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ASSAYER OF STUDENT OPINION

PROSPECTOR

WWW.THEPROSPECTORDAILY.COM

VOL. 100, NO. 25

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO

APRIL 21, 2015



PERSPECTIVES EDITOR-IN-CHIEF LORAIN AMBROCIO, 747-7477

Bugging the Litter Bugs

BY AMANDA GUILLEN

The Prospector



Growing up I was always known to be the uptight, prissy spotless and little girl. Now at 21-years-old, and not much has changed.

This all seems

to be irrelevant when talking about the Earth, but it actually has led to what I think has changed the course of my life and how I influence others.

My most hated enemies besides awful drivers are litter bugs.

As dramatic as this may sound, I literally am repulsed by people who litter. I do not understand why they think this is acceptable.

The Earth, no matter where you live, is beautiful and gives you a place to live. So why would people mistreat

Going back to my youth I remember the lessons my parents taught me. Be respectful, love others, say please and thank you and pick up after yourself.

Wherever we would go, I would always make sure to collect whatever trash I had and throw it in the trashcan, and, yes, even gum!

I realized that although I was paranoid about litter, some of my friends and other humans weren't phased by it. In fact, they even contributed to the debacle.

So the question presents itself, are litter bugs raised or are they born?

A 2009 National Visible Litter Survey and Litter Cost Study found that litter clean up costs the U.S. more than an estimated \$11.5 billion each year.

On average, the people who are most likely to deliberately litter range from 18-34 years old.

The cost itself is enough to cover other costs like aiding to education, assistance programs and could even contribute to helping our nation out of debt.

Instead, an excessive amount of money goes to cleaning up after people who don't know what a trash can is.

Initiatives like Keep America Beautiful and Don't Mess with Texas have all made an effort to reduce littering and inform and educate the public on the harm it causes.

It is estimated that since 1969, visible roadside litter has decreased by 61 percent, but the study states that litter and littering behavior remains "a persistent and costly problem."

When looking at the study and comparing it with my own experience, it is clear that litter bugs are not born or raised—they are created by a society that has shrugged its shoulders for too long.

Instead of spending money to clean up the problem, more of the money should be spent on educating the uneducated.

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



STUDENT TIPA AWARDS

Students working on The Prospector, The Prospector Daily and Minero Magazine were honored with 23 awards at the annual Texas Intercollegiate Press Associations' spring convention, which took place in San Antonio April 8-11. The awards cover publications from the period of December 2013 to December 2014.

MINERO MAGAZINE WON **SEVEN AWARDS:**

First place for illustration to Damian Balderrama

First place for Spanish writing to Adelmar Ramirez

First place for magazine cover to Fernando Enriquez

Third place for feature story to Kristopher Rivera

Honorable mention for news feature story to Lorain Watters-Ambrocio

Honorable mention for story package to Adelmar Ramirez and Damian Balderrama

Honorable mention for feature photo to **Aaron Montes**

•THE PROSPECTOR DAILY, THE STUDENT NEWSPA-PERS' ONLINE SITE WON FIVE AWARDS:

First place for best use of data to Amanda Guillen and Maria Esquinca

Third place for best audio slideshow to Amanda Guillen

Third place for best breaking news video to Kimberly Valle

Honorable mention for best video package to Kimberly Valle and Michaela Roman

THE PROSPECTOR WON 11

Esquinca

AWARDS:

Honorable mention for best blog to Maria

First place for information graphic to Diego Burciaga and Jasmine Aguilera Second place for illustration to Jacobo De La Rosa

Second place for Op/Ed page design to Diego Burciaga, Jasmine Aguilera, Lorain Watters-Ambrocio, Michaela Roman, Andrea Acosta, Edwin Delgado and Blake Lanham

Second place for sports page design to Diego Burciaga, Javier Cortez and Jacobo De La Rosa

Third place for overall excellence to the Prospector staff

Third place for editorial cartoon to Jacobo De La Rosa

Third place for sports news story to Edwin Delgado

Honorable mention for sports feature story to Luis Gonzalez

Honorable mention for sports column to Luis Gonzalez

Honorable mention for news feature story to Aaron Montes

Honorable mention for ad design to Damian Balderrama

PROSPECTOR STAFF VOL. 100, NO. 25

Editor-in-Chief: Lorain Ambrocio Managing Editor: Amanda Guillen Layout Editor: Jacobo De La Rosa Cópy Editor: Maria Esquinca Sports Editor: Luis Gonzalez Entertainment Editor: Kimberly Valle Photo Editor: Michaela Roman Multimedia Editor: Christopher Zacherl Staff Photographers: Ruby 'Cerino, Andres Martinez Staff Reporters: Jason Green, Valerie Herrera, Julia Hettiger, Jesus Lopez Vargas Juan Carlos Navarrete, Benjamin Woolridge Cartoonist: Blake A. Lanham

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SPEAK YOUR MIND

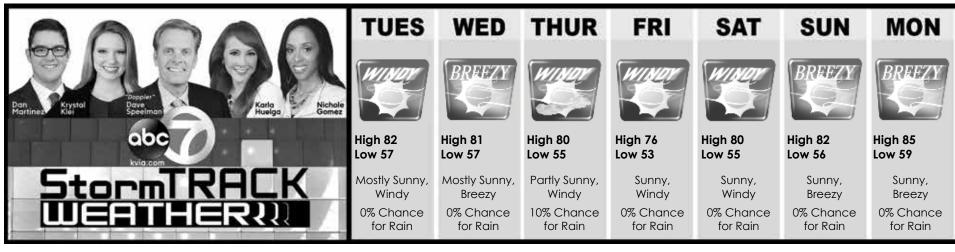
Submit a letter to the editor!

Letters will be edited for clarity and brevity. Letters over 250 words are subject to editing to fit available space. Please include full name, street address and telephone number and e-mail address, plus major, classification and/or title if applicable. Address and phone number will be used for verification only.

Write to 105 E. Union, e-mail theprospectordaily.news@gmail.com, call 747-7477 or fax to 747-8031.

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Professor aims to help turn rotting trash into a profit

BY ALONSO MORENO

The Prospector

Landfills, with rotting waste as far as the eye can see, may soon stop being a problem and an eyesore, as a new patent may transform them into profit-making sites.

Russell Chianelli, a chemistry professor at UTEP, has invented a new process that would take methane produced from landfills and recycle it to produce electricity, which may yield profit if sold back to electric companies.

The process has two major components to it, the methane produced within the landfill and the organisms producing said methane.

"Methane is produced by organisms in the soil that are consuming the buried waste," Chianelli said. "This produces methane, which is usually flared at landfill sites.

Chianelli said that what is new with his invention is that it captures and recycles the exhaust gas, and uses the water and heat from the process to grow algae. The algae would then be introduced into the landfill in order to feed the organisms, thus producing more methane and consuming the carbon dioxide.

The system essentially eliminates all emissions and the excess algae can be produced into bio-diesel to power the landfill's motorized vehicles, meaning that the whole process produces

"Although I am not very familiar with the entire concept, it is exciting to hear that something positive is being made from something that is a large problem (landfills) in the U.S.," said Paola Dupuis, a UTEP alumni from the School of Nursing. "Science



SPECIAL TO THE PROSPECTOR

Russell Chianelli, a chemistry professor at UTEP, has invented a new process that would take methane produced from landfills and recycle it to produce plenty of electricity

plays an integral part for things such as health, technology and, of course, environmental matters too. This is the type of research and advancement that we need."

According to the Environmental Protection Agency, every year Americans create about 251 million tons of trash, out of those millions about 164 million tons end up in landfills and incinerators. Texas alone contributed a total of 30,569,741 tons of waste to landfills in 2013, which represents about 12 percent of the national number.

In El Paso, there are currently three active landfills: the City of El Paso landfill, Fort Bliss landfill and the Greater El Paso landfill. All of the landfills together produced 404,739 tons of trash, according to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality 2013 Data Summary and Analysis report.

"I think it's great that we have such professors and research programs at UTEP," said Silvia Hecht, senior linguistics major. "I hope that we can get more things like these because they benefit the environment."

The patent was developed by UTEP's Materials Research and Technology Institute, the university provided the necessary environment to develop the patent and the University of Texas System owns the patent.

Chianelli also said that although there is a possibility for further developments or new patents, as of right now, this patent is their main focus.

"More patents may develop, but this is currently proprietary," Chianelli said. "We hope that the patent will be licensed by landfills as the concept will work as described."

The patent was filed on March 3, 2011 under the name Landfill Methane Enhancement Process and was issued patent number 8,956,854 by the United States Patent and Trademark Office on Feb. 17, 2015.

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

2015 Student Government Association (SGA) Spring Elections

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FREE Informational Seminar: A Guide to Project Management (3 HOURS)

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Project Management Professional Certificate - The Course™ (5.6 CEUs / 56 HOURS)

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Lean Six Sigma White Belt

(0.6 CEUs / 6 HOURS) Date: 4/25 Day/Time: Sa 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Lean Six Sigma Green Belt (4.2 CEUs / 42 HOURS)

Date: 6/6 - 7/25 Fee: \$1,150 Day/Time: Sa 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

FREE Informational Seminar: Personal Fitness Trainer (1 HOUR) Date: 6/17 Day/Time: W 6 to 7 p.m.

Clinical Medical Assistant Program (14 CEUs / 140 HOURS)

Date: 6/1 - 9/2 Fee: \$2399 Day/Time: M and W 6 to 4:30 p.m.

Essentials of Human Resources (1.2 CEUs / 12 HOURS)

Fee: \$500 Date: 5/2 - 6/6 Day/Time: Sa 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

OSHA - Introduction to **Environmental Compliance**

(3 CEUs / 30 HOURS) Fee: \$895 Date: 5/26 - 5/29 Day/Time: Tu, W, Th and F 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Supervisory Skills... A Work in Progress (0.6 CEUs / 6 HOURS)

Date: 6/5 Fee: \$120 Day/Time: F 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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Presidential & Vice-Presidential Debate

April 29 12 pm - 2 pm at the Union Breezeway

Positions Available

President (1)

VP Internal (1)

VP External (1)

Senators At-Large (15)

Business Collegiate Senator (1)

Education Collegiate Senator (1)

Engineering Collegiate Senator (1) Graduate Collegiate Senator (1)

Health Sciences Collegiate Senator (1)

Liberal Arts Collegiate Senator (1)

Nursing Collegiate Senator (1) Science Collegiate Senator (1)

Election Dates/ Online Voting

Begins: Wednesday, April 29, 7 am Ends: Friday, May 1, 5 pm

For more information including the election code, visit the SGA Office at 304 Union Bldg, East. 915-747-5584 Or visit our website at

www.utep.edu/sga





Do you care about climate change, why or why not?

HUGO BRITO, RUBY CERINO, ANDRES MARTINEZ, SERGIO ZAMORA, ADAM ZIEGENHALS/ THE PROSPECTOR



GUADALUPE AYALAFreshman biological sciences major
"Yes, I do because the climate affects
many animal's lives."



DANNY HERNANDEZ
Sophomore pre-nursing major
"Yes, I do believe in climate change and it
does affect us on a daily basis."



MARIE WILSON
Sophomore accounting major
"No, because I enjoy everything that
comes with the climate changes—the
holidays and different things that come
up to enjoy."



AIDAN LANDA
Junior kinseiology major
"Yeah, I care about it because it affects
our world in many ways that aren't good
for us."



ELLISIA SHAFER
Senior multimedia journalism major
"If we don't take care of nature, it's going
to affect us and it already has. We must
take steps to preserve our environment."



AMORETTE M. VISSER

Senior psychology major

"Climate change is an issue that our generation is going to have to solve, and it is of importance. When you hear about water issues in California or rising water levels that could potentially leave whole cities underwater, it makes you want to act."



MARISA O'DONNELL

Junior biochemistry major

"As a generation, it is an inherent responsibility to take care of the environment and the resources around us. Not only for the sake of the generations to follow us, but for the wildlife that holds an unfair advantage in the destruction of our ecosystem."



JUISHREE SAMANT

Senior marketing major
"I do care about the climate changebecause we are leaving this planet
fully fucked up for generations to come. I
think everyone likes the thought of being
environmentally conscious, but aren't
willing to put in the work to actually make
a change."



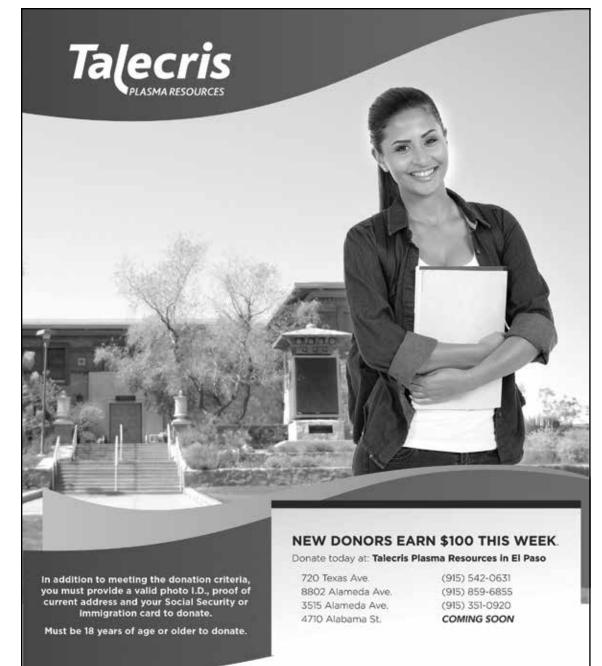
CLAUDIA CANTU

Sophomore pre-education major "I do care of climate change because we need a consistency when it comes to the weather, and global warming is preventing the seasons consistency."



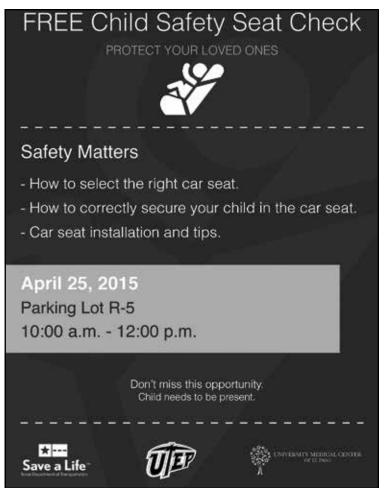
APRIL GONZALEZ

Sophomore general education major "With population growth, it's hard to control it. We're stuck in the past and it's hard to change it. It is important for the world, but it's hard to tell people to start caring more about it."



ACCURACY WATCH

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



Regional water shortages prompt researchers for change

BY MARIA ESQUINCA

The Prospector

Josiah Heyman, professor of sociology and anthropology, and William Hargrove, director of the Center for Environmental Resource Management, come from two very different backgrounds, but they are united not only by the five year, multi-institution \$4.9 million grant they secured, but by a common goal-to find solutions for dwindling water supplies as a result of climate change in the El Paso Del Norte region.

The grant was given by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture to UTEP, along with New Mexico State University, Texas A&M-El Paso, The University of New Mexico, Michigan Tech and Universidad Autonoma de Ciudad Juárez and will be administered by Heyman and Hargrove.

"These are some of the realities that people are beginning to experience," Hargrove said when talking about a recent drought in El Paso and about residents from Vinton County, who did not have water due to a water shortage. "Climate change is not out there somewhere, it's happening now."

Javier Camacho, public information's officer for El Paso Water Utilities, said the city has been in a drought for more than two decades and has seen extreme low levels of water from the Rio Grande River and Elephant Butte, El Paso's largest reservoir, resulting in increased water use from two aquifers, the Mesilla Bolson and the Hueco Bolson.

"Having more than one water source means that EPWU can shift between them when one is not avail-

able to meet water demands," said Christina Montoya, communications and marketing manager for El Paso Water Utilities.

Heyman said efforts by EPWU to conserve water have resulted in the city having one of the lowest waterper-person user rates. El Paso's neighbor city of Cd. Juárez is also mindful in its administration of water.

"Contrary to popular belief, Juárez is one of the cities with the best efficacy in its administering of water in the country," said Alfrado Granados Olivas, water specialist at the Universidad Autónoma de Ciudad Juárez, and one of the scientists involved in the grant. "The community is very conscious of water disposability and the authorities are always implementing programs."

Yet, despite these efforts, the cities are not immune to the effects of climate change and both Granados and Heyman agree that work needs to be done in both cities.

"We can definitely tell that it hasn't been enough," Heyman said. "The way we can tell that it's not enough is that the level of the underground water has been going down over time."

According to the Environmental Protection Agency, further warming in the southwest region of the U.S. is expected to produce more severe droughts in the region, which is expected to further decrease water. Existing droughts have caused increased use of aquifers, or underground water, and decreased water tables.

The team of researchers and scientists aim to find solutions to expected water shortages, albeit in a different



MICHAELA ROMAN / THE PROSPECTOR

Senior criminal justice major, Gabriela Torres drinks from a water fountain in the student union. UTEP, alongside other institutions, received a \$4.9 million grant from the Institute of Food and Agriculture to study the effects of climate change in the EI Paso Del Norte region.

ones they are addressing have had a scientifically led approach, however this one will have a participatory approach—what Heyman calls a "democratically oriented kind of science."

"Our job is to not to lay out our vision of the future, but stakeholders' vision of the future," said Frank Ward, professor of water economics and policy at New Mexico State University, and one of the researchers involved in the grant.

Stakeholders are users of waterfarmers, the commercial and indus-

Traditionally, projects like the trial sectors and environmental interest groups. Through this approach, scientists are constantly engaged with stakeholders, as they are the center of the project and will define the questions and propose solutions.

"They understand better what the situation is and are learning themselves more about what the future holds for water," Hargrove said. "Scientist-driven research hasn't resulted in change. We think that this kind of approach, where the stakeholders are involved-there's a better chance for change."

The participatory approach is not new, but it's not common. Hargrove has experience with the approach. He worked with a scientific team that used this method to work with farmers in Kansas to improve water quality.

The first thing they did was to analyze the water to find where the pollution was coming from, and then they approached the farmers to find solutions.

see WATER on page 8



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EARTH WEEK EXHIBITION APRIL 20 — MAY 8 @ UNION GALLERY

There will be an Earth Week exhibition 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday starting Monday, April 20 through Friday, May 8 in the Union Gallery in Union Building East.

EARTH WEEK FASHION SHOW APRIL 21 - NOON — 1 P.M. @ UTEP UNION PLAZA

The annual Earth Week Fashion Show will take place 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday, April 21 in the UTEP Union Plaza. The featured pieces are wearable and made from recycled materials.

EARTH DAY TOUR APRIL 22 - 10:30 A.M. @ CENTENNIAL MUSEUM

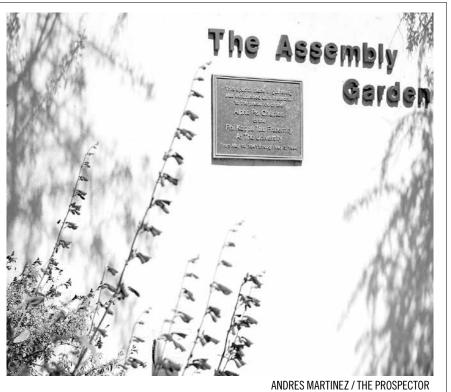
There will be an Earth Day tour of the Chihuahuan Desert Gardens at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 22. Please meet at the Centennial Museum's front entrance and wear weather-appropriate clothing and comfortable shoes.

NATURE LECTURE APRIL 22 - NOON @ CENTENNIAL MUSEUM

In observance of Earth Day, there will be a lecture on "Attracting Butterflies and Hummingbirds with Native Plants" at 12 p.m. Wednesday, April 22 in the Centennial Museum. Lois Balin, West Texas urban wildlife biologist for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, will present.

FLORAFEST LECTURE — "TOUGH BEAUTY: REMARKABLE PLANT LIFE OF THE BIG BEND" APRIL 24 - 6 P.M. @ UNDERGRADUATE LEARNING CENTER (UGLC), ROOM 106

The 2015 FloraFEST lecture will take place 6 p.m. Friday, April 24 in the Undergraduate Learning Center (UGLC), room 106. The lecture titled "Tough Beauty: Remarkable Plant Life of the Big Bend," will be given by Gary Nored, who is an avid photographer and blogger of the Big Bend. Nored is a full-time volunteer for the Big Bend Ranch State Park and has written two visitor guidebooks for the park. The event is free and open to the public. Participants also will get a preview of the plants that will be sold at FloraFEST 2015. For more information, call 915-747-5565 or 915-747-8994.



FLORAFEST 2015

APRIL 25 — APRIL 26 - 9 A.M. — 4 P.M. @ CENTENNIAL MUSEUM

The 2015 Flora FEST will take place 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, April 25 and Sunday, April 26 at the Centennial Museum, located on the corner of University Avenue and Wiggins Road on The University of Texas at El Paso campus.

FloraFEST is the annual fundraiser for the maintenance and operation of the Chihuahuan Desert Gardens and is the largest sale of its kind in the region. Shoppers may purchase native plants and visit with local master gardeners and other plant experts for advice on how to care for their plants at home. Most of the plants sold at FloraFEST are not available at local nurseries or retailers.



OUR VIEW PHOTO EDITOR MICHAELA ROMÁN 747-7477





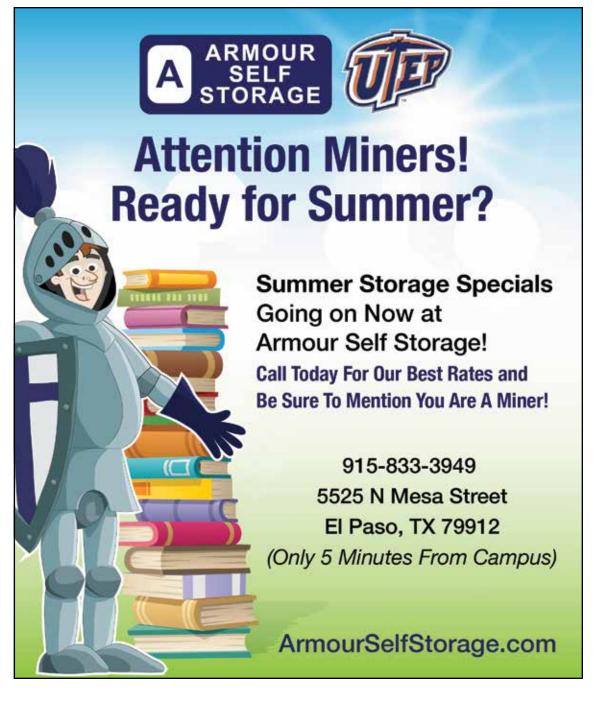




MICHAELA ROMAN / THE PROSPECTOR

1. Guests enjoy the open grass area at the grand opening of Centennial Plaza on Sat. April 18.

2. President Diana Natalicio and Kunzang C. Namgyel, Bhutanese Ambassador of the United Nations, cut the ribbon to unveil the Lhakhang which is located in Centennial Plaza.











SATURDAY, MAY 16, 2015

COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY TIMES:

Morning Commencement -Callege of Liberal Arts

Afternoon Commencement

-College of Business Administration -College of Education -School of Nursing

7 p.m.

Evening Commencement

- -College of Engineering
- College of Science
- College of Health Sciences

*All Ceremonies include graduate degrees

families and friends and other information:



DON HASKINS CENTER - THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO

THE DAY OF COMMENCEMENT

- 1. Please check-in at Auxiliary Gym at these corresponding times.
 - For 9 a.m. Ceremony: check-in is from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m.
 - For 2 p.m. Ceremony: check-in is from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.
 - •For 7 p.m. Ceremony: check-in is from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.
 - *Please ensure that you have checked-in and picked up your reader card during these times.
- Arrive early and have your green screen Commencement portrait taken in Memorial Gym prior to the ceremony.
- 3. Please leave all personal items (backpacks, mobile devices, purses, coats, etc.) at home/automobile. These items (along with food, beverages beach balls, balloons, confetti, noise makers, silly string, etc.) will not be allowed in the Don Haskins Center.
- Though your family and friends are an important part of Commencement, childcare services will not be provided, and children may not accompany graduates during the Commencement ceremony. Please make appropriate plans for the care of your children.
- Wear regalia and comfortable shoes, and out of courtesy for your fellow graduates, please remain for the duration of the ceremony.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE GRADUATES!

Purchase your GRADPACK by visiting or calling the UTEP Bookstore at 915-747-5594 to take advantage of discounted cap, gown and tassel, and alumni products, including a 1-year membership, medallion, t-shirt and coffee mug!

WATER from page 5

"When they would make suggestions or come up with ideas about management practices that they could implement, we would test those in our model," Hargrove said. "It was very successful and in the end, farmers did implement a number of practices to improve the water quality."

This approach is similar to what UTEP and the other institutions working within the grant will do.

The scientific aspect involves using computer models that simulate the hydrology of the region. These models will be used in the stakeholder approach by measuring existing conditions and measuring how effective potential solutions can be.

"It's not only predictive in the sense that it's going to give you one fixed definite answer, but in the sense that it allows you to explore different options," Heyman said. "This is a way of talking about different possible futures."

After the stakeholders propose solutions, policies or practices, they will be tested or measured in the models. In the end what they hope to accomplish is finding something that

"What I would like to see is that each of these different sectors is going to have some practices or some change that they can make that is going to enable us to have a sustainable future," Hargrove said.

Another aspect that's different from the grant is the binational aspect.

According to Olivas, the interesting part of the grant is that they are studying the hydrological aspects of the region without the limitations of

"In the concept of hydrology, this is very important because you're not dividing the region by imaginary lines," Olivas said.

But the Rio Grande is a border and its water is divided. In 1906, President Theodore Roosevelt signed the Equitable Distribution of Waters of the Rio Grande, establishing an agreement between the U.S. and Mexico to deliver 60,000 acre feet of water per year from the Rio Grand for the purposes of water irrigation.

However, the agreement does not say anything about underground water.

"Transboundary sub-surface water is one the truly important issues of the contemporary world and we have no system for handling that right now, we barely have a system for knowing what's there," Heyman said.

Granados said that underground water systems are very complex and it would take a lot of research before arriving at an underground water treaty. He also said that the objective of the grant is not a binational treaty for underground water.

"We want the best information that has been validated by science-to inform society. An informed society is a successful society that can make decisions in conjunction with the government," Granados said.

One of the great challenges of the project will be to get the scientists, stakeholders, policy makers and industries on the same page.

That is why, according to Hargrove, participatory approaches are not popular. However, all the institutions are looking to accomplish the same thing-to make a change.

"The common goal is for each of these institutions to contribute their specialized expertise that would give a rise to sustainable water use," Ward said. "We want to find the best way in the region for adapting to the new normal of greatly reduced water."

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

ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR KIMBERLY VALLE, 747-7477

Earth Day fashion show presents recycled trends



FILE PHOTO/ THE PROSPECTOR

The Office of Student Life will be presenting their annual Earth Day Fashion Show at noon on April 21 at the Union Plaza stage.

BY FERNANDA LEON

The Prospector

The Office of Student Life will be presenting their annual Earth Day Fashion Show at noon on April 21 at the Union Plaza stage.

The fashion show features outfits and accessories made by the students from Loretto Academy National Art Honor Society. The students prepare for this event by selecting different types of recycled materials that, all together, become garments that students can model during the event.

The participation of high school students that serve as designers and models, different recycled materials and the creativity applied to the creation of the outfits and accessories are some of the features that the Earth Week Fashion Show will feature this

This fashion show will first be presented at Loretto Academy during their extravaganza runway event and later brought to UTEP during Earth Week, along with an exhibition prepared by the Office of Student Life.

"Those that are selected as the top dresses will be included in our Earth Week exhibition," said Alexandra Garcia, coordinator for the Office of Student Life.

Newspaper, magazines, cardboard, coffee filters, aluminum cans and water bottles are some of the materials that Loretto students used to create their recycled outfits.

Students also got their inspiration from different themes.

"My design is a circus theme and I got inspired by looking at some circus vintage pictures," said Andrea Aguilar, one of the student designers and a junior at Loretto Academy.

The students take several months to create the dresses and accessories that are going to be showcased. These outfits are presented with the motive to inspire and to create agreement about the importance of preserving

"I think this is going to inspire the students because this dress is made out of recycled stuff and the students can see that beautiful things can be made out of recycled items," Aguilar said.

The Office of Student Life will try to showcase as many dresses as possible for their Earth Week Fashion Show. Having the showcase outdoors in nature gives a fun twist to the whole meaning of Earth Week.

"Even though it's used, this isn't always trash. You can reuse it or make it into something else," said Sofia Aguilar, model of the event and a junior at Loretto Academy. "It is a very fun experience and it's even better to know that you are showing people some different kind of art."

In both ecologic and artistic ways, the Earth Week Fashion Show represents an outlet not only for artists, but also for people trying to create awareness about the planet.

For Garcia, the opportunity of showcasing high school events at the university represents a win-win situation because college students can see what high school students are doing and vice versa.

"I personally like to give the opportunity to high schools students to showcase what they're doing both as a fashion piece and as an art piece because that's what differentiates what we do for the fashion show and what we do for the exhibition," Garcia said.

The final idea of this event is to present something different and original that not only catches the attention of the spectator, but also inspires and creates awareness about our the Earth.

"I hope that it inspires something in those attending," Garcia said.

Fernanda Leon may be reached at theprospectordaily. ent@gmail.com.

Local markets celebrate Earth Day with homegrown crops

BY JULIA HETTIGER

The Prospector

In an effort to benefit the Earth and stay healthy, many people grow their own crops and sell what they grow at farmers markets.

There are multiple farmers markets in the El Paso and Las Cruces areas, including Sprouts Farmers Market, the El Paso Downtown Artist and Farmers Market Earth Day Celebration and the Farmers and Crafts Market of Las Cruces.

There's an enormous difference between homegrown and processed food.

> - Michael Kraus store manager spouts

Some employees at Sprouts grow their own food with the goal of inspiring, educating and empowering their customers to eat healthier and lead better lives. Their stores offer affordable, fresh food to their patrons and information about healthy and

creative do-it-yourself projects and recipes about going natural

"We are supposed to be headed toward organically grown food," said Michael Kraus, store manager at Sprouts. "There will be no genetically modified food."

Sprouts will be celebrating Earth Day with their organic and homegrown crops.

"There's an enormous difference between homegrown and processed food," Krauss said. "We should try to stay away from eating processed food."

Some of the benefits of growing your own crops and food include establishing a healthy diet, saving money on groceries and reducing negative impacts on the environment.

In honor of Earth Day, many vendors and stores are providing their patrons with a wider range of homegrown food to choose from.

The weekly El Paso Downtown Artist and Farmers Market celebrated their second annual Earth Day celebration at the Union District Plaza.

The local farmers market features arts and crafts, homegrown food and performances by local artists. The market presents families and visitors the opportunity to create arts and crafts, enjoy organic food and listen to live music from local musicians.

"We try to have at least one big market per month," said Valerie Venecia, coordinator for the El Paso Downtown Artist and Farmers Market. "This is our second annual, large scale Earth Day Market."

The market is located on Anthony Street between San Francisco and San



HUGO BRITO / THE PROSPECTOR

The El Paso Downtown Artists and Farmers Market takes place every Saturday at the Union District Plaza.

Antonio streets. Vendors include local farmers such as Skarsgard Farms and local artists who set up shop there to sell handmade pieces ranging from jewelry and paintings to sculptures.

"We also typically have gardening demonstrations, fitness workshops and free family yoga," Venecia said. "This is all in addition to the local produce and arts and crafts we have available."

Much like the vendors, Venecia is an avid gardener and tries to grow as much produce as she can.

"I grow green onions and different kitchen herbs," Venecia said.

The produce the vendors grow varies from vegetables and fruits to herbs

"You see a lot of the producers selling things like tomato plants to people, and there's also a guy who

sells really good pomegranates,"

The El Paso Downtown Artist and Farmers Market takes place every Saturday. For more information, call 541-4942

Julia Hettiger can be reached at theprospectordaily.ent@

'Mary Poppins' comes to the UTEP Dinner Theatre









ANDRES MARTINEZ / THE PROSPECTOR

"Marry Poppins" will run until May 17 at the UTEP Dinner Theatre.

BY FERNANDA LEON

The Prospector

A capacity crowd witnessed an evening full of memories and much fun at the opening night performance of "Mary Poppins" at 7 p.m. April 17 at the UTEP Dinner Theatre.

The place was full of spectators, who first enjoyed a three-course dinner. After dinner, the lights went off, the stage lights went on and the play started.

The costumes that each character wore were similar to the costumes portrayed in the original Disney movie. The silhouettes, the accessories and the colors of the costumes designed by Jaime Barba, theater lecturer, took the audience back to the time the early 1900s.

During the play, the stage offered different scenery that adjusted to the situation of the scene. The different stages combined to offer scenarios, where the audience could sense movement. The harmony of the scenes created a sense of place and the viewer felt like a participant in the action.

The lighting design by Michael L. Spence, set designer and director of

special facilities and technical services, left the audience fascinated and moving their heads all around the theater with a sense of wonder and surprise. These effects gave the audience and the theater a magical touch that took the audience to the world of "Mary Poppins."

The choreography by Lisa Lopez and assistant Josey Mitchell, gave the play a touch of fun that the characters interpreted to the tune of the music from the play. The dancers and actors reflected every part of the lyrics with their movements.

The music of the play was filled with the magic of the original songs. The actors in the play sang the classic songs such as "Chim Chim Cheree" and "A Spoon Full of Sugar."

The audience clapped and sang along to the songs from the famous musical as the play proceeded.

The direction of the play by Gregory L. Taylor, director of the UDT, portrayed every aspect of the classicism of the original musical, giving this play an ambience of magic, music, colors and visual effects that took the viewer to a different era.

"Mary Poppins" is presented as part of the 2014-2015 season of musicals at the UTEP Dinner Theatre from April 17 – May 17.

If you are looking for an evening full of magic, music, colors and fun, this classic supercalifragilistic expialidocious production can't be missed.

Fernanda Leon may be reached at theprospectordaily. ent@gmail.com.

Union Gallery features third annual Earth week Exhibit

BY VALERIE HERRERA

The Prospector

Celebrating and protecting the Earth is the mission of this year's Earth Week exhibition, which will open April 22 at the Union Gallery, located on the second floor of Union East.

In celebration of sustainability, the Union Gallery is focusing on presenting temporary Earth Week exhibits that spread knowledge and awareness through the appreciation of artwork created by UTEP and high school students and other local artists.

Brianna Martinez, Union Gallery assistant coordinator, said the exhibit will feature a variety of art work pieces that are made from recycable materials created by students from Loretto and Americas High school.

"The exhibit is based on recycling and sustainability aimed at encouraging students, faculty and staff to take an active role in preserving the world around us," Martinez said.

Twenty students were asked to participate and create works of art made from environmentally friendly materials in an effort to build awareness, inspire creativity and foster stewardship of the world. These works will be displayed throughout the Union Gallery.

"The purpose of the Earth Week expo is to get students and the community to recycle now that they have the opportunity," Martinez said. "With this expo, the audience is able to see trash as treasure through what artists' exhibits have brought to light."

The opening reception will take place at 6 p.m. on Earth Day, April 22 and will consist of an award ceremony, where the top 10 dresses and outfits will be chosen and be displayed at the Earth Week exhibit. The dresses and outfits were made from recycled and eco-friendly materials and shown during the Earth Week fashion show on April 21.

Jessica Morales, junior social work major, said the university should embrace Earth awareness all year round rather than just during Earth Week.

"I have been to previous expos featured in the Union Gallery, but never been to the Earth Week one," Morales said. "I am always looking for ways to be more eco-friendly and will defiantly make the effort to go to this year to see what inspirational ideas student came up with."

Mathew Looney, sophomore electrical engineering major, said it's great to have an exhibit that promotes the environment.

"I have never been able to attend any previous Earth Week exhibit, but am excited to see what this year has in store," Looney said.

Alexandra Garcia, Office of Student Life event coordinator, said the exhibit was originally scheduled to launch on April 20 to kick off the first day of Earth Week, but due to technical issues, the expo was pushed back to have its opening reception on April 22.

The Earth Week exhibition will be on display through May 8. Doors will be open from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Saturday and Sundays from noon to 5 p.m.



ADAM ZIEGENHALS / THE PROSPECTOR

The opening reception for this year's Earth Week exhibition will be held at 6 p.m. at the Union Gallery on April 22.

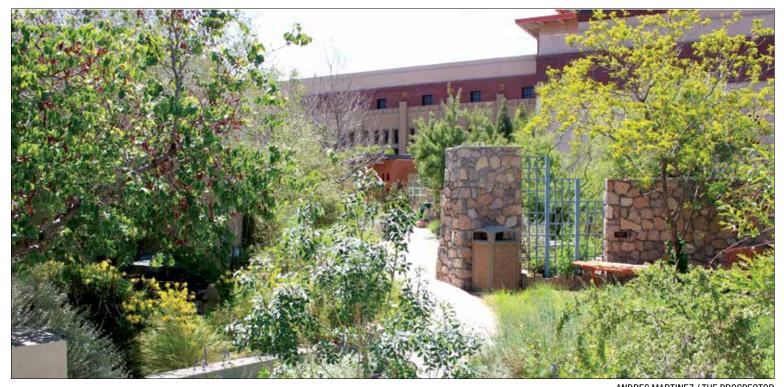
"Though we weren't able to have the exhibit ready as originally planned, we are happy to open its doors for students and the community to enjoy on Earth Day," Garcia said. "This

way we are able to include some of the dresses and outfits showcased the day before during the fashion show in the exhibit" Valerie Herrera may be reached at theprospectordaily.

ent@gmail.com.



FloraFEST fundraiser to benefit Chihuahuan Desert Gardens



ANDRES MARTINEZ / THE PROSPECTOR

The 2015 FloraFEST native plant sale will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday at the UTEP Centennial Museum and Chihuahuan Desert Gardens.

BY JULIA HETTIGER

The Prospector

The UTEP Centennial Museum and Chihuahuan Desert Gardens will be hosting the 2015 FloraFEST native plant sale from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, April 25 and Sunday, April 26 at the Centennial Museum.

FloraFEST is an annual fundraiser held to raise money for the maintenance and operation of the Chihuahuan Desert Gardens. The event will be hosted by members of Authentic Texas, People of the Big Bend.

"We will be selling trees, shrubs, vines, cacti, groundcovers and perennials that are native or adapted to the Chihuahuan Desert," said John White, botanical curator of the Chihuahuan Desert Garden. "Sizes vary from one-gallon size to 15-gallon size."

There will be native plants for sale and local master gardeners will be available for questions and advice on how to take care of the plants at home.

"People coming to the sale will see the large variety of plants that can be used in a low-maintenance, lower-water use garden that are colorful and varied in their textures," White said. "Garden staff, UTEP faculty, professional horticulturists, Doña Ana and El Paso master gardeners, plus about 50 volunteers, will be helping and assisting buyers with their questions and purchases."

Most of the plants that will be for sale are unique and hard to find in local nurseries and stores.

"It is becoming harder to find native and desert-adapted plants in the local area," White said. "Many of the

big-box stores have caused the smaller nurseries to close as they cannot compete financially."

This year's theme is "Celebrating West Texas" and will feature lectures and workshops leading up to the event, which is a new feature not previously done for FloraFEST.

The new features include an exhibit, "Authentic Texas: People of the Big Bend," which can be seen Tuesday, April 21 through Saturday, April 24 from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. There will be a 10:30 a.m. tour of the Chihuahuan Desert Gardens and at noon on

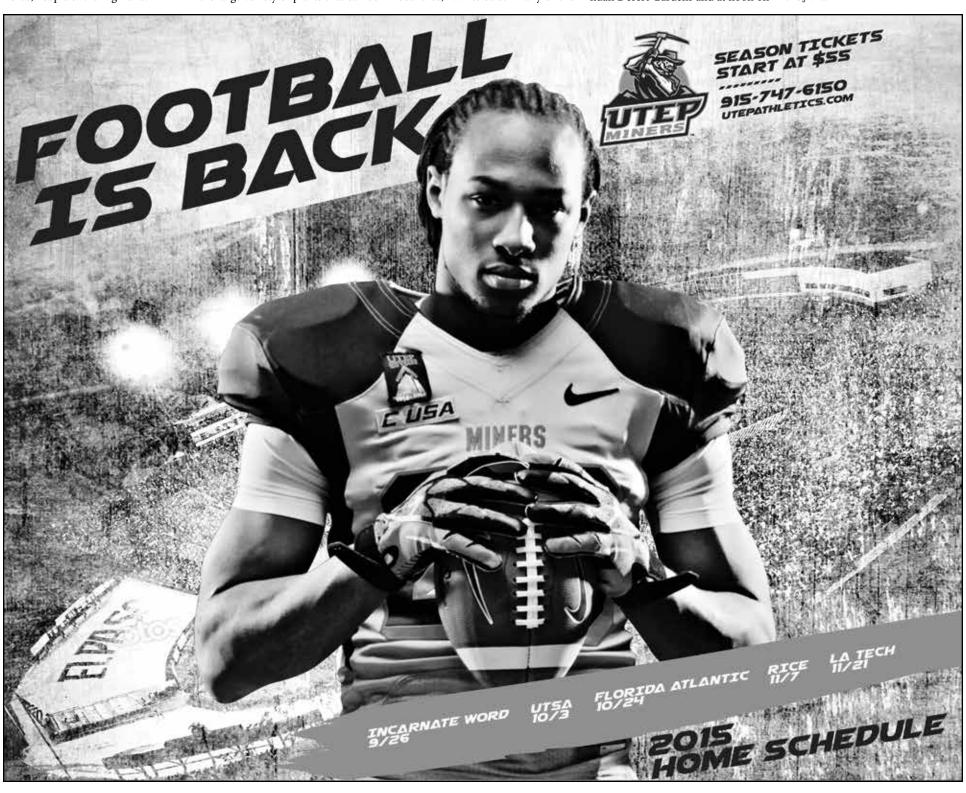
April 22, Lois Balin, West Texas Urban Wildlife biologist for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, will be giving a lecture on attracting butterflies and hummingbirds with native plants in observance of Earth Day.

Lastly, there will be a featured lecture on Friday, April 24 by Gary Nored, a photographer and blogger of the Big Bend. The lecture, "Tough Beauty: Remarkable Plant Life of the Big Bend" will be presented at 6 p.m. in the Undergraduate Learning Center, room 116. It is free and open to the public.

Participants will have the opportunity to preview the plants that will be sold at FloraFEST.

This year's FloraFEST will be the largest of its kind in the region. The event is open to the public and admission is free. For more information, call 747-5565.

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



SPORTS EDITOR LUIS GONZALEZ, 747-7477

Chihuahuas return home after road success



MICHAELA ROMAN / THE PROSPECTOR

First baseman Tommy Medica is batting .326 in the 10 games he has played for the Chihuahuas this season.

BY LUIS GONZALEZ

The Prospector

The El Paso Chihuahuas went on the road for the first time this season looking for their first series win. With a game to go in the series, the Chihuahuas assured themselves of just that, winning all of the first three games. Manager Pat Murphy and his squad return to El Paso for another eightgame homestand beginning on Tuesday, April 21, against the Sacramento Rivercats.

Going on the road is not something minor league players and coaching staff look forward to. Late games and early morning wake-up calls can make for a pretty tough combination.

"Welcome to the PCL," Murphy said about the team having to leave El Paso at 6 a.m. after finishing up a game around 11p.m. "The league should do something about it, but its the way it is."

Going into their second series with the Rainiers, the Chihuahuas were 4-4 and riding a two-game winning streak. Since splitting the opening series with Tacoma, the Chihuahuas split a series with Reno. Still, it had been less than a week since Murphy and his team had last seen the Rainiers, so they knew what to expect.

"We're playing a team, Tacoma, that you guys saw they're veteran and their talented," Murphy said. "Their pitching staff is really good."

The first game of the series, on Friday, April 17 was tight, with both offenses seeing little success against either pitching staff.

No Chihuahua had more than a single hit throughout their multiple at-bats and of the five hits they did get, only Cody Decker's home run was anything other than a single.

El Paso starting pitcher James Needy pitched six innings, striking out seven and allowing three hits that would result in one earned run.

Down by a run, the Chihuahuas' patience at the plate would make up for their struggles to make contact. El Paso walked their way to taking the lead after four different Chihuahuas would get on base because of Tacoma starting pitcher Mike Kickham's failure to find the strike zone. Kickham walked Decker and Austin Hedges, both with the bases loaded.

Neither team scored for the next four innings, then in the top of the eighth Decker provided some insurance with a two-run home run.

Nick Vincent and Kevin Quackenbush served relieve duty. Vincent pitched two scoreless innings striking all but one of the batters he faced.

Quackenbush struggled in the ninth giving up a single a double and a sac fly that resulted in Tacoma's second run. He recovered though, striking out the final two Rainiers he faced to end the game.

The second game saw a little more offense for the El Pasoans. A big third inning in which the Chihuahuas would score five runs propelled them to their fourth win in a row.

During the eight-game home stand to start the year, Hedges, Brett Wallace and Abraham Almonte were swinging the bat impressively. Murphy hoped some of the other guys in the lineup would start to get hot as well.

"We got some guys that aren't swinging it the way they want to yet," Murphy said. "I'd say (Ramiro) Peña and (Rymer) Liriano will get on it a little bit."

Peña and Liriano did just that in this road series, they started to hit.

In game two, Liriano went 2-5 with 2 RBI's and Pena went 2-4.

During the third inning the whole El Paso lineup would go to the plate. Pena started it off by singling and starting pitcher Mike McCoy helped his own cause by bunting himself to first. With Peña and McCoy on second and third, respectively, thanks to a wild pitch, Liriano stepped up to the plate and brought them both home with a double into center field.

The Chihuahuas were not done. Tommy Medica singled to bring in Liriano and would score himself after a Wallace single and another wild pitch. Tacoma would change pitchers, but the Chihuahuas kept coming. With the bases loaded, Rainier reliever Justin Germano walked Alex Dickerson and El Paso took a 5-0 lead that they would not relinquish.

The offensive explosion continued into the third game of the series.

Tacoma got ahead early in the game, taking advantage of a struggling Jason Lane. The veteran who started on the mound for El Paso allowed five runs in the first two innings.

Murphy stuck with Lane for five innings, in which he allowed 11 hits and those five earned runs.

The Chihuahua offense made up for Lane's struggles with a five-run fourth inning and a four-run eighth. El Paso got a total of three hits in the other seven innings, but the nine in the fourth and eighth were enough.

Murphy attributes the early ups and downs at the plate to experience.

"A lot of it shows you that we have a really young offensive team," Murphy said.

The flashes on offense though, provide a glimpse of the potential the Chihuahuas' lineup has to torment pitchers on a nightly basis.

"This team's gonna be really explosive," Hedges said. "Every single guy that we have in our lineup has the capability of driving the ball too, not just singles, we got a lot of power on this team. Its gonna be fun to see us do some damage here."

After the four-game road trip, the Chihuahuas are back home for a long stretch. Eight more games in a row at Southwest University Park will take place from April 21-28. El Paso will take on Sacramento for four games first, followed by another four-game series against Salt Lake.

Sacramento and Salt Lake will finish a series between them on Monday night. The 8-3 Rivercats won the first three games of the series on the road against the 1-10 Bees.

Among the many players the Rivercats have on their roster, one of the names that stand out is outfielder Travis Ishikawa who was part of the San Francisco Giants roster that won last year's World Series.

The minor league baseball season is a long and tough one. With very few days off, long nights and travel, just being at home for a week can be a big relief for any minor league player.

"Its nice when you get an extended home stand, you can unpack your suitcase," Lane said.

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Softball faces crucial home series

BY JASON GREEN

The Prospector

UTEP softball is preparing to honor the teams' seniors when they welcome Marshall for a three-game series.

Senior Day is always a big deal for any UTEP team, but this weekend is possibly even bigger for seniors Ashley Eldridge and Tahla Wade. Neither player has appeared in the Conference-USA Tournament during their time at UTEP.

This season the Miners are 8-10 in C-USA play heading into the second-to-last conference series of the season and only a half game out of the last tournament slot.

"I like to look at that stuff (standings) just because I want to see if it's possible for us to make it to the conference tournament," Eldridge said. "In order for us to make it to the conference tournament we have to at least win one or two, if not three (games)."

Marshall currently sits at third place in the East Division with a 10-6

Last weekend, the Miners visited UTSA and were swept by the first-place Roadrunners. This season UTEP has struggled mightily on the road, and are still looking for their

first win in 16 games. The last conference series of the season is at North Texas. The Miners' road struggles make winning this weekend's series even more imperative.

Eldridge was tabbed as a pre-season All-Conference USA performer and has done her best to live up to that lofty expectation. Eldridge is in the top 30 in the conference in batting average with a .338 and leads the team with 33 runs batted in.

Wade ranks 25th in C-USA in batting average with a phenomenal .342 out of her typical leadoff position. Wade also ranks near the top of the league in stolen bases with 16.

"She's come out of the wood work, it's kind of awesome to see," Eldridge said. "She's been using her speed on the bases and she stepped up to play centerfield, which is something she's not used to. She's been an awesome lead-off batter for us."

The Miners face an enormous challenge in Marshall's sophomore pitcher Jordan Dixon. Dixon ranks fourth in C-USA in earned run average with a 2.33. The Thundering Herd's number one starter has struck out 249 batters this season, which is good for second in C-USA.

While UTEP's bats have carried their weight this season—as expected—pitching continues to be the number one issue facing the team.

Although the staff as a whole has struggled, sophomore Kaitlin Fifield, out of Chapin High School, has made enormous strides and finds herself atop the pitching depth chart. Fifield sits at 16th in the conference with a 4.11 ERA.

Saturday afternoon's match-up between each school's number one starters will be a must-see game. First pitch will be at 2 p.m. The two could conceivably match up again on Sunday afternoon at noon during the Senior Day game, where Wade and Eldridge will be honored.

It will undoubtedly be a very emotional senior weekend series for Wade and Eldridge.

Those emotions could lean more toward elation than anything else if the team ends the weekend poised to make it to the C-USA tournament. Eldridge states her feelings on the upcoming series very succinctly.

"It's a big weekend for us," Eldridge said.

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



RUBY CERINO / THE PROSPECTOR

 $\textbf{Sophomore Hope Moreno} \ \text{throws towards first base after getting an out at second.}$

Men's golf aims to keep season alive

BY JUAN CARLOS NAVARRETE

The Prospector

The golf team will be playing in Texarkana, Ark., for the Conference USA Tournament and for a chance to keep their season going by advancing to nationals.

The four-day event will take place from April 26-29 and will help choose which teams advance, first to the regional tournament and, ultimately, the national tournament.

Although the conference offers only one automatic bid to the winner of the conference tournament, the second, third and maybe even fourth-place teams could receive at-large bids depending on their performances.

"I really want this for our seniors," said senior Martin Simonsen. "It's great...and it something that I want them to be able to reach."

Out of the four seniors, which make up almost half of the roster, only Simonsen has had the chance to



PHOTO COURTESY OF UTEP ATHLETICS

The UTEP men's golf team will compete at the Conference USA Championships from April 26-29 in Texarkana, Ark.

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advance and play 18 holes at the national level.

Simonsen is close to qualifying to nationals individually. Due to NCAA rules, his national ranking of 179 would be enough to put him in nationals even if UTEP does not qualify.

Still, Simonsen will go to Texarkana with the goal of not only securing a return trip for himself to nationals, but also in hopes of qualifying as a

"I love to play, I've played there (at nationals) twice," Simonesen said. "(I'm) playing for the team, hope the team wins to play at nationals with

The team will have to play one of their best tournaments if they hope to reach nationals. Out of all the schools in Conference USA, three or four will advance and UTEP will have to beat some heavy hitters to grab one of those top spots.

The format of the tournament is simple. During the first three days of competition all 13 teams will play 18 holes per day. After the first three days, only the top four will advance to play in the final day of competition. The teams will be seeded and compete head-to-head in a match play playoff. The winners of each semifinal pairing will face off to decide the Conference USA champion.

Playing in the national tournamen puts UTEP in the hunt for a national championship and it provides national exposure for the program. The NCAA Tournament is televised by the Golf Channel so the competitors and schools have the chance to play in front of a national audience.

"Them not wanting it to be their last tournament will help them," said UTEP golf coach Scott Lieberwerth. "They want to play for the NCAA Championship."

Win or lose, qualify or not, this will be one of the final times this group of seniors takes the course representing UTEP and that is something special for them and their coach.

Them not wanting it to be their last tournament will neip them.

> - Scott Lieberwerth, men's golf coach

The four seniors, Jacob Loya, Jere Pelletiere, Roberto Ruiz and Simonsen, were all freshmen when Lieberwerth first took the job as head coach, making them his first graduating class. Going into the weekend, Lieberwerth has mixed feelings as he prepares not only his seniors, but his whole team to compete in what may be one of the most important tournaments of their lives.

"They were all freshmen when I started. It'll be bittersweet whether we play well and advance or not, I had a great opportunity to pay off," Lieber-

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

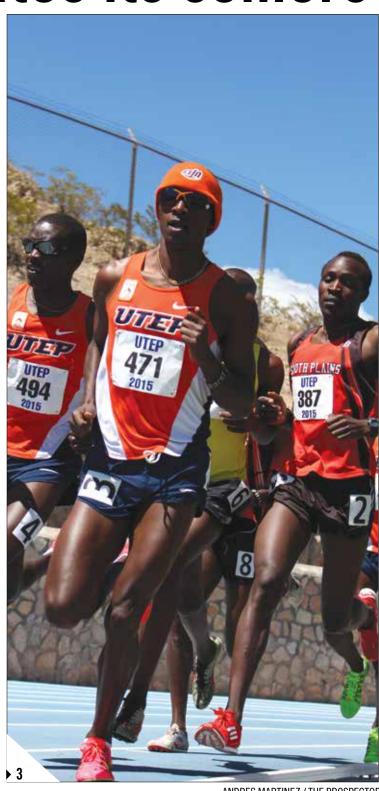
APRIL 21, 2015

OUR VIEW PHOTO EDITOR MICHAELA ROMÁN, 747-7477

Track and field celebrates its seniors







ANDRES MARTINEZ / THE PROSPECTOR

1. The seven track and field men were recognized before the start of the UTEP Invitational. 2. The nine track and field women were recognized prior to the UTEP Invitational. 3. Sophomore Cosmas Boit leads the pack during a distance event at the UTFP Invitational





Despite wind track and field shines at UTEP Invitational

BY JUAN CARLOS NAVARRETE

The Prospector

The Miners hosted their second track meet of the season at Kidd Field on Saturday, April 18. Many of the events carried on despite the wind on a day that also served to recognize UTEP's seniors.

Despite nature doing it's best to spoil the day, 16 UTEP seniors were honored on Senior Day and 13 Miners had first-place collegiate finishes.

"It was a good day, we're almost where we need to be," said track and field head coach Mika Laaksonen.

f 212.3333 sunmetro.net

reason, are not competing well...We get those individuals ready, we'll be ready to go in conference."

The focus of the event was primarily on the individual, not with the teams placing in the event.

Women's 100-meter hurdles continued to dominate the way they did at the indoor championships earlier

Senior Ana Kay James finished second behind an unattached Jamaican hurdler-making James the winner in the eyes of the NCAA. Junior Bria Love, senior Aeisha McDavid and



ANDRES MARTINEZ / THE PROSPECTOR

UTEP track and field had 13 athletes with first-place collegiate finishes during the UTEP Invitational.

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senior Greta Kerekes came in after James in third, fourth and fifth place, respectively.

Kerekes was in third place until the last hurdle, when she tripped causing her to lose speed. She said the wind played a factor in her troubles.

"The wind was too much," Kerekes said. "It was very difficult to control and I did not realize how fast my legs were moving with the wind."

James attributed some of her success to Kerekes, who she said helps push her every day.

"She makes me focus on my run," James said. "If I can focus on my blocks as fast as her, or faster, then I don't have to be chasing her."

Kerekes and James are one of many UTEP partners who motivate each other to higher levels.

Distance runners senior Anthony Rotich and sophomore Cosmas Boit, continued their one-two punch on the track. Rotich won the 1,500-meter race with Boit in second place.

"Winning at home is so good," Rotich, who sat out UTEP's first home track meet this season, said. "It's kind of showing the fact that I can do it even when I'm at home, it feels better than winning away."

The Miners can do more than just run as they proved with their performance outside of the track.

Senior Taylor Gunn got things started quickly for the Miners by winning the first field event of the day. Gunn out-threw the competition by a meter and secured her place at the top of the podium in the hammer throw.

The Miners were not done with throwing after Gunn's win.

The men had a good day with the javelin. Freshman Rasmus Maukonen threw near his personal best. His 72.74-meter throw was his career

second best and was good enough for first place, better than his competition by a margin of more than five meters.

"Winning at home is always the best feeling," Maukonen, who is a native of Finland, said. "It is the best here and it is the best in Finland too."

He is an obvious crowd favorite because of his throws, but his enthusiasm also makes him stand out. Before each throw he yells at the javelin.

"I don't know, nothing, no words," Maukonen said about his pre-throw ritual. "I think it is always a little different."

The wind affected not only the athletes' performances, but also hurt the atmosphere. Kidd Field looked more like it does on a regular practice day than at a competition, with many fans absent because of the strong gusts.

The small crowd was disappointing, but Miner fans will have other opportunities to watch the track and field team live and in action.

UTEP will host two more track meets before the 2015 outdoor season

The UTEP Twilight track meet is scheduled for Friday, May 1, and the Conference USA Outdoor Championships will be held from May 14-17. Both events will take place at Kidd

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