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THE PROSPECTOR

ASSAYER OF STUDENT OPINION

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THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO
WWW.THEPROSPECTORDAILY.COM

Spirits haunt fire and rescue station

Anahy Diaz

The Prospector

FABENS, TEXAS — Just 10 miles away from El Paso lies Fabens, Texas, a town of about 8,250 living individuals, not including the spirits that are said to roam the streets and buildings of the 91-year-old town.

Such is the case for the town's Fire and Rescue Department (FRD) that has been rumored to be haunted by three spirits.

The fire station lies in the middle of a church, a funeral home, train tracks and the now demolished Fabens Hospital.

Firefighters at this station reported having experienced paranormal activity in the past, including hearing unfamiliar voices, seeing doors slam when no one's around and visions of three different shadows in the form of a woman, a man and a child.

"We've had our guys not realize they were chasing after a ghost kid until they went inside the building and found no one," said David Calzada, the department's assistant fire chief, who believes the paranormal activity they've experienced is a combination of the station's location, the demolition of the old Fabens Hospital and the possibility that tragedies they witness as first responders follow them back to work.

The team of firefighters and Paranormal Research Investigators speculate that after the



Illustration by Teddy Baylón.

hospital was demolished, all the spirits living inside it transferred to the fire department.

Paranormal investigators confirmed these speculations in August when they conducted an investigation at the station led by member Ramiro Galvan, in which they identified one of the mysterious shadows to be a female nurse after asking the spirit a series of questions.

Calzada further confirmed this when he shared with the group of investigators that, in the past, one of his relatives became greatly ill

and was hospitalized next door. When the relative recovered, he asked his family to speak with the nurse he had supposedly seen next to his bed. However, the doctors said there was no nurse.

"I had never mentioned it to anyone," Calzada said. "So, when (Galvan) mentioned it out of nowhere, that just kind of confirmed everything."

see HAUNTING on page 3

President Wilson

Leading a binational, bicultural university

Valeria Olivares

The Prospector

As UTEP President Heather Wilson's first semester at the university starts wrapping up, The Prospector sat down to talk about her experience so far, plans for the university and more.

Wilson describes herself as a pragmatic, values-driven, strategic leader who likes to identify the bigger issues and tasks that need to be dealt with, while holding herself and others accountable for the achieved results.

Wilson was the first female military veteran elected to a full term in Congress, was in one of the first classes at the U.S. Air Force Academy that allowed women, is the first woman to lead basic training and the first woman vice wing commander at the Academy and she believes that just about anybody can be a role model for others.

"Everybody has an obligation to be the best whoever they are and to open opportunities for the next generation," Wilson said. "It's not limited to me ... We all have that obligation."

see WILSON on page 4

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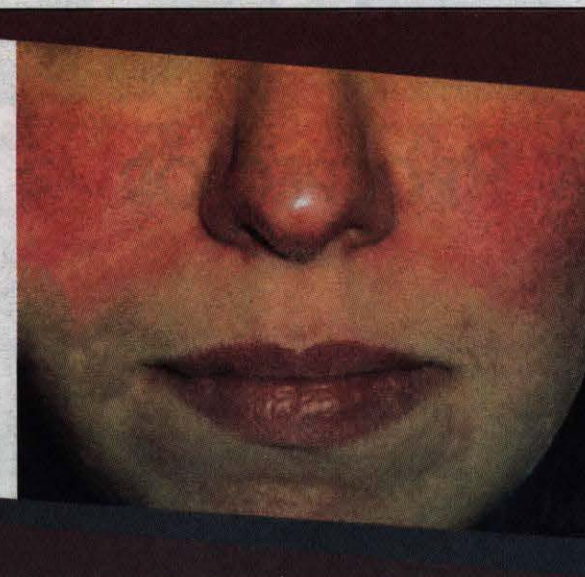
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Tennessee politician embodies the bigoted underbelly of America



Bryan Mena

The Prospector

Even more sludge leaked to the surface from the dark crevices of homophobia and white supremacy Oct. 21 during a public meeting in Middle America.

Warren Hurst, a county commissioner for Sevier County in Tennessee, spoke his twisted truth to an audience that chillingly affirmed his delusions with an “amen” that echoed across the room.

Hurst said that Pete Buttigieg, an openly gay man, running for president of the United States is “as ugly as you can get,” adding that “a white male in this country has very few rights and they’re getting took more every day.” The bitter cherry topping off his rotten cake of abhorrence.

You know you are a privileged white supremacist if you feel oppressed because politicians with diverse backgrounds are running for the highest office in the country: two black people, a Latino and a gay white man, just to name a few.

You know you are a privileged white supremacist if you get angry at a Latina speaking Spanish in a McDonald’s.

You know you are a privileged white supremacist if you are the president of the United States and you compare an impeachment inquiry to a lynching.

You know you are a privileged white supremacist if you feel victimized in a world that is gladly handing the short end of the stick to marginalized communities.

The truth is, cisgender, heterosexual, white men like Hurst still bask in their privilege.

Like Ibram X. Kendi said in *The Atlantic*, reflecting on Elijah Cummings’ passing, “On the other hand, there may be no more consequential white privilege than life itself. The privilege of being on the living end of racism. The privilege of a political response when death from drug overdoses comes in bunches.”

Oct. 21 was just another day of the racist and homophobic spirit that’s been stalking this country since its colonization.

It hides behind the human mask people wear every day; It’s invisible until another person of color gets gunned down in their own

home or until another transgender woman gets murdered in cold blood; It’s almost always invisible until it’s too late, unless warning signs surface, but that doesn’t happen enough.

Hurst is just another symptom of the endemic plague of bigotry and ignorance that’s sickened people around the world, including in good ol’ Rockwellian America.

According to *The Bulletin of the World Health Organization*, an international journal on world health, gender and sexuality-based violence continually proves to be an international systematic pattern.

“If we want to eradicate violence motivated by perception of sexual orientation and gender identity, we must identify the mechanisms and motivations of such violence,” the editorial’s discussion said. “The perpetrators are often male and although violence is not necessarily a part of men’s dominant position in society (hegemonic masculinity), the two are often linked.”

Sure, everyone is entitled to their opinion, including the straight white man. However, insane claims that white men are losing their privilege more and more each day is false and should be called out.

According to Jon Greenberg in a piece for *Everyday Feminism*, white people typically have ten privileges in society which are: a positive relationship with the police; being favored by school authorities; attending segregated schools of affluence; learning about their own race in school; mostly having children’s books that overwhelmingly represent their whiteness; soaking in media that is blatantly biased toward their whiteness; escaping stereotypes associated with being white; playing the “colorblind card;” being insulated of the daily toll of racism; and living ignorant of the dire state of racism.

So no, white people are not getting any rights or privileges taken away from them “every day.”

Of course, it is always wrong to generalize an entire race or everyone that’s heterosexual. Not all straight white people are ignorant and mean-spirited, some are incredible allies.

The brutal truth is that, systemically, straight white people avoid the deadly harsh reality of homophobia, racism and bigotry that continues to target millions around the world.

Bryan Mena may be reached at prospector@utep.edu

Letter to the Editor Statistics matter

Editor’s note: Read Morales’ full letter online at theprospectordaily.com.

To the Editor:

Marisol Chávez addressed the issue of unarmed police shootings and cites the Botham Jean case in which Amber Guyger, a police officer, negligently shot and killed an unarmed black man.

Guyger was then correctly charged, tried and convicted for murder.

Chávez cites a quote from Guyger, who said, “No police officer would ever want to hurt an innocent person.”

Then, Chávez asks, rightly, “then why does it keep happening?” At a root level, I, as well as millions of other Americans, agree with the idea that any instance of police negligence is always a problem and should be condemned and addressed by individual departments.

Where I disagree with Chávez, is the reason why this is, unfortunately, happening. Chávez’s argument is that systematic racism is the cause for police acting in negligent ways. While racism is a cause in individual cases, the idea that the entire system of law enforcement is systematically targeting black people or minorities as a whole is not accurate based on police shooting statistics.

Moreover, generalizing individual marginal cases of police negligence to racism only further denigrates the ability of the departments to ob-

jectively review why negligence happens in the first place, as well as further our distrust and relationship to law enforcement in our communities, which damages our social fabric.

I’ll first address the statistics cited by Chávez, who first cites a statistic that states that “black people are three times more likely to be shot by police than white people and 21 percent of black victims are unarmed compared to 14 percent of white victims.” Chávez then wrote, “I don’t even have to use statistics to identify the problem in the system.” But you do.

Chávez used a website called mappingpolicekillings.org which, as the name suggests, documents police killings as a whole. The problem with this website can be seen even from the name: they are recording all police killings, in-

cluding accidents. This presents a huge flaw in the way the website measures its variables.

The website defines police killings as “a case where a person dies as a result of being chased, beaten, arrested, restrained, shot, pepper sprayed, tasered, or otherwise harmed by police officers, whether on-duty or off-duty, intentional or accidental.” This means the website is deliberately taking into account accidents that did not even involve a gun or a police officer who was not on-duty. This means a car accident that involved a person of color and an off-duty officer would constitute as a police killing. ...

Diego Morales

Political science sophomore

Send letters to prospector@utep.edu

THE PROSPECTOR

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HAUNTING from front page

The shadow is said to roam the main hallway inside the building that connects the kitchen, dining room and TV area where the firefighters spend most of their time. However, the bay area of the station where the team keeps its trucks and equipment has also been confirmed to be haunted by a member of the team who died in 2017, George Perez.

Calzada describes Perez as a carefree member of the team who would say that, when he died, he would come back to haunt the place.

When the team of investigators used a ghost voice box to communicate with the spirit haunting the bay, the machine read, "Who cares?"

The investigators also experienced right-sided weakness, a sign of a stroke, which is something Perez had suffered multiple times while still alive.

"I was one of the last people he talked to before he passed away," Calzada said. "I believe he said it to kind of mess with me or let me know he's somewhere."

The youngest and most active spirit that lives in the station is a child speculated to be 6 or 7 years old. The child has been heard and seen running around the station.

Lieutenant Oscar Jauregui recalls having clearly seen a boy dressed in a blue shirt, pants and boots. His uncle and three other team members saw the same boy.

Jauregui said the kid ran to the door of the second building as soon as they noticed him. The members went inside the building to search for the boy, but after looking around, including under and inside the fire trucks, they came out empty-handed.

"There's only one way out and it's the way we came in," Jauregui said. "I don't see skin, but I saw the body form; I remember that precisely."

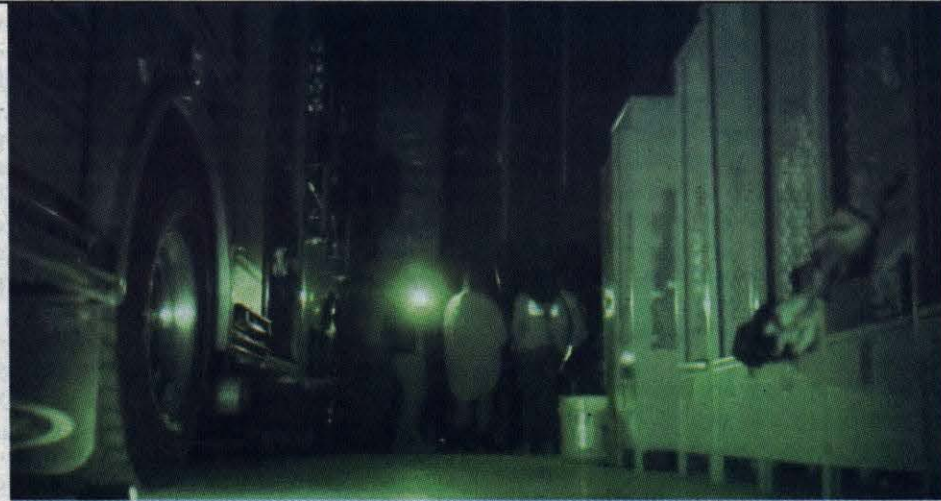
Although the boy has been seen roaming mostly outside the station and inside the second building, the paranormal investigators were able to capture a child's voice saying "coffee," "water" and "monster" on camera outside the restroom in the main building. They later made the connection that the voice was referring to the drinks the firefighters drink the most at the station, including the Monster energy drinks.

"Whoever the voice belonged to was basically reflecting or repeating what they see going on," Galvan said.

Ever since the August investigation, the firefighters have experienced less activity. However, The Prospector went along with the team of investigators Thursday, Oct. 24, for a follow up investigation at the Fabens Fire and Rescue Department.

From capturing whispers and unfamiliar noises to feeling bodies and gentle strokes where there was no one, The Prospector's staff created a short documentary on the station found online at theprospectordaily.com.

Anahy Diaz may be reached at prospector@utep.edu



Noah Sarabia / The Prospector

The Prospector joined El Paso's Research Investigators Thursday, Oct. 24, in an attempt to unmask the paranormal activity experienced at Fabens Fire and Rescue Department.

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WILSON from front page

Different people have served as Wilson's role models and inspirations throughout her life. Colin Powell's leadership, Margaret Mead's story, explored in her autobiography titled "Blackberry Winter: My Earlier Years," and Q's quirky and unconventional character in the James Bond films have all shaped her in different ways.

As the former president of the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, a science and engineering university, member of the U.S. House of Representatives and, most recently, secretary of the U.S. Air Force, Wilson was excited to return to higher education.

"I knew that I was going to love being back on campus with students," Wilson said. "There's so much that happens between the age of 18 and 25-ish, it's just a really exciting time."

Among her long-term plans for UTEP, Wilson seeks to strengthen student success, expand the research done at the university and increase the university's engagement and impact on the community.

"UTEP is a 21st century university; It has grown consistently over the last 21 years and it's now a class one research university," Wilson said. "It's one of the best universities in the country, we're as good as we've ever been and now, together, we've got to figure out how to get even better."

Building a stronger philanthropic culture at the university is one of Wilson's long-term goals. A shorter-term goal is updating UTEP's strategic plan, something she said has not been done since 2010.

Wilson plans to bring in an outside consultant to assess what is happening within the higher education environment and analyze UTEP's strengths in order to leverage the institution.

"We're a binational, bicultural university. Large percentage are fluently bilingual, faculty and staff," Wilson said. "What are the things that we can do to advance knowledge and discovery of public value that nobody else can do, because of who we are and where we are?"

Wilson also plans to start an enrollment management plan that will look into the statistics of the 52 high schools in the region from which UTEP recruits.

"The demographics in those schools tell us that, over the next 10 years, we'll see a declining number of graduates from those schools," Wilson said. "What does that mean for us and the programs that we offer? What are the programs we don't offer that we should offer?"

The work done with UTEP Edge, the university's program that develops students' professional skills and seeks to give them a competitive advantage as they graduate, impressed Wilson

as she learned about it when transitioning into her current position.

"It's research based, it's data-driven ... UTEP Edge is in pretty good shape," Wilson said. "Sometimes the best thing a leader does is find what's working and stay out of the way."

In response to the protests that popped up on campus calling out her past Congressional voting record and the petition that reached more than 10,000 signatures and asked the Texas Board of Regents, the governing body for The University of Texas System, to reconsider her election, Wilson said her past jobs prepared her for it.

"As a member of Congress, I don't think there's a day that goes by in Washington when there aren't several groups protesting about different things," Wilson said. "It's one of the ways people communicate things that are important to them and you've got to listen and be cognizant of how people feel and what they worry about."

Wilson explained that a university's transition of a presidency is an "anxious time" for its students, faculty and staff, adding that she understands a leader must "reach out and listen."

In order to prepare for her position, Wilson and her husband went to a Spanish immersion course in Oaxaca, Mexico.

"It's a fluently bilingual community and I think it's important to at least be able to under-



Glenda Avalos / The Prospector
Valeria Olivares, The Prospector's editor in chief, talked with UTEP President Heather Wilson during an exclusive interview late October.

stand more," Wilson said. "It's a matter of respect, as well."

She tries to fit in a study session each morning by using Duolingo, a language learning app that offers more than 30 different languages.

Wilson said that she has enjoyed El Paso, the activities the city offers and the people's diversity, adding that she has had interesting conversations about the city's biculturalism.

"I've found (El Paso and UTEP) to be a very welcoming community across the board," Wilson said. "People have been friendly and welcoming ... I have not had a bad meal since I arrived."

Valeria Olivares may be reached at prospector@utep.edu

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Haunt the nights this Halloween

Jaqueline Martinez

The Prospector

Halloween is here and many celebrate with costume parties, haunted houses, and horror movies. Here is a list of other options.

La Union Corn Maze

With the closing of the season coming up on Sunday, Nov. 3, La Union Corn Maze will be open Halloween night 5:30 - 10 p.m.

On this Halloween special, La Union will host a costume contest that will be judged by the cashiers working at the ticket booths. Five winners will receive free passes for next year's maze and free candy will also be given to children of age 8 and under.

"This is going to be my first time going to the corn maze and I am so excited to be going with my friends," said Victor Reyes, UTEP digital media junior, who said he will be going with his friends all dressed as characters from "Nightmare Before Christmas" to participate in the costume contest.

Last Thursdays: Halloween Edition

The monthly El Paso art-walk will also host a Halloween special this last Thursday of the month with music, beverages, art and games at the Roderick Artspace Lofts and a specialty of drinks offered at the Brew Lab. The all-age event will also feature a market of local artists and vendors. No cover charges.

Devil's Night Ghost Tour

The Paso Del Norte Paranormal Society and the Concordia Cemetery Ghost Tour along with Ghosts 915, will lead a tour through the grave-stones of the Concordia cemetery the night before Halloween, where guests are welcome to bring their cameras and join the investigation.



Photo courtesy of Pxhere

Proceeds will go toward the Concordia Cemetery for preservation and restoration purposes. This is an age 10 and up event with a cover charge of \$15 per person.

All Treats, No Tricks! Cielo Vista

The Cielo Vista Mall will host a night of safe and family-friendly trick-or-treating this Halloween from 4 to 6 p.m. Guests are encouraged to wear costumes. Masks will only be permitted for children ages 10 or younger.

Alamo Drafthouse

On Thursday, Oct. 31, the Alamo Drafthouse invites horror movie enthusiasts to relive the terror of the 1970s' classic horror, "The Exorcist" beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Bars and Nightclubs

For the night life lurking in the shadows, the EPIC Bar and Nightclub will host the "largest party night of the year," with their annual EPIC Halloween Party and costume contest on Halloween night.

The nightclub will feature \$1,000 in cash prizes, go-go dancers and \$2 Jell-O shots. Doors will open at 3 p.m. for Happy Hour with bartender Eriq Nevarez and beats by DJs Ricky Harshberger and Manuel Rivera. No cover fees.

Back 9 will host a Monster's Ball Halloween Costume Party with a costume contest. Gen-

eral admission fees are \$15 or free entry with an early reservation before 11 p.m. Tickets for this event are sold on Eventbrite.

With a three-day celebration beginning Oct. 31, Erin's Bar will host a Halloween Monster Bash Party featuring DJ Romeo. The bar will have a costume contest with prizes included.

The Rockhouse Bar & Grill will also be hosting a Halloween party, presenting the Relentless Onslaught US Tour 2019, featuring death metal bands, Suffocation and Belphegor. Tickets are limited and available for sale at the bar.

"CarnEvil" KLAQ Haunted House

KLAQ's annual haunted house adopted a twisted carnival theme called CarnEvil.

"I play the Ring Master, it's a character I created called Wolfgang von Cutter-Bone, he's pretty much the host and greeter," said Adam Heredia, UTEP art education senior. "I'm the first scare so I lead people into the haunt, give them a taste of what they're about to experience."

Heredia has been a haunted house worker for four years and this has been his second year working with the KLAQ Haunted House. Located on 1840 Lee Trevino Ave., The Haunted House will be open until Halloween, with working hours running weekdays at 7-10 p.m., Fridays and on Saturdays from 7 p.m. to midnight.

The haunted house provides military discounts as well as \$5 discounts on Thursdays for students who bring their student identification and football fans who wear their team jersey on Sundays. Attendees can also receive a free ticket by donating blood.

"Come down and get scared, it's really awesome," Heredia said.

Jaqueline Martinez may be reached at prospector@utep.edu

El Paso Symphony to perform 'Coco in Concert'

Prospector Staff Report

El Paso Symphony Orchestra (EPSO) will celebrate Dia de Los Muertos with a live rendition of the Academy Award-winning animated film "Coco" by composer Michael Giacchino at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 2 at The Plaza Theatre.

Set in a fictional Mexican town, the culturally sensitive and heartwarming film features 12-year-old Miguel, dreaming of becoming a famous musician in a household where music has been banned.

Inspired by his idol, Ernesto de la Cruz, Miguel embarks on an extraordinary adventure in the enchanted land of the dead. Joined by the charming trickster, Hector, the two unexpected friends help one another uncover the real story behind Miguel's family history.

The Disney and Pixar concert is the first of four special events presented this season by EPSO, followed by the music of Selena in March, a March Madness fundraiser in April, and a fireworks spectacular in July 2020.

Tickets for "Coco in Concert" are available online for \$25 at epsos.org or by calling (915) 532-3776.

Prospector Staff may be reached at prospector@utep.edu

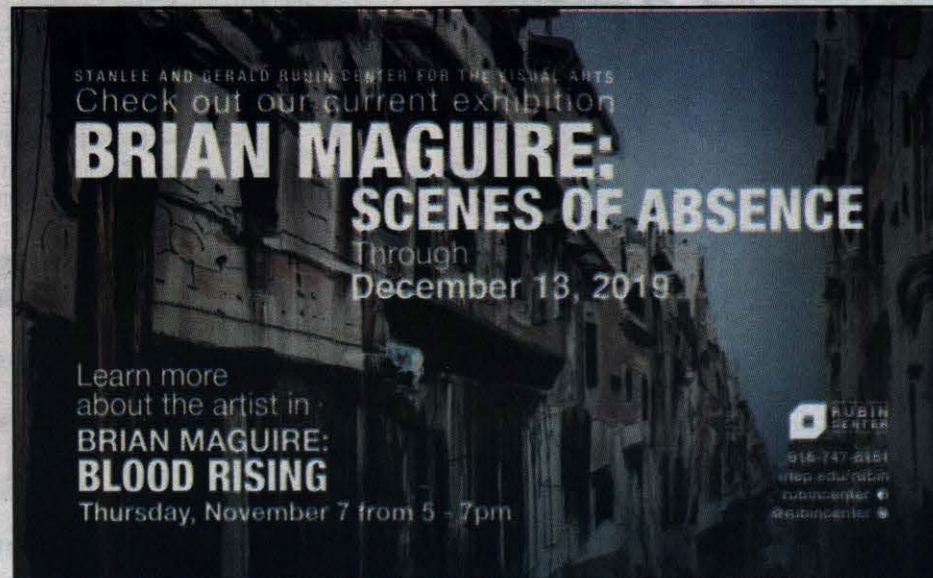


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Tooth and Veil hosts tea party for goth community

Alexia X. Nava Carmona

The Prospector

Tooth and Veil: Oddities and Macabre Shop hosted the Halloween Ugly Sweater Tea Party as part of their monthly Mourning Tea parties at their location on 820 Mesa St. Friday, Oct. 25.

The Mourning Tea parties, which started in March, were inspired by mourning traditions from the Victorian era where women did not leave their house for at least two years, according to shop owner Michelle Bocanegra, also known as "Deady Page."

Bocanegra explained that because women could not leave the home, "they brought people into their homes and had very elaborate parties."

The event has different themes, the latest being "Halloween Ugly Sweater" because of Halloween's rising popularity, Bocanegra said.

"Halloween has really increased in popularity. People have always loved Halloween but I think, especially this year, you got stores like Target, Walmart, Macy's, a bunch of other different stores like Spirit, and they're all making Halloween sweaters," Bocanegra said. "Not just for Christmas anymore, now (stores) are making Halloween sweaters."



Daniel Rey Perez / The Prospector

Store owner Michelle Bocanegra looms over an attendee embracing the coffin at the Tooth and Veil Ugly Halloween Sweater Tea Party.

During the event, the store showcased a small Victorian-esque living room with a wooden coffin prop for attendees to lay in for pictures.

Beside the set-up was also a snack bar that served sandwiches, candy, cookies, strawberries, grapes and slices of ham and cheese.

To drink, attendees enjoyed either soda or a mix of hibiscus tea and rum, also dubbed "Christina's Tainted Tea."

The shop displayed a variety of merchandise, including art made of recycled items and bone-like crafts made by local artists.

"Most of our artists that are in here, because we have a lot of local featured artists, they come up with (...) recycled art," Bocanegra said.

Some of the local art displayed was made by Bocanegra herself. Her art included earrings made from dinosaur toys and lanterns with doll parts. Other artists displayed recycled human bones and human blood.

"You got insects, you've got animal bones and you've got human bones, human teeth," Bocanegra said while she showed the featured art pieces. "They get recycled and they turn them into art."

In the event, the store also displayed an apothecary with different herbs and objects, such as tarot cards, recipes and spell candles.

"As a witch, it's nice seeing the apothecary and the candles and stuff like that knowing that it's being done properly," said Teralyn Pospesel, a 23-year old tattoo apprentice who learned about the event through her mother, who has been friends with Bocanegra a long time. "It's hard to find."

To read the full story, visit theprospectordaily.com

Alexia X. Nava Carmona may be reached at prospector@utep.edu



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Turnovers bite Miners in 42-21 loss to Bulldogs

Isaiah Ramirez

The Prospector

Coming into its matchup with Louisiana Tech (7-1, 4-0) the UTEP football team (1-6, 0-4) knew this would be a tough task to overcome against the first place and offensive powerhouse Bulldogs. LA Tech proved just how tough a task, showcasing an exceptional offense with 490 total yards in a 42-21 win over the Miners with over 16,000 fans in attendance.

UTEP has lost six straight games and LA Tech leads the all-time series between the two teams 13-2-1.

LA Tech started its second series with an eight-play, 73-yard drive, scoring off a one-yard rushing touchdown by junior running back Israel Tucker.

The Miners began the first quarter on good terms offensively, specifically with a 12 play, 84-yard drive capped off by a five-yard rushing touchdown by senior running back Treyvon Hughes.

This scoring drive, which occurred at the 6:04 mark in the first quarter, included a solid passing display by senior quarterback Kai Locksley where he went 6-for-6 for 62 passing yards.

Locksley played the entire game under center for the first time this season, as he has ro-

tated the quarterback position with senior Brandon Jones, who is currently injured with a concussion.

"It felt good and I felt comfortable and I felt my chemistry with the guys were good and we were able to establish a connection," Locksley said.

"Kai threw the ball well today and we didn't try to run him much and only when we needed to," UTEP Head Coach Dana Dimel said.

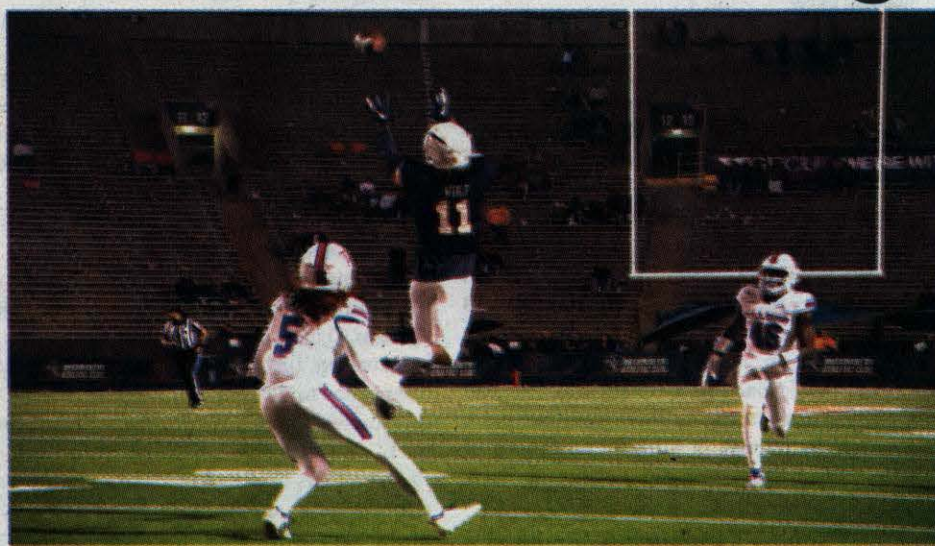
Penalties, which have been the team's kryptonite were nowhere to be found in the first quarter for UTEP. In the Miners' last game against Florida International, the team committed ten penalties for 106 total yards.

The Miners' new kryptonite turned out to be turnovers as it committed two fumbles in the second quarter with an errant hike over Kai Locksley's head and a fumble by Locksley deep in LA Tech territory.

UTEP went on to have three fumbles for the game. LA Tech capitalized off those turnovers with three trips to the end zone.

"Fumble inside the red zone and a bad snap, those were the two things that led to scores and again, you can't give a 6-1 team a ton of momentum plays and that's what we did," Dimel said.

UTEP's silver lining in the blowout loss was a strong receiving core of redshirt junior Jus-



Daniel Rey Perez / The Prospector

Sophomore Tre'shon Wolf makes a leaping catch at the Sun bowl stadium versus Louisiana Tech Saturday, Oct. 26.

tin Garret having a career-high five receptions for 60 yards, and freshman wide receiver Jacob Cowing with two receptions for 70 yards, and one touchdown reception.

"We showed some improvements, but until we could just execute and not have big mistakes and get rid of those glaring mistakes, we have a

chance to win some competitive games," Dimel said.

UTEP hits the road to take on North Texas at 1:30 p.m. Nov. 2 in Denton, Texas. The matchup can be viewed on the NFL Network.

Isaiah Ramirez can be reached at prospector@utep.edu

Miners sweep Herd in volleyball

Michael CuvIELLO

The Prospector

The Miners (10-11, 3-5) took all three sets (25-19, 25-20, 25-23) from the Marshall University Herd Friday evening in a dominating performance for the home team.

Sophomore Serena Patterson paced the team with a double-double which included 16 kills and 13 digs for the Miners. Junior Syenna Masaki also recorded a double-double with 17 assists and 10 digs.

After a slow start, which saw UTEP trailing 12-7 in the first set, the Miners took off on a 10 point run. Once UTEP took the lead, it never looked back, winning the first set 25-19.

Aggressive play at the net from juniors Anamarija Mikovic and Mallary Yost was instrumental in the first set victory. Mikovic finished the match with 10 kills.

The Miners took control of the second set midway through with a three-point run. After that point the Miners never relinquished the lead on the way to a 25-20 second set win.

Marshall was at its most competitive in the final and deciding set. In a match that had nine lead changes the Miners were trailing 23-22 and

on the cusp of losing their first set when freshman Jessica Landeros came up big with a game-saving kill to tie the score.

The Miners would go on to win the next three points to close out the match with a kill by Mikovic, her fifth of the set.

With 10 wins on the season the Miners have already doubled their win total from last season and are currently tied for eighth in the Conference USA standings. The top eight teams make the conference tournament and the Miners are in contention for one of those spots with six games remaining.

UTEP has a considerable road test this week as the Miners will be playing the conference-leading and 23rd nationally ranked Western Kentucky (WKU) Hill Toppers, who are 23-1 overall and undefeated in conference.

Western Kentucky has a lifetime 8-0 record versus UTEP and has never lost a set to the Miners.

UTEP plays two games on the road this week 5 p.m. Nov. 1 at WKU and 11 a.m. Nov. 3 at Southern Miss.

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Soccer gets critical win

Isaiah Ramirez

The Prospector

One game remains in the UTEP women's soccer season and after a two-game road trip, the Miners sit in seventh place in the conference standings. The Miners picked up a crucial 2-0 win against Old Dominion after falling 0-1 to University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

Forwards Jojo Ngongo and Tessa Carlin stepped up in a big way for UTEP against ODU recording a goal and assist each, in the shutout win for the Miners. ODU's five-match winning streak ended in the process.

Ngongo's goal in the 51st minute came off an assist by Carlin, while Carlin's goal in the 65th minute was complemented by Ngongo. Carlin leads the Miners with sixth assists this season.

Freshman goalie Emily Parrott recorded her sixth shutout of the season while delivering a big save late in the first half against the Monarchs.

"We picked up a solid three points today," UTEP Head Coach Kathryn Balogun said in a press release. "We started slow but weathered the storm and came out in the second half finding the back of the net two times. The girls represented El Paso, UTEP and themselves well."

The Miners shutout victory is a great bounce-back effort from their previous matchup against second-place Charlotte. A late goal by 49ers senior forward Jaime Frankhauser in the 79th minute resulted in a 1-0 loss for the Miners.

UTEP nearly got on the board in the 31st minute of the game but sophomore forward Kam Fisher's kick ended with a save by Charlotte junior goalkeeper Abby Stapleton.

UTEP had one last chance to get on the board but an offside call during the 83rd minute ended the Miners hopes for a win.

"I'm super proud of our team's effort tonight from all 21 players," Balogun said in a press release. "Charlotte is the best team we've faced."

The top eight teams during the regular season, as determined by points will advance to the Conference-USA postseason tournament with the winner of the single-elimination tournament advancing to the NCAA tournament.

The Miners will clinch a tournament spot with a victory this Friday or a loss by Middle Tennessee State

UTEP will close out the regular season with a matchup versus The University of Texas at San Antonio at 7 p.m. Nov. 1 at University Field.

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Miners tame Greyhounds

Rebecca Reza

The Prospector

In its first exhibition game, heading into the 2019-2020 season, UTEP women's basketball team dominated the Eastern New Mexico University Greyhounds Saturday, Oct. 26 with a final score of 84-64.

The game was the first of two exhibition contests for the Miners before the Nov. 9 season opener against UC Riverside. Senior forward Katarina Zec led the team in scoring with 18 points.

"I thought the team played really well as a whole," Head Coach Kevin Baker said. "We had a positive assist/turnover ratio from our point guard; it's been tough sledding the past couple of years. Now we're getting into positive numbers and I'm proud of that."

Consistent play from the point guard position is what the Miners have been missing the past few years.

The performance Saturday has given UTEP a substantial confidence boost for the challenges they will face during conference play.

"This is probably my first season that we're complete on the point guard," Zec said. "It is always good when you have somebody to lean on

in the guard spot when she distributes the ball and takes care of the ball—it's good and gives me confidence."

The Miners brought in seven newcomers to the team, including freshman forward Tatyana Modawar and homegrown talent Katia Gallegos, from Franklin High School. Both were instrumental in notching the team's first win. At one point during the first half, Baker sent in four freshmen and a sophomore to the floor.

The young team stormed onto the court, looking to impress in the team's debut at the Don Haskins Center.

Three top 100 junior college transfers have been added to the Miners, including All American juniors Tia Bradshaw and DeJaNae Roebuck, both from Hutchinson Junior College.

The Miners' lead ballooned to 26 in the final minutes, proving the incoming players have integrated well in the program. Modawar contributed 15 points and four rebounds in limited play.

"She works extremely hard and puts a lot of extra hours in the gym," Baker said. "To see players get payoff for that hard work makes me feel really good. She's only going to get better."

Eastern New Mexico struggled to regroup following a shaky first half and conceded a total of



Carolina Alvarez / The Prospector

Senior Katarina Zec drives to basket against Western New Mexico University at the Don Haskins Center Saturday, Oct. 26.

26 turnovers in the end. Senior Natalie DeLonge led the Greyhounds efforts, scoring 16 total points for the contest.

The Miners' final exhibition game versus St. Marys is set for 1 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 2 at the Don Haskins Center. Admission is free.

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