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ASSAYER OF STUDENT OPINION

THE PROSPECTOR

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VOL. 102, NO. 31

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO

JUNE 20, 2017



BY ADRIAN BROADDUS

The Prospector

Helping out those who are immigrants or international travelers is dear to Jonathan Cereceres, a junior political science major. He was elected the vice president of external affairs for the Student Government Association and he wanted to make sure to help those international individuals at UTEP in any way that he could.

This past year, Cereceres contributed to Education Not Deportation, or E.N.D., which was a local movement that protested for the civil rights of international students and their families.

Now, Cereceres plans to bring forth a new initiative to campus to assist the in-

ternational students in their rights and connecting to the campus called Education Across Borders. He hopes this initiative will lay the foundation for years to come and act as a traditional focus.

"This is my baby," said Cereceres, who has been working on this idea since January. "I have become really passionate about this because of my family, friends and the community. I believe these students need to know their rights as students and everyone should have access to a proper education."

Aside from workshops to show international students their rights, Cereceres wants to implement international ethnic group mixers and other events to benefit these students.

"We're focusing on students by doing this just so they have this help," he said. "This is the new development that focuses on the newest establishments across El Paso."

Gary Edens, vice president for the Division of Student Affairs, has been working closely with Cereceres to ensure execution of the SGA's new movement.

"I think the current SGA is excited for their role in advocating for students," Edens said. "Some of these programs they're designing are really for advocacy and messaging programs to get more students engaged in the political dialogue that is going on across America, and the world. I think they've been thoughtful about

how they've approached these with much more of an educational twist to them so students can get involved in their own way."

Recently, President Donald Trump announced that he would not get rid of help for the Dreamers, who are undocumented immigrants that came to the U.S. as children. The Department of Homeland Security announced that they would continue what the Obama administration implemented to help keep these immigrants from deportation and provide them with work permits so they can find jobs legally.

Despite this announcement by President Trump, Edens believes the general community should still be aware of

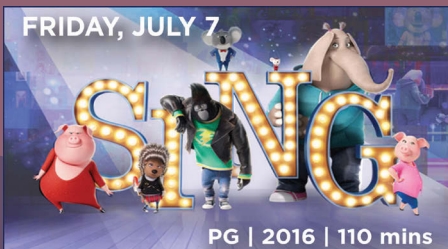
ILLUSTRATION BY ALEJANDRA GONZALEZ
their surroundings and what will come of Trump's plans.

"I think the political dialogue most recently, especially the national political dialogue, have touched on critical issues that are important to who we are as border residents," he said. "The talks about immigration, immigration status, access to health care, access to education—all those things touch the El Paso audience relation in ways that past political rhetoric maybe has not. There's clearly a focus on immigration and the border that's been going on in the past two years. This isn't theoretical

see E.A.B. on page 4

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OPINION

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

ADRIAN BROADDUS, 747-7477

Donald Trump: The world's greatest con man

BY AUGIE TOURIS

The Prospector



The writing appears to be on the wall. This much is clear from the perspective of the majority, aside from the most die-hard of Trump supporters. We are six months into a presidency that has accomplished little, aside from alienating the United States from its allies and embroiling Trump and company in an investigation. Progress is not always made quickly from a presidential standpoint, and one could surely argue that he needs more time. However, this is not true.

On the campaign trail, Trump made a few distinct pledges, which he repeated, time and time again to cheers from the audience. These promises included a 30-day plan to defeat ISIS, Obamacare being swiftly replaced by something much more efficient, a wall that would be built to completely block the borders of Mexico and the United States and even the promise to investigate Hillary—a promise

made to chants of “lock her up” from the boisterous rally crowds.

It isn't as though those plans are in the works—they never were to begin with. Sure, the Republicans attempted a health care bill and currently have one they're covertly trying to get through, but the first bill was a dud—it was never even sent to a vote. While the most recent bill has passed the first stage, it's unlikely that it will ever pass through the Senate. After all, how does one explain taking 23 million people off healthcare?

ISIS is still causing havoc internationally, and with little to no hindrance from the current administration. That 30-day plan is evidently not what its name indicates, and probably never existed at all. The wall between Mexico and the US will never be built. The logic behind using a physical wall to stop illegal immigration is insanely primitive and to believe it would work would not be logical. It is a documented fact that most illegal immigrants crossed into the United States legally, but simply overstayed their welcome.

The so called “swamp” that Trump so vigorously promised to drain has only increased in size. He has lined his cabinet with billionaires and elitists, which were

certainly his decisions, but also a major departure from that promise. The ever so remarkable part is that he is under FBI investigation.

While it may have been a matter of time, Trump has only intensified the heat on himself with his out of control and childish tweeting. While he was not under investigation originally by the FBI, his firing of James Comey and subsequent intimidation tweet about how Comey should hope there weren't tapes of the conversation brought more pressure to Trump and thus, Comey's testimony prompted Robert Mueller to increase the investigation tenfold.

This is no witch hunt, as Trump loves to claim. The investigations stem from very true facts such as, Michael Flynn lying about his ties to Russia, Jeff Sessions secretly meeting with the Russians and lying about doing so and Jared Kushner setting up secret communications to Russia before inauguration day happened. Trump himself once ironically said that someone who is under FBI investigation shouldn't be president—which seemed clever when campaigning against Hillary, but now shrieks of irony.

To support Trump is to be clueless, naïve, ignorant or all of the above. A logical conservative would

choose Pence over Trump, because they would know that Pence has a political background and isn't under the biggest investigation of all time for a president. And while it continues, the country and administration is too embroiled to pass anything agenda wise, which wouldn't happen much regardless.

It's simply embarrassing at this point. Trump has accomplished very little in a government that is completely controlled by the Republicans. Not a single Democrat vote is required for Trump to pass whatever he'd like on his agenda. And yet, nothing has passed—a sure sign of incompetence in a party that is struggling to stay afloat.

There's only so many times that “fake news” can be screamed at anything oppositional before it becomes embarrassingly repetitive and devoid of value. One could argue that to discredit the media may be dictatorial, but Trump is no dictator. He's a very clever con man, someone who sold dreams to a very clueless and angry group of people.

While this unfolds, Trump is making money. Sure, he promised to not take a salary, but what's not making \$400,000 a year when you're making millions every time you travel to Mar A Lago, the so

called “winter white house,” where Trump golfs nearly every weekend?

At the end of the day, the Republican Party can turn a blind eye to this and prolong the inevitable for as long as possible. However, if they won't do something in 2018 should the Democrats win, they will.

At the end of the day, impeached or not, Trump's presidency is a failure. It's remarkable to be so lost in office that even die-hard liberals yearn for the days of George W., but that's where we're at. Because while W. Bush may not have been a good president, he knew his agenda and worked to make the country better from the perspective he thought was best. That's how it should be, politically, not an embarrassing routine of tweets from the leader of the free world that reek of childish scorn and immaturity.

Trump is a failure, and history will reflect that. It all comes out in the wash and as this investigation dives deeper into the financial history of Trump, the flames are only getting hotter. Simply put, a president should not be under FBI investigation, right Donald?

Follow Augie Touris on Twitter @atouris85



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Students help families preserve rainwater



PHOTO COURTESY OF JESUS PLACENCIA

Students in Engineers Without Borders helped a family in Presidio conserve rainwater to avoid hauling massive water tanks frequently.

BY ADRIAN BROADDUS
The Prospecter

Imagine not having running water every day in your home and having to haul water up to three times a week to do simple things, such as bathing, watering plants, cooking or anything that requires water.

While that simple thought seems foreign to most people in El Paso, four hours away in colonias outside of Presidio County it is a reality for most residents.

Those who live in the Presidio area are tasked to haul water two to three times per week and store it in water tanks for their personal usage.

A group of UTEP students in the Engineers Without Borders program are seeking to change this with a plan they developed for these homes and families. This group of students discovered a new way to harvest rainwater at a home with no piped water.

This project makes it possible for families to collect water for all usages by eliminating the burden of having to collect water consistently throughout the week.

“Our proposal was to extend water services along Highway 67 in the Colinas Las Pampas,” said Michelle Del Rio, the house impact assessment program manager who assisted the UTEP group with this initiative. “We found out it would take people 10 miles to get water and most of these people were elderly. We found out there was even an 80-year-old who would haul water.”

At these filling stations, residents would fill up large containers with

hundreds of gallons of water. After testing this water, the group found out there was no risk of contamination, but there was a risk in the hauling process itself.

“We found through the hauling process, there were accidents,” Del Rio said. “It is a harsh life. They purchased this property with the idea that they’d get water in two years, but that was 15 years ago. Now with this, they have hope. We don’t know when the state is going to get water for them, but we want to offer a solution for them.”

The Engineers Without Borders got to work by mapping out the usage of tanks and how they could preserve the rainwater. Jesus Placencia, a graduate student pursuing a master’s degree in engineering, was the foreman of constructing the pipeline stream to conserve water for the homes.

The group was able to get donations from different businesses for substitutes for water tanks. The local Coca-Cola plant donated 16 275-gallon syrup tanks, which were converted to water tanks.

“The way it works is when it rains, runoff water will be captured by the different pipes and it will be sent to your tank and stored there,” Placencia said. “It’s actually very similar to how Centennial Plaza captures water when it rains. You can use the water inside homes to water plants and we did this so the gentleman didn’t have to go all the time to get water.”

Although they were unable to disclose the names of the owners of the house in which they worked on, Placencia said that the man of the home they worked on would haul water up to three times per week, and more often than that in the summer.

“Even though the rainwater harvesting won’t take all the needs of hauling water away, it will stop all the continuous trips he has to make,” he said. “This gave me an opportunity to practice and design civil engineering on water resources and enhanced my construction management skills.”

The group currently is not supported by department funding, so they hope that their efforts between their first two trials will prompt some department funding. They also hope to attract attention from EPA (Environmental Protection Agency), USCA (United States Climate Alliance) or someone else who can fund water infrastructure costs. The next house they will practice this on will be in September.

“For small cities like this, it will allow them to do a lot more,” Placencia said. “People move to Colinas to get away from big cities and

be sustainable. If larger cities did this, they avoid a lot of floods and deterring of streets.”

“It felt to them that someone was actually there for them and cared about them.”

- Michelle Del Rio
house impact assessment
program manager

After they finished the project at the first home, Del Rio said the group of eight engineering volunteers received much praise and gratitude from the owners.

“It felt to them that someone was actually there for them and cared about them,” Del Rio said. “This was a lot more practical for them and they liked it a lot.”

The group is keeping track of each time it rains and logging in the results the homeowners are having from now on. For more information on involvement, contact the Engineers Without Borders or Placencia at jmplacencia@miners.utep.edu.

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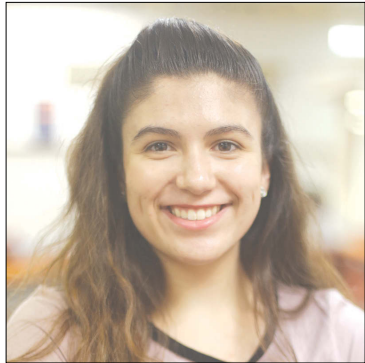
Do you think UTEP should become a sanctuary campus?

GABY VELASQUEZ / THE PROSPECTOR



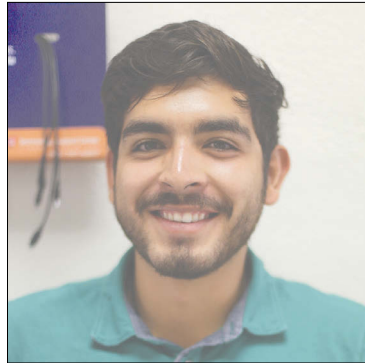
ZAHIT PORRAS

Freshman engineering major
 “Yes, education is supposed to be open for everybody. Nationality shouldn’t be a reason not to give the same opportunity to everybody.”



JACQUELINE SCHWARTS

Freshman cellular molecular biochem major
 “I think it should. I think that we as a campus that is very multicultural does provide a lot of opportunities for Hispanic students.”



TOMAS MIJARES

Senior nursing major
 “It should because in a time that is so confusing, we shouldn’t forget our values and where we came from.”



GABRIELA GONZALEZ

Freshman education major
 “I think it should cause, its a place where a lot of students do find that safe haven, like me, I’m not an immigrant but I do find comfort in the school.”



PATRICK BROWN

PhD student evolutionary biology
 “I think it would be within the spirit of the university. It’s a minority serving institution so it should be within the goals of the university.”

E.A.B. from cover

any more, which garners more activism and involvement.”

However, Edens does believe that the constant uncertainty between the political climate regarding immigration is causing the uneasiness among these students.

“Our students are continuing to do what they do best, which is to come to class, to learn, to study—that hasn’t changed,” Edens said. “We aren’t seeing a decrease in enrollment, we aren’t seeing students not come to class. In a general sense, they’re worried about the changing messages that are coming out from many of our elected officials. Donald Trump is now saying that DACA students are now allowed to stay. So it’s changing overnight. When there’s that change and uncertainty, that causes worry. We’re ready to handle anything that happens if it affects our students.”

As stated, Education Across Borders is branching out from their original plan. Cereceres stated that E.N.D.’s mission is to strive to protest more for the civil rights of the immigrants and also strive for changes in legislation.

One of the major things E.N.D. wants for UTEP is changing the school to be a sanctuary campus, where each student who crosses over is allowed to come without repercussions or fear of deportation.

While Cereceres believes the idea of a sanctuary campus is a positive one, he fears the cutting of government fund-

ing from the federal government and the Texas Legislature if UTEP were to ever turn that direction. That’s why Education Across Borders aims to help students acknowledge policy, understand their rights and connect with the campus better.

“We depend on the (federal funding) so much as UTEP students, especially compared to the state,” he said. “UTEP stretches out a dollar so much. We base our budget off of two percent population increase. We stretch our dollar for miles. I myself rely on the funding and so many others do.”

However, Cereceres still has hopes that the idea of a sanctuary campus in itself would provide a safety cushion for these individuals.

“Education Across Borders is essentially the same thing, but while Education, Not Deportation is seeking for UTEP to be entirely a sanctuary campus, city and everything else. Essentially, Education Across Borders hopes for sanctuary campus, but we won’t do any protests because we will be policy focused. We want to have the know your rights workshops and even bump it up for the international student minority fair or anything else of that sort.”

International student Alexis Rico, a sophomore economics major, would like to see UTEP one day become a sanctuary campus. However, she would agree with Cereceres that federal funding is important.

“Who wouldn’t want UTEP to be a sanctuary campus?” Rico said. “If they



FILE PHOTO/ THE PROSPECTOR

Education Across Borders will branch away from E.N.D. to inform international students about their rights.

can prevent the loss, they should strive to become one. It goes both ways, definitely because of the funding.”

Rico has been crossing the border every day since she was in kindergarten to go to school. The somewhat unfriendly political climate may worry some, but Rico is not worried about things like deportation or discrimination from being an international students. Rather, it is her peers who cross over and her family who worry about the different cause and effects.

“I know most of my friends—my international student friends—and even though I’m an international student, I have so much family across the bor-

der and I see all of their worries,” she said. “For friends that are international students, they don’t want to go back to Mexico and study there. They want to study here in the U.S. I do see some fear and a little scared attitudes.”

Rico believes the city’s demographics have cushioned it from the present national political discrimination.

“For the most part, everything has stayed the same,” she said. “Since we’re in El Paso, it’s not affecting us that much because we know the border. It hasn’t affected us. Thankfully, we have a different perspective here.”

She believes that where the school can help is informational sessions and

different events to make the students aware, as Cereceres plans to do with Education Across Borders.

“What would help the most is events to acknowledge international students and let them know they’re wanted, safe and feel a part of UTEP,” Rico said. “They need to let students be informed that they will not be taken away and ease all the fears they have—so international students will feel safe.”

Edens believes that the informative sessions will be beneficial, but one of the most important places to target the immigrants is starting at the top with the faculty. He is confident that moving forward, the faculty members will know how to handle any student approaching them with inquiries about their rights.

“Students don’t come to us, they go to faculty for information, so we want to make sure they have the right information,” he said. “We’re continuing to do those programs and we feel confident that given the current environment, we’ve done everything we can to help students when they need it.”

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JUNE 20, 2017

ENTERTAINMENT

EDITOR

EDDIE VELAZQUEZ, 747-7477

Cecilia Tate brings performance and passion

BY EDDIE VELAZQUEZ

The Prospector

From the crowded metroplex in the Chicago area, to the West Texas town of El Paso, slam poet and Army private first class (PFC) Cecilia Tate, who goes by Tate, wants her poetry to “walk to whomever it needs to walk to.”

“You want to be able to change lives positively, send a positive message, to be able to get someone through the next day and the day after and the day after,” Tate said about her craft.

Her journey through the world of performing arts has not always been an easy one. While Tate recalls her sophomore year of high school as the pivotal moment in her poetry career, her struggles came at an earlier age.

“I started writing since I was in seventh grade in grammar school,” Tate said. “I haven’t always loved poetry, there was one point when I was very young and it was simple stuff like rhyming words like ‘your assignment is going to be rhyme green with whatever words you can think of’ and I found that to be very difficult.”

During her years at Marshall Middle School, Tate cited civil rights activist and poet Maya Angelou as the first one to inspire her to be more outspoken through her poem, “And Still I Rise.”

“I loved every minute of it,” Tate said. “It’s not just you telling your story, it is you being confident enough to speak on stage and it almost feels like a monologue.”



GABY VELASQUEZ/THE PROSPECTOR

Poet Cecilia Tate returned from the Army and is now practicing her passion for poetry.

Things changed when Tate started high school at Curie Metro. The school allows for students to choose a major to direct their academic focus toward and she chose theater.

This posed new difficulties for Tate, as she had to switch tracks between two different writing processes.

“The moment when it became challenging was breaking my poetry voice and going into my acting voice because I was so used to performing speeches and poems,” she said.

However, Tate has very fond memories of her high school poetry slam team Lyrical Revolution.

“There isn’t a day that goes by where I don’t think about Lyrical Revolution,” Tate said. “I miss it and the environment. I was a baby when I started; I didn’t know anything, so each stage was just learning, almost coping and growing, and that is what I got out of it.”

The teachings Lyrical Revolution left would carry on to future endeavors such as teaching and her military career.

“I learned how to be a teacher and how to be a team player,” she said. “I learned how to be a writer, how to identify myself as a writer and as a poet and a slam poet.”

During high school, Tate also learned the difference between being a slam poet and a poet.

“Being a poet is almost Shakespearean, you have to sit in a class for almost two weeks and you analyze this one poem,” she said. “Now being a slam poet, that poem that you perform should be visual, you should be able to

read it and perform it almost as if you were watching it in a movie.”

Aside from Lyrical Revolution, Chicago also served as a source of wisdom for Tate, showing her the values of respectful competitiveness.

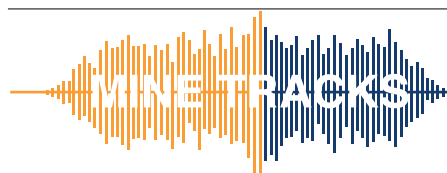
“Growing up in Chicago was an amazing experience since it is a performing arts city. It is very competitive, anything from dance to writing you name it it’s going to be competitive,” Tate said. “I see the drive when people hit the stage and they want to be better than the one before, but they also want to give the people that much more love and respect because they’re doing the same thing you are and it is not easy to stand up in front of 3,000 people and perform.”

Chicago also taught her the value of friendship and family—both lessons she carried over to her military career. However, Tate dedicates an even split of her time to her career and her poetry slam venture, and uses each experience to complement both aspects of her life.

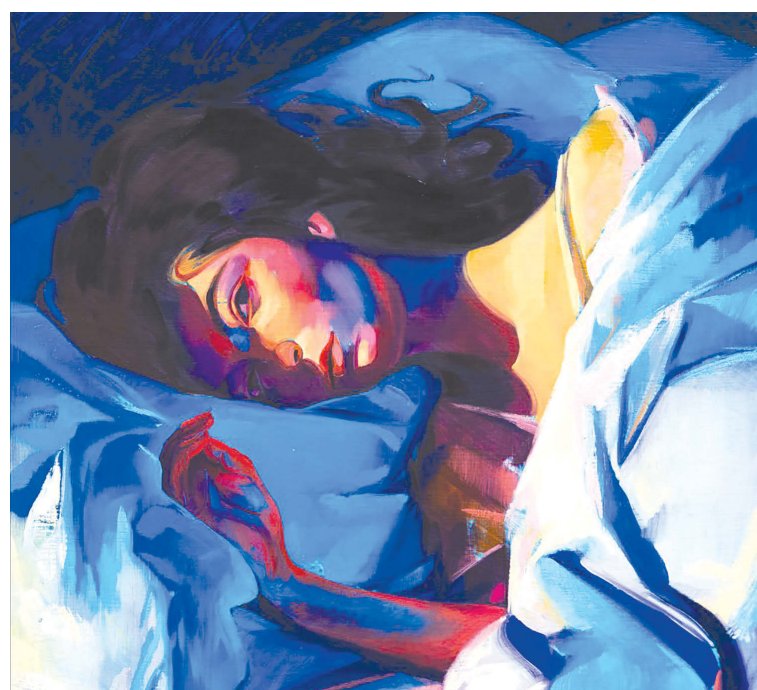
After a drawn-out journey, Tate continues to seek open microphones around El Paso on the weekends.

“Poetry means breathing; it means walking in other poets’ footsteps,” she said. “Poetry is everything. It is my motivation it is what got me out of my comfort zone and made me able to talk to others and teach poetry is what developed me into the person that I am today.”

Follow Eddie Velazquez on Twitter @ezvelazquez



‘Melodrama’: A self discovery through lonesomeness



SPECIAL TO THE PROSPECTOR

BY LESLIE SARIÑANA

The Prospector

At only 20 years old, Ella Yelich-O’Conner, better known as Lorde, has released one of the most anticipated albums of the year.

“Melodrama” follows her freshman studio release “Pure Heroine.” It took the New Zealand singer four years to release an album, but that didn’t mean she took a break. In between albums, Lorde stayed busy, writing a number of songs for other artists. She was also featured in a couple of other artists’ music and even made

an appearance on the “Hunger Games: Mockingjay-Part One’s” soundtrack.

In these four years, Lorde has, without a doubt, matured in her music and has only gotten stronger in her writing. Her lyrics have not lost that honesty and sharpness that sprung her to the top in 2013. Her lyrics reflect how she openly doesn’t care what people think. She writes it how she sees it. Her writing is refreshing in its honesty. No one wants to admit to feeling pathetic and being a mess of a person, but Lorde embraces it and puts it all out there with her music.

The last song on the album, “Perfect Places,” sums up the New Zealand native best with “I’m 19 and I’m on fire.”

Rest assured, this is definitely not the 2.0 to “Pure Heroine.” Everything in this album is told after a break up, but it is in no way a break-up album. Lorde herself described it as a record about being alone. It certainly translates that way, making this album rare and remarkable.

What “Melodrama” achieves perfectly is translating the despairing loneliness that comes after a break up and the desperate attempts at escaping the sadness and reality that come with being left alone with heartbreak. This is all told through vibrant and fluorescent sounds, showing us melancholy under a different light.

Lorde’s most mature song on this album is “Hard Feelings/Loveless.” This could have easily been two completely opposing songs, but Lorde succeeds in merging them together to portray her feelings more honestly. The “Hard Feelings” part of the songs is tender and sad in trying to be okay with losing not only a person, but the memories that come with them and living a life without them. “Loveless” is the vindictive and scorned lover who is past being sad and is out for retribution. It’s the way the contradicting sounds in this track compliment the lyrics that make it compelling.

Months ago, when she released “Liability,” it was one to listen for. It’s so raw and gives a more stripped down song, something listeners had been waiting to hear from the singer for years now. Lorde presents all of her insecurities in this song, when she’s left devastated and alone with

no one but herself to carry on. It’s the song that leaves the listener haunted and facing the reality that the only person they will ever be able to count on is oneself.

This song is about that moment you start to understand the reasons a person had for leaving you and maybe you are difficult to love: “I understand, I’m a liability. Get you wild, make you leave. I’m a little much for e-a-na-na-na, everyone.”

She achieves something similar in the track “Writer in the Dark.” In it, Lorde pens an open letter to her ex, letting him know how she’s doing in life now that she’s found a way to live without him, but she’ll still never stop loving him. The lyrics are unapologetic. Lorde is more soft spoken in this track, truly conveying the emotions.

Jack Antonoff’s production shines the most with “Sober.” From the beginning, it’s unlike anything out there today. Lorde and Antonoff played with the sounds so well that the song throws you into the party in the intoxicated, yet frantic state the song sings about.

The song is told from the perspective of someone on a high trying to forget the loneliness she faces when she’s sober. The aftermath of that comes later in the album through “Sober II.”

“Green Light” was the perfect lead single for this album. It’s a vibrant song about desperately wanting that green light to finally be over someone and get on with new things in life. In the song she says, “Cause honey I’ll come get my things, but I can’t let go (I’m waiting for it, that green light I want it). Oh I wish I could get my things and just let go.” The beats builds up

as the song progresses, making it a great track to dance to.

She couldn’t have picked a better lead single to showcase her ability to write mature and relatable lyrics while pairing them with sounds that have yet to be introduced to pop music.

“Melodrama” represents a departure from the high school party narrative of “Pure Heroine” and ultimately gives Lorde a place at the adults’ table. Although she still sings about being at parties, the record places an emphasis on more serious themes.

Lorde manages to pack “Melodrama” with a lot of synth without drowning in it. The production is done incredibly well by Antonoff and Joel Little. Not one song sounds like the previous one, but they all fit perfectly well to form one concept. They also play with her voice in various ways throughout the whole album so the lyrics can carry more weight.

“Melodrama” does not necessarily sound like a girl hurt by her first love. It is a well thought out, realistic and mature account of what comes after major heartbreak and the wisdom that comes with the self discovery you make through being alone. After listening to the synth-filled album, one emerges with a sense of self-appreciation and euphoria.

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

Street Fest is set to rock downtown EP

BY CLAUDIA FLORES
The Prospector

Continuing the annual tradition, El Paso's Downtown Street Festival is set to take over the downtown area with car exhibitions, food, art shows and live music. The two-day festival will take place on June 23 and 24, with the gates opening at 6 p.m. each day.

The annual festival will take place outside the Abraham Chavez Theater, the Convention Center and all the way up to Santa Fe Street.

This year, 12 local artists will be in the spotlight as they display their paintings during the festival. Additionally, the 2017 O'Riley Auto Championship Custom Car Show will be held in the Convention Center, where close to 200 custom cars will be in exhibit.

The main Budweiser stage and three smaller stages will highlight music from different genres such as indie rock, country, alternative and Latin music.

Metal core band In This Moment and self-proclaimed "cinematic rock" artist Starset will perform at the Budweiser stage on Friday, June 23, alongside main headliners Papa Roach. The Vacaville, Calif., quartet will make its return to the Sun City

after their previous performance at the El Paso County Coliseum in 2013. Attendees can expect early 2000s anthems such as "Last Resort" and "Scars."

Saturday will showcase hard rock group Jackyl and heavy metal veterans Dokken. At night, heavy metal legend Alice Cooper will set up at the Budweiser stage.

Cooper's antics and theatrics are characteristic of his performances, which sometimes include guillotines and fake blood and snakes. Cooper will close the event with some of his most famous singles such as "Poison" from the album "Trash" (1989), and "School's Out" from the album "School's Out" (1972).

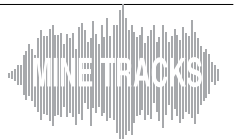
General admission starts at \$35 for everyone ages 13 and up. Children from 2-12 years old pay \$15 and those under the age of 2 can enter the event for free. The festival also offers front row and VIP tickets.

Attendees will not be allowed to return or get a refund once they leave the area.

All tickets can be purchased on ticketmaster.com or at the Plaza Theatre Box Office.

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Summer playlist: Editor's picks



Couches, beds, Netflix and insurmountable heat, all the elements for a great staycation in sunny El Paso. Here are the summer song picks from the editors at The Prospector.



VINCE STAPLES
"SUMMERTIME"

Adrian Broaddus -
Editor in Chief

This song truly depicts the summer as told by Vince Staples. "Summertime" is a dark, beautiful gem that will always remind me of the summer.



BEACH HOUSE
"MYTH"

Leslie Sariñana -
Copy Editor

This song is my go to summer song because it always plays in the background while I drive around during summer nights.



NEW MADRID
"SUMMER BELLES"

Eddie Velazquez -
Entertainment Editor

Last summer I had the chance to win a pair of tickets to their performance at the Lowbrow. This song is attached to memories of a great night.



THE BEACH BOYS
"SURFIN' U.S.A."

Mike Flores -
Sports Editor

This takes me to back to beaches of Los Angeles with my brothers when we were growing up.



METRONOMY
"THE LOOK"

Andres Martinez -
Multimedia Editor

This simple, yet energetic tune is the perfect personification of summertime because of the chill vibes it delivers once it is played.



PANIC AT THE DISCO
"THAT GREEN GENTLEMAN"

Alejandra Gonzalez -
Layout Editor

This song has an upbeat guitar rhythm and makes me think of the happy moments. The lyrics make you think about change.

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JUNE 20, 2017

SPORTS

EDITOR

MIKE FLORES, 747-7477

Sharp-shooter Magee brings depth



GABY VELASQUEZ / THE PROSPECTOR

San Antonio guard Kobe Magee was the first newcomer introduced to the media.

BY MIKE FLORES

The Prospector

UTEP basketball is set to introduce their six incoming freshmen for the 2017-18 season in the next couple of weeks. The first one to get the spotlight was the 6-foot-1, 150-pound point guard from San Antonio, Texas, Kobe Magee.

Magee was a four-year letter at Brandeis High School, where he finished as the school's all-time leading scorer with 1,876 career points scored. He recorded 334 career assists and won a total of 93 games during his time with BHS.

As a junior, Magee led the Broncos to a 31-2 record and helped lead his team to a top-10 ranking in all of Texas high school basketball. He put up 17.9 points per game, along with 2.4 helpers to his teammates, 3.6 rebounds per contest and recorded over one steal per game.

In Magee's spectacular senior season, where he averaged 19.2 points per game, 4.7 assists per contest, 3.9 rebounds per game and nailed a career-high 85 three-pointers on 36 percent from long range, the sharp-shooter was named the 2017 District 28-6A Offensive MVP and was an All-Region selection by the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches.

Before committing to play for the Miners, Magee received interest from other universities such as Long Island, LIU-Brooklyn, St. Francis, Sam Houston State and, his hometown, UTSA.

Magee stated that the Miners' head coach Tim Floyd was the main factor in picking UTEP to continue his playing days on the hardwood. The history of Floyd, in which he has coached at the NBA level and at other colleges, really lured in the San Antonio native.

"UTEP was the first school to offer me back when I was a freshman, and I feel like they saw something in me that I didn't even know what was in myself yet. They had confidence in me since I was in ninth grade," Magee said. "When I came for my first visit,

I already knew this is where I wanted to be."

The incoming freshman is positive his game can transfer over to the college level as he hopes to add something the Miners struggled with all of last season—the 3-point shot, for which UTEP found themselves in the bottom three in Conference USA in made long-range shots (180 total).

"I feel like the best thing I do offensively is my 3-point shot. I'm very confident from that range. I feel like I can shoot from anywhere," Magee said.

With UTEP's team-leading assist player Dominic Artis playing his final game with the Miners last season, UTEP had some big shoes to fill. However, not only does Magee bring the ability to connect on long-range shots, but he feels his passing touch can make the lives of his teammates easier.

"I describe myself as a pass-first point guard. I like to get my teammates involved. I feel like the most important thing as a point guard is getting your team the ball, getting your teammates going first before you get yourself going," Magee said. "I model my game after Chris Paul (Los Angeles Clippers point guard). I feel like he does a good job getting his bigs involved. He makes the right reads, comes off of screens, makes the right plays in transition and that's what I like to do."

One aspect that Magee wants to work on before the start of his first season in orange and blue is improving his strength and working in the weight room. He is seeking to get bigger and stronger, knowing that the transition from high school to college basketball is a huge leap.

With key returners for the Miners, like starting center Matt Willms and high-scoring guard Omega Harris, Magee is looking forward to working alongside with what UTEP has to offer on the roster already.

"We have a lot of great players on the team, and I feel like I can put them in the right position for them to be able to score easier," Magee said.

Magee will be engaged in a position battle with fellow freshman Evan Gilyard from Chicago when the season rolls around. Head coach Tim Floyd has hinted that he won't be hesitant to give big minutes to a freshman guard if it is necessary for the team's success.

"It's very important that coach Floyd has a lot of confidence in me and Evan (Gilyard), and a couple of others players as well. I think that just boosts my confidence as well, knowing that my coach has that confidence in me. It's going to make it a lot easier to play my game," Magee said.

With a slate of games coming up for UTEP basketball team earlier than usual, as they are set to compete in a Costa Rica tournament from Aug. 15-20, the freshmen on the team will get a chance to showcase their skills the months before the regular season kicks off in October.

"Preparing mentally starts here (practice). I feel like I'm ready right now. The Costa Rica tournament will be a good way to start the year off, as far as getting ready for the season," Magee said.

The incoming freshman is familiar with UTEP's rich history in the program.

"In eighth grade, coach Nevil Shed coached me because he had a couple of adopted sons that played with me. So I think it's cool to represent for them (1966 Miners), and I felt the tradition here and I felt like this is a basketball school. I think we can be good this year, too," Magee said.

Follow Mike Flores on Twitter @MikeyTheReal

A look inside the 2017 NBA draft

BY MIKE FLORES

The Prospector



The NBA Draft is set for June 22, and it is a time where teams can reload for another season.

Potential superstars, role players and busts are waiting for their name to be called. This also looks to be one of the more loaded draft classes on paper in the past couple of years. Here is my mock draft:

1. Philadelphia 76ers—Markelle Fultz (PG, Washington)

It's nearly a given that the 76ers are going to draft Markelle Fultz, after their trade with the Celtics. If any team is in desperate need of improving their backcourt play, it's the 76ers, and Fultz is the perfect fit for their needs. Fultz averaged 23.2 points per game, 5.9 assists per contest and is a reliable defender at 6-foot-4. The trio of upcoming players of Joel Embiid, Ben Simmons and maybe Fultz will be lethal for years to come.

2. Los Angeles Lakers—Lonzo Ball (PG, UCLA)

Both Lonzo and LaVar Ball may get their wish of being part of the Lakers organization. After one year at UCLA, Ball showed his potential by averaging the second-most assists in the nation (7.6 assists per game), scoring nearly 15 points per game and improving the Bruins' record to 31-5 this season, compared to a 15-17 record from the year before. At 6-foot-6, Ball has the ability to lead the charge for the Lakers on day one.

3. Boston Celtics—Josh Jackson (SF, Kansas)

The Celtics are one step away from being a true title contender—overcoming Cleveland's star LeBron James and his cast. Boston will draft Josh Jackson in an attempt to do so. Aside from that, Jackson is a nice asset. The 6-foot-8 player is explosive and extremely athletic and can be a secondary ball-handler and creator.

4. Phoenix Suns—De'Aaron Fox (PG, Kentucky)

The Suns love their share of guards, and Fox will fall into their laps at the fourth spot. He is a fiery defender with his lightning speed. In the NCAA tournament he put up 39 points against Lonzo Ball and held Ball to only 10 points showing he can step up to elite competition. Fox and Devin Booker could be a backcourt no one wants to see in the future.

5. Sacramento Kings—Jonathan Isaac (PF, FSU)

Sacramento needs any sort of star potential for the sake of their fans after they gave up Demarcus Cousins for Buddy Hield and whatever else was included in that lopsided trade. I feel that Isaac has as high of a ceiling as any player in the draft. Isaac is an elite rim protector at 6-foot-10 and has a solid 3-point shot too. He's what

every NBA team wants today, a stretch-four.

6. Orlando Magic—Jayson Tatum (SF, Duke)

The Magic could use a major upgrade at the small forward position—where they have Terrance Ross and Mario Hezonja filling that spot. Tatum could give Orlando a go-to scorer in a couple of years, due to his ability as a one-on-one scorer. That is something the Magic are in need of.

7. Minnesota Timberwolves—Malik Monk (SG, Kentucky)

The Timberwolves are geared up for the future with Anthony-Towns and Wiggins in town. However, they need stronger guards, and Monk can bring that to their team. Monk is deadly from long range—an asset Minnesota needs to fill since Ricky Rubio and Kris Dunn struggle from the 3-point line. Monk can score with the best too. He dropped the most points for a Kentucky freshman ever (47 points) against the defending champs, UNC.

8. New York Knicks—Frank Ntilikina (PG, France)

Frank is a 6-foot-5, 18 year old with all the possibilities to keep growing both in his game and in height possibly. He can guard multiple positions with his size. Plus, the Knicks' experiment with Derrick Rose hasn't worked out as planned, it would be a good time to groom a young, promising talent. His shooting ability can be a nice addition along side of Carmelo and Porzingis.

9. Dallas Mavericks—Lauri Markkanen (PF/C Arizona)

Next season is definitely Dirk Nowitzki's last season in the NBA, so what better way to replace a legend with a player like Markkanen, who plays just like Dirk? Lauri is a 7-footer who could shoot like a guard. He's a defender's worst nightmare. He could shoot over smaller defenders and blow by bigger, slower athletes. The pick-and-roll is something the former Wildcat thrives in.

10. Sacramento Kings—Dennis Smith Jr. (PG, NCST)

Since I have the Kings going with a big man in their earlier pick, I think they'll address their guard game with the 10th pick. Smith is freakishly athletic and showed versatility at NC State as he put up 20.1 points per game, 6.8 assists per game and 2.2 steals per contest. Plus, the reigning ACC Rookie of the Year can take contact while he's finishing at the rim.

Follow Mike Flores on Twitter @MikeyTheReal

Amusan battled her way to an NCAA crown

BY JEREMY CARRANCO

The Prospector

Tobi Amusan, runner-up in the 100-meter hurdles at the 2016 NCAA Track and Field Championships, found redemption in her second appearance in Eugene, Oregon.

The sophomore's personal-best time of 12.57 was just enough to earn her the NCAA title and revenge over defending champion Jasmine Camacho-Quinn of Kentucky with the time of 12.58.

"I didn't realize I was the national champion," Amusan said. "I am not very lucky when it comes to photo-finish results, so I felt like if this is a photo finish, which I know it was I was going to lose it."

Amusan became the first Miner to win the 100-meter hurdles event at the NCAA championships since Kim Turner in 1984. Her time of 12.57 is the fourth-best performance time in the event in collegiate history.

"Oregon-crazy. Weather-terrible, but I got over all the obstacles," Amusan said. "I felt terrible because I was not warmed up, my routine was one hour and 20 minutes, but I ended up doing over two hours and I still wasn't warmed up."

In 2016 as a freshman, the Nigerian native was named the 2016 C-USA Track Athlete of the Year while earning first-team All-American honors for outdoor and second-team All-American honors for indoor. Amusan took first-place in the 60-meter hurdles at the C-USA Championships with a personal-best time of 8.23 while leaping a season-best 5.84 meters (19-02) in the long jump.

In the 2016 Outdoor C-USA Championships, Amusan notched the fourth-fastest time in the nation in the 100-meter hurdles with a personal-best time of 12.83 at the time.

For her most recent efforts in the 2017 Outdoor NCAAs, Amusan was named as one of 10 semifinalists for The Bowerman Award by the U.S. Track and Field Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCCA). The Bowerman Award is the highest accolade given to the year's best student-athlete in American collegiate track and field.

On June 16, Amusan was also named the Conference-USA Female Track Athlete of the Year for the second time, due in large part to her spectacular all-around season. Amusan was no stranger to finishing first in invitational events this year. Her first-place finishes throughout the regular season include: the Jim Bush Invitational (100-meter dash), the UTEP invitational (200-meter dash and 100-meter hurdles), UTEP Springtime (100-meter hurdles), the Texas Relays (100-meter hurdles) and also at the Brutus Hamilton Invitational (long jump event).

"A lot of work goes into these things, and Tobi worked incredibly hard over these past two years. She absolutely deserves this award," said head coach Mike Laaksonen.

This indoor season, Amusan was the leading scorer for the Miners with 25 points at the C-USA Championships and set a meet record in the 60-meter hurdles with a time of 8.01. She placed sixth in the same event at the Indoor NCAA Championships.



COURTESY OF UTEP ATHLETICS

Sophomore hurdler Amusan wins NCAA title in 100-meter hurdles.

It was outdoors where Amusan truly became known. In the UTEP Springtime meet, Amusan set a school record at the time, with a mark of 12.63 in the 100-meter hurdles. She also earned her team 24.5 points at the C-USA Outdoor Championships, leading the women's team to their first-ever outdoor conference title.

Amusan credits her stellar 2017 sophomore season to changing the way she thought and went about

preparing for her races. It was to focus on herself and nothing else.

"As you grow, you must pursue some things differently," Amusan said. "Last season I was looking at everybody and that ultimately messed everything up, but this year I told myself I just wanted to focus on myself, I didn't care who was beside me, I just wanted to execute my race."

"Amusan is another special talent," Laaksonen said. "All the hard work she put in this season paid off."

While the season is over for the sophomore, time on the track is not. It had been just one week since bringing home her title on June 10, and Amusan was already back on the track in El Paso. It was a scorching 100-degree summer day at Kidd Field, but that did not stop the national champ.

"It doesn't end," Amusan said. "This is the toughest part, but we have more chances, more seasons coming. I got to keep going."

Follow Jeremy Carranco on Twitter @J_Carranco22

Miners introduce Chicago point guard Evan Gilyard



GABY VELASQUEZ / THE PROSPECTOR

Miners introduce Chicago's 3-star player, Evan Gilyard, to the media.

BY AUGIE TOURIS

The Prospector

Freshman Evan Gilyard arrived at UTEP this past week to begin workouts and preparation for the 2017-18 basketball season with the Miners.

The 5-foot-10, 160-pound point guard is from Chicago, Illinois and went to the talent-productive Simeon Career Academy.

Gilyard led the team to a 125-11 record throughout the course of his career and was named first team All-State and first team All-City. He helped lead his school to a 29-4 record in his senior season. The three-star prospect was honored MVP of the Pontiac Holiday

Christmas Tournament, as well as the Penny Hardaway National Hoop Fest in Dallas and Memphis.

A number of schools were seeking to add his talent to their roster such as Loyola (IL), Rhode Island, Southern Illinois, UAB, Illinois-Chicago and of course, UTEP.

The freshman point guard looks to contribute whatever is needed of him on the team and prides himself on being a good defender.

"As a player, I know it's important to play solid defense, and I know I can do that. I'm going to work hard and develop my areas that are the weakest," Gilyard said.

Notable graduates of Simeon Academy include NBA standouts

Jabari Parker and 2011 NBA MVP Derrick Rose. When Gilyard was asked what type of player he takes after, he noted Rose as an inspiration, but not a hero.

"Derrick Rose isn't my hero, but I do take certain aspects of my game from him. The guy I watch the most is Isaiah Thomas. We're both similar height and he's my inspiration when I'm on the court," Gilyard said. "You know; we play with the same tenacity. We score a lot. I just love the way Isaiah plays."

Coming from Chicago, the left-handed guard has a strong pride in the mentality of the city and the world around which he was raised.

"Competition was everything (in Chicago). It didn't matter who you were up against, and it was important to play against a higher skill level," Gilyard said.

In regards to his senior year, in which Gilyard exploded onto the scene averaging 17 points a game, with four rebounds, six assists and three steals, Gilyard remained humble.

"Though we fell short of state, I had a great experience. I worked hard to hone my craft and improve, and we had a very good year," Gilyard said.

Throughout his senior year, Gilyard produced the most impressive statistics. The Chicago native posted two triple-doubles on two occasions, in a quest that resulted in a runner-up for the Illinois state championship.

He decided on UTEP after careful consideration—although his coach seemed to know where he would play college ball.

"My coach said, you're going to commit to UTEP," Gilyard said (after initially being offered). "I didn't think much of it, but it turns out he was correct."

In regards to support from his family and friends, Gilyard said that they've been his biggest supporters in his decision.

"My close family has really been supportive of my choice to come here. They had my back no matter what, but this is a choice that everyone is happy with," Gilyard said.

The Miners normally don't begin their season until October, but Gilyard will have a chance to show his abilities in August during UTEP's Costa Rica tournament from Aug. 15-20.

The freshmen looked shifty during the pre-press conference workout and looks to help spark a Miners' team that showed a lot of promise during stretches of the 2016-17 season.

"I'm going to work hard and develop my areas that are the weakest."

- Incoming freshman, Evan Gilyard.

Gilyard will join a strong team, with Matt Wilms and Omega Harris leading the charge in the upcoming season.

"I feel good about my game. I'm confident, but I'm going to work to be the best. I'm looking forward to playing with those guys (Wilms and Harris) and contributing to the team in whatever way is needed," Gilyard said.

Follow Augie Touris on Twitter @Atouris85