

2-28-2017

The Prospector, February 28, 2017

UTEP Student Publications

Follow this and additional works at: <http://digitalcommons.utep.edu/prospector>



Part of the [Journalism Studies Commons](#), and the [Mass Communication Commons](#)

Comments:

This file is rather large, with many images, so it may take a few minutes to download. Please be patient.

Recommended Citation

UTEP Student Publications, "The Prospector, February 28, 2017" (2017). *The Prospector*. 272.
<http://digitalcommons.utep.edu/prospector/272>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Special Collections Department at DigitalCommons@UTEP. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Prospector by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@UTEP. For more information, please contact lweber@utep.edu.

ASSAYER OF STUDENT OPINION

THE PROSPECTOR

WWW.THEPROSPECTORDAILY.COM

VOL. 102, NO. 21

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO

FEBRUARY 28, 2017

“Were it left to me
to decide whether we should
have a government without
newspapers,
or newspapers without a
government,
I should not hesitate a moment to
prefer the latter,”

Thomas Jefferson

see page 2



Apple Dental Care

CARRETERA INTERNACIONAL WATERFILL 324
WATERFILL RIO BRAVO
(CRUZANDO EL PUENTE ZARAGOZA
ESTAMOS AL LADO IZQUIERDO)

(915) 603 - 3535
www.dentistinjuarez.com

BRACES \$1,500.00
MONTHLY
PAYMENTS

10% DISCOUNT
WITH THIS AD
NOT VALID WITH
OTHER COUPON

\$130.00
DENTAL WHITENING

FREE
DIAGNOSTIC &
X-RAYS

All Dental Specialist in One Clinic
MOST USA DENTAL INSURANCES WELCOME

AVE. DE LAS AMERICAS 1411 NTE.
COLONIA MARGARITAS
(A DOS MINUTOS DEL PUENTE LIBRE INICIANDO
LAS AMERICAS DONDE ESTA EL RESTAURANT
“LA BORREGA” AL LADO DERECHO)



(915) 613 - 3384
www.dentistinjuarez.com

FEBRUARY 28, 2017

OPINION

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
MICHAELA ROMÁN, 747-7477

Be more attentive if you get your news from Facebook

BY RENE DELGADILLO
The Prospector



The future generations of the U.S. might be in serious trouble if they continue their inability to distinguish real news from fake news. A 2016 study from Stanford's Graduate School of Education has found less than a third of college students from three different universities were able to fully explain how the political agendas of progressive public advocacy groups influence the content of social media posts. This suggests some college students are not aware of the authenticity of news on social media when it comes to political issues. A couple of days ago rumors about possible checkpoints near UTEP entrances by Immigration and Customs Enforcements agents were circulating around a Facebook group, causing concern for some students. UTEP officials said in a statement, "UTEP's executive team and the University Police have no information to support these rumors."

This trend could lead to a generation whose political beliefs and decisions are based on biased and fake news articles, and in today's political climate, the last thing this country needs is more uninformed citizens who believe everything coming out on their Facebook feed is real. How many times have you been scrolling down your screen just to find another ridiculous headline about Trump or about the policies he wants to implement? It's become common to see how many of our Facebook friends don't even take the time to actually read the entire article before sharing it on several social media platforms. Some stories shared on Facebook have caused panic among people in the U.S. Rumors about visa removals and cancellations for having memes of President Donald Trump on their phone while crossing the border have been spreading without the confirmation of any authorities or victims. But people keep on sharing posts without knowing the fear it may bring to other immigrants.

Getting your news entirely from Facebook is an error that some millennials do not understand they are making. Stories have been published in websites with similar names of respectable news outlets with the purpose

of making money through the traffic they will receive, and unfortunately, those stories have made some people become uninformed and biased. There is a higher chance you will miss important political information about your city and state if you only follow right-wing or left-wing news accounts on social media or any other news sources with a set political agenda in their content. Sharing news and awareness through Facebook groups is a great way of helping people, but stop sharing posts if you're not sure about their authenticity. Look at what other media sources are talking about, get in contact with experts and confirm what you're viewing and reading before sharing them. It is important to recognize how activists, supporters of certain political beliefs and people wanting to make money off of clicks will use social media as a way of gaining people's support. They will write headlines, stories and post videos based on lies with the goal of getting your attention to gain traffic. Besides having the risk of reading fake and biased news, Facebook presents another problem that may lead to a more uninformed generation. On Facebook, you won't be able to automatically find all the stories from your friends and favorites websites. It is important to understand how Facebook's News Feed may block some posts based on an algorithm that predicts the posts you're more likely to be interested in. This means factual and reliable news could be at the end of your news feed due to the algorithm doing its job. By being at the end, it is more likely the user will never reach those posts. If your main source for news is Facebook, then the Washington Post advises that users to click on the options "top stories" and "most recent" to change the order in which they receive news, posts and pictures. This might help a little, but the real answer to stopping this negative trend is to become a fact checker, check the logos, keywords, website links and the authenticity of the publication. Have more than two or three reliable sources from where you may confirm the information you're receiving.

Follow Rene Delgadillo on Twitter @rdelgadillonews

WHY WE AGREE WITH JEFFERSON

BY THE PROSPECTOR EDITORS
The Prospector

A life without the First Amendment would be somewhat reminiscent of 18th century American life. It would remind us of a time when a government, or more specifically the colonial governors, controlled and censored the publications, newspapers and other media outlets run by colonists. It would mean the absolute marginalization of a journalist, a priest, a protest, a petition, and so much more that makes up the American Constitution. It is a life of unnecessary barriers and constant content monitoring. It is a life that we, as journalists, will not stand for. "Were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter." This quote by Thomas Jefferson continues to resonate within the journalistic community nearly 250 years later. Imagining a world where the newspapers are restricted and the press' content becomes censored is hard to envision. With the use of modern technology and the internet, news—legitimate or not—is readily accessible with an endless feed of information at the reader's discretion.

Let's take present-day Burma, or Myanmar, as an example. Although this Asian country is trying to reform its lack of freedom, in multiple areas the government has still halted all forms of free press. Burma's government owns all of the daily newspapers, three television networks and almost all of the radio stations. Through the internet, the Myanmar Internet Service Providers are tasked to block and censor any proxy websites that go against their beliefs. There are even records of Burmese citizens being arrested for watching BBC World News and Radio Free Asia. An America where the government owned most news outlets, such as The New York Times, Washington Post, USA Today or CNN, is unfathomable. Living in a country where someone can be penalized for writing something that is factually correct is contradictory to all our inherent beliefs. Even worse, being a citizen of a country where a resident could be punished for reading or watching world news is plain frightening. A journalist's job is to bring forth news, spread awareness, give insight and inform readers about the happenings in the world. Without us and without our freedom to publish, our country will become misinformed, confused and unconscious about their surroundings.

Whether it is President Donald Trump or the repeal of freedom of the press, there will be nothing that stops the modern day journalist from their liberties. Everyday at The Prospector, we value our constitution-given rights as journalists, and no man or force could take away the beliefs that are instilled in our day-to-day principles. America is in need of strong journalists in this day and age, and we are proud to be among those media members who contribute to this movement. When the White House began deciding which media outlets could attend briefings last week, which limited the First Amendment rights of all Americans by proxy, a new era of the Trump administration began. One a lot farther from democracy, the Constitution and the Bill of Rights containing the amendments allowing us the freedom to monitor the government and hold them accountable, and a lot closer to a dictatorship or other form of government that Thomas Jefferson and the nation's forefathers were hoping to avoid. A government built on checks and balances cannot be truly "checked" without a free press. This is why we stand with the numerous media outlets who were banned from the White House media "gaggle" last week.



JASON GREEN / THE PROSPECTOR

THE PROSPECTOR

WWW.THEPROSPECTORDAILY.COM

UTEP Prospector

@UTEP_Prospector

KEEP UP WITH US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Prospectordaily

@UTEP_Prospector

THE PROSPECTOR STAFF VOL. 102, NO. 21

Editor-in-Chief: Michaela Román
Layout Manager: Ana Ramos
Copy Editor: Christian Vasquez
Web Editor: Adrian Broadus
Sports Editor: Jason Green
Entertainment Editor: Leslie Sariñana
Photo Editor: Gaby Velasquez
Multimedia Editor: Andres Martinez
Staff Reporters: Grecia Sanchez,
Rene A. Delgadillo, Vania Castillo,
Mike Flores, Mariana Rodriguez
Photographers: Claudia Hernandez,
Nina Titovets
Contributors: Gloria Heredia,
Jeremy Carranco, Claudia V. Flores,
Alejandra De la Cerda, August Touris,
Ramirez, Andrew Rios, Alonzo Martinez

Work-Study Students: Ashley Muñoz,
Malia Greene
Ad Account Executive: Jacqueline Razo
Ad Layout Manager: Jacobo De La Rosa
Ad Designers: Vanessa Guevara,
Laura Chaidez
Administrative Secretary: Marcela Luna
Accounting Specialist: Isabel Castillo
Asst. Director-Advertising: t
Veronica Gonzalez
Student Publications Director:
Kathleen Flores

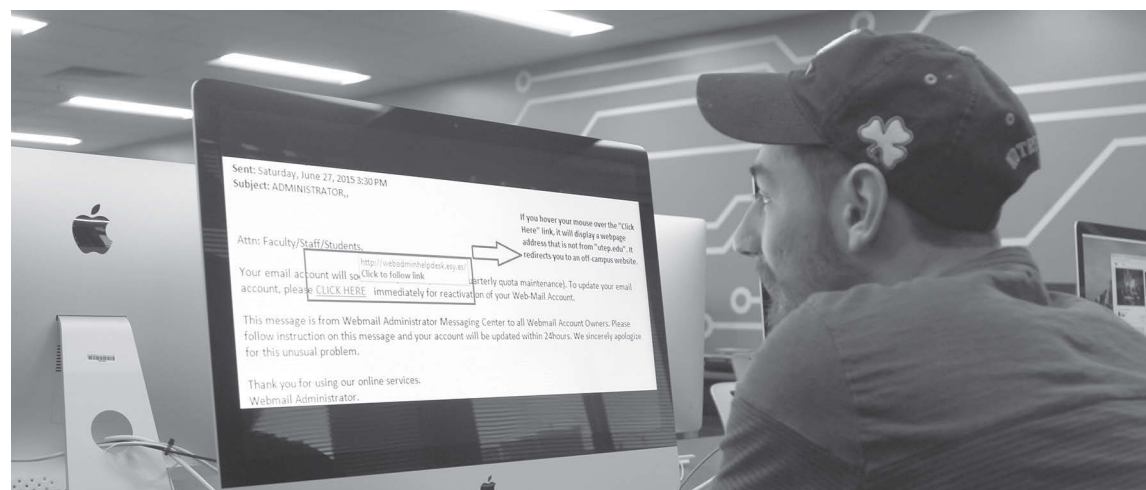
SPEAK YOUR MIND

Submit a letter to the editor!
Letters will be edited for clarity and brevity. Letters over 250 words are subject to editing to fit available space. Please include full name, street address and telephone number and e-mail address, plus major, classification and/or title if applicable.
Address and phone number will be used for verification only.
Write to 105 E. Union, e-mail theprospectordaily.news@gmail.com, call 747-7477 or fax to 747-8031.

The Prospector is published by the Student Media and Publications Board, 105 Union East, 500 W. University Ave. El Paso, Texas, 79968. The Prospector appears in print once per week on Tuesdays during the fall, spring, and summer semesters. The newspaper is not printed during holidays and when classes are not in session. The Prospector does provide news online at www.theprospectordaily.com. The Prospector is provided to students through student fees. First copy is free. Any additional copies, if available, must be purchased for \$1 through the Department of Student Media and Publications. The Prospector is not responsible for claims made by advertisers. Additional policy information may be obtained by calling The Prospector at 915-747-5161. Opinions expressed in The Prospector are not necessarily those of the university.

[illegible]

10 signs you're being scammed



GABY VELASQUEZ / THE PROSPECTOR

BY EDDIE VELAZQUEZ

The Prospector

As technology and digital networking become more ubiquitous in college environments, the risk of job and financial swindles have also increased.

From popular fund transfer scams like the Nigerian Prince series to financial aid fraud rings and fraudulent

job opportunities, the student demographic is constantly targeted as a part of these practices.

“These scammers are people who are very strategically picking on universities to target students because of financial situations,” said Betsy Castro-Duarte, the director of the University Career Center.

Here's 10 things the career center suggests you should look out for.

1. REQUESTING PERSON- AL INFORMATION

Scammers might persuade students to divulge personal information such as email or login credentials to different websites by pretending to be an administrator working for such sites. For example, according to UTEP's Information Security Office, a phishing scam in 2015 urged students to update their email account by clicking on a fake link, which urged students to provide their login credentials.

4. GRAMMATICAL ERRORS

The email or document received from the scammer can be plagued with misspellings and grammatical errors. Students can make use of the Career Center or Job Mine to validate the legitimacy of a job offer.

"We call employers, we verify, we Google their address, and we do our due diligence to make sure the jobs we post are legitimate," said Castro-Duarte.

8. STUDENT LOAN SCAMS

Too-good-to-be-true student loan opportunities with low interest are common ways of targeting students and requesting financial information.

"We know you need money to go to school, we know a quick buck is nice, but if it is a questionable method, it is not something you should pursue immediately," said Castro-Duarte.

2. UNSOLICITED OFFERS

Students may receive emails with job or internship opportunities they did not apply for.

"If someone is going to offer you a job, there is most likely going to be some face-to-face or web conferencing, but if you haven't solicited an application, then you should not communicate with them," said Castro-Duarte.

5. UNTRACEABLE PAYMENT METHODS

Scammers may ask for untraceable methods of payment such as a MoneyGram to cover their tracks. PayPal, Google Checkout and payment methods endorsed by large corporations are a safer option.

6. LOSS OF OPPORTUNITIES

Students may be given an ultimatum through email, and are urged to pay a fee or give away personal information for fear of missing out on certain opportunities.

7. MISLEADING ADDRESSES

Some addresses might be suspicious, and in some cases, scammers can mislead victims into a fake situation. A legitimate business should be registered and traceable.

"We have had instances when we have inspected a location of a potential employer and it turned out to be an empty lot," said Castro-Duarte.

9. JUNK EMAIL AND SUSPICIOUS ATTACHMENTS

In some cases, students will receive emails with questionable information or attachments directly to their “junk” or “spam” folders.

Deposit Information, Invoice, Fax Document, Transaction Report, Confirmation Delivery, Receipt, are some examples of names for the attachments sent as part of a scam, according to UTEP's ISO.

10. QUESTIONABLE HONORARY ORGANIZATIONS

Students might receive emails from supposed honorary societies asking for membership fees upfront. These organizations might claim national recognition, but they may not be backed by UTEP.

"School-endorsed honorary societies are not going to charge you more than a minimum fee, but these are people you get a direct benefit from," said Castro-Duarte.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

A DISCUSSION ON LESLIE MARMON SILKO'S 'CEREMONY'

The first Mining Books of the year will be led by Deane Mansfield-Kelley on Leslie Marmon Silko's "Ceremony," a novel based on the traditions of the Navajo and pueblo people. The talk will be at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 28, at the Blumberg Auditorium in the UTEP Library. Refreshments will be provided.

DESIGN ENGINEERING SOLUTIONS THAT MATTER


Meagan Kendall will be speaking at 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 1, at the Physical Sciences Building, room 208. The talk will focus on engineering solutions based on design thinking. Refreshments will be provided.

'HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE FAST LANE: LOOKING OUT FOR THE POTHOLE'S'

Belle Wheelan, president of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges, will deliver a lecture as part of the Centennial Lecture Series. The lecture will be at 4 p.m. on March 2, at the UGLC, room 106.

LET'S TALK ABOUT PRIVILEGE AND OPPRESSION


The Brown Bag series' next talk on contemporary social issues will be at 3 p.m. to 4:15 p.m. on March 7, at the Union West, room 111. Free food will be provided.




BANK ACCOUNT LOW?

NO WORRIES.

DONATE PLASMA.

 **Bring this to your 1st visit and receive a \$10 bonus.***

Paying for college expenses on your own is tough. You can earn money while helping to create life-saving treatments by donating plasma.  

 **New donors earn up to \$305 in your 1st five visits!**

Visit one of the 6 Talecris Plasma Resource centers near you.

In addition to meeting donation criteria, you must provide a valid photo I.D., proof of your current address, and your Social Security or immigration card to donate. Must be 18 years of age or older and weigh at least 110 pounds to donate.

*Expires 3/31/2017

GRIFOLS Pride for Donors. Passion for Patients.

grifolspasma.com

FRONTERAS

Sin miedo al cruzar la frontera



MICHAELA ROMÁN / THE PROSPECTOR

BY GRECIA SANCHEZ
The Prospector

Carlos Fierro, estudiante de ingeniería mecánica en la Univerisad de Texas en El Paso, es uno de los estudiantes internacionales que cruzan diario la frontera de México para obtener una educación en los Estados Unidos.

“Me tengo que levantar dos horas antes de la primera clase. En el transporte llego en hora y media. Voy a clases, traigo mi propio lonche de Juárez y luego al trabajo. De regreso hago una hora”, Fierro dijo.

Desde siempre, Fierro ha cruzado a pie por el puente Santa Fe, ubicado en el centro de su ciudad natal en la avenida Benito Juárez. Logísticamente, este puente es el más cercano a UTEP.

“A pie haces unos 25 a 30 minutos. De regreso (no tardas) nada, nomás tardas lo que pagas y ya”, Fierro dijo.

Según Fierro, varía el tiempo de cruce dependiendo de si es día festivo. Dijo que algunos días tarda de 25 a 40 minutos, pero que en otros, el tiempo de cruce era de 10 o 15 minutos.

Desde el semestre pasado Fierro, quién no dispone de carro, ha cruzado usando la bicicleta como su medio de transporte principal. Dijo que tener familiares y amigos dispuestos a recibirlo en sus casas pero que hasta la fecha, no lo ha requerido.

“Decidí hacerlo así porque no me gusta disponer del tiempo de la gente, ni comprometer el mío. Además que disfruto irme en bicicleta, no lo veo como una carga”, Fierro dijo. “(La bicicleta) es mi medio de transporte. Creo que tiene ventajas de tiempo, dinero y hasta salud en muchas ocasiones”.

Él compara su tiempo de cruce diciendo, “haz de cuenta que tuvieras (línea) express”. Junto a este cambio, Fierro dijo haber notado también diferencia en las reacciones por parte de los oficiales de migración.

“Nunca he sabido por qué razón, pero muchas veces los oficiales dan preferencia a las bicicletas, tienen su propia fila y su propio oficial”, Fierro dijo. “Nunca se me ha pedido nada diferente gracias a mi bicicleta. El cambio me ayudó a agilizar el

cruce positivamente, los viajes se hicieron mucho más cortos”.

Según los oficiales de UTEP, el equipo ejecutivo de UTEP y la policía de la universidad, no tienen información que soporte los rumores están actualmente circulando a través de una variedad de plataformas de medios de comunicación reclamando que los agentes de Inmigración y Control de Aduanas están planeando instalar puntos de chequeo cerca de las entradas al campus de UTEP.

En cuanto a Fierro, él dice no tener miedo a cruzar ya que piensa que si tienes tus papeles en orden y te manejas por la vía legal, no tienes por qué tener miedo.

“Después de año y medio de cruzar, es normal topar con gente positiva y negativa, ninguna de las dos creo que tenga alguna historia que valga la pena contar. Mis derechos siempre han sido respetados”, Fierro dijo, refiriéndose a su experiencia con agentes de inmigración.

Sin embargo, Fierro dijo haber notado cambios desde que el presidente de Estados Unidos, Donald Trump, llegó a la presidencia.

“Se siente un ambiente diferente en el lugar, se podría decir que se siente incertidumbre por parte de la gente que cruza diario”, Fierro dijo. “Pero esa atmósfera es muy subjetiva, y en realidad no creo que hasta hoy haya tenido un efecto. Por lo menos en mi persona no lo he notado”.

“La comunidad de UTEP se enriquece grandemente por estudiantes de todo el mundo”, dicen los oficiales de UTEP.

“Valoramos sus muchas contribuciones y tomamos seriamente nuestra responsabilidad de asegurar su bienestar. Cualquier miembro de la comunidad universitaria quien se sienta amenazado o preocupado mientras esté en UTEP debería contactar inmediatamente al decano de estudiantes al 915-747-5648 o dos@utep.edu”, oficiales de UTEP dijeron.

El consejo de Fierro en cuanto a la cruzar es de ver la experiencia como un aprendizaje y analizar lo que ocurre alrededor de su persona al cruzar.

“Recomiendo cruzar en bicicleta pues ahorras mucho tiempo o viajar en el Camión Brío Mesa, tiene excelente servicio y te deja en UTEP. (El) pase estudiantil (cuesta) un dólar por viaje y puedes subir bicicletas al camión”, Fierro dijo.

He crosses by foot through the Santa Fe Bridge, which is the nearest bridge to UTEP. According to UTEP officials, rumors are currently circulating across a variety of social media platforms claiming that Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents are planning to set up checkpoints near the entrances to the UTEP campus. UTEP’s executive team and the university police have no information that these rumors are true.

Fierro recommends that students should not be afraid of crossing, and that if one has papers in order and you drive yourself through the legal route, then you have nothing to be afraid of.

“After a year and a half of daily crossing, it is normal to come across both positive and negative people, neither story is worth telling. My rights have always been respected,” said Fierro.

His advice is to see the experience as a learning one and to analyze at all times what is happening in your surroundings.

Officials at the university stated, “the UTEP community is enriched greatly by students and scholars from around the world. We value their many contributions and take seriously our responsibility to ensure their safety. Any member of the university community who feels threatened or concerned while at UTEP should immediately contact the dean of students at 915-747-5648 or dos@utep.edu.”

Follow Grecia Sanchez on Twitter @grecias068



University Police OFFICES AND LABORATORY SECURITY




KEEP OFFICES AND LABORATORIES LOCKED WHEN NOT IN USE TO PREVENT CRIME OF OPPORTUNITY.

DEVIATE FROM PROP OPENING LABORATORY ENTRY DOORS.

KEEP DESKS, CABINETS, ETC. LOCKED WHEN NOT IN USE.

MAKE SURE THAT ALL LOCKS AND HARDWARE DEVICES ARE IN PROPER WORKING CONDITIONS. DISCREPANCIES SHOULD BE REPORTED TO FACILITY SERVICES-WORK CONTROL CENTER.





UTILIZE A KEY CONTROL SYSTEM. KEYS SHOULD BE ISSUED ONLY WHEN ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY AND DEVIATE FROM LABELING KEYS.

DESKTOPS AND PORTABLE OFFICE MACHINES SHOULD BE BOLTED OR LOCKED DOWN. SMALL ITEMS, SUCH AS CALCULATORS, TAPE RECORDERS, ETC. SHOULD BE KEPT LOCKED UP WHEN NOT IN USE.





DEVIATE FROM STORING CURRENCY IN A PORTABLE MONEY BOX OR DESK DRAWERS. CONTACT UNIVERSITY POLICE FOR A MONEY ESCORT.

KEEP PURSES LOCKED UP, AND DEVIATE FROM HANGING COATS OR JACKETS WITH WALLETS OR OTHER VALUABLES IN THE POCKETS.





CHECK TO MAKE SURE THAT ALL INTERIOR OFFICE DOORS ARE SECURED PRIOR TO LEAVING A THE END OF EACH BUSINESS DAY.


REPORT SUSPICIOUS PERSONS AND ACTIVITIES TO THE UNIVERSITY POLICE AT 915 - 747 - 5611.

University Police Department
3118 Sun Bowl Drive, El Paso, TX 79968

Phone: 915-747- 5611 Fax: 915-747- 5636 www.utep.edu/police

NEED TO SELL OR BUY SOMETHING?

LOOK UP OUR
CLASSIFIEDS
ONLINE



**Announcements
Tutor • Rent
Textbooks • Cars
& more**

www.theprospectordaily.com

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Are you afraid to cross the border?

CLAUDIA HERNANDEZ, ALONZO MARTINEZ, ANDRES RIOS, NINA TITOVETS / THE PROSPECTOR



PRESCILA MARRERO
Senior anthropology major
"Personally, I am not afraid to cross the border just because I have family over there. I jump back and forth all the time."



SEBASTIAN NARES
Freshman biology major
"I don't really feel afraid anymore, but I used to. I go about two or three times a week to hang out over there."



ALAN MUNOZ
Junior biomedical science major
"I don't think anyone should be afraid to cross to Juárez as long as their intentions are pure."



ALAN TELLEZ
Freshman finance major
"Sometimes I feel afraid because it's been getting really violent, and I read that it's getting really bad."



LUIS RIVERA-FIGUEROA
Junior biomedical sciences major
"I am a little afraid to cross the border because I haven't updated my passport."



JULIA HERNANDEZ
Sophomore civil engineering major
"I am not afraid to cross. I go every once in a while and it's not as bad as some people think it is."



JANETH MORA
Freshman kinesiology major
"I am not scared to cross the border. I go to Juárez almost every weekend to party."



ELY CAVANILLAS
Junior linguistics major
"I am not afraid to cross the border, because I used to live in Mexico."



NAHOMI VELASCO
Sophomore clinical psychology major
"I am scared to cross the border some-times, because you could be at the wrong place at the wrong time."



MARCELA ERIVES
Senior sculpture major
"I am not afraid to cross over the bridge, but I have to admit that I do look over my shoulder while on the other side."

ASSAYER OF STUDENT OPINION

THE

PROSPECTOR

NOW HIRING

ACCOUNT EXCECUTIVE

.....

DO YOU LIKE ADVERTISING?

DO YOU LIKE CHALLENGES?

ARE YOU OUTGOING AND SELF-MOTIVATED?

DO YOU HAVE EXCELLENT COMMUNICATION SKILLS?

.....

Requirements:

Full Time UTEP Student

GPA minimum of 2.0

For more info:

500 W University Ave.

Union East Bldg Rm 105

The sticky path to legalization in Texas



NINA TITOVETS / THE PROSPECTOR

BY JASON GREEN
The Prospector

A bill currently being introduced by Representative Joe Moody of El Paso, House Bill 81, would reduce marijuana possession up to one ounce to a civil penalty—a fine of up to \$250 and court-ordered community service or drug education.

Moody's stance is that too many young people are going to jail for minor possession, while the state is spending too much tax money on court and jail time for simple possession of marijuana.

"There's nothing funny about college kids going to jail for something so minor, and nothing worth smiling about when we spend well over \$1 billion dollars every biennium arresting and prosecuting those kids," Moody said in a recent editorial in the El Paso Times. "Even as we can't fully fund our schools or fix our roads."

Moody has the support of several other representatives, some from across the aisle, as well as several law enforce-

ment organizations. The problem, however, may be gaining a signature if the bill reaches the top level of the state house.

When the Compassionate Use Act originally passed, Governor Greg Abbott made sure to state that he would never sign a bill to legalize marijuana for recreational or medical purposes.

All that remains to be seen is if Abbott is willing to sign a bill that will not technically legalize marijuana.

In mid-2015, Governor Greg Abbott signed a bill into law intended to allow epilepsy patients access to low-THC cannabis oil. THC, or tetrahydrocannabinol, is the chemical in marijuana which produces the high for users of the drug.

Cannabis oil, commonly referred to as CBD oil, has been shown in studies to help with numerous medical conditions, from PTSD to migraines to preventing epileptic seizures.

In this case, the evidence was strong enough for Abbott to legalize the marijuana derivative.

However, proponents of CBD legislation said that Texas stopped short of

helping anyone with Senate Bill 339, also known as the Texas Compassionate Use Act.

"On a certain level, the legislature should be commended for acknowledging the medical value of marijuana, and it is a historic vote in that sense," said Heather Fazio, the political director for the Texas Marijuana Policy Project, in an interview with CBS News. "Lawmakers missed several opportunities to amend the bill in ways that could have provided real relief to countless Texans. Not a single patient will be helped by this legislation."

The bill requires doctor's to prescribe medical marijuana products to patients, which would place them in violation of federal law, causing them to lose their medical license. The bill also does not address any other medical conditions besides epilepsy.

However, the law might have opened the eyes of local proprietors to the fact that there is a need in the community for CBD oil sales without a prescription. The bill helped to set the limit of THC in medical CBD at 0.5 percent while setting

the limit of commercial CBD oil THC levels at 0.02 percent.

Having a set limit has allowed local stores to begin selling CBD oil without prescriptions.

One such store is Smoker's Paradise, located at 3233 Mesa St. Dante Hamel, the manager, said that customer testimonials alone have him convinced of CBD's effectiveness.

"A gentleman has arthritis in his knuckles and joints in his fingers. He gets a little swelled up and stuff. He would rub the (CBD) salve on his hands and 10 to 15 minutes later he would get more flexibility and mobility in his fingers and just be like, 'this stuff works, oh my god,'" Hamel said. "It's great to see the surprise on people's faces when they see the power of CBD and that it's all natural and that there's nothing synthetic about it."

Other testimonials, according to Hamel, calm PTSD symptoms, headaches and relieve anxiety.

Hamel said that his store has seen CBD sales rise consistently and now one-third to one-half of e-cigarette/vaporizer sales are CBD oil. The store carries CBD e-liquid for vaporizers, tincture to apply to food or drink or under the tongue, salve for the body and inhalants.

In states where medical marijuana is fully legalized, a dramatic decrease in the use of prescription medicines has been seen as consumers begin to switch to more natural remedies.

In a 2016 study published in the journal Health Affairs, researchers from the University of Georgia showed that in the 17 states with a medical marijuana law on the books, prescriptions for antidepressants, seizure medications, anti-nausea medicines and anti-anxiety medicines fell drastically in a three-year span (2010-2013).

According to the American Society of Addiction Medicine, "drug overdose is the leading cause of accidental death in the United States, with 52,404 lethal drug overdoses in 2015." The ASAM says that opioid addiction is the leading factor in this outbreak of drug overdoses with 20,101 overdose deaths being related to prescription painkillers.

In 2012, 259 million prescriptions for opioids were written in the US, according to the ASAM. This would be enough to give every "adult their own bottle of pills," stated the ASAM.

Anti-drug war activist—and retired police officer—Howard Wooldridge told the Republic Report in 2012 that his biggest competitor on Capitol Hill in lobby-

ing politicians to legalize marijuana was Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA).

"Marijuana's an excellent medicine for many things, taking the place of everything from Advil to Vicodin and other expensive pills," said Wooldridge in a 2012 interview at the Conservative Party Annual Convention.

PhRMA spent \$19.7 million on lobbying against the legalization of both recreational and medical marijuana in 2016, according to the Senate Office of Public Records.

In a recent press conference, the Trump administration's press secretary Sean Spicer pointed out the opioid addiction problem in America.

"When you see something like the opioid addiction crisis blossoming in so many states around this country, the last thing we should be doing is encouraging people," Spicer said. "There's a federal law that we need to abide by when it comes to recreational marijuana and other drugs of that nature."

Spicer's words were the first from the new administration as far as any stance on medical or recreational marijuana. For most, it signals an intent to strictly enforce national laws referencing marijuana, even in states that have legalized marijuana in one form or another.

The executive director of the National Cannabis Industry Association is concerned about Spicer's characterization of marijuana.

"Science has discredited the idea that marijuana serves as any kind of gateway drug, and the addiction and death rates associated with opioids simply do not occur in any way with cannabis," said Smith.

However, Spicer did state that the president does see some benefit to medical marijuana.

"The president understands the pain and suffering that many people go through, who are facing especially terminal diseases, and the comfort that some of these drugs, including medical marijuana, can bring to them," Spicer said.

With the Drug Enforcement Agency still classifying marijuana as a Schedule I drug—the same as heroin, cocaine and methamphetamine—scientists are unable to fully explore the medical properties of marijuana in the treatment of diseases.

Follow Jason Green on Twitter @greenevansj

Come visit us at our UTEP location

\$1 SPICY CHICKEN SANDWICH

Show UTEP ID for Student Special

OFFER VALID ONLY AT THE CARL'S JR. LOCATED AT 3100 NORTH MESA STREET, EL PASO, TX 79901

Tax not included. Offer available only after regular breakfast hours. One coupon per customer per visit. One discount per coupon. Not valid with any other offer, discount, or combo. Price may vary. Cash value 1/100 of 1 cent. Not for resale. ©2016 Carl's Jr. Restaurants LLC. All rights reserved.

mention this ad for your

UTEP discount!

memberships starting at

\$10 A MONTH

10 El Paso / Las Cruces locations

planetfitness.com

FALSE...

IT IS NOT TOO LATE TO BUY A MEAL PLAN

IT'S NEVER TOO LATE!

GET YOURS TODAY

#SAVEMONEY #SAVETIME #WITHASINGLESWIPE

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT:

www.utep.edu/minergold or call

(915)747-7334

FEBRUARY 28, 2017

ENTERTAINMENT

EDITOR
LESLIE SARIÑANA, 747-7477

OUR VIEW

Local and national artists fill the Sun City with music



► 1



► 2



► 3



► 4



► 5



► 6

ADRIAN BROADDUS, MICHAELA ROMÁN, MANDO ZAMORA/ THE PROSPECTOR

The weekend Feb. 24-36 was filled with concerts in the borderland. 1. Josh Abbott of the Josh Abbott Band headlined the Texas Country Music Festival at the Coliseum on Feb. 25. 2. Stan Z opened up for Rose Golden at the Lowbrow on Feb. 24. 3. Wade Bowen's guitarist at the first annual TCMF. 4. Isaiah Rashad sold out the Lowbrow on Feb. 26 on his first solo tour. 5. Local band Rose Golden performed at the Lowbrow on Feb. 24. 6. Ribo Flavin taking stage at the Lowbrow on Feb. 25.



\$1 TENDER ROLLS



3435 N. Mesa St.
(Next to Wendy's)

Limit 5 Tender Rolls per visit. Offer good at all BUSHs locations in El Paso. Offer good through April 1, 2017.

Local artist Stan Z defies music barriers



Stan Z will be having his album release party March 4 at the Lowbrow Palace.

BY ADRIAN BROADDUS

The Prospector

At just 20-years-old, Stan Zubia, or better known by his stage name, Stan Z, has made waves throughout El Paso's local music scene with his genre-defying music and his impeccable stage swagger. He's most comfortable when stepping in front of the crowd with his classic Epiphone Casino guitar in his hand and his band backing him up.

One genre can not define the young artist. Stan Z ventures into all types of music. His sound ranges from hip-hop influences, to psychedelic rock and even combines electronic production to enhance the sound quality.

His influences stem from the freedom and lyricism that rappers like Kendrick Lamar and Isaiah Ra-

shad preach, to the classic rock and roll vibe that developed bands like Led Zeppelin, The Red Hot Chili Peppers and The Beatles, while also using unique production inspirations from DJs like Flume.

"That's what I want: this entity of just jamming," said Zubia. "I just want to jam. When I started getting into music, my dad showed me bands like The Police and The Beatles, and then some of my friends and my brother got me into hip-hop. I started getting into dubstep and house too. It's hard to put it (his music) into one genre, but I do like to flow on everything. It does come back to hip-hop influence, but it has a bit of everything: jazz, rock, and weird noises. I just want to go hard and have everyone vibing."

His artistry started at the age of nine when he learned how to play the guitar and drums. During his freshman year at El Paso High School, Zubia ventured through beat making and electronic production. As a senior in high school, he debuted his mixtape, "Ego Loss," in February of 2015.

"During high school when I was a senior I really felt I was ready to drop something," he said. "I remember sitting in class and hearing it on everyone's phone. It really hit me like 'whoa, hype is real and this energy exists.'"

It was the same energy that prompted the young artist to perform locally, alongside his fellow stage hype rapper, Idea, and a DJ. During the first year of "Ego Loss," Stan Z performed over 50 shows in the local region and started gaining

a following. Spurred from the hype and recognition, Stan Z was signed by Electric Social Records, a local record label that helped project the artist into the El Paso spotlight.

What he had not anticipated was the direction his three-member posse would develop into.

"Kilo (Daniel Rivera of Kilo and the Dew) asked if we've ever performed with a live band before, and he said that we should play with a live band for their singing party," Zubia said. "We tried it out and it was dope. I had been in bands with these guys and it was just dope."

The addition of a drummer, a guitarist, a keyboard player and a bassist led to new possibilities for Stan Z's presence. It encouraged more concerts and even spawned

a mini-tour to the likes of Austin and San Antonio.

"It's been interesting because I think we were coming up, just as a duo act, but when we had the band, that's when people really started fucking with us," Zubia said. "We were getting loud and after that it was shows, shows, shows. After that we decided to go on a little mini tour to San Antonio and Austin, and people were vibing. On tours it's hard to get people to come out. People that came out would come up to us and say, 'you guys are really talented' and that felt good."

“This is me taking in everything and making it something of my own.”

- Stan Zubia

Now, in less than a week, Stan Z will release his second project, titled "The Z." The 11-track record was entirely written and produced by Zubia and it will debut at his album release party on Saturday, March 4, at the Lowbrow Palace.

"On the last tape there wasn't any live shit. On this one, there will be our live instruments mixed with the

see STAN Z on page 9

Green Day “Revolution Radio” tour 2017



SPECIAL TO THE PROSPECTOR

BY CLAUDIA FLORES

The Prospector

Get ready because your favorite "American Idiots" are back on

tour, along with special guests, Against Me promoting their most recent album "Revolution Radio," Green Day will be on a 24-day tour throughout the United States

starting March 1. The punk-rock band will be making a stop at the El Paso County Coliseum on March 2 to bring their fans new material, as well as some of their number one hits such as "Boulevard of Broken Dreams," "American Idiot" and "Holiday."

Billie Joe Armstrong and Mike Drint grew up in California and at 14-years-old formed their first real band "Sweet Children."

Then, when they were 17-years-old, the pair recorded the 1989 EP "1,000 Hours." At this point, they were known as Green Day and integrated a new drummer, John Kiffmeyer.

Kiffmeyer would participate in the next three studio albums before leaving the band, and Tre Cool took over the drums for their 1992 album "Kerplunk."

In 1994, the release of "Dookie" gave the band the recognition as the next generation of Punk music.

After winning their first Grammy Award for "Dookie," the next five albums couldn't repeat or surpass the success of their first production.

Finally, in 2004, it was "American Idiot" that brought Green Day back in the spotlight.

Since "American Idiot," the band released four more albums, "21st Century Breakdown" and a trilogy of series which was their last production until the release of their new album "Revolution Radio."

The last time the band visited El Paso was in 2013 for their "99 Revolutions" tour. Things have changed for the band since their last tour since Billie Joe Armstrong, Mike Drint and Tre Cool were inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2015.

With this title in their pocket and a whole new album, Green Day shows that hard work truly pays off. After more than three decades dedicated to the music industry, the band is about to start their 2017 tour and the "Idiot Nation" looks forward to seeing their idols rocking the stage one more time.

"Revolution Radio" is the band's first album in four years and their 12th studio album in their 31-year career. This new album with 12 new original tracks reflects

the years of musical wisdom and emotional maturity of the band. With their album debuting in October 2016, Green Day positioned as the no. 1 on the US Billboard Top Rock Albums list of 2016 and ranked no. 14 in the Rolling Stone's "50 Best Albums of 2016," which gives the band the perfect comeback after staying away from the spotlight after four years.

The inspiration behind the album are the day to day situations people face on the streets.

"Bang, Bang," for example, makes a reference to mass shootings and their primary motivations, as the title track "Revolution Radio" was inspired by the Black Lives Matter demonstrations.

On their last stop at the borderland, Green Day proved that their music legacy is still worth listening to as well as see them performing on stage.

Tickets start at \$60 and are on sale at ticketmaster.com or on greenday.com.

✉ Claudia Flores may be reached at theprospector.az@gmail.com

The Oscars: an American cry for help

BY EDDIE VELAZQUEZ
The Prospector



The 89th Academy Awards ceremony will be remembered for two things: the Steve Harvey-like disaster that occurred while the award for Best Picture was being presented and as a bastion of free speech and political discourse in a time of turmoil.

However, the Academy Awards are no stranger to the latter point. Marlon Brando made the first real political statement on March 5, 1973, at the 45th iteration of these awards. On the eve of the ceremony, Brando announced he wouldn't accept the award and sent young actress Sacheen Littlefeather to explain that he did not find the treatment of Native Americans by the film industry fair, leading him to boycott the ceremony.

There is a discrepancy between the way this message was received 44 years ago and the way the crowd reacted to the politically charged strikes during Sunday's ceremony. While Littlefeather saw some encouragement from the crowd, a lot of attendees started booing immediately. A stark contrast when compared to the Jimmy Kimmel-hosted affair, where the crowd would applaud any message related to current events in politics.

One could attribute the political commentary to the conditions the United States is currently under, with immigration bans, media outlets being barred from the White House and a state of social uncertainty and unrest with race and religion at the forefront.

Host Jimmy Kimmel and the collection of actors, directors, composers, editors and cinematographers in the room had a field day with the political digs and remarks, while also conveying powerful messages advocating for change.

In a sense, the ceremony felt like a cry for help to the 225 countries Kimmel said were watching.

Starting at the red carpet, director Ava DuVernay made a fashion statement with political connotations by wearing a dress designed in Lebanon as a "small sign of solidarity," said DuVernay. The sign of solidarity is a seeming response to Trump's travel ban with Lebanon being a predominantly Muslim country.

During his opening monologue, the host of "Jimmy Kimmel Live!" pointed out the evident division America is facing at the moment, "if every one of you took a minute to reach out to one person you disagree with, someone you like, and have a positive, considerate conversa-

tion if we could all do that, we can make America great again," said Kimmel.

He also joked about some of the nominees saying "black people saved NASA and white people saved jazz. That's what you call progress," in reference to nominees "Hidden Figures," and "La La Land."

In terms of awardees, the night started with Best Actor in a Supporting Role going to "Moonlight's" Mahershala Ali. While his speech wasn't very political, his victory does represent a first for Muslim actors.

On the subject of immigration, during his acceptance speech for Best Makeup and Hairstyling, Alessandro Bertolazzi said, "I'm from Italy, I work around the world. This is for all the immigrants."

Mexican actor and presenter Gael Garcia Bernal had perhaps one of the most powerful statements of the night when awarding "Zootopia" as the Best Animated Feature Film.

"Flesh and blood actors are migrant workers," Bernal said. "We travel all over the world. We build families. We construct stories. We build life and cannot be divided. As a Mexican, as a Latin American, as a migrant worker, as a human being, I am against any form of wall that wants to separate us."

Another theme of the night was the reflection of art as a mechanism of unity in the face of adversity.

"All creative artists around the world are connected by an unbreakable bond that is powerful and permanent. Artists are connected by one bond that overrules boundaries," said Cheryl Boone Isaacs, president of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

"The Salesman's" director Asghar Farhadi gave Iran its second Oscar as the Best Foreign Language Film, despite also boycotting the ceremony altogether.

"My absence is out of respect for the people of my country and those of other six nations whom have been disrespected by the inhumane law that bans entry of immigrants to the U.S.," said Farhadi in a statement read as his acceptance speech.

A Sting performance of his Oscar-nominated ballad, "The Empty Chair," which appears in a documentary about journalist James Foley, who was killed by ISIS in Syria, ended with a poignant quote by the Foley: "If I don't have the moral courage to challenge authority... we don't have journalism."

The award ceremony was an opportunity for artists to do what they do best, express themselves. In a time when the U.S. is not seen as a healthy place for global relations, the vocal majority is reaching out in any way it can.

Follow Eddie Velazquez on Twitter @ezvelazquez

THERE'S SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE THIS MARDI GRAS



BLOCK PARTY ON CINCINNATI STREET

The 13th annual Mardi Gras Block Party will feature Lil Jon, the "King of Crunk," live at the Bourbon St. at 201 Cincinnati Street from midnight to 2 a.m. Some of El Paso's top bars and restaurants are coming together for the celebrations. Tickets start at \$15 and go up to \$40. They can be purchased through eventbrite.com.

FREEDOM CROSSING AT FORT BLISS

Mardi Gras events will take place at Ft. Bliss' Freedom Crossing, located at 1611 Haan Road, featuring live music, DJs, a parade and drink and dining. It will take place from 5 p.m. to midnight on Tuesday, Feb. 28, at the shopping center inside Fort Bliss. There will be complimentary beats, masks and a photo booth available. Sambaz Brazilian dance group, Sol Studio capoeira and samba, Odd Lab fire show, craft-and-mask-making, face painting, blues, jazz and funk music will also be included in the event. The event is also free and no pass will be required.

PIANO RECITAL

For those who prefer a toned-down Mardi Gras, UTEP will host guest pianist Linda Holzer of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, who will perform a concert featuring American composers at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 28, at Fox Fine Arts Recital Hall. Tickets start at \$3 and are available at the UTEP Ticket Center or online utepspecialevents.com.

CRAWFISH BROIL

At the German Pub, located on 9530 Viscount Blvd., there will be a special menu featuring a \$10, 1-lb. crawfish buy-in meal. There will be live music and drink specials as well.

301 NIGHTLIFE

301 Nightlife will host their annual event, El Paso's Largest Mardi Gras Party. There will be \$1,000 in cash prizes and there will be a Miss Mardi Gras contest. Males get in free with an RSVP on their website, <http://301nightlife.eventbrite.com/>, and ladies get in free before 11 p.m. There will be free beads, bead vendors and drink specials before 11 p.m.

BARMEN KITCHEN & PATIO BAR

Barmen Kitchen & Patio Bar, located at 4130 N Mesa St., will host their own Mardi Gras party with two for one tacos, live music, live DJs, Mardi Gras-themed food and more. The event is for those 18 years old and up, and it's free to attend. It will span from 7 p.m. to 2 a.m.

STAN Z from page 8

production," Zubia said. "I want to bring another element. I want to bring people together by me bringing good vibes. I just want people to hear it and fuck with it. I want to do shows and go hard."

Going through self-revelations and true spiritual findings, the album's theme carries a deeper meaning behind it. Even the album artwork, which was created by Victor "Versus" Soto of Los Visionaries art group, has a deep connotation.

"The 'Z' is supposed to be a symbol of the zenith—the highest point as a person, truly finding yourself, being productive and finding that balance," Zubia said. "The zenith is

the point everyone is trying to reach for. The way it works with the album is it's like a tunnel—I'm going down this tunnel that I've never been down before and wondering what's in there, taking a chance, and that symbolizes me diving into music. There's space and celestial images that represents the beyond, not even earthly comprehension."

He sums up the incomprehensible meaning into him simply finding himself and finding his vibe.

Even the production has a new feel for this album, according to Zubia. On "Ego Loss," he used different software like FL Studio and Reason to produce his work. On

"The Z," Zubia used Ableton, which was a new, redefying software that he believes enhanced the quality of sound. He came across the software while interning at Star City Studios, which he also supposes brought up his style to a new level.

"Ableton is usually for an electronic vibe, which is why I can get the crazy wobble side changes," Zubia said. "I've been grinding for this; studio sessions and late nights. It's going to be dope."

It was his new software that put the icing on the cake for his single prelude the album, "Shine." At first listen, the new track is unlike any Stan Z song before; in fact, it

sounds mature and more constructed as a whole.

"That initial riff came to me and after that I put it on Ableton," he said. "The way I work is I construct a beat and that's the way I write, based off the beat. It's different than other songwriters, like rappers come to a beat and they're ready to spit because they hear the beat and go based off it."

The songs' hook features Elia Esparza, a former contestant on The Voice, which adds character to the song.

"I had the idea for the melody of the hook, but I couldn't sing it well, so I thought, 'why don't I get Elia

Esparza to do it?'" Zubia said. "She's cool and she's great."

The album's release party will kick off at 9 p.m. at the Lowbrow with special guests including Frythm, Rose. Golden, Boomkat and Elia Esparza.

"I have stuff on this album since I was a senior. I made a beat on there and I just wanted to release it at the right time," Zubia said. "It's (the album) me not trying to pretend I'm something I'm not. I just want to jam. I'm here to take music in and let it influence me. I feel I'm just this filter, like all these influences. This is me taking in everything and making it something of my own."

Follow Adrian Broadus on Twitter @adrian_broadus

Humane Society of El Paso hosts adopting event



GABY VELASQUEZ / THE PROSPECTOR

The El Paso Pet fair was held on Feb. 25 to promote dog adoptions.

BY LESLIE SARIÑANA

The Prospector

When buying a dog or a cat as a pet, not many people consider adoption. Pet stores all over the country have stopped selling cats and dogs from breeders. Big chain pet stores such as Petco and Petsmart now partner with local animal shelters to encourage buyers to adopt shelter animals. This ‘adopt not buy’ policy has been implemented in most pet stores across the country in an effort to give a home to shelter animals.

On Saturday, Feb. 25, there were dog adoptions at the Humane Society of El Paso and El Paso Parks and Rec’s annual Pet Fair. The main purpose of the pet fair was to hold dog adoptions and provide as many of

them as possible with homes. Many of the people in attendance took their dogs with them while many others left with a new furry friend.

The Humane Society of El Paso routinely holds events to promote animal adoptions. Every Friday is Feline Fridays, where cat adoptions are only \$50. The fee includes spay/neuter surgery, vaccinations and microchips with national and local registration. The humane society is a non-profit, no-kill shelter.

PetSmart charities surveyed 3,000 people in 2014 and 34 percent of those who had added a pet in the previous 12 months, but chose not to adopt, said they went elsewhere because shelters do not have purebred animals. Of

those, 12 percent said they didn’t know much about pet adoption.

Petco always has shelter cats at their stores ready to adopt. Petsmart doesn’t have shelter animals for adoption every day, but every Saturday the HSEP takes cats and dogs to local stores to put up for adoption.

Next time you’re looking to get a pet, consider the benefits of adopting first.

The HSEP is located at 4991 Fred Wilson Ave. and is open every day of the week. You can also adopt cats and dogs at any El Paso Petco or Petsmart store.

For more information, visit <https://www.hselpaso.org/>.

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

Below are the national Humane Society’s top reasons for adopting a pet:

- ◆You’ll save a life: Each year, 2.7 million adoptable dogs and cats are euthanized in the United States, simply because too many pets come into shelters and too few people consider adoption when looking for a pet.
- ◆You’ll get a great animal: Most shelter pets wind up there because of a human problem such as a move or a divorce, not because the animals did anything wrong. Many are already house trained and used to living with families.
- ◆It’ll cost you less: Usually when you adopt a pet, the cost of spay/neuter, the first vaccinations is included in the adoption price, which can save you some of the upfront costs of adding a new member to your family.
- ◆It’s one way to fight puppy mills: If you buy a dog from a pet store, online seller or flea market, you’re almost certainly getting a dog from a puppy mill.
- ◆Your home will thank you: Many of the pets from shelters and rescues are already house trained, which means you’re not only saving a pet’s life, you may be saving your rug.
- ◆All pets are good for your health, but adoptees offer an extra boost: Not only do animals give you unconditional love, but they have been shown to be psychologically, emotionally and physically beneficial to their companions.

2016-17 BASKETBALL

TICKETS:747-5234

OLD DOMINION
MARCH 2 / 6:00 PM
TEXAS WESTERN NIGHT

CHARLOTTE
MARCH 4 / 1:00 PM
SENIOR DAY

FEBRUARY 28, 2017

SPORTS

EDITOR
JASON GREEN, 747-7477

Miner men seek first round bye in C-USA tournament

BY JEREMY CARRANCO
The Prospector

After the Jan. 7 loss to Southern Mississippi, any Miner fan could have wondered the same thing. Would this UTEP team ever secure another victory during the season? That day, the tail end of a 12-game losing streak, is all but a faint memory for the Miners now. UTEP has turned over a new leaf, having won five straight and 11 of their last 13 games overall.

The turnaround has UTEP (13-15, 11-5 C-USA) currently sitting in a third-place tie with the Old Dominion Monarchs in the Conference-USA standings.

The turnaround started with a buzzer-beating victory on a fall away jumper by senior guard Dominic Artis over Florida International on Jan. 12 in double-overtime. While this could have been the spark UTEP needed, it has been an improved defense that has been the most notable change.

Two of the Miners' 11 wins during this stretch have come against the top two scoring teams in Conference-USA, Marshall and Rice.

Marshall was averaging 85.4 points per game, while Rice was averaging 81 points per game. The Miners held the Thundering Herd to 68 points on Jan. 28 and held the Owls to 71 on Feb. 18. Both wins were notably on the road, as the Miners held both teams to 34 percent shooting, while each usually average around 45 percent. UTEP's scoring defense is fourth-best in Conference-USA, allowing 68.4 points per game.

Winning on the road.

At one point, UTEP was winless on the road, sitting at 0-6 overall (1-2 on a neutral court). Since then, UTEP has recently earned a four-game sweep the



FILE PHOTO/ THE PROSPECTOR

The UTEP men head into the final C-USA games hoping to lock in the third seed, a bye in the third round of tournament and possibly an elusive NCAA tournament berth for the first time in head coach Tim Floyd's tenure at UTEP.

last two weeks over North Texas (77-71 OT), Rice (79-71), Florida Atlantic (60-55), and Florida International (90-76) to put their final road conference record above .500 at 5-4.

UTEP has fared even better at home. The Miners have won six of their seven total conference games thus far on the Don Haskins Center court with two more to go. One of those wins coming against Conference-USA regular-season champion Middle Tennessee, 57-54 on Feb. 4. The loss for the Blue Raiders is the only one in their last 15, making it their lone blemish in C-USA. This win for the Miners could be considered their biggest of the season.

UTEP can clinch a first-round bye in the Conference-USA tour-

nament this Thursday with either a win against Old Dominion or a Rice loss against Marshall, which would earn them either the third or fourth seed. UTEP can claim the third seed outright with a victory against Old Dominion, as the two teams are currently tied for that third slot (11-5 C-USA) heading into their matchup.

The Miners are coming off their most impressive shooting performance of the season, shooting an outstanding 67 percent (35-52) from the floor, while nailing their last eight shots in the contest. Five Miners scored in double-figures, with junior center Matt Willms and Artis leading the way with 20-plus points each. Willms acquired 23 points

on 10-of-13 shooting, and Artis tacked on 21 points in 7-of-11 shooting in the win. The Miners also outrebounded the Panthers 30-18 while having a 48-30 point advantage in the paint.

This season, three Miners average 10-plus points per game. Willms averages 11.5 and Artis averages 15 points per game. Junior guard Omega Harris is the third Miner in that category, but leads both Willms (11.5) and Artis (15) in points per game with 16.5.

Artis is tied for 20th in the nation in assists per game, with Saint Mary's Joe Rahon at 5.8 per game. Artis picked up a total of 20 assists during the Miners most recent four-game road sweep.

Heatingupfrombeyond-the-arc.

UTEP has made 39 three-pointers during their current five-game winning streak, making just 15 in their previous five games before that.

UTEP will hope to carry their strong defense, efficient scoring and, more importantly, their current momentum into both the final weekend of regular season competition and the Conference-USA Tournament.

The Miners are back at home and will host Old Dominion (18-10, 11-5 C-USA) at 6 p.m. this Thursday, March 2, and Charlotte (12-15, 6-10 C-USA) on Saturday, March 3, at 1 p.m. The Monarchs are first in Conference-USA in scoring defense, averaging 60.6 points per game. Meanwhile, the 49ers are fourth in C-USA in scoring offense, averaging 77 points per game.

The different attacks ahead for the Miners will again test their previous success against both a defensive-led team like they saw in Middle Tennessee (second in C-USA scoring defense) with Old Dominion. The Miners will also be looking to repeat previous success like they found when they shutdown Marshall (first in C-USA scoring offense), against Charlotte.

The Conference-USA tournament field will be announced this Saturday evening following all of the day's action. The tournament will be held from March 8-11 in Birmingham, Alabama, for a third-consecutive season.

Follow Jeremy Carranco on Twitter @J_Carranco22

Miner women on verge of tournament despite difficult season

BY ADRIAN BROADDUS
The Prospector

It wasn't pretty, but they did it. The UTEP women's basketball team won back-to-back matchups against Florida Atlantic and Florida International to better secure their chance at making the final spot in the Conference USA post-season tournament.

It was quite the weekend that head coach Keitha Adams had been striving for all season long. They were tasked with playing the bottom two teams in the league at home, but more importantly, they were in a must-win situation.

On Thursday, Feb. 23, the Miners moved past the Florida Atlantic Owls, 69-59. They had four players score in double-digits with Sparkle Taylor (22 points), Tamara Seda (13 points), Najala Howell (10 points) and Katarina Zec (10 points). At the end of the day, however, it was Taylor's efforts on both ends of the court that helped lift the Miners up over the Owls and inched them closer to their tournament spot.

It was Saturday's (Feb. 25) matchup against Florida International that was truly the defining moment for the group. Sparked by Sparkle Taylor's 23 points, seven rebounds and career-best tying five assists, the Miners rolled over



NINA TITOVETS / THE PROSPECTOR

The Miner women clinched a C-USA playoff bid despite a tough season and a losing conference record. the Panthers in a 41-point margin of victory. Their 88-47 win over FIU nearly solidifies their spot in the tournament, which takes 12 out of the league's 14 teams.

"This team has been through a lot, but I told them after the game that we're still a team and we believe in each other," Adams said. "It speaks volume on what kind of kids we have in our program."

With the two victories, the Miners (8-20, 5-10 and 11th in C-USA) now control their own destiny as one of the last two teams that can secure their spot in the tournament.

"Our whole season was on the line and we wanted to redeem ourselves," Taylor said. "We have seven freshmen on this team and we didn't want them to miss the tournament their first year here."

Next up on their radar is Old Dominion and Charlotte on the road, who are respectively the sixth and fifth-place teams in C-USA.

Old Dominion on Thursday night (March 2) will feature the league's best shooter with Jennie Simms. She's first in C-USA and second in the nation for points per game, averaging 25.9 points per game. UTEP's Taylor is currently ranked fourth in the league with 18.1 points per game, but she does not even rank in the top 50 in the nation for ppg. It will be a test for the Miners' defense and it will be a chance to face an opponent they might see in the early stages of the tournament.

In addition to Simms, Old Dominion has the league's best rebounder with Destinee Young, who averages 11.0 rebounds per game. She also ranks 10th nationally for her efforts off the glass. UTEP's big woman, Seda, will be faced with a challenge guarding Young throughout the night.

Against Charlotte, the Miners will have to square off against one of the best scoring teams in the conference. Charlotte currently ranks second in the league for points per game, averaging 73.8 per game. This poses a major threat for the Miners as they are among the worst scoring defenses, ranking 12th in the conference.

The hornets love to jack up the 3-pointer on any given day as well. They rank third in the league with their impressive 35 percent from beyond the arc. Also, they have kept a promising 3-plus-turnover margin per game.

We have seven freshmen on this team and we didn't want them to miss the tournament their first year.

- Sparkle Taylor, senior forward and UTEP's third all-time scorer

Although these two road games will be a challenge for the Miners, it will be a test of strength prior to the tournament. It will allow them to play against two talented teams in the conference and test their talents against them.

Follow Adrian Broaddus on Twitter @Adrian_Broaddus

Soccer kicks off spring exhibition schedule in Las Cruces



BY MIKE FLORES
The Prospector

After a 13-win season—the most since 2009—and a tournament berth for the fourth time in school history, the UTEP soccer team will reconvene for the 2017 Spring Ex-

hibition season. However, new momentum will need to be rediscovered by the Miners after losing seven seniors from last year’s squad. The handful of seniors, who provided head coach Kevin Cross much of his success, have been replaced by inking 10 prep standouts

for the upcoming season. Six of the 10 freshmen are from Texas, while the other four new faces have traveled from Canada. “On paper, our freshmen look great, but it’s kind of surprising because a lot of times there’s players that you don’t expect to do well and they do, and there are players that you think are going to be the greatest thing and they aren’t ready to make the next jump. Usually, if half of your signees pan out you’re in good shape,” Cross said. “They were all amazing high school and club players, so hopefully they can continue here at UTEP because we need them since we had a real strong senior class leave.” Along with the freshmen will be some key student-athletes returning for the orange and blue, such as goalkeeper Alyssa Palacios, who has a C-USA All-Freshman team award and snatched an All-Conference third team last year. She could help guide the younger Miners by giving them a safety blanket if their defense is not up to par. Palacios’ save percentage from last season was nearly at 85 percent. Another key returnee is soon-to-be senior midfielder, Kennadie Chaudhary. Throughout her junior year, Chaudhary recorded the third-most points (10) and goals scored (3), while also dishing out the third-most assists (4), tied with two others. With her freshman year behind her, UTEP’s 5-foot-7 defender Lauren Crenshaw will aid the in-

coming wave of freshman as well, as she made a name for herself in her first year. Crenshaw got the honors of C-USA All-Freshman team and All-Regional third team. Last season, Crenshaw played in all 22 games and totaled five points, three assists and one goal, while attempting the sixth-most shots in the unit. “Our returning players have to step up their leadership this year because those are some of our leaders now, so they have to demand a lot out of these girls and step up to the challenge. They don’t have those seniors to lean on now,” said Cross. Just four months after the regular season came to a halt, the Miners are set to square off against West Texas A&M on March 4, in Las Cruces, New Mexico. Aside from practice, it will be the first time the new-look Miners will hit the field together. Although WTAM competes in Division 2, the Buffaloes are usually one of the top teams in the nation in their division. Last season, WTAM went 11-6 overall and 9-3 in conference play. They outscored their opponents right from the get go, as they scored 14 first-half goals, compared to just six from their opponents in the opening stanza all year. “West Texas is usually a top-20 Division 2 team and they can beat a lot of Division 1 schools on any given day, so it’s going to be a tough game, and if we aren’t ready,

then it’s going to be really tough,” said Cross. The game between the Miners and Buffaloes will be played in New Mexico State Aggie territory due to the fact that WTAM has a date with the New Mexico State University soccer team just days before. After the meeting with WTAM, UTEP will have two weeks off and then head to Arizona for two games in two days, starting off with Arizona, followed by Arizona State. The two had a combined record of 15-20-3 last season. The Pac-12 teams will be a very early measuring stick for Cross, despite their records in Conference USA. To end the 2017 exhibition season, the Miners will compete at home for their final two games, when Eastern New Mexico and New Mexico make stops in El Paso. ENMU went a dismal 3-14-1 (2-10 in conference) and 0-6-1 on the road. They finished off their season with a 10-game losing streak and got outscored 20-7 in the second half of their matchups. The Miners will kick off with ENMU on April 22, at 4 p.m. Finally, before the summer starts and soccer season has to wait until mid-August, UTEP will welcome in the Lobos on April 23. The Lobos, who had a winning record of 9-7-3, but 5-5-1 in the Mountain West Conference, will meet the Miners on University Field at a time to be announced. “The spring season gives the players a chance to really develop, and since we had such a big senior class last year, it gives the younger players the perfect opportunity to grow and expand their roles. These games can determine who our starters can be,” Cross said. “The spring season doesn’t necessarily predict your fall success because new players will step up when the regular season starts. But if we can get some players to take the next leap in these games—that’s what we are looking for.” A long summer of working out on their own will be ahead for the Miners. “We, as coaches, just hope that the girls stay in good shape over the summer and that they have an awesome summer in their workouts,” said Cross. “The summer determines our fall, if they take the summer off and we can’t get them into game shape when school comes back, there is no way they’ll be ready for the season in time, especially in 90 or 100-degree weather. It’s all voluntary for the girls over the summer, we can’t tell them anything, it’s all on them.” Cross and his staff will be hoping that his players’ success in 2016 will motivate them to work on their own to arrive in the fall ready to improve on 2016 and the spring games and practices.

Follow Mike Flores on Twitter @MikeyTheReal

WANTED

Student Government Association

ELECTION COMMISSIONERS

Job Duties

- Enforce all regulations related to election
- Conduct hearings
- Impose sanctions if necessary
- Must be able to meet twice a week
- Must attend mandatory training

Requirements

- 12 undergraduate credit hours or 9 graduate credit hours
- A minimum of 2.5 GPA

***Receive a stipend for your work!**

Applications must be submitted to the SGA office at 304 Union East Building by Tuesday, February 28 by noon. For more information, call (915)747-5584.

For application, go to: www.utep.edu/sga

TAKE CARE OF YOUR WATER

KEEP IT CLEAN

Do not dump waste, chemicals, paint, custodial waste, and general rubbish items (tires, old car parts, shopping carts, etc.) into storm drains, channels, or ditches.

No tirar basura, aparatos electrodomésticos, muebles, llantas, y chatarra a canales y acequias del sistema de drenaje pluvial.

Keep material out of the stormwater conveyance system (curbs, gutters, sidewalks, streets, drains, culverts, and arroyos). Dispose of grass, leaves, yard waste, and construction debris properly.

No tapan el flujo pluvial a canales, alcantarillas y arroyos con basura. Disponga correctamente de basura vegetal (césped, ramas, y hojas) así como basura de construcción.

Leave natural vegetation in place where possible to prevent erosion.

Si es posible, deje crecer a vegetación en forma natural para evitar la erosión.

Recycle oil, antifreeze, and other vehicle fluids, or dispose of them properly to prevent the pollution of stormwater, groundwater and the Rio Grande.

Recicle aceite, anti-congelate y lubricantes o disponga propiamente de ellos para prevenir contaminación de sistema de drenaje pluvial, mantos acuíferos y el Rio Bravo.

Properly dispose of hazardous wastes, pesticides, and fertilizers. Call UTEP EH&S to schedule waste pickups.

Desheche correctamente los residuos peligrosos, pesticidas, y fertilizantes. Llama al departamento EH&S en UTEP y agendar fecha para recoger los desperdicios.

Report illegal dumping in storm drains, culverts, or arroyos to UTEP EH&S. Reporte el veritado ilegal de residuos en los drenajes o arroyos al departamento EH&S en UTEP

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & SAFETY OFFICE
HERTZOG BUILDING
ROOM 170
(915) 747-7124
EH&S@UTEP.EDU

Storm drains are easily identified with "NO DUMPING" decals at stormwater inlets. Alcantarifado fe aguas pluviales es identificado con anuncions de "NO REVERTIR DESECHOS AQUI"