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The Prospector, January 22, 2013

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The beginnig stages of a closed campus will go into effect Jan. 22 as part of the centennial renovation project.

VERONICA ENRIQUEZ / The Prospector

BY MARILYN ALEMAN

The Prospector

Starting this semester, students will not be allowed to be dropped off at the entrance points or park on campus.

As part of the centennial transformation, which includes a closed campus, several control gates have been installed at the main entrances of the university.

The gates will function to let faculty and staff park on campus, according to university officials. Those with orange and red inner parking permits can pass through the gates with a radio frequency embedded in the permit or with their Miner Gold cards.

Paul Stresow, director of Parking and Transportation Services, said that commotion is to be expected as usual for the first week of school, but the gates are to prevent inner campus traffic.

“A lot of students were breaking the rules and just passing the gates, but now that’s what they’re there to prevent,” Stresow said. “We’ll have it like we always do, and university police will also be there, just make sure to plan ahead and know where you’re going.”

Even though students are not able to park on campus or be dropped off on the curbsides near any of the entrances, students are encouraged to be dropped off at nearby parking lots.

School officials stated that the gates will be in use from 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on weekdays. The gates will be raised

after 5:30 p.m. on weekdays and weekends.

According to university officials, students who enter through the east of University Avenue and Mesa Avenue parking lots P-11 and P-12, can use the Miner Metro to commute to a closer destination.

Through the west end of the university, school officials suggest that students use the S-3 parking lot located near the UTEP roundabout and the University Bookstore.

As for the south end entrance by the Mike Loya Student Academic Services building, parking lots P-1 and P-2 are also available for safe drop-off zones.

As part of these changes, members of the Student Government Association lost their privileges to park on campus to attend events, meetings and other related assemblies to their organization.

Andrew Velazquez, SGA colleague of business, had his parking privileges on campus revoked. He said that the voice of the students was not heard when the decision was made.

“I think that they thought it was just for the best,” said Velazquez, senior economics and finance major. “We really don’t know why, it’s not the fact of the parking, but we just felt out of the loop.”

Two days of the week of free inner parking were granted to senators of SGA and five days were granted to the president and vice-president.

see **CAMPUS** on page 5

Fees

Visa no longer an option of payment with new policy

BY SABRINA NUÑEZ

The Prospector

Students who use credit or debit cards to pay for tuition or other services at the university won’t be able to use their Visa card as a form of payment, according to a new policy implemented by the university on Dec. 1, 2012.

Some of the services affected include housing, parking fees, traffic fines, library fines, student health insurance and repatriation insurance.

UTEP officials said the convenience fees have not been part of the university’s tuition payment and have only been assessed for payments made by credit card. The university had covered the fees up until the new policy was put in place. Now, students will be responsible for the fee if they choose to pay with credit or debit cards.

The university does not profit from the fee, rather it redirects it to the students to avoid having to pay extra costs, university officials said.

“The cost of accepting credit cards has risen over the years,” said Anthony

Turrietta, associate vice president for Business Affairs. “During the last fiscal year we incurred about \$750,000 in these fees and budget constraints have led us to look to defray the costs of accepting credit card payments.”

For senior nursing major Vanessa Herrera, the removal of Visa as a form of payment created difficulties. Herrera said she received an email notifying her about the change in policy a couple weeks before her payment was due, but assumed it only pertained to a certain amount of time.

“I was trying to use my Visa online and I kept getting a message saying I wasn’t allowed to use (it). I called to make sure, maybe they could (accept) it this one last time and even the lady was like, ‘No, we’re not taking Visas. I don’t know why.’ No explanation or anything,” Herrera said. “I had to call my dad and ask him if I could use his card since he has a MasterCard.”

Herrera used the EasyPay Installment Plan and will be using it again this semester. Herrera said her Visa was accepted during the spring



OCIRIS ALVAREZ / The Prospector

Students try to find other alternatives to using their credit or debit cards as they avoid a processing fee of 1.9 percent.

2012 semester and early on in the fall 2012 semester.

“I know when I’ll be doing the payments throughout the semester, it will affect me only because I just have Visa. But now that it’s telling me I

(can’t use Visa) again, it’s just a hassle because now I have to transfer money, unless I get another card, like a MasterCard or another account, and that’s something I don’t really want to do,” Herrera said.

The Student Business Services office was also affected by the change in policy.

see **VISA** on page 5

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Column

We are survivors

BY ALEJANDRO ALBA

The Prospector



We survived the 2012 Mayan Apocalypse. There was no polar shift that would cause the planets to align and result in some sort of zombie apocalypse that would have us all acting like we were the lead on “The Walking Dead,” and now that we are in the year 2013, it is time to grow one year older and take on the resolutions that we made to better ourselves.

Personally, I do not believe in New Year’s resolutions, but I do believe in improving your lifestyle. That means that you can take on a resolution whenever you please throughout the year. It doesn’t necessarily have to be at the beginning, but I see how people rather start fresh, and right now is the perfect time.

It’s the beginning of a new year and a new semester. It is also going to be spring, so if you are into metaphors, you can use it as a reason to bloom into someone else—corny, I know.

Each semester should be seen as a way to restart, have new habits and make better career choices. Overall, just be open to change.

I have been granted the opportunity to become Editor-in-Chief of The Prospector this semester, and to me, that is the perfect way to start my self-improvement changes.

I always strive to learn, and in this position I will be able to broaden my field and acquire new knowledge. I know that at times it may be a challenge and that at other times it will be bliss, but altogether it is something that I’m eager to experience and conquer.

Change is something that keeps coming our way, and to prove that, we have the never-ending construction around campus. Many deem it annoying and ugly, but the end result will definitely be something worth the wait.

Although change may sometimes bring fortune, it may also bring hardships, but despite the change, the end result is always for the better. You can always look back and see if a lesson was learned—valuable or not.

Don’t let the hardships—whether it’s a breakup, the loss of a job, or the loss of a relative—get in the way of what you want to achieve. This all may seem cliché, but it’s always good to hear some sort of inspirational words every now and then.

We have all been through ups and downs—and continue to do so—but remember that it can always be worse when you’re in bleak times. It’s all about being positive, regardless of how much of a realist or pessimist you are.

We are survivors, no matter how much change comes our way, we are built to adapt and succeed on new grounds.

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

The Prospector staff



AARON MONTES / The Prospector

First row from left to right: Alejandro Alba, Diego Burciaga, Andres Rodriguez, Lorain Watters. Second row: Aaron Montes, Abel Casares and Kristopher Rivera.

Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps

OUCH, FROM LOOKING AT THE SCORE YOU GUYS EITHER LOST THE REMOTE OR ARE REALLY DIEHARD FANS.

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“E.T., go home”

The Spats

by Jeff Pickering

NEVER LOOK A GIFT HORSE IN THE MOUTH.

WHICH PART SHOULD I LOOK IN?

the prospector

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Obama opponents hope banner will spark conversation



AMY SLANCHIK / SHFWire
A Christian Evangelical group will have the banner on the townhouse behind the Supreme Court until Jan. 27.

BY AMY SLANCHIK
Scripps Howard Foundation Wire

WASHINGTON—The Christian evangelical group Faith and Action may not agree with the president, but it is urging people to pray for him anyway.

The group hung a two-story, bright yellow banner on the front of its building behind the Supreme Court on Jan. 17, citing a Bible verse that urges people to pray for kings and others in power.

“The president needs our prayers. He bears the weight of one of the most complex jobs on Earth,” Rev. Rob Schenck, president of Faith and Action, said during a press conference.

The Rev. Patrick Mahoney, director of the Christian Defense Coalition, said the banner is a positive thing: “We are not malicious toward our president. We support and stand in solidarity in prayer for our president.”

The banner quotes 1 Timothy 2:1-4, from the English Standard Version of

the Bible, which says to pray for “kings and all who are in high positions.”

Faith and Action has posted banners before, but this is the first time it has displayed one for an inauguration.

Schneck and Mahoney said they hope to spark conversation from both sides of the aisle. They plan to leave the banner up until Jan. 27.

Amy Slanchik is a broadcast journalism student at the University of Oklahoma. She is currently interning at Scripps Howard Foundation’s Semester in Washington program. She may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

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Campus

UTEP welcomes Lhakhang Bhutan temple

BY LORAIN WATTERS
The Prospector

With UTEP’s centennial transformation quickly underway, the campus welcomes a new landmark, the Lhakhang—a Bhutanese monastery or temple—which will be placed at the soon to be Centennial Plaza, near the Geology Building.

Originally, the Lhakhang was built by the people of Bhutan in 2008 for the Smithsonian Folklife Festival that took place in Washington D.C. as part of Bhutan’s participation in the event. The paint was made from natural substances of the earth, and the entire piece—made from pine—was hand carved.

After the festival, the structure was disassembled and the people of Bhutan donated the building to UTEP with the agreement that it would be rebuilt on campus. It was then shipped to El Paso and stored in a warehouse where it currently stands until the foundation is finally set and the pieces can be placed.

“I was fortunate enough to spend a week in D.C. when it was being constructed. I took notes and photos and it has proved to be valuable,” said Gregory McNicol, associate vice president of business affairs at Facilities Services. “I go back to look at the photos I’ve taken of the details to make sure that the pieces set, thus far, have been set correctly.”

The exterior of the Lhakhang will be finished by March 2013. Work on the building’s interior will begin after March 15, a process that will be coordinated by Bhutanese craftsmen.

“There was a delay in placing this on campus because we wanted to make sure that when the other buildings were reconstructed there was a commitment for the transformation of the campus as a whole,” said UTEP President Diana Natalicio.

By March, the air conditioning will be in place, the windows will be sealed, the doors will be hung and the interior wall will be prepped for the installation of the cloth paintings.

“The cloth paintings will be applied like wallpaper, not like the tapestry that hangs in the library,” McNicol said. “Until then, the warehouse where the pieces are has a regulated temperature so that they can acclimate to the weather and prevent the wood from warping.”

The Lhakhang will run in a similar fashion as the Heritage House, where open hours are established and staff, knowledgeable of the history of the establishment and the ties between UTEP and Bhutan, will also be available.

“We wanted to have exhibits placed there from Bhutan,” Natalicio said. “The Lhakhang will serve as a centerpiece for events that we hold, such as opening it up to the students who can view Bhutanese costumes or learn about their culture.”

As the university strives towards Tier One status, the Lhakhang will serve as a unique addition to the campus, strengthening the bonds between Bhutan and the campus.

“The whole campus transformation, such as the closing of campus and renovations, are all part of being a Tier One university.”

- Diana Natalicio,
UTEP president

UTEP’s Bhutanese ties began in 1914 with Kathleen Worrell, the wife of Dean S. H. Worrell. According to University Communications, she had seen an article in the National Geographic magazine about Bhutan and saw a similarity between their mountains and the mountains of El Paso. It was then that she persuaded her husband to mimic the Bhutanese architecture for the new development of the campus.

McNicol agrees that the relationship between UTEP and Bhutan is one to be proud of.

“We have a unique relationship with Bhutan, we share a cultural background with each other,” McNicol said. “Architectural elements all over campus are an interesting way for students to see another country’s culture and it is something we should cherish.”

More information about the Lhakhang can be found at centennial.utep.edu.

Lorain Watters may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

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AARON MONTES / The Prospector

The Bhutanese Lhakhang temple is currently under construction next to the Geology building where the Centennial Plaza will be constructed. The temple is set to be completed by March 2013.



VERONICA ENRIQUEZ / The Prospector

There will be traffic gates on both ends of University Avenue. Both will be fully functional on Jan. 22, 2013.

CAMPUS from page 1

Paulina Lopez, SGA collegiate of liberal arts, said that the ongoing transformation is just one of the steps to improve the UTEP campus.

“We have to sacrifice to have a better campus, it hurts but it’s worth it,” said Lopez, junior corporate and organizational communications major. “This is not an extra benefit but it’s something for the long term, it’s going to be beautiful.”

The change of parking is just one of the steps that are bound to happen at UTEP, but none of the chang-

es in parking will be a net-loss, university officials said. The campus will actually gain more parking spaces with the eventual build of a new parking garage.

However, the new parking garage will not be built within an immediate time frame.

“We’ll lose between 300 to 400 parking spaces (with closed campus),” Stresow said.

The date of completion for a complete closed UTEP campus will be until the end of the spring semester of May 2013.

All of the transformations on campus can be monitored online at on-themove.utep.edu.

For more information about parking or gate policies, students are asked to contact Parking and Transportation Services at 747-5724.

“If we want a better quality of student life, then this has to happen,” Lopez said. “And if we want to be Tier One, this is how it’s going to work.”

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

VISA from page 1

“We are seeing students who did come in and pay with cards start to come in and pay with cash,” said Victor Mendez, sophomore digital media productions major. “They are starting to bring in envelopes with big wads of cash rather than going online and paying with their (credit) cards, with the convenience fee, or even paying with web checks or paper checks.”

Mendez said the Student Business Services office saw a majority of the cash coming in for the spring semester payment deadline on Jan. 14.

“Bringing in huge amounts of cash makes it difficult for us to be able to organize it and slows us down a lot because we have to go in and count it,” Mendez said. “We want to make sure that every single dollar is accounted for, especially those who bring in hundred dollar bills. We still do check, and we do make sure that we’re not receiving any counterfeits.”

Visa spokesperson Ted Carr said Visa expanded the Visa Tax Payment Program in November 2012 to include all government transactions and higher education tuition payments. The program, renamed the Government and Higher Education Payment Program, permits qualified government offices and universities to assess variable service fees when cardholders pay in person or online.

“PayPath (or TouchNet) is a processor that enables organizations like UTEP to accept cards,” Carr said. “Visa does not contract with merchants (including universities) directly. We operate a network that connects financial institutions with merchants and cardholders, enabling them to use electronic payments instead of cash and checks.”

After receiving emails from students regarding the elimination of Visa as a form of payment, UTEP officials said

the university is working to reinstate usage of the major credit card carriers for this spring semester. MasterCard, Discover and American Express will continue to be accepted as forms of online payment, however students will pay a 1.9 percent convenience fee.

“Visa is accepted at numerous colleges and universities across the country and is a convenient, reliable and secure way to pay for tuition,” Carr said. “Universities that accept Visa receive numerous benefits, including guaranteed payment, greater student and parent satisfaction, fraud protection and enhanced efficiencies and transparency compared to cash and check payments.”

Aside from tuition payments, the Student Business Services office also deals with traffic fines and managing accounts, meaning it is busy year round.

“We have our slow times but whenever a payment deadline comes around, we’re the office to go to. We’re also the ones who kind of have to guide students to help them with many other things around campus. Since UTEP has changed their payment policies, it’s an inconvenience for all of us,” Mendez said. “Not being able to pay with Visa online does frustrate those students and a lot of times, we have to deal with those frustrations and we try to do it in the most kind and polite manner and (try) to let students know there are other options to pay without coming in and having to pay with us in cash.”

For students who wish to avoid convenience fees caused by paying with credit or debit cards, cash and e-checks, which require a bank account number and routing number, are also accepted. More information can be found at UTEP’s Student Business Services page, sbs.utep.edu.

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

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Crime



Campus sexual assault suspect yet to be caught

BY GUERRERO GARCIA

The Prospector

The latest cases of sexual assault at UTEP have university and city officials working towards improving safety on campus, as female students take precautions when walking at night with the male suspect still at large.

"It is scary to always have to be looking behind your back," said Cristina Gerardo, senior biochemistry major. "I feel pretty safe when walking through campus but the truth is, as women, we are prone to sexual assaults."

According to UTEP officials, the perpetrator is considered to be guilty of 10 reported incidents, in which he inappropriately grabs women and flees the scene running. The incidents occurred between September of 2011 and December of 2012.

Gerardo became aware of these sexual assault crimes because the UTEP Police Department sent out crime advisories via email. She feels the emails make students aware of what's happening around campus, so they can take precaution.

"It is important to let us know what is going on around campus, especially for us girls," Gerardo said.

The last reported sexual assault crime was on Nov. 28, 2012. A female student was walking through the Taco Bell parking lot on Mesa Street when a male suspect grabbed her buttocks and crotch area with his hand, then fled the scene running towards Providence Memorial Hospital.

The incident occurred at approximately 9:40 p.m. when it was dark and there was little to no traffic around the campus area.

Darsy Lozano, freshman psychology major and employee at the University Library, parks her car on the residential side of University Avenue and sometimes gets off work late at night. She feels that walking through campus at night makes women more vulnerable to sexual assault.

"I park really, really far and I get off work when it's dark," Lozano said. "There is always that thought that someone might be following you, it's kind of scary."

She said there are measures women can take when walking alone in the dark.

"One can carry protection—not a gun—but pepper spray or even learn self-defense," Lozano said.

According to UTEP officials, any students walking during the evening and nighttime hours who do not feel comfortable walking alone can call UTEP Police at 747-5611 for a public safety escort service.

These sexual assault crimes have not only happened during the night but also at daytime.

On Nov. 7, 2012 at approximately 9:45 a.m. a female student walking to the first floor of the Sun Bowl parking garage was sexually assaulted by a male suspect who grabbed her buttocks and fled the scene running.

Carmen Rocha, material science and engineering doctoral student, used to park at the Sun Bowl garage and said that she would feel frightened when walking in there alone.

"When I parked in the garage I would feel scared when walking alone because it was quiet and secluded," Rocha said. "Anyone could be hiding behind the parked cars."

Rocha advises for female students who park in the garages to take their own precautions.

"Try not to walk alone during the night and always be aware of your surroundings," Rocha said.

Other sexual assault crimes on campus have occurred in the Fox Fine Arts building, and in the Stanlee and Gerald Rubin Center for the Visual Arts and Miner Village parking lots, where a male suspect grabbed the buttocks of female students and fled the scene running.

Sexual assault crimes adjacent to campus occurred at the Glory Road parking garage, at the intersection of North Campbell and Kerbey and at the 900 block of Upson St. These all involved female students and, in each case, an unknown male either grabbed their buttocks or lifted their skirts. The El Paso Police Department is investigating these incidents.

The suspect of these violations has not been caught. He is described to be in his mid 20s and to be between 5 feet 6 inches and 6 feet tall.

According to an official report, the UTEP Police Department is following a procedure to ensure that this activity does not occur again.

The first step was to educate the student body by posting safety recommendations on their website as well as on their Facebook page. UTEP PD has also sent out timely warnings or crime advisories via email.

Second, UTEP PD has looked into the environmental issues and has determined how they can make the university safer. They have looked at lighting, walls, shrubbery and anything that can be adapted or changed to make the campus safer.

Finally, when an incident like this occurs, UTEP officers are immediately informed and, depending on the situation, they will either saturate the location attempting to locate the individual, place unmarked units and officers at strategic locations to locate and arrest the individual, or place cameras at strategic locations.

UTEP PD evaluates the strategies depending on each situation and adjusts accordingly.

Eragdi Macias, freshman biochemistry major, will be starting her first semester at UTEP this spring and said she is glad to have learned about these sexual assault crimes via email because it will keep her alert when walking alone.

Macias feels safer knowing that the UTEP PD is handling the situation. Although the suspect is still on the loose, she is certain that the next time he tries to inappropriately grab women, he will be caught.

"Right now this guy is just touching women, but it can escalate and lead to rape," Macias said. "What he is doing is not right. We should feel safe at school, but you just don't know anymore."

For more tips and information on safety, visit the UTEP Police Department website, utep.edu/police.

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

PRECAUTION TIPS

- Use well-lit walkways and buildings
- Use the "buddy system" and walk with someone you trust
- Walk near the curb and away from shrubbery where someone could be hiding
- Call UTEP Police if you need a safety escort service at 747-5611.

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Question of the week

How do you feel about construction around campus?

Photos by Veronica Enriquez, Michele Torres, Michelle Franco



RENE GARCIA
Junior criminal justice major
"It is good because it will be better but sometimes I need to get through and it takes some time to get around."



JOSE MENDEZ
Freshman mechanical engineer major
"It's ok because I don't have a car and I walk all day, so it's no big deal. I am from Juárez so it's nothing new to walk. It will be better for the school."



JACQUELINE PADILLA
Junior bilingual education major
"The construction has affected me more with work. I have to be here at 7:00 a.m. and we close at 10 p.m. Because we cannot park on campus, I have to park far and it is dangerous to be walking so late at night."



IVAN GASTELUM
Sophomore mechanical engineer major
"The university getting better will help students—it hasn't gotten in the way of me getting to my classes."



GENOVEVA FUENTES
Sophomore criminal justice major
"Even though it is better for the university, I have to park far, and I am here from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. It will slow down others and it will be more complicated. It would be better if they were more organized."



DIAMOND MARTINEZ
Freshman health promotion major
"It has affected me by coming earlier to work because we have to be here at 7:30 a.m. and I'm from Socorro, so I have to leave an hour earlier. It's going to slow down people in getting to their classes."



APRIL SUVIA
Junior biology major
"I'm not sure what they're building, but I am excited to see. It hasn't really affected me but I don't know how it will affect me this semester."



ANDREA PRISCO
Sophomore digital media production major
"I only really walk, but when I have a car, it kind of gets in the way. It's annoying, and it has been going on for almost a year now."



ALEXIA HERAS
Sophomore psychology major
"It's kind of annoying, but I'm glad it's during vacation or the holidays. I hope they finish this month. I drive through Schuster and since I cannot get into campus I have to ask my dad to drop me off."



ALAN FLORES
Sophomore pre-med
"Sometimes it can get in the way when in a rush, but if it is to fix or build on to something, I'm all for it. I can understand if it takes half a year to a year, but sometimes it's annoying."



the prospector

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Budgets

Liberal Arts college behind in campus renovations

BY REBECCA GUERRERO
The Prospector

According to the 2012-2013 university budget, the College of Liberal Arts received \$22,031,662 to be used for faculty salaries, departmental operations and administration—everything it takes to maintain the instructional part of a college. At first glance, this number may seem significantly larger than the College of Business’ \$8,554,327, the College of Education’s \$5,642,964, or even the College of Science’s \$14,322,824. Yet, according to Patricia Witherspoon, the dean of the College of Liberal Arts, the college needs more funding to jump on board with the rest of the campus on their centennial transformation.

“We have 7,300 students and everyone else has fewer than that,” Witherspoon said. “For instance, education is between 2,000 and 3,000, and business is around 3,000. We have more instructional money because we have so many more students. The other reason is, in addition to the fact that we have so many students, we also teach history and English for the people majoring in science, engineering and business. No dean ever thinks they have enough money and I’m no different. We do need more because we do a lot of instruction and we have a lot of majors.”

With many of the buildings around campus receiving face-lifts and renovations as part of the centennial remodeling, some students believe the Liberal Arts building should too. Junior mathematics major, Xena Quintana believes that the building is worthy of a renovation as well.

“The funding that the College of Science receives is primarily used for research and new equipment. It’s difficult to keep up when you’re using old equipment,” Quintana said. “However the Liberal Arts building is where a lot of the math classes are held and it would be nice for them to get some funding for some renovations. I don’t see how all the other buildings are well kept and up to date, but the Liberal Arts building is outdated.”

Dean Witherspoon has no lack of ideas when it comes to updates to the College of Liberal Arts that could be enacted with more funding.

“I’ve been talking about an advising center for liberal arts and I want to renovate the fine arts building,” Witherspoon said. “But the key thing for me, for which we need to raise a lot of money, is buildings. We need new facilities. We need more space and we need newer space. My saying that won’t come as a surprise to anybody because I’ve been saying it, and I think the president understands this and we just need to make the case. Of course we’re involved in the centennial campaign so it’s my job to see who our alumni are and friends of UTEP who might be willing to donate money for renovations.”

Adrian Chavez, senior psychology major, agrees that the College of Liberal Arts needs more attention.

“We could use more funds for more labs with access to the Internet for our students,” Chavez said. “As it is, tuition is pricey. For many of those who receive financial aid and to those

who don’t, we pay an arm and a leg for UTEP’s costs. After all, not to disrespect those who are in the math and science departments, but there are other colleges that students are involved in.”

Officials from the College of Liberal Arts hope to put in place a student success initiative to increase contact with students by email and voicemail. Another plan is to have an orientation session just for liberal arts students, in which they can be introduced to the deans and other officials. The college hopes to put the two initiatives into effect within the next semester.

Yet, when it comes to buildings, there are no liberal arts specific plans, apart from the campus-wide master plan, to renovate for the centennial. Witherspoon believes this is due in part to a trend that began 20 to 30 years ago out of the concern that the United States was falling behind

in engineering and science. The effect of that concern has been felt on campuses nationwide, where there is a demand to produce more engineers and scientists.

“Science courses with labs do require more financial support than a lecture-only course, including increased numbers of faculty and TAs at competitive salaries,” said Stephen Aley, dean of the College of Science. “With the number of laboratory courses required, plus the number of graduate and doctoral programs in the college and shared with other colleges, I would not be surprised that our courses would require higher levels of support than a college that relies on a greater proportion of lecture-only undergraduate courses. If you include our research awards, and the indirect return to the university, those funds support a broad range of research support, including

money invested in better instruction and classroom resources. It is important for people to know where the numbers come from, and that they be used appropriately.”

Halina Fonseca, junior psychology major, can see both sides of the argument.

“I can understand why math and science (have) more of a budget because of all the advances these type of careers offer not only (to) the student, but to overall civilization,” Fonseca said. “They need more equipment, labs, and all the knowledge they can get so that we can advance. However, I feel art is what keeps the balance, and just like we need to grow in math and science, we also need to grow in the fine arts to maintain that balance.”

As the university marches down the progressive path to the centennial, Witherspoon vows she will continue

to be an advocate for the College of Liberal Arts.

“I think that a college of liberal arts is the cornerstone of a university, some people have said it’s the heart of a university,” Witherspoon said. “I think to have a good research university you have to have an excellent college of liberal arts because no matter what your occupation is you’re going to have to think critically, write, be able to have presentation skills and understand human beings. That’s social sciences, humanities and the arts. So we are central to any desire to improve the education of this country and that’s the case that we try to make on a daily basis.”

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

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MONDAY/WEDNESDAY

TIME	CLASS	INSTRUCTOR
6:00-7:00 am	Weight Training & Conditioning	David
7:00-8:00 am	Spinning	Mariel
8:30-9:30 am	Spinning	Clarissa
9:00-10:00 am	Tai Chi	Mr. Yang
10:00-11:00 am	Pilates	Clarissa
11:00-12:00 pm	Yoga Sculpt	Jane
12:00-1:00 pm	Chi Gong (Wed/Fri)	Julie
12:30-1:30 pm	Boxing Workout	Juan
2:00-3:00 pm	Kardio Kickboxing	Juan
2:00-3:00 pm	202020 (step,aerobics, pilates)	Rosa
3:30-4:30 pm	Zumba	Anai
4:00-5:00 pm	Pilates	Rosa
5:30-6:30 pm	Spinning	Raquel
5:30-6:30 pm	Deep Water Workout	Graciela
7:00-8:00 pm	Zumba	Jessika

TUESDAY/THURSDAY

6:00-7:00 am	Spinning	Mariel
7:30-8:30 am	Spinning	Mariel
9:00-10:00 am	Climb Fit (12 limit)	Ana
11:00-12:00 pm	Vinyasa Yoga	Jane
11:00-12:00 pm	Latin Aerobics	Rosa
12:00-1:00 pm	Zumba	Julie
12:15-1:15 pm	Body Sculpting	Raquel
1:10-2:00 pm	Hatha Yoga	Julie
2:00-3:00 pm	Pilates	Rosa
3:30-4:30 pm	Hatha Yoga	Megan
5:00-6:00 pm	Water Conditioning	Graciela
5:15-6:15 pm	Kardio Kickboxing	Nellie
5:30-6:30 pm	Zumba	Heryca
6:30-7:30 pm	Spinning	Clarissa
6:30-7:30 pm	Body Sculpting	Javier

SATURDAY

8:30-9:30 am	Spinning	Clarissa
9:00-10:00 am	Lower Body Blast & ABS	Rosa
10:00-11:00 pm	Pilates	Clarissa
11:00-12:00 pm	Latin Aerobics	Rosa

No classes: March 16th – 22nd

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Friday, 02/01/13	2:00 pm – 3:00 pm
Wednesday, 02/06/13	4:00 pm – 5:00 pm
Monday, 02/18/13	5:30 pm – 6:30 pm
Saturday, 02/23/13	10:00 am – 11:00 am

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE

OAP TRIPS

February 2, 9, 16	Ski Apache
March 16-21	Big Bend National Park
April 6	Hueco Tanks
April 19-21	Balmorhea State Park
May 4	Aguirre Springs Trip

CLIMBING GYM

Open Climb:	Tue & Wed 10am-1pm Mon-Fri 4-7pm Sat 12-3pm
Belay School:	Fri 2-4pm Sat 10am-12pm

EQUIPMENT RENTAL HOURS

Mon-Fri 3-6pm

MOUNTAIN BIKE BEGINNERS CLINIC

Feb 2, March 2, April 6

BOULDER CLINIC

Feb 7, 21, March 7, April 11, 25

INTRAMURALS SPRING 2013

LEAGUES

SPORT	DEADLINE	START
Basketball	01/30/13	02/04/13
Indoor Soccer	02/27/13	03/04/13
March Madness	03/08/13	03/11/13 03/12/13 03/27/13 03/28/13
Softball	03/25/13	04/01/13
Dodgeball	04/08/13	04/10/13
Sand Volleyball	04/17/13	04/22/13

TOURNAMENTS

Bowling	02/06/13	02/06/13
Free Throws	02/13/13	02/13/13
3-Point Shootout	02/20/13	02/20/13
Miniature Golf	02/27/13	02/27/13
Raquetball	03/06/13	03/06/13
Free Throws @ Union	03/07/13	03/07/13
Free Throws @ Union	03/08/13	03/08/13
Indoor Mini Triathlon	03/13/13	03/13/13
Indoor Soccer Obstacle Course	03/25/13	03/25/13
Indoor Soccer Shootout	03/27/13	03/27/13
Table Tennis	04/03/13	04/03/13
Ultimate Frisbee	04/24/13	04/24/13
Swim Meet	05/01/13	05/01/13



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Friday 5:30 am - 8:00 pm
Saturday 8:00 am - 5:00 pm
Sunday Noon - 5:00 pm

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Summer internship brings success to UTEP student



VERONICA ENRIQUEZ / The Prospector

Kimberly Garcia, senior multimedia journalism major, provides information over public radio in shows like “All Things Considered,” among others. .

BY LEONARDO MONTAÑEZ

The Prospector

After a summer internship, Kimberly Garcia, senior multimedia journalism major, was hired by KTEP, UTEP’s radio station, where she has been working ever since.

“Professor Garland of the communication department helped me out with my internship,” Garcia said. “I began my internship last spring, and it lasted the whole summer—that’s when I began working.”

Before working with KTEP, Garcia worked on television and newspaper journalism, but wanted to work for radio.

“I loved my internship and I got real experience; it was really hands on, where I got to work with the technology and on air, too,” Garcia said.

Garcia currently participates in several shows that are a part of the of

National Public Radio (NPR), such as “All Things Considered.”

“It goes from 4 p.m. through 7 p.m. and talks about almost everything, that’s why it’s called ‘All Things Considered,’” Garcia said. “I’m in charge of the breaks during the show where I make public announcements and I talk about the weather, traffic accidents, update the webpage and make promos.”

As a senior, Garcia is graduating this summer but plans to continue with her master’s at UTEP, and with that, she plans to continue working with KTEP.

“Right now I don’t have plans of going anywhere else, but if I’m offered something I’ll take it,” she said.

According to Dennis Woo, operations director at KTEP, Garcia has proven to be an exemplary, self-starter, which aided his decision in

hiring her before she had finished her internship.

“I don’t need to be holding her hand or telling her what to do, because she already knows that,” Woo said.

Because of the contract that students sign with KTEP, Garcia’s position will end in May after graduation.

“They could volunteer, but it’s not the same. However, if students come back and do their master’s, then they can work here at KTEP again,” Woo said.

For Woo, Garcia is a valuable part of KTEP, as she has displayed special abilities to interact with the audience and convey the information to them in a caring manner.

“She’s not screaming like other stations do just to get your attention, to win ratings. She knows how to address and she’s not this station or that one either, she’s just Kim,” Woo said. “She is learning to build her own

personality, her attitude and she cares about the audience; that’s all that NPR is, caring for the audience. These are things you can’t teach in a class, only by trial and error.”

Garcia also works on several other shows on Saturdays—“Good to Grow,” “Wait, Wait Don’t Tell Me,” “Car Talk,” “On Film” and “State of the Arts.”

“I’m very glad, excited to be working here because people always say I sound very different on radio,” Garcia said. “Even my doctor listens to me, and my mother and friends and they get all excited.”

Alina Anchondo, sophomore linguistics major, expressed an interest in KTEP for it’s variety in music and how she can learn something each time she tunes in.

“KTEP is one of my favorite stations because it is different from other stations,” Anchondo said. “It’s like

a window to the outside where not a lot of people care to look. A look to the past, present and future and I get to know what is happening that is important, for example when it was the elections. As a book lover, I really enjoy the interviews with the authors and have become interested in a couple of books as a result. I’m a true fan of 88.5.”

For Anchondo, KTEP is a good opportunity for students who wish to work at the station.

“I believe it opens doors for students who are interested in radio communications,” Anchondo said. “It also brings a very fresh and diverse mix into the station.”

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

Movie Review

‘The Last Stand’: Schwarzenegger’s back

BY OSCAR GARZA

The Prospector

It’s been 10 years since Arnold Schwarzenegger starred in “Terminator 3: Rise of the Machines”. Now, with “The Last Stand,” an entertaining action flick, the Governor makes a welcome return that harkens back to his action films from the ‘80s and ‘90s.

The main plot kicks in when Gabriel Cortez (Eduardo Noriega), a drug kingpin, escapes from the hands of the FBI and takes with him a specially modified version of a Corvette ZR1, resulting in a weapon that he almost uses against the FBI.

He then tries to escape to Mexico but, in his path lies the quiet town of Sommerton, where Sheriff Ray Owens (Schwarzenegger, in full comeback form) is living a peaceful life after leaving his position in L.A. Owens and his band of deputies (Luis Guzman, Rodrigo Santoro, Jaime Alexander) must stop Cortez.

Acclaimed South Korean director, Kim Jee -Woon (from the dark crime thriller “I Saw the Devil” and “The Good, The Bad, The Weird”) debuts in the United States with “The Last

Stand,” a fun and entertaining throw-back to the violent R-rated, bloody action films of Schwarzenegger’s career.

Jee-Woon does pretty admirably, but it sometimes feels like the perspective is lost, as if he wasn’t sure whether to focus on the FBI procedural element or Owens’ small town life.

But one of the things that is really worth praising about “The Last Stand,” besides Arnold’s screen presence and several of the action set pieces with Mowg’s action-packed score, is the use of great practical stunts.

Jee-Woon uses these fantastically well, especially when everything today is often done with CGI. It’s truly refreshing to see real cars flip over and real practical stand offs in the middle of the town. It definitely creates a visceral impact that is worthy of its R-rated mentality and old fashioned flair.

Visually, “The Last Stand” looks great. The dark cinematography by Kim Ji-yong really shines, especially on the Sommerton scenes presenting it as this modern brutal, hot western, which serves as a nice contrast to the FBI investigation scenes with Forest Whitaker

and company. They have a cold look to them that is perfectly suited.

However, some of the action scenes look somewhat visually inconsistent, especially a night scene car chase, since sometimes the motion blur really distracted from the fun action and at times the geography was a bit lost. Although Jee-Woon does have fun orchestrating those set pieces, treating the Corvette as something out of “The Fast and the Furious” series.

Thankfully, the last third of the film steals the show, which is where Schwarzenegger and company make their last stand against Noriega and his crew of bad guys (including scene stealing Peter Stormare). It is a ridiculously violent, well staged battle that leads the town to a great car chase, and finally, to a brutal hand-to-hand combat which is absolutely fun to watch and epitomizes what the film sets out to do.

Tonally the film suffers somewhat as well, even though it is an R-rated bloody action film. There are moments when the film is taking itself super seriously and others where there are intentionally campy mo-



Special to The Prospector

ments that sure are funny but it’s jarring in terms of contrast sometimes.

It’s not that those comedic moments are bad, quite the contrary, some really are genuinely funny, courtesy of Johnny Knoxville (as a crazy gun aficionado who supplies Owens and his gang with weapons), Guzman and even Schwarzenegger. They all have their moments of throwing out those cheesy one liners and relishing in the ridiculousness of it all, and these moments do provide the film with that funny bone.

Fans of the genre will definitely enjoy what “The Last Stand” offers, including really good action set pieces, practical stunts, one-liners and

the great commanding presence of Schwarzenegger back in a lead role.

It might not be inventive or anything particularly groundbreaking but what it sets out to do, it does it well. Thanks to it “The Last Stand” proves to be an enjoyable, satisfying action film throwback that is an entertaining and fun time at the movies.

Three out of five picks.

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

Music

Local band recognized with Not Punk Records

ANDREA ACOSTA
The Prospector

With only a year since their initiation, local band Wildlife has been offered a verbal agreement by Not Punk Records that will help release their first extended play record in the following months helping them earn the recognition they never thought of.

Guitarist Zachary Alvidrez and lead vocalist Patrick James have been writing songs together since February of last year, releasing songs such as "Circles" and "State Parks."

"Since the moment we both decided to start up an acoustic band, it has been such a surreal experience," Alvidrez said. "It has been filled with surprises and unexpected turns."

However, according to James, the idea of being part of a band wasn't something that he planned to begin with.

"My friend Zack was the one who started with the idea," James said. "He never missed a chance to persuade me to start up an acoustic band with him. It wasn't after we went hiking one cold day that we started to write a song to be later called 'Circles,' that I was convinced that we might as well give this idea a try."

With Alvidrez writing songs for the past two and half years and jamming for fun, he was certain he wanted to make music his priority and be a part of his daily life.

"I think that creating music on my own only limited me," Alvidrez said. "Which is why every time Patrick and I would get together and jam I bugged him with the idea of starting up an indie/acoustic band."

This idea paid off when, in late June, Wildlife was asked by local band, Dead Words, to be part of a tour the following month where they would perform in places such as Albuquerque, N.M., Tucson, Ariz., Huntington Beach and Temecula, Calif.

"I had previously helped run a show for Dead Words," James said. "When we were asked to come along with them after only writing songs for five months, it took us by surprise but we just had to say yes."

According to Alvidrez, the turn out was more than they had anticipated, making each performance as exhilarating as the last.

"We jammed in different coffee shops, one of them was The Dial, located in Temecula California," Alvidrez said. "Although it was the first time we played to faces that we didn't know, we always had people come talk to us after a show, really showing an interest in our music."

It was after the tour with Dead Words when Alvidrez received a call from Zack Navis, owner of the Not Punk Records offering Wildlife an EP on their label.

"We got the opportunity to meet Zack Navis during the summer tour

when he helped us out with the show," Alvidrez said. "He contacted us about a distribution on our next EP that will be out in late March."

Their upcoming EP will be distributed to local radio stations and will also be released digitally.

"This EP is just to remind people that we are still here, still playing and writing songs," Alvidrez said. "This is something that we enjoy and we want to continue doing it regardless of what comes with it."

Julio Rodriguez has not only been familiar with Wildlife since the spring of 2011, but has also been a close friend of both band members.

"Zack and Patrick are really good friends of mine," Rodriguez said. "I was around when they first started writing and asked for my opinion. I told them it was pretty good stuff and that they ought to give it a try."

Rodriguez said that Wildlife's lyrics are meaningful and strongly emotional, and set them apart from other bands.

"Wildlife tries to stay away from the cheesy lyrics that just sing about girls and heartbreak and instead write about more personal emotions," Rodriguez said. "It is really great to see how they tie it into their guitar riffs, they are both really talented dudes."

According to James, they would always release new songs before singing them live in an event help-



AARON MONTES / The Prospector

Wildlife performs for avid El Paso listeners.

ing the crowd familiarize with their new music.

"We always uploaded our songs on our Facebook page so that our friends would have a chance to listen to them before we actually performed live in front of an audience," James said. "Our friends are always very supportive of our music, always sharing our music through their own Facebook to other people."

Desiraie Murillo, junior communications major, said that different listeners can identify with Wildlife thanks to their true and meaningful lyrics.

"When I first heard them I thought it was cool that their vocal styles were different but complemented each other eloquently," Murillo said.

see **BAND** on page 14

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Food

Classic restaurant still offering new experience to El Pasoans

BY OSCAR GARZA
The Prospector

Gary Monteleone, the son of an Italian mother, decided to use his heritage to create Monteleone's Ristorante, an authentic and unique restaurant in El Paso.

Monteleone, who previously worked in the prop department for shows like "Coach," uses that approach to the restaurant, which is dressed as an underground mobster speakeasy.

"I definitely wanted it to have a mobster feel to it, the underground tunnel coming in, kind of like an old speakeasy," Monteleone said. "When people come to our restaurant I want them to feel like they weren't in El Paso anymore."

A cavernous-like dark tunnel serves as the entrance. Customers can choose different style rooms, which include the casino room, the dance floor, the bar and an outside style patio room. Monteleone's unique style and approach to providing customers with something special is their primary goal.

"I wanted to give it a nice atmosphere so that they can relax and it doesn't look like just regular painted walls in a regular restaurant," Monteleone said. "I wanted to make it something different."

Monteleone's parents and grandparents came from Italy, so in many ways his Italian heritage and food expertise was rooted in him from a young age.

"Every summer (in Pittsburgh, Pa.) I would cook with my grandmother and I really enjoyed making pasta, the sauce, special desserts and stuff like that and when she got older she ended up giving me all her recipes," Monteleone said. "So I thought what a great opportunity to combine authentic Italian food along with a nice atmosphere, something different and it's worked out well for us."

The food and the unique atmosphere are not the only things that makes Monteleone's special, but it's also the fact that it's haunted and it offers customers tours of the Concordia Cemetery.

Laura Monteleone, co-owner of Monteleone's, said that it definitely provides for an interesting experience.

"I definitely wanted it to have a mobster feel to it, the underground tunnel coming in, kind of like an old speakeasy. When people come to our restaurant, I want them to feel like they aren't in El Paso anymore."

- Gary Monteleone, owner of Monteleone's Ristorante

"According to psychic Lady D., we have three resident ghosts, but the one that is most prevalent at the time was like a prankster; a customer's glass would move and just things like that," Laura Monteleone said.

Next April or May, the SYFY channel will air a special program showcasing the more spooky side of the restaurant.

"We've had quite a few customers that experience little silly things that are unexplainable, but apparently that's Albert and then in the casino room is Evelyn, and she is like a casino dealer and little by little it seemed like she was influencing Gary into changing the décor (into that of a casino) and then on the bar area is Rosa."

Monteleone's is starting to offer its tour of the Concordia Cemetery at least once a month. The next tour is scheduled for Jan. 26.

Customers like Eric Alba, junior anthropology major, have enjoyed the unique sensibility that the restaurant offers along with the food.

"I went when I was younger - like 12 years old - with my dad and I liked it a lot, just like the atmosphere, the way it was," Alba said. "I've never seen a restaurant like that in El Paso, it's just very unique. When you're driving from the freeway you can even see how it's like a big 18 wheeler and it catches everybody's eyes."

Monteleone's unique take on the dinner experience has captured the public's attention. For the future, Monteleone hopes to incorporate a lot more things to the menu, including a hamburger/hot dog portion.



Monteleone's Ristorante offers an interesting entrance for customers, only to greet them with a unique atmosphere upon seating at one of many themed rooms.

VERONICA ENRIQUEZ / The Prospector

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BAND from page 12

“They write from a very different place and share their experiences openly and honestly, one of the many things that sets them apart.”

Although James and Alvidrez aren’t yet sure of what their next stop will be, one thing they know is that Wildlife will continue to create music.

“This type of music means a lot to us and we want other people to like it as much as we do,” James said. “We want to make our songs well known, which is why we hope to continue touring in the future.”

Wildlife will be performing at 6 p.m. March 22 at the Open Gate



AARON MONTES / The Prospector

Wildlife creates indie/acoustic sounds that resonate in their meaningful lyrics.

Church located in 9821 McCombs St. Ticket prices are \$10 at the door. More information can be found on their Facebook page at facebook.com/WildlifeTX or on their Twitter account, @WildlifeTX.

Andrea Acosta may be reached at prospector@utep.edu

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ARIES (March 21 to April 19)

You might feel bolder as each new success falls into place. But caution is still advised through the end of the week. Until then, a step-by-step approach is best.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)

That cooperation you request could come at too high a price. Since few can beat the Bovine at being clever and resourceful, why not see what you can do on your own?

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)

Aspects favor a quieter time spent getting closer to the people who are especially important to you. There's always much more to learn and appreciate about each other.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22)

The concerned Crab will act to resolve workplace misunderstandings before they get out of hand and cause more serious problems. Co-workers rally to support your efforts.

LEO (July 23 to August 22)

What the Big Cat might see as a disturbing act of disloyalty might just be a failure of communication on both sides. Take time for mediation rather than confrontation.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22)

Be more patient with those who seem unwilling to accept your version of what's right. The fact is, there's a lot more to learn on all sides of this issue.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22)

It should be easier to assess the facts you'll need to make an important decision. But don't

commit if you still have doubts. There could be more you need to know.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21)

Your excitement level remains high as you continue working on that new project. Expect some setbacks. But on the whole, all will move pretty much on schedule.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21)

It might be wise to be more prudent with expenses right now. But your financial situation should soon clear up, and you could be back shopping, happily as ever.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19)

You might prefer sticking with your current schedule. But some newly emerging information could persuade you to consider a change. Keep an open mind.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18)

You might want to reject a suggested change. But it could be wise to go with the flow, at least for a while. You can always return to your first plan if you like.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20)

You're bolstered by both the practical and poetic sides of your nature as you maneuver through some unsettled emotional situations. Things ease up by week's end.

BORN THIS WEEK: People reach out to your generosity and wisdom, and consider you a trusted and treasured friend.

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Day



Night



January 22, 2013

sports

editor

Kristopher Rivera, 747-7445

Tucker makes the most of his opportunity

BY AUDREY WESTCOTT

The Prospector

If you follow the UTEP men's basketball team, you know that point guard, Konner Tucker has dominated the court and shows no signs of stopping.

When 6-foot-4-inch Tucker was signed to play his last year of eligibility at UTEP, high expectations were set for his performance on the court.

With a hundred percent at the free throw line, and a consistent shot around the three-point arc, he is not only meeting those expectations, but also surpassing them.

"Konner is a good player," UTEP head coach Tim Floyd said. "He is a guy that is still learning how we play, because this is his first year with us, so when he started, all we asked of him was to be productive and he has certainly done that and exceeded our expectations in that area."

While Tucker has established himself as a Miner to watch for, the start of the season did not play in his favor.

Tucker walked away with a broken hand in UTEP's 70-63 exhibition victory over Southeastern Oklahoma State on Nov. 3.

Due to the injury he was out for the first month of the season, an essential development stage for any team.

However, he made a complete recovery and returned to the court Dec. 17 in UTEP's match up against the University of Las Vegas.

Although the Miners did not walk away from that game with a victory, having Tucker on the floor provided a more consistent ball flow among the Miners.

"I believe this season has gone great as far as the team goes, and individually, I feel I still have improvements to make," Tucker said. "Obviously

"...all we asked of him was to be productive and he has certainly done that and exceeded our expectations in that area."

-Tim Floyd, head coach

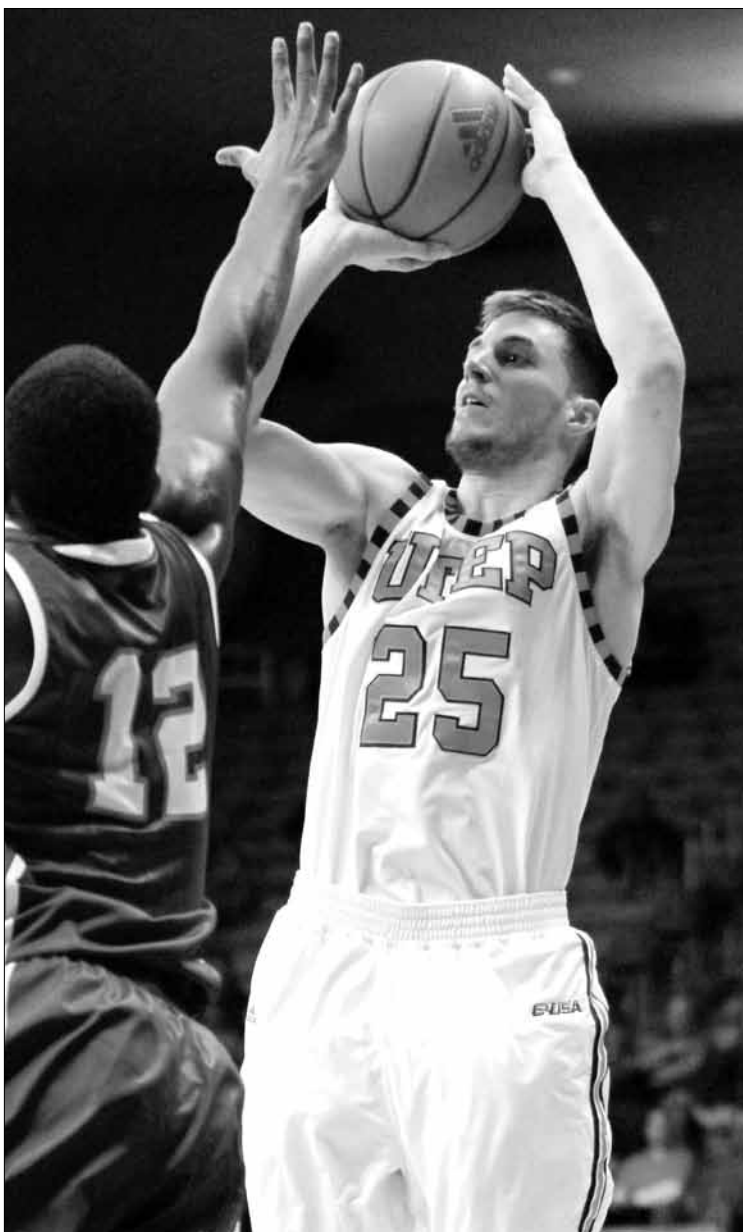
breaking my hand set me back a few paces, but since I have been back, I feel pretty confident and I am playing pretty good, and that is all because of my team. Everyday we keep getting better as a whole, so we just have to wait and see how everything plans out."

An excellent three-point shooter with deep range, a natural quick release on shots and his ability to catch-and-shoot off a pass, have made Tucker, one of UTEP's best perimeter shooting threats.

He was the only Miner this season to be recognized as a Conference USA player of the week and MVP of the WestStar Bank Don Haskins Sun Bowl Invitational. His 27 consecutive free throws made are the longest streak held by a UTEP player since Brandon Wolfram, who made 34 in a row over a decade ago.

With only half a season remaining to play, Tucker not only works to strengthen his own performance on the court, but also helps his fellow point guards.

Sophomore guard, C.J. Cooper, is inspired by Tucker and hopes to learn as much as he can from his veteran teammate.



AARON MONTES / THE PROSPECTOR

Guard Konner Tucker averages 12 points per game. He has accumulated 126 points this season.

"Tucker is always there to help us out," Cooper said. "He has taught me that playing with poise will bring consistency in my shots and floor control with the team."

Once the season ends, Tucker is looking to continue to move on to one of two opportunities.

Tucker will either continue to play in a league overseas, or possibly stay

at UTEP as part of the men's basketball coaching staff.

"I really want to keep playing if I can," Tucker said. "But if that opportunity does not present itself, I really want to coach, and I would love to stay here at UTEP, and do whatever I can to help my fellow teammates and future Miners with their play on the court."

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

Column

Possible changes in conference for UTEP athletics

BY EDWIN DELGADO

The Prospector



Conference realignment will make 2013 a totally different year for Conference USA, as four teams will leave the conference

and four new members will have their debut in the league this season.

The moves will weaken the talent of the league, which could help the football program reach bowl games more easily, and with no Memphis standing on the way, the basketball team will have a better shot at making the NCAA tournament in basketball.

On July 1, 2013, Houston, Southern Methodist (SMU), Central Florida and Memphis will move from Conference-USA to the Big East. The latter two make perfect sense, Memphis has a very good basketball program that can really add value and Central Florida has decent football and basketball programs that are on the rise, and both schools are located in important television markets (Memphis, Orlando).

The decision to add Southern Methodist and Houston is harder to understand. Both have football programs that should be getting better in the future, but have struggled in other sports, the reason behind the moves is the television markets of Dallas and Houston being brought to the Big East in order to negotiate a much more profitable television deal. According to ESPN, each school is getting around 2.5-3 million dollars for television rights, with the addition the Big East could generate up to 8 million per member.

To counter those four losses, Conference USA has added Texas-San Antonio to replace Houston, North Texas to replace Southern Methodist, Louisiana Tech to replace Memphis and Florida International to replace Central Florida and keep a 12 team league in football.

Also, Old Dominion and Charlotte will join the conference in 2013 in all sports except for football; Old Dominion is expected to join for football in 2014 while Charlotte will do so in 2015 to have a total of 14 schools.

However, in 2014 more changes will occur, East Carolina and Tulane are set to leave to the Big East. East Carolina, to a certain point, makes sense, but Tulane? It's pretty obvious that the Big East added the New Orleans market and not the struggling athletic programs that Tulane has.

Two teams from the Sun Belt Conference would replace East Carolina and Tulane, Florida Atlantic and Middle Tennessee State, but these two schools, according to SBNation.com, could be trying to join Conference-USA a year earlier. If that happens, the conference will have 14 football members and 16 in the other sports for the 2013 season, but for now they are expected to join until 2014.

see **CHANGES** on pg. 17

Column

The Pollard effect strikes New England again

BY ALBERT GAMBOA

The Prospector

The same player who keeps ending the New England Patriots season, did it once again. With the Patriots down 21-13, Baltimore Ravens safety, Bernard Pollard delivered a vicious hit that caused Patriots running back Stevan Ridley to fumble and leave the game with a head injury. The Ravens got the ball back and four plays later, they scored another touchdown to put the game away and send Baltimore to the Super Bowl.

If you don't know the story, Pollard is the same player who tore Tom Brady's ACL after hitting him in the knee in the beginning of the 2008 season, when he was with the Kansas City Chiefs. In 2009, he was with the Houston Texans and on the final game of the regular season Wes Welker tried to juke Pollard, but instead tore his ACL and MCL. With the Ravens in last year's AFC Championship game, Pollard tackled Rob

Gronkowski, injuring him with tear ligaments and making him non-existent in the Super Bowl.

Sure this is all a coincidence, Pollard affecting the Patriots season right at a perfect time. It's not like he does this on purpose. Injuries are part of the game and Pollard has front row seats when they happen. The way they altered the season is what makes them remarkable.

Here's the list:

2008: New England was coming off an 18-1 season where they almost went perfect but lost in the Super Bowl. The Patriots reloaded in the offseason with the same team, but Brady went down in the first week and the team finished 11-5, missing the playoffs. The Pittsburgh Steelers would wind up with their 6th Super Bowl in franchise history.

2009: Leading the team in catches the entire season, Welker went down in the final game of the regular season. The Patriots offense could not recover from that in the playoffs, losing

to the Baltimore Ravens on wild card weekend. That would be Brady's first loss during the playoffs that did not involve a Super Bowl.

2011: Having the greatest season for a tight end, Gronkowski was unstoppable the whole season, well that's until Pollard came in contact with him. The Patriots won the game, but in the Super Bowl the Gronk became human, limping around having no impact in the game whatsoever. The Patriots would lose once again, giving Giants quarterback Eli Manning two rings.

2013: Last Sunday's game the Patriots were leading at halftime, New England had a record of 67-0 when they led at halftime at home in the Brady era. They would lose the lead and Pollard would ice the game with a forced fumble and concussion to Ridley.

Three teams, four different injuries and the Patriots have not won a Super Bowl in eight years now.

There is not one person in the NFL that has altered as much as Pollard has

with his infamous hits. This man has prevented the New England Patriots from attempting to win another four Super Bowl trophies. If it were not for this man, Brady would be striving to get seven rings and would no doubt be the greatest football player of all time. The Patriots would have been the greatest dynasty in the history of sports, surpassing Michael Jordan's Chicago Bulls. Instead, because of this man, Brady has flaws in his career, super bowl losses, and out of the playoffs. The Patriots are no longer perfect. In the last 10 years New England has only missed the playoffs once and that was in 2008, when Pollard's helmet touched Brady's knee.

Now Pollard will have a chance at his first Super Bowl opportunity, the Patriots no longer in the way. Instead they'll be watching the player who took out their season, going for what they've been trying to get.

Albert Gamboa may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

Feature

Veteran basketball player stays on the edge of competition

BY ALBERT GAMBOA
The Prospector

When senior center Kristine Vitola ended her season with a torn ACL Nov. 18 against Arizona State, everyone on the women's basketball team had to step up their game. Senior center Anete Steinberga, has done exactly that, helped the UTEP women's basketball team get off to a school best 14 win streak at the start of the season.

"Obviously when Kristine went down, Anete has really been giving us a big presence in the paint," head coach Keitha Adams said. "She's been battling, being a great competitor, works hard every day and is very competitive."

Averaging a career high of 14 points with 6 rebounds, the 22-year-old is in her senior year at UTEP. Steinberga was born in Ikskile, Latvia just north of Lithuania. She got into the sport at 14, after her grandmother read an article asking for any tall girls who wanted to join a women's basketball team.

Steinberga was into dancing/ballet and was in art school and did not even like basketball. Her mother convinced her and said "we're just gonna go tryout." Once she got there, her coach instantly saw her talent and recruited her.

"It took me awhile to learn, but because of so many coaches teaching me stuff on my game, I had no time to worry about doing something wrong," Steinberga said.

Two years later, Steinberga was already playing for the under-20 national team every summer, where she learned, not only post player's moves, but all-around moves, cross-overs, dribbling skills and mid-range jumpers.

On the national team, Steinberga was already friend, and a teammate with Vitola, though a year apart them, they created a bond that would carry on all the way to UTEP.

Moving to a different country with new colleagues, a new culture and a new lifestyle was tough for Steinberga. Saying goodbye to her basketball career teammates was the toughest.

"I was emotional, we were really good friends but when I go back home, we get together and remember the good times," Steinberga said.

When she got to UTEP, Steinberga received the number 12 jersey, the same number she had from the national team. Given the nickname "Berg" in her first year, Steinberga had to sit out the first half of the season due to NCAA rules, but in her inaugural game, she made an instant impact by scoring 24 points off the bench. Steinberga became the third leading scorer and number one rebounder for the Miners that season. For that, she was voted into the All Conference USA freshmen team.

Trying to continue from a successful freshmen year, Steinberga struggled through an injury her sophomore year and had a career low in minutes, points and rebounds her junior year. That did not stop her from finding a groove this season.

Off the court, Steinberga knows getting an education while playing basketball, is rare in her country. In Latvia, the class schedule intervenes with practices and games, so athletes sacrifice their education in order to keep playing. That is one of the main reasons Steinberga came to the United States, for a balanced participation in both education and athletics.

Still in touch with her first passion, Steinberga is always seen drawing pictures for her art minor. Teammate Kayla Thornton, is still waiting on Steinberga to draw a picture of the team, but getting to know her as a friend is worth the wait.

"She's funny, always a good person to be around with and she has a good heart," Thornton said.

Once on the court though, Steinberga instantly acquires a stern ap-

"...people have high expectations for us, we can't come out goofy, and we need to be serious."

- Anete Steinberga, senior center

proach or, as Adams would say, a "competitive instinct" kicks while playing basketball because no one on the team wants to win more than she does. During practice and game film sessions, Steinberga is focused and determined to get better every day.

"That's my work, that's what I'm here for, people have high expectations for us, we can't come out goofy, and we need to be serious," Steinberga said. "That's why I take it that way."

Steinberga is coming off an impressive week where she was named Conference USA player of the week. Steinberga raised her scoring average from 13 points to 19 points. The team started off conference play 2-0 with an average of double digit winning margins.

When asked about her team goals for the season, Steinberga likes to take the Bill Belichick approach.

"I don't want to make any expectations," Steinberga said. "I'm just going one game at a time. I rather focus on the now than what's going to happen later."

Albert Gamboa may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.



AARON MONTES / THE PROSPECTOR

Senior center, Anete Steinberga, has an average of 13 points per game. She has helped the women's basketball team sustain a 14-2 record.

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Answers to 12-04-12

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1	Cambridge sch.									
4	Tweak the Constitution									
9	Letterman's network									
12	Fuss									
13	Alamo hero with a knife named for him									
14	Feedbag morsel									
15	Part									
17	Biz deg.									
18	Commer-cials									
19	Quartz variety									
21	Baked potato's skin									
24	Liniment									
25	Swelled head									
26	Stitch									
28	Estem									
31	Simple arithmetic									
33	Sinbad's bird									
35	— St. Vincent									
36	Millay									
38	Come to a point									
40	Charged bit									
41	Brewery products									
43	New Jersey airport									
45	OK for									

Freshman earns her spot on the starting lineup

BY EDWIN DELGADO

The Prospector

Despite being only a freshman, Spain native, Irene Gari, has been named starter and continues to make major strides during the first months as part of the UTEP women's basketball team.

"The competition here is very different from Spain, here is much more physical," Gari said. "In Spain it's more about playing as a team, it hasn't been easy at all, but I'm enjoying it a lot, mainly because we are winning."

Gari, who is a native of Oliva, Spain, came to UTEP because she wanted the opportunity to play basketball while in college, something that is difficult to accomplish in her country. She also knew about the success that the women's basketball team had in recent seasons, which made her decision to become a Miner a lot easier.

At 6 feet 1 inch, Gari has the potential to play a big role on the team as a guard, and her quick adaptation and learning is part of what head coach Keitha Adams is pleased to witness.

"She's been doing exactly of what I think she is capable of doing," Adams said. "We like her game, she is an up-size guard, she can shoot the ball, she has a great basketball IQ and she is a great competitor."

Just before becoming a Miner, Gari helped the Spain under-18 national team to a fifth place finish in the 2012 Eurobasket tournament in Romania, which led Spain to qualify to the 2013 Under-19 World Championship.

The major obstacle Gari has encountered so far is the limited amount of English she speaks, but she is becoming more comfortable as time goes by and lets her skills do the talking for her.

"I think she is getting more and more comfortable every day, when it comes to the language; it's an adjustment in which she is doing just fine," Adams said. "As long as she keeps heading in the direction she is going it's a good thing, she is a very fast learner and that is helping her out a lot."

Gari has been able to adapt to being far away from her family and friends. However, it is a sacrifice she decided to make to continue to play the sport she loves at a higher level as she seeks a bachelor's degree in business at the same time.

"Being so far away from home is hard, you have to get used to being in a different country, there is a series of obstacles you need to overcome," Gari said. "I've been here for four months already and I think I've been doing pretty good so far."

Adams sees a lot of potential in her and has given Gari a lot of minutes this season, which motivates her to play at her best every time. She has been playing an average of 24.6 minutes per game, and reached 30 in the games against Arizona, New Mexico, Tulsa and East Carolina.

On Dec. 11, Irene Gari was Conference USA freshman of the week after two impressive performances in which she scored double figures against New Mexico State and Eastern New Mexico.

"So far it's been great and I couldn't be happier; coach Adams has given me a good amount of minutes in the games," Gari said. "It's my job to make the best out of it because the minutes are not just given, you have to earn them."

According to Adams, Gari still has to improve in aspects such as defense and the physicality, being more aggressive.

Gari acknowledged not knowing much about El Paso and confessed to have used Google Maps to get an idea of how El Paso, her future home ,was like.

"I feel very comfortable here, people here are very kind," Gari said. "The fact that a lot of people speak Spanish here has helped me a lot, in addition, two girls from the golf team (Camino Sardinero and Maria Velasco) who are also from Spain have helped me in the adaptation and making me company so I won't feel lonely."

Even though she doesn't have much time as part of the team, Gari is starting to make great memories with them.

"I really enjoyed the games against Arizona here at home," Gari said. "The game against East Carolina was also great. We had to come back from behind in the second half and we did a great job."

In those two contests Gari accumulated 61 minutes, scored 14 points and obtained 11 rebounds.

For the near future, Gari wants to keep working closely with coach Adams and her teammates to improve her game and slowly, but surely, become one of the backbones for the Miners.

"She's been doing great so far, especially since she is a freshman," Adams said. "She has helped us, I think she has a lot of potential and she speaks Spanish, so everybody around here loves that. She's been good, she is a good player and I'm excited about her being part of our program."

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



AARON MONTES / THE PROSPECTOR

Freshman guard, Irene Gari, averages 6.4 points a game. She has a total of 37 defensive rebounds.

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CHANGES from page 15

By 2014 Conference USA should have a total 14 members, UTEP, Tulsa, North Texas, Texas-San Antonio, Rice, Louisiana Tech and Middle Tennessee State should be part of the West division, and Southern Miss, UAB, Marshall, Florida International, Florida Atlantic, Old Dominion and Charlotte in the East division.

If you aren't confused yet, ESPN reported on Dec. 31 that Tulsa and UTEP were being considered by the Mountain West Conference for expansion, if they decide to expand from 12 to 14 teams in the future, also, it is rumored that Tulsa could be the very next target for the Big East to reach 12 football members in order to have a Championship game (because it creates more revenue.)

It is certain than in a two year span the conference will be completely different and as conferences try to get better television deals in the future, there will be constant movement.

If any schools from Texas leave Conference USA, Sam Houston State, Texas State or maybe Texas-Arlington could replace them, but it seems that Arkansas State and Western Kentucky are the next two possibilities for the league, schools that have found recent success on the Sun Belt.

I really think that UTEP, needs to do whatever is possible to get on the Mountain West Conference, mainly because as long as the Big East is trying to continue expanding, the Mountain West is a loaded basketball conference which includes UNLV, San Diego State, New Mexico and rising programs like Colorado State and Boise State, which can really benefit the school, Also in foot-

ball the conference now looks more solid and could overtake the Big East in the future.

Conference USA will be the primary target for the Big East future expansions. Its existence could be jeopardized and could possibly suffer the same faith as the WAC (Western Athletic Conference) who stopped sponsoring football because most of its members were invited to join the Sun Belt, Conference USA and Mountain West.

After the constant raids to the WAC, only Idaho and New Mexico State remained, and both schools will have to play as independents in 2013, but Idaho will join the Big Sky Conference in 2014, a move that would move its football program from the FBS (Football Bowl Subdivision) to the FCS (Football Championship Subdivision).

My biggest concern is that if UTEP waits too long they could face the same situation as New Mexico State and be left out and have no option, but to become an independent for football and look for another conference to move its other sports to such as the Southland. So, cross your fingers and hope the Mountain West decides to expand to 14 members and invites UTEP to join.

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

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Track and Field
results at the Cherry
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in Albuquerque, N.M.
Jan. 18 and 19.

Sophomore distance runner Anthony Rotich finished first in the men's mile with a time of 4 minutes, 8.48 seconds. With altitude conversions, Rotich's time is 4:03.07, the best time in the event in national rankings.

Rotich placed first in the men's 3,000 meter with

a time of 8:11.51. After sea-level adjustments, Rotich's time is 7:59.40, placing the best time nation for the 3,000 meter.

Rotich was named the U.S. Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association National Athlete of the Week Honorable Mention on Monday.

Sophomore sprinter Abiola Onakoya finished third in the men's 600-meter with a time of 1:19.71.

Sophomore thrower Demetris Elia placed second in the men's weight throw with a mark of 60 feet, one inch.

The men's 4x400-meter relay team (Horn, Onakoya, Dillard, Tarango) placed second with a time of 3:15.38.

Junior hurdler and sprinter Janice Jackson placed first in the women's 60-meter hurdles with a time of 8.33.



FILE PHOTO
Sophomore distance runner Anthony Rotich running at the Lori Fitzgerald Invitational in Horizon City Sept. 7, 2012.

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UTEP FANZONE
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- Men's National Top 25**
- Duke
 - Michigan
 - Kansas
 - Syracuse
 - Louisville
 - Arizona
 - Indiana
 - Florida
 - Butler
 - Gonzaga
 - Kansas St.
 - Minnesota
 - Michigan St.
 - Ohio St.
 - New Mexico
 - Oregon
 - Creighton
 - N. Carolina St.
 - Virg. Common.
 - Wichita St.
 - Cincinnati
 - Missouri
 - Ole Miss
 - Notre Dame
 - Miami (FL)

Source: ESPN

our view

editor
Aaron Montes, 747-7446



AARON MONTES / THE PROSPECTOR

(Top: left to right) Senior guard Jacques Streeter, sophomore forward Cedrick Lang, graduate student and guard Konner Tucker. (Bottom: top to bottom) freshman forward/guard Saidah Zuberi Allen, sophomore guard Chrichauna Parker, junior forward Kayla Thornton.





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FEBRUARY

Develop a Vision Like a Boss
Union Cinema - 12:30 - 2 pm

1ST

Engage Like a Boss
Union Cinema - 12:30 - 2 pm

8TH

Innovate Like a Boss
Union Cinema
12:30 - 2 pm

15TH

**UTEP
Century Scholars**

20TH

Etiquette Dinner*

21ST

Lead Like a Boss **
9 am - 4 pm

22ND

Union Bldg. East - 3rd floor

* Register through Job Mine at utep.edu/careers

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