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The Prospector, March 29, 2012

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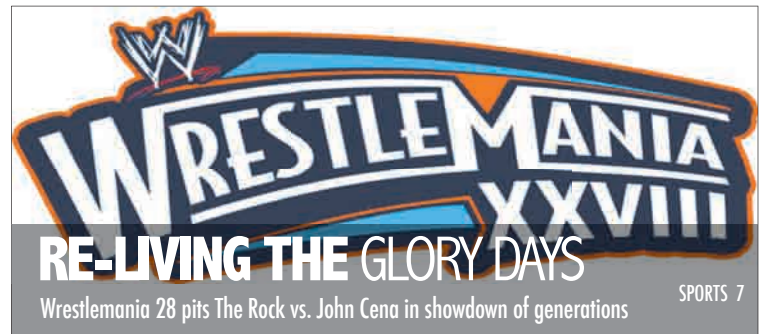
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SPORTS 7

LET THE BALLOTS

BEGIN

SGA ELECTIONS

KICK OFF NEXT WEEK

BY ADAM
MARTÍNEZ

The Prospector

It's that time of the year again. The 2012 Student Government Association elections will be in full swing starting next week. Beginning at 6 a.m. April 2, candidates will start campaigning for 25 positions, including the president's seat.

According to Margarita Ortega, junior economics major and election commission advisor, this year's candidate list is the longest in a while.

"We have 43 candidates running for senator-at-large. We are hopeful that the numbers of voters will also increase," Ortega said. "Usually there are two parties, but this year will have three parties running, so hopefully it doesn't get too nasty."

The Colleges of Education, Business, Engineering, Liberal Arts, Science, Nursing Health Sciences and Graduate School all have collegiate senator seats up for grabs. A debate is planned at 1:30 p.m. April 3 at Leech Grove with executive officer candidates.

In-person voting is scheduled from noon-2 p.m. April 4 and from 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. April 5 at the Union East Building, as well as online voting running from April 4 to April 5.

Pablo Padilla, current SGA president and senior microbiology major, knows how hard it is to run a campaign.

"It is a lot of planning and conflict resolution," Padilla said. "It was tiring trying to deal with election stress issues, schoolwork and keeping your image during elections. It is a true balancing act."

Padilla hopes the election will go smoothly and he has confidence in the election commissioners.

A revised set of guidelines gives both Ortega and Padilla assurance that the election will be a fun and fair event for all students to take part in.

"With the amount of information SGA has promoted, we feel this year's elections are a time to continue the momentum this year's administration has started," Padilla said. "It is a long term process, but these candidates are able and understand what is needed to be successful in SGA for UTEP's future."

There will also be a number of judicial and legislative assistant

see SGA on page 4

ILLUSTRATION BY DIEGO BURCIAGA / The Prospector

Campus

Veteran news reporter and alumnus Sam Donaldson visits UTEP

BY ADAM MARTÍNEZ AND
JASMINE AGUILERA

The Prospector

Distinguished alumnus and world-renowned journalist Sam Donaldson addressed a full house March 26 at the Undergraduate Learning Center discussing the upcoming elections and how the presidency has changed over the years.

With a speech titled "Donaldson Here: A Conversation About Politics with Sam Donaldson," the 1955 graduate of Texas Western College (now University of Texas at El Paso) and former White House correspondent, gave his predictions on the upcoming national election and reminisced on presidents past.

Donaldson evaluated the Republican candidates predicting Mitt Romney to be the choice to challenge President Barack Obama, and citing the economy, particularly gas prices, as the determining factor in who will win.

Donaldson also predicted Hillary Clinton will run for president again in 2016.

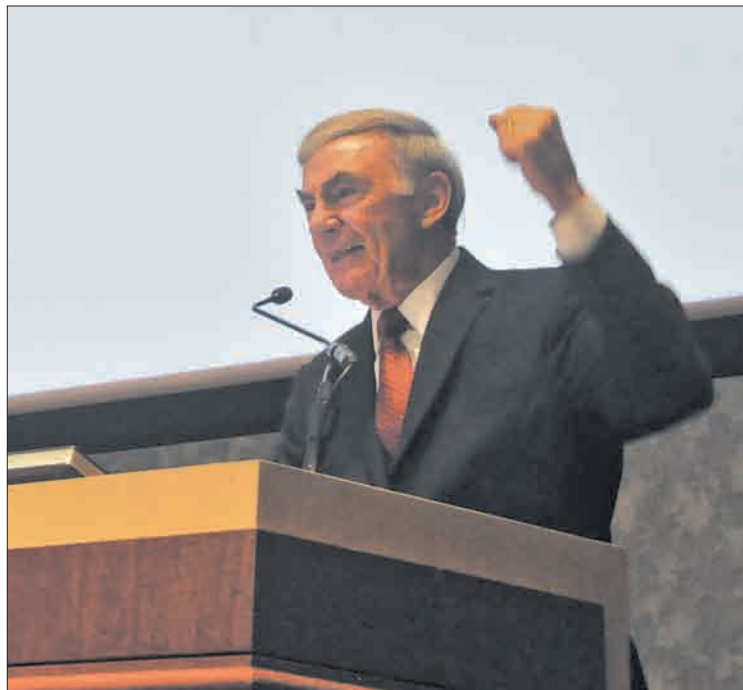
"She'll run again, you watch, don't pay any attention to those statements that 'oh I just want to be a grandmother and sit at home by the fire with (former president) Bill (Clinton)...'" Donaldson said. "She's going to run. She'll only be 67, and to me that's a child."

Donaldson's talk was part of the Centennial Lecture Series and was presented by the College of Liberal Arts.

He has been providing political commentary since the 1960s and has covered the tenures of Presidents Jimmy Carter, Ronald Reagan and Clinton. His speech imparted some perspective on the current states of affairs.

"There was a lot of credibility to what he said about today's political landscape, especially about the gas prices and unemployment rates," said Sarah Ryan, assistant professor of communication. "Those certainly aren't the only issues in the election but I agree that they are probably two of the most important."

see ALUMNUS on page 3



GREG CASTILLO / The Prospector

UTEP alumnus and former White House correspondent Sam Donaldson delivers a speech March 26 at the UGLC as part of the Centennial Lectures Series.

Crime

Alleged UTEP

student arrested for fight on campus

BY HENRY ARRAMBIDE

The Prospector

One alleged UTEP student was arrested and taken to the hospital late March 28 after a supposed fight broke out on the second floor of the Union Building East in front of the World of Wings restaurant.

According to three witnesses, the fight involved two alleged UTEP students and an unidentified third person. Two of the suspects ran away.

The witnesses, who asked to remain anonymous, said a student wearing a white shirt at the Union was sitting alone drinking at WoW talking to himself around 5 p.m. He was eventually approached by a student in plaid and the two proceeded to play bloody knuckles on the wall of the Union with rings on their hands.

A third person, who witnesses described as a "schizophrenic man" that was talking to himself aloud and had a traveling bag with him, eventually showed up. Allegedly a fight broke out among the three after the man with the traveling bag told the student in plaid he was going to save the world. The student in white eventually suffered injuries, while the other two fled.

Around 9:08 p.m., the student in white was carried out of the Union on a stretcher and handcuffs. Two students who matched the description of suspects in an assault case were detained by UTEP Police as they were leaving Union West.

"We matched the description of two gentlemen who were accused of assaulting someone else," said Jonathan Enchinton, senior biological science major. "And so they just asked us to cooperate with them, so that way they could investigate and see if we were the suspects or not."

Enchinton and Martin Gonzales, senior English and American literature major, were not the perpetrators and the campus police released them.

"It apparently happened in Union East," Gonzales said. "The reason there was a mix-up, it seems, is because we were coming out of Union West. We had just finished a speak-out on behalf of the Rainbow Miner Initiative."

Gonzales and the other witnesses said the alleged suspects involved in the incident had been drinking alcohol.

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

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GENERAL PUBLIC

Column

SGA president apologizes



First and foremost, I would like to apologize to the student body for my complete disregard for the University Parking Rules and Regulations. I want to extend my apologies to the Parking and Transportation Office and the UTEP SGA. They have a difficult time dealing with student issues and I am sure my actions will hinder all of their hard work and effort.

As UTEP Student Government Association President, I take full responsibility for my actions. I am a full supporter of the Campus Master Plan, which does include cutting off the campus to external traffic, and I will have to adapt just like every other member of this campus when this plan takes effect years down the line. The Student Government Association Traffic Court has tirelessly updated their system to become an efficient entity on this campus, which my administration has taken great strides to accomplish.

I am happy The Prospector looks out for the student body by pointing out issues and concerns. The Prospector and SGA have worked hard to promote the student voice at UTEP.

Next week is election week for the SGA and we hope that the entire student body attends the debate from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m. April 3 at Leech Grove and then vote online or in person from April 4 to 5.

UTEP Miners: stay informed and learn about the prospective candidates who will represent the student body in upcoming years. A strong Miner Nation can stir great change, so your vote matters.

Lets VOTE, UTEP Miners!

Thank you,
Pablo L. Padilla
Student Government Association President
2011-2012

you think?

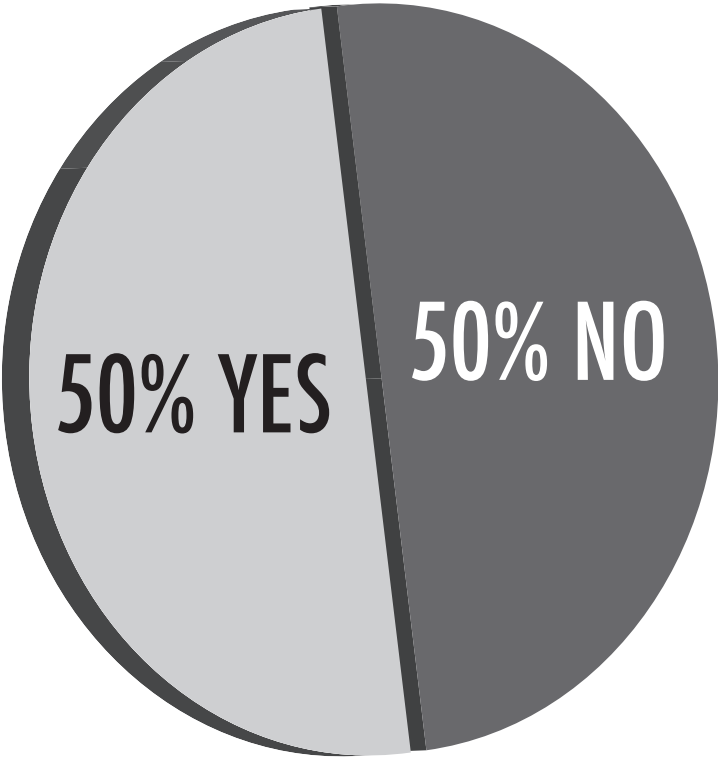
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This week's poll question:
Are you upset over the Michael Bay remake of "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles?"

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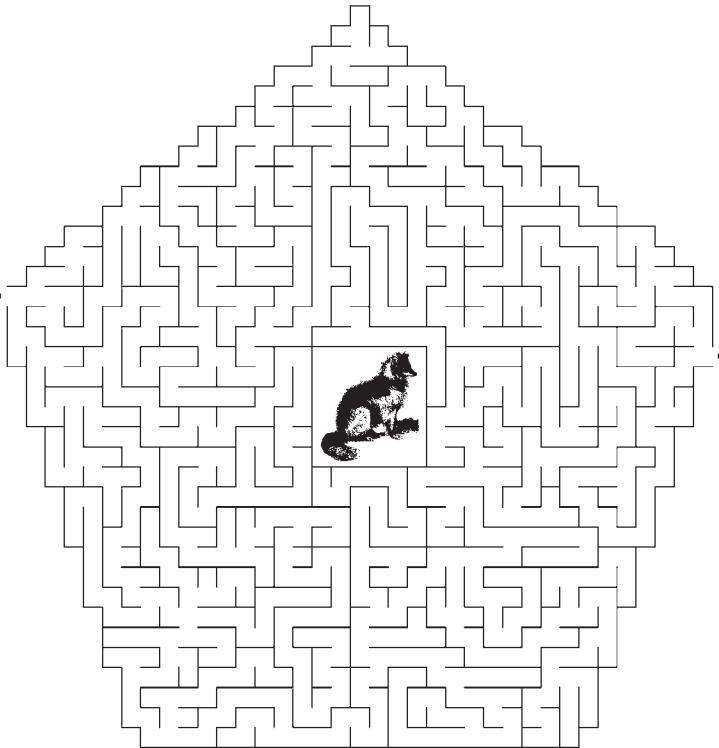
we asked, you answered

POLL RESULTS Results as of March 29, for final results check the April 3 issue of The Prospector.
Are you upset over the Michael Bay remake of "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles?"



Mega Maze

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The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



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National

Michelle Obama helps plant cherry blossom tree



JESSICA SABBAAH / SHFWire

A small group of children shovel dirt as they plant a cherry blossom tree near the Tidal Basin in Washington. First lady Michelle Obama talks to Japanese Ambassador Ichiro Fujisaki and his wife, Yoriko.

BY JESSICA SABBAAH

Scripps Howard Foundation Wire

WASHINGTON – First lady Michelle Obama is known for her gardening. On March 27, she put her skills to good use and she and a group of children planted a new cherry tree near the Tidal Basin.

The ceremony marked the 100th anniversary of D.C. receiving the first cherry blossom trees from Tokyo.

“For so many years, these trees have served as a symbol of the great friendship between the United States

and Japan, and as a reminder of our shared hopes, dreams and aspirations,” Obama said.

The unique trees made their way to D.C. in 1912, when Tokyo Mayor Yukio Ozaki gave 3,000 cherry blossom trees to the city. First lady Helen Taft and Viscountess Chinda, wife of the Japanese ambassador, planted the first two.

Obama compared the endurance of the trees to the Japanese people, who faced an earthquake and a tsunami last year.

“So on this historic anniversary, we don’t just admire the beauty of these trees, we also admire their resilience,” she said. “And in so doing, we are reminded of the extraordinary resilience of the Japanese people. Over the past year, we have all witnessed their courage, unity and grace as they have come together and begun the very hard work of rebuilding their nation.”

Japanese Ambassador Ichiro Fujisaki said the American people were enormously helpful to Japan.

see OBAMA on page 4

ALUMNUS from page 1

Born in El Paso, Donaldson began his career in broadcasting at a local radio station as a student. He later became station manager of KTEP, the campus radio station, received his bachelor’s degree in telecommunications and is now known for his aggressive style of reporting.

“He’s had an impact being one of the greatest journalists of all-time,” Ryan said. “His presence speaks to what our journalism program has offered for decades and what it is still offering.”

Along with his commentary on politics, Donaldson also spoke of his background.

“Not so long ago Rep. Silvestre Reyes (D-El Paso) and I were talking to each other, he said ‘here I am from Canutillo and you’re from Chaburino, New Mexico and we’re both in Washington,’” Donaldson said. “And I said, ‘Yeah but you got elected, I had to do it the easy way.’”

In his speech, Donaldson also referred to the large amounts of political debates taking place and defining moments of the race.

“Every political year is different, they have similarities naturally, but this one is a doozy. So far this is one for the record books,” Donaldson said.

His time in the White House Press Corp. provided him many anecdotes to dote on including his fondness for Reagan. Donaldson had witnessed an assassination attempt on the then-president in 1981.

“The Republican candidates have alienated a lot of moderates and independents with their rhetoric, but I agree with what he said about the election basically coming down to how the economy is doing,” Randall Cadenhead, senior majoring in political science, said.

Among his other predictions, Donaldson noted the importance of minority groups and the power of moderate voters in winning presidential elections. His angle on today’s political landscape spurred interest in some students.

“I am not really interested in politics but he interested me in a lot of

the topics he was talking about,” Rene Malooly, sophomore multimedia journalism major, said. “He informed me on a lot of issues I didn’t really pay attention to.”

Donaldson took a few questions from the audience after his speech, which gave him an opportunity to provide some insight on the evolution of journalism. His remarks recall a time when broadcast news dominated and presidents found it harder to dodge questions from reporters. Donaldson sees the news medium currently concerned with making money.

“I think there are a lot of very good, smart, younger journalists, not just in broadcast but in print, who are asking the right questions,” Donaldson said in response to a question about courage in younger journalists. He said presidents have become very good at ignoring questions from journalists but that does not mean the right questions aren’t being asked.

Sophomore multimedia journalism major, Elisa Barraza, left the lecture learning a lot about politics and journalism but wondered how he developed his no-nonsense attitude in the face of presidents.

“I would ask him how he does it,” Barraza said. “He has to ask difficult questions but how he is able to ask them in a matter that isn’t bias or rude.”

Ryan was delighted her students had a chance to see and hear a legend of broadcast journalism.

“I just wish he would wear a UTEP t-shirt every day,” Ryan said. “He has known presidents on a first name basis; I don’t think many universities can say that about their alums.”

Adam Martinez and Jasmine Aguilera may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

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2012 STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION ELECTIONS

CANDIDATES FOR PRESIDENT

Noraliz Casanova (PIC)
Tanya Maestas (IMPACT)
Emmanuel Arzate (SHARP)

CANDIDATES FOR VICE-PRESIDENT OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS

Alejandro Baca (PIC)
Alexandra Lozano (IMPACT)
Paulette Acosta-Hayen (SHARP)

CANDIDATES FOR VICE-PRESIDENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Pedro Diaz (PIC)
Daniel Gloria (IMPACT)
Nancy Alcantar (SHARP)

*For a complete list of all positions and candidates up for election, call the SGA office at 747-5076.

SGA from page 1

positions available once the term is over. The positions include seven Supreme Court justices, an attorney general, traffic court justices and prosecutors. Students can fill these posts by applying through the SGA and submitting to an interview process.

“These are the people who students appeal parking tickets to, and if traffic court finds you guilty then students can appeal to the Supreme Court,” Ortega said. “It’s like a little United States.”

This exiting administration launched a massive public relations campaign with the goal of promoting SGA. Padilla feels the promotion has been successful, but won’t know the true extent until the election is over.

“With the increased number of candidates running for positions, we think our efforts have worked,” Padilla said. “SGA is here for the student body and we want to help in any way possible. Our office is always open and no matter who wins in these upcoming elections, the true mission of our office is to promote and foster UTEP students’ success.”

The SGA expects to continue the momentum started by the departing administration by providing more opportunities for students to be successful.

Abril López, a senior biological sciences major, voted in last year’s election and wants to take advantage of what the SGA has to offer.

“SGA has created some good programs such as internships and have made connections with companies that help students,” López said. “I plan on voting this semester because I’m hoping to take advantage of some of the improvements they have made.”

For more information, visit utep.edu/sga or call 747-5584. Check utepprospector.com for the complete list of winners in the 2012 SGA elections, which should be announced April 9.

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



JESSICA SABBAAH / SHFWire

First lady Michelle Obama speaks March 27 to a crowd during a tree planting ceremony to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the cherry blossom trees in D.C.

OBAMA from page 3

“Because you’ve stood with us, we are on the road to coming back, and like cherry blossoms bloom this year, we’ll be blooming,” he said.

The ceremony took place near the Tidal Basin, with few trees in bloom. The cherry blossoms peaked March 20, about two weeks earlier than normal, according to the National Cherry Blossom Festival’s website.

Obama joked about the early bloom.

“We have come together to celebrate these beautiful cherry blossom trees—and yes, they were blooming last week,” she said. “We were so close.”

Following the first lady’s speech, a small group of children accompanied

her in planting a cherry blossom tree and took photos.

Other speakers included Fujiko Hara, granddaughter of Mayor Ozaki, and William H. Taft IV, great-grandson of President William Howard Taft, as well as first lady Helen Taft, and the Interior Secretary Ken Salazar. Two groups of musicians also performed.

The cherry blossom trees are a popular attraction in D.C., drawing crowds annually to the nation’s capital and to the National Cherry Blossom Festival, which runs until April 27.

Jessica Sabbah is a post-graduate multimedia fellow at the Scripps Howard Foundation Wire. She may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

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Event

Preserving the sea of yellow

Poppies Fest begins as flowers bloom in El Paso

BY KRISTOPHER RIVERA
The Prospector

Known as the crown jewel of the Franklin Mountains, the poppy flowers seem to be in full bloom just in time for the sixth annual Franklin Mountains Poppies Fest. The festival will take place March 31 at El Paso Museum of Archeology on Castner Range.

"If you stop at places like the picnic area around there and you look out, you have this huge expanse of native land, it's really enriching for people to look at that," said Scott Cutler, curator of collections and exhibits at UTEP. "It's a very nice break from all the urban development that's going on around that. It's an important place for a lot of wildlife."

Poppies Fest is an event that promotes the preservation of the land. The festival will be a full day of nature talks, live music, wildlife, educational exhibits and nature tours.

It started in 2005 when several plans to develop Castner Range into office spaces emerged. The Franklin Mountains Wilderness Coalition took action against the plans and started a petition. The Coalition then wanted to create a pub-

lic event to present the petition to Rep. Silvestre Reyes (D - El Paso), hence the origin of the first Poppies Fest, which was held March 17, 2007.

The Texas Legislature passed House Bill 867 in 1979 in efforts to protect the Franklin Mountains from urban development and preserve its scenic, ecological and historic features. However, Castner Range was a parcel of land not included in the development of Franklin Mountains' state park. As far back as World War II up until the Korean War, Castner Range was training grounds for artillery units. Some explosive ordnates remain buried in the area and have caused some concern.

"One of the issues involved in whether the land can be turned over for public open space access is cleaning up all that artillery (ordinates)," said Marilyn Guida, curator of education at the El Paso Museum of Archeology. "That's the problem and it's been estimated many millions of dollars to do a cleanup."

Cutler said the Army has been a good steward of the land. To avoid anyone getting hurt the Army has closed off a majority of Castner Range except for trails in use by the Museum of Archaeology.

"Ever since the state park was formed, there have been efforts to locate development on that site; Cohen Stadium, the Transmountain campus (of El Paso Community College), a number of other things were proposed for parts of Castner Range," Cutler said. "More than about four or five years ago there was a proposal to put in a technology park on the site. So it's certainly something that is very alluring and appealing to the development community."

The community and city have provided concrete support to keep Castner Range safe.

"The city provides basic funds for staffing, to keep the museum operating, and then we go for grant funding for programs and exhibit," Guida said.

Conservation is one of the main concerns of organizers of the event.

"One of the best things about El Paso is it's a really beautiful place and it's different from a lot of other places," said Slade Jones, geology graduate student. "I think that it's a unique environment that ought to be preserved as much as it can just so that the environment continues to be available for everybody."

see POPPY on page 6



Photos special to The Prospector

Column

Animals and ecosystems were harmed in the making

BY ANDRES RODRIGUEZ
The Prospector



HBO series' production values are typically spot on in depicting its subjects and eras with the finesse attention to detail that is so often overlooked in television. But sometimes, authenticity comes with a price, in this case, the death of three horses and one ecosystem,

to be exact.

On March 25, HBO aired its final episode of "Luck" after its abrupt cancellation was announced four days before. The horse racetrack

drama came under scrutiny for the deaths of two horses last year and one earlier this month.

The cancellation of "Luck" sits on one extreme of what fatalities connected to television and film productions can bring about. Still, "Luck" is an uncommon case; most studios continue with production after the death of cast members (animals included) or after the killing (accidental or not) of set environments. It raises the critical question: to what extent do we sacrifice safety for the sake of authenticity?

Backed by an experienced creative team, executive producers, David Milch ("Deadwood") and Michael Mann ("The Aviator," "Collateral"), and an all-star cast including Dustin Hoffman and Nick Nolte, the expectations for "Luck" to be a success were imminent. And although

critics held it in high regard, the show failed to capture the Soprano-like audience the studio clearly marketed towards.

After low ratings and a series of outbursts by the animal rights groups, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals and the American Humane Association, HBO opted to pull the plug.

PETA and the AHA argued that conditions on set weren't acceptable for horses and that licensed humane officers should have been present on the set to prevent the deaths. Before cancelling the show, HBO responded by largely brushing the issue aside. It supplied a statement by Rick Arthur, equine medical director at the California Horse Racing Board saying, "We see several of those injuries in the stable area

every year. They are more common than people realize."

HBO also stated, "While we maintained the highest safety standards possible, accidents unfortunately happen and it is impossible to guarantee they won't in the future."

Likewise, Fire and Blood Productions of the HBO series "Game of Thrones" brushed aside a similar incident last year involving the killing of an entire ecosystem while filming a scene on a beach in Malta. Environmental management expert Alfred E. Baldacchino said in the Times of Malta, that HBO committed an environmental crime, obliterating "the micro habitat of all the species in that area" with heavy machinery

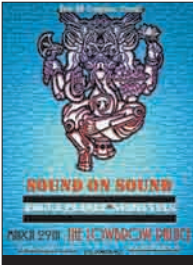
see TV on page 6

UP
Coming
Springtime events

Photos special to The Prospector

THIS WEEK

Thursday



RockOn presents Sound on Sound 8:30 p.m. March 29th at The Lowbrow Palace. No cover for 21 and over.

Friday



The Royalty will play March 30 at Tricky Falls. Animal Spirits and The Black Coats will join them at the all ages show. There will be a \$5 cover.

Saturday



It's the last Saturday of the month and The Barbed Wire Open Mic returns March 31 at the Percolator. There is no charge to attend and anyone can perform. Music, Poetry, dance and more collide at the open mic.



Tickets are on sale for the UTEP Dinner Theater's production of the Broadway musical "Guys and Dolls." Shows run from April 13 - May 6. Tickets start at \$22- \$48.

April 13 - May 6

POPPY from page 5

Two thousand-plus attendees are expected at this year's Poppies Fest, organizers said.

"The poppy is really a symbol to help us pay attention to the fact that we want to preserve open space and that this wonderful piece of property that could be easily developed," Guida said. "As each little section is developed there are fewer places for the poppies to grow."

Guida said the view of acres of poppies is really an incredible experience.

"It reminds me, I don't know if anybody else would think of this, it's like the "Wizard of Oz"" Guida said. "You get this technicolor landscape that you're just not used to."

Admission and parking are free. Parking will be available at the El Paso Community College Transmountain Campus. No parking will be available at the museum. A shuttle

will be available to transport attendees to the museum. Organizers say it is important that people do not pick out the poppies. Doing so will prevent seed pods from forming, therefore producing fewer poppies for the next season.

The Museum of Archaeology is located at 4301 Transmountain Road. For more information call 755-4332 or visit elpasoartsandculture.org.

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

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Dry the River



"State of the Art"
Gotye



"Holland, 1945"
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Photos special to The Prospector

TV from page 5

and by spreading sand-like powdered stone over the land.

The production company apologized and blamed a subcontractor for failing to carry out the appropriate clean-up process.

Other recent incidents include the freak accident on the set of CBS' NCIS in which a security guard was struck by a van last year and the deaths of two crew members during the production of "The Dark Knight" in 2007 and "The Dark Knight Rises" late last year.

Although this is not a new trend — think of the deaths of more than 100 horses while filming "Ben Hur" (1925) or the iconic opening of "Apocalypse Now" (1979) where a blazing fire devours a jungle — tragedies on set should not be overlooked

for the sake of the end product, be it a movie or a television show.

Sure, "Luck" and "Game of Thrones" are prime examples of quality entertainment, but all that passionate TV viewing clears up real quick when the thought that horses died or entire ecosystems were harmed in the making of the shows comes to mind.

Besides now, other alternatives, like the use of computer-generated graphics, can help prevent these types of accidents. CG is allowing us now to film under safer conditions, like say a green screen and not at the top of a skyscraper. Yes, that might jeopardize the authenticity of the end product, but I'd welcome that any day over a guilty conscious.

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

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Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

Answers to 3-27-12

BRAIN ZONE

King Crossword

ACROSS	1 Forum garb	5 14-Across, e.g.	7 Probability	Down, supplement
12 Life story, for short	13 Snake's tooth	16 Sahara-like	8 Was obsequious	30 Deli bread
8 Grand tale	19 Operatic rendition	20 "Eleni" author	9 Matador	33 Entrance
13 Conclusion	14 Painter Chagall	11 "Elmer" author	36 African nation	38 Carrot companion?
14 Being phil-anthropic	16 Dull indifference	17 See 29-Down	33 Matador	42 Disarray
18 Soda-shop treat	20 Dire prophecy	19 Capricorn	38 African nation	43 Aware of
21 Two fives	23 Try	22 Early periods	40 Carrot companion?	44 Let fall
28 Antelope's playmate	31 Meadow	24 Right angle	42 Disarray	46 "Heart and —"
32 Weary	34 Firmament	25 Born	43 Aware of	47 List-ending abbr.
35 Departed	36 Check beneficiary	26 Jonquil's cousin	44 Let fall	48 Depend (on)
37 Dandy	39 Garbage barge	27 Fragrant wood	46 "Heart and —"	50 First lady
41 Anchored	42 It gets the lead out	29 With 17-	47 List-ending abbr.	
45 Ingratiated	51 Staff member?		48 Depend (on)	
49 Use a teaspoon	52 Eggs		50 First lady	
53				

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Football

Lack of WR depth opens door for tight ends

BY DANIEL ORNELAS
The Prospector

The Miner offense is going through an experiment of sorts during this spring as tight ends look to be the focal point of the passing game.

In 2011 the trio of their tight ends, sophomore Eric Tomlinson, junior Kevin Perry and junior Craig Wenrick, accounted for only 14 percent of the Miners’ passing game, a combined 27 catches, 391 yards and five touchdowns.

UTEP is returning their top-two receivers from last year, senior Mike Edwards and sophomore Jordan Leslie, who contributed to 40 percent of their receiving yards, but lost 35 percent to graduation.

Tomlinson said the tight ends should be able to fill that void, as expectations have risen for the group and he believes production should increase in 2012.

“You should expect a big year from us, more catches, being more part of the offense,” Tomlinson said. “Probably double or triple the amount of catches we had last year.”

Perry, who also plays forward for the UTEP basketball team, added to that notion saying he’s hopeful production goes up and coaches can trust them to carry the offense next season.

“I say you should expect 60 percent to 70 percent of the balls to go to the tight end this season. Hopefully, that’s what I want,” Perry said. “Maybe I’m being a little optimistic,

but that’s what I’m looking forward to and hopefully we can carry the team on our back and contribute more this year.”

The trio of returning tight ends will make big targets for quarterback Nick Lamaison. All three of them stand over 6-feet 5-inches, weighing over 255 pounds. The group is also joined by sophomore Katrae Ford who stands at 6-feet 4-inches and freshman Dominic Matson who stands at 6-feet 1-inch.

Head coach Mike Price said the group should be a bigger part of the offense next season and it will be important to take advantage of their size and athleticism. Following their scrimmage March 23, he said he was excited for the group because “they can catch the ball and are hard to take down.” Tomlinson ended the scrimmage with a 40-yard touchdown catch.

“We’re sure looking at that,” Price said. “We have four really outstanding athletes and three of them are practicing, the fourth one (Ford) is recovering from a knee injury and is kind of part-time practicing, but tight end should be a good part of the offense.”

When asked if they will be using more multiple tight end sets, Price said they are experimenting with formations, but not necessarily adding any new sets to the offense. Price added that the tight ends as a unit have stood out in the early part of spring practices.

“We’re not putting in any new sets, particularly, but we’re experiment-

ing with that this spring,” Price said. “They catch the ball well, they’re athletic, big, strong.”

Both Tomlinson and Perry expressed their excitement on the idea of being more involved in the passing game and stated that even though it’s only spring, they can’t wait until the start of the new season.

“They’re starting to use us a lot more, we just have to step up to the plate and catch a lot more balls. We love it, it’s awesome,” Tomlinson said.



BOB CORRAL / The Prospector
Junior tight end Craig Wenrick extends for a catch during the Miners’ spring practice March 27 at Glory Field.

Column

WrestleMania 28 offers the best of past and present

BY DANIEL ORNELAS
The Prospector



For the better part of my childhood I grew up idolizing wrestling stars such as Hulk Hogan, Ultimate Warrior, Stone Cold Steve Austin and The Rock. Ever since the newest generation of wrestlers entered the ring, it has almost been a decade since I’ve distanced myself from watching World Wrestling Entertainment (WWE).

In the ‘80s, that one vision by WWE (formerly known as World Wrestling Federation) CEO Vince McMahon launched professional wrestling from a regional attraction into a world-known phenomenon called WrestleMania and became the catalyst for Pay-Per-View events.

On April 1, WrestleMania 28 will feature The Rock vs. John Cena, in what I believe is a clash of generations and the end of an era to what once was the WWE (The Rock was a part of WWF).

Throughout the years, the industry has seen many come and go, passing the torch to each other as the face of the industry. Perhaps none was more recognizable than Hulk Hogan, who at 58-years old, is still associated with the business. Hogan nearly became the demise of WWE when he jumped to the now extinct and top competitor, World Championship Wrestling (WCW) in the mid ‘90s. It was then that Stone Cold Steve Austin became the face of the WWE during the “Attitude Era.”

Austin would rampage on the business yelling three and four letter words, saluting crowds with the middle finger and celebrating with a couple of beers in his hands. Then came The Rock, who proclaimed himself as the “most electrifying man in sports entertainment” and was just that before vaulting onto the Hollywood scene in 2004.

It was 10 years ago, in WrestleMania 18, that fans witnessed the return of Hogan to a WWE ring to face The Rock. The match would be known as the “Icon vs. Icon” and a passing of the torch of sorts.

Ironically, in WrestleMania six, Hogan faced the Ultimate Warrior in the Sky Dome in Toronto (the same building as WrestleMania 18) in what was supposed to be the passing of the torch match. Eventually, that fell through and Hogan remained the face of wrestling.

For most of the past 10 years, Cena has become the face of WWE, almost by default. After The Rock and Stone Cold left the ring, there was no one to take the reigns, but Cena was the one who would take that next step.

Fast forward to 2012 and WrestleMania 28 is once again featuring a

see **WRESTLEMANIA** on page 8

Softball

Miners return home amid seven-game losing streak



FILE PHOTO
Junior catcher Kayleigh Walts recovers a wild pitch during UTEP’s game against Santa Clara Feb. 9 at the Helen of Troy Softball Complex.

BY FRANKIE RODRIGUEZ
The Prospector

UTEP softball will return to Helen of Troy Softball Complex with the hopes of snapping their current seven-game losing streak when they host Marshall March 31 in a doubleheader and a single game April 1.

Both teams will be meeting in the midst of a losing streak, as the Thundering Herd was recently swept by UAB in a three-game series March 23-24 at home. Marshall has also lost four of its last five, after winning seven of their previous eight contests.

The Thundering Herd will come in with a record of 17-14, 5-4 in Conference USA play, three games better than UTEP’s 2-7 league record (12-21 overall). Its middle-of-the-pack record speaks for its statistics, too. Marshall is sixth in hitting, fifth in pitching but has three of the top-five runners in stolen bases in the conference.

The Thundering Herd’s three players also rank in the top-50 in the nation for stolen bases, starting with Junior outfielder Ashley Gue’s team-high 22 stolen bases. She is currently 12th in the nation in that category. Thompson follows with 18 stolen bases and is ranked 27th nationally, while

senior outfielder Jessica Hughes is third on the team with 15 stolen bases and is currently 43rd in the nation.

Marshall has no hitters near the top of the C-USA leader board, but are led by three batters with a batting average better than .300. Senior outfielder Melissa Loesing is leading the team with a .346 batting average, followed by junior outfielder Taylor Thompson’s .327. Gue comes in third with a batting average of .322 and has a team-high 18 runs scored.

Senior shortstop Alianna Telles leads the team in slugging percentage with .489 with a team-high 10 doubles and three home runs, followed by senior catcher Rebecca Gamby at .482 with six doubles and three home runs and a team-high on-base percentage .394. Junior Jazmine Valle leads the team in home runs with four, a .444 slugging percentage and a team-high 20 RBIs.

Junior pitcher Andi Williamson has pitched a career-high 139 strikeouts and is currently tied at 13th in the nation for batters struck out. She has a history against UTEP, dating back to last season, when she recorded a career-high 10 strikeouts in April. Williamson currently has an ERA of 1.77, which is fifth best in the conference.

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

simplystated
School-record named
to C-USA Honor Roll,
Academic Medals

The Miners broke two school records as 138 athletes were named to the Conference USA Commissioner's Honor Roll and 34 were given Academic Medals for the 2011-12 academic year. Student-athletes were named to the Commissioner's Honor Roll March 27 for maintaining a cumulative grade point average of

3.0 or better. The 34 Academic Medals, presented March 28, surpassed the prior school record of 26, which was set during the 2009-10 academic year. The medals are presented to student-athletes who have achieved a cumulative GPA of 3.75 or better. Football led with 30 athletes named to the Honor Roll followed by softball and women's track and field with 16 and soccer with 15. Six athletes from football, five from softball and four from women's golf took the bulk of the Academic Medals awarded.

Women's golf wins
UALR Classic

Buoyed by shooting a 293 over the final 18 holes, UTEP won its first tournament of the 2011-12 season, taking the championship of the UALR Classic March 27 in Little Rock, Arkansas. The Miners broke 900 for the second time this season to edge out runner-up Tulsa by one stroke. UTEP finished with a 54-hole tally of 897 to the Golden Hurricane's 898 in the 19-team tournament. UTEP won its 10th tournament title under coach Jere Pelletier and first since claiming the Conference USA Championship last April in Texarkana, Texas.

2012 UTEP schedule

TEAM	LOCATION	DATE
Utah Valley	Orem, Utah	Aug. 17
Utah State	Logan, Utah	Aug. 19
Texas State	University Field	Aug. 22
Army	University Field	Aug. 26
Southern Utah	Riverside, California	Aug. 31
UC Riverside	Riverside, California	Sept. 2
Weber State	University Field	Sept. 7
Sam Houston State	University Field	Sept. 9
NMSU	Las Cruces	Sept. 12
*East Carolina	Greenville, N.C.	Sept. 21
*Marshall	Huntington, W.V.	Sept. 23
*SMU	Dallas	Sept. 28
*Tulsa	Tulsa, Oklahoma	Sept. 30
*UAB	University Field	Oct. 5
*Memphis	University Field	Oct. 7
*Southern Miss	University Field	Oct. 12
*UCF	University Field	Oct. 14
*Rice	Houston	Oct. 19
*Houston	Houston	Oct. 21
*Colorado College	University Field	Oct. 26
Conference USA Championships	University Field	Oct. 31, Nov. 2, 4

*Conference USA game

2012 SGA Spring Elections

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Formal Campaigning Begins
April 2, 2012
Presidential & Vice-Presidential
Debate
April 3 at 1:30 p.m.
Leech Grove

Manned Polling Stations
Union, Wednesday, April 4
12 p.m. - 2 p.m.
& Thursday, April 5
1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

- Positions Available:
- President (1)
 - VP Internal (1)
 - VP External (1)
 - Senators At-Large (14)
 - Business Collegiate Senator (1)
 - Education Collegiate Senator (1)
 - Engineering Collegiate Senator (1)
 - Graduate Collegiate Senator (1)
 - Health Science Collegiate Senator (1)
 - Liberal Art Collegiate Senator (1)
 - Nursing Collegiate Senator (1)
 - Science Collegiate Senator (1)

For more information including the election code, visit the SGA Office at 304 Union Bldg. East, 915-747-5584, or visit our website at www.utep.edu/sga.



WRESTLEMANIA from page 7

match that has a passing of the torch feel to it. On March 26, Rock and Cena stood in the ring one last time before their match. Cena said he's seen it all. Rock replied by saying that Cena had never seen anyone like him. In my opinion, that is true. The attitude featured main events in WrestleMania where The Rock faced Stone Cold on three separate occasions only defeating him on the third attempt. That was also Stone Cold's last official match in

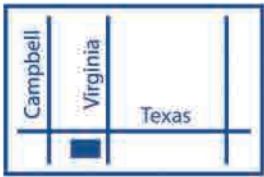
the ring and as stated before, The Rock defeated Hogan and now will have a chance to defeat Cena. That would give The Rock wins over three of the biggest stars the WWE has seen over the last 30 years. History repeats itself in events like these and Cena is only bound to officially take the torch from The Rock. But Cena, who's signature line is "you can't see me," is someone I can't see as living up to what Hogan, Stone Cold and The Rock once were in the WWE. Daniel Ornelas may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

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