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ASSAYER OF STUDENT OPINION

THE PROSPECTOR

WWW.THEPROSPECTORDAILY.COM

VOL. 100, NO. 8

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO

OCTOBER 28, 2014

EXPRESSION OR SUPPRESSION

Sexy is the
new black for
women on
Halloween

SEE STORY ON PAGE 3

OCTOBER 28, 2014

Are sexy Halloween costumes demeaning or freeing?

FREEING

BY AMANDA GUILLEN
The Prospector



When you try on your new outfit after countless attempts to get it just right, you feel confident, secure and beautiful.

Clothing is a figure of expression and it should enhance the way you feel on the inside. Not everyone favors the laid-back t-shirt and jeans look, and not everyone favors the put together clean-cut style. The beauty of what makes us different is that you gain knowledge and understanding that not everyone is just like you.

When going out on Halloween night, I tend to see a variety of costumes, scary, cute, cool and sexy.

Just like everyday wardrobe, costumes are an extension of one's own personality. It is the one time of the year that you can dress up as whoever you want. I like to think of it as an exaggerated expression of someone's personality.

You often hear that one famous line from that one famous movie where they say, "Halloween is the one time of year where girls can dress like a total slut and no other girls can say anything about it."

This is something that I disagree with completely. When you call someone a name or demean the way they are dressed, you are passing judgment.

Personally, I think that anyone can dress up however they like. Labels should not be put on people when we are supposed to be celebrating individuality and freedom of expression.

Whether you feel that costumes are supposed to be appropriate or not, that is the decision of the person wearing the costume.

As a female, I shouldn't be scared to wear a certain costume because of the fact that I might be objectified or that I might have ugly stares glancing my way. It is my body that is wearing the costume and my wallet and time being invested into it.

If we are going to blame women for dressing provocatively in their Halloween costumes, then we have really not come very far.

Placing the blame on women and saying that they should cover up because then guys will get a bad idea is wrong. Guys or any others that pass judgment should be shamed just the same, in fact even more so for looking down on one's own personal choice of clothing.

When walking through the mall, in this case the costume shop, I shouldn't feel discomfort when selecting my costume. I should feel creative and be able to express myself in whatever way I would like.

Clothes should never determine a person's character. So ladies, and even gentlemen, if you opt for a sexier choice in costume this year, remember to always be yourself and don't forget that your costume is an extension of your personality, not something to be defined by.

Don't let others call you something you're not, as long as you stay true to yourself you shouldn't be bothered by what others say.

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

DEMEANING

BY JOSE SOTO
The Prospector



Browsing down the aisles of a Halloween store, most of the male costumes profile popular fictional and animated characters, ghoulish and freakish variations of masks and ensembles and the occasional political figure.

The twisted and horrifying nature of Halloween is prevalent in the men's aisles. Bloody, macabre and scary tones for the squeamish are everywhere. For those with more humble preferences, the entertaining play on innuendos and wit is also available. It's what the holiday is all about.

Turn the corner into the ladies department and you might think you've gone into a strippers' clothing store. The bleeding body parts are replaced with sensual ones. The gruesome, head-to-toe ensembles are nowhere to be found. Instead, skimpy and scarce costumes hang from the shelves with high-price tags.

There isn't anything scary about the girls' costume section other than the scary realization that this is self-inflicted. The reality of the selection offered to the female gender is one that has been chosen by few.

Don't misunderstand me here. I love my ladies. I am a true feminist at heart. I have very strong and pro-

found female influences in my life. I know and love many strong, independent, self-sufficient women and I can assure you that none of them would ever wear any of the revealing, sexualizing outfits that are catered toward females. They don't need to dress up as a sexy nurse to feel as if they are empowered professionals. Guess what? Neither do you.

By following suit to the one girl in a leotard with cat ears and calling it a costume is simply justifying the idea that women should be sexualized. Come on, ladies. I am more than positive that you can get more creative than strapping on a girdle, jumping into some ridiculously high stilettos, garnishing your head with some cute, animal ears and calling it a costume.

Furthermore, purchasing a costume that slightly resembles its intentional representation, but sexualizes it by eliminating more than 60 percent of the fabric and still charging you a substantial sum is blatantly giving a license for people—mainly men—to believe the many socially embedded stereotypes of women: women are only good for sex. Women ask to be treated as inferior to males because of the way they conduct their demeanor. She wants to be treated like a sex object because if she didn't, she wouldn't be dressed in such revealing clothing. All women act like bimbos and, therefore, should be treated like one.

These are all great fallacies about women. Women are beautiful, unique

and eccentric creatures. Immensely intuitive, drastically mature and their minds are uncharted territory for any man.

But let's convey that to the world, ladies. Don't prove the stereotypes to be true. You don't need to subject yourself to over-sexualized images of the female entity. Nuns don't run around wearing scanty skirts. Cats don't have bare legs. There will never be a female cop who wears skimpy Daisy Dukes while on patrol.

I have a really good friend who makes her own costumes. She's been a cigarette box, a Minion from "Despicable Me," Raggedy Ann—all costumes that were constructed by her. I'm not saying that everyone needs to make their own Halloween costumes, but it implies that not all females need to be a sexy (fill in the blank) either. There are costumes for women that don't involve the exposure of excess cleavage and bare legs. There are costumes that don't imply that women are just sexual creatures.

It isn't to say that those who do dress provocatively this Halloween fit those stereotypes. If you feel comfortable doing so, then more power to you. But also consider the message you are sending out to your fellow female comrades and the rest of the population.

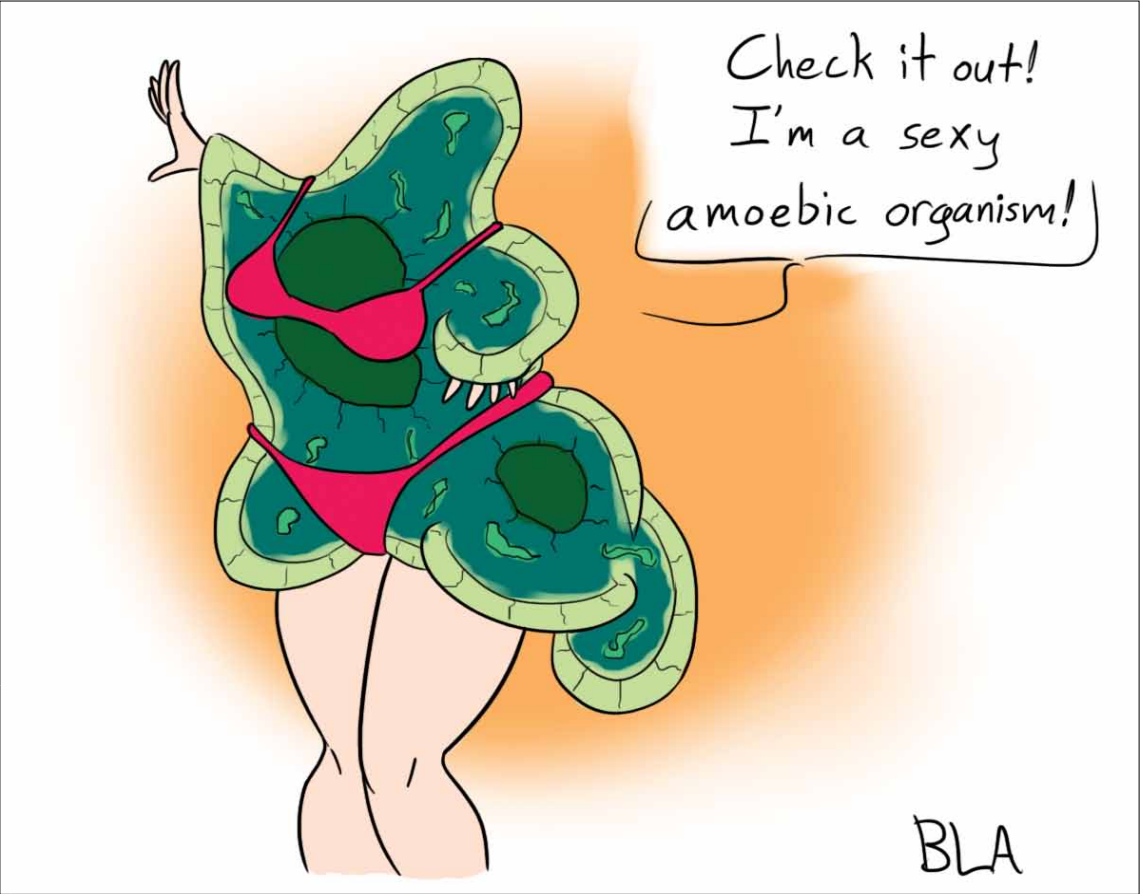
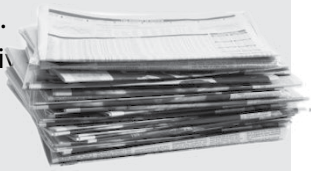
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Sexy is the new black for women on Halloween

BY MARIA ESQUINCA

The Prospector

Halloween has become notorious for being the time of the year when women dress up in revealing costumes.

Sheila Alves, senior graphic design major and vice president of the Women's Honor Studies Society, believes costume options for women are limited.

"I think there is a good number of women that like wearing revealing costumes, which is fine, but I think there's also a number of women who genuinely want to dress up and have cool costumes and are just stuck with a sexy costume," Alves said.

Crystal Herman, associate professor of theater and dance, will be making her own costume of Anna, a character from the movie *Frozen*.

"All the adult costumes on Anna are either the mini-skirt version or they cost a ridiculous amount, so I'm making my own costume," Herman said.

Herman believes the scarcity of costume choices is due to a simple law of economics—supply and demand.

"They wouldn't have them if there wasn't a demand for them," Herman said. "What a large portion of society wants is to be sexy and they want to be sexually attractive."

According to Statista, a statistics database, U.S. expenditures in 2014 for Halloween costumes will be an estimated \$2.74 billion.

A 2014 Consumer Spending Survey by the National Retail Federations Halloween revealed an increase in adult costume spending. The average person will spend \$77.52 on a costume, an increase from \$75.03 in 2013.

Total spending on adult costumes is estimated to be \$1.4 billion.

Veronica Sanchez, assistant manager for ABC Party World in El Paso, expects the store will make earnings from \$10,000 to \$12,000 the weekend before Halloween.

Sanchez said there should be a greater variety of costumes for women, however stores are stuck selling the costumes vendors provide.

"Most of them are very revealing and provocative, that's the costumes that they make. It's not the buyer's

“If you want to be sexy, more power to you, do it and don't let anyone judge you.”

**- Crystal Herman,
associate professor of
theater and dance**

fault, it's the people that make them," Sanchez said. "If it's not on demand, they're not going to bring them and they're not going to sell them."

The lack of selection has left women who don't want to be a sexy cop for Halloween resorting to their own creative methods.

"Making your own costumes is an option," Herman said. "You can often cobble your own costumes together without much sewing if you're a good thrift store shopper."

However, Alves said that might not be a feasible option for all women.

"A lot of times costumes are very last minute, they just go to the store and pick up whatever is there, and if whatever is there is a barely-there butterfly princess, then that's what they're going to wear," Alves said. "Being able to put a costume together on your own requires time and money, which sometimes you just don't have."

Herman said that women have the power to make their own options.

"If you want to be sexy, more power to you, do it and don't let anyone judge you for it, but if you don't want to, same thing," Herman said. "Make your own decisions with your own life."

Maria Esquinca may be reached at theprospectordaily.
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A student observes prices for women's Halloween costumes.

ANDRES MARTINEZ / THE PROSPECTOR

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FILE PHOTO



LORAIN WATTERS / SHFWIRE

Kent Landfield, right, says that requirements for electronic voting need to be examined and that standards need to be developed. He and others, from the right, Joseph Hall, Jason Healey, Pamela Smith and Jordi Puiggali spoke at the Atlantic Council earlier this month.

Election apps are on the rise, but online voting is not

BY LORAIN WATTERS
SHFWire

WASHINGTON—Elections are just around the corner, and yes, there is an app for that. But it won't vote for you.

In a buzzing and ringing world, technology has become an integral part of society, where almost anything can be done with the press of a fingertip.

But when voting is involved, things get a little tricky. With more than a million apps in the Google Play store and 900,000 apps in the Apple Store,

users can download a variety of voting and polling apps.

Several states, including Tennessee and Louisiana, have released voting apps that are free or can be purchased in the Apple and Android store for smartphones. New Hampshire is developing its own app for the mid-term elections. Voters can't cast ballots with these apps, but they can use them to find polling locations, ask for absentee ballots, look at sample ballots and more.

The D.C. Board of Elections released its free app that can answer questions about the Nov. 4 election.

"It's a great trend for elections offices to be putting these kinds of tools out there. Not only does it help voters, but it can also ease some of the burden on calls coming in at busy times for finding polling places," Pamela Smith, president of Verified Voting, said. Her group provides voting information and wants to make sure technology is adopted carefully.

Although technology continues to move forward, casting votes with mail-in ballots or voting in person won't be the norm for a long time

see VOTING on page 8

Students opt out of Halloween festivities for religious reasons

BY LUIS BARRIO
The Prospector

For some, it's a time to be scary. For others, it's a time to be sexy. Most trick-or-treaters will go around door to door and collect candy to trade with friends—a Kit Kat for two Snickers, depending on your favorite

Mathew Hernandez, junior kinesiology major, will celebrate his Halloween in a different manner. Hernandez is the assistant manager of the bookstore and cafe at Abundant Living Faith Center.

"Our church here at Abundant Living Faith Center has some plays that we usually perform for the kids," Hernandez said. "Since I'm a Christian, I feel like it's (Halloween) not something of God or something He wants us to celebrate."

During his early childhood, Hernandez wondered and questioned why he saw his friends and others dressing up and receiving candy. The confusion went away by the time he was about 10 years old.

"I grew up with us not celebrating it," Hernandez said. "It's also what my parents believe in and I want to respect that."

Head pastor at Coronado Christian Church, Greg Wofford, said that Halloween is not what it used to be and the intentions of the holiday today are good.

"The Christian church has been around for 1,900 years and a lot of the traditions from a long time ago have changed about goblins and witches,"

There are conservative churches and liberal churches, so each one has a different point of view.

- Greg Wafford,
Head Pastor at Coronado
Christian Church

said. "We don't want to go to the next level of satanic worship."

Although both Hernandez and Wofford call themselves Christians, they differ on their view of celebrating Halloween.

"There are conservative churches, moderate churches and liberal churches, so each one has a different point of view," Wofford said. "We're more in the conservative area in theology, but on some of the traditions, we're kind of liberal in terms of letting the kids enjoy the holiday."

Not all parishioners of the same religion will have the same viewpoint.

"I'm not in a position to judge anyone," Hernandez said.

Luis Hernandez may be reached at theprospectordaily.news@gmail.com.

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INBRIEF

CARPOOL PARKING PERMIT

UTEP has been awarded \$892,089 from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration’s (SAMHSA) Center for Substance Abuse Prevention to increase awareness about substance abuse and sexually transmitted diseases (STD) among minority college-age youth. UTEP will form a partnership for integrated substance abuse, HIV and Hepatitis C virus prevention with Aliviane Inc. and International AIDS Empowerment. The goal is to prevent or reduce substance abuse, HIV and Hepatitis C virus among minority young adults through a peer-driven and community-driven approach. Four hundred undergraduate students between the ages of 18 and 24 will be trained over the next three years to educate 20,000 minority youth, including UTEP students, about drug use and STD prevention through evidence-based practices, including social marketing, such as Facebook, text messaging, mobile health and eHealth technologies. Researchers also expect to reach 1,500 minority youth each year through behavioral interventions on campus and in the community.

EXHIBIT AND PRESENTATION: “THE BECAS PARA AZTLÁN SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM”

An exhibition and presentation by Jesús Cantú Medel, recipient of the Becas para Aztlán Scholarship, will take place at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 28 in the Stanlee and Gerald Rubin Center for the Visual Arts. For more information, call 915-747-5462 or 915-747-6151.

MULTIMILLION DOLLAR GRANT TO BENEFIT FUTURE MINERS

UTEP has locked in a five-year \$22.6 million grant from the National Institutes of Health. This grant will create BUILDing SCHOLARS, a partnership with 19 other institutions. This is all in an effort to infuse diverse groups of underrepresented biomedical and socio-behavioral scientists and engineers into the workforce.

THE HEALTHY EXCHANGE: “LANGUAGE LEARNING IN BILINGUAL ADULTS AND CHILDREN”

As part of the Healthy Exchanges hosted by The University of Texas at El Paso and the Center for Interdisciplinary Health Research and Evaluation (CIHRE), the lecture will cover the topic “Language Learning in Bilingual Adults and Children.” The speaker will be Connie Summers, Ph.D., assistant professor in UTEP’s Department of Speech-Language Pathology. The Healthy Exchange is free and open to students, faculty and community members. Noon - 1 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 29 at the Health Sciences and Nursing Building, room 211. For more information, please contact Andrea Rodríguez at 915-747-7294.

SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA PRESENTS AMERICAN CONNECTIONS

Join the UTEP Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Lowell E. Graham, D.M.A., for a fun evening of orchestral music as they present American Connections, featuring works by Paul Creston, Ron Nelson and Howard Hanson. Also on the program will be the Rhapsody for Alto Saxophone and Orchestra by Claude Debussy with Greg Luffey as the featured soloist. Ticket are \$5 for general admission, \$3 for non-UTEP students and military, and free for UTEP faculty, students and staff. 7:30 - 9 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 30 Fox Fine Arts Recital Hall UTEP Symphony Orchestra.

UTEP PRESIDENT HONORED

President Diana Natalicio was honored at the National Action Council for Minorities in Engineering (NACME) with the Diversity Vision Award at The Waldorf Astoria Hotel in New York City.

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Tricky ethnic costumes only a treat for Halloween

BY JOSE SOTO
The Prospector

Most Halloween costumes tend to glamorize the macabre and the dead. Some costumes profile public figures and fictional characters. Others, however, depict ethnic groups with unsubtle stereotypes that some might take as mockery.

Amongst the witches and the freakish ghouls, it has now become common to also see a Mexican peasant with his oversized sombrero and poncho or a bald man from India with a red-dotted forehead adorned only in a dhoti—the draped cloth garment Gandhi mostly wore.

These cultural depictions might seem humorous and entertaining on Halloween night, but they may also imply certain ideas that are embedded into society's consciousness.

Dennis Bixler-Marquez, professor and director of Chicano Studies, thinks that these sort of social occurrences help perpetuate the stereotypical tendencies.

“By depicting one image of an ethnic group and implying the stereotypical visuals people have of that group, we are putting the entire demographic in a homogenous mass,” Bixler-Marquez said. “People have become indifferent to this kind of thing. Seeing it in mass media has definitely helped. It basically has licensed people to engage in the representation of others with impunity. It gives off negative connotations and stigmatizes the entire ethnic group. But since it is being done at a social level through TV, it comes across okay to dress up and basically mock the individual through costume form.”

Isaac Torres, senior organizational and corporate communication major, said that with consideration and modesty, the situation doesn't necessarily need to be offensive.

“I don't see these costumes as inappropriate as long as they don't go absolutely over the top in trying to be offensive. As long as the person wearing the costume doesn't act in a tasteless manner, then I don't see a problem with it,” Torres said. “Although the thought of stereotyping with costumes is inevitable, I think the people involved are also important.”

Torres also said that people in El Paso, as a largely Hispanic population, might not have a problem with someone dressing up as a Mexican, but in another area, where the population is not mostly Hispanic, there might be some issues.

“
The more negative light that is cast on ethnic groups through media, the easier it is to get away with making fun of them.”

— Dennis Bixler-Marquez,
professor and director of
Chicano studies

“I think the context of who, what and where determines whether a costume is offensive or simply fun and games,” he said.

Alejandro Ramirez, a senior media advertising major, said that although it is comical to see such costumes, it is still degrading to that specific ethnic group.

“At the end of the day, it really implies which people are subjected to



Former student Gabriel Villanueva wears a sombrero for Halloween.

CRISTINA ESQUIVEL / THE PROSPECTOR

ridicule and humiliation. If these costume manufacturers actually develop a costume line based off of the image of a poor Mexican man, then it means that the general overview of this person is exactly that,” Ramirez said. “No one ever dresses up as a white man, right?”

Bixler-Marquez said that both socioeconomic status and historical value are considered in choosing a particular ethnic group to disguise oneself in.

“People tend to view lower-income populations and bi-national individuals as the comedic focal point, so it's

easy to make up a costume based off of these particular groups,” Bixler-Marquez said. “The more negative light that is cast on ethnic groups through media, the easier it is to get away with making fun of them.”

Bixler-Marquez also said that along with television, social media has helped entertain the idea of ethnic mockery by illustrating the stereotypes of individuals with humor and wit, but that this should be taken lightly.

“Back in the day, all the costumes you saw were rather ghoulish, after all, it's Halloween. Nowadays, it's

more of an opportunity to lash out or state something humorously. Even people within that ethnicity will dress up as themselves and make fun of it,” Bixler-Marquez said. “That makes it more okay for this kind of thing to happen. In the end, though, it depends on the maturity level and intellect of the individual. There is a way to separate the funny depiction of something to the actual truth.”

Jose Soto may be reached at theprospectoraily.news@gmail.com.



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HALLOWEEN SAFETY TIPS

- Always be alert and aware of your surroundings.
- Let your roommates and friends know where you are going.
- Always make sure to travel with groups of friends - use the Buddy System.
- Always watch your drink at a party! Make sure you pour your own refreshments, and never leave your drink unattended.
- Be extra careful on the road. Look out for kids in dark costumes that are out trick-or-treating.
- If a friend is driving, make sure he or she is sober and alert. Always have a designated driver.
- DO NOT let anyone who has been "over served" leave the party unattended or be allowed to drive home. Have a taxi service set up to call if needed.
- Don't Drink and Drive.
- If you're hosting a party, be safe with decorations. Don't use real candles (in or outside of pumpkins) if a room will be crowded - these can easily be knocked over.
- If you find yourself at a party where you don't know a lot of people or the crowd seems sketchy, grab your friends and get out.
- Have a cell phone handy! In case of an emergency dial 9-1-1 immediately.

The University of Texas at El Paso
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El Paso prepares for Día de los Muertos

BY AMANDA GUILLÉN
The Prospector

In some cultures, death is not where life ends, it is where it begins. Starting on Oct. 31 and ending on Nov. 3, the celebrations of the Day of the Dead, or typically called Día de los Muertos, begin.

In El Paso, this traditional Mexican holiday is celebrated with events and observances every year.

Concordia Cemetery is one of the go-to places in El Paso for events during this season. Concordia is a Texas State Historic site cemetery, founded in 1853 and said to be one of the most haunted places in El Paso.

The Paso del Norte Paranormal Society hosts their annual Día de Los Muertos festival at Concordia. This year it will take place on Saturday, Nov. 1 from 2 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Investigator at the Paso del Norte Paranormal Society, Heather Shade, said this celebration will offer something for just about everybody.

“We will celebrate the day in the cemetery in the traditional style, which involves sharing happy remembrances of those who have departed, using food, music, offerings, gifts and other celebrations for the dead,” Shade said. “The festival will include live music, performers, face painters, food trucks, vendors, ghost tours, a loteria tournament, exhibits, altares and much more.”

Founder of the Paso del Norte Paranormal Society, Henry Flores, said that these events are important and that they help preserve one of El Paso’s most haunted landmarks.

“It’s important because not only are we helping the general public understand about the Latin holiday and how to properly celebrate it, this event also helps the Concordia Heritage Association to fund the preservation of Concordia Cemetery,” Flores said. “We’d like UTEP to know about the history of El Paso through the eyes of the cemetery. With over 65,000 residences, Concordia Cemetery is El Paso’s city of the dead.”

Tickets for this event are \$5 for adults 17 years and up, \$1 for children and students, and \$2 for seniors and military, including their dependents. For more information, you can call 915-274-9531 or email ddlm@ghosts915.com.

Other events around town include El Mercado del los Muertos: A Celebration of Life, which will be held at the Alamo Ballroom on Nov. 1-2 from 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. This event is hosted by the Borderland Fridas, the Alamo Ballroom and Dos Lunas Tequila.

Ballet Folklórico will have performances along with a presentation of 20 of the best Día de los Muertos-inspired artists from around the region. Admission is free of charge.

On Nov. 1 at Café Mayapan from 3 p.m. - 10 p.m. there will be a celebration of Día de los Muertos Oaxaca style. A Catrina contest, altar exhibits, and traditional Oaxaca dancers and music will be provided. Admission is free.

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



MICHAELA ROMAN / THE PROSPECTOR

Woman pays tribute to her past relative during last year’s Día De Los Muertos celebration.



MICHAELA ROMAN / THE PROSPECTOR

Woman walks around Concordia Cemetery last year on Día De Los Muertos.



LORAIN WATTERS / THE PROSPECTOR

Día De Los Muertos masks and memorabilia for sale at Concordia Cemetery.

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SPECIAL TO THE PROSPECTOR

BY MARIA ESQUINCA

The Prospector

For Douglas Watts, an infectious disease researcher and executive director of the animal care center, the Ebola virus is nothing new.

Watts began working with Ebola back in the 1980s, when he worked for the U.S. Army’s medical research team, where he conducted research on highly infectious diseases of humans and animals overseas, including Ebola.

“I wore a space suit for eight years and my question that I was trying to answer with Ebola was: how is Ebola transmitted?” Watts said.

In the lab, Watts infected mosquitoes, ticks and sand flies with the virus. He also worked on developing diagnostic tests.

Later, Watts left the army and worked for the U.S. Navy, where he again worked with Ebola, among other viruses such as the human immunodeficiency virus, or HIV.

“I was looking for Ebola in the South American jungles because why is Ebola in Africa and not in another jungle in other places in the world?” Watts said.

While Watts did not find the answers to his questions, he said Ebola certainly exists in the Philippines and Indonesia.

“There is an Ebola (strain) in the Philippines and in Indonesia,” Watts said. “This Ebola came to the U.S. in 1989 and visited us in Reston, (Virginia).”

Currently, there are five documented strains of Ebola—the Ebola, Sudan, Tai Forest, Bundibugyo and Reston.

According to Watts, the Reston Ebola virus was first introduced to the U.S. through monkeys from the Philippines that were delivered to Hazleton Research Products’ Primate Quarantine Unit.

The monkeys were thought to be infected with simian hemorrhagic fever, however, Watts said staff started noticing that the symptoms exhibited by the monkeys were not consistent with that virus, prompting staff to send samples to U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases, a clinical laboratory.

“The monkeys were housed in cages and they were all dying. How does the virus get from cage to cage?” Watts said. “They documented that it was airborne transmission.”

This mutated version of the Reston Ebola was fatal for monkeys, but not for humans.

Watts said the importance of the case was that it showed Ebola could mutate and that it could potentially be airborne.

“My greatest concern, my greatest fear, is that experts are not taking into consideration what is not known,” Watts said. “Certainly, well-documented evidence that the virus spread from monkey to monkey in laboratory experiments does not prove that there is aerosol transmission among infected humans, but it does warrant further studies.”

Regarding the false Ebola scare that recently occurred recently in El Paso, Watts said the chances of someone getting infected are nearly impossible.

“Our chances of becoming infected with this virus are impossible unless we place ourselves at risk by coming into direct contact with an Ebola patient,” Watts said.

While Watts’ research no longer focuses on Ebola, he is currently working on testing a vaccine for a disease that kills livestock in Africa.

Maria Esquinca may be reached at theprospectordailynews@gmail.com.

VOTING from page 14

because apps and online voting still carry a high security risk.

“Relying on votes to come through smartphones or computers to honestly represent his/her intentions is naïve, where malware is prevalent as it is,” Rep. James Langevin, D-R.I., said.

Langevin introduced the Cyberspace Coordination Act in 2013 which would revise requirements dealing with federal information security and protecting cybersecurity.

The bill was sent to a committee Aug. 2, 2013, a few months after Chinese hackers broke into the computer networks of the U.S. government.

Election committees and security experts worry that once votes begin to be submitted electronically, hackers may breach systems or malware can be sent back to the voter’s computer or smartphone. Both could end up changing a vote.

“Identity is a real problem today,” said Kent Landfield, director of standards and technology policy at McAfee. “Today, we don’t have an infrastructure that can successfully

work well and guarantee electronic voting online.”

States tried to set up online voting systems for members of the military serving overseas in 2012, but too many security risks were involved. Now, military personnel can download a ballot if they have Internet access and return the ballot using express mail and prepaid postage.

Smith said that there are too many unsolved problems with security and privacy for votes to be managed solely electronically.

“You can’t just call up an election official about the ballot you just cast to make sure they received it or make sure they got your vote correct,” Smith said. “They shouldn’t be able to answer that question because you should be able to remain anonymous when voting, and that anonymity principle is important.”

Lorain Watters is a senior multimedia journalism and psychology major at UTEP. She is currently participating in the Scripps Howard Foundation Wire’s Semester in Washington Program. She can be reached at theprospectordailynews@gmail.com.



FILE PHOTO

UNION PROGRAMS
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO
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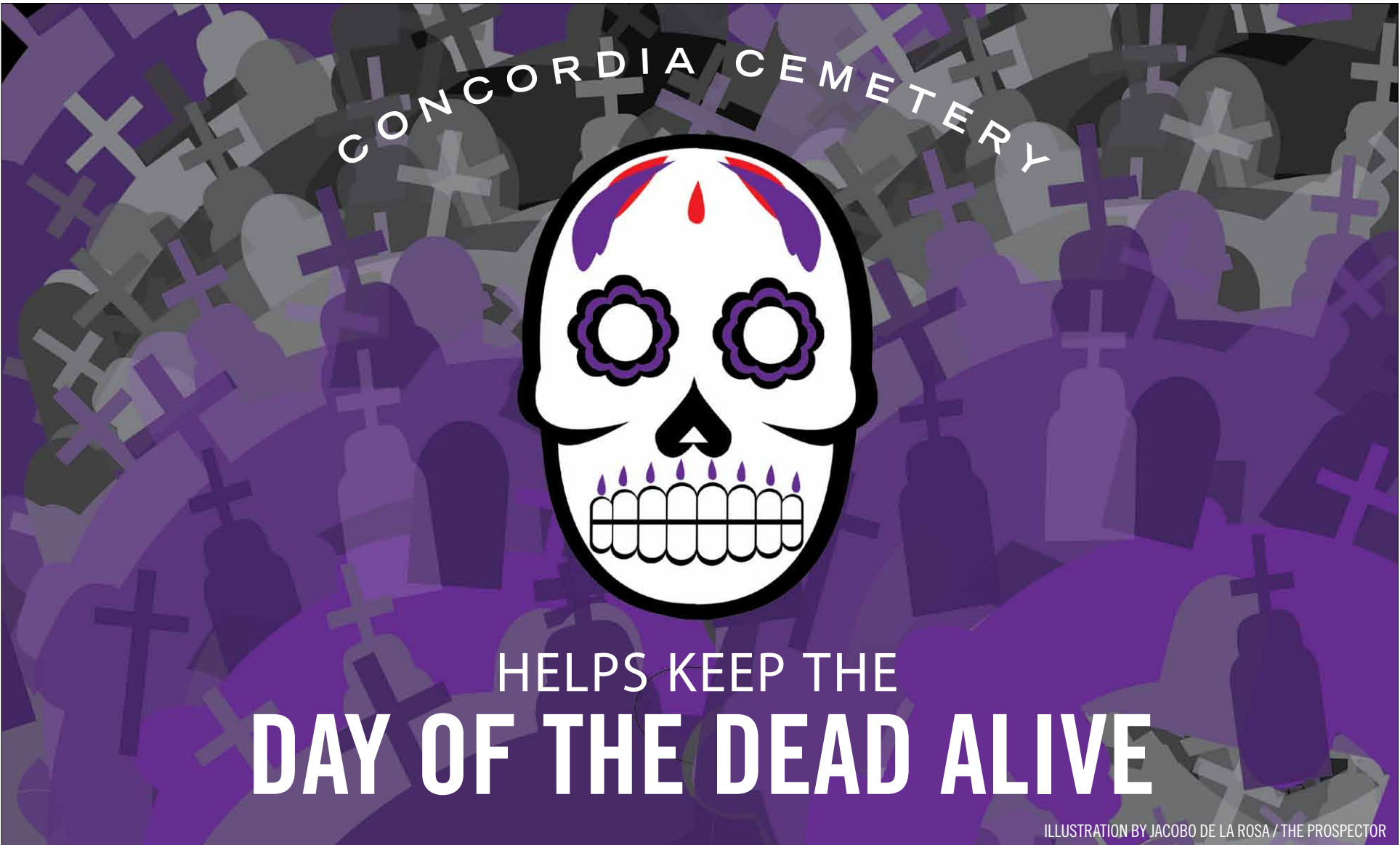
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OCTOBER 28, 2014

ENTERTAINMENT

EDITOR
ANDREA ACOSTA, 747-7477



BY JOSEPH ESPOSITO

The Prospector

The Paso Del Norte Paranormal Society, commonly called Ghosts 915, and the Concordia Heritage Association will be sponsoring the annual Día de los Muertos Festival from 2-8 p.m. on Nov. 1 at El Paso’s Concordia Cemetery.

“We have vendors, dancers, food trucks, a singer and more. This is our first year doing entertainment so it should be a big blast,” Ghosts 915 secretary Collette Maes said.

The festival, held to raise money for the restoration and preservation of the cemetery, has become a traditional event held each Día de los Muertos, or Day of the Dead. Ghosts 915 expects more than 1,000 people

to attend this year’s festival, a significant increase from last year’s 150 attendees. As stated on the Ghosts 915 website, the festival “explores the tradition of the Latin holiday with marigolds, costume and song for our departed loved ones.”

“Many important people have been buried (at Concordia), including veterans from all walks of life. Everyone there has a story and we just want to talk about them. (Día de los Muertos is) a celebration of those who have moved on,” Maes said. “We try to figure out what’s out there and I’ve come to not fear death because, from what I’ve experienced, it isn’t necessarily the end. We want to celebrate the people’s lives and keep the memories alive.”

“Día de los Muertos is a good way to remember the passing of your loved ones, it helps you bring back all the good memories that you shared with them.”

— Eduardo Ramirez, Senior, electrical engineering major

Día de los Muertos is a Mexican holiday that originates from Aztec beliefs. The Aztecs, who believed in an afterlife, believed that death should be celebrated, rather than mourned. A month would be devoted to honoring the dead and was named for the Aztec Goddess of the Underworld, Mictecacihuatl, in what was called the Mictecacihuatl festival. When Mexico was conquered by the Spanish, the Aztec festival merged with the Spaniards’ Catholic beliefs, resulting in the present-day Día de los Muertos.

“For Día de los Muertos, we would leave cempazuchitl flowers and pan de muertos (bread of the dead) for those who we’re honoring,” senior criminal justice major Karen Horta said. “We also have calaveras, which could mean sugar skulls or making

fun of the dead; people take it seriously, but it’s a satirical thing. I’d like to go (to the festival.)”

Día De Los Muertos retains its purpose of honoring the dead each year, for general and more personal reasons. The two-day holiday celebrated every November 1 and 2 has a very deep meaning to many who remember their diseased loved ones most during the holiday.

“I didn’t really know my uncle, so every time I celebrate that day, it helps me understand who he was when he was alive. For my grandparents, this helped me remember all those good times we had together,” senior, electrical engineering major Eduardo Ramirez said.

see CONCORDIA on page 11

The night of terror will be filled with good treats this Halloween

BY KIMBERLY VALLE

The Prospector

As Halloween gets closer, we start thinking about what we will be doing that night, whether it will be trick or treating with siblings or children, handing out candy or exploring the night in your creepy costume. Whatever it might be, you want to be sure you enjoy the festivities with family and friends with caution.

Get a chance to experience the city’s most buzzed about Halloween event of this year. The Zombie Survivor Experience will be located next to the Rio Grande river on 1720 West Paisano Dr. The scenery of their location gives it an eerie vibe— some say it is known to be a haunted “Hacienda.”

The public has a chance to feel what it could be like to survive a zombie attack. It consists of a search through

out the site for “weapons,” which are not real, to defend oneself against the zombies, while searching for a cure that will end the zombie epidemic.

Once the experience of hunting down zombies is over, there will be a patio bar, where you may enjoy alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages. The event is open every weeknight from 7:30-11 p.m, and weekends from 7:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. until Nov. 3.

If you would like to interact in this first-ever unique experience, you may purchase tickets as couples for \$45, teams of four for \$80, teams of six for \$108 and teams of eight for \$120.

For more information, visit www.zombiesurvivorexperience.com.

Get a good scare

The zombie experience might sound great, but if you are on a tight budget you might want to consider other events. Ft. Bliss will be showcasing for the third time, the Massacre

on Marshall Road. This event features a haunted house and offers 13 nights of terror at the base on 1717 Marshall Road. Organizers of the haunted house have not put an age limit to participate, however it is known to be truly terrifying.

The haunted house is 800 feet long and takes between eight to 10 minutes to walk through.

For parents, who may think the haunted house might be too scary for their children, there will be a Monster Bash from 6-10 p.m. on Halloween night, and it will include two haunted houses that will not be as scary. The bash will take place at the base as well next to the Massacre on Marshall Road, and will also include carnival rides, games, a disc jockey and food.

The hours of operation will be from 6-10 p.m. until Oct. 30 and on Halloween night from 6 p.m. until midnight. Cost for entrance will be \$5. For more information, call 588-8247.

More haunted houses

Other haunted houses will be showcased on Halloween night along with The Northgate Optimist Club and the El Paso Holy Royal Arch Masons Chapter No. 90, which will be hosting theirs along with a carnival with food, games and live music.

The event will be from 5 p.m. until midnight on Oct. 30 at 4201 Skyline Drive. Admission will be \$7, or \$5 with a canned food item for donation, proceeds will go to the Northgate Optimist Club’s little league baseball division.

For more information about this event, contact Alfon and Angela Ledesma at 915-603-8285 or Paul Maggit at 915-241-6457.

If you still want to have a night of terror and experience Halloween in a spooky way, Concordia cemetery will be hosting a Devil’s Night Ghost Tour from 9-11 p.m. on Oct. 30 at 108 E.

San Antonio St. Visitors will walk the cemetery, and they will take you into the darkest areas of the historic landmarks of the cemetery.

This event is only for adults and it is not recommended for children, due to previous ghostly experiences. Admission is \$15 dollars per person. For more information, contact Bonnie Juarez at 915-274-9531 or email help@ghost915.com

Get your dance on

Tricky Falls will be hosting their Dedo Halloween Ball XIX from 8 p.m.- 2 a.m. on Oct. 31 at 209 South El Paso Street.

You may get your party on with your favorite costume and witness the best costumes in town. For more information, call 915-351-9938 or email trickyfalls@gmail.com.

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

OCTOBER 28, 2014

OUR VIEW

PHOTO EDITOR
MICHAELA ROMÁN, 747-7477

Students participate in annual International Food Fair



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ANDRES MARTINEZ/THE PROSPECTOR
1. Enrique Melendez serves food for the Miners Going Global booth. 2. Students wait in line to experience dishes from different cultures. 3. Students from the Indian Student Association serve food and won a \$175 for winning first place. 4. Junior History major Emma Weatherly serves a plate of food for the Peer Leaders Organization. 5. Members of the American Marketing Association, Alejandro Peralta and Bryan Monje, work their booth.

REVIEW

Halloween: The complete collection slashes its way to the store shelves

BY JOSE SOTO
The Prospector

In the horror/terror movie genre, there exists a myriad of films devoted to scare the life out of viewers. Through the course of time, hundreds of films have been made to appeal to the gore and macabre loving fanatics that have kept the genre relevant in cinema. However, not all horror-film franchises have enjoyed success throughout time as much as Halloween and it's menacing main character, Michael Myers, have.

Just in time for Halloween, slasher-flick fans can enjoy all of the Halloween movies comprised in one boxset. Halloween: The Complete Collection was released on September 23 to horror fans everywhere, complete with the original John Carpenter's 1978 release down to Rod Zombie's re-imagining of the franchise with Halloween and Halloween II (not to be confused with the 1981 release, Halloween II, directed by Rick Rosenthal and produced by the original's director, John Carpenter). I, of course, bought the deluxe version of the boxset which comes with 5 extra bonus discs. I would highly advice any Hall-



ANDRES MARTINEZ / THE PROSPECTOR

Halloween: The Complete collection includes all ten of the "Halloween" movies.

een and horror fans to purchase the deluxe version as it has hundreds of bonus hours full of great materials including interviews with the directors of all the Halloween movies and their casts.

It also has audio commentary for each Halloween movie and original theatrical trailers. The deluxe version also includes TV-versions of both the original Halloween and 1981's Halloween II. These versions were made

back in the day to fit the timing for TV-airing films. Both the original Halloween and Halloween II didn't run for long enough to fit airing time-frames and so both directors had to film added scenes for airing time. Of course, each film comes with deleted scenes.

The real gem, however, of the deluxe version of the boxset is the producer's cut of 1996's Halloween: The Curse of Michael Myers. Generally

known as Halloween 6 amongst horror fans, the producer's cut of this film is exclusive to the deluxe version. This version of The Curse includes deleted and added scenes that make the film completely different than the theatrical release. What was to be called Halloween 666: The Origin of Michael Myers has scratched and reworked into the script, production and cut that was the theatrical 1996 release. The producer's cut, however,

includes those deleted scenes and alternative script and plot that make for an entirely new film. This is a version of the film that has never before been released. This disk alone makes the deluxe version a must have amongst the franchises' fans and horror-film fans everywhere. Believe me, it is a must have.

With each disk cramped with added bonus material and features, Halloween: The Complete Collection is what all Halloween fans have been waiting for and they've been waiting a long time. With each Halloween movie release and each Halloween coming and going, Michael Myer's fans were patiently waiting for a boxset like this.

With each Halloween movie released under different directors, distributors and production teams, the right to each movie made it incredibly difficult to compile each film into a collection. Finally, thanks to Scream Factory and Anchor Bay Entertainment, Halloween fans can finally sleep in peace. That is, if you're not up because of you were having nightmares.

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



MICHAELA ROMAN / THE PROSPECTOR

Man prays over passed relative's grave last year on Dia de los Muertos.

CONCORDIA from page 9

"(Dia De Los Muertos is) a good way to remember the passing of your loved ones, it helps you bring back all the good memories that you shared with them."

The Paso Del Norte Paranormal Society is a non-profit organization that investigates paranormal occurrences in private and public places throughout El Paso. They are best known for the ghost tours held by the organization to raise money.

"The money that runs our office comes from the history and ghost tours that we do. We are a non-profit

organizations and we're considered a charity. We've partnered with Concordia and the money we get from that is donated back to the cemetery," said Bonnie Juarez, UTEP alumnus, Ghosts 915 vice president, treasurer, investigator and tour guide. "We do fund-raising tours for other non-profit organizations at those locations and give them the money."

Ghosts 915 will be hosting many other events aside from the Dia de los Muertos festival throughout the end of October and early November. A ghost tour of Hanks High School will take place to raise money for the school's wrestling team on Oct. 29,

the Devil's Night tour of Concordia cemetery will be on Oct. 30, a tour of the Old County Jail of San Elizario on Oct. 31, and a sold out, adult-only tour of El Paso's former brothels on Oct. 24.

Tickets for the festival are \$5 for adults 17 or older, \$1 for children and students and \$2 for senior citizens and military personnel and dependents. For more information, call 915-581-7920.

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

COLUMN

Halloween or Dia De los Muertos

BY GIANFRANCO LANGUASCO
The Prospector

Culture shock is how sociologists define the feelings of surprise, confusion and disorientation that result from living in a foreign country. It happened to me in several aspects regarding food, entertainment or lifestyle. I have been living for more than a year now in El Paso and I'm still surprised by the way people celebrate some holidays here such as Halloween, and even more in a city with such a big Mexican influence like El Paso, where another celebration takes place just the very next day.

In Perú, my home country, Halloween started to be celebrated in the mid '70s, and the first problem this holiday had to deal with was that it takes place on the same day we celebrate the "criolla" music day, which is a really traditional Peruvian type of music. Despite the initial problems, Halloween is still pretty popular. Obviously, it's not as big as in the US. Last year, according to the National Retail Federation (NRF), almost \$3 billion were spent in costumes and more than \$300 million in costumes for pets. On average, every person who celebrates Halloween in the US spent around \$27.85 in buying or making a costume, and that's only one aspect of Halloween. When decorations, candy, among other things, are considered, approximately, \$7 billion were invested in Halloween celebrations in 2013.

Like in Mexico, Día de los Muertos is also celebrated in Perú from ancient

times. The first reports are from 1615, according to the notes from notable Peruvian chronicler Guaman Poma de Ayala. Although it may be getting less popular in the recent times due migration from other provinces to Lima, most of the people in Lima still visit their relatives in the cemetery with food and musicians to play their favorite songs.

In México, the celebration is even bigger. According to Mexico City's chamber of commerce, services and tourism, 41 percent of the city's population is involved in the celebration. They are willing to spend around 300 million pesos. Around 15 percent of the population said that they will only go to church and 5 percent stated they did not want to be part of this colorful holiday.

Despite this superficial exposure of Halloween and Día de los Muertos, I found both celebrations really important for both cultures. They provide a good opportunity to bind together friendship, family and even society. As for me, it's a good opportunity to discover and understand better the life in between two cultures.

Gianfranco Lenguasco may be reached at theprospectordaily.ent@gmail.com.

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Exhibit celebrates Borderzine anniversary and supports journalism majors

BY JOSEPH ESPOSITO

The Prospector

UTEP Journalism professor David Smith-Soto will have his photographic work displayed until Oct. 31 at the Glass Gallery located in the third floor of the Fox Fine Arts Center.

“I was an urban kid growing up in San Jose so I photographed life in the streets,” Smith-Soto said in an article for Borderzine, a UTEP digital publications website. “I was also extremely nearsighted and I quickly noticed that I could see details in the photos that I never saw when I was taking the pic-

ture. That got me into a lifelong habit of seeing with the camera.”

Smith-Soto was born in Costa Rica in 1945 and came to North America in 1958. Over the course of 60 years, he visited Europe, Asia, the Middle East, and the Americas where he would photograph “the decisive moment in city streets in many different countries.” Smith-Soto explains that the ‘decisive moment’ was something “Father of Photojournalism” Henri Cartier-Bresson would often speak of, which many other photographers would try to capture in street photography. Smith-Soto says that he has been interested in photography

since his father first put a camera in his hands when he was nine years old.

“My dad was a lawyer, but he was an amateur photographer as well. I grew up walking around with him in Costa Rica. I used to walk around the city taking pictures and I’ve never stopped,” Smith-Soto said in an interview with UTEP non-commercial radio station, KTEP.

Smith-Soto began working as a UTEP Journalism professor in 2004. He has worked as managing editor of The Winchester Evening Star, editor of EL Nuevo Dia of San Juan, Puerto Rico, staff writer at The Miami Herald and managing editor of El Miami Herald.

He says that, while he has made a living off of journalism, his passion has always been for photography, referring to it as “a tremendous tool for freedom of expression throughout the world.” Through his portfolio titled “Street Photography 1954-2014,” Smith-Soto wishes to raise money for Borderzine students to be able to

participate in internships by selling the photos he has taken throughout his lifetime.

“There are a bunch of anniversaries going on for UTEP. Obviously UTEP’s centennial, as well as this being my tenth year as a professor, and it’s Borderzine’s sixth year anniversary. One of the things we’ve been doing is making sure that Borderzine students get to go to internships which cost \$3,000 each and we need to raise money, so I gave my prints to Borderzine and if anyone wishes to donate, they can do so on the Borderzine website and receive one of my prints,” Smith-Soto said.

Borderzine is an online newspaper that seeks to spread diversity in news media, particularly through Latino students. As stated on the Borderzine website, “it creates an unprecedented national dialogue around issues of newsroom diversity and shifts the new voices, perspectives and experiences.” Borderzine celebrates its sixth year anniversary this October and

plans to redesign their website to be more enhanced and user-friendly, in the near future.

“We’ve wanted for David’s photography to be shown in an exhibit for a long time. We’re also only able to pay for three student internships each year, and we clearly have more students than we have internships to be able to pay for,” Borderzine project director Zita Arocha said. “We might not be able to raise enough money for another internship from David’s pictures, but every bit helps. I hope that, someday, we’ll be able to pay for a dozen internships each year.”

Smith-Soto’s portfolio will be visible in room 373 of the Fox Fine Arts center from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. for the remainder of October. The portfolio is free to attend and features 26 of Smith-Soto’s photos, both in color and black-and-white.

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

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RUBY CERINO/THE PROSPECTOR
David Smith Soto speaks at his street photography exhibit on Oct. 23 at the Glass Gallery located on the third floor of the Fox Fine Arts building. The gallery will be showcased until Oct 31.

OCTOBER 28, 2014

SPORTS EDITOR JAVIER CORTEZ, 747-7477

Miners ready for Southern Mississippi

BY JUAN CARLOS NAVARRETE

The Prospector

The Miners gear up to play at home against Southern Mississippi, after a resounding win against the UTSA Roadrunners. For the second straight week the Miners have left fans in awe as they continue to rack up important conference wins. The big win on the road gave fans a lot to cheer about as they shut out the Roadrunners in San Antonio.

The 34-0 win on the road not only boosted morale around campus, but also brought lot of confidence to a team seeking its third win in conference play. The Golden Eagles, on the other hand, are coming off a difficult 31-20 loss to Louisiana Tech at home.

After the win against the Roadrunners, the Miners seem to be firing on all cylinders as it was a combined air and ground attack that won the game on the road. Jameill Showers hopes to improve on the performance he had on the road here at home at the Sun Bowl as he threw for two touchdowns and was just shy of a 200-yard performance.

Aaron Jones may also improve on the good season he has had with another big game at home. He rushed for 89 yards Saturday, but more importantly caught a 40-yard touchdown pass that started at the line of scrimmage. Jones now has the opportunity to push his way up through the rankings for total rushing yards since he is now in the top 20.

The Golden Eagles come into the Sun Bowl with a lot to play for, their season may very well stand in the balance after this game. They are 3-5, but

more importantly 1-3 in conference play. A loss to the Miners could end the season for Southern Mississippi and almost certainly eliminate them from bowl contention. Nevertheless, coach Kugler holds the Golden Eagles in high regard, considering the fact that they had one of the toughest out-of-conference schedules in the nation.

“I think they’re one of the most talented teams athletically in Conference USA,” Kugler said. “They played No.1 Alabama, No.1 Mississippi State, they beat North Texas, who was a bowl team last year at their place handily, they played Rice, Middle Tennessee and Louisiana Tech—arguably three of the top teams in our conference—down to the wire. This is a very talented team, with a lot of athletes on both sides of the ball.”

The Miners shouldn’t consider the Golden Eagles as an after thought either. Their quarterback, Cole Weeks,

“I think they’re one of the most talented teams athletically in Conference USA.”

- Head coach Sean Kugler, speaking about Southern Miss



MICHAELA ROMAN / THE PROSPECTOR

This Saturday, the Miners will look to win three straight games for the first time since 2010.

ranks in the top 30 in the nation for passing yards. In the loss to Louisiana Tech, he still threw for more than 330 yards and a touchdown.

Their quarterback also has close to 2,000 yards passing and 10 touchdowns already,” Kugler said. “He was injured on the seventh play of this past game, but the guy that came in, #11, had 338 yards and a touchdown and kept those guys in the game the entire time. It might be a situation where we’ve got to prepare for two quarterbacks again, but they seemed to run pretty much the same system when this guy was in the ball game.”

The Miners’ defense will focus on neutralizing the senior quarterback and forcing the Golden Eagles to

run the ball. The Golden Eagles are coming off a tough game in terms of its running game, which resulted in a negative 31 yards and a negative 1.2 yards per rush. The Miners could take control of the game if they make the Golden Eagles run the ball.

A win against a slumping Golden Eagles’ team not only helps the Miners get a streak of wins going, but more importantly gets them closer to a place in post-season play.

More than just a win at home, beating the Golden Eagles helps the Miners improve their 4-3 record and their 2-1 conference record. A win at home also means the Miners could start

building on wins toward the latter part of the season.

A win at home would also put the Miners a win away from becoming bowl eligible. The Miners will look to take advantage of a team that is struggling and use their home-field advantage to start the second half of the season with a win.

“I only know one way and that’s to go back and work hard,” Kugler said. “I think this team is really starting to understand our practice habits throughout the week really do translate into our quality of play on Saturdays. I really feel they’ll come out and practice hard this week.”

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Miner defense makes history on the road against UTSA

BY JAVIER CORTEZ

The Prospector

The UTEP football team came away with their most impressive win in the Sean Kugler era on Oct. 25, as they defeated the UTSA Roadrunners 34-0. As impressive as the offense was, the Miner defense was the story of the game.

In Sean Kugler’s first 18 games as the Miners’ head coach, UTEP has never shutout an opponent. The last time the Miners shutout an opponent

“That may be the best performance I have ever been witness to. The team just flied around with energy and played the game the way it’s supposed to be played.”

- Sean Kugler, UTEP head coach

was 10 years ago against New Mexico State, 45-0. As impressive as the Miners showing was in San Antonio, the result comes as a real surprise.

Last year, the Miners lost in their first-ever meeting with UTSA, 32-13, at the Sun Bowl. Prior to the shutout win, the Miner defense was allowing 37.3 points per game, and in the last three games, the Miners gave up a staggering 148 points.

The vast contrast in the Miner defense through the first six games and their win against UTSA cannot be understated. The Miners defense only allowed 70 total yards (third fewest in program history) and a laughable two first downs (least amount in program history).

“It was really an unbelievable performance,” said head coach Sean Kugler. “I have never seen a game when there is only two first downs. I hope we see more, that would be awesome, but I don’t think you can bank on that week in, week out.”

The showing against UTSA is statistically one of the greatest performances in program history, and is the first road shutout since 1988. Kugler, who has 24 years of coaching experience, calls it one of the best performances he has ever seen, if not ever.

“I’ve been around a lot of good defenses and a lot of good defensive per-



MICHAELA ROMAN / THE PROSPECTOR

The Miner defense had their best statistical showing in the Kugler era Saturday, Oct. 25 in San Antonio.

formances,” Kugler said. “That may be the best performance I have ever been witness to. The team just flied around with energy and played the game the way it’s supposed to be played.”

The shutout is what Kugler and his coaching staff are hoping to see on a more consistent basis. Last fall, when defensive coordinator Scott Stoker filled the last-minute coaching vacancy, the Miners had very little understanding of the defense.

Now Kugler can say that is not the case. The new group on defense has brought into the system—no questions

asked—which Kugler believes is a sign of maturity.

“I think they have matured,” Kugler said. “They’ve gone through ups and downs. I’m proud to say that they came together as a team and decided to stop the bleeding.”

Now that the defense has seemed to find an identity and the overall team play has improved, the Miners have a chance to contend for something more than a last-place finish. Standing at 4-3, the Miners are two wins away from being bowl eligible with five games left in the regular season.

Finding consistency is key toward the Miners’ possible future success.

“We’re always searching for consistency,” Kugler said. “We have a model of what we want and goals set for what we want to achieve. The key to a good team is stacking wins, we’ve stacked two and the goal is to stack a third win, and just take it one week at a time.”

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New pitching coach brings wealth of experience

BY JASON GREEN

The Prospector

It probably goes without saying, but it is a long way from Bristol, Connecticut, to El Paso, Texas.

The move to El Paso is just the latest in a journey that Sara Plourde has traveled to reach the top of the NCAA record books and around the world.

On July 15, Plourde joined UTEP softball head coach Tobin Echo-Hawk's staff as the team's new pitching coach.

Originally from Bristol, Plourde attended college at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst, where she finished her career 8th all-time on the NCAA strikeout list during her five-time All-American career. After being drafted to play professionally for the Carolina Diamonds in 2012 and then playing with the New York/New Jersey Comets, Plourde took the first assistant/pitching coach position at Lafayette College in Easton, Pennsylvania.

The two-time member of the Canadian national softball team soon realized that she wanted to coach pitchers who wanted to work as hard at their craft as they do at their studies.

"I really wanted to work with athletes who wanted to work as hard on the field as they do in the classroom," Plourde said. "Then I heard about this opportunity and then I saw the beautiful field. Tobin (Echo-Hawk) is actually pretty well-respected in the softball community."

Plourde was convinced to apply for the position by a friend who was also a friend of Echo-Hawk's.

"I said why not and I did. I'm very happy that I did. They're awesome," Plourde said.

Despite her standing in the NCAA record books and her pristine resume, head coach Echo-Hawk had actually only heard about her through



JASON GREEN / THE PROSPECTOR

Pitching coach Sarah Plourde (left) works with junior pitcher Danielle Pearson (right) in the pitching cage.

a mutual friend due to being on opposite coasts.

"A friend of mine, who was also a friend of hers, said you should look at her," Echo-Hawk said. "She's got a great resume. The more research I did, the better she seemed."

When you consider that the Miners were by far the worst pitching team in Conference USA last season, her application may have arrived on Echo-Hawk's desk at just the right time.

"We went through a couple of rounds and I just wasn't thrilled

with anyone we brought on campus. She was kind of the last one that we brought in," Echo-Hawk said. "I was looking for somebody who knew pitching, but also fit with my style of coaching and what my philosophy is."

Plourde arrived in time for the fall exhibition season, and the pitching numbers during a very small sample size already seem improved. Pitchers such as junior Danielle Pearson saw a decent jump in strikeout numbers during the few fall games. Pearson's relationship with her new coach may

have played a part in the perceived improvement.

"I really liked her right away," Pearson said. "She has a really cool personality. I'm the type that really wants to talk to my pitching coach a lot and feel comfortable with her. That's something that I felt right away with her."

For freshmen pitcher Dani Fincham, just having a pitching coach is something new altogether. Fincham is enjoying interacting with her new coach between innings.

or two runs. Where this year, I think that they realize—hey, as long as I keep it reasonable, give up maybe two or three runs, the offense will still support me."

Now that the pitchers are seemingly more relaxed, Plourde has gotten down to the business of working on improvement. This is something that the new pitching coach has been focused on, even before day one.

"When I came here on my interview I asked all of the pitchers that were here what they want to work on, what their goals are, stuff that they want to learn—new spins and new pitches. To know how to throw a pitch, you have to know how to spin it," Plourde said.

Just like the entire process of becoming the newest member of the coaching staff, here again Plourde's resume and experience are her key to success.

"My pitching coach in college was phenomenal at teaching spin," Plourde said. "She would not let me move farther than five feet from the batter until my spin was perfect. It had to be—it was so frustrating, but I'm thankful for that now. I can teach someone else how to spin it, because I've been there. I've felt the frustration of figuring out how to do it. So when they said spins, I said okay, I can teach you that. I can do that."

Plourde will continue to develop relationships with her new pitchers through the rest of the semester before taking a break to visit home for the holidays. Then the team returns to practice prior to the beginning of the season—towards the end of the winter. While outside observers are excited to see what Plourde can do with the pitching staff, Plourde is excited about the team as a whole.

"I'm looking forward to seeing our hitters adjust to different pitchers and our pitchers adjust to different batters. We'll see what happens. I think there will be a good outcome," Plourde said.

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Old Dominion last stop on Miners road to C-USA tournament

BY LUIS GONZALEZ
The Prospector

The UTEP women's soccer team has reached the first of its goals this season with two wins this weekend that clinched a spot in the Conference USA tournament. With wins over Florida International and Florida Atlantic, the Miners reached 19 points and assured themselves of finishing among the top eight of the 14-team conference.

“

We think that we can beat anyone in conference, we got a chance for sure.

”

- Kevin Cross, women's soccer head coach

“It is a great accomplishment to get the win today and it means a lot to get in the C-USA tournament,” head coach Kevin Cross said.

The Miners entered the weekend having reached double-digit wins again this season, needing just a win and tie to clinch a spot in the post season. The Miners are tied for second place with Rice, three points ahead of Middle Tennessee and trailing just behind North Texas.

The Miners improved their streak of unbeaten games to five with a win on Friday night against the visiting Florida Atlantic Owls. After a slow start on the always-emotional Senior Night, the Miners settled in, and first half goals from freshmen Kennadie Chaudhary and Margaret Hadley were enough to defeat the Owls. A final push by the visitors, that brought them within a goal of tying, was not enough to prevent UTEP from their 11th win of the season.

Senior goalkeeper Sarah Dilling kept adding to her Miner legacy, becoming the program's all-time leader in victories with 40.

“They're playing really hard and they're one of the best teams I have ever been a part of,” Cross said. “I'm really proud of them, they're doing awesome.”

UTEP followed up Friday's win with another by the same score. Goals from junior Angela Cutaia and sophomore Aleah Davis powered the Miners to a tense and hard-fought 2-1 win over Florida International. Davis scored her fifth goal of the season to put the home team ahead on a set piece. The lead was short lived as the Panthers tied it back up just 68 seconds later. A second-half penalty put the Miners ahead and their tight disciplined defense kept them there until the final whistle.

The Miners have not only punched a ticket to Charlotte, where the conference tournament will take place, they have also secured a top-three finish in the regular season standings.

“We just want to keep building,” senior defender Hannah Asuchak said. “I think we're still where we want to be, but we always want to keep pushing harder.”

Now the Miners turn their attention to their final game of the season on Thursday, Oct. 30, when they visit Old Dominion in Norfolk, Virginia.



CHRISTINA ESQUIVEL/ THE PROSPECTOR
Sophomore midfielder Hannah Nicholson wins the ball against the Florida International defender this past Sunday.

The Monarchs enter the game in ninth place and still with possibilities of placing in the top eight. Trailing Louisiana Tech and Charlotte by two points, Old Dominion needs a win to have any possibility of playing past the weekend, and a loss from either of the two teams ahead of them. The Monarchs have not helped their chances recently, having gone four games without a win. In their last two games, they were shutout by North Texas and Rice, who scored a combined seven goals.

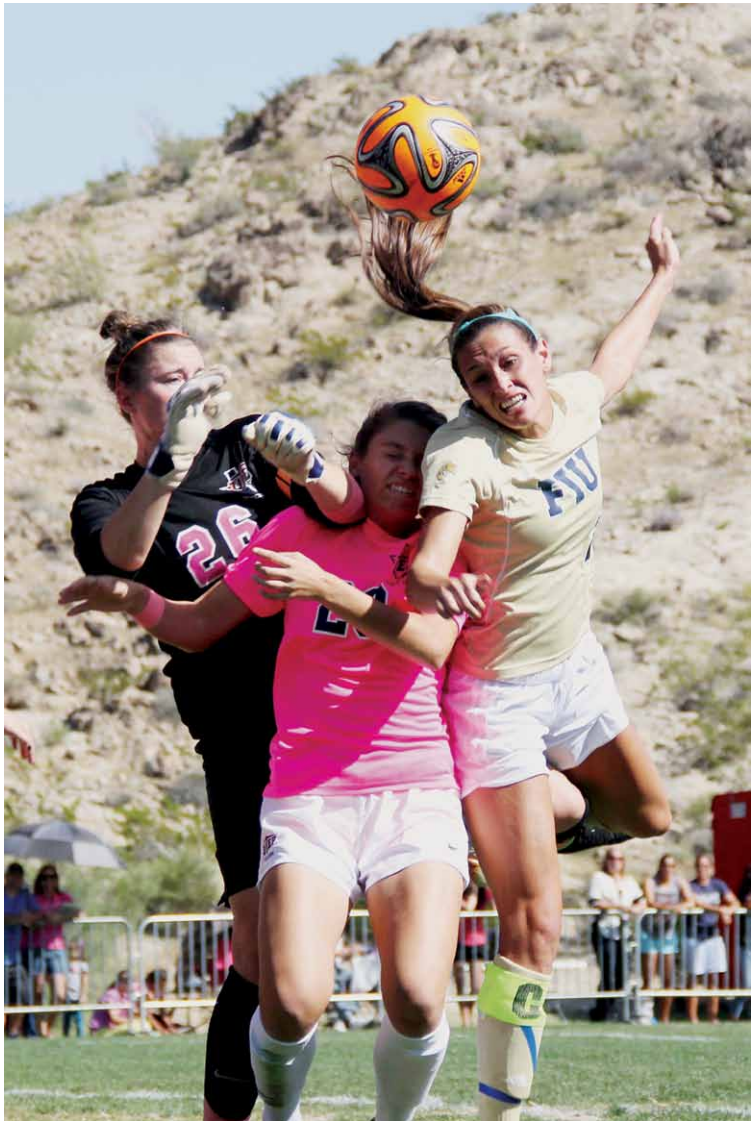
“If we can get a win there and head to the conference tournament on a high that will really help our confidence,” senior defender Taylor O'Hayre said. “Based on how we did this weekend, we got two wins against two very good teams, we're in good shape for Old Dominion.”

A win will not only help UTEP's confidence, but also secure the second spot in the conference. If UTEP were to lose its final match against Old Dominion, the farthest they could fall would be into a third-place tie with Tennessee, and the tiebreaker favors the Miners. The regular season title is out of reach since all the Miners could do is tie the leader North Texas, who beat UTEP a couple of weeks ago.

UTEP closes out the regular season focused on the game at hand, but with the promise of bigger goals ahead.

“We've done well on the road this year and we'll give it our all and see how it goes,” Cross said. “We think that we can beat anyone in conference, we got a chance for sure.”

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CHRISTINA ESQUIVEL / THE PROSPECTOR
The Miners are currently tied for second place in Conference USA, and will not finish any lower than third place this year.

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Miners look to dazzle in Orange and White Scrimmage



Then freshman forward Vince Hunter takes a jump shot in the 2013 Orange and White Scrimmage.

FILE PHOTO/ THE PROSPECTOR

BY JAVIER CORTEZ
The Prospector

On Nov. 1, the 2014-15 UTEP men's basketball team will showcase their talents to the city of El Paso for the first time this season in the fourth-annual Orange and White Scrimmage. It's become common in men's college basketball for there to be a pre-season scrimmage where the fans get to see the incoming talent. The scrimmage itself is more or less the least

“ I think it's going to be pretty exciting, fun and something for students to do. ”

- **Diajesma Orozco,**
junior organization and
corporate comm. major

important and entertaining event of the night. Players showcasing their talent with long-range shooting or heart-stopping dunks are what the fans come to see. Some schools have gone further than entertaining fans with basketball. At Kentucky, Grammy-nominated rapper Drake was the emcee to what the Wildcats call Midnight Madness. With comedy, dance and an assortment of theatrics, the preseason scrimmage has gone to a whole new level. Head coach Tim Floyd has em-

braced the preseason fun and loves to see a good turnout. Last year, Floyd stated that the atmosphere is always better when people attend and the players themselves are more excited to play. This year's Orange and White Scrimmage will have much of the same as last year's event, but the promotion of the game has been amped up. With free admission, fans will get a chance to meet players from the men and women's team at the Sun Bowl Stadium concourse. Also, fans that purchase season tickets at the scrimmage will have a chance to make that purchase free. At the end of the scrimmage, fans who purchased season tickets can partake in a half-court shot contest, and those who make the shot will get their season tickets for free. On the court, the fan favorite 3-point shootout and dunk contest are back. Competing in the 3-point shootout are senior C.J. Cooper, junior Earvin Morris and freshmen Lew Stallworth and Trey Touchet. In the dunk contest, it will be sophomore Jake Flaggert, freshman Omega Harris, sophomore Vince Hunter and freshman Terry Winn. Flaggert is the defending champion from last year as he beat Julian Washburn and Vince Hunter. With the scrimmage coinciding with a football game later in the day against Southern Miss, some UTEP students are excited about the prospect of seeing this year's team. "I didn't get the opportunity to go last year, but I am looking forward to it this year," said Diajesma Orozco, junior organization and corporate communication major. "I think it's going to be pretty exciting, fun and something for students to do." As much as the scrimmage is a show to entertain the fans, it is the start of a new season in which the Miners are predicted to do big things. With the majority of the team's major players

returning, the Miners are predicted to finish second in conference. The Orange and White Scrimmage is the first

of many basketball events that have big expectations. "I think the team is pretty together this year," Orozco said. "I'm really hoping that they'll do better this year than last year. Hopefully they'll get it together." Despite the Miners' chances at soaring to new heights, some students still don't have an interest in the scrimmage or the season itself. "If they were good, I would probably go eventually," said Mark Fernandez, freshman criminal justice major. "I'm busy usually and I pretty much don't do any extracurricular activities at this school."

Last year, the Miners finished 23-11 and fifth in Conference USA. This year, the Miners boast an even tougher schedule right from the start of the season. Washington State and New Mexico State are the Miners' first two home games, before they travel to California for the prestigious Wooden Legacy Tournament. The Orange and White Scrimmage will be the start of a very interesting season for the Miners. Doors will open at the Don Haskins at 2:30 p.m.. Javier Cortez may be reached at theprospectordaily.sports@gmail.com.

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