Des aceleramiento económico en México para el 2017, según estudio de UTEP

BY GREGIA SANchez

La depreciación del peso, incertidumbre sobre políticas protectoras del presidente electo Donald Trump, posibles cambios en el Tratado de Libre Comercio de América del Norte y la nueva administración estadounidense y crisis por precios altos de la gasolina en México amenazan el futuro de la economía mexicana. Según el cuarto informe del Proyecto de Modelación de la Región Fronteriza de UTEP (UTEF Border Region Modeling Project), el crecimiento de la economía mexicana disminuirá.

En términos de la depreciación del peso, Fullerton, profesor de economía en UTEP y encargado de BRMP (por sus siglas en inglés), habló de las relaciones comerciales e industriales de la frontera en la fase de inversión extranjera en Ciudad Juárez. Según Fullerton, hay inversión en plantas nuevas de GM Juárez porque las inversionistas están esperando a ver qué sucede con las amenazas del presidente electo Trump. De acuerdo con el cuarto informe de BRMP, “el peso se ha bajado, como consecuencia de una moneda nacional más débil en México, no se ve que esté convirtiéndose en ingresos extranjeros directos adicionales de la misma manera debido por la razón de que el presidente electo ha amenazado con clausurar el acuerdo de libre comercio.” Fullerton dijo si el TLCAN llegara a clausurarse, se notarán efectos negativos en ambos países. Debido a esto, la inversión extranjera directa caerá, como consecuencia de una depreciación de la moneda nacional más débil en México, según Fullerton, se notarán efectos negativos en ambos países. Debido a esto, la inversión extranjera directa caerá, como consecuencia de una depreciación del peso, Fullerton, profesor de economía en UTEP, dijo la depreciación del peso afecta no sólo a la economía mexicana, sino también a la economía de la ciudad de El Paso.


El dinero que estaba destinado a otro tipo de cosas ya lo tenemos que gastar en gasolina, sobre todo yo que cruzo todos los días y no tengo línea exprés.

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BY MICHELLA ROMÁN

On Sunday, Jan. 15, hundreds of supporters gathered at San Jacinto Plaza in Downtown El Paso to listen to U.S. Rep. Beto O’Rourke and backers of protecting undocumented students, who were granted executive amnesty by President Barack Obama in 2012.

“We’re here today because our current President, Barack Obama, made a commitment to hundreds of young people in this country, that we call dreamers, who were brought here by their parents, who must’ve made excruciating decisions themselves to leave their countries of origin,” O’Rourke said.

The community meeting was held just five days before President-elect Donald Trump will be sworn in as president of the United States. While campaigning, Trump’s platform called for the immediate termination of Obama’s amnesty.

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O’Rourke advocates for Dreamer privacy

Dreamers and supporters came together on Sunday, Jan. 15, at San Jacinto Plaza.

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- Gianna Salas, Estudiante de comunicación organizacional y corporativa

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The stupid concept that is a New Year’s ‘resolution’

BY RENE DELGADILLO

When you woke up on January 1st, you probably had one of the biggest hangovers of your life. You probably woke up craving the leftovers from the dinner you had the night before, while swearing to god you’ll accomplish every resolution you have in mind for this upcoming year. Of course, you’ll also be catching up on resolutions you made five years ago, but never followed through on.

To be honest, 90 percent or more of you won’t even accomplish what you have in mind, because mid-February you’ll forget about the gym, the healthy food and you’ll start spending money like crazy. The truth is you’re most likely not ready to accomplish the goals you have in mind, because by mid-February you won’t ever accomplish what you set your mind to.

Why? Because you waited until the beginning of the year or semester to start with these resolutions as if the beginning of the year or semester is just a disguise for procrastination. Why didn’t you start a month before the year began? Because you obviously thought “New year, new me!” That is just another lie brought by the holidays.

This is coming from the guy who for the past two months has been trying to get his life together after making stupid decisions and experiencing the hardest breakup of his life. I’m trying to be positive and my goal is to overcome my depression and anxiety. And you know what? I started as soon I hit rock bottom, not when the Earth ended its rotation cycle.

New Year’s resolutions are like horoscopes—it’s stupid to believe they have anything to do with reality. Many of us have seen how our families have been engaging in these kinds of rituals for decades, that we just get caught up in them without even knowing why there’s so much pressure behind making resolutions. It’s good to have goals and resolutions, but you shouldn’t base them on the stars in the sky or by creating false expectations.

Starting resolutions on the first day of the year or of the semester is just as effective as spring cleaning. It’s easy to look at others and say, “Why wait for a new year to make resolutions and change something big in your life? You shouldn’t be able to start whenever?” In reality, it’s unlikely the average person will make a drastic life switch or even kick a bad habit without some kind of push.

Making New Year’s resolutions can be just as effective as spring cleaning. Instead of uncluttering a house and throwing away unwanted trash and belongings, the same can be done with unhealthy routines or new aspirations. The adrenaline rush created when the sparkly ball drops from the top of Times Square or when fireworks go off over a city skyline at the end of a countdown is so highly anticipated because everything we do in life is based on a timeline. When one year ends, we’re forced to evaluate what we now want for ourselves in the brand new year and in front of us. It’s important to take advantage of this time and really reflect on improvements we can make and ways to grow.

I took a quick survey of 10 friends, who are all college students or recent graduates, to see if they made 2017 resolutions. Seven had made them, while the other three didn’t because they felt they had never been able to consistently keep them and actually follow through. Some of the resolutions included wanting to eat healthily, spending less money, staying organized, taking more initiative at work, taking on unwanted people in their life and traveling more.

Is it completely impractical for my friends to achieve these goals? Absolutely not. The start of a new year just means another chance to remind ourselves what we want in life, and the steps we need to take to achieve our goals. Cheers to a year of fewer celebrity deaths and less White House negativity. As for me, my resolution is to write better columns.

The Prospector

OPINION

OUT WITH THE OLD, IN WITH THE NEW POSSIBILITIES

BY MICHAELA ROMÁN

After all the unpleasant “Thanks 2016” blame posts that popped up on my news feed toward the end of December, it became clear that most people, or the vocal ones at least, could really use a fresh start. It’s easy to look at others and say, “Why wait for a new year to make resolutions and change something big in your life? You shouldn’t be able to start whenever?”

In reality, it’s unlikely the average person will make a drastic life switch or even kick a bad habit without some kind of push.

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Texas Republicans propose SB 6, the “Bathroom Bill”

BY RENE DELGADOLO

The Prospector

Senate Bill 6, also known as the Bathroom Bill, proposed by Lt. Governor of Texas Dan Patrick, would require transgender people to use bathrooms in federal buildings, public schools and public universities that match their biological sex and not their gender identity.

If approved, SB 6 would allow exemptions in case of emergencies, custodial purposes, parents of young children and the disabled, among others.

The bill also allows school districts to make accommodations or upon request those preferring an alternative arrangement, stated Texas state Sen. Lois Kolkhorst, R-Brennan, at the capital during a news conference announcing her filing of the bill.

SB 6 would prohibit any local government from adopting an ordinance that would prevent a business from making their own policies for dressing rooms, showers and restrooms.

The proposal comes after Texas public officials supported a federal trial from the U.S. Department of Education and the U.S. Department of Justice in May of last year clamping down on Title IX sex discrimination laws that applies to federally funded educational institutions. Schools were instructed to relate to students by their gender identity, and if federally funded schools failed to follow the new guidelines they could lose their federal funding.

If passed, the bill would also override the current local nondiscrimination laws that allow transgender Texans to use the bathroom that matches their sexual identity.

Despite this, Patrick said Texans want this bill to be approved.

“We know it’s going to be a tough fight,” Patrick said at the capital during a news conference announcing the bill. “We’re on the right side of history. You can mark today as the day Texas is drawing a line in the sand and saying no.”

After North Carolina passed its “bathroom bill,” the state lost $866 million in revenues according to an article in the San Antonio Express News that referenced local North Carolina papers.

A similar thing could happen in Texas, according to the Texas Association of Business, a business lobby group that said SB 6 could cost the state up to $13.5 billion and more than 100,000 jobs.

Patrick defended SB 6 by referencing Forbes magazine, which has North Carolina as the second-best state for business in the country.


“The bill would put a target on the back of innocent transgender and gender-nonconforming people who want nothing more than to go about their lives in peace,” Rodriguez said in a press release. “As it is, this community disproportionately experiences harassment, homelessness and violence.”

Interim director of the Women and Gender Studies Program at UTEP Guadalupe Nazario-McHait said the proposal is a reaction of unfounded fear toward the LGBT community.

“There is an assumption that people who are LGBT are morally not equal to the rest of us, that’s not accurate,” Nazario-McHait said. “If we let someone who is transgender into a restroom they’re gonna attack us” that is unfounded, where is the data of that?”

Perez also said this proposal has caused people to use misinformation and fear about the LGBT community, and a possible approval of the bill could cause even more violence against this community.

“I think we all need to consider what it means to make something like this a law. If the state can control who uses a bathroom, what they think a person’s gender is, there will undoubtedly be an increase of citizens believing they also can do that,” Perez said. “Videos of this happening have shown us that many times those interactions are violent and the person hurt is the transgender person.”

If SB 6 is approved, UTEP as a state institution would have to comply with the bill.

Jenny LaCoste-Caputo, executive director of Media Relations and External Communications for the University of Texas System, said in an email that the UT System has some concerns about the bill.

“UT System’s Office of General Counsel and Office of Government Relations continue to analyze Senate Bill 6 to determine the impact the bill would have on UT institutions should it become law,” LaCoste-Caputo said.

“A chief concern that has been raised is that the bill may conflict with Title VII and Title IX, federal nondiscrimination laws. We will be monitoring closely and sharing information with legislators as appropriate.”

There is still no exact date as to when the bill will be heard by the Legislature. House Speaker Joe Straus has said the issue is not “the most urgent concern of mine.”

The Prospector contacted UTEP President Diana Natalicio for a statement on the proposal of SB 6, but has not yet received a response.

Follow Rene Delgado on Twitter: @rdelgadoElPaso
What are your fears for this semester?

**ALexandra Camacho**
Senior linguistics major
“I am graduating this semester. My biggest fear is to find out that I still have to take another class.”

**Carlos Rodriguez**
Freshman mechanical engineering major
“I am afraid of getting up early since I have a class at 8:30 in the morning.”

**Claudia Chavarria**
Senior political science major
“My graduation is getting closer, so I am afraid of all the pressure that’s about to come.”

**Ismael Baca**
Junior mechanical engineering major
“Since I’m from Mexico, probably the Trump election. I’m afraid of what the consequences will be.”

**Landy Mendiola**
Junior media advertising major
“What scares me the most is all the stress I’m going to have to deal with.”

**Jonathan Sambrano**
Sophomore criminal justice major
“My biggest fear is failing a class because I don’t want my GPA to drop.”

**Samantha Roncon**
Junior education major
“Trying to get all the credits that I need so I can get out within the four years and not be here for extra semesters.”

**Luis Cristiano**
Freshman computer science major
“I am afraid of not getting the scholarship that I want.”

**Rocio Quintero**
Junior nursing major
“Having to wait for my nursing test results is what scares me the most this upcoming semester.”

**Christopher Farmer**
Senior microbiology major
“The only fear that I would have is the work load, because I’m going to be taking a bunch of classes.”

**Jocelyn Ambrano**
Sophomore criminal justice major
“My biggest fear is failing a class because I don’t want my GPA to drop.”

**Deyanna Rodriguez**
Sophomore social work major
“My biggest fear is failing because I’ve never failed a class before in my life. So hopefully I just won’t fail this semester.”

**Jacob Billum**
Senior psychology major
“Finding a job. I volunteer in labs right now, but I’m also working on getting part-time jobs that will hopefully lead to a full-time job.”

**Evelyn Hernandez**
Sophomore nursing major
“Being a failure in all my classes because my GPA will drop.”

**Gustavo Rodriguez**
Sophomore history major
“My fear for this semester is putting too much pressure on myself. I want to get straight A’s so it can be overwhelming at times.”
DREAM stands for the Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors Act. There are over 700,000 registered dreamers in the U.S. O’Rourke said that 200,000 of those are in Texas and around 10,000 reside in El Paso alone.

“We’re here to tell our president-elect that they’re not going anywhere,” O’Rourke said.

On Friday, Jan. 13, O’Rourke introduced a bill to Congress that would protect the personal information of dreamers and not allow the federal government to use their information to deport them.

Those in support of DREAMers marched into the plaza chanting, “Build bridges, not walls” and holding signs that read, “We are all immigrants, we are all dreamers” and “education, not deportation.” A banner and petition were provided that O’Rourke said he would take back to Washington and present it to Congress.

UTEP alumna and member of Texas Sen. Jose Rodriguez’ staff, Claudia Yoli shared her story about growing up as a dreamer. Born in Venezuela, Yoli moved to the U.S. with her mother when she was 8 years old.

“Unfortunately, the biggest challenge for Dreamers like me is that legislators, and soon-to-be President Trump, who want to make our dreams unattainable,” Yoli said. Despite not being able to vote herself, Yoli has worked with others to register thousands of El Pasoans to vote.

“We will not let small minds like President Trump’s tell us that our dreams are too big,” Yoli said.

Sen. Rodriguez, D-El Paso, gave notice to those in leadership positions across the state that, as a Texas legislator, he will not ignore the voices of immigrants.

“I am here to stand with the Dreamers. It’s not just the young students, all of us our dreamers, whether citizens or not,” Rodriquez said.

City Representative Lilly Limon read a message from Mayor Oscar Leeser on the resolution Tuesday, Jan. 10, where the El Paso City Council backed a passed resolution to support undocumented immigrants living in El Paso.

“We do not need to spend any more money (on border security). We don’t need any more walls or fences. What we need is to take advantage of this wonderful asset that we have with Mexico, with Mexican Americans and with immigrants from around the world,” O’Rourke said.
Cyber Café to get major upgrade in Union East building

BY CHRISTIAN VASQUEZ

A new Cyber Café will soon be open on the second floor of the Union, where the Faculty and Staff lounge used to be. The new technology center was a collaboration between the Office of Information and Planning and the Division of Student Affairs.

Frank Poblano, the director of technology support, said the café was a response by technology support to answer students’ needs.

“Every day we get all the responses from the students, who complete the surveys, who can provide feedback on the technology services that we offer for them,” Poblano said. “One of the things that we have seen over the years is that students who would use the old cyber café, they would say ‘we really need more computers.’”

The café will feature new Macintosh computers with access to the Adobe Creative Cloud, which has programs such as Photoshop, Illustrator and Premiere.

“We’ll have a lab administrator, this is a full-time employee who is going to be there 8:30-6:30 Poblano said. “(They’re) going to be always there and we’ll have one or two undergraduate assistants, student positions.”

Like the technology center on the third floor of the UTEP Library, the Cyber Café will also include a rental service for laptops, cameras and camcorders.

“The other kind of equipment going to be there no matter what the technology fees that students pay in their tuition,” Poblano said if students are familiar with the tech support center at the library, “they’ll see the new Cyber Café as an extension of the technology support center.

The Bhutan Lounge (in front of the café) will remain an open area for students to use their laptops.

“It’s going to become a mobile-friendly space, where students with their own devices can use a table or use a chair to use their equipment,” Poblano said. “Students who are just using the open space in the Bhutan Lounge can just walk over if they have any problems with their own device. They can walk into the Cyber Café and get assistance there no matter what the technology fee is.”

The Cyber Café is going to be open during Union hours, which are Monday-Saturday, 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., and Sunday, noon to 5 p.m.

WELCOME BACK WEEK EVENTS

TUESDAY, JAN. 17

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Commemoration, from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. at Centennial Plaza. A donation drive will be on site for canned goods, coats, blankets, toiletries and donations. The items will be donated to a local charity.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 18

Nacho Average Wednesday, from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m at Centennial Plaza. The event will include a “future #MinerGrad” photo booth, free scantoons, bluebooks, and nachos.

THURSDAY, JAN. 19

Throwback Thursday, from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m at the Union Plaza. Arcade games, tie-dye t-shirts and retro jams” will be all part of the event.

FRIDAY, JAN. 20

Food Truck Friday will take place from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m at Parking Lot P9, the corner of Sun Bowl Drive and Glory Road. There will also be a live performance from the Yeah Man Clan and karaoke.

Here’s what you need to know on inauguration day

BY MARIANA RODRIGUEZ

The Prospector

Despite Donald Trump will take the oath of office on Friday, Jan. 20, when he will officially be handed the title of the 45th president of the United States. As of press time, there have been no announced official viewing events planned at UTEP.

The Inaugural Selection Committee has themed the 58th Presidential Inauguration as “Uniquely American,” as the peaceful transition of power indicates that the people are united behind a resilient republic—a republic that is expected to have between 500,000 to 900,000 present during the swearing-in and inaugural parade.

With the amount of clamation of the nation, the president-elect took to Twitter to remind the public of the success he believes the ceremonies will hold.

“Inauguration Day is turning out to be even bigger than expected,” Jan. 20th, Washington DC. Have Fun!” Trump tweeted on Jan. 14.

Despite his claims, events surrounding the president-elect have already caused a number of A-list performers to turn down the invitation to perform during the inauguration, as well as several members of Congress have refused to attend the swearing-in ceremony.

“You cannot feel at home with something that you feel is wrong,” Rep. John Lewis, D-Ga., to NBC News. Stating that he does not believe Donald Trump is a “legitimate president,” Lewis expressed his concerns about Russian interference in the presidential election, and he concluded that he would not be attending the inauguration.

Twenty-five other legislators have stated in news outlets or through Twitter that they will “stand with John” and will deny the president-elect their presence at the ceremony.

Outside of Congress, protests surrounding the ceremony have flared up across the country as well, with groups organizing protests during Inauguration Day and after.

Artists such as Elton John, KISS, Andrea Bocelli, David Foster, Jennifer Holliday and Charlotte Church have publicly rejected the invitation to perform for the president-elect. But Trump’s administration is not concerned about this.

“This is not Woodstock,” said Boris Ephraim, director of Communications for the Inaugural Committee to CNN. “This is not a summer jam. It’s not a concert!”

Confirmed to perform at the inauguration are the Mormon Tabernacle Choir, Toby Keith, 3 Doors Down, and Lee Greenwood, among others.

Among those who will not be attending the inauguration and will be protesting are artists Katy Perry, Scarlett Johansson, Cher, America Ferrera and Amy Schumer, who will be attending the Women’s March on Washington on Jan. 21.

A group of women slowly formed a plan through Facebook. Teresa Shook, a retired attorney from Hawaii, and Bob Bland, founder of Manufacture New York, came together to expand on a single idea that turned into the Women’s March on Washington, an event that is expecting more than 20,000 people in attendance.

Over 1,200 permits were issued for buses on Jan. 21, compared to the 400 permits issued for Inauguration Day.

“We need to form a resistance movement that’s about what is positive,” Shook told Vogue magazine. “Something that will help empower us to wake up in the morning and feel that women still matter!”

The Women’s March on Washington will have a sister march in El Paso, “Bounded Across Borders,” in El Paso. It will begin at noon, Jan. 21, at Arnojo Park.

Protesters and activists are not the only ones who will not attend the inauguration. Charlie Brotman, the inauguration parade announcer since 1957, is also not attending the parade as an announcer any longer.

“I felt like Muhammad Ali had hit me in the stomach,” Brotman told CNN during an interview.

Brotman was recently informed through an email that he would be replaced by Steve Ray as the parade announcer. Steve Ray is a freelance announcer who also volunteered in the Trump campaign during the election.

Regardless of who will be attending the ceremonies, whether by choice or as a form of protest, there is one group who has traveled across the nation to make sure the ceremony is not disrupted.

Bikers for Trump, a biking organization that formed during Trump’s election campaign, have sworn to protect the inauguration from any protesters. With over 20,000 members, the organization is prepared to form a “wall of meat” to keep out any unwanted protesters who want to disrupt the peace.

Whether or not a divisive crowd attends the inauguration, the 58th Presidential Inauguration will be a historical event.

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ECONOMICO from page 1

Cimiento en inversión sufrirá al menos un retroceso temporal debido, en parte, a la incertidumbre derivada de las posibles políticas proteccionistas de la administración estadounidense entrante.

Según este mismo informe, se predice la inversión en el 2017 será de 1.2 por ciento, un porcentaje menor comparado al del previo informe que es 2.3 por ciento.

“Se anticipa que habrá menos consumidores mexicanos haciendo compras en El Paso, o los consumidores mexicanos que vienen a El Paso comprarán menos volúmenes de bienes y servicios de este lado”, Fullerton dijo.

Fullerton también dijo el “gasolinazo” afecta al desabasto de gasolina en El Paso y, por lo tanto, el precio de la gasolina en El Paso aumenta unos seis centavos por galón, aproximadamente.

“Eso es como consecuencia menos paletines que están aprovechando de comprar gasolina en Ciudad Juárez y más juarenses que están cruzando la frontera para comprar gasolina aquí”, Fullerton dijo.

Daniel Mena, estudiante de ingeniería mecánica en UTEP, dijo haber sido directamente afectado en el negocio familiar por el gasolinazo.

Según Mena, su familia ha utilizado siempre la gasolina de El Paso debido a su mayor rendimiento y la garantía de litros exactos.

Ahora que es más barata (el costo de la gasolina en El Paso en promedio es de 12.15 pesos por litro en contra de 15.89 la Magna y 17.65 la Premium en Cd. Juárez), Mena dijo “con mayor razón llenamos el tanque allá”.

Salas dijo haberse preparado antes del gasolinazo en año nuevo haciendo una fila de alrededor 26 minutos en una gasolinera de Cd. Juárez para llenar su tanque.

“Ahora gastamos mucho más dinero en transporte. En mi familia somos tres integrantes y tenemos tres carros y a los tres pues hay que ponerles gasolina”, Sa-

las dijo. “El dinero que estaba destinado a otro tipo de cosas ya lo tenemos que gastar en gasolina, sobre todo yo que cruzo todos los días y no tengo línea expresa.”

Una protesta pacífica tomó lugar en el centro de la Ciudad de México el pasado lunes 9 de enero. Los asistentes protestaron en contra del gobierno de Enrique Peña Nieto por el reciente incremento a la gasolina.

“Mi familia tiene un negocio de carnicería y abarrotes, por lo tanto todo el producto que llega es vía terrestre”, Mena dijo. “Los vehículos en los cuales llega el producto usan gasolina, por consecuencia todos los precios suben, no importa que producto sea.”

Según Mena, su familia ha utilizado siempre la gasolina de El Paso debido a su mayor rendimiento y la garantía de litros exactos.

Ahora que es más barata (el costo de la gasolina en El Paso en promedio es de 12.15 pesos por litro en contra de 15.89 la Magna y 17.65 la Premium en Cd. Juárez), Mena dijo “con mayor razón llenamos el tanque allá”.

Saido dijo haberse preparado antes del gasolinazo en año nuevo haciendo una fila de alrededor 26 minutos en una gasolinera de Cd. Juárez para llenar su tanque.

Ahora gastamos mucho más dinero en transporte. En mi familia somos tres integrantes y tenemos tres carros y a los tres pues hay que ponerles gasolina”, Salas dijo. “El dinero que estaba destinado a otro tipo de cosas ya lo tenemos que gastar en gasolina, sobre todo yo que cruzo todos los días y no tengo línea expresa.”
**INTRAMURALS PROGRAM 2017**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sport</th>
<th>Deadline Date</th>
<th>Start Date</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Basketball</td>
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<td>02/06/2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bowling</td>
<td>02/03/2017</td>
<td>02/03/2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free Throws</td>
<td>02/06/2017</td>
<td>02/06/2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>3-Point Shootout</td>
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<td>Table Tennis</td>
<td>03/29/2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dodge-ball</td>
<td>04/03/2017</td>
<td>04/05/2017</td>
</tr>
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<td>Sand Volleyball</td>
<td>04/12/2017</td>
<td>04/17/2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ultimate Frisbee</td>
<td>04/19/2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sand Soccer</td>
<td>04/25/2017</td>
<td>04/26/2017</td>
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<td>Swim Meet</td>
<td>05/03/2017</td>
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**OUTDOOR ADVENTURE PROGRAM 2017 TRIPS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>1/21</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/11</td>
<td>Ski Apache</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/4</td>
<td>Tin Mines</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/11-16</td>
<td>Guadalupe River State Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/25</td>
<td>White Sands National Monument</td>
<td>Sculling/Pig Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/31-4/2</td>
<td>Three Rivers Petroglyph Site</td>
<td>Exploration/Camping</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/8</td>
<td>White Sands National Monument</td>
<td>Full moon bike ride</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/22</td>
<td>Huacho Tanks State Historic Site</td>
<td>Bouldering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/19-21</td>
<td>Taos Bliz</td>
<td>White Water Rafting</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**OPEN RECREATION**

Open Recreation allows the use of recreational facilities in the SRC for leisure play. Members can enjoy basketball, indoor soccer, badminton, racquetball and volleyball. The Recreational Sports Department also provides Table Tennis and Foos-ball with various seating areas.

**Racquetball**

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

**Volleyball**

Fall/Spring
- T&Th 6:30 pm – 9:30 pm
- **Summer**
  - T&Th 5:30 pm – 8:30 pm
  - **Inter Session**
    - T&Th 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm

**Badminton**

Fall/Spring
- SAT 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
- SUN 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
- **Summer**
  - SAT 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
  - SUN 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
- **Inter Session**
  - SAT 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
  - SUN 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
  - Also Available Upon Request
- **Boxing Gym**
  - Schedule To Be Announced

**Fitness Programs 2017**

**FREE WEEK JAN 23 - JAN 28**

**Monday & Wednesday $25 per program**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>06:15-7:15 am</td>
<td>SPINNING®, Rm. 130</td>
<td>Mariel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07:00-8:30 am</td>
<td>HATHA YOGA, Rm. 120</td>
<td>Aman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00-12:00 am</td>
<td>TOTAL BODY WORKOUT, Rm. 120</td>
<td>David</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00-1:00 pm</td>
<td>SPIN &amp; SCULPT, Rm. 130</td>
<td>Clarissa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:10-1:10 pm</td>
<td>JUI-JITSU, Rm. 110A</td>
<td>Juan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01:30-2:30 pm</td>
<td>H.I.I.T. (High Intensity Interval Training), Rm. 120</td>
<td>Caroline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03:00-4:00 pm</td>
<td>TONING PILATES, Rm. 120</td>
<td>Rosa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03:30-4:30 pm</td>
<td>BOXING CONDITIONING, Rm. 130</td>
<td>Juan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04:00-5:00 pm</td>
<td>TOTAL BODY WORKOUT, Rm. 120</td>
<td>Rosa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05:00-6:00 pm</td>
<td>RESTORATIVE YOGA, Rm. 110A</td>
<td>Rachelle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06:00-7:00 pm</td>
<td>ZUMBA®, Rm. 120</td>
<td>Mariko</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06:00-7:00 pm</td>
<td>SPINNING®, Rm. 130</td>
<td>Mariko</td>
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**Tuesday & Thursday $25 per program**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09:30-10:30 am</td>
<td>CONDITIONING/RUNNING, Rm. 120</td>
<td>David</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00-12:00 pm</td>
<td>ABS &amp; GLUTES, Rm. 120</td>
<td>David</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:10-1:10 pm</td>
<td>KARDIO KICK-BOXING, Rm. 130</td>
<td>Juan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:30-1:30 pm</td>
<td>HATHA YOGA, Rm. 110A</td>
<td>Julie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01:00-2:00 pm</td>
<td>INSANITY, Rm. 120</td>
<td>Kristen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01:30-2:30 pm</td>
<td>BOXING CONDITIONING, Rm. 130</td>
<td>David</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03:00-4:00 pm</td>
<td>TOTAL BODY WORKOUT, Rm. 120</td>
<td>Rosa</td>
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<tr>
<td>04:30-5:30 pm</td>
<td>TONING PILATES, Rm. 120</td>
<td>Rosa</td>
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<tr>
<td>05:30-6:30 pm</td>
<td>KARDIO KICK-BOXING, Rm. 110A</td>
<td>Nellei</td>
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<tr>
<td>06:00-7:00 pm</td>
<td>ZUMBA®, Rm. 120</td>
<td>Mariko</td>
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**Tuesday & Thursday $35 per program**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>06:00-7:30 pm</td>
<td>STRENGTH &amp; CONDITIONING, Rm. 120</td>
<td>David</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Carlos</td>
</tr>
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**Friday For Fitness Participants**

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<th>Instructor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>08:00am-9:30 am</td>
<td>FREE FITNESS ASSESSMENTS, Rm. 120</td>
<td>Carlos</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:30pm-2:00 pm</td>
<td>FREE FITNESS ASSESSMENTS, Rm. 120</td>
<td>Carlos</td>
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**Saturday $15 per program**

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<th>Time</th>
<th>Program</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09:00am-10:00 am</td>
<td>PILATES, Rm. 120</td>
<td>Rosa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:15am-11:15 am</td>
<td>STEP &amp; SCULPT, Rm. 120</td>
<td>Rosa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00am-12:00 pm</td>
<td>HATHA YOGA, Rm. 110A</td>
<td>Keiko</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please register at The Student Recreation Center Membership Office: Room 102B
From 8:00 am – 6:00 pm, Monday-Friday

**OUTDOOR ADVENTURE PROGRAMS:**

**Climbing Gym Open Climb**

- **Monday & Tuesday**
  - 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm
  - **Wednesday-Friday**
  - 2:00 pm - 8:00 pm
  - **Saturday**
  - 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

**Free Belay School**

- **Tuesday**
  - 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm
  - **Saturday**
  - 11:00 am - 1:00 pm

**Resource/ Game Room**

- **Monday-Wednesday**
  - 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm
  - **Thursday-Friday**
  - 2:00 pm - 8:00 pm

**For Further Information:**

**Call:** 915-747-5103
**Visit:** Student Recreation Center
**E-mail:** recsports@utep.edu
**Website:** www.utep.edu/rsd

The Student Recreation Center is a tri-level facility built through the vision and support of our UTEP Students. Philanthropy starts with our UTEP students. The SRC is a gift from the Students to UTEP, we thank you! Within the SRC, we offer a variety of programs and services, including intramurals, climbing gym, fitness classes, sport clubs, challenge course, various outdoor trips, open recreation and outdoor-equipment rentals.
Top upcoming albums of 2017

BY ADRIEN KIADOUAS
The Prospector

9
The Internet / Syd Tha Kid

The Internet took over the R&B scene with their 2015 album, “I Feel Loved,” and it felt like the neo-sounding tape took new highs under frontwoman, Syd Tha Kid. For 2017, if the band put out some promising new work, it would emerge from the semi-underground urban scene to the mainstream world of R&B music.

In fact, Syd Tha Kid plans to release a solo project of her own titled “Pisces.” She announced the album on an episode of OTHERtone and described the work as “a lot more mainstream” than her previous work. Maybe listeners can expect more of an electronic/songwriter sound from Syd, like she did on “She Digs” or “Cocaine” on The Internet’s debut album, “Purple Naked Ladies.”

8
Khalid

Khalid broke out in 2016 with his hits “Location” and “Let’s Go.” He was all over the radio and was the first Grammy-nominated artist based off streams because he refused to sell his album. He had a high album based on streams. He spent the entire third and fourth quarter of 2016 on a world tour, he had his first daughter, he released a Christmas album, and that wasn’t even all of it.

There’s no way that Chance stays quiet in 2017. The next chance (no pun intended) he has, he will spend much more.

Vampire Weekend

Last year I made the assumption that no matter how many years Vampire Weekend would finally be releasing a new project, I was brutally wrong after the New York band failed to release a project in 2016.

But maybe, just maybe, 2017 is the year for the Vampire. Ezra Koenig, the frontman for the band, ambiguously alluded to some future expectations from the group in the spirit of the seven-year anniversary of their hit album “Contra.”

There are no clear lines drawn about what the future holds. For me, it means open to doing stuff with Vampire Weekend.”

Even though it wasn’t his first album, Earl’s 2015 “Don’t Like Shit, I Don’t Go Outside” blew up extremely well for a sophomore, experimental album. During 2017, he doubled through different artists’ tapes as a guest feature, and one of his more noticeable was that of Danny Brown’s song, “Really Doe.”

It seems like forever since “Modern Vampires of the City” released in 2013. So an album in 2017 is exactly what their music-hungry fans have been asking for.

10
Young Thug - Hi$UN3$5

There are few trap artists who have emerged from the scene and kept it going, mixtape after mixtape, quite like Young Thug. He broke out in 2015 with “Barter 6,” which earned him wide critical acclaim. Then, Thugz followed it up with three back-to-back-to-back solid mixtapes, “Tim Trapz,” “Slime Season 3” and “Jeffrey.” While “Tim Trapz” was a little off, “Slime Season 3” was Thug’s most cohesive, structured tape to date.

“Jeffrey” exhibited the creativity that Thug possessed and showcased how deep his artistry ventured through. Now, “Hi$UN3$5” is Thugz’s most anticipated album to date. He has indicated how long he has worked on the upcoming project, which alludes to possibly his most organized and strong project to date. He and Future entered 2016 as the trap kings, but Thugz snatched the crown due to his impressive releases. Now in 2017, if Thugz utilizes his creativity on “Jeffrey” and his structure on “Hi$UN3$5,” he could potentially drop a confirmed classic.

At Long Last ASAP was the best rap album of 2015. Period. And, “Cozy Tapes,” an album by the ASAP Mob crew, was also an effortless, solid record.

It was on “At Long Last ASAP” where the hip-hop community saw Rocky become his true artist. He emerged from the underground rap scene up to the gnats. The album was drenched filled and experimental with tons of new sounds.

Then on “Cozy Tapes,” Rocky acted like a narrator and a last say on tons of verses. Throughout 2016, Rocky was very busy with the fashion world, named best dressed of the year by GQ Magazine, yet still dropped a noteworthy project.

If he decided to drop something in 2017, there’s really no telling what to truly expect. He could put out a solid rap album with tons of bars and hard hitting beats, like he did on “MS” and “LSDT.” He could also put out a project that is completely experimental and groovy, so he has done on tracks like “LSD” and “Electric Rocky.”

Most 17-year-olds are content with getting their first job, good grades in high school and making new friends. When Lorde was 17 years old, she dropped one of the biggest albums of 2013, “Pure Heroine.” The New Zealand native truly made a name for herself with her radio hits, award receptions and high chart recognitions.

It would be interesting to see Lorde experiment with new sounds, mixing with getting their first job, good grades in high school and making new friends. When Lorde was 17 years old, she dropped one of the biggest albums of 2013, “Pure Heroine.” The New Zealand native truly made a name for herself with her radio hits, award receptions and high chart recognitions.

The recent photo of Haaim, tweeted out of the band all together recording music, increased the hype for the American sister act’s project in 2017. Their 2013 tape “Days Are Gone” is probably one of the most underrated indie albums of the 2010s.

We can expect another strong indie pop album in 2017 from the group with some deeper lyrics and maybe experiment with some new sounds. Hearing this new project in the spring would be nice, but expect an early summer release from the sisters.

In 2015, Chance the Rapper started to gain more traction and emerged from the underground scene into the top of the hip-hop game. Then 2016 came and Chance went headfirst with his third mixtape, “Coloring Book.” He became the first Grammy-nominated artist based off streams because he refused to sell his album.

He had a high album based on streams. He spent the entire third and fourth quarter of 2016 on a world tour, he had his first daughter, he released a Christmas album, and that wasn’t even all of it.

There’s no way that Chance stays quiet in 2017. The next chance (no pun intended) he has, he will spend it all in the studio and make another masterpiece. He’s had back-to-back years where he has been a part of the top-five albums of the year. The third time around will not disappoint.

Earl Sweatshirt

Even though it wasn’t his first album, Earl’s 2015 “Don’t Like Shit, I Don’t Go Outside” blew up extremely well for a sophomore, experimental album. During 2017, he doubled through different artists’ tapes as a guest feature, and one of his more noticeable was that of Danny Brown’s song, “Really Doe.”

It seems like forever since “Modern Vampires of the City” released in 2013.

But it wasn’t all highs for Kanye in 2016. He was admitted to the hospital for basically overstaying himself. After getting out, who knows what is on the mind of the Chi-Town rapper. Whenever big events happen in Kanye’s life, like this, he puts out some of his best work. He reportedly wanted to hit up the studios as soon as he got out of the hospital. “Turbo Grafx 16” will be one of the most hyped up albums, especially after his political rants supporting Donald Trump.

No one can tell say that “The Life of Pablo” wasn’t absolutely fire—easily the best Kanye album since “My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy.”

The album reapplied with hits, such as “Ultralight Beam,” “Father Stretch My Hands,” “Waves,” and so much more.

But it wasn’t all highs for Kanye in 2016. He was admitted to the hospital for basically overstaying himself. After getting out, who knows what is on the mind of the Chi-Town rapper. Whenever big events happen in Kanye’s life, like this, he puts out some of his best work. He reportedly wanted to hit up the studios as soon as he got out of the hospital. “Turbo Grafx 16” will be one of the most hyped up albums, especially after his political rants supporting Donald Trump.

Kanye West - “Turbo Grafx 16”

At Long Last ASAP was the best rap album of 2015. Period. And, “Cozy Tapes,” an album by the ASAP Mob crew, was also an effortless, solid record.

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If he decided to drop something in 2017, there’s really no telling what to truly expect. He could put out a solid rap album with tons of bars and hard hitting beats, like he did on “MS” and “LSDT.” He could also put out a project that is completely experimental and groovy, so he has done on tracks like “LSD” and “Electric Rocky.”
“Annie” shown for one night only at the Plaza

By Leslie Sarinana

The Tony award-winning production of Broadway’s “Annie” was in town for one night only, and I had the privilege of being at the opening night. At exactly 7:30 p.m., the curtains lifted and the show began.

I didn’t know what to expect, having only seen the movie version of “Annie,” but this rendition definitely succeeded.

The show started and right away young Tori Bates, who played Annie, dominated the stage. Her spunky attitude and optimism was charming.

The show had little dialogue, but it worked well. Set in the 1930s, the play touched heavily upon the great depression and the effects it had on the people. They even had a song, “We’d like to thank you,” as direct criticism of Herbert Hoover’s failures while in office.

The whole performance was carried by the trio of Gilgamesh Taggett (Warbucks), Tori Bates (Annie) and Casey Prins (Grace). Their musical numbers were without a doubt the crowd’s favorites. At one point in the show they even had the audience participate in the show.

Another standout performer was definitely Sandy the dog; my dog could learn a trick or two from him.

Overall, wonderful performances by the cast, the set design was lovely and the show was engaging.

The Plaza Theatre is definitely the best place to watch a show in town. The next show at the Plaza will be “VIVA España: EP Symphony Orchestra with J. Vieaux” on Jan. 20 and 21.

Leslie Sarinana may be reached at theprospectordaily.ent@gmail.com.
Juilliard piano department chair and alumnus collaborate at UTEP

By Leslie Saranana

Weekends at UTEP are usually vibrant and filled with students going to the game, but last Friday night on Jan. 13, the main event was at the Fox Fine Arts recital hall. Juilliard pianists Jerome Lowenthal and Michael Brown gave a riveting piano recital at UTEP.

Jerome Lowenthal is currently chair of the piano department at Juilliard where he has worked for over 26 years and is also on the faculty at the Music Academy of the West in Santa Barbara, Ca. He started out his career at just 13-years-old when he became a part of the Philadelphia Orchestra.

Accompanying him in the performance was Michael Brown, a Juilliard alumnus and former student of Lowenthal. He is the winner of the 2012 Juilliard William Petschek Piano Debut Recital Award. Brown has also worked with pianists Leon Fleisher and Richard Goode.

Lowenthal and Brown performed in El Paso throughout the week as a part of the El Paso Pro Musica concert series. The duo first performed at the El Paso Museum of Art on Thursday, Jan. 12, where many students from the UTEP music department were present.

At Friday night’s recital, the duo gave multiple four-hand piano performances, as well as a solo performance each. Their stage presence and way of speaking made it easy to like them. During the joint renderings of classical pieces, Lowenthal addressed the audience narrating a scene before playing each piece so that the audience could have a better understanding of the music. Each narration was animated and comical. At one point, Lowenthal and Brown had the audience laughing with a short reenactment of “Beauty and the Beast.” Their joint pieces were from “Ma mere l’Oye,” classical stories and George Gershwin’s “An American in Paris.” Although they worked exceptionally well together, they did not disappoint as solo performers.

Brown played a captivating rendition of Ludwig Beethoven’s “Fifteen variations and fugue in E-flat major, Op.35 Eroica,” and Lowenthal gave a lively performance of Francis Poulenc’s “Aubade,” which he composed for piano. Before playing, each performer gave a background on their piece and explained some of the technical components. Both pianists received praise and standing ovations for their performances.

They gave a show that anyone, regardless of musical taste or knowledge would have enjoyed. Together they were enthralling and entertaining, and as individuals they were both fascinating in their own way.

El Paso Pro Musica will continue to bring classical musicians to El Paso throughout the spring as part of the El Paso Chamber Music Festival. The next musicians who will be at the Fox Fine Arts recital hall as part of the festival are Grammy-awarding winning guitarist Jason Vieaux on Jan. 22, and Zuill Bailey and Vulya Gorenman on piano, Jan. 28.

Leslie Saranana may be reached at theprospecetor.daily.2017.ent@gmail.com.
‘Miranda Sings’ is back...you’re welcome

BY LESLIE SARMANA

After a year, Miranda Sings is coming back to the borderland. Colleen Ballinger who created, and plays the character of Miranda Sings, is revisiting El Paso on her tour titled, “Miranda Sings Live... You’re Welcome.” Ballinger was in town last January, on “The Colleen and Josh Show” tour with her then-husband, Joshua Evans of YouTube channel JoshuATV.

Ballinger created the widely popular character of Miranda Sings, a strongly confident, yet unattractive teen blind to her obvious lack of talent. She developed the character as a joke, mocking arrogant singers who believe they will gain success by posting their videos on YouTube.

Miranda creates videos for her 7.5 million YouTube subscribers. Her channel has no specific theme. She creates tutorials, vlogs, song covers, collaborations and original songs. She does it all, but she doesn’t do it well. Being bad is what she’s good at. Miranda even has catchphrases such as “haters back off” and “juss sayin.”

Miranda is known for her messy lipstick, nasal voice. Miranda even has spaghetti hair. She does it all, but she doesn’t do it well.

Ballinger has only grown more popular and successful. Reflecting on her first successful video, Ballinger told Variety magazine, “I really tried to take advantage of my 15 minutes of fame. And I’ve gotten lucky—those 15 minutes have become several years.”

Staying true to her word, Ballinger has certainly been making the most of her success. She has released a book, “Self-Help,” written by Miranda. It is a how-to guide that offers step-by-step lessons by Miranda on just about everything. Everything about the character of Miranda Sings is proof that irritating can be entertaining.

Ballinger has also created a show on Netflix around her character Miranda, called “Haters Back Off.” It premiered on Netflix last October, and has been picked up for a second season. One stand-out cast member from her show is Angela Kinsey, who is best known for her role as Angela Martin on “The Office.” Angela plays Miranda’s awkward and weak mother, Bethany.

She is not the first YouTube star to publish a book or create something on Netflix. Fellow YouTuber Shane Dawson has also published two books and even created a movie, “Not Cool,” which is now on Netflix. With their success, they are paving the path for online stars to cross over into acting, writing or even comedy.

This is Ballinger’s third comedy tour, and the first to be based solely on Miranda. You can catch both, Colleen and Miranda at the Plaza Theatre on Jan. 24. The first season of “Haters Back Off” is also available to stream on Netflix.

Andres Correa, sophomore biomedical major

The Prospector

Tour stops set for the sun city this year

BY ALEXANDRA DE LA CERDA

FEB. 25

Jimmy Eat World

Feb. 25, 7:00 p.m. at Trick Falls

The rock band that gave us the rock classic, “The Middle” is coming to town to tour their ninth album, “Integrity Blues.” This is their first album in three years.

MARCH 4

Maluma

March 4, 8:30 p.m. at the El Paso County Coliseum

On the “Pretty Boy, Dirty Boy” tour, Colombian singer Maluma is one of the most anticipated Latino artists coming to El Paso this spring.

MARCH 23

Elton John

March 2, 7 p.m. at the El Paso County Coliseum

Elton John, who has been one of the best-selling artists for decades is gracing the Sun City this spring. He has sold over 300 million records and is sure to be one of the biggest concerts in town this year.

APRIL 26

Chris Tomlin

April 26, 7:00 p.m. at the Don Haskins Center

Grammy winner, Chris Tomlin begins his “Worship Night In America” tour. Tomlin is a contemporary Christian artist kicking off his tour on April 4. He will be featuring artists Big Daddy Weave, Phil Wickham and Zach Williams.

APRIL 26

Guns N’ Roses

Sept. 6, 7:30 p.m. at the Sun Bowl Stadium

This is definitely the most talked about and anticipated concert to come to El Paso. The famous group Guns N’ Roses have expanded their tour and are returning with original members Slash and Duff McKagan.

JAN. 31

Foreigner

Jan. 31, 7 p.m. at the Plaza Theatre

The rock band Foreigner is touring for their 40th-year anniversary. Best known for their hits “Jukebox Hero,” “Hot Blooded” and “I Want to Know What Love Is,” you can catch them at the Plaza Theatre.

FEB. 9

Camila

Feb. 9, 8:00 p.m. at the Plaza Theatre

The Mexican pop duo Camila, which has reached success all over Latin America, is coming back to El Paso to promote their third studio album, “Elypse.”

MARCH 2

Green Day

March 2, 7 p.m. at the El Paso County Coliseum

The punk rock band is embarking on their “Revolution Radio” tour. One of the most popular bands of its generation Green Day is coming to the coliseum this March.

SEPTEMBER

If you only go to one concert this year, make this the one. Some of his greatest hits include, “Tony Dance,” “Benny and the Jets,” “Candle in the Wind” and “Circle of Life.”

lejandradelacerda5@gmail.com.
A new chapter in UTEP lore was written a few weeks ago when former Miner football head coach Mike Price stormed into the stands to rip a “Fire Floyd” sign out of the hands of UTEP basketball fans Louis Cepeda. Price had been sitting with UTEP Athletic Director Bob Stull during the game and had apparently had enough of the crowd booing the team’s play—and the sign. The sign, the calls to local sports talk radio stations, boos and a noticeable lack of attendance have all been the byproduct of the UTEP men’s basketball team’s poor performance this season. The team is currently 4-13 and has lost 12 in a row prior to winning two in a row against Florida Atlantic (in double-OT) and Florida Atlantic (in OT). The majority of the fans’ blame has been pointed at one man—head coach Tim Floyd. But is Floyd worthy of firing? Just like the recent presidential election, there are those who see it both ways.

Floyd was named men’s head basketball coach on March 30, 2010. He had been without a job since June 2009, when he resigned from coaching the Southern California men’s basketball team. In a letter to USC Athletic Director Mike Garrett, Floyd claimed to have lost his joy for basketball, saying in part, “I no longer feel I can offer the level of enthusiasm to my duties that is deserved by the university, my coaching staff, my players, their families, and the supporters of Southern Cal. I always promised myself and my family that if ever I felt I could no longer give my full enthusiasm to a job, that I should leave it to others who could.”

Following the 2009 season and prior to Floyd’s departure, Floyd’s Trojans had lost Demar DeRozan, Taj Gibson and Daniel Hackett, who all declared for the NBA draft. Floyd had also been implicated in an impaired benefits scandal involving future NBA star O.J. Mayo. When several recruits de-committed and current player Marcus Johnson left to go pro, despite clearly not having much chance at an NBA career, Floyd had seemingly had enough. At one function, Floyd told boosters “Kansas has two players who would have been NBA lottery picks, Cole Aldrich and Sherron Collins, and they are returning to school, good for them,” according to Los Angeles Times reporter Chris Foster. “Our guys got an offer from Islamabad and they’re gone.”

Following Floyd’s departure, USC would vacate 21 wins from the 2007-08 season and withdraw from postseason consideration for the 2009-10 season. Floyd took over a 26-7 UTEP merits team, which had been ranked as high as 24th in the AP poll and lost in the first round of the NCAA Tournament under head coach Tony Barbee, who left for a job at Auburn following the season. The 2010-11 season would prove to be Floyd’s best at 25-10, with all of Barber’s players still on the team (minus power forward Arnett Moultrie who transferred to Mississippi State). Floyd brought in center John Bohannon prior to the season. The mercurial big man proved to be a steady force in the middle for the next four years and one of four Floyd

is the “Fire Floyd” movement justified?

Floyd photo courtesy of UTEP Communications

Q: What do you have to say to the people with the “Fire Floyd” signs at UTEP basketball games this season? Stull: That’s their right. We also had people that had said that they love Coach Floyd.

Q: Coach Floyd has been more vocal on the radio with reasons why the team is losing (i.e. McInnis’ transfer, Winn leaving, Moore leaving, etc.). Are you ok with these reasons?

Stull: Coach Floyd takes responsibility for his program. We have had unexpected circumstances resulting in the departure of several of our best players the last two years, but coach Floyd is determined to correct the situations. Q: Is this number of transfers during a seven-year period acceptable? Do you see it as the norm these days?

Stull: Unfortunately the norm! Forty-eight percent of all Division I freshman transfers within the first year and a half—over 875 last year! If a player doesn’t get enough minutes of play, they are advised to transfer so they have a better chance of starting and ultimately a chance for the NBA. Then of course those that feel they are ready to play professionally and decide to enter the draft early like Vincel Hunter and Lee Moore. Q: Is there any reason that you know of that UTEP may be so far ahead of the rest of the league in players transferring away from the school?

Stull: No, except UTEP and El Paso are a long way from home for a lot of our players. If they are not getting playing time, and are unhappy, they usually transfer closer to home so their parents and friends can see them play.

Q: Why during the gambling scandal happened, was there ever any thought toward a punishment for Coach Floyd or the basketball program as a whole?

Stull: But the opposite. Coaches were publicly recognized by the FBI and the NCAA for their cooperation and aid in eventually convicting a bookie on campus. Usually the FBI tells the coaches that there is a betting problem on the team. Our coaches informed the FBI despite the fact it involved all three of our point guards.

Q: In a recent interview with 60 Minutes, you mentioned that a 20-win season was acceptable for UTEP basketball nowadays. by your standards, does that mean that Floyd will not be living up to his end of the bargain following this season?

Stull: True, UTEP basketball is in a power five conference, you have to win your conference tournament to get in the NCAA! A good example of this was the women last year—they won the conference, the “Group of Five” – CUSA, MAC, AAC, MT WEST, SUN BELT, conference tournament. They had 29 games, but they didn’t get an at large bid. Another is the “Group of Five” – CUSA, MAC, AAC, MT WEST, SUN BELT, conference tournament. They had 29 games, but they didn’t get an at large bid. Twenty-two percent of all Division I programs as a whole?

Q: Other mid-major coaches have less transfers, more conference championships and more NCAA tournament appearances than Coach Floyd after seven years at their schools—five, in fact Russell Turner (UC-Irvine), Sam Houston), Andrew Toole (Robert Morris), Greg McDermott (Creighton), Leon Rice (Boise State). Does this change your mind in support of coach Floyd at all?

Stull: It is hard to evaluate even these as the level of competition varies. If you look at coach Floyd’s career, he has been to several NCAA tournaments, twice to Sweet 16 and two to the second round. No one has been more successful than coach Floyd. Long time season ticket holders and donors are huge coach Floyd fans. coach Floyd was one of coach Haskin’s assistants and remains a favorite with Mary Haskins and the Haskin’s family. Q: How much would it cost UTEP to terminate the contract of Coach Floyd?

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NFL calls for several Miner football stars

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"I want to help my team (UTEP) win a conference championship. I am extremely close with all my teammates, but I want us to go out winners," Hernandez said.

"Spending my last learning year from Kugler and coach Leftwich will only benefit me. When my college career comes to an end, I will be ready for the next level. But for now, all I am worried about is UTEP."

As the NFL season approaches its end, the offseason will shortly follow. UTEP football will be well represented when the NFL season kicks off with the draft fans could look forward to three names being called, as the athletes will find out their new homes and new teams. The NFL draft will begin Thursday, April 27 and end on Saturday, April 29.

Follow UTEP fans on twitter @EagleOnTheHill.

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- Will Hernandez, UTEP football junior left guard

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January 17, 2017

**STULL from page 13**

Stull: No comment.

Q: What do you say to the fans who have come out in support of Coach Floyd?

Stull: We thank them for being true UTEP fans and supporting our team and coaches. When things are tough is when we need them! We have a lot of history at UTEP and are recognized as one of the toughest places to play. Coach Floyd and the team are working hard to improve—so let’s support them with the same loud enthusiasm opponents have come to expect in the Haskins Center. I have hired three coaches (four counting Coach Adams) who have made it to the NCAA. Those coaches (except Coach Adams) all left for other jobs. Coach Floyd has had opportunities to leave for other jobs but is committed to UTEP. We are fortunate to have a coach who loves El Paso and UTEP.

Follow Jason Green on Twitter @greenevansj.

**UTEP transfers compared to other C-USA programs since the 2010-11 season (Floyd’s first)**

*Only Middle Tennessee and UTEP have had the same coach through just over six years*

**Floyd’s offense and defense by season**

**Points per game average & national stat rank per season**

**Points against per game average & national stat rank per season**

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