DEAR YOU,

I see you in the sun
and snow and rain.
Let’s be in each other’s lives forever.

FROM,

DEAR MAYMA,

I love you, dog

FROM,

DEAR ME,

I love myself and there’s nothing wrong with some self love. Period.

FROM,

DEAR RAVEL,

I tell you the moment I saw you
so that lzfeful, beautiful, love.
Our once was serendipitous and
never thought it would turn into
something so wonderful, I can’t wait
to grow together with you and
make more moments with you.

FROM,

DEAR MARIA,

Shout out to God, that
makes it all possible,
this love story, thank you,
for the love.

FROM,

DEAR PAULINA,

Paulina, my love for you is to
the USC and beyond. You are
my everything. Our love is
unbreakable, like a chemical bond.

FROM,

DEAR ALONDRA,

My love, I see you in every smile,
that you bring.

FROM,

DEAR JOAQUIN,

Those four years with you have been the
happiest of my life. I love you dearest.

FROM,

DEAR ORIANA,

My wife, it has been the best years of
my life wish you to it. I will vividly
remember our wedding in Vegas.
Even through tears, sad and
happy, our fights that always
ended up involving you, now I will
always love you. Happy Valentine’s Day.

FROM,
There are dozens of options for just problems was my poor diet and the "Teir schedule allows you to

The Pick N’ Shovel: A loved hidden gem

BY H. CATCHING MARGINOT

The Prospector

If you ever had been a college student or currently attending college, there is usually a dilemma looming before the start of the day, "What am I going to eat today?"

This question may be hard for many students, as there can be many hidden factors involved. For example, if you are on a strict budget, have diet restrictions or maybe no time before heading out. This is where Pick N’ Shovel comes to the rescue. Pick N’ Shovel is an on-campus buffet style restaurant located on the second floor of the Union building. Here are a few reasons why this spot is a must-go on the whole university campus.

For starters, your whole experience will cost just eleven dollars or with, while at the Pick N’ Shovel

BY ITZEL GIRON

The Prospector

In my time I have always heard “If you do not look for love that is when it will come to you. Right when you least expect it.”

I am in life, in fact, I do not even

There is peace in being alone, loving and living life by my- self. Since leaving said relationship in December 2020, I have done so much soul searching alongside finding self-love. It may sound corny or cringy, but after dating someone for years, I believe you lose pieces of you that you used to value. As much as I hate to admit it, I stood at times trying to be the ‘perfect’ partner and there is no shame in putting so much effort into one person, in fact, I applaud but I realize now, how you cannot forget who you are and how much you love yourself.

After a couple of months being single, I did the one thing I hoped to do with a partner, travel to New York City. I knew going would help me so, take this, love yourself and

personal information (phone numbers and address) will be used for identification only. Letters are subject to editing to fit available space, clarity and brevity.

SPEAK YOUR MIND!

...and submit a letter for publication. Please include your full name, street address, telephone number and e-mail address, as well as your student major, classification and/or title if applicable. Write to: The Prospector, 105 Union East, 500 W. University Ave. El Paso, TX 79968. Letters must be 250 words or less and should include your name, class and e-mail address. The Prospector reserves the right to edit letters. The Prospector is published by Student Media and Publications, 105 Union East, 500 W. University Ave. El Paso, Texas 79968. The Prospector appears in print biweekly on Tuesdays during the fall and spring semesters. The Prospector is available in print and online at www.theprospectordaily.com. Student Media and Publications is not responsible for claims made by advertisers. Additional policy information may be obtained by calling The Prospector at 915-747-5161. Opinions expressed in The Prospector are not necessarily those of the University.
TEXAS IS A STATE ALMOST EVERY AMERICAN KNOWS FOR ITS FOOD AND CITIES LIKE EL PASO ARE NO EXCEPTION. TE CITY’S AUTHENTIC TEX-MEX FOOD AND FUSIONS OF DIFFERENT CUISINES HAVE RESONATED WITH PEOPLE FROM ACROSS THE COUNTRY. NOW, IT SEEMS TO HAVE CATCHED THE EYE OF A NOTABLE CULINARY ARTS ORGANIZATION BASED IN NEW YORK CITY; NONE OTHER THAN THE JAMES BEARD FOUNDATION.

NAMED AFTER JAMES ANDREW BEARD; A FAMOUS AMERICAN CHEF AND PIONEER OF COOKING TELEVISION, THE NON-PROFIT FOUNDATION SERVES A PURPOSE TO CELEBRATE AND SUPPORT THE PEOPLE BEHIND AMERICA’S FOOD CULTURE. TIS YEAR, THE FOUNDATION RELEASED THEIR 2023 RESTAURANT AND CHEF AWARDS SEMIFINALISTS, AND FOR THE BEST CHEF: TEXAS CATEGORY, TWO CHEFS FROM WEST TEXAS WERE NOMINATED. EMILIANO MARENTEZ, FOUNDER OF ELEMI IN DOWNTOWN EL PASO AND ENRIQUE LOZANO, FOUNDER OF EL CHARLATAN IN SOCORRO, BOTH FOUND THEMSELVES AS SEMIFINALISTS.

“IT WAS ABOUT EIGHT IN THE MORNING WHEN I OPENED MY FACEBOOK MESSENGER, AND I HAD A MESSAGE (FROM) EMILIANO, THE OTHER JAMES BEARD SEMIFINALIST,” LOZANO SAID. “I WAS STILL HALF-ASLEEP, AND IT WAS A MESSAGE THAT JUST SAID ‘CONGRATULATIONS’ I JUMPED OUT OF BED TO GO TO MY WIFE AND WHEN I STEPPED ON THE FLOOR, I GOT A CRAMP. SO, I HAD TO LAY DOWN THERE FOR A LITTLE BIT UNTIL THE PAIN WENT AWAY.”

AFTER A CHILDHOOD THAT INVOLVED COOKING, LOZANO DECIDED TO PURSUE IT AS A CAREER DURING HIS TIME AT SOCORRO HIGH SCHOOL, WHERE HE JOINED THE CULINARY PROGRAM. WHILE WORKING FOR ZINO’S GREEK & MEDITERRANEAN CUISINE DURING HIS ADOLESCENCE, LOZANO DECIDED TO DO SOME HOME DELIVERIES ON THE SIDE AFTER TRYING A DISH MOST OF US WOULD HEAT UP IN A MICROWAVE; RAMEN.

“I TRIED RAMEN FOR THE FIRST TIME HERE IN EL PASO, THIS WAS MORE THAN TEN YEARS AGO, AND IT WAS A LIFE CHANGING EXPERIENCE WHEN I TRAVELED AROUND THE COUNTRY,” LOZANO SAID. “SO, I STARTED MAKING MY OWN RAMEN. I WAS DOING GREEK AND THEN DOING THE RAMEN ON THE SIDE (WITH) HOME DELIVERY SERVICES AND STUFF LIKE THAT. SO, I DECIDED TO DO MY OWN THING AND I STARTED DOING RAMEN AGAIN. I NEVER STOPPED WORKING ON MY RAMEN RECIPES, AND REALLY ASIAN CUISINE IN GENERAL.”

WITH HIS LOVE FOR ASIAN CUISINE AND LIFELONG EXPERIENCE IN COOKING MEXICAN FOOD, EL CHARLATAN WAS BORN IN OCTOBER 2021. A DIVERSE MENU FEATURING BLENDS OF LATEX AND ASIAN FOODS, EL CHARLATAN OFFERS ITS CUSTOMERS PLENTY OF COMBINATIONS THAT CAN MAKE YOUR MOUTH WATER.

LOZANO’S PASSION FOR COOKING HAS NOT GONE WITHOUT NOTICE, AS OTHER PUBLICATIONS, LOCAL AND STATEWIDE, HAVE ALSO NOTICED HIS CREATIVITY IN THE KITCHEN. WHEN IT COMES TO THE JAMES BEARD FOUNDATION, LOZANO’S MISSION WILL NOT BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AND WILL REMAIN THE SAME: FOR EL PASO AND SOCORRO TO BECOME CULINARY DESTINATIONS.

“IT STILL IS MY MISSION, FOR US TO BECOME A FOOD DESTINATION WORLD-WIDE,” LOZANO SAID. “THE HISTORY HERE IN EL PASO, AND SOCORRO WAS EXTREMELY RICH FOR ONE OF THE OLDEST CITIES IN AMERICA. I FEEL LIKE WE HAVE A LOT TO OFFER. IT JUST TAKES SOMETHING LIKE EMILIANO, LIKE ME, TO TAKE THE NEXT STEP FORWARD AND OPEN A RESTAURANT, AND JUST LET PEOPLE COME AND TRY WITH WHAT WE CAN DO. WE CAN OFFER THINGS HERE THAT ARE BEING OFFERED IN OTHER CITIES.”

SURE ENOUGH, ELEMI’S FOUNDER, EMILIANO MARENTEZ, HAS THE SAME FEELING. LIKE LOZANO, MARENTEZ WAS ALSO RAISED IN A HOUSEHOLD WHERE COOKING WAS FRONT AND CENTER. AFTER WATCHING HIS DAD COOK HOLIDAY MEALS, MARENTEZ FELT MOTIVATED TO

see FOOD on page 4
FOOD

From page 3

be involved with all his family’s meals. While going to school for a political science degree later in life, he did not see himself as a future in that field.

Having experience with restaur-

ants, Marentes decided to pursue cooking as a full-time career.

Taking inspiration from the tor-
tilleria he worked at when he was younger, Marentes decided to in-
corporate his experiences there with his dream of owning a restaurant.

After moving back to El Paso from San Antonio in 2017, he would start trying to bring his dream to life until the following year when in 2019, ELEMIL was established.

“The name is actually my wife’s idea. I was trying to find a name that was closely related to masa, whether it was through stories or folklore, which I just wasn’t able to find,” Marentes said.

“When I was little as a kid, they would call me Emi instead of Emiliano, then my wife, when she would post food that I would make, she would always post #ELEMIL, #TACOSELEMIL or whatever ELEMIL. So, when we were building out the restaurant (we thought), why couldn’t we just call it ELEMIL, and that’s how it got the name.”

Following three years of ELEMIL’s opening, its performance and that of Marentes were discovered by the James Beard Foundation.

Like Lozano, Marentes was also shocked and excited he was the recipient of semifinalist status from such a prestigious organization. When it comes to the award, neither chef is going to let the out-

come stop them from doing what they love the most and doing it for their community.

“I want people to be proud to live here and to want to be here, I want kids who live here to want to live here, to want to be here, (and) as much as I love this accolade, I don’t want the accolade to define who I am,” Marentes said. “I have a vision of what I’m doing, and I want to stick to that vision. I don’t want to change who I am because that vi-

sion got me here. If I win, I hope it’s more so for our community and for every single that’s involved, not just for ELEMIL.”

For UTEP students, it is helpful to stay updated, tune in to the El Paso Police Department on Facebook and Twitter for updates that may help you protect yourself and others.

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Arts & Culture

Through the film lens of UTEP students

Kevin Jabalera is studying engineering leadership and innovation, but as a hobby he enjoys photographing on film. He shoots on an Olympus OM-1 and shoots a lot of black and white 35 mm film. Photo by Jasmin Campoya/The Prospector

Junior, Kevin Jabalera, studying engineering leadership and innovation, shoots on an Olympus OM-1 35mm camera. While he still shoots digital, his specialty is in shooting black and white film. “I started shooting film in my senior year of high school,” Jabalera said. “I was really into photography back then and I only had my digital camera, but I really wanted to get into film.” Jabalera’s love for film began in high school and continued from there. He takes inspiration from photographers from all over social media platforms. From developing his photos to experimenting on different film rolls, the excitement he feels while shooting analog is a different sensation than that of shooting with a digital camera.

“I see that there is a fine line between all the pictures that everyone is trying to imitate,” Jabalera said. “Putting filters on Photoshop and trying to simulate the ‘back in the day’ style, but nothing compares to the grain that shooting on film provides you.”

Although everyone can edit photos, the film look Jabalera gets on camera through analog versus digital makes a difference in his overall photography style. “Everyone is going to agree that you shouldn’t even bother to shoot film if you already have all of the convenience of a digital camera,” Jabalera said. “But it’s just that edge you shouldn’t even bother to shoot film if you already have all of the convenience of a digital camera.”

Jabalera said. “But it’s just that edge that shooting film gives you, it’s a different aesthetic.”

Despite the antique feel of his life, Jabalera’s love for film began in high school and continued from there. “I prefer shooting film because it’s more of an intimate process, you are more intentional with what you are doing,” Jabalera said. “The images that you yield from it are more organic and reciprocal of what the real world is like.”

Being a digital and film photographer, Ruiz describes shooting film like no other. “I found a roll of expired 35mm film, it was really expired, like ten years out of date and I wanted to shoot it so badly, so I bought a really cheap camera on eBay,” Ruiz said. “I shot it, and the pictures came out horrible and so underexposed and grainy, and I loved it, and it just made me fall in love with the whole process behind it.”

Ruiz has been photographing film for about seven years, despite being in computer engineering, his passion for photography is a big part of his life. Photography is one of many creative outlets for students to flex their storytelling abilities. Film photography allowed Jabalera and Ruiz to bring back trends that have long since passed, especially in a community of college students.

Jabalera and Ruiz to bring back trends that have long since passed, especially in a community of college students. For years, El Paso has been overshadowed by the bigger cities in Texas like Austin, San Antonio, Dallas or Houston, but El Paso is not one to overlook. From the Franklin Mountains to the heart of downtown to the hidden gems in Socorro and Ysleta, El Paso continues to be home for many, regardless of if they have lived here their entire lives or if they moved out of town and visit on occasion.

El Paso can seem like a bore to some but when taking a deeper look, El Paso students began and have continued the tradition of film photography alive. Junior, Kevin Jabalera, studying engineering leadership and innovation, shoots on an Olympus OM-1 35mm camera. While he still shoots digital, his specialty is in shooting black and white film. “I started shooting film in my senior year of high school,” Jabalera said. “I was really into photography back then and I only had my digital camera, but I really wanted to get into film.” Jabalera’s love for film began in high school and continued from there. He takes inspiration from photographers from all over social media platforms. From developing his photos to experimenting on different film rolls, the excitement he feels while shooting analog is a different sensation than that of shooting with a digital camera.

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Junior, Michael Ruiz, who studies computer engineering, shoots on a Mamiya M645 Super Medium Format camera and while his focus is digital photography, he shoots on a variety of film. “I prefer shooting film because it’s more of an intimate process, you are more intentional with what you are doing,” Ruiz said. “The images that you yield from it are more organic and reciprocal of what the real world is like.”

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look, the city has much to offer including culture, love and experiences unlike any other: Ascarate Park
It might not be at the top of the list for many, but Ascarate Park is a memory-filled place, especially for those who remember when Western Playland resided there up until 2006. With multiple additions to the park including the El Paso Healing Gardens, a dedication to the Aug. 3 victims, addition of fish in the lake and a center pavilion, Ascarate has grown vastly in only a matter of years. It is that growth which has allowed for different events to take place inside the park reminding the city of what beauty it holds.

Star on the Mountain
From hidden beauty to the beauty El Pasoans know and love, the beloved star on the mountain is perhaps the most iconic piece of El Paso culture. Representing many things, the star has shown its bright light since 1940, although it started off on the southeast side of the Franklin Mountains. Now it lit every day by donation or purchase, the star truly embodies one of the many nicknames El Paso has; “Te Star of the Mountain”. It might not be at the top of the city’s list for many, but in the surrounding buildings of downtown, it is home to the best view of El Paso, Texas. It is home to the best view of El Paso and the surrounding mountains.

The Franklin Mountains
Almost 27,000 acres and over 100 miles of trails, the Franklin Mountains, located in Tom Mays Unit 29B0 Tom Mays Access Rd, are one of the most natural ways to see the hidden beauty El Paso is home too. Many might not be into nature, but the state park displays moments of beauty you will not be able to find anywhere else. From the blooming of the beloved poppies or the beauty of the desert animals, the Franklin Mountains are yet another beloved place.

Scenic Drive
There are many reasons to love the city of El Paso, but the best reason would be Scenic Drive. Up by the mountain on the star on the mountain, Scenic Drive is home to the best view of El Paso, allowing for so many to appreciate the beauty of the city. With the lake and the star, many people might not have had an opportunity to see what she has up her sleeve for any future productions.

Both Nolan and Alyssa Greene (Alyssa Bustillos) share sweet moments at the hidden lesbian couple at the center of this all, making all the heartbreak parts of the show hurt just a bit more. Reminders of “Dance with You” or “Alyssa Greene” are heartfelt and tug at the heart strings leaving no opportunity for a dry eye in the audience. Coder performing “Unruby Heart” is another song audiences can anticipate. Being one of the most emotional points in the production, it is reason enough to have tissues handy. The song ties in the company with Coder’s vocals, giving a deeper meaning behind the moment of peace. This is also the moment Coder’s character accepts who she is and how she wants to live her life.

Other cast members to applaud are Sheldon (Angel Rodriguez), Mr. Hawkins (Fernando Romano) and Mrs. Greene (Elise Herndon), who might not have had an opportunity to do a solo act, but still lived up to the high standards of musical production. From playing their character to switching things up and joining the company for a dance break, all three stood out. However, it was Baggs and Cano who stole the show every time they got on stage. Both played eccentric characters meaning both actors had shoes to fill, which they filled. Cano’s humor filled the theater with laughter and Baggs’ over the top and sarcastic humor could have replaced James Corden and Meryl Streep in the film adaptation.

Overall, the production was top-tier in costumes, musicality, dancing and acting. Each song displayed the talent each actor has, and it is more so seen in “Trouble Belongs to You”. If you are planning on attending, be prepared to laugh and bring a tissue or two as the production can get emotional at times. It being my first time at the Dinner Theatre, they have made me a fan and I cannot wait to attend the next production.

I give it a 10 out of 10 as “The Prom” is the perfect post-Valentine’s Day date especially with showings ending Feb. 19. For more information on purchasing tickets, you can visit the UTEP Dinner Theatre website for show times, prices and the menu.

A box of candy hearts

BY ITZEL GIRON
The Prospector
Love is in the air and even more so inside the UTEP Dinner Theatre as “The Prom” takes center stage for audiences to enjoy. The Tony-nominated musical first showing took place Feb. 3 as a part of the UTEP Dinner Theatre’s 40th anniversary. According to the Dinner Theatre website, the story centers around four fading Broadway stars who are in desperate need of a new stage. When they hear that trouble is brewing around a small-town Indiana prom, it is time to kickball-change the world. The town’s parents want to keep the dance on and its time to kickball-change the world. The town’s parents want to keep the dance on.

When they hear that trouble is brewing around a small-town Indiana prom, it is time to kickball-change the world. The town’s parents want to keep the dance on. Getting a full remodel, the plaza is a home to the best view of El Paso, but the best reason is home to the best view of El Paso, but the best reason is home to the best view of El Paso, but the best reason is home to the best view of El Paso, but the best reason is home to the best view of El Paso, but the best reason is home to the best view of El Paso, but the best reason is home to the best view of El Paso, but the best reason is home to the best view of El Paso, but the best reason is home to the best view of El Paso, but the best reason is home to the best view of El Paso, but the best reason is home to the best view of El Paso, but the best reason is home to the best view of El Paso, but the best reason is home to the best view of El Paso. It is home to the best view of El Paso, but the best reason is home to the best view of El Paso.

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Love and basketball for the 915: Soleil Montrose

BY H. CATCHING MARGINOT

Saturday Nov. 5, 2022 contributing to a 95-72 Miners exhibition win.

Love and basketball for California, is studying biological science and is an important figure to the UTEP women’s basketball program. Basketball is no stranger to the Montrose family as her brother Montrose’s father was an official for the Central Connecticut State University Blue Devils during his time in college. “I always just saw my brother play, and he kind of inspired me to play,” Montrose said. “Same thing with my dad, he played in college, so I was always kind of around it.”

Being the main introduction and inspiration for Montrose, it was just the beginning of the spark for her love of the game. “Watching his games, I was on the sides dishlifting the ball and that kind of made me fall in love with basketball,” Montrose said. Although Montrose dribbled in other sports like soccer in her youth and track and field during her high school career, she always seemed to be attracted to the sport of basketball. Witnessing her family’s passion was the moment in which she knew it could possibly be the sport she was waiting for and was waiting for her. “Just seeing the love that both my dad and brother had for basketball made me love it too,” Montrose said.

Montrose currently plays guard, specifically a small power forward. However, you will mostly find Montrose everywhere and anywhere on the court when her coaches ask her to be. In her shift from high school to college basketball, Montrose has had to adjust to a much faster pace as well as an entirely new and different atmosphere.

“Definitely coming into UTEP, I had to get downfield and extended its lead. The Chiefs forced the Eagles to punt after a three and out by the defense. The Chiefs were able to get downfield quickly thanks to a 65-yard punt return by wide receiver Kadarius Toney. The Chiefs scored again with a touchdown by wide receiver Sky Moore making the score 35-27 with 9:22 left in the fourth. Philly answered the Chiefs touchdown with a rushing touchdown by Hurts and tied the game after a successful two-point conversion. With 1:54 left in the fourth the Chiefs received a fresh set of downs after a holding penalty by Eagles cornerback James Bradberry. The Chiefs closed out the game with a 27-yard field goal by kicker Harrison Butker. The final score was 38-35. Chiefs Super Bowl LVII was full of history in the making as this was the first Super Bowl that featured two Black quarterbacks in NFL history. Hurts set a Super Bowl record with 70 yards rushing and three rushing touchdowns. Mahomes became the third player to win his second NFL MVP award before the age of 28 and the youngest quarterback to start in three Super Bowls. Mahomes has finally broken the MVP curse, as he was the first player to win a Super Bowl in the same season. All statistics courtesy of ESPN, espn.com.

The Kansas City Chiefs comeback in Super Bowl

BY KATRINA VILLARREAL

The Prospector

The Kansas City Chiefs won their third Super Bowl against the Philadelphia Eagles Sunday, Feb. 12 at State Farm Stadium in Glendale, AZ. The Chiefs came back from a 10-point deficit at the half but pulled away with an exciting final score of 38-35.

This was the first Super Bowl featuring both No. 1 seeds since the 2018 Super Bowl against the Eagles and the New England Patriots. The Chiefs won the coin toss and elected to defer, giving the Eagles the ball to start. After multiple first-down conversions, the Eagles got on the board first with a one-yard rushing touchdown by Eagles quarterback Jalen Hurts. The score was 7-0 with 10:09 left in the first quarter. The Chiefs answered quickly with a touchdown pass by quarterback Patrick Mahomes to tight end Travis Kelce.

The Eagles took a 14-7 lead, but the Chiefs defense was able to force a fumble for a touchdown by linebacker Nick Bolton to tie the game at 14 with 9:19 left in the half. After the fumble, the Eagles regained the lead with another rushing touchdown by Hurts. The Chiefs closed the half with a 35-yard field goal by kicker Jake Elliott.

At the half, the score was 24-14 with the Eagles still holding onto the lead. The Chiefs received the ball to start the second half, getting off to a fast start to put points on the board with a touchdown by running back Isaiah Pacheco. In the Eagles first possession of the half, running back Miles Sanders fumbled the ball at the 24-yard line which was recovered by Bolton for a touchdown. The referees reviewed the play and reversed the call to an incomplete pass. After a delay of game call on the Eagles, Philly converted on a 3rd and 14 with a 17-yard pass to tight end Dallas Goedert. The Eagles were unable to get downfield and extended its lead to 27 with a field goal. The Chiefs took its first lead of the game after a touchdown by running back Ishaad Pacheco. At the end of the third quarter, the score was 28-27.

At the start of the fourth, the Chiefs forced the Eagles to punt after a three and out by the defense. The Chiefs were able to get downfield quickly thanks to a 65-yard punt return by wide receiver Kadarius Toney. The Chiefs scored again with a touchdown by wide receiver Sky Moore making the score 35-27 with 9:22 left in the fourth. Philly answered the Chiefs touchdown with a rushing touchdown by Hurts and tied the game after a successful two-point conversion. With 1:54 left in the fourth the Chiefs received a fresh set of downs after a holding penalty by Eagles cornerback James Bradberry. The Chiefs closed out the game with a 27-yard field goal by kicker Harrison Butker. The final score was 38-35. Chiefs Super Bowl LVII was full of history in the making as this was the first Super Bowl that featured two Black quarterbacks in NFL history. Hurts set a Super Bowl record with 70 yards rushing and three rushing touchdowns. Mahomes became the third player to win his second NFL MVP award before the age of 28 and the youngest quarterback to start in three Super Bowls. Mahomes has finally broken the MVP curse, as he was the first player to win a Super Bowl in the same season. All statistics courtesy of ESPN, espn.com.

Katrina Villarreal is the multimedia editor and may be reached at kvillarreal1@miners.utep.edu.

The Prospector

Students have a number of opportunities available. Our mission is to provide a hands-on learning environment for students to learn practical journalistic applications and business practices. Student Media and Publications serves as a public forum for the University and a community that enables students to be informed and active participants in college life.

Opportunities are available for those students interested in journalism, media, video production, graphic design, marketing and advertising.
Training for the El Paso Half Marathon

BY NICHOLAS MAES
The Prospector

The El Paso Half Marathon has been one of El Paso’s biggest events for the past 17 years, as it is a qualifier for major U.S. and World Marathons, including the Boston Marathon, the New York Marathon and the London Marathon. Some veteran runners take on intense training plans rather than taking workouts one day at a time, but becoming a runner is no easy feat. I began my training in the summer of 2015, focused on my cross-country team at Cathedral High School.

My best memories from high school came from my cross-country team, who pushed me harder than I thought I could go. Up until my senior year, I did not take the sport seriously, but more as an excuse to work out and get in better shape with my friends. Senior year was most memorable for me, because I became some- one the younger guys looked up to. I pushed myself harder than before, even running a race with one spike on after the other came undone from the terrible laces that came with them. Needless to say, I replaced the laces with an old pair of spares and had a good three years, running three out of four races per season. The Nike Desert Twilight XC Meet in 2019 was my fastest of the season, at 17:23:57 for the 5K. The 2019 TAPPS State Meet was my best, because although it was not my fastest time, it was good considering it took place on a hilly golf course in Waco, Texas. I ran 17:36:7, placing 17th overall and leading the Cathedral cross-country team to a 4th place finish. The final major cross-country race was Nike Super Bowl in 2019, where I placed 106th out of 833, with a time of 17:47:57.

Track season was great as well, as I was running sub-five minutes for the mile and sub-twelve minutes for the two-mile run. I was projected to run these events at both the TAPPS regional and state meets, until the U.S. was ravaged by the COVID-19 pandemic. Throughout the few weeks following spring break, I kept running on my own until regional and state were officially cancelled. I took a break from running for a while during the pandemic and fell out of shape. I would only go on runs for a few miles, but rarely did anything more than six, never maintaining a daily routine. I had a change of heart this past few months, realizing that I had been running more for my mental health than physical. Now that the El Paso marathon loomed, training for the half marathon involved getting back in decent running shape. After my classes, although not daily, I would park at the UTEP Recreational Center, leave my things inside a locker and run in the neighborhood around Mission Hills and Maddie Parks, making my way to Billy Rogers Arroyo and down rim road back to the rec- creation center. I knew my arms had thinned out too, so I would upper body weights as well. This became my routine, as I would end up with about six or seven miles. Running the half marathon Feb. 12 was a big step up for me, but I still want to get stronger.

The team to finish with a winning record would be the San Francisco 49ers, fans of the Green Bay Packers have a problem, all be it a good problem to have. They have too many quarterbacks. Trey Lance, Jimmy Garoppolo and Brock Purdy all contributed to the team’s extraordinary season, but Garoppolo is becoming a free agent. Trey Lance, the team’s first pick from 2021, is a third stringer the coach decides to bring in. The Raiders have moved on from Derek Carr midseason in favor of a hot commodity, Derek Carr. One of the league’s most popular quarterbacks, the team’s position in the draft is not all too plentiful.

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