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The Prospector, February 18, 2014

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ASSAYER OF STUDENT OPINION

THE PROSPECTOR

WWW.THEPROSPECTORDAILY.COM

VOL. 99, NO. 20

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO

FEBRUARY 18, 2014

I GET BY WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM MY VOTERS

Students take to the
polls as early voting begins

TUE. FEB. 18 / 9:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.

South El Paso Senior Citizen Center
600 S. Ochoa St.
Hilos de Plata Senior Center
4451 Delta Dr.

WED. FEB. 19 / 8:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.

UTEP Union East, 1st. Floor
500 W. University Ave.
El Paso Community College Valle Verde Campus
919 Hunter Dr.

THUR. FEB. 20 / 8:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.

El Paso Community College Rio Grande Campus
100 W. Rio Grande Ave.
Gary del Palacio Recreation Center
3001 Parkwood St. (9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.)

FRI. FEB. 21 / 8:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.

Ambrosio Guillen Veterans Home in El Paso
9650 Kenworthy St.
Canutillo Nutrition Center
7351 Bosque Rd.

BY HELEN YIP AND S. DAVID RAMIREZ

The Prospector

Early voting begins today at more than a dozen locations around the city. This advanced balloting period will last until Feb. 28.

This year, voting will be easier for students with UTEP receiving a mobile polling location. On Wednesday, Feb. 19, students will be able to vote at Union Building East. Ballots may be cast on campus from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m.

This type of student voting is special because students will be able to participate on campus regardless of their home precinct.

Generally, citizens may only vote at a location based on geographic districts.

Four years ago, during the 2010 gubernatorial race, 160 UTEP community members took advantage of the on-campus polling. Statistics from the El Paso County Elections Office show that 115 ballots were cast on a Democratic ticket while 45 GOP primary ballots were counted.

Kimberly Escobar, junior kinesiology major feels indifferent about the election. She said voting is important at a local level, but when it comes to a national election, she feels she doesn't know enough.

"I don't really vote, I don't think my vote makes a difference," she said.

Arleen Reyes, senior history major and senator-at-large for the Student Government Association, see ELECTIONS on page 3

“Students’ futures are being shaped by the people who are elected to make decisions on their behalf

— Kathleen Staudt, political science professor

COLUMN

'House of Cards' teachings

BY JASMINE AGUILERA

The Prospector



In a Feb. 13 interview with CBS News, actor Kevin Spacey jokingly said that House Majority Whip Rep. Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., told him "If I could just kill one member of Congress, I wouldn't have to worry about another vote."

This is in light of the recent premier of season two of Netflix's "House of Cards," which Spacey stars in and produces. If you can imagine "Breaking Bad's" Walter White running Congress, then you get the main idea of "House of Cards."

The show centers on Spacey's character, the narcissistic, sadistic, power-hungry House Majority Whip Frank Underwood, and his corrupt rise to power. The series also showcases something we typically don't see in our reality—a Congress that actually gets stuff done.

Before I continue the rest of this column, let me stress that I don't wish our Congress were run by the likes of Underwood—(spoiler alert) I'd rather not have a murderer running our country, and I don't think it takes corrupt officials to maintain a productive government.

But the notion of an administration—particularly a House that "cleans the pipes and keeps the sludge moving," as Underwood describes—that keeps promises and finds a way to enact policy despite ideological extremes should not be so far fetched as it seems to be.

In planning this column, I originally set out to praise Congressional Republicans for cooperating with Democrats to avoid another government crisis. I was really looking forward to saying, "I guess they all decided to do their jobs so they wouldn't miss the 'House of Cards' premier." But that quickly changed when I realized the

House planned to stall immigration reform in 2014.

According to House Speaker John Boehner, Republicans don't "trust the president to implement the law the way we would design it."

I don't doubt there is merit to their worries, but it's not enough of a reason to completely stall the bill. We all know why they're really putting a halt to it—Republicans are scared of losing their majority in the upcoming primary elections.

As it stood, the House bill contained some drastic differences from the Senate version, including stiffer border control measures and it fell short of complete legal status for some immigrants.

Democrats in the House are now saying they are willing to wait until 2017, once President Barack Obama has finished his term, to pass immigration reform.

It's common knowledge that change comes slow in Washington, but the House running the way it has for the past few years is taking that to a new extreme.

No wonder Obama has taken to so many executive orders.

Even though "House of Cards" is a fictional series, in its own right it reminds us of just how counterproductive our own government is.

Spacey said members of the real-life Congress agree and disagree with the premise of "House of Cards."

"I get the spectrum," he said in the CBS interview. "One on hand some people are like 'it's closer than anyone could imagine it's really like,' and others that say it's a fantasy and it's a cynical perspective."

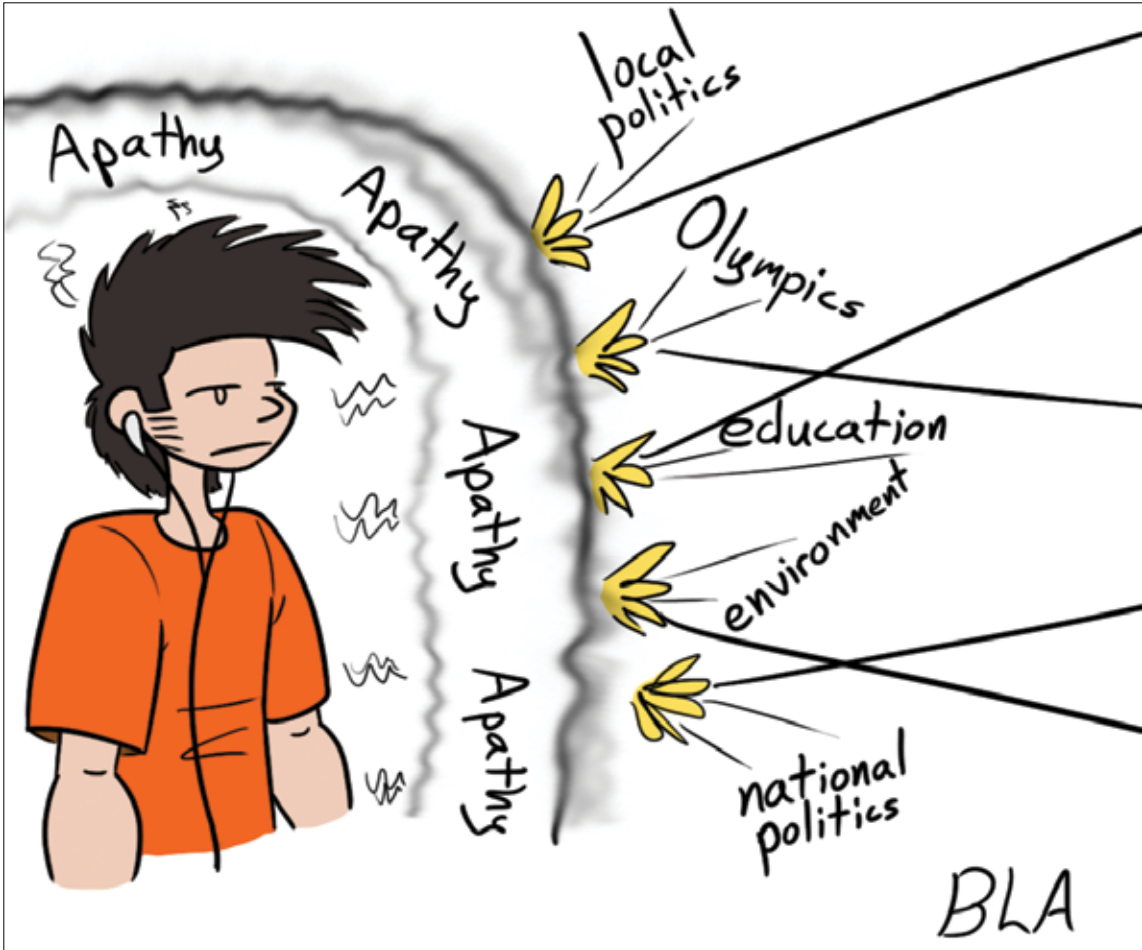
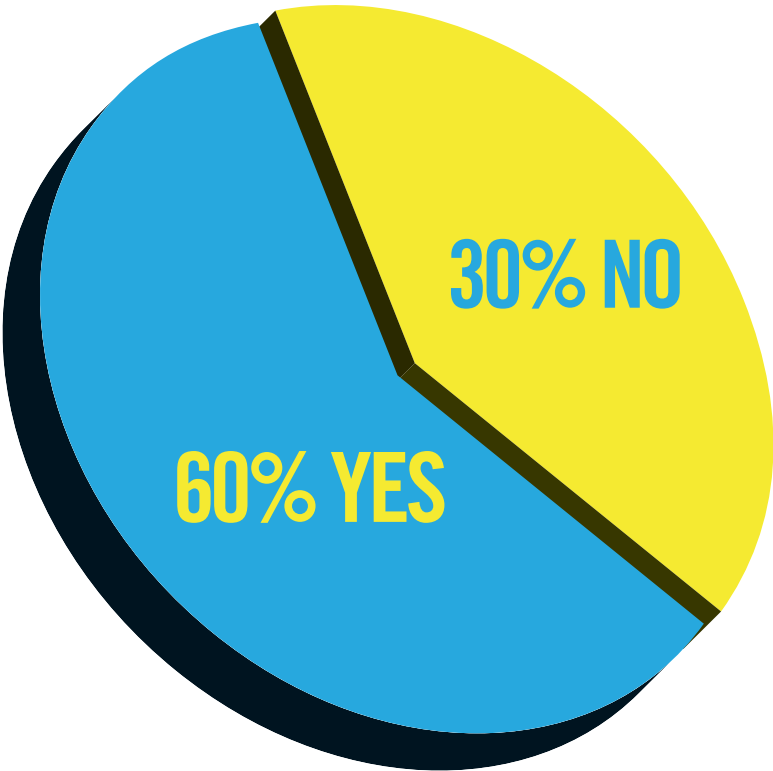
Obviously "House of Cards" was designed to captivate an audience with great story telling, drama, suspense and amazing cinematography, but it's also a nice break "for the public to see a Congress that actually gets things done," Spacey said.

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

WE ASKED, YOU ANSWERED

POLL RESULTS

Will you participate in early voting this year?



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Weather forecast for the week of Feb 18-24, 2014. Includes photos of the weather team: Krystal Klei, 'Doppler' Dove Speelman, Karla Huelga, and Nichole Gomez. The forecast shows mostly sunny conditions with high/low temperatures ranging from 52-79°F and a 0% chance of rain.

Table with 7 columns (TUES to MON) and 3 rows (Weather icon, High/Low, Chance for Rain). All days show mostly sunny weather with a 0% chance of rain.

CAMPUS LIFE

Old buildings to be demolished for new behavioral sciences

BY AMANDA GUILLEN
The Prospector

Editor's note: this is part three of a three-part series that explores the 2011 Campus Master Plan. According to the Campus Master Plan 2011, two of the university's oldest buildings are on their way to being demolished. Benedict Hall, which was built in 1937 and named after Harry Yandell Benedict, served as men's and women's dormitories and currently houses offices for faculty and staff. Bell Hall opened its doors in 1948 and was named after Elizabeth Merrill Bell. It was a women's dormitory and dining facility and now consists of classrooms and office space. These two buildings will be transformed into one large facility proposed to be a Behavioral Sciences building. Associate Vice President for Business Affairs Greg McNicol said the future Behavioral Sciences building will replace the current psychology building. McNicol said the location of the buildings will make the campus look better and help improve the in-

novation that happens when students from different colleges work together. "Higher education is always looking for ways where you can try and bring different people and different units together," McNicol said. "If you take psychology, which is all about the brain, and drug dependencies for instance and you put them with the biologists who are developing drugs, those two can work together to find better solutions. This is one of the reasons we look to take psychology and get them relocated closer to biology and chemistry and this entire zone." Randy Taylor, a doctoral student in general psychology, said the current psychology building doesn't have enough bathrooms and working water fountains. He said better facilities would give them access to accommodate more research. "We do have a lot of neuro (science) research that we do here and psycho biochemistry research that we do here so I'm sure that would be opening the door to collaboration," Taylor said. "Especially for the neuro fields and people in other departments might be

able to find more avenues to conduct research." McNicol addressed the purpose of a master plan and referred to it as a proposed plan that gives them an idea of what is needed for the university, a master plan according to McNicol is subject to change. "With this master plan you often look at the short term buildings that you think you need right now and which are your highest priority, there are three in the 2011 version right now and none of them are yet funded, but that doesn't mean they are not going to be. You are constantly working in the background whether it is with the state legislators or the board of regents to talk about what we need in this area and why," McNicol said. The three buildings that McNicol addressed are the Behavioral Sciences building, a new Liberal Arts building, and an Interdisciplinary Research building. "The replacement of the Liberal Arts building is another one that we think is very critical and needs to be replaced. The building served its purpose but it is really outdated and its systems are



MICHAELA ROMAN / THE PROSPECTOR

The Campus Master plan involves demolishing Benedict and Bell Hall to be transformed into one large facility proposed to be a Behavioral Sciences building. not available to support us as we move forward," McNicol said. This new era of UTEP becoming a tier one university does come with its losses and in this case result in the loss of historic buildings. McNicol said that this is all for the good of the university and servicing the general population and preparing to become tier one. To look at the complete Campus Master Plan 2011 visit masterplan.utep.edu. Amanda Guillen may be reached at theprospectordaily.news@gmail.com.

ELECTIONS from page 1

encourages students to vote in the primary elections. "I think there might be apathy to vote just because you don't understand how it directly effects you," Reyes said. Reyes is president of the UTEP student chapter of the Texas Freedom Network, which is a non-partisan organization that registers student voters and promotes political awareness. Reyes said the TFN will offer training on Feb. 22 and 23 on campus at the Blumberg Auditorium at the UTEP Library. Reyes said this training will give students guidance on how voting works. Kathleen Staudt, political science professor, said students should be aware of who holds office locally or nationally. "Students' futures are being shaped by the people who are elected to make decisions on their behalf," Staudt said. "Those decisions will affect them in either a good or a bad way." On the ballot will be a senator, governor, commissioners and a number of legal or civil positions. "We anticipate this being a high participation election," said Javier Chacon, El Paso County elections administrator. "The two biggest elections are always the president and the governor's." Chacon said that anyone planning to vote in the primaries must have their registration completed and bring a valid form of identification. As of last year, Texas elections require an acceptable form of ID. Documents accepted include driver's licenses, election identification certificates, passports and military ID cards.

"This is my first time, so I'm kind of excited," said Leslie Palacios, freshman biology major. "I want to participate and be involved." Students will be able to choose to vote as a Democrat or Republican. Voters do not have to be registered members of the party to vote on a specific ticket. Voters will pick candidates, within a party, to compete against their opposition in the November general elections. At the top of the Republican ballot are the team of Greg Abbot and David Dewhurst vying—respectively—for the Governor and Lt. Governor's position. Democrats will pick from a gubernatorial race, currently led by state Senator Wendy Davis and state Senator Leticia Van De Putte for Lt. Governor. Past El Paso mayor John Cook is also appearing on the Democratic ballot in the race for the Commissioner of the General Land Office. Four El Paso County Department of Public Services offices will be open on Saturdays in order to ensure voters can pick up a free electoral ID. DPS offices open on Saturdays, until March 1, are the Gateway Office, Hondo Pass Office, Northwestern Office and the Scott Simpson Office. Normal primary voting will take place on March 4. For more information about polling locations, ballots or voting eligibility, visit epcountyvotes.com. Helen Yip and S. David Ramirez may be reached at theprospectordaily.news@gmail.com.

Advertisement for Sun City Sci-Fi event (March 14-16, 2014) at the El Paso Convention Center. Features a grid of celebrity guests including Ray Park (Darth Maul/Snake Eyes), Greg Grunberg (Heroes/Big Ass Spider), Kathy Najimy (Sister Act/Peggy Hill), Phil LaMarr (Pulp Fiction/Futurama), C. Andrew Nelson (Darth Vader), Scottie Thompson (Star Trek/NCIS), Esme Bianco (Game of Thrones), Lombardo Boyar (Actor: Big Ass Spider), Mike Mendez (Director: Big Ass Spider), Richard Horvitz (Invader Zim/Tower Rangers), Kirika Yoshida (Cosplay), Toni Darling (Cosplay), Marie Doll (Cosplay), and Rikki Simons (Invader Zim). Includes ticket information and a list of sponsors like Camino Real Hotel, KISS, KBOC, NewsChannel 4 HD, and others.

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INBRIEF

UTEP TO HOST INTERDISCIPLINARY
HIGH-TECH STARTUP COMPETITION

Friday, Feb. 21 at 2 p.m. through Sunday, Feb. 23 at 7 p.m., UTEP will host a three-day start-up competition where 45 students from undergraduates to doctoral candidates from various disciplines will form teams and be tasked with starting a high-tech company, an intense entrepreneurial exercise. They must generate an idea and develop it into a prototype by the end of the event.

Among the project’s goals is to build enough momentum to sustain the company beyond the weekend.

For more information, contact David Sterling at dsterlin@utep.edu or at 747-7776.

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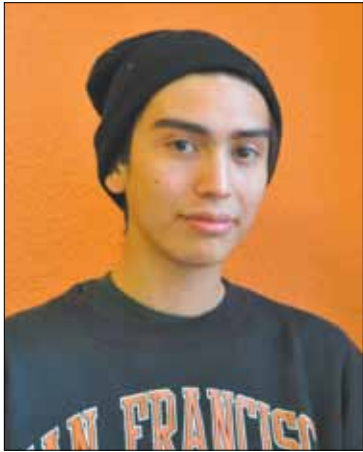
QUESTION OF THE WEEK



ALONZO MARTINEZ
Junior philosophy and art major
“Yes, because I don’t really have time during the ‘real’ elections. I participate in presidential elections, but I plan on voting for a state governor.”



BRENDA BARRIOS
Sophomore business major
“No because I am not interested.”



CESAR CHAVEZ
Freshman general studies major
“I was not taught about early voting or about local nor state elections, but now that I know about it I will look into it.”

Are you participating in early voting?

MICHAELA ROMAN, CRISTINA ESQUIVEL AND TANIA MORAN / THE PROSPECTOR



DIANA JAYME
Sophomore mechanical engineering major
“Probably not because I don’t feel informed enough to be able to make a vote. Governor elections are important, but I just need to find more information as to what that pertains to and what not.”



JORGE HUERTA
Freshman computer science major
“I can’t vote because I live in Juárez, but if I could I would. I think we should care about the city elections because changes that are made will be more local.”



DIANA PRIETO
Junior biomedical science major
“I’d like to participate in early voting because the local elections affects us more than the state ones. I’m not sure who I’m voting for yet.”

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EVELYN GUTIERREZ
Sophomore accounting major
“If I figure out where it is, yeah. I wasn’t old enough to vote, but I am more interested in national elections.”



TRAVIS BALANDRAN
Junior education major
“I’ll probably participate in early voting but it depends what day it lands on. I would say state elections are more important than the city ones because we have to interpret the laws they give us.”



MEGAN MARTINEZ
Freshman communication major
“I’m participating in early voting because it’s a right that everyone should take advantage of.”



ROBERTO PORTILLO
Freshman mechanical engineering major
“I plan on participating in early voting because I just turned 18 and it’s been one of my goals to accomplish.”

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FEBRUARY 18, 2014

ENTERTAINMENT

EDITOR
ANDREA ACOSTA, 747-7477



SPECIAL TO THE PROSPECTOR

“Digitalism” is scheduled to perform at 7 p.m. on March 1 at the Lowbrow Palace.

THE SUN CITY DIGITALIZED BY DUO

BY LORAIN WATTERS

The Prospector

The German electronic duo Digitalism will perform for the first time in El Paso on March 1 at 7 p.m., at the Lowbrow Palace.

The group is known for their album “Idealism,” which was released in 2007, and for their hit songs “Pogo” and “2 Hearts.” Fans of Digitalism will expect to hear their vibrant, upbeat rhythms with electro-punk influences that are commonly heard on indie dance floors.

Israel Perez, freshman math major, has formed a new interest for Digitalism and hopes to see them perform live when they visit the city.

“My friend and I were talking about upcoming shows and they came up,” Perez said. “Their style is unique and I’m always interested in bands that

“
Their style is unique and I’m always interested in bands that are trying to do things that haven’t been done before.
”
- Israel Perez,
freshman math major

see DIGITALISM on page 8

CAMPUS LIFE

UTEP commemorates Black History Month

BY LESLY LIMON

The Prospector

This year’s Black History is civil rights in America, and UTEP and the community will be holding special events to celebrate.

UTEP’s Department of African American Studies kicked off the university’s Black History Month celebration on Feb. 5 with “The Study of Food and the Humanities Lectures” at the Rubin Center.

The event that received plenty of recognition throughout the city was on Feb. 7, when Doctor Cornel West visited the campus and spoke to the public at Magoffin Auditorium.

“Black History Month is the celebration of the African American community’s origins and history in the U.S.,” Maceo Daily, associate professor of history said. “In examining the topic of civil rights, we get to see how reform came about here on campus, in the community and the nation.”

Coming up, the El Paso Inter Club Council will be hosting the annual Black History Month Parade and Festival on Feb. 22, beginning at 10 a.m. at Pershing Drive and Montana Avenue and ending at Mary Webb Park, where the festival will take place.

“The El Paso Inter Club Council is comprised of fraternities, sororities and other groups having their origins in the struggles and achievements of the African American community,” Daily said.

According to Daily, the parade and events in the park will consist

“
In examining the topic of civil rights, we get to see how reform came about here on campus, in the community and the nation.
”
- Maceo Daily,
associate professor
of history

of dancing, singing, dining and all-around merriment in the celebration.

“It is always a great joy to plan for this month. It is hard work, but the returns are enormous,” he said.

One of UTEP’s sororities, Eta Delta, will be involved in the parade. Eta Delta is a chapter of the national sorority Alpha Kappa Alpha, which was founded by African American women. Aside from being involved in the Black History Month Parade, the sorority is also working with the community to encourage expression through art during this historical month.

The Eta Pi Omega and Eta Delta sorority chapters will be hosting an art exhibit for students throughout the region from elementary to high school. The student art exhibit fea-

tures more than 100 pieces of art from students in El Paso.

“As an organization, we are connecting with our community and encouraging education and art in the region,” said Jackie Beard, UTEP nursing clinical instructor and advisor for the Eta Delta Sorority.

“Music and arts are very important and we want to make sure that students always have the opportunity to learn about the arts,” Beard said.

Beard said the idea behind the art exhibit started nine years ago by the national director at the time.

“Since then, it has become a tradition that Alpha Kappa Alpha has continued to participate in each year,” she said.

Rocio Villalobos, Assistant of La Galeria de la Misi3n de Senec3, said the art exhibition will feature over 100 pieces of art from 25 different schools throughout the region.

“We really want to give students the opportunity to showcase their work and highlight their achievements,” Beard said. “It’s also a fun way to get involved with the community and to highlight all the hard work that teachers and students do.”

The art exhibit is located at La Galeria de la Misi3n de Senec3, 8455 Alameda. The art will be displayed throughout the month until Feb. 21. An awards ceremony for participating students will also take place from 5:30–7:30 p.m. on the final day.

Theron Smith, senior art education major appreciates the many lectures

see HISTORY on page 8

BLACKHISTORYMONTHEVENTS

Feb. 20

Templeton Suite/Union East Wing, 3rd Floor.
Will Guzman, Ph.D., director of the office of Black Diasporan Culture and assistant professor of history/African-American studies at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, will give a lecture on “Dr. Lawrence Nixon, Drusilla Nixon, and Civil Rights in America.” The lecture is at 1:30 p.m. and open to public.

Feb. 22

The annual Black History Month parade and festival sponsored by the El Paso Inter Club Council. The parade, which is themed Civil Rights in America, begins at 10 a.m. at Pershing Drive and Montana Avenue and ends at Mary Webb Park, 3401 E. Missouri Ave.

Feb. 25

Union Cinema/Union East Wing, 1st Floor.
Dramatization of “The Mountaintop,” written by Katori Hall will be performed by Kathryn Smith-McGlynn and Bob Snead at 6:30 p.m.

Feb. 27

Fox Fine Arts Recital Hall
Lowell Graham, chair of the music department, will conduct the UTEP Orchestra in “The Music of William Grant Still” at 7:30 p.m. For more information contact the Department of Music at 747-5606.



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MOVIE REVIEW



SPECIAL TO THE PROSPECTOR

“The Lego Movie” premiered Feb. 7 and is currently in theatres with a rating of PG. Running time is 100 minutes.

‘The Lego Movie’: embrace your inner child

BY AMBER GOMEZ

The Prospector

Your childhood has finally come to life. The popular toy building blocks, Legos, have been around since the ‘50s, and for those of us who grew up playing with them, it’s almost nostalgic to see the mini figures in theaters.

With a mix of CGI and stop-motion, it’s no wonder the movie has raked in more than \$48 million so far at the box office. It took five years and 3,863,484 Lego blocks for the movie to be pieced together.

Drinking over-priced coffee, following the rules and working at a construction site is our hero, Emmet Brickowski (Chris Pratt). Emmet lives in a world controlled by President Business (Will Ferrell), who is trying to end the world with his weapon of mass destruction, the “Kragle.”

During one normal day at work, Emmet crosses paths with a myste-

rious woman and in trying to follow her, finds the “Piece of Resistance,” the only thing capable of stopping the tyrant. The “Piece of Resistance” attaches to Emmet and he becomes known as “The Special,” a master builder who is going to save the Lego universe.

However, the woman, Wyldstyle (Elizabeth Banks), quickly discovers that Emmet has no creativity of his own, and an unexpected journey begins to try to stop President Business and attempt to unlock the special powers within our hero.

Featuring the voices of Will Ferrell and Morgan Freeman, “The Lego Movie” will leave you laughing and wanting more. While the first half of the movie is partly stop-motion and computer animated, the second half was surprising. As Emmet falls down a dark abyss, the movie switches to a live-action point of view, where a son is playing with the Legos and his

father is the one trying to keep him from touching them.

While the movie is mostly directed toward kids, with its slapstick humor and amusing antics, it is still a great movie for adults as well. Abraham Lincoln, Superman and even Han Solo have cameos in the movie. You will begin to reminisce about when you were a child, building and accidentally stepping on the hundreds of blocks you once had laying around the house.

Your inner child will relate to the little boy in the movie as his imagination brings the Lego world to life.

Overall, “The Lego Movie” is fun for the whole family as you follow the adventures of the very ordinary Emmet.

Amber Gomez may be reached at theprospectordaily.ent@gmail.com.

HISTORY from page 7

UTEP along with the African American studies program provides the students.

“I think they do a fine job in promoting lectures and speakers that come from out of town,” Theron said. “I for one am very curious to attend Will Guzman’s lecture on Thursday.”

According to Donzel Scott, senior organizational communications major, this month is very important to

him and he tries to participate as much as possible and encourages students to be more involved.

“I believe its very important to come together and spread the word on such profound leaders like Martin Luther King Jr., Malcolm X, Harriet Tubman, Rosa Parks among others,” Scott said.

Lesly Limon may be reached at theprospectordaily.ent@gmail.com.

HEALTH

‘Fooducate’: let your phone help you live a healthier life

BY JOSE SOTO

The Prospector

With individuals trying to keep their New Years’ resolutions and a myriad of people trying to better their eating habits, “Fooducate” is a mobile application that offers many interesting and convenient features to start eating better, lose weight and broaden your knowledge of the food around you.

“Fooducate’s” slogan is “eat a bit better,” and it does justice to that by connecting you to the food you consume, or are about to consume.

The main feature of the app is its barcode scanner, which allows you to use your phone’s camera to scan any commercial food item. It then grades the product from A to D with 10 different grades: A+, A, A-, B+ and so forth. This algorithm is based off of the product’s nutritional facts and ingredient list. If a product doesn’t use processed ingredients, it will score higher than that of a product that does.

“Fooducate” differentiates beneficial nutrients and “enhanced” nutrients, “natural” flavors and flavors that are actually found in foods. A product that has been enhanced by adding vitamins and minerals, natural flavors or colors won’t score high with “Fooducate,” even though to the consumer’s eye, the product might seem like a good purchase.

Every product that is scanned through “Fooducate” is categorized and then graded within its category as well. Bread, milk, snacks, etc., are all categories. However, if a product offers a better array of benefits within its category as opposed to other products, it will score higher. For instance,

a cereal that offers a natural source of fiber will score higher than a fiber-fortified yogurt.

Once you’ve started scanning products to see their grade, it becomes a fun habit. You’ll be surprised at the grades some deceptive products will get.

The app also offers a browse section where you can search for high-graded products within different categories such as beverages, prepared foods/soups and fast food. This feature is great for when you are out and about and need to make smart choices about what you will consume while at stores or restaurants—the better the product, the higher it will be on the list. For example, Chick-fil-A’s chicken sandwich’s rated at a C+.

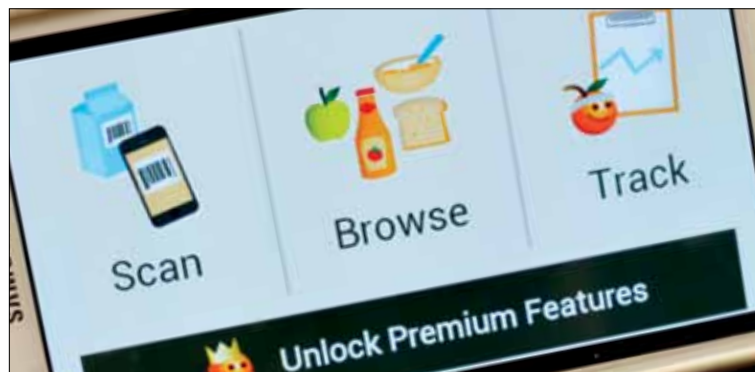
“Fooducate” also allows you to track your consumptions for the day, enabling you to make smarter decisions for what you eat next. It will count your calories and display your daily intake percentage of different nutrients like iron and fiber. This way you can be sure to not over consume some nutrients or not consume some at all.

It will also offer healthier options depending on your consumption habits. This particular feature is great for those who are trying to lose weight by eating better and for those who need help tracking their eating habits.

Friendly and easily adaptable to any lifestyle, “Fooducate” is available for download for both iOS 7.0.5-based mobile phones and Androids as well.

Visit fooducate.com for more information regarding this mobile application.

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MICHAELA ROMAN/THE PROSPECTOR

‘Fooducate’ is available is available on iPhones and Androids at no charge.

DIGITALISM from page 7

are trying to do things that haven’t been done before.”

Their new single released on Jan. 21, “Fahrenheit 32” begins with a steady bass and progresses into an electric stream of beats, synthesized together for a dreamy sound.

Introduced as a new project for fans, “Fahrenheit 32” does not stray from Digitalism’s root sound, but has only expanded the creative barriers of what this band can do.

The duo’s visit to El Paso is part of their U.S. tour, and they are be-

ing brought to the city by Johnny Escalante, promoter and owner of J & K Present, who works with several agents, managers and artists in the El Paso region.

“We do shows and parties all over the city and attempt to bring cool music to the scene,” Escalante said.

Tickets for Digitalism are available through ticketfly.com.

For more information about Digitalism or to hear their latest work, visit soundcloud.com/digital_official or facebook.com/digitalism.

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



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SPORTS EDITOR
EDWIN DELGADO, 747-7477

Crucial road trip for Miners

BY LUIS BARRIO
The Prospector

The Miners who are currently on a three-way tie in the lead in Conference USA, will have two crucial road games that could determine their fate come selection sunday on March 16.

Conference USA may have a chance to send two schools to the NCAA Tournament. At the moment, it seems UTEP may only have a chance to get into the tournament by winning its conference tournament that takes place March 11-15 in El Paso.

The Miners are coming off a stumble reciprocated by a victory in last week's two-game home stand. They lost to Florida Atlantic on Feb. 13 and went on to defeat Florida International two days later. The Miners have won 14 of their las 16 games.

"We are going to play two teams that have always given us issues," head coach Tim Floyd said. "We'll play against a bunch of man (defense) one night and a bunch of zone the next night. So it's an important week of practice for us."

A tough two-game road challenge comes UTEP's way when they face the Tulane Green Wave on Feb. 20 followed by an interesting match-up atop conference standings against the Southern Mississippi Golden Eagles on Feb. 22.

Tulane stands at 14-12 overall and 6-5 in conference play. The Green Wave's most recent victory came on the road over Alabama-Birmingham 86-80.



MICHAELA ROMAN / THE PROSPECTOR

Junior point guard C.J. Cooper has scored more than 10 points per game in eight of the last nine Miners games.

Leading the Green Wave there are two guards. Sophomore Louis Dabney is their leading scorer averaging 16.7 points and freshman Jonathan Starks is producing 14.7 points and 4 assists per game.

Two days later the Minerrs will face the Golden Eagles who are one game behind the leaders, UTEP, Middle Tennessee State and Louisiana Tech in the conference standings.

This team has ESPN College Basketball analyst, Jay Bilas, ranking them as the No. 49 team in the country. They force many turnovers and play a lot of

defense. They initiate their full-court press to force most of their turnovers.

"We have two big road games coming up. If we want to win on the road we're going to have to play together," said junior forward Cedrick Lang.

The Golden Eagles have in senior guards Neil Watson and Michael Craig their two most explosive players averaging 12 points per game.

UTEP and Southern Mississippi have similar characteristics in terms of their defensive identity.

The Golden Eagles have not lost a game at home this season. They have won five-straight home conference

games up to this point. UTEP has proved very resilient this season when facing conference foes on the road. They have not lost a conference road game all season (4-0) and are 5-1 on road games for the entire season.

The winner of UTEP versus Southern Miss can be crucial for the Miners' hopes of clinching a regular season title and can have an impact on how the teams are seeded in the conference tournament.

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COLUMN
Floyd needs to be recognized for his job

BY JAVIER CORTEZ
The Prospector



With the arrival of Tim Floyd in 2010 there were some pretty lofty expectations.

None more saliva inducing than the first expectation brought on by Floyd himself in this first press conference as UTEP's new head basketball coach.

"I have not lost my work ethic, I intend to try to work tirelessly to try to put together a championship level program here. The only one you all can relate with is '66," Floyd said. "Conference championships probably don't mean that much to you and they probably don't mean as much to me anymore. We'll be trying to put together a team that can go and win it all."

Four years later, the Miners have fell short of those expectations. Floyd has not even taken a team to the NCAA Tournament. Granted Floyd has had some bad luck over the years. Arnett Moultrie and Chris Washburn transferring, Derrick Character leaving early for the NBA, blowing big leads, player suspensions/expulsions, and of course recruits de-committing or going back on their letter of intent.

This season though, Floyd has turned in his best coaching season since his arrival in 2010, and there is still plenty more basketball to play. Floyd has put together a team that is based around making no excuses and making adjustments seamlessly.

With the virtuoso job by Floyd, he not only deserves to be Conference USA Coach of the Year, but national recognition as well. Nearly at every point in this season, Floyd's team has had road-blocks put in front of them, and every time they have broken through.

It started in the preseason, the Miners lost out on McDonald's All-American Isaac Hamilton due to possible tampering. Rivals' four-star recruit Anthony January opted for junior college due to academic issues, as did ESPN's two-star recruit Andre Spight.

Although the public opinion of the team changed, Floyd made no excuses and moved on.

Ten games into the season, the Miners were 5-5 and had lost twice to archrival New Mexico State. Floyd never said anything about the dynamics of his team not being what they could have accomplished if players who had committed actually had come to UTEP.

Once again Floyd made no excuses. After the home loss against New Mexico State, Floyd simply said they were the better team, even though the NCAA rule on perimeter fouls has become weaker than a prostitute's abstinence.

Then by the end of December, the Miners were starting to play good

see FLOYD on page 10

TRACK AND FIELD
Runners make progress before conference championships



FILE PHOTO / THE PROSPECTOR

Junior distance runner Anthony Rotich set the 11th best time in the nation at Husky Classic.

BY JAVIER CORTEZ
The Prospector

It seems that wherever UTEP track and field goes, they find success. The men and women both had success in Seattle, Wash. at the Husky Classic and the Don Kirby Invitational in Albuquerque, N.M. on Feb. 14-15.

The distance runners competed in the Husky Classic while the rest of the team participated in the Kirby Invitational.

Right before the start of the weekend invitational, the men's track and field team moved up one spot to 12th in the nation. The Miners proved that they were deserving of a top 15 ranking from long distance to sprinting.

Junior All-American Anthony Rotich continued his success with a season best 7 minutes and 56.60 seconds in the men's 3,000-meter. The time of 7:56.60 is the 11th fastest time in the nation. Freshman Cosmas Boit followed with a time of 8 minutes, 5.60 seconds, which ranks second in Conference USA.

"Everyone was 100 percent focused," said head coach Mika Laaksonen. "It was our (best and) last meet before the Conference USA Championships."

In the 200-meter dash, junior Abiola Onakoya and senior Mark Jackson finished 11th and 16th respectively out of 67 competitors. Jackson also finished fourth in the men's long jump invitational, while sophomore Brandon Moss finished third in the men's long jump.

As for the women, junior Ana-Kay James took second in the women's Section C 60-meter dash with a time of 7.67 seconds, which is a personal best. In the 200-meter dash, senior Janice Jackson and freshman Florence Uwakwe both finished in the top 10 out of 54 competitors.

Junior Greta Kerekes won the women's Section C 60-meter hurdles with a season best time of 8.60 seconds. In the women's long jump Nickevea Wilson finished ninth and fifth in the women's triple jump. In total four

Miners finished inside the top 20 in the women's triple jump.

In the last event of the meet, the women's 4x400 relay team composed by Janice Jackson, freshman Aiyanna Stiverne, Uwakwe and Anna-Kay James finished first in the second heat and fifth overall with a personal best time of 3 minutes, 42.27 seconds. The clocked time was the fastest in Conference USA.

Overall the Miners concluded with a combined seven personal and season best times at the Don Kirby Invitational, a good sign heading into the second most important meet of the indoor season — the Conference USA Indoor Championships.

"The team used (this meet) as motivation. We still have to go back to practice to work on a few things but I was happy with everyone's effort," Laaksonen said.

The Miners will have two weeks to prepare for the Conference USA Indoor Track and Field Championships in Birmingham, Ala. On Feb 28-March 1. Going into the meet, the Miners will be among favorites in many individual races, but from a team stand point as well. The men's team are the only nationally ranked team in Conference USA.

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SEASON UPDATE

Tennis grab important pair of wins at home



Led by senior Rebecca Calvillo (left) and junior Davina Meza (right), the Miners obtained back-to-back wins against Northern Arizona and Lamar.

BY JAVIER CORTEZ
The Prospector

If there is one thing the UTEP women’s tennis team is good at, it is playing at home. The Miners improved their home-winning streak to eight, with a 6-1 win over Northern Arizona on Feb. 14 and a 6-1 win over Lamar on Feb. 16.

With the back-to-back wins the Miners stand at 3-5 after a slow start to the season. With the latest victories, the Miners have some newfound confidence.

“It feels amazing, they were our first two home matches and we got the Ws,” said junior Davina Meza. “After

these two wins, I think the team’s confidence is huge. Now we’re just looking forward to next week because we have a home match.”

A key contributor to the recent success is the Miners’ play in the third set. At the start of the season the Miners were playing super tie-breakers instead of a full third set. For anyone foreign to tennis the differences are drastic. The best comparison that can be made is comparing a sprint to a marathon.

The Miners took full advantage of playing out a full third set, as they won six of the seven matches that went three sets over the two match days.

“The super tie-breaker instead of a full third set is basically a coin toss,” said head coach Myriam Sopel. “With a few mistakes here and there it can go either way. You don’t have any room for mistakes. We’ve been showing that we come out victorious when we play a full third set.”

All in all, it was a successful two days for the Miners, as they only dropped two of the 12 matches played. Four Miners won all four of their matches, senior Rebecca Calvillo, senior Marie LeBlond, junior Meza and sophomore Matilda Rose Tench.

“Hats off to all the girls all across the board. It was a great battle both days. It could have gone either way,” Sopel

said. “We just found a way to win. All the girls have been doing such a great job and it lifts the team up. I’m just happy we played so well.”

The biggest win over the two days came through Tench. The Melbourne native only surrendered one game on Sunday, winning 6-1, 6-0. Tench also secured her first doubles win of the season, along with senior Gabi Vazquez.

“It was good, especially because I had never played with Gabi before. So it was very different having a new doubles partner. It takes a while to get used to playing with a different person, but it was good,” Tench said. “My singles match on Sunday was quick, but it was a good match. The match on Friday (Feb. 14) was much tougher, but I got through and won it.”

Just like the Miners’ game, they played under pristine weather conditions. At the end of January and early this month the Miners were dealt a bad hand. They had to practice in cold and windy weather on numerous occasions.

“Just for the mood—to have the sun out—is unbelievable,” Sopel said. “Everyone is happy to play and get out on the court. For the general chemistry of the team to be at home and playing in nice weather is great.”

The Miners will be back in action on Feb. 22 against Abilene Christian, and they are looking to extend their home match win streak to nine.

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FLOYD from page 9

basketball. They were on a five-game winning streak when the news came. Three players were kicked off the team for gambling and everyone but Floyd thought the season was over.

The Miners lost their Conference USA home opener to Charlotte. Floyd did not cry about his depleted team, he gave praise to the opposite team. Whereas in reality the better team did not win—in that case a more complete Charlotte team beat a very limited UTEP team.

More than a month later, and Floyd has the Miners in first place. This is happening at the right time and UTEP happens to be playing their best basketball of the season. As of right now, the Miners have the number-one seed in the Conference USA tournament, which happens to be here in El Paso this year.

Floyd needs to do one of three things to secure Conference USA Coach of the Year. Win the regular season championship, go to the NIT, or lastly and hopefully, win the conference tournament and get that automatic bid to the NCAA tournament.

Whether or not that happens, Floyd has put his stamp on UTEP basketball by making no excuses and persevering through adversity. Whether or you agree or not, I challenge you to find a coach in Division 1 basketball that has done what Floyd has done. Most likely you won’t find him.

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Stop by The Prospector office at 105 Union East on Thursday, February 20th from 1 - 5 PM, take your photo with Sun City Cid and your free tickets*. Let us share your photo on our Facebook and you will be ready to have an awesome time at the Sun City SciFi Convention!

*Valid Miner Gold Card required to pick up tickets. Only two tickets per student. First come, first served basis.

INBRIEF

RIFLE SETS SEASON HIGH

Personal records by freshmen Jessica Kinder and Jasmine Juarez contributed to the No. 20 UTEP rifle team setting season highs across the board against No. 10 Texas Christian at the UTEP Rifle Range Sunday.

The Miners had been idle for more than a month due to poor weather cancelling flights for road trips. UTEP fired season bests in smallbore (2265) and air rifle (2314) to post its top aggregate score (4579) in two years while sharing the range with the Horned Frogs who finished with (4648). Kinder recorded her top aggregate total of her career (1146), which was aided by a personal-best in air rifle (586). She wrapped up action in smallbore at 560, her second-highest sum of the campaign.

Juarez also finished with her best aggregate (1138), which was helped from her top total in the smallbore (566) and second-highest score in the air rifle (572). Senior Areli Oros was locked in during the air rifle, turning in a score of 554 to tie her second-best sum in the discipline.

She posted a score of 503 in the smallbore to finish at 1087, the third-best total of her career with the Miners. Fellow senior Korina Rodriguez was also sharp by firing the third-highest aggregate (1162) during her time with the Miners. She recorded solid scores in both the smallbore (579) and air rifle (583).

Freshman Rachael Schoenrock aided in the efforts as well with an aggregate of 1133. She opened up with 573 in the air rifle before turning in a score of 560 in the small bore. Another freshman, Monthserra Serna, joined in the fun for career highs by posting a personal-best 543 in the air rifle.



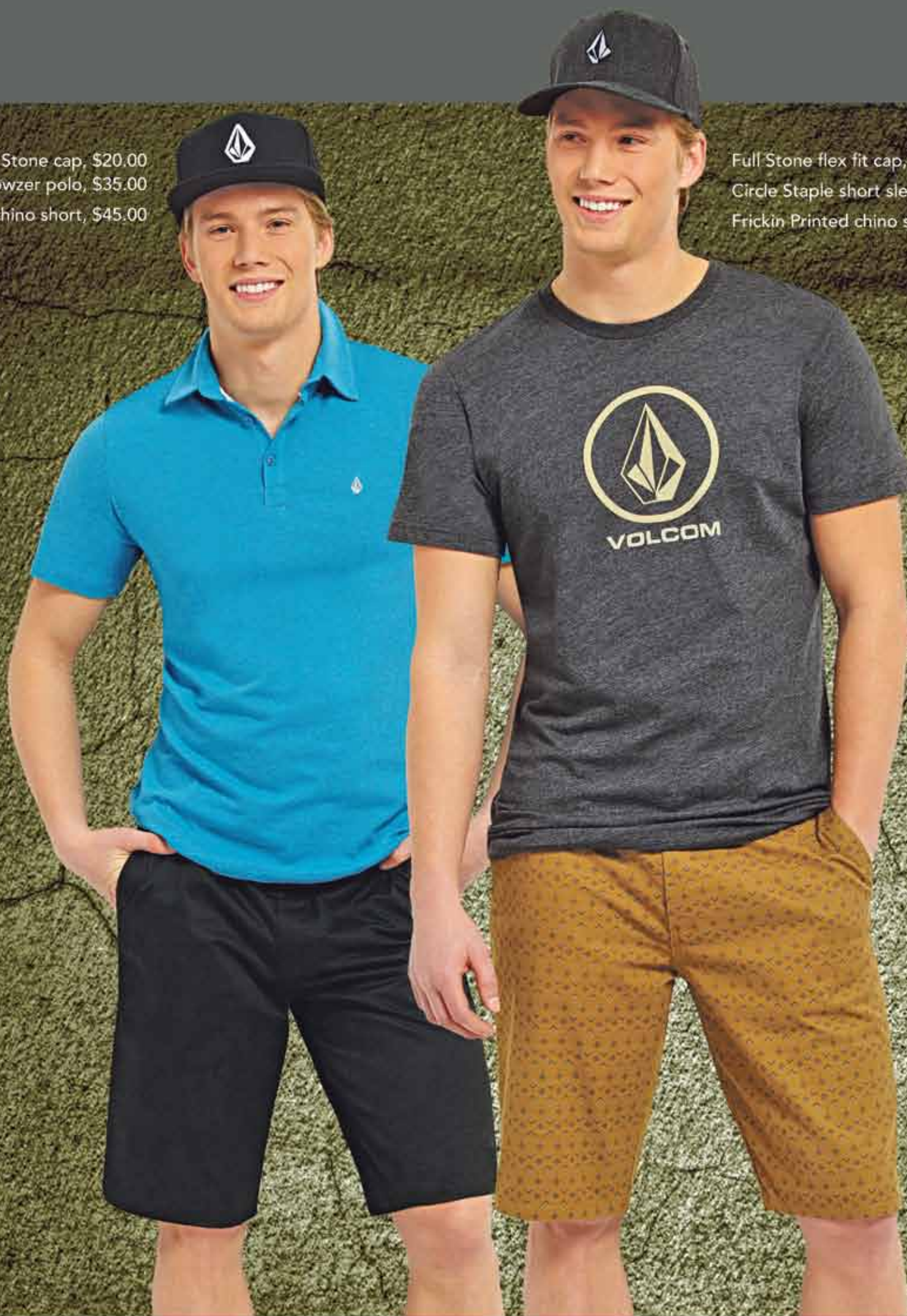
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OUR VIEW

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MICHAELA ROMAN, 747-7477

Miners split home games, remain on top of Conference USA



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► 4

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1) Freshman Vince Hunter gets in between two Florida Atlantic defenders to make the layup on Feb. 13. 2) Junior guard/forward Julian Washburn makes a three-point shot against FIU on . 3) Washburn steals the ball and gets a layup against FAU. 4) Freshman center Matt Willms makes a dunk against Florida International on Feb. 15.