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The Prospector, January 20, 2015

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COLUMN

Je Suis Charlie?

BY MARIA ESQUIVCA

The Prospector

Two weeks ago, the offices of the magazine, Charlie Hebdo, were attacked by radical Islamists, which left 12 people dead.

The magazine was notorious for publishing what many called Islamophobic depictions of the prophet Muhammad on their covers.

The attack started a worldwide debate about freedom of expression.

In France and around the world, millions gathered in solidarity with the magazine behind posters that read, “Je Suis Charlie” (We are Charlie). At the Golden Globes, actors also showed their support for the magazine. During his acceptance speech of the Lifetime Award, George Clooney paid his respects.

Last week, President Obama said the U.S. will help France seek justice and called the attacks “vicious.”

Some criticized the magazine, while others wanted to protect free speech at all expenses. As people began to draw clear lines about where they stood on the issue, I found myself unsure of where to stand.

As a journalist, the protection of freedom of expression is essential. Without freedom of expression, journalists wouldn’t be able to do good work. The Glenn Greenwalds and Jeffrey Scalfis of the world would be in prison right now, or dead.

But for cartoonists, the ability to use their freedom of expression is even more precious because they’re not guided by objectivism.

In an interview with Democracy Now!, renowned political cartoonist Robert Spiegelman said that it’s a cartoonist’s job, “to make a mess, by God. The cartoonist’s job is that.”

Which is what Charlie Hebdo has been doing.

Stéphane Charbonnier, the editor of Charlie Hebdo, said that in her 28 years at the magazine, it has been controversial on a range of subjects.

“It just so happens that every time we deal with radical Islam, we have a problem, and we get indifferent or violent reactions. We are in a country of the rule of law. We respect French law...” Charbonnier said. “We haven’t been doing this for years.”

God. The cartoonist’s job is that. “As Spiegelman elaborates, “the mission of Charlie Hebdo was not even necessarily to be left-wing. You know, it was—their mission is to rant against all authority. This is like the great adolescent impulse. It’s not a sophisticated dialectic about freedom of speech. It’s just taking it for granted that we must have freedom of speech to be able to do what we do.”

My problem then is if Charlie Hebdo is publishing defamatory illustrations of Muhammad, without a purpose other than the fact that they can, I don’t see their actions as being justifiably correct.

Where is the line drawn between the blatant exercise of rights and the offenses it causes to a vulnerable population that is already heavily targeted by racism and bigotry?

I believe what happened to the cartoonists at Charlie Hebdo is a tragedy; but I also believe that satire has a purpose, and freedom of expression is a way to reach that purpose.

If there’s no higher purpose, then it is an abuse of that right. It is the great “adolescent impulse,” that leads to tragedy.

But when writing this, I’m limited to a broader discussion of the events because my colleagues told me that a lot of college students might not have a clue about Charlie Hebdo.

Charlie Hebdo, who’s that?

SPEAK YOUR MIND

Submit a letter to the editor!

Letters will be edited for clarity and brevity. Letters over 250 words are subject to editing to fit available space. Please include full name, street address and telephone number and e-mail address, plus major, classification and/or title if applicable. Address and phone number will be used for verification only.

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Enrollment Services adds new extension to aid students’ registration

BY NEW WOOLIDGE

Registering for classes has gotten a little easier with a new branch within the Enrollment Services Center, where students can now make phone calls with their questions instead of waiting in long lines.

Located in the Mike Loya Academic Services Building, the Contact Center was created in September 2013 to answer the questions of students regarding registration. Rather than referring students to multiple departments with the same question or providing wrong information, trained UTEP students can answer questions about a multitude of topics.

It began with a handful of students answering phone calls for more than 23,000 students this year, the staff has expanded to 30 agents.

“We want to get all the student’s enrollment services questions answered in one step so they can just focus on registering and getting into class,” said Christopher Ulbarri, director of technology implementation at the center.

After gathering and analyzing two years worth of data pertaining to all of the problems students face during enrollment, Ulbarri helped create a support model that addresses many of the complaints that students gave through feedback from surveys.

Ulbarri said most of the data was collected during peak week, or the week prior to the start of a semester, which is when the Enrollment Services Center experiences the most traffic by students attempting to register.

“We’re focusing 100 percent on customer service by understanding, hopefully beforehand, student needs and then addressing it when they come in,” Ulbarri said.

Ulbarri said the Enrollment Services Center receives about 8,000 calls during peak week. When the Contact Center started, those calls were reduced to half the following year. He said the decrease comes from taking the time to explain all the issues on the first call, which takes away the need for the student to call again.

All calls are handled by a team of agents, who work through a rotating schedule to ensure coverage.

“Basically, we try to help the students through the phones,” Fuentes said.

All employees rotate between assisting students who walk in and assisting students who prefer to talk over the phone.

“Students come to us and tell us they’re having trouble registering. If they have a restriction when they try registering we tell them what kind of hold they have or what they need to do in order to register for classes,” said Dante Pena, junior kinesiology major, who has worked for Enrollment Services for a year.

Ulbarri said there are three threshold levels to the support model, where certain student issues, such as having holds removed or billing and payment arrangements, are not resolved by the Enrollment Services Center.

“Whenever a student calls in, they’re going to tell us what the issue is. We’re going to troubleshoot it and once it’s resolved, we’ll close it,” Ulbarri said.

At level one, students are sent to the appropriate departments to resolve the issue.

Every call and visit is documented to not only improve the quality of service, but to make adjustments to accommodate the changing needs of students.

Ulbarri emphasizes the importance of good customer service and making students’ overall enrollment experience a positive one.

“We want them to say good things about us,” Ulbarri said.

Photos: RUBY CERVIN/THE PROSPECTOR

A student works the Enrollment Services Center, which is located at the Mike Loya Academic Services Building.

Junior kinesiology major Dante Pena works at Enrollment Services demonstrates how their website works.

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DEadline for construction still in question, UTEP pushes to finish by end of spring

BY MARIA ESQUINCA

Students, workers and UTEP officials alike are united by a common desire—the end of construction on campus.

“We too want the project to be over,” said Greg McNicol, associate vice president for business affairs. “We’re working as fast as we can. At the end of the day when we finish this, it’s going to be such a beautiful project.”

McNicol said there are two major openings scheduled to be completed by the first day of classes—Kerby Road, in front of the Psychology Building, and the path between the Liberal Arts Building and the Union Building.

Despite the progress, some students feel frustrated by the delays and roundabouts caused by construction.

“It’s taking forever,” said Astrid Portillo, junior psychology major, who took a Wintermester class.

During the Wintermester session, University Avenue was closed off and students had to go through the Liberal Arts Building to access the rest of campus.

Portillo said the closure caused her to be late to class a few times.

Back in 2012, Andrea Gonzalez, sophomore anthropology major, had to take a similar detour.

“I had one class in the UGLC and the next class in psychology, so I had 10 minutes to run around the Union and I was always late,” Gonzalez said.

Campus transformation began in 2012, and was supposed to be finalized by 2014 in time for the centennial celebration.

“Back then, I thought it was a good thing they’re improving the campus, but now it’s kind of annoying,” Gonzalez said.

McNicol said the construction deadlines were missed due to old underground piping that is being replaced around Old Main, Bell and Quinn Halls.

“It would not be prudent to do great things on top without first taking care underground,” McNicol said.

To make up for lost time, construction resumed during the winter break.

Blas Herrera, a 39 year-old construction worker, said he averaged 27 hours in overtime per week.

“We’re all giving it our best so that UTEP students can feel proud of their campus,” Herrera said.

During the entirety of the break, workers had three days off and worked on Christmas Eve.

A typical workday for Herrera meant coming in at 6:30 a.m. and clocking out at 5 p.m.

“That’s how busy we’ve been, trying to get it in place,” McNicol said.

For more information about construction, visit http://onthemove.utep.edu/.

Maria Esquinca may be reached at theprospectordailynews@gmail.com.
Officials urge legislation to promote cyber security

THE PROSPECTOR
JANUARY 20, 2015

NEWS | 51

BY TORI KREVEN

WASHINGTON — Cyber security experts rallied behind President Barack Obama’s proposal this week to increase cyber security.

Obama and United Kingdom Prime Minister David Cameron on Friday announced the need to increase information sharing between federal and private sectors, starting with the financial sector.

Every day foreign governments, criminals, and hackers are attempting to probe, intrude into, and attack government and private sector systems in both of our countries,” the White House said in a statement Friday.

Cyber security became a more public issue after Sony was hacked in November because the studio’s movie “The Interview” was the comedic movie plot centers on the assassination attempt on North Korean leader Kim Jong-un and was initially released directly to rental because of terrorist threats.

“We need to be able to create doubts in the mind of the attacker as to whether the attack is going to succeed and whether the retaliation is worth it,” Paul Stockton, former assistant secretary of defense for homeland defense, said Thursday. Stockton, former congressman Mike Rogers, R-Mich., who chaired the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, and Gen. Michael Hayden, former director of the CIA and the National Security Agency, took part in a cyber-security discussion Thursday at the Bipartisan Policy Center.

They discussed the president’s response to the cyber-attack and the possibility of future attacks by more sophisticated nation-states.

The president said North Korea was responsible for the hack and increased sanctions against North Korea.

The new sanctions block access to or from one steady news source, but via various social media platforms.

So, my conclusion is this:

If you read the news, you’re awesome and keep doing what you’re doing.

If you don’t read the news, you should, because there’s a whole world out there, and a whole set of issues that you should know about.

There are people dying for causes, dying unjustly, people looking for solutions and just trying to be people. Corruption, justice, liberty, freedom and me and all collapse and overlap as they clash and interweave.

And then there’s us — the people who report it to you, hoping it’ll make a small speck of a difference.

Hoping you’ll read an article, a sentence or even a word, you will know what lies beyond your own bubble. And maybe just maybe, by reading the news, it’ll make a small speck of a difference in somebody’s world.

New Study Guides For General Chemistry I and II will help you understand concepts, solve problems, and help you improve your grade.

See your UTEP Bookstore or CBA Textbooks at 2900 N. Mesa.
Texas legislature may affect UTEP’s future plans on education, budget for programs

BY KIMBERLY VALLE
The Prospector

UTEP will be submitting several funding requests in the current 84th Texas Legislature, specifically for an $11-million interdisciplinary research center that will replace Burgess and Barron Halls.

The administration has stated that the center is necessary to achieve the university’s mission to increase its scientific research capabilities as it strives to attain Tier 1 status.

Richard Gutierrez, political science lecturer, said the education budget will have a direct impact on UTEP.

He said more state money might be used by UTEP to enhance many of the current programs offered or create new ones.

“A significant increase in state monies could also help UTEP to maintain current tuition levels,” Gutierrez said. “It will be difficult for UTEP to expand services for more students if there is not an increase in state monies.”

The Republicans have controlled the legislature for the past 10 years. The 2014 mid-term elections increased the numbers of Republicans in both chambers, which enabled them to have a greater majority in the House of Representatives and the Senate.

“Democrats will have to work with more moderate Republicans to accomplish any of their legislative goals,” Gutierrez said. “The big question is how much influence the right will have.”

Although the legislature is beginning the session with surplus revenue, if the price of gasoline continues to decline or stay at current levels, it will mean significantly less revenue for the state. Many Republicans are also pushing for major tax cuts, which adds to the situation.

“I believe that the education budget will only marginally increase at all. This creates a real problem for Texas as the population continues to increase,” Gutierrez said.


Straus will serve his fourth term as speaker. Abbott and Patrick were just elected, but they know the legislative process well.

“The expectation is that the Senate will be more conservative chamber, especially because the very conservative Patrick is the lieutenant governor,” said Gregory Rocha, associate professor of political science. “Straus, by contrast, is more of a moderate conservative who has the support of all the Democrats and most of the Republicans.”

Many will watch the extent to which the most conservative Republican and tea party members will be able to affect legislation. The expectation is that they will be more successful in the Senate than the House, but whether or not they will be able to craft very conservative legislation will be a challenge.

“If there is a cloud looming over the legislature, it’s the revenue the state receives from the petroleum industry, which has slowed due to the surplus of oil on the world market,” Rocha said. “The comptroller, who has the power to officially estimate how much revenue will be available to spend, provided what many consider a generous estimate of that oil money, and many are calling it into question.”

Rocha said the overall expectation is that the legislature will try to cut taxes and spend minimally, which are two large political issues to watch for, and will likely require more spending on public roads and bridges, and public education. Both are longstanding problems that the leadership has said need to be addressed.

Students such as Damaris Reyos, senior multimedia journalism major, said there would be a large number of students that won’t be able to afford their education if tuition is increased.

“If there isn’t enough funding for certain programs, then how is it expected for people to learn and obtain that experience? As it is many students are working two jobs to be able to pay up loans,” Reyos said.

A bill has also been filed that will deny in-state tuition to the children of undocumented parents, which can hurt UTEP and other border institutions. Bills have also been filed to restore the legislative control over tuition rates. This might also have a big impact on UTEP.

“There is a bill in the Senate to end in-state tuition for students who are not citizens, objection to that has come from the business community, a staunch of conservative support,” Rocha said.

Since 2006, the legislature has approved funding for these students and Rep. Joe Pickett, D-TX, the longest-serving member of the El Paso delegation, said on Thursday that there appears to be a strong consensus to pass this bill this time around.

One bill filed by Sen. Charles Schwertner, R-TX, would re-regulate tuition instead of permitting universities to set rates themselves. Schwertner said that tuition in Texas’ public universities has increased quickly since it was deregulated in 2003 and he said it’s time to regulate it.

The university has other items on its wish list that include:

- A secondary priority is funding for a $115 million in tuition revenue bonds for a new Business Administration Building and conference center. Graduate students in UTEP’s MBA Program are being housed in the Chico Building downtown because the campus doesn’t have room for them. A new business center would reunite them with undergraduates.
- Five million dollars per year to expand the cooperative pharmacy program with the University of Texas at Austin, which enrolls 12 students a year in a program where they study two years at UTEP, two years in Austin, and then return to El Paso for two years of clinical work. The additional funding would allow UTEP to take 80 students a year into the program and allow them to do all of their studies in El Paso.
- Five million dollars per year for the Centennial Scholars Program that provides tuition assistance for the most highly skilled students.

Students may be enrolled at theprospectortx.net.

SPECIAL TO THE PROSPECTOR
Countries of the American continent condemn terrorism

La lucha por una educación continua para soñadores

Guatemala’s Ambassador for the Permanent Mission Jose Maria Argueta was in charge of introducing the Declaration on the Terrorist Attacks in France. He said it had to be done so the members of the Organization of American States could condemn the attacks and speak on behalf of their countries.

The debate, conducted in Spanish, was translated by reporter Alicia Alvarez.

The principles from the French Revolution are everyone’s, according to Costa Rica’s Permanent Mission, and the courage people have expressed is the “courage of today’s civilized world that wants peace and not violence, tolerance and not terrorism” attacks brought out a freedom of expression debate that questioned the morality of making fun of other religions.

“The provoking and insulting other people’s faiths is not right,” Pope Francis told reporters Thursday during a flight on his trip to Sri Lanka and the Philippines. He tried to illustrate this point with a metaphor: if a person insulted someone’s mom then he should expect a punch in the face.

Several representatives praised France for its reaction to the attacks, saying the public unity showed the country’s democratic society.

The adopted declaration by the Permanent Council’s session declared that terrorism is condemned in every part of the world, no matter what the form, and “calls for the consolidation of peace, tolerance, respect for life and other fundamental rights and freedoms.”

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Daudistel returns as interim provost

BY AMANDA GUILLEN
The Prospector

Jesús González, former provost and vice president for academic affairs, announced in November his new job as senior vice president for academic affairs of all 17 campuses for the University of North Carolina, which will become effective Jan. 28.

Currently Senior Executive Vice President Howard Daudistel is serving as interim provost and vice president for academic affairs until the position is filled.

This is not Daudistel’s first time serving as interim provost. He was interim provost in 2011 before González took the position.

Daudistel has been a part of the UTEP faculty and administration for more than 40 years. He has held various positions while at UTEP such as dean of Liberal Arts, chair of the sociology and anthropology department, the social work department, the criminal justice department, interim chair of the department of communication, and assistant vice president for academic affairs.

There is no word yet on when the university will select a new provost, but UTEP officials have said it should take anywhere from six months to a year to search for a permanent provost.

UTEP officials said that this is all in an effort to find the best fit for the university.

For more information on the Office of the Provost, visit www.provost. utep.edu.

Amanda Guillen may be reached at theprospectory@gmail.com.

Anti-abortion group confident House will pass ban on late-term abortion

BY JORDAN GASS-POOE
Sports Writer

WASHINGTON – Marjorie Dannenfelser, president of the Susan B. Anthony List, recounted the national anti-abortion organization’s hand in building the Republican Senate majority at a press conference Thursday at the National Press Club. The nonprofit spent millions of dollars in 2014 to elect anti-abortion candidates.

"The organizations are ready to do the same in 2016.

"It’s not just a political moment; it’s a human moment we’re living in," Dannenfelser said.

"The ultimate intent of the Susan B. Anthony List is to overturn Roe v. Wade. Dannenfelser admitted the organization is nowhere close to making abortion illegal and can’t predict when this will happen.

But she said people are changing sides.

"Developments in fetal surgery bring perspective on the humanity of the unborn," Dannenfelser said.

To back up her claims, she cited the website WebMD. The online health guide’s "Your Pregnancy Week by Week" described the 20th week as the time when a fetus begins to twist, turn, wiggle, punch and kick.

"We’re talking about a person here, not a clump of cells; a clump of cells can’t dance," Dannenfelser said.

"That’s why, she said, the proposed ban is "so desperately needed."
Muslim leaders see new cartoon as further insult to Islamic faith

BY JOE MUSSATTO

WASHINGTON — The latest edition of Charlie Hebdo has offended the leader of a U.S. Muslim advocacy organization, just a week after Islamic extremists murdered 12 employees of the magazine because of controversial depictions of the Prophet Mohammed.

Nihad Awad, executive director of the Council on American-Islamic Relations, spoke Wednesday, expressing his support of freedom of expression, but he said that offensive language should have boundaries.

“We hope that one day there becomes an agreement that there should be a limit to how far you can go to offend other religions and groups — something that would provide social harmony,” Awad said.

The latest Mohammed depiction from the Paris satirical weekly appears on the cover of Wednesday’s "survivors edition." The cartoon drawing of the prophet is shaking a tear while holding a sign that translates to "I am Charlie." The translated message, "All is Forgiven," appears just above the figure.

The original press run of 3 million was increased to 5 million. Awad said he doesn’t feel that widespread support and sympathy for the magazine can be interpreted as a movement against Islam.

I believe that the majority of our clients who decided to sell and republish this did it in defense of the victims of the terrorist attack," Awad said. "They didn’t mean to offend 1.7 billion people, that’s my feeling.

Ousmane Inama, secretary general of the U.S. Council of Muslims Organizations, said that, unlike other religions, Islam never depicts its religious figures.

"As Muslims, we are offended by the magazine and any depiction of the prophet," Inama said. "But we would never reach the point where we condone, allow or accept violations.

While 12 people were killed in the Charlie Hebdo office, Awad said Western media is showing an imbalance in the value of human lives. On the same day as the attack in Paris, Islamic extremists murdered 37 people in Yemen.

"Because they had different skin color, we did not pay attention to it," Awad said. "We’re dealing with the attacks in Paris, and rightly so, but I think we are denying the lives of other people who are being killed every day. That’s how people in the Muslim world see the double standard.

The “survivors edition” depiction of Mohammed was offensive to him, Awad said, adding that he knows what the “all is forgiven” caption means. He told of how Muhammad was expelled from his city after being attacked and smeared. Upon his return to peacefully take back his city, he forgave all who had persecuted him.

The attack on the Charlie Hebdo office was an act of terror that the majority of Muslims cannot tolerate, Awad said. But he said the cartoons are an unnecessary jab to the heart of his religion.

"I respect their right to be free, but they have to accept our right to be offended.”

IN BRIEF

BACHELOR OF ARTS

UTEP will now offer a complete online Bachelor of Arts degree in security studies. The program’s first course will begin May 2015. The program targets people with military, law enforcement, and homeland security jobs, but is open to anyone who is interested. This degree offers concentrations in cybersecurity, homeland security, intelligence and national security, and security options. The program’s curriculum will be offered through UTEP Connect.

ENGINEERING

The National Center for Engineering Pathways to Innovation (Epicer) has selected UTEP to be among 25 U.S. universities to be a part of the Pathways to Innovation Program. This program is funded by the National Science Foundation, and is designed to help faculty transform the experience of undergraduate engineering students by incorporating innovation and entrepreneurship into a multitude of courses.

MILITARY

UTEP’s Academic Institutions for Military Students (AIMS) Network has received a second grant, $740,000, from the Kresge Foundation in order to continue working on serving military affiliated students throughout their pursuit of degree completion. The grant will cover the two year period from Jan. 1, 2015 through Dec. 31, 2016.
Congress unlikely to react soon to Obama’s immigration order, debaters say

WASHINGTON - Two political commentators agreed Monday that President Barack Obama’s executive order on immigration reform will probably remain in effect because Congress is unlikely to take action to change it.

“The intention was to provoke a response from Congress,” William A. Galston, senior fellow at the Brookings Institution, said. “That isn’t likely to happen anytime soon.”


“A Debate over Executive Order: Obama’s Immigration Decision” was a political and opinionated conference sponsored by the American Enterprise Institute about whether Obama abused his authority when he issued the executive order allowing many undocumented adult immigrants to remain in the U.S.

Gary J. Schmitt moderated the event. He is a resident scholar at AEI, co-director of the Marilyn Ware Center for Security Studies and director of the Program on American Citizenship. He said that Douthat and Galston were chosen to present their opposing views because they are both well-informed.

“Both of them have written smart publications through their media outlets on the issue and neither of them were narrow-minded,” Schmitt said.

Douthat and Galston agreed that there isn’t much response coming from the Republican-controlled Congress, meaning that any action on immigration reform will likely happen later rather than sooner.

Douthat said the media and public tend to move on from issues such as immigration, which has been debated for years without resolution. The executive order is confusing enough that it’s unlikely to draw people’s interest.

Douthat argued that Obama’s executive order was “constitutionally inappropriate” and the “sheer size” of the number of people affected by it conveyed the amount of irresponsibility.

“Indeed, Obama was more on legal ground than what I understood,” Galston said. “This is essentially a struggle between the executive branch and legislation. It is Congress’ responsibility now to respond.”

Galston said he originally thought it wasn’t possible for a president to issue such an order.

“It is not unreasonable for Obama to challenge Congress with actual legislation. It is Congress’ responsibility now to respond,” Galston said.

“I spent nearly a week researching constitutional rights,” Galston said. “Indeed, Obama was more on legal ground than what I understood.”

Galston said the solution to an activist presidency is an activist Congress, to which Douthat responded that the president was not only “expanding his powers, but the powers of future presidents.”
Dr. Skateboard

A hobby
A sport
A teaching tool

BY VALERIE HERRERA

At first glance, you can't help but notice the impressive display of achievements Dr. Skateboard has collected throughout his career. Dr. Robertson, also known as Dr. Skateboard, has been a skateboarding performer for more than 35 years and is currently an associate provost and associate professor in the Department of Teacher Education, with expertise in science education, curriculum development, and technology integration.

When Robertson came to UTEP, he had two bachelor's degrees in history and biology, a master's degree in science education, and a Ph.D. in multicultural teaching and education. Since he moved to El Paso in 2004, Robertson decided to continue his education and get a third bachelor's degree in Spanish.

"It's not about collecting degrees, it's about learning new skills. You want to be interested in what's new, especially when working in the field of education because education brings you more opportunities," Robertson said.

His educational efforts have earned him numerous teaching awards, such as U.S. Professor of the Year Award, the Texas Regents Outstanding Teaching Award, and the College of Education's Excellence in Teaching Award. Additionally, in honor of his contributions to the university, Dr. Skateboard was selected as a Fulbright U.S. scholar.
### BUILDING HOURS

**Fall/Spring**
- Mon. - Thurs. 5:30am - 10pm
- Fri. 5:30am - 9pm
- Sat. 8am - 5pm
- Sun. 12pm - 5pm

**Summer**
- Mon. - Thurs. 5:30am - 9pm
- Fri. 5:30am - 7pm
- Sat. 8am - 5pm
- Sun. 12pm - 5pm

**Inter-Session**
- Mon. - Fri. 5:30am - 7pm
- Sat. 8am - 5pm
- Sun. 12pm - 5pm

### EXERCISE ROOM ORIENTATIONS

**Wednesday, Feb 4 @ 4 - 5pm**

**Saturday, Feb 14 @ 10 - 11am**

**Monday, Feb 23 @ 5:30 - 6:30pm**

**Friday, Feb 27 @ 2 - 3pm**

### AMAZING WORKOUTS FITNESS PROGRAMS SPRING 2015

*Student Recreation Members - One Free Week January 26 - 31*  
Programs run from February 2 to May 1

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday and Wednesday = $25 each program.</th>
<th>Tuesday and Thursday = $25 each program.</th>
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<tr>
<td>6:30-7:00 am W&amp;P Conditioning, Rm 120</td>
<td>7:30-8:30 am Insanity®, Rm 120</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30-9:30 am Insanity®, Rm 120</td>
<td>7:50-8:50 am Hardcore Yoga, Rm 110A</td>
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<td>9:30-10:30 am Climb Fit, Climbing Gym</td>
<td>9:00-10:00 am Power Hour, Rm 120</td>
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<td>10:30-11:30 am HIT, Rm 120</td>
<td>9:30-10:30 am Body Sculpting, Rm 130</td>
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<td>11:00-12:00 pm Cycle Pilates Fusion, Rm 130</td>
<td>10:30-11:30 am Ballet Strength, Rm 120</td>
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<td>12:30-1:30 pm Alex &amp; Glutes, Rm 110A</td>
<td>10:45-11:45 am Climb Fit, Climbing Gym</td>
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<td>12:30-1:30 pm Zumba®, Rm 120</td>
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<td>12:00-1:00 pm Spin® &amp; Sculpt, Rm 130</td>
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<td>2:00-4:00 pm Boxing Conditioning, Rm 110</td>
<td>12:00-1:00 pm Bosu &amp; Ball Blast, Rm 120</td>
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<td>4:00-5:00 pm Total Body Workout, Rm 120</td>
<td>12:30-1:30 pm Hot Yoga, Rm 110A</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:30-6:30 pm YogaGates, Rm 110A</td>
<td>1:30-2:30 pm Boxing Conditioning, Rm 110</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:30-6:15 pm Endurance Ride, Rm 130</td>
<td>2:00-3:00 pm Zumba®, Rm 130</td>
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<td>6:30-7:30 pm Spin &amp; Sculpt, Rm 130</td>
<td>2:30-3:30 pm Body Works, Rm 120</td>
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<td>7:45-8:45 pm Group Strength, Rm 120</td>
<td>4:00-5:00 pm Toning Pilates, Rm 130</td>
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<td>Wednesday and Friday = $25</td>
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<td>7:30-8:30 am Yoga Chill, Rm 110</td>
<td>6:00-7:00 pm Boxing, Rm 110</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday = $15</td>
<td>6:30-7:30 pm Spin® &amp; Sculpt, Rm 130</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00-10:00 am Insane Abs</td>
<td>6:30-7:35 pm Body Sculpting, Rm 120</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monthly Fridays Free Program, Limited to 12 participants</td>
<td>Saturday = $15 each program</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:30-1:30 pm Self-Defense Techniques, Rm 120</td>
<td>9:00-10:00 am Splin®, Rm 130</td>
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<td>10:00-11:00 am Zumba®, Rm 120</td>
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*Please register at the Student Recreation Center Membership office room 102B between 9:00 am - 6:00 pm, Monday - Friday.*

### FUN WITH THE ELEMENTS: Outdoor Adventure Program

**Climbing Gym Hours**

- **Open Climb**
  - Mon - Tues @ 5-8 pm
  - Wed @ 11 am - 8 pm
  - Thurs - Fri @ 2 - 8 pm
  - Sat @ 1 - 4 pm

- **Belay Class**
  - Fri @ Noon - 2 pm
  - Sat @ 11 am - 1 pm

- **Equipment Rental Hours**
  - Mon & Thurs @ Noon - 6 pm
  - Fri @ 11 am - 2 pm

**Trips**

- Jan 24 - Ski Apache
- Jan 31 - Ski Apache
- Feb 7 - Ski Apache
- Feb 14 - Ski Apache
- March 7 - 12 - Big Bend National Park / Spring Break
- April 11 - Hueco Tanks Historic Park
- April 30 - Carslbad Caverns National Park
- May 8 - 10 - Taos Box Whitewater
16 Intramurals To Bring Out The Competitive You

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sport</th>
<th>Deadline Date</th>
<th>Start Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Basketball</td>
<td>1/28/2015</td>
<td>2/2/2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Free Throws</td>
<td>2/11/2015</td>
<td>2/11/2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 Point Shoot Out</td>
<td>2/18/2015</td>
<td>2/18/2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indoor Soccer</td>
<td>2/25/2015</td>
<td>3/2/2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miniature Golf</td>
<td>2/25/2015</td>
<td>3/2/2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Free Throws @ The Union</td>
<td>3/5/2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indoor Mini Triathlon</td>
<td>3/6/2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Softball</td>
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<td>Table Tennis</td>
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<td>Dodgeball</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sand Volleyball</td>
<td>4/15/2015</td>
<td>4/20/2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Frisbee Golf</td>
<td>4/22/2015</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**OPEN RECREATION**

Open Recreation allows the use of recreational facilities in the SRC for leisure play. Members can enjoy basketball, indoor soccer, badminton, racquetball and volleyball. The Recreational Sports Department also provides Table Tennis and Foosball with various seating areas. Members may check-out equipment for use by providing an active UTEP ID/Membership Card.

**Racquetball**
- Fall/Spring
  - M-Th 5:30 am – 9:30 pm
  - Fri 5:30 am – 7:30 pm
  - Sat 8:00 am – 4:30 pm
  - Sun 12:00 pm – 4:30 pm
- Summer
  - M-Th 5:30 am – 8:30 pm
  - Fri 5:30 am – 6:30 pm
  - Sat 8:00 am – 4:30 pm
  - Sun 12:00 pm – 4:30 pm
- Inter Session
  - M-F 6:30 am – 6:30 pm
  - Sat 8:00 am – 4:30 pm
  - Sun 12:00 am – 4:30 pm

**Badminton**
- Fall/Spring
  - Sat 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
  - Sun 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
- Summer
  - Sat 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
  - Sun 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
- Inter Session
  - Sat 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
  - Sun 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
  - Also Available Upon Request

**Volleyball**
- Fall/Spring
  - T&Th 6:30 pm – 9:30 pm
- Summer
  - T&Th 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm
  - Inter Session
  - T&Th 3:30 pm – 6:30 pm
  - Boxing Gym
  - Spring: TBA
  - Summer: TBA
  - Inter Session: TBA

The Student Recreation Center is a tri-level facility built through the vision and support of our UTEP Students. Philanthropy starts with our UTEP students. The SRC is a gift from the Students to UTEP, we thank you!

Within the SRC, we offer a variety of programs and services, including intramurals, climbing gym, fitness classes, sport clubs, challenge course, various outdoor trips, open recreation and outdoor equipment rentals.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:**
- CALL: 747-5103
- VISIT: STUDENT RECREATION CENTER
- EMAIL: RECSPORTS@UTEP.EDU
- WEBSITE: HTTP://SA.UTEP.EDU/RSD/
El Paso community races against racism

“Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere”
-Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
Scholar to work internationally at La Universidad Metropolitana de Ciencias de la Educación, in Santiago, Chile.

"My ambition is to give students pathways to success and to give teachers resources that they can use," Robertson said.

As a middle school teacher, Robertson taught lessons in physics, but found that the traditional ways of teaching didn’t captivate students’ attention.

In an effort to motivate his students, Dr. Robertson decided to use his skateboarding background and incorporate extreme sports with education.

He soon worked with other teachers to combine ways of adding activities to enhance learning abilities in the classroom, which earned him the name of Dr. Skateboard.

"I don’t want to get caught up in old ways of doing things. Let’s find what we are into and let’s help them make those connections," Robertson said.

Robertson has used his education as a means to get around the country and follow his skateboarding passion.

Robertson took his idea of active learning a step further by reaching out to middle school teachers and students in the community to help them achieve educational success.

Eric Nieto, senior cellular and molecular biochemistry major, said he remembers when Robertson went to his middle school to explain how extreme sports relate to the anatomy of the body.

"I thought it was really cool and it actually inspired me to go to college to study cellular and molecular biochemistry," Nieto said.

So far, science has been used in more than 80 different classrooms within four school districts in the El Paso community.

In an effort to create appealing new methods of teaching, Robertson wrote a book entitled, "Action Science, Relevant Teaching and Active Learning." The book enhances the learning experience of teachers and students by displaying video tutorials connected to a smart phone or tablet with the use of QR codes embedded within the text.

"Video can be used as a way of delivering primary content, and I try to push out this content with the use of technology to build the movement and make it freely available to anyone," Robertson said.

In the future, Robertson would like to take the action science approach across the nation.

"I find that there’s lots of ways I can do that, both as an adult, a skateboarder, and as an educator to help leverage that idea," Robertson said. "I really want to create a social movement that says learning is something we do for life and we can create the learning ourselves."

---

COMING SOON TO THE UTEP DINNER THEATRE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO 2014-2015 SEASON OF MUSICALS! JANUARY 30 – FEBRUARY 15

CARRIE the musical

You can be the lucky winner of 2 tickets to this show (Includes dinner and performance). Answer these trivia questions and submit your answers to The Prospector office at 105 Union East.

1. In what year did the first Carrie movie come out?
2. Which actress plays Carrie in the first movie production?
3. A second version of the movie Carrie was produced in 2013, which actress played Carrie?
4. Who is the author of Carrie, the novel?
5. In what year was Carrie made into a Broadway musical?

Name: __________________ Phone: __________________
Email: __________________ Major: __________________

How did you find out about this giveaway?

* Participants must answer all questions correctly. Please submit by January 26 to Student Publications office at 105 Union East. Winner will be drawn at random. Must be a current UTEP student to win.
My one reason?
My nephew needs it to stay alive.
You only need one reason to donate plasma.

Find out how becoming a plasma donor can make a difference for patients and help you earn extra money.

New donors earn $100 this week.
Donate today at:

Talecris Plasma Resources in El Paso

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grifolsplasma.com

In addition to meeting the donation criteria, you must provide a valid photo I.D., proof of your current address and your Social Security or Immigration card to donate. Must be 18 years of age or older to donate.

GRIFOLS Pride for Donors. Passion for Patients.
Undocumented immigrants’ story creates film and political discussion

BY JOSE SOTO
Staff Writer

WASHINGTON - As a high school senior, Oscar Vaquerò wasn’t allowed to enlist in the military because he couldn’t provide proof of legal residency. Instead, he entered a robotics competition in 2005 with three of his high school friends, also undocumented, and went on to defeat the reigning champs at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

His story has now been made into a film. It stars George Lopez as Fred, the science teacher turned mentor, Lopez said he was proud of the project during a panel discussion following a screening Tuesday.

“Space Parts,” directed by Sean McNamara, showcases both the human struggle and the scholastic possibilities of the undocumented demographic. It depicts the true story of four immigrant students at Carl Heeper Community High School in Phoenix who entered a robotics competition despite having no legal papers and little money.

The Center for American Progress, a nonpartisan institute, sponsored the screening as part of its Real Progress film series, which screens films that deal with social change.

Vaquerò, who attended the screening, said in an interview that he hopes the film helps ambitious undocumented immigrants get the opportunities they deserve.

“That has always been the point of us sharing the story,” Vaquerò said. “The goal of the film all along was to change the perception of kids. We wanted them to stop being afraid and doubtful. We want them to pursue their dreams.”

The film addresses issues undocumented teens face as they struggle to live ordinary lives with the constant worry that they might be deported.

The students also dealt with demographic uniqueness by attending an underfunded public school that didn’t ensure their success.

The discussion following the screening turned into a review of immigration policy.

The day after the screening, the Republican-controlled House voted for a Department of Homeland Security funding bill that would end the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program that allows undocumented students to remain in the U.S. The bill awaits Senate action.

“Fourteen years ago, I helped introduce the Dream Act,” said Richard Durbin, D-III, told the crowd at the theater. “I’ll heard many stories about unfortunate children whose dreams they couldn’t pursue due to their immigration status.”

In an interview, Durbin added, “We should give them the chance to attend college and enlist in the military. They should be able to become citizens of the United States. Sadly enough, that still has not become the law of the land.”

The Dream Act, which would create a path to citizenship for young adults brought to the U.S. as children, failed to pass Congress in 2010.

One of the students depicted in the film earned college degrees. One was Vaquerò, who graduated from college in 2006. Unable to find a job without proper documentation, he surrendered to the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. He was deported to Mexico and tried unsuccessfully to enter the states legally. But after Durbin told Vaquerò’s story to the U.S. House as an ongoing point for the Dream Act, Vaquerò was allowed back into the country. He enlisted in the Army, served in Afghanistan and became a U.S. citizen.

“Luckily, I was able to come back to the states legally and pursue my dreams,” Vaquerò said. “There are people out there like me who want to pursue their dreams and own.”

Mentor Fred Fitz, CAP vice president for immigration policy, said that the “future of your party is in [wee-jeep-sid]” to anti-immigration reformists.

“You’re turning your back on them,” Fitz said. “It is going to be a barren desert ahead. A lot of it is driven by nativism and racial animus. That is very sad commentary in the 21st century.”

“Space Parts” opens in theaters nationwide Friday.

Staff reporter Jean Kato at Jkato@uci.edu or on [323] 491-9898

URSULA COTTOYE / PARTELION FILMS

LaTo-Oscar Gutierrez as Luis Aranda, David Del Rio as Octavian Arenga, Oscar Lopez as Fred, Cameron and Oscar Gutierrez as Luis Aranda leave an after-school meeting about the robotics competition they won as depicted in the movie “Space Parts.”
Dinner Theatre sets 13 frightful nights

BY JESUS LOPEZ
The Prospector

The UTEP Dinner Theatre will open its doors to, "Carrie: the Musical" Friday, Jan. 30. Thirteen performances will run until Feb. 15.

"Carrie" is the story of a peculiar high school girl, who not only gets harassed and tormented at school by her peers, but is also tormented by her overprotective mother. As the story progresses, Carrie gradually begins to develop telekinetic powers.

"The show is not to be missed, " said Greg Taylor, director and associate professor of theater. "This point of the story is such an important part of the plot and it's the scene most people remember from the films. Rest assured that the scene is in the musical and that it is staged with all the technical wizardry we can employ so that it hopefully lives up to what people expect."

The concerts will be a two-night event on Jan. 27 and 28. Pitbull will perform at the Don Haskins Center Jan. 27 and 28.

"I enjoy his music, but wouldn't go. Tickets are too expensive, but if I had free tickets, I would go and hear Pitbull sing," Rios said.

"I think it is showing El Paso as a city going through an evolution. Before, we used to get nobody," Garcia said.

Ashley Rios, junior forensics major, also believes this concert is positive for El Paso’s music industry. "We were barely getting recognized, but having big-time stars like them is putting us on the map. Now other musicians will know we exist," Rios said.

Rios, who is not attending the concert, said if she got the chance she would go.

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Head coach Tim Floyd announced that UTEP will not play against Kentucky in 2016, last Wednesday Jan. 14 during practice.

BY AARON J. MONTES

UTEP basketball head coach Tim Floyd announced that the Miners will not play against Kentucky in 2016, last Wednesday Jan. 14 during practice.

BY JAVIER CORTEZ

The problem in each of those years was that there were more than two teams deserving to play in the national championship game. A playoff for the college football national championship was going to come sooner or later, whether the BCS was good or bad. As long as college football keeps expanding and adding more teams to Division I, then a playoff would be needed.

That’s the problem with college football though, it keeps expanding when it shouldn’t. Eventually four teams will not be enough, then it will be six, eight, 10, 12 and so on. The bigger the playoff gets, the more changes that come within college football. If you are a college football fan that does not like change, well then you need to find a new sport. Teams changing conferences, conferences disbanding and history being lost will keep happening as long as Division I football keeps expanding.

The biggest problem with college football is that the vast majority of teams do not matter. There are 125 teams and only 5 of those teams have an actual chance at playing for something meaningful in December and January. If you can’t do the math, more than 70 percent of the teams playing in college football either have a losing season or play in a consolation bowl that nobody watches or goes to.

A solution, that probably won’t happen, because more teams playing more games equals more money, is a relegation system. A relegation system would weed out teams that have no business playing Division I college football, while leaving the very best.

And let’s be honest—that’s all we want to see. As much as people would love to say they want to see everyone have a shot at the title and root for underdogs, that’s simply not true. At the end of the day, people would rather see Texas and Florida play for a National Championship instead of Boise State and Baylor.

Now, the problem that I have adjustment for in this case, I am simply pessimistic. College football is going to get worse and worse.

Javier Cortez may be reached at jcvr@utep.edu.
### CALENDAR

#### WOMEN’S BASKETBALL
- Jan. 22 vs. W. Kentucky
- Jan. 24 vs. Marshall
- Jan. 29 at UAB
- Jan. 31 at Middle Tennessee
- Feb. 5 vs. FAU
- Feb. 7 vs. FIU
- Feb. 12 at Charlotte
- Feb. 14 at Old Dominion
- Feb. 21 at UTSA
- Feb. 26 vs. La Tech
- March 1 vs. Southern Miss
- March 5 at North Texas
- March 7 at Rice
- Conference Tourney March 11-14 at Birmingham, Ala.

#### MEN’S BASKETBALL
- Jan. 22 at W. Kentucky
- Jan. 24 at Marshall
- Jan. 29 vs. UAB
- Jan. 31 vs. Middle Tennessee
- Feb. 5 at FAU
- Feb. 7 at FIU
- Feb. 12 vs. Charlotte
- Feb. 14 vs. Old Dominion
- Feb. 21 vs. UTSA
- Feb. 26 at La Tech
- Feb. 28 at Southern Miss
- March 5 vs. North Texas
- March 7 vs. Rice
- Conference Tourney March 11-14 at Birmingham, Ala.

#### SOFTBALL
- Season start: Feb. 6, 2015 at the Kajikawa Tournament in Phoenix, Az.
- Home opener: March 7, 2015 against Middle State Tennessee.

#### TENNIS

#### Rifle
- Spring season: Jan. 26-April 20
- C-USA Championships: April 26-29
- NCAA Regionals: May 14-16
- NCAA Finals: May 21-28

#### Men’s Golf
- Spring season: Jan. 26-April 20
- C-USA Championships: April 26-29
- NCAA Regionals: May 14-16
- NCAA Finals: May 21-28

#### Women’s Golf
- Spring season: Feb. 16-Apr. 7
- C-USA Championships: April 20-22

#### Women’s Soccer
- March 29 vs. Arizona State
- April 5 vs. Arizona
- April 6 at New Mexico
- April 12 vs. Eastern New Mexico
- April 13 vs. New Mexico Highlands
- April 26 Alumni game

#### Track and Field
- Home meets: All day at Kidd Field on March 21, April 18 and May 1.
- C-USA Outdoor Championships: May 14-17 at Kidd Field.

#### Women’s Rifle
- Spring season: Feb. 26 at La Tech
- Feb. 28 at Southern Miss
- March 5 vs. North Texas
- March 7 vs. Rice

#### Women’s Basketball
- Tickets: 747-5234
- Thursday, Jan. 22 vs. Western Kentucky at 7 PM
- Saturday, Jan. 24 vs. Marshall at 2 PM

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Men’s basketball to be tested on the road

BY LUIS GONZALEZ
The Prospector

Last season, the UTEP men’s basketball team was almost unbeatable when playing outside of El Paso, losing just one of the eight conference games they played. This year, that trend has continued with the Miners starting with three wins on their first three road conference games.

After wins at North Texas, Rice and UT San Antonio, all teams that have a .500 or worse record at the moment, UTEP’s toughness on the road will truly be tested when they travel to Western Kentucky on Thursday night.

WKU is one of the two teams that have yet to lose a Conference USA game this season. The Miners will close out their longest conference stretch away from home on Saturday, Jan. 24 at Marshall.

“We have a big stretch coming up here,” said Miner senior center Cedric Lang. “It’s going to be important that we get these three wins and these (games) are really important for us to grow as a team.”

The first of the three wins Lang talks about is a done deal after a 73-55 victory over UTSA on Jan. 17. The Roadrunners struggled with the tough Miner defense that held them to almost 18 points under their average for the season.

Trailing by three points, UTEP finished the first half on an 11-4 run to go into the break leading 50-26. The Miners’ momentum continued with a 14-7 run to start the second period, which pushed the lead up into double digits and they never looked back.

Junior guard Earvin Morris had his best night this year, scoring a career-high 23 points. He made nine of the 15 shots he attempted, including four from beyond the arc. Despite the junior’s career night offensively, head coach Tim Floyd was more impressed by Morris’ performance on the opposite end of the floor.

“I was really pleased with his emergence defensively. He had a great game offensively, but defensively, the last two games he has done the job,” Floyd said. “We’ve needed a secondary stopper in addition to Julian Washburn. We have found that Earvin didn’t like sitting and has taken that as a real challenge and played really well.”

The Miners will now put their undefeated conference road record on the line against a much tougher opponent in Western Kentucky. The Hilltoppers are one of two teams that remain undefeated in Conference USA play and boast an overall record of 12-5. They are 3-0 in conference at home, including a 72-65 win over then-ranked No. 25 Old Dominion.

The matchup between Floyd’s Miners and the Hilltoppers is very intriguing because it pits one of the best offenses in the league against one of the best defenses. Up to this point in the season, WKU is the second-best scoring offense, averaging 73.9 points per game. The Miners are among the top three defenses, allowing an average of just under 62 points per game.

The Hilltoppers are led by senior guard T.J. Price, who is averaging 17.6 points per game. George Fant is the second top scorer for WKU, averaging 13.6 points per contest. The 6-foot-6, 250-pound, senior forward is coming off a 20-point, 11 rebound performance in the Hilltoppers’ win over Florida International. It was the sixth straight double-double for Fant.

It is the Hilltoppers’ first year as a member of Conference USA, so this will be the first time UTEP and WKU meet in conference play. The only other time these two teams have played each other was back in the late ’60s. The Hilltoppers beat the Miners at a neutral site by a final score of 78-59.

After playing the unbeaten Hilltoppers, UTEP will travel to Marshall to face the winless Thundering Herd. Marshall has a 4-14 overall record, but has yet to win in conference play.

Not a very good team, according to their record, the Herd won its first three games of the season and has won just once in the two months that followed. They are currently on an eight-game losing streak that includes a 72-51 drubbing at the hands of Old Dominion on the same floor where they will host the Miners. UTSA will be in Huntington, WV, before UTEP visits on Saturday.

Allowing an average of just over 70 points per game, Marshall is among the worst in the league when it comes to defense. The Thundering Herd is led in scoring by sophomore redshirt junior guard Earvin Morris and senior forward Will Roby. The 6-foot-5 forward is averaging 14.5 points per game and just over eight rebounds.

Marshall is coached by Dan D’Antoni, older brother of former Lakers, Knicks and Suns head coach Mike D’Antoni. He has served as an assistant for various teams at the NBA level.

No matter the stats, every game is important in the eyes of Floyd, and just playing on the road presents a challenge in itself.

“Every time you go on the road it’s a challenge. We all know that,” Floyd said.

Their play on the road was crucial to their success during the regular season last year for the Miners. With a 2-1 record to start the year at home, winning away from the comfort of the Don Haskins Center may once again prove to be important. That does not mean it will be easy.

“It takes men to win on the road and boys to win at home,” Coach Floyd has always preached,” Lang said. “These (games) are really important for us to grow as a team.”

Ryan Taylor: The 6-foot-5 forward is one of three players to start in every game this season for Marshall. He is averaging 14.5 points per game and just over eight rebounds.

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Luis Gonzalez may be reached at lgonzalez@utep.edu.
Women’s basketball looks to bounce back at home

BY Aisan Green

The Prospector

The UTEP women’s basketball team is preparing to face its toughest home test of the season. On Thursday, Jan. 22, the No. 24-ranked Western Kentucky Lady Toppers will roll into town.

When it comes to Western Kentucky, roll is the keyword—Western Kentucky is 16-2 on the season and has won its last 13 games in a row. Their most recent game was an 81-42 drubbing of Florida International on last Saturday.

UTEP comes into this game after losing a heartbreaker to UT San Antonio, 55-53, on Saturday afternoon. The Miners found themselves in the middle of a jumbled Conference USA standings table with Western Kentucky sitting firmly on top. Miner head coach Keitha Adams knows just how tough Thursday’s game will be.

“They’re really an excellent team,” Adams said. “We’re going to have to play a very, very, very good game for 40 minutes on both ends of the floor against this good Western Kentucky team.”

In recent games, Adams has highlighted rebounding as an issue in most of the Miners’ losses, and some wins. In Saturday’s defeat, UTEP was out-rebounded by a smaller team for the entire game and lost on a put back off of UTSA’s 15th offensive rebound.

UTEP also struggled on offense, making only one 3-pointer against the Roadrunners. The team’s usual 3-point threat, senior guard Stacie Tolles is trying to work her way out of a recent shooting slump.

Adams feels like the team’s practices are going well and hopes that her young team can learn from Saturday’s defeat.

“We’ve been trying to make our practices more competitive,” Adams said. “We’re doing a lot of competitiveness within each other to help us get ready for our games, and we’re a young team. We’ve just got to learn from this last game. We’ve just got to continue to work hard and grow together.”

Western Kentucky will be one of the few teams to come into the Don Haskins Center that can match up with the Miners in the height department. The Lady Toppers have eight players over 6 feet tall. The Miners roster currently features seven players with that particular characteristic.

“To make matters worse, UTEP has been without one of their best rebounders, senior guard Chasity Parker for most of the season. The team is still trying to find a player to step in and fight for the boards in Parker’s absence.

Recently, that player appears to be junior guard Irene Gari, who recorded a career-high 11 rebounds against Rice in early January. UTEP will need more than just Gari to step up and defend against Western Kentucky’s two tower forwards—senior Alecia Giv- van and senior Charsty Gooch.

“They’re both very good scorers,” said Adams. “They can shoot the outside shot. They can take it to the basket. They can put it on the floor—and they play very well together.”

See WOMEN’S on page 23.

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With a young team still trying to gel and to much going against the Miners, as far as injuries go, there are still plenty of reasons to think that UTEP could upset a nationally ranked team come Thursday night. The Miners are 11-3 games over .500 when playing inside the comforts of the Don Haskins Center, and are 20-2 under coach Adams when attendance is more than 4,800.

Adams knows just how important the crowd will be when it comes to facing Western Kentucky.

"We need a big crowd to come out Thursday night. It's going to make a huge difference for our team, and having the crowd behind us always helps us," Adams said.

"We've lost a lot of games in the Haskins Center and I think part of it is because we've had such passionate fans. We need that Thursday!"

The Miners have a very quick turnaround following their battle with Western Kentucky on Thursday. On Saturday, the Marshall Thundering Herd will head into the Don Haskins to close out the longest home stand of UTEP's season. Marshall is in the same jumble in the middle of the standings that UTEP finds themselves. Where UTEP trails Western Kentucky in almost every statistical category, Marshall trails UTEP.

The Thundering Herd is 11-5 on the season and 3-2 in conference play. After losing two of their last three conference games, Marshall is coming off two straight wins at home against Florida Atlantic and Florida International. They will make a stop in San Antonio on Thursday night to play the Roadrunners before heading to El Paso.

There have been 31 previous meetings between these two teams. Marshall holds a 7-4 advantage on the Miners. The most recent 1-1 was won by Marshall at San Antonio, a 77-70 win.

While the Miners prepare for the Lady Toppers and the Marshall Thundering Herd on Saturday, all UTEP students are preparing to head back to class for the spring.

"There will be an adjustment that they have to make, everybody's going to go through it — everybody's starting back up. I think that a good schedule and having structure everyday, that always is good — structure is key," Adams said. "We'll get after it. We had a very good first semester academically — so we'll continue to work hard to make good grades this second semester."
UTEPI track and field begins season at the Lobo Collegiate Open

BY JUAN CARLOS NAVARRETE

The Prospector

The UTEP track team is preparing for the Lobo Collegiate Open to take place in Albuquerque, N.M. on Jan. 24. This will be the first meet of the season.

The Miners are looking to get off on the right foot in hopes of reproducing the kind of success they enjoyed last season.

Although the track meet will not count towards conference standings, head coach Mike Lascoone is making sure the team knows the importance of getting off to a good start.

"What we want to do is kind of get the ball rolling and keep everybody healthy," Lascoone said. "We have a bunch of new people, like we do every year, so we are going to see how the new people perform."

The Lobo Collegiate Open can be helpful for athletes, who are unsure what event they are best at. With a team of more than 60 athletes, it is important to find who is good at what, and help each athlete become successful.

"We have the first couple meets where everyone will get an opportunity, then we will go lean and mean for the rest of the season," Lascoone said. "We are going to give everyone the opportunity to compete."

The expectation for seniors is that they perform well. "We have a few seniors who have not performed their best yet," Lascoone said. "I expect those guys and girls to step up for us this year and finish strong for us."

Among the seniors expected to lead the Miners is standout Anthony Rotich who will be looking to add to his already-decorated career.

The three-time national champion has been added to the Bowerman Watch List for the second time.

The list names the top 10 track and field and cross-country athletes in the nation, and is the highest individual honor an athlete can receive. After his triumph last season, Rotich believes he has the formula for success in the upcoming season.

"What I do in 2015 is not much different from what I did last year," Rotich said. "I want to maintain the consistency that I had last year, and so long as my health is good, I know I am going to make it."

Every day is important for the reigning national champion, who also has future Olympic aspirations.

"My coach always said the success of tomorrow is what you do right now," Rotich said. "About the Olympics, it's not that I will be waiting three years to start training. I've started already training the day I got to UTEP."

The Lobo Invitational will be the first step toward another successful season for what is considered one of UTEP's strongest teams.

Juan Carlos Navarrete may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

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