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# The Prospector, November 1, 2016

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ASSAYER OF STUDENT OPINION

..... THE .....

# PROSPECTOR

WWW.THEPROSPECTORDAILY.COM

VOL. 102, NO. 11

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO

NOVEMBER 1, 2016

## Women's basketball team overlooked despite success

BY GRECIA SANCHEZ  
AND JASON GREEN

The Prospector

UTEP women's basketball has achieved a level of success that ranks it near the top of all teams—male and female—at UTEP. The team was a runner-up in the Women's National Invitation Tournament in 2014. During the tournament's final four games, the Miners made history as the first UTEP women's basketball team to ever sell out the Don Haskins Center, which they did twice.

Even with the team's success, players noticed the disparity in attendance between their games and the men's, who averaged 7,386 fans last season—compared to 2,696 for the women—who finished the season with 10 more wins than the men, along with a C-USA championship.

"As far as women's games, the students don't come to our games. If you look at the students in the men's games, you'll see it's completely full," said Jenzel Nash, a graduate student in communication and a member of the team. "I promise, you probably don't get three rows in the students' section for our games."

Julie Levesque, senior associate athletics director, said that advertising in sports is based on trade with companies and claimed it is the same for all sports—no matter the gender of the team.

"Basketball is always together. You'll never see a men's basketball commercial without seeing the women's basketball there also. We use a lot of social media, we send schedules, pictures, updates, etc." Levesque said. "We make a lot of flyers passed around campus or posters at the restaurants. We put them around campus so people can see the schedules."

However, Nash said that she has not seen equal advertising.

"We don't get the same (advertising as) the men. You go to restaurants that are close nearby and you only get to see men's posters," Nash said. "And this happens even when we are the ones who are winning. Even with the WNIT."

Levesque explained that there are many factors for advertising including rivalries, end of season games, events at the university such as homecoming, among others. She says that gender is not one of these factors.

"We don't say this weekend we are promoting men and the next one women. No, we just do it out of the need and what's important," Levesque said. "We decide who needs help based on the events of the sports themselves."

Roberto Avant-Mier, a communication studies professor, said that this topic is a matter of culture and interest. He believes that the lessons that are learned relating to sports and gender are taught at an early age.

"Sports are a strong factor in culture. Sexism exists in society and in culture. We don't think what the women do is worth as much as men," Avant-Mier said. "We have not as much interest for women's sports. This is just the way it is. This is not fair, but is a matter of culture."

Avant-Mier also said UTEP makes a large effort to promote women's games, but that the efforts are not enough.

"I know a lot of times tickets are given away, they sell it for free. But you go to the games and there aren't many people," Avant-Mier said. "I imagine the only ones there are friends from the players, family, boyfriends, etc.—but from El Paso, many people don't show up."

According to Nash, students who come to women's basketball games are only friends and other athletes—in other words, not the regular population of students.

"I'm not sure if students don't show up to our games because they don't know about them," Nash said. "I would tell my classmates we are having a game this day and a lot of them don't even know about our games."

Levesque agrees with Avant-Mier that no matter the advertising or budget afforded to the sport, people are only going to see what they are culturally inclined to watch.

"People are going to go to a game that they like. If you're a soccer fan, you're going to be at every game or if you see the team is winning, you would want

see OVERLOOKED on page 6



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NOVEMBER 1, 2016

OPINION

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF  
MICHAELA ROMÁN, 747-7477

America Should Legalize Sports Betting Now

BY JASON GREEN  
The Prospector



Former UTEP student Michael Karpus pled guilty recently to charges relating to a gambling ring, which he ran while enrolled at the university. According to court documents, the gambling ring allegedly involved former UTEP basketball players McKenzie Moore, Jalen Ragland and Justin Crosbile—who were dismissed from the team in January 2014 when their alleged involvement was uncovered. This type of scandal is the exact reason that most major sport leagues and especially the NCAA have traditionally been such staunch anti-gambling advocates. They’ve even gone as far as to spend large amounts of their budgets on lobbying Congress to keep gambling illegal as long as possible nationwide. America has already lived through the biggest sports betting and game-fixing scandal that the world has ever seen—the Black Sox Scandal. The four major sports

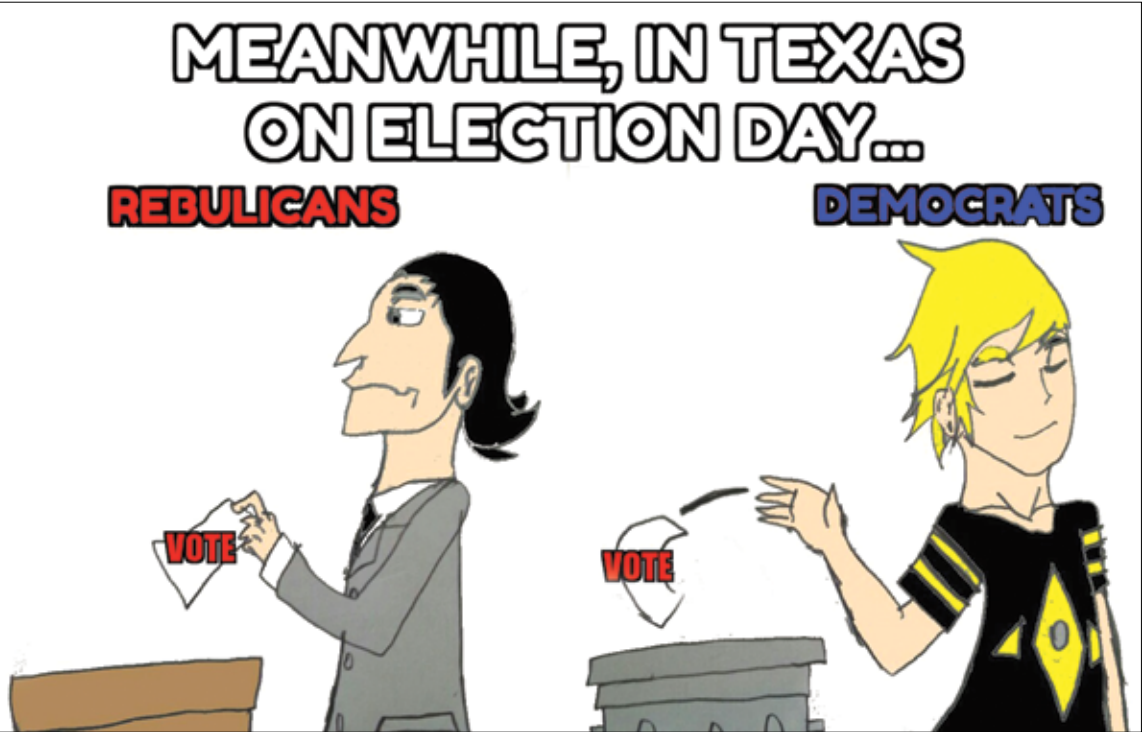
leagues will be damned if anything like that is going to happen again! The Black Sox Scandal was the intentional throwing of the 1919 World Series by the Chicago White Sox, who were heavily favored over the Cincinnati Reds and conspired with gamblers to lose on purpose. Many think that without this scandal, gambling could have been legalized nationwide with no problem. This is the first big reason that sports wagering is not legal across the country. In order to make sure that our sports are on the up-and-up, we cannot allow it. However, this is flawed logic; considering that betting is still legal in places. Just as these players found a way, it can still happen. Games have still been thrown for betting purposes. The unscrupulous are not worried about betting legally. So, if it is going to happen anyway, why shouldn’t the government get in on the action and tax it like everything else? Well, gambling comes with all kinds of inherent nastiness. Just ask Pastor Howard Batson of First Baptist Church in Amarillo. “I think the legislature needs to think long and hard before they subject the people of the panhandle, or the great state of Texas, to all the seedy underbelly that

comes with something like gambling,” Batson said to KFDD TV of Lubbock. That sounds just awful if you ask me. I mean, just look at all of the seediness all around us. In an op-ed in the New York Times in 2014, NBA Commissioner Adam Silver estimated that illegal sports gambling in the United States could see as much as \$400 billion wagered annually. We are surrounded by seediness. Can you feel it? Better yet, do you feel it every time you walk into the grocery or convenience store? After all, the state of Texas is responsible for running the biggest gambling ring in the state, the Texas lottery. While telling everyone around that gambling is dangerous for people and that they only want what is best for their constituents, politicians consistently fight against sports wagering while supporting legalized gambling in their own backyards. A state like South Carolina, for instance, cares so much about her citizens that politicians banned the highly popular video poker machines in the state in 2000. However, not to be left out of the growing popularity of lotteries in surrounding states, the South Carolina Education Lottery began in 2002. But it is for education

so, that’s good for the people, right? Not like sports betting? Not exactly. In a 2012 Business Insider report, South Carolina was reported to have 28 percent of the state’s population making under \$40,000 per year. However, that 28 percent made up 54 percent of the state’s lottery players. This is not an aberration. The lottery traditionally draws most of its customers from the ranks of the low income—and even the unemployed. The same report quotes a 2009 UT-Arlington study as saying that an unemployed Texan was more likely to buy a scratch-off lottery ticket than one who was employed or retired. This is all information that is available to the politicians who continue to ban gambling—except for the lottery. Do they really want to do what is best for the people? Or do they really want to bring in the most money possible for the state? We have already established that you cannot stop corruption in sports, because if players want to throw games or shave points and put money on it, they will find a way. Would it not be better to legalize it and have ways to monitor the betting—which is how many point-shaving scandals are exposed, when bookmakers

notice large sums coming in on insignificant games? Additionally, gambling is great for sports—just like fantasy sports are. Anything that increases interest in games that otherwise people may not care about should be fully supported by the leagues—thus, NBA Commissioner Adam Silver’s 2014 op-ed in the New York Times in support of legalization and the NHL’s recent announcement of an expansion franchise in (GASP) Las Vegas. The last step would be for the government to admit the hypocrisy in keeping the gambling to themselves. Granted, there is the occasional Native American casino, but hey, you kind of have to give them something for taking an entire continent away from them, right? But even they are not allowed to have sports wagering. Instead of pretending that you care about people and that the lottery does not take advantage of the pitiful dreams of the poor, how about legalizing sports wagering, a game involving some skill and some luck—or is that not stacked enough in the house’s favor for you? Just think of all the taxing you could do!

Follow Jason Green on Twitter @greenevansj



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Home games in November  
Women’s basketball

- |                                   |                                |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| -vs. St. Mary’s (Nov. 4)          | -vs. LSU (Nov. 24)             |
| -vs. Northern Arizona (Nov. 11)   | -vs. NC State (Nov. 25)        |
| -vs. Texas Southern (Nov. 13)     | -vs. Kansas State (Nov. 26)    |
| -vs. Western New Mexico (Nov. 17) | -vs. Houston Baptist (Nov. 30) |

Men’s basketball

- |                                  |                                           |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| -vs. Alaska Fairbanks (Nov. 5)   | -vs. Villanova/Western Michigan (Nov. 18) |
| -vs. Louisiana College (Nov. 12) | -vs. TBA (Nov. 20)                        |
| -vs. Wake Forest (Nov. 17)       | -vs. So. Louisiana (Nov. 23)              |

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0% Chance for Rain	0% Chance for Rain	0% Chance for Rain	0% Chance for Rain	0% Chance for Rain	0% Chance for Rain	0% Chance for Rain

TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON
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Partly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy
0% Chance for Rain	0% Chance for Rain	0% Chance for Rain	0% Chance for Rain	0% Chance for Rain	0% Chance for Rain	0% Chance for Rain

# Demolishing more than history as city moves forward with arena location

BY MICHAELA ROMÁN  
The Prospector

*Editor's note: This is the first part of a three-part series on the Save the Union Plaza efforts. The quotes from Salvador Ortiz have been translated from Spanish.*

Just south of the Chihuahuas' Southwest University Park and the Union Plaza bar scene of downtown El Paso sits four blocks of quiet houses, small businesses and apartment complexes.

The neighborhood—once referred to as “Durangito” because of immigrants residing there from Durango, Mexico in the early 1900s—might be demolished to make room for the foundation of a new arena.

In 2012, the citizens of El Paso voted to pass a quality of life bond. The bond included the creation of a Hispanic Cultural Center, a city swimming pool, libraries and—the most expensive effort—a \$180-million multipurpose arena.

On Thursday, Oct. 13, the city announced they were going forward with the arena and moving to acquire the area south of Civic Center Plaza; which includes the Convention Center and the Abraham Chavez Theater. The following Tuesday, Oct. 18, city council voted to approve the arena's proposed location. El Paso Mayor Oscar Leeser stated that he does not support the use of eminent domain when city council proposed the arena's location.

The approved area is bordered by West Paisano Street on the south side, Leon Street on the west side, West San Antonio Avenue on the north side and South Santa Fe Street on the east side.

City attorney Sylvia Borunda Firth assured there were no historically designated buildings in the area. But Miguel Juárez, doctoral candidate in borderlands history, said there are buildings eligible to qualify as historic, but were only identified as important by the city. They were never actually registered with the state or federal government.

Since there are no contributing buildings registered, city council could move forward with the location for the arena.

“To register a property you have to write its history out. It's a long form and then you have to identify specific buildings that are called contributing properties and then non-contributing,” Juárez said.

Juárez is a current member of state Sen. Jose Rodriguez's advisory committee on cultural heritage that promotes heritage tourism, which the area of Durangito is considered.

On Oct. 17, Juárez started a Facebook page entitled Save the Union Plaza Neighborhood.

“What's great is that a lot of young people are joining,” he said. “This is an issue where not everyone knows about emi-

nent domain because you haven't experienced it in your lifetime.”

Eminent domain is defined as the acquisition of property by municipality or by state government or federal government to acquire property.

“This is an issue where not everyone knows about eminent domain because you haven't experienced it in your lifetime

- Miguel Juárez  
doctoral candidate  
in borderlands history

For the creation of the Spaghetti Bowl, which connects Interstate 10 and U.S. Route 54, along with the rest of El Paso's highway system, the city enacted eminent domain to obtain property for construction. Juárez has played a key role in efforts to successfully save the historic Lincoln Center, which was proposed for demolition under the Interstate 10's Spaghetti Bowl in 2008.

“What they do is they appraise the property value and then they offer a one-time offer to the owner,” Juárez said. “The owner basically does not have a choice. If they don't accept it and say ‘no I want more money’ the entity comes around and says ‘well that's all we can offer because your property value is X and if you don't accept it then we'll condemn your property.’”

Long-time resident of the Union Plaza neighborhood, Salvador Ortiz, 85, lives in the apartments at the corner of Overland Avenue and Chihuahua Street. Before that he lived across the street at The Mansion, which is now an art gallery. Ortiz has lived in the arena area for 28 years.

“Well, what can I say, the county already won,” Ortiz said. “I feel bad, but if they're going to demolish it, well that's it.”

Despite his disappointment by the sudden news, Ortiz likes the idea of the arena and the changes he's seen so far in downtown, with the new Chihuahuas stadium and renovation of San Jacinto Plaza. He's also excited to see the trolleys run again.

“I'm in favor. It's going to help a lot of people, and Juárez students that go to UTEP can get the trolley and go to school,” Ortiz said.

Condemnation projects in the past have been used to address infrastructures such as oil, gas, water, pipelines, roads, highways, parks and public buildings. In recent years, cities have been using eminent domain to build venues such as sports arenas.

In 2005, the city of Arlington, Texas, used eminent domain to condemn and destroy houses and businesses to make room for the Dallas Cowboys stadium.

In 2006, New York City demolished private businesses in offer to make room for construction of a new arena for the New Jersey Nets.

Julia Castillo, 72, lives in the building with Ortiz and says they were only notified the buildings would be destroyed. However, Castillo says the apartment complex is not well maintained.

“The apartments are in very bad condition and they don't want to fix them,” Castillo said. “During the winter we don't have a heater and during the summer we don't have an air conditioner and the bathrooms are falling apart.”

She says the owner of the apartments is squeezing the money out of them before they get kicked out.

“We're still questioning what we're going to do when this happens,” Castillo said.

Before the city can move forward with the arena, they first need to purchase every property within it. This process could take up to a year. According to Juárez, Durangito residents heard about the plan when the rest of El Paso did.

“They heard about it in the news. Supposedly the city had talked to a few people, but we don't know who,” Juárez said. “How would you like it if you read in the newspaper that your neighborhood was going to be demolished?”

Juárez said he suspects the city has had their eyes set on the area for longer than they say. In the fall of 2014, Debbie Nathan, a journalist from New York, was eating at the Camino Real Hotel when she first heard about the city's interest.

“I overheard Josh Hunt having a conversation about what he was calling a soccer arena, and specifying that he wanted it to be in the area now being claimed by the city for the arena,” Nathan said.

Josh Hunt is the CEO of Mountainstar Sports Group, who owns the El Paso Chihuahuas.

Juárez said if they had known for so long, the city could've used that extra time to notify the community. He speculates that the reason they didn't let it out publicly was because then the property values would shoot up because the sellers might want more money.

“I think the city has known for several years, that's why they denied the architectural survey because the architectural survey would have found those buildings and determined, ‘Yes, this is a historic neighborhood and we need to preserve it,’” said Juarez.

The city will soon begin a relocation program that guarantees residents housing for six months for the 47 people and 17 families in the area.

For now, Ortiz is waiting to hear from the city himself.

Michaela Román may be reached at michaelairoman@gmail.com



Julia Castillo lives in the apartments at the corner of Overland Avenue and Chihuahua Street. The apartment complex sits in the center of the area El Paso has approved to be demolished for a new arena. Castillo is not sure when she'll have to leave her apartment.

MICHAELA ROMÁN / THE PROSPECTOR



# Long lines break El Paso early voting records

BY RENE DELGADILLO

The Prospector

Within a week, the next president of the United States will be announced, and in the state of Texas, El Paso is breaking records in voter turnout in the first days of early voting.

Early voting started Monday, Oct. 17, and as of Sunday almost 91,000 El Paso citizens have cast their vote, a 71 percent increase from the 2012 presidential election.

An El Paso Times analysis of county voting records shows that El Paso voters continue to be younger and that more females are voting. The analysis also shows that the average age of voters through this Sunday was 55 compared to an average age of 60 in 2012. The analysis shows that women voter turn out has increased, and

that more than 56 percent of voters have been women compared to average rate of 52 or 53 percent in the 2012 election.

Jose Villalobos, associate professor of political science, serves as faculty liaison for nonpartisan voter registration. More than 8,000 citizens have become registered voters with help of Villalobos and his students.

“Over the past year, since last September, for this election cycle we’ve been doing intense voter registration efforts, week to week, usually on multiple days of the week,” Villalobos said.

On Thursday, Oct. 27, early voting took place at UTEP and the lines to vote had two or more hour wait times. The El Paso Times reported that 920 citizens turned out to vote at UTEP, which is a large difference when compared to the 2012 elec-



NINA TITOVETS / THE PROSPECTOR

920 El Pasoans participated in early voting in Union East on Thursday, Oct. 27.

tion, where 1,060 votes were cast during two days of early voting at UTEP.

“A lot of people are opting for early voting this year because social media has played a major role—it helps to promote it,” Villalobos said. “Early voting can make it easier because on the day of the election you never know what can happen, and people should see the importance of voting before the actual election day.”

As of Oct. 29, El Paso county had an increase of 77 percent when compared to the 2012 election. Which made El Paso the third-highest county to have an increase in early voters, according to USA Today.

Travis county had an increase of 101 percent while Williamson county had an increase of 82 percent. On Saturday, 20 percent of El Paso’s registered voters had cast their votes, compared to Harris County’s 24 percent, 25 percent in Dallas County and 29 percent in Travis County.

Early voting took place at the Andesite Room inside of Union East, and people were in line outside of the building all day long waiting to cast their vote. Stephanie Avalos, an employee for UTEP athletics, said that despite the long wait, casting her vote was worth the time in line.

“I waited about an hour and half, it’s worth it. You’re voting for the leaders of El Paso and for the country, but the process could be expedited,” Avalos said. “The lines have turned people away, but honestly having stood in line I didn’t see a lot of people leave, and that shows

that people know how important is this year’s election.”

Some voters said the lines were long and that the process of voting at UTEP was inefficient. Four voting booths were available while two people were in charge of collecting voters’ ID information.

Villalobos had formerly requested a week of early voting at UTEP, but he said that everyone was in favor, but parking at UTEP was the key issue for not having that full week.

“They basically said ‘we’re not gonna do that, we’ve got these other priorities, we’re having trouble getting people into the parking, so we’re not going to open the garage to the whole public,’” Villalobos said.

He also said that if parking had been made public at UTEP, they would have had more voting booths and more people could have helped voters to cast their vote, cutting down wait times.

“We got one Thursday,” said Villalobos. “I feel so bad for the students who couldn’t be here on a Thursday to vote.”

Villalobos said that polls show Clinton is not far from Trump in Texas, and that voter turnout during early voting could create a more competitive race in the state.

Data by RealClearPolitics shows that Texas could be one the biggest battleground states of this election. Clinton, who is five points away from Trump, could change a state that has voted Republican since 1976.

Villalobos said Texas has had a much closer race this year because voters are unsure of their party candidates, making them reconsider their vote. He also said that voters are turning out to vote in higher numbers because of Trump’s offensive language to both women and immigrants.

“Most experts still would say that Texas is still going to go red, but just the fact that it’s that close, it just goes to show that this is big news,” Villalobos said. “It’s a big incentive to not take for granted this election.”

He aid that voters should take this news seriously, and that if Democrats want to change Texas’ color they must go and vote because this could be a very close race that may end up turning Texas into a blue state.

“The same message goes to the other side (Republicans),” Villalobos said. “Don’t feel apathetic and not vote because you just think it’s going to go red—it is within shooting range, it is within striking range of perhaps going blue.”

Villalobos also said that the presidential race in Texas could be decided by just a few points, making this state as one of the most important for both candidates.

CNN’s electoral map shows Donald Trump winning 20 states that are solidly Republican, giving him 157 electoral points out of the 270 needed to win. Texas is among the states that Trump is hoping to win, since it one of the higher valued with 38 electoral points.

Clinton has 17 solidly Democratic states, and is leading the poll with 200 electoral points out of the 270 needed to win.

Villalobos said that if Texas voters turn out in higher numbers, Trump and Clinton could have a very close race, and that Texas could be the decisive state in choosing the next president.

“If Trump loses Texas, there is no way he’ll be president at all,” Villalobos said. “Based on the electoral map, Texas is something that Trump definitely has to count on.”

Besides voting for the next president, voters have other important decisions to make when casting their vote. State representatives. county attorney, sheriff and the El Paso ISD bond initiative are among many other issues that are on the ballot.

“The best thing right now is social media and the internet, that is our best tool,” Villalobos said. “You can go online and you can just type in El Paso voter guide and that will give you links to all the different candidates that are up to election and the issues that you have to vote for.”

Early voting will continue through Nov. 4 in other parts of the city. For more information about where to vote, visit [epcountyvotes.com](http://epcountyvotes.com).

Follow Rene Delgadillo on Twitter @rdelgadillonews



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QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Are you planning on attending a basketball game this season?

CLAUDIA HERNANDEZ, GABY VELASQUEZ , NINA TITOVETS/THE PROSPECTOR



**VIANNEY ROMO**  
Junior biology major  
“Yes definitely, I love going to the games with friends. It’s always a good time, a great way to socialize and show school spirit. I especially like going to the women’s basketball games, it’s become a tradition.”



**ARMANDO AVILA**  
Freshman physics major  
“Yes, I plan to attend the basketball games, as a kid I used to go with my friend all the time. Her and her family were really big UTEP fans. So I got into the habit of going, especially to women’s basketball, they always have a good game.”



**VALERIA QUEZADA**  
Senior biology major  
“Yes I do plan on attending the basketball games this year. I’ve been to a lot of men’s basketball games, which have been really fun. So I am going to try attending the women’s as well this season.”



**VICTOR VASQUEZ**  
Junior biomed major  
“I’m gonna try and attend both because I take pride in my school. I want to not only support the men’s but the women’s especially because I feel like they don’t get that much attention too. I believe the women’s basketball team deserves just as much support as the men’s.”



**SAMANTHA TORRES**  
Freshmen forensic science major  
“I will be attending to the basketball games. Because I am a part of the GoldDiggers. I tend to perform at those games. It is a very fun experience.”



**CHRIS MAULDIN**  
Freshman kinesiology major  
“I plan on attending the men’s basketball games, because I think the men’s games are more intense, so I prefer those games.”



**CYNTHIA GOMEZ**  
Sophomore, engineering major  
“No I don’t plan on going to any basketball games this year, I don’t have the time.”



**ARIAN CASTILLO**  
Freshman, mechanical engineering  
“I do plan on attending both men’s and women’s basketball this season, I’ve been to a couple of football games already which has been a good time so I’m sure the basketball games will be as well.”



**TAMARA ROCHA**  
Freshman biomedical major  
“None, because I’m trying to focus on my home-work or I am usually volunteering at the shelter, so I usually don’t have that much time.”



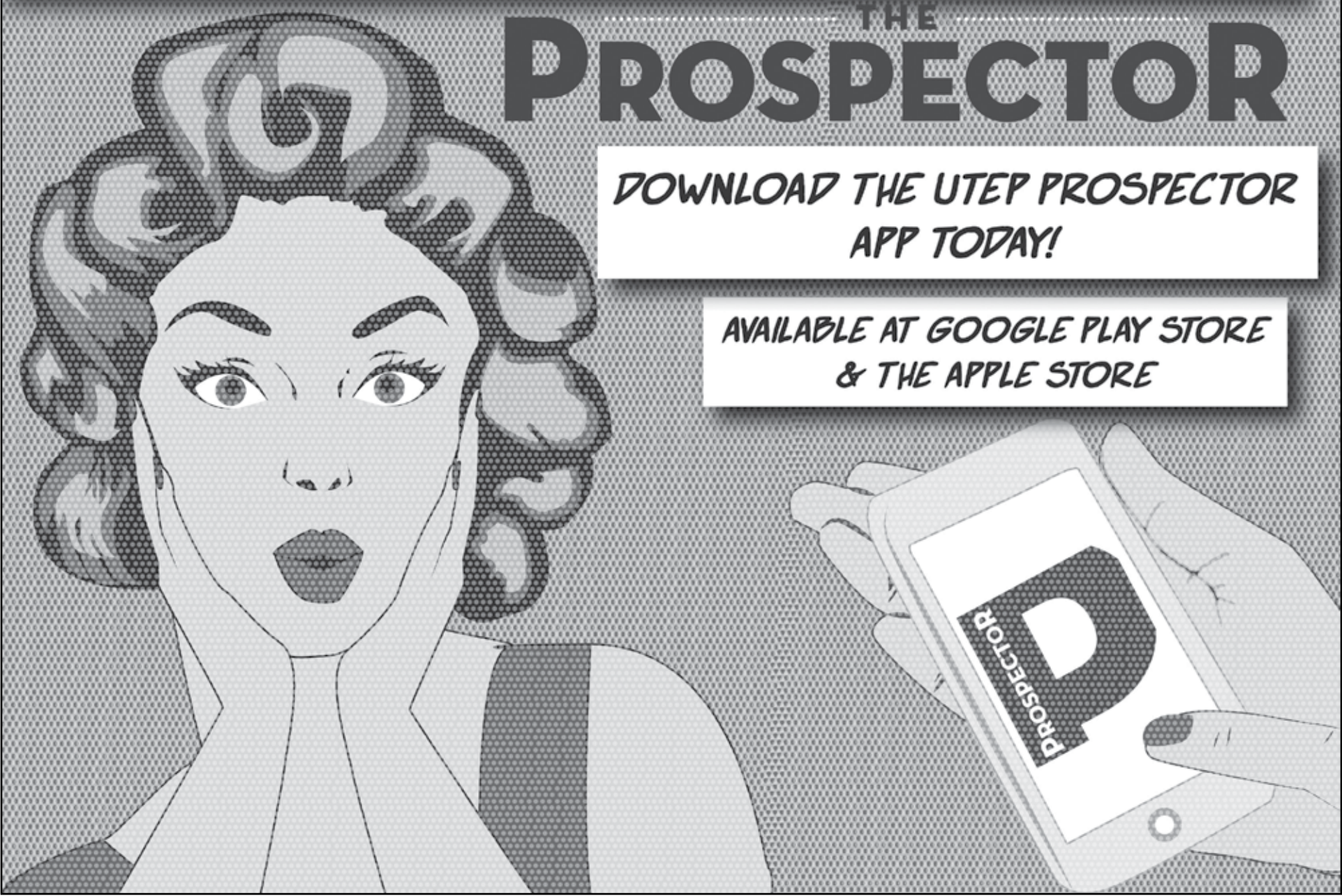
**SIRIA MARTINEZ**  
Sophomore criminal justice major  
“I am planning to see both men and women basketball games because I hear the basketball team is really good, so I’m excited to definitely see a game from both men and women.”

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OVERLOOKED from page 1

to be there,” Levesque said. “It’s about how’s the team and if you like the sport. You can advertise all you want for women sports, but if you aren’t interested in it— you won’t go.”

Avant-Mier teaches a class called communication in sports and said that people do not often discuss sexism in sports outside of academia— they either have not thought about it or they do not want to.

“We want our entertainment and we don’t want to think. There are men in class who easily say ‘well, women in sports suck, so why should I go?’ But they don’t think they are saying something bad or anti-feminist,” said Avant-Mier. “They just think that’s the way it is.”

After six years on the team, Nash is well-versed in the attention each team receives.

“If the men are doing something, people are just going to show up. But us, on the other hand, we have to do something spectacular to be talked about as much. This has always been like this,” Nash said.

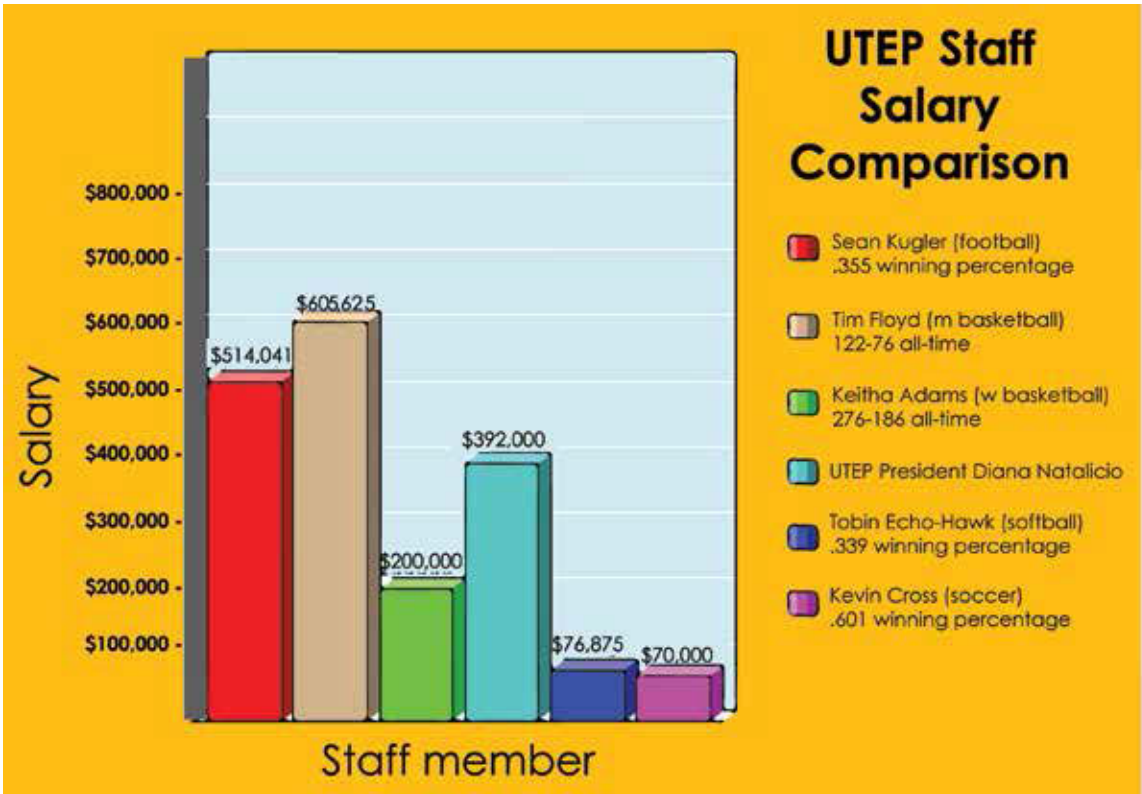
Attendance is not the only area where disparity often exists. The gender pay gap still exists in the United States and even exists in college coaching.

When discussing the differences in salary between the coaches, Levesque said these are not an example of inequality, but are based on experience. She said both coaches are the highest paid in their conference.

“Coach Floyd makes more than Keitha, but their resumes are really different. Keitha has only been at UTEP, while Floyd has been a coach in the NBA,” Levesque said. “When looking for coaches, we don’t make decisions based on gender. We try to get a diverse pool, and it just depends on your experience.”

This is not what Avant-Mier thinks when talking about the gender wage gap. He said this is a form of inequality that still happens in the United States.

“We haven’t reached that equal pay. From what I know, women are paid 78 percent of what men earn,” Avant-Maier said.” If for example a man gets paid a dollar, a woman will receive 78 cents. There is no



equality even if the people perform the same.”

As another basketball season is set to begin, attendance trends will most likely continue as they have— and no matter the reasoning be-

hind the UTEP coaching salary disparity, that is likely to continue as well. Perhaps another winning season by the women’s team may make an increase in

the attendance numbers, perhaps leading to an increase in salary numbers.

Follow Jason Green on Twitter @greenevansj and Grecia Sanchez at @grecias068

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OUR VIEW

PHOTO EDITOR  
GABY VELASQUEZ, 747-7477

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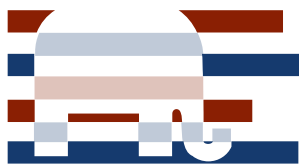
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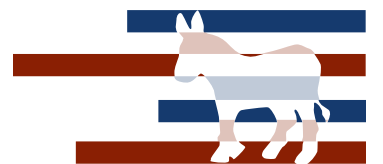
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# YOUR NEXT PRESIDENT



## A week left, and it can't be over soon enough

BY CHRISTIAN VASQUEZ  
The Prospector

Seven days left, or six depending on how you measure it, and the race hasn't slowed down one bit. New scandals and new revelations keep coming out. October surprises are turning into November surprises—more emails against Clinton and more allegations against Trump.

On Friday, Oct. 28, FBI Director James Comey released a statement to several congressmen stating that new emails have potentially been found, and the FBI will take "appropriate investigative steps."

Trump jumped on the event with an opening speech in Manchester, New Hampshire, complimenting the FBI and Department of Justice

for "righting the horrible mistake that they made," referencing the initial findings that concluded without any criminal charges against Clinton. While Clinton called for the release of all known information to stop any potential rumors that might spring up with just a week left in the election.

The emails were supposedly found in a separate investigation against Anthony Weiner, former congressman and estranged husband of a top Clinton aid Huma Abedin, for his sexting to an underage female.

A 12th woman accused Trump of sexual assault. Former Miss Finland Ninni Laaksonen said that in a 2006 Miss Universe pageant. Trump "grabbed my butt. I don't think anybody saw it, but

I flinched and thought: 'What is happening?'" Laaksonen reported.

While a string of articles has come out condemning Trump for these actions, it's unclear if they have had a tangible effect on the public as polling data has not changed drastically.

Public opinion has drifted with Clinton ahead by 5.5 points on Oct. 23, to Clinton being ahead by 4.3 points on Oct. 29.

Meanwhile, RealClearPolitics reports that Clinton is likely to win 263 electoral votes with only 7 more needed to win the election. Trump is far behind at 164 and needs to pull off all the states leaning toward red and change some swing states leaning blue as well.

However, 270towin.com paints a slightly different picture with 258

electoral votes on Clinton's side and 157 on Trump's side. Either way, Trump has a longer road to win and can't afford to make any mistakes.

At a minimum, Trump must win Florida, Ohio, Georgia, North Carolina and Arizona to have a shot at the presidential seat. Except for Arizona, if Clinton can win just one of those states and lose the rest, she can still win the election.

Early voting has taken off with more than 20 million votes already cast. For those voters no matter what new scandal bursts out into the scene unless they live in a state that allows a second vote they are out of luck.

Unless something major is found in new emails, or another scandal somehow overcomes people's fear of a Trump presidency it is hard to imagine how Clinton can lose on Nov. 8.

It's been a long election, and one that will not be soon forgotten. Books and dissertations will be written about this election, but the president that the rhetoric and media-driven campaigns has set will be felt for many elections to come.

### Important dates:

**Nov. 8**

Election day.

**Dec. 19**

The Electoral College is scheduled to convene to cast the official votes for president and vice president.

**Jan. 6**

Congress counts the electoral votes and Vice President Biden formally announces the president and vice-president.

**Jan. 20**

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NOVEMBER 1, 2016

# ENTERTAINMENT

EDITOR  
ERIC VASQUEZ, 747-7477

## Student organizations Theta Chi and Alpha Sigma Alpha win homecoming competition



GABY VELASQUEZ / THE PROSPECTOR

**Homecoming is more** than the football game. Events like the lip sync competition and the parade take place throughout the week. (Top) Alpha Sigma Alpha take the stage at the lip sync competition. (Left) Student organizations walk through neighborhoods during the parade. (Right) Homecoming king and queen Jean-Andre Moore and Lana Hussein walk through the field during half time.

BY ERIC VASQUEZ  
The Prospector

Saturday’s kick-off marked the beginning of the homecoming game, but for registered student organizations the game marked the end of a long week of fierce competition. Since the beginning of homecoming week, student organizations competed in varying physical and mental events such as ping pong, human foosball and trivia—all stylized for this year’s Pete’s Arcade theme.

Daniela Almarez the student organizations management intern. She organized a few of the events. “The competition between the teams was incredible,” Almarez

said. “You could feel the excitement from all the participants.”

This year’s winners, a partnership between fraternity Theta Chi and sorority Alpha Sigma Alpha, took home the trophy after racking up participation and spirit points when their competition points faltered.

“It was rewarding,” said Janneth Mendoza, homecoming coordinator for Alpha Sigma Alpha. “All the hard work from staying late learning the lip sync dance and waking up early for Miner Morning Mania was worth it in the end.”

“Participation was the biggest help,” said Edward Escobedo, historian for Theta Chi and a senior

double majoring in marketing and management.

The week was gruelling, with at most two events per day in between students’ already busy day of classes, work and studying, but team Pac-Man, Theta Chi and Alpha Sigma Alpha’s subtheme, seemed to figure out a way to win.

“For starters, you have to build the strong trustworthy teamwork relationships,” Escobedo said. “Secondly, you must appoint strong, motivated and determined people to organize what’s happening on a daily basis, not to mention maximizing points on every single event with participation and spirit points.”

A lip sync competition, triathlon and arcade tournament were among the many events on the list throughout the week, but a first place in every event means nothing without member support, a tactic that didn’t slip by Team Pac-Man when strategizing for the win.

The end of homecoming week proved to be a grind, as ignored homework and sleeplessness begins to build.

The event that took the most out of us would be the float making party,” Escobedo said. “Due to the fact that we had minimal time on Friday. However, once again thanks to our participation we managed to get the job done.”

“It was a little stressful,” Mendoza said. “I strongly believe that what really helped us win was we were all willing to put the effort needed for every event.”

Although homecoming week is over, the Student Organizations Services at the Student Engagement and Leadership Center have several competitions planned throughout the year.

For more information on Greek Week and other opportunities to participate in competitive events throughout the year, visit [sa.utep.edu/selc](http://sa.utep.edu/selc).

Follow Eric Vasquez on Twitter @ericbaskets



# Brand New, Modern Baseball and Front Bottoms heading to Coliseum

BY ERIC VASQUEZ

The Prospector

Pop punk bands The Front Bottoms, Modern Baseball and Brand New are making El Paso the second stop of their international tour at the County Coliseum at 7 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 3, allowing concert-goers to relive their teenage angst and young-love heartbreak.

Despite the furiously high tempos and energetic guitar playing, these bands all share a common attention to lyrics. Friendships, romances and struggles with identity are usually these bands' focus, and are treated as deeply personal and real problems with such flare that one could make the claim that some bits are poetry.

Brand New's main appeal is their use of the second person. For every accusation, lead singer Jesse Lacey fires straight shots to his subject, allowing listeners to point their fingers at their own betrayers and failed loves.

'Last Chance to Lose Your Keys' is a song that speaks to anyone who has had an unrequited love, but it is a downright anthem for anyone who has had an unrequited love that kept him or her on the hook. You know, that person that gives you just enough attention to set your systems on fire, but not much else?

"It's girls like you that make me think I'm better off at home on a Saturday night with all my doors locked up tight."

'Seventy Times Seven,' from the "Your Favorite Weapon" album is a reference to a Bible verse on forgiveness, but the song is not actually about forgiving a girl. Rather, it is Lacey's condemnation of his best friend, John Nolan of Taking Back Sunday, for fooling around with his girlfriend behind his back.

The song is dripping with resentment as Lacey sings with acid on his lips. It is straightforward punk rock with driving guitars and drums, but it isn't until the break when Lacey reveals his lyrical potential.

"So, is that what you call a getaway? Tell me what you got away with. Cause I've seen more spine in jellyfish. I've seen more guts in 11-year-old kids. Have another drink and drive yourself home. I hope there's ice on all the roads. And you

can think of me when you forget your seatbelt, and again when your head goes through the windshield. And is that what you call tact? You're as subtle as a brick in the small of my back. So let's end this call, and end this conversation."

The great thing about this song is the unchecked rage and reckless wishful thinking. It is awful to think these things about anybody, but no one can deny that these thoughts pop into their heads, if only for a fraction of a second.

Modern Baseball may be just another punk band, but what makes them a punk band worth listening to is that the band members are so uncool it's cool. They are unashamedly geeky, which is refreshing since a lot of their subject matter revolves around being insecure and awkward and attractive rock gods can't sell that so well (looking at you Tay).

Modern Baseball is big on sound explosions, letting the music die out to silence before jamming out the chorus. Lead singers Brendan Lukens and Jake Ewald experiment with accented syllables to fit the melody, a method that doesn't detract from their music.

Call your best friend and tell him to listen to "The Weekend." The lyrics sum-

marize much of what adolescence is like: seeing a lot of people, saying hi to a lot of people, but maybe getting along with only a few of them. This song is a celebration for the friends you can just hang with and be kids.

“Since when did ‘I wanna hear your voice’ not become a good excuse at calling you at three in the morning?”

— Brian Sella, Singer/ Guitarist The Front Bottoms

“Though the white jacket didn't fit, the friends I came with fit perfectly snuggled

right to my body like sad movies and late night drinks.” They aren't complicated lyrics, but the way the band sings in unison to them kind of melts your heart. “You got a smile that could light this town and we might need it ‘cause it gets dark around here, real dark around here. Most of my old friends I can only stand for the week-end, but that doesn't apply here.”

“The Waterboy Returns” is a song that flexes the honesty Modern Baseball can have with a subject, especially when the subject is personal. The lyrics read like a letter Lukens wrote to himself, speaking to a Brendan who is dealing with suicidal thoughts. “Hey you, that's no way out. You can't find help in a bottle or a cut. They'll choose the wrong way to remember you. They'll find the wrong words to say.”

In a strange moment, Lukens makes his past self and the listener see the camaraderie that comes with loneliness. In a way, loneliness is what connects the lonely.

“It's fun to be all talk, but I won't be here forever. Rough time to be a lost soul I'm sure, but we feel the same.”

Contrasting sharply with Modern Baseball, The Front Bottoms take a wild approach to their lyrics. Most of their songs are smart-assed, sassy and downright strange, going so far as to talk about spiders in their pocket and plastic flowers.

They can get cute, however, as songs like “12 Feet Deep” symbolize a crush to drowning. “Cause you are water 12 feet deep, and I am boots made of concrete. We'll wear cool clothes that show some skin, flash our fakes so we'll both get in. Now we're dancing, we are so drunk, I am so cool, we are so punk.”

The song is about young, reckless love. It's straightforward, much like the early relationships one might have kind that barrels into a heartbreak you didn't see coming.

One of the sweetest lines in their discography occurs in the same song, following the uninhibited decisions that young love can induce. “Since when did ‘I wanna hear your voice’ not become a good excuse to call you at three in the morning, laugh at sleep that we'll both lose.” Most of The Front Bottoms' music is a reminder of how easy love can be sometimes.

Doors open at 7:30 on Thursday. Tickets can be bought at any online website including Ticketmaster and Stubhu

b. Tickets for the Nov. 3rd concert can be purchased at most online ticket vendors. Doors open at 7:30 p.m.

Andres Gallegos may be reached at theprospectordaily. ent@gmail.com.



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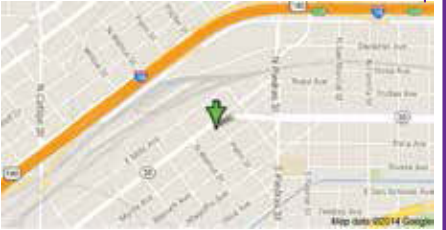
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# ‘In-Between’ a performance on being an international citizen

BY SHERICKA LAWRENCE  
The Prospector

The UTEP Theater and Dance department has a new production titled “In-Between,” stylized as such. The production is a dance concert reflecting on immigration, choreographed by Daralyn Sourlock and Sandra Paola Lopez-Ramirez, who is also the director.

With this production, Lopez-Ramirez explained how it means to be an immigrant living in the U.S. but going back to the previous life before becoming an immigrant. Elaborating on being an immigrant and migrating to the U.S., one may feel they live “in between” their home country and the U.S.

“I’m not from here,” said Lopez-Ramirez. “As an immigrant, you always feel you are in between cultures, in between lifestyles, and ways of being.”

Like every production that Lopez-Ramirez creates, “In-Between,” is very personal to her. While getting the production together, she became a citizen of the U.S. Applying for citizenship and going through the interview was a satisfying experience in relation to the production.

The November show is based on the in-between feelings that many individuals have with life experience. Lopez-Ramirez’s goal is to let the audience have an experience with how it feels to be in middle of personal feelings and life experiences; not quite conquering them or without problems at all.

The cast was a target of inter-generational members in order to bridge the gap between older and younger generations, which is what is lacking in today’s society. Members of the cast range from high school students to a 60-year-old actor, with UTEP students making up the majority of the cast.

Each member was picked in the spring and began working in the summer. The cast members were asked to interview family members or friends about what immigration means to them, writing their answers down in a journal. Lopez-Ramirez wanted the cast to be fully in-tune with their performance.

“To me, the topic of immigration, affects everyone in a particular way,” Lopez-Ramirez said.

The production consists of eight movements which are known as sections. Each section is created with different elements of what the director wanted to leave in the

audience’s imagination. The show not only talks about the topic of immigration but many other topics that individuals may struggle with such as gender, race and our self-identification.

“I think it’s really important to celebrate the weirdness in everything we do.”

— Paola Lopez-Ramirez,  
Choreographer and Director

There are actors that dress up in drag to give a real life feeling out what it means to be “In-Between” with gender identity. In another movement, there are women, with mustaches, representing the strong woman in society. The main goal of this section is to let

the audience know that just because they are women does not mean that they are weak but can be as strong as a male.

The production deals a lot with contrast. For example, many of the dancers are traditional dancers such as ballet, tap and some jazz. In this production, the director didn’t want traditional dancing but a contrast type of movement that displays the weirdness of the dance concert.

“I think it’s really important to celebrate weirdness in everything we do,” Lopez-Ramirez said.

Lopez-Ramirez collaborated with Christopher Reyman of the UTEP Music Department to have sound throughout most of the per-

formance, adding contrast with non traditional choreography.

This production appears that it may relate to everyone in the society. with performances that focus on important topics in the world today. Such as immigration and gender identity, it gives the audience a chance to relate other individuals that may not be like them.

The concert premieres at Studio Theatre on Nov. 1, with shows through Nov. 4 at 7:30 p.m. There is a double show with times at 2:30 p.m and 7:30 p.m and a 2:30 p.m. show on Nov. 6. Tickets can be purchased the day of the show or at the box office at 915-747-5118.

Shericka Lawrence may be reached at theprospectoraily. ent@gmail.com.

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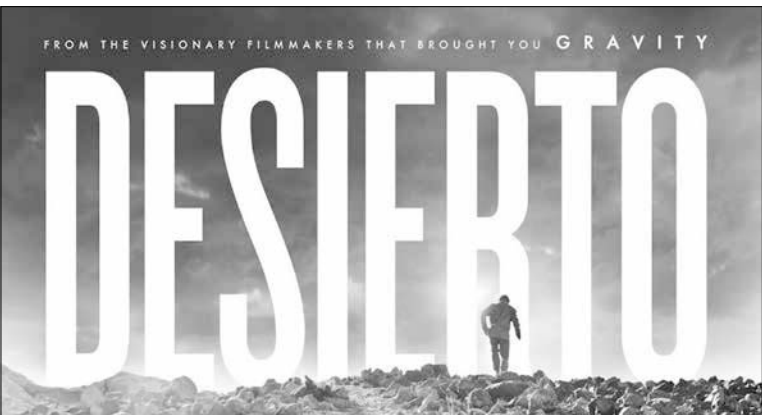
# ‘Desierto’ a political thriller on immigration

BY ANDRES GALLEGOS  
The Prospector

“Desierto” is the first full-length film by Mexican director Jonas Cuaron. After co-writing the award-winning “Gravity” with his father, Alfonso Cuaron, Jonas co-wrote, produced and directed “Desierto.” The thriller is about immigrants crossing the desert while an American vigilante and his dog hunt them down. Cuaron collaborated with actors Gael Garcia Bernal and Jeffrey Dean Morgan, who both play their characters well. Garcia Bernal plays Moises, a Mexican immigrant doing his second run across the border after being deported. Moises wants to reach the United States, not for the prospect of living a better life, but for his son, who he promised to come back for.

Morgan plays the character Sam, the embodiment of the staunchest of Republicans. He’s an alcoholic, who exercises his second amendment right and owns a dog with no name. His truck waves the Confederate flag and booms with country music, and he does not approve of the sloppy job done by the Border Patrol. He’s an American citizen, who feels strongly about undocumented immigrants crossing the border and the crimes they commit once they cross. In our current political state, immigration is a provocative topic that both the left and right feel strongly about. “Desierto” comes at just the right time because it literally represents the current state of affairs and the radical mentality that some individuals have concerning undocumented immigrants. Although the message of this movie is important, the strength of its delivery

fell flat. What could have been a decisive movie turns out to be merely a whisper. The movie was not awful. It was entertaining and had good production value, but the vitality of its topic deserved more. “Desierto” is at most a B-movie. Even though “Desierto” has opposing characters share the screen, their effect feels stunted. The motives that drive each character could have been explored, but there’s little to know about them and almost nothing that makes them relatable. Sure, the movie is fast paced—it is a chase after all—but there’s no time to dig into the back story of each character, and this leaves only the hunter and hunted on the screen. The characters may be flawed and have their shortcomings, but the sense of reality they have with the film is important. For one, the characters speak Spanish and not accented English. There’s little Hollywood glamor in the faces and clothes of the actors. They sweat and bleed, they get dirty when they fall and they’re no match for an armed vigilante. They don’t try to out-match him because in the real world there is not much an immigrant can do against a sharp shooter. “Desierto” forgets about the glamor and focuses on the story. Its setting, which gives this film its title, is a character as well. The film was shot in Baja California, Mexico. Not only does it represent the hardship that many immigrants go through under the scorching sun and over the boiling sand, but it also plays the role of the neutral character. It does not care about the immigrants and it does not aid the hunter either.



SPECIAL TO THE PROSPECTOR

Cinematographer Damian Garcia shows the beauty of the desert through shots at dawn and dusk, through the color of its shale rock and sand and in the vast collection of cacti that inhabit the desert. In one scene, the American vigilante talks about a time when he loved the desert, but now he loathes it. Whether he hates it because of the immigrants is not mentioned, but this scene explains in detail the sentiment toward the desert; a love-hate relationship. Nature is not just beautiful for its sights, but for its indifference as well. Cuaron displays a sense of storytelling in his first full-length film. The shots and editing of the film are messy and quick; it shakes and stops to breathe. Cuaron takes his time. He stops to look at the characters. He explores various points of view. He allows the audience to hang around with the immigrants, with the vigilante and even with the dog and gives the audience their own view, where they can see all the players. His shots

may be coherent, but they still lack something. There’s an essence missing. It seems at times that what’s on the screen are images, not something physical. It’s easy to sit here and criticize a young director’s first film. But despite the flaws, there is a promise. Cuaron chose to deal with real subjects. He approaches a story and pays close attention to the reality they face, not a Hollywood fantasy. There is something significant going on and to achieve that takes special talent or time. There is no doubt that Jonas Cuaron will bring forth important films in the future with better production. Andres Gallegos may be reached at theprospectordaily. ent@gmail.com.

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FAU  
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12 PM

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HOUSTON BAPTIST  
11.5  
6 PM

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WBB  
ST. MARY'S\*  
11.4  
7:05 PM

MBB  
ALASKA FAIRBANKS\*  
11.5  
1 PM

UTEP MINERS

\*EXHIBITION GAME



NOVEMBER 1, 2016

SPORTS

EDITOR

ADRIAN BROADDUS, 747-7477

Adams embarks on her 15th year as head coach

BY JASON GREEN

The Prospector

Her energy is infectious no matter what it is that she is talking about; and it is no surprise that people send their daughters from around the world to play for her.

UTEP women's basketball head coach Keitha Adams' statistics are noteworthy by any measure: three Conference-USA regular season championships—most recently in 2016; two NCAA tournament berths and two WNIT tournament berths—most recently in 2016; three seasons of 29-plus wins in the last five years; and back-to-back sellouts of the Don Haskins Center in 2014.

However, it is Adams' love for her players that keeps them coming back even after their career in the orange and blue is over. Recently, two-time C-USA Player of the Year Jareica Hughes was back at the Miners' practice.

"She genuinely cares about you outside of basketball, what you're going to do with your life," Hughes said. "I know there's other coaches out there who have that mentality, but she has a very, very genuine way of showing that to her players and her staff—everyone that's around her."

Adams has a huge heart for her players and an even bigger smile. It is clear being around her that she loves her players and staff. Just watch one Keitha Adams practice and you will notice that the 15-year UTEP head coach knows when to turn the fun on and off and get down to business.

"I'm a big believer in preparation and how you prepare and how you practice. I'm very focused on the game and so I think my intensity and focus is really there when we're (on the practice court)," Adams said. "That's what you've got to be good at. You've got to be good on Monday,

Tuesday, Wednesday to play well on Thursday night."

It will take all of Adams' coaching ability to get this year's Miners together in time for a difficult schedule that will see them face LSU, NC State and Kansas State very early in the season. Making matters more difficult is the fact that this year's team has eight newcomers—two transfer players and six freshmen.

Adams said that she wants to start the season off by not only throwing her team into the fire, but also working hard to make sure that her players understand her style of basketball and get them used to the rigors of NCAA Division 1 college basketball.

"With us being as young as we are and having so many new players, really all I'm focused on is us trying to teach our players what it is we're trying to do and also to learn about our players," Adams said.

Anyone who has attended a UTEP women's basketball game in recent years has seen promotional videos during timeouts featuring Adams as a chef. In reality, Adams really does enjoy cooking, especially grilling, and the team even has a kitchen in the practice facility, where meals can be prepared jointly as a bonding experience.

When not preparing meals herself, the Oxford, Kansas, native has adopted Mexican cuisine as her favorite after having lived in El Paso for several years.

"H&H Car Wash is a great stop because you can get your car washed and gassed and have great authentic Mexican food, and then you get to hang out with Maynard (Haddad), which he's going to give you some heck and BS with you. That's a great stop," Adams said.

She also recommended L&J's and a new place on Mesa named Sabertooth Food Co.—this time for very "coach-ly" reasons.



FILE PHOTO/ THE PROSPECTOR

Head coach Keitha Adams and the Miners will begin their season at home against St. Mary's on Friday, Nov. 4.

"I love Sabertooth. It's fresh. Cooked right in front. When you go in there, it's running like a well-oiled machine. Everybody's focused. Everybody. I've been impressed with their dynamics and their food is great," Adams said.

Food is one escape for Adams, but her one true escape—more than movies, reading or anything—is music.

"I play guitar. I'm not very good, but I enjoy it. I started playing it after I lost my dad. My dad was really, really good. I have his guitars and so I started playing after we lost him," Adams said. "That's the one thing I can do that truly takes my mind off of everything. I get truly absorbed in a

song and what I'm trying to do and I don't think about anything else."

When it comes to music, Adams has recommendations as well. "One Horse Town" by Blackberry Smoke is her favorite song to play on the guitar and reminds her of home. She also recommends anything by Alabama Shakes, who she saw in concert near the end of the summer.

"Nobody sounds like them. They're authentic. They're unique. They're blues, country, rock. (Lead singer Brittany Howard) is—her voice, she can really play the guitar. She really puts all her soul into it," Adams said.

Then as she began to speak about the diversity of the crowd and the band itself and compare it to the diversity on her team, she began to morph back into coach Adams yet again. The two are never too far removed from one another.

Once the 2016-17 season tips off on Friday, Nov. 4, against St. Mary's, Adams may find fewer and fewer moments to be smiling. Adams may need to play her guitar and clear her mind a lot this season, but something tells me that she would not have it any other way.

Follow Jason Green on Twitter @greenjevans

Miners prepare for Alaska Fairbanks for exhibition game



GABY VELASQUEZ / THE PROSPECTOR

The UTEP basketball squad will play their final exhibition game against Alaska Fairbanks on Saturday, Nov. 5, in preparation for their regular season.

BY ADRIAN BROADDUS

The Prospector

Exhibition games are created to allow a squad to test their depth chart, play newcomers to introduce them to the court for the first time and see

what's right and what's wrong on the team. It's also to prepare the squad for their regular season, which will span from November to February. Regular season play begins Saturday, Nov. 12, against Louisiana College.

Unfortunately for the men's basketball team, head coach Tim Floyd believes that his team is not ready for the regular season based on their first exhibition game against Southeastern Oklahoma State, which the Miners slipped away with a win, 80-73.

"We're not (ready)," said Floyd. "There are a lot of things that didn't look beautiful."

It might not all be on the downside, however. Floyd said the exhibition games could help the team grow, learn their weaknesses and then improve from there.

"Those are things that I love about exhibition games, is that we can see players maybe try to do things that they don't do in practice, just because there are a few people in the stands and a few people sitting on press row," Floyd said. "We will go back and address all of those things."

Against Southeastern Oklahoma State, the Miners struggled at first. They were flat offensively, taking too many shots to start off. The Savage Storm even started the game with a 12-4 lead. In the first half alone, there were 13 lead changes and the score was tied nine times.

After the half, the Miners clawed back into the game after the 11-minute mark when they went on a key 8-2

run. From then on, the Miners extended a lead that they could hold onto for the rest of the game.

But the fact of the matter was they should have won easily. Instead, it seemed like the Miners had to scrap for the victory.

Senior guard Dominic Artis led the charge on Saturday with 17 points and two steals. He scored the outside jumper as well as made plays inside. Forward Terry Winn had a double-double for the day as he scored 14 points and accumulated 10 rebounds. Winn also debuted his outside jump shot that he perfected during the off-season and had some nice shots from beyond the paint.

"I felt we played hard," Artis said. "This was a chance to see where we are and who we are. Offensively, I think we got in our groove after a while, and we just have to continue doing that."

Starting center Matt Willms was inactive during the game, and will probably be out this week against Alaska Fairbanks. Willms, who was sidelined due to an ankle injury last season, was inactive due to a heel injury.

"Matt had a stress reaction on the same foot," Floyd said. "We sat him—it was doctor recommended. The other

problem is at his arch, but this one is at his heel. We are hoping to sit him a week and then have him back."

The man who filled in for Willms down low, other than Winn, was 6-foot-11 freshman forward Kelvin Jones. Jones had six points and six rebounds coming off the bench, and he added an extra spark to the Miners.

"Coach was on Kelvin hard during this week at practice," Winn said. "I think he responded well and he looked good."

This week, the Miners will take on Alaska Fairbanks Saturday, Nov. 5, in their second exhibition game. It will be a test to see how the Miners adjust after watching film from their first practice game.

"We have to work on some defensive adjustments, like working too close and forcing the outside shots," Artis said. "They made a lot of shots, so we have to be ready for that against some of the better teams."

Tip off against Alaska Fairbanks is slated for 1 p.m. MT at the Don Haskins Center

Follow Adrian Broaddus on twitter @adrian\_broaddus



# Cosmas Boit: racing into UTEP's record book



GABY VELASQUEZ / THE PROSPECTOR

Senior cross country runner Cosmas Boit and the Miners anticipate NCAA Regionals on Nov. 11.

BY MIKE FLORES  
The Prospector

In the USTFCCA and in all of Division 1 cross country programs around the nation, the UTEP Miners' cross country team is ranked 21st, and they have one of the hottest runners in the country—Cosmas Boit.

The 2016 season happens to be Boit's last year of competing for the Miners as it's his senior year. He is majoring in criminal justice and has been one of the must-watch athletes at UTEP.

And, over this weekend, Boit and the UTEP cross country team brought home the Conference USA championship trophy for the second year in a row.

Boit traveled over 9,000 miles from Eldoret, Kenya, to El Paso, where he has called the city home for four years. The star sprinter from Kenya never competed in a competitive cross country match until he stepped foot in the borderland.

"I never ran that in my life—I didn't run in elementary, high school or anything. When I was finishing school, my sister told me that her coach was interested in me," Boit said. "My coach now, used to be my sisters' too."

Head coach of the Miner's cross country team Paul Ereng saw the potential Boit could bring to the university. The kid out of East Africa was as talented as it gets, and worked hard to achieve his goals.

"When Cosmas came over he was more of a track and field guy, he brought a lot of speed from that," Ereng said. "He has become a very reliable long distance runner as well. He has improved nicely, and has always been a great team player."

Every time Boit laces his shoes up and observes the field, he looks to conquer, his mind goes back to what got him here. He pictures every invitational as if it were his last one, and reminds himself to never waste the privilege of running for an education.

"When I'm out there it's the time of my life. I always want to give back to the people who gave me this opportunity," Boit said. "I'm running for my home-

town, my sister, for me and the entire UTEP community."

Coach Ereng was also born and raised in Kenya. This has given UTEP access to many sprinters from outside of the United States—including Boit. There are 12 student-athletes on the roster who have had to adapt to the American lifestyle, and they have been together since migrating from the Republic of Kenya.

This has made the sport and the El Paso air feel like home to these international competitors. However, it took time for the culture, language and way of living to catch up to Boit and company.

"It was difficult. I've never been away from home, especially this far. I never knew anything about the United States, but I was thinking it was my destiny (to be here)," Boit said. "When I came here with Kenyan friends, they kind of held my hand, they guided me—from school to practicing."

Knowing that Ereng was devoted to getting Cosmas in orange and blue, from the start Boit has lived up to the hype and has enjoyed sustained success since the beginning of his collegiate career.

During his first year of running for the Miners, Boit finished third in the C-USA championship in 2013, and has placed second place in the Lobo invitational. All of his accolades led up to C-USA Freshman of the Year honors.

In Boit's sophomore debut, he placed second in three invitational races—the Lobo Invitational, the Kachina Classic and in the Lori Fitzgerald Meet. With one of the biggest events of each year, the young sophomore, at the time, achieved his personal best at the conference tournament of 24.08 minutes. He was the first athlete from UTEP to cross the line, and his time landed him second overall.

The last time the UTEP cross country team had the championship trophy in El Paso was 2009. Throughout Boit's junior season, he and his teammates helped add another conference title in the history books. The title was the program's fifth in the school's archives in Conference USA.

Some of the best moments Ereng will remember is the title win and how much

work that team put into achieving one of their main goals.

"It's very difficult to win the conference, and for us to do that with him leading the charge, I'm going to miss that, along with many other things he did," Ereng said.

Boit's last hurrah has not disappointed—the recognition of Conference USA Male Athlete of the Week has been in Boit's possession twice during his senior year and three times in his career overall.

But, it was also this week where Boit earned his fourth honor this year so far. He was named Senior of the Meet in the C-USA championships race after his third-place finish with a season-best time of 24:05.7.

"I want to make an impact before I step out of cross country," Boit said.

Ereng will lose his top gun this year, but what Boit has done for the program will not be forgotten.

"When someone is as hard-working as he is, and he's a good person—it's very hard to replace," Ereng said. "He is a very good role model for all the younger people, he tells the others what do to be able to succeed as a team—Cosmas has the experience, being a senior. He has above a 3.0 GPA and the team sees stuff like that."

It is easy to say that Boit set the bar higher for UTEP athletics and will go down as one of the top players to put on the cross country jersey for the Miners.

"The team that I have now, it's a super team, I always wish I had one extra year. I've never seen work ethic like the team this year" Boit said. "We want to be a top-five team in the nation, I'm 100 percent confident my team and I can make the NCAA Regionals this year."

Follow Mike Flores on Twitter @MikeyTheReal

# Miners in must-win situation against Houston Baptist

BY ADRIAN BROADDUS  
The Prospector

It's win or go home time for the Miners football team. After they were rolled over by Old Dominion, 31-21, the Miners have their backs against the wall at six losses, and are forced to win all of their remaining games to have any hopes at post-season play.

However, the remaining four games will not be a walk in the park. In fact, it seems like a long shot for the Miners to win them all due to their previous eight games, including their most recent frustrating loss to ODU. They will have to play Houston Baptist, Florida Atlantic, Rice and North Texas.

"I'd like to take a knife and stab myself," said head coach Sean Kugler in a frustrated manner after their loss to Old Dominion. "Why would I be happy? We're 2-6. Other than light myself on fire, I don't know what to do."

To their advantage, they will take on FCS Southland conference affiliates Houston Baptist. The Huskies (3-5) have had a struggling year thus far, much like the Miners. They are currently eighth place in the Southland conference and have lost four of their last five games.

To head coach Sean Kugler, this is a chance to catch a breather for his squad and a confidence boost

going into their final three conference games.

The Miners (2-6, 1-4 C-USA) fell to the Monarchs this past Saturday based on more defensive mistakes than offensive ones. Quarterback Ryan Metz took the charge for the night and made some pretty nice plays during his 202-yard day. Running back Aaron Jones carried the ball for 94 yards and totaled two touchdowns—one rushing and one, surprisingly, through the air.

But in the end, it was the defense that allowed 393 total yards of offense for the Monarchs. They scored 21 uncontested touchdowns in the second half, which really put the game out of the Miners' reach.

"We didn't step up to the task," said linebacker Alvin Jones, who totaled nine tackles throughout the game. "We let them run the ball. They pounded the ball down. We missed a couple of tackles. We struggled during the second half. There was no energy, no emotion."

The bad news is obvious—the Miners cannot lose another game, but the good news is that Old Dominion is probably the toughest team left on the Miners' schedule.

The next game on Saturday, Nov. 5, at 6 p.m. in the Sun Bowl is a must-win game that the Miners desperately need.

Follow Adrian Broaddus on twitter @adrian\_broaddus



GABY VELASQUEZ / THE PROSPECTOR

The Miners football team has to win their remaining four games for any hope of making a bowl game.



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# UTEP soccer embarks on C-USA tournament

BY MIKE FLORES  
The Prospector

UTEP women's soccer will fight to put their city back on the map and gain the respect they feel they deserve on Nov. 2 against the Rice Owls.

The Miners will come in as the seventh seed with their 12-6-2 (5-5 C-USA) record, and will attempt to overcome the odds and beat the second-ranked Rice Owls, who went 11-4-1 and 8-2 in conference play.

Senior midfielder Aleah Davis wants to make UTEP a tough outing and a team no one wants to be scheduled against.

"We are underdogs going in, people underestimated us, so it's about proving teams and the conference wrong," Davis said. "We were picked to finish ninth this season, so we've already done more than they expected."

Head coach Kevin Cross and his Miners are riding high into the tournament after their 5-0 regular season-ending shutout performance against the Southern Miss Golden Eagles.

"Right now we are hot, and we want to keep that momentum going," Cross said. "I think we can keep that going if we played like we did on the last game of the season."

However, Rice will not be the cakewalk that Southern Miss seemed to be. These Owls have not lost in their last seven matchups, including five shutout victories. Head coach of the Rice soccer program Nicky Adams went perfectly in the month of October—her team's last loss came in September against the very talented Western Kentucky squad, who is seeded third in the conference.

Back at University Field on Oct. 9, the Miners and Owls squared off in their only matchup of the season. The team from Houston did not seem to be fazed by the El Paso crowd or anything that the orange and blue threw their way. Rice came out victorious with a lopsided 3-0 win.

UTEP's goalkeeper Alyssa Palacios was under duress throughout that whole afternoon—she tied her career high in saves (10) against the aggressive Owls' attack. She will hope to be relied on less on Wednesday when the Miners play the Owls again.

Rice outshot the home team in the first half 13-6. The offense for the Miners was non-existent—something that desperately needs to change if UTEP hopes to advance in the tournament. Slow starts are one of the main reasons that the Miners are ranked at the bottom of the C-USA playoffs—if they can put together two halves on any given night, they can threaten to beat any team on any field.

Cross was in shambles after the Rice performance. He vowed to right his wrongs.

"That was the worst game of the season. We are better than that and we'll show it," Cross said after the loss to Rice.

Regardless, the playoffs are a time for everyone to start off fresh. The hottest teams can be the most dangerous and beat someone that outperformed them all season. It is simply a one-game elimination, therefore anything can happen, despite a noteworthy seeding.

Seven seniors are on the roster for the Miners, and if their last show on their home turf was any indication of how they will play the rest of their games, it is anyone's match to win in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Senior midfielder Bri Thomas is motivated to keep UTEP's success going.

"We're ready for anything. I know that we are going to give it our all—it's our last shot," Thomas said. "We are not going down without a fight."

Coach Cross is among the top 40 in coaches with the highest wins in Division 1 soccer. Under Cross, the Miners have earned 12 wins in the conference tournaments and have appeared in three conference title showdowns.

He also has coached in one NCAA playoff game in 2005. It was the program's first tournament berth in history. The Miners advanced to the second round after losing to a top-10 team—the California Golden Bears.

El Pasoans are hoping for a repeat of that season, the best year yet in the program. There is still a lot to be written with UTEP's future in soccer, and it starts now.

"There are no ceilings with this team, it's as high as it gets," Thomas said. "If we play UTEP soccer, we are unstoppable."

Kickoff time will be at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 2, in Charlotte, North Carolina. The winner will face off against the victor of the Western Kentucky (3)-Charlotte (6) matchup.

Follow Mike Flores on twitter @MikeyTheReal



The UTEP women's team will take on the Rice Owls in the first round of the Conference USA tournament.

NINA TITOVETS/ THE PROSPECTOR

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