

10-2-2012

The Prospector, October 2, 2012

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BY GUERRERO GARCIA
 The Prospector

Fall 2012 marked a pinnacle in the history of university enrollment, with 22,749 students attending and the highest entering class in history with 4,527 students.

"One can definitely see a lot more students walking around campus," said Vivian Badillo, sophomore psychology student. "I've noticed that it

is much more congested when trying to get from one class to another."

The all-time high enrollment at the university can be attributed to the large mass of entering students, which according to Gus Monzon, associate director of recruitment, outreach and communication, was the result of the purposeful recruitment strategies executed by the Department of Admissions and Recruitment.

"As an institution we make a concerted effort to focus on region 19 (El

Paso county and a portion of Hudspeth county) in terms of recruitment," Monzon said. "The president (Diana Natalicio) has given us a directive to saturate this area and to make sure we provide everybody in the region that is graduating from area public and private schools the opportunity to attend this university."

Monzon said the efforts by the university have been more effective with the implementation of a management

system that takes care of most of the communication with incoming students.

This fall semester the university recruited and enrolled 2,890 first-time students.

Sergio Roman, a freshman criminal justice student, received information about UTEP through mail and emails during his senior year at high school. That led him to enroll at the university.

"The high enrollment means more exposure for the university—we see it as validation and credibility for everything we do."

- Gus Monzon, associate director of recruitment

see ENROLLMENT on page 4

Economy

El Paso's per capita income increases in part by the university



FILE PHOTO / The Prospector

El Pasoans have seen an increase in per capita income.

BY REBECCA GUERRERO
 The Prospector

A recently published income study from the El Paso branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas stated that El Paso's income levels are on the rise after years of declines, largely because of the growth of service jobs related to cross-border trade. However, some of the credit for the economic upturn was also given to UTEP.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, in 2000 the average per capita income in El Paso was only \$18,812, or 62 percent of the U.S. average. In 2010 it was \$28,698, making it 72 percent of the nation's average of \$39,937, which displays significant growth.

"UTEP is one of the crown jewels in the local diadem of economic growth," said Tom Fullerton, po-

litical science professor. "Without a comprehensive, major university in the city, a huge percentage of the economic achievements of the last 50 years would not have been feasible."

Bill Gilmer, a UTEP graduate and respected economist who co-wrote the study, was quoted saying that El Paso is still a poor city but at least is making progress and moving in the right direction again after 31 years of moving in the wrong direction. El Paso has reversed a decades-old trend of declining per capita income and made up most of the ground lost between 1969 and 2000 when El Paso's garment industry was disappearing.

Gilmer said that a key component discussed in this study was an increase in demand for high-quality and high-skilled service jobs tied to cross-border trade that has moved the community from an unstable

place to a strategic position in the North American trade zone. Those kinds of jobs are in information services, real estate and finance, business and professional services administration and management and enterprise. He claims these are the kinds of jobs that bring people back to El Paso from Houston and Dallas.

"UTEP is playing an enormous role by providing the educational foundations of a knowledge-based economy for its students in the same manner as other national centers of academic excellence," said Robert Nachtmann, dean of the College of Business Administration. "As to whether this will result in more jobs for El Paso is a more difficult question. Foundation knowledge and company-specific knowledge are not the same

see INCOME on page 6



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Column

Vexing modern words

BY ALEJANDRO ALBA

The Prospector



If words like “ratchet” are going to be used by teenagers nowadays, I’d rather use Gretchen Wieners’ “fetch!” And even then, I can pull a Regina George and say, “Stop trying to make fetch/ratchet happen!”

Last week I was sitting at dinner with some friends when one of the youngest mentioned a word that was vexing on her, “ratchet.”

I’m always trying to stay on top of the latest terms, trends and fashion so I had to ask what exactly that meant. Unfortunately, I was unable to get a response. Nonetheless, she did give me an example of how it is used.

“That girl looks so ratchet today.” Of course, it had to be said with one of those annoying valley girl tones.

The way she said it seemed negative, but I still wondered what its definition was. My biggest doubt, however, was why, what originally was a tool, was being used as an expression, and who was the unintelligent soul who began saying that?

Although the word is thoughtless, I was offended by it since I did not know about it. I felt old, although I’m 20-years-old.

Apparently there is also another word going around. The term is “chop,” its definition, sex. I don’t see how chop and sex relate, but I guess it’s the equivalent to “smashing” back in the ‘90s. So all you fellows getting old, update your dictionaries and beware of using such word’s in the modern day. You don’t want to go around hooking up involuntarily.

Aside from stupid words like ratchet and chop, people have also been using idiotic phrases like YOLO (You only live once), SMH (Shake my head) and FISH (Fuck it, shit happens). Oh, and

LMS (“Like” my status), which is what I expect people to do once I post this column on Facebook.

There are also words like “douche” or “douche bag” that have grown in popularity over the past years, but I have no objection to such words. I do believe that there are people who fall perfectly into the definition of a douche: An obnoxious bastard who mooches off family and friends, and they tend to be a complete and total ass to everyone. That definition was courtesy of urbandictionary.com, and I can’t help but agree with it 100 percent for I’ve met people like that.

I would like to hear people talk with more intelligent words, but I shouldn’t have such high expectations when our generation cares more about “Keeping up with the Kardashians” and replacement referees than politics and education.

Alejandro Alba may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

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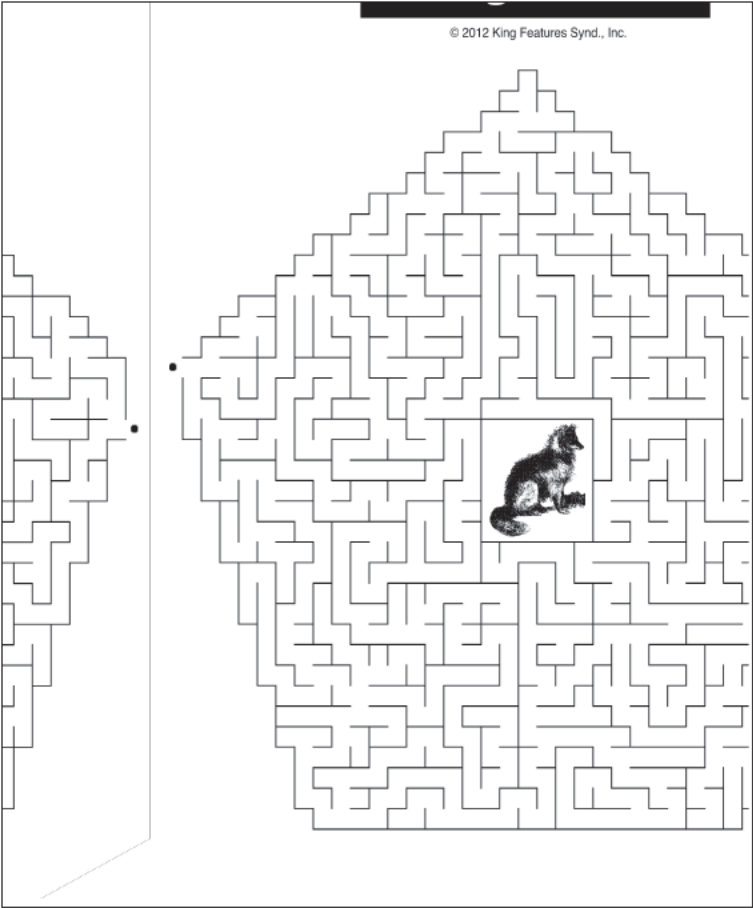
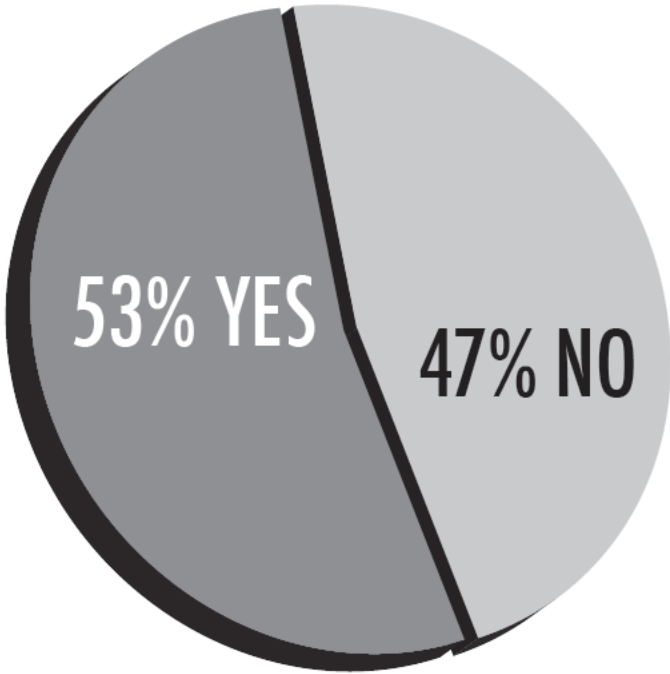
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we asked, you answered

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the prospector

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vol. 98, no. 9

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WEATHER

Campus

Renovations improve business at Union Building East



The Prospector

This fall students returned to brightly colored lounge-style seating and a more open floor plan in the second floor union cafeteria.

The renovations—which totaled \$1.3 million for the first floor Jamba Juice/Starbucks and restrooms and the entire second floor dining area—were funded entirely from money the university received during recent contract negotiations with Sodexo Services, the contractor that manages food services operations on campus. No student tuition was used for construction.

According to Victor Pacheco, assistant vice president of business affairs, business has improved significantly since the completion of the renovations.

"Thus far, sales for all venues at the union for the fall 2012 semester have increased 37.62 percent over the same period in fall 2011," Pacheco said. "Specifically, the new Jamba Juice/Starbucks venue has been well received. It is one of our most popular venues. Sales at that location are up 20 percent compared to the same period last year."

The renovations at the Union were a part of a larger effort to upgrade and expand food venue facilities around campus, and the result has been an environment some believe is more conducive to a college setting than before.

"I really like the new renovations," said Darlene Perdue, junior corporate communications major. "I think they made it more college student friendly with the whole modern furniture idea and I absolutely adore how they still use UTEP's logo on a lot of the furniture. It's really nice and it actually makes me want to hang out there."

Some students agree that the new set up is more inviting for conversation and meet ups between classes.

"The union practically got a face lift," said Rene Balandran, sophomore education major. "It is better than what we had before, it seems like there is more space. The new lounge chairs are very inviting for us students

to go ahead and sit down, relax and enjoy the little break we sometimes have in a friendly atmosphere where you can meet with friends and talk about the stresses of school."

The transformed atmosphere is also the best part of the renovations, according to Samantha Wells, junior pre-business major.

"All the renovations have made a great difference in the look of the facility," Wells said. "The new seating is colorful and bright, and the transformation has created a welcoming comfortable place for students to congregate over lunch or their studies."

Though there seems to be a general agreement that the union looks nice, some students wonder if it was the best way for UTEP to spend money.

"I really like the new orange couches and the whole setup," said Isaac Rodarte, junior pre-business major. "It's a great investment for all the new students coming in, but I think there are more important things that should have been fixed first. Some older academic buildings on campus could really use a renovation more than the union did."

One of the things that changed with the renovation was the location of the Cyber Café where many students took advantage of the Internet and printing services.

"I miss having the Cyber Café in the eating area," said Maria Gonzalez, sophomore environmental science major. "I do like that there are more tables to eat at but I feel like there are fewer computers in the Cyber Café now which is not convenient for the people who rely on them. People tend to rush and try to beat each other just to get a seat at a computer."

Areas that did not warrant an upgrade were the second floor bathrooms, and sophomore business major Amanda Toyosima think that they are still lacking.

"How about actually putting soap in the restrooms before focusing on renovations?" Toyoshima said. "We pay so much in tuition that I think we deserve the top of the line in just about everything."

Rebecca Guerrero may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.






MICHELLE FRANCO / The Prospector

Renovations at the Union Building East have lead to an increase of 37.62 percent in sales for all venues.

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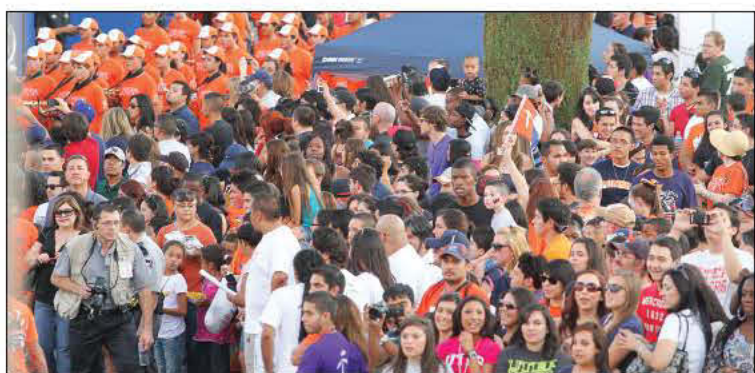
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FILE PHOTO

The university welcomed the highest number of both transfer and first-time students in history for the fall 2012 semester.

ENROLLMENT from page 1

date,” Roman said. “I received information about financial aid and I received emails letting me know about orientation and what days it was, I even got a UTEP account to check my status.”

Every fall semester the university gets an abundance of students, fall 2011 enrollment was also an all-time high, with 22,640 students—Monzon said it is because area public and private schools graduate their classes in May.

“Region 19 will graduate close to 11,000 students in May, for the most part 45 percent of those students graduating will find themselves at a two or four year institution the first fall semester after graduating from high school,” Monzon said.

Compounding to the number of first-time students is the number of transfer students, this fall semester 1,637 transfer students enrolled in the university.

“We also have a large transfer population,” Monzon said. “Seventy percent

of our transfer students are coming from El Paso Community College.”

Gabriel Payan, sophomore kinesiology major, transferred from EPCC and is in his first semester at UTEP.

“I received emails from UTEP informing me about the transfer scholarship,” Payan said. “I came to UTEP because my parents wanted me to stay close to home and because it was cheaper than other universities.”

According to the U.S. Department of Education, the university has the lowest net price tuition among all national research universities designated by the Carnegie Foundation. Monzon believes the low tuition costs have an impact, but he does not believe price is such a significant factor leading to enrollment at the university.

“There is a change in attitude from students enrolling at UTEP, they see the value in the university,” Monzon said. “The high enrollment means more exposure for the university—we see it as validation and credibility for everything we do.”

Guerrero Garcia may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

**October 2
10 a.m.
UTEP Union Building East,
3rd floor**

Graduate and Professional School Fair

Law, medical and graduate programs from throughout the nation will attend this event to speak to potential students about their academic and research programs. Information: University Career Center, 747-5640

**7:30 p.m.
Fox Fine Arts Recital Hall**

Jazz Bands

Erik Unsworth and Don Wilkinson, will lead the UTEP Jazz Bands in a concert of traditional and contemporary big band arrangements and compositions.

Tickets: \$5 general admission; \$3 for seniors, military, and non-UTEP students; free for children (6 and younger), UTEP students, faculty and staff. Information: 747-5606

**October 3
6 p.m.
UTEP Library, Blumberg Auditorium**

Fire and Ice

This discussion and movie presentation will touch on issues of violence that women face on the border and what women leaders are doing to change them. A panel discussion will follow the screening of the movie “Trade.” Information: Ryan Garcia, 747-5918

**October 4
5:30 p.m.
UTEP Library, Blumberg
Auditorium, room 111**

UTEP Picks: “Culture War Circus: How Politicians and the Media Play Games in Texas”

The UTEP Library together with the Student Government Association presents UTEP Picks: Elections 2012, a series of events related to this year’s elections. Sept. 4 through Nov. 1 the Library will host a series of lectures that will be held most Thursdays.

The lecture on Oct. 4 will feature a book signing by Dr. Keith Erikson, assistant professor with the Department of History. The event is sponsored by the Library Special Collections Department. Contact: 747-5697

**7 p.m.
UTEP Union Cinema**

Get Reel Cinema: “Ted”

Housed in the UTEP Union Cinema, Get Reel (previously Cinema Novo) presents independent and educational films as well as blockbuster movies. Tickets are \$1 for UTEP students, faculty, staff and Alumni Association members (with valid ID); \$2 general admission. A \$5 movie combo includes a hot dog, small soda and popcorn. Information: 747-5711.

**7:30 p.m.
Fox Fine Arts Recital Hall**

UTEP Symphony Band Concert

The UTEP Symphony Band will perform its first concert of the 2012-13 academic year. This program will present the band works of Dmitri Shostakovich, John Barnes Chance, David Maslanka

Calendar of Events

and close with Frank Ticheli’s “Wild Night!”

Tickets: \$5 general admission; \$3 for seniors, military, and non-UTEP students; free for children (6 and younger), UTEP students, faculty and staff. Information: 747-5606

**October 5
12:30 p.m.
UTEP Library, Blumberg
Auditorium, room 111**

UTEP Picks: “The Candidate”

The movie is “The Candidate” will be presented. Contact: Lisa Weber, 747-5039

**October 6
6 p.m.
UTEP Sun Bowl Stadium**

UTEP Football

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**October 7
2:30 p.m.
Fox Fine Arts Center**

UTEP Flute Professor Melissa Colgin-Abeln 25th Anniversary Artist Recital

Flute Professor Melissa Colgin-Abeln, will present a recital at 2:30 p.m. Oct. 7 in the Fox Fine Arts Recital Hall. Reception will follow.

Tickets: \$8 general admission; \$5 for seniors, military and non-UTEP students; free for children (6 and younger), UTEP students, faculty and staff. Information: 747-5606



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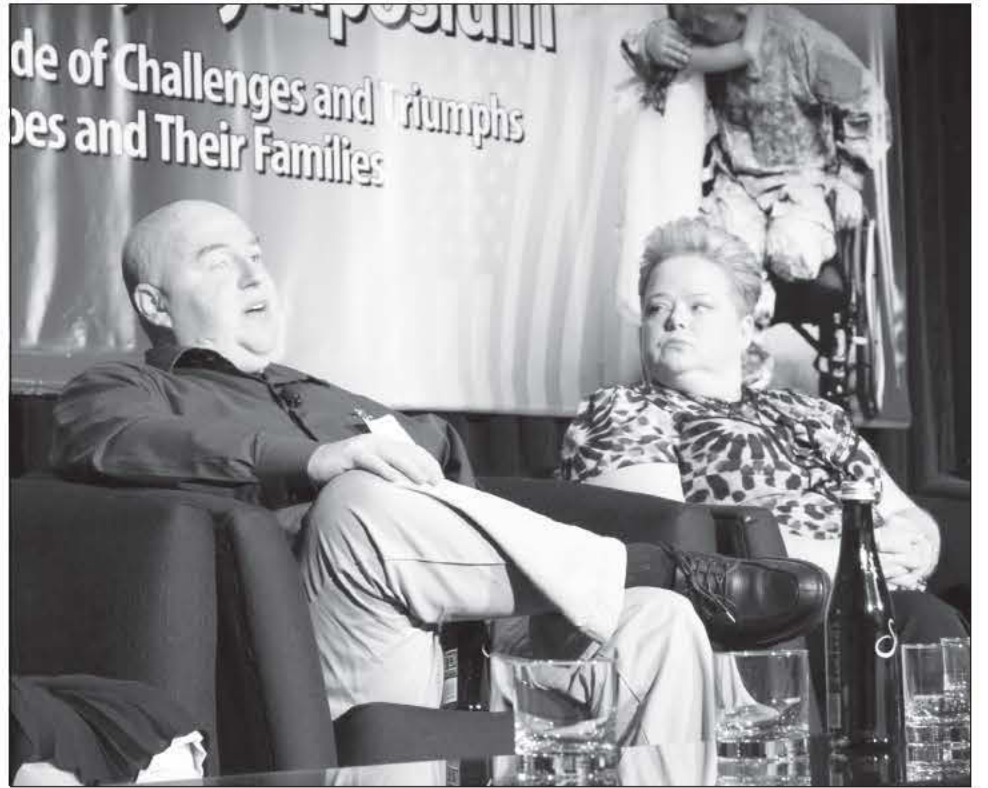
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Military

Veterans struggle to find piece of mind after combat



KRISTOPHER RIVERA / SHFWire

(Right) Former Sen. Elizabeth Dole, R-N.C., talks about creating Caring for Military Families. (Left) Matthew Slaydon, Iraq war veteran, and his wife Annette discuss their experience with recovery after an IED accident.

BY KRISTOPHER RIVERA

Scripps Howard Foundation Wire

WASHINGTON - Dr. Tara Dixon, a trauma and critical surgeon in the U.S. Army Reserves, struggled to refrain from weeping in front of an audience of other veterans and their families.

"About six months when I got back from my second tour in Iraq I tried to kill myself and I ended up in the intensive care unit from an overdose of aspirin and Tylenol," Dixon said. "When I woke up in the intensive care unit I was very angry, very upset that that did happen. I felt lost, I felt hopeless. I couldn't get any better."

Dixon, 38, of Ocklawaha, Fla., saw three therapists to treat the PTSD she developed as a result of her overall experiences during her deployments in 2008 and 2010, but it had no effect on improving her mental health. She said she felt that, as a doctor, she should have the ability to beat it. Dixon said that because she hadn't been cured, she saw only one way out. Dixon said she felt like an embarrassment to herself, her family and the Army after she tried to take her life.

Stories like hers whirled in the conference room Sept. 13 during the 2012 Warrior-Family Symposium hosted by the Military Officers Association of America and the national Defense Industrial Association. Wound veterans and their families and caregivers told stories of their difficult paths to physical or psychological recovery.

Many veterans faced overwhelming obstacles during their transition back to civilian life.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics found that veterans from the 9/11 era had an unemployment rate of 10.9 percent in August, higher than the national rate of 8.1 percent. The root of this issue comes from soldiers who developed post traumatic stress disorder, which is considered a disability.

Alvin Shell Jr., 35, of Fredericksburg, Va., a retired Army captain, said it is the biggest issue veterans have encountered.

"A job, that's the best deal you can hand out," Shell said. "It gives you a sense of worth, it allows you to provide for your family. And not so much

hand out, but just make sure there are no doors closed in our way."

Shell was a military police officer and was severely burned when he and his team were attacked in Iraq in 2004. It took two years and 30 surgeries before he recovered.

Shell struggled to get a job with his experience in the military, and he now works for the Department of Homeland Security and recently graduated from the FBI National Academy.

"Without really good, comprehensive hiring bills that allow veterans to get jobs, we don't have that opportunity," Shell said.

The bill that would grant \$1 billion to help veterans find jobs was held up Sept. 12 when Sen. Rand Paul, R-Ky., started a filibuster. But the Senate voted 84-8 later that day to proceed with the bill and will do so on Wednesday.

On Sept. 13, Eric Shinseki, secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs, told the audience, "We have not fixed everything, we know that, but you have had our very best efforts. We will continue to provide you our very best efforts."

In 2009, of more than 23 million living veterans 7.4 million were enrolled in the VA health-care system and 3 million were receiving compensation pension benefits, Shinseki said.

"We're going to have to adjust our stance, which we started doing three-and-a-half years ago, and gain some agility quickly," Shinseki said. "We had an outreach problem. Many veterans didn't know about VA or their benefits. We had an access problem, even if they know about us, there was evidence they had difficulty getting the needed services."

By the 2013 symposium Shinseki said he expects an increase in fund-

ing for Veterans Affairs programs. He said he expects an increase of 28 percent for spinal cord injuries, 39 percent for mental health treatment, 39 percent for long-term care funding, 59 percent for prosthetics funding and more money for many other needs.

Kristopher Rivera is a multimedia journalism major at UTEP. He is currently interning at the Scripps Howard Foundation's Semester in Washington program. He may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.



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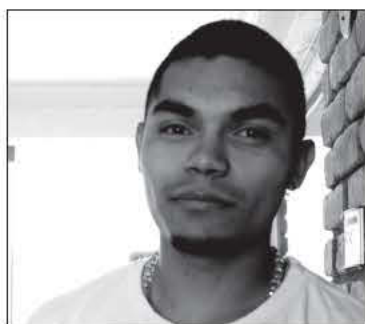
Do you support ball park construction?

PHOTOS BY KARINA RODRIGUEZ & MICHELLE FRANCO / The Prospector



ELIZABETH RUEDA

Senior industrial engineering major
"I like the idea of having a new baseball stadium in El Paso because it will allow the city to bring more teams to play. It can also be used to host other large events like concerts. However, I think they should relocate the project because there are many areas available for construction."



MARTIN QUIJAS

Senior management major
"I think it should go through, El Paso has a bunch of baseball talent and having a stadium is awesome. I grew up playing baseball and watching The Diablos and now we would be able to watch something with more importance."



GEORGINA PEREZ

Senior accounting major
"I definitely believe El Paso needs a drastic change in its society, and a stadium can make that change. Plus, it could generate employment, which is something that El Paso needs."



PAUL SANCHEZ

Freshman civil engineering major
"I think the stadium will be a great addition to the city, it would be awesome so people could come out and have a great time. Having the stadium in the center of town will have a great impact not only on the downtown economy area but the whole city of El Paso."



LUIS MORALES

Senior health promotion major
"I am for this new upgrade and addition of the stadium. It will make a big stride in moving this city's mindset to a more progressive and hopefully bringing more money to the city."



DEREK BENSON

Senior multimedia journalism major
"I think the new ballpark would be good for purposes of 'rejuvenating' downtown."



ANAIZA MIRELES

Freshman pre-pharmacy major
"I think it is good. It's going to bring in business to the city even though they will be raising taxes. It will make El Paso more modern."



SERGIO VALDEZ

Sophomore electrical engineering major
"I think the city of El Paso should first finish building everything they have started, including the downtown remodeling and other parts of the city, and then add a stadium."

"Until our city leaders are willing to make decisions that allow our city to attract companies that require higher skilled labor and thus higher paying jobs, El Paso will continue to lose graduates to other cities with these kinds of opportunities."

- Matthew Skelton, senior economics major

INCOME from page 1

"We had the Go-Center—it had all the information about UTEP up to things. The first requires academic training. The second requires detailed and often proprietary experience with firms."

Matthew Skelton, senior economics major, agreed that El Paso's economy is expanding, but is unsure that it will result in more jobs for UTEP students.

"El Paso's economy lacks high skills and high paying jobs. This keeps the cost of living down but also wages," Skelton said. "I agree that our economy is expanding and we have managed to avoid the brunt of the recession that started in 2008, but until our city leaders are willing to make decisions that allow our city to attract companies that require higher skilled labor and thus higher

paying jobs, El Paso will continue to lose graduates to other cities with these kinds of opportunities."

Though the data shows that El Paso is benefiting from what is called an "industrial cycle" trend that indicates a shift towards knowledge-based jobs, Gilmer said that El Paso's work is not yet done and is only just starting to bear fruit. Fullerton agreed.

"Although per worker earnings in El Paso are lower than those of other regions in the United States, standards of living in El Paso have improved significantly during the post-war period of economic history," Fullerton said. "More needs to be done, but a lot of positive steps have been taken."

Rebecca Guerrero may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

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October 2, 2012

entertainment

editor

Alejandro Alba 747-7442

DRINK & DRYFT

Party bus offers safety and fun

BY ANDREA ACOSTA

The Prospector

Providing El Paso with a party-environment limousine, the Dryft Party buses have recently attracted UTEP students.

According to owner, Elliot Knoch, the business opened on August of 2009 and since then it has slowly but effectively become well-known with their slogan, "Don't drink and drive, drink and dryft."

"Currently we are having five to 10 reservations per week, that includes the 18 and 36 passenger buses together," Knoch said. "We already have reservations in November and the majority of the renters, I would say, are UTEP students; which are often taken to downtown or Cincinnati Avenue."

Janene Rojas, sophomore communication studies major, has been invited to be part of the limousine experience twice, and said that it was a blast to ride in.

"What made it a great experience was the environment, not only is it a convenient way to travel on your night out, but the music is definitely on point," Rojas said. "The vibrant lights and amenities that were provided, contributed for a very exciting night."

Both party buses include club quality laser lights and sound system, an iPod connection, a flat screen TV, built in coolers for beverages and a fiber optic color changing dance pole.

"I wasn't personally offended by the poles, merely for stability while the bus was in motion, is what I'm assuming they were put in for," Rojas said. "They did help for balance, I didn't witness anyone using them appropriately."

The 36-passenger bus also includes some additional features such as a

VIP room for six, two additional flat screen televisions, two dance poles and two fog machines, Knoch said.

"It's a lot fancier than our generic party bus, which only carries up to 18 people. That one is specifically reserved for Quinceañeras, graduation parties, birthdays, prom and bachelorette parties," Knoch said.

According to Knoch, rates range from \$140-\$180 for a minimum of three hours. Buses can be rented with a deposit of \$100 for the 18-passenger bus or \$200 for the 36-passenger bus.

"We offer the best rates compared to our other competitors, I think this is the reason why people keep coming back and reserving the bus for a second time," Knoch said.

Knoch mentioned that the fee includes three different destinations, not including pick up and drop off addresses. Additional destinations after three will be subject to an additional fee.

"Rates are absolutely affordable and fair for the amenities and services that they are providing," said Erick Saucedo, junior psychology major. "They often offer specials and discounts depending on the day and amount of time the bus is being rented for."

Saucedo said that as long as all riders split the cost, it is not a bad deal for a night around town.

Although passengers have permission to drink alcohol inside the party bus, the chauffeur is very strict about prohibiting alcohol to anyone who is not 21 and older, Knoch said.

"Chauffeurs are very professional about this particular issue," Knoch said. "If the chauffeur notices that a teenager under 21 is drinking he will immediately stop the bus and end the ride."

Knoch said that they do this to prevent any accidents and to keep the party bus safe.

"I appreciated the chauffeur for being professional at his

job, he was very strict about carding everyone who entered the bus," Rojas said. "This kept the experience as safe as possible."

Saucedo also said that the Dryft Party Bus provided a safe atmosphere.

"I've never felt any reason to worry about anyone's safety while riding on any of the Dryft buses," Saucedo said. "All the drivers that have driven my friends previously were very professional and took the safest routes possible."

Apart from the drinking policy, Saucedo said that compared to the other party buses that he has ridden in, the Dryft Party buses are held to a higher standard than any of their competitors he has seen in town.

"I've ridden on Diego Contreras' party bus before, but I definitely prefer the Dryft buses," Saucedo said. "They have the best quality rides in my opinion, from the sound system to the upholstery and lighting."

For more information, visit facebook.com/pages/Dryft-Party-Bus, or dryftpartybuses.com

Andrea Acosta may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.



(Top left) Dryft party buses offer party transportation for 18 and 36 passengers. (Bottom left) The 18-passenger bus includes music, light and a TV. (Right) the 36-passenger bus has a club atmosphere and a VIP lounge.

KARINA RODRIGUEZ / The Prospector

Movie Review

An amazing journey through time



Special to The Prospector

BY OSCAR GARZA

The Prospector

“Looper,” writer/director Rian Johnson’s strikingly original third feature film, explores how time travel affects the decisions of one man’s journey.

Kansas City, the year is 2044, and time travel hasn’t been invented yet. Joe (a magnificent Joseph Gordon-Levitt) is a looper—an assassin that takes care of people who’ve become a problem for the organized crime in the future—who enjoys the idea of living a successful, good life.

Since time travel is extremely illegal in the future, only criminal organizations can use it, and sometimes they send older versions of the loopers to “finish their contract with them” and “close the loop.”

Due to intricacies in a looper’s contract, they have 30 years to live and as a reward for killing their future selves, they receive a pile of gold (all these rules are conveyed in a very effective narration). An older version of Joe (Bruce Willis) is sent back for Joe to kill him, but he escapes. Then it is up to the young Joe to find and prevent his older self from going on a separate mission, before his contractors (led by a fantastic Jeff Daniels) find them both.

The plot contains a twisty, exciting, high-concept premise that may seem hard to take in, but isn’t thanks to Johnson’s control of the material. What makes “Looper” so much fun and exciting to watch, along with its taut and intelligent narrative, is that Johnson creates a future that feels

gritty and realistic, almost like a more advanced version of today’s world.

One of the wonderful things in Johnson’s films is that he almost creates his own language, giving sort of nicknames. This happened in “Brick” and he does it again with “Looper,” especially when relating to something like guns. For example “Blunderbuss,” are the guns that loopers use to dispose of the bodies and a “Gat,” is a higher-ranking enforcer that uses a revolver-like gun. Within this future, and in a minor presence, there are also people with telekinetic abilities, “TKs,” who have the ability to move objects with their minds.

Though the film is largely science fiction, Johnson has no trouble in merging elements from “noir” or a chase thriller, (“The Fugitive” in particular seems like a huge influence on the film) and even some elements of a love story.

Though young Joe’s intent on finding his older version through the help of a reluctant single mother named Sara (a fierce Emily Blunt) and her son (a remarkable Pierce Gagnon), old Joe himself is set on a mission to kill the man who would grow up to be the criminal mastermind of the future, named the Rainmaker.

This is where Johnson really brings forth his themes about violent consequences and morality that can affect destiny. Ultimately all of these themes tie into the consequences of time travel.

The movie was great with stylistic directorial flourishes (that never distract), a thought-provoking script that always finds the right balance between ideas and character, a visceral and evocative score by Nathan Johnson and a beautiful production design and cinematography (shot using anamorphic 35 mm lenses). The cast was also phenomenal boasting some of their best work—Willis, who was also great in this year’s “Moonrise Kingdom” proves that he is still a great actor.

“Looper” is that great, bold sci-fi treat that is both exciting and intellectually conscious—a film that takes risks and pays off in spades. “Looper” is a film that will make you theorize about your interpretations of the film long after the lights go up. It is also the best science fiction film of the year and one of this year’s best works.

Five out of five picks.

Oscar Garza may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.



ABILITY
AWARENESS
WEEK

October 8 – 13, 2012

The Center for Accomodations & Support Services (CASS)

(915) 747-5148

cass@utep.edu

www.sa.utep.edu/cass

Monday, October 8

All activities for this day will be held in the Tomás Rivera Conference Center, Union Building East, 3rd Floor

8:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Welcoming Reception

Keynote Speaker

Alef Gutierrez, District Manager, Walgreens

Introduction of the UTEP Beta Phi Chapter

Delta Alpha Pi, International Honor Society for Students with Disabilities

Challenge & Opportunity Awards

Closing Remarks

Diana Natalicio, President, UTEP

Wednesday, October 10

9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

ATL (Assistive Technology Lab) Open House

300 Library

10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Resource Fair

Demonstrations and Services

Tomás Rivera Conference Center (TRCC)

Union Building East, 3rd Floor

Door Prizes

Saturday, October 13

Ability Awareness Walk and Roll

8:00 a.m. Registration at UTEP Union Plaza

9:00 a.m. Race Begins UTEP campus

The Student Rehabilitation Counseling Association

Tuesday, October 9

All activities for this day will be held in Union Building East, 3rd Floor

9:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

Disability-Related Sensitivity & Etiquette Training

University Suite, 312 E

10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Campus Transformation Update

University Suite, 312 E

12:30 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.

PTSD-Causes and Symptoms

Department Assistive & Rehabilitation Services

Templeton Suite, 313 E

1:30 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.

Photo Voice

Perspectives of Students with Disabilities

Templeton Suite, 313 E

2:30 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

Service Animals

Making a Difference for People with Disabilities

University Suite, 312 E

Thursday, October 11

3:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Wheelchair Basketball Game

Fort Bliss Wounded Warriors

vs. El Paso Freewheelers

Memorial Gym

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO



THE CENTER FOR ACCOMMODATIONS AND SUPPORT SERVICES



TS Technology Support Center

Books vs Films

A REVIEW OF THE BEST
& WORST BOOK ADAPTATIONS

BY OSCAR GARZA

The Prospector

Hollywood has been big in producing adaptations of beloved books, but not always do the adaptations live up to the book.

There have been films that manage to become good adaptations of a beloved book by taking the essence of the character and tone of the story directly from the page to the screen, but there are those that fail at capturing what made the book such a fascinating read or a best-seller.

Here is a list of what can be considered good or bad adaptations based on the success they have had on the big screen:

The Good:

“Harry Potter”

The film franchise, adapted a massive series of seven books into a cinematic vision with much success. It would however require some stuff to get cut out from the book. That is something that every cinematic adaptation has had to face at one point or another, but where the Harry Potter films delivered was in capturing the spirit and complex mythology of J.K. Rowling’s world.

The crew behind the films knew exactly what it was that they needed to edit out, while retaining the most important aspect of the characters and storylines. Not to mention, the films had some talented directors to tell the stories with a particular magi-

cal vision, and the cast, being new to audiences, portrayed the characters perfectly on screen.

“The Lord of the Rings”

Based on a beloved series of books from J.R.R. Tolkien, Peter Jackson, director of the films, did something unprecedented with the saga. He took the spirit of the characters and Tolkien’s storyline and made a fantasy world come to life.

Jackson also completely translated the different languages and cultures cinematically, while still changing some parts. Many parts of the movie were considered to be “un-filmable,” but Jackson did them anyway. Not only did the films succeed in every department of filmmaking, they were also commercially and critically successful. The trilogy won 16 Academy Awards.

“No Country for Old Men”

From celebrated author Cormac McCarthy, the book is not only a great cat and mouse thriller but it also has a great sense of place. What the Coen brothers (directors of the film) did was take McCarthy’s words and take them to visual terms, adding their trademark dark humor and style but keeping it extremely close to the source material. While telling the story in a cinematically rewarding way, the movie had an outstanding cast, which included an Academy Award-winning performance by Javier Bardem. The movie continued with its success in winning multiple awards that included Best Picture.

“The Godfather” (Parts I and II)

Considered two of the best films ever made, Francis Ford Coppola (director) and Mario Puzo (author), decided that in order to tell the best version of the story the first film had to follow the aging Don Vito Corleone and the development of Michael. For Part II, they not only expanded the storyline by telling the story of the young Vito, but also expanded upon Michael’s storyline to create one massive crime tale that would instantly become a classic in film.

“One Flew over the Cuckoo’s Nest”

Director Milos Forman, along with screenwriters Bo Goldman and Lawrence Hauben, stuck close to Ken Kesey’s acclaimed novel, which details the struggle against the authority of an Oregon mental institution. Ultimately, both the film and the book, show the overcoming of human perseverance that looks at the patients in a sympathetic fashion. Now almost 40 years later, the film is considered one of the greatest in the history of American cinema. Also it gave the world one of the signature Jack Nicholson roles as Randall P. McMurphy. The movie is not only scripted perfectly, almost resembling the words written on the book, but the casting is also exceptional. Each character was portrayed in the essence that each has in the book. There is no mystery as to why it was nominated for so many Oscars.

The Bad:

“The Time Traveler’s Wife”

Compared to the book, the film lacks development and characters. Director Robert Schwentke tried to cram one of the most epic novels into a movie that runs less than two hours, and we all know that’s just a big no, no.

Eric Bana and Rachel McAdams play their parts well in the movie, but that does not distract audiences from the fact that the whole screen play is a mess and is missing a fair amount of pages.

“Eragon”

Another fantasy adaptation based on a bestselling work by Christopher Paolini, which was touted as the beginning of a new franchise but ultimately fizzled at the box office. Inspired by the works of George Lucas and J.R.R. Tolkien, Paolini created a book that relied a lot on the relationship between a boy and his dragon. The book was a rather long novel, but the film skimmed by it as if it was a chase film, missing a lot of the character moments and ultimately feeling like about half of the book was skipped. Ultimately the film became a missed opportunity.

“The Cat in the Hat”

Creepy, poorly done and sadly the worst movie Dakota Fanning will ever star in, “The Cat in Hat” is probably on the list of the top 50 worst ad-

aptations Hollywood has ever done. From Dr. Seuss’s book, the film has failed to make audiences fall for the charm the story brings. The film could’ve produced nightmares even in a 50-year-old man. Sadly, not even Dakota could save it.

“How the Grinch Stole Christmas”

Ron Howard’s adaptation starring Jim Carrey, delivered a tonally misplaced film. Trying to be childlike but also serious, it ultimately failed at both. The film also added subplots, some of which included flashbacks; this really didn’t need to be in there in the first place, since nowhere in the book do we see a cute but ugly little Grinch who says, “Santa, bye-bye!” The movie can be argued to be a good film since it did enjoy being at the top of the box office for a long time, while also garnering both Academy Award nominations and Razzie nominations.

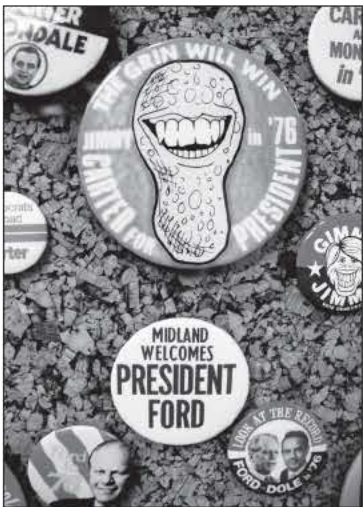
“The Golden Compass”

One of Entertainment Weekly’s “Hollywood’s worst adaptations” in 2008, “The Golden Compass” failed to deliver a promising start to the planned trilogy. The first part of the trilogy bombed at the box office which probably left production for parts two and three in the shelves of the Warner Brothers studios. It might’ve been for the best, but all those kids remained with hopes of one day knowing what happens after the terrible ending of the first movie.

Oscar Garza may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

our view

editor
Justin Stene, 747-7446



Campaign buttons of various political icons are being used as wall art at the UTEP Picks Election 2012 gallery on the third floor of the UTEP Library.

KARINA RODRIGUEZ AND JUSTIN STENE / The Prospector

Salome's Stars

ARIES
(March 21 to April 19)
You might feel compelled to get involved on the "right side" of a seemingly unfair fight. But appearances can be deceptive. Get the facts before going forth into the fray.

TAURUS
(April 20 to May 20)
Bullying others into agreeing with your position could cause resentment. Instead, persuade them to join you by making your case on a logical point-by-point basis.

GEMINI
(May 21 to June 20)
Resist pushing for a workplace decision you might feel is long overdue. Your impatience could backfire. Meanwhile, focus on that still-unsettled personal situation.

CANCER
(June 21 to July 22)
Your aspects favor doing something different. You might decide to redecorate your home, or take a trip somewhere you've never been, or even change your hairstyle.

LEO
(July 23 to August 22)
You might want to take a break from your busy schedule to restore your energy levels. Use this less hectic time to also reassess your plans and make needed changes.

VIRGO
(August 23 to September 22)
What you like to think of as determination might be seen by others as nothing more than stubbornness. Try to be more flexible if you hope to get things resolved.

LIBRA
(September 23 to October 22)

Watch that you don't unwittingly reveal work-related information to the wrong person. Best to say nothing until you get official clearance to open up.

SCORPIO
(October 23 to November 21)
With things settling down at work or at home, you can now take on a new challenge without fear of distraction. Be open to helpful suggestions from colleagues.

SAGITTARIUS
(November 22 to December 21)
Your creativity can help resolve an emotional situation that might otherwise get out of hand. Continue to be your usual caring, sensitive self.

CAPRICORN
(December 22 to January 19)
You could impress a lot of influential people with the way you untangle a few knotty problems. Meanwhile, a colleague is set to share some welcome news.

AQUARIUS
(January 20 to February 18)
Aspects favor recharging your social life and meeting new people. It's also a good time to renew friendships that might be stagnating due to neglect on both sides.

PISCES
(February 19 to March 20)
Congratulations. Your talent for working out a highly technical problem earns you well-deserved praise. The weekend could bring news about a friend or relative.

BORN THIS WEEK:
Your sense of justice makes you a strong advocate for the rights of people and animals alike.
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Answers to 09-27-12

BRAIN ZONE

Weekly SUDOKU
by Linda Thistle

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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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October 2, 2012
sports editor
 Daniel Ornelas, 747-7445

Football

Pirates raid the Miners

UTEP loses 28-18 to East Carolina in C-USA opener, fall to 1-4

BY EDWIN DELGADO

The Prospector

Lack of execution, a sloppy second half and turnovers doomed the Miners in their Conference USA debut against East Carolina, as the Pirates edged UTEP 28-18 in a game that was delayed for over an hour due to weather on Sept. 29 in Greenville, N.C.

"I'm really proud of all of our guys. We talked about playing on all three sides of the ball," ECU head coach Ruffin McNeill said. "There were some positive things, there were some negative things, but it was a win. And it was a big win—a conference win. All wins are hard and that was a test of the team. UTEP played tough competition and we know we took our best shot."

On their second drive of the game, UTEP started from their own 2-yard line, but the Miners still managed to drive the ball 98 yards on 12 plays capping it off with a touchdown pass from senior quarterback Nick Lamaison to junior wide receiver Jordan Leslie for the 7-0 first-quarter lead.

The Pirates had a quick response. Sophomore quarterback Shane Carden called his own number and ran six yards for the touchdown to tie the game at seven with 1:26 left in the first quarter.

After a UTEP field goal, the Pirates responded by driving the ball to UTEP's 6-yard line, but the game had to be delayed due to a thunderstorm

with the score at 10-7. That put a stop to ECU's potential scoring drive.

After the 80-minute delay, Carden's pass attempt on the first play back, was intercepted in the end zone by freshman safety Shan Huhn.

Huhn was starting in place of the injured senior Richard Spencer.

"That's tough, you get psyched and mentally prepared and then we have to come back out for just about 10 minutes," McNeill said. "That's why I'm so proud of my guys. We started off really sluggish, but we ended up putting together some things and I was really proud of the way it turned out."

The Miners failed to convert the turnover into points, going three-and-out following the interception.

With 12 seconds left in the half, Carden found sophomore wide receiver Justin Hardy in the edge of the end zone for a 3-yard touchdown pass to give the Pirates a 14-10 halftime lead.

The Pirates then scored 14 unanswered points to begin the second half. The last touchdown, coming off a Lamaison interception, placed ECU in good field position and allowed junior running back Vintavious Cooper to score on a 24-yard run for a 28-10 fourth-quarter lead.

"We certainly are not in our rhythm and I don't know why that is, but we are certainly going to evaluate it. It has to do with whom we are playing," UTEP head coach Mike Price said. "They are pretty good and I mean they rank in the top three in

rushing defense and they played better in the secondary. We let a couple balls go high and they made plays on them but they could have batted them down or even recovered them too or intercepted so give them credit."

Freshman running back Autrey Golden returned the ensuing kickoff 96 yards for the touchdown and Lamaison connected with Leslie for the 2-point conversion to put the game 28-18 with 4:39 left in the game.

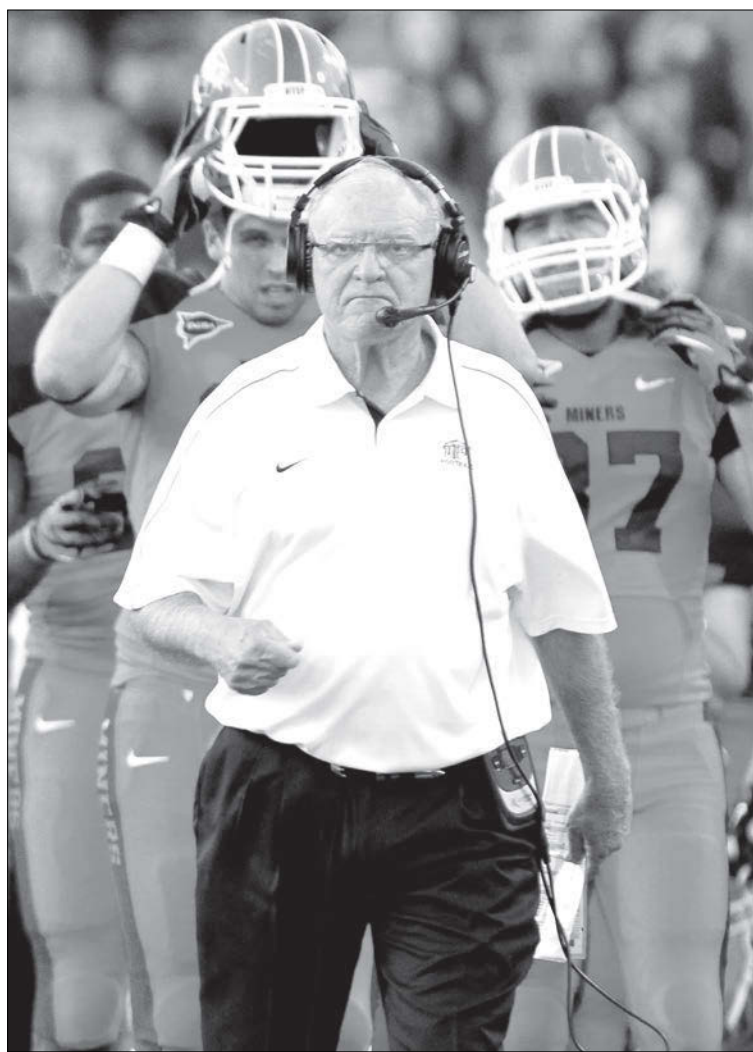
The Miners recovered the onside kick in an attempt for a comeback, but Lamaison was intercepted for a third time in the quarter, enabling East Carolina to seal the 28-18 win.

Lamaison, who had played 19 full quarters without throwing an interception, accounted for four turnovers against ECU.

With the win, East Carolina is now 4-2 (2-0 in C-USA), and the Miners dropped to 1-4 (0-1 in C-USA). The UTEP Miners will be back in El Paso to face SMU in their last meeting as conference rivals Oct. 6 at the Sun Bowl.

"I feel good about this whole team," Price said. "Character wise, desire, commitment, toughness, they played hard the whole way and both teams showed the warrior spirit there is no question about that. I will say the same thing about their team."

Edwin Delgado may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.



JUSTIN STENE / The Prospector

Head coach Mike Price is in his ninth season at UTEP and currently holds a 46-56 record with the Miners. Price's team is still looking for its first conference win after falling to East Carolina 28-18 on Sept. 29 in Greenville, N.C.

Home-grown talent coaches physical group

BY EDWIN DELGADO

The Prospector

Robert Rodriguez, former Miner linebacker and El Paso native, is entering his third season as the linebackers coach, tutoring players at the position he once played and for which he earned Western Athletic Conference defensive player of the year honors in 2004.

"He takes a lot of pride in coming from UTEP," senior linebacker Josh Fely said. "That's why he takes this job so seriously and that makes us better not as individuals but as linebackers too."

Fely transferred to UTEP from San Diego Mesa College after two seasons. He led his team in tackles on both years and earned All-State honors in 2009.

"The coaches, the players, the whole atmosphere welcomed me with open arms," Fely said. "The facilities and all that was a plus, (head) coach (Mike) Price and (defensive coordinator) Patterson sold it to me and my family, in the end it was an easy decision."

Junior linebacker A.J. Ropati who was redshirted for the 2011 season, started his college career at Los Ange-

les Harbor College, and led them to a Central West Conference championship in 2010, just before transferring to UTEP.

"The coaches brought me in, they want to make it a winning tradition out here, I also came because the players are like brothers. I am a family man and I wanted to come and establish a new family and I think I have," Ropati said. "It has been an extreme honor and pleasure to work with coach Rodriguez, he made me into a better player, better person. It has been fun working with him."

For senior middle linebacker Jamie Irving, El Paso felt like home, the atmosphere is similar to the one in his hometown in Riverside, Calif. After having a stellar 2010 campaign, he was redshirted in 2011 due to a shoulder injury, but said he's determined to make the best of his fifth year with the Miners. He said he feels honored to work with his team and coaches.

"He (Rodriguez) wants the best out of you," Irving said. "He doesn't care whether you can do it or not, he wants your full effort every play, every time you do anything."



DANIEL ORNELAS / The Prospector

Linebackers coach Robert Rodriguez tutors one of his players during preseason drills at Camp Socorro.

see **COACHES** on page 12

COACHES from page 11

Rodriguez earned his reputation in El Paso as a prep star at Montwood High School where he played running back and earned All-City MVP honors in 2000. He finished his playing career with 443 tackles for fifth best in UTEP history while leading the conference in tackles three out of his four seasons at UTEP.

"I'm one of those guys that between the lines I'm going to be real hard on you and off the field I try to be a big brother figure, a father figure," Rodriguez said. "I have high standards for them as far as what I expect them to do in school and in the community."

Rodriguez said he's been impressed with the attitude and leadership that his players have shown in their time with the Miners and believes they have done a good job adapting to the changes in the position.

"It's a faster position, I was a good player in between the tackles and in the box, but those type of players don't exist anymore, because the game is so spread out, so you need more speed," Rodriguez said. "The good thing is that you can find smaller players that can play positions now, because speed is so important now."

Rodriguez said his crew is a very strong group of players and their only one weakness is lack of size.

Eleven of the 14 linebackers on the UTEP roster weigh less than 230 pounds and stand 6-feet tall or below.

"We are not very big, but our strength is definitely speed and effort and we are very physical, a very physical linebacking crew and I think we've done a great job of improving that over the years," Rodriguez said. "You are going to get good effort from us for 60 minutes."

Edwin Delgado may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

"I'm one of those guys that between the lines I'm going to be real hard on you and off the field I try to be a big brother figure, a father figure,"

- Robert Rodriguez, linebackers coach.



JUSTIN STENE / The Prospector

Senior linebacker Jamie Irving is one of the 11 players at his position that stand at 6-feet tall or below and weighs less than 230 pounds. The group of linebackers get praised by Rodriguez for their physical style of play.

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simplystated

Herrera and Patterson tab second award

UTEP volleyball's juniors Xitlali Herrera and Malia Patterson were named Conference USA Athlete of the Week for the second time this season.

Herrera had a stellar week registering a double-double as she led the Miners to victory against I-10 rival NM State. The middle blocker posted 15 kills, 11 digs, three blocks (1s/2a) and registered a .414 hitting percentage versus the Aggies. She continued to dominate offensively against UAB earning the No. 4 spot in the UTEP recordbook for hitting percentage in four sets recording a .647. Herrera led the Miners past the Blazers, 3-0 tallying 13 kills and seven digs. UTEP extended the winning streak to six as the squad defeated Memphis on Sunday. The junior was also a force at the net posting a season-best nine blocks (4s/5a) and added 12 kills and seven digs against the Tigers. Herrera is ranked in hitting percentage (.445-1st), blocks (1.39-3rd) and kills (4.44-7th) in conference only matches.

Patterson led the conference with an average of 10.92 assists per set as the Miners went 3-0 over the week. The setter posted a season-best 56 assists and added eight digs as UTEP derailed NM State. She didn't stop there as she recorded a match-high, 36 assists and tallied nine digs against UAB. Once again, Patterson dished out another match-high, 39 assists versus Memphis earning her second place in C-USA for assists per set.

The Miners will take on C-USA opponent Rice at 6 p.m. on Oct. 5 in Houston, Texas.