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The Prospector, September 17, 2013

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ASSAYER OF STUDENT OPINION

..... THE

PROSPECTOR

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VOL. 99, NO. 4

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO

SEPTEMBER 17, 2013



ILLUSTRATION BY DIEGO BURCIAGA / THE PROSPECTOR

Top national jobs not common in El Paso, students consider leaving

BY LORAIN WATTERS

The Prospector

As the unemployment rates in El Paso remain high, recent college graduates are often faced with making the decision to move out of the city in order to find a job that pertains to their career.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the top jobs nationally are management, business, the computer industry, architecture and social science. However, those job opportunities may not be available in El Paso.

The most common occupations in El Paso for men are truck drivers, management, laborers and mechanics. For women, they are education,

facility cleaning, management and health care.

The BLS has reported the national unemployment rate at 7.3 percent as of 2013, a steady decrease from January of this year. El Paso's unemployment rate is currently at 9.3 percent, steadily rising from 8.9 percent in February 2013.

The number of students who find jobs after graduation is not kept account of by the University Career Center.

Rodrigo Rodriguez, senior electrical engineering major, hopes to attend the University of Texas at Austin for a master's program in electrical engineering.

"Either that or go into my professional career if it's the best option," Rodriguez said. "I really don't want to leave, but I think the concentra-

tion for the master's program at UT is closely related to what I want to do."

Rodriguez believes that the professional opportunities in El Paso are scarce compared to Austin or other cities.

"There are some opportunities in El Paso, but there are far more outside of it," Rodriguez said. "While it may not be their first choice, sometimes that's their only choice once they graduate."

In an article written by the New York Times, "Many Young El Pasoans Find They Can Go Home Again," young professionals returning to El Paso is becoming more common.

Julian Aguilar, author of the article, said new businesses in El Paso are improving the quality of life on the

border and have led to the increase in expatriates coming home.

This is true for Roxana Rodriguez, sophomore nursing major, who wants to leave El Paso, but return after she has accomplished her goals.

"I would like to stay away from home for a while and expand my knowledge towards the unknown," Rodriguez said. "The idea of exploring new places, adapting to a new life style and the idea of being on my own is an adventure that I'm absolutely looking forward to."

However, Lorenzo Tena, junior art major, feels that El Paso lacks what he needs to be successful in his career and does not plan on returning to the city.

"I want to work for a video game company," Tena said. "There are vir-

tually zero opportunities like that here and I just don't feel like El Paso is the city for me."

New Student Life coordinator shares story of her return.

Like Rodriguez, Cemelli de Aztlan, a new coordinator of student life, grew up in El Paso. She left El Paso in order to see the world and study Native American culture, of which she identifies with, but faced a constant struggle while away.

"My high school years were never consistent. I was one of those students who couldn't sit," de Aztlan said. "I was in the gifted and talented program and the honors program, but I still wasn't being challenged. I

see JOBS on page 3

SEPTEMBER 17, 2013

COLUMN

The brain drain of El Paso

BY S. DAVID RAMIREZ

The Prospector



Monday, Oct. 14 is the deadline to apply for graduation. A single form and \$30, grades pending, are now the only barriers to the great beyond of post-undergraduate life.

December commencement seems like the ultimate Christmas present. An opportunity to go forth and join the workforce, finally finding purpose in the 150 credit hours I've endured during the past five years.

Or is it? Though El Paso is a growing market that has held up relatively well under the recession, for an English major with academic inclinations, the prospect is grim. The unemployment rate in the Sun City has lingered around 9 percent for the past year and the job outlook is not positive.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that El Paso education and healthcare positions are on an uptick. Closer examination of the numbers reveal that it is hospitals and medical programs, soon to be constructed and staffed, that are the stimuli for those numbers.

The Fountains at Farah are about to open. A slew of big-box stores and designer retailers will bring more jobs to the community. But did I spend years studying Faulkner and Brontë to sling sporting goods at our newest merchandiser?

The brain drain is a serious problem for El Paso.

I am loath to admit that I will eventually contribute to it.

Critics of the liberal arts complain about the utility of the degrees. Even Broadway musicals sing about "what do you do with a B.A. in English?" But that is precisely why so many of my fellow students are leaving.

Art students are migrating to Marfa, Austin and New York. Literary and communication arts tromp en masse to cities like Los Angeles, Se-

attle and Houston. Business majors flock to major metropolitan centers. All of us are looking for jobs that don't exist in El Paso.

There is even an exodus in the STEM fields. Why would a geophysicist stay in El Paso when McDonald's workers—let alone geologists—in Odessa are starting at \$12 an hour?

The city is spending money on infrastructure. Industry is expanding manufacturing capability. Quality of life is improving for the employed nuclear family unit, but not for all of us.

The opportunity for a student to make an impact in this city is enormous. But we move away regardless because it is difficult to bankroll grand aspirations while getting paid minimum-wage at a call center.

UTEP tops the national average for work-study positions serving the community. Miners provide support for hundreds of charitable efforts every year. But these students graduate and move to other cities, serving those communities instead.

Personally, I plan on staying for graduate school. UTEP has phenomenal programs that instruct students in the techniques of teaching college-level reading, writing and rhetoric. But what happens to those graduate students when they finish? Their options become fighting for the small pool of adjunct jobs between UTEP and EPCC, or moving. San Antonio has 10 major campuses within the city, all with students who need to take English Composition I.

To stay or not to stay, becomes the question. Whether it is nobler in the mind to suffer mediocre under-employment in a city that lacks significant opportunities for the recently-graduated 20-something, or to strike forth leaving behind family and friends to find gainful employment?

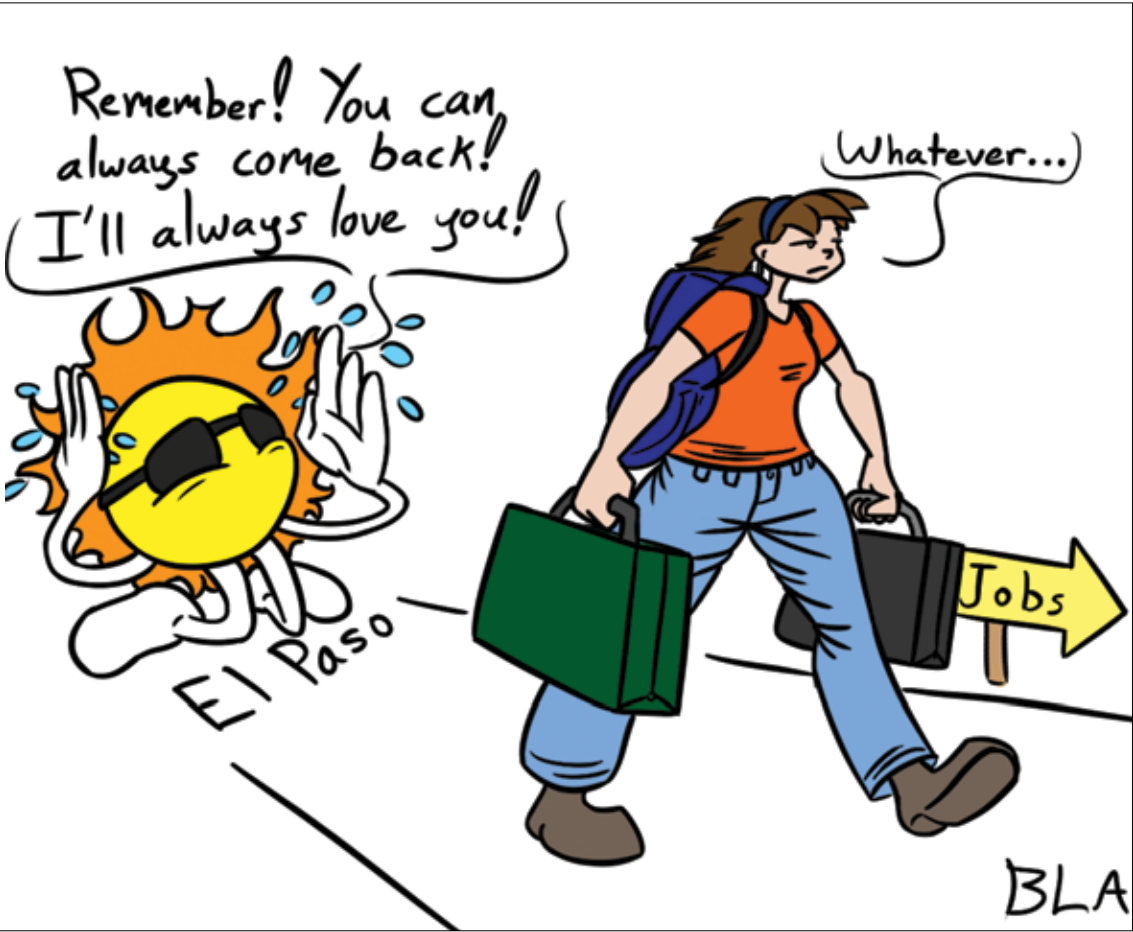
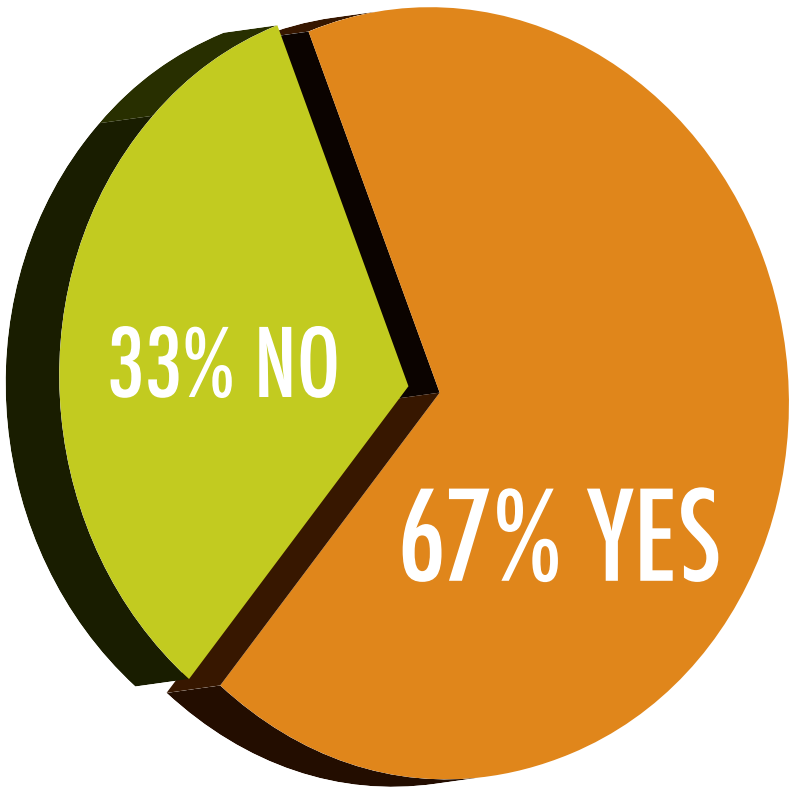
Eighty-seven days before graduation. Two and a half months to decide.

S. David Ramirez may be reached at theprospectordaily.news@gmail.com.

WE ASKED, YOU ANSWERED

POLL RESULTS

Do you think the campus emergency management plan needs to be updated?



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StormTRACK WEATHER
abc 7
Crystal Klotz, Dave Speelman, Karla Huelga, Andy Lee, Nichole Gomez

Table with 7 columns: TUE, WED, THU, FRI, SAT, SUN, MON. Each column contains weather icons, high/low temperatures, and a brief description of the weather.

FEATURE

Students find job opportunities in Mexico through campus organization

BY AMANDA GUILLEN
The Prospector

Students of Mexican nationality are being guided through the job-hunt process with the help of a student organization, Visión México. David Garcia, co-founder and president, said that the organization helps students who are losing networking opportunities in Mexico because they are studying in the United States. One of the purposes of the organization is to implement an internal job pool with companies operating in Mexico by networking through conferences, meetings and training sessions, said Garcia, senior business major. Fernanda Fiscal, another co-founder and vice-president of Visión México, said the organization has helped her prepare for the workforce. "Nowadays, we shouldn't limit our work options and skills to one country when we have the whole world full of opportunities to explore," said Fiscal, junior economics major. She said employers are looking for fresh new minds who are willing to work beyond borders. "Most employers look at us because we are different. We believe that, no matter what, if we are given a chance

to show our skills and experience, we'll take advantage of the opportunity 100 percent," Fiscal said. "All our visionary team members are one-of-a-kind." Sophomore pre-business major Oscar Casanova is a member of Visión México. He said this organization has helped shape him into the student he is today. "The members of Visión México have always shown support for me and this has made me realize the importance of unity and teamwork," Casanova said. Although many students who are in the organization plan on going back and finding jobs in Mexico, there are others such as Casanova who plan on residing in the U.S. after earning their degree. "Because of Visión México, I was able to learn things that I couldn't learn elsewhere," he said. "This organization has given me a lot in such a short period of time that is hard to describe in words how thankful I am. I'm thrilled to see the organization's success in the near future by accomplishing the ultimate mission." For more information about this organization, visit minetracker.utep.edu/organization/VisionMexico.

Amanda Guillen may be reached at theprospectordaily.news@gmail.com.



Visión México helps Mexican and other international students find a career in their home country. SPECIAL TO THE PROSPECTOR

JOBS from page 1

dropped out of high school three times because I struggled with the institution and the way they ran it." She graduated from Riverside High School and she decided to attend Concordia University in Austin where she received a bachelor's degree in multidisciplinary studies with a focus on pre-seminary studies. De Aztlan was the first woman accepted into the program and said it was one of her many challenges. "Going into a predominately white college, and I was one of two minority students, it was a culture shock since it was tight-knit community," de Aztlan said. "I almost dropped out of college too, but I was challenged by one of my professors when he told me to stay." De Aztlan was later invited to study at Harvard University, where she earned a master's degree in divinity. "I think it's funny that kids that leave are awarded some kind of success story. 'Oh you left El Paso? Good!' But I think that is changing rapidly," de Aztlan said. "The decade I was gone, El Paso was going through a lot of changes. Coming back, it feels like home, but it's definitely changed. In that change, to have people invested in this community, is really valuable and that was at the forefront of my decision of why I decided to come back, to be a part of that conversation of change in El Paso - creating El Paso to be more of a welcoming, creative space." During her time at Harvard, de Aztlan advocated strongly for the voices of Native Americans to be heard, eventually creating a group

called Native Voices that was alternative model of education for Native American students. Her advocacy also led to the creation of an indigenous spirituality program (at Harvard?), where a class is taught every year. When offered a position as coordinator of Student Life, de Aztlan jumped at the opportunity and set foot at UTEP for the first time. "What I'm really excited about working here in the Student Life department and the programs we have in this department—Mine Tracker and the 21st Century Scholars Program— I feel like those programs are macrocosms of what I went through as a student," she said. "I see those programs and I see myself as a student in the back row and quiet because of my culture shock. I really needed mentors to sculpt me and help me become what I walked through those doors to be." De Aztlan said she believes that leaving El Paso for exploration and growth helps a person evolve, but at the same time a balance must be met. "I find my foundation and roots to be very connected to home, family and the physical land here. I would say to those students, come back when you're ready because we're making a nice home here," de Aztlan said. "There are gems and nuggets of beauty here, and there is enough to explore here, but we do need a global perspective to be citizens of this world and this community—there is a balance between the two. We have a lot to be proud of here and it took me leaving to see that."

Lorain Watters may be reached at theprospectordaily.news@gmail.com.

PICK YOUR CROWD
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QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Do you think you'll make a career in El Paso?



ARIANA LOPEZ
Senior nursing major
“I think there’s a lot of jobs here, but personally I would leave to another state and I’d like to try nursing at a bigger city.”



ESTEBAN VAZQUES
Freshman electrical engineering major
“I don’t think so, I wouldn’t know exactly. I think there’s jobs here. When I graduate I plan on working for Ford, GM or even a German car company. I would like to leave, but I don’t think people have to.”



DIANA CASTILLO
Senior microbiology major
“I plan on going to physician-assistant school, so I would have to leave El Paso.”



FERNANDO MORALES
Freshman digital media production major
“I don’t feel like I would have to leave El Paso, but I would want to leave El Paso, so that there are more opportunities out there. I’d like to create more advertisements or work in something in media.”



JAZMIN FLORES
Senior social work major
“I have my family here and that’s why I plan to stay, but for other careers in order to succeed, most of them require to move out for higher incomes. I plan to stay here in El Paso, working in the schools as a social worker.”



GABRIEL MONTOYA
Freshman history major
“For me, no, because I plan on teaching, so my minor is education. I don’t really feel that I need to go anywhere. I feel okay staying here.”



LAURA MENDEZ
Junior pre-science major
“It depends what you’re looking for. Everything that I want to do they have it here, or it is improving.”



JAQUELINE FRANCO
Junior psychology major
“I think El Paso does not have enough of a workforce for us college students that are graduating, especially in my field there’s not a lot you can do with a bachelors at least. Psychology, as it is, you have to go to a Ph.D. as it’s known, but here in El Paso we don’t have enough clinics to emphasize the field of psychology, not even research wise.”



STEPHANIE RODRIGUEZ
Junior education major
“With the whole education thing, I’ve heard a lot of people say that there aren’t a lot of opportunities as a teacher here, so I was considering leaving. I would like to teach English abroad.”



SHAQUILLE BROOKS
Freshman mechanical engineering major
“I don’t feel like I have to leave, but it would be best if I do. I would like to work for a major car company like Mercedes or Ferrari.”



VIRIDIANA ANGIANO
Senior nursing major
“For nursing, I don’t think so. I’ve had a lot of nursing friends that have applied for jobs here at the hospitals and most of them have gotten them right away. I still want to see what’s out there, not necessarily stay here.”



DANIEL GIL
Junior industrial engineering major
“There is not much growth in El Paso. I would like to go to Houston or San Antonio. I would like to be my own boss and have my own company in computers or security.”



LUIS TREJO
Junior computer science major
“I actually just came back in town, I came back to school here. The reason why I left was to get a job, but since I’ve been back I’ve seen more resources here in El Paso.”



JERMAINE HICKS
Junior criminal justice major
“Not necessarily, it’s easy to find jobs around here. For example, border patrol or sheriff.”



ERIN QUINTANA
Sophomore biomedical sciences major
“The new Texas Tech med school is perfect to become a physician in El Paso.”

INBRIEF

CONSTITUTION DAY READING AND LECTURE

On Sept. 17 at 11:30 a.m. in the Blumberg Auditorium at the University Library, the Miner Nation will commemorate the signing of the U.S. Constitution as selected students read part of the document. Attendees will then be invited to hear a lecture about the changes in voting rights through constitutional amendments given by Greg Rocha, Ph.D., associate professor of political science.

BOOK PRESENTATION

On Sept. 18 in the Health Sciences and Nursing Building, room 217 at 3 p.m., UTEP faculty members, Mark Lusk, Kathy Staudt, Eva Moya, Irasema Coronado and Griselda Villalobos, will talk about their new book, “Social Justice in the U.S.-Mexico Border Region” as part of Hispanic Heritage Month events. For more information, call 747-8588.

“MINING BOOKS” MONTHLY READING

Sept. 19 at 6 p.m. in the Blumberg Auditorium at the University Library, Brian Yothers, Ph.D., will lead a discussion of Jay Parini’s novel, “The Passages of H.M.” The event is sponsored by Humanities Texas, the Department of English and the University Library. For more information, contact Maryse Jayasuriya at mjayasuriya@utep.edu.

UTEP PICKS: “CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES AND THE RIGHTS OF TEACHERS”

Sept. 20 at 5:30 p.m. in the Blumberg Auditorium at the University Library, the UTEP Library and SGA will present “UTEP Picks: Elections 2012,” a series of events related to this year’s elections. Jonathan Zimmerman, professor of history and education at New York University, will present a talk titled “Controversial Issues and the Rights of Teachers: What We Don’t Talk About in Teaching the Humanities, and Why.” For more information, contact Jonna Perrillo at jperrillo@utep.edu.

RECOGNIZING THE FIRST DAY OF CLASS IN 1914

On Sept. 21 at 6:30 p.m. in the Memorial Gym, a viewing of “Glory Road” will show to celebrate the first day of class (Sept. 23, 1914). Hot dogs, popcorn, cotton candy and sodas will be provided. Collectable centennial bracelets will be given out and attendees will have the chance to participate in a free-throw contest and win door prizes.

SUNSCAPE... THE SENSIBLE WAY

On Sept. 22 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Centennial Museum, there will be a workshop that teaches attendees about using native plants and gardening in harmony with the desert. The registration fee is \$30. For more information, call 747-5565.

LECTURE: A “GOLDEN AGE:” EUROPEAN ART 1600-1800

On Sept. 19 at 2:30 p.m. in the UGLC, room 106, there will be a lecture from Edgar Bowron, Ph.D., the Audrey Jones Beck Curator of European Art at the Museum of Fine Arts in Houston. The lecture will go over the different art forms, such as Baroque, Rococo and will discuss 18th-century paintings that are currently on view at the El Paso Museum of Art, examining how these works from the Speed Art Museum provide a nearly complete pictorial record of European culture and history at the time.

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NATIONAL

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Mexican ambassador: U.S. perception of Mexico needs to change

BY ANDRÉS RODRÍGUEZ
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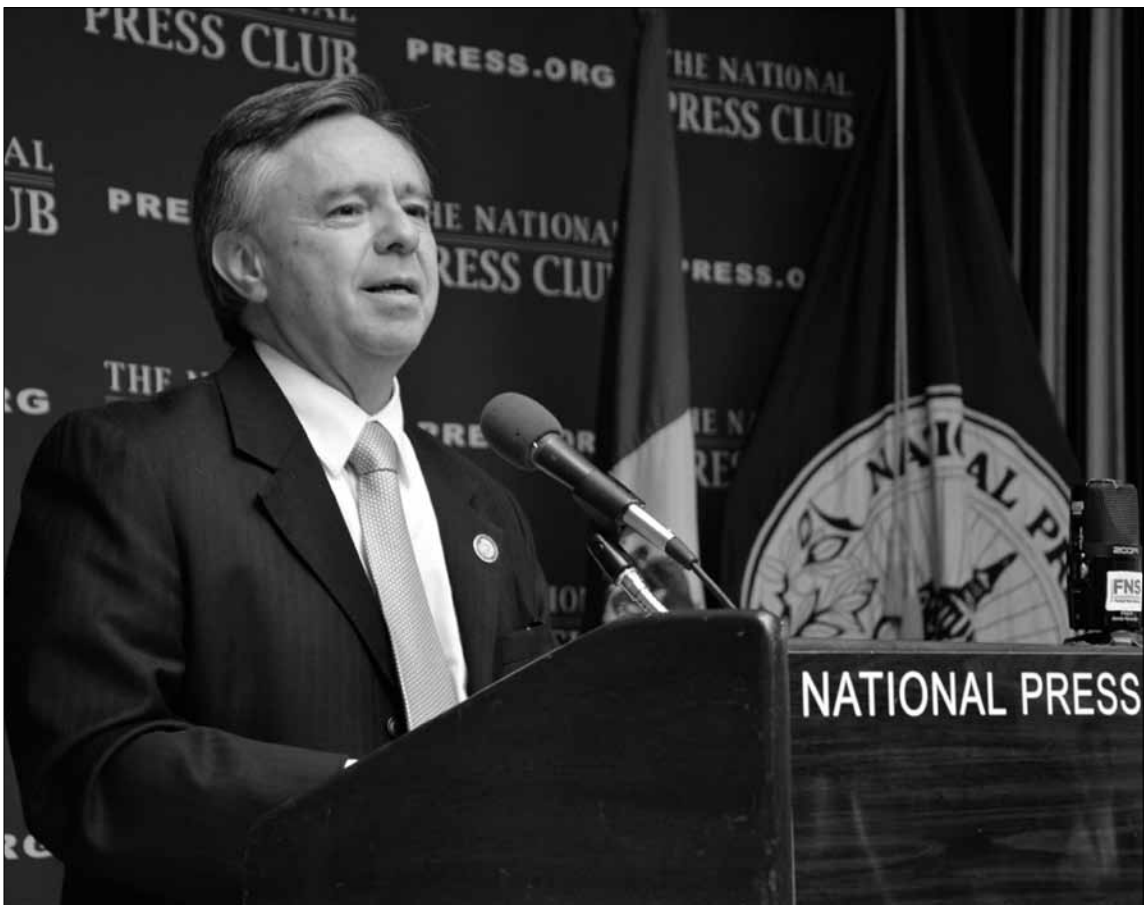


PHOTO BY ANDRÉS RODRIGUEZ / SHFWIRE
Mexico's Ambassador to the U.S., Eduardo Medina Mora, says Friday that Mexicans are overwhelmingly misrepresented in Hollywood. The ambassador said at a press conference that Mexico is awaiting word on possible spying on Mexican President Enrique Peña Nieto by the NSA.

WASHINGTON—Mexican actor Demian Bichir has played a gardener and a drug dealer, two professions that Mexico's ambassador to the U.S. said Friday need to stop being linked to his country.

"Mexicans in the silver screen are usually portrayed as poor and uneducated at best, corrupt and violent at worst," Ambassador Eduardo Medina Mora said at a press conference at the National Press Club.

Bichir was nominated for an Oscar for "A Better Life," in which he played a gardener in East Los Angeles.

Medina Mora brought up Brazilian news reports that the National Security Agency had spied on the personal communications of leaders in Brazil and Mexico.

He said President Barack Obama and Mexican President Enrique Peña Nieto spoke about this during the G20 summit in St. Petersburg, Russia, but Mexican leaders are awaiting word on the details of a possible investigation by the U.S.

Medina Mora was appointed to the ambassador's job in January. He said that so far he has seen three public policy areas that need to be addressed: advancing trade competitiveness of both countries, migration and Mexico's reputation in the U.S.

"Cinema is not just a manifestation of the attitudes of society, it also reinforces and perpetrates those attitudes. So when movies continually stereotype Mexicans as a certain kind of people, the American public, which consume those types of movies, will inevitably be influenced by them," Medina Mora said.

"Confronting the complexity of any nation is a daunting task, and broad generalizations of nationalities can be entertaining and even informative at times," he said.

But making decisions based on those stereotypes, leads to problems, he said.

The ambassador, who served as Mexico's attorney general from 2007 to 2009, did not deny the existence of gardeners and drug dealers in the country, but maintained that they are overrepresented in film and do not represent the true demographics of Mexico.

Of Mexicans portrayed as drug dealers he said, "It is not only racist, it is totally wrong."

He cited the rise of the middle class in Mexico, from 38.4 percent in 2000 to 42.4 percent in 2010, according to the country's statistics and geography institute, and the tripling of the coun-

“...Remember that most real Mexicans live in urban areas and have more in common with people in L.A. or New York than they do with people in the backwater village of Hollywood.”

- Eduardo Medina Mora,
Mexican ambassador to U.S.

try's gross domestic product and students pursuing a higher education.

"I'm still eagerly waiting for the movie where Salma Hayek plays a Nobel Prize-winning chemist that teaches young Americans to create new forms of alternative energy," he said.

Hayek was nominated for an Oscar for "Frida" in 2002 and was executive producer for the TV show "Ugly Betty."

He said that advancing competitiveness in the shared economic space of both countries is important to the economic growth of both. Mexico is soon to surpass Canada as the largest importer of goods to the U.S., he said.

"Mexico and the United States compete together as one unit in the global economy," Medina Mora said, noting that NAFTA is often misunderstood. "The United States and Mexico as well as Canada build these things together."

Imports from Mexico have on average 40 percent U.S. content, imports from Canada have 25 percent and imports from China have 4 percent, according to the National Bureau of Economic Research.

He called on the audience to think of Mexico through a lens other than Hollywood's.

"The next time you see one of those movies, like 'From Dusk Till Dawn,' where the characters who cross into Mexico enter a dusty barren land just this side of purgatory, please remember, that 10 cities in Mexico are World Heritage Sites, remember that we are one of the most biodiverse countries in the world, remember that most real Mexicans live in urban areas and have more in common with people in L.A. or New York than they do with people in the backwater village of Hollywood."

Andrés Rodríguez is a UTEP senior double major in Spanish and English and American literature. He is currently participating in the Scripps Howard Foundation Wire Semester in Washington program. He may be reached at theprospectordaily.news@gmail.com.



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FILE PHOTO

Last year's Career Expo drew 2,500 students. This year, organizers are hoping to see 3,500 students attend.



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Career expo expected to draw thousands

BY JASMINE AGUILERA
AND KRISTOPHER RIVERA

The Prospector

The UTEP Career expo is expected to draw thousands of students and more than 100 employers this year.

The expo will take place from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sept. 19 and 20 at the Don Haskins Center.

Betsy Castro-Duarte, associate director of the University Career Center, said the expo is slowly building itself back up to what it used to be 10 or 12 years ago, before the rise of unemployment, when more than 200 employers attended.

“Folks are still saying it’s hard to get a job, so we’re saying ‘look, look at all the employers that are coming,’” she said.

As of Sept. 16, 103 employers have registered to attend the expo. Castro-Duarte said this is the same number as last year, and is expecting several last minute sign-ups.

Employers registered to attend include Exxon Mobil, the Central Intelligence Agency, Tyson Foods Inc.,

Wells Fargo Bank and several other Texas state departments.

Last year 2,500 students attended the expo, Castro-Duarte said she hopes 3,500 attend this year.

She said it is important that freshmen and sophomores attend in order to get a better understanding of their career prospects and internship opportunities.

Red, white and blue ribbons will be available for veterans to wear. This new feature will help them be identified as they meet with employers.

“A lot of these men and women have developed great skills,” Castro-Duarte said. “Obviously, they gave their time and often their lives for our country, we want to recognize those that have come back.”

Employers from every major will attend the event, Castro-Duarte said. A list of employers categorized by major will be available on the Career Center’s website, but a specified date was not provided.

Employers will also be categorized by their citizenship requirements to help international students with visas find work and by degrees sought.

The majority of employers will be from outside of El Paso.

“It’s a good thing really,” said senior criminal justice major Alexis Arenivar. “It lets students get a feel for what it’s going to be like in the job market while giving them a variety of things to choose from.”

Arenivar said it’s better that most of the employers are from outside of El Paso because it brings a variety.

“Some people think we should probably leave more people in El

“Folks are still saying it’s hard to get a job, so we’re saying ‘look, look at all the employers that are coming.’”

- Betsy Castro-Duarte,
associate director of the
University Career Center

Paso, get a better job market going—at the same time we don’t have a really good job market so it gives a better opportunity for to students to be more successful in life,” he said.

Castro-Duarte said it is hard to keep track of the number of students who are hired after the expo, so no data is available. But this year there will be a more aggressive effort to track how many students benefit from the event.

For a complete list of employers attending, visit the career center’s website at utep.edu/careers.

Jasmine Aguilera and Kristopher Rivera may be reached at theprospectordaily.news@gmail.com.

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SEPTEMBER 17, 2013

ENTERTAINMENT

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
ANDREA ACOSTA, 747-7477

UTEP alumnus moves El Paso art scene onward

BY LEONARDO MONTAÑEZ

The Prospector

As an artist, Luis C. Rodriguez felt that the possibilities of a prolonged and successful career would be many as he decided to pursue those options here in El Paso.

According to Rodriguez, who graduated from UTEP in 2010 with a multidisciplinary arts degree, he has been artistic his entire life, but decided to become an artist at the age of 19.

“Back then I wanted to be a poet and philosopher, but eventually I realized that as an artist I could be more versatile,” Rodriguez said. “I consider myself a modern visual artist with a heavy emphasis in computer arts such as photography, graphic design, web design and film.”

In 2011, Rodriguez started the Chuco Artist Network (CAN) to help artists increase their popularity with the help of social networks.

“Back in April 2011, I was promoted to digital imaging instructor at EPCC and was looking for clever and innovative ways of changing the learning process,” Rodriguez said. “At that time, I was toying around with an idea to create a website that myself and a few prominent artists could use to promote and sell our work. CAN essentially became a platform for these two concepts.”

According to Rodriguez, since he began CAN, his own and his fellow artists’ careers grew.

“Chucoartist.com is the result of years of struggle in the El Paso art scene to develop a name for myself and furthermore to get recognition by the movers and shakers in town,” Rodriguez said.

Chucoartist.com facilitates the process to connect with each other more efficiently, supporter Carolina Rico said.

“Rodriguez’s creativity has opened the doors to many local artist and mu-

sicians, he has created a network that serves to innovate the way we connect to our community,” Rico said.

It is simple for artists to join CAN and promote themselves.

“Signing up is free and very simple, people just need to visit chucoartist.com and click join, that’s it,” Rodriguez said. “It may be alarming at first because of the diverse and overwhelming content, but in time it becomes second nature, and we better our community by taking part.”

Rodriguez said that he is proud of CAN as a form of art that he has created, but that he has other projects he likes just as much.

“CAN is definitely an artwork I am most proud of,” Rodriguez said. “But I am also proud of my two other endeavors, including Ayer Eternal Photography Studio whose success has helped fund CAN and Eternal SEO, an advertising/marketing startup specializing in assisting others create strong and profitable businesses.”

Aside from CAN, Rodriguez has other short and long-term goals for the future that involve both himself and his art.

“My short-term goal is to become a more efficient business person to amplify the success of my artwork. I aim to solidify relations with the City of El Paso so we, as artists, could finally have a way of combining city-related funding with community events all in one place,” Rodriguez said. “Long-term goals include continuing to take my artwork in the direction where it makes a positive influence to society and to take part in blossoming the city’s art movement so that it becomes a mecca for Chuco art.”

Rodriguez said that he is inspired by many metaphors.

“Inspiration comes in many forms and I am inspired by eagles as a creature. Also, I am inspired by the sword, for it represents the warrior in me, the believer and conquerer,” Rodri-

“I am inspired by the sword, for it represents the warrior in me, the believer and conquerer.”

— Luis Rodriguez, Chuco Artist

quez said. “Finally, I am inspired by the rose, whose fragile form defies beauty, even more so in death.”

According to Chuco Artist and friend, Arturo Saldaña, he met Luis through their mutual interest in music. Saldaña said that Rodriguez had a particular interest for art.

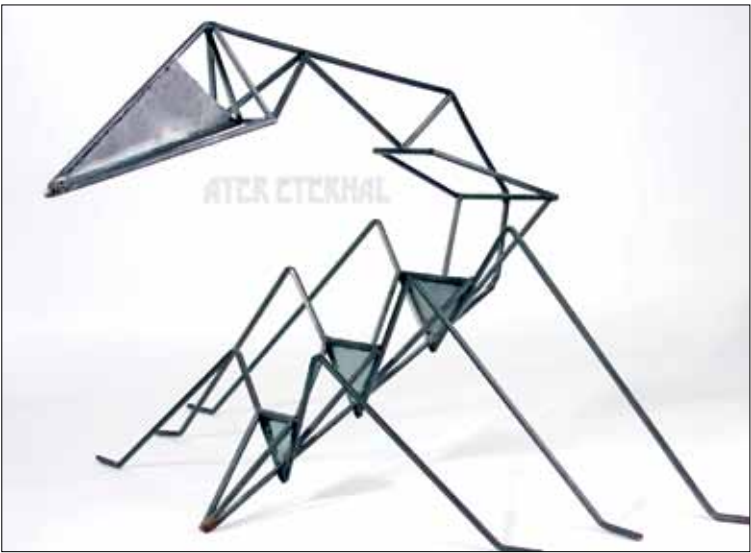
“His passion for the arts is very distinct,” Saldaña said. “I’ve know him to be driven to succeed in whatever he puts his mind and heart to. He has sacrificed much in life to get where he is now. He is one of a kind in this city.”

Rodriguez will be working closely with many events and places to exhibit his artwork during the next few months.

“I am working on establishing a black-light photography exhibit as part of the Last Thursdays monthly event at the Network this September,” Rodriguez said. “I will also be working closely with the Lincoln Park Conservation Committee in integrating the Chuco Artists as part of the Lincoln Park Day celebration Sept. 22, and in October we begin the autumn solstice with the Sunset Heights Block Party.”

Any artists interested in participating should visit chucoartist.com or [facebook.com/chucoartistnetwork](https://www.facebook.com/chucoartistnetwork) and fill out the ChucosizeMe! form.

Leonardo Montañez may be reached at theprospectordaily.ent@gmail.com.



SPECIAL TO THE PROSPECTOR

Ayer Eternal Photography studio is located at 2909 1/2 Alameda.

FITNESS

New You Gym: ‘What makes it different’



BY NADIA GARCIA

The Prospector

Having opened this past June on the West side of El Paso, New You Gym, a Christian based gym, has currently trained 300 members with the hope of expanding further.

Owner and former UTEP student, Elizabeth (Lizzie) Martinez, said she had always exercised in ways apart from lifting weights.

“When introduced to weight-training, I fell in love with it,” Martinez said.

Martinez and her husband, Shane, began as trainers at several places, such as Planet Fitness, until they opened their first fitness studio in 2010 with only 30 members.

“It was my husband’s dream, he’s always been into fitness,” Martinez said.

The two now own New You Gym, located at 5020 N. Desert Blvd., and it features 12 trainers, who are each allowed to train only three clients at a time.

“What makes it different is that it’s private and personalized,” Martinez said.

New You Gym’s mission is to reach people in a positive way by changing peoples’ lives whether it is of unhealthy eating habits, obesity, depres-

sion or other problems. They do this by creating a friendly positive environment where anyone can feel comfortable working out, ultimately making fitness a passion for every member.

“The purpose of having a Christian-based gym is to cause a positive, self-reflective change in the world,” Martinez said. “It all starts with the trainer, who is positive and inspirational in helping you not only lead a healthier life but spiritual life with our Lord. We hope to spark a change for the better in our community and the world.”

The private personal-trainer gym offers both nutrition counseling, diet information and many other services that contribute to clients’ fitness skills and weight loss.

Martinez said that about 70 percent of weight loss is based on nutrition.

“We’re constantly adding things, we are very interested in informing our clients and explaining the importance of nutrition counseling,” Martinez said. “Every workout is tailored to your body type and created to benefit you.”

Members of New You Gym have 24/7 access to a cardio-workout studio, which is located two doors down from the main gym. According to

Martinez, it includes a smoothie bar and will soon have a sauna.

“We do have people who come all the way from the East side,” Martinez said. “We hope to create more locations across the city.”

While at UTEP, Martinez studied marketing with a minor in education.

“We got into advertising with my marketing skills,” Martinez said.

Martinez said that nowadays social networking is a really big thing. Because of that fact, New You Gym currently has 1,500 followers on Instagram, 1,000 likes on Facebook and 70 before and after photos.

“We also have good customer service and word of mouth,” Martinez said.

For any business to have good customer service, it must hire good employees.

“I just love my job. I love the people I work with. It’s always positive,” said Kimberly Rayner, senior marketing major and personal trainer at New You Gym. “I started falling in love with fitness. In order to get IFTA certified and become a trainer, I had to undergo two months of shadowing and training.”

VERONICA ENRIQUEZ/THE PROSPECTOR
New You Gym is located at 5020 N. Desert Blvd. Open Mon.-Fri. 5 a.m.-12 p.m. and Sat. 7 a.m. -12 p.m.

see NEW YOU on page 11

SEPTEMBER 17, 2013

OUR VIEW

PHOTO EDITOR
VERONICA ENRIQUEZ, 747-7477

The Color Run shares the colors of fun with El Paso



AARON MONTES/THE PROSPECTOR

The Color Run took place on Sept. 15 at Ascarate Park. More than 8,000 participants registered for this first annual event.

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VERÓNICA ENRIQUEZ/THE PROSPECTOR

Q&A
Man Man talks tour and new album



BY KRISTOPHER RIVERA
The Prospector

People may be familiar with Man Man’s new single “Head On,” which is a manual for anyone learning how to love in a bitter situation with lyrics such as “hold on to your heart/hold it high above flood waters/hold on to your heart/never let nobody take it under.” They’ll be riding out on tour starting Sept. 19 with their new album, “On Oni Pond.” The band’s multi-instrumental cache allows the band to do whatever they want to do musically, such as recordings of what sounds like clashing spoons and a beeping control board in space. The new album, however, shows the band’s growth.

They will work their way to El Paso’s Tricky Falls on Sept. 26. Although it’s more than a week away, Man Man’s frontman, Honus Honus (Ryan Kattner), talked with The Prospector.

Tell us about the band’s new album.
I think it’s great. I think everyone needs to own it.

So this new album is like a reconstruction or rebuilding of the band?
Well I just wrote the record with my drummer Chris. Which was different than bringing songs to the table and then having to bounce them off four other people or whoever. In that sense it was very refreshing. We were able to do whatever the hell we wanted.

Was it different before in the past when it came to recording? Were labels telling you which direction to go in?
No, it’s just like any other creative endeavor. There’s a lot of personalities and sensitive egos at play, including my own. Sometimes songs have too many parts and what not.

When it comes to your music, I was wondering if there’s some kind of music history that intrigues you and finds its way into your music, such as blues or something?
Um, No (laughs).

I ask because you have a horn section and all kinds of different instruments you use. It’s not a straight-forward rock sound.

SPECIAL TO THE PROSPECTOR
I’m not a trained musician. I kind of tumbled into playing music. Man Man is my first band. I just bought a keyboard and taught myself how to write songs on it for this band. So every record is an evolution of learning how to write songs. We feel like maybe we might be hitting our stride. I wish I knew how to emulate other people. If I did I would emulate someone very successful and hopefully ride it to the bank. Unfortunately, I chose to emulate myself and I am not riding to the bank.

But the band has been around since 2003, you’ve had several albums out. So how do you keep it going and stay sane?
I think you just have to have a—it’s going to sound so unintentionally positive, by no means do I want to do that—but you just have to believe in what you’re doing and say that someday, maybe someone, somewhere, will stumble across you and get on board. This band has always been about creating its own language. I personally didn’t know how to speak other people’s language of music. It’s hard...it’s tough.

We do have the benefit of playing a good live show because there’s no fronting or faking right there. But yeah, it’s tough, but I’m lucky. I’ve stumbled across a pretty cool job.

When it comes to live shows, the band has played at Coachella and Voodoo Experience. That must be an experience to be selected out of many bands and get the opportunity to play at a prestigious event among other talented bands.
Oh, I love playing festivals because you get to reach so many new people. You can get either so many people to fall in love with your band or absolutely hate your band (laughs). I love festivals, if we only played festivals—that would be amazing. There’s a lot to be said for playing small rooms too. There’s an intimacy with this band, which is also pretty rad.

Is this the first time the band will play in El Paso, Texas?
This will be the first time Man Man plays in El Paso. I played there once before with a different band.

see MAN MAN on page 12

NEW YOU from page 9

Rayner said that despite being a full-time student and a full-time trainer, she still finds ways to balance her interests, which is why she considers time-management and preparation to be important.
“I found it as an opportunity to help others, since it did a lot of good for me. It helps a lot of people with self-esteem everything,” Rayner said. “New You gym is helping people become happy with themselves and their fitness skills.”
Being city-based, mainly on Mexican-culture— including the calorie-heavy food— many may find it surprising to see such success in a gym.

“The city is working towards becoming a healthier El Paso,” Rayner said.
With places like New You Gym and restaurants such as The Green Ingredient, El Paso seems to be making a change.
“The gym provides a unique and friendly atmosphere. You have a personal trainer and motivator. Nutrition, working out and being at peace is what New You is about,” said Veronica Chaparro, junior art major. First sessions are free. For more information, contact (913) 306-3383.
Nadia Garcia may be reached at theprospectordaily.ent@gmail.com.

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Television: It just needs a hug



Dr. David A. Clark

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Secondly, shows have become more thought provoking. Television today no longer gives us clear-cut heroes and villains. Instead, we get characters that have to deal with being

Because of this, more commitment is required from the viewer. You can miss a few episodes of "Big Bang Theory" and be perfectly in line with the story arch. If you miss one episode of a 15-episode program, you will definitely

I'm not saying that you should drop your books and move on to a subscription of Hulu or Netflix. What I'm saying is that if you give today's shows a chance, you will realize that you have been missing out on some of the best contemporary storytelling offered through this evolving medium.

Kristopher Rivera may be reached at
theprospectoraily.ent@gmail.com.

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SEPTEMBER 17, 2013

SPORTS

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
EDWIN DELGADO, 747-7477

Miners open conference against UTSA



AARON MONTES / THE PROSPECTOR

Freshman running back Darrin Laufasa will be a key for the Miners as he steps in for injured backs Nathan Jeffery and LaQuintus Dowell.

BY JAVIER CORTEZ

The Prospector

For the first time in each school's history, the Miners and the UTSA Roadrunners will battle it out on the gridiron. This only being the Roadrunners' third season in Division I football, the Miners may seem like overwhelming favorites, but the Roadrunners have made tremendous strides since their inaugural 2011 season.

UTSA head coach Larry Coker has made a reemergence in college football. He is known for his prolific

scoring offenses—at Oklahoma State in the 1980s with Thurman Thomas and Barry Sanders, then with the Miami Hurricanes from 1995-2000 as the offensive coordinator, and the 2001 BCS National Championship as the head coach. There is no question that defensive coordinator Scott Stoker will have his hands full with this UTSA offense.

"They are a well-coached team, they're fundamentally sound in every aspect," said head coach Sean Kugler. "We got a lot to prepare for.

Offensively, they have multiple formations and a lot of moving parts."

Coming into this game, the UTSA opponents are averaging 181 rushing yards per game, which bodes well for the Miners, who average 286 yards per game through two games, ranking them 12th in the country. Whereas the Roadrunners have to account for the Miners' run game, the Miners have to take into account UTSA's passing game. The Roadrunners are averaging nearly 300 yards passing per game, against a UTEP defense that gave up 299 yards passing

against New Mexico State, including an 81 and 72-yard touchdown passes against the Aggies.

"Their quarterback (Eric Soza) has thrown for over 800 yards and he has rushed close to 150 yards, he is a dual-threat guy, he's active, he is accurate and extremely competitive," Kugler said. "Defensively, they don't do a lot of changes up front and they play very good football. Their safeties have combined for over 50 tackles and they are very deep up front and they have good speed on defense.

The Roadrunners opened their 2013 season in Albuquerque against the New Mexico Lobos, winning in dominating fashion, 27-13 and holding running back Kasey Carrier to 54 yards, whereas the Miners only held Carrier to 291 yards. They then lost at home to the 13th-ranked Oklahoma State Cowboys, 35-56, in a closely contested fashion. After falling to the Cowboys, the Roadrunners went to Tucson to play Arizona, and fell easily to the Wildcats, 38-13, putting the Roadrunners at 1-2.

The Miners are coming off back-to-back rivalry games against New Mexico and NMSU. After losing a thriller to the Lobos in overtime, 35-42, at home, the Miners went to Las Cruces and trounced their main rivals, 42-21, posting 546 yards of total offense. Once again, freshman running back Aaron Jones led the team in rushing, carrying 22 times for 97 yards and one touchdown.

Star receiver Jordan Leslie posted his first 100-yard receiving game of the season, with 103 yards on

seven receptions. Jones was not the only freshman to shine in Las Cruces, Darrin Laufasa had 74 rushing yards on nine carries, and his biggest play of the night came on a 45-yard touchdown run in the fourth quarter. Freshman defensive back Dashone Smith was not to be outdone, recording two interceptions.

Unfortunately for the Miners, runningbacks Nathan Jeffery and LaQuintus Dowell suffered injuries against the Aggies and are questionable for the game, as well as defensive lineman James Davidson. Wesley Miller suffered a knee injury will miss some extended time, while Ishmael Harrison, who missed the second game, will be back for the game against UTSA.

Kugler came back to El Paso with his first career win as a head coach, and even after the Miners' two biggest rivalry games, the importance of the games aren't any less significant.

Sept. 21 will mark the 50th anniversary of the Sun Bowl, along with the first conference game of the year.

"We have a challenge ahead of us and we are excited to get into the conference part of our schedule and that is when it all counts," Kugler said. "We are going to have to be well rounded in both aspects and do our assignment and be in the right gaps because they are balanced offensively, so we have to be very focused on all aspects."

Javier Cortez may be reached at theprospectordaily.sports@gmail.com.

Leslie comes back to build on past success

BY JAVIER CORTEZ

The Prospector

New coach, new offense, mounting expectations, new leadership role and becoming an upperclassman—it is apparent that Jordan Leslie has a lot to deal with this season.

Coming off a sophomore season like last year, Jordan understands certain things are going to be asked of him.

According to the coaching staff, Leslie has worked hard in practice and has taken on a big leadership role, being named team leader by his fellow wide receivers.

"He a great leader," said wide receivers coach Todd Whitten. "The best way you lead is by coming out and working hard every day and he does exactly that."

Playing football since the fourth grade, Leslie has always shown a competitive streak and playing football was a manifestation of that.

"When I was young, I played everything," Leslie said. "I loved competing, I was always a really competitive as a little kid and my mom would put me in any and everything."

Through his first two years as a Miner, Leslie has already broken into the UTEP record books. He ranks in the top 25 in receptions, receiving yards and receiving touchdowns. Statistically, Leslie is on his way to finishing in the top five of every major receiving category by the end of his collegiate career.

Last year, Leslie racked up 51 receptions for 973 receiving yards and six touchdowns in his sophomore year. Expecting a big junior season is not out of the question for Leslie, but his focus is on the team and what they are trying to accomplish this season.

"Going into this year, we going into the mindset of conference champs, bowl game and making our fans proud," Leslie said. "We have new coaches, there's a good vibe, so I guess we'll see what happens."

There is no doubt that Leslie has impacted opposing defenders on the field throughout the last two years, but most importantly, he has also made a tremendous impact on his teammates. He takes the leadership role as seriously as anyone else on the team, and when he talks his teammates listen.

"He's great," said junior wide receiver Ian Hamilton, "When I got here last year, he was the guy that helped me with the offense, getting the plays down, me being the new guy. This year, he has just taken it to another level."

The most impressive leap Leslie has made is his seamless return from offseason surgery. His coaches and teammates see no setbacks, and, according to Hamilton, he looks better.

"He's coming off surgery, but that has not hindered him at all," Hamilton said. "He's still making the same plays that he was making last year. He looks better and that is going to help us out a lot this season."



AARON MONTES / THE PROSPECTOR

Junior wide receiver, Jordan Leslie catches the long pass from Jameill Showers in the game against NMSU on Sept. 14.

No matter what statistics he produces this year, some things are for certain when it comes to Leslie—hard work, great leadership, veteran savvy and great dedication to his team and university.

Besides Leslie's great on-field play, off the field Leslie produces great

work in the classroom. This past season, Leslie was named to the 2012 and 2013 Conference USA Commissioner's Honor Roll. Prior to making the Honor Roll, Leslie won the team's Dr. Diana Natalicio Academic Award as a freshman, and last season was voted

to the Conference USA All-Academic Team.

It is apparent the Leslie knows how to get the job done on and off the field.

Javier Cortez may be reached at theprospectordaily.sports@gmail.com.

GAME RECAP

WEBFIRST

UTEP rolls past New Mexico State 42-21

BY EDWIN DELGADO
The Prospector

The UTEP offense produced 546 yards of offense to run past rivals New Mexico State 42-21 and give head coach Sean Kugler his first victory of his career as a head coach.

“I’m really pleased with the defense, they held onto New Mexico State really well. I’m very proud of the way they responded and they got a couple of turnovers for us. I think we played very physical on offense for the second week in a row and we need to build on that,” Kugler said. “They did a pretty good job, especially in the second half, we ran for more than 250 yards and that is a pretty good day at the office.”

Freshman running back Darrin Laufasa had a night to remember as he ran 75 yards in nine attempts and scored his first two touchdowns of his Miner career in the fourth quarter to help the Miners seal the victory.

With the win, the Miners have defeated the Aggies five consecutive times, the biggest streak since (1986-91) when they won six in a row. They have also won in their last three trips to Las Cruces

“I’ve been here since 2009, I have beat them five times in a row and it feels great to go 5-0 on these guys,” said senior left tackle Brander Craighead. “This is a memorable win and probably the most significant for me because I’m a senior and we gave coach Kugler his first win.”

Both offenses dominated early in the game, the Aggies fumbled the initial kickoff and the Miners took full advantage and quarterback Jameill Showers connected with senior tight end Kevin Perry for an 8-yard touchdown pass to take the lead after only

“This is a memorable win and probably the most significant for me because I’m a senior and we gave coach Kugler his first win.”

— Brander Craighead, senior offensive lineman

10 seconds. After only five and a half minutes, UTEP and New Mexico State were tied at 14.

It wasn’t until the end of the second quarter, when Aaron Jones scored in a 8-yard run with only 17 seconds left in the first half The Aggies were able to tie the game after freshman King Davis III connected with wide receiver Brandon Betancourt for a 72-yard touchdown pass. However, the Miners answered just three plays later when sophomore LaQuintus Dowell escaped for a 54-yard touchdown.

The Miners secured the game in the fourth quarter with an eight-minute drive that concluded with a 17-yard run for Laufasa to the endzone.

“When you run the ball effectively, you control the clock and that allowed us to control the flow of the game,” Kugler said. “Jameill Showers threw the ball well, the receivers did a good job and got some yards after the catch, it was a good team win on both sides of the ball.”



AARON MONTES / THE PROSPECTOR

(Top) Junior running back Nathan Jeffery finds space to run in the first quarter against NMSU at Aggie Memorial Stadium on Sept. 14. (Bottom): Junior tight end Katrae Ford holds the silver spade after the Miners defeated the Aggies for the fifth-straight time.

Shortly after, Dashone Smith got his second interception of the game and just one play later, Laufasa added his second score of the game.

“The offensive line did a great job giving me time and making me feel comfortable. Last game, I only got hit once, today I got hit once and as long as I just get hit once I feel pretty safe.”

Showers said. “It was a great win to get just before heading into conference. I think we would have been ready anyways, but the win makes it better.”

The Miners, now 1-1, will host UTSA Roadrunners on Sept. 21 at the Sun Bowl, the same day that the Sun Bowl will reach its 50th anniversary. Kugler obtained his first win as the

Miners’ head coach but gives all the credit to his players and acknowledges that his team still needs to improve.

“I’m excited about it, it’s a great team win, but we have to go back, look at the film and keep improving to get ready for next week,” Kugler said.

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SOCCKER

Babcock wants to leave a lasting impression

ELLISIA SHAFER
The Prospector

As a freshman for UTEP in 2010, senior forward Jade Babcock was rated third on the UTEP soccer team in goals, fourth in points and fifth in assists.

Now in her senior year, Babcock remembers transitioning from divisional play in Midland, Texas, to leading on the UTEP soccer field, not only in scoring but with values.

In her last season at UTEP, Babcock discusses her growth as a player since her freshman year.

Originally from Midland, Texas, Babcock was a three-year starter for Midland High School; earning varsity letters in track and field. She was also named Athlete of the Year by the school. In 2007, she earned playing time with the Nike Friendlies, a national event that hosts soccer players from around the world.

While at Midland, she led her soccer team in (31) goals and (18) assists, and won several Division I regional and national championships in 2008.

In her last season at UTEP, Babcock is seen as a major contributor and leader.

Only in their third week of play, Babcock leads the soccer team in goals with three so far this season, one in the season opener against Utah Valley and a brace against UC Riverside on Sept. 6 in the 14th Annual Border Shootout.

She brings a boost to the team and helps to motivate everyone around her, said coach Kevin Cross.

"We love Jade Babcock, she's one of the players that has grown tremendously since her freshman year. Her mindset is really good. When you see her in action, she has a mind of



AARON MONTES / THE PROSPECTOR

Senior forward Jade Babcock has scored 12 goals in her UTEP career, including three in the first six games of the 2013 season.

a champion," Cross said. "She has really matured, and it's been really good watching her develop physically. She will be one of the most intimidating in our conference this season. She is focused and at the top of her game right now, playing the best soccer I have seen her play, while helping to motivate everyone around her. She has really dedicated herself too, and we are really thankful for her efforts."

Acting not only as a leader on the team, senior mid-fielder Azia Nicholson said Babcock helps to push everyone on the team to be better.

"She's a very explosive player, really intense. She really lights a fire under you and gets you excited during the games," Nicholson said. "She has really improved so much since freshman year. She is the most improved by far mentally and physically on the field tactfully. It's been really cool to watch her grow as a person and as a soccer player. It really translates on the field, and we are all really proud of her for the work she has put in. Both of us were here all summer working hard, so it's really good to see all her hard work is paying off."

Staying with the sport, Babcock admits the journey from small town to college has not always been easy, but

she credits her accomplishments to her work ethic and her desire to remain focused.

"Going from high school to college is completely different. Midland is a pretty small town; knowing everyone in the town, playing with the same group of girls and knowing all the coaches. Then you come to college, you have to adjust to a whole new team, new coaches, the competition is elevated," Babcock said. "It's a different level of focus, so I try to bring intensity. I want to win and I'll do anything to win. It's never a question of if I am working hard or not because I try to always give 100 percent every single time."

Babcock is optimistic about what the Miners will be able to accomplish this season, but she also has goals for her future after UTEP. She is currently planning on graduating in May 2014 with a health promotions degree, then she is planning to continue her education.

"I really want to be a nutritionist. It's something I have wanted to do for a long time," Babcock said. "After graduation, I plan on attending grad school at one of the big Texas schools and completing my master's degree in nutrition."

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