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Students divided on the future of Asarco site

By Jasmine Aguilera

A group of El Paso citizens now have one year to try to save the Asarco smokestacks.

Previously, demolition of the smelter was scheduled to be completed by early 2012. Instead, the Save the Stacks group is trying to raise enough private funding to keep the stacks up.

As controversial issues surrounding Asarco have been a hot-button topic for decades in the sun city, the question of what to do with the remaining smokestacks has many El Paso and UTEP community members divided.

“I think tearing it down would mean justice for the people who were negatively affected by the smelter,” said Roger Canales, freshman education major. “I don’t think saving the stacks is a good idea at all, even if they have been in El Paso for a really long time.”

For some students, while Asarco represents an era of bad history in El Paso, some say it is, nevertheless, a historical landmark that should be preserved.

“The stacks have been in El Paso for a long time. I don’t think we should all be so quick to dismiss the option of preserving them,” said Christian Montez, junior digital media production major. “I know most students think it’s a better idea to just tear them down, but I think because of how long the stacks have been here, and because of the economic effects the plant had on El Paso, we should seriously consider keeping them up.”

History aside, for many the pain and struggles Asarco brought to many of the workers and the community is enough reason to tear down the smokestacks.

“After the stacks were torn down, it was a good idea to just tear them down, but I think because of how long the stacks have been here, and because of the economic effects the plant had on El Paso, we should seriously consider keeping them up,” said Puga.

The decision to delay the demolition of the stacks was made by Robert Puga, Asarco site custodial trustee.

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The stacks would be about $10 million to demolish. The cost to tear down the long term to support the largest stacks is $20 million. According to Puga, the cost to tear down the stacks is about $10 million.

The University of Texas at El Paso · November 15, 2011

The decision to delay the demolition of the stacks was made by Robert Puga, Asarco site custodial trustee.

“I don’t really have an opinion on whether or not the stacks should stay up,” Puga said. “I just want to know whether or not the stacks should stay up. I just want to know whether or not the stacks should stay up.”

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Lessons to be learned from Asarco

BY CELIA AGUILAR
The Prospector

Cyber Monday begins Nov. 28, which is the online equivalent to Black Friday. With Internet popularity increasing, shoppers are now going online to find their gifts. Cyber Monday can remove the stress of having to go to stores and find the products that you want instead of having to spend the night out in the cold, especially when there’s a chance you might not even get the product you want.

There are a lot of deals you can find on Cyber Monday, which makes shopping an easier, more efficient and convenient for us. Visit cybermonday.com to find coupons, special prices and free shipping for some orders.

You may not be in the mood to shop for the holiday, but you can gain a major advantage by starting now. You can compare prices and find good sales because if you wait until the last minute, you’re less likely to find the selection you want and perhaps grab something more expensive out of desperation.

Personally, I enjoy making homemade and creative gifts. Making something special for someone takes time and effort, and that has more meaning to me than just going and buying something. In previous years, I’ve made photo collages for a friend, baked a nicely decorated cupcakes and even cooked a good meal. To me, there’s no greater way to express your love and creativity to the ones you care for than making a personalized gift.

I’m a coffee lover, so I always enjoy buying vintage items like coffee mugs and small containers to decorate with and even included cookies, biscuits or chocolates to go with the gift. Gift baskets are always happy to buy my Dad a war-themed book as a gift. To me, there’s no greater way to express your love and creativity to the ones you care for than making a personalized gift.

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El Paso joins national bank protest movement

By HENRY ARRABALDE

As many grow frustrated with their banks and the economic situation facing the U.S., a grassroots event recently began, encouraging people to move their money out of big banks and into local credit unions.

The event originated when Los Angeles art gallery owner Kristen Chris¬
tian, dissatisfied with her Bank of America experience, created a Bank Transfer Day event on Facebook and invited her friends to close their bank accounts too. The movement exploded into a national event that even found its way to the borderland.

“Not only did I participate in Bank Transfer Day by closing my account at Wells Fargo and opening an ac¬count at GECU, but my family and I also picked up Bank of America on Mesa and Bartlett on the Westside,” said Lina Murillo, history graduate student. “My husband, Guillermo Morales, worked with MoveOn.org in organizing Bank Transfer Day here in El Paso.”

While not directly related to the Occupy movement, Bank Trans¬
der Day was intended to be a form of protest that would send a mes¬
sage to big banks. The Texas Credit Union League reported that, state¬
wide, 47,000 new accounts had been opened by Nov. 2 and, nationwide, 650,000 people had opened accounts within the same period.

see BAN on page 4
"We had to send a message to B of A (Bank of America), Wells Fargo and Chase, who have been at the root of the economic disaster that has befallen this country," Murillo said. "They have exploited the American people and have helped to create a larger gap between rich and poor."

While Nov. 5 was the official date of the event, the protest is ongoing. "I currently have withdrawn funds from my bank, but have yet to transfer them into a local credit union," said Maria Gomez, creative writing graduate student. "I think it is an excellent form of protest, maybe a more efficient course of action for a place like El Paso than the Occupy movement."

Many people believe that changing their bank account may not yield big results. "I have not transferred my money," said Ernesto Chavez, associate professor of history. "I’ve always done my business with a bank. I travel a lot and feel it’s more convenient. I feel what ever I save on bank fees, I’m just going to have to pay when using ATMs and the like while traveling." The opinions may be divided, but due to protest, Bank of America called off their plans to charge a $5 fee on debit cards because of negative attention.

"I think events like Bank Transfer Day are important because we begin to understand that our money is our power," Murillo said. "The banks do not own us and cannot dictate how we invest and save our money."

Murillo said it not only shows big banks that the people will not tolerate their fees, but also helps the local communities. "It shows us that we need to reinvest against this economic assault," Murillo said. "They must all stand in solidarity and unity must be able to provide the trust with insurance. For every, the entity has to get a certified structural engineer to prove that the stacks are strong enough to remain on the site without causing damage to others.

"The trust will promise that 12 months from now, if these conditions are not met to our satisfaction, the stacks will come down and no further delay will be tolerated," Puga said.

According to Puga, Gary Sapp and Robert Ardovino from the Save the Stacks group were able to gather 50 supporters, and for that reason they were granted a one-year moratorium.

"A lot of people want to see the stacks stay up because they think they have historical significance in El Paso, but I don’t see it that way," Canales said. "I think Asarco has a history of making people sick and that is enough reason to tear them down.

Puga’s original plan for the stacks was to only conserve 15 feet of the tallest stack and create a monument that included the depiction of the protesters, who were instrumental in having the plant closed.

"If the stacks had positive memories associated with them, then by all means keep them, but that is not the case," said Christine Favela, forensic science major. "They’re historic for polluting El Paso and making people sick. If it doesn’t serve a purpose anymore, then I think they should just be torn down."
When UTEP and NMSU meet for the first time in the 2011-12 season, some added heat will be brought to the rivalry. After the Miners fell to Eastern New Mexico in their first exhibition 73-64 Nov. 3, one Aggie player had to give his two cents.

"FUTURE fans betta go hide in Juarez as we (NMSU) slide through Eastern New Mexico and a game-high 20 against Northern Colorado. UTEP swept the season series last year winning 73-56 Nov. 23 at the Don Haskins Center and 74-72 Nov. 30 at the Pan American Center. For this year's Miners, only sophomore center Jon Bohannon and sophomore guard Michael Perez saw playing time in the two games. During the match in Las Cruces, Bohannon finished with two points and four rebounds in 18 minutes. In El Paso, Perez just had one assist in 15 minutes.

UTEP picked up their first win of the season Nov. 13 at the Don Haskins Center against UC-Riverside to improve to 1-1. Both teams struggled offensively to start the game, but UTEP got on the board first when freshman forward Julian Washburn hit a jumper with 17:30 to go. The Miners missed their first four shots and turned the ball over twice before scoring the game's first points. UC-Riverside missed their first nine shots and had three turnovers until senior guard Phil Martin gave the Highlanders their first points at 13:13 mark. UC-Riverside went another 7:18 until their next field goal.

After giving up the lead and losing 10-5, junior guard Jacques Streeter hit the half's only three-pointer to give the Miners the 18-14 advantage at halftime. Both teams picked it up in the second half and, with the game tied at 20 with 17:27 left in the game, UTEP scored on their next seven possessions. The Miners took a 37-27 lead but it was cut back to two with 6:07 left at 39-37. UTEP built some separation going on an 11-0 run led by freshman forward Hooper Vint's back-to-back three-pointers. The Highlanders went over five minutes until making their next field goal, falling to UTEP 52-41. William Vega may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

By WILLIAM VEGA
News Editor

November 15, 2011

Trash talking precedes latest matchup

By William Vega

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BY DANIEL ORNELAS

The Miners will play their final home game of the 2011 season Nov. 19 at the Sun Bowl against Tulsa with the chance of earning a second-consecutive bowl berth.

UTEP is coming off a 22-17 win against East Carolina, the first against the Pirates since joining C-USA in 2005. The Miners have now beat all other 11 C-USA teams at least once in school history.

Tulsa Golden Hurricane have yet to lose a C-USA game (6-0) this season and are coming off a 39-17 rout over Marshall.

First year head coach Bill Blankenship has led Tulsa to a 7-3 record with all three of their losses coming against ranked opponents: No. 7 Oklahoma State, No. 1 Oklahoma and No. 4 Boise State.

This will mark the 20th meeting between both schools, with Tulsa holding an 11-8 advantage over the Miners. Even though the Golden Hurricane hold a 1-4 advantage in the Sun Bowl, they have yet to beat a Mike Price-coached team in El Paso.

“I think having the game here makes a big difference. There’s just a lot of excitement involved this week because of our seniors. This is their last game in the Sun Bowl,” Price said. “We know that this gives us a home game at a time and prepare for it the same way...We know the importance of the game."

“It will be senior day at the Sun Bowl when the Miners take the field at 1 p.m and a total of 22 senior players will suit up for their final home game."

“Senior day can cause a distraction to some kids. I saw (former Notre Dame head coach) Lou Holtz talk about it on TV the other day. I hope the seniors don’t get tears in their eyes and get all emotional before the game because when that happens, they don’t play very good.” Price said. “We have to take this one game at a time and prepare for it the same way. We know the importance of the game.”

BY WILLIAM VEGA

With all the success UTEP has been experiencing at the punting game this season, one can not over look where each process begins. Senior long snapper Matt Camilli is that guy who initiates each punt, extra point and field goal in one of the most un-glorified, pressured positions.

“It’s the most un-glorified, pressurized position you could imagine,” Camilli said. “People don’t understand it and don’t notice you until you mess up, but I’ve enjoyed it because it’s a challenge.”

Camilli has started in every game he’s played, adding two tackles and did not have a punt blocked all year. This year, as a senior, he had four tackles and did not have a punt blocked all year. This year, Camilli has been the Miners’ long snapper for the last three years. As a sophomore in 2009, he had one tackle and was the main snapper for the first game. Last year, as a junior, he had four tackles and did not have a punt blocked all year. This year, Camilli has started in every game he’s played, adding two tackles to his career totals.

After redshirting his freshman year in 2007, Camilli became the teams’ kick snapper in 2009 and the permanent long snapper his junior year. He said he made the full transition because Price did not want to risk him getting hurt.

“I was perfectly content with it because long snapping was the main reason that I got recruited (to UTEP),” Camilli said. “That’s what I used to send films out to other schools.”

The only time Camilli has dealt with injuries was this year when he missed three games in September after breaking his arm Sept. 10 at SMU. According to junior punter Ian Campbell, he could tell the difference in receiving snaps those games.

“It was really bad when he went down at SMU, Campbell said. “We found out really quickly that Camilli is a key part of our game. Going into survival mode at SMU is really tough.”

Camilli left the SMU game during the contest, meaning the first game he missed entirely was against NMSU. Instead of Camilli, Campbell stepped in and handled the kicking if Warren can’t play.

“One thing Camilli has been the Miners’ long snapper for the last three years. As a sophomore in 2009, he had one tackle and was the main snapper for the first game. Last year, as a junior, he had four tackles and did not have a punt blocked all year. This year, Camilli has started in every game he’s played, adding two tackles to his career totals.

Daniel Ornelas may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

BY DANIEL ORNELAS

The Miners will attempt to stop a Tulsa running attack that is averaging nearly 210 yards per game.

“They have two speed backs (Sophomore 3’8”Tristan Douglas is the guy who’s going to take most of the fly sweeps that they run and (Sophomore Trey) Watt, (former Oklahoma quarterback) J.C. Wattson, is the other running back that’s kind of an inside runner, really elusive,” Price said. “Then they have a big 230-pound fullback/tailback Singleton that they bring in short yardage and goal line and he runs over people.”

UTEP’s junior quarterback Nick Lamaison was sidelined in the game against East Carolina with a groin injury.

Sophomore Carson Meger stepped in leading the Miners to the victory all while completing 18 of 27 attempts for 135 yards. If Lamaison can’t play, Meger will make his second start of the season.

Junior kicker Dakota Warren suffered a groin injury and his status is still uncertain for Tulsa. Senior kickers Mike Scott and Kevin Lopez, along with freshman Steven Valadez, will handle the kicking if Warren can’t play.

“We’ll just see how Dakota is going to be. If he isn’t the kicker, we would probably use Scott or Lopez in extra points and Steve would kick the long ones, but we’re not in that position right now,” Price said. “Going into the game, I would think Dakota would be our kicker and Nick would be our starting quarterback.”

It will be senior day at the Sun Bowl when the Miners take the field at 1 p.m and a total of 22 senior players will suit up for their final home game.

“Senior day can cause a distraction to some kids. I saw (former Notre Dame head coach) Lou Holtz talk about it on TV the other day. I hope the seniors don’t get tears in their eyes and get all emotional before the game because when that happens, they don’t play very good.” Price said. “We have to take this one game at a time and prepare for it the same way. We know the importance of the game.”

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Daniel Ornelas may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.
Long snapper looks to glorify position in record year

Camilli's move to El Paso and UTEP came with mixed emotions. "I had a lot of love and hate from the people in (Las) Cruces, but they still supported me in the years I've been here," Camilli said.

Since then, and the entire year, Camilli has been a part of Campbell's campaign for the Ray Guy Award—the nation's best punter. Campbell was first in average punting yards in the nation up until this last game Nov. 12 against East Carolina. He is now in second with a 46.84 average, just 0.16 yards shy of the lead. On Nov. 11, Campbell was named one of 10 semifinalists for the award. Campbell said that had it not been for his long snapper, he would not be where he is now.

"It's one of the positions where they are literally perfect the whole year and he's only had one bad snap his whole career here and that was at Texas, and it's just really under radar," Campbell said. "I tell him every day that I appreciate him. He's just such a quality long snapper and he goes under the radar almost."

Head coach Mike Price has also come to appreciate his consistent long snapper and awarded him by making him one of five captains on the team as the lone special teams leader. "Making me a leader of the team, I didn't really know how to explain how I felt to the team. I was just so happy they elected me to that," Camilli said.

Camilli will step on to the Sun Bowl one last time Nov. 19 with 21 other seniors for senior night against Tulsa. Camilli said the night will be full of emotions for him. Weeks prior, he was already thinking of his last game.

"It's hard to choose which (emotions) I'll be feeling," Camilli said. "I'm sure I'm going to feel sorry because I won't be able to come back next season, but I'm going to be happy at the same time because I've had a good three years starting. It's been a lot of fun and I've had a lot of good opportunities."

William Vega may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

SENIORS

RB JOE BANYARD
DB ANTWON BLAKE
LS MATT CAMILLI
WR RUSSELL CARR
LB ISAIAH CARTER
DL JAMIE FEHOKO
RB VERNON FRAZIER
LB GREG HOLLEMAN
WR DONOVAN KEMP
DL YAHCHAAROAH L.
WR JULIO LOPEZ
K KEVIN LOPEZ
OL NATHAN MCCAGE
RB LEILYON MYERS
DB TRAVAUN NIXON
DL BERNARD OBI
WR MONROE ROSS
K MIKE SCOTT
LB ROYZELL SMITH
QB TATE SMITH
LB JEREMY SPRINGER
WR CLIFF TUCKER
The Miner lead was extended to 14 points on several occasions, the first coming off a three by senior guard Kim Smith with 3:30 to go. UTEP went 4-of-11 from three-point range, as compared to Idaho State who went 0-for-11 from the perimeter.

The first half went in the Bengals’ direction almost from the start. After going down 7-6, Idaho State went on a 19-6 run to give them their largest lead of the game. The Miners were able to cut the deficit down to four at 25-21 when junior forward Kristine Vitola hit a layup, but the Bengals closed the half on a 10-5 run to give them the nine point advantage.

UTEP will also face Houston Baptist at 7:05 p.m. Nov. 19 at the Don Haskins Center.

William Bagley may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

Cross-Country

Two qualify for NCAA Championship

BY KRYS;AL OBLINGER

The Miners traveled Nov. 12 to Provo, Utah for the NCAA Mountain Regional in the team’s final attempt to qualify for the NCAA Championships. However, only one individual from each team qualified for the championships that will take place Nov. 21 in Terre Haute, Ind.

The men had the opportunity to qualify as a team but could not get that fifth runner to make the cut. Because of that, only one athlete was taken as an at-large for the championships. Junior Elkana Rotich will be representing the men’s team after finishing 14th in the 10k run and posting a time of 31:03. The 2011 Conference-USA champion and junior Justice Chirchir followed him closely by coming in 20th with a time of 31:12. The team finished in 11th place with a score of 232 and a 1:48.8 spread. They have yet to qualify together since their 2007 meet Nov. 17 in Ogden, Utah, where they placed 10th overall in the race.

This will be Rotich’s second time at the championship. The first was in 2009 when he placed 102nd with a time of 24:42 his freshman year. Earlier this season, Rotich placed first in the Kachina Classic Sept. 17 and a second-place finish at the C-USA Championships. So far, his best time of 21:42 was clocked in at the 7k run on Sept. 10 at the Lori Fitzgerald.

In 2009, Rotich joined the women’s team after they qualified together for the first time since 1987, when they finished fifth for the overall championship.

Junior Risper Kimaiyo will head to the championships for the third time in her career. This season, she became the first woman to claim the title at the Mountain Regionals twice in program history. The first time Kimaiyo qualified was last year when she clocked in at 20:02 Nov.13 in Salt Lake City, Utah. Kimaiyo qualified for this year’s meet with a first place finish at a time of 20:35.

The women’s team finished the meet with 367 points and took 14th place. Junior Karin Garcia was the second Miner across the finish line, grabbing the 57th spot with a time of 22:43. Senior Kitria Stewart finished the 6k run at 24:34. UTEP gained a spread of 3:59.6 for the overall meet with all five runners finishing.

Last season, Kimaiyo finished fourth in the 2010 NCAA Championships, which was her second consecutive top-10 finish. She was awarded her second cross-country All-American honor of her career.

Junior Kathy Garcia, who did not make it into this year’s championships, also competed at the 2010 championship and took the 127th placing, improving her time to 21:32 from the previous season of 21:35 during the meet.

Krystal Oblinger may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

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Saturday: 7:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

ALL NIGHT MADNESS!

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 24TH

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This will be Rotich’s second time at the championship. The first was in 2009 when he placed 102nd with a time of 24:42 his freshman year. Earlier this season, Rotich placed first in the Kachina Classic Sept. 17 and a second-place finish at the C-USA Championships. So far, his best time of 21:42 was clocked in at the 7k run on Sept. 10 at the Lori Fitzgerald.

In 2009, Rotich joined the women’s team after they qualified together for the first time since 1987, when they finished fifth for the overall championship.

Junior Risper Kimaiyo will head to the championships for the third time in her career. This season, she became the first woman to claim the title at the Mountain Regionals twice in program history. The first time Kimaiyo qualified was last year when she clocked in at 20:02 Nov.13 in Salt Lake City, Utah. Kimaiyo qualified for this year’s meet with a first place finish at a time of 20:35.

The women’s team finished the meet with 367 points and took 14th place. Junior Karin Garcia was the second Miner across the finish line, grabbing the 57th spot with a time of 22:43. Senior Kitria Stewart finished the 6k run at 24:34. UTEP gained a spread of 3:59.6 for the overall meet with all five runners finishing.

Last season, Kimaiyo finished fourth in the 2010 NCAA Championships, which was her second consecutive top-10 finish. She was awarded her second cross-country All-American honor of her career.

Junior Kathy Garcia, who did not make it into this year’s championships, also competed at the 2010 championship and took the 127th placing, improving her time to 21:32 from the previous season of 21:35 during the meet.

Krystal Oblinger may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.
Festival of Lights celebration to kick off the holidays

BY REBECCA GUERRERO

The Prospector

Many UTEP students may remember when the university used to celebrate the holidays with Season of Lights, an extremely popular event that lit up the entire campus in twinkling white lights. Season of Lights ran for 16 years before its abrupt end due to financial trouble, leaving no replacement in its place.

But this year, discussions began to implement a new holiday celebration on campus, an idea that may not only bring back some of the excitement Season of Lights provided, but allow students, faculty and staff to participate in the process themselves.

Bill Dethlefs, director of the Disabled Students Services, said that though UTEP is a predominantly Catholic university, it is a public institution and therefore home to many different cultures and ethnicities that also celebrate various holidays during the winter months. His idea was to implement a multi-cultural tribute to the holidays around the world in Festival of Lights, a name chosen because of its relation to many different holidays.

“We saw this as an opportunity for students to experience different traditions and do some learning outside of the classroom,” Dethlefs said.

He said he has had the privilege to participate in Christmas, Hanukkah and Kwanza celebrations and knows firsthand the value of learning about different cultures.

“I see this as an opportunity to make UTEP feel a lot more like home to students who do not share the majority culture here,” said Carol Martin, assistant director of the Office of International Programs.

Students, faculty or staff members were able to submit an application by Nov. 14 in order to create a display for the celebration. Those displays will be shown on the second floor of the Union Building East from Nov. 28 and running until Dec. 22.

Coordinators hope to see a wide variety of cultural decorations, from cresses and menorahs to luminarias and Hindu relics. The displays do not have to be religious so long as they follow the programs one rule, no display can be derogatory toward any other religion or culture.

“I like to think of this as a statement on inclusion rather than exclusion,” Dethlefs said. “It is inclusive of any group that wants to showcase their culture.”

The idea is steadily growing in popularity among the UTEP community. Neelam Agarwal, assistant director of the Disabled Students Services Office, said she is excited about the opportunity to highlight her Indian heritage.

“Many UTEP students may remember when the university used to celebrate Christmas, Hanukkah and Kwanza celebrations and knows firsthand the value of learning about different cultures.

“When I was a little girl we would celebrate Diwali, a holiday to celebrate the triumph of good over evil,” Agarwal said. “We would exchange sweets and light many clay lamps with mustard oil and leave them outside all night.”

Diwali will be one of the holidays that the Indian Students Association plans to display at the festivities.

“In India, we celebrate Diwali, Bakrid, Christmas and Sankranti and in around the month of December,” said Vamsi Pinnamaneni, ISA vice president and civil engineering graduate student.

“We’ve titled our display Indian secular because India is the largest secular country and follows many religions,” Pinnamaneni said that ISA display promises to embrace the very goal of Festival of Lights, to incorporate the many faces of western festivities into one display.

Dethlefs, Martin and Wendy Kane, assistant director of the Student Development Center, are excited about the holiday displays of other cultures.

“This is a testing year for Festival of Lights,” Dethlefs said. “We’re going to see if people enjoy and respect the idea and hopefully it will come back even bigger and better next year.”

For more information, contact Bill Dethlefs at wwdethlefs@utep.edu.

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Cuddle, relax and enjoy these movies over the break

BY ANDRES RODRIGUEZ

The Prospector

During the holidays, seasonal films might not give off enough cheer to answer the age-old question, “Isn’t there anyone who knows what Christmas is all about?” A question Charlie Brown asked with arms wide open amid a chaotic Christmas plot.

“Candy Cane Lane” is a film perfect for cuddling up in front of the television with a candy cane-printed mug full of hot chocolate to find out what good old Chuck was asking about.

Directed by Jon Fa- tman, “Elf” tells the story of Buddy (Will Ferrell), a human raised as an elf in the North Pole, who travels to New York City in search of his real parents.

The film’s warm-hearted feel has made it a modern-day holiday must-watch, curated greatly in part by Ferrell. A little bit of Ferrell goes a long way, but the overblown performance he delivers as an overgrown wannabe elf fits perfectly with the slapstick and charm of the film. Ferrell’s signature physical comedy is hilarious throughout and ultimately is strengthened by his charisma as an outcast searching for the love of family.

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Guide

Shopping for trendy and affordable gifts

By Natalia Aguilar

As the holiday season is approaching, it is important to be prepared and begin shopping before all the good gifts are taken and only the scraps are left. The closer we get to the holidays, the more chaos abounds, so it’s best to have a shopping guide to find the best clothing gifts at great bargain prices.

“In Bobbi Brown cosmetics, we do have limited edition palette boxes, free gift wrapping and we have limited edition brushes,” said Laura Collazo, Bobbi Brown make-up artist. “In the perfume area (Dillard’s), they do gift sets with gel, they give candles and a lot of things for customers’ expectations. It’s fascinating and elegant.”

Target is also an affordable and trendy option when searching for gifts. Several designer brands, such as Missoni and Proenza Schouler, have had their collections sold at Target, but whether it is designer or not, there are various considerate ideas for fashionable clothing items and shoes.

Some classic gifts that never go out of style are cardigans or knit sweaters, jewelry, whatever the trend of the season may be – could be anything lacey or leathery for women and luxurious fabrics and neutral tones for men. Going out clothes are always appreciated, and so are stylish shoes. Purses are women’s favorite and men will always be thankful for a nice watch.

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3. Some classic gifts that never go out of style are cardigans or knit sweaters, jewelry, whatever the trend of the season may be – could be anything lacey or leathery for women and luxurious fabrics and neutral tones for men. Going out clothes are always appreciated, and so are stylish shoes. Purses are women’s favorite and men will always be thankful for a nice watch.

4. “Asos.com is super affordable and it’s a really good site. They have great items under $10 and they range to really cool stuff,” said Rafael Gonzalez, senior creative writing major. “It’s free shipping worldwide and it’s great for men’s pieces, since it’s so hard to find affordable men’s fashion.”

5. Zara is also a new place to shop that has recently opened its online store in the U.S. The prices vary between the garments, but they are always good quality and fashion forward.

Natalia Aguilar may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

Guide

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Kohl’s is another place to find great holiday gifts for men, women and children. Brands like Vera Wang and Lauren Conrad are sold for very affordable prices. “I like going to Kohl’s because I can use my Kohl’s charge and I save a lot,” said Jennifer Galvan, junior education major.

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Forever 21 is known for men and women’s fashions and their affordable prices year long. One must be prepared to do some serious searching, but there is a very high possibility to find fashionable clothing for the kind of prices needed.

There is always the option of online shopping to prevent long lines, wait for others and simply be surrounded by hundreds of people looking for the same thing. “Asos.com is super affordable and it’s a really good site. They have great items under $10 and they range to really cool stuff,” said Rafael Gonzalez, senior creative writing major. “It’s free shipping worldwide and it’s great for men’s pieces, since it’s so hard to find affordable men’s fashion.”

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Five worthy gadget-stuffers for the giving season

BY JERRY ALDAZ

Festivities are upon us, and if you are walking aimlessly through shopping mall aisles in search of the perfect gift, never fear. We’ve got you covered.

1. Nook Tablet ($249): November 2011
   Having seen several price drops throughout the past few months, the Nintendo 3DS is a must-have for individuals seeking portable delight. With first-party adventures from franchises such as Zelda, Metroid and Mario Brothers, the 3DS is sure to be a hit with both casual and hardcore gamers. The panasonic top screen offers wider viewing angles while the 3D slider can adapt to gamers’ style by being able to turn off 3D entirely. Newly-introduced joystick and third-party attachments prove for improved precision and game control mechanics. For its bargain price, the Nintendo 3DS is a pleasant alternative from those who occasionally enjoy a well-made game to those who can’t wait or afford 2012’s PSP Vita. Backed by an impressive software library, both from old and new titles, Nintendo 3DS is a portal to hours of entertainment.

**Game Review**

**Modern Warfare 3: Destroying all expectations**

**BY JERRY ALDAZ**

The Prospector

With a relentless campaign, heated multiplayer and hair-raising co-op missions, Modern Warfare 3 is the greatest installment of the “Call of Duty” franchise. Fusing the solid mechanics of previous Modern Warfare titles with the customization flair of Black Ops, MW3 delivers a comprehensive first-person experience.

From zero-gravity duels 30,000 feet above the ground, aerial pursuits through New York’s busy streets and escape sequences through exploding trails, MW3’s fast-paced narrative style is an adrenaline shot from start to finish. Taking place immediately after the concluding events of Modern Warfare 2, the ensuing journey follows Yuri, John Price and John “Soap” MacTavish. Situated in the typical storyline, a deadly conflict between Russia and America, the heroes must prevent returning villain, Vladimir Makarov, from obtaining Russian ammunition and causing wide-spread chaos.

Although the storyline is predictable, MW3 avoids shooter redundancy by fluently mixing an assortment of objectives and methods of completion. Whether it is shooting an enemy from afar with a silenced rifle, mortally stabbing them within the confined dimensions of a submarine or pursuing them through the electric rainfall of a congested stock exchange, the balanced combat encourages players to continue onto the next assignment.

As in most shooters, enemies remain shadowy figures with low-grade precision and inadequate teammates will leave you fighting alone in the battlefront. While graphics haven’t improved significantly since MW2, improved weapon and sight/scope modeling generates a heightened sense of authenticity when switching guns. In terms of multiplayer, weapons feel well-balanced and the controller’s synchronized vibrations emulate bullet recoil. Dedicated weapon levels, which stand separate from a player’s overall rank, are the key components to unlocking attachments and modifications. Through constant use and completion of weapon-specific challenges, optional attachments and skins can be utilized.

Modifications to the red dot sight are a welcome addition and thematic kill streaks add a new level of strategic reasoning. Being a team player has an added advantage. While team-aiding “support” kill streaks are cumulative, regardless of deaths, offensive “assault” streaks remain resettable upon death.

Enhancing perks have also been reorganized. Weapons have gained individual perks, ranging from dual attachments to decreased recoil, while general perks, examples being increased explosive resistance or prolonged sprinting, modify characters’ abilities.

Rewarding dedicated players, the prestige shop offers enticing offers for those adventurous enough to conquer all 800 levels. Consisting of 10 prestige ranks, each consisting of 80 levels, players will be granted a prestige token for upgrading to the proceeding rank, which requires them to surrender all unlocked attachments, perks and weapon levels. These tokens may be redeemed for special titles/emblems, double experience points and other rare benefits.

For the ultimate experience, the “Call of Duty” Elite membership ($49.99/year) grants access to tournaments and formulates an in-depth analysis based on playing style. Additional features include free downloads on all future map packs, usually priced at $15 per pack, clan exclusivity and extended HD game play recording.

Although Black Ops was utter garbage, Infinity Ward has delivered the quality fans come to expect. Even if it lacks the realistic grounding from competitor “Battlefield 3,” the explosive impossibilities MW3 presents makes it an adventure worth embarking.

5 out of 5 picks.

Jerry Aldaz may be reached at theprospector@utep.edu.

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**Special to The Prospector**

‘Call of Duty: Modern Warfare 3’ sold 6.5 million copies its first 24 hours on the shelves. According to Activision Blizzard, that adds up to more than $400 million in sales in North America and the U.K.