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The Prospector, January 24, 2017

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ASSAYER OF STUDENT OPINION

..... THE
PROSPECTOR

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VOL. 102, NO. 16

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO

JANUARY 24, 2017



EL PASOANS REACT TO THEIR NEW PRESIDENT

GABY VELASQUEZ, CLAUDIA HERNANDEZ / THE PROSPECTOR

(Left and right) Marchers hold up signs at Women's March on the Border in reaction to Trump's inauguration and in support of women's rights. (Center) Members of the El Paso Republican Party celebrated as Trump was sworn into office with posters, buttons and food.

THE PROSPECTOR STAFF

The Prospector

From Paragon Lane, where the El Paso Republican headquarters is located, to the protests and resistance at San Jacinto plaza, the inauguration of Donald Trump as the 45th president of the United States provoked a wide range of emotions across the nation and here on the border.

Thanks Obama

UTEP's assistant dean of Extended University, Josie Carmona, experienced a somber feeling on the streets of D.C. when she attended a "Thanks Obama" event on Jan. 19, the night before the inauguration. Carmona participated in a young Democrats poster-making party in Arlington, Virginia, and attended the Women's March in D.C. the next day.

"I had been here for the previous inauguration and the feeling for this one was very different, it was quiet," said Carmona.

Although she didn't agree with all the decisions made under the Obama administration, she felt Obama's presidency was an important time that united minorities.

El Paso Republican Headquarters

Down on Paragon Lane, in a room decorated with banners, signs such as "friends don't let friends vote Democrat" and a small buffet, nearly 40 Republican volunteers and supporters of President Trump gathered at the El Paso GOP headquarters, seated around a projected broadcast of the inauguration.

The room was filled with laughter and jokes, and everyone either seemed to know one another or were happy to introduce themselves. One of the organizers said that they did not expect a large crowd, but as the oath of office drew nearer, more people came in until nearly all the seats were taken.

Matthew Garcia, a Trump supporter, said it all felt surreal, whether someone voted for Trump or not.

"I feel excited, I feel hopeful, I really hope that he delivers on his promises and that he listens to everybody," Garcia said. "I really do believe him when he says he's giving the power back to the people,

and he means everybody, especially the people like me who are suffering from poverty. I think his message is genuine, I just hope he delivers."

Mark Dunham, the state Republican executive committee chairman for Senate District 29, said that he felt very confident moving forward. Dunham believes that the Democrats have put themselves in a bind concerning the presidential nominees after passing the so-called "nuclear option" in 2013, which lowered the threshold for confirming presidential nominees for the cabinet.

"I think the last thing anybody should be doing is underestimating what (Trump) can accomplish," Dunham said.

David Thackston was one of the 38 electors from Texas and represented the 16th district when voting for the next president of the United States.

"I was elected by my peers here at our Republican state convention. The Democrats did the same thing, if Hillary Clinton had carried Texas, I wouldn't have been the president elect—the Democrats

would have had that," Thackston said. "It feels wonderful."

Although Thackston feels confident that the people will turn against the Democratic party if politicians do not support President Trump, he believes that Trump should and will work with Democrats.

"It behooves Donald Trump, like Ronald Reagan before him, to reach out to the Democrats and get the votes he needs in the Senate to keep them from filibustering, so things can go through and they can reach his desk and he can sign it," Thackston said. "Obama did too many things through executive order. The good thing about that is he didn't need to go through the Senate and the House. The bad thing (for Democrats) is Donald Trump is going to take out a pen and reverse it. I think that most of the things that Donald Trump wants to do, he's going to do properly, constitutionally through the House, through the Senate and legally as bills, so the next president can't come in and erase what he did."

Convivencia

One UTEP group, Convivencia: a Community in Action, decided to steer the conversation back to the community by hosting an open mic, a tabling event and a documentary watch party during the same time the inauguration celebrations were being aired on television.

Students gathered in Centennial Plaza to hear each other's thoughts on the future of the country, their lives and college careers.

"It's always important to promote democracy," said Irasema Coronado, political science professor and a moderator at the open mic. "It's an opportunity for inclusion."

Students were able to speak for three minutes each and participate in a supportive environment, where they could exchange ideas and issues that were prevalent to their lives.

The open mic was followed by "Round Tables and Community Con see PRESIDENT on page 6





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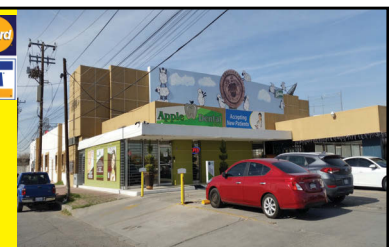
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JANUARY 24, 2017

OPINION

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
MICHAELA ROMÁN, 747-7477

Trying to find a balance in a time where journalistic ethics are in danger

BY MICHAELA ROMÁN
The Prospector



Throughout this past election season, many have questioned whether objective journalism is at risk of extinction or possibly going through a rough patch. One of the first ethical principles I understood when beginning my journalism career is having the responsibility of determining if one's bias will be shown in their work. If I was a writer, who hypothetically had strong pro-life or pro-choice beliefs, I would need to be honest with myself before attending a rally where I knew my bias would clearly lean one way in my work. The reason I wouldn't attend this fictional rally being that when someone from the community I'm serving searches for an accurate recap on the events that took place, as so many of us do, they should be served a plate with two main dishes rather than one. If you as the reporter prefer steak, you're not going to tell your reader, "Here's the steak, look how good it is, this is what you need to consume." Your job is to say "Here's the steak, but there's also the fish." You let them decide what they will consume from the news menu. Maybe even provide some vegetarian options For example, when I interned as a producer at a local broadcast station this past summer, if we showed a clip of then presidential nominee Hillary Clinton on the campaign trail, it needed to be followed by something Trump was up to that day, even if it was just a screenshot from his Twitter feed. In a time where advocacy journalism is presented to millennials in every shape and form via social media, it is possible my traditional way of getting the job done could be growing extinct. Advocacy journalists' jobs are to intentionally be biased and make their agenda known. They report accurately and back up what they say with facts; but the manipulation of only showing one side of a story to stir the pot can be interpreted by a reader as "fake news." The archaic rules of the game for unbiased publications who aim to preserve this kind of reporting may need to be reiterated. I believe, it's okay to sit on a story until you have all the facts. You can't be quick to jump the gun on a story without doing the appropriate amount of digging. Today, it seems far-fetched by some to wait until stories are verified. BuzzFeed recently made the risky move of releasing what's being referred to as "Russian leaks." Although entertaining to read, the information was released too soon to be deemed accurate. Back in the day, Bob Woodward proved that journalists serve as a counterweight to the sources of secrecy in politics, when he helped to break the news of the Watergate scandal. We need a new set of guidelines on how to do so. It's no secret that newly sworn-in President Donald J. Trump has no problem calling specific reporters or publications "fake news."

When the White House Press Secretary, Sean Spicer, held the administration's first briefing he called out specific reporters on their inauguration attendance reports with counter-reports that were not found to be accurate. Senior White House aide Kellyanne Conway deemed these as "alternative facts" on NBC's "Meet the Press."

Spicer's bizarre interactions with journalists prove it is going to be a long haul for journalists to determine if what President Trump and the White House press have to say is truthful and keep pushing to figure out exactly what's going on, even if President Trump is trying to push back on news outlets.

There has been speculation that Trump's administration wants to limit the press through such means as revoking press passes or prosecuting journalists by having them reveal their sources.

Just like other groups that have been threatened by Trump, the press has as well.

Now is the time to really prove if we as journalists can still report unbiasedly by simply doing what we always have been.

Even working at The Prospector, a student newspaper, the athletic department questions why we hold coaches and department heads accountable. To paraphrase, they want to know why we're not simply promoting the school.

My job as editor-in-chief is not to be a cheerleader for anyone or an outspoken protestor. It's to tell our readers the truth, whatever that may be.

It's impractical to think journalists are always going to get it right, which is why transparency for readers is so important. Being able to take feedback, constructive or not, without becoming defensive is just as an important part of the job as any other, even when it's coming from your president.

✉ Michaela Román may be reached at michaelairoman@gmail.com.

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MINERS HOCKEY UPDATE

The Miners hockey club team has won 19 of their last 20 games and currently ranks first in all of the state of Texas for the club sport. They are 22-2 and next will take on Northern Arizona on the road. Below is a schedule for their remaining games. Visit minershockey.com for more information.

Thu Jan 26	- @ Northern Arizona University	Jay Lively - Flagstaff, AZ 9:15 PM MST
Fri Jan 27	- @ Northern Arizona University	Jay Lively - Flagstaff, AZ 8:30 PM MST
Sat Jan 28	- @ Northern Arizona University	Jay Lively - Flagstaff, AZ 8:00 PM MST
Sun Jan 29	- @ Grand Canyon University	AZ Ice Peoria 11:45 AM MST
Fri Feb 3	- University of New Mexico	El Paso Event Center 7:30 PM MST
Sat Feb 4	- University of New Mexico	El Paso Events Center 7:30 PM MST



ALONZO MARTINEZ / THE PROSPECTOR

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THE PROSPECTOR






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What it takes to be part of sorority life

The Prospector

Sororities and fraternities may often be associated with hazing and parties in which members of these organizations do nothing but consume alcohol. UTEP's Greek life tries to think differently.

Karina Arroyo, a recent UTEP graduate, said being part of Kappa Delta Chi was a great experience, which allowed her to be actively involved while she was a UTEP student.

"I was involved in school and I got to do community service, which looks awesome on resumes. KD Chi helped (me) grow as a person because it helped me develop people skills," Arroyo said. "Joining KD Chi was the best decision I've made because I enjoyed college from a different perspective and I met awesome girls, whom I get to call sisters."

Arroyo said her sorority differed from others at UTEP because she felt that everyone was welcomed.

"KD Chi never focuses on appearances. We come in all shapes, sizes and colors. What we have in common is that we all are Latina," Arroyo said.

Arroyo said a member of her sorority was not accepted by another sorority because of her size.

"Their loss was our win. She's now a KD Chi sister," Arroyo said.

Alyssa Martinez, vice-president of Alpha Xi Delta, said Greek life organization committed students who want to work together as a group.

"I have experienced recruitment from both sides, as a potential new member and as a recruiter," Martinez said. "Living in a border city, we are surrounded by diversity and we welcome it. Physical appearance is nowhere on our minds when recruiting because the way someone looks has absolutely nothing to do with helping an organization be successful."

Living in a border city,
we are surrounded
by diversity and we
welcome it.

- Alyssa Martinez
vice-president
Alpha Xi Delta

Martinez explained the recruitment as a weeklong process consisting of three rounds, or “parties” each night, which provides possible members with a chance to visit each sorority. Each night has a different theme: an open house, a sisterhood

night, philanthropy night, preference night and then a bid day. These are some of the events they take part in before the current members make a formal decision of who will become a new member.

"Formal recruitment was the best and most exciting week of my collegiate life," Martinez said. "There's no secret to being accepted. Selection is a mutual decision between both the sorority and the potential new member."

Martinez said her sorority is looking for passionate girls who are willing to dedicate time in their community.

"Being in a sorority takes passion and dedication. We, as Alpha Xi Delta, look for women who are looking to better themselves and our community," Martinez said. "We also look for women who are willing to commit themselves to our philanthropy. We want women to realize their potential, so that passion and dedication is so important."

Martinez said everyone who is part of a sorority has to attend a workshop explaining the negative outcomes of hazing.

"We as women, join these sororities to better ourselves and give back to the community, not to humiliate one another or to create a sense of belonging through hazing," Martinez said.

Coordinator of Student Activities Fraternity and Sorority Life, Alicia Rascon, said she is aware there are stereotypes about Greek life, but her department is working toward mak-

ing these organizations safer for every member and for everyone who wants to join.

"I think that a lot of the stereotypes are definitely based off of what we see in mainstream media. Those (stereotypes) focus on some of the negative aspects of fraternities and sorority life, so we definitely take measures to avoid anything not allowed by the university to take place," Rascon said. "We encourage all students to report any incidents of hazing to avoid this from happening again."

Arroyo said she thinks more support is needed to increase student involvement at UTEP.

"Greek life makes you have a better experience at college. It's like athletics, you feel like you belong to your university. I believe that if UTEP encouraged Greek life more, students would happier during their time at the university," Arroyo said.

For more information about fraternities and sororities, a recruitment fair will take place on Jan. 24 through Jan. 26 at Union Plaza from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. On Jan. 26, open house information sessions will take place at Union East, first floor at 11 a.m., noon and 1 p.m.

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QUESTION OF THE WEEK

What do you think of sororities and fraternities?

ALONZO MARTINEZ, CLAUDIA HERNANDEZ, ANDREW RIOS / THE PROSPECTOR



Senior art history major

"Being brought up in mostly Catholic schools; where fraternities and sororities are an ample part of one's upbringing, I always saw them as a waste of time, depending on brothers or sisters, I would never join one!"



CRISTINA CAMAGLIO
Senior social work major

"They are basically membership clubs in which people pay to be part of and usually to gain important contacts; supposedly they treat themselves as family. At least in my own opinion fraternities and sororities do not convince me in any way"



MATTHEW T. INON
Junior chemistry major

"I think they are pretty cool, I know they do a lot of community service work. They carry a negative stereotype of hazing and partying but overall I think they are a good thing to be a part of during college."

see QOTW on page 4

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QOTW from page 3



ANDREW BRISEÑO
Sophomore graphic design major
“I think fraternities and sororities are cool. You get to hang out with people and create like a little family.”



STEVEN RAMIREZ
Sophomore digital media production major
“I think that having them around might be problematic in some instances, but they also help build life-long friendships based off of what I've heard. I think it's a good idea to be a part of one.”



LUIS LEVARIO
Sophomore physics major
“I really appreciate how much involvement for the community they promote on campus.”



PALOMA SAENZ
Sophomore commercial music major
“I think it's always good to have inclusive groups at school, to feel you're supported by a group of people can make a difference.”



NATHAN PADRINO
Junior studio art major
“They tend to be more for outgoing people, I feel if you're quiet or soft spoken fraternities aren't really for you.”



NATALIA RUVALCABA
Sophomore business major
“Fraternities and sororities are good for getting involved with more people and getting to know them.”



SILVIA ARCE
Junior graphic design major
“I think the sororities on campus portray unity throughout a diverse population. An organization brings together different cultures, beliefs, ethnicity to compose one body of work.”



AYLEEN SANCHEZ
Sophomore kinesiology major
“I'm actually part of a coed fraternity. It's really interesting and fun and you get to bond with people, and they're there for you to help with school.”

UPCOMING EVENTS

CYBER CAFÉ GRAND OPENING

The grand opening starts at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 24 at the 2nd floor of the Union where light breakfast will be provided and door prizes will be given away. The permit is also valid for all inner campus lots after 5:30 p.m

FOOD TRUCK FRIDAY

A food truck park, a performance by Yeah Man Clan and karaoke will take place at the P9 parking lot on Friday, Jan. 27.

PUEBLO LIFE EXHIBIT

Time Exposures: Picturing a History of Isleta Pueblo in the 19th Century
An exhibit about Pueblo life mid-19th century opens Saturday, Jan. 28, at 1 p.m. at the Centennial Museum and Chihuahuan Desert Gardens.

TIMES LIVE

The El Paso Times and UTEP will host a public conversation with state representatives on Friday, Jan. 27, at the Union Cinema in the Union East Building first floor. Online registration is open until Jan. 26.

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OUR VIEW

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Women’s March on the Border draws thousands



MICHAELA ROMÁN, GABY VELASQUEZ/ THE PROSPECTOR

Supporters of equal rights for women marched from Armijo Park in the Segundo Barrio to San Jacinto Plaza on Saturday, Jan. 21, in solidarity with the 500,000 participants of the Women's March to Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. Over 1,000 El Pasoans and Juarenses came together for the Women's March on the Border hosted by Boundless Without Borders, a newly formed coalition that was created to organize events in El Paso around the inauguration.



NINA TITOVETS, GABY VELASQUEZ / THE PROSPECTOR

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JANUARY 24, 2017

Rubin Center unveils spring showcase



GABY VELASQUEZ/ THE PROSPECTOR

The art exhibits featured in the spring exhibition will be on display at the Rubin Center until April 22.

BY MIKE FLORES
The Prospector

The Rubin Center held its first art show of the spring semester and kicked-off the 11th annual event on Thursday, Jan. 19, with two exhibitions on display. The first was by the world-famous artist Teresa Margolles, who displayed her work on violence against women and social injustice in her “We Have a Common Thread” piece. The other exhibition was the “Tangential Intimacies” by local artists or artists from just across the border in Juárez, such as Haydee Alonso, Laura Bombach, Jane Terrazas, Nabil Gonzalez, Mia Moreno, Nikki Diaz and Cynthia Evans.

Kerry Doyle, the director of The Rubin Center, made the event possible. Doyle worked on bringing prestigious artists through the door for over a year before the event took place. Her goal was to bring designers that had a connection to the border. Many of the artists shown are UTEP graduates, who have gone on to pursue their master’s degrees in different parts of the nation and were asked to come back to display their creations where they started out.

The exhibition’s theme and artwork were created to express meaning around the violence that goes on in the world and what communities deal with daily.

“This work at this time is working with communities to signify violence. We feel like it’s an extremely important response to our country at this time to who we are as bor-

der people; to our commitment to justice and quality and that art can be a part of the conversation,” said Doyle. “We feel very proud and lucky to have this in El Paso right now, especially in this moment.”

Margolles’ designs were the highlight of the show. It was her first time displaying her creations in El Paso.

Originally from Culiacán, Mexico, Margolles explored the recent deaths in México and expressed that violence in her work by focusing on the troubles that surround the families of the victims. Her visions spark conversations, particularly with her designs that revolve around the assault against women.

“The ladies who quilt for me helped me create the stories in my work, and every sew has a special meaning in the work we did. I take the materials and stories with the materials and bring them to the people. Some of them interpret a deeper meaning than others and every art piece tells the stories in the artwork,” Margolles said. “When we sew the fabrics together, it’s the representation of a body. It’s like we are doing an operation on a body. That’s how deep I try and make my art.”

Being used to traveling around the globe for the presentation of her work, Margoles was thrilled to finally make a stop in the Sun City. She said that it was a different feel from the other venues, but she enjoyed her stop at UTEP.

“On April 1990 was my first public gallery. It’s really important to me that my art is in a university be-

cause the public criticizes my work more, and it makes me a better artist. Viewers come to critique it and I like that,” Margolles said. “The Rubin Center was the best place for me to display what I made. Since it was a smaller space, people could see my work from a close-up view.”

The supporters who attended the opening night were greeted by many of the artists, aside from Margolles, that included their work in the Rubin Center.

When viewers entered the second floor of the building, they could make their way to the right of the room to find local designers’ portraits.

On the left side of the room it was in pitch-black, and this is where Margolles’ pieces were displayed. It was a whole room dedicated to her paintings, and there were televisions displaying virtual art with headphones to hear what was happening on the screen.

Nabil Gonzalez, a fine arts professor at UTEP and a professional artist, displayed her designs at the exhibition and had the opportunity to show how she feels about the injustice to women and the role the government plays in it.

“My work expresses the disappearances of women in Juárez and the injustice of the government, and how they haven’t done anything about it. It shows how mothers are left to suffer without any explanation, answers or have anything to go off of from their missing daughters,” Gonzalez said. “My piece here, I’ve worked on it for about four to five

years. The research and the making of the pieces took a while.”

Gonzalez’s pieces have been shown in many places around the world, and for UTEP to have her art in attendance was an honor for both the artist and the school.

“My art has been showcased in places like China and New York. My dream is to go to México, and this has brought me closer to that. It is my first time showing my work here in El Paso,” Gonzalez said. “It’s a great honor to have my pieces back here at UTEP, and getting to show off what I’ve been doing. It’s very, very special to share my work with my students tonight.”

The Rubin Center also held performances by the artists themselves for interactions with their fans. The artists operating the live performances spent five minutes each and presented the lucky spectators with tricks and gimmicks.

The Rubin Center’s opening exhibition of 2017 was a hit with an internationally recognized star and some new professional artists, who have shown their work throughout the world. This is the first of three exhibitions set to take place in the spring semester.

Follow Mike Flores on Twitter @MikeyTheReal



GABY VELASQUEZ / THE PROSPECTOR

The main exhibition by artist Teresa Margolles “We Have Common Thread” features threads that express violence and social problems.



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"Cabaret" is the first production of the year at the UTEP Dinner Theatre. "Cabaret" will run from Jan. 27 to Feb. 12. There will be both, matinee dinner performances and no dinner matinee performances. Eight-time Tony award-winning musical "Cabaret," is play where the talented Sally Bowles shines on the stage of the infamous Kit Kat Club. In the nights of a Germany pre-WWII, life becomes uncertain with the rise of the Nazi Party, and American writer, Cliff Bradshaw, decides to join the night-life in Berlin to find inspiration for his next novel.

Country duo Michigan Rattlers coming to te Sun City for the first time

BY LESLIE SARINANA

The Prospector

Country-folk duo the Michigan Rattlers will be in El Paso for the first time. Hailing from Petoskey, MI, their name comes from the rattle snakes they came across in the state. This past September in Rolling Stone magazine under “10 new country artists you need to know,” this is a country duo who did not intend on being a country duo.

Graham Young and Adam Reed have known each other since they were in middle school, but it was not until much later, when they first started learning guitar, that they decided to pursue a career in music.

With their contrasting voices that naturally compliment each other, their sounds are reflective of the styles of Ryan Adams and the Old 97s.

Their most recent single, “Illinois Sky,” brings warm sounds, with Young’s heartfelt voice being reminiscent of Charles Esten. The song tells the story of two Midwestern boys, “headed for a life of treasure,” without being too complex.

Their self-titled EP was just released last November, and now the pair are embarking on their first tour. The duo answered a couple of questions during a phone interview.

How long is the tour?

Young: Not quite sure right now, I think, right, it’s maybe over three weeks long, it might be a little longer.

Is this your first tour?

Young: Yup, yup. First time going out. We’re hitting the road so we’re excited. It’s great, we haven’t really started yet. It really starts off Monday, so we’ll find out how we really like it. I think we’re gonna enjoy it.

You guys have known each other for a long time. When was the first-time you guys decided we want to make music and we want to do it together?

Young: We were all friends and we just started playing guitar at the same time, and I don’t know, we come from a really small place so there weren’t any musicians our age hanging out. We just kinda started doing music that way, and it worked out. We kind of have the same taste.

Reed: Yeah, we kinda still do. Which is interesting.

Young: We’ve kind of evolved in the same way musically, which is cool.

How did you guys find your country-folk sound?

Reed: This is always funny to answer, how we became a country band? We didn’t say we were gonna be a country band. It was more like, I don’t know, we had the songs, and the instrumentation leads people to believe country. But I like to think when we’re playing the shows—it’s rock and roll.

Young: I think the instrumentation kinda puts it in the country category. Yeah, and definitely the songs. I think a lot of the songs tell stories and country music tells a lot of stories. I think those are aspects. I don’t think, we didn’t start this as “we’re gonna make country and we’re starting a country band.” We didn’t really grow up listening to country for the most part I think. It just kinda evolved that way.

Reed: Once we got more into song writing, initially we were into rock and roll, AC/DC and Led Zeppelin and Creedence Clearwater Revival. We liked that, and after a while the songs we really loved were the bet-

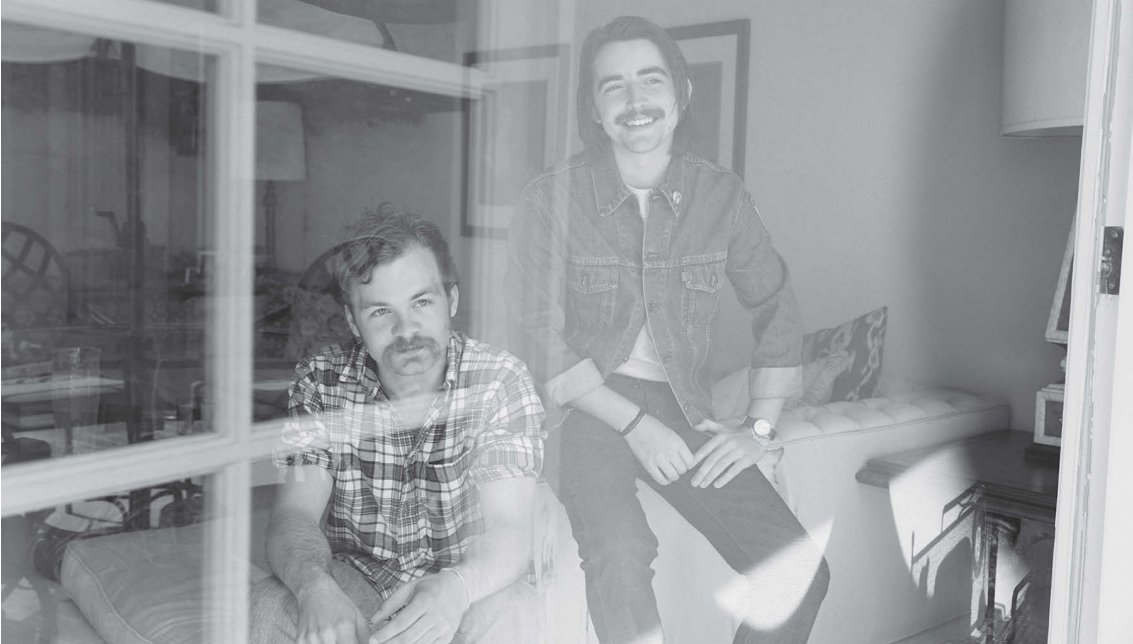


PHOTO COURTESY OF THE MICHIGAN RATTLERS FACEBOOK PAGE

Michigan Rattler’s Adam Reed and Graham Young will play at the Lowbrow Palace of Jan. 27.

ter songs the ones with stories, the ones that stick and we wanted to make that kind of music. It’s more like a time and place thing. We ended up being sort of locked in with this new alternative country thing that is happening, and also, we’re big fans of other bands that are sort of alternative country, like Uncle Tupelo and Whiskeytown and Old 97s. We love them and it’s not so much that they’re country bands, but the songs are great, we just love them.

That’s pretty cool, so you’d say your sound just keeps evolving?

Young: Yeah, well I think that it has to, and you know we’re obvious-

ly pretty new. But, yeah, I think the sound always has to go somewhere.

Do both of you write the lyrics to your songs?

Reed: It’s mostly Graham.

Young: Yeah, I mostly write the lyrics.

I know you guys just released an EP a couple of months ago, but have you been recording anything new? Or working on a full album?

Young: Not yet.

Reed: We’ve done a little bit of work. We did get into the studio in Nashville the last time we were there, into the House of Blues studio, and we were able to try that room out and get a few things down. This wasn’t

part of the album effort so much as it was a part of getting into the studio and trying to get anything interesting. We are planning on doing a record, a full-on record, and it seems like we already have songs for it. We’re excited to do it, it’s hopefully gonna happen this year.

The Michigan Rattlers will be in town Friday, Jan. 27, performing at the Lowbrow Palace. For more information, you can email Christian Yanez at christian@lowbrowpalace.com.

✉ Leslie Sarinana may be reached at theprospector.ent@gmail.com.

Spirit of 66 sports bar honors historic team

BY ADRIAN BROADDUS

The Prospector

The first thing that comes to mind when you think of the term “sports bar” is a murky, grimy venue with a billiards table in the corner and the lingering smell of cigarettes.

But a new El Paso bar is looking to change the stereotype of grubby sports bars.

Located near the corner of Cincinnati Avenue and Mesa Street is Spirit of 66. A new sports boutique bar that caters to people of all ages and backgrounds. Spirit of 66 is unlike any other bar on


Cincinnati Avenue. Immediately guests are greeted with televisions playing ESPN throughout the bar and surrounded by priceless sports memorabilia that decorate the walls and ceilings. True to its name, a Texas Western neon sign glows throughout the building.

Spirit of 66 is founded on the grounds of reliving the 1966 Texas Western national basketball championship. Among the other sports and teams that are showcased in the bar, none stand out like the memorabilia honoring the local championship team. Also in the facility is a must-see mural of legendary head coach Don Haskins, painted by

former El Paso Times cartoonist Nacho Garcia.

Inspired by her grandfather, who used to take her to UTEP basketball

games, Isabel Salcido opened the bar see SPRIT OF 66 on page 10



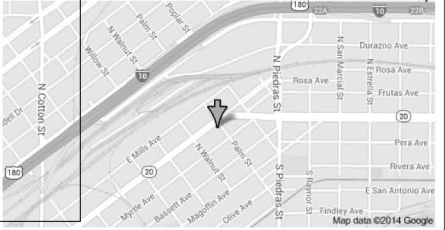
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SPIRIT OF 66 from page 9

because she understood the importance of the 1966 basketball team and believes that by opening this bar, it fully celebrates the historic team.

“I’m an alumni of UTEP and I wanted to make sure I brought some rich El Paso history into my next El Paso business venture,” said Salcido, who also owns Barfly on the Eastside. “I wanted to bring forth a business with a purpose, and the purpose is to share the rich history of 1966 with all ages of people and for them to revive the history of the team.”

With the national championship victory over Kentucky, Texas Western became the first team to start five African-American players in a championship game and still today is the only men’s basketball team in Texas to win a national championship.

“He (her grandfather) would always tell me about this game—the 1966 championship game,” Salcido said. “He told me, ‘this is the game that changed the game.’ It always resonated with me and since this is close to UTEP, I wanted to tie it all together and deliver this.”

In fact, the location adds to the purpose of the sports bar. General manager Normando Bustamante believes that by its location and theme, the bar will be an incentive for UTEP students and the UTEP community.

“We understand what the name Spirit of 66 holds and we know how important it is to this city. Creating this concept is bringing (head coach) Don Haskins’ legacy back to life,” Bustamante said. “We welcome everyone and we understand we will get a lot of UTEP alumni and UTEP students.”

Unlike the other sports bars that cater predominately to males, more specifically older men, Spirit of 66 prides themselves in their gender-neutral



Spirit of 66 is located at Cincinnati and Mesa Mesa Street in the Cincinnati District.

ambiance. It doesn’t feel like a bar for a focused group, but rather a bar that anyone can go to.

“Walking in you see all the colors and the colors pop out at you,” Bustamante said. “People have this misconception of sports bars being very dark, dirty, musky, very masculine, but when you step into the Spirit of 66, you right away see everything pop out at you. It’s a great environment.”

By day, the bar is inviting to day-to-day workers to stop by during their lunch break and eat while watching

sports. Also, according to Bustamante, the bar hopes to be a stop before families make their way to the Miner game right across the street. During the day at Spirit of 66, the lights are bright, the music is dropped and the delightful food is not your typical bar grub.

By night, the bar aims to attract the Cincinnati-goers and help them to enjoy the night at their bar. Spirit of 66 turns down their lights, cranks up their music and opens up their back patio for all to enjoy. There’s plenty of standing and sitting room about the bar and they

feature different drink specials depending on the night.

“My goal is to see us succeed as a business and thrive in this area. Even though we aren’t technically on Cincinnati, we’re part of the Cincinnati neighborhood. If we are able to thrive, they are able to thrive, so it’s going to be us working together to help Cincinnati to grow,” said Salcido. “We want to help El Paso grow as a place like Austin, where they have Sixth Street.”

Now that their doors are open, Bustamante’s only promise to his customers, or clients as he formally addresses them as, is that the bar’s efforts and mission will wow them.

“They’re going to be very surprised to what they’re going to see—the staff, the ambiance, the food, the drinks,” Bustamante said. “It’s going to be a very personal feel, something that’s going to touch them a lot.”

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Young women’s basketball team struggles without veteran leadership



FILE PHOTO / THE PROSPECTOR

UTEP women’s basketball head coach Keitha Adams has the most wins in team history, but her team has struggled so far this season.

BY MIKE FLORES
The Prospector

Bob Stull, the athletic director for UTEP sports, recently sent out a letter to fans of the UTEP Miners about

the rebuilding years that both the men’s and women’s basketball teams are going through. It is true that the team is having a down season so far in 2016-17, but that is based largely on the high standard that head coach

Keitha Adams has established for the program during her time at UTEP. “I’m not surprised that Stull put out this letter. I have great respect for him, he’s been very supportive of me and I’ve been very supportive of him, too. I un-

derstand that our team was struggling at the time (when the letter was sent out),” said Adams. “Our team has gone through some tough times this season, but when you go through this, you stick together and we have to hang in there with one another.” Since Adams was hired as the women’s seventh coach in the school’s history in 2001, she has produced the most successful seasons of all time. In her 16 years with the program, Adams has guided UTEP to their only four postseason bids and the program’s four conference titles. This, along with many other winning seasons, has earned her the title of UTEP’s winningest women’s coach—one of her greatest accomplishments in her soon-to-be hall of fame career. However, throughout the midway point in the 2017 season, the script has been different than recent years. With seven freshmen and 11 new faces overall, the Miners have underperformed, going 5-13 in their first 18 contests and 2-4 in Conference-USA games. “My pressure comes from myself. I hate to lose. I’m not very good at it; I’m actually allergic to losing,” Adams said.

“My goal for this team is to grow and get better. However, I like where we’re at right now because we are a team. When we have practice, the girls listen to every word and they’re working on doing whatever it is to improve.” Although the record is not as pretty as fans are used to, UTEP has gone through many obstacles, such as losing seven seniors and the leadership they brought to the table. To make matters even more difficult, the standout for this year’s squad, senior guard Jenzel Nash, has been suspended indefinitely for undisclosed reasons. She has not suited up once for the Miners during the season. Nash’s game should have taken the pressure off the younger girl’s shoulders and could have given them the time they needed to grow at a better rate. “You know, when you graduate seven players with a team that also won a conference championship last year. We have a lot of new faces, and it’s a learning process. What I’m measuring is how each girl grows as a person and a player. I want us to continue and get n and a player.

see ADAMS on page 12

From the Sun Bowl to the Rescue Mission: The tale of Bronko Belichesky

BY ADRIAN BROADDUS
The Prospector

He staggers around the Rescue Mission with the book “What Jesus Demands from the World” with a melancholic expression on his face. Bronko Belichesky, a former UTEP Miner kicker from 1974-76, is living at the cost-free facility after he was diagnosed recently with congestive heart failure. Now, the 72-year-old ex-football field goal kicker wants to make use of his days by offering his help to younger athletes, free of charge, at the sport he once loved. He was a barefoot kicker, infamous for his braggadocios play. He held the UTEP record for the longest field goal in history for nine good years, all part of an illustrious collegiate career with wide local fan support; followed by a storied career beyond football. “I was the best in this game,” Bronko, as he prefers to be called, said. “I could kick a ball a fucking mile.” His love for the game began when he was nearly 12 years old and his cousin took him out to play football. He is from Macedonia, the son of a minister who brought the first Eastern Orthodox Christian church to El Paso, and so he hardly spoke any English. But as soon as he stepped onto the gridiron, he was a natural-born talent. “My first memory was on defense. My cousin told me, ‘if the quarterback comes your way, your job is to stop him any way possible,’” Bronko said. “So he came by and I ripped his fucking head off. They put in another quarterback and I knocked the fucker cold too. Dynamite in action.” Throughout his adolescent days, Bronko continued the sport of football and focused more on his kicking game. After high school, he joined the Marine Corps, where he continued to play ball. Although the team was not winning games, Bronko got to see some of the nation’s best teams like Ohio State, Michigan and other teams from the Big East. But, after he had served his time with the Marines, Bronko had no

clue where to go. His cousin, the same cousin who introduced him to football, suggested that he spend some time at a junior college. “I had no clue what a junior college was,” Bronko said. “My cousin said, ‘it’s a two-year program and if you make it there, you can go to a four-year program, and if you make it there, you will make it for life.’” His impressive field goal shot wasn’t just amazing because of its raw power; oddly enough, he did it all barefoot, claiming that it helped with accuracy. “I’d hit 99 out of 100,” he said. “I had trajectory no one could understand. All my coaches would wonder ‘how the hell could he do that?’” He spent most of his time practicing in the Los Angeles City College basketball gym, where he would stand on one end of the court and nailed the ball through the basket holsters on the opposite end. Football was his life, so Bronko had to follow his dream to keep it alive. He played at LACC from 1972-73. Most of the players from the college went on to play for USC, but there was one specific reason Southern California wasn’t on the kicker’s mind. “The USC coach John McKay went to a lot of our practices and games, but I didn’t like his arrogance,” Bronko said about the legendary coach, who had won four national championships for the Trojans in just a little over a decade. “I didn’t like his attitude. He said, ‘you think you’re good kid?’ I said I’m the fucking best, you don’t know no one better.” For his efforts in Los Angeles, Bronko was invited to try out and visit all the major teams across the nation. He impressed teams like Michigan State, Ohio State and Michigan greatly. “I went to visit all the schools—I didn’t care if they were an all-white school or an all-black school,” Bronko said. “I didn’t have a racist bone in my body. In fact, I believed that America created the racist environment. Where I was from, skin color had nothing to do with anything.”

He chose UTEP because he loved the weather, the people and the coaches. During his first season in 1973 under head coach Tommy Hudspeth, the Miners were dismantled on the year and posted an embarrassing 0-11 record. Some of the harsh losses included an 82-6 loss to Utah, 49-0 loss to New Mexico and a 63-0 loss to BYU. Despite his team’s rough season, Bronko knocked in 20 field goals and was their strongest resource on special teams. After Hudspeth’s miserable one-season journey, he was fired. In 1974 Bronko and the Miners were under the direction of Gil Bartosh. Under the new coach, the Miners began to make strides and finished 4-7 in the WAC. One of the best wins that season for the Miners, and for Bronko, was against Arizona State. They played the same Arizona State squad, who under head coach Frank Kush had won five WAC conference championships in a row. Bronko had 24 points, 8-for-8 on field goals throughout the game, including a 57-yard booming field goal. The Miners pulled through in a tight game, 31-27. “I walked up to Frankie (Kush) before the game and I said, ‘Frankie, I’m dedicating this game to you. I’m going to make you have nightmares of me when you sleep at night,’” Bronko said. “After the game, I reminded Frankie that I was the greatest he had ever seen. He (Kush) told me, ‘Bronko, you talk too much. You need to keep your mouth shut.’” After his illustrious collegiate career with the Miners and LACC, Bronko decided to enter the NFL draft. The Dallas Cowboys picked him up with the intention to play him immediately. Instead of taking a longer, guaranteed contract, Bronko wanted a signing bonus for being drafted. “When I was in Dallas, I roomed with Randy White, and a couple weeks into the preseason I told him, ‘Randy, I don’t want to do football anymore; I’m going to go to Harvard law school,’” Belichesky said. “Randy couldn’t believe it, but I told him that if I ever got hurt, I would be without a job and have nothing to fall back on.”



FILE PHOTO / THE PROSPECTOR

Belichesky’s longest field goal as a Miner was a 55-yard shot against Arizona State in 1973.

Bronko used his signing bonus and the superb grades he had in college to go to Harvard to get his law degree. Following Harvard, Bronko practiced law for 27 years in California and then moved back to El Paso. “I have no regrets for what I chose to do,” he said with a stern look. “The game is the game and the game isn’t my whole life.” Reflecting on his experiences, long practice hours and different squads, Bronko believes that truly anyone can do what he did with determination. His advice to the younger kickers getting into the sport is simply to practice. “Practice—while others are asleep, you keep practicing,” he said. “There’s not many kickers in the game who have ambition. There’s not many good kickers right now.” Now, because of his disease, he is confined to his home at the Rescue Mission and lives day-by-day with his terminal illness. He does not like to talk about it; in fact, the talk of his heart failure pains

him. He doesn’t like to talk about how he got to the center that attempts to help those who are less fortunate. He prefers to not explain how he got there, or how he left his nearly three decades of legal practice. El Paso County court records show that he was cited for practicing law without a license in 2012. He never talked about that either. What is for certain is he shivers at the thought of another heart attack, possibly in denial of what could come in his future. However, Bronko wants to give back to the youth playing the sport before his time on this earth is gone, and is willing to offer kicking lessons and other football training free of charge to anyone willing to learn the ropes of the game. Bronko asks that he be reached by phone at 915-474-4744. If not for training for a future football star, perhaps as a way of just reaching out to one from the past.

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

New Miner athletes share their first impressions of UTEP and El Paso

BY JEREMY CARRANCO
The Prospector



• SOFTBALL •
Pamala Baber

Future goals/expectations: “I want to live a very expensive lifestyle. Knowing the person I am, I just like expensive things. I also just want to put a smile on people’s faces and help them through rough times.”



• TRACK •

Emmanuel Korir

On El Paso atmosphere/UTEP experience: “I like everything here, It’s very different. I’m not used to the cold weather, but I’m okay. I’m getting everything that I need and I enjoy it.”



• FOOTBALL •
Kevin Dove

Message to other UTEP students/fans: “This next season is going to be one to look forward too. We have a really good team, a lot of good leaders. It should be a really good season and I hope everyone comes out to watch us go to a bowl game and win.”



• RIFLE •

Abby Monique

On El Paso atmosphere/UTEP experience: “It’s really different compared to Massachusetts, there’s the desert, and most of the people here seem relaxed, as opposed to Massachusetts, where there’s very high energy. I really like the change of pace.”



• FOOTBALL •
Kalaii Griffin

Favorite restaurant: “Whataburger, easily. I was in California for football in JUCO (Junior College) and everyone talked about the difference between IN-N-Out and Whataburger—Whataburger won, no questions asked.”

PHOTOS BY JEREMY CARRANCO, NINA TITOVETS, GABY VELASQUEZ / THE PROSPECTOR

ADAMS from page 11

I want us to continue and to get better, and we are getting there. Trust me,” Adams said.

Other bumps in the road that the women have had to deal with are facing some of the toughest competition in all of Adams’ years of coaching. This season, the Miners participated in the 2016 Paradise Jam tournament, which featured schools such as Louisiana State University (14-5), North Carolina State (14-5), currently ranked no. 21 in the nation, and a Kansas State squad (15-4), ranked no. 22.

The other early-season tournament that Adams tested her young team in was the Patrick Harrington invitational, which took place in Niceville, Florida. UTEP faced Pittsburgh and Alabama, who have a combined record of 26-12.

“Our girls have faced some adversity and gone through some rough times during the first semester. Even the last couple of weeks, we’ve gone through some heartbreaking games. The best thing is that we’ve stayed together as one. If we can stay together going through fire, that makes me very hopeful going down the road,” Adams said. “You find out what you’re made

of when you go through tough games together. I’m not doubting any one of these girls and they’re not doubting me; there’s no finger pointing. And that’s the truest test. It’s a real positive.”

It’s safe to say that the young Miners have gone through their fair share of adversities, but will be built stronger and better for the rest of the season and the future of UTEP basketball. According to Adams’ track-record, she knows how to polish her players for the betterment of the program.

Now that conference play is well underway, the battle-tested Miners could bounce back and show the promise that Adams knows her players have in them.

All of the freshmen girls have earned playing time this season, and two of them have performed in all 17 matchups. One being freshman guard Faith Cook, who is the team’s second leading passer with 2.4 assists per game. In the 15 minutes per game she averages, Cook also adds over two points a game from the bench. In Cook’s class, she was ranked no. 27 in the nation coming out of high school.

The Poland-native freshman Zuzanna Puc has competed in every game this year, and has started in 12

contests. Before attending UTEP, Puc participated for her country in FIBA U18 and FIBA U20 games.

“I want us to continue and get better, and we are getting there. Trust me

”

- Keitha Adams, women’s basketball head coach

Puc is one of the five UTEP players to score over 100 points this season, as she has totaled 116 points on the year. Puc is also grabbing the second-most boards in conference games (7.2 rebounds per match). The freshman performs on both ends of the court as well. She has recorded 13 blocks—

third most for the Miners. Clocking in over 20 minutes a night, Puc has added valuable minutes for Adams’ unit.

“We’re a very young team, we have a lot of freshmen, but we’re getting better every single day. I know some of the fans have been disappointed about our losses, but we’ll be fine,” said Puc. “Our team will keep working hard in practice; practice reflects in the game. We’re all trying our best to do well in the conference and it’ll give us a lot of experience for next year, too. Coach Adams knows what’s she’s doing.”

Some of the other freshmen stars on the team include Katarina Zec, who helped the U20 Serbian team lock up a top-four spot in the European Championships. She is averaging 5.5 points per game in an orange and blue jersey.

Jakeira Ford, the Miners’ freshman forward, was ranked 16th in her graduating class. Ford picked UTEP over power schools such as LSU, Texas A&M, California and Kansas State. Ford was one of 40 athletes to receive an invite to the Adidas 3 Stripe All-American Camp.

UTEP’s 5-foot-8 guard Roeshonda Patterson led her unit to the NCHBC



National Championship game, while she averaged over 34 points per game her senior season. In limited playing time in her first year with the Miners, Patterson has connected on the fourth-most 3-pointers on the season.

Adams seems to think that her team has the right players in place for the future and that the young team just needs to keep gaining experience and show the fans what they have in store. With the toughest portion of the schedule in the rearview mirror, there is no other way than up for the Miners.

Next, UTEP will host Western Kentucky at the Don Haskins Center on Jan. 26, with a chance at their fourth conference win.

“We have such a great fan base. And I think the fans are excited about the future. They see the talent we have, and that we’re just babies right now with all our young players. I appreciate how vocal and how understanding the fans are,” Adams said. “We’re going into every game locked in and focused, and ready to win.”

Follow Mike Flores on Twitter @MikeyTheReal



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Switcher Instant Rebate Offer: Limited time offer. At participating MetroPCS stores, purchase a Samsung Galaxy S7 Edge phone and port in an existing number to that phone and receive an instant \$50 rebate off of regular purchase price. Includes phone numbers that currently are activated on the T-Mobile network. Instant rebate has no cash value. Limit one \$50 per household/account. No tax checks. Instant rebates are provided in the form of a credit against the regular purchase price at time of sale. See store associate for complete details. Sales tax not included and is collected in accordance with state and local laws. Certain restrictions apply. Offer available while supplies last.

Switch and Add A Line Instant Rebate: For a limited time at participating MetroPCS stores, use Switcher Instant Rebate offer for single line of service and purchase a second Samsung Galaxy S7 Edge phone and receive an instant \$50 rebate off of regular purchase price when activating new line of service on second phone. Instant rebate has no cash value. Limit one \$50 per household/account. No tax checks. Instant rebates are provided in the form of a credit against the regular purchase price at time of sale. See store associate for complete details. Sales tax not included and is collected in accordance with state and local laws. Certain restrictions apply. Offer available while supplies last.

Phone Instant Rebate Offer: Requires new line activation of a phone upgrade. Limited time offer. At participating MetroPCS stores, purchase a Samsung Galaxy S7 Edge phone and receive an instant \$50 rebate off of regular purchase price. Certain restrictions apply. Limit one \$50 per household/account. No tax checks. Instant rebates are provided in the form of a credit against the regular purchase price at time of sale. See store associate for complete details. Sales tax not included and is collected in accordance with state and local laws. Certain restrictions apply. Offer available while supplies last.

General: Not all phones or features available on all service plans. Certain restrictions apply. Coverage and services not available everywhere. Rates, services, coverage, and features subject to change. Phone selection and availability may vary by store. Screen images are simulated and are subject to change. MetroPCS features and services for personal use only. Services may be slowed, suspended, terminated, or restricted for misuse, abnormal use, interference with our network or ability to provide quality service to other users, or significant roaming. On all plans, during congestion the top 4% of data user's may receive reduced speeds until next payment cycle. See store or metropcs.com for details, coverage maps, available phones, restrictions and Terms and Conditions of Service (including arbitration provision). MetroPCS-related brands, product names, company names, trademarks, service marks, and other intellectual property are the exclusive properties of T-Mobile USA, Inc. All other brands, product names, company logos, trademarks, service marks, and other intellectual property are the properties of their respective owners. Copyright ©2016 T-Mobile USA, Inc.



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