

11-8-2011

The Prospector, November 8, 2011

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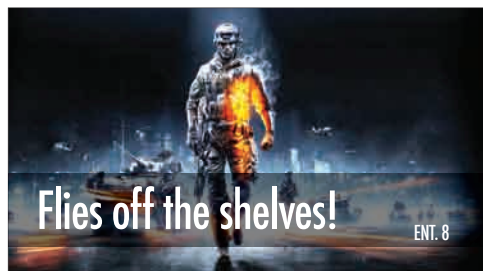
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BATTLEFIELD 3



the assayer of student opinion prospector

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HEARTBREAKING LOSS



Sushi in, Chopsticks out

Food Services plans to expand students' palate



Special to The Prospector

Concept design proposed for cafeteria-style dining at the Union food court.

BY ADAM MARTÍNEZ

The Prospector

Whether it's eating on the go or grabbing a quick bite between classes, options for dining on campus have increased over the last year. From sushi, to corn in a cup and more food locations around campus, students, faculty and staff will find even more selections in the coming years. UTEP Food Services and Sodexo are in the process of expanding their meal options and providing upgraded facilities throughout campus.

"We took a survey last spring asking students, faculty and staff 'what do you want to see?'" said Victor Pacheco, assistant vice president for business affairs. "We are responding to what we heard from the surveys."

Four concepts are planned with all the phases expected to be completed by 2014. A few have already been realized, including the opening of Sandella's – a flatbread sandwich shop – in the new Health Sciences and Nursing Building and an upgrade of the Simply to Go kiosk in the Education Building.

New plans are also expected for food services available in Union Building East, including an expansion of AFC Sushi with a concept called Mein Bowl. This will eventually replace Chopsticks, a popular student eatery, by April 2012. Sodexo will also upgrade the Pizza Hut dining area with new floors, carpeting and lighting. On the ground floor, a Jamba Juice/mini-Starbucks will replace the Freshens area, which is scheduled to open by fall 2012.

According to Pacheco, Sodexo was re-awarded the exclusive food rights

for UTEP at the beginning of the semester.

"Sodexo provided the most comprehensive and attractive contract, stipulating \$1.9 million in capital improvements," Pacheco said.

An all-you-can-eat style cafeteria called Fresh Xpressions, which will be located in the Union Food Court, is slated for a 2014 opening. Chick-fil-A will be relocated to the El Paso Natural Gas Conference Center. The dining area will be redone to accommodate a variety of cooking stations.

Luis González, general manager of UTEP Food Services, is enthusiastic about this expansion of the food court.

"Stations for Italian, Chinese, Mexican, burgers and salads will be offered," González said. "There will be different menu options daily."

González also hopes the new facility will be a healthy and affordable option for people who eat on campus. Finding affordable, whole-

see SODEXO on page 3

Protest

Occupy El Paso movement continues, support dwindling

BY JASMINE AGUILERA

The Prospector

At the beginning of the local movement, Occupy El Paso had more than 200 people attending general assemblies and showing support. Now, the movement has a little more than 60 active supporters.

Many at the Occupy El Paso protest believe that the lack of support is not because people have stopped supporting the movement itself, but because sympathizers have other priorities too.

"We still see a lot of numbers on separate days, but we're not seeing them all get together at once," said Gilbert Gonzales, Occupy El Paso member. "I think it's probably because of scheduling with work and school. It's probably hard for them to

come out here, but they have to see that they need to put that aside and let this movement grow."

People like Gilbert Aguilar, sophomore more communication and dance major, said that behind the diminishing public support for Occupy El Paso is the lack of clear goals and principles of the movement.

"I feel that any protest requires a core principle to follow and, unfortunately, the Occupy movement lacks that principle," Aguilar said. "What is their goal? Once they can answer that question, I think their movement will really gain power. But right now their efforts are ineffective."

The group plans on reaching out to the public through various means such as creating flyers to give to UTEP students in an effort to encour-

age support. However, it is not yet known when they plan on doing this.

"Right now, the Occupy people are a diverse group of people with different goals, some of them potentially contradictory goals," said Kathleen Staudt, political science professor. "Perhaps we could call them a 'pre-social movement,' in sociological terms."

Staudt said for the movement to be successful, they need to be better organized and set a specific goal of the protests.


"For Occupy to be successful it will be important for groups within to cohere around specific goals," Staudt said. "Then they need to find ways to sustain and expand their social movements into coherent organizations with concrete strategies to en-

see OCCUPY on page 4



GREG CASTILLO / The Prospector




As Occupy El Paso continues at San Jacinto Plaza, the local movement has seen a decrease in the number of people attending the protest.



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Column

Growing pains of Occupy movement



BY HENRY
ARRAMBIDE
The Prospector

The Occupy Movement has raised the public's awareness of the inequalities inherent to our current social model. It has created a climate in which people are actively leaving the banks (tens of thousands in Texas alone) and said banks are caving into the demands of the consumer.

It has flipped the mainstream media upside down and shown us that the age of the Internet, with all its chaos, can support a populist movement while pundits and cable networks ramble on. I hope this continues, as the biggest straw man brought up time and time again seems to be that the Occupy Movement is disorganized. The issues that we face today are the result of 30 years of polarized politicians one-upping each other rather than making effective decisions for the public. From the chaos that is the Occupy Movement, I hope more bank transfer day events arise.

The flaw of the Occupy El Paso Movement, from the beginning, is that they attained a permit from the city. The movement began Oct. 17, almost a month ago. It was originally planned for Oct. 15, but moved to prevent interference with the annual Chalk the Block event. During Chalk the Block, there were some protestors present across San Jacinto Plaza on Mesa Street in city-sanctioned protest areas, sort of pushed off to the side. This sort of sidestepping by the powers that be is a perfect example of why the movement should not have even bothered with a permit.

You are guaranteed the freedom of assembly by the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. Peaceful protest occurs when a certain group of individuals are dissatisfied with the

hegemony imposed by other groups and wish to change it through non-violent means. By refusing to participate in the status quo, they stop the status quo from working, and therefore, force the system to change and placate those it has upset.

What does this have to do with the permit I mentioned above? Worrying about the permit expiring Nov. 13 shouldn't even be a problem for the occupiers.

While political activism, in any form, is a win in my book, civil disobedience should be civil disobedience. That is, if you want to effectively raise awareness of issues within the confines of the current system instead of camping out downtown. When you're occupying a place with the intent of civil disobedience, it needs to upset someone.

When those in power sanction a protest, the ruling class has essentially defanged it. A protest is meant to show that the protestors are upset with the established rules and will not participate in the system until changes are made. When the protest is accepted as one of the rules of the system, it can be because the system is fixed (you decide yourself if El Paso is free of socioeconomic strife) or because those in power don't care. If they don't care, a change of plans should be in order to do something to make them care. Alternatively, you can for go the protest stage and just delve into anarchy, but I am hopeful that the system isn't that far gone, nor the protestors, given that they're still protesting.

With that said, I must bring this back to El Paso. As I said, the permit may expire soon. I recall in the early stages of Occupy El Paso, the defense of the permit was that many were scared of losing their jobs or being blacklisted. I can only hope that when Nov. 13 rolls around, fear does not prevail.

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

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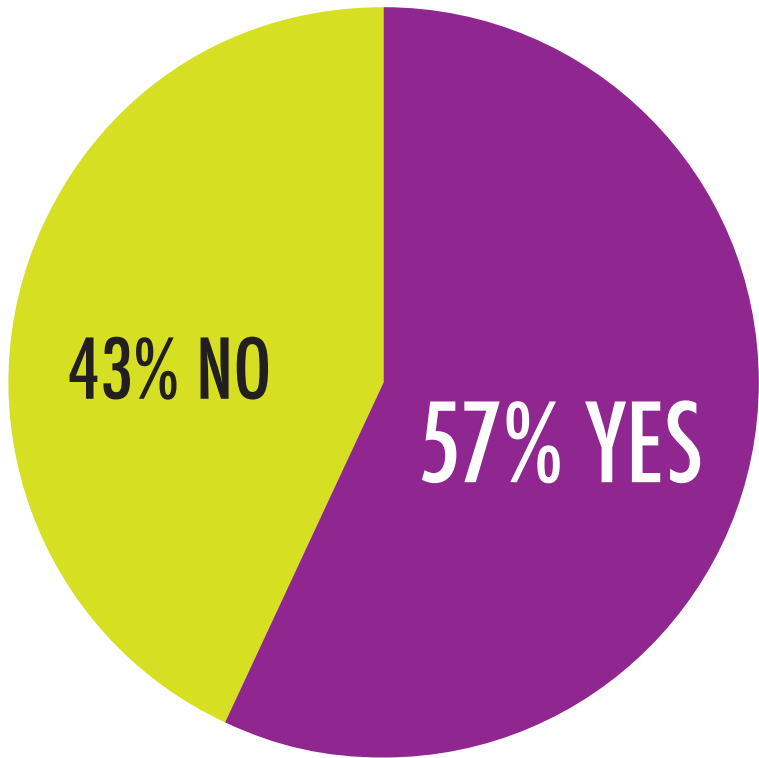
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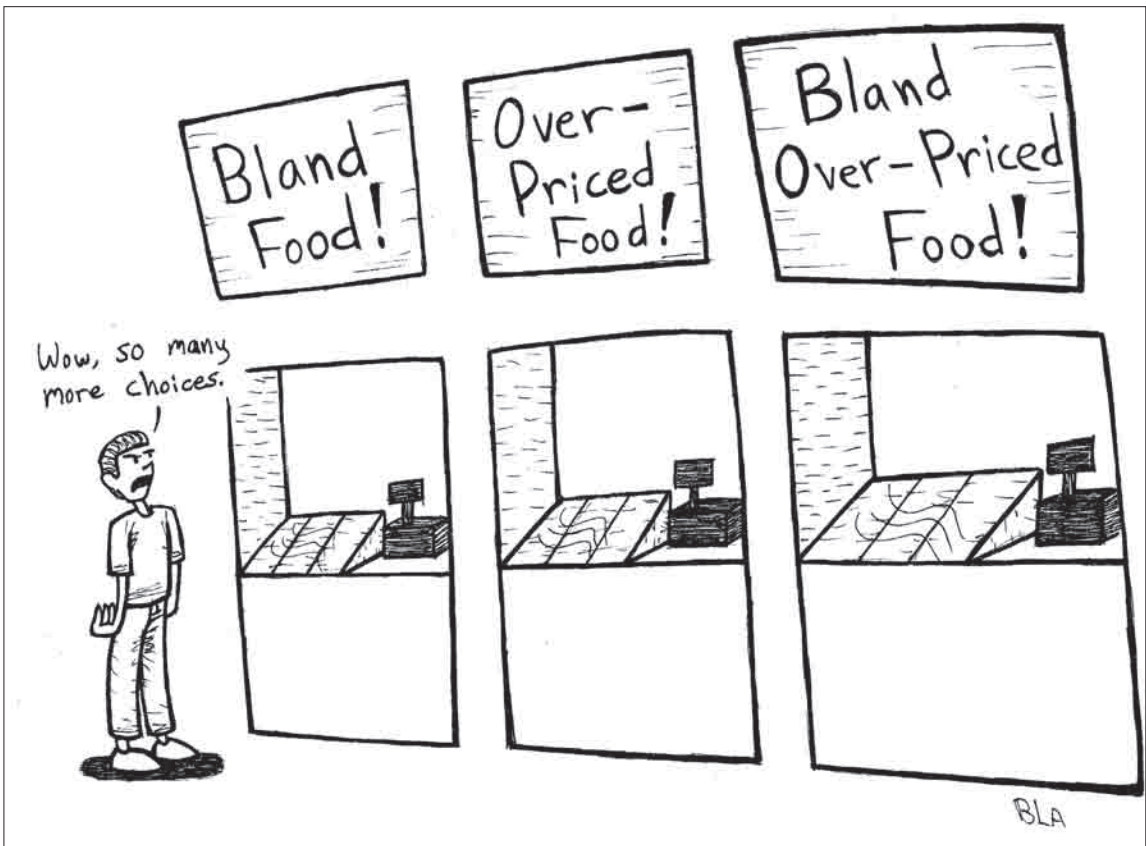
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Do you think either UTEP basketball teams will make the NCAA Tournament?



The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



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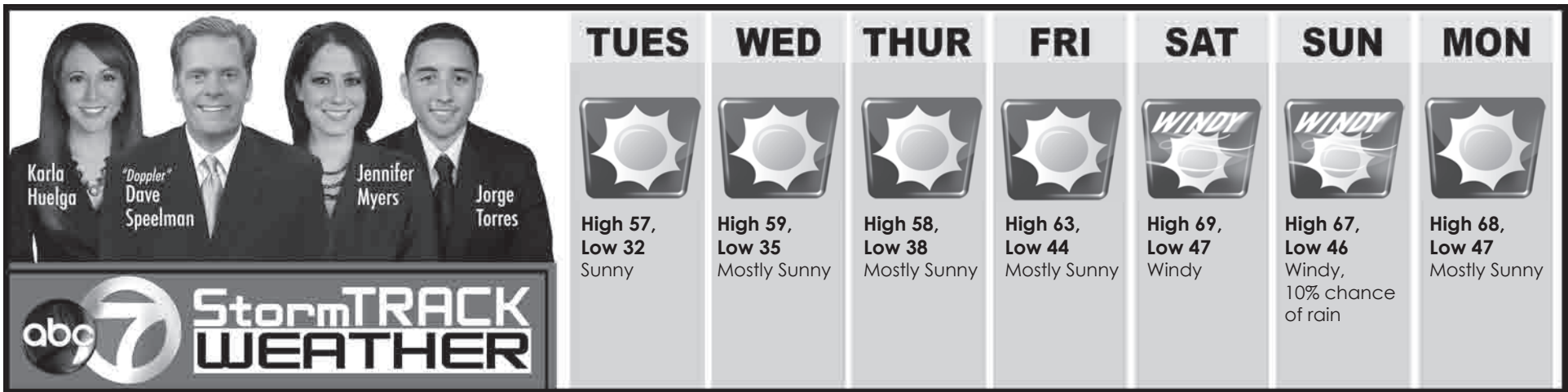
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Campus

Lack of lockers, dropped weights cause concerns

BY AMBER WATTS
The Prospector

The opening of the Student Recreation Center brought more opportunities for students for physical fitness and fun, but also some new nuisances. Problems such as locker availability, crowding and damages to the new building from people dropping weights are some of the major complaints heard from students.

“The lockers are just really inconvenient for everybody, and for people like me who ride the bus, we have to bring a huge bag for school books and gym stuff and take it out every day,” said Jerry Terrazas, freshman psychology major.

The lockers in the new facility are for day use only and have a fee of .25 cents that students get back after working out, or a minimum semester fee of \$15. Although the trouble of carrying a huge bag around all day may be an issue for some students, others say it is a small price to pay.

“It’s .25 cents that you get back—what’s wrong with that?” said Alex Guerra, freshman undeclared major.

Hector Muñoz, director of the Recreational Sports Department, said that they want to make sure that the lockers are being utilized by as many people as possible.

“Right now we have less than 500 lockers. Basically we’re trying to be proactive and give everyone the opportunity to have a place where you can keep your stuff,” Muñoz said.

Muñoz also said that students do have alternatives to avoid paying fees for the lockers, but with about 1,500 uses a day, rotating them out is necessary.

“I’ve never had to use the lockers; I’m already in my workout clothes,” said Ana Orozco, sophomore accounting and business major.

Students are also having issues with use of the third-floor restroom, which allows only one person at a time.

“With so many people up there, it’s just amazing to see the lines that peo-

ple have to wait in just to use the restrooms. It’s ridiculous,” Guerra said.

Orozco said while the new recreation center is big; once it gets busy there is little space available for students. As students crowd the new center, Memorial Gym has seen less activity than it used too.

“Memorial Gym was not really an ideal setting for the recreational department and for the students,” Muñoz said. “The facility itself was not 100 percent recreation because we had classes in the morning and had the volleyball team practicing.”

The number of hours available in the Memorial Gym for recreation were limited and since the student population grew, the gym offered more classes, which limited the number of open hours.

“Memorial used to be very crowded because people always wanted to play basketball, but now I think (Memorial) is emptier because everybody comes over here,” Terrazas said.

Overall, the response to the new SRC has been a positive one. Students



CANDIE HERRERA / The Prospector

One of the recent concerns students have had at the new Student Recreation Center is the damage being caused by students dropping lifting weights on the second floor.

are happy with the cleanliness, the help and friendliness of the student workers and they hope for a quick re-opening of the swimming pool. Although, they said there is room for improvement.

“I think eventually they’re going to have to move that power-lifting thing, cause there’s people that just love to drop the weights,” Guerra said.

see REC on page 4

SODEXO from page 1

some meals on campus is a major issue for some students.

“People wonder why college students gain weight,” said Jim Lupericio, a freshman biochemistry major. “All the unhealthy food – like Chick-fil-A and burritos – is cheap and accessible, but to get something like a salad, it’s pretty expensive.”

Pacheco also said the university is contemplating an on-campus residential dining program.

“These types of programs at other campuses are catered toward residential students, but ours will be designed so residential or non-residential students can participate,” Pacheco said.

In accordance with Sodexo’s plan, González said, students, faculty and staff can be accommodated with meal plans to fit their budget. Purchases from the cafeteria will cost approximately \$7-\$9 per meal. However, students can participate in the Miner Meals program by depositing funds onto their Miner Gold Card and receive an automatic 10 percent discount on any food purchase.

“We want to make it affordable, catering to students on a tight budget, even those that want three meals a day,” González said.

Marina Soto, sophomore anthropology major, said the idea of a

cafeteria on campus would appeal to a number of students.

“I think it would be good, especially if the price is right,” Soto said. “I would probably eat here more often and not have to struggle with finding lunch.”

Diana López, freshman nursing major, said the idea is good, but she questioned the quality of the food that will be served at a cafeteria.

“It’s good in a way, but it’s bad because the food they provide is sometimes not as healthy as it

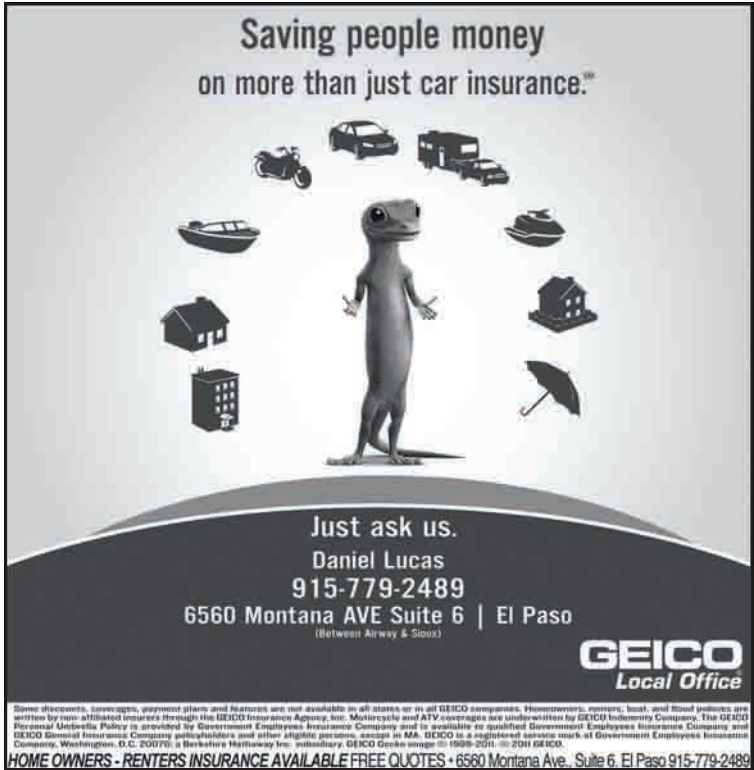
should be,” López said. “Sometimes it’s not as well cooked or is reheated, which can be harmful to students.”

Pacheco hopes the upcoming changes will help students afford more meals on campus and give them a larger variety of choices.

“It’s about time,” Pacheco said. “We’re very excited about the improvements, which will benefit everybody.”

Adam Martinez may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

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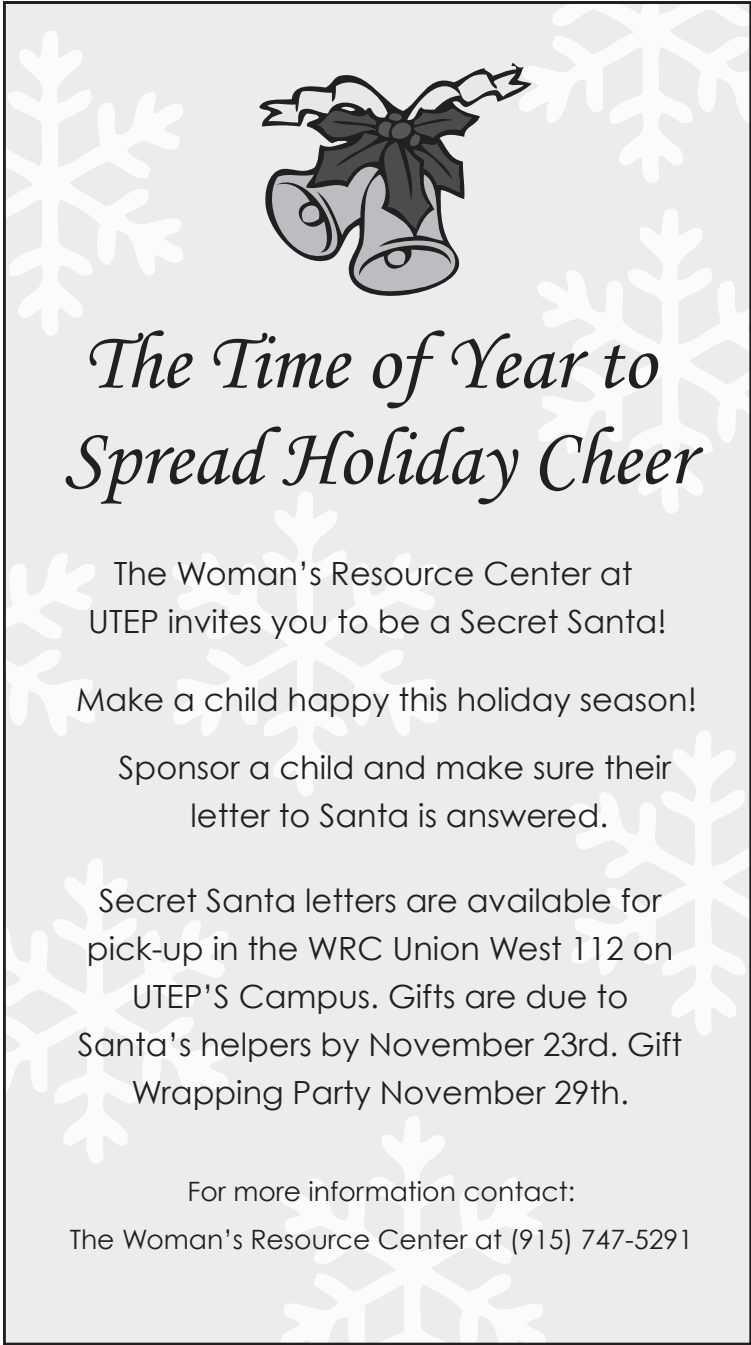


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REC from page 3

Since the weight-lifting rooms are located on the second floor, there is concern about damage and noise in the facility.

More expansion plans for the SRC are underway and expected to be completed by April 2012.

“A final phase that includes three racketball courts on the north end attached to the facility, new sand vol-

leyball courts and upgrades on the field that is located on the west side of the facility are expected for the center,” Muñoz said. “This project is long overdue for our student population and I’m glad they had the vision to go for it, because this is for generations to come. It’s our goal to make students feel comfortable here.”

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



GREG CASTILLO / The Prospector

Dozens of tents remain at San Jacinto Plaza for Occupy El Paso since the protest started in October. Their permit for camping there ends Nov. 13.

OCCUPY from page 1

gaze society and the public process generally.”

Gonzales has been an active Occupy member since day one and has even dropped his courses at El Paso Community College to support the movement full time.

“People who have lost support all together need to understand that this is a grassroots movement,” Gonzales said. “We’re all going through the process and we’re learning as we go. Movements like this take time.”

Though the movement appears to have lost active members, support has been seen through other means.

“Throughout the day we’ll get people honking at us, cheering in support for what we’re doing,” said Dyllan Mejia, Occupy El Paso member. “Just the other day I saw Sheriff Richard Wiles here donating money.”

Protesters have also been met with many that are opposed to the movement.

“At the same time, we’ll get people coming up to us who disagree with what we’re doing,” Mejia said. “On just my second day here, there was a man from Chase Bank who flipped me off.”

Wiley Driskell, Occupy El Paso member, said the local movement has received donations from various

organizations. They received chili plants from the El Paso Vegetarian Society, as well as 40 chili and tomato plants donated by Sunland Park Mall.

Other than those donations, local citizens have donated blankets, sleeping bags, water bottles and small amounts of cash.

“A lot of people might get frustrated and say ‘what’s the point of getting involved in something if we don’t see the change right away?’” said Josue Rodriguez, Occupy El Paso member. “But the public needs to understand that in order for change to happen we have to get involved and we have to be active from day one.”

Jasmine Aguilera may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

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Question of the week

Does UTEP need better food options?

Photos by Audrey Russell, Candie Herrera, Veronica Chaparro, Justin Stene and Greg Castillo



BELEN GUEVARA
Sophomore kinesiology major
“I think it is a good idea, especially if they had more variety. I think they would get more business because the students would eat on campus instead of going out.”



JAIME CRUZ
Sophomore mechanical engineering major
“No, I like the food court at UTEP. It is not bad food at all. I think it is tasty. Having a cafeteria would be all right as long as the food is not too expensive.”



MELISSA RIOS ASTORGA
Freshman international business major
“I think it should be cheaper, more food selections and healthier foods.”



DOMINIC GONZALEZ
Freshman finance major
“I do not really come here to eat because of how high the food prices are. I would like the idea of a cafeteria if the food was more reasonably priced.”



JULIAN MUÑOZ
Freshman microbiology major
“It’s a good idea. There would be more capacity for people and more variety for people. There’s nothing special right now and the prices are extreme for what they have. I eat here every now and then, but I would eat here if they change it.”



ARLY VELASCO
Freshman education major
“Yes, we need more food choices.”



LUIS NAVARRO
Junior psychology major
“I think that it has to do with the people that do not interact with the food court that we have now that makes it seem so inactive.”



JULIO E. BATIZ
Freshman nursing major
“Yes, there’s not enough variety. What we have is expensive. It would be a good idea to bring in fresh produce like apples, more greens and better quality food.”



ARLEEN REYES
Junior history major
“There should be more variety because it’s only been a semester and I’m bored of the choices.”



JEDEDIAH LEACHMAN
Senior music education major
“I don’t think we need a new food court at UTEP. It would be okay to remodel but I don’t think it would be necessary. I’m guessing their meal plans would also be expensive.”



BRIANA BAEZA
Junior education major
“No, I enjoy the food choices, especially the sushi bar.”

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Arts

Audience to participate in selecting new conductor



GREG CASTILLO / The Prospector

The El Paso Symphony Orchestra's 81st season started in September and has six conductor candidates. The audience will have the opportunity to select who the next EPSO leader will be.

BY NATALIA AGUILAR

The Prospector

The El Paso Symphony Orchestra is in search of a new conductor to direct the 2011-12 season. The search is taking a new approach in which the audience is welcome to participate in choosing the new EPSO leader.

Out of 250 applicants, only six talented candidates were chosen to perform two concerts every month. During the two performances and during rehearsals, a search committee, the audience and the orchestra will evaluate each candidate.

"They're all experienced, most of them have other orchestras," said Ruth Ellen Jacobson, EPSO executive director. "This is not going to be their

only orchestra. They're very excited about coming to El Paso, so it's pretty special that they made it."

Kenneth Raskin was the first of the six composers to open the 81st season. Next was David Handel on Oct. 22 and the search continues Nov. 18 and 19 at the Plaza Theatre with conductor Lawrence Loh. Michael Butterman, Peter Rubardt and Mariusz Smolij will be the remaining conductors for the concerts to come.

For the first time, the audience is getting an opportunity to have a say in who the next EPSO conductor will be.

"I think it's really cool they're letting the audience members choose and I think that is very special since the conductor is the representation of El

Paso Symphony and that is a symbol of the city itself," said Priscilla Mora, senior music major. "The audience hasn't really had the chance to give feedback and we're usually always the observers. It's nice to be able to have our input."

Jacobson said the conductor's job is a big responsibility for the entire orchestra.

"The conductor is like the general in the army. He tells everybody how fast to play, when to play. He's the guy who interprets the music. If you can imagine 80 people all in a room, to play the music you would need somebody to tell you when to come in and how fast to play that note. That's what he does," Jacobson said. "They are looking for someone who can

rehearse well, uses their time wisely and helps them sound as good as they possibly can."

Andre Feagin, assistant professor of music and assistant director of bands at UTEP shared what he believes the EPSO is searching for the new conductor.

"I feel that what the organization is ultimately looking for is someone with a strong musical background and experience as a professional conductor," Feagin said.

"I think they will also be looking for someone who is charismatic, energetic, articulate and one who is excited about being in an important multi-cultural region of the United States."

November's conductors will also include guest soloists, twin sisters

Christina and Michelle Naughton performing Mozart's Concerto for 2 Pianos, No. 10, K.

The EPSO season will also showcase violinists Soovin Kim, Ik-Hwan Bae and Chee-Yun and cello player Zuill Bailey.

Season tickets are now on sale via phone at 532-3776. Season ticket prices range from \$63 to \$201. Twenty percent discounts are available for senior citizens (65 and over) and active military, 30 percent for educators and 50 percent for students. For a complete listing of upcoming concerts, visit epso.org.

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

Movie Review

Harold and Kumar, still appropriately inappropriate



Special to The Prospector

'A Very Harold & Kumar 3D Christmas,' is the third installment of the series, which was released Nov. 4.

BY ANDRES RODRIGUEZ

The Prospector

Showering nuns, a claymation snowman attacking the city, Santa

receiving head surgery and a drugged baby, all wrapped up into a not-so-neat Christmas present.

"A Very Harold & Kumar 3D Christmas" directed by Todd Strauss-

Schulson is a fun, unapologetic stoner movie with Christmas spirit and extravagantly inappropriate humor (which somehow feels appropriate),

yet the film suffers from its inconsistent pace and mindless plot twists.

After six years since Harold (John Cho) and Kumar (Kal Penn) escaped from Guantanamo Bay, the friends have become distanced. Harold has a Wall Street job and got married to Maria (Paula Garcés). Kumar is only a bum who smokes weed any chance he gets. A mysterious package is what it takes to bring both of them together to save Christmas.

The film has the raunchy and outlandish "why-am-I-laughing" moments so characteristic of stoner films. It is at times crude, at times casual, but always funny. Easily offended movie-goers should not watch this though.

The film pokes fun at Latinos, Asians, Catholics, Jews, Ukrainians and African-Americans. Every group is depicted as a hyperbolic stereotype. Asians are handy with electronics, Catholic priests like pillow fights, Jews are stingy, Ukrainians are mobsters and African-Americans are Christmas-tree-selling-gangsters.

They are all stereotypes, yes, but the humor never feels racist.

Maria's extended Mexican family is spending Christmas at Harold's. A particularly humorous scene includes all the family showing up at Harold's door as they chant. They include tattooed thugs, a cute "abuelita" and a roasted pig in the background being lifted up.

Danny Trejo plays Harold's father in law, Mr. Perez, hilariously wearing Christmas knit sweaters. Mr. Perez is intimidating as a Christmas-loving family man who lost his mother to Korean thugs while she was coming home with tree ornaments.

Harold and Kumar have to find a tree before 2 a.m. because they accidentally burned Mr. Perez' beloved eight-year-old Christmas tree. Their journey takes them to unexpected places, but it isn't about where they're at, it's about what kind of crazy trouble they get themselves into.

Neil Patrick Harris' small appearance presents the film at its most clever. NPH, as Harris is referred to in the

see **XMAS** on page 8

Game Review

'Battlefield 3' delivers multiplayer action



Special to The Prospector
'Battlefield 3' was released Oct. 25 and sold 5 million copies in a week, according to PC Mag.

BY JERRY ALDAZ
The Prospector

Discovering Russian warheads under the control of a criminal militia (PLR), "Battlefield 3" follows Staff Sgt. Henry Blackburn's journey in capturing the influential Al-Bashir and preventing catastrophic attacks on landmark cities. Suspicion is quickly redirected towards Solomon, a CIA informant, and his association with PLR.

"Battlefield 3" is a welcome alternative to "Call of Duty"'s cinematically-exaggerated style. It is based on realistic military tactics and its strategic

simulations and plausible scenarios emulate warfare's life-threatening thrills.

Powered by Frostbite 2, DICE's latest game engine, Battlefield's superb character animation and destructible environments provide for an immersive narrative. From leading armored tanks through walls or destroying protective pillars with heated lead, opposition can no longer seek refuge behind pixilated objects.

Whether it be sprinting through cluttered dim-lighted alleys, smirking as hostile bloodshed glistens on the concrete floor or relaxing through the clouds after nauseating aerial acro-

batics, DICE's meticulous attention to detail makes "Battlefield 3" a gorgeous first-person-shooter experience.

As far as mechanics, climbing or descending obstacles feels like a natural extension of your virtual body, while authentic weapon recoil creates a sense of desperation and uncertainty when faced with waves of underpaid gunmen. Its 45-plus weapon arsenal encourages assassination diversity and quick-time events provide for entertaining melee engagement.

Beyond its short lifespan and generic storyline, the campaign's major setbacks are its narrow linearity and cookie-cutter hostiles. Despite seemingly-intricate locales, limited exploration leads to predictable enemy encounters, while uninteresting adversaries make close-range firefights repetitive. Military jargon can easily complicate the storyline and stiff teammates may leave you vulnerable to hostile's gunfire.

Underwhelming campaign aside, the soul of Battlefield rests within its online multiplayer. Fair warning: newcomers should not expect COD's frantic running and gunning. Focusing on collective competence rather than individual prowess, Battlefield's four-soldier classes require mutual assistance to emerge unharmed from the battlefield.

Each with its unique weapons and upgradeable abilities, the assault division serves as frontline medics, while the engineers focus on mechanical repair and large explosives. The support team delivers enemy suppression while recon soldiers gather intel and

hunt their prey through long-range sniper rifles.

Supporting up to 24 players, or 64 in PC, Battlefield's various game modes will keep players revising their strategies and multi-layered levels allow for elaborate attack tactics. Just like any franchise shooter, experience points are awarded at the conclusion of every match and level progression is often guided by the chosen class.

Although I experienced occasional frame drops, possibly due to the internet connection, online competition felt like a solid, well-polished product. Matchmaking is responsive and bullet physics adequately justify lethal outcomes. The annoyance of an unsteady sniper scope or reloading one's assault rifle at an inopportune moment reinforce the notion that pre-emptive planning and external assistance is required for a victorious round.

Being a "Call of Duty" fanatic, often spending sleepless weekends in order to level up, I must say that "Battlefield 3" delivers attractive offerings. Although absent features include a streamlined stat system, a broader range of game modes and extensive weapon customization. Battlefield's artistic and technical contributions revitalize a rapidly-aging shooter genre.

4 out of 5 picks.

TTTTT

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XMAS from page 7

film, sings the Christmas number, but it is afterward, when he plays himself, that we get a witty twist. NPH, as promiscuous and suave as ever, provides some of the film's best hard-hitting jokes by essentially laughing at himself and the womanizing image he's created in the sitcom, "How I Met Your Mother."

The 3D effects of the film are audacious. Everything is thrown at the audience: eggs, smoke, snow, broken ornaments, string and even a claymation penis. This is 3D at its most relentless and the filmmakers know it. It certainly doesn't, "make 'Avatar' seem Avatarded," as Harold's assistant points out in an early scene followed by a wink to the camera, but it is entertaining to look at.

One of the earliest Christmas movies to premiere, the film stays close to the holiday spirit. The friends are hesitantly reunited only to rediscover their friendship through some unlikely circumstances.

The premise starts simple and builds to a strange type of mess, one that is funny, but, not funny enough. The film's greatest weakness is that its convoluted narrative forsakes humor for all-out crazy. For instance, a racy montage of the planning of a church break-in takes place that isn't as funny as it is offensive.

It is by no means a great film. After all, it is a movie about two men who get high, or used to get high, searching for a tree, but it is so over the top in humor and special effects that those seeking an early raunchy holiday fix will be pleased.


Three out of five picks.

TTTTT

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


MINER BASKETBALL

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editor

William Vega, 747-7445

Soccer

Cinderella run ends in title game loss

BY WILLIAM VEGA

The Prospector

The glass slipper was so close to fitting. Entering the Conference-USA Tournament as a seven seed, UTEP upset second-seeded Colorado College Nov. 2, won in penalty kicks against sixth-seeded Rice Nov. 4, but fell just short to nationally-ranked No. 4 Memphis 2-1 in the second overtime in the C-USA Championship game.

"We did not go away because the girls play with so much heart," head coach Kevin Cross said. "They are fighters and never quit. This fighting mentality is a quality the program had always prided itself in having."

The Tigers, the host of the postseason tournament, possessed the ball nearly the entire game, but UTEP's freshman goalkeeper Sarah Dilling made every effort to keep the Miners in the game.

"My confidence has increased a lot since the beginning of the season and I would say that was one of the key things that allowed me to play so well," Dilling said. "My defense also played really well, which helped me out a lot. They definitely did well in limiting the shots that the opposing teams were able to get."

After UTEP held Memphis to a 1-1 tie in regulation, the two headed into overtime. The Miners were outshot 22-7 in the first 90 minutes, including 11-3 in shots on goal.

The first 10 minutes of extra time resulted in the same score, but in the 103rd minute, the Tigers clinched their spot in the NCAA Tournament. Freshman forward/midfielder Kaitlyn Atkins received a pass from C-USA



FILE PHOTO

Freshman goalie Sarah Dilling runs to set the ball in play during a game at University Field. Dilling finished with a career-high 10 saves at the Conference-USA Tournament Championship game Nov. 6 in Memphis.

Offensive Player of the Year and sophomore midfielder Christabel Oduro in the middle of the field. After Oduro won the ball near the corner, Atkins beat the keeper as she cut down the middle for the game-winning score.

After Dilling stopped three of four penalty kicks against Rice, Cross was confident his team would have taken the match in penalty kicks.

"Everyone did feel that (Dilling) was in the zone and that we could have won in penalties. We were seven minutes away, unfortunately," Cross said.

After a scoreless first half, it was Oduro who was able to give Memphis the game's first score in the 58th minute. Oduro showed why she deserved to be the tournament's Most Valuable Offensive Player, too. She spun

around her defender and scored in the far post for her conference-leading 12th goal of the season.

UTEP had an answer in the 74th minute when junior forward Tess Hall's pass into the box found junior forward Brittany Kindzierski, who tied the game at one.

Senior midfielder Katie Dorman, Dilling and Kindzierski were named to the all-tournament team.

"It was definitely a positive way to end. Don't get me wrong, I wanted to win so bad. We all did but I know we fought as a team," Dorman said. "We really did and that is such a good feeling. Getting to that last game is definitely the highlight of my career."

The Miners entered the tournament on a six-game winless streak, going 0-4-2 in that span.

During that time, UTEP started the streak with a 2-2 tie to Rice, a 3-0 loss to Memphis and a 1-0 loss to Colorado College. This may be attributed to the multiple injuries the team went through, such as Hall and senior defender Jessie Pettit.

"We were fortunate to get Tess back on the field. She was not at 100 percent in the tournament, but she gave us all that she had," Cross said. "Her ankle was still sore where she could not take set pieces as normal. She gave us much needed depth and provided us with the big assist versus Memphis. Tess is our playmaker, so her injury really took a toll on the team."

Both players returned for the tournament. Pettit played in the regular season finale Oct. 28 against Colorado College and may have provided a spark for a UTEP team with an 11 to 13-player rotation.

The Miners lost three players to graduation, but may return up to nine freshmen and sophomores who saw significant playing time this year. The juniors are Hall, Kindzierski and forward Skye Schultz, who redshirted this year, meaning she will return as a junior next season.

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Football

Recent loss adds to November woes

BY DANIEL ORNELAS

The Prospector

The Miners approached November like the start of a new season with four games remaining and two wins away from bowl eligibility. UTEP's 41-37 loss to Rice Nov. 5 in Houston gave them a 0-1 start to the month, which has become a long reminder of past struggles.

This month has become a struggle for the Miners in recent years as they now hold a 9-19 record under head coach Mike Price.

Scheduling has not been kind to UTEP, either. Sixteen of their 28 November games under Price have been on the road with eight of the 19 losses coming against Rice.

Players are aware of what November has been for the Miners in the past, but their focus is on the present and taking it one game at a time.

"You can't think of what's happened in the past because if you do that it will affect your present," senior wide receiver Donovan Kemp said. "All you can do is concentrate on the game ahead and make sure you're taking

all the necessary steps to get ready for the next team."

Fifty-five of the 101 players on UTEP's roster are underclassmen and many of them have not experienced what November is like.

"We have a lot of young guys who haven't even been here for the November struggles," Kemp said. "They don't even know about it. I think it's a good thing."

Price is not shying away from the challenge of the November cloud and expects his staff and players to be prepared.

"I don't know what excuse I'm going to make up at the end of the year to please the alumni if we don't do well in November this year," Price said. "I'm kind of running out of excuses. Fans remember the games in November, so does everybody else and so do I."

What could separate this month from previous Novembers is that the roster is getting much healthier. Senior defensive back Travaun Nixon, who missed four games, returned for the game against Rice and will need everyone to be healthy to make

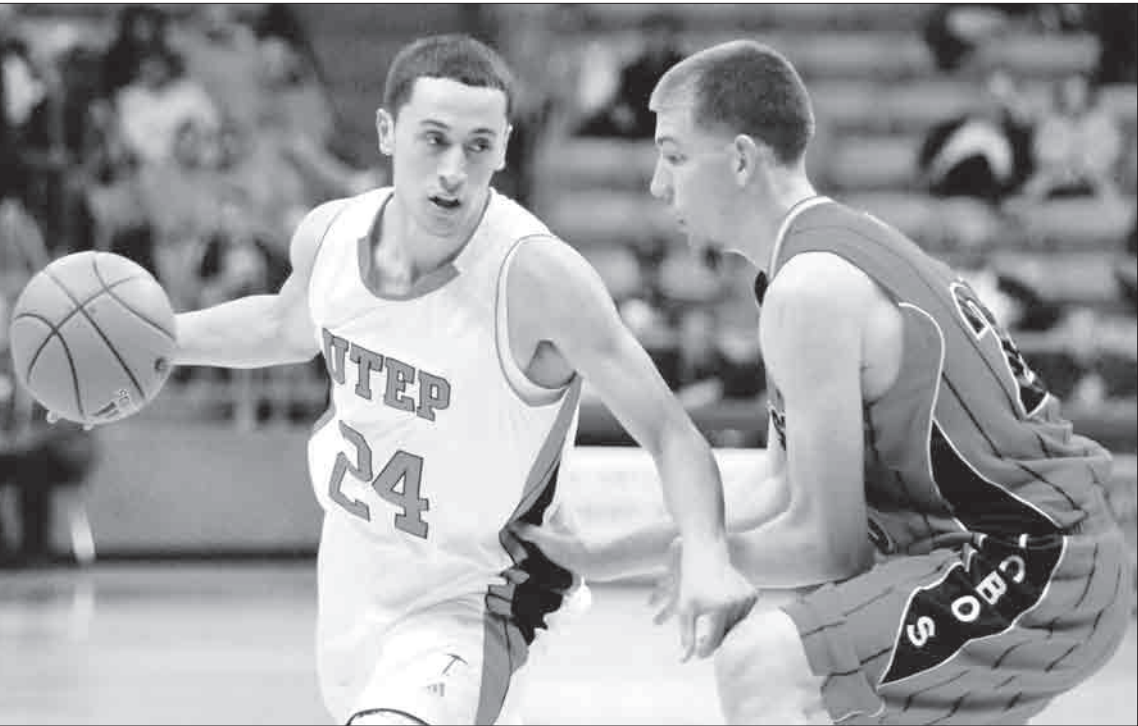


FILE PHOTO

The team huddles up prior to their game against Southern Miss Oct. 29 at the Sun Bowl.

Men's Basketball

Miners split exhibition games



JUSTIN STENE / The Prospector

Sophomore guard Michael Perez dribbles by a Sul Ross State defender Nov. 5 at the Don Haskins Center.

BY WILLIAM VEGA
The Prospector

The Miners have been putting in extra work since falling to Eastern New Mexico in their first exhibition loss in five years. The additional effort paid off as UTEP defeated the Sul Ross State Lobos 76-60 Nov. 5 at the Don Haskins Center.

“The goal with these games is one, to try to look at everybody, which we’ve been able to do with equal minutes across the board, and two is to try to make a little improvement every time out,” head coach Tim Floyd said. “I thought we played a little better in the second half. We look like who we are right now.”

Following their loss to Eastern New Mexico Nov. 3 at home, Floyd decided to give some more lessons on the basketball court Nov. 4-5, holding two more practices. Players said Floyd focused on defense the first day and threw in some new offensive plays the second. But Nov. 5, the first practice after the loss, was especially significant.

“I think everybody played well and harder than we played (Nov. 3). We had a couple of hard practices so everybody’s starting to learn and come around,” junior forward Malcolm Moore said. “We practiced a lot of defense the other day on (Nov. 4). It was all defense and it was intense, but I think we played better defensively than we have.”

After giving up 75 points to Eastern New Mexico off 45 percent shooting, including 50 percent from the three, the Miners stifled down on defense against Sul Ross State. Along with holding them to 60 points, the Lobos shot just 38 percent, but 42 from the three-point line.

After a closely fought first half, UTEP broke away from a 27-26 advantage to score eight of the final 10 points of the half.

Led by Moore’s 10 points and four rebounds, the Miners took a 35-28 lead into the half behind 17 forced turnovers, despite having 12 themselves. UTEP forced a total of 27 turnovers while giving up 18 the entire game.

“That’s a positive to be able and force 20 turnovers. Some of it is because we were a little more athletic and quicker, but I don’t know how much more athletic and quicker we’re going to be with teams we’re going to play against,” Floyd said.

UTEP showed progress from the first game in their post play, they outscored Sul Ross State 20-9 in the paint, including 38-15 in the game.

After their lead was cut to 41-38 with 16:04 to go in the game, the Miners went on a 14-2 run and never saw their lead drop below double digits from that point on. UTEP outscored Sul Ross State 6-0 on the break in the second half and 23-16 off turnovers throughout the entire game.

Freshman forward Julian Washburn was not at the game, as he was attending his mother’s funeral in Dallas that day. Moore stepped up for the shorthanded frontcourt, who were already missing senior Gabriel McCulley and sophomore John Bohannon. McCulley is out with an injury until Christmas and Bohannon was suspended for both exhibition games due to his altercation with assistant coach Greg Foster at the NIT game March 16 in Albuquerque.

Moore finished with a team-high 15 points while finishing with seven rebounds. Freshman Cedrick Lang, who led the team Nov. 3 with 13 points and 11 rebounds, started the game and had nine points and six rebounds against the Lobos. Freshman Hooper Vint came off the bench and had a game-high nine rebounds to go with his 10 points.

In the backcourt, junior Jacques Streeter was one of two guards with double-digit scoring. He had 10 points and two steals, while freshman Jalen Ragland finished with 12 points

“We turn it over too much right now, don’t value the ball. We don’t understand all concepts of, ‘when I’m on offense, I’m thinking of a teammate.’”

- Tim Floyd, head coach

and three assists. Sophomore guard Michael Perez had a game-high four assists despite three points and four turnovers.

“In the first half I wasn’t that aggressive, but in the second, I wanted to be more aggressive and just drive more,” Streeter said. “When I started driving, I started seeing my players and then I started seeing that the basket was there. I wanted to go up and try to finish.”

Despite the improvement from the first game, Floyd was still critical of his team.

“We turn it over too much right now, don’t value the ball. We don’t understand all concepts of, ‘when I’m on offense, I’m thinking of a teammate,’ either screening and freeing a teammate or after a drive, thinking of the next play,” Floyd said.

UTEP will face UT-San Antonio in their first regular season game at 7 p.m. Nov. 11 at the Don Haskins Center.

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ANNOUNCEMENT

Alpha Xi Delta Women's Fraternity will be hosting their 1st annual Xi Man on Thursday, November 10th at 6 p.m. at The Pitch, 2900 N. Mesa St. 100 percent of the proceeds will be donated to Autism Speaks! Please come out and show your support!!!

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9	4	5	8	1	3	6	7	2
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1	Disarray
5	Drunkard
8	MacDonald's place
12	Year-end celebration
13	Lawyers' org.
14	Dunkable treat
15	Hiker's energy source
17	Bellow
18	Mingle (with)
19	Sequentially
21	Pitching stat
22	Replaces divots
23	Fool
26	Wet wriggler
28	Handle skillfully
31	Comestibles
33	Lair
35	Inside picture?
36	Potato, for one
38	Have a bug
40	That woman
41	Harvest
43	Mai (cocktail)
45	Asian capital
47	Buccaneer
51	Brewery

products

52	Temporary solution
54	French meat entree
55	Trojans' sch.
56	Sea eagle
57	Charon's river
58	"A mouse!"
59	Iditarod team

Brazilian dance

6	Japanese sash
7	Urban fleet
8	New Jersey base
9	Wake-up calls
10	Ca-boose's place
11	Early hours
16	Traditional tales
20	Promptly
23	Astern
24	Not worth a
25	AA goal
27	Meadow

29 - -di-dah

30	Coloring agent
32	Discard
34	Argue over trifles
37	"Norma -"
39	Secular
42	Irritate
44	Annoyed
45	Sailors
46	Greatly
48	Roundish do
49	Chime sound
50	Former partners
53	Work with

DOWN

1	Legend
2	Modern money
3	Thick chunk
4	River through Paris
5	Did a springy

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Women's Basketball

UTEP pulls away early, beats St. Mary's

BY WILLIAM VEGA
The Prospector

Despite first-game jitters, the mesh between newcomers and experienced players seemed to show. UTEP jumped out to a 13-0 lead and never looked back, beating St. Mary's 79-56 Nov. 5 at the Don Haskins Center in their only exhibition match of the 2011-12 season.

"Before the game, I might have been a little shook up just because that's just normal for me," freshman guard Jenzel Nash said. "Basketball is basketball and it should be played a certain way."

The jitters did not seem to show with freshman starting guard Chrishauna Parker. She corralled three rebounds, one offensive, while adding six quick points. UTEP forced five quick turnovers in the first five minutes while shooting 50 percent from the field.

Nash came off the bench in the 14th minute of the first half and finished with a game-high 15 points on 55-percent shooting. UTEP's bench, which is subject to change as head coach Keitha Adams continues to explore her depth chart, outscored the Rattlers' bench 46-12.

"I was really proud with Jenzel's effort. I thought she played hard, got her nose in there. One of the things that I'm doing in these exhibition games is when certain things happen I use those opportunities," Adams said. "I brought her out and we talked to her about some situations because it's important that it's a learning curve."

The Miners took a 41-25 lead into the half, but had trouble putting away St. Mary's in the second. UTEP seemed like they had the Rattlers figured out early on, extending their lead to 20 with 15:58 to go, but St. Mary's answered back.

Behind back-to-back three-pointers, the Rattlers were able to cut the Miners' lead to 13 over the next 4:48. St. Mary's continued to chip away, getting it down to 11 points, its smallest deficit in the second half, with 7:51 remaining.

"I felt that there was a point where we had the thing teed up pretty good to really smash it and hit it out of the park and we didn't, and that was because of our poor defense," Adams



Freshman guard Chrishauna Parker attempts a layup against St. Mary's during their victory Nov. 5 at the Don Haskins Center.

said. "They kept running the pick-and-roll and we were trying to trap on it and they were kind of picking us apart on it."

UTEP outscored the Rattlers 20-8 over the remainder of the game as they cleared their bench at the end.

Fourteen players took the floor for UTEP, but one player that was missing was senior forward Gloria Brown, who was suspended for the one game for missing a team function earlier in the offseason.

That is not to say that the Miners' low-post presence was absent, too. Their forwards made a statement against the smaller St. Mary's frontcourt.

Junior forward Kristine Vitola also started and was one of two players to finish with a double-double. She had 13 points and 11 rebounds, while sophomore forward Kayla Thornton was the other player with a double-double, finishing with 11 points and

10 boards. Thornton had a game-high six offensive rebounds and Vitola's seven defensive boards also led both teams.

UTEP outscored the Rattlers 34-16 in the paint and 20-9 on second-chance points.

The team feels its biggest concern is their defense, which gave up 47 percent from the three and 46 percent from the field in the second half.

"Defensively, we have to step our game up. We let them get too many shots off, let them get into the paint too easily," Parker said. "We have to get up there and stop them."

The Miners' first regular season game will be at 1:05 p.m. Nov. 12 against Idaho State at the Don Haskins Center.

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NOVEMBER from page 9

a push for a potential bowl season. The only player that missed due to injury was junior defensive back Darren Woodard.

"We would like to go out strong. There's no reason why we can't. Because of our injury situation being as healthy as we can, we should go out strong," Price said. "We just have to take it one game at a time."

Players remember going to a bowl game last season and the goal remains the same, despite the struggles with only three games left.

"We definitely talk about it. I know we're a bowl-caliber team, so we're not taking November lightly," senior defensive end Bernard Obi said. "These are all games we should win and we have no expectations but to win."

It's a new season for Price and the Miners, a new year and the monkey is on their back.

"When you're in this profession as long as I have been, I've had lots of cartoon pictures of myself with the great big monkey on my back, for whatever reason, before," Price said. "I guess this is going to be the November monkey."

If UTEP wants to help Price with taking that Thanksgiving-sized monkey off of Price's back, they certainly have their work cut out for them.

The next two games the Miners have are at home, but against teams competing for a shot at the Conference-USA title. East Carolina, who UTEP will play Nov. 12, is one game back of East Division-leading Southern Miss. On Nov. 19, they host Tulsa, who is 5-0 in C-USA and is leading the West Division by half a game over Houston.

The Miners' final game will come against UCF Nov. 25 in Orlando where they have never won before.

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Tennis completes fall campaign

UTEP put the finishing touches on the fall portion of its 2011-12 season by registering three victories on the final day, Nov. 6, of the North Texas Classic in Denton, Texas.

The Miners finished the fall with a combined mark of 39-35 in singles and 18-17 in doubles in their four tournaments.

In doubles, UTEP went 1-2. The tandem of senior Carolina DeLuca and sophomore Marie LeBlond beat the Akron Zips' juniors Angelina Jogasuria and Angelika Jogasuriam, 8-1.

UTEP's duo of junior Martina Trierweiler and sophomore Gabi Vazquez were upended by the Zips'

senior Zara Harutyunyan and junior Prang Pantusart, 8-5.

The Miners' junior Dariya Abdrakhmanova and freshman Anastasia Sylenko combination fell 8-0 to Akron's sophomores Ksenia Berestetska and Natalia Kuvakina.

Action then switched to singles play where DeLuca beat Jogasuria, 7-6, 6-4. Abdrakhmanova did the same in sweeping Jogasuria, 6-3, 6-0.

Trierweiler then fell to Harutyunyan by a final count of 6-2, 6-3. Vazquez couldn't crack Pantusart in a 6-0, 6-0 loss. Sylenko was in the same situation against Kuvakina, dropping the match 6-0, 6-0. LeBlonde was edged, 6-3, 6-4.

The Miners will now be idle until initiating their dual-match portion of their season Jan. 27, 2012 with a match at Denver.

Volleyball swept at UAB

UTEP dropped its second-straight match to UAB, falling 3-1 (20-25, 25-18, 14-25, 21-25) to the Blazers Nov. 6 at Bartow Arena. It was the second-straight loss to UAB as the Miners fell to the Blazers in straight sets two days earlier.

"UAB blocked really well and affected our confidence," head coach Ken Murphy said. "We committed many errors and I think it had to do with the way UAB was defending."

The UAB (20-7, 10-5) defense held the Miners (17-11, 7-8) to a .109 hitting percentage despite sophomore middle blocker Xitlali Herrera and sophomore outside hitter Jeane Horton turning in 15 kills and 14 kills,

respectively. Herrera also recorded 13 digs, while junior outside hitter Bridget Logan downed 10 kills. Sophomore setter Malia Patterson finished the match with a double-double, posting 41 assists and 21 digs, while senior libero Stephanie Figueroa had 29 digs.

In the first set and tied at 14, both teams swapped points until the Blazers went on an 8-1 run. UAB maintained the lead and a kill sealed the set, 25-20.


The second frame began much like the first, as the Miners held the lead the entire set with UAB only getting as close as 24-19 before back-to-back kills by Herrera and Logan gave UTEP a 25-19 victory.

With the third set knotted at seven, UAB went on a 7-2 run to force a Miner timeout. UTEP would come as close as 21-14 but a trio of Blazer kills would close the set out, 25-14.

In the third set, after both teams swapped points within one, UAB pulled ahead to a 14-9 advantage. The Miners regrouped and cut the Blazers lead to 18-16, forcing a UAB timeout. UTEP continued to battle for control and another kill by Herrera put the Miners within one, 22-21. But back-to-back UTEP errors and a Blazer kill sealed the match, 25-21.

The Miners will return home to face East Carolina at 7 p.m. Nov. 11 and Marshall at 12 p.m. Nov. 13 in Memorial Gym.

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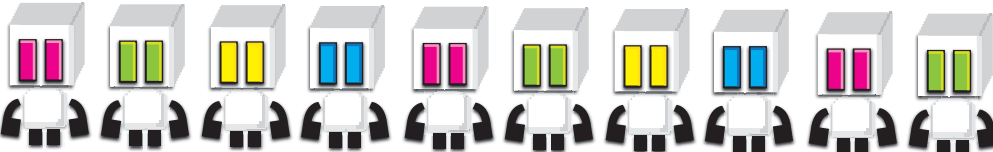
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Stop by 105 Union East beginning Monday, November 7th to Monday, November 28th between the hours of 9AM-Noon & 2-5PM

*The Prospector reserves the right to edit any messages it deems inappropriate. Write as clearly as possible. Keep messages brief.