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FOOTBALL ISSUE

ASSAYER OF STUDENT OPINION

THE PROSPECTOR

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VOL. 103, NO. 2

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO

SEPTEMBER 5, 2017

UTEP FOOTBALL IS CELEBRATING 100 YEARS

BY ADRIAN BROADDUS

The Prospector

The overwhelming smell of hot dogs being cooked on a charcoal grill fills the UTEP grounds with a delightful smell, the echoing sound of the drumline front bouncing through the walls of the school leading up to the stadium means exactly one thing—football season is back.

For most who make their way to the Sun Bowl for any given Saturday morning football game, UTEP football feels like a true Texas tradition, unique in its own way.

The stadium is hugged by a mountainous surrounding, with stands that allow cheers to literally recoil off its natural surroundings, making the noise almost deafening when it gets loud.

As they embark on their 100th year in program's existence, the UTEP football (0-1) team will take on Rice on Saturday, Sept. 9.

For senior guard Derek Elmendorff, this matchup means more than just a game or a win.

This game means his return to not only the gridiron, but also the starting job as a guard.

"It's always exciting, first home game. It's a little more personal for me now—being benched and coming back," he said. "I haven't felt that jittery—that, 'okay, I'm starting' feeling in the Sun Bowl for about two years now. It'll be a little fresh for me, but once the first play is over, you're a football player and it's time to battle."

Battling is something he learned to do during the 2017 off-season. After his impressive freshman campaign, where he made the All-Conference list, Elmendorff did not see the playing time he hoped for during his sophomore and junior campaigns.

In fact, he often had to watch from the sideline as his good friend and partner on the line, standout guard Will Hernandez would play and improve throughout the two seasons.

"Coming in, Will Hernandez and I were starting our freshman year. I had some personal

problems and my junior year I was injured, messed up my back, which led to some weight gain," he said. "When I came back, I still had that weight gain, so I was benched. You can't pout. Coaching up the younger guys and going into my senior season, I thought I couldn't go out this way."

So with the help of Hernandez, he fought through the adversity and planned to lose the weight. Both of them picked up boxing for cardio exercises and it helped Elmendorff move around better. He claimed to have gotten back to the level he once was as a freshman.

And it was all because of his love for one thing—football.

"Derek Elmendorff is (a player who has improved the most)," said head coach Sean Kugler. "He wasn't giving us the production that we needed and he kind of made a life's choice that he was going to change his body, he was going to change his mentality, and instead of going the other way and blaming everybody else he blamed himself. He had a great camp so I'm looking forward to him starting. I'm proud of that kid for where he has taken his career. He took it by the horns and did it himself."

Elmendorff grew up from humble beginnings in El Paso, where he understood how truly difficult it was to make it big in the sport of football and the work he needed to put in in order to exceed in the sport.

At Franklin High School, he was able to step foot and play on the UTEP turf annually when his team would take on Coronado and played at the Sun Bowl.

"I would always look up and say 'wow, this is going to be my future.' I was so excited," he said.

Gifted with a massive size for a high school lineman and an inclination to work hard at the sport, he was recruited by the Miners to play for them at the colligate level—something he always wanted.

"You know how they say in Texas football is considered a religion? It's that sort of

see FOOTBALL on page 6

DESIGN BY ALEANDRA GONZÁLEZ / THE PROSPECTOR



CHECK OUT THE WEEKLY PROSPY PODCAST ON SOUNDCLOUD

Girls love fantasy football too

BY ELENIE GONZÁLEZ
The Prospect



Fall is just around the corner, and for many, it means a variety of things. While some are anxiously waiting for Halloween or the return of the pumpkin spice latte, others like myself are ready for the NFL to officially kick off.

Not that I don't enjoy watching college football or even high school football, but I have always preferred the NFL. It was just the way my father raised me.

For years now, I have heard talk about fantasy sports and fantasy football in particular. I would hear about it while watching Sports Center or read about it on social media, and of course, all the guys around me would rave about how well their team was doing or talk about a trade they wanted to make. But I never quite understood what was so fascinating about a made-up team. That is, until I decided to give it a try.

Now I am hooked. This will be my fifth year playing fantasy football and it is not because I wanted to "be like the guys." I'm a girl who loves football, and now I'm a girl who loves fantasy football too. And I'm not the only one who has said the same thing, my friends also have the same sentiment.

My first year playing fantasy football I participated in two leagues, one of which was an established league filled with seasoned vets. This inspired me to create an all-female league, so I recruited several of my football-loving female friends, some of which had already played before. The all-female league was a success and it's still going strong.

Learning how to play fantasy football and creating my own fantasy team has made watching football that much better, and it was much easier to learn how to play than I initially thought.

Why do I love it so much? It gave me a deeper understanding about the game itself. It also gave me the chance to really learn about players as individuals, not as just another player on a team.

Before I started playing, I would only pay attention to my favorite team, the Dallas Cowboys, and what was happening inside the organization. But now I pay attention to teams and players I didn't care about before.

I used to only watch games when the Cowboys were playing, but now I make sure to watch other games as well, and not just those on Sunday and Monday nights.

It takes dedication if you want to make sure your fantasy team does well, so it's fun to watch several games and check how well your team is doing

throughout game day to assure you put out your best lineup for the week.

Another cool aspect of playing fantasy football is the fun and creative team names players come up with. Pop culture usually has a big influence on the names, and players like to incorporate it with figurative language. One of my favorites last year was "Better Call Jamaal," an homage to the hit AMC show "Better Call Saul." The name Jamaal is in reference to Jamaal Charles, who played for the Kansas City Chiefs last year and is now with the Denver Broncos.

ESPN, a popular site used to play, has a policy that bans players whose team names are vulgar.

One of my favorite fantasy football events I look forward to each year are the draft parties, where food and drinks are plentiful. Not every league has a party, but it is something that helps build excitement among the players for football season.

Money is also what draws people to play fantasy football as large prizes are frequently up for grabs. Most leagues have buy-ins that range from small amounts of \$20 to as much as \$100 to join. Depending on the rules set by each league, the winner may take all, or the winnings can be split. Fortunately, I have won some money in my few years of playing.

Prizes also include trophies given to the winner. I've seen leagues use a variety of trophies from plaques to rings to wrestling belts.

Sometimes leagues also like to punish the worst player of the year.

So far, I have continued my streak of going to the championship each year in my all-female league, although I have never won the big prize. I haven't had as much luck in other leagues, but I take pride in my team having made it to the playoffs, so luckily no punishment for me. Some might call it beginner's luck, but each year I continue to learn how to be a better player and build my legacy.

This year I was invited to join a well-established league by a friend who wanted a girl to participate in the friendly competition. Of course, I said yes—I never turn down a challenge.

It is possible they may just want someone they believe is easy to beat, but I'll suppose otherwise.

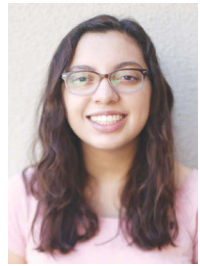
I'm not going to lie though, that made me feel pretty good about my capabilities, and I'm confident in my ability to go all the way to the top this year. My teams are set and I am anxious for week one to begin.

If you're playing this year, all I have to say is, may the best man or woman win.

Follow Elenie Gonzalez on Twitter @elaniego

100 years, but where are the women?

BY LESLIE SARIÑANA
The Prospect



As we celebrate 100 years of UTEP football we take the time to recognize all of the men who have played in orange and blue over the program's history. Not once throughout this celebration will you hear about women.

Football is a male-driven sport with no visible traces of women—even all of the marketing involved for the games is geared toward men. It's important to highlight the women who have defied stereotypes and joined men on the field and on the sidelines.

There are plenty of women who have performed great feats in football, yet they're unheard of. Sports media targets a specific audience and doesn't do a good job at making these announcements as widely public as they do when male players achieve smaller feats.

High school is where we've seen more females playing on football teams than on any other level.

Last year there were 1,964 girls playing football, the second-highest mark ever recorded and more than double the number of participants from seven years ago.

This is according to data from the National Federation of State High School Associations, which takes data from U.S. high schools with an 11-player football team.

This year, Del Valle High School in El Paso brought on Love Tovar as the team's placekicker. This isn't even the first female in El Paso to play on a team. In recent years, other El Paso high school football teams have also added female kickers to their roster with Bailey Dickerson (El Paso High) and Brandy Rosales (Socorro).

Across the country, girls in high school football are breaking records left and right.

Savana Melton has been a varsity kicker for her 7A school in North Little Rock, Arkansas, her sophomore through senior years. In that time, she stacked accolades in her division most guys in football would dream of having. She was the second-highest scorer in 2015 (56 points) and 2016 (89 points).

Melton is also the first girl to play and score in a 7A state championship game, first female to be selected to All Arkansas Preps and Arkansas Varsity football teams and the first female to

play and score in a state championship game (2016). Melton has accomplished all of this before even graduating high school. With her graduation date set in 2018, Melton still has one more high school football season to go and there's no doubt she'll do great.

Another player to note is Brooke Liebsch. She became her school's first female quarterback in 2015. She went on to become the first female to make it to the U.S. National Development Games in Arlington, Texas, last year. This year, at only 16 years old, she registered with the Women's Football Alliance and picked up the title of rookie starting quarterback for the KC Titans women's team. In her first year playing she managed to take her team to the first round of the playoffs, not something many can say.

College football is more competitive than high school football, but that doesn't mean its lacked female involvement.

This year we've seen Rebecca Longo, the first woman to ever win a football scholarship to an NCAA school at the Division II level, begin her season as placekicker for Adams State University. Longo was also the first woman to sign a letter of intent for college football.

One of the most notable women in college football is Katie Hnida. She has one of the lengthiest resumes for college football. She's achieved the records of being the second woman to dress for a Division I-A game, and the first for a bowl game (1999 w/ University of Colorado-Boulder) and first woman to score in an NCAA Division I-A game, college football's highest level. Hnida accomplished this last feat as the placekicker for University of New Mexico in 2003, and she also went on to have a semi-professional career as the first woman to play indoor football in a non-women's league.

Another first to play and score in an NCAA football game was Ashley Martin. She however, played for a Division I school. Martin was the placekicker for Jacksonville State University in 2001. She is also one of only three female players to score in any college football game.

In 2014, Shelby Osborne became the first female to play a non-kicking position at a four-year college. She was cornerback at an NAIA school, Campbellsville University.

The list doesn't end there. These women have garnered very successful collegiate careers, but we have yet to see a significant change in gender equality in the sport.

There is no rule in the NFL that suggests that women can't try out for the NFL. The official rule states: All human beings are eligible, as long as they are three years out of high school and have a usable football skill set. Even with its "inclusion" rule, women have never played football professionally.

This does not, however, mean that there is no other place for women in the NFL. In fact, there are a handful of female coaches in the NFL.

Kathryn Smith made history back in 2015 as the first full-time female coach in the league. In 2015 she became the first female to have a full-time position in NFL history. Kathryn Smith was named the Bills' quality control-special teams coach.

Before her, Jen Welter was the first-ever female assistant coach to be brought on to the league. Welter was the first woman in NFL history to coach. She coached during the training camp as assistant coach for the Arizona Cardinals as well as during the 2015 preseason.

Colette Smith was hired under the Jets' first female coach to work with defensive backs. She worked as a coach during training camp this summer, working with first-rounder Jamal Adams, defensive back Morris Claireborne, Calvin Pryor, before he was traded to the Browns, and rookie Marcus Maye.

Earlier this month, the 49ers also added a female coach for the regular season, Katie Sowers. Sowers is the second full-time assistant coach in the NFL, and the first coach to be openly gay. A true pioneer for not just women, but for anyone who identifies as LGBTQ. She is set to be with the 49ers throughout the entire 2017 season as offensive assistant working with wide receivers.

Previous to working with the 49ers, she was a scouting intern with the Falcons, where she met, now 49ers head coach, Kyle Shanahan.

All of these women have fought to be at the forefront of a predominantly male sport and deserve just as much credit, if not more. I hope that by the time we celebrate another century of UTEP football we will have evolved and included women on the field.

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answer at theprospectordaily.com

This week's poll question:
Do you think a woman will ever play in the NFL?

TUES

WED

THUR

FRI

SAT

SUN

MON

High 91
Low 66

High 86
Low 65

High 85
Low 62

High 86
Low 71

High 88
Low 73

High 89
Low 72

High 88
Low 74

Mostly Sunny

Mostly Sunny

Partly Cloudy

Partly Cloudy

Partly Cloudy

Partly Cloudy

Partly Cloudy

10% Chance
for Rain

10% Chance
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20% Chance
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for Rain

Kyle Hanson

Nichole Gomez

Doppler
Dave
Speelman

Iris Lopez

StormTRACK

WEATHER

OUR VIEW

A look back at 100 years of football

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FILE PHOTOS/ THE PROSPECTOR
1. The Miners football record in 1946 was 3-6, ranking 92nd of 120 teams across the nation. 2. In 1967, the Miners won the Sun Bowl 14-7 against Ole Miss. 3. Linebacker Seth Joyner in August 1985 afternoon workout. 4. Lineman -Sean Kugler signs autographs for Australian fans after the game on Dec. 7, 1985 against the Wyoming Cowboys. 5. One of the line ups that faced Border Conference teams in 1946. 6. The Miner bench watches a play unfold during action on November 2, 1985 against UNM. 7. During the 1985 season, the Miners were among the worst team in the country with a 1-10 record. However, they defeated no.7 ranked BYU 23-16 in a huge upset win. 8. A sell-out crowd of 52,085 was the second-largest crowd at a UTEP football game on October 21, 2000.

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Civil Rights lawsuits in schools on the rise

BY CHRISTIAN VASQUEZ

The Prospector

Civil rights lawsuits against schools and universities have doubled in the last four years, and four out of 10 of these have to do with students with disabilities.

Transactional Records Access Clearinghouse (TRAC), a data collection and analysis organization based out of Syracuse University highlighted the trend in a recent report.

Stephanie Paz, a junior psychology major, is from the Tigua tribe of the Ysleta del Sur Pueblo, and has worked or been involved in the behavioral health field since she was 13 years old. She said her experience working within the reservation in mental health programs was different when compared to the Texas school districts she attended.

"I'd say as of right now it's really, really good when it comes to their programming, it's very involved when it comes to adjusting to those issues, as for the state board of education, don't think that there is enough of that," Paz said. "We make our own kind of guidelines and because we're representing one minority, as opposed to public schools, where it's not just native, but you have you have Hispanics, you have African-Americans, you have a bunch of ethnic groups."

Paz said that it is easier for tribes such as the Tiguas to choose how their funding is used, as opposed to Texas schools that have limits on how their funding is spent. She said that student organizations and departments at UTEP should be working to highlight these issues.

Constance Wannamaker, a supervising attorney who specializes in special education, said this report coincides with her

own experience representing parents of students in El Paso.

"Unfortunately, I just think that there are more violations, and funding has become tighter for schools districts," Wannamaker said. "You know it costs money and resources to provide these services and I think we've seen some backsliding of school districts to work with kids to integrate to mainstream general education setting, and we've seen more siloing of kids into segregated settings, which is easier for them to do."

"We see a lot of cases where kids are being segregated into self-contained classrooms, and not being given access to non-disabled peers to the maximum extent appropriate, so we fight a lot of those cases."

- Constance Wannamaker
supervisor attorney
specializing in education

Wannamaker is an attorney for Disability Rights Texas, an organization dedicated to advocating and representing people or parents of individuals with disabilities in Texas in court.

According to TRAC, if the trend continues for the rest of this year, civil rights cases involving education will reach the largest number recorded since courts started tracking these cases in 2011.

"It's typically individuals with cognitive impairments and mental illness," Wannamaker said about the cases she sees in El Paso.

Wannamaker also said tighter budgets are likely the reason the violations have increased, although she was unsure whether schools are doing all they can with the budgets they currently have.

"All across the board, we need to provide more funding across the state for special education," said state Senator Jose Rodriguez when asked about the state of Texas schools. "We need to be on guard to not allow any more policies—like the one I struck down with a bill that education agencies implemented, setting a limit at 8.5 percent of students that can be admitted to special (education) programs, keeping a lot of students that needed it out of those programs."

The Texas Education Agency had a longstanding policy, since 2004, to keep the number of children who receive special education services to 8.5 percent, according to an investigation by the Houston Chronicle.

The bill Senator Rodriguez is referring to is SB160, which would prohibit the TEA from "adapting or implementing a performance indicator in any monitoring system...that evaluates the total number of enrolled students or the overall percentage of the total number of enrolled students who receive special education services."

The bill passed through the last legislative session and took effect Sept. 1.

The policy has left thousands of special needs children out of special education, leaving Texas with the lowest percentage of students receiving proper education in the nation. In 2014, the national average for enrollment was 13.5 percent, in Texas, the number dropped to 8.5 percent.

El Paso Independent School District enrolled 10 percent in special education in 2015-2016, according to their enrollment statistics. YISD enrolled 11.8 percent, Socorro ISD enrolled 8.4 percent and Canutillo ISD enrolled 9.1 percent, according to 2016 STAAR data.

But for those who are enrolled, they still might not be getting the individual attention they need.

"We see a lot of cases where kids are being segregated into self-contained classrooms, and not being given access to non-disabled peers to the maximum extent appropriate, so we fight a lot of those cases," Wannamaker said. "We are seeing a decent amount of seclusion where the students are being placed by themselves or perhaps with one teacher, or not even a teacher but an aid and that's their educational placement. That's a big problem because first off they don't really have access to a certified special education teacher and then being provided with really any services because an aid isn't really a teacher."

Wannamaker said there are no requirements to be an aid other than to pass a background test and have a high school diploma.

Around half of the cases Wannamaker takes involve transition services, which are services schools are re-

quired to provide to individuals with disabilities with the necessary skills to move on from high school into college, community college or wherever they wish to go.

"School districts are frequently trying to push kids out when they are 18, saying that they've attained all of their goals, when in fact they may not have any skills, they may not be prepared for college, they may not be prepared to get a job," Wannamaker said. "So what we have to do is go in and make the school district do additional assessments and provide additional services."

Districts are required by law to make individual assessments to special needs students and provide transition services until they are 22.

In the West Texas federal judicial district, which includes El Paso County, Austin, and San Antonio, civil rights lawsuits involving school is at a rate of one per 1.4 per million residents.

The West Texas district was ranked the 13th highest in the nation, with South New York as No. 1, New Jersey as No. 2, and the District of Columbia at No. 3.

Most of the remaining suits, 32 percent, did not specify the alleged violation, and 12.1 percent dealt with sex discrimination.

To see the full report, visit trac.syr.edu.

✉ Christian Vasquez may be reached at theprospectordaily.news@gmail.com.

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UTEP grad excels in the law field at Harvard



SPECIAL TO THE PROSPECTOR
UTEP graduate Perla Alvelais is one of seven LSPI students to get accepted into Harvard Law.

BY RENE DELGADILLO
The Prospector

Each year a pile of more than 5,000 applications for Harvard Law School, containing top GPAs and extensive resumes, are rejected. That was not the case of UTEP graduate Perla Alvelais. “I opened my email and the first thing on my inbox read ‘Welcome to Harvard Law School’

on the subject line,” said Alvelais, who is currently attending Harvard Law School. “I got up from my desk and just walked around the office with a hand to my mouth so as not to scream from the excitement, I wasn’t sure what to do or who to call. I was just in awe. About 30 minutes later, I got back to my senses and called my family and friends.”

According to Law School Numbers, a free law school information database, Harvard Law School has an 18 percent acceptance rate. Despite this low number, Alvelais was determined to get into the school of her dreams. “Harvard’s academic reputation and extraordinary alumni had always been very impressive to me, and I wanted to be around that. I wanted to be where the decisions were being made, where intellect was being created,” Alvelais said. She earned her business administration bachelor’s degree in economics from UTEP in May of 2016. She participated in the University’s Law School Preparation Institute and was a member of the university’s Honors Program. The LSPI program has had six students attend Harvard Law School from 1998 to 2013. Alvelais is the seventh in the program’s history. The El Paso Young Lawyers Association (EPLYA) announced that she also earned the group’s 2017 Cori A. Harbour Award as the Outstanding Pre-Law Student. “All the work and sacrifices had been worth it, and now I was about to begin a new chapter, a new project,” she said. As an immigrant student from Ciudad Juárez, Alvelais had to overcome many obstacles to achieve her dreams. “I knew my limitations and sometimes felt at a disadvantage for them,” Alvelais said. “Reading complex legal writing sometimes took me longer than it took others because English is not my native language and I

was confronted with many unfamiliar words and concepts. However, I made the decision to be proactive about my ‘weaknesses.’” Alvelais said that she was able to reach her goals thanks to the support of her family and professors. “I hope that they see this as a small attempt to pay back everything they have done for me,” she said. “I will also be the first lawyer in my family, so I am sure they are also hoping I’ll fight their traffic tickets.” During her time at UTEP, Alvelais interned at EMPOWER, a program that diverts juveniles with serious mental illness from the juvenile justice system, instead the program links the youth to treatment plans they need. Clinical associate professor Lisa Soto, who supervised the work of Alvelais, said the skills and willingness that her student showed made her a unique intern. “Perla commanded respect and showed respect and compassion in her handling of the parties and their very difficult situations by being well prepared, thinking quickly on her feet and exercising excellent judgment,” Soto said. “By the time she left for Harvard, one could have easily mistaken her for a judge.” Alvelais’s dedication to EMPOWER allowed her to be moved up in the program and trusted with new responsibilities. “She went from a position of working with youth and families to avoid further penetration into the criminal justice system to presiding over compliance hearings in

this deferred prosecution program for first-time youth offenders with serious mental illness,” Soto said. After her first week as a Harvard student, Alvelais said this will be a tough road where her abilities and knowledge will be challenged. “Some days you feel great and empowered, and later you are in a place where you completely doubt yourself and your abilities,” Alvelais said. “This past week has been an incredibly enriching experience. I have been challenged to think outside my parameters, to engage in difficult conversations with diverse students, and to apply all the good habits and skills I learned during my time in college.” Alvelais said that after she graduates from Harvard, she wants to make a difference in the El Paso and Juárez community. “My focus is on doing my best to represent my community as a law student at Harvard. I am particularly interested in International Human Rights Law,” Alvelais said. “I hope that interest will one day become a career through which I can support a better life for my paisanos, both in the U.S. and in Mexico.”

Follow Rene Delgadillo on Twitter @rdelgadillonews

men's basketball to test depth

UTEP men's basketball will compete in the Charleston Classic against Wake Forest.

Wake Forest will be awaiting the Miners on Nov. 17 at 11:30 a.m. Mountain Time, and the winner will likely go head-to-head with the defending champions, the Villanova Wildcats. If they lose, the Miners will likely play Western Michigan on Friday, Nov. 18.

UTEP head coach Tim Floyd will have his hands full with the Demon Deacons as they are in the loaded ACC Conference with five schools ranked in the top-25. Wake Forest is a team that college basketball has to offer, and they are used to sustained success in their history. The Miners' depth and success will be tested throughout the season.

However, last year was a clear disappointment for the Demon Deacons as they went 11-20 (2-16 ACC). Now, their roster is battle-tested from their strength of schedule from the year before.

Head coach of Wake Forest, Danny Manning, has made some key additions to the program and is coming into his third season as head coach. Some of their downfalls from the year before will not be present when the Miners tip-off against Manning's new-look team.

"I think they (WFU) have made great, great strides with their personnel. I had the opportunity to watch them last week. Their experience factor is growing, they are big, strong, physical. They have two 7-footers and size on their front line," said Alvelais. "It's a great opportunity to see them in their rearview mirror, Wake Forest has welcomed the new season with two wins in two tries. They are looking to build on their success against Bucknell, 94-74. They have two returning players, the most important being their guard Bryant Cray named to the All-ACC for his 2015-2016 outstanding performance in collegiate basketball with 18.5 points per game, 4.4 assists, 1.5 steals a night, while leading the team in WFU's games.

Floyd has been waiting to figure out a way to win against the Demon Deacons, and his team is going up against them. "Wake Forest is a team that I've been waiting to see make any silly mistakes, going to be a great team," said Alvelais. On the bright side, WFU is just getting started with their athletes on the roster. The total of seven players on the squad, and even forward Devin Thomas, will be tested throughout the season.

Wake Forest will be awaiting the Miners on Nov. 17 at 11:30 a.m. Mountain Time, and the winner will likely go head-to-head with the defending champions, the Villanova Wildcats. If they lose, the Miners will likely play Western Michigan on Friday, Nov. 18.

UTEP head coach Tim Floyd will have his hands full with the Demon Deacons as they are in the loaded ACC Conference with five schools ranked in the top-25. Wake Forest is a team that college basketball has to offer, and they are used to sustained success in their history. The Miners' depth and success will be tested throughout the season.

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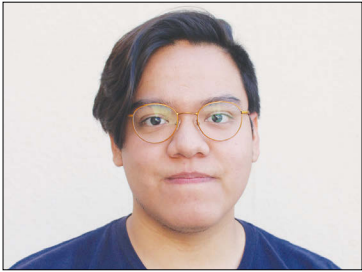
GET THE SCORE WITH

THE PROSPECTOR

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

What is your favorite part about football season?

CLAUDIA HERNANDEZ, NINA TITOVETS / THE PROSPECTOR



AARON SANTILLANES
Senior computer science major
“I am not really interested in football season.”



ALYTZEL CASAS
Freshman biochemistry major
“I like the hype that it brings. It gets everyone excited and allows people to show their UTEP pride.”



DAVID BARAY
Freshman mathematics major
“I love the energy it brings to the students and faculty. It brings people together.”



ASHLEY MARTINEZ
Freshman biology major
“The fact that it brings us all together as Miners. We get to celebrate our school, show our pride and watch our team play.”



ENRIQUE RANGEL
Junior music major
“I really like the tailgates and all the people you get to meet at the games.”



JESSICA MOORE
Sophomore music major
“I really like the spirit it brings to the school and the marching band.”



JACOBO REYES
Freshman microbiology major
“My favorite thing would have to be the way everyone at school comes together and all the events.”



RACHEL ARREOLA
Senior theater arts major
“As being part of the Miner Ambassador program, my favorite part about football season are the tailgates we have with the Alumni Association.”



JOSHUA FLORES
Freshman computer science engineering major
“The hype and how everyone gets together and watch the game.”



THELMA LUJAN
Junior forensic science major
“How families get together and watch the game.”

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FOOTBALL from page 1

thing with me,” he said. “Growing up around here in Texas football is big, but coming to the games here and seeing the Jordan Palmer’s, the Johnny-Lee Higgins’, the Thomas Howard’s, when they were ranked and the entire stadium was rockin’—that’s what we’re trying to bring back here. That atmosphere, we experienced that—Aaron and Alvin (Jones), all the El Paso kids who are playing here know how it is and we want to get back there.”

In its 100 years of existence, one might not find the program’s history to be filled with a colorful count of prominent history. The school’s all-time record rests at 385–564–28 (.408) with a bowl record of 5–9.

In fact, the Miners have not won a bowl game in 50 years (1967).

Yet, Elmendorff commends the fans’ loyalty, despite the wins and losses.

“The fans in general are true loyal fans and always here,” he said. “I’ve played in this stadium when there’s 40,000 and when there’s about 17,000, and every time it is so loud. We get help from the mountains and everything is booming back. This stadium gets rockin’.”

However, the game itself takes a back seat for some at UTEP. Alan Perez, a sophomore marketing major, said his favorite part about football season coming back is the tailgates.

“Tailgating is easily the best part because it joins everyone together to have a great time,” he said. “Nothing beats hanging out with friends and having a great time before the game.”


This year, the UTEP Alumni Association and Miner Athletic Club is offering fan-wide tailgates before each game this season.

For \$8 per game, students are offered a ticket to the tailgate, which includes a catered meal, two beverages, music and prizes. The tailgate parties start at Kidd Field three hours prior to kick off and does not include a game ticket.

To purchase tailgate party tickets, one may buy them in person at the Peter & Margaret de Wetter Center (Alumni Lodge), Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. or by phone at 915-747-8600. A valid ID is required for entry.


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No tapar 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.

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




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Miners to host Borderland Invitational this weekend



GABY VELASQUEZ / THE PROSPECTOR

The Miners will play three games in three days starting with Samford on Friday..

BY JEREMY CARRANCO

The Prospector

The UTEP women’s volleyball team (1-5) will host their second-straight weekend tournament starting on Friday, Sept. 8, against Samford University at the Borderland Invitational.

In the Glory Road Invitational this past weekend, the Miners went 1-2. UTEP earned their first win of the season in the second game of the invitational and the first game of a doubleheader on Saturday, Sept. 2, against Youngstown State (3-2). The Miners were shutout 3-0 in both the

first match against New Mexico on Friday and final match (second of doubleheader) against North Dakota on Saturday.

“For hosting this weekend and next weekend there are few tweaks in our schedule, which is nice because we get to sleep in our own beds and take care of things a lot easier than when we travel and have to plan ahead,” said head coach Holley Watts after the conclusion of the first tournament. “We learned a lot about our team this weekend, it was a great weekend because we pushed ourselves and battled, we just need to limit the runs we allow.”

Early in this young season the Miners have had trouble with using their momentum to push them in the win column. In their last match against North Dakota, UTEP got off to solid starts in the first two sets, but could not carry it throughout the set.

In the third set, UTEP rallied from a 12-3 deficit to eventually come within a point of forcing a fourth set at 24-21, but could not get another point and ended up losing 26-24.

“Typically, defense and blocking spark rallies,” Watts said. “In this case, I think the rallies were off our serving, we were serving really tough and it made defense a little easier, we just didn’t carry it through to the end.”

Senior setting captain, Amanda King, tweaked her ankle in the match against New Mexico on Friday and did not play in Saturday’s doubleheader. She is expected to return to the floor this weekend for the Borderland Invitational.

Freshman Sahara Martinez did a nice job of filling in for King on Saturday, proving she can be a success behind the team’s captain. Martinez handed out a combined 74 assists—47 against Youngstown State and 27 against North Dakota—in Saturday’s split.

“Sahara definitely stepped up when Amanda went down on Friday with a rolled ankle,” sophomore Macey Austin said. “She took control of the game, she was confident in herself, she was smart and she worked with the hitters to get as many points as possible.”

While a setter can put the ball in the best spot, the size of the opponent can sometimes disrupt even the most perfect setup.

“We are going to build off what we didn’t do this past weekend, which was finishing strong.”

- Macey Austin
Sophomore outside hitter

The Miners have five players that are 6-foot plus, while the Fighting Hawks (North Dakota) had double that amount with 10 players that were 6 feet or taller. This was certainly an issue in the loss for UTEP.

“They are a big team (North Dakota) and very good at blocking,” Austin said. “You have to work around that and pay attention to where they are, it was a good learning experience to play a team like that because when we get to conference or face other teams that are really big, we’ll have experience to work around that.”

The Miners will face a similar team as North Dakota in relation to their size when they play Abilene Christian (1-5) in Sunday’s finale (Sept. 10) of the Borderland Invitational. The Wildcats have seven players that stand six-feet or higher.

“This weekend we had really good serving and passing, so we want to definitely carry that over,” Austin said. “We are going to build off what we didn’t do this past weekend, which was finishing strong, while also building around bigger blocks in case the teams we play are bigger.”

Meanwhile, on Saturday, Sept. 9, the Miners will face Delaware State (0-3) as they search for their first win of the season.

The Miners first opponent this weekend is Samford. The Bulldogs (3-3) have won back-to-back games against Fairfield (3-2) and Loyola.

Last season, UTEP met Samford and the Bulldogs won the match 3-1. Watts is hoping this season’s match-up will yield a different result.

“We played Samford last year and we went to four with them,” Watts said. “It was a well-played game for us on both sides, but we still lost.”

The Miners I-10 rival, New Mexico State, is a part of the Borderland Invitational as well, but will not play in El Paso. The Aggies are the tournament’s second host and will host the same three teams the Miners do, but at the Pan American Center in Las Cruces.

The Aggies play Abilene Christian and Delaware State on Friday, Sept. 8, and play Samford on Saturday, Sept. 9. The Miners do not play the Aggies in the tournament because the two will face each other in Las Cruces on Sept. 19.

Follow Jeremy Carranco on Twitter @J_Carranco22

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Why Stull was good for UTEP athletics

BY MIKE FLORES
The Prospector



UTEP Athletic Director Bob Stull announced his retirement on Thursday, Aug. 31, after holding the position for 18 years. It's no secret that he has left his mark with the UTEP athletic program forever. From coach to athletic director, he did it all. Under Stull, UTEP won 29 conference championships in seven sports. The football team was a complete joke before Stull arrived and he did what he could to renew the sorry program. Track and field and cross country accounted for 19 conference championships under Stull. Just about everyone in the country knows what a force those two programs have been and still are. Just last year, UTEP produced the two national champions in Emmanuel Korir and Tobi Amusan. No one can overlook that. Before Stull, UTEP football had only been to one bowl game in 30 years. But in only 18 years as athletic director, Stull guided the football program to five bowl games, and not to mention, UTEP has also exported talent to the NFL along the way. Also, Stull did his part when it comes to hiring the right coaches for every sports program to succeed and find their highest potentials. During the Stull era, UTEP had a conference coach of the year in men's basketball, women's basketball, cross country, football, men's golf, women's golf, track and field and volleyball. When UTEP football won their first WAC championship, they had Gary Nord leading the charge—and he was a finalist for the National Coach of the Year. Nord was not the only spectacular hiring for football, however. Another National Coach of the Year finalist at UTEP, Mike Price—who led the Miners to two consecutive eight-win seasons in 2004 and 2005—was another grab for Stull to breathe life into the Miners and the fans. Stull pioneered growth in women's basketball with the hiring of Keitha Adams, who coached the Miners from 2001 to 2017.

She turned out to be Stull's best hire in his 18-year tenure as AD. Many upset and delusional UTEP sports fans want coaches gone after a couple of seasons that don't go as expected. For instance, last season posters of "Fire Tim Floyd" were in sight during many of the games. Stull was criticized by many on how far he lets his coaches leashes go when it comes to pulling the trigger on firing, but what Adams showed is that growing a program takes time and if people are patient enough, good will come out with time. Turnover ratio in coaching is a bad look. It makes the job less desirable once a coach is let go too soon, as they are not given the chance to reach their goals because their job is always on the line. Under Adams, UTEP was a three-time C-USA champion (2008, 2012 and 2016) and she guided the Miners to win the 2012 C-USA tournament. UTEP experienced four chances to play in the postseason under Adams (two in NCAA tournament, two in WNIT). When Adams decided to coach back home at Wichita State, Stull went right back to work, and he hired Kevin Baker. Stull also didn't want to leave the tennis program in the rut, so he hired Ivan Fernandez, who has an impressive resume that speaks for itself. Stull knew that it wasn't all about sports all the time. He knew that some things in life are bigger than sports, such as student-athletes' education. When Stull first arrived, the football team only had one academic advisor, something no other team had at that point. He knew things needed to change, and they needed to badly. That's when the Miner Athletic Academic Center was built. It grew to 8,000 square feet after it was built at 3,000 square feet. Now every team has their own tutors and advisors, in large part, thanks to Stull. Graduation rates are at 80 percent now for student-athletes. Over 600 student-athletes have graduated from the university since the Miners moved to Conference USA from the WAC in 2005. In 2016, 154 Miners made the C-USA Commissioner's Academic Honor Roll with grade point averages of 3.0 or above, which was a school record for UTEP. Now athletes at UTEP have more to look forward in life after sports, thanks to Stull.

The Miner Athletic Academic Center wasn't the only thing Stull wanted built. Stull saw that UTEP's athletic facilities needed much improvement when he took over at AD. He helped many facilities come to life in his tenure, such as the Larry K. Durham Sports Center, the Foster Stevens Basketball Center and the Helen of Troy Softball Complex. And the best thing—Stull isn't done quite yet. He plans on leaving UTEP and their community one more gift before he heads out, and that is to lay down the foundation and expand the Sun Bowl with a facelift. Attendance and fan involvement has never been better at UTEP since Stull. In his first year as AD, Stull produced a 500 percent increase in product sales. Miner Nation was introduced to fans, ticket prices were adjusted for the better for fans and UTEP has since been a force in attendance numbers in the conference. UTEP has ranked in the top three in attendance in both football and basketball nearly every season. Stull accomplished so much in 18 years, and he did it without violating any rules. He also did it in a mid-major college, which is something most overlook. When he took over as AD, UTEP was on NCAA probation for 10 years. Since Stull, UTEP has stayed clear of any mess. Stull was inducted into the El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame and El Paso Business Hall of Fame. Stull was named El Pasoan of the Year and Sportsman of the Year in 2000 and 2001 by El Paso Inc. In 2006, Stull was named Sports Administrator of the Year by El Paso Inc. People tend to be greedy and only appreciate nice things once they're gone, maybe Stull will finally be appreciated for everything he accomplished. He certainly deserves it.

Follow Mike Flores on Twitter @MikeyTheReal

Why Stull needed to go

BY JASON GREEN
The Prospector



When one walks around the UTEP campus, it would be hard to miss Athletic Director Bob Stull's fingerprints – for better or worse. Stull announced his retirement last week and it has been a long time coming. The fingerprints of the former football coach are everywhere on campus. The man is a great fundraiser, nobody can deny that. Let's start with a walk to the Larry K. Durham Center. The 65,000-square foot building is the crown jewel of football recruiting at UTEP. There is no doubt that this is the first stop that recruits are taken to when they visit campus. The sprawling complex of weight rooms and coaches' offices was tacked onto the side of the Sun Bowl in 2002 and is thanks in large part to Stull and his masterful selling of the university to the boosters. This is a large—often thankless—part of an AD's job. Now, walk into the Sun Bowl connected to that beautiful complex and what are you going to see? Well, if it's a game day, chances are you're going to see a loss. Unfortunately, that's the other part of being an athletic director at a Division 1 school that has been lost on Bob Stull, especially as of late. Your ultimate goal is to win athletic events. There was the Gary Nord era in the Sun Bowl, which ended with a 14-34 record. Then, lucky for everyone, Mike Price left his credit card in a strip club in Pensacola, Florida, and fell into Stull's lap (pun intended). People love to think of the Mike Price era as the "good ol' days." But, were they? Price's record overall was 48-61. No conference championships. Three bowl games. No wins. And then there's the Kugler era. But, while we're on the subject of no conference championships. Let's continue our walk and head over to the Don Haskins center. We'll get to Tim Floyd in a little while. Let's start with Bob Stull's first big hire. Soon after Stull took over, the great Don Haskins retired and Stull had to find a replacement. Jason Rabedeaux

was hired and went 46-46 in his three years in "The Bear's" shadow. Following Rabedeaux's departure, Stull showed his eye for talent by hiring young coaches who would go on to produce great results at other schools in Billy Gillispie (30-32 in two years) and Doc Sadler (48-18 in two years). Then came Tony Barbee who went 82-52 in four years, and we're all caught up to Tim Floyd. Much in the Mike Price vein of stumbling into Stull's office, Floyd came to UTEP via a scandal at the University of Southern California, where he was coaching and resigned, claiming that he could no longer "offer the level of enthusiasm to my duties that is deserved." Well, welcome to UTEP! Floyd's tenure at UTEP has been fraught with player's leaving the school early, recruits who did not show up at all and Floyd lashing out at the media on occasion. Floyd has amassed a 135-81 record at the school in seven seasons and like Price has never won a conference championship. The team has also never been to an NCAA Tournament. Last season, the "Fire Floyd" signs began to permeate the Don Haskins Center as the team finished with their second 15-17 record of Floyd's tenure. I highlight these programs because they are the major money-making programs at UTEP. All of the other programs depend on them in order to operate. Granted, track and cross country bring in their share of national championships. But, let's be honest, that legacy began long before Stull was around. The other sports who depend on football and basketball for income are just as unsuccessful as they are. Volleyball, soccer, golf, tennis and others fail to reach national prominence yearly and honestly do not seem to be a priority. Thank you, Bob Stull, for the excellent facilities and for getting what few powerful boosters we have involved. Thank you also for noticing that, perhaps, you are a little too close to the situation with Tim Floyd and that it is time for someone else to make a decision there. You definitely have set UTEP up well for the future. But, it's time to put some winners on the field. On all of the fields.

Follow Jason Green on Twitter @greenevansj

INBRIEF
SOCCER GRABS FIRST WIN AT IDAHO STATE

The UTEP soccer team (1-5) won their first match of the season this past Sunday in double-overtime at Idaho State. The Miners are back at home this Friday at 7 p.m. to play Incarnate Word and Sunday at noon against Stephen F. Austin.

CHIHUAHUAS CLINCH DIVISION AGAIN

The El Paso Chihuahuas won their third straight PCL Pacific Southern Division title this past Sunday night after defeating Sacramento 7-3. The Chihuahuas will take on the Reno Aces starting this Wednesday at Reno, Nevada, in game one of the in the Pacific Conference Championship series. Game three will be in El Paso on Friday, Sept. 8.

CROSS COUNTRY RETURNS TO SUN CITY

The UTEP cross country team will host their annual Lori Fitzgerald Invitational in an all-day event on September 8. The Miners opened the 2017 season on Sept. 2, in Albuquerque at the Lobo Invitational.

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The Prospector Picks: 2017-18 football

2017 Football Predictions	Jeremy	Mike	Adrian	Eddie	Jason
NCAA FBS					
UTEP record:	4-8 (3-5 C-USA)	2-10 (2-6 C-USA)	3-9 (2-6 C-USA)	3-9 (2-6 C-USA)	2-10 (2-6 C-USA)
UTEP player of the year:	Alvin Jones (MLB)	Will Hernandez (OG)	Will Hernandez (OG)	Will Hernandez (OG)	Tyler Batson (WR)
UTEP vs. NMSU (Sept. 23)	UTEP	NMSU	NMSU	UTEP	NMSU
Metz passing yards:	1,800	2,200	1,900	2,000	1,900
Power Five					
AAC Champion:	South Florida	South Florida	Houston	South Florida	Houston
ACC Champion:	Florida State	Clemson	Clemson	Florida State	Florida State
Big 12 Champion:	Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Oklahoma
Big Ten Champion:	Wisconsin	Ohio State	Penn State	Penn State	Michigan
PAC-12 Champion:	USC	USC	Stanford	Washington	Washington State
SEC Champion:	Alabama	Alabama	Auburn	Alabama	Alabama
Most Improved team:	Michigan State	Notre Dame	Kansas State	UCLA	Washington State
National Champion:	Alabama	Ohio State	Oklahoma	Alabama	Alabama
Heisman Trophy:	Sam Darnold (USC)	Baker Mayfield (OU)	Saquon Barkley (PSU)	Saquon Barkley (PSU)	J.T. Barrett (Ohio St.)
NFL					
AFC North:	Steelers	Steelers	Steelers	Steelers	Steelers
AFC South:	Titans	Titans	Texans	Titans	Titans
AFC East:	Patriots	Patriots	Patriots	Patriots	Patriots
AFC West:	Raiders	Raiders	Broncos	Chiefs	Chargers
NFC North:	Packers	Packers	Packers	Packers	Packers
NFC South:	Falcons	Buccaneers	Falcons	Panthers	Saints
NFC East:	Cowboys	Giants	Cowboys	Giants	Giants
NFC West:	Cardinals	Seahawks	Seahawks	Seahawks	Cardinals
AFC Champion:	Patriots	Steelers	Patriots	Patriots	Patriots
NFC Champion:	Packers	Giants	Seahawks	Seahawks	Packers
Super Bowl Champion:	Packers	Steelers	Patriots	Patriots	Patriots
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EDITOR
EDDIE VELAZQUEZ , 747-7477

Best bars in town to watch football

1

King's X


The biggest Pittsburgh Steelers fan bar is on Mesa Street. King's X is for the many die-hard Steelers fans that El Paso holds. Happy hour is every day from 4 to 7 p.m. and Monday nights are football nights at King's X.



2

Tortuga


Tortuga Sports Lounge is a Denver Broncos fan club on the Westside, located at 126 Shadow Mountain Drive. Sunday nights are also karaoke nights there, and they're usually enhanced if the Broncos come out victorious.



3

Brass Monkey


Happy Hour on Saturdays and Sundays is from noon to 7 p.m. Brass Monkey, located in the Cincinnati area, does it all; it's dog-friendly, has candles on the weekdays and has great nightlife on the weekends. Brass Monkey is located in the Cincinnati area and also has over 24 draft beers to select.



4

Tanya's Gridiron


Home of the NFL Sunday Ticket, Tanya's on Dyer Street, is a must for football fans in Northeast El Paso. Famous for their bloody beers and Martinis, Tanya's also offers new brews every week, along with 40 different imported beers.



5

Yvan's Offsides


With no bad seat in the house, Offsides is everything a sports fan wants. Located on North Piedras, it has great service and makes you feel at home while you watch your favorite team on television. Offsides is one of the most visited and famous sports bars in El Paso. They have a private room ready for reservation.

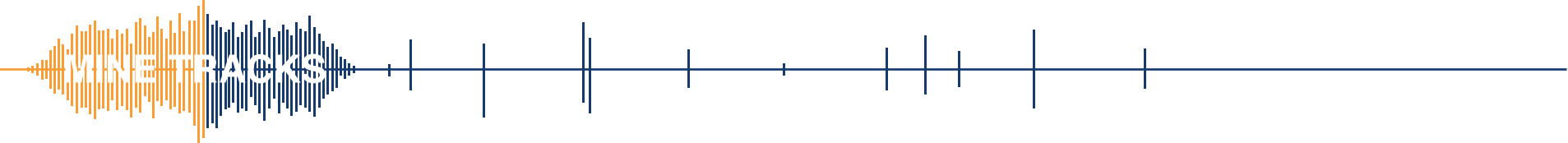


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Royal Wings

Noted to have some of the best wings in the city, Royal Wings, on North Mesa Street could be the place to go to satisfy both hunger and sports watching. The food is a can't miss at Royal Wings. Catch the games and some drinks along the way.





LCD Soundsystem stays alive with the release of 'American Dream'



SPECIAL TO THE PROSPECTOR

BY MICHAELA ROMÁN
The Prospector

Coming back from a seven-year hiatus, LCD Soundsystem is back on the grid. Familiar synths, repetitive beats and references to the past mark their nostalgic return.

In 2011, the band capitalized on a farewell tour that culminated with the release of their documentary "Shut Up and Play the Hits." The documentary immortalized

the band's alleged last show. Then at the start of 2016, LCD fans were stoked to hear the band was returning to the stage when Coachella announced their headliners.

"American Dream" marks the group's fourth studio album. Frontman James Murphy's sharp and forthright lyrics are at the forefront of the album, but ultimately he plays the music safe.

"Oh baby, you're having a bad dream here in my arms/Oh sugar, you came to me," Murphy swoons on the opening track. The song is a reference to new wave band Suicide's song "Dream Baby Dream." It's both a commemoration of the life of frontman Alan Vega, who recently died in July, and a reflection of Murphy's inner thoughts.

The album takes a familiar turn with "Other Voices," reminding fans of the band's instrumental roots complemented with an upbeat bassline. It's the first and one of the only danceable songs on this

album. The song builds to the lyrics "you're still a pushover for passionate people." It features Nancy Wang and is about innocence in trusting the world and how easily you can fall into reality.

"I Used To" comes in with a harder beat and is about grief from the past and still "trying to wake up" and let go of the situation as a whole.

In this year alone, LCD has played 12 shows at the Brooklyn Steel venue in Brooklyn, NY, and will play 10 more shows at the venue in December. "Change yr Mind" is one of the songs they first played at Steel, giving fans a tease of the album. It's the shortest track on the album, with guitar riffs that mangle around the consistent beat. It's one of the least exciting and most forgettable tracks on the album.

Drums kick in strong with "How Do You Sleep?" The nine-minute song is layered with a wall of sound that builds the entire way through into sharp synths and vocals. The

track is suspected to be about the deterioration of Murphy's relationship with DFA Records co-founder Tim Goldsworthy.

Perhaps the most exciting and electric track, "Tonight," strongly reflects the band's former songs with its '80s feel in its sound and the style of the music video. It's a stress-releasing song that promotes living in the moment rather than wasting time thinking about FOMO (fear of missing out).

Fans have already made themselves familiar with "Call the Police," since its early release in May. This catchy and more uplifting track has quite a few political undertones. "When oh, we all start arguing about the history of the Jews/ You got nothing left to lose/Give me the blues," makes reference to current political times and the white nationalist uprising in America.

The beat then gallops into the title track, "American Dream," which focuses on the agony the songwriter

finds in aging. This track is the story of a man waking up from a one night stand, and contemplating his age and his life and if the American dream is even truly attainable.

The album finishes with its longest track, "Black Screen." The song is a 12-minute closer that highlights the simplistic power of a piano melody throughout the last five minutes. The track lets out the last breath of the album, leaving a somewhat open-ending feeling.

Overall, "American Dream" perpetuates LCD's sound. The album is no "This is Happening," or "Sound of Silver," but it is successful in proving that LCD Soundsystem are consistently ahead of their time, as well as paying an homage to their past. Similar to their previous albums, it's likely their current material will resonate and be appreciated for years to come.

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The Prospector

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