

7-5-2016

# The Prospector, July 5, 2016

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ASSAYER OF STUDENT OPINION

THE

# PROSPECTOR

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VOL. 101, NO. 33

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO

JULY 5, 2016

## SUPREME COURT STILL ON THE FENCE

Obama's immigration plan  
causes deadlock



PHOTO BY MICHAELA ROMÁN / THE PROSPECTOR

BY CHRISTIAN VAZQUEZ  
The Prospector

The Supreme Court failed to come to a decision on *United States v. Texas*, which concerned President Barack Obama's immigration expansion of the Deferred Actions for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program and implementation of Deferred Actions for Parents of America (DAPA) program on June 23. The 4-4 tie reaffirmed the U.S. 5th Circuit Court of Appeals' decision to block these executive orders, which would have affected 3.7 million people, as estimated by the Migration Policy Institute.

President Obama said in a prime-time address in 2014 that the goal was to focus on "deporting felons not families." He also said the executive order came after the House of Representatives refused to allow a vote on a bipartisan bill in 2013.

Josiah Heyman, Ph.D., the director for the Center of Inter-American Border Studies and professor of Anthropology at UTEP, explained the goal behind Obama's actions.

"This was an effort to try to ensure the protection and the permanence of the family rather than facing a situation where families are broken up by law enforcement and specifically situations where there are U.S. citizens, children and some unauthorized parents," Heyman said.

The DACA program was first implemented in 2012, and provided two years of deportation relief and work visas to those who met the requirements. The program focused strongly on those who came to the U.S. before they turned 16, resided in the U.S. since June 2007, and do not have any felonies or significant misdemeanors.

The expansion of this program would have increased two years of deportation relief to three years, while making more unauthorized immigrants eligible to apply to the program.

The DAPA program was aimed at reducing the number of split families as a result of deportation. The program allowed parents of U.S. citizens and lawful permanent residents to request deferred action and employment authorization for three years as

long as they had lived in the U.S. since January 2010. They must also have had to be able to pass a background check.

“There are going to be a lot of children here with post-traumatic stress

— Josiah Heyman,  
director of Center for  
Inter-American Border Studies

The Supreme Court's deadlock came as a result of an appeal by the Justice Department after the

5th Circuit, which covers Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas, ruled that the executive orders violated the Administration Procedure Act, which maps the procedural process for federal agencies.

Alex Rodriguez, a senior majoring in political science, said he thought Obama was within his rights to enact the programs.

"This is all under his jurisdiction. He should be allowed to do stuff like this because it's a foreign policy issue, immigration is a foreign policy issue," Rodriguez said. "It's not left to the states. It's limiting foreign relations on one end for the president and it's making states stronger."

Texas was among the 25 states that argued in the Supreme Court that the executive order promoted human trafficking, would cause a humanitarian crisis, and would cost additional resources for education, law enforcement and health care.

The only state that demonstrated it would receive a financial loss was Texas—arguing that issuing driver's licenses would cost the state several

million dollars. Texas argued that by allowing individuals work authorization, the state would be required to verify their identity leading to the costs.

"They focused so much on the delivery of driver's licenses to people under this program because they wanted to justify intervening from outside in a case that had to do with the federal program not a state program," Heyman said. "So really the driver's license, I think, is best described as a rationale and not a crucial issue."

According to the Migration Policy Institute, there are approximately 59,000 undocumented immigrants in El Paso County and 31,000 of those would have been potentially eligible for both programs. Currently only 6,000 individuals are eligible under the DACA program. However, the Migration Policy Institute notes that not all who are eligible for these programs will apply.

see IMMIGRATION on page 4

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JULY 5, 2016

PERSPECTIVES

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF  
MICHAELA ROMÁN, 747-7477

SCOTUS vs. Immigration Plan

BY RENE DELGADILLO  
The Prospector

The 4-4 Supreme Court tie that blocked President Barack Obama's plan on immigration illustrates a horrible reality in this country: people are afraid of losing their place in this nation filled with white supremacist ideas, at the expense of people with different backgrounds.

This means that millions of immigrants will continue to fight against injustices and live in fear of deportation. It means that Obama will continue to be one of the most criticized presidents of all time. It means that equality in this nation will have to wait even longer, and that human rights will continue to be violated.

Do the judges of the Supreme Court, who voted against the immigration plan, understand the fears of illegal immigrants? Do they understand that many of them walk and drive with terror everywhere they go? Do people even stop and consider what an immigrant family is going through?

It appears that they don't. Their decision is disrespectful for immigrants who live in this nation. The decisions they have taken break the dreams and hopes of millions of people who just want to succeed.

I remember the fear my father expressed every time he saw a border patrol truck. For him it was a type of torture. He had nightmares in which he saw himself inside of a border patrol truck—I can remember him telling us that in his dream he felt he was never going to see us again.

About eight years ago, when he had no residence permit and was working as a construction painter, a sheriff stopped him. My dad was honest, he confessed to working here illegally. Then a miracle happened. Without any good reason, that sheriff told my dad he was not going to call immigration on him. My dad was let go with just a traffic ticket. He was able to drive away and continue working on what achieving we call the "American dream."

My father works under the hot sun and cold days of this city, yet he has never given up. Every day he wakes up tired, but understands that his

family needs food and a home. He is not stealing anyone's job, he is helping this economy that only hits him back with very expensive bills and rent.

So who wins from this decision? The Donald and his supporters win.

This just gives Trump more confidence in the upcoming presidential election. He will continue arguing that Muslims and Mexicans are doing wrong to this nation. The tie in the Supreme Court will allow supporters of Trump to keep on repeating their infamous campaign slogan which at the end will only create more friction and violence between supporters and non-supporters.

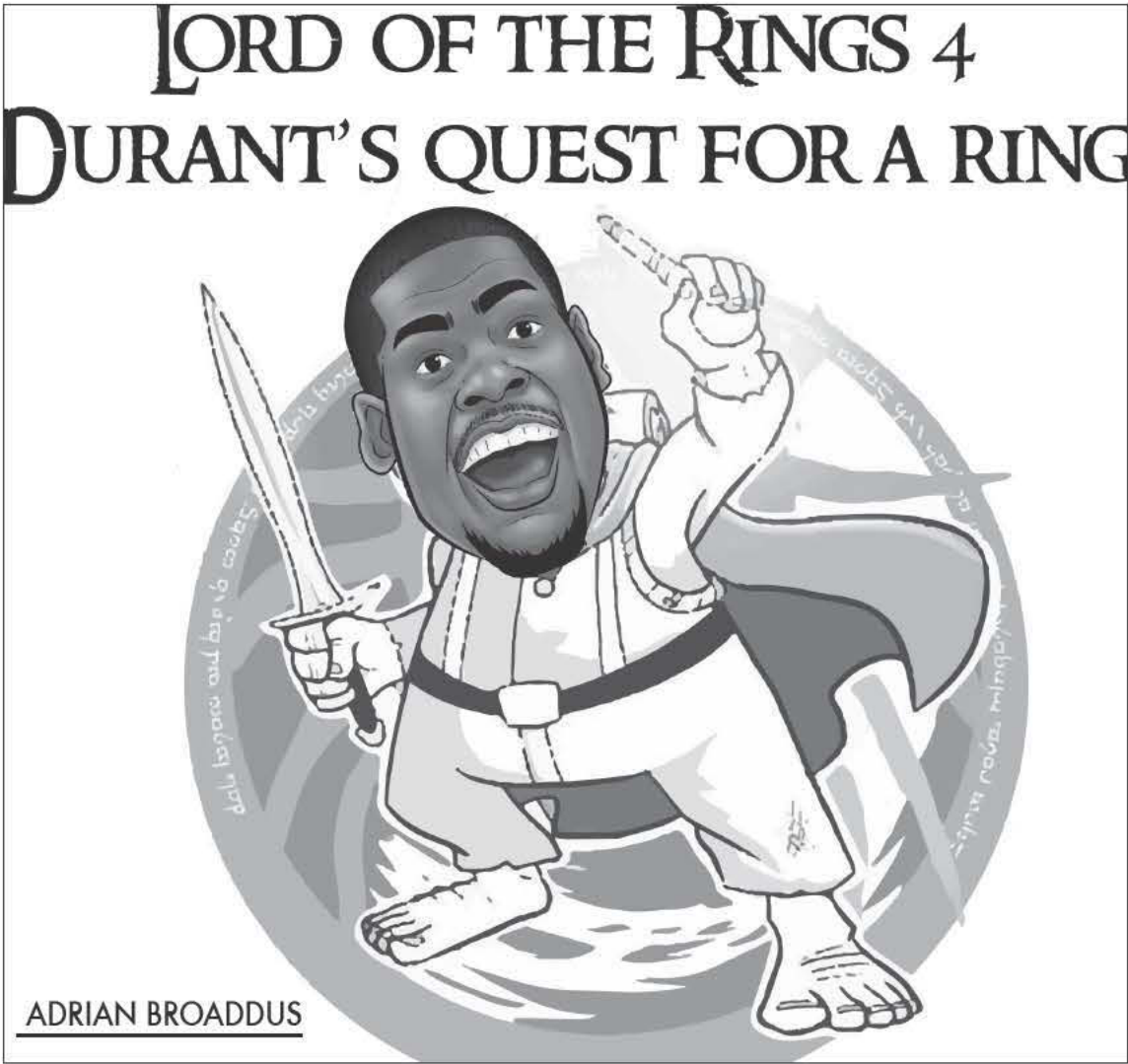
Well let's get something straight. When has this country been great? Was it great when it allowed slavery? Was it great when it's government created the Jim Crow laws that caused segregation? Was it great when it sent Japanese-Americans to internment camps? Or was it great when it believed that women should not have the right to vote and that their only function was at home? Or maybe it was great when it invaded a land that belonged to indigenous people?

History Shows, the United States has been great for white, rich people, but not for hardworking people from an immigrant background.

If you were affected by the decision made by the court, don't allow your faith and strength to be weakened. Don't just wait for time to make the change, because time doesn't fix anything. What you do during your time is what makes change.

Please go out and vote in the upcoming elections. I've never been so afraid about politics in my life. I know that sometimes you feel that your individual vote will never make the final decision on anything in this country, but let us set aside that idea of individualism that this economy and country has made us feel a part of. Let's go out and vote as a group of Hispanics, Latinos, Mexican Americans, Muslims and any other group of marginalized people in this country who demand equality for the hardworking people we know.

Rene Delgadillo may be reached at theprospectordaily.news@gmail.com.



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Weather forecast for the week of July 5, 2016, featuring the abc 7 StormTRACK WEATHER team: Dan Martinez, Krystal Klei, Doppler Dave Speelman, Nichole Gomez, and Iris Lopez. The forecast shows high and low temperatures and the chance of rain for each day from Tuesday to Monday.

The evolution of Study Abroad



PHOTO COURTESY OF UTEP COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING
UTEP engineering students visit the country of Peru to participate in programs that teach about global and regional sustainable engineering.

BY CHRISTIAN VAZQUEZ
The Prospector

The study abroad program at UTEP is undergoing a series of structural changes that aim to make the program more efficient while expanding the number of students who can participate. One of the more obvious changes was the study abroad office's recent move to room 203 in Union East from its previous location in the Mike Loya Building. The new location is also where the Office of International Programs resides, which was a deliberate attempt to encourage student interaction with international programs to become more streamlined. Catie McCorry-Andalis, associate vice president and dean of students, said the move is part of a broader initiative.

"One of our goals is to offer the UTEP community a one-stop-shop when it comes to international affairs," McCorry-Andalis said. "Therefore, by relocating study abroad to the Union within the Office of International Programs we are able to service our community, particularly our students, more holistically and efficiently." Lydia Santoscoy, a senior marketing major, went to Costa Rica through study abroad in the spring semester of 2015. She is going to Cuba for the upcoming summer semester. "I actually thought that's where it was located originally—when I first went to study abroad—so it's a good move," she said. The structural changes also created the new position of director of global outreach, which has yet to be filled.

McCorry-Andalis said the new director will help increase faculty-led experiences including those that involve cultural awareness, language acquisition and research by working alongside the Office of the Provost, student affairs, enrollment services, other UTEP programs and universities around the world. "UTEP's entire approach to study abroad, international student support and global engagement is being revitalized through a restructuring that reflects today's students and their goals," McCorry-Andalis said. UTEP's Quality Enhancement Plan is driving many of the changes. The QEP is a requirement that all colleges must create every 10 years in order to remain accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges. The association grants a college the ability to hand out degrees such as a bachelor's degree or a doctorate. UTEP's QEP partly focuses on "high-impact practices," which are hands-on experiences outside of the classroom that gives students practical lessons they can transfer to their professional career.

When asked about how study abroad has impacted her career Santoscoy said it has helped her grow culturally. "Dealing with people in any career helps to understand there is different values and motivations for different behaviors," Santoscoy said. "It helps you be more understanding and culturally sensitive." While the changes are going to be focused on increased efficiency in administrative duties, the real aim is to expand the program and allow students to have greater personalized experiences that suits their future career. "Our overall goal is to increase the number of UTEP students studying abroad, whether it is through traditional exchanges, faculty-led programs or short-term, research-specific experiences," McCorry-Andalis said. "We want students to understand the interconnectivity among curricular and co-curricular participation and study abroad—a high-impact activity—is an experience we want our students to have." Study abroad is also going to be increasing their focus on Mexico and

Latin American countries. UTEP hopes to increase the number of students coming in from these countries as well as sending its own students to these regions. UTEP already has some experience with Latin America. Last fall, UTEP hosted more than 50 Brazilian exchange students. "Studying in Costa Rica allowed me to learn more about cultural perspective and its influences on consumer behavior and specific tactics, such as gesture marketing rituals. That was awesome, I loved all my classes I had in Costa Rica," Santoscoy said. "I would encourage students to consider study abroad as a personal growth and educational investment." To contact study abroad for more information, you can email studyabroad@utep.edu, call 915-747-6273 or go to their new location at Union East, room 203. Christian Vazquez may be reached at theprospectordaily.news@gmail.com.

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# Where would you study abroad?

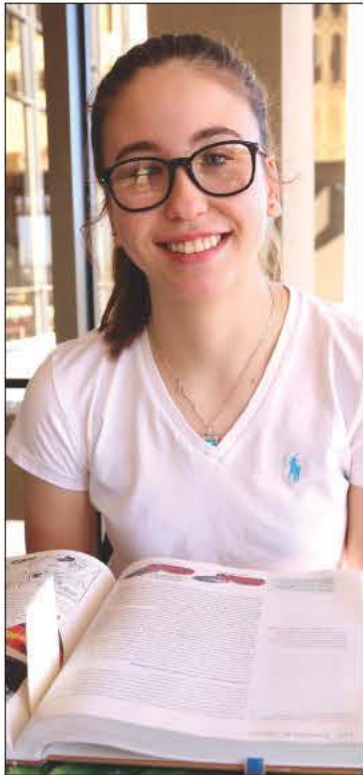
GABY VELASQUEZ / THE PROSPECTOR



**DAVID LOPEZ**

Junior entrepreneurship major

"I would love to go to Spain because, first of all, I'm Hispanic and I've been to Spain and Spain is such a great place. ... It's like being in a different world from what we know here in El Paso."



**FABIOLA PONGRATZ**

Sophomore history major

"Barcelona because I have been there before and I researched my major and it's a good major for over there."



**ERIC MASIC**

Freshman computer science major

"If I could study abroad anywhere I think it would be a place like Japan, because it is known for robotics and all of the technology that they have. They are innovators and that's the kind of thing I would like to work on."



**SHARON VASQUEZ**

Sophomore biology major

"I think I want to go to London because the Big Bend is a place I would like to visit."



**ALEXIS GARZA**

Senior psychology major

"Probably Paris because I took French in high school. So it'd be cool to be able to talk to them in French, and I hear it's very nice there."

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For additional information, please call (915) 747-8600.

## IMMIGRATION from page 1

Heyman also said that the net benefit of keeping the status of unauthorized immigrants in limbo costs more than it does to provide them work authorization.

Heyman believes the focus should be shifted toward appropriate labor treatments and wages, issues that would also protect immigrants.

"It limits them," Heyman said. "It makes them more vulnerable to various forms of mistreatment and it makes them more insecure, and so, for example, they are less likely to invest in a house or improving a house because they have increased insecurity."

He also said that those who are unauthorized also rarely seek health care until there is an emergency, which costs the taxpayer more in the long run. For example, it is cheaper to treat diabetes patients with medication and diet than it is to treat them with emergency dialysis visits.

"If the Supreme Court overturned the 5th Court of Appeals' decision, you have all this influx of people working now, all paying their taxes. Isn't that what we want?" Rodriguez said.

The tie keeps the program, and those who would have been eligible, in a state of uncertainty; meanwhile families continue to be separated.

"You have the parents that they have to leave their children behind because they're American citizens—they don't have to go back," Rodriguez said. "Now you're forcing them to make that decision of 'Do I leave them here in this country, where they have a much better opportunity

or do I take them back with me and make them suffer?'"

Many of the children, who are legal citizens born in the United States, are forced to go to Mexico because their parents are unauthorized.

"There are going to be a lot of children here with post-traumatic stress—I don't think there is any question," Heyman said. "We don't realize it, we associate it with other things, but that's actually happening at high frequency in the United States."

It is likely that after the presidential election and after a new Supreme Court justice is appointed, the court will take up the case once more. It is also likely that those who are in favor of DAPA and the DACA extension will try to get other circuit courts to decide in their favor. However, because these programs are based on executive actions, whoever wins the presidency in the upcoming November election will be the one who decides whether or not they stay in effect.

"I'm a firm believer that you have to wait in line and pay your taxes like everyone who is doing it legally, but there are also 11 million people living here in the shadows," Rodriguez said. "You can't just forget about them. Everyone is entitled to live a better life, the United States offers that."

Christian Vazquez may be reached at [theprospectordaily.news@gmail.com](mailto:theprospectordaily.news@gmail.com).

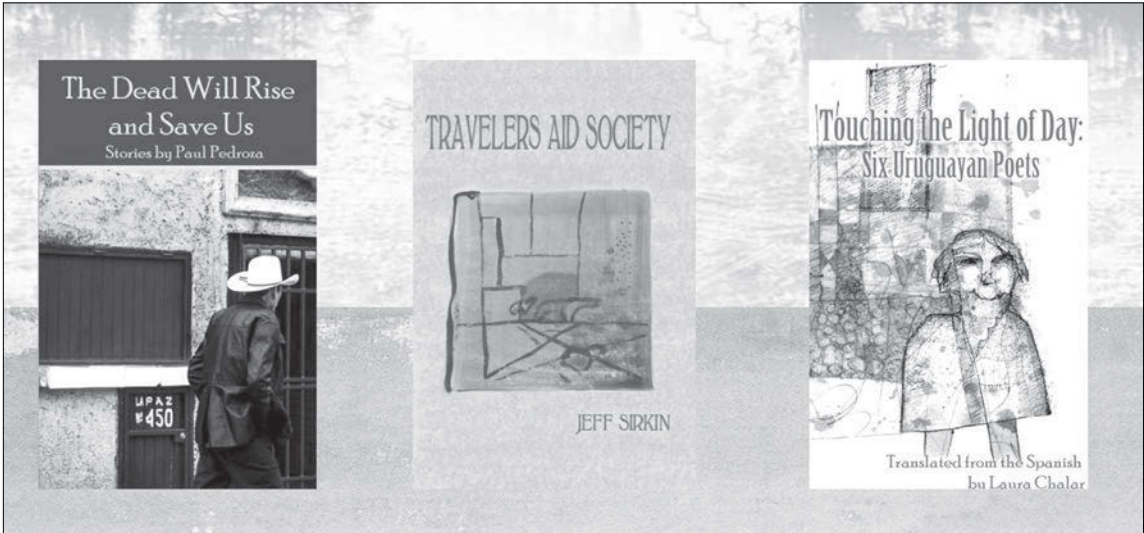


JULY 5, 2016

# ENTERTAINMENT

EDITOR  
JULIA HETTIGER, 747-7477

## Veliz Books brings contemporary literature to the borderland



El Paso artists helped design the covers to the Veliz books.

BY ANDRIA GRANADO

The Prospector

Veliz Books, the newest independent literary press to come out of El Paso, publishes contemporary literature, giving diversified cultural and linguistic backgrounds a chance to be shared with a wider readership. Veliz Books was founded by Minerva Laveaga Luna and Laura Cesarco Englin, UTEP MFA in creative writing graduates, and Trevor T. Duarte, a professor of biological sciences at UTEP.

The press publishes books in English, Spanish and Portuguese as well

as translations from both established and emerging authors.

“We began talking about it years ago when we worked together,” Englin said. “The idea gestated for some time until last summer we decided that it was time to make it happen.”

The press has published three books so far: “The Dead Will Rise and Save Us,” a collection of stories by UTEP creative writing graduate Paul Pedrosa, who now teaches at New Mexico State University, “Traveler’s Aid Society,” written by UTEP creative writing professor and poet Jeff Sirkin, and “Touching the Light of Day: Six Uruguayan Poets,” a translated collection

by Laura Chalar, an author and native of Uruguay.

The name of the company means suitcase in Spanish, which Laveaga said is representative of the company’s goal to create books that travel.

Laveaga, who was born in Durango, Mexico, first traveled to El Paso to earn her bachelor’s degree in philosophy from UTEP. Since coming to El Paso, Laveaga has also worked as the director of Bordersenses, a bilingual nonprofit literary organization, on a project that is still active called “Memorios del Silencio: Footprints of the Borderland,” which teaches writing workshops to migrant farmworkers. She now teaches at El Paso

SPECIAL TO THE PROSPECTOR

Community College and is married to Duarte.

and their literatures with a larger audience.

“Learning different languages and living in different places with different cultures has enriched the way I think and has made me more open-minded” Englin said.

The covers for the books were designed from the support and collaboration of several local artists including El Paso photographer Federico Villalba, who is responsible for the photograph on Pedrosa’s “The Dead Will Rise and Save Us,” and UTEP MFA graduate Sylvana Ayala.

Englin’s and Laveaga’s editing experience also contributed to the polished look of the books that they say are designed with care to honor the works.

“So far we have been fortunate to count with the support of the literary community,” Englin said. “We have also been very lucky that the authors that we published this first year are wonderful.”

The press is accepting submissions through Aug. 2. One submission each will be chosen in the categories of poetry, fiction and translation. For more information about Veliz Books, visit their website at [www.velizbooks.com](http://www.velizbooks.com).

Andria Granado may be reached at [theprospectordaily.ent@gmail.com](mailto:theprospectordaily.ent@gmail.com).

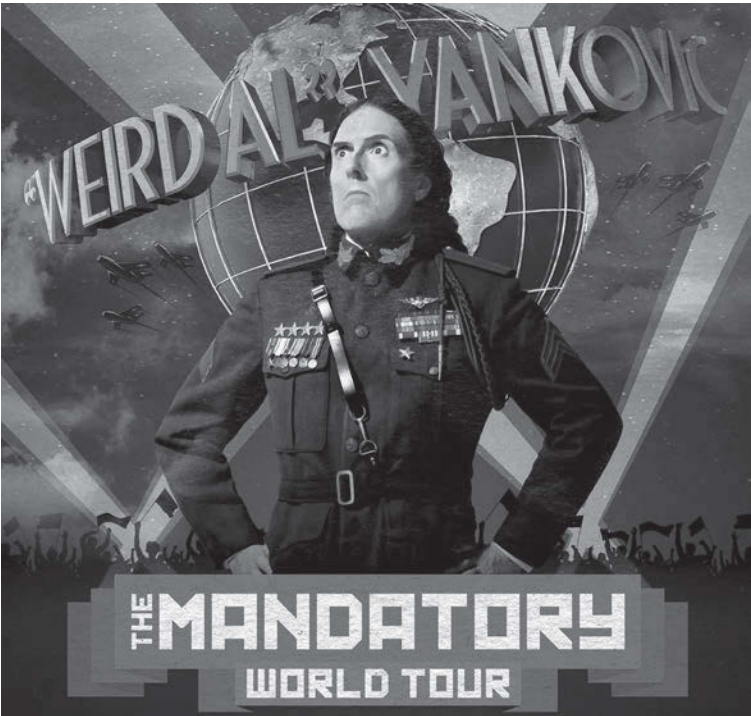
“The idea gestated for some time until last summer we decided that it was time to make it happen.”

- Laura Cesarco Englin, co-founder of Veliz Books

Englin, who speaks four languages, experienced living in Uruguay, New York and Israel as a child before earning her bachelor’s and master’s degrees in English from The Hebrew University of Jerusalem. She then moved to El Paso then to Boulder, Colorado, where she earned her Ph.D. in Spanish and Portuguese.

Englin said that the decision to publish literature and also to translate from different languages comes from her and the other founders’ connections with their cultures and languages and their desire to share them

## ‘Weird Al’ Yankovic to bring comedic relief to El Paso



SPECIAL TO THE PROSPECTOR

BY ALLISON LIVERMORE

The Prospector

“Weird Al” Yankovic comes to El Paso with his “The Mandatory World Tour” July 19 at the Plaza Theatre. Yankovic is known for his top-selling comedic parodies of famous songs such as “White and Nerdy,” “Smells Like Nirvana” and “Like a Surgeon.”

“Mandatory Fun,” the album featured for the tour, includes parodies of big hits such as Pharrell William’s “Happy” (“Tacky”), Robin Thicke’s

“Blurred Lines” (“World Crimes”), and Lorde’s “Royals” (“Foil”).

Jeffrey Gonzales, senior graphic design and marketing major, said he grew up listening to Weird Al Yankovic during the height of the artist’s popularity in the 1980s.

“I think it’s funny and entertaining,” Gonzales said. “It makes people laugh and it’s going out of the box.”

The Grammy-award winning Yankovic has recorded over 10 albums of parodies, appeared in multiple films and television shows and has filmed

two concert films, the second of which aired on Comedy Central. He has won four Grammys, the most recent for Best Comedy Album in 2015.

Yankovic’s style of music has created quite a bit of controversy, with plenty of musicians denying him permission to parody their material. Despite multiple attempts, the late Prince never permitted Yankovic to parody any of his songs. Led Zeppelin’s Jimmy Paige and Sir Paul McCartney, although self-proclaimed Yankovic fans, are among the list of artists to also refuse.

Jose Carrasco, a sophomore civil engineering major, is familiar with Yankovic’s style of music.

“I know he can be controversial. He’ll say stuff that pushes people’s buttons,” Carrasco said. “But the way I see it, if you want to do parodies, tick some people off, then that’s on you, you have that freedom.”

Not many students were aware of the controversial artist’s scheduled performance in the Sun City.

“I didn’t hear about the concert, I didn’t see it in the newspaper, anything in the media, or have heard about it on the radio,” Gonzales said. The one-night-only event will have VIP tickets ranging from \$139 to \$269, as well as general admission tickets for \$55.

For more information, visit [weirdal.com](http://weirdal.com) and [elpasolive.com](http://elpasolive.com).

Allison Livermore may be reached at [theprospectordaily.ent@gmail.com](mailto:theprospectordaily.ent@gmail.com).

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### UTEP ALUMNI JAZZ CONCERT

UTEP alumni Abel Mireles and Candice Reyes-Mireles will be having a jazz concert on July 10 at the Fox Fine Arts Recital Hall from 7:30 to 9 p.m. The concert will feature original music from both former UTEP students.

### YSLETA MISSION FESTIVAL

The Ysleta Mission Festival is a three-day festival beginning July 8 at Ysleta Mission, 131 Zaragosa.

### JERRY SEINFELD

Jerry Seinfeld will perform his signature standup comedy at the Abraham Chavez Theater on July 28. Tickets are on sale at [ticketmaster.com](http://ticketmaster.com).

### DANCING IN THE CITY

Dancing in the City will hit the El Paso Convention Center every Saturday from 8 to 10 p.m. until July 23.

### CESAR LOZANO

Cesar Lozano will host his “Una Vida Con Valor Agregado” conference at Magoffin Auditorium on Aug. 15 at 7 p.m.





# Blink-182 returns with new album and tour



## BLINK-182 CALIFORNIA

SPECIAL TO THE PROSPECTOR

BY JULIA HETTIGER

The Prospector

Five years after their last album, pop-punk band Blink-182 is back with "California," which was released on July 1. "California" is the first album since lead singer and guitarist Tom Delonge left the band in 2015, having been replaced by Alkaline Trio's Matt Skiba.

Every true fan of Blink-182 has been skeptical of the band's future since Delonge's departure. His voice and quirky personality are a staple of many of their hit songs, including "All the Small Things" and "I Miss You."

Still, "California" beat many of the odds that were stacked against it and is something every Blink fan, new and old, can enjoy.

Thankfully, Blink-182 has not lost any of their '90s teenage angst.

Although he is no longer a skateboarding teenager, annoying Sally or running naked on beaches, Mark Hoppus, lead singer and bassist, still sings like he's "17 without a purpose or direction."

This is evident from the first song, "Cynical." Hoppus sings, "There's a cynical feeling saying I should give up," and it's like you're a teenager again, hiding out in your room, lis-

tening to punk way too loud because you're mad at your parents.

"Bored to Death," the second song on the album, is great because it acknowledges that everyone grows up no matter what. Hoppus sings, "It's a long way back from 17," and it's one of those lines that everyone can relate to.

Blink is notorious for singing songs about girls—everything from falling in love and breaking up, to meeting girls who drive them wild.

In "She's Out of Her Mind," Hoppus and Skiba sing about being in love with a girl who is neurotic and random. They pull together a song whose beat and music sound crazy

along with the story, but is overall done well.

Three songs on the album, "Los Angeles," "San Diego" and "California," all adhere to the California theme.

While "Los Angeles" beckons the city to save the band from peril, "San Diego" conveys the opposite as they sing about not being able to return to San Diego because of the memories of loss and love there. In the song "California," Hoppus and Skiba applaud the state for being a wonderful place to live.

Blink returns to their cynical roots in "The Only Thing That Matters," "No Future" and "Left Alone," but takes a sadder turn in "Home is Such a Lonely Place." In that song, Hoppus starts by singing, "We're falling faster than we can fly," setting the tone for the rest of the song.

"Teenage Satellites," "Kings of the Weekend" and "Sober" really capture Blink-182's traditional sound, but seem more like fillers on the album. Nonetheless, they're still enjoyable to listen to.

One of the drawbacks to "California" is the shorter, inappropriate songs on the album.

It would have fared better if they had left out songs like "Built This Pool" and "Bohemian Rhapsody," which serve only as comedic relief. While the band is trying to maintain their humorous image, they fail to acknowledge how weird it is to hear two

grown men sing about anatomical parts that make 15 year olds chuckle in health class.

The album, which has a strong, already youthful tone to it, didn't need these shorts thrown in at random to capture the singers' attempted youthfulness. The only song that was remotely successful at being explicit was "Rabbit Hole," which successfully combines their iconic angst and humor.

While Skiba is no Delonge, the album makes a great effort to secure Blink-182's future.

Anyone who refuses to listen to them while they're Delonge-less should give Skiba a chance. "California" sounds more like a traditional Blink-182 album than its predecessors "Neighborhoods" and "Dogs Eating Dogs," and has songs that will soon become classics.

The release of "California" kicks off Blink-182's tour, which includes a stop in El Paso. Hoppus, Skiba and drummer Travis Barker will hit the Don Haskins Center on July 26, along with bands A Day to Remember and All-American Rejects. Tickets are on sale at [ticketmaster.com](http://ticketmaster.com). For more information about the concert, visit [www.utepspecialevents.com](http://www.utepspecialevents.com).

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JULY 5, 2016

SPORTS

EDITOR

ADRIAN BROADDUS, 747-7477

Kelvin Jones added to Miners upcoming roster



GABY VELASQUEZ / THE PROSPECTOR

Incoming freshman recruit Kelvin Jones speaks to the media. Jones will play center for the men’s basketball team this Fall semester.

BY SHERICKA LAWRENCE

The Prospector

During his humble upbringing in Chihuahua, Mexico, basketball was not the ideal sport for freshman newcomer Kelvin Jones to practice. Naturally, he played soccer and volleyball. It wasn’t until just five years ago when the 6-foot-11 center began to play basketball. He has only been playing basketball for five years.

“Basketball was never taken seriously,” Jones said. “It’s just something you played on the playground.”

On May 18, 2015, the 235-pound grey-shirt verbally committed to UTEP.

“After my visit and talking with coach Floyd, I felt like this was the place for me,” Jones said.

When Jones was 15 years old, his family lived in the small Mormon town of Galeana, Mexico, where his father was mayor. In 2011 cartel violence killed many people in the community, and his father organized a protest against the cartels. The protest resulted in the killing of his father’s cousin, and Jones’ family left and never returned.

Because of his father’s profession, Jones has lived in many places, including Colorado, North Dakota and Arizona. While in North Dakota, coaches told him that he should think about trying to play basketball since

there was not a men’s volleyball team there.

“So I tried it, and I’m loving it,” Jones said.

He played on the C-team, a developmental league in high school, for two years while he was in North Dakota.

Jones moved to Hobbs, New Mexico, during his senior year of high school. Being 6-foot-9 at the time, he averaged 14.7 points, 9.9 rebounds, and 3.2 blocks for Hobbs High School. He had a total of 471 points, 318 rebounds (138 offensive and 180 defensive), with 101 total blocks during his high school career. Jones recorded a double-double in 14 of 32 games played.

Jones opted to postpone enrollment for classes until the second term of his freshman year, which is the reason he is a declared grey shirt and not a red-shirt freshmen. However, he will still be able to practice with the team. The NCAA allows college athletes five years to complete academic courses, with four years of eligibility after initial enrollment.

“I feel that my game definitely needs four years to improve to where

“ I feel that my game definitely needs four years to improve to where I want to be.

- Kelvin Jones, freshmen center men’s basketball

I want to be,” Jones said. “I think coach Floyd can help me with that.”

Jones will provide some much needed depth to the center position. Prior to Jones’ arrival, Matt Wilms, who sat out the entire 2015-16 season due to a foot injury, is the only center on the roster. Willms averaged 18 minutes and 55 percent from the field during the 2014-15 season and is still recovering from the injury.

“I haven’t had a chance to play against him, but hopefully he gets back, so I can have that experience,” Jones said.

Like fellow incoming freshman Chris Barnes, Jones led his team to a state championship at Hobbs High School, with a record of 30-2 and 7-1 in district.

“I feel like we have a lot of underrated players,” Jones said. “I feel like we have a lot of guys who work hard and who really want to get better, which is what we need: guys who want to learn how to improve their skills and make a difference in the game.”

Jones was ranked 83rd in the nation and first in New Mexico based on skillset and stats. The big man also has dynamic ball handling skills, dishing out 34 assists and shooting 60 percent from the field throughout his senior year.

Jones is hoping to improve on his paint touches, hoping to score better and show off his strengths with his rebounding skills.

“I most definitely feel like I can bring rebounding to the team,” Jones said.

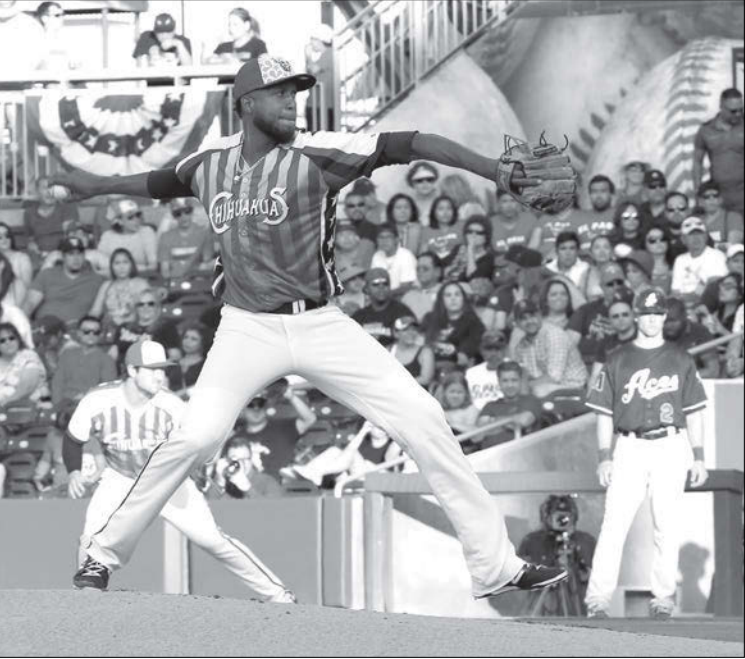
Mimicking his game around former Lakers and Bulls player Pau Gasol, Jones can add a great inside presence to the team, as well be a monstrous rebounder, making him a potential all-around contributor.

With goals that go beyond the four years he plans to spend at UTEP, Jones is ambitious about his future, but patient about the road he believes will ultimately land him a spot in the NBA.

“I would be lying to you to say I wasn’t trying to (go pro), but I feel like right now I need to focus on where I’m at, and see where that takes me,” Jones said. “(Coach Floyd) is giving me steps and if I keep on doing those steps, I know I will get there one day.”

Shericka Lawrence may be reached at theprospectordaily.sports@gmail.com.

Chihuahuas spark Fourth of July weekend



GABY VELASQUEZ/ THE PROSPECTOR

Starting pitcher Bryan Rodriguez pitched eight innings only allowing one run against the Reno Aces.

BY ADRIAN BROADDUS

The Prospector

With the Fourth of July weekend coming to a close, the El Paso Chihuahuas bested the Reno Aces at home to outright win the series 3-1. The Chihuahuas won the series on

Sunday, July 3, when Austin Hedges hit a three-run walk-off home run in the bottom of the ninth to defeat the Aces 4-1.

In the top of the first inning, Kyle Jensen of the Aces hit a RBI single to center field, which drove Mitch Hani-

ger home and allowed the Aces to hit the scoreboard first.

The Chihuahuas responded at the bottom of the first with a run of their own. Hunter Renfroe, who leads the league with 19 home runs, hit a solo shot to tie the game 1-1.

After his one allowed run, starting pitcher Bryan Rodriguez did not allow another run by the Aces. He pitched eight innings, tallying 73 strikes and 25 balls. Reliever Frank Garcés stepped into the game to close, and contributed with a perfect ninth inning with no hits or runs to seal the win.

The ninth inning go-ahead rally started with a Carlos Asuaje’s single to center field. Then, practically mimicking Asuaje, Renfroe hit a line drive to center field, leaving two on base with Hedges stepping to the plate. After fouling two balls, Hedges slammed a high pitch out of the park for the three-run homer.

Hedges, who hit his 12th home run in 14 games, went four-of-five during the game, and increased his batting average to .407 for the season.

The Chihuahuas (49-34) rest at the top of the southern division of the Pacific Coast League. They are five-and-a-half-games ahead of the Las Vegas 51’s as they near the all-star break.

Club has most all-stars in history

The Chihuahuas will send three representatives to the 2016 Sonic Automotive Triple-A All-Star Game on Wednesday, July 13 in Charlotte, N.C. On June 30, the Pacific Coast League announced that Carlos Asuaje, Casey McElroy and Hunter Renfroe will take on the International League All-Stars.

Asuaje, who emerged in the Triple-A scene, has been one of the most consistent batters and infielders for the Chihuahuas. This is his third consecutive all-star game in as many different levels. He previously participated in the 2014 Single-A South Atlantic League All-Star Game and 2015 Double-A Eastern league All-Star Game. He is tied for first place in the league in triples (7) and is currently batting .324 for the club.

Combining speed with power, McElroy contributed heavily to the Chihuahuas with an extremely noteworthy performance in the month of May. During the first week of May, McElroy was named the PCL Player of the Week after he hit 14-for-28, posting a .500 batting average. He is has contributed with multiple hits in 12 out of 13 games and currently is batting .306.

Renfroe, one of the most explosive players on the team, leads Triple-A in almost every relevant batting category. He is first in home runs (19), hits (112), extra base hits (47) and runs scored (65). He was named PCL Player of the Week in the third week of April after hitting a home run in four consecutive games. This is his third minor league all-star game. He participated in the California/Carolina League All-Star Game for High-A Lake Elsinore in 2014, as well as the Northwest/Pioneer League All-Star Game.

Eying the Topes

Before the All-Star break, the Chihuahuas will travel on a seven-game road trip. They will take on the Albuquerque Isotopes, who are currently last place in the southern division, from July 4-6. Then, the Chihuahuas will take on the third-place team in the southern division, the Salt Lake Bees on July 7-10.

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JULY 5, 2016

OUR VIEW

PHOTO EDITOR  
ANGEL ULLOA, 747-7477

Chihuahuas celebrate Independence Day



1. Fourth of July themed fireworks go off after the Chihuahuas' game against the Reno Aces on Sun. July 3rd. 2. A man participates in the holding of the American flag prior to the National Anthem. 3. A Reno Aces player slides to third base, as the Chihuahuas try to pick him off. 4. The Chihuahuas celebrate a three-run walk-off home run by catcher Austin Hedges as they won the game 4-1.

GABY VELASQUEZ/ THE PROSPECTOR

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