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## The Prospector, October 6, 2020

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## Climate activists protest proposed fracking plant for Northeast El Paso

Margaret Cataldi  
The Prospector

A crowd of about 40 people gathered to protest El Paso Electric's plan to construct a new fracked-gas generator plant in Northeast El Paso Sept. 21 at San Jacinto Plaza.

According to a public statement by the utility company, the estimated construction of the plant is expected to cost more than \$157 million and the purpose of the project is to ensure reliability, replace older generation units and to establish "additional long-term energy supply resources."

Climate activists say the proposed Newman Unit 6 plant would further damage the city's already feeble air quality by emitting massive amounts of carbon dioxide greenhouse gasses.

El Paso's air quality is "poor" based on air quality measurements because "the air has reached a high

level of pollution and is unhealthy for sensitive groups," according to [accuweather.com](http://accuweather.com).

The demonstration followed social distancing guidelines and was organized by Sunrise El Paso, a local movement that aims to make climate change an urgent priority in local politics. The group attempts this by increasing public awareness on the influence of fossil fuels in the region and by pushing elected officials to push for climate change solutions.

"Every one of us standing here has an opportunity to reject the climate crisis, to reject the climate apocalypse, and to invest in our communities," Sunrise El Paso co-founder Miguel Escoto said. "That is what we're marching for today."

The protest began with one hour of sign making, then a call to action from prominent speakers including



Photograph by Salette Ontiveros/The Prospector

A group of El Paso citizens protest against the El Paso Electric Company at Downtown El Paso on Sept. 21.

See Activists in page 3

## 13 test positive for COVID-19 through UTEP

Anahy Diaz  
The Prospector

The highest number of people tested positive for the novel coronavirus between Sept. 21 and Sept. 27 through UTEP's Coronavirus Proactive Testing Program, according to the university's COVID Data Dashboard.

Last week, 13 people tested positive for COVID-19, which is technically the highest number UTEP's voluntary testing program, but still relatively low considering UTEP has an enrollment of more than 24,000 students and the City of El Paso already surpassed more than 24,000 positive cases. During the week of Aug. 31 through Sept. 6, the program revealed 12 positive cases — the second highest. The dashboard also reflects there were only three self-reported cases between Sept. 14 and Sept. 27 with the highest number of self-reported cases being eight between Aug. 31 through Sept. 6.

The university made it a goal to test up to 2,500 asymptomatic people affiliated with the university each week, the El Paso Times reports, but UTEP's COVID-19 dashboard does not reflect the number of tests administered each week, so the positivity rate is unclear for each week since Aug. 24.

According to the program's website, UTEP's COVID-19 testing is only for enrolled students and employees who will be on campus during the fall semester and are not experiencing symptoms of the virus.

Individuals who are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, feeling ill or have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 are encouraged to visit a community testing site or seek advice from their medical provider.

If a person tests positive, they receive a phone call from a UTEP Environmental Health and Safety employee, who then advises a person on the next steps. According to UTEP, the University will also identify which classes or offices the infected person attended and invite all those who may have been exposed to be tested.

UTEP students, faculty and

## City council candidates talk COVID-19, climate change in forums

Isaiah Ramirez  
The Prospector

With early voting right around the corner, candidates vying for a seat on El Paso City Council spoke about their platforms at in-person forum hosted by the League of Women Voters of El Paso. The event was held Sept. 22, which was National Voter Registration Day, at the Alamo Draffthouse Cinema in West Side El Paso.

From navigating through the coronavirus pandemic to mitigating the effects of climate change, the candidates in the districts two, three, four, and seven races all debated on a variety of topics with early voting in Texas less than three weeks away.

The questions were presented to candidates by the League of Women Voters and the debates were moderated by Rosemary Neil with the El Paso Community First Coalition; Karen Dykes, former candidate for district attorney; Diana Martinez, UTEP professor; Elida S. Perez, reporter with El Paso Matters; and Robert Moore, chief executive of



Photograph by Claudia Hernandez/The Prospector

League of Women Voters of El Paso set up a tent at a Candidates Forum outside of Alamo Draffthouse Sept. 22.

El Paso Matters.

In the mayoral debate moderated by Moore, incumbent Mayor Dee Margo faced off against city planner Carlos Gallinar, candidate Dean Martinez, former Mayor Oscar Lesser, and attorney Veronica Carbajal.

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the city and how officials have responded to it was a

heated debate topic, with candidates taking aim at Margo's handling of the pandemic.

"We still don't have a public health director and I know Mr. Margo is going to shrug it off as it's not a big deal but it is a big deal because people are dying in El Paso," said Gallinar.

Margo rebutted Gallinar's criticism by saying the absence of a

public health director doesn't make any difference.

"If anyone understands how the operations of the city works, you would understand that the health director has nothing whatsoever to do with the designated person for the health pandemic," Margo said.

Alexandra Annelo, the district two representative since 2017, which covers the Northeast and central parts of El Paso, took part in forum against challenger James Campos. Judy Gutierrez, another candidate, declined to participate in the forum.

A topic that was addressed during each forum was the priorities of each candidate platform and their plans to enhance their respective districts.

"The most important priority in my district is rebuilding as I see a lot of old housing and we need to get the people to understand that we need to rebuild the city of El Paso within a 100-year period," Campos said.

Annelo said the pandemic put the brakes on her district's economic development.

See Forum in page 3

See Testing in page 3

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# RBG's legacy of gender equality will never be undone

Daniela Ramos

The Prospector

The recent death of Ruth Bader Ginsburg shook the nation to its core and despite the turbulent politics around the time of her death, the achievements of the second woman to serve as an associate justice of the Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS) are, and will never cease to be, undeniable.

The sheer attention and praise Ginsburg has gotten since her death Sept. 18, is a testament to how much she was respected, admired, and cared for by everyone who knew her, and how important her life's work was to those who felt betrayed or dismissed by the law.

"Her legacy, even previous to the Supreme Court, will definitely last," said Dr. Todd Curry, Ph.D., associate professor of constitutional law and judicial politics at UTEP. "I can't see any Republican undo the things she did."

As a champion of equal justice and rights under the law, RBG opened doors not only for women in law, but for women throughout the nation in male-dominated industries and environments.

She's always been a champion for a level playing field for women.

She was the founder of the American Civil Liberties Union's (ACLU) Women's Rights Project, which was created with the sole purpose of achieving equal protection for women.

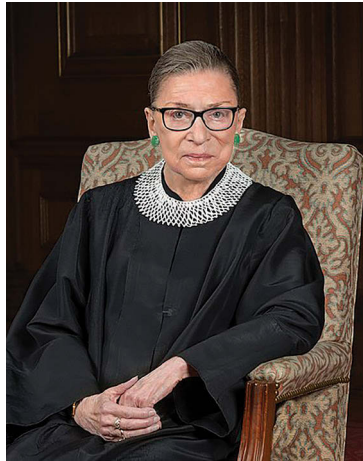
Through this branch of the organization, she managed to change the minds of a male-dominated Supreme Court, which had "long accepted sex-based differences as natural, upholding laws that explicitly prohibited women from serving as lawyers, bartenders, or jurors," wrote David Cole, national legal director of the ACLU, for the New York Review Daily remembering Ginsburg.

Although, she did much more than that.

Ginsburg successfully argued in many landmarks SCOTUS cases that promoted gender equality like the *Weinberger v. Wiesenfeld* case of 1975 that ruled it unconstitutional for the Social Security Act to have gender-based differences and the *Frontiero v. Richardson* case of 1973 that struck down on gender-based differences regarding military benefits while she part of the ACLU.

Ginsburg fought against sex discrimination in America's laws through these cases and many others, allowing more and more gender-based laws to be overturned or struck down as unconstitutional.

She is the reason women can get



Courtesy of U.S. Supreme Court

Ruth Bader Ginsburg was an associate justice of the Supreme Court of the United States from 1993 until her death.

a credit card without a husband, or buy a house on their own, as well as be a bartender without their father being the owner of the bar, Curry explained.

"These types of achievements cannot be undone, so in this sense, her legacy will live on," Curry said.

The effects of many discriminatory constitutional laws would remain today, had it not been for Ginsburg's courage and valiant efforts to eliminate gender barriers and unequal circumstances for, not only women, but all the disenfranchised in America.

## RBG pushed for rights

While she is most known for her achievements in the ambit of women's rights, I came to also know her first as a defender of Black rights, with her historical dissent in the ruling of *Shelby v. Holder*.

In 2013, in the voting rights case of *Shelby County v. Holder*, the constitutionality of two sections within the Voting Rights Act (VRA) of 1965 was reviewed.

Section 5 and 4b were on trial, as the former required certain states and local governments to get federal preclearance on any changes they wish to enforce on their respective voting laws.

The second passage on trial, sub-section 4b, provided a coverage formula that determined which specific states or jurisdictions were required to obtain preclearance on any changes to voting laws, taking into account their history with racism or voting discrimination.

As a result of this ruling, section 4b of the VRA was struck down as unconstitutional, since the content and information on which the formula was created was considered outdated.

With this ruling, section 5 was

also made useless, since no state will require preclearance to change their voting laws until U.S. Congress emits a new, current coverage formula to which they must be subject.

The case was concluded with the claim of Chief Justice John Roberts, which argued the need for preclearance was long gone, as if racial discrimination had entirely vanished from government, ceasing to be an influence on vital state and local decisions, specifically those concerning voting rights.

"There is no denying, however, that the conditions that originally justified these measures no longer characterize voting in the covered jurisdictions... Nearly 50 years later, things have changed dramatically," said Roberts in his legal opinion.

In response to this absurd and, perhaps, naïve ruling, Ginsburg dissented with one of her most renowned quotes:

"Throwing out preclearance when it has worked and is continuing to work to stop discriminatory changes is like throwing away your umbrella in a rainstorm because you are not getting wet," Ginsburg said.

Evidently, RBG was right, since that same day the Supreme Court made their decision on this case, Alabama passed a voter identification act, Texas enforced an even harsher one that would directly affect low class minority voters, and Mississippi and North Carolina followed suit, according to Joyce White Vance, distinguished professor of law and former U.S. Attorney.

This just comes to prove how much there is to be done for the protection of freedom and equality in the country. Rather than focusing on institutionalizing mere socio-political concepts, leaders must strive to appropriate them to citizens, and make them available to all.

Ginsburg's most notable quality is that she embodied the purpose of government and governmental officials, which is to seek out the common good for people and represent their needs and beliefs.

In spite of it being its sole purpose, government rarely works for the good of others and instead seeks individual agendas of power, wealth, and influence.

Individual agendas and the impact of RBG's passing on the 2020 elections

Ginsburg's passing has raised the levels of political and ideological unrest that have plagued the U.S. since its birth. More so, because presidential elections are just around the corner, making every major decision and event in the country a political one.

Although RBG's death has left an immense legacy to live up to, it certainly hasn't delayed President Donald Trump's resident's nomination for a new judge.

It was initially in debate whether a Supreme Court nomination should go forward before the Nov. 3 election. According to a national poll conducted by Reuters on Sept. 19, 62% of Americans lean toward having nomination be made after the election.

Despite this, Trump announced Sept. 24 that he will nominate Judge Amy Coney Barrett, a known conservative, to fill RBG's position in the Supreme Court.

However, it appears Ginsburg's death won't influence the electoral outcomes or be used to tilt the scales.

A poll conducted by Ipsos shows voters have already made up their mind and RBG's passing hasn't changed or affected their decision.

"No, I don't believe the outcome of the election will be affected," Curry said. "In my lifetime, this is the least percentage of undecided voters I've ever seen, which is 7% to 8% of voters."

This means most people know who they will be casting their vote for in less than two months.

However, this doesn't mean Ginsburg's passing lacks impact, on the contrary, it might just be decisive if the election reaches the Supreme Court.

If the election does come before the Supreme Court, only then will Ginsburg's death favor Republicans regarding who gets elected president in November, Curry said.

If Barrett were to fill Ginsburg's seat as associate justice of the Supreme Court, then it would lock a conservative majority on the high court.

Currently, the Supreme Court has five Republicans and three Democrats. However, Curry explained Roberts has voted against Trump before, making the court, four to four.

"But if they replace Ginsburg with a Republican, then that's when Roberts vote won't count, making the outcome five to four, Republican majority," Curry said.

"In matters like abortion rights, for example, with conservative ideology ruling the Supreme Court, decisions like this could be overturned. Her (Ginsburg) legacy in this case will probably not be as lasting."

## Ginsburg's legacy

Although my own Christian beliefs and convictions keep me from being entirely onboard with RBG's

agenda, she fought for equality and against disadvantage and oppression, which is something that I cannot oppose nor deny.

Her true legacy is something intangible or perhaps something undocumented in the hearts and souls of so many throughout the U.S. and in the world.

Ginsburg promoted a popular sentiment, a belief system even, that legitimized the constitutional passage that makes all individuals "equal under the law."

Therefore, her real legacy lives in the new mindset she asserted, where everyone should have the same rights, liberties and be deserving of equal opportunities to advance regardless of sex or race.

Her peaceful, amicable relationships with Supreme Court opponents, like Chief Justice Antonin Scalia reflect the kindness and knowledge that is needed in politics.

Ginsburg's determination, intelligence, and ability to control whatever court she stood before are what defined her and made her great. These characteristics allowed her to open many doors for women, not just in law, but across all professions and personal pursuits.

Ginsburg's values, ideas, and achievements are something that cannot be taken away from a society that was shaped by her, no matter who her is named as her replacement or bears the title of President of the United States.

However, it is with profound sorrow that I contemplate the possible future of this nation, and I must agree with Joe Biden's claim that this election is in truth a battle for America's soul. A message that can also be heard through former Federal Prosecutor and Legal Analyst Mimi Rocah's call for action.

In times of such confusion and discord, "we must step out of our comfort zones and into rooms where we may not be welcome; we must speak up," Rocah said. "We must continue to fight the legal battles on behalf of those less fortunate and more vulnerable than us."

On that note, I hope whoever is chosen to take Ginsburg's seat continues to uphold the spirit and passion in favor of the disregarded, cast aside, and unfairly persecuted by the law.

In the assuring and timely words of Ginsburg herself, "real change, enduring change, happens one step at a time."

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Activists from cover page

City Councilmember Aleksandra Annelo and El Paso mayoral candidate, Veronica Carbajal.

This was followed by a march to the Chase Building in Downtown El Paso on 301 North Oregon St. and finally to the El Paso Electric building on 100 North Stanton St.

Earlier this year, El Paso Electric was bought out by the JP Morgan Chase-affiliated Infrastructure Investment Fund, or IIF, despite the pushback from Sunrise and other local coalitions like Earthworks and Familias Unidas de Chamizal.

The region's largest utility company is now under private control by IIF.

"What we need is affordable electricity. What we need is access.

What we need is for our elders and our low-income families to not have to decide between (paying) their electric bill (or) food," Carbajal said.

Activists say the Permian Basin Pipeline is already one of El Paso's largest air pollutants, but if built, the Newman 6 plant would produce emissions exceeding the Environmental Protection Agency's air quality standards over 18 times.

"That is why it is so important for us to keep fighting at the federal level, at the state level, at the local level," Carbajal said, further echoed the distrust of JP Morgan Chase and called for the rejection of the Newman 6 plant. "This may happen with or without your consent. But you have to be vigilant."

Back in February, Annelo was one

of just two City Council members that voted against the agreement that allowed the sale of El Paso Electric to an investment arm of JP Morgan Chase.

"It doesn't have to come to this. You can have a city government, a Public Utility Commission and an El Paso Electric Company who responds to you before it gets here," Annelo said.

"We're here to rally around our greatest allies and bring attention to the fact that there is a problem, but there is a solution," Sunrise organizer Andrew James Torres said. "The solution will come when we have elected officials who will actually listen to us."

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Forum from cover page

"Over my time in office we have had more money in streets put into District 2 than ever before, but that needs to continue and with the pandemic that was put on hold and I do not support that," Annelo said.

Another matter discussed during the mayoral forum was the issue of climate change and water consumption.

"I believe that under the restrictions we have right now, we need to push forward and see if we can locate and allocate water," Martinez said.

Carbajal said she's cared about climate change for decades and that it's pressing matter for the city considering its rising temperature.

"I have been having nightmares about climate change for 25 years since I was an undergraduate at Brown majoring in environmental studies when we didn't believe we could make it to 2020," Carbajal said. "Fossil fuels are the number one contributor to climate change and rising temperatures.

"In El Paso, 97% of our power plants are using natural gas, but we need to use solar energy."

Members of the El Paso community were able to register to vote at the Alamo Draffhouse venue and update their voting address.

Council members represent their districts, each representing one-eighth of the city's area and make decisions on behalf of the citizenry within the city limits.

Early voting begins Oct. 13 and the last day to register to vote in Texas is Oct. 5.

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Testing from cover page

staff, who are not experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms and are looking to get tested, may visit the different Coronavirus Proactive Testing Program sites at UTEP including the Fox Fine Arts Complex lower level courtyard, the breezeway between the Engineering and Classroom buildings, the Union breezeway and Undergraduate Learning Center patio.

For more information regarding the program, visit the UTEP's COVID-19 website.

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*Editor's note: For the first time in The Prospector's history, our team will not be printing and distributing the print product every Tuesday. Instead, keep up with our reporting at [theprospectordaily.com](http://theprospectordaily.com). We will also be sharing with our readers PDF versions of our newspaper every few weeks. We thank you for trusting us as your source of UTEP news.*



Photograph by Salette Ontiveros/The Prospector

El Paso Sunrise Movement members protest outside of El Paso Electric Company at Downtown El Paso Texas on Sept. 21.

# DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH



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# New UTEP fellowships office helps students succeed

Sasha Minjarez

The Prospector

The Office of Student Fellowships and Awards, part of the Division of Student Affairs, launched this academic year and is being led by Melanie Meinzer, Ph.D., who joined the university in June.

## Origins and purpose

The new office is designed to reach out to students and promote awareness of existing opportunities by identifying students who are eligible, informing them they can apply and advising them on how they can become competitive candidates in the workforce.

Prior to the establishment of this new office, the Office of Scholarships, advised students with scholarship and fellowship opportunities, but the new fellowship office is now helping streamline and polish that process even further.

“Faculty at UTEP have been advising students who are applying for fellowships and awards, but the Office of Student Fellowships and Awards serves as a central coordinating point to bring these efforts together and to amplify the effect of the advising that is already happening on campus,” Meinzer said. “The goal of this new office is to increase the number of UTEP students who apply for prestigious external fellowships and awards, by building awareness among students about these opportunities and connecting students to the enormous wealth of resources and expertise on campus.”

## How it's different from the scholarships office

One distinction between the new fellowships office and the Office of Scholarships is its funding. Another difference is the scope of the opportunities that each office focuses on.

The scholarships office works with internal funding provided to the university from donors, alumni, and the state. This funding is not extended to national and international competition, making UTEP students compete with each other. The fellowships office on the other hand, facilitates and distributes external funds procured from foundations, government agencies, or individual philanthropic donors like that of the Gates Cambridge



Photo courtesy of UTEP

Senior Destiny Rodriguez, an accounting and finance double major, earned the Gilman Scholarship that funded a Fall 2019 study abroad in France.

Scholarship.

There is a more expansive applicant pool which ranges from across the country to the world, such as the case with the Rhodes Scholarship.

Fellowship funding is also portable for the purpose of relocating to any desired institution or studying abroad. UTEP President Heather Wilson is a Rhodes Scholar herself and the first member of her family to graduate from college.

“The best students at UTEP can compete with the best students anywhere; they need the encouragement to know that they can,” said Wilson in a news release. “We established the Office of Student Fellowships and Awards to give students the guidance and support to prepare themselves for these graduate fellowships.”

## The opportunities it offers

Some of the fellowship opportunities the Office of Student Fellowships and Awards has on its radar is the Boren Fellowship, the Fulbright U.S. Student Program, Gates Cambridge Scholarship, Hertz Foundation Fellowship, Marshall Scholarship, Mitchell Scholarship,

National Science Foundation's Graduate Research Fellowship Program, Rhodes Scholarship, Schwarzman Scholarship, and the Truman Scholarship.

Opportunities for undergraduates includes the Boren Scholarship, Gilman Scholarship and Gilman-McCain Scholarship, Goldwater Scholarship, Hawkins Scholarship, Houston Endowment Scholarship, and the Ralph Bunche Summer Institute.

The office works with students in both undergraduate and graduate levels to help them discover an array of prospective opportunities. Options range from, but are not limited to, the Gilman Scholarship for Pell Grant eligible undergraduates; the Rhodes Scholarship and Fulbright which are exclusive to graduating seniors; and the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program, open to graduating seniors as well as first year graduate students.

The Hawkins Scholarship, introduced in February during UTEP's Inaugural Honors, Scholars and Fellows Day, is a new undergraduate scholarship of \$10,000 being awarded this semester. The award has no U.S. citizenship

**“Fellowships are a lot more than just the money, they are personally transformative and provide access to new professional networks that benefit awardees throughout their careers.”**

-Melanie Meinzer, Ph.D.

requirement and is the only internal scholarship managed through the Office of Student Fellowship and Awards.

Not only is there a perceptible range in the diversity of students being supported, but in the spring semester, UTEP produced seven Gilman Scholars out of 14 total applicants which highlights the success rate and significance of spreading awareness of these opportunities.

“Fellowships are a lot more than just the money, they are personally transformative and provide access to new professional networks that benefit awardees throughout their careers,” Meinzer said. “The reward for putting in all the effort involved in completing an application can be life-changing.”

In addition to informing students of the availability of these fellowships, faculty and staff are also there to aid students throughout the application process. The process, which typically lasts three to six months, and includes extensive essays and the gathering of letters of institutional support. can be rigorous. However, the faculty and staff at the Office of Student Fellowships and Awards is there for its students with coaching, feedback, and guidance throughout the preparation and development of students' applications.

## Post-COVID-19

UTEP students have speculated on programs that involve traveling overseas, such as the Fulbright and Gilman awards, amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Since the agencies funding these opportunities have already allocated the funds, the office of fellowships is encouraging students in any case to apply anyway.

A contingency plan for travel

disruptions due to COVID-19 may be considered after, but the important thing is to apply, Meinzer said. It's also important to note the application process for these fellowships is carried out in advance from their actual departure. The Howard Gilman Foundation has adjusted to travel restrictions by allowing students to either defer their award for a semester or study remotely.

“The pandemic has limited travel related to some fellowships, but I encourage students to explore scholarship and fellowship funding opportunities and apply as they normally would,” Meinzer said.

The Office of Students Fellowships has adjusted accordingly as well, by conducting all their information sessions virtually. Interested students can also revert to the recorded sessions which will remain posted on the office's website.

The eye-catching “Dream Bigger” banner which appears on the website, Meinzer explains, is a visual headline representative of leveraging student's skills and channeling them into acts, like applying, that will get them to where they want to be academically and professionally.

“The overarching goal of the office is to increase the number of students who apply for these prestigious external fellowships, scholarships and awards,” Meinzer said. “My vision is to build a pipeline of students applying for these kinds of awards from the moment they set foot on campus, whether they are freshmen, sophomores, juniors, seniors or graduate students. UTEP students have the academic preparation, skills and experience to compete for these opportunities. They have and can win these awards.”

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# Student Support Services Program receives \$1.7 million grant

Pablo Gallegos,

The Prospector

The mission of the Student Support Services program is to help participating students graduate with the necessary tools to achieve their academic and post-graduate goals.

“Programs like this have helped UTEP students succeed at rates that rival ‘selective’ universities,” said UTEP President Heather Wilson in a news release, who also acknowledged the role that SSSP plays in closing the success gap for first-generation students as a division of the university's student affairs department.

In order to be eligible to join the program, a student must be a U.S. citizen, enrolled in nine to 12 credit hours, be a first-generation college student, applied for financial aid and meet the income guidelines set by the U.S Department of Education.

In addition to this, the student must demonstrate academic need or be registered with the Center for Accommodations and Student Support (CASS).

According to SSSP in a news release, based on the number of members who graduate, the program sees turnover in 60 to 70 students out of the 200 that participate annually.

Amid the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, SSSP is operating remotely. The SSSP team will virtually provide its services from Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information regarding SSSP, visit its website at [utep.edu/student-affairs](http://utep.edu/student-affairs).

Pablo Gallegos may be reached at [prospector@utep.edu](mailto:prospector@utep.edu).



Photograph by Claudia Hernandez/The Prospector

The SSSP is a program that is funded every five years to offer first generation students services that range from tutoring, educational workshops and advocacy to personal support and peer mentorship.

# ENTERTAINMENT

OCTOBER 6, 2020

EDITOR PAULINA ASTRID SPENCER, 747-5161

## Rubin Center presents local artists

**Exodis Ward**

The Prospector

The UTEP's Stanlee and Gerald Rubin Center for the Visual Arts reopens its doors art enthusiasts with two new galleries featuring artists from our sister city Ciudad Juarez, Mexico.

"We work a lot with Juarez artists and institutions, but even in moments of extreme violence we were still going back and forth a lot more than we are now. We are thinking of ways to keep that connection," Kerry Doyle, director of the Rubin center said.

One of the exhibitions is called Manipulation. It was created by Jellyfish Colectivo who's members names are Atenas Campbell, Pilo Portillo, and Kukui Herrera. Their work is street and pop art brought to life through murals and digital illustrations among other things.

Doyle describes their work as "The kind of place where you can go in and get lost in."

The other exhibition, The Liquid Gates of Time, was created by an artist that wishes to remain anonymous but uses a symbol for their signature. Their work is in collaboration with UTEP's special collections, biodiversity collections and the centennial museum

collections to enhance the taxonomy of the borderland. Some pieces in the show include armor from the 15th century and historic images from Juarez in the early 1900's.

"The artist is working with the notions that it's difficult to pin down what it means to be a border resident or to be here on the border," Doyle said. "It's been great to collaborate with other mediums on campus but also think about how these things come together as part of our understanding of the border."

The galleries open Oct. 15 and close Feb. 26.

The Rubin center is also experimenting with a new employee position that they hope to keep permanently; community curator. The goal for the community curator is to connect to the artistic community and help artists have better opportunities after graduation. Ramon Cardenas is an Art History major is the first person to be chosen for the role.

"Ramon himself, inspired it. He is very deeply engaged in the community in lots of different ways. He knows lots of young artists, lots of community activists and organizations. He has experience grant-writing, putting together large-scale public art projects and running a business," Doyle said. "We wanted



Photo courtesy of Jellyfish Colectivo

Jellyfish Colectivo, Untitled, digital graphic, 2020, from the exhibition Manipulation.

to take advantage of those skills within the gallery space. Moving forward, we hope to have Ramon lead workshops and conversations for other UTEP students, interested in the arts."

The Rubin center will have

increased cleaning protocols and required face masks. Groups will be kept between five and ten people to keep social distance. Walk-ins are allowed, availability is determined by the number of people already in the gallery.

Past virtual galleries and events can be found at [utep.edu/rubin/](http://utep.edu/rubin/)

Exodis Ward may be reached at [prospector@utep.edu](mailto:prospector@utep.edu)  
@alexodislee on Twitter.

## Virtual farmer's market supports local businesses

**Alyson Rodriguez**

The Prospector

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, more stores are adapting to the "new normal" and moving their sales online. Businesses are looking for creative ways to adapt to social distancing rules, while staying afloat. Farmer's markets are some of the businesses trying to adapt to this new way of life.

What used to be an early morning weekend event for shopping fresh produce and homemade local goods, can now be done online from the comfort of one's bed.

One farmer's market that is adapting virtually is the Jefa Market, a local non-profit ran by Chicachat. Jefa Market is a virtual marketplace with over 20 different businesses owned by women.

The main purpose of Chicachat is to advance women in social, entrepreneurial, and wellness positions. It is a safe networking space built by a community of women who support one another and provide friendship and mentorship.

The mission of Chicachat is to serve female entrepreneurs and economic growth. It does this by hosting a networking event every month for its members, but due to coronavirus Jefa Market has moved online.

## Pumpkin patches opens to public during pandemic

**Exodis Ward**

The Prospector

As the summer ends and the new season begins, fall enthusiasts can celebrate the beginning of "pumpkin spice everything" with limited activities at local pumpkin patches and corn mazes.

Although the coronavirus pandemic has put a halt to many activities throughout the year, La Union Maze and Mesilla Valley Maze will be up and running this season with some restrictions. La Union Maze, one of the most popular mazes located in La Union, New Mexico, will not feature its iconic haunted maze this year. However, the maze

will still offer a variety of activities for guests to partake in like pumpkin picking, where guests pick their own pumpkins.

Guests can pick from a variety or can opt for a random selection of pumpkins by "Farmer's Choice." The bundles come in 50, 100, 150 or 200-pound sizes.

Guests who would like more variety in pumpkins should choose the "specialty pumpkins" section on La Union's website. All pumpkins come in small, medium or large sizes, with prices ranging on weight. The pumpkins available are Monster's smash, Grower's giant, Fairytale, Marina Di Chioggia, Porcelain doll, New Moon, and Blue Doll. Gourds,

corn stalks and hay bales can also be bought.

In order to attend, visitors must reserve a spot through the maze's website, and purchase tickets at \$20 per vehicle, plus a \$2 fee.

If guests do not wish to go to the location to pick their pumpkins, pumpkins can be bought online with the option of delivery or pick-up to ensure safe social distancing.

Virtual pumpkin field trips are also offered to schools for groups of 50 or more students at La Union. The package costs \$3.50 per student and is available through Oct. 16. The package includes a video and interactive explanation on how pumpkins are grown, activity

sheets and a small pumpkin for each student with ideas on how to decorate the squash.

La Union will be open to visitors until Nov. 1 on Friday, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The Mesilla Valley Maze located in Las Cruces, New Mexico will also offer guests activities, to ensure seasonal fun for all.

"As 2020 has been an unpredictable year due to the coronavirus pandemic, we have had to make the difficult decision to limit what we can safely offer to the public. It may not be the same, but we're still here," was written in the Mesilla Valley Maze Facebook page.

Most of their activities are suspended but patrons can shop at the country store or buy pumpkins at the pumpkin junction. The "How tall this Fall" gauge will be available, along with other fall backdrops, that can be used for pictures.

Admission is free and will be open starting Oct. 2 from Friday through Sunday at 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Exodis Ward may be reached at [prospector@utep.edu](mailto:prospector@utep.edu)  
@alexodislee on Twitter.



Photograph by Claudia Hernandez/The Prospector

La Union Maze and Mesilla Valley Maze will be up and running this season with some restrictions.

### Hours

**Friday: 11a.m.- 4p.m.**  
**Saturday: 10a.m.-5p.m.**  
**Sunday: 11a.m.-6p.m.**

*Will be open until Nov. 1*

# In review: 'Angus, Thongs and Perfect Snogging' 12 years later

Paulina Astrid Spencer

The Prospector

Being a tween in the late 2000's, I spent majority of my middle school years reading the "Confessions of Georgia Nicholson" series by Louise Rennison. I remember reading the series with my two best friends and being so excited for the 2008 Nickelodeon adaptation of the book "Angus, Thongs and Full-Frontal Snogging."

I would like to say I have left "Angus, Thongs and perfect snogging" in my teenage past, but I quote the movie daily. I cannot be the only American girl who pretended to be British and had the biggest crush on Aaron Johnson. This movie shaped my middle school experience and introduced me to British artists like Scouting for Girls and Mumm-ra.

Twelve years later, I decided to rent the movie and determine if it is as good as I remember. Although it is a classic, I noticed aspects of the movie that I overlooked as a 12-year-old girl.

To begin, I realized the reason why the movie and books were so influential to me, is because they appealed to my teenage girl heart. Fourteen-year-old Georgia is a character that reflects what being in that weird age is really like.

Georgia is insecure about her physical appearance and her personality, something that many tween girls, including myself, went through at that age. Being a pre-pubescent girl is hard, and Georgia perfectly depicts some of



Photo courtesy of Tunefind

2008 teen romantic comedy film co-written and directed by Gurinder Chadha, based on the young adult novels *Angus, Thongs and Full-Frontal Snogging* (1999) and *It's OK, I'm Wearing Really Big Knickers* (2000) by Louise Rennison.

the struggles middle-school and high school girls go through. She is constantly comparing herself to "fitter" girls like "slaggy" Lindsay and altering her appearance to look prettier for boys, particularly Robbie, one of the two new brothers in town.

Some things I did not realize or pay attention to when I was 12 years old, is the fact that Georgia is very rude and disrespectful to her perfectly normal and funny parents. Georgia embodies the angst of being a teenage girl, but watching the movie now, she just seems spoiled and mean.

As a teen, I wanted Georgia to get together with Robbie and hated his girlfriend Lindsay, but in hindsight,

her relentless schemes were evil, and she was pursuing a boy in a relationship. Although I still hate Lindsay as a 24-year-old, I cannot agree with Georgia's schemes to break up a relationship, and let's not forget Robbie and Georgia kissed in the pool while he was still dating Lindsay.

Georgia's jealousy over Lindsay and Robbie's relationship, as well as her friend Jas' relationship with Robbie's brother Tom, is toxic and problematic. All the bad things that happen to Georgia are a result of her obsession with being in a relationship with Robbie. She does not care about her friend or anyone else's feelings.

Moreover, I realized there is only one person of color in this movie and it's Georgia's friend, Ellen, played by Manjeeven Grewal. Grewal, of Punjabi descent, plays the only non-white character in the movie. As a teen, I did not notice the film's lack of diversity and inclusivity.

An important part of the movie is Georgia's 15th birthday party, which takes place at a club. I was shocked to re-discover that Georgia's parents, with the help of Jas, organize a party

for her at a club.

This movie is full of cringey moments that perfectly describe adolescence, but are unwatchable as an adult, such as the infamous "washing machine syndrome" scene where Georgia pays a boy to kiss her. However, these cringey moments are what make this movie memorable and quotable.

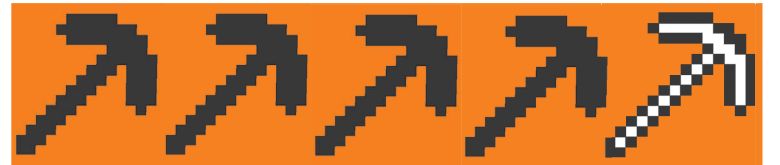
Perhaps my favorite scene of the movie was the final one, where Jas takes out Lindsay's fake boobs at Georgia's birthday party. The line, "Robbie prefers his girlfriends' unfake," is one that I like to quote (in a British accent, of course) in unity with my best friend to date because of how outrageous it is.

Watching that final scene now, made me realize what a corny and unbelievable ending to the movie that was. Although it remains iconic in my mind, it is bad.

I have come to the consensus that although I can no longer relate to "Angus, thongs and perfect snogging" as I used to when I was 12 years old, I still love it and will never not watch it if they play it on Nickelodeon.

I rate this movie 4 picks out of 5 because "I still hold it dear" to my heart and will quote it with my friends until the day I die.

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@paulinaaspen on Twitter.



Market from page 5

"When our in-person event had to be put on hold due to the pandemic, we later decided to adapt and make it a virtual experience to do our part in social distancing and not take any risks," said president of Chicachat, Zoë Gemoets, who is also a UTEP alumna.

Chicachat helps businesses in the community through Jefa Market, while helping promote each other's businesses. It uses a small vendor application to help businesses through fundraising, so it's a win-win situation for everyone.

Jefa Market offers a variety of products and services from local vendors, like clothing, art, photography, accessories, hand-made candles, bakeries and more.

Some of the businesses featured include Bomb Beauty, Chuco Relic, De Lo Mio Masks, Sleepy Sloth Bakery, Stitched by Sela, Her Vision, Drips by Liv, Designs by A' Diva and Mama Mama. Some of the vendors have websites, Etsy shops, or can be contacted through direct message on Instagram for people looking to purchase their products.

"Chica Chat is simply the host for the marketplace, we don't handle any transactions," Gemoets said. "When you're on the Jefa Market and you find a vendor, you'd like to shop at, using the links provided will take you directly to where you can place your order."

The first virtual market ends Oct. 1, however, Chicachat is planning to host another Jefa Market in October. The application is available on the Chicachat's website, both on the home page and on the Jefa Market page, for vendors interested in participating.

For more information about Jefa Market and the other vendors, visit [www.chicachat.org/jefa-market](http://www.chicachat.org/jefa-market) or follow Chicachat on Instagram and Twitter @letschicachat.

Alyson Rodriguez may be reached at [prospector@utep.edu](mailto:prospector@utep.edu).

## 'Breathe, Nolan, Breathe': a documentary of the horrors of hazing

Alyson Rodriguez

The Prospector

On Sept. 23, the UTEP Student Engagement & Leadership Center (SELC) hosted a virtual screening and discussion with the directors of the documentary, "Breathe, Nolan, Breathe: The Nolan Burch Story." The 2019 film discusses the topic of hazing and follows the tragic events that led to the death of a West Virginia University (WVU) student.

SELC hosted the event as part of its Hazing Prevention Week, where various UTEP groups attended like its cheer, dance, band, and athletics teams, as well as members of the University's Fraternity and Sorority Life.

In recent years, hazing has become a severe problem across college campuses in the United States. Hazing is any intentional action or situation that causes embarrassment, harassment or ridicule and risks emotional or physical harm to members of a group or team, regardless of the willingness to participate.

The 35-minute documentary centers around the tragic death of WVU freshman, Nolan Burch, in 2014, after joining an unsanctioned fraternity called Kappa Sigma. The documentary features Burch's family and friends, as well as experts who talk about how his death could have been prevented.

It began when Burch attended his final night of pledging to his fraternity on Nov. 12, 2014. The night included a "Big Brother and Big Sister Night" party, where pledges met their fraternity or sorority sibling who were responsible for taking care of them that evening. The final challenge before Burch was accepted into the fraternity was to drink a bottle of proof whiskey, given to him by his "big brother", in under

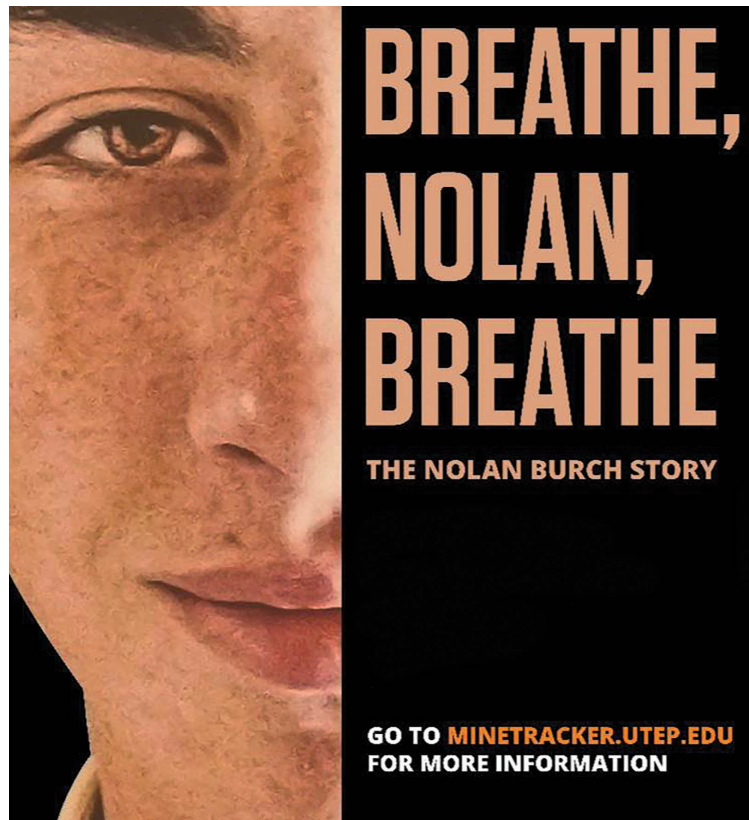


Photo courtesy of UTEP

The 35-minute documentary centers around the death of WVU freshman, Nolan Burch, in 2014, after joining an unsanctioned fraternity called Kappa Sigma.

an hour. Soon after drinking the bottle, Burch became unconscious. He was then carried into a room and was laid on top of a table where everyone could see him. No one realized Burch was not breathing.

After some time, the fraternity brothers finally realized something was wrong and called 911. Emergency medical technicians administered CPR on Burch, which kept him stable enough to make it to the hospital where he was put on life support. Burch's family and friends were able to say goodbye to him at the hospital, before he was taken off life support on Nov. 14 and passed away due to acute

ethanol intoxication. Medical records revealed Burch's blood alcohol level was more than six times the legal limit for an adult.

Burch's parents, TJ and Kim Burch, joined Director Daniel E. Catullo and others during SELC's event for a panel discussion focused on bringing awareness to the dangers of hazing.

One viewer asked what steps WVU took to prevent another situation like Burch's.

"The fraternity was discontinued, and the attendants of the frat house were removed," said TJ, Burch's father. "The fraternity was also not recognized by the national Kappa

Sigma chapter."

TJ and Kim established the Nolan Michael Burch (NMB) Foundation in their son's honor. The NMB Foundation's mission is to assist young adults in recognizing and preventing the dangers associated with hazing through education and awareness. It also provides solutions and guidance that help young adults combat hazing. N.O.L.A.N., an acronym the foundation created to put an end to hazing and to empower young people to make the difference between life and death, stands for Notice, Obey, Lead, Act, and Notify. It works as a reminder for people that if they see something dangerous happening, they should say something.

The NMB Foundation's website showcases Burch's second to last tweet on Twitter, a quote by an unknown author. The quote reads, "Maybe some things don't get better, but we do. We get stronger. We learn to live with our situations as messy and ugly as they are. We fix what we can, and we adapt to what we can't. Maybe some of us will never be fully okay but at least we're here. We're still trying. We're doing the best we can. That's worth celebrating too. If you're reading this, congratulations, you made it to today. You made it."

Burch was able to save four lives through organ donation.

"Breathe, Nolan, Breathe," available for free on YouTube, is nominated for a regional Emmy in the Documentary - Cultural/Topical category in the Ohio Valley Chapter. A virtual Emmy ceremony is set to be held Sunday, Oct. 4.

For more information on Nolan Burch's story or to learn more about the NMB Foundation, visit <https://nmbfoundation.com/en/>.

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# SPORTS

OCTOBER 6, 2020

EDITOR MICHAEL CUVIELLO, 747-5161

## Cross-country returns for an abbreviated season

**Michael CuvIELLO**  
The Prospector

Kicking off the 2020 UTEP cross-country season, the Miners placed seventh in the men's team event and 10th in the women's team event Saturday at the 82nd annual Cowboy Jamboree in Stillwater Oklahoma.

Due to COVID-19 concerns the Miner cross-country season will only encompass three meets that will conclude with the Conference USA (C-USA) Championships in Birmingham, Alabama Oct. 31.

The men's team is coming off a season where it finished fourth overall in conference and return the top four runners from the team. Sophomore Titus Cheruiyot is coming off a spectacular season where he won two races and finished third in the C-USA Championships and ninth in the NCAA Mountain regionals. He was the lone male runner to qualify for the NCAA Championships where he placed a 152nd which was over a minute slower than his time in the regionals.

Cheruiyot is the top returning runner for the Miners and in conference with both the first and second place runners at the C-USA championships, having graduated from Middle Tennessee State University. For the 2019 season Cheruiyot was named to the All C-USA First team.

Joining Cheruiyot on last year's all-conference team was returning junior Rodgers Korir after finishing top three in a trio of races last season and sixth overall in the conference championships. Korir missed finishing fourth in the C-USA



Photo courtesy of UTEP

UTEP senior Caroline Chepkosegei runs alongside former teammate Linda Cheruiyot at Lori Fitzgerald Classic at Chamizal Park in El Paso Sept. 13.

Cheruiyot at half a second and eight seconds behind teammate Cheruiyot. The duo of Korir and Cheruiyot are both contenders to take home a conference championship giving the Miners the most potent duo of runners in C-USA.

While there is quite a drop off in talent from the top two runners on the Miners, there is talent with sophomore Kenneth Talavera and senior Boaz Ronoh who had top 10 finishes last season. The UTEP men's team should be a top contender in conference this season and has the ability to compete

for a championship if there is improvement from Korir and Cheruiyot's supporting cast.

For the women's team it will be all about senior Carolyn Chepkosegei, who will spearhead the team as its top returning runner. The Miners lost its top two runners from last season in Winny Koech and Linda Cheruiyot both top four finishers in the conference championships, in which the women placed third overall even though it had three of the top seven finishers in the race. The key contributor to UTEP not being able to cap off its season with a championship was its fifth-place

runner, finishing over two minutes off the pace of the top finishers.

Junior Karoline Daland is expected to take a big step up this season as the only other returning runner to have a top 10 finish last season. Daland capped off her season with a 14th place finish at the C-USA championships and started the season off running within a second of Chepkosegei in the Cowboy Jamboree Saturday finishing 24th.

Sophomores Joan Kimaiyo and Valerie Gonzalez will be taking on much bigger roles this season. Kimaiyo competed in every event last season with two top 20 finishes and finishing 61st overall at the C-USA championships. Gonzalez only competed in two events last season.

Rounding out the women's team will be senior Andrea Lucero and sophomore Jaqueline Orozco. For the team to be competitive in the C-USA championships there will have to be greater improvement from the fifth finishers for the Miners as that position just did not give great balance to the top runners of the team. With Middle Tennessee State returning all of its top runners, the UTEP women's team is far from the conference favorite it was last season. Chepkosegei has the ability to be a top three finisher in the C-USA championships and Daland with improvement should be one of the 10 best runners in conference. Overall, the women's team is very inexperienced and will struggle to finish in the top half of conference.

Michael CuvIELLO may be reached at [prospector@utep.edu](mailto:prospector@utep.edu).

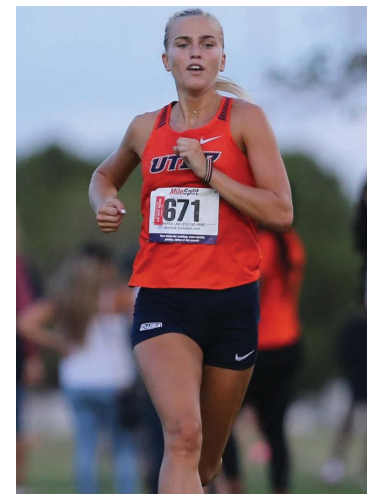


Photo courtesy of UTEP

Junior Rodgers Korir runs from the pack on the way to victory at Lori Fitzgerald Classic at Chamizal Park Sept. 13.

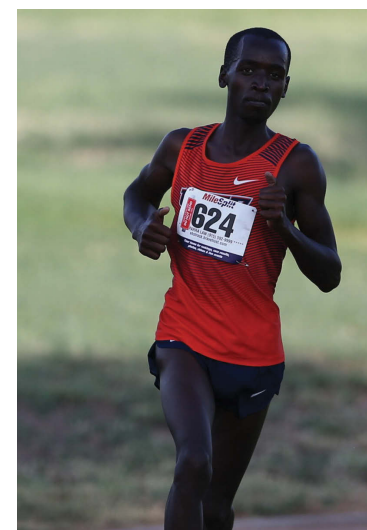


Photo courtesy of UTEP

Freshman Titus Cheruiyot competes in Lori Fitzgerald Classic at Chamizal Park Sept. 13.

## Football team travels to take on Bulldogs

**Michael CuvIELLO**  
The Prospector

Starting off the season 3-1 including a rare road win, the Miners once again take to the road to take on conference rival the Louisiana Tech Bulldogs (2-1) Oct. 10, in Ruston, Louisiana.

The Miners have lost seven straight games to the Bulldogs and the last time it beat Louisiana Tech was in Ruston in 2004 while UTEP was a member of the Western Athletic Conference 44-27. In 2019 the Miners lost 42-21 to Louisiana Tech in the Sun Bowl.

Coming off its sixth straight winning season and bowl appearance as a member of Conference-USA (C-USA) the Bulldogs are a perennial favorite to challenge for the conference championship. The Bulldogs are coached by Skip Holtz son of college football hall of famer, Lou Holtz. In his eight year with the program Holtz has compiled a 59-37 record with the Bulldogs going on his eighth year with the program with six bowl wins in his last six year along with two C-USA championships. Overall UTEP is winless against Holtz as a coach, including his stints at East Carolina and South Florida.

The Bulldogs are coming off a 45-14 loss to 22nd ranked Brigham Young University in a game in which

they gave up 585 yards of total offense.

Starting off conference play earlier than the rest of the league the Bulldogs do own a comeback win over Southern Mississippi where it came back from a seven-point deficit for a 31-30 victory.

On offense the Bulldogs will be missing 2019 C-USA offensive player of the year and maybe its best quarterback of all time in Jamar Smith who passed for over 9,500 yards his career. Taking over for Smith, is Abilene Christian University transfer graduate student Luke Anthony. In three starts Anthony has acquitted himself with 10 touchdowns and two interceptions for 654 yards in the air. Stopping the pass was a significant problem in the 2019 matchup.

At running back senior Justin Henderson is one of the best backs in conference and had over 1000 yards on the ground last season. For the year Henderson has struggled to find holes behind an inexperienced offensive line and has yet to record a 100-yard game. In last years game the Miners contained Henderson on the ground but he was unstoppable in the pass game with 6 catches for 73 yards. The Bulldogs also ran for 152 yards as a team. Senior Israel Tucker

See Bulldogs in page 3

## Locomotive wins regular season finale

**Heriberto Perez**  
The Prospector

The El Paso Locomotive capped off its regular season with a 4-0 victory on the road over the USL defending champions, the Real Monarchs (SLC) to extend its unbeaten streak to 11 games. El Paso ended up as Group C leaders and will begin the playoffs next weekend at Southwest University Park.

At the 8th minute of the game the locomotive scoring started with defender Macauley King, who found midfielder Dylan Mares with an excellent inside pass as he scored the opening goal with a one-touch shot from outside the box. This was Mares' 4th goal of the season.

Midfielder Ritchie Ryan at the 40-minute mark sent a perfect pass between lines to forward Aaron

Gomez, who, with a nice shot just hit the crossbar and sealed the 1-0 lead at the half with the Locomotive dominating possession 68% of the time.

It was not until the 67th-minute mark when Mares tried to score his second goal of the match, that Gomez took advantage of the bounce off the Monarchs' goalkeeper and sent the ball to the back of the net to score his fifth goal of the season to make the game 2-0 for the Locomotive.

At the 71-minute mark, midfielder Saeed Robinson made his way to the field when he substituted for midfielder Leandro Carrijo. Seven-minutes later, Robinson scored to make it 3-0 El Paso after a pass from Mares, with a great run, and individual play inside of the box on the goal.

Robinson's finished his excellent performance with a second goal at the 87-minute mark taking advantage of a mistake by Monarchs' defender Zack Farnsworth. The goal took the lead to an insurmountable 4-0 lead with 3 minutes remaining and continued the unbeaten streak for the Locomotive.

"A tough year for all, our group was very challenging, "Locomotive head coach Mark Lowry said. "Colorado Springs Switchbacks were very hard to play against and got better each week. Real Monarchs SLC was young and full of energy. Love to see young players developing. And New Mexico United showed huge toughness to play each game away and I respect that."

El Paso dominated the game from start to finish averaging 59% of ball possession in the match while SLC managed only 41%. The Locomotives also dominated on the shots taken, with a total of nine goals, five on target, three off-target, and one blocked. For the fourth consecutive game El Paso goalkeeper had a shutout of the opposing team

The Locomotive will return to Southwest University Park on the Western Conference Quarterfinals at 7:30 p.m., Oct. 10 when it will host Group D runner ups FC Tulsa for the first game of the 2020 playoffs.

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[@heriberperez](https://twitter.com/heriberperez) on Twitter



Photograph by Sallette Ontiveros/ The Prospector

Locomotive Midfielder Distel Zola runs against Real Monarch Forward Damian German for the ball Aug. 29.



Bulldogs from page 7

has provided a capable backup for Henderson and has 145 yards rushing in three games this season.

At wide receiver the team abounds with talent, diminutive sophomore Smoke Harris has emerged as the Bulldogs top receiver leading the team with 13 receptions for 171 yards and three touchdowns. Senior Adrian Hardy a year removed from a 75-catch season has returned from injury and is starting to come back into form. Hardy is a very physical receiver that could pose some problems for the UTEP secondary. Rounding out the wide receivers are junior Griffin Herbert and sophomore Wayne Toussant both receivers that can hurt a team downfield.

On the offensive line the Bulldogs replace three starters from last season and are led by senior center Kody Russey an all-conference contender. Helping to anchor the offensive line will be LSU transfer Donavaugh Campbell a former four-star recruit who was the sixth ranked guard in his recruiting class. Campbell will take over at tackle for the Bulldogs and along with junior Antwan Lewis form one of the best tackle duos in the conference.

Defensively the Bulldogs were decimated by graduation losing nine starters from a 10-win team as well as defensive coordinator Bob Diaco who left for Purdue. Making matters worse for the Bulldog defense has been the absence of returning edge rusher and starter Willie Baker who in 2018 was a force getting to the opposing quarterback with 7 sacks and 10 tackles for loss. Last season Baker had 10 tackles for loss.

With Baker's absence the lone returning starter on the field has been junior Milton Williams who has been a force in the middle of the defensive line with 2 sacks. In last year's game Williams recorded a sack versus UTEP.

At linebacker freshman Tyler Grubbs has been a tackling machine with 33 total in three games. Senior Ezekiel Barret a backup linebacker that recorded 59 tackles last season including four sacks is now in an expanded role on the outside with 18 tackles on the season. At only 213 pounds Barret plays more like a safety and covers a lot of ground.

The secondary has been a major Achilles hill for the Bulldogs giving up 330 yards per game in the air. A lack of experience and chemistry in the secondary that features two freshmen playing significant time at corner along with sophomore Bee Jay Williamson at safety has derailed any defensive consistency so far this season.

In many ways the offenses of the Miners and Bulldogs mirror each other with inexperienced quarterbacks with great weapons at their disposal. Both teams receiving corps and running backs are the premier talent on the rosters.

Both teams should be able to move the ball at ease on the opponent which could make for a high scoring game. It remains to be seen if the defense can carry over its stellar performance from its road victory over Louisiana Monroe which saw them not allow any momentum offensively.

A big 31-6 win on the road at Louisiana- Monroe has the Miners seemingly gaining confidence with its first winning record of the Dimel era.

For the Miners getting freshman running back Deion Hankins in the groove early will be key to setting up the passing game against a very suspect secondary. The experience on the offensive line for the Miners should be a tremendous advantage as well as cohesion with returning starters on its defense.

The game will come down to which team minimizes mistakes and turnovers could very well decide which team comes out on top. With the lack of returning starters on defense the Bulldogs are ripe to be exploited with the talent of the UTEP wide receivers. That being said it's a very tough place to come in and steal a victory. Overall, I think UTEP may be catching a young team at the right point of the season for the upset but Skip Holtz is one of the best coaches in C-USA and maximizes the ability of his players.

Michael Cuvillo may be reached at [prospector@utep.edu](mailto:prospector@utep.edu).

*Prediction: La Tech 35 UTEP 21*  
*UTEP's game against Louisiana Tech will begin at 5:30 p.m. Oct. 10 and will be televised on ESPN2.*



Photo courtesy of UTEP

Freshman running back Deion Hankins takes the handoff versus Louisiana-Monroe Sept. 26.



Photo courtesy of UTEP

Junior defensive back Broderick Harrel celebrates after another big play from defense versus Abilene Christian Sept. 19.

# EARLY VOTING SCHEDULE @ UTEP

## DATE

## HOURS

Tuesday, Oct. 13 - Friday, Oct. 16  
 Saturday, Oct. 17 - Sunday, Oct. 18  
 Monday, Oct. 19 - Friday, Oct. 23  
 Saturday, Oct. 24 - Sunday, Oct. 25  
 Monday, Oct. 26 - Friday, Oct. 30

8am - 5pm  
 12pm - 5pm  
 8am - 5pm  
 12pm - 5pm  
 8am - 5pm

**Union Building East, Room 313,  
 Templeton Suite**

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