

10-7-2014

The Prospector, October 7, 2014

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THE PROSPECTOR

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VOL

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO

OCTOBER 7, 2014



PHOTOS BY MICHAELA ROMAN AND RUBY CERINO / ILLUSTRATION BY DIEGO B URCIAGA / THE PROSPECTOR

University celebrates homecoming with centennial theme

JOSEPH ESPOSITO

The Prospector

One hundred years of memories will be displayed in celebration throughout UTEP's homecoming week, October 5-11. With this year's theme being the centennial, looking back at the most significant events of the university's history will play a key role.

"I guess you could say that I chose the idea," said Sam Rodriguez, student organizations management and development coordinator. "We pick

a theme every year for the student organizations to piggy-back off of for their sub-themes, and knowing that this is the centennial year, it's the only opportunity to do something like this. We knew we would get a lot of support from choosing a topic like this."

Student Engagement and Leadership Center intern Javier Calzadillas, senior organization and corporate communication major, said that campus organizations in the homecoming parade were assigned cat-

egories relating to major UTEP and historical events.

"Like the 1966 basketball championship, Minerpalooza, UTEP traditions, TCM day and UTEP rivalries," Calzadillas said.

Various events will be held throughout the week for students, as well as fun dress days to help show school pride. Sunday and Friday will be Orange Day, Tuesday-Miner Day, Wednesday-Pajama day, Thursday-Pirate Day and Saturday-Game Day, along with the Distinguished Alumni and Gold Nugget Centennial Cel-

ebration Gala, which will place Friday night at the Don Haskins Center.

"We'll be having a rock wall on Monday, many days with photo booths with props and pictures, ideally to be uploaded onto social media websites. We will also be having Twingo, Bingo via Twitter. Wednesday is lip sync day, where many organizations will be performing," said Kristy Pacheco, coordinator of student activities. "I think that either the lip sync or the parade will be where

see THEMEon page 12

EVENTS

Block Party picks all Miners to gather for festivities

BY JOSEPH ESPOSITO

The Prospector

UTEP Alumni Relations will be hosting a Centennial Homecoming Block Party at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 9 at Wiggins Road.

"It's going to be a lot of fun," director of events Liz Thurmond said. "We're going to block off the road on Wiggins, from there to Rim. We have a stage with a band coming in from Dallas, Moving Colors, one of the

party bands that have appeared in magazines of their area."

Moving Colors has become popular because they have incorporated elements into their performance that include painting on stage, beating on buckets and trashcans and doing handstands, into their pop music renditions.

Alumni from all colleges are encouraged to attend the party so they can, "connect with former classmates and network with fellow

alumni," as stated on the Alumni Relations website.

"The idea for the block party was brought up this year when we had first started talking about homecoming," said Paul Sanchez, Student Alumni Association President and junior civil engineering major. "We wanted to do something special for this year that we don't normally do."

Through this party, the Alumni Relations office hopes to honor the idea of retaining Miner school spirit years after graduation, as well as several

other events. This will be the campus' first block party, but it will not become a reoccurring event, making it a true once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

"It's important for alumni to give back and stay connected, through financial contributions or otherwise, it helps pass the university forwards," said Monica Corchado, associate director of alumni engagement.

"(This block party is) an opportunity for alumni of all colleges and schools to come back to connect and

see BLOCK PARTY on page 4

COMMUNITY

Family violence cases increase in El Paso

BY MARIA ESQUINCA

The Prospector

This is part one of a three part series examining domestic violence in El Paso and UTEP.

Mug shots of people arrested because of family violence reveal more than faces.

A study by the Texas Council On Family Violence revealed that the number of domestic violence cases that were filed and prosecuted in El Paso County jumped 87 percent to more than 3,000 from 2012 to 2013.

In these 4-inch-by-3-inch photographs, some men and women look straight ahead at the camera, while others avert their eyes to the side.

According to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, one in every four women will experience domestic violence in her lifetime and one in 19 men will be physically assaulted by a partner.

Cesar Campa, community relations director at the Center Against Family Violence, an emergency shelter for victims of domestic violence, said El Paso does not experience more domestic violence cases than its other two shelters in Hudspeth and Culberson counties.

On average, the shelter houses 90 to 100 individuals, 500 of them being children and teens. Over 2,000 seek services from the family resource center, which provides counseling, support groups and therapy.

However, Campa said victims of domestic violence in El Paso may face other challenges, such as lack of immigration status.

"Their legal status depends on staying with their abusive partners—if they leave they lose their legal status," Campa said. "Their barriers are a little bit different than someone that is a U.S. citizen."

Some shelters in El Paso turn away victims who lack legal status.

Director of the Reynolds Home, Dorothy Truax, a shelter for homeless men and women, said the main reason victims of domestic violence go to the Reynolds Home is because they are not financially stable, something that was also echoed by Campa.

"If they don't have legal documents and there's abuse, it's harder for those families to get back on their feet, it's harder for those to get income," Truax said.

Truax added that victims of domestic violence suffer from very low self-esteem, and part of rebuilding their self-esteem is helping them earn their own income.

"Many times they're financially dependent on that person," Campa said. "If they are financially dependent on them they will probably never leave."

Eva Moya, assistant professor of social work, said it's not uncommon for victims to go back to their abusers.

According to Moya, on average it takes six to eight attempts before a

see DOMESTIC on page 8

OCTOBER 7, 2014

PERSPECTIVES

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
LORAIN WATTERS, 747-7477

COLUMN

Greek Life
secrecy unethical

BY AMANDA GUILLEN

The Prospector



Due to some questioning about the current status of a fraternity here on campus, it has come to my attention that there are alleged accusations of hazing in the UTEP chapter of Phi Delta Theta.

As a reporter at a university newspaper, it is my duty to provide news to students that directly affect and pertain to them. In many cases, the stories I write are of a joyous nature, but many include some not so favorable content.

It is frustrating when, at times, there is a story that I can't report or complete due to the lack of cooperation by the main sources or spokespersons for that issue.

Greek Life is the most tight-lipped entity that I have ever encountered. Although no source is ever obligated to talk to media, the type of silence and lack of cooperation by Greek Life is unlike any other I've ever witnessed.

During my freshman year at UTEP, I ignorantly chose the topic of my final feature story in one of my journalism classes to be on Greek Life and it's place in UTEP's history, whether it be good or bad.

I highlighted why students are drawn to Greek Life and why some may have drifted into oblivion due to some suspicious activity.

Of course, being the type of journalist that wanted to get to the root of the story, I noticed that everything was always glitter and flowers when it came to talking about the positives of Greek Life on the UTEP campus. But when it came to talking about the bad side of this issue, my sources completely shut me out.

Hazing was an issue that I felt needed to be addressed in my story, since it is what has ultimately been the demise of a few well-known sororities and fraternities on campus.

According to stophazing.org, more than half of college students that are involved in some sort of organization, club or team will experience hazing. In all, social sororities and fraternities are right behind athletics when it comes to the highest percentage of students that are hazed in their student group.

When I reached out to a former classmate who was a part of a sorority that had been disbanded due to hazing, she quickly and blatantly told me that she was not going to share any information about what had happened, and that I wouldn't get too far with any other sources either.

When I asked why she wouldn't speak to me even though she was no longer a "sister," she told me that she will always remain loyal to her sorority no matter what the outcome, disgraced or not.

Although this loyalty is admired by some, as a journalist it is something I find ridiculous and unnecessary.

It is clearly unethical not to speak out against something that is obviously wrong. I find it disturbing that a group would hold out information that could possibly help inform others on the truth, especially a truth that could bring justice and clarity to those that are unsure of the Greek Life culture.

Exposing injustices could easily clear up names. If someone claims to be your brother or sister, how can you not speak out when they harm you?

Taking a step back to hone in on my primary focus, these are the questions that are left unanswered and that journalists like myself are waiting to solve.

Although these may seem like small, petty issues that only a college newspaper would cover, please remember to take a look at the severity of issues such as hazing, partying, alcohol and other accidents that can occur in Greek settings.

Injuries, and even some fatalities, have been reported around the country due to events—mostly hazing—that have been associated with fraternity and sorority life.

I am in no way saying that this is the definition of what Greek Life is, but this is an issue that is present and magnified because of the secrecy and silence that has always been present here at UTEP and at universities across the United States.

As soon as the fear and the loyalty fade, the truth will surface and maybe then the journalism world and the Greek world will learn to work together in perfect harmony.

Until then, The Prospector will continue to seek the truth. That is a promise.

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

ACCURACYWATCH

The Prospector is committed to accuracy. If you think we have made an error of fact, e-mail us at theprospectordaily.news@utep.edu.



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

As a student at UTEP, I'm proud of our progress within the last three years on campus. From newly erect buildings, to more funding for research, to our changing landscape, UTEP has improved. But as a philosophy major, it is my duty to question everything. I ask myself: why does the college with the highest enrollment, Liberal Arts (7,800) have the worst facility on campus?

The Liberal Arts building has bad lighting, incompetent heating/cooling, out of date technology and over-used chalk boards. Home of over 24 majors this facility is the most used and abused on campus and is in need of serious renovations. I ask myself: with all the campus renovations taking place at UTEP, did the Liberal Arts building get any considerations?

Walking down the halls of Liberal Arts during the fall and spring semesters, one could see the broken clocks in the hallway and flickering lights. Looking into classrooms, one sees jammed packed rooms with sweaty students fulfilling their core requirements and struggling with the out-of-date computers trying to present a powerpoint presentation. Being a student in the classes, one always hears the professors complain about the dilapidated condition of the building.

I understand that the soft sciences and arts do not bring in the major funding that the science, math, engineering and Medical programs receive. But in pursuit of that illusive tier-one status, UTEP has neglected its biggest college. Tier one, but at what cost?

By Abraham Monteros,
Senior French and philosophy major

THE PROSPECTOR STAFF VOL. 100, NO. 5

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OCTOBER 7, 2014

OUR VIEW PHOTO EDITOR
MICHAELA ROMAN, 747-7477

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1. Colin Greenwalt and Raven James made their costumes themselves and created their own characters. 2. The Sun City SciFi was held Saturday, Oct. 4, and Sunday, Oct. 5 at the El Paso Convention Center. 3. An EPCC sophomore and UTEP alumni Joshua Palkowski play “Star Wars Revenge of the Sith,” in the gaming section of the convention. 4. Actor Daniel Logan answers quesions on his role as young Boba Fett in the “Star Wars” saga. 5. Junior theater major Cristina Gonzalez sells prints at her cosplay booth. 6. Ruben Rascon, junior digital media production major, starts a new sketch for a client. 7. Cristina Dark, Kirika Yashida and the El Paso Cosplay Girls answer questions Saturday on cosplay.

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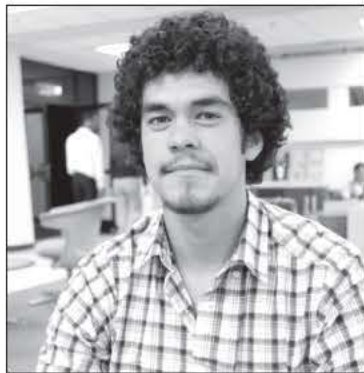
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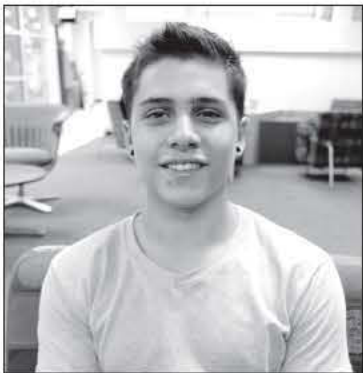
QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Does your commute to UTEP affect your participation in campus events?

RUBY CERINO, MICHAELA ROMAN / THE PROSPECTOR



ABNER PALOMINO
Freshman, computer science major
“Not really, I come on the bus and it takes a little longer, but it doesn’t stop me from being involved.”



DEREK MATTHEWS
Freshman, buisness administration major
“It depends what kind of event it is. If I really want to go, then I’ll go because it takes me like 30 minutes to get here, so it just depends what’s going on.”



HECTOR CERVANTES
Freshman, computer science major
“It makes me be really picky about what I want to join in because I waste a lot of money on gas just to get here so I hardly come over here unless it’s for classes.”



JALEN ANDERSON
Freshman, buisness management major
“Everything is pretty close. I can just walk because I live on campus. I go to events because everything is conveniently close.”



NEVE GONZALEZ
Freshman, general studies major
“Since my mom gets out of work and picks me up around 5:30, if I have to stay after 5:30 I have to find a ride home so not having a car is kind of a struggle.”

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YAHAIIRA PEREZ
Junior, biomedical sciences major
“Since I live in Horizon, it’s sometimes difficult to come all the way to campus especially on those days that I don’t have classes, so sometimes I limit myself on the events I actually want to attend.”



ALICIA LOPEZ
Freshman, cellular/molecular biochemistry major
“No, because my commute to UTEP is not that far, and my activities are usually in the afternoon.”



MICHELLE HERNANDEZ
Sophomore, speech pathology major
“My commute does not effect my participation in events because I drive myself to school, and most of the time I’m available when most of the events take place.”



TANIA VILLA
Freshman, microbiology major
“My commute to UTEP does not affect me because I still attend every event every time I can.”



RYAN CAMPBELL
Freshman, mechanical engineering major
“No, because I’m not really involved around campus yet.”



KATHY CALVO
Freshman, social work major
“It does effect my participation in events because I sometimes don’t have a ride to the events that I want to attend.”

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CAMPUS LIFE

No new gold nuggets



FILE PHOTO / THE PROSPECTOR

UTEP alumni celebrate the centennial festivities.

BY AMANDA GUILLEN

The Prospector

UTEP has been recognizing a select group of alumni as the cream of the crop for 64 years, but this year the usual process is not going to suffice. Instead, to honor UTEP's centennial year, there will be a celebration of all of the previous recipients.

The selection process takes place prior to homecoming week, and both Gold Nuggets and Distinguished Alumni will take part in the homecoming festivities.

Executive Director for Alumni Relations, Richard Daniel, said it is important that this year is different from others.

"It is going to be a celebration for them, to pay tribute to them for what they have been able to accomplish and helping elevate the university because with their successes, come our successes," Daniel said.

More than 100 past Gold Nuggets and Distinguished Alumni are expected to attend the week-long celebrations that started on Oct. 6.

The Distinguished Alumni and Gold Nugget Centennial Celebration Gala will take place at 6:30 p.m., on Oct. 10 at the Don Haskins Center. There will be food and entertainment.

All of the past award recipients will also be honored on Oct. 11 at halftime of UTEP's game against Old Dominion on the Sun Bowl football field.

Overall, Daniel said that bringing back these alumni is important for them, but also for current students. He said that many alumni have not been back to the university in a while and have not seen the change and growth that the university has undergone.

He also said that students would be able to learn from other fellow Miners that were once in their shoes.

"Our students can see that these individuals that walked around this campus at some point in their life have been able to achieve their career dreams and they have been able to do great things and that is because they were persistent, and they understood that if they kept moving forward, things would pay off," he said.

Amanda Guillen may be reached at theprospectordailynews@gmail.com.

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8:30 a.m. – 11 a.m. • Tomás Rivera CC, Union East, 3rd floor

In Their Shoes: Sensitivity and Awareness Experiential Training

12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. • UTEP Union East, Andesite Room

TUESDAY, OCT. 14:

Disability Related Sensitivity and Etiquette Training

9:00 a.m. - 10:20 a.m. • Acacia Room, 1st Floor Union East

Service Animals: A Helping Hand

10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. • Andesite Room, 1st Floor, Union East

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 15:

Resource Fair and Sports Clinic

10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. • Liberal Arts Lawn

THURSDAY, OCT. 16: EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS

How to Manage Special Nutritional Concerns:

Looking at Food Allergies, Celiac Disease and Overall Nutrition

9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. • Health Sciences & Nursing Building (HSN), Rm 206

PhotoVoice: Transformation toward Universal Design on Campus.

10:45 a.m. – noon • Health Sciences & Nursing Building (HSN), Rm 206

Evacuation Chair Training

Noon – 1:00 p.m. • Undergraduate Learning Center, 3rd floor

"Endless Abilities," Film and Panel on Recreational Sports for People with Disabilities

1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. • Health Sciences & Nursing Building (HSN), Rm 135

FRIDAY, OCT. 17:

Second Annual Interdisciplinary Symposium:

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Noon – 5 p.m. • Union Building East, 3rd floor



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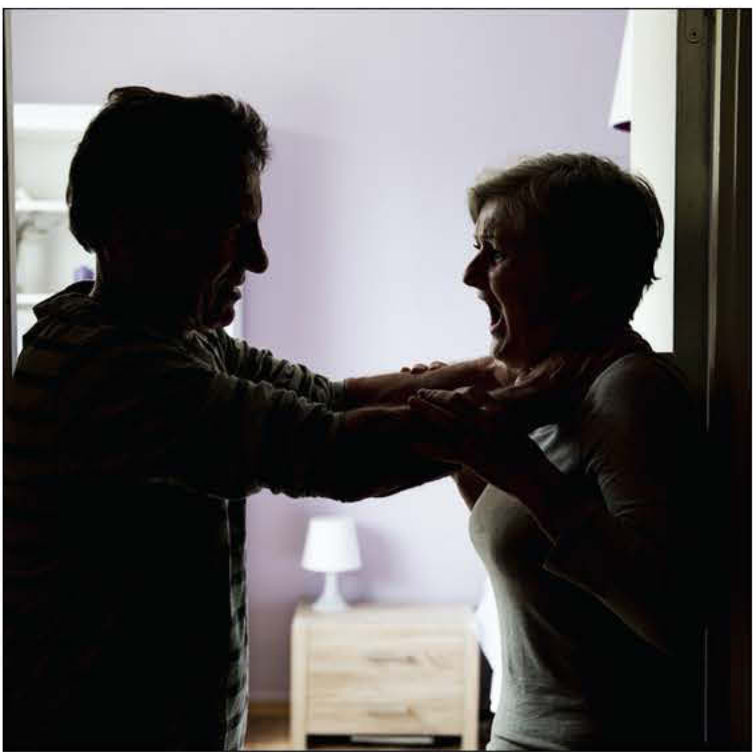
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Applications are due by noon on Friday, October 24, 2014.



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FILE PHOTO

DOMESTIC from page 1

"This is an addiction, this is a relationship of dysfunction, it's a relationship in which it is very difficult to actually break away from a situation in which you have learned to be cared and loved and accepted," Moya said. "You have to learn how to re-live with yourself."

Moya initiated a Photovoice research project, in which 22 women and survivors of domestic violence from the El Paso community used pictures to document how the issue impacted their lives.

Through the project, women were able to feel empowered. Moya deemed the project a success because many of

the women were able to leave their abusive relationships.

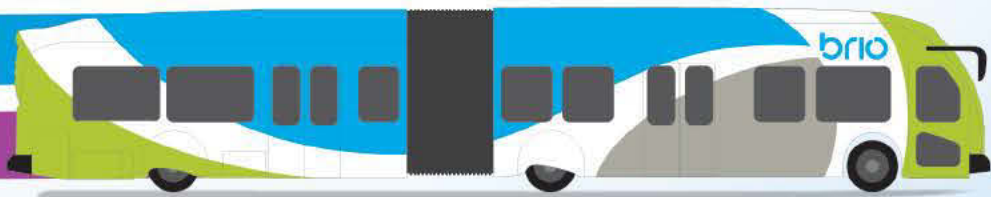
"It was a way for them to express and really use their voice," Moya said. "You have a wonderful example of how women have chosen to use the power of their story."

Moya also said that resources are an important part of a victim's ability to get out of an abusive relationship.

"It's very difficult. It takes not only courage, it takes incredible support, it takes knowledge and information, but more importantly, it takes access to resources," Moya said.

Maria Esquinca can be reached at the prospectordaily@gmail.com.

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BRIO ARRIVES OCTOBER 27TH

OCTOBER 7, 2014

ENTERTAINMENT

EDITOR
ANDREA ACOSTA, 747-7477

Centennial pageant lights up auditorium



BY KIMBERLY VALLES
The Prospector

The university officially kicked off homecoming festivities with its traditional pageant that took place Sunday, Oct. 5 at the Magoffin Auditorium. With this year's theme being UTEP's 100th birthday celebration, the participants had the chance to think outside the box.

"Participants have a good time and enjoy themselves, they understand the big tradition of the pageant," Alvin Garcia, senior media advertising major and coordinator, said. "It's not just a thing you do, it's a tradition that we have always had here at UTEP, to bring those people out of their bubble."

The pageant consisted of 24 women and 16 men. For the first time in history, freshmen were allowed to participate in this event. Dance performances by Del Valle high school, Prodigy Dance Company and Allegro Dance Company were also part of the show. The Masters of the Ceremony were Kandolite Flores, UTEP alumna and former 2009 homecoming queen, and Daniel Villa, marketing athletics director and former 2010 homecoming prince.

The university's buildings covered in glittery snow were featured in the stage's background. Throughout the three-hour event, the contestants managed to entertain the audience and kept them laughing. Students showcased their ideas pertaining to their major, organization and the homecoming theme.

The pageant continued with the spirit wears competition, where participants showcased their costumes

and their talents. The themes included the explanation of what minerpalooza means to the university, the history of the architecture, old school dances and songs from the university and the famous 1952 alligator prank.

Participants also brought out their best gown and walked across the stage. The top ten contestants were each given a question pertaining to UTEP's celebration.

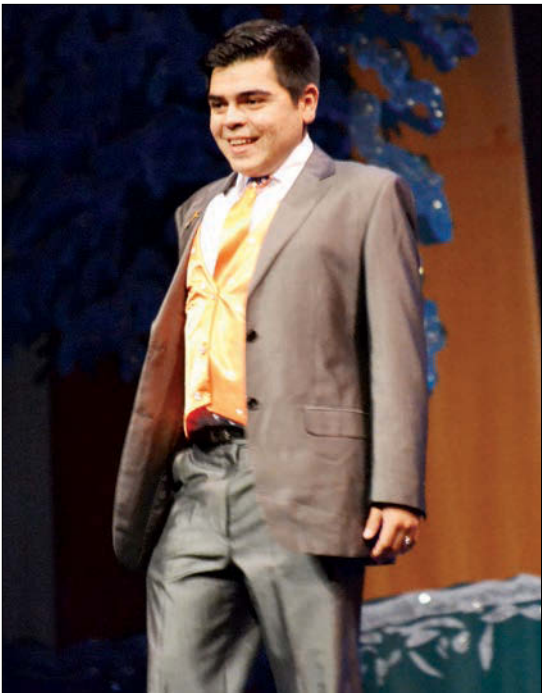
Many of the performances had the crowd standing and cheering on after the performances were completed.

Alysa Thornton, sophomore, microbiology major who represented the university's Honors program, portrayed Danny Olivas, UTEP alumni and former NASA astronaut, who in 2007 boarded the space shuttle called Atlantis. Thornton spoke about his impact on the community and the university, and after her speech she danced a salsa routine by Enrique Iglesias.

Crystal Saavedra, senior marketing major who represented Delta Sigma Pi, won as this year's homecoming Princess. She showcased a hip hop routine that had the crowd cheering throughout the performance.

The male participants also amazed the audience with their performances. Cristian Gonzalez, sophomore multimedia journalism major, represented the Gold Diggers and won as this year's homecoming prince. He dressed up as an old gold-digger and showcased a dance from the '50s to the university's traditional fight song, ending his performance with a dance from today.

Marco Antonio Vega, senior kinesiology major who represented



RUBY CERINO / THE PROSPECTOR

Contestants participate in the annual pageant that kicks off this year's homecoming festivities.

Phi Delta Delta, won as this year's homecoming king.

"I feel honored and extremely humble to have won this special Centennial Homecoming King," Vega said. "It's truly a once-in-a-lifetime achievement to be a Centennial King."

Vega dressed up as a newspaper boy, holding The Prospector's centennial newspaper and yelling out "Extra, extra, read all about it!" Vega talked about how the tradition of painting the letter M on top of the mountain by the Sun Bowl got started. He later switched his costume in front of the audience into a soccer coach and portrayed his major into his costume and

presented a speech on how he would give to the community.

"I feel I have to raise the bar as King and represent this great university in the highest light it rightfully deserves," Vega said. "I love my community, this university and I hope to express it during this special homecoming year."

Alvin, a former participant of the homecoming pageant two years ago, encourages students to participate, as he understands that for some students it can be nerve-wracking to stand in front of a crowd.

"We believe that every student is allowed to participate, it doesn't matter

if you are a freshman or a grad student," Garcia said. "We try to keep it fair. You don't have to be super involved to be in a pageant to represent your school, it's all about the passion."

The rest of the homecoming court consisted of Queen Bianca Gomez, senior dance performance major, Duke, Daniel Morales, senior music general major, and Duchess, Cristina Rolph, freshman pre-pharmacy major.

Kimberly Valle may be reached at theprospectordaily.ent@gmail.com.

CAMPUS LIFE

Student participation increases for homecoming events

BY LUIS BARRIO
The Prospector

Richard Daniel, executive director of alumni relations, said he has noticed an increase in student participation every year for homecoming and student participation in campus events in general.

"When I was here seven years ago, I didn't see students here late in the afternoon. By 12 o'clock, it was dead. Now I see more Miner spirit, more UTEP shirts and hats," Daniel said. "I come from the perspective

that students' engagement is very important, particularly from a communal perspective."

One obstacle UTEP faces is that it is a commuter school.

"The whole purpose is bringing people back," said Gary Edens, vice president for student affairs.

At UTEP, 2.7 percent of students live on campus while 83.6 percent come from the El Paso County. Surprisingly, the majority who live on campus are from El Paso. These students are coming from Fabens, San Elizario and Clint.

The increase in pride at UTEP is attributed to a plethora of reasons. The student housing population is rising. Students living on campus have risen from over 250 students to over 1,000. Consulting sources say there are another 2,500 students living near UTEP. The school also employs 2,500 students every semester.

For events such as the homecoming parade, UTEP has seen an increase in student engagement and student life.

"We are going to redefine student life here at UTEP," said Catie McCorry-Andalis, assistant vice president

for student life and associate dean of students. "We want to continue and support that growth."

McCorry-Andalis said once the Centennial Plaza is complete, students may spend more time on campus. She also said the infrastructure of the center of campus has been designed for student life. There will be room for platforms, stages, benches and its sound system will rival that of the Sun Bowl's.

"There will always be a different feel for us, an urban institution, than compared to Austin, Texas A&M and Texas Tech," Edens said. "There will

always be that difference because we're not trying to be like those universities."

UTEP did not have a top 10 ranking 10 years ago and an enrollment of 23,000 students. Through the work of all the distinguished alumni, students today and sticking to its identity, UTEP is now a top 10 school, as ranked by Washington Monthly, and is expected to have 30,000 students in the next few years.

Luis Barrio may be reached at TheProspectorDaily.news@gmail.com.

ART

Color is back on the streets

GIANFRANCO LANGUASCO

The Prospector

An octopus will take over a building in downtown El Paso, while people enjoy a luminous giant jellyfish marching down the street and others go through a silken fabric maze and get out to walk through colored glowing streets. This surrealistic scenario is real and it's about to happen, as Chalk the Block comes back to color the sidewalks for its seventh year on Oct. 10.

Although this event started as a small street chalk art competition next to the Plaza Theatre and the Museum of Art with no more than 2,000 people attending, it has now grown to have 38,000 attendees. However, as a result of the construction in the area, the event had to be moved to the Convention Center Plaza, where professional chalk artists will display their work, using the street as a platform.

"In the past two years, we couldn't program the usual space because of

the construction, so now the event is more compact," said Christopher Espinoza, production and marketing coordinator for El Paso Museums and Cultural Affairs. "But you get to see the same things you would have seen if it was bigger, it's just not spread out. So this will not be affecting the event overall."

Eric García, junior music major, became interested in this event because of his friend, who is an artist who participated last year.

"I was there last year and I'm looking forward to going again," García said. "My experience last year was so great that I can't wait to see what's new now."

This year, Chalk the Block is bringing some new exciting additions with artists from the United Kingdom, California, Las Cruces, San Francisco and San Antonio—becoming a very diverse festival. The pop-up galleries will include art exhibitions using spaces that are not being used, like buildings or retail spaces. One of them is the Octopied Building, a piece brought by British artist Filthy Luker, consists of six large inflatable octopi, with tentacles coming out of windows or building rooftops.

Another interesting work is Porous Prism by Ioana Urma, an artist from California. Her art consists of a silken fabric and chain link maze. Her idea is not only to get attendees into a maze, which symbolizes barriers, but to cross through these colorful walls. For Espinoza, this is a really unique part of the event because you are not inside a gallery, but you are still in the event, walking around and exploring downtown.

Carlos Garbalena, sophomore accounting major, who had previously heard about the event but has never had the chance to attend, said he is interested in trying it out this year.



MICHAELA ROMAN/THE PROSPECTOR

Chalk the Block will be held Oct. 10-12 in downtown El Paso.

"I heard some of my friends talking about how great it was last year—that I'm seriously considering to attend this year," Garbalena said. "I checked the schedule on their webpage and some of the art installations sound interesting."

Even though it's his first year in El Paso, Mijail Lamas, a creative writing graduate student, is really curious about the artistic performances at Chalk the Block.

"I think it's a great opportunity to approach some works that are really hard to find around El Paso, so I would definitely be going to see it," he said.

Chalk the Block will last through Sunday, Oct. 12, with Friday serving as a preview night from 6-10 p.m. Saturday will be the main day and most of the activities will take place that day. Chalk the Block will end on Sunday at 3 p.m.

Also, by popular demand, there is going to be a community chalk area with glow in the dark chalk, so people will also have the opportunity to color the streets. Tricky Falls, located at 209 S. El Paso, will be offering a kick-off show.

For Espinoza, the importance of this event is that it is not just about seeing a painting on a wall, but about the experience overall—the performances, the artists and watching their creative process.

"The idea is to have a direct interaction with art by touching them, going through them and experiencing art in a different way," Espinoza said.

Gianfranco Languasco may be reached at theprospectoraily.ent@gmail.com.

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ATTRACTION

Corn Maze celebrates UTEP's 100-year birthday



SPECIAL TO THE PROSPECTOR
La Union Corn Maze is located at 1101 New Mexico 28, Anthony, New Mexico.

BY KIMBERLY VALLE
The Prospector

This year's La Union Maze will be showcasing their art, which has been created by a group of professionals who have been doing this for years. The design involves the addition of a birthday cake along with candles numbered 100 on top in recognition of the UTEP's centennial.

"I came up with something that will indicate the 100 years and I thought of a birthday cake," said Lucy Sondgeroth, owner and founder of the maze.

Sondgeroth and her husband started the La Union Maze in 1999, along with other partners. About five years ago, they became independent and now fully own the 14-acre maze located just about 10 minutes outside

the El Paso city limits. La Union Maze opened to the public at the end of September.

"In the last 15 years, we have grown, we've added all kinds of activities. Back in the day it was a small maze, just a little tent, nothing else and people would get lost and leave," Sondgeroth said. "Now we have a huge area where people can stay and enjoy."

To make it unique, a Bhutanese building and UTEP's logo were also added to the corn maze's design.

Sondgeroth wants to remind the community about UTEP's commitment to higher education in the borderland area for the last 100 years.

"We are very excited about our theme this year. I think UTEP has been a great institution and has done a terrific job educating for 100 years," Sondgeroth said. "Just thinking about

the thousands and thousands of people that have been through UTEP. We thought it would be great to honor their 100th year."

Many UTEP students are looking forward to this event. Gabriela Faivre, senior special education major, said she attends La Union Maze every year with friends, and she is excited to bring her family with her.

"I'm so excited, because it is just a fun event, full of activities. I go every year and, to me, it just keeps getting better," Faivre said. "Getting lost in the maze is a fun adrenaline that one gets into."

Other students will be experiencing La Union Maze for their first time this year.

"I've never been there before, so I'm not too sure what to expect, but I hope it is something fun to look forward to," said Roy Robertson, senior multidisciplinary studies major.

The employees will hand out maps to attendees right before they enter the maze. Maps will have areas to be on the look out for and will provide an idea to know where you are located. Employees have bridges at the maze and will be walking around just in case someone gets lost.

Sondgeroth advised attendees not to go alone, and said it's best to go with a group of people.

"I think it's nice to have places where families can spend time and not worry about anything else for a few hours," Sondgeroth said. "There isn't a whole lot of things in El Paso where the whole family can do together. You have something for the

kids to do, the parents can join, the whole gang is doing something."

La Union Maze also provides other activities during the year such as pig racing, picking out pumpkins at their pumpkin patch, concession stands, slides, a huge jumping pil-

low that holds up to 15 people and kettle car rides.

For more information visit launion-maze.com or call 549-1323.

Kimberly Valle may be reached at theprospectordaily.entr@gmail.com.

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MICHAELA ROMAN / THE PROSPECTOR
Miner Pride Band performs at UTEP's last year homecoming parade.

THEME from page 1

the theme is most relevant. That's where we get most students out."

In honor of 100 years of UTEP pride, some new changes were in order for events taking place during the week. Being a theme to commemorate the past, UTEP students and alumni alike are encouraged to be a part of the week.

"One thing we're changing is how we present the parade's floats. Typically, the organizations come together Friday before the parade and they work until about 2 a.m. putting up their floats," Rodriguez said. "They'd come back at 8 in the morning to put the finishing touches on their floats. After the parades, they'd go straight into tear-down. They'd put dozens of hours into their floats to show them off for like 40 minutes. We wanted to let their hard work be shown for a little longer."

The annual RS Olympics, a SELC and Registered Student Organizations competitive collaboration, will be returning throughout homecoming week. The top five organizations will be recognized during halftime of the homecoming football game, with the winner receiving a trophy.

"One change is how we're scoring the RS Olympics and having teams split into divisions with each team getting a name from a specific era of UTEP's centennial," Calzadillas said.

Previous to last year's homecoming week, the homecoming parade would be held on the Friday of homecoming week, although this has been changed to Saturday for the convenience of the students.

According to Rodriguez it was difficult to have people come out to it

on a Friday, but what pushed them to change was that the ground has been broken for centennial reconstruction in the middle of campus, where the parade was usually held.

"We knew that students wouldn't come out of class to Glory Road to see the parade on a Friday, so that was the final nail in the coffin," he said. "Athletics played a role in moving it to Saturdays as well, since a lot of other schools tend to lean towards Saturdays for the homecoming parade anyway. So it allowed them to build it into part of their game day."

Despite the plans for making the most of the theme, students have conflicting thoughts regarding the choice. Some like the idea, while others believe a more creative alternative would make a better-suited theme.

"I understand the hype for all the centennial stuff, but I feel the homecoming theme shouldn't be included," freshman engineering major Merrick Martius said. "It could be cool done right, but who would know if we did it right? Nobody's going will be 100 years old."

Regardless of their stance on the theme's applicability, students are looking forward to the type of homecoming week that only comes once every 100 years.

"(A theme like this) gets UTEP more involved in things. My friends and I will all be participating in homecoming week," sophomore mechanical engineering major Anthony Gonzalez said.

Joseph Esposito may be reached at theprospectordaily.ent@gmail.com.

REVIEW

New flavors tease taste buds



PHOTO COURTESY SUN CITY CRAFT BEER FEST
Sun City Craft Beer Fest drew more than 7,000 attendees and featured 40 regional and national breweries.

BY MARIA ESQUINCA
The Prospector

A plethora of unexpected flavors meet my tongue. Lemonade, grapefruit, pumpkin pie, honey, chocolate, they all meet my taste buds in their liquid form, an unexpected surprise to my pallet.

Other flavors twist my tongue around and stab it with their bitter aggressive flavor. Regardless of the taste, each gulp becomes an opportunity for discovery, granted by the 2nd Annual Sun City Craft Beer Festival.

The festival drew approximately 7,000 attendees and featured 40 regional and national breweries and 15 area bars.

Among some of them were Left Hand Brewing Company, Lagunitas Brewing, Dogfish Head Brewery, Brooklyn Brewery and Deschutes Brewing.

Attendees were each allowed ten free samples from the various breweries as well as a complimentary SCCBF glass mug.

While the extent of my craft beer knowledge is limited to knowing the different types of beers, such as stouts, lagers, ales, and malts, and a vague idea of how the different colors and tastes are arrived at, by the way in which they were fermented, my appreciation for craft beer is that it grants tasters the opportunity to discover something new.

It's the idea of novelty that's so great about craft beer, there's a diversity of types, styles, flavors, colors, and tastes, all waiting to be discovered, appreciated, or marked off.

Everyone becomes both an investigator and critic of sorts. If you looked around the fest you see people reading over descriptions of beers until they find the one they think they'll like. They slowly raise their sample cup to their lips allowing the the taste to settle, finishing off with a remark of met or failed expectations.

That is, I think, the coolest thing about the craft beer festival, whether people went with the pure intention of getting drunk or as craft beer afi-

cionados, everyone left having discovered something new.

The greatest find for me was the Harpoon UFO Big Squeeze Sandy. If you're into fruity beers this is the beer for you. It was a fresh discovery that tasted like grapefruit juice minus the tartness that comes along with it, it was such a pleasant surprise I opened my eyes wide and exclaimed "mmmm." The Harpoon UFO White Ale was also good, its taste wasn't as strong as the Big Squeeze but it had a soft sweet hint of lemonade.

The Harpoon UFO Pumpkin tasted exactly like a slice of pumpkin pie on Thanksgiving.

Another great find was the Porter from SeaDog Brewing Co. It tasted like vanilla hazelnut coffee with a hint of chocolate whose rich flavor inspired some long forgotten childhood memory of Christmas.

The Select Macchiato Express Stout by Abita Brewing Company was also really good. It was smooth and matched its title closely with a Macchiato taste.

I didn't care much for the Birra Etrusca, from Dogfish Head. The beers description was, "hazelnut, pomegranate, Italian chestnut and honey," but I found it to taste exactly like incense if incense were drinkable.

The SCCBF also hosted cider breweries such as Ace Cider and Woodchuck, I enjoyed Ace Cider's berry cider. It had a simple sweet grapey taste.

The only drawbacks to the festival were the heat, the music could've been better, but the festival did provide some fun games such as giant beer pong and giant jenga.

All in all the festival was a great opportunity for people to come together and try something different, and is emblematic of the growing craft beer community in El Paso.

Maria Esquinca may be reached at theprospectordaily.ent@gmail.com.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MINER DAY/OCT. 7

9 a.m.
Dollar Wars (continues)
111 Union West
4:30 p.m.
Spelling Bee
Union Cinema

PAJAMA DAY/OCT. 8

5 a.m.
Miner Morning Mystery Mania
Sun Bowl Entrance

PIRATES DAY/OCT. 9

4 p.m.
RSO Feud
Union Cinema

ORANGE DAY/OCT. 10

6 p.m.
Float-Making Party
University Towers Lot

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BLOCK PARTY from page 1

"(This block party is) an opportunity for alumni of all colleges and schools to come back to connect and get updates from the different departments to see what's happening on campus."

According to Corchado, the block party aims to make the centennial homecoming week a special one for college students of the past and present.

"Gold Nuggets are invited back for the centennial and they are having their own gala the day after (the block party). Therefore, everyone will want to come back for something really special, new and exciting to see UTEP with," Sanchez said.

Alumni are also encouraged to participate in other events through-

out homecoming week, including the Student Government Association Past and Present luncheon, the 1964 Golden Grad Reunion and the UTEP Alumni Association tailgate.

"The Gold Nuggets are a group of individuals that have been distinguished in their colleges as alumni to represent their respective colleges and their entire university that year. In a typical year, we recognize one or more Gold Nugget per college, but all alumni and Gold Nuggets will be recognized in honor of the centennial," Thurmond said.

According to Amber Morrison recent alumna said that its important to stay involved with the UTEP community and this event will provide this.

"Networking should never stop, especially once you graduate. I'll take the opportunity to continue these connections," Morrison said.

Tickets are available for \$25, and include food, non-alcoholic beverages and entertainment. Guests will be treated to a gourmet burger bar and a UTEP centennial birthday cake. A cash bar will be available for those 21 and older. Students may purchase their tickets at the Student Government Association and will receive a free centennial t-shirt with their purchase.

For more information, call 747- 8600 or visit alumni.utep.edu/homecoming.

Joseph Esposito may be reached at theprospectordaily.ent@gmail.com.

OCTOBER 7, 2014

SPORTS

EDITOR
JAVIER CORTEZ, 747-7477

New look Miners are hungry for glory in 2014-15 season

BY JAVIER CORTEZ
The Prospector

Yesterday, the UTEP men’s basket- ball team conducted their first prac- tice of the 2014-15 season, at the Fos- ter Stevens Basketball Complex. After a season of trials and tribulations, the men’s team is ready for the new sea- son with a team that is full of depth.

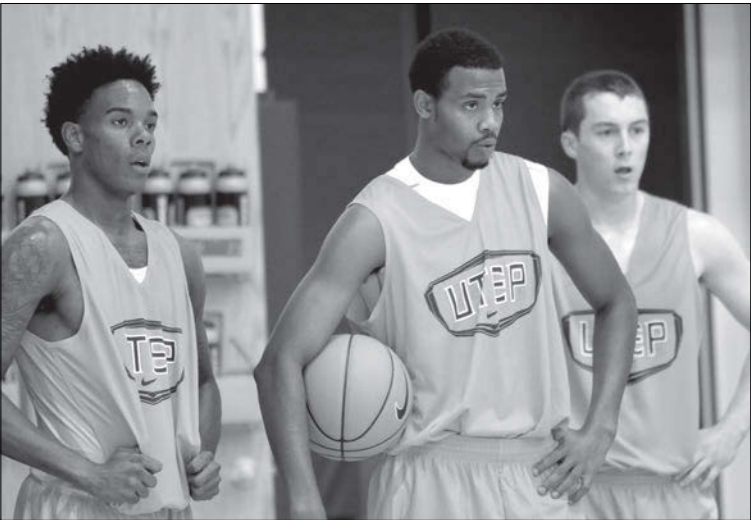
At the end of the 2013-14 sea- son, the Miners’ lack of depth in the backcourt hindered their chances of making it into a significant postsea- son tournament. With senior guards C.J. Cooper and Julian Washburn dominating most of the minutes at the guard positions last season, coach Floyd was prompted to go out and find new talent to give the Miners the depth they needed.

Coach Floyd did just that, recruit- ing three point guards—Trey Touchet, Lew Stallworth and Omega Harris.

“One of my theories in life—every- thing in excess,” Floyd said. “We don’t have point guards, so we said let’s go sign four of them. We got a lot of guys that are capable of playing in the backcourt this year.”

The biggest loss of last year for the Miners was senior John Bohannon. The Texas native was a premier player on a front-court heavy team. Despite the loss, the Miners seem to be set in the front court. Coach Floyd has seen an improvement in big men Hooper Vint, Matt Willms and Cedric Lang, to go along with the addition of Terry Winn, who coach Floyd thinks is one of the best rebounders on the team.

For the first time in Floyd’s five years as the head coach at UTEP, he



MICHAELA ROMAN/ THE PROSPECTOR
(Top) UTEP head coach Tim Floyd instructs his team on a drill. (Bottom) UTEP newcomers (left to right) Omega Harris, Earvin Morris, and Trey Touchet look on as a drill is being instructed by coach Floyd.

seniors this is our last go around, so we got to do something now.”

The two biggest spotlights coming into the season are on 2014 Confer- ence USA Freshman of the Year Vince Hunter and senior NBA prospect Ju- lian Washburn. After a stellar fresh- man season, Hunter has taken on the challenge of expanding his game. The sophomore has been working on his perimeter game as well as dribbling as he looks to fill the roll of small for- ward for the Miners.

Washburn, on the other hand, is on the cusp of another great season—last season Washburn was the Miners’ best two-way player, usually guarding the opposing team’s best player while taking on the bulk of scoring respon- sibilities offensively. Coming into this season, Washburn’s focus has not been on his responsibilities on offense or defense, but his responsibilities as a leader.

“I got to be a much better leader than I have the last three years,” Washburn said. “All the young guys are looking up to me, so I’m going to try to lead by example and hopefully that works.”

Although the Miners’ season does not officially start until mid November, the first glimpse of the team will take place in little less than month at the Or- ange and White scrimmage on Nov. 1.

finally has a team that he has solely recruited and that is staggered in class and full of depth.

“We feel like we’re a lot deeper this year,” said senior center Lang. “We’re gonna have guys that can come off the bench and really help us. We feel like we’re going to be really deep in post play even though we lost Bohannon.”

The recurring theme last year, besides the Miners’ lack of depth, was their lack of luck. A year that was full of player misconduct, injuries and recruiting problems, it showed that a basketball season is as ambiguous as anything in life. Lang, like the rest of the returning Miners, has put last season behind him and is focused on the now.

“We weren’t thrilled about what happened last season at all,” Lang said. “This is a new year for us, and for the

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

SPORTS

Being held to a higher standard

BY JASON GREEN
The Prospector

The UTEP Athletic Department and other campus organizations have used the recent domestic violence problems in the National Football League as a chance to reinforce the standards that UTEP students and student athletes should be held to.

If you have turned on the television or radio in the last month or so, you have most likely heard the news coming out of the NFL. The news was not as much about the start of a new foot- ball season as the NFL and Commis- sioner Roger Goodell probably would have liked. Prior to the season getting underway, a video was released that showed Baltimore Ravens’ running back Ray Rice dragging his then fiancée’s unconscious body out of a ho- tel elevator. Rice was suspended two games after the league had reviewed the circumstances.

Soon after Rice’s suspension was finalized, Denver Broncos’ wide re- ceiver Wes Welker received a four game suspension for testing positive for amphetamines. Many people saw this discrepancy in suspension length as a lack of concern on the NFL’s part in the area of domestic violence. Ac- cording to a USA Today report, 50 domestic violence cases have been pursued against NFL players since September 2006.

These recent high-profile cases have clearly had a negative affect on the NFL’s image in the eyes of the gen- eral public. However, they have also served as the catalyst for a dialogue on domestic violence in general. Se- nior Associate Athletic Director Julie Levesque is very confident in the qual- ity of the training that UTEP student athletes are receiving in this area.

“As each year goes by, rules and laws change, we update it every summer. I actually work with the office of Equal Opportunity in making sure all of our policies and procedures are current with the laws and the school policies and the UT System policies,” Levesque said. “We also get samples from the UT System. We send them our handbook and they send it back with suggestions. Everything’s current in there.”

Where a regular student, one who is not here on athletic scholarship, would attend the normal new student orientation, student athletes’ more complicated schedules often demand that they participate in a separate ori- entation. The university does every- thing it can to insure that athletes re- ceive plenty of education in the UTEP code of conduct.

“We bring in a lot of people. We bring in the dean of students and Ryan Holmes, the dean for the con- flict resolution Office,” Levesque said. “They come and they speak to all of our new students transfers and freshmen.”

Many students feel like all of this ex- tra attention paid to the athletes’ con- duct is worth it. Eileen Alvarez, a fresh- man nursing major, thinks that athletes should be held to a higher standard.

“Us, as students, we look up to athletes because we go and support them,” Alvarez said. “It would be bad for us to be supporting them for com- mitting domestic violence.”

Leslie Bernal, a junior English and American literature major, said she be- lieves it should not matter whether you are a superstar or any other athlete.

“They shouldn’t just have big pun- ishments for big athletes,” Bernal said. “It should be the same as ordinary athletes. The same as any other stu- dent. You represent UTEP”

Although the NFL eventually changed Rice’s two-game suspension into an indefinite one, the more harsh punishment may have come a little too late for outside observers. Perhaps it is this fear of losing respect in the eyes of the public that has led many UTEP students like Cesar Vazquez, a freshman mechanical engineering major, to expect harsh punishments if a UTEP athlete were arrested.

“They definitely should not be on the team,” Vazquez said. “Not sure how far I’d go. I don’t know what the story is to it. Definitely some serious punishment. Expulsion should defi- nitely be an option.”

There have not been any major is- sues involving an athlete and domes-

tic violence in the recent past. That has not stopped Athletic Director Bob Stull from addressing current events in meetings with all of the head coaches, according to Levesque.

“Bob (Stull) mentioned something in the last coaches’ meeting refer- encing Ray Rice—basically remind- ing everyone,” Levesque said. “Our coaches take things very seriously and understand. We’re trying to de- velop the students to be really good people when they leave here.”

If there is a silver lining to be found in the NFL’s recent issues, it is that people are talking more about domes- tic violence across the country. Many students have only recently begun to consider what the university’s policy on domestic violence is and what they could do if they or someone they know were to become a victim.

The Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution presents informa- tion at each new student orientation in reference to situations like domestic violence. However, many students re- main unsure on what they should do if they were to become or know about a victim. Arthur Gibbons, a freshman business major, has considered what he would do if someone he knew was a victim of domestic violence following his freshman orientation.

“Go talk to the UTEP police or may- be even an instructor,” Gibbons said.

Student athletes have participated in events on campus such as the

“Take Back the Night” movement in order to raise awareness for sexual assault and domestic violence. OS- CCR also works diligently to pro- mote domestic violence prevention c auses across campus.

At 6 p.m., Oct. 8 at the Blumberg Auditorium at the UTEP Library, the film “Lives For Sale: Human Traffick- ing” will be shown along with an ex- hibit that includes images of migrant women and domestic violence, devel- oped by Eva Moya, assistant professor of social work. OSCCR is also work- ing with the Student Engagement and Leadership Center to build a team of UTEP men, who would like to “Walk a Mile in Her Shoes” to raise aware- ness for sexual assault and family vio- lence. The walk will take place at the Union Plaza downtown on Oct. 16. Interested participants can register in room 106 in Union West.

If you or someone you know needs help, OSCCR, located at room 303 in Union East, is available to all UTEP community members. For more information, call 915-747-8694. Other resources include the Univer- sity Counseling Center, which may be reached at 915-747-5302, and the University Police Department, which may be reached at 915-747-5611.

Jason Green may be reached at theprospectordaily. sports@gmail.com.

FEATURE

Hannah Asuchak—Toughness personafied

BY LUIS GONZALEZ
The Prospector

In every sport, there are certain positions that are crucial to a team's success. In Hannah Asuchak's case, UTEP soccer has a center back that provides security and stability to its back four. A starter right from the start of her freshman year, Asuchak has been the center back that has anchored UTEP's defense for the past four years. A combination of talent, toughness, dedication and love for the game has helped UTEP's number three stay on the field even through a torn ACL.

Asuchak was born in Calgary, Alberta, Canada, and she has been playing defense ever since she got involved with soccer, back when she was playing with the Purple People Eaters. Although she is a native to it, she has never been a fan of the cold and constant snow, which played a role in her decision to come to UTEP.

"I'm a little bit of a baby with the cold," Asuchak joked. "I wanted heat when I picked a university."

Rarely off the field, Asuchak started every game of her freshman season, playing at least 90 minutes in all but one game. She played the second-most minutes among all UTEP players, with over 2,000 minutes logged on a team that achieved a second-place finish at the conference tournament.

That spring she suffered what, at first, appeared to be a setback when she tore her ACL in practice. For

any normal athlete that would have shut them down for a significant amount of time, but as she has shown throughout her career at UTEP, Hannah Asuchak is anything but normal.

"I don't know anybody that would have enough ability to play through a torn ACL," said head coach Kevin Cross. "That's how athletic she is, how strong her muscles were."

After the second-place finish a year before, missing her sophomore season was not an option. Asuchak remembers the pain of playing through an injury as significant as the one she had, to the point of crying as she defended the Miner goal.

"During it was painful, but I'd get a little adrenaline," Asuchak said. "After, it'd be so sore, I was in the training room two to three times a day."

An athlete tearing their ACL has become commonplace in sports, but playing through a tear is another thing. With surgery and rehabilitation, a recovery from an ACL tear takes six to nine months, Asuchak played all of her sophomore season and an offseason knee surgery didn't stop her going into the 2013-14 season.

Once again, Asuchak played in all games her junior season, starting in 18 of the 19 games the Miners played and logging more than 1,600 minutes on the field.

Entering this year, she had a total of 4,778 minutes played and has now gone well past 5,000 and has started in every game this season.



MICHAELA ROMAN / THE PROSPECTOR

Since the start of her freshman year Asuchak has been the anchor of the Miners back four.

Asuchak rarely crosses midfield during a game, making her offensive statistics nearly nonexistent, but her role on the team goes beyond the stat sheet. Her positioning on the field, timing of tackles and leadership have helped the Miners become one of the most solid defensive teams in the conference this year.

"From my position I see everything, I really try to control the defense and be a big communicator," Asuchak said.

Coach Cross is more than aware and does not underplay the importance of having a player such as Asuchak on the squad, especially at that position and for the length of time she has been there.

"She gives me job security," Cross said. "That's the person, her and the keeper, that keep the ball out of the net. We have to know that if there is a defensive breakdown, if she can save us and she doesn't let us down."

Asuchak is working on a bachelor's degree in human resource management, and although she does not anticipate playing soccer after UTEP—saying that playing in college was her main goal in the sport—her aspirations for this, her last season in the orange and blue, are simple.

"I would love to get a ring," Asuchak said, referring to a conference championship.

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



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FOOTBALL

Miners look to homecoming game to find their stride

BY JUAN CARLOS NAVARRETE
The Prospector

The UTEP Miners have been in a slump for the past two weeks on the road and will finally have the chance to redeem themselves in the Sun Bowl at their homecoming game against the Old Dominion Monarchs this Saturday, Oct. 11.

The Miners will attempt to bounce back at home after their second straight road loss, this time coming at the hands of Louisiana Tech. For the second straight week, the Miners were on the road and lost in a humiliating fashion.

The Miners opened conference play on Oct. 4 against Louisiana Tech, who proved to be too much to handle in every facet of the game. The Miners lost 55-3 to the Bulldogs in a game where turnovers were plenty. The Miners turned the ball over four times, all leading to L.A. Tech touchdowns. The only points for the Miners came from kicker Jay Mattox before half time.

"It was not a pretty game on our part by any account," said head coach Sean Kugler at the UTEP football

“I want to see what I can do to make this team get better from a practice standpoint, a schematic standpoint and a personnel standpoint”

— Sean Kugler,
UTEP football head coach

media luncheon, Oct. 6. "Louisiana Tech was a more disciplined and more physical team in that game. Five turnovers is extremely uncharacteristic for our program. We're not going to beat the East El Paso Little Miners with five turnovers."

The Miners are in desperate search for a win as they try to salvage their season. Though the Miners are 2-3 and still have a shot of representing the West for the Conference USA championship, a win against Old

Dominion can prove to be crucial in making that happen.

Both the Miners and the Monarchs are coming off humiliating defeats, where they both lost by more than 40 points in each of their past two games. The tone of this game can quickly become one of redemption for either team as they try to get their season back on track now that they are going further into conference.

After being gouged by Louisiana Tech last week and allowing three touchdowns through the passing game, UTEP will look to stand their ground defensively against Old Dominion. Special teams will also have to be a point of emphasis for the Miners as they gave up a blocked field goal for a touchdown.

The Miners' defense can look to face another dangerous passing offense like the one in L.A. Tech this week as the Monarchs come into the Sun Bowl ranked 38th in the nation for passing yards.

"They have an outstanding quarterback that won the equivalent of the Heisman at the FCS level when he was a sophomore and threw for 4,000 yards and 33 touchdowns last year. He is off to a good start again this year," Kugler said. "They sling it all over the yard. They also have a good offensive line that does a good job protecting him."

As for the Miners' offensive game plan, establishing the run early may result in being key against a defense that allowed more than 350 rushing yards last week against Marshall. This game could help UTEP running back Aaron Jones get back on the track as one of the nation's best rushers.

The Miners could be in for a favorable game offensively if they are able to open up the running game and give Jameill Showers time in the pocket. The Monarchs allowed more than

230 yards through the air in their last game. Something Showers will have to try to do is get his confidence back after throwing for four interceptions in the last game.

For the Miners, this homecoming game will be about a lot more than just welcoming alumni back to the university. For a program that is 2-3 at the moment, it can be a turning point in the season. It can become a proving game for the offense, defense and special teams. More importantly, this game will show what this team is made of in

the long run, and possibly bring confidence back into a doubtful program.

"Any time there's an issue, there are two routes you can go. You can start pointing fingers and start doing the blame game, or you can look in the mirror and say 'What can I do better to help this program get better?' I'm at that stage," Kugler said. "I want to see what I can do to make this team get better from a practice standpoint, a schematic standpoint and a personnel standpoint."

Juan Carlos Navarrete may be reached at theprospector@daily.sports@gmail.com.



MICHAELA ROMAN / THE PROSPECTOR

The Miners 52 point loss to Louisiana Tech last week was the worst loss the Miners have suffered in 12 years.

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SOCCER

Tremendous weekend play gives confidence to Lady Miners

BY LUIS GONZALEZ

The Prospector

The UTEP women's soccer team will go on the road to visit Western Kentucky and Marshall on Friday and Sunday, respectively, after splitting two games at home.

It took overtime in both games this weekend at University Field to separate UTEP from North Texas and Rice—two of the top teams in Conference USA. Both games ended 1-0, with the Miners losing to North Texas, but edging out Rice.

Both the Mean Green and Owls came into their games with UTEP undefeated and on top of the conference standings.

North Texas maintained their undefeated conference record and improved their overall record to 9-3. The Mean Green took advantage of the Miners' lack of precision in front of the goal, including a missed penalty kick in regulation, and was only able to beat UTEP goalkeeper Sarah Dilling through a penalty kick of their own.

"We played a great game, we played better than them," said UTEP forward Bri Barreiro. "We were unlucky when finishing some chances."

Rice arrived in El Paso with a nine-game winning streak, in which they had outscored their opponents 19-2. The Owls' consistent and convincing performances were getting them some national attention—receiving several votes in the national rankings. The stats had little to no effect on the Miners, who relied on their terrific defense en route to a game-winning overtime goal by freshman Jeanna Mullen to hand Rice just their second loss of the season and their first in Conference USA.

"Tay(O' Hayre) hit a perfect ball, Aleah (Davis), a perfect header and I just found myself in front of goal," Mullen said. "I didn't really think about it, just headed it. Next thing I know it's in and we're celebrating."

The shutout was the sixth of the season for the Miners and tied Dilling for the all-time lead in that category with 18 over her career.

UTEP will now head on the road as they continue their hunt for a conference tournament berth. The team will visit Western Kentucky in Bowling Green, Kentucky, on Friday and then travel to Huntington, West Virginia, on Sunday to play Marshall.

“It'll be huge for us. Are we gonna be the team we were this weekend or are we gonna be a different team? We got to show on the road that we can be the same team.”

- Kevin Cross, UTEP soccer head coach

"They're gonna be tough teams, but we have to take them one at a time," said Miner head coach Kevin Cross.

The Western Kentucky Hilltoppers have lost two straight games after starting conference play with a win at Marshall. The Hilltoppers are one of seven teams that have just one win in conference play and have the worst goal per game percentage in the league. Like the Miners though, their strength is on defense, where they rank in the top half of the conference in goals allowed. Western Kentucky is in its first season as a member of

Conference USA, moving from the Sun Belt Conference, and this will be the first meeting between the two schools ever.

The matchup will be interesting as the Miners are among the conference leaders in defense, relying on strong and consistent performances that start with the keeper and its back four.

"We've taken it to a whole new level (on defense), which is what we need to win this conference," said senior defender Tayler O' Hayre. "Our whole team defense has been great."

Marshall, picked to finish seventh in the preseason polls, is one of the four teams in conference USA to have a tie on their record. With an overall record of 4-4-1, the Herd will begin their final home stand of the season on Friday against UTSA before hosting UTEP, UAB and Middle Tennessee. There have been seven meetings between the Miners and Marshall, with UTEP having a 5-2 edge. The last time they met, however, back in 2012, the Herd defeated the Miners 4-1 in Huntington.

After a weekend of high competition, Cross' team is firm on their conference championship aspirations and confident they can play with anybody, anywhere. The challenge is duplicating their performances at home on the road.

"It'll be huge for us. Are we gonna be the team we were this weekend or are we gonna be a different team?" Cross said. "We got to show on the road that we can be the same team."

Luis Gonzalez may be reached at theprospectoraily.sports@gmail.com



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