A study by Young Invincibles also showed that 72 percent of student parents nationwide are mothers and one in four Texas students are raising children while obtaining a postsecondary education. Among the pool of students attending college while parenting is Beatrice Alexis Holbert. Holbert is currently studying women and gender studies with a minor in sociology, while also being a mother to a young son. Holbert says being the product of a military family, she was always on the move all around the country. The daughter of a military father, Holbert found herself living all around the country. Having mostly lived in Fort Worth, Texas, Holbert became familiar with El Paso and decided it was an excellent option for college after high school.

“I’m originally from Passadena, California; my dad is (in the) military either,” Holbert said. “A lot of people do not report it, so it is overlooked, and they don’t have much funding in the counseling for the military either.” Holbert says it is her dream to help women, particularly women at UT and after hearing about the importance of finding that healthy work-life balance with multiple responsibilities.

“Holbert details her life can often be overwhelming and in moments, it can be challenging not to get swept up in all of the chaos as she navigates her life with her baby along with her on the journey. That’s where Holbert attributes the help she gets to the community within her life and at UTEP, thanking her friends and family when she needs it most, specifically her mother and professor Hilda Ontiveros.

Holbert wanted to inspire others going through the same situation as her.

She wants them to always know they will always have people on their side, and she wanted to stress the importance of finding that support whether it be inside of the UTEP community or outside. “It’s okay to ask for help. I know it hurts; many people don’t want other people in their business, especially if they’re a parent,” Holbert said. “If you communicate, you’ll see the support, and they will let you know where to get help if you need it.”

According to a study by Young Invincibles, 72 percent of student parents nationwide are mothers. Photo by Izalaiah Moreno/The Prospector

**FOREVER A BOWIE BEAR**

Monday, Sept. 11: Senior Bowie High School student Daniel Esparza passed away after suffering a medical emergency at the Bowie vs. Ysleta High School football game Friday, Sept. 8. Esparza was the drum major for the Bowie Band and is being remembered as a “wonderful kid” according to the Bowie Band Director Roberto C Campillo III to the El Paso Times. A GoFundMe is available to help Esparza’s family during this unprecedented time.
Let’s ‘confess’ about the internet

BY KATY RUIZ
The Prospector

Click, follow, like, confess and complain. That is the Instagram page well known amongst the UTEP population known as UTEP Confessions (@utepconfessions).

With more than 3,000 followers, the page is one of the most popular confession accounts on Instagram. The page contains confessions from students giving them a space to voice their concerns. Photo by Annabella Mireles / The Prospector.

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Does YouTube need better regulations?

BY ITZEL A. GIRON
The Prospector

YouTuber Ruby Frankie, creator of the YouTube channel “3Passengers,” was arrested Aug. 30 in Utah and charged with six felony counts of child abuse.

The charges came as a surprise to many, but to the sisters of Frankie it was a long time coming.

"For the last three years we have been quiet on the subject of our sister Ruby Frankie for the sake of her children. Behind the public scene we have done everything we could to try and make sure the kids were safe," said in a joint statement by Ellie Mecham, Bonnie Hoellin, Julie Deru. "We wouldn’t feel right about moving forward with regular content without addressing the most recent events."

The arrest and charges have brought up red flags in what YouTube needs to regulate. In recent years, the platform has become stricter in what is monetized, reported and posted. However, is this a wakeup call for even stricter rules?

The channel was focused on Frankie and her parenting styles, homeschooling and life with her six kids, many believed to see behind the façade.

Years before this arrest, viewers had created a change.org petition to have Frankie investigated by Child Protection Services (CPS). To continue reading, head to our website theprospectordaily.com.

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...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 us at 105 E. Union, 500 W. University Ave. El Paso, TX 79968; email us at prospector@utep.edu, or call us to 747-5161.

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

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For some college students, being told to focus on education by their families is a normal routine. One example of this routine is UTEP’s Career Center Director Betsabe “Betsy” Castro-Duarte, who remembers when her parents told her the same.

“My dad would always say ‘I can’t leave you an inheritance, but I can leave you with an education,’” Castro-Duarte said. “My parents (would say) ‘focus on school, (to not) worry about working while (I was) in high school, have (my) priorities and goals really clearly defined.’

Growing up in Ciudad Juárez for an early part of her childhood, Castro-Duarte and her family moved back to El Paso. Her parents have always put an emphasis on education and always reminded her to make it a priority. Raised in a family of six, Castro-Duarte was the first in her family to go to college. While her parents never received an advanced education like she did, they raised their kids with an emphasis on receiving an education. Today, Castro-Duarte’s oldest brother served in the Marine Corps after attending community college, her sister works as a teacher and her youngest brother owns a business after going to technical school.

“My dad was a salesman, a self-made entrepreneur. My mom worked at home for many years and then later on became a school cafeteria manager. They saw education as the means for their kids to have a brighter future,” Castro-Duarte said. “He really encouraged us, to pursue it and they took away obstacles that we didn’t have to address. It really impacted each and every one of my siblings life and we have them to thank for putting education at the forefront.”

Castro-Duarte applied what her parents taught her in high school, she graduated top ten percent of her class and decided to start her college education at UTEP. “I started at UTEP for one year and then I transferred to get my undergraduate degree at UT Austin,” Castro-Duarte said. “I did live in Austin for some time, but I was quick to come back home and have been working at the university ever since.”

Returning to El Paso, Castro-Duarte decided to further her education by getting a master’s degree in public administration. While on a job hunt, she decided to join the workforce at UTEP thanks to some old connections. “I worked in the Office of Admissions and Recruitment here at UTEP, that was my first job,” Castro-Duarte said. “When I got my master’s in public administration and I used to be an undergraduate recruiter, I always saw the career center staff and how they were connecting with a lot of companies that were recruiting our students.”

Seeing the career center staff assist students brightened Castro-Duarte’s heart, motivating her to help students and get them ready for a career after graduation. “I really do see myself just being a service to the students here at UTEP,” Castro-Duarte said. “I get to work with college students because I get to help them reach their potential dreams right there, to identify what that career path looks like for them. It’s a great passion of mine.”

Committed to her position at the career center, Castro-Duarte commits herself to other organizations such as the scholarship committee which helps students search ways to attend school. Being a worker who directs students towards opportunities and volunteer work she also makes sure students get the resources they need, Castro-Duarte has defined her purpose as a leader and helper for students to pursue higher education.

“I really do see myself just being a service to the students here at UTEP. I think that there’s still a lot we can do, a lot of things that we can do better (and) a lot of opportunities that we can expand to other academic majors,” Castro-Duarte said. “I think our work here continues, to make it better and make it exceptional. The career center is known for doing exceptional work, not only here but with other colleagues within other institutions.”

THE PROSPECTOR - SEPTEMBER 12, 2023

A commitment to the University Career Center

BY ELISHA NUNEZ
The Prospector

The University Career Center Director, Betsabe “Betsy” Castro-Duarte, poses with her fellow employees of the career center. Photo by Joel Molina/The Prospector
The UTEP School of Pharmacy, located 1101 N. Campbell Street, is a fully accredited school of pharmacy.

BY H. CATCHING MARGINOT

The UTEP School of Pharmacy holds largest white coat ceremony to date

Entering the field of medicine and medicinal science is a challenging task, especially in a busy job climate. A world where it’s essential to work hard and be committed to the work that drives you.

It can be tedious, but UTEP’s School of Pharmacy, located 1101 N. Campbell Street, is a fully accredited school of pharmacy. UTEP had its first-ever class of graduated pharmacists, with up to the task.

Professor José Rivera Ph.D., is the current and founding Dean of the UTEP School of Pharmacy. Rivera was the director of UTEP and UT Austin cooperative Pharmacy program and worked as Assistant Dean with UT College of Pharmacy. Rivera speaks to the impact this has on the School of Pharmacy.

“We’re very happy to get to this point because this is our target year to be about 60 to 65 students per class,” Rivera said. “This class size is the one that is going to raise the bar further in terms of what we can do to improve the patient’s outcome.”

There are many reasons why this class and the ones before are important to the UTEP community as there will be more certified pharmacists for the community. As students enroll in the program, they will be able to make an impact on the state or national level.

Rivera also speaks about his excitement for the new class and the accomplishments others have made so far in our school.

“W e’re very optimistic about this class in terms of the energy they are bringing in,” Rivera said. “I sense it and see the potential. We’ve had some incredible students and see this in what the students have done so far in our school.”

Students of the UTEP Pharmacy class of 2027, Samantha Morales, discusses what it means for her to be a part of the program.

“I am very happy to be a part of the 2027 Pharmacy class,” Morales said. “It is amazing that we are all going through this together and to be able to see things through many other points of view.

I hope to be a successful pharmacist in the El Paso community and make a difference.”

Another student of the class, Raul Olivas, shares his joy of being a part of the historic class and what he’s excited to accomplish.

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“W e help students who are in the middle of the path and they’re looking to find a job on campus or internships. Some students need help preparing their resume for a job, so we help with that.”

Crafting a good resume can be difficult for some students and practice interviews can be nerve-wracking. Thankfully, the Career Center offers assistance in those areas.

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Castro said. “Every opportunity comes by so quickly it is important that students be aware of these resources and start engaging earlier.”

Though the Career Center provides resources for students, they also have job opportunities for students who want to work at the Career Center.

Guiding students to full potential, UTEP Career Center is one of many resources the university offers to its students.

From undergraduate students to graduate students, finding a job or internship can be challenging for some students but the Career Center can help.

“W orking with students from all walks of life, Director Betsy Castro discusses the opportunities the center offers to students and the work they aim to do.

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Organization helps grow the new STEM thinkers of tomorrow, today

As students chanted “Go Miners,” a welcoming atmosphere filled the air as two non-profit organizations, The Society of Professional Hispanics Engineers (SHPE) and Hispanics Engineers (SHPE) and MAES), came together for their Latinos in Science and Engineering (MAES), came together for their first meeting of the year. One of the most prominent organizations at UTEP with more than 550 members registered, this prominent jointchapter has continued to rise over the years. Held at the El Paso Natural Gas Conference Center (EPNGCC) Vice President of External Affairs Jesus De Haro opened up about the opportunities he has gotten from the chapter. "I have gotten all the opportunities I can, since my first day here I said, ‘One day I want to be at Tesla’ I got it last year,” Haro said. “I did a six-month internship with them students review their resumes and mock interviews so they can be more confident when meeting employers. The organization even provides conference opportunities so students can meet companies and get internships. Building the people of tomorrow, the organization says their first meeting of the year was historic, with record-breaking attendees. As the Expo kicks off the recruiting season, we have all these companies connecting with employers should I'm really excited because I believe that all these people that came today are the people for tomorrow,” Haro said. “We are doing everything for our families, future and the university we are thankful for all of those opportunities.”

An organization, which supports with all Hispanics here at UTEP,” Rodriguez said. From job opportunities to internships, being a part of SHPE/MAES was something Rodriguez dreamt of. He says it has given him many opportunities and has helped him become a better leader. “It has helped me a lot with my presentation skills, getting to meet a lot of nice people and helping to get students,” Rodriguez said. “When I saw 300 students in the room I wanted to cry, it’s just amazing, I never seen this many students in a single place all together, just to be part of our familia, it’s just a different feeling.” Shouting “Familia” across the room, Rodriguez has been able to create a family in the organization and is now inspired to make it a welcoming and safe place for students at UTEP while helping them with career opportunities. “I just want to make this organization a comfortable place for any Hispanic people, here in the university,” Rodriguez said. “We just want to help as many students as we can, get them internships and opportunities and at the same time make them feel proud of the organization.” Those interested in joining the organization and being a part of their “Familia” can visit utepmaesshpe.org or MineTracker where they have all their future events posted. Erik Acosta is the web and copy editor and may be reached at emacosta6@miners.utep.edu

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CAREER from page 3

“One of the biggest things that we have for our student employees is we prepare them for the world of work,” Castro said. “We sometimes have 10 to 18 students working here, different roles everything develop into strong leaders. She also enjoys the annual Career Expo at UTEP and she says this year’s recruiting event is a little special. “Expo this year has had a record number of companies, we have 195 companies coming to the fair and meeting of the year was historic, with record-breaking attendees. As seats filled up members of the organization couldn’t feel more proud and thankful. “I want to break in tears because we broke a record, I would say that we were more than 300 students, something never seen before in any Hispanic students, President Bryan Rodriguez considers the organization an opportunity for students to connect and build a community among each other. “Once you graduate and go work in a different state, you won’t get to see any Hispanics so this a great opportunity for students to connect with all Hispanics here at UTEP.”

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From goth shows to rock metal performances, venue, The Dungeon, has held numerous events for the local band scene in the borderland. Where once there was a place for people to express themselves freely and listen to live music is now a space growing a great loss for the culture. A controversial music festival was in the works of making its way to El Paso. The event “Autumn Equinox Celebration” presented through the Ancient Rights Through Native Pride (A.R.T.N.P) organization.

The music festival is composed of controversial artists and bands who are under the music genre of National Socialist Black Metal. This genre is comprised of heavy right-wing, fascist ideals. Some of the band’s names also raised concerns, with one being “A Killing Tradition,” “1932,” and “Aryanwolf.” “1932” is a dog whistle because it is the year where many deadly street battles and daily assassinations occurred. More and more Germans came to terms with Hitler’s argument that parliamentary democracy was destroying Germany by catering to special interests. On top of the worrisome band names and intentions behind them, the flyers for the event all mention entrance is by invitation only. However, many music lovers from the scene expressed their concern and their disappointment in the event.

El Pasoan Mahlah Armendariz has held numerous events at The Dungeon and knew the owner. Armendariz speaks on how they feel about the controversial bands being welcomed into the venue. “For the longest time this venue was a big part of our community, a big part of our city if I’m being honest,” Armendariz said. “We’re beyond pissed and feel betrayed by Chris (Owner of The Dungeon), someone who gave his word that his venue was a safe place for us.” While there is growing frustration over the event, the owner claims it has been cancelled or changed locations, but there is still no confirmation. Bands still keep posting flyers with The Dungeon being the designated location. “Although the majority of our community does not want to associate with him or The Dungeon, there have been individuals who side with Chris and see nothing wrong with these harmful bands coming to play here in El Paso,” Armendariz said.

The venue was known to be a place for people to express themselves however they desired as they listened to local bands. “As someone who enjoys black metal music, I’m having a hard time understanding why someone would choose to potentially put out people in danger over the music/bands,” Armendariz said.

Yet, this is not A.R.T.N.P’s first event. They have even planned an event in Los Angeles. The Dungeon located at 110 Poplar St., is in central El Paso, where the Hispanic community is most prevalent, creating the chance for negative influences from the event. The fascist right-wing ideologies may impose trauma on the community as many are still recovering from the Walmart shooting in 2019. Finch Smith has also been to The Dungeon before and has held their own shows at the venue.

“It’s really disappointing that the venue would actually host these bands because the music scene and El Paso in general has a lot of POC/ LGBTQ+ people who would be targeted by these hate groups,” Smith said.

The music festival was set to happen Sept. 22, however, there is no confirmation if the event will continue. While the event raises discomfort and disappointment to locals in the area, it leaves a great impact of unity in the community. “Honestly it makes me feel really unsafe that The Dungeon is providing a platform for these hateful Neo-Nazi bands,” Smith said. “I love my community a lot and I just want everyone to feel safe, welcomed and loved but with this events going on it’s really hard to feel safe.”

Eugenio Cantu is a contributor and may be reached at mhinojosa4@miners.utep.edu.
CAREER EXPO

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Honoring Hispanic Heritage Month

From paintings of conchas and menudo to drawings of political and social movements in Juárez, Mexico, UTEP’s Union Gallery honors Hispanic Heritage Month by showcasing student artwork. With dozens of pieces on display, the gallery had its opening reception Sept. 6, welcoming the public to come see what talent UTEP students have to offer.

Every piece is different, and some pieces took nearly a semester to complete. With sculptures to knitted artwork, the gallery displays a diverse set of artworks that will leave spectators in awe.

“The purpose of our art galleries is to engage with the community and a lot of artists have really, really beautiful pieces that fit really well into the theme,” said Carla Santistana, inclusion and advocacy student employee at the Student Engagement and Leadership Center (SELC).

Many of the pieces in the gallery communicate personal stories and other connections with Hispanic heritage like one of the biggest paintings in the museum, the “Las Tres Culturas de Chihuahua” by Andrea Mariana Figueroa. The art major at UTEP with a minor in museology says the painting took her the entire spring semester to complete.

“This one is about the three races of Chihuahua, that is the Menonites, the Tarahumara and the mestizos, and I’m a mestizo,” Figueroa said.

Figueroa painted three other pieces that can be seen at the gallery. All her pieces show different life events she has been through. One of her pieces shows the consumption of Tesgüino, a sacred beer important to the Tarahumara people. Another painting shows a little girl on the side of the road while headed to a protest of some kind.

Like Figueroa, another artist at the gallery also reflected on her experiences while making her different artworks.

“For the big one, I made it (based on) the walks about women being killed in Juárez. I tried to represent that in a really Mexican piece,” said Laura Itzel Galvan, a junior studying graphic design at UTEP. “So, I put the angel and little carteles (to) represent when women are walking and (so people) can read it.”

Galvan’s work specializes in using many materials, including acid and water. While the pieces themselves are not too big, each one tells a personal story.

One such piece of her artwork portrays her dog Rocky who passed away as an alebrije, or a spirit guide that blends animal and human characteristics created by the Aztecs.

With representation from many artists, the Hispanic Heritage Month gallery at UTEP shows the many distinct aspects of one culture. From spiritual icons, food held dear to people’s hearts and first-hand experience with sociopolitical movements, UTEP students were able to tell stories and personal life experiences through different forms of art.

“I feel like these represent the Hispanic heritage and history,” Figueroa said. “Not only from the past, but also in the present.”

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“Niña Trabajadora” by Andrea Mariana Figueroa featured in the Hispanic Heritage Month Gallery.

Photo by SalmaPaola Baca/The Prospector

“Viva Trabajadora” by Andrea Mariana Figueroa featured in the Hispanic Heritage Month Gallery.

Photo by SalmaPaola Baca/The Prospector
A hot sunny afternoon filled with joy, music and art is one of UTEP’s most recently practiced traditions. Miners gathered at The Fox Fine Arts Plaza, Sept. 6, to enjoy tunes and sunshine while chalking up the plaza with one-of-a-kind art. The floors were filled with color, chalk dust and beautiful drawings inspired by school spirit and upcoming festivities like Halloween.

Vincent Gonzales, an art education major, took the afternoon to relax and draw some of his most recent inspirations from popular horror films.

“I’m mostly inspired by the spirit of Halloween,” Gonzales said. “I know it’s a bit early for that, but I wanted to draw a popular character around that time and that’s Jason.”

To Gonzales, the afternoon was more than just drawing on floors, it was a chance for him to dive into his creativity and reflect on how art influences his life.

“It influences a huge part of my life, it’s why I’m here,” Gonzales said. “After staring as a history major, I quickly realized that art was my passion and I have decided to follow it and become an art teacher.”

The afternoon allowed students from different majors to take a break from the stress of the first week of school and reflect on what art means to them.

Destiny Valdez, a psychology major, spent her afternoon chalking up the plaza with school spirit. Valdez’s inspiration came from the UTEP logo, and in big blue and orange letters, she graffitied “UTEP” across the floor.

“I’ve been into graffiti a lot recently, so it’s what I’m trying to do here,” Valdez said. “I wanted to write my name, but the sunset reminded me of UTEP, and I just went with it.”

Although Valdez’s career is in psychology, art still has an enormous impact on her life.

“I see art in everything, it is everywhere, in our everyday life, I genuinely believe art is life,” Valdez said.

As the afternoon ended, the floors of the plaza became a photomontage of art reflecting UTEP’s student body’s creativity and diversity. Chalk the Plaza is an event that has allowed UTEP students to explore their creativity but most importantly has given them a safe space to express it.

On the other side of the floor, Dina Aldo, a psychology major, was finishing her small doodles of flowers and stars.

“I came to relax so I spent most of the afternoon drawing some small flowers, plants, and the sun across the cement floor,” Aldo said. “I was mostly inspired by nature today, so I decided to doodle it.”

While finishing the last touches to her piece, Aldo shared the significance of art and how it influences her daily life.

“I think the world would be very boring without art, so you have to try to incorporate that anywhere you can,” Aldo said.

As the event ended, the floor became a photomontage of art reflecting UTEP’s student body’s creativity and diversity. Chalk the Plaza is an event that has allowed UTEP students to explore their creativity but most importantly has given them a safe space to express it.
Inside their world: The international professors of UTEP share their success

Narvaez moved from Juarez to El Paso in 2007. When asked why she had decided to stay in El Paso for so long, she mentioned that it was a smooth transition due to the proximity of the border as well as the people. “It’s the community,” Narvaez said. “I think we have a very unique population, and it was very easy to connect to my classmates, professors, and students.”

After receiving her bachelor’s in biology, Narvaez spent one year in medical school before coming back to El Paso to study creative writing. “It was a result of focusing on my mental health,” Narvaez said. “After things came crashing down for a while, I asked myself what I liked doing, and realized I wanted to connect to my passion for writing. I never played doctor; I played writer.”

Narvaez has found incredible support from her students as an author. “My students have been hugely supportive of me, and in terms as a writer I do credit my students, not only at UTEP but also at Anthony High School,” Narvaez said. After publishing her book, Narvaez has plans on getting her master’s and teaching.

I found a position was opening in this department, I knew El Paso was a good city for me and my family,” Frias said. “I never applied anywhere else outside Argentina only UTEP!” To Frias, it was important to find a community where his son could be comfortable, and in one of the main reasons he chose to live in El Paso. “I have a handicapped son with Down syndrome, and therefore being in a bi-culture city like El Paso was essential for us,” Frias said.

Before arriving in El Paso, Frias was worried about not fitting in with Mexican culture but was proved wrong after being accepted into the community. “I’m very comfortable here, I definitely want to belong here,” Frias said. “Me and my family are very hooked on Mexican culture, and my son has become obsessed with celebrating Cinco de Mayo once he arrived.”

This semester was Frias’ first semester working at UTEP, and unfortunately, his family couldn’t come with him but plans on arriving soon. “I most definitely miss my family the most, I can’t wait to see them again,” Frias said.

There are more individuals at UTEP who are far from home, and the community at UTEP has made them feel as if they are. UTEP students not only accept everyone from around the world, but they also make sure to make them feel like they belong there.

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As UTEP continues to grow, the cultural diversity keeps expanding beyond the borders. Every day, more people around the world come to UTEP to learn, research or teach. Allowing students to meet people from Ciudad Juarez, Mexico to the outskirts of Buenos Aires, Argentina, the rich culture inside UTEP has allowed students and staff to learn more about the rest of the world, and it has given them the key to entering that world.

Who are these individuals? What does their world look like at UTEP? Professor Alessandra Narvaez Varela, her world has only had a few adjustments. Narvaez is from Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua, and teaches creative writing courses at UTEP and is the author of “Thirty Talks Weird Love.” Narvaez has two bachelor’s degrees at UTEP, one in biology and one in creative writing. “I bled orange,” Narvaez said. “I chose El Paso for the same reason many students do, I’m from Ciudad Juarez so I knew UTEP was a great option for me as a fronteriza.”

Professor Marcelo Frias is new to El Paso teaching computer science. Photo by Gianluca Cuevas/The Prospector

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Glean is a new app offered by CASS that helps students record and transcribe class lectures, take notes and more to guarantee students a successful learning experience.

Students interested in using Glean must be registered with CASS and qualify for this accommodation.
**Grafica Libre: The art of change**

There is no magnetic force stronger than passion; a small action can attract boundless talent from any corner of the world, and "Grafica Libre" has attracted a passion for change. The exhibition is a collaborative work from over 40 international, regional and local artists ready to bind their creations and showcase their voices.

"Grafica Libre" is a contemporary art showcase, mostly composed of printed posters from a variety of styles and artists. Gram Om, Erre and Kill Joy, among other members of the roster, tackle political, social and psychological issues that plague the lives of the artists or the world around them.

"The art is very raw and graphic," said co-curator Ramon Cardenas. "We were interested in social justice issues, revolution, and themes of resistance through posters. Nothing is hidden, the art really makes it clear what is being said."

Cardenas expanded on the artists' graphic depictions of violence and people. Many of the pieces contain ominous depictions of their home country including violence against women, minorities, corrupt governments, inequality on race, gender and feminist movements among other things.

"It is really our way of making ourselves heard and giving these experiences to the people looking at our art," Cardenas said.

"We often have to make a name for ourselves, but with collaborations like these we can call all help each other find notoriety." Cardenas explained that they wanted artists who can be found outside of galleries. Some of the artists even added QR codes to their work so they can be found and followed throughout their careers.

As part of the revolutionary theme, Cardenas explained that having this angle would benefit their message as well as the people interested in their art.

"Grafica Libre" is located on 216 Overland Dr., in the downtown area of El Paso. The building is a historical building for the city.

"The building had been abandoned for years and had gone through some remodeling," Cardenas said. "It is a great opportunity to turn something historic into a new movement, giving new life to the city."

The exhibition opened Aug. 31 and will continue through Sept. 23. After El Paso, the exhibition is expected to open in Juárez, Mexico.

"Our work is a universal speech," Cardenas said. "And it is our dream to break the barriers in our society."

Eugenio Cantu is a contributor and may be reached at ecantu3@miners.utep.edu

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**Prints of repurposed currency by artist Vitocke Negro is shown in the gallery, Negro is a Mexican street artist whose work can be found through the streets of Mexico City. Photo by Iziah Moreno/The Prospector**

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**Showcased is a collaborative installation with work from artists Carlos Ramirez and Ernesto Yerena. Photo by Iziah Moreno/The Prospector**

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**On display are painted butterflies by Juarez based artist Perras Bravas, they invited their community to be a part of the installation, allowing the public to paint a message on the paper cut-out butterflies. Photo by Iziah Moreno/The Prospector**

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One of El Paso’s fiercest sports brings together a community

BY SOFIA SIERRA
The Prospector

Through stress from a sport outweighs the enjoyment, players of the El Paso Roller Derby Team (EPRD) let the good times roll. Although the sport is fierce, players have found a family within the team. One of the redeeming qualities of the EPRD family is its welcoming inclusiveness. A sport that concurrently has men, women and nonbinary people skating for decades, or just recently picked up a pair of skates, the EPRD allows people of any skill level to participate. Through a 12-week training program, coaches train players for extreme physical conditions as well as teach the rules of competitive roller derby.

Priscilla Najera, known as “Pepper Spay Yo Face” is assistant coach to the Patel WhiplHers as well as a part of the advanced team, Tex Pistols. Balancing her real estate business and being a part of EPRD since 2010, Najera mentions how the team encourages growth. “Training is really how hard you yourself want to take it.” Najera said. “How much you want to grow yourself, not only for your team but for yourself. Every year somebody does something amazing that you are like ‘I want to try that now.’”

Through the team’s ability to encourage each other, it has allowed many of the players to grow confident in themselves. The philosophy of the EPRD is to “enhance personal self-growth and a positive self-image” which proves to be the attitude for many players. Yasmin Pinon, known as “Yas-smac” on the field, says she was timid before joining the EPRD. Since joining in 2019, she states being a part of the EPRD allowed her to advocate more for herself and the LGBTQIA+ community. “I am very shy, [EPRD] helped me get out of that shyness,” Pinon said. “It helped me get out of my little shell. El Paso and our culture are very ‘hush hush’ about queerness. Here, everyone is welcome, and it’s embraced. I had an issue two years ago where a coworker was saying stuff about gays, and I had to stand up because they don’t know better,” Pinon said. “It hurt me because my awareness grew from being here. On my own, I would have not been as open-minded, so it hurt because everyone here is valid.”

The team members say bonds between the players are cultivated quickly. Rosalinda Horstman, known as “Ray Ray the Terrible” on the field, joined EPRD last year. While she has been a recent addition to the team, she has already created a strong bond with them. “Last year in July, I picked up my roller skates after 18 years of not wearing them,” Horstman said. “Handling an intensive job as a facilities director at a local hospital, Horstman talks about how her life revolved around her job at one point, which was draining her. “My derby is my way of relieving some stress,” Horstman said. “[I would be] at work until 9 at night when I really don’t have to be.” Horstman is one of the older players in the EPRD and before joining, she had a fear of growing old without accomplishing her goals due to age. “I’m more scared now to not do the things that I want to do,” Horstman said. “In the end I’m 46 years old, and I could say, ‘Hey I did that’.”

Many players join the EPRD as a stress reliever, but gain much more out of it. To some, the ‘derby community’ is one of acceptance and growth. Members who are a part of EPRD say they are more than a community. “I am very shy, [EPRD] helped me get out of that shyness,” Pinon said. “It helped me get out of my little shell. El Paso and our culture are very ‘hush hush’ about queerness. Here, everyone is welcome, and it’s embraced. I had an issue two years ago where a coworker was saying stuff about gays, and I had to stand up because they don’t know better,” Pinon said. “It hurt me because my awareness grew from being here. On my own, I would have not been as open-minded, so it hurt because everyone here is valid.”

The team anticipates their next roller derby game Sept. 23 and proves good things come to those who skate.
Football pays homage to 1988 championship team

UTEP football hosted ’80s Night at the Sun Bowl to ring in the first home game of the football season. ’80s Night was at its prime. Players at UTEP had promised futures on and off the field, some going on to play professionally in the NFL. Pat Hegarty was no exception.

A member of the 1988 team, he witnessed it all, playing football at UTEP and the Denver Broncos. Hegarty continues to have a successful career as a writer. As quarterback, Hegarty played a key role in the Miners’ success in both the 1987 and 1988 seasons. Coming to UTEP in 1987, Hegarty got the Miners seven wins that season, the most in 20 years. The season ended soon after, as Hegarty fractured his jaw, forcing him to sit out the final two games.

The following 1988 season, the Miners won a program record of 10 games, fighting their way to a bowl game. Hegarty returned home, only to find his father was not going to let him live at home anymore, forcing him into homelessness. Couch surfing between friends for a year and a half, Hegarty attended community college, where his success in football brought him a number of scholarship offers.

“UTEP changed the trajectory of my life in a real significant way,” Hegarty said. “College for everybody is a time where you get to learn about yourself and where your values are and who you want to be, but for those athletes, sometimes it’s their only way to get to this place and to have a chance at their dream.”

Hegarty majored in political science and minored in English literature with plans to become a lawyer, but it was not his true calling. After he was done playing football, Hegarty discovered his love for writing. Initially trying to write novels, he shifted to writing scripts for video games. Starting at Sony, he wrote the scripts for sports games, as the company did not have writers for sports games at that time.

Upon returning to El Paso for the first time since 2014, Hegarty discussed how both the campus and the Sun Bowl have improved since his time as a student. He also talked about the magic behind the 1988 football team, as each member was extremely talented in their own right. Following his time with the Miners, Hegarty went to the Broncos as a backup quarterback for two years.

The Miners football uniforms in 1988 were special; the uniforms were orange, and the helmet had stars. Hegarty was inspired by other quarterbacks for both his choice of the number 19 and for his choice to wear it high, but he claims the shoes slowed him down during football games.

The jerseys worn by the Miners on ’80s Night paid homage to the most significant team this university has seen, 35 years after their record-breaking era. Hegarty is just one example of the success story that was formed following UTEP and serves as a reminder to students that anything is possible with hard work and dedication.

BY NICO MAES The Prospector

WEEK ONE from page 13

the Jacksonville Jaguars defeated the Indianapolis Colts while the New Orleans Saints pulled away with a narrow win over the Tennessee Titans in The Superdome.

The San Francisco 49ers and quarterback Brock Purdy dominated the Pittsburgh Steelers in a 30-7 win at Heinz Field. Running back Christian McCaffrey ran for 152 yards over 22 carries. Purdy completed 19 of 29 for 220 yards and two touchdowns.

Quarterback Jimmy Garoppolo and the Las Vegas Raiders defeated the Russell Wilson-led Denver Broncos at Mile-High while the Philadelphia Eagles edged out the New England Patriots.

The Rams defeated the Seattle Seahawks without star wide receiver Cooper Kupp. The Green Bay Packers added a win to its rivalry with the Chicago Bears.

The Dolphins and Los Angeles Chargers went on a scoring frenzy with both teams combining for a total of 70 points. Quarterback Tua Tagovailoa threw for 466 yards giving wide receiver Tyreek Hill a whopping 215 yards, contributing to the 36-24 win.

Sunday Night Football featured a masterclass in definitive execution by the Dallas Cowboys as the team limited the New York Football Giants to zero points. Defensive end Micah Parsons and the rest of the pass rush sacked Giants quarterback Daniel Jones seven times.

Between the offense and defense and special teams, the Dallas Cowboys scored 40 points through the ‘Texas Coast Offense’ left the Giants shocked at home. With this win, Dak Prescott extended his winning streak over the Giants. With Prescott under-center, the Cowboys have not lost since his rookie season back in 2016.

To round out Kickoff Weekend, the New York Jets hosted the Buffalo Bills.

The massive story coming into this game was the addition of quarterback Aaron Rodgers by the Jets. Unfortunately for Head Coach Robert Saleh, Rodgers fell during the first drive to an injury leaving MetLife Stadium on a medical cart. Despite the set back, the Jets defense set up and forced an overtime period. That’s when the Jets’ defense, who forced quarterback Josh Allen into three interceptions in regulation, forced a punt. Returning the punt was wide receiver Xavier Gipson. There he turned on the “jets” into the end zone to end the game with a score of 22-16 leaving New York with a week one win.

The next NFL matchup will feature the Minnesota Vikings and the Philadelphia Eagles on Thursday Night Football on Prime Video.
Football suffers heavy loss to Northwestern

BY NICO MAES
The Prospector

UTEP football (1-2) took a heavy hit early in the season, losing 38-7 against Northwestern University Sept. 9. The Miners’ season is already looking bleak, having two losses in its three-game season. However, all hope isn’t lost as it is just the beginning of the season. The first half looked bright for the Miners, as the team was tied 7-7 with Northwestern. Things fell apart when Northwestern came back with a 13-play, 79-yard drive. The Miners then left Northwestern tight end Thomas Gordon wide open during the scoring play, allowing him to walk into the end zone on an 18-yard reception.

The game fell apart for the Miners following this play, as the Miners would not score at all throughout the second half.

Head Coach Dana Dimel acknowledged the struggle with Northwestern and how this play set the tone for the second half of the game.

“(Northwestern) came out with a really good drive at the start of the second half – a nice physical drive and finished it the way we needed to,” Dimel said.

UTEP will prepare for another away game at the University of Arizona, taking place Sept. 16.

Nicholas Maes is a staff reporter and may be reached at nemaes@miners.utep.edu

BY NICO MAES
The Prospector

The Office of Student Fellowships and Awards supports UTEP students who are applying for nationally competitive scholarships and fellowships to fund graduate school and overseas experiential learning (research, teaching assistantships, etc.).

What is an external fellowship?
Nationally competitive funding opportunities that are:
- Based on academic merit as opposed to financial need
- Open to students from a variety of majors
- Eligibility, application materials, and deadlines vary depending on the award
- Involve a substantial amount of time commitment and careful planning

What do these awards provide?
Depends on the award, includes but is not limited to:
- Funding for overseas experiential learning: research, intensive language study, teaching assistantships, etc., both during undergrad and beyond
- Funding for graduate school either domestically or abroad

Why should I apply?
The application process is a form of professional development in and of itself:
- Become a more confident writer
- Sharpen interviewing skills
- Think critically about future goals

Is my first or second year too early to start thinking about these opportunities?
Absolutely not! Most applications are due junior or senior year, but joining our Undergraduate Fellows Program as a first-year student or sophomore will help you prepare.

Stay connected! Log in to view upcoming information sessions.
MINER PALOOZA
FRIDAY, SEPT. 15

NJOMZA • KITTY CA$H
LATE NIGHT DRIVE HOME
MELANCHOLY 10 • DJ GUMBY

BATTLE OF THE BANDS
JETT BLACK vs. SULTANES DEL YONKE

UTEPEDU/MINERPALOOZA | 6-11:30 PM