

8-30-2011

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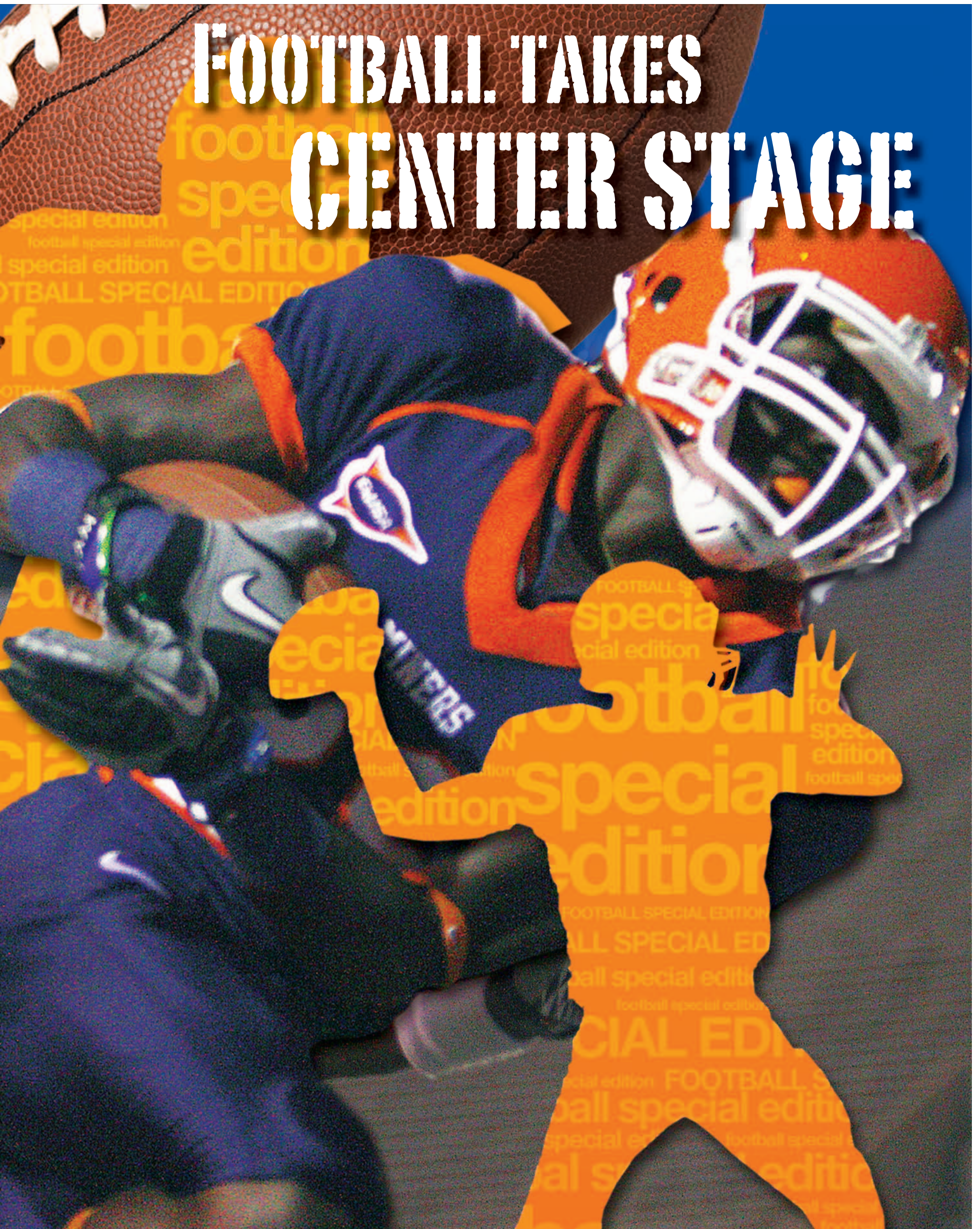


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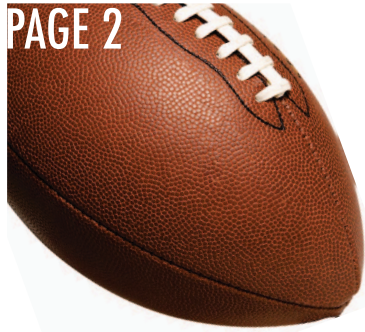
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# perspectives

August 30, 2011

editor-in-chief  
Aaron Martinez, 747-7477

you think?

This week's poll question:

Do you think the Miners will make a bowl game?

WHAT DO

vote at WWW.UTEPPROSPECTOR.COM

Guest Column

## Miners ready, excited for 2011

BY MIKE PRICE

Head coach



record as the starter for a junior college team that won the 2010 national championship.

We have loads of experience at running back in seniors Joe Banyard, Vernon Frazier and Leilyon Myers, and a talented group of young receivers.

Our defense improved in leaps and bounds last year and allowed the third-fewest points per game in Conference-USA. We expect to take more strides this year with eight starters returning on that side of the ball.

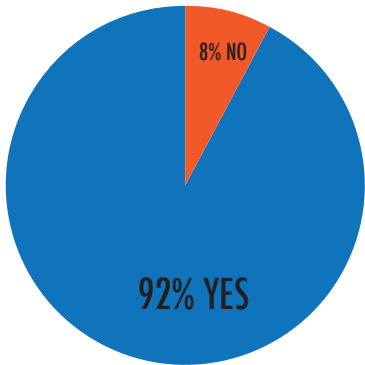
We are going to have an exciting team this year. We have a lot of new faces on offense, including a quarterback in Nick Lamaison, who posted a 26-1

Last year, we posted a 5-1 record in the Sun Bowl and have won eight of our last 10 games in the stadium. As always, we need your help in maintaining one of the top home field advantages in college football. This is your team and I hope to see you in the stadium for all six home games this year, starting on Saturday night.

Let's show the rest of the country why our student section is second to none!

To help get you fired up for the game, we will be having the Miner Kick-Off Bash from 2-6 p.m. Sept. 3 at the geology lawn. There will be music, inflatable games, giveaways and a pep rally with the band, cheerleaders, Goldiggers and Paydirt Pete. Come celebrate the start of a new season, and then take your seat in the Sun Bowl! The first 2,000 fans will receive rally towels, and the first 3,000 will receive Koozies (UTEP drink holders). Let's make sure the place is rocking for kickoff!

As always, thank you for your support. I'll see you on Saturday. Go Miners!



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Event

Minerpalooza set to celebrate start of semester, football season



Special to The Prospector  
**Minerpalooza set** to celebrate the start of a new semester and football season 6 p.m. Sept. 2 on the UTEP campus. The event will include a pep rally, food, games and live music performances.

**BY AARON MARTINEZ**  
The Prospector

After more than 30,000 people filled the UTEP campus last year for Minerpalooza, the university is anticipating that number will increase for the 2011 celebration of the Miners' football team and to welcome the new academic year.

"When it first started, it was just the alumni association having a tailgate the day before the first football game, but now as we celebrate the 21st annual Minerpalooza, it has grown to

be more than just that," said Charles Gibbens, director of housing and member of the organizing committee for Minerpalooza. "Now it embodies a celebration of back to school and academics, it allows alumni to come back and see how the university has grown and, of course, to celebrate the start of the football season. It is more than just a pep rally; it is a showcase of UTEP and our students."

Minerpalooza will be held at 6 p.m. Sept. 2 on the UTEP campus and will include a pep rally for the UTEP football team. Guest speakers will

include UTEP President Diana Nalicio, football coach Mike Price and women's basketball coach Keitha Adams. Some of the new additions this year will include more music performances, a longer parade route, an expanded Kids Zone and a VIP section, now called Pete's Pavilion.

"This is a chance for students to cheer and get ready for the upcoming football season, and at this year's pep rally the emcee will be Power 102.1's Monica Castillo. During the pep rally, we will showcase the UTEP cheerleaders, Miners marching band

and, of course, the UTEP football team," said Shannon Osborne, coordinator at the Student Development Center. "The longer parade route will allow the band to perform longer to showcase the music they have been working hard on, and also because of the bigger attendance, we expect it will give more space for people to see the parade. And for a little extra fee, people will be able to enjoy everything from the air-conditioned Pete's Pavilion."

Music performances will include Frontera Bugalú, Del Rio, Red City Blue, Mariachi Los Mineros and a spin-off between DJs Johnny Kage and Esteban Carrasco.

"We will have more music performances this year. We will have a lot more bands playing this year that haven't played at Minerpalooza," said Erika Portillo, coordinator at the Student Development Center and member of the organizing committee for Minerpalooza. "One of the exciting things that is new this year is compe-

tion between DJs Johnny Kage and Esteban Carrasco, so this DJ battle event will add to the excitement of the event."

Osborne believes one of the most important aspects to this year's celebration will be the presence of United Blood Services.

"One thing we are very excited about is that not only at Minerpalooza can you celebrate the upcoming football season and show your school spirit, but you can also help save lives by donating blood," Osborne said. "The United Blood Services will be taking donations throughout the event. So this is one way to show your support to not only UTEP, but the El Paso community."

Minerpalooza is free to the public with ticket-purchases available for food, rides and a variety of other activities. Most of the booths at Minerpalooza will be hosted by UTEP student organizations as part of one

see MINERPALOOZA on page 6

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THE PROSPECTOR  
August 30, 2011

PAGE5NEWS



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Campus

UTEP ushers in two new staff members

**BY ADAM MART NEZ**  
The Prospector

This fall, UTEP welcomed two new staff members into their community: Corey Bailey, director of the Student Development Center and the Women's Resource Center, and Kristen Oberheide, director of the Office of International Programs. Both directors said they are glad to help the university reach its goal of achieving tier-one status.

Originally from Long Island, New York, Bailey has had many years of experience in student affairs, both as a student and as a professional. He attended the University of Maryland, College Park, where he earned his bachelor's of science and master's in special education. Bailey worked with various higher education institutions in Maryland such as Towson University and Bowie State University.

Bailey said the Student Development Center, as well as the Women's Resource Center, will continue to support the mission of UTEP by assisting in the educational development, entertainment and social experiences of students.

"I will engage the team in discussions about how we can improve and adapt our offerings so that we support the university in the pursuit of tier-one status," Bailey said.

Oberheide, originally from the metro-Detroit area, received her bachelor's degree in psychology and German literature from the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor and earned her master's in public administration degree from Cornell University. Oberheide came to El Paso from Arlington, Virginia, where she was working on educational exchange programs with Vietnam for the federal government. A study abroad experience in college

made her aware of the significant impact of international exchange, not only in a higher education environment, but within the local community as well.

Oberheide plans to expand the visitor exchange program so more international professors, researchers and students can participate at UTEP.

"I believe that this program is an opportunity for more international research initiatives and collaborations for the university," Oberheide said. "It will ultimately help us in our quest to reach tier-one status."

Students, such as junior physics major Tracy Lopez, are excited to see what the new director will do at the SDC and hope for more student involvement.

"I hope the SDC can make more people aware of the opportunities they provide," said Lopez, who is also a member of Students For Awareness and Community Service. "With more advertising, students can take advantage of leadership workshops available for all student organizations."

Bailey hopes to provide students with more opportunities to enrich their academic experience by fostering skills such as networking and leadership.

"While we recognize a good number of students know about our department, there are still plenty more who do not," Bailey said. "Ultimately, the plans we develop over time will revolve around educating, engaging, challenging and supporting students in every way possible as they continue to pursue their interests outside of the classroom."

Oberheide's plans are focused on the needs of the international community at the university. The international student population has expressed con-

cerns about the availability of opportunities for them outside the classroom.

"I hope the office can provide more opportunities for students such as internships and jobs pertaining to our fields," said Miguel Mendoza, graduate student in mechanical engineering.

By pooling resources from donors, the university and businesses, Oberheide intends to increase the number of programs and events geared towards building an international community at UTEP.

"I'd like our office to assume a more active role in promoting international student wellness and development and provide an enhanced level of interpersonal support for our clients," Oberheide said.

Adam Mart nez may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

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**MINERPALOOZA** from page 4

of their largest fundraising events of the year.

"Minerpalooza is big event for student organizations, not only does it let UTEP students and the community know what your organization is about, but allows them to recruit new members and raise funds to help support their organizations," said Sam Rodriguez, Campus Activity Board advisor and business administration graduate student.

Gibbens said this event is not only for UTEP students, but also opens the door for the El Paso community to get involved with the university and to see the work students organizations are doing to help the community.

"This is not only a fun event for the El Paso community to come celebrate the UTEP football team, but it is also a chance for them to see what our student organizations are doing and the effort they put in at UTEP," Gibbens

said. "We encourage people to come bring us feedback on what they enjoy about UTEP and also their concerns about what the university is doing. It is very important to bring both the El Paso community and the UTEP community together and Minerpalooza is a great chance to combine both communities."

Minerpalooza will run until midnight. Free parking is available at the Sun Bowl Parking Garage. The UTEP pep rally will start at 7:15 p.m. and the last live music performances will be at 10:30 p.m. with DJs Johnny Kage and Esteban Carrasco.

For more information on Minerpalooza, visit [www.utep.edu/minerpalooza](http://www.utep.edu/minerpalooza).

Aaron Martinez may be reached at [prospector@utep.edu](mailto:prospector@utep.edu).

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Campus

UTEP opens recreation center



UTEP Student Recreation Center, formerly the Swimming and Fitness Center, was officially opened Aug. 29 after a \$32 million upgrade of the center.

The new state-of-the-art gym includes an indoor 1/8-mile running track, multiple levels devoted to free weights and cardiovascular equipment, a 12,000-square-foot hardwood floor, an indoor soccer court, a recreational area for a future juice bar or food vendor, fully equipped locker rooms, and climbing wall.

Photos by AUDREY RUSSELL/ The Prospector

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Question of the week

# Coke vs. Pepsi: Which one do you prefer?

Photos by Audrey Russell, Daniel Rosas and Greg Castillo



**JACOB COURTNEY**  
freshman English American literature amjor

"That's not even a question, Coke is much better than Pepsi! They should have done it sooner!"



**ALMENDRA AVILA**  
sophomore business major

"I prefer Coke but drink more water."



**ADRENISHA SIDNEY**  
senior biology major

"I prefer coke because they have more options."



**MARTHA ORTIZ**  
freshman undecided

"Preferably Coke products because we have more variety to choose from; UTEP should stay with Coke."



**ALICE DELCOURT**  
business graduate student

"I prefer Coke because thats the soft drink I'm used to drinking."



**ANNE CHAVANE**  
junior marketing major

"I like Coke better than Pepsi, I'm glad UTEP is switching to Coke."



**YOANN CHASTAING**  
mechanical engineering graduate student

"I like Coke because it's what we drink in France instead of Pepsi."



**MIKE ESPARZA**  
sophomore theater major

"I don't really care, I drink Dr. Pepper... this should be a Dr. Pepper campus."



**EFREN TORRES**  
sophomore computer science major

"I'm glad it's bringing money to the school; I don't really prefer either though."



**RUBEN MAGUREGUI**  
senior mathematics major

"I like Coke better, so I don't really mind the change and I'm pretty happy about it."

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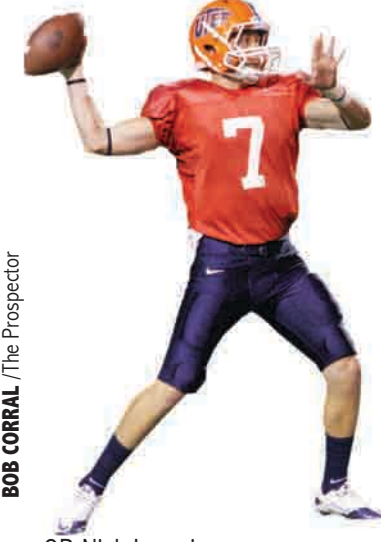
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Football

# Three's company, too

## New transfers hope to have impact at UTEP in 2011

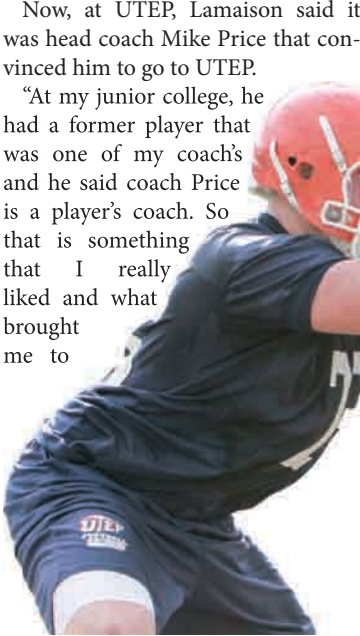


QB Nick Lamaison

BY FRANKIE RODRIGUEZ  
The Prospector

As junior quarterback Nick Lamaison prepares to take the helm of the UTEP offense, he'll know he has the comfort of familiar names blocking for him and receiving his passes. Junior wide receiver Mike Edwards and junior offensive lineman James Martin both joined Lamaison at UTEP as transfers from Mt. San Antonio College in Walnut, California. "It was a mutual decision between the three of us to come to UTEP," Edwards said. "We have been playing with each other for almost three years now, going on four. So it feels comfortable being out here with both of them." Prior to UTEP, Lamaison earned All-California and All-American honors at Mt. SAC in 2010. He led the team to an undefeated season, finish-

ing 13-0, and to their second-straight state national championship. He was also named Offensive Player of the Year for both the All-California and All-American teams. During his freshman year at Mt. SAC in 2008, Lamaison led his team to a 13-1 mark. He finished the year completing 64 percent of his throws behind 3,479 passing yards, 36 touchdowns and eight interceptions. Following that season, Lamaison transferred to the University of Tennessee, sitting out 2009 due to NCAA rules. Initially recruited by Tennessee head coach Lane Kiffin, Lamaison returned to Mt. SAC when Kiffin left to the University of Southern California after the 2009 season. Now, at UTEP, Lamaison said it was head coach Mike Price that convinced him to go to UTEP. "At my junior college, he had a former player that was one of my coach's and he said coach Price is a player's coach. So that is something for that I really liked and what brought me to



OL James Martin  
Special to The Prospector

coach Price," Lamaison said. "I also enjoyed my visit so I decided to make it official and make my final decision to come to UTEP." Throughout training camp, Lamaison has made quite an impression on the coaching staff. "He's done more than I expected," Price said. "Nick was the guy I went after and we just took these other two guys along with him and they have just been great for us." Lamaison has quite the résumé for last season, completing 300 of his 499 passes for 3,993 yards. He finished with 30 touchdowns and 12 interceptions, averaging 307.2 yards passing per game. In the state title game, he completed 23-of-33 passes for 233 yards to earn him MVP honors. "I feel I bring a lot of composure in crucial times of the game. (I have) consistency and I am accurate," Lamaison said. Edwards was named Offensive MVP in the state championship game in 2010 with six catches for 67 yards and a touchdown. He led Mt. SAC with 69 receptions for a school-record 1,267 yards and 13 touchdowns, while averaging 97.5 receiving yards per game. Edwards believes he brings a strong work ethic and mindset to this team. "I work hard, do everything 100 percent and best you can every play," Edwards said. "I try not to take plays off, no matter what." The coaching staff is excited to have Edwards on the squad this season be-

cause he has displayed a diverse skill set on the field. "He is about as complete of a football player that I have ever had. He is a complete package: quick, smart, strong, great attitude, tough and competitive," Price said. "We are just so lucky to have him. He is going to play a big role, doing a lot of things for us." Martin started as left tackle for Mt. San Antonio College's 2010 state and national championship team, finishing the season with 33 pancake blocks, grading out at 92 percent. His 2010 honors included first-team All-Conference and his team's Most Improved Player and Scholar-Athlete of the Year. "It is not typical to have a junior college player come in and be one of your hardest workers right out," assistant head coach Bob Connelly said. "He has fit right in with the offensive line unit, working hard and learning the system. He has been a leader through his work ethic and will be a quality depth guy for us, backing up our left tackle."

The chemistry between the three transfers seems to be in place and with the rest of the team, according to Lamaison. "It's really good. It allows us to have a really comforting feeling just because we're with guys we've played with before," Lamaison said. "I've also developed a good relationship with the guys that are here so I am comfortable with this team."



WR Mike Edwards

Price said he is looking forward to the season and the positive impact these transfers athletes will bestow upon his team. "We are very lucky to have these three guys off that championship team," Price said. "They have a championship attitude in the locker room and just fit right in, earning the respect of the team." Martin was named a starter for the season-opener against Stony Brook Sept. 3 following the injury to junior offensive lineman James Nelson.

Frankie Rodriguez may be reached at [prospector@utep.edu](mailto:prospector@utep.edu).

Football

# New faces on offense headline 2011 season



BOB CORRAL / The Prospector

**Head coach Mike** Price addresses his team during a practice in August. The Miners will kick off the 2011 campaign against Stony Brook Sept. 3 at the Sun Bowl.

BY WILLIAM VEGA  
The Prospector

Following the departure of a number of position players, the UTEP Miners will be looking to a veteran defense and an inexperienced offense to guide them through the 2011 campaign. "I think the young guys have taken to the leaders very well. Last year was the team with big names. We had the Trevor Vittatoe's, the Kris Adam's and the Donald Buckram's," senior defensive end Bernard Obi said. "Not this year, everybody depends on each other. One person could make or break us this year." The Miners were picked to finish last in the west division during Conference-USA media day July 31, mainly due to the unproven talent at quarterback. The conference is loaded with a barrage of talented quarterbacks such as Houston's Case

Keenum or Tulsa's G.J. Kinne and three other QBs with 3,000-plus yards in 2010. The Miners will be looking to a new face in junior transfer Nick Lamaison. After losing record-breaking QB Vittatoe, the Miners will turn to the junior college transfer to take the snaps. "We'll take it week by week, game by game, play by play. If we do that and not think about the week ahead, we'll be successful," Lamaison said. "We'll see, though. My only concern is getting the win." If his time at the junior college level is any indication of his potential statistics, UTEP may have a star quarterback in the works. Lamaison finished with 3,993 yards at Mt. San Antonio College last year, completing just over 60 percent of his passes. The Miners are also dealing with the loss of two top wide receivers

see SEASON on page 16





# IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN!



## UTEP opens 2011 campaign against one-dimensional Stony Brook

BY DANIEL ORNELAS  
The Prospector

A first impression often needs to be the best impression. The 2011 Miners football season kicks off Sept. 3 at the Sun Bowl against Stony Brook, a Division 1-AA team out of

"We've seen they really like to run the ball, they run it a bunch of different ways. They try and confuse you with their running game," senior defensive end Bernard Obi said. "They're not a finesse offense, they're going to line up and pound it right at you."

Head coach Mike Price knows that in order to beat Stony Brook, stopping their rushing attack will be key, but there are other aspects to look out for against the Seawolves.

"They're a much better team than I anticipated. They have 19 returners, they're big, have a returning quarterback, they recruit nationally and (head coach Chuck Priore) has done a really good job coaching there," Price said. "His kids play hard...it's going to be all we can handle about now."

The defensive unit will have its hands full against the Seawolves. Players and coaches, alike, recognize that smart play will be crucial to having success against this rushing attack.

"It comes down to technique and proper run fits. They do a lot of things with formations that can get you in trouble," defensive coordinator Andre Patterson said. "If you don't know how to line up to their different formations and how people are suppose to fit in the running game, they can gash you. That's what you see them do a lot of times on tape."

Patterson knows that the Seawolves will use their plethora of formations to test the Miners' defense, and technique is something players are even preaching to themselves.

"(We have to) make sure we harp on technique, technique, technique.

That's the most important thing when we're playing a team like this. If one guy's in the wrong place, they could break out for a 40 or 50-yard run," senior defensive end Bernard Obi said. "The biggest thing I'm going to preach to us as we prepare for Stony Brook is to harp on technique and make sure I work on my technique."

Junior transfer quarterback and first-year starter Nick Lamaison is comfortable with having the Seawolves as the first opponent for the Miners.

"It's good to come out and play a team like them, who has a lot of talent, but we feel pretty comfortable against," Lamaison said.

The Miners look to have a balanced schedule every year and have at least one Division 1-AA and a Bowl Championship Series school in the line up.

Stony Brook is a small school that en-

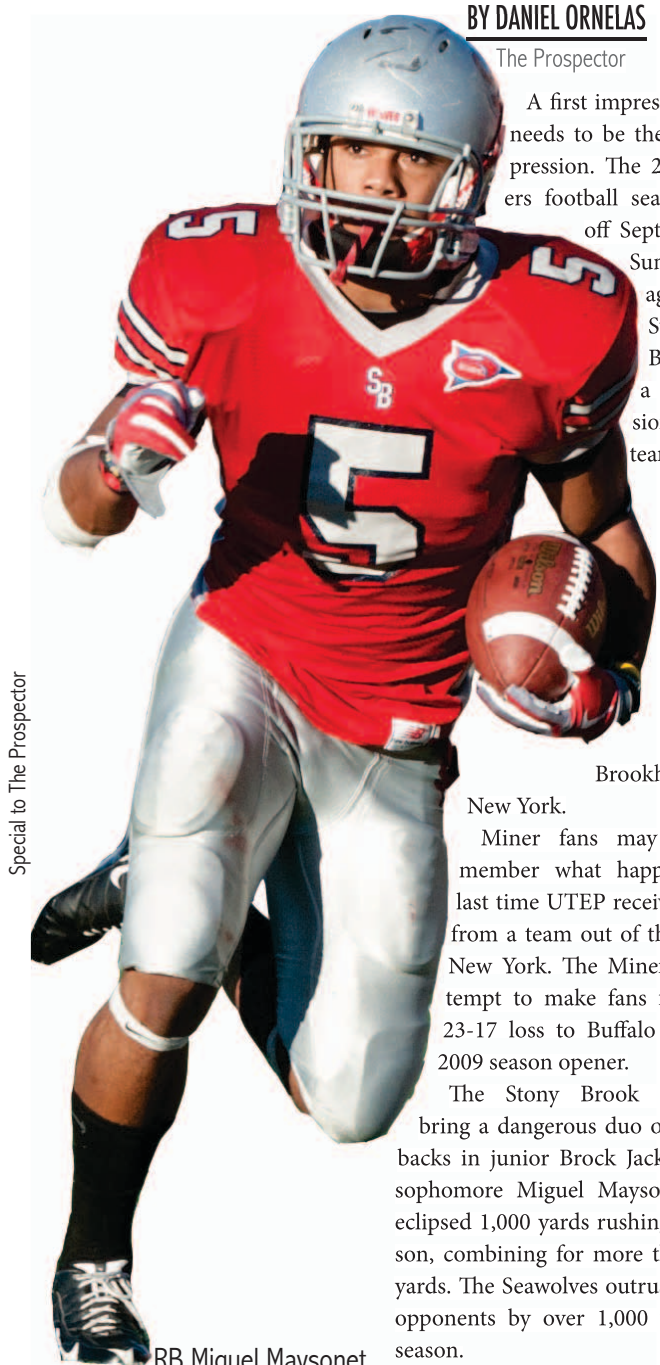
courages tougher opponents on their schedule.

Although they are playing a team from a sub-division, Lamaison understands that his team still has things to work on between now and Sept. 3.

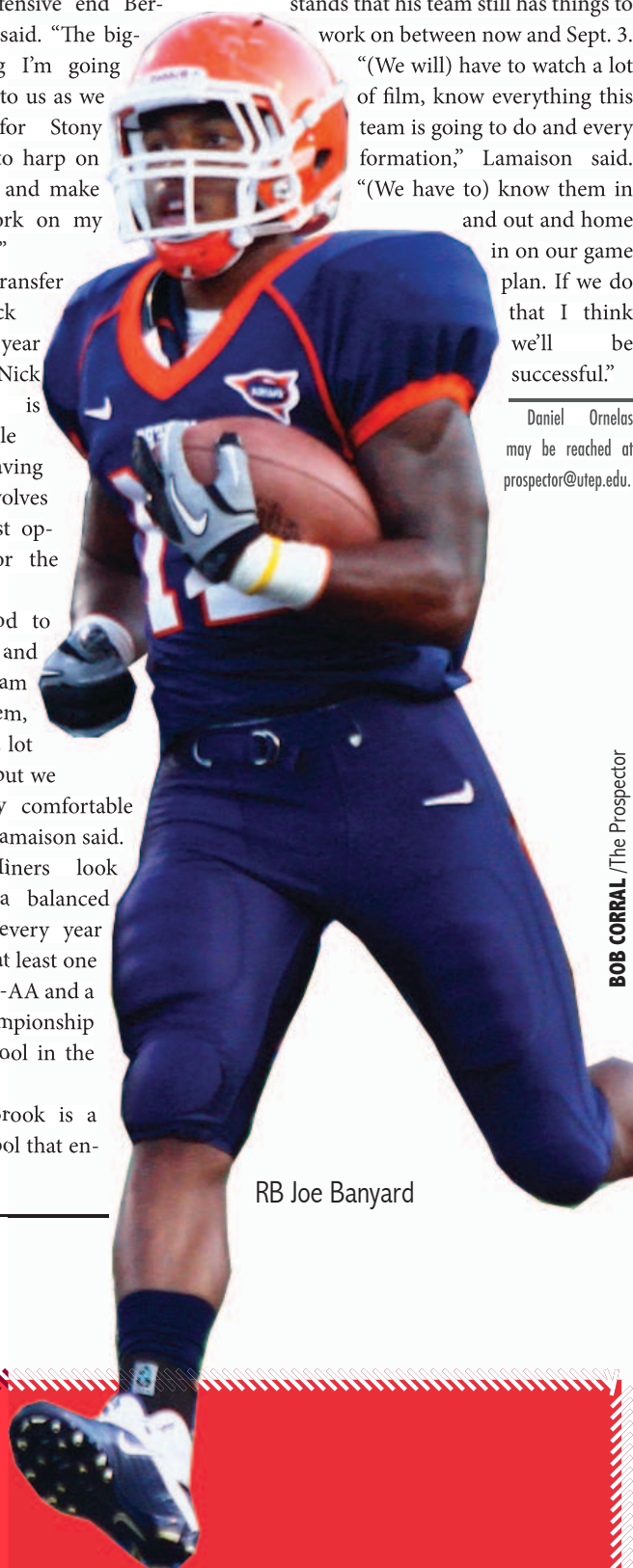
"(We will) have to watch a lot of film, know everything this team is going to do and every formation," Lamaison said. "(We have to) know them in and out and home in on our game plan. If we do that I think we'll be successful."

Daniel Ornelas may be reached at [prospector@utep.edu](mailto:prospector@utep.edu).

BOB CORRAL / The Prospector



RB Miguel Maysonet



RB Joe Banyard

## Converted linebacker overcomes obstacles, death in family

BY DANIEL ORNELAS  
The Prospector

Transition and change may often take people out of their comfort zone. In the case of redshirt freshman linebacker, Michael Pickett, the modification was a good thing for him as he makes the transition from safety to linebacker.

"It's a perfect fit for Michael Pickett, moving from defensive back to linebacker, there's no question about that," head coach Mike Price said. "He's going to be a really fine player here."

The 6-foot-1-inch, 220-pound athlete was recruited as a safety, but was made a linebacker after putting on 30 pounds of muscle during the offseason. Price and defensive coordinator Andre Patterson have seen the progress Pickett has made during his redshirt year and like his potential.

"He's good now, because he went through all of spring practice playing linebacker, now he understands how to play the position," Patterson

I have a tattoo on my arm for my pops. I'm playing this for him and also doing this for my mom because she's missing him even more.

- Michael Pickett, freshman linebacker

said. "He understands what we're trying to do. In the spring it was brand new for him, now he knows what it's like to be a linebacker. There hasn't been any problems with that at all."

Pickett's speed contributes to his attributes as he grows into his new position.

"Number one, he can run, number two, he's physical and number three, he's going to be a big man," said Patterson. "He was going to grow out of a safety's body, there's no way you can keep that kid between 190 and 205 pounds. As he gets older, he's going to be a 230 to

235-pound guy before he finishes here."

Pickett is enjoying the transition to linebacker and said he can use his athletic ability regardless of the weight he's had to put on since making the change.

"I'm loving it right now. It took that redshirt freshman year to get confidence and just learn everything about linebacker. So far, it's going really good," Pickett said. "I think I came in at 190, my highest was 227. I'm still agile though, I can still run with it."

This isn't the first time UTEP has had a former defensive back transition to linebacker. Former Miner standout, Thomas Howard, now a member of the Cincinnati Bengals, was once a redshirt freshman.

Howard became an All-Conference player for the Miners and a second-round draft pick in 2006 for the Oakland Raiders.

Pickett attended Vista Ridge High School in Cedar Park, Texas, where he was both a football and track standout.

At Vista Ridge, Pickett received second-team All-District 16-5A honors for his efforts in 2009 on both the offensive and defensive side of the ball. He also competed in various track events and was the long jump district champion in 2009.

Pickett always had his own fan in the stands during his time in high school, but will have to make another transition as he copes with the recent passing of his father, Anthony Pickett. Football has become a way for him to carry on his father's memory, but Pickett said he is also dedicating the 2011 season to his mother, Yolanda.

"I have a tattoo on my arm for my Pops. I'm playing this for him and also doing this for my mom because she's missing him even more," Pickett said. "She didn't just lose a husband, she lost a life partner."

Price understands what Pickett is going through and has no plans to rush him into the mix.

"He had a hard freshman year, his father passed away (recently). That's very difficult on a young man. Our prayers go out to him and his family," Price said. "We'll take it slow with him, but football's a great diversion for him right now."

Price hopes Pickett can use football to keep his mind occupied, although he knows he'll never be able to get his mind off the loss completely. He said it was one of the most difficult tasks to ask of a 19-year-old only child.

"He meant everything to me, that was my Pops, and it's hard right now, but God has a plan for everything," Pickett said. "He's going to be fine, he's resting up there and has the best seat in the house...He was the best person, the best dad anybody could have. I miss him a lot."

Daniel Ornelas may be reached at [prospector@utep.edu](mailto:prospector@utep.edu).



Michael  
PICKETT

Redshirt  
Freshman

Height: 6 Foot, 1 Inch  
Weight: 225 Lb.  
Position: LB  
Hometown: Cedar Park, Tx.  
High school: Vista Ridge

### 2010 STONY BROOK STATS

● 31.2 points per games

● 2,565 rushing yards

● 218 rushing yards per game

● 26 rushing touchdowns

● Miguel Mayson - 1,155 rushing yards

● Brock Jackolski - 1,029 rushing yards

### 2011 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Sept. 3	Stony Brook	7:00 P.M.
Sept. 10	at SMU*	5:00 P.M.
Sept. 17	at NM STATE	6:00 P.M.
Sept. 24	at USF	TBA
Sept. 29	Houston*	6:00 P.M.
Oct. 15	at Tulane*	6:00 P.M.
Oct. 22	Colorado State (HC)	1:30 P.M.
Oct. 29	Southern Miss*	6:00 P.M.
Nov. 5	at Rice*	6:00 P.M.
Nov. 12	East Carolina*	TBA
Nov. 19	Tulsa*	6:00 P.M.
Nov. 25	at UCF	1:00 P.M.

\*Indicates Conference-USA Game



UTEP ATHLETICS / The Special to The Prospector  
Redshirt freshman Michael Pickett works out in a practice during the 2010 season when he was a defensive back. Now, as a linebacker, he has not only had to deal with the move but with the loss of his father.



Volleyball

# Team goes undefeated in first weekend of the season



JUSTIN STENE / The Prospector  
**Junior outside hitter** Bridget Logan spikes the ball during their game against UT-Arlington Aug. 27 at Memorial Gym. The match was UTEP's fourth game of the El Paso Sports Commission Volleyball Invitational.

BY KRYSTAL OBLINGER

The Prospector

After winning their first three matches and nine of their 10 sets of the season, the UTEP Miners were looking to start the year off strong by sweeping the El Paso Sports Com-

mission Volleyball Invitational Aug. 26-27. The Miners achieved that and advanced to 4-0 with a straight-set victory against UT-Arlington Aug. 27 at Memorial Gym. "We knew that Arlington and Portland (State) were really solid, experienced athletic teams. My biggest

concern was if our team was ready to compete against teams like that," head coach Ken Murphy said. "I feel pretty good about the way our team stuck together and fought. If we just keep that attitude, we have the ability to make this a pretty special year." The Mavericks opened the game with a strong lead that was cut short

when UTEP came back and won the first set, 25-23. Junior outside hitter Bridget Logan pushed the team forward with five kills, which steered the Miners to winning the set. "We came out with a lot of energy for the last one because we were really excited after beating a high-profile team like Portland. We just needed to make sure we didn't get too excited," Logan said. "We had to come out not expecting to be on top of the world and I think we were able to do that." UTEP once again beat Arlington in the second set, 25-23, with sophomore outside hitter Jeane Horton leading the way. She had four kills during the second set and dominated in the third with five kills that inevitably won the game. "At the very beginning of the game, I felt nerves because this is my first year ever playing outside (hitter)," Horton said. "I've been playing middle (blocker) since I was little, but it's great because my team believes (in) me and my coach believes in me." Despite the Mavericks tough defense, senior libero Stephanie Figueroa reached double digits by gaining a game-high 19 digs. Sophomore setter Malia Patterson managed 37 assists, which helped lead UTEP to victory. "Stephanie was digging all the balls and Malia was having some great sets," Horton said. "So I knew I had to go out there and dominate for them." Against the Nicholls State Colonels, Patterson managed 29 sets and Figueroa led the team with 14 digs. UTEP beat Nicholls State, 3-0, with a total of 41 kills. Horton began the first set with a kill then totaled 12 throughout the three set game.

Krystal Oblinger may be reached at [prospector@utep.edu](mailto:prospector@utep.edu).

Cross country

# Nine returning runners look to repeat success from last year

BY RUSTY BURNS

The Prospector

With experienced members, three juniors on the men's team, two seniors and juniors on the women's, 2011 could be the year when the UTEP Miners cross country teams may bring home the team gold. Leading the way for the women's team is junior Risper Kimaiyo. She is a two-time Conference-USA gold medalist and Athlete of the Year in the conference. She is also a two-time USTFCCCA All American, placing fourth in the 2010 NCAA Championships. Kimaiyo also received the award of Conference-USA Scholar Athlete and was a Honda Sports Award nominee. She won six of her eight races in the conference and beat her own time at the Lobo Invitational last year. She made UTEP history by becoming the first Miner to win the Mountain Region Championships. "I want to try to win (the C-USA title) again this year," Kimaiyo said. "The same goes for regionals." With all her prior success, Kimaiyo is really looking forward to the big races again, such as the C-USA Championship, the NCAA Championships, the Pre-Nationals and the National Championships. But where most competitors would be nervous running the biggest races of the year, Kimaiyo sees things differently. She said she doesn't feel overwhelmed

and looks at things with a different perspective instead of getting stressed out. "Most of the time, I don't get that nervous," Kimaiyo said. "I just tell myself, 'if everyone can do this, so can I.'" The rest of the women's team had success last year as well. Sophomore Gladys Chepsat placed third at the Lori Fitzgerald Invitational and earned third-team C-USA honors along with junior Karina Garcia. Senior Kathy Garcia, Karina's sister, made second-team C-USA and ran alongside Kimaiyo at the NCAA Cross Country Championships. Senior Kitria Stewart's best finish was seventh place at the Lori Fitzgerald Invitational. For the men's team, Elkana Rotich was the big man on campus in 2010. He won the C-USA Championship, was 2010's C-USA Male Athlete of the Year and picked up First-Team All-Conference honors. He also received C-USA Athlete of the Week twice last season. Junior runner Justice Chirchir won the silver medal at the C-USA Championships and placed second at the Lori Fitzgerald Invitational, making him the first collegiate runner to cross the finish line at the event. He won gold at the Kachina Classic and was twice named C-USA Athlete of the Week. Both Chirchir and junior Solomon Gardea received All-Conference



FILE PHOTO

**The UTEP women's** cross country team runs with the rest of the pack during the 2010 Lori Fitzgerald Invitational at the Chamizal National Memorial in El Paso, Texas.

second-team honors. Sophomore Abel Koskey's best finish last year was seventh place at the Lori Fitzgerald Invitational. The Miners will be competing in the same eight events as last year and will kick things off Sept. 3 at the Lobo Invitational in Albuquerque, New Mexico. UTEP won't travel far from home for the next two races when they host the Lori Fitzgerald Invitational Sept. 10 at the Chamizal National Memo-

rial, followed by the Kachina Classic Sept. 17 in Las Cruces. Head coach Paul Ereng said the Miners won't be tested until they leave the region. "The first real encounter is going to be at the Notre Dame Meet (Sept. 30) and (the NCAA) Pre-National (Oct. 16)," Ereng said. "It gives them a chance to gather points that will be used to ascend to the national championship."

He also said that nothing new has been added to the team's workout. He knows they will be ready for the first competition, as the team has been running and practicing hard since mid-August. "We try to have diverse practice sessions," Ereng said. "Distance is all mileage, so you have to put all of that mileage behind you."

Rusty Burns may be reached at [prospector@utep.edu](mailto:prospector@utep.edu).



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THE PROSPECTOR

August 30, 2011

Soccer

# Miners keep things rolling, advance to 3-0

BY WILLIAM VEGA

The Prospector

The UTEP Miner defense continued their shutout streak defeating Houston Baptist Aug. 26 and Prairie View A&M Aug. 28, 4-0, in both games at University Field.

With freshman goalkeeper Sarah Dilling in front of the net, the Miners got off to a quick start. They scored four goals against Prairie View A&M in the first half and did not allow a single shot on goal.

While the Panthers were unsuccessful in finding the UTEP goal, they were able to get the ball in their own net. Thirteen minutes into the game, the Miners got on the board when senior midfielder Katie Dorman's corner kick was deflected in by Prairie View A&M's freshman midfielder Reina Mata.

It took another 10 minutes for UTEP to get back on the board when sophomore midfielder Kenah Linger lobbed the ball from the right sideline, which then found its way through a pair of Panther defenders. Freshman midfielder Lauren Katada was on the receiving end to chip the ball in easily for her second goal of the year and the weekend.

The next two goals came just a minute later when junior forward Britany Kindzierski made an unassisted goal near the crossbar for her first goal of the season.

Fifty-eight seconds after checking into the game, freshman midfielder Mackenzie German scored the Miners' fourth goal of the day. Sophomore defender Jade Babcock beat her defender, and then brought the Panther goalie to her as she found German for the wide-open goal.

While the Miners were unable to extend their lead in the second half, second-string goalkeeper and senior Chandra Morden stepped in for two saves off three Prairie View shots.

"I think we're pretty solid (on defense) because we have a lot of depth this year...that was pretty hard playing the entire time, especially against Houston last year, who came at us the entire time," senior defender Jessie Pettit said. "We were pretty tired and finally they scored because we can't hold them off the entire time. Now we have subs, so I think that will help us a lot."

Things got testy in the last 45 minutes as both teams were called for four fouls each in the half. A yellow card was issued to Panther junior forward Yosselyn Aguilar when she pushed UTEP's sophomore midfielder Gina Soto along the sideline. Soto was taken out when she injured her ankle on the play, but no updates have been made on her status. Head coach Kevin Cross said she will get an X-ray to see if it's broken.

"They were really just slide tackling in for ankles. It's not like we were backing away from them," Cross said.



JUSTIN STENE / The Prospector

Sophomore midfielder Gina Soto slides for a ball during the Miners' 4-0 victory against Prairie View A&M Aug. 28 at University Field.

"We need to play the ball around quick and avoid those challenges."

The Miners showed ease against their opponent Aug. 26, as well, when they defeated the Houston Baptist Huskies. UTEP scored twice in a matter of three minutes when freshman forward Amanda Pak knocked in a rebound in the 28th minute. Katada scored her first goal of the year on a penalty kick in the 30th minute.

Pak's second goal of the day came on a bicycle kick in the box in the 55th minute and Soto added another in the 86th.

"We came out with two wins, so we'll take that to the road. We have to be better on the road as compared to last year," senior midfielder Katie Dormin said. "I think our coaches have been drilling that into our heads. We have to play two games every

weekend, two halves every game and come out for all of it."

The Miners will now head to Nacogdoches, Texas for their first road game of the season against Stephen F. Austin Sept. 2. They finish the weekend in San Marcos Sept. 4 when they take on Texas State.

William Vega may be reached at [prospector@utep.edu](mailto:prospector@utep.edu).

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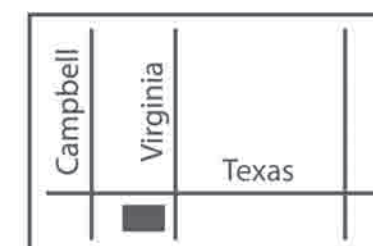
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Answers to 8-23-11

Weekly SUDOKU  
by Linda Thistle

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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way  
that each row across, each column down and  
each small 9-box square contains all of the  
numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: \*\*\*  
★ Moderate ★★ Challenging  
★★★ HOO BOY!  
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SEASON from page 9

from last year. Kris Adams, cur-  
rently with the Chicago Bears, led  
all receivers with 1,070 yards and 14  
touchdowns. Freshman Marlon Mc-  
Clure was dismissed from the team  
over the summer, but in 2010, he was  
the second-leading receiver with 343  
yards and one touchdown.

The Miners' next top-two receiv-  
ers in receiving yards also graduated.  
Evan Davis and Pierce Hunter left the  
gates open for new faces. Seniors Ju-  
lio Lopez, Russell Carr and Donovan  
Kemp will lead the UTEP receiving  
corps. Only Kemp saw significant  
time last year, starting in all seven  
games, racking up 181 yards and two  
touchdowns.

Joining the three are freshman Jordan  
Leslie, senior transfer Cliff Tucker  
and junior transfer Mike Edwards.  
Leslie may be the player to watch this  
year, as he has shown great ability  
during spring practices, Camp Socorro  
and at August practices.

"We're young, full of energy and en-  
thusiasm, and we're going to be very  
exciting...it's really a good-spirited  
team," head coach Mike Price said. "I  
think we have good team chemistry,  
good team unity and five team cap-  
tains. It's the most captains we've ever  
had."

After a stellar junior season in  
2009, running back Donald Buckram,  
missed five games last season after  
sustaining a knee injury during the  
offseason. That made room for then-  
juniors Joe Banyard and Vernon Fra-  
zier to gain noticeable playing time in  
2010, and they will now take over the  
running game this season.

Banyard led all rushers with 623  
yards and eight touchdowns last year  
and is expected to be the starting run-  
ning back for 2011.

The defense, on the other hand, will  
be returning seven starters from last  
season with six of them seniors this  
year. Led by four-year starter and de-  
fensive end Obi, UTEP will hope to  
defend its reputation as the third-best  
scoring defense in C-USA.

However, uncertainty at specific po-  
sitions is still at play. Six linebackers  
are competing for the three starting  
spots, with seniors Jeremy Springer,  
Royzell Smith and junior Aubrey  
Alexius as the current starters. Alex-  
ius went down with a knee injury  
at the Miners' mock game Aug. 27,  
leaving the spot open for freshman  
Michael Pickett, junior Josh Fely and  
senior Isaiah Carter.

The other position to watch for is at  
the center position, where junior Eloy  
Atkinson sat out multiple practices in  
August due to injury. Senior Nathan  
McCage and junior James Martin  
have been splitting snaps as the back-  
up center.

"You always have the little adjust-  
ments with the centers. You get used  
to one guy, but we'll practice the sec-  
ond (string) guy more and even the  
third guy," Lamaison said.

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

entertainment

August 30, 2011

editor  
Beatriz A. Castañeda, 747-7442

Music Festival

Sun City Music Festival to hit Cohen Stadium

BY ALEJANDRO ALBA

The Prospector

One of the most anticipated music  
events of the season, the Sun City  
Music Festival, will feature three  
stages and 30 DJs during Labor  
Day weekend, Sept. 3-4, at Cohen  
Stadium.

"My friends and I are super excit-  
ed," said Eric Stoltz, freshman politi-  
cal science major. "This is the first big  
event that has ever happened in El  
Paso."

SMG events, a group of El Paso  
promoters will bring 30 acts to El  
Paso, including Day Glow Tent. Due  
to the number of acts, the event has  
been split into two days, said Alby  
Bocanegra, business and media rela-  
tions representative for the festival.

"With the amount of DJs that we  
have, it would be a 24-hour festival,"  
Bocanegra said. "Therefore, we have  
two days and three stages; each one  
will categorize the DJ's by genre."

The Sun City main stage will feature  
Armin Van Buuren and Afrojack,  
among others. The Electro Cac-  
tus stage will feature the DJs whose  
music falls in the dance and electro  
genres. The third stage will be the  
Bass Down stage, which will feature  
the dubstep and techno DJ sound.

"We are going to cater the sound  
and the lights according to each  
genre," Bocanegra said. "Also, the  
sound won't mesh together; we have

some good sound engineers that have  
it all planned out."

The event will also showcase local  
DJs such as Bulletproof Tiger, DJ Es-  
teban Carrasco and Astro Dudes.

"We began to look for locals that  
have quality music and contribute a  
lot to El Paso's electronic scene," Bo-  
canegra said. "We also had people  
nominate their favorite locals and  
had over 17,000 votes."

Carrasco is one of the local DJs  
who will be featured at the Sun City  
stage on Sept. 3. He said this will be  
his biggest event since the Nocturnal  
Festival in Austin last year.

"I have a track called 'Dreams' that  
I will definitely be dropping, just for  
the festival," Carrasco said. "Some  
people are familiar with it regionally.  
It's being played on (local radio sta-  
tion) 104.3."

Carrasco said that he is not only  
excited to be featured, but is also ex-  
cited to network with the big names  
who are coming to the event.  
"I would really like to get my music  
into their hands and for them to help  
me grow," Carrasco said. "I'm also ex-  
cited to please my fans and hopefully  
make some new ones."

With over 9,000 RSVPs, Bocanegra  
said they are expecting approximately  
10,000 people per day, and possibly  
15,000 on the high end.

Ticket prices have been going up  
as the date of the event nears. Tick-  
ets began at \$36 per day and \$55 for  
both days. Currently, they are at \$46



Special to The Prospector

Sun City Music Festival will feature 30 musical acts Sep. 3-4 and is expecting 10,000 people per day at Cohen Stadium.

per day and \$82 for both days. VIP  
tickets have also gone up and are cur-  
rently at \$61 per day and \$112 for  
both days.

"Just like every other event or con-  
cert, tickets go up as the date comes  
closer," Bocanegra said. "There is al-

ways an incentive for the people who  
buy their tickets early."

see FESTIVAL on page 19

Concert Review

Morrow and the Dirty River Boys roll through El Paso



GREG CASTILLO / The Prospector

Cory Morrow and the Dirty River Boys played Aug. 26 at Fort Bliss and are currently touring on the Red Bull Tour Bus.

BY ANDRES RODRIGUEZ

The Prospector

Texas country star Cory Morrow  
strummed his guitar with passion  
as he danced atop a sleek black bus/  
stage with the head-bopping quartet,  
The Dirty River Boys, Aug. 26 in Fort  
Bliss.

Morrow and the local Dirty River  
Boys are rolling through Texas and  
Oklahoma on the Red Bull Tour Bus.  
Morrow sang, "The day goes on, the  
sun beats on, it bakes your skin to  
golden brown," while The Dirty River  
Boys kept the rhythm quick and fun  
with a bluegrass twist.

"The song, 'Texas Time Travelin,'"  
was fittingly sung to a crowd of about

300 people, which included soldiers,  
cowboys and everybody in between.

The nostalgic country tune also  
rings true for Morrow and the band,  
who will be stopping at a different city  
each day. El Paso was the third stop of  
a series of concerts set to end in Law-  
ton, Oklahoma Aug. 31.

Morrow and The Dirty River Boys  
have been working together for two

years. The Dirty River Boys, who took  
their name from the Rio Grande, was  
discovered by Morrow and his man-  
ager, Patrick Dean, when they played  
at Aceitunas Bar. They have opened  
for Morrow ever since.

The Dirty River Boys are made up  
of Travis Stern (percussion), Marco  
Gutierrez (vocals, guitar), Nino Coop-  
er (vocals, guitar) and Colton James  
(bass).  
"Travis came up to me and asked  
me how they sounded and I said,  
'good,'" Morrow said. "He looked at  
me and asked me, 'seriously did you  
listen, because a lot of people say they  
listen.' That's when I thought these  
guys are the real deal."

A couple of hours before the con-  
cert both Morrow and the Boys  
seemed to be your typical dudes,  
quoting Schwarzenegger movies  
while they commented on the graph-  
ics for the concert.

They gave off a very carefree vibe  
in youngster-vintage attire but the  
group's dynamic is genuine. They re-  
ally are friends including Morrow,  
who wishes he'd played with them  
sooner.

"I love my band, but this is the nec-  
tar of the Gods," Morrow said.

Although the bus was late, the audi-  
ence waited patiently as the sun gave  
way to a calm late-summer night. It  
was perfect for some live music.

Morrow's latest album, "Brand New  
Me," has produced three No. 1 hits on

the Texas music charts. But he didn't  
steal the show from the Boys, instead  
he shared it.

Both Morrow and the Boys played  
together as a unit, playing each oth-  
er's songs. This arrangement com-  
plimented both styles of music from  
Morrow's Texas red dirt country to  
the Boys' folk rock.

The concert's selections included  
mostly bluegrass and guitar-driven  
power folk. That called for some  
country dancing on the grass lawn  
from several among the crowd.

The Dirty River Boys described  
their music as outlaw folk and they  
certainly played to prove it.

"This is not your typical Kumbaya  
folk," Morrow said. "This is foot-  
stomping-in-your-face folk."

The audience reacted well to the  
unique sound. Among the audience  
there was definitely some foot stomp-  
ing, and whenever Gutierrez played  
the banjo or the harmonica the in-  
your-face quality kicked in. They  
played with a unique liveliness, which  
was hard to keep up with, but was  
nonetheless entertaining.

"It's just good music, man," Stern  
said.

The Dirty River Boys will release  
their second EP in mid-September.

Andres Rodriguez may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.



Event

# Artists exhibit their work at local venue

## The Loft Light Studio adds to El Paso’s art scene last Thursday of each month

BY KRISTOPHER RIVERA  
The Prospector

As one walks along El Paso Street, among the vendors selling discounted clothing, shoes and jeans, it may be hard to find Loft Light Studio. As you walk through a small door and up a narrow green corridor, one will find a place where work revolves around the arts, and also a place that not only hosts concerts, but also fashion shows.

Carlo Mendo and Marcos Gurrola, two local artists and entrepreneurs, collaborated to break new artistic grounds in the city by opening the studio about a year ago.

“This place is so important because it falls directly into downtown revitalization, there’s a lot of stuff going on, a lot of talk,” Mendo said. “It comes down to private citizens investing blood, sweat, tears, bone and ash—that’s how tough it is to do something like this, but it’s possible.”

Within this studio is a purpose, one that batters at the walls of the social norm and challenges others to keep art alive. Mendo and Gurrola set their sights on revitalizing El Paso and making El Pasoans feel like tourists in their own city.

Every last Thursday of each month, the studio located on 315 S. El Paso Street holds a festive event called Martket, which provides local artists an opportunity to exhibit their art. All categories of creative activity blend together during this event, such as paintings, music and fashion. Designers with original and creative

aspects are allowed to display and sell their items.

“I enjoy coming to Martket because it is a place where aspiring young artists can get their feet on the ground and meet other artists and have a community of people that support,” said Shannon Osborne, an aspiring entrepreneur and coordinator at the Student Development Center.

“It’s an opportunity to make El Paso a better place because number one; it’s downtown and we need more places like this, and it’s just a great place to meet people and see where El Paso can grow in the future.”

Often, the team at Loft Light Studio also work with non-profit organizations.

“Loft Light Studio, the people who work here, are always involved in doing things that are positive for the community,” Mendo said.

Their most recent project was “Painting Smiles,” which was done in collaboration with the Association of Parents of Kids with Cancer and Leukemia (APANICAL), which is an association from Ciudad Juárez that provides care for children with cancer.

“I partnered with a girl I met here, Valeria Ocana, she talked to me about it and was looking for a place to host the event. I couldn’t say no. It was a great opportunity for us to help somebody out,” Gurrola said. “She got a team of people helping her out, it was great. A lot of people came out and helped support, it was really good.”



VERONICA CHAPARRO / The Prospector  
**The Loft Light Studios’** recent project “Painting Smiles” collaborated with the Association of Parents of Kids with Cancer and Leukemia.

The owners said their idea with Loft Light Studio was to find a place where they could host events all the time. They also said they wanted to cater to the community who love the arts and want to enjoy events in the downtown area.

“There are not a lot of outlets for artists, photographers or designers to go and show their work. We like opening our doors for people

to come in and show their artwork, photography and designs,” Gurrola said. “We want to create an outlet for them so they can come in and express themselves.”

Osborne believes the studio’s owners will have a positive influence on El Paso’s art scene.

“There’s a lot of talk about the revitalization of downtown, and having a studio that provides entertainment,

art and support for local non-profit organizations is exactly what this city needs to take El Paso to the next level.”

For more information regarding Loft Light Studio, call 1-800-545-1810 or you may find them on Facebook.

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## Album Review

# Red Hot Chili Peppers disappoint midway through



Special to The Prospector  
“**I’m With You**” is the Red Hot Chili Peppers tenth studio album that released Aug. 30.

BY WILLIAM VEGA  
The Prospector

If anything can be said to define the Red Hot Chili Peppers’ newest album, “I’m With You,” it is simply a tale of two styles.

In one corner, it is the same-old Chili Pepper mentality from tracks one to seven. In the other, it is a reach for new sounds that make the fan wonder exactly who they are listening to in the final seven songs.

Released Aug. 30 in the United States and streamed in its entirety on iTunes

Aug. 23, the first half seems to be produced for Flea. And before you think that’s a bad thing, just remember: it’s Flea.

Following a five-year hiatus and the second departure of long-time guitarist John Frusciante, the band was definitely due for a change. And who better to turn to than co-founding member and bassist Michael “Flea” Balzary.

The Chili Peppers foreshadowed the takeover when their first single of the album, “The Adventures of Raindance Maggie,” was released in July. The first 22 seconds of the song display the bass player’s normal psychedelic play he has become known for. As if the solo wasn’t enough to showcase his skills, Rick Rubin, producer of every Chili Pepper album since 1991’s “Blood Sugar Sex Magik,” literally turns the bass up throughout the entire track.

When Flea spoke to Spin magazine in late June, he said, “Life and death is a major theme” in the album. That is evident in the initially acoustic melodic tune of “Brendan’s Death Song.” The song is a memorial to a Los Angeles club owner Brendan Mullen, who became one of the band’s first promoters back in 1983.

Reminiscent with other softer-rock classics such as “Snow” and “My Friends,” lyricist Anthony Kiedis finds

the perfect combination of love and remorse in his voice. As the song progresses, listeners can even relate the climatic turnover to that of “Other Side,” with drummer Chad Smith highlighting the swelling piece.

My early call is that “Brendan’s Death Song” will become a fan favorite and can easily rise to number one on any prestigious music chart if released as a single.

As if that melody doesn’t leave the listener in awe, the next track, “Ethiopia,” is by no means a song that will leave any Chili Pepper fan disappointed. New guitarist John Killeingoffer (a long-time friend of Frusciante and a tour mate of the band since 2007) gets his first shot at displaying his talents in the track during his first guitar solo of the album.

After “The Adventures of Raindance Maggie,” Killeingoffer is given more play throughout the second half of the album. That can be said with consecutive guitar solos over the next two songs, “Did I Let You Know” and “Goodbye Hooray.” Especially in the latter of the two songs, Killeingoffer gives a chaotic finishing solo to an equally chaotic tune.

The final seven songs, at the same time, by no means parallel what Killeingoffer brings to the table and the

album’s conclusion. The band chose to take on different instruments and styles from one song to the next, leaving the listener asking why?

The bass is hardly noticeable in many songs and the band even seems to conform to newer sounds especially an MGMT-style bridge in “Meet Me at the Corner.”

The album does not show a consistent transition between tracks in the final seven songs such as in tracks eight, nine and 10. “Did I Let You Know” gives a smooth jazz sound that turns into a quick hard-rock melody that is “Goodbye Hooray,” which is followed by an uplifting catchy tune in “Happiness Loves Company.”

Yet, despite the disappointing ending to the album, the first seven songs save it from total disaster and doubtful listening. The band will most likely never return to their original roots of psychedelic funk as in “Blood Sugar Sex Magik” and seem to be reaching out to newer sounds 26 years later.

3 out of 5 records.

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## Video Game

# ‘Deux Ex: Human Revolution’ becoming a cybernetic master



Special to The Prospector  
**Deus Ex: Human Revolution** developed by Eidos Montreal was released Aug. 23 and takes place during the year 2027.

BY JERRY ALDAZ  
The Prospector

Whether it be shooting your way through walls of enemies or sneaking through intricate environments, “Deus Ex: Human Revolution’s” captivating yet flexible storyline allows players to fulfill the adventure anyway they see fit.

Taking place in the year 2027, a future where augmentation modifies and improves human organs, players must assume the role of Adam Jensen. A security expert for Sarif Industries, Jensen’s journey begins after augmented soldiers steal vital information from Sarif facilities.

Following leads to cities such as Montreal, Shanghai and Detroit and after unraveling the mystery, Jensen will discover the thematic conspiracy occurring within Sarif and other human-augmentation corporations.

Capable of interacting with items, individuals and alternative routes, excellent level design is an immersive component. Encouraging exploration, the game’s hidden locales and adaptable environments motivate players to seek different methods of completing objectives.

Being a decision-based game, plot development will be largely determined by the actions players make throughout the story. It is this simu-

lated free-will that makes “Deus Ex” a great game and adds replay value.

As a first-person shooter, the technicalities do not match those of “Call of Duty” or “Battlefield,” yet each bullet hit feels as satisfying as the last. The weapons at your disposal, although limited in quantity, will please most players’ destructive preferences. The cover system provides the ability to peek and shoot behind objects while creating a sense of suspense when dealing with a sea of flying bullets.

If you chose to avoid casualties, Jensen’s variety of non-lethal melee moves (depicted through cinematic shorts) is an entertaining approach to disabling enemy threats. While stealth

is perhaps the most challenging style, demanding critical-thinking and a creative sense of infiltration, it is these additional complexities that heighten the sense of realism.

As Jensen moves closer to the truth, his character will be progressively upgradeable. Whether it is stronger arms, improved hacking skills or efficient rhetoric, the capabilities you chose to strengthen will variably affect how one completes challenges and obstacles.

Although the game’s highlight is versatility, boss encounters severely eliminate the illusion of freedom. Forcing players to rely on heavy gun fire, boss battles can render stealth-based players underprepared. Even if equipped with adequate ammunition, the difficulty can often result in great frustration.

Character animations also prove to be a disappointing contrast to the otherwise realistic atmosphere. While facial and body expressions are at times stiff and inaccurate, hair and clothing movement is virtually undetectable. Although it doesn’t affect playability, it undermines the game’s visual credibility and leaves players feeling shortchanged.

“Deus Ex’s” overall presentation and execution will be reminiscent to fans of action-stealth titles such as “Splinter Cell,” “Metal Gear Solid” and even “Half-Life.” Although it doesn’t improve upon tried-and-true formulas, the thickening plot and vast open world will make players want to come back for more.

4 out of 5 picks.

TTTTT

Jerry Aldaz may be reached at [prospector@utep.edu](mailto:prospector@utep.edu).

FESTIVAL from page 17

According to Bocanegra, with the purchase of VIP tickets, the audience will have access to an exclusive area where alcohol will be sold.

“This will help separate the 21-and-over crowd from the rest,” Bocanegra said.

The event has been promoted in El Paso and in neighboring cities like Chihuahua, Albuquerque and Austin. Bus tours have also been set up, which set the event as one of their destinations, said Bocanegra.

“I think this event will be pretty big,” Stoltz said. “I have friends from Chihuahua and Dallas coming in.”

With the expectation of having people from out of town at the event, Bocanegra said they partnered with many local businesses in order to increase El Paso’s image. Plum City Lounge and EcoLink Homes are among the event’s partners.

“We decided to go green and team up with the recycling company in order to have recycling bins all over the event site,” Bocanegra said. “We believe that the environment is as important as our music.”

A percentage of ticket sales will benefit the El Paso Police Foundation and the city of El Paso’s Museums and Cultural Affairs Department. According to Bocanegra, these proceeds will help the EPPF with new equipment. Proceeds will also fund programs that will bring the arts to students.

“I believe those students are the future festival throwers,” Bocanegra said. “They might be the next big thing that comes to El Paso in the future.”

For more information, go to [www.suncitymusicfestival.com](http://www.suncitymusicfestival.com).

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