Technology

Research possibilities endless with SPECtacular facility

BY ERIN COULEHAN
The Prospector

Imagine making a trip to your local automotive dealership, walking into the front office, consulting a sales representative and designing the car of your dreams. After a few short minutes, you press print and within hours, drive off the lot in the car you designed. Sounds like an episode of the “Jetsons,” but with technological innovations in the field of additive manufacturing, UTEP will soon be able to develop products capable of such advanced fabrication technologies.

The Structural and Printed Emerging Technologies (SPEC) Center in the College of Engineering is currently in development due to a $9 million grant. Governor Rick Perry recently announced that the state will invest $3 million through the Texas Emerging Technology Fund. In addition to the $3 million that industry partner Lockheed Martin Aeronautics will contribute, the University of Texas at El Paso will contribute $500,000, the state will invest $3 million through the Texas Emerging Technology Fund. In addition to the $3 million that industry partner Lockheed Martin Aeronautics will contribute, the University of Texas at El Paso will contribute $500,000, the state will invest $3 million through the Texas Emerging Technology Fund. In addition to the $3 million that industry partner Lockheed Martin Aeronautics will contribute, the University of Texas at El Paso will contribute $500,000, the state will invest $3 million through the Texas Emerging Technology Fund. In addition to the $3 million that industry partner Lockheed Martin Aeronautics will contribute, the University of Texas at El Paso will contribute $500,000, the state will invest $3 million through the Texas Emerging Technology Fund. In addition to the $3 million that industry partner Lockheed Martin Aeronautics will contribute, the University of Texas at El Paso will contribute $500,000, the state will invest $3 million through the Texas Emerging Technology Fund. In addition to the $3 million that industry partner Lockheed Martin Aeronautics will contribute, the University of Texas at El Paso will contribute $500,000, the state will invest $3 million through the Texas Emerging Technology Fund. In addition to the $3 million that industry partner Lockheed Martin Aeronautics will contribute, the University of Texas at El Paso will contribute $500,000, the state will invest $3 million through the Texas Emerging Technology Fund. In addition to the $3 million that industry partner Lockheed Martin Aeronautics will contribute, the University of Texas at El Paso will contribute $500,000, the state will invest $3 million through the Texas Emerging Technology Fund. In addition to the $3 million that industry partner Lockheed Martin Aeronautics will contribute, the University of Texas at El Paso will contribute $500,000, the state will invest $3 million through the Texas Emerging Technology Fund. In addition to the $3 million that industry partner Lockheed Martin Aeronautics will contribute, the University of Texas at El Paso will contribute $500,000, the state will invest $3 million through the Texas Emerging Technology Fund. In addition to the $3 million that industry partner Lockheed Martin Aeronautics will contribute, the University of Texas at El Paso will contribute $500,000, the state will invest $3 million through the Texas Emerging Technology Fund. In addition to the $3 million that industry partner Lockheed Martin Aeronautics will contribute, the University of Texas at El Paso will contribute $500,000, the state will invest $3 million through the Texas Emerging Technology Fund. In addition to the $3 million that industry partner Lockheed Martin Aeronautics will contribute, the University of Texas at El Paso will contribute $500,000, the state will invest $3 million through the Texas Emerging Technology Fund. In addition to the $3 million that industry partner Lockheed Martin Aeronautics will contribute, the University of Texas at El Paso will contribute $500,000, the state will invest $3 million through the Texas Emerging Technology Fund. In addition to the $3 million that industry partner Lockheed Martin Aeronautics will contribute, the University of Texas at El Paso will contribute $500,000, the state will invest $3 million through the Texas Emerging Technology Fund. In addition to the $3 million that industry partner Lockheed Martin Aeronautics will contribute, the University of Texas at El Paso will contribute $500,000, the state will invest $3 million through the Texas Emerging Technology Fund. In addition to the $3 million that industry partner Lockheed Martin Aeronautics will contribute, the University of Texas at El Paso will contribute $500,000, the state will invest $3 million through the Texas Emerging Technology Fund. In addition to the $3 million that industry partner Lockheed Martin Aeronautics will contribute, the University of Texas at El Paso will contribute $500,000, the state will invest $3 million through the Texas Emerging Technology Fund. In addition to the $3 million that industry partner Lockheed Martin Aeronautics will contribute, the University of Texas at El Paso will contribute $500,000, the state will invest $3 million through the Texas Emerging Technology Fund. In addition to the $3 million that industry partner Lockheed Martin Aeronautics will contribute, the University of Texas at El Paso will contribute $500,000, the state will invest $3 million through the Texas Emerging Technology Fund. In addition to the $3 million that industry partner Lockheed Martin Aeronautics will contribute, the University of Texas at El Paso will contribute $500,000, the state will invest $3 million through the Texas Emerging Technology Fund. In addition to the $3 million that industry partner Lockheed Martin Aeronautics will contribute, the University of Texas at El Paso will contribute $500,000, the state will invest $3 million through the Texas Emerging Technology Fund. In addition to the $3 million that industry partner Lockheed Martin Aeronautics will contribute, the University of Texas at El Paso will contribute $500,000, the state will invest $3 million through the Texas Emerging Technology Fund. In addition to the $3 million that industry partner Lockheed Martin Aeronautics will contribute, the University of Texas at El Paso will contribute $500,000, the state will invest $3 million through the Texas Emerging Technology Fund. In addition to the $3 million that industry partner Lockheed Martin Aeronautics will contribute, the University of Texas at El Paso will contribute $500,000, the state will invest $3 million through the Texas Emerging Technology Fund. In addition to the $3 million that industry partner Lockheed Martin Aeronautics will contribute, the University of Texas at El Paso will contribute $500,000, the state will invest $3 million through the Texas Emerging Technology Fund. In addition to the $3 million that industry partner Lockheed Martin Aeronautics will contribute, the University of Texas at El Paso will contribute $500,000, the state will invest $3 million through the Texas Emerging Technology Fund. In addition to the $3 million that industry partner Lockheed Martin Aeronautics will contribute, the University of Texas at El Paso will contribute $500,000, the state will invest $3 million through the Texas Emerging Technology Fund. In addition to the $3 million that industry partner Lockheed Martin Aeronautics will contribute, the University of Texas at El Paso will contribute $500,000, the state will invest $3 million through the Texas Emerging Technology Fund. In addition to the $3 million that industry partner Lockheed Martin Aeronautics will contribute, the University of Texas at El Paso will contribute $500,000, the state will invest $3 million through the Texas Emerging Technology Fund. In addition to the $3 million that industry partner Lockheed Martin Aeronautics will contribute, the University of Texas at El Paso will contribute $500,000, the state will invest $3 million through the Texas Emerging Technology Fund. In addition to the $3 million that industry partner Lockheed Martin Aeronautics will contribute, the University of Texas at El Paso will contribute $500,000, the state will invest $3 million through the Texas Emerging Technology Fund. In addition to the $3 million that industry partner Lockheed Martin Aeronautics will contribute, the University of Texas at El Paso will contribute $500,000, the state will invest $3 million through the Texas Emerging Technology Fund. In addition to the $3 million that industry partner Lockheed Martin Aeronautics will contribute, the University of Texas at El Paso will contribute $500,000, the state will invest $3 million through the Texas Emerging Technology Fund. In addition to the $3 million that industry partner Lockheed Martin Aeronautics will contribute, the University of Texas at El Paso will contribute $500,000, the state will invest $3 million through the Texas Emerging Technology Fund. In addition to the $3 million that industry partner Lockheed Martin Aeronautics will contribute, the University of Texas at El Paso will contribute $500,000, the state will invest $3 million through the Texas Emerging Technology Fund. In addition to the $3 million that industry partner Lockheed Martin Aeronautics will contribute, the University of Texas at El Paso will contribute $500,000, the state will invest $3 million through the Texas Emerging Technology Fund. In addition to the $3 million that industry partner Lockheed Martin Aeronautics will contribute, the University of Texas at El Paso will contribute $500,000, the state will invest $3 million through the Texas Emerging Technology Fund. In addition to the $3 million that industry partner Lockheed Martin Aeronautics will contribute, the University of Texas at El Paso will contribute $500,000, the state will invest $3 million through the Texas Emerging Technology Fund. In addition to the $3 million that industry partner Lockheed Martin Aeronautics will contribut
Warning: driving can cause immediate death and horrible injuries

BY MATTHEW MUNDEN

The Prospector

So I have this friend who is terrified of being in airplanes. The tiniest amount of turbulence causes him to freak out, hyperventilate and pray frantically. I don’t have that problem in airplanes, but I do in automobiles.

I have the fear that I will die in a car accident… actually it is not just a fear. It is basically the knowledge of foreseeing, knowing that because of someone rushing to a class date, a drunk driver, or someone that refuses to check their blind spot, I will be in a terrible accident.

Possibly, this irrational fear comes from the nightly news running stories of teenagers dying in collisions or possibly it comes from the whole thing that I do not feel like I’m in control of my future while I’m in my car. In a plane, I paid a couple hundred dollars to ride in it. The choice to be in it was my own. I had other choices when I was deciding to get to where I was going, but I chose to travel in an airplane. So if it crashes, well, I guess I can blame myself for my demise.

Sure, to get to school, I have mass transportation options to get to where I need to go. But, I don’t know if you happen to ride buses in El Paso, but they suck. Always crowded, sort of smelly, being assaulted by a rude woman looking for an empty Wal-Mart bag, I ride on the bus for my first year here and it was not an experience I want to have again. More power to those brave students that do. Plus, the bus schedule is erratic and my schedule is one that variables cannot be part of.

So I guess I might be trying to shirk the blame for my car-related downfall. I may have other choices to be safer, but possibly the worst part of driving is the fact that I could not be at all to blame for it. If someone crashes into me when I was following the rules, going the speed limit, buckled up, hands at ten and two, and I am terminated, that is, well, to avoid cursing, I’ll just say it really sucks.

As I am saying this, I’m fully aware of the ironic nature of this editorial. I could be in a crash after I get the okay on this editorial. Possibly the day after… maybe next month or year, or etc. Maybe someone reading this will be the other driver. I don’t know. That lack of knowledge on what is going to happen terrifies me.

In a way, I feel like Obi-Wan Kenobi in “Star Wars Episode II: Attack of the Clones.” You know, part of the prequels that everyone loves to hate, even though they are not that bad (okay, I’ll give you “Phantom Menace,” but that had an awesome lightsaber battle). In that movie, after Anakin drove his speeder chasing an assassin through Coruscant, Obi-Wan turns to Anakin and says, “You’re going to be the death of me.” Ironic, right? If only Obi-Wan knew how right he was.

Wetalk Words can be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

POLL RESULTS

Are you upset over the university’s decision to remove the Cesar Chavez holiday?

56% no

44% yes

SPEAK YOUR MIND

Submit a letter to the editor! Letters will be edited for clarity and brevity. Letters over 250 words are subject to editing to fit available space. Please include full name, street address and telephone number and e-mail address, plus major, classification and/or title if applicable.

Address and phone number will be used for verification only.

Write to 105 E. Union, e-mail prospector@utep.edu, call 747-7477 or fax to 747-8031.

The Prospector (USPS 448-020) is published by the Student Publications Board, 105 E. Union, 500 W. University Ave., El Paso, TX 79968. During Fall & Spring semester, The Prospector is published twice weekly on Tuesday and Thursday, except holidays and when classes are not in session, once a week on Wednesday during the summer session. Subscription rates: $20 per year, $4 taken from fees to pay for student copies. Periodicals postage paid at El Paso, TX. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Prospector, 105 E. Union, El Paso, Texas 79968-0622. The Prospector is not responsible for claims made by advertisers. Additional policy information can be obtained by calling The Prospector at 747-7141. Opinions expressed in The Prospector are not necessarily those of the university.
AMBER Alert teams with Facebook to help find missing children

BY DAVID ACOSTA

WASHINGTON - The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children is expanding its AMBER Alert program to Facebook. Beginning Wednesday, Facebook’s 500 million users are able to sign up to receive AMBER Alert bulletins in the website’s news feed feature.

The program’s expansion was announced at a press conference held by the center, Facebook and the U.S. Department of Justice, a day before the 15th anniversary of the abduction and murder of 9-year-old Amber Hagerman.

Chris Sonderby, Facebook’s lead security and investigation counsel, said people in every state can receive AMBER Alerts the moment they are issued and can send them to others in their networks.

“I think that is a dramatic enhancement of the distribution system that will increase the scope and reach of these lifesaving alerts,” Sonderby said.

The center and Facebook have created 53 new AMBER Alert pages, one for each state, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and U.S. Virgin Islands. A national AMBER Alert page will provide national news about the program and direct people to their state’s AMBER Alert page.

Many state law enforcement agencies already share AMBER Alert information on their Facebook pages.

Officials hope the new system will spread information more rapidly and lead to more children being returned safely.

“Average people doing average things but paying attention are saving lives and reuniting families,” Ernie Allen, the center’s president, said.

“We hope people will support it,” Sonderby said.

“With more than 500 million Facebook users, this bold initiative will help us mobilize many more people and bring more missing children home.”

The first AMBER system was created in the Dallas-Fort Worth area as a response to Amber Hagerman’s abduction. In 2003, Congress passed the PROTECT Act, which created the national AMBER system coordinated by the Department of Justice.

AMBER Alerts are primarily issued by the Department of Justice’s Office of Justice Programs to law enforcement agencies when a child is abducted. The program is designed to spread information more rapidly and bring more missing children home. "Anything can be electronically functional, and by mixing materials on a micron scale, it will be possible to transform structural products such as an iPhone into a pair of sunglasses, or a microsatellite, half the size of a standard refrigerator, reduced to the size of a grapefruit – and still be fully functional," Church said.

SPEC researchers hope that by manipulating how electronics are designed and built, they will be able to transform products from traditional 2-D circuit boards to complicated 3-D structures that maximize the intended function of the product.

“Anything can be electronically functional by mixing materials on a micron scale," Church said.

“I think that is a dramatic enhancement of the distribution system that will increase the scope and reach of these lifesaving alerts," Sonderby said.

The center and Facebook have created 53 new AMBER Alert pages, one for each state, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and U.S. Virgin Islands. A national AMBER Alert page will provide national news about the program and direct people to their state’s AMBER Alert page.

Many state law enforcement agencies already share AMBER Alert information on their Facebook pages. Officials hope the new system will spread information more rapidly and lead to more children being returned safely.

“Average people doing average things but paying attention are saving lives and reuniting families,” Ernie Allen, the center’s president, said.

“We hope people will support it,” Sonderby said.

“With more than 500 million Facebook users, this bold initiative will help us mobilize many more people and bring more missing children home.”

The first AMBER system was created in the Dallas-Fort Worth area as a response to Amber Hagerman’s abduction. In 2003, Congress passed the PROTECT Act, which created the national AMBER system coordinated by the Department of Justice.

AMBER Alerts are primarily issued by the Department of Justice’s Office of Justice Programs to law enforcement agencies when a child is abducted. The program is designed to spread information more rapidly and bring more missing children home.

The next generation of technological opportunity exists with students who are driven off of a Windows-based skill set," said Church, who is also a mechanical engineering professor.

“Anything can be electronically functional, and by mixing materials on a micron scale, it will be possible to transform structural products such as an iPhone into a pair of sunglasses, or a microsatellite, half the size of a standard refrigerator, reduced to the size of a grapefruit – and still be fully functional," Church said.

SPEC researchers hope that by manipulating how electronics are designed and built, they will be able to transform products from traditional 2-D circuit boards to complicated 3-D structures that maximize the intended function of the product.

“Anything can be electronically functional by mixing materials on a micron scale," Church said.
Two crew members work on the skeletal structure of the new pedestrian overpass that will connect parking lot S-3 on Sun Bowl Drive, to the College of Health Sciences and Nursing building and the University Library.

Call and you could save. Class dismissed.

- Convenient local office
- Money-saving discounts
- Low down payments
- Low monthly payment plans
- 24-hour service and claims
- Coverage available by phone

6560 Montana Ave., Suite 6 E. El Paso 915-779-2499

GET 10% OFF WHEN YOU USE MINER GOLD CARD

Jose E. Troche
Lecturer in Law
UTEF Attorney at Law

Former Judge
409th District Court
168th District Court

1216 Montana Ave
El Paso, TX 79902
josejudejudge@yahoo.com
tel: (915) 438-8114
fax: (915) 542-2341
cell: (915) 241-9610

Former Judge
409th District Court
168th District Court

1216 Montana Ave
El Paso, TX 79902
josejudejudge@yahoo.com
tel: (915) 438-8114
fax: (915) 542-2341
cell: (915) 241-9610

CONSTRUCTION from page 1

"Wow! was the first thing our recreational sports specialists said when they did a walk-through (of the new fitness center)," said Hector Muñoz, director of Recreational Sports. "You get this big impact on how huge it is. It's amazing."

Muñoz said the walls and some room dividers are in place, but the doors and windows are pending completion.

There was a two-month construction delay due to rock excavation. Muñoz said the new facility was originally slated to open in December.

"There were unforeseen conditions in chips away at the rock, which proved to be hard and difficult," McNicol said.

McNicol added that this delay did not create extra cost.

Once the new facility, which will have a rock-climbing wall and indoor running track, is ready for use, its neighboring swimming facility will be closed for renovation as the pools will be re-plastered and the locker rooms will undergo major upgrades.

Muñoz said that the renovation of the old fitness center is scheduled to finish around the beginning of the fall semester. During this time, swimmers will not be able to use the facility's pools.

Starting this semester, students will see a $10 hike in their recreation fee to $70 because of the swimming and fitness center expansion.

Diverse McCarthy, junior criminal justice major, said that she has been waiting for the new fitness center to open this semester.

"My friend and I are planning to work out together. That would kind of suck if the center doesn't open this semester, because I might get deployed after spring," McCarthy said. "Seventy dollars is a lot of money, but I know it will benefit students in the long run."

Alejandro Prado, sophomore finance major, said that he doesn't have a problem with the price increase.

"I don't think $70 is that much," Prado said. "You can pay $10 per month at Planet Fitness, but it's crowded and it doesn't have the same quality. But we'll have cutting-edge equipment, so I think it's worth it. Maybe those who don't use the facilities will be happy with the price increase."

On the west side of campus, it's possible that the pedestrian bridge project will open before the new fitness center. University officials hope the bridge will help students save time as they walk across the campus since the bridge will connect parking lot S-3 on Sun Bowl Drive, to the College of Health Sciences and Nursing building and the University Library. McNicol said the construction is on schedule to be finished at the beginning of April.

The two major construction projects involving classroom settings are on schedule for completion—the Colleges of Health Sciences and Nursing and the Chemistry and Computer Science buildings.

McNicol said they will soon be loading furniture and equipment into the health sciences building and that faculty and staff can expect to move in between the spring and summer sessions. Classes are planned to be held in the facility for the first summer session.

After the scheduled November 2011 completion date for the Chemistry and Computer Science building, faculty and equipment will be brought in, and classes may start next spring, McNicol said.

Regarding UTEP’s upcoming multi-tiered parking garage on Schuster Avenue, students can plan to park there a year from now. Since November, the area has been closed off. Paul Stresow, director of Parking and Transportation Services, said there was a one-month delay in starting the project because of electrical issues.

"We had contractual issues with the El Paso Electric Company, which owns part of the parking lot," Stresow said.

Another project that’s due to be finished in a year is the I-10 Schuster Project, otherwise known as the New Access Road. It’s designed to be parallel to the I-10 freeway, going west-bound and allowing access to UTEP and the freeway easier.

Deputy District Engineer of TX-DoT Raimundo Doralina said this project, which started earlier this month, should be finished within 12 to 14 months.

The goal behind this project is to reduce traffic congestion, especially at the Schuster freeway exit, McNicol said.

"I've been here for 10 years and these last 10 years are the biggest growth spurs this campus has seen," McNicol said. "These are exciting times at UTEP. We're busily trying to move this campus toward a tier-one university, doing everything we can and lots of improvements have been made."

McNicol said that depending on governmental assistance, a new research building may be the next major project.

Guillermo Vargas, mechanical engineering junior, said he approved of the construction in spite of the inconveniences.

"I could see that the university is putting money to good use and for the benefit of students. I applaud the expansion, and I'm especially looking forward to the indoor running track of the fitness center," Vargas said.

Anoushka Valodya may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.
UTEP, Texas Tech commit to collaboration

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center President Tedd L. Mitchell (left), UTEP President Diana Natalicio (middle), and University of Texas System Chancellor Francisco G. Cigarroa (right), sign the UTEP-Texas Tech Collaboration Agreement Jan. 11 at the Geological Sciences Building.

BY CELIA AGUILAR
The Prospector

Texas Tech University Health Sciences and UTEP took a leap forward in providing a better quality of life for the border region by joining forces in health science education.

"Today's affirmation of our shared commitment to biomedical and health sciences education, research, and community service establishes a set of principles and prophecies that will guide our efforts," UTEP President Diana Natalicio said.

Natalicio, TTUHSC President Tedd L. Mitchell, UT System Chancellor Francisco G. Cigarroa, Texas Tech University System Chancellor Kent Hance and UT System Board of Regents Vice Chairman Paul L. Foster were all present Jan. 11 at the signing of the agreement.

The contract included the promise to maximize resources and optimize efficiency in reaching shared goals by working together to serve the needs of the El Paso community. It incorporated the guarantee to meet regularly, share strategies, explore opportunities for collaborations and pursue resolutions to barriers.

"It's going to open up many new opportunities for students to engage in research that goes from the bench to the bedside, so we can translate lab research into clinical studies," Natalicio said. "There is a huge demand for health professionals and we ought to meet that by working together."

While competition between institutions can easily become an issue, this agreement was a pledge to quell any disagreements and to work in unison to create opportunities for the El Paso area, Mitchell said.

"We're not adversaries and in the areas where we can work together, we need to," Mitchell said.

This is not the first agreement UTEP and Texas Tech have signed. In 1998, both institutions agreed to collaborate on building a joint medical-health research institute in El Paso known as the Border Health Institute.

Officials from Texas Tech felt that UTEP reneged on the agreement, which spurred the adoption of several resolutions in 2000 by the county of El Paso, the city of El Paso, EPCC, EPISO, LULAC and several other organizations. The resolutions demanded the signed commitment of the UT system Board of Regents and the respective chancellors to move forward with the venture.

Since then, progress has been made to solidify a working relationship between the two institutions and steps have been taken to realize the Border Health Institute. According to Natalicio, this lastest agreement was unrelated to the Border Health Institute.

"The agreement signed last week recognizes the major changes that have occurred at UTEP and Texas Tech University Health Sciences over the past several years, which have enabled academic program and research collaborations that would not have been at all possible in 1998," Natalicio said. "Our relationship has been very positive but not many people in the community seem to know or understand it."

Amber Coltrane, occupational therapy graduate student, feels that this agreement will be good for the university, but wishes UTEP would get the students more involved when it comes to agreements that will affect students. Coltrane also said that she wished UTEP would expand their view on health care to go beyond just border issues.

"I don't know much about it. I would like to see UTEP getting students more involved because we know nothing about it (the agreement)," Coltrane said. "UTEP public health deals a lot with border land issues, but not other issues. I would like to see an athletic training program. Since UTEP doesn't have it, you have to go to NMSU."

"I don't know much about it. I would like to see UTEP getting students more involved because we know nothing about it (the agreement)." Coltrane said. "UTEP public health deals a lot with border land issues, but not other issues. I would like to see an athletic training program. Since UTEP doesn't have it, you have to go to NMSU."

Celia Aguilar may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

"I don't know much about it. I would like to see UTEP getting students more involved because we know nothing about it (the agreement)." Coltrane said. "UTEP public health deals a lot with border land issues, but not other issues. I would like to see an athletic training program. Since UTEP doesn't have it, you have to go to NMSU."

DIANA AMARO / The Prospector

"I don't know much about it. I would like to see UTEP getting students more involved because we know nothing about it (the agreement)." Coltrane said. "UTEP public health deals a lot with border land issues, but not other issues. I would like to see an athletic training program. Since UTEP doesn't have it, you have to go to NMSU."

DIANA AMARO / The Prospector

"I don't know much about it. I would like to see UTEP getting students more involved because we know nothing about it (the agreement)." Coltrane said. "UTEP public health deals a lot with border land issues, but not other issues. I would like to see an athletic training program. Since UTEP doesn't have it, you have to go to NMSU."

DIANA AMARO / The Prospector

"I don't know much about it. I would like to see UTEP getting students more involved because we know nothing about it (the agreement)." Coltrane said. "UTEP public health deals a lot with border land issues, but not other issues. I would like to see an athletic training program. Since UTEP doesn't have it, you have to go to NMSU."

Celia Aguilar may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.
How has the construction around UTEP affected your commute?

ALEX GONZALEZ
senior mechanical engineering major
“It has little effect on me, I know how to get around campus in different ways so if one place is blocked then I know another way around.”

JORGE VELAZQUEZ
senior mechanical engineering major
“It has affected me by taking away my parking spot due to construction over S-2 parking lot.”

MARIA CANDELARIO
sophomore business major
“The construction is uncomfortable; I have to go around the Biology building.”

GUY DERAGISCH
freshman pre-engineering major
“Honestly I get here so early it doesn’t affect me, but getting out of here is a pain.”

BENJAMIN MORALES
sophomore criminal justice major
“The construction on campus hasn’t really affected me just the construction on Schuster exiting the freeway.”

YETTE M. GARCIA
junior microbiology major
“Some of the construction here at school has affected my routes and shortcuts, but overall I cannot wait till I graduate and in few years see the school finished.”

ISABEL TOVAR
sophomore american literature major
“It doesn’t really bother me, commuting around campus isn’t so bad.”

EDGAR ORTIZ
sophomore psychology major
“It really hasn’t affected me, going to the gym is a hassle though.”

Question of the week

ALERT from page 3
and wireless phone services to issue the bulletins.

“A major factor in this success has always been the use of secondary distribution networks,” said Laurie Robinson, assistant attorney general for the Office of Justice Programs and the National AMBER Alert coordinator.

From wireless providers to trucking companies, AMBER Alert really depends on partnerships with public and private entities to get the word out when a child goes missing.”

David Acosta, UTEP print media major, is an intern at the Scripps Howard Foundation’s Semester in Washington program. He may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.
Comedians, class clowns and joke-tellers can find an eager audience and open mic competitions hosted by The Sun City Comedy Club every third Wednesday of the month at Mavericks Bar & Grill. Local comedians as well as audience members each get their golden opportunity for fame during these open mic contests. Monetary prizes ranging from $50 to $100 are awarded to the funniest jokes.

“It’s open to whoever is interested and is great for building public speaking skills,” said Jose Saad, business and main marketing manager of the Sun City Comedy Club. “It definitely lets people ease up in front of crowds.”

Different comedians travel with the company to keep the line up fresh every month, making it difficult for audience members to hear the same joke twice.

The Sun City Comedy Club travels and performs in various venues around El Paso, as well as to other cities like Las Cruces, Deming and Brownwood. The Sun City Comedy Club has been in business for nearly two years and its managers are eager to get more and more people participating in events like open mic night.

BY AUDREY RUSSELL

Comedians take part in Sun City Comedy Club’s open mic improv every third Wednesday of the month at Mavericks Bar & Grill.
COMEDY FROM PAGE 7

"Open mic nights are always pretty interesting," Saad said. "I would definitely recommend that the college-goers check it out. There are tons of prizes."

Selected scouts pick their favorite sets of the night and award anything from tickets to see other comedians in El Paso to gift cards and door prizes.

According to Jesus Navarette, junior biology major, the comedy club is a good hangout for college students and it’s a way to relieve a long week of homework and tests.

"Experiencing a comedian live is like seeing a band. You get to see them live and in action. Being an audience for a comedian is a very engaging experience, because some of the acts draw from the crowd," Navarette said. "Sitting in the front row is truly an awesome experience. It’s like begging the comedian to point you out." If you want the most out a comedian act the front row is the prime choice. It’s always a good idea to come prepared to laugh at yourself as well as with others. Whether you come prepared for a few minutes of glory or not, the comedy club can lift some weight off your shoulders.

"Going to a comedy act is an interesting experience, one of my favorites for sure," Navarette said. The comedy club doesn’t only hold open mic nights, but hosts a variety of entertaining performances.

"Once I saw a hypnotist some years ago. A friend of mine ended up running around the club in a push up bra," said Maegan Ramirez, senior political science major. "Oh yeah, I’d go again, especially if they still let UTEP students in for free on Wednesdays."

More information on open mic nights or other events that the Sun City Comedy Club offers can be found at www.suncitycomedy.com.

Audrey Russell can be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

RELEASES FROM PAGE 7

"Secretariat"
DVD/Blu-Ray
MSRP: $39.99
Based on a true story, this Disney film loosely-based on real life events is sure to touch many hearts when the life of a champion horse and a 1930s housewife cross paths. A great family film to watch on a Saturday night.

"The Girl Who Kicked the Hornet’s Nest"
DVD/Blu-Ray
MSRP: $34.95
Raking in $5.1 million in the box office, it is the last installment in the successful "Millennium" trilogy. Lisbeth Salander (Noomi Rapace) continues to be an awesome character. Too bad the movie is not quite as awesome.

"Dead Space 2"
Xbox 360/PS3
MSRP: $59.99
Isaac Clarke is back again and ready to face the Necromorphs with a new cache of tools. This psychologically thrilling game will leave gamers on the edge of their seats, not knowing what is to come next in "The Sprawl."

Jazmin Salinas can be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

COMEDY from page 7
Miners down Houston, on to the Green Wave

BY SAL GUERRERO
The Prospector

Miners win a tough test at home against the Tulane Green Wave, a game they lost Jan. 12 on the road 69-58.

"Every road win is big for us...we showed some adversity in Houston. We lived up and showed a lot of character and won the game," Stone said. "(Tulane) is going to come here now and they want to punch us in our mouth. We went to their home and won the game and they're going to come here and play us hard." 

Tulane is coming off a three-game losing streak—a streak the Miners started Jan. 12. Since then the Green Wave have dropped games at East Carolina and at home against the Tulsa Golden Hurricane.

"They're going to pay attention more to their game plan. We really hurt them in the end executing our plays," junior forward Jeremy Williams said. "If (Tulane) comes in here being lackluster on rebounds we'll come away with the win, but if they come here defensive minded they'll probably have a better game."

Last time around the Miners took an early 49-27 lead against the Green Wave with just 15:59 to play in the game. But Tulane, who then posted an 8-0 record at home, came roaring back to within seven points with three minutes left in the contest thanks to a better game. 

"We want to keep getting better," James Rodriguez said. "Since we started the program we've gotten better every year and we want to make sure that this program continues to grow in the right direction."

"I'm looking forward to working with all the pitchers and working together," Carrera said. "There are different teams we play with different stats and different things we look at so depending on the team we play we depend on who starts the game."

"Replacing Stacie will be really hard but my way of thinking is just to go in there and give it my all," Krienitz said. "She's an awesome mentor, coming in last year as a freshman I was really nervous and really didn't know what to expect. The coaches always told me to watch Stacie and to see what she's doing and to understand...so I can see what's coming up next year."

Softball

Pitching key for UTEP this season

BY WILLIAM VEGA
The Prospector

Aft er a season highlighted by 31 wins and led by one of the greatest UTEP softball players ever in Stacie Townsend, the 2011 season has nothing but high expectations and immense pressure before a player has even taken the field.

Co-head coaches James and Kathleen Rodriguez are ready for the challenge but do not have to look far for help. Townsend, two-time all Conference USA pitcher, decided to stick with the team over the offseason taking on the role of graduate assistant.

"It just adds to the continuity of everything we're trying to do here," Kathleen Rodriguez said. "You have one of the best players that's ever worn a UTEP uniform on the coaching staff and that ends up being something really, really big as far as the girls with something to look forward to."

And despite all that rests on the Miners shoulder this year, 2011's goal remains simple.

"We want to keep getting better," James Rodriguez said. "Since we started the program we've gotten better every year and we want to make
the guy that really scares us shooting the basketball.” Floyd said the Green Wave is a much-improved team since the last time the two teams met and the Miners would respect their shooting-game.

“Tulane” out played us in the second half, I don’t think they’ll change much,” Floyd said. “A real key player for them is (Kris) Richard…Christian Polk did a good job on him, but he’s UTEP takes the field for the first time in a home doubleheader against Northern Colorado at 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. Feb. 10. The 2011 version of the Battle of 1-10 still commences Feb. 24 at the Helen of Troy Softball Complex in the UTEP Invitational and again on March 9 in Las Cruces. Conference play begins on March 12 when UTEP takes on Central Florida in Orlando for a three-game series.

Junior forward Gabe McCulley dunks the ball over Rice defenders Jan. 15 at the Haskins Center.

HOUSTON from page 9 to a clutch 3-pointer from guard Jordon Callahan.

“(Tulane) out played us in the second half, I don’t think they’ll change much,” Floyd said. “A real key player for them is (Kris) Richard…Christian Polk did a good job on him, but he’s we.

SAL GUERRERO may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

William Vega may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

UTEP takes the field for the first time in a home doubleheader against Northern Colorado at 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. Feb. 10. The 2011 version of the Battle of 1-10 still commences Feb. 24 at the Helen of Troy Softball Complex in the UTEP Invitational and again on March 9 in Las Cruces. Conference play begins on March 12 when UTEP takes on Central Florida in Orlando for a three-game series.

Junior forward Gabe McCulley dunks the ball over Rice defenders Jan. 15 at the Haskins Center.

HOUSTON from page 9 to a clutch 3-pointer from guard Jordon Callahan.

“(Tulane) out played us in the second half, I don’t think they’ll change much,” Floyd said. “A real key player for them is (Kris) Richard…Christian Polk did a good job on him, but he’s we.

SAL GUERRERO may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

William Vega may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

UTEP takes the field for the first time in a home doubleheader against Northern Colorado at 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. Feb. 10. The 2011 version of the Battle of 1-10 still commences Feb. 24 at the Helen of Troy Softball Complex in the UTEP Invitational and again on March 9 in Las Cruces. Conference play begins on March 12 when UTEP takes on Central Florida in Orlando for a three-game series.

Junior forward Gabe McCulley dunks the ball over Rice defenders Jan. 15 at the Haskins Center.
Basketball

Freshman making her mark on the court

BY WILLIAM VEGA
The Prospector

Following another UTEP practice, freshman forward Kayla Thornton opted to remain on the court well after her team left the Don Haskins Center.

The young Miner utilized the extra-time to work on her jump shot and rebounding even after assistant coach Ewa Laskowska left her side.

Thornton, an Irvin High School graduate, has used that type of determination to lead her team in rebounds, averaging 6.3 a game. The 6-foot El Paso native has the city behind her and uses that pride to her advantage.

“It’s a great honor,” Thornton said. “Most freshmen don’t get to play at their hometown in front of their family and people that are important.”

Thornton has played in all 18 games this season while starting in four, but the transition from high school to college hasn’t been an easy one.

“With all the traveling, my body is not used to all the games,” Thornton said. “In high school you play 20 games and then you’re done. Here, we play 20 and we still have more. My body hasn’t gotten that turn over yet but it’s getting there.”

Despite the physical toll and exhausting schedule, Thornton’s drive has remained sturdy. Thornton’s pre-

see FRESHMAN on page 12

BOB CORRAL / The Prospector
Freshman forward Kayla Thornton passes the ball to a teammate.

Jan. 16 at the Don Haskins Center.

“One of our weaknesses last year was rebounding and she’s done that so that’s really been helping our team.”

- Keitha Adams, head coach

UTEP MEN’S BASKETBALL
SELL OUT THE DON

VS THE TULANE GREEN WAVE
TONIGHT! • 7:05 PM
GET THERE EARLY FOR YOUR CHANCE TO GET FREE MINER BEADS!
DRESS IN YOUR CRAZIEST FAN ATTIRE AND WIN A PRIZE! BEST FAN COSTUME WINS A $50 GAS CARD FROM OUR FRIENDS AT CIRCLE K!

VS CENTRAL FLORIDA
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2ND • 7:05 PM
LATIN MUSIC & ENTERTAINMENT ALL NIGHT!
GET YOUR FREE STUDENT TICKETS AT THE UTEP TICKET CENTER OR THE UTEP TICKET CENTER HUB ON THE FIRST FLOOR OF UNION EAST!
FRESHMAN from page 11

Game ritual focuses around praying, but her motivation resides in a more personal sanctity.

“My parents (motivate me),” Thornton said. “Or, actually myself, I try to motivate myself to get better to reach my goals that I want.”

Thornton’s goals and ambitions may be self-imposed but it’s much more than an El Paso thing when it comes to Thornton’s detection. Junior guard Dietra Caldwell, appreciates all that the freshman has contributed this season.

“She’s our most athletic post player,” Caldwell said. “She’s a pretty tough post player to guard because she’s athletic and most post player’s don’t want to run.”

Head coach Keitha Adams said that she anticipated this from her freshman.

“We had high expectations for both (Thornton) and (Kelli Willingham),” Adams said. “Both are hard workers and it’s been a positive.”

Beyond the recognition that is expected from her coaches and teammates, Thornton made her presence known early. UTEP didn’t have to wait long to face their archrival New Mexico State Aggies and in just the second game of the season, the future of UTEP basketball shined brighter.

Thornton gave her city a reason to cheer about, scoring 10 points in only 17 minutes of action while registering seven rebounds. The Miners lost a close one to the Aggies, 80-75, in overtime.

As a talented high school athlete, Thornton had her choices when it came to college athletics. She ran track for the Rockets, winning district titles in the 100-meter hurdles, long jump, triple jump and finished second in the 100-meter dash.

In basketball, Thornton finished her Irvin career with 1,953 points and 884 rebounds.

“I had a bit more time playing basketball…ever since I was little,” Thornton said. “It was something that came naturally to me.”

Besides UTEP’s offer, no other school took notice of Thornton’s athleticism and her career as a Rocket.

But her play has not gone ignored as a Miner and she showcased that again Jan. 2 when the Miners avenged their loss to NMSU.

This time, in 26 minutes of playing time, Thornton pulled down a career-high 13 rebounds to go along with her six points. Her feisty energy was exactly what the Miners needed in their 74-67 victory this time around.

“We recruited her for that reason,” Adams said. “One of our weaknesses last year was rebounding and she’s done that, so that’s really been helping our team.”

William Vega may be reached at prosepector@utep.edu.