

9-25-2012

# The Prospector, September 25, 2012

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## IL VOLO TAKES FLIGHT

The "popera" trio performs at the Plaza Theatre

ENT. 5



JUSTIN STENE / The Prospector

On Sept. 23 the "Mining Minds" sculpture was illuminated in blue and orange to commemorate the first day of school back in 1914. The illumination honors the first class in which 27 students were enrolled at the Texas State School of Mines and Metallurgy 98 years ago.

## Campus

# Student organizations promote political awareness

BY GUERRERO GARCIA

The Prospector

With elections coming up in November, the university political groups—the University Democrats and College Republicans—are staying active in order to impact young voter turnout.

The University Democrats are working closely with the democratic campaigns of Democratic congressional candidate Beto O'Rourke and Joe Moody, Democratic candidate for State Representative, as well with the local branch of Organizing for America, President Barack Obama's re-election campaign.

"We are going to serve as the bridge between politicians and students," said Christopher Hinojos, University Democrats treasurer.

The College Republicans are also going to work alongside local republican campaigns of Dee Margo, candidate for State Representative, and Charlie Garza, District 1 State Board of Education representative, helping them with social media and block walking with the representatives.

"Even as simple as wearing a campaign shirt, we will provide them with our support," said Lorenzo Villa, chairman of the College Republicans.

According to Hinojos, the University Democrats plan to collaborate with the College Republicans in an attempt to host a debate between local politicians, Moody and Margo, where local issues would be addressed.

"Our main concern is to inform the students of the platforms in which the

local politicians stand," Villa said. The details on the debate are still unofficial.

Shane Garcia, junior public health major, does not follow local politics but agrees that a debate between the candidates is a great opportunity to hear about their platforms.

"Debates are important," Garcia said. "It allows the politicians to discuss where they stand, to question their opponents and to defend their views."

The University Democrats are also registering students to vote by setting up registration drives at the Union Breezeway. They are also informing students about political issues and the democratic candidates.

"The only way to ensure change is to know who we are electing," Hinojos said. "As disillusioned as one might get about politics, it is important to know who is being elected and what the issues are."

Juan Gonzales, a freshman mechanical engineering major, was not registered to vote but took advantage of the registration drive. "I was too young last elections to vote but now I am registered and will be voting," Gonzales said.

The College Republicans raised a memorial for the victims of 9/11 on the Geology Lawn on its 11th anniversary and were out on Constitution Day, informing students about their constitutional rights. This semester, Villa plans to take a different approach with the College Republicans. The term he holds is only a semester long and he expects to use the time trying to build a solid foundation for the organization.

see STUDENT on page 4

## Politics

# Congressional candidates give their opinion on immigration reform

BY REBECCA GUERRERO

The Prospector

For many UTEP students, immigration reform is not only a heated issue on the evening news, but a part of daily life. Whether they feel the pressure of increased border security as they cross the international bridges to go to school every morning, or simply have family ties to Mexico, the issue can be a personal one. Therefore, immigration reform may be one of the most relevant issues students consider before deciding who to cast their vote for during the congressional election in November.

Both Democratic congressional candidate Beto O'Rourke and Republican congressional candidate Barbara Carrasco have strong beliefs when it comes to this issue.

"I think that our immigration system is broken, and fixing it has to be a top priority for this country. It is for me," O'Rourke said. "Immigrants provide a net positive to this country any way you choose to look at it—economically, culturally or otherwise. Certainly we need to protect this country from criminals and threats to national security, immigration policy does and should continue to confront this

threat. But we also need to recognize that we're a growing country that should continue to have a dynamic economy and rich culture. Immigration is vital to that."

O'Rourke also plans on addressing the problem of long wait times at the international bridges.

Unlike O'Rourke, who supports the Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors, also known as the Dream Act (which would provide conditional permanent residency to certain undocumented residents who arrived in the United States as minors, graduated from U.S. high

see CONGRESSIONAL on page 3



FILE PHOTOS / The Prospector

Congressional candidates Beto O'Rourke (Dem.) and Barbara Carrasco (Rep.)

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Column

# Ball park equals progress

BY DANIEL ORNELAS  
The Prospector



The city of El Paso is finally growing up. There are opposing views on whether or not City Hall should be demolished to make room for a new baseball stadium that would be built by 2014. Many may ask themselves, why that location? The location might not make sense and tearing down a perfectly good building might not either, but bringing a Triple-A baseball team to the downtown area does. I think it's a great idea, one that will indeed improve the quality of life in our city. For years the El Paso Diablos have entertained baseball fans, but they are no longer an affiliated baseball team, attendance is poor and downtown is by far a better location than the North East where The Cohen stadium resides. El Paso is the largest city in the United States without affiliated baseball. It's not a requirement for the city, but it's sure a step forward for the revitalization of downtown.

The opportunity of having a professional sports team in that area will be more appealing to business owners. Just who is the team that the city would welcome? El Paso-based MountainStar Sports Group headed by Paul Foster, who also funded the building of the Foster-Stevens Basketball Center at UTEP, is planning on bringing the Tucson Padres to town, a team affiliated with the San Diego Padres of the major leagues. On Sept. 18, both protestors and supporters spoke and made their case at a city council session. Council voted 4-3 in favor of the stadium. Two days later Mayor John Cook decided not to veto the ruling and move forward with the plans. In November, El Paso will initiate its \$473 million quality-of-life bond referendum that includes the building of the \$50 million ballpark in downtown. The development of this is something that future generations will benefit from, I believe it will open the door to other sports franchises to try and allocate in the Sun City, for example a Major League Soccer team. The El Paso region that includes Ciudad Juárez and Las Cruces has a diverse population, but also a very big soccer fan base.

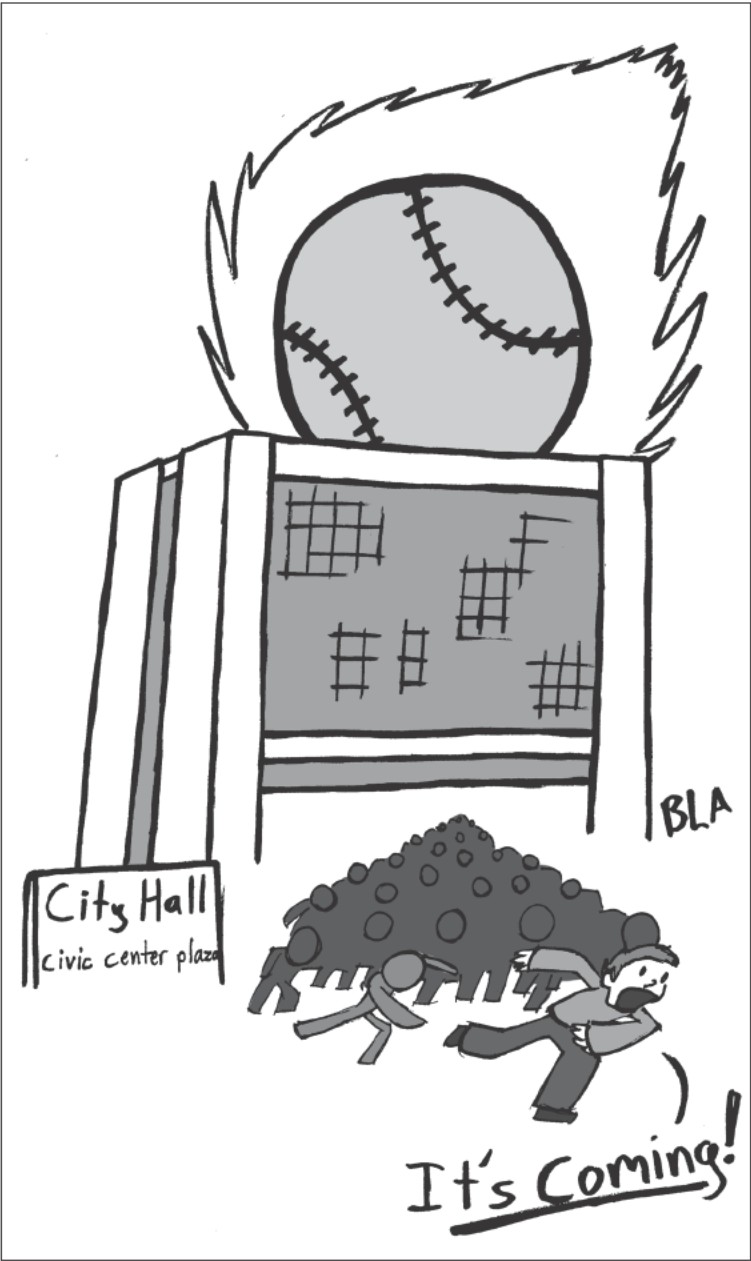
Juárez no longer has the Indios to support, if the baseball team does well and the economy improves, I clearly see a possibility for an MLS team in El Paso. Juárez and Las Cruces would also help with the attendance. As a journalist and a sports writer this is exciting for me. The possibility of me staying home and covering a professional sports team is great, watching this city grow and become more of a sports town has always been something I hope for. Sure I would love to leave town and work in a larger market covering the NFL, NBA or MLB, but why not us? Why not El Paso? I'm sure protestors will always be unhappy and those in support of the stadium will feel like the city is finally progressing. Whether the decision was vetoed or approved, someone was going to walk away unhappy about it. I'm just happy that 10, 20 years from now El Paso will look and feel more like a big city. It's time for close-minded people to move out of the way and allow this city to progress and become an even greater destination for, business owners, engineers and sports writers alike.

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

WHAT DO you think?

This week's poll question:  
**Are you happy about the mayor's decision not to veto plans for a baseball stadium?**

vote at [WWW.UTEPPROSPECTOR.COM](http://WWW.UTEPPROSPECTOR.COM)



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DIFFER-LOW. Pict

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**StormTRACK WEATHER**

CONGRESSIONAL from page 1

schools and fulfill other requisites), Barbara Carrasco believes that the act would do a substandard patch up job. “Comprehensive reform will include enforcing and defending the laws on the books, include a guest worker program, include keeping families together and must include a humane way to deal with many issues involving immigration,” Carrasco said. “It cannot involve patching certain areas of concern such as the Dream Act, which in reality, if read, penalizes 62 percent of those individuals it purports to help.” Carrasco said she believes reform should not penalize children who were brought to the U.S. by adults and that reform should be compassionate. Despite the fact that both candidates tend to display classical liberal or conservative views on most issues, political science professor Kathleen Staudt claims that immigration reform is not an issue that falls within left or right-wing ideological dimensions. “Reformers consist of people concerned about human rights and families along with those concerned about

growing our economy with additional workers and consumers,” Staudt said. “El Pasoans, including students at UTEP, will benefit from the temporary efforts to find relief for Dreamers, but especially from real immigration reform that provides pathways toward citizenship for those eligible and offers a guest-worker program for those who wish to work temporarily in jobs for which there is demand.” Staudt encourages students to look into the Democratic and Republican Party platforms as opposed to the candidate’s individual statements when it comes to this issue. “The Democrats support reform and the Republicans do not,” Staudt said. “El Paso’s representative must be able to rely on allies within their party to engage in immigration reform.” Josiah Barrett, political science graduate student, said that when it comes to the issue of immigration reform, neither candidate as a junior member of congress would be able to produce comprehensive legislation. He claims that political parties differ on the sequence in which reform measures should be carried out.

“This is a complex issue that requires the answering of key questions like: to what extent do we allow access through U.S. borders? What should be done with illegal immigrants which have already established roots? What should be done to the current process by which people attain citizenship? And what are the real effects of immigration on economic development, culture and the country’s political composition?” Barrett said. Barrett is a libertarian and will be voting for neither candidate, but he still believes that immigration reform is a serious issue, specifically for El Paso and UTEP students. “In general, it remains in the best interest for both immigrants and the general population to prevent illegal immigration because it provides an undue burden on the state and does not benefit those immigrants directly as they run the risk of being exploited by businesses and are denied some essential rights of being a full citizen,” Barrett said. Rebecca Guerrero may be reached at [prospector@utep.edu](mailto:prospector@utep.edu).

Congressional debates schedule:

- Telemundo (Spanish-language) Debate  
7-8 p.m. Oct. 4, at the El Paso Community Foundation Room, located at 333 North Oregon Street
- Central Business Association Debate  
11:30 a.m. -1:30 p.m. Oct. 10, at the Camino Real Hotel, located at 101 South El Paso Street
- WE (Fill in the Blank) Coronado High School Debate  
Time to be announced, Oct. 18, at the Coronado High School Auditorium, located at 100 Champions Place

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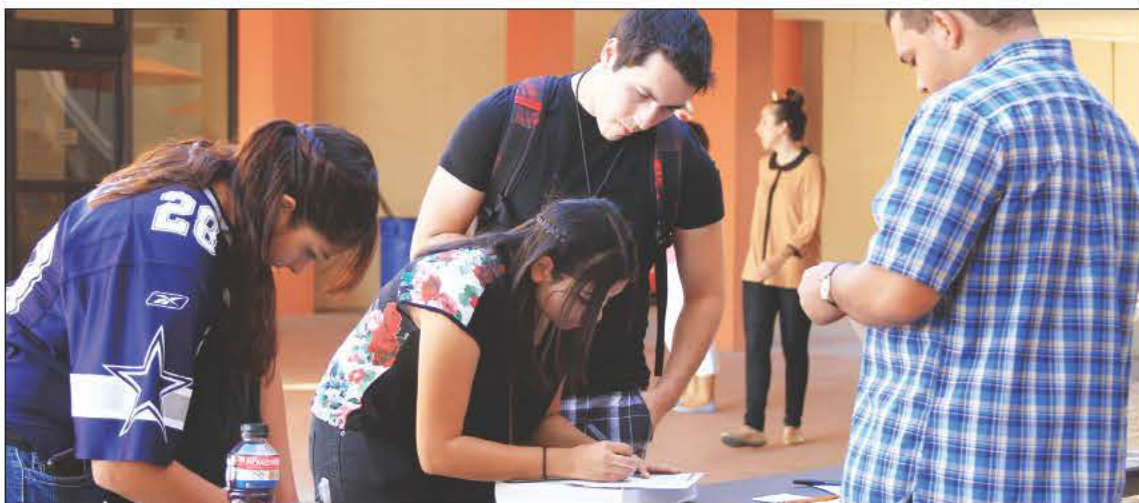
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## WESTERN NIGHT

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### UTEP ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME





KARINA RODRIGUEZ AND AARON MONTEZ / The Prospector

(Top) The College Republicans and the University Democrats (bottom) are active on campus during the election season.

#### STUDENTS from page 1

"We are going to focus on numbers," Villa said. "A lot of our supporters have graduated so we do not have a mass number of members, that is why this semester we are going to focus on recruitment."

The College Republicans have launched a Facebook page and will be tabling throughout the semester to recruit new students.

"We encourage students to come and ask us questions about the Republican platform and its candidates,"

Villa said. "What we want is to help students understand where the Republicans stand on issues directly affecting them."

Both the Republican and Democrat groups are aware of the expected low voter turnouts, that is why they are inviting students to attend their meetings and listen to what each political group has to address.

"Students are welcome to come by and sit in on our meetings," Hinojos said. "They can make a decision on where they stand on their own. We just want them to get involved."

The University Democrats hold their meetings at 2 p.m. on Wednesdays in the Union East Building River View Room 102H. The College Republicans meet at 7:30 p.m. on Thursdays in the Union East Building Ray Room 309.

"It doesn't matter if students vote Democratic or Republican, what is important is that they go out and vote," Villa said. "Students need to get involved—they are the future of this country."

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

## simplystated

### Student journalism project wins national award

The Mexodus project, a bilingual multimedia student journalism project, received the Online News Association award for best non-English project, small/medium on Sept. 22 in San Francisco.

Mexodus was a project that was published on Borderzine.com and focused on the migration of middle class families, professionals and businesses to the U.S. and other parts of Mexico because of escalating drug violence in Juárez.

### Incoming freshmen recognized as HEROES

One hundred first-time UTEP students received the university's Honoring Education for Raising Opportunities of Excellence for Students recognition for their achievements in public and private high schools in Region 19 on Sept. 14.

The event was a kick-off for the HEROES series.

### UTEP sees highest welcoming class

The university broke a record with an enrollment high of 22,749 students for fall 2012. There was also a record broken with the largest entering class with 2,890 first-time students and 1,637 transfer students.

According to UTEP statistics the university has seen a trend of steady enrollment growth of more than 32 percent over the past 10 years.

### UTEP Symphonic Winds to present first concert of the season

At 7:30 p.m. at the Fox Fine Arts Recital Hall on Sept. 25 the UTEP Symphonic Winds will present the first classical concert of the season.

Tickets cost \$5 for general admission, \$3 for seniors, military and non-UTEP students. Free admission for children under 6 years of age, UTEP students, faculty and staff.

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# entertainment

September 25, 2012

editor

Alejandro Alba 747-7442

BY ANDREA ACOSTA

The Prospector

For several years, El Paso downtown has been under an ambitious revitalization plan but just recently authorities launched the Shopping District Project.

Formerly known as the Golden Horseshoe District, the shopping district has been working with the El Paso Downtown Management District (DMD) along with the partnership of the Central Business Association, to set up a marketing strategy plan to attract more people to downtown and expand retail opportunities.

In August 2011, the Gutierrez Group, an El Paso Marketing based firm, was hired by the district to implement a new marketing campaign for downtown.

"The first step was to identify the different districts in the area," said Eddie Gutierrez, president of Gutierrez Group. "The objective was to ultimately promote more activities, events, retail and downtown living."

According to Gutierrez, the best idea for this was to layout a footprint that would make it easier for citizens to get around downtown.

"With 300 retailers and about 50 to 60 restaurants in the area, the shopping district will have some interesting amenities," Gutierrez said. "One of the things that the district has at its disposal right now is free Saturday parking, that will serve as an incentive for target audiences from Juárez and El Paso."

Anahi Marquez, junior cellular and molecular chemistry major, said that she has been up to date with the current renovations happening in downtown El Paso and that they were greatly needed.

"I think that the free parking during the weekends is a great way to incite people to come shop downtown and increase the shopping rate," Marquez said. "Since in some occasions instead of having a good time shopping, it



Special to The Prospector

The downtown shopping district will be part of El Paso's downtown revitalizing project.

becomes a hassle when you cannot find parking or have to worry about receiving a ticket for going over time in the parking spaces."

Apart from free weekend parking, the shopping district launched shuttle services on Sept. 9, available at no charge to all citizens.

"It is called the downtown circulator and thanks to the partnership of Sun Metro and the Central Business Association, we were able to divide the route into two," Gutierrez said. "Route eight, the current route, will cover most of the downtown footprint as well as some of the ar-

eas outside, where as route nine will only cover the new downtown shopping district, passing through El Paso Street turning on San Antonio and Stanton Street, making stops along 6th and 7th Street."

Route eight will connect through Union Plaza located in Overland Street, passing through City Hall, traveling all the way to Myrtle Street, and coming around Oregon.

Visitors to the area can obtain some maps to find the different attractions that downtown offers in a faster and easier way.

"These maps will provide citizens with the exact locations of restaurants, free parking, ATM's (and) what the different stores specialize in," Gutierrez said. "A website was also launched, which offers an online directory and maps where citizens can find out the specialties of the restaurants, finding desired apparel ranging from women's clothing to childhood products."

With only three months, since the introduction of the new downtown El Paso Facebook account, the page has received more than a quarter of a million hits.

However Linete Vela, owner of La Trendy store, located at 306 N. Mesa, said that she hasn't seen any favorable changes as a result of the new shopping district. La Trendy sells clothes ranging from bohemian fashion to vintage rock fashion.

"Personally, I think that the current programs going on, such as the free parking and free shuttle services haven't been really successful," Vela said. "People are not fully aware of the changes and still come during the weekends and pay for parking, since there is no sign of the promotion."

According to Vela, the city of El Paso needs to promote the district in brochures that can be passed out in schools so that way people can be well informed of what downtown is offering and take advantage of it.

Gutierrez said that the promotion of the shopping district is still a work in progress, and hopes that by using social media the programs offered can be spread equally to the community.

"We are currently using social media in the right fashion, targeting all types of demographics," Gutierrez said. "Not only are we able to communicate with people from El Paso but also from other cities; promoting something different every day that pertains to downtown El Paso."

Gutierrez said that this current plan is a good indicator of where downtown El Paso can actually go, and the community involvement and interaction that it can create.

"El Paso hasn't seen downtown's level of investment and renovation for the past three decades," Gutierrez said. "This is the moment for business people, entrepreneurs, future graduating students and younger generations to stay in El Paso and invest in its potential, ultimately following through."

For more information visit [downtwnelpaso.com](http://downtwnelpaso.com), [facebook.com/downtwnelpaso](https://www.facebook.com/downtwnelpaso) or [twitter.com/downtwnelpaso](https://twitter.com/downtwnelpaso).

Andrea Acosta may be reached at [prospector@utep.edu](mailto:prospector@utep.edu).

## Theater

# Wise Family Theatre brings Shakespeare's words to the modern era



BRANDY POSADAS / The Prospector

Left: Othello and Desdemona walk slowly as they happily converse. Left: Othello cries over the death of his loved one, Desdemona.

BY OSCAR GARZA

The Prospector

The Wise Family Theatre has adapted William Shakespeare's "Othello" and brought the setting to modern times.

The story is one that truly only The Bard could tell. Set in Venice and Cyprus, the high-ranking general Othello (Will Badgett) plans to marry Desdemona, (Avery Segapeli) daughter of a powerful Venetian senator to the dismay of the rich Roderigo (Abel Garcia) who confides in the villainous Iago (Nick Balcazar) to help him dis-

solute the marriage, through deception, treachery and of course, tragedy.

Although performed during the Elizabethan days of theater, "Othello" is as relevant today as it was all those years ago, said Chuck Gorden, director of the play.

"It speaks to every generation; the issues are larger than life, and yet it has experiences in our life we can understand," Gorden said. "We've all had those moments of jealousy, people deceiving us so everything that happens in the show it cuts to the core of the human experience. It's pretty universal."

"Othello" serves as an opportunity to become acquainted with one of Shakespeare's classic works, but also with the work that students and professionals display on stage.

Cassidy Guest, freshman pre-nursing major, said she encourages students to attend the play not only for its entertainment value but also for the richness of the material that is presented.

"It was my first play and it was really interesting, they actually portray the parts the way they were supposed to," Guest said.

In terms of characters, Guest said Iago was her favorite, as he was really fun to watch.

"I thought it was really good, he sounded crazy just like they portray him," Guest said. "I think it (the modern setting) relates more to the way it actually is nowadays so it kind of makes you think a lot more."

William Badgett, is a professional actor who has worked in the Boston Shakespeare Company adaptation of "Othello." He said that collaborating with the cast has been very special whether on stage or during rehearsals.

"I wasn't saying to them to do this or try that, but I was trying different things and hoping that they would see that they have that freedom also," Badgett said. "My feeling is that during rehearsal we are all trying to find our way."

According to Badgett, the character of Othello remains relevant because he does things that have terrible consequences but he believes they are right and as he continues doing that, things get worse and worse.

see SHAKESPEARE on page 6





BRANDY POSADAS / The Prospector

**Othello, played by** Will Badgett, strangles the infamous Iago, played by Nick Balcazar.

**SHAKESPEARE** from page 5  
“An important thing about Othello, to me, is that he is a man who lived his life on impulse, doing what he believed was right,” Badgett said. “Now, that is the thing that I believe keeps the relevancy of the play.”  
Abel Garcia, sophomore performance and theater major, who played the tormented Roderigo, said he had a great time working under Gordon’s direction and Badgett’s presence.  
“Working with Will has taught me so much,” Garcia said. “It’s given me the confidence to be bold as an ac-

tor, working with this cast. They’re all great, they push me.”  
Garcia’s portrayal of Roderigo showed how he would follow anyone just to get what he needed, but at the same time he created sympathy for the character.  
“Playing Roderigo, it speaks to me because he is so misunderstood,” Garcia said. “He is a cry for attention and is willing to get the attention of the woman he loves and I had a lot of fun, I hope I’m serving it any kind of justice.”  
Gordon said that attending the play is a great experience for anyone.

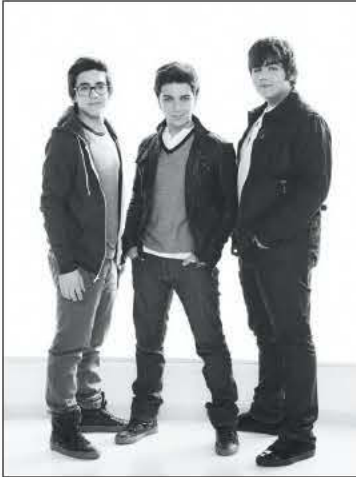
He mentioned that watching the actors perform on stage had a certain electricity to it.  
“It’s fresh and exciting and also live as opposed to something that was made six months ago or a year ago,” Gordon said. “This is happening right now and that’s what makes it really exciting is to be there with these actors, there is just a greater sense of electricity going on.”  
The last performance of “Othello” will be at 8 p.m. Sept. 25 at the Wise Family Theatre.  
Oscar Garza may be reached at [prospector@utep.edu](mailto:prospector@utep.edu).

Music

‘Popera’ trio Il Volo comes to El Paso

BY ANDREA ACOSTA  
The Prospector

Coming back for their second North American tour, Italian Opera trio, Il Volo will stop at the Plaza Theatre on Sept. 25 for the first time, with an evening filled with classical music.  
Il Volo, which translates to “The Flight,” is composed of three teenage tenors, Piero Barone, Ignazio Boschetto and Gianluca Ginoble, all who competed individually in the second edition of Italian TV show, *Ti lascio una canzone* (“Leavin’ you a song”). The trio became a “popera” sensation after their performance of the Neapolitan classic, “O Sole Mio” (“My Sunshine”) in 2009.  
According to Bryan Crowe, assistant general manager at the El Paso Convention and Visitors Bureau, Il Volo became a huge hit in the United States.  
“These three young folks have gained a lot of recognition, with special appearances in the finale of HBO comedy show, *Entourage*, along with their national concert being aired live, from the Detroit Opera House, to PBS in March, 2012,” Crowe said.  
Crowe said that not only will the concert be entertaining to a wide range of people, but it will also be very educative for younger crowds.  
“Demographically, we are expecting for a high attendance rate,” Crowe said. “If the tickets keep selling as good as they have for the past few days, we are expecting to have a full house for Sept. 25.”  
More than 1,600 tickets have been sold over the course of five months, according to the Ticket Master website.  
Crowe said that having Il Volo perform in El Paso is a tremendous opportunity for students with a background in voice performance.  
“By working alongside the promoter, we were able to bring Il Volo to El Paso,” Crowe said. “Thanks to this collaboration, students will have the chance to hear them live and in person instead of traveling to other cities and see them perform.”  
Lilia Romero Llorante, sophomore theater performance major, said she is very excited to attend the concert.



Special to The Prospector

“It is a great opportunity for any performer,” Romero said. “I personally love Il Volo, especially because their style of music is not a 100 percent opera but a mix with pop. I think that by promoting classical music, Il Volo has been able to attract younger generations.”  
Stephanie Corral, junior philosophy major, also said that it’s a great way to experience them first hand, helping voice performers create their own type of singing style.  
“Since I’m minoring in voice performance I really appreciate these types of events that are brought to El Paso for the community to experience,” Corral said. “Especially one that invites the audience to hear classical Italian music from such young performers.”  
Students that are recently taking Italian language courses at UTEP are also looking forward to this event.  
“Learning the language is one thing, but being able to hear the Italian language through song and by Italian performers is really exciting,” said Estefania Perea, junior media advertising major. “Attending the Il Volo concert is a great way to test my hearing skills, later applying it in the material and understanding it a little bit better.”  
Il Volo will continue their 2012 tour through the U.S. with five more stops along the way. Cities include Seattle, Phoenix, San Francisco and Chicago.  
For more information, call 534-0600. Ticket prices range from \$45-\$90 at [ticket-master.com](http://ticket-master.com).  
Andrea Acosta may be reached at [prospector@utep.edu](mailto:prospector@utep.edu).

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## BRAIN ZONE

— King Crossword —  
Answers  
Solution time: 21 mins.

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

Answers to 09-18-12

## BRAIN ZONE

Weekly SUDOKU  
by Linda Thistle

2				7			8	
5	3		9			4		
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9				1		3		

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★★  
★ Moderate   ★★ Challenging  
★★★ HOO BOY!

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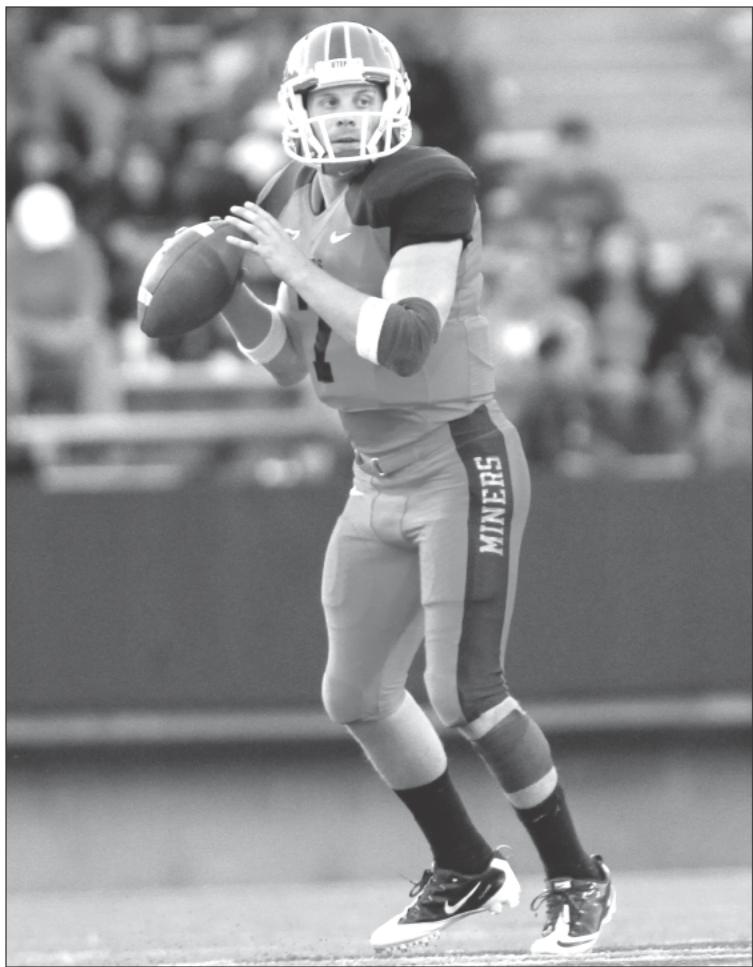
September 25, 2012

sports

editor  
Daniel Ornelas, 747-7445

Football

# All or nothing for Lamaison



JUSTIN STENE / The Prospector

**Senior quarterback Nick** Lamaison is trying to become the third consecutive signal caller under head coach Mike Price to lead the Miners to a bowl appearance. Jordan Palmer did in 2004 and 2005, Trevor Vittatoe in 2010.

BY EDWIN DELGADO

The Prospector

UTEP senior quarterback Nick Lamaison is on his second year as starter for the Miners and his only goal for 2012 is simple, winning.

“I want a conference championship,” Lamaison said. “We want to go to a bowl game and win a bowl game, those are our objectives and we’ll accept nothing less.”

Lamaison began his college career at Mt. San Antonio College, where he earned the All-California and All-American honors and was also named the offensive player of the year.

He led the Mounties to a win over the City College of San Francisco and obtained both a state and national championship for a second straight year in 2010.

Lamaison committed to UTEP mainly because of head coach Mike Price and what the program had to offer.

“I wanted to make sure I was going to play for someone I was going to have a close relationship with and a person I could go and talk to about football or things going on at home,” Lamaison said. “Coach Price definitely fit that mold for me.”

In 2011, against Stony Brook, Lamaison had an impressive debut when he orchestrated a come-from-behind victory against the Seawolves by completing 24-of-38 for 365 yards

and three touchdowns. He suffered an injury against SMU that sidelined him for four games.

Last season, Lamaison completed 130 of his 224 attempts, for 1,718 passing yards 12 touchdowns and 10 interceptions in eight starts. However, the California native has really improved his play in 2012.

After four games, Lamaison has completed 70 of 127 passes for 811 yards, seven touchdowns and no interceptions.

“Right now he is playing his best football of his career probably,” offensive coordinator and quarterback coach Aaron Price said. “The way he is playing right now is like a veteran a fifth year senior, he has really improved his game in the two years he’s been here and he is doing a nice job.”

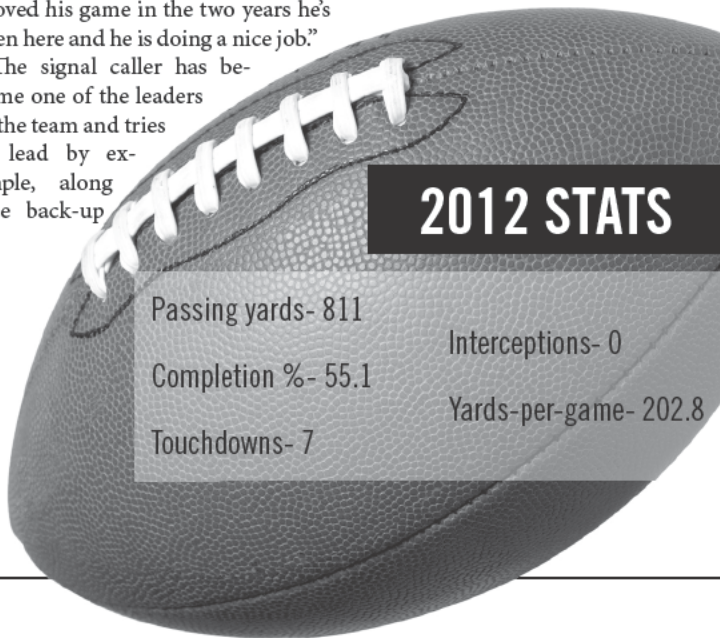
The signal caller has become one of the leaders of the team and tries to lead by example, along side back-up

quarterback junior Carson Meger, who’s been rotating with Lamaison as quarterback.

“We all have a pretty good relationship, we kind of feed off each other, I give him (Lamaison) confidence, he gives me confidence, team has confidence in both of us, so I think it works for us,” Meger said. “We are each other’s eyes when we are not on the field and help each other on what we see in when we are not on the field.”

Meger says he has learned a lot from his teammate, but also keeps a healthy friendship off the field.

see LAMAISON on page 8



Football

# Miners built for tough early schedule

BY FRANKIE RODRIGUEZ

The Prospector

The 2012 non-conference schedule became a test of strength and durability for the Miners. With games against Oklahoma, Ole Miss, New Mexico State and Wisconsin, conditioning was vital when playing bigger, faster and stronger opponents.

“I can definitely see a difference from last year and this year as far as conditioning. As far as conditioning, I haven’t felt tired or exhausted in one game at all. I felt totally prepared from all the conditioning that we do,” junior defensive end Horace Miller said. “All the running and difficulties in the summer really transitioned well into the season. During the season last year we would just run 40-yard sprints and that is like a walk in the park, but now we are doing 100-yard sprints and maintaining the conditioning throughout the season.”

Speed, strength and conditioning coach Kirk Davis, explained the breakdown of his program held throughout the season for the players.

“Typically practice is really fast pace and the tempo. So that is really the majority what we do and we will condition at least once a week for sure. It is usually Monday mornings and sometimes depending on how we

are looking and how our practices are going throughout the week we will have another conditioning day,” Davis said. “That is really how we stay in shape in the season and playing games of course because you cannot simulate the adrenaline rush and the intensity of a game.”

Miller, who played his freshman season at Louisville, has seen the difference between the conditioning program at UTEP and that of his former school.

“I would say back at Louisville we just focused on bench pressing and clean pulls not so much on squats and lower body like we do here. Lower body just wasn’t a main focus for us it was more about getting a much bigger build,” Miller said. “Here it is more football related, definitely a lot more lower body emphasis. I feel football is 95 percent lower body so that’s why I say this program is more football related.”

Junior tight end Kevin Perry, who is part of both the Miners football and basketball team, said conditioning for both sports has given him an edge over the opposition.

At 6-feet, 5-inches and 260 pounds, Perry can tower over defenders in football and overpower players in the paint in basketball.

see MINERS on page 8



FILE PHOTO / The Prospector

**The 2012 non-conference** schedule proved to be one of the toughest in school history. With opponents like Oklahoma, Ole Miss, Wisconsin and rival NM State in the early slate, the Miners strength and conditioning program was key to UTEP’s competitive efforts.



LAMAIISON from page 7

“I’m a little cooler than him, but he is an alright guy,” Meger jokingly said. “We like to laugh and joke and keep it light, but we know when to lock in and focus.”

For Meger, the best quality of his teammate is how he has picked up the offense and his ability, accuracy to throw the ball, and how he likes to take chances.

Price’s last two signal callers led the Miners to bowl appearances, Jordan Palmer (2004, 2005) and Trevor Vittatoe (2010). Lamaison is trying to become the third straight quarterback to achieve that.

“I’ve grown a lot since I came here, I’ve grown with my teammates,” Lamaison said. “I really owe it to UTEP, coach Price and El Paso for helping me get that growth.”

Edwin Delgado may be reached at [prospector@utep.edu](mailto:prospector@utep.edu).

Volleyball’s Horton and Patterson earn C-USA athletes of the week

Junior Jeane Horton was named offensive player of the week leading the Miners attack with a match-high 21 kills on 30 attempts with only two errors and added seven block assists as UTEP defeated Southern Miss, 3-1. The outside hitter registered a .633 hitting percentage against the Golden Eagles earning the No. 2 spot in the UTEP recordbooks for hitting percentage in four sets. She posted 13 kills and two block assists as the Miners swept UCF, 3-0 earning their first C-USA victory of the season. Horton averaged 4.86 kills per set and a .452 hitting efficiency this weekend and is the only conference leader to rank in the

top three in both categories.

“Jeane (Horton) was nearly unstoppable on Sunday,” said head coach Ken Murphy. “She had a great range of shots and did a nice job of recognizing the defense and attacking openings.”

Malia Patterson earned C-USA co-setter of the week leading the conference for assists recorded in four sets with 54 posted against Southern Miss. The setter didn’t stop there as she registered her sixth double-double of the season with 42 assists and 13 digs versus UCF. The junior led the Miners past UCF (3-0) and Southern Miss (3-1) this weekend and continues to climb up the charts ranking

second in C-USA as she averaged 13.71 assists per set over the weekend. Patterson tallied a total of six block assists versus the Golden Eagles and the Knights.

“We were very efficient on offense this weekend and Malia (Patterson) did a good job of running things,” Murphy said. “She put our hitters in good position to be successful and distributed the ball within our priorities really well.”

This is the first C-USA Athlete of the Week honor for Horton and Patterson. The Miners will take on NM State at 7 p.m. Sept. 26 at Memorial Gym.

simplystated

Column  
Despite 1-3 mark, Miners should still contend for C-USA

BY EDWIN DELGADO  
The Prospector



Before the season, I was expecting for UTEP to go 1-3 through their non-conference schedule, facing three Bowl Championship Series (BCS) schools, but despite only beating New Mexico State, the Miners have impressed early on and played better than expected.

The Miners’ ability to challenge teams like Oklahoma, Ole Miss and Wisconsin could be an indication that those teams are not as good as many thought, but I would like to think that it’s primarily because UTEP is much better this year. The real season starts now for the Miners.

In the very first game, UTEP was able to hang on within the Sooners midway through the fourth quarter, down by only three points, but a failed fake punt enabled the Sooners to pull away and win 24-7.

The Miners offense struggled through the air, only gaining 48 yards passing and missing three field goals, however sophomore running back Nathan Jeffery, was the star of the game as he rushed for 177 yards in 21 carries and got the Miners sole touchdown after recovering a blocked punt.

The team had a big improvement in the passing game in Oxford, Miss. against the Ole Miss Rebels. Quarterbacks senior Nick Lamaison and junior Carson Meger combined for 274 yards, but this time it was the running game that struggled without Jeffery, who was out of this game with a groin injury.

The Miners were able to move the ball downfield, but came out empty handed in their first three trips to the red zone or as head coach Mike Price likes to call it the “orange zone.”

Finally on the rivalry game against the Aggies, the Miners were firing on all cylinders as they were able to score touchdowns in their first four possession to take an impressive 27-0 lead in the second quarter, and never looked back getting a 41-28 win over their I-10 rivals.

The last hurdle for the Miners before opening the conference play was a road game against the defending Big Ten conference champions, Wisconsin Badgers.

The Miners put themselves in a position to come out with the win, a couple of penalties and a fumble on a kickoff prevented UTEP from pulling off the upset.

They have a game coming up that could determine how well they can do in Conference USA, when they play one of the east division favorites, the East Carolina Pirates, Sept. 29 at Greenville, N.C.

The Miners need to take advantage of the tough non-conference schedule they had for this season, the experience and confidence they built this past month should give them an edge over conference rivals.

These first few weeks, I have been able to talk to a good number of players and coaches, they all feel they have enough depth and talent to win the conference championship.

With SMU, Houston, Rice and Tulane struggling early on the season, it appears that the Golden Hurricane of Tulsa should be the biggest obstacle for the Miners. If they are able to stay healthy, focused and find success in the red zone, they will have a legitimate chance.

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**UTEP**



BRANDY POSADA / The Prospector

**Senior wide receiver** Mike Edwards benefited from the off-season conditioning program. After nursing an injury in the spring, Edwards leads the team with 21 receptions, 325 yards and three touchdowns after four games.

**Beginner Mountain Bike Clinics**  
Sunday, September 30, 2012 8:30 am - 10:00 am

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“The transition is difficult but it is something that I have been doing for a long time. You kind of get used to the process, the conditioning is the hardest part and just knocking the rust off and going from a very physical game to a finesse game,” Perry said. “With football conditioning you are used to running for about six to seven seconds with a 30-second break versus basketball where you could be running for five to six minutes without a break. That non-stop in basketball is really what gets you.”

Perry believes this type of transition gives him the upperhand in certain situations.

“The football lifting gives you an advantage in basketball because the majority of the guys are not emphasizing on getting stronger. So when you go in there and you are stronger than they are it gives you the ability to manoeuvre them better as far as manipulating their body against them,” Perry said. “I would say it is an edge for the position that I play but as far as guards it could help but I don’t think it is that important for them.”

Davis stated that there is only one way to prepare his players no matter who the opponent is.

The Miners finished with a 1-3 non-conference record, but remained competitive in each of the games.

The team still feels confident it can contend and win a Conference USA championship.

“It is really all the same preparing for bigger and faster opponents,” Davis said. “The only thing that changes is the practice scheme but it’s football conditioning that we do on a year-round basis.”

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

Edwin Delgado may be reached at [prospector@utep.edu](mailto:prospector@utep.edu).