

11-22-2011

# The Prospector, November 22, 2011

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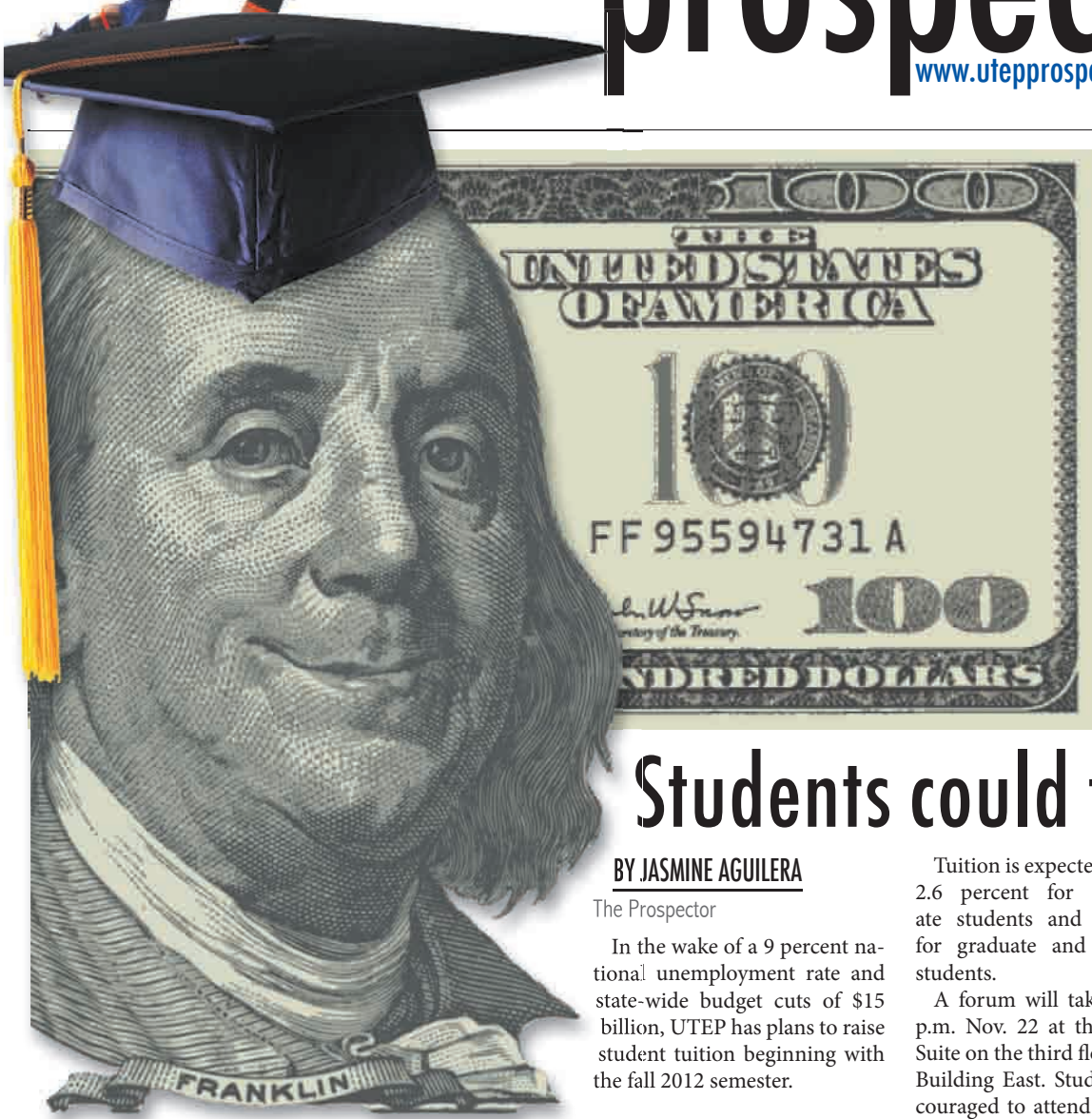
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ENT. 16



# TUITION INCREASE DEBATE

## Students could face rising education cost

BY JASMINE AGUILERA

The Prospector

In the wake of a 9 percent national unemployment rate and state-wide budget cuts of \$15 billion, UTEP has plans to raise student tuition beginning with the fall 2012 semester.

Tuition is expected to increase 2.6 percent for undergraduate students and 3.6 percent for graduate and out-of-state students.

A forum will take place at 1 p.m. Nov. 22 at the University Suite on the third floor of Union Building East. Students are encouraged to attend and express

their opinions about the increase. Another forum will take place at 1:30 p.m. Nov. 30 at the Acacia Room on the first floor of Union Building East.

"The cost will extend for the next three years," said Gary Edens, vice president for student affairs. "If we want to grow as a university, we must invest

in our faculty and add more classes. We also want to help students graduate faster."

Administrators at the university have noticed that a large number of students had to delay graduation because some courses were only offered during one semester and they would fill up quickly.

ILLUSTRATION BY DIEGO BURCIAGA / The Prospector

see TUITION on page 12

# Favorite picks to eat, party and study



GREG CASTILLO / The Prospector

**The Lowbrow Palace** was among the best selected music venue based on students popularity. Lowbrow is located at 112 E. Robinson Ave.

BY ALEJANDRO ALBA

The Prospector

The Prospector's 2011 Best of Issue survey winners have been selected based on students' choice. Once again, corporate businesses triumphed, leaving local businesses settling for second place.

With over 45 categories to choose from, these three categories bring insight into the choices a typical college student makes: music, coffee and a place for studying.

**Best Music Venue**

The music scene in El Paso has demanded for more performing spaces over the past year. Within this category, The Lowbrow was victorious over El Paso's newest music venue Tricky

Falls and the bohemian-feel café, The Percolator.

Christina Garcia, sophomore pre-education major, said The Lowbrow has a grungy atmosphere, which gives it a great vibe while offering drink specials. She said Tricky Falls is more high class.

"You can tell how Tricky Falls is fancier, obviously. It is Jim Ward's location so he has the money to make it fancy, making it harder for any local band to perform there," Garcia said. "That is why I think most people prefer The Lowbrow, it's easier as a local band to perform, plus people there are friendly."

In spite of the difference in atmosphere and performances, they share a similarity in organization.

The Percolator, which came in third place wasn't everyone's favorite due to its acoustics and the unorganized variety of events that are held at once. However, some students like Garcia said that they make up their poor organizational skills with the coffee they sell, yet, it wasn't selected as one of the top three coffee shops.

**Best Coffee**

Regarding the hype El Pasoan's have about local businesses, Kinley's Coffee House was not selected as first choice coffee, but its corporate competitor Starbucks was. Eileen Lozano, sophomore multimedia journalism major and former Starbucks employee, said that she actually voted for Kinley's. She was surprised that the UTEP community chose Starbucks

over Kinley's. Although, she said she can see why people would prefer Starbucks over any local coffee shop.

"I believe people are apprehensive to try Kinley's because if they aren't from the westside or they don't go to UTEP, then they will try what they already know, even if it's overpriced," Lozano said. "In reality though, Starbucks lacks the homey feel that Kinley's has, along with their extensive menu; they have lunch, desserts, and yogurt aside from their teas and coffee."

Lozano also mentioned that Starbucks and Kinley's have completely different atmospheres as well. Lozano said Starbucks is more of a loud place for people to converse and not really

see BEST on page 16

Column

# Lack of notice again...

BY AARON MARTINEZ  
The Prospector



As another important financial decision that will affect all students is being discussed, little notice has been sent out to inform the student body about it and give them a chance to voice their opinions.

This is nothing new for UTEP, this has happened in the past and the way things look it will continue for some-time. Today, an ad for a forum to discuss a possible raise in student tuition, 2.6 percent for undergraduate students and 3.6 percent for graduate and out-of-state students starting in fall 2012, was placed in the student newspaper.

Most students will find out about the fee by picking up this issue of The Prospector. As of 6 p.m. Nov. 21, no true announcement has been made to the student body.

University officials are hosting the first forum the day the ad is being run. The first forum will be at 1 p.m. Nov. 22 at the University Suite on the third floor of Union Building East and a second will be at 1:30 p.m. Nov. 30 at the Acacia Room on the first floor of Union Building East.

This will give students little time to alter their schedule in order to attend the forums. The first forum is also being held when most students are on their way out of town for the Thanksgiving holiday. The second forum comes the week before finals, when most students are solely focused on their exams and projects that are due before the end of the semester.

This is not a new tactic UTEP officials have tried to pull on students.

In 2010, the Student Government Association and university officials

tried to sneak by the Campus Life and Athletic Enhancement Initiative fee. The fee would have had students pay \$10 per credit hour starting in fall 2011 and would increase an additional \$2 per credit hour in 2012 and 2013.

As the SGA elections, which had the fee on the ballot, crept closer, controversy began to build as students found out about the fee weeks before the actual elections. Also, the announcements and forums for the fees were held near spring break when many students were going to be out of town.

The way the whole situation was handled confused students on what the initiative actually was and how it would affect them. As all the facts began to come out about the fees, students rose up and made their voices heard. The initiative was easily voted down 2,339 to 1,267.

Once again, it seems like university officials are trying to sneak their agenda passed the student body. But what is more disappointing is the supposedly "student body-representing" SGA is once again falling in line with whatever the administrators want.

Earlier this year, I wrote a column about the 2011 SGA elections and how little effort was made by the SGA and university officials to even inform students there was an election.

I ended my column with two simple sentences: "Let's hope university officials acknowledge their mistake this year and give students more time to be well informed about the candidates and the election. But I would not count on it."

I was clearly right. Nothing has changed and apparently nothing will ever change. Since we really don't get a vote this time, maybe we should start an Occupy UTEP Movement.

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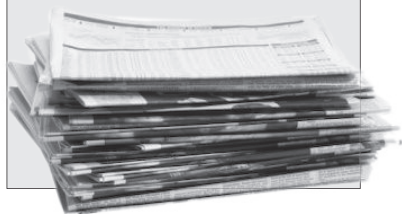
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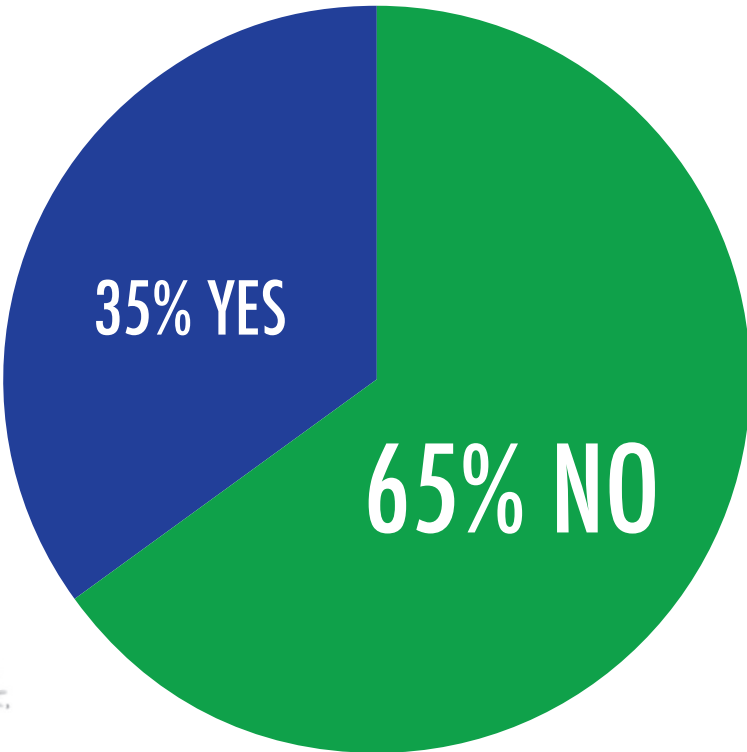
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Thanksgiving

# Adopt a student for the holidays



BY AMBER WATTS  
The Prospector

With the anticipation of Thanksgiving and finals on the horizon, the Student Alumni Association prepares for the first time ever Adopt-A-Miner program that offers students food and an adoptive family during the holiday break.

“I think it’s a really great idea because last year I was just lucky and ended up with my advisor’s family,” said Ivan Montes, a senior international business and marketing major. “Before I didn’t do anything for Thanksgiving. I would just go with my girlfriend and just go shop.”

Distance, work, preparation for finals or other activities keep some

students from going home for the holidays.

As of Nov. 16, Claudia Vargas, president of the Student Alumni Association, said that the Adopt-A-Miner program has seven households open to students or take them out for dinner during the Thanksgiving break.

“That would be room for 14 students and each household is given two students and I believe we had nine students signed up,” Vargas said.

While the Adopt-A-Miner program is in its beginning phases, Vargas said that this year the program is focusing on international students, although they are open to all students.

“(The international students) were actually really surprised that someone was thinking about them, and that someone wanted to help them,”

Vargas said. “When they were presented with the opportunity a lot of them jumped on it.”

The Adopt-A-Miner program works by trying to match alumni adopters and student adoptees on their area of study.

“Sometimes that doesn’t always work out, but it goes area of study first and then, if (the student) has signed up at the same time as the alumni, then that’s how they’d be matched as well,” Vargas said.

Both the student and alumni are also given ground rules on how to behave during their interactions.

“They’re given a lot of guidelines as far as etiquette at the alumni’s home, and vice versa. The alumni are also given rules for hosting the student,” Vargas said.

Last year, Montes had Thanksgiving dinner with his advisor and other international students, and said it was the reason he decided to sign-up for Adopt-A-Miner.

“I had a pretty good time,” said Montes said. “This year, I signed up my girlfriend and we’re both going to go to a family for Thanksgiving...we don’t have much family here. I think it’s a pretty important thing to have a gathering with somebody’s family, because it’s the same kind of energy and you’re with a bunch of people that are really nice.”

Communication between the alumni adopters and students are handled between themselves after the sign-up and matching stages. Either

through email or phone, students and alumni decide how transportation and scheduling are going to work.

Montes said that his adopter quickly sent her contact information and they’ve been emailing and making plans for the day.

“They seem pretty nice. They actually invited us in the morning around 9 a.m. since there’s going to be a pa-

rade, so we get to go with them,” Montes said.

With a new option for students during this Thanksgiving holiday, and another opportunity to band together again in the spring, the Student Alumni Association has provided a bright prospect for the break, giving

see HOME on page 9

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Organization

# GRO brings political debates to UTEP

BY REBECCA GUERRERO  
The Prospector

Whether it’s unrest in the Middle East, drug-related wars in Colombia and Mexico, or the Occupy Wall Street Movement, members of UTEP’s Global Relations Organization is attempting to bring awareness and start discussing important issues affecting the world.

“GRO provides an unthreatening environment for students to talk about things they’ve seen on the news or confusions they’ve had about certain issues,” said Jennifer Berlin, GRO president and junior political science major. “It’s a way to voice your opinions without being graded, judged or critiqued. This aspect is great because sometimes it’s just hard to raise your hand in class.”

GRO has been active on campus since 2003 and aims to be a place where faculty and students can come

together through a shared interest in global affairs.

Charles Bohemer, GRO faculty advisor, said the organization is a great way for students to learn more about the world around them, while also enjoying a beverage and having a little fun.

The organization hosts many social events including movie nights, fundraisers and group gatherings to play the board game RISK. They also hold many forums to discuss world events, such as political uprisings in the Middle East, Darfur and Afghanistan, as well as the Lebanese War.

Jose Duarte, GRO secretary and freshman pre-engineering major, said that because world affairs involve just about everything from communication, economics, philosophy, ethics and political science, all majors can benefit academically from being in GRO.

“Being an officer in GRO has helped me strengthen my abilities to succeed

in the professional world,” Duarte said. “It’s taught me commitment and responsibility. I encourage everyone to join, especially if you’re interested in politics or seeking a related career.”

The most recent topic GRO has discussed at meetings and forums was the worldwide Occupy Wall Street Movement. GRO was visited by an organizer of the El Paso branch of the Occupy Movement, who explained to members what the people camping in San Jacinto Plaza were hoping to achieve as well as the basic rules of protest. Durate said this is the kind of experience GRO aims to give their members to help expose global and political affairs that affect everything right down to their immediate community.

Bohemer said that GRO is particularly important to UTEP students because they live in a border city. The group discusses issues that many

see GRO on page 4

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Faculty Spotlight

# Creative writing professor's poetry earns top honors



GREG CASTILLO / The Prospector

**Sasha Chacon**, creative writing professor, was announced Oct. 16 the winner the Before Columbus Foundation award for her poetry book “Insides She Swallowed.”

BY AMBER WATTS  
The Prospector

Sasha Chacon, a newly-recognized tenure creative writing professor and author of “Insides She Swallowed,” was recently announced the winner

of the Before Columbus Foundation award. Chacon received the award Oct. 16 for her book of 31 poems that rely on strong images and line to explore the ideas of consumption and sensuality through the eyes of immigrants.

“Her poetry’s very impressive, very intense, very careful and very thoughtful,” said Benjamin Saenz, professor and creative writing department chair. “She brings her instincts, her emotions and her intellect together when she creates similes and images in her work. They’re always at the service of something greater than the image itself; it’s at the service of the poem.” Much of Chacon’s award-winning book, “Insides She Swallowed,” is centered around her mother. “Seems very autobiographically close to my mother, who all her life has had this leg that she’s just kind of dragged behind her with this weird sickness that nobody’s ever known about,” Chacon said. “Sometimes she’s been bed-ridden, sometimes

slightly paralyzed, and we’ve just had to deal with it.” Chacon said that she employs that idea of a mother dragging her leg as a symbol for the immigrant, explaining that the image illustrates the idea of when you don’t want to move forward, but you have to anyway. Carlos Espinoza, creative writing graduate student, said the images Chacon uses in the book are somewhat related to parts of her life, but they are also related to social issues and social class. “(Her poems) have this slight undertone in it, that’s not what her book is really about, but I find that there in her poetry,” Espinoza said. “As a Chicano writer, that’s the first thing that I pick up.” Chacon was born in the Philippines, but was raised in various places around the world, including Saudi Arabia, Georgia and Oklahoma. She says that being distanced from the Filipino culture was the reason for all the food in her book. “When you’re away from your homeland, when you can’t even return, because it’s an ocean away, when you can’t call home because it’s long distance, and everyone is dying: food is all we have left,” Chacon said. In “Insides She Swallowed,” Chacon discusses the Filipino culture, one that accepts eating brains and intestines. “It’s about how we consume what is living, in order to live,” Chacon said. Saenz said Chacon’s images are very arresting and always drive home a point, both on an intellectual and emotional level that a reader can see and feel. “She doesn’t write ‘nice’ poetry, she wants to challenge a reader,” Saenz said. When she writes her poems, Chacon said she writes about what is important to her and what has had big influences on her life. “When I write a poem, I don’t worry about showing a reader anything, nor do I worry about trying to show an immigrant story. Those are simply just my obsessions,” Chacon said. “The obsessions of food comes because I’m a pig (she said laughing), the obsessions of mother comes up because that’s a very big part of my

emotional life. What I try to show is that those are my obsessions.” Chacon’s husband and creative writing professor, Daniel Chacon, received the award in 2009, and Saenz received it for his first book. “At UC Berkeley, they were making a big deal that they had two American Book Award winners, and when I was talking to the American Book Award foundation, they were very excited that both my husband and I had won awards. They said that we were the first couple,” Chacon said. Sebastian Vargas, junior creative writing major, said while taking a class with Chacon he appreciated her enthusiasm and her encouragement in his personal growth in poetry writing. “I thought that was one of the best things about her, because I wasn’t really familiar with poetry when I went into the class, and she made me want to keep practicing,” Vargas said. While taking one of Chacon’s classes, Vargas noticed poetry was her passion immediately. “I just remember her saying that she sits in her office and repeats words over and over, and sometimes people in the other offices would ask her, ‘what were you doing that whole time?’” Vargas said. Through Chacon’s charm, passion and commitment, she has impressed colleagues and students alike, acquired the American Book Award with her first book and already made headway for her next book, “Bodies and Other Natural Disasters.” “I really know that she’s going to be the kind of poet that’s always going to be stretching herself,” Saenz said. “She’s never going to be writing the same things. She’s going to do something different every time because that’s just the way she is, that’s the way she learns.”

Amber Watts may be reached at [prospector@utep.edu](mailto:prospector@utep.edu).

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**GRO from page 3**

students have seen first hand living in the border area. Berlin said one of the best things about GRO is the ability to bounce ideas off of people with different perspectives. “Once we were discussing the legalization of drugs and a girl from Colombia had some interesting ideas I’d never heard before,” Berlin said. “That’s one of the things I enjoy most about GRO. It lets me challenge myself, not to look at the world with blinders on.” Looking to the future, GRO has big plans for the organization, including a possible journal that would serve as a forum for students to get their political opinions published before graduation. Next semester, they hope for larger-scale activities than the group has seen so far. “Don’t be intimidated if you don’t know much about politics, curiosity is reason enough to join,” Bohemer said. For more information, contact Charles Bohemer at [crbohemer@utep.edu](mailto:crbohemer@utep.edu).

Rebecca Guerrero may be reached at [prospector@utep.edu](mailto:prospector@utep.edu).

Organization

# Students live off a dollar a day to experience poverty



VERONICA CHAPARRO / The Prospector

**Sandra Salinas**, junior clinical lab science major, and other members of ONE write thank you cards to all the people who supported the group during a week where they lived off \$1.50 a day.

## BY KRYSTAL OBLINGER

The Prospector

Reena Beggs wakes up in the honors house, jumps into a cold shower, fills her stomach with a bowl of rice and then heads to class, and that's only if she beats out the other people sharing the building with her.

"To be completely honest, I am a little bit high maintenance, so I knew how tough it was going to be, but I didn't know it was going to be as tough as it was," said Biggs, sophomore health science major. "I like rice, but I had to eat it for every meal and sleeping on the floor doesn't sound so bad at first, but when you are doing it before a big exam or you have to do it for consecutive nights, it can be a real strain on you."

Beggs and other members of the ONE student organization, which works to end extreme poverty and preventable disease by bringing awareness to the community, did this for four days as their second challenge in the intercollegiate ONE

Campus Challenge. The organization does events like this in order to gain a learning experience on how it feels to live off \$1.50 a day, much like many living in poverty, and to be able to share their discoveries with the community.

Maegan Ramirez, ONE president and senior political science major, said this challenge and others to follow are part of the ONE Campus Challenge intercollegiate competition, where students involved have to conduct the most effective global poverty-fighting campaign.

"We are an advocacy group," Ramirez said. "We do not ask for money, we only ask for your voice and we do that by educating our community with challenges such as these."

The organization is a registered part of the official grassroots activist organization ONE, which began in 2008 when the DATA (Debt, AIDS, Trade Africa) organization joined forces with ONE.

This organization mainly helps to shed light on the poverty in places

such as Africa and Haiti. Some students feel like these issues range closer to home and that the organization works on more than one level.

"I was in a situation where I was forced to live in my car," said Vincent Garcia, junior English major. "I kept my EP fitness membership so I could take showers at the gym and I use the Internet at Carl's Jr. or Starbucks. Some of the biggest difficulties I had to face were the weather. You're living spaces may not have insulation so if

"We do not ask for money, we only ask for your voice and we do that by educating our community with challenges such as these."

- Reena Beggs, sophomore health science major

it is cold or hot, you are going to face challenges."

Garcia spent sometime living in his car while also attending school. Garcia said he paid for school, gas, food and other living expenses out of his own pocket in order to survive.

"A lot of people go days without money," Garcia said. "Economic problems are starting to be put into perspective, especially with the unemployment rate rising and events such as Occupy Wall Street occurring. I think we are becoming more aware of our own economic instability and it is an issue that needs to be addressed."

Across the border, people face much of the same issues with the inevitable possibility of turning to crime.

"People try to survive whichever way they can," said Oscar Moreno, junior creative writing major. "This is especially something you see in Mexico. They try whatever they can to survive, from juggling to being street clowns. Unfortunately, this is also why so many people turn to crime. They really don't see any other way to get by."

Moreno said that things like clothes, cars, housing and even water become unaffordable luxuries, with acquiring food becoming the main priority.

"I think it's important to make people aware of these situations through organizations such as these because (poverty) it's everywhere," Moreno said. "It allows people to put themselves in the shoes of those who have nothing. When we begin to understand these situations, it will make us appreciate what we have and also hopefully ask 'How can I help?'"

Beggs asked the same question after Ramirez informed her of the organization.

"I knew there were people living in poverty, but it's not something I thought about," Beggs said. "So when someone I was so close to told me about things that I knew I would normally ignore it. This made me really want to get involved and that's how I became an officer."

Ramirez explained that this past challenge would not be their last, as the goal of these events are meant to bring awareness to the UTEP and El Paso community.

"We do this to not only make people aware, but to also enhance our understanding of that struggle," Ramirez said. "When we do reach out to our senators we will be able to have that experience."

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



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Community

# Political science professor receives Border Heroes award

BY JASMINE AGUILERA  
The Prospector

Every year, the non-profit Las Americas Immigrant Advocacy Center awards El Paso citizens the Border Heroes award for their service to the center. This year, Kathleen Staudt, UTEP political science professor, was one of the two recipients.

The award was presented to Staudt Nov. 6 at an awards dinner.

“I got a call from the director in the late summer and I was elated and honored by this fine organization,” Staudt said. “I have long held Las Americas in high esteem.”

Staudt believes she received the award because she founded UTEP’s Center for Civic Engagement 10 years ago, which aims to promote student and faculty engagement in the El Paso community.

“It was a no-brainer choosing this years’ Border Heroes,” said Louie Gilot, executive director at Las Americas. “Dr. Staudt has been dedicated to the community and immigration issues. She’s shown that through her teaching and writing. She is extremely dedicated to non-profits and she inspires her students to get more involved with the community.”

Staudt has been involved with several community-based organizations in the region and has published 16 books, seven of which dealt with border issues including human rights, citizenship, violence and activism.

“I feel proud that we have someone like Dr. Staudt working at UTEP,” said Yael Padilla, sophomore communication major. “She makes me feel proud to be a UTEP student and glad that I decided to stay here. We definitely need more people like her in our community.”

Staudt hopes that through this recognition, awareness will spread about immigration issues and more people will want to get involved.

“I hope that more people will contribute their time to this sound non-profit organization with a strong track record of accomplishments in our community,” Staudt said. “The organization works with unaccompanied minor immigrant children, with people seeking political asylum fleeing violence and with advocacy for long overdue immigration reform.”

Paulina Castillo, freshman mechanical engineering major, said the work of Staudt has helped and shined a light on immigration issues that have had a big impact on the El Paso community.

“This is a harsh time for a lot of immigrants, especially with so many politicians here in America that make it hard for people to immigrate,” Castillo said. “I think Dr. Staudt is a great person for helping immigrants because they do go through a lot.”

Along with Staudt, Jacob Heydemman, local orthopedic surgeon, received the Border Heroes award. Heydemman received the award for his volunteer services to hospitals and



VERONICA CHAPARRO / The Prospector  
**Kathleen Staudt, UTEP** political science professor, received the Border Heroes award for her service at the non-profit Las Americas Immigrant Advocacy Center. Staudt won the award along with Jacob Heydemman, local orthopedic surgeon.

clinics in several parts of Mexico, including Ciudad Juarez.  
“We need more people in our community that care as much as Dr.

Staudt and Dr. Heydemman,” Gilot said. “Their selflessness has had such a positive impact on so many lives

and the least we can do for them in return is present them with this award.”

Jasmine Aguilera may be reached at [prospector@utep.edu](mailto:prospector@utep.edu).

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National

# NASA calls for aspiring astronauts to apply to fly



JESSICA SABBABH / SHFWire

**Kathleen Rubins, center**, addresses the crowd during NASA's news conference about the search for new astronauts. With her are fellow class of 2009 astronauts Serena Aunon, left, Kjell Lindgren, Scott Tingle and Mark Vande Hei.

BY JESSICA SABBABH

Scripps Howard Foundation Wire

WASHINGTON – NASA is looking for its next class of astronauts.

The space agency held a briefing Nov. 15 at its headquarters to announce the selection process for the

2013 class of astronauts.

“These are exciting times here at NASA, and this an especially exciting day,” NASA Administrator Charles Bolden said.

Janet Kavandi, flight crew operations director, said NASA goes through the selection process about every two to four years. She said NASA selects astronauts to preserve the pool of qualified individuals

needed to fly into space and to operate the International Space Station.

The 30-year-old Space Shuttle program concluded July 21 when Atlantis landed for the last time.

“We’re extremely proud of the trail-blazing accomplishments of our shuttle astronauts over the past 30 years, but with the end of the shuttle program, we’re now setting our sights on even more distant horizons,” Bolden said. “We are once again ready to go where no man or woman has gone before.”

Interested individuals are encouraged to apply before Jan. 27. at USA-Jobs.gov. The page lists requirements, qualifications, duties and the evaluation process. The annual salary is from \$64,724 to \$141,715. A bachelors degree from an accredited institution in engineering, biological science, physical science or mathematics is required.

NASA usually gets between 3,000 and 4,000 valid applications and expects the same number for this class, Michael Curie, NASA public affairs specialist, said in an email.

Training takes about two years to complete.

Kavandi said the training process has gotten harder because at the International Space Station, everyone needs to know how to do every job.

Astronaut Serena Aunon, of League City, Texas, a member of the class of 2009, which trained differently than astronauts who preceded them, spoke about her training. Their training will be similar to future classes.

“We were one of the first classes that came in knowing we would never fly in the shuttle,” she said.

Aunon said the training her class went through focused on three main areas: international space station systems, robotics and extravehicular activities.

Four other 2009 astronauts also spoke about their experiences: Kjell Lindgren, of League City, Texas; Kathleen Rubins, of Cambridge, Mass., Scott Tingle, of Hollywood, Md., and Mark Vande Hei, of El Lago, Texas.

Teachers and sixth to eighth grade students from Whittier Education Campus in D.C. attended the announcement. Nine National Science Foundation Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellows and more than 20 graduate-level student ambassadors were also in the audience.

Bolden spoke to the importance of education in the so-called STEM disciplines – science, technology, engineering and mathematics – and said the students and educators were the key to NASA’s future.

“For space exploration and education go hand-in-hand, after all that’s what space exploration is all about,” he said. “Expanding our knowledge of the solar system and our relationship to it so that we can make life better here on earth.”

Jessica Sabbabh is a post-graduate multimedia fellow at the Scripps Howard Foundation. She may be reached at [prospector@utep.edu](mailto:prospector@utep.edu).

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Question of the week

# What is your favorite place to hang out at around theUTEP campus?

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



**ALAN PEREZ**  
Freshman mechanical engineering major  
"I like to hang out at Toro Burger with a few of my close friends because not only do I get to hang out with my friends but I get to eat their sweet potato fries which are delicious."



**JENNIFER SALAS**  
Freshman studio art major  
"My favorite place to be when I am not on campus is Kinley's. I like the atmosphere and they have awesome food. I usually hang out with friends."



**ALFREDO ROMAN**  
Freshman cellular & molecular bio-chemistry major  
"I really like going to Chicago's. The food is great and I like the way it's decorated. It gives the place a nice feel."



**DIANA MACIEL**  
Freshman biochemistry major  
"I love going to Kinley's, especially for their Mexican Horchata Frappe. I usually go with friends to just hang out, but sometimes we study."



**CARLOS PADILLA**  
Freshman liberal arts major  
"Panda Express. It's delicious and I love that it's close to campus."



**ANGELICA RAMIREZ**  
Biology graduate student  
"Sinbad's off of Mesa has really good Mediterranean cuisine. It's a nice change from the typical Mexican food; I like to go there often with my friends and family."



**BALTAZAR HERRERA**  
Freshman business major  
"I like going to grab something to eat with a group of friends at Panda Express because I like Chinese food and Panda Express is the best Chinese food in El Paso."



**ESTEFANIA GARCIA**  
Freshman general studies major  
"I like to go get lunch at Whataburger, their food is better than all other fast food places. It's also pretty close to campus."



**TAYLOR HINES**  
Freshman mechanical engineer major  
"I like to go eat at Toro Burger and Crave because they have really tasty food and it is near campus so I can go before or after class."



**CRYSTINA PIMENTEL**  
Freshman general studies major  
"I love Panda Express. Their food is delicious. My friends and I go there at least once a week."



**DAVID GUTIERREZ**  
Freshman business major  
"I like to hang out at Crave because it is one of my favorite places to eat and I get to go with my friends."



**YI-TING CHOU**  
Sophomore art major  
"The movies because in college there's a lot of pressure. It's a chance to relax and be entertained."



**JAVIER GONZALEZ**  
Junior business and accounting major  
"I like to play pool with my friends at The Tequila Garage. It's free and it's never too packed and pretty close to campus."



**FREDERICA YOSHAWIRJA**  
Sophomore studio art - graphic design major  
"Shopping at Sunland Park Mall because I love shopping."

“(The students) were really just touched and really happy that they had an adoptive family for Thanksgiving.”

- Claudia Vargas, president of the Student Alumni Association

HOME from page 3

some students something to truly be thankful for.

“(The students) were really just touched and really happy that they had an adoptive family for Thanksgiving,” Vargas said. “And so many alumni love doing it for their students.”

Plans for the future with the Adopt-A-Miner program involve gaining

more supporters and all kinds of students to become engaged in it.

“We’re hoping by the time we get to 2014, that we have at least 100 alumni coming back to take students to dinner or take them home for Thanksgiving,” Vargas said. “I think what we’ll have to do next year is initiate the program a little earlier because a lot of (students) had already found friends to go home with for Thanksgiving.”

Amber Watts may be reached at [prospector@utep.edu](mailto:prospector@utep.edu).



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**BEST of ISSUE**

THE STUDENTS' CHOICE AWARDS

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- 2<sup>nd</sup> **LACIT**

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- 1<sup>st</sup> **T-Mobile**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> **Verizon**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> **AT&T (TIED)**  
**Sprint**

#### BEST SUPERMARKET

- 1<sup>st</sup> **Walmart**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> **Albertsons**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> **Ranch Market**

#### BEST BAKERY

- 1<sup>st</sup> **Bowie Bakery**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> **Corner Bakery**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> **Valentine's Bakery**

#### BEST TATTOO SHOP

- 1<sup>st</sup> **House of Pain**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> **Sun City Tattoos**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> **Ink Spot Tattoos**

#### BEST BANK

- 1<sup>st</sup> **Wells Fargo**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> **GECU**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> **Chase**

#### BEST PLACE TO BUY TEXTBOOKS

- 1<sup>st</sup> **Amazon**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> **UTEP Bookstore**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> **CBA Textbooks**

#### BEST SALON

- 1<sup>st</sup> **Barragan's**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> **Segovia's**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> **Ishmael**

#### BEST PLACE TO DANCE

- 1<sup>st</sup> **The OP**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> **Don Quintin**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> **Peoria**

#### BEST SPORTS BAR

- 1<sup>st</sup> **Pockets**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> **Applebee's**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> **Wing Daddy's**

#### BEST DRINK SPECIALS

- 1<sup>st</sup> **Sonic (Happy Hour)**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> **Hope & Anchor**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> **915**

#### BEST BAR TO END THE NIGHT

- 1<sup>st</sup> **Hope & Anchor**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> **Nova Luna**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> **Spice Bar**

#### BEST MARGARITAS

- 1<sup>st</sup> **Applebee's**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> **Carlos & Mickey's**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> **Cheddar's**

#### BEST WINGS

- 1<sup>st</sup> **Wing Stop**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> **Wing Daddy's**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> **Buffalo Wild Wings**

#### BEST COFFEE

- 1<sup>st</sup> **Starbucks**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> **Kinley's House**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> **McDonald's**

#### BEST INTERNATIONAL FOOD

- 1<sup>st</sup> **The Olive Garden**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> **Cappeto's, Pho Tres Bien, & Sinbad Restaurant (TIED)**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> **Tara Thai, India Palace, & Hong Kong Buffet (TIED)**

#### BEST MEXICAN FOOD

- 1<sup>st</sup> **Leo's, Julio's, Carnitas Queretaro, & Barrigas (TIED)**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> **Taco Tote**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> **La Terraza, Los Gallegos, & L&J's (TIED)**

#### BEST CHINESE FOOD

- 1<sup>st</sup> **Panda Express**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> **Grand China Buffet**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> **Chopsticks & Hong Kong Buffet (TIED)**

#### BEST VEGETARIAN FOOD

- 1<sup>st</sup> **Souper Salad**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> **Luby's**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> **Sinbad Restaurant & Salad Creations (TIED)**

#### BEST LATE-NIGHT FOOD

- 1<sup>st</sup> **Whataburger**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> **Chico's Tacos**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> **Village Inn**

#### BEST SUSHI

- 1<sup>st</sup> **The Sushi Place**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> **Okazuri Floating Sushi**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> **Yamato**

#### BEST PIZZA

- 1<sup>st</sup> **Peter Piper Pizza**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> **Pizza Hut**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> **Papa John's & Pizza Joint (TIED)**

#### BEST BURRITOS

- 1<sup>st</sup> **Crisostomo**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> **Rafa's Burritos**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> **Bonnie's Café**

#### BEST BUFFET

- 1<sup>st</sup> **Grand China Buffet**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> **Golden Corral**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> **Cici's Pizza**

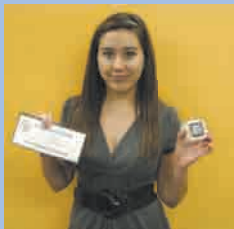
#### BEST FAST FOOD

- 1<sup>st</sup> **McDonald's**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> **Whataburger**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> **Wendy's**

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Ana E. Madrid



Ann Anaya



Anthony E. Maese



Marianna Borrego

Not Pictured: Scot Johnson, Ashley Stiefer

BEST BREAKFAST

- 1<sup>st</sup> IHOP
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Village Inn
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Denny's

BEST SPOT FOR A  
ROMANTIC DINNER

- 1<sup>st</sup> Café Central
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Ardovino's Desert Crossing
- 3<sup>rd</sup> The Olive Garden

BEST ICE CREAM

- 1<sup>st</sup> Baskin Robins
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Coldstone
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Marble Slab

BEST MUSIC VENUE

- 1<sup>st</sup> The Lowbrow
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Tricky Falls
- 3<sup>rd</sup> The Percolator

FAVORITE MODE  
OF TRANSPORTATION

- 1<sup>st</sup> Car
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Sun Metro
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Walking

BEST MAKE  
OUT SPOT ON CAMPUS

- 1<sup>st</sup> Library
- 2<sup>nd</sup> The Union Building
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Leech Grove

BEST PLACE TO  
CATCH A NAP

- 1<sup>st</sup> Library
- 2<sup>nd</sup> The Union Building
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Leech Grove

BEST SPOT TO PARK  
ON CAMPUS

- 1<sup>st</sup> Sun Bowl  
Parking Garage
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Inner Campus
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Library

BEST PLACE TO  
WORK ON CAMPUS

- 1<sup>st</sup> Library
- 2<sup>nd</sup> LACIT
- 3<sup>rd</sup> UTEP Student  
Recreation Center

BEST PLACE TO  
EAT ON CAMPUS

- 1<sup>st</sup> Union Bldg. East
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Chopsticks
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Quizno's

BEST PLACE TO HANG  
OUT ON CAMPUS

- 1<sup>st</sup> Union Bldg. East
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Library
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Leech Grove

BEST PLACE TO TAILGATE

- 1<sup>st</sup> Outside Sun Bowl
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Geology Lawn
- 3<sup>rd</sup> UTEP Parking Lots

BEST CAR SHOP

- 1<sup>st</sup> Ford Dealership
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Volkswagen of El Paso  
El Paso Honda (TIED)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Alamo Auto &  
Rudolph Dealerships (TIED)

BEST BIKE SHOP

- 1<sup>st</sup> Crazy Cat Cyclery
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Harley Davidson
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Mr. Motorcycle &  
Yamaha of El Paso (TIED)

BEST HAIR SALON

- 1<sup>st</sup> Sally's Beauty Supply
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Barragan's, Segovia,  
& Ishmael (TIED)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Foliage, Milan, &  
Super Cuts (TIED)

BEST SHOPPING  
CENTER/MALL

- 1<sup>st</sup> Cielo Vista
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunland Park Mall
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Las Palmas

BEST GYM

- 1<sup>st</sup> UTEP Student  
Recreation Center
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Planet Fitness
- 3<sup>rd</sup> EP Fitness

BEST SPA/MASSAGE

- 1<sup>st</sup> Barragan's
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Mirage
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Milan, Spa Envy, Foliage, &  
West End Hair Co. (TIED)

BEST MOVIE THEATRE

- 1<sup>st</sup> Tinseltown
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Cinemark
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Premiere Cinemas

BEST BOWLING ALLEY

- 1<sup>st</sup> Oasis
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Bowl El Paso
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Fiesta Lanes

BEST BILLIARDS

- 1<sup>st</sup> Pockets
- 2<sup>nd</sup> 915
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Bowl El Paso

FAVORITE STORE

- 1<sup>st</sup> Forever 21
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Target
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Kohl's

BEST CAR WASH

- 1<sup>st</sup> Mister Car Wash
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Vintage Car Wash
- 3<sup>rd</sup> H&H Car Wash

COLOR KEY

SERVICES

EAT & DRINK

PLAY & SHOP

ON CAMPUS

TUITION from page 1

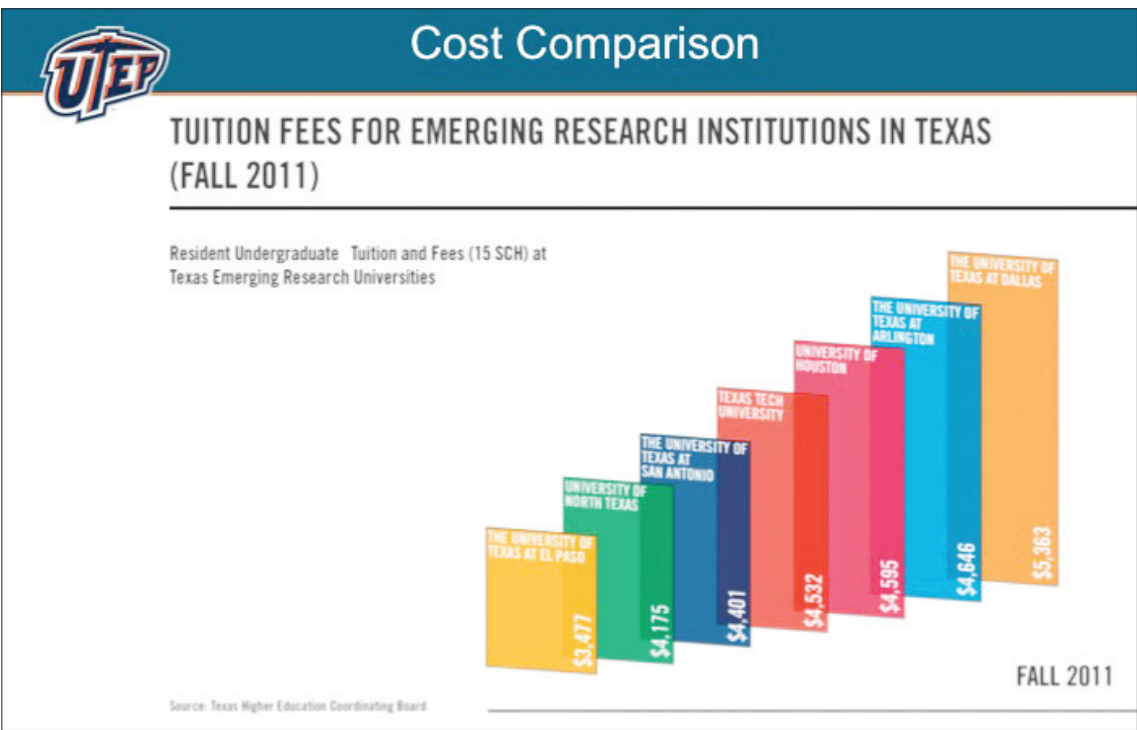
“We want to add classes so that students won’t have to change their plans,” Edens said. “Obviously, no one likes increases in tuition, but that is what the forum is for. Students have the opportunity to provide feedback and voice their opinions.”

A student-majority committee, chaired by Edens and Student Government Association President Pablo Padilla, met Nov. 8 and 9 to determine tuition and fee rates for the next two years. Based on information provided by the Office of the Vice President for Business Affairs and due to the legislature’s budget cuts, the committee decided they were willing to pay a little extra in tuition in order to better the university, Edens said.

The increase in tuition will also help provide revenue for the university. According to Edens, UTEP will face a 15 percent cut in its budget over the next two academic years by the state legislature, which is about \$27 million.

Student loan debt increases

As tuition has increased, more students have found themselves in financial need and many have resorted to taking out federal student loans.



According to the Project on Student Debt, two-thirds of college seniors in 2010 graduated with student loans. They had an average of more than \$25,000 worth of debt.

Last month, President Barack Obama announced plans to change the way recent graduates repay their

student loan debt. The plan is meant to make it easier for graduates to make their payments.

The changes are specifically being made to the Pay as You Earn plan. Currently, students can cap their payments at 15 percent of their income, but the new plan will change that

cap to 10 percent. Another change is that after 20 years, all remaining debt will be forgiven. Currently, the debt would not be forgiven until after 25 years.

This new plan will impact students who took out federal student loans in 2008 or later. Many UTEP students are expecting to benefit from this change.

“I think it will help students more because it will reduce the pressure of having to make high monthly payments,” said Christina Favela, freshman forensic science major. “Graduating students have a lot to worry about, especially with the current job crisis. At least this is a little bit of good news they’re receiving.”

Even though the plan is intended to help graduating students pay their

debt, some feel it may not be such a good idea.

“I think that even though there is less to pay each month, I’ll still end up paying off the loans for a longer period of time,” said Michelle Ramirez, freshman creative writing major. “Even though it’s less money each month, I’d be paying more in the long run, I think, since loans come with interest.”

Luisa Havens, executive director of admissions and recruitment, said she does not see any negative effects from the change.

“With time, we will know for sure. But right now, it seems like a really good thing for our students, anything that can help is a good thing,” Havens said. “I don’t particularly think this will encourage more students to start attending school, but I still think this could only have a positive impact. The effects of this plan are going to be very interesting to see. They don’t actually take effect until 2012, so all we can do is guess as to what will actually happen.”

According to a study done by non-profit organization Generation Opportunity, 77 percent of people ages 18 to 29 either have or will delay a major life change due to the poor state of the economy. Additionally, the study showed that 27 percent of this demographic said they will delay paying off student loans or other debt.

“If students delay paying loans, that could do serious damage to their credit,” Havens said. “That is another reason I believe this new plan will have a positive outcome.”

The Generation Opportunity study also found that 44 percent of young people delay buying a home, 18 percent delay getting married and 23 percent delay starting a family.

“The heart of the matter here is that young Americans need jobs in order to repay any debts, including student loans, and to plan for the future,” said Paul Conway, president of the non-profit and former chief of staff at the U.S. Department of Labor in a press release. “The poor economy and the lack of jobs are the central reasons why millions of young Americans have delayed their dreams of buying a home, getting more education, saving for retirement, getting married or starting a family... Elected officials in both parties should put as much energy into allowing the private sector to create jobs for the next generation as they do preparing for the next election.”

Jasmine Aguilera may be reached at [prospector@utep.edu](mailto:prospector@utep.edu).

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Fashion

Style watch: best trends of the year



Special to The Prospector

A season of trends, 2011 brought brights, colors, neutrals and whites. Sheer blouses and lace were among different styles for women and for men.

BY NATALIA AGUILAR  
The Prospector

As the year comes closer to an end, it's nice to reminisce about a few of the top fashion trends of 2011. Within the year, designers showcased their new collections presenting the audience with innovative ready-to-wear trends.

This year brought along plenty of brights and color blocking that was balanced out with neutrals and whites. Sheerness and lace were also big trends for 2011 as well as the men's white suit that made a comeback.

Although most trends come and go, some stay and become classics.

**Women:** Color blocking

One of the top spring fashion trends of this year began with brights and color blocking ensembles. Gucci had an amazing turnout this year with their vibrant colors and color blocking pant suits, skirts, crop tops and blazers. The energizing hues were absolutely captivating for the spring season.

Talk about sexy when it comes to sheer blouses and lace. This year, it was about showing some skin under those two kinds of tops. Worn with only a neutral toned or black bras-

siere, these tops were nearly crossing the line into tacky, but the fabrics create this romantic/sensual look. It's important to keep the bottoms less flashy, and perhaps a light jacket or blazer can be added to perfect the look.

**Oversized blanket coats/ponchos**

Now that it's finally nippy but not quite freezing ponchos and blanket-type coats keep women warm without feeling too heavy or bulky. They're something different to wear other than a regular coat and they have a chic hippiesque vibe that styles great with boots, booties, or oxford-type shoes.

**Men:** White suit

While the black suit is a must for every man, the white suit made a comeback this spring with looks from Dolce and Gabbana and Bottega Veneta. In contrast to the bright color trend, whites and neutrals were also a major trend for men this spring. The suit's white jacket looks great with white jeans as well.

**Bright colored skinny trousers or jeans**

Men are currently wearing bright-colored pants that make an excellent pair with camel-toned coats or sweaters. It's nice to have some color

during the fall/winter season other than black and gray. H&M and Urban Outfitters have a variety of colors to choose from and a fitted series of skinny jeans for every guy.

Cardigans should be a basic element in every guy's closet for their comfort and multi-use as dressy or casual. This is a classic trend that never goes away. The cardigan is a light sweater that can easily be worn under a coat and that can add an instant oomph to a simple t-shirt and jeans look. Topman carries a variety of styles and colors perfect for an upcoming holiday look.

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Movies

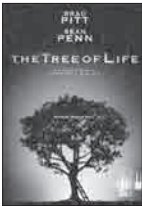
Cinema on the road to Oscar nominations

BY ANDRES RODRIGUEZ  
The Prospector

It is unusually early to begin Oscar predictions, and rightfully so. Most of the real contenders have yet to release outside the limited and festival circuits. Films like "The Artist," "The Descendants," "War Horse," "Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close," "The Iron Lady" and "Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy" are among those with the right Oscar pedigree to land a nomination. So far, many have stood their ground. The following list compiles what I think have been the best films of the year released nationwide so far.

1. "The Tree of Life"

Terrence Malick's creation story/family drama is uncomfortably broad and fragmented, yet intimate and undeniably beautiful. The film blatantly asks life's greatest questions and although it does not concretely answer them, it's a beauty to watch it try. The film is poetry on screen. Nature,



whether it is in the form of trees or dinosaurs, is all shot and lighted in a breathtaking manner. Aside from the beauty, the film succeeds in its ambition to expose the meaning of life through a small town family (headed by Brad Pitt and Jessica Chastain) and ultimately the creation of the universe. Although it's not for impatient people, those who are patient will appreciate the film's allure and intimate look at humanity.

2. "Midnight in Paris"

This is a sweet and ingenious romantic comedy. Woody Allen's love letter to Paris tells the story of writer, Gil (Owen Wilson) on a trip to Paris with his fiancée Inez (Rachel McAdams). Gil is a hopeless romantic who wants to experience Paris in the rain. He is transported to 1920's Paris where he meets some of the most influential writers of the Lost Generation. The film's comedy comes from the whimsical idea of time travel, yet



the nostalgia adds sentimental depth to the mix.

3. "Drive"

To some, a pretentious indulging visual exercise by director Nicolas Winding Refn, "Drive" is a violent and thrilling ride. The film's strength lies in its meticulously driven and stylized direction. But the film is also outstanding in its relentless violence, soundtrack and heart. Ryan Gosling gives a quiet but powerful performance as a stunt driver turned mobster-chauffeur. Gosling falls for Irene (Carey Mulligan), the wife of an ex-prisoner, whom Gosling attempts to help get out of trouble. This film is eye candy to the art house aficionados. Los Angeles is depicted with a night-life full of bright neon lights and warm sunsets all matched perfectly with a score of cool 80s synths. The violence is shamelessly frantic but well executed.



4. "Submarine"

A blend between the dark teenage humor in the vein of "Juno" and the "500 Days of Summer" boyfriend/ girlfriend dynamic, "Submarine" is a stylish take on young first love. Oliver Tate (Craig Roberts), a British school boy whose life at home is falling apart, is in love with the unlikely Jordana (Yasmin Paige). Oliver's misfit smarts give the film a fresh take on love, heartbreak and family. The young actors are incredible together, both portraying that awkward teenage state exceptionally well.

The film is refreshing for the vintage visual feel, clumsy teenage love theme and its clever use of uneasy dialogue like, "To us and a wonderful evening of lovemaking."

5. "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 2"

The Harry Potter franchise ended on the highest of notes with their eighth concluding installment.



I think it's safe to say the decade long journey we "muggles" (non-magic folk) went through, was fantastically capped. I will not get into the books vs. movies argument, but Part 2 as a piece of film making was heartfelt, action packed and visually stunning. David Yates, director of the latest four Harry Potter films, picks up with the trio of wizards as they attempt to destroy the last of the horcruxes to forever end the war against Lord Voldemort. Perhaps it's my geeky lightning-scar-wearing-self talking, but I truly found the film magical. After I left the theater I felt like a kid again, with my heart racing as I read the ultimate battle scene under the blankets with a flashlight.

Other films worth mentioning are, "Martha Marcy May Marlene," "Bridesmaids," "The Skin I Live In," "Hanna" and "Beginners."

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High Tech

# The best of this year's technology innovations

BY JERRY ALDAZ  
The Prospector

As the year witnessed the creation of memorable gadgets such as, iPhone 4S, Kindle Fire and Motorola Xoom, it also condemned the continual decline of Blackberry Playbook, the struggling Kobo e-readers, and the slow-to-ignite Windows 7 phones. Although many forward-thinking products could be praised for pushing the digital age, only those with mass appeal, long-term practicality and future-proof adaptability could rise above the saturated ocean of consumer electronics.

5. Chromebook



Blending cloud computing with the simplicity of the highly-popular Chrome browser, Google's Chromebook could signify the initiation of a computing renaissance. Utilizing

Google's cloud storing and Sandboxing to isolate threats, Chromebook users have peace of mind knowing data loss and viruses are a thing of the past. Even if one's laptop is damaged or stolen, since information rests in the cloud and not the hardware, owners can simply log in through a new Chromebook and resume their work. Beyond fast boot times (10 seconds) and automatic updates, Chromebook anchors all its web-only services within the browser and versatility is infinitely expandable through the thousands of available apps.

4. Spotify



A must-have for music enthusiasts, Spotify's straightforward interface makes discovering music an effortless task while its generous business model allows individuals to legally stream millions of tracks with minimal commercial interruptions. Although playback is restricted at 10 hours per

month in the free version, subscribers may bypass all ads and streaming caps by joining the unlimited version (\$4.99/month). For shakers and movers, the Premium membership (\$9.99/month) enables streaming on mobile devices, ranging from iPhone to all Android devices, and is capable of storing music for offline listening.

3. Barnes & Noble Nook Simple Touch



The first major digital reader to incorporate touch capacity with battery-saving e-ink technology, the Nook Simple Touch's improved page-turning, minimalist design and convenient navigational interface make it the best e-reader of the year. Sold at a retail price of \$99, its 6-inch screen is capable of displaying fonts in seven sizes and six styles, while multiple color scales provide optimal contrast.

For large libraries and avid readers, its onboard 2 GB memory is expandable up to 32 GB and the Nook is functional for two entire months on a single charge.

2. T-Mobile G2



The anticipated sequel to the game-changing G1, the HTC G2 unifies the best of both worlds by placing a finger-friendly Qwerty keyboard underneath its cornea-exhilarating 3.7-inch display. Merely 14 mm thick, this impossibly-thin device houses a rugged 5 MP camera, capacitive buttons, 4 GB internal storage and an 8 GB expandable port. Preloaded with Android Froyo (2.2), it supports flash web-content and grants access to the comprehensive Android Market. Its stylish design, compact flexibility and supported eco-system make it a noteworthy choice for casual consumers in search of a dependable smartphone.

1. iPad 2



Considered the holy grail of tablets, the successor to the wildly-successful Apple iPad builds upon the original to deliver the best tablet dollar for dollar. Keeping its 9.7-inch screen, the new iPad lost weight and width around the waistline while adding new components such as front and rear facing cameras. Loaded with a meaty A5 dual-core processor and updateable to Apple's iOS 5, the iPad 2 offers solid build quality and a responsive operating system at the starting price of \$499. With more than 140,000 apps in-store, it's bound to offer something for everyone.

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

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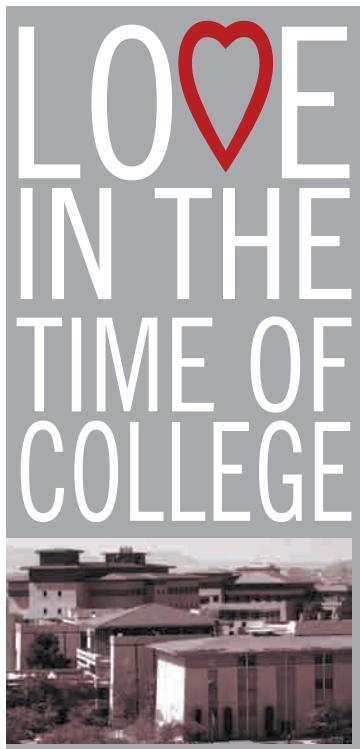
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Column



BY BEATRIZ A. CASTAÑEDA  
The Prospector



Whether it's an acquaintance or a total stranger, one-night stands in college are just as popular as burritos and beer. But how many students actually think it's a right choice?

One night of passion could perhaps lead to mixed up emotions for either person, but hooking up means something different to everyone. According to a sexual behavior study by Justin Garcia, a doctoral diversity fellow in the laboratory of evolutionary anthropology and health at Binghamton University, when people are experiencing sexual activity, the

circumstance, meaning and behavior is different for each person. "Some will experience sex with committed romantic partners, others in uncommitted, one-night stands," Garcia said. "Many will experience multiple types of sexual relationships, some even occurring at the same time, while others will exchange sex for resources or money." One-night stands can be risky, both physically and emotionally. Say you had a long week, two exams and just want to let loose at the end of the week. After you do what you do, you have unemotional sex. This is good for those that don't want any strings attached or for those that don't have a committed relationship that requires time. They're just simply in it for the sex. I know many students that go by this rule and it is nothing to be ashamed of. But is it really for you? According to a college study done by researcher Amanda Holman, a doctoral student at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, men are 18 percent more likely to say they had a hookup than women. Out of the 274 queried students, 84 percent of students reported they'd talked with their friends at school about hookups. People who talked about hooking up were more likely to approve of and take part in them, Holman found. In the research, only 37 percent of people reported having two or more but 90 percent of students believed that at least two hookups during the school year were "typical" for their peers. Many students do not find one-night stands to be rewarding or fulfilling. Some students choose not to partake in these situations because of the feelings of attachment that happen after two people have sex. For some girls, including myself at times, we can get attached more often than men since sex may just create emotional feelings. However, there are some girls that just do it for the sex


and claim that they don't get attached easily. Women often receive validation from feeling sexually desired. If a guy wants to have sex with them, they may feel better about themselves.

Some guys that hookup with girls for one night may be extremely insecure and feel like they should have a different girl to fit their sexual needs.

In a Live Science online article, researcher Anne Campbell, psycholo

see SEX on page 16


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Local

# From rock to samba, El Paso’s music electrified



RENEE MALOOLY / Special to The Prospector

**Neon Desert Music** Festival had its first concert last April. Local bands such as The Lusitania, The D.A. and Bulletproof Tiger played, among others.

**BY KRISTOPHER RIVERA**  
The Prospector

Countless shows and memorable experiences headlined the El Paso music scene in 2011, from seeing Foster the People play at the Lowbrow Palace or witnessing Rush in the limelight. This year was also the birth of the Neon Desert Music Festival, Sun City Music Festival and the opening of the music venue, Tricky Falls.

“I would go as far as saying that this past year has been great musically. The rise of both Neon Desert and Sun City Music Festival brought a lot

of attention to both the locals as well as large scale promoters,” said Felipe Talavera, sophomore general studies major. “The city in general is trying to evolve into a more cosmopolitan and chic kind of vibe, rather than the old, out-dated traditions that have been holding the city back.”

Zach Paul, executive producer of Splendid Sun productions and event organizer of NDMF, was happy with this year in music and the successful turnout the festival had.

“I think the driving force and motivation behind it all was really simple: we wanted to do something unique

and awesome in Downtown El Paso,” Paul said. “We wanted to do something El Paso hadn’t done before.”

The Sun City Music Festival was another hit in town that left everyone in ecstasy after seeing performers like Paul van Dyk, Crystal Castles and Armin van Buuren.

The Office of Special Events at UTEP was able to bring in big names such as Michael Bublé, Rush, Carlos Santana and Enrique Iglesias.

“I spoke to Bublé and he loved the venue, the fans of El Paso and he said he wants to come back,” said Jorge Vazquez, executive director of spe-

## Dining Review

# Beat off the billboards: hole in the wall diners across town

**BY HENRY ARRAMBIDE AND KRYSTAL OBLINGER**  
The Prospector

Large billboards of burgers and slogans attempting to entice the passersby to stop for a dollar burger litter I-10, but once one ventures off the long stretch of road, many new and hidden gem restaurants wait nestled between street corners.

These are just a few of the best hole-in-the-wall food establishments across town. The list ranges from sushi to café dining. These are not the only places that offer consistent good food and service, just the ones we tend to venture to. Places such as these take time to find, but in many cases, they turn out better than most franchises.

**Sushi samba**

One of the top places to go for some good Japanese-style sushi is located on 9861 Dyer St. at Hamachi Sushi. The menu features a variety of styles such as the basic California roll and their signature specials like their lobster roll, which has small bite-sized lobster poppers on top of the lobster filled sushi.

Hamachi triumphs in taste and presentation, but its environment can be a bit too high end. Sumo Sushi, located on 1344 N Zaragoza Rd. mixes both. They offer about the same as Hamachi, but at a more comfortable environment. Both places serve top of the line sushi at an affordable price. Hamachi, however may seem a bit more pricey because their sushi comes in combos with miso soup and salad.

**Diner dishes**

Elmer’s is a diner located at 6305 Montana that was established in

1959 and hasn’t changed much since – which is not a bad thing. As most diners do, they serve a wide variety of food and dinner plates, including some Mexican dishes alongside what can only be characterized as typical American meals standard in most diners, making this restaurant an interesting hybrid. The service is fast, consistent and always friendly.

If Elmer’s menu is a bit broad, or a place closer to campus is your thing, there is always Lucy’s, a small diner located at 1305 N. Mesa that is a bit more personal.

**Pizza places**

Pizza is one of the top comfort foods in any city. It’s cheap and easy to make, so where the real competition begins is in the taste and originality – not just in the food, but also in the location. Pizza Joint, located across from the Don Haskins Center at 2900 N. Mesa, offers just that. Locally owned, Pizza Joint allows for customizable pies and features styles such as the pepperon-e (the classic). Any pizza can be customized for the customer as Pizza Joint offers toppings like tomatoes, fresh basil and Canadian bacon.

The location is vegan friendly, offering a specific sauce for vegans and vegetable options. Café Italia, located further down on Mesa, offers a different twist. All their pizza is cooked in a brick oven, their dough is made fresh and mozzarella is made in-house. The location is small but inviting with the smell of the cinnamon fire filling the dining area. The only downside is that since it is baked over a fire, the pizza can come out a bit burnt. Their menu selection is a bit small as well, but it’s



KRYSTAL OBLINGER / The Prospector

**Tom’s Folk Cafe** is a hole in the wall restaurant across UTEP at 204 Boston Ave.

worth trying everything because of the freshness of their product.

**Café comfort**

Tom’s Folk Café is a fine newcomer, located at 204 Boston Ave. right around the corner from UTEP. It’s a small restaurant that offers up a unique style and variety of food and drink. Their bacon chipotle brie burger is a notable menu item, as is their shrimp brochette appetizer.

If Tom’s Folk Café is a bit too dinner oriented for your café wants, Buon Giorno Cafe is a little Italian place located at 4727 Hondo Pass. Serving up panini, croissant sandwiches, iced mochas and salads, Buon Giorno has a relaxing and friendly atmosphere that customers can enjoy.

**Mexican mamba**

There is a problem with picking the best of the best for Mexican food. First off, there are a lot of different restaurants of this type popping up

all over the borderland. The norm for these places is service with a smile and homemade food. There are a few we tend to go to more often.

For the first, you have to travel a ways out into Socorro. El Meson De Oñate is located on 9993 Socorro Rd. and serves the basic Tex-Mex cuisine. The food tends to be pretty consistent and the servers are friendly, but the price is what makes this place. A three-course meal for three people comes out to a little more than \$12.

Doña Lupe, located on 2919 Pershing Dr., has an intimate atmosphere and offers quick service with their own type of style, unlike most places in El Paso. The mural on the wall gives the location a welcoming feel, while the food, such as the chicken fajitas, leaves a feeling of warmth at the bottom of your stomach.

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

## SEX from page 15

gist at Durham University in England, surveyed more than 3,300 individuals between the ages of 17 and 40. The research reported women’s morning-after feelings were more negative than men’s. While 80 percent of men had overall positive feelings, just 54 percent of women had positive feelings.

For some students I spoke to, they have to have some sort of emotional connection with that person, particularly more girls than guys. More likely, guys will look for one-night stands than girls and it’s easier for girls to go home with a guy than the other way around.

There’s always the danger of STD’s so if you’re going to engage in these activities, be prepared and always wear a condom.

Also, don’t try to make a relationship out of it, because there wasn’t anything special other than just the hookup. Don’t expect to find the love of your life after that. These events may seem magical at the time, but then shut off, just like Cinderella loses her slipper at midnight. It happens to the best of us. Be prepared to not expect anything from the person after.

If you’re feeling pangs of regret, confusion and shame, just move along; don’t consume yourself in over thinking it. Sometimes as students, we are bound to make plenty of mistakes, especially when it comes to sex and dating. College is a time to explore and get to know who you really are. So if this a do or don’t scenario, it will come back to what you believe in, whether you enjoy casual sex, need an emotional connection or don’t want a committed relationship.

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## BEST from page 1

a good place for studying since every five minutes someone is yells out, “Latte for Jessica!” Kinley’s on the other hand, is quieter and leaves more room to relax or study, whether you want to be lying on a couch or seclude yourself in the corner.

**Best Place to Make-out, Sleep, and Study**

The library prevailed in more than one category this year. It ranked number one as a spot for napping, studying and for public affection. Vanessa Herrera, junior pre-nursing major relates to all three activities on the library’s fifth floor. She said that just like anyone else, she has used the library for studying and sleeping but unlike most people, she has also made out at the library.

“It was a one time thing and it was completely unexpected. It’s not like I was showing intense public affection like other people like doing at the union,” Herrera said. “I was navigating through the book shelves with my friend on the fifth floor, when he turned around and kissed me. That kiss turned into a brief make out session but I stopped because I was afraid of people seeing.”

Due to the secretive spaces of the library, Herrera said that it is the perfect place to do anything. You can fall asleep and no one will make fun of you, study and no one will bother you, you can make out and no one will see you.

Lacking privacy, the Union and Leech Grove placed second and third respectively, on all three categories.

Other notable selected winners are as follows- Best Phone Service: T-Mobile, Best Margaritas: Applebee’s, and Best Place to Dance: The OP.

Second year winners are as follows: Best Bakery: Bowie Bakery, Best Burritos: Burritos Crisostomo, and Best tattoo Shop: House of Pain.

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November 22, 2011

# sports

editor

William Vega, 747-7445

## Football

# Bowl eligibility on the line in final game



JUSTIN STENE / The Prospector

**Senior running back** Joe Banyard rushes down the field against Tulsa Nov. 19 at the Sun Bowl. He will be playing his final regular season game with the Miners versus UCF Nov. 25 in Orlando.

**BY DANIEL ORNELAS**

The Prospector

Despite losing 57-28 against Conference-USA foe Tulsa, the Miners still have a chance at a bowl berth with a win in the season finale against UCF Nov. 25 in Orlando.

A win would give UTEP head coach Mike Price a fourth bowl appearance in eight seasons with the Miners, something no other coach in school history has ever done. It could also mean back-to-back bowl eligible seasons, the second time that could happen in the Price era.

“Unbelievable that we still have an opportunity to go to a bowl game. We win this weekend, we go to a bowl game,” Price said. “As badly as we played (against Tulsa) and as bad as we felt after that game, it makes sports what it is to be in this position, this late in the season and still have a chance to go to a bowl game.”

This will mark only the third meeting between the Knights and the Miners with each team winning at home in each of those games.

The last time UTEP traveled to Orlando, UCF beat the Miners 36-20 Nov. 24, 2007. The Miners beat the Knights 58-13 in the Sun Bowl Sept. 27, 2008. The Miners have struggled traveling east holding an all-time record of 0-16-1 in the Eastern Time zone.

The Knights are averaging nearly 27 points per game while allowing less than 19 and are outgaining their opponents by over 99 yards per game. Despite the statistics, they hold a 4-7 record and cannot qualify for a bowl game for the first time since 2008.

“They’re a prideful program. They have won our conference before, they’ve been to bowl games. They’re going to play hard and they’re going to give us everything they got and not take us lightly,” defensive coordinator Andre Patterson said. “I guarantee you they’re not practicing today saying we got nothing to play for. They have a football game and they want to get their fifth win.”

UTEP has been outgained by opponents 94 points to 79 in the first quarter and starting off fast against UCF will be a priority for Price’s team.

“They pride themselves in starting every game strong and scoring early, that’s one of their emphasis. It would be nice to meet them head-to-head on that, for us to start fast,” Price said. “They’re only giving up 18 points a game. If we can start fast and get 18 points in the first quarter, that would be good. But I think it’s going to be a really close game.”

This could be the last game played in a UTEP uniform for 22 seniors, but

coaches hope emotions are set aside for after the game.

“Just go play, don’t get caught up in the emotion that this could be the last time to ever put a football helmet on,” Patterson said. “You deal with the emotion of it after the game is over. You can get yourself totally drained before the game because you’re so concerned about not being able to play again.”

UCF leads the nation in yards per kickoff return averaging just over 27 yards per return and that will be a focus for the Miners.

“We’re going to have to be able to cover the kickoff much better than we did (against Tulsa),” Price said. “But we can do that, we can get a plan together and our players can rise to the occasion.”

Senior safety Travaun Nixon will miss the rest of the season with a PCL injury that he suffered in the loss against Tulsa, marking the fifth game he will miss this season.

Junior quarterback Nick Lamaison is still nursing a groin injury he suffered against ECU. According to Price, if he can’t return, sophomore Carson Meger would make his second consecutive start and third of the season. Lamaison did participate in Monday’s practice while Meger rotated with the starters.

“I’m going to prepare like it, I’m expected to play every week so that’s the mindset,” Meger said. “Every defense in C-USA is a good defense, everybody’s solid. They’re similar to Tulsa. They’re pretty base, but they’re good at what they do. We have to go out there and not make mistakes if we want to beat them.”

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

## Women’s Basketball

# Miners looking to go 4-0 against UTPA

**BY WILLIAM VEGA**

The Prospector

After a rout of Great West-opponent Houston Baptist Nov. 19, the Miners will turn their attention to the UT-Pan American Broncs from the same conference Nov. 22 at the Don Haskins Center in search of going 4-0 for the season.

“We just have to get our mind set and forget we had that win and focus on the next game,” junior forward Kristine Vitola said. “You can’t live in the past, you have to look to the future a little bit.”

The Broncs are 1-2 on the season and are coming off a home loss Nov. 18 to Texas State. Sophomore guard LaQuita Garner led UT-Pan American with 19 points as she has all season. Garner had team-highs of 14 points in her two previous games and is shooting 41.2 percent from three-point range.

The second-leading scorer, senior forward Donna Jackson, is also the team’s leading rebounder. She is averaging 9.3 points and 7.3 boards a game, but is shooting 29.6 percent from the field.

Other than those two players, assistant coach Ewa Laskowska said the Broncs are athletic and like to run the break. Stopping that is their emphasis for this game.

“All of them like to put the ball on the floor and drive so that’s an area where we focus on. That’s been the area that we’ve been working on,” Laskowska said. “So that’s driving, transition offense, transition defense and when the ball is in play that is going to be huge.”

Where they hurt the most is in their low-post presence with only two players taller than six-feet. That has translated to an average of 15 points in the



CANDIE HERRERA / The Prospector

see MINERS on page 19

**Sophomore forward Kayla** Thornton attempts a shot Nov. 19 at the Don Haskins Center.

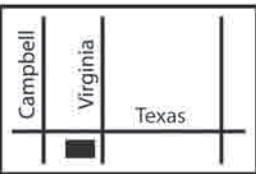
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# Men's Basketball Defensive-minded SFA heads to the Don

BY FRANKIE RODRIGUEZ  
The Prospector

UTEP will have to wait a week before they get a chance to redeem themselves from their loss to NMSU Nov. 19 when they host Stephen F. Austin in a defensive showdown at 7 p.m. Nov. 26 at the Don Haskins Center.

Despite a 1-2 record, the Lumberjacks are averaging 66.3 points per game, while holding opposing teams to 58.3. Stephen F. Austin is holding their opponents to 45 percent shooting and 27 percent from the three. The Lumberjacks' success on defense has translated into 10.3 steals per game and 2.3 blocks. Leading the way with steals for the Lumberjacks is junior guard Antonio Bostic with 2.7 per game.

Bostic is one of two starters returning from last year when Stephen F. Austin went 18-11 and 9-7 in Southland Conference. The other returner is senior center Jereal Scott who had a double-double against UTEP when the two met last year Dec. 20 at the Don Haskins Center.

Scott finished with a team-high 14 points and a game-high 15 rebounds while shooting 60 percent from the field. On this year's team, sophomore guard Michael Perez and sophomore center John Bohannon saw action last year against the Lumberjacks. Bohannon finished with four points and six rebounds while Perez had just one rebound in six minutes of play. The Miners took the meeting 61-52 that ended a six-game winning streak last year.

This year, it's Bostic who has taken over. Bostic is the leading scorer for Stephen F. Austin averaging 16 points per game and has three consecutive double-digit point games. Texas Tech had success against Bostic as they only allowed him to score 10 points shooting 26.7 percent from the field. Only sophomore guard Desmond Haymon is averaging double digit scoring besides Bostic.

The Lumberjacks have a turnover margin of +8 and are causing opposing teams to turn over the ball 23 times per game. They also have a positive rebounding margin of four, averaging 31.3 per game. Junior forward Jonathan King and junior forward Taylor Smith are the leading rebounders at 5.3 per game.

Stephen F. Austin is currently on a two game losing streak with their most recent loss coming against Texas Tech Nov. 20 in Lubbock. Both of their losses have come on the road with the first coming Nov. 14 against San Diego.

The Miners are coming off a loss versus NMSU 89-73 Nov. 12 at the Pan American Center. After going down 6-0, UTEP fought back to take a 27-20 lead in the first half, but were outscored 47-35 in the second half. The Aggies scored 24 points off turnovers and were out rebounded 42-27. The rebounding woes also showed on the offensive glass, where NMSU held a 21-10 advantage leading to 22 second-chance points.

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

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I	R	A	T	U	N	A	E	A	C	H
D	A	Y	D	R	E	A	M	S	H	E
A	S	S	A	I	L	A	F	T		
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H	A	R	E	M		T	A	X	A	R
I	R	E	S		T	E	N		B	R
E	E	L		F	O	X		P	R	I
D	A	Y	G	L	O		A	H	A	
			O	U	R		B	A	S	S
V	E	T	O		D	A	Y	S	H	I
A	G	E	S		E	N	S	E	A	M
N	O	D	E		R	O	S	S	M	E

Answers to 11-15-11

### BRAIN ZONE

**Weekly SUDOKU**  
by Linda Thistle

	8			6		9		
		6	9	7			1	
2					8			4
	4				9			8
5				2		3		
		7	3				4	
1			6			5	8	
	7				3	1		
8		2		5				3

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

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★**

★ Moderate    ★★ Challenging  
★★★ HOO BOY!

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# simplystated

## Kimaiyo finishes 25th at NCAA

TERRE HAUTE, Ind. – Junior Risper Kimaiyo crossed the finish line in 25th place, finishing in the top-25 for the third-consecutive year in the 2011 Cross Country Championships Nov. 21 in Terre Haute, Ind.

“This year’s competition was very competitive,” head coach Paul Ereng said. “We wanted to bring back two All-American awards but we fell short of that goal. I am very proud of their performance today.”

The All-American clocked in a time of 20:12 at the LaVern Gibson Championship Course to improve her time from last year’s national meet of 20:16. The Iten, Kenya, native earned her third cross country All-American honor of her career awarded by the U.S. Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association.

Kimaiyo was also named the 2011 Mountain Region Athlete of the Year for winning the Nov. 12 regional meet. She won a total of four events this year, came in second at the Conference-USA Championships Oct. 31 and third at the Notre Dame Invitational Sept. 30.

Junior Elkana Rotich posted a time of 32:07 to finish 222nd in the 10K race.

He won the Kachina Classic Sept. 17 in Las Cruces, placed second at the C-USA Championships and was named to the all-Mountain Region team for finishing in 14th place.

MINERS from page 19

paint and five second-chance points during their two losses.

“They don’t have a lot of height but they are very athletic,” Laskowska said. “They have a lot of forwards who are six-foot, five(-foot) 11(-inches) who are very active, so obviously we have a little bit more size. We need to go inside, but at the same time, we have to stay with some very athletic forwards.”

Vitola is one player who may be able to expose that part of UT-Pan American’s game at six-foot four-

inches. Along with the other posts, UTEP is scoring 41.3 points in the paint and 19 second-chance points each game.

“(Rebounding) is getting better. We’re getting there,” Vitola said. “There’s still a lot to work on that we just have to make sure we box our man out and go get the ball.”

The Miners feel as if their defense is improving, too. After allowing NMSU Nov. 16 to shoot 38 percent, including 41 from the three, UTEP held Houston Baptist to 30 percent from the field and 20 from the perimeter.

UTEP is making a quick turnaround since that game and had only one day to review tape on the opposing team.

“We just have to make sure that we stay focused and have a really good practice (Nov. 21). Make sure we know enough about them (Nov. 22) to go into the game,” sophomore guard Kelli Willingham said. “Competition is competition. Once you hit the floor, it doesn’t matter who’s out there, it’s time to play.”

In addition to the lack of knowledge of the opposing team, UTEP went through practice Nov. 21 with-

out head coach Keitha Adams. She was attending the memorial service of the late Oklahoma State women’s basketball head coach Kurt Budke and assistant coach Miranda Serna in Stillwater, Okla. The two were killed in a plane crash Nov. 17 near Little Rock, Ark.

Adams will be back in time for the UT-Pan American game.

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



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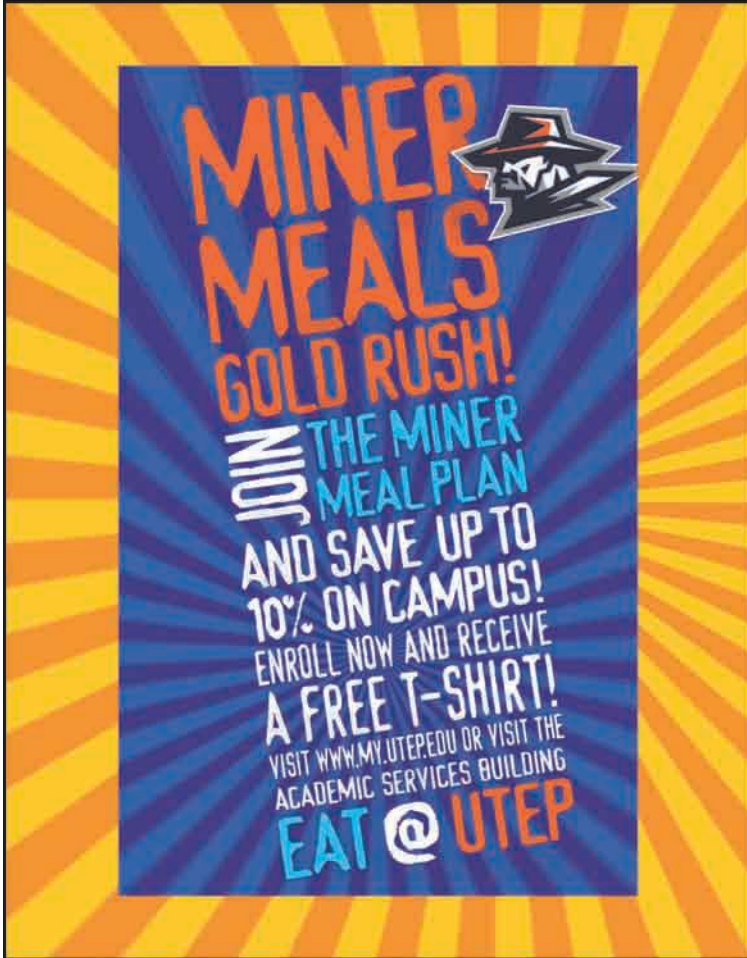
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Football

# Punter's journey ends as semi-finalist

BY DANIEL ORNELAS  
The Prospector

Despite being a top-three punter in average yards all season, junior punter Ian Campbell was not named one of three finalists for the Ray Guy Award Nov. 21.

Campbell is having his best season as a Miner in 2011, averaging nearly 46.4 yards a punt, the third best average in the nation right now. His efforts made him one of 10 semi-finalists for the award, but that was as far as his quest for nation's best punter would go.

Campbell missed the cut behind Louisiana Tech's junior Ryan Allen, Auburn's sophomore Steven Clark and Oregon's junior Jackson Rice.

"It is a little (disappointing), but I have to look forward and I definitely need a couple of more fair catches to persuade the Augusta council," Campbell said.

Campbell improved his average of 45.1 yards from a year ago, which placed him 11th in the country. Of the 51 times Campbell punted the ball in 2010, 17 were over 50 yards and 15 were placed inside the 20-yard line.

In 2011, Campbell has punted the ball 42 times with 16 of them over 50 yards and 15 inside the 20-yard line. His longest for the season was of 71 yards against Stony Brook Sept. 3 in the season opener, a yard short of matching his career long as a Miner of 72 against Rice in 2010.

Special teams coordinator Jeff Banks said that setting goals for Campbell has helped him improve his stats over one year and helped the team with their goals.

"We want to be number one in the nation in net punting and the way we can do that is if he punts the ball high, far and places it correctly," Banks said. "Last year, he averaged about 45 yards per punt and I said, 'hey, you're not that far behind the leaders if you continue to work hard for next season' and that's exactly what he did."

Campbell played his freshman season at Mt. San Antonio College, the

same college that junior quarterback Nick Lamaison, junior wide receiver Mike Edwards and junior offensive lineman James Martin attended the last two years. Campbell came to UTEP in 2010 and had to endure an adjustment to the Division-1 level. One year later, he feels he has finally found his niche.

"Last year was kind of my getting used to Division-1 playing with all these crowds, playing in hostile environments," Campbell said. "This year, it's just me getting into a rhythm. I've gotten into a pretty good rhythm this season and I'm just trying to ride it out throughout the rest of the season."

Fellow kicker and freshman Steven Valadez, who also serves as punter, feels like the competition among the kickers have helped the play of the special teams.

"Ever since I got here, I remember coach Banks talking about competing, especially at (Camp) Socorro. I felt like I made both (Campbell) and (junior kicker) Dakota (Warren) work a lot more compared to last year that they didn't really have any competition," Valadez said. "He worked his butt off at Socorro and it's how hard work pays off. He's just someone I look up to. Hopefully I can do the same thing in years coming."

Banks said Campbell's confidence has allowed him to be more consistent and place the ball where he needs to, which has helped in coverage.

"We're a directional punting team and that's not easy to do. Most guys can just walk down the middle and punt it down the middle as far and as high as they want," Banks said. "He's doing this, leading the country most of the year being as successful as he's been and having to directional punt. Our coverage has been phenomenal because of his ability."

Campbell said he worked on his technique throughout the offseason and has seen the improvement he's made. Being named a semi-finalist is something he's aware of but he's trying to keep his focus on the games and not the award.

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

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FILE PHOTO  
**Junior punter Ian** Campbell boots the ball away during a game at the Sun Bowl this year.

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