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The Prospector, November 26, 2013

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ASSAYER OF STUDENT OPINION

THE

PROSPECTOR

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THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO

NOVEMBER 26, 2013



ILLUSTRATION BY DIEGO BURCIAGA

Students react to UT's 'Catch an Illegal Immigrant' game

BY AMANDA GUILLEN

The Prospector

What started as a game to spark conversation about illegal immigration led to countless heated discussions and debate across the country. UTEP students and faculty have chimed into the conversation.

The Young Conservatives of Texas, a registered student organization at

UT Austin, created a Facebook event titled "Catch an Illegal Immigrant." This event was to take place on Nov. 20. Students involved in the organization were to be labeled with the words "illegal immigrant" and a student would have to catch them and bring them back to the YCT table and receive a \$25 gift card. This sparked up a whirlwind of controversy and

brought UT Austin to the center of national attention.

The event was cancelled, but that didn't stop the controversy. Students at UT Austin gathered together on campus on Nov. 20 to stand in opposition of the game and support national immigration reform.

"Considering that it took place at Austin, I don't think that they thought that it would have such a

great impact," said Hector Campa, junior political science major. "But other places, like here, that are along the border, we took it to another extreme and saw it as something bad."

Freshman English and American literature major Louie Villicana heard about YCT's game during a lecture. The topic was brought up by his pro-

see IMMIGRANT on page 3

CAMPUS LIFE

French Club hosts clothing drive for children's home, resources scarce

BY KRISTOPHER RIVERA

The Prospector

A donation drive by the UTEP French Club will be spread thin this year as students try to contribute to different causes.

Last year, the French Club donated about \$200 to the Lee and Beulah Moor Children's Home.

"I'm not too sure if we'll be able to do that this year, but at least we have a decent collection of winter clothes—jackets and coats," said David Caraveo, senior pre-nursing major and member of the French Club.

Their current focus will be to collect coats and jackets—sizes fit for babies to teenagers—until Nov. 27, when

they will take the last batch collected to the children's home.

The home is not an orphanage, but more of a family-service agency that has expanded its services since the home opened in 1959. It runs on a trust fund started by the founders.

"You hear stories, where the parents try their best or you hear parents say, 'I wish I would have done this,'" Caraveo said. "You do what you can, there's nothing else to it. If you can learn something new to help, you give it a shot."

Right now the home is at capacity with 60 children in its care—12 are in foster care and 47 are in general residence on the 13-acre campus, located on Cliff Drive.

see DRIVE on page 3



KRISTOPHER RIVERA / THE PROSPECTOR

Jesus Gonzalez, senior psychology major and member of the French Club, takes pies to the face outside the Liberal Arts building in exchange for a \$1 donation from students.

NATIONAL

Healthcare stumbles as full rollout looms

BY S. DAVID RAMIREZ

The Prospector

This is part of a continuing series on the Affordable Care Act.

The Affordable Care Act deployment continues to have problems as the individual mandate's Jan. 5 deadline looms ever closer.

The Paper Application

Some individuals have expressed confusion about the nature of the Healthcare.gov site. Across several opinion pieces in the local newspaper and innumerable pieces from other publications, there seems to be a misunderstanding about the requirement of submitting a digital application.

While the digital application is the most expeditious way to apply to the exchange, a paper application is available.

The Prospector requested a paper application via the Healthcare Hotline. It is available in English and Spanish, though it took more than a month for the paper copy to arrive.

The application itself is almost an exact copy of the digital form, though the printed instructions seem to be more intelligible.

Healthcare Hotline workers were unable to provide information about processing times for the paper application, but the U.S. Health and Human Services Department, which is handling the paperwork is reported to have hired an additional 300 staff members to prepare for the mailed forms.

\$50 Healthcare for Under 30's, Not So

A new campaign by the Obama administration features the line that many young people are eligible for healthcare coverage costing as low as \$50 a month.

Upon closer inspection, there are very specific terms to be able to acquire this cheaper premium.

Individuals must earn somewhere in the neighborhood of \$22,000 a year in order to receive the discounts, which is generally more than most students earn.

The average cost of the lowest plans in the El Paso region, for non-smoking college-aged students, remains around \$115 a month. These plans

see HEALTHCARE on page 3

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NOVEMBER 26, 2013

COLUMN

‘Moral imperative’ not a motivator

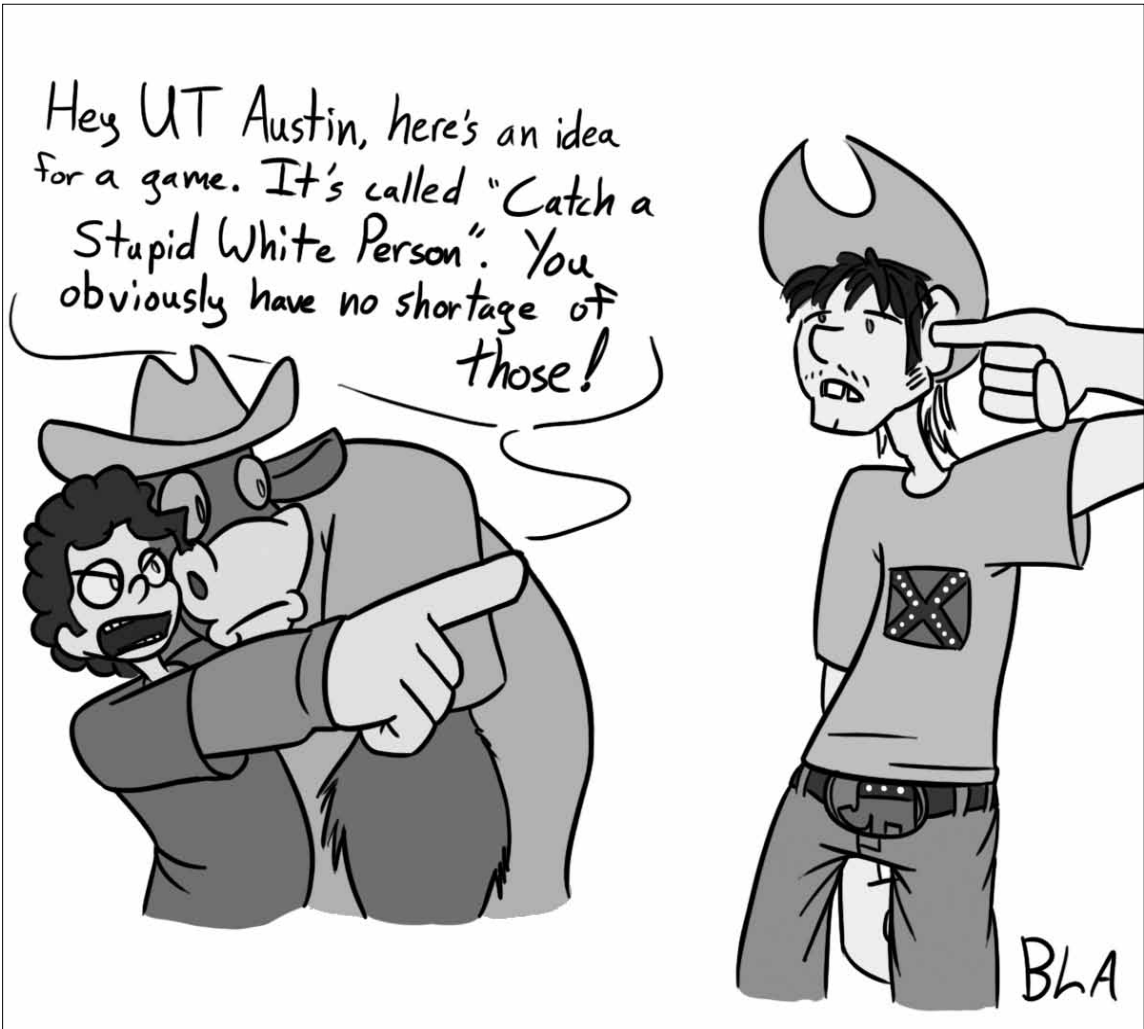
BY S. DAVID RAMIREZ
The Prospector



It seems like the Millennials always get the short end of the stick. We’re thought to be lazy, self-absorbed technophiles, who casually abuse drugs and expect frequent praise for even the most lackluster accomplishment. But we’re also supposed to be the support pillars that hold up society? Our wages are pumped into Social Security and Medicaid to keep those institutions going. Our vices, mostly electronics and consumables, are taxed while soccer moms and business executives can get their Xanax and Viagra written off as mandatory medical expenses, tax free with a small co-pay. Now, political voices are clamoring that young people need to buy into the Affordable Care Act. Not because it will be cheap or because it is good for us, but rather because it will help support the system. Young people are less likely to get sick, therefore, less likely to require healthcare. Insurance companies can take that money and apply it toward the more infirm or toward their already-inflated stock prices. The Christian Science Monitor describes this phenomenon as a “moral imperative” and others are performing variations on that theme. “Citizens’

duty” or “American obligation” are what we Millennials would call bullying. Where is the reciprocity? Baby boomers are holding on to jobs longer than ever, pushing back retirement and ultimately preventing Millennials from entering the workforce. Tuition prices continue to skyrocket, while universities outsource their food service and bookstores to conglomerates that attempt to bleed the last few drops from financial aid disbursements. We’ve fallen victim to the glamour of unpaid internships, offering “experience” to students and annually saving companies billions. The national debt, international conflict, environmental decline and irreparable social structures will all be inherited by the Millennials. Moral imperative is not enough. Political action groups and politicians must begin considering the needs of our generation. Many of us do not have the Baby Boomer dream of nuclear families and picket fences. We are a generation of travelers, exploring real and digital domains. As we graduate in record numbers, we’ll go forth with a more progressive and optimistic—albeit a slightly cynical—outlook on life. Within the decade, we will rise to power as managers, business people and professionals. It is time for the powers that be to recognize it.

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



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StormTRACK WEATHER
abc 7

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



AARON MONTES / THE PROSPECTOR
Paul Whittler, community relations and development coordinator at the Lee and Beulah Moor Children's Home, stands at the center of the 13-acre residential campus.

DRIVE from page 1
The trust fund takes care of the day-to-day operations including utility bills. However, it does not take care of the food, the clothing or any other essentials for the kids.
The children's home is a private non-profit and they don't receive funds from the state or federal government. They also write grants to receive additional funding.
The French Club has placed two boxes in the Liberal Arts Building for donations. One is by the main entrance and the other is in the language and linguistics department, located on the first floor.
"Our life blood is donations, both in-kind and money. Everything that we have—the books in the library, the tables, the chairs—

everything is donated," said Paul Whittler, community relations development coordinator at the Lee and Beulah Moor Children's Home. "If that dried up we would close in an instant because we wouldn't be able to adequately take care of the kids like we do."
Whittler said they accept anything from clothing and electronics to furniture and more.
"You name it, we take it and we can use it," he said.
Families voluntarily place children ages 5-15, in the home for a variety of reasons.
"The economic disadvantage is just one case," Whittler said. "We have grandparents, who are sole guardians of their grandkids, and they get to the point where they can no lon-

Our life blood is donations, both in-kind and money.
- Paul Whittler, coordinator at the Lee and Beulah Moor Children's Home

ger properly take care of them on a day-to-day basis."
More information on the children's home may be found at leemoor.org.
Kristopher Rivera may be reached at theprospectordaily.news@gmail.com.

IMMIGRANT from page 1
fessor and right away sparked debate within the classroom.
"When I first found out about it, it bugged me," Villicana said. "This doesn't give anybody the right to humiliate people. I think this is a humiliation and it made me think 'what do we stand for as a nation? What is the image that we are presenting?' We are supposed to be the land of the free and a land of opportunity."
UTEP's Dean of Students Catie McCorry-Andalis said it is important to learn from events like this one.
"College is a time to figure out who you are, what you believe in and find out where you want to go in your life," McCorry-Andalis said. "These types of scenarios help that growth happen and often the most controversial types of issues are the ones that really help students wrap their minds around their belief systems, their morals, their values."

She said UTEP and UT Austin follow the same free speech and assembly rules and said UTEP students should practice their First Amendment rights—especially in a college setting—but should think rationally about what they choose to say.
"We have a culture on our campus that is very different, I don't foresee an organization wanting to do that just because of the makeup of our campus and who we are," McCorry-Andalis said. "But if they did—and not just about this issue but any issue that may have a level of controversy—we really sit down with the organization and help them understand what is convenient for them and the questions they are going to get, not only internally but externally...They must be prepared to answer those questions."

What do we stand for as a nation? What is the image that we are presenting? We are supposed to be the land of the free and a land of opportunity.
- Louie Villicana, freshman English and American literature major

Campa said freedom of speech has its pros and cons and that the topic of illegal immigration is more sensitive in El Paso.
"I'm sure the reason that some of the people here in El Paso find this offensive is because of the issues that we face here, living so close to the border," he said.
Not all who shared the same beliefs as the young conservatives agreed with their game.
Anthony Vera, a sophomore economics major, attends UT Austin and is also a conservative Republican.
"After reading about the event, I immediately thought that this was a classless and very inefficient way to spark debate about immigration reform," he said. "There are certainly other ways to bring attention to an issue, but having an event that jokes about the struggles of students all over the U.S. is most definitely not a way to go about public policy. As a Republican and conservative alike, this is not the way to represent our party's ideals, and I strongly resented the event."

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

HEALTHCARE from page 1
include a high premium, generally around \$6,000.
Open Shopping, but with a Catch
The Healthcare.gov site has opened up the premium search tool, which allows individuals to begin the shopping process without going through the glitch-riddled registration process.
Numerous agencies and individuals have reported that there can be huge differences in the open shopping

premium rate and the final rate after registration.
Smoking is also a major factor that isn't considered by open shopping. Being a smoker can more than double the final premium, depending on other demographic statistics.
The Prospector will continue to update readers about the ongoing healthcare law roll out. Visit theprospectordaily.com for more information.
S. David Ramirez may be reached at theprospectordaily.news@gmail.com.

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QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Do you have any plans for the Thanksgiving break?

MICHAELA ROMAN / THE PROSPECTOR



ANTONIO ESPARZA
Freshman computer science major
“Eat with my family and put up the Christmas tree.”



GABRIELA MARQUEZ
Senior psychology major
“Nothing, because I don’t celebrate Thanksgiving. I don’t support colonizers colonizing other people’s land.”



AUSTIN ARMINDAREZ
Freshman pre-nursing major
“This break I plan to rest, spend time with family and go shopping.”



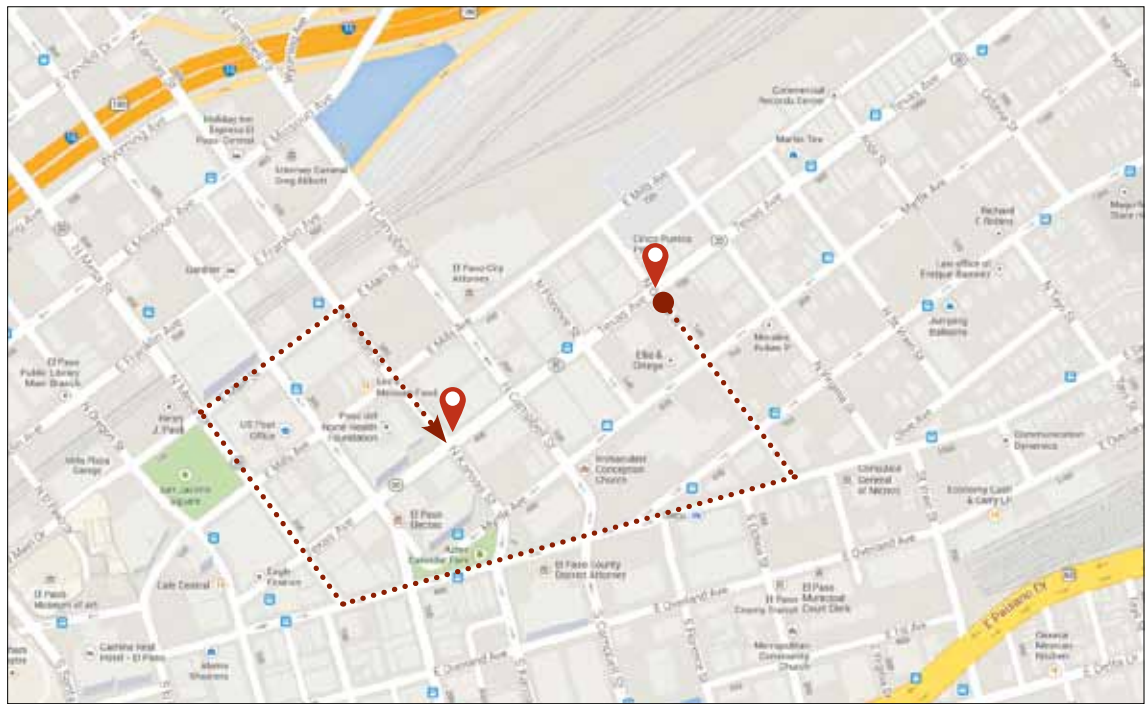
MELISSA FLORES
Freshman art history major
“I’ll be working every day this week and spend time with family and friends when I can.”



LUIS RODARTE
Senior biology major
“Stay here in El Paso, go with my family and participate in Black Friday.”

COMMUNITY

Holiday parade route changed due to construction



SPECIAL TO THE PROSPECTOR

Shown above is the new route of the Celebratoin of Lights parade that will take place Dec. 7. The parade route will start at Texas Ave. and North Ochoa St., continuing onto Myrtle Ave. and going down San Antonio Ave., taking a right on Mesa St., a right on Main St., another right on Kansas St. and stopping on Texas Ave.

BY LORAIN WATTERS
The Prospector

The Celebration of Lights—an annual event where the public is invited to a holiday parade, a fireworks display and the official lighting of the Christmas lights—has been moved to Cleveland Square Park, 510 Santa Fe St., due to the ongoing construction at San Jacinto Plaza.

The Celebration of Lights will begin at approximately 4 p.m. Dec. 7 and is sponsored by evolve Federal Credit Union.

Cleveland Square Park is smaller than San Jacinto Plaza, which means that there will be fewer lights and a smaller parade.

“There were less entries allowed this year because of construction and the street closures that have resulted because of it (Mills and Campbell Street),” said Brenda Romero, special events coordinator for the city of El Paso. “Last year we had 68 and this year we will only have 55.”

The parade route will start at Texas Avenue and North Ochoa Street, continuing onto Myrtle Avenue and going down San Antonio Avenue, taking a right on Mesa Street, a right on Main Street, another right on Kansas Street and stopping on Texas Avenue.

The U.S. Army’s First Armored Division Band will play at 4:30 p.m. and at 5 p.m. the St. Anthony’s Seminary Franciscanos Choir will perform. The celebration will also feature Fernanda Garcia, 8, of Candlelighters of El Paso, who will flip the power switch to turn on the lights with Mayor Oscar Leeser at 5:30 p.m.

The parade will begin at 5:55 p.m. after the lighting ceremony.

“Street closures will start at 4 p.m., so anyone who wants to go should get there early before traffic starts to build up,” Romero said.

In order to make up for fewer Christmas lights, more ornaments will be placed around the park, Romero said.

Paola Vela, sophomore microbiology major, has attended the parade and Christmas light celebration in previous years with her family.

“The tree was my favorite part and the focal point for the Christmas lights,” Vela said. “There’s a lot of people who enjoy looking at the lights and the fact that there is construction would likely make people visit Cleveland Park to avoid construction detours.”

The Christmas lights and parade did not make an impression on Hector Villalobos, junior music major, when he visited them as a child and he said he does not plan on attending the celebration.

“I thought it was nice seeing the big tree when it was there, but I would only go if a group of friends wanted to or if there was an event happening downtown that I was already attending and could stop on the way to the lights,” Villalobos said.

Romero said that the Christmas lights are in their final stages and will still be a great celebration for El Paso.

Parking lots will open for the public and will charge a \$5 fee.

For more information about the event, parking or the parade route, visit home.elpasotexas.gov/parks/.

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

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ENTERTAINMENT

EDITOR
ANDREA ACOSTA, 747-7477

The Iron Turkey Race continues to fight Lou Gehrig’s disease

BY LEONARDO MONTAÑEZ

The Prospector

The Phi Delta Theta Fraternity is hosting their annual Iron Turkey race on Nov. 28, a philanthropy event that will raise funding for Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis research, also known as Lou Gehrig’s disease.

Muhammad Saad Sheikh, public relations chairman of Phi Delta Theta, said that all the money collected will go to the ALS Association in New Mexico.

“There is still no cure for the ALS, so the Iron Turkey will contribute to help research and hopefully find a cure,” said Sheikh, sophomore media advertising major. “This is our biggest philanthropy event of the year.”

The race will be hosted by The Greenery in Sunland Park and will have different events and races.

“We will have the main event, which is the 5K run, but if you’re not a runner, we also have a one-mile fun run or walk,” Sheikh said. “Additionally, we will have a costume contest with a Thanksgiving theme and the Turkey Olympics, which entails a format of four-person relay, in which you have to run with a frozen turkey—each person is running a quarter mile and the turkey will be provided.”

The race will have trophies and prizes for the first, second and third place to male and female finishers in each age group, which includes gift cards to The Greenery at Sunland Park Mall. This year’s Iron Turkey will also have giveaways such as basketballs signed by coach Tim Floyd and footballs signed by coach Sean Kugler.

Last year, the Iron Turkey had approximately 700 people participating, and this year they expect to have more than 1,000 runners, Sheikh said.

“Over our past four years, we have raised over \$40,000 for the ALS Association and we are looking to contribute significantly this year as well,” Sheikh said. “We want to invite people to contribute to a great cause and to start off Thanksgiving Day with a great deed.”

Sheikh said that they teamed up with UTEP Athletics and master of ceremonies, Monica Castillo from Power 102, to raffle free packages to Iron Turkey.

“UTEP Athletics will raffle off a free race packet during one of the games and we are also teaming up with Mónica Castillo—on her social media she will be giving another free packet during the week of Thanksgiving up until Thursday,” Sheikh said.

Mark Heins, owner of The Greenery, said that he’s happy to once again host the Iron Turkey and is helping raise funds by donating \$1 for each registration.

“This event has a special meaning to me because my roommate in college used to have ALS, so we are trying to help in any way we can,” Heins said. “We will be giving \$5 gift cards to whoever finishes the race to spend whenever they want.”

The Greenery will be providing parking spaces, but will be closed on Thanksgiving Day.

“The Iron Turkey has gotten better and better over the years,” said Heins. “It has grown significantly over the



SPECIAL TO THE PROSPECTOR

The Iron 5K Turkey race will take place at 7:30 a.m. on Nov. 28 at 750 N. Sunland Park Dr.

years and has been a great way for raising money for research.”

UTEP alumni Bernie Maese is expecting to enjoy the race although the weather doesn’t look favorable.

“I am expecting—with this current weather—a chilly race, but mostly expecting to have a great time,” Maese said. “Especially with the added bonus of dressing up for the race—it is some-

thing other Thanksgiving Day races don’t do, well at least that I am aware of.”

For Maese, the Iron Turkey has become a Thanksgiving tradition since he thinks that it addresses a problem that citizens don’t see so much in the border region.

“I have been running the race since the inaugural race, plus I have to burn a lot of calories to make up for the feast I will have later on,” Maese said.

“I think it is admirable of them to found an event that can draw many to raise money and awareness for ALS.”

Registration may be done at raceadventuresunlimited.com, starting from \$20 for the Turkey Olympics only and \$35 for the 5K and Turkey Olympics.

The race will start 7:30 a.m. at 750 N. Sunland Park Dr.

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



VERONICA ENRIQUEZ/THE PROSPECTOR

SELC will surprise 192 children at the annual Secret Santa Celebration being held from 7-9 p.m. on Dec. 6 at the Memorial Gym. (Above) Casandra Reyes.

CAMPUS LIFE

SELC fills up Christmas stockings

BY JOSE SOTO

The Prospector

The season of giving is almost upon us. For many children, this means the time of receiving an abundance of wrapped joys. However, for a demographic of children here in El Paso, the holiday cheer isn’t always prevalent, especially since many foster and low-income children don’t have the opportunity to be on Santa’s gifting list.

The Student Engagement and Leadership Center (SELC) will hold its annual Secret Santa Program in hopes of filling a void for these children’s holiday season.

“It’s really great how this program provides the children with exactly what they want, having written it in the letter they sent. Otherwise, these kids wouldn’t have anything else,” said Esperanza Candelaria SELC administrative assistant.

“The UTEP community has been great. All of the children’s letters have been picked up and have been returned with the gift itself.”

In charge of this community service for almost 13 years, Candelaria

sent out 200 letters to all the UTEP departments/organizations inviting them to partake in the program. Faculty started receiving letters in early October, the cut-off date was supposed to be Nov. 25, but as an effect of the generosity of the UTEP community, all the gifts needed were purchased, the deadline was met early.

“This annual community service event is very exciting,” Candelaria said. “It’s a lot of fun to see the kids finally receive their gift they long for so much.”

The Secret Santa Program provides donated gifts to those children, who otherwise wouldn’t have something to unwrap this Christmas. The gifts were provided by the faculty, staff and students who donated toys, clothes, books and even sporting equipment.

Children from the Lee and Beulah Moor Children’s Home, The Center for Emergency Shelter, La Posada and Montana Vista Home were asked to send were asked to send letters stating what they wished for Christmas.

see SELC on page 6



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“This annual community service event is very exciting. It’s a lot of fun to see the kids finally receive their gift they long for so much.”
- Esperanza Candelaria, SELC administrative assistant

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SELC from page 5

to send were asked to send letters stating what they wished for Christmas.

Approximately 192 children sent in letters.

SELC welcomes any donations for their annual gift-wrapping party, which will be held on Nov. 27. Bows, tape, gift tags, juice boxes, candies and cookies are all accepted. Members of Greek life, as well as the department itself, spend the evening wrapping the donated gifts to hand over to the children at the Secret Santa Celebration, held at Memorial Gym on Dec. 6 from 7-9 p.m.

Kids will get a chance to play volleyball, as well as enjoy snacks from a basket of goodies, cookies, juice and, of course, the appearance of Santa Clause and Mrs. Clause.

Ashley Rodriguez, a senior psychology major and SELC intern, said this will be her third year participating in the Secret Santa Program.

“It’s always really successful, which is great.

This year, we were able to get all gifts for every kid three weeks early,” Rodriguez said.

Rodriguez herself bought a 3-year-old a soft, warm jacket and some athletic wear.

“It was fun shopping for the jacket and it’s also rewarding seeing them opening their gift, knowing you got it for them. It’s kind of like a community service that doesn’t feel like much work,” Rodriguez said. “Candelaria does a great job, her hard work makes this all happen.”

For any questions regarding the event or to give any further donations, Candelaria may be reached by phone at 747-5670 or by visiting the Student Engagement and Leadership Center, located at Union West, room 106.

Jose Soto can be reached at theprospectordaily.ent@gmail.com.

SHOPPING

Battle of the Holidays: Black Friday vs. Thanksgiving

BY ASHLEY MUÑOZ

The Prospector

It’s that time of year again—the weather is getting colder, holiday decorations are being hung, but some holiday celebrating may be overshadowed by Black Friday.

As the kick-off to holiday shopping is only days away, many shoppers are ready to fill their shopping carts and race to the end of the savings madness. To some, this is a great way to get great deals and find the perfect stocking stuffers. However, there are others who stand on the other side of the spectrum or who may possibly be caught in the middle.

“I honestly think it depends on how one was raised,” said Anaysa Arce, general studies major. “I do find it ridiculous that stores are opening on Thanksgiving Day. I think they shouldn’t do that. That takes away from the meaning of the holiday.”

Opinions can vary on this topic, but freshman studio art major Gabriella Olivas agrees with Arce about the Black Friday epidemic.

“Family time is important, no one should take away from this holiday, not even retail stores,” Olivas said.

Janeth Escajeda, sophomore art major, who will work during Black Friday, said that it gets very hectic.

“I have to work on Thanksgiving; it’s hard to work and not spend time with your family. Now that retailers have made the decision to open on Thanksgiving itself, it’s going to be more hectic than usual. I mean come on, seriously?”

Black Friday has had a great effect on this generation, and is here to stay, now prompting what is now called Grey Thursday.

“(Black Friday) has transformed into a November tradition. It’s like the second thing people think about when it comes to November,” said Carol-Anne Yerby, a shopper who attended Black Friday last year and has seen people go crazy during the shopping chaos. “This new Grey Thursday will definitely take away from Thanksgiving. Instead of being at home with family, some people are going to end up as greedy customers shopping vs. spending time with loved ones.”

With its origins in the ‘60s, Black Friday still has its magic and reels

consumers in to the sweet savings offered by retail stores. The average shopper spends around \$400, if not more each year. A total of \$59 trillion was spent in 2012—a 15 percent increase from 2011—and 23 percent of the shoppers camping outside the stores.

In the race to see who will catch more attention, Black Friday may indeed have the lead. It’s safe to say that it’s our natural shopping instinct to react to such great deals, and with this new promotion of Grey Thursday, it may be hard to for some to say no.

Ashley Muñoz may be reached at theprospectordaily.ent@gmail.com.



MICHAELA ROMAN / THE PROSPECTOR

Black Friday will take place on Nov. 29. Sunland Park and Cielo Vista mall will open its doors at midnight. Sunland Park will not open on Thanksgiving Day.

REVIEW

Fresh grass-fed beef burgers made from scratch

BY MARCUS SEEGER

The Prospector

The restaurant owners who brought El Paso Crave Kitchen & Bar have opened a new restaurant called Independent Burger & Bar, located within the retail section of the Venue at Montecillo.

The interior is nicely finished with wood and has a full bar that runs along the center of the room. The restaurant also has a selection of tables you can choose from. If you are in the mood for some fresh air, you can sit outside on the massive wooden patio, complete with a ping-pong table.

Independent Burger also serve salads, a variety of appetizers and desserts such as milkshakes and ice cream sandwiches. The ice cream used is homemade, running at \$5. It is slightly creamier than some traditional milkshakes.

The atmosphere was very relaxed, slightly more formal than Crave, and the noise level is average where conversations could easily be carried on.

The meat in their burgers is very tender and juicy with the perfect blend of seasoning, accompanied by crispy fries. The crunch and additional flavor of the bacon really gave it a good overall blend. The burger called the Fancy Pants, which included mushrooms, carefully placed on top and crispy onion rings on the side, tasted superb and came out a little sweet because of the mushrooms.

Independent Burger strives to provide fresh and flavorful ingredients. Serving grass-fed beef and hamburger buns that are made fresh daily. The produce is bought locally and they cook everything in rice bran oil—which is supposed to be a healthier choice. On top of all this, they have a special soda machine where custom-



VERONICA ENRIQUEZ/ THE PROSPECTOR

Independent Burger and Bar is known for its locally made bread and their burgers made from grass-fed beef. It is located at 5001 N. Mesa and open 11 a.m.-11 p.m., Mon.-Sun.

ers may pick their favorite flavor to combine with carbonated water.

Overall, Independent Burger is very good, however, the only downside is the price, but the food is of higher quality.

You get what you pay for at Independent Burger, with good-sized por-

tions and delicious food. The service was speedy and all the servers were friendly and respectful. I would recommend it to anyone who enjoys eating a good burger in a pleasant atmosphere. Happy eating.

Marcus Seegers may be reached at theprospectordaily.ent@gmail.com.

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NOVEMBER 26, 2013

SPORTS

EDITOR
EDWIN DELGADO, 747-7477

Miners off to the Bahamas



AARON MONTES / THE PROSPECTOR

UTEP men's basketball will face the Tennessee Volunteers on Nov. 28 in the first of three stiff games for the Miners in the Battle 4 Atlantis.

BY JAVIER CORTEZ
The Prospector

The UTEP men's basketball team will embark on their biggest non-conference tournament in recent history from Nov. 28-30. The Miners will be heading to Paradise Island, Bahamas to take part in the Battle 4 Atlantis Tournament. The Tournament includes college basketball juggernauts like Kansas, Iowa, Wake Forest, Southern California, Villanova, Tennessee and Xavier. Battle 4 Atlantis is one of the biggest tournaments in college basketball for its quality teams and is unrivaled in its monetary value—Battle 4 Atlantis it's the richest basketball tournament in college basketball.

The Miners will open the tournament on Nov. 28 against Tennessee. So far this season the Volunteers are 3-1, with their only loss coming against Xavier, who is in the tournament as well. Tennessee is led by senior guard Jordan McRae and a strong front court. McRae is leading the team in points per game at 21.5 and shooting 51.9 percent from the field.

"Tennessee got pretty good big guys as well," said junior guard/forward Julian Washburn. "Playing them is always going to be tough because of how big they are and their guards are pretty solid."

The guard play of Tennessee will be a huge task for the Miners as they open their tournament. Depending on the Miners' result against Tennessee, they will either face Xavier or Iowa. The Xavier Musketeers are returning a veteran lineup this year with plenty experience. The Iowa Hawkeyes are very much the same, returning many key players and hoping for a NCAA Tournament bid.

“We’re always trying to play quality teams... That’s the reason we’re going to the Bahamas, they will be three great tests for us.”
-Tim Floyd,
men’s basketball head coach

"I think we need to just go out there and play hard defensively and offensively," said junior guard C.J. Cooper. "Of course we want to win, if we go out there and play hard we can beat anybody."

Despite the Miners coming off their second loss of the season, once again at the hands of New Mexico State, the Miners wouldn't have it any other way playing against quality opponents in New Mexico State and Colorado State heading into a tournament of this magnitude.

"You like to win and we're always trying to play quality teams," said head coach Tim Floyd. "That's the reason why we're going to the Bahamas, that will be three great tests for us no matter who we see. We feel like it's important that we play against these types of teams, bottom line you need to beat some of them."

As of now UTEP stands with a 3-2 record, with victories over Loyola New Orleans, West Alabama and Col-
see BAHAMAS on page 8

GAME PREVIEW

Football team ends season against Blue Raiders

BY JAVIER CORTEZ
The Prospector

The UTEP football season will come to an end on Nov. 30, as the Miners take on the Middle Tennessee State Blue Raiders in Murfreesboro, Tenn.

Whether they win or lose, with their 2-9 record, the Miners have been out of any bowl consideration for the past five weeks.

Coming into this game, Middle Tennessee is on a four-game winning streak and stand at 7-4 overall with one game left in their regular season. Over the past four games, the Blue Raiders have outscored their opponents 165 to 91.

"Offensively, they are very potent, they have ran for 250 yards the last four games and have played really well," said head coach Sean Kugler.

The Blue Raiders are led by senior quarterback Logan Kilgore. The three-year starter is looking to send the Blue Raiders back to a bowl game as he wraps up his career at Middle Tennessee. Kilgore has been the most prolific passer in the school's history. He is also Middle Tennessee's all-time leader in touchdown passes, pass at-

“Offensively they are really potent, they have ran for 250 yards the last four games and have played really well.”
-Sean Kugler,
football head coach

tempts and soon to be the leader in pass completions and passing yards.

"He is very efficient. He is a senior and he is experienced," Kugler said. "Middle Tennessee, like other teams we've faced—They are strong when they have senior leadership at that position, it has meant a lot for them."

The biggest threats the Miners will have to face are once again in the backfield. The Blue Raiders are led by sophomore running back Jordan



AARON MONTES / THE PROSPECTOR

UTEP will face Middle Tennessee State on the road, on the final game of the first season under Sean Kugler.

Palmer, who leads the team in rushing with 656 yards, as well as junior running back Reggie Whatley, who leads the team in yards per rush with 6.8.

Overall, Middle Tennessee ranks 35th in the nation with 199.6 rushing yards per game. Whereas the Miners' defense has given up 242.7 yards on the ground per game and ranks 117th

in the nation. The Blue Raiders will be sure to give the Miners a full dose of running plays, as the Miners have the worst rush defense the Blue Raiders have faced all year.

After an emotional season finale home win on senior night in El Paso, the Miners traveled to New Orleans

to play Tulane and were thoroughly dominated by the Green Wave, 45-3.

The Miners struggled all during the game to move the ball offensively, only collecting 13 first downs in comparison to Tulane's 26. Last week, the Miners also struggled in the run game, only collecting 49 rushing yards.

see RAIDERS on page 8

FEATURE

Women’s basketball find new local talent in Telles



MICHAELA ROMAN / THE PROSPECTOR
Junior point guard Stacie Telles is the second leading scorer for UTEP. She started her first game for UTEP against Northern Arizona on Nov. 22.

BY EDWIN DELGADO
The Prospector

The women’s basketball team has found in junior point guard Stacie Telles a new local gem to help them carry the load on offense. Telles, who is a Burges High School graduate, transferred to UTEP from New Mexico Junior College for this season. She has adapted well to the team and the Division I play and is the second Miner with the most points (46), only behind another local star, senior forward Kayla Thornton (58).

“She has tremendous work ethic, she’s been great since preseason conditioning, she is in great shape, she is very competitive,” said head coach Keitha Adams. “I like the mentality she brings to the team, she is a great shooter and helps us a lot with our transitions. She has been a great addition to our program and we are glad that she is on our team.” Basketball has been part of her life since Telles can remember. She said she started playing basketball when she was only 3 years old, a sport she initiated with her father and siblings

and even though her siblings moved on to other sports, she kept loyal to basketball. As she was growing up, she idolized Allen Iverson, who played for the Philadelphia 76ers. Telles said that she was fascinated by his ball movement and he became her inspiration. In high school as a player for the Burges Mustangs, Telles averaged 18.1 points per game and led her team to the playoffs in 2011. In junior college, Telles led New Mexico Junior College to back-to-back Western Junior College Ath-

letic Conference championships and a combined record of 56-11 over the past two years. The team also had a fifth-place finish at the national championships, which she said has been her best experience so far in her basketball career. The adjustment to Division 1 has not been easy, but she said that she has adapted quickly to the different type of play, and that she is now facing faster and stronger competition. “Transferring from junior college, it’s always hard because the level of play in Division I is much higher,” Telles said. “It has been a little bit of an adjustment for me, but I feel I’m getting into the flow of everything.” At 5 feet, 7 inches, Telles is not the type of player who tries to drive to the paint, but she has developed an ability to shoot from long-range. “I just take whatever the other team gives me,” Telles said. “If they leave me open, I’m going to take a shot or if they pressure me I’m going to drive it to shoot it or get an assist.” Telles has averaged 25 minutes per game so far this season, and she has shot 55 percent from the field and 56 percent in the 3-point range. Telles is averaging 11.5 points per game and has accumulated seven steals and nine assists in her first four games with UTEP. The great thing about coming back home for her is the fact that friends and family members can see her play. “Back when I was in Juco (junior college), they couldn’t do that very often and for them to be here every home game, it’s really nice,” Telles said. “Not many players can say that they are living their dream of playing Division I basketball in front of friends and family and I can do that.” The main goal for her first season is to improve in defense, and offen-

“ Not many players can say that they are living their dream of playing Division I basketball in front of friends and family and I can do that. ”
- Stacie Telles, junior point guard

sively to make the extra pass to find the open teammate. Telles is currently working on her criminal justice degree. She says if she decides not to continue her career in basketball, she hopes to be able to work for law enforcement, but more than anything she would like to continue her basketball career abroad. “I would like to go play overseas, that’s my big dream,” she said. “I’m not sure where I would go, but anywhere overseas will be great.” Telles, who has replaced Kelli Willingham who suffered a left hand injury, has given her the opportunity of playing an extended role for the team. Adams said she is pleased with her production and is happy to have two El Pasoans as the backbone of the team. “I think it’s great for El Paso, our recruiting starts here at home,” Adams said. “I would like to know how many teams have local players leading in scoring. I don’t know if that’s happening a lot across the country. It’s great to have that and they’re great players and great people.” Edwin Delgado may be reached at theprospectordaily.sports@gmail.com.



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BAHAMAS from page 7
orado State and two losses against New Mexico State. Colorado State and two losses against New Mexico State. “Playing opponents like them (Colorado State and New Mexico State) is exactly what we need for this tournament,” said fifth-year senior guard Justin Crosigile. “It’s a really good and well-known tournament, these were good games to prepare us for what we should expect in the Bahamas. It’s going to be the same level of competition or better.” The biggest factor going into this tournament is junior guard McKenzie Moore’s status. Moore did not play in the last game against New Mexico State due to a concussion. Floyd was asked after the loss to New Mexico

State whether Moore would play in the opening game. “I don’t know. They tested him yesterday (Nov. 22) and I guess they’ll test him sometime tomorrow (Nov. 24) and we’ll see if he’s going to make the trip to the Bahamas or not,” Floyd said. The Miners might be coming off a heartbreaking loss to their arch rival New Mexico State, but being positive going into the Bahamas is the sentiment the Miners are trying to keep. “Always stay positive,” Crosigile said. “We wanted to beat New Mexico State badly, but it’s over with, there’s nothing we can do about it. So we just have to stay positive and move forward and do what we have to do to get this next win.” Javier Cortez may be reached at theprospectordaily.sports@gmail.com.

RAIDERS from page 7
“It was a disappointing loss, after the win I anticipated the team to play with more energy and more intensity,” Kugler said. “It was a through whipping in all faces of the game.” Freshman quarterback Mack Leftwich will make his fourth start this season, and through three games he has thrown for 336 yards on 51 pass attempts, with two touchdowns and two interceptions as well as a 58.8 pass completion percentage. The Miners’ game plan will most likely be shaped around the running game. With Leftwich at the helm, the majority of offensive plays have come on the ground. Junior running back Nathan Jeffery will lead the Miners’ rushing attack, along with return specialist Autrey Golden and backup quarterback Blaire Sullivan.

Although the Blue Raiders are 22.5-point favorites heading into this game, one thing the Miners should not be surprised by is the level of play. Middle Tennessee might be 7-4 and among the Conference USA elite, but the Miners have played plenty of quality opponents all year, especially on the road. “There is one game left for our seniors and I hope they play like its their last game, because it is,” Kugler said. “It will also be an opportunity for the unproven guys that came in place for those who were injured to give it their best.” A win or loss will not affect the Miners’ future this season, but a win will be a sign of hope for next year, as the Miners close out one of their worst seasons in recent history. Javier Cortez may be reached at theprospectordaily.sports@gmail.com.