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The Prospector, January 24, 2012

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AWARD-WINNING

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STILL PERFECT



DRUG-RELATED offenses jump 275%

Student athletes allegedly involved in recent incident

BY AARON MARTINEZ, KRYSTAL OBLINGER AND WILLIAM VEGA
The Prospector

The number of drug-related incidents reported on the UTEP campus has seen a dramatic increase over the last few years. Most of the incidents have occurred at Miner Village or Miner Heights, UTEP's student residential areas and involve possession of marijuana or narcotics paraphernalia.

The most recent incident, according to the UTEP Police crime log, occurred at 6:42 p.m. on Jan. 20. Officers responded to an apartment in Hueco Hall at Miner Village in reference to an odor of marijuana where

narcotic paraphernalia was located. The crime log also states that the case resulted in an arrest. No other major details were released.

"I have smelt marijuana around the hall before. It bothers me because I am a student athlete and we get drug tested a lot, and it's always a fear that we won't be able to play if we come out positive," said Devin Miertshin, senior history major. "I don't know much about marijuana, I've never smoked it, but I do have a fear that if I smell it or something, I'm going to come out positive. It is a concern. The smell is coming from the bottom floor (of Hueco Hall at Miner Village) and this has happened a lot."

Two Miner Village residents, who wish to remain anonymous, said that three female student athletes were involved in a drug-related incident Jan. 20 at Hueco Hall. During the incident, four UTEP police arrived at room 106 in Hueco Hall after the smell of marijuana was reported.

"I was near by when I saw four police officers enter Hueco Hall in Miner Village. They were on the first floor near the 105-106 area. I didn't see any police enter the door, but I was near by and I smelled a seriously strong scent of marijuana, it was unmistakable," one of the residents said.

see **DRUGS** on page 4

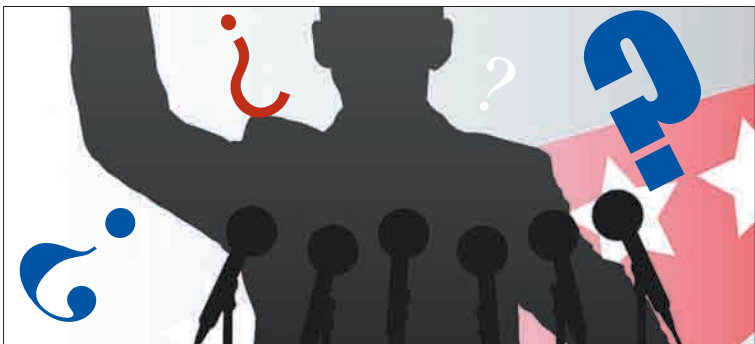
DRUG LAW VIOLATIONS

	2008		2009		2010	
	TOTAL CAMPUS	RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES	TOTAL CAMPUS	RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES	TOTAL CAMPUS	RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES
ARREST	4	1	4	0	8	6
REFERRAL	0	0	9	9	7	7

* According to 2011 Clery Report

Politics

GOP presidential nominee far from being decided



First three words rest of cutlinev

PHOTOGRAPHER / The Prospector

BY HENRY ARRAMBIDE
The Prospector

With two state presidential primary elections, a state caucus already decided and with four surviving candidates facing their first primary without Texas Governor Rick Perry, the race for the Republican presidential nomination is well underway.

After a caucus vote in Iowa and two primaries in New Hampshire and South Carolina, candidates Mitt Romney, Rick Santorum, Ron Paul and Newt Gingrich remain.

"Generally speaking, a primary vote entails a secret ballot at a polling location, where a person can arrive and vote

for the preferred candidate," said Jose Villalobos, assistant professor of political science. "A caucus vote, on the other hand, is more of an open meeting, where voters discuss the candidates with each other. Primary voting is much more like the general election and usually sees a higher turnout, while the caucus system, though, is sometimes more time consuming, provides a final opportunity for people to voice their opinions."

On Jan. 3, Iowa kicked off the voting process. In the following weeks, New Hampshire, South Carolina, Florida, Nevada and a host of other states will begin their primary elections as well. March 6, has been deemed Super Tuesday because it is the

see **GOP** on page 6

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Column

Excluded from FAFSA, coping with debt

BY WILLIAM VEGA

The Prospector



When I became a student at UTEP, I thought budgeting would be different for someone who lives with his parents and goes to a low-cost (for a four-year university), commuter school. But even under these circumstances I still quickly found not only myself, but my parents in debt.

As 60 percent of all students receive financial aid, according to the UTEP Financial Aid website, I can honestly say that my biggest lesson in college was finding out just how helpful federal aid really is to some, and not so much to others.

I have been attending UTEP since fall 2008 making me a rare four-year graduate this May (knock on wood). But graduating in four years has not been as rewarding to me as I imagined. Including this semester, I have been enrolled in nine semesters

(counting two summer sessions that I consider one semester), tallying up quite a tab here at UTEP.

I had to pay out of my pocket nearly every semester given the fact that the only loans I am offered are unsubsidized loans. For anyone not familiar with that type of loan, that means I have to pay interest that has accumulated since I accepted each loan. I have to start paying them off six months after I graduate and I have about 10 years to pay them off.

The reason for that phenomenon is because my parents apparently made too much for me to receive any grants or subsidized loans (where the length of the payoff is the same but I only have to pay the principal and not the interest). When I received my Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) report back, I was told my parents could completely contribute to my school tuition.

Yes, unsubsidized loans are technically considered financial aid but in the long run, will it really aid me?

What FAFSA failed to note is that my parents have three other children they have to account for (who have

been in either middle or high school since my college career began), bills to pay and a house to maintain. FAFSA asks just for our tax returns, both my parents and mine, which takes into account mortgage, car and other large payments.

But when my parents had to replace the water pipes at my house during the snow-pocalypse of 2011, when we had to adjust our budget because my sister was rear-ended in a hit-and-run and when we had to pay for two separate funeral expenses, FAFSA seemed not to care.

Over the past four years, FAFSA has given me the same response saying my parents can still contribute 100 percent of the time to my school. Even when my sister enrolled at Texas A&M-Corpus Christi last semester, FAFSA still said my parents could pay both our schools.

Yeah, right.

Granted, my parents make enough money to live comfortably with four children but by no means do they make enough to pay about \$7,000 a year for school.

I am in that gray area, and residing in that zone does not bode well.

My parents saved enough money for me to go to school throughout their lives, or so they thought. They paid for my first two semesters with ease, then had to begin making monthly payments with a credit card the next two.

During that time, I had a stable job with GECU but I did not make enough to pay \$7,000 and make a monthly car and credit card payment. My parents were fortunate enough to make those payments by cutting back, which definitely became a normal routine.

Then the well ran dry. These past two years, I had to take loans out for school for my two summer sessions in 2010 and two full school years. I have accumulated nearly \$11,000 in loans, without interest. It could have been more but I was able to save up some money for this year to pay half of it off and I received a \$1,000 scholarship last year.

Scholarships have also been a problem for me. I was told I was a finalist for a few larger ones, including one

from the Hispanic Scholarship Fund worth up to \$4,500, over the years but when they asked for my Student Aid Report (SAR) that said my parents made enough money, I knew it was game over for me. I can't even begin to count the number of times I was told I "didn't meet the financial needs" even though I met the GPA requirements and my resume had journalism experiences since I was a freshman.

One of my biggest pet peeves is when my friends tell me they bought a car, laptop or want to go on vacation with their excess financial aid money. Most of the students I hear this from are the same ones that entered UTEP at the same time as me and are still considered sophomores by their credit hours.

If I've done my part by graduating in four years, interning since my freshman year and holding a 3.35 GPA, why should I suffer?

This is my life, and it's ending one dollar at a time.

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



the prospector

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WHAT DO you think?

This week's poll question:

Who should get the GOP presidential nomination?

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Question of the week

Who should get the GOP presidential nomination?

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



LUIS ANTONIO LIZCANO
Freshman music major
"I would rather Ron Paul get the nomination although I disagree with some of his policies."



NAOMI PADILLA
Junior criminal justice major
"Ron Paul is a well-educated man and it has been said that he is the intellectual godfather of the Tea Party Movement. Now, because his ideas are different, he would make a good president."



JUAN CARLOS NAVARRETE
Freshman mass communication major
"I am not a Republican, but from watching the news, it seems like Mitt Romney is the favorite and could win the GOP presidential nomination."



LUCIA AVILA
Freshman nursing major
"I have seen a lot of signs advertising Ron Paul. He seems to be all over the UTEP campus and from seeing all of his advertising and hearing his name throughout the media, I feel as if he will win the GOP presedintial nomination."



ALFREDO SAUCEDO
Sophmore mechanical engineering major
"Ron Paul. He is a modernist and his ideas overlap everyone else's. I would say if people don't know about him they should seriously think about looking into him."



DANTE MORALES
Junior art major
"I'd rather not even vote. I believe nothing will change despite who ends up being nominated in both parties."



JOCELYN OCHOTERENA
Junior kinesiology major
"Ron Paul because he is an outspoken critic and that is important when running for president."



JOE HERNANDEZ
Freshman business administration major
"I would choose Ron Paul because he is a libertarian and a Republican. That is something you don't see as often."



NICOLE VELEZ
Freshman nursing major
"I am not really involved to much with politics, but I believe Mitt Romney or Ron Paul will win the GOP presidential nomination because they seem to be the most talked about throughout the news."



SARAH RUIZ
Freshman education major
"Throughout the UTEP campus, I have seen that Ron Paul is well advertised. Since he seems to be the candidate that is most advertised to me he will win the nomination."




JOSE RIVERA
Graduate English major
"I hope Ron Paul gets the nomination, I am eager for everyone to see what he has to offer to the American people."



KIMBERLY DUVERNOIS
Freshman biology major
"I personally am not that into the poltical world. But from what I have heard through-out the news is that Mitt Romney may be the potential winner."



JASON ORTEGON
Sophmore nursing major
"Ron Paul because it's a popularity thing. It seems like not a lot of people are paying attention and in the end they will just end up choosing him. "



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Campus

Solar panels help university go green



VERONICA CHAPARRO/THE PROSPECTOR

UTEP President Diana Natalicio (right) turns on the switch to the solar panels with SGA President Pablo Padilla (left) at a ceremony Jan. 20 outside the facilities services building.

BY JASMINE AGUILERA
The Prospector

President Diana Natalicio conducted a ceremony Jan. 20 recognizing the people involved in the construction of the largest solar

PV (photovoltaic) arrays in El Paso when combined.

One of the panels is placed on top of the Student Recreation Center and is 108 kilowatts. The second panel is located in the parking lot of

the facilities services building and is 78 kilowatts. Together the panels will produce enough energy to sustain about 53 residential homes and will save the campus about \$28,000 a year, according to Ralph Martinez, director of energy initiatives.

“We have a strong commitment to energy conservation and we are moving in different directions in an effort to be more responsible,” Natalicio said. “In a city that sees about 300 days of sunlight a year, this is where solar energy should be used.”

The project was completed Dec. 22 and was over a year in the making. It began when Martinez began writing a proposal to the State Energy Conservation Office (SECO) in September 2010.

With the help of Jorge Villalobos, director of facilities services, Robert Moss, assistant vice president of environmental health and safety, Ricardo Pineda, department chair of industrial and manufacturing and collaboration with El Paso Electric, SECO awarded a grant of \$1 million. UTEP’s Green Fund covered an additional 20 percent of the cost.

Pablo Padilla, president of the Student Government Association (SGA), was part of the committee that awarded the grant.

“At SGA, we saw how this could be an opportunity to help students gain experience,” he said. “And of course, it’s very energy efficient and will save the university money.”

Students will have access to the panels and will be able to use them to conduct research involving energy efficiency.

“The UTEP students involved in energy projects will be able to monitor the electrical energy produced by the two solar PV arrays,” Martinez said. “The data collected will allow UTEP to measure and predict how much energy is produced per year.”

The panels were constructed in collaboration with McCormick Architecture/McArch Construction, Border Solar, Bath Engineering, Ponce Engineering, El Paso Machine & Steel and UTEP’s Facilities Services and Center for Environmental Resource Management.

“They should be able to produce 15 percent of the energy used at

the student rec center and facilities services annually,” Moss said. “It’s important that the University move forward with energy projects like this one. We need to take advantage of the sunshine we have in El Paso, so it is very great that we’ve been able to implement something like this.”

Moss took part in designing the panels and helping the project move towards its completion.

Many students feel this effort to reduce UTEP’s carbon footprint is a step in the right direction.

“I’m really glad I’ll be able to use these panels in the future,” said Jaime Montez, freshman mechanical engineering major. “There should be more efforts like this.”

Felicia Kohli, junior chemistry major, supports UTEP’s efforts to go green.

“It’s a good idea,” Kohli said “I definitely support efforts to go green and that’s a lot of energy we’ll be able to save. I’m also happy this will be able to give students hands on experience.”

Jasmine Aguilera may be reached at prospector@utep.edu

DRUGS from page 1

The two residents identified the athletes as women’s basketball players Ryah Lacy, Chrishauna Parker and Gloria Brown. Lacy and Parker were suspended from the team before the Jan. 22 game against Houston. According to women’s basketball head coach Keitha Adams, the two players were suspended for breaking team rules, but did not say the exact reason why they were suspended. As for the length of the suspension, Adams said “only time will tell.” Following that game, Adams said that she “did not know” if both players would be at the team’s next practice Jan. 24 and only commented that both “are suspended.”

UTEP Athletics had no further comment about the situation.

The two residents said that Brown was at the scene, but left right away. As of the time this article was published, Brown has not been suspended from the team.

Venton Soder, a freshman kinesiology major who lives next door to where the incident occurred, said he has not had a problem with the players who live there and has not seen narcotics paraphernalia or smelled any marijuana coming from the room.

“From what I have seen, my neighbors are down to earth and don’t cause a lot of problems, because they are on the basketball team and I’m sure they want to stay on the team,” Soder said. “They always stay to themselves and every time I see them I say hi, and nothing seems weird or anything. I’ve never smelled anything or heard anything that would seem like an issue.”

Parker has played in 17 of the 19 games this year, starting in eight of them. She was averaging 5.8 points and four rebounds in 17.5 minutes per game. The only other game Parker missed was a Nov. 19 home contest against Houston Baptist. Adams said she missed due to academic reasons but returned the following game Nov. 22 against UT-Pan American.

Lacy played in 13 games this season, averaging 1.8 points and 1.2 assists in 12.3 minutes per game. She has missed the last three games with a leg injury.

According to the 2011 Clery report, there were four drug-related cases reported in 2008, with one reported

to have happened in the residential facilities. All four incidents resulted in arrests. The annual crime report is required due to the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act, a federal mandate that requires any institution of higher education in the United States that participates in federal student aid programs to produce and distribute an annual report containing crime statistics and statements of security policy.

In 2010, the report shows that the number of drug-related incidents on campus increased to 15, with 13 reported to have happened in the residential facilities. Out of the 15 incidents, eight resulted in arrest with six of them at the residential facilities. Referrals to the UTEP students judicial system for sanctions were handed out to seven of the reported cases, which all happened at residential facilities.

More recently, UTEP Police campus crime logs show that from November 2011 to Jan. 20, 2012, there have been nine reported drug-related incidents that have taken place at Miner Village and Miner Heights.

Charles Gibbens, director of Housing Services, said department follows the UT System zero-tolerance policy, which includes drug-related incidents.

“In the dorms, we abide by the UT zero tolerance policy, which offenses include drugs, abuse, fighting or any physical altercations,” Gibbens said. “If such things come up, we then call the police, then depending on the situation those individuals are then adjudicated by Ryan Holmes (assistant dean of students), who then calls in the student to research why the student committed the altercation and from there it depends on the case.”

Gibbens said that each case is handled differently and when the university police are involved they handle the situation administratively or criminally.

“We work closely with the UTEP police department and every occasion that involves the police department is handled one of two ways: administratively or criminally,” Gibbens said. “We handle these cases on a case-by-case basis because each one is different. Everything is about preserving life and safety of the students. We have

had several occasions where a student has been removed from the dorms.”

UTEP Chief of Police Clifton Walsh said that in any general case, the university police would handle the situation with standard police protocol.

“We follow the established investigative protocol where we are requested to respond to a call and go to where it is coming from and we conduct a preliminary investigation,” Walsh said. “We also abide by the laws of evidence, arrest and search and seize to ensure we are safeguarding the rights of the individual as we go through this process. We either validate or invalidate the call and/or the actions that have taken place. Once we gather facts, we will take it next to wherever that might be.”

According to Walsh, Miner Village and Miner Heights are treated like any other domiciles and any drug offense that occurs will be handled under the appropriate state laws.

“If one should be found guilty of any drug offense, not just on campus but anywhere in the state of Texas, the provision of the penile code of criminal procedural and other statutes that would apply would dictate what the outcome or punishment would be,” Walsh said. “It could be a fine and jail or just a fine. There is no way of telling what the punishment would be, because the police don’t assess the punishment, we take the appropriate action, which means if it needs to be filed, we will file the charges.”

Walsh said no matter who the individual is they follow the same procedures and do not alert UTEP Athletics or any other department of the persons that are involved.

“We handle every case on its own merits. We take the facts of the case and go from there,” Walsh said. “No, we don’t (contact UTEP athletics or other departments). I don’t see why we would do that. Yes, we communicate with other departments during the normal working business day, but the police will conduct our investigation and the investigation will go where it goes. The investigation is based on the rules of evidence, laws of arrest, search and seizure and investigative protocol.”

Aaron Martinez, Krystal Oblinger and William Vega may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

National Obama honors St. Louis Cardinals for extraordinary championship run



SALVADOR GUERRERO / SHFW

President Barack Obama and first lady Michelle Obama celebrate the St. Louis Cardinals’ 2011 World Series championship at the White House Tuesday, even though both are Chicago White Sox fans.

BY SALVADOR GUERRERO

Scripps Howard Foundation Wire

WASHINGTON - President Barack Obama called the St. Louis Cardinals’ championship one of the greatest comebacks in history.

“I won’t lie, I am a little disappointed that I have to leave my [Chicago] White Sox jacket in the closet for another year,” Obama said. “This is a special occasion, both because of what they do for the military and their families, but also for what they did on the field last season.”

Obama honored the Cardinals for their 2011 World Series championship Jan. 17 at a White House ceremony.

It was also first lady Michelle Obama’s 48th birthday. When she walked onto the East Room stage, people in the crowd shouted

birthday wishes and some began to sing.

“I want to thank you all for being here as we celebrate another world championship for the St. Louis Cardinals,” she said. “And that is not easy to say as a Cubs fan.”

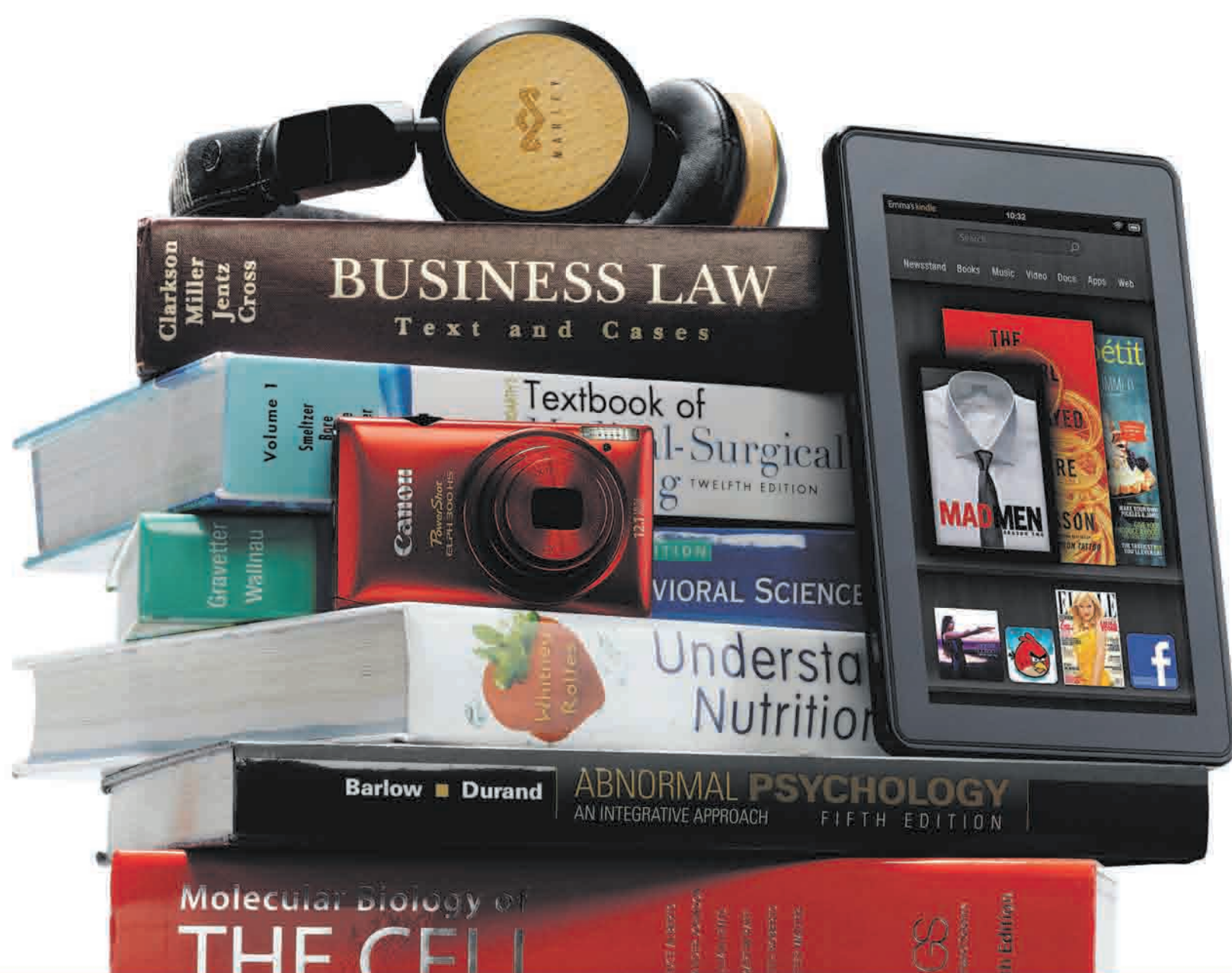
She praised team members for their volunteer work, especially with military families.

The Cardinals made a remarkable 23-8 run in the last two months of the season to come back from a 10.5 game deficit.

“This is a sport that has seen it all. Every once in a while, something happens that we have never seen before, something unique,” Obama said. “That’s why it is my pleasure to stand here with the greatest comeback team in the history of baseball.”

see OBAMA on page 6

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OBAMA from page 4

St. Louis defeated the Philadelphia Phillies 3-2 in the Division Series, then the Milwaukee Brewers 4-2 in the National League Championship Series and finally the Texas Rangers in seven games, defying the odds to capture the franchise's 11th title.

"The Cardinals were 10-and-a-half games out of the playoff race. At one point, they had less than four percent of a mathematical chance of making the playoffs," Obama said. "In Las Vegas, they were 500 to 1 to win the World Series. ... They somehow had

the spirit and determination to survive."

The president talked about game six of the World Series and how it highlighted the Cardinals' resolve.

"This team essentially played two months of elimination games, both to get in the playoffs and to win it all," Obama said. "In Tony La Russa's words, 'Sometimes you cannot be afraid to make a mistake, sometimes you just have to roll the dice and let it go.'"

St. Louis gave the president and first lady autographed baseball bats and jerseys.

Obama joked that when Cardinals President Bill DeWitt III

handed the first lady the bat, he was a little worried about his wife having it in case he "messed up."

Mrs. Obama grabbed at the bat playfully and made a face.

La Russa and Albert Pujols were the notable absences from the ceremony. La Russa retired after the 2011 World Series, and Pujols was traded to the Los Angeles Angels in November. Other absences include Yadier Molina, Adam Wainwright and Ryan Theriot.

Salvador Guerrero, senior print media major at UTEP, is an intern at the Scripps Howard Foundation's Semester in Washington program. He may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

GOP primary tracker

Iowa:

Rick Santorum: 24.6 %
Mitt Romney: 24.5%
Ron Paul: 21.4%
Newt Gingrich: 13.3%

New Hampshire:

Mitt Romney: 39.3%
Ron Paul: 22.9%
Newt Gingrich: 9.4%
Rick Santorum: 9.4%

South Carolina:

Newt Gingrich: 40.4%
Mitt Romney: 27.9%
Rick Santorum: 17.0%
Ron Paul: 13.0%

* According to The Washintong Post

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GOP from page 1

day most of the states will hold their elections at the same time--10 to be exact. The Texas primaries will be held on April 3.

"I think primaries are really effective, actually, because when you go head to head in a general election, you want someone who is really going to carry all of your party vote, you don't want to split the vote," said Josey Howard, a graduate student in history. "The primaries kind of prevent splitting the vote."

Romney, former governor of Massachusetts, has been claiming his work as a businessman in the private sector has provided him experience for the job. Santorum, a senator from Pennsylvania, has been running on a socially conservative platform with an aggressive foreign policy. Paul, a congressman from Texas and an anti-war libertarian, has been calling for smaller government and deregulation of the market. Gingrich, a former congressman from Georgia and Speaker of the House, is running on his career as a politician with the know-how to get things done in government.

"I officially do not support any one candidate, but I support the party as a whole," said Louis Southard, senior political science major and chairman of the UTEP College Republicans. "All the candidates have their ups and downs, for instance Gingrich says far-out things and Congressman Paul is advocating for a foreign policy that resembles isolationism."

Recently, Gingrich called Romney a vulture capitalist who has been "bankrupting companies and laying off employees," through his busi-

ness practices with Bain Capital. He released a short anti-Romney documentary on Youtube titled "When Mitt Romney Came to Town." Critics have called Santorum's stances on foreign policy and Iran as hawkish, Santorum himself has discussed the possible assassination of Iranian nuclear scientists. Paul, setting himself apart from the party platform with a more libertarian ideology, has called for an end to all major wars abroad, an end to the drug war and extreme deregulation of the market and an end to social programs such as welfare.

"Gingrich, Santorum and Perry have been splitting the more conservative Republican vote, while Ron Paul has also quite successfully garnered support of those seeking a more alternative candidate," Villalobos said.

Whoever wins the Republican nomination must still face off against President Barack Obama. That means the candidate must be able to appeal not just to Republican voters, but also to the majority of the electorate.

"There is nothing in the GOP that appeals to me," Howard said. "They're old white men and I am a young mixed-race woman who supports equal rights for everyone."

Whatever the result, Southard said the most important thing is that students participate and make their voices heard through their votes.

"I just want my peers here at UTEP to examine both of the platforms and become educated voters, because in this day and time, being an informed voter is critical," Southard said.

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'Whole New World' for 'Blondel'

Sir Tim Rice premieres 'Lute' musical at dinner theater

BY RYAN PERRY & KRISTAL OBLINGER

The Prospector

The new musical "Lute" a production directed by Greg Taylor with involvement from the lyricist and writer of the musical, Sir Tim Rice, will premiere Jan. 27- Feb.11 at the UTEP Dinner Theater.

Rice has composed lyrics for films such as "Aladdin," "Lion King" and, the Broadway musical, "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat."

"Lute" premiered at UTEP 27 years ago as "Blondel," but due to the significant changes in the script, Rice warranted for a title change in order to introduce the piece to a new audience.

"Most of the time we get a finished script and that is it," Taylor said. "This is different. Tim literally wrote a new song for the show a few hours before the media night."

Ricardo Parra, pre-medical student and the lead of "Lute," enjoys Rice's work after growing up with songs such as "A Whole New World" from "Aladdin," which won a 1992 Oscar for best pop single in an animated film. Parra said that those pieces were the reason he joined this production.

"Growing up in the 90s, watching 'Aladdin,' 'Lion King,' all those super famous tunes that everyone as a child knows, inspired me" Parra said. "In terms of theatre, the first show that I ever did in high school was 'Joseph and The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat' and that's what really got me excited about theatre. Watching those films and listening to the songs made me realize those were his words."

Taylor and Rice's partnership began when Taylor wrote Rice a letter 35 years ago, setting the stage for this year's production and productions past.

"I liked 'Jesus Christ Superstar' and 'Evita,' the albums I kept playing all the time, so I wrote a letter telling him how

much I liked them," Taylor said. "He wrote back, I wrote back and he wrote back and here we are."

Rice said that in life, conversation alone is much like the words for a song. There is a rhythm in the way people talk to each other and in many instances he had been inspired by just talking to someone about any topic.

"Musicals are a great way of recreating emotions that get straight to people often more than a straight play can, not always of course," Rice said. "Even as a kid in school, the records I liked tended to be the ones with interesting lyrics and being from England in the 50s and 60s, a lot of things that came from America seemed to be from a different planet, but I understood what they meant because they were on a brilliant pop record."

"Lute," is originally a book written by Rice that follows an array of characters all set in 1189, England. The story follows a young Blondel searching for King Richard Lion Heart in order to inject musical inspiration into the king's life.

"It gives a chance for a shared experience for many people in ways that cinema, for example, cannot," Rice said. "It is much like when the Beatles performed on Ed Sullivan. In the infancy of network television, one great show was viewed by millions of viewers resulting in a simultaneous experience that is quickly dissolving in these days of syndication, up to the minute updates and soundbites."

Rice said that in our daily lives, music is omnipresent: stuck in our heads, in cars, headphones, commercials, etc. and humans are one degree away from breaking into song.

"What keeps us from bursting into song is by-laws," Rice said. "Live performances are one of the few remnants of our communal experience that are receding into the vestigial library of things past."

Ryan Perry & Krystal Oblinger may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

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KRISTAL OBLINGER / The Prospector

From top to bottom: 1) The cast of "Lute" rotates the center stage piece to begin the second act on Jan. 17. during a rehearsal at the dinner theater. 2) Director Greg Taylor, author and lyricist Sir Tim Rice and musical arranger Mathew Pritchard watch the dress rehearsal after introducing a new song to the cast. 3) Lead actor Richard Parra scribes away in character as the original title character Blondel. 4) During warm-ups, Bondel's lute sits next to Parra as he talks to Taylor. 5) Rice discussed why he changed the name of the musical, and how he prepared the performance for a new generationn and for American audiences. He also commented on how he began writing lyrics and the story.

Movie Review

Unlikable lead tackles extreme role

BY ANDRES RODRIGUEZ
The Prospector

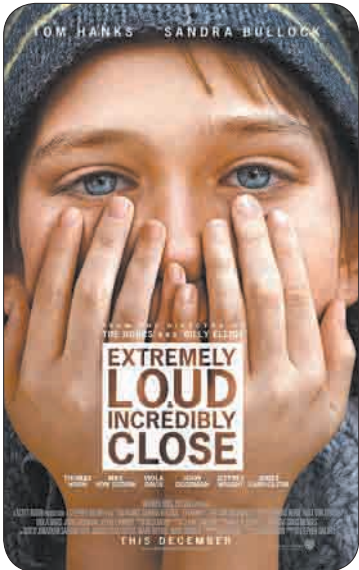
According to Oskar, a nine-year-old boy, self described amateur inventor, Franco-phile and pacifist, only humans can cry tears, a statement that director Stephen Daldry sets out to prove in the seemingly well-meant but altogether obnoxious “Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close.”

Based on Jonathan Safran Foer’s 2005 novel adapted by Eric Roth (“Forrest Gump”), “Extremely Loud” is a story about the nature of grief worth telling.

After a dramatic title shot of a falling man, the film opens on a funeral. Oskar, played by newcomer Thomas Horn, has just lost his father, Thomas Schell (Tom Hanks) during the World Trade Center attacks on the morning of 9/11, “the worst day” as he calls it. Amid the funeral mourners in black, Oskar, a distant child, stays behind in the limousine wearing his white karate uniform complaining about the empty casket.

Oskar complains about practically everything. He’s that type of painfully smart kid whose awkward social skills are uncomfortable to watch. Oskar suffers Asperger’s syndrome (a spectrum of autism) and the kid is going through a tough time coming to terms with his father’s loss. So naturally, I felt bad at feeling so annoyed by his crass remarks. Horn plays the part well enough, unfortunately, it isn’t a very likable part.

Secondary characters played by Hanks, Sandra Bullock, Max von Sydow and Viola



Special to the Prospector

Davis are superb. Bullock delivers a particularly heart felt performance as a mother struggling to remain involved with her child as he distances himself from the trauma. In a climactic scene, she screams to a ranting Oskar, “It’s not going to make sense,” as it often doesn’t when grieving a loved one.

The film goes through Oskar’s journey across the city as he tries to find the owner of a key that he finds in an envelope labeled “Black.” While looking through his father’s belongings, he also finds a newspaper clipping with the words “nonstop looking” circled. The nine-year-old boy determines to find the owner of the key by visiting everybody in New York City with the last name Black. Whatever this key unlocks, he believes, will bring him closer to his father.

The film captures Oskar’s childish curiosity and grief well. Forever questioning, Oskar held a loving relationship with his father. They battled with oxymorons, karate and held expeditions in search of New York’s sixth borough. Oskar is thus devastated when his father dies. Glimpses of his self-hurt, of a secret altar and haunting voicemails his father left before dying, reflect on Oskar’s stirring coping. But like Oskar, the film gets tense and uncomfortable.

Accompanied by the mute renter (von Sydow), Oskar’s coping journey is composed of brief visits in search of the key’s owner. Here lies the underdeveloped theme: everyone he visits shares the experience of loss. Near the end, Oskar explains this to his mother (Bullock), except we hardly see any of this universality of loss in the visits. With the exception of Davis’ heart-breaking portrayal of a failed life, little is placed on these visits to carry this theme across.

In a later scene, Oskar forces the renter to listen to the voicemails his father left while in the tower. The renter, mute and on the verge of tears, writes for him to stop, he’s had enough. Oskar insists and keeps playing them. The renter looks uncomfortable and crushed by the emotional depth of the recordings.

In a similar way, I too felt uncomfortable watching the film that so forcefully wanted me to become emotionally invested.



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Fashion Column



Special to the Prospector

Bring bold and brights

BY EILEEN LOZANO
The Prospector

Fashion forecast:

Spring is almost here and with it comes the time to get rid of all the oversized oxford shirts, tunics, comfortable loose fitting jeans and anything else stolen from your boyfriend’s dorm. Spring 2012 proves to reaffirm femininity, floral and bright colors on the catwalk.

Designers definitely had Rainbow Brite on their minds when developing the wide variety of colors and concepts, from bold art deco patterns popping up in retail stores to bright oranges and pink listed as the must have colors for this spring.

Wear them together if your style is daring and wild, or wear a bright pant with a fitted white oxford shirt. This is the best way to ease yourself into trying something new if your style is low key. For some, a bright pant might still be too much; try adding bold and bright feminine accessories, such as earrings, thin chain necklaces, a single bangle or even a thin single headband. Remember this is a trend. Feminine silhouettes won’t make it to fall because females love their boyfriend jeans too much, so don’t spend a lot of money.

If you want to stick to a more traditional spring fashion, wearing pastels and neutrals is still an option. Vogue made it clear that designers such as “Rag and Bone” and Marc Jacobs modeled their collection after neutrals and clean lines. Kimberly Ovitz, an up-and-coming California designer, is also striving for a minimal and feminine aesthetic. She comprised her collection of predominately white fabrics and simple silhouettes.

Midriiffs and oversized pants are still alive and well. These are two pieces that are very hard to wear properly. I can’t encourage everyone to wear this. Body conscious women should also think twice about purchasing a midriff. However, Nanette Lepore did display some very vibrant midriiffs in her spring 2012 collection.

Shorter females should not consider wearing an oversized pant, it could dwarf you and give people the illusion that you are rounder than you appear.

60s Revival

Twiggy and Edie Sedgwick are two style icons all girls have looked to for inspiration when their usual look is feeling a little flat. Now don’t rush out and get a pixie cut because the big voluptuous Brigitte Bardot hair is also showing a revival. Chunkier wedge heels are popping up online and on store racks; if you’re new to wearing heels, this is a great time to get some practice. The wedge is not only easier on your feet, but it will help improve your balance, and you won’t walk around campus like a Tyrannosaurus Rex.

Well-tailored men

As for all the men, strutting to class in bright colors and patterns is also the way to go. Most men are comfortable in just their jeans and basic button up. However you can still do your signature look, but with a twist. Try a pair of colored denim, start with something dark that you’re comfortable with. Purple, teal and grey are safe options that also hide areas you aren’t so comfortable with. Guys should opt for brighter jackets and accessories like fun ties or knit hats if they’re really adventurous. Tailored pieces are a must; never hesitate to spend a little extra cash on getting a well-fit.

Even if you decide not to wear bold patterns and prints this spring, make it your own and wear it with confidence and sophistication.

Eileen Lozano may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

Art exhibit features 27 faculty members

BY KRISTOPHER RIVERA
The Prospector

The 2012 UTEP Department of Art Biennial Faculty Exhibition will open its doors Jan. 26 through March 31 at the Stanlee and Gerald Rubin Center. The exhibit will feature artwork done outside the proper lines of institution from 27 members of the Department of Art.

“We have some excellent teaching artists on campus,” said Kerry Doyle, associate curator and assistant director. “It’s an opportunity for the campus and the community to see the recent work that these artists have done.”

All artwork that will be displayed has been done in the past two years and never showcased in an exhibition.

“When we do a show, often we’ll focus on a single media. We’ll have a painting exhibition or a sculpture exhibition,” Doyle said. “This is a chance to see work all the way across the board. There’s almost everything you could possibly work with, artistically, represented at this show.”

Putting together the exhibition is Gwen F. Chanzit, curator of modern and contemporary art and the Herbert Bayer Collection and Archive at the Denver Art Museum.

“I have worked with Kate Bonansinga, director of the Rubin Gallery, on several projects over

many years,” Chanzit said. “As a longtime curator of modern and contemporary art, I enjoy the process of selecting art work for exhibitions. It’s very gratifying to see the installation come together as a whole.”

To begin piecing together the blueprint of what the exhibit should look like, Chanzit met with each faculty member who shared their work.

“In every case, as we discussed their work, it became clear which material would best represent the direction of their art and their particular passion and expertise,” Chanzit said. “The selections are based on quality of both concept and execution, as well as consideration of how the selections would be presented as a complete exhibition in the Rubin Center.”

Chanzit brings a fresh taste in selecting the artwork she chooses to display. This will create a special catalyst as a whole in the exhibit rather than having a predictable outcome.

“I’ve been impressed with the cultural milieu. So much of what one sees here is unique to place,” Chanzit said. “Many cities in the United States take on a sameness, but that is not true here. The mix of cultures enriches El Paso enormously and provides the basis for its very special visual culture.”

There is one universal idea that Chanzit finds orbiting the creativity of the faculty members.

“The border is the singular element in El Paso with profound impact on artists. Almost every artist I met addresses issues concerning the border,” Chanzit said. “I can think of nowhere else in this country where there is an element with such impact. The art made here is both, informed and enriched by these issues.”

Sarah De La Garza, UTEP graduate student, browses the gallery and stops to examine one piece done by art lecturer Francisco Delgado. The giant canvas is a monochromatic piece that depicts a clown encircled and wrestling snakes, which Garza said is completely different then anything she’s seen him do.

“This is a lot darker than most of the work that he’s done in the past,” Garza said. “Most of his work is politically motivated, having to do with the border.”

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Special to the Prospector

Pieces featured in the exhibit range from photomanipulation to paintings and sculptures.



Women's Basketball



BOB CORRAL / The Prospector

Senior guard Whitney Houston rallies the team before their game against Houston Jan. 22 at the Don Haskins Center.

UTEP improves to 6-0 in C-USA shorthanded

BY WILLIAM VEGA
The Prospector

The last six times UTEP and Houston met, the Cougars were either leading or competing for a Conference-USA regular season or tournament title with Houston ending the Miners' season the last two years. This year, however, conference-leading UTEP turned the tables and avenged themselves against the Cougars in blow-out fashion.

Even with two suspended players, the Miners played 13 of their 14 players on their active roster and routed Houston 87-43 Jan. 22 at the Don Haskins Center to snap a six-game losing streak to them.

"Going back to last year and how we played, we had to come in and prove ourselves. We did good, ex-

ecuted what we needed and it came out good," sophomore forward Kayla Thornton said. "(Houston) is good but it's a good feeling to come in and beat them by a large portion of points."

Freshman guard Chrishauna Parker and sophomore guard Ryah Lacy were suspended this one game for breaking team rules, according to head coach Keitha Adams. Adams said she wasn't sure on the length of the suspension as she said "only time will tell." The team did not practice Jan. 23 and Adams said she wasn't sure if the two would be at practice Jan. 24 after the game.

Adams began emptying her bench early into the second half as no starters saw action the final 11 minutes. Senior guard Whitney Houston and freshman guard Syerra Davis, averaging a combined 10.8 minutes per

game, finished with five and seven points, respectively. Only freshman guard Marissa Rodriguez did not play.

"It felt great. It's been a long time coming and I tell coach Adams all the time that I'm here," Houston said. "I remember last year just sitting over there and down because we lost three times to them last year but we got the great win."

Sophomore forward Kayla Thornton led the Miners with 18 points on 8-of-12 shooting and junior forward Anete Steinberga had a game-high 10 rebounds, making her third start of the year.

Senior forward and leading-scorer and rebounder Gloria Brown wasn't needed much, either, as she played just five minutes, racking up four points and one board. Adams said she wasn't feeling well during shoot

around prior to the game but is expecting her back for their contest Jan. 26 at Southern Miss.

"It was good to get our other post players, you know Anete was able to play more. A lot of it was rhythm and Kayla's been playing really well. Gloria didn't have a good shoot around and didn't play well so we just kind of took that avenue," Adams said.

The Miners didn't need much of Brown, as UTEP built a double-digit lead early on. Senior guard Baiba Eglite hit her first of back-to-back 3-pointers to give the Miners a 21-9 lead just over 10 minutes into the game.

Even without Brown, UTEP's inside presence was still there. The Miners outrebounded the Cougars 53-37, won the battle in the paint 36-12 and had 19 second-chance points to Houston's four.

UTEP also tied a season-low nine turnovers and had 25 assists to the Cougars' one.

Houston was lead by senior guard Roxana Button's game-high 20 points, which was 1.4 points more than her team-leading season average. She went 10-of-13 from the free throw line.

"Button's quite a player, she's been putting up big numbers for them. I thought we did a pretty good job on her the whole time but she has a way to draw fouls, knock down her free throws and quite a little player," Adams said.

C-USA leading UTEP will now play Jan. 26 at last-place Southern Miss, a team that is 0-6 during league play.

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

Men's Basketball

Rebuilding year plagued by injuries



BOB CORRAL / The Prospector

Sophomore guard Michael Perez dribbles by an East Carolina defender Jan. 18 at the Don Haskins Center. Perez missed one game in early January due to multiple injuries.

BY FRANKIE RODRIGUEZ
The Prospector

As the Miners continue their roller coaster season, injuries have become a consistent problem for head coach Tim Floyd, who has still found ways to adapt to the circumstances and utilize the reinforcements he does have.

"We have been in this situation since December, dating back to (Nov. 31 at) Oregon. It has been a long time so we have learned to play around (injuries)," Floyd said. "Will it come back to bite us in some games? Possibly. But it hasn't so far."

Even prior to the start of the season, UTEP played its first four games—losing three of those—without their lone senior and forward Gabriel McCulley. He injured his left shin in the summer, and later on found out he had a stress fracture in the shin. After surgery and a quicker than expected recovery, McCulley returned for the game against Oregon and currently is leading the team in points per game with 12.3.

"It has affected us a little bit because we have struggled with big men. We are still short a couple of big men and I think it is affecting us down low," freshman guard Julian Washburn said.

One of the two lengthier losses occurred with two post players, affecting the depth on the roster. Junior forward Malcolm Moore injured his right knee Dec. 16 in practice. He has missed the last 12 games and is done for the season after suffering a torn anterior cruciate ligament. Freshman center Hooper Vint has missed the last 13 games dealing with back problems. He has a bulging disc in his back but his status is still uncertain for the remainder of the season.

"With Hooper Vint, we are still hopeful that maybe he will get from the bulging disc in his back. Malcolm Moore will have to redshirt because of the ACL injury," Floyd said.

Players of the team feel they are lacking depth with their big men due to these two injuries. They are finding

Rifle
No. 8 Miners look to resume success in second half of season

BY RUSTY BURNS
The Prospector

Following a successful first half of the season and a long layoff, the UTEP rifle team will be looking to get back in the swing of things when they resume the 2011-12 season Jan. 28 in Murray, Kentucky at the Withrow Tournament.

The Miners, whose last competition was in November, are looking forward to capitalizing on the success they received the first half of the season. UTEP is currently No. 8 in the NCAA, but was ranked as high as fifth in mid-October.

“I’d rather be ranked fourth or fifth,” head coach George Brenzovich said. “The goal is to be ranked higher prior to the national qualifier.”

To begin the 2011-12 season, the Miners went up against two top-10 teams in No. 7 Nevada and No. 2 TCU in their first two contests of the year. They would go on a four-game winning streak until dropping their last competition of the fall Nov. 12 against Nevada. Though the Miners have a winning record, it’s the individual scores that count, said Brenzovich. With that, he said everyone on the roster has stepped up their game.

Leading the team with the highest aggregate score of 1,164 is senior Andrea Palafox.

“If everyone keeps doing as they were during the first half of the season we will have a very good chance of having a good spot for nationals,” Palafox said.

Palafox’s biggest performances came Oct. 1 against TCU and in a triangular competition Oct. 29, which involved Nevada and Alaska-Fairbanks. She posted aggregate scores of 1,171 in both events. She achieved her highest scores in smallbore with a 583 and in air rifle with a 594 against TCU and Alaska-Fairbanks and Nevada, respectively.

Senior Alix Moncada, the recipient of the NCAA’s Elite 88 Award, is behind Palafox in aggregate score with 1,162. Moncada’s highest total score came during the Alaska-Fairbanks and Nevada meet, where she shot 1,167. She registered a 592 Nov. 12 against Nevada in their contest.

Leading the underclassmen is sophomore Andrea Vautrin. With her success early on this season, she hopes to capitalize for her own personal accomplishment and for the team.

“I reached my personal goal of shooting higher than a 580 in smallbore,” Vautrin said. “Hopefully in the second half of the season, I can maintain a 580 average so I’d have to shoot that score all throughout the year.”



Special to The Prospector

Senior Alix Moncada raises her rifle during a practice at the UTEP rifle range last semester.

Vautrin’s highest scores came Oct. 8 against Air Force and while competing against Alaska-Fairbanks and Nevada. She put up a total of 1,170 against the Falcons and 1,164 against the Wolf Pack and Nanooks. Not

only did she post her highest totals in these outings, she put up her highest individual scores in smallbore and air rifle there.

With the season just around the corner, the Miners have already been practicing since Jan. 10. They began practicing air-rifle shooting, with every player taking 30 to 60 shots during practice, and started smallbore workouts Jan. 14.

The second half of the schedule sees UTEP taking place in the Withrow Tournament, rematches with Air Force and TCU Feb. 4 and Feb. 11, respectively, and the NCAA Qualifier Feb. 18 against Nevada. Last year, in the Withrow Tournament, the Miners put up a score of 4,584, with Monca-

da, Palafox and Vautrin leading the way.

“I’m looking forward to our team making it to the NCAA’s,” Vautrin said. “UTEP has not been there in awhile.”

This semester will also be the curtain call for Moncada and Palafox. Both shooters have had decorated careers as Miners, with both making Conference-USA’s first and second teams, and recipients of the C-USA Commissioners Honor Roll. Moncada was an Elite 88 recipient last season and placed seventh at the NCAA Championships.

Rusty Burns may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

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Answer

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

Answers to 1-17-11

BRAIN ZONE

King Crossword

ACROSS

1 Winged

5 Turn blue?

8 Frog's cousin

12 Rickey flavor

13 Mardi Gras VIP

14 Shake in the grass?

15 Poetic foot

16 Shrill bark

17 Detail

18 Company of actors

20 Parliamentarian

22 From stem to stern

26 Elevator passage

29 Golf position

30 Confucians' "way"

31 Swine

32 Artist Vermeer

33 "West Side Story" gang

34 Mimic

35 Play on words

36 Makes weary

37 Everywhere.

40 Pealed

41 Costello's partner

45 Bloodhound's clue

47 Back talk

49 Sandwich cookie

50 Gloomy

51 Actress Mendes

52 — a soul (nobody)

53 Catch sight of

54 "Oh, yeah? — who?"

55 Shade providers

8 Bronze winner's placek

9 Passe

10 Hearty brew

11 Beavers' construction

19 Cauldron

21 Inseparable

23 African antelope

24 Destiny

25 Throw

26 Persian bigwig

27 Kachina worshipper

28 Demo-graphic division

32 Impenetrable thickets

33 Samson's

35 Skillet

36 Occupation

38 Wizard

39 Bolivian capital

42 Verbal

43 Contract clause

44 Santa's sackful

45 Rhyming tribute

46 Two, in Ti uana

48 "— been had"

weapon, courtesy of an ass

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Track and Field
New assistant hopes to continue program tradition

BY DANIEL ORNELAS
The Prospector

The UTEP track and field program has a new assistant coach. Starting this semester, Scott Roberts will be leading the women track team, overseeing the sprints, hurdles, multi-events and jumps athletes.

“We had a position open and we had a lot of candidates and he was by far the most qualified for the position so that’s why he’s here,” head coach Mika Laaksonen said. “I think he brings experience and he has great coaching skills. He has a very good personality for the job, he’s very team oriented so a lot of positives so far that I see.”

Roberts previously held the same position at the University of Alabama from 2007-11. During his tenure with the Crimson Tide, Roberts coached eight All-Americans, including four SEC champions.

He also worked as a speed trainer and consultant with the Alabama football program for one year that included working with current NFL players Rolando McClain and Javier Arenas.

Prior to his time at Alabama, Roberts spent a decade at Iowa State University, where he helped lead Aurelia Trywianska to the 2004 and 2008 Olympic games in the 100-meter hurdles.

Roberts hopes to have similar success with his runners at UTEP and sees potential already.

That is because of some of the talent he has already inherited such as in two All-Americans with senior sprinter Endurance Abinuwa and senior distance runner Risper Kimaiyo.

“We’ve got some really good kids to work with, really excited about this upcoming season. After the first meet, we had one girl, Endurance Abinuwa, who’s already ranked fifth in the nation in the 60-meter dash,” Roberts said. “We want to score as many points as we can at the conference meet and I’ve challenged my women to score maybe 30 points at the conference meet and help us bring a conference (title) back to UTEP.”

Laaksonen said he is confident about Robert, especially given the type of learning ability and athleticism some of his runners already possess.



Assistant coach Scott Roberts watches freshman jumper Monica Lopez train during a practice Jan. 23 at Kidd Field. Roberts is overseeing the sprints, hurdles, multievents and jumps for the women’s team.

“I think they’re responding very well. He has tough practices, but because of his personality and the way he is, I don’t hear any complaining and I see them working very well as a group,” Laaksonen said. “I don’t see any negatives right now, it looks really good, really solid. With time we’ll see real good results from the group. We’ve already had some good results from the group in the first meet but even better as time goes on.”

The SEC has found much success in recent years, winning 24 combined indoor and outdoor NCAA titles from both the men and women between 2000-11. Roberts knows the talent to compete against in the SEC is elite and believes Conference-USA has elite talent of its own.

“It’s pretty comparable so far. The SEC is a very strong league, as we all

know, and very deep, but certainly we have those same type of athletes in C-USA,” Roberts said.

Even though Roberts came from the SEC, he believes he can contribute to the UTEP custom.

“I think the thing that makes this job really attractive is the tremendous tradition that UTEP has had. All the

national championships and all the All-Americans, All-Conference performers,” Roberts said. “So I think that’s what makes this a very attractive opportunity. A place where we can certainly develop kids and bring kids into the program.”

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Track and Field
Abinuwa, Kimaiyo highlight Cherry and Silver

BY DANIEL ORNELAS
The Prospector

The Miners capped off their second indoor meet led by their senior duo of sprinter Endurance Abinuwa and long distance runner Risper Kimaiyo. The two took first in their respective events Jan. 20-21 at the Cherry and Silver Invitational in Albuquerque.

Abinuwa clocked in at 7.44 seconds in the 60-meter dash and lead the 4x400 meter relay team to a second place finish along with sophomore Janice Jackson, senior Kitra Stewart and junior Yolanda Suggs.

“I felt like we made progress this week. Endurance ran solid races to win the 200m and 60m. Her 200m time should put her in the top 10 nationally,” assistant coach Scott Roberts said. “Our 4x400-meter relay improved by over three seconds from last week with the addition of Kitria Stewart. That being said, we still have work to do.”

Jackson, a transfer from Clemson, also took silver in the 60-meter hurdles with a time of 8.46. The All-American Kimaiyo earned her second top-five finish this season with a time of 9:47.09 in the 3,000-meter run.

For the men’s team, junior Elkana Rotich earned silver in both the mile and 3,000-meter run.

“Both Risper and Elkana performed really well this weekend. Risper winning the 3000-meter at (that) altitude was a commendable effort, especially when we consider that she led the race from the beginning,” assistant coach Paul Ereng said. “The same goes for Elkana finishing second in two events.”

see ABINUWA on page 12



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ABINUWA from page 11

Ereng said that Rotich's time of 4:13 in the mile run was a 12 second improvement from his time at the same event he ran last year."

The men's 4x400-meter relay team of seniors Suji Adeniyani, A-Shawni Mitchell, Shane Hamm and Curtis Kock earned first with a season-best time of 3:16.31.

Senior and El Pasoan Matt Dudley regressed in his performance this

time around, finishing fifth in the shot put after earning first place in his first meet. Dudley's best throw in Albuquerque was 16.37-meters, which was also short of his 16.95-meter mark during his first meet Jan. 14 in Boise, Idaho.

Heading into the meet, Dudley hoped to continue and improve, create consistency in his performance and try not to peak too early into the season.

"I'm just trying to get consistent. You want to keep a steady pace so if you do 56 (feet) the first meet then let's get something around the same range if not ever further," Dudley said. "We try and keep our goals steadily going forward. The first meet we were just really working technique, the second is the same."

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BOB CORRAL / The Prospector

Senior forward Gabriel McCulley began the injury woes, missing the first four games of the season with a leg injury.

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ways to work around it, and feel injuries could be a lot worse.

"We aren't a really deep team right now with Hooper Vint being out and Malcolm Moore being out. For the most part, it has affected our depth," McCulley said. "We only have me, (sophomore center) John Bohannon and (freshman forward) Cedrick Lang, for the most part. We have (sophomore forward) Kevin Perry who is trying to come along. Overall we are lucky to not have so many injuries, knock on wood."

Minor injuries also occurred. Michael Perez (sophomore guard) did not play Jan. 7 against Houston after rolling his ankle in practice, and Washburn sat out the game against Arkansas-Pine Bluff Dec. 29, after sustaining an AC sprain in his right shoulder in the first half against Clemson Dec. 22 at the Diamond Head Classic in Honolulu.

"I hurt my shoulder in Hawaii and it never fully healed. It kind of af-

ected my performance on the court so I wanted to sit out that one game," Washburn said. "It still hurts a little bit if somebody bumps it or something, but I will be back to 100 percent very soon."

The Miners are looking at this from a positive perspective and feel this is an opportunity for others to step up. There is no question that it has affected the team down low with a negative rebounding margin for the second-straight season. Bohannon is the leading rebounder averaging 6.7 rebounds a game.

"It has just given guys more minutes. Every night, me, Bohannon and Lang are going out there trying to play 30 minutes a game," McCulley said. "I don't think anything is wrong with that. We just have to suck it up and try to fill in where other guys aren't able to give us anything."

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