

2-19-2019

The Prospector, February 19, 2019

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Movement Mujeres launches fellowship for women of color in Texas

BY VALERIA OLIVARES

The Prospector

Movement Mujeres announced its inaugural fellowship class of 25 women from Texas who will be part of a two-year training and mentorship program that began Feb. 6.

"Being part of Movement Mujeres will help me turn my thoughts into actions and not only just actions, but positive impact," selected fellow Saleeta Shirazali Rajwani said.

Movement Mujeres began last November and is spearheaded by Deeds Not Words, a nonprofit led by former Texas State Sen. Wendy Davis. Deeds Not Words pushes for equality through civic and political engagement of young women, and Jolt Initiative, a nonprofit organization founded by Cristina Tzintzún that seeks to increase the civic participation of Latinos in Texas.

"Upon learning of my acceptance, I was overcome with feelings of pride and humility," Kwentoria Williams, a selected fellow from Houston, Texas said in a press release. "I am eager to accept the clarion call to empower and engage women of color in Texas with this movement and my fellow mujeres."

After announcing its fellowship program in November, more than 245 applications were submitted. Of those, only 25 women from 14 cities throughout Texas were chosen.

"The 25 that we did select have demonstrated some real leadership capacity already, a heartfelt desire to make improvements in Texas for women of color in their communities and across the state and represented a vision of what they wanted to do," Davis said.

Fellows were chosen from a variety of cities in

Texas, including El Paso, Austin, Brownsville, Euless, Dallas, Garland, Lewisville, among others.

"I applied to Movement Mujeres because we have to lift up the voices of women of color," Gabriela Castañeda said.

Castañeda is the fellow chosen from El Paso, Texas. She is a former DACA recipient who has been working with Border Network for Human Rights, an immigration reform and human rights advocacy organization based in El Paso, Texas, since 2004.

Another of the selected fellows is Saleeta Shirazali Rajwani from Lewisville, Texas. Rajwani is a first-generation college student who graduated from The University of Southern California in 2016. She is the daughter of two immigrant parents; her father comes from India and her mother from Pakistan. After graduating, she became incredibly involved in helping at-risk students and children within her community.

"It's really hard being a woman, right? Especially a woman of color, just because a lot of people don't see you as an authority or leader or that your opinions are valid," Rajwani said. "I really wanted to be part of a community that was full of leaders, full of women who are leaders, so that we can build skills and learn from each other, help each other out."

The fellowship seeks to help women acquire the necessary skills to navigate politics in order to build power, influence and lead. The ultimate goal is to get women into prime positions of power within the government and nonprofit organizations, build a cohort of women leaders of color who can support each other and essentially push for systematic change by being a channel for the underrepresented voices of their Texan communities, organizers said.

see MUJERES on page 3

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Expect the Oscars to be a mess

BY SERGIO MUÑOZ

The Prospector



The 91st Academy Awards are around the corner and its set to bring many surprises. I have to say 2018 was a weak year for the movie industry (at least American movies); however, there are some stunning films that are nominated this year (and others that were snubbed). The Academy has been involved in a series of controversies in the last couple of months. Apparently, the ceremony will give a lot to talk about, so here you will find what is expected this year, including my predictions for some of the nominations on page 6.

First, we have the no-host controversy. Kevin Hart was selected host in December, but because of a series of homophobic tweets from several years ago, he stepped down. At the moment, we don't have a host for this year's ceremony. The last time the ceremony did not have a host was in 1989. Will it be repeated this time or will there be any surprises from the Academy?

Another controversy is that four nominations won't be broadcast on television—cinematography, editing, live action short and makeup and hair. Last week, a letter demanding the broadcast of these nominations was signed by multiple personalities of the industry, including Brad Pitt, George Clooney, Alfonso Cuarón, Christopher Nolan, Quentin Tarantino, among others. The Academy has one week to change the plans if they intend to do so.

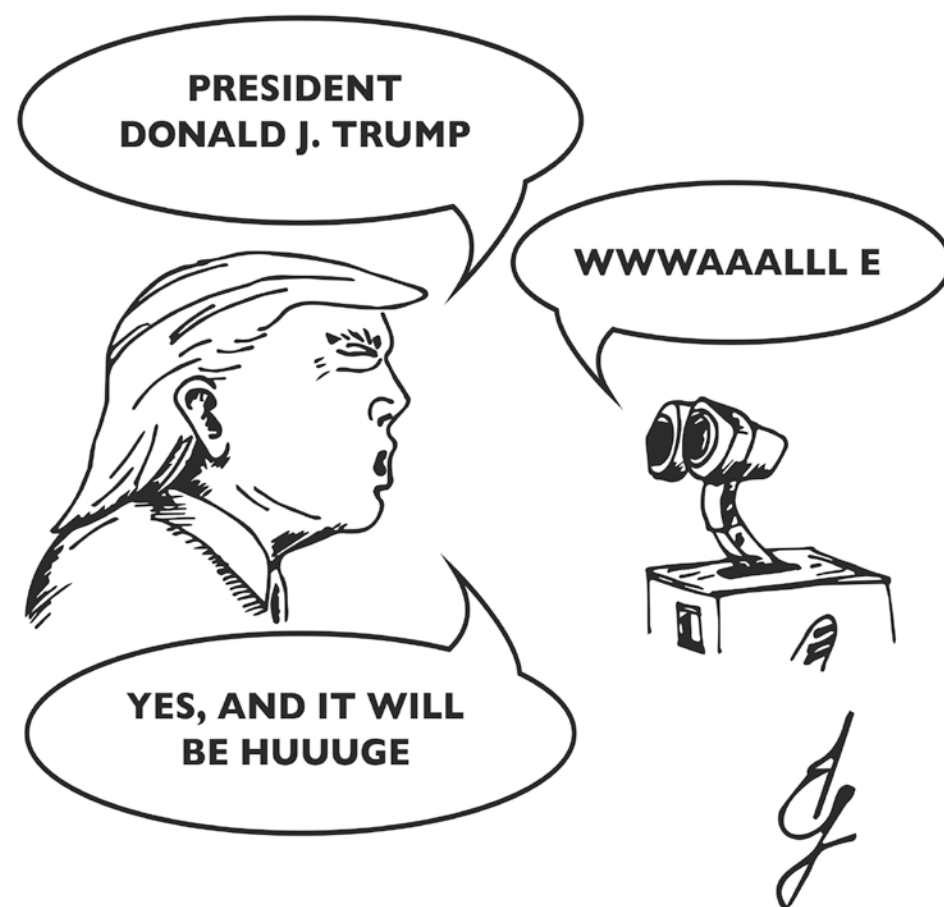
Coming back to this year's nominees and my predictions, I would like to mention some of the snubs of this year, starting with "Won't You Be My Neighbor?" The documentary of Mr. Rogers is not only the best documentary of the year, but also one of the best motion

pictures. Another important snub was Justin Hurwitz and his beautiful soundtrack for "First Man." Hurwitz took the Golden Globe in January and it was easy to predict that he would not only be nominated, but also named winner for Best Original Soundtrack. Some other snubs are Ethan Hawke ("First Reformed") for Best Actor in a Leading Role, Toni Colette ("Hereditary") for Best Actress in a Leading Role, Alfonso Cuarón ("Roma") for Best Editing, Bradley Cooper ("A Star Is Born") for Best Director, and "If Beale Street Could Talk" for Best Motion Picture of the Year.

"The Favourite" and "Roma" have 10 nominations each. I would say "Roma" is the movie that could take home most of the awards. Bradley Cooper's directorial debut in "A Star Is Born" and Adam McKay ("Vice") each have eight nominations, followed by Marvel's "Black Panther" with seven nominations, being the first superhero film with a Best Picture nomination. Spike Lee's film, "BlacKkKlansman" has six nominations this year. Finally, Queen biopic, "Bohemian Rhapsody" and Peter Farrelly's "Green Book" with five nominations each.

I would say that all films nominated for Best Foreign Picture are better than most of the films nominated for Best Picture. Even the short films nominated this year were more enjoyable than most of the feature films this year.

Different from last year, the Best Picture career is just a two-horse career, between "Roma" and "Green Book." Maybe "Bohemian Rhapsody" and "The Favourite" could have a small chance, but a really small one. "A Star Is Born" is a film that lived a great moment during its release in October, making us believe this would be the favorite. "BlacKkKlansman" also had a good reception in its release in August, but none of them had the excellent reception "Roma" did. "Black Panther" could join "Titanic" (1997) and "Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King" (2003) as another big-budget Best Picture film, but I see it as a longshot. There is no chance for "Vice" to win, but I reserve my-



self the privilege of doubt. This year, the only film to make history is "Roma."

"Roma" is a Mexican film directed for the two-time Academy Award winner Alfonso Cuarón. Acclaimed by all the critics' circle in the United States, "Roma" is the first Mexican movie to be nominated to Best Foreign Movie since "Biutiful" (2010). However, this could be the first time a Mexican movie wins this achievement. Also, "Roma" could be the first foreign movie in history to win Best Motion Picture of the Year. Alfonso Cuarón is the first person to be nominated for Best Cinematographer and Best Director for the same film and he could tie Walt Disney in more Oscars for one person in the same year. Roma could also be the

first movie distributed by a streaming platform (Netflix) to win Best Picture of the Year.

Considering what has happened in the last couple of months, everything indicates this year's ceremony will be a complete mess. With no host, bad organization, wrong nominations, and the anger of some of the Academy members, this is not looking good for the Oscars. And, to be honest, this is sad because this is the year in which a great motion picture, "Roma," would be making history, but at the same time, it could be shadowed by the terrible show. I hope I am wrong and that the Academy offers us at least a decent show.

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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 and spring semesters. The newspaper is not printed during holidays and when classes are not in session. The Prospector does provide news online at www.theprospectordaily.com.

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Eva Moya: A social worker changing her community

BY GLENDA AVALOS

The Prospector

Associate Professor of Social Work Eva Moya, Ph.D., recently achieved a great accomplishment in her career. She was elected president of the Association of Latina/Latino Social Work Educators (ALLSWE) in November 2018.

Over the course of her career, she has accumulated research on topics such as homelessness, sexual violence, tuberculosis and human papilloma virus.

One of her contributions to UTEP students is teaching a non-traditional practice by setting her classes at the Opportunity Center for the Homeless. Moya mentors students in pre-med and psychology for their theses, especially students who are passionate and interested in social work.

ALLSWE is a nonprofit association that is dedicated to network Latino or Latina educators of social work which allows members to network with other social worker educators around the globe.



GLENDA AVALOS / THE PROSPECTOR

Professor Eva Moya is the new elected president for ALLSWE.

ties include serving as spokesperson representing the association and reaching out to Latino and Latina teachers in the community and throughout the country.

As president-elect, her goal is to get 35 Latino and Latina social workers in practice from El Paso.

"I want to see an association that is vibrant, that is diverse, that has members from different backgrounds, and that speak the beautiful multiple languages," Moya said.

One of the main goals of the organization is to raise funds to create a scholarship for those who wish to have an education in social work.

Moya said two Boston College of Social Work graduate students reached out to her during the winter break to learn more about the humanitarian crisis at U.S.-Mexico border. Both students, instead of staying home during the school break, decided to stay in El Paso and serve at the Centro Juan Diego, a hospitality home for refugees.

As a display of the love Moya holds for her community, Moya and her colleagues hold "The Hope Clinic" twice a year offering blood tests, stress

assessment, HIV and hepatitis testing, and more, to the homeless people at Opportunity Center for the Homeless.

The Hope Clinic will take place April 17.

For information, to volunteer or donate services, call 915-747-8493.

Glenda Avalos may be reached at theprospectordaily1@gmail.com

MUJERES from page 1

"It's a radical proposition to say we are going to invest in the people who have been ignored and underestimated because we believe that they are the ones that are going to transform our state," said Cristina Tzintzún, executive director of Jolt and co-founder of Movement Mujeres.

One of the downsides of the program is that limited funds restrain its ability to provide access to the fellowship for even more women, Davis said.

Funding for the fellowship comes from the NoVo Foundation, a social justice foundation that launched the \$34 million Radical Hope Fund. The fund divided the money among 19 grantees, and presented Movement Mujeres with \$2 million.

"The funds will be spread out over a four-year period," Davis said. "We use those (funds) to hire staff. We added six people across our two organizations who bring with them experience in curriculum writing and training, in visual communications, in graphic art design, in the logistics of ... running the program, scheduling the fellowship workshops, so on and so forth."

The fellows will also be awarded a \$1,200 yearly stipend, adding up to \$60,000 that will be divided among the women during the fellowship's two-year duration, as well as travel and childcare expenses.

Quarterly two-day gatherings comprise the fellowship. During those gatherings, the fellows will take part in intensive training and workshops. The first set of sessions will be Thursday, Feb. 28. The fellows will have to focus on identity, power and the story of self.

"Movement Mujeres was created to support women who want to 'stand up and speak up' instead, and I'm proud to be a part of teaching these extraordinary young women about the lessons I've learned on how to most effectively be heard," Davis said.

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“

I want to see an association that is vibrant, that is diverse, that has members from different backgrounds...

”

- EVA MOYA
Associate Professor
of Social Work

"One of the beauties of the association is that we do a lot of our work bilingual so we can start in Spanish and then we transition into English, and then we come up with a sort of a Spanglish language," Moya said. "We're not shy about taking pride in what Latino cultures represent. On the contrary, we stand with great pride to embrace what the Latino social workers have contributed."

As president-elect of the ALLSWE, Moya's du-

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Creative writing professors inducted to TIL

BY MARIA RAMOS PACHECO

The Prospector

Two faculty members in UTEP's Creative Writing Department were inducted into the Texas Institute of Letters (TIL), a nonprofit honor society that recognizes and celebrates literature in Texas: Associate Professor Rosa Alcala, Ph.D., and Assistant Professor Tim Hernandez.

"I had a voicemail, with something saying 'congratulations, good news' and I was wondering, this may be a fake message," Alcala said. "Like when they say you won a million dollars, we just need your social or something like that, so I called back to see who was it from, and it was from (TIL) giving me the news that I was invited to be a member."

Induction is based on literary accomplishments, according to the group's website. The TIL's elected membership consists of the state's most respected writers of fiction, non-fiction, poetry, journalism and scholarship.

Both Alcala and Hernandez have published work and are recipients of other prestigious awards.

This is not the first year that UTEP professors have been recognized at this prestigious level in the state and the country. Last year, the chair of the creative writing department, Daniel Chacon, was inducted as well as Associate Professor of Poetry and Creative Nonfiction, Sasha Pimentel.

Chacon said that being part of TIL is not only a recognition for the professors, but also to their work and ethics. Most importantly, he said, it shows how committed they are to their students and their community.

"We are very proud of the great diversity of exceptional talents in this year's honorees," said TIL President Carmen Tafolla, Ph.D.

Alcala encourages students to pursue their dreams or careers in poetry and writing.

"Follow your passion. It matters. Go for it. Don't let people tell you it's a waste of time," Alcala said.

The ceremony of induction will be held in McAllen, Texas on April 26 and 27.

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Research aims for new vaccine, treatment for Chagas disease

BY ALEXIA X. NAVA CARMONA

The Prospector

UTEP Professor Igor C. Almeida, Ph.D., is leading an almost 30-year research project that aims to discover a better treatment, as well as a vaccine, for Chagas disease.

Chagas disease, named after the Brazilian physician Carlos Chagas, who discovered its cycle in 1909, is caused by a parasite called *Trypanosoma cruzi*, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The parasite is transmitted through the bites of kissing bugs, and it spreads around humans through blood transfusions, organ transplants and even from pregnant females to their babies, the CDC website said.

It is worth noting that people can carry the parasite without having the disease and can spread the parasite around unknowingly. The disease develops 20 to 40 years later, Almeida said.

"It's like HIV. The person may have HIV, not have AIDS. The same thing (applies) for Chagas. You may have the parasite, the pathogen, but not have the disease," Almeida said.

The fatal effects of the chronic form of the disease are cardiac problems, including an enlarged heart and heart failure, and intestinal problems that make it hard to digest food, according to the CDC website.

Almeida, who has been studying Chagas disease since he received his Ph.D. in Scotland, came to El Paso from his native country, Brazil, after finding an opportunity for research at UTEP.

"The situation down in Brazil was not very good for research and so we have difficulties in getting reagents into the country and the funds

for research fell short and (there were) salaries issues," Almeida said.

In August 2018, Almeida received a five-year \$6 million grant to improve Chagas disease treatment and develop new diagnostic tools to assess post-therapeutic outcomes for patients of the disease, University Communications (UC) reported.

"I have been doing this study (on) Chagas for 29 years. Only now I have a potential two vaccines, two vaccine candidates. And also this new project with the National Institutes of Health can lead to something that is used for the patient. So it took me almost 30 years to get to this point," Almeida said.

The grant will fund a trial in Bolivia that will determine the efficiency of the new regimens the investigation is creating for the drugs used to treat Chagas disease, since the current ones are too toxic and one of the investigation's objectives is to reduce that toxicity, according to UC.

"The focus is drug development, not only developing new drugs, but improving the drugs that we have...they're just too toxic. And (we're) trying to improve (them) to make them less toxic, so more people finish the treatment," Almeida said.

Another one of the investigation's objectives, Almeida said, is to develop a vaccine that can protect anyone that is in an area of increased exposure to the disease, such as Bolivia, Peru, Brazil and other areas of Latin America.

Almeida said his goal with the vaccine is to prevent infection, especially for mothers and at-risk populations.

Alexia X. Nava Carmona may be reached at theprospectordaily1@gmail.com



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Conference gives UTEP students a field to explore their passion for dance

BY CLAUDIA FLORES

The Prospector

UTEP held the 2019 general assembly for The World Dance Alliance Americas (WDAA) Feb. 13-17 at the Fox Fine Arts building.

During the four-day dance conference, dancers from across the country and region had the opportunity to attend a series of dance workshops, network meetings and performances.

"Usually we have to travel somewhere else to attend these conferences and a great benefit was that the conference was held here at UTEP," said UTEP dance student Estefania Ortega.

For students like Ortega, attending the dance conference is an open door to explore their passion for dance and make a difference as they plan their futures.

"Taking different workshops helps a lot to see what I would like to explore more as a dancer and it's also a great opportunity to meet people from other universities from across the country," Ortega said. "It's a networking experience that can help me see different options I have and what colleges I would like to attend in the future to get a master's degree in dance."

Dancers had the opportunity to choose between different 75-minute dance master classes that featured contemporary dance, ballet, urban and street dance, among other styles.

Aside from master classes and scholarly presentations, students had the opportunity to join a choreographic lab, a space where choreographers worked hand-in-hand with participants to assemble a dance number that was presented the last day of the conference.

Kim McKean, assistant professor of performance at UTEP, offered a workshop where students learned



PRISCILLA GOMEZ / THE PROSPECTOR

UTEP held the 2019 general assembly for the WDAA Feb. 13-17 that included a series of dance workshops, network meetings and performances.

to own their voice and their body in space through the use of different techniques such as Laban's efforts – a technique that allows a performer to identify and play a character that is different from themselves.

"The World Dance Alliance is an international organization and it provides networking opportunities, and intensive workshops that they would have to leave El Paso normally to get, but it also shows UTEP commitment to research in the arts which is also re-

ally important," McKean said.

For McKean, one of the most exciting experiences of the conference is seeing her students get pushed outside of their comfort zone, as she said this will help them discover new areas of themselves as performing artists.

"They have met professors from all over the country, from all over the world, so they're getting different points of view than they might not normally

get," McKean said. "They're being encouraged to find who they are both as dancers and artists and actors and it's been wonderful for the students to be able to experience something like that."

The WDAA is an independent, nonprofit organization with branches around the globe, including the Asia-Pacific Network.

Claudia Flores may be reached at theprospector1@gmail.com.

Las Cruces International Film Festival hosts '48 Hour Film Challenge'

BY JAQUELINE MARTINEZ

The Prospector



SPECIAL TO THE PROSPECTOR

The Las Cruces International Film Festival hosted a "48 Hour Film Challenge" after an initial kickoff meeting at Beck's Roasting House & Creamery in Las Cruces. The weekend-long event, Feb. 15-17, challenges participants to form teams, create a script, shoot, edit and write a score for a complete short film within 48 hours.

The Las Cruces International Film Festival promotes filmmakers and advances filmmaking through this festival and competition, said Co-founder of Bored Film Studios Andrew Barahona. It also encourages emerging filmmaking teams to engage with other filmmakers and to get out and create movies. Bored Film Studios, based in El Paso, is an entertainment film company among participating teams.

After the 48 hours are up, the films are submitted and screened at the historic Rio Grande

Theatre in Downtown Las Cruces the following week.

The 48-hour time limit places restrictions on participating teams, but it also challenges their ability to focus and quickly implement skills necessary to create a film, and encourages team building, Barahona said. The winning prizes include a jury prize of \$400 and an audience award of \$100.

Every team that successfully completes the challenge will be eligible for the Rio Grande Theater screening event at 4 p.m., Feb. 23. The awards will be announced that evening at 7 p.m. at the theater, during the Las Cruces International Film Festival Awards Ceremony.

"This event benefits us as a company because it allows us to grow as filmmakers and be a part of our film community," Barahona said. "We like to be active in El Paso and both sister cities of (Las) Cruces and Cd. Juárez."

Jaqueline Martinez may be reached at theprospector1@gmail.com.

Prospsy picks: Potential 91st Academy Award winners

BY SERGIO MUÑOZ

The Prospector

Editors note: The 91st Academy Awards airs Feb. 24 on ABC. Below are Photographer Sergio Muñoz' winner predictions on select categories.

Best Picture

Will win: "Roma"
Could win: "Green Book"
Should win: "Roma"

Best Actor

Will win: Rami Malek, "Bohemian Rhapsody"
Could win: Christian Bale, "Vice"
Should win: Christian Bale, "Vice"

Best Actress

Will win: Glenn Close, "The Wife"
Could win: Olivia Colman, "The Favourite"
Should win: Glenn Close, "The Wife"

Best Supporting Actor

Will win: Mahershala Ali, "Green Book"
Could win: Richard E. Grant, "Can You Ever Forgive Me?"
Should win: Richard E. Grant, "Can You Ever

Forgive Me?"

Best Supporting Actress

Will win: Regina King, "If Beale Street Could Talk"
Could win: Rachel Weisz, "The Favourite"
Should win: Regina King, "If Beale Street Could Talk"

Best Director

Will win: Alfonso Cuarón, "Roma"
Could win: Yorgos Lanthimos, "The Favourite"
Should win: Alfonso Cuarón, "Roma"

Best Original Screenplay

Will win: "The Favourite"
Could win: "Green Book"
Should win: "First Reformed"

Best Adapted Screenplay

Will win: "BlacKkKlansman"
Could win: "If Beale Street Could Talk"
Should win: "BlacKkKlansman"

Best Cinematography

Will win: "Roma"

Could win: "Cold War"

Should win: "Roma"

Best Costume Design

Will win: "The Favourite"
Could win: "Black Panther"
Should win: "The Favourite"

Best Makeup and Hairstyling

Will win: "Vice"
Could win: "Border"
Should win: "Vice"

Best Original Score

Will win: "BlacKkKlansman"
Could win: "If Beale Street Could Talk"
Should win: "BlacKkKlansman"

Best Original Song

Will win: "Shallow," "A Star Is Born"
Could win: "All the Stars," "Black Panther"
Should win: "When a Cowboy Trades His Spurs for Wings," "The Ballad of Buster Scruggs"

Best Visual Effects

Will win: "Avengers: Infinity War"

Could win: "First Man"

Should win: "First Man"

Best Documentary Feature

Will win: "Free Solo"
Could win: "RBG"
Should win: "Free Solo"

Best Animated Feature Film

Will win: "Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse"
Could win: "Isle of Dogs"
Should win: "Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse"

Best Animated Short Film

Will win: "Bao"
Could win: "Weekends"
Should win: "Bao"

Best Foreign Language Film

Will win: "Roma"
Could win: "Cold War"
Should win: "Roma"

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UTEP men's basketball aim for redemption with group play



FILE PHOTO / THE PROSPECTOR

UTEP head coach Rodney Terry looks to lead his young Miner team into group play. The Miners are currently in 13th place in the Conference-USA standings.

BY MICHAEL CUVIELLO

The Prospector

The UTEP men's basketball team (8-17, 3-11) faces an uphill battle to make the conference tournament as the 13th seed in Conference USA's unique bonus play format.

This new format places all-conference teams by record within conference into two groups of five, and one group of four with these teams playing within their prospective groups for the final four games. UTEP is currently in 13th place with a 3-11 conference record. This seeding places them in the lowest rung of the conference groups.

The bonus play is designed to have teams play meaningful opponents that will give teams a chance to increase their RPI thus leading to a higher seeding in the NCAA tournament.

UTEP is joined in this bracket by Rice (10-17, 5-9), Middle Tennessee State (8-19, 5-9), and Charlotte (6-19, 4-8). UTEP is 2-1 against these opponents with narrow victories over group leader Rice and Charlotte. The Miners play Middle Tennessee State twice, to whom they lost by a narrow margin, 75-72, on the road Jan. 19.

On Feb. 23, UTEP will begin bonus play against top seed in its bracket, Rice. Coming off its worst Conference USA loss of the season (77-44 at Southern Miss to former Miner coach Doc Sadler), the

Miners look to bounce back against the Owls.

UTEP already owns a close home win over Rice, 65-64, in which it held Rice to 38 percent shooting from the field. The Miners need to provide more defensive pressure on graduate transfer forward Jack Williams and junior forward Robert Martin off the boards, as they both hit double digits in rebounds in their last meeting.

The matchup will feature Conference USA's leading rebounder freshman forward Efe Odigie, 10.1 rebounds per game, and the number five rebounder in Williams, 7.9 rebounds per game. Odigie was outplayed in the previous matchup with Williams out-rebounding Odigie 11-9.

Rice, much like UTEP, has a balanced offense with no dominant scorer and a slightly deeper bench with eight players averaging about 20 minutes a game or more. The Miners are riding a six-game home win streak versus Rice and have not lost to the Owls at home since 2012. The Miners need to solve the shooting woes that have been plaguing them as of late, shooting 32 percent from the field their last two games.

Defensively the past two games the Miners have struggled, and allowed opponents to shoot more than 50 percent from the field while hitting on less than a third of their shots.

Freshman guards Nigel Hawkins and Jordan

Lathon were effective in the previous meeting with 24 and 17 points, respectively.

Both teams shot 53.8 percent from the foul line in their previous matchup, which leaves more opportunity to put points on the board this go around.

Only the top 12 teams make the conference tournament so the Miners must win at least three out of four games to make the tournament. Winning the next four games would take any guesswork out of the process, but that would be a lot for a team that has not won back to back games all season.

After playing Rice at home, UTEP will travel to Charlotte to take on the 49ers at 2 p.m. March 3 in Charlotte, North Carolina.

"We're excited about C-USA 'Bonus Play' and the opportunity to play two more games in front of our passionate fans," said first-year Head Coach Rodney Terry. "They've been tremendous all season long, and we're counting on their continued support as we fight to earn a spot in the C-USA Tournament. It's going to be a super competitive final four games and we've instituted 'Bonus Prices' for 'Bonus Play' in the Haskins Center, which will hopefully help us pack the arena."

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UTEP women's track and field sprints to championship

BY DANIEL MENDEZ

The Prospector

UTEP women's track and field team won the 2019 Air Force Reserve Conference USA Indoor Track and Field Championship held Sunday, Feb. 17 in Birmingham, Alabama.

UTEP had a total score of 89.50 points, which beat the second-place winner Charlotte by nearly nine points.

The Miners have now taken home the indoor title four out of the past five years. The last time they won was in 2017.

"Coaches are extremely proud of the women's championship team," said Head Coach Mika Laaksonen. "Girls came out strong this weekend and fought hard from beginning to end. I don't think anything went wrong for us and we got all the points we were supposed to get, plus more."

The women's 4x400m team consisted of senior Dreshanae Rolle, juniors Madison Gibson and Kimisha Chambers, and sophomore Annette Bolomboy. UTEP went into the final race with a score of 81.50 points with Charlotte in second place with 75 points. UTEP came out and won the first two meets of the heat.

Although UTEP came in second place in the last race of the heat, the team finished with their best time all season with 3:43:39 to complete the 4x400m.

Earlier that day, the women of track and field set the tone in the first track event when senior Lilian Koechran and teammate sophomore Carolyn Chepkosgei took home the gold and silver medal, respectively in the mile race.

Another Miner with a noticeable top finish is Junior Kimisha Chambers who took home the bronze medal in the 60m hurdles with a time of 8.46.

In men's track and field news, teammate Junior Sean Bailey earned the bronze medal in the 400m with a time of 46.89.

Up next for the Miners is the NCAA Indoor Championships March 8-9 in Birmingham, Alabama.

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ACCURACY WATCH

The Prospector is committed to the accuracy. If you think we have made an error of fact, e-mail our editor at theprospector1@gmail.com.

Up next: UTEP basketball



FILE PHOTO / THE PROSPECTOR

UTEP women's basketball head coach Kevin Baker currently has seven active players on the team

BY PROSPECTOR STAFF

The Prospector

The UTEP Women's basketball team next match-up will be against the University Of Texas At San Antonio as the regular season is close to conclusion. The Lady Miners are still battling with only seven active players. In their last matchup against Southern Miss UTEP lost with a last second shot at the buzzer.

The Lady Miners have lost their last two matchups by a combined 11 points. Junior forward Zuzanna Puc has been an anchor scoring the ball and grabbing boards, leading the team in both categories averaging 12.7 points and 7.0 rebounds per game.

UTSA has arguably one of the best rebounders in Conference-USA with junior forward Marie Benson, who is averaging 10.5 rebounds per game placing her second in the conference. Benson put up a season-high 18 rebounds against Utah State earlier this season.

The Lady Miners defeated UTSA last season at home 66-53 on the road and junior forward Katarina Zec had 17 points and four rebounds in that matchup.

UTEP's matchup against UTSA will take place at 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 23, at the Don Haskins Center.

Up next: UTEP softball



FILE PHOTO / THE PROSPECTOR

Freshman infielder Kacey Duffield has 11 hits and two home-runs through nine games

BY PROSPECTOR STAFF

The Prospector

The UTEP women's softball team (2-7) looks ahead to their next tournament at the UC Davis tournament in Davis, California, after losing their last four matchups at the Boyd Rebel Gaming Classic in Las Vegas, Nevada. The Miners won their first matchup of the Classic against Weber State 17-5 before losing four straight.

Standout performers for UTEP through their first nine games have been freshman infielders Kasey Flores and Kacey Duffield. Flores has a team-high .571 batting average, five homers, and

16 hits. Duffield has a .478 batting average with 11 hits, four RBI's, and two homers.

UTEP will play against the host-school UC Davis twice (5-1) in their next two matchups. The Miners fell to the Aggies 15-2 in their third game of the Boyd Rebel Gaming Classic.

UC Davis has a standout performer of their own in senior infielder Meghan Bradbury who has 10 hits, two homers, and nine RBI's through six games.

The Miners matchups against UC Davis will be at 1 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. Thursday Feb. 21.



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