Students join protest in Austin
Thousands voice disapproval of anti-immigration bills

Employment
Career fair rescheduled for March 22

By Celia Aguilar

The winter storm that hit El Paso and caused the subsequent closing of the university in early February has impacted students looking for jobs and the companies that might have employed them.

“We were ready to go ahead with the career fair, but the weather did not cooperate,” said Betsabe Castro, associate director of the University Career Center. “We had a couple of employers who flew to El Paso and returned to their cities without speaking to our students. When the event was cancelled in February, I knew that I had to find another date for our students to speak to employers.”

The University Career Center postponed their Career Connections fair for business and liberal arts majors, and the Career Connections Revisited fair will now take place from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 22 on the third floor of Union Building East.

One of the consequences of this postpone ment is that fewer companies have confirmed a spot for the new fair. However, registration remains open and the UCC is still looking for new employers to participate.

“Not all organizations will be able to attend the new date, but a good number know that UTEP is a target school and they are making plans to attend in March,” Castro said. “Employers understand that we have some very strong candidates. We also have employers not originally scheduled to attend that learned of the new date and are planning to be here.”

Companies such as New York Life Insurance Company, Raytheon, Air Force Nuclear Weapons Center, Verizon and several federal government agencies will be at the fair. Students attending the fair will have the opportunity to interview on the spot. Students are encouraged to dress professionally.

Editor’s note: The reporter wrote about her experience protesting in the state capital and is involved in a student organization that went to Austin. Due to the importance of this issue and its impact on the border, we decided to publish this news column on the front page.

By Celia Aguilar

On Feb. 22, along with several UTEP students and more than 200 borderland residents and 3,000 individuals from across the country, we traveled all the way from Lubbock, El Paso and the Rio Grande Valley to proclaim: “Texas can do better.”

Adriana Cadena, alliance director of the Border Network for Human Rights in El Paso, said that Texas is trying to copycat Arizona’s SB 1070, and some of these bills are moving pretty quickly in the legislature.

“We are particularly worried with sanctuary city bills mandated by the governor (Rick Perry) as emergency bills. The governor said that he’s trying to prevent any city from declaring itself to be a sanctuary place for undocumented immigrants,” Cadena said.

The event, a day of action for immigrant integration and community security, was organized by the Reform Immigration for Texas Alliance to show that Texas can blaze its own path. RITA includes grassroots organizations from Austin, Fort Worth, El Paso, Houston, Hidalgo County, San Antonio and the Rio Grande Valley.

see PROTEST on page 3
Letter to the editor

Maybe I’m just biased

I find it hilarious how amidst all the fear mongering, everyone always forgets to mention that the firearms would HAVE to be concealed, so you wouldn’t know who has one but I guess you could say I’m pretty biased.

Steve Garcia
Junior political science major
Almost 100 UTEP students responded to the call for action and joined the BNHR’s caravan to Austin. Among them were members of Cultural Artists United for Social Action (C.A.U.S.A.), Movimiento Estudiantil Chicana/o de Aztlán (M.E.Ch.A.) and Peace and Justice Sin Fronteras.

Although I had to miss class and put other responsibilities on hold, I knew the 540-mile trek in a cramped bus was necessary to voice my objection to bills that would gravely affect our community. Only by voicing our concerns will we be heard.

Of particular concern are SB 11 and HB 12, which would allow all law enforcement, including school district police officers, the ability to ask for the immigration status of any detained person.

“The bills essentially call for the same thing Arizona’s bill does, but with different wording,” Cadena said.

Other proposed legislation deals with denying birth certificates to the children of undocumented immigrants, requiring school officials to ask for the immigration status of children who are enrolling in school, and suspending licenses of employers who hire undocumented immigrants.

Daniel Dominguez, a UTEP student pursuing a master’s in sociology attended the event. He said that a lot of the immigration policies in the ‘80s were pretty ineffective and this legislation seems to be taking a step backwards instead of revisiting the problems. “These policies don’t take into account the complex reality of immigration,” Dominguez said.

After marching through downtown Austin, we rallied outside the capitol and speakers, including state Senator José Rodríguez from El Paso, spoke about the dangers of accepting the proposed legislation, such as the economic effect of SB 1070, which cost Arizona millions of dollars.

Participants also made legislative visits, where they hoped to speak to various representatives. Dominguez was one of the few who actually got to speak to a legislator. He met with state Representative Laniyam Lynne (R-Wichita Falls), and asked him to oppose the legislation.

“I told him that I thought these bills would really hurt immigrants and he should do everything in his power not to allow them to pass,” Dominguez said. “(Lyne’s) main argument was that Mexicans are taking a lot of jobs from Americans. He didn’t agree with all of the bills, but said some needed to be enforced.”

Luis Valdez, a Mexican American Studies student at the University of Texas at San Antonio, also made the trip to the capital because he feels these laws have highly racial connotations and go beyond law enforcement.

“Do you want a police officer trying to figure out someone’s immigration status while there are real criminals perhaps raping someone at the time?” Valdez said.

This was a concern that I heard reiterated throughout the rally. Living on the border and in an area where the Hispanic, primarily Mexican, population is the majority, these issues should be a priority for all of us. Not only do these bills contribute to the current police state, but they separate families, challenge the constitution and criminalize people searching for a better life.

Arizona’s SB 1070 stirred a lot of commotion on campus and around town, yet the proposed legislation in Texas seems to be going unnoticed. I only hope that our community comes to life and raises their voice against these draconian propositions.

Members of the BNHR and RITA say they will continue their efforts to counter anti-immigrant legislation. They say they will be back in Austin to provide testimony about how the legislation will negatively affect the border community as well as continuing to call legislators.

Cadena encourages border residents to get involved with the BNHR to learn about civil rights and how to defend them. For those looking for more information, contact Adriana Cadena at acadena@bnhr.org.

For those of us involved in student organizing, our goal is to educate the community on what is happening at the state level and encourage residents to act—because what happens in Austin directly affects our area.

Hopefully, we can all come together to make a change. As César Chávez said, “Si se puede!”

Photo: Celia Aguilar may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.
CAREER from page 1 appropriately and to bring several copies of their resumes to hand out.

Jagannath Raspopovich, senior Spanish major, said he was disappointed with the type of employers represented at previous career fairs he has attended.

"If you're not a math or science major, you feel useless because that's mostly what they (UCC) bring in. It's a very narrow scope of what's out there and you think it's representative of what's available," Raspopovich said.

The UCC will hold three additional career fairs throughout the rest of the spring semester.

"Career fairs are a great venue for many organizations to see our bright and talented students. I usually hear from students after they have secured a job that the career fair was the site where they got their job," Castro said. "We want our Miners to go out there and become professionals. These students are our mission."

Sean Garcia, senior English and American literature major, said he hoped to see more diversity among the kinds of employers brought to campus for future job fairs.

"There are usually big companies like Exxon and Disney, but there are no creative solutions or work in emerging fields like green technology," Garcia said. "They are jobs that make a lot of money, but are not reflective of what higher education should be."
So James Franco was one of those celebrities that he chose to skip the Oscars. Sunday’s ceremony could be one of the most awkward televised broadcast in quite a long time (that includes the “Black-Eyed Peas loves TRON: The Haka”). Franco and co-host Anne Hathaway showcased their lack of chemistry and proved that head writer Bruce Vilanch really just doesn’t give a shit anymore.

Apart from a great opening and closing montage (I want the final speech from “The King’s Speech” to narrate everything I do from now on), the ceremony was about as much fun as getting shot in the face repeatedly, especially when you are a person thinking about jumping off of the overpass. And there are no F-bombs anywhere.

The big theme of the night was the Academy avoiding thepling of movies. In the words of the late actor Josh Brolin in “True Grit,” the ending scene of the film “Kids are All Right” and the final shot of “The Social Network” also illustrated that stars are passing to their death daily (just kidding). Tom Hanks coming out and really trying and proved that head writer Bruce Wayne and 10 years later, production of the movie “British, British, British, British…” is really quite a British thing. By the way, I guess Bruce Wayne is now a British actor.

The current president of the UCWS, Don Fenton, said the objectives for the society in 2008, their goal was to create a place for exchanging innovative ideas, to give their members an opportunity to share their work by members of the group from UCWS. When two creative writing students joined the society in order to satisfy their passion for the art of writing. They began a public reading series, called the Buttered Toast Reading Series. They invited guests to share their work in magazines and on E! Online. With its growing popularity, Twitter has played major roles in the fast becoming a major communication channel.

“Writers come from all areas. Lewis Carroll, for instance, was actually a math teacher. J.K. Rowling had never published a novel before she was on Twitter. Many of them have become popular because of its unique feature, which they could talk about their work in messages. “It’s hard to share your work with the public when they are doing, not just their friends."

Colin Farrel was one of the best, if not the best, actor of the night as he accepted his Best Actor Oscar. He began by saying, “I have a feeling that everyone has a story!" Colin immediately got a great amount of laughs as he explained that he was “experiencing feelings” that may turn into dance moves. Then after all his thanking, he decided to take some time to promote the services of Dickie, the man he portrayed in the movie, by asking people to visit his website.

Natalie Portman won the Best Actress Oscar for her role in the disturbing ballet thriller “Black Swan.” Portman was a frontrunner for her intense portrayal of a ballet dancer, whose drive for perfection makes her to the edge of insanity. Although Portman’s speech was not the greatest, she did a good job at displaying just the right amount of emotion and the right amount of nerves. Colin Farrel gave one of the best, if not the best, actor of the night as he accepted his Best Actor Oscar. The tweet showed no signs of stopping. It has been fast becoming a major communication channel.

Twitter has had an increasing role in reporting current events. Twitter has had an increasing role in reporting current events.

The multi-billion dollar movie industry handed out coveted gold statues at the 83rd Annual Academy Awards. Co-hosts James Franco and Anne Hathaway started the show with a filmed parody skit of “Inception” where they went through their mind’s eye to get hosting tips from comedian and former host, Alec Baldwin. The skit was genuinely amusing, but the Hathaway anxiety campers were an odd couple throughout the rest of the night. She squeezed and he held back. Throughout the whole night, Colin had a very still image, which made it seem like he did not want to be there. As expected, The King’s Speech received the 2011 Oscar for Best Picture, beating out some of the top contenders: “True Grit,” “The Social Network,” “The Fighter” and “Inception.” While Lee Daniels’ The Butler lost Best Actor to Colin Firth and “The Social Network” didn’t take home the Best Picture Oscar, it did receive several awards, including Best Adapted Screenplay, Best Film Editing and Best Soundtrack.

Melissa has been known as Supporting Actress award, and displayed how surprised she was by dropping the F-bomb on live television. “When I watched Kate three years ago, it looked so f---ing easy!” She did apologize to the media beforehand for her profanity, just in case anyone got offended.

Christian Bale won Best Supporting Actor for his role in “The Fighter.” Following Leo, Bale began his speech by saying, “Bloodly, bloody hell,” creating a swirling duo for the night. After all his thanking, he decided to take some time to promote the services of Dickie, the man he portrayed in the movie, by asking people to visit his website.

Natalie Portman won the Best Actress Oscar for her role in the disturbing ballet thriller “Black Swan.” Portman was a frontrunner for her intense portrayal of a ballet dancer, whose drive for perfection makes her to the edge of insanity. Although Portman’s speech was not the greatest, she did a good job at displaying just the right amount of emotion and the right amount of nerves. Colin Farrel gave one of the best, if not the best, actor of the night as he accepted his Best Actor Oscar. The tweet showed no signs of stopping. It has been fast becoming a major communication channel.

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Jackie Devine may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

Writing Society fosters talented students

BY JAYCIE DEVINE

The Prospector

Twitter has played major roles in the unfolding of current events, like the ongoing government revolts and protests in the Middle East, namely Egypt and Libya. The whole deal with Egypt, the tweets from people informing us of what’s going on down there, is very important. It’s first-hand news and you get that information right away,” said Arturo Guianil, senior media advertising and communication major. “I think they’re even starting to preserve the memories of what they are doing, not just their friends.”

Although Twitter is popular with some students, it has quickly become an instant communication tool for individuals of all ages, from students and young journalists to parents and first-time social media users.

According to comScore, a company that measures the digital world, Twitter had more than 120 million users in January 2011. That is about a third of Twitter’s monthly active users. Popular trending topics on Twitter right now include Egypt, Libya and the Tea Party, followed by Justin Bieber and & YouGov.

“I think it has become so popular because it is informative and certain words capture people’s attention,” said Kenneth Yang, associate professor in creative writing. “I have a friend who specializes in computer science, who I convinced to join a creative writing class with me. He began to produce the funniest stories I’ve ever read.”

Fenton said that the society has seen an increase in students from outside of the Liberal Arts College circle who want to join the society in order to satisfy their passion for the art of writing. “They began a public reading series, called the Buttered Toast Reading Series, to give their members an opportunity to share their work by members of the group,” Fenton said. “They published a literary magazine, called The Whole Wheat Literary Magazine, featuring work by members of the group from that first year.”

The Buttered Toast Reading Series has recently held at meetings at trendy cafes including “The Perculator and Kinley’s House.”

“I think it’s important that as a generation of students that come from UT for each of our voices to be heard, for each of our stories to be heard,” said Miguel Ramirez, member of the UCWS and senior creative writing major. “We have to make our own literature, our own poetry, our own prose because we’ve next.”

Ramirez said that while students who love to write may be intimidated and reluctant to join the UCWS, he encourages them to do so.

“It’s hard to share your work with your peers, but when you critique someone else’s work you also learn a lot about your own work,” Ramirez said. "People have a hard time getting past that intimidation, but we don't judge."
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Weekly SUDOKU
by Linda Thistle

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Senior guard Randy Culpepper blocks the shot of Memphis junior guard Charles Carmouche Feb. 26 at the Don Haskins Center.

BY WILLIAM VEGA

The Prospector

The UTEP Miners’ eight seniors were tested Feb. 26 at the Don Haskins Center when they faced seven Memphis Tigers’ freshmen. Their experience paid off 74-47.

“You know you prefer to have seniors versus freshmen, but sometimes you can counter it, regardless of who you’re playing against and their age and date of birth, it depends on if they have great talent,” head coach Tim Floyd said. “It was seniors against freshmen and we have the makeup of a NCAA Tournament team. We have a fine back court and some veterans that know how to play.”

In the Miners’ (21-8, 9-5 Conference USA) most lop-sided affair since a 79-49 victory against Louisianna-Monroe Dec. 15, UTEP held Memphis (21-9, 9-5 C-USA) to just 1-of-18 from the three and allowed only 47 points on 31 percent shooting from the field. After losing three of their last four contests, the Miners were in need of a victory.

“We were facing adversity and we were proving to be a soft team and this game retired people from looking at us like that,” point guard Julyan Stone said. “So we locked in the mirror and went back to basics and said we wanted to be a tough team heading into the (C-USA) tournament.”

The defensive squad were the savors for the Miners during the first 20 minutes of the game, holding the Mustangs to six points on 0-for-18 shooting from downtown. The Miners took a 47-45 lead with 4:02 left in the second half, forcing SMU into the (C-USA) Tournament.

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GO MINERS!

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Senior Night
SMU senior guard Raquel Christian hit eight 3-pointers and scored a career-high of 32 points to help her team beat the UTEP Miners 70-64 on Senior Night at the Don Haskins Center.

“I would have liked for us to adjust better but you know 8-for-12 on threes, (Christian) is a heck of a player,” head coach Keitha Adams said. “It was a great performance on her part. There were some times where we were on her, but she knocked down some shots.”

Coming off the bench, Christian was subbed in at the 14th minute of the first half and exploded onto the scene, hitting her first 3-pointer of the game one minute later. Undeterred by the defense, she would go on to score 10 of her 32 points in the first half, knocking down a crucial 3-pointer with 11 minutes left in the half, putting the mustangs up 45-43.

“She shoots a true jump shot. She made us pay for it, (Christian) had half as many points as we did as a unit,” Adams said. “The 3-ball really hurt us. How often do you see someone go 8-for-12 on 3-pointers.”

Neither team shot exceptionally well in the half. The Mustangs shot just two percent (34 percent) better than the Miners, going 9-for-26 from the floor. UTEP went into the half down by two 27-29, but led SMU in rebounds, 23-17.

The second half was not any better statistically for either team, but neither managed to take a commanding lead in the game. There were a total of four lead changes in the second half and the game was tied on four different occasions.

Junior forward Gloria Brown led all scores and rebounds for the Miners scoring 12 points and pulling down 16 rebounds. Despite her team-leading 12 points, Brown failed to find a rhythm early on in the game, shooting just 5-of-17 from the floor.

“I really didn’t get the shots that I wanted,” Brown said. “I want to give credit to SMU, they played hard. The 3-pointer hurt us. They were setting up screens, (Christian) was just getting hot.”

Even with Christian having the hot hand of the day, the Miners tied up the game when freshman forward Kayla Thornton hit a layup to tie the game at 45 with 10:50 left in the game. Brown then hit a 3-pointer to give the Miners a 47-45 lead. But once again, SMU scored on a jump shot from Christian off a turnover from freshman point guard Kelli Willingham, tying the game at 47 a piece at 9:34 left in the game.

Christian then knocked down a 3-pointer to put the Mustangs up by three at 8:54 and the Mustangs never looked back.
Junior guard Kim Smith passes the ball to the top of the key Feb. 27 at the Don Haskins Center.

RECORD from page 7
"I've been playing inconsistently lately and it was a great feeling to come back with a game like this," Christian said. "I just went out there really relaxed, keeping my composure, that's what made my shots fall."

Christian's eight 3-pointers set a single-game school record for SMU. And her 32 points were tenth-best in program history.
"I went out there with a lot of composure," Christian said. "Even through the pressure of the trap, we were just real poised and in control."

With the loss, the Miners (14-13, 6-9 Conference USA) are now in ninth place in conference. They wrap up their season March 3 when they face last-place Tulsa.

Senior guard Randy Culpepper scored 20 points and grabbed four rebounds against Memphis Feb. 26 at the Don Haskins Center.

CRUSH from page 7
Tigers to 28 percent shooting, including 10 percent from the perimeter. UTEP forced Memphis to 13 turnovers, two of them shot-clock violations.

The Miners finished the first half outscoring Memphis, 24-8, over the last 12 minutes. The Tigers’ last lead was at 32-31, and that's when senior guard Randy Culpepper took control.

"I went out there and proved everyone wrong," Stone said. "Beating a good Memphis team by that much was great feeling to get the game to come to us," Bohannon said. "Sometimes you have to let the game come, so you can say I played smart. Isaac Gordon played a great game, probably his best game ever since I've been here."

UTEP outscored Memphis 36-34, including 21-14 in the second half. Floyd threw in a barrage of big shots, holding him to eight points despite his seven made shots.
"(Tarik Black) was frustrated, but that is just part of the youth, and it’s hard on him because they were just collapsing on him," Memphis head coach Josh Pastner said. "Our youth have no doubt showed today, but that's no excuse. By this time of the year, we need to win games."

The Miners are now tied with the Tigers for second place in C-USA with only two games left on both teams' schedules.
"We went out there and proved everyone wrong," Stone said. "Beating a good Memphis team by that much showed, and bearing down on defense showed we can be one of the best teams in the conference."

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