“All our dreams can come true... if we have the courage to pursue them.”
- Walt Disney

Prospector seniors say goodbye
A look back at the best photos of 2016
Spotlight on where Miners are headed out after graduation
What graduates will miss most about UTEP
Farewell to UTEP

BY SHERICKA LAWRENCE

I didn’t know what my life would turn out to be when I moved to El Paso back in 2012. But what did I know was that I was making a change in my life that was most definitely needed. I came here in the summer of 2012 and the rest is history.

I first landed in El Paso in June. I moved with my older brother for a year, and then found my own place, but life happens and I ended up living on campus. While living on campus I met a lot of people who gave me life, as well as took life from me. But that’s what life is about—a growing process of becoming mentally tough and spiritually stronger.

I came to UTEP to finish up my degree, which honestly I didn’t know what I wanted to do at the time. I registered, but I knew I wanted to get a college degree. I started majoring in multimedia journalism in spring 2014. I wanted to become bilingual my last semester of my degree, but since I wanted to learn another language, my graduation date got pushed back to the fall of 2016. I was hesitant at first to take on a minor being so close to my graduation day, but I wanted to be the first in my family to learn another language. I signed up for my minor classes, but I wanted to learn the authentic Spanish language so I signed up for the Miners Going Global program, which coincided with the study abroad program. I applied for the 12-week program to study at the Salamanca University, located in Salamanca, Spain. I got accepted and spent the summer of 2015 in Spain. I enjoyed every single minute of that experience, along with that being my first time out of the country. see FAREWELL p. A3

From the bottom of a plastic cup

BY ERIC VASQUEZ

Remember senior year in high school when every one of your uncles, aunts or general adults asked you what you were going to do in college? Remember how you had a smidge of an idea, but gave them a detailed plan and said it with confidence? The same thing happens when you are graduating from college. When the topic comes up, the conversation goes one way: what am I going to do after I graduate?

The question comes as if there’s a single answer to that. If I were answering honestly, I would tell them that for the first month or so I’m going to be laying on my car seat late at night staring at my ceiling, paralyzed from the possibilities before me and the one decision I get. Unfortunately, people don’t like too much honesty, so I tell them something different every time. I’m going to graduate school in New Orleans. I’m writing plays for small time theaters in New York. I’m prenticing as a medicine man in India. I’m becoming a custodian for a school up in Washington to gain access to their library.

I tell them this because the question is ridiculous. What will you do? As if my life up to this point was planned. Nowhere in my high school graduate mind would I have thought that I would be a journalist for the school paper, president of a fraternity, a weekend poker dealer, a boxer or a published writer. High school graduate Eric Vasquez was telling uncles and friends of parents that I wanted to be lawyer, because at that time all there was to be a was a lawyer or a doctor.

I feel like if you know what you want to do, you are either a sure shot of destiny or not thinking big enough. There isn’t enough time to see all that is great in this world, all that there is to know. A trip through one aisle of the library will tell you that we don’t know anything yet. There is no way the world is just incomes and Netflix and weddings and children.

But to answer the question, the question I am still getting and will get through the holidays and on through January, what I will be doing is not slipping into the machine and falling into the mindset that American life is one of tweets and bars and new seasons of old shows and religion only when it can quote nicely in an Instagram post. What I will be doing is just keeping my eyes open and hope I don’t end up thinking the world ends at the bottom of a plastic cup. What will I be doing, friends, at least every once and while, is looking up.

* Eric Vasquez may be reached at theprospectordaily@gmail.com.
There are moments in our lives that change the course of your life forever. The beauty of life is that you never know when these moments will occur.

I can say without a doubt in my mind that when I decided to work at The Prospector, little did I know that I was about to embark on a journey that would enrich my life and give me the tools I needed to not only survive college, but to thrive during this transitional period in my life.

Four years ago, I would visit the Prospector office almost every day checking in on my application status. Working at The Prospector for me was a goal that I had set for myself as soon as I applied at UTEP and it was something that I was going to make a reality. After what seemed like forever, I was called in for an interview and hired in the summer of 2013.

Soulfully, after I realized I had made one of the best decisions, and every day I would go into work perfecting a craft that I would fall more and more in love with. Throughout my Prospector career I have served in a multitude of roles, it was a staff reporter, multimedia editor, managing editor and editor-in-chief. All jobs were equally rewarding and challenging in their own unique way.

I owe a lot to this publication and to the people behind it. It was given the chance to meet some of my closest friends, advisors, role models and even the love of my life.

Because of my work at The Prospector, I was able to embark on a four-month journey to Washington D.C. I was selected as the fall 2015 intern for the Scripps Howard Foundation wire service, and while there I would have the chance to meet The Scripps Howard Foundation, Las Vegas’ ABC affiliate. The internships, awards and recognition were all appreciated, but what I will never forget are the people who made this often tiresome journey worth the ride.

To the wonderful staff at Student Publications, Marcie, thank you for always complimenting my outfits, Isabel, thank you for always having the answer to all my crazy questions. Vero, thank you for always giving me the best advice, and Kathy, thank you for always providing me with your tough love.

My staff during the centennial issue of the paper, Andrea Acosta, Lorain Watters-Ambroso, Jasmine Aguiler, Jacobs De La Rosa, Diego Buciraga, Javier Cortez and Michaela Roman, I don’t know how I would have survived all of those 18-hour shifts without you.

Andrea, thank you for helping me get my foot in the door: from high school until now we have built a friendship I know will last a lifetime. A few of the people that I can look back and say I would not have been able to if I would have asked you two questions or if I would have seen this coming I would have said no, but just as you always do, you proved me wrong in the best possible way.

¡Te amo!

Last, I want to thank my family and friends outside of The Prospector for always being so supportive during my time at the paper, from sharing my articles to always asking about my next story. There will never be a big enough way to say thank you.

Where do I go from here? After graduation, I will continue to work at KTSN, the NBC affiliate here in El Paso as an associate producer.

Amanda Guillen may NOT be reached at theprospectordaily.news@gmail.com.
Best of The Prospector’s 2016 election coverage


See more photos and read these stories at theprospectordaily.com
Miners make their way to new frontiers post-graduation

Jairus Muller

Jairus Muller, a senior graduating with a bachelor’s degree in digital media production, plans on returning to San Diego, California, after graduation, where he’s originally from.

“Hopefully I’m going to get a position in radio,” Muller said. “I’m interning at KTEP, and I’m going to start applying for jobs and open positions back home in California.”

Muller said a CBS radio station would be his ideal workplace.

“I really want to be in radio, people are always telling me ‘oh you’re so good at talking’ and I have the voice for it and I have the personality for it, so I guess you can consider it a dream,” Muller said.

Muller also dreams of being a musician, a hobby which he first started before coming to El Paso two years ago.

“I think being a musician might give me a leg up depending on what I’m going to be working. My major also incorporates film, so I’d like to do films as well, I’ve done documentaries too,” Muller said. “My dream would be something related to all of these.”

Kimberly Gonzalez

Kimberly Gonzalez, a forensics science major, plans to apply to the biomedical science graduate school at the University of North Texas Health Science Center.

“I want to do a master’s in forensic genetics,” Gonzalez said. “It is the only school that I found that is science-based program. They don’t focus so much on the criminal justice aspect, but more on the science part, which I am interested in.”

Gonzalez said her master’s degree focuses on DNA analysis along with some regular classes in biology and genetics, and thinks her field is one of the many demands of society nowadays.

“With my master’s, I want to be able to join the FBI to work on DNA analysis in their lab because, with this career, you are taking care of not just yourself, but everybody involved and also, indirectly, you are taking care of all the little animals, which is mainly why I do things,” Gonzalez said. “That is my drive.”

Eduardo Miranda

Eduardo Miranda, a mechanical engineering major, plans to work in his field after graduation.

“I got a job offer as an assistance engineer with Lockheed Martin Corp., and I will be moving to Orlando, Florida, in January,” Miranda said. “I want to be able to see what is out there, get out of my comfort zone. Lockheed Martin is one of the companies known for their innovation, so I am really glad to be part of that.”

Miranda is from Mexico, and said that one of his early dreams was to finish college in the U.S. He never thought about getting a government job after UTEP.

“One of my dreams is to contribute to society, finding new innovative ways to power cars, trucks or any kind of vehicle because we usually use a lot of petroleum and in massive amounts,” Miranda said. “I want to also change the environment by powering cars without cutting the emissions of any vehicle.”

Roxana Rodriguez

Roxana Rodriguez, majoring in biology with a biomedical concentration, plans to continue her education by pursuing a master’s degree in biology at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston.

Her reason for going for her master’s first and then to medical school is because she wants to make sure she’s ready.

“I want to be more prepared and be a more competitive candidate for Mexico. In the mean time, I want to do research on thyroid cancer,” Rodriguez said.

She also said that UT Health Science Center is one of the institutes working with thyroid cancer under the watch of two professors. According to Rodriguez, having these advisors increases the chance to beat cancer.

“I don’t want to go into an area that’s already pretty well covered, I want to go into another research in cancer that hasn’t been discovered yet,” Rodriguez said.

Jaqulyn Alderete

Jaqulyn Alderete, senior organizational and corporate communication major, has just applied to Hispanics Association of Colleges and Universities internship in Washington D.C.

“I am graduating one semester early and to be honest, I don’t know if I am fully ready to be put in a full-time position. So I am looking for some kind of program post-graduation that is a good link of just being at school to be a professional full-time job,” Alderete said.

Alderete says this internship will give her the opportunity to be a mentor to someone and it will also add to her professional development.

She said she chose Washington due to her previous visit in spring 2015 for the Archer Fellowship.

“I was interning at the White House Office of Legislative Affairs and I absolutely fell in love with the work that they did there and I needed to go back,” Alderete said. “Right now I am determined to go over there because I think it’s crucial more than ever to have people from a bi-national region to go and represent their perspectives and also to put that Democratic perspective there with such a large Republican majority coming in.”
Winter Commencement 2016 schedule of events

**SATURDAY, DEC. 10 AT THE DON HASKINS CENTER**

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<tr>
<th>College of Business Administration</th>
<th>College of Health Sciences</th>
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<tr>
<td>Hooding and Certificate Ceremony</td>
<td>Graduation Celebration and</td>
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<tr>
<td>Master and Ph.D. Graduates</td>
<td>Hooding Ceremony</td>
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<td>Tuesday, Dec. 6</td>
<td>Saturday, Dec. 10</td>
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<td>Doors open at 5 p.m.</td>
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<td>Event Begins at 6 p.m.</td>
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<td>The Plaza Theatre in Downtown El Paso</td>
<td>Magoffin Auditorium</td>
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<td>College Ceremony</td>
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<td>Friday, Dec. 9</td>
<td>Ceremony</td>
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<td>Starts at 6 p.m.</td>
<td>Thursday, Dec. 8</td>
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<td>Magoffin Auditorium</td>
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<td>Ceremony</td>
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<td>Saturday, Dec. 10</td>
<td>Friday, Dec. 9</td>
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<td>Starts at 11 a.m.</td>
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<td>Magoffin Auditorium</td>
<td>El Paso Natural Gas Conference Center</td>
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<th>College of Science</th>
<th>Undergraduate Pinning Ceremony</th>
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<td>Ceremony</td>
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<td>Starts at 6 p.m.</td>
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<td>Magoffin Auditorium</td>
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**APPLICATION DEADLINES**

Dec. 1, 2016 for degree-seeking applicants who wish to be considered for new scholarships for the fall 2017 deadlines.

Mar. 1, 2017, for all degree-seeking applicants for the fall of 2017.

Oct. 1, 2017, for all degree-seeking applicants who wish to be considered for spring 2018 admissions.
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Student advocate graduates this fall with honors

Jane Aman is graduating this December with an English and American Literature degree.

“I love my time here. I’ve been able to be involved, to be engaged. It’s been amazing,” Aman said.

Aman holds an officer position in Tirotta, the women’s studies honor society, where she helps bridge the conversation on hard-pressed topics by creating safe spaces for students to discuss and learn. She is a part of Tirotta Treats, a monthly series held in Prospect Hall, where different topics were discussed this semester ranging from transgender rights to the sexualization of Halloween costumes.

As an advocate, she also serves as a secretary for the sexual and reproductive rights group Unite for Reproductive and Gender Equality (URGE).

Last summer, she traveled to Washington D.C. along with other chapter leaders to celebrate the organization’s achievements doing a community service project and having the opportunity to speak with Texas Congressman Beto O’Rourke’s staff for the Real Education for Healthy Youth Act, an act that would bring sex education to American schools.

Although her time at UTEP is coming to an end, she is still preparing events for next semester to make the transition of power for new officers in her organization less strenuous by organizing the Women’s History Month Conference.

Aman said being involved was an easy task for her because UTEP creates opportunities that are readily available for students. Along with being involved in extracurricular activities, Aman also excelled as a student in her department. She was awarded one of UTEP’s oldest honors, the Men and Women of Mines Award in May of 2016, where she expressed her pride in being a part of the Miner community.

“I really love this university and getting involved in any way I can,” Aman said in a press release. “It’s an honor to be recognized for that.”

Aman’s community service and academic track record made her eligible to be among the 14 students who were recognized out of the 1,600 applicants.

She worked as a research assistant for the Center for Environmental Resource Management from August 2015 to May 2016, transcribing data and did an independent study with the English department.

Her biggest accomplishment allowing her to become a voice for the College of Liberal Arts student body.

“I really love this university and getting involved in any way I can."

-Jane Aman, senior American and English literature studies

In the spring of 2016, she became the Liberal Arts Collegiate Senator in the Student Government Association, where she has been working on several projects at once. She was involved in bringing more accessible designs to the building environment of UTEP in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

awards could not count those who are not there.

Another factor is that the Career Services is not a research facility. The department focuses on providing resources for students such as help with resumes, internships and other services.

At UTEP there is a Center for Institutional Evaluation Research, which according to their website is "responsible for all state—and federally—mandated reports, ad hoc data requests, and national-level external surveys.”

CIERP collects data on graduation rates, demographics, conducts surveys on student satisfaction and so on. However, CIERP does not collect data on employment after graduation. They do have information on what graduates’ plans on what graduation, 60 percent reported they plan on working, but that data does not indicate whether students are looking for a job, or if they already have one.

The Prospector reached out to CIERP, but did not receive a response.

Rates of employment after graduation unknown at UTEP

Many publications reported that 2016 was one of the best years for college graduates looking for a job. On a national scale, most graduates found some type of work, and having a degree still outweighed not having one in terms of employment and salary. On the local level, however, that hard data just is not available.

At every commencement, staff from the University Career Center asks graduates at the Don Haskins Center what their career looks like in the near future. But the surveys are incomplete, meaning that students can choose whether they want to answer, the information is also completely dependent on who happens to be at the Don Haskins Center at the time.

Betsy Castro Duarte, the director of University Career Center, explains why this is so. “It’s just students’ self-reported information so it’s not a true picture of what the jobs are that students get,” said Castro Duarte.

“so we do capture some of that information, but to tell you that it’s complete would be untrue.”

The data also does not tell the whole story, and questions can imply one thing, but when taken in context can mean something else.

In spring of 2016, Career Services surveyed 2,017 students and asked graduates if they are on Capitol Hill. She also had jobs is relating to their field of study, and 77 percent of those students said yes to both. But, that does not mean that 23 percent of students failed to find a job or that they wasted time on a degree they’re not going to use immediately.

Some jobs don’t require a specific degree, instead they just require that one has a degree, and some students who are in the military are going to school because it’s free, not necessarily because they need it for their careers.

“So maybe right now it’s not something that ‘OK I need to have this college degree,’ but it’s something like ‘Down the line I might need it’,” Castro Duarte said.

Other jobs are not readily available for right out of graduation, and a degree may not be the only prerequisite needed for a job. Careers such as teaching and nursing require certificates before they can start applying, so if asked during commencement those majors would have to say that they don’t have any jobs lined up yet.

“Then haven’t taken their certification—they can’t start working. But the placement rate for nursing is like 99.9 percent and all of those folks get jobs,” Castro Duarte said. “It’s just the timing, the timing of right after graduation. Do you have a job? ‘No, because I haven’t taken my board,’ but once they take their boards and pass them they’re all going to get jobs because the demand is so great.”

Another obstacle to obtaining accurate data is the fact that UTEP is a commuter school. There is a similar problem when counting the graduation rates at UTEP. Not everyone is counted because not everyone stays. This further muddles the information because Career Services can’t count those who are not there.

As for after graduation, Aman is considering extending her research in women’s studies and has applied to several internships and graduate schools.

Although she has been involved on campus in changing the conversation involving women’s rights and has volunteered in shelters for victims of domestic violence, Aman said her work is not done yet.

“I want to be a teacher, or get a job in political advocacy, pursue my research and make things more inclusive,” Aman said.

Aman will graduate magna cum laude in May and will participate in a graduation ceremony. Her efforts on campus and her dedication to change the conversation in political advocacy and similar data.

By MARIANA RODRIGUEZ

The Prospector

There are students who leave an impact on UTEP, and Jane Aman, an English and American Lit-}

erature major, graduates this December with a slew of accomplishments under her belt.

Since transferring from the Col-}
QUESTION OF THE WEEK

What will you miss about UTEP when you graduate?

CLAUDIA HERNANDEZ, NINA TITOŠETS, GABY VELASQUEZ/ THE PROSPECTOR

ANDREA HERNANDEZ
Senior cellular and molecular biochemistry major
“I am going to miss the friendly community here in El Paso, as well as the friends I have made here on campus.”

ANDREW YURACHEK
Senior economics major
“I am going to miss my professors because they’ve taught me so many things.”

ANTONIO BACA
Senior mathematics major
“Pokemon Go, because it’s fun and you meet a lot of new people.”

CRISTIAN GONZALEZ
Senior, multimedia journalism major
“I am going to miss dancing for the UTEP Goldiggers. I really love performing for the UTEP crowd and fans.”

DANIEL NAJERA
Senior chemistry major
“I am going to miss the El Paso culture; people are always kind and helpful and I am very thankful for all the great friends I’ve made while here at UTEP.”

ISAC YEPEZ
Senior American literature major
“Some of the professors in the Liberal Arts College, they know how to entertain a discussion with students and allow people to voice their opinions. I hope that these kinds of discussions will be possible outside of UTEP as well.”

JAMES AHUMADA
Senior art history major
“Honestly a lot of the professors, they’re really cool and get really personal, a lot of them get to know you from a personal standpoint, a lot of my friends, and just getting to see all the people I know.”

KEVIN GODINA
Senior electrical engineering major
“Friends, my classmates because of all the adventures that we’ve had together.”

MARIE FUENTES
Senior cellular molecular biochemistry major
“I am going to miss how accessible UTEP is for students, in a way that you can have so many opportunities here.”

MATTHEW DURAN
Senior criminal justice major
“I am going to miss walking around the UTEP campus, the landscaping and architecture are really unique and are going to be hard to find anywhere else.”

PRISCILLA RODRIGUEZ
Senior electrical engineering major
“The resources, because UTEP offers a lot of resources that help me in my research and in my projects.”

ROXANNA ROCHA
Senior nursing major
“I am going to miss my sorority, they are a sisterhood and family that I won’t be able to replace, as well as the experiences I have had here that have enabled me to grow in my field and as a person.”

SOFIA HUBBARD
Senior multidisciplinary studies major
“Actually, everything. We waited so long for the Centennial Plaza to be finished. I am going to miss the environment, the free yoga classes on Tuesdays, and all of the services UTEP students can enjoy here.”

YAZMINE HUICAR
Senior psychology and biology major
“What I’m going to miss the most about UTEP is being surrounded by people and friends that think like me and support me.”

RAFAEL BENERO
Senior sculpture major
“The level of intellectual conversation that is implemented throughout the courses, because it enhances the train of thought that’s for higher education and for educational purposes.”

MANDY TWOMEY
Senior music education major
“I’m going to miss the campus, the most because they’ve cleaned it up over the time that I’ve been here. I really love walking around campus.”

DONNA DELGADO
Senior electrical engineering major
“I think it’s mostly my friends and studying with them, it’s like that kind of companionship that you don’t get anywhere else, especially in companies.”

LUISA GARCIA
Senior linguistics major
“I’m going to miss the classes, my professors and the university, because I really like the environment that the university has.”

ALFREDO LIGGINS
Senior mechanical engineering major
“Probably marching band because it’s my last year. It’s a lot of fun and I made great friends.”

“Friends, my classmates because of all the adventures that we’ve had together.”

“Actually, everything. We waited so long for the Centennial Plaza to be finished. I am going to miss the environment, the free yoga classes on Tuesdays, and all of the services UTEP students can enjoy here.”

“My classmates because of all the adventures that we’ve had together.”

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“It’s a lot of fun and I made great friends.”

“I’m going to miss the classes, my professors and the university, because I really like the environment that the university has.”
The Prospector
November 29, 2016

YOUR PRESIDENT

Voting for the presidential office, not the president

BY CHRISTIAN VASQUEZ
The Prospector

When voting for a president, you are not only voting for one person, but for the entire executive office that stands behind them. There are nearly 4,000 positions that a new president-elect must appoint to fill the positions left by the previous administration. When the incoming president is of the same party as the previous administration, there are fewer seats to fill as the same people will usually keep their jobs. But when there is a new party coming in to fill the executive office, there are a lot of seats to fill, and the sooner you fill them, the sooner the administration can get to work. And while there are many positions to fill there are four seats that can easily change the direction of the country: secretary of state, secretary of defense, and attorney general.

Secretary of State

In simple terms, the secretary of state executes the president’s foreign policy. The office has a wide range of work, from accepting passports to brokering peace treaties between two countries. Besides the president, the secretary of state is the face of the nation to other countries. John Kerry, the current secretary of state, played a vital role with the success of the Iran nuclear deal, but has largely been criticized for his inability to accomplish any major steps forward in the Middle East. While focusing so much on the Middle East, Kerry has all but ignored parts of Asia such as China and North Korea. Because of this, some say that China will play a bigger role in competition with the United States, and that North Korea will be a bigger danger in the near future.

President-elect Trump has yet to pick a secretary of state, but whoever he picks will have a lasting effect on the world.

Secretary of Defense

The secretary of defense is responsible for domestic and international monetary policy, as well as advising the president on regulating industry. It is also in charge of the production of money and collecting from as well as paying U.S. citizens.

The secretary of the treasury will play the main role in negotiating or dealing with Trump’s economic policies, especially getting rid of or renegotiating trade deals.

Secretary of Defense

The secretary of defense is going to be the keystone in the continued fight against ISIS and other radical extremists. Whomever President-elect Trump picks must coordinate the entire Department of Defense, manage the pressures and different opinions that come from within the Department of Defense that will put both American and foreign lives in danger.

Paul Hammond, a professor from the University of Pennsylvania, in his book “Organizing for Defense” argues that the secretary of defense should also have business experience as the office requires many aspects similar to business administration.

The secretary must walk a fine line between aggression and negotiation. If the agenda abuses the United States military might it can lead to a military-first foreign policy. This is shown in Obama’s policy with drone use, which has drawn outcry of human rights abuse. If, on the other hand, the agenda is too timid with force, then other countries can take advantage of the United States. For example, some claim that the Russian invasion of Ukraine was caused due to Obama’s unwillingness to engage in direct conflict with Russia.

Attorney General

The attorney general has been called the highest law official in the nation. The office represents the United States in lawsuits and other legal matters and advises and carries out the agenda of the president.

In the Obama administration, the office investigated patterns of abuse of civil rights, advised against piling charges on low-level drug offenders, started to phase out the use of private, for-profit prisons and directed the Department of Homeland Security to focus on immigrants with criminal records.

The new attorney general, alongside President-elect Trump through executive orders, could reverse all the Obama’s administration directives.
Student receives a full paid semester thanks to tacos

BY MICHAELA ROMÁN
The Prospector

Defending the importance of diversity in the U.S in a time when ethnicity is under the spotlight played a key role in the winner of this year’s El Taco Tote Taculture Scholarship.

On the borderland, El Taco Tote has several locations that aim to serve authentic Mexican food. To help alleviate a student’s financial stress for a semester, Taco Tote created a scholarship, where applicants submit an essay about the impact of Mexican culture and tacos in the United States as well as writing about their personal aspirations.

This year, Ariel Alvarado, a sophomore psychology major, was the recipient of this semester’s scholarship.

“I applied to this scholarship because I am trying to save money to be able to attend medical school. The money I was going to spend next semester can now be saved for my future education,” Alvarado said. “This was the first scholarship I have applied for and it encouraged me to apply to many more in the future.”

Political statements and disparaging comments against Mexicans used during the presidential election were at the heart of Alvarado’s essay for the scholarship.

At the start of September, when the presidential election season was in high gear and controversies were raging more than ever, Marco Gutierrez—founder of Latinos for Trump—went live on an MSNBC debate panel saying, “My culture is a very dominant culture, and it’s imposing and it’s causing problems. If you don’t do something about it, you’re going to have taco trucks on every corner.”

Gutierrez’s statement caused a frenzy of reactions on social media and the hashtag #TacosOnEveryCorner began trending in support of taco trucks.

Alvarado, who was born in El Paso and raised in Ciudad Juárez, crosses the Santa Fe Bridge, or El Puente de las Americas, to get to UTEP during the week. Although it can be tedious at times, Alvarado said he enjoys living in Juárez and coming to El Paso every day. He said it’s like having two homes and benefits him in the long run to finish his education in the United States.

“My culture is one of the richest cultures in the world,” Alvarado said. “We can share that with other countries and learn from each other to have a better understanding of the world.”

In his 1,400-word essay submission, Alvarado wrote, “The key for the great success of this country resides in its diversity, having people from all over the world interacting, and sharing their ideas and working together to contribute to its success economically and socially.”

“I was confident that the ideas I used to develop the essay explained in detail how immigration, the Mexican cuisine and Mexico’s rich culture have a positive impact in the United States,” Alvarado said. “I learn from both cultures and living in the border allows me to share what I know about the American culture with my Mexican friends and vice versa. I am always trying to get the best of each culture and combine them to share all the positive aspects of each.”

After graduating from UTEP with a bachelor’s degree in psychology, Alvarado plans to go to medical school, get his doctorate and then specialize in psychiatry to try to understand and help people with some of the worst mental illnesses.

Michaela Roman may be reached at michaelaroman@ugmail.com.
The eight majors that will make you the most cash

8. Statistics
Median Base Salary: $60,000
Popular Entry-Level Jobs: Data Analyst, Statistician, Data Scientist

7. Civil Engineering
Median Base Salary: $61,500
Popular Entry-Level Jobs: Civil Engineer, Structural Engineer, Field Engineer

6. Information Technology
Median Base Salary: $64,008
Popular Entry-Level Jobs: Programmer Analyst, Technical Support, Systems Engineer

5. Industrial Engineering
Median Base Salary: $64,381
Popular Entry-Level Jobs: Industrial Engineer, Quality Engineer, Production Planner

4. Chemical Engineering
Median Base Salary: $65,000
Popular Entry-Level Jobs: Chemical Engineer, Process Engineer, Project Engineer

3. Mechanical Engineering
Median Base Salary: $68,000
Popular Entry-Level Jobs: Mechanical Engineer, Design Engineer, Project Engineer

2. Electrical Engineering
Median Base Salary: $68,438
Popular Entry-Level Jobs: Electrical Engineer, Systems Engineer, Software Developer

1. Computer Science
Median Base Salary: $70,000
Popular Entry-Level Jobs: Software Engineer, Systems Engineer, Web Developer

By Rene Delgadillo
The Prospector

These are the top eight paying majors during the first five years out of college that come from the top 50 list by Glassdoor, a job and recruiting website with a database of salary reports, company and internet reviews.

Glassdoor’s report of the highest-paying majors was done after an analysis of thousands of resumes and corresponding salary reports. The Pew Research Center reported on the financial disparity among millennials from the ages 25 to 32, who are working full-time jobs in 2012 and found out that those with a bachelor’s degree or more earn a median salary of $45,500, and those with a two-year degree or some college time earn a median salary of $30,000. Millennials who received just a high school diploma earn a median salary of $28,000.
The Don Haskins’ most anticipated 2016 headliners

UTEP’s Special Events department works to bring big-time artists to the Don Haskins Center. Here are some of the artists that played this year.

1. Lead singer Klaus Meine and The Scorpions took the stage on May 24.
3. The Cure headlined for ’80s fans on May 17.
4. Pitbull brought the party to the Haskins Center on July 21.
5. Punk band Cage the Elephant takes the Spring Fling on March 17.
6. Latin rock band Mana packed the house with fans and Latin rhythms.
Las Artistas juried art show exhibits handmade crafts

BY MIKE FLORES
The Prospector

The 46th-annual Las Artistas Arts and Fine Craft show took place on Nov. 19 and 20 at the EPIC Railyard Event Center, where over 90 artists and craft makers from all over the nation come to show off their work to the community.

The event has been going on since the '70s and featured many works of art to purchase such as jewelry, ceramics, fiber art, paintings, frames, cards, decorations and clothing. All the art is handmade and an opportunity to turn the artists' hard work into money.

When you first walk in, there was a table promising an opportunity to win a raffle for $50, all they needed is your name, number and email address. After passing the sign-in process, multiple food trucks at your service greeted you. It included snacks such as popcorn and cokes for the stay, alongside grub to appease any hunger. To top all the goodies off, there was a wine-tasting section for the older crowd. This granted many the freedom to drink something tasty and be in awe of the work in front of them at the same time.

Emerging artists have the chance to learn and catch some techniques from crafters who make artwork for a living. There is a place for the aspiring designers that included UTEP students, where more than 40 metalsmithing students participated in the event.

"We have 25 to 30 pieces on display, and the others here that do it for a living have around thousands of pieces to show."

- Jessica Rodriguez, junior studio art major

Las Artistas made the effort to emphasize the school's talent and offered scholarships for art education and to share their gifted teachers with the students. The professors showed these students how to reach their potential by teaching them in workshops and with their very own demonstrations.

Every UTEP artist, who had their art for display, exhibited Las Artistas juried art show exhibits handmade crafts

Professional, emerging and student artists display their handcrafted jewelery available for sale.

We would like to announce the winner of our first ever Taculture Scholarship

ARIEL ALVARADO

Ariel is a student from UTEP who received a full paid Spring 2017 semester tuition for his excellent demonstration of the impact that Mexican cuisine in the form of tacos has in the U.S. through his winning essay.

We look forward to more Taculture initiatives to better show what we represent. Like us on Facebook and follow us on Instagram to stay updated on future Taculture events and opportunities.

@tacotote.elpaso @tacotote
Celebrating Christmas in a time of worldwide crisis

BY ERIC VASQUEZ

November 29, 2016

Just like that, Thanksgiving dragged itself to Thursday, and now it's the Tuesday after. Leftovers from Thanksgiving can hardly suffice for a snack, new work-out plans have been established to fight off the extra pudge and the orange-and-brown decorations have been packed up and replaced with the green, red and silver that can only mean one thing—Christmas.

Radio stations switch over to their 30-song loop, celebrities who don't even have a decent regular season album are announcing their Christmas albums as if they were Michael Bublé, and no one else is Michael Bublé than Michael Bublé during Christmas.

Even social media starts bursting with proclamations of materialism, but even then the citizenry, Black Friday descends on our most recent post. We need it. It's because we believe the blessings we have as American citizens, Black Friday is not a conspiracy theory, it's about—was born from consumer-ism, literally.

It's the beginning of the Christmas season, the time where Native Americans are getting screwed out of land (again), and the tree is lit up just for presents, but in reality, the tree is lit up just the same, meanwhile, families in India burn piles of cow poop to heat their stoves (never thought I'd use the word poop in a newspaper column).

As it is, one American uses as much energy as 30 Indians, six Mexicans, and, according to many, the energy Japan uses? A lot. Do you know how much energy Japanese use? A lot. Japan is not a conspiracy theory, it's about—was born from consumer-ism, literally.

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Creative writing professor publishes book of poetry

BY ANDRES GALLEGOS

On Nov. 18, creative writing professor Jeff Sirkin read from his latest collection of poetry, “Travelers Aid Society,” to a packed room of students, faculty and fans of his work. In his book, Sirkin questions the meaning of freedom and the complexity of home. Through research and various trips to his hometown of Cincinnati, Ohio, Sirkin took the “answers” and turned them into poetry.

Sirkin received his master’s degree from Miami University and his doctorate in literature from the University of Buffalo. Besides poetry, his focus of research has been 20th-century literature and culture. “Travelers Aid Society” is divided into four chapters: Real Estate, Politics of the Mix Tape, The Ledger and Theories of Improvisation. This is not Sirkin’s latest work, some poems were written 10 years ago, but they were not ready to see the light of day. There are other poems that he wrote specifically for this collection about home, travel and freedom.

“The (book) is about a lot of things, on a basic level it is me thinking about my home and what home is,” Sirkin said. “Some poems in the book are inspired by my childhood home, but also by different travels, my trip to Europe, Mexico and different places in the United States, and through that thinking about what holds us in place and what freedom might mean.”

Sirkin wanted to know what are the things that hold us in place and what defines us and our way of thinking. His poems show how frail the concept of home is and how it stacks on top of reality. There are frames at times matter so little. “I don’t see home as imprisoning us, but I see home as being something that sort of defines a sense of the world to us. For instance, the way we divide land up into real estate, into little squares of property determines the way we understand land and determines, therefore, our relationship to that land,” Sirkin said. “We look at the mountain and we see the mountain. I look at the yard where I live now and I see my yard, but I have a hard time seeing it as the other things that it actually is which is part of this larger ecosystem, part of this geological history that I can’t even comprehend, part of a world that’s hard to comprehend.”

It is through poetry that Sirkin finds answers. Rather than write an essay or another thesis, he chooses to write poetry. “I always tell my students that writing is a process of thinking and no idea that you have won’t get worse by writing through it.” Sirkin said.

As a young poet, Sirkin wrote about concepts in a conventional manner. It wasn’t until he started to mature that both his poetry and his process changed. He allowed poems to emerge on their own, he focused on the language and began to listen.

Sirkin said that “poetry is a process of listening.” His process morphed from the conventional way of notebook scribbling to looking at the world through newspaper clips, or what was on the radio and TV, and looking inside himself. “A lot of my writing is built by collage. I’ll just think of little phrases and lines, or I’ll hear little bits of language and I’ll write those things down, and I don’t know what it is or how it connects,” Sirkin said. “Or I’ll be doing research and reading and something in it will strike me as interesting, and I’ll put it all on a page and none of it has anything to do with one another. And I start thinking of different ways that the phrases might combine or the ways I might construct a sentence. And I start seeing new formations. The poem sort of emerges from there.”

Sirkin’s poem “Orangutan Short-Circuits Wires, Builds Ladder to Flee Zoo in Adelaide Australia” is an actual story of an orangutan that made a brief disquieted escape from its enclosure.

“Our hero the orangutan sits on the precipice asking herself no doubt/what freedom means/ when the other side of the wall/ as always is a parking lot.”

“Travelers Aid Society” helps not only to question our reality, but also to appreciate it. Some poems are funny, some are fun to read, some are about Cincinnati and Mexico, some poems even deal with economics. There is a wide array of exploration in this book. It’s a journey. And through all aspects, Sirkin wishes to reach many things. “I would love for my poetry to be something around which communities could form. That’s kind of a self-centered way to think about it,” Sirkin said. “I want it to be part of a community.”

This way of writing poetry may seem scientific, theoretical instead of expressive, but there is a sense to it. Through research and reflection, Sirkin finds his voice. His poems are comfortable with the way in which they are conceived. “In poetry, I allow myself the freedom of not thinking; I allow myself the freedom of imagination.”

As a young poet, Sirkin wrote about concepts in a conventional manner. It wasn’t until he started to mature that both his poetry and his process changed. He allowed poems to emerge on their own, he focused on the language and began to listen. Sirkin said that “poetry is a process of listening.” His process morphed from the conventional way of notebook scribbling to looking at the world through newspaper clips, or what was on the radio and TV, and looking inside himself. “A lot of my writing is built by collage. I’ll just think of little phrases and lines, or I’ll hear little bits of language and I’ll write those things down, and I don’t know what it is or how it connects,” Sirkin said. “Or I’ll be doing research and reading and something in it will strike me as interesting, and I’ll put it all on a page and none of it has anything to do with one another. And I start thinking of different ways that the phrases might combine or the ways I might construct a sentence. And I start seeing new formations. The poem sort of emerges from there.”

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Dr. Jeff Sirkin has written more than poetry, he has written on a range of subjects like the poetry of Bob Dylan, Kurt Cobain and various punk rock artists. Despite the popular belief, new poetry transcends out of language, and Jeff Sirkin, here at UTEP, is helping to prove that.

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‘Ghost in the Shell’ borders between cheap blockbuster and honorable franchise

BY CHRISTIAN VASQUEZ

A few weeks ago, we printed a story on Hollywood’s addiction to anything not creative. Remakes and reboots are the name of the game now, resurrecting every last bit of culture of yesteryear before moving on to today. It is no different with the Japanese media franchise “Ghost in the Shell.”

As always with reboots and remakes, audiences divide into two major categories: fans praying the film will adhere to the original’s elements and those who just want to see a good movie. Paramount has since dropped a trailer for the movie coming out in 2017, and although it’s hard to judge a movie by the trailer alone as a movie based off previous work should appeal to the fan base and bring in new viewers at the same time, it is my duty as a dedicated fan to be strict about a franchise resurrection.

The first thing I noticed about the “Ghost in the Shell” trailer is the multiple nods to the series, the geishas at the beginning are straight from the TV series “Ghost in the Shell: Stand Alone Complex.” The Major is also an exact copy of the introduction in the 1995 film, and various scenes sprinkled throughout the trailer show that the director seemed to have watched a decent chunk of the various series and films. What worries me is not the look, that’s easy enough to copy, but the philosophy that plays an essential role into what makes the series so interesting. There are a lot of different ideas so I’ll quickly explain, in my view, the biggest ideas relating directly with the Major. Keep in mind “Ghost in the Shell” has contradicting ideas and portrayals, so I’ll be basing most of this on the 1995 film and the “Stand Alone Complex” TV series, which is what the upcoming movie seems to be using as its main inspiration.

One of the main ideas “Ghost in the Shell” explores is the existential tension between what it means to be human and what it means to be a machine—the “ghost” or spirit, in the ‘shell’ or body. In a purely material sense, the Major is more machine than an organism, with her brain being the only organic material in her, and in some cases she even forgets that entirely. So what makes her human? The ghost in her has appeared to be the only connection between her humanity and her desire to move beyond the limits of a physical shell.

The series also explored sexuality and gender identity. The Major seems to be naked in the trailer, and if I never watched the series where she forgoes her body for money? It’s a look forward, not a throwback. It’s not a matter of what makes something human, but when is humanity present. Is present when a machine takes its own life to save a human, or is a machine a machine no matter what they do? Does it even matter, or is the label of humanity and the spirit slowly changing to encompass more than the organic?

All of this is something the trailer completely fails to bring up. Instead we get a basic question of “who was I?” The series didn’t explore who the Major was, but was not driven by it. However, each series does take a slightly different approach to exploring these existential themes and it may be that the two-minute trailer is simply not enough to express the director’s aim. It’s possible that she searches for her past to only be dissatisfied with it. Who knows, I plan on watching it, but in the meantime I’m going to be cautiously pessimistic.

Follow Christian Vasquez on Twitter @chrismvasquez

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'The Prospector' borders between cheap blockbuster and honorable franchise

2016-17

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THE BATTLE OF 1-10 IS BACK!
The year in review: the best five albums of popular music

1. Frank Ocean
   “Blond”
   The world had not heard from Frank since his freshman studio album, “Channel Orange” dropped in 2012. It was four years that fans were left in despair and did not get any hint of new work. Then, abruptly in August, Frank dropped a visual album titled “Endless” on Apple Music. The visual album was something out of the blue, but he was not done. Only days later, Frank released “Blonde.” In this album, he ponders life from the perspective of an adolescent boy.
   The work is an experience to be enjoyed in its full. Let it play as background music and wait until a track catches your attention. It will soon be an addiction.

2. Chance the Rapper
   “Coloring Book”
   The artist banked off his single “Sunday Candy” and hyped his third record beyond measure. All of this excitement brought forth huge anticipation for his third project, “Coloring Book.” Chance opened the album with three words that capture the listeners and his die-hard fans instantly, “and we back.”

3. Bon Iver
   “22 A Million”
   Justin Vernon, known by his stage name, Bon Iver, spent time away from the recording studio to fully reveal himself in his third studio project, “22, A Million.” Third time was definitely the charm for the 35-year-old indie artist as he put out by far his best work yet. Vernon abandons his indie-folk sound on “22, A Million” and divulges into the indie-electronic spotlight. His first track, “22, Over Soon,” has a harmonic hook contemplating the concept of endings or the possibilities of new beginnings—“It might be over soon.” The same expressive lyrics transfer from song-to-song, which touch base on love, religion, society and nature.

4. Beyoncé
   “Lemonade”
   “You can taste the dishonesty, it’s all over your breath, as you pass it off so carefully”—these are the first words gracefully chimed over a soulful piano on “Pray You Catch Me,” which kicks off “Lemonade.” On Tidal, Beyoncé released a visual version of her album, which sparked a lot of positive critical responses for her creativity. The album is hard-hitting, like many other Beyoncé albums, and adds a dose of twists, like an indie-electronic delivery on “Forward” with indie-electronic artist James Blake. Her soulful tone she brings on “Pray You Catch Me” is revisited on “Sandcastles,” which is yet another stunning showcase of Beyoncé’s full, defiant voice.

5. Kanye West
   “The Life of Pablo”
   You have to give the loud mouth, outspoken Chicago rapper credit for his sixth studio album, “The Life of Pablo.” The album experiments with 19 completely unique tracks, each sounding different from the last. “Ultralight Beam” opens the album in a harmonic, gospel-like tone, but completely shifts sounds on the trap-based track “Father Stretch My Hands Pt. 1 & 2.” Although the album’s songs are unique, the transitions between songs are smooth and that makes it easy to listen to from start to finish. He showcases his extreme knowledge of beat production on “Waves” and “Freestyle 4.” West displays his strength to still rap both lyrically and dynamically on the album, and, as a whole, is complete and could be regarded as one of his bests.
The Future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.

-Eleanor Roosevelt
Thank you, everyone! It made this possible. Especially to my Husband, Beau! Love you long magazine!!

Thank you to my family and friends for all your love and support! We need it. We need you.

Thank you to all the people who are here to support me.

Thank you mom and dad! Thank you for all your help and support.

Thank you to all the people who are here to support me.

Thank you! For Always Being By My Side! Thank you Mom For Always Being By My Side!

I love you! RBF

Thank you for acknowledging my hard work & thank you to my little brother for helping me reach my goals.

Thank you to my wonderful family and friends for helping me to succeed. You were all my inspiration!

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To Benito and Slaton,
you two are the
reason I have made
it this far. I thank
you for your support
everyday. All of this
is for you! Love
(your name)

Thank you to my
loving family for their
support. To my mother
and my brothers,
this would not
have been possible
without your support.
Thank you.

To my family,
Thank you for your
love and support. We
will never forget how
good you are.

Thank you to my
friends family for all
the support in pursuing
my dreams. I love
you all especially
to my wonderful
Adriana who was with
me all the way.

To my mom,
I owe this all to you.
Thank you for your
unconditional love and
support always.

To my family,
Thank you for your
love and support.

To my family,
Thank you for your help
in my journey.

Thank you to
my family.

Thank you to
god.

Thank you to
my friends

Thank you to all
who have been
"present" in my
life.

To my family,
Thank you for your support.

To my family,
Thank you for
your love.

To everyone who
made this happen.

Thank you.

- Ralph Waldo Emerson
The Prospector's exclusive interview with Terry Winn on his departure from UTEP

Winn: “I just don’t want him lying about what happened”

GABY VELASQUEZ / THE PROSPECTOR

Forward Terry Winn decided to part ways from the team after feeling he was unjustly attacked by the staff.

**BY JASON GREEN**

The Prospector

Sophomore forward Terry Winn is joining the growing list of players to transfer away from the UTEP basketball program during head coach Tim Floyd's tenure after he was abruptly sent back to El Paso during the Gildan Charleston Classic on Nov. 19.

Winn played in the opening round loss against Wake Forest and scored only four points before fouling out. The game was tightly called by the officials, with a total of 23 fouls called on the Miners. Starters Matt Willms and Jake Flaggert ended the game with four fouls and forward Kelvin Jones fouled out.

The next day, Winn come off the bench for the first time all season in an 85-75 loss to Mississippi State.

As far as his decision to leave the team, Winn said it was his main purpose in coming off the bench against Western Michigan and that he has often come off the bench during his career.

"For some apparent reason, (Floyd) felt as if I had an attitude about the (Western Michigan) game when I didn't. We won the game and afterward I told numerous teammates that it may have been a great idea that I come off the bench," Winn said.

Floyd has only talked to the media following UTEP's most recent loss—and his comments about Winn were limited to what is written here. The Prospector

Winn was absent from yet again. After the game, Floyd addressed the media and said that he had not heard from Winn at all.

"I haven't seen him. He may have quit for all I know. He was benched for poor play and didn't handle it properly. We sent him home and haven't heard from him since," said Floyd. "Maybe he's through."

According to Winn, Floyd was right about one thing.

"Yes, I had a 'bad game,' if that's what you want to call it against Wake Forest. I got in early foul trouble—big deal—but for him to claim he benched me for poor play is crazy," Winn said.

Winn also said he had no problem coming off the bench against Western Michigan and that he has often come off the bench during his career.

"For some apparent reason, (Floyd) felt as if I had an attitude about the (Western Michigan) game when I didn't. We won the game and afterward I told numerous teammates that it may have been a great idea that I come off the bench," Winn said.

Floyd has only talked to the media following UTEP's most recent loss—and his comments about Winn were limited to what is written here. The Prospector

Winn reached out to Floyd who declined to comment.

As far as what happened on the day that Winn was sent home from practice, there are two stories: Floyd's he 'didn't handle it properly' and Winn's.

"In shoot-around, (Floyd) comes in still assuming that I had an attitude about being benched the previous game and cut me off on me from the jump, saying 'I'm selfish' and 'a distraction' and it's 'about me, me, me.' I just laughed him off and simply said, 'Coach, I'm trying to win the game. Man, let's prepare for this game in a couple hours, not argue,'" Winn said.

"He kept cursing me, saying this and that. I brushed it off with a smile and kept saying, 'Coach, I'd rather not argue.'"

According to Winn, after asking Floyd to just let him prepare for the game several more times, Floyd got louder and louder—eventually telling him to leave "his court" and go back to the team hotel. Approximately 15 minutes later, Winn received a call from the Director of Basketball Operations Evan Eustachy telling him to pack his bags for a flight back to El Paso.

"This is the only place where Winn and Floyd's stories diverge. Floyd also said in his only statement that the team had not heard from Winn. That statement came on Nov. 23. Winn says that he contacted the coaches, including Floyd, upon their arrival in El Paso on Monday, Nov. 21. "I reached out Monday to three coaches, including Floyd. Nobody responded but (Bobby) Braswell, who only responded with a brief message to contact coach (Floyd), which I already did," Winn said. "None of them reached out at all, and I think if I had not reached out, none of them would have. They would have just kept rolling and told you guys I fell off the face of the earth."

Winn provided The Prospector with text messages between him and Eustachy from Monday, Nov. 21 at 7:13 p.m. requesting cell phone numbers for several coaches including Braswell and Floyd. Although Winn has proof that he asked Eustachy for the coaches' numbers on Monday, he could not provide proof that he actually contacted the coaches.

Winn did have a copy of a text sent to Eustachy asking about meal money and "release papers" from an unknown date. He says that the same "meal money, release paper" text was sent to all three coaches on Monday evenings. It appears that Winn received no response from Eustachy on this unknown date.

The only verifiable communication between Winn and Floyd—according to Winn—came on Friday, Nov. 25 when the two shared a brief text exchange.

**Terry Winn:** "Coach Floyd is Terry Winn just wondering when can I have the meeting about getting my release papers?"

**Tim Floyd:** "We don't need to talk. You want to go out and see the compliance director. I will tell him that you will be in Monday."

Winn was never contacted from the time that he arrived back in El Paso until he reached out to the coaches on Monday. His first contact with Floyd was with the above text, according to Winn. Winn says that by the time he arrived there was a plane ticket for him back to El Paso, his decision to leave the team was being made. He said that even if a coach had contacted him, he probably would have still planned on transferring.

"There's a lot of fake stuff going on in that program. No one really cares about your best interests as a player," Winn said. "Just not the best of players and coach relationships—with you one day, against you the next—as if they never knew you. But, I understand. It's a business. Nothing personal."

Winn later added, "definitely not a family oriented program."

When asked if there anything that the staff could do or say to keep him, the answer was simple for Winn, "nothing."

So, Terry Winn will be added to the list of players who transferred before their eligibility was up at UTEP.

Over the past six years, Arnett Moultrie, Michael Perez, D’Von Campbell, Darius Nelson, Marquwell Jackson, Malcolm Moore, Twymond Howard, Chris Washburn, Vence Hunter, Bredricks Jones, Josh McWiggan, Lee Moore and now Terry Winn.

Winn preferred to leave speculation about Floyd and his coaching style to the fans and media when asked for comment. He did acknowledge that he knows that players have left due to Floyd's be-ing out of touch with today's players, giving the vague answer, "new era, man," and unwilling to give details for other players who have left the team early.

Winn said his main purpose in speaking with the media in this situation is to communicate what he perceives as a gross misrepresenta-tion of what happened between him and Floyd. He said he really does not want to be known as a "quitter," and to that extent, he was asked what his teammates have said to him about the situation.

"They all told me they will be rooting wherever I go and best of luck—same old, same old." Winn said. "I just told them I'm transferring to the best program and that wherever in the world I go, I will tell him that you will be in Monday."

Winn will finish out the semester at UTEP—which ends on Dec. 5—and then complete the process of transferring to a new university. Winn met with the compliance department on Monday and will receive his transfer paperwork shortly. He has already met with several potential coaches.

As far as his, now former, team goes, Winn said he has nothing but kind words for his former teammates.

"I am with them. I wish them the best of luck this season. They have the best back court in Domi-nic Artis and Omega Harris. Matt (Williams) is a great big, who is battling with injuries, but God will see him through—and Paul Thomas is for sure going to be a great kid on and off the court—developing rapidly every day," Winn said.

As far as the UTEP fans' memo-ries are concerned, there is one thing that he would like to be remem-bered for—and it is definitely not what happened on the practice court upon the end of his UTEP career.

"I love the game of basketball. My on-court passion speaks for itself," Winn said.

Follow this developing story at theprospectoronline.com.
Men’s basketball searching for redemption against NSU

BY MIKE FLORES
The Prospector

UTEP men’s basketball is coming off their first home loss of the new season against Southeastern Louisiana, 72-56, as they fell to 2-3 in their first five games of the year. They are looking to bounce back as they welcome Northwestern State on Dec. 3, at the Don Haskins Center. Many improvements will need to be applied throughout the game if the Miners are going to be any different this time around.

The Miners will have the luxury of a nine-day rest before their matchup against NSU before hitting the hardwood again. This is a time for them to get healthier and right some early-season wrongs. Head coach of UTEP’s basketball program, Tim Floyd, hopes to use the week and a half off to his team’s benefit.

“We desperately need these nine days, it’s very important to our team,” Floyd said after their loss to Southeastern Louisiana.

On the other hand, the Demons, who find themselves at 2-3 as well, have three scheduled opponents before their showdown with UTEP which will be tough contests, including Missouri and Mississippi State.

NSU started off sloppy on the road this year, posting up a 0-3 record when they are away from their crowd, and losing by more than 20 points in each of those away games. The Miners hope to continue the Demon’s bleeding when they are forced to travel.

UTEP has been notoriously good at defending the Don under Floyd, as he has marked a winning record at home in his first six years at UTEP. This season, UTEP basketball is 3-1 in the Sun City, including exhibition matchups.

However, starting forward for UTEP, Terry Winn, was not suited up in the Miners’ last loss against SELU due to a team suspension, and his presence was missed dearly. His production in the first five games of 9.7 points per game and 5.7 boards per match was hard to make up for.

Winn Tweeted about his departure from the program on Saturday, Nov. 26.

“He was benched for poor play and didn’t handle it properly, so we sent him home. Maybe he’s through with this team. His behavior dictated the way we handled things with him. Winn has been a big distraction, and continued to be, so that’s his choice,” Floyd said.

“We have a lot of guys that want to play at this level, and want to get better and have this opportunity, so I want to focus on the guys that we have currently.

With Winn out, the Miners will need to find a way to play around his absence. Other players will be looked at to step up and take control of the starting forward spot.

Another issue that UTEP faces before NSU is the health of the team’s 7-foot-1 big man starter Matt Willms, who has been sold this season. He is the third-highest scorer on the team with 13.6 points per game. Willms is the Miners’ best rim protector as he has a team-high of eight blocks on the season.

After Willms’ promising start, he has slowed down only because of his recurring foot problem. He will benefit the most from the time off as his projected minutes against NSU is still a question mark.

“I don’t know what’s going on with Matt and his foot. He has not played with the same burst and speed that he did with in Charleston. I’m worried and concerned about him trying to play through with whatever he is dealing with,” Floyd said. “His injury has been going on for four years now. It’s a very, very difficult injury to deal with, it has ended a lot of careers. You have to give him credit for getting out there—he knows we need him.”

This Miners’ team is young and still trying to figure things out before conference play comes around. UTEP is tied with Rice for the most underclassmen in Conference USA with 11 players each.

NSU has a team-high of eight blocks on the team. With Winn out, the Miners will have to carry the weight of the defense has allowed their opponents to attempt the highest amount of shots on the team, so UTEP will need to limit them if the home team wants come out on top.

Floyd’s group has put more emphasis on the defensive end in the last couple of games, and NSU is not as lethal on the offensive part of basketball as some of UTEP’s past matchups. The Demons are not putting up more than 70 points per contest, and will have problems keeping up with the Miners’ usual efficient scoring offense, as UTEP has tallied more than 80 points in five games.

The Miners have the schedule makers on their side as they have five home games in their next six games.

“We’d like to start off with a win against Northwestern State. That’s the essence of what we’re trying to do,” Floyd said. “Offensive efficiencies would be a great place to start (when the Miners play again). We have a lot of time to work things out and we’ll continue to keep on working.”

UTEP men’s basketball looks to improve their season against NSU on Dec. 3 at home.

Men’s basketball searching for redemption against NSU

We’ve probably had the most losses in c-usa in terms of quality players or starters... A lot of who we have there are fill-in’s late.

--- Tim Floyd head coach UTEP men’s basketball

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UTEP men’s basketball looks to improve their season against NSU on Dec. 3 at home.

------End------
Women’s basketball prepares for Houston Baptist

BY JASON GREEN
The Prospector

Leading into the 2016-17 season, UTEP women's basketball head coach Keitha Adams knew that there would be growing pains with eight new additions to the team. Perhaps she did not anticipate it taking quite this long.

The team is off to the second-worst start in Adams’ 16-year tenure at 1-5, but they will be looking to change that against another one-win team, Houston Baptist, on Wednesday, Nov. 30, at the Don Haskins Center.

The Miners are returning from a Thanksgiving trip to the Virgin Islands, where they faced LSU, NC State and Kansas State. They lost to all three by a combined total of 70 points. The team continues to be without last season's leading scorer, senior guard Jenzel Nash, who was suspended for a violation of team rules.

Houston Baptist’s lone win came over Southwestern Assemblies of God prior to Thanksgiving. Most recently, the Huskies lost to Oral Roberts on Saturday by a score of 75-65.

Senior guard Sparkle Taylor continues to do all that she can to will the Miners to victory, and leads the team with 83 points during her six games played. The team's next leading scorer has been the surprising freshman forward Zuzanna Puc with 43 points, who shoots a phenomenal .486 percent.

As a team, the Miners are getting outshot by opponent's .413 percent to .370 percent. From the 3-point range, the Miners are a dismal .226 percent, with guard Lulu McKinney still struggling to find her mark from deep. Currently she is only 1 for 23 on the season from behind the arc. Freshman guard Roeshonda Patterson leads the team, having made seven 3-pointers.

The Huskies are having as much trouble as the Miners this season with shooting the ball. As a team, HBU is shooting .326 percent and are led by freshman forward Taylor Kollmorgen with 38 points. The Huskies not only are led by a freshman in scoring, they have eight newcomers just like UTEP.

From behind the 3-point line, HBU is shooting .297 percent to their opponents’ .400 percent. If the Miners, and more importantly Lulu McKinney, can knock down the 3’s beyond the arc, they could dispatch the Huskies easily.

Adams has harped on rebounding this year and in her team’s lone win, she saw her team set several rebounding records. The Huskies have the size to matchup with 6-foot-4 forward Tamara Seda in the middle and could pose a threat to UTEP’s rebounding numbers. The Miners average 4.3 rebounds per game to HBU’s 5.0.

If the Miners are to stand any chance of winning this game, they will have to win the battle on the boards.

There is no doubt that following a day of rest after the trip home from the Virgin Islands, Adams had her team back in the gym, where she loves to be. Wednesday will be another chance to show off their hard work, perhaps to the chagrin of the visiting Houston Baptist Huskies.
Memorable moments for sports in 2016

1. UTEP women’s volleyball started off their C-USA season losing their first nine of 11 games, but finished off winning four of their last five games. 2. The 50th celebration of the 1966 National Championship team was held on Feb. 6 as the team was honored throughout the Miners’ game against Western Kentucky. 3. UTEP football lost to the No. 11-ranked Texas Longhorns 41-7 on Sep. 30 despite junior running back Aaron Jones’ 123 yards rushing and a touchdown. Jones finished the season with a UTEP single-season record 1,773 rushing yards and 17 touchdowns. 4. The Miner hockey team has 11 wins on the season to go with only one loss. Currently in their second season, the team participates in the newly formed Texas Collegiate Hockey Conference and will host the Conference Playoffs Feb. 9-11. 5. This summer, sophomore hurdler Tobi Amusan competed in the Olympics.
Aaron Jones—to the NFL or stay at UTEP?

By Adrian Broaddus

After they capped their 52-17 victory over the North Texas Mean Green, a wave of seniors stormed the field in excitement over their team’s victory. Although Kugler would love to see his star player succeed at the professional level, he miss Jones dearly on the team.

“I would love Aaron Jones to stay here,” Kugler said. “Not only is he a great player, he’s a leader, and stand in his way. "I've been around. I'm the biggest Aaron Jones fan in the world and I can't say how proud of him I am."”

“Kids do have the ability now to test or stay at UTEP,” Jones said. “It’s crazy he got over 300 yards, ” Aaron Jones said. “That's the most yards I ever rushed for. I've always wanted to rush for 300 in a game. That was amazing." And when he crossed the 300-yard mark, it was all smiles on the sideline for the Miners.

“I don’t know yet, " Jones said. "I’ll have to talk to coach Kugler and have a sit-down talk with my family to see what to do next."

“His brother and teammate, linebacker Alvin Jones, did not have an answer for Jones’ situation either. "It's crazy he got over 300 yards,” Alvin Jones said after the victory against North Texas. "I'd love to see him in the NFL, but I'd love to see him with us too. You never know if the opportunity would come again."

That opportunity is the same one in which head coach Sean Kugler has said, almost foreshowing the greatness Jones can continue to bring to the squad if he decides to stay for his senior campaign. "I definitely think this was my best game," Aaron Jones said. "That's the most yards I ever rushed for. I've always wanted to rush for 300 in a game. That was amazing." And when he crossed the 300-yard mark, it was all smiles on the sideline for the Miners.

"They said he needed four more yards to get 300, and collectively, as a team, we rallied around that," tight end Hayden Hinkle said. "We were all pumped for him." Quarterback Ryan Metz has seen Jones grow since his high school days. Metz, who played for Andress High School, would often meet up against Jones, who played for Burgas High School. Nonetheless, Metz has seen an astronomical growth from the running back since their high school days.

“I hate to say this, but I'm glad he was hurt during my senior season (in high school) or else would have killed us," Metz said. "It’s amazing what he can do and I can't say how proud of him I am.""
Kosgei defies barriers to exceed academically

BY MIKE FLORS
The Prospector

One of UTEP's cross country runners has enjoyed triumph on both sides of the spectrum, on and off the field. His name is Anthony Kosgei and he is currently a sophomore majoring in environmental science.

Kosgei comes from Eldoret, Kenya, and has close to a perfect GPA, with a 3.78 average. He has made the leap from his hometown lifestyle to the American lifestyle in great fashion. Being a member of the Conference USA's Honor Roll is a privilege many could not add on to their resume, but he has accomplished that goal in 2016.

UTEP was an easy decision for Kosgei. His coach Paul Ereng and the majority of his teammates are also from Kenya. They have brought a feeling of home to the young cross country athlete.

"What brought me to UTEP is the opportunity for an education, and to measure my athletic talents, but the most important was my future and to get the highest education possible," Kosgei said. He started his running career two years ago, so his experiences have been as long as some of the other athletes in the college sport. His dedication and will to get better have put him up there with some of the best on the team.

Last season, Kosgei helped add another conference title to UTEP's history books, which was their sixth in 12 years with Conference USA. It was their first since the 2009 season, and he placed in sixth throughout the event with a time of 24:53.

His work has translated into his second year with the program, as the Miners have gone back-to-back with the title in their possession in C-USA. In his last year of being an underclassman, Kosgei has reached great heights in his running performances. Kosgei's conference running was impressive as he finished third for the Miners and fifth overall.

During the Mountain Regions, he was the second Miner to cross the finish line, and good enough to snag a top-15 spot in the invitational, with a time of 31:12.80. The sophomore finished off his athletic year strong and will look to do the same in school since the semester in winding down.

"It's a great opportunity to be a student-athlete. I didn't know if I had the opportunity to continue my education after high school. I thought this would be the best chance for me, and it has been the best of both worlds," said Kosgei. "Running is physical and takes a lot of work, and you become more active. I think it transfers to academics for me. School has become easier for me, I'm more motivated."

Learning curves are known to be difficult because it's the value of picking up new skills, experiences, languages and a way of life. Being from Kenya and traveling to the United States is a difficult transition for anyone. However, with Kosgei one could not tell by just glancing at his grades, skills and the efficiency in his work. He changed majors from computer science to environmental science, and has overcome the shift of coursework he has been receiving.

"When I came here (UTEP) my first year, it was a bit difficult. I could not understand some of the accents from my professors. I wasn't used to the exams that are taken here, and running plus school at the same time was a little uncomfortable for me at first. I was not used to it yet, but I kept on pushing and working hard," Kosgei said. "Over here we a lot more technology, compared to the manual work in Kenya. So there is a more learning materials here at UTEP though."

Traveling is a must for a student-athlete in every sport. Cross country requires just as much time on the road as any other collegiate sport.

UTEP's team has had eight events to attend throughout the season and only one has been in El Paso. This means every weekend for the cross country players is time away from their resources and homes. And with the success that Ereng and his group have tasted, they are putting in maximum effort on both the field and with their studies. It's not easy doing work on the road, especially if the teams focus is on winning an invitational.

Regardless, Kosgei has found a way to keep up with the demand of a college athlete.

"I've tried as much as possible to use my time wisely. I would have my timetable of when practice was, and when I should make time to study," Kosgei said. "The thing that helped me out a lot is I never gave up and I kept trying. I would run everywhere from practice to class, to the study halls and meetings. It's a lot of busy days for me."

"My coaches, teammates and professors have been with me through it all. The coaches have given me an opportunity. My team has helped me every time, advising me when I need it, telling me I'll be fine," Kosgei said. "My teachers have been very understanding. When I have to miss classes, I'll email them to ask them if I missed any notes, or homework or anything important. They are all so helpful."

Planning for the future is not always the easiest aspect of life because there are so many unanswered questions, but Kosgei knows what he is working toward. He wants to continue his education when he completes his bachelor's degree at UTEP and strive for a master's degree. Meanwhile, he has not thrown out the possibility of pursuing his talents and making a career out of his running abilities.

"If I can combine both academics and running cross country in the future that would be my greatest goal that I could ever imagine," Kosgei said. "I want to be remembered for always doing my best in everything. I want to maintain my GPA, and maybe be an example to others in a few years."