

10-11-2012

The Prospector, October 11, 2012

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KARINA RODRIGUEZ / The Prospector

The southern entrance to the Union is not handicap accessible, students have to go around the Union East's end to enter.

ACCESSIBILITY AN ISSUE AT UNION

BY GUERRERO GARCIA

The Prospector

Richard Boehler underwent a knee replacement surgery in 2005, but when his new knee got infected it had to be removed. The incident left him disabled.

Boehler, 53, is now a senior mechanical engineering major and travels across campus in his automatic wheelchair. When he reaches the stairs that lead up to the Union Breezeway he stops and glances up in

hopes that one day he may make his way to the top.

"What I'd like to see before I graduate from UTEP would be for the university to implement a wheel chair accessible ramp at the south end of the Union, right between the east and the west wing," Boehler said.

The south end of the Union, which parallels University Avenue, is the most frequented access point by students to enter the Union East and Union West, but students with disabilities are forced to travel the length of the building in order to

enter through the east end's disabled entrance.

"There are times when my buddies and I are coming from the engineering building and we want to grab a bite to eat at the Union and discuss the homework," Boehler said. "When we reach the stairs I tell them to go ahead and that I'll meet them upstairs, I have to go enter through the far-east end."

Gregory McNicol, assistant vice president of the university's Facility Services, said that as part of the Mas-

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BY GUERRERO GARCIA

The Prospector

When the university announced that the campus would be going through a transformation process in celebration of its centennial, some students with disabilities became concerned with the proposed changes and were unsure about how it would affect their everyday commute around campus.

"It's going to be hard for us students with disabilities especially with those who are wheelchair bound because not only do we have to find a proper place to unload our wheelchairs but they are also endangering us more because we'll be having to cross major streets like Mesa just to get to campus," said Kayla Villegas, sophomore social work major.

On Oct. 9, as part of Ability Awareness Week organized by the Center of Accommodation and Student Support, students and faculty were updated on the campus transformation by Gregory McNicol, assistant vice president of the university's Facility Services, who addressed the issues bothering disabled students.

"We are very cognizant of the needs of the disabled," McNicol said. "This transformation is going to change the way this whole space works and it will create accessible routes to accommodate all students."

The proposed plans for the transformation are compliant with The Americans with Disabilities Act and with Texas Accessibility Standards laws. Also, an ADA consultant is on board to review the designs and to ensure all plans are executed effectively.

The ADA was passed in 1990 and under it there are specific criteria de-

"...They are also endangering us more because we'll be having to cross major streets like Mesa just to get to campus."

- Kayla Villegas,

social work major

tailoring how universities have to provide accommodations for not only disabled students but for faculty, staff and members of the general public.

"The law is very well defined to what we have to do," McNicol said. "That is why we hired this special consultant to review these key accessibility issues."

According to McNicol, the transformation process began with the construction along Hawthorne Street, which is expected to open by the end of the month and be fully completed by December.

Before the transformation it was a two-lane road with narrow sidewalks, but with the recent changes the sidewalks have been extended and the road narrowed down to one lane that will lead to ADA handicap accessible parking slots.

Parking was the major concern among students with disabilities in regards to the transformation. Currently, students with disabilities can park on campus relatively close to the building they need to access, but in January the campus will be closed

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Politics

Presidential candidates have differing views on higher education

BY REBECCA GUERRERO

The Prospector

True to the very nature of politics, both President Barack Obama and former Governor Mitt Romney have made many promises on a number of issues in these months leading up to the 2012 presidential election, including policy on education that they would implement if elected into the highest office. The matter of education reform ranges from issues affecting grade schools, to problems

affecting higher education, such as skyrocketing tuition.

Some students might find it difficult to make sense of each of the candidate's platforms and to decide who truly represents their best interests.

"On student loans, Obama supports lower student loan interest rates through government," said Kathleen Staudt, political science professor. "Romney supports private bank lending for student loans, with likely higher interest rates. Romney consistently supports private options over public options. UTEP is a public

institution with support from Texas state government."

According to education.com, Obama doubled funding for Pell Grants by placing the 2008 American Opportunity Tax Credit, which was a refundable credit that would ensure that the first \$4,000 of college education is free for most students. Obama also switched from privately funded loan providers to public ones, which freed billions of dollars to be put towards Pell Grants and other post-secondary education grant programs.

During his first term, Obama fought to prevent federal student loan interest rates from doubling for more than seven million students, and capped federal student loan repayments at 10 percent of income. He claims that if Romney wins the election these acts will be rolled back.

"President Obama would be better for higher education in this country. It's my understanding that he wishes to make college more affordable by lowering interest on government issued student loans," said Jose Pineda, sophomore music major. "Plus he

makes it easier to pay back our loans based on our annual income after college. He believes that a higher education should be a right that everyone has and that money should not get in the way of that. It is also my understanding that Romney wishes to either raise interest rates on student government loans or make the process of receiving loans much harder."

As governor of Massachusetts, Mitt Romney proposed the John and Abigail Adams scholarship, which pro-

see EDUCATION on page 4

A logo for 'UTEP Orange Fridays'. It features the word 'UTEP' in white inside an orange circle, with 'ORANGE' in large orange letters and 'FRIDAYS' in white inside another orange circle below it.

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Column

Pakistani girl deserves asylum

BY JASMINE AGUILERA
The Prospector



“On my way from school to home I heard a man saying ‘I will kill you.’ I hastened my pace and after a while I looked back if the man was still coming behind me. But to my utter relief he was talking on his mobile and must have been threatening someone else over the phone.”

That was an excerpt from a blog published on Jan. 3 on BBC Urdu online by 14-year-old Malala Yousafzai, an eight grader from the Swat Valley of Pakistan.

On Oct. 9 Yousafzai was shot in the head by the Taliban because she had “become a symbol of Western culture in the area; she was openly propagating it” by becoming an activist for children’s—particularly girl’s—education.

Yousafzai survived the attack, but will now have to live in fear of the Taliban probably for the rest of her life.

In many ways I’m reminded of Ayaan Hirsi Ali, a Somali activist who was able to receive political asylum from the Netherlands after she fled an arranged marriage and then was able to go into hiding after she published a book titled “Submission,” which also made her a target of the Taliban because of her criticism of how women

are treated in Islam (the Taliban was successful in murdering Theo Van Gogh, the director of the film adaptation of her book).

This is also similar to the case of the Chinese activist Chen Guangcheng, who escaped illegal house arrest for speaking against forced abortions and sterilizations to meet China’s one child policy.

Guangcheng was able to escape China by receiving a student visa from New York University to study law. Now he lives in the United States and he and his family are safe.

So my point is, what if the U.S.—or another country—did this for Yousafzai and her family? A lot of Americans would hesitate to support U.S. involvement in foreign affairs, but I—and I’m sure plenty of others—feel that this young girl and her family deserve protection for everything she has done and everything she stands for.

By age 11 this girl was writing a blog for BBC, last year she won a national peace prize and later she began a fund to help educate young girls. She realized that education was the key to growth and prosperity and kept fighting for it despite death threats from the Taliban.

Yousafzai showed more bravery than the entire Pakistani government and they themselves realize that. That is why they are offering a reward for the people responsible for the shooting.

So many Pakistani people are gathering together to protest the Taliban and extremism altogether, but will that really be enough to protect Yousafzai from people who are so extreme that they are willing to shoot down a child?

They have already stated that they would try to kill her again if she survives.

Maybe Yousafzai would turn down help from a foreign country and feels her place is with the people she risked so much to provide opportunity for, but she should still be given the option.

An editorial published by the New York Times on Oct. 10 states it perfectly: “If Pakistan has a future, it is embodied in Malala Yousafzai... The murderous violence against one girl was committed against the whole of Pakistani society. The Taliban cannot be allowed to win this vicious campaign against girls, learning and tolerance. Otherwise, there is no future for that nation.”

I hope this serves as a wake-up call for the Middle East. The West cannot be the only one fighting terrorism anymore. Sri Lanka was able to defeat the Tamil Tigers, another notorious terrorist group, in 2009, now Pakistan has the motivation—and the obvious need—to defeat the Taliban in their country.

Jasmine Aguilera may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

you think?

This week's poll question:
Will you participate in Queer History Month events?

WHAT DO

vote at WWW.UTEP-PROSPECTOR.COM



YOU DON'T SAY?



Letter to the editor

It's not about Big Bird

When asked which government expenses he would eliminate if elected, support for PBS was first on Mitt Romney's list, even though it amounts to only about one hundredth of one percent of the U.S. budget.

Republicans have repeatedly targeted public radio and TV for elimination because it is the only nationwide broadcast medium that is relatively immune to big-money corporate and political pressure. Commercial network programming reflects near total dependence on corporate advertising revenue.

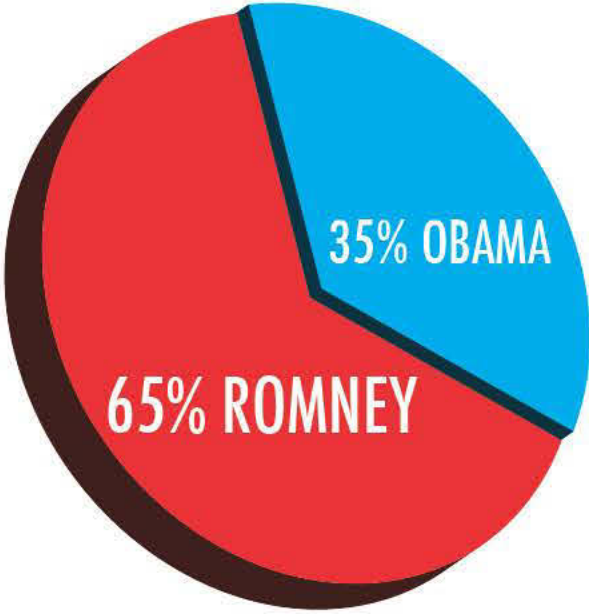
PBS support is very cost-effective in that it opens a window on the world for all Americans and covers issues and viewpoints seldom featured in commercial broadcasts.

Many teachers, scientists and other creative professionals credit PBS with inspiring their career choices. Your donations and votes can help assure that our children will not be denied this opportunity.

-Matt Carroll,
UTEP Alumni Association
member.
Oct. 10, 2012

we asked, you answered

POLL FINAL RESULTS
Who do you think won the first presidential debate?



ACCURACY WATCH

On the Oct. 4 issue we had a feature on volleyball's junior Jaqueline Cason. There was an error; the person pictured on the story is not Cason but fellow teammate senior Cassandra Burrue.

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prospector

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QUEER HISTORY MONTH

The university's Rainbow Miner Initiative, in collaboration with several organizations and speakers, will coordinate and host this year's events for Queer History Month starting with a hate crime vigil for National Coming Out Day Oct. 11 and ending Nov. 20 with a transgender speakout. Elizabeth Polinsky, RMI intern and senior linguistics major, said that the goal of the events, especially because of the university setting, is to educate the community.

"We're trying to do kind of a holistic approach to leadership," she said.

"To be a well-rounded leader you need to know some history about the LGBT community...about sexual health, gender diversity as well as sexual diversity."

- OCT. 11**
National Coming Out Day
Matthew Shepherd hate crime vigil
Rio Grande Adelante
Madeline Park 1099 Kern Dr.
6:30 p.m.

OCT. 12
Queer Book Club
Beyond marriage:
Valuing all families under the law
(queer ideas)
By Nancy D. Palikoff and Michael Bronski
Union West 111
12:30 – 1:20 p.m.

OCT. 13
Coming out workshop
Rio Grande Adelante
UTEP Library,
Blumberg Auditorium
9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

OCT. 14-19
National Ally Week
Chance to sign ally pledges

OCT. 17
The why, how and
when of being an ally
Professor Aurolyn Luykx
Union West 111
1:30 -2:30 p.m.

OCT. 22
Stonewall young democrats
LGBT issues in the elections
Union West 111
3:30 – 4:30 p.m.

OCT. 25
Biological bases of sexual
orientation and behavior
Professor Kristin Gosselink
Union West 111
3:30 – 4:30 p.m.

OCT. 31
Queernival
Geology Lawn
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

NOV. 2
QSA: Dia de los muertos:
A day of remembrance
Leech Grove
Altar building: 2 p.m.
- Speaker:** 3 p.m.
Contact: Devonte Smith at
dssmith@miners.utep.edu
Queer Book Club Covering:
The Hidden Assault on our
Civil Rights
by Kenji Yoshino
Union West 111
12:30 – 1:20 p.m.

NOV. 6
Election Day
Texas Freedom Network
Shuttle to voting stations
Contact: Olac at olac@tfn.org

NOV. 8
QSA: Butch Ball
Women for women event
510 N. Stanton El Paso
8 p.m.

NOV. 9
Movie: The Incredible True
Adventures of Two Girls in Love
Union West 111
2 – 5 p.m.

NOV. 15
Queer open mic:
The Free Hole Slam
featuring Amy Everhart
The Network
317 E. Mills Eve.
6 p.m. – 12 a.m.

NOV. 17
Queer leadership conference
Keynote speaker: Amy Everhart
Tomás Rivera Conference Center
Union East 308
8 a.m – 5 p.m.
Register: surveymonkey.com/s/
gpvzpr5

NOV. 20
National Transgender Day of
Remembrance
Transgender Speakout
Union West 111
12 p.m. – 1:20 p.m.
Memorial service on Leech Grove
5:30 p.m.



FILE PHOTO

Drawing illustrates how some areas of the campus will look like when the transformation project is complete.

DISABLED from page 1

to automotive traffic and students with disabilities will have to park either on Hawthorne Street or in the parking garages located on the perimeter of campus.

Joann Cross, senior media advertising major, moves across campus in her automatic wheelchair and, although she does not drive, she feels that the inability to park on campus will be an inconvenience to students with disabilities.

"Students who are in manual wheel chairs, how are they supposed to get from the parking garages all the way to campus? It is about a quarter mile," Cross said.

According to McNicol, the university is in compliance with the law because the closest parking spaces to campus and in the parking garages will be handicap accessible spaces.

"Parking in front of a building does not define it as ADA compliant," McNicol said. "The parking will be moved, but will be in accessible routes that will be well lit and accessible to all."

The university will be raising four new parking complexes to substitute the parking spaces eliminated within campus.

The parking lot IC-10 located next to the Union Building West,

which is technically inaccessible because of its slope, will be removed and landscaped.

"We are going to create a large oval space that will have a pitch to it, to drain water, but it will actually be accessible," McNicol said. "The trail that goes all around the oval will be an accessible route for all students."

Currently, the slope of the hill going up to the Psychology Building is not an accessible route for all students.

The transformations also consist of other projects around campus such as

an overlook connecting the library to the new Health Sciences and Nursing Building and revitalization of the arroyo that intersects the campus. This transformation is the first series of 12 projects in the Master Plan to transform the university.

"The campus is only getting better as we move forward," McNicol said. "It's going to become more accessible to all students."

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

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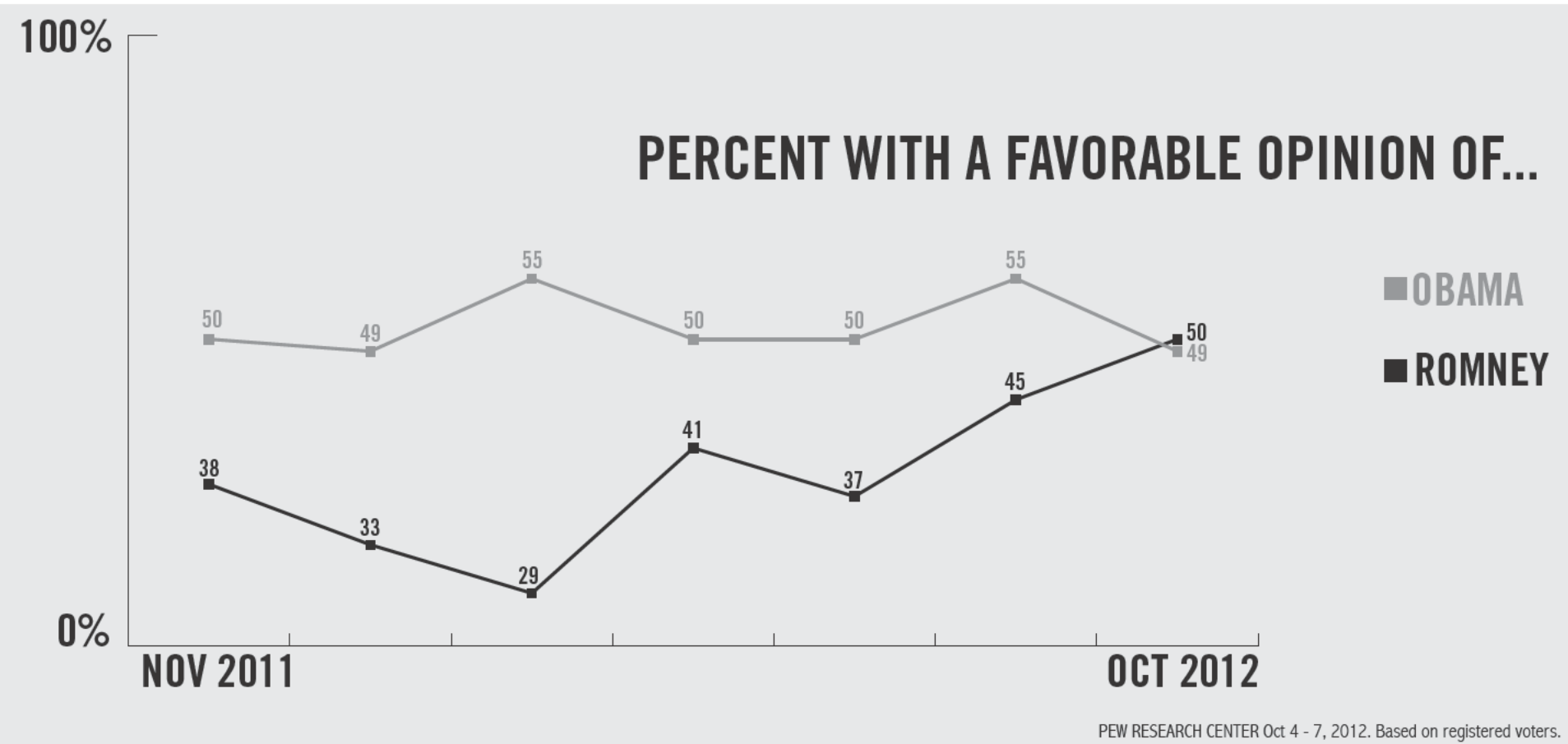
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EDUCATION from page 1

“Democracy works most effectively when people in civil society provide voice and oversight for decisions that representatives make.”

- Kathleen Staudt, political science professor

vided four-year tuition-free state education to any Massachusetts student who graduated in the top 25 percent of their class. However, much of Rom-

ney’s presidential campaign when it comes to education focuses on grade school as opposed to higher education. According to the Center for American Progress Fund, an independent nonpartisan organization, Vice Presidential candidate Paul Ryan’s budget plan to reduce the national deficit—which is a key part of Romney’s platform—shows that it would slash more than \$15 billion of mandatory and discretionary funding from the Pell Grant program beginning next year. That is a 42 percent cut to Pell Grants. The budget claims that this is to ensure that the money is going to the truly needy. However, although Romney has endorsed Ryan’s budget, his actual plan for higher education does not specifically say anything about slashing Pell Grants. Instead, his plan states he will

“strengthen and simplify the financial aid system by giving students and families with financial need the appropriate information about completion and persistence, loan repayment, future earnings and other indicators to intelligently weigh the risks and benefits of the many options available to them.” Maria Gonzalez, sophomore environmental science major, said politicians hardly ever fulfill their promises when it comes to education. “I’m on the fence about who is the best when it comes to this issue because even though Romney doesn’t specifically say he’s going to cut funding for Pell grants and he says he wants to strengthen financial aid, if he follows Paul Ryan’s budget plan it would ultimately result in less finan-

cial aid for students like me who rely on it to go to school.” Romney also relies heavily on the argument that during Obama’s term young people’s debt has risen and their chances of finding a job have declined. He draws attention to the fact that those graduating from high school and college over the last several years have faced one of the worst job markets in the nation’s history and more than half of all recent college graduates are unemployed. Though the arguments are certainly mixed, people like Staudt believe it is still important to be informed and exercise the right to vote. “I always vote in all elections and educational reform; (It) is important to me,” Staudt said. “People need to stay involved in between elections in order to engage in education reform.

Democracy works most effectively when people in civil society provide voice and oversight for decisions that representatives make. Key educational decisions are made at the state and local levels; thus, students and parents ought to pay as much attention to state candidates and parties as they do the presidential election.” For students who want to learn more about the presidential candidate’s stances on other key issues such as environmental conservation and the economy, the university bookstore is giving away free quick study guides that concisely outline both Obama’s and Romney’s platforms.

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

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KARINA RODRIGUEZ / The Prospector

Richard Boehler, senior mechanical engineering major, at the handicap entrance of the Union Building East.

UNION from page 1

ter Plan the university is going to replace both the Union East and West buildings for much nicer buildings. “When we do a major renovation to Union West in the future, that’s when it would be appropriate to address this project,” McNicol said. “That’s when you correct it—if there is a major renovation done then we have to bring it into (Americans with Disabilities Act) compliance.” Boehler doesn’t agree that the Master Plan will accommodate students. “When I first heard about the transformation, I looked at the Master Plan online and became very concerned that there was no mention, and what seemed to be no consideration, dealing with students with disabilities,” he said. Students with disabilities frequent the Union building on a daily basis because the Center for Accommodation and Student Support is located in Union Building East. Nicole Coleman, freshman psychology major, said she spends about 75 percent of her time at the Union—she operates in an automotive wheel chair. “This is a concern that we’ve been trying to shine light on since 2008,” Coleman said. Coleman is an active member of the Miner Diamonds, an organization that advocates for students with disabilities, and believes that a ramp on the south end of the Union would grant them an equal entrance and makes it much easier to access. Chris James, freshman chemistry major, agrees that a ramp on the south end of the Union would make it much easier to access on his automatic wheel chair. “It would be more convenient,” James said. “We would not have to travel so far just to go inside.” Boehler said that the population of students with disabilities experiences a form of segregation. “In a way, our population is segregated to certain extent because, in the physical world we are in, there are things we cannot do,” he said. “Most of the people with disabilities know that. If the university plans on being a Tier 1 school, issues like these should be addressed.” The Union is the students’ building. This ramp is essential simply because it is going to grant equal access to all students.”

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

National

Factors Latinos should consider in election 2012

BY KRISTOPHER RIVERA

Scripps Howard Foundation Wire

WASHINGTON – Mike Periu, a Cuban-American, has no preferred party when it comes to elections.

"It doesn't make any sense to look at a political party," Periu said.

Periu, founder of the consulting business Proximo International, is one of the many Latinos who says he will vote based on who will help his community prosper.

"I think to make an informed decision, you have to think about how you live your daily life," Periu said. "How do you want to live your life, what are the values that you and your family cherish, and which one of the candidates actually represents those values, because anyone can say anything at a debate."

He was one of several Hispanic leaders who spoke last week at a discussion about the election sponsored by the AFL-CIO, the National Council of La Raza and Univision.

Foremost, Latinos in these groups want a president who will push for pro-immigrant and humane immigration policies leading to citizenship.

The Obama administration's Dream Act is a small step in the right direction, but Congress needs to do more, according to a statement of policies in a report titled, "Prosperity Economics: Building an Economy for All," written by professors Jacob Hacker and Nathaniel Loewentheil of Yale University, that formed the base for the discussion.

In addition to participating in the presidential election, if Latinos want to get closer to having policies changed it is imperative they know who to vote for in Congress, the speakers said.

Janet Murguía, president and CEO of NCLR, said Sen. Patty Murray, D-Wash., and Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., attribute their victories in the 2010 elections to the Latino vote.

The speakers also said that Latinos want to see a president who can help small and new businesses thrive.

"Despite economic challenges, Hispanics in the U.S. have proven to be hard working and entrepreneurial," Teresa Rodriguez, co-anchor of Univision's primetime magazine, "Aquí y Ahora," said.

Rodriguez said the 2010 census found that there are more than 2 million Hispanic-owned businesses in the country. Those businesses created jobs and generated nearly \$275 billion in revenue, according to the Kauffman Index of Entrepreneurial activity.

From 2009 to 2010, the Hispanic business creation rate was the highest ever recorded, according to the index.

The Kauffman foundation found that the source of new job growth in the U.S. for the past 35 years is from new companies.

Many Latinos will look to see which candidate supports the Latino workforce. A report from the U.S. Department of Labor found that Latinos made up 15 percent of the U.S. labor force in 2011 and by 2018 they are expected to represent 18 percent of the labor force.

The speakers said that voting for president and members of Congress influences other parts of government. For example, approximately 1,000 administrative branch jobs are filled by presidential appointment with Senate confirmation and congressional committees have many staff positions.

Investing in education is important among Latinos as well. Hispan-

ics have the highest dropout rates in the nation, according to the Pew Hispanic Center.

Murguía said developing a competitive workforce among Latinos is dependent on the quality of education they receive.

"We know the current challenges that are out there for a number of our young people when it comes to educational attainment rates," Murguía said. "If we're not investing in those

children right now we're undermining, not just the future of the Latino community, we're undermining the future global competitiveness of this country and the future workforce of this country."

Murguía said it is necessary for the Latino community to understand the importance of voting if they want to see a change in policies.

"I know that at NCLR we have to take on civic engagement as a very

top priority and one that we don't see as just happening every four years in a presidential election, but it has to be a sustained commitment. That's what is going to transform the future for civic engagement in our community," Murguía said.

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



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KRISTOPHER RIVERA / SHFWire
Teresa Rodriguez, co-anchor of Univision's "Aquí y Ahora" laid out key points Latino voters should consider before voting for a presidential candidate in November.

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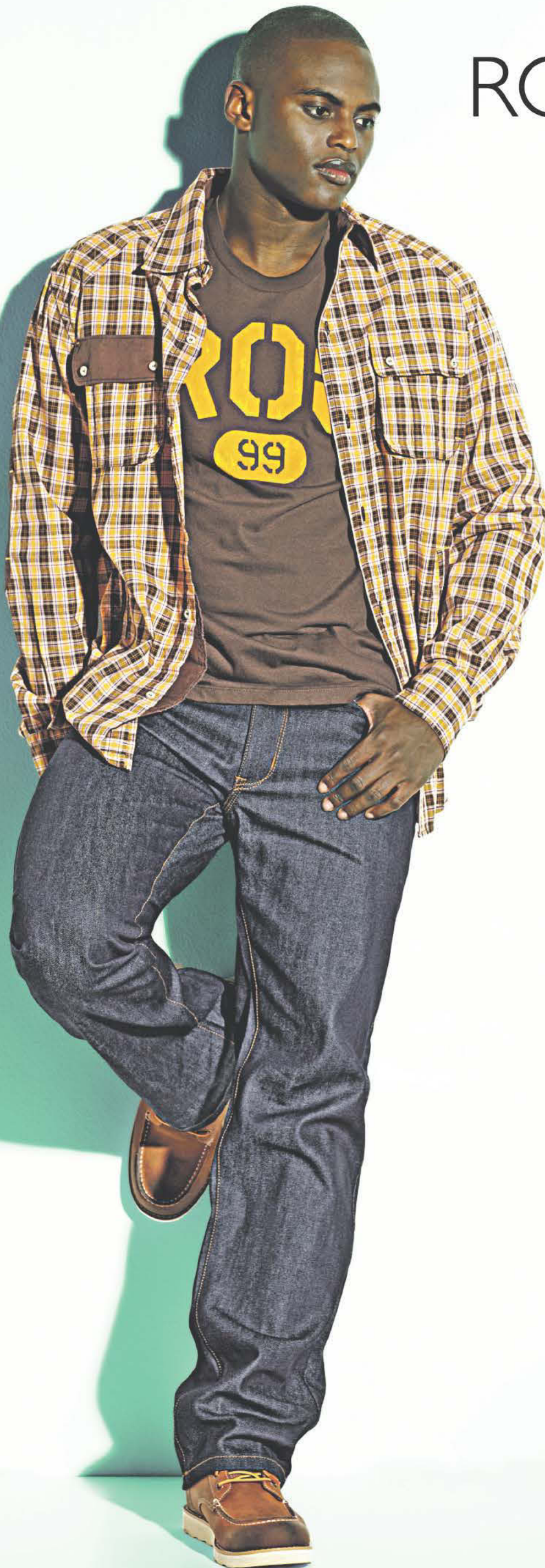


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October 11, 2012

entertainment

editor
Alejandro Alba 747-7442



Students get involved with Chalk the Block

BY LEONARDO MONTAÑEZ
The Prospector

Chalk the Block returns for its fifth year with entertainment from previous years and additional exhibits. The three-day event will take place on Oct. 12–14, at the Arts Festival Plaza, Cleveland Square Park and San Jacinto Plaza in downtown El Paso. “This year Chalk the Block is expecting about 35,000 in attendance,” said Kaycee Olsen, downtown arts district coordinator. “Every year we work hard to change the program so there are always several never-before-seen art installations.” According to Olsen, the event will feature more than 40 chalk artists showcasing their works and competing for the prize of \$2,000, which will be given to the “Best of Show.” Aside from the chalk artists, the event will also include performances by nationally renowned aerial acrobatic troupe, Wise Fool, and the “Mirazozo Luminaria,” a monumental

inflatable sculpture by British artists Architects of Air. There will also be artwork brought in from other cities such as the “Seed Pod,” an interactive sculpture by the Tucson artist collective Creative Machines, and the “Woozy Blossom,” an outdoor sculpture by Manhattan artist Matthew Geller. “This year we have the largest installations MCAD (Museum of Cultural Affairs Department) has ever programmed,” Olsen said. “Additionally, this year will feature an art installation that is designed through crowd-sourcing.” Olsen mentioned that there will also be local art including Adrian Esparza’s “Weaving Walls,” an installation of images from the Otis A. Aultman Historic Photography Archives, and the pop-up galleries during the gallery crawls on Oct. 12. “It’s the definite can’t miss part of the festival,” she said. The goal of the MCAD is to have more supporters so

the event could get bigger and bigger, Olsen said. “In a perfect world we would like additional support from the community and local businesses,” Olsen said. “And for everyone to spread the word and bring their friends along to the event.” Yajaira Enriquez, senior studio art and graphic design major, said she will be participating for the first time at Chalk the Block as a way of getting involved and showing support. She will be competing at the San Jacinto Plaza on Oct. 12. “I am an art major, so I saw this as an opportunity, because there are not many events like this for us,” Enriquez said. “Our community doesn’t have the best impression of artists so it’s a place where we can join.” Other UTEP students have also gotten involved with Chalk the Block this year. With the help of Anne Giangiulio, professor of art and graphic design, a

see CHALK on page 8

Feature

Odd Lab performs pyrotechnics

BY ANDREA ACOSTA
The Prospector

El Paso and Las Cruces based fire performers, Odd Lab Entertainment, are bringing a new kind of entertainment to the region. Odd Lab Entertainment is composed of 10 professionals who are trained in fire performance. The performances involve props such as poi, fans, torches, staves, hula-hoops and fire whips. According to C.J. Sandoval, junior biology major, Odd Lab began two years ago on Halloween. “I was one of the founding members along with Jesse James and Georgina Armendariz, who run the business,” Sandoval said. “This performance art, in this form, has been around a decade or two, but it has really blossomed in modern times with people being able to share brilliant ideas with each other so easily.” Sandoval, who specializes in poi (a chord with a ball attached at the end), variety of staves, spitfire and snakes, said that in the two years that Odd Lab has been active, they have never been filed with a claim, or even put someone in danger. “We are insured for over three million dollars,” Sandoval said. “This is everything from fire whips and breathers, fire fans and fingers, fire cannons and zombie slayers; we all take it very seriously and abide by the safety first mindset.” Sandoval also mentioned that they avoid any dangerous situations, such as performing outdoors since the wind can carry the fuel in unpredictable directions.

What first began as a group of individuals showcasing their talent has developed into a show with different acts, said Cesar Perez, Odd Lab member and UTEP alumnus. “We are currently in the process of creating a new marionette act that involves a performer in stilts and controlling me as a puppet and forcing me to eat fire,” Perez said. “We will also have a choreographed dance that we’ll get to do at the same time.” Perez, who joined Odd Lab in 2010 and specializes in eating and breathing fire, said he is very comfortable with fire and has lost all fear of getting burned. “Before actually buying the equipment needed, I first did some extensive research for about two weeks,” Perez said. “After only five tries, I pretty much got the hang of it. There was of course some burns here and there, one that even burned my goatee, but nothing serious.” Michelle Salgado, sophomore creative writing major, is also part of Odd Lab and was first introduced to the group in February 2011. “Cesar introduced me to fire spinning when he invited me to attend a Las Cruces Sum Arts event,” Salgado said. “He completely blew my mind when I first saw him perform, I immediately knew that I wanted to be part of the Odd Lab.” Salgado, who is certified for fire safety by the North American Fire Arts Association, is also a stilt walker and does an act that involves the use of a LED hula-hoop while she walks around the audience.



see PYROTECHNICS on page 8 Cesar Perez, also known as Redwolf twirls two pois set on fire.

Special to The Prospector

PYROTECHNICS from page 7

"The performing I do is relatively new," Salgado said. "Although I'm very much excited about the new addition of the marionette act that I will be doing with Cesar, I think it will look amazing."

Practicing one day a week with rehearsals that last about three hours, Odd Lab has up to four scheduled performances each week, including private parties and out of town events, according to Salgado.

"The shows we are asked to do can be either for pay or we will do it just for tips. Sometimes the people who hire us compensate our gas cost and pay for our hotel rooms," Salgado said. "If it's a private party, we charge depending on whichever package they want."

The Odd Lab group has also participated in the Burning Man Festival, a non-profit event that promotes art, where people can showcase their talents and get a chance to interact with other interested performers.

Aside from their performance, Salgado said the Odd Lab group is currently in the process of setting up some prop manipulation workshops for anyone that is interested and wants to learn more about fire performing.

Perez hopes to see the Odd Lab go far and continue being invited to future events.

"We want to continue pushing our limits," Perez said.

Odd Lab's next public performance will be Nov. 3 at Ruidoso, N.M. For more information, contact 731-8904 or info@odd-lab.com.

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

"This performance art, in this form, has been around a decade or two, but it has really blossomed in modern times with people being able to share brilliant ideas with each other so easily."

- C.J. Sandoval, Odd Lab performer



Special to The Prospector

Odd Lab Entertainment performs with fire tools such as fans, staves, whips and hula-hoops.

HOMECOMING PAGEANT 2012

PAGEANT

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BRANDY POSADA / The Prospector

(Top) The El Paso Downtown area will host the fifth Chalk the Block festival on Oct. 12-14. **(Bottom)** Graphic Design students promoted CBT on the Union Breezway floor on Oct. 10.

CHALK from page 7

group of graphic design students got together and created a series of posters to promote the event.

"I am organizing this group of students who were my 'Graphic Design four: Typography' class students in the spring 2012 semester," Giangliulio said. "They were given the assignment to design a poster for the event. My two classes competed and the best posters were judged by the other graphic design professors, as well as the Chair of the Department of Art."

According to Giangliulio, the posters series began as a class project but got recognized by the Chalk the Block committee.

"To my surprise, early in 2012, Marina Monsivais (Chalk the Block organizer) asked if I would be willing to curate one of the pop-up galleries for this 2012 CTB," Giangliulio said. "Needless to say, I was thrilled at the opportunity and really wanted to get my students involved in the event in an organized way that would showcase their talents."

Giangliulio's students will be selling their poster art at the festival for \$25 in one of the pop-up gallery spaces.

"One hundred percent of the proceeds go directly to the student who designed that poster. So, they have that monetary gain," Giangliulio said. "However, I think they'd all agree that the opportunity to show an audience of around 40,000 people their work is the real gain here."

According to Olsen, last year's Chalk the Block generated over \$875,000, which impacted local businesses' economy greatly.

"Chalk the Block has received several awards for excellence and has been recognized by both the Texas Downtown Association and the International Downtown Association," Olsen said. "It's important to note the incredible economic impact Chalk the Block has for downtown businesses."

Chalk the Block will also have a beer garden that will open at 10 p.m. after the gallery crawls. There will also be a roof top dance party at the top of the Mills Building parking lot, featuring DeeJay collective Souldies - Cult Heroes, Old Rough & Ready, Dairy Aire and DeeJay Maggot Brain.

For a complete schedule of the events, visit chalktheblock.com.

Leonardo Montañez may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

Football

Miners set for the Golden Hurricane

UTEP takes 1-5 record on the road to face C-USA leader Tulsa



Tulsa leads the series 12-8
UTEP is 3-4 against the Golden Hurricane
since joining C-USA, including 0-3 at Tulsa
The Miners' last win at Tulsa was Oct. 7, 2000



JUSTIN STENE / The Prospector

Junior back up quarterback Carson Meger will continue to play a role against Tulsa in the offensive game plan according to head coach Mike Price.

BY EDWIN DELGADO
The Prospector

After being shutout by SMU, the Miners will try to turn things around when they face the current West division leaders in Conference USA, the Tulsa Golden Hurricane, Oct. 11 on the road.

"There are a lot of things not working real well on offense. It's a take-your-pick situation," UTEP head coach Mike Price said. "We're trying to correct as much as we can as fast as we can, and we'll continue to do that. We're going to stay the course with the people we have."

With the loss to SMU, the Miners fell to a 1-5 record, which also marks the worst start under Price.

Tulsa leads the series with a 12-8 record, while the Miners hold a mark of 6-23 on the road in C-USA, losing their last three trips to Tulsa, Okla.

Despite falling to Iowa State, the Golden Hurricane have won five straight since, including three conference games.

Both teams will be operating on five-days rest as they will be playing a Thursday night game as opposed to the customary Saturday slate.

"It is nice. I like it. You don't have to wait around until Saturday to play another game," Tulsa junior running back Trey Watts said. "I'm ready to

play right now, and I think our team is ready to play. We came out today (Oct. 8) and had a great morning practice as we were focused and ready to go."

Price said Tulsa's junior quarterback Cody Green will be a challenge for the Miners. Green has led the Golden Hurricane to an average of 42.5 points per game for 11th best in the country.

"They're really good," Price said. "Their quarterback is a transfer from Nebraska. He won four games as a starter at Nebraska, and has won five games as a starter at Tulsa. He is a really good player."

Green started his career with the Nebraska Cornhuskers in 2009 and after the 2010 season he transferred to Tulsa, but due to the NCAA rules he had to sit out for a year. So far, Green has completed 94 of 183 attempts for a total of 1,131 yards and 10 touchdown passes.

Aside from Green, the Miners will face a pair of junior running backs in Watts and Ja'Terian Douglas, who have combined for 879 yards and six touchdowns thus far.

Watts said the biggest challenge for the Golden Hurricane will be the Miners' defense.

"They are tough, they are physical and they are fast. I think they fly

around to the ball. The linebackers have a lot of speed and they can move side to side very well. We just have to be ready for them to come out with their A-game," Watts said. "Everyone wants to win a conference championship. Coming on the road is going to be tough. To play anybody on the road in the league is tough, they know that and we know that. We have to come ready for the challenge."

After back-to-back bad performances by UTEP senior quarterback Nick Lamaison, where he accounted for six turnovers, questions were asked on whether backup, junior Carson Meger would replace him in the upcoming game. Price didn't name Meger the starter, but said changes will be made.

"We'll save it until Thursday night when we unleash our new plan against Tulsa. It's going to stay similar but we have some changes that we're going to make," Price said. "I thought Meger played one of his better games this year (against SMU). He is earning his way and closing the gap between the two quarterbacks. I think this is a time when you don't throw Nick (Lamaison) under the bus, you support him, support the offense, stick together and encourage him."

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

Football

Poor start has Miners playing catch up at midseason

BY EDWIN DELGADO
The Prospector

After a 1-5 start to the season, the Miners will play their final six games of the season against Conference USA opponents and a league that's combined for a 21-44 record at midseason.

In their non-conference schedule UTEP played against Oklahoma, Ole Miss, NM State and Wisconsin. The Miners dropped their first two conference games to the East Carolina Pirates and SMU Mustangs.

"We've been in four different cities in 20 days," head coach Mike Price said. "It's just a very unique schedule. If we were winning, it would be lots of fun."

One of the biggest concerns for the Miners is the lack of effectiveness of

the offense, which has only produced 10 points in the last two games.

"We haven't been able to finish and execute offensively," sophomore running back Nathan Jeffery said. "We need to forget about the first half and focus on what is coming next and try to win as many games we can."

Senior quarterback Nick Lamaison, who hadn't thrown any interceptions through the first four games of the season, was intercepted three times in the fourth quarter against East Carolina and twice more against SMU.

Against the Sooners, Mustangs and Pirates the passing game just wasn't able to aid their defense who kept the games close.

In the game against Ole Miss and Wisconsin the defense gave away many big plays allowing the Rebels' Bo Wallace and John Stave of Wisconsin to cash in on their opportunities.

"We need to play our best to help the team win games. We need to work together to get better the remaining games."

- Drew Thomas, senior defensive back

Even on their win against NM State, the Miners were outscored 28-13 after the first 22 minutes of the game.

At the start of the 2012 season the team had optimistic goals. Some of the players were aiming for a conference championship, but now the team will need to win at least five of their last six games just to become bowl eligible.

see **POOR** on page 10



BRANDY POSADA / The Prospector

Junior wide receiver Jordan Leslie has caught 27 passes for 369 yards and three touchdowns through six games this season.

simplystated

Women’s basketball picked second in the C-USA preseason poll

The UTEP women’s basketball team was picked second in the 2012-13 Conference USA Preseason Poll, as voted upon the league’s 12 head coaches.

“Preseason polls are great for the fans but at the end of the day they don’t mean anything,” UTEP head coach Keitha Adams said. “We have a lot of work to do in order to be ready for the season. I have a lot of respect for everyone in Conference USA, and we will have to be ready to play every time out.”

Additionally, junior forward Kayla Thornton was tabbed to the all conference preseason team.

“It is a great honor for Kayla. It reflects what she did for us last year,” Adams said. “We need her to be a leader for us this year, along with the rest of the returnees.”

The Miners will prep for their 39th season of basketball when they challenge St. Mary’s (TX) in an exhibition game Nov. 3. The Miners will then tip it off in

earnest when they play host to Loyola Marymount Nov. 10.

Thorton, senior forward Anete Steinberga and junior guard Kelli Willingham return as starters from last year’s C-USA regular season and tournament championship team that went 29-4 overall while garnering a 15-1 mark in C-USA.

Including the three starters, there are seven returning letterwinners. Sophomore guards Syerra Davis, Jenzel Nash, Chishauna Parker and senior forward Kristine Vitola return from last year’s team. Also back is sophomore walk-on guard Marissa Rodriguez.

Six of the top seven scorers and four of the top-five rebounders from a year ago are back in the fold. Seven newcomers are on board (five true freshmen and two transfers).

UTEP did lose seven seniors to graduation, which was the largest class in program history. Headlining that group was 2012 C-USA Tournament MVP and second-team

all C-USA honoree Gloria Brown, who led the Miners in blocked shots (97), free throws made (102), attempted (125), percentage (.816), field-goal percentage (.527), points per game (12.1) and rebounds per contest (8.8). She did her work off the bench and repeated as the C-USA sixth Player of the Year.

Kim Smith and Erika Warren both started for the Miners last year while Baiba Eglite, Briana Green, Whitney Houston and Melisa Mendes joined Brown in doing their work after entering from the pine.

Tulane was selected as the favorite to win the league while Rice’s Jessica Kuster was chosen as the preseason player of the year.

Season tickets remain on sale for the 2012-13 season. They can be purchased for \$50 by calling 747-6150.



BRANDY POSADA / The Prospector

Top: The Miners offense is averaging 17-points per game in 2012. Bottom: Sophomore running back Nathan Jeffery has gained 387 yards in five games but has yet to score an offensive touchdown.

POOR from page 9

“We need to play our best to help the team win games,” senior corner-back Drew Thomas said. “We need to work together to get better the remaining games.”

The second half of the season will kick off on the road when the Miners take on the 5-1 Golden Hurricane Oct. 11 in Tulsa, Okla.

Price, in his ninth season with the Miners, will have his contract re-evaluated at the end of the season by director of UTEP athletics, Bob Stull.

Price has led the Miners to three bowl appearances while compiling a 46-57 record, which ranks third in wins all-time in program history.

“The goal for the rest of the year is to win this game, take it one game at a time and stay healthy, stay fresh, so that we can give our all each game and each play,” Price said. “We haven’t lost hope and we’re staying disciplined, doing everything by the book.”

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



FILE PHOTO / The Prospector

The 2011-12 women’s basketball team finished with a 29-4 record while winning the regular season and conference tournament championships.

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6	Lingerie item									
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9	Detectives									
10	Lotion additive									
11	Coaster									
16	Kimono sash									
20	Do what you're told									
21	Poi root									
22	Coin aperture									
23	Author Nathaniel									
27	Jump									
29	Historic times									
30	Whirlpool									
32	Prognostic									
34	Women's shoes									
37	Jennifer's "Friends" role									
39	Rio									
42	Topic									
44	Ovum									
45	Lily variety									
46	Gunky stuff									
50	CEO's degree									
51	Humorous sort									
52	Whatever amount									
53	Thanksgiving vegetable									

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Football

Patterson's wealth of knowledge

BY AUDREY WESTCOTT

The Prospector

From high school to college and even the NFL, when it comes to football, UTEP's defensive coordinator Andre Patterson has coached it all.

"To me coaching is like being a history professor," Patterson said. "My job is to give the young men the information and make sure that they know it and if they struggle with it, find different ways to get them to understand it and know it."

Involved in football since the fifth grade, Patterson has made a career out of the sport he loves.

Playing football all throughout middle school and high school, Patterson went on to play as an offensive lineman for Contra Costa College and Montana. However, his time on the field was cut short after he sustained a career-ending knee injury.

No longer able to play, Patterson decided to channel his knowledge of the game by turning to coaching. First, as graduate assistant at Montana then as a defensive coordinator and head coach at the high school level.

Returning to the collegiate ranks in 1988, Patterson spent nine seasons as an assistant coach, defensive coordinator and head coach at programs such as Weber State, Washington State (both under Mike Price), Western Washington, Cornell, and Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, before being offered the opportunity to be a part of an NFL coaching staff in 1996.

In the NFL, Patterson helped developed the defensive line of the New England Patriots, Minnesota Vikings, Dallas Cowboys, Cleveland Browns and the Denver Broncos. He helped in the break down of offenses led by all-pro quarterbacks like Peyton Manning, Drew Brees and Tom Brady.

After 10 years in the NFL, Patterson returned to his roots as a college coach and in 2010 found himself at UTEP.

Despite the differences between pro football and college football, Patterson sees all players the same.

"Football players are football players, so there is not a lot of difference between college and professional athletes," Patterson said. "The biggest dif-

ference is that in the NFL those guys are getting paid to play the game and it is their job. They are there from 7 in the morning until 5 in the evening and all they do is focus on football where as in college the players are students too so they have to go to class, so the window that you get a chance to work with them on football is a lot smaller."

Since joining the UTEP coaching staff, Patterson has led the Miners to hold four teams to less than 300 yards of offense for only the third time since 1977 and eight games where the opponent scored 24 points or less for the first time in 20 years.

With an assertive defensive style, Patterson has coached NFL players such as Ebenezer Ekuban, La'Roi Glover, Gerard Warren and recent Hall of Fame inductees Chris Doleman and John Randle.

His UTEP players hope to become a part of this elite group of athletes.

"He has coached some of the greats and he has brought all of his experience to us college players and he is truly teaching us a lot," junior defensive lineman Germard Reed said. "As a coach he holds a cool attitude, but when it comes to playing he brings out our competitive side and teaches us an aggressive, frenzy defense."

With UTEP at a 0-2 record in conference, Patterson said communication has never been more vital to the team.

However, he also said he's still confident that the Miners can turn it around, they just have to take it one game at a time.

"We need to get the first win, so all we are focused on right now is trying to find a way to beat Tulsa," Patterson said. "These kids have played their hearts out. They have played hard. They have played physical. They have sacrificed their bodies for UTEP and all of the Miner fans. I have a lot of respect and pride for the way our kids have played. We just have to keep playing and working hard and the victories will come."

Audrey Westcott may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.



BRANDY POSADA AND JUSTIN STENE / The Prospector

Defensive coordinator Andre Patterson is in his third season with UTEP after previously spending time as an NFL assistant with teams like the New England Patriots, Minnesota Vikings, Denver Broncos, Dallas Cowboys and Cleveland Browns.

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October 11, 2011
our view editor
Justin Stene, 747-7446



JUSTIN STENE, BRANDY POSADA AND AARON MONTES / The Prospector

Top left: Junior defender Jade Babcock has helped the soccer team to a 9-6 record, including a 4-1 victory over previously 22nd ranked Memphis Oct. 7 at University Field.

Top right: Senior wide receiver Michael Edwards leads the team with 464 receiving yards and was named to the Biletnikoff Award Watch List, an accolade given to the top WR in the nation at the end of the regular season.

Middle left: The volleyball team currently has an 11-8 record with nine games left to play in the regular season, the team is still looking for its first 20-win season in program history.

Middle right: Miner fans cheer in the stands during the season opener against the Oklahoma Sooners Sept. 1 at the Sun Bowl.

Bottom left: The UTEP cheerleaders will return to the National Cheerleaders Association National Championship in April of 2013 in Daytona Beach, Fla.

Bottom right: Sophomore tight end Craig Wenrick dives into the end zone for a touchdown during the 41-28 win over I-10 rival NM State Sept. 15 at the Sun Bowl.