

10-30-2012

The Prospector, October 30, 2012

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the assayer of student opinion prospector

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The University of Texas at El Paso · October 30, 2012

BASKETBALL

SPECIAL

Women's Basketball

READY TO DEFEND TITLE

BY SABRINA NUÑEZ

The Prospector

Coming off a season in which the UTEP women's basketball team had a record of 29-4, 15-1 in Conference USA play, with an average of 67.5 points per game, the Miners acquired a C-USA regular season and tournament championship before falling to Penn State 85-77 in the first round of the NCAA tournament.

With the program's best season ever, head coach Keitha Adams was voted C-USA Coach of the Year last season. This is the team's 39th season, 12th with Adams.

"It's hard to believe I've been here 12 years. In a lot of ways it's gone fast," Adams said. "I feel great about things we've accomplished and

obviously it's a new season, a new challenge, new team and we've got a lot of work to do, a lot of things we want to accomplish this year."

The Miners graduated seven seniors, but are coming into this season with two seniors and three returning starters.

"We have a good nucleus of returners that have gained a lot of experience and we've put a lot of responsibility and high expectations on them," Adams said. "They're going to have to really step up and do a lot of things for us this year and lead the way."

Adams said that going back to the basics will be a key factor in determining how far the Miners will go this season.

see DEFEND on page 9

Men's Basketball

TOUGHEST CHALLENGE YET

BY AUDREY WESTCOTT

The Prospector

In less than a week, the UTEP men's basketball team will tip off the 2012-2013 season against Southeastern Oklahoma at 7 p.m. Nov. 3 at the Don Haskins Center.

"We feel that we are very prepared to play the teams," sophomore forward, Julian Washburn said. "I feel the new players we received this year are going to help us out a lot. They are great defenders, and they hit the open shot. So even though we are still very young, we still have enough talent to compete with any team, including the big name teams."

With two weeks of practice behind them, the Miners are ready to showcase what they have

been preparing for—the toughest schedule in the program's history.

The early lineup includes games against nationally ranked Arizona and tournament regulars such as Oklahoma, UNLV and Oregon.

Seven of UTEP's games will air on networks like ESPN2, FOX Sports and CBS Sports, bringing national attention to the Miners' court play.

The Miners, who finished 15-17, last season still have a lot to prove as one of the youngest teams in the nation. They said they are looking to exceed their previous record while keeping their expectations realistic.

see TOUGHEST on page 10

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Guest Column

Coach encourages support for Men's team

BY TIM FLOYD
Special to the Prospector



Dear UTEP students:

Another year of Miner Basketball is here, and I hope you're as excited about the 2012-13 campaign as I am!

Last year was a rebuilding year for us after losing eight seniors, but we still posted 16 victories and beat the top three teams in C-USA, as well as New Mexico State, Auburn and Clemson in non-conference play.

This year we have a solid nucleus of returning players led by sophomore Julian Washburn and four talented newcomers who can provide immediate help.

We're not where we want to be just yet, but I'm confident that we can continue to make strides as we build a program that annually contends

for conference titles and NCAA Tournament bids.

When I was an assistant coach at UTEP from 1978-86, we never shied away from playing the best teams in the country.

We've taken the same approach this year and have assembled the most challenging non-conference schedule in school history.

We open the season on Nov. 9 against Oral Roberts-a team that won 27 games a year ago-and the preseason favorite in the Southland Conference.

We also have NM State, UNLV, Oregon and Nebraska coming to the Don Haskins Center before Christmas.

Three of the top teams in Conference USA: Memphis, Marshall and UCF will all be coming to El Paso this year, as well as Houston, Rice, SMU, Tulane and Tulsa.

With such a demanding schedule, we need your help in building the nation's biggest home court advantage at the Haskins Center.

Student tickets are free. All you need to do is sign up at sportslottery.utep.edu to reserve your spot in the arena, and pick up your ticket the day of the game! Don't forget to join our student support group, the Miner Maniacs.

For only \$10, you can receive free football and basketball jerseys and front row access in the student section.

Miner Maniacs also get great \$2 food specials at the concession stand and other privileges. Call Judge Scott at 747-5387 to sign up.

It's going to be an action-packed season and I want you to be a part of the excitement. We need you to be our sixth man in the stands!

Thanks for your support and Go Miners!

Tim Floyd is the head coach of the UTEP men's basketball team.

WHAT DO you think?

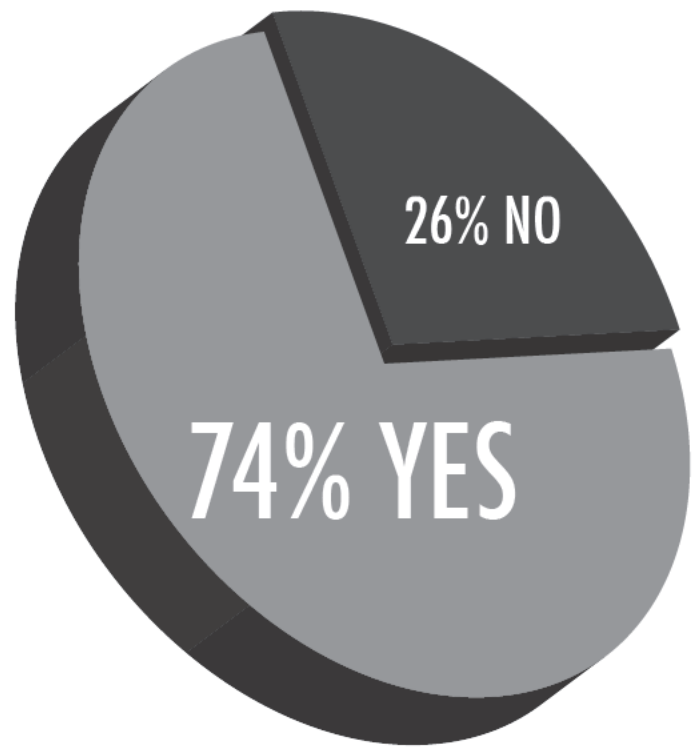
This week's poll question:
Should Mike Price return as head football coach next year?

vote at WWW.UTEPSPROPECTOR.COM

we asked, you answered

POLL RESULTS

Do you think beer sales will help improve attendance at UTEP athletic events?



Guest Column

Women's b-ball team preparing for season

BY KEITHA ADAMS
Special to The Prospector



We're very excited for the season to get underway. There was a great buzz on campus and in the community last year, and it would be great to carry that over into this year. We are going to work very hard to put out a good product and hope that our fans really get behind our team.

We have high expectations for the season. We want to hang banners in the Don Haskins Center. That is what you are always shooting for but right now what we are trying to do is

just take pride in how we play basketball every day. How we practice in the gym when nobody is watching is very important.

It's going to be key that we get better throughout the season so that by the time it is late February and early March, we are ready for the challenges.

There is a huge responsibility on our returnees. We've put a lot on their shoulders. It's going to be very important for them to produce. They are going to have to bring it every day and show our newcomers how this thing works. They are doing a good job with it so far.

The thing that really excites me about our returnees is that they have a lot of experience. They have played in the NCAA Tournament, they've played against big competition. That

experience will help us. With the newcomers, it's just a matter of time of putting them in and getting them to mix together.

While we're excited, we still have so much work to do. We need to focus on our weaknesses to get better.

We hope that our fans, the students, the community are wound up along with us. We have a good schedule that will have a lot of home games early on, and we want our fans to be a part of it. It will be a very competitive and challenging schedule. Our fans can make a big difference in games.

Hope to see everyone out at the Haskins Center, and Go Miners!

Keitha Adams is the head coach of the UTEP women's basketball team.

The Spats

by Jeff Pickering

Finally, a chance to make fun of someone other than the football team.

Basket ball season starts Nov. 3, 2012

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vol. 98, no. 15

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The Prospector (USPS 448-020) is published by the Student Publications Board, 105 E. Union, 500 W. University Ave., El Paso, TX 79968. During Fall & Spring semester The Prospector is published twice weekly: Tuesdays and Thursdays, except holidays and when classes are not in session, once a week on Wednesday during the summer session. Subscription rates: \$20 per year; \$4 taken from fees to pay for student copies. Periodicals postage paid at El Paso, TX. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Prospector, 105 E. Union, El Paso, Texas 79968-0622.








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Wellness

Health center offers flu shots on campus

BY LORAIN WATTERS
The Prospector

Flu season strikes again, putting students, faculty and staff at risk for the new strain floating around the chilly autumn air.

According to David Porras, business manager at the Student Health Center, the flu shot will be available at the Student Health Center for the remainder of the flu season and students who have insurance or are under the Academic Health Plan with UTEP do not need to pay for it. However, those who do not would need to pay \$20 for the shot.

"We do not take in faculty because there is simply not enough of our staff to handle everyone," Porras said. "This is something we are looking to fix in the future, however."

There is no charge for students at the center. The students' insurance company will be billed, or a charge will be placed on the students' Gold Mine account if they do not have the money and will have a year to pay it off. This applies to any service at the health center, especially flu shots since they are considered preventative medicine under President Barack Obama's health care plan.

Some students don't feel that a flu shot is necessary and may actually cause more damage.

"I do not think I would recommend it because you have to get it

every year and I think it's like taking antibiotics," said Myra Fernandez, senior nursing major, who was required to take the immunization for school. "I didn't think it was necessary because I didn't think I got that sick and also because of the myth that when you get it, instead of protecting you, it makes you sick right after you get it. I know it's the intended response but I felt it unnecessary."

Fernandez believes the flu immunization played a role in the death of her grandmother.

"My mom told me that my grandma's condition got worse because the shot decreased her immune system and she was already weak," she said. "It affected her (ability) to get better until she finally passed away."

According to flugov some of the serious side effects of the flu vaccination are difficulty breathing, hives, weakness, racing heart, dizziness and high fever, among others.

The Student Health Center also provides physical, occupational and nutritional services with a referral. According to Porras, the office visits are given at a reasonable price, low-cost immunizations, low-cost medications, inexpensive women exams (such as a pap-smear or breast exam), as well as men's exams.

All information given to the health center is strictly confidential. All employees and work study students follow the FERPA guidelines and go

"My mom told me that my grandma's condition got worse because the shot decreased her immune system and she was already weak."

- Myra Fernandez,
senior nursing major

through compliance. No appointment is necessary except for a physical or pap-smear.

According to Porras, the Student Health Center educates students on having medical insurance coverage and the importance of obtaining it once they hit the "real world." The Center is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Thursday, 8 to 11:30 a.m. on Friday and again from 1 to 4 p.m., and is closed on the weekends. They are located in the Union Building East, Suite 100.

Lorain Watters can be contacted at prospector@utep.edu.



JUSTIN STENE / The Prospector

The Student Health Center continues to offer flu immunizations for the remainder of the flu season.

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Politics

University groups encourage students in registration process

BY MARILYN ALEMAN
The Prospector

During the past two months, the Texas Freedom Network Chapter at UTEP recruited 1,386 students to register to vote. Likewise, other organizations on campus, including the Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance, University Democrats and the Queer Student Alliance, have stressed the importance of being a registered voter within the student community.

Those who participated in the voting registration drive felt that by registering and voting, their opinions can be officially and legally voiced.

"I was never very involved in politics, but college is all about expressing your views and making your voice heard," said Aidil Trevizo, sophomore mathematics major. "I registered because I feel if I am at an age where the country decides I can make a difference, then why shouldn't I? Most people don't believe one person can

make a difference, but it only takes one person to create a movement."

Cindy Cruz, freshman music major said she, acquired a sense of purpose and responsibility as a United States citizen just by registering and participating in the polls.

"It's helping the country you're in and making it better for the younger generation," Cruz said.

Olac Fuentes, president of the Texas Freedom Network Chapter at UTEP, pushed for students to know the importance of becoming a registered voter.

"Our idea is to create voters, to inform voters," said Fuentes, a senior multimedia journalism major. "Statistically speaking, Hispanics tend to be unrepresented in the polls and so are students. So this is why we focus on students, UTEP students, because we are students as well."

The Texas Freedom Network, a non-partisan organization, works year round with the younger generation to

see REGISTRATION on page 5

HALLOWEEN SAFETY TIPS

Trick or Treat:
In groups of only four or five children with a responsible adult With one person in the group carrying a flashlight. When it is still light outside, if possible safely by not entering a stranger's house, even if invited. Using sidewalks "Walk"!! never run across yards or streets. Look both ways before crossing the streets. Never cross the street between parked cars.

Costumes:
Wear comfortable shoes. If you wear a mask, take it off before crossing the street(s). Wear a costume that makes it easy for you to walk and can be seen in the dark. Hats, wigs, or beards should be secured and out of eyes. Avoid baggy or oversized costumes to prevent any tripping / falls. Use costumes made with flame-resistant fabrics.

Treats:
Never eat treats until examined by a parent
Check wrappers of pre-packaged treats for signs of tampering
Throw away any unwrapped candy

Parents:
Avoid encouraging children to enter a stranger's house
Never invite trick-or-treaters into your home
Do not leave your home unattended on Halloween Night
Leave your porch light on
Keep family pets inside the house
Use flashlights or LED Candles in jack - o- lanterns

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Feature

AIDS walk raises funds for those affected



BY ROBERT BROWN

The Prospector

For the second year in a row, a team made up of UTEP students from the Eta Sigma Gamma Honor Society and Students for Public Health at UTEP, won the second-place award for team fundraising during the annual AIDS Walk event.

The AIDS Walk is held every year to raise funds to assist programs and to increase the local community's awareness of AIDS.

"I have a passion for this work because I don't think this should happen anymore. We need to do something about it," said Sandra Bejarano, graduate student in public health. "We know how to prevent AIDS. We know how to prevent HIV and we know how to treat it so that they don't have to progress to AIDS."

For the past 20 years, members of the El Paso community have come together in support of those who have

become affected by AIDS through the walk.

"It's fun. It gets us out of the desk, the computer, away from books and actually apply what we learn in the classroom setting out in the field," Bejarano said.

This year, the AIDS Walk was hosted by the non-profit group International Aids Empowerment and was held on Oct. 27 at Cohen Stadium. IAE had been a part of the event for the past five years.

"Previous to us, there was another AIDS service organization that spearheaded the event," said Antonio Martinez, program director/operations officer at IAE. "We've kind of inherited the event due to the transition of different organizations."

By joining forces with several community and student groups from surrounding institutions, IAE seeks to increase the amount of funds raised by the 5K walk/run to assist with its various programs.

"I don't want to leave UTEP without making a difference, even if it's a little bit."

- Sandra Bejarano,

graduate student, public health

"We've been working with AIDS Walk and the IAE for three years now. We heard about the AIDS Walk the first year so we did an AIDS rally on campus," said Cynthia Keith, senior English major and president of the Black Student Union. "Every year during October we do our own AIDS awareness week that leads up to the AIDS Walk."

Keith also said that the funds they raise during their events are donated to the IAE. She said the group raised \$500 the first year they participated, \$750 last year and had a goal of \$1,500 for this year.

Martinez said that the funds raised through the AIDS Walk and other events stay local and support various programs and services that IAE maintains. These programs and services include a food pantry program, supplementary clothing, case management system and emergency financial assistance.

"He (Martinez) is one of my inspirations. I see how he works nonstop to get people who are HIV positive to get the things that they need," Bejarano said.

An educational program offered by IAE is also supported by the funds raised through the AIDS Walk.

"We go out to the community and educate in schools and other businesses that welcome us and we go out there and do talks on HIV and STDs or hepatitis C," Martinez said. "We share our story, or the individual who goes out and does the talk, shares the story about what it's been like to live with HIV."

Martinez said that this year they have seen an increase in the number of people volunteering, but at the same time, they've seen an increase in infections.

"It's grown (AIDS Walk)," Keith said. "The first year we went it seemed like very few people were coming out. There was always that stigma behind—I can't support AIDS, it's that gay disease or the African-American disease."

The AIDS Walk also featured other events such as live entertainment, health screenings, a dog-grooming station and information about local community resources.

IAE and other AIDS service organizations also seek to empower the community to get health screenings for AIDS and STDs and possibly lower the number of infections reported annually.

"Last year during National HIV Testing Day, La Fe (Centro de Salud Familiar La Fe) reported that the youngest person infected with HIV was an 11 year old," Bejarano said.

Bejarano also said that a report from the city's Public Health Department stated that on average, El Pasoans who are infected with HIV progress to AIDS within a year.

"I don't want to leave UTEP without making a difference. Even if it's a little bit," Bejarano said.

Robert Brown may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

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National

Protest continues despite Hurricane Sandy



KRISTOPHER RIVERA / SHFWire

Veterans protest outside the VA building for more programs to prevent suicides. Protesters have been active since Oct. 4.

BY KRISTOPHER RIVERA

Scripps Howard Foundation Wire

WASHINGTON — Veterans and members of the Occupy VA movement have anchored themselves at the front doors of the Department of Veterans Affairs building, even as Hurricane Sandy approached.

"We've been here for three weeks, and we ain't going anywhere," John Penley, 60, of Washington, said. "A hurricane can't drive us out of here."

The Occupy VA group has been camped in front of the VA office since Oct. 4, when they asked to meet with its officials. Two veterans of Occupy met with representatives from the VA on Oct. 15, but the vets said they were not satisfied with the meeting.

The veterans are concerned about vets and soldiers who have been committing suicide in record numbers. They are also concerned about homeless and jobless veterans, as well as veterans who need benefits and medical attention, but are living on the street.

Occupiers bundled up in layers of sweaters and jackets and then snuggled into sleeping bags with layers of tarps under an awning at the VA's main entrance as a steady rain pelted the city and temperatures dropped. A van and small moving truck were scheduled to arrive at the building, just across Lafayette Square from the White House, where the occupiers were planning to take turns keep-

ing warm and drying off during the storm.

Penley, a Navy veteran, said the group wants to make suggestions for improving the VA system, even if they have to ride out the storm.

"It may not make sense on the surface, but you're not talking about a group of folks who are extremely vulnerable," John Zangas, 53, of Washington, said. "In this case, they're determined to get their point across. There isn't a person out here who isn't soaked down to the bone."

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.



FILE PHOTO/ The Prospector

Students register to vote at one of the many registration drives that took place at the library, Leech Grove and the Student Union.

REGISTRATION from page 3

promote voting registration. This past summer, representatives of TFN went to local northeast high schools, to speak to political science classes.

Richard Gutierrez, political science lecturer, believes that organizations such as TFN and University Democrats promote youth awareness when it comes to representation in the polls.

"If these organizations are getting more persons to register, that is a step to increase citizen participation in the electoral process," Gutierrez said. "Young voters do not vote in great numbers, which is unfortunate because they bring a different perspective to the table."

Fuentes said being able to recruit voters is a step towards reaching these political organizations' goals.

"If we can get students, young people to vote, we can definitely have a big impact," he said.

According to Fuentes, 54 percent of the nation's registered voters actually vote, the Texas average is 35 percent, and as for El Paso it is 12 percent.

Students who are involved in political organizations are excited to participate in the 2012 election season.

Ana Karen Dominguez, sophomore cellular and molecular biology major, is involved with TFN, the Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance and Amnesty International.

"I'm 19, I've waited a good portion of my life to vote, of course I am going to vote," Dominguez said. "(I'm in) three clubs that were all working hard to get people to register to vote. Some of my closest friends and I were getting others to register to vote."

Different locations on campus, including the library, Leech Grove and the Student Union, had tables for students to register nearing election day.

TFN encourages students to not only register for the presidential elections, but also to participate in other elections, such as the educational board members.

"One of our core issues is defending public education, efforts to politicize education in Texas," Fuentes said. "All these issues come from the state board of education, the thing is that members of these boards are elected in very low votes. These people have an impact and power over education, so we enforce registered voters to participate in these elections."

According to Fuentes, 400 pledge cards, which were created as reminders to vote in the elections, were signed by UTEP students for the TFN.

"We like to focus on the big picture, but also the small ones too," Fuentes said.

Marilyn Aleman may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

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Please send this completed entry form to:
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or drop it off at the Student Publications office located at 105 Union East.

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October 30, 2012
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Women’s Basketball

Willing her way to the top

Junior point guard welcomes challenge of new season

BY SABRINA NUÑEZ
The Prospector

Junior point guard Kelli Willingham will be one of three returning starters for the women’s basketball team. At 5 feet, 6 inches tall, Willingham’s record from last season includes 7.9 points per game, 2.5 rebounds and 2.7 assists, with an average play time of 26.7 minutes per game. Willingham leads the Miners in free throw percentage with a .804 success rate. By maintaining a cumulative GPA greater than 3.2, Willingham was named to the C-USA All-Academic team.

Q: You have been named to the 2012 C-USA All-Academic team, what are the requirements and what does the recognition mean to you?

A: The requirements are that you have to either be a starter, or play a lot, and have one of the highest GPAs. It meant a lot to me. I’m a student athlete; student comes before athlete, so I try to make sure I focus on my grades [and] take my schoolwork seriously. I hate making Bs, I’ve never made a C, so I try my best to keep my GPA up. I’m trying to get it again this year, but we’ll see.

Q: How do you balance school and basketball? Is there anything else you are involved in?

A: Sometimes it gets tough to balance it, but you’ve just got to stay on top of everything. Make sure you keep everything written down; keep reminders and just stay on top of it.

(I hang) out with friends, but other than that, it’s just school and basketball.

Q: How do you get along with your teammates?

A: We say “sisters” at each huddle. I like my sisters and I hang out with them a lot.

Sticking together as a team is one of those things I’ve learned. Some teams, you have your ups and downs between the team, but last year we really stuck together and had each other’s backs.

Q: Does the memory of your first season affect your interaction with the newcomers this season?

A: It affects a lot. Having been in their shoes before, it allows me to have more patience. Like with drills or plays, I think (to myself), I used to be in that same position. The same mistakes they’re making, I used to make, so it let’s me see (things) from their point of view.

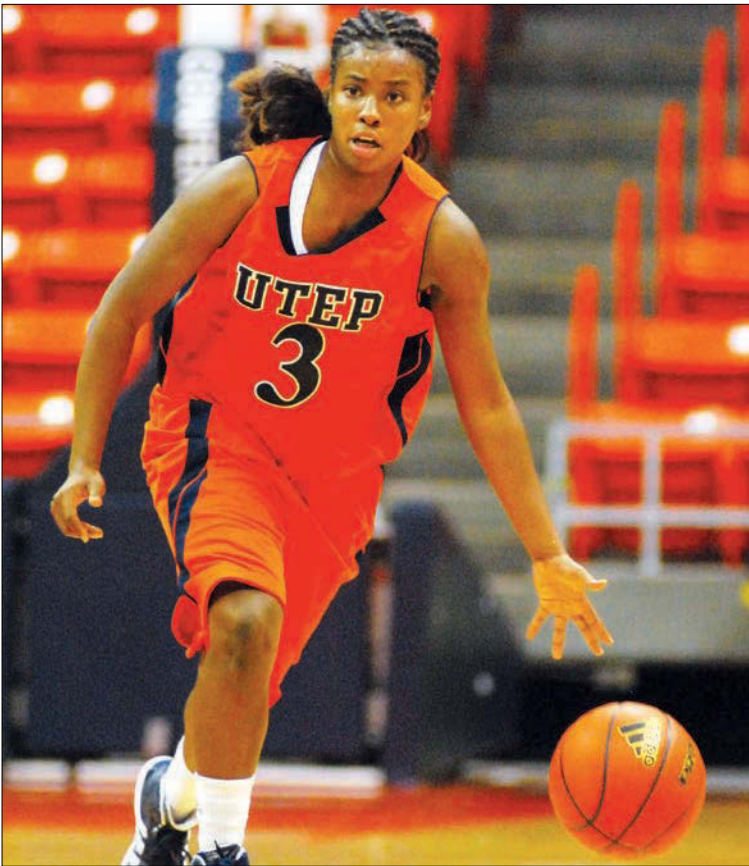
Q: You’re UTEP’s all-leader in free throw percentage, can you expand on that?

A: I’ve always been pretty good at free throws. I used to always get in free throw competitions. I know every time we have a chance, coach is going to ask me to shoot the free throws. I make sure I shoot a couple everyday and just try to get better. I’m trying to raise that percentage this year, so we’ll see about that.

Q: Your parents live in DeSoto, near Dallas, and have been driving down for nearly every home game since your freshman year. What does that mean to you?

A: I love to see them. Before the game starts, I look for them until I find them, then I’m like, okay, they’re here. It means a lot for me to look up and be able to see them. They try to make all the home games. They go to Tulsa, Memphis, both the Houston games, Southern Miss and UAB. I know it’s a long drive, but it just means even more that they’re willing to drive this long distance to see me play. We used to do that for my brother, too. He played at Kansas State and we get to play them at home this year. It’s cool that I’m going to be able to play on the court that he played on.

Sabrina Nuñez may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.



FILE PHOTO

Junior point guard Kelli Willingham is UTEP’s all-time leader in free throw percentage with a 80 percent success rate.

Men’s Basketball

Tucker adds a veteran presence to young Miners



KARINA RODRIGUEZ / The Prospector

Graduate student Konner Tucker (center) joined the Miners after finishing his undergraduate studies at Sam Houston State University, where he was the leading scorer for the Bearkats in the 2011-12 season.

BY HERMAN DELGADO
The Prospector

It’s not common for student-athletes to pursue added playing time once they’ve completed their studies as undergraduates. For shooting guard Konner Tucker, playing his final season of eligibility as a graduate student at UTEP, it was an easy choice to make.

“(It was) mainly the coaching staff with (head) coach (Tim) Floyd and his assistants, they’re pretty big time and they’ve been around and done some really good things,” Tucker said. “The basketball tradition that UTEP has and the school is great too. I got one year left of college ball, I am looking forward and excited for the season to start and hopefully we can do some big things as a team.”

Tucker received his bachelor’s degree from Sam Houston State University, where he was the team’s leading scorer in the 2011-12 season. He’s now working towards his master’s degree in leadership studies and playing on more year of basketball while at it.

“It’s a pretty neat degree; the leadership and organizational subjects, that kind of fits me well because I want to be a college coach when I get older,” Tucker said. “I would like to play for money and if I’m good enough I would like to play overseas, if it’s the right situation. If not, that was another reason why I came here. I knew coach Floyd was a big time coach ... and I know he can help me out with what I want to do when I get older.”

Tucker, who turned 23 in September, joined the Miners at the start of the fall semester. He said he feels con-

fident about his role on the team and where him and his teammates are.

“I think we’ll be fine, we have a lot of good pieces on this team,” Tucker said. “They had a young team last year, but then we got some experience with (junior) John Bohannon, (senior) Jacques Streeter and with me coming in. I’m just really trying to do whatever I can to help the team win. That’s the main goal, for us to do well as a team.”

Floyd said he’s looking forward to having Tucker on his team and feels that he brings some veteran experience to it. “We really don’t know what kind of a role Konner (Tucker) will play for us. We found him in late July and we know that he was a highly recruited player who was at Wake

see **TUCKER** on page 9



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Football

Perry gives up hoops to follow in father's footsteps



FILE PHOTO

Junior tight end Kevin Perry spent the last two years as a dual-sport athlete, competing in both football and basketball for the Miners. Perry will now solely concentrate on football in hopes of playing in the NFL like his father once did.

BY EDWIN DELGADO

The Prospector

After playing two seasons in both football and basketball, junior Kevin Perry has decided to let basketball go and focus on getting better on the gridiron to chase his dream of playing in the NFL, just like his father Gerald did.

Q: Why did you choose UTEP?

A: It was the environment, I liked the coaching staff and how they handle things, and when I came to visit

I thought it was a great city and decided to come here.

Q: What was your first love, basketball or football?

A: I actually started playing football at the age of 5, in Georgia, but then in fifth grade I switched to basketball and I really focused on basketball from fifth grade all the way to college, I played football, but the school I was in was more of a basketball school and I just played so I wouldn't have to run cross country.

Q: How challenging was it to do both sports?

A: It's tough, it's challenging but it's something that I love to do, something that I've been doing my whole life. I never had an offseason, as far as playing sports in my entire life. I was used to do it, and it was a routine to me so it wasn't that challenging.

Q: Why did you decide not to do basketball this season?

A: I'm just going to try to focus a little bit more on football. I feel that I have a good chance of playing professionally. Basketball helps a lot with footwork, handling, coordination and conditioning, just competing year

round it helps, but I think it's about time that I give my body a little rest and prepare myself to try to make a run to the next level.

Q: How does not playing basketball anymore help you improve in football?

A: I think not playing basketball really gives me an opportunity to rest. I think that was one of the biggest problems, when I played basketball I would have like three or four days off after the football season, and when basketball was over, I was back in football, and my body never had time to rest and recuperate after two seasons. I think it's going to be a big help for me, being able to recuperate, come out and be fresh, because I was fatigued for a couple of years and I feel that if I'm rested I could do some amazing things.

Q: Your father played in the NFL, and your cousin Stephen Jackson is currently playing in the NBA (San Antonio Spurs), was that added pressure for you or was it more of a motivation?

A: It's more motivation, my dad played 10 years in the league, it makes it a lot easier for me because the road is already passed. I know what to do and what not to do, and the rest is up to me to perform and get my shot in the NFL.

Q: Did basketball help you become more agile and athletic?

A: I think my skill set came from basketball, as far as being able to catch while I'm running, the footwork aspect and knowing how to use your body, use leverage and stuff like that all came from basketball.

Q: Why did you choose to be a tight end?

A: I actually didn't choose to be a tight end, the coaches told me that I

had the frame to pick up weight to about 265 pounds and I trusted them since they knew what they were doing, so I put my faith in them and switched to tight end. Before I played receiver, linebacker, defensive end, but never tight end before I got here.

Q: How different are coaches Mike Price and Tim Floyd?

A: They are very different. Coach Price, during practice, he is a more laid down kind of guy while coach Floyd is a get-after-it kind of guy, he is intense all the time; he'll crack some jokes here and there, but after you laugh at the joke you have to get back to work. Coach Price makes it a more entertaining kind of practice and I think he has to do that because the game is such a physical game and it's tough mentally, so he tries to take some of the edge out for you.

Q: NFL All-Pro tight ends like Tony Gonzalez, Antonio Gates and Jimmy Graham all played college basketball, do you look to them as motivation?

A: Definitely, they show that athletes able to do more than one sport, standout when they focus on one, because the whole time they were good at playing two sports, but when they focus on one they're just amazing, and that gives me motivation and confidence that I can do it as well.

Q: Who are your favorite NFL players?

A: My favorite tight ends would be Jimmy Graham and Tony Gonzalez. Defensively, it has to be Ray Lewis all the way. Quarterback wise it's Peyton Manning, I love Manning and my all time favorite is Michael Irvin.

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Soccer

Promising season ends on a bad note

BY AUDREY WESTCOTT

The Prospector

After finishing as the runner-up in Conference USA last season, the Miners were out to improve on that as they also host this year's C-USA tournament. Twenty games later, UTEP is on the outside looking in, finishing the season with a 10-10 mark.

All season long, the Miners struggled to capture any wins on the road, as they lost eight of 10 games away from home.

"I think we struggle when we are away because of the simple fact that we do not have our home crowd," junior midfielder, Gina Soto said. "The atmosphere of being at home to that of when traveling is very different. When you travel somewhere everything about the environment is different. From the locker room, to the field, to even the weather and it is always difficult to adapt to."

With conference games coming to an end, the Miners' last opportunity to qualify for the conference tournament rested on the outcome of UTEP's match up against Houston.

However, the Miners lost to the Cougars, 3-0.

"I really thought we were all mentally ready, but after they scored that first goal on us, all of us shut down," senior forward, Brittany Kindzierski said. "It was not just one or two individuals, it was the whole team, and we were just defeated. If we had

just scored in the first half, it would have just changed everything, and the game would have ended differently."

After another road defeat, the Miners looked to finish their season on a high note at home against Colorado College.

Despite having the support of their home crowd and spirits high from the Senior Night celebration, UTEP came up short, losing their last game against the top seeded Tigers, 2-0.

"Things have not gone our way this season," head coach, Kevin Cross said. "We felt that we had a team that was capable of beating anybody like we did when we beat Memphis, but we have a lot of bad luck with six out of 21 season ending injuries, eight players, six while we were on the road, and some bad referee calls, so things have not really gone our way."

The Miners finished with a conference standing of 3-8, losing all of their C-USA road games.

"This season is definitely not what I expected," Soto said. "We had a lot of talent this year and we were expecting a lot of great outcomes. Unfortunately we did not get to where we want to be and it hurts because we know what we were capable of and it just did not play out in our favor."

While the season for the Miners may be over, the soccer action is only picking up in El Paso, as the university preps to host the 2012 C-USA



AARON MONTES / The Prospector

Freshman Taylor Kidd was part of team that ended the regular season with a 10-10 record including a 3-8 mark in conference games. UTEP finished as the runner-up in the 2011 season.

see PROMISING on page 10



FILE PHOTO

Junior forward Kayla Thornton helped the Miners to a 29-4 record last season en route to a C-USA regular season and tournament championships.

DEFEND from page 1

"We're athletic, we're going to look to play transition and we want our guards to really attack and be aggressive," Adams said. "Play good defense, rebound the basketball and take care of the basketball. Those are fundamental things (and) if you do all that, you usually give yourself a chance to win."

Junior point guard Kelli Willingham is one of the three returning starters. Willingham said her experience will influence the way she plays.

"I need to work on my defense (and) I'm working on being more vocal. Being a returner and having been there, that's the strength I can bring, just lead and show (the newcomers) the way," Willingham said. "I know what coach wants, I know how hard it's going to be. You come back as a veteran and it allows you to kind of know what to expect. It's easier than coming in as a newcomer."

Junior forward Kayla Thornton agrees that though there are several returning starters, as a new team, the Miners need to find the right balance that will provide results.

"Everything's not perfect. We had a great season last year, we lost a lot of people, so we had to come back and rebuild," Thornton said. "It's

working on the little things. Coach tells us the little things are going to make us successful at the end, so (we're) working on everything and praying that we repeat another good season like last year."

Thornton was named to the all-conference preseason team this year, but said she still has to work hard.

"You can't take things for granted. You have to come to the gym and work hard every single day because your spot is not guaranteed. I could lose my spot at any time," Thornton said. "Coming here and knowing that I am a veteran, I am a leader, and I need to work hard and not only improve myself, but help my team improve. That's what my goal is."

Despite a preseason second place ranking in C-USA, the Miners are taking the season game by game.

"It's a good thing that we're ranked number two, but at the end of the day, we don't really think about those types of things. We were ranked four last year and finished on top, so it doesn't really matter," Willingham said.

New strategies will be implemented to help draw in more fans. The attractions are geared toward a family friendly environment and will include free raffles with prizes ranging

"Everything's not perfect. We had a great season last year, we lost a lot of people, so we had to come back and rebuild."

- Kayla Thornton, junior forward

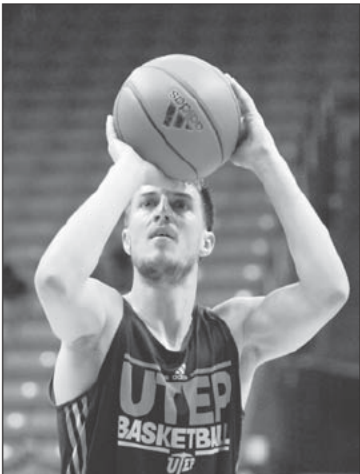
from iTunes gift cards to iPads and a halftime activity involving children dancing with the Goldiggers.

Aside from the team and coaching staff, Adams said the fans play a role in the success of the team and believes the connection the fans feel with the players keeps them coming back.

"I like to encourage people who, if you've never been to a UTEP women's basketball game, come to one. After you come out to one, see how you feel about it," Adams said. "What ends up happening is, people come back. That would be the message I put out there for folks who have maybe never come to one of our games, come check it out."

The Miners will open their season at home to Loyola Marymount on Nov. 10.

Sabrina Nuñez may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.



KARINA RODRIGUEZ / The Prospector
Shooting guard Konner Tucker joins a team with nine underclassmen.

TUCKER from page 7

Forest and Sam Houston State before coming here," Floyd said. "He got some minutes at Wake, but he's going to have to learn a whole new system here. We think he gives us an ability to make shots from the perimeter, he also brings some experience being a fifth-year senior, so that should help us, since we are a very young team."

Bohannon said that Tucker's presence on and off the court will make a big impact on the team.

"First of all, he's a good guy, and he's been a part of college basketball going on five years now, so he's going to bring that experience to the table," Bohanon said. "He's been in college, he's been around, he's probably seen it all. From a game standpoint, that's going to help us tremendously."

Basketball has always been part of Tucker's life, whether it was playing it or watching his father coach.

His father, Mark Tucker, was a basketball player at Oklahoma State and got his first job as a high school coach at age 23.

"It's what I love, it's what I love to do and I don't see myself doing anything else other than something in basketball...playing or coaching," Tucker said. "My father doesn't put any pressure on me, but he wants me to be the best I can be. I think up to this point, I've done a pretty good job of it."

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




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FILE PHOTO

The 2012 soccer team ended the season on a four-game losing streak that resulted in missing the C-USA tournament to be played at UTEP's University Field.

PROMISING from page 8

Championship tournament, for the second time in the school's history. Missing eligibility for 2012 tournament by two places, the Miners will have to watch from the sidelines, as the top eight teams compete on UTEP's own University Field. "I thought we were going to do a lot better," Kindzierski said. "Expectations were really high and I think that is why we are so devastated that we

did not make it into the tournament. It stings knowing that the tournament is going to be held here in our home and that we will not be able to defend it" The championship tournament will begin Oct. 31 with the quarterfinals, semifinals Nov. 2 and the final match up Nov. 4.

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

TOUGHEST from page 1

"We never put limitations on our teams," head coach Tim Floyd said. "I think looking at the schedule, most coaches would tend to run and hide, but we like our guys. But we are the 12th youngest team in the country so because of that you do not really know how they are going to perform every night, but I like the talent. I think we have made improvement and we intend to be very competitive."

The Miners have added a retro twist to their upcoming season. Inspired by some of UTEP's past success, this season has been dubbed "Bringin' Back the '80s" in hopes of recreating the success of the Miner teams in that decade.

"I think 'Bringin' Back the '80s' is a wonderful concept. I was here in the '80s, (assistant) coach Greg Foster was here (as a player), and we had some great teams, so the mindset is

to return to the level of greatness that was on the floor during that time," Floyd said. "However, at this point we are still premature of reaching that greatness but it is definitely on the horizon."

On Oct. 27 the Miners played in the Orange and White Scrimmage, which gave fans the opportunity to check out this season's line up and the new recruitment for the team.

"It felt great to come out and show the fans what we are going to do this season, especially with it being my first game here at UTEP," graduate student and new guard Konner Tucker said. "It felt good to be playing in front of a crowd and it gave us one more opportunity to play as a team. Together we are working on putting up a tough defense and executing on the offense this season."

With a celebrated theme for the season and the scrimmage in the books,

the Miners are set to take on the challenges the new season presents.

"We feel pretty confident this year because we have a lot of depth, so we can interchange a lot of guys in and out of the different roles that we have," senior point guard Jacques Streeter said. "We are just glad to be back in the gym and working hard. We are still a young team, so to be able to compete competitively on the court we have upped the enthusiasm and intensity of our defense so I would like to believe that the sky is the limit for us."

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



KARINA RODRIGUEZ / The Prospector

Forward Chris Washburn, pictured dunking the ball, the younger brother of sophomore guard/forward Julian Washburn. Chris is one of four freshmen on the UTEP roster. The Miners currently have the 12th youngest team in the nation.

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by Linda Thistle

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REMINISCING UPON ‘GLORY ROAD’

BY ANDREA ACOSTA
The Prospector

Four decades after Don Haskins started five African-American basketball players during the 1966 NCAA Championship, the accomplishment debuted on the big screen with the release of “Glory Road” in 2006. Partly filmed on campus, students, faculty, staff and alumni remember the making of the film, in time for this basketball season.

The film recounts the events leading up to the Texas Western Miners’ victory on the night of March 19, over Kentucky with a score of 72-65. The film won an ESPY award as the best sports film of the year.

Jaime Mendez, student support services program director, said he recalls the excitement and the pride the Miners felt when they found out that UTEP would be featured in the film.

“I was very excited to know that the world would not only see UTEP showcase our beautiful campus and region, but also share something fantastic about the only Division I team in Texas to win a NCAA championship in basketball,” Mendez said. “It is something I’m extremely proud of as a UTEP alumnus.”

According to UTEP alumnus Art Gloria, who was a junior at the time

of filming, students had the opportunity to be a part of the movie.

“Glory Road” had casting calls for anybody that was interested to appear on the film,” Gloria said. “The Prospector published ads on their bi-weekly newspapers, informing them about this exciting opportunity.”

Apolonio Acosta, UTEP alumnus, was given the chance to be in the film as an extra.

“I heard about it through the newspaper, the selection was fairly easy. All extras had to fit in the ‘50s and ‘60s era, they took a profile picture of me with full characterization, costume and prop,” Acosta said. “To my surprise I got a call a week later. I was really happy that I was able (to) contribute in such an important film that changed athletic history and also getting a chance to experience the filming process.”

Mendez also helped in the making of the film.

“I worked with a local crew to do crowd control in the scenes shot near the Old Main building, it was such a surreal atmosphere,” Mendez said.

Gloria mentioned that students congregated in the Bell Hall area during filming in order to see the action take place.

“One of the landmark buildings that was mostly featured in the movie

“It is something I’m extremely proud of as a UTEP alumnus.”

- Jaime Mendez,
support services program director

was Old Main,” Gloria said. “However everything from Hudspeth Hall to the Cardiac Hill was blocked due to the re-making of the Texas Western College set.”

While filming took place, UTEP was in full swing. Signed posters by Don Haskins were provided, the bookstore sold TWC vintage sweaters and ‘M’ letterman jackets, and later there was a pre-screening reserved for UTEP students, faculty and staff. There was also a street named after the movie, Gloria said.

see REMINISCING on page 12



Special to The Prospector



KARINA RODRIGUEZ / The Prospector

BY OSCAR GARZA
The Prospector

With the anticipated return of UTEP basketball season, students will now be able to catch a game live, but for those who also want to watch basketball stories in feature film form, here are a couple of films on the sport that stand as the best and most enjoyable.

“Hoosiers”— Widely considered by critics and publications, including ESPN, as one of the best sports film in history, “Hoosiers” is sincere, entertaining and full of heart. Featuring an outstanding cast led by Gene Hackman and starring Barbara Hershey, Brad Long and Dennis Hopper—in an Academy Award-nominated performance—the 1986 film tells the inspirational story of an Indiana high

school basketball team that, against all odds, makes it to the state championship. Deemed culturally significant by the Library of Congress in 2001 and a recipient of AFI awards, including fourth Best Sports Movie, “Hoosiers” remains a classic of the sports genre and is a perfect watch this season.

“Coach Carter”— Starring Samuel L. Jackson—in an acclaimed performance as the protagonist—the 2005 film is based on true events that caught the media’s attention because of coach Carter’s decision to bench the MVPs due to their poor grades. With a cast of future up and coming actors, including Octavia Spencer (Academy Award winner), Channing Tatum and Ashanti, among others, the film manages to be inspirational like most sports movies do.

“He Got Game”— Produced and directed by Spike Lee, the 1988 film features an exceptional cast that includes Denzel Washington, NBA star Ray Allen, John Turturro, Rosario Dawson, Ned Beatty, Bill Nunn, Milla Jovovich and cameos by NBA stars Shaquille O’ Neal, Michael Jordan and Charles Barkley. The film was acclaimed for its characterization and Lee’s approach to the story of a convicted felon (Washington) who is released for a week to see his son sign for a major university. Featuring Lee’s trademark thought-provoking ideas, plus great performances and commentary on contemporary issues, “He Got Game” was one of the great collaborations between Lee and Washington and definitely proves that it’s not your average sports film.

“Glory Road”— The 2006 film tells the true story of the 1966 Texas Western College basketball team on their road to the national championship against the Kentucky Wildcats, during which they made NCAA history as the first all black starter lineup in a championship game. The movie was partly filmed at UTEP, was produced by Jerry Bruckheimer and was directed by James Gartner. With a remarkable performance by Josh Lucas as the late great Don Haskins and wonderful supporting roles from Derek Luke, Austin Nichols and Jon Voight, the film is inspirational, gritty and triumphant. The film won an ESPY award for best sports movie and attained the number one spot at the box office during its opening weekend.

“Space Jam”— If you are a kid from the ‘90s, you probably remember this delightfully entertaining, wacky pop culture mash-up film that brought together the Looney Tunes with Michael Jordan. Produced by Ivan Reitman, director of “Ghostbusters,” and directed by Joe Pytko, the film finds Jordan joining forces with Bugs Bunny and the rest of the gang in a death basketball match against a group of aliens who steal the talents of the best basketball players of the NBA to become the Monstars. With supporting roles from Wayne Knight, Bill Murray, Larry Bird, a handful of real NBA stars and a collection of ‘90s songs including R. Kelly’s “I Believe I can Fly,” “Space Jam” is witty and funny basketball entertainment for the entire family.

see FLICKS on page 12



JUSTIN STENE / The Prospector

Old Main was used as a main set during the filming of “Glory Road.”

REMINISCING from page 11

“It was really moving to see the boosting of school spirit, everyone on campus was sporting and promoting TWC,” Gloria said. “Not only were Miners excited, but so was the entire UT system and people involved in the film industry that knew who Don Haskins (was). They all applauded this great achievement.”

Kimberly Kilpatrick, University 1301 professor, said that she also took part in the excitement that had taken over the campus.

“It was some very exciting days. Located at Quinn Hall, my students and I could just hear everything that was going on right outside, making it very hard for the students and myself to focus on the speeches that were being presented,” Kilpatrick said. “After

a few minutes we just gave up, ended the class early and we all stood next to the window where we could see everything from actors and extras to vintage cars and sets.”

Jeff Darby, associate athletic director of media relations, said he was in charge of the crew before filming commenced. He helped with the searching process of UTEP historical props.

“I helped on the process of searching for UTEP historical memorabilia such as scorebooks, uniforms, newspapers and sports information, anything that kept the movie as credible as possible,” Darby said. “The meaning behind ‘Glory Road,’ and the difficult but outstanding journey of Haskins and its players has educated people all around the world. This will

continue to be the crown jewel of UTEP Athletics.”

The Old Main building—which was built in 1917 and continues to be the oldest building at UTEP, and the first one to have the Bhutanese architectural theme—was one of the landmarks featured in Glory Road. Others include the Fox Fine Arts Center, the Magoffin Auditorium and the Special Events Center, renamed in 1996 after Haskins.

“I very much expect for the movie to be the centerpiece of the Centennial Celebration in 2014,” Darby said. “Bringing new generations together for the continuous effort to maintain this accomplishment part of UTEP significant recognitions.”

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“Finding Forrester”—The 2000 film was directed by acclaimed director Gus Van Sant (“Milk,” “Good Will Hunting”) and it starred Academy Award winner Sean Connery, along with a dynamite cast that includes F. Murray Abraham, Anna Paquin, Rob Brown and Michael Pitt. The film tells the story of Jamal Wallace, an African-American student who gets invited to attend a high-

status school. Wallace enjoys playing basketball with his friends and meets a writer who is a bit of a recluse and through their unlikely friendship a bond is born. With Van Sant’s indie approach, the well-developed relationship between the characters makes “Finding Forrester” another touching basketball movie.

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

HALLOWEEN

COSTUME CONTEST

Wednesday, October 31 at Noon
UTEP Union Plaza Stage

Sign up from 9:00-11:30a.m.
50% off at Dynamite Gaming from 9am -11:30am if you are wearing a costume.

FT. DJ Chris Neil

Prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places and Best Group Costume!

Open to all students, faculty, and staff.

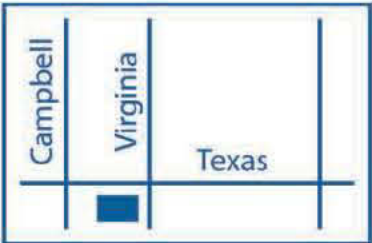
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Earn \$100 this week while saving lives

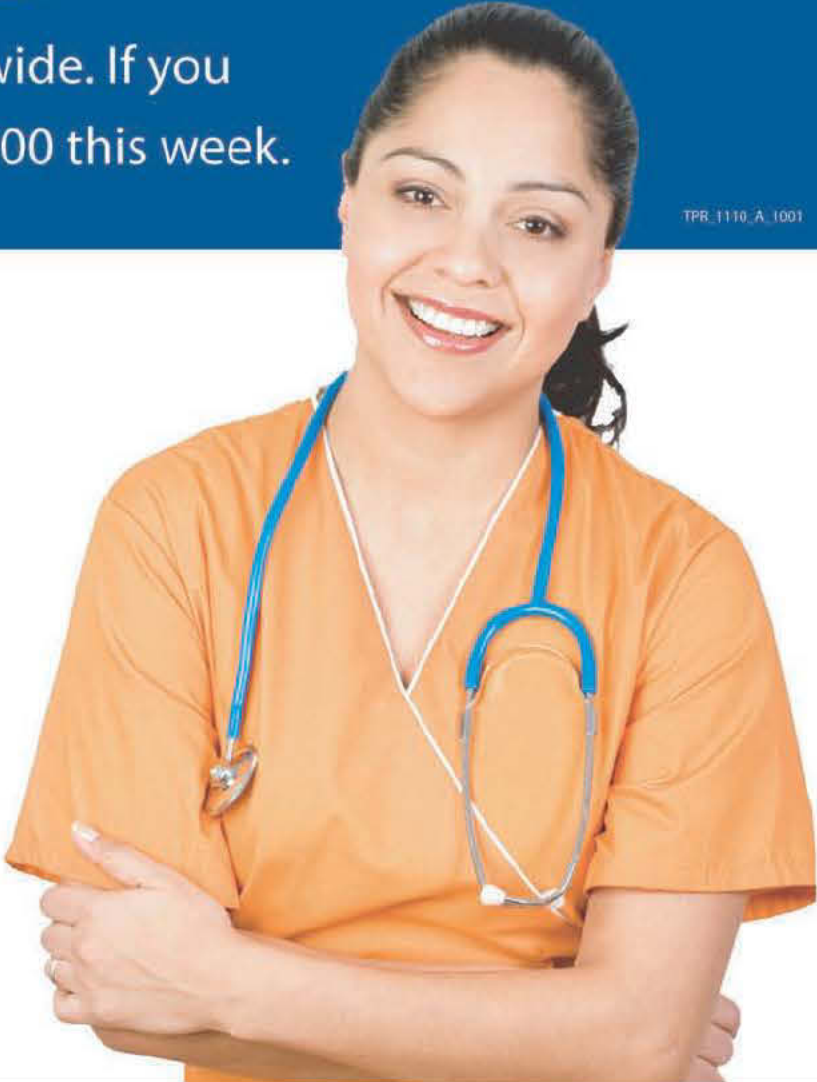
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