2017 was a year to forget

By Jason Green

Opinion

Everyone knows that 2017 has been a chaotic year, and it's even more so when you consider everything that has happened. From political turmoil to natural disasters, it's been a year that no one could have predicted.

The most significant event of the year was the U.S. presidential election. Donald Trump, a businessman with no political experience, was elected as the 45th president of the United States. His campaign was controversial, with many people questioning his qualifications and beliefs.

Trump's victory came as a shock to many, and it's been a year of transition for the country. In terms of policy, the Trump administration has embarked on a series of initiatives, including tax reform, healthcare, and immigration. These policies have been met with mixed reactions, with some supporting the idea of a more business-friendly environment and others expressing concern over the potential impact on marginalized communities.

Another significant event of the year was the #MeToo movement. This social media campaign highlighted the prevalence of sexual harassment and assault in many industries, leading to widespread calls for accountability and change. It's been a year of reckoning, with many people coming forward to share their stories and demand justice.

In terms of entertainment, 2017 was a year of change as well. The music industry saw a shift towards more diverse artists, with many young and emerging musicians gaining attention. In the film industry, the spread of digital streaming services has continued to disrupt traditional models and bring new opportunities for creators.

Overall, 2017 was a year of transition and change in many aspects of life. As we look towards 2018, it will be important to continue to monitor and address the issues that have arisen. It's a year to remember, and a year to learn from.
Opportunities for recent grads: Internships and jobs

BY ELLENIE GONZALEZ
The Prospector

With winter commencement around the corner, thousands are getting ready to graduate from college and begin their careers. Some will have a job waiting for them while others continue the intense and often exhausting job search.

Today’s market may not seem promising, but that should not deter graduates from hunting for a job. According to the National Association of Colleges and Employers Center for Career Development and Talent Acquisition, 91.9 percent of employers rate the job market at good to excellent for new grads. Employers plan to hire 4 percent more new graduates for their U.S. operations than the previous year.

Here are a few of organizations hiring right out of college, according to Glassdoor and Indeed:

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

AMAZON

The popular company is always looking for new talent to join the ever-growing company, which is currently the second-highest-grossing company in the nation. Positions include HR specialists, to business development representatives, to something for everyone at Amazon.

JOHNSON & JOHNSON

Johnson & Johnson is looking for candidates for the 2018 Finance and Leadership Program. The FLP is a two-year program designed specifically to prepare future generations of business leaders within the accounting and finance organization. The first rotation will take place in July, Mexico.

JOHNSON & JOHNSON

IBM

IBM Systems, located in Los Angeles, has openings for entry-level design engineers. The position requires an engineering degree. The company was recently named Candidate's Choice's Best Places to Work. The company is looking for interns to develop their hardware and semiconductor products.

JOHNSON & JOHNSON

EL PASO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

El Paso Independent School District – EPISD has plenty of positions for certified teachers and paraprofessionals. The district has 13 open houses at most of their campuses, ranging from elementary to high school. There are even counselor positions available.

DALLAS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

If you want to broaden your horizons, the DISD is always looking to recruit teachers from El Paso. Their career site has openings for bilingual teachers, ESL teachers, and special education teachers. This would be a great opportunity for those who know two languages.

HOUSTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Houston Independent School District – HISD currently has 89 vacancies for certified teachers in all grade levels. If you haven’t yet received your certification and are working toward that path, they also have openings for associate teachers and substitutes.

CHICK-FIL-A

Chick-fil-A has a Business Internship Program for those who want exposure to a variety of business leadership programs.

EDUCATION

SOSCOSO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

The SISD has vacancies year-round for certified teachers from all grade levels. They currently have 13 openings for teachers at several of their campuses, ranging from elementary to high school. There are even counselor positions available.

EL PASO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

El Paso Independent School District – EPISD has plenty of positions for certified teachers and paraprofessionals at most of their campuses, from grades pre-k through 12th.

LOCKHEED MARTIN

Lockheed Martin is a popular choice for candidates with an engineering degree. The company was voted Candidate’s Choice’s Best Places to Interview for 2017 by Glassdoor. After a quick job search, you will find plenty of positions for engineering jobs, including two for an entry level systems engineer.

NASA

NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory located in Pasadena, Calif., is hiring electrical engineer interns. JPL’s Early Career Hire (ECH) program provides recent college graduates with an opportunity to immediately utilize the knowledge obtained through their studies to gain related work experiences in alignment with their professional goals.

FITBIT

Fitbit, creators of the popular fitness watch, are looking for interns to join their growing team at their headquarters in San Francisco.

IBM

IBM Systems, located in Los Angeles, has openings for entry-level design engineers in the electronics design engineer intern position. They are looking for candidates with an engineering degree. The company was recently named Candidate’s Choice’s Best Places to Work. The company is looking for interns to develop their hardware and semiconductor products.

U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION

CRP opens their application year-round to hire new agents for Customs and Border Patrol. Many students with criminal justice degrees choose to seek an opportunity with the CRP.

DISNEY

Disney is a huge company that is always hiring for positions across the board. Disney Professional Internships is a program for recent grads looking for their next opportunity. Those with communication degrees, public relations and degrees of that sort are encouraged to apply.

NURSING

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

The VA has openings for registered nurses to fill, according to their website.

LAS PALMAS MEDICAL CENTER

The medical center is currently looking to fill several vacancies for registered nurses.

See how much you could save at a GEICO office near you.
Tax reform could affect thousands in U.S.

BY LESLIE SARÍÑANA
The Prospector

Early Saturday, Dec. 2, the U.S. Senate took a midnight vote on the new tax bill. It was passed on a 51-49 vote. All Democrats and only one Republican voted no. The new bill is a rewritten version of an earlier bill passed by the Senate panel and was only given to the Senate hours before the vote. The bill eliminates a lot of tax deductions.

The entire bill is 479 pages and is the largest overhaul of the U.S. tax code since 1986. Here’s a breakdown of the major clauses in the bill:

- There will no longer be a penalty for not having health insurance created by the Affordable Care Act. According to the Congressional Budget Office this will result in an additional 13 million people without health care coverage by 2027.
- Deductions on medical expenses have changed with the new bill. Currently, if someone’s annual medical expenses are above 10 percent of their qualified income, the amount above that threshold may be deducted. The new bill has lowered that percentage to 7.5 of a taxpayer’s annual income.
- Taxpayers are also no longer allowed to deduct state and local income or sales taxes, but can still deduct up to $10,000 in state property taxes. This could lead to wealthier taxpayers, who previously invested in public colleges, cutting that spending since they no longer receive a tax break.
- The standard deduction is doubled from $6,350 for a single person and $12,700 for a married couple to $12,000/$24,000.
- Deductions for personal exemptions are repealed, but the child tax credit is doubled from $1,000 to $2,000.
- As for colleges and universities, both the Senate and House bills would create potential new tax burdens for higher education institutions and could, as college leaders predict, adversely affect charitable giving and state budgets that support public colleges and universities.
- The Senate’s tax bill does not include the House’s provisions to strip many tax benefits for students pursuing a college or graduate degree or paying off their loans, making it a significant improvement over the House’s tax bill. The House’s bill would also tax graduate student tuition waivers as income, a change that some say would make graduate education unattainable for many students.

What’s next? Senator Paul Ryan will appoint negotiators on Monday, Dec. 4, to a committee that will work to meld the bill with the one the U.S. House of Representatives passed Nov. 16. The final tax bill is expected to land on the president’s desk for signature by the end of the year.

LESLIE SARÍÑANA / THE PROSPECTOR

The current law versus the proposed Senate tax plan and how it would affect income of all sizes.

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<th>Status</th>
<th>Current Deduction</th>
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<td>$28,900</td>
<td>Eliminated</td>
<td>Eliminated</td>
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Sources: I.R.S., House Ways and Means Committee | Proposed deduction amounts are comparable to the current 2017 levels and would increase with inflation in 2018.

Graph courtesy of I.R.S., House Ways and Means Committee

Tax reform that could affect thousands of Americans starting the 2018 tax year.

THE PROSPECTOR

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THANK YOU FOR MAKING THIS SPECIAL ISSUE POSSIBLE!

UTEP Student Media and Publications
Congratulations Class of 2017

The University of Texas at El Paso

Special Congratulations from:
Protests this fall plead for a safe Dream Act

After SB4 was blocked, hundreds of El Pasoans protested in downtown El Paso in support of immigrants in the U.S. 2. Cheyenne Lozano, a member of the Academic Revival of Indigenous Studies and Education chapter at UTEP, speaks at the Union Plaza Stage in support of the Dreamers, who could face deportation as nearly as next year. 3. Students protest in front of Representative Will Hurd’s office, calling for a Dream Act to be put in place. 4. Andrew Torres, a sophomore majoring in anthropology, speaks at the student-lead walkout protest.
By Christian Vasquez

No matter what your political position may be, we can all agree that the Trump presidency is anything but boring. Every day there are new updates about administration policy, immigration, health care, and pocket costs for low-income people. The aim of the Trump administration is to allow smaller business to buy health insurance plans. Association health plans are health insurance plans and association of regular markets through short-term health insurance together. The Trump administration canceled millions of dollars worth of advertising for Obamacare enrollments, cutting enrollment by nearly half a million people by some estimates. In August, Trump cut 90 percent of advertising again. In early October, Trump issued another executive order that instructed agencies to allow loopholes that allow people to buy health insurance outside of federal law regarding international trade. The aim of the order was to allow more people to buy health insurance even if they did not go through Obamacare. Critics said that short-term health insurance plans have lower benefits, while again drawing indirect comparisons to the Affordable Care Act.

The next day, Trump announced he would cut cost-sharing reduction payments to insurers that held out-of-pocket costs not listed on private insurance. The policy change could raise premiums for some while increasing the deficit by $8 billion by 2026, according to the Congressional Budget Office.

Immigration

In his first week, President Trump signed two executive orders that dramatically changed immigration law. The first one was an executive order that stipulated the construction of a physical wall on the southern border. Expanding on the Secure Fence Act signed by former President Bush. The order also includes the number of detention facilities that get rid of the "catch and release" practice, where until an individual goes to immigration court they are not held in detention facilities.

The second order threatened so-called "sanctuary cities" by withholding federal funding if a city does not comply with detainer requests from Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Two days later, Trump signed another executive order, known as the "Travel Ban," which barred admission to the U.S. for immigrants or nonimmigrants with visas from Iran, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan Syria and Yemen for 90 days. Federal Judges immediately blocked the order, the case went up to the Supreme Court that allowed some aspects of a revised travel ban executive order to go through. Parts of the order are still being contested in court.

Working with Republican Senators in August, the administration started pushing a revised immigration approach, while cutting the amount of immigrants allowed into the U.S.

Trump announced the end of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals in September, giving Congress until March 5 to find a solution that will impact over 690,000 protected recipients. Trump also signed an executive order in February revoking the Fair Play and Safe Workplaces order, which ensured that businesses adhered to labor and civil rights laws.

Signing two trade executive orders in late March, Trump asked for officials to develop and implement ways of combating customs violations. Customs violations cost the government 82.3 billion in revenues over 14 years. Trump also ordered officials to produce an "enforcement report" naming partners, which the U.S. will withdraw from the Global Climate Accord, as known to the Paris climate accord, which has the support of nearly 200 nations. The U.S. cannot legally leave until 2019.

Health care

On his first day of presidency, Trump signed an executive order that aimed at weakening the enforcement of the individual mandate. The order requires everyone to purchase health care that was enacted under President Obama to ensure low-income people don't cost. Weakening the mandates caused healthy individuals to opt out of buying health insurance, causing premiums to rise.

Less than a week later, the Trump administration canceled millions of dollars worth of advertising for Obamacare enrollments, cutting enrollment by nearly half a million people by some estimates. In August, Trump cut 90 percent of advertising again. In early October, Trump sent a letter to Congress listing its immigration "principles," which includes a wall, increasing the difficulty for those seeking asylum, restricting family-based immigration and implementing the E-Verify employment verification nationally. If the Democrats agree to some of those principles, Trump suggested that he would be willing to sign legislation allowing for DACA recipients to stay.

The demands have led many to believe that a deal with the Democrats is unlikely.

Infrastructure

On his second day in office, he focused mainly on infrastructure, starting with an executive order that expedited environmental reviews for "high priority" projects, such as pipelines. He also introduced two presidential memorandums that same day calling for the expedited review of new permits for constructing the Keystone XL and Dakota Access of pipelines.

Trump also signed another memorandum that same day calling for the Commerce Department to review the impact of federal regulations on manufacturing and its impact on feedback from industry stakeholders on how regulations could be removed or simplified.

Health care

In late April, Trump signed an executive order reviewing the federal government's control over national educational policy. Calling for states to have more control over curriculum and administration, Trump asked the education secretary to "revise or review" any regulation that violates states "direction, supervision, or control."

Economy/Trade

In his first week, Trump removed the United States from the Trans-Pacific Partnership, the 12-nation trade deal negotiated under former President Obama. Trump declared that U.S. would negotiate individual deals. Critics say they are slow-moving and largely unsuccessful as well as diminish possible economic growth and American influence in Asia.

Trump also initiated a hiring freeze on federal civilian employees throughout the military, cutting the federal government by around 9,000 employees in the first six months. The freeze was partially lifted in April, when Trump initiated a memorandum ordering agencies to conduct workforce reduction plans that will implemented in the 2019 budget.

At the end of his first month, Trump introduced his "Two-for-One" executive order that removed two regulations for every new one introduced. Trump cited small business as being hampered because of over regulation as the main reason for the mandate.

Trump also ordered a review of the financial regulations including the Dodd-Frank Act, which was introduced by the Obama administration that placed significant regulations on the financial industry after the recession.

Rolling back Obama-era protections, Trump signed an executive order in February revoking the Fair Pay and Safe Workplaces order, which ensured that businesses adhered to labor and civil rights laws.

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Despite claiming that it was a "bad deal," the Trump administration extended the Iran Nuke Sanctions while also adding other sanctions to the country as well.

Trump rescinded the U.S./Canada relations that Obama had worked toward in a presidential memorandum, like discouraging migrants from Cuba and removing talks of broader communication between the two countries.

In August, Trump vowed to introduce a new plan to "win" in Afghanistan. Trump also imposed sanctions in Venezuela over the continued crackdown, on democratic protests and claims of rigging the presidential election by the Nicolas Maduro regime.

This is the fourth round of sanctions by the U.S.

Despite his claims to the United Nations, the president said that the U.N. does not pay its fair share of the costs and continuing his "America First" policy. More alarming for many members, Trump said that he would "totally destroy" North Korea, a member of the U.N. Trump also showed his rhetorical against North Korea, leading to tensions between the two countries, which have not been this high in more than a decade. However, despite his rhetoric, Trump has not actually changed any U.S. policy when it comes to North Korea.
Was the college experience worth it?

**Claudia Hernandez / The Prospector**

**Alberto Chaparro**
Senior graphic design major

"College is overpriced but not overrated. Seeing a lot of people struggling to find a job after college doesn't give me any high hopes after graduating. I don’t really think it’s been worth it."

**Jade Williams**
Senior English and American literature major

"College was definitely worth it because I gained a lot of confidence."

**Mark Salazar**
Senior political science major

"I definitely believe that education is really important. I am currently completing my second degree and it’s definitely been worth it."

**Rosa Perez**
Senior cellular and molecular biochemistry major

"My experience at UTEP was really worth it. UTEP is one of the few universities that allows undergraduates research while being here."

**Pablo Nevarez**
Senior multidisciplinary studies major

"I think the college experience was worth it because I met a lot of people and it finally awarded me with a career."

**Ana Paula Gutierrez**
Senior business administration major

"After my graduation, I plan to move to Mexico City and find a job in order to become a university professor. I also want to get my master degree in London and my Ph. D. in Mexico."

**Cameron Torres**
Senior microbiology major

"I’m going to get my Ph.D. with a focus on molecular virology. I want to do a study on infectious diseases. It’s my goal to get involved in government research labs."

**Mariel Domínguez**
Senior business administration major

"I am planning to find a job related to my major. I would like to work in transportation and supply departments in factories. After two or three years, I would like to apply for graduate school."

**Israel Sanchez**
Senior history major

"I hope to spend more time with my family while looking for a job. I want to enjoy more parts of El Paso has to offer."

**Mireya Moran**
Senior international business major

"I am planning to look for a job in my area. I would like to work in Phoenix or in Mexico, as I am from Tabasco. I would also like to go back home."

**Jade Willams**
Senior English and American literature major

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**After you graduate, what do you plan on doing with your life?**

**Claudia Hernandez / The Prospector**

**Questions of the Week**

**IN BRIEF**

**Students present Ascarate Research**
A civil engineering group presented research to better water quality at Ascarate Park to El Paso County Commissioners Court during its regular meeting. The students were asked to restore lake water quality and protect it from golden algae blooms and fish kill. The proposed plan is being proposed to continue through 2021, per the El Paso County. For more information, visit epccounty.com/video.

**$1.2 Million Grant Aims to Enhance Advising**
UTEP is one of five schools in the UT System to receive a share of $8.2 million to fund innovative campus-based projects to better advising on campus.

**UTEP Presents ‘A Christmas Carol’**
The UTEP Department of Theatre and Dance will host “A Christmas Carol,” the story of Ebenezer Scrooge an old miser, who after being visited by different ghosts is transformed into gentler man, at the William and Marie Wise Family Theatre, Fox Fine Arts Center. The dates for the show are Dec. 9 and 15 at 7:30 p.m., Dec. 10 and 17, at 2:30 p.m. Tickets are $14 for adults, $12 for UTEP faculty/staff, seniors, $10 for military groups and alumni, and $9 for UTEP students and children.

**IHl to Host an Open House**
The Institute of Healthy Living at UTEP will host an open house to showcase its new offices at UTEP on Dec. 8 from 1-3 p.m. at the first floor of Kelly Hall.

**Don’t miss out on the extraordinary. Do the unexpected. Apply by January 1:**
peacecorps.gov/openings

**Peace Corps**
The best and worst jobs of 2017

BY RENE DELGADILLO

According to Federal Reserve data by the advocacy group Young Invincibles, millennials are worst off than their parents when it comes to job salaries, student loan debt and home ownership rates. The data showed that millennials earn 20 percent less than baby boomers did at the age in life. Millennials also have a median net worth of $10,090, 56 percent less than it was for baby boomers.

White millennials, who despite making less than white baby boomers, are still making more money than Black and Latino millennials.

These are the 10 best and worst jobs for 2017, according to the yearly report from CareerCast, a database for job industries. The report pointed at 200 jobs and used key metrics like income, projected job growth, work environment, amount of physical work required and stress to determine their ranking.

**WORST JOBS**

10. **Taxi driver**
   - Median Salary: $24,100
   - Projected Growth: 13 percent

9. **Retail sales**
   - Median Salary: $22,900
   - Projected Growth: 7 percent

8. **Advertising sales**
   - Median Salary: $50,380
   - Projected Growth: -3 percent

7. **DJ**
   - Median Salary: $30,810
   - Projected Growth: 11 percent

6. **Firefighter**
   - Median Salary: $48,030
   - Projected Growth: 5 percent

5. **Pest control**
   - Median Salary: $33,040
   - Projected Growth: -1 percent

4. **Logger**
   - Median Salary: $37,590
   - Projected Growth: -4 percent

3. **Broadcaster**
   - Median Salary: $38,870
   - Projected Growth: -9 percent

2. **Reporter**
   - Median Salary: $37,220
   - Projected Growth: -8 percent

1. **Speech Pathologist**
   - Median Salary: $73,250
   - Projected Growth: 22.65 percent

**BEST JOBS**

9. **Occupational Therapist**
   - Median Salary: $81,910
   - Projected Growth: 29.04 percent

8. **Software engineer**
   - Median Salary: $100,690
   - Projected Growth: 17 percent

7. **Mathematician**
   - Median Salary: $111,298
   - Projected Growth: 22.31 percent

6. **University professor**
   - Median Salary: $73,416
   - Projected Growth: 15.24 percent

5. **Data scientist**
   - Median Salary: $111,267
   - Projected Growth: 15.75 percent

4. **Information security analyst**
   - Median Salary: $90,120
   - Projected Growth: 18 percent

3. **Medical services manager**
   - Median Salary: $79,200
   - Projected Growth: 30 percent

2. **Statistician**
   - Median Salary: $80,110
   - Projected Growth: 34 percent

1. **Statistician**
   - Median Salary: $80,110
   - Projected Growth: 34 percent

For more information and a full list of the different careers, where they rank among the top or bottom careers and more, visit CareerCast.com.

Follow Rene Delgadillo on Twitter @rdelgadillonews...
A look back at the most prominent shows of the year

1. Elton John performed at the Don Haskins Center two days before his 70th birthday on March 23. 2. Logic performs at Neon Desert on May 28. 3. Pop-punk legends Green Day played for a sold-out crowd at the Coliseum on March 2. 4. The Drive-In returns to El Paso playing at the Coliseum on May 7, after releasing their first album in 17 years. 5. Guns N’ Roses performs for a nearly sold-out crowd at the Sun Bowl on Sept. 6 as part of their “Not in This Lifetime” tour.
Editor's Prospector Music Award picks of 2017

Artist of the year
Adrian:
Quavo worked tirelessly throughout the year, spreading himself on seemingly every hip-hop album that was released this year. 2017 brought Quavo a world-wide tour and tons of highly acclaimed features.

Leslie:
Mac DeMarco is among few artists who keep the same sound and don't sound tired. His eccentric personality and soft melodies are one of a kind. For being such a goofy guy, his music can be very serious. His ability to be both make him a strong artist and one of my favorites.

Eddie:
Mac DeMarco grew leaps and bounds this year. Not only did he show his critics that familiarity doesn't necessarily equate to staleness when it comes to his sound. Yes, he might use the same dreamy synth + lo-fi guitar formula in most of his recordings, but it is an enduring recipe that has made him a worldwide success.

Biggest disappointment of the year
Adrian:
HAIM. Their most recent record that had been in the works since 2014 seemed like it was going to be the group's rise to stardom, but upon its release it felt complex and all over the place.

Leslie:
D'Angelo's focus displayed during the "The OOZ" recording sessions is palpable. After a four year absence, the ghoulish jazz samples combined with Marcella Saturn's post punk influence make "The OOZ" the most complex King Krule release yet.

Eddie:
Swifty's seeming absence from the public eye only fed the genre with some of the most colorful verses we have seen in years. The multiple personalities and ideologies all traditionally tone is a strength of this LP.

Album of year
Adrian:
"Scum Fuck Flower Boy". As this year wraps up, there's only one album that was so entirely well-rounded with dominant lyrics, skilled production and interesting features. Unlike his previous albums, this project featured a lot of risks.

Leslie:
"This Old Dog" is without a doubt my favorite album this year. This album puts you in a trance you never want to wake up from. You have to admire the way DeMarco arranges the music so well in this project. I know this is one I'll keep playing for years to come.

Eddie:
The word I would use to describe this album would be sincere. DeMarco is at his most vulnerable in this album. Perhaps the only criticism found here is the lack of the artist's professional tone is a strength of this LP.

Comeback artist of the year
Adrian:
I'm looking at "Pretty Girls Like Trap Music" as one of the top gems of 2017. 2 Chainz hadn't released a serious solo album since 2015, and "PGLTM" kind of came out of nowhere.

Leslie:
Gorillaz took a 7-year break between "The Fall" and "Humana." The former was a very disappointing and poorly executed project. "Humana" received generally positive reviews. They did a good job at incorporating fun sounds with slightly darker political themes.

Eddie:
Archy Marshall's focus displayed during the "The OOZ" recording sessions is palpable. After a four year absence, the ghoestly jazz samples combined with Marshall's post punk influence make "The OOZ" the most complex King Krule release yet.

Biggest surprise of the year
Adrian:
Who knew Jaden Smith could spit bars on tracks like "Breakfast," or hit catchy hooks on "Ninety" or work effectively with a well-produced product and turn it into something admirable?

Leslie:
I had no idea what to expect from Lorde's second studio album. Her freshman release, "Pure Heroine" was stunning and impressive coming from a 17-year-old but I had no hopes for "Melodrama." Lorde only got better. Her lyrics, her vocals and the production are all amazing.

Eddie:
2 Chain's "Pretty Girls Like Trap Music." With his most professional and focused release to date, the Atlanta rapper found a good balance of catchy and layered instrumentals with a dose of his characteristic lyrics that border absurdity.

Breakout artist of the year
Adrian:
Mac DeMarco returned to the forefront of the indie scene this year with an effortlessly masterful album. The classic under-the-radar Mac has been put to bed

Leslie:
The xx aren't exactly a new group, but this year's release completely changed their sound in the best way possible. "I See You" does a great job at showing just how much they can do. This is something you can't stop thinking about. Their growth as a group make them the breakout artists of the year.

Eddie:
Brockhampton. The Texas-born hip-hop collective provided the genre with some of the most colorful verses we have seen in years. The multiple personalities and ideologies all mesh as well as in all of their songs, making it difficult to find weaknesses in their "Saturation" trilogy.

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CoWork Oasis spurs innovation for tech startups in El Paso

BY DANIEL MENDEZ
The Prospector

CoWork Oasis spurs innovation for tech startups in El Paso

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Congrats recent graduates, you just graduated and want to celebrate the hard work and effort you put in to get that degree once graduation day rolls around.

You may want to celebrate with friends and family at a nice restaurant and get some free time afterwards. Or, you may just want to go out and get demolished at one of the premier bars in El Paso.

Either way, it’ll be all sorts of fun on your night of celebration. But just how clean is the establishment you’re about to toast and drink the night away at?

Here at The Prospector, we decided to do a map of those establishments across town, separating each establishment by area—ranging from the eastside to downtown to the westside. The numbers used for this map are all according to the city of El Paso Health Inspection records, rated on a scale from 0 (not clean) to 100 (clean). Also, there is a list of top-grossing bars in terms of revenue is according to the Texas State Comptroller’s office.

• Crave Kitchen and Bar - 74/100
• Crawdaddy's, 74/100
• Café Central, 73/100
• The Tab restaurant, 56/100
• International, 99/100
• Blackbird Cantina Deluxe, 90/100
• Pershing Inn, 87/100
• L & J's restaurant, 79/100

For a full list, visit the City of El Paso website’s health page.

The Prospector Daily
ospectordaily.ent@gmail.com.
Emily Davis and the Murder Police break into the El Paso music scene

BY EDDIE VELAZQUEZ
The Prospector

As a seasoned veteran of the El Paso music scene, singer-songwriter Emily Davis is emerging with a new alternative project, spearheading the band Emily Davis and the Murder Police.

The Prospector caught up with Davis regarding this new project, graduating from college in May and how she uses her academic experience in her work as a musician.

Q: Guide me through your musical orientation. It's a bid. What were the first few steps you took to get to where you are now in your career?

E: I grew up heavily involved in worship at my church, my father was a musician, he was a vocalist and would tour in a youth choir as a child, so that was the initial atmosphere where I was exposed to music. I was also raised to enjoy a lot of southern rock and classic rock like Lynyrd Skynyrd, The Doobie Brothers and the Allman Brothers. There is stuff that isn't so much southern like singer/songwriters like Cat Stevens and Paul Simon. I was exposed to a lot of that and I think a lot of it still resonates in my music. When I was 15 I discovered punk rock, specifically my music. When I was 15 I discovered punk rock, specifically. My first album was 80 per cent love songs, and there is nothing wrong with that occasionally it is something that still inspires me. There is a mixture of songs in that first album that have nothing to do with that, they are socially motivated and I never have an agenda to what I wanna write about. All I know is I wanna contribute to something and it doesn’t necessarily have to be the case. I've written a lot of dumb songs about a lot of different things, but I do think it is important to discuss what is going on around you and music is a great medium with which you can do that.

Q: What was the transition like concerning an album and the Murder Police?

E: I kinda postponed college because I did wanna focus on my music. When I was 16 I got a ring as Emily Davis and the Murder Police. When I was 16 I got a ring as Emily Davis and the Murder Police.

Q: You started out as more of a singer/songwriter type of act. How has that evolved to where you are now?

E: About two years ago, I have always wanted to be in a band and I was in Cigarettes After Sex in 2012. I heard an interview with Jim Ward about what it takes to be in a band, why it could be so rewarding, and I had just released my third album and I felt like it was time to really try and find the right people and invest the time and energy into that. After trial and error with different people, we finally found the right setup and we are working on a new album. We are called Emily Davis and the Murder Police.

Q: What have you found? Any differences between both recording processes?

E: There are a couple of things I think, but I had the turnover in my home. I am in a new apartment now and I have a home studio that I am trying to use as a place to practice. I don’t have the same space and energy that is involved in metal comes through, our guitarist and I felt like it was time to release my third album and invest the time and energy into that. I think that where it came from is a love of John Mulaney and he has a skit about “Law and Order” and he refers to homicide detectives as the murder police and we quote it out, so it kinda became something we all agreed could be our band name.

Q: Did you ever have any troubles adapting from being a solo act to a band? Now you have your three bandmates, so what have been any shortcomings that you have found? Any differences between both recording processes?

E: I often felt very limited in what I could do by myself and I recognized that sometimes songwriting becomes reallyitty, if you are just doing it on your own. Some people are capable of it and I applied that and I've tried to be capable of it over the years, but one of my own shortcomings was what I felt like were my limitations, so I guess the biggest benefit is finding people that not only complement your sound really well, but you can become really good friends with, and the benefits are obviously friendship and the way that it is different dynamic when it comes to songwriting and sound. You have people that are putting more ideas so you have a bigger pool when it comes to ideas.

Q: Is there a very noticeable difference between being a solo, singer/songwriter act and a band that is influenced by bands such as Bad Religion?

E: There are a couple of things I think, but I had the turnover in my home. I am in a new apartment now and I have a home studio that I am trying to use as a place to practice. I don’t have the same space and energy that is involved in metal comes through, our guitarist and I felt like it was time to release my third album and invest the time and energy into that. I think that where it came from is a love of John Mulaney and he has a skit about “Law and Order” and he refers to homicide detectives as the murder police and we quote it out, so it kinda became something we all agreed could be our band name.

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Q: There is a very noticeable difference between being a solo, singer/songwriter act and a band that is influenced by bands such as Bad Religion. How does that play into their songwriting?

E: I think the beauty of anthropology is that it really forces you to open your eyes and step outside yourself and it forces you to look at other communities, not only inside your own but outside of it, and if you challenge your perspectives as any good major would, but it is also makes this album like the first album I was able to do that. That was the turning point in your career?

E: I have had many turning points I think, but I had the chance to open for Greg Graffin, the lead singer of Bad Religion. He recently released a solo album and in mid-June and March right before spring break and he asked me to open up for him for four different shows and I was able to do that. That was the dream really. I could do anything in life, that was one of the things I dreamt about doing.

Q: Aside from this upcoming record, do you have any plans for the future after that? Maybe touring?

E: We have toured a lot the last two years. I’ve never released an album with a band and we've written a bunch of new songs and we are only playing new songs at the Sparta show, so that is really our focus, getting these songs right tight and get ready to record them. Certainly next summer, shortly thereafter, we can plan touring again because we love that.

The Drums returns to El Paso for round two as part of the Abyssal Thoughts’ tour

BY ELENE GONZALEZ
The Prospector

Once a duo, but now the solo work of leading man Jonny Pierce, The Drums is heading back to El Paso to rock the stage with indie-pop angst on Dec. 10 at Tricky Falls.

This won't be the band’s first appearance in town this year, as The Drums was here in March for a sold-out show at the Low- brow Palace.

Fans can expect to hear music off the fourth studio album “Abyssal Thoughts,” which was released this summer and has been celebrated as a return to form for the New York-based band.

The last remaining founding member of the band, Pierce, wrote the album entirely on his own. Since the last album, “Encyclopedia,” was released in 2014, he has been through many transitions.

Aside from the departure of original member and keyboardist Jacob Graham, Pierce has been married, divorced and

has found new love with boy- friend Keon Smith, who is fea- tured on the cover of “Abyssal Thoughts.”

In the album, the 36-year-old singer talks about his losses and heart- ache, much of which he blames himself for. But he’s ready to be open and speak about it, which also makes this album like ther- apy for Pierce, where he comes to terms with his past.

Songs like “Heart Basil” and “Undertow” explore those feelings of a failing relation- ship and admitting to his mistakes.

In an interview with The Up Coming earlier this month, Pierce referred to the new album as a rebirth of sorts. “This was a chance for me to really talk about real things that I’m go- ing through, real thoughts that I have,” he said.

He also said that touring for this show has been the best time he’s had in nine years of performing.

“I was able to sort of bring that spirit along with me onto the stage and I can honestly say that I never held such a connection to the people who appreciate the music and buy the record,” Pierce said.

If exploring heartbreak and navigating through deep emo- tion are what you’re craving sounds like a good time, this show is for you.

The band will share the stage with the Indiana indie rock group Hoops, as part of their tour.

The Indiana natives recently released their collection of three tracks, titled “Tapes.” The compilation is available for streaming on all popular mu- sic streaming services and is the band’s final step toward ap- proaching a more serious, full- length project.

Tickets cost $20 to $40, which is keeping it consistent with other tour dates and may be found on www.ticketfly.com.

Doors open Dec. 10 at 7 p.m. and the show is set to start at 8 p.m. at Tricky Falls, located at 209 S. El Paso St.

PHOTO OF ELENE GONZALEZ / FACEBOOK
New healthy restaurant opens its doors in Northeast El Paso

BY CLAUDIA FLORES
The Prospector
With many options such as vegan, vegetarian and gluten-free food, Healthy Desires Café opened its doors in Northeast El Paso on Saturday, Dec. 2.

“We wanted to make a different option. I’m at the gym five days a week and one of the biggest problems of trying to live a healthy nutritious life is that there is nowhere to go that is fast and healthy,” said Ron Bermudez, 37-year-old co-owner of Healthy Desires Café.

The new café made sure every group in the community has complete access to a wide variety of protein, carbs and items they can consume.

Debra Alderete, a multidisciplinary studies student at UTEP and customer, said that this was her first time at the café.

“I love it they have wonderful nutrition is about what you put into your body,” said Silvia Ortega, owner of Buffed Baked Goods.

“I’m trying to bring the aspect of protein factor, low carbs and gluten-free with my pastries,” Rose Luevano, a 64-year-old customer, said the café was an excellent idea and really needed in El Paso.

“As we get older, there are certain things that happen to our bodies, joints. Just in general it is good to think about our future and if we can think with a healthy mind and body, things will be great,” Luevano said.

For the owners of Healthy Desires Café, their priority is to offer the community fast, on-the-go meals, but with a nutritious and healthy twist.

“From the pharmacist’s point of view, Hispanics have one of the highest rates of diabetes in the USA,” Bermudez said. “One third of all Hispanic women end up with diabetes, which is huge. So having healthy options especially in this city is big.”

Ortega said that this venture is all about educating people about the importance of not giving up eating what they like, but to tweak what people eat and learning to eat in moderation. She said the vision is to provide quick options such as meals preps at a reasonable price.

“As far as my pastries catering to different types of people, my pastries are gluten-free, which means they’re out based and they’re made with brown sugar, which I’ve been able to get people off honey buns,” Ortega said.

“I used to weight 250 pounds and now I’m at a healthy 160 pounds, and it’s just like I said, there is no quick fix. It is a constant struggle every day, but we need to know that what we’re putting in our bodies is really important.”

Healthy Desires Café also offers protein milkshakes, organic teas and meal preparations starting as low as $5 per plate.

“The United States has become fix on trying to lose weight and nutrition is about what you put into your body,” said Silvia Ortega, owner of Buffed Baked Good.

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“The United States has become...
El Pasoans gathered Downtown for the Celebration of Lights on Saturday, Dec. 2. The event that was hosted by El Paso Parks and Recreation featured the lighting of the lights and holiday decorations at San Jacinto Plaza by two children and Mayor Dee Margo. The event also featured a parade, food trucks, vendors and performances by different groups.

Our view

Celebration of Lights brightens up El Paso during the holidays

Success is the sum of small efforts, repeated day in and day out.

The Center for Accommodations and Support Services congratulates the fall 2017 Graduating Class. We wish you success and could not be more proud of you!
Men’s basketball seeking consecutive wins for first time this season

Following two defeats early in the week, the Miners showed a lack of ball movement. Something that was a problem before Floyd announced his retirement. In the New Mexico State loss, the Miners were only able to dish out a dismal four assists.

Against the Lobos, the team recorded 19 assists, but what ultimately propelled the team to victory was their shooting percentage. UTEP hit 53.7 percent from the floor and knocked down 7.8 percent from the free-throw line.

After starting the season on fire with a six-game winning streak, the Cougars dropped their first game of the season this past Saturday night at home. However, the loss was to Big West preseason favorite UC Davis, 61-69.

Washington State has been battle tested early with quality wins against San Diego State (93-86) and Saint Joseph’s (75-71). The matchup with the Miners will be the Cougars’ second game this week as they look to get right before the start of the NCAA Tournament.

Tip-off against the Cougars is slated for 7 p.m. this Saturday.

The Miners are off to a 5-1 start on the 2017-18 season.

Devin Goodwin/UTEP Athletics

The Miners are off to a 5-1 start.

FOLLOW JEREMY CARRANCO ON TWITTER @JACARRANCO.

FOLLOW DAILY WILDCATS ON TWITTER @DIARYWILDCATS.

The Prospector

By Jeremy Carranco

Women’s basketball opens up nine-game road trip at Arkansas State

The UTEP women’s basketball team is off to a 5-1 start. The team has enjoyed playing all six of their games at home to open up the 2017-18 campaign, but now the Miners are on road for their next nine games with their first test coming against Arkansas State this afternoon.

“We are excited about it, the mentality we have when we try and prepare for games, and the same mentality we will have to have against our opponents on the road at their place,” said head coach Kevin Baker.

Baker was most nudged Najala Howell. “I feel that if we carry that confidence over into their first test coming against Arkansas State before facing UTEP on Wednesday, Dec. 6, before facing UTEP this past Saturday night.

The Miners are off to a 5-1 start on the 2017-18 season.

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The Prospector

By Jeremy Carranco

Senior guard Omega Harris is coming off a career-high 28 point performance against New Mexico this past Saturday night.

FILE PHOTO / THE PROSPECTOR

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FILE PHOTO / THE PROSPECTOR
Sports is a business for coaches and players, forget loyalty

BY MIKE FLORES

There’s no such thing as loyalty in sports. It’s a business—and rightfully so. Players in all sports should have the right to leave or do what they please without being bashed, even if owners and coaches all around will trade or release them the second they think they can do better.

This new era of sports has shifted the mindset of being loyal. There won’t be many Mike Krzyzewski’s, Don Shula’s, Kobe Bryant’s, Tim Duncan’s of the world anymore. And that’s not a bad thing necessarily. This year in college sports, coaches have shown how loyalty will always come second to money. Money talks. Florida State was left without a coach for their final regular season game against Louisiana-Monroe because a couple of days before their contest, against Louisiana-Monroe because Jimbo Fisher decided to leave FSU for a couple of days before their contest, against Louisiana-Monroe because he was suited up, crying on the bench while you’re there, but hate you just for leaving, the message it sends. If James was treated like that, that’s being a fool. Durant went with his gut and it turned out to be the best decision of his career. With the Warriors, Durant won his first NBA title and won the finals MVP. Coaches like Fisher can leave whenever they like, when they’re the ones players are supposed to look up to and listen to, what kind of example of being loyal did he provide?

If he wanted to do what everyone wanted him to do, that’s being a foolower, not being loyal. Durant anticipated the hate he would get when he made his move, but the hate was much more than he expected at the point that he couldn’t get out of bed for two days after his decision. Durant was so hurt by the reactions he got. “Why the f--- did you let me do this to my life?” Durant yelled at his agent after everyone’s reaction to him joining the Warriors. If his “fans” were that quick to turn on Durant, who makes them feel that way? No one would want to be loyal to that. Instead, Durant went with his gut and it turned out to be the best decision of his career. With the Warriors, Durant won his first NBA title and won the finals MVP. Celtics guard Isaiah Thomas finally thought he found a home in the league. Thomas’ heroics of 28.9 points per game (third in the NBA), six assists per game and leading the league in fourth-quarter points (10.1) guided Boston to the first seed in the Eastern Conference. It also got Thomas a top-five finish in the NBA MVP race and an All-Star appearance.

In the first round of the playoffs against the Bulls, a day before game three, Thomas’ sister Chyna Thomas turned to the Cavaliers for his love and loyalty. “No call, no text, you were that quick to turn on Durant, who makes them feel that way? No one would want to be loyal to that.” To top it all off, the Cavaliers owner Dan Gilbert wrote a hateful letter toward James when he left for Miami. Some of Gilbert’s word choices toward James when he left for Miami were hit with the reality that their connection was broken. Instead, Durant went with his gut and it turned out to be the best decision of his career. With the Warriors, Durant won his first NBA title and won the finals MVP.

What a year Thomas experienced. However, in the following offseason, Thomas was traded to the Cleveland Cavaliers for another star guard Kyrie Irving despite all that Thomas and Boston went through. That’s just another example of how owners will do anything to win at all costs because at the end of the day, it’s just a business to them. Nothing more.

So, players should not receive any trouble when they do the same to win at all costs. When NBA superstar LeBron James decided to leave Cleveland for the first time in 2010, his jersey number was being burned, he was labeled as “weak” or “a traitor,” and he was one of the most hated players in the NBA just for making a decision he thought was best for his career. To top it all off, the Cavaliers owner Dan Gilbert wrote a hateful letter toward James when he left for Miami. Some of Gilbert’s word choices toward James when he left for Miami were hit with the reality that their connection was broken. Instead, Durant went with his gut and it turned out to be the best decision of his career. With the Warriors, Durant won his first NBA title and won the finals MVP. Celtics guard Isaiah Thomas finally thought he found a home in the league. Thomas’ heroics of 28.9 points per game (third in the NBA), six assists per game and leading the league in fourth-quarter points (10.1) guided Boston to the first seed in the Eastern Conference. It also got Thomas a top-five finish in the NBA MVP race and an All-Star appearance.

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For all the money they want. Coaches do it all the time like I stated earlier. Coaches just don’t get the harassment players get because not as much is expected from them. Loyalty is an important quality that people can possess, but it’s different in sports. Players don’t have control over where they get drafted, if their team trades or cuts them or if they’ll ever get to play. So, players should not receive any trouble when they do the same to win at all costs. When NBA superstar LeBron James decided to leave Cleveland for the first time in 2010, his jersey number was being burned, he was labeled as “weak” or “a traitor,” and he was one of the most hated players in the NBA just for making a decision he thought was best for his career. To top it all off, the Cavaliers owner Dan Gilbert wrote a hateful letter toward James when he left for Miami. Some of Gilbert’s word choices toward James when he left for Miami were hit with the reality that their connection was broken. Instead, Durant went with his gut and it turned out to be the best decision of his career. With the Warriors, Durant won his first NBA title and won the finals MVP. Celtics guard Isaiah Thomas finally thought he found a home in the league. Thomas’ heroics of 28.9 points per game (third in the NBA), six assists per game and leading the league in fourth-quarter points (10.1) guided Boston to the first seed in the Eastern Conference. It also got Thomas a top-five finish in the NBA MVP race and an All-Star appearance.

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Six storylines for the 84th annual Hyundai Sun Bowl

The Sun Bowl association representatives announced NC State and Arizona State as the two teams playing in the 84th annual Hyundai Sun Bowl.

By Adrian Broaddus

The teams are set for the 84th annual Hyundai Sun Bowl as the Arizona State Sun Devils will take on the North Carolina State Wolfpack at 1 p.m. MT, Friday, Dec. 29, at the Sun Bowl.

At first glance, these two teams might not be the most eye-grabbing teams, but with a closer look, these two have the potential to duke it out for a classic matchup.

Here are some storylines to keep an eye out for:

**Arizona State**

(7-5, 2nd in Pac-12 South)

Todd Graham's last game with the Sun Devils

Sun Devils have come to El Paso for the fifth time that the Sun Devils have come to El Paso for a bowl game, and if they go out and beat a ranked team like NC State, it would be the exact way he would like to go out.

"If I was ASU, I'd name this (new football) facility after Todd Graham," senior running back Demia Richard told AZ Central. "I've seen him turn boys into men, turn people who didn't believe in God to believing in God. He's a great man. He's just one phone call away for me, and I know if I ever want to get into coaching I know who to call."

Arizona State's athletic department is expected to hire Heron Edwards, a current ESPN football analyst and previous head coach for the New York Jets and Kansas City Chiefs.

Demario Richard is the man to stop

After ASU's 42-30 win over state rivals Arizona, Richard became the fifth running back in school history to surpass the 3,000-yard career rushing mark with his 165 yards against the Wildcats.

He is now the school's fifth all-time leading rusher and needs just 21 yards to surpass Wilford White's (1947-50) 3,173 career yards to be the program's fourth-best rusher.

In the last four games, Richard has had 100-yard rushing games. It will be up to the Wolfpack's defense to stop him and shut down Arizona State's run game.

**NC State**

(8-4, 2nd in ACC Coastal Division)

A season of what-if's

Taking a sound 33-21 win over North Carolina to wrap up their fall 2017 season ended the Wolfpack's season with an 8-4 record, but it was not necessarily how they wanted the year to wrap up.

Although it was their first sec- ond place finish during head coach Dave Doeren's time, they felt like they deserved more.

"I'm not ecstatic," senior defensive end Bradley Chubb told the News & Observer after their final win. "Eight and four wasn't what we wanted, but I know these guys next year are going to finish all these close games and do what we thought we would do this year."

**We look forward to representing our university in El Paso with character, class and dignity.**

-Todd Graham, Arizona State head coach

The Wolfpack hunted for a 10-win season for only the second time in school history, but lost to the likes of Clemson, Wake Forest and South Carolina stumped any hopes of that.

Instead of a New Year's bowl, NC State will have to settle for the Sun Bowl and hope to cap off their season with a statement win.

Doeren wants a dynasty

Doeren, the six-year head coach for NC State, has had a well-earned time with the program. He's 33-30-overall at NC State, including two bowl wins in 2014 against UCF in the St. Petersburg Bowl and in 2016 against Vanderbilt in the Independence Bowl.

At 41, he became the youngest ACC coach in 2012. His first year's 3-9 record was Doeren's lone losing season with the Wolfpack.

After that, NC State went 8-3 in 2013, followed by 22 wins over the next three years.

Recently, Doeren received a job offer from Tennessee, who is trying to rebuild its program in the SEC.

However, Doeren declined the offer to stay true to his current program.

Bradley Chubb — start or sit out?

Standout defensive end Chubb, a likely top-10 pick in the NFL draft, has not decided whether or not to play in the Sun Bowl, per multiple local reports.

Like Stanford's former standout running back Christian McCaffrey did last year for the Sun Bowl, Chubb might sit out of the bowl game to prepare for the 2018 NFL draft.

Chubb is also coming off a dis- located finger against Boston College, so he may use the injury as a factor in his decision-making.

He was named the 2017 ACC Defensive Player of the Year, with 25 tackles for losses this season (second in FBS), 73 tackles (fourth among defensive linemen) and 10 sacks (eighth in FBS). He is also the school's career leader in sacks and tackles for loss, beating out NC State legend Mario Williams.

Follow Adrian Broaddus on Twitter @adrian_broaddus.
A look back at a wild fall season for UTEP athletics