Culpepper prepares for life after the Don

Since high school, my mom and my grandmother always told me to use basketball, don’t let it use me. Meaning, since I got a scholarship, a free education, take advantage of it and get your diploma. So, I just do it to make my family proud.

- Randy Culpepper, graduating senior

BY DAVID ACOSTA
The Prospector

Coming off his most successful season in 2009-10, in which he led the team to a Conference USA championship, the NCAA Tournament and was named the C-USA Player of the Year, Randy Culpepper is used to hearing cheers at the Don Haskins Center, but Dec. 11 will be different—it will be special, Culpepper said. On that day, he will enter the Haskins Center donning, not a jersey and shorts, but a cap and gown.

"Since high school, my mom and my grandmother always told me to use basketball, don’t let it use me," Culpepper said. "Meaning, since I got a scholarship, a free education, take advantage of it and get your diploma. So, I just do it to make my family proud."

Before basketball practices and games, Culpepper is usually one of the first players on the court warming up, taking practice shots and preparing. He is known by coaches and teammates as a player who is willing to put in extra work to help his team succeed and to lead by example.

"I think the fact that he’s graduating tells you that he’s different from a lot of guys, it shows you that he came here with the right priorities," head coach Tim Floyd said. "We’re real proud of him and the other guys that are graduating."

Culpepper who began taking classes at UTEP as a freshman from Memphis, Tennessee, in the fall of 2007, put that ethic to work in his class work as well. He says he “overloaded” himself with classes fall, spring and summer so that he could graduate a semester early with a degree in electronic media and focus on getting the Miners back to the NCAA Tournament in the spring.

"A lot of people think (athletes) have it made but it is tough on us to have practice, have games, travel and also get our books and homework done," Culpepper said. "At times it was stressful, but I would call my mom and my family just to vent to them and they helped me."

Culpepper credits his mother for getting him involved in athletics at a young age, enrolling him in gymnastics years before his older brother first taught him the game of basketball. It was as a gymnast where he first learned to use and develop his amazing jumping ability.

UTEP basketball fans got their first glimpse of Culpepper’s show stopping ability during his freshman season. That year, he averaged 12.8 points per game and ranked third in C-USA in steals while coming off the bench for then head coach Tony Barbee. Culpepper also set the C-USA record for three-pointers made by a freshman, making 81 baskets from behind the arc.

For those efforts, he was named the 2007-08 C-USA Sixth-Man of the Year.

Since the 2007-08 season, Culpepper has wowed UTEP basketball fans with his speed, ability, and his trademark “thunder dunk,” a one-handed tomahawk jam that seems impossible for a young man of his height. Listed at an even 6-feet by the UTEP Athletic Department, Culpepper, with a smile, claims to be “5-foot-11-and-a-half.”

The Miners are hoping those tools can be put to good use on the court once again this year. Coming in to the 2010-11 season, not only is Culpepper the defending C-USA Player of the Year, he is the pre-season pick to once again be the conference’s top player. So far this season Culpepper is averaging 18.8 points per game, and passed Antoine Gillespie to become the school’s third leading all-time scorer. Barring anything unforeseen, he could finish his career at UTEP trailing only Stephon Jackson for most points in school history.

"All those things, the Wooden Award, the Naismith and all that, they don’t mean anything unless we win," said Culpepper prior to the season.

"We’re real proud of him and the other guys that are graduating."

- Tim Floyd, head coach

The Miners are hoping those tools can be put to good use on the court once again this year. Coming in to the 2010-11 season, not only is Culpepper the defending C-USA Player of the Year, he is the pre-season pick to once again be the conference’s top player. So far this season Culpepper is averaging 18.8 points per game, and passed Antoine Gillespie to become the school’s third leading all-time scorer. Barring anything unforeseen, he could finish his career at UTEP trailing only Stephon Jackson for most points in school history.

"All those things, the Wooden Award, the Naismith and all that, they don’t mean anything unless we win," said Culpepper prior to the season.

- Tim Floyd, head coach

"We’re real proud of him and the other guys that are graduating."

- Tim Floyd, head coach

"All those things, the Wooden Award, the Naismith and all that, they don’t mean anything unless we win," said Culpepper prior to the season.

- Tim Floyd, head coach

"We’re real proud of him and the other guys that are graduating."

- Tim Floyd, head coach

"All those things, the Wooden Award, the Naismith and all that, they don’t mean anything unless we win," said Culpepper prior to the season.

- Tim Floyd, head coach

"We’re real proud of him and the other guys that are graduating."

- Tim Floyd, head coach

"All those things, the Wooden Award, the Naismith and all that, they don’t mean anything unless we win," said Culpepper prior to the season.

- Tim Floyd, head coach

"We’re real proud of him and the other guys that are graduating."

- Tim Floyd, head coach

"All those things, the Wooden Award, the Naismith and all that, they don’t mean anything unless we win," said Culpepper prior to the season.

- Tim Floyd, head coach

"We’re real proud of him and the other guys that are graduating."

- Tim Floyd, head coach

"All those things, the Wooden Award, the Naismith and all that, they don’t mean anything unless we win," said Culpepper prior to the season.

- Tim Floyd, head coach

"We’re real proud of him and the other guys that are graduating."

- Tim Floyd, head coach

"All those things, the Wooden Award, the Naismith and all that, they don’t mean anything unless we win," said Culpepper prior to the season.

- Tim Floyd, head coach

"We’re real proud of him and the other guys that are graduating."

- Tim Floyd, head coach

"All those things, the Wooden Award, the Naismith and all that, they don’t mean anything unless we win," said Culpepper prior to the season.

- Tim Floyd, head coach

"We’re real proud of him and the other guys that are graduating."

- Tim Floyd, head coach

"All those things, the Wooden Award, the Naismith and all that, they don’t mean anything unless we win," said Culpepper prior to the season.

- Tim Floyd, head coach

"We’re real proud of him and the other guys that are graduating."

- Tim Floyd, head coach

"All those things, the Wooden Award, the Naismith and all that, they don’t mean anything unless we win," said Culpepper prior to the season.

- Tim Floyd, head coach

"We’re real proud of him and the other guys that are graduating."

- Tim Floyd, head coach

"All those things, the Wooden Award, the Naismith and all that, they don’t mean anything unless we win," said Culpepper prior to the season.

- Tim Floyd, head coach

"We’re real proud of him and the other guys that are graduating."

- Tim Floyd, head coach

"All those things, the Wooden Award, the Naismith and all that, they don’t mean anything unless we win," said Culpepper prior to the season.

- Tim Floyd, head coach

"We’re real proud of him and the other guys that are graduating."

- Tim Floyd, head coach

"All those things, the Wooden Award, the Naismith and all that, they don’t mean anything unless we win," said Culpepper prior to the season.

- Tim Floyd, head coach

"We’re real proud of him and the other guys that are graduating."

- Tim Floyd, head coach

"All those things, the Wooden Award, the Naismith and all that, they don’t mean anything unless we win," said Culpepper prior to the season.

- Tim Floyd, head coach

"We’re real proud of him and the other guys that are graduating."

- Tim Floyd, head coach

"All those things, the Wooden Award, the Naismith and all that, they don’t mean anything unless we win," said Culpepper prior to the season.

- Tim Floyd, head coach

"We’re real proud of him and the other guys that are graduating."

- Tim Floyd, head coach

"All those things, the Wooden Award, the Naismith and all that, they don’t mean anything unless we win," said Culpepper prior to the season.

- Tim Floyd, head coach

"We’re real proud of him and the other guys that are graduating."

- Tim Floyd, head coach

"All those things, the Wooden Award, the Naismith and all that, they don’t mean anything unless we win," said Culpepper prior to the season.

- Tim Floyd, head coach

"We’re real proud of him and the other guys that are graduating."

- Tim Floyd, head coach

"All those things, the Wooden Award, the Naismith and all that, they don’t mean anything unless we win," said Culpepper prior to the season.

- Tim Floyd, head coach

"We’re real proud of him and the other guys that are graduating."

- Tim Floyd, head coach

"All those things, the Wooden Award, the Naismith and all that, they don’t mean anything unless we win," said Culpepper prior to the season.

- Tim Floyd, head coach

"We’re real proud of him and the other guys that are graduating."

- Tim Floyd, head coach

"All those things, the Wooden Award, the Naismith and all that, they don’t mean anything unless we win," said Culpepper prior to the season.

- Tim Floyd, head coach

"We’re real proud of him and the other guys that are graduating."

- Tim Floyd, head coach

"All those things, the Wooden Award, the Naismith and all that, they don’t mean anything unless we win," said Culpepper prior to the season.

- Tim Floyd, head coach

"We’re real proud of him and the other guys that are graduating."

- Tim Floyd, head coach

"All those things, the Wooden Award, the Naismith and all that, they don’t mean anything unless we win," said Culpepper prior to the season.

- Tim Floyd, head coach

"We’re real proud of him and the other guys that are graduating."

- Tim Floyd, head coach

"All those things, the Wooden Award, the Naismith and all that, they don’t mean anything unless we win," said Culpepper prior to the season.

- Tim Floyd, head coach

"We’re real proud of him and the other guys that are graduating."

- Tim Floyd, head coach

"All those things, the Wooden Award, the Naismith and all that, they don’t mean anything unless we win," said Culpepper prior to the season.

- Tim Floyd, head coach
I can see the finish line

BY HERMAN ROJAS
The Prospector

Well, I never thought that I would get to see this day come, but that was probably a good thing.

From my beginning at The Prospector in 2007 as a sports correspondent to my call as staff reporter, sports editor and multimedia editor, I didn’t think that I would last long enough to write this column. Someone, I managed to survive long enough to earn this privilege.

Deflating my big head and keeping my mouth shut probably helped keep me around at first, while becoming a sponge gave me the longevity to make it this far.

It took a lot of hard work and a lot of support from fellow reporters, editors and advisors over the better part of the last four years that allowed me to get to this point. For that constant push of encouragement and faith from everybody at this paper, a simple thank you does not even begin to express how much I appreciate it.

It hasn’t been a smooth journey by any means. It has been one full of ups and downs, obstacles and triumphs. Everyone has gone through their own growing pains that helped make this moment possible, and for that, I’m proud.

It hasn’t been a short journey or even an easy one, but it has been one full of dreams and desires that are getting closer to becoming a reality.

For the better part of the last two decades, we have navigated through the different levels of school and have stuck it out with the promise of developing and obtaining the necessary tools to succeed in the world. Now it is time to put all that into practice.

A lot of us have overcome challenges that could have put a halt to academic success. Some chose different paths to get to where they are today, while others gave the scholastic route a second chance. While the stories vary on how we got to this point, no matter if it took a few years or a few decades, the finish line for us comes in nine days on a stage at the Don Haskins Center.

Applaud yourselves for conquering the obstacles and soak up those final days at UTEP. Appreciate it all, reflect on all the men and women you encountered here, and cherish the friendships and memories because an experience like this will be nearly impossible to replicate from here on out.

Many of us will be starting on the next chapter of our lives. For some, the challenge of another degree looms ahead, while others will hit the ground running, trying to snag one of those all-dishonor jobs that degree holders should (in theory) have no problem finding. The reality, however, is that a different type of competition is about to begin.

All the skills that we have learned inside and outside of the classroom are all that we have in our arsenal to succeed from here on out. Will it be enough to make us early winners or is a grueling march looming?

Regardless of what the outcome may be, I say, “let the game begin.”

Pitch a story to The Prospector

Story idea:

Description:

Time frame:

Contact Information:

Name:

Phone number:

Email:

Drop this form and any additional material at The Prospector’s office located at Union Building East, Room 105. You can also pitch stories by calling 747-5161 or sending an e-mail to prospector@utep.edu.
Seniors prepare for graduation

BY DIANA ARRIETA
The Prospector

Sparkling confetti, caps flying in the air, loud cheers of congratulations and emotional farewells will mark the end of the long college journey for thousands of UTEP students as they cross the Don Haskins’ stage into life after school.

“I feel really happy and excited to know that I will be finishing soon,” said Essau Ramirez, senior computer science major.

These commencement ceremonies, which will take place Dec. 11, will offer the opportunity for families and friends to gather at the Don Haskins Center and celebrate one of the most important events in the lives of graduating seniors.

“The graduation is an opportunity to enjoy and relax after having worked hard throughout your career,” Ramirez said. “It is also a chance to have fun and share the moment with your family and friends.”

The 125th commencement ceremony will offer graduating seniors the opportunity to share their stories. Topics including the impact of UTEP on students’ lives, the challenges faced throughout the students’ academic careers and the plans they have for their future will be presented through stories submitted to the University Relations program, Tell us Your Story. The stories selected will be addressed by President Diana Natalicio during the ceremony.

“The commencement ceremony offers graduating seniors the opportunity to become models for other UTEP students,” said Francis Regalado, senior multimedia journalism major. “The honor to be able to have your story mentioned in front of everyone present, however, will provide an even greater chance to share your experiences at UTEP and inspire future graduates or incoming students to follow.”

While the commencement ceremony is a rewarding opportunity to enjoy the end of a long academic journey, it is also a stepping stone into the real world.

“Graduation is opening the door to the real world because it’s no more babying; you’re getting exposed to your field of study and what you do is all up to you,” said Jesus Navarrete, junior biology major. “Graduation is the final step before leaving the nest and immersing yourself in the adult field.”

It is through this opening reality that graduating seniors look forward to their future plans and aspirations.

“After graduating, I would like to find a job that will enable me to enhance my experience in my field and in the future, be able to start my own company,” Ramirez said.

BY DIANA ARRIETA
The Prospector

Photo courtesy of University Communications

The 125th commencement ceremony will take place Dec. 11 with morning, afternoon and evening ceremonies for graduating seniors.

Dec. 11, 2010 at the Don Haskins Center

Morning Ceremony, 9 a.m.
College of Liberal Arts and University College, with corresponding Graduate Programs.

Afternoon Ceremony, 2 p.m.
College of Business Administration and College of Education, with corresponding Graduate Programs.

Evening Ceremony, 7 p.m.
College of Engineering, College of Science, College of Health Science and School of Nursing, with corresponding Graduate and Cooperative Programs.

Diana Arrieta may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.
Software puts privacy at risk

BY AARON MARTINEZ
The Prospector

A new online threat that endangers the privacy of UTEP students has raised concerns around campus. A recently released program called Firesheep, a Firefox add-on created by Eric Butler, allows any would-be hacker access to monitor or hijack information from anyone connected to an unencrypted Wi-Fi network. According to Computerworld’s website, Butler released Firesheep “to demonstrate just how serious this problem is’ of popular websites failing to offer end-to-end encryption.”

“This is scary and a huge privacy issue,” said Krystal Anais Soto, freshman psychology major. “I don’t feel comfortable about using the wireless Internet on campus anymore.”

Soto said she believes that nobody at UTEP should even be using or trying that program. “It seems to me that the only reason why somebody would even use that program would be to steal people’s private information,” Soto said. “There is no good reason and if they are using that program, they are up to no good.”

The program allows the user to view and take control of accounts for websites such as Facebook, Twitter, MySpace and Hotmail, which is the email client UTEP uses for students, faculty and staff. Anyone that is connected to the same Wi-Fi network and is logged in to one of his/her accounts for these websites is vulnerable to having their information stolen or their account hijacked.

“This is a big concern for everyone here at UTEP,” said Jose Lagos, senior mechanical engineering major. “Now, I am worried and will be using the wireless here at school less often.”

Gerard Cochrane, UTEP chief information security officer, said that as new technology threats come out, his office will inform students of any potential dangers and take the necessary steps to protect the UTEP wireless network.

“UTEP uses the latest software and procedures to protect student information on UTEP’s systems. When we encounter or learn of new threats we review our practices to ensure that our data is safe,” Cochrane said.

“Our policy is that if we learn of threats, which require user action, we immediately inform all account holders; describe the actions people should take or avoid and inform the help desk.”

The program is becoming popular and has created issues across the nation as users at Starbucks and other open wireless networks have been affected. The Information Resources Planning Department has begun to take security measures to protect UTEP wireless users.

“We are taking steps to secure access on the wireless network,” Cochrane said. “This should provide the necessary protection for UTEP’s community while using the wireless network.”

Cochrane also said that if any faculty, staff or students have been affected or have any information about compromises in the system, they should immediately notify the UTEP Technology Support Helpdesk. All reports dealing with privacy threats are kept confidential. The help desk may be reached at 747-5257.

HTTPS Everywhere is a security program that users can access to help protect themselves from Firesheep. According to Computerworld’s website, “HTTPS Everywhere alters browsing so that your default connection is no longer unencrypted http, but the more secure, encrypted https, whenever a site offers that capability. So, if you use Twitter without HTTPS Everywhere (or similar protection), the connection is unencrypted, with the extension, you’re switched over to https.”

However, HTTPS Everywhere only protects a handful of websites from programs like Firesheep. Some of the sites include Facebook, Twitter, PayPal, Amazon, Hotmail and Wordpress.com blogs. For more information on HTTPS Everywhere, visit www.eff.org/https-everywhere.

Aaron Martinez may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.
Get up to 60% back for your used textbooks at Amazon.com.

(You can sell back other stuff like video games and DVDs too.)

amazon.com/buyback
Regalia ordering days numbered

BY SERGIO JIMENEZ
The Prospector

It is almost time to wear the gown, switch the tassel and throw the cap up in the air. As commencement approaches Dec. 11, so do deadlines for ordering graduation items such as caps, gowns, announcements and cords.

“Right now, it’s a little late in the semester, so there are really not a whole lot of options left for students,” said Fernando Padula, UTEP Bookstore manager. “The only option available for students at the moment is to come to the bookstore starting on Monday (Nov. 29), and what we are going to do is place a special order for the students, and we’re going to expedite (through) overnight shipping.”

Students who ordered early in the morning will be able to receive their items the next business day, while students who placed their order later in the day will receive their items within two business days. Special orders will be available until Dec. 3 at the bookstore.

“Unfortunately, this late in the semester, the website’s already closed, and the best option is to rush to the bookstore. so we can place orders (for students) as quickly as we can, just to make sure everybody will have their regalia in time for Dec. 11,” Padula said.

According to the Herff Jones website, prices are $35 for the bachelor cap, gown and tassel, $65 for the master cap, gown, hood and tassel, and $85 for the doctorate unit. These prices do not include shipping and handling, which vary depending on ordering dates and whether orders are placed online or at the UTEP Bookstore.

Another concern for graduating seniors is the shipping and handling charges for their caps and gowns.

For graduating seniors, it is difficult to keep up with deadlines for ordering graduation regalia.

“Sometimes there isn’t even time to plan your graduation, with so much work that we have left for school and so many final projects,” said Ernesto Galicia, senior marketing and management major. “Since there are the last courses, we cannot lose track of our work, and it is hard to focus on other things.”

This semester, the UTEP Bookstore website for ordering regalia opened in late September and closed Nov. 15. The website reopened on Nov. 16 for late orders with rushed shipping, which ended on Nov. 21. The bookstore has been taking special orders since Nov. 29.

“My wife had no idea that there was a deadline to order,” said Gerson Guerra, senior kinesiology major. “The only reason I found out about the online ordering was because I walked into the bookstore two weeks ago. What about all the students who think they can simply walk into the bookstore and walk out with their graduation caps and gowns as before?”

Padula explained that since spring 2007, the UTEP Bookstore has changed its cap and gown service to an online-ordering system from Herff Jones, the official provider of graduation regalia for UTEP.

Another concern for graduating seniors is the shipping and handling charges for their caps and gowns. According to the Herff Jones website, prices are $35 for the bachelor cap, gown and tassel, $65 for the master cap, gown, hood and tassel, and $85 for the doctorate unit. These prices do not include shipping and handling, which vary depending on ordering dates and whether orders are placed online or at the UTEP Bookstore.

As an additional service, the UTEP Bookstore offers at least one Graduation accessories, such as caps and gowns, will soon be unavailable for purchase.

Another concern for graduating seniors is the shipping and handling charges for their caps and gowns.

Graduation accessories, such as caps and gowns, will soon be unavailable for purchase.
"We really want to encourage students to come during the Graduation Fair, because that’s pretty much the only time when they will be able to order their cap and gown and not have to pay any kind of shipping," Padula said.

The fairs are the only time students are able to order class medallions and cords, since these items cannot be ordered online. Students are also able to join the UTEP Alumni Association, and order other items such as diploma frames, class rings, graduation announcements, envelopes, and certificates of appreciation.

This term, the UTEP Bookstore held one official Graduation Fair Nov. 2 and 3, and two additional fairs in August and September.

"Next semester during the fair we will have the merchandise here in the bookstore and [students] can pick up their gown and go on, so the Graduation Fair is very important," Padula said.

Students who have not yet ordered their caps and gowns have until 6 p.m. Dec. 3 to order them from the UTEP Bookstore.

Sergio Jimenez may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.
Best photos of Fall 2010

Top left: Pre-game festivities changed when UTEP implemented stricter tailgating rules early in the football season.

Top right: The new roundabout on the west end of campus gave UTEP a new piece of public art and altered traffic flow.

Above: UTEP students were shocked and saddened when two students were killed in Ciudad Juárez.
Program helps homeless, former foster care students

BY BEATRIZ A. CASTAÑEDA

The Prospector

After entering the foster care system at a young age, Jessica Archuleta spent several years being shuffled between different foster homes. Despite the hardships, she continued to chase her dream of earning a college degree.

She eventually aged out of the foster care system at 18 years old and again hit a road block when trying to earn that sought after degree. Archuleta, wanting to transfer to UTEP from El Paso Community College, found it was difficult to contact both offices of financial aid at UTEP and EPCC. She dealt with educational vouchers she had, but they wouldn’t be accepted in the financial aid office.

“I started at EPCC to take my basics and I always wanted to go to UTEP, but I was intimidated,” Archuleta said. “For some reason the financial aid office couldn’t waive the vouchers and it was a difficult process to speak to both offices about it.”

She eventually learned and took advantage of Texas Senate Bill 1653, which waives tuition and fees at state-supported vocational schools, colleges and universities for students who aged out of the foster care system in Texas.

Although her educational goals were now financially secure, a class she took last year was not waived and she had to pay for it out of her own pocket.

“It did the whole ripple effect where I had to pay for the class when I shouldn’t have,” Archuleta said. “I felt lost, nobody knew how to deal with a situation like that and it was very difficult.”

Archuleta then contacted Josué Lachica, an academic advisor at the Academic Advising Center and the coordinator of the Foster, Homeless, Adoption Resources (FHAR) program.

She discussed her situation with Lachica and he was able to get her a refund within five days.

“She helped me get the refund, it was good to know somebody was there to help and advocate for me,” Archuleta said.

Lachica has done previous work as a social worker in different cities and he felt a program was needed that would help students who were homeless, adopted or lacked a support system.

“We started this program as an idea about two years ago,” Lachica said. “We didn’t have a program where there were a couple of subpopulations that were not being helped very well such as foster students.”

Along with Lachica, Beau S. Pihlaja, academic advisor and lecturer at the Academic Advising Center, also works with these student populations.

“We try to help students who have aged out of foster care get access to their tuition waiver and we facilitate that process,” Pihlaja said. “(For) individuals who are homeless, we also work with them, and those who want to make education part of their life as well.”

Lachica and Pihlaja said the FHAR program works with community organizations like the Opportunity Center and the Pride Center to spread the word about the program.

The program also refers students to these centers who may need their services.

During the 2009-2010 academic year, Lachica said 101 students marked “yes” to some sort of homelessness in their FAFSA application. This year, Lachica said there was an increase of 130 students that marked “yes” to homelessness.

“There’s always a need for an understanding within a community and what we hope to do here is not only help students, but it’s important for the community to understand the needs of individuals who are homeless, adopted or lack a support system,” Pihlaja said.

We started this program as an idea about two years ago,” Lachica said. “We didn’t have a program where there were a couple of subpopulations that were not being helped very well such as foster students.”

Along with Lachica, Beau S. Pihlaja, academic advisor and lecturer at the Academic Advising Center, also works with these student populations.

“We try to help students who have aged out of foster care get access to their tuition waiver and we facilitate that process,” Pihlaja said. “(For) individuals who are homeless, we also work with them, and those who want to make education part of their life as well.”

Students who were formerly in foster care, are homeless or adopted, the FHAR program provides support.

Finally, an easy way to find cool places to live in El Paso.

Whether you’re a landlord or a renter, we save you time and money. Period.

The pride you’ll feel in being a doctor increases dramatically when you care for our Soldiers and their families. Courage is contagious. Our Health Professions Scholarship Program (HPSP) helps you reach your goal by providing full tuition, minus towards books and lab fees, a $20,000 sign-on bonus, plus a monthly stipend of $1,992.

To learn more, call 866-537-2256 or visit healthcare.garym.us/KBSA.

The strength to heal and learn lessons in courage.
Street Sense shares stories by and about the homeless people

Conrad Cheek Jr. takes the stage on street corners throughout Capitol Hill, selling the latest issues of Street Sense, a newspaper written by homeless people about homelessness.

"The homeless aren't helpless when you have your latest edition of Street Sense!" Cheek says to people walking by his corner.

The deep song and cadence of his voice draw the eyes of his audience on a busy corner of Pennsylvania Avenue three blocks from the Capitol. Street Sense is a newspaper that aims to improve the lives of homeless people by contracting with them to sell the bimonthly paper. Vendors pay 35 cents per issue and distribute them for a suggested $1 donation. More than 100 vendors are registered to sell the paper. Cheek can sell up to 800 issues a month.

Street Sense articles deal mainly with issues concerning homelessness. It also contains photography, art and poetry submitted by local homeless people.

It is run by four paid employees and dozens of volunteers, who write, edit and coordinate from two small rooms in the downtown Church of Epiphany. Cheek, 56, holds a batch of the latest Street Sense issue in one hand andest Street Sense issue in one hand andgestures grandly with the other, doing his best to encourage those passing by to buy a copy.

"Get your latest edition of Street Sense! With poetry by D.C.'s own homeless!" Cheek says.

Cheek wears his hair in tight braids, his best to encourage those passing by to buy a copy.

"Get your latest edition of Street Sense! With poetry by D.C.'s own homeless!" Cheek says.

Cheek wears his hair in tight braids, his best to encourage those passing by to buy a copy.

"Get your latest edition of Street Sense! With poetry by D.C.'s own homeless!" Cheek says.

Cheek wears his hair in tight braids, his best to encourage those passing by to buy a copy.

"Get your latest edition of Street Sense! With poetry by D.C.'s own homeless!" Cheek says.

Cheek wears his hair in tight braids, his best to encourage those passing by to buy a copy.

"Get your latest edition of Street Sense! With poetry by D.C.'s own homeless!" Cheek says.

Cheek wears his hair in tight braids, his best to encourage those passing by to buy a copy.

"Get your latest edition of Street Sense! With poetry by D.C.'s own homeless!" Cheek says.

Cheek wears his hair in tight braids, his best to encourage those passing by to buy a copy.

"Get your latest edition of Street Sense! With poetry by D.C.'s own homeless!" Cheek says.

Cheek wears his hair in tight braids, his best to encourage those passing by to buy a copy.

"Get your latest edition of Street Sense! With poetry by D.C.'s own homeless!" Cheek says.

Cheek wears his hair in tight braids, his best to encourage those passing by to buy a copy.

"Get your latest edition of Street Sense! With poetry by D.C.'s own homeless!" Cheek says.

Cheek wears his hair in tight braids, his best to encourage those passing by to buy a copy.

"Get your latest edition of Street Sense! With poetry by D.C.'s own homeless!" Cheek says.

Cheek wears his hair in tight braids, his best to encourage those passing by to buy a copy.

"Get your latest edition of Street Sense! With poetry by D.C.'s own homeless!" Cheek says.

Cheek wearing his jacket careful to keep the afternoon sun off his bones.

He buttons up his jacket to look more presentable.

Cheek has been homeless since 1995.

He grew up in D.C., in a middle-class, single-family home. After graduating from George Washington University, he moved with his girlfriend to Riverside, California.

He worked as a biomedical engineer technician in a hospital where he was responsible for the repair of medical equipment. He said he was fired when a machine he was in charge of shocked a patient.

Cheek, no longer able to afford his apartment, started living in his 1979 Ford Star. He said he can fix almost anything, from plumbing a bathtub to installing electrical wiring.

Cheek says, "No matter if it's cold, rain... if he can get to work, he's home.

Cheek picks up odd jobs whenever he can. He can fix almost anything, whether it's installing electrical wiring or grouting a bathtub.

He volunteered to teach chess to children at the neighborhood library for several years. Cheek has played since he was 7. He can count on one hand the number of people who have ever beaten him.

His father, Conrad Hugo Cheek Sr., was one of the few who could. One of the last Tuskegee Airmen trained before the end of World War II, he died two years ago.

Paul Meagher, 67, is a bartender at the Hawk and Dove on Pennsylvania Avenue.

Cheek comes in some nights after work to eat baked potatoes and hot wings while he sips his "antifreeze" — a shot glass of whiskey.

"In my funeral, I would like him to speak, because of his great voice," Meagher said with a chuckle. So long as it is not too soon, he said.

Raymundo Aguirre, UTEP senior creative writing major, is an intern at the Scripps Howard Foundation’s Semester in Multimedia program. He may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.
Estudiante cumple sus sueños y obtiene dos diplomas

POR NICOLE CHÁVEZ
The Prospector

Escribir, conducir y actuar han sido la pasión de Octavio Pulido Nevarez. Después de varios años de estudios en UTEP y varias pasantías, Pulido dice estar listo para ejercer sus dos carreras, una en medios electrónicos, la otra en teatro.

“Siempre me ha gustado el teatro, actuar. Me gusta todo lo que tenga que ver con él; radio, conducir, dirigir. Para mi, las dos carreras se complementan una a otra”, dijo Pulido, quien asistirá a su ceremonia de graduación el 11 de diciembre. “Nunca me vería sentado trabajando en una oficina”.

Pulido, de 24 años, es originario de Nuevo Casas Grandes, Chihuahua. Inició sus estudios universitarios en Arizona y luego estudió en Utah. Para él, una de las mejores experiencias que UTEP le dio fue la oportunidad de estudiar en España, donde por ocho meses, tomó clases en la facultad de periodismo de la Universidad Complutense de Madrid.

“Te da otra visión de las cosas, de lo que tienes aquí, aunque sea el mismo idioma, las costumbres cambian de país a país”, dijo Pulido. “Siempre me habían protestas, marchas, y los estudiantes tomaban el edificio”.

Al volver de España hizo una pasantía en el San Diego Union Tribune a través de Scripps Howard Foundation y también en la estación de radio por Internet, RSP Radio donde conducía el programa Viva Pop Latino al lado de Angie Aviles.

Pulido dice que las oportunidades hay que buscarlas o aprovecharlas cuando te llegan, por eso participó en un programa local de Telemedio y trabajó en la estación de radio 95.1 Latino Vibe en Phoenix, Arizona.

“En estos tiempos, los trabajos son escasos, es necesario desarrollar tus talentos y tu competitividad”, dijo Pulido.

En su paso por UTEP, Pulido tuvo que enfrentarse a profesores y estudiantes de su buena actitud. Zita Arocha, profesora de periodismo multimedia del Departamento de Comunicación y directora de Borderzine dijo que Pulido fue un estudiante sobresaliente.

“Octavio es un estudiante muy talentoso. Es el estudiante más amable que he conocido en UTEP. También es muy persistente”, dijo Arocha.

Desde que Belem Lopez, graduada en psicología, conoció a Pulido supo que él llegaría lejos. “Él es una persona que transmite alegría a todos, yo sé que esto es solo el inicio de su carrera en películas, música, televisión o radio”.

A un paso de graduarse, Pulido decidió dirigir la obra de un acto “The Other Women” del dramaturgo estadounidense David Ives, como parte de su proyecto final de teatro. Su más grande sueño es estar nominado para los Oscars o transmitir la ceremonia de los premios, aunque está consciente de que muchos piensan que su sueño es insalvable.

“Es mejor soñar alto y caer un poco más bajo que soñar bajo y caer más abajo, te tienes que ir a lo más alto que puedas soñar”, dijo Pulido.

Pulido sabe que al graduarse, el español le abrirá puertas. El crece que la comunidad hispana es fiel a los medios de comunicación en su idioma y por eso busca encontrar un empleo en los medios de comunicación en la ciudad o fuera de El Paso.

“Quiero irme a una ciudad donde pueda ejercer mis dos carreras”, dijo Pulido.

“No descarto un empleo aquí, pero El Paso todavía está creciendo”. El mayor apoyo de Pulido han sido sus padres, quienes nunca le han permitido abandonar sus sueños.

“Siempre he tenido el apoyo de mis papás, estoy muy agradecido porque nunca me he quedado con ganas de hacer algo, siempre me dicen ‘tú ve, a ver cómo lo haces’, dijo Pulido.

Nicole Chávez puede ser contactada en prospector@utep.edu.
Act would protect undocumented students

BY JOHN DE FRANK
Special to The Prospector

EL PASO, Texas — Many of the 65,000 undocumented immigrants who graduate from high school in the U.S. every year live under the entrapment radar, risking deportation at any time as they attempt to attend college or serve in the U.S. military.

According to statistics from the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC), most of these students in all grade levels have been raised in the U.S. and educated in American public schools. Many only speak English and the American culture is what they know. They have little left of their culture of origin.

“It’s a very sad experience to forget where you came from because you’re accustomed to life here. You could hardly remember that you came here from another country,” said a UTEP student who asked to remain anonymous because he/she is undocumented.

“We are hundreds of thousands of children in our country. Cheerleaders on a cheerleading squad, members of a high school football team, students who work hard and play by the rules, students like yourselves,” echoed Marquez’ voice over the speakers to a crowd of about 100 students.

“The fundamental premise of the Dream Act is to not punish the children for the parent’s actions. That’s not what this nation is about,” said Marquez.

Humberto Cruz, senior political science major and the vice president of the LULAC chapter at UTEP, said that Rock the Dream was not just to promote the Dream Act but to raise up to 3,000 signatures to send to Texas senators, Kay Bailey Hutchins.
Tired of selling your used textbooks to the bookstore for almost nothing? Now you don’t have to.

Textbookit helps students sell used textbooks to each other at a fair price. Simply list your books on our website, drop them off at our store and we’ll take care of the rest. It's fast, easy and secure. Go to Textbookit.com right now, and find out how to get the MOST for your textbooks.

We are located less than 1/2 mile from UTEP and EPCC

Find us on Facebook
The two Texas senators stand on the opposing side of the issue arguing that it would be unjust to reward citizenship to those who broke the law.

"We felt it was important for us to have a big event here on campus so we could raise awareness of the Dream Act and to also let our senators know that there are people here in El Paso, Texas who care about the education of other individuals who are less privileged," said Cruz.

Even if the Dream Act were passed, it would only remedy a portion of what is the overall problem of immigration.

"Even by passing the Dream Act, this will only affect 38 percent of undocumented immigrants that could potentially attend college," said Cruz.

Cruz estimated that around 1,000 letters in support of the Dream Act were signed during the event.

Although much of the opposition to the Dream Act comes from conservatives on Capitol Hill, there are a good number of Republicans that support the legislation as a bipartisan movement.

"We believe that it’s a viable route for illegal immigrants that come here as minors to have the opportunity to become citizens and fulfill their American dream as well as a benefit to universities all across America and the armed forces," said Ryan Padilla, junior civil engineering major and vice chairman of the UTEP College Republicans.

The Dream Act would allow students who have graduated with a diploma or a GED and are in the country without proper documentation a chance to gain their citizenship through a pathway of temporary residency if they have been in the country for over five years, are under the age of 16, have good moral character, (which means they have not been convicted of a crime), and can complete at least two years of a four-year higher education institute or completed two years in the service. Although there is nothing mentioned in the bill that requires completion at the four-year university or military term, they must finish the second-year requirement within a six-year period in which they will be granted a temporary residency. Upon completion of the requirements they will become eligible for citizenship.

---

**Final Exam Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Day(s)</th>
<th>Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:30 a.m.</td>
<td>MWF</td>
<td>Dec. 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>MWF</td>
<td>Dec. 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30 a.m.</td>
<td>MW</td>
<td>Dec. 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>MWF</td>
<td>Dec. 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 a.m.</td>
<td>MWF</td>
<td>Dec. 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>MWF</td>
<td>Dec. 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 a.m.</td>
<td>MWF or MW</td>
<td>Dec. 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 a.m.</td>
<td>MWF</td>
<td>Dec. 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30 a.m.</td>
<td>MWF</td>
<td>Dec. 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 p.m.</td>
<td>MWF or MW</td>
<td>Dec. 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>MWF</td>
<td>Dec. 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:45 p.m.</td>
<td>MWF</td>
<td>Dec. 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>MWF or MW</td>
<td>Dec. 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30 p.m.</td>
<td>MWF or MW</td>
<td>Dec. 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00 p.m.</td>
<td>MWF</td>
<td>Dec. 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:30 p.m.</td>
<td>MW or M</td>
<td>Dec. 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00 p.m.</td>
<td>MWF</td>
<td>Dec. 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>MWF or MW</td>
<td>Dec. 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00 p.m.</td>
<td>MWF or MW</td>
<td>Dec. 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>MWF or MW</td>
<td>Dec. 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>MWF</td>
<td>Dec. 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>MWF</td>
<td>Dec. 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>MWF</td>
<td>Dec. 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>MWF</td>
<td>Dec. 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>TR or T or R</td>
<td>Dec. 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 p.m.</td>
<td>TR or T or R</td>
<td>Dec. 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 p.m.</td>
<td>TR</td>
<td>Dec. 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 p.m.</td>
<td>TR</td>
<td>Dec. 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 p.m.</td>
<td>TR</td>
<td>Dec. 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 a.m.</td>
<td>TR</td>
<td>Dec. 10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

ACT from page A14

Son and John Cornyn. The two Texas senators stand on the opposing side of the issue arguing that it would be unjust to reward citizenship to those who broke the law.

“We felt it was important for us to have a big event here on campus so we could raise awareness of the Dream Act and to also let our senators know that there are people here in El Paso, Texas who care about the education of other individuals who are less privileged,” said Cruz.

Even if the Dream Act were passed, it would only remedy a portion of what is the overall problem of immigration.

“Even by passing the Dream Act, this will only affect 38 percent of undocumented immigrants that could potentially attend college,” said Cruz.

Cruz estimated that around 1,000 letters in support of the Dream Act were signed during the event.

Although much of the opposition to the Dream Act comes from conservatives on Capitol Hill, there are a good number of Republicans that support the legislation as a bipartisan movement.

“We believe that it’s a viable route for illegal immigrants that come here as minors to have the opportunity to become citizens and fulfill their American dream as well as a benefit to universities all across America and the armed forces,” said Ryan Padilla, junior civil engineering major and vice chairman of the UTEP College Republicans.

The Dream Act would allow students who have graduated with a diploma or a GED and are in the country without proper documentation a chance to gain their citizenship through a pathway of temporary residency if they have been in the country for over five years, are under the age of 16, have good moral character, (which means they have not been convicted of a crime), and can complete at least two years of a four-year higher education institute or completed two years in the service. Although there is nothing mentioned in the bill that requires completion at the four-year university or military term, they must finish the second-year requirement within a six-year period in which they will be granted a temporary residency. Upon completion of the requirements they will become eligible for citizenship.
“It’s a huge deal for the university and for the market that we are bringing an internationally-renowned event to El Paso. It’s definitely one of the top shows in the world and we are going to be able to see it in our backyard and that’s amazing,” said Jorge Vazquez, director of UTEP Special Events.

The multi-million dollar production will take on the daunting task of pulling off eight shows in five days, something Vazquez said has never been done before in El Paso.

“Financially it’s a very important thing for the university, entertainment-wise it brings attention to El Paso in a whole new level,” Vazquez said. It definitely paves the way for our neighbors at the (Plaza Theatre) to be able to see it in our backyard and watching such a big company, of course, I’m going to learn a lot.”

Performances for Cirque Du Soleil feature both new and returning performers, including color-bending contortionists, color-splashing high-flying trapeze stunts, and dancing. "Alegria" features a dream-like world filled with mesmerizing high-flying trapeze stunts, body-bending contortionists, colorfully bizarre characters and even acts incorporating live fire.

"Audiences are going to see a show they have never seen come to El Paso, it’s going to be something completely different. People are going to leave the venue in awe, (amazement) and just fascinated with the show itself," said April Martinez Quinn, senior public relations major and intern who worked closely with UTEP Special Events on marketing efforts for "Alegria."

"Cirque Du Soleil: Alegria" took the stage at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 1 at the Don Haskins Center. The event will continue with two shows each day starting Dec. 2 through Dec. 5. Tickets are on sale now at Ticket Center at 747-5234.

For more information please call UTEP Ticket Center at 747-5234.

"Audiences are going to see a show they have never seen come to El Paso, it’s going to be something completely different. People are going to leave the venue in awe, (amazement) and just fascinated with the show itself," said April Martinez Quinn, senior public relations major and intern who worked closely with UTEP Special Events on marketing efforts for "Alegria."

"Cirque Du Soleil: Alegria" took the stage at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 1 at the Don Haskins Center. The event will continue with two shows each day starting Dec. 2 through Dec. 5. Tickets are on sale now at Ticket Center at 747-5234.

For more information please call UTEP Ticket Center at 747-5234.

"It’s a huge deal for the university and for the market that we are bringing an internationally-renowned event to El Paso. It’s definitely one of the top shows in the world and we are going to be able to see it in our backyard and that’s amazing,” said Jorge Vazquez, director of UTEP Special Events.

The multi-million dollar production will take on the daunting task of pulling off eight shows in five days, something Vazquez said has never been done before in El Paso.

"Financially it’s a very important thing for the university, entertainment-wise it brings attention to El Paso in a whole new level," Vazquez said. "We are pioneers (in bringing) such an aggressive financial venture. It definitely paves the way for our neighbors at the (Plaza Theatre) to bring 'Wicked' in 2012 (and) to bring multi-performance shows to the market and that’s huge."

Sophomore dance major Rosa Vilanueva said, "You learn a lot from watching different people doing performances and watching such a big company, of course, I’m going to learn a lot.”

Performances for Cirque Du Soleil have been called nothing short of phenomenally by critics and audiences around the world. "Alegria" features a dream-like world filled with mesmerizing high-flying trapeze stunts, body-bending contortionists, colorfully bizarre characters and even acts incorporating live fire.

"Audiences are going to see a show they have never seen come to El Paso, it’s going to be something completely different. People are going to leave the venue in awe, (amazement) and just fascinated with the show itself," said April Martinez Quinn, senior public relations major and intern who worked closely with UTEP Special Events on marketing efforts for "Alegria."

"Cirque Du Soleil: Alegria" took the stage at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 1 at the Don Haskins Center. The event will continue with two shows each day starting Dec. 2 through Dec. 5. Tickets are on sale now at Ticket Center at 747-5234.

For more information please call UTEP Ticket Center at 747-5234.

"It’s a huge deal for the university and for the market that we are bringing an internationally-renowned event to El Paso. It’s definitely one of the top shows in the world and we are going to be able to see it in our backyard and that’s amazing,” said Jorge Vazquez, director of UTEP Special Events.

The multi-million dollar production will take on the daunting task of pulling off eight shows in five days, something Vazquez said has never been done before in El Paso.

"Financially it’s a very important thing for the university, entertainment-wise it brings attention to El Paso in a whole new level," Vazquez said. "We are pioneers (in bringing) such an aggressive financial venture. It definitely paves the way for our neighbors at the (Plaza Theatre) to bring 'Wicked' in 2012 (and) to bring multi-performance shows to the market and that’s huge."

Sophomore dance major Rosa Vilanueva said, "You learn a lot from watching different people doing performances and watching such a big company, of course, I’m going to learn a lot.”

Performances for Cirque Du Soleil have been called nothing short of phenomenally by critics and audiences around the world. "Alegria" features a dream-like world filled with mesmerizing high-flying trapeze stunts, body-bending contortionists, colorfully bizarre characters and even acts incorporating live fire.

"Audiences are going to see a show they have never seen come to El Paso, it’s going to be something completely different. People are going to leave the venue in awe, (amazement) and just fascinated with the show itself," said April Martinez Quinn, senior public relations major and intern who worked closely with UTEP Special Events on marketing efforts for "Alegria."

"Cirque Du Soleil: Alegria" took the stage at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 1 at the Don Haskins Center. The event will continue with two shows each day starting Dec. 2 through Dec. 5. Tickets are on sale now at Ticket Center at 747-5234.

For more information please call UTEP Ticket Center at 747-5234.

"It’s a huge deal for the university and for the market that we are bringing an internationally-renowned event to El Paso. It’s definitely one of the top shows in the world and we are going to be able to see it in our backyard and that’s amazing,” said Jorge Vazquez, director of UTEP Special Events.

The multi-million dollar production will take on the daunting task of pulling off eight shows in five days, something Vazquez said has never been done before in El Paso.

"Financially it’s a very important thing for the university, entertainment-wise it brings attention to El Paso in a whole new level," Vazquez said. "We are pioneers (in bringing) such an aggressive financial venture. It definitely paves the way for our neighbors at the (Plaza Theatre) to bring 'Wicked' in 2012 (and) to bring multi-performance shows to the market and that’s huge."

Sophomore dance major Rosa Vilanueva said, "You learn a lot from watching different people doing performances and watching such a big company, of course, I’m going to learn a lot.”

Performances for Cirque Du Soleil have been called nothing short of phenomenally by critics and audiences around the world. "Alegria" features a dream-like world filled with mesmerizing high-flying trapeze stunts, body-bending contortionists, colorfully bizarre characters and even acts incorporating live fire.

"Audiences are going to see a show they have never seen come to El Paso, it’s going to be something completely different. People are going to leave the venue in awe, (amazement) and just fascinated with the show itself," said April Martinez Quinn, senior public relations major and intern who worked closely with UTEP Special Events on marketing efforts for "Alegria."

"Cirque Du Soleil: Alegria" took the stage at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 1 at the Don Haskins Center. The event will continue with two shows each day starting Dec. 2 through Dec. 5. Tickets are on sale now at Ticket Center at 747-5234.

For more information please call UTEP Ticket Center at 747-5234.
Tech job lands student touring gigs

BY ALEJANDRO ALBA
The Prospector

Jorge Luis Aguilar-Cruz has come a long way from milking cows and growing corn in Durango, Mexico, to going on tour with Paramore and Norah Jones across the United States. His degree in communication, and his job as a backline technician have helped him make many connections.

Cruz has had many experiences in the music industry. He is the bass player and the second vocals in a Tigres Del Norte cover band. This group gave him the chance to meet the actual band and travel with them too. Cruz said meeting the real Tigres Del Norte was so memorable because he relates to the material in their songs.

"I work as a backline technician, where I tune the guitars, bass, drums, do sound checks," Cruz said. "Most importantly I make amazing friends, travel and rock it with my favorite bands."

During his summers, Cruz goes on tour with famous artists like the Deftones, Paramore and Norah Jones, just to name a few. These experiences, besides being gratifying, have also influenced Cruz to become a teacher assistant so he can pass down his experiences to other students.

"I believe that students here in El Paso that are in bands and want to make it big are delusional," Cruz said. "It is truly unique to have him, he is a great asset to the university class," said Kim Kilpatrick, communication professor. "I also find him very versatile."

Aside from being a teaching assistant and a backline technician, Cruz said he enjoys other activities. As a second job, he bartends and, as a hobby, he boxes.

"I like keeping myself busy with different activities," Cruz said.

Cruz also mentioned how he didn’t find it hard to balance his many worlds. He credits his mother for being able to multitask.

"My mom is my role model, I just love her sense of humor, her work ethic and her traditions," Cruz said. "Most of those traits I inherited in me."

Cruz is also very supportive and plays for the Rio Grande Adelante Group. This group is a gay, lesbian, bisexual based band that plays softball on Sundays. Through communicating with different groups in society, Cruz says he fully practices what he has studied.

"There are just wonderful people," Cruz said as he wrapped up his story. "I believe I’ve gained so much meeting all kinds of people through communicating. I just find it gratifying to see people's different views."

Jorge Luis Aguilar-Cruz, communication graduate student and teaching assistant, has toured with bands such as Deftones, Paramore and Norah Jones, and he plays bass in a Tigres Del Norte cover band.

Backline technician Jorge Luis Aguilar-Cruz, communication graduate student and teaching assistant, has toured with bands such as Deftones, Paramore and Norah Jones, just to name a few. These experiences, besides being gratifying, have also influenced Cruz to become a teacher assistant so he can pass down his experiences to other students.

"I believe that students here in El Paso that are in bands and want to make it big are delusional," Cruz said. "I believe that they should get out of El Paso to really find satisfaction."

"I believe that they should get out of El Paso to really find satisfaction."

As a teaching assistant, Cruz has learned valuable lessons through his academic life. Working under a communication professor and a sociology professor, Cruz is working toward a master’s degree in communication.

His main goal is to study gender and Mexican-American identities in El Paso.

"It is truly unique to have him, he is a great asset to the university class," said Kim Kilpatrick, communication professor. "I also find him very versatile."

Aside from being a teaching assistant and a backline technician, Cruz said he enjoys other activities. As a second job, he bartends and, as a hobby, he boxes.

"I like keeping myself busy with different activities," Cruz said.

Cruz also mentioned how he didn’t find it hard to balance his many worlds. He credits his mother for being able to multitask.

"My mom is my role model, I just love her sense of humor, her work ethic and her traditions," Cruz said. "Most of those traits I inherited in me."

Cruz is also very supportive and plays for the Rio Grande Adelante Group. This group is a gay, lesbian, bisexual based band that plays softball on Sundays. Through communicating with different groups in society, Cruz says he fully practices what he has studied.

"There are just wonderful people," Cruz said as he wrapped up his story. "I believe I’ve gained so much meeting all kinds of people through communicating. I just find it gratifying to see people's different views."

Jorge Luis Aguilar-Cruz, communication graduate student and teaching assistant, has toured with bands such as Deftones, Paramore and Norah Jones, and he plays bass in a Tigres Del Norte cover band.

Theater

Christmas classic ‘Wonderful Life’ at El Paso Playhouse

BY JACKIE DEVINE
The Prospector

This holiday season the El Paso Playhouse will do an unconventional rendition of the Christmas classic "It's a Wonderful Life." The beloved American drama will come to life onstage in the form of a live radio show.

"It's going to be an interesting twist on this story," said Vanessa Keyser, theater administrator for the El Paso Playhouse. "This is the first time we’re doing a show like this. It will focus on the actor's voices."

Before television sets, radio dramas were popular in the first half of the 20th century. They depended on dialogue, music and sound effects to help listeners imagine the characters in the story. "It's a Wonderful Life" made its film debut in 1946 and starred James Stewart as George Bailey, who contemplates suicide on Christmas Eve. His guardian angel intervenes and shows George what life would be like if he had never been born.

"For this type of play there is no requirement to memorize, the actors will have their scripts in hand. Unlike stage plays, where you need to see expression, it is not necessary in this play," said Ron Sztaloski, director of the radio play.

Joe Landry wrote the script with the studio audience in mind. The actors do all the sound effects like car horns and people walking. The audience also gets to feel what it’s like to be at a radio station while the performers are acting out their parts.

Unlike a typical play where audience members see a story unfolding before their eyes, spectators have to use their imagination. The actor’s voices help the audience envision the characters.

A 55-year-old can play a 28-year-old character and the audience would never know it because of the emphasis on the voice, Sztaloski said.

Every year the El Paso Playhouse puts on a holiday-related production and for many years it was “A Christmas Carol.” According to Keyser, “It’s a Wonderful Life” remains a classic to this day because the film’s message is still relevant today.

“It’s a beautiful story about people coming together in a small town to support one another. It never gets old,” Keyser said.

The film is a staple of Christmas television. "It’s a Wonderful Life" is on the list of the American Film Institute’s 100 Best American films ever made and placed number one on the list of the most inspirational American films of all time.

"The main character, through the help of his guardian angel, realizes how many lives he’s touched. Every life is important and we affect people in what we say or do at one time or another," Sztaloski said. "So he comes to realize that he had a wonderful life all along.”

The Prospector December 2, 2010

Profile

Local actors use the music industry to diversified their skills and find new opportunities.

Learn more about the music industry and how local actors use it to diversify their skills.

This story was written by Alejandro Alba and Jackie Devine, authors for The Prospector. They cover local entertainment news and events.

Profile

Tech job lands student touring gigs

Jorge Luis Aguilar-Cruz, communication graduate student and teaching assistant, has toured with bands such as Deftones, Paramore and Norah Jones, and he plays bass in a Tigres Del Norte cover band.

Backline technician Jorge Luis Aguilar-Cruz, communication graduate student and teaching assistant, has toured with bands such as Deftones, Paramore and Norah Jones, and he plays bass in a Tigres Del Norte cover band.

Theater

Christmas classic ‘Wonderful Life’ at El Paso Playhouse

Local actors use the music industry to diversified their skills and find new opportunities.

Learn more about the music industry and how local actors use it to diversify their skills.

This story was written by Alejandro Alba and Jackie Devine, authors for The Prospector. They cover local entertainment news and events.
Winter wonderland in the desert

BY OMAR LOZANO
The Prospector

During these brisk seasonal months many Sun City residents long to embrace the classic winter tradition of ice skating. Although many wait until the year’s cold festive season to glide gracefully on ice, most are unaware that El Paso’s rink is freezing cold through most of the year’s mildest months.

“For public skating, especially around the holiday season, Thanksgiving, and Christmas, people tend to go ice skating a lot more so you will see a lot of people out there having a good time,” said Tom Herman, director and coach for El Paso’s Youth Hockey League. “People don’t think about ice skating during the warmer months but we’re actually open from late August up until the end of June. We always have the public skating and our hockey programs going on.”

The desert’s warm climate during most of the year doesn’t exactly lend itself to the idea of ice skating when people are splashing gleefully in their sun-drenched pools. Throughout a bulk of the year, however, the Sierra Providence Event Center, located next to the El Paso County Coliseum, is open to anyone who wants to get their ice skate on.

The event center provides public skating and winter sports such as figure skating and hockey for youths and adults.

With public skating available from 7-10 p.m. every Friday and Saturday and from noon to 4 p.m. every Saturday and Sunday and over 900 pairs of skates available for rental, Herman said, ice skating in El Paso can only grow.

“Every year we are getting bigger and bigger,” Herman said. “The ice rink really brings kids and families together and it becomes a pretty big, small community in its own.”

Many El Pasans might also be oblivious to the fact that the city’s hockey team, the Rhinos, is first place in the mid-western division of the Western States Hockey League (WSHL). Mike Erramouspe, a parent with three children who all participate actively in hockey, said programs that encourage adult and youth involvement in ice skating have helped the community grow.

“The involvement of the YMCAs youth leagues have really grown the sport. Each session has about 75 kids and it’s growing,” Erramouspe said. “I see that more kids and adults who try it, sure love it, I think more people just need to get out to try it.”

For those who can’t picture ice skating without holiday cheer might benefit in knowing that the Sierra Providence Event Center will be having its annual Holiday on Ice public skating event Dec. 18-31.

“I think it’s a great place to take the family on a budget here in El Paso. It was not very full which was nice and they had a little concession stand with hot chocolate and snacks that were not expensive at all. I liked that spectators where not charged,” said America Guevara, senior political science major. “The service was great and everyone was very helpful.”

The event will be themed just in time for the winter festivities and will cost $8 for rental and admission. Holiday on Ice public skating is open from noon to 4 p.m.

For more information, visit elpasoicemonitor.com or call 497-PUCK.

Omar Lozano may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.
The classic ballet's detailed and challenging choreography is directed by Erick Campos from the Compania Nacional de Danza in Mexico City. He has worked with the El Paso Youth Ballet before and said he was very happy to work with the young company again.

"This production is a big accomplishment for the company. It's amazing to see the progress that they've made and I really enjoy working with them and UTEP as well," Campos said.

The El Paso Youth Ballet's studio was first opened by Martha Katz three years ago, but the non-profit company was founded nearly two years ago when Katz saw the need for a ballet company in El Paso. Since then she has worked on filling the void that the city has in dance.

"This performance is about giving back. It's so valuable to El Paso and Ciudad Juarez because it offers so many experiences to the dancers from both cities," said Katz, who is the Artistic Director of the El Paso Youth Ballet. "Although we're not professional we try to be as professional as possible. It's a very unique performance to our community. The kids in it are very dedicated and are putting in the effort to make this happen."

The dancers are on a fast track to becoming professionals with rigorous practices and rehearsals. Most of the dancers in the company range in age from 7 to 23 years old. Out of the 80 dancers in "The Nutcracker," only 20 of the performers are adults, the rest being young people.

The majority of the dancers have all been trained in El Paso or have come back to perform "The Nutcracker" after leaving for training in programs elsewhere.

KATZ said. "It's just great to see the outside's support from all of their expertise. "

Alumna Galindo, 10, and Victoria Vallarreal, 8, are two of the young dancers who will take turns playing Clara, one of the main roles of the play. Both of them must memorize patterns, know each song and time each step correctly in order to make the production flow.

They said the dancing was difficult, but not the most challenging part of the ballet. They said the acting was most difficult.

"Sometimes we're here from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.," Galindo said. "We're here a lot, but we like dancing a lot."

Special to the performance this year is the addition of help from volunteers in the community. The company gained recognition when both performances of "The Nutcracker" sold out last year.

Cynthia Gamez, who works at UTEP in the economics department, used her expertise to do all of the budgeting, grant writing and promotional contracts. Others such as Estelle Levy gave her time to perfect the rehearsals of the older students and keep them motivated. Artist and dancer Richard Glass devoted much of his time to designing and making the dreamy props come to life.

"What has really been neat this year is that the production brought out a lot of dancers from the ballet scene in the '70s, '80s and '90s. These groups of volunteers have helped with wardrobes, design, props, costumes and some of them do rehearsals," Katz said. "It's just great to see the outside's gravitation to this art and to receive help from all of their expertise."

Tickets to "The Nutcracker Ballet" range from $15-$25. For more ticket information, call UTEP Special Events at 747-5623.

Aimee Galindo, 10, and Victoria Vallarreal, 8, are two of the young dancers who will take turns playing Clara, one of the main roles of the play. Both of them must memorize patterns, know each song and time each step correctly in order to make the production flow.
It’s no secret that sex is the most searched for topic on the Internet. There are an estimated 4.5 million known pornographic websites on the Internet. Every second $33.97 is spent on pornography. In that same second, 28,258 Internet users are viewing pornography. Every 39 minutes a new pornographic video is created in the U.S.

The Internet has made pornography highly accessible for anyone wishing to access it, adding to the increasing number of individuals who have become addicted to pornography without knowing it. Sexual Health also suggests a sexual addiction is loss of control over whether or not one engages in specific out-of-control sexual behavior. Second, are there significant consequences because of this sexual behavior, and finally do you feel like you’re always thinking about your sexual behavior, especially unwillingly. The Society for the Advancement of Sexual Health asks that one consider three basic things when defining sexual addiction. The first is loss of control over whether or not you engage in specific out-of-control sexual behavior. Second, are there significant consequences because of this sexual behavior, and finally do you feel like you’re always thinking about your sexual behavior, especially unwillingly.

Women are quickly becoming unconventional victims of Internet pornography. According to Internet Filter Review one in six internet pornography visitors are women. 17 percent of these women admit to having an addiction to Internet pornography. Mark B. Kastleman, author of the book, “The Drug of the New Millennium, The Brain Science Behind Internet Pornography Unc,” one out of every six women struggles with an addiction to internet porn, and more than 80 percent of these women will take their addiction offline. The poll conducted by Internet Filter Review also found that 13 percent of women admit to accessing pornographic websites while at work. Finally, the ratio of women to men in chat rooms is now two to one.

The experts from the Society for the Advancement of Sexual Health ask that one consider three basic things when defining sexual addiction. The first is loss of control over whether or not you engage in specific out-of-control sexual behavior. Second, are there significant consequences because of this sexual behavior, and finally do you feel like you’re always thinking about your sexual behavior, especially unwillingly.

The Society for the Advancement of Sexual Health asks that one consider three basic things when defining sexual addiction. The first is loss of control over whether or not you engage in specific out-of-control sexual behavior. Second, are there significant consequences because of this sexual behavior, and finally do you feel like you’re always thinking about your sexual behavior, especially unwillingly.

Rising porn addiction
SEx

BY CRYSTAL ROBERT
The Prospector

The Internet has made pornography highly accessible for anyone wishing to access it, adding to the increasing number of individuals who have become addicted to pornography without knowing it. Sexual Health also suggests a sexual addiction is loss of control over whether or not one engages in specific out-of-control sexual behavior. Second, are there significant consequences because of this sexual behavior, and finally do you feel like you’re always thinking about your sexual behavior, especially unwillingly.

Women are quickly becoming unconventional victims of Internet pornography. According to Internet Filter Review one in six internet pornography visitors are women. 17 percent of these women admit to having an addiction to Internet pornography. Mark B. Kastleman, author of the book, “The Drug of the New Millennium, The Brain Science Behind Internet Pornography Unc,” one out of every six women struggles with an addiction to internet porn, and more than 80 percent of these women will take their addiction offline. The poll conducted by Internet Filter Review also found that 13 percent of women admit to accessing pornographic websites while at work. Finally, the ratio of women to men in chat rooms is now two to one.

The experts from the Society for the Advancement of Sexual Health ask that one consider three basic things when defining sexual addiction. The first is loss of control over whether or not you engage in specific out-of-control sexual behavior. Second, are there significant consequences because of this sexual behavior, and finally do you feel like you’re always thinking about your sexual behavior, especially unwillingly.

The Society for the Advancement of Sexual Health asks that one consider three basic things when defining sexual addiction. The first is loss of control over whether or not you engage in specific out-of-control sexual behavior. Second, are there significant consequences because of this sexual behavior, and finally do you feel like you’re always thinking about your sexual behavior, especially unwillingly.

The introduction of Chatroulette, a website that pairs strangers from around the world together for webcam-based conversations, has changed the direction of pornographic and anonymous encounters on the web. Chatrou-lette has now prohibited pornographic material banning some users for several minutes, hours or months for violating the terms. However, there are still other websites like Omegle and the nefarious Rude Roulette that join strangers together.

The UTEP alumni Association is proud to announce these articles will be so much better than ever before. In this issue, we have included a special feature on Homecoming games and activities, exclusive alumni stories, and much more. Whether you’re a long-time or a new fan, we hope these articles will inspire you to continue supporting the Red and Blue. Happy Holidays.

Matthew Munden may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

Finally, an easy way to find cool places to live in El Paso. Whether you’re a local or a newcomer, we can save you time and money. Period.

The Prospector
December 2, 2010
THE PROSPECTOR
December 2, 2010
THE PROSPECTOR
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO

89,000 + ALUMNI WORLDWIDE

Congratulations UTEP Graduates!

Become a card carrying member of the UTEP Alumni Association.

Recent Grads can join today for only $20!
alumni.utep.edu | 915.747.8600

HOLIDAY from page B1
gets abducted by the killer. A lot of people die. It is directed by the guys who directed a film where a cop gets his throat ripped opened and an old man gets his head blown off with an air gun in the first five minutes. They also directed the movie where Brad Pitt gets shot by George Clooney and a film where a man finds out he has terminal cancer and his young son probably gets killed by a tornado. Want to go? My family is the sort of family that enjoys watching “The Christmas Story” during that awful 24-hour marathon on TBS every year. I like the film a lot, but I can only take lumps that look like legs, tongues stuck to cold lamps that look like legs, and a fat blonde kid getting kicked down a slide by Santa a couple of times every year.

If I watch something so sweet too many times, the level of vitriol that I keep inside might start to go down, leading to me actually growing a heart. Then these articles will be so much worse and I will be writing about how great Homecoming games are because of all the hard  work that went into them. But luckily, I do not plan on letting go of my hate and will probably die at a very young age because of it.

Happy Holidays.
In between her performances of “A Christmas Carol,” she landed a role as the narrator in UTEP Dinner Theatre’s production of “Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat.”

“Veronica is a very talented and funny actress, she can always be counted on to do a professional job,” said Greg Taylor, associate professor of musical theatre and UTEP Dinner Theatre director, who is on leave in London. “Her willingness to try anything to make her part better is a joy.”

Other notable roles Torres has been at UTEP Dinner Theatre with Sir Tim Rice. The UTEP music theatre department put on a concert in his honor.

“I got to meet him and other Broadway veterans like Nikki Renee Daniels, Hugh Panaro, who was the original Phantom of the Opera, and Andrea McArdle, who was the original little orphan Annie,” Torres said.

Torres has been in countless other musicals and plays such as “Hair,” in which she played Margaret Mead, a lead role. She has also been in “Rent” and “La Cage Aux Follics,” in which she played Madam Dindon. Torres was also in “Cats.”

“I have to say Veronica’s work ethic is just right. She knows how to have fun but she never does anything without focusing on the work,” said Andi San-Chez, who is one of Torres’ former cast mates and a senior music theater major. “She can get things that take others a while to grasp.”

In her performances of Broadway classics and plays such as “Hair,” in which she played Margaret Mead, a lead role. She has also been in “Rent” and “La Cage Aux Follics,” in which she played Madam Dindon. Torres was also in “Cats.”

“I think she is a very talented and funny actress,” San-Chez said. “She always be a part of her life, and she hopes people will see more of her in the future. She is always a bright and funny person and just a pleasure to work with.”

Taylor said.

Multiprofile Veronica Torres, speech/language pathology graduate student, has performed in multiple productions.

Multi-talented Veronica Torres, speech/language pathology graduate student, has performed in multiple productions.

SEX from page 85

gether and have not incorporated the same limitations.

Omegle remains innocent enough while Chatroulette advertises itself as Chatroulette for adults, encouraging strangers to “get naked.”

If participating in a website that uses cameras to facilitate intimate situations, please be aware that your image may be recorded.

Some cyber-safety experts recommend you take the following steps to protect yourself from keeping intimate moments from being distributed on the web. These steps include:

1. Treat your laptop and phone like intimate moments from being distributed.

2. Protect yourself from keeping rather than using a credit card, make sure your image isn’t being shared.

3. Look for your cash card, keeping them in your picture and you don’t want to do anything in range of a camera that you don’t want the world to see. Finally, you may want to frequently Google your name and screen name to ensure your image isn’t being shared.

Crystal Robert may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.
Miners down NMSU, again

BY SAL GUERRERO

Senior guard Randy Culpepper lit the Pan American Center on fire with 3-pointers to help guide his team past the New Mexico State Aggies 74-72 Nov. 30. The Miners (5-2) shot 50 percent from the field en route to sweeping the Aggies (2-5) this season, following a 73-56 victory seven days earlier at the Don Haskins Center.

“We’re just real pleased to get the win,” head coach Tim Floyd said. “It is a good thing there weren’t a couple minutes left on the clock because I don’t think (the win) would have happened.”

With 2:30 left in the second half and the Miners leading 69-62, the Aggies shot their way back into the game. NMSU senior guard Gredo Castillo hit a 3-pointer to cut the lead down to four. A minute later, after Culpepper made one of his two free throws, Aggie junior guard Hernat Laroche made a layup putting NMSU down 70-67. The Miners then missed an opportunity to go up by five when junior guard Ilayna Stone missed a jumper. The Aggies rebounded, drove down the court and missed a layup with 14 seconds left in the game.

The Aggies cut the lead down to one with a 3-pointer by Laroche with under two seconds remaining, but the Miners fended off the attack, drawing a foul to send Culpepper to the line, eliminating any chance for NMSU to complete the comeback.

El Paso natives play out their dreams one last time

BY ALEX MORALES

At the end of the season, every sport has a senior night and it was no different for the Miners’ volleyball team, even though only two El Paso natives are graduating.

As the final whistle blew on their last home game, a lot of emotions were running through the minds of Jennifer Nolasco and Xyla Muela. They could not believe that their collegiate career had just come to an end.

“I don’t have words to describe how I felt,” Nolasco said. “I was very excited to play. I was happy my family was here and I just wanted to thank the fans and everybody that supported me.”

As for Muela, her eyes were filled with tears as emotions and memories of her career got the best of her.

“There were a lot of emotions, I was excited, I was sad, I was nervous,” Muela said. “I felt like we didn’t really have a lot, which was the best thing I could have had.” Muela said. “They have supported me throughout my entire life and having them watch me makes them really proud.”

Nolasco never thought that playing volleyball at a Division I level was possible when she was playing for Horizon High School. It soon became a reality and after four years playing with the Miners as defensive specialist, she is grateful for the opportunity she was given.

“I am honored to have played for UTEP,” Nolasco said. “I never thought that I’d be playing Division I, especially coming from a small school. It was a great experience and I thank Ken (head coach Ken Murphy) and the girls for being great teammates.”

Coach Murphy has had both players for at least two years, and throughout that time period he has seen the hard work pay off as they have both worked their way into the lineup.

“I think they are both really good kids,” Murphy said. “I think Xyla has given a lot to us. When she goes in she always does a solid job. Jenny is a starter for us right now who is playing well.”

It’s awesome. When I played out of state my family didn’t get to watch me, so having them here meant a lot, which was the best thing I could have had.” Muela said. “They have supported me throughout my entire life and having them watch me makes them really proud.”

Nolasco never thought that playing volleyball at a Division I level was possible when she was playing for Horizon High School. It soon became a reality and after four years playing with the Miners as defensive specialist, she is grateful for the opportunity she was given.

“I am honored to have played for UTEP,” Nolasco said. “I never thought that I’d be playing Division I, especially coming from a small school. It was a great experience and I thank Ken (head coach Ken Murphy) and the girls for being great teammates.”

Coach Murphy has had both players for at least two years, and throughout that time period he has seen the hard work pay off as they have both worked their way into the lineup.

“I think they are both really good kids,” Murphy said. “I think Xyla has given a lot to us. When she goes in she always does a solid job. Jenny is a starter for us right now who is playing well.”

The end of the year is already approaching, and I was just getting started with my column. My time has come and gone, but it hasn’t been without raising eyebrows because of what I have said.

I gained a lot of fans, but there has also been a lot of readers who do not like me, but as a journalist, that comes with the territory. I said the Miners would finish 6-6 and they did, they would need help to make a bowl game, which they got. I was wrong about head coach Mike Price not coming back. I made a mistake, but who doesn’t?

The way I see it, previous writers were scared to say how bad some of our teams actually were, but I wasn’t. I didn’t care that I said our football team was a huge disappointment this year, despite coming off a huge win against SMU. In all reality, we should have only lost to Houston this year, but that didn’t happen.

But maybe this season is different for our beloved Miners. Usually, when we do not take care of business at the end of the season we do not get any help with the territory. I said the Miners would need help to make a bowl game, which they got. I was wrong about head coach Mike Price not coming back. I made a mistake, but who doesn’t?

Maybe, this team will do something that no other team has done since the 1960’s, which is win a bowl game.

Even if they do not win, being a Miners fan should be really fun and exciting with Tim Floyd at the helm of the basketball team and having Mike Price around for another year.

Floyd has the ability to recruit some really nice recruits, which can keep us in the mix for a conference title every year that we have him on the bench. The resemblance between of legendary coach Don Haskins and Tim Floyd will have fans coming back to watch the Miners.

As for the football team, we are going to need to recruit a quarterback with Trevor Vittatoe leaving after this season. Vittatoe has been the heart and soul of the offense the last four years and without him we would not have won as many games.

I do not know if the backup quarterbacks that we have on the team are going to be the answer for the future. If we can get a legitimate QB, I think we will be able to improve, but if we don’t, it may be a long year for the Miners.

As I write my last few sentences I just want to thank the people who read my column. Whether you like me, hate me, or just appreciate what I have to say, you are the reason why I get asked to write columns.

Lastly, to all the athletes that are on the team, you have to be able to take criticism. If a journalist like me is able to get under your skin, just imagine how it would be to take criticism at the national level. You would get eaten alive. So man up and be able to take the criticism because you only get it when you deserve it.

Alex Morales may be reached at axelmorales@miners.edu.
Record breaking Vittatoe shines bright

By Alex Morales

Senior quarterback Trevor Vittatoe set almost every passing record at UTEP in his four years with the Miners. He also finishes his career in the top 15 in career passing yards in Football Bowl Subdivision history and top 18 in career passing touchdowns.

“Trevor Vittatoe broke Palmer’s records, what he is even more excited about is the opportunity to go to a bowl game,” Thomas said. “He’s had more experience, but we just kind of learn from each other. I noticed how he wants to be the best at everything he does and that is something I took from him.”

Everyone attributes Vittatoe’s success to his calm character under pressure. That is one thing that stands out to Price, Thomas and Rodriguez.

“He doesn’t lose his cool when he has to make tough throws,” Rodriguez said. “If you know Trevor, you know that he doesn’t lose his cool because he has a very calm demeanor in the game. When he has to make a tough throw or tough decisions he doesn’t buy an eye. That is what separates him from the rest.”

Senior quarterback James Thomas II came in to UTEP with Vittatoe in the same recruiting class, which has helped them learn from one another. While serving as a back-up and a target when he has been a receiver, Thomas has learned a lot from Vittatoe.

“We came in together so we both grew up together in this offense,” Thomas said. “He’s had more experience, but we just kind of learn from each other. I noticed how he wants to be perfect all the time in everything he does and that is something I took from him.”

Everyone attributes Vittatoe’s success to his calm character under pressure. That is one thing that stands out to Price, Thomas and Rodriguez.

“He doesn’t lose his cool when he has to make tough throws,” Rodriguez said. “If you know Trevor, you know that he doesn’t lose his cool because he has a very calm demeanor in the game. When he has to make a tough throw or tough decisions he doesn’t buy an eye. That is what separates him from the rest.”

Everyone attributes Vittatoe’s success to his calm character under pressure. That is one thing that stands out to Price, Thomas and Rodriguez.

“He doesn’t lose his cool when he has to make tough throws,” Rodriguez said. “If you know Trevor, you know that he doesn’t lose his cool because he has a very calm demeanor in the game. When he has to make a tough throw or tough decisions he doesn’t buy an eye. That is what separates him from the rest.”

Everyone attributes Vittatoe’s success to his calm character under pressure. That is one thing that stands out to Price, Thomas and Rodriguez.

“He doesn’t lose his cool when he has to make tough throws,” Rodriguez said. “If you know Trevor, you know that he doesn’t lose his cool because he has a very calm demeanor in the game. When he has to make a tough throw or tough decisions he doesn’t buy an eye. That is what separates him from the rest.”

Everyone attributes Vittatoe’s success to his calm character under pressure. That is one thing that stands out to Price, Thomas and Rodriguez.

“He doesn’t lose his cool when he has to make tough throws,” Rodriguez said. “If you know Trevor, you know that he doesn’t lose his cool because he has a very calm demeanor in the game. When he has to make a tough throw or tough decisions he doesn’t buy an eye. That is what separates him from the rest.”

Everyone attributes Vittatoe’s success to his calm character under pressure. That is one thing that stands out to Price, Thomas and Rodriguez.

“He doesn’t lose his cool when he has to make tough throws,” Rodriguez said. “If you know Trevor, you know that he doesn’t lose his cool because he has a very calm demeanor in the game. When he has to make a tough throw or tough decisions he doesn’t buy an eye. That is what separates him from the rest.”
Miners bowl-bound after Houston loss

BY ALEX MORALES

The UTEP Miners are going bowling after getting help from in-state rival Texas Tech when they defeated the University of Houston 35-20 on Nov. 27. The Miners controlled their own destiny at the end of the season, but faltering down the stretch losing five of their last six games hurt their chances. If Houston beat Texas Tech, the Miners likely would have been the odd man out and not playing in a bowl game.

UTEP will now play the waiting game until they find out which bowl calls. The Miners have a chance to play in four bowl games.

The first bowl they could be invited to is the New Mexico Bowl in Albuquerque Dec. 18. This would be a very appealing bowl for the Miners as the proximity will be able to attract a lot of Miners fans. Plus, bowls are looking for teams to fill this game.

This game could be against Fresno State, which is a Western Athletic Conference opponent that the Miners are very familiar with. The last time these two teams faced each other was in 2004 when the Miners went into Fresno and won 24-21.

The next possible choice for the Miners is the Bella Carriers Bowl in New Orleans. This game also takes place on Dec. 18. If invited to play, the Miners opponent would be Florida International University. The Golden Panthers (6-5, 6-1 Sun Belt) won the Sun Belt Conference.

FIU have never played against each other in football.

The next possibility for the Miners could be a trip to the Aloha State. The Aloha Bowl is an annual bowl game in Honolulu to benefit the University of Hawaii. The Warriors and Miners have the same identical record over- last two by more than 15 points.

The last time Hawaii and UTEP met was in 2004 when the Miners handed the Warriors a 51-20 loss at the Sun Bowl.

The last bowl game the Miners could get an invite to is the Bell Helicopters Armed Forces Bowl Dec. 30 in Hurst, Texas. The game would put the Miners against a team from the Mountain West Conference. The opponent coming out of the Mountain West could be BYU.

This matchup is possibly the best matchup for the Miners, which will refuel the old rivalry from the Borderland Conference in the 1990s. A lot of alumni from UTEP also live in the Fort Worth/Dallas area which will draw fans for the game.

The Cougars (6-6, 5-3 MW) have the same identical record overall, but possess a better conference record than the Miners. This could be a back and forth affair that could draw a lot of attention to this bowl game.

The Miners will be assured of a spot no matter what, and with bowl games being rare in this football season and owning seven career weekly honors. Kimaiyo is the only female runner from UTEP to win C-USA’s top cross-country award. Rotich concluded the 2010 season earning the second USTFCCCA All-Mountain Region honor of his career. The sophomore also won his first Conference USA individual title with a personal-best time of 23:30, earning All-C-USA, first team. He was the top finisher for the Miners in four of seven races this season. The Kenya native has earned a pair of C-USA Athlete of the Week awards. Rotich is the second UTEP runner in C-USA’s top cross-country award. The Miners have won four of the six annual honors since joining the league in 2005.

DREAMS from page B9

To coach Murphy, the loss of these two girls is more than just losing pieces to next year’s team. To him, it’s a loss that will hurt the team because of how close they are. “To us it’s more about a loss of teammates to be honest,” Murphy said. “We are not thinking too much about personnel and all that kind of stuff. It’s more we are close with them. They are good kids, they work hard and we are going to miss having them in our practice.”

Before both girls leave the team and their teammates for good, they are going to try and leave this young team with pointers for their senior year. Nolasco left her team mates with this piece of advice. “I am just going to tell them to have fun,” Nolasco said. “They should have fun, play their heart out every single game because it goes by quick. You never know when it’s going to be over.”
SHOTGUN LADIES...

A NEW BAR
*WITH A*
DIFFERENT NAME
AND A WHOLE LOT OF FUN!

You might have heard about a new bar on Mesa Street called Shotgun Ladies. Several ideas about what this bar is like have probably crossed your mind. On the contrary, Shotgun Ladies Rock ‘N’ Roll Saloon is a fun, Texas-style cantina that recently opened near the UTEP campus at 4130 N. Mesa.

The concept for this bar comes from its counterpart in Scottsdale, Arizona, called Shotgun Betty’s Rock & Roll Saloon. El Paso’s Shotgun Ladies is a place where customers have the liberty of getting up to dance at the bar with their friends or with the staff to the beat of rock and roll or their choice of music from their popular jukebox. You can also enjoy delicious food from their kitchen, which opens from 11 a.m. and closes at 2 a.m. Delicious appetizers and juicy hamburgers are on the menu, but their specialty is their wings. With six different styles of wings to choose from, including sweet and sour and lemon pepper, you will surely find something tasty to satisfy your hunger. Nothing goes better with wings than a nice cold brew.

Shotgun Ladies offers you daily, all-day specials like a five-beer bucket of 12 oz. domestics for only $10 or a five-beer bucket of 16 oz. Bud Light or Budweiser for the same price. If you feel like having a specific drink, you can take advantage of their $3.75 you-call-it specials that include your favorite vodkas, rums, tequilas or whiskeys. If you are feeling adventurous, then try the “White Mexican,” which is the house shot made with Rumpelmünz (peppermint schnapps) and white tequila. It comes highly recommended by the staff.

What distinguishes Shotgun Ladies from all the other bars in El Paso is their pick-up service. This service is offered in the area from downtown to Mesa and I-10. If you have a group of four or more people, a van can pick you up and take you back home. This service is offered from 7 p.m. until closing time and is available every hour. If you call in advance, you can even get this service during lunchtime.

Shotgun Ladies also serves as hosts for any events or fundraisers – especially for UTEP clubs or organizations. Their manager is available from Monday through Saturday from 4:30 p.m. until closing time. Major credit cards are accepted and an ATM is available inside.

Shotgun Ladies invites you to try them out – they stress that they are simply about having fun and cutting loose. Experience Shotgun Ladies for yourself – you won’t be disappointed.

Gane hasta $100 por semana. Para más información, llámenos.