title at the National Cheerleading Association collegiate championship April 9 in Daytona Florida.

BY SAL GUERRERO

The Prospector

The UTEP cheerleading squad claimed their first national title at the National Cheerleading Association collegiate championship April 9 in Florida.

“It was an amazing feeling. Just being on stage listening to them count down 10 through first place,” head coach David Vasquez said. “When we made it to the top five I was happy, but then we were in the top two and they called our name for first it was just amazing.”

Vasquez, the coordinator of liberal arts teacher preparations at UTEP, has been the coach of the cheerleading squad the past 14 years.

“This is the first time we have won at such a big level,” Vasquez said. “There were 20 teams competing. They didn’t know who we were and I think we took them by surprise when we won.”

The competition took place on Daytona Beach during the two-day event, which featured colleges such as Georgia Southern, Marshall and Michigan, among others.

Vasquez said that during his tenure as cheerleading coach at UTEP, his team has never won a competition of this magnitude.

“We went out there, really, with no expectation at all,” senior David Martinez said. “We placed fourth in the preliminaries and we thought ‘hey we can hang with these guys.’”

Martinez said the team worked on their routine weeks in advance, but

see **CHAMPIONSHIP** on page 16

Football

UTEP completes first scrimmage of spring

BY SAL GUERRERO

The Prospector

The UTEP football team completed their first scrimmage of spring training April 9 at the Sun Bowl.

For 109 plays and a little under three hours, the Miners ran through the playbook and rotated through four quarterbacks.

“We had some big plays from our playmakers, both offensively and defensively,” head coach Mike Price said. “We got our two minute and four minute drills in. We had a field goal block, that was a nice job.”

Junior transfer quarterback Nick Lamaison was the standout of the first scrimmage, completing 9-of-11 passes for 137 yards.

“I felt good and comfortable. I’m glad I got that first scrimmage out of the way,” Lamaison said.

Lamaison had one of the longest plays during the scrimmage, completing a 45-yard pass to red shirt freshman Jordan Leslie, who finished the day with five catches for 113 yards and two touchdowns.

“The quarterbacks gave me a chance and I made plays,” Leslie said.

“During my redshirt (year) I learned a lot from all the receivers. It’s a great opportunity for me, especially with all the receivers out.”

Along with Lamaison, all four quarterbacks saw equal numbers of repetitions during the spring scrimmage. Redshirt freshman Javia Hall went 6-of-14 passing for 81 yards and sophomore Carson Meger totaled 63 yards completing 6-of-14 passes. The lone senior quarterback on the team, Tate Smith, did not have a productive day completing only 3-of-9 passes for 40 yards while throwing the only interception of the practice.

“I didn’t do what I expected. It was the first day and it was rough going with the (first team),” Smith said. “Getting the first scrimmage off my back now I can go to film and just play the next few (scrimmages) and see what happens.”

Along with the interception, Smith was having trouble with the center exchange fumbling on a few snaps.

Senior running back Joe Banyard ran the ball hard scoring on a one-yard play. His most productive play

see **SCRIMMAGE** on page 16



SAL GUERRERO / The Prospector

The Miners played through a three hour practice that spanned the length of 110 plays April 9 at the Sun Bowl.

Softball

Miners hope to end losing ways on the road

BY WILLIAM VEGA
The Prospector

If UTEP hopes to break their 10-game Conference-USA skid, their best chance may come this weekend when the Miners visit Southern Miss for a three game series April 16-17.

“We’re all getting a little frustrated because we’re not winning as many games as we’d like to, especially in conference. But we work so hard and eventually it’s going to pay off,”

sophomore second baseman Kayla Oranger said. “We just have to start clicking on all cylinders: our pitching, our hitting and our defense and when they’re all going off, we’ll be a powerful team.”

Sitting in dead last, the Golden Eagles have failed to win a single league game and have lost 22 of their last 25 overall. UTEP is on a losing streak, dropping their last seven and losing 13 of their last 14.

“You could only go up from here, right? We’re looking for success and we’re going to do what it takes to get there,” freshman shortstop Samantha Alvillar said. “We’re just going to keep working on the things we need to work on and things are going to work our way. We’re going to be winners in the end.”

The Miners have been run-ruled in eight of those 13 losses while giving up an average of more than nine runs a game. Most recently, the Min-

ers were run-ruled for the first time in a C-USA series to Houston April 9-10 but are now feeling positive they can match up with some of the best teams.

“We have the ability to beat anybody on the field. Whether it’s number one in the conference or number one in the country, we have the

athleticism, we have the support and we have the desire to do it,” Alvillar said. “We feel confident going into the conference tournament and going into every game that we know we can come out with success.”

see ROAD on page 16

2011 ANNUAL JURIED UTEP STUDENT ART EXHIBITION

APRIL 7 – MAY 7, 2011 RUBIN & L GALLERIES

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5 – 7:30 PM, THURSDAY, APRIL 7
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CURATOR, CARILLO GIL MUSEUM OF ART, MEXICO CITY

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DIANA AMARO / The Prospector

Senior outfielder Becky Smith attempts to hit the ball April 9 at the Helen of Troy Softball Complex.

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Softball

Houston trounces UTEP in three game series

BY WILLIAM VEGA
The Prospector

Junior catcher Chelsea Troupe’s return was cut short when she was held out of game three’s 15-0 loss to Houston. The Miners suffered their 10th Conference-USA loss in a row April 10 at the Helen of Troy Softball Complex.

Troupe, who missed her first game of the season April 4 against Jacksonville State after breaking her nose, was taken out of the second game versus Houston in the first inning. Already trailing 3-0, Troupe recovered from a ball thrown in the dirt by senior pitcher Courtney Auger with a runner at third.

Sophomore shortstop Brooke Lathan charged for home base setting up a play at the plate. Troupe stood her ground but was injured on the collision when Lathan threw an elbow at the catcher. Lathan was called out on the play and ejected by the home plate umpire but the loss was even greater for UTEP.

“For the way (Troupe) went out and how it all worked out we wanted to do what we could in support of her. On and off the field she brings out the best in us,” freshman shortstop Samantha Alvillar said. “Chelsea plays a big part on our team. Because she wasn’t in the game we were working that much harder for her.”

Without Troupe in the lineup, the Miners were limited to three hits as

senior Amanda Crabtree took the mound for the second time in the series. After allowing just two hits and no runs in game one, Crabtree struck out nine more batters for her seventh shutout of the season.

The pitching woes continued for the Miners as they gave up six homeruns and 17 hits in game three. Following the ejection, Lathan returned to drive in six RBIs off two homeruns as she went 3-for-3 from the plate.

“Defense is key. I mean one hit in either direction can take care of something but defense has got to be better,” co-head coach Kathleen Rodriguez said. “Our pitchers have got to get better, have to get stronger and have to make sure we’re not giving up after a big inning. Sometimes I

just talk to the pitchers and I go out there (to the mound) and I don’t say anything. It’s just a matter of trying to make them calm and relaxed.”

The Miners were run-ruled in a three game C-USA series for the first time after allowing their most runs in a conference game all season. The Cougars showed off their pitching in game one behind the arm of Crabtree. Crabtree, a top three C-USA pitcher in ERA, wins and strikeouts, continued her dominance, striking out 10 of the 20 batters she faced. Houston used a six-run sixth inning to run-rule the Miners in a 13-3 victory. Junior catcher Melissa Gregson and senior pitcher Ballie Lott each homered

in the game and finished with three RBIs a piece.

Game two went in the direction of solid hitting for the Cougars en route to a 10-2 victory in five innings. The Miners were able to find home plate despite Troupe’s absence in the bottom of the first but still found themselves overwhelmed by the Houston bats. After allowing three runs in the first, Auger gave up four more in the second where sophomore Joana Krienitz took over. Krienitz allowed two runs in the fourth then another in the fifth, resulting in the day’s sweep.

William Vega may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.



DIANA AMARO / The Prospector

Junior utility Chelsea slides into second base April 9 at the Helen of Troy Softball Complex. The Miners lost three games to the Houston Cougars in their weekend home series.

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CLASSIFIED AD RATES

The Prospector is published on Tuesdays and Thursdays during the fall and spring semesters and on Wednesdays during the summer sessions.
Local ads - 40¢ per word. Local businesses - 45¢ per word. Out-of-town businesses 60¢ per word. Bold or caps - 15¢ extra per word.
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★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ HOO BOY!
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SCRIMMAGE from page 13

was not running the ball, but rather throwing it. He completed one pass for 42 yards to wide receiver Julio Lopez.

The defense had a productive day with junior linebacker Aubrey Alexius and junior safety Deshawn Grayson leading in tackles with five apiece.

"First scrimmage, it was a very good day," Grayson said. "We started off slow but we had to pick it up and feed off each other."

Sophomore cornerback Terr'l Mark picked off Lamaison in the second half of the scrimmage.

"We're just going with experience and playing the game," Grayson said. "Just getting that knowledge of the game speed and knowing the play-book is the biggest thing."

Grayson said the big thing for the coming weeks of spring is to get the younger guys more mental reps to help them deal with the opposing offense.

The football team will continue practices this week April 12 and 14 at 4 p.m and April 16 at 10 a.m.

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



BOB CORRAL / The Prospector

Along with competing the cheerleading squad attends almost every athletic event at UTEP.

CHAMPIONSHIP from page 13

even with that their outlook was that of an underdog team competing against the best teams in the nation.

"We weren't even staying at a hotel near the competition. We were five mile away from where all the other teams were at," Martinez said. "We worked hard for this and now we have something to show for it."

Like most athletes, the cheerleaders have worked at this sport since their youth, but that is where the comparison stops. While they compete against other colleges, there game does not take place over a

few hours, they have two minutes to showcase why they deserve the championship.

"It's something a lot of us have been working for all our lives but this being college nationals, it was just amazing," sophomore Jessenia Murillo said. "A lot of the teams worked on their routine months in advance and we had a lot of injuries so we just went and said 'let's just go and see if we can win' and that's what it was."

Family, friends and fans alike awaited the cheerleading team April 10 as they arrived at the El Paso Airport. The large group of fans chant-

ed "UTEP" as the team made their way down the stairs at the airport.

"It was awesome to see these people here for us. We didn't think anyone would show up," Murillo said. "It feels good to have this support since no one could go and see us compete."

Vasquez said his team set the bar for future cheerleaders at UTEP and with the win it should increase the popularity of the sport at the university. The cheerleading squad will hold tryouts for next year's team April 30.

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

ROAD from page 14

Southern Miss has not produced much from the plate and from the pitching circle. On offense, the Golden Eagles are next to last in batting average but are not a very patient team. Southern Miss is in the top five in strike outs, home runs, and doubles but have the least amount of walks in the league. Not a single batter is hitting above .280 but 10 are batting better than .200. At the same time, no batters have a slugging percentage above .450 and only one player has more than five homeruns.

The Golden Eagles pitching has not made up for the lack of run support, either, as they are placing just ahead of UTEP in team ERA. Southern Miss, with a 4.29 ERA, is in the bottom two of C-USA in walked batters, strike outs and hits. The Golden Eagles use four pitchers in their rotation with all four possessing an ERA above 3.47, walking at least 25 batters a piece.

Southern Miss had two series similar to the Miners in league play. UTEP was run-ruled in all three games to Houston but the Golden Eagles faced their own troubles with the Cougars. They were shutout in three games while only knocking in one run all weekend. UTEP took UAB to the end in game one, mirroring the effort by Southern Miss. Just like the Miners, however, the Golden Eagles were swept, scoring just four runs compared to five for UTEP. The Miners aren't expecting to take the poor outings for granted but see them as measuring sticks to move forward.

"There is not a day that I coach this team saying we can't play against anybody. There is not a day we go out there expecting to have a tough day," co-head coach Kathleen Rodriguez said. "You can see that in the field and also in the classroom because there is not a day that goes by that they do not believe that. They are strong, independent, beautiful women."

William Vega may be reached at prosepector@utep.edu.

THIS WEEK!

TEACHER JOB FAIR

**Friday, April 15th, 2011
9 A.M. - 4 P.M.
Don Haskins Center**

DEAR STUDENT AND GRADUATE:

The University Career Center invites you to attend the 2011 TEACHER JOB FAIR. The event is intended to connect you with school districts interested in hiring UTEP graduates. We encourage you to arrive early, bring extra copies of your resume, and/or portfolio, and wear professional attire.

PREPARING FOR THE JOB FAIR

BEFORE THE FAIR

- Check the Job Mine website for education workshops on how to prepare.
- Research the school district.
- Have a resume that has been critiqued by someone in the Career Center.
- Prepare a 30 second commercial on your strengths.
- Be prepared for the on site interviews.

ON THE DAY OF THE FAIR

- Wear professional attire.
- Bring a pen or pencil, paper for notes, information to complete applications, and copies of your resume.
- Locate employers and decide the order in which you want to visit them.

WHEN MEETING EMPLOYERS

- Introduce yourself and be enthusiastic.
- Clearly state your name, major, degree, specialization, and graduation date.
- Use a firm handshake and maintain eye contact.
- Give your resume to the recruiter; don't wait for him/her to ask for it.
- Ask for a business card.

To find a list of participating school districts, visit the University Career Center's website at www.utep.edu/careers. Local, regional and national districts to be represented!

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