"When you go through something traumatic, you need someone to talk to and a lot of people don’t want to do that with a police officer and that’s fine,” Mariel said. “So, programs like this one can be very beneficial for those who are still struggling with what they went through.”

Hernandez said that students can seek resources with MAPS without having to make a police report or contacting the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution.

“Oftentimes, the feeling is that they want to report something but don’t want to report to law enforcement. Some students are afraid to report it because they don’t want to tell anyone.”

Hernandez said that students file a police report because they don’t want to have an open investigation on the aggressor.

“If a student would want to report, which we encourage and recommend, we can accompany them to the police, to a court, we can go with them to seek medical and legal services,” Hernandez said.

She also said that if students need specific arrangements—moving from a classroom, dorm or parking lot—the MAPS staff would intervene to help them feel safe.

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The seven-day vegan

BY MIKE FLORES

I went from eating chicken, sausages, burgers, wings and all the delicious fried foods that El Paso has to offer to eating beans, rice, lentils, tofu and anything green. You can do it. During my small taste of the vegan lifestyle, I experienced the pros and cons of giving up animal products and dairy for plant-based foods.

In just a week, I lost three pounds. Albeit, I did go on runs and went to the gym nearly every day. But I’ve never felt as healthy in just a seven-day period. I don’t feel sluggish, I actually feel more energized and lively, which was the opposite to how I thought I would feel without eggs, milk and dairy. Eating nothing but vegetables like carrots, broccoli, tomatoes, spinach, peas and lettuce is much healthier than scarfing down all the animal products.

One of the difficulties I faced was the options for vegan food, especially if El Paso doesn’t have vegan restaurants. We all love tacos, fajitas, enchiladas and other foods the city offers. There are many restaurants that offer vegan options, but the vast majority are either Mexican food or fast food places. Not to mention that many people eat what their family—at least in my family—is cooking or having, which usually consists of many plant-based meals.

Being vegan can lead to many long lines and at times it get, the meals don’t have the appeal other foods do. There were many times I thought to myself, ‘What am I doing eating this vegan life just to enjoy what everybody else was having around me. I didn’t feel like I was standing out as the only person not having something or make a scene in any way possible. Despite the nonstop questions and having to explain my week of being vegan, I didn’t break it and I ate healthier than everyone else in the room. While my friends devoured cake, donuts, ice cream and pie, I ate celery with peanut butter, crackers and pineapple.

The North American Free Trade Agreement, better known as NAFTA, has a purpose of removing tariffs and trade barriers between Mexico, Canada and the United States. However, as a promise from his presidential campaign, President Donald Trump promised to pull the US out of the 23-year-old deal, which he is trying to renegotiate for the good of the US. But what could happen if the US really withdraws from NAFTA? Besides the economic impact that this could have in the US, especially if Canada and Mexico remain in it, there is another point we should touch base on—work visas.

My dad is an electrical engineer and a business owner, and thanks to this work visa, we were able to move from Baja to El Paso. The way these visas work is that as long as you have a bachelor’s degree and the capital to invest or your work a company, your family also gets a visa that allows them to live legally in the US. They won’t get a work permit, but at least they are able to live here.

This means prices are lower and allows companies back into the US to guarantee the best for the country. If this happens, what could happen.

When it comes to the agricultural side, it is true that fruits and vegetables and other imported goods are cheaper because of the free tariffs. However, due to NAFTA, Mexico lost 1.3 million farm jobs, this was because when the tariffs and taxes were removed, small farms couldn’t compete with larger farming industries, and as a result, they had to sell their produce. The facts are in the numbers. The facts are in the numbers.

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Two attendees of the Student Engagement & Leadership Center's Time's Up event write messages to stand with sexual assault survivors on Friday, Jan. 26, at the Union East gallery.

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Tilghman continues the fight to stay on a ballot

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The Prospector

By Christian Vasquez

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By Michaela Roman

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By Michaela Roman
Hernandez said that MAPS, which will be available off-campus at the Campbell Building, 1101 N. Campbell St., and they will make arrangements for students who can’t find transportation.

“We can schedule a meeting for us to go to the main campus and we can reserve a room and have the confidential conversations they are looking for,” Hernandez said. “We want our students to know that we will be there for them.”

Even though students are not required to make a police report, MAPS will be required to report the number of students who sought resources from the program to the university, which will be included in the Annual Security and Fire Safety Report—an annual report from UTEP campus police.

“We have to report because it’s a federal mandate, but we will only be sending a number,” Hernandez said. “There’s nothing that can connect back to this particular individual that sought services with MAPS.”

Hernandez said that the program may not stop crimes from occurring, but it allows students to seek help.

Hernandez also said a counselor will be available to students who seek MAPS resources and that the counselor is expected to arrive at UTEP by mid-February.

“The reason why we will have a counselor within the MAPS program is in case we have crisis intervention,” Hernandez said. “If we have a student who needs immediate attention, we want to make sure we have someone there rather than having them wait.”

According to the latest data from the Annual Security and Fire Safety Report, five incidents of rape were reported at UTEP during 2016.

“One case is too much,” Hernandez said. “Those numbers are one of the many reasons why programs like these are created. The safety of our students comes first.”

Hernandez said that they will try to hire a second counselor and a project coordinator when her staff is in the process of renewing the MAPS grant for two more years.

“I want to encourage my students, who have suffered a crime, to seek the services we offer,” she said. “Don’t be afraid to report, we are here to help our students.”

If you or anyone you know has been a victim of crime, you may contact MAPS at (915) 747-8154.

“If you or anyone you know has been a victim of crime, you may contact MAPS at (915) 747-8154.

“Moreover, the MAPS program is here for our students to know that we are always available.”

If you or anyone you know has been a victim of crime, you may contact MAPS at (915) 747-8154.
Art faculty takes their turn at the Rubin Center

BY KELLY TAFORA

The Stanlee and Gerald Rubin Center for the Visual Arts at UTEP has always focused on displaying thought-provoking, international and modern art to the border region.

This Thursday, Feb. 1, the Rubin Center will host the 2018 UTEP Department of Art Biennial Faculty Exhibition, running until Friday, April 6.

Since the center opened in 2004, it has housed more than 75 exhibitions of contemporary art, many of which has been displayed throughout Texas and around the country.

At the Biennial Exhibition, students will be able to see the different artwork pieces done by 25 distinguished faculty members of the art department.

Dr. Heather Kaplan, visiting assistant professor of art education, assistant professor of art education, and US-Mexico artistic exchanges.

The exhibition will include a wide range of artistic media such as ceramics, metals, sculptures, painting, printmaking, drawing, graphic design and more.

Every Thursday at noon from Feb. 8 to April 6, students are invited to join faculty artists in the galleries for informal conversations on subjects such as music composition and art, politics and painting, art and motherhood, literary and artistic collaboration, planned and unplanned making and US-Mexico artistic exchanges.

For more information on the exhibit as well as dates and locations of the forthcoming lectures, visit rubin.utep.edu.

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For more information on the exhibit as well as dates and locations of the forthcoming lectures, visit rubin.utep.edu.

The 2018 Art Biennial Faculty Exhibition will be open to the general public from Feb. 1 through April 6 at the Rubin Center.

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The UTEP Cast for ‘A Chorus Line’ lines up for the opening music number ‘I Hope I Get It’. ‘A Chorus Line’ will run through Feb. 18 at The UTEP Dinner Theater.

one of the characters, and the audience can feel their anxiety, as they question who they are as a person, not just as dancers.

The best musical numbers during Act One are hard to choose, as each one reflects great moments. “I Can Do That,” performed by Mike, played by UTEP sophomore Jorge Blakely, kicks off the more light-hearted portion of the show, and one of the less intense stories belonging to the dancers.

As Act One progresses, so do the stories. From the sassy Sheila, played by Sarah Pagano, singing about her unhappy childhood, to the other fun, quirky and over-the-top characters singing about being too skinny (Judy, played by Tania Hernandez), being tone-deaf (Kristine, played by Rebecca Vargas), being too short (Connie, played by Jensen Springer), not being good enough (Diana, played by Elizabeth Sanchez-Pineda), this is only a glimpse into what’s to come.

It’s not until Act Two that the stories begin to get deeper and inevitably heartbreaking. Life on the stage can be tough, but for most of the dancers, it’s the tough times in their life that brought them to the stage, where they can become another person, if only for a moment.

One of the best solos of the entire show came from Josey Pickett, a UDT veteran who plays Cassie, a dancer who hasn’t had a performing job in years. She hopes to prove to her former flame that she deserves a spot back in the “chorus line.” Her hope and heartbreaking plea during “The Music and The Mirror,” will have you on the edge of your seat.

Saving the best for last, there’s one more character whose story the audience has yet to hear. Paul, played by Derrick Cintron, does a phenomenal job with his performance, summing up what the entire musical is about. The gay Puerto Rican, who is ashamed of his identity but comes to grips with the past, will have you near tears if you haven’t already shed some by this point in the show.

The sets and costumes are simple, but it doesn’t take away from the show. It only showcases the strengths of each character’s dancing and singing abilities.

“A Chorus Line” is a must-watch performance, not only because it’s an amazing show with spectacular musical numbers that was also a Tony Award winner for Best Musical and has been awarded a Pulitzer Prize for Best Drama, but because it is a story about people whose lives matter and who get a platform to tell their own stories. Simply put, it is funny, heartbreaking and refreshingly honest and will have you wanting to watch it again when it’s over.
Women’s basketball to host UAB before traveling to UTSA

By Daniel Mendez

The women's basketball team returns home this week to face Conference USA co-leader UAB on Feb. 2 before hitting the road to play last place Rice on Feb. 9.

The Miners (13-7, 4-3 C-USA) return to the comfort of home after splitting the four-game road trip. Falling at Rice (56-42) on Jan. 20, but winning a tough defensive battle against North Texas (70-49) on Jan. 26.

This week, the Miners host the UAB Blazers (17-3, 6-1 C-USA) on Friday, Feb. 3, before a quick road turnaround on Sunday, Feb. 4, to play the UTSA Roadrunners (3-17, 1-7 C-USA), which are currently two vastly different opponents.

UTEP will look to see if it can continue to rely on its steady defense when they host a red-hot UAB offense this Friday night. “I really pleased with our defense against UNT. I think our team is guarding, “ UTEP head coach Kevin Baker said following his team’s win at North Texas. “We really guardled well as a team, we just couldn’t score and tonight, we were able to score and we able to score a little bit more.”

The Miners held Rice to nearly 11 points under their average (67.2 per cent) and North Texas to just a 34.5 percent clip (17-48).

The Blazer's offense came into the Houskins Center as the second-best scoring offense in C-USA (75.5 points per game) and are the number one team from behind the arc in field goal percentage at 41.3 percent clip.

UAB also likes to share the wealth, sitting at No. 1 in the conference in assists per game (18.1 per game), with a total of 366, while the Miners average 38.6 rebounds per game. Junior Najala Howell is second in the conference with an average scoring total of 13.7 points per game, with sopho- mores Katarina Zec rounding out the top three (9.1 points per game). In the last battle against North Texas, all three players (Seda, Howell, Zec) were UTEP’s leading scorers in the game.

Seda carried her team with 13 points, while Zec added 11 and Howell added 10. Junior Jordan Alexander set a new career-high in rebounds, grabbing 13.

Although the defense from inside has helped fuel UTEP recently, the Miners will need to improve their 3-point defense and be able to score the ball more for their matchup against UAB.

The Blazer’s have made more 3-pointers than any other team in conference (172), while UTEP has al lowed their opponents to make more 3-pointers than any other team in conference (157).

In terms of scoring, UTEP will have to keep up their defense so their offense can’t stop. The Miners shot just 33.3 percent (31-93) in their recent two-game road split (Rice, UTP).

Tip-off is scheduled for 2 p.m. at the Don Haskins Center and 1 p.m. will be the scheduled start for the Miners against the Roadrunners in San Antonio.
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