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Microgenres: Surf rock

Noah Sarabia
The Prospector

Editor's note: A microgenre is defined as a sub-genre 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.

Surf rock is a mellow and sometimes hard-hitting fusion of traditional rock melodies and wavy guitar sounds reminiscent of the beach — an aesthetically unique microgenre that has been around for decades.

Surf rock originated in the late ‘50s or early ‘60s with artists such as The Beach Boys, Dick Dale, The Turtles, The Tornadoes, The Chantays, among many others. Today some of these old tracks still hold up with the most famous being “Misirlou” by Dick Dale, which was also featured in Quentin Tarantino’s 1994 film “Pulp Fiction” and the ever so timeless “Wipeout” by the Surfaris.

A lot of surf rock was popularized with movies featuring Annette Funicello and Frankie Avalon, such as “Beach Blanket Bingo,” “Beach Party,” “Bikini Beach” and “Muscle Beach Party.”

But what exactly is it that makes surf rock so distinct? Is it the guitar? The sound itself? Some of the most important elements in creating a surf rock sound comes from the guitar.

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

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

No sabia lo complicado que era comprar la ropa interior adecuada hasta que el verano pasado trabajé vendiendo lencería en un local pequeño llamado Coco’s Miel, ubicado en el Río Grande Mall de Ciudad Juárez, México. Fueron de las compras que más personas disfrutan. No entenderían lo caldo que eran para mí, y la falta de una cosa con otra. Por ejemplo, si estabas en la tienda con un babydoll que te gustaba, pero se supone que eso lo hacía ajustarse mejor a tus curvas, y te gustó en esa talla, podría conseguir un 36D mismo que tienes mucho muslo. Tenías que ir a la tienda y evitar que la media se cayera. Antes de renunciar a ese trabajo por cuestiones de vestir, aprendí con respecto a tallas de cuerpo.

Un detalle interesante que aprendí con respecto a la falta de una cosa con otra. Por ejemplo, si en la tienda teníamos un babydoll, pero no encontrabas uno que se ajustara a tu cuerpo tiene unas varillas, como si fuera un brasier comun, pero se supone que eso lo hacía ajustarse mejor a tus curvas, y te gustó en esa talla, podría conseguir un 36D que el resto lo tengas que amarrar como aguijas de zapatos, algo que aprendi a las malas viene de las medias que se estiran bastante y se ajustan bastante decente a varios tipos de cuerpo. A la altura de la rodilla. Necesitaras buscar uno en algun lado donde los vendan en tallas extra porque los convencionales que dicen ser unitalla no me quedaran por lo mismo que tengo mucho muslo.

En ese caso, tengo muchas muy grandes y las medias se empiezan a hacer rollitos si intenta ponerlas muy arriba y caminar, lo más aterrador para mí podía ponerse en más o menos a la altura de la rodilla. Necesitarías buscar un ligero de enso no se pongan en las piernas, pero necesitarías buscar uno en algún lado donde los vendan en tallas extra porque los convencionales que dicen ser unitalla no me quedaran por lo mismo que tengo mucho muslo.

En mi caso, tengo muchísimas muchachas que se venden en tallas extra porque los convencionales que dicen ser unitalla no me quedaron por lo mismo que tengo mucho muslo. Si te guste en esa talla, podría conseguir un 36D que el resto lo tengas que amarrar como aguijas de zapatos, algo que aprendi a las malas viene de las medias que se estiran bastante y se ajustan bastante decente a varios tipos de cuerpo.

Al final, creo que esa es una buena solucion para personas que tienen muslos grandes como yo. Tampoco confies al 100 por ciento en los nombres que dicen seleccionar mejores me la falta de una cosa con otra. Por ejemplo, si en la tienda teníamos un babydoll, pero no encontrabas uno que se ajustara a tu cuerpo tiene unas varillas, como si fuera un brasier comun, pero se supone que eso lo hacía ajustarse mejor a tus curvas, y te gustó en esa talla, podría conseguir un 36D que el resto lo tengas que amarrar como aguijas de zapatos, algo que aprendi a las malas viene de las medias que se estiran bastante y se ajustan bastante decente a varios tipos de cuerpo. A la altura de la rodilla. Necesitaras buscar uno en algun lado donde los vendan en tallas extra porque los convencionales que dicen ser unitalla no me quedaran por lo mismo que tengo mucho muslo.

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Memes aim to destigmatize census participation

Marisol Chavez, Sasha Minjarez

The Prospector

To understand its importance, one must understand the importance of representation in Congress.

In Article 1, Section 2, of the Constitution states, "Representatives and direct Taxes shall be apportioned among the several States . . . according to their respective numbers, which shall be determined by adding to the whole number of free Persons."

There are currently 36 representatives in the Texas House of Representatives for its population of approximately 29 million. This makes Texas the second state with the largest number of representatives, following California with 53.

Although Article 1, Section 2 states that the House could be as large as one representative for every 30,000 persons, there is currently one voting member for every 747,000 Americans. This is because the number of seats was capped by law at 435 members in 1929. However, that does not mean that Texas gets to keep 36 representatives forever.

Every 10 years, as the census is conducted, the 435 memberships are reapportioned among the 50 states. This means that if not all Texans are counted in the census, representatives could be lost.

Representatives can introduce bills and resolutions, offer amendments and serve on committees that will reflect the interests and priorities of those who they represent. It is thanks to their representation that the needs of our state can be addressed at the federal level. Having a fair representation in Congress is up to citizens and residents participating in the upcoming 2020 census.

According to the Pew Research Center, 84% of U.S. adults will either definitely or probably participate in the 2020 census. Of the 16% who are unsure about participating, 9% are within the ages of 18-29. The Center also reports that 7% of those who will not participate are Hispanic.

Last year, the Trump administration proposed adding a citizenship question to the 2020 census claiming it needed the information to enforce the Voting Rights Act, which outlawed discriminatory voting practices. The last time the census questioned citizenship for all U.S. households was in 1950.

It was in July of last year that the Supreme Court blocked the administration's attempt to add the question. In a 5-4 decision, the Court ruled that the reasoning for adding the question "(seemed to have been) contrived."

A citizenship question will not be asked in the 2020 census. An informational bilingual copy of the questionnaire that will arrive to American households beginning March 12 is already available to view at census.gov.

According to the census website, they are "bound by Title 13 of the U.S. Code to keep your information confidential:"

- Even in the 2020 census had included the citizenship question, by law they are prohibited to share that, or any other information provided to them, with any other government agency or even law enforcement.
- "Striking this question will remove a major barrier to allowing a full count of all people residing in the United States and prevent the use of the census as a political weapon to harm the representation and funding interests of affected communities," said the American Civil Liberties Union in a statement.

At UTEP, the push for people's participation to the 2020 census had included the creation of original digital media content that would serve to destigmatize the census was Paulina Lopez, Student Government Association's Vice President of External Affairs Isaac Varela opened by attributing the raising of census awareness to there being "nothing more important than being counted as a person."

"The value of an accurate count helps amplify our community's voice on a national level and demonstrates how funds trickle down based on data, healthcare (and more)," Lopez said. She reminded the idea that when people go uncounted, the community is impacted for the next ten years.

This is the first year people can respond to the census online, and Lopez says this may serve to dispel myths about the census and dispel the fear associated with it by showcasing how safe this form of civic participation is.

Participants used generators to create memes, initiating what Lopez called the ideation process, which identified which messages coupled with their pictorial counterparts would resonate with audiences and their consumption of media on various platforms.

"One of the memes I'm using is the math lady," said student Andrea Vea.

She also chose to employ popular meme templates such as "distracted boyfriend" and "change my mind."

Throughout the duration of the activity, groups were encouraged to empathize with a variety of circumstances, personas and analytics to create graphic designs that would appeal to various demographics and audiences and encourage people to "rock the vote."

The winning meme of the evening was created on the "Trump bill signing" meme template where President Trump is featured holding up an executive order he signed, with the message that the census is not partisan. The template and message correlated in such a way that highlighted some of the assessed concerns regarding the census such as the thought of it being something of a trap for undocumented immigrants, addressing the fear of deportation. The goal is to break down these barriers and begin to estimate the census as a pragmatic approach to inclusion.

Census Day will be observed nationwide on April 1. By this date, participants will have received detailed information on how to respond to the 2020 census online, by phone or mail. For more information on the 2020 census, visit 2020census.gov.
The College of Science introduces new degree program

'We're in a mass extinction event right now and many species are threatened'

Margaret Cataldi
The Prospector

The University of Texas at El Paso's College of Science unveiled its latest undergraduate degree at the start of the spring 2020 semester — a Bachelor of Science in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology (EEB).

Under this new program, students will be able to understand the processes of life and, more specifically, how these processes are transforming in the current context of the Earth’s climate.

"This is a field that’s really important now, especially as our climate is changing and animals, plants and all kinds of life on Earth are faced with new challenges. To understand how they adapt and respond to these changes, you need an understanding of ecology and evolutionary biology," said Elizabeth Walsh, professor of biological sciences and director of the EEB program.

The EEB degree was previously offered as a concentration within the Department of Biological Sciences. But after consultation with the Dean’s office at the College of Science, it was decided that there was sufficient demand from students to create a stand-alone degree in ecology and evolutionary biology.

"The College of Science has created five new courses to accommodate the new degree, including an introduction to research and ecology and evolutionary biology, a genetics and evolution lab and a new class in conservation biology," Walsh said. "This is a degree that allows you to have plenty of opportunities to get out and explore nature and how it works."

The new EEB program hopes to elevate the importance of its career field to the entire El Paso community. With the variety of employment opportunities that stem from this degree, including jobs in wildlife management in government agencies like the U.S. Environmental Protection Agencies, or in consulting companies and firms, graduates can rest assured there is no shortage of demand for experts in the EEB field.

Margaret Cataldi may be reached at prospector@utep.edu

Elizabeth Walsh (top left) is the director of the new Ecology and Evolutionary Biology (EEB) program, the campus’ latest effort in an ongoing mission of providing competitive academic and research opportunities at one of the most reasonable prices for a U.S. top tier university.

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Less is more when it comes to soap
Family-owned business sells handmade, organic skincare products

Maria Ramos
The Prospector

Hueco Valley Soaps & Lotions is a local business that’s been selling handmade and organic skincare products at the El Paso Downtown Art & Farmers Market for the past seven years. Elizabeth Dominguez is the owner of the business and she makes the products herself with the help of her grandson, Justice Hill, who also helps out with sales and marketing.

Dominguez came to the borderland when she was 13 years old, but she knew how to make handmade soaps since way before. “I can’t remember since when, but I was old enough to be trusted to be next to the fire from the stove,” Dominguez said.

The business’ best-selling soap is Zen Tree, according to Dominguez and her daughter, Veronica Zuniga. “My daughter has very dry skin and we want to give her the best products, all natural and chemical free,” Zuniga said. “There are bar soaps that work pretty good, we will see if they work, on our daughter’s skin.”

Hueco Valley Soaps & Lotions posts on Facebook its monthly calendar on when and where the business plans to set up shop.

The Gonzalez family went shopping at last Saturday’s Downtown farmers market, making a stop at Hueco Valley’s tent. They have been customers of Dominguez for about four years now.

“My father died of skin cancer and since then we have to be very careful with what we use,” said customer Edward Gonzalez. “My wife’s favorite is the cherry almond soap bar and for my own, we always buy the goat milk lotion.”

Hueco Valley Soaps & Lotions does not operate at a physical location but it moves from farmers market to farmers market while also selling at some other local shops.

“We are looking to start an online store. My grandma does not want an establishment but online would be perfect,” Hill said.

The products the business sells every weekend at farmers markets include soap bars for hair, shaving, body, face, liquid soaps for hands, goat milk body lotion, lip balms, natural deodorants, bath bombs, candles and dog shampoo.

Justin M. Rodriquez, a U.S. Army staff sergeant stationed at Fort Bliss has been a customer for about six months. His girlfriend introduced him to these products and since then, he has kept coming back to buy them. “I noticed that my skin was getting very dry and I wanted to stop using chemicals on my skin. When we are in training, it is way easier to bring a bar of soap than glass or plastic bottles,” Rodriquez said.

Rodriquez mentioned that one of his favorite products is the lavender bar soap. He uses it before going to sleep and he has noticed that it helps him to relax and sleep better, especially after a long day of training in the U.S. Army.

“Rubin Center hosts bilingual faculty exhibition”

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Two years after a mass shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida left 17 students dead, 17 others injured and an entire nation mourning, a new tear-jerking documentary follows the lives of the surviving victims and their families.

On Feb. 12, only a few hours before watching "After Parkland," I attended the first federal court hearing of Patrick Wood Crusius, who was indicted on federal hate crime charges and will stand trial for the murder of 22 people and the injuries of 23 more at a Walmart shooting on Aug. 3, 2019 — in my own community of El Paso, Texas. It was impossible for me not to be reminded of my people's own pain while watching this documentary.

The film by Emily Taguchi and Jake Lefferman observes the aftermath of the tragedy that fell upon Douglas High School, commonly known as "The Parkland Shooting," on Feb. 14, 2018. The film documents how the lives of average high school students — on the verge of graduating and going to prom — are suddenly changed forever.

Perhaps I felt emotional because a mass shooting happened in my own city, but either way, the film had me in tears the entire hour and 32 minutes. Seeing the sadness and loss of hope in the eyes of those students was absolutely heart-wrenching.

David Hogg, a Parkland student at the time, describes going back to school after the shooting as surviving a plane crash then boarding that same plane every day without fixing the underlying issue that made it crash in the first place.

Although the film touches on the politics of gun control, Taguchi and Lefferman focus more on the way the students and their families reacted to the attack from that February to the start of the next school year.

Manuel Oliver, whose son, Joaquin, was killed in the shooting, channels his grief into his work as a basketball coach after his son had previously convinced him to coach the school's team.

The most heartbreaking subject in the documentary is Victoria Gonzales, Joaquin's girlfriend, who survived the shooting and was left mourning the loss of her first love. This element reminds us of how young and vulnerable those students were; after all, they were young teens barely starting their lives.

The film also briefly covers the 2018 March for Our Lives in Washington, D.C., which was led by the activist students of the Parkland shooting and others affected by gun violence. The scene features the infamous speech by Emma Gonzalez, a student at the Parkland shooting, who spoke for six minutes — the length of time of the Parkland shooting.

"After Parkland" is a difficult film to watch. It is strategically directed and produced to have a lasting impact on viewers. The movie succeeds in delivering a message of showing the reverberations of violence long after the media loses interest.
Herd stampedes Miners 71-61, losing streak at five

Michael Cuviello
The Prospector

The UTEP Miners continued its unassailable February as they were outgunned and outscored by the visiting Marshall Thundering Herd in a 71-61 loss at the Don Haskins Center. Losing its fifth straight game, the Miners fell to 12th place in Conference-USA (C-USA) and limp into bonus play having to play its way back into tournament contention. Placed into a four-team bracket with Rice, Southern Miss and Middle Tennessee State, UTEP will have to win at least three of four games to control its own destiny. The good news is that UTEP is undermanned against those three teams, the bad news is Southern Miss and Rice have played much better as of late.

Starting off strong in the early going, the Miners took an 11-3 lead off a Bryson Williams dunk with 14 minutes left in the first half. A 10-point run from Marshall erased that lead by the eight-minute mark. From that point on, the Miners would never see itself in the lead.

Both teams were plagued with turnovers, throughout the first half but Marshall’s superior 3-point shooting built a 10-point halftime edge shooting 50% from that range off 18 shots. Statistically, the Miners are a small fraction above 50% from that range off 18 shots. Statistically, the Miners are a small fraction above.

At halftime, Williams had scored 9 points, while Souley Bourn added 8 of the team’s total 26 points. The Herd’s leading scorer guard Jarrod West had been held to 3 points but 6-9 forward Mikael Beyers took up the slack, scoring 16 points in the half. Over the past three games Beyers has been on a tear averaging 17 points per game shooting 60% from the 3-point line.

“Our guys, had great urgency early in the game, but not so stellar play from guards as far as not making good decisions with the ball,” Head Coach Rodney Terry said. “We didn’t do a great job early in the first half (guarding the 3-point play).”

Early in the second half, Williams scored six straight points to close the Miners’ deficit to six points. Quickly killing that momentum was another 3-pointer from the Herd that took the lead back up to double digits with 16 minutes remaining in the game.

The closest the Miners could get the rest of the game was 7 points twice as the Herd showed it wanted the game more, especially on the defensive end. Marshall’s 3-point prowess in the first half was brought down to Earth in the second half. The Miners’ outside shooting was even worse, hitting only 2 of 10 shots from the 3-point range. Turnovers were also cut in half for both teams in the second half while UTEP quickly went into the bonus but was unable to seize much advantage of it.

Starters Williams, Beyers and Darryl Edwards played all but two minutes of the game. All three players scored in double digits while Williams led the way with 23 points. Roum led the Miners in rebounds with 10, Williams had six. Sophomore Tyus Verhoeven led the team in steals with four, matching a career high.

No other player from the Miners scored more than 5 points and its bench was outscored 3-1, all from forward Eldridge. The Miners were also unable to take advantage of early foul trouble from the Herd’s leading scorer in the game Beyers, who was limited to nine minutes in the second half.

“When you have to move your rotation around, that means you don’t have consistent guys that can play the position they need to play. (We) are still searching even in February to find that,” Terry said. “That’s really hard and you can only address that (during) recruiting. We have to improve our shooting and guard play.”

The Miners lost its last three games at home while starting the year, winning its first nine games at the Don Haskins. Overall, since the spring semester has begun, the Miners are 3-10 after starting 10-4.

The Miners begin bonus play against the University of Southern Mississippi Golden Eagles 5 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 22 with a conference tournament seed in the balance.

Michael Cuviello may be reached at prospector@utep.edu

Miners look to conclude road trip with a win, snap losing streak

Isaiah Ramirez
The Prospector

The UTEP women’s basketball team (13-11, 6-7) is currently on a three-game losing streak but looks to snap that as it takes on The University of Southern Mississippi Golden Eagles 5 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 22 at the Don Haskins Center for a two-game homestand versus Middle Tennessee and Southern Miss Feb. 22 and Feb. 29. The top 12 teams at the end of the season in the standings will qualify for the C-USA tournament March 13-14 in Irving, Texas.

This team prides itself on constant on-ball pressure and forcing turnovers, which shows as UTEP creates an average of 19 turnovers per game on opposing teams.

One negative aspect of this squad is the rough start of its matchups on the road. The Miners found itself down 26-11 after the first quarter against Western Kentucky, and 16-4 versus UAB earlier this season. In the team’s last game against Marshall, it was down 15-9 after one quarter but shot 26% from the field.

“It was a very winnable game for us, but we just didn’t come out of the gates well,” Head Coach Kerin Baker said. “We missed nine layups in the first quarter and, on the road, that’s just hard to overcome.”

UTSA is led by freshman guard Mikayla Woods’ 15 points per game, ranking her ninth in C-USA and forward Adriana Queradada’s 13 points per game. Queradada’s shooting 52% from the field, which ranks her fifth best in C-USA. Woods is a defensive force with an average of 2.7 steals per game, ranking her first in C-USA.

The Roadrunners are on a ten-game losing streak, and its matchup against the Miners won’t be an easy task to overcome for a struggling team.

The Miners will return home to the Don Haskins Center for a two-game homestand versus Middle Tennessee and Southern Miss Feb. 22 and Feb. 29. The top 12 teams at the end of the season in the standings will qualify for the C-USA tournament March 13-14 in Irving, Texas.

Isaiah Ramirez may be reached at prospector@utep.edu
Cheruiyot runs 2nd in Iowa State Classic, Bailey wins

The rest of the UTEP track team competed at the Don Kirby Elite Invitational in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Senior Sean Bailey was one of only two Miners to come away with a victory, winning the 5000m in a personal best 14:20.54. The one favorite in the upcoming C-USA championships, Bailey has the top two times in the distance this season and is getting closer to the Miner school record. Standing out as the other UTEP winner at the meet was junior Kepi Korir setting a personal best in the weight throw with 20.56 meters, which is more than a meter better than any throw in the conference this year.

In total, 10 Miners set personal bests at the meet. Sophomore Chantoba Bright finished second in the triple jump with 13.38 meters, which is the top jump in C-USA this season. Bright's jump was about a half meter from matching the school record of 13.64 set in 2008.

For the second week in a row, senior Shakeem Ronah finished in 8:44.65 in a race that was well over the top pace of the best Miner. Ronah finished 15 seconds off his best time, ran just a week ago on the same track.

Continuing to improve, sophomore Marivel Calzada ran a C-USA best time of 8:34 in the 400-meter hurdles. The time was only good enough for a fourth place at the invitational, but it set her up as a favorite in the C-USA championships.

Placing fifth in the 3000m run junior Boaz Kipkemboi finished in 8:44.65 in a race that was well off the pace of top C-USA performers this season. Ronah finished 15 seconds off his best time, ran just a week ago on the same track.

Running a personal best 47.61 in the 400m final, freshman athlete Powell placed sixth just 0.11 seconds off the third place finisher. Powell's performance places him just outside the top five times in C-USA this season.

Overall, the UTEP track team is set up very well to compete for gold at the C-USA championships starting Feb. 23 in Birmingham, Alabama. The Miners women's team finished second overall in 2019, while the men's team finished sixth.