

6-10-2014

# The Prospector, June 10, 2014

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ASSAYER OF STUDENT OPINION

THE

# PROSPECTOR

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VOL. 99, NO. 31

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO

JUNE 10, 2014



## QA & SGA president sworn in

*“If we’re going to be the students’ voice, we need to listen to them.”*

AARON MONTES / THE PROSPECTOR

Roberto Dominguez is sworn in as SGA president, May 30 at the Hoover House.

## Roberto Dominguez, SGA president shares his plans for presidency

BY JOSE SOTO

The Prospector

The keys jingle as he opens the door to his new presidential office and Roberto Dominguez, junior biochemistry major, smiles back at his fellow Student Government Association-elected officers.

He welcomes them in. “This is your office as well,” he tells the other representatives, who walk in to see the spacious quarters. “Feel welcomed all the time.”

Dominguez officially began his presidential term on June 9, and he’s already been drawing up ideas in his agenda for his presidency.

Dominguez and the other elected officers, were sworn-in on May 30 at the annual ceremony held at the Hoover House, President Diana Natalicio’s home. There he addressed his new team, members of Student Affairs and fellow Miners.

He assured them that his main goal was to have more direct contact with the student body at UTEP.

“I definitely want to see more interaction between SGA and the student body this year,” Dominguez said. Casually dressed in a T-shirt, blue jeans and a cap, Dominguez seemed at ease. The following is a Q and A with the newly appointed SGA president.

**Q.) You ran as an independent candidate during your campaign for president. Do you feel like that is reflective of the current student body?**

**A.)** A lot of the student body are independent, we’re on our way. We come to school, we work, we do our jobs. We are a commuter school. We all have our own agenda. That being considered, I thought that maybe more people would want to run for SGA seats independently, but they shy away because they don’t know

people from a party or reasons of that nature.

That is one of the things I want to communicate this year—that if you want to, you don’t have to run with a party. You can run by yourself. If you have the initiative and the objective for change, you should run regardless of belonging to a party. Perhaps more people can identify with people who don’t necessarily belong to a group.

**Q.) During your campaign, you had to socially put yourself out there. How do you plan to continue doing so now as president?**

**A.)** That is exactly what I want to do with SGA as president. My main concern is talking to students. It starts with going to the classroom and around campus to introduce myself and let them know what my plans are.

Not only the classroom, but if people are just sitting around campus, then I have that opportunity, too. During my campaigning, I wasn’t al-

ways looking for a big group of people. I would sit down with two people and introduce myself. I would get on Miner Metro, in the Union while people ate and introduced my plans. I plan to continue doing the same now as SGA president. If we’re going to be the students’ voice, we need to listen to them.

**Q.) During the campaign, there was some controversy with the sanctions that were issued to parties who violated election codes. What was your personal experience with that?**

**A.)** It didn’t personally affect me too much. There were parties who were greatly affected. My thing on sanctions is that they are a burden to deal with. We are here to introduce ourselves to the student body as individuals who want to help them. They take away from the opportunity to engage with them. What

see PRESIDENT on page 3

## AWARENESS

## Seventh annual Pride Fest a success

BY AARON MONTES

The Prospector

El Paso Sun City Pride held a block party on June 8 in front of Cleveland Park as part of their 7th annual pride week. Attendants were able to enjoy talent shows, art, music and food.

Hundreds of attendants made their way downtown to enjoy an evening of activities and promote awareness of the LGBT community in El Paso. Multiple organizations had booths set up that promoted voter registration, opportunities for internships and scholarships, art and the importance of having representation in the community.

Aaron Waggoner, community project member, said these events and projects are about representation and creating a visual of the community for the rest of the city.

Waggoner is a UTEP doctoral student in history of the borderlands and is also working with Brenda Risch, assistant professor and director of the Women’s and Gender Studies Program, on a project that will document the photography, literature and testimonials of LGBT individuals in El Paso and Ciudad Juárez.

According to Waggoner, the UTEP Women Studies Program has been involved with the LGBT community, and next year’s pride week will kickoff the opening of the exhibit at the Centennial Museum.

“This project will be a reflection of a community that had been disregarded by the community leaders,” Waggoner said. “There are plenty of people of power who do not respect (Risch’s) work or ours. There is strong institutional biases in the community.”

He also pointed out that UTEP was not a sponsor of the event, but El Paso Community College was.

During the event, four scholarships were awarded to one absent recipient, two college students including Waggoner and one high school senior, Sylvia Turnan.

Turnan is a student- at Andress High School and identifies herself as a lesbian. She explained that she applied for the scholarship because she plans on attending the nursing program at New Mexico State University.

As a requirement, Turnan wrote three essays and in one included the memory of her deceased friend who

see PRIDE on page 3

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JUNE 10, 2014

PERSPECTIVES

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF  
LORAIN WATTERS, 747-7477

COLUMN

Save the Lincoln Center

BY AARON MONTES

The Prospector



Located under the Spaghetti Bowl is a community that finds pride in its location and in its history. Most of that community

cares about the future of the Lincoln Center, but more importantly about the history the building represents. Amidst efforts to demolish the building, community members have united together in the idea that the center ought to be considered a cultural treasure.

The building's history traces back to the early 1900s, when Fort Bliss soldiers used the quarters as an office. It was also used as a school for Mexican-American and African-American children. In a city that is roughly 88 percent Mexican-American, such history ought to be preserved.

However, if the history and cultural significance are not reason enough, then the thought of the destruction of a community ought to bring attention.

The Texas Department of Transportation plans to build a connecting ramp between I-10 and U.S. Highway 54. They have elected to tear down the center to make way for the ramp if the city or the Lincoln Center Conservation Committee cannot find a government sponsor.

If you visit the Lincoln Park area, you will notice that murals of Ruben Salazar, Cesar Chavez, Martin Luther King Jr. and the Virgin of Guadalupe are painted on the pillars that hold the road above them. If TxDOT were to erect a ramp, it is possible that those pillars and that space would be removed to make room for construction efforts.

Residents, who remained living in the Lincoln area during and after the construction of the interstate in the late 1960s, will once again experience the noise and possible relocation if

the state agency decides that it will destroy the building.

Currently, it's popular to destroy and rebuild in El Paso. River Oaks Properties has already begun tearing down buildings that have been a part of El Paso's history since the development of downtown.

What is to be said if this trend continues? Is it logical to destroy historical buildings in the name of progress? Disregarding River Oaks, is it morally okay for a government entity to disregard the people?

Even though TxDOT owns the property where the Lincoln Center is located, it is not a private company. The agency, as a government entity, is supposed to be designed to work for the people, not the other way around.

It is a question of whether state government is overstepping its bounds.

It is also valid to point out that TxDOT suggested that "flying cars" were an issue of concern for the area, and pointed out the accident that included two road construction workers, who were working near UTEP and were hit by a car, as an example.

The community that lives near the Lincoln Center quickly retaliated and asked "when was the last time a car flew over the area?"

Despite protests from Lincoln Center preservationists, the chair of TxDOT, Ted Houghton, explained that there was not enough "heat in hell" to keep the agency from their goal.

The lack of empathy from the agency has only further alienated the community that lives near the center.

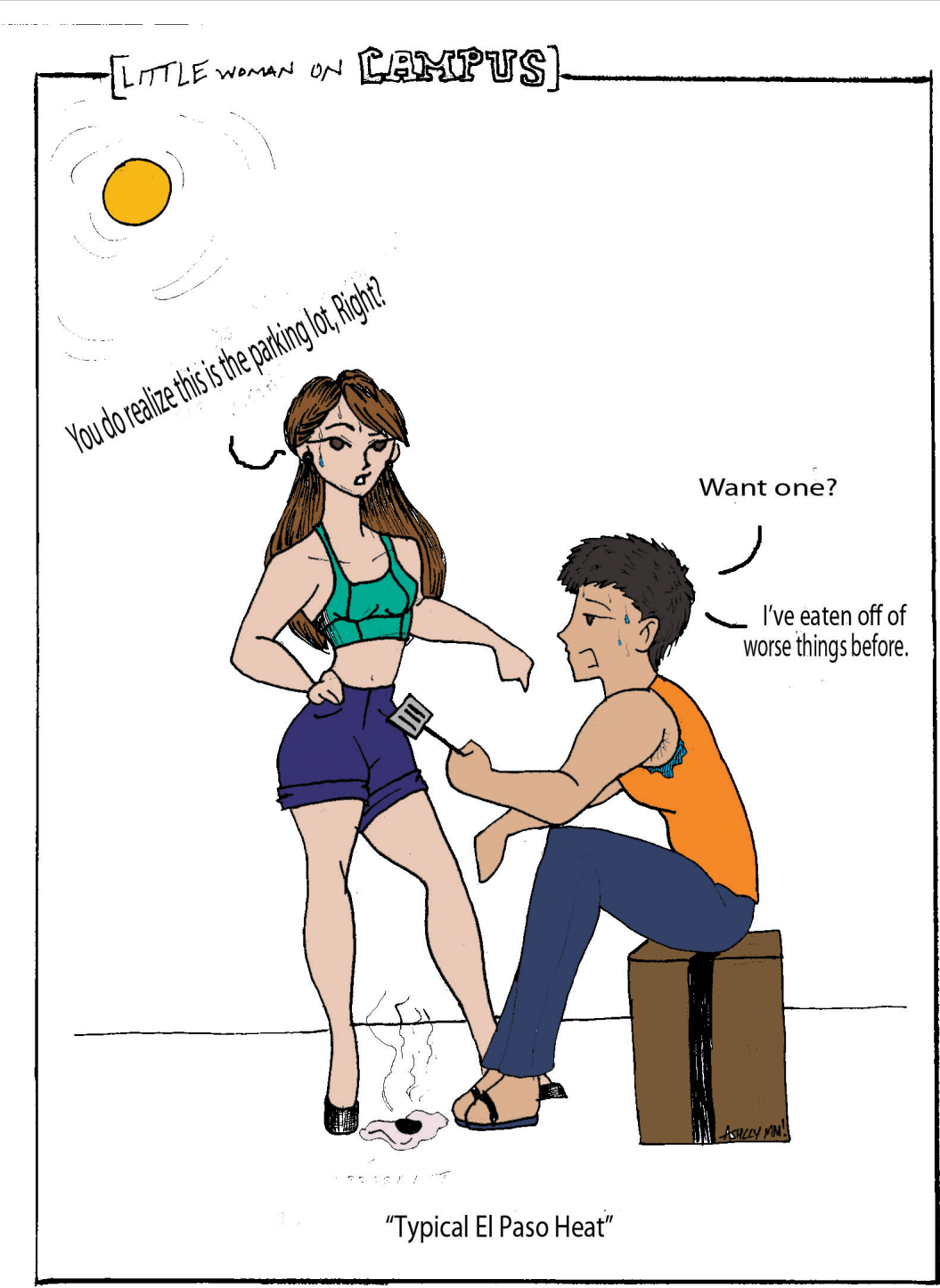
The Lincoln Center situation highlights the reality that if the local or state governments wanted to, they could more than likely use your neighborhood for a project whether you protested or not.

Aaron Montes may be reached at theprospectordaily.news@gmail.com.



FROM THE VAULT  
Blast from the past

FILE PHOTO  
This pool was located south of the Centennial Museum. It opened on August 18, 1945. It was built for intercollegiate swimming and diving meets. Students paid a 25 cent fee, which covered the pools' upkeep and operations. In 1975, a roof structure was built to enclose the pool and in the mid-1990s the pool was torn down and the Undergraduate Learning Center was constructed.

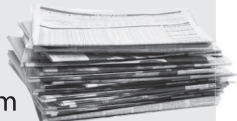


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Weather forecast graphic for abc 7 kvia.com. It features a 'StormTRACK WEATHER' logo and a photo of the weather team: Dan Martinez, Krystal Klei, 'Doppler' Dave Speelman, Karla Huelga, and Nichole Gomez.

Table with 7 columns representing days of the week (TUES to MON) and their corresponding weather forecasts. Each column includes a weather icon, high/low temperatures, a general description, and the chance of rain.

CAMPUS

Spring commencement makes UTEP history

BY ERIC ALBA
The Prospector

The May 17 centennial commencement was the largest recorded in UTEP's history. Approximately 2,800 students were eligible to graduate, and 2,200 students walked across the stage from each college and received various degrees as they were joined by an estimated 25,500 family and friends. Susana Diaz graduated with a bachelor's degree in psychology and sociology. "I was among 2,800 graduates, and although we were from different colleges, we all shared that special moment," Diaz said. "The celebration was special, there was a huge audience and the fireworks display was amazing. I loved it. It was an incredible graduation." Assistant Vice President for University Relations Alberto Lopez took the lead in organizing the commencement ceremony. Lopez said the budget for the ceremony was put together through operational and institutional funds and through the commencement fee that is charged to each student. However, he said the office does not have an estimate for how much money was spent in total yet because the information was not readily available and will take time to gather. Lopez also said what made this centennial graduation most special was that it was the first since May of 1998 to take place at the Sun Bowl Stadium.

um. UTEP has also never featured a fireworks display at a graduation. The centennial ceremony was more costly than that of a normal graduation, but a flexible budget was set by the University Relations department. Lopez said all of the department's goals were met to make this graduation a memorable one. Anthony Viera graduated with a bachelor's degree in science with a minor in education. "It will forever be memorable," he said. "Not only did I graduate at the age of 21, but I could not be more proud to have been part of UTEP's centennial graduation." Lopez said the centennial graduation exceeded his expectations in all aspects. The university was prepared for the ceremony to be three hours and 15 minutes, but the actual graduation only took two hours and 28 minutes, only 28 minutes longer than that of a normal two-hour graduation, which usually awards degrees to 800 to 900 students. The fall centennial graduation has not been finalized yet, Lopez said, due to different conditions such as weather. Everything is still being planned out, but the department plans on making the commencement just as special as the spring ceremony.

Eric Alba may be reached at theprospectordaily.news@gmail.com.



MICHAELA ROMAN AND AARON MONTES / THE PROSPECTOR
Newly graduated UTEP students at the May 17 spring centennial commencement ceremony.

PRIDE from page 1
took his own life. No one knew that he was being bullied, she said. According to Turnan, her friend was being picked on because of his sexual orientation and it hurt her to lose her friend. "Sometimes we feel alone," she said. "That is why we have to celebrate who we are." Fernie Morales, sophomore digital media production major explained that the events are so that members of the LGBT can celebrate and be in a safe zone. He said that aside from the annual pride week, many of the members feel comfortable at clubs where they gather together. He said that the LGBT community will be able to carry itself more openly very soon. Rene Fernandez, sophomore marketing major said that the events are about inclusion. "People need to recognize that it's important for individuals to be themselves," Fernandez said. He said that participants need to know their health status and need to go through HIV testing. He also said that M Factor, an organization part of the HIV Prevention program in El Paso's Department of Public Health, sponsored movie night. M Factor has been a participant in the pride week's events and has provided 60-second HIV tests for attendants. Aaron Montes may be reached at theprospectordaily.news@gmail.com.

PRESIDENT from page 1
is important, is to know what you can and can't do. That is something that I want to change this year, specifically our election code, so that it is easier to follow and there aren't any loopholes. If we do that, we can actually focus on what we need to be doing, which is attending to the students. Q.) A lot of what the sanctions dealt with, and the entire campaign this year, involved social media. How do you feel about social media being a part of your term in office? A.) I'm a very old-fashioned guy, traditional even. I prefer to talk to people one-on-one. I even prefer phone calls over texts. I understand the significance of social media, I know it's important. That's how I got a lot of my information out there. I plan to continue with that. For example, I want to post video monthly reports that showcase what we are working on. I realize that most students don't always check their email, but they constantly check their social media outlets. SGA will definitely be putting up their events up on there.

Q.) You've said you plan on a lot of student interaction during your presidency, especially with bringing student ideas up during discussions. How do you plan on doing so? A.) First off, we're going to continue to have a white board, where students can write their opinions, ideas, suggestions or comments—whether they're good or bad. We will divide all the comments into categories and hold panels. During the panels, we'll invite the different administrations or departments involved with the student's comments. For instance, if the comments entail parking, we'll bring in parking administration. Of course, students are invited to attend. I also want to establish a committee, where students can be directly involved with SGA. Where you don't have to be part of it to help us out. We'll brainstorm, hear their ideas and suggestions. A simple, but also big thing is that I'm going to have everyone's office hours posted outside of the office, and a website so that when someone wants to speak to anyone, we are here for them. Accessibility is key with me.

Q.) You've mentioned you want to better student events and student life. What are your plans for that? A.) I want to establish a lot more community service. Project Move is great, but it's only once a year. If we can have more events like it, that would be great. I plan on teaming up with Miner Volunteer Corp. We have a committee called Student Affairs, and I want to help students from different colleges interact. Of course, during the first few months, I'm going to talk to students and see what kind of events they would like. Q.) You've mentioned you have ideas for monetary awards for students. How do you plan on implementing them? A.) We already have that going on! It's called the D.I.G. symposium (Dream. Innovative. Grow). The concept behind it started last year, where we wanted to award financial help not just to those with the adequate GPA, but for anyone to get that assistance. What students need to do is present an idea of how to improve different aspects of our university. We pick the top 10 and present at the symposium. A panel of judges will

choose the three winners. VPSA (Office of the Vice President of Student Affairs) also helps us award money to students with innovative ideas on how to improve student life. Q.) As a biochemistry major, what plans do you have regarding your department? What about other less predominant departments? A.) We have a lot of undergraduate research that students are just not aware of. The UT System publishes a magazine with all of the research they are undergoing, and I think that something of the kind would recruit more undergraduate students. A mentoring program would be ideal, too. Overall, we want to generally have success rates. Last year, our collegiate center for liberal arts was very helpful. We started a liberal arts council, with students representing the entire college. It was awesome to showcase what students from different majors showcase what they are doing, different musical projects and especially the marvelous art work that is produced. I surely want to showcase that more. All the recitals, the exhibits—I want to bring more attention to them.

Q.) You've mentioned you want more collaboration between SGA officials and yourself during your term. You've stated everyone had great ideas, but it works better if you work in unity. How are you going to ensure that happens? A.) It starts first with helping one another. We need to get to know each other so well that we understand that we are a team. I advocate for transparency amongst ourselves and encouragement to share ideas. That's the only way to ensure that all the voices are heard. That also helps that voices outside of SGA are heard as well. At the end of the day, we all decided we all wanted to serve the students. As long as we all want to serve our student body, we should all have the same platform. Yes, different ideas and different perspectives will fly and we will grow throughout the term, but the same idea will remain. We are all excited to help the university and its students. Jose Sato may be reached at theprospectordaily.news@gmail.com.



ACTIVISM

# Miguel Juárez fights to save the Lincoln Center

BY AARON MONTES  
The Prospector

At night, his mind is lost in thought, the only source that powers his brain is his ambition to preserve the historic Lincoln Center. Some thoughts include what the next step is for the core group of Lincoln Center Conservation Committee members.

Miguel Juárez, doctoral student in borderlands history at UTEP, is an LCCC spokesperson. When approached, he automatically brings his hand up to shake yours.

As a spokesperson, Juárez is usually one of the first contacts the media makes when talking about the Lincoln Center. As a communicator between supporters and the public, Juárez has 5,000 followers on Facebook. After city council meetings, business meetings and plans for the future, he is either on Facebook feeding information to other supporters or scheduling an event.

In the morning, he is up by 6 a.m. to give a presentation or lecture aside from his daily efforts to preserve the center. A constant reminder that a whole community relies on him arrives when his phone lights up with a notification from Facebook. A glimpse at the conversation shows concerns and the need for water bottles, food, a truck to transport goods and when or where the next rally will take place.

Not a vocal person, he is still able to articulate the cause for the supporters' efforts during a celebration in front of the center.

"¡Viva la Raza!" he said. "¡Viva la Raza!" they reply.

"¡Si Se Puede!" he said. "¡Si Se Puede!" they reply.

"We need to preserve our culture and our arts," he said.

That's all the fiery speech he has for the audience, but it's effective enough for them to understand he is with them and understands them.

During the rally, children play soccer and run around the stage area happily, not knowing why their parents brought them. Noticing them he points and says, "We want a place for them to come and learn about the history of their culture. These are the people, the children that we are doing it for. And the rest of the pueblo that doesn't know their identity."

After advocating for the center, he returns home to his wife and begins thinking about his next move.

Brought up in L.A. during the 1960s, Juárez was influenced by the Chicano movement. Juárez met



**Left: Miguel Juarez, Robert Bielek from TxDOT and Hector Gonzalez at a protest for the preservation of the Lincoln Center.** Right: Miguel Juarez speaks against the demolition of the Lincoln Center.

many Chicano artists including the late Gilbert "Magú" Luján. Juárez explained that the work of Chicano artists and what writers wrote about in their literary works dealt with social issues, and this is what inspired him to do the same in El Paso.

Juárez has a bachelor's degree in history from UTEP. He also has a master's degree in library science from the State University of New York in Buffalo, and in border history from UTEP. As a doctoral student, Juárez focuses on borderland and urban history and digital humanities.

He has authored the book "Colors on Desert Walls: the Murals of El Paso" and has had work cited in the books "De Frontera A Frontera/ From Border to Border" and "Margarita 'Mago' Orona Gandara."

Juárez has also been a librarian at many academic institutions and a professor and archivist at Texas A&M where he met Hector Gutierrez, the first Mexican-American core commander at the university. They put together an exhibit from contributions from the Hispanic community within the student body, faculty and alumni.

**Early Efforts to Preserve Lincoln**

In the summer of 2006, flooding in the area due to the heavy rains displaced residents neighboring the center. Due to safety concerns for the community, the center was closed in

2008. According to city officials, the building had been damaged by the flooding and had mold.

The same year, El Paso artist and educator Gabriel Gaytan, with the help of a car club, were trying to beautify the Lincoln Park area. He approached Juárez, and after his first meeting, Juárez said he was hesitant and wondered if he'd mix well with the group. Juárez considered the opportunity and took it.

Since 2008, Juárez has worked to preserve the Lincoln Center, a century-old building, which is one of few remaining under the Spaghetti Bowl (a road traffic interchange on I-10) that was not demolished in the late 1960s.

Back-and-forth arrangements between TxDOT, the city and the LCCC are not new to him.

"It's demolition one day, it's not another. It keeps changing," he said. "It's a war of words, rhetoric."

Juárez explained that he and the committee have been asked for business plans, letters and other requirements before.

"Since the beginning, we knew this would be 50-50," he said. "I feel that they (the city and TxDOT) are surprised that we have been able to keep up."

Last year on October 1, TxDOT granted a one-year deadline for the committee to find a government en-



AARON MONTES / THE PROSPECTOR

tity willing to provide funding for the center. The core group sought out El Paso Community College, which at first showed interest in the building. However, due to estimated costs up to \$2 million to renovate the center, the college decided not to fund the project.

**Current Events Concerning the Center**

On the week of May 20, TxDOT officials and JMR Demolition workers set up a fence around the center, but before they could do more, members of the community rushed to prevent them from doing more.

Rather than get immersed in the dispute, Juárez stayed back and allowed other committee members to do the talking. Juárez communicated with all his contacts, including Texas State Senator Jose Rodriguez. He, along with other preservationists, also began posting photos and updates about the situation to his Facebook wall.

In response to the dispute, Rodriguez called El Paso Mayor Oscar Leeser. Shortly afterward, Juárez told the community that there would be a special meeting called by the mayor.

During the special meeting, city council voted unanimously to place an injunction restricting TxDOT from taking further demolition action.

On May 27, city council voted not to continue its lawsuit against Tx-

“It’s demolition one day, it’s not another. It keeps changing. It’s a war of words, rhetoric.”

- Miguel Juarez, LCCC Spokeperson

DOT, and came to an agreement that TxDOT would respect the original plan of waiting until October 1 to demolish the center.

Juárez said he was frustrated with city council's vote not to fund the center and to cancel its injunction against TxDOT. Though he is disappointed, he remains hopeful that the community will prevail.

"I think TxDOT thinks they have broken our momentum," Juárez said. "We intend on fighting them to the end."

Aaron Montes may be reached at theprospectordaily.news@gmail.com.

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JUNE 10, 2014

ENTERTAINMENT

EDITOR  
ANDREA ACOSTA, 747-7477

StreetFest exceeds fans expectations



Three Days Grace will perform at 7 p.m. on June 21 at the Budweiser main stage.

SPECIAL TO THE PROSPECTOR

BY ANDREA ACOSTA

The Prospector

El Paso continues to be entertained by numerous events such as the annual StreetFest, which will take place downtown on June 21-22. Organizers said they will tune everyone to the same happy frequency.

Three Days Grace and The All-American Rejects will be featured on the Budweiser main stage as headlining bands at this two-day festival. Other bands, such as The Wallflowers, Fozzy and other local bands, will be performing in one of the five music stages, playing all types of music, including country/alternative, Latin and electronic.

"I'm very excited to attend StreetFest this year. They seem to be adding a lot more activities in which people can participate in," said Edgar De La Torre, graduate electrical engineering major. "I always have a blast and this year will be no exception. Two of my favorite bands made it to the lineup and I can't wait to see them live."

According to Veronica Hernandez, live events manager, this festival has improved over the years and as a result has constantly attracted tourism to the city, which has brought more positive exposure to El Paso.

"It is very important that we continue to bring in large international acts," Hernandez said. "For many years we've heard that there is nothing to do in El Paso, which is why I feel that with the growth and movement we have seen these past few years, we are making our way to put the city on the map as an entertainment destination."

New this year is the incorporation of the Arts and Craft Park, which will feature live art from local artists. All types of art including graffiti, chalk art, paint and wall murals will be considered in this contest. The StreetFest committee will then select the best work that will be featured at the Arts and Craft Park.

"Each artist selected will then be given a 10-by-10 foot canvas area on the ground of the Arts Festival Plaza and will have approximately three hours to complete their art work," Hernandez said. "After the festival, the committee will vote on the best art display and the winner will receive \$100."

In addition, the rest of the artists will be able to sell their work to StreetFest guests.

see STREETFEST on page 6

PRIDE WEEK

Festival and parade promote awareness



The El Paso Sun City Pride Fest and Pride Parade took place June 7 in honor of the annual pride week festivities.

ANDRÉS RODRGUEZ/CHRISTINA ESQUIVEL / THE PROSPECTOR



COLUMN

# Top 5 summer getaway places to vacation

BY ASHLEY MUÑOZ / THE PROSPECTOR

This summer, it's all about vacationing. No more projects or homework to worry about, unless you're stuck in a summer job or school. However, a simple getaway to these places can be easy. Just pack up for a weekend to get away from it all.



## CLOUDCROFT, NEW MEXICO

Deep in the heart of New Mexico, Cloudcroft offers a weekend's worth of fun away from El Paso or just plain old work. Cloudcroft offers many family-fun activities such as hiking, camping or viewing the “cloud-climbing” railroad located in the Lincoln National Forest. The Lodge, a well-known hotel/lodging resort, offers fine dining and even a little terror. A ghost named Rebecca is said to haunt the halls of The Lodge. Other attractions include the Sacramento Museum, a small quaint cabin-like museum that tells the stories of how people adapted back in the day. Just an hour away from our Sun City, Cloudcroft can be a small town with big fun for any age in mind.



## SITTING BULL FALLS, CARLSBAD, NEW MEXICO:

Carlsbad is known for its famous Carlsbad Caverns, but it has another attraction people might like to visit. Sitting Bull Falls is a series of waterfalls located in the Lincoln National Forest in Carlsbad with a recreational area for people to enjoy the view. The falls offer hikes and picnic tables for families to sit out and have a great bonding experience, while hearing and seeing the waterfall blend into the water. Swimming is allowed in certain areas, and while exploring the caves requires a small permit. Nonetheless, the view is worth taking a three-hour drive and leaving work, stress and school behind for a weekend or two. (Sitting Bull Falls is temporarily closed until further notice, please visit [www.fs.usda.gov](http://www.fs.usda.gov).)



## HATCH, NEW MEXICO

Located in Doña Ana County, Hatch is a small village known for its chile and its annual chile festival. However, this small village has a geographical wonder of its own. As you drive up the back roads of Anthony, New Mexico, the mountains will begin to captivate you. The greenery and charm allows you just to enjoy the open road and nothing else. Along the road is a hamburger diner known as Sparky's, where you can get a quick bite while getting a taste of the scene.

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## ELEPHANT BUTTE LAKE STATE PARK, NEW MEXICO

Just past the city of Truth or Consequences, Elephant Butte Lake State Park offers a day out—enjoying the water and good company. The lake is pet friendly, which is great for bringing the family mascot out on a little trip. There is hiking and water activities available as well as camp/grounds for fishing and gathering. The state park also provides the opportunity to visit nearby ghost towns of Kingstons and Hillsboro. Nothing can beat the classic family road trip to a lake, and with the park being only one hour away, it's worth it.



## EL PASO, TEXAS

Home sweet home, sure there is some who say there is nothing to do in El Paso, but many haven't explored and truly appreciate what we do have. El Paso offers the Franklin Mountains National Park, where hiking can be good for the soul. The museums of El Paso showcase interesting exhibits. The new ballpark adds another exciting activity for the family. Ascarate Park, is a man-made lake, that brings beauty to the Sun City. Families can go and have a small picnic and share stories that will surely make it worthwhile. You may not be able to vacation somewhere else, but who says you can vacation here at home and have a wonderful time and make new memories.

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## STREETFEST from page 5

Interested artists are encouraged to submit their portfolio via the KLAQ website.

“StreetFest has really become what is set out to be: a festival for any and everybody in El Paso and the entire region,” Hernandez said. “Attendees can expect a full-on festival experience with food and retail vendors, the annual O’Reilly Auto Parts Championship Custom Car and Truck and Motorcycle Show, not to mention the massive fireworks that concludes the festival.”

According to Hernandez, the auto show is the largest aspect of the festival and vehicles from all over the country will make their way here to display at the El Paso Convention Center—entry into the car show is included with StreetFest ticket.

Joining the headlining bands, local bands such as Sha’Vonne Williams, Fungi Mungle, Sobredosis, The Oth-

er Half, Mattox, Red City Blue and Kilo and The Dew will be performing for the first time in this event.

“This festival is just as much about local acts as it is about its headliners. We take a special focus in making sure that we are driving the local awareness. “We have a great local music scene and we are proud to showcase our local bands,” Hernandez said.

StreetFest is offering attendees the chance to purchase VIP tickets that are available for sale at [holdmyticket.com](http://holdmyticket.com). VIP ticket holders will have access to the Abraham Chavez balcony and will be provided with a catered meal, unlimited soda and water as well as three drink tickets that can be redeemed at the VIP private bar, a StreetFest poster, parking, lanyard and VIP credential that allows access to the festival grounds.

Tickets are also available in advance at 7-Eleven and Alon stores for \$30 plus tax and \$40 at the gate.

“StreetFest has really become what is set out to be: a festival for any and everybody in El Paso and the entire region.”

- Veronica Hernandez,  
live events manager

To submit portfolios visit, [klaq.com/calling-all-local-artists-show-case-your-work-at-streetfest-2014/](http://klaq.com/calling-all-local-artists-show-case-your-work-at-streetfest-2014/) or contact 880-4955.

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JUNE 10, 2014

SPORTS EDITOR JAVIER CORTEZ, 747-7477

Miners advance to NCAA Championships  
Rotich leads the pack in hopes of repeated success

BY LUIS BARRIO  
The Prospector

Eugene, Oregon will be the site of the NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships from June 11-14. It will be the culmination of a season based on the discipline and hard work of every athlete in the country who performed well enough to qualify for a national crown.

In total, the Miners have seven athletes making the trip to Oregon.

Nestled in the greenness of the Pacific Northwest, Eugene is known as Track Town USA.

The sport is as large, if not larger, than the football and basketball programs at the University of Oregon.

Since the season began, the Miners recognized this was the ultimate goal, but stayed grounded on the task at hand. The Miners have been training since the fall semester.

The most recent hurdle to Eugene was the NCAA West Preliminaries.

The women's 4x100-meter relay team consists of All-American Janice Jackson, Anna-Kay James, Ai-yanna Stiverne and Florence Uwakwe. This team was the first of the preliminary competitors to qualify for a national spot.

Of the members on the relay team, Jackson and James will both compete in the 100-meter hurdles. Jackson posted a time of 13.40—her best of the season.

“My coach told me to run my preliminary like it was the finals. I really tried to focus on that,” Jackson said.

For the most part, head coach Mika Laaksonen said that the competition participating in the preliminaries would resemble that of the competition to be faced in Oregon.

For Jackson, it's her start to every race that she is not happy with. She'll come out a little slower than she would like, then turn on the jets and finish strong. It is something she says has been a problem all year, but is getting better.

“Part of it is a habit. The other part is I am thinking too much,” Jackson said. “I'm not as in the zone as I should be in the beginning as I am in the end.”

Jackson has been leading the squad all year—with her performance, her preparation and her willingness to guide the younger runners.

“Janice is the natural leader. She is kind of the leader of the whole team, boys and girls side,” said Laaksonen.

Jackson would offer little tidbits of advice throughout the season to her teammates. The one thing she has stressed was relationships with the coach. She preached that it is not enough to simply ask the coach about their times, but to sit down and establish good and productive sessions with the coach.

The Miners' track and field team is a hidden treasure that many are not aware of. The team has never drawn a lot of attention; and it is not because of the lack of success. The men's outdoor track and field team has accomplished six outdoor National Championships.

The team has plenty of talent and are precious gems. In 2013, Anthony Rotich claimed six first-place finishes,

including the NCAA Championship in the steeplechase, recording a school record time of 8:21.9

Expectations for Rotich are nothing short of victory.

A sad sight will be not seeing All-American Mark Jackson competing at nationals. Earlier in the week, before the West Preliminaries, Jackson injured a hamstring, which sidelined him and ended his college career. The team has been prepping and taking their season one day at a time. They do not get ahead of themselves and they stick to a routine.

In a sport where every millisecond matters, patience seems a bit out of the question.

“  
Janice is the natural leader. She is kind of the leader of the whole team, boys and girls side  
”  
- Track and Field Head Coach Mika Laaksonen



Top: Freshman Florence Uwakwe and Senior Janice Jackson are two of the four Miners competing in the women's 4x100-meter relay. Bottom: Junior Anthony Rotich is the odds on favorite to win the men's 3,000-meter steeplechase in Eugene, Oregon.

The competitors need to know when to turn it up another gear. Every movement of the body is the difference in victory and defeat. Posture in running, timing and

awareness when passing the baton and getting the right acceleration on the gun will all be showcases for one weekend in June.

It is no longer a marathon race to the NCAA—the time has come and the race is now a full-on sprint.

Luis Barrio may be reached at theprospectordaily.sports@gmail.com.

COLUMN  
An experience like no other

BY JAVIER CORTEZ  
The Prospector



Watching a sporting event live can get quite boring—I'll be the first to admit that. The weather sucks, no one shows up and the hot dogs taste like they're from last week. When you go to an event like the NBA Finals, though, it is a moment in time you will never forget.

As of five days ago, I have experienced that moment twice in my life. I have been able to attend game one of the 2014 NBA Finals and game five of the 2013 NBA Finals. Both games were in San Antonio. There is nothing like it.

The atmosphere is amazing: constant cheering, people in unified colors and an overall sense of camaraderie. You can walk up to a total stranger and give them a high-five or chest bump. Then when you get to your seat, all you see is a sea of black chanting, “GO SPURS GO!”

It also helps when you are in a great basketball city like San Antonio. Over the past 15 years, the organization has done nothing but win. In total, the franchise has four NBA championships and with its “big three” consisting of Manu Ginobili, Tony Parker and Tim Duncan.

I got to see nine future members of the Hall of Fame play in game one this year and game five last year. Its not that often in life that you get to see all-time greats like Tim Duncan, LeBron James and Dwyane Wade all compete for the most coveted prize in basketball.

In both games that I went to, I was slightly disappointed because of the outcomes. On both occasions I was rooting for the Miami Heat and twice they came up short. Although both losses were by double-digits, there was plenty of excitement to go around.

For instance, game one this year was full of drama because the air conditioning went out and the AT&T Center felt like it was played outside. Everyone was fanning themselves, sweating profusely and looking like they were about to pass out.

Although it was uncomfortable, ultimately I was happy with the outcome. Game one of the 2014 NBA Finals will go down in history as the game where the air conditioning broke and the arena was more than 90 degrees—I was there sweating my ass off.

I never thought I would experience these events twice—at least not this early in life. The trip is so easy, almost anyone can do it, but there are two essential things that you need to do to enjoy an event of this magnitude.

First off, get the cheapest seat you can buy. It doesn't matter if you are in the nosebleeds, you will still have a great time. Unless you are blind, it shouldn't matter where you sit, just being there is enough.

Secondly, enjoy the game no matter the outcome. Leave your prejudices out the window and relish in the fact that you are not only witnessing history, but going to one of the greatest sporting events in the world.

Wasting the experience of a lifetime is not on the agenda.

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



INBRIEF

THE PROSPECTOR PICKS THE WORLD CUP

BY LUIS GONZALEZ



The champion will be South American. In the previous four South American World Cups, the last team standing was South American. The last time the World Cup was held in Brazil, the host made it to the final in Maracana Stadium in front of a record crowd of 173,850 only to be upset by massive underdog Uruguay.

Sixty-four years later, I think Brazil will reach the final again in Maracana, in front of its people against a South American country. It will be Argentina against Brazil—Messi against Neymar, which will be the new Maradona against the next Pele, with the most coveted trophy hanging in the balance.

For Argentina, the tournament will not start until the second round— because of the little competition they have in group F. Coach Alejandro Sabella should be able to use this time to fine-tune the squad and reach the critical part of the competition at full strength.

Sabella has also built the team around Messi, the best player I have ever seen. He will be surrounded by players like Angel Di Maria, and Sergio Aguero.

Just like Brazil, the expectations for Argentina are great, the pressure is immense, but that is exactly when the great players become legends.  
**My championship match prediction:**  
**Argentina beats Brazil 3-2.**

BY CHRIS ZACHERL



Many people around the globe are getting prepared for the greatest international sporting event — The 2014 World Cup in Brazil. As usual, Europe contains the top powerhouse squads that most people select to become world champions.

My favorite team in this year's World Cup is Germany. Germany always seems to keep their line-ups consistent every year. In the past few World Cups and the Union of European Football Associations Euro's, they have made it to the semi-finals and to a couple of championship matches, but they just haven't had that extra push to win the titles.

After falling short in the 2010 World Cup Semi-final, and collapsing in the 2012 UEFA Euro Final (they lost both to Spain), now is their time to finally hold up a trophy. They have added young players to their squad, and they seem considerably quicker and more aggressive on offense and defense.

Mario Götze is one of the newest players on the German squad, and he has the chance to be one of the best. Not too many soccer fans have heard his name, but I believe he can make a name for himself this year and be the best player in this world cup.  
**My championship match prediction:**  
**Germany beats Spain 2-1.**

BY AARON MONTES



World Cup fever is a condition people from all over the world get diagnosed with every four years. Symptoms include patriotism, constant sport-channel-viewing and dialogue all about how wonderful life is.

So how does the world come together for two months in solidarity? With performances from the Earth's greatest athletes performing on the biggest stage, it's easy to forget politics.

In the 2014 World Cup, undoubtedly Lionel Messi will be looking to decorate his already colorful career with a golden boot and tally up his goal count. With Bosnia-Herzegovina, Iran and Nigeria in Argentina's group, there is much potential for Messi to have a lights-out group stage performance, which will catapult his team deep into the next round.

The final score will be a 3-2 result in a Confederation's Cup final rematch when Brazil defeated the formally unstoppable Spain team.

It will not be an easy road for Brazil despite home country advantage. They will more than likely meet the Netherlands in the round after the group stage, then Germany in the round before the championship.  
**My championship match prediction:**  
**Brazil beats Spain 3-2.**

BY JAVIER CORTEZ



I will be the first to tell you I do not know much about soccer. Over the past couple of years my interest in the game has grown, but I couldn't sit down and analyze a game like I could with basketball or tennis.

The tournament that comes every four years doesn't have a lot of upsets or Cinderella type stories. At the end of the day a European power house, or Brazil, has come out on top in the last 20 years.

I am rooting for the United States but I am not going to delude myself into thinking that they have an actual chance.

I rather see a final featuring Brazil and one of the other three top contenders. What I am looking forward to most is seeing the two best players in the world have another shot at World Cup glory.

I am referring to Cristiano Ronaldo and Lionel Messi. This will be the last time both players are playing in the World Cup when they are in their prime.

Predicting a winner before a tournament has started is always the toughest but I'm going with Germany. They have been on the brink in the last three World Cups and it seems like their time to take it all.  
**My championship match prediction:**  
**Germany beats Spain 2-1.**

Luis, Chris, Aaron, and Javier may be reached at theprospectordaily.sports@gmail.com

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