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The Prospector, February 4, 2020

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THE PROSPECTOR

ASSAYER OF STUDENT OPINION

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

Mike Bloomberg visits El Paso



Rebecca Reza / The Prospector

More than 100 people were in attendance to greet Democratic Presidential Candidate Michael Bloomberg Wednesday, Jan. 29, during his stop at Downtown El Paso. See story on page 3.

Microgenres: Vaporwave

Sasha Minjarez

The Prospector

Vaporwave is an internet-based microgenre that is characterized by its distinct low-fidelity, or lo-fi, beats skillfully paired with heavy sampling of existing media to produce music that sounds refurbished, post-modernized, retro and futuristic – all at the same time.

Dummy Mag defines the genre as “wholly synthesised or heavily processed chunk of corporate mood music, bright and earnest or slow and sultry, often beautiful, either looped out of sync and beyond the point of functionality or standing alone, and sometimes with a smattering of miasma about it.”

Producing vaporwave music is entirely based on being resourceful because it is mixing and mashing songs from different generations, like the '80s and '90s, to create a sound that's brilliantly paradoxical — both retro and futuristic.

“The whole appeal of vaporwave is its use of remaining unknown, that in a world where nothing is private; it is refreshing to find something that feels like it was found in the dumpster of a thrift shop, where it does not matter who it came from or who made it, only that it takes you elsewhere, somewhere distant from reality,” vaporwave artist Eco Virtual told music writer Ben Heels in an article titled “History of Vaporwave.”

This notion of “remaining unknown” is driven even deeper due to vaporwave artists using pseudonyms like “Blank Banshee” and “Macintosh Plus” to remain anonymous while professionally putting out their work, adding a degree of amorphousness that reinforces the enigmatic quality of the genre.

Chuck Person's 2010 album “Eccojams Vol. 1” is thought to be one of the earliest vaporwave albums and is essentially a compilation of sampled '80s tracks with a breath of new life yet still leaving intact the tinge of familiarity that evokes nostalgia.

University of Alabama at Birmingham blazes by the Miners

Michael CuvIELLO

The Prospector

The UTEP Miners (13-10, 4-6) lost its second home game of the season to the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) Blazers (14-9, 5-5) after being outscored by 14 points in the second half. At halftime, the score was tied at 27 points apiece, but a 14-point run by the Blazers during a four-minute stretch of the second half put UAB in control of the game the rest of the way.

Both teams came into the matchup with identical records of 13-9 and tied for eighth with 4-5 conference records, UAB won its second straight game and third consecutive road game of the season.

Throughout the first half, both teams played evenly matched with neither being able to assert any type of momentum to take over the game. Both teams shot effectively in the first half with the Blazers shooting 48% and the Miners a solid 42%. The Miners stayed in the game by forcing 10 turnovers in the first half and shooting 33%, only trailing in the rebound battle by one.

About three minutes into the second half, the Blazers took charge after shutting down the Miners scoring for four minutes and taking a 13-point lead. With about eight minutes left in the game, the Miners were trailing by 16 points.

UTEP cut the lead in half with about six minutes left in the game off a 3-pointer by sophomore Souley Boum. Unfortunately, over the

next three minutes of the half, the Blazers went on an 8-point run to shut the door on the Miners. UAB pushed the lead back to 16 points. Junior Eric Villa's 3-pointer with 27 seconds left would make the final margin of loss 14 points.

In the second half, UAB shot a blazing 60% from the field. For the game, the Blazers dominated in the paint, outscoring the Miners 36-16, including 20 points off turnovers.

The Blazers' ball movement continually set up easy baskets inside to which the UTEP defense had no answer.

see BLAZERS on page 7

see VAPORWAVE on page 6

Un Super Bowl bien Latino



Marisol Chávez
The Prospector

Después de 54 años conquistando el primer fin de semana de febrero, poco a poco, lo hemos conseguido: este Super Bowl estuvo bien Latino.

Por onceava ocasión, Miami estuvo a cargo del campeonato de la NFL. La ciudad comenzó a prepararse desde el 2016, después de ser nombrados anfitriones oficiales a través de un comunicado de prensa de los Miami Dolphins.

No es un secreto que los Latinos son clave para la estabilidad económica de Miami. En el 2017, la BBC describió la llegada de inmigrantes a la ciudad como un "tsunami demográfico que ha transformado la ciudad de un resort adormilado del sur a una metrópolis Latina."

Y tiene sentido, porque si pienso en Miami, pienso en mi gente y en grandes Latinos como Gloria Estefan y Ricky Martin.

El hecho de que el Super Bowl se haya celebrado en una ciudad tan importante para la cultura Latina en los Estados Unidos es solo la primera de las cosas que quiero celebrar hoy.

La segunda es nada más y nada menos que los Tigres del Norte, la banda de música regional mexicana.

Los Tigres anunciaron por medio de Twitter que estarían presentes en el campeonato de la NFL.

Su participación incluyó una narración de inauguración al partido para la programación de Fox Deportes y tuvo una duración total de dos minutos.

A pesar de que no contribuyeron musicalmente en la celebración de la temporada 100 de la NFL, no deja de ser importante para probar una cosa: fue suficiente para que se sintiera el orgullo mexicano.

La segunda participación relevante fue la de Pitbull. El cantante y rapero de Miami se presentó afuera del estadio para los asistentes antes del partido.

El ganador de diversos premios Grammy, Latin Grammy y Billboard ha sido muy influyente en la cultura Latina en la última década.

Ahora, lo más importante de la noche, aún más que el mismo partido, fue ver a Shakira y Jennifer Lopez literalmente brillar en su presentación del espectáculo de medio tiempo.

Escuchar a dos artistas Latinas de talla mundial en un escenario que muy pocas veces ha sido pisado por Latinos fue una experiencia muy surreal, ambas con un talento sobrenatural de cantar y envolver a la audiencia con sus movimientos.

Su participación fue mayoritariamente individual. Cada artista tuvo aproximadamente cinco minutos en los que cada una logró una actuación energética y emocionante de sus propios éxitos.

Ambas recurrieron a ritmos Latinos en distintas ocasiones, e incluso Shakira cantó un par de canciones en español. Lopez, por su parte, demostró el orgullo que tiene por Puerto Rico al desfilarse con una bandera de la isla hecha de plumas alrededor de su cuerpo.

Como si no hubiera sido suficiente el tener a dos artistas altamente representantes de los Latinos, los amantes del reggaetón pudieron alegrarse aún más al ver la participación sorpresa de dos de los artistas más importantes del género: J Balvin y Bad Bunny.

En general, este Super Bowl fue una celebración muy Latina. Desde las toneladas de aguacate importadas desde México y los anuncios de Walmart en español, hasta el tango de Jennifer Lopez y las caderas de Shakira.

Marisol Chávez puede ser contactada en prospector@utep.edu

College and long-distance relationships



Maria Ramos Pacheco
The Prospector

To be honest, having a long-distance relationship is not easy or fun. I will not lie; it takes extra commitment and tons of patience. Let me walk you through how I have maintained my long distance relationship for about two years, knowing that there is still one more year to go before we live in the same city.

When I met my current boyfriend, we were both in New York City for the day. I was there visiting the Associated Press offices; he had just finished a project in the city. I went for "happy hour" with my friend, he did the same with his colleagues. We met in a tiny bar close to Penn Station. I know this sounds very cliché, like a Hollywood movie, but it happened to us, we fell in love.

We exchanged numbers and soon went for a second date. I knew this was not going anywhere because he lived in Tennessee and I was living in New Jersey. Besides, at that point in my life, I was very busy with school and work; I was not looking for a relationship at all.

As time went by, we decided to continue going out and we managed to see each other once a month, either he was visiting me in New Jersey or I was traveling to wherever he was located, as he moves continuously because of his job. Later, I moved to Texas and we continued with our relationship.

FaceTime and WhatsApp have been our best friends. With our busy schedules and time differences, it has been a challenge to keep the romance alive. But with these two apps, we are able to make the best of it.

Patience is also key. It took us almost a year to figure out what we really wanted and how to manage our relationship.

A typical day looks like this: We try to talk in the morning at least for five minutes to see how

we are doing, what the day is going to be like and to wish each other a good day. We text on and off during the day, depending on each other's schedule. At night we really try to make sure we do FaceTime for about an hour or two and share how our day went, concerns or anything we want. To me, this is our most precious time.

I have learned that giving each other more details about our days and expressing our feelings has helped us understand each other more. At the same time, a hard aspect of our long distance relationship has been to give each other space, to understand that the other person also needs to go out and hang out with other people. We cannot be glued to our phones every night; it is not healthy.

I will not lie, we have experienced tough times, lots of fights, anxiety and desperation. But after almost a year, we have been able to figure it out a little bit more. We keep trying every day. We try to remember to be patient with each other, to support each other with our goals, to give us space while remembering that we are in a serious relationship.

The hardest element to maintain in any relationship is trust and, in my experience, this is even harder in a long distance relationship. You need to believe and trust in your partner. Living with fear and insecurities will affect your mental health and relationship. I still work on this every single day, but I am convinced that if this is meant to be, it will be.

At this point, I lost track of all the cities we have traveled in these past two years. Every month we decide which weekend we are going to see each other and book our tickets. Sometimes, we are able to spend a week or two together, but that only occurs once or twice a year.

I believe that what keeps us fighting for this, of course, is love, but also knowing that this is temporary. I will finish my degree next year and that is when we will find common ground.

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THE PROSPECTOR

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SPEAK YOUR MIND

2020 presidential candidate unveiled plan to empower Latinos

Rebecca Reza
The Prospector

Presidential Democratic hopeful Michael Bloomberg made his first stop Jan. 29 in the Sun City, unveiling a new plan to empower Latinos should he win in November. While many other top candidates, including Bernie Sanders and Elizabeth Warren, are concentrating in early states like Iowa, Bloomberg chose to be the second candidate to open a field office in El Paso, after Beto O'Rourke stepped down from the race. The former New York City mayor also opened offices around the state including San Antonio and Austin.

More than 100 people were in attendance to welcome Bloomberg to the border region and listen to his plans for the country, should he win the race. The evening opened with a look back to the August mass shooting in El Paso that took the lives of 22 people.

"This is not just a case of those 22 people being in the wrong place at the wrong time," Texas Rep. César Blanco said, before introducing Bloomberg. "This is a case of an unstable president spewing hateful words and giving cover to angry people all the time."

The alleged shooter at Walmart referenced President Donald J. Trump's rhetoric in a manifesto he had published online prior to his killing spree. Bloomberg is hoping to help combat the rise of hate crimes, by using his three-term experience as mayor of one of the most diverse cities in the country, in order to help unite the country once again.

Besides being a focal point in regard to immigration, Bloomberg is aware of Texas and the fast approaching vote on March 3, otherwise known as Super Tuesday. Sixteen states will go to the polls that day to help determine a candidates' national electability and also win over delegates. Eleven Democratic candidates remain as of Jan. 31. The state of Texas holds 228 of the 270 delegates needed to win the Democratic nomination.

In 2018, Bloomberg supported several Democratic candidates throughout the country that won elections to help turn the house majority back to the Democrats. While the other candidates are focused on the Iowa caucus on Tuesday, a national poll released this week by Zoby lists Bloomberg as the only Democratic candidate leading Trump nationwide.

“**Republicans ... passed so many voter suppression laws that are designed to lower turnout, especially in Latino communities**”

- MIKE BLOOMBERG
2020 Democratic
presidential candidate

"The biggest reason we won those races was due to voter turnout," Bloomberg said. "Republicans know that and that's why they passed so many voter suppression laws that are designed to lower turnout, especially in Latino communities."

The state has been voting Republican for more than two decades and, until recently, consistently listed as the lowest in voter participation nationwide. Bloomberg is hoping to build upon Beto O'Rourke's initiative of turning the non-voting state to a blue state by making new voter registration a priority of his campaign.

Newly eligible voters will be a big part of that focus. On the surface, it is difficult to see how a self-made billionaire would appeal to millennials. Not long after announcing his candidacy, Forbes listed Bloomberg as one of the richest men in the world with a net worth of more than \$54 billion. He has completely self-funded his campaign, spending more than \$200 million in the first two months since launching it last November. He is a philanthropist donating billions to causes, including climate change, scholarships at top institutions and gun control.

Bloomberg has stated he is willing to spend more than a billion to defeat Trump, whether as a Democratic nominee or otherwise.

To read Reza's full story, visit
TheProspectorDaily.com.

Rebecca Reza may be reached at prospector@utep.edu

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<p>MEN</p> <p>FEB. 1 UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA BIRMINGHAM @7PM</p> <p>FEB. 13 WESTERN KENTUCKY @7PM</p>		<p>UTEP BASKETBALL</p> <p>FEB. 15 MARSHALL @2PM</p>		<p>WOMEN</p> <p>FEB. 6 CHARLOTTE @7PM</p> <p>FEB. 13 OLD DOMINION @1PM</p>		<p>FEB. 22 MIDDLE TENNESSEE @1PM</p> <p>FEB. 29 SOUTHERN MISS @1PM</p>	
<p>FEB. 21 IUPUI @3:30PM DOUBLE HEADER OMAHA @6PM UTEP TOURNAMENT</p>		<p>UTEP SOFTBALL</p> <p>FEB. 22 IUPUI @4:30PM</p>		<p>FEB. 23 OMAHA @12:30PM</p>			
<p>FEB. 1 ABILENE CHRISTIAN @12PM</p>		<p>UTEP TENNIS</p> <p>FEB. 2 UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO @12PM</p>		<p>FEB. 20 MONTANA STATE @12PM</p>			

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'Dr. Skateboard' teaches physical sciences through comics

Alexia X. Nava Carmona

The Prospector

William Robinson, professor at UTEP's Department of Education, who usually goes by Dr. Skateboard, turned himself into a character in his graphic novel, "Dr. Skateboard's Action Science," first published August 2019. The comic aims to explain physical sciences to all audiences in a format they can enjoy.

"I had this idea of doing something that would be more interesting to young people and that's where the graphic novel came in," Robinson said. "And what I found is that it's really interesting for everybody — young people and older people alike. I think it's just a medium that really speaks to people."

Robinson has practiced skateboarding since he was 13 years old, when he lived in Richmond, Virginia, and has participated in competitions, which took place in a beach that was a couple hours from the town he lived. Skateboarding also allowed him to travel throughout the East Coast and California during his early teens. He was even elected into the Freestyle Hall of Fame in 2010, according to his website.

"It was just something I wanted to do with my friends," Robinson said. "It was just fun, we started doing it and then skateboarding got real big at that point."

Even though Robinson has broken his wrist and ruptured the ligaments of his knee before, he never gave up on skateboarding, which he still does to this day after more than 40 years.

"I had more injuries as a wrestler than I did in skateboarding. I think I've stayed pretty resilient in it," Robinson said. "I think the main thing too is in getting older in the sport. I've had to do things like wear my helmet and things like that now, but I continue to do it."



Photo courtesy of DrSkateboard.com

Dr. Skateboard is William Robertson, an educator for more than 20 years that has taught at the middle school, high school and university levels and published a comic book series on physical sciences with the help of Tania Sanchez, a UTEP mathematics alumna, back in August 2019.

Using his longtime experience with skateboarding, Robinson has crafted presentations for middle and high schools since he graduated from college, including motivational presentations and action science demonstrations, according to the Dr. Skateboard website.

"As a young person, I did a lot of demonstrations in fairs and street shows," Robinson said. "I was interested in being a teacher one day and I was thinking of things that could be interesting to do in schools. I thought of this idea of presenting sort of a motivational program using skateboarding."

Another element that he incorporates in his graphic novel and presentations is bicycle motocross (BMX), which is a sport Robinson only knows through second-hand experience since he does not practice it himself.

"I'm not really a BMX rider. I have a bike, but I don't do tricks on it. I'm a skateboarder," Robinson said. "As part of my team under the banner of action science, our demonstration team, we use skateboards and athletes, both on skateboards and BMX bikes. We have people who ride ramps, who do flatland tricks, who ride rails ... for both skateboards and bikes."

In order to create the comic book, Tania Sanchez, a UTEP mathematics alumna who Robinson met while skateboarding, contributed her drawing skills and, with the help of Creative Studios, Robinson was able to publish the first two volumes of "Dr. Skateboard's Action Science," "Simple Machines" and "Forces," in both English and Spanish. The team first made an electronic version which they later printed in different places with money that came out of pocket.

"We self-published it ... We took our file and we had them printed at different print shops around town," Robinson said. "The main thing was to try to print them so that people could have this physical media ... We've also made it available through a creative commons license so people can use it and share it electronically."

Robinson teamed up with educational organizations, such as the Gear-Up Program, which helps distribute the comics to area middle schoolers in different places, such as the Ysleta Independent School District.

Robinson plans to finish the last two issues of "Dr. Skateboard's Action Science" in both English and Spanish as he works on ways to further incorporate the comics as a tool for educating people on physical sciences at different levels, especially those who learn in different ways from others.

"I think the bottom line is, really, to help people who may not be reached by education in traditional ways; to give them opportunities that would interest them. In middle school, it's really important that students are engaged in things that they'd like to do and they're motivated about their learning," Robinson said. "My hope is always that these graphic novels, the videos, the demonstrations, the things we do with teachers, pre-service teachers and in-service teachers, and the work we do in the community can help that process, so that someone who's smart, but maybe doesn't learn in a traditional way, might be attracted to this and realize that the things they're good at can help them in their education, whether it be skateboarding or not."

"Simple Machines" and "Forces" are available for \$7 at DrSkateboard.com

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




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UTEP DINING SERVICES

Galería Lincoln: a local gallery ran by artists for artists

Jaqueline Martinez

The Prospector

Galería Lincoln is a homegrown art exhibit at 3915 Rosa St. near Lincoln Park created by local artists Tino Ortega and Diego Martinez to showcase talent from various artists, both locally and outside of El Paso.

Martinez grew up in a family of artists and he was always surrounded by art, so he inevitably developed a burning passion for it. Martinez was born and raised in El Paso and graduated from the University of Texas at El Paso, where he majored in education.

"We locked in this place at a good rate and then we were able to put a lot of love and tears (into it)," Martinez said. "We painted the ceilings, we painted the floors, the inside, and we installed the windows."

He realized back then that his passion would always remain loyal to the arts so he now works as a full-time artist at the property he invested in with Ortega.

"My approach to art has always been a giving approach. I like to welcome all artists; I don't hesitate to collaborate," Martinez said. "I feel



Carolina Alvarez / The Prospector

Galería Lincoln is currently open to the public, bringing to the community a wide variety of art that the City of El Paso can discover.

fortunate and I try to share the platform. This gallery is about everyone else's art."

The duo took the old, abandoned property, built on Concordia in 1943, and gave it a complete makeover with two major renovations in a three month time frame.

"It's happening and it's surreal, being inspired by other people and inspiring each other and the community; that's what it's all about," Martinez said. "This place, this location and this area is the heart of El Paso. It's really a beautiful area that a lot of people forgot about. It's a real low-

income part of the town, so we are trying to establish some life."

The artist said he plans to expand his exhibit's reach by collaborating with the nearby Old Sheep Dog Brewery across the street from the gallery.

The brewery plans to convert the second floor into rentable open space studios.

"There is a lot of potential in this area and it's going to be nice to have block parties here soon," Martinez said.

The artists hosted a soft opening exhibition dubbed "20 artists for 2020" on Dec. 31, which featured 25 artists from the local art scene, including UTEP student Mathew McIntyre who is majoring both in painting and ceramics.

"Working with them was great. They're all about supporting local artists and giving artists more opportunities here in El Paso," said McIntyre, who submitted two pieces into the show, including a slip-casted, ceramic button-up shirt and an oil-based painting.

The soft opening also included low riders and kegs sponsored by DeadBeach Brewery, seeing a total of 150 guests.

Booked artists for this year include "PILO" from the Jellyfish Collective, El Paso native Erik Para, Laura Turon, who is widely recognized for her "Paradox" traveling art school bus, Diego Medina and Gabriel Gaytan.

The gallery will also host workshops this year led by local artists.

The exhibit's official grand opening will be at 5 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 8, featuring emerging artist Eugenia "AO" Carmona in "AO Rituales."

Jaqueline Martinez may be reached at prospector@utep.edu

TAKE CARE OF YOUR WATER. KEEP IT CLEAN



Do not dump waste, chemicals, paint, custodial waste, and general rubbish items (tires, old car parts, shopping carts, etc.) into storm drains, channels, or ditches.

No tirar basura, aparatos electrodomésticos, muebles, llantas, y chatarra a canales y acequias del sistema de drenaje pluvial.



Properly dispose of hazardous wastes, pesticides, and fertilizers. Call UTEP EH&S to schedule waste pickups.

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



Storm drains are easily identified with "NO DUMPING" decals at stormwater inlets.

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Recycle oil, antifreeze, and other vehicle fluids, or dispose of them properly to prevent the pollution of stormwater, groundwater and the Río Grande.

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VAPORWAVE from front page

Editor's note: A microgenre is defined as a subgenre of music characterized by its specificity and niche nature. "Microgenres" is a special seven-week series by The Prospector that will showcase a different microgenre each week, publishing every Tuesday from Feb. 4 to March 24.

Following Person's pioneering lead was James Ferraro who drew inspiration from the concept of 21st century consumerism to create the album "Far Side Ritual," released in 2011.

Then came the release of the successful vaporwave album "Floral Shoppe" in late 2011 by Macintosh Plus, which currently has more than a million views on YouTube.

With such momentum, the album made the microgenre more approachable to new audiences with its most recognizable track "Lisa Frank 420," a slowed down rework of Diana Ross' "It's Your Move," which went viral, racking up more than nine million views on YouTube.

Vaporwave has an extremely distinguishable aesthetic characterized by its use of vintage computer imagery and its satirical appropriation of old media and the romanticizing of '80s and '90s consumerist culture. Common consumer imagery reflective of the time and desired design include Arizona Iced Tea, Fiji Water and video game cover arts, an example being Person's "EccoJams Vol. 1" album cover featuring

“

*... bright and earnest or slow
and sultry, often beautiful,
either looped out of sync and
beyond the point of functionality
or standing alone ...*

”

- ADAM HARPER
Dummy Mag

box art from the Sega Mega Drive game "Ecco the Dolphin."

The videos are recognizable by their production and editing, vintage VHS video quality, superimposed static lines with the music synced over a despondent backdrop. Greek imagery such as the use of Greco-Roman statues, busts

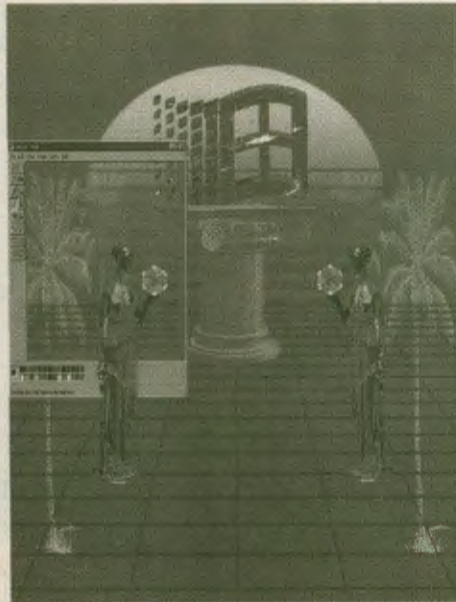


Photo courtesy of Wikipedia

Vaporwave is an Internet-based microgenre that was built upon the experimental and ironic tendencies of other genres.

and pillars are wildly prevalent, one of the most notable uses of them being their depiction on the cover of Macintosh Plus' "Floral Shoppe." Some have speculated and attributed the use of the architecture to be a nod to the garishness of the interior design of the '80s and '90s.

Vaporwave also experienced somewhat of a cyber revival in the form of memes and parodies, succumbing to the irony-driven attitudes saturating the internet.

On Feb. 9, 2016, YouTuber Lucien Hughes uploaded "SUNDAYSCHOOL," a video of gloomily glitched Simpsons clips synched to "Teen Pregnancy" by vaporwave artist Blank Banshee.

The spaced out, all caps typography is also another example of yet another staple of this microgenre. The video went viral, giving prominence to what would later be known as Simpsonswave. By marrying popular culture and the vaporwave aesthetic, Simpsonswave magnetized a whole new dimension of the genre, coalescing old nostalgia with the new.

"Listening to vaporwave reminds me of going to Taco Bell as a kid and seeing its interior design of the '90s," said vaporwave enthusiast Jesus Hernandez. "It reminds me of re-watching your favorite VHS for like the hundredth time and noticing how the image quality gets worn down, but you keep re-watching it. It makes you want to go back."

With its overtones of nostalgia, vaporwave has lent itself to be established and remembered as a microgenre that uses the past to give to the future.

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Traditional and 'Chuco' style poké graces the borderland

A Hawaiian dish discovered by pop culture

Sven Kline

The Prospector

Poké. You've seen it, probably eaten it and maybe even assumed you know all there is to it, but there's a lot more to poké than just a different take on sushi.

Origins

Poké is a dish residing of ancient Hawaiian origin. In an article written by Mari Taketa for the Hawaiian Airlines website, she says "Poké's come a long way from its origins in pre-contact times, when ancient Hawaiians feasted on freshly caught fish massaged with sea salt, seaweed and crushed inamona or kukui nuts."

What is poké?

Poké is Hawaiian but it is also influenced by Asian culture. In a sense, poké can be thought of as "deconstructed sushi," where much of its ingredients are also found in sushi like white rice, seaweed and raw cuts of various fish.

Poké can be found in almost every decent sized urban populace with plenty of small food chains abundant in large cities like El Paso.

Where can I find some?

Poké locations have popped up all across town and a simple Google search can direct you to the nearest one, but being a student at UTEP, you can feel relieved knowing there is Poké3 just one west shuttle travel down Sun Bowl Drive, perfect for that in-between class lunch.

In the mood for a mix of Mexican cuisine in your poké? El Poké sits just a block further up from Poké3 on Mesa Street around the corner of Sun Bowl.

Also near UTEP is Pokéworks, which has two locations; an eastside one on George Dieter Drive and another on the westside along Mesa Street. There is also the choice of Poké Bar also with two locations both west and east.

There are a variety of different poké shops to choose from with their own unique taste and aesthetic from which to decide.

Variations

As one might expect from the description of deconstructed sushi, poké comes in a variety of forms depending on location.



Photo courtesy of Flickr

Poké is diced raw fish served either as an appetizer or as a main course and is one of the main dishes of Native Hawaiian cuisine.

There is an array of adaptations of poké that have emerged throughout the years, but most notably is the "bowl," the more traditional form found in Hawaii. Any and all poké locations you visit will most likely serve it this way.

In Chuco Town, as any local resident will probably know, food always comes served "Chuco style." The burrito, a staple food for many Latinos, has made its influence on poké. As you may have guessed, poké can be served in burrito form, making it an easy on-the-go meal when in a hurry.

El Poké brings a Mexican twist to poké, serving various forms and ingredients relating to that of Hispanic cultural foods such as tacos, like "shrimp taco" and "spicy tuna taco." Their poké bowls on the menu consist of the "La Poki," "Cali Poké" and the "El Poké TX," all with inclusion of Hispanic ingredients mixed in.

To conclude

With popularity — fads and globalization — poké has been altered from its original native form to meet a local customs preference of taste, such as El Poké, which alters the original taste to consumers' preference, for better or for worse.

But let's be clear, poké is not new. It's been around longer than anyone alive today, but only recently discovered by pop culture.

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Check out "IN REVIEW: 'Death Stranding' addresses the need for human connection" online at TheProspectorDaily.com

Miners' tennis drops two matchups at home over weekend

Michael Cuvillo

The Prospector

Playing on back to back days, the UTEP tennis team lost matches to the Abilene Christian University (ACU) Wild Cats and the New Mexico Lobos. Neither match turned out to be close as they only scored one point in each.

On Saturday, UTEP stretched out a trio of singles matches to three sets while coming up short in all of them versus the Wild Cats. In the doubles opening matches, the Miners lost all three sets and started off in a 1-0 hole as singles play began.

The No. 1 doubles team of senior Vanessa Valdez and junior Maria Aviega were very competitive in their set 7-6, but the rest of doubles matches were one-sided affairs.

Valdez as the No. 1 came out strong in her first set winning 6-2 but faltered in the second set 6-3. The third and deciding set was a hard fought 7-5 loss to ACU's Sarah Adams. Junior Erandi Martinez, after losing her opening set, stretched her opponent to three sets, winning the second set 6-4, but came up short in the final set losing 6-4 in the battle of No. 2 singles.

UTEP's lone victory of the day was accomplished by junior Lina Sachica in straight sets 6-1, 6-3 in the No. 3 singles. No. 4 sophomore Kathleen Percegon pushed her match to a seventh point in both sets but fell 7-5 in each.

No. 5 singles player freshman Eve Daniels forced a tiebreaker in the first set but lost 7-6.



Carolina Alvarez / The Prospector

UTEP senior Vanessa Valdez returns volley in singles action versus Abilene Christian Wildcats Saturday, Feb. 2.

Daniels never recovered from that close set and lost the second frame 6-2.

Aviega the No. 6 was the third UTEP player to go to three sets and come away with a setback. After winning the first set 6-2, Aviega lost the final two sets 6-2, 6-3.

"We knew that it was going to be a tough battle coming into this match," UTEP Coach Ivan Fernandez said. "Abilene Christian has already

played a few matches this semester, so they're coming in a little bit more seasoned than we are. But I really enjoyed watching our girls compete. This is probably the closest 6-1 score that you're ever going to see. So many matches went to three sets. I'm really proud of how the girls fought. If this is a sign of how we're going to compete this season, I think there are a lot of good things ahead for us in the future."



Carolina Alvarez

Freshman transfer Deon Stroud shoots a jumper versus the UAB Blazers Saturday, Feb. 1

BLAZERS from page 4

Four UAB players scored in double digits led by senior forward Will Butler with 17 points.

Over the past two games, Butler has been on a tear with 35 points combined while shooting 69% from the field.

Freshman guard Jalen Benjamin continued with his impressive first season, putting up 15 points on 4-8 shooting, including 2-5 from the 3-point line.

Leading the way once again for the Miners was junior Bryson Williams with 26 points and eight rebounds. Fourteen times this season, Williams has led the team in scoring and he is currently second in Conference-USA with 19 points a game as well as fifth in rebounding with seven a game.

Boum was the only other Miner in double digits with 10 points in the game on 4-6 shooting. Fellow sophomore point guards Nigel Hawkins and Jordan Lathon were held scoreless in 40 minutes of combined play. Hawkins did not attempt a field goal and Lathon was 0-2 from the field.

Before entering the transfer portal, Lathon was the starting point guard and was averaging

The second matchup of the weekend was versus longtime rival New Mexico Lobos.

After dropping the first two doubles matches once again, the Miners found the team in a 1-0 deficit heading into singles.

Valdez the No. 1. was blitzed in the first set 6-1 but came back to force the second set to 7 points losing by two. Martinez lost her match in straight sets 6-1, 6-3 setting the Miners back to an 0-3 deficit.

Sachica came through with her second match win of the weekend and is currently 3-0 as the No. 3 singles player. With a dominant 6-2, 6-0 victory, Sachica is undefeated as a Miner in solo play.

Daniels came out strong forcing her opponent to a seventh point in the first set of her match but failed to score a single point in the second set, losing 6-0.

"It was another tough day," Fernandez said. "We are fighting on every court and we're up on many courts and just couldn't close it out. We are young and learning with every match. I'm extremely proud of Lina (Sachica), who was able to close out her matches both days. She is showing great energy, and I hope the rest of the team can match that in the matches to come."

The Miners go on the road next weekend to play two matches in Logan, Utah. UTEP plays at noon Feb. 6 versus Idaho State and noon Feb. 7 against Utah State.

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6 points a game. Coming off the bench, Lathon is 0-17 from the field and has six points in those eight games, all from free throws. Playing time for Lathon has fell from 27 minutes a game to 15.

Sophomore forward Efe Odigie, coming off a double-double performance against Middle Tennessee State played 17 minutes making his presence known with 6 points, five rebounds and three steals.

"We did not play with the kind of urgency or defense that you need to have this time of year in conference play," Head Coach Rodney Terry said. "We have not had consistent guard play from game to game; those guys have to play better."

"Those guys out willed us and were more physical in the paint. Players got to play, they have to compete, and we did not compete for whatever reason tonight and that is the disappointing and embarrassing part of it," Terry said.

The Miners go on the road Feb. 6 to play against the University of North Carolina at Charlotte (12-9, 6-4).

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Women's basketball facing tough road trip

Isaiah Ramirez

The Prospector

Facing two of the top five teams in Conference-USA (C-USA) was a tough task for the UTEP women's basketball team this past weekend.

The Miners failed to muster a comeback win against Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU) and a rough shooting outing doomed the squad against the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) Blazers.

Now the Miners look to rebound during a two-game homestand against Charlotte and second-place Old Dominion. After the road trip, the Miners are tied for sixth place in conference.

After falling 31-10 against MTSU, the Miners battled to get within seven points (65-58) in the fourth quarter but couldn't rally in the final stretch to pull off the win. Senior forward Ariona Gill put up a solid double-double performance, posting 20 points and 12 rebounds.

"We were playing our 'B-level game' instead of an 'A-level game,'" Head Coach Kevin Baker said. "There's a lot of reasons for me to be frustrated right now because we didn't play well, but more reasons for us to be excited with the kind of character we have shown."



Carolina Alvarez / The Prospector

Freshman Arina Khlopkova drives to basket versus California Riverside Nov. 9.

Three players posted double-digit scoring performances for UTEP in the Miners' second game of its road trip against UAB, but the Blazers lived up to its alias as a great three-point shooting team, going 45% from downtown. The Miners were cold from the field, shooting 29% and 20% from the three. Over its last two games, the Miners averaged shooting 33% from the field.

"We held them to 63 points, but as luck would have it, in the first half, we couldn't throw it in the ocean. That's how it's been for our team lately," Baker said.

The first matchup in the Miners' two game homestand features the team it is tied for sixth place in C-USA with the Charlotte 49ers.

The 49ers are on a three-game winning streak and have one of the best defenses in Conference-USA, allowing a third-best 60 points per game.

Charlotte is led by redshirt senior guard Jade Phillips' 15 points per game, which is eighth best in Conference-USA. The 49ers also have two more reliable playmakers in junior guards Mariah Linney and Christian Hithe, with both players averaging nine points per game.

Last season the Miners fell to the 49ers by 23 points in Charlotte where UTEP had only six active players due to injuries.

UTEP finishes off its homestand against second-place Old Dominion, a team that is on a seven-game winning streak and is talented on defense. Old Dominion can provide pressure on its opponent throughout the game.

The Monarchs rank first in Conference-USA in scoring defense, field goal defensive percentage and three-point field goal defensive percentage. Old Dominion also paces the league in scoring margin, winning its games by an average of 13 points.

Old Dominion has a balanced scoring attack with four players averaging double digits in points led by sophomore guard Ajah Wayne's and senior guard Taylor Edward's 11 points per game.

For the Miners, the hot hand on the offensive end is Gill, who has posted back-to-back double-digit scoring performances and has averaged 12 points per game in her last five games.

The Miners kick off its two-game homestand at 7 p.m. Feb. 6 against Charlotte and finish off at 1 p.m. Feb. 8 at the Don Haskins Center.

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