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ASSAYER OF STUDENT OPINION

THE PROSPECTOR

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VOL. 100, NO. 19

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO

MARCH 3, 2015

*Let the
good times
Roll*

RESPONSIBLY



ALCOHOL AWARENESS

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MARCH 3, 2015

PERSPECTIVES

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
LORAIN AMBROCIO, 747-7477

Get it together, Texas

BY LORAIN AMBROCIO
The Prospector



There are 37 states that allow gay marriage, while appeals are pending in the remaining 13 states. On Feb. 19, two women in Austin, Texas, were married after State District Judge David Wahlberg made an exception since one of them had ovarian cancer.

It seemed like a step in the right direction for the ol' Lone Star state, yet, just six days later, the conservative group, Texas Values, whips out their ceremonial knife and cuts into the prettiest of pink cakes in honor of the Texas Marriage Amendment celebration—where only one man and one woman can marry in the state.

This was a 10-year celebration of keeping gay marriage banned in Texas.

On top of this, Texas did not recognize the marriage of these two women and put a ban on any future gay marriages.

At one point, Texas proposed that any judge who performed a marriage on a gay couple would have their license taken away.

The Supreme Court will hear cases on gay marriage and will be expected to make a decision by the summer. So it can either speed up the process in the remaining states and force Texas on to that proverbial bandwagon, or erase everything that the LGBTQA community has worked so hard to achieve.

By the way, Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg has spoken up for gay marriage, so Texas better put those knives away and start opening the court doors.

In an interview with Bloomberg, Ginsburg said that Americans won't need a large adjustment when gay marriage is passed as legal.

"The change in people's attitudes on that issue has been enormous," Ginsburg said. "In recent years, people have said, 'This is the way I am.' And others looked around, and we discovered it's our next-door neighbor -- we're very fond of them. Or it's our child's best friend, or even our child. I think that as more and more people came out and said that 'this is who I am,' the rest of us recognized that they are one of us."

So if the one of justices from the highest court can't persuade Texas into shaking itself out of conservatism and joining the movement for equal rights, who can?

And in the case that gay marriage is legalized, how will Texas address social issues like bullying against the LGBTQA community – where four transgender women have already been murdered – or transgender identity?

The legalization of gay marriage throughout the country, especially in Texas, is more than just allowing two people to join in matrimony for the rest of their lives.

It will pave the road, if not make the journey easier, for future endeavors that this community faces – such as collecting the necessary data on the transgender population, providing gender-neutral options and stigmatization.

Can I even go as far as to say it will help women attain their rights in equal pay and health?

So to Texas I say, get it together. Blue looks better on you, anyway.

Lorain Ambrocio may be reached at theprospectordaily.news@gmail.com.



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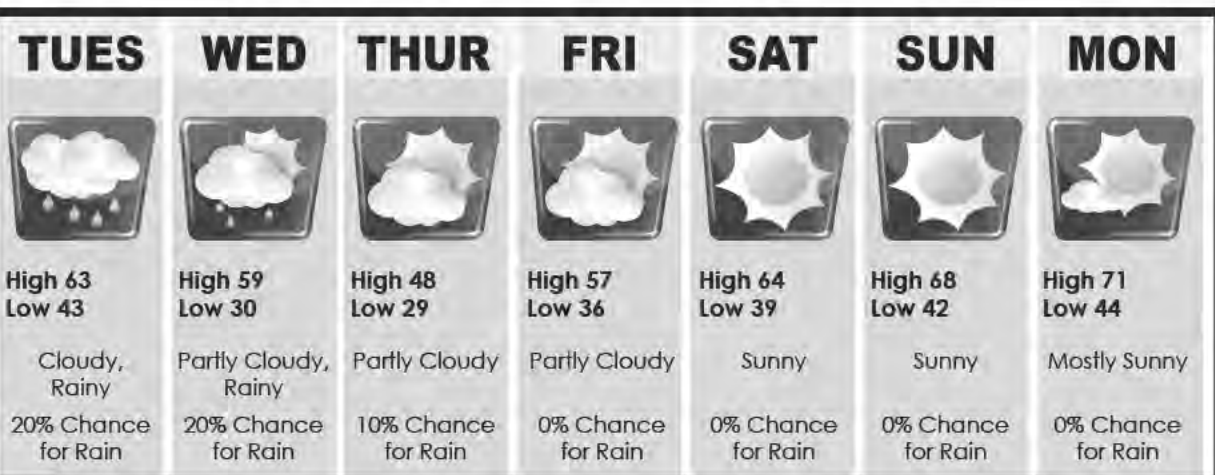
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What are your thoughts on underage drinking

HUGO BRITO, ANDRES MARTINEZ, SERGIO ZAMORA / THE PROSPECTOR



JESUS GUSTAVO CHAVEZ
Junior multidisciplinary major
"I think its good that the drinking age is set at 21 here in the United States because I believe the tendencies of teens here are more towards the extremes of being irresponsible."



CHRISTIAN PEREZ
Freshman computer science major
"I think that underage drinking is bad because if an underage person starts drinking, they will probably get addicted and stay drinking until they are elderly."



ARELYN CHAVEZ
Freshman chemistry major
"It keeps people that are under 21 away from problems, but then a lot of people do it anyway. The government should bring down the age requirement to 18."



ENRIQUE MARTINEZ
Senior computer science major
"I think if someone wants to drink they will have access to it somehow and the age should be lowered to 18."



ALEJANDRA MARQUEZ
Freshman marketing major
"I'm against underage drinking because I think drinking alcohol at a younger age makes people drink irresponsibly."



BRENDA RIVERA
Freshman accounting major
"Since people in Juarez can have alcohol at 18, I think the younger people here in the U.S. want to experience drinking at a younger age, like across the border."



RENEE TREJO
Sophomore English Literature major
"I like the law that is in place, however, I do think that putting penalties on underage drinking can be too much."



AMARIS SOLTERO
Sophomore nursing major
"I am against underage drinking because you need to be mature enough to handle how much alcohol you consume."



EDGARDO PEREGRINO
Grad. computer science major
"I think underage drinking could be a good and bad thing depending on the culture you live in."



DANIEL HERNANDEZ
Freshman accounting major
"I think people do it because there is a law against it."



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Estudiantes viajan a México a pesar olas de violencia



Un grupo de jovenes ven un pamfleto sobre Mexico. .

POR FERNANDA LEÓN
The Prospector

Muchos estudiantes de origen mexicano e con familias en México viven en El Paso para realizar sus estudios, pero cruzan a México diariamente, a pesar de la violencia que enfrenta el país.

Estudiantes de esta universidad viajan diaria o semanalmente de ciudad a ciudad debido en gran parte a la cercanía entre las ciudades de El Paso y Ciudad Juárez.

Es en épocas vacacionales como en spring break, cuando los estudiantes se dedican a visitar ciudades mexicanas con el fin de visitar a sus familiares e amigos.

Gianna Salas, estudiante de primer año de comunicación, dijo que la violencia en la zona norte de México ha

“El Paso has always been different from the rest of the state, we have gone through great lengths to become a model city, so something like this just feels like a major setback...”

- Africa Deleon, senior Spanish major

disminuido, lo cual la llevó a tomar la decisión de viajar por el territorio mexicano.

“Las próximas vacaciones de spring break viajaré a Monterrey, Nuevo León, por que iré a visitar a una amiga que vive allá”, dijo Salas. “La violencia en México ha disminuido en la zona norte, pero no precisamente en la zona sur, por eso no me agrada mucho la idea de viajar hasta el sur”.

Para otros estudiantes, la violencia en México no es algo que se pueda ignorar puesto que marca un gran

desequilibrio en el país, pero estos estudiantes consideran que el miedo de viajar a su país no es motivo para dejar de visitar amigos y familiares.

“Me parece inaceptable el frenar el desarrollo que uno mismo le pude proporcionar a su tierra por miedo, además de que considero de que esa misma quietud contribuye al estancamiento del progreso del país”, dijo Valeria Hernandez, estudiante de tercer año de arte, quien visitara la ciudad de Cuauhtémoc, Chihuahua, en sus vacaciones de spring break.

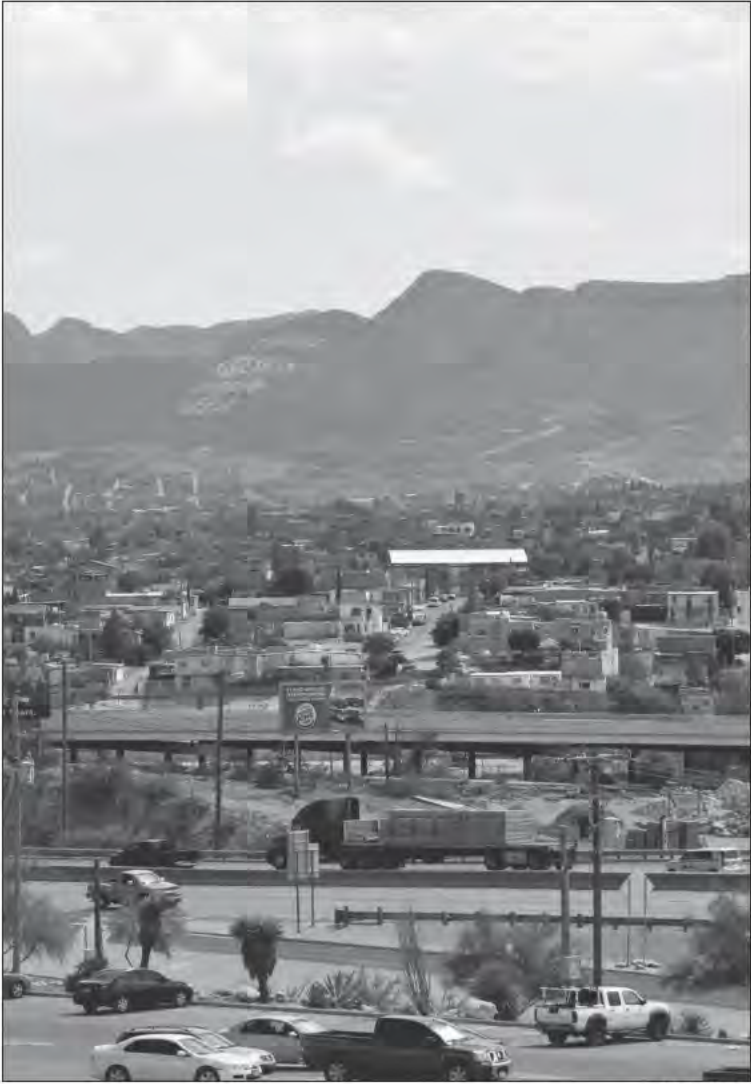
Por otro lado, estudiantes que viajan constantemente de El Paso a Cd. Juárez no consideran que la violen-

cia haya aumentado en los meses pasados.

Luis Chavez, estudiante de cuarto año de ingeniería, viaja semanalmente a Juárez para visitar a sus familiares y planea pasar la semana de spring break con su familia en Juárez.

“Creo que la violencia en México esta muy exagerada”, dijo Chavez. “Yo me siento igual de seguro en las dos partes”.

Fernanda León puede ser contactada en el prospectoraily.news@gmail.com.



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ANDRES MARTINEZ / THE PROSPECTOR
Dr. Terri Williams explains his role in the UTEP Collegiate Recovery Program.

RECOVER from page 3

As the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism notes, the problem with college drinking is not necessarily the drinking itself, but the negative consequences that result from excessive drinking. Statistics from the institute show that each year, alcohol is responsible for 1,825 college student deaths, more than 97,000 cases of sexual assault or date rape and about 25 per-

cent of college students report academic consequences due to drinking. UTEP CRP will host its campus-wide launch event on March 3. The event will feature a panel discussion starting at 6 p.m. called "In Solidarity with Sobriety" and will conclude with a screening of the movie "Flight." The event will be held at the Union Cinema on the first floor of Union East and is open to everyone. Alonso Moreno may be reached at theprospectordaily.news@gmail.com.

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An invisible population: lack of data on transgender people hinders progress

Gender populations in the United States

Transgender people make up 0.3 percent of the U.S. population as of 2011, according to a study done by the Williams Institute. This is a rough estimate of participants who willingly identified themselves as transgender.



The U.S., male and female populations were collected from the U.S. Census Bureau from 2010. The Williams Institute collected the transgender population data in April 2011.

GRAPHIC BY LORAIN AMBROCIO

BY LORAIN AMBROCIO
The Prospector

This is part two of a three-part long-form series, which will be available at theprospectordaily.com.

There are more than 320 billion people in the U.S. to date, but there are limited estimates as to how many of those individuals in the country are transgender.

Few surveys and research studies have been released that attempt to assess the transgender population.

One study by the Williams Institute, a law school in Los Angeles, was released in April 2011, and it said that there were about 0.3 percent of adults in the country who identified as transgender. The information was collected from surveys that asked about sexual orientation and gender identity questions.

However, this is a rough estimate—about 700,000 transgender people were willing to answer these questions on the survey.

Those who did not answer may still be afraid of identifying themselves to the public.

“The problem is we don’t have data. Currently, there are only two health-related reports in the entire nation that collect LGBT status. We don’t know what the size of the transgender population is in this country because we don’t collect gender data properly,” said Dr. Oralia Loza, assistant professor of public health sciences. “We don’t know what their needs are, we don’t know what their other health risks are. We only hear about their health risks that are involved with things like HIV, depression, suicide, murder and other very negative health outcomes.”

The U.S. Census Bureau and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention do not have transgender or a third gender as an option.

Loza said that when it comes to general health, not much is known about transgender people because medical records don’t include a proper assessment of gender.

“We don’t know about education levels because universities don’t collect that. We don’t know criminal history because the police and different agencies don’t collect gender,” she said. “When you don’t have an option for something other than male or female, basically you have an invisible population. So you don’t know anything about them—you don’t know what their needs are and how to meet them because they don’t exist on paper.”

Loza has attended conferences on transgender health, where she finds out what is happening in other parts

of the world and how the laws are different or how other countries cover health needs or services for transgender people—what the differences are and how they make it happen.

“There are groups who want to make health care more accessible to vulnerable populations,” she said. “I’m working with people who make that happen, at least locally.”

Loza also works with student organizations on campus to bring awareness to the issue of transgender health.

She has spoken at the Queer Leadership Conference and participated in Queernival. She invites her students to the events that are hosted at UTEP that revolve around LGBTQA issues. She is also the advisor for the Students for Public Health, and tries to involve her students in that way as well, such as supporting Transgender Remembrance Day.

“I tell my students about these events, and they may not always go, but the fact that I’m bringing it up and saying that it’s here on campus, brings awareness. I bring up examples in my class and I talk about data,” Loza said. “I teach statistics, so I talk about the limitations of most data sets that include male-female—sex is called gender or gender as sex and how that’s a mistake, but it’s all we have.”

With the help of Loza and the professional network she is a part of, resources in El Paso will continue to be identified, helping those in the community who are transgender find the health care they need without leaving the city, along with collecting data on this population.

“I think El Paso is really open to embracing and learning how to embrace the LGBT population,” Loza said. “It’s a difficult transition because there are other things involved—like cultural practices or beliefs toward LGBT—so there’s a lot of factors, it’s not simple.”

Being LGBTQA at UTEP, in El Paso
Adriano Kristian Perez, senior biology major, is a transgender male.

He currently works for the Texas Freedom Network, a non-profit organization that focuses on reproductive health issues and LGBTQA equality.

“The ‘T’ is my focus, since I’m transgender, and it’s often the ignored part,” Perez said. “I’ve always volunteered for things like that, but I never thought I could make a career out of it, and then I realized that I could so I did. That’s where my heart really is.”

He receives his hormone treatments in Las Cruces, N.M., commuting there and back. The next step would be a hysterectomy. Since he

is on testosterone, his uterus is not cleaning itself out each month.

“I could still be ovulating, so that means shit’s just building up in there,” Perez said. “I’m supposed to do that within the next four years so it doesn’t cause any major complications.”

After this step would be bottom surgery—the addition or removal of genitalia.

“I don’t want to. I don’t think the genitals are specifically gendered anymore. I don’t think one gender has one specific set of genitals,” Perez said. “Some people need that because they’re uncomfortable with their vagina, but I’m not uncomfortable with that part of my body and I don’t think it makes me any less of a man.”

Bottom surgery for transgender people is about \$50,000 if they have a letter of approval from a willing physician, and may require recuperation for three months.

Transgender people can also change their gender identifier on their ID cards, which costs about \$3,000 in Texas.

Corey Bailey, director of the Student Engagement and Leadership Center, said that through the Rainbow Miner Initiative, LGBTQA students on campus go out to classrooms and have panels to talk about their experiences at UTEP and in the community.

“RMI is majority programming, but then there is a consultation component. Interns in this area have a private suite,” Bailey said. “We want students who are going through these experiences to be comfortable to talk to these interns, who can point to other organizations on campus and in the community.”

RMI provides a space for students to talk, to get support to continue to move through their experience.

“They can point to a queer student alliance, and those students who are coming in can find a community that way,” Bailey said.

Bailey said the Speak Out series is another way the university is reaching out to the community. Professors reach out to SELC in order to offer these panels every fall semester, usually to the university classes.

Another outreach effort is Queernival, an event hosted by SELC, which usually features a drag show from an outside agency.

“Hopefully, if transgender students do attend this, it gives them a sense of pride and gives the issue light,” Bailey said. “We are celebrating their identity.”

Bailey also said that the Women’s Studies Program is another resource for LGBTQA students, particularly transgender students.

“They are definitely strong advocates,” Bailey said. “We also have stickers that have ‘ally’ on them and we’re rethinking how we bring that back to life, to put up these symbols. In essence, they serve as resources too, because students know who their allies are and can approach those faculty members.”

Although he feels safe in El Paso, Perez said it is more about tolerance than acceptance for transgender people. Yet, on campus, he said students and professors alike are accepting toward the transgender community.

“One semester, after I had picked my name and hadn’t legally changed it yet, I emailed all of my professors to not call me by my birth name and to change my name on the roster, to let me write my name on my papers, even though that wasn’t the name on my file,” Perez said. “They were all cool with it, even the older white men, who are scientists and just care about their lizards and ants.”

Perez also received a scholarship with the College of Education.

“They know I’m trans. I’m like, ‘you do know, no one is going to hire me because I’m trans, but thank you for giving me all of this money to become a teacher,’” Perez said.

Perez said he has been trying to implement gender-neutral bathrooms on campus.

“When I first started hormones, I was just going to the female bathroom. But for a while between my transition, I wasn’t quite passing as a male, and I was very clearly not read as a female,” he said. “So, I didn’t know what to do for the longest time. I go

into the men’s bathroom now—after my voice completely dropped and my body was clearly read as male.”

Bailey said there were some discussions about gender-neutral options such as bathrooms on campus.

“How far those discussions went, I’m not sure,” he said.

A staff member was in the process of transitioning and went to Bailey to ask for advice on resources.

“I’m not sure if she is still at the university, but the discussion of gender-neutral options was looked at, but never solved,” Bailey said.

Perez said that changing your name with records should also be tied to changing your name in the Blackboard system.

“It makes things hard. That is a female name and I’m not that person, and they don’t believe me when I show them my ID and I’m standing in front of them,” Perez said. “They get confused and think the system’s broken. No, that’s me, just give me my paper.”

As his treatments started to change his voice and physique, Perez said that he passes better as a man.

“I don’t get discriminated against as much. When trans women transition, there are still features there that could give them away that they are trans,” Perez said. “It’s dangerous, that opens them up to violence and discrimination in general.”

He said that trans men tend to be more privileged than trans women, and since he is transitioning from a position of oppressed to one of power,

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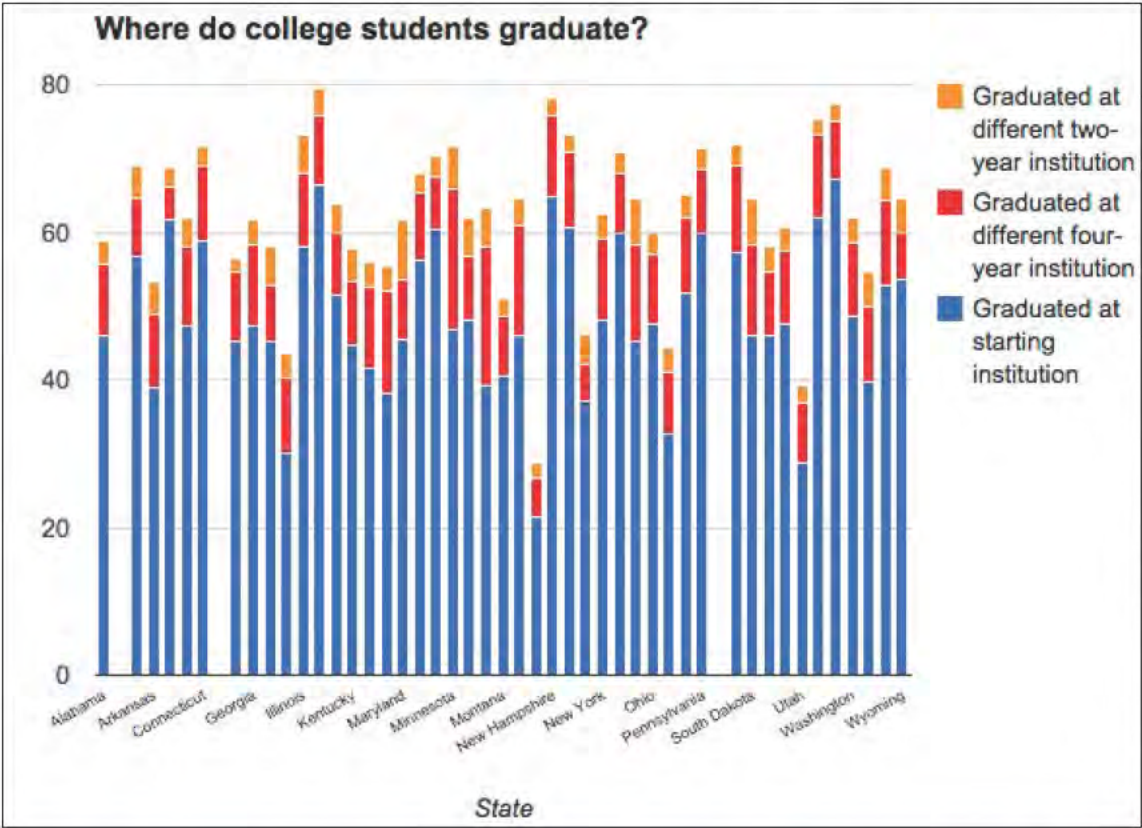
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Students of Great Recession: Transfers rising, completion declining



BY JORDAN GASS-POORE
SHFWire Intern

There's been a push in the last decade to accurately calculate college graduation rates as a way to address the education gaps between low-income students and their more affluent peers.

President Barack Obama upped the ante in 2009 when he promised in his first speech to a joint session of Congress to provide the resources to have the highest proportion of college graduates in the world by 2020.

That's easier said than done.

The data are difficult to collect because more students are transferring from one college to another and, as a result, aren't included in state and federal calculations, according to an annual report released Tuesday by the National Student Clearinghouse Research Center.

More than 3,600 colleges and universities, which enroll 96 percent of the country's college students, submitted data to the nonprofit group.

The report contains data that have not previously been available about college graduation rates that includes transfer students.

The National Center for Education Statistics and many states track only graduation rates for first-time, full-time students who complete their degrees at the four-year public school where they started.

In the majority of states, data on college graduation rates are collected

erroneously because students get lost in the system when they transfer, especially to a school outside the state system.

The report estimated that, by not tracking completions elsewhere, at least one-third of students who start in four-year public institutions and transfer to another institution would be counted as dropouts.

Nearly one in four students who completed a degree did so at four-year public college other than the one where they initially enrolled.

More students started college in fall 2008 than ever before, and more of them transferred to other institutions. At the same time, graduation rates have declined from the 56.1 percent of those who began college in fall 2007 to 55.1 percent of those who began in 2008, based on the report, which tracked students who graduated in six years.

Graduation rates declined particularly among older and part-time students because they started college during the Great Recession. Rising tuition costs caused some students to switch to part-time status to save money.

But the report's outcomes aren't all doom and gloom.

It also found that more women enrolled and graduated from a four-year public college in six years.

Reach reporter Jordan Gass-Pooré at jordan.gass-pooré@scripps.com or 202-408-1490.

TRANSGENDER from page 7

he has been given male privilege and benefits from many things.

"People take me more seriously, but then when they find out I'm trans, they take me less seriously. That's not okay," Perez said. "Trans men, in general, are sometimes really awful because they'll transition into a position of privilege and not acknowledge that power dynamic, and not acknowledge where they came from. It's frustrating; trans men tend to be terrible misogynists."

Since education is Perez's minor, he said he wants to understand the education system and help the field since he said things are harder in Texas.

He said he wants to continue working for non-profit organiza-

tions and being a transgender person in that field is not a problem.

Perez recently traveled to Austin with the Texas Freedom Network to rally outside the capitol in support of women's health rights.

"In high school and when I first started here, I always felt overwhelmed about the conditions of things like 'I need to fix the world,'" Perez said. "There's just a lot of injustice that happens in the world in many aspects, and I want to help where I can."

Lorain Ambrosio may be reached at theprospectoraily@news@gmail.com.

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ENTERTAINMENT

EDITOR
KIMBERLY VALLE, 747-7477

Free taxi services help keep students safe this spring break



ILLUSTRATION BY JACOBO DE LA ROSA / THE PROSPECTOR

BY JULIA HETTIGER
The Prospector

No DUI El Paso is a taxi service that will pick up and drop off inebriated patrons in the El Paso area free of charge.

Tyler Rouse founded the initiative on May 2012, the operations began on Oct. 5, of the same year. Fort Bliss soldiers and El Paso citizens volunteer their time to the organization to run the free taxi services.

No DUI El Paso is a nonprofit organization aimed at stopping irresponsible drinking and driving.

Rouse said he opened the company with the goal of reducing DUI rates at Ft. Bliss, but after careful consideration, he decided to expand the organization to civilians as well.

“As of right now, we cover 1,200 square miles, are available to over 1.1 million people and have transported over 8,900 individuals in El Paso so far,” Rouse said.

“To stay safe, you should never go to parties alone, and you should always have a designated driver or call a cab if you are too incapacitated to drive.”

- Karen Contreras
senior accounting major

When a taxi is requested, two volunteers are sent out to the location, one who will drive the patron in the taxi and another who will transport the patron’s car.

All volunteers must go through extensive training in order to qualify as volunteers, both before they begin volunteering altogether and on the nights they volunteer.

“All volunteers are subject to background checks and vehicle inspections prior to driving,” Rouse said.

Volunteers go through extensive background checks in order to ensure they have not been under the influence of alcohol or medication that prevents machine handling and all are personally interviewed by Rouse.

Vehicles must pass all legal qualifications such as proper headlights, mirrors and others enforced by the law before volunteers are allowed to drive them to pick up patrons.

Rouse said the organization has been successful in both reducing DUI rates and alcohol-related accidents.

“We have been able to help lower the DUI rate by 32 percent,” Rouse said. “Alcohol traffic fatalities have also been decreased by 61 percent within the two and a half years of operation, so the organization has been really successful so far.”

Karen Contreras, senior accounting major, said she has never used the free taxi services, but if needed, she would take advantage of this service.

“You need to know how to handle yourself,” Contreras said. “That is why you need to limit yourself”

Contreras also said there are many ways to stay safe during spring break among all the alcohol and temptations to drink and party.

According to the Mothers Against Drunk Driving the only time will help a person sober up, not coffee, cold showers or exercise. Statistics posted on the MADD website state

that drunk driving is highest among the ages 21 through 25.

Iara Barndao, sophomore electrical engineering major, said she did not know El Paso had a free taxi service, but would use it if she needs to.

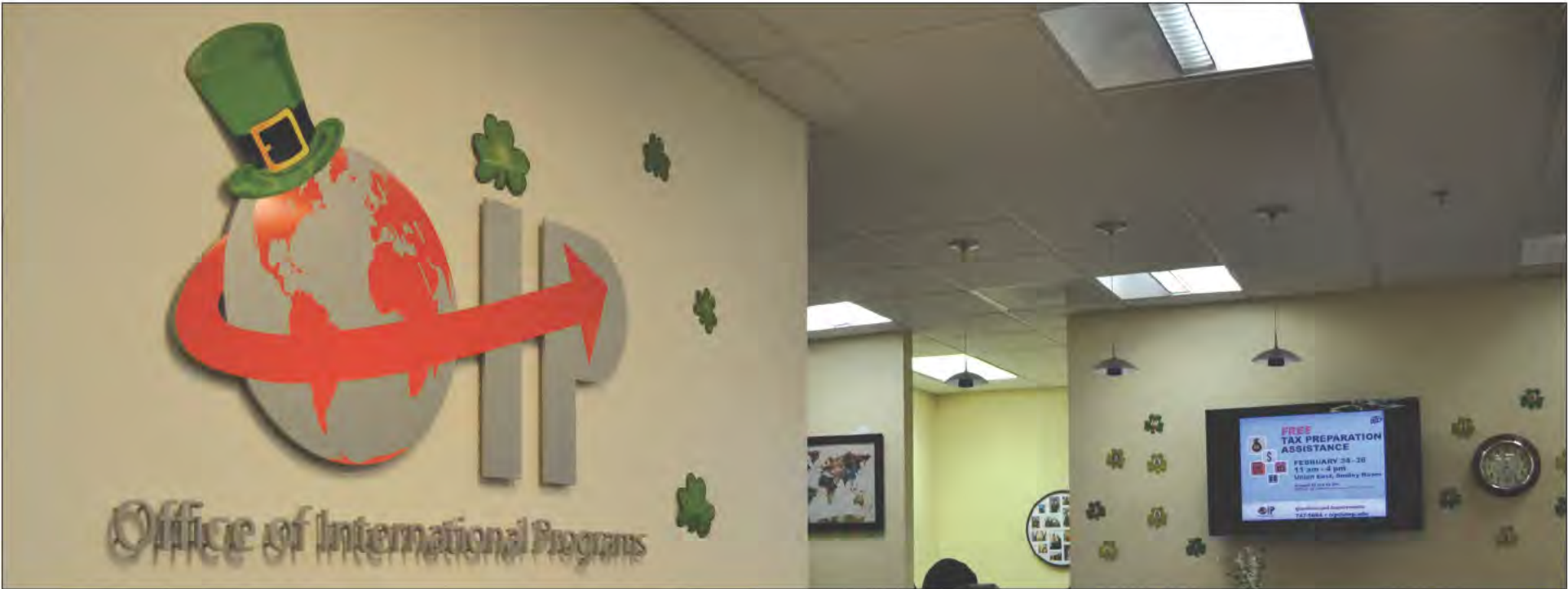
“If you are too drunk to drive, you should call a cab to stay safe,” Barndao said.

No DUI El Paso services are available from 11 p.m. to 2:30 a.m. on Fridays and Saturdays. They also have staff assistance from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and Saturday from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. For more information or to request a taxi, call 877-366-7604.

Other taxi services in El Paso include United Independent Cab Co., EP Shuttle and Border Taxi Cab. To request taxis from United Independent Cab Co., call 590-8294, from EP Shuttle, call 407-9863 and Border Taxi Cab, call 533-4245.

Julia Hettiger may be reached at theprospectordaily. ent@gmail.com.

Passport agency aids students for all travel



BY STEPHANIE FRESCAS
The Prospector

Obtaining a passport is expensive, the offices are often crowded and it takes weeks for the passport to finally be delivered. However, there is one thing that can make the process slightly more convenient.

The UTEP Passport Acceptance Facility is located within the Office of International Programs on the second floor of Union Building East. It is a fully functioning passport agency. The office processes passport cards for travel to Mexico and Canada, and passport books for all international travel as well as passport photo services.

"Most students basically get passports to go to Juárez, but we also have a lot of people who need their passports to study abroad and they just

get it here," said Patricia Flores, passport agent.

Students also have a variety of other reasons to use the facility.

"I'm going with my church to South America this summer, so one of my friends who had done study abroad told me about it (the passport facility)," said Gina Rodriguez, junior anthropology major.

The cost of passport books for ages 16 and above is \$135, \$55 for the card and \$165 for both. The processing time for all is four to six weeks, but can be expedited to two to three weeks with an additional cost of \$60 per application.

Although the facility does not offer any student discounts, it does offer the advantage of being the only facility in El Paso that offers walk-in appointments. Still, many students are unaware of this office.

"I go to Juárez every once in a while, but I got my passport from- I don't remember, I guess it was the consulate," said Eduardo Peña, sophomore electrical engineering major.

According to Flores, the facility does get a fair amount of traffic. She emphasized that the walk-in service is limited. Students can call ahead for same-day appointments.

"Most of our traffic is during Fridays, from February to September, and then back in December for the holidays," Flores said.

For more information about the passport agency, visit <http://sa.utep.edu/oip/passports/>.

Stephanie Frescas may be reached at theprospectordaily.news@gmail.com.



RUBY CERINO / THE PROSPECTOR
(Top) The office of International programs is located at Union East Building, room 203 on the second floor. (Bottom) UTEP Guadalupe Peña, Alberto Salas, Ruben Sanchez and Oscar Lazcano work at the office of Interanional programs.

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INBRIEF
ROUGH RIDERS VETERANS RUN IN EL PASO

The 11th annual Rough Riders Veterans Run will take place at noon on March 8. Registration is \$10 per person and runs from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The first dice roll will take place at Barnett's Harley Davidson. It is five stops total and ends at Erin's Bar and Grill, located at 6306 N. Mesa St. Proceeds will benefit veterans. For more information, contact Hogtooth at 915-799-6646 or visit www.rough-rider-mc.com.

FREEDOM CROSSING'S ST. PATRICK'S DAY FESTIVAL

El Paso's only authentic Irish Pub Shamrocks will host a four-day event filled with live music, food, beer, activities and fun. The event is open to the public and admission is free. The party will take place from March 13 and continues through the weekend, and begins again at noon on St. Patrick's Day on March 17, for children and at 4 p.m. for adults. Kid's activities include face painting, balloon animals and Irish dance lessons. You can expect sounds of bagpipes and drums, Irish food and great tasting beer from Shamrock's Irish Pub.

2015 SPRING BREAK ARCHAEOLOGY DAY CAMP

The El Paso Museum of Archaeology will hold its annual spring break archaeology day camp for children ages 9 to 12 from 9 a.m. to noon, March 10-13 at the El Paso Museum of Archaeology, located on 4301 Woodrow Bean Transmountain Road. The camp is an interactive course designed to teach children the purpose, methodology and value of studying ancient cultures and heritage through the interpretation of material culture or artifacts. Hands-on activities include conducting a survey, mock excavation, field trip to Hueco Tanks State Park and Atlatl throwing. The registration fee for camp is \$55 for El Paso Museum of Archaeology members and \$70 for non-members. Registration is on a first-come, first-serve basis and enrollment is limited to 12 students. For more information call 915-755-4332.

EL PASO EXPLOREUM CAMP

The Exploreum is offering a day camp from 9 a.m.- 4 p.m., March 9 through March 13 at the museum located at 300 W. San Antonio Ave. in Downtown El Paso. The Exploreum is a hands-on science museum with ever changing and expanding exhibits that entertain as they teach. The cost is \$180, with various discounts available. For more information, call 915-533-4330.

MEET THE KEEPER AT THE EL PASO ZOO

With the grand opening of their new Foster Tree House Playground, the zoo is definitely the place to be with your children this spring break. Meet the Keeper, where visitors are invited to meet the animal keepers at different animal exhibits and listen to their experiences about how they take care of the animals, will take place from 10:30 a.m. to 3:15 p.m., March 7 through March 22. The El Paso Zoo is open from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and prices vary from \$7.50 to \$12 per ticket.

WYLER ARIEL TRAMWAY

Located in the Franklin Mountains State Park near McKelligon Canyon, the tram only operates on the weekends. The tram stops along Ranger Peak at an elevation of 5,632 feet, where you have commanding views of El Paso, Juarez, New Mexico and Arizona. The tramway ride costs \$8 for adults and \$4 for children.



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New way to track down date rape during spring break

BY JULIA HETTINGER
The Prospector

Students at North Carolina State University have come up with a possible solution to prevent date rape through a common accessory-nail polish.

Date rape drugs, including gamma-hydroxybutyric acid also known as GHB, rohypnol and ketamine, all have become a frequent tool used by sexual predators. Declining drinks from strangers and not leaving your drink unattended are simple ways that can help prevent digestion of the drugs.

Four students have invented another way to prevent consumption of date rape drugs.

Undergraduate students from North Carolina State University, Ankesh Madan, Stephen Grey, Tasso Van Windheim and Tyler Confrey, have devised a nail polish that when mixed with common date rape drugs will change color.

Undercover Colors is still in the preliminary stages of distribution and has received mixed reviews from critics. Other date rape prevention items such as coasters, straws and cups have all received the same scrutiny. Critics claim the products are irrelevant in stopping the date rape issue altogether.



HUGO BRITO / THE PROSPECTOR

According to the University of the Sciences, one in four college-aged women will be date raped or experience an attempted date rape during her college years.

According to the University of the Sciences, one in four college-aged women will be date raped or experience an attempted date rape during her college years. Statisticians have also concluded that women ages 16 to 24 are four times more likely to experience date rape than any other age group.

There are many precautionary tactics students can practice to avoid these kinds of situations. During spring break, it is common for women to go out drinking.

Catie McCorry-Andalis, associate vice president of student affairs and dean of students, said there are many ways students can stay safe during spring break.

“Always being alert to your surroundings, telling a roommate, trusted friend or family member you are planning to be away overnight or for a few days and not leaving messages on your door about when you will be returning are some good first steps to ensuring your safety,” McCorry-Andalis said.

When it comes to date rape and other similar issues, McCorry recommends students go out as a group and limit their drinking.

“It’s difficult to think clearly and evaluate a potentially dangerous situation when one has had too much alcohol,” McCorry-Andalis said. “Also, don’t accept drinks from anyone you do not know very well.”

McCorry-Andalis also said to never leave your drink unattended, accept drinks directly from bartenders and to inform someone you trust when you are going on a one-on-one date with someone.

“Most importantly, recognize that ‘no means no,’ and that consent to sexual activity can be withdrawn at any time,” McCorry-Andalis said. “Don’t be afraid to leave an uncomfortable situation and, in turn, report an incident that has occurred.”

Maricruz Estrada, sophomore management major, will be spending her spring break with her family in Mexico. Although she has never had a bad experience during spring break, one of her friends has.

“They tried drugging her,” Estrada said. “They put the drugs in the ice cubes in her drink.”

Estrada said the safest way to stay safe during spring break and other times that celebrates the party culture is to try to avoid drinking altogether.

Isabel Cruz, senior psychology major, said she is not doing anything special for spring break, but if she were to go out, she would follow the advice her parents gave her.

“My parents always told me to watch my drinks,” Cruz said.

In the most common cases of date rape, women’s drinks are drugged when they leave their drinks

It’s difficult to think clearly and evaluate a potentially dangerous situation when one has had too much alcohol.

— Catie McCorry-Andalis, associate vice president of student affairs,


unattended.

“They told me to always have my drink with me, and if I can to drink it from a closed container,” Cruz said.

According to the Rape, Abuse, and Incest National Network, one in six women will be raped in their lifetime, 73 percent of those women know their assailant.

For more information about date rape prevention, contact the UTEP Counseling Center at 747-5302. You may also call National Sexual Assault hotline at 1-800-656-HOPE. If a student is on campus, they can call the campus police at 747-5611, for a free ride to their car.

Julia Hettinger may be reached at theprospector.ent@gmail.com



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MARCH 3, 2015

SPORTS

EDITOR
LUIS GONZALEZ, 747-7477

Miners go through nightmare on the road



MICHAELA ROMAN / THE PROSPECTOR

Miner head coach Tim Floyd was ejected in UTEP's game against La Tech and suspended for the game at Southern Miss.

BY LUIS GONZALEZ
The Prospector

UTEP was in sole possession of second place in Conference USA and within striking distance of leader Louisiana Tech.

Two road losses later and the Miners have lost all possibility of finishing as the top team in the conference and are in a three-way tie for fourth place, putting a first-round bye in the conference tournament very much in danger.

UTEP will finish the regular season at home against two Texas schools—North Texas and Rice—on Thursday, March 5, and Saturday, March 7, respectively.

“We’re trying to get into this top four, but we were battling to win a league title a couple of days ago,” said assistant coach Bob Cantu. “Now we just want to get into the top four and this is just really unacceptable. Just hoping that it really causes us to refocus going into the next two weeks.”

The nightmare weekend began in Ruston, La. The Miners visited Louisiana Tech hoping to exact some revenge on the team that beat them in El Paso early in the season, and grab the top spot in the conference.

They didn’t.

Tim Floyd’s team, focused on showing they were a different team than that one the Bulldogs beat in early January, put in a performance that was all too similar to exactly what they wanted to avoid.

“I thought our poise was nowhere near where it needed to be,” Floyd said. “As a result, we got beaten by a better team. They just thoroughly whipped us.”

Like what happened when the teams met in El Paso, the Miners just could not get a basket to fall on the floor of the Reed Green Coliseum. The Bulldogs opened the game with a 10-2 run, and by the time UTEP had double digits on the scoreboard, they were down by double digits, 23-10, with eight minutes to go in the first half.

“This is just really unacceptable. Just hoping that it really causes us to refocus going into the next two weeks.”

**- Bob Cantu,
UTEP men’s basketball
assistant coach**

Louisiana Tech made eight 3-pointers during the first 20 minutes, while UTEP went 0-7 from beyond the arc.

“Their pressure seemed to really bother us,” Floyd said. “We had an inability to guard the 3-point line, which started with a lack of ability to get back on defense.”

The second half was not much better. The Bulldogs pushed their lead to 18 early in the second half and the Miners never really got back in it. The tough outing was topped off by

Floyd’s ejection with 10 minutes left in the game.

The turnaround and opportunity at redemption were quick for UTEP as they visited Southern Mississippi. There is only one team in Conference USA with a worse record than the Golden Eagles, and for the first 20 minutes of play it showed.

The Miners allowed Southern Miss to score just 20 points on 26.9 percent shooting in the first half, and behind junior guard Earvin Morris’ 16 points, UTEP had a commanding 15 point lead at the half.

Then it all went wrong.

UTEP turned the ball over 11 times after the break and gave up twice as many points as they did in the first half. The Golden Eagles completed the stunning comeback to beat the Miners 60-63.

“You have to value the basketball every possession and I thought we didn’t do that,” Cantu said.

Morris added 10 more points in the second half, giving him a new career-high of 26, but no other Miner was able to break the double-digit threshold.

The steady and reliable senior guard C.J. Cooper had five turnovers. Sophomore forward Vince Hunter added five giveaways himself and senior center Cedric Lang fouled out of the game for the fourth straight time.

Thanks to the disastrous weekend away from home, the Miners now find themselves in a tie with Western Kentucky and Old Dominion—all with a record of 11-5—for the final two top spots in the conference.

UTEP faces North Texas and Rice to finish off the season, and both teams

are fighting for better seeding in the conference’s post-season tournament.

North Texas will be at the Don Haskins Center first on Thursday, March 5. The Mean Green is coming off a loss at home to Old Dominion that stopped a five-game winning streak. During the winning streak, North Texas had wins over UAB, currently second in conference, and Middle Tennessee.

The Mean Green, 14-14, 8-8 in conference, are led by senior guard Jordan Williams, who averages 15.4 points per game. Williams is the only player at North Texas averaging points in double digits.

The Mean Green will be at a disadvantage when it comes to size, with no player listed over 6-foot-8-inches. On paper, UTEP should dominate inside, but that was the case against Louisiana Tech, the worst rebounding team in the conference, and the Bulldogs outrebounded the Miners 44-34.

North Texas brings to town two players who are the among the top 15 rebounders in the league—freshman Jeremy Combs averages 6.5 rebounds a game and senior Colin Voss averages an even 6.

Rice comes to town after North Texas. The Owls will be in San Antonio to play UTSA on Thursday before arriving in El Paso and they have lost two straight. They lost to Old Dominion and Charlotte this past weekend at home.

Rice is tied with UTSA and Marshall with a conference record of 7-9 and just a game ahead of Charlotte and FIU, who sit at 8-10. These last couple of games will play a big part in deciding the seeding and matchups for the conference tournament that will take place in Birmingham, Ala., in just a couple of weeks.

Rice will not finish with a winning record this regular season, but it does

boast important wins against top teams in the league like UAB, Western Kentucky and Middle Tennessee.

The Owls’ leading scorer is senior forward Seth Gearhart. The 6-foot-7-inch Oregon native is the 10th best scorer in the league averaging 15.4 points a game. He averages 5.3 rebounds per game and is second in that category to sophomore center Andrew Drone, who barely cracks the top 25 in conference with his 5.6 average.

It can’t be easy to recover from a weekend like UTEP men’s basketball just experienced, when the negative seems to erase all the positives this team has experienced before.

“I felt we were playing great basketball, had won seven in a row,” Cantu said. “As a coach, we have to keep them up, we got to keep them moving and we have to keep them positive.”

This final weekend of the regular season can be crucial in what the Miners do this March, now that nothing short of a conference tournament championship will be enough to land a spot among the 68 teams that play for a national championship.

This weekend’s games provide the opportunity to rebound from the worst three days of a long season and gather some momentum for the trip to Birmingham. Despite their records and place in the standings, beating Rice and North Texas is important—very important.

“This is something that I really hope the guys understand. If we want to finish in the top four, we gotta win these two home games...against two very good opponents that are playing really good basketball,” Cantu said. “You gotta win these, you gotta get in and only have three games to play in the tournament.”

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



ANDRES MARTINEZ / THE PROSPECTOR

Junior guard Earvin Morris scored a career-high 26 points against Southern Miss.

BASKETBALL

A quick guide to the C-USA men's and women's Conference Tournaments

Beginning on March 11, the top 12 of the 14 teams in Conference USA will be in Birmingham, Ala., for both the men's and women's Conference USA Basketball Tournament.

The winner of the tournament will receive the league's one automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament, and this is the same for both men and women.

The top four seeds in the tournament, determined by their place in the regular season standings, receive a bye during the first round, which will take place on March 11. The four winners of the first day of competition will face one of the top four seeds the following day. The semifinals will

take place on March 13, with the championship game being played on Saturday, March 14.

The women's tournament will be played at the Birmingham Jefferson Convention Complex, while the men will play at the University of Alabama at Birmingham's Bartow Arena.

The men will have a new conference tournament champion this year after last season's champion Tulsa departed the conference.

Middle Tennessee will look to repeat its success in the women's division and repeat as conference champion



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CURRENT C-USA BASKETBALL STANDINGS

La Tech	14-3
UAB	12-4
Old Dominion	11-5
UTEP	11-5
W. Kentucky	11-5
M. Tennessee	8-8
North Texas	8-8
UTSA	7-9
Marshall	7-9
Rice	7-9
Charlotte	6-10
FIU	6-10

La Tech	14-2
UAB	13-4
Old Dominion	12-4
UTEP	10-6
W. Kentucky	9-7
M. Tennessee	9-7
North Texas	9-7
UTSA	9-8
Marshall	8-8
Rice	7-9
Charlotte	6-10
FIU	4-12

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Day/Time: M & W: 6 to 9:30 p.m.
Fee: \$999

Dialysis Technician Program
(5 CEUs / 50 HOURS)
Date: 3/24 - 5/12
Day/Time: Tu & Th: 6 to 9:30 p.m.
Fee: \$999

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Fee: \$595

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Date: 4/24
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Fee: \$99
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D-I baseball in El Paso, maybe someday

BY JASON GREEN
The Prospector



continue to go to El Paso Community College.

Since the UTEP baseball program ended, EPCC has seen 20 players drafted by Major League Baseball teams—most recently, third baseman Eudor Garcia. Garcia was drafted by the New York Mets in the fourth round of last June's draft.

As fun as it was to watch Eudor make home runs for the Tejanos, I could not help but picture him in UTEP orange and blue.

El Paso has a proud baseball history that UTEP used to play a part in. It is very sad to say that it will not play a part in that history, as long as any of us are here.

The Miners' baseball team was managed by the most famous baseball player that El Paso has ever seen. Andy Cohen played for John McGraw's New York Giants, making his debut in 1926. At a time when anti-Semitism was beginning to rear its ugly head, Cohen was basically the Jackie Robinson of Jewish baseball players. He was the first Jewish major leaguer and quickly became one of the most popular ballplayers in New York—perhaps only second to some guy named Babe Ruth.

His brother Syd also played and managed in the majors. The stadium in Northeast El Paso that used to house the Diablos is named Cohen Stadium after both of the brothers.

see BASEBALL on page 15

It was like a stab in my baseball super-fan heart.

Baseball at UTEP ended in 1985 following the best season in UTEP baseball history. The team won 33 games that year, but then-Athletic Director Bill Cords said that an increase in state tuition meant that the school could not afford baseball anymore. I have no idea how that makes any sense.

The reason that UTEP still does not have baseball is NCAA's Title IX. The statute ensures that schools have a comparable amount of female students to female athletes. UTEP currently does not meet the standard and has a lot of work to do before anything will change.

Until there are more women's sports added, there will be no baseball. That will probably not happen for a long time—if at all.

For the foreseeable future, any good baseball players from El Paso that want to play close to home will

INBRIEF

WOMEN’S TRACK & FIELD

The women’s team won their first-ever conference championship last week at the C-USA Indoor Championships. The Miners tallied 122 points, well ahead the second-place WKU. Next up @ NCAA Championships in Fayetteville, Ark. March 13-14

SOFTBALL

Miners open Conference USA play with a double header against Middle Tennessee on March 7 at the Helen of Troy Field.

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

March 5 @ Northe Texas
March 7 @ Rice
March 11-14 @ C-USA Championships

WOMEN’S GOLF

The women’s team will be in Honolulu, HI., for the Dr. Dennis Thompson Invitational on March 10-11.

MEN’S TRACK & FIELD

The men’s team placed third with 101 points. WKU was crowned champion with 127 points. Next up @ NCAA Championships in Fayetteville, Ark. March 13-14

TENNIS

The Lady Miners opened Conference USA play by beating UTSA 4-3 at the El Paso Country Club. They will visit Cal State Northridge on March 10.

MEN’S BASKETBALL

March 5 vs. North Texas
March 7 vs. Rice
March 11-14 @ C-USA Championships

MEN’S GOLF

Border Olympics in Laredo, Tx. March 13-14

BASEBALL from page 14

Although, it is on the other side of the mountain, it is a baseball stadium that is just sitting there being unused. I am just throwing that out there—seeing as how a lack of facilities is one excuse that the administration has used in the past to justify the lack of a Division I college baseball program. It is most definitely not a fitting honor for two men who played such a huge role in UTEP and El Paso baseball history to tear it down.

Cohen coached the Miners with his brother Syd until 1978. Two coaches later, Bill Kinneberg would be at the helm when the Miners won 33 games to close out this portion of baseball’s history at UTEP.

A big part of the 1985 team was pitcher Mike Maddux—if you are a baseball fan, you may be familiar with the last name. Mike is the brother of baseball hall of famer Greg Maddux. Mike is the best player to ever come out of the UTEP baseball program. He pitched in the majors for 15 years.

Mike is currently the pitching coach with the Texas Rangers. He would be a prime candidate to come back home and coach the Miners’ baseball team, should the need arise. If there is a little bit of hope to be had, it is that UTEP president Dr. Diana Natalicio has stated that baseball is her favorite sport. So, at least we baseball fans have that hope to hold on to.

In the meantime, my son and I will be heading to Maddux’s Rangers Spring Training in Arizona—where hope springs eternal for all men. I will be wearing my UTEP baseball cap. My son will be wearing his Under Armour UTEP baseball shirt.

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Women's basketball looks to finish strong



MICHAELA ROMAN / THE PROSPECTOR

Junior guard Cameasha Turner leads the Miners in scoring, rebounding and steals.

BY JUAN CARLOS NAVARRETE

The Prospector

The Lady Miners basketball team will close out the season on the road when they visit the University of North Texas and Rice University on Thursday March 5, and Saturday March 7, respectively.

The Miners, who are 12th in the conference, will look to finish this season with two wins and some mo-

mentum going into the Conference USA tournament.

After a two-game win streak, the Miners have gone 1-3 in their last four games, putting them at a 6-10 record in conference and eliminating them from any possibilities of winning the regular season conference title. UTEP has rallied late in games, but have not been able to win them.

Though the Miners have had a bad season so far, the Miners have a

chance to end the season on a high note.

UNT is 4-12 and has lost two straight games, both of them as a rout. The Mean Green was soundly handled by Charlotte, with a final score of 71-46. Old Dominion repeated the dose, handing UNT its 22nd loss of the season by a score of 70-48.

UTEP will continue to rely on junior guard Cameasha Turner, who has been the engine behind the Miners. On Senior Night, when the rest

of the team seemed to have played flat, she rallied them in the six-point loss versus Southern Miss and got a double-double.

"I need to sometimes gather myself," Turner said. "My teammates look at me, and if I'm not calm, I can't help them."

Turner is not only the leader in the Miner locker room—she also has the complete trust of head coach Keitha Adams.

"I know I can count on number two, the rest of the team rallies on her and I don't have to tell her what to do," Adams said.

The Miners will travel to Houston after their meeting with UNT to end the regular season playing Rice.

Rice, much like UTEP, has not had the best season.

Rice, 3-13 in conference, has lost three consecutive games, and all three of them by a difference of at least 10 points.

Rice is ranked second to last in the conference and offers UTEP an opportunity to end the season with a win. Although their focus is not on the opponent, but on themselves.

"These past games have hurt because we have been close," Adams said. "We did not make all the shots we had to—if we did we would of won some of them."

The game will hold little to no importance for the Owls, but it will be important for the Miners as they look to secure the final spot among the 12 teams that qualify for the conference post-season tournament. The players can see this as a chance to show the coach what they have for next season.

"We have to keep the team motivated because we are a good team—we need to keep everyone feeling like we can win," Adams said.

Turner leads the Miners in scoring, averaging 15.7 points per game—good enough for ninth in Conference USA. She is also among the top five in the conference in steals with an average of 2.1 takeaways per game.

The only other Miner to average in double figures is sophomore guard Sparkle Taylor, who has an average of 10.2 points per contest. Freshman guard Lulu McKinney is in the top 10 of the conference when it comes to assists. McKinney has set up her teammates for the score an average of 3.2 times per game.

With little more than pride on the line for the Miners, UTEP can use these games as preparation for the conference tournament. UTEP will try to gather steam for the tournament off two less-competitive rivals and hopefully get the team strong before the tournament begins.

The belief that this team can be more than what its record shows is alive in the Miner locker room. Coach Adams will lean on the hopes of another magical post-season run.

"We have been playing and losing close games. We have not been beaten down," Adams said. "Most games we lost were close and we need to keep that (in mind) and keep pushing this team."

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