The assayer of student opinion

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SGA CANDIDATES CAUGHT RED-HANDED WITH ELECTION VIOLATIONS

FOCUS presidential candidate Paulina Lopez (left) and HOURS presidential candidate, Tanya Sue Maestas (right), speak against a cookout hosted by the PIC party at a SGA hearing on April 8.

BY SABRINA NUNEZ

The Prospector

A few days before the Student Government Association elections, allegations of campaigning violations have resulted in sanctions being imposed on some of the candidates and have heated up the student race.

As part of the sanctions, the PIC party was prohibited from campaigning from 6 a.m.-noon April 8, the first day of campaigning. However, the party appealed the decision, but in a special hearing held by the SGA on April 10, the sanctions were extended to 30 hours without campaign time.

The allegations of pre-campaigning activities date back to an email sent on Jan. 31 by Sharon Murillo, a senior philosophy major who is running for senator to the College of Liberal Arts with the PIC party.

According to Paulina Lopez, current liberal arts senator and presidential candidate for the FOCUS party, Murillo announced her candidacy through an email that asked for support and for students to fill out a survey. Lopez, junior organizational communication major, said that PIC not only broke the election code with the email, but there were also emails sent out by the party stating they would be having a cookout at Minero Village.

Hearings for allegations against the PIC party were held on April 8, where Lorenzo Villa, election commission member and senior multidisciplinary studies major, explained that Murillo was sanctioned for six hours first as an individual because she had not stated which party she belonged to in the email. Then she, along with PIC party, received an additional 12-hour sanction for the cookout at Minero Village.

According to Lopez, the PIC party is not only the one to blame for these allegations.

“We were asking questions such as how was your experience here at the dorms? What do you think the dorms can improve on, what do you like about UTEP? We really want to listen to them because that’s basically what we’re here for and that’s why we want to run for SGA,” Casanova said.

It was not PIC, it was just some students who really wanted to get involved in student government. Some of them will run, some of them will not.”

Lopez and HOURS presidential candidate, Tanya Maestas, who is the current SGA president and a senior biological sciences major, asked the election commission to require the PIC party to provide receipts for the food and other items provided by PIC during the cookout and that this be included with the submission of the party’s budget.

“With the evidence of the emails, (PIC) planned the cookout so it was an SGA event, but for it to be an SGA event, it has to be approved by SGA. So it wasn’t an SGA event and they were promoting themselves by giving out food,” Casanova, sophomore business major, said.

Gibbons (housing director) for permission to have the cookout saying it was an SGA event, but for it to be an SGA event, it has to be approved by SGA. So it wasn’t an SGA event and they were promoting themselves by giving out food.”

Casanova, sophomore business major, said, the reason for that cookout was not to campaign, but to listen to students and hear what they have to say as he was a resident life assistant in the dorms.

“We were asking questions such as how was your experience here at the dorms? What do you think the dorms can improve on, what do you like about UTEP? We really want to listen to them because that’s basically what we’re here for and that’s why we want to run for SGA,” Casanova said.

“I am especially excited to see ‘Fat Frat’, which is the powder donut eating contest. I’m also excited to see the tug of war and the ‘Chariot Race,’ also known as the bed race.”

According to Williams, the second principle of the Greek Olympics is unifying all the fraternities and sororities on campus to become the Greek community, which symbolizes strength and teamwork.

“The first principle, Williams said, will be Greek awareness in a positive manner.

According to Williams, fraternity and sorority members are deemed as drinkers, or people who pay to have friends, but what the Greek Olympics will be focusing on is demonstrating how Greeks develop leadership skills, create fundraisers and partake in campus and city events.

“Hopefully if this goes really good then UTEP will partner how Greek is actually a community and we’re united and they’ll actually support the event more,” said Cristina Reyes, sophomore pre-nursing major and Alpha Xi Delta sorority member.

“The philanthropy for the week will be a competition to see which fra see OLYMPICS on page 3

Greek Week turns into Greek Olympics

BY ALBERT GAMBOA

The Prospector

Every spring semester, UTEP students involved in the Greek life community come together for a one-week occasion known as “Greek Week,” but this year the university could not sponsor the event. That resulted in the establishment of this year’s first “Greek Olympics.”

Isaac Williams, event coordinator and Delta Lambda Phi member, said that the project follows three principles that reflect not only on Greek students, but all students as well.

“By creating Greek Olympics, we as the Greek community are trying to make sure that people are aware of these concepts and motivate spectators to go Greek in the semester to come,” Williams said.

The first principle is to support and engage a competitive atmosphere for current Greek students by having three events per day all around the UTEP campus. Events will include a water balloon dodge ball tournament at Madeline Park, a dance-off competition at the Union Breezeway and a three-point shoot-out at the Student Recreational Center, among other events.

“This is something that I will be experiencing for the first time as a college student and I can’t wait to see all of the events in action,” said Hector Soltero, junior organizational and corporate major and Phi Delta Theta member.

“With exception of the GOLD party, everybody has been caught with their hands in the cookie jar.” — Lorenzo Villa, election commission member
Unnecessary drama

ALEJANDRO ALBA
The Prospector

It’s all just a popularity contest, isn’t it? Every spring semester a couple of parties get together and begin their campaigning for the SGA elections. As always, there is drama involved when parties begin to accuse each other of pre-campaigning and unfairness. The Prospector has covered drama in SGA since 1948, and this year is no different.

There are currently four parties running: GOLD, FOCUS, HOURS and PIC. Out of these four parties there have been in the line of fire. GOLD seems to be the less known and therefore the one with the least commotion. The other three parties have been accused of cheating and dishonesty.

Having attended one of the hearings regarding the filed complaints of pre-campaigning, I realized just how pathetic these elections could be. There is too much time being invested on allegations dealing with private Facebook conversations and picnics. Not enough time being invested in trying to reach out to the student population.

It’s as if the parties’ priority is to cut each other’s throat and eliminate the competition, rather than offer a strong platform that can appeal to the student body, don’t expect much from our student elections.

Personally, I feel like I know more about their personal issues than their platforms.

You would think that at a college level, candidates would be more mature and professional, but I see them and I am reminded of the power hungry, ambitious and deceitful classmates I had in high school.

All this bickering needs to stop, and students need to realize that the credibility of the process is at an all time low, but because students need representatives that pay attention to the real important issues affecting the student life and can represent them in a positive way.

Students need to see an improvement. There aren’t many average candidates. Most importantly, we need strong candidates that have vision and aren’t sidetracked with gossip.

I attended the SGA debate on April 10 as a student rather than a student reporter to see if I could change my mind from what I had seen in previous days. I wanted to give the candidates a chance to convince me as to why I, along with the rest of the student population, should vote for them.

But once again, I didn’t receive much information. There was a lot of talking on how it’s important to have unity and move forward to tier one, but they didn’t have their facts straight, and they didn’t support their ideas with any plans as to how they would be implemented.

There was even one candidate who proposed to use funds to purchase suits for students, both men and women, who are planning to go on interviews for internships and jobs.

This kind of weak proposals are delivered because we, the student body, don’t expect much from our candidates and we are disinterested in what they do or have to say.

The student body needs to become involved and be aware that our SGA can be improved. Students need to participate in events and get informed in what is happening. At the debate, about 70 percent of the audience was made up of students, but maybe about 60 percent of those students were affiliated with one of the parties. There wasn’t many average students trying to get informed.

It’s all a vicious circle. If we don’t participate, they don’t do well, and if they don’t do well, we get discouraged and we don’t participate. It is time to change that.

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Greek Weeks will now be known as Greek Olympics and begins on April 14.

The Greek Olympics will be held April 14. The lighting will begin inside campus and end at the Student Recreational Center.

Once the games end on April 20, points from the events will be tallied to see who finished in first, second and third place.

“It’s a great experience for all college students to be a part of,” Soltero said. “During our college years not only are we in school for our degrees but we are also here to have the college experience and I think the best way to become a college student is by getting involved on campus activities such as the Greek Olympics.”

Albert Gamboa may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

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According to the election code, in sections 8.04 and 8.05, it is established that candidates who formally campaign before the date and times selected by the election commission are subject to disqualification.

Lopez and Maestas also appealed the commission's decision based on the fact that their complaints against PIC's cookout were filed on April 1 and they received an email with a decision from the election commissioners on April 2.

"While we understand each case is to remain confidential as to what the commission decides, we would have liked a little more clarification as to how they reached their decision and how they went forth in reviewing the case because it was so rapid from one day to the next," Maestas said during the hearing. "I understand decisions will be made quickly, but still it seemed to us rather sketchy that it was resolved so quickly with such a small sanction."

Casanova said the FOCUS and HOURS parties have also broken the election rules.

"One of my senators, who is involved in the Future Leaders of Public Relations (said that) during a presentation (in one of their meetings), one of the executive board members was telling the FLPR members that they had a huge project, that they're going to be supporting FOCUS all the way, that they're going to be working very hard to get FOCUS on the spot and that they're going to be helping with the flyers, with everything, and this was said last Wednesday (April 3), and that's earlier than our cookout—which wasn't campaigning," Casanova said.

Charges were also made against Alexzandra Lozano, who is currently an executive assistant to Maestas and HOURS candidate for vice president of internal affairs, and were submitted after a student, Darlene Purdue, messaged Lozano asking when the elections were. In the Facebook conversation, Lozano sent a response stating she was running for vice president of internal affairs. Purdue then messaged Lozano asking what party she was running with in order to inform her sorority to vote straight ticket for that party.

Lozano, senior biological sciences major, was given an 18-hour sanction at the hearing on April 8, she was represented by Stephanie Avalos, sophomore organization and corporate communication major. Avalos argued that Murillo only received six hours for sending an email to 31 people, whereas Lozano was only having a personal conversation with one other person. Lozano's sanction was then reduced to six hours.

"With exception of GOLD party, everybody has been caught with their hands in the cookie jar. Politics brings the worst out of people and that's something I told the Campus Activities Board today (April 8)," Villa said during the hearing. "I told students, if you see students bickering, people fighting, making the image of UTEP even worse because of these politics, call it in and inform us because that's the last thing we need is the bickering, the back-stabbing, all that stuff and it keeps going on. What we want is a fair and just election. We feel that the punishments we gave them were fair."

Sabrina Nunez may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

SGA from page 1

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with the tunes on stage and the people perceived as friendly. There are many different touring bands from all sorts of bands and a much anticipated line-up. Students prepare for music festivals.

BY MARILYN ALEMAN
The Prospector

A sea of thousands of people at music festivals are a common sight throughout the nation—some are jumping and countless are dancing, but most are excited for the performers about to grace the stages at festivals such as the well-renowned Lollapalooza and Coachella.

Summer is the time of year when many college student music lovers pack their bags, spend their money and camp outside to hear a multitude of music festivals. Summer is the time of year when many college student music lovers pack their bags, spend their money and camp outside to hear a multitude of music festivals. Students prepare for music festivals.

Lollapalooza
Elisa Lozano, junior graphic design major, said she went to Lollapalooza in 2011 and enjoyed the three-day music festival, which was held in Chicago. She said she was surrounded constantly by a warm-hearted atmosphere.

"People were just out to help each other. If someone needed water, someone could help you out or hand you a water bottle," Lozano said. "I can see the environment of music festivals as carefree, everyone is excited, happy and everyone is for the moment of seeing music." She said the impulsive decision was worth every penny for every memory made when she traveled to the festival at the last minute. The memories were even better when she got a good deal on a $90-a-night hotel room in downtown Chicago.

The food that was sold in mobile food trucks throughout Grant Park was also worth every bite, Lozano said. She added that different gourmet restaurants and grilled food sold at lower prices due to the abundance of business.

"I think what I remember most about Lollapalooza is the food," Lozano said. "It was just so delicious, they had these little hot spots everywhere and had everything.

Being in such a large metropolitan area was most memorable for Lozano because the festival was held at Grant Park—unlike other festivals, which sold some of the bands to have their own secret stages, the fancy city that had the buildings lit up at night," Lozano said. "There were even people (who) climbed the trees, because there were trees everywhere, so they could see the performances."

Lozano said she saw artists such as Lyleye Li, Giff Talb, Arctic Monkeys, Local Natives, The Vaccine and The Kill, some of whom made appearances in last year’s Coachella.

This year, Lollapalooza will feature Mumford and Sons, Nine Inch Nails and The Killers, just to name a few from the 125 featured bands, and the cost ranges from $75 to $235. The festival will be held from Aug. 2-4 and according to lollapalooza.com, all passes are sold out.

COACHELLA
Established in 1999, Coachella, a three-day music festival held in Indio, Calif., is sold out every year, both in attendance and in high-ticket prices. Tickets cost from $349 to $783, plus other additional fees that may be included.

The festival is usually held in the month of April, but this year it will take place during weekends, April 12-14 and April 19-21.

While the festival features bands such as Blue, Red Hot Chili Peppers and the Stone Roses, those who bought their tickets are especially ecstatic to experience what Coachella is known for, camping outdoors.

"Now that’s getting closer, I’m really excited about the experience in its entirety," said Selene Delgado, "see FESTIVAL on page 6.

movie review

Welcome to ‘Jurassic Park’ 3-D

BY OSCAR GARZA
The Prospector

It’s been 20 years since Steven Spielberg first took audiences to Isla Nublar to discover dinosaurs that they’ve never been seen before. Since then, “Jurassic Park” remains as riveting, captivating and awe-inspiring as when it first premiered in 1993.

When billionaire John Hammond (Jeff Goldblum) invites a few experts (Sam Neill, Laura Dern and Jeff Goldblum) to approve of his park attraction—which he used cutting edge science that allowed him to recreate living, breathing dinosaurs—they discover that everything goes wrong, thanks to employer Dennis Nedry’s decision to steal valuable emeralds. Soon it is up to the characters to escape the wrath of these very real creatures that haven’t seen the light of day in 65 million years.

It’s truly impossible to deny that “Jurassic Park” has some of the best moments of the entire Spielberg canon. Whether it’s the iconic arrival of the T-Rex (just like with “Jaws,” he is able to make water look terrifying), or the Brachiosaurus scene, which is absolutely incredible, Spielberg is able to truly make the audience feel like young kids discovering these creatures.

When watching it again, not only do the effects hold up perfectly, but the excellent combination of practical dinosaurs and greatly improved CGI truly makes us feel that these are real creatures and that they are terrifying the characters.

The performances are great. Neill is terrific as Dr. Alan Grant and his arc as the father figure for the kids is wholly satisfying. Neill and Dern’s Dr. Ellie Saltier have great rapport.

The initial Brachiosaurus scene is not only completely awe-inspiring and full of wonder, it also combines Spielberg’s sense of discovery while letting the audience admire these creatures, John Williams’ swooping and rousing score and the believable performances of Neill and Dern.

Goldblum, as chaos theory expert Dr. Ian Malcolm, is a scene-stealing character as he has some of the film’s funniest moments, whether he is talking to himself or making jokes about a “future ex-Mrs. Malcolm.” Goldblum’s Malcolm is one of the most memorable characters of the film. Richard Attenborough has a perfect mix of gravitas and a fatherly presence, while also bringing a sense of tragedy to his dream of creating a park full of dinosaurs.

Everything about “Jurassic Park” resonates. It has a sharp, thought-provoking, and at times, smart script by Michael Crichton (who also wrote the novel) and David Kopp. Dean Cundey’s crisp cinematography captures the beauty of the island and the terror of the dinosaurs beautifully, and its effects are simply outstanding and still are some of the best effects ever made (they’re even better than some of the stuff that comes out today).

Its 3-D conversion is really solid also—it doesn’t try to show anything in anyone’s face. Rather, it’s a whole new dimension with depth that creates a new experience with great clarity. One of the most impressive aspects of “Jurassic Park” is how Spielberg is able to switch between tones seamlessly. It can be an exciting adventure when it wants to or it can be incredibly emotional and dramatic when it needs to, additionally it can also be terrifying (I’m looking at you, raptors in the kitchen scene), much like what he accomplished with “Jaws.”

The raptor-feeding scene and the water effects are all examples of how he takes the idea of less is more and the less is more. It doesn’t try to shove anything up just as well today, but also a time-less technical cinematic achievement.

If you’ve never experienced “Jurassic Park” on the big screen, then this is the perfect way to watch it for the first time. After 20 years, Spielberg’s thrilling and groundbreaking adventure remains a wonderful cinematic spectacle filled with marvelous dinosaur visuals, a killer John Williams score, confident direction, great adventure and more. Spielberg’s film is not only one of his best genre films that holds up as well as today, but also a time-less technical cinematic achievement. Five out of five pics.
** Console Review  
** OUYA expects success  
** By Leonardo Montañéz  
** The Prospector  

The $99-indie console, OUYA, which is hitting the market June 2013, might make a name for itself and gain a position among the three big gaming names: Nintendo, Sony and Microsoft.

OUYA is an Android powered console that plays Android games on a television instead of a 4-inch screen. The interesting part is that the console can be completely hacked, giving users and developers a great tool for enhancing their gaming experiences and showing off their creations with an upload feature.

With a design of about 4 inches on each side and a standard controller, two analog sticks, a D-Pad, a classic button diamond spelling OUYA, triggers on the back and a cursor pad, the console’s features are what sells it.

While featuring more than 100 games it is not that impressive, its ability for hacking, to run retro console emulators, open almost any app and even Netflix is something gamers will really look forward to.

OUYA has a simple interface that makes it easy to get used to and move around without really getting lost. It also has various functional and useful options such as the OUYA Store, where the user may conveniently browse over different categories or featured games and then decide whether to try them for free or just simply buy them. The indie console also allows the user to transfer any software from a personal computer to the system and an Internet browser — granted it is a gaming console not a computer.

While OUYA has some distinct aspects and features, it all comes down to the gaming experience with more than 100 titles, among them "Fist, "Final Fantasy III, "SuperGONES" to emulate the Super Nintendo Entertainment System or SNES games, and "SuperNESPlus," which emulates Nintendo 64 ROMS. As far as the rest of the catalog, the games that the console offers often become tedious and repetitive within five minutes, they are Android games after all. Nevertheless, it can't be denied that OUYA has some great-looking games and more good titles to come.

Overall, OUYA has great potential and will make a promising entry to the gaming industry but it still needs some refinement as well as new titles. However, the $99-console has demonstrated that it has a bright future ahead. As for buying it, now would not be the wisest gaming decision. Pay attention to the console after it goes retail as it might offer some great games such as "Minecraft" and "Grand Theft Auto III," as well as some new original features.

*Leonardo Montañéz may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.*

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**BRAND ZONE**

**King Crossword – Answers**

**Solution time: 27 mins.**

**SPARES: HALVE, ERE, AIR, SNOOD, BORE.**

**Bridge: E, T, R, S, N, U, D, Y.**

**Answers to 04-09-12.**
In April 2013, Martina Trierweiler of El Paso has been on the tennis court for a long time. She is a senior tennis player at the University of Texas at Austin. Her success on the court has been impressive. In 2012, Trierweiler made the 2012 second team All-American in 18 singles and 10th in doubles. She also earned C-USA Athlete of the Week in the 60 meter sprint. He has also earned C-USA Athlete of the Week and has the twentieth best mark in the nation on the triple jump. “As much as a team sport track is, so much has to involve your individual play. You have your own self-motivation, only you know what you can do and what you’re capable of,” Jackson said. “I just try to come out here every day to get better.”

The transfer from the University of Texas at Austin came to UTEP to fulfill his two-sport regime. Jackson is looking to get a shot in the UTEP football camp this summer as wide receiver with his speed and agility, but so far he wants to focus on track and finish the season out in a strong way before he starts to worry about football. Recruited by all the schools in the Big 12 conference, Jackson chose to go to UT-Austin where he earned All-Big 12 honors in the long jump and was the indoor and outdoor Big 12 triple-jump champions in 2012. With the football still in his mind, though, he was hoping to get a shot to become their two-sport athlete at the collegiate level. “I thought I was going to get the opportunity to play football because my good friend Marquis Goodwin also got to play two-sports. I thought I was going to end up playing but my track coach had other ideas for me and I just decided it was time for me to go,” Jackson said.

“These are a few courts near my house in Brazil, senior tennis player, Martina Trierweiler practicing at the El Paso Tennis club on April 10.”

By AUDREY WESTCOTT

The Prospector

The way all the way from Campo Bom, RS, Brazil, senior tennis player, Martina Trierweiler has found success on the tennis court as a staple player of the UTEP women’s tennis team, proving that raw talent has no boundary. Taking her first lesson at the age of 4, Trierweiler picked up the sport after her brother became interested in it. Little did she know that 19 years later she would be playing competitive tennis at a university in the United States.

“There are a few courts near my house in Brazil and my brother was always out there playing on them and I just wanted to copy him, and I ended up being better than him,” Trierweiler said. “I was going to end up playing but my track coach had other ideas for me and I just decided it was time for me to go,” Jackson said.

Audrey Westcott may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

see PALEO on page 8

“Being a national champion is the top goal, it would be a huge blessing…”

- Mark Jackson, junior jumper

Though it’s only his first year at UTEP, Jackson has stepped in as a leader for the track and field team by showing complete effort in practices and meets. So far this season, Jackson has placed first in five field events and has met the standards for the triple-jump, twice in the long-jump, on the 60 meter sprint. He has also earned C-USA Athlete of the Week and has the twentieth best mark in the nation on the triple-jump. “As much as a team sport track is, so much has to involve your individual play. You have your own self-motivation, only you know what you can do and what you’re capable of,” Jackson said. “I just try to come out here every day to get better.”

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The transfer from the University of Texas at Austin came to UTEP to fulfill his two-sport regime. Jackson is looking to get a shot in the UTEP football camp this summer as wide receiver with his speed and agility, but so far he wants to focus on track and finish the season out in a strong way before he starts to worry about football. Recruited by all the schools in the Big 12 conference, Jackson chose to go to UT-Austin where he earned All-Big 12 honors in the long jump and was the indoor and outdoor Big 12 triple-jump champions in 2012. With the football still in his mind, though, he was hoping to get a shot to become a two-sport athlete at the collegiate level. “I thought I was going to get the opportunity to play football because my good friend Marquis Goodwin also got to play two-sports. I thought I was going to end up playing but my track coach had other ideas for me and I just decided it was time for me to go,” Jackson said.

“Being a national champion is the top goal, it would be a huge blessing…”

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Everyone has an opinion. Just a few make it count.

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