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THE PROSPECTOR

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FASHION — on — fleeek

*stand out
styles on
the border*

BY MARIA ESQUINCA

The Prospector

It's a form of art. It's a challenge. It's fashion.

"Everything I create with my own two hands carries a sense of meaning and emotion and everything is projected onto my garment," said local fashion designer Elizabeth Rivero.

Rivero studied fashion technology at El Paso Community College. Since then, she's created her own label called Beauty and Decay, and has participated in five local fashion shows and two commercials televised at EPCC.

But fashion may not be as glamorous as it may seem.

"This is a difficult industry, with very small margins. So there's not a lot of room for error," said Trish Winstead, fashion designer and fashion technology coordinator at EPCC.

It's also more complicated. In fashion, there are two branches: design and merchandising.

"A lot of people don't understand the differences between those two," Rivero said. "When you're a designer, you do everything from the idea, to the sketch, to the pattern, to the overall construction of it. It's more of a process."

Merchandising is the business side, and it involves the actual production and distribution of the garment.

If fashion majors are looking into the merchandising side of fashion, a bachelor's degree is usually required. If their focus is on fashion design, it's not necessary.

If El Paso fashion majors want to continue their education after graduating from EPCC with their associate's degree, NMSU might be the best place to continue or another university in Texas UTEP does not offer a fashion degree.

see JOBS on page 4



FEBRUARY 24, 2015

PERSPECTIVES

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

LORAIN AMBROCIO, 747-7477

Modeling, the sport of beauty

BY ALONSO MORENO

The Prospector



If you are into the world of fashion, or have outlets that let you know about it, there is a big chance that you got some sort of glimpse the New

York Fashion Week.

From the latest in fashion to the predictable big stars present at the event, it is designed to be both a hype machine and celebration for the people involved in the industry.

However, at the end of the day, the event leaves every mortal with one desire above all, to be that beautiful person who gets fame and fortune from walking down the runway and showing the world just how fabulous they are.

If that happens to be your case or that of anyone you know, then allow me to give you some insight into the world of fashion, albeit a smaller stage.

First off, I am a sports fanatic and enthusiast who can't get enough of them. They pretty much rule my life and I like to compare everything to them.

Second, through a series of circumstances, I had the opportunity of signing and being a part of a local modeling agency.

Naturally, I approached the modeling opportunity from a sports angle. I tried to find a game plan and made sure everything was as game ready as possible.

To my surprise, the whole experience was oddly similar to the world of sports that I love so much, and always sought a way into.

Among the first things that I experienced was a face-to-face interview with a boss from the agency. Think of it along the lines of the interviews of the NFL—combine—you sit down for a lengthy interview and all sorts of different questions are hurled at you and this helps determine if you have the mental makeup to be a model.

This may be surprising for some, but modeling takes a lot of mental fortitude since it can be full of denial and negativity.

This is similar to sports, but in modeling it can be much harder because you can be denied based on looks alone.

Never mind having a spectacular body or knowing how to walk down the runway, if you don't have the look someone is looking for, you are not getting a shot to showcase any talent you may have.

The second factor is the makeup of your body and how much this actually plays a part.

Having a good body is extremely important, not so much from the perspective of how it makes you look, but rather of how you can make the product you are modeling for look. Let's not forget, at the end of the day, models are there to promote something, rather than the other way around.

Throughout most of my life, I have been in fairly good shape, not Cristiano Ronaldo shape, but still decent enough from years of playing sports and working out.

When I first started as a model, I was not in the best shape ever, but I was quickly reminded of the type of game I was now playing.

"Alright, shirts off we need to see how your abs are doing. A client wants a guy with good abs because you will be appearing shirtless should you be selected," said our coach, who was explaining the details of a possible upcoming job.

I didn't get that job, but it served to show me that I needed to change my game plan. From my nutrition to my workout ethic, I had to step up my intensity if I wanted to win.

This is the part of modeling that most often gets a bad rep from both men and women. The men are trying everything to get the perfect muscle tone. Women also take drastic measures to get perfect measurements.

I personally didn't witness anything myself, but the stories of people who were putting themselves through harsh measures were prevalent.

If this look into the world of modeling seems short or lacking in content, it's due to the fact that I didn't last long in the business for one reason. Modeling careers can be extremely short.

If you only get one thing from all this it should be that much like NFL players, you don't have a long shelf life as a model. Models live off their looks and if you lose them you are done.

In my case, a broken wrist shattered my shot since it meant being out for a long time and not having the opportunity to work out to maintain myself in top shape.

Perhaps, I could have attempted a comeback, but much like sports. I knew the next man was up and it would be a hard task to compete against the new talent.

Similar to sports, it's incredible if you manage to make it to the top, but always keep in mind that in both instances, many are the ones who are celled forth, however only a few are chosen.

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JACOBO DE LA ROSA / THE PROSPECTOR

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Fashion stereotypes: pros and cons

BY BENJAMIN WOOLRIDGE

The Prospector

Fashion varies among UTEP students from unique styles that seek to express individual expression to more popular trends that are worn by the collegiate majority.

Other students do not give fashion much importance and dress in a manner to suit their own level of comfort that may give a false impression about their personality.

Samantha Stephens, senior creative writing major, said she is comfortable wearing graphic tees as an alternative for not being able to find fashionable clothes in her size.

"As a plus-size person, it's a lot harder to find nice feminine clothes," Stephens said. "I like these bands. I like these books. I like these different events. So just get the t-shirt, get some jeans—let's go."

Stephens also makes slouchy beanies, which is a multicolored knitted cap that she wears to contain her shoulder length hair. She said because of the way she dresses, she is more likely to be asked if she is going to a concert rather than take part in what may be considered a more feminine pursuit like shopping.

"I'm less likely to be asked to go out shopping, like girlie shopping," Stephens said.

Stephens said that people would be less intimidated by her if she dressed differently, but her mean facial ex-

pression also influences the way they see her.

"I think people would probably be less intimidated by me," Stephens said. "I have a resting bitch face. So, one of the things is that I usually look pretty intimidating when I'm in the neutral mode."

She said she is friendly, though, once she gets used to people's presence.

“

“As a plus-size person, it's a lot harder to find nice feminine clothes.”

— Samantha Stephens, senior creative writing major

Eric Acosta, senior creative writing major, said that being stereotyped for the way he dresses can be annoying at times. He said a store clerk asked him

if he was in a rock band, due to his long hair, thin build and the fact that he mostly wears all-black apparel.

"It's annoying. I mean, it makes sense, but it gets annoying," Acosta said.

Acosta said the reason he dresses the way he does is because he has worn the same style for years and cannot see himself dressed any other way.

"I've been dressing like this for years, man. At this point, if I stopped I wouldn't know what to do with myself," Acosta said. "I guess it's something you just pick."

Acosta said he picked his wardrobe not only for its simplicity, but because it is also inexpensive.

"It's basically all one color and there's not a lot of brand names. There's no brand names going on here," Acosta said. "It's cheap. It works."

Acosta said that being stereotyped for the way he dresses could also be positive because people do not bother him on campus. However, he does not mind if people try and talk to him.

"It's not what I think about when I'm putting on my pants, "I hope people just run away," Acosta said. "No, it's not my intent."

Ben Woolridge may be reached at theprospectordaily.news@gmail.com.



ADAM ZIEGENHALS / THE PROSPECTOR

Senior creative writing major Samantha Stephens models one of her slouchy beanies and an everyday outfit.

Plan B for fashion—students find other outlets for future careers

BY STEPHANIE FRESCAS

The Prospector

The fashion industry is often portrayed as a glamorous world of beauty and it is.

"I just enjoy this world because there's a lot of growth and there's also a lot of art to it," said Caitlin Cervantes, junior business management major. "You see different fashion shows, different commercials, you see all this different stuff that goes on."

Cervantes is an agent at the El Paso Wilhelmina Bazaar modeling agency, but, of course, like any job there is more to it than glamor. An agent is in charge of setting up modeling jobs, interviewing prospective models, conducting and scheduling meetings with clients and many other similar tasks.

"I like what we do," Cervantes said. "We work a lot with the community. We do our charity event, we do our pageant, and a lot of title holders do a lot of community service as well, so of course we go—we're representing as well."

However, like many college students, Cervantes is not planning to pursue her current job as a long-term career. After graduating, she hopes to apply her business management degree toward opening a business of her own that will let her work with children in some way.

Italy Flores, a fellow Wilhelmina agent, is also pursuing a college de-

gree outside of the fashion industry as a biology major at El Paso Community College. Although she started out as a fashion technology major, Flores said it didn't suit her, and she is now participating in the pre-pharmacy program.

"I'm not going to say it's a back-up plan because I always wanted to do something in the medical field," Flores said. "I love science and I love this industry as well, but I love science a lot. I just picture myself being in a laboratory."

Flores said she enjoys doing research on her own time on medical topics such as vaccines. Despite having career plans that move away from fashion, neither of the agents plan to leave that world any time soon. Flores said she hopes to continue working with the agency even if she relocates for graduate school.

"Since we are an affiliate, there's offices in New York, Miami, Los Angeles," Flores said. "I've visited all those cities and I love all of them. So hopefully when I go to grad school, it would be in one of those cities."

Cervantes said she did not have a set deadline for leaving her job as an agent, but wanted to stay as long as possible.

"I actually don't know when I'll leave," Cervantes said. "I plan on staying here until I set my business up. As long as life allows me. That's the plan for now."



MICHAELA ROMAN / THE PROSPECTOR

Senior multimedia journalism major Ashley Bazan reads through a fashion textbook.

Although they were not sure about the details of their prospective plans, Flores and Cervantes both expressed certainty about their respective majors. The glamorous world of fashion

did not appeal to either as a long-term career.

"You always want to have multiple plans," Flores said. "Especially because fashion is considered a luxury"

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MICHAELA ROMAN / THE PROSPECTOR

EPCC graduate in fashion design and industrial flat-pattern-making, Elizabeth Rivero showcases her designs.

JOBS from page 1

"I do have a number of people who have gone on to UTEP," Winstead said. "They're basically starting over because UTEP doesn't take the fashion credits from EPCC—because it can't because it has no fashion program."

Crystal Herman, assistant professor of theater and dance, said if fashion students who graduated from EPCC do decide to transfer to UTEP, the best option for them is to major in theater so they can take costume design classes.

"We go over basically the same things, we go over the construction, the design and how to do your illustrations in just a slightly different way," Herman said.

However, Herman said she doesn't teach the marketing aspect.

"A lot of fashion programs do teach the marketing aspect because it's really a business," Herman said.

Whether fashion majors decide to continue their education or not, they have to tackle the industry, and it is one that requires discipline, precision and perfection in order to succeed.

"It requires a lot of patience, especially the design part. It has to be almost perfect," said Veronica Solis, EPCC graduate in fashion design and printmaking.

Solis focuses on the merchandising side, specifically computer apparel design. She said that in order to find a stable job, she had to look elsewhere.

"There's no way I could find a job here," Solis said. "It's a big issue here because many people in El Paso are very close to home. They don't want to leave."

This is an issue that resonates with El Paso's fashionistas.

"There's not much to be done here in El Paso," Winston said. "Unless they have a strong, entrepreneurial spirit, they are probably going to have to leave somewhere else to find work."

Winstead said more job opportunities used to exist in El Paso until 1996, when large manufacturers started to leave the city.

"The apparel industry follows low labor prices," she said. "What's happened is that the majority of apparel is now done by major corporations."

Credit Today, a business publication, said that outsourcing began in the 1970s and 1980s with increased global competition and caught on as a way to maximize profits.

In 2011, ABC News said that 98 percent of the clothes imported into the U.S. are manufactured abroad, and only 2 percent are made in the U.S.

A study conducted by the authors of "Globalization and Free Trade" found that out of 85,000 pieces of clothes counted from WalMart, only 17 percent were made in the U.S., while 83 percent were made off-shore.

"People do not want to pay much money for their clothing," Winston said.

The U.S. apparel market is the largest in the world, with sales that reached \$182.5 billion in 2013, according to Statista, an Internet-based statistics portal.

Much of those sales are from large clothes manufacturers like Forever 21, H&M and WalMart.

"Back when I was able to start in the '70s, there were so many small boutiques that you could go out and sell your garments," Winstead said. "Now there are chain stores and those chain stores only deal with people who can produce thousands of the same items."

Forbes said that Forever 21 raked in \$3.85 billion in profits in 2014, and employs an estimated 30,000 people.

"As for designers, that's one of our struggles because we don't really have store buyers here that are willing to always buy what we have to offer," Rivero said.

Despite the setbacks, it's not impossible to find a job.

"We have people who have gone to LA and they're pattern makers making about \$150,000 a year," Winstead said. "It's making the determination that you're willing to move around for this job."

Rivero said her energy is not focused solely in El Paso.



"I'm not worried about conquering El Paso, my focus is to conquer the world," she said.

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Texas styles— Fashions for different passions



ILLUSTRATION BY JACOBO DE LA ROSA/ THE PROSPECTOR

BY AMANDA GUILLEN

The Prospector

In a state as big as Texas it is no surprise that when it comes to fashion, the influence and differences are endless.

This is true when it comes to college fashion. With about 170 colleges in the Lone Star state— Texas serves as an oversized canvas with different

colors, angles and themes to the overall masterpiece that is fashion.

El Paso is a melting pot of different college fashions, with Mexican influences from the border, surrounding sister states and trickles from the West Coast and the South.

Owner of Fetch Clothing in El Paso, Jeannie Stringfield, describes UTEP college fashion as different from oth-

er universities in Texas because of its location.

“I would say the fashion choices there are very relaxed. High-waisted shorts are very popular, paired with crop tops and Chuck Taylor tennies, oversized tops and leggings, as well as skinny jeans with basically any comfortable top,” Stringfield said. “These styles are very popular in Los Angeles and throughout California. I would have to also say that the culture of each university is what drives its trends.”

Stringfield also highlighted the fashions of college towns in Texas.

“Other colleges throughout Texas have a college-town feel and their social environments are very Greek oriented,” she said. “That being said, these schools have many strong influences in Southern culture, and the kids who attend these schools will wear lots of Southern comfort tees, paired with Nike running shorts and open-toed sandals for class and everyday wear.”

Callie Slavik, a student at Texas Tech University, said that the fashion is very laid back with the Greek life look infused throughout campus.

“Very casual and comfortable, some call it sorority and frat like a lot of leggings and big shirts for girls and khaki pants and collared shirts for guys,” Slavik said. “However, there is also, like everywhere else, a different group of people who have their own style, more hipster like—going into more indie coffee shops, if you can picture that. It ranges from more retro with combat boots, and anything you can picture from the song ‘Sweater Weather,’” Stringfield said.

Slavik’s hometown is in the Dallas-Fort Worth area, so the Lubbock style influenced how she dressed when she moved there for school.

“In high school, I basically only wore jeans. My sister and I despised the whole leggings and big shirts look. But after one semester here at Tech, it was all I seemed to wear,” she said. “Now having been here for over five years, I’ve limited the sorority look to when I go study at the library and occasionally to class or for a quick trip to the store. Jeans have happily made it back into my everyday outfits.”

Giselle Garcia, a student at The University of North Texas and a native of El Paso, said that although the style at UNT differs from El Paso fashion, it is very similar to other universities in Texas like Texas Tech.

“Denton is very much a small college town and it is off to the side of Dallas. Even though there are fraternity boys dressed like frat boys and sorority girls dressed like sorority girls and the different organizations dressing like the culture of their organization, the overall culture of Denton is very hipster, like man buns and Urban Outfitters,” she said.

Garcia said that her style has changed while attending UNT.

“I remember actually trying in high school, but now I am more dressed down. I mean I really like the whole hipster look, I like it on people, but it is just not me,” Garcia said. “I usually just go to Forever 21, Target or wherever I can get a good deal. I have even taken up thrift shopping.”

The question of why fashion differs so much in El Paso is easily an-

swered when you look at its culture and location.

Stringfield said that when it comes to college fashion in El Paso, the style is definitely more put together because UTEP is a commuter campus.

“Kids dress a little nicer here, but most of them also have part-time jobs and do other things besides just being a college student,” she said. “They need to be prepared to go to wherever they are heading after class. Since the kids at UTEP dress a bit nicer, it motivates peers to dress nicer—it’s a Doppler effect.”

Stringfield also said that there are benefits to not having consistent trends in the El Paso college scene.

“There are no true heavy trends in the El Paso college scene because we all have the trends in one school since there is no direct community influences,” she said. “We are truly a unique style market and our name fits exactly what we are, El Paso, the passage: in which all fashion trends pass through,” she said.

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ASSAYER OF STUDENT OPINION
THE PROSPECTOR
 AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO SINCE 1915

El Paso roller derby teams strives to empower women, develop self-image



HUGO BRITO / THE PROSPECTOR

Marlene Salcido, also known by her derby name Mclov'n, practices for an upcoming game.

BY ALONSO MORENO

The Prospector

Helmets with decals, colorful clothing and hard-earned bruises are the fashion that adorn the El Paso Roller Derby girls every match.

Composed of two teams—the Derby Bliss Brigade and the TexPistols—the El Paso roller derby has been around since 2010 and are members of the Women's Flat Track Derby Association, which is the international governing body of women's flat track roller derby.

Often considered as an edgier or flashy sport, roller derby is commonly associated with revealing uniforms and unconventional fashion designed to attract attention to serve as an accompaniment to the physical play.

"In all honesty, I don't know much about the roller derby girls, or the sport. I know that it's a physical sport and it's somewhere along the line of the extreme sports category, but other than that I am aware that sometimes they dress a little provocative or sexy," said Paola Guadiana, senior linguistics major.

Guadiana also said that for her, a lot of her knowledge came from the movie "Whip It," a film that deals with the roller derby scene. She said that often times we tend to focus on the extravagant because we find it more interesting.

"People think of fishnets and booty's hanging out," said Marlene Sal-

cido, also known by her derby name McLov'n.

Salcido said the notion comes mostly from other teams and leagues that sport such fashion, but that most professional leagues and players carry themselves in a different manner.

"In our league and the girls we play against, we see a lot of crazy stuff, but mostly we try to keep it athletic and professional," Salcido said. "However, everyone spikes it up with their own hint of crazy."

As far as the TexPistols, their uniforms consist of a color scheme of black tops and bottoms with hints of yellow for details and their own personalized helmets.

The crazy comes from things such as makeup, socks or accessories. In the case of Salcido, she describes her face paint on match day as her war face, which consists of black stripes running down the side of her face, reminiscent of war camouflage.

"The games are athletic, but practices are fun because sometimes we do different things such as black and yellow night or similar," said Claudia Martinez, known in the derby world as Busta Rydes.

There are also those who let their derby names and personalities dictate their style and flare in the skating ring.

"I myself don't go too far with the fashion, but I think the most important part is your personality, and everybody dresses according to it or to

live up to their name," said Amanda Webb, whose derby name Gingersassin is inspired by her red hair.

Although professionalism comes first, there are instances when the opportunity arises for the derby girls to be more extravagant or dress up in certain attire for themes.

"When we have mesh-ups, which are just fun games on which we bring girls from Juarez, Las Cruces and other areas, we choose a theme to dress up," Salcido said.

Themes such as vampires and werewolves and tutus, have been instances when the girls have been more in accordance with the edgy look from other leagues, but they still make sure that despite the theme, a positive image for the girls remains.

As their mission statement states, the El Paso Roller Derby strives to provide women with an environment to enhance personal growth, a positive self-image, development through the sport and the empowerment of women.

"Derby is an outlet for many of the girls, as we all come from different walks of life. There are military spouses, nurses, teachers, single mothers and all kinds of women," Salcido said. "In a way, it all brings us together. This is our home, our family, and it helps us be better."

Alonso Moreno may be reached at theprospectordaily.news@gmail.com.



The Texpistols practice for upcoming games at Tobins Park Gym.

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ENTERTAINMENT

EDITOR

KIMBERLY VALLE, 747-7477

Religion has an impact on fashion



JULIA HETTIGER

The Prospector

Altar'd State, a religious-themed fashion store, opened their doors at the Fountains at Farah in November 2013.

Altar'd State is known for selling clothing and accessories in a religious environment and providing customers the opportunity to pray in their dressing rooms. Religious memorabilia and décor are displayed around the store.

The store's motto is "fashion focused, cause motivated." The play on words in their name, Altar'd State, alludes to both their purpose and cause. The stores are famous for allowing their customers to drop off prayers for others.

The first Altar'd State store opened in Knoxville, Tennessee in November 2009 as a Christian retail store and café. The store has since adopted fashion statement-making clothing and has been expanded to more than 30 stores nationally. The store is co-owned by Brian Mason and Aaron Walters, who opened the store with the aim of spreading their religious beliefs.

Natalie Granillo, manager at the Fountains at Farah location, said their ultimate goal is to have their

"We want for our guests to come in and be inspired to feel beautiful," Granillo said. "We want to alter them into someone better, whether it's faith-based or not."

Altar'd State has been open in El Paso for a little over a year, and Granillo said it has fared well so far.

"I think it's been great for El Paso," Granillo said. "El Paso needed the change and inspiration and culture."

They sell primarily women's clothing, including shoes, dresses, tops and sweaters. The prices range from \$15 to \$90.

"Our clothes are very selective and hard to find in El Paso," Granillo said. "Every customer that comes in, we literally hear them say 'wow.'"

Naomi Vela, freshman business major and employee at Altar'd State, said they receive a wide range of customers every day.

"They range from juniors to 60 or 70 year olds," Vela said. "I come in contact with a lot of religious people who come in after church and have a unique style."

Granillo hopes the store will become a high-volume store.

"In other words, sell more and give back to El Paso," Granillo said.

Along with being religion based and focused on inspiring their customers, a big part of Altar'd State's mission is to give back to its community through sponsorships and donating to charities.

"Every Monday, 10 percent is donated to charities," Granillo said. "That's why we want to expand and sell more, so we can give back more."

Kayla Howarth, junior communication major, said the store has a good selection that caters to more than one specific style. As for its religious presence, Howarth does not believe the store and its employees are overbearing about it.

"They seem to use their beliefs in a constructive way by donating to those with less and allowing people to submit their prayers, as opposed to being hateful those who don't conform to their religion," Howarth said. "It creates a much more welcoming environment."

Altar'd State is open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sundays from noon to 6 p.m. For more information, call 915-307-3588.

Julia Hettiger can be reached at theprospectoraily. ent@gmail.com.

“Our mission derives from our name. It starts with altar, which is a different word for transform.”

- Natalie Granillo, manager of Altar'd State

customers feel transformed.

"It stands for when our guests come into our store and are faith-based and accept Jesus," Granillo said. "You transform your life into someone positive."

Although the store is religion based, Granillo believes their ultimate goal does not completely revolve around religion and accepting Jesus.



HUGO BRITO / THE PROSPECTOR

Altar'd State is a religious-themed fashion store located at the Fountains at Farah shopping mall in east El Paso.

Women seek curvy shape through waist training

BY VALERIE HERRERA

The Prospector

Waist trainers have become the latest beauty trend among women trying to possess the quintessential curvy shape, which involves wearing a waist-cinching corset for hours at a time.

Women must wear a tight corset-like garment around the mid-waist to mold the hourglass figure by gradually compressing the core over time to reduce the circumference of the waist and make it appear smaller.

Jessica Morales, junior social work and microbiology major, said purchasing a waist trainer might be worth the expense as long as you wear it accordingly.

"I do think it works, but I believe it does have its consequences if people don't use it the way they are supposed to," Morales said. "Some people can take it to an extreme."

The prices for a waist trainer range from \$50 to \$150, depending on the customization. Celebrities such as Kim Kardashian, Jessica Alba and Brooke Burke have openly admitted to using waist trainers as a way to



HUGO BRITO / THE PROSPECTOR

Owner of House of Dame Intimates, Gloria Reza works on her corset designs.

modify and slim the waist in a non-invasive way.

Jessica Reza, manager of House of Dame Intimates, said there are different methods of waist training and different corset types that are best accommodated to each individual.

"It is important to be knowledgeable on the safe and proper methods of using a waist trainer before deciding to jump into the process," Reza said.

The best kind of shapewear is made with steel bone, while others are made out of more flexible breathable materials that are best used to work out in.

Many wearers keep waist trainers on 24 hours per day, seven days a week, even while sleeping. The claim is that the practice of waist training enhances weight loss by suppressing wearers' appetites and encouraging perspiration.

Like most weight loss regimes, there isn't a clear bottom line on whether waist training is safe, and if it could cause more harm than good for some women.

"Waist training has been given a bad stigma because some people over do it," Reza said.

Reza said it is not recommended to sleep with it on, but the benefits involve strengthening your core, all while improving posture and spine alignment in some cases.

Numerous reports claim that it can bruise internal organs or cause breathing problems, but despite the critics, it appears waist training popularity has only increased.

According to Women's Health Magazine, experts agree that there's no way it can really work, and it might do real bodily harm. Colorful fabrics, designs and celebrity endorsements may have contributed to its popularity.

Reina Treviño, senior mechanical engineering major, said she has heard waist training does work, but despite the health risks she is willing to give it a try.

"It looks like it really works, but I've heard that it causes internal damage," Treviño said. "I've never used one before, but I'm open to experiencing the process myself."

Gloria Reza, owner of House of Dame Intimates, received corsetry education while studying fashion and marketing design in London. She said waist training requires discipline and results are best achieved when a healthy diet and exercise are employed.

She encourages her employees to wear waist cinchers to constructively inform customers of the garments through their own personal experience.

Gloria Reza said adding or increasing core resistance training can help you see results faster even if you have no intention of losing weight and only use a corset to change your silhouette.

"When starting out, a person's body must become accustomed to the constriction of waist training," Gloria Reza said.

Beginners wear the corset two to four hours per day, then gradually add an hour or two to the daily waist-training regimen until the corset is wearable throughout the entire day.

Reza said they fit and inform customers about the proper methods of waist training before they sell them. It's common for a customer to feel tightness and soreness, but they should never feel pain or shortness of breath.

Wearing the garment too tight or wearing it for too long when first starting off are common mistakes made by wearers. A well-fitting corset is not only more effective at shaping, but it's also much more comfortable, encouraging you to wear it longer and more often.

"All body shapes are different and each person's body accommodates to their corset differently, so listen to your body," Gloria Reza said. "If you feel any discomfort or pain take it off immediately or loosen it up."

Valerie Herrera may be reached at theprospectordaily.ent@gmail.com.

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HUGO BRITO / THE PROSPECTOR

Janina Nunez from just fit foods models a corset from House of Dame Intimates.

Contouring new trend in the beauty industry

BY VALERIE HERRERA

The Prospector

Contouring is one of the most commonly used tricks in makeup. It involves using a combination of light and dark color tones to sculpt the face.

Dulce Roque, sophomore creative writing major, said she was first introduced to the technique in high school while enrolled in a cosmetology program and feels it became trendy when the Kardashians started revealing contouring as one of their beauty tips.

"Everyone has their own opinions, but I think it's great to have the ability to enhance your appearance through makeup," Roque said. "I have tried it before and I don't think it looks unnatural if you do it right."

It is used as a way to transform and reshape parts of the face, including the nose, cheeks, neck and chin. What was the best-kept secret of celebrities has now become the biggest evolution in the cosmetic industry.

"First start off by analyzing your face to see where natural shadows fall—under the cheekbones, jawline and nose—and then enhance those areas using either a darker shade of contour powder, cream or foundation," said Sasha Hernandez, owner of Smashup Style and master makeup artist at Milan Salon and Day Spa.

Hernandez said dark hues move facial features back while bright hues bring them forward. She said if you want to make your face appear less rounded and more oval, use shading to create the desired elongated shape of the face underneath the cheekbone toward the center of the face, through the temples and hairline and on each side of the nose.

For a more natural appearance or full-on glam, women turn to the contouring technique to hide and accentuate certain facial features rather than having to go under the knife.

"Once you've blended and shaded the areas, use a highlighting product to emulate the parts where light would gleam to enhance your individual bone structure," Hernandez said.

The art of contouring can transform any shape of the face noninvasively by slimming chubby chins, shortening long noses and elevating cheek bones.

Celebrities like Kim Kardashian work it to perfection, but for those

who don't have a professional makeup artist on hand, they can mistakenly leave visible streaks.

"Invest in great quality products and supplies because that can make all the difference in achieving that subtle, flawless and undetectable look," Hernandez said.

“

Sponges tend to be a better blending tool, where as some brushes leave strokes.

”

-Sasha Hernandez, owner of Smashup Style and makeup artist at Milan Salon .

The contour colors range from cool to warm, and when combined in different ways, it can give you a variety of looks that range from the simple to the dramatic appearances.

Hernandez said every face is different, which means contouring can be applied differently to every individual, but practice makes perfect. Always apply contour in even light so you can really see what you're doing.

The practice is both comprehensive and fun to do. However, purchasing the proper products to use is just as important as the placement itself.

Hannan Alkhalifa, junior psychology major, said contouring is like an art and thinks it's great if women want to use it to feel prettier.

"I've never tried applying it myself because I feel it's a technique you have to master for it to look well, but I've had it done professionally and I think it's fun," Alkhalifa said.

Valerie Herrera may be reached at theprospector@dailyent@gmail.com.



Contouring has become a popular makeup trend among UTEP students.

ANDRES MARTINEZ / THE PROSPECTOR

IN BRIEF

MISS BLACK EL PASO: SOUTHWEST SCHOLARSHIP PAGEANT

Miss Black El Paso Southwest Scholarship Pageant will take place on Feb. 28 at 7:00 p.m. at Chamizal National Memorial. Admission is \$10. For more information, call 915-546-9212.

RIO ROMA

Brothers José Luis and Raúl Ortega Castro are the voices behind the popular romantic Mexican pop duo, Río Roma. They will be performing on Feb. 28 at 8 p.m. at the Abraham Chavez Theatre.


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Students prefer online shopping versus the mall



SERGIO ZAMORA / THE PROSPECTOR

Sophomore forensic science major, Thelma Lujan looks at online shopping websites at the library.

BY JESUS LOPEZ

The Prospector

Online shopping began in 1979, and it's a strategy that has benefitted many designers and brand and clients. However, the fashion industry did not take advantage of this until recently.

Laura Medrano, sophomore linguistics major, said one of the biggest perks of online shopping is the commodity of not having to leave one's bedroom in order to skim through items in a store and purchase them.

"Many people tend to go to certain stores just to look at the clothes, and many times, if they can't find anything that they like, they just leave the store," Medrano said. "Online shopping gives an opportunity for clients to check out the merchandise without having to come all the way to the mall."

Online shopping is a relatively new trend and many people, even those who love the experience of shopping and walking around stores, gladly take advantage of it every now and then.

Promotions and sales are constantly available on many online stores, something that might only happen a couple of times a year in physical stores.

Thanks to the trend of online shopping, many stores around the globe are creating their own online shopping websites.

Pure Denim, located on 5860 N. Mesa St., Suite 110, will open an online store March. It will allow clients to skim through catalogs online and place their orders to be delivered right to their doors.

Carolina Franco, senior art history major, who works at Pure Denim, said a large part of their customers travel from Mexico, so online shopping allows for them to save money on their trips to the store.

"The advantage is that their clothes will be shipped right to their house," Franco said. "It works for us too, for now our reach will expand."

Just as online shopping benefits businesses, it can also benefit consumers.

Daniela Cervantes, junior marketing major, said she enjoys online shopping because of the commodities and discounts.

"I am the number one fan of online shopping," Cervantes said. "I love it because I'm able to find many peculiar and unique clothes and accessories that I would otherwise never find in any stores here at El Paso."

Online shopping also has its many downsides. Companies on the Internet sometimes make their merchandise appear better in photos, and the colors and structure of the items may even be enhanced to motivate online shoppers.

Quality is never a guarantee, no matter how many disclaimers they might have placed on their websites. A person is not able to try on a piece of clothing before buying it, thus many clients end up sending back their purchases or never wear them.

Cervantes said people save money when purchasing clothes through online shopping due to their inexpensive prices, but to be careful about the quality of the brand.

"I recommend 100 percent for people to only buy from stores and


brands that they know sell good quality clothing," Cervantes said. "When your clothes arrive, you might find out that the items' fabric is falling apart or tearing at the seams-not being able to use them-you have got to be careful online."

Aimee Gallardo, freshman organizational and corporate communications major, said that although online shopping for clothing might sound like a practical choice, it truly is a complex market that holds concealed disadvantages for the clients.

"I've done it only a few times and every single time I've made an order, something goes wrong," Gallardo said. "They either take too long to ship my clothing or send the wrong size. Once I had to return a dress and they charged me for the shipping, even though the store guaranteed no additional charges."

Gallardo said returning a purchased item can be a pain and you cannot ask for your money back. With online shopping, many stores do not accept returns, and those that do might require the client to pay for the shipping of unsatisfactory clothing when sending it back to stores.

Jesus Lopez may be reached at theprospectordaily.ent@gmail.com.



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SPORTS

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LUIS GONZALEZ, 747-7477

Miners play for first place at Louisiana Tech



ANDRES MARTINEZ / THE PROSPECTOR

Senior guard Julian Washburn is now the seventh best scorer in UTEP basketball history.

BY LUIS GONZALEZ

The Prospecter

The UTEP men's basketball team is now just half a game out of first place in Conference USA after a hard-fought win over UTSA on Saturday.

The Miners clawed their way out of an early hole against the Roadrunners on their way to their seventh-straight win by a final of 69-62.

The stage is now set for a showdown with conference leader Louisiana Tech in a matchup that will most likely decide the regular season conference champion.

UTEP will be in Ruston, La. to face the Bulldogs on Thursday, Feb. 26, before heading to Mississippi to face Southern Miss on Saturday, which will be the Miners' final two regular season road games of the year.

"It's something we've really been looking forward to," said senior guard C.J. Cooper about the matchup with

La Tech. "Looking at the situation, it makes it even more motivating for us to go out there and get a win on the road."

This past Saturday, a game that was big for the Miners' hopes of staying in the race for the number one spot in Conference USA got even bigger when La Tech lost on the road to Old Dominion earlier in the day. The Bulldogs now had three losses in conference, the same as the Miners, and a UTEP win brought coach Tim Floyd's team into a virtual tie for first place.

"It was a great game," said UTEP senior guard Julian Washburn. "They played us very physical, but I'm glad we were able to match their toughness and pull out this win."

The Miners got off to their usual slow start against a talented UTSA team that scored 24 points within the first eight minutes of play and led UTEP by double digits. Every shot seemed to be falling for the Road-

runners and none for the Miners, but that's when the Miner defense showed up.

After those eight minutes, in which the visiting squad shot over 66 percent, the Roadrunners went eight minutes without a single basket. Sparked by their defense, the Miner offense got going and with five minutes to go in the half, the score was tied at 24.

"I just think we played exceedingly hard during that stretch," Floyd said. "We really did, and I thought our crowd really helped us in that comeback."

With the score tied at 30 to start the second half, the Miners got the lead for just the second time in game by scoring five quick, unanswered points. UTSA never really went away, but never led again to the delight of the more than 10,000 fans in attendance.

Junior guard Earvin Morris led all scorers with 18 points. Morris was not alone on offense, three other Miners scored in double figures. Cooper had 16 and sophomore forward Vince Hunter and Washburn both had 10.

In the victory, a couple of milestones were reached by two key pieces of this Miner team. It was Floyd's 100th victory as the head coach at UTEP and Washburn moved into seventh place among the top scorers in school history.

"I never thought that I'd be top 10 in scoring," Washburn said. "I got a lot more basketball to go and hopefully I can move up the list."

After three games at home, UTEP's longest conference home stretch, the Miners head to the road as games seem to get more important as they go.

Louisiana Tech was tabbed to finish first in conference before the season started with UTEP following in second.

The Bulldogs came into the Don Haskins Center in early January and gave the Miners their only home conference loss by a final score of 58-45.

The 45 points are the lowest UTEP has scored on any night this season and the only time they scored under 50. The Miners scored 12 points in the second half.

"We were really slow offensively, we didn't really move the ball," Morris said. "We really weren't aggressive."

Since then, UTEP has gone 9-2 and Tech 10-3, with both the Bulldogs and the Miners appearing among the top in almost every statistical category. UTEP has the best road record in conference and Southern Miss has yet to lose this year on their home floor.

UTEP is fifth in scoring offense, while the Bulldogs are second. UTEP is third in scoring defense and Louisiana Tech is fifth.

The Bulldogs are led offensively by junior Alex Hamilton, who averages close to 16 points per game. Sophomore Eric McCree and senior Raheem Appleby are also among the top 25 scorers in the league, averaging 11.6 and 15.5 points, respectively. Appleby scored 22 points the last time the two teams met.

If Louisiana Tech has a weakness it is on the glass. The Bulldogs are among the worst in Conference USA when it comes to rebounding both offensively and defensively. They are among the bottom four in both categories and their rebounding margin is dead last. Tech gets outrebounded

on average by almost five rebounds a game.

The performances of Hunter, who leads the league in rebounding, senior center Cedric Lang and the possible return of 7-foot center Matt Willms could be one of the keys to victory for UTEP.

"It was just a bad game mentally for all of us," Willms said. "Now it's just us focusing on ourselves and show them who we really are."

After Thursday, the Miners will visit one of the worst teams in the league in Southern Miss. The Golden Eagles have just two wins in conference this season—only Florida Atlantic has less. UTEP also played Southern Miss in early January, routing former Miner coach Doc Sadler's squad 74-40 at the Don Haskins Center.

The one threat Sadler's team has

“Looking at the situation, it makes it even more motivating for us to go out there and get a win on the road.”

- C.J. Cooper,
UTEP basketball
senior guard

is in senior guard Chip Armelin. The Minnesota native averages 15.8 points per game, which makes him the sixth-best scorer in Conference USA.

UTEP has won five conference games on the road, helping to set up as big a game as you can have at this point of the season. The formula for winning on the road has been there all season long and the confidence in the ability to do it a couple more times might be all the Miners need to come back to El Paso ahead in the title race.

"We've had a real good road mentality," Floyd said. "Every game, you better be jacked up, you better not be afraid, you better not be scared and I don't think our guys will be."

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

More Champions League? Yes, please.



BY LUIS GONZALEZ

The Prospecter

This is the best time of the year for soccer. Domestic leagues and cups are near their final stages and both European competitions have started back up. It seems like every three days there is at least one game that is a must-see because of the participants and the implications surrounding the result.

Last week, the Champions League returned with four matches, and

like it usually does, the most competitive tournament in soccer did not disappoint.

Real Madrid had a comfortable matchup that had the potential to get uncomfortable pretty quickly, but the Spaniards took care of business and are practically in the next round. Like Madrid, Porto had a favorable rival in Basel and the 1-1 tie on the road also puts them in a comfortable situation and with one foot in the next round.

Bayern Munich should have no trouble advancing at home despite the surprising tie in the first leg.

Paris Saint-Germain gave Chelsea all they could handle, but they still

head to Stamford Bridge with a disadvantage. The game promised to be the best of the first four that the champions had to offer—it was.

I can't say it was back and forth, but the game was still entertaining with plenty of chances on goal and an inspired Thibaut Corutois. The Chelsea keeper was brilliant and is the sole reason the Blues left Paris with just one goal against them and an advantage on the scoreboard.

Jose Mourinho's men are definitely favorites, but I would not be surprised if Zlatan and company came up with the upset—once again this will be a must-watch match.

In this week's games, Barcelona and Manchester City headline the last set of matches of the round of 16, pitting two elite teams with numerous elite players against each other.

Before this weekend, Barcelona was a freight train that was sparking almost as much fear as Pep Guardiola's team that won it all. City, on the other hand, was a team that has been good, but not nearly good enough at this stage—failing to get past the group stage twice in the last two years.

Like as often happens in sports, it can be very easy to become prisoners of the now. Barcelona lost to Malaga at home, Manchester City rolled

through Newcastle United, and all of a sudden this matchup seems even more interesting than it already was.

Let's slow down though. It's a good game—the best of this stage—but Barcelona is still the clear favorite.

City has a good team, with elite players in every line. Vincent Kompany is in the conversation for best defender in the world, Yaya Toure is as good a midfielder as there is and Sergio Aguero can be as lethal in front of goal as anyone. The Citizens are good, but Barcelona is better, deeper and more versatile.

see CHAMPIONS on page 12

Track and Field head to Conference USA Indoor Championships

BY JUAN CARLOS NAVARRETE

The Prospector

The UTEP track team continues its strong year as they arrive at the first of what they hope will be many important meets this season. After five meets, both the men and women's teams will be in Birmingham, Ala., to compete in the Conference USA Indoor Championships from Feb. 25-26.

The UTEP women's team will go into the championship with a good chance of winning it all.

"I am excited about our women's team, everyone is doing good," said head coach Mikka Laaksoen. "Everyone is okay. They are rested and last week they ran some of their best, so they can all do it."

For the women, the opportunity to win the tournament would be the first in the history of UTEP teams. All the competitors will have to compete at their best as winning the conference title gives them a chance to compete at the national level.

Sophomore sprinter Aiyanna Stivierne will be looking to help the women's team as she hopes to build off her good performance last week. Competing in the Don Kirby Invitational, the Florida native finished the 400-m dash with an altitude-converted time

“

Everyone is okay. They are rested and last week they ran some of their best, so they can all do it.

”

- Mikka Laaksoen, UTEP track and field head coach

of 53.64—which is best in the conference this year and third fastest in school history.

Stivierne's outstanding performance in Albuquerque was rewarded with her being named the Conference USA Track Athlete of the Week.

Sophomore Cosmas Boit, from the men's team, rounded out another dominant week for UTEP track and field, as he was also being named C-USA's Track Athlete of the Week. It was the fourth consecutive week that a Miner from the men's side has been given the weekly award.

Boit ran a personal best of 8:01.25 in the 3,000-m at the Husky Classic in Seattle, Wash. His time, eighth best in program history, placed him inside the top 15 of the event, which included some of the best runners in the nation—both amateur and professional.

The men's team is going to try to do better than they did last week and try to qualify to nationals. The men's team, however, has two of the best distance runners in the conference and will look to help to push the team forward.

"I am excited to run. I feel ready and after last week I feel ready to run," Boit said.

Boit will also try to qualify for nationals in the mile run, where he will be running next to teammate and Cross Country Athlete of the Year in Conference USA, Anthony Rotich.

This will be the last Conference USA Indoor Championship for Rotich, who will be looking to defend his mile championship from last year. He has already qualified for the national championships, but this will serve as a chance to leave the conference as the fastest.

"He has competed greatly, he will try to defend his title and he most likely will," Laaksoen said. "He can probably win with ease and defend his mile."



MICHAELA ROMAN / THE PROSPECTOR

Sophomore Aiyanna Stivierne has the best ranking 400m dash time in Conference USA.

Rotich is confident in his abilities and looking forward to defending his crown after getting off to a good start this season.

"I am excited because I have been running well," Rotich said.

For Boit, having Rotich as a teammate helps him become a better runner. UTEP has the two best distance runners in the conference and a top-three place on the podium is likely for both runners.

"He makes me run better, he is always telling me I'm a good runner. If I can run as fast as him, it will make

me better," Boit said. "If I can run like him, it will be great because he is the best, he makes me run faster."

Both the men and the women's team have an opportunity to enjoy success this week at the conference championships. There are plenty of chances for UTEP to reach the podium and qualify for nationals, and end the season celebrating a win.

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

CHAMPIONS from page 11

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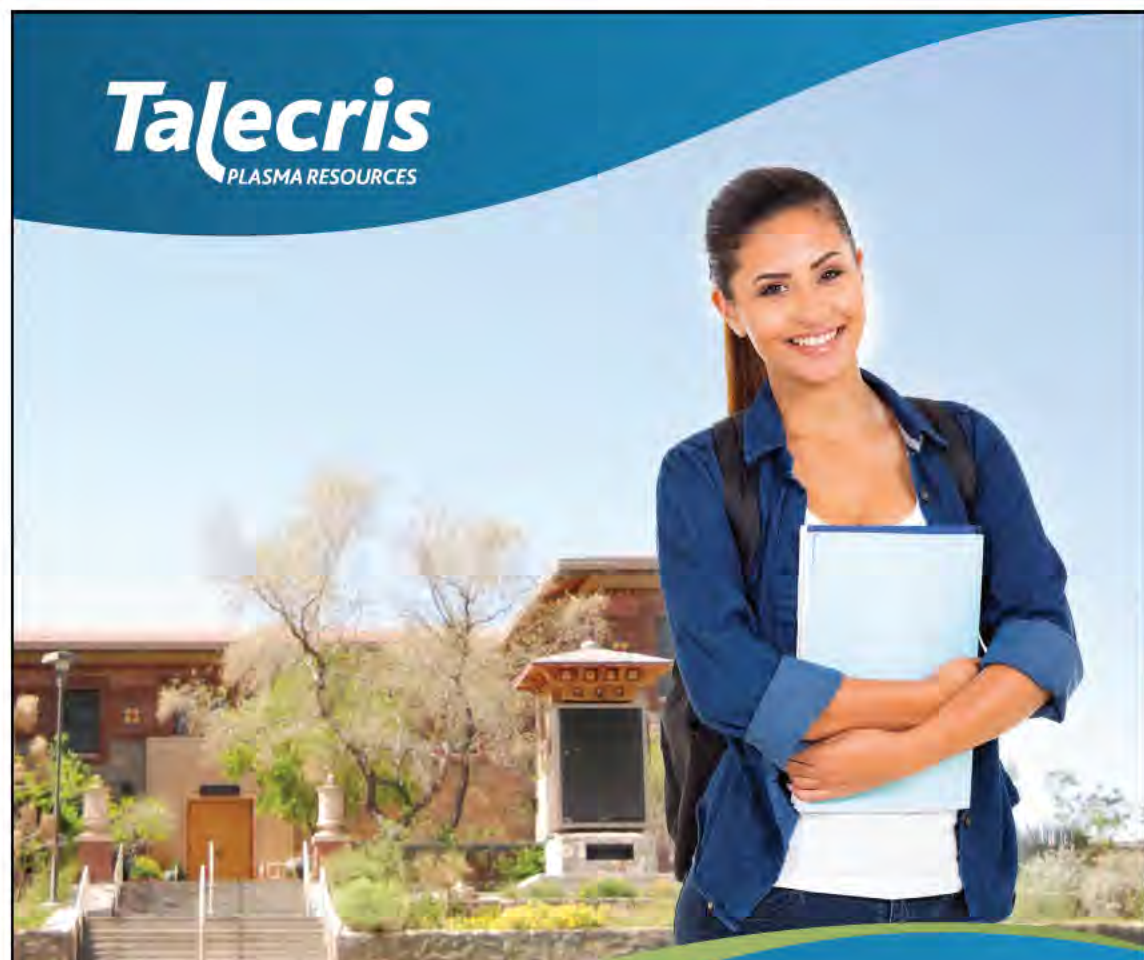
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For every name you throw out for Manchester City—Nasri, Silva, Navas, Dzeko, Milner—there is someone as good or better defending the Blaugrana colors.

Messi, playing from the right but with the liberty to go anywhere at any time, is playing closer to the level that marveled us on a weekly basis. Neymar is as dangerous as any and Suarez provides a dimension that Barcelona has not had in a while. There is no better attack in soccer right now than Barcelona's.

It's rarely easy in soccer—just ask Bayern—and I don't know if Barcelona has what it takes to win it all, but they will advance to the next round.

The second game of the day is strange. At one point not long ago, Borussia Dortmund was playing in the Champions League Final. Today, the 12th-best team in a league that is nowhere near among the top leagues of Europe. Juventus, who seems like a lock for their fourth-consecutive Italian league title, might be as good as any of the big guns, but it's hard to tell when they also play in a rather uncompetitive league.

The matchup should be interesting because Dortmund seems to have a Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde kind of thing going on when it comes to playing in the German Bundesliga and the Champions League—getting terrible results in one competition, good ones in the other.

Still, Juventus is simply better. The Italian squad has enough talent in the classy Andrea Pirlo, the consistent Arturo Vidal and

the extraordinary Paul Pogba to outplay any midfield in the world, and with Carlos Tevez up top this team can be the dark horse who surprises one of the elite teams in the next round.

Atletico Madrid was just minutes away from lifting the Champions League trophy last season and they have only improved from that point on.

The confidence and trust this team plays with are admirable. Diego Simeone has better players than a season ago, but has been able to keep that intensity and hunger that a so-called small team plays with. The Spanish squad might be the best defensive team among the 16 left in this tournament and Bayern Leverkusen will finish its European adventure at this stage.

Finally, to round out this week's games and all of the round of 16 first legs, Arsenal and Monaco will play London. The Gunners have won eight of their last nine games, including one against Manchester City, and should be able to handle the French in the span of 180 minutes. We all know they won't win the tournament because it is Arsenal, but they are playing some good soccer led by Alexis Sanchez.

That would be an interesting storyline for the quarterfinals, Sanchez against his old team Barcelona. Last week was fun and gave us plenty of things to talk about, and this week should be even better.

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