BY JACKIE DEVINE
The Prospector

The UTEP Symphony Band, under the artistic and musical direction of T. Andre Feagin, assistant professor of music, performed, “Harmonic Gems,” a concert that will open up the 2011-2012 academic year with a classical charm.

The program begins the season at 7:30 p.m. Oct. 6 at the Fox Fine Arts Recital Hall and will feature the works of classical artists such as Yo Gato, Vincent Persichetti, William Pitts, John Philip Sousa, Rick Kirby, Percy A. Grainger and Ralph Vaughan Williams. The symphony band has been rehearsing since the semester began and they are ready to show off their skills.

All the composers featured in the concert have a long list of respected pieces of work from the past couple of years. The UTEP Symphony Band will be offering a chance for the public to hear these often hidden gems.

“The students are coming around and really owning their discipline,” Feagin said. “We’re doing homage to the staples of our literature. In other words, these songs are not often played. So it’s a fine display in our repertoire.”

This is also the reason why the concert is called “Harmonic Gems” because they are performing songs by artists that haven’t been played before.

The music department is expecting a great season with more great performances on the way from the symphonic wind and percussion bands. The talented ensemble, which consists of instrumentalists inside and outside the Department of Music, will also offer a wide variety of repertoire which will include contemporary music and orchestral transcriptions.

They will perform six concerts this year, which will be announced in the near future. This is also the second year they are competing on a national level to prevent certain cancers. They recommend increasing protective factors such as a healthy lifestyle, good eating habits and exercise, to help prevent some cancers, including breast cancer.

Stephanie Flora, executive director of Susan B. Komen for the Cure El Paso, said early detection is imperative to saving lives. The American Cancer Society advises yearly mammograms for women starting at age 40 and clinical breast exams every 3 to 5 years to detect breast cancer early.

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, breast cancer is one of the leading causes of death among women. Though there is no specific cause, age and health history can affect the risk of developing breast cancer.

A real life tale hit movie theaters
PLAYER MAKES MOVE FROM JUAREZ

BY ADAM MARTINEZ
The Prospector

The University of Texas at El Paso October 4, 2011

EVENT . 8

Breast Cancer Awareness Month. The goal of the month is to support those fighting breast cancer, honor those that have died due to the disease and to educate the community.

“Being conscious that (cancer) is there and that it is a problem goes a long way,” said Ivette Ortega, president of the Women in Business Association and a junior finance and economics major. “Things like getting yourselves checked, participating in organizations or events like this will help their local community fight cancer. There is so much we can do.”

By being conscious that cancer is there, people are more likely to become stomachs and undergo routine mammograms for women starting at age 40 and clinical breast exams every 3 to 5 years to detect breast cancer early.

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, breast cancer is one of the leading causes of death among women. Though there is no specific cause, age and health history can affect the risk of developing breast cancer. According to the CDC, avoiding certain risk factors such as smoking, excessive eating habits and lack of physical activity may help prevent certain cancers. They recommend increasing protective factors such as a healthy lifestyle, good eating habits and exercise, to help prevent some cancers, including breast cancer.

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Perry will say anything to get your vote

BY AARON MARTINEZ

As a centrist, a person who believes both liberal and conservative ideologies, I find it alarming that the Republican Party has yet to find a viable or at least not a bat-shit crazy candidate who could challenge President Barack Obama in the 2012 elections.

While I could sit here and write a book on the insane antics of all of the Republican nominees, in the borderland the spotlight has landed on one candidate this week after he once again made remarks about the ongoing drug war in Mexico.

In November 2010, Rick Perry said that he believed that one way to solve the drug war in Mexico would be to send in U.S. troops. This week, he once again mentioned this plan to end the drug-related violence in Mexico.

Although Perry remains a front-runner for the GOP presidential nomination, according to the latest CNN/ORC International poll released Sept. 26, Perry is starting to lose momentum. In this latest poll, Perry dropped down two percentage points, while the other front-runner, Mitt Romney, continued to slowly gain ground on the Texas governor.

One reason for the decline in Perry’s numbers is due in part to his numerous contradictions on immigration issues. As Perry tries to hang onto traditional Republicans and gain ground on the Texas governor, Romney continued to slowly gain ground on the Texas governor.

Romney seems to be the same one on this issue. Perry’s plan seems to be based more on getting votes and headlines than any actual reality.

“Looking at the issue from the U.S. perspective, it is difficult to fathom how Perry can actually believe that the U.S. military would have enough manpower to send troops to Mexico,” according to the U.S. Department of Defense, approximately 50,000 troops remain in Iraq and 90,000 in Afghanistan. Additionally, thousands of troops are stationed at bases throughout the world.

As Perry has shown throughout his presidential campaign so far, he does not seem to think things out and just says whatever will grab him attention and rally uninformed voters. If I were President Obama, I would hope Perry gets the GOP nomination, because it could mean a landslide victory and his re-election.

Perry’s numbers is due in part to his recent comments on sending U.S. troops to Mexico, one has to wonder what constituency he is aiming for.

For some Republicans, who are strongly against Mexican immigration to the U.S., have sided with Perry in hopes that ending the drug war will lead to less migration into the U.S.

Romney has come out strongly against any notion of sending troops to Mexico. In a speech in New Hampshire, Romney said he believes it is a bad idea and that the U.S. should focus more on securing the border instead of the drug war in Mexico. He also said that if Mexico needs help, he believes the U.S. should only provide logistical support.

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simplystated

**UTEP to oversee push for ‘green’ engineers, scientists**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has awarded a four-year, $3.2 million grant to UTEP to oversee a multi-university effort to produce more scientists and engineers who can develop new alternative energy sources and ways to increase energy efficiency.

Heidi A. Taboada, Ph.D., assistant professor of industrial, manufacturing and systems engineering, is the principal investigator of the BuildinG a Regional Energy and Educational Network (BGREEN) project. The USDA announced the award Sept. 27.

Interdisciplinary teams from UTEP, Texas A&M University-Kingsville, Texas State University-San Marcos and New Mexico State University will work with the USDA and agricultural agencies to prepare students and graduates who can develop efficient renewable energy sources, incorporate biomass conversion, improve feedstock logistics, optimize supply chains and processes, and develop green infrastructure, as they enhance the competitiveness of our nation in the global economy.

The program will help place student interns and train graduate students at sites in Texas, Arkansas, New Mexico and Oklahoma, as well as Panama City, Panama.

**Library announces viral video contest**

The University Library has challenged registered UTEP students to create a video that will promote the library and its services as part of its Internet and social media marketing campaign. The entry deadline is Dec. 2.

Videos, which may run up to five minutes, will be judged on originality, quality, entertainment value and information delivered. They can be created in any language, but must include English subtitles if not done in English.

Entries may be submitted to the Library’s Marketing Committee on DVDs or flash drives at the library’s circulation desk, or by email (video@utep.edu) by 5 p.m. Friday, Dec. 2. The file size limit for attachments is 20MB. All entries must be accompanied by the required entry forms.

The winning entries will be announced during a Dec. 9 ceremony in the library’s Blumberg Auditorium. First prize is an iPad or $500. Second prize will be $250 and third prize will be $100. For more information, call 747-5643.

**UTEP M.B.A. program among best in nation for degree completion among Latinos**

Martha J. Kanter, United States Under Secretary of Education, and Jon Whitmore, CEO of ACT, joined Excelencia in Education at the U.S. Capitol Sept. 27, to honor the UTEP Master of Business Administration program as one of America’s top programs for increasing degree completion among Latinos. The UTEP M.B.A. program was selected from 195 competitors as one of 16 national finalists for the 2011 Examples of Excelencia recognition.

For the 2011 Examples of Excelencia competition, 195 programs were nominated at three academic levels: associate, baccalaureate and graduate. These programs demonstrate broad geographical representation in the effort to contribute to Latino student success, representing 22 states plus the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

Examples of Excelencia is a national initiative to systematically identify and honor institution-based programs and departments that demonstrate, with evidence, that they effectively boost Latino enrollment, performance and graduation. It is supported by USA Funds, ACT, Diverse Issues in Higher Education, EduK, Univision Communications, Educational Testing Service, College Board and the California State University System.

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What law school ought to be.
Protesters challenge federal mandate to check immigration status

By DANYA P. HERNANDEZ
Scripps Howard Foundation Wire

WASHINGTON — About 50 District of Columbia residents raised their voices Sept. 27 against a policy they say would increase racial profiling in their multicultural community.

The group rallied outside the John A. Wilson Building, where the mayor and D.C. Council have offices, to ask for protection against Immigration and Customs Enforcement’s “Secure Communities” program.

D.C. was the first city in the nation to reject this program about a year ago, but this year, Department of Homeland Security and ICE are making the program mandatory.

Secure Communities requires the FBI to share fingerprints and records of those convicted of crimes with ICE, so the agency can check immigration backgrounds.

According to ICE, the program focuses on deporting those “who present the most significant threats to public safety as determined by the severity of their crime, their criminal history and other factors.”

The agency has been criticized because of the high number of deportations of people with no criminal conviction. In 2010, ICE deported 392,862 people, 195,772 with criminal convictions and 197,090 with no criminal convictions.

“This program hurts public safety. It makes us all less secure,” said Sarahi Uribe, national campaign coordinator of the National Day Laborer Organizing Network. “Across the country, wherever we’ve seen this program implemented, people, innocent people, are being targeted.”

The group submitted a proposal urging the mayor and D.C. Council to adopt a plan similar to that of Cook County, Ill., which no longer holds illegal immigrants for 48 hours after an arrest, often on traffic or misdemeanor charges. The county determined the program cost $15 million annually.

The group also wants D.C. to reinstate a 1984 mayoral order prohibiting government officials from inquiring about U.S. citizenship or residency in most situations before providing any benefits.

“Secure Communities is not security policing,” said Ron Hampton, president of Blacks in Law Enforcement of America who was a D.C. police officer for 24 years. “It will prevent us from being able to create the kind of relationship that we need.”

One of the biggest concerns of the group is that victims of crime will be reluctant to report to the authorities out of fear of being deported.

“When people are afraid to report a crime, they are afraid that somebody may be deported, none of us benefit. We all suffer because it means that the criminals are able to get by with their criminal activity,” at-large Democratic Councilmember Phil Mendelson said at the rally.

Michael A. Brown, councilmember at-large, an independent, also attended the rally, chanting "No justice, no peace" along with the crowd. He spoke about the families his community lost in the past few years.

“We need to figure out how to make this city a more family friendly city again,” Brown said. “Anything that is going to break up families is something we should not support.”

Some residents fear that in a multicultural city such as Washington, the racial profiling that has reportedly affected jurisdictions where Secure Communities is active may have a great impact for a large portion of its residents.

According to the 2010 census, 50.1 percent of the city's 601,723 residents are black and 9 percent are Hispanic.

“I have to say, one thing that I really love about my community is that it is a community where more than 100 languages are spoken in one ZIP code,” said Matias Ramos, 25, a D.C. resident and immigrant from Buenos Aires, Argentina, who is facing a deportation order.

He was arrested as he tried to board a plane with an expired tourist visa.

The group also has the support of Councilmember Jim Graham, D-Ward 1. His ward includes a large number of Hispanic residents. A staff member said Graham is drafting a bill on the issue.

“No, DHS, do your immigration enforcement, but don’t ask us to do it and carry the weight and suffer the consequences,” Mendelson said.

Danya Hernandez, senior multimedia major at UTEP, is an intern at the Scripps Howard Foundation’s Semester in Washington program. She may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.
Question of the week

Do you agree with Rick Perry’s idea of sending U.S. troops to Mexico to help battle drug cartels?

Photos by Candie Herrera, Veronica Chaparro, Justin Stene, Audrey Russell and Greg Castillo

RENE BALANDRAN
Freshman education major
“I agree with Perry. However, we cannot fight two wars at the same time. Therefore, we need to take out troops from the Middle East before we engage in another war.”

JANIA MEDRANO
Freshman Spanish language pathology major
“I feel Rick Perry should realize there is a war in progress, so there is no need to start another war and jeopardize many more lives.”

OSCAR LARA
Freshman criminal justice major
“I believe we should not send our troops since we have another war going on, and only sending troops over to Mexico will cause more lives to be lost.”

ANDREA ACOUSTA
Sophomore media advertising major
“Take the problems of the U.S. and whatever is going on here as a priority first because by sending troops to Mexico, we will get deeper into the drug war.”

ESTEFANIA PEREA
Freshman media advertising major
“If they send more troops, there would be a bigger problem and it would cause bigger problems.”

YESENIA QUINTERO
Freshman general studies major
“The sciences (stem) are already coming over to El Paso and the incident at Flames Club where they threatened them to pay the quota is now making El Paso dangerous, that’s not fair. I don’t want to be scared of going out at nights because I’ve always been secure here.”

JASON ORTEGON
Sophomore nursing major
“I think it would help keep down the violence here in the state because spill over is already happening, but I can see how it would be a problem already having troops overseas.”

ROBERT MCAFEE
Freshman physics major
“It’s a local problem. I think we should do something to help them out, something should be done or acknowledged at least. If things stay the way they are, it’s probably going to happen.”

IGNAcio REYES
Freshman kinesiology major
“I don’t think it’s a good idea right now, it’s not our problem, but we still have to keep an eye out on Mexico. I don’t think it’s our fault that all this is happening.”

ANDREA MCAHON
Senior marketing major
“It could initiate a conflict if the Mexican people view it negatively, so it could back fire on us.”

JACOB BENAVIDEZ
Sophomore biological sciences major
“It’s a good idea, although Mexico blames us for buying their drugs despite the fact that they’re made and transported from their country. I would be comfortable with U.S. troops in Mexico as a last resort.”

MARY LA FERDIN
Sophomore nursing major
“I think he shouldn’t send U.S. troops because of the fact that now violence will definitely spill over. We already have a bit of violence in El Paso and we for sure do not want more. We want to stay the safest city in the nation.”

Mayra Fernandez
Sophomore nursing major
“I think it would help keep down the violence here in the state because spill over is already happening, but I can see how it would be a problem already having troops overseas.”

CORRINE KAHUHE
Junior multidisciplinary studies major
“I think it depends on the American people in a time when American troops are spread so thin around the world. The American people overall should have a say when their troops are going to be policing the world.”

Robert McAfee
Freshman physics major
“It’s a local problem. I think we should do something to help them out, something should be done or acknowledged at least. If things stay the way they are, it’s probably going to happen.”

JEFFREY BERNAL
Junior multimedia journalism major
“No, because we’re not going to accomplish anything beside the death on both sides when there is nothing but crooked police and government officials in Mexico who don’t want to help themselves.”

SASHA LIEVANO
Junior multimedia journalism major
“I stand in the middle of it because I don’t see the point when we already have troops in Iraq, so why can’t we have them help our neighbors.”

ANDREW SCOTT
Intelligence in national security studies graduate student
“It’s a violation of state sovereignty and you need to have assistance requested to get involved with another country’s matters.”

Jessica Morris
Junior metallurgical engineering major
“No, because we’re not going to accomplish anything beside the death on both sides when there is nothing but crooked police and government officials in Mexico who don’t want to help themselves.”

Sasha Lievano
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Laboratory Sciences & Primary Care
- B.S. Clinical Laboratory Sciences
- M.S. Molecular Pathology
- Master of Physician Assistant

Speech, Language & Hearing Sciences
- B.S. Speech Language & Hearing Sciences
- M.S. Speech- Language Pathology
- Doctor of Audiology
- Ph.D. Communication Sciences & Disorders

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- Doctor of Philosophy in Rehabilitation Sciences

Clinical Administration & Rehabilitation Counseling
- B.S. Clinical Services Management
- M.S. Clinical Practice Management
- Master of Rehabilitation Counseling
- Doctor of Physical Therapy

*Distance Learning Program
The older women in El Paso aren’t getting their screenings, so that often leads to late stage breast cancer diagnosis,” Flora said. “Success rates for treating that are much lower.”

According to the Susan G. Komen for the Cure foundation, a non-profit organization that sponsors cancer research and health programs related to breast cancer, approximately 85 percent of all breast cancer cases in the U.S. occur in women 40 years of age and older. Flora says that late stage diagnosis in El Paso is a problem, especially for Hispanic women, who have the highest mortality rates from breast cancer in the country.

The Susan G. Komen for the Cure foundation will be hosting a number of events around El Paso. Since 1993, the Komen foundation of El Paso has fundraised and provided over $3.6 million to local organizations and institutions that provide accessible education, screenings and treatments through various community events such as Race for the Cure.

Among the events in October geared towards prevention and awareness is Pink Ribbon Week, Oct. 3-7. Komen and KISS-FM will be broadcasting live throughout the city. Participants will receive breast health educational materials and pink ribbons.

Kicks for the Cure is a collaboration between the Komen foundation and UTEP soccer, which will include a survivor recognition ceremony during the team's Oct. 7 game against Houston.

Another event at UTEP will be Breast Cancer Awareness Night at the Sun Bowl when the Miner football team faces Southern Miss.

Other fundraising efforts include KERN for the Cure, Oct. 3-28, where KERN area businesses will launch an eBay fundraising page. Fit for the Cure provides professional bra fittings at Dillard's Oct. 11 at Cielo Vista Mall and Oct. 13 at Sunland Park Mall. Local beauty shop Jacqui Hair Salon will offer haircuts for men, women and children Oct. 16 in Cut for the Cure.

UTEP students are also doing their part this month to raise money and awareness. The Women in Business Association, a student-led organization, will be holding their second annual PINK Party celebration Oct. 13 from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. at Nova Luna. Proceeds will go to the University Breast Care Center at the El Paso campus of the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center.

“We chose this organization to donate to because it is local, so everything they do is going to have a great impact in our community,” Ortega said.

Last year's PINK Party raised more than $1,000 for the Susan G. Komen for the Cure foundation.

Though breast cancer mostly affects women, men are also diagnosed and die due to the disease. According to the American Cancer Society, nearly 2,000 men were diagnosed with breast cancer in 2010. The risk factors are similar to women and prevention is possible. Nevertheless, the inclusion of men in breast cancer awareness is not a focus for many groups.

Olivia Chin, senior multidisciplinary studies major, hopes that organizations will start to not only focus on women that are affected by breast cancer, but also the thousands of men diagnosed every year.

"Many organizations and charities that fight breast cancer are geared towards women and don’t include men in any of their promotions,” Chin said. “The breast cancer ribbon is pink and people are going to associate that with just women, and that’s really unfair to men who die from the disease as well.”

For more information on events hosted by the Komen foundation, visit komenelpaso.org.

Adam Martínez may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

Things like getting yourselves checked, participating in organizations or events like this will help their local community fight cancer. There is so much we can do.”

- Ivette Ortega, president of the Women in Business Association

Breast Cancer Awareness Month, October 2011

More that not may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.
**Local**

**It’s time to batter up at The Pitch**

**BY KRISTOPHER RIVERA**

The Prospector

Upon walking to The Pitch, a new sports bar and grill just across the street from the Don Haskins Center, one enters a tunnel as if entering the field for a game.

The Pitch, located on 2900 N. Mesa St., is a new addition to the local sports bar scene near UTEP. Owner Paul Gay, general manager Aaron Henckel, and manager Kayzie Bentley brought their different influences together to give the sports bar a personal touch to Miner fans and UTEP students.

“I saw a chance to get ourselves known as a restaurant and bar that is going to support UTEP students, faculty and staff,” Gay said. “That’s what I saw a chance for and that’s what we’ve always wanted to do. We love the university and we want it to prosper.”

All three of them have so much pride for UTEP because it is their alma mater.

“Aaron and I graduated from UTEP. Paul graduated from UTEP so we’ve all about UTEP,” Bentley said. Aaron Henckel was a former defensive lineman for the UTEP football team.

Eloy Atkinson, senior business management major and offensive lineman at UTEP, has reason for becoming a big fan of The Pitch.

“It’s a great place to be, great food, great environment and it always has sports,” Atkinson said. “This is pretty much like a little college town here, so this helps build the sports. It’s awesome, and if they ever need anything, they know we have them, and they help us out, too.”

Mark Fimzletter, junior marketing major and member of Alpha Kappa Lambda, also fell hard for the bar after the welcoming accommodations it offered for him and his friends.

“All the food’s good, the people here, the environment, everything’s great. They’re even said it’s ok if the fraternity members and sororities can put up a flag in here if they want to,” Fimzletter said. “I’ve been in Alpha Kappa Lambda for four years now, and the school doesn’t help out that much.”

The Pitch offers food specials every day and there is an 10 percent discount for food and non-alcoholic drinks for students, faculty and staff.

“Every day from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., we have lunch specials, and probably the one everybody likes the most is the $4.99 basket. It’s a burger, fries and glass of tea. You can’t get that at McDonald’s,” Gay said.

The pitch also has a large cinematic screen known as the “Miner End Zone.” It gives priority-screening to any UTEP athletic event. Along with multiple screens, The Pitch also features free pool and dart for its customers.

Signature meals are their half-pound burgers grilled the way customers want them. Along with burgers, The Pitch also offers wings, salads and sandwiches and Philly cheesesteaks.

Gay said The Pitch will always have drink specials for any events going on in the area, and if any organization is interested in hosting an event at The Pitch, Gay will help arrange specials that correlate with the organization’s interest.

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Upon walking to The Pitch, a new sports bar and grill just across the street from the Don Haskins Center, one enters a tunnel as if entering the field for a game.

The Pitch, located on 2900 N. Mesa St., is a new addition to the local sports bar scene near UTEP. Owner Paul Gay, general manager Aaron Henckel, and manager Kayzie Bentley brought their different influences together to give the sports bar a personal touch to Miner fans and UTEP students.

“I saw a chance to get ourselves known as a restaurant and bar that is going to support UTEP students, faculty and staff,” Gay said. “That’s what I saw a chance for and that’s what we’ve always wanted to do. We love the university and we want it to prosper.”

All three of them have so much pride for UTEP because it is their alma mater.

“Aaron and I graduated from UTEP. Paul graduated from UTEP so we’ve all about UTEP,” Bentley said. Aaron Henckel was a former defensive lineman for the UTEP football team.

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**Technology**

**Windows 8: Microsoft’s next-generation OS**

**BY JERRY ALDÁZ**

The Prospector

Microsoft’s 2011 BUILD developer conference sampled the latest advancements and innovations incorporated in the company’s upcoming operating system, Windows 8.

Start Screens “Live Tiles,” customizable tiles displaying real-time data, will be the place where users can manage all their content. While the classic Windows user-interface will remain accessible, the company’s demonstrations primarily highlighted the benefits of the Start Screen’s Metro-style graphic interface.

“Start screen is the place you come to when you start Windows,” said Julie Larson-Green, corporate vice president of the Windows Experience group.

Several students have taken notice of the different changes Windows 8 has made.

“The new layout is definitely a vast improvement from the tired Windows look,” said Gabrielle Maul, senior art history major. “I applaud their efforts on improving visual and functional aesthetics. I think the minimalist approach will make navigating through their services a pleasurable experience.”

In conjunction with the tile-driven theme, the company has integrated their App Store into upcoming desktops and tablets. Similar to application distributors such as Apple App Store or Android Market, Microsoft’s NVIDIA Tegra processors and down-loadable content from hundreds of developers.

“Open source revamped tools offered to developers, and Windows’ ability to utilize most coding languages, Microsoft’s expansive platform can prove for a number of virtual innovations.

Although development is still in pre-beta stages, Windows and Windows Live President, Steven Sinofsky, demonstrated the company’s focus towards a touch-centric interplay in the press release. Whether it’s the multi-touch Internet Explorer browser or, sweeping gestures required to switch between apps, Microsoft made it clear that user-touch is the new navigational tool.

“We really pushed a lot on the ways we could deliver touch to you,” Sinofsky said. “Touch is going to become a huge part of interaction.”

Karen Martinez, junior psychology major, believes Windows’ decision to focus on touch reflects the popularity of new technology.

“I think transitioning to a touch-based system is a smart move,” Marti-

“With all the tablets coming out, I believe Microsoft is aware that personal computers might soon disappear. I guess they are preparing for the worst.”

For the spec-hungry, Microsoft stated that Windows 8 will require less processing power and will be backwards-compatible with all Windows 7 services. Improved processes range from accelerated boot-up to new components such as picture-based locking, a procedure requiring users to touch specific points within a picture to unlock the computer.

While Windows 8 appears to be a unifying operating system across tablet and desktop users, Microsoft omitted any information regarding possible variations, such as Home Basic or Ultimate. No launch dates on open-beta or a commercial release were provided.

Jerry Aldáz may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.
Movie Review

‘50/50’ a story of Bromance offers hope

BY ANDRES RODRIGUEZ

The Prospector

Seamlessly mixing humor and solemnity, “50/50,” directed by Jonathan Levine, is successful in tackling a complicated subject.

Based on the life of screenwriter Will Reiser, the film deals with the main character’s struggle to beat a rare form of cancer with “too many syllables.”

Adam (Joseph Gordon-Levitt) is a 27-year-old radio producer living in Seattle. He is a cautious and unassertive guy, the type that bites his nails, waits for the green signal to cross the street and can’t stand a littered car, much less drive one. “It’s the fifth leading cause of death,” he says.

After complaining of back aches, Adam visits a doctor who tells him he has spinal cancer. What follows is an earnest look into his struggle.

The script, from first-time screenwriter Reiser, is a fresh take on what could have been either a melodramatic tear-jerker or an ab-sland bucket buddy comedy.

The friendship between the two leads is as compelling as it is funny, but real aspects of the situation. Adam’s struggle to beat cancer by leading the viewer into Adam’s reality, with the reactions of those close to him making the story even more poignant. The film emphasizes on Adam’s relationship with his parents is not heavy, but it is enough to gather a motivational understanding of their fight with Adam’s disease.

As part of his treatment, Adam sees Katherine, a therapist played perfectly by Anna Kendrick. Katherine ends up being the silver lining of the whole situation. She aids a reluctant Adam in coming to terms with his disease.

The 24-year-old therapist is awkward, yet bright, and places Adams well being at the forefront of her priorities. Kendrick, nominated for an Oscar for her work in “Up in the Air,” is excellent in the film.

Reiser, instead, focuses on the funny, but real aspects of the situation. Adam’s deterioration is clearly depicted, but finely intertwined moments of hope and hilarity lift up the film’s dynamic, distracting the audience from Adam’s depressions.

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Joe is a rare form of cancer with “too many syllables.”

The film is a story of friendship, love, survival and finding humor in unlikely places.

Anjelica Huston exquisitely portrays Kyle, Adam’s carefree and drug-addicted best friend. Seth Rogen, Kyle is loyal to Adam. He provides him with as much emotional support as a “bromance.”

This dynamic between the two friends is always funny and surprisingly touching.

Aside from cancer, Adam also has to deal with his smothering mother, Diane, and his aggravating girlfriend, Rachael (Bryce Dallas Howard). Angelica Huston exquisitely plays an uptight and stern mother that only wants what is best for her son. The film emphasizes on Adam’s relationship with his parents is not heavy, but it is enough to gather a motivational understanding of their fight with Adam’s disease.

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Her chemistry with Gordon-Levitt is genuine and clumsily hilarious.

Also, her care for Adam, despite his “I’m fine” facade, is moving.

In the end, “50/50” succeeds in portraying a young man’s fight with cancer by leading the viewer into Adam’s reality, with the reactions of those close to him making the story even more poignant. Yet, the film is light-hearted thanks to a humorous script and devoted cast, yielding a great blend of comedy and drama.

4 out of 5 picks.
Juárez-born player making impact in first year

BY KRISTAL OBLINGER
The Prospector

Born in Ciudad Juárez, sophomore middle blocker Xitlali Herrera crossed the border to do one thing—play volleyball. Staying number seven in Conference USA for top hitting percentages and rising to the 14th spot in NCAA for blocks per set, Herrera’s passion can be seen on the court when she switches to game-mode.

“When I am playing, I do not think of anything else, just volleyball,” Herrera said. “That’s one of the things I love about volleyball; being able to be focused on the game and just let go of everything else.”

Before joining the Miners, Herrera competed in NORCECA and the Fédération Internationale de Volleyball World Tour. Herrera was scouted last year by head coach Ken Murphy to play in the 2011 season.

“She had really good offensive weapons such as a fast arm, she could hit that ball hard and she had a good range of shots,” Murphy said. “She is just a really mature player who has not only played a lot, but also brings confidence to the other players because she’s seen a lot of volleyball and nothing really ever phases her.”

Herrera said that volleyball is a big part of her family. From her parents, she’s learned a lot of English, “I am one of the good Spanish speakers, so I started talking to her right away in Spanish, and I guess she felt comfortable with me.”

Freshman outside hitter Franciucare Acosta became Herrera’s roommate, and despite both knowing very little Spanish, “I wanted her to feel welcome because I knew she didn’t speak a whole lot of English,” Figueroa said. “I am one of the good Spanish speakers, so I started talking to her right away in Spanish, and I guess she felt comfortable with me.”

According to Herrera, she began playing volleyball at the age of 7 and continued into the present after being nominated a member of the 2009 Women’s Junior World Championship while she still lived in Mexico. She also competed in beach volleyball, which she said is a lot harder than indoor play.

“Our family comes to the games whenever they can, and if I have a day off, I go over there.”

Herrera has managed top individual stats for the season so far with 87 blocks, 109 digs and a point gain average at 246.5. "She has fit in well to the things we do,” Murphy said. “When she came in, she was good in offensive so I wanted to work with her on defense and blocking, and we have already seen a big improvement in these past few matches.”

Herrera’s passion can be seen on the court when she switches to game-mode.

“In the second half of UTEP’s latest game, Oct. 15, is against a Tulane team averaging just over 26 points a game. For homecoming the next week, the Miners face Colorado State, a team scoring over 25 points each outing. Their last five opponents are all averaging at least 22 points a game with UCF and Southern Miss being the top defensive teams in the conference. If UTEP hopes to improve on their defense to avoid shootouts with these teams, they must start at square one: tackling.

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“Being a native of Juárez, she has a different take on the events in her home city. “Everybody says that Juárez is so unsafe, but I’ve lived there for 19 years and I’m here and alive,” Herrera said. “I never really worry because my family comes to the games whenever they can, and if I have a day off, I go over there.”

“Beach volleyball is outdoors, so you have the sun and the wind to worry about, but indoor volleyball is all about you and how you play, so I think it is a lot easier,” she said.

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Volleyball

**UTEP sweeps on the road, advances to 3-2 in C-USA**

By KRISTAL OBLINGER

In a 36-team event, the men and women Miners traveled to South Bend, Ind. Sept. 30 to compete in the 56th annual Notre Dame Invitational. This was considered UTEP’s first big test of the season as the women finished in 25th place, while the men ended in 18th overall.

Junior All-American Risper Kimaiyo led the women’s team with a bronze, crossing the finish-line in 18:27, while sophomore Gladys Chespa came in at 19:16. Sophomore newcomer Jackline Ekai finished with a time of 18:42. Freshman Laura Delgado completed the course with a time of 19:46 and senior Ritika Stewart came in at 20:03. Kimaiyo was the only woman runner to finish in the top-100.

“Although Risper ran okay, I think the women need more depth,” head coach Paul Engre said.

Kimaiyo, as a sophomore in 2010, crossed the finish line at the same time as the top men’s performer at the Notre Dame Invitational. With a time of 24:15, despite not beating his time, Chirchir helped achieve an overall team-finish of 18th place among junior Elkana Rotich who posted 36th with a time of 24:49. Junior Solo- mon Gardea crossed the line at 25:36, sophomore Abel Koskey clocked in at 25:45 and freshman Juan Blanco fin- nished with a time of 26:10.

“The men had a tough race; two of our runner’s sustained injuries. Our new guy was exposed to a high-level competition. I believe this is a good start for them,” Engre said. “Good athletes learn fast and I believe I have a good group.”

The last time the men were at the Notre Dame Invitational, the team finished ninth in a field that had 14 nationally-ranked teams in the competition.

Last season, Chirchir earned C-USA First Team honors with a silver finish at the conference championships. This season, Chirchir finished with a silver medal at the Lori Fitzgerald and took 5th-place at the Kachina Classic.

Rotich claimed the league crown to earn the C-USA Male Athlete of the Year and first team All-Conference honors in 2010. This season, Rotich has finished third overall at the Lori Fitzgerald event and ran away with the men’s 8K title with a time of 25:51 at the Kachi- na Classic.

The Miners’ next meet will be at the NCAA Pre-Nationals Oct. 16 in Terre Haute, Ind.

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**Volleyball**

**UTEP sweeps on the road, advances to 3-2 in C-USA**

The Prospector

UTEP moved up the Conference USA standings after road wins against the East Carolina Pirates Sept. 30 and Oct. 2 versus the Marshall Thunder- Herd.

ECU has yet to win any conference matches, and Marshall is also near the bottom of the conference at 2-3. Playing an on-off game of errors for the whole match, the Miners entered the first set against the Pirates with a 6-4 lead before an error by senior Li- bero Stephanie Figueroa. ECU slowly tried to creep up on UTEP, tying the match at 20-20 due to an attack error by sophomore outside hitter Jaquie- line Cason. The Miners came back to win 25-23 when an attack error by senior outside hitter Amanda Lattow gave UTEP their winning point.

Another attack error by Lattow al- lowed the Miners to take a lead in the second set. The Panthers continued to commit errors, but managed points off of UTEP’s mistakes. ECU received three consecutive points from sopho- more outside hitter Jeanie Horton and senior middle blocker Marie-Therese Joyce’s attack errors. They answered with two kills by sophomore outside hitter Whitney Campbell and senior outside hitter Brittany Roper that gave ECU the 10-9 lead.

The Miners returned after a ball handling error by freshman setter Zarah Cecchi, but an error by Figueroa put the Pirates up 12-11. Unable to keep the lead, ECU lost their momentum with two attack er- rors that pushed the Miners ahead 24- 23. A service ace by Figueroa won the set for UTEP 25-23. ECU could not regroup in the third and lost 25-14. Sophomore middle blocker Villari Herrera slammed out the first kill of the set and a service ace by Joyce seemed to seal the Pi- rates fate. Multiple attack and service errors by ECU allowed a nearly im- possible recovery for the team when UTEP pushed forward with back-to- back points (21-11). The Miners re- ceived the winning point after a ball handling error.

Despite the game being won off of ECU’s mistakes, Horton gained a team-best 11 kills and 1233 fol- lowed by Hernandez 10 kills. Casson set 11 digs behind Figueroa’s 17 digs with UTEP committing 41 kills to ECU’s 30. Against Marshall, Horton had a career-high 20 kills and hit .354 to lead the Miners to the win. Unlike ECU, Marshall’s defense was the big- gest challenge of the night, scoring beyond UTEP in blocks, 5-2, and ty- ing in digs, 81-81. The Thundering Herd even beat the Miners 58-54 in kills and hit .290 versus UTEP’s .186, but could not keep their composure to victory.

The Miners won the first set 25-20 , but lost control in the second with the last point being gained on an attack error by Horton.

Marshall grabbed the first point of the third set due to a service error on Joyce, but quickly made the same mis- take; tying it at 1-1. Another attack error allowed the Thundering Herd to save its lead, but a service error not only gave The Miners an opening to reorganize, but to also keep the lead for the entire game. UTEP won the third set 25-21 to go up 2-1 in the match.

Both teams fought in the fourth set, tying and leading in a back-and-forth affair. But UTEP proved to be too much for the Thundering Herd when Casson and Horton burned out the last two points to win 26-24.

UTEP returns home to face Mem-phis (14-4, 3-2 C-USA) Oct. 7-8 at Memorial Gym.
Soccer

Freshman blows by the competition

BY FRANKIE RODRIGUEZ

Freshman midfielder Lauren Katada is the shortest player for UTEP. At times, she is pushed around by bigger defenders. But what she lacks in size and strength, Katada makes up for in stats and will power.

“She is very fast, she hustles, she never quits and she plays big... she may be our shortest player, but she plays with a big heart,” head coach Kevin Cross said.

This season, Katada has rounded off the bench seeing action in all 11 games and starting in two. She has come away with four goals and three assists while only taking eight shots. Her shooting percentage is .500, which is a team best so far.

“I feel like I have done well this sea- son and gotten better as a player as time has gone on. I just hope I continue to improve,” Katada said. “I could definitely improve on getting stronger on the ball. I get pushed around a lot because I am little.”

Regardless of her five-foot two-inch frame, she continues to provide support for this team. While her down- side might be her petite frame, it may also prove to be an advantageous part for this team. While her down- side might be her petite frame, she continues to provide sup- port for this team. While her down- side might be her petite frame, it may also prove to be an advantageous edge.

“She has been a huge spark for us. She is one of the best crossers of the ball that we have ever seen, and she has some huge assists as well as huge goals for us,” Cross said.

Katada is from Dallas, where she at- tended McKinney Boyd High School. She was a four-year varsity starter and she earned first-team All-District honors in 2009 and 2010. She also com- peted at the club level for D’Feeters 93, where she served as a captain for two years when the team was ranked second nationally in 2010-11.

Katada was also a stand out in cross-country. She was the district-cross-country Freshman of the Year in 2007 and a regional qualifier in cross-country. She was the district’s Freshman of the Year in 2007 and 2008.

In high school, it got to the point where I couldn’t do both, and I have always loved soccer since I was little,” Katada said. “It helps with the posi- tion I play because I have to run up and down the line all the time.”

Cross said her high performance on the field matches her disposition off the field as well.

“She is a presidential scholar, so it all goes together, her character is incredible on and off the field,” Cross said.

Aside from being an exceptional athlete, Katada brings outstanding scholastic achievements. She was a part of the Duke University Talents Program, GT/Alpha program (ELAR, science, math), a 2009 visual arts scholar, and a 2009 visual arts science, math), a 2009 visual arts scholar, and a 2009 visual arts scholar, and a 2009 visual arts scholar.

“I am thinking about going into pre-med, and my plans after gradua- tion are hopefully med school,” Kata- da said.

Katada seems to enjoy her college life in El Paso.

“I love El Paso. It is so nice over here. The people are so nice; every- one is a lot nicer here than in Dallas,” Katada said. “Also, El Paso is not as humid as Dallas is. It is a lot cooler, so it is a lot easier to run while playing.”

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by Linda Thistle

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Softball

Hitting comes out for first home scrimmage

BY RUSTY BURNS

The Prospector

Sometimes your best competition for practice is yourself. As UTEP is currently in their offseason, they are using the opportunity to scrimmage against themselves, as they did Oct. 1 in the Blue vs. Orange game at the Helen of Troy Softball Complex.

"Last year, I was out with a back injury," senior catcher Camilla Carrera said. "To be able to play a double-header, even if it's against my team, is an amazing feeling."

Carrera was a member of the Orange team, which lost both of their games 11-2 and 14-6. In game one, Carrera had an RBI in the fifth inning.

In the second game, sophomore pitcher Colleen Hohman was an important factor on both the offensive and defensive side. She had two home runs, one of them a three-run shot and she ran in for a score in the bottom of the first inning. On the mound, she held the Orange team scoreless for two straight innings, but allowed three RBIs in the last inning.

"I felt, toward the end, with my pitching, I could've improved my control of the ball," Hohman said. "Other than that, everything was a team effort. We put 14 runs on the board working together and that's what needs to be done."

Even though the Blue team recorded a large number of runs and kept their teammates score low, the Orange tried to gain momentum in the last two innings. In the final inning of play, freshman outfielder Tahla Wade scored a run and sophomore utility player Kayla Black drove in the three runs before the game ended.

On the mound, it was Hohman against junior Joanna Krienitz. In the second game, Hohman allowed four hits and six runs for the Blue team. Krienitz, on the opposing Orange side, allowed 14 runs and was replaced by sophomore Megan Atchison, who was the starting pitcher for the first in the double header.

After the long practice, the team sat together as co-head coaches Kathleen and James Rodriguez reevaluated everything the team did. Kathleen Rodriguez was very pleased with the offense of the team, which combined for a total of 38 hits over the two practice games.

"I told the team how I thought it was beautiful the way they attacked each other," Kathleen Rodriguez said. "If we want to beat each other that bad, and we're wearing the same name on the front of our chests, then it's going to be pretty neat when someone else with a name other than UTEP comes across us."

Though UTEP will have their number of practice matches coming up, they will have the opportunity to play other competition as they have this fall. The Miners faced off against Pima Community College Sept. 24 and 25 in Tucson, Ariz. UTEP went 2-2 against them, putting up a combined 25 runs. Carrera and Hohman each had four hits over the weekend with one home run each. Senior catcher/utility Chelsea Troupe, returning from multiple injuries from last year, went 7-for-15 overall with two homeruns.

"That's given us an idea of how to see other game situations, what we need to do and work on," Kathleen Rodriguez said.

The Miners' next game will be against Midland CC Oct. 7 at the Helen of Troy Softball Complex.

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