

4-19-2011

The Prospector, April 19, 2011

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UTEP celebrates earth week



Water Day Tuesday, April 19

Recycling Demo
Geology Lawn
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Earth Day Festival
UTEP Union Cinema
The Fence 11 - 11:45 a.m.
Countdown to Zero, Noon - 1:30 p.m.
Who Killed the Electric Car? 1:40 p.m.
The Story of Stuff, 3 p.m.

Air Day Wednesday, April 20

Symposium
Union Plaza
(between Union Building
East & West)
11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

**Chihuahuan Desert
Garden Tour**
Chihuahuan Desert Garden
Noon - 3 p.m.

Fire Day Thursday, April 21

**Yoga and
Zumba**
Geology Lawn
Yoga: 9 a.m. - 10 a.m.
Zumba: 2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Earth Day Celebration
Geology Lawn, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Arroyo Clean Up
Geology Lawn, 10 a.m. - Noon

**3rd Annual Watt Dog
Competition**
Geology Lawn
11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

It's All Natural
Union Exhibition Gallery,
2nd Floor, 7 p.m.
Opening Reception

Oceans: Free Film Screening
Geology Lawn, 8 p.m.

Earth Day Friday, April 22

**Earth Day
Planting Project**
College of Health Sciences
Wiggins Road, 9 a.m.

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Column

UTEP goes green, again?

BY NICOLE CHÁVEZ
The Prospector



You know it's Earth Week when you hear your peers talking about recycling, composting and sustainability even though half of the students don't even know what those words mean. For five days, people try to prove that they are doing their best to go green as a 21st century university. In 2005, UTEP got blue bin containers to recycle materials like paper, cardboard and plastic bottles. After six years, people still don't know how to use the bins. While working on a story for this issue, I decided to follow the UTEP recycling crew, which consists of a full-time employee and five students. At first I was thinking that it would be a dirty assignment. At some point I asked myself how acceptable it could be for college students to work with trash on a regular basis. The idea that

there may be some smelly trash involved passed through my mind more than once, but after following the recycling crew I learned an important lesson: recycling definitely has nothing to do with trash. Recycling materials are not trash. Most of it is paper, cardboard and books. After my visit to the recycling site at UTEP, there wasn't a weird smell lingering on my clothes or anything like that. The recycling process is almost hygienic. In fact, what is disgusting is when people are not willing to put any effort in to recycling or throwing away food and liquids in the designated bins for recycling, which are emptied and sorted by students. I should admit that, like other students, I was not sure of how to use the containers and what materials should be disposed. After years of seeing my peers, faculty and staff constantly throwing all the paper into trash containers and seeing the blue bins empty, I got confused. Environmental groups on campus have been trying to create a green culture at UTEP. They even won a couple of sustainability battles. Last year,

groups like Environmental Advocates worked very hard to spread the word about the Green Fund, a \$3 fee to create a sustainability projects fund. UTEP joined a statewide campaign of seven public universities trying to implement a fund of this kind. UTEP students passed flyers, got t-shirts and finally they caught the students' attention. When the Green Fund passed it was seen as the 'good' fee competing in the battlefield against the scandalous and 'evil' athletic fee. Students voted for it because it was a cheap fee compared with the initial \$120 fee that was threatening students' pocket. It could be a victory for our eco-friendly peers but the battle is not over. After the election, it isn't entirely possible to say that UTEP is a green campus. The turnout in the SGA elections was only 3,746 out of 20,198 students enrolled during Spring 2010; and only 2,435 voted for the green fund. Numbers and data cannot lie, students are not that into Green initiatives, yet. We do have a recycling program but we do not take full advantage of it. We keep the computers and lights working all day. The reality is that UTEP is not the eco-friendly campus it should be. Let's wait until next week to see how green UTEP really is.

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



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the prospector

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vol. 94, no. 38

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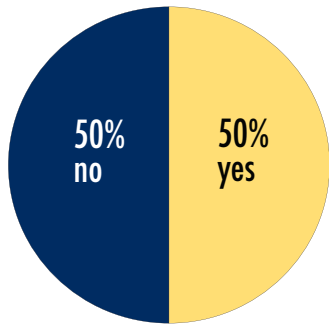
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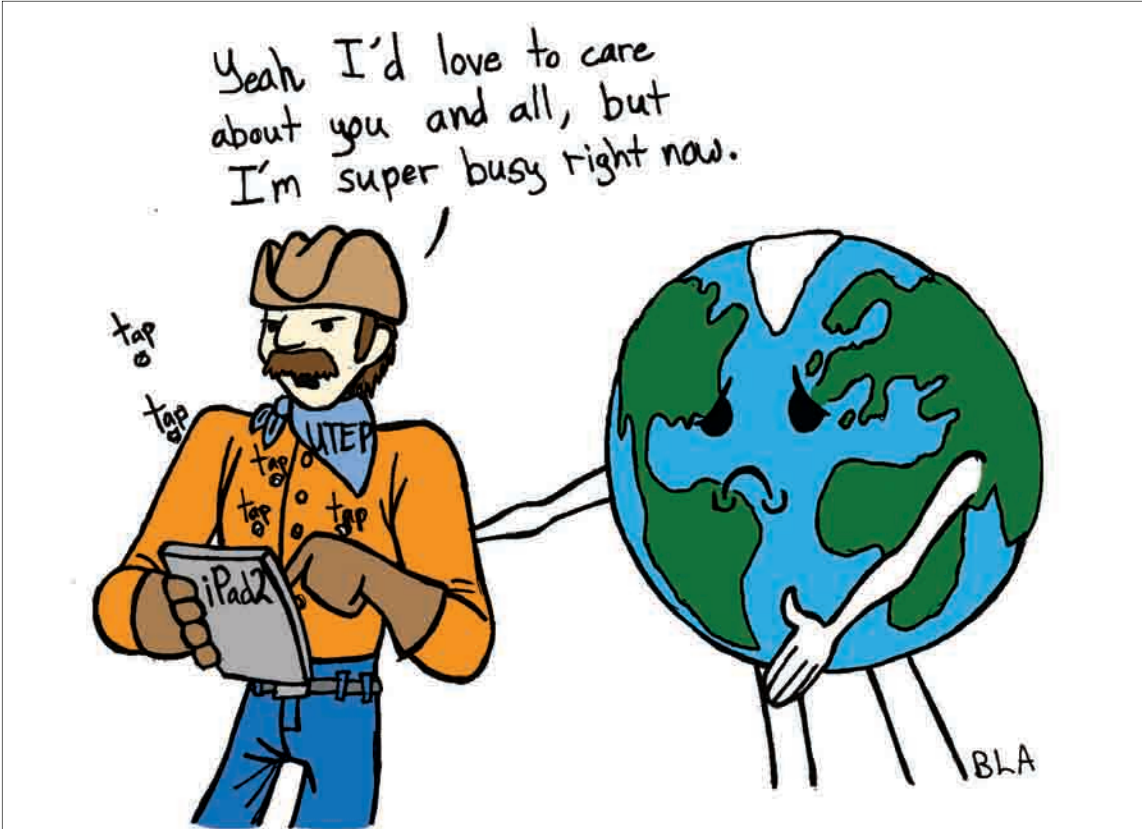
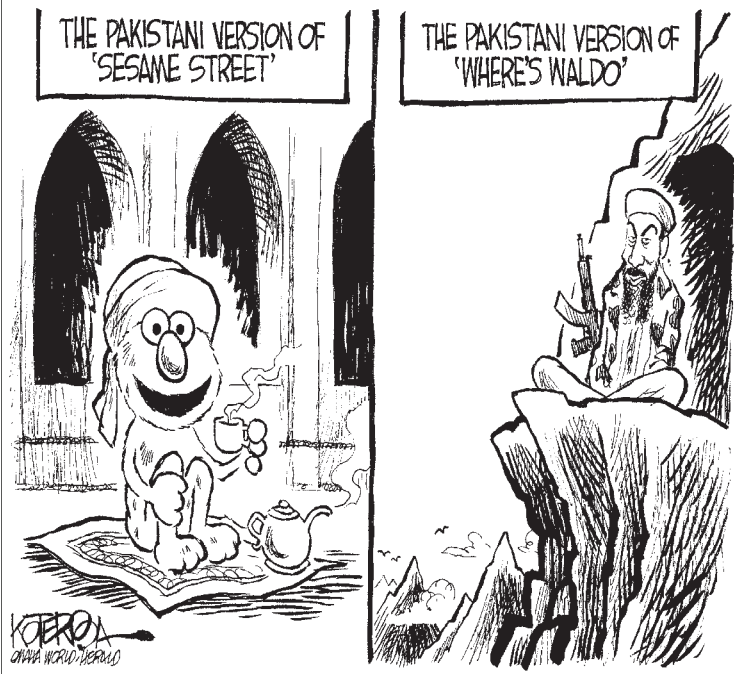
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Celebration

Week-long events to honor Earth and elements

BY DIANA ARRIETA
The Prospector

As Earth Week is celebrated across the globe, students, faculty and staff at UTEP take part by hosting a series of green activities planned for each day from April 18-25.

“UTEP’s Earth Week celebration is important since it highlights the university’s commitment to improve the quality of our environment,” said Paulina Reyes, sophomore linguistics major. “It is an opportunity to reach out to the community and engage in green initiatives.”

UTEP started organizing Earth Week three years ago and the week-long celebration has continued to grow each year.

“We keep having more students, faculty and departments participate in Earth Week each year,” said Jorge Vasquez, interim director for UTEP Special Events. “It seems that as we keep organizing it, more people become aware of the importance of getting involved.”

Through a series of different themes that include life, water, air, fire and earth, Earth Week seeks to educate the UTEP community about the importance of caring for the environment.

“One of the main goals of Earth Week is to educate our community about the importance of becoming eco-friendly,” said Vicky Montes,

coordinator and manager for UTEP Special Events. “Through a series of planned activities such as the Earth Day Film Festival, the planting project, and the Flora Fest lecture series, we seek to create awareness and educate our community about different aspects of our planet.”

Earth Week, which will officially begin with Life Day April 18, kicks off with the Ecothon, a walk around campus to encourage students to appreciate its nature.

“I feel it is important for students to appreciate the beauty of this campus,” said Monica Flores, senior computer information systems major. “The Ecothon will not only provide faculty, students and other members of the UTEP community this opportunity, but as the first event during the week, it will encourage people to continue participating in other events going on.”

Several departments will host different events to show their contributions to make the university and their own lives more environmentally friendly.

“Different departments around campus take this week as an opportunity to showcase their efforts to better our environment through their implementation of green roofs, recycling of paper and solar projects in which they have invested,” Vasquez said. “One example of this is the li-

brary, which will have a display of how heavy paper volumes of references are being turned into electronic format.”

Like in previous years, four green awards will be given to the most distinguished department as well as faculty member, student and organization that prove to be the most eco-friendly.

“We like to give out awards to recognize people’s efforts to better our

world as well as to create an incentive for other departments, students and faculty on campus to make a difference,” Montes said.

Fire Day, April 21, will include a student celebration from 10 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and will feature live music, as well as the third annual Watt-Dog contest in which students will have the opportunity to make hot dogs using solar-power ovens.

“I’m really looking forward to Fire Day. Having the opportunity to make a hot dog using solar power seems pretty cool,” Reyes said.

The main celebration will be on Earth Day, April 22, in which students and faculty will have the opportunity to plant trees and flowers outside of the College of Health Sciences.

see EARTH on page 5



JUSTIN STENE / The Prospector

Various organizations will participate in Earth Week April 18-25, including the Evironmental Advocates.

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Campus

University faces recycling woes

BY NICOLE CHÁVEZ

The Prospector

Stolen blue bins and limited personnel are some of the problems plaguing the UTEP recycling program, which doesn't make much profit even though its ultimate goal being to help the environment.

According to John Salles, supervisor of warehouse, surplus and recycling at UTEP Facilities Services, the funds made by selling materials such as steel and copper are used to cover expenses like truck maintenance, gas and blue bin replacements.

"It pretty much breaks even. We don't recycle to make money, we recycle because it is the right thing to do," Salles said.

UTEP recycles approximately 50,000 to 55,000 pounds of paper per month. Salles said that when the program started in 1998, the recycling plant Master Fibers processed the paper for free until Friedman Recycling offered to pay \$35 per pound.

"Friedman was paying for the paper until 2008 when the U.S. had this little recession. They stopped paying (us) for (it) and we started paying them for picking it up," Salles said.

Now, UTEP Facilities Services is paying Friedman Recycling \$125 every time they need to empty the container and take away the paper.

In 2005, when the blue bin program was launched at UTEP, around 900 to 1,000 blue bins were placed in the more than 80 buildings on



JUSTIN STENE / The Prospector

Josie Burzynski, senior English major, lives on campus and uses a blue bin to recycle paper at Miner Heights.

campus. Over the past eight years, the university has spent approximately \$30,000 on blue containers.

"A lot of people seem to like the blue containers and take it from the

buildings. We have to buy new ones on a regular basis. I'll probably buy 20 to 30 a year," Salles said.

While the Biology building is considered the best in terms of recycling, because the personnel and students recycle more paper than any other building, the Athletics Department in the Brumbe-low Building is rated as one of the less recycle-friendly places.

"(Athletics is) too much of a mess, and they don't want to have to deal with it. They don't call to have a pick up until it gets to be a mess, so they are upset and don't want to recycle," Salles said.

Erika Ruelas, senior history major and work-study at recycling, said she changed her mind about the university's sustainability when she got involved with the recycling program.

"First, I thought that the university does not recycle as much until I came and saw it myself," Ruelas said.

Students working at the recycling program see that people are not aware of how to use the blue containers. According to Ruelas, only paper and bottles should go into the bins, but people also complicate the recycling process by throwing away coffee mugs, food and liquids in the blue bins.

"You don't know what to expect from a recycle bin. You find (inside bins) everything and anything," Ruelas said. "One time we found a huge heavy rock inside, we thought it was a book."

Ruelas said working in the recycling program requires a lot of physical work.

"You think that paper is not heavy, but when you have a bunch of them it really is," Ruelas said. "The library throws out a lot of books, those are heavy like rocks."

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

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Safety

Debate on nuclear energy heats up

BY BEATRIZ A. CASTAÑEDA

The Prospector

The powerful explosion that hit Fukushima's nuclear power station in Japan as a result of the devastating earthquake and tsunami March 11 sparked a debate over the safety of nuclear energy.

According to the World Nuclear Association, the United States has 104 nuclear power reactors in 31 states, operated by 30 different power companies.

The majority of nuclear energy is used to create electricity. Nuclear energy originates from the splitting of uranium atoms in a process called fission.

"A nuclear power plant can be dangerous, but also a regular coal plant is dangerous," said Jorge Lopez, UTEP physics professor. "Nuclear energy is much safer than anything else we have."

Lopez said the number of nuclear plants in the U.S. have not grown in recent years.

According to the U.S. Department of Energy, coal power in the U.S. accounts for 45 percent of the country's electricity production, followed by natural gas with 24 percent and nuclear energy at 19 percent.

Lopez also said that nuclear energy does not pollute like a coal plant.

"Nuclear energy doesn't pollute the energy that you get out of a single atom," Lopez said. "One single atom

is 100 million times the energy that you get out of one atom of coal."

Various students are skeptical about the usage of nuclear energy in the United States and believe there are other forms of energy that can be used.

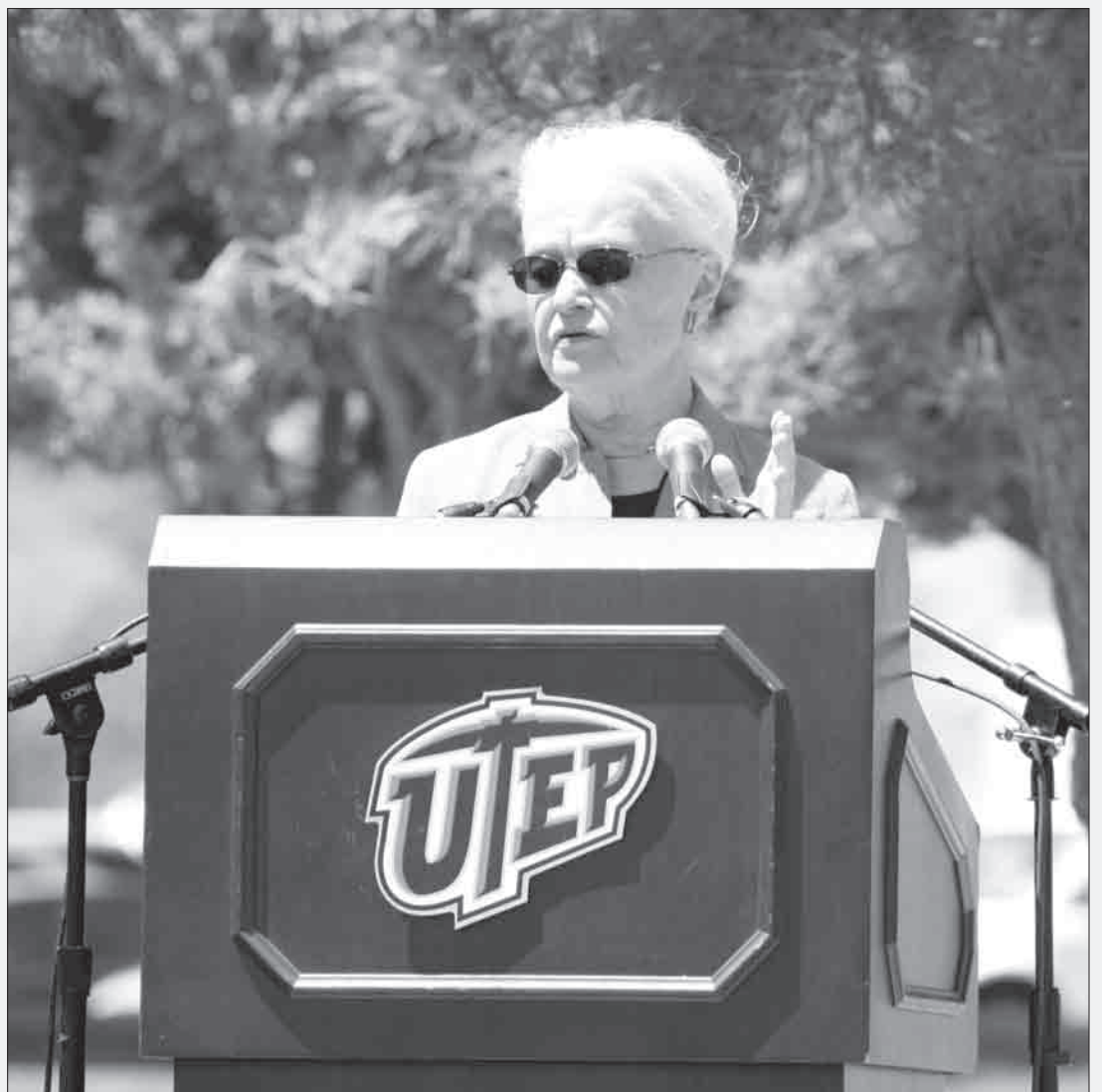
"I think for me it's not about being a dangerous technology, it is to some extent but the main point is that it is an extremely expensive technology," said Jorge Gomez, president of Global Zero, member of the UTEP Environmental Advocates, and English and American literature graduate student. "The cost is in the billions and that kind of investment can be more wisely spent in cleaner, safer and renewable energy like solar power, wind power and geothermal power."

Gomez believes that nuclear energy does emit pollution in its various stages, but agrees with Lopez that nuclear energy will not expand in the future.

"Because of the Fukushima disaster, I don't think there will be as much of a push for nuclear technology, also because of the recession that we're in and the cost is very high," Gomez said.

According to the U.S. Department of Energy, when all costs are factored in, nuclear power costs an estimated \$59.30 per megawatt hour. The use of nuclear energy is more expensive when compared to other means of generating electricity. For example,

see **ENERGY** on page 8



JUSTIN STENE / The Prospector

UTEP President Diana Natalicio delivers the opening proclamation for Earth Week April 18 on the Geology Lawn.

EARTH from page 3

"Planting trees and flowers outside one of the campus buildings will allow students and professors to contribute to their environment at a more personal level, at their university," Vasquez said. "In addition, information tables, organization

booths, and many more activities will be featured."

While the activities planned for Earth Week have not changed much over the past years, the celebration's expectations keep getting higher.

"Our expectation is that more members of the UTEP community will come out and enjoy themselves.

There are a lot of activities going on throughout the week so hopefully, they find something that fits into the schedule and we can have a greater Earth Week every year," Montes said.

Diana Arrieta may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

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Borderzine

Controversy over El Paso’s scenic Trans Mountain Corridor

BY FABIÁN LAVEAGA
Special to The Prospector

Driving along Trans Mountain Road, it is possible to enjoy beautiful views of the natural scenery that surrounds the area and a panoramic view of the city of El Paso.

According to The Franklin Mountains Wilderness Coalition, this area could end up looking like the two gateways near Cielo Vista Mall: big signs promoting gas stations and businesses along the road, blocking the natural view.

Although the El Paso City Council approved a plan to expand the road April 5, the Franklin Mountains Wilderness Coalition submitted a second petition asking the council to reconsider the project. Their goal at first was to get 1,000 signatures, according to a blog by coalition member Jim Tolbert.

“I know we were close or over 1,900 signatures,” he said.

According to Tolbert’s blog, the new petition was sent because a first one did not have enough valid signatures to make it to the council.

According to the coalition, the project threatens to damage the natural scenic corridor, putting wildlife habitats and potentially invaluable recreational land at risk. They also fear that the Trans Mountain Road will foster commercial and residential development.

The petition asks for an evaluation and analysis of the project and urges the El Paso City Council to rezone a natural open space as all publicly-owned land so that the widening of the road won’t harm that area. The city council argues that a safer road and entrance to the national park will be built. Others say the project would create new jobs since it will draw \$80 million in state funds.

Some think that the developers will benefit from the increased property value by having this road built, and should donate the right-of-way for the project. However, there are those holding their rights-of-way hostage for concessions such as digital signs for gas stations

Coalition president Scott Cutler said one of the concerns that people have is that the transformation of this road would not only create a safer road with two lanes in each direction, but overpasses might also be built in order to access businesses that would spring up along the road.

“If the land that is public service board-managed is designated as open space, and is never sold to developers with no business put on it, then there would be no need to develop overpasses in that area and that would protect the view so it would be like scenic corridor,” Cutler said.



FABIÁN LAVEAGA / Special to The Prospector

Conservationists are concerned about the development that would come with the expansion of Trans Mountain Road, including billboards and businesses.

Cutler also said that most people think that the expansion of the road is important. “The expansion of the road does not affect the view that much, it just makes it safer,” Cutler said.

However, there is concern about the development that would go along with the road, like billboards and business going all the way to the state park boundaries, Cutler said.

This story was previously published on Borderzine.com, a project of the Department of Communication. Fabian Laveaga, junior multimedia major, may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

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Borderzine

The poppies were a no-show, but the party blossomed anyway



ROBERT BROWN / Special to The Prospector

This photo of Mexican golden poppies was taken in 2008 by Robert Brown, who won second place in the Poppy Photo Contest, held by the El Paso Museum of Archeology.

BY ISAAC MEDINA
Special to The Prospector

The northeast section of this high-desert city doesn’t have much to brag about, but it does have poppies — the yellow flowers that bloom in the spring, overwhelming the northeast slopes of the Franklin Mountains in gold, glinting with the wind.

But this year, even the yellow poppies abandoned the northeast.

It’s a rite of spring for El Pasoans to bask in the beauty of the golden mountains, but 2011 is the year the Mexican Gold Poppies were not willing to bloom. Some blame the unusual unrelenting freezing weather and snow that hit El Paso in January and the little rain that has fallen since.

“The poppies not blooming this year really can’t be tied to just one single cause,” said Marilyn Guida, curator of education at the El Paso Archaeology Museum.

The Fifth Annual Poppies Preservation Celebration was held as usual in late March. Sponsored every year by the El Paso Archeology Museum,

see **POPPIES** on page 8

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Environment

Library aims to be more eco-friendly



DANIEL ROSAS / The Prospector

The University Library is working to cut down on printed journals and is buying more e-books.

BY CELIA AGUILAR

The Prospector

According to the UTEP Program Management Office, paper production accounts for more than 40 percent of commercially-harvested trees, and the University Library is doing its part to reduce that number by going paperless. The library has more than 2,500 journals that have been converted to digital files, which translates to approximately 1,400 saved trees.

"Our major initiative is going to e-books and online journals. We have over 40,000 e-books that we've purchased. We're also cutting down on printed journals. If we can, we get them online and not paper subscription," said Robert Stakes, University Library's associate vice president.

According to the University Library's website, these efforts will continue to save about 280 trees a year at the rate they are going.

The online conversion will also allow students to access documents from any Internet-connected computer. For those who like to work from home, they will save themselves a trip to the library by logging on to their website.

"As an academic research library, going paperless makes materials, books and journals, more easily available since people can access them from their computers," Stakes said.

For some, the notion of going paperless is a step in the right direction towards becoming more environmentally friendly.

"I think the change is good for obvious reasons. Using online resources diminishes our dependency on paper," said Gabriel Holguin, senior political science major.

But while some support the initiative, not all students are satisfied with the switch. For Ana Morales, sociology graduate student, this kind of

venture may exclude those students who do not have the resources for easy access.

"It's not fair for those students who do not have computers or Internet access at home. We take these things for granted and forget that not everyone has access to certain resources, especially in the community we live in," Morales said.

For others, carrying a document is more convenient than transporting a laptop. Students who do their reading on the bus will have to accommodate to the change.

"In my classes that have gone paperless, a lot of students end up printing the materials off of Blackboard anyway. Some people are used to the traditional method of reading documents or they find it more convenient than staring at a screen for so long," Holguin said.

As far as the library going completely paperless in the future, Stakes does not see that happening anytime soon.

"Administratively, we would like to make it as paperless as possible. If it was up to us, we prefer to do things electronically, but the university requires some things to be printed out for backups," Stakes said.

As far as saving money, the library has seen no real impact since vendors do not charge any less for e-books. For the library, the change is not about money, but becoming a more eco-friendly library.

"We are trying to be earth friendly and make decisions that help us to be conscious about expending scarce natural resources to fill requests. If people are conscious, it helps us be conscious," Stakes said.

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

Government



FILE PHOTO

Elections for the Student Government Association will take place April 20-21.

SGA elections this week

PROSPECTOR STAFF

The 2011 Student Government Association election will be held April 20-21. Twenty-five positions including president, vice president for internal affairs and vice president for external affairs are on the ballot.

Other positions on the ballot are 14 senator at-large slots and eight collegiate senators seats. The collegiate senators are made up for one representative for each university college, including the colleges of business, education, engineering, health sci-

ences, liberal arts, nursing, science and graduate school.

An executive candidate debate will be held from noon-2:30 p.m. April 20 at the Union Cinema. Online voting will begin at 7 a.m. April 21 and will end at 5 p.m. April 22. According to the SGA website, the election results will be posted April 23.

For more information, visit utep.edu/sga or call 747-5584. Check utep-prospector.com for the complete list of winners in the 2011 SGA elections.

Spring 2011 Convocation



DANIEL ROSAS / The Prospector

The 2010-2011 academic year Top Ten Seniors were announced as part of the Spring 2011 Convocation.



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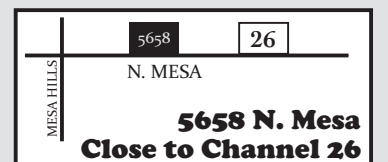
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“A nuclear power plant can be dangerous, but also a regular coal plant is dangerous. Nuclear energy is much safer than anything else we have.”

- Jorge Lopez,
physics professor

ENERGY from page 5

clean wind power is \$55.60/MWH; coal \$53.10/MWH; and natural gas \$52.50/MWH.

Lopez said another advantage in nuclear energy is that there is no air pollution. Nuclear energy does not involve burning fossil fuels, and therefore does not in any way contribute to greenhouse gas emissions. In this respect, it is as clean as solar, wind, geothermal and hydropower.

In contrast, a disadvantage of nuclear power is the radioactive waste produce as a byproduct of the energy. Spent fuels from a nuclear power plant are radioactive and highly toxic.

Lopez believes people react to quickly to what the see and read in the media and get scared very easily.

“Nobody fears medical physics, such as the machines in the hospitals, those things have killed more people than the nuclear plants,” Lopez said. “But nobody is against those things, there are more of those machines than nuclear plants and most of the plants are isolated.”

According to the U.S. Department of Energy, a nuclear power plant has not been built in the U.S. since 1977.

Beatriz A. Castañeda may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

UTEP community helps Japan



DIANA AMARO / The Prospector

UTEP will send 1,000 paper cranes to Japan, along with more than \$1,800 raised by various organizations during the “1,000 cranes for Japan” to help the country’s relief effort.

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POPPIES from page 6

located at 4301 Trans Mountain, in conjunction with the Preservation of Castner Range, the event is held to engage area residents by sparking their interest in the desert they call home.

“This is the only place in Texas where these poppies bloom naturally,” said Judy Ackerman, secretary of the Franklin Mountains Wilderness Coalition. According to Ackerman, about 30 different ecological and environmental groups participate in the event.

Guida said the event this year drew about 2,000 people despite the failure of the poppies to bloom. Visitors shared in the festivities and searched the trails for smaller blossoms and participated in other family activities.

The production of the Poppies Preservation Celebration is not only a regional draw, but also attracts out-of-state visitors.

“It really is pure beauty that the poppies bring to the northeast and for the public to share,” said Guida.

“The community that lives here comes together to share in this event, one that only takes place here, and no matter what border there may be, it’s something that everyone can share.”

“The festival has been growing every year now,” Guida said. “It is hard to get an accurate count because there are no tickets.”

The Native American influence is alive and well in and around El Paso and the poppies are no exception. The United Inter-Tribal Nations and Ysleta del Sur Pueblo provided traditional drumming and dancing at the celebration.

There isn’t much entertainment here in the northeast of El Paso, few attractions besides a theater and a baseball field with a team that hasn’t gone into the season yet, and it doesn’t have a mall. However, it does have the poppies, struck with stage fright this year, but expected to return next spring.

This story was previously published on Borderzine.com, a project of the Department of Communication. Isaac Medina, senior multimedia major, may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

'Scream 4' revitalizes the franchise



Special to The Prospector

The cast of 'Scream 4' includes Courteney Cox, Neve Campbell, Rory Culkin and Erik Knudsen. Not all of these four will make it out alive.

BY ALEJANDRO ALBA

The Prospector

Although the beginning is somewhat silly, "Scream 4" has done what "Scream 3" failed to do: continue with the franchise while keeping it fresh. It almost seems like director Wes Craven and writer Kevin Williamson have kept the project in a vacuum-sealed plastic bag for over 10 years.

The first 10 minutes of the movie might have been confusing to some people. They probably didn't know whether they were watching "Scream 4" or the fifth "Scary Movie." However, the prologue is actually ingenious. Craven uses young, known and attractive actresses to comment on the state of current horror movies and sequels in general. Along with that,

Scream fans might have also picked up something along the lines of "We are sorry 'Scream 3 sucked!'" (I recommend not being one minute late to the theater, or you will miss the almost clever prologue of the movie!)

This fourth installment of the franchise coincides with the return of Ghostface's original prime target, Sidney Prescott (Neve Campbell) to Woodsboro, who has written her memoirs about being a survivor, and is now concluding a promotional tour. Forced to stay in town due to investigative procedures, Sidney interacts with Sheriff Dewey (David Arquette) and his wife, frustrated reporter Gale Weathers (Courteney Cox).

Under police protection, Sidney moves in with her aunt Kate (Mary McDonnell) and young cousin Jill

(Emma Roberts). That's where she meets Woodsboro's current crop of ill-fated teenagers: Jill's best friends, Kirby (Hayden Panettiere) and Olivia (Marielle Jaffe), her stalker-like ex-boyfriend Trevor (Nico Tortorella), and the high-school film-club geeks (Rory Culkin and Erik Knudsen).

Throughout the movie there are several in-movie references to the previous "Scream" films that fans will pick-up on. It also has a lot of horror clichés. Like a scene involving a woman alone in the parking garage, making fun of and making use of several standard horror movie devices. It is the kind of scene that will make you yell at the screen, "Don't look under there!" or "Why is she going there?! Dammit!"

The killings in the movie are significant, brutal and with resolution. As for jump-out-of-your-seat scares, well, there really aren't many. The movie is actually based more on the story rather than trying to create suspense in order to scare people.

Being a fan of "Scream," I must say that I was not disappointed with this reboot. The ending is quite surprising. Craven and Williamson did a good job with the third act. I won't give away any details because it is something that audiences will really want to see and probably like.

"Scream 4" shows that it is a good film by having positive feedback from both fans and newcomers. My friend and I, for example, have watched all

see FRANCHISE on page 12

Column

Long distance relationships: friend or foe?

BY BEATRIZ A. CASTAÑEDA

The Prospector



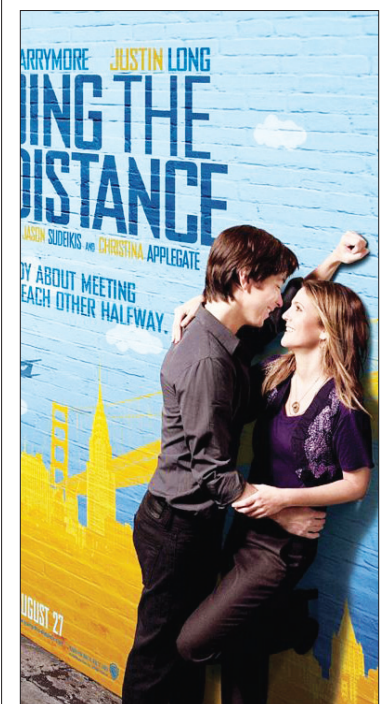
It seems that more students than ever are in a long-distance relationship. A recent study in the journal, Communications Research, found that

as many as half of college students are in long-distance relationships and up to 75 percent will be at some point.

There are those students that attend a university in a distant city, those that graduate, find a job and move away. This has led to an increase in long distance relationships. If one chooses to live in such a relationship, they must be willing to travel hundreds of miles, and try to hold on to their partner.



For couples separated by miles, technology continues to break down the virtual distance between people. Cell phones, Skype, Facebook and Twitter, are granting long-distance lovers some semblance of immediate contact.

see DISTANCE on page 15



Special to The Prospector

Last year, a movie about the struggle to maintain a long distance relationship, 'Going the Distance,' came out to little buzz and bad reviews. Ironically, the two stars, Drew Barrymore and Justin Long, broke up before the movie was released.






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Cinema Novo
Film Society





UTEP Celebrates * Earth Week *

UTEP Green Awards

Do you know someone or an organization here on campus that is doing something green to help out the environment? Well, let us know about it!

- 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 Wednesday, April, 20

The awards will be announced on Thursday, April 21, during the Earth Day Celebration on the Memorial Triangle (Geology Lawn).

Water Day

Tuesday, April 19

Recycling Demo

See how many recyclables UTEP produces/collects in a week –you'll be amazed when you see the actual Facilities Services collection trailer. They will also have their recycling kiosk for you to learn from.

- Location: Memorial Triangle (Geology Lawn)
- Time: 10:00 am -2:00 pm

Earth Day Film Festival

Miners without Borders and Environmental Advocates to host a film festival in the Union Cinema.

The Fence 11:00 - 11:45 am
Countdown to Zero 12:00 - 1:30 pm
Who Killed the Electric Car? 1:40 pm
The Story of Stuff 3:00 pm

- Location: UTEP Union Cinema (Union East Building, 1st Floor)

UTEP Out to Lunch

In celebration of Earth Week, UTEP's students, faculty and staff are encouraged to wear orange and walk to lunch. Select restaurants in the area will offer a special Earth Day discount. Visit the website for a list of participating restaurants.

University Library: Earth Week Display Two Displays

1) A display of selected library resources about each of the Earth Week themes. This will include books, articles, reference sources & government documents.

2) A display of how the University Library's incorporation of online resources has produced a noticeable 'GREEN' payoff while greatly expanding the amount of research information available to UTEP's students, faculty & staff.

- Location: Library, Main Floor
- Dates: Tues, Apr 19 / Wed, Apr 20 / Thur Apr 21 / Fri, Apr 22
- Time: Library Hours

Air Day

Wednesday, April 20

Symposium

This forum's purpose is to build awareness of UTEP's operations, research and instructional activities that are currently being accomplished on the UTEP campus. Students, learn about what specific student organizations are doing and how students can join and discuss new ideas. Representatives from the SGA, Environmental Advocates, and Green Fee Committee will participate.

- Location: Union Plaza (between Union Building East & West)
- Time: 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

Chihuahuan Desert Gardens Tour

Tour of the Centennial Museum's garden and give light to low water use, native plants. Check-in at the front desk of the Centennial Museum to have a guide meet you. While on the guided tour, you will learn about the desert beauty available for your own yards, helping you make a positive impact on reduced water use in the area.

- Location: Chihuahuan Desert Garden
- Time: 12:00 - 3:00 pm

Fire Day

Thursday, April 21

Yoga and Zumba!!

Find your ZEN in the morning with Yoga on the lawn, and get your Dance on with Zumba.

- Location: Memorial Triangle (Geology Lawn)
- Time: **Yoga** 9:00 am - 10:00 am
Zumba 2:30-3:30 pm

Earth Day Celebration

Celebrate our Earth by spending your day outdoors taking in some Vitamin D and local live music! While listening to great local music, visit booths hosted by UTEP departments and local groups to help you get your GREEN on!

- Location: Memorial Triangle (Geology Lawn)
- Time: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Arroyo Clean Up

Student Organizations ASCE (American Society of Civil Engineers) and AGC (American General Contractors) will gather to pick up trash in the arroyo that goes through the UTEP campus. Meet at the Liberal Arts Building on University Avenue. For more information, contact Lillian Salas at llsalas3@miners.utep.edu.

- Location: Memorial Triangle (Geology Lawn)
- Time: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

3rd Annual Watt Dog Competition

- Location: Memorial Triangle (Geology Lawn)
- Time: 11:30 am - 1:00 pm

It's All Natural

An Earth Day Art Exhibit
 Green and sustainable group art exhibition.

- Location: Union Exhibition Gallery, Union Building East, 2nd Floor
- Time: 7:00 pm Opening Reception

Oceans: Free Film Screening

Bring your own blanket and snacks and join us for a movie under the stars. Snacks for sale will also be available beginning at 7:00 PM.

- Location: Memorial Triangle (Geology Lawn)
- Time: 8:00 pm

Earth Day

Friday, April 22

Planting Project

Celebrate our Earth by spending your morning outdoors taking in some Vitamin D and coloring up the campus. Come out in your sun hat, knee pads and apron to put a few finishing touches on the campus landscape. "We do not inherit the Earth from our ancestors; we borrow it from our children." Later in life you can tell your kids "I did that!"

Attire for this event is as follows:

- Required:**
- Long pants (no shorts)
 - Sturdy shoes (hiking or walking boots)
- Suggested:**
- Long sleeves
 - Hat
 - Work gloves

If you are interested in participating, visit the website to register. This will give us an idea of how many volunteers to expect.

- Location: College of Health Sciences, Wiggins Road
- Time: 9:00 am

* All events subject to change without prior notice, including any weather cancellations or delays.



For more information, resources, green ideas and to register: admin.utep.edu/earthweek

FRANCHISE from page 9
four, including this one. I really liked the first one, didn't mind the second, hated the third, and believe that the fourth one should be the proper ending to the franchise. My friend, who has not seen any of the previous movies, really liked the movie. That says a lot, I think.
Whether this was the first of a new trilogy, or the last of the franchise, who knows. I think this is a

good way to put the "Scream" franchise to its grave though. "Scream 4" has a good amount of suspense, plot, characters and gore as well. It's definitely a good movie to see at the movie theater, but waiting to rent it won't hurt anyone.
3 out 5 picks
TTTTT
Alejandro Alba may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

International Game Night

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Wednesday April 20, 2011
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Salome's Stars

ARIES (March 21 to April 19)
Temper your typical Aries urge to charge into a situation and demand answers. Instead, let the Lamb's gentler self emerge to deal with a problem that requires delicacy.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)
You are aware of what's going on, so continue to stand by your earlier decision, no matter how persuasive the counter-arguments might be. Money pressures will soon ease.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)
By all means, have fun and enjoy your newly expanded social life. But don't forget that some people are depending on you to keep promises that are very important to them.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22)
You need to wait patiently for an answer to a workplace problem and not push for a decision. Remember: Time is on your side. A financial matter needs closer attention.

LEO (July 23 to August 22)
You now have information that can influence that decision you planned to make. But the clever Cat will consult a trusted friend or family member before making a major move.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22)
Good news: You're finding that more doors are opening for you to show what you can do, and you don't even have to knock very hard to get the attention you're seeking.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22)
Your gift for creating order

out of chaos will help you deal with a sudden rush of responsibilities that would threaten someone less able to balance his or her priorities.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21)
Congratulations. Your energy levels are coming right back up to normal -- just in time to help you tackle some worthwhile challenges and make some important choices.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21)
The sage Sagittarian should demand a full explanation of inconsistencies that might be cropping up in what had seemed to be a straightforward deal.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19)
A conflict between obligations to family and to the job can create stressful problems. Best advice: Balance your dual priorities so that one doesn't outweigh the other.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18)
Don't guess, speculate or gossip about that so-called "mystery" situation at the workplace. Bide your time. An explanation will be forthcoming very soon.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20)
Boredom might be creeping in and causing you to lose interest in a repeat project. Deal with it by flipping over your usual routine and finding a new way to do an old task.

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Column
Nintendo's next Wii is bound to be bigger than the last

BY JESUS C. MARTINEZ
The Prospector



Almost five years ago, a little company named Nintendo, you might have heard of them, debuted their newest video game console at the Electronic Entertainment Expo in Los Angeles. It was a small white box with controllers that resembled television remotes and a name that ignited millions of penis jokes.

The Wii was doomed to fail once the novelty wore off, so they said. I mean, who could have thought that thousands of families would get together playing video games by flailing their arms around, and that it would be a success? Nintendo laughed all the way to the bank with that, and this year they plan on turning even more heads.
E3 is coming in fast and so are the rumors of what's in store for the conference. Nintendo is rumored to reveal their next console this summer and the specs are just as ludicrous as they were half a decade ago.
According to numerous video game websites, the Wii's successor will feature high definition graphics that will rival that of the Xbox 360's, which is something most people expected. However, what raises a multitude of eyebrows and questions are the specs for the controller.
Supposedly, the controller will feature a six-inch non-HD touch screen with two triggers, a d-pad and a front facing camera, and there will also be a sensor, similar to the one found in the

see NINTENDO on page 15

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RADIO LA CHUSMA ★ MEXICANS AT NIGHT ★ D.A. ★ NICOSOUNDS ★ SUBROSA UNION
FRONTERA BUGALU ★ LUSITANIA ★ CIGARETTES AFTER SEX ★ THROUGH THE TREES
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Review



Special to The Prospector

Sean Bean stars in ‘Game of Thrones,’ which premiered April 17 on HBO, and will air at 7 p.m. every Sunday night.

‘Game of Thrones:’ kicking ass and taking names

“Characters are graphically decapitated and children are not safe when it comes to being victims of murder.”



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When: Saturday, April 30, 2011
Time: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
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What is National Prescription Drug Take Back Day?
The purpose is to provide a venue for persons who want to dispose of unwanted and unused prescription drugs. Turn in your unused or expired medication for safe disposal. Includes over the counter medication(s) .

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BY MATTHEW MUNDEN
The Prospector

“Game of Thrones” is not your normal “Lord of the Rings” style fantasy epic. Although both series feature actor Sean Bean, “Game of Thrones” features graphic violence, sex (including a lot of fairly uncomfortable incest, both hinted at and not so hinted at), and political intrigue in a fantasy setting not unlike Middle Earth (the opening credit even shows a map of the world that one would expect Tolkien to have dreamed up).

But this isn’t a Tolkien creation; this is from George R.R. Martin, whose series of books (with the



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fourth installment soon to be released in July) tells the stories of different families and their adventures to either claim or protect the throne of Westeros.

The pilot, which aired on HBO April 17, focused on Eddard Stark (Sean Bean), who lives with his family in the North as the Lord of Winterfell. Everything seems to be moving smoothly, until he gets word that his former mentor and right hand to the king of Westeros has died under mysterious circumstances and that the king (Mark Addy) is coming to Winterfell to ask Eddard to replace the fallen mentor.

However, to the east, Viserys Targaryen wants to take the throne of Westeros for himself and is willing to force his 14-year-old sister to marry the king of a group of savages to gain their support to go to war with the king.

One thing that the show does amazingly well is make you believe that you are in a completely different world. Shot in Scotland, the surroundings look like nothing that has been seen on television before. The minimal use of green screen also adds to the settings being used. The green screen is always in the background and is never focused on, which never breaks the illusion that this is a world completely unlike our own.

“Game of Thrones” also doesn’t pull any punches when it comes to violence. Characters are graphically decapitated and children are not safe when it comes to being the victims of murder. Characters have sex and the results are graphic. This is not a show for children and just because you like “Lord of the Rings” doesn’t mean that this is the show for you.

“Games of Thrones” reminds me of a mixture of the video game series, “Dragon Age,” and the TV show, “The Walking Dead.” The “Dragon Age” comparisons are obvious: an adult fantasy setting. “The Walking Dead” comparisons exist just because these are two big budget shows that focus on a fan base of mostly geeks.

Also like “The Walking Dead,” both shows are incredible.

5 out of 5 picks

TTTTT

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

DISTANCE from page 9

With a lack of physical contact, communication and technology becomes the primary backbone of the relationship itself.

I have asked many people what they think about long-distance relationships and most said they do not work. There are those few cautiously optimistic people that believe it could potentially work given the fact that every relationship is different. But due to the economic recession, some of these college relationships are doomed by means of low budgets and expensive air travel that keep these individuals unable to see one another for ongoing weeks or maybe even months.

Of course, as your significant other relocates him or herself to another city, it will involve meeting new people and doing new things, but that doesn't necessarily mean your significant other should fall to the bottom of your list of priorities. Long-distance relationships involve hard work to maintain and it takes a significant amount of patience and understanding. It's harder to be in a relationship when you can't see the person, but it doesn't mean it's impossible. If you have commitment, dedication, both are extremely devoted to one another, and willing to make sacrifices for the relationship, then it could work.

I asked about 10 different people what they thought about long-distance relationships. Five said it doesn't work, three said "maybe", and two said that it does work. Again, every relationship is different, and depending on the situation, it could essentially pan out. But let's face it, lack of spontaneity and physical intimacy is a major hurdle in long-distance relationships. Some couples engage in risqué phone calls, online chats or webcam sessions to sustain their sex lives. They have to learn to trust one another and communication is the major key.

If you decide that you can cope with a long-distance relationship, there are a few key qualities you both must possess for it to really work. And I'm not talking about really liking the other person; I'm talking about the uncontrollable, inexplicable, blinding kind of love, which you will do almost anything to hold on to. If you've got that, but can also respect each other as individuals, then you can make it work.

Beatriz A. Castañeda may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

Column



Special to The Prospector

Charming rogue or crazy killer? "Uncharted 2's" Nathan Drake, a modern day Indiana Jones, who is supposed to be an every man. However, in most levels, he kills just about all of his enemies.

Video game heroes are psycho killers

BY MATTHEW MUNDEN

The Prospector

Unless the movie character is named John Rambo, they usually don't kill more than 10 bad guys in a movie.

Sure, the Daniel Craig interpretation of James Bond has a pretty large body count at the end of the last two Bond movies, but they are nothing compared to the body count that his video game interpretation kills up in a single hour.

This disconnect that is happening between video games and movies is the main hurdle that they have to leap over to be widely accepted as art by all. In "Uncharted 2: Among Thieves," hero, Nathan Drake, kills hundreds of mercenaries and blue Navi-like creatures by the game's end and none of his friends seem to notice that he sort of committed genocide.

Games have to create a logical reason for the events taking place and they also cannot always have

every game be about a superhero-like-character that kills everyone and never gets hurt (unless the cutscenes require it, as they did in "Uncharted 2" where Drake gets hit by a ton of bullets in the game play sections, but it isn't until he is hit with one in a cutscene that he is actually wounded).

Realism is something video games have struggled with for the last few generations. During the Playstation 2's lifespan, "The Get-away" series tried to take health bars away and show the damage on the main character. In those games, the hero could only take a few gunshots before he died, but even that game couldn't get around the idea that you are basically playing a psycho killer (also that game series was awful, but that is beyond the point).

However, the idea of realism is one that will remain at odds with video games for a long time. The entire video game industry is one based on the equivalent of summer blockbusters through out the entire

year. Starting next week, "Portal 2," "Mortal Kombat" and "Socom 4" will be released and games, such as "L.A. Noire," "Duke Nukem Forever" and "Red Faction Armageddon" will follow. The industry is structured on games that emphasize action over plot (this might be a little hyperbolic because games like "Portal 2" and "L.A. Noire" don't look like that).

Every year, morning talk shows run a segment on the violence in video games causing kids to get desensitized to real violence and, although I don't agree with that statement, video games are probably the most violent form of entertainment, when compared to movies and television. Violence occurs in all mediums, but television shows and movies exist that aren't based just in violence.

For video games to mature and be taken seriously, they have to grow up.

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

NINTENDO from page 12

sensor bar for the Wii, integrated into the controller. All of this information is unconfirmed and an official statement is expected by Nintendo prior to the conference.

It's hard to imagine using a touch screen instead of a standard controller. Questions that rise include what will be on the screen and what is the purpose of the camera and sensor. Some enthusiasts go as far as bashing these rumors and their impracticality, and I don't blame them.

Despite these seemingly absurd speculations, it's impossible to ignore Nintendo's track record when it comes to credibility and innovation. One has to assume that an incredible amount of time was spent on these specifications and that they all serve a significant purpose. It's not that someone just woke up and said, "Let's make a touch screen controller."

Nowadays, video games are more than just pretty graphics and awesome storytelling. How you play the game is becoming an important factor as well. Motion controls, gestures and hands-free gaming aren't necessarily replacing the standard controller. They are adding a different level to traditional video games that creates a new layer to the experience.

A touch screen may add more precision and more freedom to the typical eight-direction and multiple-button controller layouts that many are accustomed to. A million ideas come to mind as to how Nintendo can turn these non-traditional specifications into the next big thing. In the coming months, Nintendo will officially comment on what exactly their next console has in store, and at the conference, we'll hopefully get some hands-on time with it.

It's a good time to be a gamer. It's about more than just a simple video-game. The industry experiments when it can and sometimes, it can be a good thing. Customers benefit from experimentation, when it works, because it makes something stale more flashy and interactive. Yes, I know that there have been a lot of bad experiments in the past, but everyone learns from their mistakes.

Jesus C. Martinez may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

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our view^{April 19, 2011}
editor
Diana Amaro, 747-7446

‘The Sound of Music’



“The Sound of Music” will open at the UTEP Dinner Theatre 7 p.m. April 22 with music by Richard Rodgers and lyrics written by Oscar Hammerstein. The play was written by Howard Lindsay and Russel Crouse and based on “The Story of the Trapp Family Singers,” written by Maria von Trapp. Dinner performances are at 7 p.m. April 22-23, 27-20 and May 4-7, 11-14, and 18-21. Matinee performances (no meals are served) are at 2:30 p.m. on May 15 and 22. For more information call 747-6060.



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6	4	7	8	5	9	1	3	2
7	2	1	5	3	4	6	9	8
4	9	8	6	7	1	2	5	3
3	5	6	9	2	8	7	4	1
8	6	4	1	9	5	3	2	7
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12 Historic period
13 Eventual aves
14 Heart line
15 Benicio — Toro
16 Mention-ables?
18 Pismire
19 Fire
20 Bronx cheer
22 Schedule abbr.
23 Bean curd
27 Type measures
29 Handsome lad
31 "Survivor" team
34 Phantom's balliwick
35 Fireplace part
37 Modern-day evidence
38 Sicilian spouter
39 Carte intro
41 Region
45 Donkey's sounds
47 Transmit electronically
48 Flotation device
52 "A pox upon

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24 Inseparable
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31 Commonest English word
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40 First lady after Hillary
42 'Slain, gangster style
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44 Put forth, as strength
45 Raised
46 Lily variety
48 Sort
49 Born
50 Aye opponent
51 Leading lady?

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Football

Defense shines in second scrimmage

BY SAL GUERRERO
The Prospector

The UTEP football team held their second scrimmage of the spring football season April 16 at the Sun Bowl.

If defensive touchdowns were tallied at the end of the scrimmage then the offense would have been pummeled 21-0.

“It was a good day for the defense,” head coach Mike Price said. “The offense put the ball on the ground fumbling, we threw interceptions, the defense scooped and scored and the defense was all over the field.”

The defense gave up only 286 yards on 87 plays and held the offense scoreless in a little over two hours of scrimmage.

A pair of redshirt freshman defensive backs contributed to the two interceptions on the day. Cameron Richards-Lee caught the first one off a pass and would have scored but coaches whistled the play dead before he could score. Subsequently on the very next play Richards-Lee would have had another interception but instead the coaches gave the defense a sack resulting in a loss of yards instead of a turnover. Wesley Miller picked off the other interception on the day off and would have ended the scrimmage on fumble return for a touchdown but like the other turnovers, the play was whistled dead before he could score.

see DEFENSE on page 20



File Photo

The UTEP defensive unit dominated the April 16 scrimmage at the Sun Bowl compiling two interceptions, two fumble recoveries and one field goal block. If allowed, the defense would have scored 21 points off offensive turnovers.

Softball

Miners come home for weekend series



DIANA AMARO / The Prospector

BY WILLIAM VEGA
The Prospector

After being defeated by Southern Miss Golden Eagles last weekend, the Miners will have to turn their attention to the streaking East Carolina Pirates when they face them in a three-game Conference-USA series April 22-23 at the Helen of Troy Softball Complex.

As they have done over the past month, the Miners may continue their struggles from the plate when they face the Pirates senior All-American pitcher Toni Paisley. Paisley was named a third-team Louisville Slugger/NFCA All-American a year ago and is putting up even more impressive numbers this season. With an ERA of 1.06, Paisley ranks nationally in the top 10 in ERA, wins and strikeouts. Paisley's numbers have been recognized as she is one of 25 finalists for the 2011 Collegiate Softball Player of the Year.

The last time the Miners faced Paisley April 17 and 18 of last season, she

Pitcher Kayla Black attempts to hit a pitch against Houston April 9 at the Helen of Troy Softball Complex.

see HOME on page 18

HOME from page 17

limited UTEP to just five hits in two games. Both games played out similarly when the Pirates won game one on a single in the bottom of the seventh, which resulted in the only run of the game. East Carolina used the same type of heroics in the third game of the series April 18 when the Pirates won 1-0 on another game winning single in the bottom of the seventh.

Pitching isn't the only key advantage for East Carolina this year as the bats have played a consistent role. The Pirates may have the fifth best batting average with the least amount of homeruns in C-USA but their ability to hit the ball is without question. East Carolina places in the top three in doubles, triples and overall extra base hits. Three batters are hitting better than .300 led by junior left fielder Suzanne Riggs. Riggs leads the Pirates with 28

RBIs and three homeruns and was the C-USA hitter of the week for April 4. During their three-game sweep of Southern Miss April 2-3, Riggs drove in six runs off five hits where she went .500 for the weekend. The Miners were not so fortunate against the Golden Eagles when they were run-ruled 10-0 in game one and again in game three by the count of 8-0. Their best effort came in game two when UTEP fell short 11-10 in 10 innings. UTEP held a six run lead in the second inning but gave up three runs off two hits in the last inning to give Southern Miss their second league victory of the season. "We've been kind of struggling as a pitching staff but we've been working

really hard so hopefully we can pull it all together," freshman pitcher Laura Ramos said. "Since we haven't had the best record in conference we want to be able to actually beat some of these teams and open their eyes." The Miners pitching has played a major role during their current 13 game C-USA losing streak including an overall 10 game skid. Since entering league play, their team ERA is at a conference worst 9.10 as they have been run-ruled in eight of those losses. With three underclassmen getting the majority of the starts over the past six conference series, the Miners are looking to use the experience to plan for the future.

"I think anytime you have the ball in the circle it's a great experience. It doesn't matter if you're a senior or a junior," co-head coach Kathleen Rodriguez said. "But at this stage our freshmen are seeing a lot more action and yeah, I do think it's a fantastic experience for them with the ball in their hand." Most notable of their recent woes, the Miners are continuing their season without their best hitter, junior catcher Chelsea Troupe. After sustaining a head injury during game two against Houston April 10, Troupe has been absent from the lineup ever since and is not expected to return this month.

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

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DIANA AMARO / The Prospect

Freshman pitcher Megan Atchison winds up for a pitch April 9 at the Helen of Troy Softball Complex.

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tions. The offices of the Vice President for Student Affairs, Vice President for Business Affairs and CIERP (Center for Institutional Evaluation, Research and Planning) are also collaborating with UTEP Food Services to make sure this process has a good sampling of the student population.

If you belong to a UTEP club or organization, make sure you are informed as to when these focus groups are taking place. If you do not belong to one of these groups, you can always visit the UTEP Food Services website at admin.utep.edu/sodexho and use the comment card to send in your feedback. You can also look them up on Facebook.

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Track

Top athletes run at UTEP Invitational

BY KRISTOPHER RIVERA
The Prospector

The UTEP track and field crew hosted the UTEP Invitational April 6 at Kidd Field.

The Miners had some performances set in stone, while there were still others pushing to get above the bar. The Miners set posted impressive results at the 2010 UTEP Invitational, which also marked former head coach Bob Kitchen's last meet at Kidd Field.

The Miners commenced the meet with throwing events. A mighty prospect for the intro to the meet was junior thrower Terran Alexander. She was the victor with a distance of 57.88 meter (189-11). Alexander also claimed silver in the shot put with a throw of 13.94 meter (45-09).

Senior thrower Dimitrios Fylladitakis was out to make a comeback after a bit of struggle with his technique, he claimed the top spot with a throw of 65.86 meter (216-01).

Senior jumper Amanda Apodaca raised the bar high enough to out-do her competition by staking the gold in the women's high jump with a mark of 1.66 meter (5-05.25).

Distance runners executed very well at the meet. The Miners led the pack in both the men's and women's 1,500-meter runs. Sophomore distance runner Elkana Rotich had a strong finish that earned him first place with a time of 3:47.83. Following closely behind Rotich and coming in second place was junior distance runner Justice Chirchir, who crossed the finish line at 3:48.83.

The women put up the same performance in the 1,500-meter run. Junior distance runner Kathya Garcia finished ahead of the pack clocking in at 4:36.88. Junior distance runner Gladys Chumba clinched the bronze finish at 4:43.49. However, Chumba breezed her way to gold in the rigorous 3,000-meter steeplechase, crossing the finish line at 11:26.17.

The men's sprinting looked good as they clinched the title for the 4x100-meter relay. The squad posted a season best with a time of 39.64.

"I think the men's side had more things going for us than the women's side," head coach Mika Laaksonen said. "But we had a lot of runner's run personal bests."

Senior sprinter Anderson Mutegi had a successful meet at the 2010 UTEP Invitational and gave a repeat performance this year. He posted the fastest time in the 400-meter dash (46.93). Junior sprinter Curtis Kock came in second by a finger tip, clocking in at 46.96.

Kock delivered a solid performance in his events, pushing himself down to the wire.

"It was a good day, it was productive, because I did better in certain aspects," said Kock. "But there's still a lot of things we can work on."

Kock said he definitely wants to squeeze all his potential out before the season ends.

"I don't want to say I'm happy, but it's not bad," said Kock. "But you can always do better, always work to get faster. Hopefully we keep dropping the times."

The Miners performed well at home with some runners posting their best time.

All-American Endurance Abinuwa trimmed her personal bests in the 200-meter with her time of 23.11 and the 100-meter with a time of 11.32.

Alexander shared her enthusiasm in regards to the team's improvements.

"I think we're doing pretty good," said Alexander. "We're kind of stepping up to the plate, we're a young team, and we're doing it."

A few of the schools participating in the meet were Alabama, Rice, Sam Houston State, Rice, New Mexico State and South Plains. Besides these athletes, a few other athletes returned to their alma mater. Former Miners and Olympians Churandy Martina and Mickael Hanany made an appearance. Martina competed in the 2008 Beijing Olympics. He finished fourth in the 100-meter and second in the 200-meter behind Usain Bolt, but was disqualified for running outside his lane. Hanany represented France at the Beijing Olympics. He is an eight-time All-American, and in 2008 won first in the high jump at the NCAA championships.


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DIANA AMARO / The Prospector

Junior distance runner Kitria Stewart (center) competes in the 800-meter dash April 16 at Kidd Field.

TAKE BACK THE NIGHT 2011



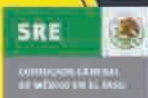
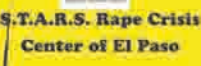



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DEFENSE from page 17

“It was a shutout, that’s what we dream of trying to come out here and compete and keep them out of the end zone,” Richards-Lee said. “It was my first interception of a scrimmage. Being a redshirt freshman you have to earn your stripes around here.”

Richards-Lee said he would have liked to record the back-to-back interceptions because a lot of backs

do not do that, but he was happy with the defense coming through on the sack during the play.

The defensive line came through in the trenches racking up six sacks from sophomore Adam Ayala, redshirt freshman Cooper Brock, sophomore James Davidson and senior Bernard Obi.

“We just came out and tried to take care of our job. We came out and got after it,” Ayala said. “I feel

like I had to come out here and set an example.”


The offense had a less than productive day coming off a strong showing the weekend before. Sophomore Carson Meger had the best numbers of the day completing 10-of-19 passes for 87 yards. Junior transfer Nick Lamaison connected

on 8-of-11 for 63 yards but was one of the two quarterbacks with a pick. Senior wide receiver Julio Lopez had the most productive day of any of the receivers, catching four passes for 74 yards.

“It was a good day for the offense but we didn’t score a touchdown,” Meger said. “We did a good job of

moving the ball, which is always a good sign. During spring that’s what you want to see and obviously every time we come out here we can’t be perfect.”

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









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Offensively, the Miners had a less than productive day, accumulating just 286 yards on 87 plays.



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