

7-20-2011

The Prospector, July 20, 2011

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High temps require preparedness

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- Marilyn Rotwein,
nutrition educator and sports dietician

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SPORTS • 7



New Texas laws to affect UTEP

UTEP out of competitive knowledge fund

BY ANOUSHKA VALODYA

The Prospector

The Texas regular and special legislative sessions have ended, and several bills that have recently been enacted will affect UTEP students down the road.

One, in particular, has stirred anger in Texas Representative Dee Margo, R-El Paso.

"I'm not happy. To be honest, I was very frustrated about UTEP in particular," Margo said.

Margo was referring to Senate Bill 2, which excluded UTEP from the Competitive Knowledge Fund and denied the university from using its tobacco fund.

The Competitive Knowledge Fund, which was established in 2007, requires universities to spend at least \$50 million toward research and would have allowed UTEP to tap into more funds, which could have helped the institution attain tier-one status. UT Austin, the University of Houston, Texas A&M and Texas Tech University are participants in this fund program. Margo said the University of Texas at Arlington was also excluded.

"They (UTEP, UT Arlington) were, in my opinion, arbitrarily and capriciously removed from participation," Margo said. "Let me just say I consider the reason they were not allowed to be in that fund unfair and ego driven by other legislators. It would be more beneficial to the institutions that are already in this fund, not having to divide the pool of money with a couple more universities."

Richard Adaauto, UTEP executive vice president, said that he also thinks that UTEP's exclusion was a political decision, but he added that he's optimistic.

"They set up rules for the game and we met those rules, so they should let us in," Adaauto said. "We'll be fine. We're going to try to get in the next legislative session in 2013. We'll keep pushing and fighting."

Margo also said that he's going to continue advocating for UTEP to be in the Competitive Knowledge Fund.

"It's wrong. It's unfair. UTEP qualifies for this fund," he said.

Margo said he voted against SB 2. But in the 82nd Texas Legislature Special Session online records, Margo was listed among those who favored SB 2. However, in a statement on that same document,

see LAWS on page 3

"We'll be fine... We'll keep pushing and fighting."
- Richard Adaauto,
executive vice president

Special to the Prospector

Campus

Tech store closes after less than two years

BY MARIEL TORRES

The Prospector

Students walking on the second floor of Union Building East may have realized that there is a big empty space where the UTEP Tech Store used to be. The store, which had been open for a year-and-a-half, is no longer operating mainly because profits were not sufficient enough to maintain it.

"It was cool to have our own mini Best Buy on campus," said Diana Cruz, senior psychology major. "I'm not much of a tech geek but I liked to go once in a while to check out the stuff they had."

According to Kristen Cox, president of Check Point Services, the UTEP Tech Store began when Apple proposed to open a store on campus with a reseller to operate it.

Cox said that even if UTEP did follow the correct application procedures proposed by Apple to open the store, Apple would end up denying the application.

"Because of the Apple denial, the store could not offer Apple education discounts to students, nor sell Apple products to the university - both key factors in the success of other campus stores," Cox said.

Due to Apple's policies, it is very difficult for Apple to allow resellers to sell their products in schools. However there are exceptions. UT San Antonio and other universities, where Apple does give permission to open a store and offer education discounts to students and staff, and sell products to the institution.

"My colleagues who own campus stores elsewhere tell me that their stores could not survive if they were unable to sell Apple to the university," Cox said. "My financial models support that, and our experience proved it as well."

By the time Apple denied the application, UTEP had already received and accepted the proposal request by Checkpoint Services and plans of opening the store were already being processed.



File Photo

The UTEP Tech Store, which was located on the second floor of Union Building East, is no longer in business due to various reasons after being open for only a year-and-a-half.

see TECH on page 3

ORANGE YOU READY?
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Film festival gets too classic

BY WILLIAM VEGA
The Prospector



With just a little more than two weeks until the fourth annual Plaza Classic Film Festival begins, it seems artistic director Charles Horak has finally been able to phase out a whole generation of movies. Horak, husband of UTEP English lecturer Ann Horak, will help bring more than 80 films to two indoor screens, one outdoor screen at the Arts Festival Plaza and another to the new Mills Drive In/Walk Up display. Despite the large collection of films scheduled for the 2011 festival, only eight were made between 2000 and 2011 with every one of them being classified as “local flavors” or independent. In addition, Disney’s “Beauty and the Beast” is the only film made in the 1990’s, leaving a large gap of “classic” films that have defined the festival. Granted, the Plaza Classic is still sticking to its name playing classics ranging from 1931’s “Dracula” to the Coen Brother’s (Joel and Ethan) 1984 motion picture “Blood Simple” this year. Yet, the large two-decade gap makes the festival seem as if such

younger movies do not deserve the title of classics. A classic film should be considered something aged and once forgotten that either left an impact on society or in the film industry. The 1994’s “Pulp Fiction” film is one I have always felt should be in the lineup, because it showed a brilliant side to gangster films and at 17 years old now it should be considered a classic. One may say that the Plaza has never been known to show too many movies from the 1990’s and 2000’s, but the festival’s history will show the vast array of classics in the making and its dramatic decline. It seems that as the festival matures, the films are doing the same. In 2008, 16 movies made between 1990 and 2008 were shown, including “The Matrix,” “Jurassic Park,” “Fight Club,” “Titanic” and “The Astronaut Farmer.” Every one of these movies were shown digitally (not in the 35mm form shown at Kendle Kidd Performance Hall) in the 200-seat Philanthropy Theatre next door. The following year, only seven movies produced in the same period were played and all were shown in the Philanthropy Theatre. “Spirited Away,” “Apollo 13,” “Reservoir Dogs” and “Army of Darkness” were the only films that are not classified as “local flavor” or independent. Last year, “Howl’s Moving Castle,” “Fly Away Home” and “The Big Lebowski” were the lone, non-indepen-

dent movies played. The three of them were made in the last 20 years. Along with the main attractions that took place on the big screen in the Plaza Theatre, such as “Casablanca” in 2008, “Star Wars” in 2009 and “The Godfather” in 2010, I was able to see the majority of the “newer” films over the last three years. Even in 2008, I was left in the cold when “The Matrix,” “Jurassic Park” and “Titanic” all sold out right away. Yet despite the success, many of the “newer” films shown throughout these years, Horak’s idea to shun these movies may have originated from his original film festival that ran from 2003 to 2007. I had the opportunity to attend the film festival titled “It came from the 50’s.” The 1950’s horror movies were free to the public and took place on Memorial Day weekend at the Chamizal National Memorial Theatre. Even with low advertising and mainly small-business sponsors, the 470-seat theater was normally packed to capacity since its first year. Horak would rent classic films such as 1951’s “The Day the Earth Stood Still”, 1953’s “The War of the Worlds” and my personal favorite, Japan’s 1954 “Godzilla”. With more than 20 films showing over the three days on one screen, Horak stuck to his festival’s title by not including movies outside that decade. Instead, the selected films were from a period that was suffering

from the aftermath of World War II and was preparing for a nuclear attack during the Cold War. These movies from the 1950’s would normally have a common morale, warning humanity of the effects of a nuclear war whether it be from monsters or aliens from another world. Four years later, it seems that the mission of the Plaza Classic Film Festival is to avoid a whole generation of movies. Maybe it isn’t the age of movies that are holding back this generation of filmmaking, but the moral value of the movies from the last 20 years that are being disrespected. Rather than combating a world war or Cold War as the films from the 1950’s did, it feels like the festival is not acknowledging the battles of the last 20 years, despite a Persian Gulf War in the 1990’s and the attacks of 9/11, plus the War on Terrorism over the last 10 years. Not only are movies not good enough to be considered a classic because of their age, but history does not allow them to provide much social commentary. As Tyler Durden (Brad Pitt), the character in the “Fight Club” says, “We’re the middle children of history, man. No purpose or place. We have no great war. No great depression. Our great war’s a spiritual war; our great depression is our lives.”

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

WHAT DO you think?

This week’s poll question:
Will you be attending the Plaza Classic Film Festival?

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the prospector

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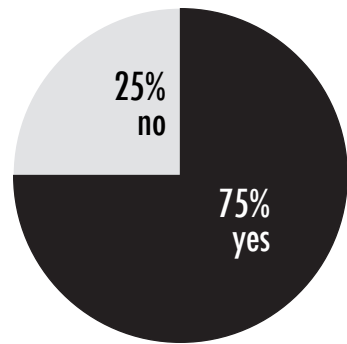
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LAWS from page 1

Margo stated “I was shown voting yes; I intended to vote no.” He added that he expressed his dissatisfaction to Sen. Robert Duncan (R-Lubbock), a member of the Higher Education Committee. Sen. Duncan did not respond to email and phone calls to his office. Adatao said that in spite of the legislative decision, he’s confident UTEP will reach tier-one status in five to seven years. “We’re fine where we are; we’re close to \$70 million right now,” he said. Universities that are designated tier one, have to spend at least \$100 million in research. Adatao said that starting September of this year, UTEP will experience a deficit of \$12 million per year until the next legislative session. “It was a rough session for higher education. The funding constraints made it really difficult to accommodate, so we’re operating with less money,” Adatao said. But this budget cut came as no surprise to UTEP officials. Adatao said this was anticipated for awhile so UTEP has been using frugal measures, such as a hiring, traveling and purchasing freezes. However, he said that at UTEP there have been no layoffs in response to the budget cut. And UTEP’s in-

creased enrollment has helped, Adatao added. He said he wants to assure students that in spite of the millions-of-dollars that were cut in the Texas grants program, UTEP will “not turn anyone away from financial aid.” Other higher education institutions will also have to wrangle with budget cuts. Texas Senator José Rodríguez said in an email that the \$670 million budget cut in higher education will have a long-term effect. “With fewer educational opportunities in our state, students will choose to go elsewhere for their education and companies will have a smaller pool of well-trained, highly skilled Texas college graduates to draw from when looking to fill positions,” he said. Other legislation that would apply to UTEP is House Bill 9, called the Higher Education Outcomes-Based Funding Act. It would focus on the number of bachelor degrees awarded, especially in engineering, computer science, nursing and mathematics. Adatao said a committee at UTEP is being set up to work on this law, and it’s going to take years for their decisions to take effect. “They’ll let us know how they’re going to implement this and present their recommendation to the next legislature.

To help students save money in textbooks, House Bill 33 will require the posting of required textbooks and their prices in university course catalogs. This will help students decide which classes to take. HB 33 is scheduled to take effect this September and Adatao said the University Bookstore is working on it. Also, Senate Bill 1107, called the Jamie Schanbaum and Nicolis Williams Act, will require new students to show proof of having received the bacterial meningitis vaccination within five years. However, Adatao said the term “new student” has many meanings and before this bill takes effect next spring, a committee will decide how to interpret this new law. Gary Edens, associate vice president for the Office of Student Affairs, said UTEP officials are currently reviewing the legislation that applies to the university. “As we review them, we assign them to departments that they apply to,” he said. “As a state institution, we abide by all legislative mandates and laws that are approved by the state legislature and signed by the governor.”

Anoushka Valodia may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

TECH from page 1

“I can’t speak officially for Apple, but my gut feeling is that they did not consider UTEP to be on the same tier as the other UT system schools,” Cox said. “People who have not been here to experience UTEP first-hand often don’t fully appreciate the culture, professionalism and the quality of our university.” The location of the store was also a contributing factor for its closure. Cox said the ideal place for the store was not the Union Building East. “The demographics of the Union changed considerably between the time the store was proposed and the opening of the store,” Cox said. “Students no longer congregate in the Union, and technology-minded students have other places to go for computer labs. The ideal location for the store would have been the library with the IT Help Desk, computer labs and expanded hours. But the Library was not available.” Checkpoint Services does not plan to open another store on campus, but is looking for a place on the west side to open an Apple store in the near future. Currently, they are working with real estate brokers to secure a location and even if it will not be inside campus, Cox hopes to find a location near UTEP. As of now, the space where the Tech Store used to be is empty, but plans are underway to fill the spot with tables and chairs for the upcoming fall semester. Ofelia Dominguez, director of Union Services, said the space will not be available for another store to open. “Once the tech store moved out it reverted back to a space just like any other space in the building. It’s not

Because of the Apple denial, the store could not offer Apple education discounts to students, nor sell Apple products to the University - both key factors in the success of other campus stores.

- Kristen Cox, president of Check Point Services

Pitch a story to The Prospector

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Borderzine

Juárez journalists win the 2011 Knight International Journalism Award

BY DAVE ACOSTA
Special to The Prospector

Juárez journalists, Rocío Idalia Gallegos Rodríguez and Sandra Rodríguez Nieto, were recently awarded the 2011 Knight International Journalism Award for their investigative work on El Diario de Juárez, in the world's most violent city.

The award symbolizes a "valuable recognition" of the work of journalists in Ciudad Juárez, Rodríguez said. She hopes that it also will change the commonly believed notion that Mexican reporters on the border have been silenced by the lawlessness in the embattled city.

"These extraordinary journalists dare to tell stories that few have the courage to address. Because of them, we have an essential understanding of the tragedies faced by citizens in México," said Joyce Barnathan, president of the International Center for Journalism said.

Rodríguez' and Gallegos' investigative reporting has done much to expose corrupt government officials and the ruthless drug cartels battling for control in Juárez and other parts of México. The two women have documented the epidemic of violence and fear brought on by the drug war along the U.S.-Mexico border.

"While others are silenced by threats and attacks, these women have stood up to the most feared and ruthless cartels imaginable," said John S. and James L. Knight Foun-



Journalists Sandra Rodríguez (left) and Patricia Giovini, discuss the dangers of their profession at a panel organized by the University of Texas at El Paso in December 2010.

dation's José Zamora, who made the announcement at the Newseum in Washington, D.C.

Rodríguez and Gallegos exposed human rights violations committed by the Mexican government and

army against innocent people not involved in the drug war. Their reporting on the murder of fellow journalist Armando Rodríguez led to increased pressure on the Mexican government to solve the case.

Rodríguez was also part of a team of journalists that analyzed all the murders in Juárez in 2008 and 2009. She found that, contrary to what Mexican officials were saying, most of the victims were children and teens who were not involved in drug trafficking. "Rocío and Sandra are brave, tenacious journalists and richly deserve this recognition. Their outstanding investigative reporting has thrown light on many of causes, consequences and actors responsible for the extreme violence gripping their border city," said Zita Arocha, Director of Borderzine.com at the University of Texas at El Paso.

Both reporters earned masters degrees in communication from UTEP. "Despite the brazen murder of two fellow journalists, they continue the exacting work of collecting and publishing stories about the complex

social puzzle that is the daily war on Juárez," Arocha said.

The fearless work of these and other journalists has given a voice to the poverty-stricken people of Juárez who live in constant fear of both the drug cartels and the Mexican government. Journalists have been a key component in exposing the ways that the drug war is affecting society that may not be as obvious as the daily violence, such as police corruption and poverty, Gallegos said.

"I think that journalists are an important counterweight to the abuses of the army and, above all, to expose the human cost of the armed strategy used to confront drug trafficking," Gallegos said.

This story was previously published on Borderzine.com, a project of the Department of Communication. Dave Acosta, senior print media major, may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

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entertainment

July 20, 2011

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Theatre

'Topdog/Underdog' – The chronicles of two brothers

BY ALEJANDRO ALBA
The Prospector

The Pulitzer Prize - winning Drama, "Topdog/Underdog" is currently being presented by the Green Apple Theatre Collective at the Glass Box Studio in Downtown El Paso. Current and former UTEP students make up the crew.

Suzan-Lori Parks' play takes audiences through the life of two African-American brothers, Lincoln (Breland Trainer) and Booth (Brandon Graves) who deal with poverty, women and most importantly the rivalry among themselves. Their names are rich in symbolism, and the play's fatal ending is soon foreshadowed in the play.

As straightforward as the play is, the actors were able to engage with their characters and create a complex, personal performance.

"I tried finding memories and experiences in my life that I could relate to that of Booth's life," Graves said. "I was really able to find myself in Booth."

He said that he knows how Booth felt loving Grace because he himself has loved that one girl who does not have mutual feelings. Graves also related with Booth by having an absent parent in his childhood.

"It is my strongest tie with the character towards the end of the play," Graves said. "I also relate to Booth in the way that I was always picked

on growing up, and always being put down."

Clarissa Smith-Hernandez, producer and director of the play, said that she used this play for a class.

"I was really interested in the play," Smith said. "I knew the actors, I asked them if they were interested and we began the production."

Smith mentioned that in order to break the ice between the actors and for them to begin trusting each other, she asked them to play some games.

"It was a good way to bring them together, although none of us knew how to play the game," Smith said.

As any other occasion, the few challenges the production went through were mainly scheduling, according to Smith.

"I was glad to see that the actors were able to rehearse at other times," Smith said. "We were able to rehearse at UTEP, and the play right was fairly easy to pick up."

Mike Ocegueda, stage manager, agreed that the biggest challenge was scheduling a rehearsal with everyone. Ocegueda mentioned that he was not familiar with understudies until they had to find one just in case scheduling didn't allow one of the actors to proceed with his role.

"We had all recently gotten jobs; it was hard to meet," Ocegueda said. "I am very proud of everyone though. We all have gone a long way with this production."

see TOPDOG on page 6



DIANA AMARO / The Prospector

UTEP Alumni Brandon Graves, (left) and Breland Trainer, (right) play Booth and Lincoln in 'Topdog/Underdog' at the Glass Box Studio every Friday, Saturday and Sunday during the month of July.

Student Life

Students keep cool despite the heat



ESTEBAN MARQUEZ / The Prospector

Miguel Espinoza, freshman social work major keeps hydrated with a bottle of water as he walks to his classroom.

BY ADAM MART NEZ
The Prospector

It's El Paso, it's July and it's hot. In the dog days of summer, in one of the driest and hottest on record, laziness and general malaise are bound to take place.

Who wants to go outside when temperatures are in the triple digits? For many UTEP students, battling the heat is part of living in the Sun City, and it's not easy.

"During summer session one was when I had the hardest time with the sun. I was at school from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and I parked my car at the tippy top of University Avenue," said Melanie Meza, senior history major. "I always carry a water bottle (with more ice than water) and a big purple polka-dotted umbrella."

Walking around campus is impossible sometimes with the blazing heat, but being prepared will make going to class a little more comfortable. Living in the desert takes necessary precaution.

Marilyn Rotwein, nutrition educator and sports dietitian, offers complimentary individual nutrition counseling at the Student Health Center.

During visits, Rotwein helps students develop a hydration plan suitable to their lifestyle.

see HOT on page 6



DIANA AMARO / The Prospector
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TOPDOG from page 5

According to Ocegueda, rehearsals began in June, Monday through Friday from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Ocegueda said it was amusing how the rehearsal time kept getting longer as they approached opening night.

The Green Apple Theatre Collective production received much publicity all through El Paso's media outlets, according to Deniz Pinkerton.

"The advertisement stage went pretty good," Pinkerton said. "We were able to get advertised on KFox, Channel 9 and 4, and various newspapers and magazines around town."

"Topdog/Underdog" will run to July 30, every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday at the Glass Box Studio located on 1500 Texas Ave.

- Brandon Graves,

UTEP alumnus who plays

Booth

Many students relish in the idea of swimming to relieve themselves of the scorching heat, such as senior history major Stephanie Morales.

"There is a pool close to where I live so I go there to have cookouts and go swimming. It's really fun," Morales said. "It is definitely the best way to stay cool in this heat."

There are a number of pools in the El Paso area including the Swimming and Fitness Center located on Sun Bowl Drive. That pool will close on July 31 for renovation and will not be available until next year. A complete list of other aquatic centers can be found at the El Paso Park & Recreation Department website.

According to livestrong.com, fruits and vegetables are also beneficial in preventing sun damage. Certain meats and seafood also contain UV-fighting antioxidants. Overindulging or drinking too much alcohol can cause dehydration.

"Make sure alcohol isn't the source of your hydration," Rotwein said, "It is essentially a diuretic that can cause you to lose a lot of fluids."

Even if you plan on staying in, drink plenty of fluids. Students, such as sophomore math major Madelein Santibañez, opt to stay indoors as much as they can during the summertime only venturing out for class or work.

"I usually just go outside on my way home from school but most of the time I am either studying indoors or on the computer," Santibañez said. "I try to stay indoors and wear light clothing."

There is some comfort from the heat when the sun goes down, giving students the opportunity to enjoy the outside air.

"I usually go to the park and see the sunset and at times I like to take a jog around the neighborhood," Santibañez said. "During the day the sun is just way too hot."

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July 20, 2011

sports editor

Salvador Guerrero, 747-7445

Roller Derby

From Miner to Penny Piston

Engineering student, former marching band member making impact on the rink

BY KRISTOPHER RIVERA

The Prospector

Her freshman year, Sarah Leon was occupied by school, marching band and a full-time job. But, when Leon made the time to lace up, she became "Penny Piston," an all-star jammer for the Chuco Town Chulas.

"Penny is like a skating wiz," said Heather Faires, Chuco Town Chulas co-captain. "She's very enthusiastic. I've never seen her in a bad mood."

Outside of her alter ego, Leon is now a sophomore mechanical engineering major attending UTEP full-time and a former flute player for the marching band.

Earlier this year she even took her musical talent from the field to the stage, performing with the El Paso Symphony Orchestra.

Now, Leon's mixes of responsibilities have not been easy to manage. Leon wishes to drain some of the pressure from her daily routine. She had to make a difficult decision—she had to lose either music or skating.

"I was running empty and I just hit rock bottom...The only thing I had looked forward to would be derby practice," Leon said. "Like they say, if you do any exercise it releases endorphins and makes you feel good, so I just kept going. I started getting really good, and then even better."

The complications of her agenda have caused some uneasy tension. Leon decided to retire from music for a while, devoting most of her time to school. Leon said she has intentions of returning to music sometime soon, hopefully in the near future. As for now, Leon will alter the volume of her duties a couple of notches down.

BOB CORRAL / The Prospector
Sarah "Penny Piston" Leon of the Chuco Town Chulas, skates past a pair of blockers during her last bout June 26 at the El Paso County Coliseum.

"I was so hard on myself, almost to the extent I was abusing myself emotionally. I just want to give myself a break," Leon said. "I'm trying to make everything really simple right now."

With one less responsibility, Leon will now have the opportunity to devote more of her time to the sport and teammates, whom she considers a second family.

Her interest in skating began as a child, first picking up the activity as a hobby. Eventually, at the age of 17, Leon was exposed to the roller derby scene after her sister, Eliza "Polly Piston" Leon began to compete in roller derby.

"Our workouts are very intense. We've actually been doubling up on our running, conditioning and lifting two days a week," sophomore defender Jade Babcock said. "We want to have a better season than what we did, so we're training really hard. We really want to do well."

The other players that are away for the summer have a similar agenda of their own.

"The other 10 that are out of town are on their own summer league teams, and they're playing with those teams," Cross said. "They're also doing our packet, which is a strength and conditioning packet that we gave them."

Meanwhile, the coaching staff has been working this summer by hosting the Miner Soccer Academy Summer Camps. Attendees are local soccer athletes between the ages of 5 and 18. Their first camp began June 13-17,

have made her the go-to jammer in recent bouts, the respect is uncanny.

"She gives 110 percent, she's so dedicated, she helps with the fundraiser, she's got her hand in everything and she's wonderful. She's a sweetheart and a great person," teammate Yvette "Brawling Brewja" Contreras said. "She is a big part of SCRG (Sun City Roller Girls). Without her, we wouldn't be the Chulas."

Leon also acknowledged the changes she has undergone since joining the league.

Individual summer workouts preparing team for upcoming season

File Photo
Senior midfielder Jessie Pettit tees the ball up against a Memphis defender during last season's match Sep. 26 at University Field. The Miners will begin training camp Aug. 3 and open the season against NMSU Aug. 19.

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Baseball

Former player takes over team in first year as manager



Special to the Prospector

First year field manager Jorge Alvarez (left) hears assistant manager Gerardo Verastegui (right) while overlooking the field during a Diablos game this year. Alvarez played for El Paso from 2006-09.

BY WILLIAM VEGA

The Prospector

Once upon a time, field manager Jorge Alvarez was winning awards and sending the El Paso Diablos to the postseason as a player. Four years after his memorable performance, Alvarez will be closing the 2011 campaign coaching the same team he left a mark on.

"It feels almost the same, not too much has changed. The only difference is that I played and I manage now," Alvarez said. "Why do I want to play? I'm old and not getting younger. I have to start something new and look to the future."

The last time the Diablos made the playoffs, Alvarez took the reins behind the plate as the 2007 American Association Player and Designated Hitter of the Year. Following Alvarez's inaugural 2006 season that placed El Paso 15 games out of first place, the Diablos went on to win the first half of the season, catapulting them to the postseason. They ultimately fell to the eventual champion Fort Worth Cats in five games during the first round.

"That was a nice memory because we had some guys who wanted to play baseball. We had a group who worked and took care of each other," Alvarez said. "After that, we didn't have too many kids who wanted to do that. We

didn't have people who wanted to step it up."

El Paso was unable to recreate their 2007 magic when they failed to make the playoffs finishing nine games back of the postseason in the second half of the season.

During the 2009 season, Alvarez joined the Shreveport-Bossier Captains and took over as a player/hitting coach in 2010 where he led his team to an American Association championship.

"Shreveport offered me the manager job. They knew they wanted to bulk up the team and make me manager, eventually, but I really wanted to come over here," Alvarez said. "Halfway through the (2010) season

(the Diablos and I) talked about the manager job."

Despite his possible imminent future with the team, Alvarez was approached by his prior organization that was about to begin the search for a new manager. After finishing eight games back of .500 the first half of the season, the Diablos approached Alvarez with the proposal to take over his former team. El Paso finished 12-36 the second half, leaving the door open for Alvarez after the Diablos fired former Eastwood High School graduate and seven-year MLB veteran, Butch Henry.

"We had fun with Butch. We played for Butch that year and did everything for him. Things started changing later on and that's why he left," Alvarez said. "I've got to do my job as manager and I've got to do my own thing. I respect him but everybody's different."

Once known as teammates, Alvarez now manages two players who were part of the Diablos' organization when he was playing. Center fielder Kory Drew joined the Diablos in 2005 and was part of the organization for the next two seasons. He re-signed with El Paso in 2011 after a three-year hiatus from professional baseball. His admiration for Alvarez is no less than it was when Alvarez was playing along side Drew.

"I have nothing but the utmost respect for him. He's a guy who makes me want to play harder because he's my manager," Drew said. "The only thing I wish is if he was back in the lineup hitting for us. It's a pleasure to see him back and to play for him."

Second baseman Albenis Machado joined El Paso in 2006 with Alvarez and was named the league's Shortstop of the Year in 2007. Machado rejoined

the Diablos this season where he acts as an acting player/assistant coach.

"We talked and he wanted him to come here. I really appreciate those years when he was here and we saw a lot of people supporting this team," Machado said. "I just wanted him to come here and see a winning team so all those fans in town who love baseball can come to the game to see Jorge again."

Alvarez began his professional career 23 years ago fresh out of his home from the Dominican Republic when the Los Angeles Dodgers signed him as a non-drafted free agent in 1987. At age 26, the Florida Marlins picked up the utility player in 1994 where he made the Triple-A roster.

Alvarez then took his turn at independent baseball the following season where he saw immediate and repeating success. He was named an all-star second baseman for the Texas-Louisiana League in 1995 and 1996. He then made the all-star lineup for the same position in 1997 with the Independent Leagues and again in 2002 with the Central League. That same year, Alvarez was named the Central League Player of the Year.

Without an all-star game this year, Alvarez will not be able to manage any perennial all-stars during his first season. Given the difficulties his team has faced, Alvarez hopes he will have more opportunities to get back on top.

"Whether I'm coming back or not coming back next year, I just want to do my job. It's just baseball," Alvarez said. "I have to change a lot of things. I have to change a lot of players, start fresh and find players who want to play the game."

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WORKOUTS from page 7

and the final camp is has set for July 18-21.

"The camp went really well this summer. We had record numbers and we broke 300, which is the most we've ever had, so I think there's a lot of excitement for soccer and for UTEP soccer," Cross said. "We're really thankful for the community and hopefully a lot of these kids will come out and watch us play in the fall."

The camp represents one of the final stepping-stones for the soccer team as they prepare for training camp and ultimately, its season opener. Cross expects the team to meet his expectations once the season commences with a rivalry match against NMSU in the battle of I-10. The game is set for 7 p.m. on Aug. 19 at University Field.

After an improving year, everyone within the soccer program is motivated to make no mistake of coming in missing opportunities for a win.

"We feel we can really build upon last year. We had a real young team and had a tough schedule because we had four home games and seven on the road so it made it tough," Cross said. "This year it changes because we have seven home games and four on the road, which should give us the advantage because our record here at home is incredible and our support from UTEP is incredible."

Last season, their total record at home was 8-2, and their away record was 3-6. Players on the team feel the same in regards to the new fall schedule.

"That's definitely going to be a good change. Last year we were basically living out of a suitcase our fall season because we traveled so much," Babcock said. "It's definitely going to be better for us to play at home with our fans."

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to the U.S. Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association All-Academic team last season.

The 2010 Conference USA Cross Country Female Athlete of the Year became an All-American for the second time after finishing fourth at the 2010 NCAA Cross Country Championships. Kimaiyo became the first Miner female to win a regional meet and be named the USTFCCCA Mountain Region Athlete of the Year. Kimaiyo also won her second consecutive league crown at the 2010 C-USA Cross Country Championships presented to the top student athletes in each conference-sponsored sport.

simplystated

Runner named Athlete of the Year

Sophomore Risper Kimaiyo has been named the women's cross country Conference USA Scholar Athlete of the Year.

"Our program is very proud of Risper receiving this award," head coach Paul Ereng said. "She is just one of those few athletes whom every program would want to have."

Kimaiyo is a nursing major and has a 3.68 cumulative GPA. She was named

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