

2-6-2018

The Prospector, February 6, 2018

UTEP Student Publications

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

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

Comments:

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

Recommended Citation

UTEP Student Publications, "The Prospector, February 6, 2018" (2018). *The Prospector*. 306.
<https://digitalcommons.utep.edu/prospector/306>

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

THE PROSPECTOR

WWW.THEPROSPECTORDAILY.COM

VOL. 103, NO. 18

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO

FEBRUARY 6, 2018

REMOVING THE STIGMA



SPECIAL TO THE PROSPECTOR

UTEP receives grant to improve mental health in the Southwest

BY CHRISTIAN VASQUEZ

The Prospector

UTEP received a \$1.1 million grant to create a supporting organization for mental health professionals and students around the area.

The center, called Empower Change: The Paso del Norte Center for Mental and Emotional Well-being, will provide a wide array of services to citizens of Southern New Mexico, El Paso and Ciudad Juárez.

The Paso Del Norte Health Foundation donated the grant to UTEP in September 2017.

“We need to serve the mental health needs of the people of the region and we also need to provide opportunities for students who are from here and aspire to those careers,” said John Weibe, psychology professor, vice provost and principle investigator of the project.

Because mental health encompasses everything from prison rehabilitation and education to where to find services if someone does not have insurance, the center includes a wide array of personnel to address these issues.

“Our goal is to strategically support and increase regional

coordination when it comes to mental health and emotional well-being,” Weibe said. “We do things as mundane as organize meetings and make sure we got room space available for people to come together around a table, then there are slightly more complex tasks that involve background research on issues that leaders are interested in.”

This can include anything from arranging meetings for an organization interested in mental health, to creating the first interactive directory in El Paso that lists all mental health services, to reducing the stigma about mental health at UTEP.

The directory will be published within the coming months, and will list everything from services for people without insurance and aids to help people reenter society from the corrections center to an overall updated list of all the services in El Paso.

“Our hope is that this would become something that is very widely used across the region, by not only front-line care professionals who want to help people, but also consumers themselves, clients—patients who need services,” Weibe said.

Leon Armstrong, a senior psychology major, is a student worker at the center.

“You can see on campus that there is people already breaking the (mental health) stigma and doing that, so our plan is to unify them,” he said.

“You can see on campus that there is people already breaking the (mental health) stigma and doing that, so our plan is to unify them.”

- Leon Armstrong, senior psychology major

Armstrong said that the center has already held a meeting for UTEP organizations for future events.

Armstrong also said that working at the center has changed how he views the importance of research.

“This organization showed me that it’s not just research, you can use the research for something good, and so that’s what I want to do,” Armstrong said. “I can also do not just psychology but social work.”

One of the initiatives, Think Change, is trying to reduce the social stigma of mental illnesses through contact, education and to a lesser extent, protests.

“We want to let people know that you can have a mental illness, but you can get help for that and you can live a life like any other,” Armstrong said. “I think a lot of students are not just aware of the services they can get.”

The center is also a way for students to get a real world look at how they can use their skills once they graduate. One of the aims of the center is to get students in front of legislators to talk about their respective fields so politicians can have a firmer grasp on the issues that affect citizens when it comes to mental health.

Research also plays a big role in the center’s objectives. A

central goal is to provide data and research support that helps those who are in decision-making positions to make those tough calls.

“You might imagine that the leaders of many of these groups are very busy people, they are leaders in their own organizations, with 40-hour-a-week jobs, so they don’t necessarily have a lot of time to be researching these sorts of collective impact goals, and that’s one area where the center comes in,” Weibe said.

The center also wants to create a communication hub.

“It’s about building a social media network, to build a sense of regional unity, common purpose around mental health and emotional well-being, to serve as an information resource for the region on those issues,” Weibe said. “We want to connect to people.”

Armstrong said that the center uses a diverse range of professionals that compliment each other.

“I think that’s the best thing in this organization, the diversity of people working,” Armstrong said. “Each discipline has shortcomings, so no one discipline can provide that help.”

Follow Christian Vasquez on twitter at @chrismvasq



Krispy Kreme El Paso

\$6.99 any dozen with UTEP ID



Krispy Kreme Mesa
7640 North Mesa St
El Paso, TX 79912
915-581-3200

Krispy Kreme Dyer
9040 B Dyer St
El Paso, TX 79904
915-613-0044

Krispy Kreme Gateway
11915 Gateway Blvd. West
El Paso, TX 79936
915-595-2200



4843

One dozen per transaction. Offer valid through March 1, 2018. The offer: Buy any one Krispy Kreme dozen for \$6.99. No copies or substitutions. Offer valid at all three El Paso Krispy Kreme locations.

FEBRUARY 6, 2018

OPINION

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

MICHAELA ROMÁN, 747-7446

UTEP's 2018 signing day

BY ADRIAN BROADDUS
The Prospector



For new head coach Dana Dimel, Wednesday's (Feb. 7) signing day could be about restructuring the program for positions that need depth and new bodies to fill

holes on the roster.

Joining the team so late into recruiting season—late December to be exact—a lot of doubt was coming about where this coaching staff would recruit and the quality of players they could get. Bottom line, no one expected much.

In turn, Dimel and his established coaching staff recruited, traveled, and recruited non-stop for over a month. They ventured all over Texas, hitting big cities such as Austin, Houston and Dallas. They also traveled through California, Oklahoma, Kansas and Arizona as well.

And each time they completed one of their missions on recruitment trips, they would announce it via social media.

From quarterbacks to receivers to defense weapons, the program is notching their final commits as this recruiting season comes to an end. What is certain though, is this will be the most star-filled recruiting class UTEP has seen to date. Only time will tell if Dimel's staff made good decisions with their recruits.

Below are the recruits who have been announced so far and what they can bring to the table:

Kai Locksley – QB – Iowa Western C.C. (JUCO)

This is hands down the best name on the list of recruits for the Miners. It's still mesmerizing how an 0-12 program that is already so late into the recruiting season lands the JUCO offensive player of the year in Kai Locksley. He is the No. 4 overall dual-threat quarterback in the nation, according to 24/7 Sports, and was a three-star quarterback out of high school.

Locksley started his collegiate career under Charlie Strong at Texas, but when he was told he would be moved to the receiver spot, Locksley decided to leave the team for Iowa Western Community College to play at the JUCO level and eventually come back to the Division I ranks. With his team, Locksley threw for 20 touchdown passes and ran for 20 touchdowns.

What makes him so special is his dual-threat attack. He's able to throw the ball through the air well, scramble outside the pocket and most importantly, score. Last season, the Miners flip-flopped through quarterbacks Ryan Metz, Zack Greenlee and Mark Torrez in attempts to find their true quarterback. With this steal at quarterback in Locksley, it's likely that Dimel found his new guy for the gunslinger spot.

One thing to note, however, is UTEP hasn't really seen the likes of

a dual-action quarterback like Locksley, with the closest being Jamiel Showers in 2014 under former coach Sean Kugler. It will be interesting to see the offense they develop around Locksley and how it will differ from UTEP's previous offenses.

One thing's for sure though, they're not going to be afraid of running the ball.

Justin Garrett – WR – Cerritos College, CA (JUCO)

Another big name comes with receiver Justin Garrett out of JUCO affiliate Cerritos College. The 6-foot-0 wideout could see action on the field as early as next year, especially with the Miners graduating receivers such as Tyler Batson.

Garrett is a three-star recruit and ranked the No. 17 overall receiver out of California, according to 24/7 Sports. What's good about this addition is his height and age for the JUCO level. At only 19-years-old, Garrett has the opportunity to have three years under the UTEP program to develop into a sharp target.

Josh Caldwell – CB – Cerritos College, CA (JUCO)

Teammate of fellow commit Garrett, Josh Caldwell plans to join the Miners come signing day and could be a necessary addition to the Miners' secondary. According to 24/7 Sports, Caldwell is a two-star cornerback and ranks No. 35 in California for his position.

At 6-foot-1, Caldwell is the size that the Miners want defending the pass. He might be the only defensive back of this recruiting class to hit the field as early as this year, being that the Miners have a nice secondary with the likes of Justin Rogers, Kalon Beverly, Nik Needham and Kahani Smith returning next year.

Justin Prince – Safety – Long Beach City College, CA (JUCO)

Standing at 5-foot-11, safety Justin Prince has a lot of room to grow during his career with the Miners. Out of high school, he weighed less than 180 pounds, and now he's a built, 195-pound secondary specialist, who can come in as a utility man or even replace any secondary in the coming season.

Oscar Draguicevich – Punter – Temple College (JUCO)

UTEP will be getting the punter it needs with Oscar Draguicevich from Temple College. During the Kugler era, the recruiting's focus never was on punters or kickers. Now it's a big relief that there will be a punter joining this team.

Last year, UTEP punter Alan Luna booted program-record numbers with his rugby style of punts. Similarly, Draguicevich has good punting talents, receiving interest from teams like Eastern Carolina, USF, Texas Tech and UTSA. UTEP might not know it now, but this man was a steal.

Read more at the prospectordaily.com.

Follow Jason Green on Twitter @Adrian_Broaddus

THE PROSPECTOR

WWW.THEPROSPECTORDAILY.COM



UTEP Prospector



@UTEP_Prosector

KEEP UP WITH US
ON SOCIAL MEDIA



Prospectordaily



@UTEP_Prosector

Student groups respond to Trump's SOTU

President Donald Trump gave his first State of the Union address to Congress on Tuesday, Jan. 29. He focused on the economy, infrastructure, immigration, trade and national security. The Prospector reached out to student groups for a response. The following are their opinions about the speech:

Academic Revival of Indigenous Studies and Education (ARISE)

"Many of our members support immigrants and his words very much were abusive and misleading to the situation and problems. We all support environmentally friendly practices and his push to deregulate businesses and support industries like coal and car construction only contribute to our global environmental crisis. On a more personal note related to our interest to educate people about Indigenous people, he completely white-washed the origins of America by not acknowledging the Native people that existed in the on the continent and instead calls it a 'vast wilderness' that the Europeans used to 'chart their destiny.' The promotion of an empty frontier completely ignores and erases our history."

College Republicans at UTEP

"Four of our members attended a viewing party yesterday at the GOP headquarters. Overall, we agreed that the speech was uplifting and are happy to get this new angle from Trump. As an organization, we are excited to see what this new year brings, especially with all the hints at more changes from the federal level. Throughout the speech he mentioned progress his administration has done in a year such as tax cuts, the continual depletion of ISIS territory, the largest deregulation campaign in U.S. history, historic unemployment lows and the return of manufacturing in America, to name a few."

Sonando Juntos

"Sonando Juntos stands against any legislation that puts our families in danger and our communities at risk. At a time when hate and exclusion embodies the soul of the Republican base, we call on Democratic leaders to not only 'defend dreamers,' but to also have the grit to stand up to white supremacist policymakers that seek to destroy the essence of America—a country founded by immigrants.

"Tonight's State of the Union was nothing short of disappointing and offensive to immigrants, people of color, and all groups fighting the forces of oppression. As expected, Trump engaged in dangerous, racist and xenophobic rhetoric that undermined the basic dignity all humans deserve.

"Lastly, it is imperative for us to reiterate—we stand against any permanent fix that ends family reunifications. Let us not forget that our parents are the original dreamers. We will continue to fight until all 12 million undocumented persons are protected and all lives are liberated."

University Democrats

"The University Democrats acknowledge and commend President Trump for fulfilling his duties as president of the United States by delivering his State of the Union speech. However, our nation continues down a dark path of uncertainty, several things have become clear in his SOTU. Our president does not seek unity amongst our elected officials, nor does he seek the wellbeing of those that struggle to create the American dream. President Trump continues to show a lack of leadership needed to exemplify the office of the President of the United States of America. The University Democrats will continue to push forward in restoring the values of democracy, not only in the El Paso area but in cities all over the United States of America."

NOW ON SOUND CLOUD

The Prospector Daily
The Prospector Sports Weekly Podcast - Signing Day and UTEP RB Joshua Fields

19:34 31:34

Write a comment

Like Repost Share More

On this week's episode of the Prospector Sports Weekly Podcast, the sports writers join sophomore running back Joshua Fields. They also discuss National Signing Day, which is Wednesday, Feb. 7, and talk about the different commits to the UTEP football team.

ACCURACY WATCH

The Prospector is committed to the accuracy. If you think we have made an error of fact, e-mail the editor at michaelairoman@gmail.com

SPEAK YOUR MIND

Submit a letter to the editor!

Letters will be edited for clarity and brevity. Letters over 250 words are subject to editing to fit available space. Please include full name, street address and telephone number and e-mail address, plus major, classification and/or title if applicable.

Address and phone number will be used for verification only.

Write to 105 E. Union, e-mail theprosectordaily.news@gmail.com, call 747-7477 or fax to 747-8031.

THE PROSPECTOR STAFF VOL. 103, NO. 18

Editor-in-Chief: Michaela Román
Web Editor: Christian Vasquez
Layout Editor: Alejandra Gonzalez
Copy Editor: Adrian Broaddus
Sports Editor: Jeremy Carranco
Entertainment Editor: Claudia Flores
Photo Editor: Gaby Velasquez
Multimedia Editor: Rene Delgadillo
Staff Reporters: Mike Flores, Elenie Gonzalez, Daniel Mendez
Photographers: Claudia Hernandez, Sergio Muñoz
Contributors: Brianna Chavez, Jason Green

Ad Account Executive: Kenneth Bell
Ad Layout Manager: Jacobo De La Rosa
Ad Designer: Itzel Lara Garcia
Graphic Design Intern: Salma Lozoya
Advertising Coordinator: Malia Greene
Accounting Assistant: Ashley Muñoz
Administrative Secretary: Marcela Luna
Accounting Specialist: Isabel Castillo
Asst. Director-Advertising: Veronica Gonzalez
Student Publications Director: Kathleen Flores

The Prospector is published by the Student Media and Publications Board, 105 Union East, 500 W. University Ave. El Paso, Texas, 79968. The Prospector appears in print once per week on Tuesdays during the fall, spring, and summer semesters. The newspaper is not printed during holidays and when classes are not in session. The Prospector does provide news online at www.theprosectordaily.com.

The Prospector is provided to students through student fees. First copy is free. Any additional copies, if available, must be purchased for \$1 through the Department of Student Media and Publications. The Prospector is not responsible for claims made by advertisers. Additional policy information may be obtained by calling The Prospector at 915-747-5161. Opinions expressed in The Prospector are not necessarily those of the university.



TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON
High 75 Low 43	High 65 Low 37	High 67 Low 39	High 70 Low 41	High 68 Low 45	High 62 Low 40	High 65 Low 41
Mostly Sunny 0% Chance for Rain	Mostly Sunny 0% Chance for Rain	Sunny 0% Chance for Rain	Sunny/Breezy 0% Chance for Rain	Sunny/Windy 0% Chance for Rain	Mostly Sunny 0% Chance for Rain	Mostly Sunny 0% Chance for Rain

Topgolf finishes first weekend in El Paso with games, food and golfing



PHOTOGRAPHER / THE PROSPECTOR

Topgolf is located on Vin Rambla Drive and has been open since Friday, Feb. 2.

BY PAULETTE VILLA

The Prospector

The internationally recognized sports and entertainment center Topgolf opened its first location in El Paso on Friday, Feb. 2, just in time for the Super Bowl and Valentine's Day.

Unlike regular golf courses or driving ranges, Topgolf brands the sport as "a game for everyone," regardless of their age and skill set.

Topgolf offers academies for kids and adults, individually or in a group, which are lessons taught by certified instructors from the Professional Golfers' Association.

According to Topgolf's fact sheet, 51 percent of Topgolf guests are non-golfers, and their biggest demograph-

ic, at 54 percent, are those between the ages of 18 to 34. There are seven varieties of games, each with a different set of rules and difficulty.

Overall, the games consist of hitting microchipped golf balls—which analyze the speed and distance of each hit—into one of the 10 different circled targets on the 645-square-foot field. A screen displays the scores of each player based on the ball's distance and where it landed. The further the ball reaches and the closer to the target, the higher the score will be.

Samuel Horstman, a 26-year-old marketing manager of Topgolf, said people can visit Topgolf with a group of friends, on a date or even alone.

"You don't have to play the game Topgolf, you can just come eat at the restaurant, have a good drink, watch our HD TVs and play other free games," Horstman said.

The games include pool, shuffleboard and foosball and the restaurant includes a wide selection of drinks, breakfast, lunch, dinner and kids' meals.

The idea for Topgolf began in 2000 by the Jolliffe brothers, who sought a way to practice golf with a precise analysis of their skills. After developing the proper technology, they decided to share their work with the public by opening three entertainment centers in the U.K. On 2005, Topgolf opened its first U.S. location, in Alexandria, Virginia.

The closest Topgolf to El Paso is in Tucson, Ariz., around 235 miles away. Now, El Paso's Topgolf is located on the west side of town, at 365 Vin Rambla Drive, which can be easily accessed via S. Mesa Hills and driving to the end of Suncrest Drive.

El Paso's Topgolf is the 41st opened in the world, the 10th in Texas and the first one on the U.S.-Mexico border.

"The great thing about El Paso, out of other venues, is that we are so close to the mountains," Horstman said. "From the restaurant and the stairs you can see three states and two countries—it's very beautiful."

Besides the great views, the 65,000-square-foot venue consists of three levels, a rooftop terrace, a sports gift shop, over 200 HD TVs, Wi-Fi and 102 bays with Topgolf's latest technology.

Heather Campbell, a 28-year-old hospitality manager and bay host, moved to El Paso six months ago from Southern California. Her biggest impression of El Paso is the radical temperature changes of the desert.

"That's actually a great thing about this Topgolf, it can work with different weather situations with the climate-controlled bays," Campbell said.

Campbell is one of the 500 employees on staff and management, who were hired back in November of 2017. They were trained in Arizona for several months to work full and part-time jobs at El Paso's Topgolf.

"We came back here to unpack everything, got everything suitable,"

Campbell said. "(They) kind of wanted us to have everything set up in our own way, which was cool."

The prices are based on hourly rates per bay, which include a table for six and golf equipment. Guests can bring their own golf clubs and book online for additional guests, such as for company events, fundraisers, birthday parties and more.

The prices are \$25 per hour from 9 a.m. to noon, \$35 from noon to 5 p.m., and \$45 from 5 p.m. to closing, which is at midnight from Sunday through Thursday and at 2 a.m. on Friday and Saturday.

"If you were to come with yourself and five other people (six total) and you split that up, that would be less than \$10 per person," Horstman said. "You can eat and drink in the bay, do whatever you want, is really fun to enjoy a great atmosphere, whether you want to come alone or with your friends."

Topgolf also offers discounts for people who are in the military (active and veterans), EMS, police and fire-fighting personnel.

"We are expecting a lot of guests, definitely we are a very popular company, and I think is going to be a really great thing for the community of El Paso," Campbell said.

For additional information, visit: <https://topgolf.com/us/el-paso/>

✉ Paulette Villa may be reached at theprospectordaily.ent@gmail.com.

Question of the Week: How do you deal with stress or anxiety?

CLAUDIA HERNANDEZ, SERGIO MUÑOZ / THE PROSPECTOR



ANDREW DIAZ

Sophomore mechanical engineering major

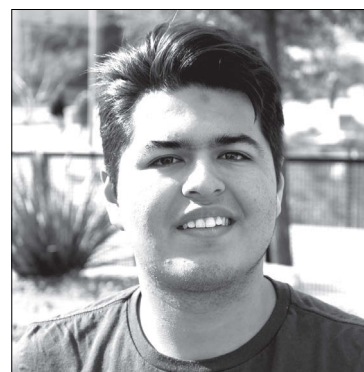
"I just think that it really has to do with talking to other people, especially with my loved ones, friends and family. A lot of people with anxiety just keep it to themselves."



RUBY GONZALEZ

Freshman psychology major

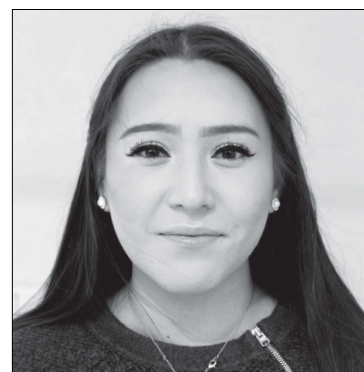
"I believe in Jesus, so I try to do things that involve him, like reading the bible to keep my mind off of things."



MARIO MUÑOZ

Freshman electrical engineering major

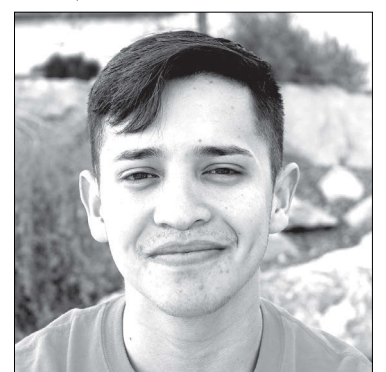
"Most of the times I sit somewhere quiet, where there's nothing going on and nothing to worry about."



KARLA HUERTA

Sophomore education major

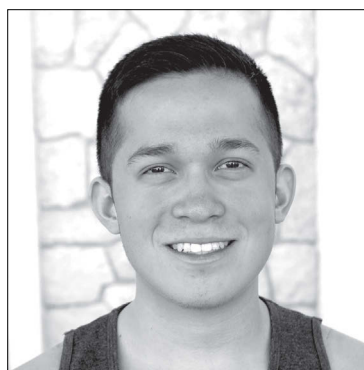
"I try to rest and if I'm having anxiety about school, I try to organize what I have to do."



JOEL RODRIGUEZ

Senior criminal justice major

"I do stuff that I like to take away the anxiety such as working out or playing video games. It makes me feel better."



JACOB ALVARADO

Freshman biological sciences major

"I go out and do my hobbies. I go run, hiking and work out."



BRITTANI GRAHAM

Freshman nursing and psychology major

"How I deal with anxiety is usually to go for a walk or take a break just to clear my mind."



TONY RODRIGUEZ

Junior psychology major

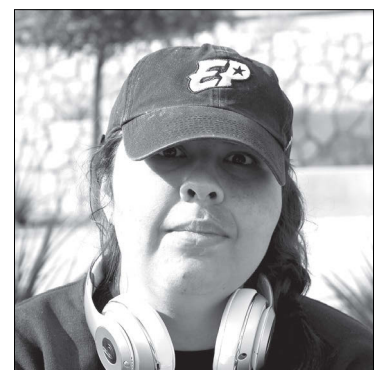
"The way that I deal with anxiety is listening to music. I feel that music is a very important part of the way that I handle things. I also like to exercise. It helps me release some tension and focus more."



ALYSSA NOE

Senior criminal justice major

"I attend a dance school and I release all my energy out into my dancing."



AYDE CISNEROS

Junior digital media production major

"I listen to music and I like coloring—that helps with my anxiety."

Angela Davis to lecture on campus



SPECIAL TO THE PROSPECTOR

Angela Davis will speak at UGLC on Wednesday, Feb. 7.

BY THE PROSPECTOR STAFF

The Prospector

UTEP's African-American Studies Program and the Black Student Union are kicking off a lecture series with guest lecturer Angela Davis at 6:30 p.m. this Wednesday at the Undergraduate Learning Center building, room 126.

Davis is an activist, author, academic, humanitarian, civil and women's rights advocate and a current professor at the University of California.

Davis said that her political activism was inspired by growing up around racial violence in Birmingham, Alabama. She was a member of the Black Panther Party in the

late 1960s and a former leader of the Communist Party USA.

Michael V. Williams, Ph.D., director of UTEP's African-American Studies Program, said the lecture series was developed to bring scholars and activists from across the nation to campus to engage with students and to share their passion and expertise with the wider community.

Williams hopes the lecture will help people understand the necessity, particularly young people, of social activism.

"The necessity of becoming a voice in this world," Williams said. "She's important because of what she represents in terms of a real strong commitment to racial, gender and equality, social justice, and she is a powerful iconic voice."

The African-American Studies Program is not placing any restrictions on Davis' discussion.

"It's titled an evening with Angela Davis and it's done that way because it gives her an opportunity to deal with what's happening currently," Williams said.

Davis has caused controversy throughout the years, sometimes known as a black militant and self-proclaimed communist. Davis was also acquitted on charges of conspiracy.

"People are generally excited about it, that's not to say that everyone will agree with everything that's presented, but then that's the importance of being on a college campus and in a active community as well—you get to engage people in all aspects and that's what dialogue is all about," Williams said.

Sade Talani, junior history major and treasurer for UTEP's Black Student Union, said that she admires Davis because she says what people need to listen to and not what people want to hear.

"It's a plus to have her at the time of the #MeToo movement, especially for what she's done for the community and for women in general, but I think that her being here is just monumental," Talani said. "It's not only important to the black community, it's important to all communities."

The event is free and a Q&A will follow. There will also be a brief book signing.

As part of Black History Month, the next lecturer will be by Curtis Austin, "The Black Panther Party and the Long Black Power Movement" on Feb. 12 at the El Paso Natural Gas Conference Center at 2 p.m.

The Prospector may be reached at theprospector1@gmail.com.

Romance Attack™

2230 Texas Ave. El Paso, TX 79901 • (915) 532-6171
 Mon-Sat 10 a.m. - 11 p.m. • Sunday Noon - 8 p.m.

[romanceattackep](https://twitter.com/romanceattackep)

DVDs from \$3.99, Sexual Enhancement Pills, Wigs & Lingerie, Novelties, Lotions, Shoes, Gag Gifts & Much much more ...

UTEP Students & Staff receive 10% off with school ID

HAPPENING THIS WEEK

FREE MEDIA SOURCES: SNACK TIME WORKSHOP

From 1:30-2 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 6 at the UTEP Library. Find out where you can get photos, music, videos and other media without breaking copyright law. Chips, cookies, donuts and coffee will be provided. The event is free.

A CONVERSATION WITH DEE MARGO

The Texas Tribune will host El Paso Mayor Dee Margo from 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 7 at the Building A Auditorium at the El Paso Community Valle Verde campus, College Administrative Service Center.

LESSONS FROM THE PAST

The El Paso Museum of History, in collaboration with UTEP, will host "The Global Rise of Neo-Facism and Recent Elections in Germany and Austria," with Marion Christina Rohrleitner as part of the Lessons from the Past, Looking Toward the Future lecture series. The event is from 6:30-7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 8 at the El Paso Museum of History.

LOVE AND HIP HOP WEEK

Brown Bag On Rap: The N-Word: Is It Safe? will be Tuesday, from noon-1:30 p.m. at University Suite, Room 312. Open Mic Night: Thursday, Feb. 8 from 5-7 p.m. University Suite, Room 312. The Outro: The Rap on Hip Hop will be Friday, Feb. 9. Doors open at 5 p.m. at the Tomas Rivera Conference Center, Room 308.

BE A CHAMPION OF CHARACTER

At 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 13, the National Society of Leadership and Success will host their first speaker broadcast, featuring Thaddeus Ballard, a professional wrestler and former football player. The lecture, titled "Be a Champion of Character," will be at Union East in Suite 312.

BASKETBALL RETURNS TO THE DON

The UTEP men's and women's basketball team will play at home this Saturday. The women will take on Louisiana Tech at 1 p.m. and the men will face UTSA at 7 p.m. Students can register for their free tickets at Sports Lottery on my.utep.edu.

mention this ad for your **UTEP discount!**

planet fitness

memberships starting at **\$10 A MONTH**

10 El Paso / Las Cruces locations
planetfitness.com

UTEP

SPRING

BATTLE OF THE CHEFS

FEB 22 5:30-7PM

AT **THE PICK 'N' SHOVEL**

@UTEPFOODSERVICES

FEBRUARY 6, 2018

ENTERTAINMENT

EDITOR

CLAUDIA FLORES , 747-7446

UTEP dance faculty celebrates pop music through movement



GABY VELASQUEZ / THE PROSPECTOR

The cast of "Iconic Pop" rehearses for opening night on Feb. 9 at 7:30 p.m. at The Wise Family Theatre in Fox Fine Arts.

BY CLAUDIA FLORES

The Prospector

As part of their annual tradition, this year the UTEP Department of Theatre and Dance presents "Iconic Pop," a presentation that represents the celebration of the pop genre and dance.

"Iconic Pop" will be opening at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 9, at UTEP's Wise Family Theatre.

"Leanne Rinelli, who is one of the head choreographers for this evening, had this idea on doing this idea of doing Mexican pop singers or Latin pop singers," said Lisa Smith, professor of dance at UTEP. "We thought it was a great idea, something fresh and something that students might really enjoy, not only seeing but performing, so we decided to go with that under the name of 'Iconic Pop.'"

The dance concert consists of different dance numbers that represent the different eras of music and dance.

"'Iconic Pop' is a celebration of pop music. Not every piece has pop music, but it's the majority. We have some work that features the music of the '50s like Frank Sinatra, and also the '60s and '70s," said Rinelli, assistant dance professor and choreographer.

Smith, who is in charge of two pieces in the program, said her longer work is called "Psychodelia," and it's a tribute to the music of the '60s that features music from The Beatles and other artists.

"Aside from being excited to perform, I am excited for the audience to get to see pieces that take place during WW2, the 60's and present day," said Damian A. Padilla a sophomore student majoring in communication studies and dance. "Myron Nadel, Lisa Smith, Leanne Rinelle

and the entire cast have worked hard in putting together a great production. I truly believe the audience will really enjoy the entire show"

Smith also said that all the pieces were arranged and recorded by a local band called Later Tonight.

Padilla, who is also a UTEP Golddigger, said he has dance at several studios and is used to the commercial aspect of dance, but coming into this show has really pushed him to the more classical and theatrical dance.

“ I don't speak Spanish, so it had nothing to do with the words... I was choreographing to what it felt like to me

- Leanne Rinelli, assistant dance professor

"By doing this show, it has given me the training and experience of doing shows that I normally wouldn't. This is something that I truly value as a dancer, so that when I go out to dance in the real world, I have a lot of experience in all areas of dance," Padilla said. "I feel

there has to be a balance in knowing how to dance commercial dance (most of the dancing seen at sporting events and music videos on YouTube) and classical/theatrical dance (the dancing seen in musicals, dance shows, etc.), and this show has allowed me to accomplish and work towards that balance."

For this production, the dance faculty decided to emphasize contemporary dance—some of the numbers will have a jazz or aerobics influence, but with contemporary dance as the star of the show.

"Contemporary can look a lot of different ways. It can be more abstract—a lot of in and out of the floor, jumping," Rinelli said. "It can look a lot of different ways to choreographers, and it keeps changing as time's changing."

Music is as important as dance in this production. Some of the music chosen by Rinelli for her music numbers include Mexican artist, Natalia Lafourcade, Mon Laferte and Carla Morrison.

"This process was definitely driven by the music, I came across these artists that I never heard of because I'm not from here, and I loved their music and the way it sounded," she said. "I don't speak Spanish, so it had nothing to do with the words, so it was nice I wasn't choreographing to words. I was choreographing to what it felt like to me."

"Iconic Pop" dancers had to go through a couple of tryouts to be cast in a dance number.

"We held auditions and cast students and this is after the faculty has already met and decided what we're going to do," Smith said. "Then we bring all the dancers together and show them a bit of choreography, they learn it and try out and

then we make a cast list from there and begin the rehearsals right away."

With rehearsals starting last fall and practicing in the afternoons for three to four hours per rehearsal, the process has been long and exhausting for both dancers and choreographers, but according to Rinelli, this is a process she enjoys.

"I love the process, I love how the music got everyone excited and into it. It seemed like they just connected to it, and really helped them to get into the material right away. And for me just seeing the excitement as we were building—sometimes that's more exciting than the outcome," she said.

Padilla is no stranger to spending hours in a dance studio. Besides being a UTEP Golddigger and a dancer in "Iconic Pop," Padilla is an assistant coach for the Jefferson Silva Silverettes and dance instructor at local dance studios.

Padilla said his days consist in going to Golddiggers practice, taking from two to three dance classes a day, teach three dance classes at the studio where he works, and coming back to UTEP for rehearsals.

"My days never end and my body certainly pays for it. I wake up sore and tired, but I have to keep pushing on. There are some days I want to just quit, but my friends are always there for me," Padilla said. "At the end of the day, I love what I do. P.T Barnum once said, 'The noblest art is that of making others happy,' and that's what I love for."

As any other artist, choreographers find their inspiration from different sources, and as any other piece of art, it takes time and effort to put together a dance number.

"If it's a full-length piece or shorter one it depends because it takes time and a process of trial and error, different pieces come from different sources. This one I knew where I wanted to go. I had this music chosen and the style I wanted to explore," Smith said. "Even within knowing what you want to do, you have to find the movement language that is particular to this thing you want to create."

Smith said that as an artist, it's always rewarding to see a piece of art coming alive, and when it comes to a dance number, it's not only about the dance, but about the performers.

"It's lovely to see the performers come alive in this work, it's wonderful as a choreographer to see your piece, you visualized it, you created, you crafted and then you see it," Smith said. "It's wonderful to see your work and see these upcoming young performers grow each time they're in a different dance."

With different dance numbers, and costumes that represent each music genre, "Iconic Pop" features something special for every spectator in the audience.

"I think there's something for everyone in the program and people often say that, but this time, truly, there is a variety of pieces and music," Smith said. "I think is going to be very fresh and very fun."

The performance will also be presented at 7:30 p.m. on Feb. 10, 15, 16 and 17. A matinee performance is also available at 2:30 p.m. on Feb. 11. Tickets are on sale at ticketmaster.com and the Wise Family Theatre box office.

✉ Claudia Flores may be reached at gigibertaflores43@gmail.com.





Happy Valentine's Day

GET YOUR VALENTINE'S GRAM \$5

To: _____ From: _____

Message:

1. Choose your design from the options on the left.
2. Dedicate your gram.
3. Bring this form to 105 Union Bldg. East with payment.
4. Enjoy as your loved one reads their special gram in The Prospector's Love Issue on February 13th.

Submit your gram by Feb. 8th. The Prospector reserves the right to reject any messages it deems inappropriate. For questions, please call 915.747.7434.





Former UTEP student showcases his love for El Paso through his art



GABY VELASQUEZ / THE PROSPECTOR

Patrick Gabaldon is a lawyer and artist who uses the distinguished scenic views of El Paso in his art.

BY AYLIN TAFOYA

The Prospector

Patrick Gabaldon, a UTEP alumnus and now prosecutor for the 34th Judicial District Attorney's Office, is becoming a widely recognized artist in El Paso.

With no professional art background, it has been no small feat to have his art acknowledged and showcased in various establishments.

"Luckily because I didn't study art, everything is still really new to me, and it's refreshing to kind of get to discover a new thing to be obsessed with," Gabaldon said.

Gabaldon's work has been exhibited at the El Paso International Airport, featuring over 20 pieces that showcase the city, and a piece at the Southwest University Ballpark for the 2017 season, UTEP and even as stickers on laptops.

Being a lawyer, husband and full-time artist has proven difficult, but not impossible for Gabaldon.

"There's a sense of really being free creatively, when I can shut off the logical side of my brain and just kind of go for it," he said.

Gabaldon said that while all aspects of his life are very different, he combines them easily. Without his art, he wouldn't have a medium to let go of the stress that comes from being a lawyer, and without being a lawyer, he wouldn't have the means to create art so freely and so often.

"It's nice to know that they're totally separate, but that they also feed off of each other," Gabaldon said.

A big focus of his work is giving El Paso a positive image, and making others see the city the way he does.

"When I grew up, a lot of people talked down about El Paso saying how it's not that great," he said. "But now I think there's some sort of cultural awareness about how beautiful the city really is and that's what I try to communicate with my art."

Through the use of bright colors and El Paso's scenic views, he also explained that a message of happiness is embedded in every each piece.

"As a prosecutor, I see a lot of cases that are really tough and so I experience enough of that during the day at work," he said. "When I paint and when someone else has something of mine, I want it to communicate good feelings, happy feelings—joy, peace, tranquility."

Gabaldon said that his mistakes, such as forgetting to outline a part of his art piece with

UPCOMING EVENTS

JAZZ CONCERT

The UTEP Music Department will offer a jazz concert on Thursday, Feb. 8, at 7:30 p.m. at the Fox Fine Arts Recital Hall. The concert will feature the wind and percussion band.

'GREASE' SING ALONG

The Alamo Drafthouse will feature a special sing along version of the 1978 musical on Feb. 8 at 7:30 p.m.

VALENTINE'S SUPER LOVE JAM

On Feb. 9 the Don Haskins Center will be the place for this year's Valentine's Super Love Jam where vocalists like Rose Royce, Eddie Holman and Color Me Badd will take the stage at 7:30 p.m.

MARDI GRAS

This year the Mardi Gras celebration will take place at Tricky Falls on Feb. 10 at 9 p.m. Music, DJs and performers will be part of the event. Tickets on sale at ticketfly.com.

'LOVE IS A DRAG'

The UTEP Dinner Theatre presents a musical benefit event with special performances from Josey Pickett and Allen Thompson. Opening night is on Feb. 11 at 7 p.m. Tickets will be on sale on Feb. 9 at ticketmaster.com

black or accidentally brushing the canvas with a different color than intended, now creates a better sense of himself in his work.

"Now in recent pieces, I've left a little part just not outlined or not finished completely on purpose so that I see it. No one else knows it's there most of the time, but it's something for me to have for myself," he said. "Similarly, if you look at all my artwork, my signature is always in weird places. It's floating up in the clouds or on a mountain, or curved around the shape of a cactus. It's somewhat hidden."

Gabaldon believes that certain pieces of art he has created can't truly be truly appreciated, unless the person viewing the art is listening to the song that the piece is paired with.

"There's a piece of a roadrunner eating a little lizard, and that piece is to be appreciated when listening to the song 'Desert Island Disk' by Radiohead" Gabaldon said. "Every piece has a song specific to it."

For this piece and everything else he has created, Gabaldon received the El Paso's Chamber of Commerce Breakthrough Leader Award in 2017.

"It's still really insane to see my art up at restaurants and seeing them in different publications and getting this award. It's all these crazy things that I would've never imagined," he said.

He's donated original artwork to United Way of El Paso, El Paso Bar Association, the Humane Society of El Paso's Yearly Fundraiser and the Boys and Girls Club of El Paso. He also continues to serve the community, not only as an artist but also through his community involvement as a Border Art Residency Board Member and as a judge for the Barlett Park Public Art Project, where he got to help choose the public art installation.

"It all started as doing paintings for friends, and that kind of grew and kept going," he said. "I love creating and I don't think I'll ever stop."

“Now I think there's some sort of cultural awareness about how beautiful the city really is and that's what I try to communicate with my art

- Patrick Gabaldon, lawyer and artist

Part of the process he goes through when creating his artwork includes the use of music.

"I listen to a lot of music when I work," he said. "I am music obsessed, so I make sure that it's usually a different album that I listen to with every piece, usually a specific song."

✉ Aylin Tafoya may be reached at aylinvtafoya97@gmail.com.

This is

love, passion, talent, discipline, patience and courage. This is boldness and excellence, intuition, mastery and determination.

This is reinvention, experimentation and a progressive spirit.

These are visionaries, rebels, muses and artists, mentors and friends.

These are authentic minds and generous hearts. This is the work of our faculty.

2018 UTEP DEPARTMENT OF ART BIENNIAL FACULTY EXHIBITION AT THE STANLEE & GERALD RUBIN CENTER FOR THE VISUAL ARTS

FEBRUARY 1 – APRIL 6

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday: 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
Thursday: 10:00 am - 7:00 pm
Additional hours by appointment
Facebook.com/rubincenter

The University of Texas at El Paso
500 West University Ave.
El Paso, Tx 79968
915-747-6151
rubincenter.utep.edu



FEBRUARY 6, 2018

SPORTS

EDITOR

JEREMY CARRANCO, 747-7446

UTEP softball hopes to bounce back this year



CLAUDIA HERNANDEZ / THE PROSPECTOR

The UTEP softball team will open up the 2018 season in Tempe, Ariz., against Missouri.

BY ELENIE GONZALEZ

The Prospector

After a disappointing 2017 season, in which the Miners were only able to collect 12 wins and a last-place finish in the West Division of Conference USA, the UTEP softball team will strive to take advantage of a fresh start and a schedule that might benefit the Miners.

UTEP head coach Tobin Echo-Hawk, who enters her fifth year at

Echo-Hawk says the opponents on the schedule make for an exciting campaign.

"We definitely have some challenging games on our schedule, but we also have some games that we should win and we should compete," Echo-Hawk said. "I'm excited about our schedule this year, more so than any other year I've had."

Leading the team is junior Courtney Smith, an infielder who was named to 2018 C-USA Preseason All-Conference team. In 2017, she was named to the All-Conference USA second team after a successful sophomore year. She led the team with a .364 batting average (47-129). She was also ranked 12th in the conference in hits.

The Miners have three seniors on their team this season, each who have made an impact.

Senior Kailtin Ryder, who was 2017 All-Conference USA second team and led the team with 51 hits, is putting last year behind her. Her success in the batter's box makes her one of the biggest threats for the Miners. She looks to secure several school records this season as she only needs 21 hits to secure a spot in the school's top-10 list.

"We're coming out and competing," Ryder said. "This is a different year. We have many girls that are re-

turning, but it's a different group, a different feel. It's a family bond, we know that we have each other's backs on and off the field, so that's the difference and I think that's what the fans need to know."

Senior Courtney Clayton enters this year as the Miner's fourth all-time hitter with a .349 career average. She ranks fourth in career assists, with 313, and needs 48 more to reach No. 1. all-time. In 2017, Clayton was named to the C-USA preseason team. She led the team for a second consecutive season in runs scored (29), hit 3.14 (50-159), while only striking out five times and was ranked No. 22 in the nation as the toughest to strikeout.

Right off the bat, the Miners start off the season in the Kajikawa Tournament, which is held at in Tempe, Ariz. on Friday, Feb. 9, against the Missouri Tigers, who are receiving votes in the AP Top 25 poll. This will be a tournament that consists of some of the better teams in the country including the No. 3 ranked Oregon Ducks.

UTEP continues on the road in the Marucci Desert Classic in Las Vegas on Feb. 16, featuring Nevada, Boise State, UNM, UNLV and South Dakota.

The Miners then open up for their first home game against rival New Mexico State on Feb. 20, followed

by the UTEP Tournament, where Portland State and Idaho State will pay a visit.

Echo-Hawk says working on hitting in the off-season has helped the orange and blue get into game mode.

"That's kind of our strength. We have some great hitters, a little mix of speed, power, contact," Echo-Hawk said. "We've been really trying to put ourselves in game situations so that we can be prepared for whatever it is, both offensively and defensively."

Clayton says the team's dynamic is special this year and something the fans should look out for.

"We're focusing on making sure that no matter what happens on that field, we have that foundation and we're going to be strong no matter what," Clayton said. "I think that's something that we've worked on in the off season and we're also working on now, and I think that will be a strength coming up into the season."

First pitch against the Missouri Tigers is set for 11:30 p.m. MST in Tempe.

Follow Elenie Gonzalez on Twitter @eleniegonz



WE ARE MINERS

UTEP BASKETBALL

FEBRUARY 10TH



WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

1:00PM

NATIONAL GIRLS & WOMEN IN SPORTS DAY

FREE GAME



MEN'S BASKETBALL

7:00PM

MILITARY APPRECIATION NIGHT

MILITARY DISCOUNTED TICKETS FOR MILITARY

TICKETS 747-5234

Allstate
You're in good hands
OSCAR ARRIETA'S AGENCY

SUN CITY
ORTHOPAEDIC &
HAND SURGERY SPECIALISTS

SECURITY SERVICE
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION



Men's basketball to battle UTSA in rematch

BY DANIEL MENDEZ

The Prospector

The UTEP men's basketball team is in survival mode after dropping their last five games, and they are still hoping for a spot in the Conference USA tournament.

The Miners (7-17, 2-9 C-USA) are looking to see if they can bounce back and snap their five-game skid as they face UTSA (13-11, 6-5 C-USA) in a rematch on Saturday, Feb. 10, at the Don Haskins Center.

"We got some games coming up that we really need to take care of. There's not an easy game left on our schedule," said interim head coach Phil Johnson, following the loss to Marshall this past Saturday night.

In the first meeting at the Convocation Center in San Antonio, UTEP had the game in the palm of their hands for about 39 minutes. But at the last minute, they let the win slip away when UTSA's freshman guard Jhivvan Jackson stole the ball and converted the layup, leading to a 65-61 Roadrunners' win.

The Miners are coming off a solid collective effort on defense against the Thundering Herd. UTEP held the nation's 12th-best team in terms of scoring (85.3 points per game) to 74 points in the loss. The loss slid UTEP down to the 13th spot in C-USA, just one spot away from not making the conference tournament. Only the top 12 teams in C-USA will qualify for the conference tournament come March.

Taking care of the basketball has been an issue for the Miners as of late, as they have been recording double-digit turnovers in their last three games. That is one of the main facets of the offense that has problems. Senior guard Omega Harris scored in double digits just once during the five-game losing skid, with 16 points against WKU on Feb. 1.

Sophomore Isiah Osborne has struggled as well. After having back-to-back 20-plus point games against FIU and UTSA, Osborne hasn't found his scoring touch since. He has made just four of his last 27 shots during his team's last four games. Osborne could be a crucial scorer for the Miners if he is able to get right against UTSA. In the first match against UTSA, Osborne recorded season highs in field goals made (seven) and 3-point field goals made (five).

Graduate transfer Keith Frazier made his first C-USA start of the season against Marshall on Saturday. Frazier is UTEP's second-leading scorer with 11 points per game, but against the Herd, Frazier didn't shoot the ball well (3-12), yet was reliable on the defensive effort (six rebounds).

The scoring for the Miners has come from the bench. Against Marshall, the bench was responsible for 29 points, as freshmen Evan Gilyard was responsible for 20 of those 29 points, tying his career high. During this five-game losing streak, Gilyard has gotten double-digit scoring in three out of the five games.

UTEP is already thin in the front court since freshman Tirus Smith is still nursing a knee injury, while sixth-year senior Matt Willms has been delegated to only playing the second half at two to three-minute intervals because of nagging injuries.

Meanwhile, the Roadrunners are entering Saturday's rematch riding a three-game winning streak that saw them beat UAB (82-70), Marshall (81-77) and WKU (74-63). Second-year head coach Steve Henson has been improving his program year after year. In Henson's first year gracing the hardwood, the team recorded 14 wins with a school record-tying eight C-USA victories.

UTSA has the second-best scoring offense in Conference USA,



GABY VELASQUEZ / THE PROSPECTOR

The UTEP men's basketball team will look to snap a five-game losing streak when they face UTSA for a second time this season.

averaging 80.9 points per game. Jackson, who has been a nice jolt of energy for UTSA, is C-USA's fifth-best scorer, averaging 19 points per game. Another freshman guard to watch is Keaton Wallace, who is averaging 11.9 points per game for the Roadrunners, as well as sophomore guard Giovanni De Nicolao, who leads UTSA in steals (37) and in assists (80).

The Roadrunners also like to shoot the 3 ball. They are the third-best team from behind the arc, shooting at 35.3 percent clip. They lead the conference in most 3-point field goals made with 10 per game.

In the first game, one weakness UTSA was able to exploit on UTEP was inside the paint. Look for UTSA to do more of that in the rematch, especially with Willms not seeing much playing time and forwards Paul Thomas and Trey Wade having to carry the weight inside. UTSA is the best offensive rebounding team in C-USA (40.8) and fourth best in defensive rebounds per game (38.5).

In the first meeting against UTSA, UTSA did not introduce freshmen starter Kobe Magee, which raised controversy from UTEP fans on social media. Magee, a San Antonio native, had family and friends in

attendance for his first time returning home. UTSA went on to release a statement on how they did not do that intentionally. The statement had new UTEP athletic director Jim Senter's attention when he discussed it on The Prospector's weekly sports podcast on Jan. 22.

"Let's fill that damn place (Don Haskins Center) and show UTSA what UTEP is all about. We're the real blue and orange," Senter said.

Tip-off on Saturday is scheduled for 7 p.m. at the Don Haskins Center.

Follow Daniel Mendez on Twitter @dmendez24

MINERS

PICK TO SAVE A

LIFE

FIND OUT HOW

CPR AWARENESS DAY

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19TH, 2018

10:00 AM-2:00PM

1ST FLOOR UNION EAST BREEZEWAY

RECREATIONAL SPORTS DEPARTMENT

3450 Sun Bowl Dr.
915-747-5103
recsports@utep.edu

www.utep.edu/student-affairs/rsd/

ROOMS FOR RENT

1105 Prospect St. Comfortable rooms in beautiful Sunset Heights home. Private and shared baths. Two blocks from UTEP. All utilities and WIFI included, \$375-475 per month. Contact Steve Cahn steve@languageplus.edu Cell: (915) 525-1736 Office: (915) 544-8600.

Kiki's Balloon Twisting

Lovecups \$5 dills
Free Delivery for orders of five or more.
Personalization available

Awesome Balloon Art for the Young at Heart. A unique and sweet gift for this Valentine's Day or any occasion! Bring joy and smiles, place your order today! Also, available for your special events.

Kiki's Balloon Twisting

915.345.4451