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The Prospector, October 13, 2015

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ASSAYER OF STUDENT OPINION

THE PROSPECTOR

WWW.THEPROSPECTORDAILY.COM

VOL. 101, NO. 8

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO

OCTOBER 13, 2015

HOLLYWOOD

'SICARIO' AND THE BURDEN OF THE SILVER SCREEN

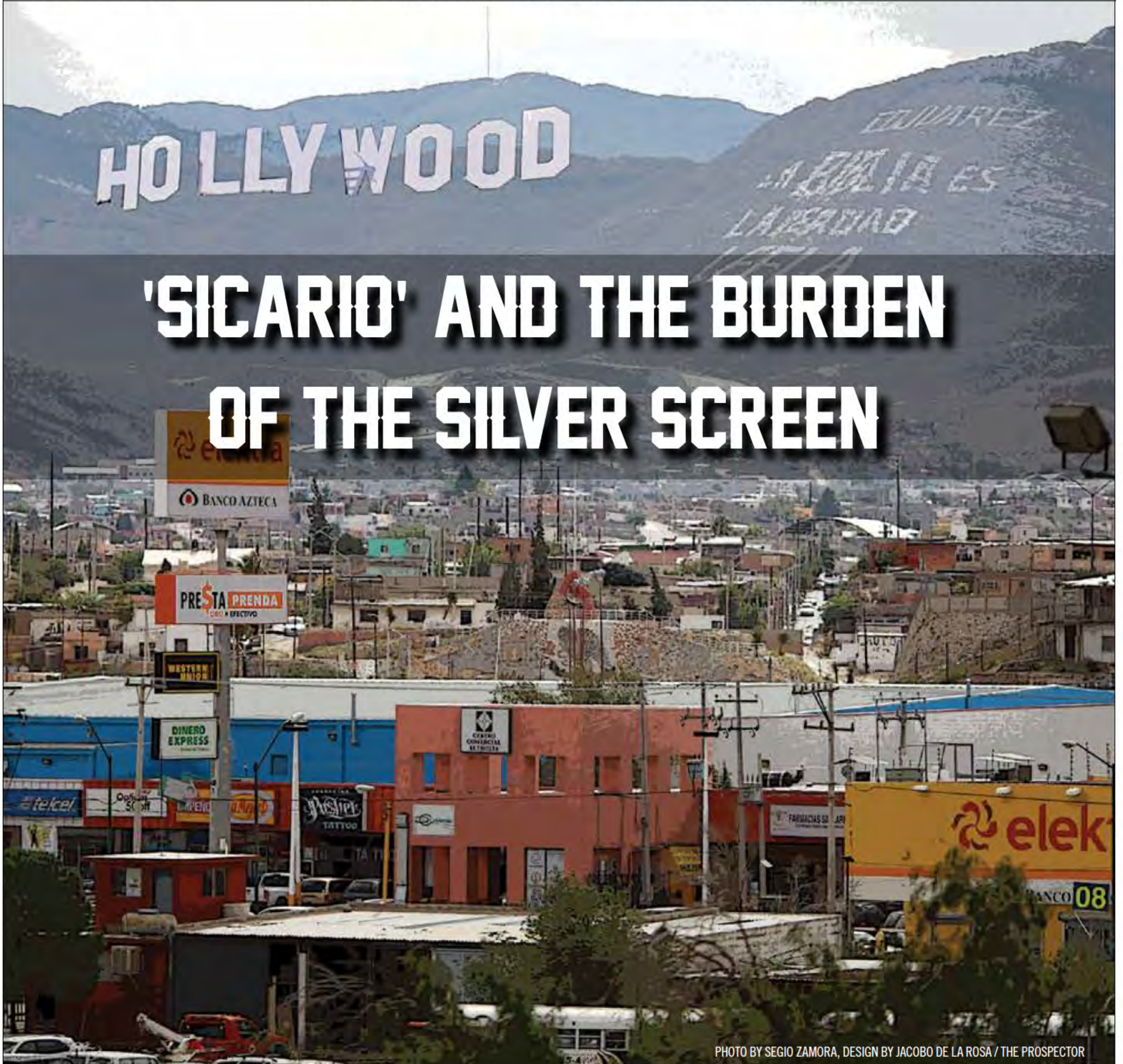


PHOTO BY SEGIO ZAMORA, DESIGN BY JACOBO DE LA ROSA / THE PROSPECTOR

BY LUIS GONZALEZ

The Prospector

As a convoy of United States federal agents heads east on the Border Highway in El Paso, one agent turns to the other and says, "There she is, the beast," as they look at the city on the other side of the border. The

movie "Sicario," from director Denis Villeneuve and starring Emily Blunt and Benicio Del Toro, was released in the United States in early October and has been met with opposition from the citizens of Cd. Juárez, where part of the film takes place.

Leading the charge against Sicario is Juárez Mayor Enrique Serrano, who

strongly disagrees with the lawless and violent way in which Juárez is depicted. He also raises questions about the responsibility of Hollywood and the impact it could have on moviegoers.

"They don't cite the events as historic events, but as if they were the reality we live today in our city," Serrano told Excelsior, a national

Mexican newspaper. "The truth is we are far removed from those events. We did live through something similar, but now Ciudad Juárez is in a much different situation."

After being the world's most deadly city in 2011, the statistics concerning violence in Juárez have reduced drastically. The accuracy of the

movie is not necessarily what is in question, but the fact that it is a period of time the city of Juárez has tried hard to overcome and forget. Serrano and some of the residents of the city are afraid the bad portrayal of the city in "Sicario" will prevent people from visiting Juárez.

see SICARIO on page 3



NEXT TO UTEP!
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OCTOBER 13, 2015

PERSPECTIVES

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

LUIS GONZALEZ, 747-7477

#CocksNotGlocks



BY MARIA ESQUINCA

The Prospector

So far, over 6,000 people have indicated on Facebook that they will attend

the Campus Dildo Carry Protest at the University of Texas at Austin on Aug. 24, 2016, the first day of classes.

The event is a protest against the notorious SB 11, which allows a concealed handgun license holder to carry a concealed handgun while on the campus of a public, private or independent institution of higher education.

Jessica Jin, a UT student who organized the protest, invites anybody to participate, "Come one dildo, come all dildos," and has branded the event with the hashtag #CocksNotGlocks.

Jin further wrote, "the State of Texas has decided that it is not at all obnoxious to allow deadly concealed weapons in classrooms, however it DOES have strict rules about free sexual expression, to protect your innocence. You would receive a citation for taking a DILDO to class before you would get in trouble for taking a gun to class. Heaven forbid the penis."

Under the Texas penal code, a dildo is classified as an "obscene device," and also falls under the category "obscene display or distribution," an offense that is considered a Class C misdemeanor, punishable by a \$500 fine.

Now, when first hearing about this, I was slightly confused by the correlation between the two, how does one relate to other? How did we get from glock to cock?

But, I then realized the protest highlights the absurdity of the wonderful state of Texas.

Let's backtrack a little, the Republican-led legislature has decided that CHL holders can carry guns on campus, because, you know, the second amendment and all.

The controversy of their decision is highlighted by the plethora of mass shootings that have occurred across

the country. The most recent shootings occurred within the last week, one in Northern Arizona University and the other in Texas Southern University. A few weeks prior to that, 10 people died after Chris Harper Mercer opened fire at Umpqua Community College in Oregon.

Something that is on the rise. A study done by the Harvard School of Public Health indicates that mass shootings are on the rise. The researchers found that from 1982 to 2011, mass shootings occurred every 200 days, and since 2011, the rate has tripled and happen every 64 days.

So, considering all of this, the Republican-led leadership in our state passed the campus carry law for our own good. Because, what can go wrong when someone is carrying a gun on campus?

Yet, the same leadership in Texas that claims to defend individual liberty, limits sexual expression. They claim to protect individual rights, yet basically make individual rights unattainable for anyone who is not a white male.

They attacked the LGBTQ community by introducing the highest number of anti-gay bills, they attacked women and imposed restrictions on reproductive health care and passed some of the most stringent restrictions on abortion clinics in the nation, and of course, they attacked immigrants and made sure to introduce a slew of anti-immigration bills.

So, basically, in the state of Texas, freedom, choice, liberty are words that only have value and meaning for a privileged few. Freedom and liberty, come in the form of guns and glocks.

That is the genius of the Campus Carry Dildo Protest, it becomes the rebellious upholding of true freedom, expression and liberty. Or that the attainment of it and in the process, it reveals the falsity of the "individual liberty" argument, which is what the leadership of this state has used to protect their guns

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

Life is a series of choices...

Yes, we could talk about the presidential election, but wouldn't you rather talk about Godzilla?

Yes, I'd like that a lot.



The "right" choice depends on the individual.

BLA

Meanwhile in David Smith-Soto's classroom ...



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OCTOBER 13, 2015

	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON
	High 85 Low 62	High 84 Low 61	High 83 Low 62	High 75 Low 60	High 71 Low 57	High 75 Low 60	High 79 Low 59
	Partly Cloudy 0% Chance for Rain	Partly Cloudy 0% Chance for Rain	Partly Cloudy 0% Chance for Rain	Partly Cloudy 20% Chance for Rain	Partly Cloudy 30% Chance for Rain	Partly Cloudy 30% Chance for Rain	Partly Cloudy 20% Chance for Rain



SERGIO ZAMORA / THE PROSPECTOR

Sicario was released in the U.S. on Oct. 2nd and is scheduled to be released in Mexico in December of this year.

SICARIO from page 1

The movie's release has caused reaction on both sides of the border. El Paso city Rep. Peter Svarzbein organized a forum after a screening of "Sicario," where people could express their thoughts about the movie.

"I saw those people hanging from the bridges in Juárez, I saw the people without heads," said Blanca Callasco at the forum. "We're trying to bring back life to Juárez and these movies just bring back bad memories."

People who minimize the importance of the film and its portrayal of the city and its people point to the fact that, although the situation in Juárez has improved, there still remain a lot of problems spanning from corruption and leading to violence and insecurity.

“They have a right to make money and we have a right to be upset of these representations and images.

- Roberto Avant-Mier, Ph.D., UTEP professor

"Of course it's bad to stereotype people and depict a place in a negative way," said Howard Campbell, anthropology professor at

UTEP. "But Serrano's comments are hypocritical for the reason that the violence continues in Juárez."

Others such as Graciela Rubio, who was in attendance at the forum arranged by Svarzbein, don't believe it will impact the city negatively for the simple fact that it is a movie—it's fiction.

"It's fiction, it's very well done," Rubio said at the forum. "I do not think it will keep people from going to Juárez."

It is not the first time the portrayal of Mexican people on the silver screen causes controversy, it has been happening ever since the inception of films. The idea that movies, fictitious or not, impact society as a whole is a view shared by many scholars and the responsibility Hollywood should have in making movies has been a topic of debate for many years.

"One of the issues that we have in Hollywood is that, historically speaking, they've never represented Mexicans very fairly," said Roberto Avant-Mier, associate professor of communication. "This goes back to the 1900s and the days of silent films."

Misrepresentation of the Mexican people was present in old western movies, where Mexicans were portrayed as bad guys and banditos, and although the western genre has mostly died out, the negative portrayal continues in other forms. Even if the stereotypes shown in movies are not directly responsible for the issues society currently faces, Avant-Mier believes they still contribute in their own way.

"Scholars very definitively say that these stereotypes are harmful in that the ways that mainstream America views and understands, for example Mexicans, or Mexican immigrants or Latinos or illegals," Avant-Mier said. "The sort of percep-

tion of them as bad guys and criminals, bad people, banditos—it does really have real-life implications."

The idea and power behind these representations becomes stronger because of the number of movies there are about Mexicans. It is something Avant-Mier calls the burden of representation. The less movies there are depicting a certain culture or race, the bigger impact it can have on the public.

The fact that there are just not a lot of movies representing Mexicans, puts a bigger burden on the few that do exist, the weight they carry in impacting people's perception is larger.

"It wouldn't bother me so much if Mexicans were represented in a variety of different ways," Avant-Mier said. "If you have 10 movies about Mexicans and one is about drug dealers, it's not that big of a deal. But if there is 10 movies and nine are about drug dealers, most people are going to get the impression that that's what Mexicans are."

Although he would like for these types of movies not to be made, Avant-Mier understands and acknowledges Hollywood's rights and purposes, while at the same time pointing out the right of the public to share their disagreement with a film that can have consequences for an individual, a city and a culture as a whole.

"People want to make Hollywood movies, they're there to make

money," Avant-Mier said. "Who's to say what they're doing is wrong?"

They have a right to make money and we have a right to be upset of these representations and images."

Campbell said one has to look beyond the movie and focus on the issues of corruption and violence.

"I think that this attempt to blame everything on Hollywood is a way of diverting blame from the problems of corruption within the Mexican government and the problem of U.S. consumption of drugs and sale of guns," Campbell said. "We should really focus on those things and the violence occurring within Mexico and not on whether people are depicted badly or in a positive way, even though that does matter, but that's not the most important issue I would say."

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

Ballet Folklórico de México de Amalia Hernández

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President Obama addresses inequality in American workforce

BY JESSICA PEREDA

SHFWire

WASHINGTON – When Robert Hathorn visited the White House on Wednesday, he was wearing a button. It read: “Nissan, lead us not to tempt-nation.”

He explained why when he spoke to a forum on the U.S. workforce. “I make the same in 70 hours as a full-time employee does in 40.”

Hathorn is an autoworker in a Nissan factory in Clinton, Miss., where he is part of the Pathways Program, a transition program that teaches workers new skills and aims to make them full-time employees, generally in two years.

Nissan sold more than 2 million cars last year and has more than 100,000 employees globally.

Hathorn was one of the participants at the Summit on Worker Voice hosted by the White House. The summit was a series of events to generate solutions for labor issues such as the minimum wage, workplace flexibility and equal opportunity.

President Barack Obama spoke to the union leaders, workers and business leaders, saying solving labor issues will create opportunity for every American worker.

Obama said collective bargaining and unions are a possible solution to the problem of inequality in the workforce.

“Labor unions were often the driving force for progress,” he said. “The 40-hour workweek, overtime pay, health insurance, retirement plans. The middle class itself was built on a union label.”



JESSICA PEREDA/ SHFWire

Terrence Wise, 36, of Kansas City, Mo., a father of three children, tells President Barack Obama that he works for Burger King and McDonald’s, yet still struggles financially. He and his fiancée both work yet, “the wages are so low, we skip meals.” He attended a conference about the workforce Wednesday at The White House. SHFWire photo by Jessica Pereda

He said technology and the changing economy spurred the start of the conversation.

“Now, the economy is changing again. Technology has made it easier for companies to do more with less,” he said.

Yet with the beginning of the conversation, frustration showed.

Hathorn, a husband and father, said it is unjust for him to train full-time

workers who make \$25 an hour while he makes \$18 as a temporary worker.

In 2014, there were more than 2.8 million temporary workers in the U.S., according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

“In recent years, we’ve seen more companies cut costs by hiring contractors and ‘perma-temps’ – workers who are laboring side-by-side with full-time employees but

don’t earn the same pay and benefits and job security,” Obama said.

He said Congress has to help solve the problem.

“They need to strengthen paid leave and expanded child care, and raise the minimum wage for Americans across this country,” he said.

After expressing his frustration with the ineffectiveness of Congress, Obama said one immediate solution is to change the work culture in the U.S.

“Creating new norms and social pressure with employers ... is a really powerful tool,” Obama said.

Obama repeatedly stated his passion for labor issues and his involvement in organizing the summit. He said the conversation began after discussions with his Cabinet.

They shared “the belief that all the success we made in recovering the economy, if we don’t solve this problem, it will have a long, adverse effect on our competitiveness,” he said.

Secretary of Labor Thomas Perez said the conference was a call “to start a conversation.”

House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi and Vice President Joe Biden attended the conference.

Biden spoke shortly before the president’s town hall meeting. He expressed his frustration about the challenges for some American employees.

“Because of the way the deck has been stacked in the previous 10-12 years, middle class folks have been getting hurt, and they are still getting hurt,” Biden said.

Reach reporter Jessica Pereda at Jessica.pereda@scripps.com or 202-408-1493. SHFWire stories are free to any news organization that gives the reporter a byline and credits the SHFWire. Like the Scripps Howard Foundation Wire interns on Facebook and follow us on Twitter and Instagram.

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LOVE YOUR BODY WEEK
OCTOBER 12-15

<p>MONDAY - OCT 12</p> <p>ALL DAY Women's Body Image Through the Decades poster display 10 AM - 1 PM T-SHIRT DECO & RUNWAY #LOVEYOURBODY at Union Breezeway</p>	<p>TUESDAY - OCT 13</p> <p>ALL DAY Men's Body Image Through the Decades poster display 10:30 - 11:30 AM Eating Disorders Workshop by NAMI at Union East Acacia Room 102A 5 PM Movie Screening: MISS REPRESENTATION Union East University Suite Room 312</p>
<p>WEDNESDAY - OCT 14</p> <p>12 - 1:15 PM BROWN BAG LUNCH SERIES: Accommodating Transgender Population in Public Spaces at Union West Room 112 5:30 PM LIGHT THE NIGHT PURPLE WALK at Centennial Plaza 6 PM DANCE IN HER SNEAKERS ZUMBA at Centennial Plaza</p>	<p>THURSDAY - OCT 15</p> <p>1:30 - 2:30 PM Women and Gender Studies Workshop at Union East Acacia Room 102B 6 PM KEYNOTE SPEAKER YOMI ABIOLA at Union East Tomas Rivera Conference Center Room 306</p>

SA.UTEP.EDU/INCLUSION/LOVE-YOUR-BODY-WEEK

Build UTEP Pride and Embellish Your Campus

BY VALERIA TERRAZAS

The Prospector

With all the renovations and additions the campus of The University of Texas at El Paso has experienced recently comes increased work to maintain the landscape in peak condition. "Adopt a Landscape" is a new initiative presented by the Center for Environmental Resource Management that aims to do just that with the help of the university community.

"The campus transformation is beautiful, but it's created a lot more work," said Mara Cohn, program manager at UTEP's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, in an interview with UTEP News. "All of us need to make it our responsibility to keep the campus looking really great. We need to do our part, even if it's just picking up a piece of trash."

Cohn developed the idea that is now being put into effect by CERM. The invitation was extended to all students, faculty members and staff to adopt a green area and get involved in keeping that area weed free.

CERM, in conjunction with Facility Services will provide training to people interested in becoming a part of this initiative.

The training consists of learning how to recognize weeds and then cleaning up assigned locations around campus.

"If we are to ask people to pull out weeds, we need to give them a little bit of training," said Luis Perez, CERM manager. "We need to make sure they know what a weed is."

The danger of not being able to distinguish a weed from a plant is that person may remove a plant that is intended to be part of a specific landscape.

"All of us need to make it our responsibility to keep the campus looking really great."

- Mara Cohn,
Osher Lifelong Learning
Institute program manager

The first training on recognizing weeds was given this past Saturday, Oct. 10. Bruce Erhard, UTEP's grounds manager, was in charge of providing this training. With more than 40 years of experience as a horticulturalist, Erhard will be giving various training sessions on how to distinguish a common weed from UTEP's unique desert plants.

Upcoming training dates are have not been announced, but they will most likely take place during the weekends. see LANDSCAPE on page 10

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

BROWN BAG LUNCH

SELC will host the Brown Bag Lunch Series, centered on the topic "Accommodating Transgender Population in Public Spaces," from 12 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. in Union West Room 112. The Light the Night Purple Walk will take place at 5:30 p.m. at the Centennial Plaza. The Dance in Her Sneakers Zumba will take place at 6 p.m. at the Centennial Plaza.

GEOLOGICAL SCIENCES

The UTEP Department of Geological Sciences will host Earth Science Day from 1 to 4 p.m. on Saturday Oct. 14 at the Geological Science Building. This year the theme will be "Visualizing Earth Systems," and the celebration will include guest-lectures, games, and demonstrations, among others. To learn more visit Learn more at <http://www.geo.utep.edu/pub/esweek/>.

HIV MONITOR

Researchers from the University of Texas at El Paso have patented a low-cost HIV device that can monitor the health of HIV patients. The device, keeps count of the number of CD4 cells, cells that are attacked by HIV, by using magnetic micro scale beads that attach to the cells. The battery-powered device was created by Thomas Boland, professor of metallurgical, materials and biomedical engineering. He was featured on CNN and Discovery Channel for his device and has won numerous awards.

FLU SHOTS

UTEP will be hosting on site flu shots from Wednesday Oct. 14 to Saturday Oct. 17. Students and employees who fall under the UT Select/Blue Cross Blue Shield Academic Health Plan can receive the flu shots for free. Covered dependents and retirees can receive the shot for free. Students and employees who do not fall under the UT Select Academic Health Plan will be charged \$25. To schedule an appointment visit www.TimeConfirm.com/UTEP.

THE LABYRINTH OF DESIRE

The UTEP Department of Theatre and Dance is featuring the comedy "The Labyrinth of Desire," on Oct. 15, 16, 17, 22, 23 at 7:30 p.m. and on Oct. 18 & 2:00, 2:30 p.m. at the Wise Family Theatre on the 2nd Floor, Fox Fine Arts Center. Caridad Svich's modern day adaptation of Lope De Vega's La Prueba de los Ingenios, alludes to the blinding power of love, and will feature adult content.

Yahoo partners up with UTEP

BY JULIO CESAR CHAVEZ

The Prospector

Web giant Yahoo announced recently they are donating 40 servers to the UTEP Computer Science Department in an effort to make the field more ethnically diverse, marking the first time the company has worked with the university. The Yahoo program has donated servers to institutions such as Howard University and the University of Texas at Arlington to provide minority students with a chance to work with higher-end equipment.

Ann Gates, chair of the computer science department, said the three-year-old servers mean UTEP students will have more opportunities.

"It's going to allow us to teach courses that we wouldn't be able to before," Gates said.

The servers come with up to a terabyte of hard drive space each, including two gigabytes of RAM, giving the students plenty of computing capabilities.

"From new course work in distributed and cloud computing, to new data-intensive research programs in distributed systems and cybersecurity, these universities will have the resources to enhance their programs and train a new generation of world-class computer science students," said Don McGillen, a Yahoo representative, in a blog post about the donations.

Gates explained how the new equipment would also be used to enhance current coursework, particularly helping professors who do research into data analytics and data mining.

"I think having the students working with them without having to reserve (server) time would be a big difference," she said.

According to Gates, not all students will get to work directly with these servers though.

A group of around 40 students would be selected by professors and get the chance to do hands-on work on the machines themselves. While these few dozen will be the only ones working with the physical servers, other students may be given the chance to connect remotely and run programs through the servers.

"It's not just the servers, Yahoo wants to start a collaboration with UTEP."

- Ann Gates, chair of the computer science department

"I think it's going to allow us to do research that we wouldn't be able to do otherwise," Gates said.

Yahoo had previously sent a representative to speak with UTEP computer science students about the importance of research and how new minds could expand the field.

In the presentation, the representative also explained to students about the opportunities available at Yahoo and similar companies, where students would have the chance to work and learn from equipment used by industry leaders.

The work with Yahoo goes beyond their donation of hardware.

"It's not just the servers, Yahoo wants to start a collaboration with UTEP," Gates said.

The 40 servers donated by Yahoo rounds out a good month for the computer science department. In early September, Gates was awarded the 2015 Great Minds in STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) Education award from HENAAC (Hispanic Engineer National Achievement Awards Corporation) over 200 other nominees.

The potential of the department, both faculty and students, is something Yahoo recognized when creating this new relationship with the university.

"There is outstanding talent at both of these universities (UTEP and UT Arlington)," McGillen said. "We hope to cultivate interest among those students to pursue careers at Yahoo!"

Julio Cesar Chavez may be reached at theprospectordaily.news@gmail.com.



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House Democrats introduce Children's Bill of Rights



MAREN MACHLES / SHFWire

Reps. Luis V. Gutiérrez, D-Ill., left; Karen Bass, D-Calif., center, and Judy Chu, D-Calif. meet on Capitol Hill Friday with children from Brighwood Education Campus and Amidon-Bowen Elementary School. The children made posters illustrating their rights.

BY MAREN MACHLES

SHFWire

WASHINGTON - Children need more than the U.S. Bill of Rights to protect them, according to three House Democrats. On Friday, they introduced a 22-point bill of rights just for children.

The Children's Bill of Rights includes the right to receive appropriate medical treatment, including therapeutic care, and the right of access to training in life skills.

More than a fifth of children live in poverty. Because of this, their rights to physical, mental and educational well-being are constantly challenged or forgotten. Children are 23.3 percent of the population and a third of those in poverty.

The bill, supported by the First Focus Campaign for Children and 118 other organizations, includes 22 rights expanding on children's freedom of speech and the protection of their health and education. The bill was introduced by Reps. Karen Bass, D-Calif., Judy Chu, D-Calif. and Luis V. Gutiérrez, D-Ill. Gutiérrez said the bill is not controversial but is about basic human rights.

The U.S. is the only country that has not ratified the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. Republicans have opposed the U.N. document for fear it would impose costs on the government and usurp parental rights.

"One right in the resolution that I am particularly proud of says, 'children' - our children, my children - 'have the right to have parents,

elect officials, and other adults consider the impact that their decisions have on their care and communities," Gutiérrez said. "It is so basic. It is a shame we need resolutions to remind us of what is a right."

The House members said these rights are important because of the high poverty rate for children. "If you think about it for one minute, the United States of America is the richest country on the planet," Bass said. "There is no reason in the world that we should not provide health care, housing, education, food, clothing and every other item that every human being needs, especially children."

The bill is about making sure that children are in the right hands to have a healthy and enriching environment to grow up in. It is the government's job to make sure that happens, Bass said.

In 2011, more than 400,500 children were in foster care, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. "We take them away from their parents because we believe their parents either neglect or abuse them," Bass said. "When we take them away from their parents, then we, the government, become their parents, and so to me, we need to make sure that every arm of government does not repeat the abuse and neglect that we have found their parents to be guilty of."

Reach reporter Maren Machles at maren.machles@scripps.com or 202-408-1491. SHFWire stories are free to any news organization that gives the reporter a byline and credits the SHFWire. Like the Scripps Howard Foundation Wire interns on Facebook and follow us on Twitter and Instagram.

The University of Texas
at El Paso

CLASS OF 2015

We invite you to stop by The Prospector Office
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from October 13-October 31 during regular business hours
to leave your farewell messages.
Messages will be published in our Graduation Issue
on December 1.

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Question of the week: What do you think of the movie 'Sicario'?

ADRIAN BROADDUS, ANDRES MARTINEZ, SERGIO ZAMORA, ANGEL ULLOA / THE PROSPECTOR



GABRIELA MENDEZ

Freshman speech pathology major
 "Movies like those make druglords look powerful rather than what they are which is a negative influence. However, it does make seem Mexico like a scary place which isn't at all, at least not all of it."



ANGEL SANDOVAL

Senior marketing major
 "Overall it's just a movie, but since Juarez is trying to bounce back, I think this can take them back as a city."



NATHALY GONZALEZ

Senior marketing major
 "It's important that major movie studios represent what happens in other countries. We shouldn't be offended because what happened in this border should be known throughout the world."



CARLOS ACEVES

Freshman music performance major
 "I feel that the movie brings out the truth of what's going on not very far from where we live."



MITZI PEDROZA

Sophomore speech pathology major
 "Movies are meant to entertain people and not meant to take seriously. What happened in movie affects us too so people have the right to see what happened."



NICHOLAS BUCKHATTER

Freshman business major
 "I haven't seen the movie, but I fell like no one should get mad about it, it's just a movie. But some of what I heard about the movie is true so there's nothing to get mad about."



NIDIA ALVES

Sophomore speech pathology major
 "If the film shows the situation realistically, then there isn't anything wrong with the film."



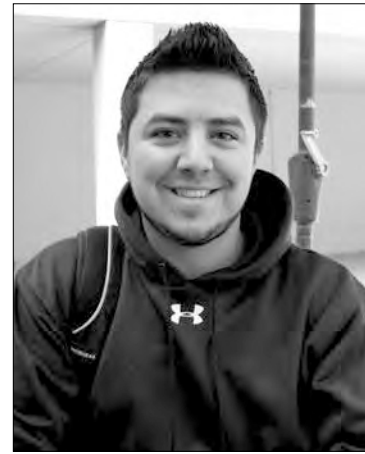
DANIEL GRIJALVA

Sophomore economics major
 "I heard our mayor Oscar Leeser recommended that we dont watch the film because it gives our area a bad reputation."



NOSHIN HABIB

Junior, mechanical engineering major
 "The movie was interesting because it hits close to home."



JACOB RODRIGUEZ

Freshman criminal justice major
 "I thought it was a really good movie, it had constant suspense and entertainment. I also think they perceived the political aspect of the movie in an accurate way."



EDUARDO DE JESUS

Sophomore bioethical science major
 "I think it's an informative movie because people don't know with what we deal with here on the borderland."



MANUEL FLORES

Freshman business major
 "I feel that the movie is just describing Mexico with something that happened. I think it's kind of racist just describing just the bad that happened."



MARCEL GILLEY

Freshman engineering major
 "A negative thing about Sicario was that they glorify the bad part of Juarez and they are damaging the reputation of the city."



MATTHEW BUXTON

Junior political scienc major
 "I don't see why people are so upset about it."



JOSE HERNANDEZ

Freshman kinesiology major
 "Being someone who visits Juarez frequently, it has changed in a positive way and the violence has gone down a lot, so I see no issue with the movie for it is fictional."



SEBASTIAN PEREZ

Sophomore mechanical engineering major
 "The movie seemed to drastic, I'm sure everyone from Juarez thought that."



STEPHANIE RAMIREZ

Freshman kinesiology tmajor
 "I think the movie is kinda fictional because it shows that Juarez is a bad place but for some it's really not."



STEPHON FOSTER

Sophomore pre-nursing major
 "I feel like the movie gave an insight on what happens in Juarez. It also shows how El Paso is when the crime rate is fairly low here."



STEVEN MANNING

Freshman kinesiology major
 "I thought the movie was pretty accurate on how the CIA runs things and how they try to make their money."



WALTER LUJAN

Freshman engineering major
 "The movie glorifies narcos and narco activity, when it shouldn't be glorified at all."

LANDSCAPE from page 5

The idea is that these individuals will be responsible for the upkeep of that certain area for the rest of the semester.

"The real benefit is in pride to the university," Perez said. "(It) is in people feeling good, it is about coming together as a whole. Take ownership and have the population here on UTEP more involved."

Perez's sentiment of not only keeping the campus beautiful, but doing it in a way that brings students, faculty and staff together was met positively.

"I think it's a great idea," said Alan Reveles, senior psychology major. "It's a great way to internalize the effort and allow students to be more personally involved in the upkeep of their campus."

The initiative is way for the community to address what some students perceive as a lack of school spirit on campus.

"Because UTEP is a commuter school, I don't think there is enough of an emotional stake in the way UTEP looks," said Christian Alexander, freshman business major.

Valeria Terrazas may be reached at theprospectordaily.news@gmail.com.



"Adopt a Landscape" is a new initiative presented by the Center for Environmental Resource Management.

JONATHON DUARTE / THE PROSPECTOR

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OCTOBER 13, 2015

OUR VIEW

PHOTO EDITOR

MICHAELA ROMÁN, 747-7477

'Adopt a Landscape' aims to keep UTEP's campus beautiful



JONATHON DUARTE / THE PROSPECTOR

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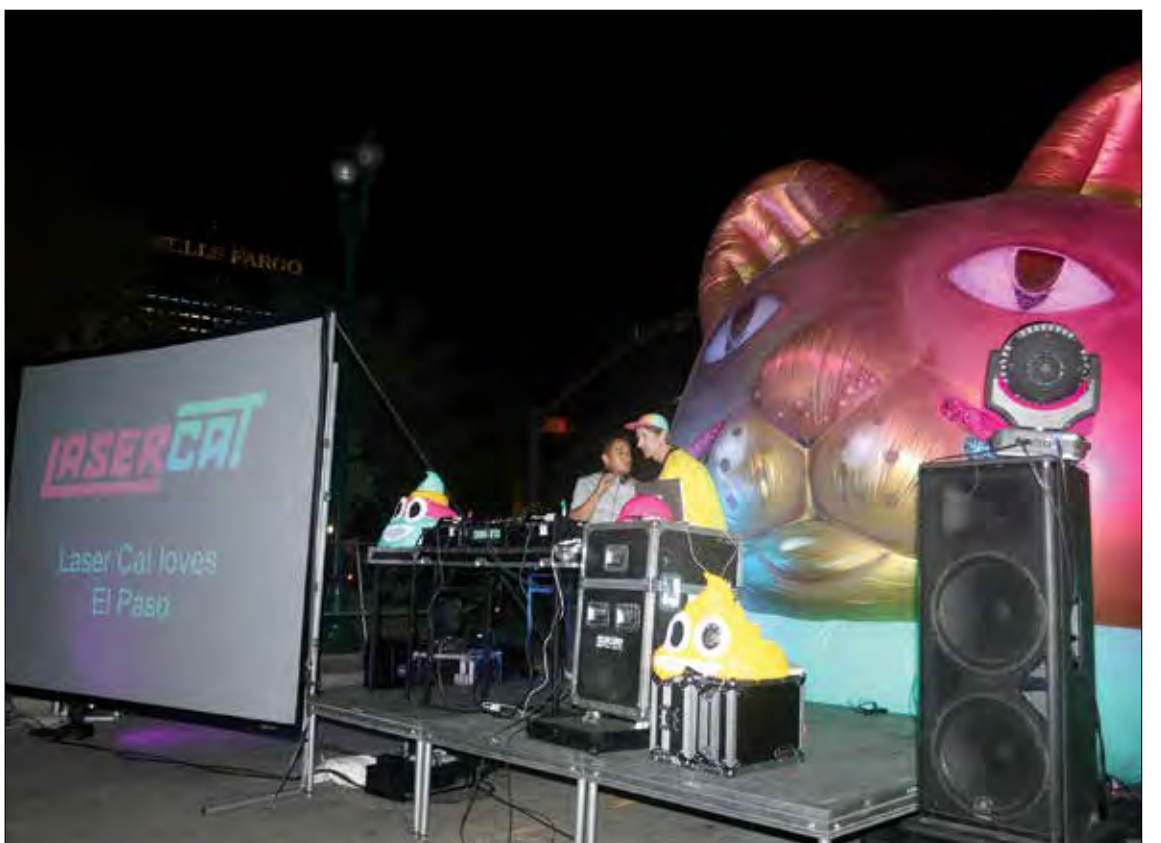
OCTOBER 13, 2015

ENTERTAINMENT

EDITOR
JOSE SOTO, 747-7477

OUR VIEW

Over 40,000 El Pasoans color the streets at Chalk The Block



MICHAELA ROMAN / THE PROSPECTOR

The annual Chalk the Block event drew artists, local bands, vendors and spectators together to downtown El Paso.

'Sicario' delivers gruesome reality

BY JOSE SOTO

The Prospector

Although it's been out for over a week, "Sicario" continues to conjure up a roiling mix of opinion and emotion. The star-studded film has been the matter of conversation from Ciudad Juárez Mayor Enrique Serrano, asking Juarenses to refrain from viewing the film, to exchange dialogue amongst UTEP students and professors. It isn't hard to understand why. The film largely portrays local unexposed occurrences, and portrays it very vividly on the big screen. If you haven't been paying attention to local news and print publications, "Sicario" frankly depicts the inglorious drug war that has been happening in Mexico.

As a Hollywood production, "Sicario" depends on violence to convey its message. Although, not far-fetched, the film makes the crude barbarity that the Mexican cartels have spurred, not only on the streets of Juárez, but also throughout the entire country, a cinematic thrill. The film depicts a version of the border region that is quite dated. In actuality, the violence has dramatically dropped, but you can't say that it has ceased. "Sicario" takes place in a reality that was roughly five years ago, which is exactly why it has



SPECIAL TO THE PROSPECTOR

outraged many locals because it falsely portrays Juárez to a large audience.

The film is inundated with gore, but it is necessary. We, as residents of the

border between Mexico and the United States, know how gruesome the drug war has been. This film is intended for a larger audience, who needs a visualization of the violence. French director Denis Villeneuve utilizes this visual aesthetic throughout the entire film, grabbing the audience by being as crass as possible. The bleakness is what makes the film as enticing as it is.

Emily Blunt, known for her more comedic roles, delivers a brilliant performance here. Although starring beside equally famed actors Benicio Del Toro and Josh Brolin, it is Blunt who drives "Sicario."

Blunt plays Kate Macer, an FBI agent who specializes in hostage safety. She is an idealist, following proper professional protocol. Matt Graver, played by Brolin, enlists her on the vague mission involving Mexican drug cartels. Both characters are juxtaposed throughout the film with the intention of protecting the nation from the cartels, not wanting the violence to spill unto U.S. territory. The one thing that "Sicario" lacks is direction. The film keeps the audience in murky waters throughout most of its two-hour run. The true intentions of the mission that takes several members of American government agencies into dangerous Mexican territories are not revealed until very late into the film. This is when "Sicario" starts making its fictional actuality very apparent.

The film begins with a home raid in the outskirts of Phoenix. Here, the FBI team finds a multitude of dead bodies hidden behind the walls of a home. Indeed, these are not hostages that Kate had plans to find. Instead, they find dead victims that were in held in the chokehold that the Mexican cartels have on their affiliates. This border crossing between U.S. soil and the violent reality that the drug war presents is highly represented throughout the film. There are bodies dangling from the bridge when the agents cross into Juárez to transport one of the cartel bosses. They also encounter crossfire between gangs at the bridge. A hit man is hired from within the Phoenix police department to obtain information from Blunt's character. The brutal actuality of what has been occurring on the border is sufficiently executed.

What "Sicario" doesn't deliver is the opposite side of the coin. We might be exposed to the violence in Mexico, which is easily comprehended by those of us living on the border, but what it doesn't do is show how this

kind of reality has become too real for Mexicans. In a nation engulfed in corruption and lack of government direction, it becomes natural for it's people to live with harsh realities as a norm. We, the audience, are only taken into Mexican territory a handful of times, making the plot almost entirely developed on U.S. terms, but that is not the nature of the Mexico's drug war. One must understand the nature of living and operating in Mexico in order to thoroughly comprehend what the drug war entails.

Benicio Del Toro's character, Alejandro, finishes off the film by single-handedly taking down the principal cartel boss. Understandably, the film needs a heroic character, and judging by Kate's vulnerability and naive demeanor, it isn't going to be her. But Del Toro's character is driven by revenge, and there is almost no emotional aesthetic displayed through-

out the film until then. It could have possibly been more realistic to finish the film with a procedural militant group getting to the lead drug lord.

"Sicario" has received many good reviews, but has also upset many by its depiction of the borderland. As far as the violent nature of the drug war, the film delivers excessively. From all the Hollywood-produced films that have aimed to showcase the war on drugs such as "Traffic" and "Savages," this is the film that does it more accurately. Keep in mind that this is Hollywood while watching the movie and keep in mind that this is an American-produced film. Also, keep in mind that there were actually many lives lost in Mexico while they were making of this film.

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

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SPECIAL TO THE PROSPECTOR

Cafe Central voted most romantic place in 2015 Pick Awards



ANGEL ULLOA / THE PROSPECTOR

Café Central is located at 109 Oregon St. in downtown El Paso.

BY JULIA HETTIGER

The Prospector

There are many ideas for a romantic date such as stargazing or going to a movie, but many UTEP students find themselves taking their significant others to Café Central, a swanky downtown restaurant known for its ambience and green chili soup.

After a week of voting, this year's Pick Award for best romantic

place goes to Café Central. Claudio Melendez, a waiter and bartender at Café Central, said winning this award gives him pride.

"It gives us our pride working for a company this good," Melendez said.

At this time of year, Café Central puts a lot of effort into coordinating parties, which become highly popular around November and December of each year.

"We're getting ready to start the party season," Melendez said.

Although party fever takes place this time of year, Melendez said adding and trying new things is a continuous event at Café Central.

"There's always new stuff happening here," Melendez said.

"We have wine tasting and we also have a lot of catering."

According to Melendez, Café Central has become a popular place for many UTEP students to go grab cocktails, chat and unwind after a busy day.

"We do not have too large of a UTEP customer base, but we definitely do get a lot of UTEP students that come in," Melendez said.

In the past, Café Central has worked with other restaurants to help them build and expand their UTEP customer base.

"We used to work for Chicago Street Food and that helped," Melendez said. "Plus, I know some of the people that come here, too, and many of them attended UTEP."

Melendez said romantics and students alike are most likely drawn to the restaurant because of Café Central's character.

"The ambience and the quality of the food definitely make it romantic," Melendez said. "It is also because of the way we treat people when we come in and we serve them, we try to make it really romantic."

While Café Central is popular for its romanticism and quality, the type of experience a customer has differs depending on if he or she dines there at night or during the day. Melendez said this can have a great impact on any given customer's visit.

"It definitely changes from the day to the night, where the day is a little bit faster service," Melendez said. "We

sometimes serve in-and-out courses, so their meal does not necessarily have to be the traditional four courses."

Dining during the day may be a quicker experience, but dining at night is generally more relaxed.

"When you dine at Café Central at night, you can expect to stay here at least from an hour or an hour and a half to anywhere around three hours, so you can get the true experience," Melendez said.

When dining at Café Central at night, Melendez said customers usually enjoy a traditional four-course meal.

"You start with an appetizer and then you move on to a soup or salad," Melendez said. "Then you have your entrée and lastly your dessert."

Although this is the usual for nighttime customers, some expand their four-course meal to a five-course meal.

"We even have some customers come in earlier to start off with cocktails," Melendez said. "You could always go all the way here."

Café Central is located at 109 Oregon St. For more information, call 915-545-2233.

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

Tricky Falls voted best music venue

BY JULIA HETTIGER

The Prospector

All kinds of artists, from electronic dance music superstars and Green Day to the upcoming Blessthefall and Plain White T's concerts, have been hosted at Tricky Falls, so it is no wonder they were voted best music venue in El Paso in this year's Prospector Pick Awards.

Tricky Falls, located at 209 El Paso St., is a music venue and bar wedged in between shops and restaurants in downtown El Paso. Tricky Falls has been home to a number of concerts and has climbed the ranks to become one of El Paso's prominent music venues.

Austin Frisbey, senior biological sciences major, said Tricky Falls is a good place to see concerts and shows.

"I have seen Atmosphere, Figure, OFWKTA, Purity Ring and a few other artists there, and my experiences were good," Frisbey said.

Although Tricky Falls appeared to be squeezed between other buildings, the inside area is spacious, which allows for a laid-back atmosphere.

"A lot of shows don't get too packed there, so it's a comfortable place to be at for a show," Frisbey said.

Based on his experiences, Frisbey said Tricky Falls would definitely be a place he would suggest to go to for concerts.

"I would recommend it to a friend," Frisbey said. "It is one of the nicer venues in El Paso."

Jazmin Lopez, senior pre-speech language pathology major, is another student who has had an enjoyable experience at Tricky Falls. Although the concerts she saw there happened a few years back, she still looks back positively on it.

"I saw Taking Back Sunday and The Maine there about two years ago," Lopez said. "I had a nice experience."

Misled by the outside appearance of the building, Lopez said she was surprised by the size of the interior at Tricky Falls.

"It was bigger than I expected it to be, and everyone was actu-

ally really nice," Lopez said. "After the show we were even able to hang around outside to meet the band."

Lopez said the venue was not disappointing, and it added to the experience of seeing some of her favorite bands in concert.

"I was very impressed with the venue," Lopez said. "I think it has an

"I was very impressed with the venue. I think it has an authentic feel from the outside in."

- Jazmin Lopez, senior pre-speech language pathology major

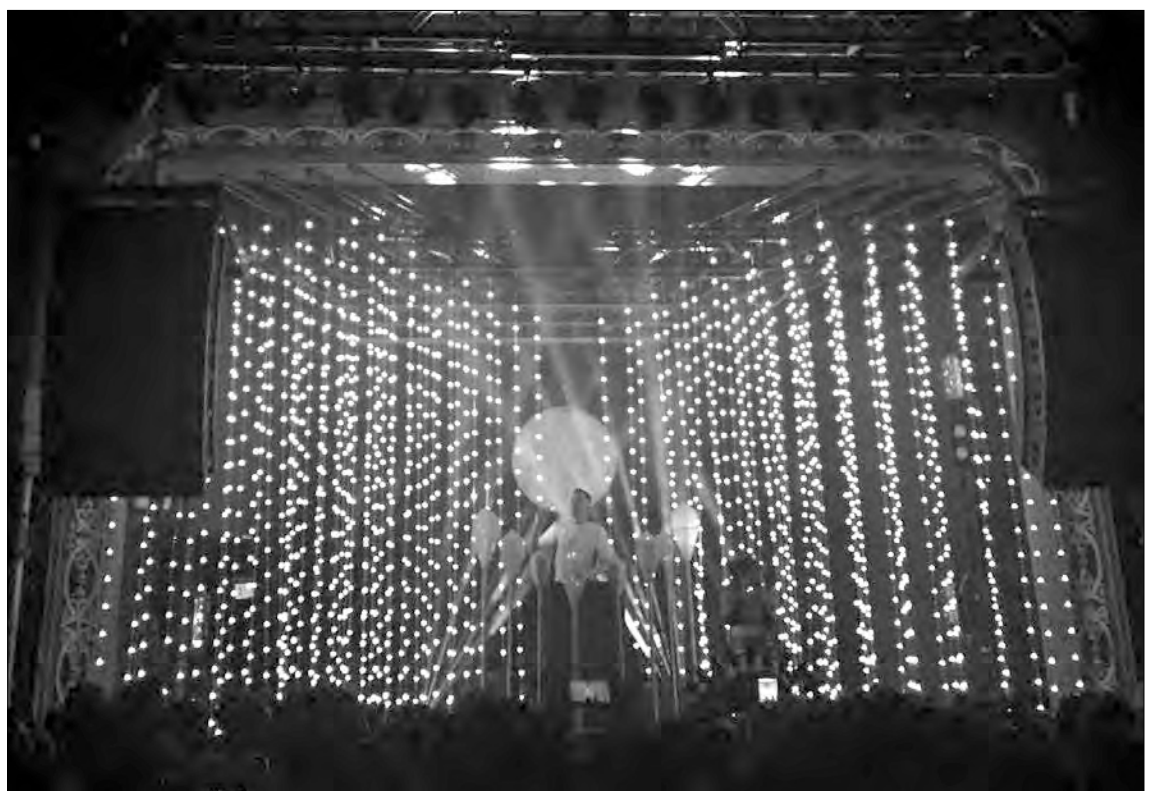
authentic feel from the outside in."

In addition to the stage and performance area, Tricky Falls also has the bar and lounge inside its facilities. Bowie Feathers, which has a number of leather couches to hang out on and stylish art work on the walls, is a nice place to wind down, according to Lopez.

"I like how they have the bar (Bowie Feathers) and a balcony, where you can just chill and enjoy the shows," Lopez said.

The building that houses Tricky Falls and Bowie Feathers was built by prominent architect Henry C. Trost in 1914, landing the building a spot on the National Register of Historic Buildings. The next concert will be the metal band Blessthefall on Oct. 21. For more information about Tricky Falls, call 915-351-9938.

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



Tricky Falls is located at 209 El Paso St in downtown El Paso.

ANGEL ULLOA / MICHAELA ROMAN / THE PROSPECTOR

LOVE YOUR BODY WEEK

TUESDAY, OCT. 13

ALL DAY-Men's Body Image Through the Decades poster display

10:30-11:30 AM-Eating Disorders Workshop by NAMI at Union East Acacia Room 102A

5 PM-Movie Screening: 'Miss Representation' Union East University Suite Room 312

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 14

12-1:15PM-Brown Bag Lunch Series: Accommodating Transgender Population in Public Spcares at Union West Room 112

5:30 PM-Light the Night Purple Walk at Centennial Plaza

6 PM- Dance in Her Sneakers Zumba at Centennial Plaza

THURSDAY, OCT. 15

1:30-2:30 PM-Woman and Gender Studies Workshop at Union East Andesite Room 102B

6 PM- Keynote Speaker: Yomi Abiola, the first African-America face for Maybelline Cosmetics, will speak at the Union East Tomas Rivera Conference Center Room 308

Oktoberfest caters to beer enthusiasts



ANDRES MARTINEZ/ THE PROSPECTOR

Oktoberfest will take place Saturday, Oct. 17 at Cohen Stadium.

BY JOSE SOTO

The Prospector

It is no secret, El Pasoans love their beer. There are many bars that cater to beer enthusiasts, filling up on craft beers that have become favorites. Soon, these same enthusiasts will be able to attend an event that will highlight and showcase a myriad of different beers.

Oktoberfest will be happening on Saturday, Oct. 17 at Cohen Stadium, and will offer more than 20 beers for attendees to sample. The event, presented by Western Tech, will provide those who looking to try out seasonal beers, one they haven't tried yet—specifically the popular Oktoberfest beers.

Veronica Hernandez, live event manager for Townsquare Media, who produced the event, said that this is the perfect occasion to try seasonal beers.

"We took note into getting authentic, seasonal beers," Hernandez said. "There will be a multitude of breweries there. With over 20 different types of beers, there's definitely something for everybody."

"We've been developing this festival for over a year," Hernandez said. "It's been a very detailed process."

Nicolaas Koppert, event marketing manager for El Paso Live, said Oktoberfest will also help promote the newly-renovated Cohen Stadium.

"They have been cleaning up the stadium for this event because of the recent rainstorms that the city has had," Koppert said. "Cohen Stadium has been renovated and many people haven't had the chance to see it. When we (El Paso Live) obtained the stadium, it was in pretty bad shape. Events like Oktoberfest will be one of the most recent that will show off how the stadium looks now."

Koppert said that the event will include free parking at the stadium.

Eduardo Salas, a freshmen English and American literature major, said he would attend the event.

"I definitely would attend," Salas said. "I'm a big fan of beer, especially during football season."

Salas said there are several reasons why so many people like beer.

"Definitely the acquired taste of certain beers, the process by which they're brewed, and some of the history behind their inception, and how different tastes and concoctions were crossed to create some of the finer craft beers that might be showcased at the event," Salas said.

Hernandez said the event will have proper security at the event, and that this kind of event attracts people who simply want to try out different things.

"It isn't a bar or club environment. It's very family-orientated," Hernandez said. "We're even allowing dogs to join."

The entry fee for Oktoberfest is \$10. VIP tickets will cost \$30, which will allow ticket holders entrance to the VIP area with five exclusive beer selections, a meal, private bathrooms and a guaranteed glass stein. Beer purchases will cost \$5 per glass. Uber will offering free rides either to or from the event with promo code AOT15.

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

“We took note into getting authentic, seasonal beers.”

- Vanessa Hernandez, live event manager for Townsquare Media

Some of the beers that will be available are Weihenstephan Hefe Weissbier Dunkel, which is a dark beer, Weihenstephan Kristall Weissbier, Weihenstephan Oktoberfestbier, König Pilsener and Ayinger Weisse.

Some of the seasonal VIP beers will be Uinta Punk'n Harvest Pumpkin Ale and Upslope Pumpkin Ale.

Hernandez said according to sales, they are expecting more than 2,000 people to attend the festival.

"The first 2,500 people will receive a commemorative glass stein to drink from," Hernandez said. "There will also be a few local bands and food vendors. One of the food vendors will be Hog Haus, which is an authentic German food truck."

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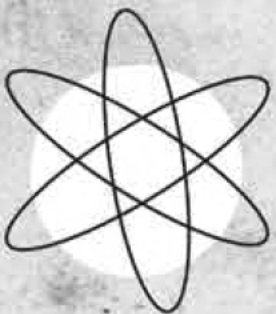
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BY FERNANDA LEON

The Prospector

Sci-fi fanatics will have the chance to celebrate their passion with an event that will showcase art, movies and celebrities, and bring El Pasoans a weekend full of science fiction fantasy.

The Sun City SciFi Expo will include activities such as gaming, Q&As, exhibitors, along with the appearance of celebrities, cosplayers and comic book artists.

"We decided to bring a sci-fi convention to El Paso after spending over a decade attending conventions around the country," said Ean Puhlman, organizer of the event.

"The borderland has not had many pop culture conventions in the past, so we decided to bring a quality, professional event to El Paso."

As part of the event, sci-fi fans will be able to have question and answer sessions with the participating celebrities and cosplayers at the convention's panel room. Photo opportunities are also available for a small fee.

"We are very excited to be welcoming two pop culture icons to Sun City SciFi Fan Expo," Puhlman said. "Verne Troyer, who portrayed Mini Me in the Austin Powers films, and Nichelle Nichols, who is known for her role as Lt. Uhura in 'Star Trek'—the original series."

Other celebrities who will be attending the event are Karan Ashley from the "Mighty Morphin Power Rangers," Clive Revill from "Star Wars" and "Batman: The Animated Series," and Jim Tavaré from the Harry Potter films.

Nadyasonika, Blue Destiny, Andy Perez and Christina Dark will be among the cosplayer guests who will be attending the expo.

Game Stop will be running a video game room for attendees to have a good time and socialize while playing video games.

"We will have our costume contest at 5 p.m. on Saturday Oct. 17 that will be hosted by the Coyotes Fortune Steampunk group," Puhlman said. "These are just a few of the highlighted events at our convention."

Puhlman said fans from El Paso tend to be very diverse. While some of them like "Star Wars" and "Star Trek," others prefer anime, cosplay and comics.

"We have to put on a very diverse show—that way we have something for everyone to enjoy," Puhlman said.

Medardo Barrera, senior studio art major, said he really enjoys the sci-fi genre and that it had to be of great quality in order to be credible and make people believe that something that comes from fantasy can be real.

"Sci-fi is a really cool genre because, as a producer or cinematographer, you are capable to do a lot of things," Barrera said. "You basically do magic when incorporating sci-fi to a movie. The problem is when sci-fi effects are low quality it looks false—when sci-fi is supposed to bring fantasy to look credible."

Barrera said he believes that having a sci-fi convention in El Paso would be helpful for people who may not be considered fans of the genre, but who are also interested in cinematography.

"I really like the idea of the Sun City SciFi Expo," Barrera said. "Maybe an



FILE PHOTO

The Sun City SciFi Expo will take place at the Camino Real hotel from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Oct. 17 and from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Oct. 18.

El Pasoan who is interested in the genre and in cinematography can find these types of events very helpful."

A convention such as the Sun City SciFi Expo usually takes many days of planning in order to have everything prepared in time for opening day.

"It usually takes about six months to plan an event like this," Puhlman said. "There are so many different things

that go into a convention that you need to be very organized and give yourself enough time to do everything."

Prices for the event are \$12.50 plus tax for single day entrance, and \$22.50 plus tax for weekend tickets. Children tickets begin at \$2.

The Sun City SciFi Expo will take place at the Camino Real hotel from

10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Oct. 17 and from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Oct. 18.

For more information about the Sun City SciFi fan expo, visit www.suncityscifi.com or call (915) 873-4294.

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SPORTS

EDITOR

JAVIER CORTEZ, 747-7477

Miners head into much needed bye week



ANDRES MARTINEZ / THE PROSPECTOR

The UTEP football team is heading into their bye week after a 52-12 loss to the FIU Panthers in Miami this past Saturday.

BY ADRIAN BROADDUS

The Prospect

Following back-to-back grueling losses to the University of Texas at San Antonio and Florida International University, respectively, the UTEP football team finds themselves in a desperate rebuilding mode entering week seven of the season. Falling to 2-4 (0-2) after six games, the beat-up squad will have their much-needed first bye week of the season.

During the off week, Sean Kugler is left to serve as a messiah to a shaky team. Many holes need to be fixed such as finding true starters on of-

fense and working around the health issues for some of the injured players.

The rough 52-12 loss against the FIU Panthers was both unexpected and a disappointing performance for the Miners. The Panther offense opened the game by easily maneuvering through the defense for 75 yards to score in just six plays. Then, in a blink of an eye, the Panthers stopped the Miner offense and scored back-to-back touchdowns, extending their lead to 21-0 with 1:05 in the first quarter.

Starting quarterback Ryan Metz could not get anything rolling on offense, as he threw a pick-six on the next drive. Metz, who went 2-for-4,

had a mere 10 yards and was benched after the interception.

Freshman Kavika Johnson, who's seen playing time in a wildcat package, took Metz' place and finished the game. Johnson was able to lead a 73-yard drive, which featured a 53-yard pass to Cole Freytag on a third and six, that ended in a field goal. The Miners trailed 42-3 at the half.

"Ryan had a pick-six and the offense stalled at that point," Kugler said. "We just needed a spark right before halftime. We put in Kavika. He gave us a little spark down the field. He continued to give us a spark in the second half."

Halfway into the third quarter, Johnson again found Freytag for a 23-yard touchdown pass. However, this was the only touchdown the Miners had on the day. Although the Panthers outgained the Miners 518 to 272-yards, the Miners were on par with FIU in the running game. Lead receiver turned running back, Warren Redix, rushed for 52 yards.

The Miners outgained the Panthers 188-166 on the ground. Also, with his 92 yards on kick off returns, Autrey Golden became UTEP's all-time leader in kickoffs with 2,758 yards in his career. However, the 40-point loss did not register well with head coach Sean Kugler.

"Beyond tough," Kugler said referring to the loss. "We lost a few more guys. I can't say enough. We're a beat-up team. As the head coach, I've got to do a good job of keeping these guys together and trying to field a competitive team and keep them fighting. That's on me."

Now midway into the season with a bye week, the heavily injured Miners are left to find diamonds in the rough.

Due to injuries, the squad is playing their third and fourth-string quarterbacks, Metz and Johnson. However, during this bye week the question of whether Mack Leftwich, the former starting quarterback, will regain his starting position still remains. Leftwich suffered a concussion in the New Mexico State game and has not played for the Miners since then.

Another spot where the offense is hurting is the running back position. After both first and second-string players, Aaron Jones and Darrin Laufasa, respectively, were sidelined due to injury, coach Kugler resorted to changing positions on the depth chart to fill the void.

During the FIU game, two more tailbacks, LaQuintus Dowell and

Treyvon Hughes, suffered injuries that took them out of the game. Alongside Redix, what's left of the running game is Jeremiah Laufasa and Johnson.

On the defensive side, injuries have resulted in the switching of various positions. Nonetheless, key players such as Alvin Jones, Kelvin Fisher and Ishmael Harris will be expected to fully recover from their respective injuries and get healthy during this off-week.

“As the head coach, I've got to do a good job of keeping these guys together and trying to field a competitive team and keep them fighting.”

- Sean Kugler,
UTEP football head coach

"We'll try to get healed up as best as we can and try to compete our tails off the rest of the year," Kugler said. "We're playing with a wide receiver at tailback, a safety at tailback, and we're down to our third or fourth quarterback. We're bare bones, but it won't keep us from competing."

After the bye week, the Miners will host Florida Atlantic on Saturday, Oct. 24.

Adrian Broaddus may be reached at theprospectordaily.sports@gmail.com.

Miners face defensive challenge on the road



SERGIO ZAMORA / THE PROSPECTOR

The UTEP women's soccer team has five games remaining in the regular season.

BY LUIS GONZALEZ

The Prospect

The UTEP women's soccer team will be on the road once again this weekend when they visit Louisiana Tech and Southern Miss on Friday, Oct. 16, and Saturday, Oct. 17, respectively. These will be the last road

games of the regular season for head coach Kevin Cross and his Miners, before finishing with three straight at University Field.

"We look at being on the road as an opportunity. Our girls get extra sleep, great meals and have lots of fun together," Cross said. "They are just

focused on one thing on the road, winning the soccer game."

UTEP is coming off a win at the University of Texas at San Antonio, making it three straight games without a defeat and first after two hard-fought ties at home.

The Miners created danger on the Roadrunners' goal from the start. Just 44 seconds into the game, senior forward Angela Cutaia sent a ball just over the home team's crossbar in a sign of things to come. UTEP would have a couple of other chances before finally taking advantage of one.

With the clock showing 23 minutes into the contest, Cutaia dribbled down the left flank with bad intentions. She crossed the ball into the Roadrunner box, where junior midfielder Bri Barreiro found it and headed it past the keeper.

The Miners would not score another goal, but hung on to the result thanks to freshman keeper Alyssa Palacios' fantastic day under the three posts. The Miner goalkeeper recorded seven saves on the way to her fourth clean sheet.

"It was a very hard-fought win. It was one of the most physical games we have played in," Cross said. "We had to give everything we had to win against a highly-motivated UTSA squad."

With a 9-4-2 record, 2-1-2 in conference, the Miners now turn their at-

tention to Louisiana Tech and Southern Miss as they continue to battle for one of the eight spots in the Conference USA tournament, held in Miami in early November.

In Louisiana Tech, UTEP will face one of the top four defenses in the conference. Tech has allowed 15 goals this season, an average of less than a goal per game. Although their 9-7 record in conference may not be as impressive as the Miners, the Lady Techsters are 2-4 in conference and just two points behind UTEP. A win against the Miners would not only mean breaking the two-game losing streak they are currently on, but also a climb up the standings and into the top eight.

Louisiana Tech lost its two last games on the road against Florida International and Florida Atlantic, a road trip the Miners split themselves beating Atlantic and losing to International in late September.

The Lady Techsters will look to crowd their defensive third, leaving very few spaces for the Miners to attack, while looking to send numbers forward in the counter attack.

"(They) are a very difficult team to play against," Cross said. "They play the toughest defense in the conference. We have to be very focused and play hard as they really battle."

After their match in Ruston, La., the Miners will travel to Hattiesburg,

Miss., for a date with the Southern Miss Golden Eagles.

In Ruston, UTEP will face a similar foe to that of Louisiana Tech. The Golden Eagles are at the very bottom of the Conference USA standings and will look to defend before going forward and attacking.

Southern Miss has only three wins this season, one in conference play, and has been shutout in nine of their last 10 games. Cross and the Miners don't take their opponents lightly, knowing it will be difficult to score with a lack of space in the final third of the field and the danger of the counter attack.

"Southern Miss has one of the top keepers in conference and a back line that is very athletic," Cross said. "They are good attacking out of the back. They will also be a tough challenge."

The Miners will be back home for the final three games of the regular season, but for now they are focused on the road, looking to get three points at a time, as they march towards another Conference USA tournament.

"We will have to play very well to beat two talented squads," Cross said. "But we will be ready for both teams and take them one at a time."

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

OUR VIEW

PHOTO EDITOR

MICHAELA ROMAN, 747-7477

UTEP Volleyball falls to UTSA in straight sets over the weekend



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SERGIO ZAMORA/ THE PROSPECTOR

(Top) junior setter Lindsay Larson sets the ball against UTSA. (Left) Larson and junior Sarah Villa both try to save the ball. (Right) Larson led the team with 17 assists against the Roadrunners. (Bottom) head coach Holly Watts seen instructing her team during a timeout.

Miners suffer big blow with loss of Coline Coessens



JAVIER CORTEZ / THE PROSPECTOR

Sophomore outside hitter Coline Coessens leads the Miners in total attempts and kills.

BY JAVIER CORTEZ

The Prospector

Over the weekend, the UTEP women's volleyball team suffered their 13th loss of the season and dropped six games below .500. But the straight-set sweep handed out by the UTSA Roadrunners at Memorial Gym on Sunday was secondary to an even bigger loss for the Miners.

Starting outside hitter Coline Coessens is out for the season with a non-injury medical issue, as stated by UTEP athletics and head coach Holly Watts.

The third-year coach, Watts, would not go into specifics on Coessens' health, only saying that she would not play the rest of the season.

Coessens was not available to the media directly, but did relay a brief statement.

"I'm getting fixed for next season to come back stronger," she said.

The loss of Coessens was apparent in Sunday's match, where the Miners were overpowered by the Roadrunners, as described by coach Watts.

The Miners were greatly outplayed for the better part of the match and had no answer for the Roadrunners' blistering attack. Offensively, the Miners turned in a below average performance, with a team hitting percentage of .037.

"It was competitive a lot of the way," Watts said. "Then they just overpowered us and we weren't able to put the ball on the ground. We just had eight kills in each set, that's not going to win anything."

It was a match where the Miners had very few bullets left in the chamber. Coessens led the team in total attempts, kills and was tied with junior setter Lindsay Larson for sets played. The loss of Coessens left the Miners shorthanded in many ways.

"(We felt shorthanded) in a lot of ways," Watts said. "We had people

step in and play roles, but she was a lot of our attempts and kills and so we haven't filled that (void)."

“
I'm getting fixed for next season to come back stronger.”

- Coline Coessens, Sophomore outside hitter

The biggest priority for the Miners now is finding an adequate replacement for Coessens, and doing so

in little time. The Miners are back in action on Friday night, Oct. 16, against Marshall and Sunday, Oct. 18, against Rice.

"We are just going to work on our chemistry," Watts said. "It's still the same people, but it's a different mentality now. Just knowing that we don't have Coline and just be ready to attack regardless."

Freshman middle blocker Maddie Morgan saw some time at right side hitter, along with sophomore Dalainee Perry. It is even possible that freshman Idalis Rodriguez, who is a Chapin High School graduate, can see more time on the court. Nevertheless, people will have to step in and step up.

"I feel like people have stepped in," Larson said. "It's given the chance for people to step in and play new positions. Dalainee (Perry) played right side, Maddie (Morgan) is the middle blocker and she played right side, and they are doing a good job adjusting.

It's going to take time for them to get used to a new position, but I feel that people are stepping in and it's giving people a chance to get out and play."

Larson, who was on the floor with Coessens every set this season, knows how much the Belgium native means to the team more than anyone. The loss of Coessens will more than likely stifle any chance of the Miners making a run at the Conference USA tournament, let alone getting back above .500.

"She's an extremely good player and it really sucks not having her," Larson said. "Obviously we are glad that she is healthy and doing good. She's going to come back next year and we are excited about that, but we are really missing her on the court."

The Miners square off with Marshall at 6 p.m. at Memorial Gym on Friday, Oct. 16.

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