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CREEPY CRAWLERS



Exhibit showcases creatures in Education Building

NEWS 4

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STUDENT AND MUSICIAN



SHARES HIS TALENT

ENT. 9

TIME TO TIP OFF

Women's basketball

Experience headlines new season

BY RUSTY BURNS AND WILLIAM VEGA

The Prospector

Potential may be the one word that best sums up UTEP's look this season and Conference-USA seems to agree. Plagued by injuries last year but returning with a healthier and experienced roster, the Miners are looking to live up to that hype.

Picked to finish fourth in the pre-season C-USA poll, the Miners hope to continue their success of five winning seasons in the last six years in head coach Keitha Adams' 11th season. Last year, the Miners finished with an overall record of 16-14, 7-9 in Conference-USA, leading them to a ninth-place finish in the regular season.

Despite the winning record from last year, the team is not pleased with just that and they feel they can vastly improve this time around.

"We're trying to make a big turnaround," senior guard Briana Green said. "We didn't have the year we wanted to have, and this year we're hoping to do the complete opposite: to have a great winning season, go hard and be successful."

Green was one of the players who did not complete

last season after she suffered a knee injury in the team's 12th game. That experience, along with this being her last year, serves as motivation for her to have success this year.

"I've been getting my legs right and pushing myself," Green said. "I'm hungry and I'm determined to do great things and help my team."

Last season, it was senior forward Gloria Brown who took control of the reigns for the team in the half-court offense. She led the team in points, blocks and rebounds per game all while coming off the bench. She was named C-USA's Sixth Player of the Year and on the All-Conference pre-season team this year.

Despite her team-leading performances, Brown's biggest weakness was her conditioning as she was limited to just over 18 minutes each game. She said she has returned this offseason feeling in better shape.

"I'm just trying to work on my bad points," Brown said. "I'm working hard and getting prepared for this season."

UTEP added six new players to this year's

see **EXPERIENCE** on page 8



Men's basketball

Floyd focused on future with young team

BY FRANKIE RODRIGUEZ

The Prospector

With the departure of eight seniors from last year, only three players that saw action on the court will join one of the youngest team's in the nation in head coach Tim Floyd's second year at UTEP.

"Team expectations change every season, and this season happens to be a season based on the fact that we lost our entire team and the fact that we did not choose to rebuild with transfers and junior college transfers. We are putting our trust of improvement on our young freshmen," Floyd said.

Given the circumstances, the team is taking a different approach to this season with one senior and 10 underclassmen.

"We are trying to think long term with what we are doing, so this year may be somewhat of a challenge because we are going to be the youngest team in the United States," Floyd said. "We like the core of what we are doing here, with the idea that in the next three, four, five years, we will continue to build and add on top of these young guys."

The players, on the other hand, are looking to the short-term and are ready for the challenges ahead new season.

"We have a lot of learning to do this year," sophomore guard

Michael Perez said. "It's going to be a tough year for us because we have a bunch of young guys but we still have the same expectations that we always have: just win. We will do that however we can. Hopefully we do that a lot by defense."

Last season, under the direction of record-breaking guards Randy Culpepper and Julyan Stone, UTEP finished with a 25-10 record, a Conference-USA Tournament championship appearance and a berth in the NIT.

However, that team had its share of struggles with only three players on the roster listed as 6-foot 10-inches or taller. That translated to the Miners' rebounding dilemma, finishing with a -2.4 rebounding margin. This has been something Floyd has keyed on this offseason.

"He addresses that a lot. In practice we do a lot of stuff to get better at rebounding. He recruited a lot of big guys, new freshmen and new junior college transfers that can rebound for us," Perez said. "(Sophomore center John) Bohannon got better so hopefully we a lot of things change this season."

To address that problem, Floyd recruited two more post players in freshmen Cedrick Lang and Hooper Vint, while adding smaller athletic forwards such as junior Malcolm Moore and freshman Darius Nelson.

see **FUTURE** on page 8

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Guest Column

Team expectations are high

BY KEITHA ADAMS

Special to The Prospector



Basketball season is here! Time has gone really fast and it's really hard to believe that I'm entering my 11th year as the head women's basketball coach at UTEP. It's definitely been a great experience. It's a great place, great fit for me. So here we go, I'm ready to do it again!

I've got a lot of pride in being the head coach here. We've got a really loyal fan base, and I've certainly embraced El Paso as my home. I've been very fortunate to be a part of some great things here at UTEP, and I'm really looking forward to the 2011-12 season.

Anyone who knows me should know that it isn't my style to make predictions or look too far out in the future. Even though it may sound like "coach speak," I really just want our team to take it one day, one opponent

and one game at a time this year. At the end of the day, if you've given your very best and you've work hard, good things will happen.

Last year was a great example of that. We had a ton of injuries, each of our losses were really close and heartbreaking, but our team never stopped working hard. We were just so resilient. When you thought that the air was knocked out of us, we just came back and were fighting. And really, that is what excites me about this year. I know our team has learned from last year, and that we will have some toughness to us as well.

I like our situation with our post players. (Senior) Gloria Brown, (sophomore) Kayla Thornton and (juniors) Anete Steinberga and Kristine Vitola played a lot for us last year and gained a lot of experience.

Injuries last year left us really depleted at the guard position. Kelli Willingham did a great job as true freshman playing the point but we had to adjust how we played just because of how thin we were.

But I think that your best teams are when you have balance, so that is why my staff and I went out and worked

really hard in recruiting to bring in six new guards. We've got much more depth at the position this year and are looking forward to playing an up-tempo style.

We've got a really good schedule in place, with a lot of home games during the first semester before getting into Conference-USA play.

What I'd really like from each of you, is to come out to one of our games and check us out. I am going to do my best to make sure our team plays some great basketball and our marketing staff is going to be doing a lot of new, fun things to really make it an experience to attend our games.

We're going to have interactive promotions and will be giving away some big-ticket items, as well. There will be two separate games where we will give away an iPad and another one where a fan will win a 32-inch TV.

I am fired up for the season, and want you all to be as well! Go Miners!

Keitha Adams is the head coach of the UTEP women's basketball team.

Guest Column

Ready for round two

BY TIM FLOYD

Special to The Prospector



Dear UTEP students:

Believe it or not, another basketball season is upon us! It seems like only yesterday that the Don Haskins Center was rocking for the 2011 Conference-USA Tournament.

When I was at UTEP as an assistant coach in the '70s and the '80s, the Miners had the best fans in the nation. I'm pleased to report that nothing has changed over the last

25 years! My first year as head coach began with 12,000 fans packing the Haskins Center for the opener versus Pacific, and ended with 12,000 strong filling up the venue for the C-USA title game.

I can't thank you enough for the role that you played in the Miners' 25-win season. We couldn't have won 19 home games without you! Student support is so critical as we continue to build a program that will annually contend for conference titles and NCAA Tournament berths.

We will face many challenges this year with a roster featuring 10 newcomers, including eight freshmen. We lost over 80 percent of our scoring

from last year's team but we like our players, and it will be fun watching them grow and develop. I think you're really going to enjoy the 2011-12 Miners. And, with such a young group taking the floor, it's more important than ever that our crowd gives us a distinct home-court advantage.

Please come out to the Haskins Center and support YOUR TEAM this winter. The excitement begins with the season opener versus UT-San Antonio, a 2010 NCAA Tournament participant, at 7 p.m. on Nov. 11.

Go Miners!

Tim Floyd is the head coach of the UTEP men's basketball team.

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This week's poll question:

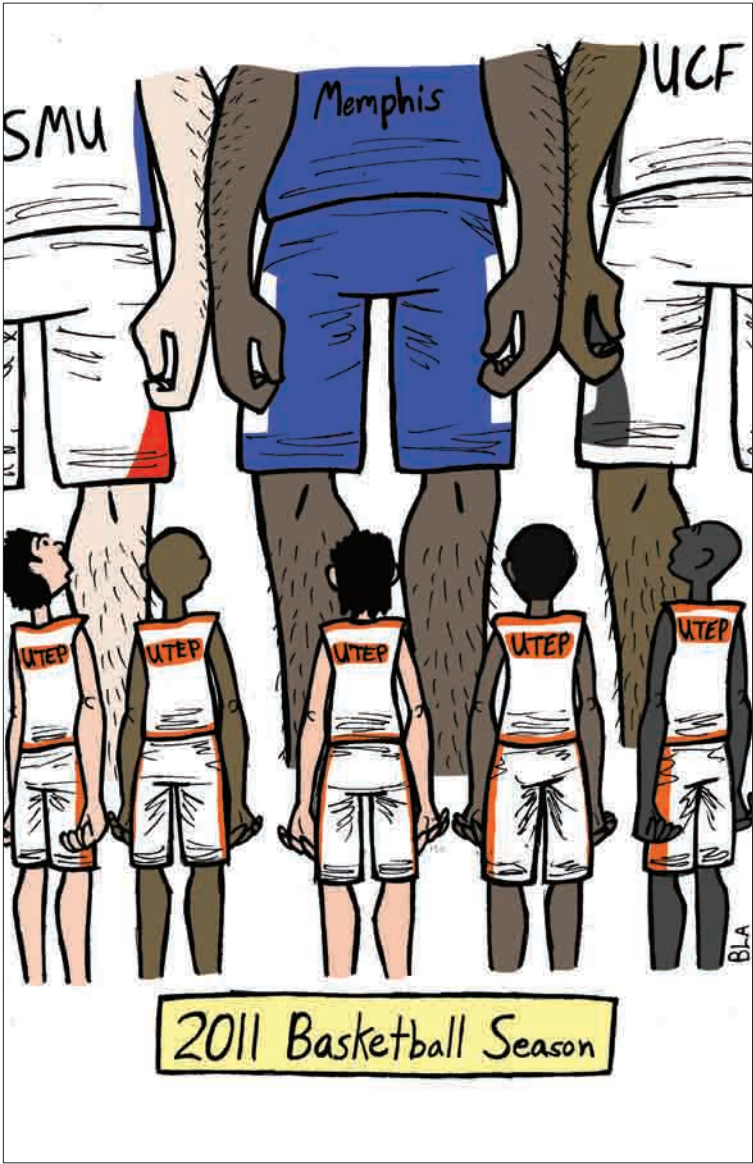
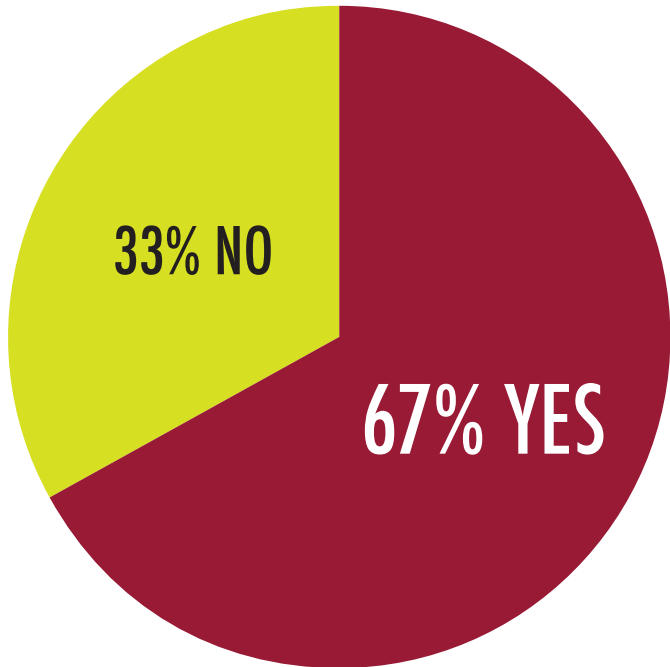
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the prospector

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Technology

Apps help students study, increase risk of cheating

BY AMBER WATTS
The Prospector

With applications that aid students with their studies evolving and becoming more readily available on different types of mediums, students tackle homework and exams equipped with more means of knowledge than just their professors.

"They require a lot of memory, so they're mostly on computers at this time, but with the way technologies are expanding on a daily basis, these databases could eventually be put on cell phones," said John Pallares, electrical and computer engineering professor.

Since these interactive applications are becoming more accessible to smart phones, there is room for distraction.

"It does increase the possibility, especially of Facebook-ing," said Roy Brown, junior engineering major. "But that's with any electronic device, there's going to be some kind of distraction, like with a calculator. Calculators have games on them, too."

There is also a big possibility of students cheating with these high-tech study aids.

"I personally don't allow cell phones," Pallares said. "I definitely don't see how it supplements on exams, because they are required to know their equations."

One of the applications Pallares said students use is Lab View, an application that is provided to students by National Instruments and is used primarily for signal conditioning in engineering classes.



Applications for phones, tablets and computers have aid students at studying.

There are many miscellaneous applications students are using, such as Wolfram Alpha, a "computational knowledge engine" that allows students to retrieve various types of data and statistics, and is downloadable on Android phones for under \$10, and for iPhone and iPod Touch for \$50.

Another application widely used by undergraduates is EE*Pro, that is available on TI-89 calculators and is an all-inclusive app for electrical engineering students and helps them study for coursework.

"It has all the formulas that you would use for your classes, like how to read the instruments. It has everything," said Adriana Torres, senior electrical engineering major,

SPECIAL TO THE PROSPECTOR

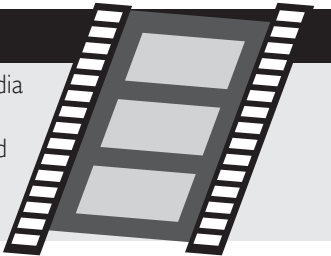
Other applications available for home computers are Math Lab and Multisim.

While these technologies are accepted and even provided by the IT department at UTEP, the question is


see APPS on page 4

SLIDE SHOW

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Campus

Tarantulas, beetles and roachs make their way to the Education Building



GREG CASTILLO / The Prospector

A tarantula and many other creatures are on display on the second floor of the Education Building as part of an exhibit.



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BY HENRY ARRAMBIDE
The Prospector

Sabrina, a 21-year-old aphonopelma tarantula, sits on the second floor of the Education Building with a few friends: Madagascar hissing roaches and blue death feigning beetles. These

creatures have started to make students take notice.

“When I first saw it, I thought ‘whoa, is that real?’ immediately followed by ‘I hope they can’t get out,’” said Liz Jimenez, sophomore creative writing major.

Jimenez is one of the many students who sit on the second floor lobby of the Education Building, where Sabrina lives.

“I think it’s wonderful for people who have never seen anything like that,” Jimenez said. “But I don’t like bugs, so I don’t make it a point to stare at it all the time. I think they’re cool though.”

The specimens on display are part of the Department of Teacher Education’s Living Bug Collection, which started in August. Ronald Wagler, assistant professor of science education, is the curator of the exhibit.

“Sometimes I sit down here and watch, especially at the start of the semester when new students come in,” Wagler said. “Most of the time, the students’ first response is a little bit of fear or disgust.”

The purpose of the display is meant to serve as a place where people can interact with arthropods and also to educate the public about the misconceptions of bugs.

“As bugs often evoke strong human emotions such as fear, disgust and perceived danger,” Wagler said. “The display is a way to educate the public about what bugs do for us and what they do for ecosystems worldwide.”

Thomas Kissel, freshman in the German Abitur Program, said while the exhibit is interesting, the bugs are not something he would want wondering around.

“It doesn’t bother me with all the bugs, but I definitely wouldn’t want them in my room,” Kissel said. “I don’t mind them though, they aren’t gross, they’re interesting.”

Wagler has been an avid bug collector since childhood and has over 50 species collected in the Education Building. Until fall of 2008, it was primarily roaches – not the typical brown variety seen clawing around campus. Madagascar hissing roaches, zebra cockroaches, domino cockroaches and banana roaches make up just a few of the colorful specimens. In 2010, the Boeing Company gave money that allowed Wagler to expand his collection.

“The display is also a way to let people know about the arthropod outreach that I do in the Teacher Education Department at UTEP,” Wagler said. “The bugs are used in my science education courses, some of my research, and my bug presentations at UTEP, local schools and around the community.”

Wagler has also bred and traded his way into a variety of bugs including specimens such as ivory millipedes, Tanzanian tailless whip scorpions, emperor scorpions and ornate harvestmen spiders. While there is no set schedule for rotating the bugs in the exhibit, they are moved back and forth from the first floor storage room to the second floor displays. There have been some few concerns about the bugs escaping from the display, but up to date, no bugs have ever escaped.

“What you see around campus are common American roaches,” Wagler said. “These guys? They’re all pretty secure.”

Henry Arrambide may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

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masters’ students use it, and it’s supposed to help them when they’re doing their research.”

Torres said that she used to use Wolfram Alpha when she was a freshman, and used it frequently but doesn’t find it very useful now. Pallares said that while these applications can benefit students, they could have a negative effect on students’ study habits.

“I think it discourages the study habits a little bit, by not understanding the how to do it, especially if they’re just following step-by-step, allowing the application to do it for them,” Pallares said. “But I see no problem if you understand, if you just forgot about it, and it’s just a reminder.”

Pallares said these study aids are especially beneficial to students that are taking math courses and need to remember certain formulas for their engineering classes. He said they also help students that have been out a semester due to financial situations.

“They should be used as a refresher, but not totally reliant on it,” Pallares said.

Another perk of using these applications is that the National Instruments Apps are used both in the academic environment and in the professional engineering industry.

“It adds value to (students) when they go out there for work,” Pallares said.

There are a ton of applications out there and available to students for free or at a low price. Although applications such as Math Lab, Wolfram Alpha and EE*Pro are provided by the university, who buys the licenses but will not install them on personal computers.

“I don’t see many problems,” Pallares said. “I see it like an electronic tutor that’s handy and that can refresh (students).”

Amber Watts may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

WEBSCLUSIVE

Visit www.utepprospector.com for a full-game recap of the men's basketball inter-squad scrimmage Oct. 29 at the Don Haskins Center.



Football

Miners looking for rare win against Owls



JUSTIN STENE / The Prospector

Junior defensive back Deshawn Grayson dives for a tackle against Southern Miss Oct. 29 at the Sun Bowl.

BY DANIEL ORNELAS
The Prospector

Similar to their opponents, the Miners will try to bounce back from a crushing loss as they travel Nov. 5 to Houston to take on their old foes, the Rice Owls.

Rice, who is looking to recover from a 73-34 rout by the No. 13 Houston Cougars, will play UTEP in a match-up that dates back to their days in the Western Athletic Conference. The two have faced each other every year since 1996 with the Owls holding an 8-6 advantage in the series. Rice is 5-2 against the Miners at home.

The last time the Miners faced Rice, former quarterback Trevor Vittatoe paced UTEP with 327 yards and a three touchdowns to beat the Owls 44-24 in the Sun Bowl. The win snapped a four-game losing streak to Rice.

Owls' head coach David Bailiff is rotating three quarterbacks into the offense using senior Nick Fanuzzi, sophomore Taylor McHargue and at times, sophomore running back Turner Petersen.

"We might have two defensive game plans based on their quarterbacks, but their previous starter did both," head coach Mike Price said.

"Fanuzzi, for some reason, is just in there throwing. Petersen is pretty much there running. Now, can he throw? Probably. But he didn't have to against Houston."

The Miners will have their hands full with the Owls' senior defensive end Scott Solomon who missed the 2010 season with an injury.

Solomon was a preseason first-team Conference-USA selection and a member of Dave Campbell's Texas Football All-Texas team. Through eight games this season, Solomon has 5.5 sacks, 21.5 for his career and is on pace to break the school record of 24. Price said that sometimes his

teams do have game plans for solid pass rushers like Solomon, similar to what they did against the two starting defensive ends for Southern Miss.

"He's a young man that we recruited out of high school also so we've known a lot about him over the years" Price said. "He's a really good player. I don't know what the answer is going to be for him, but we're definitely going to look for that answer."

The Miners will look to take advantage of the success from the running game against an Owls defense that is allowing over 200 yards per game on the ground.

This season, the Miners are relying more on the run, which is averaging 161.4 yards per game. It is a 24-yard improvement from last year's totals and they are looking to get back on track after rushing for 68 yards in their loss to Southern Miss.

UTEP's junior punter Ian Campbell leads the nation with 47.78 yards per punt, which is helping the Miners in the field position battle. UTEP opponents have averaged a starting position from their own 27-yard line.

According to Price, the Miners should have every player back and healthy for this game. They were without senior defensive back Travaun Nixon for the second consecutive game and for the fourth time this year.

"Our team is healthy. We should be ready to go," Price said. "We have a chance for our seniors to leave here with a legacy of winning and going to a bowl game. We still have that opportunity and that's what I want them to concentrate on."

At 4-4, the Miners are two wins away from being bowl eligible for a second consecutive season.

Daniel Ornelas may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

Soccer

UTEP to take on Colorado College in first round

BY WILLIAM VEGA
The Prospector

In a rematch of both team's regular season finale, the Colorado College Tigers will take on the UTEP Miners in the first round of the Conference-USA tournament Nov. 2 in Memphis.

"There's three seasons: non-conference, conference and now the tournament time," head coach Kevin Cross said. "It's a new season and if they get hot at the right time, they'll have the best times of their lives."

Colorado College took the last meeting Oct. 28 at University Field 1-0. The loss marked UTEP's second all season as they finished the year 8-2-2 at home but are now winless in six-straight games.

The Miners have lost two games in a row for the third time this season but may be expecting some reinforcements for the tournament.

According to Cross, junior forward Tess Hall, who has missed the last five games with a foot injury, told him that she will come back for the tournament.

UTEP received a seven seed as the tournament was extended from six qualifying teams to eight for the first time this year. Colorado College finished second with host and nationally-ranked, No. 4 Memphis taking the top seed.

The Miners have the first game of the tournament at 11 a.m. The semi-finals will take place Nov. 4 and the championship game will be televised on CBS Sports Network at 1 p.m. Nov. 6.

The tournament champion receives an automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament Nov. 11-Dec. 4.

UTEP went a combined 1-4-2 against the tournament field this year.

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



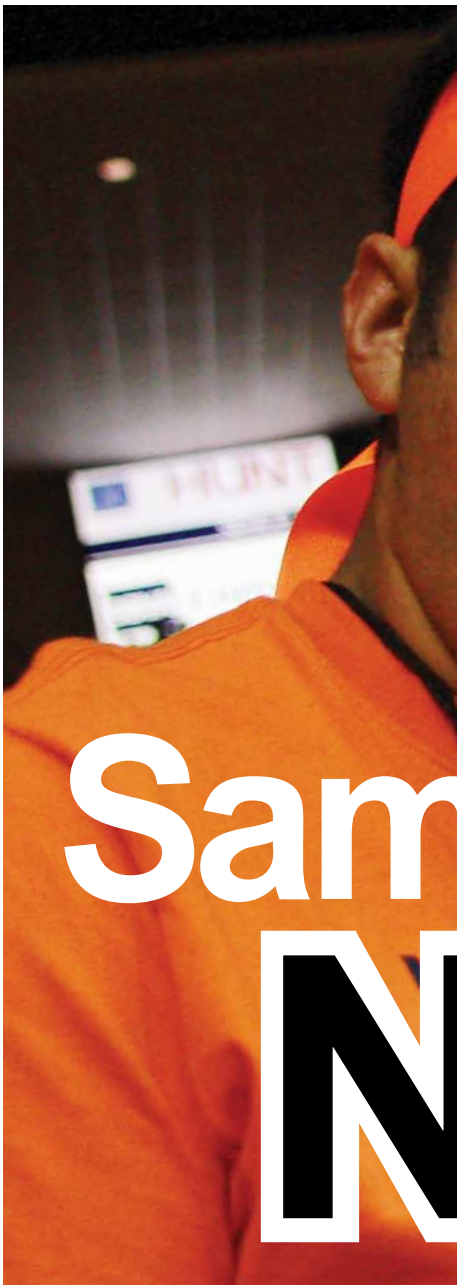
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FILE PHOTOS



All-American ready to become team player

BY
KRYSTAL OBLINGER

The Prospector

The first ever Parade Magazine All-American player in UTEP history, freshman guard Jenzel Nash, is no stranger to high honors in the sport she plays best.

During the 2010-2011 season Nash led her high school to gain mass recognition with her play, such as a 64-point outburst, while registering 8.7 rebounds, 5.4 steals and 4.4 assists for the season.

Despite all this, Nash said she is not looking forward to so much playing

large roles as an individual but instead, working towards being a team player.

"I had all the steals and the rebounds in high school and it was like, I had to do everything," Nash said. "I mean, its hard changing, being so relied uponb but I know I can do it and I know coach can help me do it."

Head coach Keitha Adams recruited Nash early this year after the Miners played one of their Conference-USA games in the 2010-2011 season.

"The day after our game, I flew out to Houston, went to watch her play and work out," Adams said. "One of the things I really liked about her was that she really competes and that she's an explosive player."

Nash lived in Houston and attended Worthing High School, where she led her team to a 20-7 record and a bi-district title. According to Nash, the first time she picked up a basketball, she couldn't even dribble it a few feet ahead of her, let alone a whole court.

"I was horrible but I kept working at it and I had my parents helping me," Nash said. "Now, when I get on the court, I just know I came to play ball and I do my business but that doesn't mean I know I'm going to be perfect."

Only Nash's father had a background in sports and even then, he only played football. She said that she leaned on their knowledge of discipline and their push to help her achieve everything she wanted to do. In her early years of basketball, Nash made the decision to no longer be a

cheerleader and play basketball full time.

"I was the captain of my cheerleading team but there was something about basketball that when I watched it, it seemed like something I could just do," Nash said. "I could watch and play basketball 24/7. I used to cry when I had to go inside if I hadn't finished playing a game."

When senior guard Kim Smith first met Nash in the summer, her first thought did not involve any of Nash's past honors.

"I thought she was a girly girl," Smith said. "The way she looks is very deceiving than how she plays on the court. It's like you have this girly looking girl running around but when she gets on the court and she's a beast; she gets all over it and it's just startling."

According to both Adams and Smith, the transition between high school and college play will be the new players' biggest challenge such as Nash. That is because of the level of difficulty brought on by how this style is organized.

"There are things you can't get by with at this level that you could have gotten by with at the high-school level," Adams said. "The players are bigger and faster and it is just not the same. She's also going to need to adjust to playing with other players that may be able to do some things that she's not used to."

With the season opening Nov. 5, Nash hopes to jump this hurdle and move on to become a better all-around player.

"I just have to make sure I work on being a team player to get to where I want to be at the end of the season and hopefully that is to fill up all the stats," Nash said. "I love playing ball and that's all there is to it."

Krystal Oblinger may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.



the team, New Faces

Freshman looks to surpass inherited talent

BY WILLIAM VEGA

The Prospector

As the season approaches, the Miners have their own share of outlooks on the new year. Freshman forward Julian Washburn may be one of the most anticipated players on an inexperienced 2011-12 roster and it mainly has to do with his upbringing.

"You have a lot of expectations. People expect me to be great because of my dad. He had a lot of success in high school and college," Julian said. "People expect the same from me. I feel I'm going to live up to the hype eventually but it'll be pretty tough."

Washburn is the son of college basketball star and center Chris Washburn, who played at NC State from 1985-86 under hall of fame head coach Jim Valvano. A top-five recruit out of high school, Chris lasted just one season with the Wolfpack and was selected third overall in the 1986 NBA Draft. He lasted only three seasons due to three failed drug tests in the span of three years. He was banned from the league in June 1989 but according to a Yahoo! Sports article, he has kicked his drug habits since 2000.

Julian said that his father's history has helped him grow as a person and a basketball player.

"He taught me to go out there and play hard," Julian said. "He got in trouble with the NBA so he taught me a lot about not doing drugs and stuff like that. Really a lot of stuff off the court."

Being a son of a heavily touted basketball player is something that Julian has not always been a fan of, however.

"Everything I read, people always say: Julian Washburn, son of Chris Washburn. I hate hearing that. It gets a little annoying," Julian said. "My dad and I are completely different players. I'm more of a guard and he's a big man."

Julian said that situation may have helped him, too. He feels that because of the relation, more recruits turned to his direction, which may have ultimately landed him at UTEP.

"I feel it's a little of an advantage because more people know you and come to see your games," Julian said. "They want to see what you can do. I feel like the exposure helps to have a dad in the NBA."

Assistant head coach Greg Foster said that Julian's talents obviously trickle down from his father and he

hopes the same holds true for his brother, Chris Jr.

"Me and him on the same team could give UTEP a lot of wins," Julian said. "He's a great post player and I feel his moves are NBA-level. I feel like he'll be a dominant post for us."

Already on the trail for his 2012 recruiting class, head coach Tim Floyd didn't have to look far to find another potential player. Chris Jr. is a name Floyd has been after as he even made a visit to the university over the weekend of Oct. 29. Chris Jr. had the opportunity to see his brother play in the Miners' inter-squad scrimmage in which Julian had 18 points and seven rebounds.

"This was really great for him because he has not played a game with time, score and officials in two years. I felt like the longer the game went, the more comfortable he got."

That performance may have answered a question mark on the minds of the coaching staff who are still looking for offensive threats on this year's team. According to Foster, Julian had excelled on Floyd's favorite side of the court: defense.

"I think he'll prove to be one of the best defenders in the country this year and, this is a bold statement, if not the best," Foster said. "He takes

pride in stopping his guy. Out here in a team environment, he's shown that he can play great team defense, too."

Foster said that even last year, Julian could have been the best defender on a team that consisted of guards Randy Culpepper, Julian Stone and forward Jeremy Williams.

The scrimmage may have helped Julian in more than one way as has not played an official game of basketball since his junior year in high school. Due to state-transfer rules, he had to sit out his entire senior year, then went to UTEP but sat out last year. Julian was not able to participate with the Miners but could watch them practice because he was academically ineligible.

Heading into offseason practices, Floyd was hoping that by him simply observing, he would be one of the players ready to go from the start.

"He probably knew what to expect from me in terms of our approach to practice, what we thought was important, what we were going to emphasize. I think he's integrated very well," Floyd said.

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



FUTURE from page 1

“Offensively we don’t know that we have a dominant low-post scorer,” Floyd said. “We feel like we have a couple of young guys that have a chance to be extremely good players at some point. I don’t know if it will happen this or next year because of their youth and age.”

UTEP’s guard play will have a new face with Perez being the lone guard returning. Floyd added four other true guards and has three forwards who are listed as bigger guards/small forwards.

“I think that our guard play is going to be competitive,” Floyd said.

“We have three point guards that we signed and I feel like we are going to get into play offensively, defensively and I hope we will be a good defensive basketball team.”

There are two possible sleepers and impact players on the defensive side of the ball that have stood out to Floyd, so far.

“I think (freshman forward) Julian Washburn has great feet and has a chance to be a great defender,” Floyd said. “Lang has got the size and strength, even though he is a freshman at 6(-foot) 9(-inches), 245 pounds, to be able to defend on the post. Outside of that, we are still trying to figure it out.”

As is customary with most of Floyd’s teams, the defense will be a cornerstone to this year’s team.

“All five players on the court have to have an impact. That’s how we play defense,” sophomore center John Bohannon said. “We are a good team. I think we play together even though we haven’t been around each other for much. We mesh well and I think that is a good strength to have.”

Despite the lack of experience and the uncertainty for this year, the players believe that their strong suits will overcome their weaknesses.

“Our strength this season is we have a lot of guys that like to learn and actually work hard. Our weakness is knowing how hard you have to play at all times on the court,” Perez said. “We have young dudes so it’s going to be hard for them to adjust but hopefully the sooner they get that down we will be better off.”

UTEP’s first game will be against Eastern New Mexico at 7 p.m. Nov. 3 at the Don Haskins Center in an exhibition game. The regular season will begin at 7 p.m. Nov. 11 when they host UT-San Antonio.

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

EXPERIENCE from page 1

squad, all of them being guards. They will be looking for a run-and-gun style in the full-court set but that also means that some may have multiple positions with only five listed forwards.

“Some of them will be able to post up,” Adams said. “We look for them to be very good rebounders having that good size.”

Adams may be talking about senior Baiba Eglite, freshman Chrishauna Parker and junior Melisa Mendes who are listed as either 5-foot 9-inches or 5-foot 10-inches. When they are not needed for that low-post presence, however, forwards such as Brown and juniors Kristine Vitola and Anete Steinberga will be there to back down smaller defenders. That run-and-gun style is still what the players are preferring, too.

“I think sometimes we’ll be playing with one post player and four guards so we’ll have a chance to run the floor and look for fast breaks,” Steinberga said.


Steinberga was third on the team in offensive rebounds and in rebounds per game but also missed time last season after spraining her ankle.

If the fast-paced tempo controls most of UTEP’s offense as advertised, sophomore forward and El Paso-native Kayla Thornton may play a larger role. She averaged seven points a game while placing second on the team with 5.8 rebounds per outing. Her speed is what makes her stand out as a former district champion in multiple track and field events in high school.

Thornton is one of 10 players returning from last year’s team and Adams said that experience will play as a key factor. Of the 16 players on the team, nine are upperclassmen with six being seniors. Three players on last year’s starting five will also be returning.

The Miners season opener will take place Nov. 5 at the Don Haskins Center against St. Mary’s University. The regular season will begin at 1:05 p.m. Nov. 11 when they host Idaho State.

Rusty Burns and William Vega may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.



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Profile

The tales of a heartfelt musician



AUDREY RUSSELL / The Prospector
Johnny Costello a UTEP student and musician, will be releasing his first EP before December.

BY ALEJANDRO ALBA

The Prospector

Inspired by the support of the El Paso community, Johnny Costello, folk/rock musician and senior communication studies major, is currently in the process of releasing an extended play in hopes of connecting more with his audience.

“The EP will be released before December and it will be titled ‘Crossroads of the Southern Pacific,’” Costello said. “I’m working on a release show as well.”

Costello said the story behind the EP’s name came from a belt buckle with the same words engraved on it. Later on, Costello was able to find meaning to those words and related them to his life when he found himself at a crossroad in El Paso.

Costello said he plans on giving out his EP free at first, and then will put it on iTunes and begin selling it whenever he performs.

“I’ll see if I can get some profit from it,” Costello said. “At least get 10 cents per copy.”

Costello had his humble beginning in 2009 with a band named “Johnny Costello and the Ruckus,” which he describes as a group of musicians learning to play in a band.

“We all learned how to play and to perform,” Costello said. “It didn’t last long, but it was definitely a stepping stone for me.”

With no intention of becoming a commercialized artist, Costello said he kept his solo career in order to grow with his music and gain more knowledge.

“When I first started, someone came to me to help my music grow,” Costello said. “I felt uneasy about it though, like I wasn’t ready to perform.”

Although Costello plays solo, he is working together with The Lusitania, a local five-member band. Costello said playing with a band is cool and helpful since it enforces his music with more sound.

“They have helped me record my EP at Clap of Thunder Studio,” Costello said. “They pick up my music really quick since we know each other, and we also have similar styles.”

Bassist Blake Duncan, and drummer Charles Berry of The Lusitania said their familiarity with Costello has allowed them to adopt him as a sixth member of their band.

“He is our best bud, so if he needs members to support his music, we are happy to do it,” Duncan said. “We have always played together; it just has been categorized as something.”

While Costello works on his local performances with a full band, he said he has thought of starting his own series of concerts in the east coast.

“Maybe begin in New York and go as far south as North Carolina,” Costello said. “I would like to hit every city and start over from the top and do it again.”

Costello has hopes that if his tours take off, he will invite more people to join him, such as his fellow friends from The Lusitania.

“We would have a lot of support,” said Berry. “Just like the support we have had previously from people from El Paso following us to Minneapolis.”

“He is our best bud, so if he needs members to support his music, we are happy to do it.”

- Blake Duncan, bassist for local band The Lusitania

In his previous experience out-of-town, Costello has performed with The Lusitania’s tour in Canada, and in his hometown, Dallas.

“I’ve had much support when I’ve played in other cities such as Dallas,” Costello said. “Some people from El Paso even went to Dallas just to watch me perform.”

Locally, Costello said he plays regularly at The Lowbrow Palace located on 112 E. Robinson Ave., and he has also played in other places like The Three Legged Monkey on 1550 Hawkins Blvd.

Costello’s latest performance was at The Lowbrow Palace Oct.27, when he played on the same stage as The Heartless Bastards, a band from Austin with much popularity.

With hopes that his latest gig got him a new set of followers, Costello will be having his EP release show Dec. 16 at Tricky Falls. Bands such as The Lusitania and Zechs Marquise will also be playing.

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

Movie Review

Depp uninterestingly wanders into interesting places

BY ANDRES RODRIGUEZ

The Prospector

Bruce Robinson’s on-screen adaptation of Hunter S. Thompson’s early autobiographical novel “The Rum Diary,” is a well acted, well staged and well-scripted film, but is ultimately restricted, aimless and uninterestingly driven.

Johnny Depp plays Thompson’s alter ego, Paul Kemp, a failed novelist who takes a job in Puerto Rico as a journalist for the sinking English-language publication, The San Juan Star. Kemp, a drinker “at the upper end of societal,” meanders through the tropical slums with his roommate, photographer Sala (Michael Rispoli), watching cock fights, going to sketchy bars, trying powerful drugs and alcohol and occasionally writing.

Set in the 1950s, Puerto Rico is photographed beautifully. San Juan is depicted with picturesque appeal; the sea is majestic, the carnivals are colorful and the slums are poignant. This, along with the culture, is contrasted with luxurious hotels, the bowling alleys and the mainland tourists, or “the great big whites,” as Kemp calls them.

The culture clash between native, Spanish-speaking Puerto Ricans and

the mainland “Yankees” is superfluously covered. At a bar, Kemp and Sala are refused service because they are white and drunk. While interviewing an American obese couple, Kemp discovers they never leave the hotel because the streets “aren’t safe.”

Kemp, in his unassertive ways, is caught in the middle of a corrupt real estate venture. Hal Sanderson (Aaron Eckheart) is a sordid PR consultant who pays Kemp to write the brochures for a mega-hotel that will be built on a private island.

Sanderson’s girlfriend, Chenault (Amber Heard), is a stunning free-spirit that serves more as a decoration than a real love interest. Nonetheless, Kemp shyly pursues her, ruining his chances at a comfortable life as a corrupt writer when Sanderson finds out.

The film contains an undertone of journalistic righteousness. Kemp, in seeing the overarching poverty seeks to bring it to the attention of the public, only to be shut down by the uninterested editor-in-chief, Loterman (Richard Jenkins). Kemp’s interest in the plight of the poor is there, but is glossed over and overshadowed by the feel of the film, one that resembles the purposeless mind of a drunk.

Alcohol movies are usually all out crazy, with hallucinatory imagery or depressing realness. “The Rum Diary” is both but not necessarily in a good way. The jumbled narrative provides Kemp and Sala to be drinking at one moment on a boat, then discussing Nixon’s politics in their run-down apartment. The film feels like a hangover with snippets of memories scattered across the screen without any real linearity. It’s artistically clever, but impractical.

The source material for the film is Thompson’s early novel of the same name which he began writing in 1959, but was not published until 1998. The dialogue is clever, snappy and subtle, yet rich in humor. It is a beautiful homage to the author.

Depp, a friend of Thompson, plays Kemp with restraint. I appreciate and encourage the break of typecasting, but Depp looks out of his comfort zone, acting like a make-up less and normal character. Moburg (Giovanni Ribisi), seems more of the character that Depp would play; a homeless, dirty drinker and a would-be Kemp without the external sprouts of madness. Morburg and Sala occasion some of the physical humor that can be out of place amidst the lackluster and jumpy pace of the film.



Special to The Prospector

‘The Rum Diary’ is based on the novel by Hunter S. Thompson.

Kemp, in a moment of realization says in voiceover, “I want to make a promise to you the reader and I don’t know if I can fulfill it tomorrow or even the day after that. But I put the bastards of the world on notice; that I don’t have their best interest at heart. I will try to speak for my

reader. That is my promise and it will be a voice made of ink and rage.” While it tried, the film, couldn’t live up to such a promising claim. Two out of five picks.

TTTTT

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

Event

Third annual celebration keeps Mexico’s Día de los Muertos tradition alive

BY KRISTOPHER RIVERA
The Prospector

Although Halloween is over, there is still one more day to reflect on the passing season.

The Concordia Heritage Association is celebrating its third annual celebration of Día de los Muertos, a Mexican celebration that brings together creativity and community.

Ilse Modesto, senior education major, was accustomed to celebrating Día de los Muertos as a young girl in her hometown of Chihuahua, Mexico before moving to El Paso.

“I like el Día de los Muertos because it’s a way of being with your loved ones that passed away. It’s like having dinner with them once more,” Modesto said. “I used to visit my grandparents’ graves with my family and bring over food they liked and tequila. We would pray and sing for them.”

Modesto believes that this holiday is losing significance as it filters through generations of a new culture.

Henry Flores, co-founder of Paso Del Norte Paranormal Society, and his staff, organized a very creative and artistic event that people in El Paso can enjoy.

“What we do is we celebrate Día de los Muertos and how it’s traditionally been celebrated for centuries, at a cemetery,” Flores said. “It’s nothing evil, nothing bad.”

Día de los Muertos usually consists of artistic statements and offerings from those honoring the dead.

“We talk about the paranormal, we talk about the history and how they are combined,” Flores said. “We give a brief history of the place, we celebrate it, everybody goes with painted skulls and they’re in costumes.”

Bonnie Juarez, a paranormal investigator and friend of Flores, said she enjoys the positive outlook the event brings to a subject such as death.

“I went to one last year for the first time and I thought it was a really cool idea. Most people go to a cemetery and it’s a sad event, but this, you’re celebrating someone else’s life after they’ve passed and I think it’s a great way to get the community out there,” Juarez said. “It’s great to have people go out there and see it in a positive light rather than a negative.”

This event will include ghost tours, fortune tellers, exhibits, card and palm readings and all proceeds collected will go to the preservation of the Concordia Cemetery. Flores said there will be booths with vendors, and people are welcome to come in a costume.

“What we do is we celebrate Día de los Muertos and how it’s traditionally been celebrated for centuries, at a cemetery.”

- Henry Flores, co-founder of Paso Del Norte Paranormal Society.

“There will be re-enactments. There will be candles lit in portions of the cemetery for the beautification of it and the eeriness of Día de los Muertos.”

Flores described the kind of items he would like to receive if he would pass on and placed to rest at the cemetery.

“If I was to pass on and I’m at Concordia, you would bring something that I would like to eat, something I would like to drink,” Flores said. “So I would have chicken wings and beer at my gravesite.”

The celebration will take place from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m., Nov. 2 at 3700 E. Yandell St. at the Concordia Cemetery.

“It’s actually an attractive and beautiful holiday and we’re trying to keep that tradition alive,” Flores said.


Entrance fees are \$5 for adults, \$2 for senior citizens and military and \$1 for kids and students.

For more information call 581-7920 or 591-2326.


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

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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.

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Answers to: 10-25-11

Column
New Galaxy Nexus,
Android’s Ice Cream
Sandwich

BY JERRY ALDAZ
The Prospector



Standing beside the Galaxy S I & II, the Galaxy Nexus is the latest addition to the smart phones family. To be released in November, and first to feature Google’s latest OS build, Ice Cream Sandwich, Galaxy Nexus encompasses the best that Samsung and Google have to offer. Containing a predictable 1.2 GHz Dual-Core processor, the Galaxy Nexus raises the ante with its enormous 4.65-inch HD Super AMOLED display. By removing capacitive buttons and reducing Bezel’s thickness (vertical spacing), the phone’s increased real-estate allows its 1280x720, 16:9 aspect ratio screen to radiate vivid colors and provide a pleasurable viewing experience. “By keeping the Bezel small, and this is really crucial, we can make such a huge screen fit comfortably in your hand or in your pocket,” said Kevin Packingham, SVP Product Innovation of Samsung Telecommunications America, in a press conference.

Although the five mega-pixel camera is a tad disappointing –8 megapixels quickly becoming the industry-standard– added functionalities make it a passable deficit. Utilizing Zero Shutter Lag technology, the Galaxy Nexus’ instantaneous shutter speed captures photographs in the blink on an eye. The Panorama mode eases the difficulties of panoramic photography by enabling users to simply scroll the phone across the desired scenery. In less than a minute, the OS seamlessly stitches the multiple photographs and delivers a unified, high-quality shot. Incorporating Near Field Communication (NFC), technology behind Visa’s PayWave, Android Beam enables select Android devices to share videos, apps, maps, contacts and other data through slight physical contact. Technical enhancements aside, Google’s improved user-interface draws visual cues from other mobile operating systems and modifies them for an immersive Android experience. Known as Roboto, Ice Cream Sandwich’s prevalent font strives to provide a sleek and elegant feel in user interaction. In reimagining the lock screen, Google introduced Face Unlocking. “Why should you have to remember a password or a pin? Your phone really should just recognize you” said Matias Duarte, senior director of Android operating system User Experience. “With Ice Cream Sandwich, we’ve invented a totally new approach to securing your device.” Beyond facial recognition unlocking, the new lock screen displays de-

tailed notifications and priority sorting. Widgets are effortlessly resizable and the browser has added features such as page saving, for offline viewing, and up to 16 detailed browser tabs.

Three short years since its inception, Android progression is an admirable feat. From its eager but limited G1 to its sexy and capable Galaxy SII, Google’s current update finally gives

Android defining aesthetics and a solid sense of direction.
Jerry Aldaz may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.



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Fashion



Michael Avery styles a vintage look



Audrey Russell / The Prospector

BY NATALIA AGUILAR
The Prospector

Michael Avery, junior linguistics major, enjoys his coffee and cigarette as he shares with The Prospector his like for vintage and thrift shop clothing. Avery loves to travel and make his way into thrift shops, where he knows he will find unique and one of-

a-kind clothing, that will provide him with comfort and an individual style of his own.

Q: Where do you usually find these items, like your hat for example?
A: "A friend gave it to me and I got my shoes at a thrift shop in Austin."

Q: What would you say was the price range for the shoes?
A: "Like five dollars."

Q: What item do you feel naked without?
A: "My hat."

Q: Do you often get stares because of your style?
A: "I always get asked if I'm a foreign exchange student. I've even been approached by foreign exchange students. French foreign exchange students ask me if I'm French."

Q: What would you say defines your style?
A: "Like an old man. I like to dress like an old man. They are the most interesting."

Q: What do you usually find in thrift shops that you don't find in other places?
A: "I guess more interesting clothes that are less expensive and less popular."

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

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