9-5-2017

The Prospector, September 5, 2017

UTEP Student Publications

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.utep.edu/prospector

Part of the Journalism Studies Commons, and the Mass Communication Commons

Comments:
This file is rather large, with many images, so it may take a few minutes to download. Please be patient.

Recommended Citation
http://digitalcommons.utep.edu/prospector/285

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Special Collections Department at DigitalCommons@UTEP. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Prospector by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@UTEP. For more information, please contact lweber@utep.edu.
The overwhelming smell of hot dogs being cooked on a charcoal grill fills the UTEP grounds with a delightful smell, the echoing sound of the drumline front bouncing through the walls of the school leading up to the stadium means exactly one thing—football season is back.

For most who make their way to the Sun Bowl for any given Saturday morning football game, UTEP football feels like a true Texas tradition, unique in its own way. The stadium is hugged by a mountainous surrounding, with stands that allow cheers to literally recoil off its natural surroundings, making the noise almost deafening when it gets loud.

As they embark on their 100th year in program’s existence, the UTEP football (0-1) team will take on Rice on Saturday, Sept. 9. For senior guard Derek Elmendorf, this matchup means more than just a game or a win.

“This game means my return to not only the gridiron, but also the starting job as a guard,” he said. “It’s always exciting, first home game. It’s a little more personal for me now—being benched and coming back,” he said. “I haven’t felt that jittery—that, ‘okay, I’m starting’ feeling in the Sun Bowl for about two years now. It’ll be a little fresh for me, but once the first play is over, you’re a football player and it’s time to battle.”

Battling is something he learned to do during the 2017 off-season. After his impressive freshman campaign, where he made the All-Conference list, Elmendorf did not see the playing time he hoped for during his sophomore and junior campaigns.

In fact, he often had to watch from the sideline as his good friend and partner on the line, standout guard Will Hernandez, would play and improve throughout the two seasons.

“Coming in, Will Hernandez and I were starting our freshman year. I had some personal problems and my junior year I was injured, messed up my back, which led to some weight gain,” he said. “When I came back, I still had that weight gain, so I was benched. You can’t punt. Coaching up the younger guys and going into my senior season, I thought I couldn’t go out this way.”

So with the help of Hernandez, he fought through the adversity and planned to lose the weight. Both of them picked up boxing for cardio exercises and it helped Elmendorff move around better. He claimed to have gotten back to the level he was as a freshman. And it was all because of his love for one thing—football. "Derek Elmendorf is (a player who has improved the most),” said head coach Sean Kugler. "He wasn't giving us the production that we needed and he kind of made a life's choice that he was going to change his body, he was going to change his mentality, and instead of going the other way and blaming everybody else he blamed himself. He had a great camp so I'm looking forward to him starting. I'm proud of that Ted for where he has taken his career. He took it by the horns and did it himself!".

Elmendorf grew up from humble beginnings in El Paso, where he understood how truly difficult it was to make it big in the sport of football and the work he needed to put in order to exceed in the sport.

At Franklin High School, he was able to step foot and play on the UTEP turf annually when his team would take on Coronado and played at the Sun Bowl.

“I would always look up and say ‘wow, this is going to be my future.’ I was so excited,” he said. Gifted with a massive size for a high school lineman and an inclination to work hard at the sport, he was recruited by the Miners to play for them at the collegiate level—something he always wanted.

“You know how they say in Texas football is considered a religion? It’s that sort of
Girls love fantasy football too

By Elin Ténez

I used to only watch games when I was younger. It was just the way my father raised me. I was never a football fan and in all my years of playing football I have never seen a girl play. Football is a male-driven sport with very few females playing on teams.

At my school, we have defied stereotypes and joined the male-dominated sport. This year we've seen Rebecca Longs, the first female to ever win a football scholarship to an NCAA school at the Division II level. Longs was also the first woman to sign a letter of intent, which isn't unheard of. Sports media tar-

As we celebrate the 100 years of the UTEP football team, it is a time to recognize all of the female players who have played in order to make it to the U.S. National Development Games in Arlington, Texas, last year. The league was started by the RTC, the Texas women's team. In her first year playing she managed to take her team to the first round of the playoffs, not some-"}

The Prospector is published by the Student Media and Publications Board, 105 Union East, 500 W. University Ave. El Paso, Texas 79968. Letters will be edited for clarity and brevity. Letters over 250 words are subject to editing to fit available space. Please include full name, address and telephone number and e-mail address, plus major, classification and/or title if applicable. Address and phone number will be used for verification only. Windows 10 S. Union, e-mail: editor@theprospectordaily.com, call 747-7747 or fax to 747-8031.

The Prospector is provided to students through student fees. First copy is free. Any additional copies, if available, may be purchased for $1 through the Department of Student Media and Publications. The Prospector is not responsible for names made to advertisements or add-in opportunities. Additional information or add-in opportunities may be obtained by calling The Prospector at 970-747-5161. Opinions expressed in The Prospector are not necessarily those of the university.

SEPTEMBER 5, 2017

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
ADRIAN BROADUSS, 747-7477

100 years, but where are the women?

As we celebrate the 100 years of the UTEP football team, it is a time to recognize all of the female players who have played in order to make it to the U.S. National Development Games in Arlington, Texas, last year. The league was started by the RTC, the Texas women's team. In her first year playing she managed to take her team to the first round of the playoffs, not some-thing many can say.

College football is a more competi-tive high school football, but that doesn't mean it lacks female involvement. This year we've seen Rebecca Longs, the first female to ever win a football scholarship to an NCAA school at the Division II level. Longs was also the first woman to sign a letter of intent, which isn't unheard of. Sports media tar-

As we celebrate the 100 years of the UTEP football team, it is a time to recognize all of the female players who have played in order to make it to the U.S. National Development Games in Arlington, Texas, last year. The league was started by the RTC, the Texas women's team. In her first year playing she managed to take her team to the first round of the playoffs, not some-thing many can say.

College football is a more competi-tive high school football, but that doesn't mean it lacks female involvement. This year we've seen Rebecca Longs, the first female to ever win a football scholarship to an NCAA school at the Division II level. Longs was also the first woman to sign a letter of intent, which isn't unheard of. Sports media tar-

As we celebrate the 100 years of the UTEP football team, it is a time to recognize all of the female players who have played in order to make it to the U.S. National Development Games in Arlington, Texas, last year. The league was started by the RTC, the Texas women's team. In her first year playing she managed to take her team to the first round of the playoffs, not some-thing many can say.

College football is a more competi-tive high school football, but that doesn't mean it lacks female involvement. This year we've seen Rebecca Longs, the first female to ever win a football scholarship to an NCAA school at the Division II level. Longs was also the first woman to sign a letter of intent, which isn't unheard of. Sports media tar-

As we celebrate the 100 years of the UTEP football team, it is a time to recognize all of the female players who have played in order to make it to the U.S. National Development Games in Arlington, Texas, last year. The league was started by the RTC, the Texas women's team. In her first year playing she managed to take her team to the first round of the playoffs, not some-thing many can say.

College football is a more competi-tive high school football, but that doesn't mean it lacks female involvement. This year we've seen Rebecca Longs, the first female to ever win a football scholarship to an NCAA school at the Division II level. Longs was also the first woman to sign a letter of intent, which isn't unheard of. Sports media tar-

As we celebrate the 100 years of the UTEP football team, it is a time to recognize all of the female players who have played in order to make it to the U.S. National Development Games in Arlington, Texas, last year. The league was started by the RTC, the Texas women's team. In her first year playing she managed to take her team to the first round of the playoffs, not some-thing many can say.

College football is a more competi-tive high school football, but that doesn't mean it lacks female involvement. This year we've seen Rebecca Longs, the first female to ever win a football scholarship to an NCAA school at the Division II level. Longs was also the first woman to sign a letter of intent, which isn't unheard of. Sports media tar-

As we celebrate the 100 years of the UTEP football team, it is a time to recognize all of the female players who have played in order to make it to the U.S. National Development Games in Arlington, Texas, last year. The league was started by the RTC, the Texas women's team. In her first year playing she managed to take her team to the first round of the playoffs, not some-thing many can say.

College football is a more competi-tive high school football, but that doesn't mean it lacks female involvement. This year we've seen Rebecca Longs, the first female to ever win a football scholarship to an NCAA school at the Division II level. Longs was also the first woman to sign a letter of intent, which isn't unheard of. Sports media tar-

As we celebrate the 100 years of the UTEP football team, it is a time to recognize all of the female players who have played in order to make it to the U.S. National Development Games in Arlington, Texas, last year. The league was started by the RTC, the Texas women's team. In her first year playing she managed to take her team to the first round of the playoffs, not some-thing many can say.

College football is a more competi-tive high school football, but that doesn't mean it lacks female involvement. This year we've seen Rebecca Longs, the first female to ever win a football scholarship to an NCAA school at the Division II level. Longs was also the first woman to sign a letter of intent, which isn't unheard of. Sports media tar-

As we celebrate the 100 years of the UTEP football team, it is a time to recognize all of the female players who have played in order to make it to the U.S. National Development Games in Arlington, Texas, last year. The league was started by the RTC, the Texas women's team. In her first year playing she managed to take her team to the first round of the playoffs, not some-thing many can say.

College football is a more competi-tive high school football, but that doesn't mean it lacks female involvement. This year we've seen Rebecca Longs, the first female to ever win a football scholarship to an NCAA school at the Division II level. Longs was also the first woman to sign a letter of intent, which isn't unheard of. Sports media tar-

As we celebrate the 100 years of the UTEP football team, it is a time to recognize all of the female players who have played in order to make it to the U.S. National Development Games in Arlington, Texas, last year. The league was started by the RTC, the Texas women's team. In her first year playing she managed to take her team to the first round of the playoffs, not some-thing many can say.

College football is a more competi-tive high school football, but that doesn't mean it lacks female involvement. This year we've seen Rebecca Longs, the first female to ever win a football scholarship to an NCAA school at the Division II level. Longs was also the first woman to sign a letter of intent, which isn't unheard of. Sports media tar-

As we celebrate the 100 years of the UTEP football team, it is a time to recognize all of the female players who have played in order to make it to the U.S. National Development Games in Arlington, Texas, last year. The league was started by the RTC, the Texas women's team. In her first year playing she managed to take her team to the first round of the playoffs, not some-thing many can say.

College football is a more competi-tive high school football, but that doesn't mean it lacks female involvement. This year we've seen Rebecca Longs, the first female to ever win a football scholarship to an NCAA school at the Division II level. Longs was also the first woman to sign a letter of intent, which isn't unheard of. Sports media tar-

As we celebrate the 100 years of the UTEP football team, it is a time to recognize all of the female players who have played in order to make it to the U.S. National Development Games in Arlington, Texas, last year. The league was started by the RTC, the Texas women's team. In her first year playing she managed to take her team to the first round of the playoffs, not some-thing many can say.

College football is a more competi-tive high school football, but that doesn't mean it lacks female involvement. This year we've seen Rebecca Longs, the first female to ever win a football scholarship to an NCAA school at the Division II level. Longs was also the first woman to sign a letter of intent, which isn't unheard of. Sports media tar-

As we celebrate the 100 years of the UTEP football team, it is a time to recognize all of the female players who have played in order to make it to the U.S. National Development Games in Arlington, Texas, last year. The league was started by the RTC, the Texas women's team. In her first year playing she managed to take her team to the first round of the playoffs, not some-thing many can say.

College football is a more competi-tive high school football, but that doesn't mean it lacks female involvement. This year we've seen Rebecca Longs, the first female to ever win a football scholarship to an NCAA school at the Division II level. Longs was also the first woman to sign a letter of intent, which isn't unheard of. Sports media tar-

As we celebrate the 100 years of the UTEP football team, it is a time to recognize all of the female players who have played in order to make it to the U.S. National Development Games in Arlington, Texas, last year. The league was started by the RTC, the Texas women's team. In her first year playing she managed to take her team to the first round of the playoffs, not some-thing many can say. 
OUR VIEW

A look back at 100 years of football

1. The Miners football record in 1946 was 3-6, ranking 92nd of 120 teams across the nation. 2. In 1967, the Miners won the Sun Bowl 14-7 against Ole Miss. 3. Linebacker Seth Joyner in August 1985 afternoon workout. 4. Lineman Sean Kugler signs autographs for Australian fans after the game on Dec. 7, 1985 against the Wyoming Cowboys. 5. One of the line ups that faced Border Conference teams in 1946. 6. The Miner bench watches a play unfold during action on November 2, 1985 against UNM. 7. During the 1985 season, the Miners were among the worst team in the country with a 1-10 record. However, they defeated no.7 ranked BYU 23-16 in a huge upset win. 8. A sell-out crowd of 52,085 was the second-largest crowd at a UTEP football game on October 21, 2000.
Civil Rights lawsuits in schools on the rise

BY CHRISTIAN VASQUEZ

Civil rights lawsuits against schools and universities have doubled in the last four years, and four out of 10 of these have to do with students with disabilities.

Transactional Records Access Clearinghouse (TRAC), a data collection and analysis organization based out of Syracuse University highlighted the trend in a recent report.

Stephanie Paz, a junior psychology major, is from the Tigua tribe of the Yoleta del Sur Pueblo, and has worked or been involved in the behavioral health field since she was 13 years old. She said her experience working within the reservation in mental health programs was different when compared to the Texas school districts she attended.

"I'd say as of right now it's really, really good when it comes to their programming, it's very involved when it comes to adjusting to those issues, as for the state board of education, don't think that there is enough of that," Paz said. "We make our own kind of guidelines and because we're representing one minority, as opposed to public schools, where it's not just matter, but you have you have Hispanics, you have African-Americans, you have a bunch of ethnic groups."

Paz said that it is easier for tribes such as the Tigua to go and find how their funding is used, as opposed to Texas schools that have limits on how their funding is spent. She said that student organizations and departments at UTEP should be working to highlight these issues.

Constance Wannamaker, a supervising attorney who specializes in special education, said this report coincides with her own experience representing parents of students in El Paso.

"Unfortunately, I just think that there are more violations, and funding has become tighter for schools districts," Wannamaker said. "You know it costs money and resources to provide these services and I think we've seen some backtracking of school districts to work with kids to integrate to mainstream general education setting, and we've seen more siloing of kids into segregated settings, which is easier for them to do."

According to TRAC, if the trend continues for the rest of this year, civil rights lawsuits involving education will reach the largest number recorded since courts started tracking these cases in 2011.

"It typically involves children with cognitive impairments and mental illness," Wannamaker said about the cases she sees in El Paso.

Wannamaker also said tighter budgets are likely the reason the violations have increased, although she was unsure whether schools are doing all they can with the budgets they currently have.

"All across the board, we need to provide more funding across the state for special education," said state Senator Jose Rodriguez when asked about the state of Texas schools. "We need to be on guard to not allow any more policies-like the one I struck down with a bill that education agency implemented, setting a limit at 8.5 percent of students that can be admitted to special (education) programs, keeping a lot of students that needed it out of those programs."

The Texas Education Agency had a longstanding policy, since 2004, to keep the number of students who receive special education services to 8.5 percent, according to an investigation by The Houston Chronicle.

The bill passed through the last legislative session and took effect Sept. 1.

The policy has left thousands of special needs children out of special education, leaving Texas with the lowest percentage of students receiving proper education in the nation. In 2014, the national average for enrollment was 13.5 percent, in Texas, the number dropped to 8.5 percent.

El Paso Independent School District enrolled 10 percent in special education in 2013-2016, according to their enrollment statistics. YISD enrolled 11.8 percent, Socorro ISD enrolled 8.4 percent and Canutillo ISD enrolled 9.1 percent, according to 2016 STAAR data.

But for those who are enrolled, they still might not be getting the individual attention they need.

"We see a lot of cases where kids are being segregated into self-contained classrooms, and not being given access to non-disabled peers to the maximum extent appropriate, so we fight a lot of those cases," Wannamaker said. "We are seeing a decent amount of seclusion where the students are being placed by themselves or perhaps with one teacher, or not even a teacher but an aid and that's their educational placement. That's a big problem because first off they don't really have access to a certified special education teacher and then being provided with really any services because an aid isn't really a teacher."

Wannamaker said there are no requirements to be an aid other than to pass a background test and have a high school diploma.

Around half of the cases Wannamaker takes involve transition services, which are services schools are required to provide to individuals with disabilities with the necessary skills to move on from high school into college, community college or wherever they wish to go.

"School districts are frequently trying to push kids out when they are 18, saying that they've attained all of their goals, when in fact they may not have any skills, they may not be prepared for college, they may not be prepared to get a job. Wannamaker said. "So what we have to do is go in and make the school district do additional assessments and provide additional services."

Districts are required by law to make individual assessments to special needs students and provide transition services until they are 22.

In the West Texas federal judicial district, which includes El Paso County, Austin, and San Antonio, civil rights lawsuits involving school is at a rate of one per 1.4 million residents.

The West Texas district was ranked the 13th highest in the nation, with South New York as No. 1, New Jersey as No. 2, and the District of Colombia at No. 3.

Most of the remaining suits, 32 percent, did not specify the alleged violation, and 12.1 percent dealt with sex discrimination.

To see the full report, visit trac.suo.edu
UTEPE grad excels in the law field at Harvard

By RENE DELGADILLO

Each year a pile of more than 5,000 applications for Harvard Law School, containing top GPAs and extensive resumes, are rejected. That was not the case of UTEP graduate Perla Alvelais.

“I opened my email and the first thing on my inbox read ‘Welcome to Harvard Law School’ on the subject line,” said Alvelais, who is currently attending Harvard Law School. “I got up from my desk and just walked around the office with a hand to my mouth as not to scream from the excitement, I was just in awe. About 30 minutes later, I got back to my senses and called my family and friends.”

As an immigrant student from Ciudad Juárez, Alvelais had to overcome many obstacles to achieve her dreams.

“She went from a position of privilege to a difficult situation,” Soto said. “By the time she left for Harvard, she had overcome many obstacles to realize her goals. She worked hard and her decisions were based on intellect rather than on anything else.”

Alvelais interned at EMPOWER, a program that diverts juveniles with serious mental illness from the juvenile justice system, instead the program links the youth to treatment plans they need.

Clinical associate professor Lisa Soto, who supervised the work of Alvelais, said the skills and willingness that her student showed made her a unique intern.

“She went from a position of working with youth and families to avoid further penetration into the criminal justice system to presiding over compliance hearings in this deferred prosecution program for first-time youth offenders with serious mental illness,” Soto said.

After her first week as a Harvard student, Alvelais said this will be a tough road where her abilities and knowledge will be challenged.

“She went from a position of privilege to a difficult situation,” Soto said. “By the time she left for Harvard, she had overcome many obstacles to realize her goals. She worked hard and her decisions were based on intellect rather than on anything else.”

Alvelais interned at EMPOWER, a program that diverts juveniles with serious mental illness from the juvenile justice system, instead the program links the youth to treatment plans they need.

Clinical associate professor Lisa Soto, who supervised the work of Alvelais, said the skills and willingness that her student showed made her a unique intern.

“She went from a position of working with youth and families to avoid further penetration into the criminal justice system to presiding over compliance hearings in this deferred prosecution program for first-time youth offenders with serious mental illness,” Soto said.

After her first week as a Harvard student, Alvelais said this will be a tough road where her abilities and knowledge will be challenged.

“The Prospector

By RENE DELGADILLO

Each year a pile of more than 5,000 applications for Harvard Law School, containing top GPAs and extensive resumes, are rejected. That was not the case of UTEP graduate Perla Alvelais.

“I opened my email and the first thing on my inbox read ‘Welcome to Harvard Law School’ on the subject line,” said Alvelais, who is currently attending Harvard Law School. “I got up from my desk and just walked around the office with a hand to my mouth as not to scream from the excitement, I was just in awe. About 30 minutes later, I got back to my senses and called my family and friends.”

As an immigrant student from Ciudad Juárez, Alvelais had to overcome many obstacles to achieve her dreams.

“She went from a position of privilege to a difficult situation,” Soto said. “By the time she left for Harvard, she had overcome many obstacles to realize her goals. She worked hard and her decisions were based on intellect rather than on anything else.”

Alvelais interned at EMPOWER, a program that diverts juveniles with serious mental illness from the juvenile justice system, instead the program links the youth to treatment plans they need.

Clinical associate professor Lisa Soto, who supervised the work of Alvelais, said the skills and willingness that her student showed made her a unique intern.

“She went from a position of working with youth and families to avoid further penetration into the criminal justice system to presiding over compliance hearings in this deferred prosecution program for first-time youth offenders with serious mental illness,” Soto said.

After her first week as a Harvard student, Alvelais said this will be a tough road where her abilities and knowledge will be challenged.

“She went from a position of privilege to a difficult situation,” Soto said. “By the time she left for Harvard, she had overcome many obstacles to realize her goals. She worked hard and her decisions were based on intellect rather than on anything else.”

Alvelais interned at EMPOWER, a program that diverts juveniles with serious mental illness from the juvenile justice system, instead the program links the youth to treatment plans they need.

Clinical associate professor Lisa Soto, who supervised the work of Alvelais, said the skills and willingness that her student showed made her a unique intern.

“She went from a position of working with youth and families to avoid further penetration into the criminal justice system to presiding over compliance hearings in this deferred prosecution program for first-time youth offenders with serious mental illness,” Soto said.

After her first week as a Harvard student, Alvelais said this will be a tough road where her abilities and knowledge will be challenged.
QUESTION OF THE WEEK

What is your favorite part about football season?

AARON SANTILLANES
Senior computer science major
“I am not really interested in football season.”

ALYTZEL CASAS
Freshman biochemistry major
“I like the hype that it brings. It gets everyone excited and allows people to show their UTEP pride.”

DAVID BARRY
Freshman mathematics major
“I love the energy things to the students and faculty. It brings people together.”

ASHLEY MARTINEZ
Freshman biology major
“The fact that it brings us all together as Miners. We get to celebrate our school, show our pride and watch our team play.”

JESSICA MOORE
Sophomore music major
“I really like the spirit it brings to the school and the marching band.”

JACOBO REYES
Junior microbiology major
“My favorite thing would have to be the way everyone at school comes together and all the events.”

RACHEL AREGOLA
Junior theater arts major
“My favorite part of the Miner Ambassador program, my favorite part about football season are the tailgates we have with the Alumni Association.”

JOSHUA FLORES
Freshman computer science engineering major
“The hype and how everyone gets together and watch the game.”

THELMA LLIAN
Junior forensic science major
“How families get together and watch the game.”

ENRIQUE RANTEL
Junior music major
“I really like the tailgates and all the people you get to meet at the games.”

FOOTBALL

From page 1

thing with me,” he said. “Growing up around here in Texas football is big, but coming to the games here and seeing the Jordan Palmer’s, the Johnny-Lee Higgins, the Thomas Howard’s, when they were ranked and the entire stadium was rival— that’s what we’re trying to bring back here. That atmosphere, we experienced that— Aaron and Alvin (Jones), all the El Paso kids who are playing here know how it is and we want to get back there!”

In its 100 years of existence, one might not find the programs history to be filled with a colorful count of prominent history. The schools all-time record rests at 385–564–28 (480) with a bowl record of 0-9.

In fact, the Miners have not won a bowl game in 50 years (1967). Yet, Stilwelloffffs commends the fans’ loyalty, despite the wins and losses.

“The fans in general are true loyal fans and always here,” he said. “I’ve played in this stadium when there’s 4,000,000 and when there’s about 17,000, and every time it is so loud. We get help from the mountains and everything is booming back. This stadium gets rockin’!”

However, the game itself takes a back seat for some at UTEP. Alan Perez, a sophomore marketing major, said his favorite part about football season coming back is the tailgates.

“Tailgating is the easiest part because it joins everyone together to have a great time,” he said. “Nothing beats hanging out with friends and having a great time before the game!”

This year, the UTEP Alumni Association and Miner Athletic Club is offering fan-wise tailgates before each game season.

For $8 per game, students are offered a ticket to the tailgate, which includes a catered meal, two beverages, music and prizes. The tailgate parties start at Kidd Field three hours prior to kickoff and does not include a game ticket.

To purchase tailgate party tickets, one may buy them in person at the UTEP Alumni Association and Miner Athletic Club office, on the UTEP Athletics weposter Center (Alumni Lodge), Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. or by phone at 915-747-8600. A valid ID is required for entry.
The Prospector

Kugler and team feel added intensity against Rice

BY ADRIAN BROADUS

After an abysmal 56-7 loss to No. 7 Oklahoma, head coach Sean Kugler said his team is hungry for redemption. Embarking on their 100th year in program history, the Miners will play host to C-USA division opponent Rice on Saturday, Sept. 9, at the Sun Bowl.

“They’re excited and ready to go,” Kugler said, whose program has lost seven of nine games following a loss to a top-25 team. “They were embarrassed how they played (against OU).”

However, the defensive line expects some adjustments in the middle of the season as he went for a 4-3 defense to a 3-4. This year the Miners showed the same weaknesses on offense; UTEP’s leading tackler from last year. Last year the two teams squared off late in the season, this year the two league foes square off before the start of conference play, something that has not happened in program history.

“With the current pressure and intensity. Whenever you have an early conference game, it gets your attention,” Kugler said. “You’ll see guys reps up go and down. The first game to second game transition is one of the most drastic looks we’ll have.”

On the offensive side of the ball, Kugler was impressed with the play of quarterback Ryan Mallet against Oklahoma, despite the loss. Mallet finished the game, completing 10-of-18 passes for 56 yards.

“My first go,” he said. “I was pleased with his play. I’m still comfortable with all three of the quarterbacks.”

But overall defensively, Kugler believes the offense at least gained some momentum against Oklahoma.

“They did an outstanding job early,” he said. “I think we’ve got to see the little mistakes they had on film and they’ll know how they need to fix it.”

Kugler briefly touched on how he is feeling about the Miners defense, albeit that it was against powerhouse Oklahoma.

“We as a defense are joining together as one and trusting each other more. We’re treating each other really well out there,” sophmore defensive lineman Denzel Chukwuekere said. “Our strength is our speed. We know what’s going on and we’re not thinking too much.”

Staying low and coming out aggressive on every snap is key to getting more sacks this new season.

In the first game of the 2017 season, the Miners showed the same weaknesses on defense, about that it was against power-house Oklahoma and their Heisman hopeful quarterback Baker Mayfield.

The Sooners put up 46 points against the Miners, with second string quarterback Kyler Murray coming in for Mayfield in the second half of the game. UTEP’s defense gave up 476 total yards and 3-4 rushing yards per game (10th worst in C-USA).

However, the defensive line expects much-improved play in their games, vowing to be better against the run and harassing opposing quarterbacks more often.

“We as a defense are joining together as one and trusting each other more. We’re treating each other really well out there,” sophmore defensive lineman Denzel Chukwuekere said. “Our strength is our speed. We know what’s going on and we’re not thinking too much.”

Staying low and coming out aggressive on every snap is key to getting more sacks this new season.

In the first game of the 2017 season, the Miners showed the same weaknesses on defense, about that it was against power-house Oklahoma and their Heisman hopeful quarterback Baker Mayfield.

The Sooners put up 46 points against the Miners, with second string quarterback Kyler Murray coming in for Mayfield in the second half of the game. UTEP’s defense gave up 476 total yards and 3-4 rushing yards per game (10th worst in C-USA).

However, the defensive line expects much-improved play in their games, vowing to be better against the run and harassing opposing quarterbacks more often.

“We as a defense are joining together as one and trusting each other more. We’re treating each other really well out there,” sophomore defensive lineman Denzel Chukwuekere said. “Our strength is our speed. We know what’s going on and we’re not thinking too much.”

Staying low and coming out aggressive on every snap is key to getting more sacks this new season.
Miners to host Borderland Invitational this weekend

The Miners will play three games in three days starting with Samford on Friday.

BY JEREMY CARRANCO
The Prospector

The UTEP women’s volleyball team (1-3) will host their second-straight weekend tournament starting on Friday, Sept. 8, against Samford University at the Borderland Invitational.

In the Glory Road Invitational this past weekend, the Miners went 1-2. UTEP earned their first win of the season in the second game of the invitational and the first game of a doubleheader on Saturday, Sept. 2, against Youngstown State (3-2). The Miners were shutout 5-0 in both the first match against New Mexico on Friday and final match (second of doubleheader) against North Dakota on Saturday.

"For hosting this weekend and next weekend there are few tweaks in our schedule, which is nice because we get to sleep in our own beds and take care of things a lot easier than when we travel and have to plan ahead," said head coach Holley Watts after the conclusion of the first tournament. "We learned a lot about our team this weekend, it was a great weekend because we pushed ourselves and battled, we just need to limit the runs we allow."

Early in this young season the Miners have had trouble with using their momentum to push them in the win column. In their last match against North Dakota, UTEP got off to solid starts in the first two sets, but could not carry it throughout the set.

"In the third set, UTEP rolled from a 12-3 deficit to eventually come within a point of forcing a fourth set at 24-21, but could not get another point and ended up losing 26-24."

"Typically, defense and blocking spark rallies," Watts said. "In this case, I think the rallies were off our serving, we were serving really tough and it made defense a little easier, we just didn’t carry it through to the end."

Senior setting captain, Amanda King, tweaked her ankle in the match against New Mexico on Friday and did not play in Saturday’s doubleheader. She is expected to return to the floor this weekend for the Borderland Invitational.

Freshman Sahara Martinez did a nice job of filling in for King on Saturday, proving she can be a success behind the team’s captain. Martinez handed out a combined 74 assists–47 against Youngstown State and 27 against North Dakota–in Saturday’s split.

"Sahara definitely stepped up when Amanda went down on Friday with a rolled ankle," sophomore Macy Austin said. "She took control of the game, she was confident in herself, she was smart and she worked with the hitters to get as many points as possible."

While a setter can put the ball in the best spot, the size of the opponent can sometimes disrupt even the most perfect setup.

The Miners have five players that are 6-foot plus, while the Fighting Hawks (North Dakota) had double that amount with 10 players that were 6 feet or taller. This was certainly an issue in the loss for UTEP.

"They are a big team (North Dakota) and very good at blocking," Watts said.

"They are a really good team, big and strong -- they are bigger than we think," said head coach Holley Watts after the conclusion of the first tournament.

"This weekend we had really good serving and passing, so we want to definitely carry that over," Austin said. "We are going to build off what we didn’t do this past weekend, which was finishing strong."

"We are going to build off what we didn’t do this past weekend which was finishing strong."

"Sahara definitely stepped up when Amanda went down on Friday with a rolled ankle," sophomore Macy Austin said.

The Miners will face a similar team as North Dakota in relation to their size when they play Abilene Christ- tian (1-5) in Sunday’s finale (Sept. 10) of the Borderland Invitational. The Wildcats have seven players that stand six-feet or higher.

"This weekend we had really good serving and passing, so we want to definitely carry that over," Austin said. "We are going to build off what we didn’t do this past weekend, which was finishing strong, while also building around bigger blocks in case the teams we play are bigger."

Meanwhile, on Saturday, Sept. 9, the Miners will face Delaware State (0-3) as they search for their first win of the season.

The Miners first opponent this weekend is Samford. The Bulldogs (3-3) have won back-to-back games against Fairfield (3-2) and Loyola.

Last season, UTEP met Samford and the Bulldogs won the match 3-1. Watts is hoping this season’s match-up will yield a different result.

"We played Samford last year and we went to four with them," Watts said. "It was a well played game for on both sides, but we still lost."

The Miners 1-10 rival, New Mexico State, is a part of the Borderland Invitational as well, but will not play in El Paso. The Aggies are the tournament’s second host and will host the same three teams the Miners do, but at the Pan American Center in Las Cruces.

The Aggies play Abilene Christian and Delaware State on Friday, Sept. 8, and play Samford on Saturday, Sept. 9. The Miners do not play the Aggies in the tournament because the two will face each other in Las Cruces on Sept. 19.

"We are going to build off what we didn’t do this past weekend which was finishing strong."

"Macey Austin Sophomore outside hitter"
Why Stull was good for UTEP athletics

BY MIKE FLORES

The Prospector

UTEP Athletic Director Bob Stull announced his retirement on Thursday, Aug. 31, after holding the position for 18 years. It's no secret that he has left his mark on the UTEP athletic program forever. From coach to athletic director, he did it all.

UTEP had no conference championships in seven sports. The football team was a complete joke before Stull arrived and he did what he could to renew the sorry program.

Track and field and cross country accounted for 19 conference championships under Stull. Just about everyone in the country knows what a force those two sports programs have been and Stull was the man to do it.

When Bob Stull took over, UTEP produced the two national champions in Emmanuel Kormok and Tobi Amusan. No one can overlook that.

Before Stull, UTEP football had only been to one bowl game in 30 years. But in only 18 years under the direction of Stull, the Miners to two consecutive eight-win seasons in 2004 and 2005—was introduced to fans, ticket prices were adjusted for the better for fans and UTEP has since been a force in at least 10 years.

Under Adams, UTEP was a three-time CUSA champion (2008, 2012 and 2016) and she guided the Miners to win the 2012 CUSA-tournament. UTEP experienced four chances to play in the NCAA-tournament (under Adams (in NCAA-tournament, two in WNIT). When Adams decided to coach back home at Wichita State, Stull went right back to work, and he hired Kevin Baker. Stull also didn’t have to leave his tennis team in the rut, so he hired Ivan Fernandez, who has an impressive resume that he was the first to hire.

Stull knew that it wasn’t all about sports all the time. He knew that some things in life are bigger than sports, such as student-athletes’ education.

When Stull first arrived, the football team only had one academic advisor, something no other team had at that point. He knew things needed to change, and he didn’t need any help. That’s when the Miner Athletic Academic Center was built. It grew to 4,000 square feet after it was built at 1,300 square feet. Now every team has their own tutors and advisors, in large part, thanks to Stull. Graduation rates are at 80 percent now for student-athletes.

Over 90 percent of student athletes have graduated from the university since the Miners moved to Conference USA from the WAC in 2005. In 2015, 154 Miners made the C-USA Commisioner’s Academic Honor Roll with 224 academic achievements. With a school record for UTEP.

Now athletes at UTEP have more to look forward to in life after sports thanks to Stull.

She turned out to be Stull’s best hire in his 18-year tenure as AD. Many upsets and dominant UTEP sports fans want coaches gone after a couple of seasons that don’t go as planned. For example, last poster of “Fire Tim Floyd” were in sight during many of the games.

Stull was praised by many for how far he lets his coaches leashes go when it comes to pulling the trigger on firing, but what Adams showed in growing that a program takes time and if people are patient enough, good things will come with time.

Turnover ratio in coaching is a bad look. It makes the job less desirable once a coach isn’t too good as a viewing the program.

The Miner Athletic Academic Center wasn’t the only thing Stull wanted built. Stull saw that UTEP’s athletic facilities needed much improvement when he took over at AD. He helped many facilities come to life in his tenure, such as the Larry K. Durham Center, the Foster Stevens Basketball Center and the Helen of Troy Softball Complex.

And the best thing—Stull isn’t done quite yet. He plans on leaving UTEP and their community one more gift before he heads out, and that is to lay down the foundation and expand the Sun Bowl with a facilit.

Attendance and fan involvement has never been better at UTEP since Stull. In his first year as AD, Stull produced a 500 percent increase in product sales. Miner Nation was introduced to fans, ticket prices were adjusted for the better for fans and UTEP has since been a force in attendance numbers in the conference.

UTEP has ranked in the top three in attendance in both football and basketball nearly every season.

Stull accomplished so much in 18 years, and he didn’t do it without violating any rules. He also did it in a mid-major college, which is something most overlook. When he took over as AD, UTEP was on NCAA probation for 10 years. Since Stull, UTEP has stayed clear of any mess.

Stull was inducted into the El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame and El Paso Business Hall of Fame. Stull was named El Pasoan of the Year and Business Hall of Fame. Stull was named Athletics Administrator of the Year by El Paso Inc.

People tend to be greedy and only appreciate nice things once they’re gone, maybe Stull will finally be appreciated for everything he accomplished. He certainly deserves it.

Follow Mike Flores on Twitter @MikeFloresUtep

The Prospector

IN BRIEF

SOCCER GRABS FIRST WIN AT IDAHO STATE

The UTEP soccer team (1-5) won their first match of the season this past Sunday in double-overtime at Idaho State. The Miners are back in action this Friday at 7 p.m. to play Incarnate Word and Sunday at noon against Stephen F. Austin.

CHIHUAHUAS CHUTE DIVISION AGAIN

The El Paso Chihuahuas won their third straight PCL Pacific Southern Division title this past Sunday night after defeating Sacramento 7-3. The Chihuahuas will take on the Round Rock Express during this Wednesday at 7 p.m. to game one of the in the Pacific Conference Championship series. Game three will be in El Paso on Friday, Sept. 8.

CROSS COUNTRY RETURNS TO SUN CITY

The UTEP cross country team will host their annual Lori Fitzgerald Invitational in an all-day event on September 8. The Miners opened the 2017 season on Sept. 2, in Albuquerque at the Lobo Invitational.

The Prospector
## The Prospector Picks: 2017-18 football

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NCAA FBS</th>
<th>Jeremy</th>
<th>Mike</th>
<th>Adrian</th>
<th>Eddie</th>
<th>Jason</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UTEP record:</td>
<td>4-8 (3-5 C-USA)</td>
<td>2-10 (2-6 C-USA)</td>
<td>3-9 (2-6 C-USA)</td>
<td>3-9 (2-6 C-USA)</td>
<td>2-10 (2-6 C-USA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UTEP vs. NMSU (Sept. 23)</td>
<td>UTEP</td>
<td>NMSU</td>
<td>UTEP</td>
<td>NMSU</td>
<td>NMSU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metz passing yards:</td>
<td>1,600</td>
<td>2,200</td>
<td>1,900</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>1,900</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Power Five

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Conference</th>
<th>Team 1</th>
<th>Team 2</th>
<th>Team 3</th>
<th>Team 4</th>
<th>Team 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACC Champion:</td>
<td>South Florida</td>
<td>South Florida</td>
<td>Houston</td>
<td>South Florida</td>
<td>Florida State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACC Champion:</td>
<td>Florida State</td>
<td>Clemson</td>
<td>Florida State</td>
<td>Florida State</td>
<td>Florida State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Big 12 Champion:</td>
<td>Oklahoma</td>
<td>Oklahoma</td>
<td>Oklahoma</td>
<td>Oklahoma</td>
<td>Oklahoma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Big Ten Champion:</td>
<td>Wisconsin</td>
<td>Ohio State</td>
<td>Penn State</td>
<td>Penn State</td>
<td>Michigan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEC Champion:</td>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>Auburn</td>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>Alabama</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Most Improved team:</td>
<td>Michigan State</td>
<td>Notre Dame</td>
<td>Kansas State</td>
<td>UCLA</td>
<td>Washington State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Champion:</td>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>Ohio State</td>
<td>Oklahoma</td>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>Alabama</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heisman Trophy:</td>
<td>Sam Darnold (USC)</td>
<td>Baker Mayfield (OU)</td>
<td>Saquon Barkley (PSU)</td>
<td>Saquon Barkley (PSU)</td>
<td>J.T. Barrett (Ohio St.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### NFL

| AFC North: | Steelers | Steelers | Steelers | Steelers | Steelers |
| AFC South: | Titans | Titans | Texans | Titans | Titans |
| AFC East: | Patriots | Patriots | Patriots | Patriots | Patriots |
| AFC West: | Raiders | Raiders | Broncos | Chiefs | Chargers |
| NFC North: | Packers | Packers | Packers | Packers | Packers |
| NFC South: | Falcons | Buccaneers | Falcons | Panthers | Saints |
| NFC East: | Cowboys | Giants | Cowboys | Giants | Giants |
| NFC West: | Cardinals | Seahawks | Seahawks | Cardinals | Cardinals |
| AFC Champion: | Patriots | Steelers | Patriots | Patriots | Patriots |
| NFC Champion: | Packers | Giants | Seahawks | Packers | Packers |
| Super Bowl Champion: | Packers | Steelers | Patriots | Patriots | Patriots |
| MVP: | Aaron Rodgers (GB) | Aaron Rodgers (GB) | Tom Brady (NE) | Tom Brady (NE) | Tom Brady (NE) |
Best bars in town to watch football

1. King’s X

The biggest Pittsburgh Steeler fans bar is on Mesa Street. King’s X is for the many die-hard Steeler fans that El Paso holds. Happy hour is every day from 4 to 7 p.m. and Monday nights are football nights at King’s X.

2. Tortuga Sports Lounge

Tortuga Sports Lounge is a Denver Broncos fan club on the Westside, located at 126 Shadow Mountain Drive. Sunday nights are also karaoke nights there, and they’re usually enhanced if the Broncos came out victorious.

3. Brass Monkey

Happy Hour on Saturdays and Sundays is from noon to 7 p.m. Brass Monkey, located in the Cincinnati area, does it all. It’s dog-friendly, has candles on the weekends, and has great nightlife on the weekends. Brass Monkey is located in the Cincinnati area and also has over 24 draft beers to select.

4. The NFL Sunday Ticket

The best NFL Sunday Ticket, Tanya’s on Dyer Street, is a must for football fans in Northeast El Paso. Famous for their bloody beers and Martinis, Tanya’s offers new brews every week, along with 40 different imported beers.

5. Yvan’s Offsides

With no bad seat in the house, Offsides is everything a sports fans wants. Located on North Pecos, it has great service and makes you feel at home while you watch your favorite team on television. Offsides is one of the most visited and famous sports bars in El Paso. They have a private room ready for reservation.

6. Royal Wings

Noted to have some of the best wings in the city, Royal Wings, on North Mesa Street could be the place to go to satisfy both hunger and sports watching. The food is a can’t-miss at Royal Wings. Catch the games and some drinks along the way.

LCD Soundsystem stays alive with the release of ‘American Dream’

The documentary immortalized the band’s alleged last show. Then at the start of 2016, LCD fans were shocked to hear the band was returning to the stage when Coachella announced their headliners. “American Dream” marks the group’s fourth studio album. Frontman James Murphy’s sharp and forthright lyrics are at the forefront of the album, but ultimately he plays the music safe.

“Oh baby, you’re having a bad dream here in my arms/Oh sugar, you came to me,” Murphy swoons on the opening track. The song is a reference to new wave band Suicide’s song “Dream Baby Dream.” It’s both a commemoration of the life of frontman Alan Vega, who recently died in July, and a reflection of Murphy’s inner thoughts.

The album takes an familiar turn with “Other Voices,” reminding fans of the band’s instrumental roots complemented with an upbeat baseline. It’s the first and one of the only danceable songs on this album. The song builds to the lyrics “you’re still a pushover for passion, baby.” It features Nancy Wang and is about innocence in trusting the world and how easily you can fall into reality.

“I Used To” comes in with a harder beat and is about grief from the past and still “trying to wake up” and let go of the situation as a whole. In this year alone, LCD has played 12 shows at the Brooklyn Steel venue in Brooklyn, NY, and will play 10 more shows at the venue in December. “Change yr Mind” is one of the songs they first played at Steel, giving fans a tease of the album. It’s the shortest track on the album, with guitar riffs that mangle around the consistent beat. It’s one of the least exciting and most forgettable tracks on the album.

Drums kick in strong with “How Do You Sleep?” The nine-minute song is layered with a wall of sound that builds the entire way through into sharp synths and vocals. The track is suspected to be about the deterioration of Murphy’s relationship with DFA Records co-founder Tim Goldsworthy.

Perhaps the most exciting and electric track, “Timite,” strongly reflects the band’s former songs with its ‘90s feel in its sound and the style of the music video. It’s a stress-relieving song that promotes living in the moment rather than wasting time thinking about FOMO (fear of missing out). Fans have already made themselves familiar with “Call the Police,” since its early release in May. This catchy and more uplifting track has quite a few political undertones. “When oh, we all start arguing about the history of the Jews! You got nothing left to lose/Give me the blues,” makes reference to current political times and the white nationalist uprising in America.

The beat then gallops into the title track, “American Dream,” which focuses on the agony the songwriter finds in aging. This track is the story of a man waking up from one night stand, and contemplating his age and life if the American dream is even truly attainable.

The album finishes with its longest track, “Black Screen.” The song is a 12-minute closer that highlights the simplistic power of a piano melody throughout the last five minutes. The track lets out the last breath of the album, leaving a somewhat open-ending feeling.

Overall, “American Dream” perpetuates LCD’s sound. The album is no “This is Happening,” or “Sound of Silver,” but it is successful in proving that LCD Soundsystem are consistently ahead of their time, as well as paying an homage to their past. Similar to their previous albums, it’s likely their current material will resonate and be appreciated for years to come.

The Prospector

Eddi Velazquez, 747-7477

theprospectordaily.ent@gmail.com.

BY MICHAELA ROMAN

The Prospector

Coming back from a seven-year hiatus, LCD Soundsystem is back on the grid. Familiar synths, repetitive beats and references to the past mask their nostalgic return.

In 2011, the band capitalized on a farewell tour that culminated with the release of their documentary “Shut Up and Play the Hits.” The documentary immortalized the life of frontman Alan Vega, who recently died in July, and a reflection of Murphy’s inner thoughts. The album takes an familiar turn with “Other Voices,” reminding fans of the band’s instrumental roots complemented with an upbeat baseline. It’s the first and one of the only danceable songs on this album. The song builds to the lyrics “you’re still a pushover for passion, baby.”

It features Nancy Wang and is about innocence in trusting the world and how easily you can fall into reality.

“I Used To” comes in with a harder beat and is about grief from the past and still “trying to wake up” and let go of the situation as a whole. In this year alone, LCD has played 12 shows at the Brooklyn Steel venue in Brooklyn, NY, and will play 10 more shows at the venue in December. “Change yr Mind” is one of the songs they first played at Steel, giving fans a tease of the album. It’s the shortest track on the album, with guitar riffs that mangle around the consistent beat. It’s one of the least exciting and most forgettable tracks on the album.

Drums kick in strong with “How Do You Sleep?” The nine-minute song is layered with a wall of sound that builds the entire way through into sharp synths and vocals. The track is suspected to be about the deterioration of Murphy’s relationship with DFA Records co-founder Tim Goldsworthy.

Perhaps the most exciting and electric track, “Timite,” strongly reflects the band’s former songs with its ‘90s feel in its sound and the style of the music video. It’s a stress-relieving song that promotes living in the moment rather than wasting time thinking about FOMO (fear of missing out). Fans have already made themselves familiar with “Call the Police,” since its early release in May. This catchy and more uplifting track has quite a few political undertones. “When oh, we all start arguing about the history of the Jews! You got nothing left to lose/Give me the blues,” makes reference to current political times and the white nationalist uprising in America.

The beat then gallops into the title track, “American Dream,” which focuses on the agony the songwriter finds in aging. This track is the story of a man waking up from one night stand, and contemplating his age and life if the American dream is even truly attainable.

The album finishes with its longest track, “Black Screen.” The song is a 12-minute closer that highlights the simplistic power of a piano melody throughout the last five minutes. The track lets out the last breath of the album, leaving a somewhat open-ending feeling.

Overall, “American Dream” perpetuates LCD’s sound. The album is no “This is Happening,” or “Sound of Silver,” but it is successful in proving that LCD Soundsystem are consistently ahead of their time, as well as paying an homage to their past. Similar to their previous albums, it’s likely their current material will resonate and be appreciated for years to come.
Acid Pie released their newest project, "Watergun" on Aug. 19.

"We've been closer to all the political issues the country has been going through and that has been the major difference between the last album and this new project," Santiesteban said.

"This album has different perspectives, even though we are the same band members since 2005, we have experienced things differently, we have grown and changed," Zehntner said.

"With "Watergun" we want to start taking our music to a state level, maybe national. We have in mind Austin, San Antonio, Dallas and Phoenix," Zehntner said. "I really want to go to Mexico City to promote our album and to develop new ideas for upcoming projects."

"People seem to like us, we have made our way through the scene and the music is accessible too, and cool to listen to and chill," Santiesteban said. "We always try to make our shows interesting, we try to put out a 'worth-your-time show'."

After two years of being away from the music scene, Acid Pie returned with a more psychedelic sound in their new album, "Watergun."

The band was formed in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, in 2005 by Rolph Zehntner (vocals, guitar) Adrian Romero (vocals, guitar) Edgar Santiesteban (bass) and Jesus Avila Rivera (drums). They started out by writing whatever material they could, which later transformed into their first album.

"In 2005 we gathered together to write a couple of songs and recorded demos, but we went our separate way for a while until we gathered again in 2011 to release our first album 'It Makes Me Feel Like... Wow!'" Zehntner said.

Inspired by bands such as The Beatles, The Ramones, The Rolling Stones, Arctic Monkeys and White Stripes, Acid Pie's sound reflects elements of garage rock, punk, rock & roll and psychedelic rock.

The following year, Acid Pie received a nomination at the Indie-0 Music Awards for Best Punk/Garage Album.

In 2014 they signed to local record label Electric Social Records, the same year they released their second album "Acid Pie."

After their self-titled LP, the band released a seven-inch vinyl for their single "Don't forget About Me" in 2015.

Following the success of their first two studio records and their 2015 single on vinyl, the band decided to take a break from the stage to focus on other projects. However, their experiences up to that point helped shift the band's focus on their new and upcoming projects.

"After the first (LP), we had non-stop presentations, then after signing with Electric Social and the release of our second album we started to have more shows here in El Paso, and it was a heavy load and we just couldn't work on new material. That's why it took us longer to release this album," Zehntner said.

The different shows, audiences and the support from both sides of the border are the reasons why they love doing music.

"Every experience is a different lesson, you learn about the things that work, how to let yourself go as an artist on stage, etc," Zehntner said. "With time, the shows change, the audience changes, and I believe the reason why people love doing music is because there always something new to learn."

After a two-year break, Acid Pie released their new album "Watergun" on Aug. 19. According to the band, the project deals with political themes, adding more psychedelic elements, but always staying true to the rock & roll sound they aim for.

"Rolph and I live here in El Paso and we've been closer to all the political issues the country has been going through and that has been the major difference between the last album and this new project," Santiesteban said.

"The consistency in the lineup has been a factor in the band's growth both as musicians as well as individuals."

"This album has different perspectives, even though we are the same band members since 2005, we have experienced things differently, we have grown and changed," Zehntner said.

FILE PHOTO / THE PROSPECTOR

Acid Pie returns to scene with psych rock-packed ‘Watergun’

BY CLAUDIA FLORES

Claudia Flores may be reached at theprospectordaily.ent@gmail.com.