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Support Smith-Soto

BY JAVIER CORTEZ

The war against guns on campus has finally ramped up! Two weeks ago, UT-Professor David Smith-Soto was in the news for his stance on guns in classrooms. News of Smith-Soto’s opposition to the newly signed legislation that will allow students to carry concealed weapons on campus thankfully picked up traction. Now it seems he is on the brink of a UT-System-wide petition against the new law. About 150 professors have already signed a petition made by UT-Austin faculty to outlaw guns in their respective classrooms, and Smith-Soto is trying to do the same here at UTEP.

Smith-Soto put a picture of a no guns allowed symbol sign outside of his classroom and posted two stories on Borderzine.com clarifying why he would not allow guns in his classroom.

In both stories, Smith-Soto points out two shootings that were carried out with legally owned guns, by legal gun owners. Each story points out the obvious flaws to such lackadaisical gun laws in the U.S. “The ‘campus carry’ gun law passed by the Texas State Legislature this year, which allows guns to be carried on public university campuses is a travesty and a violation of our civil rights, a danger to my students as they attend class and to me as I lecture,” Soto-Smith stated in his Aug. 30 post on Borderzine.

Whether or not Smith-Soto and his colleagues in the UT System petition come to fruition, it’s refreshing to see opposition toward this idiotic legislation.

If you want a representation of how stupid some Americans are just look at our gun laws. There are people out there who think more legal guns will solve their problems. Just like an alcoholic thinks more drinking will solve their problems. It’s already been established in studies done by the New England Journal of Medicine and American Journal of Epidemiology that people who have guns at home are at a higher risk of homicide then people without guns at home.

Not to simplify the issue, but it’s already been established in studies done by the New England Journal of Medicine and American Journal of Epidemiology that people who have guns at home are at a higher risk of homicide then people without guns at home.

I do not have a criminal record, I have no record of mental health instability, and I could easily go through any of the steps necessary to buy a gun. But what if I suffered a family tragedy or I was the victim of someone’s wrong doing against me? Who’s to say that my mental state would not be changed by the fact that I own a gun?

To clarify, I don’t believe I would go on a killing spree if I was done wrong by someone or if I suffered a tragedy within my family. But there are people out there who go through these hardships all the time, and the pistol in the dresser, car, or holster is at their disposal to “solve” their problems.

In short, any person with no criminal record or mental health problem can buy a gun, then eventually use it for the wrong reasons.

There is plenty of evidence. Let’s get away from this slightly eczematic argument and deal with the broader issue. The second amendment is a big piece of shit. If you are a conservative American flag-waving gun owner, I’m sorry I gave you and your bald eagle a stroke with that statement, but it’s true.

The amendment is not only antiquated, but it is way out of context for today’s society. Keep in mind when this amendment was written.

There was this thing called the American Revolution, it was a necessity that people were armed to fight the British. In fact it was a militia, which is a military force that is raised from the civilian population to supplement a regular army in an emergency, according to the Oxford Dictionary.

Last time I checked, British Imperialism ended a long time ago, and despite as much fear mongering as there is the mainstream media and politicians, ISIS is not driving through your neighborhood anytime soon.

The amendment is not even close to being representative of our time.

The sad thing is that all of this is simple logic. None of what I have said is in the past 700 words or so is esoteric or incomprehensible. If you are a UT-Professor or student reading this, then support David Smith-Soto cause and vehemently oppose guns on campus here at UTEP.

John Boehner over the years as the Speaker of the House

SPEAK YOUR MIND

Letters will be edited for clarity and brevity. Letters over 250 words are subject to editing to fit available space. Please include full name, street address and telephone number and e-mail address, plus major, classification and/or title if applicable. Address and phone number will be used for verification only. Write to 105 U, Union, e-mail theprospectordaily.new@gmail.com, call 915-747-7477 or fax to 747-8031.
2015 Distinguished Alumni to be honored during homecoming week

Blanca Enriquez

now the national director of the Office of Head Start, started her studies at UTEP after graduating from Bowie High School. A master’s in curriculum and instruction shortly followed her bachelor’s in elementary education, which she earned in 1970.

Although her doctorate studies would take her to NMSU, Enriquez would do the bulk of her work in the Sun City as the executive director of the Region 19 Head Start Program since 1986. Under her guidance, the program would grow to more than three times its size, from 1,200 students to 4,500.

Throughout her career, Enriquez has never completely left the university. Teaching workshops over the years and helping with career development opportunities for future Head Start teachers.

Renard Johnson

another distinguished alumnus, got his bachelor of business administration in 1995 and used that time to develop a business plan that would eventually turn into a multimillion-dollar company.

His company, Management and Engineering Technologies, Inc., is now a multinational organization, which works in research and development, systems engineering and information technologies. The El Paso-based corporation deals with clients both public and private. Johnson started METI while still a student at UTEP in 1994, but didn’t officially open it for four years.

The Andrews High graduate still supports UTEP as an athletics fan, and a member of different university boards and committees. Being a distinguished alumnus is not his only recognition from the university, as he was also named the Golden Nugget in 2013.

Gaspar Enriquez

earned his bachelor’s degree in art in 1970 after moving back to El Paso after a period of time in California. The artist’s works, which concentrate on Chicano culture, have ranged see ALUMNI on page 9
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Fourty-three UTEP students, faculty, and staff raise their voice on behalf of the forty-three Ayotzinapa students silenced on September 26, 2014. So far, 25,000 people have signed a petition with us at Aztlán/Unsplash that will mark the beginning of new opportunities, hope for a better future and respect for human rights and dignity. Ayotzinapa Sin Fronteiras

This compilation is dedicated to Professors: Barrera,�ewis,Moffett, Moya, Rivas, Dalley, Leyva, Reed-Sandelow, and Dr. Topp. Thank you for giving your encouragement, dedication, and time to the student movement Ayotzinapa Sin Fronteiras. A movement not only dedicated to the students which voices were silenced on September 26, 2014 in Guerrewes, Mexico but to the students in the world who want to make a difference, who want to challenge corruption and impunity, who want to push forward human rights, freedom, democracy, and knowledge and cultural exchange. We thank you because without your voices, our voices would have not been heard by the community. Thank you for helping us and being interested in benefiting our borderland, our space and our culture.

1. Hoy estaciones de luto pero hoy no vacas de llanto. La que vamos a hacer es se curará comiendo perros. Las que no comiendo 45 heces de llanto, causado en la balanza de la corrupción política. No vamos a parar, seguiremos en balanza contra los enemigos de la paz y la justicia. (Barbara L. Anography, Anthropology)

2. El dolor de México no nos saldrá indultando. Levantemos la voz por los 43 estudiantes de Ayotzinapa, y por los milles que han desaparecido. Conteste nuestras quejas, que en el Ayotzinapa nos manifestemos un México mayor, pasen más los que quebrantemos a los que busque más. Cassandra Reyes, Masters in Higher Education.

3. Las revueltas frente mas peligrosas son esas que equpadas en una sola disparo entre el veneno del miedo, del miedo al vacío. (Janeen Garza,

Linón, Multimedia Journalism)

4. El estado Ayotzinapa se salga que a todos como mujeres sabemos, agradecidas, a la fuerza de la seguridad y del acto del acontecimiento, en realidad está todo, esa es el grito que está envuelto en las corrupciones y que perqueñamos en el gobierno, Ayotzinapa es un evento que necesita a todos lo mismo a despertar a, la voz a salir a la lucha, a hacer algo por nuestro país, el verdad, cambio empieza en uno. (Luca Angel Perso, Ruesp, Mechanical Engineering)

5. Hoy es cumple 366 días sin los 43 estudiantes, hoy el Gobierno mexicano tiene 366 días de mearse de desesperarse y desesperarse. (Gloria paredes de chvez, Maria

Carmej, Nursing)

6. Hoy me complace leer para ser un héroe. Me complace ser un héroe para ser un indiferente con los sufrimientos y necesidades del pueblo Mexicano y del mundo. Me complace a su manera hacer lo que el mundo no salga a la luz de los estudiantes en el Ayotzinapa. Me complace por ustedes hacer el mundo que los estudiantes no tiren a la luz de los estudiantes. (Selena Morales, Political Science Major)

7. The kidnapping and attention of the students in Iguala is absolutely respectable. These students still need to be liberated by corrupt government officials. It is up to us to take action and stop corruption in order to put a cause the cause these students died for: Adrian Montenegro

8. One year ago, you were taken because you are human voices great thanks, but the story of your world will not be raised. For those of you who learn to learn and continue to cope with your adventure, never looking back, you are the fountain of our strength. (Carina, por recorrer nuestra lucha, por ser el verdadero corazón)

9. México! Con todo amor, gratitud, y respeto a los 43. Carlos Novares, UTEP Alumni

10. The lose of three and potential was menaceous. Our response to that has been a systematic change. My 48 brothers, your fight is my fight. I promiss you to be a part of a change. Destiny Garza

11. El sufrimiento que lleva la voz de declarar. María Leticia, por ser el 49 caso de compañerismo, mis compañeras de estudio. (Rebecca Outrel, grad student)

12. Your disappearance is a personal loss. We demand both answers and a systematic change. My 48 brothers, your fight is my fight. I promiss you to be a part of a change. Destiny Garza

13. Si me muero en México, no me muero menos poder sobre mí, porque somos más las que sufrimos. Y aunque al final, yo no me quedaré. (David Alex Garcia)

14. Todos somos iguales, pero en el caso de las mujeres la desigualdad es constante. Ayotzinapa somos constantes. (Alba Sosa, Entrepreneurship)

15. Si se muere por el país en que nació en pedazos, 366 días han pasado, y sin nos habremos. 43. Todos queremos justicia, porque somos todos Ayotzinapa. Claudia Gonzalez

16. Sometimes ideology are opressed, so violence and intimidation might threaten their voices; but they will never win the battle for justice and the ideal of a country where education is the prime present. (Xavier Salvan, Sociology)

17. How do we surpass an unmerciful absence? Ayotzinapa is a portrait of the political system in Mexico. The forced disappearances is a continuous fail, the terror stretching itself more and more. (Vladimir Vlasov, The Latino Signal)

18. Despite the change we wish in the world, but enmity and uncalled for are not to get us there, facts do not cease to exist because they are ignored. Be the voice of the voiceless. Let's help fighting for the 43 students who disappeared in Iguala last year! (Karen Aguilar, Human Sexuality and Intern- national Business)

19. I relied my voice and it was al- lowed. I stood up and they brought me down. What power and corruption tried to stop it, my spirit and my brothers will carry with (Yo) a mejor el norte (My love and heart) (Genaro Cruz, multimedia journalist)

20. I stood to solidarity with my companions fighting in order to hold the government Mexican accountable for the 43 students. Because the 45 normalistas are disappeared, they will not erase my or anyone's voice. Aaron Montes, Multimedia Journalism

21. Estudian respondiendo en nuestras luchas de la frontera en Ayotzinapa, porque esto es una lucha de México que lo está haciendo con sus estudiantes. Hay que solidarizar porque es así, a pesar de estar tan cerca está tan lejos, y a la vez hay que observar hasta el parar nuestras lucha de lo que esta pasando en contra de nosotros. (Manuel Soria, Aztlán/Absolute)

22. XI. Exigimos un cambio de política, que se den cuenta que es la manera de gobernar al país, no buscamos revoluciones porque ya ha habido muchas muertes, pero buscamos nuestras respuestas por lo sucedido en Ayotzinapa. (David Alex Garcia)

23. Me duele ver el país en que nací en pedazos, 366 días han pasado, y sin nos habremos. 43. Todos queremos justicia, porque somos todos Ayotzinapa. Claudia Gonzalez

24. Me parece una desesperación que el presidente EPN busque hacer caso como a las petiscas del pueblo. (Valeria Paez, History Professor)

25. Me duele ver el país en que nací en pedazos, 366 días han pasado, y sin nos habremos. 43. Todos queremos justicia, porque somos todos Ayotzinapa. Claudia Gonzalez

26. I would like to have the voice in the United States, justice would be set upon. Jaime Regimen

27. Estudian en el lugar de México por eso no se mueren. Por eso no se mueren. (Jose Rivas, Multimedia Journalism)

28. Estudian en el lugar de México por eso no se mueren. Por eso no se mueren. (Jose Rivas, Multimedia Journalism)

29. No lo puedo creer, ni ni con todo lo que les sospecha en Ayotzinapa, pero lo veremos en la justicia. (Emelia Guevara, Multimedia Journalism)

30. Until the question is answered, these protests are going to con- tinues. April 26, 2015. (Eduardo Miravé, photojournalist)

31. María Elena Álvarez, Sandra Rivas, Masters in Higher Education

32. Como estudiante y futuro maestro me siento involucrado con los hechos de Ayotzinapa. No puedo creer que el mismo gobierno pueda hacer tan se- tos desaparecimientos. (Valeria Paez, Creative Writing)

33. I would like to have the voice in the United States, justice would be set upon. Jaime Regimen

34. Me duele ver el país en que nací en pedazos, 366 días han pasado, y sin nos habremos. 43. Todos queremos justicia, porque somos todos Ayotzinapa. Claudia Gonzalez

35. Siempre ideologías son opuestas, pero cuando unificaran la lucha, ellos no podrán. Somos las mujeres en Ayotzinapa, para el cambio, para cambiar. (Xavier Salvan, Sociology)

36. I would like to have the voice in the United States, justice would be set upon. Jaime Regimen

37. Si no en México por Ayotzinapa, expresaré mi dolor por la actual situación que nos está pasando a todos, pero ahora ya fui el causante. El mundo ya no quiere ver más violencia, sino una reforma en el país de México en lo cultural y en la política. (Jorge Tagala, UTEP Alumni)

38. Los mexicanos nos reunimos bajo nuestro presidente de “Las Novelas”, pero lo que nos pasó no hubiéramos podido pasarlo asi que la poe de las novelas. Jonathan Gonzales, Print & Philosophy Major

39. It saddens me to think how the Government of Mexico has just been able to silence so many students. It saddens me that the Mexican government is not just silencing the students who were silenced this important, they were silenced, silently. They’re gone is the pain, because as a global citizen we should all have the voice and, at the moment, I am your “voice”. José M. García, Multimedia Journalism

40. El sistema, es difícil convencer a un país que fue de los estudiantes de Ayotzinapa. No puedo creer que el mismo gobierno pueda hacer tan se- tos desaparecimientos. (Valeria Paez, Creative Writing)

41. Primero, es difícil convencer a un país que fueron estudiantes de Ayotzinapa. No puedo creer que el mismo gobierno pueda hacer tan se- tos desaparecimientos. (Valeria Paez, Creative Writing)

42. Yo no tengo palabras. Es difícil creer que se negaron a ver a un país, a un pueblo, a Patria, Palma Palma, Creative Writing

43. We cannot forget and we will not. I am Mexican and our govern- ment betrayed us. All students are still missing, after a year they just want to be just like I do. Remove one and something in life. Vive en los nombres Viven los queremos. Los mexicanos no excedemos! (Valeria Paez, Creative Writing)

44. La vida se llena de azúcar y de sal. Estudiantes, por mucho que quie- ran, hemos tenido oportunidad de estudiar. Nadia Rivas, Masters in Higher Education

45. Como estudiante y futuro maestro me siento involucrado con los hechos de Ayotzinapa. No puedo creer que el mismo gobierno pueda hacer tan se- tos desaparecimientos. (Valeria Paez, Creative Writing)

46. Como estudiante y futuro maestro me siento involucrado con los hechos de Ayotzinapa. No puedo creer que el mismo gobierno pueda hacer tan se- tos desaparecimientos. (Valeria Paez, Creative Writing)
What's your favorite thing about Texas?

DOMINIQUE MARTINEZ
Freshman pre-nursing major
“I like how diverse the people are, everyone thinks we are cowboys, and ride horses to school but it's actually not like that at all.”

ALEJANDRO DE LEON
Sophomore computer information systems major
“I think Texas is a great state, it's well organized. One thing I don't like is that it's one of the sunnier states in the U.S.”

DANIELA PABLOS
Junior anthropology major
“I think Texas is a weird state. I feel it's more individualistic than any other state. What I don't like is that people can say “This is my land so I can shoot you if you're in my land.”

CHRIS SANTOS
Junior computer science major
“I like the scenic views during road trips in Texas, as well as the mountains and desert.”

IAQUELINE MORENO
Freshman criminal justice major
“What I like about Texas is the culture and the environment.”

MARSHALL HARRIS
Graduate student, leadership studies
“My favorite thing about Texas is it's variety of big cities.”

JUSTINE MANYOSE
Freshman psychology major
“I am proud to be Texan, to an extent, it can be a little strange, but overall I'm proud of where I come from.”

MARTIN RAMIREZ
Senior history major
“What I like about Texas is its size. It also contains beaches, mountains, and valleys.”

NAOMI PADILLA
Freshman pre-nursing major
“My favorite thing about Texas is the food and amount of variety there is here.”

RAMON APODACA
Sophomore psychology major
“My favorite thing about Texas is that everything is bigger, from the parties to the families.”

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Students address food insecurity on campus

BY MARIA ESQUIVIA

On a seemingly normal day, a couple of UTEP students walked from the UTEP Library to the Rescue Mission of El Paso, a homeless shelter, for food, sparking what would become the Miner Connection, a student-driven food pantry.

Esther Zapata, a UTEP alumni and one of the Miner Connection founders, said that after she and her colleagues witnessed the two students walking to the rescue mission, they decided they wanted to do something about it. "We decided that, that wasn’t right," Zapata said. "The easiest thing to do was to study food insecurity on campus. We did not know at that time it was going to evolve to this (Miner Connection)."

The organization was officially launched on Wednesday, Sept. 23 at the Liberal Arts Building lawn, a process that took over a year. "It became official and we’re celebrating as having a space designated for our donations," said Leonardo Gambor, president of Miner Connection and senior organizational and corporate communication major. "There’s power in numbers and we want everyone to be a part of our family."

Present at the event were organizers that support Miner Connection, such as the Student Government Association, UTEP Athletics, Association Marketing Association, Texas Freedom Network UTEP chapter and Uptown Chapaqua. According to an academic paper titled, "Student food insecurity: The skeleton in the university closet," food insecurity is a basic human right that exists when people have access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs.

Food insecurity broadly refers to experiencing hunger due to the absence of food. Zapata said, that after doing research, they found that it reveals contracting figures and that more research at the national level needs to be done, something Miner Connection aims to do in the future. A 2016 study by the University of Oregon found that 59 percent of their students suffered from food insecurity at one point within the previous year, while a University of Hawaii at Manoa study found that 21 percent of students were food insecure. "All the research stores that the numbers are in the double digits," some of the research shows that we are in the one percent," Zapata said. "So the UTEP numbers can be extremely high, we do not know this, what we actually need is to buck up and do more research."

Besides investigating research, the Miner Connection founders looked at UTEP figures to arrive at an estimation of how many UTEP students suffer from food insecurity. They found that 60 students are registered with Foster Homeless Adopted Resources, a UTEP resource center for homeless or adopted youth, and that about 4,600 students are living on $12,000 or less a year. The 2015 federal poverty guidelines for household of one is $11,770.

"That’s about 16 to 17 percent of the entire UTEP population," Gambor said. "If you compare that to school expenses and rising tuition, this really puts a toll on students’ access to food based on not being able to afford it." After delving into the research, Zapata said, they decided that having a food pantry was the most immediate solution to help students who experience food insecurity. "The solution is not a donation, the solution is actually solving the problem," Zapata said. "How can we help you right now? And this is what Miner Connection is, it’s the now."

After deciding a food pantry would be the best way to help students who experience food insecurity, they started a petition where students could indicate their solidarity for more awareness about the issue and having a food pantry as a remedy. They did more research on how a food pantry works and how it can be sustained, and they worked with the administration to generate a proposal to start the food pantry.

"These were the students who put themselves together and said let’s make sure we have some structure to this idea," said Martina Smith, lecturer in communication and advisor for Miner Connection. Students can donate pick up food items at Union West, room 112. Nothing is required to pick up food items; it’s open to all UTEP students, faculty and staff.

"We need to know more about them, but we know they exist," Gambor said. "By making it as easy for them to access that resource as possible, we’re addressing that issue."
Dealing with concussions not an exact science

BY LUIS GONZALEZ
The Prospector

Your left foot leaves the ground, the right one pushes off as the ball flies into the box. Next thing you know you are on your back, with no clue as to what happened in the previous five to 10 seconds. Dizziness, nausea and headaches follow for days, weeks, months, sometimes even years. The more we learn about concussions, the more we understand the severity and the seriousness with which they must be addressed.

Concussions have prompted the early retirement and the forfeiture of millions of dollars over long-term careers in athletes such as Chris Berland and Adrian Corrales. UTEP’s Concussion Management Clinic and its athletic training staff work together and on different fronts to keep dealing with and learning about this injury. “The cases that we see in professional sports, like football, obviously get lots of headlines,” said Dr. Anthony Salvatore, director of the Concussion Management Clinic. “But we also know that athletes in their teens and even early 20s, who have a history of repeated, sub-threshold, if you will, concussions have a greater likelihood of having long-term consequences.”

Salvatore began working at the management clinic more than 10 years ago, with the idea of not only learning more about concussions, but also to provide UTEP students with the opportunity to experience this kind of research first hand. He approached UTEP Athletics and its head trainer Dean Hearns and they have been working together ever since. The biggest threat related to concussions, according to Salvatore, is the fact that everything surrounding them is anything but an exact science. How they occur, the extent of the damage they cause and how to treat them are all questions that still need to be answered in full.

"It should be a major concern, because we don’t know the answer to the question," Salvatore said. "There are so many variables that might and probably do influence the long-term outcome (of a concussion)."

The interference with memory and learning, which can have an effect on academic and employment opportunities down the road are some of the many long-term issues that concern Salvatore. Defined as a traumatic brain injury, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention estimated that 173,285 people under the age of 29 were treated in hospital emergency rooms for concussions related to sports or recreation activities between 2001 and 2009. The statistics rise from year to year, but, according to Hearns, who is in his 27th year with UTEP Athletics including 20 years as the head trainer, concussions have always been present in sports.

"Everybody says there are more concussions now," Hearns said. "I don’t think there are more concussions now, they’re just being better reported."

Hearns has plenty experience with concussions. Just a couple of weeks ago, UTEP football’s starting quarterback Mack Leftwich was forced out of a game at New Mexico State University as a result of a tremendous hit to the head. Leftwich, like all other Miner athletes who suffer a concussion, was put through the programs concussion protocol and continues to recover. The process with which UTEP Athletics handles concussions includes paper and computer testing, as well as supervision from doctors involved with the program.

Athletes in contact sports are issued a test called the Standardized Assessment of Concussion at the beginning of the year. The test is administered immediately after a concussion is suspected and the answers are compared to those from the original base test. A concussed athlete will score significantly lower compared to his original test. Once a concussion is diagnosed, the student-athlete will not be allowed to participate in his athletic or academic activities until he or she has recovered. The computer testing is administered by Salvatore and the clinic.

Initially, the main presumption is rest. Doctors want athletes to do as close to nothing as possible following a concussion, telling them to watch paint dry or the grass grow. No television, no computer, no homework, no studying, pretty much nothing. As Hearn explains, a concussion is an injury like any other. The way a sprained ankle is treated by not using the ankle, a brain injury is treated by putting the least amount of stress on it. "Typically it’s not just a one-day thing, they’re going to be out until they’re symptom free," Hearns said. "The doctors will tell us when it’s time for them to start the return-to-play protocol and that’s the only thing we’ll see until they’re symptom free. Usually that’s a four to five day minimum."

The return-to-play protocol, as Hearn refers to it, is the way UTEP Athletics eases its athletes back into activity after suffering a concussion. Once cleared by the doctor, the athlete will start physical therapy to build up strength and get back to normal. Light jogging and not much more will be done on the first day. It gradually increases from there, and more and more activities are added. In many ways, just like football or basketball, concussions can be more understanding of the process. "I just think they’re better educated now, they’re a little bit smarter," Hearns said. "You want your athletes to be competitive, but you know, that’s why we’re here, to be smart for them."

Hearns recalls disciplining athletes from playing at all because of repeated concussions, and others who after just one had to stop permanently because of symptoms lingering even five years after the injury. The dangers of not giving a concussion the proper importance and treatment can be lethal in the most extreme cases. While scientists still are unable to truly study the brain until after somebody is deceased, the research continues. But as it increases and continues, understanding the severity of a concussion is key to athletes, parents, coaches, trainers and doctors everywhere.

"Health professional ought to be very, very conservative in returning to the activity and training the athlete to the playing field regardless of the wishes of the athlete or the coaches or the institution," Salvatore said. "Whatever it might be, it should be a very conservative approach."

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College of Liberal Arts

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www.utep.edu/minergoldcard
Twenty-eight contestants competed for a spot in this year’s homecoming court, each displaying their school pride in unique ways. The wide array of contestants was brought together to show off their Miner pride by singing, dancing and much more. The Student Government Association’s Homecoming Pageant followed traditional pageant roles by including a formal wear showcase and a round of questions. Organizations from around campus cheered on their fellow classmates and organization members.

With this year’s homecoming theme being Texas, the contestants included country music and two-stepping in their acts. From beautiful ball gowns to native dance, this year’s homecoming pageant had a lot to offer. Hector Soltero, SGA executive assistant and coordinator of the pageant, said he thinks events like this one can be beneficial for students.

“The pageant is a good way for students to see different types of involvement on campus,” Soltero said. “This event is a good display of our peers who are motivated to be involved and show their school spirit.”

Many students used country music to comply with the Texas theme—some contestants sang country songs, others danced. One group used their dancing skills to imitate a cowboy and horse. Contrary to the theme, one pair acted out a scene as the rapper Drake and another student sang his own music, a ballad about Miner pride. Although SGA did not choose the theme, Soltero said he believed it was suitable for the event.

“Homecoming is a big deal in Texas,” Soltero said. “It was a great choice for the week and a way to incorporate a little bit of Texas pride into our UTEP Pride.”

The sub-theme of the pageant was Beyoncé, and many acts paid tribute to the singer. The homecoming pageant also featured dancing from the UTEP Gold Diggers and the Alldredge Dance Team. Power 102 radio host and disc jockey Monica Castillo hosted the event. Among the judges were Stephanie Rivas, winner of the 2015 Miss El Paso competition, Monica Castillo, host and disc jockey Monica Castillo, and student organization members.

At the end, the panel of judges choose six contestants to make up this year’s court. Edward Morales and Kayla Salas were voted king and queen, while Mario Amal-Reyes and Emma Weatherly were chosen as prince and princess. Manny Lopez and Sydney Wharton were crowned 2015’s Homecoming king and queen. Manny Lopez, senior political science major and University Democratic member, displayed both his UTEP spirit and Texas pride with a country dance. He danced to songs like “Country Girl” by Luke Bryan and “Take Your Time” by Sam Hunt.

Lopez said winning the crown has been an amazing experience for him. “Words can’t describe how wonderful it is,” Lopez said. “I wanted to be king so I could help other students with their school spirit.”

The Student Government Association’s Texas themed Homecoming Pageant took place at Magoffin Auditorium on Saturday, Sept. 27.
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

WE’LL ALL FLOAT ON
Registered Student Organizations will be able to participate in the Float Making Party at 6 p.m. on Friday Oct. 2 at the University Towers Parking Lot.

HOMECOMING PARADE
The Homecoming Parade will commence at 1 p.m. on Saturday Oct. 3 and will run along University Ave. and Oregon St.

FOLLOW THE LEADER
The Student Engagement and Leadership Center will be hosting a Lip Sync battle at noon on Wednesday Sept. 30 at the Union Plaza.

MINING HERITAGE PARK
UTEP President Diana Natalicio will be re-dedicating Mining Heritage Park from 2:30 to 3:15 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 2 between Old Main and Yowell Hall.

PEP RALLY
The Homecoming Pep Rally will kick-off at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 3 at Kidd Field.

FOOTBALL
The UTEP vs. UTSA Homecoming Football Game will commence at 6 p.m. on Saturday Oct. 3 at the Sun Bowl. Tickets can be purchased at the ticket center. Students can attend for free by registering at sports.billyelpaso.utep.edu.

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SunCycle takes the city on a ride

BY JOSE SOTO
The Prospector
Residents and visitors of El Paso now have another option when it comes to getting from one destination to another. This new way does not involve a vehicle, making it an environmentally friendly choice for those looking to get around town, particularly in downtown El Paso. All you have to do is hop on and pedal away.

The SunCycle-Bike Share Program officially launched Sept. 16, with roughly 80 participants riding from City Hall over to The Garden, a Union Plaza restaurant, where a press conference took place followed by a celebration.

The Cammell Real Regional Mobility Authority, who is in charge of most of the transportation developments across the area, is the group behind the program. Raymond Telles, executive director of the CRMA, said he is extremely excited to finally see the program launched.

"El Paso needed a bike-sharing program and we've just excited it (finally) here," Telles said. "The program has been in the making for over two years, so we're excited to see the community make use of the program."

Telles said that CRMA's role purpose is to be a flexible program to ensure improvements in El Paso's transportation.

"The others are at the El Paso Community College campus at 100 W Rio Grande Ave., Cleveland Square at 510 N. Santa Fe St. and 116 Anthony St., at City Hall on 300 N. Campbell St. at Pioneer Plaza on 125 Pioneer Plaza and at the Downtown Transfer Center on 630 S. Santa Fe St."

"Besides being useful for reducing commuting and congestion levels in the city, the program also helps people who don't necessarily need to use a vehicle to get around," Telles said. "Mexican nationals can use the Downtown Transfer Center to get to school instead of having to drive all the way. Downtown employers can use it to get around the area for business meetings or simply to get lunch without having to use a car. It's also good for guests and restaurants, where people don't want to have to drive just a few blocks up."

Originally, the program was going to cost close to $2 million, but was brought down to $720,000. Telles said, "$23,000 of that came from the UTEP Green Fund program."

Roberto Portillo, a junior electrical engineering major, said he "loves the idea." "I myself ride my bike from the R (remote) parking lot to my classes," Portillo said. "It's a much faster way of getting around than walking and it gets me in a bit of exercise. I think the program will do the same for other people. Right now, there is a lot of hype about the program. Let's just hope that it doesn't die down."

Portillo said the only thing that he wished was that SunCycle had implemented more stations.

"There are plans to create more stations across town during the second phase of the program," Telles said. "It's too early to tell how many and where because MPO needs to figure out the funding, but there will be more."

The CRMA manages the program, but E-Cycle is the vendor for both the bikes and the kiosks. Mirills Fidelity Company handles customer service and maintenance for SunCycle.

The cost for a half-hour pass is $16. Thirty-day memberships are $30. Seasonal memberships are $50 to $150 and annual memberships are available for $75. For rides lasting more than the allotted 40 minutes interval, an additional $2 will be charged for each additional half-hour, with the maximum charge for a day being $65.

SunCycle can be viewed at ElPaso.BikeCycle.com, where miles, calories and carbon offset can be tracked individually. Similar programs are currently operating in Austin, Ft. Worth, Houston and San Antonio, among other cities in those areas as well. For more information, visit www.facebook.com/SunCycleElPaso.
One of this year’s many activities is the float-making party, which is held by the Student Engagement and Leadership Center, that will take place on Oct. 2 at 7 p.m. at the University Towers parking lot at 1900 N. Oregon St. SELC will be playing music during the event as registered student organizations work on their floats, often into the early morning hours. “This year’s float-making party will be similar to last year’s,” said Sam Rodriguez, coordinator of registered student organizations. “The largest change will be the actual floats that organizations build to comply with the Texas theme and their sub themes. Our new feature this year will be the opportunity for students to vote on next year’s homecoming theme at the party!” Rodriguez also said the floats that student organizations create are part of the weeklong competition called RSOlympics, which are different activities and competitions that student organizations at UTEP participate in during homecoming week. The float-making party is an event that offers these organizations a space to create and stage their floats. “While doing so, the organizations can see their competitors’ floats, which gives the event the competitive nature for the RSOlympics,” said Rodriguez. Some of the student organizations that will be participating at this year’s float-making party are Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Medical Professions Organization, National Society of Leadership & Success, Student Advertising Federation, Kappa Delta Chi, Lambda Chi Alpha, SACCNAS, College Republicans, among others. “We, Student AdFed, are planning to do an awesome float that shows all the creativity and cleverness of all the members in the organization,” said Luisana De La Garza, media advertising major and member of the Student Advertising Federation. Rodriguez said SELC’s float-making party is a perfect opportunity for the members of the participating organizations to get to know each other. “We decided to participate because we really believe that it is a very fun way to be engaged with UTEP and also it’s a way in which our members can get to know each other better,” De La Garza said. SELC reserves the space and works with collaborators at the university to get things in order for the party, Rodriguez said. “The student organizations spend much of their time creating and coming up with ideas for their float. “We’ve invested time in the past weeks with planning and developing the coolest idea for our float because we want all of the creativity of our members to be shown in this activity.” De La Garza said. “Student AdFed is going to stand out thanks to the ingenuity, energy and motivation of that our members have shown during the past weeks.” The float making party has now been celebrated annually for more than nine years, allowing student organizations to socialize, compete and explore their creative and artistic side. “We hope that the UTEP community and the community in general enjoy the float as much as we are creating it,” De La Garza said. For more information on the float-making party, contact Rodriguez at (915) 747-5670. For more information about the different fall 2015 homecoming events, visit alumni.utep.edu/homecoming.

Fernanda Leon may be reached at theprospectordailyent@gmail.com
Miners ready for battled tested UTSA Roadrunners

BY JUAN CARLOS NAVARRETE
The Prospector

The Prospector

With the Miners 27-17 victory over Incarnate Word, their record now stands at 2-2. Their eyes are set on moving up in the standings in the Conference USA West division, which has three other teams in front of the Miners at 2-2.

This Saturday, Oct. 3, will be their opportunity to make a move as they open their conference schedule. The Miners will welcome the UT San Antonio Road Runners (0-4) for the Miners' third meeting with the Road Runners.

Don't expect the same result as last year when the Miners were able to shut out UTSA on the road. Though the Miners are at home, they are playing a much different team, a battled-hardened team.

A 0-4 record does not do this team justice, who, according to coach Sean Kugler, has the toughest schedule in the nation. They lost to two top-25 teams and last week lost by three points.

"In my mind they have the hardest schedule in the country," Kugler said. "They are sitting at 0-4 right now, but I think they are a very good football team. They started off with four bowl teams from 2014." If you add a depleted Miner team, the Road Runners have a shot at taking one away from the Miners. UTEP lost their second running back in the win over Incarnate Word, when Darvin Laufasa, who had taken the place of their number one running back Aaron Jones. With a team that is already depleted at the back, the Miners will become increasingly predictable on offense.

If UTEP is forced to throw and is not able to establish the run, this would play right into UTSA's hands. Although Ryan Metz has done a great job as the back up quarterback, he is still a first-year quarterback transitioning into an offense, something that bodes well for a defense that can stop the offense.

A key for the Miners will be keeping the home field advantage. Although the Miners won two in a row, this one will be much more complicated, and momentum will have a big role in this game. If the Miners are able to get on the board first and keep UTSA off balance, it could play well for the Miners.

Home field advantage is something that coach Kugler emphasized as key. Another win at home and the Miners could do well for the rest of the campaign.

They are going to feed off that our goal is to go undefeated at home. Playing in front of our fans is the best feeling in the world, I love our fans."

- Sean Kugler
UTEP Football Head Coach

"They have given up some yards, but they have played some of the best offenses in the country when you talk about Arizona and Oklahoma State," Kugler said. "They have gotten seven sacks on defense." A key for the Miners will be keeping the home field advantage. Although the Miners won two in a row, this one will be much more complicated, and momentum will have a big role in this game. If the Miners are able to get on the board first and keep UTSA off balance, it could play well for the Miners.

Redshirt freshman quarterback Ryan Metz has led a resurgent Miner offense in the last two weeks.

"They are going to feed off that our goal is to go undefeated at home," Kugler said. "Playing in front of our fans is the best feeling in the world, I love our fans."

Juan Carlos Navarrete can be reached at theprospectordaily.sports@gmail.com.

The UTEP Football team opens conference play against the 0-4 UTSA Roadrunners this Saturday at the Sun Bowl.

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Homecoming celebration reflects on UTEP athletics great feats

BY ADRIAN BROADUS

The Prospector


Compiling 13 total track and field national titles, seven cross country national championships and one men's basketball national championship, UTEP's athletic program is tied for 10th place in Division 1 men's sports for national championships. It was these programs, along with football, that helped put the Miners on the map of Texas sports. Although the Miners don't compete in high-caliber conferences such as the Big 12 or the South Eastern Conference, the historic past speaks for itself and gives recognition to the West Texas School.

In particular, one of the most notable championships in the university's history was the 1966 men's basketball national championship. The win was even more historic because head coach Don Haskins was the first coach in Division I basketball to start five African American players in a game.

Prior to the championship, UTEP, known as Texas Western at the time, was one of the first institutions in the south to allow inter racial athletes in their sporting programs during the early 1950s.

Being the breaker of all racial barriers wasn't the only impact the team made in the state; the 1966 team is still the only team in the state of Texas to win a national championship in men's basketball.

Now residing in Mountain Grove, Missouri, forward Jerry Armstrong reflects on the impact that his legendary team made to not only the state of Texas, but to the country.

"As a team, we didn't see the impact that the national championship made right away, but it made an immediate impact in the city of El Paso," Armstrong said. "We started to get a lot of attention all over the country, and coach Haskins started to get letters from all over the world. It was great impact immediately because of the racial situations."

file photo / THE PROSPECTOR

The 6-foot-4-inch defender was able to witness first hand the aftermath of what the victory over Kentucky did for the university's recognition and how it influenced other schools in the region.

"It was amazing. - at the time in 1966, all the racial situations across the country, especially the South east with all the riots. The impact that all-black starters on UTEP beat the all-white starters on Kentucky in the championship game had a great sociological impact especially in the southeast," Armstrong said. "Before, these schools didn't have blacks. Then, the next year, they started letting them in."

Like basketball, track and field and cross country has a powerful legacy. Characterized as one of the most dynamic coaches in the '70s for track and field and cross country, head coach Wayne Vandenburg, an ex- handler from the University of New Mexico, impacted and influenced the two sports at UTEP for decades to come.

Vandenburg gained credibility throughout the state with his lengthy list of accomplishments - seven top-10 finishes at the NCAA Track and Field Championships and a NCAA title in 1989 for cross country.

In his half a decade with the Miners, the team won the WAC title four times in track and field and no one ever finished lower than second at the meet. Eight of his individual athletes went on to win the NCAA championships in their respective categories.

see TEXAS on page 17

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TEXAS from page 16

"Wayne was the first guy who was a huge hustler and he still is," said Ath-
edric-Thompson. "Wayne was the first guy to get players from all the differ-
cities. Once he got all the players here, then a relation-
ship was built. That's still a big thing now because most of our long-
distance transfers today are from Kenya." Wayne was the first to establish these
connections and now it's going on for years and years."

Stull, who served as a coach on the football team for the Minors in 1986-
88, was named the athletic director in 1998. Since his resignation at the
position, Stull witnessed a dramatic increase in the athletic program's ad-
ministration starting with a change in the Minor logo itself.

"We changed the logo to bring ing in the pick that was never there be-
fore," Stull said. "We changed the color

A solution to the National League Cy Young Dilemma

BY JASON CORIET

The Prospector

The NFL has been back for more than three weeks and the NBA season is
right around the corner, but Major
League Baseball is still getting
now. I know what you are thinking, who cares about baseball when we got
games going in into each other and
talks swishing through the air.
For those who haven't been watch-
ing the latter stages of the MLB se-
son, you are missing a tight race
for the National League Cy Young
Award, which is awarded to the best
pitcher in the league.

It's currently a two-man race be-
between the Los Angeles Dodgers' Zack
Greinke and the Chicago Cubs' Jake
Arrieta.

Greinke, a three-time All Star and recipient of the 2009 American League Cy Young Award, is one of the
most established pitchers in baseball and he is currently having the best
season of his career as the AL's best pitcher. Arrieta has had a 2.72 record with an
unadjusted 1.48 ERA.

Now with the season winding down, the Dodgers ace has seen little
to no inflation to his stellar numbers. He has a 3.91 ERA and .290
batting average, while his 1.65 ERA and .384 WHIP are mind-blowing.

Greinke is hitting a home run for the ages. If he can keep up this
season, he could be the first pitcher to win the National League Cy
Young Award, according to the websites of Sports Illustrated and SI Sports Daily.

Greinke has been the best pitcher all year, but he is not more valuable
because he has a stellar season as well as Arrieta since the All-Star break.

A case can be made for the Washington Nationals' Max Scherzer, but
he has a .266 batting average, compared to Arrieta's .279. Scherzer has
tossed a no-hitter this season, while Arrieta has thrown two perfect games.

Arietta has also been dominant in the NL, where he has pitched
three complete games and struck out 229 batters in 172.2 innings.

Arietta has pitched seven shutouts and has a 2.57 ERA. He is
leading the NL in strikeouts with 239, which is 36 more than
Greinke's 203. Arietta has been dominant this season, and
has pitched 215.1 innings.

Arietta's success is a testament to his preparation and
commitment to improvement. He has
worked hard to become one of the best pitchers in the league,
and he has accomplished that goal.

Arietta has won 13 games and has
pitched in 27 games. He has also
tossed six shutouts and has
pitched 194.2 innings.

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pitched 194.2 innings.
Miners skim past Incarnate Word in the home debut

Quarterback Ryan Metz (Top left) runs the ball against Incarnate Word. (Bottom left) Hayden Piland and Azlyn Golden celebrate after a UTEP touchdown. (Right) UTEP cheerleaders celebrate after a touchdown.

ABILITY AWARENESS WEEK

Watch as the El Paso Air Wheelers go against the Las Cruces Rollers in a wheelchair basketball exhibition game.

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Miners looking to gain momentum as Florida road trip looms

BY JAVIER CORTEZ
The Prospector

Over the weekend, the UTEP women's volleyball team played their first conference matches of the season at home. The Miners opened C-USA play at home on Friday, Sept. 25, with a loss to North Texas 3-0 (25-19, 25-21, 25-21), but made up for it with a win against Middle Tennessee on Sunday, 3-1 (26-39, 25-20, 25-22, 25-18).

The Miners came out on their home court for the first time in 10 days against the Mean Green on Friday and fell flat, the team from East Texas led 11-10 in each set, and never relinquished the lead.

In the second set, the Miners put together their best set, but they could not finish things off. With a slim two-point lead at 20-18, North Texas called a timeout and closed the set out on a 7-1 run. Offensively the Miners were slightly above their average, with a 200 hitting percentage for the match. Sophomore outside hitter Colbie Crossman led the team with 12 kills, but the Miners' offense was not good enough to down the powerful North Texas attack.

The Blue Raiders never outplayed the Miners, but a five-point lead was enough for coach Holly Watts to take a timeout in the first set. The brief stoppage seemed to work, as the Miners went on a 12-3 run to go up 21-18. But old habits die-hard. The Miners gave away the set, despite having three set points. First set has been a struggle so far this season in 17 matches opponents in the first set have outscored the Miners 419 to 353.

Despite failing to convert off of the set points, the Miners turned things around and took firm control of the final set. The Blue Raiders played from behind in the last three sets, which resulted in the Miners first win at the newly renovated Memorial Gym.

It was another improved day offensively for the Miners, with a team hitting percentage of .326, three Miners posted double-digit kills. Senior defensive specialist Ashley Pink posted a team-high 22 digs, while junior setter Lindsey Larson tallied 44 assists.

"I feel like we really controlled that match," Pink said. "We controlled the tempo and when the other team got down, we took advantage of it. Overall everybody had a pretty good game."

Pink attributed better finishing to the Miners' four-set win. The Blue Raiders were never able to threaten the Miners' lead in the last three sets because of improved play in the latter stages of the set.

"We talked in practice about when we get to point 20, it's about going hard and finishing the set," Peck said. "Today we were looking at each other towards the end saying let's just finish it like we talked about and we did." Sophomore outside hitter Colbie Crossman echoed Pink's sentiments.

"Finishing," Crossman said, "That's what we've been working on every day in practice. It took time, but it's finally starting to show up in matches. Our mentality is stronger."

Finishing out sets has not been a strong suit of the Miners this season. Only one of the Miners' seven wins this season has come in straight sets. Head coach Holly Watts believes in her team's confidence grows, so will their ability to close out sets.

"I think having more confidence towards the end of the set (helps)," Watts said. "The early points are important, but the end is where the final score happens. When it gets after 20 points, you have to stay aggressive and keep swinging."

Nevertheless the Miners finished the weekend strong and already have more wins than they did last season.

---

- Holly Watts,
UTEP Volleyball Head Coach

Mean Green outside hitter Carneille Diacono had a monster game, recording 25 kills for a whopping .69 hitting percentage. The senior was named C-USA Offensive Player of the Week for her play.

On Sunday, the Miners would reverse the trend, albeit against a lesser opponent. The Blue Raiders of Middle Tennessee came in with an abysmal 3-13 record, but they did not waste much time, as they took an early 13-10 lead in the first set.

The Miners looking to gain momentum as Florida road trip looms
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